Mobility India (MI), is a registered society, established in Bengaluru, in 1994. MI has been a progressive force in the Disability, Development and Rehabilitation Sector. MI promotes inclusive development through provision of Rehabilitation Services and Assistive Technology, Therapeutic interventions; conducting Education and Training program in the areas of Prosthetics, Orthotics, Wheelchairs and Rehabilitation Therapy. The Community Based Inclusive Development projects encompass the healthcare, inclusive education, livelihood opportunities, social and empowerment initiatives for people with disabilities their family members and other disadvantaged groups.

MI has been establishing partnership with grassroot organisations from South, East and North-Eastern Regions of India, from Bangalore as well as from Regional Resource Centre, Kolkata to address the real needs of the people and strives for the inclusion of people with disabilities and the elderly people in all development initiatives. The Inclusive Development Centre, Guwahati has been working towards Community Based Inclusive development programs. The field offices for community project initiatives span across urban slums in Bangalore, Peri-urban Jigani, Anekal Taluk, rural Chamrajangar, Karnataka and Garden Reach, Kolkata.

Promoting a perfect blend of disability & non-disability at all levels, MI has a team of 126 members, of which, 67 are female and 37 have personal experience of disability.

**Mobility India is the recipient of the National Award For ‘Outstanding Work In The Creation of Barrier Free Environment For Persons With Disabilities’ by the Ministry of Social Justice And Empowerment, Department of Disability Affairs, Government of India, in 2014.**

**Governing Body Members**
Vision
An inclusive and empowered community, where people with disabilities, their families and other disadvantaged groups have equal access to education, health, livelihood and enjoy a good quality of life.

Priority
People with disabilities, especially the poor, children, women and older people.

Mission
- Assisting in Poverty Reduction.
- Promoting Inclusive Development.
- Facilitating access to services related to Rehabilitation and Assistive Devices.
- Developing appropriate Human Resources in the field of Disability, Development, Healthcare, Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology at national and international levels.
- Capacity building of grassroots organisations in the field of Disability, Development, Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology.
- Research and Develop appropriate Assistive Technology and improving its access at an affordable cost.
- Realising the aspirations of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), Incheon Strategy to ‘Make the Right Real’ for persons with disabilities and all related National Legislations.

Core Values
- Respect
- Honesty
- Innovation
- Safety
- Quality
Director's message

MI was established in 1994, it is 22 years now and work has expanded substantially. While the purpose and vision of MI is enhancing quality of life of people with disabilities, the work of the organisation is to concretise and shape its Vision in changing lives of the poor.

Prevailing non-communicable diseases, progressively ageing population, increased road traffic accidents makes the need for assistive technology even more significant. WHO estimates over one billion people worldwide need some kind of assistive device, while only 10% has access to it. MI's major work is promotion of Inclusive Development and has been extensively working in the communities/grassroot organisations enabling access to a wide range of assistive devices in an affordable and acceptable manner and therapeutic interventions. Thus children with disabilities have access to inclusive education and adults earn a living, overcome poverty, participate in all societal activities, and live with dignity.

There is a huge need of trained personnel in assistive technology. MI educates and trains students from across India and low income countries in disability, development & rehabilitation.

Disability is widespread across India and the scenario is quite grim in the North-Eastern States. Geographic isolation, decades of conflict, inadequate facilities, lack of professionals for healthcare and rehabilitation are some of the contributing factors. MI started its office at Guwahati, Assam and Rapid Assessment of Disability survey was done at the Dimoria Block of Kamrup District, Assam. It was evident that the prevalence of disability was strongly associated with poverty and older age group. A Feasibility Study for Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology services in the North East Region was also done. It was quite evident from the study that the major population in the NE is concentrated in the State of Assam which comprises around 70% of the population. Hence the most need for rehabilitation service provision is in the State. MI plans to promote sustainable development by building inclusive communities in Dimoria Block of Kamrup District, Assam as well to initiate to setup an Assistive Technology Centre in the coming years.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, MI's Regional Resource Centre at Kolkata has been closed in January, 2017. In the meantime, MI made local arrangements to fabricate and deliver the assistive devices to clients for whom the assessment and cast was done to honour MI's commitment. We are very thankful to Ms Kuhu Das, Executive Director of Association for Women with Disabilities, who provided us space at her office to carry on till 31st March. MI’s community outreach work at Garden Reach continues as we have a small office in the Garden reach.

I take this opportunity to extend gratitude to each and every International, National agencies, professional bodies, partner organisations, individual donors, well-wishers, volunteers for extending their technical and financial support. We appreciate your trust and confidence and we would continue to work each day to grow the value of your investment in us. Thank you to all our service users, who were the opportunities of learning and development and kept us forging ahead towards our Vision. My Special thanks to the Governing Body Members for their continuous guidance and support in all our endeavours. I also recognize all of our staff members for their efforts and talents, with timely delivery of our services with dedication and passion.

Achieving each milestone, boosts us to aspire the next ones to continue to achieve growth. MI is committed to realising its goals, continue the pursuit to scale up new heights in realizing our vision and mission-creating a world where everybody leads a good quality of life with equity and dignity.

Warm Regards

Albina Shankar
Director
MI’s Journey over the 22 years

The initial thrust of MI since its inception has been partnering with grassroot organisations in meeting the need of rehabilitation services, establishment of orthopaedic workshop and therapeutic facilities as well as capacity building of the technical personnel, conducting short term training programs in disability, development and rehabilitation. Some significant events since its inception include, setting up of mobile workshop service in 1996, the Rehabilitation Aids Workshop by Women with Disabilities (RAWWD) in 1997. The Regional Resource Centre in Kolkata was established in 1998 to cater to the emerging need of rehabilitation in the East & North-Eastern States of India. The CBR programme in urban slums was launched in 1999, which today has expanded to urban slums in Bengaluru, Peri-urban Attibele, Jigani, Anekal Taluk, rural Chamrajnagar District, Karnataka, Garden Reach, Kolkata and Dimoria Block, Assam.

