

Report-2011-12

Faculty convener: Dr. Jyoti Dhawan

Co-convenor: Dr. Pankaj

Student Conveners: Tripti Roy & Dipanshi Sood

No of students with disability: six(five from graduate courses & one from post graduation)

The scholarship amounting to Rs.3000(three thousand) each was given for this year to meet their Academic Expenses and full fee concession has been given to Shukriya, a visually impaired student of B.A. program second year.

A Computer along with Peripheral Devices has been installed in the fully furnished EOC Room. "JAWS", special software to help visually impaired has been installed.

Tripti Roy and Neha Anand Jha are differently abled students who have won many prizes/medals in the Inter College Cultural and Sports competitions held in the various Delhi University Colleges. Tripti has won number of prizes in the Para athletic National Championship in Bengaluru, 25th-29th March, 2012 and in the Fourth Delhi State Paralympics meet held in DPS School, R.K Puram, 30th October 2011, organized by the Paralympics Committee of India.

Talk by Mr Akhileshwar Sahay, Strategic Advisor with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation and Principal Investigator and Managing Trustee of the Whole Mind India Foundation was organized by the cell on 21st February 2012. He talked on "Youth ,Mental Peace and the Road to Mental Health".

A Felicitation function was held on 13th March, 2012 for the SC/ST/OBC Category Students for successfully completing the English Mentoring Course. In this course the sessions on Personality Development conducted by Clinical Psychologists, CV Writing, Facing Interviews and Job Opportunities in Hospitality Industry were taken. In the month of July,2012 a new batch of this course will be initiated by the cell.

A Visit to the School managed by the NGO , AkshayaPrithisthan , for the differently abled students was organized.

EOC members have been visiting NAB, National Association for the Blind regularly and assisting them in their Computer and other Activities while being Scribes for them.

EOC celebrated its Annual Event "Initiative" on 22nd March, 2012 which was another step taken to bring about the much needed sensitivity and awareness for the inclusion of the differently abled in the mainstream. The EOC very strongly believes that these individuals do not need sympathy but recognition and motivation to lead a normal life where their disability cannot be used as an excuse. To highlight this it chose to motivate and encourage by example and brought together a very distinguished panel consisting: Dr. P.R. Ramanujam, Pro Vice Chairman, IGNOU; Mr. George Abraham, CEO Score and Founder Chairman, World Cricket Council for the Blind; Major general (retd.) Ian Cardozo, Chariman, Rehabilitation Council of India; DIG Arvind Dutt Abdali, Head of IT division, Border Security Forces; Ms. Anjali Arora, Legal Officer Airport Authority of India and; Mr. Vikram Dutt. Each of these distinguished guests spoke about their journey of life and how they overcame the hindrances caused by their disabilities and reached such remarkable heights.

In order to have accessibility for the wheel chair users in the college auditorium, wooden ramps have been constructed. Dr. Ramanujam talked about how polio tried to tie him down but he nevertheless entered the mainstream earned a doctorate and rose to be the Pro VC of the world's largest open university. One had only heard those tales of courage from someone else but Major Gen. Ian Cardozo's act of courage left us feeling like lesser mortals-Not only did he lose his leg in a mine-blast during the Indo- Pak war but to avoid the spread of gangrene he used a khukri and amputated his own leg; and we thought only in 127 hours could this happen.

In a country like India where cricket is embedded in one's soul Mr. George Abraham's passion for the support is almost expected, but his passion was such that his visual impairment could not stop him and he founded the

World Cricket Council for the blind. He spoke about how destiny is a matter of choice and not chance and he said people with disabilities are a resource as their abilities are merely different.

DIG Abdali had his lower body paralyzed while he was in patrol, he re-trained himself in the field of IT and with a gradual yet steady rise heads the IT department of BSF. He spoke about management through consciousness and how awareness is a key role player in deciding one's life.

Ms Anjali Arora always wanted to be a lawyer and with her endeavours became the first visually impaired woman lawyer to practice law in India. In a women's college such as Kamala Nehru her story inspired each one of us even more.

Mr. Vikram Dutt, Chairman of Manovikas has an experience of over 35 years in the field of disability and as he spoke about how disability could change yet gives a direction to one's life.

The panel was truly inspirational and each told a story of exuberance where the audience couldn't help but wonder and questions their own ability.

The Principal of the College Dr. Minoti Chatterjee spoke about the importance of this day and how important this encouragement for inclusion is. The Panel discussion was followed by dance performances by students of Manovikas, Koshish and Multi-purpose Center for training of the Deaf and Dumb and vocal performances by the very talented Mamta Vani and Mr. Neeraj Kumar. The event was well attended by the college students and delegates from other colleges and organisations.