

“What hurts me more is the assumption of the able-bodied that it must be difficult for one to live with a disability.”

- Divyanshu Ganatra

*Trained Clinical Psychologist, Diversity and Inclusion Expert
Motivational Speaker, Researcher, Entrepreneur, and*

The first blind individual to fly an airplane.

Disability Is Not A Problem

Disability, in and of itself, is not a problem but a natural and inherent aspect of human diversity. It is society's response to disability and inaccessible environment that can create challenges and barriers for individuals with disabilities. By leveraging the capabilities of Assistive Technology (AT), we can demonstrate that disability is not a problem but rather a condition that can be effectively addressed. However, access to AT and awareness about it is limited.

The **AssisTech Foundation (ATF)** is established to combat the issue of insufficient access to AT for persons with disability. We work to promote the development and distribution of AT by supporting research, innovation, and collaboration amongst various stakeholders such as startups, organizations, and Govt. We also advocate for policies that promote the use of AT, raise public awareness about its importance, and provide funding and resources to improve access to AT for persons with disabilities (PwDs). ATF has been the winner of Indian Innovation Icons 2025 Awards under Social Category by Marico Innovation Foundation, selected amongst 1200+ applications and recognized as a game-changing Indian innovation.

Since inception, ATF has impacted more than 1 Million lives. We plan to create an impact on the lives of 5 Million PwDs in the next 3 years.

Did You Know?

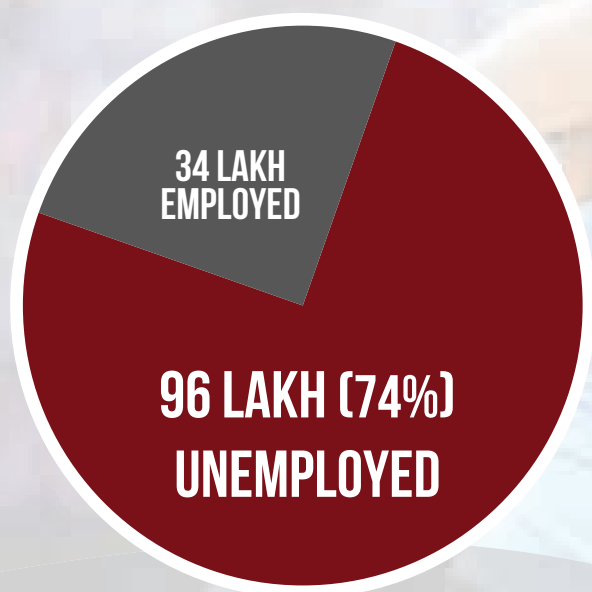
150 CRORE
people across the
world have disabilities

3 CRORE
people in **India**
have disabilities

2/3
of the world's working-age people
with disabilities are unemployed

Of India's nearly **3 Crore** PwDs:

1.3 CRORE ARE EMPLOYABLE



Predominant Types Of Disability



20%
of people have
locomotor
disabilities



19%
of people
have vision
related
disabilities

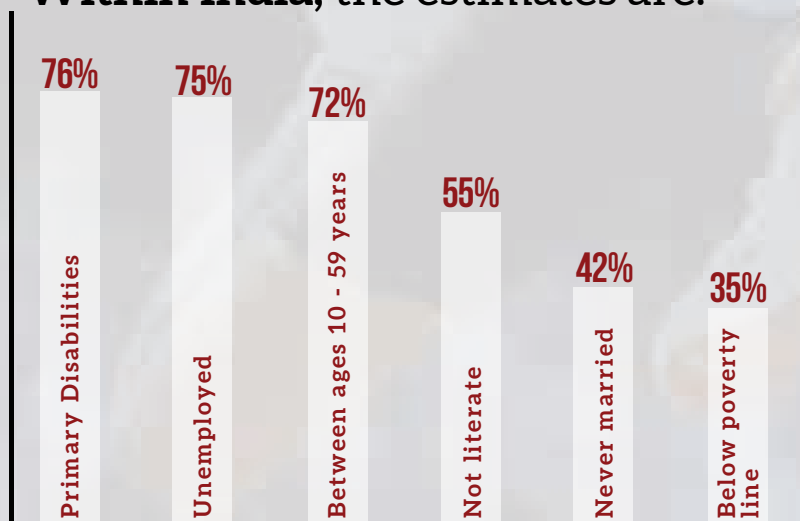


19%
of people
have hearing
impairment



8%
of people
have multiple
disabilities

Within India, the estimates are:



