

From The Editor's Desk

Department of Special Education (DSE) has been bustling with energy since all our students came back in March 2022. Just like us, the students were equally excited to get back to in-person classes and to connect with faculty and staff. Although, remote instruction was laudable, during the lock-down this was a very poor substitute for in-person learning.

We started the academic year with the most awaited event; the inauguration of Akhil Autism Foundation Sensory Garden on May 4, 2022. The Garden was inaugurated by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Ujwala Chakradeo in the august presence of Dr Yashu Mehta (Founder Director of DSE) and Mr Amole Gupte (Director, Actor).

It was not easy to simply reopen Arushi- The Learning Centre post COVID-19. Students needed tailored and sustained support to help them readjust and catch-up after the pandemic. All teachers were prepared and supported to address the learning losses among their students.

The alumnae of DSE have always brought us laurels. Our first series of offline workshops post pandemic have been initiated under 'Alumnae Allegro Live'. Our distinguished alumnae share their knowledge with our students and help in building their skills relevant for their career ahead. It gives me immense pride that one of our ex-students Ms Manjushree Patil has gone on a Fulbright scholarship to the USA currently and once back will be conducting a workshop on leadership training with our trainees.

Amrit Mahotsav, celebration of 75 years of India's independence was done by enthusiastic students through a series of activities ranging from reading sessions, gallery walk, quiz etc.

Campus placement is the most awaited event of the department. Last batch of M.Ed. and B.Ed. trainees have been placed in prestigious institutes of India and abroad. Talking about the Department faculty, Dr Apoorva Panshikar and I successfully completed a research project on Inclusive Education in Tripura sponsored by Christofel Blindenmission, and presented our findings before the Director Education, Tripura. It has been a great learning experience for

us to see the state of education in the remote northeast India. We are hopeful that the State Government of Tripura will take our recommendations seriously and will bring in some positive change in the educational landscape there.

In our efforts of collaboration, DSE is going to sign an MoU with St. Xavier's Institute of Education, Mumbai. Jointly, we will be soon announcing a short term course in Inclusive Education that will benefit many mainstream teachers to understand and appreciate all diversities in their classrooms and practice simple inclusive pedagogies.

DSE is honoured to have been granted financial support by National Commission for Women (Delhi) to conduct a two-day seminar on Disabled Women. This two day event is going to be a platform for knowledge sharing on gender related issues with some distinguished faculty. The theme of this issue of Symphony being the 'Gender Issues' sets the backdrop for our forthcoming event.

I thank Prof. Vibhuti Patel, Dr Kiran Lata Dangwal and Dr Kalpana Kharade for sharing their views on gender and gender related issues.

I wish to share that our Hon'ble VC Prof. Ujwala Chakradeo has shown immense faith in me and appointed me as the IQAC Coordinator. I will work earnestly under the dynamic leadership of Madam VC, to enhance the legacy of our great university.

Creating more stories to share in our next issue. Till then let peace and happiness prevail.



Prof. Sujata Bhan
Head

Department of Special Education
SNDT Women's University

Congratulations

Prof. Sujata Bhan on your
appointment as IQAC Coordinator

In This Issue

DSE Folk

- ❖ Prof. Vibhuti Patel
- ❖ Dr Kalpana Kharade
- ❖ Dr Kiran Lata Dangwal

DSE Beats

- ❖ Publications & Participation
- ❖ DSE Events
- ❖ Alumnae Allegro

DSE Pulse

- ❖ Arushi Events
- ❖ Pedagogical Approaches at Arushi – The Learning Centre

In The Works

- ❖ International Conference in collaboration with CMTAI
- ❖ National Seminar sponsored by NCW (GoI)
- ❖ Certificate Programme in Shadow Teaching Batch 6
- ❖ Alumnae Allegro Live Series of workshops

DSE FOLK

Gender Disparity in India

Gender disparity signifies differences in women's and men's access to education, health services, employment, mobility, freedom, autonomy, decision making and resources to lead a dignified life. It is an indicator of socio-economic-cultural-legal and political status as well as physical and mental well-being. Gender usually favours men and are often institutionalised through law, justice and social norms. Indian women and transgender community still face gender discrimination in education, child marriage and pregnancy, sexual violence and unrecognized domestic work. Census 2011 shows the child sex ratio among children of 0-6 years to be 918 girls for every 1000 boys in India. Pre-birth elimination of daughters is aided by new reproductive technologies. Gender disparity is a pressing issue in Indian society in 5 crucial areas- Health, Education, Employment, Safe and dignified life and decision making in private and public life. Even in the pyramid of poverty, women are at the bottom-the poorest

among the poor. Girls are not encouraged to opt for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects. Work participation of women in the gainful employment is abysmally low, currently 9 % as per the CMIE data. Among the working women, 92% are in the informal sector doing dead-end jobs.

