

Office of the Chief Public Relations Officer
Jamia Millia Islamia

Press Release

Dr. K. R. Narayanan Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies Hosts Workshop on Disability Inclusion and Awareness

New Delhi, September 25, 2026

The Dr. K. R. Narayanan Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, hosted an *Awareness-cum-Sensitisation and Hands-on Training Workshop on the Needs of Children with Special Needs* on 24 September 2026. The workshop was organised in collaboration with the Centre for the Study of Social Inclusion and formed the fourth of five consecutive department-wise sessions being conducted by Samaveshan Saathi Samooh as part of its university-wide outreach initiative on disability inclusion and awareness.

The programme was graced by **Prof. Deepak Kem**, Director and Professor at the Dr. K. R. Narayanan Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, as the **Chief Guest**. The occasion was also graced by **Prof. Padmanabh Samarendra**, Professor, and **Dr. Prashant Negi**, Associate Professor, both from the Dr. K. R. Narayanan Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies. **Dr. Arvind Kumar**, Assistant Professor at the Centre for the Study of Social Inclusion, was present as the **Guest of Honour**. The programme brought together faculty members, scholars and M.Ed. Special Education, 3rd Semester students from the Department of Teacher Training & Non-Formal Education for an engagement centred on disability, inclusion and the need to sensitise young professionals towards the needs of children with special needs.

The event was conducted under the guidance and supervision of **Dr. Saurabh Ray**, Assistant Professor, Special Education (Visual Impairment) at the Department of Teacher Training & Non-Formal Education (IASE), Faculty of Education, and **Dr. Mohd. Faijullah Khan**, Associate Professor at the Department of Teacher Training & Non-Formal Education. Dr. Saurabh Ray, speaking during the programme, emphasised that what is required is **“not help but support, and not sympathy but empathy.”** This emphasis on moving from charitable approaches towards meaningful support, understanding and empathy captured one of the central messages of the workshop.

The workshop comprised two key sessions. The first introduced participants to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, familiarising them with the rights and

protections available to persons with disabilities and the broader principles of accessibility and inclusion, including inclusive education.

The second session adopted an interactive and experiential approach to Indian Sign Language (ISL). Participants were introduced to basic signs and encouraged to learn and reproduce the gestures demonstrated during the session. The session also provided sensitisation on respectful and appropriate ways of interacting with persons with disabilities, with particular emphasis on individual autonomy, dignity, consent and the importance of not making assumptions about a person's need for assistance. Participants were encouraged to understand that support should be offered in a manner that respects the preferences and independence of persons with disabilities. Students and scholars participated enthusiastically, asking questions, engaging with the facilitators and practising the signs themselves. The hands-on nature of the session thus connected questions of communication and accessibility with a broader understanding of dignity and inclusive social interaction.

For the Dr. K. R. Narayanan Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies, the workshop also reaffirmed its broader commitment to engaging with questions of marginalisation and social exclusion beyond narrowly defined categories. While the Centre's work remains rooted in the study of Dalit and minority concerns, it also seeks to engage with wider forms of marginalisation, exclusion and underrepresented social issues. The workshop was one such initiative, bringing disability and accessibility into conversation with the Centre's broader intellectual and social commitments.

The Centre remains committed to organising and supporting more such workshops, discussions and academic engagements, and to making a sustained contribution towards building greater awareness, sensitivity, accessibility and inclusion within and beyond the university.

