CHAPTER 6

Disabled Persons' Welfare

Programme Vision

We work towards enabling the disabled to develop their potential and face the world on equal terms. Our programmes promote:

- Recognition of the equal rights of the disabled

- Self-reliance through independent mobility and vocational education

- Employment generation

- Physical, psychological and medical rehabilitation of the disabled

Empowering the disabled through mobility – Bingos lined-up for distribution

Bing
Bing

Disabled Persons' Welfare

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2006 – 2007

SELF–RELIANCE THROUGH INDEPENDENT MOBILITY AND MEDICAL REHABILITATION

Motorised Vehicle Distribution

- Awarded a record number of 150 motorised vehicles (Bingos) to orthopaedically challenged persons to enhance their mobility and self-reliance.
- Secured sponsorship for 143 Bingos from 38 companies and 1 individual donor.

Mobility Camps

- Organized two Mobility Camps; one in U.P and another in Jammu and Kashmir for providing hand-made artificial foot and lower limb prosthesis called the 'Jaipur Foot' to persons with locomotor disabilities.
- A total of 231 individuals provided the Jaipur Foot.

Distribution of Assistive Devices

- Distributed hearing aids to 40 children in the age group of 3-16 years.

Lifeline Express Camps

- Organised two month-long camps at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan and Unchahar, UP. Total of 1178 eye, ear and cleft-lip surgeries performed and 677 assistive devices distributed.

PREVENTION OF CAUSES OF DISABILITIES

Project Health Watch

- Held two "Project Health Watch" workshops at Unchahar, U.P and Agra, U.P to train 120 doctors and primary healthcare workers on prevention, early detection and management of disabilities.

EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTION

Early Intervention Programme for Hearing Impaired Children

- Second year supported an early intervention programme for diagnosis and rehabilitation of hearing impairment in Vadodra, Gujarat.
- 30 children enrolled in the early intervention programme.
- Home Training Programme by a Speech Pathologist & Audiologist started for six early intervention children and their parents.

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

Manufacture and Marketing of Screwpine Craft

- Trained 20 disabled and 10 non-disabled women in screwpine crafts in Kottapuram, Kerala. The products manufactured are being marketed.
- With support from GAIL, one more batch of 20 disabled women from coastal panchayats of Thrissur and Emakulam Districts is under training.

Oyster Mushroom Cultivation

- Training in mushroom cultivation started for a batch of 25 disabled women in Bhind, Madhya Pradesh.

ACCESS - PROMOTING A DISABLED FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

Accessible Delhi Project

- Initiated project for making Delhi reasonably accessible by the year 2008, for which a road map was also released.
- Collaborated with Samarthya to make 20 public buildings/external environment/ transportation barrier free in a time-bound manner.

AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY FOR THE INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

Advocacy Workshops on Legal Literacy for Disability

- Organised two legal literacy workshops on the rights of the disabled in Unchahar, U.P and Agra, U.P.
- 115 lawyers and NGO representatives attended.

Radio Serial for the Visually Impaired

- 52 radio episodes of 30 minutes duration aired on All India Radio to inform and inspire persons with visual impairments.
- Information imparted by interviewing the person directly involved with the issue of blindness and covering vital information on blindness in guidance section.

COMMUNITY–BASED REHABILITATION OF DISABLED PEOPLE

Landmine Survivors' Assistance Programme in Punjab

- Initiated in Abohar Block of Ferozepur District, Punjab to develop a pioneering model for community-based rehabilitation of landmine survivors, together with a mine-risk education programme in local schools and the border communities.

SELF–RELIANCE THROUGH INDEPENDENT MOBILITY AND MEDICAL REHABILITATION

MOTORISED VEHICLE DISTRIBUTION

Goal: To empower orthopaedically challenged individuals through independent mobility.

Background: Since its inception in 1992, the Motorised Vehicle Distribution Scheme has brought hope for a brighter tomorrow in the lives of almost 625 disabled individuals from all over the country. These vehicles have not only enabled many deserving students to pursue higher education but also helped others to sustain their jobs and expand their businesses.

This year, RGF surpassed all the previous numbers and distributed a record number of 150 Bingos - a Kinetic Nova 135 cc scooter with stabilized wheels specially designed for orthopaedically challenged individuals.

