

ISBN: 978-81-949112-2-7

Empowerment of Differently Abled Children: A Case Study of Saksham

Bibhunandini Das and Umakanta Nayak

Introduction

As per United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), more than one billion people around the world, of whom nearly 93 million are children, live with some form of disabilities. With misperception of society towards disabilities and limited social actors who can accommodate special needs, persons with disabilities do not get required opportunities, they deserve in reality. They not only experience exclusion in their daily lives but also get fewer opportunities for quality education. Despite introduction of different policies such as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and Right to Education Act, the educational status of children with disabilities (CwD) is not encouraging. In this context, the chapter makes an attempt for differently abled children towards an inclusive environment and empowering them for their basic needs through education and training.

The remainder of the chapter is organised as follows: following introduction, section 2 briefly reviews the existing studies on empowering disable people. Section 3 presents the methodology of the study followed by an overview of Saksham in section 4.