



Rehabilitation Council of India **news**



**Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment,
Shri Mukul Wasnik releasing the IAMR Report**

IAMR Report

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India had sponsored a study to assess the requirement of professionals in the field of disability rehabilitation and special education to the Institute of Applied Manpower Research (Planning Commission), New Delhi. The IAMR Report of 2009 stated that the disability sector will need 2.2 lakh professionals by the end of 2011 whereas RCI has only approx. 50,000 professionals/personnel on its register. All out efforts have to be made to meet the requirement of professionals through innovative training programmes. The Report can be seen at the RCI website.

The IAMR Report entitled "Projection of Human Resource Requirement in the field of Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities" was released by Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Shri Mukul Wasnik, on 12th Feb. 2010 at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.



Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Shri Mukul Wasnik addressing the participants on the occasion of release of IAMR Report

News Corner

1. Dr. J.P. Singh, Member Secretary, Rehabilitation Council of India has been awarded "Doctorate in Lit." on the topic "Human Consciousness & Stereo Typed Reaction towards Disability" by Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Avadh University, Faizabad.
2. Dr. Subodh Kumar, Deputy Director (Academics), Rehabilitation Council of India has been relieved on 02.12.2009 to join the post of Director, SIRTAR, Rohtak on deputation basis for one year.
3. Mr. Sandeep P. Tambe has joined RCI as Assistant Director on 08.12.2009.
4. Mr. Rajesh Kumar Verma has joined RCI as Assistant Director on 16.12.2009.

From the Chairperson's Desk



The current issue of Newsletter focuses on two important events that took place during the period, viz. National Meet of Rehabilitation Experts-2010 and the National Meet of NGOs – Rejuvenating Partnership. A number of useful recommendations have emerged which are being considered by the Council for further necessary action. Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.P. Shah, Chief Justice (Retd.) Delhi High Court inaugurating the NGOs meet suggested that there should be a Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on Disability Issues in order to accord disability an important status in the PM's agenda. Indeed, this is a good suggestion and if implemented, would give a boost to the disability sector for its all round development as a discipline.

The Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, Shri Mukul Wasnik released the IAMR Report on "Projection of Human Resource Requirement in the field of Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities" at a function at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 12th February, 2010. We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Hon'ble Minister for sparing his valuable time and also giving his suggestions and guidance. We would also like to have his support for the effective implementation of the Report.

RCI has taken a number of initiatives for promoting quality human resource development through regular and distance mode by revising and updating various course curricula in the light of UNCRPD and also to include the latest developments in the respective areas of specialization. Practicum guidelines have been developed for BASLP & MASLP courses, thus giving more practical exposure to the candidates.

In order to streamline the admission process to all Diploma level Courses, RCI is conducting an All India Online Aptitude Examination all over the country through its National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation. It is hoped that this would not only create awareness about RCI courses but would also attract talented candidates to join the courses.

Recognition of Institutions is an important aspect of RCI's role. The effectiveness of the system depends on the manner in which professionals conduct inspections and how they write their reports. Further improvement is necessary and RCI is taking steps to ensure highest standards in this regard. The Code of Conduct for all professionals in the field is also being revamped.

Today we are part of an important period in the life of the Disability Sector, viz. writing of the New Disability Act, 2010, coping with inclusion and inclusive practices, preparation for Census 2011, pushing for equivalence all over India for special educators in the line with the Delhi High Court Judgement, taking higher education for the disabled to Universities and incorporation of the UNCRPD in all aspects of the lives of persons with disabilities. It is important that all of us play a positive and proactive role in all these activities as such opportunities may not occur again.

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ian Cardozo, AVSM, SM
Chairperson, RCI

National Meet of Rehabilitation Experts at Bhubaneswar

The National Meet of Rehabilitation Experts (NMRE) – 2010 was organized by the Rehabilitation Council of India at Bhubaneswar on 26th & 27th March, 2010 in collaboration with Chetana Institute for the Mentally Handicapped. About 150 rehabilitation experts, members of the General Council & Executive Committee of RCI, and government officials participated in the two-day meet of Rehabilitation Experts. The themes of the NMRE-2010 included human resource development in light of the Institute of Applied Manpower Research Report, need for training programmes in recreation, sports and leisure activities for persons with disabilities, inclusive education, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan, capacity building of institutions, monitoring and regulation of training programmes and follow up of NMRE-

2009. All participants and speakers made significant and valuable suggestions which have resulted in the following major recommendations:

Important recommendations - NMRE-2010

Human Resource Development programmes in the field of disability are mostly conducted by the NGOs. Ministry of Human Resource Development and Education Departments give regular grants to Colleges and Universities for human resource development in the non-disability sector. Therefore, NGOs running different courses in the field of disability should also be given grants in aid regularly by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment/Ministry of Human Resource Development to maintain high quality of human resource development in the area of disability rehabilitation and special education. Adequate budgetary provision should be made for this



Chief Guest, Shri G.V.V. Sharma, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Department of Women & Child Development, Government of Odisha Lighting the Lamp. Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ian Cardozo, AVSM, SM, Chairperson, RCI, Dr. J.P. Singh, Member Secretary, RCI and Dr. N.C. Pati at the inauguration of NMRE-2010 held at Bhubaneswar, 26-27 March, 2010

purpose. The Ministry of Human Resource Development/Education Departments should frame policies to give grants to Teacher Training Institutions/Colleges imparting Professional Education in the field of disability

- A special Board of Examination should be formed at the national level to conduct examinations in the field disability rehabilitation and special education.
- Government and Public Schools should be governed by the same rules and regulations with regard to the education of children with disabilities.
- Appropriate courses should be developed for the education of parents of persons with disabilities (PWDs) covered under the National Trust so that they are able to take better care of their children.
- Full time speech therapists should be posted in special schools for the hearing impaired.
- Every person with hearing impairment has a Right to Language. One of the communication options, i.e., Teaching of Oralism, Sign Language and Total Communication should be made compulsory in all special schools for the hearing impaired.
- Orientation and training programmes should be organized for professionals on regular basis for communication in Sign Language.
- Special care should be taken to develop curriculum for the children with Hearing Impairment and Visual Impairment.
- Every parent of a deaf child should be given opportunity to learn Sign Language.
- There should be provision of speech training for the parents of speech impaired children.
- The salary of Special Educators should be enhanced and should be at par with regular Primary School Teachers.