Gender disparity has a profound effect on mental health worldwide. Some of the psychological effects of gender disparity include higher levels of stress, anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in women and people of marginalized genders. With the prevalence of gender discrimination, and social norms and practices, girls become exposed to the possibility of child marriage, teenage pregnancy, child domestic work, poor education and health, sexual abuse, exploitation and violence. Many of these manifestations will not change unless girls are valued more. With improper education due to gender disparity, there has been disruption in the economic status of women. There is also less political participation of women. Women in politics are likely to bring welfare issues such as violence against women, childcare, and maternal health into consideration.

Changing the gender norms through progressive legislations and their judicious implementation, ensuring safety of girls and women in the family, community, schools and colleges and at the workplace, making content of education gender sensitive, raising aspiration of girls and mothers, recognition of 'unpaid care work' and decent wages for paid care-work are most important to address gender equality concerns. Gender equality has been proved to be the central driver of economic growth and human development. Improving gender balance is an important step for India's development and its achievement of greater economic growth and gender equality.



Prof. Vibhuti Patel

Retired Professor and Head
Economics Department
SNDT Women's University

When Barriers Became Enablers

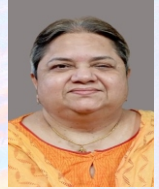
Friends, we hear, read about several pathetic stories of exploitation, disadvantageous conditions of persons with disabilities in general and women in particular. These stories do make us sad and reflect for a while about them and then we leave them aside, thinking it is not in our hand. These stories point at several well-known barriers coming in their way namely, inadequate familial context, negative societal attitude, inaccessible education/ training and non-supportive work environment etc. But what if these barriers become enablers? This is what actually happened in my modest life.

Friends, I come from a very ordinary familial context when a single earning member(father) has visually impaired children having a deadly eye disease called “Retinitis Pigmentosa” which had already decided our dark future. But my father who was the embodiment of courage and strength taught us to dare to dream and took us to Moscow (in then USSR) for an experimental treatment which afterward proved to be unfruitful. But this visit changed our lives 360 degree. It gave us a new vision of knowledge and a rare opportunity to get higher education in an inclusive environment in a very dignified manner. This is how I could get education up to Ph.D. level. Our stay in Russia gave us confidence and strength to lead our life meaningfully.

My search for the job started and ended with K.J. Somaiya College of Education. Here the principal Dr M.N.Deshmukh and the management believed in my abilities rather than in my disability. As a result I became a contributory member of the institution and not a recipient of any philanthropic favour. The colleagues who were initially little apprehensive about my appointment also became collaborative. The most inclusive were my students who always thought that I actually do not have any disability.

All this helped me to climb the ladder of success and reach a decent professional graph. I became vice principal of the college from 2006 to 2019 and a Ph.D. guide of Mumbai and Somaiya Vidyavihar Universities. This journey may be an usual path for any academician, but for me it was an achievement. My humble contribution to the field of education and special education gave me some social recognition and few awards. My father had tears in his eyes when he saw me receiving a national role model award by the hands of President Shri. Pranav Mukharjee. This story may not perhaps be all pervasive but at

least may light corners of minds of few and give power to dare to dream for a bright future.



Dr Kalpana Kharade

Adjunct Associate Professor
K.J. Somaiya College of Education

Technology in Empowering Women

The continuous flow of information with the help of technology opens up different avenues for women to view from a perspective point of view. These views varies between communities living in different geographical and cultural sphere which will lead to broadening of horizon and changing of mindsets of women over a period of time. We have come a long way in empowering women to have equitable opportunities in all fields leading to the work landscape having a positive impact in the last decade, but the status of women is yet to be fully established which is very important.

In today's technological world women are equally making their mark as forerunners of change and a lot needs to be achieved. These days women in all fields and spheres of industries are with authority are strongly voicing their opinions and stepping ahead in contributing their expertise and knowledge in technological field. This is helping to drive women empowerment by giving them due recognition, increasing awareness, resolving their problems and filling the void to set up a new perfectly balanced tech world. The technology offers direct platform for women to the outside world about the developments. The role of technology is becoming increasingly significant in broadcasting the information related to women all over in addition to extracting information from all over the world.

One of the most important aspect of empowerment in the context of ICTs for empowering women is gaining a clearer picture as to the type of technologies and technological interventions being used by them. It is felt that the improved access to ICTs can assist in providing women with employment resources and opportunities that could narrow the gender wage gap, assist in making education and health information more accessible, contribute to the

end of violence against women, and lead to women's empowerment and leadership. Women are now very much aware of Importance of their participation in community and even conveying to the world outside. These days because of the awareness of technology a high proportion of jobs those are being outsourced by big stakeholders, Industries and firms are going to women. Women can now work from anywhere and at any time and raise the extra income to become financially independent and empowered. Recently, companies like Ford and General Electrics have moved their back-end operations to Asia and employ a large number of women workers having basic information technology and data management skills. New areas of employment such as tele-marketing, medical transcription etc. have also opened up tremendous job opportunities for women. Here the jobs being offered to women may have high salaries as well as lie paid wages depending upon where they are being absorbed.

The use of ICTs have become ubiquitous and has grown in income and education due to access to technology and now bridging the gap towards equality for women by increasing the socioeconomic status. In real context Women' empowerment and ICTs have been the subject of global goals, discussions, and debates for many decades and now the results are seen with women accepting challenges in technology and producing desired results.



