

National Workshop on Sensitizing Disability: Report 15th November 2018.

A National Workshop on “Sensitizing Disability” was organized by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Mata Sundri College for Women in collaboration with the Enabling Unit and NSS on 15th November 2018. Dr. Jagdish Chandra, Associate Professor, Hindu College and Dr. Dyal Singh Panwar, Associate Professor, Lal Bahadur Shastri Sanskrit Vidyapeeth, were speakers at the event. The Workshop began with the College prayer and the traditional lighting of the lamp.

Speaking on the occasion the Principal, Dr. Harpreet Kaur welcomed all the guests and said that disability was a frame of mind that can be overcome by removing barriers. She further emphasized that it was important to sensitize young people about disability in order to create a more just and inclusive society with equal opportunities for all.

The first speaker, Dr. Jagdish Chandra thanked the Principal and the organizing team for hosting the Workshop and began by questioning normative concepts like “normalcy” and “abnormality”. He spoke about the need to look at alternative perspectives of reality so that these concepts can be redefined. Dr. Chandra also spoke about shifting disability from the individual to society. The system is responsible for providing a necessary and conducive environment to a disabled person. Subsequently, he answered questions posed to him by students and faculty members.

Dr. Dayal Singh Panwar, the President of ‘*Saksham*’ spoke about the need to spread awareness about disability and also emphasized upon creating a more inclusive society by treating all human beings as equal. Differently abled people may be different in many ways but in some ways they feel the same as other people. Students, if sensitized about disability can bring about a positive change in society. Speaking about ‘*Saksham*’, he said that the organization is not only engaged in helping disabled people but also makes people aware about disability. The need of the hour was to shift the attitude from vocabularies to the mindset.

Mobile phones equipped with Angel Pro devices and Sony headphones were issued to visually challenged students by the Enabling Unit on the occasion.