

MANTRA FOR REHABILITATION PROFESSIONALS

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Abstract

In this paper an attempt has been made to explore the mantra of rehabilitation professionals for better empowerment of persons with disabilities. All the institutions which are working in the field of special education have proper physical and human resources. However, some of the institutions are doing good job not only due to their physical and human resources but due to the quality of teachers and their commitment, devotion and dedication. The existing training institutions are not sufficient to bring the persons with disabilities in the mainstream for the development of society. The trained professional/personnel in the field of special education for catering to the needs of children with disabilities, are too less in the national education system. The inclusion of children with disabilities in regular schools is also negligible. It is also important to enhance the knowledge and skills of mid level functionaries of government departments to facilitate various schemes/programmes related to empowerment of person with disabilities. This paper will also help to address how the awareness can be spread among the society, parents, community members and the persons with disabilities and also address some points of Mantra for better Rehabilitation.

Key words: Success mantra, awareness, attitude, confidence, humanity.



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"We, the ones who are challenged, need to be heard to be seen not as disability, but as person who has, and will continue to bloom to be seen not only as handicap, but as a well intact human being"

Robert M. Hensel

Introduction:

The present special education system are not sufficient to bring the persons with disabilities in the mainstream for the development of society. The trained professional in the field of special education catering to the needs of children with disabilities, are too less in the national education system. The awareness about disability among government officials of various

departments is too low and more over the number of NGOs is also too less in national education system. The inclusion of children with disabilities in regular schools is also negligible. It is also important to enhance the knowledge, skills regarding the empowerment of person with disability of different concern Professional and mid level functionaries of government departments. It is worthwhile remember that a disabled person is unable under certain circumstances. In fact, once in a while almost everybody feels disabled in one Situation or another. A little concern for this class who are differently able can do wonders in their life and help them to stand on their own and not on mercy of others. (M. Deepak, 2016, has rightly say that Education is meant to facilitate and promote studies, research and building capabilities among the PWD. It is necessary to include rehabilitation courses with focus on every type of disability and every type of rehabilitation and cultural inclusion requires sensitisation of all concerned. The recently launched Accessible India Campaign with the basic aim of making India disabled friendly is surely a major initiative toward empowerment of persons with disabilities.

We know that the common experience faced by person with disabilities is that of various forms of discrimination and social exclusion. They continue to face physical and attitudinal barriers to their full participation in society and equal and effective enjoyment of all human rights. We should try to remove these barriers, discrimination to participation or independence, there is a need to identify them at the policy level and remove them. Also we should provide the inclusive and non disabled society where every person with disability is mainstreamed into society. And also create an enabling environment to achieve this.

P.W.D Population by Type of Disability India: 2011

Table- 1

Type of Disability	Male	Female	Total Disabled
Vision	2,638,516	2,393,947	5,032,463
Hearing	2,677,544	2,393,463	5,071,007
Speech	1,122,896	875,639	1,998,535
Movement	3,370,374	2,066,230	5,436,604

Mental Retardation	870,708	634,916	1,505,624
Mental Illness	415,732	307,094	722,826
Any other	2,727,828	2,199,183	4,927,011
Multiple Disability	1,162,604	953,833	2,116,487
Total	14,986,202	11,824,355	26,810,557

Source: Census of India, 2011

Status of Rehabilitation of Person with Disability: According to information provided by UN agencies, including the World Health Organization, UNESCO, UNICEF and others, we know that access to habilitation and rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities is limited or unavailable in many countries. It is estimated that only 2% of persons with disabilities in developing countries have access to habilitation and rehabilitation services, and only 5% - 15% of persons who require assistive devices and technologies have access to them.

These figures must be seen in the context that: 80% of the world's 650 million persons with disabilities live in developing countries; persons with disabilities have been estimated to make up 15% to 20% of the poor in developing countries; as many as 50% of disabilities are directly linked to poverty; and 80% of persons with disabilities are unemployed. The lack of access to habilitation and rehabilitation services has also a direct influence on the fact that mortality for children with disabilities may be as high as 80%, in countries where under-five mortality as a whole has decreased to below 20%. Habilitation and rehabilitation have been the weakest components of health care all over the world. Access to health, but also access to habilitation and rehabilitation services will make a difference to persons with disabilities by enabling them to go to school, stay employed and fully participate in community life. "Health

is a fundamental right and habilitation and rehabilitation are powerful tools for empowerment.”

