



# **A STUDY ON EFFECTIVENESS OF SOCIAL WELFARE MEASURES TO DIFFERENTLY ABLED: SPECIAL REFERENCES TO KATTAPPANA MUNICIPALITY**

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## **ABSTRACT**

A common view is that having a disability makes an individual less capable of performing a variety of activities. The term disability is as a rule used to indicate a reduction or deviation from the norm, a shortcoming of an individual that society has to reckon with. In most languages, terms equivalent to that of disability contain the notions of less value, less ability, a state of being restricted, deprived, deviant.

The government and other NGO's are providing useful schemes and assistance to the needy. It should be carefully observed that the schemes and assistance are much effective or not in an academic way. It is the duty of the personalities to identify the schemes are properly addressing the requirements and specifications of the challenged people.

Key words: disabled, effectiveness, schemes, welfare measures etc..

## **INTRODUCTION**

The World Health Organization has played a key role in defining disability as it is understood today. Through the WHO's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) Framework, a disability is defined as "an umbrella term, covering impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions." The WHO further defines impairments as problems "in body function or structure" and activity limitations as "a difficulty encountered by an individual in executing a task or action." It is important for future providers and health care advocates to understand each of these definitions, and what they entail, as they do not operate in isolation but in contingency with neurophysiologic dynamics of the body and the social dynamics of different cultures.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), around 15 per cent of the world's population, or estimated 1 billion people, live with different disabilities. They are the world's largest minority. This figure is increasing through population growth, medical advances and the ageing process, says the World Health Organization. In countries with life expectancies over 70 years, individuals spend on average about 8 years, or 11.5 per cent of their life span, living with disabilities, reports 23 Disabled World. Eighty per cent of persons with disabilities live in developing countries, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

### ***Schemes under Kattappana Municipality***

Kattappana municipality was included in the Udumbanchola tehsil (taluk) of Idukki district and was later included in the newly formed Idukki tehsil (taluk). In 1962, it became a Gramapanchayath and the first council was held under the presidentship of V.T Sebastian in 1964. It was officially declared as municipality by the state government on 1 November 2015. It became the second municipality in the district, while Thodupuzha became the first one within the low ranges.

### ***SCHEMES***

- Pension
- Scholarship for differently abled students
- Distribution of equipments
- Distribution of Motor vehicles to disabled
- Training programmes

### ***Schemes by NGOs***

- VOSARD-It is a voluntary organization registered under Travancore Kochi Cultural, Scientific, Charitable and religious Trust Act XII of 1955 with the registration number I-750/98. It is a secular organization and official social work organization of CMI (Carmelites of Mary Immaculate) fathers of St. Joseph's province, Kottayam. VOSARD was established in the year 1998 with the aim of transforming the lives of the poor, marginalized and the under-privileged groups in the most backward and remote hilly areas of Idukki District in Western Ghat region. Since beginning the organization has been working with the poor and weaker sections in the society through self help initiatives and capacitating them to achieve sustainable development, irrespective of caste, creed, and religion. VOSARD strives to promote a society where the marginalized and underprivileged sections in the society are empowered to bring about positive changes in their lives. VOSARD started its work in 1998 in ten remote and rural Panchayats of Idukki district considering the substandard living conditions of ordinary people in the area. Gradually, its activities were extended to nearby Panchayats and now VOSARD is operational in the entire Idukki district and parts of Kerala.
- JEEVAJYOTHY SHGS-It is a voluntary organized body of individuals for the purpose of development and prosperity of the differently abled. In each wards of Kattappana municipality there is a JEEVAJYOTHY SHG. 7 to 15 differently abled members were joined in this SHGS. 10 JEEVAJYOTHY SHGS were registered under

Kattappana municipality. These SHGS were coordinates the all differently abled person under Kattappana municipality.

- LIONS CLUBS-It is an International Foundation is "Lions helping Lions serve the world". Donations provide funding in the form of grants to financially assist Lions districts with large-scale humanitarian projects that are too expensive and costly for Lions to finance on their own. The Foundation aids Lions in making a greater impact in their local communities, as well as around the world. Through LCIF, Lions ease pain and suffering and bring healing and hope to people worldwide.
- **ROTARY CLUB**-Rotary club is also a helping hand to the differently abled person. They were also providing various helps and assistance to them. It include
  1. Financial assistance
  2. Study material to differently abled children
  3. Training programmes etc

## **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

Each and every individual is unique in nature by birth. Sometimes it may happen to those persons who are physically challenged and mentally disabled due to birth related issues or due to hereditary factors. Government must provide facilities and assistance in such a way as to stand independently. Government and many NGOs are providing many schemes to those individuals in different ways such as financially and in kind. The effectiveness of such scheme must be analyzed in proper manner in order to get a clear cut information about its effectiveness.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- 1 .To identify the schemes and source of schemes for differently abled.
2. To study the effectiveness of schemes provided

## **METHODOLOGY**

As per the records of the Kattappana Municipality there are 2126 persons are come under this category as a whole. From the population 50 samples are collected conveniently. Both primary and secondary data are used. A structured questionnaire is administered for the purpose of collecting primary data. Descriptive statistics used for the analysis of data. Statistical tools mean is used and ranking method is also used to find out popular scheme.

