Chapter IV

NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES

In general, Library and Information system and services present a trichotomy of classes of people involve. This is particularly pronounced in the case of services to the disadvantaged. In the first instance, the disadvantaged classes of people themselves become the primary group of targeted audience. Next, obviously come the several specified expert groups engaged in the field serving the disabled. Thirdly, the Libraries are also have their stakes who are engaged as professionals serving both the groups. Since the overall objective in to improve the lot of the disabled, alleviate their disability conditions and bring them back into the general social fold, the Library services to the disabled are necessarily not information oriented. Rather it is oriented to the development of their skills.

The experts who are engaged in the field may or may not be directly dealing with the disabled. Rather, they are interested in investigating and identifying the ways and means of better and effective diagnostic, therapeutic and rehabilitational services. Obviously this is research-oriented which further means new knowledge based as already existing knowledge.

Therefore, Librarian/Information specialist, obviously finds himself placed to play a dual role, i.e. serving both the classes. While the specialists need to know the disabled, the Library professionals are required to know both.

In a national system of promotion of Library and Information services, both categories should receive due importance. While it is a matter of mere collection and organization of reading materials to the disadvantaged, it consists of planning information services to
the expert specialized groups. Both of course, warrant national and international perspectives.

So far as Library and Information services to the disadvantaged is concerned, there exists practically not much. There are only very few libraries which are also not adequately equipped. On the other hand, there is no clear cut policy or direction and as such it is not explicitly spelt in the Library policies. The materials of Library systems does not integrate this aspect.

However, there is a great amount of awareness of this colossal problem. Remedial measures naturally have been taken up. There are voluntary organizations as well as state sponsored institutions engaged in rehabilitation activities. The emphasis naturally appears to be on rehabilitation. Perhaps eventually the privilege of Library and Information services may also receive proper consideration.

This is exactly the reason why this study is directed toward the specialist expert groups engaged in rehabilitation activities and aimed at collecting factual data relating to their information needs and requirements.

In order to investigate the information needs of professionals working in different National institutions (for the disabled) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India, it is a pre-requisite that the activities and programmes of these institutions are highlighted and the various information and documentation services rendered by the Libraries attached to them are described.

There are six national institutions established as autonomous bodies under the administrative control of the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India, viz., 1) National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped at Secunderabad 2) Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for
the Hearing Handicapped at Bombay 3) Institute for the Physically Handicapped at Delhi 4) National Institute for the Visually Handicapped at Dehradun 5) National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped at Calcutta and 6) National Institute for Rehabilitation, Training and Research at Cuttack.

These institutions were started as apex bodies in the respective area of the disability with two main objectives, viz., a) Diagnosis, treatment, training and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities and b) Manpower development.

National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad

The National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped was established in the year 1984 as an autonomous body under the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India. The Institute serves as an apex body with specific emphasis on training and research in the field of mental retardation.

1.0 Objectives

- a) To develop appropriate models of care and habilitation for the mentally retarded persons appropriate to Indian conditions.

- b) To develop manpower for delivery of services to the mentally handicapped.

- c) To identify, conduct and coordinate research in the area of mental retardation.

- d) To provide consultancy services to voluntary organizations in the area of mental handicap and to assist them wherever necessary.

- e) To serve as a documentation and information center in the area of mental retardation.
f) To acquire relevant data to assess the magnitude, causes, rural-urban composition, socio-economic factors etc., for mental retardation in the country.

g) To promote and stimulate growth of various kinds of quality services for persons with mental retardation throughout the country.

2.0 Organizational Set-up

As the Institute’s headquarters at Secunderabad, there are six departments namely medical sciences, psychology, special education, speech pathology & audiology, Library & Information services and vocational training. The Institute has three regional training centers located at Bombay, Calcutta and New Delhi, while Model School for the Mentally Deficient Children at New Delhi was taken over by the Institute in the year 1986. Some of the Institute’s training programmes are also carried by a network of 17 supported and affiliated centers spread across the country.

3.0 Training Programmes

3.1 Three year Bachelor’s Degree course in Mental Retardation (BMR).

Three year Bachelor’s Degree course in Mental Retardation is run by the Institute at Secunderabad. The intake capacity is 17 students per year. The eligibility for admission is 10 + 2 or intermediate examination with minimum 50% marks. This course is affiliated to Osmania University. The objective is to train persons who would provide comprehensive basic services to persons with mental retardation at all levels of severity and age.

3.2 Diploma Course in Mental Retardation (DMR)

One year Diploma Course in Mental Retardation is offered at 22 centers in the country namely Bhubaneshwar, Bhopal, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Mangalore, Muvattupuzha, Madras, Rajahmundry, Ranchi, Rohtak, Secunde-
rabad, Tirupathi, Trivandrum, Udupi, Vadodara, Kolar and Wai. The intake capacity at each of the centers is 20 each year. The minimum educational qualification required is 10+2. In addition, due weightage is afforded for experience in the field of mental retardation; higher qualification and also parents siblings of children with mental retardation. The course prepares the trainees to teach and train children with mental retardation in special schools.

### 3.3 Short-term courses

Each year about 3-4 refresher courses are organized by the Institute for professionals working in the field of mental retardation. Such courses are being held in the month of May at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Hyderabad. Occasionally refresher course and continuing educational programmes are also arranged by the Institute on specific requests from Government and non-Government organization. In addition, the Institute organizes 30 to 35 short term courses every year ranging from 2 to 5 days. The target population of other short term courses were pediatricians, psychologists, special educators, speech pathologists, physiotherapists and medical doctors working in primary health centers. Each short term course is attended by about 30 professionals.

