



Organisation : **Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy**
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Recipient of Govt. of India (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment) National Award - 'Best Institute for Disability' 2004

Introduction & Background Information of IICP:

A BRIEF HISTORY OF IICP:

Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy (IICP), a charitable (voluntary) organisation, registered under the Societies Registration Act, has been offering specialised, comprehensive services for children of all ages and adults with Cerebral Palsy (CP) since 1974.

It began as the **West Bengal Spastics Society** and was housed in temporary military barracks in the Ballygunge Military Camp.

In 1985 it moved to its accessible building on land provided on long lease, by the Kolkata Port Trust. Later it was called the **Spastics Society of Eastern India (SSEI)** reflecting its role as a catalyst for similar services in the region.

In 1999, the **Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy (IICP)** replaced SSEI to symbolise the national impact of the organisation's activities. **IICP serves on an average over 2000 beneficiaries every year.**

Vision

An inclusive society where all persons including persons with disability can live with dignity; an environment in which they gain access to their constitutional rights; where diversity is celebrated and respected.

Mission

Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy seeks to bring about positive changes in the lives of all people with cerebral palsy. It achieves this aim through a range of policies and service provisions designed to enhance the individual skills and knowledge of persons with Cerebral Palsy. It is committed to provide opportunities to exercise their constitutional rights and fully participate and contribute to the community and country.

Key activities of the organization

An NGO with an impressive track record of pioneering work, IICP is a specialist resource centre for disability particularly cerebral palsy. It is the largest of its kind in the Eastern Region and State Nodal Agency of the National Trust. It has multi-faceted services by a deeply committed and qualified team of professionals and self-advocates. It also offers a range of training programmes at all levels for all stakeholders in the disability sector – parents, community members, community workers, self-advocates and activists for disability, personnel and professionals.

IICP is a pioneering organization and has been a catalyst for the establishment of services for Cerebral Palsy across the country. Each service model is used for training and demonstration and has been successfully replicated - in essence and philosophy but with regional and environmental variations - in 16 organisations in 11 states including 5 of the 7 states in the North East, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh. Many of these organisations are now recognised as nodal centres for disability in their state. IICP's input to these 'affiliate organisations' is solely in training and capacity building.

IICP has a highly experienced and professional team and senior faculty members are involved in consultancy and training inputs in international and national fora.

It is the first and only organization of its kind in Kolkata and West Bengal that offers services to persons with Cerebral Palsy and other neuro-motor disabilities across the life cycle – from infants barely a month old to adults nearing sixty years of age – there is no age limit.

SERVICES

Centre for Special Education a co-educational school with a capacity for 165-170 students – at present there are 167 students, mainly with neuro motor disabilities with varying degrees of physical and other associated problems. The school has a highly successful reverse inclusion model that includes 10 typically developed children from economically disadvantaged homes. The school curriculum includes formal and non-formal education, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, hydrotherapy, co-curricular activities and counseling.

IICP is a **Specially Accredited Institute for the Educationally Disadvantaged (SAIED) for the National Open School and the Open Schooling Unit** offers the Open Basic Education (OBE) Syllabus for Classes 3, 5, and 7 leading to Secondary and Senior Secondary level courses for students above 18 years. IICP offers study courses in English through the National Institute of Open Schooling and in Bengali through the State Open School (Rabindra Mukta Vidyalaya) for students with a disability certificate and is an examination centre for other schools offering a NOS curriculum. **In 2017-18, 195 children were registered in NIOS.**

Jugnu SishuVikas Kendra is an inclusive playschool and nutrition programme for 100 children from very low income groups in the neighborhood. The programme runs on weekday afternoons in the school premises. Activities include an emphasis on early learning activities, music, craft, outdoor play, health and hygiene. All services including annual medical checks are provided free of cost.

Family Services (FSD) comprise Early Intervention Clinic for babies under 3 years of age; **Family Services** (3 years +). This multi-disciplinary service emphasizes transfer of skill and knowledge to parents for effective home management of their child; **FSD also offers Medical Clinics, Speech Therapy and a Mental Health Clinic.** This service is a 'Disha Centre' of the National Trust that works for early intervention and school readiness for children with disabilities from birth till 10 years.

Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) services for mainstreaming disability through partnerships with NGOs working with education, health and/or women and children. IICP works with 12 partners in the urban slums in 88 of the 141 wards in Kolkata Urban slums and 137 sites. A total of 1250 persons with disability and 3750 family members have benefitted from the services in urban slums.

Since 1981, IICP has worked in all the districts of West Bengal with a range of local organisations and youth groups in district towns and rural areas. At present, it has 5 district partners in West Bengal whose work spans approximately 110 villages in Hooghly, Howrah, Burdwan West, Birbhum and East Dinajpur.

Training courses – IICP reaches out to an average **4000 professionals, personnel and other stakeholders each year** through its training programmes and orientation courses. It forged formal links with Jadavpur University in 1981 and subsequently with Rehabilitation Council of India for accredited diploma and degree courses. At present, with certification from Jadavpur University, IICP conducts a two-year B.Ed Degree in Special Education (Multiple Disabilities), a one-month Basic Management of Cerebral Palsy certificate course for Rehabilitation professionals, four Computer Courses for vocational training of young adults with disability and adults from economically disadvantaged backgrounds and a certificate course for training caregivers for persons with disability.

