On wheelchairs, they came to tell their tales

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New Delhi: Nineteen-year-old Abhinav Saxena is a Class 12 student who suffers from spinal muscular atrophy since birth — a genetic disease which affects control over the nervous. This has not stopped him from trying to complete his education. Like Saxena, hundreds of other spinal injury patients on wheelchairs reached India Gate on Sunday evening to take part in a wheelchair rally organised by the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre (ISIC) to raise awareness about spinal injuries.

This was the second such rally organised in the capital with a similar event held last year. Hundreds of wheelchair-bound patients marched down Rajpath with banners which had messages like 'Seat belts save lives' and 'Do not use mobile while driving' to raise awareness that a number of spinal cord injury incidents take place due to road accidents.

"The idea of the rally is to raise awareness and to give the message that even if you have a spinal cord injury, you can still be treated and live a productive life," said H S Chabbra, medical director and chief of Spine Sevices at ISIC. "Spinal injuries are some of the most devastating injuries and pre-hospitalisation care is often critical in such cases, but sadly such infrastructure and know-how is missing in our country."

"People need to know the importance of seatbelts and being more careful on the roads," said Ram Gopal, who suffered spinal cord injury in a car crash eight months ago.

"Some goats came in my way while driving. I lost control of the car and it flipped several times. The portion below my neck is affected and I still have difficulty in doing simple tasks, but there has been improvement and the signs are good," said Gopal.

The rally was flagged off by Union minister Dr Mahesh Sharma who described the rally as a positive step in helping people suffering from spinal injuries.

Sanjay Sekhri

Safe driving awareness drive at Rajpath

Times Of India, Pg 6

STANDING TOGETHER

Wheelchair users take part in an awareness rally on spinal cord injuries at Raj Path, in the Capital on Sunday. SUBRATA DUTTA

Statesman, Pg 6

Wheelchair users rally

Breaking Photo September 10, 2017 Daily World

New Delhi: Wheelchair users along with hundreds of able-bodied persons take out a rally at the Rajpath in New Delhi on Sunday to raise awareness about spinal cord injuries and their prevention. /PTI

Daily Worlds

MoS for environment Mahesh Sharma flags off a wheelchair rally in New Delhi on Sunday. — BIPLAB BANERJEE

The Asian Age, Pg 2

रीढ़ की हड्डी में चोट को लेकर जागरूकता रैली

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): व्हीलचेयर सवार 100 से अधिक दिव्यांगों के साथ ही 750 से अधिक सामान्य लोगों ने राजपथ पर जागरुकता रैली निकाली, जिसमें रीढ़ की हड्डी से संबंधित चोटों को लेकर जागरुकता फैलाने की कोशिश की गई। इंडियन स्पाइनल इंजरीज सेंटर (आईएसआईसी) और स्पाइनल कॉर्ड सोसाइटी द्वारा 'स्पाइनल कॉर्ड इंजरीज डे' के अवसर पर आयोजित रैली को केन्द्रीय मंत्री महेश शर्मा ने हरी झंडी दिखाई, तो वहीं मेरूदंड की चोटों से जूझ रहे दिव्यांगों ने रैली में शामिल होकर अपनी सकारात्मक सोच का परिचय दिया। कार्यक्रम में केंद्रीय मंत्री महेश शर्मा ने कहा कि भारत सरकार दिव्यांगों को हर जगह पहुंच प्रदान करने के प्रयासों के साथ समावेशी भारत के निर्माण में लगी है।

Punjab Kesari, Pg 7

पाइनल कोर्ड इंजरीज पर जागरुकता अभियान के तहत व्हील चेयर पर रैली निकालते लोग। फोटोः विवेक निगम