MI has diversified its activities which encompassed an unique 'Accessible Mobile Service' for a safe and accessible commute for wheelchair users and elderly, launch of various long and short term training programs for professional development in the field of Disability, Development & Rehabilitation. Research, design & development has been one of the key activities from inception. Some major strides were made on the Research and Development front with the launch of pre-fabricated Prosthetics & Orthotics in 2003-04. MI's Rehabilitation Research & Training Centre established in Bengaluru in 2002 is the manifestation of accessibility and barrier free environment.

MI's training programs are recognised by International Society of Prosthetics & Orthotics (ISPO), Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) and Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS). MI is the only P & O School in India to receive ISPO CAT II Status. In 2006 MI hosted “Consensus Conference on Wheelchair for Developing Countries”. After the conclusion of this conference, WHO has released Guidelines for Wheelchair Service Provision in less resourced settings. MI conducts Wheelchair Service Training Packages-Basic, Intermediate, Manager Levels and Training of Trainers and orients National Institutes, Academic Institutions & professional bodies across India. MI - Secretariat for the CBR India Network hosted the 1st CBR World Congress at Agra. Rehabilitation services extended to 8 conflict affected States of India.

In 2014 MI received National Award for ‘Outstanding Work in the Creation of Barrier Free Environment for Persons with Disabilities' by the Ministry of Social Justice And Empowerment, Department of Disability Affairs, Government of India. In 2016 MI emerged as the WINNER at Enable Makeathon: Inspiring Innovative Solutions (Global) for development of innovative ‘Twin Device’ for Children with Developmental Delays. MI is the recipient of Best NGO Award.

We extend special thanks to our long term donors and prime supporters MIBLOU & CBM from the inception of MI for extending generous supports in MI's projects, activities and its growth.
Assistive Devices & Therapeutic Interventions

Students/Professionals trained

Grassroot Organisations from 27 States of South, East & North-Eastern India

Development & Promotion of Appropriate Technology

Inclusive Education

Accessible Toilets

Healthcare

Livelihood Opportunities

Social and Empowerment

1,50,055

4,900

180

2,45,924

70,608

610

1,90,92

1,01,802

187
Rehabilitation Services
Introduction:

2.21% of the total population of India experience some form of disability. The ageing population is on a rise worldwide and India is no exception with 9% of the total population being elderly. Ageing is inevitable and it is often associated with functional decline, reduced mobility, and other health complications.

Assistive products and technology help people with disabilities including ageing populations, to maintain or improve their functioning and independence, facilities participation, enhance well being. 5-15% of persons in need have access to Assistive Products. Availability and Accessibility to rehabilitation services still remain scarce in India.

To suffice the current and emerging need and growing expenses of Assistive Technology, MI collaborates with various stakeholders at the Grassroot / State/ National / Regional and International level in the domain of Disability & Rehabilitation to improve access to products that are appropriate and affordable for people who are poor and from rural areas.

MI provides a range of latest technology of Assistive Devices such as Prostheses, Orthoses, Wheelchairs and Developmental & Mobility Devices as per the individual need with the gentle humanitarian touch. The Therapy services are rendered to children with Cerebral Palsy, people with Diabetes, Stroke, Post-Polio Residual Paralysis, Spinal Cord Injury and other disabling conditions as well as Pain Management. The therapy sessions are planned, goals for improvement are set considering the condition and requirement of individual service users helping them to achieve their developmental milestones. Our rehab professionals are fully qualified in their respective field and different forums to receive update training.

Provision of Assistive Devices

The program of providing assistive devices by Shri Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister, Karnataka was conducted on 14th Jan, 2017. The event was organized by Department of Health and Family Welfare and Department for Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens at Vidhana Soudha. The program focused on enabling access to appropriate assistive devices for people and children with disabilities.

Staff and students from MI participated in the program. A Twin Device and a Prostheses was provided to MI service users, according to their individual need.

The other dignitaries present on the day were Smt Umashree, Minister of Women and Child Development, Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens; Shri K. R. Ramesh Kumar, Minister of Health and Family Welfare Department; Shri H.K. Patil, Minister of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Development; Shri R. Roshan Baig, Minister of Urban Development, Haj and Information; Shri Ramalinga Reddy, Minister of Transport Department; Dr. Sharanaprapaksh Rudrappa Patil, Minister Medical Education from Health and Family Welfare Department; Smt. G. Padmavathi, Mayor, BBMP and Shri Govindraj, Director, Department for Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens.
Group therapy is a unique initiative of MI, which is mainly intended for people above 50 years, people with issues of balance, flexibility and moderate risk of fall. It is a shared therapeutic experience and a collaborative form of healing, which focuses on interpersonal relationships or on particular concerns shared by group members.

It acts as a supplement to primary therapy, to access additional support, or to serve as the sole component of healing work. Group therapy activities are designed to encourage communication, insight, trust, and personal growth. The activities may range from conversational, sit-down interactions, such as reading and sharing stories, to physically engaging, team-oriented exercises and games.

Play is often considered an age-appropriate activity for children, though it holds equal significance for all age groups. The 'Play Therapy' initiative of MI aims at incorporating the person's physical abilities, cognitive functioning levels and emotional needs in a safe & supportive environment. It allows people to improve interactions with others and develop relationships.

Play therapy helps to decrease behavioural and emotional difficulties that interfere significantly with normal functioning. Other goals include improved verbal expression, ability for self-observation, improved impulse control, more adaptive ways of coping with anxiety and frustration, and improved capacity to trust and to relate to others.

Playful exploration has been proven to enhance both cognitive and physical behaviours. Play has been shown to optimize learning, enhance relationships, and improve health and well-being. Till date 5 sessions of Play Therapy has been conducted at MI and a well enough response has been obtained from children, parents and the elderly.

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Study on Adaptive Positional Devices

Nearly 4 to 5 million children in India experience developmental delay due to Cerebral Palsy (a condition of brain damage due to oxygen deprivation) and an array of other neurological conditions. Most of these children (around 70%) live in the rural and remote places, without any awareness and access to possible preventive and rehabilitative services. Not only is the insufficient awareness, financial hardship also a huge contributing factor for them to live in ignorance, restricting their basic opportunities.

