



SENSITISATION PROGRAMME FOR CENSUS ENUMERATORS
ON
DISABILITY QUESTION IN CENSUS 2011

Prepared by

DEOC

For

**Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India
and**

**National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People
(NCPEDP)**



Where is the Problem?

The problem was not entirely with you, but with the way society has been built to cater to only 'normal' circumstances. Most of us ignore these situations in our lives as a temporary phase but for persons with disabilities, these situations are part of everyday life. People with disabilities in their own country are made to feel like strangers... The society is built in such a way that it alienates people with disabilities.

If the second scenario became a reality, people with disabilities can lead a life as comfortable and productive as their non-disabled counterparts.

It is therefore, not the impairment, but the disabling environment that makes people dependent.



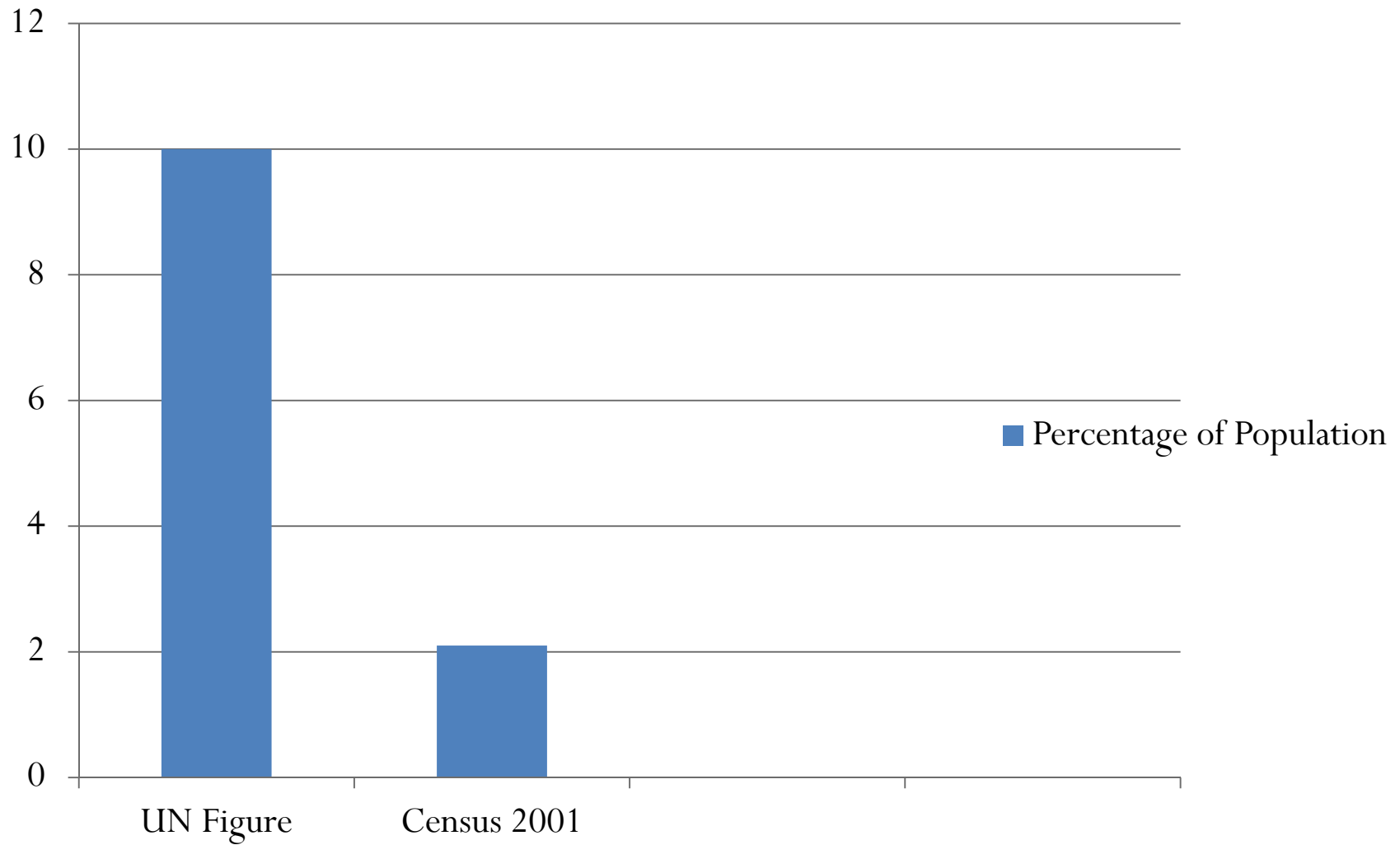
Story – Identify Barriers & Facilities



There is a young boy of 25 years of age. He is an MBA, working in a big company. He meets with an accident. He has a back injury, which results in Paralysis of both his legs. The doctors say that the damage is permanent. He will not be able to stand up or walk; will need help with his activities of daily need (self care - toileting / bathing) etc. He needs to be taken care of. He is unable to go to his office; and he loses his job.



