



GNLU Committee for Persons with Disabilities x GNLU Centre for Disability Studies

Gujarat National Law University Presents

Disability Awareness Week

September 15th to 18th, 2025

Introducing the Disability Awareness Week

Disability Awareness Week at GNLU (15th to 18th September 2025) aims to foster awareness, empathy, and inclusivity within the university community by engaging students and faculty in a series of interactive events. Through creative, intellectual, and experiential activities, the initiative seeks to shed light on the lived realities of persons with disabilities (PwDs), dismantle stereotypes, and promote allyship. It is hosted jointly with the GNLU Committee for Persons with Disabilities and the GNLU Centre for Disability Studies, along with other GNLU forums for different events. At every level, we aim to collaborate with diverse forums, centres, and associations within and outside GNLU to maximise outreach and ensure that our programme is both representative and impactful.

Event Schedule

Day & Date	Event Title	Collaboration Partner	Time	Venue
Mon, 15 Sept	<i>Inauguration & Dialogue in the Dark: Immersive Sensory Experience</i>	GNLU Wellness Initiative Cell	3:00 to 5:30 P.M.	0. 8
Tue, 16 Sept	<i>Panel Discussion: Addressing Autism and Learning Disabilities: Challenges and Solutions</i>	Equal Opportunity Cell	3:00 to 5:00 P.M.	Orientation Hall
Tue, 16 Sept	<i>QuizAbility</i>	GNLU Quizzing Circuit	6:00 to 7:30 P.M.	0.11
Wed, 17 Sept	<i>Reading Circle on Disability Studies and Feminism</i>	Feminist Reading Circle, GNLU Centre for Women & Child Rights	3:30 to 4:30 P.M.	0.11
Wed, 17 Sept	<i>Journeys Beyond Barriers: Alumni Speaks</i>	NA	5:00 to 7:00 P.M.	0.6
Thu, 18 Sept	<i>Skit & Valedictory Poster Making Competition Winners' Announcement</i>	NA	3:30 to 5:00 P.M.	0.11

P.S., Join us on 20th September for movie night with GNLU Film Club!

About GNLU

Gujarat National Law University (GNLU), located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India, was established by the Government of Gujarat under the Gujarat National Law University Act, 2003 and is recognised by the Bar Council of India (BCI) and University Grants Commission (UGC). GNLU is a student-centric, multidisciplinary, and research-focused University, dedicated to building an environment enabling critical thinking on fundamental legal issues. It offers B.A., LL.B. (Hons.), B.Com., LL.B. (Hons.), B.Sc. LL.B. (Hons.), B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.), B.S.W. LL.B (Hons.), LL.M. and Ph.D. in law and allied subjects. GNLU has been ranked 5th among all law universities in India by the NIRF 2025 Rankings and the Best Law School in Gujarat with 5 Stars by the GSIRF. It is the only National Law University to have established its own satellite campus at Silvassa, UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

About GCPWD

The **GNLU Committee for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) (GCPwD)** was established in 2017 as an Enabling Unit, in accordance with the UGC Scheme for Persons with Disabilities. The committee is dedicated to securing the rights of persons with disabilities and catering to the diverse needs of students, faculty, administrative staff, and visitors at GNLU. The committee aims to fulfill the university's larger goal of creating one of the most inclusive campuses by protecting the rights and needs of every member of society.

About GCDS

The **GNLU Centre for Disability Studies (GCDS)** was established on October 2, 2019, with a core mission to advance disability rights and social justice. The center serves as a dedicated hub for teaching and research, focusing on the intersection of law, sociology, social work, and policy. By promoting interdisciplinary scholarship and academic rigor, GCDS aims to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical advocacy, contributing to a more inclusive and equitable society for persons with disabilities.

Event Details

Day 1 — Monday, 15th Sept: *Inauguration & Dialogue in the Dark: Immersive Sensory Experience*

Details: Come understand the experience of visually impaired persons by navigating an immersive environment in complete darkness! The experience is designed to foster empathy, break down stigmas about disability, and promote inclusion by shifting participants' perspectives and highlighting the capabilities of persons with disabilities.

