



SARPV

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Mainstreaming Peoples with Disabilities: SARPV's work and experience:

According to the world Report on Disability, over 15% of the total populations are having some forms of disabilities. The survey has been done by WHO and world Bank and the report published on June 9th, 2011. In the 1970s the estimate was 10%. The report claims that the increase is credited to improved reporting and information gathering techniques, as well as an aging population and an increase in chronic diseases. Based on this finding more than 2 corer people in Bangladesh are disabled where 50% are female.

The term 'Mainstreaming of People with Disabilities' has become famous from 2003. Before that the CBR (community based rehabilitation) approach was used to ensure and protect the rights of PwDs. In different epoch different strategies and concepts had been adopted by different countries to works with the issues.

Before 1990 some of remarkable models were charity model, social model, medical model etc. As a pioneer organization in disability prevention and development, SARPV has been started its works through CBR approaches. SARPV also believe CBR is the strategy of all development and while mainstreaming is the end result of the development.

For mainstreaming people with disabilities SARPV adopted its community and local government programs. SARPV has been implementing the project titled **Mainstreaming of People with Disabilities in the Society** in the Cox's Bazar Sadar Upazila, Moheshkhali, and Chakaria Upazila of Cox's Bazar district and Kapasia Upazila of Gazipur district by the support of Manusher Jonno Foundation since 2006. In the project areas SARPV found that people with disabilities are still under-privileged, The Govt. and NGO's support to them has increased but not yet to an optimum level, it is still limited and their sufferings are existing. The targeted people with disabilities within the proposed project area need to go ahead to achieve their rights and means of establishment of self reliance.

Through community and local govt program SARPV is trying to create space for the PwDs by sensitizing the local government, policy makers, local influential people and media personnel to play a positive role with their responsibilities. Nevertheless, developed self help group to raise their voice and provide need based training for self dependency.



Our approaches to works for PwDs:

- ❑ Group formation with persons with disabilities (develop self help group).
- ❑ Group formation with community people like PwDs, guardian of the PwDs, neighbors, relatives of PwDs, imam, teachers and elite persons of that locality.
- ❑ Provide skill development training

- ❑ Ensuring the involvement of local government and other stakeholder's in development activities and decision making process for the PwDs.
- ❑ Sensitize the media at local and national level and other concerned audiences of professionals and civil society.
- ❑ Develop network of different groups for common interests, working for local government development and mainstreaming to reduce discrimination within the community
- ❑ Organizing and building up leadership, communication, advocacy and networking for Women with disabilities (WWD)

Some key success:

From last five years SARPV has witnessed many positive outcomes and gained experiences/learning. Some of them are as follows:

- Through IGA activities a number of people with disabilities have been employed in the working area.
- Through advocacy activities UP, SMC have been encouraged in making ramp the entrance of their office, school and some cases UP assisted PwDs in making ramp in their home.
- In Moheshkhali a school has been established in an abundant building where 299 students are included, out of that 31 are children with disabilities.
- Awareness has been developed about the rights of PwDS in their family including group and local stakeholders. As a result now they are able to collect their disability certificate , disability allowance, VGD, VGF card and loan without interest from different service provider both govt and private service provider.
- Students of the project area got stipend and education materials



- Media personnel are more sensitized about the potentiality of PwDs. They cover successful history story of PwDs in their publications.
- Member of local govt, union parisad, social welfare ministry have become more friendly.
- Nevertheless, SARPV developed **115 self help groups with 1622 members in Gazipur and Cox's bazaar district**. Out of 1622 members 787 are female and rest of 835 are male. In their group meetings (fortnightly) they also discuss about their needs and problems and try to find the probable solution. Depending on their situation, needs and demands they also advocating with different Stakeholders to obtain various services.

