

## Annual review and reflection of Project Saksham of Swabhiman

(Period April 2017 – March 2018)

Holistic development through educational intervention had been an area of focus under the Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) activities of Aditya Birla Financial Services (ABFS)-Mumbai for quite some time. As children and youth with disabilities are one of the most vulnerable, invisible and marginalised sections among the marginalised population, ABFS decided to intervene into the education of children with disabilities (CwDs) to ensure their fullest potential. The experience of ABFS shows that a long-term and committed intervention results in an empowered inclusive community. With this conviction, ABFS entered into a long-term partnership with Swabhiman to start the project “**Saksham**” in the area of disability in the year 2016. After completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> year from Jan to Dec 2016, Project Saksham completed the year two from April 2017 to March 2018. This document will give an overview of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Project Saksham.

Despite the implementation of Right to Education Act 2009 and the initiation of Sarva Sikhya Abhiyan (SSA) in India, children with disabilities are still suffering a lot even to complete their primary education in the neighbourhood schools. There are very few attempts at schools and the community-based care of children and youth with disabilities in India. If we observe the current educational status of CwDs critically in Odisha, SSA has failed in all its objectives. One big gap is its inability to provide disability certificates to all CwDs, in every district of the State. Attendance rates of CwDs in schools are also not satisfactory. 2014 baseline study showed that despite all efforts.....

- 99% CwDs dropout from school & do not complete formal education.
- 58.3% of Children with Disabilities (CwD) in ages 6 to 14 out of school.
- 42.2% enrolled CwD, remained mostly at home or loitered in the streets.
- Basic entitlements like disability certificate, education scholarship and aids and appliances were not with most of the CwD.
- Apart from the ramps, no accessibility provision for children with visual impairments, speech and hearing impairment, communication issues, autism etc. in the mainstream schools. No accessible toilets in any of the schools.
- Lack of proper training of teachers on the overall management of CwD in classroom situation was identified as one of the critical area of concern in the state of Odisha.
- Lack of effective and inclusive vocational or skill based training to the out of school and college students with disabilities, resulted more than 80% of youth with disabilities (YwDs) are unemployed and burden to their family moreover to the nation.

Project Saksham is not just an intervention in the field of inclusive education rather it is a process of empowerment, enabling and accountable the key stakeholders like parents, teachers, Govt. officials, people’s representatives, community institutions for ensuring children and youth with disabilities to access all the educational & other entitlements, be a part of development processes and her/his integration in the inclusive society at large. These are only possible with strong education focused holistic development approach with the support of an empathetic community both at school and neighbourhood, assistive technology, barrier free environment, inclusive school governance, adaptable curriculum, need based vocational/skill training and opportunity of employment. Hence, the endeavour of **Saksham** has been visioned as an **inclusive education programme** for the children and youths with disabilities.

### FACT SHEET:

<b>Partner Organisation</b>	<b>Swabhiman – State Disability Information and Resource Centre</b>
<b>Chief Functionary</b>	Dr. Sruti Mohapatra

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<b>State &amp; District</b>	State-Orissa, District-Khurda
<b>Project Head Quarter</b>	Bhubaneswar
<b>Block covered</b>	Bhubaneswar municipality, urban local body
<b>Start of year</b>	2016
<b>Last completed Period</b>	April 2017 to March 2018
<b>Total school covered</b>	72
<b>Total urban poor areas/Basti covered</b>	136
<b>Total CwDs covered</b>	Year one - 319 & Year two - 367
<b>Total YwDs covered</b>	Year one - 95 & Year two - 101

### Specific objectives of this Project

The primary aim of Saksham is to address the gaps in SSA implementation to ensure that every child with a disability in urban poor areas of Bhubaneswar, irrespective of the category and degree of disability, is provided holistic, meaningful and quality education in a neighbourhood government school. This project also aims to enhance the livelihood of school and college dropouts and never enrolled youth with a disability by providing vocational training and market linked to job opportunities, to make productive youth members of our society. Five Specific objectives of Saksham are...

- Academic Development of the CwD, studying in schools (Curricular, Co-Curricular and Extra Curricular Activities)
- Mainstreaming for Social Inclusion.
- Livelihood Foundation and Enhancement of school dropout and never been to school youth with disability
- CwD as the Active Citizens of our society
- Making Duty Bearers more Responsive and Accountable towards the rights and entitlements of CwD.

### Partners of this Project

Project Saksham is being implemented through a tripartite collaborative approach between Swabhiman, Aditya Birla Financial Services (ABFS) and Department of School and Mass Education, Govt. of Odisha. Swabhiman is implementing this project at the ground level with the constant support from School & Mass Education Department, GoO and Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai is providing the financial support for this project.

### Other Key Stakeholders

- Primary stakeholders in this project:
  - Children with disabilities,
  - Peer group in school and neighbourhood
  - Parents of CwDs

- School Teachers
- Secondary stakeholders in this project:
  - Government duty bearers/officials
  - Secretary School and Mass Education,
  - State Project Director OPEPA,
  - Deputy Director Inclusive Education,
  - DEO-Khurda,
  - BEO-Bhubaneswar,
  - ICDS workers,
  - Ward members,
  - Officials of Urban Local Bodies of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation
  - Potential Business persons providing job opportunities to YwDs
  - Institutions and agencies providing skill based training to YwDs
  - Adult persons with disability.

Project Saksham won the India CSR Award for Innovation and Leadership in Education category. Our Project "Saksham" addresses education of children with disabilities living in the urban poor areas of Bhubaneswar reading in government schools. The aim is to prevent dropouts, create regular school going and reach excellence in education-co-curricular and extra curricular activities. In our two years journey we brought back 110 (62 in the 1<sup>st</sup> year and 48 in 2<sup>nd</sup> year) children back to school and all our 317 are regular in attending schools. They have won over 35 prizes in various competitions across Odisha, competing with non-disabled children. We are in the process of creating barefoot teachers and barefoot therapists from among mothers and community members for all time continuity and sustainability of Saksham.

### Key Strategic focus of Year Two

**Promoting inclusive society:** This year the focus was to ensure the inclusion of CwDs in all spheres like physical, educational, social, cultural, attitudinal and economic aspects of their life. In order to ensure their significant participation, initiatives will be taken to build the capacity and knowledge base of these children along with their parents. As our society's lack of knowledge, misinformation and negative attitudes lead directly to the exclusion of children and youth with disabilities from mainstream education. Furthermore, where disabled children's capacities, rights and needs are constantly underestimated, they are likely to develop low self-esteem and negative attitudes about themselves and their abilities.

**Awareness work is important at all levels in society** – child, family, community – to counteract fear, misunderstanding and negative attitudes. The most effective way by which Saksham addresses this is - to do this is through participation by children with disability, their parents and their school teachers.

**Promoting early intervention:** It is widely recognized that the greatest impact in improving the life of a child with disability can be achieved in early years. Swabhiman, through Saksham, is addressing this through assessments and assistive device provision.

**Focus on the direct impact of children's abilities:** Development of Individualised education plan (IEP) for each child and focus intervention was plan to see the significant result in the abilities of children was one of the key strategic focus in the second year of the intervention.

