

**Disability Policy and**  
**Programs: Experiences and**  
**Prospects for future**

Ministry of Social Justice &  
Empowerment  
Government of India



# STATUS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

- According to Census,2001
  - 21.9 million persons with disabilities- 75% in rural areas
  - 2.13% of total population
  - Severe disabilities- need to improve the data
  - Locomotor -6.11m, Visual-10.64m, hearing-1.26m, speech-1.64m, mental-2.26m
- Legislations
  - Persons with Disabilities Act (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995
  - National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act,1999
  - Rehabilitation Council Act,1992
  - Mental Health Act,1987

# GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS

- Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities
    - Protection of rights
    - Redress grievances (8000 in last 3 years )
    - Mobile courts
  - National Trust(Rs 100 crore corpus)
    - Autism, CP, MR & Multiple Disabilities
      - to enable and empower persons with disabilities to live as independently and as fully as possible
      - to extend support to registered organizations providing need based services
      - to evolve procedure for appointment of legal guardians for persons with psycho-social disabilities
  - Rehabilitation Council of India( Rs 4.5 crore per annum)
    - regulating and monitoring the training of Rehabilitation professionals
    - promoting research in rehabilitation and special education
    - maintenance of a Register of professionals in the country(20,000 professionals)
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# INSTITUTIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF MANPOWER

- 1) National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata.
- 2) Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi
- 3) National Institute for Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack
- 4) Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai
- 5) National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun
- 6) National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad
- 7) National Institute for the Empowerment with Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai

288 private recognized institutions are taking up various training programmes

# OTHER IMPORTANT INSTITUTIONS

- Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)
  - Manufacturing prosthetic and orthotic devices
  - Mobility devices- wheel chairs, tricycles etc
  - Hearing aids
  - Equipments for persons with visual disabilities
- National Handicapped Finance Development Corporation (NHFDC)
  - Loans at liberal rate of interest for self-employment of persons with disabilities
  - Skill development
  - Education loans
  - More than Rs 92 crores loan disbursed to 20,000 Persons



# Other field level Organization

- Composite Rehabilitation Centres- 5 functional
- District Disability Rehabilitation Centres
  - Sanctioned-199
  - Functional 128
- Public Private Partnership
  - Indian Spinal Injury Centre
- 4 Regional Spinal Injury Centres



# SELF HELP ORGANIZATIONS

- More than 1000 self help organizations are working
  - Represented on policy making bodies
    - Role in Policy formulation and monitoring
      - Central Coordination Committee, CEC
      - General Councils and Executive Councils/Boards of various Institutions
  - Approximately 700 organizations providing services to persons with disabilities through 1000 projects of different types
    - S.E.,V.T., E.I.etc.
  - Producing and fitting assistive devices
    - Camp approach
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# Non-Governmental Organizations

- Disability wise National Organizations
  - Visually Disabled-
    - National Federation of Blind, All India Confederation of Blind, National Association of Blind
    - Affiliated organizations at state and district levels
  - Hearing Disabled- All India Federation of Deaf and State level bodies
  - Parents of persons with Psycho-social disabilities: PARIVAR
    - State and District level bodies affiliate
  - Intellectual Disabilities
    - ACMI, NAMI



# Prevention of disabilities

- National Leprosy Eradication Programme
- National Programme for Control of Blindness
- Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme
- Programme for prevention of Deafness(Rubella Vaccination)
  - New programme Rs1196.25 crore for 2006-07



# EARLY DETECTION AND INTERVENTION

- Integrated Child Development Scheme
  - Trained Workers to identify and referral to specialized institutions
- Health field-functionaries both medical and paramedical
- NGOs running early intervention services for children with hearing, visual, intellectual and psychosocial disabilities - supported by the Government



# PRIMARY EDUCATION

- Inclusive education of children with disability(SSA)
  - Compulsory Education for All( upto the age of 18 yrs)
  - 3 million (1.54% of the total child population) in the country and 2.19 million (71.99%) enrolled in the schools or provided home-based education.
  - Requirements
    - Special teachers/ trained teachers
    - Resource room
    - Accessibility of schools

# Availability of teachers for children with special needs

- Desired requirement
  - 1 teacher for 8 children
- 16658 teachers registered with RCI
- Present availability
  - 1 teacher for 182 children



# SECONDARY & UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

- Special facilities and teaching services for persons with disabilities at secondary education (IEDC) being revised to IEDSS
  - Training of teachers
  - Create enabling environment
  - Books and other material in accessible format
- University Education
  - Reservation in admission-3%
  - Enabling and accessible physical environment needed
  - Counseling services required
  - Special equipments depending on the requirement
- Universities to be made accessible at least one in a State

# OTHER RELATED DEVELOPMENTS

- Indian Braille has been standardized
- Developed in various regional languages
- 13 Braille presses are presently functioning and providing books for persons with visual disabilities
  - Not sufficient to meet the requirement
- 4 Talking Book production Centres and libraries have been providing books to the persons with visual disabilities
- Indian Sign language has been standardized
  - Need to train sign language interpreters in adequate numbers



# TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

- Vocational training
  - 500 institutions
- Government has reserved 3 percent vacancies for persons with Visual, hearing and locomotor disability in all its establishments
  - 9% recruitment in 2004 and 7% in 2005
  - 19 out of 22 Civil Services
- Employment in private organized sector
  - Government to contribute Employees provident Fund and Employees Estate Insurance for each disabled person employed by the private sector employer
    - Rs 700 crore for the plan
    - 1 lakh jobs per year
- Self-employment
  - low interest loan (NHFDC)

# ADIP Scheme

- Assistance to purchase and fitting of aids and appliances
- Free or at 50% of cost
- Income restrictions upto Rs6,500 free, Rs6501 to Rs 10000 at 50% cost
- Implemented through NGOs, DDRCs, Nis, ALIMCO
- Expenditure in 2006-07: Rs 67.62crores
- 2,95,000 persons benefited in a year
- Need to increase the coverage
- 167 districts not covered out of 604
- Strategy for complete coverage

# Deen Dayal Rehabilitation Scheme

- Support to voluntary organization
- Rehabilitation services
  - Special schools
  - Vocational training centres
  - CBR
  - Braille presses
  - Placement services
  - Half way homes
  - Early intervention programmes
- 2006-07: Rs54.60 crores :742 NGOs
- 1,26,000 persons benefited

# Implementation of PwD Act

- Various projects
  - CRCs
  - DDRCs
  - RSICs
  - Model projects on accessibility
    - ATIs
    - State Commr Office
    - Universities
    - State Secretariats
  - Rs 15 crores

# ACCESS TO BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- Guidelines for accessibility of the built environment and model byelaws developed
- These byelaws being adopted by agencies responsible to approve building layouts
- State Governments are being encouraged to introduce buses with accessibility features
- Pilot projects
  - Office of State Commr for Persons with Disability
  - ATIs
- Indian Railways has taken up time bound programme to make the railway coaches and the platforms accessible

# ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Screen reading Software for local languages developed
- Web standards are being developed to uniformly apply to all the websites in the country
- Technology institutions are being encouraged to develop and improve the existing assistive devices
- Need for exchange and collaboration in the area of ICT and development of assistive technologies



# POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMMES

- Affirmative action
  - 3% funds are to be used for all the poverty alleviation schemes of the Government
    - Actual utilization has been much lower(.85 to 1.07%)
- Community Based Programmes
- Self Help Groups (A.P.,KARNATAKA)



# Social Security

- Social Security
  - Unemployment allowance
  - Disability pension
    - All except Arunachal Pr, Assam, Daman & Diu, J&K and Nagaland
    - Ranges from Rs 60(Dadra..)to Rs1000(Goa)
    - Has to be reasonable amount
    - Central Govt support (under process)
  - Need for development of an insurance scheme



# Priorities for Future

- Govt expdt has been in the range of Rs 200 crores(MSJE)
- Some of the rough estimates suggest need for Rs 3000 crores per annum
- Working Group report has also given an estimate of fund requirement for various Ministries
- Allocations will depend on overall availability of funds



# Data base on Persons with Disabilities

- Differences in the figures from census, 2001 and NSSO, 2002
  - Differences in the definition
- WHO and other estimates 10 % of population
- International Classification on Functioning, Disability and Health



# Prevention, detection and early intervention

- Large population in remote and rural areas
  - Services to reach them(DDRCs, ADIP)
- Awareness about prevention and early detection for referral at appropriate institution
  - PHCs, CHCs, District Hospitals
- Adoption of models for early intervention for HI and MR at grass root level



# School Education

- Facilities in government schools
  - Physical accessibility
  - Teaching learning material
  - One special teacher in each school
  - Parity in remuneration for special teachers
  - Incentives for remote areas
  - Incentive to general teacher for learning special education
  - Adequate allocation under SSA



# University and Professional education

- Accessible campuses
- Disability Resource Centres
- Counselling and other support services
- Braille books and talking books to persons with visual impairment
- Additional resources to the universities



# Employment in Government

- Better enforcement of reservation
- Identification of posts in the state Governments
- Operational instructions for filling the reservation



# Employment in private and corporate sector

- Training of persons with disabilities to meet the requirement of the industry
- Facilitation
- Awareness about the capability
- Development of intermediation systems
  - Placement agencies
  - websites



# Reach of the services

- CRC in each State
- DDRCs in every unserved district
- Coverage of ADIP schemes in all the districts
- Need for voluntary organization to setup services in un-served districts



# Disabled-friendly Built Environment

- New Public Buildings to be mandated by law at local level
  - Suitable procedures
- Existing Buildings
  - Access audit in time bound manner
  - Need for additional funds
  - Need for SPV for the purpose



# Social Protection

- Disability Pension/ Unemployment allowance
  - Reasonable amount
  - Complete coverage of the population
  - Eligibility conditions to be reasonable
  - Central Government support
- Insurance
  - Health & Life



# Strengthening of CCPD & State CPDs

- Institutions require strengthening
  - To improve the reach
  - To facilitate the functions entrusted
    - Monitoring of various programmes
  - Appropriate structure needed at the State level
    - Full-time State commissioner with required support
  - Need for District level institution



# Research

- Disability Policy
  - Sociological-attitudes
  - Socio-economic studies
  - Artificial limbs and assistive devices
- Involvement of prestigious institutions in India and abroad
- Develop devices suiting the requirement at a reasonable cost



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Thank you

