



**NETAJI SUBHAS OPEN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

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Report

On

In Service Training and Sensitization Programme of Key Functionaries: Central and State Governments, Local Bodies and Other Service Providers at the National level funded by RCI, New Delhi on 1st, 2nd and 3rd June, 2018 at Burdwan University, West Bengal

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities has developed a new central sector plan scheme; viz “In-Service Training and Sensitization of Central and State Govt., Local Bodies and other Service providers at the national level”. Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi entrusted the School of Education, Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata to conduct the programme in different Venues of West Bengal. The University has conducted the 11th Sensitization Program on 1st, 2nd and 3rd June, 2018 at Kadambini Ganguly Memorial Hall, 3 rd Floor, Composite Arts Building, Golapbag, Burdwan University for forty participants from Burdwan district of West Bengal. Smt. Antara Choudhury, Assistant Professor, School of Education, NSOU, was the Coordinator of the Programme. Welcome Address was delivered by Dr. A. N. Dey, Director, SoE, and NSOU. Prof. S. K. Sarkar, Head, Core faculty, SoE, NSOU, introduced the Theme of the entire programme highlighting the objectives of the programme as envisaged in RCI documents. Prof. B.B. Parida, Dean, Faculty of Arts, Burdwan University, delineated the essence of sensitization of the issues pertaining to the nature and nurture of differently abled persons. Shree Ashok Chakraborty, Ex-Chairperson, ZCC, RCI and Director, SHELTER insisted on outreach programme in the dissemination of knowledge, proper attitude and actions related to disability issues. He stressed on the roles and responsibilities of the key functionaries as nodal person to carry forward the baton of sensitization. Dr. Sujit Kumar Choudhury, Inspector of Colleges, Burdwan University, diligently shared the significance of sensitization through practical experiences. Presidential Address was delivered by Prof. Ramen Kumar Sar, Registrar, Burdwan university. The Coordinator of the Programme proposed the vote of thanks to conclude the inaugural session.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Govt. of India has taken the responsibility to create awareness and sensitivity amongst various stakeholders. It was felt that there is an urgent need for in service training of the various stakeholders to create awareness about the rights and entitlements of PwDs, provisions in various schemes, development programmes, and ways and means to access their specific entitlements and those that they are entitled to as equal citizens. Therefore, in order to realize the above objectives, the Govt. of India has made a provision for training and sensitization of key functionaries of Central / State Govt. under the XII Five-year plan through DEPwD, Govt of India. This is envisaged to be achieved by organizing short term training programs through

workshop at State/ District / Block level on regular basis amongst public representatives at all level.

This RCI sponsored program was organized by the School of Education, Netaji Subhas Open University with 40 participants (college & University teachers), have been trained and sensitized on the issues of disability, diversity, policies, education and rehabilitation. The program was of three-day duration, starting from 10am-5pm. As per RCI mandate, resource persons from Disability field were engaged for the technical sessions. Hands-on training on specific areas of disability was well taken care of. The sessions were carried out meticulously through PPT slides, A-V clips and related Teaching-Learning resources to enhance interaction between participants and speaker. A role model was introduced for delivering his life experience among the participants. At the end of the program, the participants were provided with all e-resources and a handout on resource material on disability & rehabilitation issues. The intended outcome of such programs was fulfilled as teachers are the greatest disseminators of knowledge & information to the society.

The three-day programme comprised of six hours of technical sessions divided into 3-4 technical slots each day. Each technical session had the scope of interaction by the participants and sharing of experiences in befitting context. These lauded the sessions to scale new heights of dispersion and wakefulness of the issues deliberated.

The idea of PwDs, Special Education and provisions for inclusion gained momentum through such motivated schedule of programs. The in-house faculties of Special Education field were actively involved in organizing and creating environment for successful completion of each day of the program. The Faculties from Education field supplemented to the overall management of the technical sessions with due effort on the context. Director, SoE was the mentor and outlined each program and its workings with diligence. The comments and reaction from the participants showed us the path of encouragement and adding enthusiasm to accomplish such programs in the future. The workshop concluded with distribution of certificates to all participants.



Group photograph of the participants at the end of the programme

Program Coordinator: Smt. Antara Choudhury, Asst. Professor of Special Education (H.I) , SoE, NSOU

NSOU Organizing Committee: All faculty members and Staff of SoE, NSOU.