Leprosy related Stigma & Discrimination

Equity and Integration

APAL
Assn of people Affected by leprosy
INDIA

Equity and Integration
Gratitude

➢ We convey our gratitude to the Government Organizations NLEP & CLD for providing health care services in the leprosy treatment like MDT, Self-care kits, Dressing Material and MCR Footwear.

➢ Many thanks for their integration by given us the participation and decision making opportunities, also made us a member in their committee.

We are grateful.
Terminology

➢ Still now many people are using of derogatory words like Leper, leprosy sufferers, PAL and LAP.

➢ In the grassroots using Big Disease and Beggar’s Disease
➢ In society calling us Cursed People and Leprosy colony people also to our children

➢ We are totally agree with Dr. Alice research on term of leprosy and we prefer “People Affected by Leprosy”.

➢ We happily feel and self-stigma decreasing word is “Leprosy Champions”
Gender

➢ Even Person with disability also not accepting the affected girls for marriage and also children of people affected by leprosy

➢ Mothers affected may be excluded from their homes and denied the right to care for their children due to leprosy.

➢ The mainstream people are not accepting the leprosy colony people for the marriages

➢ Compare with men the women affected by leprosy are faced much stigma from their houses and community and faced problems physically and mentally. Women have not tolerate lost her children.
Employment

- Due to stigma and deformity affected girls and boys can maximum studied primary classes only but NGOs expecting graduation minimum for the job

- Very less employment opportunities in Government and private sector even in NGOs those who are working for the disease of leprosy

- The scheme of MUDRA also not given loans to the people affected by leprosy for the self-employment
Social Discrimination

➢ The stigma start from the our own houses, hospitals and continued all places until burial ground also

➢ The Stigma reduces access to sanitation, housing, work and education and impairs the social relationships

➢ Reduces opportunities of our self employment and employment due to our visible deformity its effected to our families undermining social and physical safety.

➢ Want to enjoy our civic, political, social and cultural rights and to participate in decision-making.

➢ Might NGOs had experiences to wiped our tears but we always expecting to know the reason behind our tears also
Legal Discrimination

➢ Against Discriminatory Laws and superstitions in India

➢ Under RPWD act 2016 put us in loco-motor category but its big competition

➢ Most Government offices like DLO, SLO offices are not accessible to go for submitting memorandums
Some research shows that up to 50% will face mental health issues, such as depression or anxiety, and an increased risk of suicide, but we say the risk is up to 80% by our experiences.

The original consequences of leprosy is reflects in the gross root level meant village people, so without involving gross root level also the researches and guidelines are not much impactful in 100%.

Too many means, 200% differences between the discrimination experiences of visible deformity people and invisible deformity people.
Thank you

Association of People Affected by Leprosy

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