

Maharashtra State Plan of Action for Persons' with Disability



Executive Summary



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1. Preamble

It is true that those countries, which are loosely referred as third world, have made much progress over the past 20 years. Many of the people today have higher living standards than they did less than a generation ago when most were under colonial domination. Absolute poverty and deprivation together with widespread ill health, ignorance, malnutrition, homelessness and landlessness still exists in developing countries, which should be unacceptable in the so called civilized society of 21st century. It has been estimated that over 40% of the world's population have income, which are insufficient to meet their most basic needs in life – food, clothing and shelter. The hardest hits amongst the deprived sectors of the population historically have been the **Person with a Disability**.

Although there have been several concerns about the social problems today, in the past the social scientist who have studied development issues paid little or no attention to this sector of population – a phenomenon well recognized world wide. The social scientist and sociologist were occupied with theoretical issues of social change that unfortunately was the harsh reality of mass scale poverty, deprivation and needed to put special emphasis on specific targeted population seems to have escaped their attention. The fundamental issues such, as linking up of human rights and under development was an alien concept in the dictionary of social scientists of yester years. In the above light, the **disability issues** have largely remained a **subject of welfare rather than development**.

Due to such stereo typed approach the program related to disability were myopic in nature which made little difference in the life of the PwDs. The family was thus forced to think that any disabled child in the house is a burden and will continue to remain as burden till he/she dies. The hopelessness of the family members remained unchanged due to the apathetic Government policies on one hand and on the other due to the indifferent attitude of the society towards disability in general. However the subject has gained speed and momentum in terms of both quality and quantity. The recognition of this subject received its due consideration after the Persons with Disabilities (Equalization of opportunity, Protection and full Participation) Act 1995 came into effect.

It is in the same light that the Government of Maharashtra has taken appropriate step in formulation of State Plan of Action for PwDs.

2. Methodology

- Multi-sectoral collaboration

The state action plans; envisage multi sectoral partnership in implementing the plan. It is well known that multi sectoral plan & collaboration is a task, which is more difficult to implement and realize. Recognizing this fact the plan specifically talks on multi-sectoral partnership as a separate chapter.

- Consultation process

The planning process included intense consultation with NGOs, senior Government officials and individual PwDs. Government officials at various levels have been interviewed and their suggestions incorporated.

- Workshops

Two workshops were conducted on strategic thinking and Logical Framework Analysis that helped in sharpening of the vision and mission of the plan as well as preparation of the Log frame.

- Secondary data analysis

Documents from central government, the performance budget of various departments of the state Government, relevant literature, United Nations document as well as various research reports have been consulted while preparation of the plan.

3. Salient features

- The plan scans through various development opportunities in India keeping in congruence with the perspectives defined by the United Nations, the Government of India, the Government of Maharashtra and the non-governmental organisations working in the field of disability.
- The plan also scans through the present situation, the current programs being run by the department of social justice in line with the PwD act.
- Primarily divided into 8 components, the log frame has been prepared for 4 groups where the majority of the monitoring and implementation is required. These components are Education, Health, Vocational training & employment and Rehabilitation services. The other components are Communication, Information & Public awareness, Accessibility & barrier free environment, affirmative actions and creation, maintenance & up-keep of database.
- While specific budgetary allocation have been highlighted in the log frame of the above mentioned four components, separate chapters have been included for the rest of the four where log frames could not be made due to non participation of the respective departments for the log frame exercise. However the chapters are self sufficient in nature.