**Supporting appropriate policy development:** Society's negative attitudes can often be translated into inappropriate national policy. By promoting greater participation of CWDs and YWDs to participate in consultations and discussions, Swabhiman through its Saksham project facilitating appropriate policy level changes which can positively contribute to the life of CWDs. Both parents and CwDs of project Saksham played a key role in the nationwide advocacy initiatives for declaration of the new law i.e. RPwD Act at the parliament in the year 2016.

**Supporting change of system in education and inclusive learning environment:** The introduction of more inclusive practices in education necessitates change in curriculum, teacher-training, teaching methodology and teacher attitudes. We promote through this project the effective implantation of Right to Education act 2009 and Rights of Person with Disability (RPwD) Act - 2016, all the schemes related to inclusive education and skill enhancement schemes has to be properly practiced at the school by the teachers and in the society as a whole.

**Effective implementation of Inclusive Child Resource Centre (ICRC):** Project Saksham is being implemented through eight nodal ICRC centers, which serve as multipurpose units and provide an enabling environment for children to be actively participating in education and skill development.

By using the above strategies project Saksham ensures that every child with disability in urban poor areas of Bhubaneswar, irrespective of the category and degree of disability, is provided holistic, meaningful and quality education. It is looking at a larger picture of education - regular school coming, return of dropouts and enrolment of "never attended school" CwDs, retaining interest of CwDs in school, skill development and dignified living of overage school dropouts. If not, we will push yet another generation of persons with disabilities into the unending cycle of poverty, disempowerment and misery.

These out of school children are poor, come from urban poor areas and often face multiple deprivations due to systemic bottlenecks, opportunity costs, and socio-cultural expectations/exclusions. Barriers preventing them from going to school cannot be dealt with by the promise of print books or mid-day meal alone. Policy responses need to address the overlapping barriers and must be cross-sectorial to be effective.

In its second year Swabhiman, through Saksham, addressed

- a) Development of Individualised Education plan with regular review and tracking the progress
- b) Creating digital learning space by using computer, tablet, projector and other technology based intervention
- c) Access to all services and entitlements
- d) Therapy for classroom engagement
- e) Assistive devices
- f) Development of TLM
- g) Books in large print and other alternate format
- h) Co-curricular & extra-curricular activities
- i) Yoga & Pranayam
- j) Linkage with Rastriya Bal Surakshya Karyakram (RBSK) of GOI and referral support of AIMS and other agencies for ensuring health related needs
- k) Active citizenship through ensuring representation in school cabinet
- l) Mobility support
- m) Joyful Learning through building capacity of project staffs and school teachers

- n) Increased Parent's involvement by formation of Saksham Soyam Sahayak Gosthi
- o) Community ownership of education through community level intervention
- p) Increased home based care through home visit of special educator

SAKSHAM is working in an end to end solution approach – such as from home to school to back at home - mobility devices, transport, therapy (physiotherapy and speech), accessible school infrastructure, trained and motivated teachers, alternate teaching methods, teaching-learning materials and books in alternate format, engagement with parents and community; co-curricular and extra-curricular activities; yoga and sports; health and well-being; active citizenship exercises like communication, digital class and personality development. The project intervention plan was completely based on the following four thematic areas and all the activities conducted align to the key thematic areas of this project.

### Inclusive Child Resource Centres (ICRC)

Eight number of Inclusive Child Resource Centres (ICRC) are fully operational in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the project, each centre is in the name of famous leaders of Odisha. ICRCs are being operated by a facilitator with support and guidance of team leader and other project management team members. The facilitators visited the slums, did the survey and identified the children with special needs from each house by visiting door to door. In total 367 children with disabilities from the underprivileged and living in the urban poor areas of Bhubaneswar city are now enrolled in these eight ICRCs.

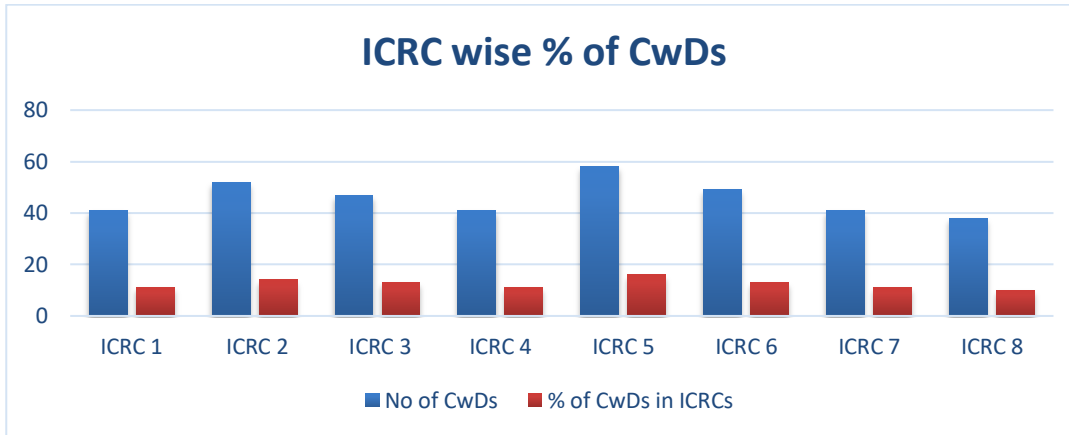
### ICRC wise & Disability wise distribution of CwDs

ICRC	Types of Disabilities									Total
	CP	Hearing Impaired	Speech Stammering	Low Vision	Visually Impaired	Multiple disability	Autism	Mentally Challenged	OH	
ICRC 1	6	7	1	5	0	1	0	12	9	41
ICRC 2	4	13	1	8	0	5	2	8	11	52
ICRC 3	2	9	2	1	10	1	0	12	10	47
ICRC 4	4	5	0	1	0	7	3	11	10	41
ICRC 5	2	10	2	3	1	13	0	16	11	58
ICRC 6	1	9	1	7	0	8	0	5	18	49
ICRC 7	0	8	1	0	1	14	1	5	11	41
ICRC 8	2	10	2	1	1	9	0	4	9	38
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>367</b>

- ✓ Out of the total 367 CwDs (which was 319 in 1st year), 89 CwDs are orthopedically impaired which is the highest number among all disabilities and almost 24% (close to 1/4<sup>th</sup>) of the total targeted CwDs.

