

NEWSLETTER April - September 2018



Celebrating 24th anniversary and stepping into 25th anniversary

The year of empowerment and enrichment of persons with disabilities



The 24th Anniversary celebration of Mobility India commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, rendition of a prayer song and a brief recital of a phrase from the illustrious Kannada poet, Kuvempu, that implied not to stop and be eternal, an expression that resonated so well and deeply with the spirits the folks at MI bring in their work, each day. Mr Charles Prabakar, President, Mobility India welcomed all the guests and Ms Albina Shankar, Director, Mobility India accentuated the journey of the organisation and the major events in past twenty-four years.

Ms Soumya Reddy, MLA, Jayanagar Constituency and the Chief Guest for the day, congratulated the MI team and digitally launched the Silver Jubilee logo. This was followed by a word of appreciation by Ms K N Lakshmi Nataraj, Corporator, BBMP 177 ward, J.P.Nagar. IPS Dr Sharanappa S D, Deputy Commissioner of Police, South Division, Bengaluru, was also present as one of the guest. He praised and envisioned the possibility of MI reaching the entire nation in the near future to help and touch more lives. Dr Siddaraju, Director, Department for Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Karnataka, outlined the various way by which the quality of life can be improved for differently abled and senior citizens in India and also applauded the fantastic work being done by MI in this area.

The program was followed by the discussion on Health & Wellbeing by Mr Chapal Khasnabis, Programme Manager, Global Cooperation on Assistive Technology, WHO; Mr Kishore S Rao, Chairman, Karunashraya; Dr Anand P Ambali, Consultant Geriatric Physician; Dr Rajani, Deputy Director, Health and Family Welfare, Karnataka; and Mr Soikat Ghosh, Assistant Director, Rehab services, Mobility India. Topics on health related issues and practices such as sharing of experiences, healthy ageing, assistive technology and Mental Health for the elderly were also discussed. The vote of thanks was proposed by Ms. Romola Joseph, Secretary, Mobility India.

SVEEP (Systematic Voters Education And Electrol Participation) Programme



Mobility India in support of Chiguru Federation organized SVEEP sensitization programme in more than 30 villages in collaboration with Zilla Panchayath and Taluk Panchayat of Chamarajanagar Taluk. Due to SVEEP sensitization Program 1243 (M712, F531) Self help group members voted independently and 13 Persons with disabilities voted for the first time.

Campaign for Inclusive Education – Opportunities for growth



The opportunities available to children with disabilities is very limited as they are more likely to be out of school than any other group of children. It is observed that not only are the rates of initial enrolment very low, the dropout rate is also very high among those who enrol. When children with disabilities are provided with adequate opportunities to avail of quality education, they are offered the means to be in the mainstream of society as every other citizen of a nation. The creation of

inclusive educational systems is therefore fundamental to realizing the human rights of all children. This will ensure that strategies to cater to the diverse learning needs of different learners will be developed thereby enhancing the quality of education and making it relevant across a wide section of the society.

In order to create awareness among various stakeholders towards this issue, a two day signature campaign for Global Action Week for Education was organized in Dimoria Block of Kamrup (M), Assam. 224 persons comprising Ward members, School Management Committee members, teachers, Anganwadi workers, Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA), senior citizens, people with disabilities, school students and their parents participated.

Eye Screening Program

Eyesight is very essential to enable clear vision. Early detection and intervention is vital to preventing visual disability. Mobility India had organized Eye Screening Program for children below the age of 6 years at Chamrajnagar in collaboration with Shankar Eye Hospital, Bangalore and for school children at Jaraganahalli Bangalore-Urban in association with Narayana Nethralaya and 186 Jaraganahalli BBMP Corporator. It was also organized for the Iocal community at Dimora Block, Guwahati. 1434 children and 286 adults



underwent screening and 8 children and 22 adults were referred for further treatment.

Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) on Intellectual Disability

Mobility India organized one day CRE on Intellectual disability and assistive technology on 14th July 2018. Thirty professionals from different disciplines such as Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Prosthetist & Orthotist Rehabilitation Therapist, Special Educators, Speech Pathologist, Physiologist etc took part. The workshop provided the participants with in-depth knowledge on the importance of assistive devices in relation to persons with intellectual disabilities. It also gave an insight into the priority list on assistive devices released by WHO and their role in bringing about change in the workplace and policy level. Dr. Fleur Heleen Boot Department of Psychology, Maynooth University, Ireland facilitated the workshop.



