

Disable Friendly Panchayat: A away forward



Introduction

Empowering Disabled Individuals is crucial for fostering an inclusive society.

This presentation explores a strategic approach to enhance participation of PwD in Panchayati Raj institutions.

We aim to identify barriers and propose actionable solutions to create an environment where disabled individuals can thrive.

Challenges

Disabled individuals face numerous challenges in participating in society as well as urban and rural areas.

These include physical barriers, lack of awareness and inadequate representation.

Identifying these challenges is the first step toward developing effective strategies for inclusion and empowerment.

Best Practices

Implementing best practices from various states can enhance the participation of disabled individuals in Panchayati Raj.

This includes awareness campaigns, training programs for local leaders and creating an accessible infrastructure to facilitate engagement.

Panchayats in India play a role in the welfare of the people with disabilities at a number of ways, including :-

- **Budget** - Karnataka Panchayats allocating 5% of their budget towards the welfare of PwD
- **Representation** – Chattisgarh's Panchayat have accepted a PwD member. Rajasthan and Goa think along similar lines.
- **Certification** – Panchayats around the country have helped disabled citizens obtain their necessary certificates.
- **Education** – Strives for inclusion of PwD in schools and ensures that they are not discriminated against.
- **Provides governmental aid** - Panchayats look for governmental schemes and facilities for PwD and helps in providing them to the necessary people.
- **Promotes medical awareness** – Panchayats promote medical services, ensure proper staffing of health centers, and promote general awareness.
- **Livelihood** – Panchayats strive to encourage PwD to join activities such as agriculture, or join schemes and groups such as SHGs and MGNREGA.
- **Dispels myths surrounding PwD** – Aims to dispel rumours and stereotypes surrounding PwDs and give them a healthy environment.

Disability Statistic In Tripura-



Total **64,346** people are comes under disability.

- 35,482-Male
- 28,864-Female

✓ Rural -44,942

✓ Urban -19.404

Role of Gram Panchayat

- 1. Building Awareness:** Develops impactful posters and banners
- 2. Local Information:** Establish a database on persons with disabilities in each panchayat area.
- 3. Age of Marriage:** Advocate for secure marriage ages: Boys – 21 years, Girls – 18 years. Promote awareness about responsible family planning.
- 4. Early Identification:** Utilize Anganwadi centers for early identification of disabilities. Facilitate intervention and support at an early stage.
- 5. Promote UDID Card:** Promote awareness about the Unique Disability ID (UDID) card and Disability card.
- 6. RTE Act Implementation:** Monitor and take action if there are violations of the Right to Education (RTE) Act.
- 7. Government Support:** Assist in obtaining disability pensions, concessions, aids and appliances. Inform and guide persons with disabilities about state and central schemes.

To create a more inclusive and economically empowered community panchayat can emphasis on:-

- a) MGNREGA** (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act): Advocate for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in MGNREGA projects. Ensure accessible work environments.
- b) RKVY** (Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana): Facilitate the participation of PWD in agriculture-related projects under RKVY. Promote adaptive farming techniques to accommodate different abilities.
- c) NRLM** (National Rural Livelihood Mission): Incorporate PWD into self-help groups supported by NRLM. Provide training and resources to empower PWD for sustainable livelihoods.
- d) DDU-KYJ** (Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Kaushalya Yojana): Encourage skill development programs tailored for persons with disabilities. Ensure that DDU-KYJ courses are inclusive and accessible to diverse abilities.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SDG-10

Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.



Localization of SDG

Panchayati Raj Institutions focus on Localization of Sustainable Development Goals (LSDGs) at grassroots level by adopting 9 thematic approaches.

The 9 themes are:-

1. Poverty free villages
2. Healthy villages
3. Child friendly villages
4. Water sufficient villages
5. Clean & green villages
6. Self-sufficient infrastructure in villages
7. Socially secured villages
8. Good governance for villages
9. Women friendly villages

Incorporating disabilities within said theme

1. Poverty free village- Provide encouragement to take-up livelihood project,
2. Healthy village - Genetic counselling, regular health check up of pregnant mother and child, immunization, identification of high risk babies should be provided by health centers.
3. Child friendly village- 100% enrollment in Anganwadi centres, primary schools without any discrimination.
4. Self-sufficient infrastructure in village- Develops accessibility, ensure accessible toilet in Anganwadi centers, schools and other public places.
5. Women friendly villages-Provides training, awareness regarding occurrence of disability.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Establishing a robust monitoring and evaluation framework is vital for assessing the impact of inclusive policies. Regular feedback from disabled individuals can help refine strategies and ensure that Panchayati Raj institutions remain responsive to their needs.

Conclusion

Empowering disabled individuals within Panchayati Raj is not just a legal obligation but a moral imperative. By adopting a strategic approach that addresses barriers and fosters inclusion, we can create a more equitable society where everyone has the opportunity to participate and thrive.

VIDEO

Thanks!

Questions are appreciated, and you can contact me at :-

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~Shomita Banerjee