

**Mumbai, January 4, 2015:** The Loksatta Party has welcomed the induction of visually impaired individuals by the ruling BJP but said the move should not remain a token gesture.

It is through such inclusion of all sections of society that we can build a beautiful country with equal opportunity for all, the party said. It is imperative that persons with disabilities become an integral part of governance systems and have a say in the decision-making process so that issues concerning them are raised on the right platforms and logical steps are taken to make life better for them.

“The LSP in Maharashtra has a visually impaired person on its working committee,” state LSP general secretary Rajeev D Pai said. “There is no point if people with disabilities are made members but not given the opportunity to be part of the decision-making process.” Until that happens, we will not be able to build a truly inclusive society, he said.