

CHAPTER-1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Disability is the situation when one is unable to do the usual activity easily because of impairment of one or more organ of body. The situation may be temporary or permanent. Any person can become disabled in any time. In other words, every person can have disability in some means but only physically or mentally disabled are counted as disabled people.

The term disability is mired with definitional problems just as many other terms like impairments, physically handicap, physically or mentally challenged or different abilities, are often used to designate certain conditions in a layman's understanding of what is not considered normal. Inherent in these notions is an idea of a perfect body, state of health and mind.

Disability has haunted the human race since the beginning of mankind.

The disabled persons suffering from physical and mental disabilities also encounter various social obstacles during childhood which may obstruct their normal growth, education and preparation for adult life. Existing prejudices and discrimination against disabled persons is particularly damaging to them. And the obstacles with disabled children face during the process of their development may affect their basic

human rights, as cited in the declaration of rights of the disabled child 1979 and right of disabled persons 1981, proclaimed by General Assembly of United Nations. These problems can't remain the concern of disabled children and their parents alone, society in general must take the responsibility.

Disability is an age old problem which has drawn little attention in Nepal. Due to ignorance, illiteracy, faith in supernatural forces, etc, the common attitude of people towards the disability has been to bypass it as the curse of gods for the wrong done in the past life. Very few people thought it to be the result of some disease or accident. A disabled person was thought to be a stigma to the family. Society looked down upon the disabled persons and their families and hated them. As a result, families felt humiliated and tried to hide the disabled persons from the society as long as they could. Many of disabled persons, particularly those belonging to poor families, met premature deaths due to neglect of disease. Some of them, who were intelligent, become beggars but others like deaf-mute mentally retarded persons passed their lives in miseries.

There is no uniformity in the definition of disability. According to the *Disabled people protection and Welfare Act 2039*, "disabled people are those who are physically or mentally unable to do the usual daily activities. Because of physical, mental impairment of knowledge, disabled people have little possibility to get job."

In 1980, the *WHO* adopted an International definition of disability as, "a disability is any restriction or lack of ability (resulting impairment) to perform an activity within the range considered normal for a human being. A disability may be temporary or permanent, reversible and progressive or regressive."

It has been felt time and again that statistics on disabled persons are essential for policy analysis, action and monitoring. As defined disability is complex and controversial and ranges from physical or intellectual impairment to social implication as well as health concerns, it is difficult to derive the actual estimates.

Disability affects people of all countries in the world. Disability is a socio-medical problem which is known to have been prevalent in every corner of the world. The magnitude of the problem however varies from country to country and from one region to another within the same county.

Types of Disability

There is not uniformity in the classification of disability. Generally, it is classified into four categories:-

1. Physical Disability

A person who is unable to perform the activities of daily life due to physical deficiency, defect or deformity by birth or by accident after birth, or due to disease.

2. Blindness

A person who even after treatment cannot count or detect fingers read the characters of Snellen chart (3/60) is defined as “blind”

3. Deafness

A person who is unable to hear ordinary voices with both ears from a distance of one meter is said to be “deaf”.

4. Mentally Retarded

A person who is unable to perform activities or to learn new tasks per age and environment due to delayed mental development prior to the age of 18 years is said to be mentally retarded.

5. Multiple Disabilities

A person having more than one type of disability is said to have multiple disability.

Women with Disability

The Nepal Disabled Women Society (NDWS) was established in 1994 by a group of women with disabilities as an advocacy organization for disabled women and female children. NDWS's primary goals are to rehabilitate and protect the rights of disabled women politically, socially, and economically and to provide support for their activities and interests.

The women who have one or more impairments and experience barriers in society are the women with disability (WWD). Both disabled girls and women of all ages, in rural and urban areas, regardless of the severity the impairment, sexual preference and cultural background or whether they live in the community or an institution are recognized as the WWD. As the person with disabilities (PWDs) is deprived, isolated, marginalized and excluded groups of the societies, the women who have disability are one of the components of them. The social status of disabled women varies according to individual circumstances and to the country where they live. Disabled

women in developing countries usually experience a particular disadvantage. They are one of the most unrecognized groups among the disability of the society. They are found existing in the lowest status as a result, they are multiply disadvantages through their status as a woman, as women with disability and, are over represented among people living absolute poverty. They are cast down, stigmatized, rejected, and excluded from family, community and even from the government authority (Dhungana, 2003). The women with disability are more excluded group of the society. Among the people with disability the WWD lead isolated lives as they are not allowed to move out of their houses.

1.2 Statement of the problem

People with disabilities are disadvantaged and discriminated in every sphere of life. It is even worse when it comes to disabled women because society treats men and women differently and mostly priority goes to men whether he is disabled or not. In our country, disabled women are not considered for employment and that decrease self-confidence. Men who are disabled only lose half of their self-confidence whereas women lose much more due to discrimination between them. The condition of women is strictly controlled by patriarchal norms of the society.

Women with disabilities are objectified and cast down. They face discrimination at home, in distribution of income and benefits. They are also excluded from participation in the social activities. They experience more difficulties finding job and in case they happen to work, their income is much lower than able women as well as lower than men with/without disabilities. Lack of knowledge on disability

and negative attitude of public, women with disabilities face rejection while looking for job. For the disabled women, life can be very tough specially when coping with everyday activities without much support from families and government. Young disabled women suffer more than young disabled men because disabled women find it more difficult to get married. People assume that having disabled women in the family will bring bad luck. Women do not have the right to inherit their parents' property and are considered to become a burden for the family. Women's chances of visiting hospitals are very rare; they suffer without any medical care whatever. This is due to gender discrimination as well as lack of knowledge about causes and prevention on disabilities.

Though the government, through its legislation, has taken so many steps to support the people with disabilities in Nepal, most of those programs remain ineffective due to the lack of commitment and inadequate resources. The government of Nepal has provided a framework for the implementation of legal, progressive and economic activities but these activities are only on paper; as a result, people with disabilities continue to suffer. Disabled women, who are rejected from family or unable to do anything at their home due to their disabilities, don't have any place to go.

Social security system is very poor in Nepal; disabled people have not received any kind of social protection (food, shelter, clothes, health, education and training). The strongest rights to social security may turn out to be nothing more than unfulfilled promises. I/NGOs are trying to help people with disabilities but they can hardly cover certain percent of disables and none of them are long term or beneficial to disabled people as long run. Again most of the services are situated in

urban areas and disabled people from rural areas get nothing. So it would be better if government cater necessary services to all disable people living in any part of Nepal.

This study has focused on the social status of disabled women and has analyzed how external factors such as state and family support, poverty, gender discrimination, negative attitude of people and disabilities put these women at the lowest level of existence.

1.3 Objectives of the study

The general objective of this study is to find out the factors that discriminate the women with disability in Nepalese society. The following are the specific objectives of the study:

- a) To identify the educational status of the women with disabilities in the study areas.
- b) To find out the involvement of the women with disabilities on social activities.
- c) To find out the causes that affect on being married for the women with disabilities.
- d) To explore on the governmental activities for the women with disabilities.

1.4 Importance of the study

Disabled people live in the most deplorable condition, isolated and excluded from the communities by barriers of policy, environment and attitude. They are unquestionably the largest and most discriminated minority group in the world, whose human rights are

systematically violated. This violation against the poorest result in worsening living conditions, degrading in human treatment, lack of adequate housing health care, education, social inclusion and often face death.

The disabled are not able to utilize their fundamental rights enshrined in the constitution. An example of such situations is that the disabled do not have the equal access to public services. A right to equal access to public service is guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the constitution as well. Due to the disabled unfriendly infrastructure of the public buildings and buses, the disabled do not have easy access to such facilities and there has been a felt need for disabled friendly infrastructure long since. It is because the ineffective implementation of the rights of the disabled guaranteed by the national and international laws in Nepal. So, this study is very useful to those concern authorities that are working for the welfare of the PWDs as well as the WWD.

Among the PWDs much of the discrimination has been experienced by women with disability. Women are generally discriminated on their rights because the society treats men and women differently and due to gender bias the women with disability face compound discrimination by being both women and with disability. Hence, this study aims to formulate such policies which give guaranteed for the protection of the WWD's rights among the person with disabilities and it will help to increase the social awareness for the welfare of the women with disabilities as well as the person with disabilities.

1.5 Rationale of the study

This research is about finding the educational status of the women

with disabilities, their involvement on the social activities and also to explore on the governmental activities for the women with disabilities in Vyas municipality, Tanahun.

A disabled person is a person who by virtue of congenital disease or acquired disease or injury is incapable of living an independent personal or social life, or incapable of engaging in gainful employment or acquiring normal education consistent with age or sex.

Disabled women are women who have one or more impairments and experience barrier in society. This research includes disabled girls and women of all ages, in rural and urban areas of Vyas municipality.

Women with disabilities, to a greater extent than men with disabilities, face discrimination within the families and society. Disability does not stop men doing normal things as women unless his physical ability is severe. Disabled men have access to property right, better chances of getting treatment and education and they are found involved in family as well as community activities. However, it does not happen that way for disabled women and they face all kinds of discrimination.

Some disabled women are found participating in social activities as community gathering, religious activities, festivals, wedding ceremonies and market but a large number of disabled women had difficulties in joining such social events. Governmental sectors are also not found seriously involved in it. Hence, this study may be helpful in providing some information regarding the condition of all those disabled women.

