

## Briefing Note

1. The story run by Aaj Tak under the caption '*Operation Dhritrashtra*' is devoid of any merit and is false, malicious and baseless.
2. At the very outset it needs to be pointed out that Mrs. Louise Khurshid herself requested the CM of Uttar Pradesh on 17 Sep. 2012 and represented to him to conduct an enquiry so that the truth is revealed and it is established that the Trust has not forged the signatures of any officers of the state of U.P.
3. The Trust has conducted more than 17 camps in that relevant year 2009-2010 and has distributed more than 2353 hearing aids and tri-cycles to various people with alternative abilities. This story seeks to tarnish the image of this Trust, its Chairman Shri Salman Khurshid and his wife Smt. Louise Khurshid by repeatedly showing video clips of 3 persons who claim that they have not been provided a hearing aid or a tri-cycle. It is painful and sad to see that the work of the entire Trust is tarnished by taking video clips of one or two individuals, veracity of whose claims is not established.
4. We have provided a large number of documentation to the India Today Group including the audited statement of accounts, list of beneficiaries duly attested by the state Government officials and check lists duly verified by the State Government officials and in detail replied to all their queries. The India Today Group sought to completely ignore a large number of documents which we had provided them.
5. The other part of the story portrays the claim of one Tapasvee Lal, Samaj Kalyan Adhikari, Mainpuri that the signature on test check Reports is not his signature. This is irrelevant and bizarre because the Trust has never submitted any documents to any other authority where it claims or which are signed or held out to be signed by one Mr. Tapasvee Lal. The Test Checks report was duly signed by two officials of District Mainpuri neither of those are Tapasvee Lal.
6. The statement of Mr. Ram Anurag Verma, Viklang Kalyan Adhikari Farrukhabad is being quoted out of context. Mr. Verma has not only been informed about the camp and rather on the contrary he has attended each camp and his signature are affixed to every page of the list of beneficiaries for the year 2009-2010. A copy of the list of beneficiaries on which his signature are affixed was handed over to India Today Group by the Trust which the Group has completely ignored.
7. Wild allegations have been leveled in the news item including one specific allegation made at 10:31 pm that Mrs. Louise Khurshid has forged signatures and stamp of certain officials, these are baseless and no evidence is produced that Mrs. Louise Khurshid has acted in a fraudulent manner. Mrs. Louise Khurshid is now in the process of serving India Today Group a legal notice and reserves the right to initiate appropriate proceedings against India Today Group and their officials in accordance of law.

Louise Khurshid  
Project Director  
Dr. Zakir Husain Memorial Trust