

Case Study

Amar Jyoti Rehabilitation and Research Centre Mainstreaming of Persons with Disabilities

August 2012

Governance Knowledge Centre

Promoted by Department of Administrative Reforms
and Public Grievances
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions,
Government of India
<http://indiagovernance.gov.in/>

Researched and Documented by


oneworld.net
OneWorld Foundation India
www.oneworld.net.in
owsa@oneworld.net

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	3
Background	3
Methodology.....	4
Objective.....	5
Programme Design	5
Key Stakeholders.....	5
Work Flow	5
Provision of inclusive education.....	6
Inclusive infrastructure.....	7
Academic integration	7
Extracurricular activities.....	8
Capacity building courses	9
Amar Jyoti Institute of Physiotherapy	9
Centre for Teacher’s Training in Special Education	10
Medical Care.....	10
Child guidance clinic.....	10
Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy	11
Speech and hearing therapy	11
Mobility Assistance	11
OPD Facility.....	12
Awareness generation seminars and camps.....	12
Employment Assistance.....	12
Social Work.....	13
Monitoring	14
Financial Resources	14
Impact.....	14

Holistic integration of persons with disabilities.....	14
Creation of a barrier free environment.....	14
Creation of a disabled friendly social environment.....	15
Advocacy for disabled friendly policy changes	15
Challenges in Implementation.....	15
Sustainability	16
Potential for Replication.....	16
Conclusion	17
References	17
Appendix A – Interview Questionnaire	18

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Founded in 1981, the Amar Jyoti Rehabilitation and Research Centre is a voluntary organization rendering rehabilitative services to persons with disabilities. Amar Jyoti endeavours to include and integrate persons with disabilities into the mainstream, enabling them to lead independent lives and enjoy equal opportunities. To realize this aim, Amar Jyoti follows a holistic approach consisting of multifarious activities: inclusive education, healthcare, skill training, capacity building courses and enhancing employment opportunities.

Amar Jyoti started its operations by establishing a school for educating children with and without disability in equal numbers. The school began with just 30 students; 15 with and 15 without disability. Today as a result of dedicated effort and persistence over three decades, Amar Jyoti has expanded its operations and set-up two holistic research and rehabilitation centres one each in Delhi with 450 students and Gwalior with 250 students, aiming at the complete educational, medical and vocational integration of persons with disabilities.

Amar Jyoti is empowering disabled students to live a fulfilling life by overcoming the day to day challenges that their disability confronts them with. For this purpose, Amar Jyoti is providing them with adequate infrastructural support, mobility aids and various therapies to reduce and treat their disability. At the same time, Amar Jyoti is engaging with other schools, parents, communities, public transport authorities, employment organizations and policy makers to create a barrier free and welcoming environment for disabled populace across the country enabling them to lead an uncompromised life. Till date, Amar Jyoti has rehabilitated over 40, 000 persons with disabilities.

BACKGROUND

According to the Census of 2001, there are 2.19 crore people with disabilities in India; this includes persons with visual, hearing, speech, loco motor and mental disabilities. According to official statistics, disabled people constitute about 2.13 per cent of the total population; but the actual number could range anywhere between 8 to 10 per cent.¹ In spite of forming such a large portion of our total population, people with disabilities are denied adequate access to public places, quality education and employment throughout the country. A bulk of the country's assets both in terms of trained human resources and material infrastructure are not disabled friendly resulting in greater marginalization of people with disabilities.

¹ National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People. Web. 23 July. 2012.<
<http://www.ncpedp.org/>>

On the legal front, India has some very progressive policy frameworks for persons with disabilities. The Persons with Disabilities Act of 1995 is the cornerstone of India's policy framework with regard to its disabled populace. The act guarantees opportunities for full and equal participation for persons with disabilities in the country.

India has also ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) with the obligation to ensure and promote the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all persons with disabilities without discrimination of any kind on the basis of their disability. On the basis of this commitment, it is proposed to pass a new Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act which will include amendments to the Persons with Disabilities Act of 1995 making it more inclusive in harmony with the convention.

