

Indraprastha College for Women
Annual Report
Of
Equal Opportunities Cell & Enabling Unit
2015-2016

Enabling Unit along with Equal Opportunities Cell of Indraprastha College for women strives to cater to the needs of the Students with Disabilities enrolled in various courses at both Undergraduate and Postgraduate programmes of the College. Its primary aim is to provide accessible means and to create a barrier-free environment for Students with Disabilities enrolled in the College. In continuation to this goal, the Principal, Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf initiated a visionary motif, which was clearly reflected in the College theme for the academic year 2014-2015, “Visibility of Disability: Issues of Access”. The same theme was continued into the current academic year 2015-2016 as well to ensure accessibility for all.

Ms. Jaya Mishra and Dr. Shrruti Sahrawat, the coordinators of Enabling Unit and Equal Opportunities Cell respectively for the monsoon Semester — July-December 2015, and Dr. BR. Alamelu and Dr. Rimpi Killan Singh for the Winter Semester —Jan-May 2016, along with other members tirelessly worked towards achieving the vision of the College towards universal accessibility and overall inclusion.

A total of 16 Students with Disabilities 10 in B.A I Year and 6 in M.A I Year (VH-10, HH-2 and OH-4) have been enrolled in various courses being offered by the College for the academic year 2015-2016.

An Orientation Programme was organized for the freshers on 10/08/2015. The Principal, Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf addressed the gathering. Dr. Anil Aneja, Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the Equal Opportunities Cell, University of Delhi was invited for detailing the facilities available for Students with disabilities at the University level and in all Colleges affiliated to the University of Delhi. He also talked about the Inclusive Print Project initiated by the Equal Opportunities Cell, University of Delhi for the easy access of print material. The Librarian, Mr. Vijay Gautam and Dr. BR. Alamelu detailed about the facilities and resources available in the College.

The College received NCPEDP Award 2015 — “Universal Design: Accessibility for All” on 14/08/2015. The Principal, Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf, Dr. Shrruti Sahrawat, Coordinator Equal Opportunities Cell and Dr. BR. Alamelu (Coordinator Enabling Unit 2013-2015), some senior faculty and a few students attended the award ceremony.

A fifteen-day Mobility Programme was organized to orient the freshers to move around freely and comfortably in the College. Mr. Anil Kumar, a Mobility Instructor trained the students with visual impairment in this regard.

Mr. Lalan Kumar, a Computer Instructor was appointed on contractual basis in both – Monsoon and Winter Semesters (2015-2016) to train, enable and enhance the Students with Visual Impairment in computer skills.

24 notebooks/laptops were issued to Students with Disabilities on a returnable basis with duly signed undertaking forms by the candidates to carry out their academic work more efficiently.

The Enabling Unit is now shifted to a more spacious room. All the braille books and assistive devices like braille printer, angel pocket players, Lex air camera, etc are made available for the students in the Enabling Unit itself. The new unit is equipped with ramps, notice boards and an emergency exit.

Ms. Radhika Gupta, SPA Library has been appointed as an In-Charge to meet the needs of the visually challenged and is available on all working days from 2:30-3:30 PM in the Enabling Unit.

A Workshop on the use of Lex Air Camera, Braille Face, Hindi OCR and OPAC was organised for visually challenged students on 29/30/09 and 07-09/10/2015 from 3:00 to 4:30 PM. Dr. BR. Alamelu, Mr. Vijay Gautam, Librarian and Ms. Radhika Gupta, SPA Library were resource persons for the workshop.

Indraprastha College for Women was the first college to visit the “Anubhav” – a tactile gallery in the National Museum, New Delhi – since its inception. The trip was undertaken on 14/01/2016. Dr. Rimpi Killan Singh, coordinator Equal Opportunities cell, Dr. BR. Alamelu, Coordinator Enabling Unit along with the members – Dr. Pragati Mohapatra, Ms. Anita Banerji and Mr. Vijay Gautam and Ms. Renu Navani, In-Charge, Museum & Archive of our College accompanied students with disabilities to ‘Anubhav’ Gallery in the National Museum. The Gallery allows full tactile access accompanied by an audio-guide and Braille labels.

An alumna Talk for students with disabilities was organised on 21/01/2016, in which Ms. Shamim Bano, Ms. Shipra Shukla and Ms. Nidhi – alumna of our College – shared their experiences of work place and higher education.

‘Samarthya’ — an Inter-College Annual cultural fest of Equal Opportunities cell and Enabling Unit — was organised on 10/03/2016. Around a hundred differently abled students from across the colleges of University of Delhi participated in the three competitions — Creative Writing, Extempore and Solo Singing organised as part of ‘Samarthya’. Dr. Anand Gupta, Assistant Professor, School of Law, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) delivered a talk on the topic, “Disability and Society: The Role of Law in the Lives of Persons With Disabilities”.

The Department of Empowerment of Persons With disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MSJE), Government of India launched Inclusiveness and Accessibility Index on 30/03/2016, and Dr. Rimpi Killan Singh, Coordinator Equal Opportunities Cell and Dr. BR. Alamelu, Coordinator Enabling Unit attended the launch as invitees on behalf of the college.

The college arranged free transportation for all students with disabilities to travel back to their destinations during the examinations in the winter. In strict compliance with the directions of UGC, the College made a provision for the allotment of a 20 minute extra time per hour to all students who employed scribes to assist them in writing the exams.

Students have been encouraged to participate in various cultural and sports events conducted by other colleges of University of Delhi, and several of them stood as winners in various categories.

We, the coordinators of Equal Opportunities cell and Enabling Unit wish to place on record our deepest appreciation for the committee members for their cooperation throughout the year in translating our aspirational goals into concrete actions.

None of the events briefly highlighted above would have been possible without the kind assistance, wise guidance and the timely support of the Principal and her administrative staff. The Equal Opportunities cell and the Enabling Unit owe special thanks to the office of the Principal and other administrative staff for their constant help.

Dr. Rimpi Killan Singh

Coordinator

Equal Opportunities Cell

Dr. BR. Alamelu

Coordinator

Enabling Unit