

Causes and Prospects of Physically Handicapped

Dr. Appayya V. Melavanki

Lecturer in Sociology
Govt P U College Waderahatti
Tq: Gokak Dt: Belagavi

Abstract:

Physical disability is a limitation of people that is barrier to function a particular action in everyday life. There are several causes, the parental disabilities before birth it can be of diseases, genetic disorders, or lack of oxygen. Also there can be post-natal disabilities gained after birth such as due to accidents, infection or illness etc. Many causes and condition can impair mobility and movement. The inability to use arms, legs, or the body trunk effectively because of paralysis, stiffness, pain or other impairment's is common.

Introduction:

India is the largest democratic country in the world and is on its way to become a key player in the global scenario. It is our responsibility to ensure that this developmental cycle touches all the citizens of this country that is able and, especially, the physically handicapped, who are often referred to as the invisible minority. But before we stamp them as minority, let us consider the recent census reports. According to the 2011 census the government figure for the physically handicapped was 2.7% of the entire population.

A reserved guess would place that figure between seven to ten crores. The National Policy identifies the Persons with Disabilities (PWD) as necessary and valuable assets of this country and the basic goal is to create an atmosphere for them in conjunction with the basic constitutional rights i.e. equality, freedom, justice and dignity. This will also guarantee equal opportunities for the PWD thereby ensuring the protection of their rights and enabling their full participation in the society.

Physically handicapped are those things that prevent people with impairment from functioning properly in the society. Many studies argue that disabilities can occur at birth but in some cases, disability is acquired later in life.

Common disabilities include physical deformities that affect the upper and lower limbs, manual dexterity problems, inability to coordinate body organs and others. The cause of the disability may be due to old age, a viral infection such as polio, a hereditary condition and paralysis or amputation.

Other disabilities include speech and hearing impairment. This category includes individuals suffering hearing impairment; some partially while others totally, a condition also known as deafness. There are a number of individuals who have problems with speech, where others cannot speak and are said to be mute. Sufferers of speech impairment may stutter and stammer while speaking while others may have voice disorders. However, People suffering from disabilities face a lot of challenges every day. Simple tasks that ordinary people perform on a daily basis as routine are extremely delicate and difficult to those suffering from disabilities.

Thus accomplishing simple tasks such as taking a shower, dressing up, brushing teeth or even having a meal are tasks that may take much longer than normal and in many cases, may require the assistance of others. Individuals with disabilities are faced with stigma and discrimination from the society where they live. Most people look down on them and treat them as special. Disabled people may find it hard to socialize with members of the society. With above back drop the study assumed great significance to study the problems and prospects of physically handicapped.

Definitions of Physically Handicapped

According to the medical model, disability lies in the individuals, as it is equated with those restrictions of activity. Faced with the line of thinking, individuals would feel pressured to work on 'their' restrictions, bearing the burden of adjusting to their environment through cures, treatment or rehabilitation. According to World trade organization disabilities are an umbrella term, covering

impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions.

According to Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation Act, 1995, "Person with disability" means a person suffering from not less than forty per cent of any disability as certified by a medical authority (any hospital or institution, specified for the purposes of this Act by notification by the appropriate Government). As per the act "Disability" means Blindness, Low vision, Leprosy-cured; ,Hearing impairment; Loco motor disability, Mental retardation; and Mental illness.

Research Methodology

The size of physically handicapped population is very large in Belgaum district like other district. In view of the said reasons the study of all handicapped in Belgaum district is very difficult and it is time consuming and it is not manageable by the researcher to complete the study on time hence, the study has adopted cluster sampling method and has been divided into different stratum like ten taluka and each taluka has taken 30 sample physically handicapped respondents by adopting simple random sampling techniques.

Therefore, the total sample respondents' is 300 While selecting sample respondents from each taluka of Belgaum district, equal weightage has been given to different types of physically handicapped.

This study refers to the aspirations and causes of physically handicapped. Aspiration refers a quantitative concept, which has two requirements that the subjects make some public indication of his aims relating to education and occupation. In other words aspiration is a goal an individual sets for himself in a task, which has intense personal significance for him or in which he is ego-involved." Academic achievement of students refers to the knowledge attained and skills developed in the school subjects. So, academic achievement means the achievement of students in the academic subjects in relation to their knowledge attaining ability or degree of competence in school tasks usually measured by standardized tests and expressed in grades or units based on pupil's performance. However, physical disability is a limitation of people that is barrier to function a particular action in everyday life. There are several causes, the parental disabilities before birth it can be of diseases, genetic

disorders, or lack of oxygen. Also there can be post-natal disabilities gained after birth such as due to accidents, infection or illness etc. Many causes and condition can impair mobility and movement. The inability to use arms, legs, or the body trunk effectively because of paralysis, stiffness, pain or other impairment's is common.paralysis, stiffness, pain or other impairment's is common. It can be due to the result of birth defects, disease, age or accidents. This can also contribute to other disabilities such as impaired talking, recollection loss, little physique and inability to hear. Individuals with mobility and movement impairment may find it difficult to participate when facing social and physical barriers.

