

REPORT



SRI ARUNODAYAM
Home for Mentally Challenged Destitute

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The intellectually disabled
don't have a choice about their **condition**.
But we have the choice to accept them
unconditionally.



1:23 / 1:45

Watch the film at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ItCXJHdomk>

We commemorated International Day of Persons with Disabilities through **Special Advocacy Programs**

To show our solidarity with persons with disabilities, we conducted awareness and advocacy programs that touched on key disability issues, mainly to try and create a paradigm shift in existing mind-sets concerning disability.

1. Released a short film on the rights of the differently abled

We aired a short film with a powerful message, through YouTube and Facebook channels which went viral with over 90,000 views on FB alone! The special child and the elderly man in the film very skillfully emote an important message worth repeating: *“the intellectually disabled don't have a choice about their condition, but we have the choice to accept them unconditionally!”*

2. Awareness Rally at Marina Beach

Around 50 of our special children, caregivers and staff conducted an Awareness Rally by the Labor Statue on Marina Beach from 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm. They carried bi-lingual placards (in Tamil and English) with key messages on the subject of mental retardation (MR).

Mrs. Sudha Ramalingam, a prominent Social Activist & Senior Advocate was our Chief Guest, and Actor Shanthanu Bhagyaraj was our Guest of Honor for this event.

Sri Arunodayam's Credentials

The only way to get society to assume its responsibility towards the intellectually disabled is to consistently engage them in causes that expose them to crucial learnings and thinking on the subject. Simple awareness programs conducted in schools and colleges can help educate and shape young minds on the do's and don'ts, so that they and their future offspring are spared much anguish and pain.

As an authority on MR and a certified Government partner in the rehabilitation of abandoned MR children in Chennai for over 14 years, Sri Arunodayam has accumulated extensive research and experience in this field. For a society to be educated and sufficiently transformed there is a critical need for sustained awareness and that's why Sri Arunodayam is widening its “societal transformation” programs to include such events.

