

Level of Participation and Views of Persons with Disabilities towards Imparting Vocational Training: A Descriptive Study in North Coastal Area of Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

The present descriptive study is mainly focused on level of participation and views of persons with disabilities towards imparting vocational training in north coastal area of Andhra Pradesh state. The right of persons with disabilities to mainstream vocational training, employment and social protection is guaranteed under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The researchers have developed an interview schedule on participation level and views and collected data from two hundred persons with disabilities according to location and gender. The collected data was analyzed by using appropriate statistical techniques and drawn the results and interpretation. The researchers have found from the results that it clearly indicates that both in rural and urban locations, the majority of persons with disabilities (sample participants) belong to the age group of above 35 years. Further, it clearly shows that the majority of persons with disabilities belonging to the un-reserved category are living in the study area when comparatively SC, ST and OBC category. It shows that most of the sample participants (PwDs) who were Hindu religion from rural and urban areas comparatively Muslim and Christian communities have participated in the present study. It indicates there is a good sign for the development and economic rehabilitation of the persons with disabilities through computer training, agriculture training, dairy and poultry training and health and services related training.

Key words: Level of participation, views, persons with disabilities and north coastal area of Andhra Pradesh

Introduction

Vocational training is distinct from other types of education since it emphasizes real-world experience through practical instruction. Vocational training focuses on how to teach practical skills and offers skill-based learning. This indicates that a student has acquired the information and practical abilities required to carry out particular tasks of an occupation upon successful completion of the programme. This highlights the value of practical knowledge above academic understanding.

The right of persons with disabilities to mainstream vocational training, employment and social protection is guaranteed under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. To help people with disabilities integrate into society and become contributing members of society, vocational training is a crucial tool (Adeela Razzak, 2012). According to literature (Josephine Kaserera, 2012; WHO, 2011), mainstream vocational training is one of the techniques to help people with disabilities fulfill their human potential. To help them get employment and actively engage in society, people with disabilities need training to help them develop their special skills.

The Government of India established the National Skills Mission with the goal of assisting the country to benefit from the demographic dividend of being the youngest nation by 2020. It becomes even more crucial for India because the country's demographic dividend can only be realized with the quick establishment of jobs and income-generating possibilities. Therefore, it is the duty of Indian society to increase the accessibility of acceptable and high-quality vocational education and training for people with disabilities (Pillai, P., 2016).

Need of the study

About ninety nine lakh persons with disabilities in the employable age group were non-workers or are marginal workers. Persons with disabilities are among the poorest in the population. There is an urgent need to scale up the skill training infrastructure in view of the huge demand and supply gap. The training, being offered through various institutions is not homogeneous, lack of quality and is low on employability. A very low accessibility of the present training infrastructure to the persons with disabilities in rural areas and low level of involvement of private sector in the skill training of persons with disabilities. The skill training offered by various departments to the persons with disabilities is fragmented or overlapping.

Objectives of the study

- To examine the level of participation with respect to demographic variables of sample participants according to location and gender.
- To study the views of persons with disabilities in north coastal area of Andhra Pradesh with respect to location and gender.

Research questions of the study

- What is the level of participation with respect to demographic variables of sample participants in north coastal area of Andhra Pradesh state according to location (rural & urban) and gender (male & female)?
- What are the views of persons with disabilities in north coastal area of Andhra Pradesh with respect to location (rural & urban) and gender (male & female)?

Delimitations of the study

- The study was restricted to only persons with locomotor disabilities, excluded other type of disabilities at the north coastal area of Andhra Pradesh state.
- The sample participants were limited to 200 (100 male with locomotor disabilities & 100 female with locomotor disabilities) from north coastal area of Andhra Pradesh state.

Methodology

In this present study, the descriptive research design under survey method has been adopted by the researchers to describe the present conditions and views of sample participants (persons with disabilities) with respect to location (urban & rural) and gender (male & female) towards seeking vocational training.