1.6 Organization of the study

This study is organized into seven chapters. Chapter first sets background, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, importance of the study and the rational of the study.

In chapter two review of literature is included. In chapter three, methodology has been included, where rational of the selection of the study area, research design, nature and sources of data, sampling procedure and sampled size, techniques and tools of data collection has been included. Interview, field observation and questionnaire has been included in techniques of data collection. And method of data processing and analysis and limitation of the study are also included in research methods.

In chapter four, setting of the study area has been included. A brief introduction of Tanahun district, Vyas municipality, the study area, physical setting, climate, Population distribution, numbers of households and population distribution by sex and wards, population distribution by caste and religion and education status has been included in the setting of the study area.

In chapter five, governmental activities for the women with disabilities have been included. In chapter six, data analysis and findings of the study has been included. In the last chapter seven, summary and conclusion of the study has been presented

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical Concept

Disability is the physical and mental situation of body. It is the situation when one is unable to do the usual activities easily because of physical or mental impairments.

‘Developmental disability’ is used to denote the condition of a child who needs special care as well as special service to live independently. Due to physical disorder, mental retardation or other sensory disorders, child becomes unable for proper development during the developing period (Bhattraï, 2003).

In 1980 the World Health Organization (WHO) adopted an international classification of ‘impairment’, ‘disability’ and ‘handicap’. There is clear distinction between these three.

‘Impairment’ is any loss or abnormality of psychological, physiological, or anatomical structure or function. Impairment can be temporary or permanent. This includes the existence of or occurrence of an anatomy defect or loss in a limb, organ, tissue or other structure of mental function.

A disability is any restriction or lack of ability (resulting impairment) to perform an activity within the range considered normal for a human being. A disability may be temporary or permanent, reversible and progressive or regressive.

A handicap results from impairments or disability and limits or prevents the fulfillment of a function that is considered normal for human

beings.

Many languages fail to make an important distinction between disability and handicap. Disability refers to the person; handicap does not. For many reasons the projective and confusing level of the handicapped should not be used at all. The word handicap originates from horse races and describes the disadvantages by the rules of race (R. E. Allen(ed), 1990).

Nepal recognized the human rights of persons with disability in the year 1981 and celebrated the International Year of Disabled persons with the World community. Accordingly, it enacted a special law known as the Disabled Person Protection and Welfare Act⁶, 1982 (DPWA). The DPWA and other laws give certain rights and privileges to the disabled persons but these rights are not enjoyed by them for many reasons. Many development laws in Nepal, including DPWA, have remained only on paper (New Era, 2001).

There is great uncertainty and debate about the prevalence rates of disability in Nepal. No national statistics are available, and estimates of percentages range from 0.45% to 20%. In 2003, the most recent estimate is from a local survey by the special Education Unit in 23 districts, which showed 5.2% of the population to be disabled. According to WHO there is an estimated 10% of the worlds population is disabled, o these 80% are living in developing countries. In the context of Nepal, there has not been any census, which may syndicate the exact number of the persons with disabilities (PWDs), but it is estimated that more than 10 out of 100 people in Nepal are suffering from one or the other form of disability, which means nearly half of the total population seems to be influenced by disability.

A study conducted by New Era associated with UNICEF in 1999-2000 (2001) has defined 'disability' as the person who cannot perform the daily activities of the life considered normal for a human being within the specified age and where the person needed special care, support and some sort of rehabilitation services.

Standards Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities states that the term disability summarizes a great number of different functional limitations occurring in any population in all countries of the world. People may be disabling by physical, intellectual or sensory impairments, medical conditions or mental illness. Such impairments, conditions, or illness may be permanent or temporary in nature.

2.2 Review of Previous Works

According to the *Report of the sample survey of Disabled Persons on Nepal 1998* conducted on the occasion of the IYDP 1981 on the status of the persons with disability it is mentioned that only 45.74 percentages were non active. About 1.64 percent of disabled persons were enrolled in schools for education. Approximately 52.42 percent were involved in various activities such as agriculture, household work, trade, employment and other activities. The Maximum numbers of disabled persons (36.40%) were involved in agricultural activities, which is in keeping with the fact that Nepal is primarily an agricultural country. The involvements of 52.42 percent of disabled persons in various works can be regarded as economically gainful.

In the universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) references to disability in articles 25, which recognizes that everyone has "the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood,

old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his/her control???” Likewise, the United Nations Launched ‘Decade of Disabled Persons’ in 1982 declared mental, physical or sensory impairment people are entitled to the same rights as all other human beings and to equal opportunities.

The ILO Convention Concerning Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (disabled persons) 1983, and ILO Recommendation Number 168 concerning vocational Rehabilitation and Employment disabled persons 1983 were the first instruments to expressly stress the right to equal opportunity to work for all disabled people.

The United National Standard Rules on the Equalization of opportunities for persons with Disabilities (1993) provided a basis for international cooperation and an instrument for policy-making and actions for person with disabilities. These rules are based on the experience of the Decade (1982-1993).

On December 7, 1997 *The Dhaka Declaration* was adopted. This declaration started “that all governmental and non-governmental organizations working in this region recognize that handicap and disability are development issues” and requested that specific activities for resolving these issued be included in all development planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring and evaluation. It also recognized that achieving the targets for the implementation of the Agenda for Action for the Asia and Pacific Decade of Disabled Persons requires planned, coordinated action in the communities where people with disabilities live out their lives. The declaration was agreed and seconded by the National Coordinator of the CRB Network of Nepal.

Prasad (2003) stated on his book *Status of People with Disability in*

Nepal that over the years, particularly after 1951, there has been a gradual change in the attitude of Nepalese society towards persons with different disabilities. The old faith that disability is the curse of sins committed in the past life is slowly disappearing; this is mainly due to public awareness created by educating people. With the advancement of the information technology, people here are getting aware of various plans and programs conducted in other countries for persons with disability. They aspire to get the same facilities in Nepal.

Initially, the leadership of disabled persons was in the hands of non-disabled normal persons but gradually disabled persons started taking up the leadership. Many organizations of the disabled were established in the country. A national Federation of Disabled Person's association has also been established. The Federation is working efficiently and has been able to take up the leadership of the associations of and for disabled persons.

It would not be appropriate to mention that there is no policy or that there are no programmes or plan of action for disabled persons in Nepal. Due to weak economic situation and political instability, HMG/N has not been able to extend help in disability programmes up to the expectations of persons with disability of social workers.

Dhungana (2003) has studied on *The Lives of Disabled women in Nepal: vulnerability without Support* under the aegis of Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand. The study examines a broad range of problems faced by the physically disabled women. Qualitative interviews with 30 women with physical disabilities were administered to understand various aspects of their lives.

The research shows that women with disability have not received

any legal provisions such as educational rights, free health facilities, employment opportunities, self employment facilities and free legal aid services as much as mentioned in the law. The state has not built a single disabled home, vocational training center and special education school in the study area at the governmental level. One of the reasons for this the country itself is very poor to provide resources. The lack of commitment on the part of the government authorities to implement the laws and political corruption are also the main obstacles of proper implementation. It absolutely requires strong efforts of progressive state power to implement the laws honestly and provide the legal rights and facilities to the disabled people as granted by the law.

In Nepal, women with disabilities than men with disabilities, face discrimination within the family and society because patriarchal norms and values are centre of society where men have better privileges than women. Disability does not stop men doing normal things than women unless his physical ability is severe. Disabled men have access to property right better chances of getting treatment and education and they are found involved family as well as community activities. However, it does not happen that way for disabled women and they face all kinds of discrimination. People know women in our society as service providers and if they fail to provide such services they face discrimination. Men do not prefer to marry with disabled women thinking she cannot do all physical works. People also believe having disables women in the family brings bad luck. Even the marital life of disabled women is very painful. Such negative attitudes from family and people are found more painful for women with disability.

Whenever people happen to see disabled women, they make comments such they cannot do anything. People make assumptions

without giving them a chance. This does not mean they can ignore their disability, but they should instead find opportunities to suit them. They should be given a chance to show what they can do rather saying they cannot do this and that. They do not know what disabled women can and cannot do without giving them a chance according to their physical ability, training, qualification and experiences.

There is provision of non-statutory by family, community, charitable organizations but not adequate. Because of gender discrimination disabled women don't get family support as much as disabled men get. Disabled women are also excluded from community support as people see disabled women as worthless. Disabled women have problem of survival. There are many non-governmental organizations working for welfare of disabled people but they are on very small scale and of short-term duration. Women with disabilities have been prevented from accessing entitlements available to other members of society, including health, food, education, employment and other basic social services and from participating in community decision making processes.

2.3 Situation Analysis of Disability in Nepal

National census 2001 has counted 103795(0.46% of total population) disabled people in Nepal. Among them 56633 were female and 47162 were male. Most of them were physically disabled in both sexes followed by deafness (as shown in the table)

Table 2.1: Population by types of disability in Nepal

Types of Disability	Population		
	Male	Female	Total
Physical	19495	21001	40798
Blindness	5483	11043	16526
Deafness	11948	13592	25540
Mentally Retarded	6469	6692	13171
Multiple	3455	4305	7760
Total	47162	56633	103795

Source: CBS; 2002.