### 3.4 National and State level seminars

Each year a National level seminar on mental retardation is organized by the Institute which serves as a platform to professionals working in the field of mental retardation to exchange information. Apart from holding symposia on the selected topics, there are open scientific sessions where research findings and redundant field experience are shared with other professionals. The National annual seminar is attended by about 250 participants every year. State level seminars are organized in collaboration with State Governments wherein all NGOs of the State are invited to deliberate on the chosen topics. The main
aim of State level seminars is to sensitize the group on starting service and training activities in the field of mental retardation.

3.5 Parent training programmes

The Institute organized 10 to 12 parent training programmes every year. Four parent training programmes are held at the NIMH headquarters every year and one parent training programme each is conducted by the Regional Training Centers. The Institute on receiving invitation from Non Government organizations and parent organizations sends its course faculty to organize training programme for parents and siblings at various centers in the country. Average attendance in each of these parent training programmes is about 50. The parents are imparted information on training, education and management of their children with mental retardation.

4.0 Service Programmes

4.1 Services at NIMH

The Institute provides multi-disciplinary team services for helping the mentally handicapped persons and their parents. Usually all the cases that come to NIMH are assessed by a general service team for psychological, clinical and educational assessments. After identifying the different requirements of the mentally handicapped individuals and their families, intervention programmes are decided which include appropriate referrals, further remediation in special services of the Institute and providing consultancy to organizations such as special schools where the person with mental retardation may continue to seek service. Intervention programmes offered at the Institute are mainly home based and involve the parents or the care takers to the maximum extent in helping their children. The services available to suit the various requirements are:

- Behaviour modification
• Early intervention for preschool children
• Group activities
• Medical management
• Parent/family guidance and counseling
• Physiotherapy
• Psychosocial services
• Special educational intervention
• Speech, language and hearing intervention
• Vocational training and guidance

Each year nearly 1400 new cases are registered in the general services while the follow up visits are about 15,000 per year. In the special services such as psychology, special education, speech & language training, parents are demonstrated the activities, exercises and therapies which they can carry out at home as a part of the home management programme.

4.2 Karavalamban Kendra

This special education center located at NIMH headquarters at Secunderabad admits about 85 children with mental retardation in the age range of 3 to 16 years. Children are grouped into pre-primary, primary, secondary and pre-vocational - levels. Admission is offered for a period of 2 years to children with mental retardation who have been regularly attending the group activity training programme of the institute. This special education center also runs group activities for the children with mental retardation during afternoon hours. About 250 children per week benefit from this programme. The children in the morning school programme as well as in the group activity programme are provided
systematic training and in addition, participate in extra curricular activities which includes music, dance, drama, sports and other recreational activities. Special programmes such as, special olympics are also actively organized parents, family interaction in all programmes is encouraged.

4.3 Family Cottage Services

The institute has 12 family cottages which offer stay and training facilities in its campus at Secunderabad. Parents who come from far of places and like to spend time with expert staff at NIMH find the facility of such a service extremely useful. The average stay in the family cottages is about two weeks wherein the parents get an opportunity to seek consultation from the multi-disciplinary team depending upon the nature of the problem and the requirements of the child.

4.4 Vocational Training Center

Established in the year 1992, the vocational training center offers services of vocational training to persons with mental retardation above the age of 16 years. During the year 1992-93, 45 persons with mental retardation were given training of whom about 20 were placed on individual productive jobs. The Department of vocational training also helps the parents to form self-help groups so that they can undertake organization and running of training cum production centers. At Hyderabad, Akanksha by South Central Railway group of parents, and Nirman by a group of parents from HMT & HAL have been able to offer job placements to about 50 persons with mental retardation.
5.0 Extension Programmes

5.1 Self help groups

The institute has promoted formation of self help groups comprising parents interested to join hands together and do something for their children. During the past 8 years the institute has encouraged and promoted more than a 12 parent self help groups located at different places such as Hyderabad Secunderabad, Karimnagar and Godavari Khani. Most parent groups have been able to launch services of respite care, special education, vocational training and parent to parent counseling.

5.2 Rural camps

To reach people living in remote areas the institute periodically conducts rural camps. The activities include (a) Screening and case detection, (b) Individual assessment and counseling, (c) Training of parents, (d) Creation of awareness, (e) Reference and follow-up. More than 20 camps have been organized by the institute so far in the states of UP, AP, Orissa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Manipur and Tamilnadu.

5.3 Assistance in starting new services

Many organizations such as parent groups, Rotary Club, Lions Club etc. are willing to services for the mentally retarded persons, however, they need expert guidance in initiating and running such ventures. NIMH tries to fulfill this role. When ever approached by any Non Government organization, the Institute offers consultancy. So far, the institute has been instrumental in establishing about 25 new services in the states of AP, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Delhi. Continued support and consultancy are maintained until needed.
5.4 Special Teleschool

In collaboration with NCERT and Central Institute for Education Technology, the institute has produced programmes which are regularly telecast as part of school TV programmes on Doordarshan every alternate Saturday. This programmes is directed towards parents having children mental retardation and provides instructions for home management of children. This programme is telecast in different languages namely from Ahmedabad in Gujarathi, Bombay in Marathi, Hyderabad in Telugu and Delhi beams programmes in Hindi and Oriya. The time slot for special teleschool programme is in morning hours.

