



# Miranda House

## UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

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### Society Annual Report

#### Society Activities

**Society: LAKSHITA**

**Year:2017-18**

#### Part A.1

##### Events/Seminars/conferences/workshops/Extension Activities organized

##### **LAKSHITA, THE ENABLING SOCIETY**

Lakshita, the Enabling Unit of Miranda House, works towards promoting inclusivity of differently-abled students in the College. Its membership however is not restricted, but extends to all students with or without disability. The biggest resources are the sighted student volunteers, who are an active part of Lakshita, and help in all the activities including admissions, seminars, workshops and cultural events.

Miranda House has amongst the largest population of disabled students in the University. The Enabling Unit functions on the motto of accessibility, both physical and social. In our endeavour to build an accessible world we attempted to extend the scope of accessibility of the physical spaces for the visually challenged (VC) students in the College in a number of ways. On 10 August 2017, mobility training was organized. This involved a walk-around-campus for the visually challenged students. One trained volunteer was assigned to each visually challenged student. With the help of the sighted guide technique the trained volunteers took the VC students to different parts of the college and the University campus to help familiarize them with important places like the bank, washrooms, administrative office, EOC in the Arts Faculty, the metro station etc. A thorough orientation for the QR codes was also a part of the mobility training.

*Samdrishti*, which, over the years, has involved a rethinking of existing sensitization techniques for the sighted through a series of activities and games, was carried out in the front lawns of the on 10 August 2017. The event witnessed an impressive turnout of students, teacher staff, as well as, the office staff.

On 18 and 19 January 2018 Lakshita hosted an International Conference '*Social and Technological: Access and Accessibility*' at Miranda House. By bringing together policy makers, educationalists and activists in extensive discussion and exchange it sought to understand seemingly basic questions in the area of accessibility such as those of disability and its representations, the usefulness and reach of assistive



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technology as well as social and physical impediments to accessibility in India. Dr. Mithu Alur, Padma Shri, Founder Chairperson Spastic Society of India, now rechristened ADAPT (Able Disable All People Together) renowned disability rights activists, delivered the inaugural address and Ms. Dorodi Sharma, Disability Rights Specialist, UN Resident Coordinators Office gave the keynote address. Dr. Anil Aneja, OSD, EOC delivered the Valedictory on the occasion.

**Chhonzin Angmo B.A. (P)/III**, was among the 20 Indian students selected for the Jambudvipa-Survanabhumi Youth Exchange Program at Malaysia from 26th February–8 March 2018. Organized by the Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre.

### COMPUTER AWARENESS COURSE

Students completed the course: SEVEN

**The students have been participating in a number of academic, cultural and sports events.**

**Academic:** 19 students were awarded the prestigious Marga Schulze Scholarship by the All India Confederation of the Blind. On 5 September 2017, Lakshita hosted the Help the Blind Foundation for interviews for awarding scholarships. 36 visually challenged were awarded these scholarships. On 27 February 2018, international dignitaries from the Help the Blind Foundation interacted with the scholarship holders. A cultural programme was also presented by the students on the occasion.

**Sports:** There were two sporting events that were organized for the first time for the visually challenged girls in India. The first was the National Kabaddi Tournament organized by Indian Blind Sports Association 7 – 13 January 2018. Gulshan M.A. (P) Hindi was the captain of the winning team. The other members of the winning team from Miranda House were Chhonzin Angmo B.A. (P)/III, Ankita M.A. (P) Hindi, Pooja B.A. (P)/ III and Shanti B.A. (H) Hindi /III. The second event was a cricket match on 18 February 2018, for visually challenged women organized by Dayal Singh College. The winning team included Homeshwari M.A. (F) Hindi, Gulshan M.A. (P) Hindi, Chhonzin Angmo B.A. (P)/III, Ankita M.A. (P) Hindi, Pooja B.A. (P)/ III team and Suman, B.A. (H) Hindi /I.

**The students have won several awards at the National, State and Inter College sports meets.**

Gulshan, M.A (P) Hindi 1<sup>st</sup> in 100 Meters, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Long jump and Discus Throw at the National Para Athletics Championship, Jaipur on 1-4 April 2017. The medal winners at the 10<sup>th</sup> Delhi State Athletics, Paralympic Committee, Delhi, 6 February- 8 February 2018 are Gulshan MA (P) Hindi, 1<sup>st</sup> in 100 Meters, 3<sup>rd</sup> in Long jump and Discus Throw; Pooja B.A.(P)/III 1<sup>st</sup> in Long jump and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Javelin Throw; Homeshwari M.A. (F) Hindi, 1<sup>st</sup> in Discus Throw and Shot Put. Vibha B.A. (P)/I was 1<sup>st</sup> in Long Jump at Delhi State Junior Championships. Homeshwari M.A. (F) Hindi, 1<sup>st</sup> in Discus Throw and Shot Put at events at Kamala Nehru College and 1<sup>st</sup> in Discus at Indraprastha College for Women. Nisha Devi M.A. (P)



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Hindi, 2<sup>nd</sup> 100 m at Indraprastha College for Women.

**Cultural:** The students also won laurels at cultural events. A play “*Gali Number 61*”, on trafficking won the 1<sup>st</sup> prize at Sri Venkateswara College and at St. Stephens College. An inter-college music competition was held on 12 October 2017 in collaboration with the Nipman Foundation. Honey Sharma, B.A. (P)/ III, Aarti Srivastava, B.A. (P)/ III, Aarti Chaurasia B.A. (P)/ III, Rashmi B.A. (H) Hindi /III, Ankita M.A. (P) Hindi, Ayushi B.A. (H) History /I were awarded the 1<sup>st</sup> prize Group. Our students also won the first prize at the Sri Venkateswara College Talent hunt competition.