



## **Javed Tak**

Social worker

Humanity Welfare Organization Helpline NGO

### **Important decision**

Humanity Welfare organization came into existence when a young boy became victim of armed conflict in Kashmir. A single bullet hit in his spine changed his life. Javed can't walk. He is wheelchair bound. The boy didn't give up but started his dependent life in independent way. At first instant the boy started to provide free education to poor orphans physically challenged and other students belonging to other under privileged classes. His continuous efforts and struggle made it possible to form an organization, with those students, who sought free tuitions from him. The unorganized people formed a group with the intention to serve poor children. The group started collecting used books, uniform, stationary items. Finally the group became concerned about the disability issues as their guide or the founder chairman is a spinal injured person and started fighting for the protection of the rights of disabled. The amount of Rs 75000/=, he received as ex – gratia relief from the government, a

### **My achievements**

1. National Award for welfare of person with Disabilities – 2004
2. Achievers Award from Rotary Club of Kashmir – 2005
3. Tak Zainagiri Memorial Award for Welfare of Orphans – 2005
4. J&K State Award for empowerment and upliftment of physically challenged – 2007
5. NCPEDP – Shell Helen Keller Award for creation of Employment opportunities for the Disabled People – 2007
6. District Youth Award through NYK Anantnag – 2006
7. CNN – IBN7 citizen journalist Award – 2008
8. Cavinkare Ability Award for Eminence by Ability foundation Chennai – 2009.
9. Servant of poor Awards by “Confederation of NGO's in Rural India” New Delhi 2009.
10. Karmveer Purskar “Chakra for Eminence” by iCongo Delhi - 2009

### **Brief description about me**

Javed Ahmed Tak

The Unlikely Warrior

The first thing you notice about Javed Ahmed Tak is his smile. The way it plays at the corners of his mouth and breaks into a broad grin that light up his eyes, it envelops you in its calm, comforting warmth. 'All is well', it seems to say. And it is, till you remember why the young man had not stood up to welcome you as

you were shown into his room.

Javed, 38, exudes an easy charm that touches you instantly. It makes you forget that this wheelchair-bound youngster has known trauma in its rawest form. He has even battled despair to reach out to others more unfortunate than him, and is today a tireless crusader for those forgotten at the fringes of our world, simply because their abilities take longer to discover and tap.

"Today, I consider myself blessed for what happened to me," says Javed of his journey from darkness to light. "It is only by becoming disabled that my vision of the world changed."

### **Degree that I recommend**

Research in social work (Rights of persons with Disabilities)

### **Ensuring success**

Services Available in organization:

- Special Education to children with special needs like blind, Deaf and Dumb, cerebral palsy affected, Autism affected, mentally challenged and multiple disable.
- Physiotherapy and occupational therapy to cerebral palsy affected and orthopaedic disable.
- Advocacy at state level for the Rights of all types of persons with disabilities.
- Free distribution of Assistive and supportive devices subjected to availability.
- Awareness programmes and sensitization rallies.
- Book Bank where books are taken in exchange by the poor students.
- A women Empowerment group working on peace and conflict Management.
- Free computer education to student with disabilities during last three years.
- Around 78 children with different disabilities took advantage from these services.
- Free wheel chairs have been distributed among 123 persons with disabilities in past

the organization works for the Advocacy of vulnerable and marginalized sections of the society.

### **Qualities needed to become a successful leader**

Positive Attitude

Inclusive ideas

Optimistic

Honest

Human loving

### **My strongest skill**

The biggest achievement so far is the start of school – Zaiba Aapa institute of Inclusive Education for all types of disable children, including blind, deaf, mute, cerebral palsy affected, Autistic, multiple disable, orthopaedic disable and other children facing different type of disabilities. The organization has been providing Braille education, Sign language, music therapy, sports and vocational education to the children with disabilities. The school has been established in 2007 and has been running under the registration of JK persons with disabilities Act 1998 through Social welfare department and Education Act through Chief Education officer Anantnag. The special children are given training in routine life activities and vocational trainings to live a dignified life. The visually impaired children are taught through Braille education, Deaf

through sign language and cerebral palsy affected children treated with physiotherapy technique. Thus the school is first of its type in district

### **Thoughts on Education system of our country**

Inclusive Education system on lines of moral Education is the need of the hour

1. The school buildings need to be made disable friendly by removing infrastructural barriers. Construction of appropriate Ramps at entry points, widening of class room doors and introduction of signage's can make initiate the process of inclusion.
2. Provision of special teachers, including sign language interpreters in schools is important step for introduction of inclusive education.
3. Provision of accessible teaching learning material like Braille script, talking books so that blind children will get benefited
4. Provision of resource rooms equipped with all facilities including special teachers, disable friendly washrooms and provision of teaching kits for intellectually challenged children will maximize the process of inclusion.
5. All newly launched schools should be covered under disable friendly designs.

### **Important lesson learned**

Greed never makes us rich.

Honesty always pays for us.

Caring for others makes us strong, satisfied and Popular.

Moral corruption fades our picture from the souls of others.

Being responsible part of family ties us in affection and keeps us healthy.

Challenges help us to tackle all types of situations.

### **My family background**

I was born in Bijbehara, a town in the District of Anantnag, in Kashmir, part of India. I grew up in a poor community where most of the people work as small artisans, labourers, and small merchants. Being a member of a poor Muslim family and community, I did not get any special treatment nor good schooling and availability of all things needed during childhood. Thank God, through harsh living conditions I learned a lot and sought perfection to some extent because I believe that it is through such conditions that man learns to be better because nothing can be taken for granted as every gain is through great efforts, enabling better appreciation.

Being a Muslim I followed the principles of Islam, offered Salat – (prayer offered by Muslims) and found Salat as means of attaining peace and protection from sins. After living 21 years of independent life my fate was changed when I was injured in a militancy incident.

### **Influenced by**

Prophet Muhammad Salallahu Alihi wasalam

APJ, Abdul Kalam

Rajive Ghandhi ji

My parents

### **More about myself**

1. Filed Public interest litigation in J&K High Court, which resulted in formulation of Draft policy for the persons with disabilities in Jammu and Kashmir.
2. Filed a complaint against J&K Govt. in State Human Rights Commission for provision of reservations for physically challenged in all in all govt. jobs identified for PWD category, by public service commission and Subordinate services recruitment Board.
3. Filed a complaint in SHRC Srinagar against the Administrators of Govt. silk factory RajBagh Srinagar where the workers were suffering due to the non availability of pay from various years due to old machinery and non availability of raw material. The reaction was that Managing Director J&K industries assured the commission that reengineering of the factory will be done within a limited period of time.
4. on Anti-Leprosy day (30th January–2007) Agitated before SHRC and filed a sue against Social Welfare department for complete Rehabilitation of desperate people with leprosy in Kashmir.

### **Initiative to develop a country**

Work more for Development have less urge for money.

Take part in development and give up greed.

Work on modern lines keeping our own ethics alive

### **My role model**

Javed Abidi - Disable by legs but working with dedication for the Rights of Disable persons in India

Riyaz Ahmad Beigh have lost both upper limbs still work as District social Welfare officer Srinagar Kashmir

APJ Abdul Kalam work day and night for the development of our country

### **Couple of years from now**

Complete M.Ed programme through Kashmir University