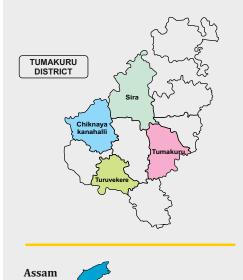
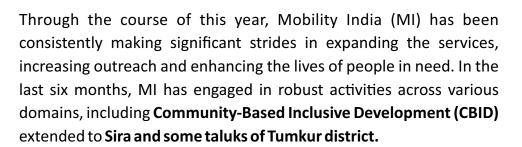


## **NEWS LETTER**

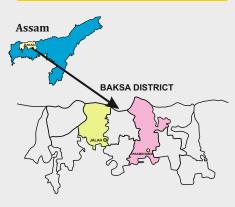
**April - September 2024** 





Mobility India has expanded its Physical Rehabilitation & Assistive Technology services to the aspirational district of Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) in two blocks – Jalah & Dhamdhama of Baksa district, Assam.

The team has established strong connections with key stakeholders, including 12 Village Council Development Committee (VCDC) Chairpersons, Child Development Project Officers, Block Development Officers, and other local leaders in Jalah and Dhamdhama blocks. First-hand data was gathered on 602 people and children with disabilities in these blocks. Among them, 130 people with locomotor disabilities will receive the necessary rehabilitation and assistive technology services.



The report on a comprehensive baseline study conducted by the Roots and Branches Foundation provided insights into the socio-economic conditions of people with disabilities in Jalah and Dhamdhama blocks

Mobility India established three therapy centers one in Dhamdhama and two in Jalah to provide accessible rehabilitation services. 115 physiotherapy sessions were conducted for 44 individuals. 101 assistive devices, including wheelchairs, mobility devices, and Prosthetics & Orthotics (P&O) devices, were distributed, significantly improving the mobility and independence of service users.

The physiotherapists worked closely with **Medical & Health Officers** at local Public Health Centres, who are referring children and people with disabilities for therapy and assistive services. This collaboration resulted in the seamless provision of care to individuals with disabilities in these remote areas.





https://youtu.be/bV IVg0ekfA

## **Continuous Rehabilitation Education (CRE) Programs**

Mobility India successfully conducted two RCI-recognized Continuous Rehabilitation Education (CRE) Programs aimed at enhancing the skills of prosthetists, orthotists, and rehabilitation professionals in the areas of bionic hand technology and trans-tibial socket fabrication.

On April 27, 2024, Mobility India conducted a CRE program titled "Interactive Workshops and Hands-On Workshop on Bionic Hand," which focused on the Zeus Bionic Hand. The event was attended by 42 participants, including prosthetists, orthotists, rehabilitation professionals, and students.

The workshop opened with a session by **Mr. Oinam Sanjoy Singh,** Assistant Professor and Assistant General Manager at Mobility India, who provided an overview of **upper limb prosthetics.** His presentation laid the foundation for an engaging day, setting the tone for an interactive, hands-on experience.

The highlight of the day was the live demonstration of the Zeus Bionic Hand, led by Mr. Pratik Kumar Jain, Head of Clinical & Business Development at Aether Biomedical. Participants were able to witness the device in action and understand its capabilities in mimicking natural hand movements. Ms. Shruti Wadhwa, Clinical Prosthetist & Orthotist at Aether Biomedical, followed up with an informative session on EMG (Electromyography) assessment, showcasing the importance of accurate EMG readings in ensuring proper control of the bionic hand.







Participants also learned how the **Aether Digital Platform** facilitates **prosthetic management** and customization, allowing for a more personalized experience for users. The hands-on session provided an opportunity for participants to operate the **Zeus Bionic** Hand and gain practical experience with the device.

The day concluded with an **interactive feedback session**, where participants shared their thoughts on the workshop and discussed potential applications of the technology in their clinical practice. The workshop was a resounding success, underscoring Mobility India's commitment to advancing **upper limb prosthetic technology**.

## **Emerging Trans-Tibial Socket Fabrication July 6, 2024**





Mobility India held another CRE program on July 6, 2024, titled "Emerging Technologies in Trans-Tibial Socket Fabrication." This workshop focused on Direct Socket fabrication, a technique that is revolutionizing the production of sockets for transtibial amputees. The event attracted a diverse group of prosthetists, orthotists, and postgraduate students.

The session was led by Mr. Oinam Sanjoy Singh, who gave a comprehensive overview of transtibial socket technology and its potential to improve patient outcomes. Participants were introduced to the Direct Socket method, a breakthrough technique that allows for faster, more efficient production of custom-fitted sockets.

A live demonstration of the Direct Socket fabrication process was conducted by Mr. Sujit Kumar, Senior Clinical and Education Manager at Össur India, who showcased the entire process from user preparation to casting, socket creation, and fitting. Attendees had the opportunity to observe each step closely and gain insights into the materials and tools used to create sockets that offer both comfort and functionality.

