

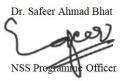


No: GDCK/NSS/22/119 Date: 20-12-2022

Report of the Seminar on Rights of Specially-abled Persons by NSS

National Service Scheme (NSS) Unit of the College organised a Seminar cum Felicitation ceremony on 19th December, 2022 in Collaboration with *The Human Race*, a renowned NGO of the Valley. The event was organised under the theme, 'Rights of Specially-abled Persons:Issues and Challenges'. The rationale of the event was to deliberate on the rights of Specially-abled persons and applaud their contribution towards empowerment of persons with disabilities. The event was conducted in the College Conference Hall and witnessed the participation of around 45 NSS volunteers besides members from the faculty, NGO and media. Mr. Javaid Ahmad Tak, (A Padmashree awardee) and Ms Insha Bashir (International Basketball player) were the guests of honour on the occasion. The event was conducted in two phases and was moderated by Dr. Safeer Ahmad Bhat, NSS Programme Officer. Principal of the College, Prof. (Dr.) Manzoor Ahmad Lone formally inaugurated the proceedings of the session and presented the introductory remarks. He lauded the resilience and accomplishments of the invited guests. In his keynote address, Javid Ahmad Tak highlighted the needs and rights of specially-abled persons in educational institutions. He said that disability was a challenge and not a bad name or punishment. Tak said as per several reports and surveys, 8% of J&K's population has one or the other form of disability. "Our educational institutions will have to take a frontal role in empowering specially-abled persons in real sense by ensuring their access to different facilities and amenities while protecting their rights in admissions and examinations," he said. International Basketball Player, Ms. Insha Bashir also talked about her personal experience of how she overcame various challenges in life and held that though she was wheelchair-bound, she could not forget her goals. She told the audience that once we are determined enough to do something in life, Almighty God comes to help us besides the support of the good people around us. All the volunteers were greatly motivated by the thought provoking session.

In the second phase of the event, a felicitation ceremony was held and the special invitees were felicitated for their wonderful contributions and achievements. The event concluded with a vote of thanks presented by Dr Hashim Iqbal Malik, HOD History.



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