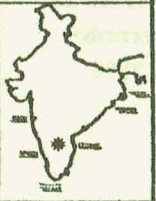


BANGALORE MOBILITY INDIA



The Prosthetics & orthotics workshop in the new building is now functional. It is spacious and well equipped with necessary tools and equipment to produce all kinds of orthoses, prostheses and other rehabilitation aids. This to cater to the needs of all persons with disabilities but especially the poor. Services are open to all and thus provide opportunities to the trainees to develop their practical skills.



Trainees in the classroom

The therapy unit too is functional with provisions for both physiotherapy and occupational therapy services. It is primarily for persons with disabilities, especially children. One of its major areas of focus is early intervention to help reduce the extent of disability.

A unit for manufacturing the 'Jaipur Foot' is also being set up. 7 women with disabilities are identified and trained in Jaipur Foot production. They will develop good quality Jaipur Feet with various features for better acceptability.

Residential facilities for both men and women are available in-house for trainees and faculty members. People with disabilities coming from other areas for services especially for aids and appliances can stay there.

A canteen has also been opened which offers food for the trainees, staff and visitors including persons with disabilities and their families.



Trainees in the workshop

The Research unit is presently working on the design and development of barefoot orthoses, orthotic knee joints, plastic callipers, ankle joints and modular lower limb prosthesis. All frequently used mobility aids. Most of the newly developed aids are intended to be inexpensive and appropriate for use in rural areas. Research is going on to produce prefabricated components of lower limb orthoses to be mass produced. Persons in need can be fitted with a lightweight effective orthoses on the spot and it will require minimum facilities to do so. The method will also bring the cost down by about two thirds of today's moulded lower limb orthoses.



Prototypes of appliances ready for trial

KOLKATA 'ABC' ULUBERIA (HOWRAH) - NEW ORTHOPAEDIC PROGRAMME.



100 kilometres from Kolkata City, ABC has a transit home in Uluberia for disabled children. Children having poliomyelitis or cerebral palsy are taken into this home for a period of about two years. During their stay the children have regular physiotherapy, learn to be independent in ADL skills (skills in activities of daily living like eating, toileting, dressing etc.) and also get the opportunity to learn or continue some basic academic education. Some also attend the local mainstream schools to continue their education during their stay in the centre. The aim is to equip the children in a manner so that they can go back to their family and community with the necessary skills and knowledge to continue to live independently and have access to opportunities like others.

Earlier the need for appliances were met by getting them made from different places in Kolkata. These were generally made of metal, which was heavy, and most wearers did not find them very useful. MIBLOU facilitated the process of bringing about a change in this whole aspect. On their request Mobility India got involved by sending a team to Uluberia with an aim to provide support in fabricating appropriate aids and appliances. All the appliances were replaced with new custom made light

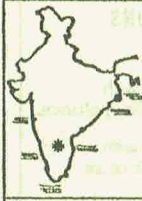
plastic ones. Since then these children have progressed rapidly resulting in short stays in the centre which has brought joy and happiness to all. Thanks to you and your support for the Action Orthopaedic Appliances.

A small orthopaedic workshop was established and inaugurated in 2001 by Daisy Motier, our then Honorary Secretary. The aim was to build capacity of the centre to carry out the necessary modifications and repairs at the site. At present MIBLOU is sponsoring two young persons for training in orthotics at Mobility India, Bangalore. On their return they will be responsible for running the workshop which among other things will also fabricate aids and appliances for those in need.



Therapy session - preparation for using appliances

BANGALORE APD - THE ASSOCIATION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY.



APD is one of the oldest Indian pioneering organisations Working for more than four decades with people with disabilities to ensure that disabled people especially those who are poor, can live as equal citizens with dignity and respect like anybody else.

It has, over the years, developed various programmes both for the rural and urban population. Among them is one aimed at developing appropriate vocational skills for disabled young adults. APD also provides support for education even in the mainstream education sector for some in need. After completing their general education some of these

young people even wish to go for higher education in vocations like architecture, business management, computer science, draughtsmanship, etc. But they are not able to fulfil their ambitions due to economic reasons. So MIBLOU is sponsoring 20 such young adults for a period of two to three years so that they are able to pursue their careers. MIBLOU wishes / hopes to support more such students if new sponsors come forward to strengthen their partnership with APD in this effort to bring about changes in the lives of many deserving young adults with disability.