The program also featured a session on emerging technologies in trans-tibial socket fabrication, led by Mr. Kamaraj V, Assistant Professor and Prosthetist & Orthotist at Mobility India. He highlighted the significance of these advancements in providing comfortable, custom-fitted sockets in a shorter timeframe, helping individuals with lower limb amputations return to their daily activities with ease.

During the hands-on workshop, participants were divided into groups to practice fabricating direct sockets under the guidance of experienced instructors. The event concluded with a socket checkout procedure and an outcome measures session, where participants learned how to assess the success of the fabricated sockets in terms of comfort, mobility, and alignment.



## **Training Programs**

Mobility India conducted a series of impactful training programs designed to empower healthcare workers, caregivers, community volunteers, and Anganwadi workers. These initiatives focused on improving the **early identification of disabilities**, enhancing knowledge of **rehabilitation services**, and promoting the use of **assistive technology** 

Strengthening Early Identification of Disability at Primary Health Care Levels in 3 districts of Karnataka.

May 2024: Mobility India collaborated with Public Affairs Foundation (PAF) and SOCHARA to conduct training programs aimed at early identification of disabilities. These sessions, which were conducted across three districts in Karnataka, trained 431 healthcare workers, including ASHA workers and Village Rehabilitation Workers. The training focused on identifying early signs of disability, understanding the World Health Organization's Assistive Products List, and referring individuals with disabilities to appropriate rehabilitation services. This initiative equipped healthcare workers with practical knowledge to facilitate early intervention and ensure individuals with disabilities could access vital services.





**July 2024**: Mobility India, in collaboration with NIPMR, conducted the TAP Clinical Practice Program for 10 mentors and 19 student learners. The program focused on mobility, vision, and self-care modules, providing participants with practical knowledge on rehabilitation services. The training was led by Ms. Vennila, Mr. Guru, and an optometrist from NIPMR, ensuring that the participants gained hands-on experience in assessing and supporting individuals with disabilities.

### Training of Anganwadi Workers in Jalah and Dhamdhama:

MI- Guwahati conducted training sessions for Anganwadi workers in Jalah and Dhamdhama blocks, training 60 workers on the early identification of disabilities, rehabilitation services, and the use of assistive devices. This training equipped Anganwadi workers with the skills to identify and support children with disabilities in their communities, facilitating early intervention and access to necessary care.

August 2024, MI — Tumkur conducted a Pre-school Workers Training session in Bukkapattana, where 70 participants, including Anganwadi workers and community members, were trained on early disability identification, rehabilitation techniques, and the use of assistive devices. The training was led by Mr. Anand S N and Chand Pasha, who also provided guidance on managing Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). This training enabled Anganwadi workers to better assist children with disabilities and malnutrition, ensuring they receive the necessary interventions.

MI-Tumkur hosted caregivers' meetings at the Huliyar and Sira Community Therapy Centers, providing training on the Niramaya Health Insurance Scheme. Caregivers were educated on how to apply for the scheme, the required documentation, and the claims process. Additionally, caregivers received practical tips on how to manage children with disabilities at home, including physical and speech therapy techniques. These meetings helped 65 caregivers gain valuable insights into the benefits and services available to their children.

MI- Tumkur conducted another Pre-school Workers Training at Kallambella, attended by 30 preschool workers. The training, led by Mr. Rajanna, Ms. Sudhamani, and Chaitra, focused on identifying disabilities in young children, managing developmental therapy, and using assistive devices to improve children's daily living skills.

MI- CBR Urban conducted Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHM) awareness programs in 6 government schools in the Bengaluru South Education 2 blocks. Led by Ms. Uma, Mrs. Smitha, and Mr. Firdosh, the sessions educated 58 adolescent girls and 13 teachers on topics such as menstruation, menstrual hygiene, and the proper use and disposal of sanitary products. The program received positive feedback from participants, as it provided muchneeded information on menstrual health.











### **Orientation program**

One-day orientation programs were organized for final year Bachelor in Physiotherapy students from Sanjay Gandhi College of Physiotherapy, Bangalore, and East Point College of Physiotherapy on the role of prosthetist and orthotist and the importance of multidisciplinary team, P&O service provision and other assistive devices. The orientation program was attended by 81 students who gained knowledge on some of the important aspects of P&O.

The session provided opportunities for the participants to engage in thought provoking interactions. The participants provided positive feedback on the orientation session attended by them. Here's a quick glimpse of the highlights.





https://www.facebook.com/MobilityIndiaEducationResearch/videos/1011246063944248

# Finding Our Inner Zen: Celebrating International Yoga Day at Mobility India

On June 21, 2024, Mobility India celebrated International Yoga Day with the theme "Yoga for Self and Society." The event was held at Sundar Memorial Hall and was graced by two esteemed speakers who threw light on the benefits of Yoga.

