

DR.B.R. AMBEDKAR OPEN UNVIERSITY
FACULTY OF EDUCATION

WEBINAR SERIES

“VIDHYA VIGYAN VEDIKA OUTREACH AND EXTENSION PROGRAMME SERIES”

The Department of Education has been offering B.Ed. ODL Programme, Recognised/Approved by NCTE (National Council for Teacher Education), from 2008 in Telugu medium and B.Ed. Special Education ODL Programme in Telugu and English medium, Recognised/Approved by RCI (Rehabilitation Council of India), from the Academic Year 2009. The Certificate programme in Literacy and Community Development (CLCD) and Certificate Programme in Early Childhood Care and Education (CECE) were started in 2011.

The University is celebrating its forty years of existence and services to the society. To extend these services it is very much useful to focus on some outreach - Extension activities. In this regard Department of Education including Special Education proposes to launch a new **“Vidhya Vigyan Vedika Outreach & Extension Programme Series”** to organize some extension activities like - Community Based Rehabilitation programs (CBR) and some awareness camps, Webinar series.

Any University must aim to develop good, thoughtful, well-rounded, and creative individuals. Access to rural, tribal and disadvantaged is the prime objective of the university. Development is possible only through education in the rural areas, particularly to the disabilities. With its mission of “Reaching the Unreached”, the BRAOU goes by the vision of building a qualitative human resource base in the state. According to the UGC guidelines need of community engagement by the Higher Educational institutions.

To reach the Goals of Higher Education in 21st Century, Higher Education institutions must work in active partnership with parents, schools, students, socio-economic groups and communities. Secondary education should not only prepare qualified candidates for access to higher education by developing the capacity to learn on a broad basis but also open the way to active life by providing training on a wide range of jobs.

School as a whole must support education at all levels, including higher education, given its role in promoting sustainable economic, social and cultural development. Mobilization for this purpose depends on public awareness and involvement of the public and private sectors of the economy, parliaments, the media, governmental and non-governmental organisations, students as well as institutions, families and all the social factors involved with higher education.

Develop innovative schemes of collaboration between institutions of higher education and different sectors of society to ensure that higher education and research programs effectively contribute to local, regional and national development.

The objective of setting up of an open university is to bring all eligible individuals into the arena of the higher education system. Keeping in mind the Vision and Mission of the University, to contribute towards the social development, the University is always keen to expand its reach to cater to the needs of the thousands of rural and other disadvantaged people like SC/ ST/OBC/ Transgender ,Disabilities through its quality academic content.

Quite a number of services are available for the disabled population in the metropolitan cities and many of the small and big towns in India. Quality of the services offered will of course differ from place to

place and centre to centre. But, considering the complex nature of the problems involved in the rehabilitation of this population, one has to bear in mind that the difficulties cannot be resolved that easily. However, whereas at least something (the varied services) is to be found in the cities and towns, there is almost nothing in the scattered or even densely populated rural areas.

In this context, Community Based Rehabilitation is considered as the most appropriate and effective alternative of approaching the disabled population in the rural areas for their comprehensive rehabilitation.

Delivery of rehabilitation services to the disabled population in India requires a systematic, equitable and accessible manner. A large number of disabled population living in rural, far-flung and remote areas do not get the services, due to the paucity of attention and usage of technology, that the disabled people/hearing impaired living in urban areas get.

The Team of professionals involved in Outreach and Extension Service consists of:

This program contains multidisciplinary team approach comprising of Special Educator, Speech & Language Pathologist and Audiologist, Hearing aid Technician, and Psychologist.

A team of multi-professionals armed with technical knowledge, diagnostic equipment and fitment of aids under the ADIP scheme of Government of India, provide services by reaching out and camping in rural and far-flung areas.

I) Community Based Rehabilitation programme

It is an approach that integrate people with disabilities into mainstream life by assisting them to meet their physical, employment, educational, economical and other needs. The main principle of CBR is Equity and Social justice. And to provide rehabilitation services at the door step of those disabled persons and/or their families who cannot reach these on their own.

Objectives of the CBR approach is-

- To prepare the community to accept the disabled individual as its rightful member,
- To create awareness in the community , and about the existence of services, need for rehabilitation and about the potential of the disabled,
- To seek the involvement of the local administration, Rural development Agencies and the community at all levels,
- To extend the services related to screening for disabilities, assessment, and all the follow up services to all the needy people in the area.
- To promote net-working with local medical care, education, rehabilitation agencies, self - government and local set up, to encourage sustainability of the approach.
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- To Support services including need-based training to Economic rehabilitation
- To Bridge the gap between the village and the rest of the world
- To Create avenues for income generation for women/person with disabilities through vocational training
- To Empower disabilities and increase their productivity through vocational training
- To Provide better employment opportunities

Community Based Rehabilitation programmes

A. Awareness Camps :

The Faculty of Education proposes to organize awareness camps to create awareness of services related to screening for disabilities, assessment, and all the follow up services to all the needy people in the area. Following are the desired objectives-

- Assessment and diagnosis of Hearing, Speech and Language Impairment.
 - Creating awareness and importance of Early childhood care and education in general education and special education.
 - Conducting screening tests in rural areas.
 - Awareness and Sensitization program on RPWD Act 2016 .
 - Access to all the available concessions, privileges, Guidance and counseling services.
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- To give information about various facilities, Govt. schemes for the disabled etc.
 - Parent Infant Program services.
 - Psychological Evaluation Services.
 - Educational Evaluation services.
 - Vocational training and placement services.