Selection of sample and size

The researchers have been adopted the purposive and convenient sampling techniques for selection of sample participants (persons with disabilities) from the selected study area. In the first stage there are three districts were selected and also twelve blocks/mandals were selected among the three districts. The distribution of sample participants (persons with disabilities) with respect to location and gender is mentioned in the below table-1 (urban area):

Table-1: Distribution of the sample participants (Persons with Disabilities) with respect to Gender and Location (URBAN Location)

Sl. No.	Urban Location	Sample Participants (Male)	Sample Participants (Female)
1	Srikakulam	16	16
2	Vizianagaram	16	18
3	Visakhapatnam	18	16
Total sample participants		50	50

Source: Primary Data

Accordingly, the researchers have been considered only fifty male with disabilities and fifty female with disabilities from three districts (Srikakulam, Vizianagaram & Visakhapatnam) that treated as urban area sample participants. Further, among the twelve blocks/mandals, only fifty male with disabilities and fifty female with disabilities from the selected blocks/mandals under 3 (three) districts were taken as rural area sample participants for the study.

The distribution of sample participants (persons with disabilities) with respect to location and gender is mentioned in the below table-2.

Table-2: Distribution of the sample participants (Persons with Disabilities) with respect to Gender and Location (RURAL Area)

Sl. No.	Rural Areas	No. of Male with Disabilities (Sample)	No. of Female with Disabilities (Sample)
1	Rajam	5	4
2	Ranasthalam	4	4
3	Palasa	4	5
4	Palakonda	4	4
5	Salur	4	4
6	S. Kota	4	4
7	Vepada	4	4
8	Therlam	5	4
9	Anandapuram	4	4
10	Chodavaram	4	5
11	K. Kotapadu	4	4
12	Sabbavaram	4	4
Total sample participants		50	50

Source: Primary Data

The above mentioned sample participants (persons with disabilities) were selected based on the availability and convenient of the researchers.

Development of Research Tools

The researchers have developed interview schedules comprising of close-ended and open-ended questionnaires in order to attain the research objectives. The interview schedule for persons with disabilities was prepared by the researchers to understand current conditions and perceptions of persons with disabilities to seek vocational training in north coastal of Andhra Pradesh state.

The interview schedule has divided into two parts, the part-A contains set of questions with regard to demographic details about sample participants (persons with disabilities), such

as name, permanent address, age, gender, caste, religion, marital status, present occupation, type & degree of disability, when disability occurred and cause of disability.

The part-B of interview schedule have questions with regard to level of participations and views of persons with disabilities about imparting vocational training, these questions based on demographic variables (age, gender, category, religion, marital status, present occupation, disability in which part of the body, degree/type of disability, when disability occurred and cause of disability) and Type of Vocational Training Programs needed for Persons with Disabilities with respect to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Data Collection

The present study is based on primary data which was collected through a field survey from the sample participants (PwDs) by using specially pre-designed interview schedule with an intension of collecting responses towards imparting vocational training for persons with disabilities and through direct observation in the selected study area.

Statistical Techniques

In order to attain the objectives of the present study, the researchers used descriptive statistical techniques to tabulate and analyzed the gathered data into different tables by showed in frequency and percentage with assistance of Microsoft Excel program.

Results and Discussion

Demographic details of persons with disabilities for vocational training with respect to various variables (age, gender, category, religion, marital status, present occupation, disability in which part of the body, degree/type of disability, when disability occurred and cause of disability)

The researchers have interviewed the persons with disabilities (200-sample participants) at the field level and drawn the data with respect to various variables considered in the study to know the level of participation of sample participants for vocational training is mentioned below:

Age of the Persons with Disability according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Age is a major factor that influences one to seek knowledge through training or learning. The training or learning habit develops from childhood onwards; it is very difficult for an individual to start learning at a later age. Similarly, it is very difficult for adults or middle aged persons to attend learning or any training program in their adulthood. Hence,

the researcher has collected data from persons with disabilities with different age groups as mentioned in the Table-3 according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female).

Table-3: Age of Persons with Disabilities according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Age Range of Persons with Disabilities	Rural Area				Urban Area			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%
15 – 25 years	16	32%	17	34%	1	2%	5	10%
26 – 35 years	12	24%	7	14%	4	8%	9	18%
above 35 years	22	44%	26	52%	45	90%	36	72%
Total Sample	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

The **Table-3** depicts that the level of participation of 16 (32%) male with disabilities, 17 (34%) female with disabilities belong to age group of 15-25 years from rural location, where as 1(2%) male with disabilities 5(10%) female with disabilities belonged to age group 15-25 years from urban location. The table also shows that 12 (24%) men with disabilities, 7(14%) women with disabilities of the rural location belong to age group 25-35 years, where as in the urban area 4 (8%) men with disabilities, 9 (18%) women with disabilities belonged to the said age group 25-35 years. Finally the table reflects that 22 (44%) men with disabilities, 26 (52%) women with disabilities in the rural location belong to the age group above 35 years, where as in the urban location 45 (90%) men with disabilities, 36 (72%) women with disabilities belong to the age group above 35 years.

