

# **BALAVIDYALAYA TRUST INSTITUTE FOR TEACHER TRAINING**

## **24<sup>th</sup> Annual day Annual Report for the year 2024-25**

It gives me a great pleasure to present the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Report during the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of the Institute.

Balavidyalaya The Institute for Teacher Training conducts a one-year Diploma in Early Childhood Special Education Hearing Impairment. This Diploma is recognized by the Rehabilitation Council of India and registered with the State Government of Tamilnadu.

The course helps the candidate become familiar with our methodology DHVANI. 60 % of the time is allotted for the practical, and 40% for its five theory papers. The candidates admit infants and young children with hearing loss below the age of three- years into their programmes. They help the children to develop language and speech as well as the academic skills of reading, writing and number work. The children are then sent to the mainstream when they are six years old.

The Institute conducts two theory and practical examinations. The final theory and practical examinations are conducted by the Rehabilitation Council of India.

The Institute has to its credit helped other Organisations and trusts start early intervention centers in various parts of India and neighbouring countries. Candidates working in these early intervention centers have all been trained in the institute.

1) 34 early intervention centers one in each district of Tamil Nadu. These are managed by NGOs in the Districts and funded by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

2) SRAVANAM an early intervention center in Tirupati that is funded and managed by the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam

3) PRANAV an early intervention center in Nagpur that is funded and managed by Chitnavis Trust

4) Anwasha an early intervention center in Kolkata that is funded and managed by Anwasha- a group of parents

5) Amaliya Early Learning Center in Colombo Sri Lanka that is funded and managed by Amaliya foundation.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual day of the Institute was celebrated on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 2024. Our alumna Ms G.L.Sowmya presided over the function as our Annual Day Chief Guest.



## Academic Year

Due to the Lok Sabha Elections we had to close earlier than usual. The Institute closed for the academic year 2023-24 for the candidates on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April 2024 and for the staff on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 2024.

We reopened for the academic year 2024-25 on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 2024.

We closed for the puja holidays from the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2024 to the 14<sup>th</sup> of October 2024 and Christmas holidays from the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December 2024 to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 2025.

## 2023 - 2024

The year 2023 - 2024 had 7 candidates from India and 2 international candidates. Of the 7, from India we had one candidate each from Darjeeling, Pune, Nilgris, and 4 from Chennai.

The candidate from Darjeeling was sponsored by Meenakshi Venkataraman Foundation in Hyderabad to join their center in Hyderabad, and the candidate from Nilgris was sponsored by the NGO in Nilgris to join the State Government early intervention center in Nilgris. Of the 3 in Chennai one of them joined Balavidyalaya and one joined the State Government Resource Training Center in KK Nagar.

The candidates from Rwanda are sponsored by The Gupta Family Foundation, United States of America.

## 2024 - 2025

5 candidates joined the year 2024-25. This included one candidate each from the districts of Pudukkottai, Thuthukudi, Thirvarur sponsored by NGOs in each of the districts, and two from Chennai.



## Examinations

The final theory examinations for the year 2023-24 started on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2024. The result for this batch was declared on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2024.



Ms. La Doma Lama from Darjeeling topped across India scoring a Distinction. This batch had 3 Distinctions, 5 First Class and 1 Second Class.

For the year 2024-25 the first term examinations were held from the 9<sup>th</sup> of December to the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2024.



## Meetings and Conferences

### a) Purple Talks

Purple Talks was a series of Meetings conducted by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities - Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment – New Delhi showcasing Products, innovations and Technologies in the field of Speech and hearing impairment. This was a hybrid meeting.

Dr Meera Suresh presented a paper on DHVANI Methodology leading to Oralism and mainstreaming children with hearing impairment which was appreciated very well and culminated in online CRE Programmes on 'How DHVANI Teaching Learning Material can develop academic skills in children with hearing loss'.

b) In the month of October Dr Meera was invited by The Gupta Family Foundation to attend their second Cross Learning Symposium in Virginia USA. She presented two papers during their symposium on

i) Understanding DHVANI Methodology. She explained about Balavidyalaya and its methodology.

ii) Our Journey To Rwanda- She explained how the programme took off with the help of Dr Shashikanth Gupta and Mrs Margaret Gupta. She also explained about the visits of Mr Elie Nduwayesu and the one-year training programme undertaken by the two girls from Rwanda.



c) Our course coordinator Mrs V.G Tharena, lecturer Mrs Hemalatha R and 4 of our trainees attended Dr MGR's Birth Anniversary seminar on 'Breaking Barriers and Bridging Gaps In Learning For Children With Limitations In Auditory Processing Multifaced Approach'.

d) The orientation programme on 'Using DHVANI Methodology to develop reading skills in hearing impaired children birth to six years' was conducted for 5 days in January and funded by the Government of Tamilnadu.





The first three days of this programme was a CRE programme with special educators from Kerala and Tamilnadu.



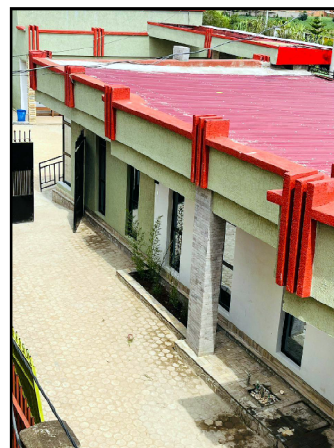
## Establishment of other Early Intervention Centers

a) Meenakshi Venkataraman Foundation Early intervention Center Hyderabad absorbed their sponsored candidate Ms. La Doma Lama and the center started functioning using DHVANI Methodology from the month of July 2024. They also procured DHVANI teaching learning material from Balavidyalaya.



b) RISHI – Rwanda Institute for Speech and Hearing Independence a four-room establishment with two Special educators trained in DHVANI methodology is funded by The Gupta Family Foundation. Dr Meera worked with Alps International India to procure diagnostic equipment and hearing aids to establish its Diagnostic Center. The equipment has reached Rwanda and the Diagnostic center is being set up.

RISHI has identified children with hearing loss who are ready to join the program and the testing is going on after which the educators will take over their education following DHVANI Methodology.



## Awards

It gives us great pleasure in announcing that our course coordinator Mrs. V.G.Tharena has received the Hellen Keller Award for Early Intervention from our Honorable Chief Minister Mr. M.K.



Stalin on the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Disabled Day celebrated by the State Government of Tamilnadu.

We would like to end this annual report by thanking the Almighty for his blessings in helping us continue in our journey in helping establish more early intervention centerstowards helping more infants and young deaf children listen from infancy and talk for a lifetime.

*We hope you enjoyed reading our Annual Report.*

Thank you.

*Let us help children with hearing impairment*  
**LISTEN FROM INFANCY AND TALK FOR A LIFETIME.**