- RCI should ensure recruitment of adequate number of professionals to work as Resource Teachers under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan.
- Special courses should be designed for Interpreters in the field of hearing impairment.
- Training Colleges / Institutions should have a Placement Division for placement of trained professionals/personnel and should explore more employment opportunities for them.
- Important publications in every major library in the country should be computerized so that these can be accessed by persons with visual impairment.
- Steps should be taken by RCI for recognition of Diploma and Degree Courses in Special Education by the National Council of Teacher Education (NCTE). In many States, Diploma and B. Ed. Degree holders in Special Education are not recruited in regular Primary Schools/High Schools even if they have studied methodology papers in general education on the ground that the courses are not recognized by NCTE.
- RCI should conduct training and orientation programmes for the Officers of the School Education Departments of all the States to promote recruitment of Special Educators under SSA in regular Primary Schools and High Schools where ever applicable.
- Each Teacher Training Centre should be eligible to be recognized as an Examination Centre.
- National Open School and RCI should work together to promote education of CWSN.
- Steps should be taken for relaxation of tuition fees and examination fees for students with disability.
- Steps should be taken for application of Science and Technology for human resource development in the field of disability through various modes.

- Central Government and State Governments should work together in order to promote the education of CWSN.
- Co-curricular activities are essential and integral part of the every learner. So the same should be organized for the purpose of overall development of children/persons with disabilities.
- Physical Education should be there for the PWDs because it's a type of intervention which they need regularly.
- In our curriculum, art education should be included for Children with Special Needs (CWSN).
- There should be "No Elimination from Competition". It implies all children with disabilities should take part in both curricular and co-curricular activities like non-disabled children. There should not be any segregation.
- PWDs must participate in all educational, employment, recreational, community and domestic activities.
- Early Childhood Special Education programme is essential for inclusion. School readiness is a must.
- Like academic skill, vocational skill of CWSN is essential for their independent living in society.
- In SSA, proper orientation of teachers as well as parents is necessary.
- Barrier free environment is also a crucial factor for normalization and mainstreaming.
- According to most of the surveys about 85 per cent of the MR population is coming under Mild category. So they need to be included in regular schools.
- All Resource Rooms should have sufficient material in each Block Resource Centre.

- RCI Newsletter should be published in Braille format.

The detailed report of NMRE after finalization will be put up on RCI website.

National Meet of NGOs – Rejuvenating the Partnership

It is a well known fact that the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are one of the strongest pillars of the disability sector in the country. They had taken the initiative to start disability rehabilitation programmes in the country several decades ago. It is also well known that human resource is the fulcrum of service delivery and hence the quality of services to persons with disability will depend to a large extent on the quality of training. Public Private Partnership models in human resource development programmes can be very useful in augmenting human resource development in disability rehabilitation and special education. With this background, the Council organized a two-day National Meet of NGOs- Rejuvenating the Partnership in collaboration with the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), National Centre on Disability Studies on 17th & 18th March, 2010. The meet was organized at Conference Hall, IGNOU, New Delhi. More than 250 participants from NGOs, National/Apex Level Institutions, Government Organizations and other renowned persons took part in the two-day deliberations. Major topics discussed in the meet were human resource development in the field of disability rehabilitation, public private partnership models in HRD programmes, capacity building of NGOs, inter-ministerial linkages for maximal use of resources, State or Regional Councils and Research & Development.

The National Meet of NGOs was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.P. Shah, Chief Justice (Retd.), Delhi High Court who, at the outset, congratulated RCI and IGNOU for joining hands to organise such a programme for the benefit of non-governmental

organizations which are working tirelessly in this field. Voicing his concern on the issue of non-inclusion of the disabled in the country's programmes, Justice A.P. Shah said, "Equality of opportunity is the right of every disabled person. Today, a rights based approach not a charity based approach is needed". He also said that "We need a Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on Disability Issues in order to accord disability an important status in the PM's agenda. Dr. Bhushan Punani in his keynote address explained the various issues pertaining to the relationship of Government and Non-Government Organizations. Maj. Gen (Retd.) Ian Cardozo, AVSM, SM, Chairperson of RCI said, "Today there are many NGOs doing commendable work in the field of disability rehabilitation but these NGOs are often found wanting in terms of trained human resources. Hence, it is important that we first address this problem". The Guest of Honour Mrs. Poonam Natarajan, Chairperson, National Trust emphasized the need for sharing of knowledge among various government and non-governmental organizations. Prof. V.N. Rajshekar Pillai, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU delivering the presidential address said, "It is important that we shift our focus from just raising funds for these NGOs and focus more on addressing the need for the right talent to ensure the effective implementation of schemes for the

disabled". Dr. J.P. Singh, Member Secretary, RCI to said that the country needs about 2,00,000 professionals whereas only 48,000 are registered with RCI, thus there is a big gap between the need and availability for which more efforts need to be made to produce quality human resource in the area of disability rehabilitation and special education.