MI rolled out a baseline intervention study titled 'The Parents Perceived Effect on Usage of Adaptive Positional Devices for Children with Delayed Developmental Milestone'. The pre-questionnaire was used to understand the functioning level of children, the challenges associated with daily care of the children, whether the child used any assistive devices prior and if any improvement could be noticed. The post questionnaire aimed at understanding the impact of adaptive positional devices provided from MI on the children and their care provider's lives.

The study covered 52 children with disabilities from MI’s direct services, children from community project and partners of MI. During the study parents/care providers reported that due to usage of adaptive positional devices, children have shown positive functional improvements, achieved milestones, able to participate in play and social life. This even has reduced their dependence on parents, which helped parents to carry on income generation activities and manage household. More than 60% of participants reported that the positional devices were appropriate to use, cost-effective and durable.

Ravinder Singh: Redefining Landscape for Sports

31 years old Ravindra hails from Patiala, Punjab. Both his parents are engaged in Teaching profession and have been the motivation behind Ravinder for taking up Sports as a career option.

From the childhood, he possessed interest in sports which was given solemn thought only in 2005. In 2008, he moved to Melbourne, Australia, for training under better facilities and got himself enrolled in the Victoria Institute of Sports. Initially he started practising Javelin Throw rigorously. But he was denied to participate in Sports due to his flat foot.

From his consultant Physiotherapist, he got a reference to MI for foot care services. He was provided bilateral Foot Insole considering his flat foot condition. He expresses the insoles to be quite helpful and comforting. This served as a catalyst for him to practice and perform even better. Today, he is a six times gold medal winner in National Championships and eyeing to make his footprint at World Championship.
Education & Training
**Introduction:**

Rehabilitation Professionals with adequate knowledge & skill set are of high significance for catering to the emerging need of rehabilitation. However there is still a huge need of rehabilitation professionals in developing countries. Last 15 years MI has been conducting various training programs in Prosthetics & Orthotics, Rehabilitation Therapy, orientation programs, Wheelchair Service Training Package for Basic, Intermediate & Manager Levels as well as Training of Trainers according to WHO guidelines.

MI is the only Prosthetics & Orthotics School in India to acquire CAT II status from ISPO. MI’s training programs has recognition from Rehabilitation Council of India and Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka. MI promotes a multi-pronged approach in skill development, innovation, action research and capacity building of institutions.

**Developing National Cadre of Professionals for Wheelchair Service & Training Delivery**

According to WHO estimates 70 million people worldwide need wheelchair, proclaiming it as the most widely used assistive device. However 5-15% of them have access to an appropriate wheelchair. Improving access to appropriate wheelchairs is highly relied upon the adequate level of training of professionals involved in wheelchair service provision.

MI in collaboration with World Vision & JSI-USAID has been implementing the ‘Accelerating Core Competencies for Effective Wheelchair Service & Support’ (ACCESS) from March, 2014 to June, 2017 and conducting orientation programs and Wheelchair Service Training Package-Basic, Intermediate & Manager Levels according to WHO guidelines across India. 3 peer trainers were developed to assist in the wheelchair training Programs.
MI initiated discussions to develop strategies to include the WSTP curriculum in the college/University syllabus. Short orientation programs conducted for 6 physiotherapy colleges in Karnataka in early 2017 have changed their approach to Wheelchair Service Delivery (WSD), leading them to know more about wheelchair assessment and not merely refer users to surgical shops to get wheelchairs.

A positive development has been that some professionals who attended the WSTP courses have been motivated to take their knowledge further. MI’s efforts at influencing policy makers have paid off. A Wheelchair Lab was developed at Jaipur Occupational Therapy College in Rajasthan and training was initiated for staff and students. The Mahatma Gandhi College of Occupational Therapy, Jaipur, has got WSTP Basic and Intermediate course included in the Bachelor’s course for OT in the college since 2016. Amity University, UP has included the WSTP Basic course as 12-hour module in its curriculum under elective subject ‘Assistive Technology for PWDs from July 2016 onwards. Manipal and Rajiv Gandhi Health Sciences Universities have indicated that they will include the WSTP in their next curriculum change (as this is done every 3-5 years). However, the awareness & orientation on WSD conducted at Manipal University has led to the university making the course contents part of their historical record which is published and circulated to their OT alumni and faculties of school of allied health sciences.

The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) which is the regulatory and accreditation body for rehabilitation and special education in India, has accredited the WHO Basic course in November 2016 as being part of Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) for qualified professionals. This is indeed an achievement, as it emerged out of implementation of the ACCESS project. Henceforth, participants of WSTP courses can add this qualification which is now recognized in India. Besides, the value in this is that this course has been recognized for the first time in India and will add to the credentials of professionals and their employer institutions who introduce wheelchair service provision in their academic courses or services.

An ‘Accessible Puducherry’ a State-sponsored event in the Southern State was held in Nov, 2016. MI presented Wheelchair Service Delivery to an audience of over 200 stakeholders in the field of accessibility. Professionals from Puducherry State Social Work and Tourism Departments, Housing & Urban Development Cooperation (HUDCO) and Puducherry University were present.

MI’s efforts in liaison with State and National level professional bodies have been aimed to create awareness among a critical mass of health professionals involved in rehabilitation through presentations at their annual conferences. Some of these bodies are the Indian Association of Physiotherapists (IAP), Indian Association of Cerebral Palsy (IACP), Orthotics & Prosthetics Association of India (OPAI), All India Occupational Therapists’ Association (AIOTA) and Kerala Association for Physiotherapists Coordination (KAPC). Workshop on “A New Approach to Wheelchair Service & Training Delivery” was conducted in collaboration with Composite Regional Centre (CRC), Guwahati & S.V.N.I.R.T.A.R., DEPwD (Divyangjan), Ministry Of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. Of India. As an outcome CRC took up the initiative to conduct such training in the North-Eastern States.
National Capacity Building for P & O professionals from Afghanistan

Appropriately trained and well equipped professionals are of immense importance in the domain of disability and rehabilitation, which unlikely has a demand supply deficit of professionals.

