



## Mobility India Emerged as the Winner at Enable Makeathon: Inspiring Innovative Solutions to help People with Disabilities

Initiated by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and its partners, the 'Enable Makeathon' is a global project aimed at creating new assistive devices for persons with disabilities living in rural settings- both in India and across the world. Promoting the conception and design of affordable, high quality 'innovations' and sustainable assistive devices for end-users was at the core of the initiative.

Mobility India presented the innovative off-the-shelf product design of 'Twin Device'. The key motivation behind the design of the device is the work experience with children with Cerebral Palsy from the rural and remote settings and the underprivileged strata. It is often observed that such children have difficulties to sit and stand and mostly are in lying position due to unavailability of appropriate assistive devices. Twin device is especially designed to facilitate sitting and standing posture for children according to their developmental status. The prefabricated and adjustable components of the device ensures its long term usage.

'Twin Device' received ample appreciation from the users as well as expert forum, making its way to the final stage of the competition. On the **Demo Day**, held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2016, with wide acknowledgement, Mobility India emerged as winner at Enable Makeathon.

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Facilitated by ICRC, Mr. Soikat Ghosh Moulic, Assistant Director-Technical and Mr. Riyaz Hussain, Physiotherapist from Mobility India participated in the '**Global Participation for Humanitarian Innovation and Impact-2-Health in Fragile Environments**' conducted at Lussane, Switzerland on 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> March, 2016. The key themes of the conference were ensuring and expanding access to health in fragile environments and enhancing the response to emerging and unmet needs.

As a way forward, possibilities of mass production of this device, networking and collaboration opportunities with grassroots organisations, rural health delivery programs will be explored and regional orientation programmes for rehabilitation personnel will be scheduled.

## Syed Abdul Gani

Syed Abdul is 3 years and 9 months old and lives in Bangalore with his parents and a younger sister. His father works in a cyber café.

He was born with Cerebral Palsy and due to Quadriplegia both his upper and lower limbs were affected. When first he was brought to Mobility India at 5 months, he hardly had any neck control. He was taken under immediate



therapeutic intervention. With continuous therapy and functional exercises, he achieved neck control, was able to sit with support and even used to walk few steps holding his mother's hand.

As his mother had to take care of the new born child, therapy was discontinued for Syed. Slowly he started developing problems, and movement and functionalities reduced gradually.

Recently he received a twin device through BHEL's contribution, and was also regular for physiotherapy sessions for two months. He has shown significant improvement and is able to sit and stand with the support of 'Twin Device'.

22nd

National Conference, OPAI

First Prize for Scientific paper presentation

Best student awardee



**Sanyam**  
BPO course, MI, 2016  
(In Orthotics)



**Krishnaveni**  
BPO course, MI, 2016  
(In Prosthetics)



**Yetiraj**  
BPO course, MI, 2015



**Sangita**  
MPO course, AIIPMR



**Madesha**  
BPO course, MI, 2014

# Rapid Assessment of Disabilities (RAD) SURVEY in Assam



Mobility India's North-East office received the first funding support from CBM to conduct the RAD survey in Assam. The RAD survey methodology has been developed at University of Melbourne, Australia. Rather than asking a figure for persons with disabilities, the survey focuses on adults and identifies persons with any sort of functional difficulties.

The survey is being carried out in Dimoria Block of Kamrup Metropolitan District in collaboration with Swabalambi, a community organization and local Disabled People's Organisations (DPO). The technical assistance is rendered by Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI).

Community staff and DPO representatives were trained for data collection on people with functional difficulties.

## Workshop on International Classification Of Functioning, Disability & Health (ICF)



The workshop was conducted at Mobility India in collaboration with International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and accredited by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI). It was specifically designed for healthcare professionals, health administrators, educators, researchers as well as policy makers. 75 target audience representing 5 States of India participated.

The imperative concepts discussed during the workshop were an introduction to ICF, its history, model, components, domains and codes and its usage along with examples from round the world. The issues often occurring while developing ICF based data collection was discussed.

The Course Facilitator, Ms. Catherine Sykes, holds Professional Policy Consultant position in World Confederation of Physical Therapy (WCPT) as well as Co-chairs WHO Functioning and Disability Reference Group.

# Cognizant Foundation Sponsored Equipment under their CSR initiative

The objective was to augment the capacity of Prosthetic & Orthotic workshop at Mobility India by speeding up the fabrication process of assistive devices. The hand tools & equipment has been helpful during the day to day activities at the centre, fitment program conducted at community project areas as well as partner organisations. Last 2 months around 654 people received various assistive devices as per their need.



With the Diabetic Foot Scanner, exact analysis of foot complications and pressure in the foot can be done. During last month, 11 people has been benefitted through it. The Aesthetic restoration is helpful in fabricating cosmetic prostheses on time for any parts of body, in a cost effective manner. Recently staffs and students were trained on its usage and as a sample a cosmetic finger has been fabricated for one of the service user.

It was an opportune moment for Mobility India, to have Mr. Kalyan Mohan, Executive-Vice President, Cognizant Technology Solutions and Mr. Jayatirtha Rao for the inaugural ceremony of the equipment.

