

# Vision

"An inclusive society where people with disabilities have equal rights and a good quality of life"



## Newsletter

October - December 2010

*Children proving to be fine messengers of change...*

*...cheers to the indomitable spirit of young ones!!!*

### Children's Parliament ... Attibele, Anekal

Prakruti is a conscientious children's leader. She is the speaker of the Children's parliament held each month by the Hellen Keller Children's group of Muksandra village, Mayasandra Panchayat.

Pooja, Ramya & Pragati are in the Education ministry, Ravi Teja & Anjali hold the Social Affairs portfolio while Chandana & Kavya handle Health affairs. The group formed in June 2009 after the children underwent a Child Rights & leadership training programme, has brought about several significant changes in the community they live in.



Pooja, who is in the Education ministry says, "Anjali had dropped out of school and used to go along with her mother to work in the fields. A few of us spoke to her and her family about her continuing school. Motivated Anjali started attending our evening coaching classes and soon enrolled back in school".

### *Learning to know, to do, to live together, and to be ...*

This forum for children's voices has held rallies on cleaning up drains, Pulse Polio awareness and observing a safe and injury free Diwali festival. They have sent out request letters to the local Panchayat leaders about lights in their classrooms, having street lights, doors for toilets in their school. They have also raised the issue of children with severe disabilities not attending school to be home tutored. These issues are followed up with the local Panchayat leaders for further action.

The children are eager to share their experiences and talk animatedly about all the changes that they see in their surroundings as a result of their efforts. In all there are 26 children's groups in the Attibele project with over 489 children that include 144 children with disabilities.

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## Resource Centre in Attibele

### Resource Centre at Chandapura, Attibele

Chandapura now has a new Resource Centre for children with severe disabilities. Each day children spend a few hours engaged in learning and other fun activities that allow their parents and care givers to run household chores.

This Resource Centre comes as an initiative from one of the local Self Help Groups with support from Mobility India and the local Panchayth. This centre is also being used for other activities like the local SHG meetings, vocational skill training and other community activities.



*Attibele is located in Anekal Taluk about 40 kilometers from the city of Bangalore. In response to the need of people with disabilities in this area, Mobility India has been working in the community since 2008 (through a Community Based Rehabilitation programme that covers 44 villages). The programme in Attibele has encouraged disabled people's participation at all levels, at home, in the Sangha (Self Help Group), at schools and even in the community leading to changes in the quality of life of people with disabilities and their families.*



### Badhate Kadama

Badhate Kadama, a national awareness raising campaign was held at Chamrajnagar (where Mobility India has the Education & Livelihood Opportunities Programme) on 20th Nov 2010 with an objective to create awareness on National Trust programs and schemes, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, provide understanding of disabilities and to celebrate diversity.

This campaign brings to all a fresh perspective that would make people with disability included as part of the community with rights and responsibilities. Sports competitions, street plays, public rallies and information stall added visibility and colour to the event.

Speaking at the event, Member of Parliament Mr. R. Dhruva Narayan of Chamrajnagar shared about opportunities that could be availed through govt. support most importantly the home based education tutors. He appreciated the initiatives of Mobility India and Seva in Action for organizing the event to bring awareness to the community about disability rights. He also assured to support the local NGOs in order to help people with disabilities.



The programme participants included representatives of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Anganwadi supervisors; Home based education tutors, representatives from Local NGOs, Disabled people's organizations, grass root federations, children with disabilities and their parents.



## Capacity Building of Grassroot Partner Organisations

### Rehabilitation workshop setup in Dimapur...

Dimapur is the largest city in the North Eastern state of Nagaland. The region has had a long history of insurgency and conflict. Peace keeping efforts with intermittent bursts of violence has been the way of life in the past 20 odd years. The common offshoot of violence is trauma, injury and long term disability.

In this scenario, the District Rehabilitation Centre wound up in 2007 after which the Indian Red Cross Society took over the centre. The disabled population (27,000 as per official estimate of Social Welfare Dept) had no place to go to seek rehabilitation services. Access to rehabilitation is essential for people with disabilities to achieve their highest attainable level of health.

The International Committee of the Red Cross took a proactive role and approached Mobility India\* in 2009 to refurbish the existing conventional workshop set up into a modern rehabilitation centre equipped with an orthopaedic workshop to fabricate assistive devices like artificial limbs and calipers and a physiotherapy unit for the region.

7 personnel were trained in Wheelchair Service Provision and 2 candidates are currently



undergoing training in Prosthetics & Orthotics (ISPO Cat II) at Mobility India. This modern rehab facility will provide access to people with disabilities of not just Nagaland but the other North Eastern states that experience similar situations of conflict.