Achievements:

- A total of 150 Bingos have been distributed - 50 on 20 August 2006, 30 on 19 November 2006 and 70 on 24 March 2007.
- Prior to the distributions, a training programme on 'Safe Driving' was organised in collaboration with the Institute of Road Traffic Education (IRTE) to help the beneficiaries learn to handle the vehicle safely.
- A record total of Rs. 93,38,506 for 143 Bingos was raised for the programme this year from 38 companies and one individual. Out of this the Foundation secured sponsorship for 128 Bingos directly and the remaining 15 were raised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) from six member companies.

Above: Smt. Sonia Gandhi handing over the key of a Bingo to an awardee

Left: The Bingo – a disabled-friendly motorised vehicle

SPONSORS OF MOTORISED VEHICLES

Vehicles Sponsored	Sponsors	Total
10	Gail India Ltd., ONGC, SAIL, ABN Amro Bank, ICICI, GTL, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.	70
7	State Bank of India	7
5	Aditya Vikram Birla Memorial Trust, Omaxe Ltd., Hindustan Charity Trust 1959, Bank of Maharashtra	20
4	DCM Shriram Ltd.	4
3	Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd., Godrej Industries Ltd., IDBI	9
2	TATA Steel Ltd., Bharat Forge Ltd., Apeejay Pvt. Ltd., Patton Group,Pirojsha Godrej Foundation, Ballarpur Industries Ltd., GVK Industries Ltd., Radisson Hotel (Delhi), HUDCO, Hind Agro	20
1	Oil India Ltd., Wartsila India Ltd., Indian Hotel Co. Ltd., Alcatel South Asia Ltd., Gagandeep Singh Mann, Ambuja Cement Foundation, SRF Ltd., Genpact, Liberty Shoes, TVS Motor Company, Bharti Foundation, Telecommunication Consultant (I) Ltd., Usha Martin Ltd.	13

MOBILITY CAMPS

Goal: To rehabilitate persons with locomotor disabilities through Jaipur Foot.

Background: Empowering the disabled by providing mobility is an area of priority for the Foundation. In its efforts to reach the maximum number of orthopaedically disabled persons, the Foundation partnered with the Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS), Jaipur to organize mobility camps in un-served areas.

In each area a week-long camp is organised in which persons with locomotor disabilities are identified and are fitted with the Jaipur Foot (artificial

limb). Those who do not qualify for Jaipur Foot are given other assistive devices as per the requirement. The Jaipur foot is a hand-made artificial foot and lower limb prosthesis designed to meet the needs of a developing country lifestyle such as squatting, walking barefoot and sitting cross-legged.

Achievements:

- The first mobility camp was organized at Agra, U.P. from 1st to 5th February 2007.
- The second mobility camp was organized at Poonch, J&k from 20 to 25 February 2007.
- A total of 231 individuals have benefited through these mobility camps.

Smt Sonia Gandhi awarding hearing aids on 24 March 2007

DISTRIBUTION OF ASSISTIVE DEVICES

Goal: To enable disabled persons to overcome their disability with the use of assistive devices.

Background: The project aims at providing assistance to students with hearing impairment in order to enable them to work at par with their non-disabled peers.

Achievement: A total of 40 hearing aids for use by children in the age range of 5 to 16 years were distributed on 24 March 2007.

Surgeons performing cataract surgery inside the Lifeline Express

LIFELINE EXPRESS CAMPS

Goal: To provide free of cost medical facilities to persons in remote parts of the country.

Background: The Lifeline Express (LLE) is a mobile train hospital run in collaboration with Impact India Foundation, Mumbai. Rural areas lack medical facilities and the majority of rural people are also not aware of techniques in medical science for the treatment of cleft lip, ear drum and polio deformities. Most of them cannot afford the cost of surgical interventions. The LLE project caters to the needs of such poor and needy people.