SPONSORING OF STUDENTS

ALL INDIA ACTION ORTHOPAEDIC APPLIANCES:



Thanks to you. As you were able to read in various articles of our newsletters, MIBLOU continues to support sponsoring appliances for the deprived children with disability. This has brought many smiles, joy and positive changes in the lives of these children like independently joining in the walk to a regular school with others, getting a job, getting married and having a family of their own

WELL DONE! YOU HAVE GONE BEYOND A THOUSAND

THANK YOU.
MERCİ.

Let us continue to help these children to get this 'little extra' which brings about a tremendous change in their journey through life.



MOGRADANGI HSP - HOWRAH SOUTH POINT, JALPAIGURI



The Mogradanghi centre of HSP had solicited MIBLOU's help to improve the quality of the appliances used by the children of the home. MIBLOU requested Mobility India's team to evaluate the need. Following Mobility India's assessment the orthopaedic technician has benefited from the training by Mobility India on upgrading his skills. Since his return from training more than 30 children have been re equipped with plastic callipers. These allow fitting any shoes the child likes. The orthopaedic workshop was created with direct and active help of MIBLOU and is already 10 years old. There are plans to renovate the workshop with more modern and appropriate equipment. It is hoped that this workshop will also create opportunities for outsiders to come in and be equipped.

NEW APPLIANCES



First steps with the new appliances

Founded in
1980
by
Brian et Jo
Millar

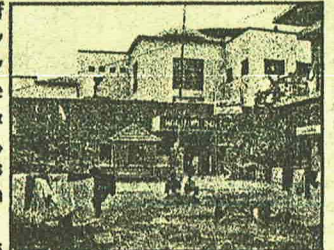


2002: OPENING OF THE MOBILITY INDIA REHABILITATION, RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTRE (MIRRTC).

BANGALORE



The biggest event of 2002 was the opening to students of one of India's largest and most modern centre for Disability Rehabilitation, Research and Training. Built by Mobility India and partly financed by MIBLOU. The fully accessible building includes residential training facilities, prosthetics & orthotics workshop, Jaipur Foot production unit, therapy, research & development and administrative units plus library. Also a co-ordinating unit for the urban slum Community Based Rehabilitation programme.



Mobility India promotes mobility of persons with disabilities in the South and North India but also in other developing countries. MIBLOU has been a partner, supporting Mobility India since eight years.

It's an excellent example for other organisations about what can be done in the field of disability. The majority of people who are benefiting from this programme are mostly physically disabled especially those who are from a lower socio-economic background and rural based. Mobility India's intervention has helped to bring about a positive change in the quality of lives of many of these people. Mobility India is starting to work with all types of disabilities. The aim is to facilitate the bringing about of a holistic change in the lives of disabled people. It is envisaged that people with disabilities take the central role in creating an inclusive society where they can continue to live as citizens with respect, equal rights and opportunities.

One of the main strategies of Mobility India is to build up the capabilities of other organisations to include disability as a part of their community development programmes.



The 7 trainees sponsored by MIBLOU.

Training

The well-equipped and manned training centre has been completed. The plan is to have more than 100 persons trained professionally in orthotics, prosthetics, therapy and CBR each year. Priority will be given to personnel from organisations working in socioeconomically backward rural or urban areas, especially women and persons with disabilities. Following the training the trainees will go back to their

respective organisations and strengthen the work aimed at building capacities of persons with disabilities plus their families and communities involved in the process of creating an inclusive society. Finally a society where disabled people will be accepted in their families and communities as equal members /citizens with dignity and respect. The trainees will primarily work at the level of the home and community.