1. **Obstacle Course:** Get through an obstacle course in the complete dark. Climb steps, don't bump into walls (or friends!), and find your way to a seat!
2. **Object Identification:** Try to identify everyday items such as currency notes, coins, stationery, and more!
3. **Food Items:** Enjoy certain food items (for free)! Can you eat in the dark without making a mess?
4. **Audio Films Identification:** Identify popular films by listening to a short clip of them!

Chief Guest: *Prof. (Dr.) Ajit Kumar (he/him), Director I/C, Composite Regional Centre for Skill Development (CRC), Ahmedabad*

Venue: 0.8, Shishya Bhawan

Collaborator: GWIC

Time: 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Day 2 — Tuesday, 16th Sept: *Panel Discussion: Addressing Autism and Learning Disabilities: Challenges and Solutions & QuizAbility*

Panel Discussion:

Details: The panel will address challenges in recognition, stigma, pedagogy and institutional support. It shall aim to dismantle misconceptions and promote sensitive, inclusive approaches among faculties and students.

Topic: *Addressing Autism and Learning Disabilities: Challenges and Solutions*

Collaboration Partner: GNLU Equal Opportunity Cell

Venue: Orientation Hall, 2nd Floor, Administrative Building

Time: 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Panellists:

Resource Person	Details
Prof. Divya Sharma (she/her)	Head, Centre for Special Education, Indian Institute of Teacher Education, Gandhinagar
Dr. Hemang M Shah (he/him)	Professor and Head, Department of Psychiatry, Dr. N D Desai Faculty of Medical Science and Research, Dharamsinh Desai University, Nadiad
Dr. Chirag Upadhyay (he/him)	Principal, Vishesh Ability and Therapy Centre, Ahmedabad

QuizAbility:

Details: Come in pairs and win prizes on a quiz on PwD rights, issues, challenges, history and contemporary developments

Collaboration Partner: GNLU Quizzing Circuit

Venue: 0.11, Shishya Bhawan

Time: 6:00 to 7:30 P.M.

Prize Pool:

- First Prize: ₹5,000
- Second Prize: ₹2,500
- Third Prize: ₹1,000

Day 3 — Wednesday, 17th Sept: *Reading Circle & Beyond Barriers: Alumni Speak Session*

Reading Circle:

Details: Participants shall have a discussion on one of the prominent works on the intersection of disability studies and feminism.

Reading: *Disabled Women: An Excluded Agenda of Indian Feminism* by Anita Ghai

Collaboration Partner: Feminist Reading Circle, GNLU Centre for Women and Child Rights

Venue: 0.11, Shishya Bhawan

Time: 3:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Journeys Beyond Barriers: Alumni Speak:

Details: PwD alumni from GNLU will be invited to talk to students about their experiences with disabilities and how they reached where they are now and give advice to students, both professional and personal.

Venue: 0.6, Shishya Bhawan

Time: 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Invited Alumni:

Kunal Kishore (*he/him*)

Advocate & Academician,
GNLU B.A. LL.B. (2015-20)
LL.M.(2022-23)

Anuj Kumar Tiwari (*he/him*)

Assistant Professor of Law,
Geeta Institute of Law, Panipat, Delhi NCR
Ph.D. Scholar at GNLU
GNLU B.Sc. LL.B. (2011-16)
NLU Delhi LL.M.(2018-19)

Maitreya Shah (*he/him*)

Technology Policy Director,
American Association of People with Disabilities
Affiliate at the Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University
Ex-LAMP Fellow; Penn Law; GNLU B.A. LL.B.(2015-20)

Sarah (*she/her*)

Litigation Associate, Geeta Institute of Law, Panipat, Delhi NCR
Mission Accessibility
GNLU B.S.W. LL.B. (2019-24)

Day 4 — Thursday, 18th Sept: *Skit, Valedictory Ceremony and Announcement of Winners of Poster Making Competition*

Unseen: A College Experience - A Short Skit

Details: A 15 minute performance themed around challenges faced by visually impaired persons, highlighting everyday barriers and resilience.