The LLE train provides surgical

Nazima after operation at LLE Unchahar

Each time the Lifeline Express reaches a remote area, it transforms the lives of hundreds of poor people and disadvantaged. Ms. Nazima and her parents reside in a remote village in Unchahar, U.P. Nazima, daughter of a poor labourer, sufferred from a bilateral cleft lip. She was a deep worry for her poor parents, as she could not be married off. She was operated free of cost on the "Magic Train", the Lifeline Express, a state of the art, first of its kind, mobile train hospital. She did not imagine in her wildest dreams that she could be treated and live a normal life like other women in the village. Her parents were overjoyed and thanked the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and the Lifeline Express. "The Rajiv Lifeline Express came in the form of '*Khuda ka Karishma*' and has changed our life forever. Now I can also get my daughter married", said her father.

interventions for polio, ear defects, cleft lip and cataract. Also assistive devices like calipers, crutches, intra ocular lenses and hearing aids are distributed. The entire service is provided free of cost to the patients.

Achievements: Two camps were organized in 2006-07.

- The first camp was organized in Jaisalmer from 17 August to 6 September 2006 in partnership with URMUL Trust. Inspite of major and disruptive floods in the district during the camp period, which made access to the train difficult, a total of 192 surgeries were performed.
- The second camp was organized in Unchahar, Uttar Pradesh from 22 September to 18 October 2006. A total of 986 surgeries were performed, which included 127 cleft lip surgeries, 82 ear drum surgeries and 777 cataract surgeries. Besides, 127 tricycles and 550 hearing aids were also distributed.

PREVENTION OF CAUSES OF DISABILITIES

PROJECT HEALTH WATCH

Goal: The main goal of this project is to build the capacity of health functionaries at the district level for prevention, early detection and management of disabilities.

Background: Through the "Project Health Watch", the Foundation trains health functionaries (medical officers, primary health care workers, ANMs and Angawadi workers) of the primary health centres (PHCs) and sub – centres on the prevention, early detection and management of disabilities.

The department of Social and Preventive Medicine, King George Medical University, Lucknow, provides the training expertise. The training include pre-pregnancy care, antenatal care, natal and postnatal care; immunization, nutrition, balanced diet, vitamin A deficiency, identification of "at risk" cases and information about other childhood diseases, their prevention and management; community needs assessment and preparation of action plans for management of disabilities; management of essential drugs, vaccine & other supplies at PHCs.

Anganwadi and female health workers in the auditorium of LLE during Project Health Watch workshop in Unchahar

Achievements:

i) A workshop was organised at Unchahar, U.P on 12 October 2006 to train 67 medical officers and paramedics of different PHCs.
ii) In another workshop organised in February at Agra, UP, 18 medical officers and 35 paramedics were trained.

EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTION

EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMME FOR HEARING-IMPAIRED CHILDREN

Goal: Provide educational rehabilitation to hearing-impaired children through early intervention.

Background: The second phase of this project was started in June 2006 with Akshar Trust in Vadodara, Gujarat for providing educational rehabilitation to severely hearing-impaired children at an early age to maximise the benefits of auditory training. The child is provided with an enabling environment to develop speech. Efforts are made to integrate the children into mainstream schools.

As the children with special needs require constant practice before they achieve

Kanta Bhat – a beneficiary of the programme narrates...

I am an ex-student of Akshar Trust School. I joined the school when I was 5. I did my regular schooling at Auxilium Convent School in Vadodara. The staff at Akshar is very good, and their learning programs make the students confident and self-reliant. The teachers understand our drawback well.

I continued with Akshar till I passed 9th standard at Auxilium. It was a lot of hard work because my two schools always kept me busy with my studies and learning. Akshar allows parents to accompany students to the school. My mother used to give me company in the school whenever she could. She got the opportunity to learn several teaching methods. She too worked hard to ensure that I completed both regular school and Askhar home work.

Though the teachers at Akshar know sign language, they didn't force the students to learn it. They always encouraged the students to speak and hear.

Attending Akshar helped me overcome the following difficulties to a great extent:

1. Speech and pronunciation
2. Attentively listening to others and following what they say.
3. Earlier, I couldn't speak or understand Hindi. But gradually, I picked up a few words. Now, I can speak as well as follow complete sentences.

I am glad I did my training at Akshar. I can never forget them; my parents and I are grateful to Akshar Trust for bringing me up as a normal girl.

Early intervention programme for hearing-impaired children

skills enough to be integrated into regular schools, their parents are also trained on different aspects of speech therapy so that they can help their wards to practice. The idea is to diagnose the problem at an early stage and take corrective steps so that the child does not lag behind others in development.