6.0 Research

NIMH gives utmost importance to progress through research. Studies are carried out to probe into problems, to seek answers and information in various aspects related to persons with mental retardation. About 15 projects have been completed so far on different aspects of mental retardation. Majority of projects are done in collaboration with UNICEF, NGOs and other other government institutions.

7.0 Institute's Publications/Video Films

As on 31st October, 1995 NIMH has brought out a total of 57 publications, 8 video films, 12 educational folders, 8 different type of greeting cards made by the children with mental retardation, 10 different types of posters on causes, identification, prevention and management of mental retardation. The publications will be useful to the professionals working in the field and parents having children with mental retardation as well and distributeeed at nominal handling charges to NGO's and parents. (NIMH, 1995)
Library and Information Services

The scientific and technological development of a country largely depends on how effectively, efficiently and timely the appropriate information is disseminated to the Scientific Community. It is well known fact that every nation, big or small has Library facilities provided for people in all walks of life—children, adolescents, and adults to suit their needs which may be educational, professionals or just recreational or leisure activity. (Reddy, 1989)²

The Library attached to the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad was started during August, 1985 with the following objectives.

Ⅰ 01) To build up a strong collection in the field of mental retardation and allied areas.

Ⅰ 02) To keep abreast of the latest developments/techniques reported in the literature on care, training and rehabilitation of persons with mental handicaps by collecting, sifting, assimilating and disseminating tailor made information to the professionals in the private and public sectors in the country.

Ⅰ 03) To provide an effective and efficient document delivery service to the users.

Ⅰ 04) To disseminate information on Government policies pertaining to welfare, legal and financial aspects to the parents, self-groups and voluntary organizations working in the field of mental retardation.

Ⅰ 05) To provide appropriate reading material (e.g., large print books, tactile books etc.) to the children with mental handicap and also help them in acquiring learning various skills such as sensory stimulation, communication and express-
ion, arithmetic skills, construction and discrimination cognitive skills by training and educating them through adaptive toys and computer-assisted instructional techniques.

- 06) To create awareness among common public and educate the parents of mentally retarded children by distributing awareness material such as folders, posters, Newsletters, Video films, manuals and other booklets on identification, causes, prevention, training and rehabilitation aspects of mental handicap.

The main thrust areas of the institute are psychological, medical, educational and language aspects of mental retardation in addition to the peripheral areas such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, vocational training, counseling and rehabilitation. Naturally, professionals engaged in the field also constitute a heterogeneous groups; viz., medical and paramedical professionals such as physiotherapists, speech therapists, biochemists, Laboratory technicians and nurses, psychologists, special educators, vocational and occupational experts, counselors, social workers, Rehabilitation officers, technologists, engineers and a host of others.

The literature produced in the area of mental handicap quantitatively little and the majority of the significant literature is not generally available through commercial channels. Therefore, it was felt necessary to establish liaison/linkage with the voluntary agencies and Government institutions in the country and abroad in order to acquire pertinent literature in the field.

The present collection was developed over a period ten years in the field of mental handicap and other peripheral areas such as Special education, Community care and rehabilitation, Learning disabilities, Physiotherapy, Occupational therapy, Psychiatry, Psych-
The Library also maintains stock and acts as the nodal point for distribution of publications brought out by the institute such as, manuals, hand books, booklets, educational folders, posters, video films, etc. These publications are developed to help the professionals and parents of mentally handicapped children on identification, prevention, training and management of persons with mental retardation. The library keeps inventory control of these material.

01. Acquisition

Ever since it was established in 1985, the Library has built up the basic collection in the thrust area of the institute, i.e. mental handicap and allied areas. In addition to procuring of publications from commercial agencies, it also receives a number of invaluable documents/serial publications from other national and international organizations on exchange basis/gratis.

The books and other reading material are procured through the following methods:

  □ (a) Selection through announcement/book reviews appeared in the journal issues/Books in print/Subject bibliographies compiled by professional organizations.
(b) Selection through Publisher's Catalogues/announcements received in the Library.

(c) Book requisitions received from Institute's faculty members/students.

(d) Book selection in Book fairs/new titles received on approval from the publisher/book sellers.

On average approximately 300-400 new titles are added every year.

02. Users

A wide variety of clientele utilize the information and documentation services offered by the Library. The regular users of the Library includes the Institute's staff & faculty members numbering about 70 and the students of degree/diploma courses totaling approximately 100. In addition, a number of Post Graduate students/research scholars/professionals from other educational institutes situated locally and neighboring states use the Library material and its services. The Library is also committed to provide information services to the professionals and students numbering about 500 of three Regional Training Centers working under the control of the Institute and twenty one supporting training centers offering Diploma course in Mental Retardation (DMR) in different parts of the country. Further as the National Resource center, it disseminates required information to the professionals working in different parts of the country. Parents of mentally handicapped children also use the Library facilities. On average about 60-80 readers visit the Library daily and use the services offered by the Library.

03. Equipment

The Library possesses the following modern gadgets and equipment to extend physical support in providing various documentation services.
01) A PC-AT with a hard disk of 201 Mb storage capacity supported by Dot matrix LQ printer.