Prof. Saima Saeed
Chief Public Relations Officer



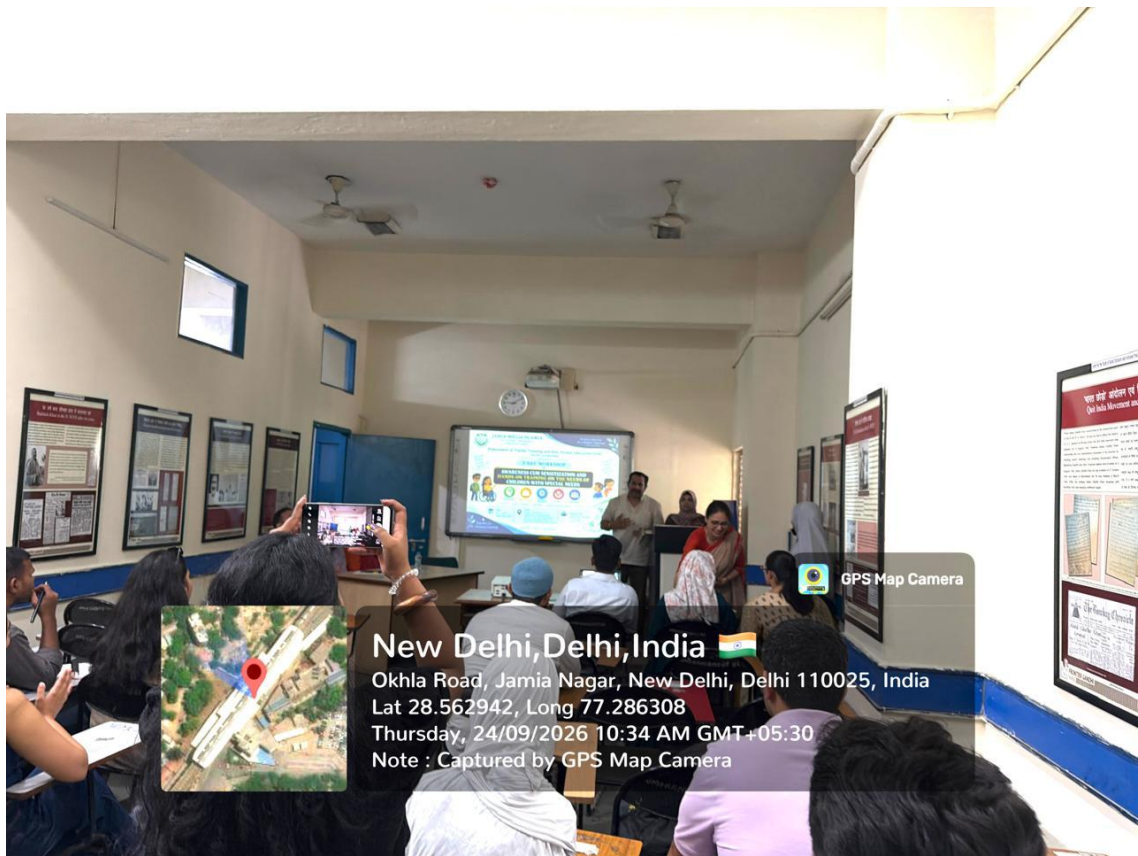
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Okhla Road, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi 110025, India

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Note : Captured by GPS Map Camera



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Okhla Road, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi 110025, India

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JAMIA ISLAMIA
(AL-ULU'UL-UMMAH UNIVERSITY)
DELHI - 110025

Inclusive Education
for a Brighter Tomorrow

Faculty of Teacher Training and Non-Formal Education (IASE)
Faculty of Education

ORGANIZES
5-DAY WORKSHOP
ON
**AWARENESS CUM SENSITIZATION AND
HANDS-ON TRAINING ON THE NEEDS OF
CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

THEME: Sensitivity, Tolerance, Inclusion

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
Learn | Sensitize | Build Skills | Create an Inclusive Society

VENUE:
Faculty of Fine Arts
Department of Photography
Gate No. 1, Near T. Narain Complex
New Delhi, Department of Education
Jawahar Education, New Delhi - 110025

ORGANIZED BY:
In-Ed Special Education
Dr. Anurupa
Session 10:00-12:00

WORKSHOPS | EQUITY | SENSITIZATION | INCLUSION



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Okhla Road, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi 110025, India

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Okhla Road, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi, Delhi 110025, India

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