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## Demographic and literacy levels of disabled in India

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### Abstract

The present set of results pertains to data collected in the Census 2011 on disability. Information on disability of individuals was collected by Registrar of Census during the Population enumeration phase of Census 2011 through 'Household Schedule'. Information for individuals residing in 'Normal', 'Institutional' and 'Houseless' households were collected. The paper shows that the share of disabled children in the disabled population of respective states is high. In large number of States/UTS the disabled were non-workers. It means that they are depending on other family members for livelihood.

**Keywords:** Literates, children, agricultural labour, cultivator

### Introduction

Disability is part of the human condition. Almost everyone will be temporarily or permanently impaired at some point in life, and those who survive to old age will experience increasing difficulties in functioning. Most extended families have a disabled member, and many non-disabled people take responsibility for supporting and caring for their relatives and friends with disabilities. Disability also can be viewed as representing a minority of the population, in that people with disabilities may be less visible, undercounted, and underserved. As a potentially underserved group, people with disabilities would be expected to experience disadvantages in health and well-being compared with the general population. People with disabilities may experience lack of access to health services and medical care and may be considered at increased risk for various conditions. Every epoch has faced the moral and political issue of how best to include and support people with disabilities. This issue will become more acute as the demographics of societies change and more people live to an old age.

### Disabled Population

The particulars of state wise total population, disabled population and the percent of disabled population to total population were given in table 1.

It can be found from table 1 that in terms of actual disabled persons in a State, the Uttar Pradesh tops the list with 4,157,514. It is followed by Maharashtra and Bihar with 2963392 and 2,331,009 disabled population respectively. The State of Andhra Pradesh occupies fourth place with 84,580,777 disabled population. In 14 States/Union Territories the population of disabled is less than 1 lakh. The contribution of these 14 states total population stood at 25.27 percent of total disabled population. With regard to percent of disabled population to the respective state total population, the first place is occupied Sikkim (2.98 percent). In this regard it is followed by Odisha and Jammu and Kashmir with 2.96 percent and 2.98 percent respectively. In 14 States/UTS the disabled percentage to total population is less than 2 percent. In 4 States/UTS the disabled percentage to total population is less than 1 percent. On the whole there are 26, 814, 994 disabled persons in India. They constitute 2.21 percent of total population.

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**Table 1:** Disabled Population-Census 2011

State /UT	Total Population	Disabled Population	% disabled to total population
Jammu & Kashmir	12541302	361153	2.88
Himachal Pradesh	6864602	155316	2.26
Punjab	27743338	654063	2.36
Chandigarh	1055450	14796	1.4
Uttarakhand	10086292	185272	1.84
Haryana	25351462	546374	2.16
Nct Of Delhi	16787941	234882	1.4
Rajasthan	68548437	1563694	2.28
Uttar Pradesh	199812341	4157514	2.08
Bihar	104099452	2331009	2.24
Sikkim	610577	18187	2.98
Arunachal Pradesh	1383727	26734	1.93
Nagaland	1978502	29631	1.5
Manipur	2855794	58547	2.05
Mizoram	1097206	15160	1.38
Tripura	3673917	64346	1.75
Meghalaya	2966889	44317	1.49
Assam	31205576	480065	1.54
West Bengal	91276115	2017406	2.21
Jharkhand	32988134	769980	2.33
Odisha	41974218	1244402	2.96
Chhattisgarh	25545198	624937	2.45
Madhya Pradesh	72626809	1551931	2.14
Gujarat	60439692	1092302	1.81
Daman & Diu	243247	2196	0.9
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	343709	3294	0.96
Maharashtra	112374333	2963392	2.64
Andhra Pradesh	84580777	2266607	2.68
Karnataka	61095297	1324205	2.17
Goa	1458545	33012	2.26
Lakshadweep	64473	1615	2.5
Kerala	33406061	761843	2.28
Tamil Nadu	72147030	1179963	1.64
Puducherry	1247953	30189	2.42
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	380581	6660	1.75
India	1210854977	26814994	2.21

Source: 'Disabled Persons in India - A statistical Profile', 2016', Minister of Statistics & Programme Implementation Government of India.

### Disabled Child Population

The disabled child population, the share of disabled children in the total disabled population and State/UT share of

disabled children to the all India disabled children is presented in table 2.