- The last chapter is divided into four sub sections. The first two sections have been dedicated towards management, monitoring and reporting system, where schematic diagram has been prepared for easy understanding and implementation. The later two sections discuss the quality aspect of the program and possible application of the concept of **Total Quality Management** (TQM). It also provides a format for risk management. It is suggested that individual departments should use the format for identifying risk in their own field and perhaps take the help of qualified consultants to prepare a risk management chart.
- On a birds eye view, the plan envisaged for 5 years expects a total outlay of Rs. 800 crores. It is expected that with the given outlay the plan should be able to achieve the following targets:
 - Education:- Achieve 100% districts covered with at least 75% coverage of the rural population.
 - Health:- Achieve 100% districts covered with at least 80% coverage of the rural population.
 - Vocational training & employment:- Achieve 100% districts covered with at least 90% coverage of the rural population through SGSY scheme.
 - Communication, information and public awareness: Achieve 100% districts covered with 100% coverage of the rural population.
 - Accessibility and Barrier free environment:- Achieve 100% districts covered with at least 50% coverage of the rural population.
 - Affirmative actions and legislations:- Achieve 100% districts covered with at least 50% coverage of the rural population.
 - Rehabilitation services:- Achieve 100% districts covered with at least 75% coverage of the rural population.
 - Creation, maintenance and up-keep of database:- Achieve 100% districts covered with 100% database management covering the rural population.

The brief details of various sectors are mentioned below in tabular form:

Sector-wise projected targeted intervention

No.	Program details	Projected coverage	Share of increase	
			Rural	Urban
	1.1 Special & integrated education			
i	Clearing of certificate or recognition to be issued to institute which are functioning in the field of disability	33 districts	100%	100%
ii	Establishing integrated schools in all districts.	33 districts	75%	25%
iii	Formation of residential schools in each district to cater the need of severely disabled children.	33 districts	60%	40%
iv	300 integrated schools to be opened under DPEP.	DPEP districts	80%	20%
v	Including a component of special education in the curriculum for regular teacher training	All teachers training school	-----	100%
vi	Free education to every disabled person till he/she attains the age of 18 years (in case of MR the mental age will be calculated).	All 325 blocks	50%	50%
vii	Supply of books and equipment needed for children with disabilities on free of cost to peruse their education	325 blocks	100% of identified cases	50% of identified cases
viii	Imparting non-formal education in rural areas and main focus on women with disabilities.	325 blocks (10,000 villages)	100%	-----
	1.2 Inclusive education			
i	Introducing inclusive education in the existing normal schools	33 districts	30%	70%
	1.3 Technical education			
i	Improvisation of technical education with appropriate technology to enable the person with disabilities for receiving technical education in the existing government technical education institute	9 districts (81 blocks)	20%	80%

No.	Program details	Projected coverage	Share of increase	
			Rural	Urban
	HEALTH			
	1.1 Prevention of disabilities			
i	Establishing district level committee to design, coordinate, disseminates the program or prevention of disabilities. Committee will include the resource persons from medical and health, social welfare department, national institute, specialist doctors, NGO representatives.	33 districts	100%	100%
ii	Check-up of all primary school children at least once in a year for the purpose of identifying the risk cases.	33 districts (21,000 schools)	50%	50%
iii	Identification and strengthening of referral centres.	33 districts	75%	25%
iv	Training on prevention, early detection and intervention to all anganwadi workers, primary health centres staff, in phased manner.	325 blocks (325 training programs)	50%	25%
v	Public education campaign for prevention of five most prevalent preventable causes.	33 districts (325 blocks)	100%	100%
	1.2 Curative services			
i	Corrective surgery for identified persons through lifeline express and other scheme	325 blocks	50% of identified cases	50% of identified cases
ii	Preferential treatment of people with disabilities in all district hospitals	33 districts	-----	100%
iii	Supply of free drugs to needy people with disabilities	33 districts	100% as per decided norms	100% as per decided norms
iv	Making provision for special nursing care	15 districts	50%	50%
v	Issue of disability certificate	33 districts 325 blocks	100%	100%

No.	Program details	Projected coverage	Share of increase	
			Rural	Urban
	VOCATIONAL TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT			
i	Implementation of 3% reservation in all the training institutions and educational institutions	33 districts (325 blocks)	100%	100%
ii	Admission shall be completed for various trades identified for disabled persons in industrial training institutions.	33 districts (325 blocks)	100%	100%
iii	Awareness generation on employment rights	33 districts (325 blocks)	100%	100%
iv	Establishment of state finance corporation along with decentralized district branches for disbursement and easy access of loan to persons with disabilities for self employment	10 districts	-----	-----
v	Self employment loan to disabled persons	33 districts (325 blocks)	100% of the eligible application	100% of the eligible application
vi	Establishment of special employment exchanges at district level	33 districts	-----	-----
vii	Establishment of vocational guidance and rehabilitation centres	33 districts (150 blocks)	40%	60%
viii	Identification of jobs works in all government departments, public and private sector agencies reserved for disabled persons.	33 districts (325 blocks)	100%	100%
ix	Strengthen the existing training facilities to create employment opportunities for the people with multiple disabilities.	33 districts	-----	30% of the existing training facilities