It's clearly indicates that both in rural and urban locations, the majority of persons with disabilities (sample participants) belong to the age group of above 35 years.

Category of the Sample Participants (PwDs) according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Category is also plays a vital role in the learning process, it is generally seen that the un-reserved (UR) category people shows more interest than scheduled caste (SC) and scheduled tribe (ST) people to be educated. Accordingly, the researcher has collected the information through conducting interviews to persons with disabilities about their category which they belongs is indicated in the **Table-4** according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female).

Table-4: Category of the Person with Disabilities according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Category	Rural Area				Urban Area			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%
Scheduled Caste	10	20%	10	20%	1	2%	7	14%
Scheduled Tribe	2	4%	6	12%	3	6%	1	2%
Other backward Classes (OBC)	18	36%	14	28%	20	40%	20	40%
Unreserved	20	40%	20	40%	26	52%	22	44%
Total Sample	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

The **Table-4** explains that in the Rural Location 12 (24%) of male with disabilities, 16 (32%) of female with disabilities belong to scheduled caste (SC) where as in the urban location 1 (2%) male with disabilities, 7 (14%) female with disabilities belong to scheduled caste (SC). There are 2 (4%) male with disabilities and 6 (12%) female with disabilities from rural areas, whereas 3(6%) male with disabilities and 1(2%) female with disability from urban areas belonging to scheduled tribes (ST) participated in the study.

Further, around 18(36%) of male with disabilities and 14(28%) of female with disabilities from rural areas, whereas 20(40%) of male with disabilities and 20(40%) female with disabilities from urban area are belongs to other backward classes (OBC) category were participated in the study. About 20(40%) of male with disabilities and 20(40%) female with disabilities from rural areas, whereas 26(52%) of male with disabilities and 22(44%) of female with disabilities from urban areas belonging to unreserved (UR) category participated in the study.

It clearly shows that the majority of persons with disabilities belonging to the un-reserved (UR) category participated in the study to provide data to the researcher.

Religion of the Persons with Disabilities according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Indian philosophy of human development is based on religion or dharma. Hence, religion also plays a vital role to take up new study or learning by the people. Accordingly, the researcher has gathered data from the sample participants (PwDs) with regard to different religions with respect to location (rural & urban) and gender (male & female) as mentioned in below **Table-5**.

Table-5: Data of Persons with Disabilities belongs to different Religion according to location (rural & urban) and gender (male & female)

Religion	Rural Area				Urban Area			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%
Muslim	10	20%	10	20%	1	2%	7	14%
Christian	2	4%	6	12%	3	6%	1	2%
Hindu	38	76%	34	68%	46	92%	42	84%
Total Sample	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

The **Table-5** shows the sample participation in the study that 10(20%) of male with disabilities, 10(20%) of female with disabilities belong to Muslim community from rural areas. In the urban area, 1(2%) of male with disabilities and 7(14%) of female with disabilities belong to Muslim community. Around 2(4%) of male with disabilities and 6(12%) of female with disabilities belong to Christian community from rural areas and 3(6%) of male with disabilities and 1(2) of female with disabilities belong to the same community from urban areas. Further, approximately, 38(76%) male with disabilities, 34(68%) female with disabilities belong to Hindu religion from rural areas and 46(92%) male with disabilities, 42(84%) female with disabilities belong to Hindu religion from urban areas.

It shows that most of the sample participants (PwDs) who were Hindu religion from rural and urban areas comparatively Muslim and Christian communities have participated in the present study.

Marital Status of the Person with Disabilities according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Marital Status has much more influence to receive learning or training. An unmarried person has more leisure time to extra for learning or training for any study than a married person. Thus, the **Table-6** gives a picture of the Marital Status of the Persons with Disabilities with respect to location (rural & urban) and gender (male & female) who participated in the study.