Table- 1.1: Causes for Physically Handicapped.

Causes	No. of Respondents	Percentage
By birth	175	58.3
Poliomyelities	40	13.3
Accident	18	06.0
Poverty and malnutrition	15	05.0
Medicines and injections	20	06.7
Inherited disabilities	22	07.3
Other	10	03.4
Total	300	100

Sources Field Study.

Tables 1.1 provide information about causes of physically handicapped. Out of 300 sample respondents 175 respondents became handicapped by birth, 40 respondents amounting 13.3% stated that they became handicapped due to Poliomyelitis, 18 respondents stated that they became handicapped because of accident, 15 respondents argue that they became disability because of Poverty and malnutrition, 20 respondents opined that they became physically handicapped due to Medicines

and injections, 22 respondents stated that they became physically handicapped because of Inherited disabilities and 10 respondents opined that they became physically handicapped because of other reasons.

Table- 1.2: Sex and causes of Physically Handicapped.

Causes	No. of Respondents		Total
	Male	Female	
By birth	110	65	175 (58.3)
Poliomyelitis	25	15	40 (13.30)
Accident	14	04	18(6.0)
Poverty and malnutrition	09	06	15(5.0)
Medicines and injections	10	10	20(6.7)
Inherited disabilities	12	10	22(7.3)
Other	-	10	10 (3.4)
Total	180(60)	120(40)	300(100)

Sources : Field Study.

Table 1.2 provide information about sex and causes of physically handicapped. Among male respondents' 110 stated that they became physically handicapped by birth, 25 respondents argue that they became physically handicapped due to Poliomyelitis, 14 respondents argue that the become physically handicapped due to accident, 9 respondents became disabled because of Poverty and malnutrition, 10 respondents argue that they became physically handicapped due to Medicines and injections, and 12 respondents stated that they become physically handicapped due to Inherited disabilities.

Among female respondents' 65 respondents stated that they became physically handicapped by birth, 15 respondents argue that they became physically handicapped due to Poliomyelitis, 04 respondents argue that the become physically handicapped due to accident, 10 respondents became disabled because of Poverty and malnutrition, 10 respondents argue that they become physically handicapped due to Medicines and injections, 10 respondents stated that they become physically handicapped due to Inherited disabilities and

remaining 12 respondents opined that they become physically handicapped due to other reasons.

Table -1.3: sex and Reasons for Not Working .

Reasons	No. of Respondents		Total
	Male	Female	
Unable to work	25 (62.5)	15(33.5)	40(30.7)
Learning	40 (53.3)	35(46.7)	75(57.7)
Searching for job	06 (40.0)	09(60.0)	15(11.6)
Total	71 (54.6)	59(45.4)	130(100)

Sources: Field Study.

Note: No. of responses less than 300 because of the respondents taken those who are not working.

Table- 1.3: Reveals the opinion of the respondents towards sex and reasons for not working. Out of 130 sample respondents 71 respondents are male among them 25 respondents opined that they are not working because of they are unable to work, 40 respondents opined that they are not working due to they are students and remaining 9 respondents argue that they are not involved in income generation activities because of they are searching job. Out of 130 sample respondents 59 respondents are female among them 15 respondents opined that they are not working because of they are unable to work, 35 respondents opined that they are not working due to they are learning and remaining 6 respondents argue that they are not involved in income generation activities because of they are searching job.

Table-1.4: Educational Related Aspirations of Physically Handicapped Students.

Aspirations	No. of Respondents	Percentage
PUC	20	26.7
Degree	30	40.0
Post Graduate	15	20.0
Professional Course	05	06.7
Other	05	06.6
Total	75	100

Sources: Field Study.

Table 1.4 provide information about educational related aspirations of physically handicapped students. Out of 75 sample respondents 20 respondents are opined that they have aspiration to complete education at least up to PUC, 30 respondents opined that they want studied up to degree, 15 respondents stated that they have aspiration to complete post graduate degree, 5 respondents have aspirations to complete professional course and 5 respondents opined that they have aspirations to complete other type of education.

The hypothesis there is no high goals and aspirations among physically handicapped. The said hypothesis were rejected because about 60% sample respondents students wants to complete degree or post graduate degree.