02) Plain Paper Copier

03) Duplicating machine

04) Colour TV, VCR with head phone facility

05) Overhead projector for transparencies

06) Kodak projector for slides

07) Two binding machines

08) Binding equipment such as cutting machine, stapling machine and pressing machine.

09) Desk Top Publishing unit supported by suitable software packages.

05. Information & Documentation Services

i) Reference Service

Enquiries on general and multi disciplinary aspects of mental disability received from the Institute's staff and students, parents of mentally retarded children and professionals working in different parts of the country are accepted and required information is provided to the users. Reference queries received usually ranges from general (e.g. population of country/state, geographical aspects of a region, address of an Institution, address of the professional etc.) to specific. The specific questions pertaining to the subject include available information on a particular topic of interest, research findings of a project state-of-art in a specific area of research etc., parents usually sought answers to the queries such as types of services offered by an Institution, age-range of M.R. children admitted in
the institutes of a region, residential facilities available for a given age range of child with particular level of IQ in a given region/state, existing training facilities including vocational training for M.R. persons. Approximately 400-500 reference queries are answered per month.

ii) Current Awareness Service

To keep abstract of the latest developments and current techniques in the field of mental disability and allied areas to the professionals geographically located in different places of the country a bi-monthly service called "MENTARD" (short form for the term "Mental Retardation") was started in January, 1986. This service includes abstracts of recent articles published in the professional journals received in the Library. Newstimes on disabilities, new products/Aids that are useful for disabled persons, Forthcoming conferences/seminars and new additions to the Library. All the current issues of professional journals newsletters and bulletins received in the Library are scanned and articles falling in the area of mental handicap and allied areas are selected and abstracts are prepared for each article. These articles are grouped under broad areas such as Psychology, Special Education, Medical Sciences, Speech Pathology & Audiology and General Section II includes newstimes that are of interest to the professionals working in different disabilities and section III comprises new products aids/systems which are designed to help disabled persons. Under each item, contact address is given from where the equipment/product can be acquired. Section IV reports on forthcoming conferences and seminars in the field of mental handicap and allied areas. Section V includes new additions to the Library during proceeding two months and details such as name of the author, title, imprint information, cost of the publication are given. Each issue includes approximately 70-80 entries including abstracts of current articles and other items. This bulletin is available at
nominal subscription charges and presently has about 200 institutions/professionals on the subscription list.

iii) Literature Search Service

Literature searches on specific topics of interest are done manually and as well as on computer readable database. To date about 60 searches on various aspects of mental handicap have been done and reading lists were provided to the requesters. Requests for literature searches are received not only from the professionals working at NIMH but also from other institutes and professionals. A subject-oriented cumulative master file consisting of about 3000 records of journal articles, chapters from books is maintained for conducting retrospective searches. The records which are included in the current awareness service are subsequently merged with the master file. Requests are accepted from the users to conduct literature searches on MEDLARS (Medical Literature analysis and Retrieval system) database available commercially at different medical institutions in the country. A few searches conducted on the database were found to be very useful to the faculty members. Presently, it is proposed to create a computer readable in-house bibliographical database on the computer facility available in the library which would facilitate to provide (a) SDI service (b) production of CAS bulletins (c) interactive & retrospective search facility. In this integrated micro-computer system, a single keyboard operation to input the data would result in three products as mentioned above.

iv) Compilation of Subject Bibliographies

Bibliographies on given topic in the field of mental disability and allied areas are compiled in anticipation and on demand. The Library usually compiles subject bibliographies anticipating the information requirements of the professionals participating in various workshops/seminars and conferences conducted by the Institute. It also prepares
similar compilations against specific requests received form its own uses and professionals working elsewhere.

The Library has so far compiled about 12-15 subject bibliographies and different aspects of mental retardation. The citations included in the bibliographies are taken only from the literature available in the Library with an objective to provide photocopies of the required documents to the users quickly in order to save the time of the reader. This is in comply to the primary objective of the Library to provide right information at right time to the right reader.

v) Newspaper Clipping Service

This service was started with an objective to bring the Government policies on the welfare of the disabled persons, views of parents/public on legal financial aspect of mental handicap and training programmes offered by the Government Institutions/Voluntary organizations to their disabled children, services/activities of different institutes working in the field of disability, to the notice of the professionals working at NIMH and the parents of MR Children. The Library has preserved the clippings in book form from September 1985 onwards and a title index is provided in the beginning of each volume for quick location of a given clipping.

vi) In-house Video Service

Presently the Library has about 100 audio and video recordings. The stock consists of audio and video recordings. The stocks consists of audio/video recordings and slides acquired from different agencies in India and abroad. A colour TV set with VCR and headphone facility is available in the audio-visual section of the Library for the members to view the required film. However these material are not lent out to the members. The
contents of the recordings comprises multidisciplinary aspects of mental handicap such as causes, identification, prevention, diagnosis, skill training, rehabilitation and management etc.

vii) Select Contents Service

No Library is self-sufficient and it can not procure and stock whatever published on the earth. In the modern days, amidst of ever increasing inflation rate, flattened economy and drastic cuts in the library budgets, one can not procure all the literature required by its users. In order to provide an effective and efficient information system, a library should perceive the inherent advantages of the ‘resource sharing system’ and the concept of which is inevitable for any library in today’s information system.