**Ms. Aastha Sharma:** A certified Yoga Therapist, Ms. Sharma shared insights on the transformative power of Ashtanga/Vinyasa Yoga.

**Dr. Darshana Patel:** A physiotherapist and certified yoga trainer, Dr. Patel discussed the therapeutic benefits of yoga for physical and mental health.

The speakers emphasized upon mindfulness, self-compassion, and the holistic benefits of yoga. Staff and students engaged in interactive sessions and learned new techniques to enhance personal well-being and societal harmony. The guest speakers, participants and all those who contributed to the success of this event deserve special mention.







### **Corporate Corner**





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TTBaoSJ433U

Play Therapy provides a safe environment for children to express themselves by using children's natural tendency to "play out" responses to life situations. Play Therapy allows them to process emotional difficulties in a way that is more appropriate for their stage of development. Play is a powerful tool for self-expression, healing, and development, and activities organized by MI truly embody that spirit.

MI organized two play therapy sessions with the theme "Catch the Moon" and "Play, Heal, and Grow." These sessions included various activities designed to enhance skills such as balance, coordination, flexibility, creativity, and teamwork. The events concluded with a heartwarming dance session.

A big thank you to the ANZ volunteers, participants, and staff for making these events memorable!

## **Heartfelt Thank You to LIC of India!**

The entire MI team is very grateful to LIC of India and their dedicated team for their generous donation of the Force vehicle. This vehicle will operate as a mobile workshop, providing assistive devices and products to people with disabilities and elderly people at their doorsteps in Tumkur District.

Many thanks to LIC India's Sri L K Shamsunder - Zonal Manager, Sri L Puneet Kumar - Zonal Manager, Sri C. Rajsekhar - Senior Divisional Manager, Sri K. Aravind - Marketing Manager, Mr. Narendran, A.E.O., Mr. G. Rajan - Chief Manager, and the entire team for making a difference in to the lives of people in need!



## **Shankar Electricals Visit:**



On 29th April 2024, the Shankar Electricals team, along with their Director, visited MI. They were oriented on the activities of Mobility India.

## Mobility India's 30th Anniversary Celebration: Reflecting on Three Decades of Impact

On August 2, 2024, Mobility India marked a significant milestone by celebrating its 30th anniversary with a vibrant event that brought together board members, distinguished guests, and community members. The celebration was a testament to the organization's enduring commitment to empowering individuals with disabilities and promoting inclusion.

The event began with a **welcome dance**, **Ms. Elizabeth Thomas**, President of the Board, delivered an inspiring speech, reflecting on her long-standing association with Mobility India. She highlighted the organization's achievements and the unwavering dedication of its staff over the years.

Ms. Marika Millar of MIBLOU, one of Mobility India's long-term partners, expressed her happiness in being a part of this special occasion. She acknowledged the 30-year partnership between MIBLOU and Mobility India and praised the organization for its sustained efforts to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Mr. Chapal Khasnabis – Former Executive Director shared reflections on Mobility India's growth since its founding in 1994, noting the remarkable journey and the challenges overcome along the way. He emphasized the importance of addressing emerging challenges in the disability sector, including issues related to elder care, mental health, and isolation.









Adding to the celebration, **Ms. Lakshmi** delivered a thought-provoking talk on "**Celebrating Diversity and Inclusion.**" She shared her insights on the importance of fostering **inclusive spaces** for all, encouraging the audience to continue championing diversity in every aspect of life.

One of the event's highlights was the presentation of the Jo Millar Award to Ms. N. Shibani Chanu, a 2023 graduate, in recognition of her excellence in prosthetics and orthotics. Her achievement exemplifies the high standards of education and professional training that Mobility India continues to uphold.

The event also featured the inauguration of Mobility India's Library Extension by Ms. Marika Millar, which will serve as a valuable resource for educational and research activities.

The celebration concluded with a lively **cultural program** and a special recognition of the **housekeeping team**, whose contributions ensure the smooth functioning of the organization every day.

@ Assam Baksa project office, 30th Anniversary was attended by key figures such as Ms. Albina Shankar, Ms. Marika Millar from MIBLOU, and other distinguished guests.

Ms. Albina Shankar, in her inspiring speech, reflected on the growth and impact of Mobility India over the years. She encouraged the staff to continue their work with dedication, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and community engagement. Ms. Marika Millar expressed her gratitude for the long-standing partnership between MIBLOU and Mobility India, acknowledging the organization's unwavering commitment to improving the lives of people with disabilities.