## **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Yvonne Zimba (2015) the researcher noticed that the people with disabilities have the same health needs as non-disabled people – for immunization, cancer screening etc. They also may experience a narrower margin of health, both because of poverty and social exclusion, and also because they may be vulnerable to secondary conditions,

such as pressure sores or urinary tract infections. Evidence suggests that people with disabilities face barriers in accessing the health and rehabilitation services they need in many settings.

TripathiSunita (2017) India has launched a number of programmes and policies for the development of disabled people. Women with disabilities experience adverse physical, mental and sexual violence at a higher rate than other women. It is suggested that frequent remedies against violence and cruelty should be made, and sensitivity of a disabled women should be given top priority.

Gupta, Reena(2018) Status of Students with Disabilities (SWDs) in higher education institutions is not significant. SWDs face problems in admission process, academic problems, financial problems, social problems and support services. There is need for framing special policies and programmes for equitable participation.

Kumar, Vikash (2011)The current social security programmes are employment-related and do not appear to have any special attention to the persons with disabilities. Lack of information and dissemination and absence of a single window approach make people with disabilities often unaware of what benefits and schemes are available. More resources from local state, national and international agencies, Government and Non-Government Organisations need to be mobilized.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

It is revealed from the study that 54% are male and 46% female. A significant percentage of them are illiterate. Parents of the respondents are mainly depend on agriculture and allied activities. Majority of the respondents are belong to general category.SC/ST and OEC is also included with less percentages. Up to 96% of the respondents are belong to BPL Category.Respondents are suffering mental and physical disabilities. Out of the sample collected 84 % of the respondents disability is by birth and 10% respondents disability were caused by accidents and 6 % was the surgical mistake.82 %of the respondents are the recipient of pension scheme. .ICDS is the main source which helps the respondents to get information regarding the schemes. The benefits of the schemes are not enough to meet the requirements of the respondents and that's why they are not much satisfied.Training is a major welfare schemes to differently abled but unfortunately only 62% getting the facility.

### ***Level of satisfaction related to social welfare measures***

Here the researcher studies the level of satisfaction of differently abled in various schemes of social welfare measures. It includes Period of Payment, Amount of payment, Training programs, Distribution of equipments, Attitude from the officials etc.

Table 1 Level of satisfaction related to social welfare measures

| Sl no | particulars                 | Not at all satisfied |     | Slightly satisfied |    | Moderately satisfied |    | Very satisfied |    | Completely satisfied |    |
|-------|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----|--------------------|----|----------------------|----|----------------|----|----------------------|----|
|       |                             | No                   | %   | No                 | %  | No                   | %  | No             | %  | No                   | %  |
| 1     | Period of Payment           | 41                   | 82  | 6                  | 12 | 3                    | 6  | 0              | 0  | 0                    | 0  |
| 2     | Amount of payment           | 50                   | 100 | 0                  | 0  | 0                    | 0  | 0              | 0  | 0                    | 0  |
| 3     | Training programs           | 32                   | 64  | 10                 | 20 | 5                    | 10 | 3              | 6  | 0                    | 0  |
| 4     | Distribution of equipments  | 12                   | 24  | 8                  | 16 | 13                   | 26 | 7              | 14 | 10                   | 20 |
| 5     | Attitude from the officials | 9                    | 18  | 12                 | 24 | 11                   | 22 | 4              | 8  | 14                   | 28 |

Source: Primary data

Based on the variable period of payment, no respondents were completely satisfied. Regarding the amount of payment no one was completely satisfied. Regarding the distribution of equipments for the differently abled only 20 percent of the respondents were completely satisfied. Attitude from the officials is very important to this study. Many of the social welfare schemes need the approval of officials. Only 28% of the respondents were completely satisfied in this regard.

### ***Awareness level of schemes***

Awareness levels of various government welfare schemes were studied. Out of samples, 32 % of respondents had awareness regarding Financial Assistance to Blind and Orthopaedically Handicapped Advocates. Whereas 24 percent are not aware about the scheme. Swavalamban, Niramaya - Health Insurance scheme for differently-able persons is an insurance covering the life of individual who are suffering disability.