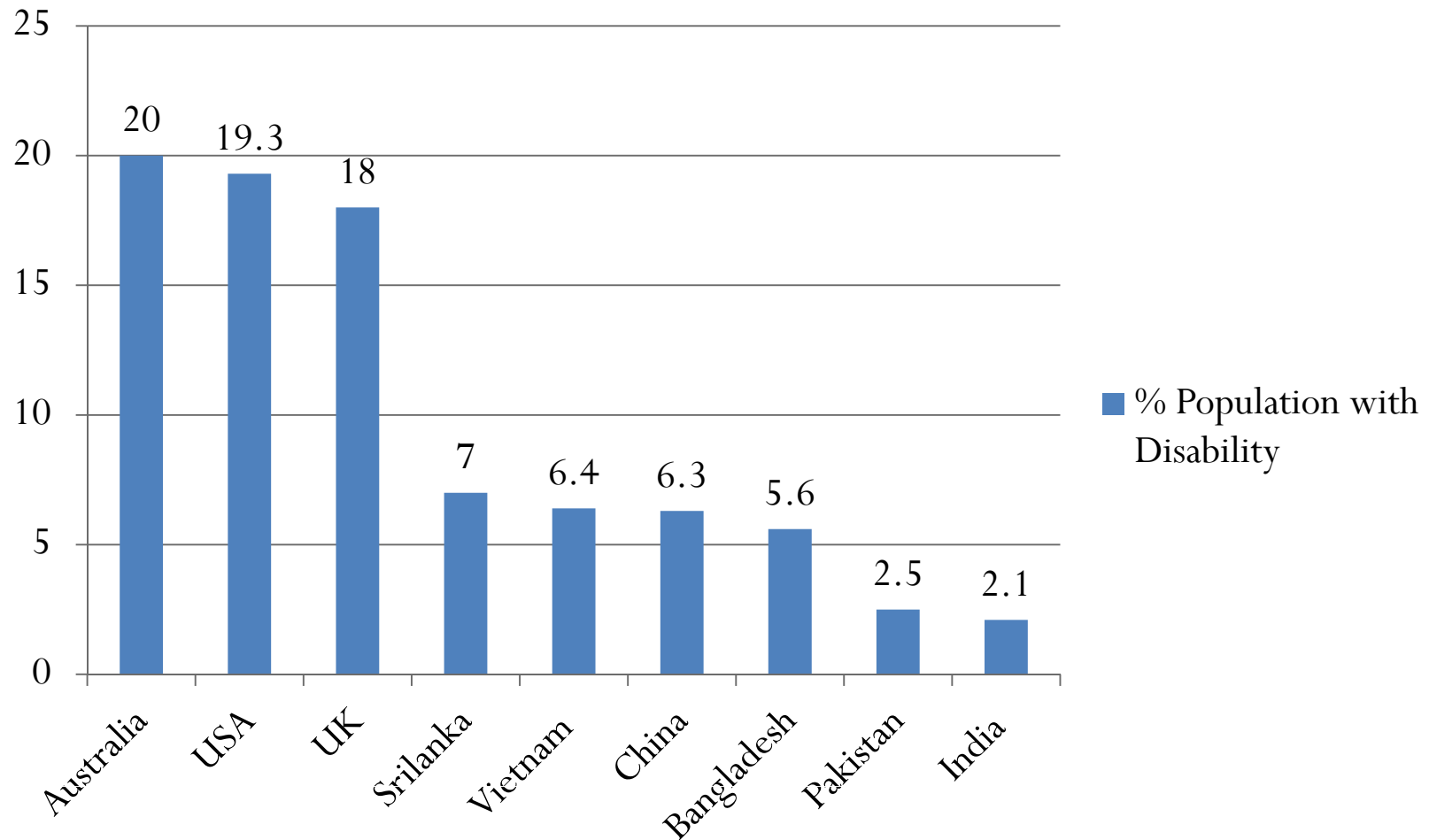
Disability Population





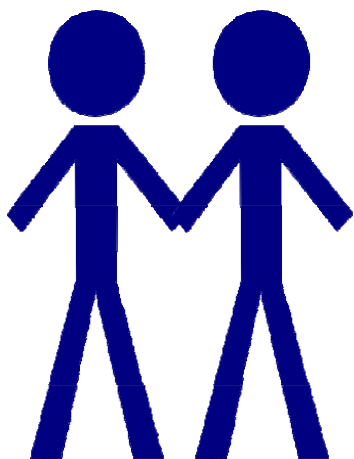
Disability Data of Few Countries

% Population with Disability





Lack of Facilities for Uncounted!



Counted



2 Hearing Aids



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Uncounted



NO HEARING AIDS

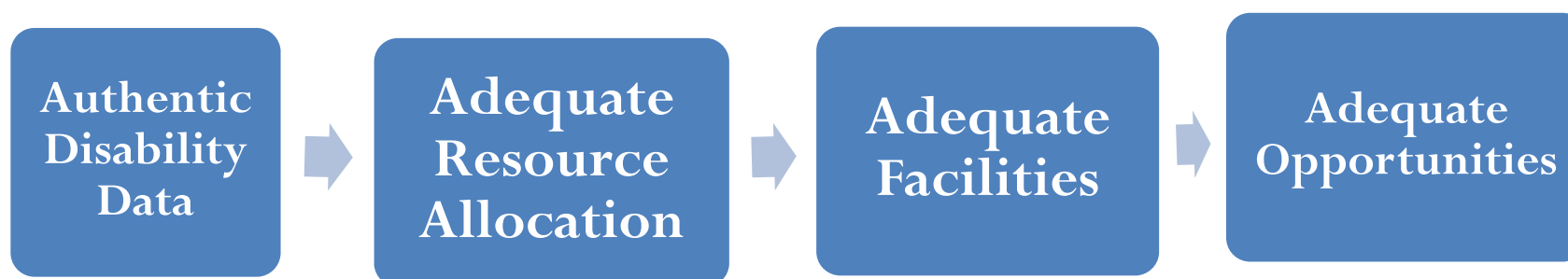


Vicious Cycle





Authentic Numbers – Adequate Opportunities





You can make a difference?



As an Enumerator you can make the difference! It is you who would be going to every house in the country. You will be the witness to the fact that people are there, they exist. You will report this data to the Government. It is this data that will be used for next 10 years for policy making, for resource allocation and for making facilities. It is therefore, in your hands to make the 'invisible population' 'visible'!"



About whom should you ask this question?



- This question should be asked about **everyone** in the family. Do not assume that just because someone looks ‘alright’ or ‘normal’, she/he may not have disability.
- Many disabilities are not visible. For example, person with hearing impairment, low vision, mental impairment, etc.
- Do not leave out elderly people, infants, girls/ women in the house.



How to gain the Confidence of the Respondents?



- **Build rapport with the respondent/s:** Your friendly and respectful mannerism will help you gain their confidence and respect.
- **Share the reason for asking question on disability**
- **Make it simple:** Use simple and non-derogatory language. Explain disability in terms of difficulty in doing any functions of daily living (taking care of oneself, gaining education, taking up a job) or participating in all/some spheres of life.
- **Assure confidentiality:** Reassure the respondents that individual information will not be shared with anyone in the community.”



