



100 YEARS
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HARCOURT BUTLER TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

**Policy for Students with Disabilities
(Divyangjan)**

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HARCOURT BUTLER TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, KANPUR

Policy for Students with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

India has around 2.68 crore people with disability as per Census 2011 which include persons with Visual, Hearing, Speech & Locomotive disability, Mental Retardation, Mental Illness, Multiple Disability and any other disabilities. According to the World Bank, one in every 12 households in India has a person living with disability. The Indian policy-makers are aware of the issue and Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, tried to address some of the concerns faced by divyangjan in India. The Act specifically refers to ease of access to public or private buildings, workplaces, commercial activities, public utilities, religious, cultural, leisure or recreational activities, medical or health services, law enforcement agencies, transport infrastructure, among others. In 2015, the Prime Minister rolled out the “Accessible India” (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) campaign, with a motive to make it convenient for divyangjan to access administrative buildings and transport, among other things. The campaign has been launched in seven States including Delhi and Haryana. The government is also committed towards socio-economic transformation (Swavlamban), of the divyangjan and in this context, India can learn from the global best practices and some of the initiatives taken within the country. At the Workplaces and Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), divyangjan found it difficult to access the facilities. Some of the common problems faced by the divyangjan and students are to access the classrooms, laboratories, washrooms, upper floors of building, library, play grounds, hostel mess cafeteria etc. Therefore, at the University level to create a divyangjan friendly environment, the following facilities can be helpful:

- Built environment with ramps/lifts for easy access to classrooms, laboratories, library etc.
- Divyangjan-friendly washrooms
- Signage including tactile path, lights, display boards and signposts
- Assistive technology and facilities for Divyangjan accessible website, screen-reading software, mechanized equipment

- Provision for enquiry and information: Human assistance, reader, scribe, soft copies of reading material, screen reading.

However, there is need for more work to see if such facilities can help HEIs to create a divyangjan-friendly environment in their respective institutes . Buildings can be with an emergency button, which can help community workers (for example, guards) to respond fast to the needs of the divyangjan.

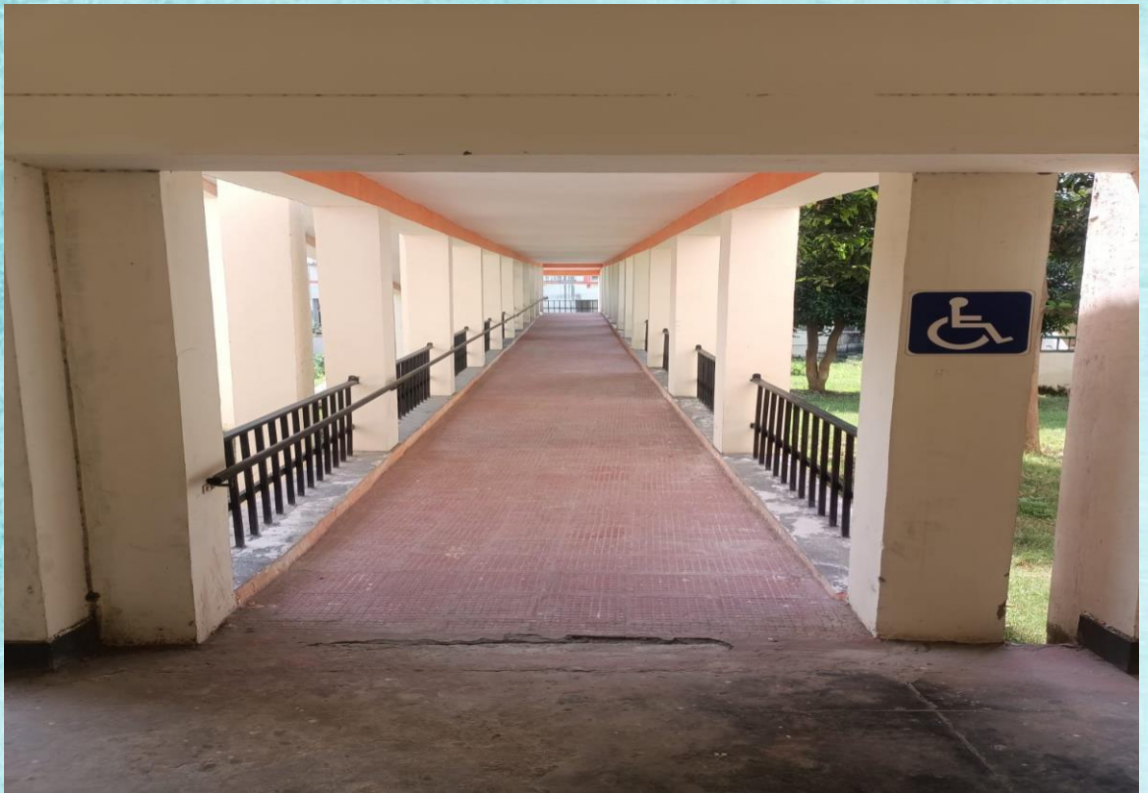
1. Divyangjan Friendliness, Barrier Free facilities

