

## REPORT OF STATE LEVEL ODPN CONVENTION

**28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

Odisha disabled peoples network is a common platform of all NGOs working for the rights of PWDs, Disable Peoples Organisation, Activist, Professionals, Parents association and other association related to different types of disability which was formed in Odisha in the year 2011 and obstinately working in Odisha as a pressure group to safeguard the rights of the PWDs in a advocacy mode.

The State level convention of ODPN was organized in Odisha Blind Association Conference Hall from 28<sup>th</sup> of March to 29<sup>th</sup> of March where 200 participant from 17 districts were represented and finalize their plan of action for the year 2012-2013 and discussed various issues affected their life.

After registration the programme was inaugurated by Ms. Arati Ahuja, Commissioner cum Secretary, W & CD Department, Govt. of Odisha, Ms. Supriya Pattananyak, DFID in the presence of Mr. Sanyas Behera, State Coordinator, administration of ODPN, Mr. K. Ananda Rao, State Coordinator, finance of ODPN and Ms. Sneha Mishra, State Convener of ODPN by lighting the lamps.



After that Mr. Sanyas Behera, State Coordinator, administration of ODPN presented the status report of ODPN of the year 2011/2012 and shared regarding achievement of ODPN and the role of DPOs, Associations, NGOs, Individuals and the Media.

After that Ms. Supriya Pattanayak, DFID shared regarding the role of DFID in Inclusive development of the PWDs and also suggested to ODPN to take one main advocacy agenda in the state of Odisha for the rights of the PWDs and work accordingly.

After that the Chief Guest Ms. Arati Ahuja shared regarding various programmes of state Govt. for PWDs and also shared that in all the ICDS monitoring committee there will be a member from PWDs. After that she also shared regarding distribution of PDS rice to the PWDs, MBPY, Banishree Scholarship etc.

Even she also shared regarding the problem related to motorized tricycle( those PWDs having motorized tricycle are not considered for BPL category) and in this matter she communicated to the PR Department to consider this matter in an urgent basis.

The inaugural session was ended by 11.30 A.M with vote of thanks by Mr. K. Ananda Rao of ODPN.

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### **Plenary-1 - Disability & budgeting**

This session was presided by Mr P K Mishra, member ODPN and President Parents Association for children with MR & CP. Mr Nageswar Pattnaik, eminent journalist and budget analyst and Mr Pk Rout from CYSD was the speaker in the occasion.

Mr. Nageswar Pattanaik Journalist and budget analyst shared his experience how Govt. is neglecting the PWDs. According to him there are plenty of policies in the state of Odisha but the Govt. has no proper budgetary allocation to implement this properly for the rights of the PWDs and also the budgetary provision for the PWDs also very less to meet the needs of the PWDs e.g. he said there is less than 1 crore spent for 3 lakhs population of PWDs in the state. He further informed the house that Govt had taken a decision to have 42 skill development centre in which at least two special it is for PWDs but till date that could not get materialized. Apart from the Govt. Corporate houses have also some responsibility towards the PWDs in CSR activity. In absence of adequate funds in the Govt allocated for persons with disability Mr Pattnaik suggested to contact the corporate and provision from their CSR. He further said Govt should speak to the Corporate to allocate 1/3rd of their CSR funds for the disability development.

After that Mr. P.K rout discussed regarding budgeting and its importance for the PWDs. In this session he elaborately presented the scenario of the State Govt. towards the provision of funds for welfare for PWDs.

He presented demographically the scenario of budgetary provision of 3 years in different programme heads very minutely and how the budget is decreasing day by day instead of increasing. He presented a graphical overview of the budget with women & child development Dept being the nodal dept for PWDs. Where the analysis revealed that for the year 2008-09, 2009-10, & 2010-11 the actual expenses was almost less than 1% of the total budget of the dept. In the year 2009-10 it was 1.8% of the total budget of the department which got further down in the FY2010-11, 2011-12 and also the budgeted expenses of 2012-12 is only 0.54%. And thus if the total disabled population and the budget for the welfare of PWD in WCD will be taken in proportion it says that Rs108 to Rs 149 is spent for a person. This is also a fact that all PWDs have not been benefited by the Govt schemes and welfare activities. However, the database of PWDs benefited by ODP and other schemes are also not found. The next presentation was about the benefit of aids and appliances and it was observed that per head budgetary expenses by W&CD Dept was about Rs 1.66 only!! However the special teacher training seems to have spent 16000 to 44000 rupees per teacher per annum.