Dr Kiran Lata Dangwal
Associate Professor
Department of Education
University of Lucknow

We thank the **TATA TRUSTS** for their longstanding support to the students of Arushi - The Learning Centre and the trainees of the shadow teaching course offered at DSE, SNDTWU.

Faculty Affiliation

Prof. Sujata Bhan

- ❖ IQAC Coordinator, SNDT Women's University, (2022-24)
- ❖ Board member, India Inclusion Research Network, initiated by Prof. Richard Rose Prof. Emeritus Northampton University, UK (2022)
- ❖ Chairperson Board of Studies, Special Education, SNDT Women's University (2022-25)
- ❖ Member Governing Board, MMP Shah Women's College, of Arts and Commerce, Autonomous, Mumbai (2022-25)
- ❖ Member Academic Council, Dr B.M.N College of Home Science, Mumbai (2022-25)
- ❖ Member Academic Council, MMP Shah Women's College, of Arts and Commerce, Autonomous, Mumbai (2021-24)
- ❖ Member Board of Studies, St. Xavier's Institute of Education, Autonomous, Mumbai (2022-25)
- ❖ Member Board of Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies, Wilson College, Mumbai (2022-25)
- ❖ Member Board of Studies, Psychology Department, Wilson College, Autonomous, Mumbai (2022-2025)

Faculty Publications

Prof. Sujata Bhan

- ❖ Bhan, S. & Sriram, S. (2022). Global Challenges in Education: Resilience and Reinvention - Blended Learning: The Need of the Hour International Journal of Multidisciplinary Educational Research. Peer reviewed and refereed. Volume 11, Issue: 7(2), Sucharitha Publication, India, July, ISSN:2277-7881

Dr Apoorva Panshikar

- ❖ Panshikar, A. & Shah, F. (2022). Use of Computer Assisted Instruction (CAI) to Enhance Maths Learning in Students with Maths Difficulties. Journal of Disability Management and Special Education, Vol. 5(1). Open access referenced e-journal, July, ISSN:2581-5180
- ❖ Panshikar, A., Idnani, J., Kaverappa, N., Siddiqui, S. & Bhagwat, S. (2022). Teaching And Learning Experiences of Pre-Primary Teachers and Special Educators. International Journal of Multidisciplinary Educational Research. Peer reviewed and refereed. Volume 11, Issue: 7(2), Sucharitha Publication, India, July, ISSN:2277-7881

❖ Misquitta, R. & Panshikar, A. (2022). Identification of Learning Disabilities in India: Current Challenges and Issues. Intervention in School and Clinic. SAGE Publications, March, Pp. 1-5 doi.org/10.1177/10534512221081274

Yukti Gupta

❖ Shah, N., Thakkar, U. & Gupta, Y. (2022). Inclusion of Soccer (football) for Children with Visual Impairment, International Journal of Multidisciplinary Educational Research. Peer reviewed and refereed. Volume 11, Issue: 7(2), Sucharitha Publication, India, July, ISSN: 2277-7881

❖ Gupta, Y. (2022). Teacher Training Module on Inclusive Technology for Netaji Subhas Open University, Kolkata, September

Betty Abraham

❖ Sharma, A. & Abraham, B. (2022). 'Education For Sustainable Development-A Transformational Approach'. International Journal of Multidisciplinary Educational Research. Peer reviewed and refereed. Volume 11, Issue: 7(2), Sucharitha Publication, India, July, ISSN:2277-7881

❖ Nair, R., Abraham, B., Parekh, N. & Gamare, S. (2022). 'Learning Beyond Worksheets'. International Journal of Multidisciplinary Educational Research. Peer reviewed and refereed Journal: Volume 11, Issue: 7(2), Sucharitha Publication, India, July, ISSN:2277-7881

Hemali Gada

❖ Gada, H. (2022). Anthology entitled 'Burnt Roses'. E-book: ISBN 978-93-94658-87-5

❖ Gada, H. & Verma, P. (2022). chapter on 'Collaborative Learning Strategies for Inclusive Classrooms' in the book titled - Classroom Teaching - Learning Strategies for creating an inclusive culture in education, Ankur Book Distributors, Delhi, ISBN 978-93-93-247-01-8

❖ Gada, H. (2022). 'Educational Transformation in Formal and Non-formal Learning'. International Journal of Multidisciplinary Educational Research. Peer reviewed and refereed. Volume 11, Issue: 7(2), Sucharitha Publication, India, July, ISSN:2277-7881

Ishita Sakpal

❖ Sakpal, I., Yadav, P. & Panwar, A. (2022). 'Rethinking of Using ICT Tools in a 21st-Century Inclusive classroom'. International Journal of Multidisciplinary Educational Research. Peer reviewed and refereed. Volume 11, Issue: 7(2), Sucharitha Publication, India, July, ISSN:2277-7881