A Problem Compounded by

- Non-inclusion
- Discrimination
- Indifferent workplaces
- Fear of harassment
- Public misconceptions

3 CRORE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN INDIA

*WHO estimates

Assistive Technology (AT)

/ə'sistiv/ /tɛk'nɒlədʒi/

AT is the application of organized knowledge and skills related to assistive products, including systems and services. It is a subset of health technology and an assistive product is any product used by PwDs for participation; to protect, support, train, measure or substitute for body functions/ structures and activities; or to prevent impairments, activity limitations or participation restrictions.

Benefits Of Assistive Technology



92%

of persons with disabilities were more efficient



83%

saw an increase in income



76%

got better education



67%

obtained livelihoods



62%

became independent



52%

achieved financial independence

In a world that too often focuses on limitations, AssisTech Foundation emerges as a beacon of hope, driving the AT ecosystem to enable accessibility and foster inclusion. We passionately believe that every person, regardless of their abilities, deserves the opportunity to lead a fulfilling and empowered life. We are on a mission to break down barriers and create a world where disabilities do not hinder one's potential. We understand that technology has the power to transform lives, and it is with this conviction that we forge ahead, leaving no stone unturned in our pursuit of a more inclusive society.



Leadership

Board of Directors -

*Jawahar Bekay, Krishnamoorthy A
Prateek Madhav (CEO), Ravi Narayan,
Suryaprakash K*

Friends of ATF

As the AssisTech Foundation continued to gain recognition for its efforts to promote the use of AT, more and more individuals began to support its cause including industry leaders, disability inclusion advocates etc.

Some donated time, money and/or resources, while others simply spread the word about the foundation's mission to friends and family.



Supported by Corporates



Foundations

SAROJINI DAMODARAN FOUNDATION | SWASTHI FOUNDATION

& a long list of patron contributions.



Themes of ATF

The 3Ls - **Learning, Livelihood, and Living** - are critical components of empowering PwDs and promoting social inclusion.

Learning is essential for PwDs to acquire knowledge and skills that can help them become self-sufficient and participate fully in society. This includes access to quality education that is inclusive and accommodates the diverse learning needs of PwDs. **Livelihood** is also crucial for PwDs as it enables them to earn a living and be financially independent. **Living** is about ensuring that PwDs have access to basic rights, such as healthcare, housing, and transportation, that enable them to lead fulfilling lives.

The 3Ls are interconnected and essential for promoting the social and economic inclusion of PwDs. Investing in learning, livelihood, and living can help to create a more inclusive and equitable society where everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential, regardless of their abilities.

Frameworks

Acceleration, Availability, Awareness, and Association are the four pillars of the work done by the AssisTech Foundation to promote access to AT for PwDs. By focusing on these four pillars, the foundation aims to promote greater access to AT solutions and improve the lives of PwDs.

Acceleration

Acceleration refers to the need to speed up the innovations by startups through supporting them in development and dissemination of AT solutions. This requires investing in research and development and promoting innovation in the field of AT.

Availability

Availability refers to the need to ensure that AT solutions are widely available and accessible to those who need them. This requires addressing barriers to access such as affordability, availability of trained professionals, and infrastructure.

Association

The AssisTech Foundation works towards building associations throughout the AT ecosystem by facilitating networking opportunities, promoting knowledge sharing and collaboration, and supporting the formation of communities of practice.

