Livelihoods for Persons with Disabilities:

A Descriptive Study of Nindura Block, Uttar Pradesh Submitted as a part of Internship Programme at SPARC-India Lucknow.

By

Subhabrata Samal

MA in Disability Studies and Action,

Tata Institute of Social Sciences,

Mumbai

Guided By
Amitabh Mehrotra
Founder Chairperson and Director,
SPARC-India, Lucknow.

SPARC-India

Gurudaya Niwas, 26, Sachivalaya Colony,
Mausambagh, Sitapur road, Lucknow-226 020, Uttar Pradesh, India
Phone: +91 522 2368608, +91 522 6525407.

Website: www.sparcindialko.org

Email: sparcindia@rediffmail.com and sparcindia@rediffmail.com

Certificate

This is to certify that Subhabrata Samal, a student of fourth semester M. A. in Disability Studies and Action, of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, has done this study "Livelihoods of Persons with Disability: A descriptive study of Nindura block, Uttar Pradesh" under my guidance. The report encompasses data based on his observation, primary data collection through field survey and participatory analysis. The findings have not all the references has been properly acknowledged and quoted.

Subhabrata Samal has tried his level best to conduct the research in short time. He has put hard labour to do justice to the study and the report is the outcome of concerted efforts as well as the high spirit behind his commitment to the issue.

Guided by

Amitabh Mehrotra
Founder Chairperson and Director,
SPARC-India,
Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
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Introduction

A Global View:

The United Nations estimates that 10–12 per cent of the world's population, over 600 million people, has some form of disability. Of this total, 80 per cent live in low-income countries. Official definitions of disability vary. However, DISTAT, the UN database on disability which summarises statistics from different countries, mentions figures from 0.3 per cent (in Thailand) to 20 per cent (in New Zealand). People with disabilities are highly over-represented among the poor; about 82 per cent of them live below the poverty line. Poverty is considered both a cause and a consequence of disability. Poverty is a cause of disability since the poor often lack resources to prevent malnutrition, and do not have access to adequate health services that may prevent some disabilities.

Poverty is a consequence of disability since people with disabilities often lack access to education, health services and **income-generating activities**; they are often denied their human, social and economic rights. These factors contribute to high levels of vulnerability and exclusion. People with disabilities are often excluded in work, because of ignorance and prejudice of society. A key factor is often their inability to compete on the basis of relevant skills or qualifications. People with disabilities have the right to work, but they must be given the means to enable them to exercise that right.

SPARC-India, a Non Governmental Organisation providing necessary assistance to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Uttar Pradesh through a community based approach towards their holistic development. In the project, SPARC-India¹ has focused on assisting PWDs to access their rights provided by the government of India.

¹ The study was organised in the location of SPARC-India's Community Based rehabilitation Project

It links and networks organisation that are supportive to this work and support the PWDs. In the project area, it has been experienced by SPARC-India that PWDs who earn their own living or making a valuable contribution to family income, helps best in shaking off the stigma and trauma of 'dis-ability' and dependency.

SPARC-India therefore would like to develop a comprehensive programme for enhancing livelihood opportunity for PWDs through various means that suitable for them in the project area where it already runs a community based rehabilitation programme with a special focus to their rights of persons with disability. This project would intend to provide necessary support in finding an employment, provide necessary training, support in production and enhancing quality of production for certain materials, linking them directly with the top-end market in order to have a meaningful income.

Methodology:

There is immense value in gaining qualitative information from key individuals, this information is gathered through semi-structured interviews that identify and assess the priorities, needs, goals, and requirements of respondents that may significantly influence the initiative and impact on the livelihoods of the community.

Therefore this study has adopted various necessary tools and techniques in order to facilitate information from all the individuals through face to face interviews and discussions. The individual with disability were contacted in the present study to collect information on various aspects of their livelihood. These include demographic characteristics, occupational pattern, educational background, educational background, ownership of land and assets, pattern and changes in family income, standing and importance in the family, present occupation, future plans. The interview schedule was formulated on the basis of the literature published by UNDP², DFID³, CARE and other literatures on sustainable livelihood in rural areas. The 9-Squre "Mandala" sustainable rural livelihood framework was also integrated into the

³ Department for International Development, UK

² United Nations Development Programme

schedule in order to have a better assessment of the individuals with disability in terms of their possible livelihood options.

Beside the face to face interviews and discussion on various possibilities of livelihood, Focus Group Discussions were conducted with the various groups in order to assess the risk faced by the specific group members and their perception and possibility about starting a livelihood programme as a group. Discussions were carried out to know about the present situation and the level of assistance needed to start with a livelihood programme. All the information given by the individuals were later cross checked from the community development field workers in order to have accuracy.

Time Plan

The study was conducted in three phases; keeping the time constraint and the access to the respondent this plan was designed:

Phase	Time period	Tasks done
Phase –I	Week-1 (12 th April to 17 th April, 2010)	Review of the related literature and selection of various risks on livelihood opportunity for PWDs. Visited and discussed with potential resource persons and organizations working in the field of livelihood in the project area and also discussed about the villages with the project staff. A tentative semi structured interview schedule format was designed. The universe and samples were drawn out during this phase.
Phase-II	Week-2 (19 th April to 25 th April	Orientation visit to the Community based Rehabilitation programme office at Nindura. The format for interview was tasted in this period. Interviews and Focus group discussion

	2010)	were conducted in order to have primary data from the samples. Additional Information about the samples was collected from various sources so as to have better understanding of their life from a qualitative point of view.
Phase-III	Week 3 (26 th April to 30 th April 2010)	Further review of the literature, data analysis and interpretation took place during this period of the study, data were tabled, cross checked and interpretations were made and reporting was done

Sampling:

The samples for the present study were drawn carefully from the universe. The universe for the present study was all the PWDs of Nindura Community Based Rehabilitation Project conducted by SPARC-India who belong to the age group of 18 to 35 years. The PWDs should have a minimum of 40% disability certified by the appropriate government authority. There is a total of 452 persons/children with disability identified by the door to door survey conducted by SPARC-India among the 25,648 number of population in the project area. The total sample for the study taken through 32 individuals face to face interview is and 3 focus group discussions. For quantitative analyses of the data, SPSS version 15 was used.