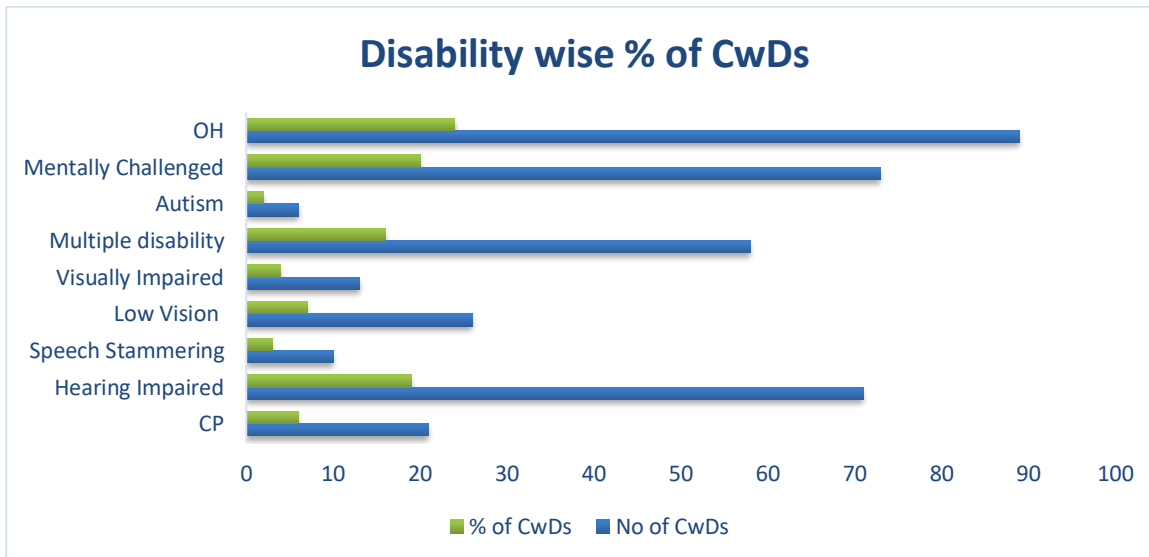
- ✓ Issues related to children having intellectual disabilities i.e. belong to the categories of mentally challenged, multiple disabilities, autistic and CP categories are still difficult to intervene and resolve all their issues. Whose combined number is 158; this is 43% of the total CwDs in the project.

### ICRC wise % of CwDs



- ✓ ICRC – 5, which is running inside an urban poor community/Basti area is having the highest number of CwDs enrolled i.e. 58 in compared to all the eight ICRCs functioning in the project.
- ✓ ICRC – 8, is having lowest number of CwDs enrolled in the project.

### Disability wise % of CwDs in Saksham Project



- ✓ 39 Cwds (26-LV & 13-VI) are having vision related difficulties, large print books, braille & tactual teaching learning material provided to them through the project.
- ✓ 81 CwDs (71-HI & 10-speech stammering) are having hearing and speech related issues. Regular Sign language training and speech therapy are quite effective for these children.

### Thematic area wise impact created

## **Thematic Area - 1: Academic, Co-Curricular and extra-curricular activities**

- ✓ In 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the project 367 children with disabilities and their families visible in the society, which has a direct impact on creating awareness about disabilities in our society.
- ✓ There was 319 CwDs targeted in the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the project. There are 48 CwDs newly enrolled in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the project. Out of which 7 are dropouts and the rest are never went to schools.
- ✓ Ensured retention of CwDs in schools. Out of 317 CwDs who are attending schools, 172 have started coming every day without any fail. 56 CwDs are not able to attend the school because of sever mobility issue.
- ✓ Individualised education plan (IEP) has been developed for 311 CwDs and education being provided based on IEPs.
- ✓ Our first batch of 9 (children with disabilities) gave matriulation exam in 2016-2017 session and all the 9 students passed the 10<sup>th</sup> exam. Durga shankar Dash is the top one. Durga is severely disabled. On a wheelchair. With a hunchback. Cannot hear. Has a garbled speech. Teachers were so apathetic that he dropped out of school. We entered with Saksham Project in 2016. In a paediatric wheelchair his size, a lounge and a customised table, personal attention, therapy, sign language and tuitions Durga passed his matriculation with 66% marks. Today is a golden day in the history of education of severely disabled! We did it. Among others Ratikant Majhi who also got grade B. Two more in Grade B. Rest D and F.
- ✓ Durga is now studying in BJB college of Bhubaneswar it is one of the best Govt. college in the state. To create an inclusive and enabling environment for Durga in the college, we had organized a disability sensitization program on 9th August 2017 in BJB college for the academic faculties, NSS, library staff and students of BJB college to ensure a smooth, effective and dignified learning environment for the students with disabilities. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Sruti Mohapatra emphasized the need of inclusion and diversity in classrooms. She spoke about the global economy and the importance of education and employment of persons with disabilities for nation's growth and development. She motivated all to support Durga.
- ✓ 118 CwDs are attending and learning through our digital learning system by using of Laptop and projectors at each resource centers.
- ✓ Out of the total 26 students with low vision, 18 Cwds are studying by using large print books that provided through the project. And one student with 100% blindness has been provided braille and audio books.
- ✓ 137 Children are using the book reading classes every day at ICRCs. Different story books and other interesting books has been provided this year to all ICRCs to create a library at each ICRCs and CwDs are using it very effectively.
- ✓ Different types of Teaching learning material are being provided at each ICRCs in this year and 180 CwDs are using these material during their curricular classes in ICRCs.
- ✓ In the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of intervention we have introduced curricula based smart classes in one of our ICRC - 2, by using a separate server and tablets children are studying their own curriculum in smart manner. Through this provision children are also getting the benefit to access different videos, lectures by teachers and sample questions related to their subject. This will help them to qualify for Navodaya schools and model schools run by the state Govt.
- ✓ 152 CwDs have got subject specific remedial classes by external tutors during this year. This was really helpful for children those are weak in language, Math and science.
- ✓ Sign Language classes have improved social interaction among children with Speech and

hearing impairment. The non-disabled School students have learned sign language now and comfortably interacting with CwDs having HI. Communication has been improved the child with HI and his/her Parents and siblings.

- ✓ Apathetic attitude towards parents of Cwds has been reduced among teachers during the new enrolment of CwDs in their schools, because of the constant advocacy and regular involvement in the schools. Teachers are now recognising and treat with utmost care and respect in schools, which was not happening in most of the schools earlier.
- ✓ Sensitisation and regular interaction with children's school cabinet, has changed the attitude of non-disabled children, now others are calling the CWDs with their name in more dignified manner instead of with their disabilities. Cwds are now member of these school cabinets. Abhijit Samant (Low Vision) of class 8th of Aerodrome UG UP School (ICRC 8) became a member of child cabinet. Ananda Mahakud elected as health minister in the child cabinet at ICRC 3 – Mumtaz Ali UP School.
- ✓ Provision of Assistive Devices - Mobility and Communication Aids, Writing Aids and Audio Aids, and Reading Aids, and Adjustable Furniture (Like low height tables, wheel chairs, crutches, walker, eye glass, foot were etc.), has led to 80 children coming out of their houses, desiring to come to school regularly and now parents are not to carry them anymore. In this year we are facilitating in mobilising the aids and assistive devices through the existing provisions of Govt.
- ✓ At the initial stage it was difficult to ensure presence of CwDs in ICRCs. But regular parents' counselling and parents meeting, it has been ensured. Some parents are actively involved in all the activities of the project. They are joining in all the activities of Saksham without any travelling support from the project.
- ✓ There is visible attitudinal change among the school teachers. Mother of Sarthak, an autistic child from ICRC 4 shared that the behaviour of teachers towards Sarthak was very rude and brutal but initiation of Project Saksham changed this, now teachers are showing affection to CwDs.
- ✓ "Indradhanus" program was organised by education department for recognising the talents of CwDs this year, in which more than 100 CwDs from ICRCs participated and got several prizes.
- ✓ Encouraged and facilitated involvement of CwDs in different activities both at ICRC and School. Also prepared them to participate in different out of school competitions. CwDs have participated in different inter school, block and district level programmes and won prizes.
- ✓ Increased visibility of CwDs and YwDs in community, now community accepting them as a productive member of their community after knowing their talents highlighted through Project Saksham.
- ✓ 15 CwDs from different ICRCs participated and learnt about natural history with children from different organization and schools (BBC School for the Deaf, AAINA and Sri Harsha Mishra Memorial School for the Deaf). In two days children participated in activities like Origami, Sand Art and Painting. They saw various exhibits of many species of animal, birds, fish, insects, trees, flowers, stone etc. In the evenings little stars performed in the cultural program and received gifts from the organizers. This program was organised by Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhubaneswar on 16th and 17th February 2018.
- ✓ 15 CwDs from 8 ICRCs learned about making of Tangram and how to use it and demonstrated few science models. Children made varieties of science models on the Tangram board through a 3-days summer science workshop being organized by Swabhimani in collaboration with Regional Science Centre at RSC, Bhubaneswar for Children with Disabilities



