

Workshops: Appropriate Strategies for Promotion of Functional Garments

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ABSTRACT In a study, functional features were recommended for garments of children using calipers and crutches, upper limb amputees, lower limb amputees, hemiplegics and paraplegics after trials of the garments designed for them in accordance to their clothing related problems. To promote functional garments amongst the target group, their construction and production was initiated. For that a catalogue entitled 'Drafting Technique of Functional Garments' was prepared in English and Hindi. To impart technical know how regarding functional garments, workshops were organized in two rehabilitating organizations running training-cum production center. The workshops were attended by the instructors and the trainees of the centers including handicapped persons. The participants had high opinion about the functional garments because they found that 'The functional features incorporated in the garments will increase their serviceability and durability', 'the functional garments will enhance the personality of the wearer' and 'the functional garments will reduce the dependency of the disabled on the caretakers'. The workshop was found highly useful as they felt that the workshop would prove to be a boon in their life because they learnt to develop design of garments for persons with different disabilities and also acquired sufficient skill to stitch the functional garments.