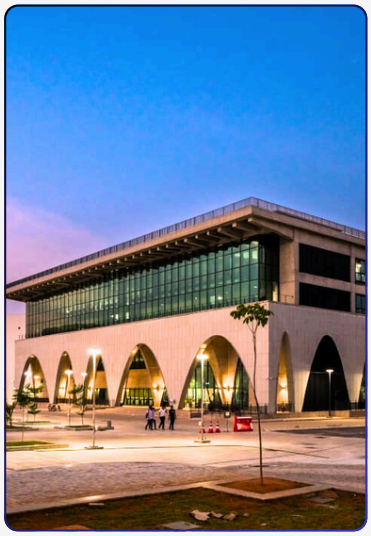
ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
SYMPOSIUM 2026
IIT HYDERABAD

భారతీయ సాంకేతిక విజ్ఞాన సంస్థ హైదరాబాద్
भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद
Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad

KNOWLEDGE RESOURCE CENTRE
IIT HYDERABAD



Visual

Motor

Cognitive

Auditory

Dwarfism

Source: : ICT

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

SYMPOSIUM
on
Accessible and Inclusive Digital Library (AIDL)-2026

Assistive Technologies, Community Engagement and Designing Inclusive Library Space

March 6-7, 2026

Venue: IIT Hyderabad, India

Organised By :

Knowledge Resource Centre / Library
IIT Hyderabad,
Kandi, Sangareddy, Telangana, India
P: +91-40-23016750
E: aidl2026.iith@gmail.com
W: https://library.iith.ac.in/events/aidl2026/

ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

AIDL-2026 will provide a platform to discuss on the above themes along with related issues and challenges and probable solutions to overcome risks associated with the future of different types of libraries to make it inclusive for all communities.

India has an estimated 70 million disabled persons who are unable to read printed materials due to some form of physical, sensory, cognitive or other disability. The disabled need accessible content, devices and interfaces facilitated via copyright law and accessibility policies as reported by CIS-India. As per the data report by Disability Index, globally disability estimates can be more than 15% of the total population, while in India number of persons with disabilities are estimated to be more than 2.68 crores.

In line with the Bold vision of Viksit Bharat@2047 and to support the 8 core pillars, this event will support the Digital Empowerment, Education and Skill Development, Sustainable Development along with inclusive future in the academic set-up.

This event is supported by invited talks, panel discussion and demonstration, case studies on the above main themes. This forum will also provide a platform to discuss on the above themes along with related issues and challenges and probable solutions to overcome risks associated with the future of different types of libraries. The event will connect library professionals, academic-industry partners, and allied professionals across the world.

OBJECTIVES OF AIDL-2026

- To create awareness about accessible and inclusive digital library practices.
- To highlight emerging assistive tools and technologies
- To encourage collaboration between libraries, academic institutions and other institutions.
- Network with accessibility experts, technology and domain experts
- To identify challenges and propose actionable recommendations for inclusive library services.
- Sharing of Best Practices, Case Studies implemented in this domain

ABOUT THE IIT HYDERABAD

The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) is an Institute of National Importance established by an Act of Parliament under the aegis of the Government of India, Ministry of Education, Department of Higher Education, New Delhi.

ABOUT THE IITH-KRC

IITH KRC - Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC- Library) - has been functioning since 2008. The library presently holds more than 40,000+ Books including gratis. E-resources collections include 5,000+ Full-text Resources, Bibliographic Databases, 1,83,000+ e-books, Academic Tools, and Online Newspapers & Magazines. The IITH library is fully automated with the integrated library software package using Koha and the RFID security automation system. IITH Library has been renamed as IITH Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC) relocated to the new building and re-started its functioning on 27-March-2024.