- ✓ A 4 days craft workshop, from 20th to 23rd June, was conducted in our ICRCs (ICRCs 1, 2, 4 & 6) where children from different ICRCs congregated. It was conducted by expert Mr. Trevor Pereira from Trevor Arts, Mumbai. Children learnt making Jellyfish and key rings by using different variety of craft materials and M-seal. A total of 61 children with disabilities, 12 non-disabled, 11 parents and 14 staff members of Swabhiman participated. This could be also taken by children as a vocational trade for earning.
- ✓ After the preparation of the crafts, one Craft Exhibition was inaugurated by our project at ICRC-4. A total of 84 participants including CwDs, non-disabled children, parents, facilitators and participated in the programme. Surekha Tarai, Deputy Director, Inclusive Education, OPEPA inaugurated the exhibition with Sri Chaitanya, ABEO of Bhubaneswar Block. Head Mistress and teachers of OSEB UG UP School were among the other dignitaries present in the programme.
- ✓ In the "Super Mom" letter writing campaign organised by Shivani from New Delhi, with partnership of Swabhiman. 94 children from SSA schools (including 26 CwDs from different ICRCs) wrote letters to their mothers. In another program of its kind 208 children including 73 CwDs (children with disabilities) wrote letters to their mothers. Apart from remembering mother's great contribution to our life it was also an attempt at reviving the dead art of handwritten letters among children.
- ✓ SUMMER CAMP AT MENDHASAL - RAISING ASPIRATIONS OF THE UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN. A summer camp was held at Mendhasal village. 40 children with disabilities from Bhubaneswar slums studying in different Govt. schools and 20 children without disabilities from Mendhasal village along with 30 volunteers and 7 parents attended it. Mendhasal children welcomed children from Bhubaneswar with flowers. Briefing and self-introduction was done with games. Children were divided into 6 groups with 4 volunteers for each. Group names were based on chocolates - Mahalacto, Kitkat, Mango Moods, Lollypop, Poppins, Hajmola. Activities included trekking, water activities, traditional village games, nature craft, science models, dance-music and unbound fun. The activity was supported by ABFS, our Circle of Friends and our volunteers. The program was conducted through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.
- ✓ Four CwDs Sarthak Dwivedi (Autistic), Kiran Behera (OH), Dipty Rani Pati (S&HI), Barsarani Behera (OH) were awarded 1st prize under yellow and red group in the State Level Painting competition organized by Odisha State Council for Child Welfare, Bhubaneswar and State Child Protection Society, Bhubaneswar. The training of these children is being done through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.
- ✓ Bhubaneswar Art Fair Embraces Disability, CwDs from 8 ICRCs participated in Bhubaneswar Art Fair from 26th to 30th December at Rastriya Lalitakala Academy organized by Subhadra Art Galery. Niranjana Sahoo (S&HI) from ICRC 8 were awarded 2nd prize under the senior category.
- ✓ 2nd Edition of annual event Prativa O Manthan was held on 26th December. Prior to the event, week long competitions were organised in all the ICRCs in various cerebral, performing and creative arts. The CwDs participated in the solo competitions at their respective ICRCs based schools supported by school principals and associate teachers. Facilitators organized the competitions and resource persons judged them. A special quiz competition between the parents was also organized in the morning session to create awareness on child rights. The final event was held at OSEB UG UP School conference hall on 26th December 2017. Jagdeep Mohanty, Director Railway Children International, Upendra Mohanty, Yoga expert were the guests, and Mihir Kumar Mohanty, Director Program presided over the meeting. Winners were distributed trophies and merit

certificates. This program is supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai through project Saksham.

- ✓ On 23rd September Swabhiman celebrated INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF THE DEAF with 32 Speech and Hearing Impaired children and their parents, teachers and Swabhiman team. These children with deafness are from the 8 ICRCs participated in art and pottery competitions. Best performers were awarded with prizes. The training of these children is being done through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.
- ✓ On 6th October 2017, Swabhiman celebrated World CP Day jointly with SSA Odisha at Sector-6 Primary School. A total of 98 participants including children with CP, parents, teachers, BEO and BRPs of Khorda district were present. Ms. Surekah Tarai Deputy Director presided over the meeting. Amita Pattanaik DPC, Khorda and URC were also present. R. K. Sharma, Assistant Director VRCH, Bhubaneswar and Sudipta Mishra (CP), OLS were the speakers. On this occasion Sudipta Mishra was felicitated for her achievements. The participation and conduct of this program was through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.
- ✓ On 12th January 2018, 21 children with disability from our 8 ICRCs participated in different competitions (art, music, and dance) in Bachpan Ka Rangmanch- the children's fest organized with Souls for Solace- the social welfare society of IIT Bhubaneswar. Niranjan Sahoo (HI) awarded in 1st, Subhrasish Mohanty (LV) in 2nd and Priyanka Ratha in 3rd position in the Art competition and Barsharani Behera (OH) in 1st and Kiran Behera (OH) in 2nd position in the dance competition. Sarthak Diwedi (autistic) got special awards for bravery. The training of these children is being done through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.
- ✓ UNESCO, Delhi organized the National Consultation Meeting of Promoting the Right to Quality Education for Children with Disabilities in New Delhi on 23rd August, 2017. Mr. Shigeru Aoyagi, Director & UNESCO Representative desired that with the implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 in India, the quality of each child including a child with disability should be promoted as a matter of right. Dr. Sruti Mohapatra made a presentation on the successful education projects being run by Swabhiman and the success in bringing dropouts back to school. She shared the amazing performance by divyang students when provided equal opportunities and a support system. Project Saksham is being supported by Aditya Birla Finance Services.
- ✓ A total 20 numbers of CwDs from 6 ICRCs participated in different games and got certificates, medals and winner's trophy, on 15th October Sports meet "X-ENABLE" organized by Students Social Responsibility Cell of the Xavier University of Business Management, Bhubaneswar. The training of these children is being done through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.
- ✓ On 25th November three CwDs Rashmi Sahoo (Down Syndrome), Kiran Behera (OH), Sarthak Dewedi (Autistic) performed in PHRONESIS 8.0 organized by PRAYASH a student wing of International Management Institute Bhubaneswar. Every performance was much appreciated and cheered. The training of these children is being done through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.

## **Thematic Area - 2: Livelihood enhancement through vocational training**

Under livelihood theme in second year of the project Saksham there are few significant changes has happened and it has created many positive impacts in the life of many youth with disabilities.

