

## RESIDENTIAL CARE



**Asif at the post surgery care hostel**

Accessibility to quality rehabilitation services has always been an issue for persons with disabilities living in far flung areas of Jammu & Kashmir. In order to make quality rehabilitation services available to such persons with disabilities, Handicap International and Hope Disability Centre have started residential and post surgery care hostel at Ganderbal where in persons with disabilities from remote areas who need continuous and regular rehabilitation services after surgery at Physical Rehabilitation Centre (PRC), Ganderbal get residential (boarding and lodging facilities) free of cost. The location of the hostel is just few yards away from PRC.

Opening of residential and post surgery care hostel has come as a relief to Ghulam Haider, who is a carpenter by profession as his son Asif Haider,14, required continuous rehabilitation services after he received CTEV (club foot deformity) corrective surgery.

Ghulam Haider said, “Initially I could not afford medical treatment for my son Asif that is why his condition left unattended for almost 13 years. It was in June 2011 that my friend told me about Hope Disability Centre. Immediately, I along with Asif visited Hope Disability Centre and there in after assessing his condition they referred Asif to SKIMS Hospital, Bemina for corrective surgery.

Hope Disability Centre took care of the expenses required for the surgery. After undergoing successful surgery, with the help of ALTSO. A leg to stand on . Asif required continuous monitoring and follow ups for which he had to come to PRC on regular basis which was not possible for his family as they are very poor and live in a far off village Margund in Ganderbal district.

After surgery, Asif's legs were put on a fixator which meant his movements for the time being need to be restricted. Asif also required post surgery rehabilitation services like exercises which were available freely in the residential hostel at Ganderbal.

“We are getting quality services here at the hostel and the experts from PRC visit the hostel thrice a day to see my son. We feel as if we are at home”, says Ghulam Haider.

“Asif's condition is improving and we are observing him closely. He needs constant supervision and follow-ups. Initially Asif has to stay here for about a week, then after doctor's consultation at SKIMS hospital we would chalk out further rehabilitation plan for him”, said Noor Mohammad, Hostel Supervisor.

Asif seems quite optimistic after his surgery as he says, “Before surgery, I was walking with a limp and not able to run. At times, even walking became painful for me. Now with surgery, I hope that I can run and move fast. Earlier while playing cricket I was taking the help of a runner, now after surgery I expect that very soon I can play cricket on my own without the help of a runner”.