Table-6: Marital Status of the Persons with Disabilities according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Marital Status	Rural Area				Urban Area			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%
Married	28	56%	38	76%	46	92%	48	96%
Un Married	22	44%	12	24%	4	8%	2	4%
Total Sample	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

The **Table-6** shows that in the rural areas 28 (56%) male with disabilities, 38 (76%) female with disabilities whereas in the urban areas 46 (92%) male with disabilities, 48 (96%) female with disabilities were married. Further 22 (44%) male with disabilities, 12 (24%) female with disabilities in rural areas and 4 (8%) male with disabilities, 2 (4%) female with disabilities in the urban areas were Unmarried. The result shows that a higher percentage of persons with disabilities of rural and urban areas were married.

Occupation of the Person with Disabilities according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female).

Occupation of a person plays an important role in taking training as the occupation is determining the condition of learning or training. Therefore, the **Table-7** shows the Occupation of the Persons with Disabilities with respect to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female).

Table-7: Occupation of the Persons with Disabilities with respect to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Occupation	Rural Area				Urban Area			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%
No work	14	28%	15	30%	20	40%	30	60%
Self employment	7	14%	6	12%	5	10%	5	10%
Domestic works	10	20%	10	20%	5	10%	5	10%
Employment in Public/Private sector	5	10%	3	6%	10	20%	5	10%
Agriculture works	5	10%	5	10%	-	-	-	-
under Education	10	20%	10	20%	10	20%	5	10%
Total Sample	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

The **Table-7** shows that in rural areas 14 (28%) male with disabilities, 15(30%) female with disabilities, whereas 20 (40%) male with disabilities, 30(60%) of female with disabilities of urban area has no work as because of people think that the disabled persons are not suitable to do any work or isolated them. Even, fewer disabled persons do not have any educational qualifications as they were not attended any educational institution due to their disability and poverty.

In rural areas, 7 (14%) male with disabilities and in urban areas, 6 (12%) female with disabilities have self employment like petty shops, coconut selling, vegetable selling, tailoring and etc. Similarly, 5(10%) of male and female with disabilities in urban areas have self employed themselves like operating book stores, operating ladies corners, Xerox centers, tailoring shops, selling bangles, selling self made products, etc.

Around 10 (20%) of male and female with disabilities have domestic works as their profession in rural areas as well as 5(10%) of male and female with disabilities are doing domestic works at home in the urban areas. About 5(10%) of male with disabilities and 3(6%) of female with disabilities in rural area, whereas 10(20%) of male with disabilities and 5(10%) of female with disabilities in urban area have employment in public and private sector like teachers, bank employees, working in small scale industries, milk kendras, volunteers and etc.

Approximately, 5(10%) of male and female with disabilities in rural areas are in agriculture related activities, whereas there are no male or female with disabilities in agriculture related activities at home and/or in the field. Further, 10(20%) of male and female with disabilities in rural areas are under education pursuing higher education and/or professional related degrees, whereas, 10(20%) of male with disabilities and 5(10%) female with disabilities in urban areas are attending higher education and/or in professional training.

Degree/Type of Disability of Sample Participants with respect to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Degree of disability and classification of persons with disabilities is a difficult task. Classification on the basis of medical ground is different from the social science point of view. Medical classification may tell about the nature and treatment but social science speaks of placement or engagement through vocational training considering the severity of disability. The **Table-8** speaks about the degree of disability of the persons with disabilities according to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female).

Table-8: Degree/Type of Disability of Sample Participants with respect to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Type of Disability	Rural Area				Urban Area			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%
Person with Disability (Mild)	6	12%	10	20%	14	28%	16	32%
Person with Benchmark Disability (Moderate)	20	40%	22	44%	4	8%	16	32%
Person with Disability with High Support Needs (Severe)	24	48%	18	36%	32	64%	18	36%
Total Sample	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%

Source: Primary Data

The **Table-8** shows that in the rural areas 6 (12%) male with disabilities, 10 (20%) of female with disabilities, whereas the urban areas 14 (28%) of male with disabilities, 16 (32%) of female with disabilities were persons with mildly disabled, whereas 20 (40%) male with disabilities, 22 (44%) female with disabilities in the rural areas and 4 (8%) of male with disabilities, 16 (32%) of female with disabilities were moderately disabled.