As a part of the continuing effort MI has collaborated with Handicap International (HI) and Swedish Committee for Afghanistan (SCA) for training 7 rehabilitation professionals from Afghanistan. This effort is being implemented under the vast umbrella of 'Strengthening of P & O Services in the Underserved Areas of Afghanistan' project developed to build institutional capacities across Afghanistan through developing appropriate human resources in rehabilitation.

MI's training program at Bengaluru spread over a month aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skillset of participants as well as grooming them as future trainers in ISPO CAT II level Diploma training programs in Afghanistan. The course outline was developed and delivered with effective theoretical aspects, group activities and practice delivery by the participants.

The participants mentioned that, there are around 8 lakhs people with disabilities in Afghanistan and in a contradictory very limited Orthopaedic centres to suffice the rehabilitation need. The training program groomed the participants as future trainers in the field of Disability & Rehabilitation. They can impart the training in the local language Dari and can be instrumental in the National Capacity Building.

Professional Development in Disability & Rehabilitation

28th June, 2016 has brought proud moments at MI with the celebration of the special journey of each graduate of the 10th Batch of Orthopaedic Technologist. This is the second batch of graduates from MI receiving the ISPO CAT II Certificates, which holds special significance.

It aimed at honouring the exciting & challenging process of grooming the graduates with the roots of strong education flavoured with experience, values, attitude of serving the needy.
Ms Tahani & Mr Faheem, graduates from Yemen expressed “the training at MI was quite informative and enriching and we look forward to implement the learning in practice in our region”.

Congratulating the graduates, Ms Saija, Physical Rehabilitation Program Manager, ICRC, expressed “The profession you have chosen is very fascinating. The learning every day you all will have, with each service user will be the real learning you will cherish and treasure for your life time”.

MI also launched a unique training for a period of 4 and ½ months for the alumni students, working in the field of rehabilitation in India and Nepal. The training included E-sessions on theoretical aspects as well as practical hands on experience at MI. The alumni students are equipped with knowledge and skill set on Upper Limb Prosthetics, as per the demand raised at their respective workplaces.

### Continuing Rehabilitation Education Program on 'Developmental Device and Service Provision'

Cerebral Palsy and associated Neurological complications in the early childhood are the most common reasons depriving children to have a happy & healthy childhood. They lead a socially excluded life, without access to basic opportunities. However appropriate and on time interventions such as Developmental Devices to facilitate posture and functionality development can enable the children to have a good quality of life.

It is often observed that most of these children belong to rural and remote places, where there is hardly any scope for medical attention and rehabilitation. There are multiple barriers ranging from availability to financing, awareness to skillset and lack of adequate training to the professionals.

To meet the surging need, MI in collaboration with CBM conducted 2 Continuing Rehabilitation Education programs on ‘Developmental Device and Service Provision for Children with Delayed Developmental Milestones’ recognized by Rehabilitation Council of India in Bengaluru & Kolkata.
Susila-Recipient of Jo Millar Memorial Award-2016

The Jo Millar Memorial Award- dedicated to Ms Jo Millar, Founder Vice President of MIBLOU, Switzerland, is presented every year for the outstanding performance and overcoming multiple barriers to the selected student. The Jo Millar Memorial Award for 2016 was presented to Ms Susila.

Susila hails from Andhra Pradesh. Her father used to work in the small agricultural land owned by them. Susila has reduced functionality in her left lower limb due to PPRP. Polio as well as poverty are the reasons why she started schooling quite later than other fellow students. She was providential enough to receive support from Rural Development Trust (RDT), one of the NGO working in disability sector in and around Andhra Pradesh. She completed her college and started working as an Accountant in Sarva Sikshana Abhiyana.

She was referred by RDT for the RTA course at MI. As per the trainer’s feedback, she is a bright student and over the period has excelled in her academics. She mentions “With all the training & experience I have got, I am confident that I can serve PwDs and address their needs.

The Reach

Long-term Training Programmes
Conducted at MI
- Bachelor in Prosthetics & Orthotics (BPO)
- ISPO Single Discipline CAT II in Lower Limb Orthotics/Prosthetics (LLLOP)
- ISPO Single Discipline CAT II in Lower Limb Orthotics & Lower Limb Prosthetics (Combine)
- Certificate in Rehabilitation Therapy Assistant (CRTA)

Short-term Training Programmes
- Wheelchair Service Training Package (Basic, Intermediate, Manager & TOT Level)
- Community Based Rehabilitation

*Based on WHO guidelines
Community Based Inclusive Development
Introduction:

CBID is a multi-sectorial strategy and is implemented through the combined efforts of people with disabilities, their families and communities, and relevant government, civil societies and non-government organisations. MI focuses on inclusive development of people with disabilities through initiatives in healthcare, inclusive education, livelihood, social & empowerment. MI provides assistive devices, therapy services for people with disabilities, builds the capacity of tutors for mainstreaming children with disabilities, conducts vocational training programs to enhance employability of people with disabilities as well as ensures their participation in the mainstream society.

The initiatives are spanned across 379 villages in urban and peri-urban settings of Anekal Taluk and Chamrajnagar District, Karnataka, 23 urban slums in Bangalore, 9 wards in Garden Reach, Kolkata and 83 villages in Dimoria Block, Guwahati.

Inclusive Education:

Right to education provides every child with equal rights and opportunities to access education and services.

Full participation in the mainstream schools is critical for inclusion and empowerment of children with disabilities. One of the many challenges for inclusion of children with disabilities in the mainstream schools is that there are no standard practices or established methodology to guide the regular teachers.

MI has a rich experience of implementing inclusive education methodology across 45 government schools, reaching close to 800 children with disabilities as a part of the Community Based Inclusive Development project. MI works closely with District-level Education Department, families, self-help groups and communities to enable children with disabilities to enjoy their right to education in a non-discriminatory and inclusive environment.

