Next Generation Sequencer (NGS) is used to determine the nucleotide sequence of DNA in a massively parallel way. The system will sequence DNA from multiple regions of genome in multiple individuals which enables to decode the DNA in very less time. The system which is present at UHG has a throughput of 10 GB in 2-3 hrs time. The system can be used for Exome Sequencing, RNA sequencing, Customised gene panel sequencing. At present our objectives are Exome sequencing, Customised gene panel sequencing.

**Chief Executive Office of Voice and Speech Systems T V Ananthapadmanabha said the benefits of present day technology are not reaching differently-abled persons due to lack of awareness and the lack of indigenous technology.**
He was speaking at a seminar on ‘IEEE Special Interest Group on Communication Disabilities’, organised by the Department of Electronics at All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH) here on Saturday.

IEEE, an international institution of electrical and electronic engineers, has constituted a Special Interest Group on Communication Disability. The focus of the group is to encourage technology development for persons with communication disabilities.

The objective of the meet was to orient the faculty of engineering colleges in and around Mysuru about the technology needs for persons with communication disorders and encourage them to initiate student projects at under graduate and postgraduate level to support technology development.

Ananthapadmanabha said India needs focused team work in this area as it has a sizeable population of differently-abled persons. Mohan Kumar, vice-president of Megachips Corporation, highlighted the significance of academic institutions working jointly with industry to fulfill the technology needs of persons with communication disorders.

AIISH Director S R Savithri said technology plays a crucial role in diagnosis of communication disorders and also in the rehabilitation of people with communication disorders.

Vishwaprasad Alva, managing director of Skanray Technologies; Ajith Kumar, head of the Department of Audiology, Aruna Kamat, Deepa Anand, and Munir Mohammed from IEEE were present on the occasion.

**MLA M K Somashekhar said corrective measures can be taken up effectively if hearing problems of children are detected early.**

He was speaking after inaugurating a repair camp of hearing aids organised by the Department of Electronics, All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH) here on Monday.

The role of parents in observing their children and taking them for adequate tests is vital, he said and lauded the efforts of AIISH in helping persons with hearing and speech problems.

Director of AIISH S R Savithri said assisting persons with hearing problems on hearing aids is one of the thrust programmes at the institute.

She said any individual with a hearing aid can walk in and get his hearing aid serviced and repaired free of cost in the camp. The camp will be held from 9.30 am to 5 pm till November 6.

Technicians from five hearing aid companies — HAC Acoustic Technologies, Chennai; Otic Hearing Solutions, Mumbai; Benton, Mumbai; Arphi Electronics, Chennai; and Alps, New Delhi; have put up stalls and are providing free service