- ✓ A sense of confidence and positive feeling has been developed among all those 13 YWDs who had been provided job opportunities, linkages with loan facilities and supported through self-employment programs. These employments, exposure to orientation sessions, training and exposure to various trades made these youths became stronger and more accountable towards them as well as the society.
- ✓ Economic independence has brought with it high self-esteem and given voice to voiceless. During this year 13 youth with disabilities have started earning regular monthly income through our vocational training for self-employment and market linked jobs, the monthly earning varies from Rs 8000/- as highest and Rs 3000/- as lowest.
- ✓ 44 YwDs trained on soft skills and attended interviews in big shops, corporate agencies, professional institutions and other vendors.
- ✓ 8 YwDs were provided with self-employment kit/support to start and scale-up their entrepreneurship.
- ✓ Facilitated 10 youths including 4 youth with disabilities to complete their education at secondary and senior secondary level through NIOS which will help them in pursuing skill development training programmes of their choice.
- ✓ With the employability and participation of youth with disabilities in different income generating activities increased the confidence of the parents in the abilities of their children with disabilities. It also defined their place in the community and creating followers.
- ✓ YwDs with entrepreneurial skills are supported with Self Employment Kit as start up support as well as for enhancement of income.
- ✓ Ensured market linkage for jobs who are determined to work and earn a livelihood
- ✓ Addressed the issue of discrimination against disability, while approached for employment at Udyan Fresh and Caste InfoTech the employers were hesitant to appoint speech and hearing impaired youths and also youths with higher percentage of disabilities.
- ✓ On 13th May 2017 three self-employment kits were distributed to Manoj Mohanty, Swapna Rani Swain and Rosy Sahoo.
- ✓ Manoj Mohanty (age 26) is an orthopedically challenged boy who stays at Adheikhala basti near BJB Nagar. Manoj works as a carpenter and hardly manages to earn around Rs. 5000/- per month. He requested support in form of some gadgets to make his work simpler and save time to take up more work assignments. So he was provided with Angle Grinder and Planner which will increase his income by Rs 3000/- per month.
- ✓ Swopna Rani Swain, who is orthopedically handicapped and has mild CP, runs a small shop since 2014 with a capital fund of only 2000/- which she saved and earns 70-80 rupees per day. But with increasing demand and to take care of her aging parents she needs growth and sustainability in her business and requested stationary items to help raise her daily income to Rs.150-160 per day.
- ✓ Rozi Sahoo is mentally challenged. With the help of her mother she is running a small shop near her home and earns 100-120 rupees per day. She requested for grocery items and we supported her with that.
- ✓ On 26th June 2017 Swabhiman organized a Jewelry making training workshop for the mothers of CwDs in Swabhiman training hall. The expert Trevor Perera taught them how to make it and where they can sale it. A total number of 12 mothers participated in the

workshop. The skill development program was conducted through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.

### **Thematic Area - 3: Health and therapeutic interventions**

- ✓ Dental treatment of 40 CwDs from different ICRCs was conducted with the support of HiTech Medical college during this 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the project
- ✓ 6 Cwds got their eye treatment from LV Prasad Eye hospital through the referral linkage of the project and 17 CwDs attended the Eye treatment camp by Netra Mandir. 4 CwDs got treatment and therapy from RBSK program from Govt. through linkage of this project.
- ✓ 65 CwDs got the best treatment through the referral service of Saksham project from AIMS, Bhubaneswar.
- ✓ 105 CwDs have taken regular physiotherapy during the whole year and there are visible change in their mobility
- ✓ 102 CwDs are regularly taking Speech Therapy, resulted significantly in their speech improvements and communication pattern.
- ✓ 169 CwDs have taken Yoga Therapy in this year, helped children in developing their concentration, health and other body & mind coordination issues.
- ✓ Out of the total of 250 CWDs attended health camps organised at ICRC level till date, 90 CWDs has got this benefit in this 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the project.
- ✓ A total of 207 CwDs attended dental check-up camps 43 attended in this year.
- ✓ Out of the 117 CwDs attended the neurological assessment camps 111 Cwds attended in this second year of this project.
- ✓ 56 Cwds of ICRCs attended the health assessment camps organised by Education department in the year 2017.
- ✓ On 19th June, eve of International Yoga Day, our ICRCs celebrated Yoga day and 20 children with disabilities participated in celebration of International Yoga Day at Janata Maidan Bhubaneswar by Ministry of Oil and Natural gas, Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and Ministry of AYUSH GoI. The yoga training of children was conducted through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.

### **Thematic Area - 4: Empowerment through ensuring access and entitlements**

Accessibility to all the facilities available in the school and Govt. entitlements has a major role in the empowerment process of all CwDs and YwDs. Considering this fact, in the second year of the project we focused on facilitating, monitoring and advocacy for the best utilization of the available funds at the school level sanctioned for the construction of all accessible features in the ICRC based schools. This has help in ensuring best accessibility facilities in those schools.

We have also achieved very good results in ensuring the entitlements and facilities provided by Govt. for CwDs in the second year of the project. Following are the specific impacts that project saksham has created this year.

- ✓ 108 CwDs received their Disability Certificates through the facilitation of SAKSHAM during the project period and 43 applications have been applied this year. Out of which 96 CwDs got in the 1<sup>st</sup> year and 12 have received in the second year of the project.
- ✓ 82 UDID card have been applied this year through Saksham, as per the new Govt guideline for UDID.
- ✓ A total of 98 CwDs got Train Pass in the project and only 25 have received train concession last year whereas 73 have received in the second year of the project and application of 8 CwDs have been applied.
- ✓ A total of 135 Bus Pass received by CwDs and YwDs during the project period. Whereas 85 have received bus concession last year and 50 have received in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the project.
- ✓ 90 Cwds got Banishree Scholarship in the second year of the project and 6 had received in the year one.
- ✓ Total of 53 CwDs got Madhubabu Pension in the project through the linkage of this project, out of which 14 had received last year. 49 CwDs scholarship applications have been applied this year.
- ✓ Bank Account – 59 bank accounts has been opened this year.
- ✓ 48 Income Certificate for CwDs was facilitated through the project in this year of the project whereas – 13 have received the certificates in the 1<sup>st</sup> year.
- ✓ Facilitated Adhar Card of 54 CwDs this year.
- ✓ Swabalamban Health Insurance of 32 CwDs has been applied in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the project.

#### **Community level Outreach activities by Project SAKsham**

- ✓ Enabling and empowering persons with disabilities is the mission of Swabhiman. On the request of Chinmay, tennis star of Odisha, and his volunteers in Chocolate group, a team from Swabhiman reached Mendhasal on 02/04/17. A total 15 PwDs attended the camp where they were supported in applying for their entitlements - disability certificates and Swabalamban health insurance, through SAKSHAM project. Two of them need wheelchairs and two need white canes. Swabhiman is trying to facilitate procurement of both from government agencies which distribute free. For Rajalaxmi, a wheelchair, she appeared 10th exam this year, and wish to study +2science. She will be supported with a scholarship. Team Leader Asit Ku Behera coordinated the event with the help of Senior Facilitator Tapas K Jena and Facilitator Santosh Behera. Chocolate group volunteers included Bibek Kumar Sethi, Subrat Pradhan, Susmita Sethi, Deepak Parida, Abhijit Pradhan, Kalandi Jena and Chinmoy Pradhan. The program was supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.
- ✓ On 27th June 2017, by the grace of Lord Jagannath 30 C/PwDs with their escorts reached Puri for Jagannath Darshan in Gundicha temple during Ratha Jatra festivities. A resting booth was made for the PwDs with chairs, drinking water and first aid facilities near to the temple. Barefoot volunteers of the local organisation of Puri welcomed our C/PwDs. Puri District Collector Arabinda Agarwal and Barefoot founder Yugabrata Kar joined to inaugurate the booth. It was a first time experience for many and an awe inspiring experience for the PwDs to see lord Jagannath and the chariots from close quarters. The activity was conducted through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.