The scholarship/stipend, pension to persons with disability is been spent 0.46 in the year 2008-09 where as it decreased to 0.30 in 2009-10 and again increased to 0.44 in 2010-11 and 0.46cr in the year 201-12 where as 2012-13 year allocation is only 0.33. An analysis of no of children with disability in Schools and no of children getting scholarship revealed that enough care has not been taken so far and to reach out to all children with scholarship benefit the allocation should be around 200 lakh approximately.

Also he shared regarding the budgetary provision for handicapped welfare of W & CD Department and also the proportion of unspent balance. During the year 2008/09 the revised estimate was 12.92 crores and then it increases 20.34 crores in the year 2009/10 and again it decreases in the year 2010/11 which was 14.53 crores and during the year 2011/12 there was a slightly hike in comparison to 2008/09 and 2010/11 and another positive aspect was the unspent balance for the year 2011/12 was nil.

Again in this section for setting up State commissioner for PWDs, the budgetary provision is decreasing day by day. In this analysis it is seen that the allotment for the year 2010/11 was 0.57 lakhs and again it is reduced to 0.56 lakhs in the year 2011/12 and again it reduce to 0.40 lakhs in the year 2012/13. For special appliances the budgetary provision was same from 2010/11 to 2012/13 which was only 0.17 lakhs which cannot meet the need of the PWDs of entire state.

But another good sign is the allotment for voluntary organization for maintenance of physically handicapped and mentally retarded children is increases looking after the increase cost of living -during the year 2008/09 it was 4.02 crore and it increases to 5.59 crores in the year 2009/10 and again it increases in the year 2012/13 which was 9.83

crores. But again looking at the rehabilitation part of the W & CD department the budgetary provision was declining day by day- In the year 2008/09 it was 6.24 crore and now it is 1.40 crore ( Year 2012/13).

Even Govt. is promoting and supporting DDRCs in different district but there is no budgetary provision till 2012/13. Even if there was no budgetary provision for welfare programme of PWDs except in the year 2009/10 which was 8.02 crore.

According to him, some of the major challenges in disability and budgeting are:-

- **Lack of Infrastructure**
- **Less transparency regarding Govt. Programmes**
- **Weak monitoring systems**
- **Lack of sufficient budgetary support**
- **No grievances mechanism**
- **Lack of data base**

The session came up with a way forward like:

- Exclusive budgetary provision to meet various health issues of disabled population
- Budgetary provision by the state government for gainful self employment of disabled population through various vocational trainings
- Budgetary provision for setting up early grievance redress mechanism of disabled population at convenient location
- Budgetary provisions for strict monitoring and evaluation of disabled programs implemented by the Govt and Non govt organizations.
- Budgetary provision for the education, health, livelihood for persons with disability.
- Budgetary provision for the recreational and sports activities for children and persons with disability.
- Budgetary provision for accessible structures, aids and appliances and assistive



devices.

### **Question Session:-**

Mr. Pradeep Agrawal- What is the status of the NHFDC loan whether the PWDs will benefit from this or not.

Mr. Sanyas Behera- there is lots of documents to be arranged to avail NHFDC loan which is very difficult for a PWDs

Mr. Debakanta Das- Earlier we have no information regarding the budget now we have a clear cut understanding regarding disability and budgeting.

Mr. Nageswar Pattaniak- According to the report of transparency International the position of India is not so good. So in this case PWDs can take the help of the RTI to update regarding various scheme implemented by the state and its coverage.

