EMPOWER 2024

An Annual Assistive Technology (AT) conference

HOSTED BY
National Institute of Speech and Hearing (NISH), Thiruvananthapuram

NISH Campus
Thiruvananthapuram

📅 **OCTOBER 17 to 19, 2024**

RCI CRE status approved

THEME — Assistive Technology: Linking Minds, Bridging Worlds

HIGHLIGHTS

- Knowledge Sharing
- Innovative Solutions Showcases
- Policy Advocacy for AT Growth and Adoption
- Networking Opportunities

Join us for an inspiring event that brings together users, experts, innovators, and advocates in the Assistive Technology sector!

For More Information

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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SPEECH & HEARING

Accredited as Excellent Institution by RCI │ Accredited by NAAC with B++Grade
(An autonomous organisation under the Social Justice Department, Government of Kerala)
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Organisers:

iit-b

NCAHT
National Center for Assistive Health Technologies

NISH
We are here because, we care

SOCIAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Technical Collaboration:

World Health Organization
India

KERALA STARTUP MISSION®

Strategic Planning:

KMTC
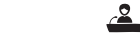KERALA MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY CONSORTIUM

Sponsors:

Google

Microsoft

WORKSHOPS

FN — Closed Pitching Event (Startups & Investors) by Attvaran, An AT startup Accelerator (Global Disability Innovation (Hub)
AN — Panel Discussion

Theme 1: Assistive Technology for Accessible Education

Session	Title	Speaker	Time	Location
Session 1 A	Accessible Content Development (including STEM content)	Ms. Sarala Ramkamal *Chakshumathai, NGO*	09:30 AM to 03:30 PM (6 hrs)	Hall No. 3 (501)
Session 1B	Accessible Graphics, Past, Present, and Future	Mr. John Gardner *Founder, Viewplus*	09:30 AM to 12:30 PM (3 hrs)	Hall no. 5 (505)
Session 1C	Classroom inclusivity through Basic Indian Sign Language (ISL)	Mr. Lijo Reji, Mr. Mohsin Dosani *ISL Teachers, NISH*	02:00 PM to 05:00 PM	Hall no:7 (204)

Theme 2: AT Product Design and Development

Session	Title	Speaker	Time	Location
Session 2A	Designing Adaptive Solutions for Visually Challenged Learners	Mr. Jayadeep *Technical Consultant (ICFOSS)*	02:00 PM to 05:00 PM	Hall no. 5 (505)
Session 2B	Patent Search and Provisional Filing for Early-Stage Startups	Mr. Arvind Suresh *(NCAHT, NISH)*	02:00 PM to 05:00 PM	Hall No.4 (401)
Session 2C	Challenges, Changes, and Chances (a half-day workshop by Kanthari for those who like to make a difference)	Mr. Sijo Varghese Mr. Blaise Ngwanoh Ngwana Mr. David Wayi Mr. Enoque Carvalho Ms. Sabriye Tenberken *(Founder, Kanthari)* *Moderator:* Mr. Paul Kronenberg *(Co-Founder, Kanthari)*	09:30 AM to 12:30 PM	Hall No.6 (304)

Theme 3: Assistive Technology for Adaptive Functioning and Elderly Population

Session	Title	Speaker	Time	Location
Session 3A	Designing Low-tech Frugal Devices to Empower Compromised Hands Using Low-temperature Thermoplastics	Dr. Shovan Saha *Associate Professor & Guide [for MOT in Hand & Musculoskeletal Condition]*	09:30 AM- 12:30 PM	Hall No.4 (401)
Session 3 B	Assistive Technology for the Elderly	Dr Sindhu *Physician, Amala Hospital*	02:00 PM to 05:00 PM	Hall No. 6 (304)

DAY-2
18 Oct 2024

1 Hall1-Marigold | **2** Hall 2 | **3** Hall 3

Session 1A Exploring Next-Generation Mobility Solutions	Session 2A Building up of Assistive Technology Ecosystem	Session 3A: Student Design Challenge - Finals Presentation
09:30 -10:15 Keynote Address *(Dr. Saji Gopinath)* 10:15 -11:00 Keynote Address *(Prof Ravi Poovaiah)* 11:00 -11:30 Tea Break 11:30 -11:50 Invited Talk: Onboard Device Status update *(Prof Bala Krishnan/ Pulkit Sapra (IIT Delhi)* 11:50 -12:10 Invited Talk *(Ashish Jain)* 13:00 -14:00 Lunch Break	Panel discussion: Role of National and International Organisation in Advancing AT *Panelist:* • *Dr Muhammed Asheel* • *Mr Arman Ali (Moderator)* • *Dr Senthil Kumar* • *Dr. Sapna Potti*	11:30 - 01:00 Team 1 Team 2 Team 3 Team 4

