

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGIES
(PROPOSED NAME - AT CONNECT HUMAN BEING)

The proposed centre will provide **digital accessibility consulting services** and **accreditation** for start-ups manufacturing Assistive Technologies (ATs) as per international standards. The centre will draft a **National Assistive Technology Policy of India** to improve the availability, accessibility, and affordability of innovative assistive technology solutions to enable a better quality of life for millions of persons with and without disabilities in India.

The centre will build the capacity of the organizations working in the disability sector to create livelihood opportunities for persons with and without disability in their vicinity by setting up small units to develop/manufacture ATs.

We believe that science and technology innovations and entrepreneurship have the potential to bring about a positive change in the life of the masses.

The objectives of the centre would be to:

- a) Establish standards and regulatory mechanisms that ensure production, procurement, and provision of quality Assistive Devices at an affordable cost
- b) Identifying, Implementing, and Evaluating ATs to meet the needs of persons in need
- c) Create a list of ATs developed by individuals and organizations including educational institutions both public and private like IITs, IIMs, NADs
- d) Collaborate with individuals and organizations including educational institutions both public and private like IITs, IIMs, NADs to produce/manufacture ATs developed by them at an affordable cost
- e) Incorporating AT into Inclusive Instruction – AT for All

The Centre will develop a **feasibility report** for each individual and/or organization willing to start manufacturing assistive technology. The report will include:

- a) Techno-economic feasibility of AT
- b) Feasible production quantities, the requirement of raw material, utilities, and their sources for procurement.
- c) List out the requirement of Land, Building, Plant & Machineries, and Utilities.
- d) Market Study of the main AT will be conducted

- e) Research and Development
- f) Statutory/mandatory requirements of Government of India for quality Standards like BSI or ISI
- g) Financial Outlay: Indicative study of Capital expenditure, Working Capital requirement and return on investment (ROI), profitability before taxes will be worked out
- h) Support for selecting, designing, fitting, customizing, adapting, applying, maintaining, repairing, or replacing assistive technology devices
- i) coordinating and using other interventions, or services with assistive technology devices, such as those associated with existing education and rehabilitation plans and programs
- j) training will be provided to prospective employees as per the curriculum prescribed by National Skill Development Council & NSIC. Technical assistance will be provided to the user of ATs

The Centre will consider the following parameters while developing the ATs:

- Effectiveness
- Affordability
- Reliability
- Durability
- Safety
- Comfort
- Acceptance
- Maintenance and
- technical support

Activities

- a) To constitute various national and international committees of experts including individuals and organizations (including IITs, IIMs, and NADs) working in the field of Assistive Technology including Advisory Committee, Scientific Committee, Technical Committee etc.
- b) To organize a national conference on Assistive Technology in April /May 2021
- c) To invite individuals and/or organizations who have developed and/or manufacture Assistive Technology to exhibit their Assistive technologies, APPS etc.
- d) To identify suitable Assistive Technology for further production after Quality check, quality testing, and usability etc.