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National Resource Centre for FOSS  
Department of Information Technology  
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## Computer Training Program for Visually Challenged

23rd July - 4th August, 2012  
CDAC, KHARGHAR, Navi Mumbai

<http://www.cdacmumbai.in/ctvc>



Organised By

Centre for Development of  
Advanced Computing  
Mumbai

## Introduction

In India, about 7-8 million people are suffering from full or partial visual impairment. Such people have to be provided with different kinds of support devices to access the world and to perform routine tasks like bill payments, banking transactions, reservations etc.. Now technology, either software-based or hardware-based, has made it possible for these people to access the world in their own way. But a large section of blind population is still away from advantages of modern assistive technologies. The main reasons for this gap are not only the lack of awareness about assistive technologies available and lack of hands-on practice to use it, but also the cost of technology. Free & Open Source Software (FOSS) tools/techniques play an important role in creating assistive technologies that are free-of-cost, available to all and easily maintainable for a large portion of population in a country like India. For visually challenged people, available computer based assistive technologies include screen magnifier, screen reader, braille display, digital book reader and many more. From all of these, screen reader is the most popular and potentially useful for such people to access the computer. A screen reader is a software application that just not reads the screen from top to bottom but also helps the user to navigate the interface by communicating the current position where s/he is, where to go next by giving appropriate feedback.

## About Training

This training program is intended to provide a learning platform for visually challenged persons to learn the basics of computer and the usage of screen reader. The training will include using desktop, text editor, command line, word processor, spreadsheet, playing multimedia, Internet browsing and mail client. Working of screen reader with other Indian languages will also be covered during the training program. More details about training program can be found at CDAC, Mumbai website (<http://www.cdacmumbai.in>). The GNU/Linux distribution for Visually Challenged developed by CDAC, Mumbai and FOSS based screen reader Orca will be used for training purposes.

## Objectives of Program

- To create awareness about computer based assistive technologies available for Visually challenged users.
- To give hands-on training for basics of computer using screen reader.

## Target Audience

Visually challenged persons having basic understanding of English and interest to learn new technologies.

## About CDAC, Mumbai

The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, Mumbai (erstwhile National Centre for Software Technology) is a scientific society of Department of Information Technology involved in Research and Development into areas of Software Technology. Current focus areas are Artificial Intelligence, Open Source Software Development, Educational Technology, Disaster Recovery, e-Governance, among others. Details about research and development activities and projects can be found on [www.cdacmumbai.in/index.php/cdacmumbai/research\\_and\\_publications/projects](http://www.cdacmumbai.in/index.php/cdacmumbai/research_and_publications/projects).

## Registration Details

Registration is free of cost, but the seats are very limited. Registration will be on first-come-first-served basis. To register yourself, please fill-up the form attached here and send it on address mentioned in "Contact Us" section. Registration form can also be downloaded from <http://www.cdacmumbai.in>

## Contact Us

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23<sup>rd</sup> July - 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2012

## REGISTRATION FORM

**Registration will be on first come first served basis.**

**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Age:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Gender:** [ M / F ]

**Occupation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**If student, please specify**

**Class** \_\_\_\_\_ **School** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Contact No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail Id:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Accommodation required:** [Y/N]

**Any Remark:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date & Sign**