

The Department of PMR

JIPMER, Puducherry -6

Report on International Day of Persons with Disabilities Celebrations – 2025

Theme: *Fostering disability-inclusive societies for advancing social progress*

The Department of PMR, JIPMER, observed the International Day of Persons with Disabilities through a series of activities aimed at creating awareness, fostering inclusivity, and celebrating the talents of persons with disabilities. The observance underscores JIPMER's commitment to building an accessible and equitable environment.

Promoting Inclusivity

Continuing its efforts to promote an inclusive culture, the department organized a variety of sports events for JIPMER employees and students with disabilities on 19.11.2025 at the JIPMER Grounds. The sports programme was inaugurated by **Dr. M. Hadar Basha**, Grievance Officer (PWD); **Shri Hawa Singh**, Senior Administrative Officer, **Dr.V.Padmapriyadarshini**, Asst. Professor, PMR and **Shri Ranga Kumar**, President, JIPMER PWD Employees Association. The event was presided over by **Dr. Navin Kumar**, Professor and Head, Department of PMR.

Employees and students with disabilities actively participated in all the events, showcasing remarkable talent and enthusiasm, and reinforcing the message of equality and inclusivity. Participants were grouped into three categories—Locomotor Disability, Hearing Impairment, and Visual Impairment—and events were conducted separately for each group.

In addition, cricket matches were organized with able-bodied participants, further promoting inclusivity. Around 11 teams comprising JIPMER employees - including, for the first time, a women's employees team, actively took part. The winners of the able-bodied staff cricket tournament then competed in a friendly match with the staff with disabilities.

More than 150 employees and students participated in the programme.





Raising Awareness Among Children and Staff

To further promote awareness among school children and JIPMER staff, a drawing competition on the theme *“Inclusive Society and Work Culture”* was conducted on 30.11.2025. A total of **186 participants**, including children aged 3 to 15 years and JIPMER employees, showcased their creativity and expressed their understanding of an inclusive society through art. The competition helped children gain awareness and understanding of disability through their drawings.



Prize Distribution Ceremony

A Prize Distribution Ceremony to honour outstanding performers with disabilities and children was held on 03.12.2025 at the SSB Conference Hall, JIPMER. The dignitaries **Dr. Ravi Kumar Chittoria**, Registrar (Academic); **Dr. Jagadesan P**, Professor, Radiation Oncology & Liaison Officer (PWD); **Smt. Chinmayee**, Physical Instructor; and **Shri Vijay Mohan**, Manager, Printing & Stationery, participated as guests and awarded the winners. The programme was organised under the leadership of **Dr. Navin Kumar**, Professor and Head, Department of PMR.





Awareness Rally

As part of the continued observance, an awareness rally was held on 06.12.2025. It began at the entrance of the Administrative Block and concluded at the JIPMER Auditorium, highlighting the message **RESPECT – SUPPORT – INCLUDE**. The rally was flagged off by **Dr. Saka Vinod Kumar**, Medical Superintendent; **Shri Hawa Singh**, Senior Administrative Officer; and **Dr. Navin Kumar**, Professor and Head, Department of PMR.

Students from the following colleges participated:

- MTPG & RIHS – College of Physiotherapy
- PIMS – College of Physiotherapy
- Sri Venkateshwaraa College of Physiotherapy
- SMVEC – College of Physiotherapy
- AVMC – College of Physiotherapy







Rehabilitation Education & Assistive Devices Exhibition

A rehabilitation educational programme was held on 06.12.2025 at the Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam JIPMER Auditorium.

Lectures included:

- *Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act* by **Shri F. Christopher**, Executive Manager, Global Trust for the Differently Able
- *Advancements in Prosthetics & Orthotics* by **Mr. Manivanan**, Manager, Ottobock Healthcare, Chennai

Cultural performances were presented by students of Satya Special School, Sristi Special School, JIPMER students, and Ms. Subashini, SAA, JIPMER.

Special guests **Dr. Sunil K. Narayan**, Dean (Research); **Dr. M. Hadar Basha**, Grievance Officer (PWD); **Shri Hawa Singh**, Senior Administrative Officer; **Shri Ranga Kumar**, President, JIPMER PWD Employees Association and **Dr. Navin Kumar**, Professor and Head, Department of PMR, graced the programme.

An exhibition of assistive devices was also organized, where Ottobock Healthcare, Endolite India, and ALIMCO, Kanpur showcased advanced prosthetics, orthotics, and assistive devices. Students from all participating physiotherapy colleges attended the educational programme, helping promote deeper understanding of disability rights, accessibility, and empowerment among medical and allied health students.







Conclusion and Acknowledgements

The Director, **Dr. Vir Singh Negi**, extended strong support for the successful conduct of these programmes and conveyed his best wishes to all JIPMER employees and students with disabilities on this special occasion. The Medical Superintendent, **Dr. Saka Vinod Kumar**, also offered full encouragement. The entire series of events was coordinated under the leadership of **Dr. Navin Kumar**, Head of the Department of PMR, JIPMER.
