

ROLE OF NRIs IN EMPOWERING THE SPECIALLY ABLED PEOPLE (SAP)

For Building Inclusive Indian Society

BIG IDEA FOR BETTER INDIA

VISION

Empower the Specially Abled People of India to contribute to society by creating a barrier free environment in which the Specially Abled will be able to live, learn, work and participate inclusively in the development and high growth of INDIA.



H'ble PM Shri Narendrabhai's [Mann Ki Baat](#) – Oct 3 Radio address to the Nation

BACKGROUND OF THE CAUSE

- Specially Abled People – 6% in India, affecting 30% population (average 5 / family) – large underserved population presents untapped opportunities – commercial and social upliftment
- Per UN – 15% (approx 1 BN) world population estimated to be disabled (incl age related disability and acquired disability)
- Technology advancements especially with Information and Communication Technologies, “Mobile” revolution, assistive technologies, 3D printing for artificial limbs etc. have Empowered Specially Abled People – many examples seen in the western countries
- Countries like the US spends 12% of the federal tax rev + state spending – close to 500 BN/year
- Founder of voiceofsap has polio since age of 4, has lived in the US since 1999, experienced independent living. Inspired to lead the CHANGE in India for Specially Abled People
- India needs to catch up a LOT with rest of the world to create inclusive society, protecting rights of 7 crore SAP and harness mega untapped global economic opportunity

Timing is RIGHT to expand participation, create strong voice to accelerate Social Transformation

- Strong Demonstrated [Political WILL to ACT](#) – Started with new Govt in Center on **May 26 2014**
- Corporate Commitment, New CSR law to generate huge resources – Effective **April 1 2014**
- Compassionate Social Leaders like Sri Sri Ravi Shankar have come out in support of the cause, inspired OVBI volunteers to join the cause, form partnership with voiceofsap to drive the CHANGE
- Demographic Dividend for India – Easier to implement “Social Change” to build inclusive society
- World leaders are focused on Independent living of SAP per UN treaty (UNCRPD 2007). Growing focus for their needs is creating new global markets for products, services

OPPORTUNITIES FOR NRIs

- Volunteer Opportunities
 - Time for volunteer tasks, Charitable Donations, Providing Thought Leadership as SME...
- Entrepreneurial Opportunities
 - Develop mobile apps for Empowering Specially Abled People, globally
 - Develop accessibility solutions for mass transit (for retrofitting to Indian standards)
 - Websites upgrades to meet accessibility standards and many more...
- Business Opportunities
 - Large projects with various governments – SSA (HRD) for e-learning projects, UID and related work, Accessibility solutions, accessibility audits etc., training institutes and colleges for degree and certificate courses, manufacturing disable friendly product etc.
 - Check out Microsoft's enable-mart <https://www.enablemart.com/microsoft>
- Research and Innovation Opportunities
 - Develop designs that fits to Indian conditions (example-foldable ramp in buses)
 - 3D printer based artificial limbs, just a beginning...
 - Indigenous designs for smart cane, hearing aids etc. for low cost production in India
- CSR Opportunities
 - % time of your employees towards working with disability related NGOs in India
 - Advocacy for Inclusive HR policies, accessibility upgrades of offices, hiring SAPs etc.

FEW EXAMPLES

- We, NRIs have seen and experienced “Barrier Free” and Inclusive society. Several solutions, products, research programs etc. can be taken to India to improve the quality of life of SAP

- Real Examples of the Impact that NRI led efforts have made so far...
 1. Dr Romesh Wadhvani, Silicon Valley based businessman, supports youth4jobs NGO, who are creating thousands of “employable” Specially Abled People
 2. Large # of NRIs are Providing Financial assistance, Donations for mobility equipment, hearing aids etc.
 3. “Sankara Eye Foundation” CEO from bay area, raising millions of \$ for blind people of India
 4. “Voiceofsap”, initiative of Pranav, an NRI, who led the volunteer efforts through india272, inspired get 7 commitments for Specially Abled People from BJP as a party and now Govt of India agenda
 5. NRI Volunteers supporting voiceofsap.com Mission:
 1. Connecting with Sri Sri Ravi Shankar to accelerate social change, with media (Times Now etc.)
 2. Sharing expert inputs, contacts, suggestions, advice along with their time
 3. Reaching out to MPs and Ministers in India for their active support to the cause
 4. Evaluating work done by top 100 disability related NGOs in India
 5. Identifying 10 Assistive/Adaptive Technology manufacturers, software developers to focus on India as market and expand globally from India
 6. Capacity Building for advocacy efforts in India, reaching out to govt officers etc.
 7. Helping our team in India for participating in Special Olympics in Los Angeles (Aug 2015)

With focus on identified areas, together, we can take NRI Contributions to next level.

ROLE OF NRI CAN BE...

- **A Thought Leader** for Policy Inputs to Govt.
 - Healthcare (Prevention of Disability)
 - Accessibility Solutions (Building, Transportation, Website)
 - Special needs education
 - Assistive Technology / Adaptive Technology Solutions
 - ICT Solutions, apps development in Indian languages
- **A Donor** for making quick and lasting impact
 - Adopt Village / District / City / Region to make them fully accessible such as schools, hospitals, bus stations etc.
 - Provide donations for individual empowerment (Example - \$100 per tricycle can provide mobility, hearing aid to a child – data says 15% affected children can start speaking)
 - Support NGOs in India for the cause close to you
 - Buying products produced by Specially Abled People (art work, greeting cards, paintings, handicrafts etc.)
 - Fund Raising for the cause

ROLE OF NRI CAN BE...