Literacy Rate of Disabled in India: According to report of census registrar general of India (2011). Only (54.51 %) disabled in India are literate which is very below from National literacy rate (74.04 %) of India. Gender wise analysis revealed that only (34.86%) male disabled are literate which less than National literacy rate (82.14 %) of abled male .Literacy rate of female disabled (19.65 %) is very critical in comparison to National literacy rate (65.38 %) of abled female. (80.35 %) female disabled and (65.14 %) male disabled are yet to be literate in India .

1. **Categories of Rehabilitation Professionals Allocated by the RCI:** The Council has been assigned with the responsibility of developing, standardizing and regulating training programmes for the following 16 categories of professionals/personnel to ensure quality services to persons with disabilities. . Rehabilitation Council of India Act of 1992/Amendment 2000. “1. Audiologists 2.Speech Therapists. 4. Clinical Psychologists 5. Hearing and Ear Mould Technicians 6. Rehabilitation Engineers and Technicians7. Special Teachers for educating and training the P.W.D.8.Vocational Counsellors 9.Employment Officers and Placement Officers, 10.Multi-purpose Rehabilitation Therapists11. Technicians and Speech Pathologists 12.Rehabilitation Psychologists and Rehabilitation Social Workers13 Rehabilitation Practitioners in Mental Retardation. 14. Orientation and Mobility Specialists15.Community Based Rehabilitation Professionals. 16 Rehabilitation Counsellors and Administrators, Prosthetics and Orthotics. “ 7

Research Area for rehabilitation of P.W.D.: Professionals can do research on the following area: 1. Participation of persons with disabilities in the empowerment of local communities2. Inclusive disaster risk reduction — participation of persons with disabilities. 3. Inclusive skills training and assistance with employment. 4. The popularization of sign language by Deaf people and training of Sign Language Supporters. 5. Encouraging social participation by persons with intellectual disabilities in local communities.6.Promoting the mainstreaming of disabilities.7.Sports for persons with disabilities. 8. The empowerment of persons with disabilities and building of barrier-free societies in India.9. Devising strategies to promote the social participation of persons with disabilities.

Capacity Building Programme for Rehabilitation Professionals: A number of capacity building courses for rehabilitations professionals can be organised for better rehabilitation of persons with the disabilities: Techno-pedagogy skills for professionals, Open educational

resources Research thrust in the field of special education, Teaching competency of special educator, Corporate social responsibility and education, Life skills and attitude management skills, Adjustment skills, Human development skills, Social responsibility skills. Human relation skills, Education for disadvantage group, Inclusive education, Re-visiting Act norms and regulations of persons with disability.

Mantra for Rehabilitation Professionals: For Rehabilitation of P.W.D. Rehabilitation professional, Society members and other supporting worker. They must rededicate themselves wholeheartedly to the sacred mission of rehabilitation of PWD. Today's globalized world needs more Professionals, better Professionals and more committed Professionals. The success of any human endeavour depends upon the extent to which the person who operates it is committed towards his work. Education is vitally concerned with the free economic and cultural development of the country which is achievable only through developing the professional and educational capabilities of the recipients. And as far as PWD is concerned, he is the most precious component of the Nation. He is the fulcrum around which the entire Scheme revolves. He/she is the end product of any kind of Rehabilitation and the success of the rehabilitation endeavour is measured by the manner and the extent to which the P.W.D. are nurtured in the education institutions. The P.W.D. is the greatest responsibility of the nation. So it is necessary that those who are concerned with the particular profession should be devoted and committed towards their profession because when associated members are committed then quality can be enhanced more effectively. This is a fact that the resources in special education institutions are more or less the same all over the country but some exceptional institutions provide quality education not on the basis of available resources but on the basis of qualified, trained, devoted, dedicated and committed teachers Professional. According to my view, commitment is the most essential component to be adopted and to be practiced genuinely with sincerity in the field of special education. Now it's time to think about developing committed Professional for P.W.D. as well as educational administrator for better rehabilitation of P.W.D. Other hand we know that so many NGO are working with noble objective that is empowerment and rehabilitation of Person with disability. But reality is not hidden from anybody it can be say (Hathi ke Dant Dikhane ke Kuch Aur Khane ke Kuch Aur Hote Hai)

