

Brief on E-Comic cum Activity Book - Priya. The Accessibility Warrior

Education plays a vital role in the development and growth of an individual for which it is important to provide barrier free access in schools to all children, including children with disabilities. However, accessibility in the field of education is not just limited to barrier free physical environment of schools but also inclusivity in curriculum and teaching techniques.

2. The Department observed the need to ingrain the significance of accessibility in children right from their formative years so as to provide the desired push towards ensuring accessibility across the education sector. For this purpose, the Department in collaboration with the Central Institute of Education Technology (CIET) under National Centre of Educational Research and training (NCERT) developed an E-Comic cum Activity Book - Priya. The Accessibility Warrior.

3. The target audience for the book being school going children, demanded that the book is presented in an interesting and interactive format. The e-book has been conceptualized in 2 parts. First being a story of a young girl who is awakened to the need of accessibility in her surrounding and pledges to be an “Accessibility Warrior”, depicted through a comic strip. The second part of the book comprises interactive activities which help stimulate and test the children’s understanding of the concept of accessibility in a playful learning mode.

4. Since the intent of this initiative is to reach out to all children, including children with disabilities, the book has been developed as an interactive E-Book with QR Code-based audio and Sign Language video outputs. Certain accessibility features provided include – Text-to-Speech, colour contrast, font size, sign language interpretation, etc. Interactivity in the games have been developed using simple actions such as drag and drop, fill in the blanks, click to turn or read, etc.

5. The book has been developed in the ePub, PDF and flipbook versions making it compatible for reading on computer as well as mobile phone screens. The book has also been developed in Hindi version and will be made available for students on the E-Pathshala and Diksha Portal.

6. The e-book will play an essential role in simplifying the concepts of accessibility not just for children but also various stakeholders working in the education field and orienting the society's growth towards creation of an universally accessible environment for all.