In compliance to the above philosophy, the Library has started this fortnightly service called ‘select contents’ service. This service includes photocopies of contents pages a few important issues of professional Journals, which are not received in the Library. The photocopies of contents pages of these issues are arranged through a mutual understanding with some local institutions working in similar field. The photocopies of the articles included in this service are obtained from the concerned host library and supplied to the users against request.

viii) Document Delivery Service

NIMH Library firmly believes in strong and efficient back-up service in support of its various documentation services. In this system, photocopies of the journal articles and chapters from books (not exceeding 50 pages) included in the MENTARD bulletin, bibliographies and reading lists are supplied against specific request. The photocopy requests are accepted not only from its staff at NIMH and other training centers but also
from the professionals working elsewhere. About 40% of the requests are received from its own users and the balance 60% of the requests are derived from the professionals working in other institutes. On average 6,000 to 8,000 exposures are supplied each month.

ix) Karavalamban Newsletter

The Library compiles relevant information and brings out regularly (quarterly basis), an official newsletter of the Institute called 'Karavalamban'. Each issue includes a professional article of interest to the parents/professionals, activities/programmes of the institute, news from voluntary organizations, parent's experiences/views on services offered to the children with mental retardation, success stories/case studies, details of Government concessions/schemes, new facilities/schools and forthcoming conferences. The newsletter is distributed free of cost to about 1000 institutions/individuals throughout the country.

Ali Yavar Jung National Institute For The Hearing Handicapped

Bombay

The institute was established in August, 1983 at Bombay with the following objectives:

i) To conduct and coordinate research in all aspects of education and rehabilitation of the hearing handicapped.

ii) To undertake, sponsor and coordinate research in pro-medical engineering leading to the effective evolution of aids or suitable surgical procedure or the development of new aids.

iii) To undertake training of teachers, employment officers, psychologists, vocational counselors and other personnel for promoting the education, training and rehabilitation of the hearing handicapped.
iv) To distribute and promote the manufacture of prototypes of the aids designed to keep in the education, rehabilitation or therapy of the hearing handicapped.

The Institute has three regional centers at Calcutta, Delhi and Hyderabad. It has also set up collaborated centers at Bhubaneshwar, Kerala, Madras and Allahabad.

The Institute's major activities are as follows:

- 01. Manpower development
- 02. Service facilities
- 03. Material development
- 04. Research
- 05. Outreach and Extension services
- 06. Information and Documentation services

01. Manpower Development

Due to dearth of trained manpower in the field of hearing handicap, the Institute took the manpower development as one of its major objectives and started various training programmes at undergraduate, graduate levels keeping in mind the diverse needs of the disabled population.

The long term training programme of the Institute include:

- 01. B.Ed. (Deaf)
- 02. B.Sc. (Audiology and Speech Therapy)
- 03. M.Sc. (Hearing, Language and Speech)
- 04. B.Sc. (Hearing, Language and Speech)
• 05. D.Sp.Ed. (Hearing Handicap)

• 06. Diploma in Education of the Deaf (D.Ed.)

• 07. Diploma in Communication Disorders (DCD)

The first two courses are conducted by the Institute at Bombay and are affiliated to the University of Bombay which B.Ed. (Deaf) is also conducted at ERC, Calcutta and affiliated to Calcutta University. M.Sc. (HLS), B.Sc. (HLS), B.Sp.Ed. and D.Ed. courses are offered by the Southern Regional Center of the Institute at Secunderabad. The D.Ed. course is also offered by seven training centers Calcutta, Secunderabad, New Delhi, Bhubaneshwar, Kerala, Madras and Allahabad. However D.C.D. course is conducted at Calcutta and Delhi only.

In addition to the above long-term programmes, the Institute also offers various short-term training programmes to meet the growing needs of the professionals working in the Government and Non-Governmental organizations dealing with training and rehabilitations dealing with training and rehabilitation of persons with hearing and speech impairment.

02. Service Facilities

The main objective of the Institute is to evolve standard techniques, methods of evaluation and diagnosis, programmes for outreach, development of teaching aids, community awareness materials, model services and modules of upgraded vocational training which in turn can easily be transferred, adopted and replicated by the voluntary and other agencies.

The Institute renders services in the following areas:

□ i) Hearing evaluation
33 ii) Hearing aid trial, prescription, fitting and repairs
33 iii) Speech & Language evaluation
33 iv) Speech & Language therapy
33 v) Parent guidance & counseling
33 vi) Psychological evaluation
33 vii) Psychotherapy, Behavior therapy & play therapy
33 vii) Educational evaluation
33 ix) ENT, pediatric and neurological evaluation
33 x) Vocational guidance, counseling & placement

As part of the service programme, Ear-moulds and hearing aids are distributed to the needy people. During 1990-91, a total of 4,750 ear-moulds were prepared and distributed by the Institute and its regional centers in the country. The institute has also issued about 1500 hearing aids to the hearing impaired cases at Bombay. In order to ensure the distributed hearing aids are fully and properly used, the Institute provides hearing aid repair facility. During 1990-91 2,887 hearing aids were repaired by the Institute.

03. Material Development

In support of different activities of the Institute, several audio and video materials are developed by the Institute which includes:

- i) Video films
- ii) Slides & Audio material
- iii) Posters/booklets
iv) Pre-school education material

The above material developed by the institute depicts and causes, prevention and management of hearing handicap, in order to create awareness among public and parents.

In addition, the institute has also setup a toy library during August, 1989 for the benefit of the hearing handicapped persons.

04. Research Programmes

The research work in mainly community-wise, and special projects aimed at rehabilitation of the vast majority of the handicapped located in semi-urban and rural areas are stressed.

