



26th January 2025

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
Shri Narendra Modi
New Delhi

Subject: A Heartfelt Appeal for the Welfare of Citizens with Disabilities

Respected Sir,

We, at Nethrodaya, a Social Service Institution, approved by the Rehabilitation Council of India and recognised by the Government of Tamil Nadu, are humbled to introduce ourselves as a dedicated organization in the field of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. Our tireless efforts have been recognized nationally, and we are proud to have been conferred with the **Prestigious National Award by the Hon'ble President of India**.

As we write to you today, our hearts swell with gratitude and admiration for the transformative initiatives you have undertaken to empower the nation. Your visionary leadership has ushered in a new era of growth, inclusivity, and social justice. Your unwavering commitment to the welfare of the marginalized differently abled, has touched the hearts of millions.

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, is a shining testament to your government's dedication to promoting equality and dignity for all. **The Accessible India Campaign, The Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan**, and the initiatives to make public spaces and transportation accessible to the differently abled, are all laudable steps towards creating an inclusive society.

In light of your government's remarkable efforts, we humbly appeal to you to consider two pressing needs for the welfare of Citizens with Disabilities:

- Age Relaxation under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY): We seek your kind attention to extend the health coverage to Citizens with Disabilities on par with the senior citizens, with age relaxations, considering their unique medical conditions and reduced life expectancy. This initiative will be a beacon of hope for the differently abled and their families, who often struggle to access quality healthcare.

- GST Exemption on Assistive Devices: We urge you to exempt assistive devices from the **5% GST**, as it was done for over 100 other essential commodities. This exemption will enable PwDs to avail these essential devices at an affordable price, promoting independence and dignity for the differently abled. We believe that assistive devices, which are crucial for the daily living of PwDs, deserve the same consideration as other exempted commodities.

Your leadership has inspired a nation to strive for greatness. We believe that your intervention in this matter will make a profound difference in the lives of Citizens with Disabilities. We appeal to your compassionate heart to consider our request and take concrete steps to address these pressing needs.

Looking forward to the above consideration

For **Nethrodaya**

C.Govindakrishnan
Founder
National Awardee

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DONATIONS ARE EXEMPTED FROM INCOME TAX UNDER SECTION 80G OF THE I.T. ACT, 1961