No.	Program details	Projected coverage	Share of increase	
	COMMUNICATION, INFORMATION & PUBLIC AWARENESS		Rural	Urban
i	Dissemination of information on the rights of disabled persons and the facilities provided by government towards improvement of disabled persons. Workshops, 'Melas' and promotion of appropriate folk media for information dissemination.	33 districts (325 blocks)	75%	100%
ii	Creating awareness on barrier free environment through pamphlets, radio talks, T.V discussions etc.	33 districts (325 blocks)	100%	100%
iii	Print media			
	✕ Newspapers - insertion of relevant issue based articles/news items	33 districts	15%	85%
	✕ Pamphlets/booklets/handbills – case studies, government schemes and activities , projects available and NGO 'Parichay',	33 districts	75%	25%
	✕ Posters - social messages and campaigns	33 districts	85%	15%
iv	Electronic media			
	✕ Radio – talks and panel discussions, production of jingles(social message),	-----	-----	-----
	✕ Television - production of short Tele-films, spots (social messages), panel discussion, short documentaries on success stories of personalities/ organizations	-----	-----	-----
	✕ Slides – production of supportive informative issue based material	-----	-----	-----
	✕ Production of Video clippings/ spots (social messages)	-----	-----	-----
v	Folk media –identification of relevant groups and commissioning of the concept through:			
	✕ Puppet show	-----	-----	-----
	✕ Bharud/Kirtan	-----	-----	-----
	✕ Street plays	-----	-----	-----
vi	Conducting media workshops (district and block level workshops)	6 divisions, 10 districts & 100 blocks	50%	50%

No.	Program details	Projected coverage	Share of increase	
	NON DISCRIMINATION, ACCESSIBILITY & BARRIER FREE ENVIRONMENT		Rural	Urban
i	To remove architectural barriers in all public buildings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊗ provision of ramps in all public buildings ⊗ adaptation of toilets for wheel chair users ⊗ provision of Braille symbols or auditory signals in elevators or lifts ⊗ provision of ramps in all hospitals, primary health centres and other medical care institutions ⊗ provide access facilities for wheel chairs in all public buildings including cinema halls, shopping arcades, markets and other places or public halt. 	33 districts	25%	25%
ii	To remove communication barriers	33 districts	25%	25%
iii	Adaptation of state transport buses	All state transport buses	-----	-----
iv	Installation of auditory signals at red lights for the benefit of visually handicapped people	All traffic signal points	-----	100%
v	Cause curb cuts to be made in pavement for the easy access of wheelchair (at least 20% coverage)	33 districts	20%	80%

No.	Program details	Projected coverage	Share of increase	
	AFFIRMATIVE ACTIONS		Rural	Urban
i	Concessional rate for housing site	33 districts	50%	50%
ii	Concessional rate for business sites	33 districts	50%	50%
iii	Concessional rate for built flats	33 districts	50%	50%
iv	Concessional rate for shops	33 districts	50%	50%
v	Concessional rate for special recreation centres for people with disabilities	33 districts	10%	90%
vi	Concessional rate for land for the establishment of special schools	33 districts	50%	50%
vii	Concessional rate for land for establishment of research centres for people with disabilities	33 districts	50%	50%
viii	Concessional rate for land for the establishment of special factories by entrepreneurs with disabilities	33 districts	50%	50%
ix	Concessional rate for the establishment of special factories for the manufacturing or assistive devices for persons with disabilities	33 districts	50%	50%