The children have been grouped under 'Regular' and 'one-to-one' so that each child receives individualized attention. The regular child gets 20 minutes of individual speech training per day and 40 minutes of group speech training, while the one-to-one child gets 30 minutes of speech training.

Regular parent teacher meetings are also organized to discuss and review the performance of each child. The organisation has introduced a new concept of awarding a child every month for the best behavioural modification, which motivates others to perform better.

Salient features of Early Intervention Programme

- Admission is given to children of all ages and also to children with multiple disabilities.
- Early intervention is not only restricted to chronological age but also to developmental stage at which the child comes.
- Multi-sensory approach is used being the most natural way of learning as the child can effectively use the best modality available to him/her.
- Communication and interaction with the environment is encouraged from an early age.
- Team approach is used where the child, parents and educators are equal partners in the growth process.

Achievements:

- There are 125 children in school and 30 in the early intervention programme.
- Two groups of teachers are being trained to work in special schools for the hearing impaired.
- Each child is given special auditory equipment to exploit any residual hearing which may remain.
- Home Training Programme by a Speech Pathologist & Audiologist started for six early intervention children and their parents.
- Children of Jr. K. G. Hindi Medium School started a new teaching method. Animated presentations of a Story and Numerals in Maths on the computer formed their teaching aids.

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

MANUFACTURE AND MARKETING OF SCREWPINE CRAFT

Goal: Sustainable livelihood for physically challenged women.

Background: The project aims at generating skills within disabled women so that they become contributing members of society.

This project of two years duration was launched in 2004 in collaboration with the Kottapuram Integrated Development Society (KIDS) in Kerala. In each year 20 disabled people - and 10 other people to help the disabled women in procuring raw material and marketing the products - were to be trained.

The training included introduction to the screwpine leaf, splicing of the leaf, weaving of the basic mat, side stitching of the pieces for making the particular craft item, and lining each piece. Also, dyeing of the piece with azo-free or natural dyes.

Training of the second batch of 20 disabled women and 10 helpers started in April 2006. Skills have been developed in making craft items by weaving the screwpine leaves, side stitching and dyeing of the craft items with basic dyes. Design development training will be organized soon to further hone their skills and also generate new wage ideas of craft items using Screwpine leaves.

In view of the encouraging results of the programme, GAIL India Ltd has sponsored replication of the project in the coastal panchayats of Thrissur and Emakulam Districts of Kerala from November 2006.

Achievements:

- The trained women have started making products in their villages and the finished goods are being marketed by KIDS through its linkages.
- A design development workshop has also been organised in which 25 prototypes of new designs using screwpine have been developed.

Disabled women making craft items using screwpine leaves

OYSTER MUSHROOM CULTIVATION

Goal: To promote self-reliance amongst disabled women.

Background: This project was launched in 2004 in partnership with Mahila Bal Vikas Samiti (MBVS), Bhind, Madhya Pradesh. During the first phase, 45 disabled women were trained and assisted to set up their own businesses.

In view of the potential of mushroom cultivation in making disabled women economically self-reliant, the Foundation extended support for training 50 more disabled women. Also, GAIL India partnered with the Foundation to extend support to train another 50 women.

In this phase a total of 100 trainees, plus 30 men who will support the disabled women in procuring raw material and marketing the products, will be trained. The first batch of 25 trainees was inducted in February 2007.

ACCESS - PROMOTING A DISABLED FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

ACCESSIBLE DELHI PROJECT

Goal: To Make Delhi a Barrier-free City

Background: In 2003, the Foundation had initiated a project for making Delhi reasonably accessible by the year 2008, for which a road map was also released. The Delhi Government pledged support for this project. Since then, the Delhi Government has taken several initiatives in this direction.

A Core Committee was formed in 2004 under the Chairmanship of Shri Yoganand Shastri, Minister of Social Welfare, Govt. of NCT of Delhi to oversee the Access Plan. Other members include the Chief Commissioner and the State Commissioner of Disabilities, Secretary (Social Welfare), Secretary (PWD), Director (Social Welfare), Director (Directorate of Health Services), Senior Programme Officer (RGF) and other representatives from government departments working on social welfare. The core committee meets periodically to review the progress of the project. Progress, however, has been tardy.