Experience during data collection

It was burning hot in Uttar Pradesh which made the pace of the process a bit slower than it was planned by the student during the first phase until the student got acclimatise to him with the heat. Not having enough knowledge of roads, and the transport to the village also made the process of data collection a bit Slow during the data collection phase. Knowing the language, and culture made the task easier that it should be for an outsider. The student felt that, the adults are quite happy to talk to the

researcher as it would be a chance for them to reflect on themselves. It is also found that, most of them have a very high level of motivation to do something for their self maintenance as well as in order to contribute their part in the nation building.

Some of the adults are been fade off being dependent and would like to break the shackle to be independent as they feel this to the only option for them to be free from being discriminated at home and in the society as dis-abled. In certain cases, the individuals with disability have been migrated to live in the Slums of Mumbai and work for 15 hours a day to contribute the family financially.

Rationale of the study:

Adolescents are economically active in developing countries. They are important resources within families and communities because of their substantial contributions to household livelihood strategies through their waged and un-waged labour (Brown 2001). Ninety six per cent of the households with a person with disability in Uttar Pradesh are not aware about Persons with Disability Act (World Bank 2009). It is obvious in India for adolescents, since people with disability are the poorest and are not included in rural poverty alleviation programmes (ESCAP 1999). This creates an assumption that PWDs or youth with disabilities are either not interested or not having the ability to participate in the mainstream livelihood development. There is also a false feeling by the organizations that youth with disabilities need special provisions in mainstreaming livelihood development programmes.

A proper analysis of the situation is important in order to have a suitable action plan for the youths/persons who have been historically kept aside from the livelihood programmes of government and non government organizations. As per the International Labor Organisation (2010), work of decent quality is the most effective means of escaping the vicious circle of marginalization, poverty and social exclusion of persons with disability.

Including youths in order to have suggestions to find out livelihood options for themselves individually or in groups is a rare phenomenon in social research, especially in the field of disability and there are very few studies who have given voice to the youths with disabilities (Atkinson & Walmsley, 1999; Biklen, 2000; French & Swain, 2000). One of the main interest of this research is to explore the points of view and experiences of the adolescences who are looking for one or the other vocation in order to free themselves from being dependent and discriminated in the family and in their community. This study has intended to present the discussions have been made during the meetings from those youths with disability who are eager to do some thing in the life in order to contribute their part. Therefore, this study has given maximum importance to the voice of the youth with disability in order to set a priority for them and would like to present it as it is.

This particular area is chosen because; the rate of prevalence of persons with disability in Uttar Pradesh is high comparing to the national average of India (NSSO 2002). The total number of persons with disability in Uttar Pradesh is 3.6 million out of 21.91 million for India (Census 2001). It is considered as high risk among the states and union territories in India to have polio infection by United Stated Assistance for International Development (USAID). Uttar Pradesh accounted for 68 percent incidences of polio in the world and about 80 percent (1,197) of the total incidences in India alone for the year 2002. The district Barabanki has been the highest rate of persons with disability with 4.3% comparing to 2.1% of national average. The rigid caste system and gender discrimination further discriminate the persons with disability to live in a very bad situation.

Research concerns

- 1. What are the PWDs engaged with presently in the project area?
- **2.** What are the potential livelihood options that the PWDs can take up?
- **3.** What are the kinds of support that PWDs need to enhance their income?

An Introduction to SPARC-India

About the Organization

SPARC-India (school for potential advancement and restoration of confidence) is a voluntary organization. It was registered in the year 1996. The main aim to establish this organization was empowerment of disabled people. Its mission has been "To serve, to create a barrier free environment for marginalized sections particularly the disabled so that they get sensitized and become aware of their rights and lead the life of dignity." The vision of the organization is to provide a right-based approach to PWDs for their integration in the society.

Soon after registration SPARC-India laid more thrust on its program agenda to further the cause of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). With this in mind it focused on the community based rehabilitation program for PWDs and arranged for various awareness generation interventions and workshops. Fortunately, the organization's efforts were rewarded.

Gradually, SPARC-India also felt the need to reach out to cerebral palsied and disabled children. It was in response to this need that Jyoti Kiran School, a special school for cerebral palsied was started in 2003, with 2 children. Simultaneously, SPARC had also been building a platform for the PWDs. It has complimented this with interventions for their economic independence.

Vision

To empower the marginalized particularly the disabled.

Mission

To Serve and to create a barrier free environment for marginalized sections particularly the disabled where they can realize their rights and lead a life of dignity

Activities of SPARC-India

1. JYOTI KIRAN School - A Center for Special Education

Center for Special Education- Jyoti Kiran is a multidimensional coeducational school dedicated to providing education, therapy, Counseling and a network of support services for children with cerebral palsy and their families.

The school aims to provide a broad based holistic learning experience for children with special educational needs giving them opportunity to realize their highest potential, run by experienced and qualified staff. It is also a demonstration centre for trainees and professionals from all over the country and abroad

Jyoti Kiran School started in 2003 with 3 children. Now there are 41 children. It incorporates the following facilities:

- Special Learning Unit
- Specialized Computer Training
- Physiotherapy
- Speech Therapy
- Counseling and Guidance
- Transport Facility
- Co-curricular Activities
- Family Services
- Out Patients Department
- Vocational Training & Placement services

Through <u>integrated learning</u> Jyoti Kiran School has covered not only the academic needs of its challenged pupils but also their special needs. Needs that are addressed include therapeutic support, which addresses the mobility and speech of the children

and counseling needs, which address the psychological, motivational and practical requirements of the children. The therapeutic inputs are thus of four types – physiotherapy, speech therapy, music therapy and occupation therapy. The counseling inputs, on the other hand, are need based.

Over the years SPARC-India found it desirable to compliment the integrated learning with additional inputs. Accordingly, today the students of Jyoti Kiran School participate in **annual functions**, which are held in institutes like Ganna Sansthan, Gandhi Bhawan, Natya Kala Academy and are often covered by the media. Besides this, they also participated in **sports events**, **art competitions**, **outings**, **annual exposure visits and going to the zoo, etc.**

Jyoti Kiran School is constantly having a rapport with similar institutions, through exchange programs. Institutions with which it enjoys networking relationships

The hallmark of Jyoti Kiran School is that as far as the needs of its students are concerned, we believe that no effort is sufficient enough; consequently, the school is continuously exploring, improving and re-inventing itself.