Besides this overarching framework for government policy towards persons with disability, the country also has various policies and schemes in place for ensuring access to adequate education, and employment facilities for persons with disabilities. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Right to Education say that every child in India is guaranteed education. Despite that, most regular schools in India deny admissions to children with disabilities. They site reasons of lack of infrastructure and lack of trained special educators. Currently an alarmingly low percentage of children with disabilities are educated. Without the foundation of a strong education, no child can reach his or her potential in life. By denying children with disabilities admission in regular schools, they are being denied the right to education and therefore their right to make their lives productive.

Hoping to address this shortfall in the country's attitude towards its disabled populace, Amar Jyoti Rehabilitation and Research Centre was established in 1981 in Delhi, by the Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust. Amar Jyoti is a voluntary organization rendering rehabilitative services to persons with disabilities through a holistic approach of inclusive education, medical care, vocational training, child guidance and self-employment.

METHODOLOGY

The Governance Knowledge Centre (GKC) documents best practices in governance in India in support of further replication. For this purpose, select initiatives that are significantly contributing towards the betterment of public service delivery are identified by the GKC research team. The team conducted extensive secondary research using credible web sources to establish the suitability of the holistic approach adopted by Amar Jyoti Rehabilitation and Research Centre for integrating persons with disabilities into the mainstream. This research reflected the manner in which Amar Jyoti is providing persons with disabilities various

opportunities to gain access to education, employment and medical facilities and contributing towards their all round development.

Having recognised the approach of Amar Jyoti Rehabilitation and Research Centre as a best practice, the key stakeholders involved in the initiative were identified and interviewed to gain a deeper insight into the operation and impact of the centre. This document has been created by compiling the information collected through secondary research as well as the insights gathered during a visit to the Amar Jyoti Rehabilitation and Research Centre and interactions with the Teachers, Department Heads and the Founder and Managing Secretary Dr. Uma Tuli.

OBJECTIVE

- To offer comprehensive rehabilitative services to persons with disabilities by providing them with facilities for inclusive education, integrated sports and cultural activities, adequate medical care, vocational training and employment opportunities.
- To place citizens with disability on the same platform as a non-disabled citizen i.e. to empower and mainstream persons with disabilities.

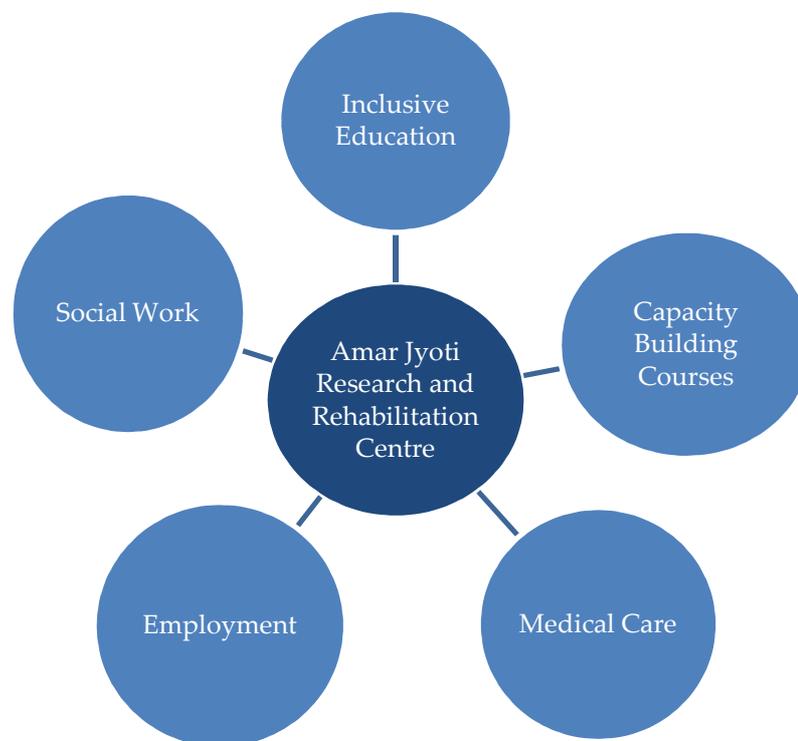
PROGRAMME DESIGN

Key Stakeholders

- Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust
- Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
- Ministry of Human Resource and Development
- Students
- Parents

