ARMY INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

Plot M-1, Pocket P-5, Sector Chi – 2, Greater Noida
Affiliated to GGSIP University, New Delhi
ISO 9001:2015 Certified, NAAC Accredited, NCTE & RCI Approved Institute

Report of Workshop on "Global Accessibility Awareness Campaign" held on 18 May 2023

Army Institute of Education, Greater Noida, organized Workshop on "Global Accessibility Awareness Campaign" collaboration with NIEPID.158 student-teachers of B.Ed. and B.Ed. Spl. Ed. from the batches 2021-23 and 2022-24 and two Special Educators of Jaypee Public School, Greater Noida participated in the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to enhance their understanding and knowledge in the field of special education. Additionally, all the faculty members also actively participated in the workshop. The workshop was coordinated by Ms. Komal Choudhary, Assistant Professor, AIE. The workshop was enriched by the presence and insights shared by two distinguished resource persons. **Dr. Amrita Sahay**, a rehabilitation psychologist, and **Dr. Hemanth Singh Keshwal**, an expert member of RCI (Rehabilitation Council of India), graciously accepted the invitation to be the resource persons for the workshop. Their expertise and experience in the field of special education contributed significantly to the success of the event. The workshop was skillfully hosted by Meera and Shaista, student-teachers from the B.Ed. Spl. Ed. batch of 2022-24. Their confidence and effective communication skills ensured a smooth flow of the workshop and engaged the participants throughout the event.

OPENING CEREMONY & INAUGURAL SESSION

The workshop began with a traditional lamp lighting ceremony, symbolizing the dispelling of darkness and the illumination of knowledge. The esteemed guests and Dr. Abhilasha Gautam collectively lit the ceremonial lamp, signifying the commencement of the event. The ceremony set a positive and auspicious tone for the rest of the workshop. **Dr. Abhilasha Gautam**, the Principal of AIE, delivered a heartfelt welcome address, expressing gratitude to the honorable guests for their presence. Dr. Abhilash Gautam emphasized the significance of such interactive workshops in providing a platform for students and teachers to learn from experienced professionals and exchange ideas. Dr. Abhilash Gautam highlighted the importance of education in shaping future leaders and expressed her optimism about the positive impact the workshop would have on the participants.

accessibility. She explained that accessibility refers to designing environments, products, and services in a way that enables equal access and participation for individuals with disabilities. Dr. Amrita Sahay emphasized that accessibility is not limited to physical spaces but also extends to digital platforms, communication channels, and societal attitudes.

Throughout the workshop, Dr. Amrita Sahay used engaging visuals, anecdotes, and interactive discussions to create an inclusive a[...]dees were encouraged to ask questions and share their perspectives, resulting in [...] s.

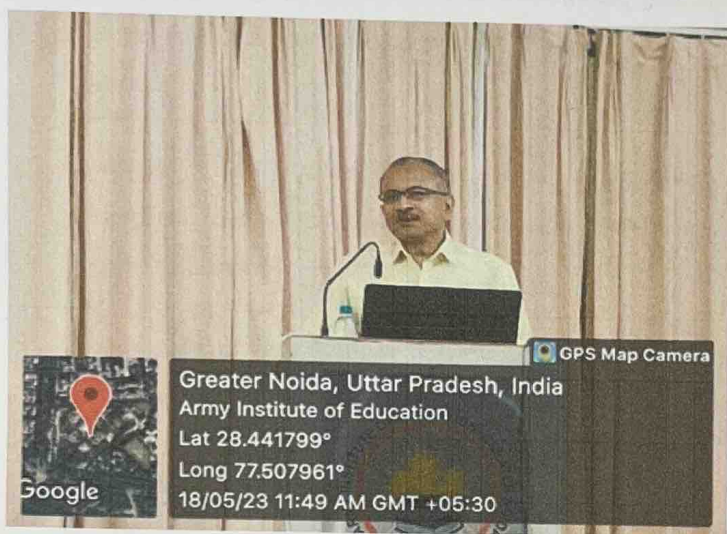**WORKSHOP ADDRESSED BY DR. AMRITA SAHAY**

