

PG & RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SCIENCE

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, TIRUCHIRAPPALLI – 620 002.

Webinar Report

Name of the Activity : International Webinar On Sustainable Development Goals And The Marginalised During The Covid-19 Pandemic: *Rehabilitation Measures And Best Practices*

Activities Start Date : 13.08.2020

Activities End Date : 14.08.2020

Time : 3.30 – 5.30 pm

No. of . Resource Person : 4

Description :

The coronavirus pandemic has shown us a new world; one where the status quo no longer exists. Millions of people are experiencing untold misery and suffering as the virus overwhelms our bodies and economies. Rich and poor, the pandemic has forced us to reconsider almost every aspect of how we live. The Marginalized are no exception and they are experiencing severe hardships.

COVID-19's reach is only just beginning to be felt. UNDP estimates global human development—a combination of education, health, and living standards—could fall this year for the first time since 1990, when measurements began. The pandemic presents both an enormous challenge and tremendous opportunities for reaching the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The SDGs are a roadmap for humanity. They encompass almost every aspect of human and planetary wellbeing and, if met, will provide a stable and prosperous life for every person and ensure the health of the planet.

This year they have received a grievous blow—one that will be far reaching for years to come. But the pandemic also shows us the wisdom of what is already inherent in the SDGs; the challenges we face cannot be dealt with in isolation but as a team we can work in unison to better the lives of the marginalized.

Sadly, there appears to be no fast remedy in this rapidly changing situation, but we can be pragmatic and make a significant contribution by thinking and planning as social scientists to discuss deliberate and develop rehabilitation measures and best practices that would usher in a better quality of life for the marginalized.

Realising this felt need the PG & Research Department Of Rehabilitation Science , Holy Cross College and the Department of Womens Studies, Bharathidasan University , Tiruchirapalli envisioned this collaborative venture as part of its MOU agreement to organize a two days UGC SPONSORED International Webinar on **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND THE MARGINALISED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: Rehabilitation Measures and Best Practices on 13& 14 August 2020.**

The two days International webinar began on 13 July with our distinct speakers **Dr. Pranam Dhar ,Associate Professor & Head, Department of Commerce & Management, West Bengal State University, Barasat and Dr. (Mrs). Lingsiya Kengatharan, Senior Lecturer. Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka** were the key speakers who connected with us virtually along with our galaxy of professionals research scholars, students and field practitioners from India and across the globe. The programme began with a short prayer by MS. Angel Selvaraj , followed by a formal word of welcome by **Dr.N.Murugeswari** Associate Professor of the Department Of Womens Studies , BDU. Felicitations was rendered by **Dr. Sr. Lourdmery** Head Department Of Rehabilitation Science.

Dr. N.Manimekalai , Head , Department of Womens Studies And Dean , Faculty Of Arts , BDU rendered the inaugural address. She acknowledged the commendable initiative of the department sand also stressed on the need to address the 17 sustainable development goals for the marginalized . She stressed on the importnace of focussing on the SDGs and also emphasised on the constructive role of the academic fraternity and the Rehabilitation professionals in promoting the goals especially during the in this pandemic crisis.

The most invigorating part of the webinar was the special address delivered by the special invitee of the day **Dr. Pranam Dhar** , in which he highlighted on the **Schemes and Welfare Measures for persons with disabilities in West Bengal.** He made a elaborate outline of the varied schemes and emphasised on the need to make these schemes and welfare measures operational through committed efforts .

The closing lecture of the first day was delivered by **Dr.(Mrs). Lingsiya Kengatharan** on the topic **Impact of economy during covid-19 on SME's in Sri Lanka.** It was a very resourceful sharing packed with a lot of useful information on the adverse impact of the pandemic crisis in varied sectors of the SME s and the remedial measures being planned and advocated to promote the quality of live of people in the SMES .

Following this the first day of the webinar came to close with a formal word of thanks by **MS. Shrimathi**, Assistant Professor from the PG and Research Department of Rehabilitation Science.

Day2

The second day of the webinar began with the invocation of the Lord Almighty by Ms. Sasikala , assistant professor of the rehabilitation science department who led us in prayer. The special invitees of the day were welcomed **By Dr. P.Nagalakshmi** , Associate professor of the department of rehabilitation science which was later followed by the words of felicitation by our senior professor **Dr. Sheila Christopher**.