To accelerate the process, the Foundation is collaborating with Samarthya, National Centre for Promotion of Barrier Free Environment for Disabled Persons, a Delhi based NGO promoting Accessibility for Persons with Disability (PwDs) since 1996, to execute this demonstrative project. The project is of two years' duration which aims at making 20 public buildings/external environment/transportation barrier free in a time-bound manner.

A total of 20 sites have already been identified. Access audits of all these sites will be undertaken which will include identifying and reviewing the barriers, preparing a report with line illustrations /designs/ sketches for implementation and follow-up and monitoring.

In an effort to sensitise key stakeholders on the issue of accessibility, 10 workshops will be organized for them and other interested agencies like academic institutions, Government departments and others.

In addition, a total of 20 individuals with a commitment to accessibility will be trained. Efforts will be made to sensitize government, private sector and civil society to incorporate barrier - free designs in their buildings.

RGF will also develop an advocacy tool by undertaking a step-by-step video documentation of the whole process. This will help to sensitise other state governments and the corporate sector on barrier free towns and buildings.

Achievement:

- Out of the 20 sites identified we have already received the access audit report on 2 sites - Talkatora Garden and Nehru Park.
- The concerned agency for implementation i.e. New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has been contacted to implement the access audit recommendations at the earliest.

AWARENESS AND ADVOCACY FOR THE INCLUSION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

ADVOCACY WORKSHOPS ON LEGAL LITERACY FOR DISABILITY

Goal: To generate awareness regarding legal issues concerning disability.

Background: The project aims at creating awareness and sensitizing NGOs, lawyers and disabled persons about legal issues. We have created a pool of around 350 lawyers and NGOs who provide free legal assistance to persons with disabilities.

Achievements:

- A workshop was organised at Unchahar, U.P in October 2006 during the Life Line Express camp in which 45 persons including lawyers from various Bar Councils and representatives from local NGOs participated.
- In another workshop, organized in February 2007, at Agra, U.P, 28 lawyers and 42 NGO representatives were trained.

RADIO SERIAL FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Goal: To empower and encourage persons with visual impairment through the medium of radio.

Background: Radio is an effective means to inform, inspire, include and thereby empower persons with visual impairments to lead a life with hope and aspiration. In partnership with Score Foundation this project has been initiated for visually impaired persons, their families, NGO professionals, educationists, policy makers, medical professionals and the general population.

The programme -"Eyeway: Yeh Hai Roshni Ka Karawan" is aired by All India Radio Delhi, Mumbai, Lucknow, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Kolkata and Bangalore. Each episode includes a signature tune, introduction of the

programme, an interview of the person directly involved with the issue of blindness, a quick profile of a successful visually-impaired person and a guidance section which covers issues like medical conditions, legal issues, employment/ career opportunities, educational opportunities, etc for the visually impaired'.

Achievements:

- All the 52 episodes have been aired on All India Radio.
- Among the persons interviewed in the programme were Mr. Manoj Kumar, Chief Commissioner for Persons' with Disability, Mr Roshan Rajan who is blind himself and is a progressive singer and also working with a call centre, Mr. A.K Mittal, Regional Director, National Institute for Visually Handicapped, Chennai, Mr. Garimella Subramanian, Senior Editor with the Hindu.
- The issues discussed in the guidance section include Government initiatives for the visually challenged by Ms. Meira Kumar, Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment, childhood blindness by Dr. Sunita Lulla, inclusive education by Ms. Anupam Ahuja, employment option in BPOs by Shanti Raghavan, bringing up blind children by Ms. Snehalatha Rajan, self-employment by Mr. Rakesh Garg, etc.
- Profiles of a few eminent personalities were presented including Louis Braille, inventor of braille, Kanchen Gapa, lawyer and mountaineer, Stevie Wonder, pop singer, Helen Keller, social and disability activist, Pranav Lal, an IT professional, Ravindra Jain, musician, singer and composer, Ms. Sudha Patel, the first blind woman Sarpanch of the country. Celebrities like Nandita Das, Om Puri, Sushma Seth and Vinod Nagpal presented these profiles.
- The feedback received from the audience is highly encouraging. The programme has been professionally produced and people who have listened to it have found it interesting, informative, engaging and inspiring. It has also provided a platform that helps people who need support to connect with people and organizations that can provide support.

COMMUNITY–BASED REHABILITATION OF DISABLED PEOPLE

LANDMINE SURVIVORS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME IN PUNJAB

Goal: To pioneer a cost effective model for community based rehabilitation.