2. Rural Community Based Rehabilitation

"Community-based rehabilitation (CBR) is a strategy for enhancing the quality of life of disabled people by improving service delivery, by providing more equitable opportunities and by promoting and protecting their human rights." Community based rehabilitation (CBR) is a response, in both developed and developing countries, to the need for adequate and appropriate rehabilitation services, to be available to a greater proportion of the disabled population. Its aims are to rehabilitate and train disabled individuals, as well as to find ways to integrate them into their communities. In CBR, the disabled person, the family, the community, and health professionals collaborate to provide needed services in a non-institutional setting, and in an environment or community where services for disabled persons are seriously limited or totally absent. Its essential feature is its focus on partnership and community participation.

SPARC – India follows a right based approach for the overall rehabilitation of People with disabilities-PWDs. For the purpose "Inclusive Education" approach has been

adopted in terms of integrated education and community based rehabilitation. Both are based on the principles of inclusion, integration and participation and represent well tested and cost effective approaches to promote equality of access for people with special needs

To address the problems of weaker sections and PWDs the clauses of National Education Policy and Education For All by Government of India, this aimed at making education available for all without any discrepancy; SPARC – India consequently initiated a Rural Community Based Rehabilitation Program. The program was started with Action Aid India's (AAI) support in **Deva** block of **Barabanki district**. AAI partnered with SPARC-India on a long-term basis for the program, starting in the year 2002. The selection of district Barabanki was made due to its low development indices.

The program, which started with only 8 villages, has reached out to more and more villages and also to a greater population over the years. The intervention is holistic and covers issues ranging from health, advocacy and employment Self Help Froups which play their part in to micro-credit and awareness generation programs.

3. Urban Community Based Rehabilitation

The Urban Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) program was among the first programs started by SPARC-India since the time of its registration in 1996. The program has been continuing since then in the Khadra and Bansmandi slum areas of Lucknow district. While the program received Action Aid India(AAI) support during the initial days, gradually AAI shifted support to the rural CBR program. Nevertheless, through dedicated effort of the SPARC-India professionals the program continued and in due course managed to garner support from CBR Forum and Sir Ratan Tata Trust.

Like the Rural CBR program, the urban program is also holistic and has covered various issues like <u>awareness generation</u>, <u>income generation</u>, <u>CWD based interventions</u> and <u>medical support</u>.

4. Advocacy for Rights of Persons with Disabilities

SPARC – India took advocacy initiative a year back and it took some time to give it a formal shape. It was in August 2007 that with four PWDs members a small group was formed and by March 2008 the number increased to 65. This had good representation from women side also. The group met atleast twice a month and discussed about issues viz employment, accessibility, recreational facilities etc.

The group members found the platform quite useful and shared their views which reflect their agonies, frustrations, emotions and also innovative ideas to surmount the challenge faced by them in day to day life.

Apart from the above issues PWDs after joining advocacy group developed confidence and have started contacting the competent autorities/govt. officials and officials in the private sector to demand their rights. The group has also felt to build up their capacities and do lobbying for fulfillment of their rights.

Awards and Certificates received by SPARC-India

- Super-Idol Award conferred jointly by TV Channel IBN7, Dainik Bhaskar, Bazaz Allianz, Ability Foundation on 19thJanuary 2010 at Mumbai.
- The Founder Chairperson was bestowed Certificate of Honour on Teachers'
 Day by Rotary Club of Lucknow on 5thSeptember 2009
- "YUVA PRATISTHAN SAMMAN" from National Youth Foundation, Uttar Pradesh on 19th June 2009 at Lucknow.
- Facilitated by Swaraj Viklang Sewa Samiti on 21st December 2008 at Allahabad.
- Award from Vocational Rehabilitation Centre(VRC) on 3rd December 2008 at Kanpur.
- Mr. Amitabh Mehrotra received Rajiv Gandhi State Award, (U.P.) for "Successful Disabled Person", in 2006.

- "Samajik Sewa Ratna" award for "Outstanding contribution in the field of Disability" by JB Charitable Trust in April' 2005.
- Sahara Welfare Award in 2003.
- State Award in 2001

Literature Review

Sustainable Livelihood Approach

The sustainable livelihoods idea was first introduced by the Brundtland Commission on Environment and Development further in 1992, United Nations Conference on Environment and Development expanded the concept and advocated for the achievement of sustainable livelihoods as a broad goal for poverty eradication.

A livelihood comprises the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living. A livelihood can be sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks, maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets, while not undermining the natural resource base (SIDA⁴ 2001).

There are three insights into poverty which strengthen the sustainable livelihood approach as

- 1. It is realized that economic growth may be essential for poverty reduction but it does not make a positive relationship between the two because it is also depends more on the capabilities of the poor to take advantage of expanding economic opportunities.
- 2. Secondly, there is the realization by the poor people themselves that poverty is not just a question of low income. It includes vital aspects such as bad health,

⁴ Swedish international development Cooperation agency, Division for policy and socioeconomic analysis

- illiteracy, lack of social services, being in a state of vulnerability and feelings of powerlessness in general.
- 3. Finally, it is now recognized that the need of the involvement of people in the design of policies and project intended to better themselves because they often know their situation and needs best.

There is no unified approach to applying the Sustainable Livelihood concept. Depending on the agency it can be used primarily as a tool for programme planning and assessment. There are, however, three basic features common to this approach.

- a. The focus is on the livelihoods of the poor.
- b. It rejects the standard procedure of conventional approaches for taking an entry point a specific sector such as agriculture, water, or health, and
- c. The Sustainable Livelihood approach emphasis on involving people in both the identification and the implementation of activities.

Sustainable Livelihood approach may look similar to the old Integrated Rural Development approach. But the most critical difference in Sustainable Livelihood approach is that, it does not necessarily aim to address all aspects of the livelihoods of the poor. The intention in Sustainable Livelihood is rather in taking up a holistic perspective of livelihoods to identify the issues where an intervention could be for effectively reduce the vulnerability either at the local level or at the policy level.