Work Flow

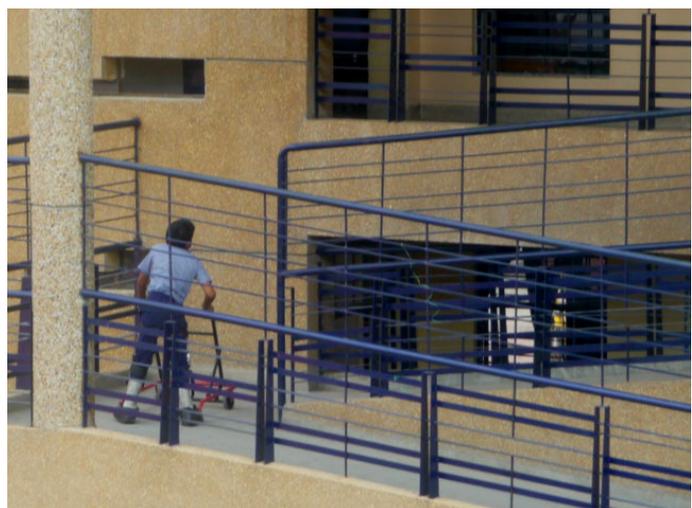
Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust started its work in 1982 by establishing a school for educating children with and without disability in equal numbers. The school was set up under a tree with 30 students; 15 with and 15 without disability. Today as a result of dedicated effort and persistence over three decades, the Trust has expanded its operations and set-up two holistic research and rehabilitation centres one each in Delhi and Gwalior aiming at the complete educational, medical and vocational integration of persons with disabilities. Amar Jyoti endeavours to include and integrate persons with disabilities into the mainstream, enabling them to lead independent lives and enjoy equal opportunities. To realize this aim, Amar Jyoti follows a holistic approach consisting of multifarious activities.



**Figure 1: Components of Amar Jyoti's holistic approach,
Source: OneWorld Foundation India**

Provision of inclusive education

Amar Jyoti has pioneered the concept of inclusive education in India. The school educates children with and without disability in equal numbers from Nursery up till class VIII. It caters to students with various kinds of disabilities- children with hearing and visual impairment, children with multiple disabilities and children with locomotive disabilities. These children are integrated through academic, vocational, sports and cultural activities



**Figure 2: A student using the ramp to walk to his classroom at
Amar Jyoti School, New Delhi, Source: OneWorld Foundation**

on a regular basis.

Inclusive infrastructure

A crucial necessity for integrating persons with disabilities is a certain degree of infrastructural preparedness. Over the years, the infrastructural facilities at Amar Jyoti have developed and are today at a level where they are completely disabled friendly. The school has language, computer and science labs. The school is well equipped with ramps for students with locomotive disabilities, houses various walking aids, wheel chairs and has a dedicated set of special educators and medical practitioners watching out for students with disabilities. The school has a tactile part for the visually challenged and other necessary facilities like loop induction for students with hearing impairment.

Academic integration

Amar Jyoti follows a phased manner of integration; children with disabilities are trained in separate sections and their progress is continuously monitored. Once a child has reached a certain level of training and is considered suitable for adapting with children without disabilities, he/she is transferred from the separate section to the regular section.

There are separate sections for children with disabilities. There are eight sections for slow learners; children in these sections are organized on the basis of their differential abilities to learn. One separate section has been earmarked for children with multiple disabilities. These children are regularly integrated through sports, cultural, vocational and other co-curricular activities. There are four sections for students with hearing and speech impairment. These students are initially given training in lip reading and sign language post which they are transferred to regular sections. There is also a special section for visually challenged students where they are trained in Braille, computers and mobility and then integrated into a regular section. The school also has a non formal section for late enrollers.

