

**Report of the Enabling Unit till Date  
Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce  
(University of Delhi)**

**1. Introduction**

Enabling Unit “Jaagriti” was launched on 9<sup>th</sup> of March, 2010. The prime objective of Jaagriti is to help the differently abled students from the very beginning when they seek admission to the college; while they are in college and even after they have passed out. Creating awareness and sensitizing public at large towards the issue is another important motive being pursued by EU and that is how it gives meaning to both its names “Enabling Unit” and “Jaagriti”. Jaagriti includes 15 teachers and 35 students as on date. Creating a help desk during admission time, conducting workshops and seminars for sensitization, making educational trips to some NGOs have become annual activities of Jaagriti other than helping disabled students and making the college disabled friendly. This has been possible with the support of Principal Dr. JB Singh and all the teacher members whether they are the part of Jaagriti or not. Participation of student members has made EU very lively. Jaagriti, the Enabling Unit hosted the annual fest “SRIJAN” of Equal Opportunity Cell of University of Delhi in November, 2011. For last couple of years, Jaagriti has conducted “Saron Ke Ustaad”, a singing competition for disabled students in association with Sangeet Vandana, a premier institute for learning music wherein winners are given chance to record an audio cd in their own voice other than attractive cash prizes. Since last year, Jaagriti has initiated fest SAHARSH for disabled students so that they can showcase their talents by holding competitions like debating, poetry, quiz, talent hunt etc. This year, SAHARSH will include sport activities for them also. A brief note on activities undertaken by Jaagriti on yearly basis is given as follows:

**2. Launch of the Enabling Unit**

SGGSCC launched the Enabling Unit with slogan “Self Help is God’s Help” on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 by conducting a seminar “Support Systems for Disabled Students at Higher Education Level”. OSD of EOC, University of Delhi, C. Nisha Singh and Mr. Jagdish Chandra, Associate Professor in Hindu College were the chief guest and speaker respectively. Teachers and Students from different colleges of DU participated in the seminar. Rashmi Taneja, a visually challenged student passed out from our college and pursuing M Com from Department of Commerce, University of Delhi was felicitated for her academic performance and Diman Singh, B Com (P) first year student who is physically handicapped of our college was felicitated for his performance in sports.

**3. Session 2010-11**

As the main objective of the Enabling Unit is to take care of a differently abled student right from the very beginning when he/she seeks admission to the college and even after he/she is passed out, Enabling Unit created a help desk for the disabled students during admissions for session 2010-11. They were also taken to attend the orientation programme organised by EOC, University of Delhi on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2010. Similarly, an orientation programme was also conducted by the Enabling Unit for them to introduce them to all the teacher and student members of the Enabling Unit of the college as there

were 12 teachers from different departments and 30 student volunteers from various sections and courses. Ms Renu Gupta from Commerce Department is the convener and Dr. Harpreet Kaur from Political Science Department was the co-convener.

Amit Kumar, the joint secretary of the Enabling Unit from students, a third year B Com (P) student went as a writer for a student with multi disability, Sameer Arora who graduated from our college in 2009 and has now succeeded in finding a suitable job for him finally.

Ms Renu Gupta motivated school teachers to encourage their visually challenged students to opt for mathematics and commerce in the meetings organised by EOC of University of Delhi. Ms Renu Gupta was appointed as convener of the course committee of Economics and member of commerce committee to identify the books and references to be converted in E-text as per the course curriculum of DU to help visually challenged students and teachers in the university.

Mrs. Saranjeet Kaur, Professional Assistant Library was sent to attend 4 days programme for learning assistive techniques to help the differently abled students in the college. The programme was organised by EOC, Du in summer vacations.

On 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2010, Enabling Unit conducted a workshop to create awareness and sensitization in the student volunteers with the support of EOC University of Delhi. C Nisha Singh was the chief guest and Praveen Kumar G was the expert who is a trained social worker from Madras Christian School and a scholar from the London School of Economics. Being a visually challenged person himself, Mr. Praveen Kumar was outstanding in conducting the workshop and had been successful in attaining the goal for which the workshop was carried out. This was the occasion when it was formally announced that Enabling Unit of our college will be known as "Jaagriti".