Mr. Mohhamod Jafar Iqbal- There is no budgetary provision for sports for the PWDs in state level so what can we do to incorporate in the budget.

The session was sum up with a vote of thanks to the chair by Ms. Sneha Mishra and also thanking to the speakers of the session Mr. Nageswar Pattanaik and Mr. Prafulla Rout.

### **Plenary- 2 -Right to Health**

This session got moderated by Mr Sanyas Behera and he introduced the guests.

In this session Dr. Arbinda Mohanty discussed regarding the rights of PWDs in health aspect and also accessibility towards the health facility for the PWDs. In this he discussed regarding the status of Govt. and Private hospital in the state of Odisha and how it is difficult to access by the PWDs. In this he shared regarding the accessibility features of a PWTB and PWHI and how he/she will communicate in the registration counter and also how he/she will communicate to the doctor regarding his/her problem. In this case an interpreter is required and the doctors have some basic knowledge regarding ASL and different forms of communication. Fromm the hospital site provision should be made for a volunteer who will directly taking care of the PWDs in the hospital and he will be accessible in all forms. Apart from that all the private and Govt. hospitals should be barrier free in all aspect and necessary arrangement should be done by the competent authority for mobility of the PWDs in the hospital and special provision should be made during night for emergency response from the PWDs.

In this he suggested to all the ODPN members to raise voice against this and build pressure on Govt. to make health system universally accessible for the PWDs.

### **Plenary- 2 -Right to Education:-**

This session was chaired by Mr. Sanyas Behera, State Coordinator (administration) ODPN and the session expert was Mr. Pradeep Sundaray of Sikshyasandhan, Bhubaneswar. First of all he introduced the panelist to the participant and briefly discussed regarding the activities of ODPN

He made a presentation regarding the status of RCFCE act 2009 and the State rule-2010. In this he discussed regarding the state rule and the provision made by the state Govt. for inclusion of CWSN in elementary schools and also he shared that there is no special provision for the CWSN in the state rule like the state rule of Tamilnadu and Karnataka. He thoroughly discussed regarding the various provision of the RTE act-2010 and the scope for the CWSN and where we are till now after enactment of the rule.

During the discussion it is observed that neither the Govt. of Odisha maintains the PTR in the general school nor completed the training programme of the teachers after 3 years of enactment of the rule. So this is the duty of all the citizens and the CSO to raise voice against the govt. for special provision for the CWSN in the general school and enactment of the rule by that the aim of Inclusive education will happen.

### **Plenary-3 -Right to food**

The session was chair by Mr. Raju Mishra, Advisor to Supreme Court of India on Right to food. He discussed regarding the rights of the PWDs and how it is very important for them for their right to live with dignity (Article-24 of Indian constitution).

He made a nice presentation regarding the present scenario of the need of balanced diet for every person and the important. In this he gave focus upon the PDS of the state govt. and how it is accessible for the PWDs.

He also discussed regarding the supplement feeding systems in the Anganwadi centres and in the school and how this will be more qualitative to meet the nutrition value of the children.

In addition to the centrally declared schemes the recent state declared 25kg rice @Rs2.00 for PWDs having more than 75% disability also got discussed.

There was a lot of reservation of the house on the discriminatory policy of rice for only people those are more than 75% disabled. To the house it should be purely on the basis of the poverty and income of the family than only percentage of disability.

## Plenary-4 -Women with Disability

Geetika Chandra, Manjulata Panda, Aditi Panda the panel experts were introduced by Mr. K. Ananda Rao

Women with disability are one of the most vulnerable and most marginalized groups in India. They are disadvantaged in terms of being the weaker sex, being disabled, and also most of them are economically underprivileged. They are left behind in social, economic, political and educational front. In spite of that least amount of research and state intervention has been done specifically for “Women with Disabilities”.

In terms of education, expenditure on girls with disability is considered a waste as they are perceived as dependents and burden. In general children who do go to school discontinue going due to inaccessible environment.