No.	Program details	Projected coverage	Share of increase	
	REHABILITATION SERVICES		Rural	Urban
i	Assess the fresh needs of aids and appliances (personal assistive devices) for disabled persons in all district through multipurpose identification camps	33 districts (325 blocks)	75%	30%
ii	Planning and evolving regional specific low cost aids and appliances (personal assistive devices) through specialists and NGOs.	One in each division	-----	-----
iii	Supply of assistive device to those identified	33 districts	100%	100%
iv	Manufacturing various aids and appliances (personal assistive devices) in government and private manufacturing centres for distribution of the same.	100% capacity utilization	-----	-----
v	Establish research centers, encourage and funding of appropriate research on personal assistive devices.	1 research center in each division	-----	-----

No.	Program details	Projected coverage	Share of increase	
	CREATION, MAINTENANCE & UPKEEP OF DATABASE		Rural	Urban
i	Undertake appropriate study of disability status in the state	Entire state	-----	-----
ii	Total computerization of database at district level	33 districts	-----	-----
iii	Creating /obtaining appropriate software and establishing network link	Linking of all relevant establishments	-----	-----
iv	Instituting and preparation of adequate methodology for e-governance on disability	Entire state	-----	-----

Sector-wise budget allocation at a glance

Component	Yearly (Rs. In crores)	Budget for 5 years (Rs. In crores)
Accessibility & barrier free environment	2.63	13.15
Computerization & database	0.82	4.04
Education	13.63	68.17
Health	90.00	450.00
Media , Public awareness	11.40	57.00
Rehabilitation services	35.01	175.00
Training & employment	6.51	32.59
Total	160.00	800.00

Resource mobilization plan at a glance

Source	% of share	Actual amount Rs. In crore
Government of India	40	320.00
Government of Maharashtra	40	320.00
UN agencies	6	48.00
World bank	8	64.00
Bilateral funding	4	32.00
Corporate Sector and other local agencies	2	16.00
Total	100	800.00

SUGGESTIONS

- Constitute a study group and fund a comprehensive study for preparing the basic demographic details of PwDs in the state as 1st step to database management.
- Constitute sector wise advisory group to advice the proper implementation of the plan.
- Ensure that the state coordination committee and the state executive committee meet regularly as stated in the act.
- The implementation of the plan and its monitoring must be part of the agenda of both the committees meeting.
- Framing and immediate adoption of the rules under PwD Act.
- Workshop on preparation of detailed individual Log frame particularly for :-
 - √ Health
 - √ Education
 - √ Training and employment
 - √ Rehabilitation services (NPRPD)
 - √ Accessibility and barrier free environment
 - √ Media and communication

STEPWISE ACTION

- Appraisal of existing special schools funded by GOM.
- Appraisal of the status of integrated schools.
- Appraisal of the functioning of the district committees of selected districts.
- Appraisal of accessibility.
- Capacity building

- **Appraisal of existing special schools funded by GOM.**
 - Administrative scanning
 - School profiling
 - Stakeholder focus

- **Appraisal of the status of integrated schools**
 - Capacity assessment for integration
 - Integration process assessment

- Teaching learning method
 - Stakeholder focus
 - Life skills education
- **Appraisal of the functioning of the district committees of selected districts.**
- Functional assessment of the committee
 - District disability plan assessment
 - Communication – district-state-central Government
- **Appraisal of accessibility.**
- The outreach through Zilla Parishad and accessibility of PwDs to the poverty alleviation programs.
 - Environmental accessibility
 - Access to education
 - Access to health
 - Access to employment generation and poverty reduction programmes
 - Access to water sanitation and housing
- **Capacity building on the basis of the detailed assessment, specific capacity building program need to be designed and organized.**
- Capacity building of the field level Government functionaries – Block level officers, Extension staff and Gram Sevaks
 - Capacity building of PwDs.
 - Capacity building of NGOs.

OUTCOME

- ❖ District wise appraisal will be available as a database.
- ❖ Stimulate better and functional inter sectoral coordination.
- ❖ Planned resource allocation.
- ❖ Awareness can be generated upto the village level.
- ❖ Role of PRI's can be better asserted.
- ❖ Reporting to state coordination committee will be more authentic and scientific.
- ❖ PwDs will have a stronger say in their life through ensured participation.