



## **A REVIEW OF INDIAN POLICIES FOR EMPOWERMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, ECONOMIC AND SPORTS FOR PWD**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*India has the second largest population in the world with a population of over 180 million. Out of 180 million we have 57.50% of male population and 42.50% of female population both in Urban & Rural Areas. Among them we have 2.13% of people who belong to the PWD category. The PWD can be classified into four major groups i.e., Visual Impairment, Locomotor Disability, Mentally Retarded & Speech Disorder and SLD (Specific Learning Disorder). In India we have 48.55% of Visual Impairment people, 27.87% of Locomotor Disability people, 18% of Mentally Retarded and Speech Disorder people and 5.76% of SLD in the overall 2.13% of PWD. The people with PWD face many problems in our country from recognition in society, basic facilities, special benefits, etc. due to which most of the people with PWD are not able to lead a normal life. They are treated with sympathy rather than treating them equally. The purpose of the study is to compare and to bring awareness regarding policies of Educational, Health, and Economic, Employment and Sports (National and International) for PWD and General Population and various facilities provided by the Government of India in this regard in order to overcome the disability. The methodology used for the study is censuses from Government of India Bill and government of India bills passed in parliament (The Right of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014), PWD Bill 2012, etc. The Findings and Recommendations will be explained in the main paper.*

**Key Words:** Person with Disability (PWD), Specific Learning Disorder (SLD).

### **INTRODUCTIUON**

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1P a g e



India is second largest population in the world. From 2001-2011 the population has increased to 180 million. The population growth every year is almost 1.5%. Density of population has been increased to 57 person per km from 2001-2011. In that if we consider the sex ratio 914 female per 1000 male. If we analysis the statics of 180 million growth in that 6,40,867 i.e., 72.2% population stay in village, remaining 28% stay in 5,480 town . This is the population of India.

When it comes to literacy rate in the country the country has increased from 64.84% to 74.04% in 2011...there is a absolute increase in literacy if u see 2001 it was 560.69 million but 2011 it is 778.45 million this is been achieved when India crossed 100Crores population.

When it comes to economics the Indian growth was 9% and it is 4th largest GDP in terms of purchasing power.

All the above details are of Population, Economic and Education of general population when we go through the statics of person with disability since 2001 PWD WAS 2.13% of total population in that male 57.5% and female 42.5%. PWD MOST OF them stay in rural areas i.e., 75%. Highest PWD stay in utter Pradesh with 34,53,365 and least in Lakshadweep with 1,678 if u see Tamilnadu it in 4<sup>th</sup> place with 16,42,497 and my state Karnataka in 11<sup>th</sup> place with 9,40,643 PWD. If we bifurcate PWD according to percentage most of PWD are visual impairment with 48.55% Second largest Loco motor disorder with 27.87%, third mental and speech disorder with 18% and last hearing disorder with 5.76%. To overcome this government of India had taken many measures and implemented many policies and acts in parliament to empower PWD.

Laws and policies PWD Act 1995: in article 14 of constitution guarantee that no person will be denied equality before law. The state is directed to provide relief and help to person with disabilities and the employable vid entry 9 list of 7<sup>th</sup> schedule.

#### **List of Government Policies to Empower P.W.D are as follows**

##### **1. Government of Indian Policies to overcome Health of P.W.D**

The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act in 1999 (NTA) - This act was done in order to show special consideration of PWD who have Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities that they have special consideration and address the anxieties of the parents of PWD with the above problems after their demise.

Mental Health Act of 1987 (MHA) - This legislation enacted in 1987 primarily aimed at regulating admission and discharge of psychiatric hospitals. The legislation was aimed to ensure that persons with mental illness were subjected to compulsory care and treatment according to procedure established by law.

Rehabilitation Council of India Act of 1992 (RCI) ACT XXI of 1860(parliamentary 34 of 1992) – This Act was enacted to professionalize rehabilitation services in the country. The Council was enjoined to accord accreditation to professionals pursuing education in recognised institutions in accordance with standards promulgated by the RCI. Apart from this legislation many policy were implemented to empower PWD.

## **2. Indian Policies to protect Education for General Population and P.W.D**

PRIMARY -SARVA SHIKSHNA ABHIYAN (SSA) – which is Universal Education Program for children of age 06-14 years for Equality in Education in that 3% seats are provided to P.W.D.

SECONDARY- RASHTRIYA MADHYAMIK SHIKSHABHIYAM (RMSA)- for children who belong to the age group of 15-16 years, affordable education in govt schools . IEDSS- Inclusive education for disables at secondary stage from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Standard.

HIGHER EDUCATION – SECTION 39 OF PWDA 3% seats in Government aided institutions. If the institution goes against “the statement of objective and reasons of act” provides that one of the reason for which the institution was against.

HEPSN- Higher Education for Person with Special Need to enrich higher education learning experience of PWD.

- They have selected 50 existing poly-technique where 1200 PWD can register and 5000 PWD students can do Short term technical and vocational courses.
- Visually Challenged Teacher Scheme- In this Scheme: Teacher training Students get fund for purchase of Braille Books (Recorded Material).
- PWD enjoy 5% relaxation points that appear for NET examination and Up to 5years of age relaxation in Higher Education.