There is considerable dispute within Nepal regarding the available prevalence data on disabled people. The latest census findings included a prevalence rate of 0.45 percent. A number of studies have been undertaken over the past 30 years which have produced widely disparate figures ranging from 1.5 percent to 5 percent (CBS, 1971). A disability survey conducted in the district of Kanchanpur in 1995 estimated that 5.04 percent of the populations were disabled and yet a national survey in 1995 indicated that 4.90 percent of total population had intellectual disability (DS, 1995) (Laansdown, 2003).

Recent study conducted by New Era summarizes the facts that among the total household heads surveyed the majority were Hindu comprising of 86 percent, while 11.9 percent was Buddhist. The prevalence of disability was found more in Buddhist household where 9.56 percent of the Buddhist households had disabled members. A much higher percentage of Buddhist households are found in the mountains where the Tamang and Sherpa communities reside. The prevalence of disability has been found to be high among Tamang and Sherpa communities with prevalence of 16.74 percent of households as compared

to other groups. The prevalence among the Magar community has also been prominent with 10.82 percent (New Era, 2001).

The other prominent group has been the occupational caste group with a prevalence of 10.36 [percent household. The group includes blacksmiths, tailors, sweepers, cobblers, laundry-men, etc.(New Era, 2001).

In the most instances they are deprived from participating in the community activities and from using community facilities such as schools, water taps, and community wells. It is evident that this group of people is deprived of social justice and is more susceptible to the consequences of disability (New Era, 2001).

The prevalence of disability among the Tharu/Rajbansi has also been prominent with a prevalence of 10.39 percent of the total number of those households (New Era, 2001).

The educational level of survey population was assessed. It was found that 26.8 percent of the children of school going of 6-9 were not enrolled in school (New Era, 2001).

It was found that 31.2 percent of the population had occurred primary education and this figure mostly represents children of primary school age. Only 5.3 percent of the population had acquired a higher education level of S.L.C. and above (New Era, 2001).

In the mountain 49.5 percent of the population had received no education. The hills were found to be better with 35.3 percent having no education. Even in the case of acquiring higher level of education it was hills that had a better position (New Era, 2001).

Among the total households with disabled members, 57.6 percent of household heads had no education while the figure for household without disabled members was 50.7 percent with regards to location, there were more rural household heads who were not educated. In the rural location the households with disabled members had 59.9percent of household heads with no education and the households without disabled members had 52.8percent of the household heads with no education (New Era, 2001).

It was noted that 89.8percent of the households with disabled persons held land and 10.2percent were landless. In the households where no disabled persons, 13.5percent of the households were landless and 86.5percent own land (New Era, 2001).

It was noted that 72.4percent of the household with disabled members own marginal land which is less than 1.029 hectares while 71.4percent of the household without disabled members hold the same amount. There was not such difference. The median holding was slightly higher in the household with disabled members, which was 0.43 hectares was compared to the households without disabled members (0.41 hec) (New Era, 2001).

Most of the main-earning members of the households were involved in the agricultural work, and made up 60.1percent of the total households. Whether the households had a disabled member or not, the main earners were mainly involved in agricultural sector. However this figure seems to be lower than the estimate of the Nepal Human Development Report (HRD) with 80percent and NFHS 1996 with 90percent involved in this sector. This could be due to the difference in the target population. The NFHS 1996 dealt with the occupation of the

women and Human Development Report dealt with all earning members. The present concerns only the main-earning members.

2.4 Legal Provisions for the Disabled People in Nepal

Nepal has recently started to define specific policy for disabled people. International institutions have contributed toward enhancing the country's concern in this field. International human rights treaties, which are binding on states parties, have their own influence. Similarly, instruments that is non-binding, such as declarations, resolutions, principles and guidelines have guided the domestic legislation. The legal provisions for the welfare and protection of disabled persons in Nepal are therefore based on several international instruments. Laws relating to the welfare of the disabled people in Nepal found in many legal instruments.

2.4.1 The Disabled Persons (Protection and Welfare) Act, 1982 and the Disabled Persons (Protection and Welfare) Rules, 1994.

The Disabled Person (Protection and Welfare) Act (DPWA) was enacted in 1982 and was the first and he most comprehensive piece of legislation to date for the rights of disabled people in Nepal. The Act defines people with disabilities as those who due to physical or mental causes are incapable or unable to carry out their daily activities.

The Act provides a range of rights and facilities for PWDs as follows:

) Education

No fees can be charged at any educational institution to disabled persons and 5% of all government institutions providing vocational and technical training must be reserved for disabled people. Special facilities must be provided for people with sensory or intellectual

impairments. In addition, institutions providing education or training for disabled people are entitled to ask for assistance from the government. A Disabled Relief Fund was established by the government in 1981 to provide education, training and rehabilitation programs.

) **Health**

All hospitals of 50 beds or more must reserved at least two beds for the disabled. However, disabled children are entitled to neither free medical examinations nor treatment. Free treatment is only available the helpless aged 65 and over.

) **Employment**

It is prohibited to discriminate against disabled people in respect of employment, and industrial enterprises of 25 employees or more must allocate at least 5% of posts to disabled people according to their physical capacity, training, qualifications and experience. The Act directs the government to introduce programs to enable disabled people to become self-employed and set up hostels in the cities to enable disabled people to work.

) **Transport**

The Act calls for half fares on buses, trains and planes for disabled people along with a care provider. Even the government owned transport agencies like Nepal Airlines, Sajha Yatayat and Trolley Bus Services have not given concessions to the disabled persons. There is still no seat reservation for disabled people.

) **Social Security**

The Act empowers the government to introduce disability allowances for PWDs.

2.4.2 Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal, 1990

Article 11 (3) says that special laws shall be made for the protection and advancement of the interests of women, children, the aged and those who are physically and mentally disabled. Article 26 (9) imposes duty on the state to pursue such policies in matters of education, health and social security of orphans and disabled persons for their protection and welfare (Disabled Persons, Protection and Welfare Rules, 1994).

2.4.3 Education Act, 1971

The education Act provides special education to the children with seeing, hearing or speaking disabilities or those who are physically or mentally retarded. The Act authorizes the government to make proper arrangements for disabled children. Under the Education Act, Education Rules were released in 1992, which promised that schools which provide special education for children with seeing, hearing or speaking disabilities or are mentally retarded shall have the right to receive facilities from the government.

2.4.4 Social Welfare Act, 1992

The Act empowers the government to undertake special programs of social welfare activities aimed at different classes of

people. It aims to serve the interests and ensure the welfare of children, the old, helpless or the disabled. It works to increase people's participation in development activities, and to protect and promote the rights and interest of women. It also works to ensure a respectable life for the unemployed, poor and illiterate people and to make the necessary arrangements for the welfare of disadvantaged classes and communities.

2.4.5 Local Self-Government Act, 1999

This Act authorizes the Village Development Committee (VDC) and VDC ward committee to help in activities relating to the protection and livelihood of disadvantaged communities, as well as orphans and the helpless and disabled people of the village. It also imposes duty in the VDC to maintain records on the helpless, disabled and physically handicapped children with the VDC and to make arrangements for their appropriate accommodation. Similarly, it also directs the VDC to work for the protection of orphans, helpless women, and the disabled according to the national policy. The same responsibilities have been given to the municipality and its ward committee under the Act. The District Development Committee (DDC) also has a legal duty to perform functions relating to the protection of orphans, helpless women, and the disabled according to the national policy.

2.4.6 Child Act, 1992

The Child Act provides some rights to disabled and orphaned children. Such children should be kept in a government

children's welfare home until the disabled person reaches the age of 16. The duration may be extended to 18 years if the disabled person has no where to go.

The Act also imposes the duty of the government to establish homes for orphan disabled children and provides them necessary education.

2.5 Nepal Disable Women Association (N.D.W.A.)

❖ Introduction

Nepal Disable Women Association (NDWA) is registered NGO established in 1997, aiming to empower and uplift the economic and social status of disabled women in Nepal. This association devotes to ensure the right of the all types of person with disability. According to the data collected by these organizations and the survey report of the WHO, there are about 10% disable of the total population in Nepal. Among them is 6% disabled women in total population.

❖ Vision

NDWA envisages empowered disabled women who are educated, socially secured, economically productive, politically bewared and happily living with her family in a barrier free environment.

❖ Mission

In order to get involved equally to every type of disable women in the all development activities, organize advocacy, bridge with different sectors and elevate relation with efficient personalities. With the help of the activities like social mobilization or efficiency development we assure the meaningful involvement, to strengthen the organization, membership distribution sustainable income resources utilization of human resources and goods will be accomplished.

❖ **The Main Objectives of NDWA**

- To raise awareness in society and facilitate women with disabilities to seek opportunities on the basis of equity.
- To help uplift disabled women groups through creating environment for the job opportunities to the women with disabilities.
- To work for the promotion of interest and right of women and girls with disabilities.
- To launch activities for the sustained and independency of the organization.

2.6 Responsible Authorities

At the central level, it is the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MWCSW) which is primarily responsible for implementing the laws pertaining to the welfare of disabled people and provides several to their needs. It derives its authority directly from DPWA to executive laws and formulates policies and programs as directed by legal instruments. The Ministry of education and sports, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of local Development, Ministry of Labor and Transport and Ministry of Home are also responsible to some extent for implementing the laws related to the rights and services of disabled people.

DPWA clearly directs the government, particularly the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare to register the types of disability and the names of disabled people living in different parts of the country.

2.7 Government Policy and National Plan towards Persons with Disabilities

The Government currently does not have a specific policy or published National plan. The National coordination Committee has prepared a national policy on disability; however, it has not yet been approved by the Government. The Government, as part of its five year planning process, has included issues concerning disability.