Faculty Participation

Prof. Sujata Bhan

Paper Presentations

❖ Presented a paper on, 'Training Teachers in India/UAE online: UDL Basics and Applications', in the 17th Biennial Conference 'Building an Inclusive Culture Worldwide', organised by International Association of Special Education, Ho Chi Minh University of Education, Vietnam (July10-14,2022)

❖ Presented a paper on, 'Training Teachers in Universal Design for Learning', in the 17th Biennial Conference 'Building an Inclusive Culture Worldwide' organised by International Association of Special Education, Ho Chi Minh University of Education, Vietnam (July 10-14, 2022)

Invited Speaker

❖ Resource person in a National seminar on the theme 'Breaking Barriers, Facilitating Access', organized by Guru Nanak Dev University, sponsored by National Commission for Women, to present on 'Creating Accessible and Equitable Learning Environment for Differently Abled Women in Higher Education', at Amritsar (September 23, 2022)

❖ Invited speaker to present on 'Approaches to Disabilities' in RCI sponsored CRE programme organized by Light house Special Teacher Training Centre, Mumbai (August 19, 2022)

❖ Plenary speaker on an online National Consultative Workshop on 'Social Responsibility and Community Engagement in Higher Education Institutions: Policies and Practices' organized by NIEPA (August 5-6, 2022)

❖ Invited speaker to present on, 'Students with Exceptionality' in a UGC sponsored online Faculty induction Programme organized by University of Burdwan, (July 29, 2022)

❖ Invited resource person to present on 'Types of Qualitative Research' in a Five-day Refresher Course organized by National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple disabilities on the theme, Research Methodology in the field of special education and disability Rehabilitation (July 28, 2022)

❖ Invited speaker on 'Types of Qualitative Research' in a National level Refresher Programme on Research Methodology organized by National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (July 20, 2022)

❖ Invited speaker on 'Types of Child Abuse and role of Family/Teachers with Reference to CWSN', at interdisciplinary state level online conference organized by Hashu Advani College

of Education, Mumbai on the theme: Disability through the Lens of Child Safety (July 6, 2022)

- ❖ Resource person in the workshop on 'Handling of cross disability and subject teaching module development for resource teachers' organized by Sight savers at Patna (June 25-26, 2022)

- ❖ Chaired a session on 'Foundation for Developing Value Based Society' in an international conference organized by Amity university on the theme Human Values in Higher Education (April 26, 2022)

- ❖ Invited speaker to present on 'Inclusion and Equitable Education' in a National Conference on Ecosystem around the Field of Special and Inclusive Education' organized by K L Institute for the Deaf Teachers Training College (April 21, 2022)

- ❖ Invited to give the valedictory address on Inclusion in the National Seminar on 'Inclusive Education for Sustainable Development: From Idea to Action' organized by Army School of Education (April 2, 2022)

Dr Apoorva Panshikar

Paper Presentations

- ❖ Presented paper titled 'Training Teachers in UDL' in the 17th Biennial Conference 'Building an Inclusive Culture Worldwide', organised by International Association of Special Education, Ho Chi Minh University of Education, Vietnam (July 10-14, 2022)

Invited Speaker

- ❖ Resource person for CRE Programme on 'Management of Children with Non-Verbal Learning Disability In Inclusive Set Up' on 'Intervention strategies: Social Emotional Learning in School Set Up' organised by Amity Institute of Rehabilitation Sciences, Amity University (UP) (September 9, 2022)

- ❖ Resource person for '6 Day Capacity Building Programme for State KRPs on Inclusive Education' on 'Dyscalculia' organised by The Department of Education of Groups with Special Needs, NCERT in collaboration with SCERT, Agartala, Tripura (July 1, 2022)

- ❖ Resource person for '6 Day Capacity Building Programme for State KRPs on 'Inclusive Education' on 'Teaching Children with Difficulties in Reading and Writing Skills' organised by The Department of Education of Groups with Special Needs, NCERT in collaboration with SCERT, Agartala, Tripura (July 1, 2022)

- ❖ Resource person for '5 Day Online Research

Methods: Theory and Applications' on 'Types and Applications of Parametric and Non-parametric Tests' organised by SOPAN's Suvidya College of Special Education in Collaboration with Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Empowerment of Speech and Hearing Disabled (June 27, 2022)

- ❖ Resource person for '5 Day Online Research Methods: Theory and Applications' on 'Analysis of Data: Descriptive Statistics and its Types' organised by SOPAN's Suvidya College of Special Education in Collaboration with Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Empowerment of Speech and Hearing Disabled (June 25, 2022)

- ❖ Resource person for webinar 'Building Back Better' on 'Screening for learning disability' organised by Trinayani, Mumbai (June 22, 2022)

- ❖ Resource person Webinar 'Capacity building of professionals and paraprofessionals for inclusive educational set up' on 'Assessment and Teaching Strategies for SLD' organised by Yash Special Teacher Training Institute, Washim (May 7, 2022)

- ❖ Invited speaker for National Webinar series on Specific Learning Disabilities (Dyslexia) for Webinar no. 3 : Dysgraphia and Dyslexia : Wish Humans had not created Reading and Writing organised by AIWEFA, New Delhi (April 16, 2022)