The campus of University aims to provide an inclusive educational framework for all and so strives to create a barrier free and divyangjan friendly environment in University campus. Lifts, ramps, special toilets/bathrooms as well as specific facilities are provided all over the campus wherever required. A special reading hall/common room on ground floor in the main building of the University is available for differently-able students along with assistive software (screen reading) and other equipments. Scribes and additional time are provided at the time of examination as per norms. Divyangjan-friendly wheelchairs, vehicles and equipment is provided to employees/students as per their requirements.

a) Ramps and Lift facilities

The Ramps are built through the campus where uneven floor levels or kerbs are present to provide convenience and prevent tripping accidents. Ramps are helpful to push a pallet truck, trolley, or wheel chair over a kerb or step by negotiating just a few inches of height difference. Utility ramps solve the problem and make wheeled movement between uneven levels very easy.

The University authorities are sensitive towards the divyangjan students. Therefore, we at University campus provide lift facility and help these students in minimizing their difficulties and making them comfortable in the campus.





Ramp Tactile path for Disabled Persons



Lift for Disabled Persons

b) *Disabled friendly washrooms*

Separate divyangjan friendly washrooms are available in the campus with scheduled maintenance, cleanliness and hygiene. The washroom are made in such a way that the divyangjan can sit with his/her wheelchair.



Washroom for Disabled Persons

c) *Signage*

Educational institutions need to comply with the safety laws and rules and it is essential for them to place the safety signs as per the defined guidelines. These signs ensure the safety of the students in case of any emergencies. Directional signage, safety signage, branding and vision-mission signage are need to be installed throughout the campus. All are available in the university at various places of the university campus.

d) *Assistive technology (Microsoft narrator)*

Assistive technology (AT) is assistive, adaptive, and rehabilitative tools for divyangjan. Such technology enhances the functioning and performance of disabled persons. People who have disabilities often have difficulty in teaching and learning process. Therefore, computer assistive software tool such as Microsoft narrator should be available in the computer lab for divyangjan along with one lab attendant who should be available to assist the divyangjan.

e) *Provision for Scribe*

There are some students who have difficulty in taking the examination themselves and need scribes to assist. The university should have arrangement to allow the students to take the help of scribes in the examination after due permission from university examination controller. Some documents are needed to get permission for scribes for the Divyangjan.

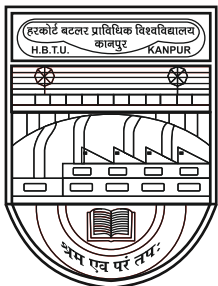
University is committed to provide an inclusive and supporting environment to differently-able students without any differentiation so that they can be moulded into confident and outstanding technocrats/entrepreneurs.











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