- **A Passionate Volunteer**

1. Spreading awareness with friends, families in India for social change

- Make everyone aware of Govt's stated [7 goals](#) and [PM's view point](#)
- Educate with UN perspective of Independent living
- Share perspective of economic benefit to employers by hiring Specially Abled People (data points available)
- Carry the message that inclusive and right based society will ensure better future for all as everyone is temporarily abled!

2. With voiceofsap.com

- Share inspiring stories with social media, voiceofsap.com
- Participate in identifying top 100 Disability related NGOs
- Participate in identifying 10 to 20 disable friendly product manufacturers, solution providers to consider India as a growing market and global manufacturing hub
- Collecting data from state's disability commissioner etc. specific tasks
- Introduce Vision and Mission of voiceofsap to corporate/elected and social leaders and seek their support and guidance

4. Be a "Change-Maker" within the organization

- To influence for adopting inclusive HR policies
- Adopt CSR projects and activities that will benefit Specially Abled People of India

ROLE OF NRI CAN BE...

- **An Innovator/Entrepreneur/Businessman**
 1. Support research to find/Innovate alternate low cost / affordable solutions
 2. Commercialize products, apps, concepts etc. developed by NGOs, IITs etc.
 3. Link US, UN aid and grants programs for implementing solutions in India
 4. Provide services, create businesses focused on global needs of Specially Abled People
 5. Employ Specially Abled People and create case study with their high productivity levels, lower attrition and lower cost of operations

IMMEDIATE CALL OF ACTION

1. Register on voiceofsap.com as volunteer
2. Let us know your area of expertise, area of interest to provide volunteer services, we will guide you accordingly and connect you with other teams
3. We need active volunteers for gathering information and sharing with community of voiceofsap.com
 - Evaluate disability related Indian NGOs listed on voiceofsap.com to learn about their work, impact and help that they can be provided
 - Evaluating companies listed on voiceofsap.com for their products, interest to come to India
 - Connect with Commissioner of Disability of 35 states/UT to understand their contribution
 - Specially Abled People related Policy inputs from SMEs for Transportation, Rural, HRD (education), Urban Development, Railways, Aviation, Sports, Health ministries
 - Share stories and ideas as seen/experienced around the community and workplace



THANK YOU



ANNEXURE

REFERENCE (7 MANIFESTO COMMITMENTS)

1. Enact the 'Rights of the Persons with Disabilities bill' (RPWD)
2. Use technology to deliver low cost quality education to specially-abled students 'in-home' through E-learning
3. Identify each and every special needs person across the country - establishing a web based disability registration system to issue universal ID for all applicable government benefits (healthcare, transportation, jobs, education etc.)
4. Ensure disabled friendly access to public facilities, public buildings and transport
5. Ensure maximum economic independence of the disabled by creating more income generation models for them
6. Support and aid voluntary organizations working for the care of the disabled
7. Provide a higher tax relief for the family member taking care of the disabled

TRANSFORMATION HAS STARTED...

- Comprehensive Vision 2020 published, outlining 12 key goals for the cause – Jan 2014
- BJP Election Manifesto Committee gracefully included 7 MEGA commitments – Apr 2014
- All state SJE ministers communicated the 7 priorities of Govt of India for the cause – Aug 2014
- Announcement by SJE minister to issue Universal ID card, starting mid of next year – Sep 2014
- Worked out final concept document (ABA) with Secretary of Disability Affairs in Delhi – Nov 2014
- AOL, Reliance, Pepsi - discussed projects with voiceofsap for possible initiatives – Oct/Nov 2014
- Key Recent Statements by Modi ji (Oct 3, Nov 2 radio addresses) and his team
 - Hon. PM Shri Modi ji's First Radio Address on Oct 3, wherein he stated "Specially Abled Children are responsibility of Society and Nation too". Profound commitment, policy input
 - Make all central schools accessible – special budget of 1 lac rupees allocated per school – Nov 2
 - Hon. Finance Minister included following 3 items in his budget speech in parliament – Jul 10
 - To set up 15 new Braille press and revive 10 existing ones
 - Print currency with Braille like signs
 - Assistance to purchase aids, equipment and assistive devices

Reached out to over 40 top leaders (Elected, Social, Corporate) for getting support for the cause

IMPORTANT LINKS

1. Lemon Tree Hotel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4Z3qcm8EgY&feature=youtu.be>
2. iPhone app helps Blind Person: <http://www.ndtv.com/article/world/new-smartphone-app-gives-sight-to-the-blind-595258>
3. 3D Printer – low cost prosthetic: <http://www.epageflip.net/i/396559>
4. Bombay High Court intervention for accessibility: <http://voiceofsap.com/idea/inspirational-best-miss-akanksha-varthaman-kale/>
5. Restaurant – 100% operated by deaf and Dumb – owned by Indian (Anjan Kumar): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VPgh5Yk2HaY>
6. G-Therapy – thousands of children with autism helped so far: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/Pune-doctor-claims-to-have-observed-brains-dormant-supreme-control/articleshow/38755451.cms>
7. Enabled India: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-Nw-ZnCcco>

ABOUT PRANAV DESAI



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- Engineer, MBA and Corporate leader with 20 years experience of working for large MNCs (Arvind, AIG, NTT DATA)

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