Evolution of Sustainable Livelihood

- 1987: The World Commission on Environment and Development publishes its report: *Our Common Future* (the 'Brundtland Commission report') (1987a)
- 1988: IIED (International Institute for Environment and Development) publishes papers from its 1987 conference: *The Greening of Aid: Sustainable Livelihoods in Practice* (Conroy and Litvinoff, eds., 1988)

- 1990: UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) publishes the first Human Development Report
- 1992: UN (United nations) holds Conference on Environment and Development IDS publishes 'Sustainable Rural Livelihoods: Practical concepts for the 21st century' (Chambers and Conway, 1992)
- 1993: Oxfam starts to employ the SL approach in formulating overall aims, improving project strategies and staff training
- 1994: CARE adopts household livelihoods security as a programming framework in its relief and development work
- 1995: UN holds World Summit for Social Development UNDP adopts Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods as one of five priorities in its overall human development mandate, to serve as both a conceptual and programming framework for poverty reduction
 - IISD publishes *Adaptive Strategies and Sustainable Livelihoods* (Singh and Kalala, 1995), the report of a UNDP-funded programme
 - SID (Society for International Development) launches project on Sustainable Livelihoods and People's Everyday Economics
- 1996: Adaptable Livelihoods: coping with food insecurity in the Malian Sahel (Davies, 1996) is published by Macmillan
 - DFID (Department for International Development) invites proposals for major ESCOR research programme on Sustainable Livelihoods.
 - IISD publishes Participatory Research for Sustainable Livelihoods: A Guidebook for Field Projects (Rennie and Singh, 1996)
- 1997: New Labour administration publishes its first White Paper on international development, *Eliminating World Poverty: A Challenge for the 21st Century*
- 1998: DFID's Natural Resources Department opens a consultation on sustainable livelihoods and establishes a Rural Livelihoods Advisory Group Natural Resources Advisers annual conference takes Sustainable Livelihoods as its

theme and later publishes contributory papers: *Sustainable Rural Livelihoods: What Contribution Can We Make?* (Carney (ed.), 1998)

SID publishes *The Sustainable Livelihoods Approach, General Report of the Sustainable Livelihoods Project 1995–1997* (Amalric, 1998)

UNDP publishes *Policy Analysis and Formulation for Sustainable Livelihoods* (Roe, 1998)

DFID establishes the SL Virtual Resource Centre and the SL Theme Group

IDS (Institute of Development Studies) publishes 'Sustainable rural livelihoods: a framework for analysis' (Scoones, 1998)

The FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)/UNDP Informal Working Group on Participatory Approaches and Methods to Support Sustainable Livelihoods and Food Security meet for the first time

1999: DFID creates the Sustainable Livelihoods Support Office and appoints Jane Clark as its Head DFID publishes the first Sustainable Livelihoods Guidance Sheets (DFID, 1999a); Sustainable Livelihoods and Poverty Elimination (DFID, 1999b); and Livelihoods Approaches Compared (Carney et al., 1999)

Presenters at the Natural Resources Advisers' Conference report progress in implementing SL approaches and DFID later publishes these in *Sustainable Livelihoods: Lessons from Early Experience* (Ashley and Carney, 1999)

ODI (Overseas Development Institute) publishes 'Sustainable Livelihoods in Practice: early application of concepts in rural areas' (Farrington et al., 1999)

DFID establishes the Sustainable Livelihoods Resource Group of researchers/consultants *Mixing it: Rural livelihoods and diversity in developing countries* (Ellis, 2000b) is published

2000: DFID commissions and funds Livelihoods Connect, a website serving as a learning platform for sustainable livelihood approach

FAO organises an Inter-agency Forum on Operationalising Sustainable Livelihoods Approaches, involving DFID, FAO, WFP (World Food

Programme), UNDP, and IFAD (International Institute for Environment and Development)

DFID publishes Sustainable Livelihoods – Current thinking and practice (DFID, 2000a); Sustainable Livelihoods – Building on Strengths (DFID, 2000b); Achieving Sustainability: Poverty Elimination and the Environment (DFID, 2000c); and more sustainable livelihood Guidance Sheets

The Sustainable Livelihoods Resource Group establishes a subgroup on PIP (Policy, Institutions and Processes)

IDS publishes 'Analysing Policy for Sustainable Livelihoods' (Shankland, 2000), the final report from its ESCOR programme

Oxfam publishes *Environments and Livelihoods: Strategies for Sustainability* (Neefjes, 2000)

The DFID publishes its second White Paper, *Eliminating World Poverty: Making Globalisation Work for the Poor* (DFID, 2000e)

2001: DFID commissions research on further development of the SLA framework; practical policy options to support sustainable livelihoods

Adopted from Overseas Development Institute, London 2003

Models of Sustainable livelihood

Participation, sustainability, empowerment and poverty alleviation have become common rhetoric of the development discourse. And are considered as key elements for success of development projects. In the last decade, the concept of "sustainable livelihood" has been introduced to describe the integration of poverty reducing strategies, sustainable development, participation and empowerment process in to a framework for projects planning and analysis (DFID 1999, UNDP 1999)

UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)

UNDP'S Sustainable Livelihood approach provides a tool to improve the sustainability of livelihoods among poor and vulnerable groups. According to its framework, strengthening the resilience of the poor in coping and adapting to situations will help in making the livelihood sustainable. It also gives emphasis in introduction of improved technologies, social and economic investments to the livelihood options and addresses the issues of policy and governance that interrupt on people's livelihoods. The various support activities are organized as per the specificity of the Sustainable Livelihood programmes. It usually implemented at a district level with an effect at the community and household level.

DFID (Department for International Development)

DFID's Sustainable Livelihood approach aims to increase the agency's effectiveness in poverty reduction in two main ways as:

- a. Mainstreaming a set of core principles which determine that povertyfocused development activity should be people-centred, participatory, and conducted in partnership,
- b. Arrange support activities in a holistic way, to ensure that these match to issues or areas of direct relevance for improving poor people's livelihoods.

A central element of DFID's approach is the Sustainable Livelihood Framework, an analytical structure to facilitate a broad and systematic understanding of the various factors that limit or enhance livelihood opportunities, and to show how they relate to each other in order to make a clear plan of action.

Principles

People-centred: sustainable poverty elimination will be achieved only if
external support focuses on what matters to people, understands the
differences between groups of people and works with them in a way that is

congruent with their current livelihood strategies, social environment and ability to adapt.

- **Responsive and participatory**: poor people themselves must be key actors in identifying and addressing livelihood priorities. Outsiders need processes that enable them to listen and respond to the poor.
- Multi-level: poverty elimination is an enormous challenge that will only be
 overcome by working at multiple levels, ensuring that micro-level activity
 informs the development of policy and an effective enabling environment, and
 that macro-level structures and processes support people to build upon their
 own strengths.
- Conducted in partnership: with both the public and the private sector.
- **Sustainable**: there are four key dimensions to sustainability economic, institutional, social and environmental sustainability. All are important a balance must be found between them.
- **Dynamic**: external support must recognise the dynamic nature of livelihood strategies, respond flexibly to changes in people's situation, and develop longer term commitments.