Jaagriti encouraged the students with disability of our college to avail scholarships announced by institutions such as NHFDC and participate in the cultural programme and sport meet organised by EOC, University of Delhi.

On 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2011, Jaagriti organised a trip to National Association of the Blind, RK Purim, and New Delhi for the teachers and students members of the Enabling Unit. Our college donated Rs 5000 to the institution and the teachers and students collected Rs 4500 amongst themselves and donated the same to the organisation. It was really touching to visit NAB and helped a lot in moving the hearts of the participants to the trip towards disability and compelled them to think what one can do at one's level best to help the needy.

The Enabling Unit "JAGRITI" conducted a seminar on 1<sup>st</sup> march 2011 and the theme of the seminar was "Human Rights, Gender and Disability". Speakers who participated in the event were Dr Kusumlata Madam from Department of Hindi, University of Delhi and Roma Bhaghat Madam an eminent lawyer in the field of disability along with Dr Harpreet Kaur of Political Science Department of our college who is also the co-convener of the Jaagriti. Jaagriti also felicitated two disabled students on this occasion: Sameer Arora, an X student who is facing multiple disability and Prateek Sethi, an orthopedically handicapped student pursuing PGDIM from SGGSCC that time. Two student volunteers were also awarded for their best performance namely Divya Sharma, President of Jaagriti and Amit Kumar, Joint Secretary of Jaagriti. Teachers and students from different colleges participated in the event.

#### **4. Session 2011-12**

Jagriti again created a help desk for the disabled students in the session 2011-2012 who were seeking admission to SGGSCC. Continuing the standards set in the year of inception, the disabled students who were able to secure admission in our college were motivated and also taken to the orientation programme conducted for them by EOC, University Of Delhi on 20 July, 2011.

On 21 September 2011 Orientation programme of our own college was also conducted to introduce the Jagriti team along with students volunteers and teacher members to the differently able students admitted this year. Jaagriti also helped a multiple disabled student, Inesh pursuing B Com (P) I<sup>st</sup> Year to perform his final exams on computer as he types only with the help of one finger and also is not able to avail the facility of writer because he is not able to speak also.

Its a matter of great pride for SGGSCC that EOC, University of Delhi selected our college for conducting their annual cultural fest 'SRIJAN'.

SRIJAN provides platform to differently abled students to show their talents throughout the Delhi university involving different activities like debate, dancing, singing, creative writing, poetry recitation, mehndi sketching, rangoli making, etc.

It was a very successful programme that took place in our college auditorium on November 12 and 13. Pro.Vice-Chancellor of DU Prof. Vivek Suneja was the chief guest. The main highlight of the programme was that it ended with the special performance of ABILITY UNLIMITED group led by Guru Pasha, a world wide known personality and Guinness book world record holder. It was amazing to see wheelchair user, deaf and dumb persons dancing, doing yoga and performing marshal arts. There are no words to explain the wonder of the programme. It was also an enriching experience for the student volunteers of Jagriti to interact and help differently abled persons and knowing that they actually need opportunity but not mercy. The programme was conducted at such a large scale that we took the help of student volunteers from our other college societies like NSS, DISHA and EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CELL.

Moreover the performance of the RAUNQAN-THE GIDDA TEAM, MANCHTANTRA-THE DRAMATICS SOCIETY and SURVEEN-THE MUSIC SOCIETY added to the charm of the programme.

The student volunteers were trained in advance for helping the differently abled persons coming for the event on November 1, 2011 by conducting a sensitisation workshop on part of our college. OSD EOC, Dr. C Nisha Singh and Mr. Prashant Verma from EOC conducted the workshop.

We also visited Pingalwara Society in Amritsar which looks after mentally retarded women and children on 28-29 Feb, 2012. It really moved the hearts of the students towards the noble cause.

Jaagriti felicitated Inesh, B Com I Year student and Mohd. Eqbal, II Year B Com student as most active members of the Enabling Unit as being physically challenged, they participated actively in Jaagriti's programmes. Moreover, Kanika Kalra, President of Jaagriti, III Year, Eco (H) student was awarded as best student volunteer in girls and Sumit Aggarwal, Joint Secretary of Jaagriti, III Year B Com (H) student was awarded best student volunteer in boys.