MI developed modules with certain modifications in the teaching methodology and remedial learning alongside the regular classroom education to educate children with disabilities within the settings of mainstream classrooms. With such a resource being available, teachers are able to find solutions, based on the local context, using evidence-based practices and an inclusive methodology to adopt an inclusive education approach. Though there has been a relatively strong emphasis on the issue of access, there is a need now to focus on the issue of quality of education.

Children with disabilities are able to gain admission in regular schools & continue education with independence, dignity and safety.

World Environment Day Celebrations

World Environment Day celebrations marked on 5th June each year, aims at spreading the awareness and message to protect the unique and life nurturing Nature and Planet Earth. The 2016 theme was “fight against the illegal trade in wildlife for life”.

The day was celebrated across MI projects, in Kolkata and Chamrajnagar District involving school-going children and children with disabilities from the
Inclusive Learning Environment for Mahesh

Mahesh dreams to be a music teacher. His interest in extracurricular activities apart from academics actuates his dreams. He has many accolades in the Talent Exhibition forums to his credit and his achievements despite of visual impairment by birth; making his parents proud.

12 years old Mahesh resides in Chamrajnagar and is in the 5th grade. His father operates a movable stall to sell plastic-wares and his mother works as a daily wager to support the domestic needs.

Mahesh’s life turned on a new track when he gets identified by community facilitator from MI and referred for corrective eye surgery. In addition he was supported with spectacles, magnifier sheets and supplementary accessories and enrolled in the After Schools Club operational in his locality. An Individual Education Plan (IEP) was rolled out for Mahesh. Braille labelling in the school has turned to be quite supportive for him.

Rehabilitative interventions, conducive and accessible learning environment at school and support from peers and teachers has been the wind behind the wings for Mahesh to aspire his dreams.

Over the years around 33425 children benefitted through the inclusive education initiative of MI.
International Day of Persons with Disabilities

MI aims to promote an inclusive & equitable community for people with disabilities. The theme for International Day of Persons with Disabilities was “Achieving 17 goals for the future we want”

International Day of Persons with Disabilities was celebrated on 3rd December, 2016 by Block level Chiguru Federation in Chamrajnagar with more than 1220 people. The program was inaugurated by Shri Dhruvanarayan, Member of Parliament, Chamrajnagara. He shared about the Government Schemes for Persons with Disabilities and appreciated MI’s services and community initiatives in Chamrajnagara. Other dignitaries present during the program were Mr. Ramachandru, President of Zilla Panchayath, Chamarajanagar, Mr. Chandru, President of Taluk Panchayath, Chamarajanagar and Mr. K V Rajanna, former State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.

Eye Care Services

MI aims at better eye care services for children through awareness generation programs in the community and capacity building of various stakeholders. Periodical eye screening programs were conducted in the community, referrals were made for appropriate intervention. Children with vision problems were provided spectacles and underwent corrective surgeries.

MI in collaboration with Sankara Eye Hospital, Bengaluru has been distributing spectacles for school children and training tutors and volunteers at Chamarajanagar on Eye screening.

29734 Eye Screening
2052 Referrals
313 Spectacles
13 Corrective Surgery
Inclusive Community Education Centres

Education is a powerful instrument of social change, equipping children to meet the challenges of life. It is equally & substantially important for Children with Disabilities to lead a healthy, safe & productive life. There has been numerous policies, schemes, regulations and acts under implementation to ensure education for all including children with disabilities. Still children with disabilities face discrimination and exclusion on a constant basis.

For the past 10 years, MI has been and still continues to conduct training programs for tutors/teachers from the Government schools in Chamrajnagar to equip them to include children with disabilities in the mainstream schools. Schools are made accessible, braille labelling done for visually impaired students to promote an inclusive learning environment.

The ‘Inclusive Community Education Centres’ of MI across its community project areas has been a platform for children with & without disability to have a conducive learning environment, receiving additional learning support beyond the classroom trainings at schools. These are the catalysts behind the children in succeeding in academic front, extra-curricular activities, grooming them as advocates for their rights, entitlements, and issues which affect them as well as the community at large. It has enabled the students to influence the authorities at school, community and local governance to make their voices heard through Children Groups & Children Parliaments.

Community Therapy Centres

Education for children with disabilities can be achievable by ensuring better healthcare and rehabilitation services for them. MI's ‘Community Therapy Centre’ initiative aims at providing the required therapeutic interventions for children and people with disabilities.

There are 7 ‘Community Therapy Centres’ operational in one of the class rooms of Government Schools in Chamrajnagar. The students with disabilities receive continuous therapy services as per their need.

The scope of services also encompasses people with disabilities and elderly from the region. With the therapeutic interventions, they are able to access opportunities, lead a good quality and self-reliant life.
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Inclusive Development Centre, Guwahati, Assam
Introduction:

Eastern & North-Eastern States of India still remain conflict affected. The geographical isolation, infrastructure and environment make the current scenario of healthcare, rehabilitation and other basic facilities grave. There is an ever increasing need for appropriate rehabilitation services as well as adequately trained personnel to cater to the existing and emerging rehabilitation need in the region. Lack of accessible information, limited statistical information about persons with disabilities, availability of services mostly urban-based engraves the disability scenario.

MI has been rolling out initiatives aimed towards Community Based Inclusive Development in the North-Eastern States from the Inclusive Development Centre, Guwahati.

*MI initiated a feasibility study for setting up an Assistive Technology Unit in the North Eastern States for the provision of essential Prosthetics & Orthotics services.*

The Rapid Assessment of Disability

The Rapid Assessment of Disability (RAD) survey was initiated in 60 villages of Dimoria Block, Kamrup District of Assam. The study aimed to determine the prevalence of disability within the target population and to design & evaluate the effectiveness/quality of inclusive activities in addressing their priorities and needs. The sample of survey included 3019 individuals, 50 from each village under the survey. A training course on orientations towards the RAD survey was organized for the enumerators who were associated with community development activities carried out by a local organisation Swabalambo.