Major recommendations of the NGOs Meet:

1. There should be a Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on Disability Issues in order to accord disability an important status in the PM's agenda.
2. Trained and talented professionals should be appointed in NGOs working in the field of disability rehabilitation and special education.
3. Government should grant adequate funds to NGOs working in the field of Disability-Rehabilitation and Special Education to suitably compensate their employees.
4. All the concerned Ministries/Departments of Government of India should organize capacity building programmes for NGOs on regular basis.
5. A cadre of media persons dedicated to disability related issues should be prepared.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.P. Shah, Chief Justice (Retd.), Delhi High Court Inaugurating the National Meet of NGOs at IGNOU, New Delhi on March 18, 2010

6. Documentation and sharing of data amongst all NGOs/institutions should be promoted through creating a separate channel on disability.
7. Every district of each State should have Early Intervention Centres.
8. Each Medical College in the country should have a separate department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.
9. Early screening of babies at the Primary Health Centre level should be done on regular basis.
10. Barrier-Free Environment should be created at all public and religious places.
11. Books by Indian Authors in the field of Disability Rehabilitation and Special Education should be promoted.
12. Every Panchayat should have a disability cell.
13. RCI should establish State Councils in different parts of the country.
14. More experimental and qualitative research studies should be conducted in the disability field.
15. Standardized packages for parent training should be developed.

16. RCI should take the initiative for promoting Public-Private Partnership in the disability field.
17. RCI should have wider consultation through national level Seminars/Workshops for developing syllabi of different courses.

56th Meeting of the Executive Committee of RCI

A meeting of the Executive Committee of RCI was held on 23.11.2009 at the Nirmala Institute of Education, Goa under the Chairpersonship of Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ian Cardozo, AVSM, SM. Following important decisions were taken at the meeting:

1. The matter of developing an inclusive curriculum for pre-school children was discussed and the Member Secretary informed members about the reservation of experts dealing in the area of visual impairment as they feel that the need of children with visual impairment is vastly different from others. It has been decided that the Council will organize a meeting of experts of different groups to sort out the intricacies involved in developing an inclusive curriculum for all pre-school children. In case, it is not possible then independent programmes should continue till a decision with regard to a common curriculum is arrived at.



Meeting of the Executive Committee of RCI held on 23-11-09

2. The members appreciated the progress made by RCI and noted the registration of the National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER) as a Society and directed the Council to go ahead with the online admission process through NBER.

31st Meeting of the General Council of Rehabilitation Council of India

A meeting of the General Council of RCI was held on 24.11.2009 at the Nirmala Institute of Education, Goa under the Chairpersonship of Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ian Cardozo, AVSM, SM. Following important decisions were taken:

1. Maj. Genl. (Retd.) Ian Cardozo, Chairperson, RCI briefed the members about his meeting with the Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment, Shri Mukul Wasnik and the issue of shortage of qualified professionals specially Special Educators in the disability sector and why the students are not coming forward to join this field. It was clarified by him that the special teachers should be paid salary at par with the general teachers as giving of an honorarium to teachers does not give adequate regard as compensation to special teachers. He had also explained to the

Hon'ble Minister that under the Scheme of Ministry of Human Resource Development, i.e., Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS) that the teachers under this Scheme are paid salary equal to teachers of mainstream schools plus an additional amount of Rs.400/- to encourage them to work in the disability sector. This indicated that the Ministry of HRD had accepted that Special Teachers needed to be compensated more than mainstream school teachers and therefore, it was necessary that Special Teachers should be compensated more than mainstream teachers in terms and conditions of service. Similarly the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment should modify its Schemes to provide equal status and terms and conditions of service.

2. The Chairperson brought to the notice of the members the Delhi High Court directive based on a PIL filed by an advocate, Mr. Ashok Aggarwal. The Delhi High Court has directed that special teachers in the general education system will be appointed with the same service conditions as mainstream teachers. The Council has circulated the High Court decision to all the Chief Ministers and Commissioners Disability for taking suitable action in their respective States.



Meeting of the General Council of RCI held on 24-11-09

3. RCI should be included in the different Committees formed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development for considering issues related to human resource development in the Disability Sector." The Chairperson stated that the Council would forward this resolution to Ministry of HRD for taking appropriate action.
4. Online Examination / Online Registration: The members were happy to note that the Council is going to conduct an online examination through its newly established National Board of Examination in Rehabilitation (NBER) in the month of March / April 2010. The Member Secretary also stated that IGNOU has agreed in principle to hold the examination from the next session.
5. The Report on Implementation of UNCRPD by RCI was discussed and the members appreciated the efforts of the Council in promoting UNCRPD through its Zonal Coordination Committees and also by holding Workshops for training of coordinators in all zones.
6. The Council approved the syllabus of Post Graduate Certificate in Information and Assistive Technologies for the Instructors of Visually Impaired to be launched by IGNOU on pilot basis.
7. Diploma Course for Information Assistive Technologies for Instructors of the Deaf Blind and Deaf with Low Vision was approved on pilot basis to be conducted by Helen Keller Institute for the Deaf & Deafblind, Mumbai.

Professional Diploma in Clinical Psychology to be introduced

The Expert Committee for the Development of Training Programmes for the categories of Professionals/Personnel, namely, Clinical Psychologists and Rehabilitation Psychologists which met on October 22-23, 2009 has decided to

introduce a one-year Professional Diploma in Clinical Psychology to meet the shortage and increasing demand of trained Clinical Psychologists in the country.

Following important decisions were also taken at the meeting:

- i) In view of the new programme to be introduced, it was decided to stop the Certificate Course in Clinical Psychology with immediate effect.
- ii) Qualifying theory and clinical exams for Certification in Clinical Psychology and for Registration with RCI under Central Rehabilitation Register.

The recommendations of the Core Committee were discussed and it was resolved that a theory and clinical examination for certification of the candidates who have been practicing in the area of Clinical Psychology with M.A./M.Sc. in Psychology with five or more years of experience may be conducted by the Council and candidates who qualify in the theory exams may be allowed to appear in the clinical examination and successful candidates may be made eligible for registration with RCI. The same process should be adopted for students acquiring degree from a foreign university.