- ✓ On the occasion of International Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Day, 5th September, Swabhiman organized awareness program in 7 Govt. Schools and 3 Communities of Bhubaneswar and in the evening a Candle Light march from lower PMG to Master Canteen with 80 persons and children with spinal cord injury and disabilities and their family. The activity was conducted through project Saksham supported by Aditya Birla Financial Services, Mumbai.
- ✓ Senior producer of Doordarshan, Ms. Dipti Mishra has conceptualised a program in the lines of Satyameva Jayate. Her first episode was on disability. About 25 divyangs were invited to studio for a shooting. Swabhiman coordinated divyangs from across Odisha. Each a hero and expert in his/her field. Kamakhi Prasad (VI), lecturer from Koraput, Sambit Das(VI), Banker from Cuttack, Rashmirekha Sahoo (MR), Odissi Dancer from BBSR, Minakshi Mishra(S&HI) and Sripati Narayan Joshi (S&HI), Architect, Odisha Nirmana Soudha, BBSR, Shakti Swaroopa Bir(S&HI) and Mithilesh Patnaik (MR), Odissi Dance teacher, Sai International school, BBSR, Nasim Azam (S&HI) Artist and Art Teacher, BBC School for the Deaf, BBSR, Shaista Parween (CP), 1st Divyang Law student from National, Cuttack, Swadhin Kumar Pradhan (VI), Singer, BBSR, Biraja Routray (OH), Asst. Collector and writer, Kendrapara, Sudipta Mishra (CP), Special Educator, OLS, BBSR, Md. Jafar (VI), National Cricketer, BBSR, Dr. Sushree Sarangi(OH), Doctor, Sum Hospital, BBSR, Durga Prasad Pattanaik (OH), Chartered Accountant and Entrepreneur, BBSR, Suresh Kumar Sahoo (OH) Industrialist, BBSR, Durga Shankar Dash (MD), Student, BJB Junior College, BBSR.

### **Capacity building activities**

- ✓ Four members from Swabhiman attended training cum workshop at CYSD on issues related to Deaf-blindness. This was organised by Aaina & Sense International. Swabhiman is actively engaged in making mothers key players in their child's education and active members of SMCs. In this training and sensitization program two staff members Tapas & Bratati attended the program with two mothers from Project Saksham of Swabhiman and enriched their experiences.
- ✓ Regular capacity building program for Facilitators have been organized for facilitators and other staffs of Project Saksham, on various topics like making of TLM, resource mapping at community level, facilities and concessions for C/PwDs, and different features under RPwD Act 2016.

### **Enabling factors in creating these impacts**

- ✓ Active participation of parents in the whole process of the project implementation to make their dreams and aspirations for the improvement for their children.
- ✓ Good coordination and regular interaction with School authorities, BEO office and Schools and Mass Education Department, Govt of Odisha
- ✓ Support of Head Master/Head Mistress of all schools under one ICRC based schools.

- ✓ Hard working and dedicated project team along with other staffs of Swabhiamn in bringing the CwDs to ICRCs and ensuring their involvement in different activities. Transparency in our work builds confidence of parents.
- ✓ Guidance of Project Director and the Program manager and encouragement and acknowledgement of project director helped a lot in bringing positive changes in the second year of intervention.

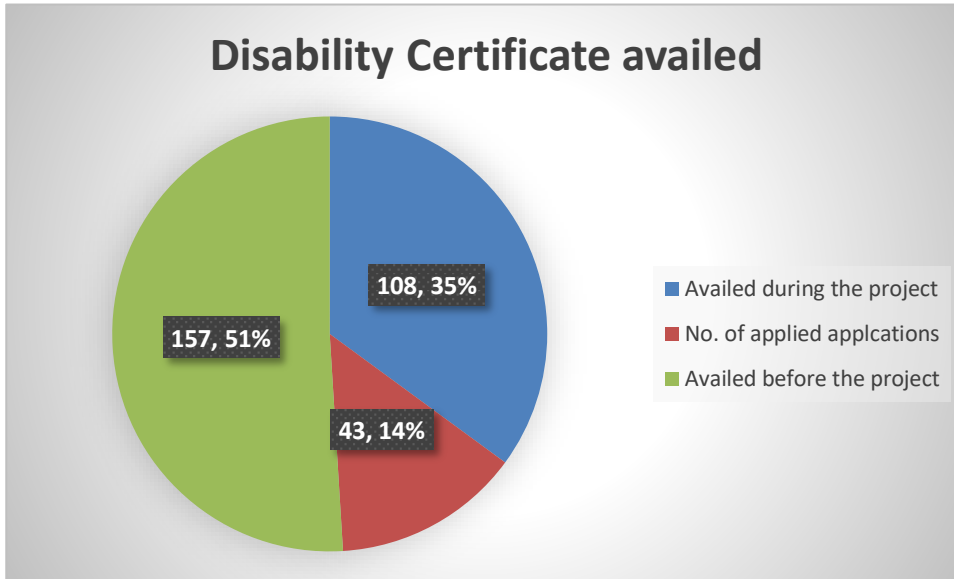
### **What were the challenges faced during the project**

- ✓ One of the challenges we faced even in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the project that teachers denied in few schools to enrol CwDs and also denied to keep them in school after enrolment. But through regular counselling to teachers and pressure from education department helped us to overcome this challenge and we could enrol 48 new CwDs in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of this project.
- ✓ The parents of CwDs who are daily labourer unable to come to ICRCs regularly. Allmost 95% of our partner community belong to the lowest socio-economic strata with very minimum exposure and knowledge hence it is taking lot of time for mobilizing 100% of parents and their CWD, we are exploring to link them with some income generation activities which will add value to the project.
- ✓ Attitudinal barrier of many teachers and duty bearers towards disability is still very strong and difficult to break.
- ✓ Absence of specialist doctors in medical to address their need.
- ✓ As the govt process is delayed online application for certificate, bus pass concessions etc got very delayed at the same time expectation of parents raised so maintain balance was complicated.
- ✓ Gap in the flow of the fund from ABFS has also created some difficulties for our small organisation like Swabhiman.

