



International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews

Journal homepage: www.ijrpr.com ISSN 2582-7421

Persons with Disabilities: Issues and Challenges

Mahesh KS*^a, M Gurulingaiah^b

^a*Research Scholar, Department of Studies and Research in Sociology, Kuvempu University, Jnanasahyadri Shankaraghatta, Shivamogga.*

^b*Professor of Sociology in Kuvempu University & Formerly Member, Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes, Govt. Of Karnataka, Bengaluru, President for Karnataka Sociology Association*

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.55248/gengpi.2021.2.3.1>

ABSTRACT

We find many problems in our society Disability is one among of our problems. Disability may be physical or mental, one who is suffering from this segment of their body, will face many problems such as physically, psychologically, socially, economically, politically, etc., many other spheres in routine life, but they are also having some rights and duties to live with dignity in society. Constitution of India provides some provisions, duties, and facilities to those who are suffering like such categories of the vulnerable groups in society. This much provision is kept in the mainstream of those which community has been exploited some barriers in the society. Especially groups of physically disabled are suffering a lot of pain in the society they were ragged by non-disabled, many of the time they were excluded from some opportunities and facilities such amount of hazards are made like the socially excluded or marginal community in the society. The entire development of such a category is more responsive to every civilized society. Above in this context, the present article deals with the matter of issues and challenges of physically disabled/persons with disabilities in society. How much amount they will face and which are neglected areas in society, which are an essential input to their uplift in society is needed for the welfare. This article is proposed on the basis of the study was conducted in the Tumkur district of Karnataka state. The present study gathered information from both primary and secondary sources. Primary sources were collected through interviews with the respondent by using the interview schedule. Secondary sources were collected by the District Disable Welfare office, gazetteer, magazine, books, past research studies, the thesis which is related to concerning topics from the various universities. Collected data from the respondents have been analyzed.

Keywords: Physical Disability, Social Condition, Social Policies, Issues, Challenges

1. Introduction

Marginalization is a process of which it excludes some groups within existing society; it is pushed to edge from the mainstream means a group of community is neglected by the dominants and which is not allowed inclusion process. It symbolizes as marginalization, such as namely poverty, relative isolation, deprivation, exploitation, discrimination, backwardness, inequality, human rights violation, social exclusion, and many other features are pointed (Gurulingaiah M, 2016,19-31). The mentioned above issue has some characteristics within the society, but not express easily and importantly a dominant group of the able bodied people have not completely allowed them hence the group of people/community. Consequently pushed to edge from the mainstream, the process has been burning issue for the thinkers and policy makers.

Disability was multi-dimensional problem of the society. It is not a contemporary rather problem. Disability is an umbrella term (Ashok Kumar Tyagi, 2003), it covers several dimensions, i.e., social, economic, political, spiritual, cognitive, physical, psychological, developmental, sensory, and many other issues. Distinctively disability highly associates with physical disability, hence it is known as the term used in handicap, Impairment, disease, divyang, and many other labels, as well as, physical disability affects to human body. The person who suffers from a disability attempts to face many challenges in routine life. Although, the constitution of India has given special incentives and welfare policies, programs to welfare. Of course, these are all helpful to their upliftment against exploitation. Indian constitution has ensured some rights, provisions, facilities, and duties to the nation of the people; accordingly, physically disabled get rid of some facilities, provisions although the amount of benefit varies from one another for several reasons. Who benefited properly come out from the hurdle.

* Corresponding author

E-mail address: maheshks.dsoc@gmail.com

The 2001 & 2011 census report reveals that the ratio of disability is 2.13% and 2.21 respectively, of the total population (<http://www.disabilityaffairs.gov.com>), consequently, it was increased by decade to a decade hence, we think about the nature and advancement of technology, food system, living lifestyle, care of the child and women in pregnancy, the environment, and related some other issues. History of disability as long old as the origin of the human species, but the census of the disabled population begins from 1872 (<http://www.disabilityaffairs.gov.com>). It follows up to 1931 in every decade, but 1931-1941 it is not canvassed and regenerated from 1941 to 1971. Since 1981 onwards the Government of India has categorized types of disability, i.e. Blind, deaf, locomotor disability some other but in 1995 the PWD Act has made a particular decision who is disabled or not. Mentioned Act has categorized the 07 types of disabilities of the body which areas are (i) Blindness, (ii) Low vision, (iii) Leprosy-cured, (iv) Hearing impairment, (v) Locomotor disability, (vi) Mental retardation, (vii) Mental illness (<http://www.pwdact1995.gov.com>). It suggests and constitutes a standard formula to assess disability for medical officers, whether (S)he will become disable or not. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities-2016 (RPWD-2016) Act have categorized the 21 types of disabilities including among all the previous disabilities.