Again this **Table-8** says that, 24 (48%) male with disabilities and 18 (36%) of female with disabilities in the rural areas and also about 32 (64%) male with disabilities and 18 (36%) female with disabilities in the urban areas were severely disabled.

What are the current conditions and opinions of Persons with Disabilities on the need of vocational training with respect to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female?)

The researchers have interviewed by using an interview questionnaire and drawn information regarding to undergo suitable vocational training by persons with disabilities (200-sample participants) and their views/opinions is recorded as mentioned below:

Type of Vocational Training Program is needed for sample participants (person with disabilities) to their employment.

Various training programs are being conducted especially for persons with disabilities by government, government aided and non-governmental organizations in the country towards self employment, open employment and sheltered employment. Accordingly, the researcher felt to know the interests of persons with disabilities on which type of training to undergo to gain suitable employment in the local market or any place. The researchers have interviewed the selected sample participants (persons with disabilities) and collected the data considering their degree of disability and presented in the **Table-9** with respect to location (rural & urban) and gender (male & female) as follows.

Table-9: Type of Vocational Training Programs needed for Persons with Disabilities with respect to Location (rural & urban) and Gender (male & female)

Type of Vocational Training	Rural Area				Urban Area			
	Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%	Fr.	%
Computer Training (Software/Hardware)	8	16%	6	12%	17	34%	15	30%
Poultry and Dairy Training	7	14%	12	24%	-	-	-	-
Industrial related Training	10	20%	5	10%	10	20%	7	14%
Tourism & Hospitality Training	-	-	-	-	8	16%	10	20%
Production and Manufacturing Training	8	16%	11	22%	8	16%	8	16%
Agricultural related Training	15	30%	11	22%	-	-	-	-
Health & Services related Training	2	4%	5	10%	7	14%	10	20%
Total Sample	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%	50	100%

Source: Survey Data

The **Table-9** shows the various vocational training or skill development programs for persons with disabilities like different computer training, poultry & dairy related training, agricultural related activities, industrial related training, tourism & hospitality related training, production & manufacturing related training, medical and services related training, etc. Therefore, the researcher has collected the information from the sample participants with regard to their interests on what kind of training or skill to undertake to become skilled workers or professional in the respective field is mentioned in the **table-9** as follows:

About 8(16%) male with disabilities, 6 (12%) female with disabilities in the rural areas and 17 (34%) male with disabilities, 15 (30%) females with disabilities of urban areas opted for computer (software/hardware) related training. There are 7 (14%) male with disabilities and 12 (24%) female with disabilities in the rural areas who have shown their interest for the vocational training in the area of poultry and dairy related training programs. However, no persons with disabilities are interested to undergo poultry and dairy related training in the study area.

According to the **Table-9**, further it is says that only 10 (20%) male with disabilities and 5(10%) female with disabilities from rural areas, whereas around 10(20%) male with disabilities and 7(14%) female with disabilities from urban areas showed interest for industrial related training. It is significant to note that female with disabilities of the rural

areas were exactly double in number than the male with disabilities of the rural areas opting for industrial related training.

Further, the table-9 showed that only 8(16%) male with disabilities and 10(20%) females with disabilities from urban area only showed interest to undergo tourism and hospitality related training, whereas no persons with disabilities from rural areas showed interest to take tourism and hospitality related training.

Approximately, in the rural area 8 (16%) male with disabilities and 11 (22%) female with disabilities, whereas 8 (16%) male with disabilities and 8(16%) female with disabilities of urban areas wanted production and manufacturing related training. They chose manufacturing of products made by them due to their physical disability.

The table-9 again shows that 15(30%) male with disabilities and 11 (22%) female with disabilities of rural areas wanted to undergo agricultural related training. No persons (male & female) with disabilities from urban areas are willing to take up agriculture related training. Lastly, 2 (4%) male with disabilities and 5(10%) of females with disabilities in rural areas, whereas 7(14%) male with disabilities and 10(20%) of females with disabilities from urban areas are expressed in health and services related training.

There is a good sign for the development and economic rehabilitation of the persons with disabilities through computer training, agriculture training, dairy and poultry training and health and services related training.