Landmine Victims

Background: The Landmine Survivor Assistance Programme is an effort to develop a cost-effective model for community-based rehabilitation including economic, medical and social rehabilitation of landmine survivors in about 40 villages in the Abohar Block of Ferozepur District, Punjab, which is an impoverished area with poor health care, infrastructure and an unreliable public transport system.

Most landmine victims, living in India's border villages; after their injury, they need complex psychosocial care, physical rehabilitation, artificial limbs, and vocational training in order to reintegrate them back into their communities and maintain their dignity. In most of India's landmine-affected areas, these services are not available.

The project will also undertake a mine-risk education programme in local schools and the border communities. The project is of two years duration. It is being implemented by Society For All Round Development (SARD), a non-governmental organisation. It is the first programme of its kind in the country.

Achievement:

- The project was started in January 2007. The Punjab Government has agreed to extend all necessary support to the project.
- A Training of Trainers will be organised soon for different stakeholders in which technical inputs will be provided by the Indian Red Cross Society.
- SARD has also started the development of IEC material on mine risk education for use in schools and border villages.

DISABLED PERSONS' WELFARE

HIGHLIGHTS (1992 – 2007)

1992 – ongoing

Lifeline Express Project

- Mobile train hospital, run in collaboration with Impact India Foundation for people with disabilities in remote parts of India lacking means of securing medical aid.
- 34,786 disabled persons have been benefited from 33 medical camps.

1992– ongoing

Motorised Triwheeler Scheme

- Developed more disabled friendly motorized vehicle – Bingo.
- About 625 orthopaedically challenged people awarded motorized vehicles to make them self-reliant.
- Training programme on 'Safe Driving for Disabled persons' organised for beneficiaries on the eve of distribution of motorised vehicles.

2002 – ongoing

Distribution of Assistive Devices

- 115 hearing aids distributed to children with hearing impairment within the age range of 3-16 years to enable process of educational rehabilitation to begin early.
- 26 Braillers distributed to various NGOs and universities including the University of Delhi, the Jawaharlal Nehru University and the Jamia Millia Islamia University.

2003 – ongoing

Advocacy Workshops

- Legal literacy – Organised workshops on disability issues for persons with disabilities, NGOs working for their cause and lawyers of local bar councils.
- Information disseminated included details about laws relating to persons with disability, procedure to file public interest litigation, make a will and access the legal system.
- 426 individuals trained from 8 workshops.

Project Health Watch

- Organised workshops to train health functionaries on the prevention, early detection and management of disabilities.
- 320 doctors, NGO representatives, health workers, dais and anganwadi workers benefited through 6 workshops.

Accessible Delhi Project

- Initiated project for making Delhi reasonably accessible by the year 2008, for which a road map was also released.
- Collaborated with Samarthya to make 20 public buildings/external environment/ transportation barrier free in a time-bound manner.

2004 – ongoing

Income Generation Programmes for Women with Disabilities

- Screwpine craft – 40 women with disabilities and 20 non-disabled women trained to manufacture and market craft products in Kerala. Training of another 80 women underway.
- Mushroom cultivation – 45 disabled women trained in cultivation of oyster mushrooms in Bhind, Madhya Pradesh. Training of another 25 women underway.

2004 – ongoing

Early Intervention Programme for Hearing Impaired Children

- Supported an early intervention programme for the early diagnosis and rehabilitation of children with hearing impairment in Vadodra, Gujarat.
- Seven children integrated and 30 another undergoing treatment.