### **Annexure - 1 Table and Graphs**

Type of Disabilities	Certificates			
	Availed during the project	No. of applied applications	Availed before the project	Total No. of Disability recorded
Speech and Hearing Impairment	23	11	30	72
Speech Stammering	0	4	0	9
Vision Impairment	6	4	2	13
Mentally Retarded	17	8	34	73
Low vision	9	2	8	26
Cerebral Palsy	5	1	12	21
OH	26	7	41	89
ADHD	0	0	1	1

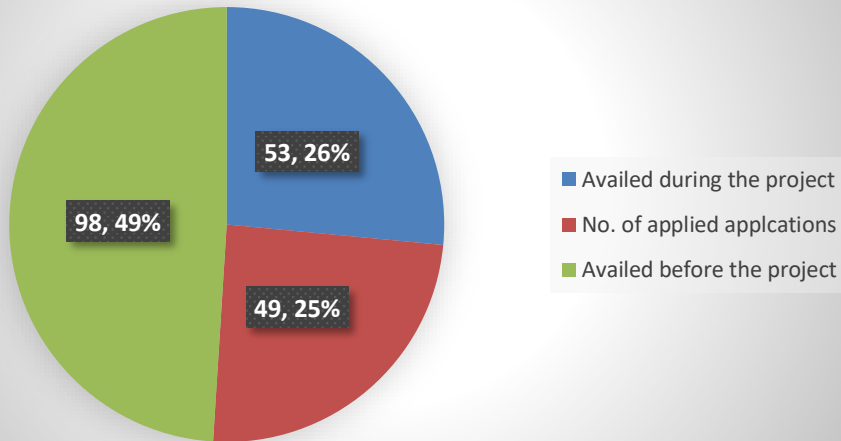
Autism	3	2	0	5
Multiple Disability	19	4	29	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>367</b>



Type of Disabilities	Madhubabu Pension			
	Availed during the project	No. of applied applications	Availed before the project	Total No. of Disability recorded
Speech and Hearing Impairment	13	8	7	72
Speech Stammering	0	1	0	9
Vision Impairment	6	4	2	13
Mentally Retarded	7	8	27	73
Low vision	4	3	2	26
Cerebral Palsy	2	3	9	21
OH	11	10	31	89
ADHD	0	0	1	1
Autism	1	1	0	5
Multiple Disability	9	11	19	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>367</b>

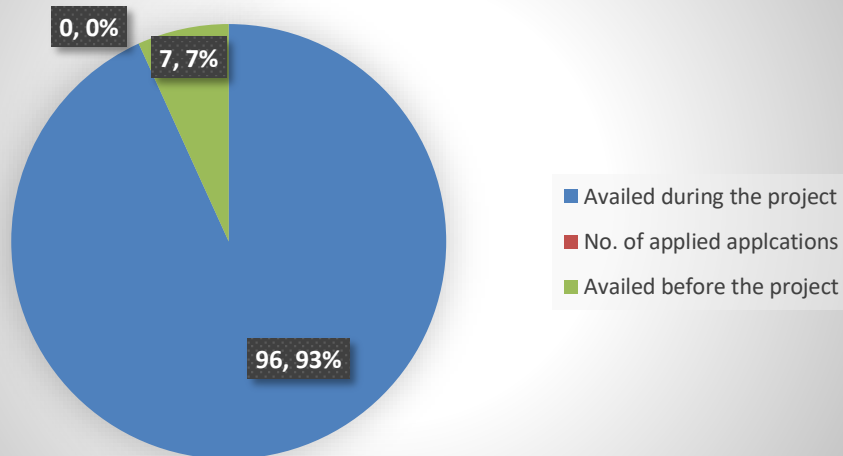


## Madhubabu Pension availed



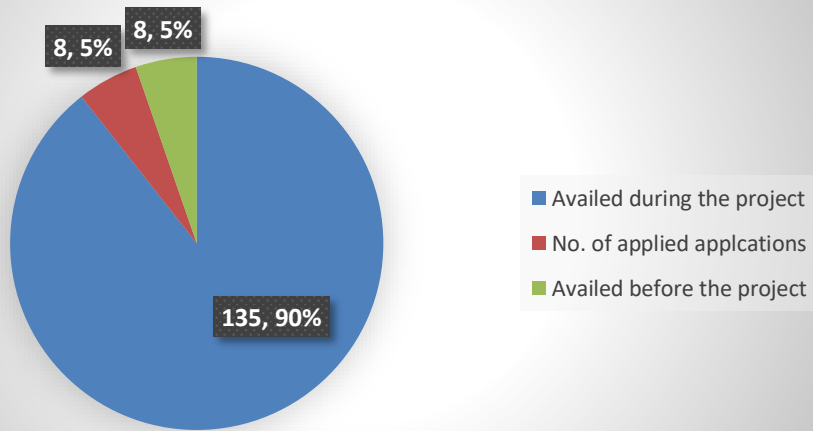
Type of Disabilities	Banishree			
	Availed during the project	No. of applied applications	Availed before the project	Total No. of Disability recorded
Speech and Hearing Impairment	21	0	0	72
Speech Stammering	0	0	0	9
Vision Impairment	1	0	0	13
Mentally Retarded	24	0	2	73
Low vision	7	0	1	26
Cerebral Palsy	6	0	0	21
OH	23	0	2	89
ADHD	0	0	1	1
Autism	2	0	0	5
Multiple Disability	12	0	1	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>367</b>

## Banishree Scholarship availed



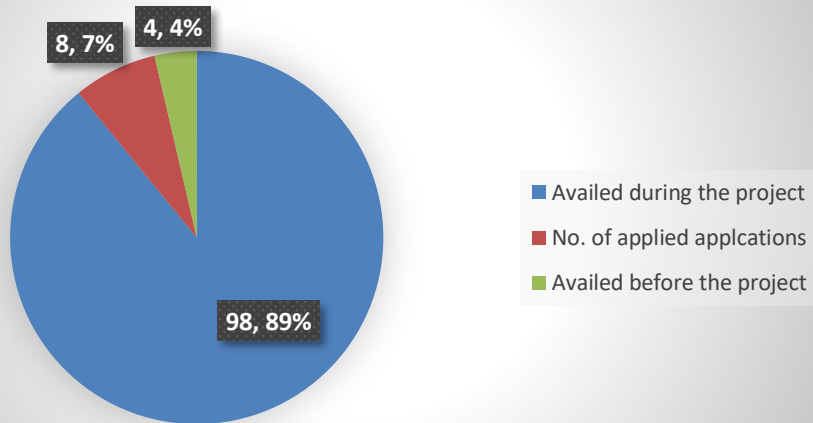
Type of Disabilities	Bus Pass			Total No. of Disability recorded
	Availed during the project	No. of applied applications	Availed before the project	
Speech and Hearing Impairment	24	6	1	72
Speech Stammering	0	0	0	9
Vision Impairment	5	0	0	13
Mentally Retarded	31	0	1	73
Low vision	10	0	0	26
Cerebral Palsy	4	1	2	21
OH	38	1	1	89
ADHD	0	0	1	1
Autism	2	0	0	5
Multiple Disability	21	0	2	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>367</b>