The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) included the following aspects that cover the Government's position towards a National Plan to address persons with disabilities.

The plan included the following:

-) Free treatment for persons with disabilities in health centers

-) Extended cooperation for the establishment of community-based rehabilitation centers
-) Coordination between the Ministry of Social Welfare and the Ministry of Health, which play the role of coordinator in places where this program has been initiated by local authorities.
-) Establishment of welfare centers for persons with disabilities.
-) Collection and classification of national data on persons with disabilities according to type of disability. Authentic data of persons with disabilities will be maintained in each VDC, municipality, sub-metropolitan entities, DDCs and the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare.
-) Distribution of allowances for persons with disabilities at the local level, which excludes regular employees, income earners, people living in rehabilitation centers and recipients of scholarships.
-) Arrangement for the free education of persons with mentally disability, hearing and visual impairment.
-) Provision of free vocational training.
-) Development of textbooks in Braille script.
-) Broadcasting of special programs for persons with disabilities through various media.
-) Establishment of specific treatment centers for persons with disabilities.

-) Encouragement of the establishment of industries, which produce assistive devices such as artificial limbs, wheelchairs, crutches, and hearing aids for persons with disabilities.

-) Provision of special facilities for employers who employ persons with disabilities.

CHAPTER-3

RESEARCH METHODS

To make a systematic study of the above mentioned problem and to attain the objectives of the present study, certain research procedure are followed, which are mentioned below:

3.1 Rationale for the selection of the study site

The study site has been selected the Vyas municipality of Tanahun district which is 150km far from Katmandu valley to the west. The important reason for selecting this research site is that the study area is very well known and will be easy to collect the required data and information. The study area is suitable in order to make the research more reliable and to fulfill the objectives of the study.

3.2 Research Design

This research design is an exploratory and descriptive in nature. It is a descriptive research design as it enables the research to provide a clear picture of the phenomenon under investigation. The data has been obtained through descriptive and exploratory research design and mostly in qualitative in nature. The design yielded both qualitative and quantitative information needed for the reliable results in the study.

3.3 Nature and sources of Data

The proposed study is based on the data collected from the primary and secondary sources by using different data collection techniques.

The primary data has been collected during the field work and making interview with individual respondents basically disabled women

from the study area. And the secondary data has been collected from various published and unpublished information sources, like research reports, magazines, internet, etc.

3.4 Sampling procedure and sampled size

The collection of data from the whole population by using questionnaire is very difficult task. So, out of whole 119 disabled women in Vyas municipality of Tanahun district, only 50 disabled women have been selected as sample according to the convenience of the researcher by the possible source from the local people. The respondents have been selected on the basis of simple Random sampling procedure.

3.5 Technique and tools of data collection

Various techniques or sources of data collections have been used for thesis study. The following are the techniques used in this study:

3.5.1 Primary data

Primary data have been collected during the field study with the help of interview, field observation and questionnaire.

1 Interview:

Interview has been taken from individualization. Interview has been taken to manage the time of interviewers. Mainly, interview was created out with those women who have experienced the bitter reality of their day-to-day life. They were asked to share their life history and how they managed to come this far with different difficult situations. The main purpose of the interview was to derive information on the existing problems of disabled people as well as existing services for the disabled persons in the community.

2 Field Observation

The technique of observation has been applied to get the relevant information for the study. The researcher visited the study area and observed the respondents, their activities and dressing as it is also a major part of the study. Observation has been one of the basic techniques of data collection. To document the present condition of disabled women, information were collected through the field observation.

3 Questionnaire

Questionnaire has been used to collect some of the basic data in terms of personal identification, ethnicity/castes, sex, age, socio-cultural background, social status and perceptions. Questionnaire has been very helpful in getting information on the type of disability, socio-economic status, education, employment status, governmental support, etc.

3.5.2 Secondary Data

Secondary data has been collected from previous literature, and from published documents of government offices, I/NGOs. Some of secondary data has been taken from the newspaper, internet, magazines, project reports, published articles, etc.

3.6 Data Processing and Analysis

Collected data through various techniques i.e. interview, observation, questionnaires have been coded and tabulated after the completion of data collection. Most of the collected data of the research study has been analyzed descriptively and statistical method had been applied where necessary. Both qualitative and quantitative has been undertaken.

3.7 Limitations of the study

Each and every research study has its own limitations. This study also has some limitations. This study has been focused to the women with disability and their social status of Vyas municipality, Tanahun. The respondents of the study has been only the disabled women and only 50 disabled women as the respondents were selected randomly, the number can't be considered wholly representative so the findings of the study cannot be generalized.

The study has avoided the comparison of the status of women with disabilities with other population of the study areas. Most of the study has been based on the data collected in the previous days by the researcher. So the findings may not be representative. The responses have been collected mainly through personal experience of the respondents which may not be able to represent truly their overall situation.

CHAPTER FOUR

SETTING OF THE STUDY AREA

4.1 Tanahun District: A Brief introduction

Tanahun, a small, clean and beautiful district is situated in Western development region (out of five development region) across the Prithivi Highway. It is located 150km west from Kathmandu and 50km east from Pokhara. It is situated between 27°47'-27°58' north latitude and 84°17'-84°57' east longitude. The total area of this district is 156,877 Ha. According to the census 2001 the total population is 315237 where males and females are 146788 and 168449 respectively in the Tanahun district (DDC, 2007). There are 46 VDCs and 1 Municipality in Tanahun district. Among the 46 VDCs and 1 Municipality, Vyas Municipality is big in terms of population.

It is surrounded by the Mid Mountain and Siwalik hill area. It is also known as holy land, where one Maharshi named, Ved Byas, had meditated for a long time inside the cave. And later on, the cave was known as Vyas Cave (Gufa). Near to Vyas gufa, the Madi and Seti River is mix which flows very beautifully which makes the district more beautiful. The Madi and Seti River is very famous for rafting. Domestic and foreign tourists come to enjoy the rafting in the river which is mixed in the privilege place Devghat. Near to Damauli Bazar, the district headquarter, Manung Dada is very famous for trekking and hiking, from where almost all part of beautiful scene of Damauli Bazar can be viewed and its surroundings as well. The Chhabdi Barahi temple is very famous through out the district as well region, also situated in Tanahun district. It is 7km east from Damauli Bazar, the district headquarter. Likewise, Bandipur, a very famous

rural tourism area through out the country also lies in Tanahun district.

The famous poet of Nepali literature Aadikabi Bhanu Bhakta was also born in Chudi Ramgha Village of Tanahun district. So it is also known as historical place. It is 28km north-east from headquarter of Tanahun district. Basantapur Thani Mai is also a religious place of Tanahun district. 'Bhanu Ghansi Smarak Park' is located in Ghansikuwa, which is 4km east from Damauli Bazar. There are some religious and tourism places near to headquarter like, Byas gufa, Parashar gufa, Chamre gufa, Shivapanchayan temple, Chhabdi Baraha, Nirbu Baraha, Manungkot, Ganesman Park, Bal Udyan Park etc.

Various types of castes and ethnic group like Brahmin, Chhetri, Magar, Gurung, Newar, Darai, Kumal, Bote etc can be found in Tanahun district with their own different types of traditional and cultural programs, like dance as Chudka, Ghantu and Kaura. Traditional folk songs are very famous in this area. Though the people of this area are involved in services, business, labour and foreign employment, the main occupation is agriculture in which most of the people are involved. The major agricultural products in this area are like paddy, maize, wheat, pulse, oilseeds and vegetables. Most of the area is fertile. Due to the essence of irrigation facilities, vegetable farming is high in production. Vegetables like potatoes, radish, cauliflower, cabbage, brinjal and leafy vegetables (rayo, palungo, chamsur etc,) are also produced. The production of fruits especially orange, banana, leechi, mango, gauva etc. are also produce for home consumption as well as for market.

The road facilities are available in the most part of Tanahun

district, with a fine pitched-road and in some VDCs, it is in developing process. Large number of government schools as well private schools are available in the district. In the present days, large numbers of banks are also existed. Likewise government as well as private hospitals has given the facilities of treatment to the people of this district.

4.2 Vyas Municipality: The Study Area

4.2.1 Physical Setting

Vyas Municipality was established in 2048B.S. Since its inception this municipality has eleven wards. The total area of this municipality is 59km³. This municipality lies in Prithivi Highway which is 150 km west from Kathmandu and 50km east from Pokhara. It is surrounded by Ghansikuwa VDC and Barbhanjyng VDC from the east, Manapang VDC from the west, Tanahunsur VDC from the north and Kanhu Shivapuri VDC from the south. The maximum recorded temperature of this municipality is 37.0°C and minimum recorded temperature is 8.4°C.

Being the district headquarters, the infrastructural facilities like hospital, telephone, and electricity, private as well as government colleges, schools, roads etc are concentrated in the some wards. Ward no 1,2,10 and 11 lies in the Damauli bazaar, headquarter of this district.

Settlement of various castes and ethnic groups can be seen in this municipality. Darai, Magar, Gurung, Kumal, Bote etc are the ethnic groups of this municipality. Castes like Brahmins, Chhetri, Newar, Gurung, Thakuri, Damai, Sunars and etc can be found in this

municipality.

Settlement of various religious groups can also be found in the municipality. Hindus, Buddhists, Muslims, Christians etc can be seen living in perfect harmony.