**Table 2:** Disabled Children (0-6 years) - Census, 2011

State Name	Disabled population	Disabled children	Share of disabled children in the disabled population	State share of disabled children to the all India disabled children
Jammu & Kashmir	361153	27939	7.74	1.37
Himachal Pradesh	155316	7203	4.64	0.35
Punjab	654063	43664	6.68	2.14
Chandigarh	14796	933	6.31	0.05
Uttarakhand	185272	12164	6.57	0.6
Haryana	546374	37733	6.91	1.85
Nct Of Delhi	234882	13760	5.86	0.67
Rajasthan	1563694	89791	5.74	4.4
Uttar Pradesh	4157514	414824	9.98	20.31
Bihar	2331009	290999	12.48	14.24
Sikkim	18187	628	3.45	0.03
Arunachal Pradesh	26734	2123	7.94	0.1
Nagaland	29631	1930	6.51	0.09
Manipur	58547	5201	8.88	0.25
Mizoram	15160	908	5.99	0.04
Tripura	64346	4389	6.82	0.21
Meghalaya	44317	5058	11.41	0.25
Assam	480065	35742	7.45	1.75
West Bengal	2017406	132405	6.56	6.48
Jharkhand	769980	73262	9.51	3.59
Odisha	1244402	81105	6.52	3.97
Chhattisgarh	624937	35229	5.64	1.72
Madhya Pradesh	1551931	117731	7.59	5.76

Gujarat	1092302	78316	7.17	3.83
Daman & Diu	2196	113	5.15	0.01
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3294	321	9.74	0.02
Maharashtra	2963392	217361	7.33	10.64
Andhra Pradesh	2266607	127168	5.61	6.22
Karnataka	1324205	92853	7.01	4.55
Goa	33012	1519	4.6	0.07
Lakshadweep	1615	77	4.77	0
Kerala	761843	26242	3.44	1.28
Tamil Nadu	1179963	62538	5.3	3.06
Puducherry	30189	1273	4.22	0.06
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	6660	385	5.78	0.02
India	26814994	2042887	7.62	100

Source: 'Disabled Persons in India - A statistical Profile', 2016', Minister of Statistics & Programme Implementation Government of India.

The data in table 2 shows that the share of disabled children in the disabled population of respective states is high in Bihar (12.48 percent). It is followed by Meghalaya (11.41 percent) and Uttar Pradesh (9.98 percent) in second and third places respectively. The lowest share of disabled child population percent is registered in Kerala (3.44 percent and Sikkim (3.45 percent). With regard to State share of disabled children to the all India *disabled* children, the State of Uttar Pradesh stood at the top of ladder with 20.31 percent. In this regard it is followed by Bihar and Maharashtra with 14.24 percent and 10.64 percent

respectively. The share of disabled children to the all India disabled children is less than 1 percent in 17 States/Union Territories. The analysis of above table reveals that more than half of the child disabled population is concentrated in 4 states *viz.* Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra and West Bengal.

### Work Status of Disabled Persons

State-wise work status of disabled population is presented in table 3.

Table 3: Work Status of Disabled Persons -Census, 2011

State Name	Workers					Non-workers	Total Disabled
	Total	CL	AL	HHI	Others		
Jammu & Kashmir	121532	37696	19171	5597	59068	239621	361153
Himachal Pradesh	68917	41460	3955	1281	22221	86399	155316
Punjab	216320	40112	38180	10897	127131	437743	654063
Chandigarh	4641	37	21	77	4506	10155	14796
Uttarakhand	64888	27688	7125	2473	27602	120384	185272
Haryana	170600	43740	32770	6397	87693	375774	546374
Nct Of Delhi	65573	650	589	2529	61805	169309	234882
Rajasthan	541842	235244	95010	15336	196252	1021852	1563694
Uttar Pradesh	1446393	391424	432259	100898	521812	2711121	4157514
Bihar	865347	170216	449657	40226	205248	1465662	2331009
Sikkim	8918	4259	1082	148	3429	9269	18187
Arunachal Pradesh	11948	6920	816	198	4014	14786	26734
Nagaland	15384	10416	969	375	3624	14247	29631
Manipur	25582	11607	2091	2007	9877	32965	58547
Mizoram	5499	3223	571	85	1620	9661	15160
Tripura	21627	3905	4637	690	12395	42719	64346
Meghalaya	16724	7619	2929	516	5660	27593	44317
Assam	162785	56262	27834	8157	70532	317280	480065
West Bengal	685516	98499	195878	48320	342819	1331890	2017406
Jharkhand	290133	79453	103768	12571	94341	479847	769980
Odisha	427020	102195	162563	21288	140974	817382	1244402
Chhattisgarh	240846	76795	101547	4525	57979	384091	624937
Madhya Pradesh	613921	169627	232762	22542	188990	938010	1551931
Gujarat	380064	71037	92115	7015	209897	712238	1092302
Daman & Diu	774	36	11	2	725	1422	2196
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1159	274	205	37	643	2135	3294
Maharashtra	1248337	288569	341799	37672	580297	1715055	2963392
Andhra Pradesh	875187	129932	353904	36135	355216	1391420	2266607
Karnataka	503902	102038	122778	19029	260057	820303	1324205
Goa	9505	780	661	331	7733	23507	33012
Lakshadweep	321	0	0	3	318	1294	1615
Kerala	179694	12517	23281	5556	138340	582149	761843
Tamil Nadu	442032	49519	124460	21814	246239	737931	1179963
Puducherry	9358	281	1770	269	7038	20831	30189
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2097	292	104	57	1644	4563	6660
India	9744386	2274322	2977272	435053	4057739	17070608	26814994

CL: Cultivator, AL: Agricultural Labour, HHI: working in Household industries

Source: 'Disabled Persons in India - A statistical Profile', 2016', Minister of Statistics & Programme Implementation Government of India.