Yukti Gupta

Invited Speaker

- ❖ Invited as a resource person and delivered a session on 'Universal Design for Learning', Ayodhya Charitable Trust, Pune (September 15, 2022)

- ❖ Invited as resource person to conduct a session on Dance and Movement, Arushi-The Learning Centre (August 2, 2022)

- ❖ Invited as a resource person and delivered a session on 'Visual Impairment: Assessment & Educational Needs', National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities- Regional Centre, Chennai (July 22, 2022)

- ❖ Invited as a resource person and delivered a session on 'Screening Tools: Scope & Importance in Educational Settings', Composite Regional Centre for Skill Development, Rehabilitation and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (CRC), Lucknow (July 13, 2022)

- ❖ Invited as a resource person and delivered a session on 'Universal Design for Learning', Muskan Foundation (June 7, 2022)

❖ Attended Refresher Course on Research Methodology organized by National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities, Dehradun sponsored by Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, (July 17-22, 2022)

Betty Abraham

Paper Presentations

❖ Presented a paper online on, 'Classroom Management - a Key Teacher Competency in Teacher Training', in the 17th Biennial Conference 'Building an Inclusive Culture Worldwide', organised by International Association of Special Education, Ho Chi Minh University of Education, Vietnam (July 10-14, 2022)

❖ Presented a paper online on, 'Training teachers in India/UAE online: UDL basics and applications', in the 17th Biennial Conference 'Building an Inclusive Culture Worldwide', organised by International Association of Special Education, Ho Chi Minh University of Education, Vietnam (July 10-14, 2022)

❖ Presented a paper online on, 'Classroom Management for Inclusion' in the international conference organized Centro Studi Itard & COMIS - Cognitive Motor international Society, Italy (May 31, 2022)

Invited Speaker

❖ Invited as a resource person to conduct a session on Art Based Therapy, Arushi - The Learning Centre, (August 2, 2022)

❖ Invited as a resource person for online CRE Programme on 'Resource Mobilization' on 'Stakeholders & Resources of Community', CRE accredited, organised by Light House Special Teachers' Training Centre, Suhit Jeevan Trust, Raebareli Speech and Hearing Institute, Raigad, (August 20, 2022)

❖ Invited as a resource person and delivered a training session on 'Introduction to Special Needs- Strategies for Early Childhood Educators'. Hi 5 Child Development Center, Andheri East, (June 13 & 15, 2022)

❖ Invited as a resource person for online CRE Programme on 'Sex Education and Life Skills Training' on 'Lack of Sex Education in Schools', organised by Chandra Bhushan Singh Memorial Raebareli Speech & Hearing Institute, Raebareli, (June 12, 2022)

❖ Invited as a resource person for online CRE Programme on 'Professional Ethics in Practice of Rehabilitation Science' on 'Code of Conduct for

Rehabilitation Professionals', organised by Light House Special Teachers' Training Centre, Suhit Jeevan Trust, Raebareli Speech and Hearing Institute, Raigad, (May 14, 2022)

Ishita Sakpal

Invited Speaker

❖ Resource person for RCI approved CRE programme, 'Work related behavior for person with disabilities', Sojar teachers training centre (September 24, 2022)

❖ Conducted a workshop for teachers on 'Instructional Strategies for students with ASD', Dilkhush special school (August 30, 2022)

❖ Resource person for RCI approved CRE programme 'Diversity in Classroom', S.P. College of Special Education (August, 2022)

❖ Resource person for RCI approved CRE programme 'Role of teachers in Inclusive Education', S.P. College of Special Education (August 27, 2022)

❖ Resource person for RCI approved CRE programme 'Personality Types and Learning Style', Dilkhush Special School, (July, 2022)

❖ Resource person for RCI approved CRE programme 'Role of Special Educator in Early Intervention', Composite Regional Centre for Skill Development of Person with Disabilities, Nagpur (July 2, 2022)

❖ Resource person for RCI approved CRE programme, 'Strategies for empowerment of PwDs', Sojar teachers training centre (June 19, 2022)

❖ Resource person for RCI approved CRE programme 'Issues Related to Women with Disabilities', Composite Regional Centre for Skill Development of Person with Disabilities, Nagpur (May 27, 2022)

❖ Resource person for RCI approved online CRE program on 'Government Policies for girls and women with disabilities', S.P. College of Special Education, Aurangabad (May 28, 2022)

“Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance.”

- Kofi Annan

All the below skill enhancement workshops saw participation not only from our teacher trainees but also from other colleges.

Voicescapes

Voice is the most basic and yet the most powerful tool for a teacher. Voice modulation is a delicate skill that teachers can keep in their arsenal, to use as per the needs of each classroom. When used effectively, voice has the power to make an indelible impression on a child's mind. 'Voicescapes' was a workshop conducted by Ms Savita Vishwanathan on May 7, 2022, who taught techniques to modulate, enunciate and intonate voice to transform it into a valuable teaching tool.



DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
SNDT WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY
organises
VOICESCAPES
a workshop on Voice

Participants will

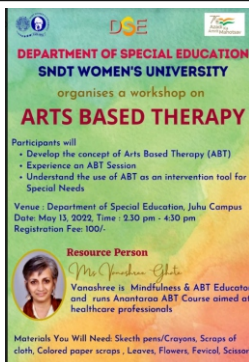
- Understand the power of 'voice'
- Learn to modulate, enunciate and intonate your voice
- Use own voice as an effective communication tool

Resource Person
Ms Savita Vishwanathan
Professional Voice Artist - AVP Multinational Bank
Savita has lent her voice to many advertisements, documentaries, docufilms with Netflix and most recently Discovery Asia. She also is a singer in training.

Venue : Department of Special Education, Juhu Campus
Date: May 7, 2022
Time : 3:30 pm



Arts Based Therapy



DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
SNDT WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY
organises a workshop on
ARTS BASED THERAPY

Participants will

- Develop the concept of Arts Based Therapy (ABT)
- Experience an ABT Session
- Understand the use of ABT as an intervention tool for Special Needs

Venue : Department of Special Education, Juhu Campus
Date: May 13, 2022, **Time :** 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Registration Fee: 100/-

Resource Person
Ms Vanashree Ghate
Vanashree is Mindfulness & ABT Educator and runs Anantaroa ABT Course aimed at healthcare professionals

Materials You Will Need: Sketch pens/Crayons, Scraps of cloth, Colored paper scraps, Leaves, Flowers, Fervol, Scissors



Arts Based Therapy (ABT) uses the medium of arts to help people explore their thoughts and emotions and channelize them to communicate and express. Ms Vanashree Ghate, the resource person for this workshop, on May 13, 2022, gave a good overview on how to conduct an ABT session and the benefits of ABT as an intervention tool for dealing with persons with special needs. She also dwelt upon the spell a good story can cast on children to help them develop creative expression.

The Empower Project

The importance of self-advocacy is a well-known matter in the field of disability, but oftentimes, talking about it is easier than actually implementing it. We as special educators teach our students to be self-reliant, but teaching our students about their rights is also imperative. After this workshop, on May 21, 2022, DSE students were awestruck hearing the stories of the journey of the self-advocates from Yash Charitable Trust, who run a café opposite to SNDTWU main gate, called Café Arpan. They were truly empowered to speak about their rights, their likes, their abilities, their everyday struggles and above all – their attitude and outlook to life. DSE salutes their efforts!



Department of Special Education
SNDT Women's University
is happy to host
The EMPOWER Project
A Self Advocacy Initiative
by
Yash Charitable Trust

Join us to support the young differently abled individuals from Yash Charitable Trust as they share their stories and advocate for themselves.

Date: May 21, 2022
Time : 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm
Venue : Department of Special Education, Juhu Campus

Attendance is Compulsory



In Conversation with Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay

On June 25, 2022, we had the honour of hosting Prof. Sudesh Mukhopadhyay (Former chairperson, RCI) for a sit-down session where DSE students absorbed the knowledge that she has gathered during her journey as an educator. She spoke about the grit and grime required to become a special educator and the courage needed to see beyond possibility. Her perspective and attitude on life were thought-provoking for the students.



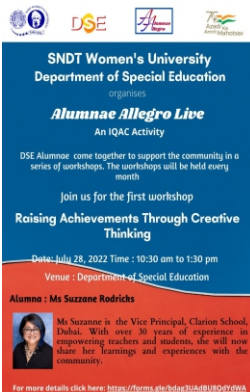
Disability, Accessibility & Film Making



Kirti Film Club and We Make Film Project in collaboration with DSE SNDTWU, hosted film screenings followed by panel discussions to talk about disability and accessibility in the process of film making on July 23, 2022. They displayed two films – 'I Didn't See You There' by Reid Davenport and 'We Make Film' by Shweta Ghosh. We were graced with the presence of Ms Anu Agarwal (Actor) who was the chief guest of the event. What made this event special was the online presence of Dr Anita Ghai (Professor, Delhi University, Disability Rights Activist) and the discussion on movies made by people with disabilities, about people with disabilities.

Raising Achievements through Creative Thinking

DSE's Alumnae Allegro Live series got off to a rollicking start. Our first resource person, Ms Suzanne Rodricks, gave the DSE students thought-provoking, innovative and out-of-the box ideas for generating creativity in children. Creativity is an under-taught skill that is not given its due credit for the role it plays in shaping character in children. She spoke about the contribution of creative thinking and how it could be used to make the children more efficient and raising them to be accomplished individuals.