## World Physiotherapy Day 2024 Theme: "Managing and Preventing Low Back Pain"

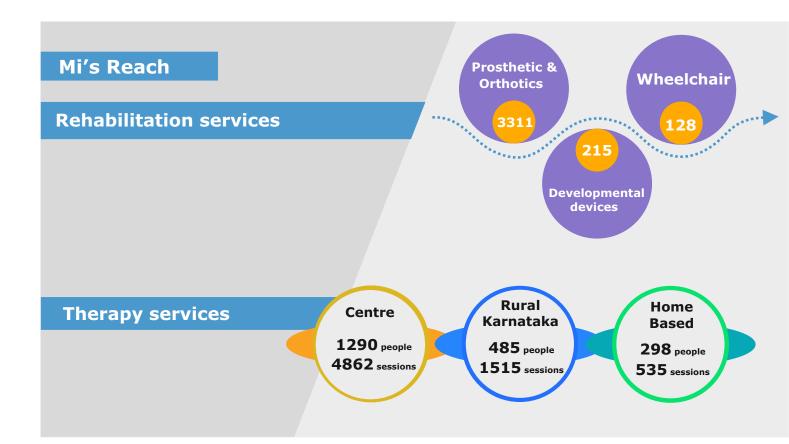
Low back pain is one of the leading causes of disability worldwide, often affecting people's ability to work, perform daily activities, and maintain an active lifestyle.

The 2024 theme emphasized the critical role of physiotherapists in managing low back pain through non-invasive, effective treatment options focused on strengthening the back muscles, improving posture, and using preventive exercises to avoid future complications. This year, Mobility India highlighted the importance of physiotherapy in helping individuals lead pain-free lives through structured therapeutic interventions.

On 28th September 2024, Mobility India celebrated World Physiotherapy Day with a free screening camp at Suraksha Marvella Apartment, Bengaluru, and 22 people participated. The focus was on identifying and addressing musculoskeletal issues, particularly low back pain. The participants not only got immediate relief but were also empowered with tools to manage and prevent back pain in the long term.







## Mohammed Imaad is a 9-year-old boy residing

with his family in Bangalore. His father works as a technician. Imaad was diagnosed with Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD), a rare genetic disorder that affects how the body processes certain amino acids. This condition significantly impacted his ability to sit, stand, or walk, confining him to lying down on the floor.



A friend referred him to Mobility India (MI). At MI, Imaad underwent a thorough assessment. As part of his initial rehabilitation plan, he was provided with home-based therapy. With regular therapy sessions, his milestones were achieved one by one, leading to significant improvements in Imaad's posture and overall well-being.

In the next phase of his rehabilitation plan, Imaad was provided with a modified wheelchair to further improve his posture and Ankle Foot Orthosis (AFO) to keep his feet in the proper position. Previously unable to sit for even a few minutes, he can now sit comfortably for 3 to 4 hours. This has enabled his parents to take him outside, enhancing his social interactions and overall quality of life. The spinal column alignment is gradually improving, and his parents have observed marked differences in his physical abilities.

The improvements have had profound effects on Imaad's health. Sitting in the wheelchair while eating has improved his digestion, reduced the risk of pressure sores, and enhanced his body posture. Additionally, increased mobility has led to better social interactions and non-verbal communication, significantly enhancing Imaad's social life.

## **Dimple V** is a four-and-a-half-year-old girl from Mandya, Karnataka. Her parents are her pillars of support.



When Dimple was one and a half years old, her parents noticed that her spinal cord was growing abnormally. Concerned about her development, they consulted doctors at NIMHANS hospital. She was diagnosed with pigeon chest. At a young age, she underwent surgery, and the doctor referred her to Mobility India for a brace.

At MI, Dimple underwent a thorough assessment. She was provided with Cervical Thoracic Orthosis (CTO) to support and immobilize the cervical and upper thoracic spine post-operatively. This device helps stabilize the spine, aids in recovery, and promotes healing.

For the first time, Dimple is able to sit and walk without pain, with the support of the CTO. Her parents are happy to see their daughter without pain.

### **Support Us**

Let's come together and support children and people with disabilities in gaining access to health and rehabilitation services, empowering them to lead a better quality of life.

Therapy Services





Developmental

Assistive Device



**Nutrition Food** 



Your generous donations will make a significant impact on their lives!





### I Would like to

Give Monthly	
Nutrition Food Per Child	Rs. 300
Therapy for 1 Session Per Person	Rs. 500
Assistive Devices	Rs. 12000
Developmental Devices Per Child	Rs. 10000
Wheelchair	Rs. 25000
Prosthesis	Rs. 60000

Give Once	
Nutrition Food	Rs.10000
Therapy for 20 sessions	Rs.10000
Assistive Devices	Rs. 60000
Developmental Devices	Rs. 50000
Wheelchairs	Rs. 100000
Prosthesis	Rs. 300000

### **MOBILITY INDIA**

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