Section	Number of students (approximately)
Eight sections for slow learners	8 -10 students in each section
Four sections for hearing and speech impaired students	16-18 students in each section
Section for students with multiple disabilities	8-9 students
Section for visually challenged students	10 students
Non formal section for slow learners	13 students
National Institute for Open Schooling (NIOS)	11 students

Table 1: Special sections in Amar Jyoti

Students who are unable to cope with the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) syllabus can opt to continue their studies under National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). Amar Jyoti is accredited under NIOS for IIIrd, Vth, VIIIth, Xth and XIIth standards. It also conducts two NIOS accredited vocational courses which include tailoring and beauty culture. Amar Jyoti is also accredited as a special study centre of IGNOU for extending the facility of open education to the physically challenged.

Extracurricular activities

All students of Amar Jyoti participate together in various sports and extracurricular activities. Students with and without disabilities play basketball, volleyball, tennis and badminton together. They collectively participate in the integrated sports meet held annually and represent the school in interschool sports activities. A significant achievement of the students of Amar Jyoti lies in their participation in the National Abilympics (parallel to the concept of Olympics held every three years). During the Abilympics, vocational skill competitions are held for persons with disabilities where they are able to create public awareness about their abilities and showcase their talents. Amar Jyoti has a pioneering role in establishing the National Abilympics and also houses the head office of the National Abilympic Association of India.

Amar Jyoti also aims to empower its students through vocational training. From class 2 onwards students are trained in various vocational courses- tailoring, art and craft, carpentry, beauty culture, bakery, jewellery making and computers.



Capacity building courses

True to its holistic approach, Amar Jyoti is also creating a pool of special educators who will be adept with the differential needs of persons with disabilities and can in the future contribute towards their integration into the mainstream. In order to do so, the Centre runs various training courses in special education.

AMAR JYOTI INSTITUTE OF PHYSIOTHERAPY

The centre operates an Institute of Physiotherapy which is affiliated to University of Delhi. This institute trains students to become physiotherapists through the four and half year Bachelor of Science (Honours) Physiotherapy Course. The course capacity is 30 students & admission is through an entrance examination conducted by University of Delhi.

CENTRE FOR TEACHER'S TRAINING IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

The dedicated teacher's teaching centre at the Amar Jyoti Rehabilitation and Research Centre is conducting several courses in special education recognized by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) and IGNOU. Some of these courses include:

- A two year course on Diploma in Special Education in Mental Retardation and Diploma in Hard of Hearing each with an intake of 25 students per batch.
- Three months e-learning programme on 'Aspects of Learning Difficulties for young children and adults with disabilities' in collaboration with Roehampton University, London with an intake of 30 students per batch twice a year.
- A three months Foundation Course) on Education of Children with Disability in Special Education. The course runs four batches in a year.
- One year Post Graduate Professional Diploma in Special Education in Mental Retardation
- Six months Post Graduate Professional Certificate in Special Education Mental Retardation

Over the years, Amar Jyoti has trained more than 400 special educators.

Medical Care

Like the holistic approach adopted by Amar Jyoti for providing inclusive education, its medical services are also all encompassing. The medical care unit at Amar Jyoti broadly provides the following services:

- Early Intervention Programme and other activities through the Child Guidance Clinic
- Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy
- Speech and hearing therapy
- Mobility assistance
- OPD facility
- Organization of awareness generation seminars/workshops and health camps in communities.

Child guidance clinic

The Child guidance clinic at Amar Jyoti monitors the psychological progress of children with disabilities, guides and counsels parents on how to handle the differential abilities of their children and suggests remedial interventions. Teachers from Amar Jyoti refer students to the clinic for investigative testing to highlight academic and behaviour problems that need to be worked upon. Children below the age of six years are placed in the early intervention programme (EIP) for inter disciplinary assessment and continuous therapy sessions.

Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy

The physiotherapy department of Amar Jyoti is well equipped with most modalities like *Inter Ferential Therapy* (IFT), Laser, Ultrasound, etc. The department treats almost 11,000 patients a year with various musculoskeletal problems like spondylosis, tennis elbow, cerebral palsy etc. Students from various Physiotherapy institutes also come as interns to complete their training.



Figure 4: Physiotherapy unit at Amar Jyoti School, Delhi.

Source: OneWorld Foundation India

Amar Jyoti also plays a vital role in making each child independent in fine motor, sensory integrative and pre-vocational skills through occupational therapy sessions. Based on individual assessments of each child, occupational therapy sessions are conducted. These sessions aim at achieving motor and sensory milestones; oral motor training, hand function training and sensory cognitive/perceptual motor training. Follow-up is maintained through regular parents - therapists meetings and a customized home programme.

Speech and hearing therapy

Special targeted services are provided to children and adults with speech and hearing disorders. Children with delayed speech, mental retardation and articulation defects, hearing impairment, cerebral palsy, voice disorder etc. are also referred to this department by different hospitals and private practitioners.

Mobility Assistance

The Department of Prosthetics & Orthotics at Amar Jyoti provides appropriate and comfortable mobility



Figure 5: Mobility aids developed and provided to students at Amar Jyoti School, Delhi

Source: OneWorld Foundation India

aids to persons with disabilities under the Assistance to Disabled Persons Scheme of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India. The Government provides financial assistance to give mobility aids to persons with disabilities through camps and workshops. In addition, for children below 18 years of age, Amar Jyoti gets support from ALTSO (A Leg to Stand On), USA for providing assistive devices to students with locomotor challenges. The devices are developed in house by the Department of Prosthetics & Orthotics at Amar Jyoti. The aim is to focus on mobility of children so that they can cultivate self esteem and participate in daily activities.

OPD Facility

The Amar Jyoti Centre provides medical care and rehabilitative services not only to school children but also to patients from nearby communities and economically weaker sections of the society free of cost or at subsidized rates. 28 specialists offer their medical services to the Centre as volunteers and visit the OPD Clinic to provide preventive, curative, consultative and rehabilitative services. Amar Jyoti also runs a specialized clinic to provide dietary and obesity related and diabetes related guidance. Approximately 4000 patients visit Amar Jyoti's OPD facility per month.

Awareness generation seminars and camps

Amar Jyoti also regularly holds camps in various communities around the school and slum areas spread across Delhi for providing consultations and medical assistance to persons with disabilities and their families. Various seminars and workshops are also organized by Amar Jyoti to spread its message of integration and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the mainstream.

Employment Assistance

Amar Jyoti is also working towards helping people with disabilities secure their futures. For this purpose, the school runs a placement unit to provide employment opportunities to persons with disabilities and persons from low income families. This unit has over the years been able to provide employment to persons with disabilities across the public and private sector. The unit also provides them with assistance in establishing self owned enterprises through vocational training and guidance in obtaining financial aid. Some of the enterprises that people have established with guidance from the placement unit include electrical shops, tailoring shops, photo copy and stationary stores etc. Very often, Amar Jyoti also recruits many of its own students as special educators and vocational trainers.

Social Work

The Department of Social Work at Amar Jyoti actively works towards creating a disabled friendly social environment. For this purpose it conducts the following activities:

- Mentoring of students of Masters and Bachelors of Social Work & interns.
- Making home visits as per need of the students of Amar Jyoti School in order to sensitise their parents
- Counselling parents regarding academic issues, emotional and social needs as well as care of children with disability.
- Disseminating information regarding concessions, schemes, disability certificates and other government benefits to persons with disability and their families.
- Coordinating alumni activities in order to motivate them in spreading the message of inclusion in society and highlight success stories of the ex-students of Amar Jyoti.
- Conducting community based rehabilitation programmes (currently running in 5 communities in East Delhi) to educated communities on the importance of addressing the educational, health and vocational needs of persons with disabilities.
- These activities are conducted by social workers at Amar Jyoti and various programme coordinators.