B. Extension activities

The main objective of organizing extension activities to create awareness among disadvantaged groups including women, scheduled caste, scheduled tribes, children with disabilities on education, special education, inclusive education, disability facilities, schemes concessions on aids and appliances, rights of persons with disabilities, and government policies etc.

The Forum will work to achieve the following desired objectives.

- To organize extension activities to create awareness on different government schemes and facilities providing for children/person with disabilities.
 - To identify suitable jobs and assess employment opportunities for the persons with different disabilities.
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- To develop strategies of placement for the persons with hearing handicapped.
 - To develop guidelines for self-employment for the persons with disabilities.
 - To provide vocational counseling, career guidance services for the children with disabilities collaboration with National Institutions.
 - To provide the rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities through rehabilitation specialists.
 - To create vocational training opportunities for the persons with hearing impairment in rural areas in collaboration with voluntary organizations.
 - To import various training programs for children With Disabilities and their parents.
 - To organize various Short Term Training Programs for children with Disabilities and their families.
 - To promote aspirations in Special Education among the youth and guide them pursue B.ED Special Education through Open and Distance Learning in Dr. BRAOU.

II) Vidhya Vigyan Vedika Outreach and Webinar Series consists of 12 Lectures on Inclusive Education

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the face-to-face meetings are delayed to a future date, which is still not clear. However, seminars, meetings and conferences are necessary for updating our knowledge

and skills. Web-based seminars (webinars) are the solutions to this issue. With Webinars, students not only just learn skills but they can also network with people. Webinars can bring people from different parts of the world together sharing a common interest in learning. This means attendees can reach like-minded people and empower each other in their fields towards attaining Inclusive Education.

The NEP 2020 seeks to Ensure Inclusive and Equitable quality Education and promote lifelong learning Opportunities for all by 2030. This aspirational goal remains a stark contrast to India's learning outcomes *which remain stubbornly low. It has drawn much attention to the theme of Inclusive and Equitable Education. Within an Inclusive Education System, the student with Disability is educated in the least restrictive environment, typically along with peers who do not have disabilities.*

In this regard, the Faculty of Education is Organizing a "

Vidhya Vigyan Vedika Outreach & Webinar Series *on Inclusive Education from March 2022 - March 2023.* The objective of organizing the Webinar Series is not only to share knowledge but also to create awareness on few areas like Early childhood care and education, Contemporary Issues in Special Education, Constitutional Provisions of Education, RTE Act, Impact of COVID-19 on Children with Special Needs and their families, Current Trends of Research in Special Education etc. To begin with, under **Vidhya Vigyan Vedika Outreach & Webinar Series** the Faculty of Education is organizing webinars on 7 areas and all the themes of Webinars are listed in the brochure.

Eminent experts-both from the General Education and Special Education are participating in the webinars. We hope that the webinar series will provide a platform to the researchers, academicians, student community to interact with the experts, share their views on the issues in line with the themes of webinar and spread the knowledge gained to the community at large.

THEMES OF THE WEBINARS

1. Early Childhood care and Education – Normal children and Children With Special Needs – Status in India
2. Rehabilitation Council of India(RCI)Act and National Council for Teacher Education(NCTE)Act for Teacher Preparation for Schools
3. Contemporary Issues in Special Education-Strategies to Promote Children with Special Needs
4. Educational System in the present scenario - Empowerment of Teachers for Inclusive Education
5. Constitutional Provisions of Education - Its reflection on National Educational Policy - Equality, Liberty, Secularism and Social justice
6. RTE Act– Its relevance on Disadvantaged Group
7. Improving Diversity in the Classroom teaching – Strategies & Techniques
8. NEP2020 -Inclusive Education – Creating Barrier free environment

9. Role of Community in Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities
10. Application of ICT in Classrooms – Advantages and Disadvantages.
11. Impact of COVID-19 on Children with Special Needs and their families
12. Current Trends of Research in Special Education

III) To meet the goals, the Forum will implement the comprehensive camps with the cooperation of faculty, counselors, research scholars, passed out students of B.ED and B.ED(SE) on

voluntary basis and also it will work with the involvement of State Government Disable Welfare, National Institutes which are working in different disabilities i.e. Hearing Impairment, Intellectual Disability, Visual Impairment and Vocational Rehabilitation Institutes. National Institutes will screen the disability, early identification and intervention whereas the Disable Welfare will arrange the logistics.

To organize the lecture series in the University, faculty will take care of identification and arrangement of resource persons. And it is proposed to pay honorarium to guests/experts and resource persons per each lecture on par with guest lecturers i.e.Rs.2,000/-per session.

Apart from this the University support is required to print the campaign material, posters, banners, pamphlets etc. Participation of Student Service Branch also may be required to organize the programs. And also required support from Computer centre, AVPRC, Nodal officer of Alumni affairs and PRO. Dean, faculty will convene the Forum meetings. All the faculty members of Education will coordinate in implementation of the Outreach and Community Based Rehabilitation services.

The Forum proposes to organize at least two awareness camps in this year between the month of March and April, 2022 in collaboration with National Institutes, State Government Disable Welfare.

These camps will be conducted in rural areas in Ranga Reddy and Vikharabad districts of Telangana, a group of faculty members will visit the place at least two days before and organize interactive sessions with the local leaders like Sarpanch , Corporator, community associations for arrangements. Tentatively Pargi, Ibrahim patnam, Chevella are proposed camp areas.