4.2.2 Climate

The climate of this study area, Vyas municipality has medium types i.e. not so cold and hot. The maximum recorded temperature is 37.0°C in the month of May and June and minimum recorded temperature is 8.4°C in the month of January. Rainfall starts at the end of May and lasts for three to four months till August and sometimes till September in accordance with the extent of monsoon. The average rainfall is 1960.6mm.

4.2.3 Population Distribution

According to the census 2001 the total population of Tanahun district is 315237. The number of males is 146788 and the number of females is 168449. The total population of the Vyas municipality according to the census 2001 is 28245. The number of males 13449 and the number of female is 14796 and according to 2008 projection total population of this municipality are 31608. The number of males are 15050 and the number of female is 16558. The total number of households is 6723.

According to the municipality profile 2002 the total population of ward no 2 is 4069 (highest) and the total population of ward no 7 is 1556 (Lowest) living in 1123 and 314 households respectively. Population distribution by ward is presented in the table no. 1.

Table 4.1: Number of households and population by sex and ward

Ward No.	No. of households	No. of families	Female	Male	Total population
1	837	843	1899	1723	3622
2	1123	1175	2013	2056	4069
3	453	454	1142	1000	2142
4	366	366	905	744	1649
5	640	642	1663	1475	3138
6	454	456	1171	944	2115
7	314	313	803	753	1556
8	350	361	941	703	1644
9	427	427	1096	919	2015
10	745	752	1430	1490	2927
11	802	814	1726	1642	3368
Total	6511	6603	14796	13449	28245

Source: Municipality Profile, 2001

4.2.4 Population Distribution by Caste and Religion

Vyas Municipality, in the study area, the population of Hindu is in large majority. Apart from that in the Municipality, Christian, Buddhist, Muslim etc can also be found. Likewise, Brahmins are in large majority which are 20.87 percent followed by magars Likewise, Chhetri, Darai, Newars, Gurung, Dalits and others can be found in the settlement of the study area. Population distribution by caste is presented in the table below.

Table 4.2: population by Caste and Ethnicity

S.N.	Caste/ethnicity	Population	percentage
1	Brahmin	5894	20.87
2	Magar	3896	13.79
3	Chhetri	3523	12.74
4	Darai	2939	10.41
5	Newar	2716	9.62
6	Gurung	2081	7.37
7	Kami	1480	5.24
8	Damai	740	2.62
9	Kumal	619	2.19
10	Bote	572	2.03
11	Sarki	508	1.80
12	Thakuri	470	1.66
13	Others	2807	9.93

Source: Municipality profile 2001

4.3 Educational Status

Education has played the vital role in the development of people, society and the nation. This provides a means of improving social status and breaking the vicious circle of poverty. Education is the basic foundation and most for development; lack of education may impair the development of the country.

Analyzing the total population of the study area of this municipality the Brahmins has the highest rates of educational status than Chhetri, Magar, Gurung, Newar and other ethnic groups. Likewise, the

literacy rate of Chhetri is highest among the Magar, Gurung, Newar, Darai and other ethnic group. The total literacy rate of Tanahun district is 69 percent. The total literacy rate of this municipality is 71.3 percent where the literacy rate of male is 87.32 percent and female is 69.4 percent.(Municipality Profile 2001).

CHAPTER-FIVE

Governmental Activities for the Women with Disabilities

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world. With a per capita GDP of \$252, Nepal ranks on the 138th position with medium HDI in the world and about 38% of the total population remains below the poverty line. Poverty is multi-dimensional concept comprising the nation of exclusion, difficult or denied access to resources, choices and services, deprivation of basic rights and security and powerlessness. It still lacks many facilities such as food, shelter, health, women's empowerment, legal provisions against various exploitation of weaker groups, transport, etc. for the population (UNDP, 2006). Weaker groups always remain backward as they lack behind getting any kinds of opportunities because of government failure to help disabled people more vulnerability is added to their disability.

Disabled women have not received any services as required from government and it should be improved and properly implemented Government should provide basic human rights for disabled women, granted by law without dry excuses.

in the study area, none of the respondent were satisfied with the government. They were very much arrogant regarding with education facilities. In the study area, there was not any special need education school to read the disabled students. There were only common schools to all which made disabled students to adjust in school very difficult. So, it is very necessary that the government should think about it and establish such school as required numbers and should provide skilled manpower on this sector for teaching disabled students. Disabled women should

encourage seeking educational opportunity because education is the best tool for empowering and making awarded disabled women. For this, as mentioned in the law, government educational institutions should provided free education to disabled people.

Among the total so respondents, only about 25 disabled women had any skill development training, which means only 50 percent of disabled women have got skill development training from different non-government organizations. Special attention is needed for providing different livelihood training to all disabled persons through the government that they could make their life better. For this, the government should provide the skill development ad income generating training on the basis of market demand and capacity of disabled women.

Special Aids help the disabled people deal with their disability. But the government has merely provided such aid to only two respondents whereas the special aids have been needed to all disabled persons. So the government must arrange to provide such special aids to all disabled people who has required and this may help them in many cases in their living.

In the study area, regarding the identity card, among the total respondents only is the disabled women had made identity card from the governments support. It is also important for disabled person as they could get various facilities like transportation education, health, food, etc. The government should immediately implement their registration programmed and should give then ID card so they could use it in Various Legal facilities provisions to them.

In the study, area out of the total respondents only one respondent was registered on non-governmental organization namely RECED, Vyas,

Tanahun, established by the group of disabled people.

Most of the disabled women are poor and from rural areas, and have less or no access for their treatment but the government has not provided proper treatment require to them. Thus, the government should provide better treatment to them, as necessity with minimum cost or free treatment.

Employment is a critical component in enabling disabled women to achieve self-esteem and social recognition. Decent works is productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity. Women with disabilities have unique differences and abilities and they should have right to choose what they want to do based on their abilities, not on their disabilities. They required the same educational, vocational training, employment and business development opportunities available to all. There should not arise any kinds of discriminations between able and disable persons. All should be treated equally. hence, disabled women should be encouraged to seek employment opportunities, which have a reasonable wage and status without any goods based discrimination.

The visibility of disabled women has to be increased at all levels of society. The media plays a vital role in disseminating information on disabled women and can contribute to a positive change in public attitudes. In order to achieve this, portrayal of positive images of disabled women at all levels of societ5y by media such as radio, disabled awareness campaigns, TV, newspapers, etc. is imperative. This type of action could help to encourage the disabled women to do something with their strength and ability and they could also maintain their proper and better portion in the society.

Transport of all disabled people is an important key to the exercise of citizenship and participation in society. Women in general and disabled women in particular, get more difficulties in mobility than men. In most places, most disabled people cannot use public transport. Public transport is often inaccessible, uncomfortable and dangerous for women travelling alone, especially to those women with disabilities. No access to transport has serious effects on disabled peoples integration and economic activity. The public transport system prevents women with disabilities from actively participating in social and economic activities. thus, the transport is important for disabled women and there should be system of seat reservation for disabled people and all kinds of transports should be accessible with minimum cost or no cost, Government should seriously think on it.

Legal security system is only limited in law. The state should strongly adhere with the system of social security for the people with disabilities. It should feel the responsibility of guaranteeing social security to disabled people. They are entitled to receive social benefits in order to compensate for disability related services, such as education, health care, housing, transportation and technical aids to live with dignity. Hence, special legislation should be prepared to deal with provision on social security system for Women with disabilities.

According to Disabled Protection Welfare Act 1982 and Disables person's Protection and Welfare Rules, 1994, it is the duty of government to build homes and provide necessary services for disables people in the different parts of the country as mentioned in the paper. If the government has not established any homes for the disabled people the court takes action to the government because there is law, which directs

the government to make such homes. However the government has not built any homes for disabled people due to lack of finance.

CHAPTER-SIX

DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

This chapter presents the social status of the disabled women in the study area, Tanahun. This includes various determinant factors such as education, marriage, occupation health, etc are analyzed as follows:

6.1 Distribution of Respondents by Caste, Age and Disability Type

There are various Caste and ethnic groups in Tanahun district. Each and every respondent do not come from a particular Castes but are from different Caste group with difference in the age group. Brief information of the respondents including as Caste, age as well as disability types are mentioned in the table below

Table 6.1: Distribution of Respondents by Caste, Age and Disability Types.

	Background	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Caste	Brahmin	10	20
	Chhetri	13	26
	Newar	9	18
	Rai/Limbu	1	2
	Gurung	3	6
	Magar	8	16
	Tamang	1	2
	Kumal/Dalits	5	10
	Total	50	100
Age	14-19	8	16
	20-24	10	20
	25-29	9	18
	30-34	12	24
	35-39	2	4
	40-44	2	4
	45-49	3	6

	50-54	1	2
	54-59	2	4
	60+	1	2
	Total	50	100
Disability Type	Seeing	10	20
	Hearing	8	16
	Mental retardation	12	24
	Physical	20	40
	Total	50	100

Source: Field Study, 2009

Among the total respondents, with regards to the caste, the highest proportions of them were Chhetri (26%), followed by Brahmin (20%). Like as 18% come from Newars, 16% come from Magar, 10% from Kumal/Dalits, 6% come from Gurung, 2% com from Rai/Limbu and 2% from Tamang respectively. The total 50 respondents were divided into 10 different age groups. The majority of the respondents were from 30-34 age groups (24%). Moreover, these 50 disabled women represented by four types of disability, i.e. seeing, hearing, Mental retardation and Physical disability. 40% disabled women were from Physical disability, followed by 24% were from Mental Retardation, Visual/Seeing disability 20%, and hearing disability 16% respectively.

