

Good news for the visually impaired teachers

Technology provides ease of teaching

IT is estimated that there are more than 100 visually impaired teachers working in schools in the country's education system. A government initiative is bringing together visually impaired teachers and schools to use multimedia and computing skills that will enable them to make PowerPoint presentations in classrooms. This is part of a bigger push to bring digital content and ease of learning to some 20,500 secondary and 5,400 government primary schools that will help usher in a new teaching method to the more than 4 million students across the country. The introduction of modern technology is bringing tools like touch screens and new software that aid visually impaired teachers to make lessons fun for students.

The introduction of "screen readers", essentially a software programme that allows blind or visually impaired readers to read text that is displayed on the computer screen, eliminates the problems a physically challenged user faces with traditional keyboards. The user can thus bypass the problems associated with sight and perform functions that a non-impaired person is able to. These teachers can now become fully functional not only in giving lessons, but also making them much more interesting by putting together lessons that combine text with animation.

The programme is part of a larger push to break the barrier down for those people who have till now been lagging behind due to visual impairment. We congratulate the authorities for bringing modern technology and teaching methods that are bound to be more inclusive in nature for students and teachers alike.