The summary of the infrastructure, facilities, services and state-of-the-art technology available at KRC to support Teaching-Learning and Research (TLR) activities, initiatives implemented by the library can be seen at:

Website: https://library.iith.ac.in/ | Virtual Tour | Video

CALL FOR PAPERS

Theme: Accessible and Inclusive Digital Library (AIDL)

The following are the Main Themes and Sub-Themes pertaining to Accessible and Inclusive Digital Library for all Persons with Disabilities (PwD) / Divynagjan Users, but are not limited to:

Main Themes	Sub-Themes

Assistive Tools and Technologies	• Assistive Technologies & Alternate Formats for Higher Education
	  ◦ Screen readers, magnification, reading and writing tools used by students with disabilities
	  ◦ Accessibility of course packs, reading lists and course reserves
	• Enabling Digital Accessibility
	• Assistive Technologies: New Trends & Technologies
	• Remediation: Automated Document Accessibility Tools
	  ◦ Workflows for creating accessible PDFs, EPUB3, DAISY, audio books and Braille
	• Innovating Accessibility with Gen AI & Computer Vision
	• Indic Language Tools and Technologies
	• Best Practices and Case Studies

Community Engagement & Collaboration	• Empowering Community Engagement
	  ◦ Co-designing services with students with disabilities and Disabled Persons' Organisations (DPOs)
	• Empowering Persons with Disabilities (PwD) / Divyangjan users
	  ◦ Peer-mentoring, student clubs and accessibility champions within campuses
	• Collaboration Spaces
	  ◦ Enhancing Collaborations with Bookshare, Sugamya Pustakalaya and other content providers
	  ◦ Partnerships between Academic libraries, public libraries and NGOs on inclusion
	• Role of sign language interpreters for effective communication ServicesBest Practices and Case Studies

Designing Inclusive Library Space & Services	• Building Inclusive Library Spaces for all Divyanagjan Users • Embracing Inclusive Library Services • Next-Gen Libraries and Future of Libraries • Accessible Transport • Best Practices and Case Studies
Accessible Media & Digital Library Platforms	• Accessible library websites, discovery services, OPACs and institutional repositories • Implementing WCAG 2.2, GIGW and good practices in Indian higher education • Ensuring accessibility of e-journals, databases and e-book platforms • Emerging tools for accessible digital library interfaces • Best Practices and Case Studies
Policy, Legal Compliance & Institutional Governance	• Implementing the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 in academic libraries • Aligning with UGC, NAAC and national policy expectations on accessibility • Procurement, licensing and vendor management for accessible products and services • Developing institutional accessibility policies, audits and action plans

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission Deadline:	24 December 2025
Final Paper Deadline:	15 January 2026
Registration Deadline:	3 March 2026
Symposium Dates:	6–7 March 2026

CALL FOR PAPERS

Original contributions based on application/research/surveys/practices related to the theme and sub-themes mentioned are invited for paper. Based on the editorial committee's recommendations, papers for the seminar will be selected and published in the symposium volume (print version) with ISBN number. Registrations for all authors are mandatory for paper presentation. All papers should be submitted through email aidl2026.iith@gmail.com on or before **24.12.2025**

Guidelines:

- Title of the paper must not be more than 20 words.
- Abstract should be written in English within 200 – 250 words.
- Keywords - 4- 5 (font size-12) followed by abstract
- Font type- Times New Roman. Font Size- Title (14), Author(s) details & Abstract (12), Full-text (10)
- Format: 1.5 spacing with 1-inch margin in all sides.
- Reference Style: APA format
- Submit in MS Word document.
- The full paper must be within 2500 words including references, tables and figures.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EVENT

This event is supported by invited talks, panel discussion and demonstration, case studies on the above main themes. Also Interactive Sessions, Networking with Domain Experts, Sharing of Best Practices and Case Studies, Product Demonstrations, Platform demonstrations and Much more opportunities.

Panel Discussion: Panel discussion with the domain experts

Product Talks & Showcases: Explore real-world inclusive products and solutions. Learn from Academic experts and industry leaders who have designed, built, and delivered accessible experiences for people with disabilities.