The customary procedures culminated and the most enriching sessions began with the key note speakers of the second day. The first invited was talk by **Dr.Dure Najaf, Assistant Professor From Muscat College, Oman** . Her lecture on Status of Women Entrepreneurs in Oman was an explicit presentation of the key initiatives facilitated towards the economic upliftment women, capacity building of their entrepreneurial skills and the varied employment ventures that contributed to their well being through illustrative case studies.

The final lecture of the webinar was the lecture on inclusive education for children with special needs during the covid crisis with special reference to the success stories at kangaroo kids and billabong schools in Mumbai by **Ms. Sachu Ramalingam, Director And Quality Assurance , Kangaroo Kids, Eurokids Group, Mumbai** and her talk brought to light the challenges in mainstreaming and also the affordable strategies and methods that facilitated the success of including these special kids in the inclusive schools.

Thus the curtains were pulled down on this most useful and informative webinar with a formal word of thanks by **Dr. P.Swarnakumari**, Associate Professor from the PG And Research Department Of Rehabilitation Science.

OUTCOMES OF THE WEBINAR

- brought together the academic and research community, students and social workers to discuss, share critical thinking, to problem solve, and to propose novel ideas for the marginalized.
- helped to analyse the impact of the pandemic on the implementation of the SDGs for the marginalized and discuss appropriate rehabilitation measures.
- enabled sharing of the the best practices and positive measures advocated to better the quality of life of the marginalized during the pandemic period.

CHALLENGES

The International webinar also putforth some of the challenges that needs to be addressed

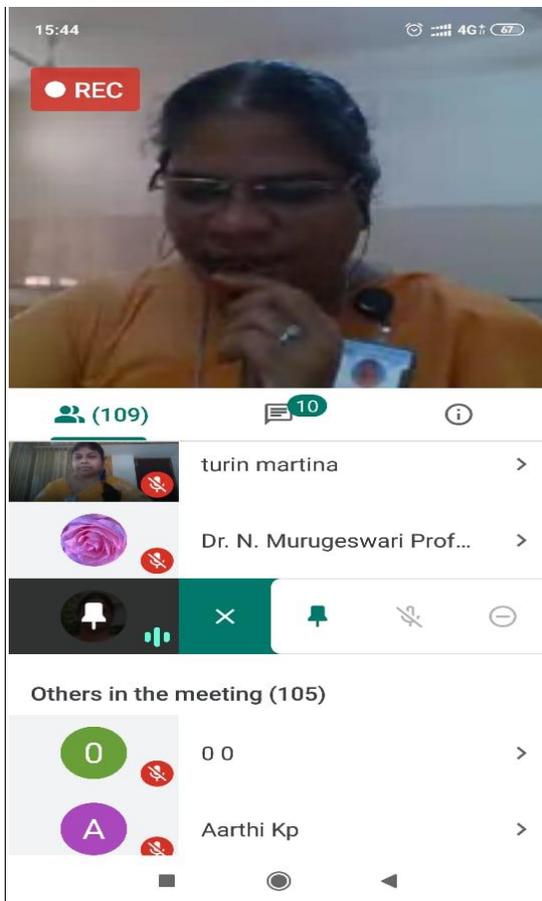
- Propagate the best practices in the disability sector and reimagine disability in the context of the SDGS and advocate policy framework to understand the current diverse needs of the population of persons with disability.

- enlighten professionals to design intervention strategies with a rights-based approach particularly to meet the needs of the marginalized during and after the pandemic crisis
- generate ideas to converge all the aspects of the 17 sustainable development goals for the marginalized with a larger goal of inclusion and accessibility.
- enlarge the work of the multidisciplinary team to work together in a collaborative manner for understanding future needs of marginalized

Thus this two days UGC sponsored webinar on Sustainable development goals was a great eye opener that ushered in the the power to create a better world by 2030, by ending poverty, fighting inequality and addressing the urgency of an affordable living environment for the marginalized with special emphasis on women and persons with disabilities. Progress has been made but nowhere near enough to achieve the Global goals with a thrust and call on everyone to come together and make this Super Year of action for people and for planet.

Total No. of Participants : 115 (Google Meet)

Photo Proof of the Event :



SDG & Disability

15 Goals of the 17 have at least 1 target or indicator that directly or indirectly impacts the lives of people with disabilities. 100 indicators and 85 targets are relevant, directly or indirectly, to people with disabilities.



bangaroo kids BELABING HIGH

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SPECIAL SCHEMES AND WELFARE MEASURES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN WEST BENGAL



Dr. Pranam Dhar
West Bengal State University

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