Creating help desk during admissions, conducting sensitization workshops, educational trips for sensitization and conducting seminars on the issue of disability have become annual activities of Jaagriti other than helping disabled students in the college.

### **5. Session 2012-13**

For the session 2012-13, help desk was created for the help of disabled students seeking admission to the college and three admissions were made. On 7 August, 2012, these students were taken to attend the orientation programme conducted by EOC, University of Delhi along with student volunteers of Jaagriti. Orientation programme was also organised within the college to introduce these students with the members of EU on 30 September, 2012. On 6 November, 2012, sensitization workshop has already been conducted in which Dr. Bipin Tiwari, OSD, EOC, University of Delhi was the chief guest and Mr. Sanjeev suchdev, Member of Parliament himself conducted the workshop being a wheel chair user along with three other members of Sanjeevani Organisation. On 23 February, 2013, a trip to Tears Organisation in Agra for slow learning students is made which proved to be very inspiring. A seminar on the theme “ Policy of Reservation and Social Order” on 2 April, 2013 was also organised by the Enabling Unit in which Mr. Prasanna Pincha, Chief Commissioner of the Court of Persons with Disabilities was the guest of honour and Dr. Madhu Prasad, Mr. Vikas Gupta, Dr. Harpreet Kaur and Mr. Sachin were the speakers. The crux of the seminar was that policy of reservation is an important tool to insure social order and equity. Moreover, vertical reservation can cease but not the horizontal reservation.

### **6. Session 2013-14**

In session 2013-14, other than conducting regular activities, In the co-convenership of Dr. Kawal Gill, Jaagriti students showcased an original play on the official Fresher’s Welcome on August 30, 2013. The essential focus of the play was upon the cynical and degrading attitude of people in general towards the differently-abled. It sought to highlight the fact that the toughest challenge for a differently-abled person is not to overcome his handicap, but to overcome the biased and more often than not cruel treatment meted out to them by people who fail to see them as talented individuals. In the twenty minute play, students portrayed differently-abled characters who in spite of facing ruthless derogation managed to rise as skilled and remarkable beings.

On Nov 7, 2013, George Abraham, CEO of Score Foundation, conducted a workshop “Aptitude Building and Positive Thinking” that stimulated the audience to think beyond limitations. He gave 5 Ds to success: Dreams, Desire, Dedication, Determination and Discipline.

Mr. Abraham is the CEO of Score Foundation; a Delhi based nonprofit organization working in the domain of life with blindness in India. His passion for cricket pushed him to setup the National Cricket Program for the Blind in 1990 and The World Blind Cricket Council (WBCC) in 1996. Along with national tournaments he went on to organize the first two cricket world cups for the blind, in Delhi in 1998 and in Chennai in 2002. And he has recently launched a first of its kind television series, ‘Nazar Ya Nazariya’ which is aimed at challenging common perceptions and focusing on immense possibilities of life with blindness.

The two-fold objective of the workshop; sensitization on the issue of disability and promotion of the television series 'Nazar ya Nazariya' was successfully achieved as Mr. Abraham starting from his own life's experiences was able to move the audience to realise that persons with disabilities are not a burden rather human resource for the society if they are taken in the right sense and given right direction and opportunities to grow and achieve what they are capable to achieve.

IV Annual Seminar of Jaagriti titled "Rights based Inclusive Society" was organised on 4 Feb, 2013. Eminent speakers were Dr. Dipender Manocha and Mr. Prashant Verma associated with Shaksham Unit and Daisy Consordium. On the same day, display of high tech products that are friendly to visually disabled persons was also made.

An educational trip to Jaipur and Ajmer was also made including a visit to NGO "Jaipur Foot" in April, 2014.

### **7. Session 2014-15**

Help desk was created for disabled students during admissions. Orientation programme was organised on Oct 16, 2014, Dr. Vipin Malhotra, Associate Professor in Political Science Department of Arvindo College, conducted a workshop "Synchronising Employment and Education Opportunities for the Disabled Students" along with his two colleagues.

