

Environmental Consciousness and Sustainability

7.1.7. The Institution has Differently-abled (Divyangjan) friendly, barrier-free environment Write description covering the various components of barrier-free environment in your institution within 500 words

- Built environment with ramps/lifts for easy access to classrooms.
- 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, font enlargement etc.,

Attached below are qualitative writeup in prescribed format, photographs of Differently-abled (Divyangjan) friendly, barrier free environment such as ramps, lifts, washrooms, Signages, font enlargement options in website.


02/05/24
Registrar (Officiating)
Aliah University
New Town, Kolkata-700160

7.1.7 The Institution has differently-abled (Divyangjan) friendly, barrier free environment (5).

Aliah University is dedicated to creating a welcoming and accessible environment for all students, faculty, and staff, regardless of their abilities. We have implemented a comprehensive strategy to ensure a Divyangjan-friendly and barrier-free experience, fostering a truly inclusive learning and working space.

Built Environment- Ramps, Lifts and Wide Passageways:

Navigating our campus is effortless with strategically placed ramps adhering to accessibility standards. All buildings are equipped with well-maintained elevators, ensuring seamless access to every floor. This eliminates physical barriers and empowers individuals with mobility limitations to participate fully in campus life. Corridors and doorways are designed with ample width to accommodate wheelchairs, walkers, and other mobility aids. This allows for easy movement and eliminates the need for assistance while navigating the institution.



Fig. 7.1.7.1. Ramps with barriers for physically disabled candidates (left) and wide corridors and gateways for easy travel (right)

Divyangjan-Friendly Washrooms:

Dedicated washrooms are available throughout the campus, featuring spacious stalls with grab bars strategically positioned for support and safety. These stalls are designed to cater to the specific needs of individuals with mobility limitations.



Fig. 7.1.7.2. Separate toilets for physically disabled candidates with special facilities

Braille Signage and High-Contrast Displays: All lifts and few parts of the buildings have signage with Braille alongside visual text. This allows visually impaired individuals to easily identify locations and navigate the campus independently. Information boards and displays utilize high-contrast colors and clear fonts, improving visibility for individuals with visual impairments. This ensures everyone has access to important information.



Fig. 7.1.7.3. High Contrast Displays (left) and lifts with brail (right) for visually challenged candidates

Audio Announcements: Key locations like elevators and building entrances feature audio announcements to assist visually impaired individuals in navigating the campus.

Accessible Website: Our website is designed with accessibility in mind, complying with WCAG (Web Content Accessibility Guidelines) standards. This ensures the website is user-friendly with screen reader compatibility and features like text-to-speech conversion, catering to individuals with visual or cognitive impairments.

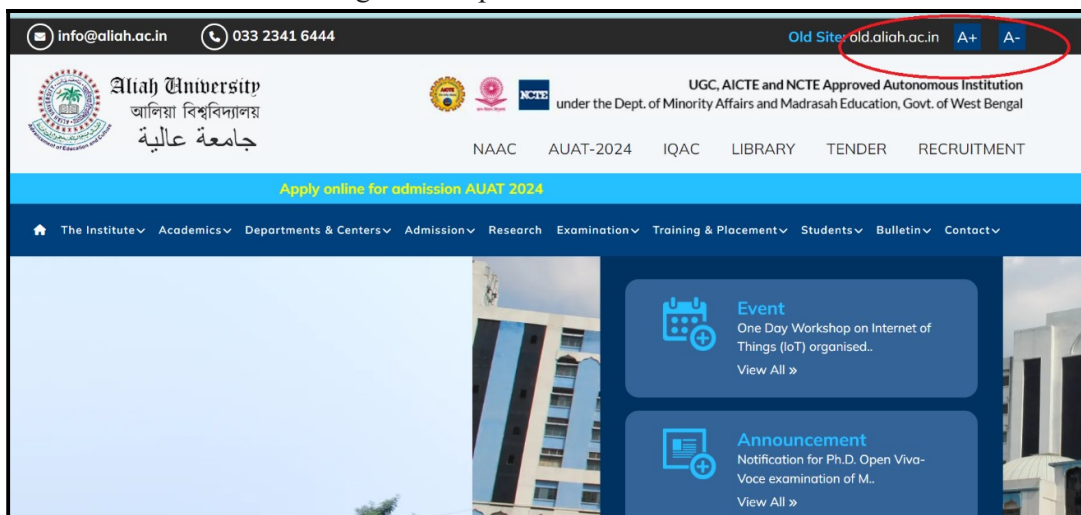


Fig. 7.1.7.4. Website designed for individuals with visual or cognitive impairments

Screen-Reading Software: Computers in labs and libraries are equipped with Non Visual Desktop Access (NVDA) screen-reading software, allowing visually impaired individuals to access and use digital content independently. This empowers them to participate fully in learning activities.


FEATURES	SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS
<p>NVDA (Non-Visual Desktop Access) allows blind and vision impaired people to access and interact with the Windows operating system and many third party applications.</p> <p>Major highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for popular applications including web browsers such as Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome, email clients, internet chat software, music players, and office programs such as Microsoft Word and Excel • Built-in speech synthesizer supporting over 55 languages, plus support for many other 3rd party voices • Reporting of textual formatting where available such as font name and size, style and spelling errors • Automatic announcement of text under the mouse and optional audible indication of the mouse position • Support for many refreshable braille displays, including input of Braille via braille displays that have a braille keyboard • Ability to run entirely from a USB flash drive or other portable media without the need for installation • Easy to use talking installer • Translated into more than 50 languages • Support for modern Windows Operating Systems including both 32 and 64 bit variants 	<p>Operating Systems: all 32-bit and 64-bit editions of Windows 8.1, Windows 10, Windows 11, and all Server Operating Systems starting from Windows Server 2012 R2. NVDA can also run on ARM versions of Windows 10 and 11.</p> <p>Memory: 256 mb or more of RAM Processor speed: 1.0 ghz or above At least 150 MB of storage space.</p> <p>NVDA LOGO®</p>  <p>The NVDA logo® is a stylised blend of the letters NVDA in white on a square purple background. There is a vertical line on the left with a rounded hook to the right at the bottom as if starting to form the bottom corner of a "D". Then from the top-left, a straight diagonal line comes down to the right. Next, a line curves in a semi-circle out to the right then back up to the top. The line finishes in a downward hook with a curved end. The vertical and diagonal lines make the first part of the letter N and also the</p>

Fig. 7.1.7.5. Non Visual Desktop Access (NVDA) screen-reading software, allowing visually impaired individuals to access and use digital content

Mechanized Equipment: Wheelchairs, and other assistive technologies are readily available to support individuals with various disabilities. This equipment eliminates physical barriers and fosters an inclusive learning environment.



Fig. 7.1.7.6. Wheel chair at university entry gate (left) and Hand support in lifts (right)

Inclusive Environment: Our commitment to a barrier-free environment extends beyond physical infrastructure. We actively promote a culture of inclusivity and provide training to faculty and staff on disability etiquette and best practices in supporting Divyangjan individuals. Physically challenged students are given extra time or scribe for writing the exams. We believe in fostering a collaborative and supportive environment where everyone can thrive.

In conclusion, creating a Divyangjan-friendly and barrier-free environment within the institution requires a multi-faceted approach that addresses various components of accessibility. From the built environment to signage, assistive technology, and awareness initiatives, each aspect plays a crucial role in ensuring equal access and opportunities for individuals of all

abilities. By prioritizing accessibility and inclusivity, the institution can foster a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive learning environment for all members of the community.