Session 1B: Breaking Communication Barriers through AT	Session 2B: Artificial Intelligence and Assistive Technology	Session 3B: Poster Presentation
14:00 -14:20 Invited Talk *(Kalpana Botta, Vidhya Sagar)* 14:25 -14:50 Invited Talk *(Aditi Soumya Narayanan)* 14:50 -15:05 Exhibitors Presentation *(Avaaz)* 15:05 -15:20 Exhibitors Presentation 15:30 -15:40 Scientific Paper Presentation 15:40 -15:50 Scientific Paper Presentation	14:00 -14:20 Invited Talk *(Dr. Sunil, Director, ICFOSS, TVM)* 14:25 -14:50 Technical Demo *(Microsoft)* 14:50 -15:05 Technical Demo *(Google)* 15:05 -15:20 Combined Q & A session 15:30 -15:40 Scientific Paper Presentation 15:40 -15:50 Scientific Paper Presentation	14:00 - 15:50 9 Posters

Session 1C: Assistive Technology and Accessibility	Session 2C: AI and Assistive Technology (continued)	Session 3C: Building Policies and Initiatives for Inclusive Community
16:30 -16:50 Invited Talk *(Sabriye and Team, Kanthari)* 16:50 -17:10 Invited Talk *(Dr. Asheel Mohammed , WHO)* 17:10 -17:30 Invited Talk *(Dr. Gaurav Raheja, IIT, Rourke)* 17:30 -18:00 Exhibitors Presentation	16:00 -16:15 Invited Talk *(Vidhya, Co-founder, Vision Empower Trust)* 16:20 -17:45 Interactive Exploration of AI & AT: AI and Assistive Technology: Lived Experiences and Aspirations *Panelist:* • *Dr. Anita Ghai* • *SayodebMukherjee, Enable India DHH ,* • *Vidhya Y, Vision Empower Trust* • *Arun Panayappan, Google,* • *Nidhi Jain, Microsoft* 17:45 -18:00 Summary of the session	16:30 - 18:00 Panel Discussion: AT in Facilitating Employment and Career Advancement *Panelists:* • *Dr Ravinder Singh, ICMR* • *Mr Dipendra Manocha, SAKSHAM* • *Dr K G Satheesh Kumar, DUK* • *Mr Arman Ali, NCPEDP* • *Mr Vineet Saraiwala, Atypical Advantage* • *Ms Vibha Kothari, Zomato* • *Dr Mohan Sundaram - Moderator*

1 Hall1-Marigold

2 Hall2

○ Hall 3

Session 1D: Assistive Technology Solutions and Employability	Session 2D Assistive Technology and Invisible Disabilities	Session 3D: Poster Presentation
09:30 -10:15 Keynote Address *(Prof Anitha Ghai)* 10:15 -11:00 Keynote Address *(Dr Charudatta Jadav)* 11:45-12:05 Invited Talk *(Vibha Kothari, Program Manager, Zomato)* 12:05-12:25 Invited Talk *(Vineet Saraiwala , CEO, Atypical Advantage)* 12:30 -12:45 Scientific Papers 12:45 - 01:00 Scientific Papers 13:00 - 14:30 Lunch Break, Visit to Posters and Exhibition	11:45-12:05 Invited Talk *(Vaishali Pai, Founder-Director Tamahar Trust)* 12:05-12:25 Invited Talk *(Reena Gupta, Director, Office of Learning Support, Ashoka University)* 12:30 -12:45 Invited Talk *(Sayomdeb Mukerjee, Enable India)* 12:45 - 01:00 Exhibitors Presentation	11.45 - 12: 30 3 Posters

Session 1E: End User Discussion	Session 2E: AT startups	
14:30 -15:30 End User Discussion: Voice of Consumers: Opportunities and Challenges in using AT	15:30 -16:30 Panel discussion: Empowering AT startups-From Concept to Market Success	

Closing ceremony		
1. Power Talks (3 minutes each) 2. SDC Winner's Announcement 3. Introduction to EMPOWER 2025		