



## The Silver Year: Celebrating 25 Years of Existence



This year 2019, marked the 25th year of Mobility India in the inclusive development sector, especially for the well-being of the most vulnerable populations. Mobility India since its inception, has primarily focussed more on the well-being of most vulnerable populations. Mobility India's core activities include rehabilitation, provision of mobility aids, inclusive education, poverty alleviation and empowerment of people with disability and their family members. August 2nd and 3rd 2019 was chosen for celebrating this milestone by organizing a "National Conference on Assistive Technology for ALL - 2030" in NIMHANS, Bangalore. The theme of the Conference was, "Improving access to quality and affordable assistive technology". The aim was to facilitate the development of the AT sector in India and making India a global powerhouse for Assistive Technology. Mobility India's goal and theme of this conference align with WHO's GATE initiative and 71 WHA resolution on increasing access to assistive technology in particular.

Dr. S Sacchidanand, Vice-Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He was accompanied by the dignitaries, Ms. Sowmya Reddy, Member of Legislative Assembly, Jayanagar Constituency, Bengaluru; Ms K N Lakshmi Nataraj, Corporator, Bruhat Bengaluru, Mahanagara Palike, JP Nagar, Bengaluru; Mr V.S. Basavaraju, State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Government of Karnataka, Dr. Patanjali Dev Nayar Consultant NDE-WHO SEARO, Ms Manimozhi Theodore, Director, DEBEL (DRDO), Bangalore; Dr Himangshu Das, Director, National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai, Ministry of Social

Justice & Empowerment, Government of India; and Mr Surinder Singh Oberoi, Communication and Political Advisor, International Committee of the Red Cross, New Delhi and Dr Charles Prabakar, President, Mobility India

A short film about Mobility India's was unveiled, depicting Mobility India's 25 years diverse journey from its inception to the rise of Mobility India as a pioneer in the sector. Ms. Sowmya Reddy inaugurated the exhibition, which had a diverse display of products from 24 companies and 4 academic institutions and the exhibition was in sync with the theme of the conference.

545 delegates participated from different parts of India, including some from overseas as well. Around 200 school children of various schools studying in classes 7th to 12th and 135 students from different colleges visited the exhibition as a part of their educational trip.

The technical sessions had 16 keynote speakers, focusing on Innovative Assistive Technology Solutions, Universal Design, Make in India and other related themes. Around 11 scientific presentations focused on a user-centered approach in creating impactful solutions for disabled, emerging and innovative assistive technologies with interdisciplinary research, AT Services Delivery Systems, Practices and Outcomes and other related themes. In addition, there were 39 Poster Presentations. The conference served as a platform for knowledge sharing and learning, raising awareness and allowing the exchange of views and ideas with others. It also provided scope for exploring the role of digital technologies and an increase in the development of innovative/digital technologies. The conference matched the scale and significance of the emerging need for assistive products.



The second day evening began with executing a glittering ceremony, by recognizing, appreciating and honoring five staff members who had put in a considerable length of service and long-service awards were awarded to them. Long term donors and partner organizations were also honored for being with Mobility India all these years.



Dr. Sara Varughese, CBM India



Mr. Muthyalappa, Rural Development Trust



## STAFF MEMBERS APPRECIATED FOR THEIR LONG SERVICE:



Ms. Albina Shankar  
25 Years



Ms. Ritu Ghosh  
23 Years



Mr. Soikat Ghosh Moulic  
22 Years



Ms. Jaikodi  
21 Years



Ms. Tejamani  
19 Years

To make the celebration a memorable one, vibrant invocatory dance, and songs by children from the community, students, and staff.

The event was graced by many dignitaries, and the event brought together Governing Body Members, Donors, civil society organizations, friends, wellwishers, students, staff and their families who have grown bigger and better with every passing year. The ceremony was both gracious and grand and it was a scene of festivities.

## Motivating Staff and Students

In continuation of Silver Jubilee Celebrations on August 5, 2019, Mr. Daniel Blocka gave an inspirational talk on 'Reflection and Thoughts on his long journey in Prosthetics and Orthotics' and Ms. Francy Pillo Blocka on 'Change, Choice & Deciding What is Important'. The celebrations continued by recognizing, appreciating and honoring 71 staff for their long service. MISWA staff was also honoured.