Table- 1.5: Opinion of the Respondents towards encouragement of their Parents to study Higher education.

Opinions	No. of Respondents		Total
	Male	Female	
Yes	17(68.0)	08(32.0)	25(33.3)
No	33((60.0)	17(40)	50(66.7)
Total	50(66.7)	25(33.3)	75(100)

Sources: Field Study.

Tables 1.5 provide information about opinion of the respondents towards encouragement of their parents to study higher education. Among 50 male respondents 17 respondents amounting 68% stated that there is an encouragement by parents to go for higher education and remaining 33 respondents stated that their parents not encourage for higher study. Among 25 female respondents 8respondents amounting32% stated that there is encouragement by parents to go for higher education and remaining 17 respondents stated that their parents have no encouragement to go for higher education.

Table- 1.6: Opinion of the Respondents towards Getting Scholarship.

Opinions	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	75	100
No	-	-
Total	75	100

Sources: Field Survey.

Note: Respondents less than 300 because of taken here the students physically handicapped.

Table 1.6 provides information about getting scholarship by physically handicapped students. Among 75 respondents, 75 respondents amounting 100 opined that they have taken scholarship.

Table -1.7: Opinion of the Respondents towards How Much Money Spending Per Month.

Money spending	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Less than Rs.1000	145	48.3
Rs. 1000-1500	90	30.0
Rs. 1501-2000	50	16.7
Rs.2001 and above	15	05.0
Total	300	100

Sources: Field Survey.

Table 1.7 provides information about Opinion of the Respondents towards How Much Money Spending per month. Among sample respondents 145 sample respondents argue that they are spending less than Rs. 1000 per month , 90 respondents stated that they are spending monthly money of Rs. 1000-1500 , 50 respondents argue that they are spending money Rs. 1501-2000 and remaining 15 respondents argue that they are spending money monthly is Rs. 2001 and above.

Table -1.8: Opinion of the Respondents Students towards Occupational Aspirations.

Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Government servant	55	73.3
Business Man	10	13.3
Employee in Private Organization	10	13.4
Total	75	100

Sources: Field Survey.

Note: Respondents less than 300 because of taken here only physically handicapped students and unemployed.

Table- 1.8 provides information about opinion of the respondents students towards occupational aspirations. Out of 75 student respondents 55 respondents wants to a government servant, 10 respondents wants to business man and remaining 10 respondents wants to become to get job in private factory.

Table- 1.9: Opinion of the Respondents towards Insurance Policies Purchased.

Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	160	53.3
No	140	46.7
Total	300	100

Sources: Field Survey.

Table 1.9 provides information about opinion of the respondents towards insurance policies purchased. Out of 300 sample respondents' 160 respondents amounting 53.3% stated that they purchased insurance policies and remaining 140 sample respondents not purchased insurance policies.

Table- 1.10: Sources of Smooth leading life By Physically Handicapped.

Sources	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Parents	300	62.6
Friends	20	4.2
Teachers	49	10.3
Non Government organization	110	22.9
Total	479	100

Sources: Field Survey.

Note : Responses exceed 300 because of multiple answer .

Table 1.10 reveals the Sources of Smooth leading life by physically

Handicapped. Among 479 responses 300 respondents stated that they are depend upon parents and parent's income , 20 respondents stated that friends also helping them to lead the life in addition to parents support, 49 respondents argue that teacher also helps to lead the life along with the support of teachers and remaining 110 respondents opined that NGOs also have support to lead the life.

Results:

- 1.Among sample respondents 58.3% respondents became handicapped by birth.
- 2.Among total sample respondents 130 respondents are not working because they are unable to work.
- 3.Among male respondents, 25 respondents amounting 33.3% stated that there is a encouragement by parents to go for higher education and remaining 66.7% respondents stated that their parents not encourage for higher study.
- 4.Sample physically handicapped opined that hundred percentage of physically handicapped obtained scholarship.
- 5.Majority of the sample respondents (145) argue that they are spending less than Rs. 1000 per month to attain their own requirements.
- 6.Among sample physically handicapped students 55 respondents wants to a government servant, 10 respondents wants to business man and

remaining 10 respondents wants to become to get job in private factory.

7. Out of total sample respondent's 160 respondents amounting 53.3% stated that they purchased insurance policies.

Conclusion:

There are four types of physically challenged, they are physically handicapped blind, deaf, dumb and hearing loss. The term disabled suggests a state of helplessness; something which falls short of the norm or standard viz, 'Physical fitness'. Disability refers to any limitation experienced by the impaired individual in comparison with the activities of the unimpaired individual. Disabilities generally vary in severity.

Reference Books:

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