<u>Inclusive school</u>	<u>Capacity building</u>	<u>Medical care</u>	<u>Employment</u>	<u>Social work</u>
Recognised middle school	Institute of Physiotherapy affiliated with University of Delhi	Physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy	Job Placement Unit	Orientation, counselling and information dissemination
Integrated sports and cultural activities	Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) Study Centre	X-ray unit, operation theatre, pathology lab	Recruitment within the school	Sponsorship programme and alumni management
National Institution of Open Schooling (5th, 8th, 10th and 12th standard)	Centre for Teacher's Training in Special Education	Prosthetics and Orthotic Workshop	Facilitation of loans for starting self owned enterprises	Networking with NGOs, universities, parents
Vocational training		Homeopathy, Diabetes, Dietary and Obesity Clinic, OPD		Community based rehabilitation programme in 10 urban slums of East Delhi
		Child Guidance Centre		

Monitoring

In order to ensure the smooth functioning of the centre and its various activities, a School Managing Committee has been formed comprising of eminent educationists, nominees of Directorate of Education, social workers, representatives of parents and members of the staff, a doctor and an orthotist. This cross-section Committee meets twice a year to take stock of activities and formulate policies.

Financial Resources

Starting with a very small set-up, the Amar Jyoti Rehabilitation and Research Centre today has a complete institutional and infrastructural structure in place in Delhi and Gwalior. Both the Centres run on funds provided by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Delhi Centre), Ministry of Human Resource and Development (Gwalior Centre), individual donors, philanthropy organizations, and the nominal school and medical fees collected from students and patients.

IMPACT

Holistic integration of persons with disabilities

For the past three decades Amar Jyoti has been steadily working towards enabling persons with disabilities to lead a normal and independent life. The centre follows an all encompassing approach comprising multifarious activities like medical intervention, inclusive education, sports and cultural activities, skilful employment and capacity building. It puts persons with disabilities and persons without disabilities on a common platform giving them an opportunity to become sensitive to their differential abilities while at the same time inculcating in them an inclusive spirit of moving ahead together.

The strength of Amar Jyoti lies in its sensitivity to the daily challenges that confront the disabled. The centre is gradually enabling the disabled to overcome most of these challenges by covering each and every aspect of their daily lives- educational, medical, need for livelihood. In this manner it is attempting to open up a world of equal opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Creation of a barrier free environment

Amar Jyoti is empowering disabled students to live a fulfilling life by overcoming the day to day challenges that their disability confronts them with. For this purpose, Amar Jyoti is providing them with adequate infrastructural support, mobility aids and various therapies to

reduce and treat their disability. At the same time, Amar Jyoti is engaging with other schools, public transport authorities, employment organizations and policy makers to create a barrier free environment for disabled populace across the country so that they can conduct their basic minimum daily activities without constant obstacles.

Creation of a disabled friendly social environment

A major challenge that persons with disabilities face is social ostracism at school, at home and in the community at large. One of the major achievements of Amar Jyoti lies in fighting against this social attitude and modifying it. Through constant engagement with students with and without disabilities, their parents and their communities via the rehabilitation programmes, seminars and camps, Amar Jyoti has contributed towards de-stigmatising disability and creating a socially inclusive and welcoming environment for the disabled.

Advocacy for disabled friendly policy changes

Along with enabling the disabled to lead an independent life and creating a disabled friendly social environment, Amar Jyoti is also working towards expanding their legal rights and enactments. Based on years of research and educational materials developed over the years, Amar Jyoti is constantly engaging with the government and policy makers to make public utilities, education, transport, and employment opportunities across the country inclusive and accessible for persons with disabilities. The Centre is pushing for modifications and widening the scope of the existing Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995. At the same time, the Centre is enabling disabled people to benefit from the existing legal entitlements by creating awareness among them about their rights.

CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION

While Amar Jyoti has come a long way in the past three decades, the centre constantly faces challenges in its endeavours. Foremost among these challenges lies the difficulties faced in changing the mindset of people and their attitude towards disabled people. Social workers, coordinators and special educators at Amar Jyoti are trying to overcome this barrier by constantly engaging with students, parents and communities.

With growing awareness about people with disabilities and the potential of Amar Jyoti, the Centre is faced with increasing responsibility for becoming the torch bearer for the creation of an inclusive and integrated society. With this responsibility comes the need for more infrastructural, human and financial resources. The mandate of Amar Jyoti's vision of an inclusive society is very vast, given which meeting resource needs is always a challenge. The school at the centre operates till class eight, post which it is challenging to find integrated schools like Amar Jyoti. However Amar Jyoti is following a convergence approach of spreading

its message and bringing more and more stakeholders on board in order to ensure that small steps are taken towards building a disabled friendly country. For this purpose, it has identified select schools where the Amar Jyoti students can transfer after class eight. In the future Amar Jyoti hopes to convince more schools to follow an integrated approach and equip themselves with adequate infrastructure and resources to welcome students with disabilities.

Lastly, while the Centre welcomes the government's support and the desire to make India's policies more disabled friendly, it realizes that the time taken for policies to be implemented on the ground is often of a long duration. Hence, it has to constantly engage and bargain with the government, policymakers and implementers to provide people with disabilities with their legal rights and entitlements.

SUSTAINABILITY

The continuance of the centre over the last three decades and its expansion from a small set up to the current day institutional structure reflects the ability of Amar Jyoti to sustain itself through the years. With the financial support of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, individual donors, the guidance of an experienced and committed set of leadership, the support of social workers, special educators, medical professionals, parents and communities, Amar Jyoti is moving towards its vision of an inclusive and integrated society.

POTENTIAL FOR REPLICATION

Given the large disabled population of the country, there is increasing need for the efforts of Amar Jyoti to be up scaled, replicated and adapted across the country. It is important for our public utilities, schools, colleges, organizations, communities and policies to be disabled friendly.

In pursuance of this, Amar Jyoti is open to guiding schools for adequately equipping themselves with all facilities required to welcome disabled children and creating a barrier free environment. Perhaps, on their part other schools can study Amar Jyoti's inclusive approach and try to accommodate changes in their school environment

Amar Jyoti is constantly in talks with the government to develop more disabled friendly policies. Legislation should be passed making it mandatory for all schools, colleges and employers to build a disabled friendly environment and work towards their gradual integration in to their operations. Non-compliance should be met with penalties. The government can also support the establishment of other such holistic research and rehabilitation centres for the disabled across the country.

The Amar Jyoti model reflects that the excuse of lack of infrastructure and unpreparedness to handle persons with disabilities is not a sufficient reason to prevent people with disabilities from leading an independent life in the mainstream. The gradual approach of integration and expansion adopted by Amar Jyoti is a workable and sustainable model than can be adapted by schools and by the government.

CONCLUSION

Over the years, Amar Jyoti's multifarious activities have enabled several persons with disabilities to lead a self-sufficient and independent life and given them an opportunity to lead an inclusive life. Amar Jyoti has won several recognitions for its dedicated service and commitment. These include- two National Awards for the use of innovative approaches for the rehabilitation of persons with disability, the PHD Chamber of Commerce Award for Social Welfare, U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Award for pioneering achievements in the promotion of barrier-free environments.

Research was carried out by OneWorld Foundation India (OWFI), Governance Knowledge Centre (GKC) team.

*Documentation was created by Research Associate, **Sapna Kedia***

*For further information, please contact **Rajiv Tikoo**, Director, OWFI, at owsa@oneworld.net*

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APPENDIX A – INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE

AMAR JYOTI REHABILITATION AND RESEARCH CENTRE

Background

1. What was the motivation behind setting up the Amar Jyoti Rehabilitation and Research Centre?
2. Was the centre launched as a pilot or a full scale project?
3. What are the main objectives of the centre? What specific issues with relation to persons with disabilities does the centre seek to address?

