

Zakir Husain Delhi College Evening (University of Delhi) Jawaharlal Nehru Marg Delhi -110002

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<u>Provision and Policy for Differently Abled Students</u> (<u>Divyangjana</u>)

To provide an accessible and inclusive environment for differently abled students, Our College makes sincere efforts to execute the following Policies towards Differently Abled individuals. Our society is particular in terms of the varied manners it has engaged in its texture. There are various groups that are isolated on the basis of language, ethnicity, class, caste, religion, territory etc. This inequitable situation needs a complete reclamation through a special establishment responsible for strengthening and implementing the provision, measures and policies made for the Enabling Unit in the institutional spaces.

The main problem faced by Persons with Disabilities and those belonging to the marginalized sections of society stem from disabling environment and socio - cultural and economic barriers. Discrimination against any person on the grounds of his/her disability or physical limitations and minority status is a gross violation of universally accepted principles of equality and human rights and even constitutional obligations.

Their problems in the field of higher education are a matter of great concern which needs urgent attention.

Enabling Unit

The Enabling Unit of Zakir Husain Delhi College Evening came into existence in the year 3-01-2011 to provide accessible education with equal facilities for differently abled staff and students. Braille embosser, laptop and other devices to facilitate the learning process of differently able students are made readily available. There is a ramp at the entrance of the College Library for the purpose of facilitating the access of physically challenged users in the library

Infrastructural Establishment

The ramps, rails, trails and lifts in the College premises are disable friendly in order to ease the mobility of person with disability. The College campus should have appropriate Braille marking and announcement system in lift for people with disability to comprehend the process. There is an appropriate tactile paths for visually impaired that further enhances the comfort of their movement and empowers them to access the College campus on their own. The dedicated washrooms for differently abled students and staff are cleaned and maintained regularly.

Special Facilities offered by the Library to the Differently Abled Persons

It is imperative to be sensitive towards the special needs of a differently abled person in regards to reading and acquiring knowledge. Braille Material

Audio CDs

- A separate computer system is installed with JAWS software and other necessary supporting accessories for the students in the library.
- Library provides the membership of BRAILLE LIBRARY (University of Delhi) to visually impaired students to access all the available resources.
- Library staff has been specially instructed / trained to help the special students wherever required.
- Delhi University Braille Library Membership is also provided to the visually challenged students where they are provided with all their reading material both in Braille as well as audio format.

Future upgrade of the available software/services/devices is timely made whenever deemed necessary.

Assistive Technology

Considering the special need of visually challenged students, College will provide assistive technology to facilitate their learning process. Recording Room and recording facility also available in the college, the students are encouraged to avail the same.

Access to software like Angel-Pro and DAISY is imperative. Along with these headphones, smartphones and also laptops will be made available for students/staff with disability whenever needed.

Financial Assistance

All possible efforts will be made to give economic assistance to the needy students as per rules. Timely payment of writing fee to the writers is very important in ensuring that they have no problem in arranging for a writer for their class work and examination.

Staff and Students

It is imperative to be sensitive to the needs of differently abled. Care has been taken that staff and students in their interaction with them

are empathetic and inclusive. It is everyone's responsibility to provide a productive environment to acquire knowledge and explore their potential.

Thus, the Enabling Unit at Zakir Husain Delhi College Evening is committed towards not just supporting, but also enabling special students and teachers to function independently and efficiently in all processes of life and higher education. This is an initiative undertaken by the college to make education inclusive and uniformly accessible to all. Not only does the Unit provide support by means of state-of-the-art infrastructure, but also cultivates an atmosphere of facilitating special students to transform challenges into opportunities.

Turning Points

- Affirmative action in favour of the marginalized, particularly the PwD students
- Implementation of legislative provisions and policies for students with disabilities
- Providing required support systems for students with disabilities
- Ensuring non-discrimination for PwD students
- Creating a barrier free environment in the University for Persons with Disabilities
- Ensure accessible reading material for students with visual impairment
- Special support to PwD students during admission process
- Provide assistance in establishing enabling units in colleges and Sensitize University community about the PwDs