\*Mobility India's Regional Resource Centre in Kolkata builds the capacity of organizations located in the Eastern and North -Eastern regions of the country.

### Training at Rural Development Trust, Anantpur...

Recently a training session on provision of "Manual wheelchairs in less resourced settings" was conducted at Rural Development Trust, Anantpur. The hands-on training took the participants to wheelchair user's homes to have practical understanding of the user's living environment and make suitable adaptations of the surroundings.

12 rehab personnel including prosthetic & orthotic technicians, rehabilitation therapy assistants and a physiotherapist participated in the training programme.



## Capacity Building contd...

At the end of the training programme the participants gained exposure on fabricating pressure relief cushion, assessment & prescription and wheelchair mobility skill training in various environmental situations. A modified wheelchair was delivered to a user for participants to get familiar with the final check out process. A workshop on AFO Fabrication for Cerebral Palsy & Spinal Cord Injury Persons was also conducted at the same location for 12



personnel. Through such trainings Mobility India strengthens the capacity of grass root organizations in all aspects of rehabilitation, mainly to form a link between their prosthetic and orthotic services and the community based rehabilitation.

## Fundraising, Volunteering & Skill Sharing



### Accenture Volunteers Meet

80 people from Accenture visited our centre on 23rd October 2010. They were orientated about the activities of Mobility India. 40 women from our project areas also were present in the programme. It was followed by some games for the women and prizes were given out to the winners by the Accenture team. The volunteers

have signed up for programmes like web designing, creating brochures, teaching Maths for students at Mobility India and English for coaching class tutors in the urban slum community programme of Mobility India.

### Lioness club support for assistive devices...

Mobility India is reaching out to people with disabilities who are less privileged and are not within the accessible range of rehabilitation service provision. Each year many individuals are able to walk, go to school, earn a living and live a life with dignity. This is possible through generous donations made by individuals, corporate, clubs and trusts.

The Lioness Council recently made a donation towards appliances club members attended the programme and were given an orientation of the work of Mobility India.



### Waseem Pasha & Thousif Pasha

Waseem Pasha loves to draw and paint. He seems to have a natural flair for it and teaches at a special school where his brother Thousif is studying. The drawing and painting activity is incorporated as therapy to build fine motor skills in multiple disability children.

In case of Waseem (19) and Thousif (16), both have Muscular Dystrophy, a condition that causes progressive muscle weakness.

Owing to his disabling condition, Waseem had lost the ability to stand on his feet and walk. He started receiving home based therapy, was given a body brace and also a wheelchair to help him get around.

Waseem started attending special school. This is where Waseem found his true calling, his interest in drawing and painting. He learnt the 3 R's and was trained in basic computer skills. Waseem's progress over the last 8 years has brought a renewed confidence in his family.

Thousif on the other hand does not require the wheelchair until now. With regular therapy intervention he is able to walk a bit. A student of commerce, Thousif plans to continue his studies through correspondence and in the meantime is learning computers and painting skills at the school where his brother teaches.



Family: Their father earns a modest living by painting vehicle number plates, banner advertisements and wall messages and mother is a home maker. She is also an active member and the treasurer of the Self Help Group -Makkala Vikasa (Mobility India Initiative) in her community. The group is a platform for people with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities to come together, share their issues and find solutions.

## Changing Lives

Mobility India's CBR programme has facilitated the process of Waseem & Thousif's rehabilitation. With appropriate interventions they are able to be fairly independent in their activities. The family is extremely happy to see this evolution. The positive energy of all this is reflected in Waseem's drawing and painting. The images are full of life and the hues of nature's abundance, of movement in the flight of a bird. Inspired Thousif wants to follow suit...



*Add wings to their dreams... support the likes of Waseem & Thousif to live a life of independence and dignity.*

## Donate Generously

- Assistive Devices (calipers, artificial limbs, crutches, walkers) .....2000 -5000
- Wheelchairs .....8000-9000
- Education / per child / per year .....2000- 5000
- Nutritious food .....1000-2000
- Any amount you wish to contribute

I am donating Rs..... 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)



Mobility India is participating in  
**World 10K Bangalore**  
Sunday 5th June 2011  
**Kanteerava Stadium**

The World 10K 2011 Bangalore (Marathon Race) gives a platform and scope to express solidarity to a movement, to a social cause. Mobility India expects your support and looks forward to your energy, efforts and network in raising funds for its various programs.

*All donations are eligible for 80G benefit.*



Sign up,  
raise funds,  
run for Mobility India

*Please contact Mobility India for more details*

[www.mobility-india.org](http://www.mobility-india.org)

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Please return this with your donation to:

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