स्पाइनल कॉर्ड इंजरी के मरीजों ने व्हीलचेयर पर निकाली रैली

नई दिल्ली। राजधानी के राजपथ पर रविवार को स्पाइनल कोर्ड इंजरीज पर जागरूकता अभियान के तहत 100 से अधिक व्हील चेयर यूजर्स ने अपने बुलंद हौसलों का दम दिखाते हुए रैली निकाली। रैली का आयोजन इंडियन स्पाइनल इंजरीज सेंटर और स्पाइनल कोर्ड सोसाइटी द्वारा किया गया। केन्द्रीय मंत्री डा. महेश शर्मा ने रैली को झंडी दिखाकर रवाना किया। रैली में भारत के सबसे तेज व्हीलचेयर मैराथन रनर शैलेश कुमार सिन्हा और दिल्ली पुलिस के संयुक्त आयुक्त अजय चौधरी बतौर मुख्य अतिथि मौजूद थे। इस मौके पर आईएसआईसी कर्मचारियों द्वारा पेश किए गए नुक्कड़ नाटक में मजबूत प्रदर्शन और अभिनय कौशल के माध्यम से संदेश दिया गया कि उपर्युक्त उपचार और पुनर्वास के साथ जीवन को बेहतर बनाया जा सकता है।

रैली में आईएसआईसी चेयरमैन मेजर एच पी एस अहलूवालिया, आईएसआईसी के डायरेक्टर जनरल डॉ ए.के मुखर्जी, और आईएससीओएस एससीआई कमिटी के चेयरपर्सन, मेडिकल डायरेक्टर और स्पाइन सर्विसेज के चीफ डॉ एच एस छाबरा समेत अन्य लोग उपस्थित थे। ब्यूरो

Amar Ujala, Pg 6

Rally held to spread awareness about spinal cord injuries

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

It was a special rally on Sunday as over 100 spinal injury patients rolled down wheelchairs on the majestic Rajpath with the objective of spreading awareness about spinal cord injuries exhibiting their unbeatable spirit towards life.

Patients, consumers and able bodied gathered under the banner of the Indian Spinal Injuries Centre (ISIC), country's premier institute for spinal care, and six other National Societies. The participants were cheered by Union Minister Mahesh Sharma, who also flagged off this unique rally. India's fastest wheelchair marathoner, Shailesh Kumar Sinha, and the Joint Commissioner of Delhi Police (New Delhi range) Ajay Choudhary were the Guests of Honour for the rally.

"This is a wonderful initiative from ISIC for supporting differently-abled people. I congratulate ISIC for taking up this serious issue. The Indian Government with its Accessible India Campaign has been working towards this objective and towards the creation of an inclusive India," said Union Minister Dr Mahesh Sharma.

This is a big initiative for a worthy cause, and it is inspiring to be witnessing this event. I have been interacting with the injury survivors and their stories are really inspiring. I salute their mental toughness and enthusiasm towards life. The work done by ISIC is indeed praiseworthy. The Delhi Police is committed to support such causes and help make the national Capital an inclusive State for one and all", Ajay Choudhary said.

Major HPS Ahluwalia, chairman, ISIC, who injured his spinal cord in the 1965 Indo-Pak war, shared his feelings on the occasion. "After a successful event last year, we are happy to come out stronger, in larger numbers, to bring back focus on differently-abled persons, especially those who have been fighting spinal cord injuries. Being an inseparable extension of the nervous system, an injury to the spine can render a person, temporarily or permanently, at partial or complete loss of muscle function, sensation, autonomic function of a part of the body, affecting adversely the life of the victim.

Also present at the rally were Dr AK Mukherjee, Director General, ISIC and Dr HS Chhabra, Medical Director & Chief of Spine Services, ISIC, with other dignitaries and guests. International Spinal Cord Society (ISCoS) organised the event with the objective of spreading awareness about spinal injuries and their treatment.

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The Pioneer, Pg 2

Dr Mahesh Sharma, Union Minister of State for Tourism and Culture (Independent Charge), flagging off a Wheelchair Rally on the occasion of World Spinal Cord Injury Day, at Rajpath, India Gate in New Delhi on Sunday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MANAS RANJAN BHUI

The Tribune, Pg 2

राजपथ पर इंडियन स्पाइनल इंजुरी सेंटर की ओर से रविवार को निकाली गई जागरूकता रैली में शामिल दिव्यांग।

Rastriya Sahara, Pg 2