



# Mitra Jyothi

To Inspire and Enable the Visually Impaired

CA Site P22, 31st Main, 18th Cross, HSR Layout Sector 1, (Behind NIFT), Bangalore - 560102

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## **Proposed Project Plan 2024-2025 – Procurement and distribution of Assistive devices –**

### **Smart Phones, Samsung Tabs with Bluetooth Keyboards and DAISY device to improve the education material access for students with vision impairment**

**About:** Mitra Jyothi is a registered trust (under the Indian Trust Act) located in Bangalore in the State of Karnataka and has been working for people with disability in general and visually impaired in particular for more than three decades (started in 1990). It is run under the able guidance of Ms. Madhu Singhal (National Awardee) who has accomplished many milestones not only in India but also abroad despite her own disability. Mitra Jyothi's Mission is to assist visually impaired individuals to lead independent and dignified lives through Education, Training, Counselling, Communication & Technology so as to integrate them with mainstream society at large. The organization and its founder have received many awards and accolades over the years for the exemplary service they have been providing. March 2015 heralded the recognition of the exemplary services rendered by Mitra Jyothi to society by awarding an Honorary Doctorate to Ms. Madhu Singhal by the State Women's University, Karnataka.

**Proposal:** We are soliciting financial assistance to supply assistive devices to visually impaired beneficiaries, including smartphones and Samsung tablets equipped with Bluetooth keyboards, to enhance their access to educational materials and improve the learning experience for students with vision impairment.

**Objective:** To ensure equitable access to educational resources and reading materials for individuals with visual disabilities by offering assistive devices, thereby promoting inclusive learning, personal development, and independence within this community.

**Assistive devices – Smart Phone & Samsung tablets equipped with Bluetooth keyboards:** The Mitra Jyothi Educational Resource Centre (ERC) offers accessible educational and general reading materials to individuals with visual impairments in various need-based formats, such as e-Text, Human Voice, Braille Prints, Large Print, and others. This helps address the need for Audio libraries/text-to-speech conversion technology, which makes reading faster and more efficient for people with visual impairments.

**Smart Phones & Samsung Tabs:** In today's world, smartphones and Tabs have several features that help visually impaired individuals lead more independent lives:

**Voice assistants:** The devices come with built-in voice assistants like Siri, Google Assistant, and Alexa. These assistants can help visually impaired individuals complete various tasks such as sending messages, making calls, setting reminders, and more, all through voice commands.

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2. Registered U/s 80G, Income Tax Act 1961 No. AAATM2010JF20211
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**Screen readers:** Screen readers are software that reads out the text on the screen, making it accessible for visually impaired individuals. Both Android and iOS devices come with built-in screen readers such as Talkback and Voiceover.

**Magnification tools:** The devices offer several magnification tools that help users zoom in on specific parts of the screen. This feature makes it easier to read small text, labels, and menus.

**Text-to-speech and speech-to-text:** These features enable visually impaired individuals to convert written text into speech and speech into text, respectively. This feature helps individuals with visual impairments to read and respond to text messages, emails, and social media messages.

**High contrast mode:** This feature changes the colour scheme of the phone's display to provide better contrast, making it easier for individuals with low vision to distinguish between different items on the screen.

**Voice-guided navigation:** Navigation apps like Google Maps provide voice-guided navigation, which helps individuals with visual impairments to navigate unfamiliar areas independently.

By utilizing these features, visually impaired individuals can access various functionalities and perform tasks that were once challenging or impossible for them, thereby increasing their independence and productivity.

To support individuals from marginalised socioeconomic backgrounds with improved access to education, Mitra Jyothi donates Smart phones and Samsung Tabs to deserving beneficiaries, who meet certain tech savvy criteria.

**Our Ask:** Please find below the approximate costs for the following device. Please note the visually impaired cannot operate the built-in key pad on a phone, therefore, they need to use an external Bluetooth keyboard for the phone and the Tab.

[ Values are in INR]

1. Smartphone Samsung A04e  
4GB Ram 128 GB Rom  
Approximate cost: Rs.22500/-

2. Samsung Tab A7  
3 GB Ram 32GB storage  
With WIFI and LTE support  
Approximate cost: Rs.17500/-

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3. Bluetooth keyboard provided with the Tab/Smartphone

Zook magic pad key board

Cost: Rs.1250/-

4. EVO11 DAISY player

Cost: Rs14000/-

To support our efforts, we seek funding for 75 Smart phones, 75 Samsung Tabs, 75 Bluetooth keyboards and 50 DAISY players. We accept part funding towards this project also. You can sponsor as per your budget. We welcome any inquiries from potential partners.

**Contact Details:** Please contact Asha Shridhar, Executive Director, at [ashashridhar@mitrajyothi.org](mailto:ashashridhar@mitrajyothi.org) for further information.

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