A Constitution has been always helping to protect the oppressed people through makes its rule, law, policies against who suffers oppression. In this approach it is more functional to physically disabled, henceforth they are living in existing society through with their fundamental rights, duties & dignity. It always thinks and makes a grassroots level that means a social perspective. Because the reservation is stand based on the social factors similarly it follows the social perspective. Physically disabled are exploited by the non-disabled from the various grounds, hence through social policies are too help protect their rights of the physically disabled. When we look that in this manner social policies protect not only for disabled, it covers all vulnerable, Marginal, and socially excluded groups in existing society.

2. Conceptualize the Concept

The term Disability is derived from the Latin prefix dis, meaning negation, separation, lack of, or opposite; and the Latin *habilitas*, meaning fitness, and *habere*, indicating to have or to be easily handled. Power or ability to do something, it is usually regarded as a negative attribute (Ashok Kumar Tyagi, 2003; 3). Physical disability is a state of a person or animal because disability happens the whole animal in nature. A physical disability which concerns about the human body, it is a consequence of impairment. The definition made by WHO defines the definitions of impairment, disability, and handicap has been widely used and quoted briefly, those definitions are as follows:

Impairment is any loss or abnormality of a psychological or physiological or anatomical structure or function. A disability is any restriction or lack (resulting from an impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being. A handicap is a disadvantage for a given individual, resulting from an impairment or a disability, that limits or prevents the fulfillment of a role that is normal (depending on age, sex, and social and cultural factors) for that individual (V V Krishna, B S V Dutt, K H Rao, 2001;5).

Handicap or disability is a long-lasting or permanent defect or problem that in some way makes it more difficult for a person to do certain things than for a „non-disabled“ person. As for the children, the Oxford Dictionary (1939) defines „handicapped children“ as physically or mentally defective ones. Dictionary of Behavioral Sciences (1973) defines handicapped as a disadvantage that prevents the individual from achieving the success of some desired goal. Webster’s Dictionary (1979) defines „handicap“ as a restriction, disadvantage in a contest imposed upon a superior competitor or an allowance of distance, time, or the relief given to an inferior contest to equalize their chance of winning (Ashok Kumar Tyagi, 2003; 3).

These definitions are given some ideas about disability; particularly it is an association of limitations or lack of organs of the human body. It affects human activity to perform their work it differs from an individual in the range of disability. It is a defect in the human body, by the defect of the body, it can’t support daily activities freely, hence we conclude with this statement is that which limitation is affected by human activity to do work is that consider a disability.

In 1980, the International Classification of Impairment, Disability, and Handicapped was formed that according to its viewpoint disability happens through this process.

Disease → Impairment → Disability → Handicap.

General, Disability is a social, economic, psychological state of disadvantage, which is resulting from the impairment currently it, has a different perception. In the 21st century, the disabled are faced with different circumstances. While they discriminated by some non-disabled. It is part of the human condition, influencing habitual life, whether it is directly or indirectly. The incidence of disability caused by preventable disease and natural disasters remains unacceptably high. Disability caused by violence against the body, mind, and senses through wars, acts of terrorism, torture or crime is increasing. The draft of the revision has been renamed the “International Classification of Impairments, Activities and participation – A Manual for dimensions of Disablement and Functioning”(WHO, 1998). The term disability of disability has been replaced by “limitation inactivity” and term handicap has been replaced by “restriction in participation (Ashok Kumar Tyagi, 2003; 10).

Respective both central as well as state Governments have taken over some decision about who is suffering from a disability since from the Independence. Already we have known that in the year of 1872 we have counted/canvassed the disability in the name of handicap and it is the beginning stage of counted the disabled people in India. After the independence respective governments have taken over some more decisions on physically disabled. Especially independent India since from the independence to the year of 1995 it categories and identifies some few more categories only come under this section later on in 1995 Government of India has strictly passed the resolution for disabled people and passes the PWD Act it is still even today known as “PWD ACT-1995”, it covers only seven types of impairment comes under the disability. Again In 2016, the **Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment** has revised the PWD Act-1995, it classifies and categorizes twenty one among the seven categories.

The present article analyses a systematic description of issues and challenges of physically disabled in two Taluk of Tumkur district in Karnataka state.

Physically Disabled considered a marginalized group in society because it has some features, and indicators of marginalization, hence the concerned government have given some help where it is required. In this context, both the state and central government have given/launches some policies/Acts/programs that are suffering from a disability. Above circumstances, PWD Act-1995 is the first and distinguished for the disabled. It gives some guidelines to assess the disability, their rights, provision, and prominently protection against the exploitation. The present study is conducted in the study area and empirically analyzed.