It is clear from table 3 that except in Nagaland in all States/UTS the disabled were non-workers. It means that they are depending on other family members for livelihood. With regard to non-working population Lakshadweep top the list with 80.12 percent. It is followed by Kerala (76.41 percent), NCT Delhi (72.08 percent), Goa (71.21 percent) and Puducherry (69 percent) in second, third and fourth places respectively. At all India level there are 63.66 percent of non working disabled. Among the 0.97 crores of working disabled population nearly 441.64 percent were working in other sectors. In this regard the first and last places were occupied by Lakshadweep (99.07 percent) and Nagaland (23.56 percent). Among the working disabled population 30.55 percent were agriculture labour. Here the State of

Bihar occupies the first place, where more than half (51.96 percent) of the disabled were working as agricultural labour. Around 23.24 percent of disabled in India were cultivators. In four states/UTS i.e. Nagaland (67.61 percent), Himachal Pradesh (60.16 percent), Mizoram (58.61 percent) and Arunachal Pradesh (57.92 percent) of the disabled were cultivators. Only 4.46 percent of disabled were working in household sector. Here the Manipur is ahead with 7.85 percent.

#### Literacy rate

The literacy rate particulars of general population as well as disabled population are given in table 4.

**Table 4:** Literacy Status of disabled population - Census, 2011

State / UT	Literate	Illiterate	Total disabled	% literates to total disabled	literacy rate - population
India	14618353	12196641	26814994	54.52	74.04
Kerala	539303	222540	761843	70.79	93.91
Goa	23211	9801	33012	70.31	87.4
Chandigarh	10011	4785	14796	67.66	86.43
Maharashtra	2004543	958849	2963392	67.64	82.91
Tripura	42704	21642	64346	66.37	87.75
Lakshadweep	1070	545	1615	66.25	92.28
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4359	2301	6660	65.45	86.27
Nct Of Delhi	153420	81462	234882	65.32	86.34
Puducherry	19046	11143	30189	63.09	86.55
Gujarat	686443	405859	1092302	62.84	79.31
Daman & Diu	1362	834	2196	62.02	87.07
Mizoram	9387	5773	15160	61.92	91.58
Tamil Nadu	715822	464141	1179963	60.66	80.33
Karnataka	787286	536919	1324205	59.45	75.6
Manipur	34330	24217	58547	58.64	79.85
West Bengal	1156786	860620	2017406	57.34	77.08
Punjab	370324	283739	654063	56.62	76.68
Himachal Pradesh	86923	68393	155316	55.97	83.78
Uttarakhand	102995	82277	185272	55.59	79.63
Haryana	297826	248548	546374	54.51	76.64
Odisha	661598	582804	1244402	53.17	73.45
Madhya Pradesh	815379	736552	1551931	52.54	70.63
Uttar Pradesh	2166693	1990821	4157514	52.12	69.72
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1672	1622	3294	50.76	77.65
Chhattisgarh	303264	321673	624937	48.53	71.04
Andhra Pradesh	1095529	1171078	2266607	48.33	67.66
Assam	231643	248422	480065	48.25	73.18
Meghalaya	21145	23172	44317	47.71	75.48
Bihar	1102503	1228506	2331009	47.3	63.82
Jharkhand	361343	408637	769980	46.93	67.63
Sikkim	8276	9911	18187	45.51	82.2
Nagaland	12904	16727	29631	43.55	80.11
Jammu & Kashmir	150959	210194	361153	41.8	68.74
Rajasthan	627935	935759	1563694	40.16	67.06
Arunachal Pradesh	10359	16375	26734	38.75	66.95

**Source:** 'Disabled Persons in India - A statistical Profile', 2016', Minister of Statistics & Programme Implementation Government of India.

According to table 4 in all States/UTs, the literacy rate of disabled is far from the general population. The highest literacy rate among disabled was registered in Kerala (70.79 percent). It is followed by Goa and Chandigarh with 70.31 percent and 67.66 percent respectively. Arunachal Pradesh stood at the lowest rung of the ladder with 38.75 percent of literacy rate among disabled. On the other hand the literacy gap between disabled and general population is high in Sikkim (36.69 percent). It is followed by Nagaland and Mizoram with 36.56 percent and 29.66 percent respectively.

With regard to lowest literacy gap Maharashtra stood at the bottom with 15.27 percent.

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