V Annual Seminar of Jaagriti titled "Health Care and Alternative Medicine" was organised on 2 March, 2014 in association with First Aid Committee. Eminent speakers were Prof. Dinesh Puri, Head of Bio-Chemistry Department at University College of Medical Sciences in GTB Hospital who spoke on "Spinal Disorders and Preventive Measures". Another speaker was Mr. Mohan Saxena, expert in alternative medicine who is known for curing rare diseases. Chief Guest was Dr. A.K. Aneja, OSD, EOC, and University of Delhi. An educational trip to an NGO was also made in Delhi, NCER.

### **8. Session 2015-16**

Jaagriti, the Enabling Unit created a help desk during admissions for the session 2015-16 for disabled students followed by an orientation programme for them. On 17 January, 2016, a music competition for disabled students, "Suron Ke Ustaad (3)" was organized by Jaagriti, the Enabling Unit in association with Sangeet Vandana, and a premier institute for learning music. It was a singing competition. The first three winners were given cash prizes of Rs. 5100, Rs. 3100 and Rs. 1100 along with a chance of recording an audio cd in their own voice.

On March 9, 2016, Jaagriti, the Enabling Unit conducted its VI<sup>th</sup> annual seminar in association with innovation project 302 titled "Empowering Disabled Students through E-learning at Higher Education". The chief guest was Dr. Bipin Tiwari, OSD, EOC, and University of Delhi. Dr. Alok Bhuwan, head of Manovikas Trust, Mr. Prashant Ranjan Verma, an IT manager and disability activist and Ms. Preeti Sapra, an instructor to hearing impaired students were the eminent speakers. The seminar was very successful and admired by all.

An educational trip to an NGO in Delhi, NCER was also made during the year.

## **9. Session 2016-17**

Jaagriti, The Enabling Unit created a help desk for disabled students during admissions followed by an Orientation Programme for new students to enlighten them about functions of Jaagriti.

On 20th October, 2016, Jaagriti – The Enabling Unit of SggsCC organized two events at 10:30 a.m. in the college premises. The first event was a seminar on breast cancer - "Think Pink", conducted in collaboration with Womenite-the change makers in the seminar room of the college. The guest of honor and speaker for the seminar was Dr. Pawan gupta who is an Additional Director and HOD of Department of Surgical Oncology at Jaypee hospitals, Noida. The second event was an eye checkup campaign conducted by Dr. Sushil Kumar who is a senior optometrist at PS THUKRAL OPTICALS.

An educational trip to an NGO "NIVH – National Institute of Visually Handicaps" at Amar Colony, New Delhi was also organized on 1 April, 2017.

## **10 Session 2017-18**

Help desk was created for disabled students during admissions. A meeting with new disabled students was conducted in Principal Office to understand their needs and making relevant provisions for better facilitating them in the college followed by an orientation programme to introduce them to team Jaagriti.

On November 2, 2017, VIII<sup>th</sup> annual seminar titled "Think Bright, Be Bright" was organised on the theme of positive thinking and stress management. Chief Guest was Prof. Anil Aneja, OSD, Equal Opportunity Cell, University of Delhi. George Abraham, the Founder of 'Score Foundation' was the first speaker who related his own role model story to inspire the audience how a visually impaired person became master of subjects like Mathematics, Economics and Operational Research and took blind cricket team to international level with the help of positive approach and right thinking. Ms. Abha Khetarpal, Founder of 'Cross the Hurdles; educated the young students to live a stress free and healthy life. Dr. Satendra Singh, an Associate Professor at GTB Hospital, UCMS presented role modle stories of disabled persons to convince the audience that it is the positive approach or bright thinking in life that leads to success rather than resourcefulness. The seminar ended with a positive note that there is no substitute of positive thinking if one wants to achieve true goal of life. Jaagriti has planned to organised fest SAHARSH on February 20, 2018 wherein disabled students of various colleges will be able to showcase their talents in debate, poetry, quiz, singing and different sport activities. An educational trip to NGO is also planned during this session as well in Delhi NCER.

Jaagriti is also taking care to make the college fully accessible to disabled students by building ramps in the corridors and stage in the auditorium. Moreover, provision of lifts is already there in the main building. Toilets are also being made disabled friendly.

May god bless us with wisdom to continue the noble cause in future also at remarkable pace!

Renu Gupta

Convener

ENABLING UNIT "JAGRITI"

SGGSCC.