Major findings

Findings with respect to demographic details of sample participants (Persons with Disabilities)

- The researcher found that the level of participation of 16 (32%) male with disabilities, 17 (34%) female with disabilities belong to age group of 15-25 years from rural location, where as 1(2%) male with disabilities 5(10%) female with disabilities belonged to age group 15-25 years from urban location. It was also shows that 12 (24%) male with disabilities, 7(14%) female with disabilities of the rural location belong to age group 25-35 years, where as in the urban area 4 (8%) male with disabilities, 9 (18%) female with disabilities belonged to the said age group 25-35 years. The results reflects that 22 (44%) male with disabilities, 26 (52%) female with disabilities in the rural location belong to the age group above 35 years, where as in the urban location 45 (90%) men with disabilities, 36 (72%) women with disabilities belong to the age group above 35 years.
- It's clearly indicates that both in rural and urban locations, the majority of persons with disabilities (sample participants) belong to the age group of above 35 years.

- The researcher explained that in the rural location 12 (24%) of male with disabilities, 16 (32%) of female with disabilities belong to scheduled caste (SC) where as in the urban location 1 (2%) of male with disabilities, 7 (14%) of female with disabilities belong to scheduled caste (SC). There are 2 (4%) of male with disabilities and 6 (12%) of female with disabilities from rural areas, whereas 3(6%) male with disabilities and 1(2%) of female with disability from urban areas belonging to scheduled tribes (ST) participated.
- Around 18(36%) of men with disabilities and 14(28%) of women with disabilities from rural areas, whereas 20(40%) of men with disabilities and 20(40%) women with disabilities from urban area are belongs to other backward classes (OBC) category were participated in the study. About 20(40%) of men with disabilities and 20(40%) women with disabilities from rural areas, whereas 26(52%) of men with disabilities and 22(44%) of women with disabilities from urban areas belonging to unreserved (UR) category participated in the study.
- It clearly shows that the majority of persons with disabilities belonging to the un-reserved (UR) category are living in the study area when comparatively SC, ST and OBC category.
- The researcher found that 10(20%) of male with disabilities, 10(20%) of female with disabilities belong to Muslim community from rural areas. In the urban area, 1(2%) of male with disabilities and 7(14%) of female with disabilities belong to Muslim community. Around 2(4%) of male with disabilities and 6(12%) of female with disabilities belong to Christian community from rural areas and 3(6%) of male with disabilities and 1(2) of female with disabilities belong to the same community from urban areas. Further, approximately, 38(76%) male with disabilities, 34(68%) female with disabilities belong to Hindu religion from rural areas and 46(92%) male with disabilities, 42(84%) female with disabilities belong to Hindu religion from urban areas.
- It shows that most of the sample participants (PwDs) who were Hindu religion from rural and urban areas comparatively Muslim and Christian communities have participated in the present study.
- The results show that in the rural areas 28 (56%) male with disabilities, 38 (76%) female with disabilities whereas in the urban areas 46 (92%) male with disabilities, 48 (96%) female with disabilities were married. Further 22 (44%) male with disabilities, 12 (24%) female with disabilities in rural areas and 4 (8%) male with disabilities, 2 (4%) female with disabilities in the urban areas were Unmarried. The result shows that a higher percentage of persons with disabilities of rural and urban areas were married.
- It was found that in rural areas 14 (28%) male with disabilities and 15(30%) female with disabilities, whereas 20 (40%) men with disabilities, 30(60%) of women with disabilities of urban area has no work as because of people think that the disabled persons are not suitable to do any work or isolated them. Even, fewer disabled persons do not have any educational

qualifications as they were not attended any educational institution due to their disability and poverty.