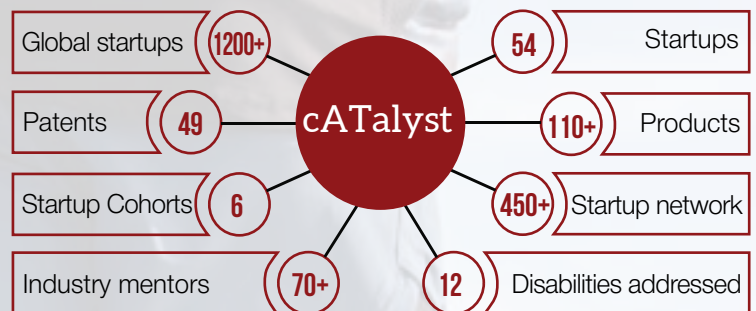
Awareness

The AssisTech Foundation works towards increasing awareness of AT solutions by conducting outreach programs and awareness campaigns like Fellowships for Entrepreneurs with Disabilities, access to The One Tech (ToT), and more, along with the ATF awards to reward and recognize AT ecosystem stakeholders and help entrepreneurs in the AT sector.

Programs

cATalyst- AT startup Acceleration Program

The cATalyst is an exclusive program for AT-based startups creating an impact in the world through empowering people with disability. It leads startups on a transformative journey where tailored support is provided to them along with mentorship, guidance and access limitless opportunities of networking and collaboration with an aim to help startups grow and succeed multifold. ATF has set up India's first & exclusive Startup India Seed Fund for AT startups through the support by DPIIT, Govt of India wherein a capital pool of INR 5 crores will be invested in 32 AT startups in the next 3 years.



Portfolio Startups



ATF's incubatees show **impact is possible**

Programs (Contd.)

ATF Awards

ATF Awards is India's First and Foremost award dedicated to the AT ecosystem stakeholders. We introduced 10 awards in 3 categories to recognize not just startups, but the ecosystem enablers like corporates, governments, educational institutions, NGOs, and investors.

illuminATe

illuminATe is a pioneering initiative dedicated to bridging the gap in access to Assistive Technology (AT) for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

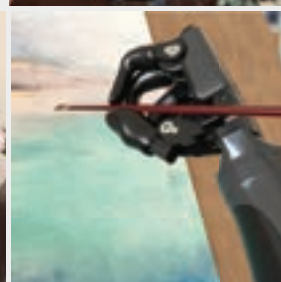
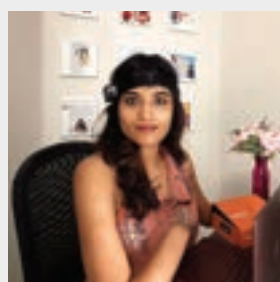
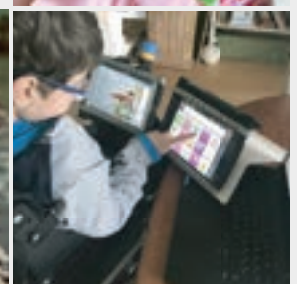
The capitalized 'AT' in illuminATe emphasizes the program's core mission—leveraging Assistive Technology (AT) to illuminate opportunities for learning, livelihood, and living. Through illuminATe, we work with AT startups, innovators, and solution providers to identify, select, and provide the best AT solutions for PwDs. This not only ensures that PwDs have access to the right AT tailored to their needs but also facilitates market access for emerging AT solutions, fostering a sustainable and inclusive innovation ecosystem. This program falls in the Availability pillar of the company.

Adidvara

Adidvara is a one-stop digital platform exclusively made for PwDs and their caregivers to access learning, livelihood and living seamlessly through one digital platform. In Sanskrit, Adidvara means door to infinity. It is a door to limitless possibilities of transforming lives of PwDs around the virtuous cycle of learning, livelihood and living.

sensATe

SensATe- AT Experience Centre, blends sensation with Assistive Technology (AT), emphasizing its mission to make AT solutions accessible, inclusive, and transformative. It serves as a space where individuals can explore, engage, and experience AT, fostering understanding and empowering Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) to lead more impactful lives.





Everybody has the ability to change disability

Enable us in enabling disability inclusion by leveraging AT

WORK | VOLUNTEER | DONATE

Creating a world of joy by empowering every person with disability

✉ info@atflabs.org 🌐 atflabs.org

 **AssisTech**
Foundation
Accelerating Social Impact