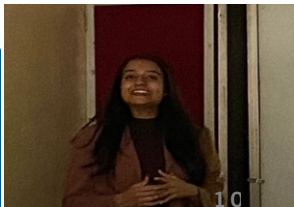
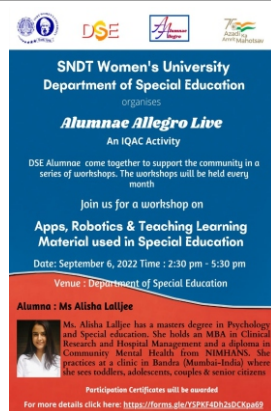


Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

In tandem with the rest of SNDTWU, DSE students participated in Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav week to celebrate India's 75th Independence Day. Multiple events happened over the span of a week wherein essay reading, dance, quiz, e-antakhshari, poster making and a gallery walk took place. The underlying theme for all events was India and Indian Independence. The gallery walk had a theme of 'Sports in India', where posters shed light on India's achievements in Commonwealth Games, the unsung heroes in sports, paralympics and women's participation in sports.



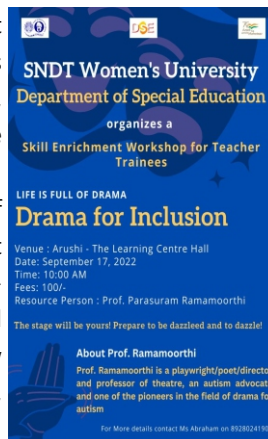
Apps, Robotics and Teaching Learning Materials



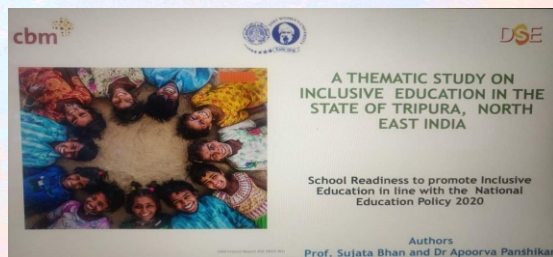
This workshop, conducted on September 6, 2022, by Ms Alisha Laljee was second in the Alumnae Allegro Live series. She brought technology to the table and introduced the students to new apps and robots as tools for teaching children with special needs. She also gave out-of-the-box ideas for making Teaching Learning Materials to the students of DSE.

Drama for Inclusion

Drama means different things to different people and drama brings out different emotions from different people. On September 17, 2022, Prof. Parasuram Ramamoorthi taught the students simple yet effective strategies and ideas to use drama as a medium of communication and expression. He taught techniques that ranged from managing non-verbal children to bringing out emotional expression from verbal students. He taught how to use simple objects, found in every classroom, creatively.



CBM PROJECT, TRIPURA



'A thematic study on Inclusive Education(IE)' in the state of Tripura, North East India, attempted to explore whether the schools and diverse stakeholders of school education are ready to embrace and further inclusive education.

The analysis of the data led to insights into what is working in favour of inclusive education and what is working against it.

The state of Tripura has taken its first step in the direction of providing for equal and equitable learning opportunities for CwD through 'Saksham Tripura Project'.



Dreams into reality!

Be it a boy or girl
Didn't know but it was my world!

She was small in size and looked weak
But her sparkling eyes did speak!

Months and years passed
Her body and language was the same I saw last!

She was different from you and me
But I loved her because she was like a bee!

She had hopes & dreams every single day
I prayed that they didn't get delayed!

Making her independent was my goal
Each task was challenging but I had to play my role!

Now she is a strong person, earning and serving others
It was a proud moment for me like all mothers!

By Ms Hemali Gada (Assistant Professor, DSE, SNDTWU)

Being Mindful



SNDT-RJP

DSE SNDT WU

To support the mental well-being and stress management of the DSE students, our alumnae, Ms Krutika Jaggi spoke to the students on September 27, 2022. Sharing her own journey in DSE, she inspired the students to adopt positive thinking techniques and to be mindful of their own well being. Specific insights were shared on how to become effective communicators. She also gave valuable tips on time management, development of right attitude and conflict resolution.

Alumnae Allegro

The M.Ed. programme was extremely fruitful for me. We started the course virtually during the pandemic era, so teaching and learning were online. But our faculty maximized our learning by providing us with the best quality education. We had our practicals close to home which gave us different experiences in a shared space. When we came to college in-person, the horizons widened, of course. We completed the remainder of our course under expert guidance and great learning. Our batch saw a 100% placement according to our skills and abilities. My overall journey of M.Ed. has transformed me into what I am today, and it is everything I had hoped to become during my B.Ed. I have learnt from each and every person in this journey so I shall be forever indebted to them. I would like to conclude by saying that DSE SNDTWU has made me understand that learning isn't a one-time process but a life-long journey and I am ready to embark on it.

- Akansha Mahajan - M.Ed. Special Education (Intellectual Disability 2020 - 2022)

My two years at the DSE were life changing and a roller coaster ride. It thoroughly prepared me for the real teaching world. The faculty members enriched our understanding of various theories, pedagogies and inclusive practices by effectively integrating it with practical teaching. We thought the lockdown had reduced our chances in terms of practical knowledge but our faculty introduced us to new platforms to teach and learn in more interesting way. We had access to many webinars, websites to create different teaching learning aids and much more. DSE believes in holistic development and teaching us how to be the best educator possible. Lastly, the faculty at DSE is quite approachable and supportive. All in all, even though those 2 years were very challenging, and worth every bit of hard work, I will always be a proud DSE alumnus!