Venue: 0.11, Shishya Bhawan

Time: 3:30 P.M. to 3:45 P.M.

Collaborator: GNLU Theatre Club

Valedictory Ceremony & Poster-Making Competition Winners' Announcement

Details: Join the valedictory ceremony as we reflect on the outcomes and impact of the week. It shall also display the top entries of the poster-making competition and announce the winners.

Theme of the Poster Making Competition: Persons with Disabilities in Times of Disaster

Venue: Orientation Hall

Time: 3:40 to 5:00 P.M.

Prize Pool:

- First Prize: ₹5,000
- Second Prize: ₹2,500
- Third Prize: ₹1,000

Additional — Saturday, 20th Sept: *Movie Night*

Details: In collaboration with the Film Club, screening a disability-related film which aligns with the objective of Disability Awareness Week on Saturday night. This screening, distinct from the audio-film event scheduled for Friday, would serve as a meaningful way to conclude Disability Awareness Week.

Collaboration Partner: GNLU Film Club

Time: 9:30 P.M. onwards

Venue: 0.11, Shishya Bhawan

Poster-Making Competition

Theme: *“Persons with Disabilities in Times of Disaster”*

Submit by 17th September 2025

- Submit either a physical poster (by uploading an image) or a digital poster.
- Use clear contrast, readable text, image descriptions (online), and follow universal design and accessibility principles.
- AI-generated designs will be disqualified.
- Submissions may be by individuals or groups of two.
- Only one entry per individual/group is allowed.
- Top 5 get certificate of appreciation & social media feature

Prize Pool: ₹5,000, ₹2,500, ₹1,000

Results will be declared on 18 Sept 2025 during the Valedictory Ceremony of the Disabilities Awareness Week.

Submission Link: <https://forms.gle/WNgtapDmn4iS77bn6>

For queries write to gcpwd@gnlu.ac.in or gcds@gnlu.ac.in

University Officials

Prof. (Dr.) S Shanthakumar (*he/him*), Director, Gujarat National Law University

Dr. Nitin Malik (*he/him*), Registrar, Gujarat National Law University

Prof. (Dr.) Girish R. (*he/him*), Head, Academic Affairs & Professor of Law and Coordinator, IQAC, Gujarat National Law University

Organising Committee

Dr. Ambati Nageswara Rao (*he/him*), Assistant Professor of Social Work, Gujarat National Law University

Dr. Marisport A. (*he/him*), Assistant Professor of Law, Gujarat National Law University

Samyuktha Anuram (*she/her*), Student Convenor, GCPWD, GCDS, +91 7401142273

Rutu Muppidi (*he/him*), Student Convenor, GCPWD, +91 95733 05818

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|---|---|
| ● Akshika Sharma (<i>she/her</i>) | ● Nehal (<i>she/her</i>) |
| ● Akshita (<i>she/her</i>) | ● Niva Tambat (<i>she/her</i>) |
| ● Anshika (<i>she/her</i>) | ● Praharshitha Prava (<i>she/her</i>) |
| ● Aradhana (<i>she/her</i>) | ● Rachelle (<i>she/her</i>) |
| ● Avni Kulshreshtha (<i>she/her</i>) | ● Ritika (<i>she/her</i>) |
| ● Dipshikha Kanjilal (<i>she/her</i>) | ● R K Dhashvanth (<i>he/him</i>) |
| ● Geet (<i>he/they</i>) | ● Samar (<i>he/him</i>) |
| ● Kimaya (<i>she/they</i>) | ● Sanam Bismi (<i>she/her</i>) |
| ● Kubher (<i>he/him</i>) | ● Savit (<i>he/him</i>) |
| ● Lavender (<i>she/they</i>) | ● Shana Akhtar (<i>she/her</i>) |
| ● Maithreyi M (<i>she/her</i>) | ● Shikhar Prakash (<i>he/him</i>) |
| ● Manish (<i>he/him</i>) | ● Sloka Chandra (<i>she/her</i>) |
| ● Megha Chhari (<i>she/her</i>) | ● Sneha Sharma (<i>she/her</i>) |
| ● Mithra KS (<i>she/her</i>) | ● Suha |