Women with disabilities are also sexually harassed. Cases of mentally challenged and hearing impaired girls being harassed are especially common.

In employment women with disabilities are given less priority when they are of equal qualification with another person not disabled. Women with disabilities compromise in terms of salary. They receive one third of the salary compared to men with disabilities.

In terms of health, they find many institutions inaccessible. Also, many doctors cease to discuss information on reproductive health with WWDs as they consider it unnecessary. WWDs tend to be more prone to be affected with HIV and AIDS in absence of the information and also due to high sexual abuse cases.

There needs to be more research, state intervention, rehabilitation centers for WWDs accompanied with accessible environment and non biased attitudes towards WWDs.

### Barriers in Education

- Lack of access to schools
- Lack of special and trained teachers

### Barriers in employment

- Attitudinal barriers
- Less payment to women with disability

### Health awareness

- Lack of accessibility in medical Institutions
- Lack of information on reproductive health

### Barrier Social Exclusion

- Exclusion from family interaction and decision making process
- Lack of involvement in community activity, WWD should be given opportunity to exercise their social right, political right and economic rights. There is very less

research done on this subject.

<b>Education</b> 1. The Girls are not given education opportunity 2. Unemployment 3. No special education system for WWDs 4. No special teachers 5. Low literacy 6. Less Employment opportunities 7. Nobody gives good jobs 8. Low pay -salary	9. 56% lower than men 10. Social Exclusion 11. No Inclusion in Family public activity 12. No participation on the family activity 13. Health facilities are less 14. Awareness to development in health sector 15. Special health awareness camps should be conducted 16. Professional Rehabilitation Development should be done
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Then Ms. **Aditi Panda** discussed regarding the following points:-

- **Mental Needs**
- **Social Needs**
- **Equality to girl child**
- **Sexual Needs**
- **Educational needs**

Right to accept with love and not with sympathy by parents is important. The society will definitely accept the WWD if her family treats her as equal and helps her empowerment through education and exposure. A WWD has to be invited to social functions and be given a chance to participate in the decision making of the family. More exposure will increase the confidence in them and they will learn to speak up for their causes for their rights. The WWD are vulnerable and can be victimized easily so they have to be taught to take care of themselves and not hesitate to talk openly on this issue. Every girl has a right to dream and think about marriage, have children and lead a life of dignity as any other girl can.

Some quota system to these girls to become self –independent and earn a permanent livelihood to stand on their own legs financially

After that she focused on some point by which a WWD can easily sustain in the present consequences.

1. **Improvement in the education system**
2. **Decrease in the sexual harassment of women**
3. **Employment with literacy campaign from the panchayat level to state level**
4. **Establishment of family council centers**
5. **Establishment of social welfare boards**
6. **Appointment of sign language interpreter**
7. **Form SHG Groups**



## **8. Organize peoples Forum**

### **Second day-29.3.2012**

The session was started at 9 A.M and after that recapitulation of Ist day was done by the participants.

Technical session: Role of INGOs in Inclusion.

Panelists were: Ms Bharati Chakra, save the children, India, Mr Soumya Ranjan Mohanty, Wateraid, Mr Shyamal Das, Handicapped International,

After that Ms. Bharati Chakra, Save the Children started the second day with her presentation on the different efforts that were being done to protect and educate the children in different districts of Odisha by save the children. She focused on the strategic areas of work as their first aim was to protect the children. The other important points of her presentation are as follows-

- **Quality and inclusive education to all children**
- **Reducing Mortality and malnutrition among children in the age group 0-5 years**
- **Using international best practices to spread inclusive education**
- **Ensure proper implementation of RTE Act**
- **Identification of Children with Disabilities , who have no access to education through exclusion mapping at village level**
- **Integration in main stream schools**
- **Counseling at all levels of education**
- **Inclusion of children through recreational activities and children club activities**
- **Advocacy towards inclusive friendly environment**
- **Prevention of child labour**

She concluded on the note that every child has the right to live a protected life, enjoy their childhood and right to education. She assured the participants that there organization is making every attempt to identify CWDs and include them in the main stream schools.