The major research work of the Institute during 1990-91 included in the areas such as a) Development of pre-school curriculum for the young hearing impaired children b) Development of a National Indian Sign Language for the deaf c) Preparation of Hearing screening kits for use in rural areas d) Development and standardization of language and articulation tests in Indian languages.

The other research projects of the Institute during 1990-91 includes:

- i) Development of a certificate course in computer operations for the adult hearing handicapped.
- ii) Normative data on ABR for different age groups
- iii) Aural amplification in hearing handicapped
- iv) Performance of hearing aids with different ear moulds
- v) The effect of battery drain as the performance of hearing aids.
vi) Attainment level of deaf children

vii) Procedure for assessment of vibrotactile perception in the hearing impaired

ix) Iodine deficiency & hearing impaired

ix) Research on MLR, P300 & 40 Hz

x) ABR findings in high risk babies

05. Outreach & Extension Programmes

The Institute provides diagnostic and therapeutic services, fitment aids, orientation and training facilities to the rural and semi-urban areas through the outreach and extension programmes such as camps, exhibitions, etc.

Diagnostic and follow-up camps are conducted at various parts of the country in order to provide facilities of hearing evaluation, language and speech evaluation, psychological and educational evaluation, counseling and guidance etc. The Institute also conducts community awareness programmes to mobilize local media and to motivate NGOs to start special schools for the hearing impaired.

06. Information & Documentation

The following are the main objectives of the Information & Documentation center attached to the Institute.

(a) To collect & disseminate all information on hearing and speech impaired in the country.

(b) To gather, document and create and data base on all professionals working for the rehabilitation of hearing & speech handicapped.
(c) To gather document and create data base on all organizations and Institutions working in the area of hearing & speech handicapped.

(d) To gather document & create data base on instruments, material and tools developed and manufactured in the country for the benefit of the hearing handicapped and to aid their rehabilitation.

(e) To create a center of excellence dealing with all informations including history & milestones of development of rehabilitation of hearing & speech handicapped in India and to link it up with such centers of excellence with in the country and of other countries.

To achieve the above objectives, the Information & Documentation center as a first step started working on automation and computerization of all Institute activities. The following softwares required for various needs is being developed.

(1) Software to create & manipulate directory of data base of -

- (a) Professionals working in the area of rehabilitation of hearing & speech handicapped.
- (b) Institutions & Organizations
- (c) Schools for the deaf
- (d) IED setups
- (e) Speech & hearing centers
- (f) Vocational training centers
- (g) Hearing aids & manufacturers
- (h) Assistive devices
• (i) Special employment officers
• (j) Employers

(2) Clinical Software required for the storage & retrieval of all informations of the cases attending NIHH for evaluation, counseling, intervention, career guidance, job training, placement & follow up.

(3) Software for distribution, follow up and repair of hearing aids & ear moulds

(4) Software for electroacoustic analysis and testing hearing aids.

(5) Software for storage, statistical analysis & retrieval of research data - development of uniform sign language, development and standardization of articulation and language tests etc.

(6) Software for academic work such as admission of candidates, statement of marks, declaration of results.

(7) Software for Library automation which will take care of cataloguing, indexing, bibliography etc.

(8) Software for financial accounting & pay slip.

(9) Report generation & other work processing works.

Information Services

The major task of information service is collection of information from various sources like books, journals, periodicals & current affairs, news papers and directly from professionals and organizations. In addition to dissemination of information on Institute activities, a quarterly news letter is also brought out by the I & D center. The Institute sends
out information regularly in all schools and organizations in additions to answering to specific queries by individuals and organizations. For this purpose Institute maintains a mailing list of about 1000 Institutions & professionals in and around the country.

Library

The Library as part of the Information & Documentation center is being planned to be a comprehensive repository of literature on hearing impairment. It is envisaged as a national information center in the areas of speech, hearing, education, rehabilitation & related allied areas. The library provides information by way of text books, professional journals, reprints, paper cuttings, standards and trade literature to students and staff, basic and reference material to the researchers and useful practical information to the professionals. The total number of journals subscribed to Library are 147 and the collection of library books is about 7000. (AYJNIHH, 1992)³

National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun

This Institute was established in July, 1979 and was registered as a society in October, 1982 under the administrative control of the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India.

Objectives

□ 01. To undertake, stimulate, guide and promote research in different aspects of work for the visually handicapped.

□ 02. To organize meaningful and need-based programmes of personnel training.

□ 03. To develop model services in education, training and rehabilitation of the visually handicapped which can be replicated elsewhere.
04. To collect and disseminate information in the field of visual handicap and prepare material for parent/employer/community education.

05. To manufacture aids and appliances for the visually handicapped to supply them at highly subsidised rates.

06. To produce and distribute books and periodicals in braille language and also audio form.

Services and Programmes

01. School for Blind and Partially sighted children

The Institute operates two secondary schools, are each for the blind and partially sighted children. These children are given education through media compatible with the nature of their limitations. Blind children are taught through braille and other appliances. Partially sighted children are helped to read through large print books and also books in regular print by using magnifying devices.

02. Training center for the adult blind

This center imparts vocational training to the adult men and women with visual handicap between 18 and 40 years of age in a variety of trades like light engineering, braille, weaving, stenography, machine knitting and elector-mechanical assembling etc.