Speakers & Guests: The symposium will feature eminent speakers, experts, and dignitaries from the fields of special education, accessibility, and assistive technology. Profiles of notable contributors will be shared closer to the event date.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

- Registration fee for LIS & working professionals: INR. 3500.00
- Registration fee for Students: INR. 2500.00
- Registration fee for PWD students: INR. 200.00
- Registration fee for foreign delegates: INR. 4500.00
- Registration fee for Corporate / Industries: INR. 5000.00

Last date of registration: 01.03.2026

Note: The above Registration Fees is excluding GST (18%) to be included while making the payment.

The registration doesn't cover accommodation, transportation, etc. Participants who want to avail accommodation facility will have to inform in advance and he/she should have to bear the charges for accommodation depending on the kind of room(s), bed(s), etc. available at the time of the symposium.

Registration form is available in the IITH-KRC website: https://library.iith.ac.in/events/aidl2026/. Scanned copy of the filled-in Registration Form along with payment details has to be sent through email at: aidl2026.iith@gmail.com

PAYMENT DETAILS

Payment details:

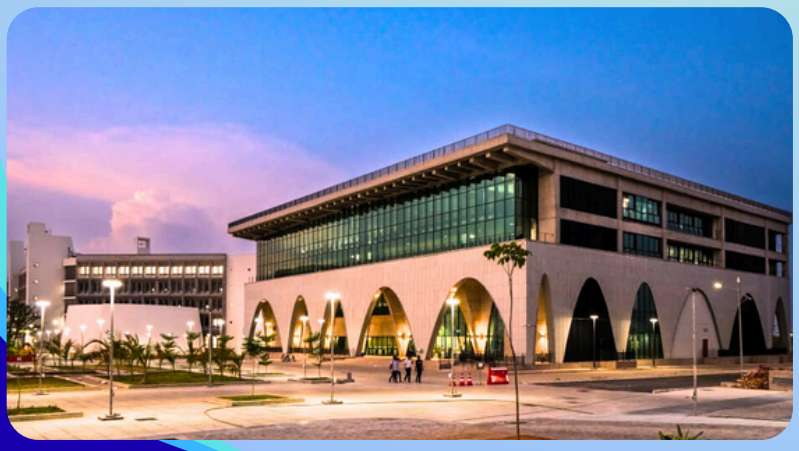
Payment should be made through a Online transfer / Demand Draft in favour of "Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad" payable at Canara Bank, IITH Kandi - 502284 and send to the following address. You may choose to pay the amount through NEFT/RTGS with following details:

Account Name :	Prof B S Murty, Director
Account No. :	110171129768
Bank Name :	Canara Bank
Branch Name & Code :	Yedumailaram & 3458
Account Type :	Savings Bank A/c
IFSC Code :	CNRB0003458
SWIFT Code :	CNRBINBBBFD

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Chief Patron	**Prof. B.S.Murty**, Director, IITH
Patron	**Prof. Ashok Kumar Pandey**, Dean-Academic
Symposium Chair	**Prof. Saket Asthana**, Chair-Library Committee
Convener & Organizing Secretary	**Dr. Bhojaraju Gunjal**, Chief Library Officer
Co-Conveners	**Dr. Mallikarjuna C**, Deputy Librarian **Mr. Siva Kimidi**, Assistant Librarian
Local Organizing Committee	All Library Staff
Publicity & Promotion Committee	Dr. Bhojaraju Gunjal, Mr. Arshad, Mr. Sriram, Ms. Sayantani
Sponsorship & Accounts Committee	Mr. Siva Kimidi, Ms. Haseena, Ms. Suchita Sahoo
Registration and Hospitality Committee	Mr. Jayanta Kumar Sahu, Mr.Sajan C S, Mr. Anand
Travel Support	Mr. Gajanand Kaushik, Mr. Jayanta Kumar Sahu

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE



Dr. Bhojaraju Gunjal

Convener & Organizing Secretary – AIDL-2026

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