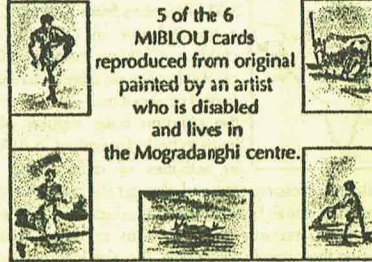
In July this year the training centre formally started its activities with a first batch for a one-year professional training programmes in lower limb orthotics, lower limb prosthetics and rehabilitation therapy. MIBLOU is sponsoring 7 of the 30 trainees. They will return to their respective organisations after the training. Next year

45 are planned. In addition to the professional courses throughout the year many other training programmes and educational seminars, workshops, short courses etc. on CBR and issues related to disability and development will take place.



Mahesh of Mobility India

NEW MIBLOU CARDS



5 of the 6
MIBLOU cards
reproduced from original
painted by an artist
who is disabled
and lives in
the Mogradanghi centre.

MIBLOU is :

- ... A future for disabled children. .
- ... The support to work on a co-operative basis.
- ... A sensitising of the Indian public opinion.

THANK YOU

To you, generous donors who allow MIBLOU to help so many children to live a little more decently...

YOUR DONATIONS

What is done with :

100 sf : will help a person with disability to get an orthopaedic appliance.

200 sf : will help a person with disability to get a wheel chair or an artificial limb.

360 sf : will help a person with disability to undergo a professional training on Orthotics, Prosthetics or Therapy.

500 sf : will help to establish a repair workshop.

Since the last 20 years the accounts of MIBLOU is being audited by the auditors Revisiana of Geneva, free of charge. MIBLOU thanks them warmly for their continuous support.

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KOLKATA THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF CEREBRAL PALSY

(FORMERLY SSEI)



The 'Respite Care Unit' is built on the top floor of the IICP building. The construction was completed in 2001 and at present this unit is functioning well. Three more flats will create opportunities for respite care and help young adults with cerebral palsy to learn how to live independently. Here these young adults learn the basic skills for independent living. Following this learning experience the young adults will live independently in small groups in locations within the

community. This centre also caters for young people with severe disabilities whose independence will remain limited. But who need the experience of being away from home should the time come when their families can no longer look after them. Parents have a plan to set up a 'parents co-operative body' so that the body with regular newer members can continue to play a major role in facilitating, supporting and sustaining the whole process of independent living of their grown up children. This place is also used for training both the parents who want to set up their own small respite/residential services for their own child and for caregivers so they have the skills to look after people with special needs.

This whole concept is very new in India; the first step comprises a short stay of one to two weeks in this unit. The objective is to prepare these young persons to learn to live away from their parents, get used to the concept and have the confidence in themselves that they can manage on their own. During this period they also learn some basic skills like cooking,

cleaning, helping each other and working together in different units of SSEI. To date the results have been very positive and encouraging. Most of these young persons who have already gone through this phase want to come back for more.



All are involved in cooking.

SWITZERLAND

MIBLOU : WHO ARE WE ?



At the beginning, a couple: Brian and Jo MILLAR, from Geneva, and an immense love and respect for all children.

They had four children, "home made" : Marika, Michel, Martin and Melany and then six children without parents, come from India: Mina, Bablou,

Mouni, Mitsi, Joseph and Savita. Altogether, today 10 children plus 8 grandchildren. The name Miblou came from the names of their two first adopted children, Mina and Bablou, and was started in 1980 after Jo & Brian's first visit to India.

First 50, then 500, and since now 22 years, thousands of children have been nourished, helped and educated on the spot. They are tribal or rural always destitute, as their parents. Several day care centres were opened in different locations of India, welcoming them, to avoid abandon and often death.

With the years, more and more local organisations profit from MIBLOU's help, and today thanks to modern communication, they are in permanent contact with the committee in Geneva.

MIBLOU is a recognised public charity in India and in Switzerland.

In 1994, after 15 years of voluntary activity in favour of destitute children,

Brian and Jo found very able successors: Daisy Mottier and Marika, the eldest of the Millar's family, both with the same love and respect for the child, both have carried the torch with enthusiasm in the service of MIBLOU.

From 2000, Marika assumes total responsibility for MIBLOU's future. The wheel of life turns...

