NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES (Divyangjan), (Dept. of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), MSJ & E, Govt. of India) ECR, Muttukadu, Kovalam Post, Chennai - 603 112, Tamil Nadu Fax: 044-27472389 Tel: 044-27472104, 27472113&27472046, 27472104, 27472423, Toll Free No: 18004250345 Website: www.niepmd.tn.nic.in E-mail: niepmd@gmail.com a. Major Activities undertaken during the month of May 2020:

15th May 2020

1. Distribution of general provisions

NIEPMD provided general provisions to 50 families having persons with disabilities under CSR Initiative.



2. Interview

Interview for the Temporary contract post of Assistant Professor (Nursing) and Lecturer (Clinical Psychology) was held through online mode on 22nd May 2020.



3. Video Conference:

NIEPMD participated the Video Conference on setting up of Early Interventions Centres in NIs and CRCs on 26th May 2020 Chaired by Smt.Tarika Roy, IAS, Joint Secretary to Govt. of India, DEPwD, MSJ&E.



b. Action taken in Response to COVID 19 – Initiatives of NIEPMD

As COVID-19 pandemic continues to expand in India and in the world, only one thing is certain: the current outbreak will have profound impact not only in the health and economic situation, but also on the psychosocial wellbeing of societies across nations. The impacts will be felt differently among different population groups. As the coronavirus pandemic spreads, self-isolation or quarantine is one of the key strategies in "flattening the curve" of infection rates. The quarantine has created extra burden for parents/caregivers of person with disability.

The institute received instruction and order from DEPwD, Ministry of SJ & E, Ministry of Home Affairs, DOPT and as per the Disaster management act 2005, para 3 guidelines, were followed on management of COVID-19. As per this guideline issued by various ministries and Govt. of India guidelines were strictly followed by the Institute in all respect of the institutions

NIEPMD took various Initiatives and measures to facilitate the Divyangjan, Parents of PwDs, through Awareness Posters, Videos, on-call Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy, Psychological Counselling, Vocational Guidance counselling, Special Education rehabilitation services etc., during the Lockdown period of COVID-19. NIEPMD along with its CRC's sprang into action by 22nd March 2020 itself through various activities, the details of the program initiated for the above are as follows.

Persons with Disabilities

Tele mode

- Toll free number being used significantly to provide services through tele mode
- On call Psychological guidance & Counselling for individuals with disabilities and families
- On call guidance on coping strategies for families during lockdown and capacity building of caregivers
- On call Vocational Guidance Counselling services for Individuals with Disabilities
- On call Occupational Therapy Services during lockdown
- On call Physiotherapy Services during lockdown
- On call Speech Therapy Services during lockdown
- On call Special education services
- On call services for caring the assistive devices during lockdown

Institution mode (Direct contact by keeping social distancing)

- Provision of anti-psychotic drugs
- Sending the anti-psychotic drugs through speed post to the families who cannot come

Online/Video mode/Social media activities to be carried out at home

- Speech Therapy at Home (2 series)
- Tips to stay emotionally healthy during Covid-19 lockdown
- Teaching Pre-writing Skills
- Developing Social Skills & Communication
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- Home Living Activities for Adult with Multiple Disabilities during lockdown
- Management of challenging behaviours of children with special needs at Home during Lockdown
- Exercise for children with Autism during lockdown
- Guidance for children with Autism during lockdown
- Activities for kids at home during lockdown

Parents of PwDs (The information was provided through tele mode/Social media/Videos)

- Home based program done by Parents of PwDs during lockdown
- Looking after your mental health during Lockdown
- Social Scripts Series 1-3 (COVID 19)
- Advisory for Senior Citizens during COVID period

- How to Clean Vegetables to Prevent Harmful Viruses & Bacteria (In Sign Language)
- General Measures to Enhance Body's Natural Defence System
- Home based training given by Parents of PwDs with the guidance of Teacher
- Message to Parents of Divyangjan regarding Corona Virus
- On-call Counselling and Guidance Services for Covid-19
- Guidelines by AIIMS on How to Stay Safe from Covid-19 (Part-1)

Human Resource Development

- Faculties engaged in taking classes online through Videos, Skype
- Online feedback, discussion with each individual student through text messages, social media were initiated
- Internal unit tests are also being conducted through social media and videos