How to Word your Question?



Government wants to know how many persons are there with disabilities in the country. This information will be used to ensure that there are required facilities - education, employment, transport, assistive devices, health services, etc. which will help them to become more independent, participate and contribute equally in the society. So, please share if any of your family member has a difficulty in seeing, hearing, remembering, walking, using hands, learning or mental health condition?”



What the Enumerator should not do?



- Do not change your expression when the person says that she/he has a disability or their family member has a disability. Listen carefully and take the information as a fact.
- Do not try to diagnose or ask how the disability was acquired.
- Do not ask for any certificate or documentation.
- Do not conduct any assessment to show or prove their disability.
- Do not start counselling.
- Do not make any promises.
- Do not avoid or rush through the question.
- Do not be in a hurry to write the Code of disability. Ask if the person has more than one disability (multiple disability).



Disability Question 9 (a)

9(a) is this person mentally/physically disabled?

- Yes – 1
- No- 2

If the person has a disability please put Code No. 1. If the person does not have a disability, put Code No. 2.



Disability Question 9 (b)

9 (b) If 'YES' in 9 (a), give code in the box against 9 (b) from the list below:

- In Seeing - 1
- In Hearing - 2
- In Speech - 3
- In Movement - 4
- Mental Retardation - 5
- Mental Illness - 6
- Any other - 7
- Multiple Disability – 8



Disability 'In Seeing' – Code 1

Person with **blindness or low vision or little eyesight.**

- Cannot see at all; or
- Has blurred vision even after using spectacles, contact lenses, etc.; or
- Has blurred vision but had no occasion to test if her/his eyesight would improve after taking corrective measures.

Note: The following will not be considered as having disability:

- Persons with no vision in one eye but full vision in the other eye (one eyed persons)
- Persons having night blindness alone
- Persons having colour blindness alone



Disability 'In Hearing' – Code 2

Person with **deafness or hard of hearing**

- Cannot hear at all (deaf person); or
- Has difficulty in hearing day-to-day conversational speech (hard of hearing); or
- If she/he is using a hearing aid; or

Note: Persons having problem in only one ear will not be considered as having hearing disability.



Disability 'In Speech' – Code 3

This is applicable only for children **above the age of 3 years**. If the person:

- Cannot speak at all or she/he is unable to speak normally on account of certain difficulties linked to speech disorder; or
- Able to speak in single words only and is not able to speak in sentences; or
- Stammers to such an extent that the speech is not comprehensible.



Disability 'In Movement' – Code 4



- Cannot move at all or needs assistance for moving; or
- Does not have leg/s or arm/s or hand/s or there is absence of all the fingers or toes or a thumb; or
- Is able to move only with the help of stick, calliper/s, wheelchair, tricycle, walking frame, crutches, etc.; or
- Can walk but limps because of problems of joints/muscles; or
- Is not able to move the hands or is not able to pick up any small thing placed nearby; or
- Has stiffness or tightness in movement, or has loose, involuntary movements or tremors of the body or has fragile bones; or
- Has difficulty in balancing and coordinating body movements; or
- Has loss of sensation in the body due to paralysis or leprosy or any other reason; or
- Has any deformity of the body part/s like having a hunch back; or
- Is very short statured (dwarf).



Mental Retardation – Code 5

- Person with lower intelligence or has delayed development (walking, talking, learning, etc.).
- Lacks understanding/comprehension as compared to her/his own age group; or
- Has difficulty in learning and doing daily activities and general household tasks; or
- Has difficulty in understanding routine instructions if they are not simple; or
- Has difficulty in communicating her /his needs, making decisions, remembering things or solving problems.”

