

Restoring The Dignity

Ishrat Akhtar



In underscoring current societal challenges, “BEHIND THE HEADLINES” shares accounts of success stories not covered in the news. It provides a deeper understanding of the real-life experiences faced by disabled soldiers of Indian Armed Forces and ordinary citizens with disabilities. It is the only Journal that has initiated reporting of the success stories of citizens with disabilities. They are talented youth from rural backgrounds who became physically challenged while serving the motherland or due to accidents. They have defeated all odds to convert their setback into opportunities while facing uncertainties & conflicting policies of state. Their success highlights the responsibility of all citizens in strengthening the state apparatus to

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empower one and all. Technological advancement in communication and information connects us worldwide, it discloses in numerous common citizens’ deep sense of responsibility, true commitment and selfless “Soldierly Deeds” which has fetched a new dawn and rekindled hope into the lives of people-citizens with positive change on the mindset. Since development is a shared goal & in this era of close connectivity, every person holding some piece of information with experience and aligning the same

with the ground level actions can bring transformation making inclusive growth a reality and a cognizant society. The ultimate message is “Inclusive Nation Building.”

Empowered citizen strengthen the community conscious that further strengthen the governance. It enhance people participations that yield inclusive development. People influence the environment & communities within which we exist & ultimately ‘People Matter Result Count’. Information and Knowledge shape the implementing process in addressing the social obligation and restoring the dignity of differently abled persons. More the information-intelligence in itself goes a long way to articulate the strategies in number of ways to structure the essence of sustainable inclusive development.

Ms Ishrat Akhtar born in 1997 at small village Bangdara of District Baramulla; Kashmir.

A meritorious student with outstanding abilities of sports & outdoor activities. She lost

her mother in 2008 when she is 10 year old and on 24th Aug 2016 she met with ill fated accident and become paraplegic, thereafter her activities confined with Wheel Chair. Her

Quest To Excel & Empowerment is the driving force to convert Adversaries to Possibilities. She acknowledges unconditional support of voluntary Medicare Society-Bemina [Srinagar] along with community participation in most difficult initial stages after she become paraplegic. She is member of Indian Wheel Chair basketball Team for Asia Oceana Wheel Chair basketball championship after her outstanding performance at the two consecutive National Level Wheel Chair basketball championships. She admired & acknowledge the praise worthy efforts of Indian Army & J & K Police forces deployed in Kashmir for providing all requisite support to enabled her to travel from her home town village Bangdara of District Baramulla Kashmir to Chennai to participate for the national level championship which is stepping stone to be the member of Indian Team. She is brand ambassador of District Baramula for the Government ‘Beti Bachao Beti Parao’ National Flagship Mission.



Tapash Chatterjee is a decorated officer of the Indian Army. He combined his vision with his man management skills to conceptualize and implement the mission ‘Ability Beyond Disability’ as First Nodal officer in conjunction with Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India & Indian Army. The Mission was aimed at restoring the dignity of persons with disabilities, strengthen the grassroots & community level activities by connecting rehabilitation professionals with those in need, residing in remote, under-served and border areas of the country. The mission found its mention in the Niti Ayog reports for outstanding achievements. He is regular contributor to the “**Behind The Headlines**” column of the Indian Interdisciplinary Research Journal Disabilities & Impairment est. 1987 and strong advocate of social entrepreneurship and adding positive value to society through empowerment & development.