Research & Development

- All the members involved in R & D prompted into action by creating awareness posters, social media posts and pamphlets
- The members are also involved in producing modules to carry out activities at home for PwDs, Family members and caregivers
- The members have also started creating manuals on various topics related to prevention, activities, psycho social well-being, communication, activities of daily living & functional academics

Participation by NIEPMD staff (Online)

- NIEPMD staff underwent WHO online courses (11 courses, which were applicable)
- NIEPMD staff also participated and successfully completed the quiz on COVID-19 available from corona.mygov.in
- NIEPMD staff also attended Training for Social Workers on Psycho social interventions during COVID-19 conducted by NIMHANS

Arogya Setu App

• All the NIEPMD staff, students, parents of individuals with disabilities, individual with disabilities are using Arogya Setu App and awareness was created on the usage of this app.

Sanitization of NIEPMD campus

NIEPMD sanitized the entire campus

Provision of Masks and Sanitizers to Security and Housekeeping staff

All the security and housekeeping staff were provided with of masks and sanitizers The securities have been provided with infrared thermometer to check the temperature of the people, staff, clients entering the campus

P M cares fund

NIEPMD and its CRC staff contributed their one-day salary towards the P M cares fund amounting to Rs.3.75 lakhs;

Success and best practices

Services to PwDs :

- In the regular mode services were being provided by professionals to the clients. The family members of the clients are the passive recipient of the services. The COVID-19 pandemic given an opportunity for the family members to actively involve the services provision and many parents are directory providing services directly to the clients with many innovative methods. In fact parents are looking this pandemic not as a threat but an opportunity to empower themselves through clients with disabilities
- 2. NIEPMD professionals start to develop many technologies based models high include assessment, training and management of students with disabilities
- 3. Parents feedback are being received online which is also a new method of service provision.
- 4. Many home based tools on training, education and services are developed to use by parents at home level

Human Resource Development:

- 1. Students are facilitated to listen more expert discussion and web materials, referring more books and making their own learning patterns guided by the faculty provided a new insight to the learning methods
- 2. Students are linked with National and International level, resource persons. library to equip themselves in the specialized subject.
- 3. Faculty also no developing the classes in digital mode which may be available for every one easily

c. Total No. of Beneficiaries serviced under various Clinical and / or other services May 2020):

New Cases	No. of follow up Beneficiaries
20	6945

* No. of case may vary on receipt of data from extension centres & ongoing camps/short term Training programs.

d. Conferences/Seminars/Job fair conducted during the month/any other events:

Webinars

- NIEPMD conducted the following Webinars
 - 1. Health and Hygiene
 - 2. How to address problem behaviours in individuals with ASD (Special Focus during crisis period)
- NIEPMD conducted the following Webinars in collaboration with;
 - 1. Dysphagia: A clinician's perspective in collaboration with Speech & Hearing association of India, West Bengal branch
 - 2. Supporting the child with special needs during COVID-19 pandemic in collaboration with Voice4ability.
 - 3. Reaching the Unreached with rehabilitation services
 - 4. Lockdown : challenges and Facilities for PwDs in collaboration with AYJNISHD, Mumbai and NIEPVD, Dehradun.



Patriticpation of Details of Online Training of WHO to meet the response of Corona pandemic :

NIEPMD staff are encouraged to attend the online training of WHO to meet the response of Corona Pandemic with reference to the requirment of NIEPMD. The following programs has been attended by staff.

- Health cluster coordination E-learning course
- Competence based learning

- Introduction to COVID 19 through Video based and sign lanaguage
- Protect respiratory infections
- Infection prevention and control
- Operational planning guidelines and COVID 19 partners platform to support coutry.
- How to put on and remove personal protective equipment
- Standard precautions Hang hyegiene

e. Skill Development Activities:

Online skill/Employable training programs for Adult persons with Multiple Disabilities. In the wake of COVID 19 pandemic NIEPMD had initiated 3 online skill training programs for Adult Persons with disabilities to occupy them with some employable activities. The following trades are provided in online

- 1. Sublimation printing
- 2. Multimedia training
- 3. Data Entrly operator training

f. Awareness Generation / Distribution and other camps organized:

Talk show



 A talk show about management of persons with disabilities during COVID-19 on Chennai AIR FM Gold 720/102.3/ Mhz on 8th May 2020 at 6:45 P M was broadcasted. *COVID 19 pandemic* Awareness posters and stickers prepared and circulated through Social Media.

g. Action Taken / Progress Made in:

- i. E-Governance:
 - NIEPMD website got SSL certificate (Secured website).
 - Renewed the STQC certificate for NIEPMD website.
 - NIEPMD website registered with National Portal of India
 - Implemented PFMS

- Member of National Digital Library of India to access E-books and Journals
- Most of the Payments made through electronic clearance
- Digitalization of Service and Administration.
- Library services are automated.

ii. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan:

Routine cleaning and sanitization of the campus activities carried out during the month. Automatic Sanitizer Dispenser machine has been installed in NIEPMD important entry points and Departments.





a. Major Activities undertaken during the month of June 2020:

1. Webinar:

NIEPMD organized a webinar on Skills for counseling through Mental Health Helpline on 8th June 2020. The Resource person of the program was Dr.Himangshu Das, Director, NIEPMD, and Dr.Kalpana, Srivastava, President, Indian Association of Clinical Psychology.



2. Interview

Interview for the post of Assistant Deputy Controller of Examination (NBER) consultant was held through online mode on 15th June 2020.



3. Video Conference:

NIEPMD participated the Video Conference on Online examination being conducted by various academic institutions during COVID 19 under the Chairmanship of Ms.Sakuntala D Gamlin, Secretary, DEPwD, MSJ & E, on 8th June 2020

4. RCI Meeting:

Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), a statutory body of DEPwD, MSJ&E, GoI convened the meetings of Directors of National Institutes on Smooth conduction of Board Examinations of RCI approved Certificate and Diploma courses through online on 18th June 2020.



The following Agenda points were discussed during the meeting

- i. To obtain course wise, academic year and TTIs wise status of backlog/pending examinations:
- ii. Plan of action to conduct Term End theory and Practical Examinations for academic session 2019-20
- iii. Maintain social distancing norms and health safety measures during conduct of practice teaching
- iv. Explore other modes for conduct of examinations amid COVID-19 situation
- v. Status of implementation of recommendations of Malpractice Prevention Committee of RCI
- vi. Conduct of online classes by TTIs for 2019-21

vii. Any other matter related to exams

5. Celebration of International Day of Yoga:

As per the direction by the Department of Empowerment of Person with Disabilities (Divyanjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, GoI, vide letter No: F - 2206/55/2020 – NI (E13230) dated 12th June 2020 for Observance of 6th International Day of Yoga (IDY) on 21st June 2020, NIEPMD observed the Yoga Day. To mark the occasion various programs had been organized. The details are as follows.

- Webinar on "Yoga for Prevention of COVID 19 for Children with Special Needs" on 19th June 2020. The Resource persons of the program was Dr.Prema, Yoga Instructor, NIEPMD. About 85 participants attended the program
- 2. Awareness posters and banner on Yoga displayed in the campus premises and also uploaded in Social Media.
- 3. NIEPMD building illuminated with Lights.
- **4.** A Live demonstration of Yoga with the theme of Yoga at Home and Yoga with Family on 21st June 2020 through Google meet.



Illumination of NIEPMD Building





Live demonstration of Yoga through Google meet



Awarness posters on Yoga



Webinar on Yoga for Prevention of COVID 19 for Children with Special Needs

6. Mental Health Helpline Meeting:

NIEPMD convened the meeting through online on 22nd June 2020 with Stakeholders for setting up the Mental Health Helpline as per the direction by DEPwDs, MSJ&E, GOI



7. Assuming Office:

Shri.Nachiketa Rout, Associate Professor(Speech, Hearing & Communication), NIEPMD, taken over charge of Officiating Director, NIEPMD from Dr.Himangshu Das, Director, NIEPVD, Dehradun on 30th June 2020.



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Human Resource Development

- Faculties engaged in taking classes through online (Google meet, Skype, etc)
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Research & Development

- All the members involved in R & D prompted into action by creating awareness posters, social media posts and pamphlets
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Arogya Setu App

• All the NIEPMD staff, students, parents of individuals with disabilities, individual with disabilities are using Arogya Setu App and awareness was created on the usage of this app.

Sanitization of NIEPMD campus

The entire campus of NIEPMD sanitized at the regular interval.

Provision of Masks and Sanitizers to Security and Housekeeping staff

All the security and housekeeping staff were provided with masks and sanitizers

The securities have been provided with infrared thermometer to check the temperature of the public, staff, clients entering in the campus premises.