03. Placement services

The objective of this unit is to provide placement to the trainees and to promote employment opportunities for the blind.
04. Sheltered workshop and other programmes

The Institute has setup a sheltered workshop and units for rural programmes, management service, guidance and counseling home management and orientation and mobility.

05. Training of Teachers for the visually handicapped

The Institute has four regional training centers at Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Bombay for training of teachers of the Visually Handicapped. The regional centers prepare primary level teachers and the main Institute organizes courses for secondary level teachers. It also conducts regular courses for proof readings, Braille transcribers. In addition, short term programmes, orientation programmes, refresher courses for professionals working with visually handicapped persons. Apart from providing training to the teachers, the regional centers also promote research and development activities in the field of integrated education, preparation of teaching aids involving news methodology and techniques for community based programmes, vocational training, distribution of aids and appliances as well as audio reading materials prepared by the Institute.

06. Central Braille Press and Workshop for manufacture of Braille appliances

The Institute’s braille press is producing reading material in braille for the blind as large scale and braille books are supplied at highly subsidised rates to school children. It also, takes up printing of text books for different states of the country.

The workshop for braille appliances manufactures various aids and appliances at low cost.

07. National Library for the print Handicapped

It was established in 1963 with the main objective to lend braille books and talking books to blind readers throughout the country. Presently, the Library possess over 50,000 braille
volumes 10,000 reference and letter press books. It subscribes about 50 journals in braille. It also produces books in English and other regional languages as audio cassettes. In addition, one braille magazine in Hindi language and an audio gist in Hindi are brought out regularly to cater the needs of blind readers. The library also brings out a quarterly current awareness service for the benefit of the professionals working in the field. (NIVH, 1987)"}

**National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta**

The National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped was established in the year 1970 as an apex body in the country entrusted with the responsibility of training and developing requisite manpower for providing physical restorative conducting research in the area of rehabilitation and development of low cost aids.

**Objectives**

- **01** To develop manpower for providing services to the Orthopaedically handicapped persons.

- **02** To design model services for the Orthopaedically handicapped population in the areas of restorative surgery, aids and appliances, vocational training etc.

- **03** To conduct and sponsor research into all aspects relating to the total rehabilitation of the orthopaedically handicapped.

- **04** To standardise the aids and appliances for the Orthopaedically handicapped and to promote their manufacture and distribution.
05) To provide consultancy services to the voluntary organisations and Government Institutions engaged in the rehabilitation of the Orthopaedically handicapped.

06) To serve as the Documentation and information centre in the area of Orthopaedically Handicapped.

Manpower Development

To carry out the human resource development programme, the Institute conducts several long-term and short-term courses. The long-term programmes include:

- a) Bachelor's programme in Physiotherapy of 3 years and 6 months duration.
- b) Bachelor's degree in Occupational therapy of 3 years duration.
- c) Diploma in Prosthetic & Orthotic Engineering of 2 years duration.

The first two degree courses are affiliated to the University of Calcutta and the Diploma course is affiliated to council of technical education, Government of West Bengal.

In addition to the above courses, a number of short-term courses ranging 8-10 are conducted by the Institute.

Research Programmes

As envisaged in the objectives, the Institute undertakes research programmes relating to the rehabilitation of the Orthopaedically handicapped. During 1991-92 the following research projects were taken up by the Institute.

- 01. Development of rubber Orthotic Prosthetic rehabilitation aids for the locomotor handicapped sponsored by Department of Science & Technology, Government of India.
02. Epidemiological study of Rheumatoid Arthritis. This project was undertaken in collaboration with the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta.

03. Cognition objectives of the retardates through enrichment programme.

04. Awareness creation in prevention and early intervention in childhood trauma - this project sponsored by UNICEF.

Rehabilitation Services

The Institute provides following services for the Orthopaedically handicapped persons.

01. Assessment

02. Physiotherapy

03. Occupational Therapy

04. Restorative surgery

05. Fitment Services

06. Impatient services

07. Vocational Counselling and Social service

08. Psychological counselling and guidance

09. Radiological & pathological investigations

10. Consultancy services

11. Polio-immunisation

Orthopaedically handicapped persons initially report to the assessment clinic, where they are evaluated by a team of experts and a plan of management for rehabilitation is
designed. The patients are referred to different service departments as per the management plan and they report back to the clinic for periodical assessment.

To provide services to the disabled people living in rural areas, assessment and aids distribution camps are organised regularly in collaboration with Department of Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal and Voluntary Organisations.

During 1991-92, about 35 rehabilitation camps were organised and necessary aids and appliances have been distributed to the needy persons. (NIOH, 1992)\(^5\)

**The Institute for the Physically Handicapped, Delhi**

The Institute for the Physically Handicapped was established during November, 1976 under the administrative control of Ministry of Welfare, Government of India.

**OBJECTIVES**

- 01. To offer comprehensive rehabilitation services to the physically handicapped persons.

- 02. To provide various aids and appliances needed for the rehabilitation of the handicapped.

- 03. To undertake training of physiotherapists, occupational therapists and other personnel involved in rehabilitation of the handicapped.

- 04. To develop required manpower in educating and rehabilitating handicapped children.

