District Disability Rehabilitation Centre

Uttarakhand launched its **first modern, multi-purpose District Disability Rehabilitation Centre (DDRC)** at **Gandhi Shatabdi Hospital, Dehradun**, to provide comprehensive services for **persons with disabilities** under one roof.

Key Points

- **Services Offered:** The **DDRC** provides **disability certificates, physiotherapy, counselling, assistive devices**, and access to **government welfare schemes.**
- **Beneficiary Support: Individuals can access services such as Unique ID for** Persons with Disabilities**,** Aadhaar **registration, psychological counselling, prosthetic equipment, medical treatment, and employment training.**
    - Approximately **20% of Uttarakhand's population** is affected by some form of **disability**.
- **Administration:** The centre functions under a **nodal agency supervised by the Social Welfare Department**, with **14 staff positions**, a **dedicated transport vehicle**, and a **helpline.**
- **Holistic Rehabilitation: Services are provided after medical, social, educational, and psychological evaluation, ensuring comprehensive rehabilitation.**
    - The centre emphasizes **vocational training, rehabilitation, and self-employment schemes** to promote **self-reliance** among beneficiaries.
- **Multi-Disciplinary Team:** Staff includes **physiotherapists, speech and occupational therapists, and counsellors** to provide holistic care.

Current Status of PwDs in India

- According to **Census 2011**, India has **2.68 crore persons with disabilities (PwDs)**, accounting for **2.21% of the total population**.
    - Disability prevalence is **higher among males (2.4%)** than **females (1.9%)** and is also greater in **rural areas** compared to urban regions.
- Under the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016**, **21 types of disabilities** are recognized, including **Locomotor Disability, Visual Impairment, Hearing Impairment, Speech & Language Disability, Intellectual Disability, Multiple Disabilities, Cerebral Palsy, and Dwarfism**.

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