## Bus Pass availed



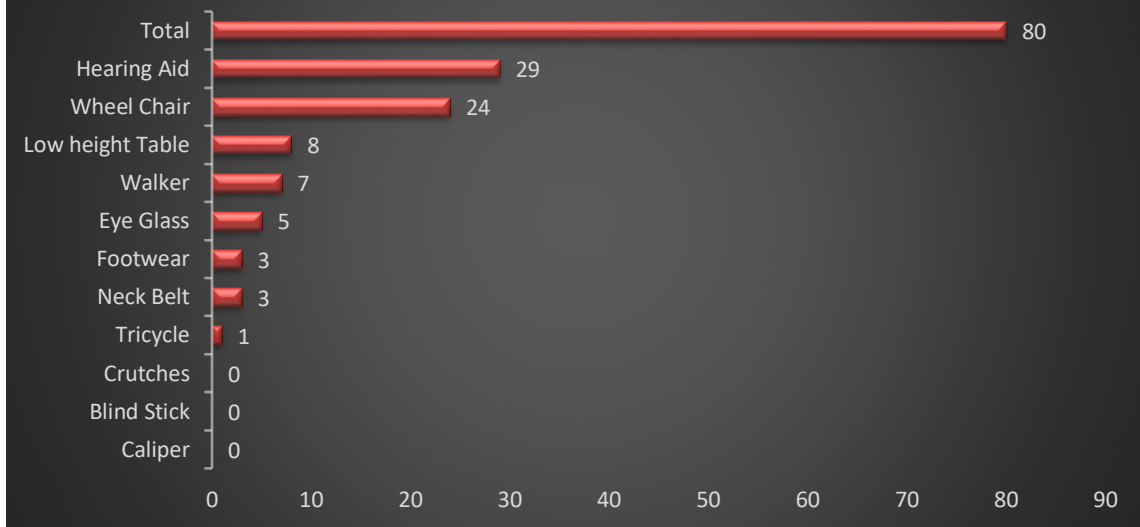
Type of Disabilities	Train Pass			Total No. of Disability recorded
	Availed during the project	No. of applied applications	Availed before the project	
Speech and Hearing Impairment	17	5	0	72
Speech Stammering	0	0	0	9
Vision Impairment	2	0	0	13
Mentally Retarded	22	1	2	73
Low vision	7	0	0	26
Cerebral Palsy	4	1	1	21
OH	31	1	0	89
ADHD	0	0	1	1
Autism	2	0	0	5
Multiple Disability	13	0	0	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>367</b>

## Train Pass availed



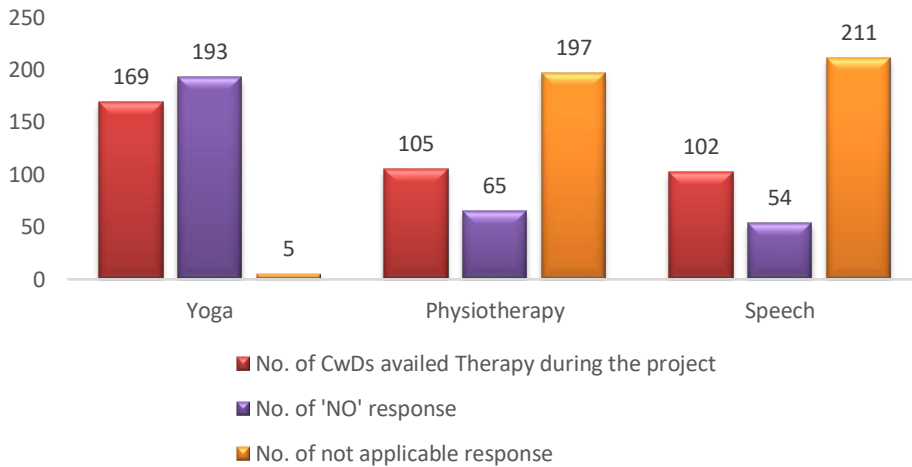
Assistive Devices	No. of Assistive Devices Distributed
Caliper	0
Blind Stick	0
Crutches	0
Tricycle	1
Neck Belt	3
Footwear	3
Eye Glass	5
Walker	7
Low height Table	8
Wheel Chair	24
Hearing Aid	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>

## No. of Assistive Devices Distributed



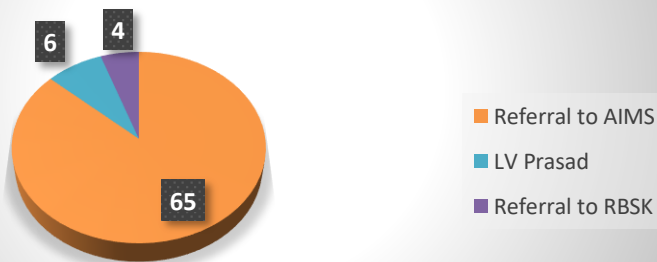
Type of Therapy	No. of CwDs availed Therapy during the project	No. of 'NO' response	No. of not applicable response
Yoga	169	193	5
Physiotherapy	105	65	197
Speech	102	54	211

### Types of Therapy availed by CwDs



	No. of CwDs Referred to Health Services
Referral to AIMS	65
LV Prasad	6
Referral to RBSK	4

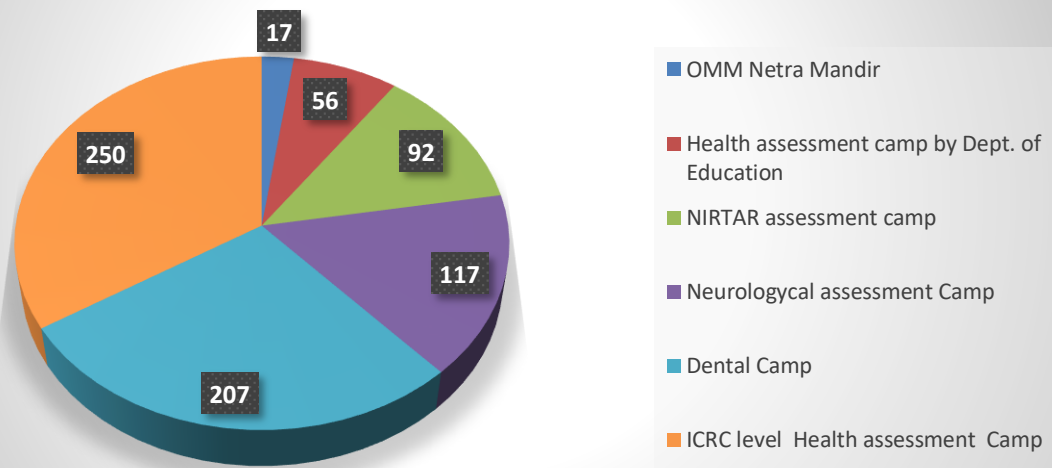
### No. of CwDs Referred to Health Services



Types of Camp	No. of CwDs availing camp services during the project
OMM Netra Mandir	17

Health assessment camp by Dept. of Education	56
NIRTAR assessment camp	92
Neurological assessment Camp	117
Dental Camp	207
ICRC level Health assessment Camp	250

### No. of CwDs availing camp services during the project



#### Case studies

Already selected

#### Photographs

Already selected

## **Paper Clippings**

Compiled

## **About Aditya Birla Financial Services**

## **About the implementing Organisation**

Swabhiman – Founded in 2001, Swabhiman is a registered nonprofit, a cross disability organization, advocating for and serving persons with disabilities in Odisha, India and South Asia. It advocates for the human rights-based approach to disability implying that all persons with disabilities need to participate in all spheres of society on an equal basis with their non-disabled peers.

Swabhiman has been in the forefront of several policy changes that have positively impacted the lives of persons with disabilities. It specifically focuses on supporting education, strengthening youth for availing employment opportunities, increasing public awareness on the issue of disability, working towards accessible cities and conducting research for enabling advocacy.

Swabhiman works at the international level with DPI (Disabled People's International), at national level with NDN (National Disability Network), and in local level with its network (Odisha State Disability Network) of district chapters to create a strong and impressive network of civil rights advocates promoting and protecting rights of persons with disabilities at all levels.