Ms. Ritu Ghosh- Deputy Director- Training, Mobility India Ms. Asha Nambison -Guest, Dr. Fleur Heleen Boot- Guest Trainer, Ms. Albina Shankar - Director, Mobility India and Ms. Romola Joseph - Secretary, Mobility India

Workshop On Clubfoot Assessment And Management



In India 150 children are born with clubfoot every day (DNAINDIA.COM, *Feb 10,* 2016).Clubfoot is one of the most common birth defects. The heel and toes turn inward to the extent that it looks like the feet are upside down. Children who are not treated will eventually have severe functional disability. They will not be able to wear shoes and the foot will eventually become painful, prohibiting participation in games and sports. Clubfoot has a greater chance of correction if treatment is

initiated soon after the birth of child. To create awareness on clubfoot one day workshop was conducted on 25th August 2018 in collaboration with Cure International on clubfoot assessment and Management including Ponseti method. Dr. Rudra Prasad MD- Ortho from Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health was the resource person. 52 clinical staff and students participated in the workshop.

Wheelchair Skill Training and CBR activites



Individuals with mobility disabilities are often prescribed with wheelchairs to promote independence in performing activities of daily living as well as to provide mobility. It is necessary to have proper prognosis to provide well fitted wheelchair in order to avoid other complications. Two days orientation on wheelchair skill training and CBR activities were conducted for 30 Physiotherapy students and two faculties of Ramaiah College between July 17 -18, 2018.



Workshop On "Ischial Containment (IC) Socket for Transfemoral Prosthesis"

Amputation is done to save the life of an individual from further health complications . After the amputation, an individual requires rehabilitation services to provide her/him with the necessary mobility .There are different technologies used in the developed countries for people with amputation and once such technology is Ischail containment (IC) socket, through which the affected persons gets the comfortable device, better gait, and good suspension. In India, the IC socket is fabricated in small numbers due to shortage of skilled human resources. To address



this issue MI, in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross, New Delhi and Human Study, Germany, organized 6 days onset workshop from 3rd to 8th September 2018.

Dr. Bharath Raju, President Bangalore Orthopaedic Association inaugurated the workshop – Mr. Anil Singh and Mr.Ranjani Bhushan from ICRC- New Delhi, Mr. Pintar K. Ivan and Mr. Tomislav Svigir from Human Study were the guests and facilitators of the workshop. 10 participants from different states of India could learn the Ischial Containment socket for a transfemoral prosthesis.

"Health Screening Program" The Highway To Healthy Ageing And Well Being

MI organized "Health Screening Programme" in collaboration with 10 different hospitals (Vishwas Society of Mental Health, Netradhama, Dr. S.R. Chandrashekhar Speech and Hearing, Dayanand Sagar College of Dental Science, Narayana Health, Kidwai Hospital, Sagar Hospital, Bhagwan Mahavir Jain Hospital, NIMHANS) on September 15, 2018. Ms Soumya Reddy, MLA, Jayanagar Constituency and the Chief Guest for the day, Dr. Roopa R. Nadig - Dean, Dental Science, Dayananda Sagar College of Dental Sciences was also present as one of the guest of honours



The screening programme attracted people from all walks of life. They underwent health check-up and attended awareness programme on pain management, laughter therapy, Mental Health issues of the aging population and practiced Yoga exercises. 433 people (Women, children, men, older people and disabled) benefitted from Banashankari slums, Jayanagar and J.P. Nagar.

One-day Awareness & Screening Program On Cancer



Cancer can affect almost any part of the body. In India, it is a major cause of morbidity and mortality. By taking healthy diet, physical activities etc. some cancers can be prevented. To create awareness MI in collaboration with KIDWAI Institute of Oncology organized a oneday awareness & screening program on Cancer in Anjanapura government school. Dr. Ramachandra, HOD & Director, KIDWAI institute of Oncology, Mr. Somashekar, Corporate,

Anjanapura ward were present. 55 women underwent a check-up of cervical and breast cancer

Awareness Program On Early Identification And Intervention



The early interventions help to prevent developing more severe symptoms. Early interventions would support the child to attain full potential. The health and community workers play a pivotal role in early identifications and interventions. Hence organised awareness program on early intervention for ASHA, Anganvadi and Village Rehabilitation Workers on September 19, 2018 at BRC Chamarajanagra. During the awareness program activities of APPI(Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives) project and plan of action, disability, its

causes, prevention and management was shared with the participants. The workshop was attended by 48 village level workers.

Literacy rate among women with disabilities is merely 45% whereas the overall women literacy rate in India is 65%.

Literacy rate of men with disabilities is **62%**.

Source: http://censusindia.gov.in/



Reave no one behind.

We believe

FLOOD OF THE CENTURY APPEAL FOR PROVISION OF **ASSISTIVE DEVICES**

FOR THE DEVASTATION THAT IT LEFT IN KERALA AND KODAGU

People with disabilities and older people are the worst-affected in this situation and find difficulties in accessing health care and basic needs, therapeutic support and assistive products

HOW WILL YOU SUPPORT

Mobility India has undertaken the ground reality assessment with the support of local organizations, and providing the assistive devices..... But there are many more people who require your help and support.



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Regd. Office

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