6.2 Educational Status of the Disabled Women

Education is the most effective means by which the problem of

people's development can be eradicated. This provides a means of improving social status and breaking the vicious circle of poverty. Education is the basic foundation may impair the development of the country.

It is assumed that there is a close association between awareness and the literacy of the population. This in turn has no positive relation with the status of health and nutrition, and thereby the consequences of disability. The study was done classifying into the five level of education. Based on the classification; out of the total respondents, 50% were literate. It was found that those having a primary level of education comprised 16% of the total disable women, 14% of the total disabled women gain the secondary level of education. Attending higher education was only 12% among the disable women, who are literate, 8% have attained their basic education from the non formal sector.

In the illiterate category or those who has never been to school and those who have been to school but cannot read and write, 50% respondents were illiterate or having no education disabled women. It can be observed that the national estimate of those having no education comprised of 43.9% of the total population. It is evident from the difference of 6.1% that the rate of education was lower in the disabled women than in the population in general.

Twenty five women had no education at all. Among the total women who had gained the education, some women had dropped before

finishing it.

Table 6.2: Education Level of Disabled Women in the Study Area

Level of Education	No. of Respondents	Percent
Primary	8	16
Secondary	7	14
SLC/Higher	6	12
Non-formal Education	4	8
No Education	25	50
Total	50	100

Source: Field Study, 2009

They said this is because of inappropriate educational system, lack of awareness on education and lack of money. One can see that the educational status of disabled women is very low and obviously they don't get job and this certainly puts them in a vulnerable condition.

6.3 Skill Development training for Disabled Women.

An attempt was made to find out if the disabled women had received any skill development training. Among the total 50 respondents, only about 25 disabled women had any skill development training, which means only 50 percent of the disabled women had received skill development training.

Among the types of training received the most common was sewing/knitting with 10 women having taken this training. It was noted

that those who got training had received it from different NGOs localized to their respective areas.

Table 6.3: Trainings received by Disabled Women.

Types of training	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Sewing/Knitting	10	20
Doll making	5	10
Beauty Parlor	6	12
Dalmot making	4	8
Total	25	50

Source: Field Study, 2009

Among those who received training, some women thought that the training was beneficial for them as they could earn some income, but some felt that they did not benefit at all because they could not get the tools they needed to apply their newly acquired skills.

This finding indicates that training for the disabled people in the country is far from adequate. There must be strategic planning before providing skill training. Special attention is needed for providing support even after completion of the training and should be given the equal opportunities.

6.4 Occupational Status of Disabled Women

An attempt was made to assess the economic participation of the disabled women in the household. The disabled women were asked about their occupation. Among the total respondents, it was found that 45 disabled women were currently working, while 5 women were not working because they were severely affected and all were from Mental

Retardation disability.

Table 6.4 Occupation of the Disabled Women by Disability Type

Occupation	Seeing Disability	Hearing Disability	Mental Retardation	Physical Disability	Total	
					No.	Percentage
Agriculture	7	7	7	7	28	62.22
Service	3	-	-	8	11	24.44
Business	-	1	-	5	6	13.33
Total	10	8	7	20	45	100

Source: Field Study, 2009

The main area of economic involvement of the Disabled women has been in agriculture, with 62.22 percent of the working disabled women involved in this sector. Followed by the involvement in agriculture, 24.44% of disabled women are involved in service second which comes in the second position and 13.33 percent are involved in the business sector. It was not supposing that women with disabilities were excluded from employment. Lack of educational opportunities was the core reason for exclusion from job.

In paper, 5% of jobs are reserved for disabled persons in government offices and private industrial enterprise having more than 25 employees but in practice they don't get this facility. The 5% quota system should improve. The respective offices should be alert providing job to disabled person according to their education, job experience and skill. For this, the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare has to look seriously to make sure disabled people get job.

6.5 Utilization of Health Services

Most of the disability related to women could be prevented through medical treatment but for many reasons women were unable to take curative measures. Most of the women would not have been life long disabled if they had treatment on time. Five women become victim of Polio in different ages due to lack of immunization. The system of immunization is still lacking in the rural parts of Nepal.

Most of the respondents stated that if the government provides free health services as mentioned in the law, the chances of being life long disabled like them would obviously decrease. Free treatment and appliances would help poor people to have treatment on time. Country, like Nepal, mainly many disabilities occur from accident such as burn, falling, malnutrition and lack of immunization.

In the law, it is stated that free treatment is provided to all disabled people and two free beds are reserved. In every governmental hospital but in practice disabled people are unable to get any kind of free treatment from government.

6.6 Participation of Disabled Women in Social Activities.

The Disabled Women were asked about their social participation. So many women hesitate to talk about it. They thought that they were lacking back in their society because of being disable women. Being a disable, they had to face so many difficulties. An attempt was made to find if the disabled women had any difficulty in participating in the social activities. The common social events like social gathering, religious activities, festivals, wedding ceremonies as well as going to the Haat Bazaar were taken into account to drive the status of difficulty in social

participation. Because of their disability, some women are excluded from their cultural and religious practices. People are very rude to them

Table 6.5 Disabled Women facing difficulty in participating in the social events

Activities	Seeing Disability		Hearing Disability		Mental retardation		Physical Disability		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Community gathering	2	20	3	37.5	3	25	4	20	12	24
Religious Activities	2	20	1	12.5	-	-	5	25	8	16
Festivals	-	-	2	25	-	-	4	20	6	12
Wedding	2	20	1	12.5	3	25	2	10	8	16
Haat Bazaar	4	40	1	12.5	6	50	5	25	16	32
Total	10	100	8	100	12	100	20	100	50	100

Source: Field Study, 2009

Majority of the disable women (32%) said that they face difficulty in going the Haat Bazaar where people from all over they are gather to purchase and sell their goods. It was followed by Mental Retardation disability, seeing disability, physical disability and hearing disability. In the same way 24 percent of the respondents said that they found most difficult to participate in community gathering. It was followed by hearing disability, mental retardation disability and physical/seeing disability, likewise, 16 percent respondents said that they found

difficulties in participating in social activities like religious activities and wedding ceremonies. And other 12 percent respondents said that they found difficult to participate in some kinds of festivals. it was only followed by hearing disability and physical disability.

However, the percent of disabled women who felt that they had difficulties in joining social activities is in general very high. One can see that disability is not merely a problem of physical accessibility but the social, cultural and religious discrimination experienced by women is much more crucial issue. These respondents were also asked why they found it difficult to participate in such social events.

Table 6.6 Reasons For Facing difficulties in Joining Social Events

Reasons For Difficulty	Seeing Disability		Hearing Disability		Mental retardation Disability		Physical Disability		Total	
Because of Disability	5	50	4	50	2	16.67	10	50	21	42
Fear of being mocked	2	20	3	37.5	6	50	4	20	15	30
Feel uncomfortable	3	30	1	12.5	4	33.33	6	30	14	28
Total	10	100	8	100	12	100	20	100	50	100

Source: Field Study, 2009

From the above table, it is clear that the main reason given for the difficulty in joining the social activities was due to their disability, it was

stated by 42 percent respondents. Likewise, 30 percent respondents said the main reason given for the difficulty in joining the social events was due to the fear of being mocked. And the remaining 28 percent respondents said that the main reason for facing difficulties in joining social events was that they feel uncomfortable participating in such activities.

6.7 Participation in Organization for the Disabled Women

An attempt was made to find out if the disabled women were involved in any organization for the disabled. Out of the total 50 respondents, only six disabled women had been members of any such organizations. This implies that among total respondents, only 12 percent had been members of any such organization.

The six members of any such organizations for the disabled persons were asked about their involvement. They were asked about their main involvement. They said that their main responsibility as members was to attend the meetings. They stated that they were responsible for raising funds, identifying the disabled people in the village and training them. However, while collecting the names of the people with disability problems they were sometimes scolded by the parents. They said that the parents in the village did not realize the importance of training their disabled children's and this made it difficult for them to work. Those disabled women involved in this organization felt that they had not benefited from their membership, especially as they had received no training.

6.8 Marital Status of Disabled Women

Marriage is a legal relationship between a husband and wife. It

gives social consent to the married couple to do sex and make children. Marriage established relationship between two different families. The ways of performing marriage are different in different societies.

An attempt was made to find out the marital status of the respondents. From the research conducted it was known that 22 women were married and 28 women were unmarried out of the 50 respondents. Some of the women, who were married, were living no longer with their husband. They did not have divorce but their husband had second wife. The law of Nepal is very unfaithful when it comes to women issues and especially disabled Women's issues. The based decision made by law is that if a woman becomes physically disabled or loses her eyesight, a man can have another wife without divorce (National Code, 1964). In the same case, a woman cannot remarry. The family law concerning marriage is discriminatory and gender bias is clearly seen here.

