



International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Why in News

Every year on **3rd December**, International Day of Persons with Disabilities is observed.

- Earlier, the [draft norms for ensuring accessibility](#) for the differently abled at airports has been released by the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Disability

- A disability is a **condition or function judged to be significantly impaired** relative to the usual standard of an individual of their group.
- The term is often **used to refer to individual functioning**, including physical impairment, sensory impairment, cognitive impairment, intellectual impairment, mental illness, and various types of chronic disease.
- This usage has been **described by some disabled people** as being associated with a medical model of disability.

Key Points

▪ Background:

- The annual observance of this day **began in 1992** after it was proclaimed by the [United Nations General Assembly](#) resolution 47/3.
- In 2006, the **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)** was also adopted.
- It aims at **working towards creating equal opportunities for persons** with disabilities through the implementation of the **2030 agenda for sustainable development**.

▪ About:

- The day is observed to **promote the rights and well-being of people** with disabilities at every level of society and development.
- It also **aims to raise awareness of the situations** of persons with disabilities in all aspects of political, social, economic and cultural life.

▪ Data related to Persons with Disabilities:

- **According to the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), more than 1 billion people experience disability**, and this figure is predicted to rise, due in part to population ageing and an increase in the prevalence of non-communicable diseases.
- As per the [National Statistics Office](#) report on disability released last year (2020), about **2.2% of India's population lives** with some kind of physical or mental disability.

▪ Theme for 2021:

- 'Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible,

and sustainable post-[Covid-19](#) world’.

▪ **Related Initiatives:**

◦ **Global:**

- **World Programme of Action (WPA):** It is a **global strategy to enhance disability prevention**, rehabilitation and equalization of opportunities, which pertains to full participation of persons with disabilities in social life and national development. The WPA also **emphasizes the need to approach disability** from a human rights perspective.

◦ **India’s:**

- [Unique Disability Identification \(UDID\) Portal](#)
- [Accessible India Campaign](#)
- [DeenDayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme](#)
- [Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/fitting of Aids and Appliances \(ADIP\)](#)

Related Observances

- **4th January:** World Braille Day
- **21st March:** World Down Syndrome Day
- **2nd April:** [World Autism Day](#)
- **23rd September:** International Day of Sign Languages
- **10th December:** [Human Rights Day](#)

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