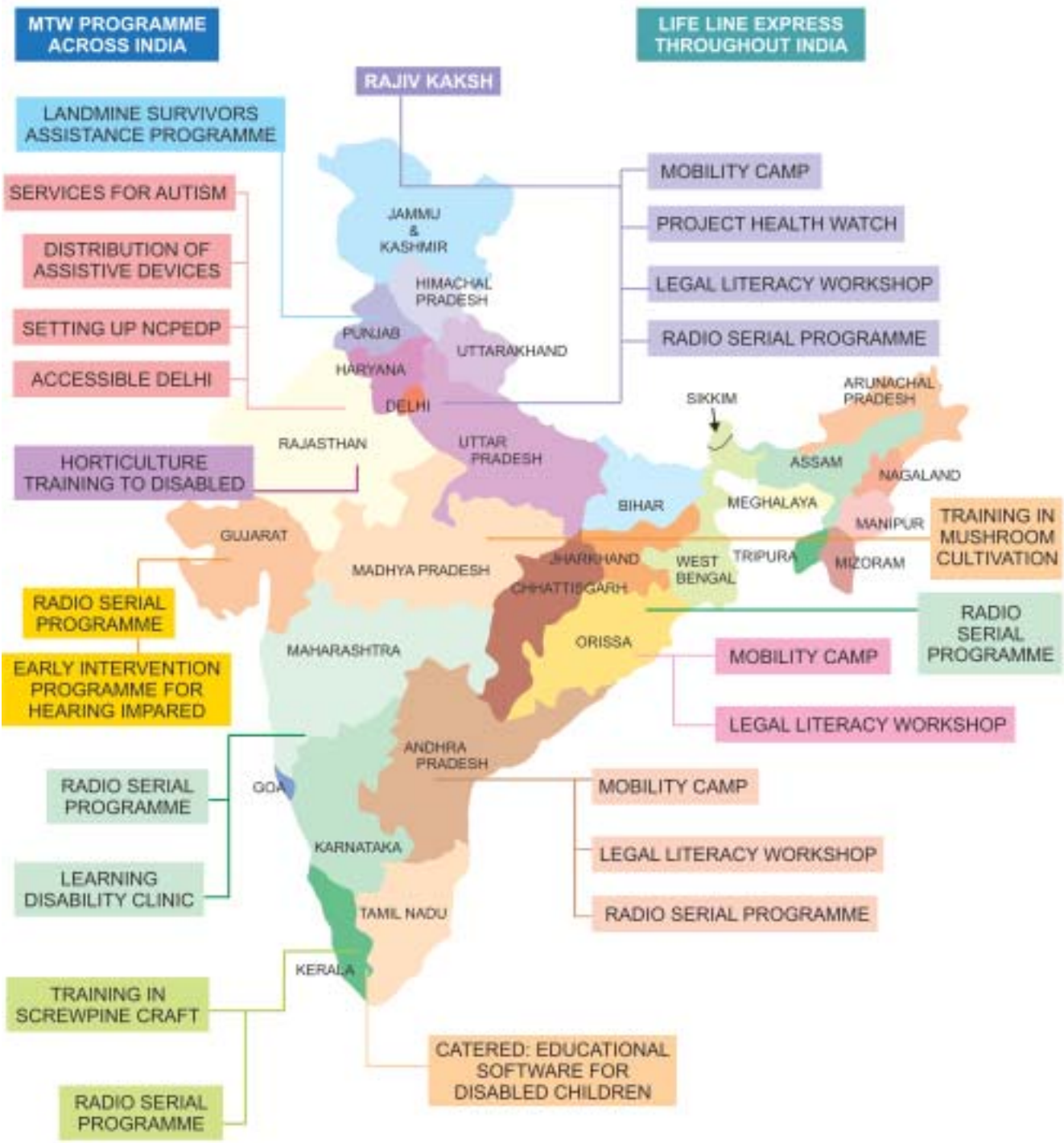
2006 – ongoing

Some other programmes implemented earlier include:

- Project CATERED –educational software for disabled children in Tamil Nadu (1995-97).
- Service Centre for Mentally Challenged Children in Bhawanipatna, Kalahandi district, Orissa (1995-97).
- National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People, New Delhi (1996-98).
- Rajiv Kaksh - Centre for rehabilitation of Speech and Hearing Impaired Children in Udhampur, J&K (1996-98).
- Improving Awareness of Autism among Medical Professionals and Facilitation of Services and Rehabilitation of Newly Diagnosed, New Delhi (1998-2001).
- Learning Disability Clinic, Mumbai (1999-2002).
- Training cum Production Centre in Horticulture for Disabled Youth in Faridabad, Haryana (1999-2001).

Landmine Survivors Assistance Programme in Punjab

- Initiated in Abohar Block of Ferozepur District, Punjab to develop a cost effective model for community-based rehabilitation of landmine survivors.

A landmine victim

RGF'S PROGRAMMES FOR DISABLED PERSON'S WELFARE IN INDIA