- 05. To collect and disseminate information regarding the services available in the country for rehabilitation of the handicapped.
The Institute provides the following services/programmes in the field of rehabilitation of the handicapped to meet its basic objectives:

- i) Training courses in Physiotherapy and Occupational therapy.
- ii) Rehabilitation services.
- iii) Provision of aids and appliances.
- iv) Scheme of assistance to the Disabled.
- v) Vocational training to the handicapped persons in printing and binding.
- vi) Special school for the handicapped children.

i) Training Programmes

The Institute offers the following two Diploma courses for training of Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists:

- a) Diploma course in Physiotherapy.
- b) Diploma course in Occupational Therapy.

Both courses are recognised by the Government of India, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. The successful candidates for these courses are eligible to work as therapists in hospitals, rehabilitation centres and teaching institutes of similar set up.

ii) Rehabilitation Services

The rehabilitation services include physical, social, psychological and vocational rehabilitation of the disabled to the optimum functional capacity. These services are provided to the patients in physiotherapy and occupational therapy units which are fully equipped with necessary infrastructure required for treatment of patients suffering from ailments.
like polio, paralysis, loss of limbs, pains in joints of the body. These patients are also looked after for their social, psychological and vocational adjustment.

iii) Provision of Aids and Appliances

The Institute provides aids and appliances to the handicapped to compensate for the lost limb or provide strength to the weak muscles of the body affected due to certain crippling diseases like polio, paralysis etc. Besides manufacturing prosthetic, Orthotic and ambulatory aids, the Institute has taken up certain other trades like tailoring hosiery, printing, fine arts and carpentary which are supplementary to the main trades of lubrication of aids and appliances.

iv) Scheme of Assistance to the Disabled

Under the scheme, aids and appliances are made available to the disabled persons either free or on subsidized rates depending on the income of the persons or his parent/guarding in case of dependent persons.

v) Training to Printing and Binding

The Institute is equipped with modern offset printing and binding machines where physically handicapped persons are provided training. The printing press unit where as a training- cum-production centre and job works taken up.

vi) Special Education Programme

Under this programme, a special education school was started in 1978 to provide education to the severely orthopaedically handicapped children. Children in the age group of 6 to 11 years who suffer from serious orthopaedic handicaps caused by genetic, cogental and other crippling diseases like stroke, polio etc., are admitted to the school. The school also serves the purpose by providing background of rehabilitation needs of the handicapped
children to the school. The school also serves the purpose by providing background of rehabilitation needs of the handicapped children to the therapists, para-medical personnel, social workers in the field of rehabilitation of the disabled. (IPH, 1987)^6

**National Institute of Rehabilitation Training & Research, Cuttack**

This Institute was established in February, 1984 as a Registered Society under the administrative control of the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India.

**Objectives**

- i) To undertake, sponsor or coordinate the training of personnel such as Doctors, Engineers, Prosthetists, Orthetists, Prosthetic & Orthotic technicians, Physiotherapists, Occupational therapists, Multipurpose rehabilitation therapists and other professionals deemed necessary for the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped persons.

- ii) To disseminate or promote or subsidise the manufacture of prototypes and distribution of aids designed to promote various aspects of the education and rehabilitation therapy of the physically handicapped.

- iii) To develop models of services delivery programmes for rehabilitation of the physically handicapped.

- iv) To conduct, sponsor, coordinate a subsidize research work in the field of Bio-medical engineering, both in fundamental and applied leading to the effectiveness evaluation of the mobility aids of for the orthopaedically disabled persons or suitable surgical and medical procedures or development of new aids.
v) To undertake vocational training, placement and rehabilitation of the physically handicapped.

In pursuance of the objectives of the Institute, it runs the following units.

a) Training centre  
b) Prosthetic and Orthotic Workshop  
c) 85-bedded Hospital with operation theatre  
d) X-ray unit  
e) Physio operation theatre  
f) Vocational Training Unit  
g) Leprosy Rehabilitation Promotion Unit

Training Programmes

The Institute offers the following training courses on regular basis.

a) Diploma in Prosthetics/Orthotic Engineering.  
b) Degree in Physiotherapy.  
c) Degree in Occupational Therapy.

In addition to the above long-term programmes, it also conducts a number short-term courses for different types of professionals engaged in the rehabilitation of the handicapped persons.
Inplant Training

The Institute provides a 8 weeks training in prosthetics and orthotics to private limb fitters and technicians sponsored by voluntary agencies working for rehabilitation to the handicapped.

Fitting Services

Fitment of aids and appliances for orthopaedically handicapped persons is one of the basic objectives of the institute. The following types of aids are fitted in the workshop.

- A. Orthosis (Supportive)
  - i) Lower limb orthosis
  - ii) Spinal Orthosis
  - iii) Upper limb orthosis
- B. Prosthesis (Replacement)
  - i) Lower limb prosthesis
  - ii) Upper limb prosthesis
- C. Other Rehabilitation Aids
  - i) Walking sticks
  - ii) Crutches
  - iii) Wheel chairs

Fitting camps are conducted in rural and tribal areas of the State to extend rehabilitation services.
Research Activities

The institute is actively engaged in research and development programmes in the field of orthotic and prosthetic engineering for the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped persons.

It has developed a variety of appliances and devices such as:

- i) Rotary attachment for toilet for paraplegis.
- iii) Bare foot orthosis.
- iv) Functionally improved above elbow prosthesis for unilateral above elbow amputees.
- v) Use of synthetic materials in prosthetic/orthotic appliances.

(NIRTAR, 1992)
06. INSTITUTE FOR THE HANDICAPPED  

07. NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR REHABILITATION, TRAINING AND RESEARCH  