Dr. **Hemanth Singh Keshwal** shed light on the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, which serves as the nodal body responsible for the development agenda of persons with disabilities in India. Emphasizing the importance of inclusivity, the DEPwD, in collaboration with 65 associated institutes and organizations, conducted events at over 80 locations across the country. These initiatives aimed to raise awareness and promote discussions about digital access and inclusion for people with different disabilities.

an environment where individuals with disabilities are treated equally and have equal access to opportunities and resources.

- Accessibility for individuals with disabilities: The workshop highlighted the importance of ensuring that individuals with disabilities can experience web-based services, content, and other digital products with the same successful outcomes as those without disabilities. This emphasizes the need for creating accessible and inclusive digital platforms and technologies.

- Awareness and responsible equality: The workshop aimed to raise awareness and promote responsible equality for people with disabilities. This means advocating for equal rights, opportunities, and accessibility for individuals with disabilities, and fostering a society that values and supports their inclusion.

WORKSHOP ADDRESSED BY DR. HEMANTH SINGH KESHWAL

Overall, the workshop successfully provided valuable insights, enhanced understanding of inclusion and accessibility, and promoted awareness and responsible equality for individuals with disabilities.

During the workshop, Dr. Hemanth Singh Keshwal discussed various ways in which technology can assist persons with disabilities. The following practical tips were shared:

- **Using Audio Tape and Language Labs:** Audio tapes and language labs can be effective tools for individuals with hearing impairments, providing them with audio-based learning materials and language development opportunities.

- **Adaptive Learning Platforms:** Adaptive learning platforms utilize personalized approaches and technologies to cater to the diverse needs and learning styles of individuals with disabilities. These platforms enable customized learning experiences for better educational outcomes.

- **Assistive Device Software:** Assistive device software, such as screen readers, magnifiers, and voice recognition software, facilitates access to computers and mobile devices for individuals with visual impairments or mobility limitations.

- **Collaboration and Remote Learning:** Technology enables collaboration and remote learning, eliminating geographical barriers and allowing persons with disabilities to access education and participate in collaborative projects from their own locations.

- **Communication Aids:** Various communication aids, including augmentative and alternative communication devices, enable individuals with speech or communication disabilities to express themselves effectively.

- **Accessible Learning Materials:** Technology can be used to create accessible learning materials, such as e-books with adjustable font sizes, screen contrast options, and alternative formats, ensuring equal access to educational content for individuals with print disabilities.
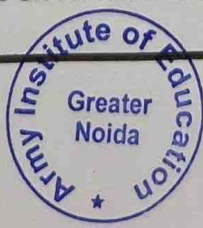
Lastly, the workshop showcased a range of gadgets designed to support the teaching and learning process for students with disabilities. These gadgets were specifically tailored to cater to the needs of individuals at different stages of development, promoting their active participation in educational activities. The workshop concluded with a question-and-answer session, during which Dr. Hemanth Singh Keshwal encouraged participants to critically analyze the existing provisions and facilities available for persons with disabilities. This call to action aimed to identify gaps and areas for improvement in order to create a more inclusive society.

Learning Outcomes:

- Valuable insights and expertise: The workshop provided attendees with valuable insights and expertise shared by distinguished guests. This exposure allowed participants to gain new perspectives and knowledge in a specific field or topic.

- Understanding the commitment to inclusion: The workshop helped students understand that the commitment to inclusion is the ultimate goal of Global Accessibility Awareness Day (GAAD). Inclusion refers to creating

Batch-Coordinator
B.Ed. Special Education (LD)
2022-24

Greater
Noida
Army Institute of Education

Dr. Abhilasha Gautam
Principal
Army Institute of Education
Greater Noida