Note: Mental Retardation is generally from birth. If the person has acquired mental impairment at a later age, it may be Mental Illness



Mental Illness – Code 6



- Has observable changes in thinking, feelings and/or behaviour or
- Exhibits unnecessary and excessive worry, unexplained withdrawal or problems in sleep, loss of appetite and/or depression, thought of dying
- Exhibits repetitive (obsessive-compulsive) behaviour/ thoughts; or
- Exhibits mood swings (joy and sadness)
- Has unusual experiences - such as hearing voices, seeing visions, experience of strange smells or
- Exhibits unusual behaviours like talking/laughing to self, staring in space, excessive fear and suspicion without reason; or
- Is taking medicines or other treatment for mental illness; or
- Is having old age related problems like loss of memory, depression, etc.

Note: Record only what the respondent reports. Please do not dispute or enter into any kind of discussion or debate on the issue.



Any Other - Code 7



If the respondent/person reports a disability other than those listed in the question, then it should be noted as ‘Any Other’

Some examples are:

- Autism
- Inherited bleeding disorders such as Thalassemia, or Haemophilia
- Epileptic seizures, which are not controlled and limit daily functions, etc.; or
- Specific Learning Disabilities, like dyslexia,
- **Note:** If you find it difficult to categorise based on the explanation given by the person, then also you may write Code 7.



Multiple Disability – Code 8



Combination of two or more disabilities

- Has impairment in speaking and hearing; or
- Has impairment in seeing and in hearing (deaf-blindness);
or
- Has a combination of impairments like movement impairment with seeing/hearing/speech or other impairments; or
- Has Mental Retardation/Illness with seeing/hearing/ or other impairments; or
- Has difficulty in moving, speaking, hearing or loss of memory due to old age.”



How to fill Code for Multiple Disability – 9 (c)



- **Example 1** Person has two types of disabilities namely, disability in Seeing and disability in Hearing
9(a) 1
9(b) 8
9(c) 1 2
- **Example 2** Person has three types of disabilities, namely, disability in Seeing, disability in Movement and Mental Illness
9(a) 1
9(b) 8
9(c) 1 4 6



Remember



- In case there is confusion about the type of disability, please write Code 7 ‘Any other’, but it is important to mark/count if there is a person with disability.”
- Temporary impairments like limitation of movement due to fracture or temporary illness need not be counted as disability.
- All other questions are also to be asked for a person with disability, like education, literacy, economic activity, marital status, fertility, etc. This information will help in getting the socio-economic status of persons with disabilities in India.



Write the Correct Code



- 1. Respondent:** Father has paralysis of one side and walks with a stick.
- 2. Respondent:** My daughter is not able to see properly even after wearing spectacles. Her vision is blurred. She has to bring the object very close to see it.
- 3. Respondent:** My sister's brain is weak. Since childhood she has not been able to study. But she helps my mother in the household work.
- 4. Respondent:** I don't have sensation in my hands because of leprosy.
- 5. Respondent:** My elder brother has phases when he is full of energy, goes on a spending spree, is always excited, and during another phase he has extreme sadness, has crying spells and has difficulty getting to sleep.



Write the Correct Code (Cont.)

6. Respondent: My mother has blindness in one eye. She can see well with the other eye.

7. Respondent: My son uses a hearing aid.

8. Respondent: My wife remains depressed. I have taken her to the doctor and she has been given some medicines.

9. Respondent: My son has difficulty in writing in school. Writes numbers like a mirror image. For example, he writes 61 for 16. He is in class V.

10. Respondent: My son is deafblind.



Write the Correct Code (Cont.)



11. Respondent: My daughter has tightness of muscles because of which she has difficulty in walking. She is also not able to speak properly. She also has hearing loss

12. Respondent: My aunt who stays with us has got a fracture of the ankle.

13. The Respondent says he has some condition that you do not understand?

14. Respondent: My uncle, who stays with us, stammers and it is very difficult to understand what he says, so he writes to communicate

15. Respondent: My grandfather is old and walks with a stick?



Conclusion



As you have seen, people with disabilities are unseen and unaccounted in our country. There is a huge underestimation of number of people with disabilities. As a result, people with disabilities do not have the necessary facilities. You can make a big difference in the lives of people with disability by counting them in the upcoming Census. I therefore appeal to all of you to please put in the effort to collect authentic data on disability.

Thank you so much for your cooperation!