In his feedback, Mr. Kalyan Mohan cited "Truly outstanding work. Amazed with the passion of the people. I wish you all the very best in all truly amazing endeavours".

## DigiCaptions Sponsors Assistive Devices and Wheelchairs

DigiCaptions joined hands with Mobility India to ensure people with disabilities have access to appropriate assistive devices. They sponsored 75 assistive devices and wheelchairs for people from community projects of Mobility India. The deliveries took place during fitment program organised at LR Nagar on 21<sup>st</sup> March, at GG Halli on 24<sup>th</sup> March and on 29<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> at Mobility India. The personnel from DigiCaptions participated during every delivery and interacted with the service users to understand how these assistive devices will play a role towards transforming their lives.



# Mobility India's Rehabilitation Services Reaching to the Rural Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh

A fitment program was conducted from 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 in collaboration with Marinilayam Social Service Society (MNSSS) at Kurnool. MNSSS is a social service and charitable society which caters to the rehabilitation need of the people and children with disabilities from the rural villages of Kurnool.



One of the staff at MNSSS mentioned "in Kurnool, the number of children with Cerebral Palsy is more. Amputee count is also on a rise due to road accidents happening quite often". All these contributes towards exclusion of children and people with disabilities from the mainstream society. Children end up staying at home with functional limitations and adults lose opportunity to earn and support their domestic needs.

To cater to the need, MI has been involved in provision of assistive devices on a periodic basis. Around 34 people benefitted through this program, of which 19 people received various assistive devices and 7 children were provided with the developmental devices they need through BHEL's contribution.

## EJohn

E John is 75 years old and lives in Giddur with his family. He served Indian military forces as a tradesman for 22 years. Two of his daughters are married and sons are living on their own. John and his wife manage their requirements with the pension he receives every month.

At the age of 67 infections developed in his left foot, for



which he underwent below knee amputation. He received a below knee prosthesis from a local hospital and used to walk with a cane.

The 8 year old Prosthesis needed replacement due to wear and tear and affording a new one is beyond their budget. During the fitment program organised at Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh he received a below knee prosthesis through BHEL's contribution. His wife mentioned "my husband always like to live with dignity and with independence. This device will help him to stand and walk on his own. I can see happiness and confidence on his face. Thank you for this device".

# Consensus Meeting for Priority Assistive Products List

With a longer living population, the concept of assistive services and assistive technology need to be embraced to maintain or improve an individual's functioning and independence and thereby promoting their wellbeing. Access to assistive technology is now becoming as important as access to any other medical or health products. Today only 1 in 10 people have access to assistive technology, due to lack of financing, availability, awareness, trained personnel and affordability.

To address to the prevailing scenario, World Health Organization organised a consensus meeting to identify the 50 Priority Assistive Products List (APL). Ms Albina Shankar, Director, Mobility India participated in the meeting. It will be a critical tool for making the assistive products accessible for the needy. It will also provide guidance for procurement and reimbursement policies, including



50 Priority Assistive Products List (APL), Geneva 21-22 March 2016

insurance coverage. Prior to the consensus meeting, Delphi survey and a Global survey was conducted with 10000 people from 161 countries around the world. 70 participants of the consensus meeting based their decisions on the outcome results of the surveys done worldwide.

## Wheelchair Service & Training Delivery Workshop at Jaipur, Rajasthan

Mahatma Gandhi Occupational Therapy College and Rajasthan Association of Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists in collaboration with Mobility India organised the workshop. The 4 credit hours of training was planned with theoretical as well as practical illustrations to benefit the participants the most.



The workshop turned out to be a huge success, with 198 participants from various domains of General Medicine, Nursing, Physio & Occupational Therapy as well as Prosthetics & Orthotics.

Ms. Nirmala Danu, Occupational Therapist and Mr. G Sudhakar, Physiotherapist from Mobility India were the master trainers for the workshop.

# International Women's Day Celebration

On the occasion of International Women's Day (8th March, 2016) a health check-up Program was organised at Kolkata with Dr. Sarbani Banerjee, Gynaecologist. 24 women with disabilities and their caretakers were suggested to maintain hygiene, drink plenty of water, exercise daily and to consume vegetables in order to lead a healthy life.



On 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 a celebration took place at Mobility India with 53 volunteers from Accenture and staff, students and community members from Mobility India. Few participants expressed their role being a woman in their family, at work and on a larger perspective in the society.

The evening was quite eventful and kept the audience engaged with cultural activities and fun games. The celebrations concluded with vote of thanks and gift distributions.

One of the project team from Accenture has sponsored the much needed school essentials and stationeries for 25 children from one of the project areas of Mobility India. The students beamed with joy while receiving the in-kind gifts and the much needed school essentials. The satisfaction which came through the contribution was also substantially visible on the faces of the Accenture team.



## 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 food .....Rs. 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)

# ADMISSION OPEN

Application & Prospectus available



## Sessions commence from

July 2016 for LLO, RTA, DPO  
October 2016 for BPO



Rajiv Gandhi University Of  
Health Sciences, Karnataka



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International Society For  
Prosthetics & Orthotics

AFFILIATION  
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