- iii) Eligibility criteria for Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology

On a suggestion received from the Department of Clinical Psychology, Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal, the following eligibility criteria for registration in Ph.D in Clinical Psychology course was approved by the Committee:

- i) M.Phil. in Clinical Psychology (2 year course) recognized by RCI
- ii) RCI Registration

Meeting of the Expert Committee for the Development of Training Programmes for the Professionals/ Personnel for Prosthetics & Orthotics held on 27/01/10 at Mobility India, Bangalore

Dr. Asis Mukerjee, Chairperson of the Expert Committee welcomed the members of the newly constituted Expert Committee.

Maj. Gen (Retd.) Ian Cardozo, Chairperson, RCI briefed the members about the purpose of the meeting and requested them to bring cohesive decisions and approval on the recommendations of the Core Committee for the revised syllabus for Bachelor in Prosthetics and Orthotics (BPO). Some of the important decisions taken in the meeting are given in the following paragraphs:

Approval of revised syllabus of Bachelor in Prosthetics & Orthotics (BPO) with the provision of lateral entry for Diploma holders in P & O

The detailed revised syllabus submitted by the Core Committee has the following highlights:

1. Entrance

- Candidate who has passed 10+2 in science or equivalent with physics, chemistry and biology/mathematics with minimum 40% marks will be eligible for admission to this course.

2. Lateral entry for Diploma in Prosthetics & Orthotics students to BPO course

- Candidates who have passed Diploma in Prosthetics & Orthotics from a RCI recognized institute shall be eligible for admission directly in 3rd year of BPO Course.
- Candidates should have passed 10+2 with PCM/PCB.

- Admissions will be based on the availability of the seats in 3rd year of BPO Course.

Duration of Bachelor in Prosthetics & Orthotics (BPO) course

After detailed discussions, the members felt that there should not be any change in the revised curriculum and syllabus, however, the total duration of the programme could be 4 years. Since students are doing extensive practical work throughout the programme, clinical practice and project work in Prosthetics and Orthotics during 4th year, the Internship could be waived off. The total 4 years duration should be reflected in the University Certificate and Marks Sheet. In this matter, Chairperson, Expert Committee would get in touch with different overseas Universities running similar programmes to find out the compatibility with the Indian P&O Course.

Registration of BPO and DPO passed candidates with RCI

The letter received from Dr. S.Y. Kothari, Addl. D.G. & HOD/PMR, Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, suggested that registration of Bachelors and Diploma holders in P&O could be done as a RCI registered Rehabilitation Professional. The matter was discussed in detail and the Chairperson and the Member Secretary, RCI stated that as MPO programmes are already running in the country as per RCI norms, the BPO and higher level certification will be registered as Rehabilitation Professional and candidates with DPO and CPO will be registered as Rehabilitation Personnel.

Meeting of Experts for developing practicum guidelines for BASLP & MASLP Courses

The meeting for development of practicum norms for Bachelor in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology (BASLP) (Semester and Annual) and Masters in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology (MASLP) (Annual) was held on 28th and 29th January 2010.

The analysis and home work done by the experts, Dr. M.N. Nagaraja & Mrs. Usha Dalvi was discussed and paper-wise practicum was prepared. This practicum should be added at the end of each theory paper and after list of reading. This worked out practicum guidelines will be part of theory papers and in addition to clinical practicals already mentioned in the syllabus at the end of each semester/year. The worked out practicum will be circulated to experts and institutions for their comments before finalizing the same. The next meeting will be conducted before start of next session.

Meeting of the Experts to discuss and develop a Course on Early Intervention Cross Disabilities held on 13.01.2010 at RCI, New Delhi.

Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ian Cardozo, AVSM, SM, Chairperson, Rehabilitation Council of India gave an overview of the developments taking place in the disability sector including progress on implementation of UNCRPD, amendments to the PWD Act, 1995, a landmark judgment by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court for appointment of special educators in all the schools of NCT of Delhi, etc. He said that a lot needs to be done to ensure better salary and better service conditions to all the rehabilitation professionals/ personnel and job placements need to be identified before developing any course. He advocated for having an Across Disability Course on Early Intervention so that all teachers should be able to teach all students under the inclusive education system. Dr. J.P. Singh, Member Secretary, RCI stated that the matter of having a course on Across Disabilities in Early Intervention was discussed in the meetings of the EC and GC.

Following important decisions were taken unanimously:

1. It was decided that the existing Diploma, Post Graduate Diploma and Master's Courses on

Early Intervention should be continued.

2. It was decided that there is a need for a Diploma Course in Early Childhood Special Education (Cross Disability) of one year duration. A curriculum should be developed for the same. Prof. P. Jeyachandran and Ms. Shaileja Rao will prepare the curriculum by including inputs from other disability areas, viz., visual impairment and hearing impairment, autism and submit the same to the Council by 30th March, 2010.
3. It was decided that disability-wise add-on modules on Early Intervention should also be prepared, the duration of which should not be more than 90 days.
4. It was decided that all special educators of VI should be proficient in Braille and re-registration/renewal of registration should be done only on passing of proficiency test in Braille. NIVH has agreed to conduct the proficiency test through its 20 centres, twice a year for a batch of 100 candidates each. Similarly, all special educators of HI should have knowledge/skills of sign language and arrangements should be made to assess their proficiency in sign language before re-registration/renewal of registration.
5. NIVH has also agreed to conduct 100 programmes every year in Braille of one week duration for the Special Educators of VI with 30 candidates in each batch. So 3000 special educators of VI can be trained every year in Braille.