Out of the sample collected majority of the respondents were not at all aware about Marriage Assistance to Differently-abled women and daughters of differently-abled parents (90%). 38% of the respondents were not at all awareness about the Vocational Training for disabled.

All the respondent are aware about Issuing Disability Certificate. Only 30% respondents are aware about Scholarship for Disabled students pursuing Degree, PG courses (Distance Education).

Majority of respondents have not at all awareness about financial assistance for visually impaired mothers provided by the government. It is found that the World Disabled Day Celebrations were benefited.

### ***Effective schemes***

For analyzing the ranking question, the average ranking for each scheme was analyzed to determine the most severe problems faced by the fishermen community. After calculating the average mean, ranking was done based on the average rank scored by each scheme. The problem with highest average was the most effective scheme.



Average Rank is calculated as;

$$= \frac{X1W1 + X2W2 + X3W3 + X4W4 + X5W5 + X6W6 + X7W7}{\text{TOTAL OF WEIGHTS}}$$

Where,

X = Number of Respondents

W = Weight of Ranked Position

Weights are applied in normal order, in other words the most effective scheme (ranked as 1) has weight of 1, and the least effective scheme (ranked as 7) has a highest weight 7.

| Sl no | Schemes                    | Number of respondents |    |   |   |    |    |    |   | Weighted response | Weighted mean | Rank |
|-------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----|---|---|----|----|----|---|-------------------|---------------|------|
|       |                            | 1                     | 2  | 3 | 4 | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8 |                   |               |      |
| 1     | Pension                    | 16                    | 12 | 7 | 2 | 3  | 5  | 3  | 2 | 294               | 8.166         | 1    |
| 2     | Scholarship                | 20                    | 3  | 4 | 6 | 9  | 6  | 1  | 1 | 292               | 8.11          | 2    |
| 3     | Training program           | 0                     | 6  | 7 | 6 | 9  | 12 | 3  | 7 | 199               | 5.52          | 6    |
| 4     | Equipment                  | 13                    | 6  | 9 | 0 | 11 | 4  | 0  | 7 | 263               | 7.30          | 3    |
| 5     | Three wheelers             | 6                     | 3  | 2 | 9 | 7  | 11 | 5  | 7 | 204               | 5.66          | 5    |
| 6     | Medical allowance          | 7                     | 5  | 0 | 1 | 6  | 11 | 15 | 5 | 188               | 5.22          | 8    |
| 7     | Insurance schemes          | 9                     | 7  | 3 | 9 | 13 | 6  | 3  | 0 | 242               | 6.72          | 4    |
| 8     | Other financial assistance | 3                     | 2  | 6 | 4 | 13 | 10 | 4  | 8 | 192               | 5.33          | 7    |

Source: primary data

From the table it is clear that highest mean score was for 'pension scheme'. Which indicate that the most effective scheme for the respondent was the pension scheme. Because it was the regular source of income for meeting their requirements. But the default payment of cash was adversely affecting their living. The second mean score were scholarship for differently abled students, It also very effective for their education. Medical allowance is least scored scheme. That means that is not enough to meet their requirements.

### SUGGESTIONS

1. The authority should take necessary follow up action regarding the surgical mistakes to get possible compensatory.
3. Provide monthly schemes for medical allowance and training program.
4. The authority should take necessary steps to communicate about the schemes to the disabled.
5. The Govt. and NGOs should take necessary caution to increase the amount of schemes to satisfy their needs.
6. Minority respondents are not getting proper training in their interested areas. So the authority should consider this issue in a serious manner.
7. Provide more motivational training programs.

8. The daily life equipments should provide evenly to those peoples.
9. The authority should change their attitude towards the disabled. They should extend their helps in all the ways.
10. The authority should provide more awareness programs regarding the schemes to the disabled.
- 11 State government and central government should intimate and concentrate various scholarships for students through BRC, MUNICIPALITY, ICDS, SOCIAL JUSTICE MISSION, and SOCIAL SECURITY MISSION etc...
12. Regarding the Marriage Assistance to Differently-abled women and daughters of differently-abled parents, the authority should provide maximum publicity to access such schemes to those disabled.

### **CONCLUSION**

Disability is not a limitation in any manner to come to main stream. Instead they should turn it to opportunity. As developing society, it has its own social commitment to extend their hands to those needy people. To accomplish such goals, the Government and NGOs are providing various financial schemes and assistance in cash and in kind. Through the study it is revealed that the schemes and assistance provided is not much effective in the concerned area. It is lacking in many areas. The authority or concerned officials are not measuring or evaluating the effectiveness and implementation of such schemes. The disabled persons need much care and attention from the common society. The system of government should extend their empathy to those needy persons. Provide more and more training and awareness programmes. It is concluding that the society has a great responsibility towards disabled.

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