Table No-01
Problems faced by Physically disabled

Areas of problems	Frequencies	Percentage
Lack of cooperation	68	18.88
Negligence of feelings	71	19.72
Jealous about Govt. Programs	56	15.55
Helplessness	63	17.50
Disability	35	09.72
Others	21	05.83
All of the above	46	12.77
Total	360	100

The above table focused on the problem faced by the physically disabled in the study area. Accordingly, 18.88% (68) disabled face a problematic lack of cooperation in society, 19.72% (71) faced negligence of their feelings. 15.55% (56) responded as jealous policies and programs of the other government. 17.50% (63) feel helplessness (35) of respondents viewed that reason of disability, 05.83% (21) of represents given other opinion. Remaining 12.77% (46) respondents said that all the problems.

Table No-02
Limitations of disability

Limitation	Frequencies	Percentage
Dependent	109	30.27
Independent	166	46.11
Partially dependent	85	23.61
Total	360	100

The data reveal that 30.37% (109) of the respondents dependent on their routine life, 46.11% (166) were independent in their activities, remaining 23.61% (85) were partially dependent. This shows, the dependency to lead their life in society.

Table No- 03
Public attitude towards disability

Attitudes	Frequencies	Percentage
Simple avoidance	93	25.83
Excludes from opportunities	51	14.16
Reluctance to help	76	21.11
Favorable action	51	14.16
Help half-heartedly	47	13.05
Some conditions while helping	19	05.27
Can't say	23	06.38
Total	360	100

Table No. 03 shows the public attitude towards disability. As per the study, 25.83% (93) express as simple avoidance in routine action, 14.16% (51) express as excluding from an opportunity, 21.11% (76) respondents feel as reluctance to help from the public. 14.16% (51) express to favorable action, 13.05% (47) replies as helping to half-heartedly. 05.27% (19) respondents feel as some condition while helping disabled people. Remaining 06.38% (23) respondent's shows can't say anything for above all conditions. The study reveals that, for the reason of disability, they have been marginalized or avoided in society.

Table No-04
Awareness of the rehabilitation field

Awareness	Frequencies	Percentage
PWD Act	51	14.16
Rights of Disabled	39	10.83
Information about disability	96	26.66
Problems of disabled	69	19.16
Rehabilitation services	55	15.27
Safety & Security	31	08.61
Others	19	05.27
Total	360	100

The above table given information on the rehabilitation of the physically disabled. As per data, 14.16% (51) respondents express to know about the PWD Act, 10.83% (39) respondents aware concern with the rights of disabled, 26.66% (96) expressed information on a disability which includes protection, awareness, eradication disability, legal issues, and other. 19.16% (69) were to convey the highlight the problems of the disabled. 15.27% (55) about rehabilitation with services, 08.61 (31) were interested in security which includes health, economic, social, legal, and all other.

The above study reveals that area's awareness on the rehabilitation of the disabled. Highly concerned with information on disabled, and it is most requisite also for the empowerment of such a group. Create awareness on the act, rights, security, and among all other information to the disabled people. Both the Central and State government have implemented welfare schemes to uplift the weaker section of society, enhances many schemes given by the government for their welfare. It is true in case of Disabled also, accordingly, beneficiary programs are given below,

Table-05
Beneficiary aware of the rehabilitation

Benefits	Frequencies	Percentage (%)
Concession of transportation	347/360	96.38
Job reservation	176/360	48.88
Inclusive education	71/360	19.72
Education benefits	210/360	58.33
Medical benefits	227/360	63.05
Aid/Appliances	287/360	79.72
Vocational training	136/360	37.77
Tax benefits	71/360	19.72
Loan for business	122/360	33.88
Scholarship	270/360	75.00
Pension	341/360	94.72
Special employment exchange	61/360	16.94
Any other	168/360	46.66

The table shows the information related to the awareness of the beneficiary. Among the respondents, 96.38% and 94.72% of familiar out of listed above the table, concession of transportation and pension scheme respectively, aid/appliances and scholarship schemes were understood effectively i.e, 79.72 and 75.00% respectively. Medical and educational benefits make use of at the rate of 63.05 and 58.33%, respectively, although can't understand sufficiently in youth also. Remaining all services means schemes were understood by half of the less, among these schemes job reservation and other schemes to be a help to understand the welfare. All other schemes are not properly utilized effectively for the lack of information, interest, and implementation.

As per the analysis of the table, most required, and familiar schemes were properly generous. But other schemes also require although getting not ready to understand, of course, the government also not try to attempt to understand the scheme for the beneficiary. Still today, some schemes are not distinguished from the beneficiary. Make an awareness is more required than the benefited to the beneficiary.

