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## WORLD SIGN LANGUAGE DAY IS CELEBRATED TODAY

Relevant for: null | Topic: Miscellaneous Facts

Sign Language Day' with the theme "A World Where Deaf People Everywhere Can Sign Anywhere!" was celebrated by the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), New Delhi under the aegis of DEPwD (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment at Bhim Hall, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre Janpath, New Delhi today.

Ever since the United Nations declared 23<sup>rd</sup> September as the International Day of Sign Languages, the ISLRTC celebrates it every year on 23<sup>rd</sup> September. DEPwD and ISLRTC had brought more citizens, stakeholders, service-providing agencies, Deaf schools, NGOs, activists, Deaf leaders, educators, researchers etc. together on this Sign Language Day celebration to create positive awareness about Indian Sign Language among all sections of our society.



Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment, Km. Pratima Bhoumik was the Chief Guest and Shri Rajesh Aggrawal, Secretary; DEPwD was the Guest of Honour on this occasion. Shri Rajesh Yadav, Joint Secretary, DEPwD and Shri Mrityunjay Jha, Director, DEPwD & ISLRTC, and Representatives from National Association of Deaf, All India Federation of Deaf for Women also graced the occasion.

The Minister of State, Social Justice and Empowerment, Km. Pratima Bhoumik mentioned that Mann Ki Baat should be started in ISL. She highlighted the efforts taken by the Government to promote job employment of youth with disabilities.



Sh. Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary, DEPwD informed about the initiative taken by DEPwD to employ persons with disabilities, and the department is planning to provide tablets to deaf students to enable them to access educational videos in sign languages.

Shri Rajesh Yadav, Joint Secretary, DEPwD welcomed all the dignitaries and participants. He said that ISLRTC will take the initiative to develop a platform where deaf can easily communicate with the hearing and that ISLRTC will work on the translation of NCERT textbooks for class VII and onwards.

Shri Sunil Sahasrabudhe, President, All India Federation of Deaf appreciated the significant growth of ISLRTC over the last 8 years.

Smt. Uma Kapoor, President, All India Federation of the Deaf Women said that all parents should learn the online self-learning ISL course so that they can communicate with their deaf children.

Shri A.S. Narayan, President, National Association of Deaf said that on the significant occasion of Sign Language Day, the government is recognizing the occasion by displaying blue light central locations like India Gate.



During the programme, the following programs and materials were also launched.

## MG/PD/SD

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