The prevalence of disability was found to be 2.9%. Mobility Impairment was found to be the highest functional limitation in the District. Difficulty in seeing, hearing, loss of concentration and memory were also reported. The survey proclaimed a greater need of assistive devices which is not limited to PwDs alone, but elderly and others having functional difficulties who require assistive devices according to their need.
Healthcare services and especially rehabilitation services are scarce in the North-Eastern States of India. MI’s thrust has been to develop awareness among the people on the need and benefits of various assistive devices concerned with mobility, visual, speech & hearing impairment. An Assessment Programme for Assistive Devices was organised by MI in association with Composite Regional Centre, ALIMCO and Swabalambi. It was the first time an assessment programme was conducted under a single-window service provision model, for people with physical impairment, speech and hearing impairment, visual impairments and intellectual disabilities. Around 93 people were assessed. 15 people were provided assistive devices by MI, 32 people received wheelchairs, tricycles and hearing aids from ALIMCO. The assistive devices will enable them to lead healthy & productive lives.

Participatory Rural Appraisal

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) is considered one of the most popular and effective approaches to gather information in rural areas. The basic objective of PRA is to quickly collect, analyse and evaluate information of the targeted area (on rural conditions and local knowledge) with active participation of the community. The approach aims to incorporate the knowledge and opinions of rural people in the planning and management of development projects.

A training program was conducted for community volunteers at MI's Inclusive Development Centre at Guwahati. Questionnaire was developed based on the project activities to be started/implemented in the Dimoria Block. To collect information with active participation of community members, project team has used four tools, Social Mapping, Resource Mapping, Focus Group Discussion and Seasonal Map. The PRA exercise is being conducted at 4 Gram Panchayats in Dimoria Block. The rationale of the PRA exercise is to build a solid base among the community members and Gram Panchayat officials before implementing the Community based Inclusive Development Project in this region and to create general awareness about disability, assistive devices, social stigma and other related issues.

During the PRA exercise, community members shared their opinions and became familiar with several concepts. The bonding created between the community members and project staff will go a long way in ensuring sustainability of the CBID project.
Capacity Building & Partnership
Introduction:

The need for appropriate rehabilitation services is widespread and is gradually on rise. Collective effort is highly essential to suffice it. Since the inception MI's thrust has been on associating grassroot organisations, to cater effectively to the need of the region.

MI's association with the partner organisations has a common objective of bringing improvement in the lives of people with disabilities, the poor and disadvantaged. The scope of MI's support to the partners encompasses technical support in establishing orthopaedic and therapeutic facilities, capacity building of rehabilitation personnel as well as extending required support for assistive devices and therapeutic interventions.

Over the years MI has 180 partners across South, East & North-Eastern States of India. MI supported establishment of Orthopaedic & Therapeutic facilities for 46 partners from 13 States of India. 52,601 people with disabilities benefited through the Assistive Devices & Therapeutic Intervention from MI through grassroot organizations.

Workshop for Enhancing Skills in Fabrication of Appropriate Developmental Devices

India is home to 4 to 5 million children with Cerebral Palsy & Delayed Developmental Milestones. Early intervention and appropriate assistive devices are crucial for the health & well-being of these children. Adequate awareness among the parents, social & economic state of the family are the deciding factors for it. Without assistive devices, these children remain dependent on their parents/care providers for their daily activities and mobility.

MI Regional Resource Centre (RRC) in collaboration with local NGOs has been conducting a series of workshops for the community facilitators and personnel involved in rehabilitation services, on various positional devices, their importance for the children with Cerebral Palsy, Delayed Development, Spina Bifida, Muscular Dystrophy and acquired injuries are the agenda of the workshops.

Though the rehabilitation and community personnel are aware of the positioning devices, fabricating the devices and working closely with persons with disabilities has been emerging as a challenge. To cater to this scenario, MIRRC in association with one of its partner organization Research Academy for Rural Enrichment (RARE) organised a workshop on “Measurement & Preparation of Positioning Devices for Community Facilitators” at Sonepur, Odisha.

The 17 participants were instructed on the importance of proper positioning to maintain skeletal alignment, correct skeletal deformity, promoting functions, comfort and relaxation. Participants learned to do assessment to identify the need of the user, taking measurement for the fabrication of the devices.
Ayyaan

48 years old Ayyaan resides in Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh along with his wife and son. Both of his daughters are married. Ayyaan did not get a chance of completing school. From a very younger age he started driving auto to meet the domestic needs. His wife is a home maker. Like any other parent he worked hard to get basic facilities and education for their children.

About a year back Ayyaan met with a road accident while driving the He had to undergo amputation of his left lower limb. This left him confined at home, with reduced mobility. Looking at the situation, his son decided to shoulder the responsibilities and started driving the auto.

Ayyaan is a person of high self-esteem and did not want to stay at home and be a burden to the family. A few months back he was identified by MSSS, one of the Partner organization of MI in Kurnool. He was provided with a Transtibial prostheses for his left lower limb. He beamed with confidence, being able to stand on his own again with the support of the prostheses. As per our recent conversation, he is able to move around with ease and planning to resume work soon.

MI Partners
Development & Promotion of Appropriate Technology
Introduction

MI's development & promotional as activities strive to develop appropriate, affordable and user-friendly Assistive Products. Over the years MI's products has received National & International acclaim as well as wider user acceptance.

Ongoing Clinical Trial

Collaboration with IIT, Chennai & SBMT

The development of the indigenous prosthetic knee joint for transfemoral amputees was initiated by IIT Chennai with the support of SBMT, DEBEL, DRDO and MI. During the year MI has started the clinical trials of the joints based on specific parameters to measure the performance of the same in various environments. The clinical trials for semi-flexion drop lock orthotic knee joint developed by IIT Chennai and lever-operated locked orthotic knee joint (called EZ-LOK) developed by IIT-Madras is in progress.

Collaboration with IISC, Bengaluru

Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru is developing an appropriately costed, fully functional upper extremity prostheses for the amputation below the elbow condition, known as “PURAK”. MI is supporting the development by conducting the clinical trials to ensure the efficacy and functionality of the design. The trials in the first two phases has helped in design improvements. The partnership is aiming to conduct trials across PAN India.

