



Access to Appropriate Wheelchairs Can Work Wonders

A long awaited dream comes true, when twelve years of solitude ends for Machidani. With excitement she steps out of her home in the new wheelchair provided by Mobility India. She is forty years old and lives in a remote village in Hazaribagh district, Jharkhand.

At the age of thirteen she suffered from Muscular Dystrophy. She could study up to 10th standard, struggling with pain and unable to move. Further studies was only a day dream for her. The old wheelchair she used was worn out. Without the wheelchair, she remained confined to bed.

She was identified by the staff of Jan Sewa Parishad, one of the partner organisation of MI Regional Resource Centre. A wheelchair was prescribed to give her necessary mobility. The therapist from MI visited her for therapeutic interventions. Later a Rehabilitation Therapy Assistant trained at MI continued providing her the strengthening exercises and functional activities.

Even though she was going through pain, she engaged herself in knitting. Presently she belongs to one Self Help Group. During the meetings, the group members are provided with information on various income generation activities, goat rearing, poultry and pig rearing. Machidani too engaged in these activities to keep herself active. This has supported her with a source of income.

She says "It is the positive attitude towards life which has made me look beyond my disability and lead a normal life".

The appropriate wheelchair has enabled her to be mobile, independent and lead a normal life.

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Children Voiced Their Concerns

"I want to study further. But the nearest Government school is ten kilometres away from my home. Being a wheelchair user, I find it difficult to travel far and the private schools also have denied me enrolment because of the accessibility issues" fifteen year old **Srikanth** from Anekal Taluk conveys to Chief Minister **Shri. Siddaramaiah** in the annual children parliament.

The annual children parliament was organised by **Karnataka Legislators' Forum for Child Rights** and **UNICEF** at Vidhana Soudha on **17th November, 2015**. Children raised various issues like lack of infrastructure and toilet in schools, female foeticide and child labour. **Shri. Siddaramaiah** promised to look into the issues and take corrective measures to address them.



Include Vidya Campaign 2015, WEST BENGAL

CBM's 'Include Vidya' campaign complementing the **National Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)**, aims toward inclusion of children with disabilities in mainstream schools. It influence governments and policy makers to make greater commitments towards inclusive education.

The culmination event took place on **October 7, 2015** with **700** participants from all walks and spheres. The highlight of the event was the unveiling of the study report on '**Self-Assessment format for teachers of an Inclusive School**' by chief guest and dignitaries which aims to bring about the changes in the schools.



The Self-Assessment format was shared by CBM, which included 6 components Accessibility; Classroom environment; Education Services; Extra-curricular Activities; Committees for School Development and Policy & Systems.

Three orientation workshops were organized by MIRRC for the surveying organizations; CINI-Moyna, Bhuniakali Gram Vikas Kendra, Howrah South Point, Birpara Welfare Organization, Rural Health Development Centre and Nir Ideal Home for a better understanding on the assessment format. With their support MIRRC was able to survey 474 schools of 13 districts in West Bengal. The survey covered **727** schools from **19** districts of West Bengal.

The entire task of compilation of the data of 727 schools, its analysis and interpretation, development of the report and presentation of the documentation was prepared and the outcome of the study report was presented by Mr. Amit Kumar, Assistant Director, MIRRC.

127 children enjoyed the Inclusive Art Workshop organized during the event at Garden Reach.

Lions Club, Sadashivnagar visits MI:



The visiting delegates on 28th September, 2015 includes Lion Savitri V Swamy, President, Lion Nagarathna Bettegowda, Treasurer, Lion Lakshmi Bhagwath and Lion Krishna Kumari.

They sponsored development devices for 25 children from poor socio-economic background. These devices support children to improve their personal mobility.

During the facility visit, they remarked “Glad visiting your organization. You helped us seeing the whole process and rehabilitation centre. Very meaningful human service”.

51st Anniversary Celebrations of BHEL



To mark the day, an event was organised at Mobility India on 13th November, 2015. The event was presided by Shri. R. K. Tiwari, Executive Director, BHEL, Electronics Division, Shri. K. Parthiban, AGM HR/HOD, General Managers, CSR Committee members and senior executive officials from different associations of BHEL Electronics Division.

BHEL has been supporting MI since two years for procurement of raw materials for the fabrication of assistive devices.

During this financial year they sponsored various developmental and assistive devices, of which thirteen were personally handed over.

On his feedback Shri. R. K. Tiwari mentioned “I feel honoured and content to visit Mobility India. They are doing great services to the society though their vision of empowered and inclusive community. BHEL commits to support such great initiatives in future also on sustainable basis through our Corporate Social Responsibility”.



Sterla Mary: Never Too Late to Start Afresh...

Every parent dreams their child to have good health, happiness, education and an opportunity to succeed in life. Israel and Sobha were no different to dream the same for their daughter Sterla Mary. She lives in the LR Nagar slum in Bangalore with her parents and a younger sister.

Israel works day and night to keep a roof over his family. Affording the household needs, education of the younger child and medical expenses of Sterla became a challenge for him. He was clueless and unsure of the future of Sterla.