Vocational Training Centre (VTC) is an inclusive programme for adults with disability and youth from economically disadvantaged homes who are aged >18 years. VTC offers trade related training in computers, catering, printing and tea packing with an emphasis on skill development for meaningful occupations and sustainable livelihoods. The VTC has facilitated the setting up of **4 self-help groups (SHG)** that are working on self-employment schemes with loans from the bank. The VTC arranges short placements for work experience and continuous efforts are made to find employment for the trainees.

Adult Day Centre (ADC) is a Leisure and Learning Centre for adults with severe to profound physical disabilities and high support needs with associated complex communication impairments and/or severe to profound intellectual disability. With an emphasis on dignity, respect and autonomy, the ADC provides the adults a range of activities which include gardening, laundry, music, films, movement and hydrotherapy. Adults are given the opportunity to continue their academic aspirations through the National Open School. In 2019-20, there were 63 service users in the ADC.

IICP has certain programmes that serve all the departments. These comprise

- **Respite Services are offered for service users with neuro-motor disabilities.** This is a residential service; a qualified and efficient team of professionals and trained caregivers works 24x7 throughout the year, providing a safe and secure environment for parents to leave their sons and daughters for short stays.
- **ANKUR is IICP's Self-Advocacy Group.** Its mission is to change public perceptions about persons with disability and work for an inclusive society where persons with disability gain full and equal access to their rights as citizens of this country. Police personnel were given training on helping commuters with disability, professors from different colleges were given training in 'Leadability', a leadership programme to make persons with disability and others aware of the potential in persons with disability to lead; 54 airline personnel attended awareness programmes on disability. In an innovative campaign 'Strap Up' in collaboration with the Traffic Dept, Kolkata Police, two-wheeler riders at five major traffic junctions were cautioned to travel with securely fastened helmets.
- **IT-** This department offers short term courses in computer proficiency and advanced level programmes for vocational training to students with disabilities and non disabled students

from economically disadvantaged homes. Subject related skills are offered for students who are registered for the National Open School and introduction to computers for leisure. 9 of the thirtysix trainees were absorbed in jobs after completion of training.

- **The IT Department includes Roshni, National Resource Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)** provides training and customized services to children and adults with complex communication needs. The Centre develops and demonstrates lo-tech and hi-tech AAC resources and methods. The Writers Workshop facilitates language in children who use AAC. Bridging for Inclusion is an initiative that supports students in mainstream schools who need Augmented Communication. IICP is a member of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC) and an active member of the Indian Chapter.
- **Therapy Services-** A well-equipped Therapy department offers physiotherapy and occupational therapy for children and adults from all departments; an afternoon service is open to all persons with mobility and other physical difficulties. Hydrotherapy is an integral aspect of therapeutic management coordinated by the Therapy department. Therapists work intensively in the area of early detection and intervention for neuro-motor disabilities and have established close links with doctors and other medical professionals.
- **Social Services** - Experienced and qualified social work professionals support children and adults with disabilities across all services and age groups. The activities comprise conducting individual and group counselling sessions, enabling parents to form support groups, supporting income generation schemes, informing families and adults with disabilities about their entitlements and legal rights, networking with GOs and NGOs, organizing and conducting parent training programmes. The department conducts orientation programmes for visitors from academic institutions and nursing colleges.

Key Achievements:

Awards Received

2004: Best Institute for Disability – National Award from MSJE

2004: “Outstanding” Training Centre – Accreditation by Rehabilitation Council of India

2004: Best Respite Service – National Trust

2004: State Award for Best Barrier free Environment

2006: Best SNAC – National Trust

2009: Jeeja Ghosh, Former Head of Advocacy and Saswati Acharya, Coordinator Ankur Advocacy group - Role Model Awards (PwD), State Welfare Department of West Bengal

2010: SudhaKaul, Founder and Vice Chairperson awarded the Padma Shree

2011, 2012: Best Awareness Programme (BadhteKadam) - National Trust (IICP as SNAC, West Bengal)

2016: ‘I am Jeeja’ a biopic directed by Swati Chakrabarty, Head IT and co-scripted and acted by Jeeja Ghosh, former Head Advocacy wins the National Award for Films on Social Issues.

2017: Sudipendu Dutta IT Trainer awarded the State Government Award in the category ‘Best Creative Individual’
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2017-19: Certificate of Achievement from Queensland University, Australia – community based early intervention programme for infants with cerebral palsy, Learning through Everyday Activities with Parents (LEAP - CP)

2017-18: Tata Steel Production and Distribution Ltd recognises IICP as a Laudable CSR Partner

2018: - Management Excellence Public Service awarded by Life Insurance Company

2019: Dr Sudha Kaul, Founder has also been awarded the Life time Achievement Award from Bengal Chamber of Commerce

2019: Guidestar India Certification

IICP's long journey has been possible only with the help of donors and well-wishers. Financial sustainability is the key and thus we appeal to you for support.