New Product Induction

MI has submitted standards for Rider I & Orthotic Knee Joint for BIS certification.

Rider-I

Wheelchair is the most widely used assistive device for locomotor disabling condition. The requirement and usage of wheelchairs often depend on the person using the wheelchair. The Rider-I wheelchair developed by MI, apart from its light-weight, foldable, stable & durable features has also additional adjustable features like seat width, depth, brake lever, wheels, foot rest and back rest. It is designed to suit mostly the rural & rough terrain environment. The development of Child Size of Rider-I is ongoing.

Standard Orthotic Knee Joint

MI has developed a high quality stainless steel Standard Orthotic Knee Joint which is affordable and has the added feature of 130 degrees of knee flexion compared to 100 degrees of the regular version. This is the first design of its kind that has been developed in India. Field testing of this joint has been successfully completed. MI has submitted the details for BIS certification.

Twin Device

One of the innovative and off-the shelf product designed at MI which acts as a Special Chair and a Standing Frame for children with Cerebral Palsy or mobility difficulties to sit and stand with ease. The feedback from caregivers reaffirms the unique qualities of this twin device – i.e., it helps correct the posture of children with cerebral palsy and it has adjustable features, which make it durable.

The concept of simple, flexible design of 'Twin Device' bagged ample appreciation from the users as well as across technical forums. MI was awarded the first prize with wide acknowledgement.

MI is applying to get the design patent for the product.
Introduction

MI’s networking activities are spanned across International, Regional, National and State Levels. MI actively participated in several seminars, conferences and professional events at National & International level, held consultations/organized clinical and other training programmes involving Indian and foreign experts, received professionals and trainees from other organisations coming on study/facility visits, offered internship opportunities for students and collaborated with external agencies on research projects dealing with subjects of topical interest.

Experts Group Meeting on Disability Prevention & Rehabilitation

According to World Report on Disability 2011, there are over one billion people with disabilities (PWD) in the world. This corresponds to about 15% of the world’s population or one out of every seven people. Amongst all WHO regions, the South-East Asia Region has the second highest prevalence rate of moderate disability (16%) and the third highest prevalence rate of severe disability (2.9%). WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia, New Delhi organized an Expert Group meeting on Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation from 28th to 30th July 2016 in Jakarta, Indonesia and Ms Albina Shankar, Director was invited to the Expert Group Meeting. She made a presentation on Improving Access to Assistive Technology, Rehabilitation in Urban and Peri urban areas.

The meeting concluded with recommendations such as multisectorial collaborations for effective service provision, developing National Assistive Technology Policies, encouraging Research & Development, improving availability of Assistive Devices in large scale, long term plans for social inclusion of PwDs and capacity building of human resources involved in rehabilitation.

2nd CBR World Congress

2nd CBR World Congress was organised from 26th-29th September, 2016 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The theme was ‘CBR: Empowering & Enabling’. Almost 4,000 people from 69 countries participated in the Congress, which was hosted by the Malaysian Government, CBR Global Network (CGN), CBR Network Malaysia (CNM), Malaysian Council of Rehabilitation (MCR) and World Health Organization. The Congress aimed to: improve practice among CBR practitioners, and hence improve the quality of life for those with disabilities; to increase family and community awareness of the care and health needs; and to enhance and promote strategies that integrate whole communities regardless of disabilities.

Presenters during the main plenary sessions, the workshops, and the breakout meetings, were from 44 countries with a majority from low and middle-income countries. This highlights the fact that CBR is primarily a grassroots movement active in the global south, and implemented by thousands of people working and cooperating on CBR issues. It was recognised by all during the Congress that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) is the most valuable tool in the
policy framework for guiding CBR. Another important tool is the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are now approaching the end of their first year of operation. It was acknowledged that, at present, few countries possess the capacity needed to ensure their implementation. Various speakers highlighted the unique role CBR can play as a bottom-up strategy for disability-inclusive development in the community.

The Congress was a platform for professionals from various spheres to educate how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can ensure that PwDs can be groomed as assets to their Nations and how adequate investments by Governments and societies for their wellbeing through early intervention in education, health, social and economic development, while at the same time removing barriers and creating physical access and providing assistive devices for their independence and full inclusion.

Presentations and discussions took place on the themes of sustainability, the CBR workforce, capacity development, CBR stakeholders, CBR in practice, monitoring and evaluation of CBR, and 7 research. The CBR World Congress is the only global opportunity to exchange grassroots experience and learning from across the world of CBR. There was a great variety of experiences and contexts and of practice too, such as the lack of services at community level, the stronger involvement of CBR in service delivery and in many cases helping to strengthening these services and holding local systems to account for inclusion.

The diversity of people with disabilities involved in CBR has expanded, and while experiences described at Congress revealed that there is a long way to go in terms of both diversity and capacity to support people, they also demonstrated that we are seeing progress e.g. in the inclusion of people with psycho-social disabilities and people with intellectual disabilities, and greater levels of participation in planning, implementing, and the monitoring and evaluation of CBR.

Ms Albina Shankar, Director, MI and Mr Anand S N, Program Manager, CBR-Rural, MI participated and had poster presentations. The focus group concept implemented in the community projects of MI was presented. The Congress concluded with the declarations presented by the Delegates.

**MI's collaboration with International Society of Wheelchair Professionals**

The University of Pittsburgh’s Department of Rehabilitation Science and Technology has developed the International Society of Wheelchair Professionals (ISWP). ISWP is led by a group of wheelchair experts at University of Pittsburgh, with strategic partnerships that have already been established with USAID & the World Health Organization (WHO) and their activities are focused on the most important wheelchair related issues.

ISWP promotes the WHO Guidelines on the provision of manual wheelchairs in less resourced settings, promoting training and research activities and improving wheelchair design, manufacturing and coordinating services.