She was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy. At the age of two she was identified by MI. During that time she hardly had neck control, leave alone sitting and standing. Corner seat was provided to improve her sitting posture. Through regular therapy exercises, she was able to sit with wall support at the age of three and without support at four.

The next goal was to help Sterla stand with support. In order to facilitate this, assistive devices such as standing frame, Bilateral Ankle Foot Orthosis and walker were provided. Therapy interventions continued to make Sterla independent in activities of daily living.

Observing her gradual improvement, she was provided a wheelchair. Recently she started accompanying her family to the church in her wheelchair. With the walker, she takes a stroll in the streets every morning and evening.

Her therapist says "She can stand for a while without support now. Our next goal for her will be to make her stand on her own without any assistance".

Sterla's mother, a visibly happy and hopeful Sobha, states "Previously my daughter used to be in a lying position all the time. Now she has started showing signs of improvement. I really appreciate MI's support. Soon we are planning to enrol Sterla in school".

Accenture India organises 'Bake & Sell'

Accenture India personnel has been associated with MI in making a difference in the lives of underprivileged people. Further to their CSR activities, the team organised a fundraising drive 'Bake & Sell'. The amount raised was contributed towards providing nine assistive devices and twenty five children from LR Nagar slum with school bags and stationery.

Sarabandepalya Government School wears a New Look

The fresh smell of paints, a clean and tidy classroom excites the students and keep them engaged in studies. On the Monday morning, students of **Sarabandepalya** Government school jumped with joy to see their classrooms altogether in a different look.

A 'Cleaning & Painting Drive' was organised at the school premises on 19th September, 2015. A team of 140 volunteers from **Accenture** took part in the activity to present a bright and fresh look to the classrooms.

Rejuvenate the Young Minds...

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy". This proverb highlights the importance of playful activities in our lives.

On the eventful afternoons of 17th & 31st October, MI premises echoed with chorus of joy of the group of 50 students from the community project areas. The programmes were organised in collaboration with Accenture to make the students feel inclusive and enjoy the after-school hours.

The fun-filled games, music and dance left the students delighted. To augment this, school bags and other essentials were distributed among them.

Accenture team mentioned "Spending time with these children made us feel lively, active and go back to our own childhood. We appreciate MI's activities towards inclusion of children with disabilities in the regular schools".



ASEM High Level Meeting on Disability & Global Conference on Assistive Devices & Technology-Beijing, China

Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology (GATE), is an initiative of World Health Organisation which focus on the global health challenges, the expected demand of assistive products and the need of developing countries to be prepared for it.

Ms. Albina Shankar, Director and Mr. Soikat Ghosh Moulic, Assistant Director, Technical participated in the conference, during 29th-30th October, 2015.



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang and German Chancellor Angela Merkel graced the opening event and affirmed their commitment to make high and medium end assistive technology affordable.

The areas of attention during the sessions were 'how to make assistive products affordable for all'; 'service delivery, technology and care' and 'assistive devices for the elderly'. The sessions also stressed on the need for international curriculum in Assistive Technology and development of assistive technology sector worldwide.

More than 300 participants of the event expressed their unanimous support for the GATE initiative and appreciated WHO's role in bringing diverse stakeholders at one platform.

International Day of Persons with Disabilities Celebrations



The 2015 theme being 'Inclusion Matters: Access & Empowerment of People of All Abilities', the day aimed at creating awareness, promoting inclusion, empowerment and rights of persons with disabilities.

Brave Meharunnisa dares to take risks in her life

Thirty two years old Meharunnisa is grateful to MI for the services she received when she was unable to walk. She lives with her husband and daughter in Garden Reach, Kolkata. Today she is full of confidence and overwhelmed to express her happiness and joys when she meets MI's team from Regional Resource Centre, Kolkata.

Meharunnisa was diagnosed for TB meningitis past nine years. During her treatment, she was in coma for a month. Her stay in the hospital prolonged as she was feeble and weak. The tightness in her knee made it difficult for her to stand and walk. During this period she went through a lot of negative feeling and hatred towards life.

February 2015, she came to MI's field office along with her husband. There she shared that she is not able to stand and walk since nine years. Twice a week therapy sessions and the home based exercises improved her condition in a far better pace. She practices walking with the elbow crutches up to short distances.

By EID in July she was a completely transformed woman. She went to the market to purchase the essentials for EID. There was nothing to hold her back afterwards. She took brave steps to go to another bazaar which is around 100 kms away. Her confidence has been gradually improving.



Donate >>

- ☐ Developmental Aid per unit.....Rs.1,600-5,500
- ☐ Assistive Devices (Calipers, artificial limbs, crutches, walkers)..... Rs.2,500-15000
- ☐ Wheelchairs.....Rs.8,000-15,000
- ☐ Nutritious foodRs.1,000-2,000
- ☐ Therapy Services per session.....Rs.250
- ☐ Education per child per year.....Rs.2,000-5,000
- ☐ Any amount you wish to contribute

I am donating ₹ by Cheque/ Demand Draft number
.....towards

I would like to introduce a friend.
.....

Pin.....Telephone: E-mail :

(DD/Cheques to be made in the name of Mobility India)

Wish you all

*Merry Christmas
and a
Peaceful & Prosperous
New Year
2016*

MOBILITY INDIA

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