CARE

CARE's organizational directive as an international NGO is to focus its programmes on helping the poorest and most vulnerable, either through regular development programmes or through relief work.

Since 1994 CARE has used Household Livelihood Security (HLS) as a framework for programme analysis, design, monitoring, and evaluation. It has derived the framework from the classic definition of livelihoods developed by Chambers and Conway (1992), which embodies three fundamental attributes as:

a. the possession and expansion of human capabilities (such as education, skills, health, psychological orientation),

- b. Providing access to tangible and intangible assets and
- c. Provide support in the existing economic activities.

The interaction between these three attributes defines what livelihood strategy a household will pursue. CARE puts particular emphasis on strengthening the capability of poor people to enable them to take initiatives to secure their own livelihoods. It therefore stresses empowerment as a fundamental element of its approach.

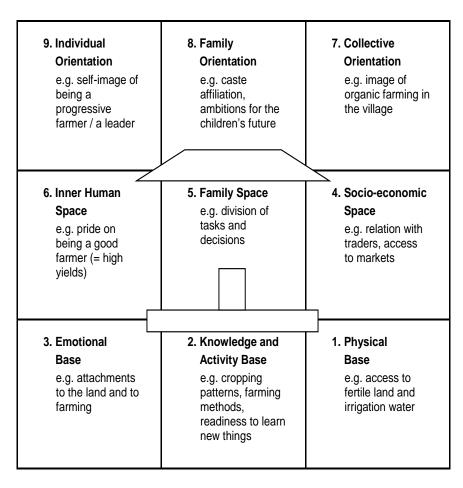
9-Squre Mandala Rural Sustainable livelihoods

The Nine Square Mandala was developed as a tool to undertake research on rural livelihood system in India and in Switzerland. The Nine Square Mandala as a research tool has been field tested in various projects and studies (Schuelein, Albertin, Premchander etc.). In this study it was chosen and included right in the tool for interview because:

- 2. The Mandala was developed in the Indian context, unlike the other "global" approaches and thus considered better adapted to local thought, belief and habit.
- 3. All the above approaches ask for a thorough analysis of the structure and policy environment. In the few days of field work as a one-man research this attempt would be a little daring. Here the Nine Square Mandala offered a more appropriate tool, since the main focus would be on a micro- or personal level. The main task was talking to local village women and men with disabilities. DFID and UNDP give little guidance on how to look at a person's livelihood in a direct confrontation, be it with an interview or any social research tool. Thus the Mandala was tempting because it included "inner realities" of human beings such as emotions, fears, dreams etc. and thus incorporates psychology into its design.

Adding to that, this study does not claim to be a full livelihood assessment, but rather a report on the learning and observations, moving around around the livelihood systems in Indian context.

The Mandala uses the "eastern" concept of capturing the "whole Universe" in these nine squares. At the same time it represents a rural house (As shown below). The nine fields cover nine aspects of peoples' livelihoods. They are arranged in such a way that moving from left to right is moving from inner to outer realities, or from the individual reality via family reality to the community reality. Moving from bottom to top may also be seen as a transition from tradition into the future. The Mandala stands out among tools to assess livelihood systems in so far as it promotes the researchers to look at the Inner Reality (left column, squares 3, 6, 9) of people. The window thus opened should help to examine different ways of asking how a rural livelihood system functions. It is in no way a model of such a system though. It does not claim to model reality, it remains a descriptive tool without defined outputs. The 9 squares with its respective aspects as below:



Adopted from Hogger 1994

Demographic Information of the Study Area

Number & Names of gram panchayats-

Jamuliya, Pind Sawan, Audriya, Mohsand, Anwari,

Mahmoodpur Amarsand, Nindura Oudar, Basara (10)

Total population -25676

Male - 13586

Female - 12090

Total PWDs - 402

Total male PWDs - 242

Total female PWDs – 160

Results and Conclusion:

The total sample for the study are taken from the existing community based rehabilitation project of SPARC-India in Nindura block of the Barabanki district, a rural area at the outskirt of the capital city of Lucknow. The total number of the samples consisted of thirty two persons with disability between 18 to 40 years of age who are identified by the project staff to be enrolled in the livelihood promotion programme for persons with disability. The mean age of the participants is 26.38 years. Three focused group discussion of the SHGs were included in the data collection of this study.

The presentation of data is as per the respondents' perception towards their livelihood.

Out of the total number of participants, 21 (65.6%) participants are male and 11 (34.4%) are female. There are 19 participants, who are already engaged with one or the other income generation activities for their living. The distribution of type of disability is as below;

Type of Disability	Frequency
Orthopaedic Disability	21
Cerebral palsy	2
Hearing and Speech	2
Mental Disability	6
Visual Disability	1
Total	32

The table below shows, out of 32 participants only 2 participants is not engaged in any productive work. In any case, 30 (93.8%) participants are contributing to their family according to their ability. Six persons with disability among the samples,

despite their being disabled chose to take the lead role in the family and contributing the highest amount of money to the financial need of the family.

The table below shows the different present trades of PWDs engaged in the project area.

Table – 1(Present Trades of PWDs)

Present Trades	Frequency	Percent
Farming	7	21.9
House hold work	6	18.8
Ration Shop	3	9.4
Daily Wage Labor	2	6.3
No productive work	2	6.3
Zardozi	2	6.3
Chicken Work	1	3.1
Clinic	1	3.1
Driving Cart	1	3.1
Fruit Vendor	1	3.1
house wife	1	3.1
House wife + Tailoring	1	3.1
House Wife	1	3.1
Laundry	1	3.1
Teacher (Private School)	1	3.1
Tailor	1	3.1
Total	32	100.0

The table -2 shows; out of the 17 participants who are in any income generation programme and responded to the question "weather they would like to change their income generation programme if support given?" 12 (80%) shown their willingness to change their present occupation. They strongly feel to perform better and can earn

more if support is given to start some thing other than the occupation they are engaged with presently. They are quite confident that this initiative will fetch more income and would bring better job satisfaction. The hurdles for most of the participants who are willing to start some trade or willing to change their existing trade or expanding their existing trade have been expressed as in limitations in initial investment and in getting the link to the top-end retail market for their products

Table – 2 (Change of Trades)

Dungant Warls	Willing to Change		Total
Present Work	Yes	No	Total
Yes	12	5	17
Total	70.6%	29.4%	100.0%

The table below shows; out of 28 responses towards their level of motivation to do their job, 16 PWDs have a high level of motivation to start something and make the programme successful. Where as 8 PWDs are not very confident about the result but would like to take up the job. There were 4 responses that are not so confident about their vocation and wished to be attached to a group income generation programme.