On September 28, 2019, Mr. Venkatesh Atherya, CA and a motivational speaker, delivered an encouraging talk on personal strength and weakness and Mr. N. V. Vasudeva Sharma, Executive Director - Child Rights Trust conducted a session on "Child Rights and Adult Responsibilities towards Safeguarding Children"



Ms. Parvathi

Housekeeping staff awarded for her long service



## Snapshots of the Events

### Exposure visit for BPO Students

An exposure visit for 3rd-year students of Bachelors in Prosthetics and Orthotics was organized on 3rd July 2019. The students visited Endolite India Pvt. Ltd, Otto Bock HealthCare India Private Limited, Rehabilitation Aids Workshop by Women with Disabilities (RAWWD) along with a faculty member.



### Sign Language Workshop



Three students, from North- East India, who have hearing and speech impairment, have recently joined the One-year Certificate Course. To promote inclusion, integration and a healthy relationship, a Sign Language Workshop was organized for all students and teachers in order to facilitate easy communication.

### Tutors Capacity Building on Specific Learning Disability

A three-day capacity building program for 72 Tutors on Specific Learning Disability was conducted from 10th to 12th July 2019 in collaboration with SAMAM Vidya Foundation at Chamrajnagar. The tutors were oriented on Reflection, Visual impairment, Reading, Auditory Processing, Visual-Motor Integration, Fine motor, Visual Memory task, and Hypersensitivity. Participants shared their experiences about practical lab sessions and how it helped them in understanding the challenges faced by children with disabilities in learning and daily living environment.



### Workshop on Spinal Orthosis



A workshop on Spinal Orthosis, in collaboration with International Committee of Red Cross, (ICRC), New Delhi and Human Study, was organized in phase-wise and the final phase workshop was conducted from 26th to 31st August 2019. 11 members participated from ICRC, VMC Vellore and Mobility India. 8 users were successfully fitted with Cheneau Brace.



## Workshop on Wheelchair Skill Training

A one-day workshop on Wheelchair Skill Training was conducted for 32 Physiotherapy students, from Ramaiah Medical College, on 10th July 2019. Students were oriented about the features of the wheelchair including the assessment and the development of a wheelchair prescription.



## Workshop on Mental Health



Mobility India - Inclusive Development Centre (MI-IDC) in collaboration with District Mental Health Programme (Kamrup Metro District) organized an awareness program on Mental Health to bring about positive change in people's views of mental illness. Ms. Rupali Barman, Clinical Psychologist, and Mr. Hemango Thakuria, Psychiatric social worker were the resource persons and 50 members participated.

