



# Blind Lead Trust

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Registration no. 757-2018

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Name of the Organization: Blind Lead Trust (BLT)]

## Background of the organization:

Blind Lead Trust (BLT) is an organization that has been registered on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018 as a Public Trust. Its aim is to bring equal opportunities in education and learning for the visually impaired by providing them free training courses, free hostels and to work for the welfare of the visually impaired community. It aims to provide the visually-impaired with jobs, to provide free training courses in an accessible way to the visually-impaired citizens in the state of Meghalaya and across the country. In the state of Meghalaya there are no institutions or organizations which provide free educational training courses for the visually impaired, it is only the Blind Lead Trust which does that. The Blind Lead Trust has trustees, staff and fellows who are being trained, learned, to support each other. At present, the organization has an office in Nongthymmai Lawjynriew, Shillong, Meghalaya and a website as well as a Facebook page in the name of Blind Lead Trust and Trust Deed. BLT India is a non-profit organization based in Shillong, Meghalaya with the mission to protect the rights of the visually impaired, to also make improvements for their future, to help them to fulfill their dreams, to participate in society and to be more reliant and self-sufficient. List of beneficiaries may include – Six (6) Staff, (7) Trustees and 58 beneficiaries.

## Aims and Objectives of the Organization

1. To undertake programmes/projects for the personal development and for the benefit of blind and low vision, including education, awareness, independence and productivity.

- 2. To undertake programmes/projects for socio-economic development and social integration for the visually impaired community.**
- 3. To promote and propagate awareness and rights of the visually impaired persons.**
- 4. To undertake any other objects of public utility.**

**Executive Summary :** As we all know that during the year 2020 and 2021 the world has been shut down due to lockdown because of covid-19. During this year the organization has been facing problems in terms of financial stability as the state has imposed lockdown and there is no way to earn a rupee this has created tension and chaos in the organization. Due to lockdown all the work, activities and project have been pending and we cannot run the work as per the financial year. Most of the activities have been pending and all the staff in the organization are returning back to their own native place. So, the organization has not been able to accomplish this until the lockdown has been lifted in the state the organization has been able to continue with the work. During the year the organization has been able to run its work smoothly through the cooperation of its members, staff and other volunteers. In fact we know the organization had faced various circumstances during its journey to walk through obstacles but still we are glad to see that the organization has worked hard without any failure to lend and contribute to the society to work for the welfare of the visually impaired community and to the other differently abled who faced hardships and who really need a helping hand, through this it has been upgraded the power of the organization from time to time related with our dreams and projects that the organization had aimed. The organization has been working continuously to work for the betterment of the visually impaired and the person with the disability. The organization has implemented different kinds of projects for the welfare of the underprivileged visually impaired across the state of Meghalaya. The organization has been able to give different training such as broom making, computer training and android phone training. The main motive of these training is that they want the visually impaired to stand on their own feet, and to be able to earn their own income and be financially stable and to be at par with other normal people in terms of job opportunities.

**Activities done:**

- 1. To improve the organization and promote to the donors, the organization had applied to be ready for the (12A, 80G) Licenses under the exemption of income tax department of Kolkata headquarter and finally last year the organization successfully completed its audit with the assistance of the good and kindhearted Chartered Accountant.**
- 2. The Organization every year has celebrated the World White Cane on the 15 October. To make the society understand the importance of the White Cane for the visually impaired as it symbolized independence, the Blind Lead Trust celebrated World White Cane Safety. The white cane is very precious for the visually impaired as it helps them move freely independently. The White Cane is the only friend of the visually impaired that would never ever betray them.**
- 3. The Blind Lead Trust (BLT) as an organization has worked on various projects, activities as well as in conducting programmes. The Organization has been able to give android training for the visually impaired. Now the Visually impaired can use and operate automatically like any other normal human beings.**
- 4. The Blind Lead Trust conducted different activities in relation to the welfare of the visually impaired. The BLT team has also tried so hard to raise funds for the different projects of the organization in order to make it sustainable and it has tried to partner with various NGOs from within as well as outside of the state to develop the projects of the organization.**
- 5. To make the organization firm and to spread its work and projects so as to make it accessible for the visually impaired the BLT has created its own website which is accessible for the visually impaired. Through the website we can publish all the activities and projects so that the people who visit our website will see all the work that the organization has done.**
- 6. The organization most of the time has collaborated with the Vision Aid Academy to provide android smartphone training for the visually impaired in the states.**
- 7. The Organization has also participated in the signature campaign on accessible transport for the visually impaired. Since, in our states the environment is not accessible to the visually impaired. So our organization had participated to create awareness for the visually impaired.**
- 8. The organization had open internship programs for the students who want to study and do**

research for the visually impaired or to learn about the work and schedule of the organization. The internship students got to observe new things, gain valuable work experiences, explore a career path, develop and refine skills, gain confidence and others.

9. The BLT organization took initiative to launch the Talking ATMs project in order to promote the visually impaired to use transactions with their ATM Card. The organization has first started the survey in East Khasi Hills District after it has been completed in Shillong city the organization will continue in all the districts of Meghalaya.
10. The organization also celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3rd December. On this day the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Government of Meghalaya organized this programme for all the persons with disabilities in Meghalaya. The observance of such a day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and to mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all aspects of life which consists of the political, social, economic and cultural life.
11. The Organization has set up handicraft training on how to make brooms. The organization started the broom marketing. Where they sell their broom product in order to create income or funds for the organization.

**Conclusion:**To conclude the Blind Lead Trust in the year 2021 has not been able to accomplish all the work due to coronavirus as lockdown has been imposed all around the world. Yet, with all the difficulties and circumstances that the organization faced during the year ,the organization has been able to complete some of the projects and activities successfully. We also hope that in the coming year we will be able to complete all the projects and activities that are still pending. As the organization who looks after the welfare of the visually impaired we hope that we will still continue to work for the betterment of the visually impaired and bring changes in the society. We would like to express our gratitude to all our friends and well wishes for their generous contribution to our organization. With the hard work and teamwork of all the staff we hope we will be able to achieve our goals.