Table – 3 (Level of Motivation)

Level of Motivation					
Level Frequency Percent					
High	16	57.1			
Medium	8	28.6			
Low	4	14.3			
Total	28	100.0			

The table – 4 indicates, only 5 (17.9%) persons responded to have their raw materials easily available in the market and it is at a price that is affordable. Quite a few have said that the materials for the business are a bit problem due to their unavailability in the local market or they are reasonably expensive to afford for a person who would like to start with a new business. At the same time, 7 people found this to be difficult either because of the availability of the product in the local market or its cost that is difficult to afford.

Table – 4 (Available of Materials)

Availability of materials					
Frequency Percent					
Easily Available	5	17.9			
Reasonably Easy	16	57.1			
Availability if a problem	7	25.0			
Total	28	100.0			

The table below shows 10 persons out of 29 already have a very good skill to start with their project. Where as 9 people may need some more advanced training before or during the process of starting with the vocation. Quite a few (10) persons have only started thinking of some trade that will bring better return. These persons have not exercised the programme in detail or are unable to do so due to their limited mental ability. These 10 participants have to be either given training (As per their ability to learn). In case of Mental retardation, they have to be attached to a production group and have to be given training in the pace that is comfortable for them.

Table – 5 (Skills required)

Skills Required				
Frequency Percent				
Good	10	34.5		
Moderate	9	31.0		
Need training	10	34.5		
Total	29	100.0		

The table below indicates, 11 persons think, the business have been chosen by them is cost effective. Another 11 persons rate their future business would be moderately cost effective and 4 among the respondents are not very confident about the cost effectiveness of their future business.

Table – 6 (Cost effectiveness)

Cost effective					
	Frequency Percent				
High	11	42.3			
Medium	11	42.3			
Low	4	15.4			
Total	26	100.0			

The table below indicates, 11 persons assume to have a high level of profit due to their previous experience with the business. Another 10 persons would rate their future business under the category of the moderate profitability where as 5 persons are not very sure about the profit that is expected out of the business.

Table – 7 (Profitability)

Profitability				
Frequency Valid Percent				
High	11	42.3		
Medium	10	38.5		
Low	5	19.2		
Total	26	100.0		

As indicated in the table - 8, quite a few (61.5%) of the participants have a high level of motivation to start with a livelihood programme of to expand their existing ones. These are the people who have experience in one or the other livelihood programme and have also very well experienced the market. They have knowledge about the trade

and its market that makes them confident to go ahead if opportunity is given. Their contribution towards their families' financial need has gained respect for themselves and enhanced standing in their respective family and community. This has been a prime motivation for them to work hard for the livelihood to make a successful programme. They also understand that this little contribution towards the family and society is an effective way to fight with the age old stigma attached with persons with disabilities. Whereas 7 (26.9%) and 3 (11.5%) respondents have shown medium and low level of motivation for the programme. One among the 3 respondents of low individual motivation is speech impaired this due to his limitation with communication, he feels less confident to start without help. They are interested to participate in the project but may be comfortable to work under the guidance of other members.

Table – 8 (Individual Motivation)

Individual Motivation				
Level Frequency Percent				
High	16	61.5		
Medium	7	26.9		
Low	3	11.5		
Total	26	100.0		

The table below shows, 19 (73.1%) respondents out of 26 have some of the resources available. A part of the initial investment, knowledge of market in which they have to deal with, land (if necessary), and other kinds that are essential for the trade of their choice are considered as resources.

Table – 9 (Resources available)

Resources Available					
Frequency Percent Percent					
Available	7	21.9	26.9		
Available up to an extent	12	37.5	46.2		
Not available	7	21.9	26.9		
Total	26	81.3	100.0		

As per Table - 10, more than half (53.8%) of the respondents have good idea about their trade of choice. Most of them are already doing the trade and enjoying the benefit of their work. They are happy to expand their business through some external help by the agency. These people are also happy to include other PWDs of their area in to the business and glad to guide them in the same. Their own experience of being disabled and dependent is too bitter for them that they do not want other PWDs to be in the same situation.

Mr. Kallu who is already a member of the "Sai Baba SHG" is vending seasonal fruits since a decade. He not only helps himself but support 4 out of 9 children of his elder brother who is eventually a non-disabled person. He says the nearby market has potential of engaging 6 more seasonal fruit vending business and can easily be organised as a "business of the group". This will help the PWDs of severity and those who do not have the know-how of the trade.

Table – 10 (knowledge of trade)

Knowledge of Trade						
Frequency Percent						
Yes	14	53.8				
No	9	34.6				
Manageable	3	11.5				
Total	26	100.0				

The table – 11 shows, 14 respondents out of 27 responses have been emotionally attached to their livelihood. These people are either doing the trade or have a willingness of doing so since long. Eight among them have moderate attachment because of their willingness to change as the present vocation doses not solve their present financial need thus fails to provide self satisfaction.

Table – 11 (Emotional attachment)

Emotional Attachment							
	Frequency Percent						
Yes	14	51.9					
Moderate	8	29.6					
No	5	18.5					
Total	27	100.0					

Initial investment supposes to be the biggest problem for PWDs in the area. The table-12 indicates 17 (60.7%) of the 28 responses do not have adequate economic support either to or to expand their livelihood programme. Only 6 (21.4%) respondents have said to have some savings or contacts or the family back up that help them to start with trade or expand. Among these people, two persons have their family business that they can be motivated to include the person with disability of their family in the business. Five (17.9%) persons said to have their trade going on in

a very small way which return too less to continue. If these people will be given some support to expand, they may take it as a livelihood option in a full-fledged manner.

Table – 12 (Socio-economic availability)

Socio Economic Availability							
Frequency Percent							
No	17	60.7					
Yes	6	21.4					
Need support	5	17.9					
Total	28	100.0					

The table below shows a similar picture of the table shown in the previous page. Irrespective of the status of their work, economic back up is the major problem to either expand or to start with a livelihood programme of their choice. Out of 17 people who are engaged with a vocation 13 (76.5%) people do not have the support for either expanding or shifting to a new trade of their choice. These are the people who have the knack of doing some business and can be experimented in the first phase of the project in order to motivate others with their success.