-Harsha Jain - B.Ed. Special Education (Learning Disability 2020 - 2022)

The P. G. Diploma course was a bank of information and knowledge. The course curriculum is so precisely developed that it covers all relevant aspects of special education. The knowledge and experiences shared by the teachers through their lectures will forever be etched in our minds. The department of special education left no stone unturned in making sure that knowledge is imparted to the core even though it was a virtual classroom. I have learnt so much over the span of one year through various assignments under the tutelage of the best of teachers. I will forever be grateful for this wonderful course and the exposure given to us through this course.

- Karishma Mehta - P. G. Diploma in Management of Learning Disability 2020 - 2021)

Launchpad

Welcome to the Student Creative Team 2021-23 led by Ms Shruti Shah

Content creators - Ms Fatema Manasawala, Ms Sabrin Sayyad

Proof Readers - Ms Lisha Kothari, Ms Madhuri Gokhale, Ms Tervinder Kotak

Writing - Ms Himadri Vyas

Graphics - Ms Fatima Shaikh, Ms Shruti Shah

DSE SWANSONG (Bidding Adieu)

Batch of 2020 - 2022



Aavjo Vhala
Fari Malishu

Sayon



“TOO
DLE
-OO”

WE WILL MISS YOU





**Sensory
Garden
Inauguration**



**Art Based
Therapy**



DSE PULSE



**Friendship
Day**



**Dance
Movement
Therapy**





**Raksha
Bandhan**



**Independence
Day**



**Parent Counselling
by Alisha Laljee**



Janmashtami



**Ganpati
Celebration**



Pedagogical Approaches at Arushi – The Learning

"What exhausts us is not making use of the possibilities of our organs and senses, their subjugation and suppression. What constitutes them is development...development through the engagement with a world that wholly challenges us." (Hugo Kukulhaus)

The above quote summarizes the main idea behind Hugo Kukulhaus' work. Hugo Kukulhaus was a German carpenter, writer, philosopher, pedagogue and artist, who designed the concept of 'Field of Experiences' for the development of the senses. This field comprises the use of various multi-sensory toys that stimulate the child through texture, sound, smell, color and maybe even taste. Multi-sensory approach to learning generates curiosity in the students because of the concrete accessibility that the students experience. Hugo Kukulhaus said that in a bid to become more technologically sound, humans have started ignoring the fundamental experiences and basic instincts that they are born with. At Arushi – The Learning Center equipment like texture mats, sand trays, sound boxes, and color tiles are used to stimulate the children's senses. It helps the children to develop a variety of skills like gross motor skills, eye-hand coordination, full body balance, social skills, etc.

Arushi also has a huge open classroom that is a safe space for all students to enter. It borrows from the Reggio-Emilia method, a value-centered approach that focuses on making school environment conducive for children to explore and express. Schools that follow this approach are often vibrant, dedicated, innovative, transparent in communication and documentation, and these schools are leaders in research, new learning and self-reflection. At Arushi one could find that every day is a new one, as the structure of the classroom changes according to the needs of the class on that day.

This brings variety and fluidity to the children's learning. The various stakeholders participate equally in the children's learning which also helps the stakeholders feel welcome and motivated. At Arushi the students are encouraged to use multiple ways to explore their surroundings. The exploration helps the teacher in understanding what the child is trying to express.

The big, open areas and windows in Arushi allow transparency, nature, experimentation, art, language and much more to flourish in the classroom creating an environment of safe learning and continuous development.

The combination of both these pedagogies support and optimize the development of the students at Arushi – The Learning Centre, making it a happy and stress free place to learn and grow.

Ms Himadri Vyas, B.Ed. Spl. Ed. ID (2022)

IN THE WORKS @DSE

❖ International Conference in Collaboration with CMTAI

DSE, SNDTWU is happy to announce its collaboration with the Creative Movement Therapy Association of India (CMTAI) for its 9th Annual International Conference to be held at the SNDT Women's University, Juhu Campus from November 19 to 20, 2022. The pre-conference workshop will be held on November 18, 2022. The theme of the conference is 'Holding Spaces across Communities using Dance and other Arts Therapies'. Registrations at www.cmtai.org.

❖ National Seminar Sponsored by NCW (GoI), New Delhi

We are delighted to announce a National Seminar sponsored by National Commission for Women (GoI). The 2-day offline seminar has been accredited with CRE status. The theme of the seminar is 'Differently Abled Women'. The seminar is scheduled between November 15 - 16, 2022. The seminar will provide a platform for special educators and all the stakeholders to advocate for gender equality and empowerment of women with special needs.

❖ Certificate Programme in Shadow Teaching Batch 6

The 6th batch of a 3-month Certificate Programme in Shadow Teaching Course will commence on October 1, 2022. The course will provide thorough knowledge of various disabilities, understanding of the concept of inclusion and shape the trainees into competent shadow teachers.

❖ Alumnae Allegro Live Series of Workshops

Continuing with the workshops series we have one lined up every month on topics like Emotional Resilience, Double Doodling and Story Telling for Expressive Language, Leadership, etc. Keep a lookout for the flyers.