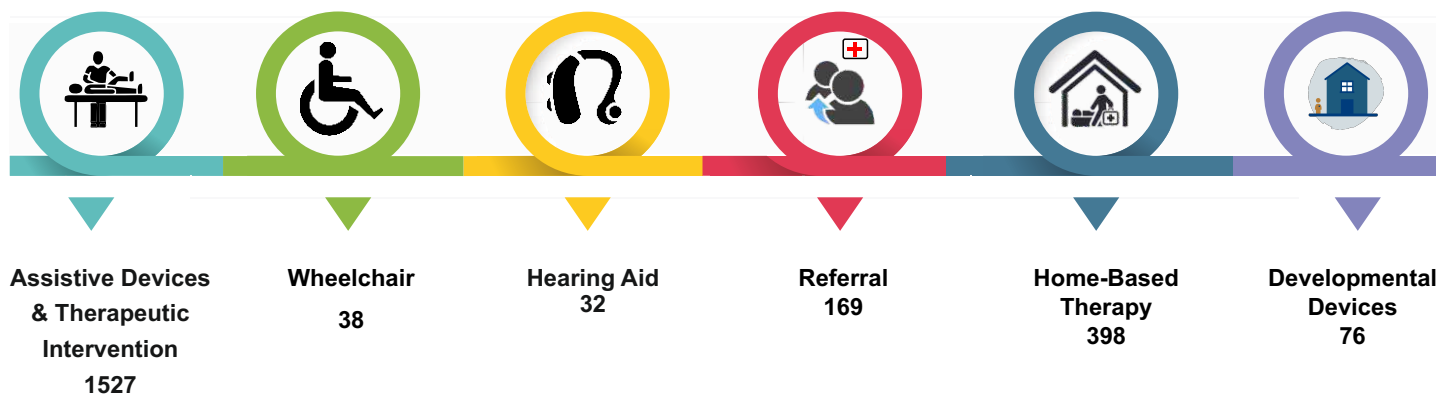
## Corporate Volunteering

### Fresher's Meet

Mobility India, in collaboration with Accenture, organized a Fresher's Meet Day for the 18th batch of Rehabilitation Therapy Assistant, Lower Limb Prosthetics/Orthotics & Diploma in Prosthetics and Orthotics students. There were various recreational activities for the Fresher's to enable better communication and rapport among them. 31 students participated.



## Our Reach July - September 2019



# Stories of Change



## A Ray of Hope

Mani, a 7-year-old girl was born with a hearing loss. Her father, a daily-wage worker, could not afford to buy her hearing aids. Lack of access to appropriate aid at the right time affected her speech. Mani's visit to Mobility India brought a ray of hope in her life, where she was provided with hearing aids and regular speech therapy. Mani's ability to speak is improving, and so she is able to go to school.



## Rekindles

Arshiya, in class 8, had a tuberculosis attack, in her spinal cord leading to dysfunctionality of both her lower limbs. Consequently, she had to drop out of school.

A silver lining came into Arshiya's life when Mobility India provided her with a wheelchair and home-based therapy, and also extended educational support from schooling to college for her. She recently completed her final year degree with 80%.

"Mobility India is a miracle to me, and only changed my life for good". She says.



## Empowering Others

Manju was diagnosed with polio which affected her mobility. Due to financial constraints, she had to drop out of school in Class IX. Being confined at home, she started feeling depressed.

Manju, keen on learning new things joined Mobility India's Water Hyacinth training program. She soon learned the process of making products like mats, purses, boxes, and handbags using water hyacinth. Now, Manju is an earning member and works as



a resource person to teach bamboo crafting to other people with disabilities, and empowering them as well. Manju is considered as a Role Model by the other members of her community.

## Getting Back to Social Life

H.R. Krishnappa an 86-year-old man, who was very active and sociable. He was a diabetic, stepping on a tiny pin 2 years ago lead to infection and subsequent amputation of his right leg. He was left feeling helpless, depressed and became completely bedridden. Recently, on his visit to Mobility India, he was fitted with a prosthetic leg, and with training, now he happily walked back into his social life



# Give your full support to...



**Assistive Devices**  
(Caliper, Artificial Limb,  
Walkers, Hearing Aids)



**Therapy  
Services**



**Developmental  
Device**



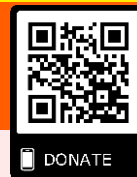
**Wheelchair**

**Educational  
Support**

## Appeal

*Make a Difference!*

Donate online: <https://bit.ly/2QZxBbZ>



DONATE

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

## Donate

- Artificial limb:..... Rs 20,000
- Wheel chair:..... Rs 15,000
- Assistive devices  
(Caliper; crutches and walkers) : ..Rs 5,000 per unit
- Developmental devices:.....Rs 8,000
- Therapy services :..... Rs 300 (per session)

Click here  
**DONATE ONLINE**  
• Simple • Safe • Secure



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)



# MOBILITY INDIA

*Celebrates  
Silver Jubilee Year*



1994-2019

Regd. Office

**MOBILITY INDIA  
REHABILITATION RESEARCH  
& TRAINING CENTRE**

1st & 1st 'A' Cross, J. P. Nagar,  
2nd Phase, Bengaluru - 560 078  
Phone: +91-80- 2649 6999 / 2649 2222  
2659 7337 (Ext - 101)  
Telefax : +91-80-2649 2222 Ext - 114  
e-mail@mobility-india.org

**INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT  
CENTRE**

Dhupguri Ouzari Road,  
Near Cement Bricks Factory, Dhupguri  
(P.O.), Dhupguri, Dist- Kamrup (M), Assam  
Pin : 782403  
Phone: +91 6901 060 953  
idcrojmgr@mobility-india.org

**CBR CENTRES**

Chamarajanagar District  
Bengaluru Peri-urban - Jigani,  
Anekal Taluk  
Urban Slums, Bengaluru  
(All major slums)

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