### **❖ SCHOLARSHIP FOR PWD:**

- ❖ National Scholarship for PWD- The ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment issue 500 new scholarships every year for matric professional and technical course for more than one year.
- ❖ 1000 PWD Students who are doing Technical Education whose family income does not exceed Rs.15000/- get Rs.700/- Scholarship per month.
- ❖ Rs.400/- for Diploma Students (PWD).
- ❖ DPWD Students get reimbursement of Course Fee up to Rs.10,000/- per year.

## **3. EMPLOYEMENT:**



Out of total population it is observed that only 34% of PWD work and the rest 66% PWD are non-workers. Article 16(1) of Constitution provides equal opportunity for all citizens and Article 14 formal and substantive equality. Section 33 of PWDA not less than 3% for PWD government shall appoint. Reservation for PWD was made applicable in Group C and Group B Post in 1989. In Universities while appointing 3% should be appointed as Teachers and Administration Jobs.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and National Rural Employment Guarantee Act-In these two schemes they guarantee 100 days employment for Common Man. If they fail to give employment by 15 days of application submission, daily unemployment allowances in cash has to be paid. In this 1/3th for women currently they are 40% beneficiaries, the scheme was started on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008. Same Schemes were later modified in the year 2011-12 for PWD. In the year 2011-12 around 9,99,211 PWD enrolled for the scheme out of which only 16,436 were given work creating 1,21,121 person days. In order to make education available for PWD of all the corners of the country EDUSAT Channel 'NAVSHIKAR' has been set up in collaboration with Indian Space & Research Organisation (ISRO) and Media Lab Asia (MLA) by RCI. As on date more than 500 study centres / institutions have been connected through this station for benefit of students, trainers/teachers and parents of PWD.

#### **4. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHT:**

Constitutional Provisions- Article 38(1) of the Constitution of India requires that "the state shall strive to promote the welfare of people by securing and protecting as effectively as it may a social order in which justice, social, economic and political, shall inform all the institutions a normal life". Article 21 of the Constitution of India declares that "No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law".

The Government of India ensures that PWD people enjoy social protection equally as normal persons and take necessary steps to safeguard and promote the realization of this right, some of the measures are as follows.

- a) To ensure equal access by PWD to clean water services, access to appropriate affordable services, devices and other assistance for disability related needs.
- b) To ensure women, children and older persons with PWD to social protection programs and poverty reduction programmes.
- c) To ensure PWD and their families living in situations of poverty to assistance from State with disability related expenses, including adequate training, counselling, financial assistance, respite care, Public housing programmes and retirement benefits and programmes.

## 5. SPORTS:

The Promotion and Regulation of Disability Specific Sports (DSS) in India has been in complete disarray. India's participation in DSS is extremely poor right from its debut in 1968 Summer Paralympics Games, competed again in 1972 and then there was no participation until 1984 Games. From 1984 though there was continuous participation in the DSS and won eight medals totally 2-gold, 3-silver and 3-bronze. We have never participated in Winter Paralympics Games. Government of India has created National Olympic Association under which National Disability Specific Sports Federations (NDSSF) will be created for improvement of PWD in every sports aspect and PWD will have full criteria in National Disability Specific Sports like follows.

In NDSSF there shall be at least half the strength of PWD in management of which at least one disable person should be an athlete in that specific sport. NDSSF shall have in-house accessible grievance redressal mechanism for redressal of grievance relating to efficient functioning, election of Office bearers, representative character of the general body, protection of interest of athletes, promotion of the sport, maintenance and audit of accounts, moving of no confidence resolutions and connected internal management matters. NDSSF shall not have affiliation with National Olympic Association and the International Paralympics Committee if the sport is an Olympic Sport nor has an International Federation. NDSSF will hold a National Championship of every particular sport.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

From the above reviews it was concluded that there are enormous types of Laws by Government of India in order to protect and improve PWD and make them eligible to live equally like any other person. Few recommendations that can make more changes in PWD are as follows:

- PWD should come forward, overcome their insecurity feeling and instead identify their hidden talent and set an example for everyone.
- Parents of the PWD should be counselled, educated about various schemes and facilities that government has provided for PWD, which their children can utilise.
- PWD should be given full information about the various facilities that has been provided for them.
- PWD people with various talents should be encouraged rather than discouraged/negative comments or seen with sympathy.
- PWD should be given more free Medical Help from the Government as they require it more than general public.





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3. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2014. (As Introduced in Rajya Sabha).
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### ABRIVATIONS:

Person with Disability (PWD)

Specific Learning Disorder (SLD)

The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act in 1999 (NTA)

Mental Health Act of 1987 (MHA)

Rehabilitation Council of India Act of 1992 (RCI)

Sarva Shikshna Abhiyan (SSA)

Rashtriya Madhyamik Shikshabhiyam (RMSA)

Higher Education for Person with Special Need (HEPSN)

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)

Indian Space & Research Organisation (ISRO)

Media Lab Asia (MLA)

Disability Specific Sports (DSS)

National Disability Specific Sports Federations (NDSSF)