# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK <u>DR BHIM RAO AMBEDKAR COLLEGE</u> (UNIVERSITY OF DELHI)

REPORT: ORIENTATION PROGRAMME 2024-25

The Department of Social Work at Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar College organised a five-day orientation program from 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024, to 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024, to orient the newly enrolled students of Bachelor of Social Work (Hons.) to their academic discipline and essential requirements. Esteemed speakers and notable guests joined the department faculty members to create an environment that promote the overall development of students.

#### Introduction session

The first session took place on August 29, 2024, and focused on interactions between students, parents and faculty members. This pre-orientation meeting aimed to address the doubts and confusions that newly enrolled students have about the academic curriculum, its scope and future prospects.

# Day 1, 30th August 2024

The first session of the orientation program commenced with the topic "Fieldwork in Social Work Education," presented by Prof. Atul Pratap Singh and coordinated by Dr. Deepsikha Chowdhary. This inaugural session highlighted the significance of fieldwork within social work education. Its main purpose was to demonstrate that fieldwork is an essential aspect of the curriculum, allowing students to apply theoretical concepts in real-world settings and learn from their experiences in the field.

After the lunch break, Ms. Alpana Singh led a session on "Community Engagement," coordinated by Dr. Kislay Kumar Singh. The session emphasized the importance of involving community members in social work. It highlighted that social workers are not superheroes who can transform lives instantly. Rather, they must build consensus and engage the community in their efforts. This fosters a sense of shared accountability and responsibility, making community participation as an essential part.

The last session of the first day of orientation focused on "Simulation Exercises," presented by Mr. Kumar Satyam and Dr. Kislay Kumar Singh. This session emphasized that social workers must be aware of relevant services to address unforeseen challenges and should also be prepared to respond swiftly to such situations.

### Day 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

The second day began with the inaugural session by renowned academician and the Head of department, Delhi School of Social Work, Prof. Sanjay Roy further coordinated by Professor Tushti Bharadwaj and Professor Richa Chowdhary. It was a very warm and enlightening session, which was the reflection of experiences that Prof. Roy holds. In his address he has primarily focussed on the social work discipline and its relevance in contemporary society. He

further talked about the academic curriculum of social work and extended it to Community participation and role of social worker.

The next theme after lunch, following the inaugural session, was "Setting of Social Work Practice." This session was hosted by Professor Avtar Singh and coordinated by Mr. Kumar Satyam. It was enlightening for newly enrolled students, as it provided a broad overview of the scope of social work. Professor Avtar Singh discussed various settings in which social workers can engage and the roles they can play within those environments. He covered a range of domains, including Community Organization, Rural Development, Livelihood, Social Justice, Health, Education, and more. These domains are relevant in schools, hospitals, and other settings.

The last session of the second day's orientation focused on the topic "Ice Breaking Session." This was hosted by Ms. Kalyani, Chairperson of Action India, and further coordinated by Dr. Deepshikha Chowdhary and Dr. Anjali Suman. Through a variety of structured activities, Ms. Kalyani highlighted how ice-breaking sessions create an engaging environment that encourages interaction and helps participants feel more connected in any setting, whether in the workplace or during team-building events.

## Day 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

The third day of the induction program began with the fascinating topic "Puppet Making and Storytelling: Program Media for Working with Children," hosted by Ms. Rajni Kumar and coordinated by Prof. Atul Pratap Singh and Prof. Bishnu Mohan Dash. Ms. Rajni Kumar is the program manager at Katha, an organization that works for the quality education of children from marginalized sections of society. In this session, she covered the fundamentals of storytelling, emphasizing its importance in child development and education. She also shared tips on making stories more interactive and captivating for children.

The last session of the day was "Upcycling and Recycling: Creative Use of Waste Materials," hosted by Ms. Madhuraj, an entrepreneur and freelancer. This session was further coordinated by Dr. Kislay Kumar Singh and Mr. Kumar Satyam. In today's context, it is essential for us to understand the significance of waste management at an individual level, as proper management is crucial for building sustainable and livable cities. This brings us to two significant processes: upcycling and recycling, both of which aim to reuse materials. Upcycling does not involve molecular breakdown; instead, it transforms waste into usable items. This process promotes individual creativity and sustainability, while recycling entails a complete transformation through molecular breakdown. This session highlights the intersectionality of social work and waste management, particularly in promoting community and environmental sustainability.

#### Day 4, 4th September 2024

Organisational Visit:- "Anchal Charitable Trust"

Venue:- Plot No-283, sec-4, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, UP

Resource Person:- Ms Savvy Jain, Advisor CSR

Faculty Coordinator:- Prof Richa Chowdhary, Dr Deepsikha Chowdhary and Dr Kislay Kumar Singh

This was an organisational visit organised by Department of social work, Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar College, to provide students with practical insights into the functioning of a Non-Governmental organizations or developmental agencies.

Anchal Charitable Trust is a Ngo which mainly operates in slums and resettlement of Delhi NCR, UP, and Uttaranchal regions. They work with children suffering from disability, HIV/AIDS and are victims of child labour, sex trafficking, malnutrition and disaster. The visit of first year students was with the purpose to orient them to an organisational setting with the programs, services, and policies of the NGO.

Ms Savvy Jain, Advisor CSR of the organisation hosted the visit and shared her experiences and insights into the challenges faced by the trust in implementing its programs. She emphasized the importance of community involvement and the role of CSR in driving social change. The students had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss various aspects of social work and community development.

#### Day 5, 5th September 2024

Mr. Dinesh, a freelancer from Action India, hosted the first session of the day, titled "Use of Art and Crafts for Field Work Practice." The session was coordinated by Professor Avtar Singh and Dr. Ravindra Singh. The effective utilization of available resources is a significant tool for a social worker. As a social worker, one must understand the effective use of art and crafts in fieldwork practice, as this not only enhances creativity but also promotes sustainability.

Following this session, Dr. Deepsikha Chowdhary hosted the next session on "Team Building Activities." The essence of this session was to promote cohesion and understanding within groups.

The next session focused on "Practice-Based Learning Skills in the Field," where the host, Dr. Anjali Suman, aimed to orient students toward the essential skills required of a social worker. These skills can be acquired through practice, and social work as a discipline provides a platform for students to perform and practice these skills in the field while learning them in class.

At the end of the orientation, there was an open forum for discussion and questions. All the faculty members were present to guide and clarify any dilemmas the newly enrolled students had. Several students asked questions regarding the academic curriculum, including fieldwork placements, report writing, and exams. These questions were answered generously by the concerned faculty members.