SARPV dreams of a society where persons with disabilities can grow to their full potential despite functional and environmental limitations and participate to their full capacity in social activities and enjoy equal rights and opportunities in the mainstream of the society

Events Highlights

Program Title : " Barriers of Mainstreaming People with disabilities in the Society
Date : 27th June 2011
Venue : Zila Parisad Conference room of Cox's bazaar
Organized by : SARPV
Supported by : Manusher Janno Foundation
Chief Guest : Mr. Tareq-UI-Islam the Honorable Secretary (in charge) of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs

Special Guests : Dr. Abul Hossain the Honorable Deputy secretary of the Ministry of women and children Affairs, District Social Welfare officer Mr. Pritom Kumar Chowdhury and Ms. Nazrana Yeasmin, the program manager of Manusher Janno.

Chaired By : Mr. Nurul Alam Nizami, the Additional District Commissioner, Cox's bazaar

Event Brief : To create a barrier free environment for PwDs to ensure their access at different service SARPV organized the seminar. Mr. Shahidul Haque the Chief Executive of SARPV presented a key note paper. In his paper he highlighted the Barriers of Mainstreaming of Persons with Disabilities in the Development initiative, Major stakeholders for mainstreaming PwDs and key areas need to be taken for mainstreaming. Ms. Julie the group leader of a self help group of SARPV mentioned their deprivation in the society and different services including families. She appeals to the audience to take initiative and be aware about their barriers.

Mr. Tareq-UI-Alam Honorable Secretary (in charge) of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs mentioned that the govt. of Bangladesh is also very responsive regarding the fulfillment of the rights of the PwDs his enlighten speech told that govt of Bangladesh is also pleasant about the rights of PwDs. He also mentioned that in Bangladesh accessibility has been started at school constructing ramp but till far we need to go Introduced at school level through construction of ramps, but still the country need to go far. On the other hand District Social Welfare officer Mr. Pritom Kumar Chowdhury told that till now 2451 students have been entitled for educational stipend from Cox's bazaar district, which will bring closer the children with disabilities with other non- non disabled children.



Condolence

The Vice President and founder member of SARPV, Ms. S.M. Ruquiya passed away in July 16th 2011 (Inna lillahe- wa- innaelayhe- Rajeyun) BIRDEM Hospital, Shahbag, Dhaka. The whole SARPV team deeply mourns her leaving. Our heartfelt condolence to her departed soul, family and friends SARPV She will alive for ever in our hearts for her commitment and work for the disabled people and for the organization. We miss her and pray for her eternal peace.



History of Change

Case study-6

Senue Ara on the way of a potential future : Senau Ara are is 15 year old, a physically challenged girl lives in Kulia para village under Khuruskul union of Cox's Bazar Sadar Upazila. Among the 4 brothers and 4 sisters she is last one the youngest. Her father and 2 sisters are the earning member of the family. Their monthly income is 8 thousand taka only. She becomes disabled due to wrong treatment when she was only 8 months old. She could not move or stand without any support. She cannot move by standing expect sitting. Thus she was passing her life. In 2005 she got a wheel chair from BRAC while they working for education program at Cox's Bazar District.

In 2006 She was enlisted in the survey of "Mainstreaming people with disabilities in the society" project, organized by SARPV and financed by Manusher Janno Foundation and became a member of "Shapla" group.

She had got various issue-based training like "human rights", "gender and disability" and become aware about her rights in the society and country. With the assistance of SARPV she got admitted at Class six in South Khuruskul Model High School. At present she is in Class eight. Now she is also group leader of Women with disability group named Shapla. She regularly participated participates in group meeting and also maintains her school. In Chakaria disability center of



SARPV she has been receiving psychotherapy. The team suggested day by day she is improving and if going so she will be able to walk through crutch. Considering this she also got received a pair of crutch through the project. Mainstreaming people with disabilities (MPDS) financed by Manusher Jonno Foundation. Besides this through the advocacy with School management committee she received full free scholarship. is studying with full free studentship in that school. In last year the competition of Shishu Academy under Cox's bazaar district she got first prize in music among the 60 student. Now her family members are very happy and her neighbors and teachers love her so much. Thus SARPV stand besides her and also proved that disability means different ability.