Table 6.7 Marital Status of the Respondents

Disability Types	Married	Unmarried
Seeing Disability	4	6
Hearing disability	3	5
Mental retardation	2	10
Physical Disability	12	8
Total	21	29

Source: Field Study, 2009

A majority of the respondents 12 women were married from physical disability and it was followed by seeing disability, Hearing disability and Mental Retardation disability. In the same way, most of the respondents 10 were unmarried with mental retardation disability and it

was followed by physical disability, seeing disability and hearing disability

6.8.1 Affecting Causes on Disabled Women's Marriage

According to both individual interview and field observation conducted in the study area, significantly, none of the women's families had any solid plans and programs for their daughters to marry. Some respondents said that women with disabilities have greater difficulties in marrying than non-disabled women or disabled men in our society. Arranged marriages are still customary in Nepal that had made disabled women a greater disadvantage. Men don't prefer to marry with disabled women thinking that she can't do all physical work. In our society, people still believe that having disabled women in the family brings bad luck. So arranged marriage are at a great disadvantage for disabled women. With respecting these statements, an attempt was made to find out the causes that affect being married for the disabled women.

Table 6.8 Causes Affecting Disabled Women's Marriage

Affecting causes	Seeing		Hearing		Mental		Physical		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Don't do work	6	60	4	50	10	83.33	10	50	30	60
Decrease Prestige	1	10	1	12.5	1	8.33	5	25	8	16
Fear of not being child	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	20	4	8
All above	-	-	1	12.5	-	-	1	5	2	4

Others	3	30	2	25	1	8.33	-	-	6	12
Total	10	100	8	100	12	100	20	100	50	100

Source: Field Study, 2009

Among the total 50 respondents, 60% of disabled women said that 'don't do work' was a major affecting cause for hindrance to their getting married. It was followed by mental retardation, seeing disability and Hearing/Physical Disability. Likewise, 16 percent respondents said 'decrease prestige' was an affecting cause for hindrance to their getting married. This was followed by physical disability, Hearing disability, seeing disability and mental disability followingly. In the same way, 8 percent respondents said their major cause for hindrance to their getting

married is 'Fear of not being child'. It was only followed by physical disability (20%). Likewise, other 4 percent respondents said that all above causes were the affecting cause for hindrance to their getting married. And the remaining 12 percent respondents said other things were affecting cause for hindrance to their getting married, like negative towards disable people, fear of being negligence from their husbands, being mocked by people, etc. it was followed by seeing disability, Hearing disability and mental retardation disability.

Most of the respondents were agreed that nobody would marry disabled girls because much physical labor is expected from her. Once they are married they have so many responsibilities towards the family such as rearing and caring children until they are fully grown up. So one can see it is difficult for physically disabled women to raise child without family support financially and physically.

The married life of those disabled women who become disabled after marriage was even worse because they didn't get any treatment, they did not receive any emotional and financial support from their husbands and families. Marriages, as a means to future security become disaster. The family would not accept their disability. Instead they get all those kinds of evil names and totally neglected from their husbands. They become target of family when things do not go well.

6.9 Cause of Disability in the Respondents' Household

It is not only the economic participation but also the social participation of the disabled women that determines their status in the household. Some of the respondents themselves stated the causes of their disability, but some hesitate to answer, so their household heads were asked for the cause of the disability as well as their perception of the disability.

What people think about cause of disability is a complex issue. People in different parts of the country have their own idea/view about the causes of disability. Besides the people's perception of causes, it is also vital to assess how the disabled persons themselves are perceived in order to be able to plan appropriate programs for them.

Table 6.9 Cause of Disability of the Respondents

Cause	Seeing Disability		Hearing Disability		Mental retardation		Physical Disability		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Fate	4	40	2	25	3	25	-	-	9	18
Accident	-	-	-	-	2	16.67	11	55	13	26
Parental Carelessness	-	-	1	12.5	-	-	-	-	1	2
Lack of proper treatment	2	20	-	-	2	16.67	1	5	5	10
Poverty	3	30	1	12.5	-	-	2	10	6	12
Due- to diseases	1	10	2	25	4	33.33	5	25	12	24
lack of awareness on childhood	-	-	2	25	1	8.33	1	5	4	8
Total	10	100	8	100	12	100	20	100	50	100

Source: Field Study, 2009

From the field study conducted in the study area, it was found that each respondent have their own view relating to their causes of disability. Most of the respondents (26%) stated that 'Accident' was the major cause of their disability. It was only followed by physical disability and Mental Retardation disability. Among the total respondents 24% respondents belief that the major cause of their disability is due t disease. It was followed by Mental Retardation disability and seeing disability 18% of

the disabled women stated it is their fate for their cause of their disability. Some of the women with disability stated that poverty is also the main

cause of their disability. Because of poverty, they couldn't get the proper treatment, if poverty hadn't haunted them, today they could live a normal life. Poverty has been cited by 12 percent of the respondents as the leading cause of disability. The lack of proper medical treatment was perceived by 10 percent of the respondents as the cause of the disability. Likewise, 8% of the disable women said that lack of awareness on childhood is the main cause of their disability. And other 2% of the respondents felt that it was the carelessness of their parent in looking after their children, which resulted in an injury that led to the disability.

These were those who mentioned that disability was basically related to the lack of awareness in child bearing and rearing practices. These included cases like the child being deprived of mother's milk, frequent pregnancies which made the mothers weak and the child disabled from birth, and taking birth control medication during early pregnancy. Other cases included the mother not getting a TT injection during delivery and the lack of basic immunization.

6.10 Required support as expressed by the Disabled Women

The disabled women were asked about their expected needs. They were asked about their disability and what kinds of support they need in their treatment. In some places, caretakers responded because the disabled person couldn't respond themselves. When they were asked about the expected needs for their treatment, there were a variety of answers.

Table 6.10 Expectations from the Disabled Women and caretakers to treat Disability.

Expectations	Disabled Women		Caretakers		Total	
	No.	%	No	%	No	%
Medical Treatment	16	34.79	3	75	19	38
Skill development training	11	23.92	1	25	12	24
financial support	7	15.21	-	-	7	14
Rehabilitation services	4	8.70	-	-	4	8
Education	5	10.86	-	-	5	10
Job Opportunities	3	6.52	-	-	3	6
Total	46	100	4	100	50	100

Source: Field Study, 2009.

38 percent respondents stated that they need the medical support for treating their disability. Not only the disabled women but also the caretakers expressed this as the most felt need. The medical support included special aids, free treatment and the availability of doctor's services in the village.

Likewise 23.92 percent of the disabled women and 25 percent of

the caretakers felt the need for skill development training. They stated that they would also need some ideas on how to make use of such training before they could start generating income. 14 percent of the respondents expected for the financial support and about 8 percent felt the need for rehabilitation services.

Among the total respondents, 10 percent of the respondents expressed the need of education. They said that they are in need for special schools to those with hearing disabilities and mentally retarded. it was also stated that there was a need to provide free education for them. And remaining 6 percent of the respondents expressed the need for job opportunities for the disabled persons so that they could make their life better and live a normal life like others.

6.11 Transport and Free Movement

Transport of all disabled people is an important key to the exercise of citizenship and participation in society. it is very difficult for disabled people without the facility of transportation. Women with disabilities are less mobile than men less likely to have access to a cars more confined to the home due to social and cultural patterns and to the actual or perceived threat of danger, especially after dark. 85% disabled women complained that there was not any kind of transport facility. According to them, buses are always over crowded and people keep pushing once they are in bus, this makes them very difficult. Transportation is very important to them, as it is impossible to go anywhere being disabled. Some women said that they need longer time to get in and need more space to sit, in this also they get problem because there is no space for their legs to stretch and standing up is not safety as they need support.

In most places, disable people cannot use public transport. When

driver or conductor sees such disable people they do not stop their bus in front of the disable people and rushes forward. Especially for a blind person, it is almost impossible to use public transport without someone's guide. Some Drivers are undisciplined and sometimes they rush their bus as soon as passenger gets in but this condition may risk for the disable person as they couldn't get support and fall down.

During the study, most of the respondents stated that they have problem in mobility. Sometimes they couldn't attend the important meetings or functions organized by the organization because of inaccessible transport. Mobility is very hard for people with disabilities in Nepal because we don't have transport facility, Ramp facility and only in law, two seat reservations for disable people are included but not use in practical life.

The DPWA calls for the provision of half-concession to the disable person and one of his/her caretakers for bus, train and airplane travel. The provision is not mandatory and hence, it depends upon whether or not the concerned transport agents and companies want to provide such facilities to the disable person. Even the government owned transport agencies like Nepal Airlines, Sajha Yatayat services has not given such concessions to the disable person. There is still no seat reserved for disable people.

CHAPTER-SEVEN

Summary and Conclusion

7.1 Summary

Disability is the situation when one is unable to do usual activity easily because of impairment of one or more organ of the body. The situation may be permanent or temporary. Any person can become disabled in any time. In other words, every person can have disability in some means but only physically and mentally disabled are counted as disabled people.

Disabled women are those who have one or more impairments and experience barriers in Society. Women with disabilities are one of the most marginalized groups in the society. We include disabled girls and women, in rural and urban areas, regardless of the severity of the impairment, regardless of sexual preference and regardless of cultural background or whether they live in the community or an institution. The social status of disabled women varies according to individual circumstances and to the place where they live.

This study entitled '*Women With Disabilities and Their Social Status*' was carried out to assess the social status of the disabled women in the study area. For this study, only 50 disabled women as respondent were taken as sample according to the Convenience of the researcher by the possible source from the local people. Various tools and techniques of data collection were used for this study. Data used in this study were primary and secondary in nature. Primary data was collected during the field study with the help of interview, field observation and questionnaire. Most of the collected data of the research study have been analyzed

descriptively and both qualitative and quantitative data has been under taken.