Online Entrance Examination for Admission to Diploma Courses

The Council has decided to conduct an All India Online Aptitude Examination for admission to all Diploma level Courses in the field of disability rehabilitation and special education offered by its recognized institutions from the academic session 2010-11. The decision has already been intimated

to all the concerned institutions requesting them to send certain information/ details regarding courses offered, contact details, hostel facility, proposed fee, etc. for facilitating the admission process.

Registration goes Online

Here is good news for all qualified professionals/personnel waiting to register with Rehabilitation Council of India. The Council has made the registration of Professionals/ Personnel in the Central Rehabilitation Register online. The online facility was launched from January 26, 2010. A notification to this effect was issued in the national and regional language newspapers for the benefit of candidates. Following are the General Guidelines to be followed by the candidates for Online Registration:

Guidelines for Online Registration

Register Online using following forms:

1. Application Form –‘A’ for Registration in the Central Rehabilitation Register under Section 19 of RCI Act, 1992 – (Fee Rs.250/-)
2. Application Form –‘C’ for Registration of Additional Qualification in the Central Rehabilitation Register under Section of RCI Act, 1992 - (Fee Rs. 50 Per Qualification)
3. Application Form for Renewal of Registration - (Fee Rs.250/-)
4. Application Form –‘D’ for obtaining a Certificate of Good Standing – (Fee Rs.250/-)

General Terms and Conditions for Filling up Online Registration Form

1. Please read the instructions carefully which are available on the form.
2. Before Filling up the Online Registration Form-A or C or D or Renewal of Registration Certificate, make sure that a Demand Draft of prescribed fee (As Applicable) issued by any

Nationalised Bank in favour of “Member Secretary, Rehabilitation Council of India, Payable at New Delhi”, is ready before starting to fill online application form.

3. Authentication letter from the institution (see the Form) from where the candidate has passed out with the RCI approved qualification to be attached along with all required documents.
4. See checklist-
 - i. Demand Draft of prescribed fee
 - ii. Authentication Letter
 - iii. Rehabilitation Qualification (Certificate + Mark sheet)
 - iv. High School / Secondary School Certificate i.e. proof of Age/Date of Birth
 - v. Photographs
 - vi. Reference of Three Persons
 - vii. Experience Certificate from the employer (if applicable)
 - viii. Other Document(s)
5. The candidate's name should be filled in the online application form as per the name mentioned in his/her Certificate/ Diploma/ P.G. Diploma/ Degree, etc., issued by RCI approved rehabilitation Training Institute/ Organization.
6. Reference of three persons with their address and telephone number on a separate sheet should be scanned and attached.
7. On the Online form some of the fields are indicated with ‘*’ mark, that is mandatory field and it must be filled by the candidate.
8. After submission of the form the applicant will get a Temporary Registration No. which should be quoted for future correspondence.
9. The hard copy of filled Online Application

Form duly signed by the candidate, mentioning Temporary Registration No. should reach RCI within 10 days from the date of online submission.

10. Incomplete applications, applications without copies of certificates will not be entertained.
11. Online application will be cleared within one month after receipt of hard copies of documents and prescribed registration fee.
12. Application not submitted through on-line will be cleared within 3 months

For further Guidelines and Online Registration, log on to: <http://registration.nic.in> or <http://rehabcouncil.nic.in>.

National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities presented

Hon'ble President Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil presented the National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities on the occasion of International Day of Disabled Persons on 3rd December, 2009 at a function organized by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

National Awards under 12 categories including Best Employee/Self Employed with Disabilities, Best Employers and Placement Officer/Agency, Best Individual and Best Institution working for the Cause of Persons with Disabilities, Best Applied Research/Innovation/Product Development, Outstanding Work in the Creation of Barrier Free Environment for Persons with Disabilities, etc.

Ms. Reena Mohanty from Bhubaneswar was given the Best Individual Award while Prerona Pratibondhi Sishu Bikash Kendra, Jorhat was presented the Best Institution Award this year. The Institution under rehabilitation category included Shikshit Yuva Sewa Samiti, Uttar Pradesh while under education category Red Cross Society, Yamuna Nagar, Jeevan Jyoti Institute for the

Disabled, Varanasi, Bal Kalyan Sanstha, Pune and Leprosy Patients Welfare Society, Manipur were given additional awards.

IBM India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi was given a National Award under the category of "Technological Innovation" for creating technology called "Spoken Web". This voice-enabled technology, developed by IBM Research – India, complements the Internet and enables people with little or no literacy, or those with visual impairment, to access and share information, perform business transactions and create social networks using mobile or landline phones.

RCI congratulates all the national awardees for their outstanding achievement which would inspire others to work for the empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Continuation Rehabilitation Education Programmes/Seminars/Workshops

The Continuing Rehabilitation Education Programmes/Refresher Programmes are sponsored/approved regularly to update the knowledge and skills of professionals/personnel to provide quality services to persons with disabilities. Similarly, seminars/conferences/ workshops, etc. are also sponsored by the Council. During the period from October, 2009 to March, 2010, 146



C.R.E. Programme conducted by Maa Baliraji Sewa Sanstha, Hargarh Bazar, Mirzapur (U.P.) from 26 Dec. to 28 Dec. 2009

CRE programmes on different topics covering all areas of disabilities were sponsored/ approved and 13 seminars/ conferences/ workshops were also sponsored. The details about the topics/institutes can be seen on the RCI website.

Navshikhar Channel

The Navshikhar Channel – a joint venture of RCI, ISRO and Media Lab Asia – continued telecasting live and recorded programmes/ documentaries/films on different topics in the field of disability rehabilitation through EDUSAT uplinking station and TV Studio located in RCI, to over 475 centres located all over the country.

The Council is using modern communication technology to share information on disability rehabilitation by conducting live tele-conferences on various topics from RCI Studio, which are being telecast to training institutions duly equipped with Direct Reception System (DRS). The services of experts/professionals are utilized in delivering live lectures through Navshikhar channel for the benefit of all stakeholders.