(For detailed information please click the link: http://niepmd.tn.nic.in/covid19.php)

c. Total No. of Beneficiaries serviced under various Clinical and / or other services June 2020):

New Cases	No. of follow up Beneficiaries
102	5783

d. Conferences/Seminars/Job fair conducted during the month/any other events:

Webinars

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 - 2. Webinar on Yoga for Prevention of COVID 19 for Persons with Special needs on 19th June 2020. Smt.Prema, Yoga Instructor, NIEPMD was the Resource Person
 - 3. Live demonstration of Yoga with the theme of Yoga at Home and Yoga with family on 21st June 2020
- Resource Person of NIEPMD staff and conduction of Webinars in collaboration with other organizations :
 - Dr.K.Balabaskar, Lecturer (AIL), Resource Person on the Topic "Mindfulness and Life Skills" for the Webinar organized by Alagappa University, Karaikudi, on 3rd June 2020.
 - Dr.K.Balabaskar, Lecturer (AIL), Resource Person on the Topic "Mobility and Well being of PwDs at Workplace: Post COVID 19" for the Webinar organized by SBI foundation, Mumbai on 5th June 2020

- 3. Inclusion of Person with Deafblindness: Speak for Inclusion of Persons with Deafblindness on 27th June 2020.
- 4. Shir.Rajesh Ramachandran Reh.Officer (Service & Program), Resource Person on the Topic "Multiple Perspectives on Autism" for the Webinar organized by CRC-Gorakhpur on 18th June 2020.
- 5. Dr.K.Balabaskar, Lecturer (AIL) as a Resource Person on the Topic "Life Skills and Skilling for Individual with Developmental Disabilities" for the Webinar organized by Saksham (Tamil Nadu Chapter) on 26th June 2020.
- 6. Dr.K.Balabaskar, Lecturer (AIL) as a Resource Person on the Topic "Life Skills Training for Individual with Developmental Disabilities" for the Webinar organized by SIRTAR, Rohtak, Haryana, on 29th June 2020.



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e. Skill Development Activities:

Online skill/Employable training programs for Adult persons with Multiple Disabilities. In the wake of COVID 19 pandemic NIEPMD had initiated 3 online skill training programs for Adult Persons with disabilities to occupy them with some employable activities. The following trades are provided in online

- 1. Multimedia training
- **2.** Data Entrly operator training

f. Awareness Generation / Distribution and other camps organized:

As part of the Celebration of International Day of Yoga, NIEPMD developed various awareness posters on Yoga and its benefits. It has been displayed in prominent places at NIEPMD campus and also uploaded in social media.

g. Action Taken / Progress Made in:

i. E-Governance:

- NIEPMD website got SSL certificate (Secured website).
- Renewed the STQC certificate for NIEPMD website.
- NIEPMD website registered with National Portal of India
- Implemented PFMS
- Member of National Digital Library of India to access E-books and Journals
- Most of the Payments made through electronic clearance
- Digitalization of Service and Administration.
- Library services are automated.

ii. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan:

Routine cleaning and sanitization of the campus activities carried out during the month. The Automatic Sanitizer Dispenser machine has been installed in all the Departments. NIEPMD campus premises has been sanitized at regular intervals.

iii. Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan:

• Orientation on Universal Design and accessible websites given to students and Internship trainees of various colleges, and schools of Chennai who visited NIEPMD.

iv. Progressive use of Hindi (Rajbhasa):

Quarterly report has been sent to Ministry.

- 51% of Letters received in Hindi are replied in Hindi.
- Preparation of Program schedule, banners, Conference Invitation was also done in Hindi.
- Printing posters on the various themes of Swachh Bharat Mission printed in Hindi.

h. Redressal of Public Grievances:

Nil

i. Major important Achievements of the organization/Institute:

- NIEPMD received ISO 9001:2015 certification
- NIEPMD Accredited by NAAC with B Grade in the 1st Cycle

j. No. of New Courses/ any other activities Initiated:

- Common Entrance Test (CET 2020) Admission Notification the courses of BPT, BPO and BOT has been published National and Regional Newspapers.
- NIEPMD initiated to setup the National Mental Health Line under the Guidance of DEPwD to address the mental health issues and COVID 19 pandemic mental health issues.

K. Any other Information considered important to be intimated:

Transfer Land for Rehabilitation Services :

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India has alloted 3.6 acres of Salt Department land in Kelambakkam village, Kovelong salt Factory, Chennai, Tamil Nadu to NIEPMD for Rehabilitation services to the Persons with Disabilities vide letter No: P-34014(11)/14/2018-Salt dated 11th May 2020.