Because of being member of the United Nations, Nepal recognized the human rights of people with disability in the year 1981 when Nepal along with world Community, celebrated, *The International Year of Disabled persons*. Accordingly, it enacted a special law known as the Disabled Persons protection and Welfare Act, (DPAW) 1982, but even after 24 years of existence, people with disability are often excluded from the main stream of society and denied their human rights. The DPAW and other laws give certain rights and privileges to the disable persons, but most of these rights remain in the law books and have not been used into reality. The disabled people have yet to enjoy the rights that are theirs.

It was found that among fifty respondents, majority of the respondents (40%) were Physical Disability, Mental Retardation disability 24%, seeing disability 20% and hearing disability 16%. Ethically most of the disabled women were Chhetri 26 percent, Brahmin 20 percent, Newar 18 percent, Magar 16 percent, Gurung 6 percent, 4 percent were Rai/Limbu and Tamang remaining 10 percent were Kumal/Dalits.

In the literate category, 50% respondents were literate and remaining other 50% were illiterate or having no education. It can be observed that the national estimate of those having no education comprised of 48.9% of the total population. It comprised of 43.9% of the total population. It is evident from the differences of 6.1% that the rate of education was lower in the disabled women than in the population in general.

Among the total 50 respondents, only about 25 disabled women had any skill development training, which means only 50% of the total disabled women had received skill development training. It was found that 45 disabled women were currently working, while 5 women were not working because they were severely affected and all were from mental retardation disability. Among total 45 working disabled women, occupationally 62.22 percent were engaged in agriculture, 24.44 percent were engaged in services and remaining 13.33 percent were involved in business.

Out of the total respondents, only six disabled women were participated in the organization for the disabled women. This implies that only 12 percent had been members of any such organizations.

Of the total 50 disabled women, the majority of the women were unmarried (58%) and remaining 42% were married women. In general, it was found that disability presented obstacles to getting marriage because much physical work is expected from her. Other affecting causes of not being married of disabled women are decrease prestige, fear of not being child and superstitions belief 'having disabled women in the family brings bad luck'.

Disabled women are participated in various social activities as community gathering, religious activities, festivals, wedding ceremonies and haat bazaar but a large number of disabled women had difficulties in joining social activities because of disability, fear of being mocked and feel uncomfortable. Majority of the respondents (32%) said that they face difficulty in joining the social activities was due to their disability.

Most of the respondents (26%) stated that 'Accident' was the major

cause and other stated that their cause of disability is due to their fate, lack of proper treatment, poverty, due to disease, parental carelessness and lack of awareness on childhood.

The expectation of the respondents from the government was medical treatment (38%), skill development training(24%), financial support (14%) rehabilitation services (8%), education (10%) and remaining 6 percent expressed the need for job opportunities for the disabled persons so that they could make their life better.

Regarding the Transportation facilities, about 85% of disabled women complained that there was not any kind of transport facility and they have problem in mobility.

Talking with governmental activities for disabled women in the study area, there was not any special need education school to read the disabled students of the total respondents, only two disabled women had received special aid from the government. In the study area, regarding the Identity Card, among the 50 respondents, only 15 disabled women had made I.D Card from the government's support.

7.2 Conclusion

Disable women are those who have one or more impairments and experiences barriers in society. Women with disabilities are one of the marginalized groups in the society. We include disable girls and women, in rural and urban areas, regardless of sexual, preferences and regardless of cultural background or whether they live in the community or an institution. The social status of disable women varies according to individual circumstances and to the place where they live.

The literacy rate among disabled people in general and disabled

women in particular is lower than in the population in general. This is because of inappropriate educational system, lack of family support, being disabled, lack of awareness on education and lack of money. The educational status of disabled women is very low and obviously they don't get job and this certainly puts them in a vulnerable condition.

The skill development training for disabled women is negligible and most of them have not received such training though they have more needed to build up their skill capabilities. The main area of economic involvement of the disabled women has been in agriculture. Women with disabilities were excluded from employment. Lack of educational opportunities was the main reason for exclusion from job.

Most of the disability related to women could be prevented through medical treatment but for many reasons women were unable to take curative measures because most disabled women are poor and from rural areas; and the government is unable to provide even a basic treatment to them.

Disabled women are participated in various social activities as community gathering, religious events, festivals, wedding ceremony and haat bazaar but disabled women had difficulties in joining social events because of their disability, fear of being mocked and feel uncomfortable.

In general, disability presented obstacles to getting marriage because much physical work is expected from her. Other affecting causes of not being married are decrease prestige, fear of not being child and superstitions believe having disabled women in the family brings bad luck. The married life of those disabled women who become disables after marriage was even worse because they didn't get any treatment, they

didn't receive any emotional and financial support from their husband and families.

Disabled women have not received any services as required from government. The government of Nepal has not done any kind of such single work for disabled people on various basic activities like establishment and special need education school, launched skill development training, special Aids, registration programme, establishment of disabled home and rehabilitation centers, etc. Weaker groups always remain backward as they lack behind in getting any kinds of opportunities. Because of government failure to help disabled people, more vulnerability is added to their disability.

Women with disabilities than men with disabilities, face discrimination with in the family and society because patriarchal norms and values are centre of society where men have better privileges as than women. Disability does not stop men doing normal things as women unless this physical ability is reserve. Disabled men have access to property right, better chances of getting treatment and education and they are found involved family as well as community activities. Women with disabilities are prevented from accessing entitlements available to other members of society including health, food, education, employment and other basic social services and from participating in community decision making processes. People know women in our society as service providers and if they fail to provide such services they face discrimination. Disabled women cannot fulfill all the demands of family as a result they have denied available access to resources.

Women with disability have not received any kind of legal provisions such as educational rights, free health services as much as

mentioned in the law. The state has not built a single disabled home, vocational training center and special education school at the governmental level. The lack of commitment on the part of the government authorities to implement the laws and political corruption are also the main obstacles of proper implementation. There are many things to be done in the field of disability. Only organizations of the disabled persons who like to devote time and money for the betterment of life and living conditions of the disabled should be encouraged to do so and should be included in the policy making bodies on disability. The professionals and benevolent social workers are to be respected for their genuine work, and hence co work, co-operation and collaboration between the disabled and their counterparts should be strongly worked out for a more consolidated movement for the case of disability. It absolutely requires strong efforts of progressive state power to implement the laws honestly and provide the legal rights and facilities to the disabled people as granted by the law.

BIBLOGRABHY

Acharya, Meena (1994), The Statistical Profile of Nepalese Women: An Update in the Policy context, Kathmandu: Institute for Integrate Development Studies.

Bhatarai, Milan (2003), "Disability", First Edition, Kathmandu, Nepal.

CBS (1996), Nepal living Standards Survey Report 1996, Kathmandu: HMG/N

CBS (2001), Statistical Year Book of Nepal 2001, Kathmandu: HMG/Nepal

DFID (2000), Disability, Poverty and Development, DFID, London, February 2000

Dhungana, B.M.(2003), The Lives of Disabled Women in Nepal: Vulnerability Without Support, Thailand: Asian Institute of Technology

ESCAP (2002),(Economic and Social commission for Asia and the Pacific), Asian and Pacific Decade of disabled persons.

ILO (1989), Dispelling the Shadow of Neglect, a Survey on Women and disabilities in six Asian and Pacific countries, Geneva.

IYDP (1980), Report on the Sample Survey of Disabled Persons in Nepal, Kathmandu: United Nations.

Ministry of Law and Justice (2019 B.S), Muluki Ain 1963, Kathmandu: HMG/N

Ministry of Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs (2047B.S), The Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal 1990, Kathmandu: HMG/N

Ministry of Law (2049B.S), Social Welfare Act, 1992, Kathmandu: HMG/N

Ministry of law (2055B.S), Local Self-government Act 1991, Kathmandu: HMG/N

Ministry of Law (2039B.S), Legislation for the Protection and Welfare of Disabled Persons, 1982 in Nepal, Kathmandu: HMG/N

Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (2063B.S), National Policy and Plan of Action on Disability (NPPAD-2006), Kathmandu: Government of Nepal and Japan International Cooperation Agency Nepal.

New Era (2001),“A Situation Analysis of Disability in Nepal”, Kathmandu, Nepal.

NPC (2001), A Situational Analysis of Disability in Nepal, Kathmandu: National Planning Commission/UNICEF

Prasad, L.N. (2003), Status of People with Disability in Nepal, Kathmandu: Modern Printing Press

RECED (2059B.S), Report on Disability Survey of Vyas Municipality

RIDA (1991), The Status of the Girl Child in Nepal: A Survey Report, Kathmandu: HMG-N/UNICEF

Santiago AM (1994), “The Economic Consequences of Disability Status: evidence from the 1990 panel study of income dynamic,” Ann Abur, Michigan, University of Michigan, Population Studies Center, Research Report No. 94.312

UN (1990), United Nation Decade for Women: Equality, Development

and Peace, Seminar on Disabled Women, New York: United Nation.

UNDP (1998), Nepal Human Development Report 1998, Nepal South Asia Center, Kathmandu, Nepal

UNDP (2006), Human Development Report, New York: United Nation.

UNICEF (1996), Children and Women of Nepal: A Situation Analysis

WHO (1980), International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities and Handicaps (ICIDH), Geneva

WIDN (1990), A Report of Women in Development Nepal, Kathmandu: Women in Development Nepal.