The main objectives of the programme are:

- To upgrade the knowledge and skills of trainees, trainers, related professionals and stakeholders in disability prevention and rehabilitation.
- To produce need based modules in print, audio-visual and multi-media.
- To undertake research in evaluation of the impact.
- To disseminate information to persons with disabilities, families and the general public.
- To undertake such other activities to achieve the aim.

With a view to facilitate uninterrupted service, a user friendly User Manual has been prepared and the CD has been sent to all the DRS centres. In case of non-functioning of DRS, the manual may be used by the users to rectify the fault. The instructions have also been uploaded on the RCI website. All the DRS centres have been requested to send their feedback and the status of functioning of DRS so that necessary corrective measures can be taken. Details of Live Topics covered during the period can be seen on RCI website.



Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ian Cardozo, AVSM, SM, Chairperson, RCI and Mrs. Poonam Natarajan, Chairperson, National Trust on the occasion of Special Transmission by Navshikhar Channel on World Disability Day, 3rd December, 2009

“Punarbhava” portal meets W3C compliance

The national interactive web portal launched by the Council in collaboration with Media Lab Asia has developed a comprehensive national web portal on disability, named, www.punarbhava.in, which has been made accessible for persons with various disabilities and has conformed to W3C standards. W3C stands for World Wide Web Consortium and it works to make the web accessible to all users, despite differences in culture, education, ability, resources and physical limitations. It offers certain recommendations that all website developers follow its guidelines to make the website accessible to all users. We are happy to inform our readers/users that the Punarbhava web portal has received the W3C compliance certificate.

The portal is designed to provide all related information regarding different disability issues at one platform. This will enable persons with disabilities, NGOs, professionals, policy makers, students, parents, community workers and all other stakeholders to access information relating to the disability sector on a regular basis. It has a disability registration section where persons with disabilities can register themselves. The aim of registration on Punarbhava is to facilitate them to provide needed information and create a data base which could be a source of reference in the future and can help the government in framing policies and programmes for the benefit and empowerment of persons with disabilities. A campaign has been launched with the help of special schools and NGOs for collecting data of persons with disabilities and registering them with the portal.

List of job openings or the recruitment drives undertaken by various organizations for persons with disabilities is provided regularly on the portal. Regular update on events and happenings around the world in the field of disability are also highlighted in the event calendar section. People across the globe can become a part of this project

by contributing their bit to help us maintain the portal by meeting its financial requirement of Rs.40-50 lakhs per annum. The contribution of sponsors would be duly acknowledged on the portal and also in the quarterly Newsletter published by RCI.

Distance Education Programmes

B.Ed. Special Education (Distance Mode) launched by IGNOU

National Centre on Disability Studies (NCDS), Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has launched the B.Ed. Special Education programme from the current academic session. The admission to the programme were made on the basis of an entrance test conducted by IGNOU. Following is the requirement for admission to B.Ed. Special Education launched by IGNOU:

1. The applicant should have a Bachelor's degree from any recognized university.
2. Weightage would be given to the candidates fulfilling any one of the following conditions:
 - (a) Be a person with disability : 15 marks
 - (b) Be a parent of child with disability: 10 marks
 - (c) Possess any RCI recognized qualification : 10 marks

For those eligible at (c) the copy of RCI registration certificate must be provided.

Foundation Course on Education of Children with Disabilities

The National Centre on Disability Studies (NCDS), IGNOU has launched the Foundation Course on Education of Children with Disabilities from the academic year 2009-10. Details of the Course are given below:

1. **Nomenclature of the Programme:** Foundation Course on Education of Children with Disabilities.
2. **Aims and Objectives of the Programme:** The principal objective of the

programme is to develop required competencies of in-service teachers and enable them to:

- deal effectively with the various educational needs of children with disabilities;
- impart education effectively to students with various disabilities in the classroom;
- to undertake appropriate classroom management for children with disabilities;
- to undertake remedial or dual teaching for children with mental retardation and learning disabilities.

3. **Duration of the Programme:** The programme will be of 3 months days (90) duration including 3 weeks of Face-to-Face Contact Programme in two phases.
4. **Process of Admission:** The application forms for admission in Foundation Course would be available round the year at the Study Centres/ Regional Centres/IGNOU main office at Maidan Garhi. The interested learners can apply in the prescribed form and submit the application form to the Study Centre/ Regional Centre.
5. **Eligibility:** Any In-service teacher at any level.
6. **Implementation:** The Programme will be implemented through Programme Study Centres that are RCI recognized institutions working in the area of disability. Each programme study centre can enroll a maximum of 40 Learners, for each of the February, June and October sessions.
7. **Programme Fee:** Programme Fee of Rs.1500/- payable at the time of submission of application for admission. The Student Handbook & Prospectus with application form will be available at the Study Centre/ IGNOU/ Regional Centres/ University Headquarters at Delhi for Rs.100/-.

M.Ed. Special Education (Distance Mode) through IGNOU

The National Centre on Disability Studies (NCDS), Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) will launch the M.Ed. Special Education (Distance Education) programme from the academic session July, 2010. The eligibility criteria for admission to the Course and other details are given below:

- (a) Admission to M.Ed. Special Education will be made on merit on the basis of marks obtained in B.Ed. Special Education. Detailed guidelines will be issued accordingly.
- (b) Weightage of 25 marks of total marks obtained by the candidate in B.Ed. Special Education should be given to the faculty members working at RCI recognized training centres. However, the total marks obtained including the weightage should not exceed 100%.
- (c) B.Ed. Special Education or equivalent degree approved by RCI with an aggregate of 50% marks.
- (d) 2 years of teaching/ professional experience or 2 years experience as Head Master/Principal, Special Education functionaries. The experience must be from a Govt. School/Govt. recognized School/RCI recognized training Centre/Centre registered under PWD Act 1995/National Trust Act, 1999.
- (e) The total fee of M.Ed.-SEDE Programme will be Rs.36,000/-.

