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# **Empowering Specially Abled Through Rehabilitation- Case Studies**

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### Abstract:

India wants everyone to see that physically disabled people are in no way a burden to Indian society and can contribute just as others do. This is evident from real inspiring life stories of people who have achieved great heights in their respective fields, many defying belief and excelling even further. They have challenged every possible limit in spite of their physical disability and changed the way people perceive ability. The never-say-die attitudes of these famous and famously confident brave youngsters and adults have served as a source of inspiration for many and, hopefully for generations to come. Even a small selection from a cross-section of society proves that nothing is impossible.

**Keywords**: Disability, Rehabilitation, Success stories

# 1. Introduction

Rehabilitation includes all measures aimed at reducing the impact of disability for an individual, enabling him or her to achieve independence, social integration, a better quality of life and self – actualization. Rehabilitation can no longer be seen as a product to be dispensed; rather rehabilitation should be offered as a process in which all participants are actively and closely involved.

### 2. Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR)

It is a strategy within general community development for the rehabilitation, equalization of opportunities and social inclusion of all people with disabilities. The primary objective of CBR is the improvement of the quality of life of people with disability / marginalized persons. Key principles relating to CBR are equality, social justice, solidarity, integration and dignity.

### 2.1. Empowerment Component:

The essence of empowerment is that people with disabilities and their families take responsibility for their development within the context of general community development. The outcome of CBR in NLEP is expected to be a change in their mindset- from passive receiver to active contributor and that each LAP participate in family and community life; in learning, playing, working, and household activities; in politics and cultural activities. Empowerment of community to assume responsibility for ensuring that all its members, including those with disabilities, achieve equal access to all of the resources that are available to that community, and that they are enabled to participate fully in the social, economic and political life of the community.

In this paper 10 case studies of success stories of differently abled individuals are presented.

2.1.1. Case Study 1 Name: Mr. Pavan Age: 32 years Gender: Male

Occupation: Working in Punjab national bank Educational status: Completed degree and B.Ed.

Type of Disability: Visually impaired

Success Story: Mr. Pavan is a native of Warangal district. He had done his schooling in Darshaba Blind School and graduation in Hyderabad. He came to know about the school he studied through some fellow passengers travelling along with his father in a bus. Later, he was motivated and encouraged by K. V. Ramanakar, an IAS officer to do further studies and join a job later. With the help of

Mr. Ramanakar he was able to get a job in Ravindra Bharati and he worked there were some time. It did not really matter to him that whether the job is good enough. He just wanted to be independent financially instead of burden to family. Later he wrote a bank selection test conducted by Punjab National Bank and got selected in it. He says his colleagues and family are very supportive to him.

# 2.1.2. Case Study 2 Name: Mr. Venkatesh

Age: 35 years Gender: Male Occupation: Tailor

Educational status: Studied up to 5<sup>th</sup> class

Type of Disability: Polio

Success Story: Mr. Venkatesh works as a tailor in a readymade garment store in Gandhi Nagar, Hyderabad. He is married. Though he did not study much he wanted to be a tailor. He had undergone informal training by seeing other tailors in his village and learned the tailoring skills by seeing them. He says he is very much satisfied with his life as he is living his life independently and taking good care of his family and says that his family gives him good support. He also says he is not aware of the government schemes and policies provided to the challenged people.

# 2.1.3. Case Study 3

Name: Mr. Srinivas Age: 36 years Gender: Male

Occupation: Bussinessman Educational status: Graduation

Type of Disability: Physically Handicapped

Story: Mr. Srinivas was a successful businessman. He met with an accident 8 months ago and lost his left leg. Through the reference of a doctor from Yashoda hospital (Dr. Devender) he came to know about the Jaipur leg and got fixed to his leg. He is now in a stage where he is trying to come out of the depression and try to adjust with the realities of his life. He is planning to go back to his business field once again. To overcome the depression he is taking some medication and counseling from a homeopathic doctor. He also gets some allowances from the government for the special needs he wants.

# 2.1.4. Case Study 4

Name: Ms.Kavitha Age: 30 years Gender: Female Occupation: Beautician

Educational status: Studied up to 10<sup>th</sup>class

Type of Disability: Polio

Success Story: Ms. Kavitha works as a beautician in a beauty parlor in Ameerpet. She took a formal Beautician training course and started working. She wasn't born with polio. She was affected by polio at the age of 3. Her parents expired in her young age so she had to take up own financial responsibility. She doesn't receive any governmental benefits and irrespective of all the problems she says she is happy with her life as she is self-supporting herself which makes her happy.

# 2.1.5. Case Study 5

Name: K.Mahesh

Age: 32 Gender: Male Educational: SSC

School: Asif High School, Malakpet, Hyderabad.

Type of disability: Deaf and dumb

Occupation: Working as a clerk in Indian Overseas Bank

Success story: He is working in the IOBank at Lakdikapool from the past 3years. He is happily married and has two children. After his SSC he got this job. He wants to be independent in life and therefore he applied for the job he is doing now when he came to know about the recruitments being done in the bank. He says he leads a happy life and happily expresses that his family, friends, relatives and colleagues are very supportive and co-operative though he have some special challenges facing in his life

# 2.1.6. Case Study 6

Name: Ms.Jyothi Age: 25years Gender: Female Occupation: Hetero medical shop

Success story: She is owner of the hetero medical shop at Madhapur, she is physically challenged. She studied upto D. Pharmarcy in Balaji Institute of Pharmacy. She got leg support aid from the government. She only started the hetero medical shop. Parents give full support to her. She is happy with her present standard of living.

# 2.1.7. Case Study 7 Name: Saralakumari Age: 35 Years

Gender: Male

Occupation: School Teacher

Type of Disability: Visually Impaired

Success story: She is working as school teacher, she lives at Kurnool, She got married and she has 2kids. Her husband had expired. But is very confidence to doing her responsibilities like job and raising children. She has her family members support. She is very happy with government service

### 2.1.8. Case Study 8

Name: Meera Age: 23Years Gender: Female Occupation: Student

Type of Disability: Visually Impaired

She is studying B.Ed in Siddanthi College at Secunderabad. She studied until 10<sup>th</sup> at B.Bloss Blind School at Malakpet. She is very happy to continue her studies. Her family member support is good. She has 5 sibilings and now searching for job. She is gets transport, incentive allowances from the government.

### 2.1.9. Case Study 9

Name: Y. Koteswari

Age: 37

Gender: Female

Occupation: School Teacher

Success story: Student career was started at Hyderabad Darshapa blind school. She got married. She is a government Teacher at Kurnool district. She is very happy with her own independent living. She is happy with technology developing for blind persons. She is very happy about government services

## 2.1.10. Case Study 10

Name: Rajesh Age: 28 Years Gender: Female Occupation: Tailoring

Type of Disability: Deaf &Mute

Success story: He started Tailoring work after completing his 10<sup>th</sup> standard. He is married and he runs a tailor shop along with his mother. His mother had undergone training Andhra Mahila Sabha College and he has learnt the tailoring skills by seeing the drafting and stitching techniques from his mother. Finally they both have put a tailor shop and their business is running properly. He set up the shop by himself without any government help. He says he is a happy person with all the love from his family and friends.

### 3. Conclusion

The New Approach Community Based Rehabilitation is very effective. However awareness about the programme should be created among public so that employment of especially abled is possible even in remote areas. Because of governmental efforts and technological advancement, disabled are empowered in all aspects i.e. intervention, education, employment and living on par with their counterparts. They are leading happy life by staying with their families and in their community with financial independence.

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