ISWP has Training Working Group of around 22 members representing globally and having experience in wheelchair provision and training in less-resourced settings. From MI, Ritu Ghosh, Deputy Director-Training is one among the committee members. The working group has further 3 subcommittees on i) Testing ii) Curriculum Integration or iii) Hybrid course development. From MI, Ms Vennila and Mr Sudhakar are the subcommittee members in ISWP. MI Committee members are continuing working with ISWP working group in developing and reviewing the skill assessment protocol, knowledge questions and skills assessment of WSTP-Basic and Intermediate modules.
Consultation Meeting for Improving Access to Assistive Products and Technology for Older People, People with Disabilities and NCDs at WHO SEARO, New Delhi

The Consultation Meeting brought together all the stakeholders - users, care givers, service providers, Civil Societies, technical experts, academia, manufacturers, development support groups, policy makers and agencies of United Nations on a common platform, who are directly or indirectly endeavouring for the benefit of people with disabilities, people with NCDs and older people. The group may function as advocacy forum to guide national/state governments in policy formulation, as identified by WHO to assist Member States in formulating Model Assistive Technology Policy Framework. Ms Albina Shankar, Director was invited and she made a presentation on Mobility to Productivity.

Workshops & Seminars

- Ms. Albina, Mr. Anand, Mr. John Fernandez & Ms. Firdose attended Workability Asia Conference for work and employment services for persons with disabilities
- National Institute of Orthopedically Handicapped, Kolkata invited Ms Albina Shankar as a key note speaker at the consensus conference on “Lower limb amputation and prosthetic solution for Indian subcontinent” and Mr Soikat Ghosh presented papers on “Below knee Amputation Management”
- Paper presentation on WSTP-Basic was submitted for Annual National Conference AIOTA
- Paper presentation on WSTP-low & middle income countries by Mr Raju and Twin devices by Mr Sudhakar were submitted to IACP conference on February 2017
- Mr Raju conducted the WSTP-Intermediate level course as a co-trainer to support ICRC, at Indian Spinal Injuries Centre (ISIC), Delhi
- Laura Diment, Engineering student at Oxford University undertaking a doctorate in prosthetic socket comfort, did the study of 42 amputees (upper & Lower limbs). The complete report, along with data collection and copy of consent forms is submitted to MI.
- Mr. Sudhakar and Mr. Praveen Conducted “Continuing Occupational Education” on wheelchair & Accessibility at Manipal University- Udupi for students and professionals of occupational therapy. Assisted Manipal University to include the WHO –WSTP into their curriculum during their syllabus revision.
- Mr. Raju, Mr. Praveen and Ms. Rajalaxmi (peer trainer) conducted “Workshop on WHO guidelines on Wheelchair Training and Service Delivery at KAPC, Kollam, Kerala, SGPGI, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- Ms Vennila facilitated Pilot of Wheelchair Service Training Package-Intermediate Training of Teachers at Bangkok, Thailand.
1 National CSR Leadership Congress awarded MI Certificate of Merit on 1st September 2016

2 Best Innovation Award for low cost, pre-fabricated Twin Device at 5th International Conference of Physical Therapy on 12th December 2016

3 Best Women Director Award for Ms. Albina Shankar at India Women Empowerment & Leadership Summit

4 Significant Contribution Award for Mr Sama Raju at 55th Annual Conference of IAP on 5th Feb 2017
Corporate Social Responsibilities

Australian Consulate General’s Direct Aid Program (DAP) Chennai sponsors for Assistive Devices & therapy Services

Northern Trust sponsors Assistive Devices

Sara Welms, Northern Trust

M Kubo, President, Mitsubishi Hitachi Power Systems

Mitsubishi Hitachi Power Systems sponsors Assistive Devices

Rajesh Tandon, Digicaptions India Pvt Ltd

Digicaptions India Pvt Ltd sponsors Assistive Devices

Sponsors for Assistive Devices & Student Scholarship
South Bangalore Cultural Association sponsors Wheelchairs

Larsen & Toubro sponsors Therapy Equipment & Assistive Devices

MI in collaboration with TCS Digital Enterprise Unit organised a Sports Meet for Children with Disabilities

Ms Praiman Pohlawan, Ministry of Social Development & Human Security

Felicia Shafiq, SAP

Mr U K Barik, President, South Bangalore Cultural Association
MOBILITY INDIA  
1st & 1st A Cross , J.P.Nagar, 2nd Phase Bangalore-560 078. 

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD APRIL-2016 TO MARCH-2017

(Amount in ₹)

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<tr>
<td>161,50,579</td>
<td>* Education Programme</td>
<td>1,71,60,610</td>
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<td>1,300</td>
<td>* Membership Fees</td>
<td>1,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>143,73,466</td>
<td>* Orthotics &amp; Prosthetics</td>
<td>1,26,02,725</td>
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<td>208,06,186</td>
<td>* Bank/FD Interest</td>
<td>1,68,64,275</td>
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<td>12,29,216</td>
<td>* Advances &amp; Others</td>
<td>9,63,022</td>
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<tr>
<td>169,14,520</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13,21,60,898</td>
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For Shankar Sridhar & Mukundh  
Chartered Accountants  
Firm Reg No.: 007273 S  

For Mobility India  
Seshadri Nagaraj  
Treasurer  
Albina Shankar  
Director  
Ms. Romola Joseph  
Secretary
Big Thank You

...... trusts/foundations, corporate donors, institutions, volunteers and individuals
Regd. Office

MOBILITY INDIA
REHABILITATION RESEARCH & TRAINING CENTRE
1st & 1st ‘A’ Cross, 2nd Phase
J. P. Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 078
Phone: +91-80-2649 2222 / 2659 7337
Ext - 9 (Reception)
Telefax : +91-80-2649 4444 Ext - 110
e-mail@mobility-india.org

INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
Dhpurgi Ouzari Road,
Near Cement Bricks Factory, Dhpurgi
P.O. Dhpurgi, Dist- Kamrup (M), Assam
Pin : 782403
Phone : 09954974558
mine@mobility-india.org

CBR FIELD OFFICES
Chamarajanagar District
Jigani, Anekal Taluk
Urban Slums, Bengaluru

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