Advertisement for admission to M.Ed. (SEDE) was issued by INGOU in the last week of February, 2010.

Post Graduate Certificate in Special Education (PGCSE) by IGNOU

National Centre on Disability Studies (NCDS), IGNOU will shortly launch the Post Graduate Certificate in Special Education. Following are the details of the programme:

1. **Nomenclature of the Course:** Post

Graduate Certificate in Special Education (HI, VI, MR, LD)

2. **Duration of the Course:** Six months
3. **Eligibility for admission to the Course:** B.Ed. (Special Education) or equivalent degree.
4. **Scope of the Course:** Upon completion of the course, the candidates with B.Ed. (Special Education) in one area of disability will be considered competent to teach children with other disabilities in the inclusive set up. Candidates with B.Ed. (Special Education) and PGCE will be eligible for registration in respective area of disability to work in the inclusive education set up.

Post Graduate Professional Diploma (PGPD)

The duration of the Post Graduate Professional Diploma (PGPD) course will be of one academic year for candidates with B.Ed. General Education. On completion of this course, the successful candidates will be eligible for registration as Special Educator in Specific Disability. This will also make them eligible for admission to M.Ed. Special Education in specific disability.

Post Graduate Professional Diploma course being offered by Madhya Pradesh Bhoj (Open) University, MPBOU has been discontinued by the Council and all the institutes conducting this course have been intimated not to conduct the course as it is under review.

Achievements of RCI in Brief

Following are some of the achievements of the Council during the year 2009-10:

i) Standardization of Training Programmes

The Council has so far developed a number of short/long term training programmes to meet the human resource requirement of 16 Categories of

Professionals allocated to the Council out of which 56 are operational. The following courses were developed/ standardized / revised during the year:

- Diploma in Hearing Language & Speech (DHLS).
- B Ed . (Multiple Disabilities)
- M A in Disability Studies and Action (Social Work)
- Diploma in Teaching Pre ? School Children with Visual Impairment .
- Certificate course in the Education of Children with Special Needs (Add on course for CBR & other rehabilitation personnel to function as Special Resource Teachers)
- Master of Audiology & Speech Language Pathology (MASLP) Semester course.
- Master of Audiology & Speech Language Pathology (MASLP) –Annual course.
- M Sc . (Audiology)
- M Sc . (Speech Language Pathology)
- Bachelor of Audiology & Speech Language Pathology (MASLP) –Semester course.
- Bachelor of Audiology & Speech Language Pathology (MASLP) –Annual course.

ii) Inspection and Recognition of Training Institutions

The Council appoints visiting experts for evaluation of training infrastructure of Universities/Institutions (Government/non-governmental organizations) for conducting training programmes in the field of Rehabilitation and Special Education. The institutions are given recognition to run approved courses only after ensuring that the prescribed norms and minimum requirements are followed by them. A total of 352 institutions have been recognized to run RCI approved courses. Following

is the progress made during the year:

- i) New proposals received : 225
- ii) Proposals for extension of approval : 282
- iii) Extension of approval granted : 123
- iv) Institutions Inspected : 292
- v) New Institutions added : 42

iii) Registration of Professionals Personnel

In accordance with Section 23 of the RCI Act, the Central Rehabilitation Register for registering the professionals/personnel is maintained by the Council. Only those who have recognized qualifications in the area of Rehabilitation and Special Education are issued registration certificates so as to practice as Rehabilitation Professional/Personnel. 50882 professionals/personnel are registered with the Council.

**Table showing the Registration Status of Central Rehabilitation Register
April, 2009 to March, 2010**

Month	Professionals	Personnel	Cumulative Total Personnel	Cumulative Total Professional	Total C.R.R.
April	388	656	31599	13120	44719
May	143	159	31758	13263	45021
June	117	463	32221	13380	45601
July	288	369	32590	13668	46258
August	193	293	32883	13861	46744
September	193	131	33014	14054	47068
October	236	163	33372	14290	47662
November	164	58	33430	14454	47884
December	282	149	33579	14736	48315
Jan. 2010	236	265	33844	14972	48816
Feb.2010	478	426	34270	15450	49720
Mar.2010	408	754	35024	15858	50882

iv) CRE/Seminars/Workshops

289 CRE programmes were sanctioned wherein more than 7200 professionals/personnel participated. In addition, 18 Seminars/Workshops/Conferences were also sponsored during the current year.

v) Publications

Following publications were brought out during the year:

1. RCI Newsletter, October to Dec. 2008.
2. RCI Newsletter, January to March, 2009.
3. RCI Newsletter, April to September, 2009.
4. Annual Report, 2007-08.
5. Journal of Rehabilitation Council of India (JRCI), Jan. to Dec. 2008.
6. Manual on Assessing Basic Abilities and Social Readiness in Young Children.
7. Access for All - Training Manual on Barrier Free Environment – second edition (Hindi version).
8. Booklet on Guidelines for Setting up of Educational Programmes for Children with Hearing Impairment.
9. Booklet on Schools that Meet the Needs of Visually Impaired Children.
10. Status of Disability in India-2007.
11. Proceedings of the National Meet of Rehabilitation Experts-2009.
12. Updated RCI Brochure (English & Hindi).
13. DSE (HI) Manual in Bangla Languauge.
14. Hindi Translation of six Manuals and fifteen Syllabi completed.

