



One-day Talk Show on “AUTISM: Let’s Talk”

Organized by

Centre for Disability Studies and Educational Research (CDSER),

Under the aegis of

School of Education (SoE),

Netaji Subhas Open University (NSOU)

REPORT

Event schedule:

- ✚ Date: - 12th April, 2022; Time: - 1:00pm-4:00pm
- ✚ Mode: Blended Mode (Online-ZOOM platform, Offline: Boardroom, NSOU HQs)
- ✚ Participants: Around 40, comprising of learners, coordinators of Spl LSCs, faculty members, Officers and staff of NSOU

Objectives of the event:

- ✚ To raise awareness on the infinity prospects underlying with Autism
- ✚ To focus on overcoming challenges and stigma associated with Autism
- ✚ To apprise the strategies and interventions pertinent to address Autism
- ✚ To observe International Autism Month
- ✚ To celebrate diversity

Event Details:

Inaugural session

Welcome Address: Dr. A. N Dey, Director, SoE & coordinator, CDSER offered a cordial welcome to all attendees present online and offline to commemorate International Autism Month.

Introducing the theme: Sri. Prabir Naskar, Assistant Professor of Special Education, SoE, NSOU & Convener of the event introduced the audience with the focal points of discussion to celebrate the event.

Address by the Registrar, NSOU: Sri. Kishore Sengupta, Registrar, NSOU in his subtle speech drew some experiential instances on people with autism. He empathetically addressed the learned participants with the goodness and explorative sides of diversities existing in life and in various contexts.

Presidential Address: Prof. Subha Sankar Sarkar, Honourable Vice Chancellor, NSOU culminated through his thought-provoking presidential address. He appreciated CDSER for

organizing the event and congratulated all by ushering good wishes to celebrate the day with a difference.

Vote of Thanks: Smt. Swapna Deb, Consultant, SoE, NSOU & Jt Convener of the event proposed the formal vote of thanks to one and all associated with this event.



Technical Session

Panelist-1: Prof (Dr.) Mallika Banerjee, Dean, Department of Psychology, Techno India University & Former Professor, University of Calcutta initiated with the background of causes and factors associated with autism. She significantly sliced upon the care and prerequisites of dealing children with autism. In addition to this, she elucidated numerous strategies for catering and nurturing Autism and its management.

Panelist-2: Dr. Rudraprasad Acharya, RMO Cum Clinical Tutor, Dept. of Psychiatry, Medical College, Kolkata Ex Senior Resident, Dept. of Psychiatry & NDDTC, AIIMS, New Delhi, distinguishably talked on the medical aspects of autism and the associated behavioural patterns. He encapsulated dos and don'ts in handling children with autism.

Panelist-3: Mrs. Shibani Biswas, Senior Therapist & Special Educator, Autism Society of West Bengal, deliberated upon providing education to children with autism. She has also emphasized the role of teaching strategies effective for them.

Panelist-4: Mrs. Suman Bhattacharya, Mother of Vinayak Ruku (Author and Artist with exceptionality), narrated scraps of her journey of motherhood in raising up her son diagnosed with autism. She felt proud in unravelling the strengths of her son and how these strengths overpowered all challenges that apparently define autism. The success story of her son was a

silver-lining and an inspiration to all. It added a perfect touch to celebrate the event with a difference.



This celebration accompanied with a talk show was efficiently moderated by Smt. Antara Choudhury, Asst prof. of Special Education, SoE, NSOU & Dr. Abhedananda Panigrahi, B.Ed. Coordinator, SoE, NSOU. There were queries/ questions posed by the participants for the panelist on various areas of management of Autism, which were sequentially addressed. The event closed with a celebration swing among all, shedding off the misconceptions and welcoming the mindset ready to accept diversity and acknowledge differences rather than deficiencies/disabilities/inabilities.

Report prepared by -
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