Key stakeholders

4. The key stakeholders in the activities of the centre are Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Human Resource Development, National Institute of Open Schooling, IGNOU, teachers, students and parents. What are the roles and responsibilities of each of these stakeholders?
5. Are there any other stakeholders in the initiative? If yes, please explain their roles and responsibilities. If no, is there a need and plan to involve any stakeholders in the future?

Programme design

Amar Jyoti School

6. When were the schools set up in Delhi and Gwalior?
7. What is the rationale behind enrolment of equal number of non-disabled and disabled children?
8. How was awareness about the school generated amongst parents?
9. How were parents of non-disabled children convinced to enrol their students in the Amar Jyoti School?
10. Was there any reluctance on part of parents of non-disabled children to send their wards to Amar Jyoti? If yes, how was this overcome?
11. How is the school curriculum prepared and updated given the differential abilities of non-disabled and disabled children?
12. Vocational training is an integral part of the curriculum. Can you provide us details of the various vocational courses?
13. What are the sports and extra-curricular activities conducted at the school?
14. How are teachers/educators approached for the school? What are the specific qualifications required to teach in Amar Jyoti?

15. The Amar Jyoti Centre runs special programmes for training interested people to become special educators. Some of these programmes are in association with Delhi University, IGNOU and NIOS. Please provide us details of this training: resource persons, participants, exact content, methodology, cost and duration.
16. What is the fee structure of the school?

Medical facilities

17. The clinic caters to school children as well as children from the community. How was awareness about the clinic spread?
18. Who runs this clinic? How were doctors approached for providing their services to this clinic? What are their basic qualifications? Is any specialized medical training given to them for serving the clinic?
19. What are the services offered in the child guidance OPD clinic?
20. Interested people are also given the opportunity to become trained physiotherapists and develop a career in providing medical assistance to people with disabilities. Please provide us details of this training: resource persons, participants, exact content, methodology, cost and duration.
21. What are the charges for various medical services provided at the clinic?

Department of Social Work

22. Who is responsible for running the Department of Social Work to counsel parents of persons with disabilities and disseminate information regarding concessions and other benefits that the government provides to persons with disabilities?
23. What methods are used for counselling parents and preparing them to equip themselves adequately to respond to their child's special needs?

Rehabilitation programmes

24. The centre runs various community based rehabilitation programmes. What do these programmes entail? Please provide instances where people with disabilities have been successfully rehabilitated.
25. Who is responsible for running and coordinating these programmes?

Financial Costs

26. What was the overall cost of development of the centre? Please provide a breakdown of the major heads of expenditure.
27. What are the current sources of funds for the various activities (school, teacher training programmes, medical facilities etc) carried out by the centre?
28. What are the major costs involved in running the centre. Can you provide us with details of daily operating costs of the centre?

Impact

Achievements

29. What have been the major achievements of the Amar Jyoti Centre over the past three decades? How has the centre impacted
30. The lives of persons with disabilities
31. Families of persons with disabilities
32. Government policies and benefits for persons with disabilities?
33. Does Amar Jyoti conduct advocacy efforts with the government to promote a more inclusive environment for persons with disabilities across the country? If yes, can you elaborate on the nature and scope of these efforts?

Challenges

34. What have been the major challenges in operating a centre like Amar Jyoti? How have these challenges been overcome?

Enhancements

35. What are the major enhancements planned for the future?
36. Have the government or other institutions across the country shown interest in replicating a centre like Amar Jyoti? What do you think are the necessary preconditions for the success of an initiative like Amar Jyoti?
37. Please provide us with the following data:
 - Number of disabled and non-disabled students in the school
 - Occupation of students who pass out from Amar Jyoti
 - Number of special educators trained through various programmes
 - Number of teachers currently employed in the centre
 - Number of community based rehabilitation programmes conducted
 - Number of people with disabilities rehabilitated

- Average number of patients coming to the OPD in a month/day
- Any other data to reflect impact