The second presentation was made by the representative from Water Aid Mr Soumya Mohanty who spoke the importance of drinking water which is not being given the due importance and consideration. There is very less awareness that drinking water is

decreasing every minute and conservation of pure water has become a brain-storming issue. The other important points of his presentation were –

- **Main aim of water aid is to make drinking water accessible to maximum people**
- **The three basic aspects of concern are water, sanitation and hygiene**
- **The issue of clean and safe drinking water should be highlighted**
- **Hand pumps ,the main source of drinking water in rural areas must be maintained**
- **Policy implementation is more important than making new policies**
- **A change in both physical and attitudinal barrier is only possible through sensitization people through workshops**
- **He further informed that as Wateraid the only area where they have been successful is advocating the right to accessible toilets and they have been working with their partners and making accessible toilets for PWDs.**

He concluded his presentation by sharing information on the sensitization conducted by Water Aid through models and presentations in workshops conducted at different levels for different people. He further expressed that this network which he considers as a movement is the answer for PWDs to assert their right.

**Shyamal Das of Handicap International** shared the efforts and work which is conducted by their organization under disaster management and also identifies, train and use the people with Disabilities to take responsibility during the disasters. The prominent points in his address were-

- **Inclusion of challenged and disabled in the process of disaster management**
- **Special efforts are made to evacuate them from the disaster affected areas and then take them back home after the situation returns to normal**
- **Inclusion and training of ASHA and Aganwadi workers in the rescue operations**
- **A contingency plan is designed specially taking into account the special needs of the disabled to participate in the palli sabha**
- **Centers are completely according to the access standards with tactile tiles and accessible tiles for easy mobility for PWDs during relief operations.**
- **The Cyclone centre committees are equipped with all aids and appliances**

- **Role of media is very important and they should shoulder the responsibility of broadcasting the correct information and highlighting the correct news and correct figures**

He wrapped up his presentation by explaining about the extensive work they have been doing for the children, regarding livelihood issues and in flood affected areas.

**Concluding Business Session and recommendation from the participants:-**

In this session all the representative from different district sat district wise and discussed regarding the plan of action for the coming one year.

District	Names of Members		POA
Sonepur	Gopinath Rana	Saudagar Patra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase members of ODPN</li> <li>• Conduct sensitization meetings</li> </ul>
Khurda	Zafar Iqbal	Prakash ku Rout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase ODPN members</li> <li>• Increase awareness</li> <li>• Bring together more people with disabilities</li> </ul>
Cuttack	Prakash Ch. Panda	Bijaya Ku Sahoo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More Houses under IAY</li> <li>• Increase members through meetings</li> </ul>
Bargarh	Sanand Nag	Jaylalla Nath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More work at the panchayat level</li> <li>• More Sensitisation</li> </ul>
Nayagarh	Ranakar Barik	Sanyas Behera	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase ODPN members</li> <li>• Increase awareness</li> </ul>
Koraput	Devendra Benja	Kanhu Parija	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of maximum PWDs in ODPN</li> </ul>
Nuapada	Pradeep Agrawal	Lalita Meher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase ODPN members</li> <li>• Effective distribution of Rice</li> <li>• Job card to PWDs</li> </ul>
Dhenkanal	Himanshu Chandra	Jagyasini Biswal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide assistance to get Disability cards</li> <li>• Help to get correct Stipend</li> </ul>

Bhadrak	Bhagban Pati	Manmath Biswal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase Members</li> <li>• Try to increase facilities</li> </ul>
Ganjam	Manoj Khetrabali	Sujata Panda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include PWDs in NRGs</li> <li>• Help PWDs to get work</li> </ul>
Sambalpur	Manjulata Panda	Dipti Das	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase ODPN members</li> </ul>
Puri	Basanta ku Mishra		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More work at the panchayat level</li> <li>• More Sensitisation</li> <li>• Increase ODPN members</li> </ul>
Kendrapada	Omprakash Mahapatra	Vaswat Das	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness</li> <li>• Bring together more people with disabilities</li> </ul>
Jagatsinghpur	Krushna Chandra khatua		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include PWDs in NRGs</li> <li>• Help PWDs to get work</li> </ul>