Table – 13 (Present work versus socio-economic)

	Socio-			
Present Work	Yes	No	Need Support	Total
Yes	4	10	3	17
	23.5%	58.8%	17.6%	100.0%
No	0	3	1	4
	0.0%	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
Total	4	13	4	21
	19.0%	61.9%	19.0%	100.0%

The table below shows 17 (60.7%) respondents have a good family space. Although, in some of these cases, the person with disability have been beloved in their respective family because of their being disabled and the PWD himself/herself have been accepted to the situation. In other cases, PWDs are the earning members of their family and contributing significantly to the financial need of the family. All of these PWDs of the latter category are valued in the decision making of the family.

Table – 14 (Family Space)

Family Space							
Frequency Percent							
Good	17	60.7					
Moderate	10	35.7					
Low	1	3.6					
Total	28	100.0					

The table below shows 15 (53.6%) of the responses have good connections with their family and community as perceived by the student during the discussions with the PWDs. The 3 responses who have low level of orientation with their family and community members have not given importance

Table – 15 (Collective orientation)

Collective Orientation							
Frequency Percent							
Good	15	53.6					
Moderate	10	35.7					
Low	3	10.7					
Total	28	100.0					

Out of the respondents, 6 people are willing to work in a group and feel that there will be maximisation of effort in this way. It also has the advantage of including people who have limited knowledge and exposure or have limited ability to do so.

Possible trades PWDs are interested in:

- 1. Poultry
- 2. Dairy
- 3. Goat farm
- 4. Ration shop
- 5. Tailoring
- 6. Zardozi work
- 7. Box for Sweets
- 8. Cosmetic shop/ferry
- 9. Bangle shop/ferry
- 10. Fruit Vending/shop
- 11. Tum tum/Taxi (Vikram)
- 12. Rice Mill
- 13. Laundry
- 14. Chicken work Centre
- 15. Pani-Puri stall in a manually pulled Thela

Description of the trades:

Out of the above trades, the following items were identified to be conducted in groups though the focused group discussions in the villages.

- 1. Diary Dairy is one of the dominating sources of income in the project area. This can be done either individually or in groups. If the market is linked in this business, it has a multi layered income opportunity. Cows directly produce milk, dung and flesh than can be sold. At the same time several finer products also came produced to have better profit and will provide work for the PWDs through out. The milk can be sold in raw form or in form of *Khoa*, Curd, sweets, ghee, butter and so on. The only complication in the business is its requirement for high initial investment. The interesting fact of this trade is that people with mental disability will also have a work in this trade.
- 2. Goat farming this is also been recognised profitable business plan for the villages. Although the group would prefer to do the same individually which would involve less expense for the shed as well as less complicated for responsibility sharing, still it would be wise to do the same in a group so that the three youths with mental disability of the area would be able to take part in the same. It is been told that, the goat is an acceptable trade that can be done in the village. A catholic humanitarian organisation run by nuns in the area has supplied goat to several of the households and have proved to be quite beneficial. Unfortunately, this organisation has not shown interested to spare some of their funds for the persons with disabilities or for a family with a person with disability.
- 3. Chicken work centre Here PWDs will have a centre that will receive orders from the city and deliver the finished products. The members of the group will come to the centre and receive the training needed to work. According to Ms. Shiva Kumari (Who used to do a lot of chicken work in Lucknow before her marriage in the project area), the training would take about 15 days time to start work on this art. It will also give interested non-disabled youngsters to enrol themselves for either training or working on contract basis. The ownership will be with the SHG group members and the profit will be divided as per their contribution to the earnings. If the link to the market will be

- established, she says, it will not be difficult to earn Rs. 1500/- a month working 8 hours a day.
- 4. Poultry Poultry suppose to be the most wanted business in the area. The student himself found at least one poultry farm in each of the villages visited. It seems, this business has a higher level of risk so, needed proper management but the return is also very high. This trade would need a very close monitoring by the project staff.
- 5. Tailoring the youths with PWDs who have learnt the skill would like to do this. The participants who have the skill are doing it in small scale and earn a part of their living out of this profession. Although they do not have an idea of the profit if they could convert this in to a complete entrepreneurial form that start from manufacturing till retail selling. The selling through their own soap in the market area and ferry in the villages. It is very clear for all of the respondents who would like to choose tailoring as their profession about the competition in pricing of the same comes out of the bigger industry. But it is clear for them that, if they do such business, it will fetch better money and people at their differential ability and disability can contribute to this business and subsequently earn to contribute their living expenses.
- 6. Zardozi work Zardozi work has the minimum risk of being failure for the area. Lucknow has already a good market for this art and is a well respected occupation in the area. There are individuals with disability who are well trained and doing this work with a higher level finishing. There is a limited opportunity in this art to include people with mental disability because of the finer skill needed to do the job. Another major difficulty to break the chain of brokers' involvement in reaching top end retail market.
- 7. Boxes for Sweets This is one of the easiest job to do in the project area. It needs less skill, so minimise the length and cost of training. It also has a good market for consumption in the city. Persons with visually disability who have not learnt any trade can also be included in this trade easily. The limitations of

this trade includes very less return, long working hours, and the difficulty in transporting the finished product to the city due to its volume. This can be a good trade to start with a new group as pre trade training with a plan in the future for a more complex trade. Persons with visual disability could also be a part of the trade and earn as much of their counterpart.

- 8. Fruit Vending/shop Fruit vending could be an easy option to start in the project area because some of the members of an SHG are having a long standing experience in this trade. These members are willing to support their fellow SHG members and according to them there is enough space in the nearby market areas for this purpose. The limitation in this trade is that it requires a lot of physical movement, therefore only those who manage to walk can only be involved in this trade.
- 9. Rice Mill Rice mill can also be good idea if connected to other business for production. This is quite a new idea and the owners of the existing rice mills are all rich people therefore have a greater investment in their business. This can be seen as one of the future trade for the area when the people are quite ready. This also can be connected other business such as *Galle (Stockist of grains)*. Though many of the individuals have expressed to be a stockist of grains, those interest can be utilised and made to finer products in the mill after processing to sale in the market.

Hindrances in Project Initiation

The attitude of "Us-Them"

All most all of the PWDs interviewed are having been perceived as passive workers in the project by the student. The position that the PWDs take are as passive receivers rather than as partners of the project. The implementing agency is considered as an outsider and same for the development workers of the project. They are quite cool about the fact that, we shall do if the project supports. The PWDs have an attitude to

be at the recipients' end rather than being as main actors of the livelihood project which SPARC –India's community based work have been trying to inculcate among them.