- In rural areas 7 (14%) men with disabilities and in urban areas 6 (12%) women with disabilities have self employment like petty shops, coconut selling, vegetable selling, tailoring, etc. Similarly, 5(10%) of men and women with disabilities in urban areas have self employed themselves like operating book stores, operating ladies corners, Xerox centers, tailoring shops, selling bangles and selling self made products, etc.
- Around 10 (20%) of men and women with disabilities have domestic works as their profession in rural areas as well as 5(10%) of men and women with disabilities are doing domestic works at home in the urban areas. About 5(10%) of men with disabilities and 3(6%) of women with disabilities in rural area, whereas 10(20%) of men with disabilities and 5(10%) of women with disabilities in urban area have employment in public and private sector like teachers, bank employees, working in small scale industries, milk kendras, volunteers and etc.
- Approximately, 5(10%) of men and women with disabilities in rural areas are in agriculture related activities, whereas there are no men or women with disabilities in agriculture related activities at home and/or in the field. Further, 10(20%) of men and women with disabilities in rural areas are under education pursuing higher education and/or professional related degrees, whereas, 10(20%) of men with disabilities and 5(10%) with disabilities in urban areas are attending higher education and/or in professional training.
- The researcher found that about 8(16%) male with disabilities, 6 (12%) female with disabilities in the rural areas and 17 (34%) male with disabilities, 15 (30%) females with disabilities of urban areas opted for computer (software/hardware) related training. There are 7 (14%) male with disabilities and 12 (24%) female with disabilities in the rural areas who have shown their interest for the vocational training in the area of poultry and dairy related training programs. However, no persons with disabilities are interested to undergo poultry and dairy related training in the study area.
- Further it is says that only 10 (20%) male with disabilities and 5(10%) female with disabilities from rural areas, whereas around 10(20%) male with disabilities and 7(14%) female with disabilities from urban areas showed interest for industrial related training. It is significant to note that female with disabilities of the rural areas were exactly double in number than the male with disabilities of the rural areas opting for industrial related training.
- Further, results showed that only 8(16%) male with disabilities and 10(20%) females with disabilities from urban area only showed interest to undergo tourism and hospitality related training, whereas no persons with disabilities from rural areas showed interest to take tourism and hospitality related training.

- Approximately, in the rural area 8 (16%) male with disabilities and 11 (22%) female with disabilities, whereas 8 (16%) male with disabilities and 8(16%) female with disabilities of urban areas wanted production and manufacturing related training. They chose manufacturing of products made by them due to their physical disability.
- Again shows that 15(30%) male with disabilities and 11 (22%) female with disabilities of rural areas wanted to undergo agricultural related training. No persons (male & female) with disabilities from urban areas are willing to take up agriculture related training. Lastly, 2 (4%) male with disabilities and 5(10%) of females with disabilities in rural areas, whereas 7(14%) male with disabilities and 10(20%) of females with disabilities from urban areas are expressed in health and services related training.
- It indicates there is a good sign for the development and economic rehabilitation of the persons with disabilities through computer training, agriculture training, dairy and poultry training and health and services related training.

Recommendations of the study

All research studies should be accompanied by some recommendations. The present study has following recommendations in the light of the major findings of the study

- When it was found that majority of persons with disabilities irrespective of gender were above age 35 years have no work, depending on parents or family members. Therefore, it may be recommended that steps may be taken to encourage them from to take skill training instead of sitting alone at home.
- In view of the fact that most of the people got disability due to different diseases. Hence, it may be recommended that steps may be taken to cure such disabilities through needful treatments and to make them aware of different preventive measures.
- While it was found that a high percentage of persons with disabilities irrespective of location and gender were interested to be trained in computer training (software & hardware), production and manufacturing, poultry & dairy products. So, it may be recommended that all the training centers must offer such training trades/skills for the benefit of persons with disabilities

Suggestions from the study

- The government should establish vocational training centers for persons with disabilities with suitable skills to take training.
- The government should provide financial support to establish own business or startups by persons with disabilities to live independently.

- The government should provide suitable aids and appliances to persons with disabilities for day to day functionality.
- The government must create awareness and publicity about govt. schemes and facilities for persons with disabilities.
- Medical camps are required to arrange to issue a disability certificates, bus passes, railway pass and other facilities to persons with disabilities.
- Sensitization programmes must be arranged for government officials, bank officials, teachers, police, and community leaders to know the rights, acts and policies for persons with disabilities for implementation effectively.
- Appropriate governments must be implemented effectively the reservations in all departments especially in education and employment for the benefit of persons with disabilities.

Conclusion

The researchers have interested to investigate the level of participation based various demographic variables of sample participants (persons with disabilities) towards imparting vocational training to live life independently in north coastal area of Andhra Pradesh state. Accordingly, the researchers developed interview schedule as per the objectives and research questions framed for this study and collected data from selected participants. The data was analyzed with appropriate statistical techniques and revealed the findings and suggestions. The researchers have found that majority of sample participants were have minimum education and wanted to go for vocational training to get immediate employment in the local market for their surviving.

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