Abstract
The abstract should be sent in Times New Roman using 12 font size, italicized and word limit not exceeding 250 words.

Full length papers
Participants are requested to send their full length paper along with abstract. The following guidelines should strictly be adhered to while preparing papers:

- The full paper should be submitted in MS Word format only with Times New Roman, 12 font size, and 1.5" margin at left side of page and 1" at other three sides with 1.5 line spacing. APA style should be followed for citation and referencing. Author(s) full name, affiliation with complete address of institute, e-mail id and contact no. should be clearly mentioned.
- Name of the presenting author should be underlined.
- The full length paper should not exceed 3,000 words.
- Participants are further requested to send their soft copy of full length paper through e-mail on or before 3rd March 2017 to the email id: islrtcnationalconference@gmail.com.
- The papers selected for presentation will be intimated through e-mail by 7th March, 2017.

Target participants
✓ Special educators of the Deaf
✓ Deaf Teachers
✓ General Educators
✓ Administrators
✓ Professionals in the concerned field
✓ Sign Language Interpreters
✓ Linguists
✓ Researchers and academicians in the concerned field
✓ Social workers

Venue of the conference
National conference will be organized in Vigyan Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi-110001.

Accommodation
No accommodation facility is available for any participant.

Contacting persons
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5. Mr. A.S. Narayanan, General Secretary, NAD (981024165, SMS only)

National Conference
“Empowering Deaf through Indian Sign Language”
20.03.2017 & 21.03.2017 (Monday & Tuesday)

Organized by
Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC)
4, Vishnu Digamber Marg, New Delhi-110002

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Important Deadlines
-Submission of full-paper 03.03.2017
-Communication of acceptance 07.03.2017
• About Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC)

Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) is an autonomous organization of the Government of India established under Society Registration Act, 1860 under the aegis of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The main objectives of the ISLRTC are to develop manpower for using, teaching and conducting research in Indian Sign Language (ISL), to promote the use of ISL as an educational mode, to carry out research in collaboration with universities, national and international bodies to create linguistic records in ISL, to train and orient various professionals and to collaborate with organizations of the Deaf.

Partners of the conference
1. Sai Swayam Society
2. National Association of Deaf (NAD)
3. All India Foundation of Deaf Women (AIFDW)
4. Deaf Enabled Foundation
5. Indian Sign Language Interpreters Association (ISLIA)
6. Association of Sign Language Interpreters (ASLI)

About the National Conference

Indian Sign Language is as a natural, grammar based language which can work like any other natural language. It fulfills the communicative as well as identity needs of the native users. It facilitates verbal language, communication, aid in intellectual processing, social association, literary development and creative satisfaction among others. However, due to lack of awareness of ISL as being at par with any other voiced languages, it has pushed ISL in quite a weak and a disadvantageous position. It kept ISL away from classroom use and it denied a large population with deafness their right to communication. Indian Sign Language has been denied of its rightful place in the society. It also kept manpower development plans in special education oblivious to the skill development into ISL. Over and above it left various aspects of ISL form, content and use uncovered. This is a new dawn where in India has awakened to the role and the potential of ISL as a medium of instruction in schools and educational institutions. A comprehensive Indian Sign Language Dictionary is also a need of the hour to facilitate communication, to create a basic database for further policy making, advocacy and wide use of ISL. Any natural language that has thousands of native users needs to have a well documented database on its structural and pragmatic descriptions. Indian Sign Language is no exception. Therefore, this two day National Conference is conducted to elevate Indian Sign Language to the position it rightfully deserves in the society.

Objectives of the conference
1. To provide a common platform to all the professionals working in the field of education for the Deaf and ISL to share experience on various aspects of education and employment of the Deaf.
2. To record the feedback from various stakeholders to make ISL dictionary a comprehensive and more user friendly.
3. To highlight the regional variations in ISL to showcase its linguistic richness and variety.
4. To understand the procedure in establishing commonality in the usage of ISL to facilitate better communication across the country.
5. To promote ISL as an educational mode for the Deaf
6. To promote Educational Bilingualism as a mode of educating the Deaf in inclusive education.
7. To provide a comprehensive perspective on the education of the Deaf, Deaf adults, advocacy to promote ISL and literacy development through ISL.
8. To critically appraise and bring forth various facets of linguistics of ISL.

Main Themes: Holistic Development of the Deaf through Indian Sign Language

Subthemes
v Lexicography and ISL
v Education and the employment of the Deaf
v Variations of ISL
v Commonality in ISL dictionary to facilitate communication
v Role of ISL in Language acquisition
v Literacy Development and role of ISL dictionary
v Digital dictionaries and ISL
v ISL Linguistics and role of ISL dictionary
v Bilingualism and inclusive education
v Early Sign Language input.
v Social inclusion through ISL

Instruction for paper/poster presentation
The delegates who wish to present paper/poster are requested to send their original, unpublished papers/posters on the theme and subthemes mentioned above to the email id: islrtcnationalconference@gmail.com.