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vi) Distance Education Programmes

Following universities are running RCI approved courses through distance education mode:

S. No.	University	Date of MoU	Validity Period	Courses conducted/to be conducted
1.	Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University, Bhopal	18.01.2000 31.03.2004	5 years 5 years	B.Ed. SE-DE F.C. SE-DE PGPD-SEDE
2.	Bangalore University, Bangalore	07.11.2003 May, 2009	5 years 5 years	PGCBR DCBR
3.	IGNOU , New Delhi	21.09.2000 20.05.2004 18.09.2007	5 years 5 years 5 years	AWT, B.Ed. SE-DE, PGDDM, FC-SE-DE, M.Ed SE-DE (To be launched), Certificate in Early Childhood Special Education (CP/Hi/VI)
4.	MAHE, Manipal	14.02.2004	5 years	PGDDM
5.	UP Rajrishi Tondon Open University, Allahabad	20.08.2004 31.05.2008	3 years 5 years	B.Ed. SE-DE
6.	Netaji Subhash Open University, Kolkata	08.12.2004	5 years	B.Ed. SE-DE (Bangla)
7.	Jagadguru Rambhadra-charya Handicapped Univ., Chitrakoot	06.06.2005 08.07.2008	2 years 2 years	BPO
8.	Babasaheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad	01.12.2005	5 years	B.Ed. SE-DE (Gujarati)
9.	North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong	01.12.2005	5 years	B.Ed. SE-DE
10.	Tamil Nadu Open University, Chennai	13.07.2006	5 years	B.Ed. SE-DE (Tamil & English)
11.	Karnataka State Open University, Bangalore	16.03.2007	5 years	B.Ed. SE-DE (Kannada)
12.	Bheem Rao Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad	02.05.2008	5 years	B.Ed. SE-DE (Telugu)

vii) Navshikhar Channel

In order to transform the way the persons with disabilities are being educated, the Council launched a joint venture with Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and Media Lab, Asia (MLA), viz. "EDUSAT" uplinking station and TV studio located in the RCI building which has

connected more than 475 Study Centres/ recognized institutions via satellite to disseminate information for improving the quality of training in the field of disability rehabilitation and special education in the country.

Table Showing Details of Live/Recorded/Documentaries Telecast from Apr. 2009 to Mar. 2010

Month	Total No. of Hours telecast	Live Telecast	Recorded Programmes	Documentaries/ Films, etc.
April	126	32	40	54
May	140	16	97	27
June	154	Nil	88	66
July	161	36	95	30
August	140	39	78	23
September	140	39	85	16
October	147	31	89	27
November	140	33	84	23
December	144	16	101	27
Jan. 2010	126	27	45	54
Feb. 2010	140	32	79	29
Mar. 2010	140	21	85	34

viii) UNCRPD

This law has brought focus on the need for inclusion for persons with disability and it now falls upon us to ensure that this law is implemented in letter and spirit. The Council, on its part, organized various regional and national level seminars including the National Meet of Rehabilitation

Experts-2009, for spreading awareness about various provisions of the UNCRPD and to draw strategies for its implementation. The syllabi and curriculum of all courses are under revision to facilitate inclusion.

Journal of Rehabilitation Council of India - Call for Papers

The Rehabilitation Council of India (A Statutory Body under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment) is bringing out a Bi-Annual Journal, which carries articles on issues and trends on rehabilitation research, human resource development, technological developments, innovations, news and events, editorial, book review, etc. The Council deems it to be a privilege to invite articles for JRCI from all eminent rehabilitation scientists/ professionals/ researchers, and an honorarium of Rs.1000 will be paid for each contribution.

The manuscript should reflect original contribution based on actual field work to be covered in the articles, should relate to mental retardation, hearing impairment, visual impairment, locomotors and associated disabilities and multiple disabilities.

Please send your article along with soft copy (CD) or by e-mail.

GUIDELINES FOR PAPER SUBMISSION

- Original and unpublished manuscripts should be submitted between 2000 and 5000 words (including an abstract of not exceeding 150 words on a separate sheet of paper) along with a copy of the file on disk (Microsoft word) or as an e-mail attachment.
- A declaration by the author(s) that the paper(s) has/have not been sent elsewhere for publication/presentation. It should be made on a separate sheet with the title of the contribution, name(s) of the author(s), full postal address for correspondence along with signature.
- Paper should be in English, typed double space on one side A4 paper, leave one-inch margins all around the text of your paper.
- End notes and works cited should be used instead of footnotes.
- Avoid biased language and do not underline words.
- All pages should be numbered consecutively

throughout the manuscript (including the first page) in the upper right hand corner of each page, one half inch from the top.

- Abbreviated words should be written in full on first mention, followed by the abbreviation in parentheses.
- Tables and illustrations should be prepared on separate sheets with location notes at the appropriate places.
- Copies should be clear, readable, and on paper of good quality. Authors should keep a copy in case of loss. Manuscripts should contain no handwriting.
- Reference list should be at the end of the article with complete bibliographical information in the following pattern:

For Books : OLIVER, M. (1990) *The Politics of Disablement* (London, Macmillan).

For Articles : EDWARDS, D.S. (1997) *Dismantling the Disability/Handicap Distinction*, the *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy*, 22, pp. 589-606.

For Edited Books : Word, L. (1988) *Developing Opportunities for an Ordinary Community Life*, in: D.TOWELL (Ed) *An Ordinary Life in Practice* (London, King Edwards Hospital Fund).

For Online : Standes, R. (2000) *Plagiarism in Colleges in the USA*.

Document : Available at www.rsb2.com/play.htm (accessed 6 August 2004)

For Chapters : Wills, P. (1983) *Cultural Production and Theories of Reproduction*, in L. Barton & S. Walker (Eds.), *Race Class and Education* (London).

Review : Review of pertinent books, audiovisual materials and computer software will be published in each issue. Reviews should be 1 – 4 pages in length and should include author's name, publisher's name, year of publication and price.

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