All the Professional have to move out of their 'comfort' zone to the 'commitment' zone. Build a self that is going to serve people which are deprived in this society. But there are many rehabilitation professionals who are not aware of the ground realities of the world into which

they are about to enter. They lack faith in themselves and do not understand that they can do anything and everything. They should learn a great Philosophy from the bicycle. Every Professional should have a direction (as provided by the front wheel of the bicycle. This direction is provided by the vision and self-confidence. Hence, every Professional should have a vision of what to do with Persons with disabled and should have the required self- confidence to move forward having accomplished this, the professional should generate the power and the pull similar to that of the back wheel of the bicycle to achieve the goal and also silent work towards target. The success shall become a story. Take up one idea – make the one idea your life don't be Jack of all trades and master of none. Dr. APJ Kalam, Abdul (2013). According to Swami Vivekananda select one's Preference and focus on it." take up the one idea, make that one idea of your life – think of it dream of it and live on the idea, Let the brain, muscles, nerves, every part of your body be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone this is the way to success". 2 We are responsible for what we are and whatever we wish ourselves to be. We must have power to make ourselves, climb the ladder of self-confidence and demonstrate it to other. You don't think this is fate but you should think "I will make my fate" This is your self confidence. Self confidence is combination of various noble qualities. Which can be develop through Faith - Commitment – Hard work- Courage- Communication – Love So Professional should believe in yourself and also try to develop same in the PWD. Here I explain fivefold Success Mantra for Rehabilitation Professionals. The first one is Commitment, Commitment is most important factor for success of individuals as well as for Professional. Commitment ignites action which is bound to be do something. The second one is Hard Work, hard Work is something which challenges us. Stiff challenge, if overcome, is always connected with great results, but it is completely wrong to assume that a challenge is always painful. Capacity building of PWD is challenge for Professional and they should enjoy it because challenge is enjoyable and key to success. Hard work is not painful, but it is enjoyable for those who taste the joy of it Rehabilitation Professionals. Should serve for society and this will provide a great self- confidence to you and build a noble character

Courage: third one is Courage, Courage is the ability by which you take action to move forward under panicky situations. Courage is more matter of intellect than emotion, It requires using our intelligence to wrest control away from the emotion and in your profession this is more important that you should have balance between emotions and intelligence.

Communication Skill: Fourth one is Communication Skill: effective Communication is more important for rehabilitation professionals because communication is all about conveying messages to other people clearly and unambiguously. If your communication is poor, the thought and ideas that you actually send across do not reflect what you are really thinking.

Love: Last one is love. Love is most important component for successful journey of rehabilitation of P.W.D. It is love that binds us with each other. Love makes all the impossible things possible. "Love opens all impossible gates. Every step that has been really gained in the world has been gained by love". So Professionals should love P.W.D... A combination of all these noble qualities is not difficult to attain. It can be easily learnt and built by doing the right things. "Service to humanity is service to God". Attitude is more important than aptitude, Winners do not do differently but, they think differently. Apart from the excellence in education and the development of a strong physique, the need to develop a concern and unconditional love for the society and disadvantaged group. This is very necessary to bring positive change in the field of special education. It is very important that the people working in this field should have positive attitude and try for the same. Availability of resources, technology and framing of policy is not enough to improve the life of P.W.D. but we should conserve the value of Indian Education system which states that service to humanity is service to God. We should not expect the P.W.D. to be grateful to us for giving them some type of rehabilitation but we should be grateful to the P.W.D. as they have given us a chance to serve God through them.

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