Breaking the stereotypes

Many of the PWDs have been interested in setting up a Ration Shop (portune ka Dukan) or whole selling of food grains (Galle) as their first preferences in the priority of the livelihood option. They are having a false notion of making money out of the ration shop where big business people are involved with a huge stock of materials with wide range of varieties in the area. Some of the over enthusiastic persons have already started with the ration shop and are struggling to get something out of it. In addition to that they would prefer to receive some funds in the project to expand the stock in order to have better selling subsequently better profit out of it.

Linkage with the top end market

The PWDs in the project area who are willing to produce some products have shown reluctance to sell their products in the market. Brokers are the only media of selling the products in the top end market for the whole project area. They together with the whole sale business people in the city exploit up to the extent that the producers are left with a very little income for their long hours of work. For example, in chicken work, a person who works for about eight hours gets about Rs 30 at the end of the day. Most importantly, producers are satisfied with the behaviour and considered as provider of work. Therefore, they are not willing to do anything that disappoint the so-called provider of work

Including Persons with Mental Disability

All persons with mental disability interviewed are not doing any productive work as considered by their family members. None of them have been given any vocational training nor been involved in their family business. Because of their limited mental ability to learn, it is difficult for them to start with a trade independently. The SHG groups do not also appreciate their ability or willing to take in to the group

entrepreneurial activity. The importance of SPARC-India is quite high in these case to include these youngsters connect them to an activity of the group and provide assistance in training to the persons with mental handicap as well as to the group.

Manage change

Managing to change the mindset of PWDs from the micro income generation activities to entrepreneurial activities is the greatest challenge in the project. PWDs those are engaged with something in terms of income generation activity are not willing to take up anything else despite their very low income and the exploitation existing in the activity. Mr. Nafiz is a very skilled Zardozi worker. He works 15 hours a day in Mumbai to earn about Rs. 250/- a day. He knows the local business can be improved with better linkage but not willing to do so just because of his reluctance in going for a change. So as many others who are doing one or the other income generation programme.

Introduction of Technology

Introduction of technology is a must to compensate the ability of persons with disability. Seeing their low level of education and exposure to the outside world comparing to the non-disabled population in the area it will be a challenge for the project to introduce newer technology in the villages. In addition to that, the product quality and the price has to be competitive enough when they are to be sold in an open market like India. The choice of the appropriate technology is also a problem as the people who are working in the trade are not so much aware about the technological advancements of their field. Because of the inconsistence in the electricity supply, unavailability of technicians in the management of technology, higher initial investment would be the challenge for the project.

Recommendations

- 1. The entry point should be specific rather than all-round approach. This means, not to try to intervene everywhere.
- 2. The intervention should contribute in a positive manner to the holistic development of the livelihood.

- 3. It is better to start with the existing livelihood options and build on the knowledge experience of the people already have.
- 4. A holistic analysis is important but the programme does not require holistic intervention. This would indicate the intervention of the development worker only when it is required for help. Otherwise, the community development worker would only support from the side for the livelihood programme of the persons with disability.
- 5. Starting with the products that has minimum risks for production and market consumption.
- 6. Zardozi work centre, where the trained people will be producing and training side by side others in order to have a group of interested people working in this trade.
- 7. Marketing is the most important aspect where SPARC-India needs to intervene. This process should also be participatory in order to enable the same group to market themselves for their products in future.

Annex-1
Summary of the data (Details of the interviewees)

				Employed – yes	
				Unemployed -	Present Work
Name	Age	Sex	Disability	No	description
Mr. RamChand	30	Male	Bilateral upper limb Amputation	Yes	Clinic
Ms. Sunita Devi	25	Female	Orthopaedic (Polio)	No	house wife
Mr. Rajeswari Kumari	25	Female	Orthopaedic (Polio)	Yes	House wife + Tailoring
Mr. Rajinder	30	Male	Orthopaedic (Polio)	Yes	Teacher 9Private School)
Mr. Sandeep	20	Male	Orthopaedic (Polio)	Yes	Zardozi
Md. Salim	26	Male	Orthopaedic (Polio)	Yes	Tailor

Mr. Kallu	35	Male	Orthopaedic (Amputation Rt Leg)	Yes	Fruit Vendor
Md. Nafiz	23	Male	Orthopaedic (Polio)	Yes	Zardozi
Ms. Nirmala Devi	27	Female	Orthopaedic (Polio)	Yes	Ration Shop
Mr. Riyazul Ahmad	30	Male	Orthopaedic	No	Driving Cart
Mr. Gaddar	20	Male	Mental Disability	Yes	Daily Wage Labor
Mr. Deepak	18	Male	Mental Disability	Yes	Daily Wage Labor
Mr. Sushil Kumar	34	Male	Orthopaedic (Polio)	Yes	Farming
Mr. Parshuram	35	Male	Hearing and Speech	Yes	Farming
Mr. Hariom	30	Male	Hearing and Speech	Yes	Farming

Mr. Putan	28	Male	Orthopaedic (Hemi Plegia)	Yes	Farming
Ms. Shiv Kumari	26	Female	Orthopaedic (Polio)	No	Chicken Work
Ms. Shushella Devi	20	Female	Orthopaedic (Polio)	No	House hold work
Mr. Sujeet Gautam	20	Male	Cerebral Palsy	Yes	Farming
Mr. Hameed	40	Male	Orthopaedic 9Quadri)	Yes	Ration Shop
Ms. Meena Devi	30	Female	Orthopaedic (Amputation Rt Leg)		Huse Wife
Md. Jaleel	35	Male	Scoliosis	Yes	Laundry
Mr. Guddu	19	Male	Cerebral palsy		No productive work
Ms. Munni	20	Female	Mental Disability		House hold work

Mr. Suraj	20	Male	Mental Disability		No productive work
Mr. Jai Singh	20	Male	Visual Disability		Ration Shop
Mr. Ram Ujagar	27	Male	Orthopaedic (Polio)	Yes	Farming
Ms. Lalji	20	Male	Mental Disability		Farming
Ms. Sridevi	20	Female	Mental Disability		House hold work
Ms. Kamini Devi	26	Female	Orthopaedic (Polio)		House hold work
Ms. Naseemun	33	Female	Orthopaedic (Polio)	Yes	House hold work
Ms. Raj Kumari	32	Female	Orthopaedic (Polio)		House hold work
N= 32	32	32	32	23	32

References:

Will be Included Later