



N E D A

**National Ethnic Disability  
Alliance  
MEDIA Release  
March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

NEDA announces the release of its report:

**“The Plight of People Living with Disabilities within Australian  
Immigration Detention: *Demonised, Detained and Disowned.*”**

It can be found at: <http://www.neda.org.au/index.php/latest/183-plight>

This report explores the significant challenges asylum seekers living with disabilities, their families and carers, experience while being mandatorily detained in Australian managed immigration centres.

The report is mainly limited to secondary sources and published research. Nonetheless, NEDA did obtain data from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) and also collated case studies from advocates and/or organisations within the sector.

The evidence presented, particularly the case studies supplied, are profoundly disturbing and clearly demonstrates how people living with disabilities in immigration detention are not having their basic - let alone disability related - needs met.

The report concludes by supporting the overwhelming consensus that Australia is not meeting its human rights obligations pertaining to asylum seekers, and to asylum seekers living with disability.

NEDA President Suresh Rajan stated *‘this is an important document that highlights the plight of people in detention who live with disability. This is an issue that NEDA has been discussing for several years now as we have been aware of stories and reports of people with disability in detention not having access to medication, aids and equipment, support services and appropriate communication supports or translation services. It is obvious from the information gathered that the Australian Government is not upholding its obligations with regard to the CRPD’.*

We ask those concerned, together with organisations within disability, refugee and advocacy sectors to share the document and to help with its exposure.

For further information please contact NEDA President.