Table-06
Awareness about PWD Act-1995

Response	Frequencies	Percentage
Highly aware	51	14.16
Aware	79	21.94
Undecided	39	10.83
Not aware	91	25.27
Highly not aware	100	27.77
Total	360	100

The above table illustrates the awareness of the act, as per the table 14.016% of the respondent said that it is good information on the act, 21.94% of respondent have said about it, consequently, they get rid a benefit under act facilities and provisions. 10.83% are not ready to understand the policies and program means, express as undecided. Remaining more than half of the respondents said can't try to understand the act means, 25.27%, and 27.77%, respectively not aware and highly not aware of the program. The above study shows a lack of knowledge about the physically disabled to understand the policies, programs, benefits, welfare schemes of the vulnerable sections by both central and state governments. Social welfare schemes/programs are helping to be weaker sections to benefit through the development of socially, economically in this regard above mentioned benefits are helping to disable to welfare. Hence, now tried to understand what proportion to be utilized among all benefits.

As per the below data (Table No 7), most required facilities benefited in a large number accordingly, the concession of transportation and pension schemes are benefited 94.44% and 88.61% respectively, 60.83% of beneficiaries having scholarship given by the concerned authority. Education and medical benefits benefited 46.38% and 47.22% respectively, 53.61% of respondents have benefited aid/appliances. 40.00% of respondents have other benefits such as home loans, economic assistance for business, incentives for those who married disable, and other schemes. 23.05% and 26.66% of beneficiaries benefited the scheme of Job reservation and vocational training respectively. 17.05% of respondents got a benefit from the loan for business, remaining fewer beneficiaries got a benefit for the various schemes such as inclusive education (07.22%), tax benefits (00.83%), special employment exchange (02.05%).

Table No- 07
Availed benefits of beneficiaries

Benefits	Frequencies	Percentage
Concession of transportation	340/360	94.44
Job reservation	83/360	23.05
Inclusive education	26/360	07.22
Education benefits	167/360	46.38
Medical benefits	170/360	47.22
Aid/Appliances	193/360	53.61
Vocational training	96/360	26.66
Tax benefits	03/360	00.83
Loan for business	63/360	17.05
Scholarship	219/360	60.83
Pension	319/360	88.61
Special employment exchange	09/360	02.05
Any other	144/360	40

The study understood that most required schemes benefited effectively and significantly implementing authority also most consequential to receive the benefit, and some schemes inevitable in routine life. Uneducated also fulfill their needs like Aid/appliances, it is most required of them because without using aid they can't lead their routine life effectively.

3. Limitations of the Study

Physically disabled are having a good education equal to non-disabled. Means Professional, Vocational, Training based education, and other form of education, but the high number of disabled are basic education. Who are highly aware of schemes and programs who are getting good education, thus educated disabled are availed more benefits than uneducated. Disabled people were not inclusive education. The government has failed to reach its policies and programs to disabled results, there is no separate ministry in both central and state governments for their welfare.

4. Suggestion

To educate both disabled and non-disabled towards inclusiveness in society, made an attempt to circulate manuals which include policies and programs of the welfare of the disabled. Requires to easily handle the all issues with separate ministry in both State and Central. To create a free environment to get rid disability through education, job, equal participation. To make an attempt to avoid the discrimination rigorously in public.

5. Conclusion

„Disability is the symptom, and restriction to involve the activity, but not a disaster. It restricts the organs of the body not our skills“ hence everybody must aware of the merit and demerit of disability of a person must do something within our limitations, understand the principle of constitutional laws, and preambles including disables and non disables. Everybody comes under circumstances of the law and regulation, hence, must motivate the weaker section to come into the mainstream of society and utilizes all the benefits. We must give an opportunity, not for sympathy towards the disability.

REFERENCES

- Tyagi A K (2003) “Education for children with Disabilities” Saloni Publishing House, New Delhi
- Gurulingaiah M (2016) “Sociology of Marginalized Groups” Deevith Publication, Tumkur
- Krishna V V, Dutt B S V, Rao K H (2001) “Disabled Person” Discovery Publishing House New Delhi.
- Guruswamy S, 2011 “Social exclusion and inclusion” APH Publishing Corporation, New Delhi
- Ashish Saxena, 2013 “Marginality, Exclusion and Social justice” Rawat Publication, Jaipur (India)
- WHO report, 1998
- Census of India, 2001
- Census of India, 2011
- <http://www.disabilityaffairs.gov.com>
- <http://www.disabilityaffairs.gov.com>
- <http://www.pwdact1995.gov.com>