### **Election of New Governing Body:**

The last session concentrated on electing and finalizing the members of the governing body, general body and the office bearers. The house got appraised about the rule that was made by the existing steering committee members in one of the meetings. Where in it was decided that the structure of ODPN would be like this:

- 1. A governing body of 15 members would be elected/ selected by the members.**
- 2. 11 members should be persons with disability, representative of DPOs from different geographical region out of 15 members.**
- 3. Minimum 5 women should be there in 11 members.**
- 4. The office bearers comprising of three persons (Convener, Executive Coordinator, Finance coordinator) and at least a woman should be there.**
- 5. Rest 4 members can be from Parents association and NGOs working in the field of disability**

Two representatives from the districts present were nominated and then members were formally elected to the various committees.

### **The members elected were:-**

<b>Sl.No</b>	<b>Name of the District</b>	<b>Name of the Representative</b>	<b>Contact Number</b>
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1	Ganjam	K.Ananda Rao	
2		Sujata Kumari Panda	9861862252
3	Khurda	Sanjay Mohapatra	9937020700
4		Benudhar Lenka	9778854174
5	Bolangir	Shanta Chhatria	97775773303
6		Dillip Sagar	9777577303
7	Nuapada	Pradeep Agarwal	
8		Lalita Meher	
9	Jagatsinghpur	Krushna Khatua	7735419519
10	Kendrapada	Bhaskar Das	7377082723
11		Ohm Prakash Mahapatra	7873099723
12	Bhadrak	Bhagaban Pati	9861147254
		Sanyas Behera	
13	Sambalpur	Manjulata Panda	
14		Dipti Dash	
15	Mayurbhanj	Nabin chandra Naik	9438116988
16		Nihar Ranjan Deo	9668199100
17	Puri	Basant Mishra	
18		Raghunath Barik	
19	Dhenkanal	Himanshu Chandra Sahoo	
20		Jagyaseni Biswal	
21	Sonepur	Gopinath Rana	
		Soudagar Patra	
23	Bargarh	Sananda Nag	
24		Jayala	
25	Nayagarh	Ratnakar Barik	
26	Koraput	Devendara Beniya	
27		Kanulu Paraja	
28	Cuttack	Prakash Chandra Panda	
29		Bijaya Kumar Sahoo	

The district coordinators were given membership forms and money receipts for motivating other PWDs in their district to be part of the network with a fair proportion from all category of disability.

**The list of members which were finally elected to the governing body (15 members) are given below-**

1. Sujata Panda, Ganjam
2. Jagyasini Biswal, Dhenkanal
3. Manjulata Panda, Sambalpur
4. Lalita Meher, Nuapada
5. Dipti das, Sambalpur
6. Sanyas Behera, Bhadrak
7. Anand Rao, DPO (Ganjam Orthopedic association)
8. Pradeep Agrawal, Nuapada
9. Sanjaya Mahapatra, Khurdha (DPO, deaf association)
10. Sanand Nag -Bargarh
11. Benudhar Lenka - Khurdha
12. Mr Ajay Ku Jena, Parents representative and also a subject matter specialist
13. Dr M M Prusty got elected as representative of parents.
14. RARE from Sonepur as a representative of organization working in the field of disability
15. Dr Arabinda Mohanty, (name proposed and his consent to be obtained)



This was decided that the IPAP supported NGOs working in the field of disability would support the network from outside! Since it was quite late the Office bearers could not get decided and it was decided to do the process in the next meeting. Till then the existing office bearer will continue and support the network activities.

The program end at 4 P.M with a vote of thanks by Mr. Sanyas Behera and a date was fixed for the Governing Body meeting on **16.5.2012**.

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