Shailabala Women's Autonomous College, Cuttack Accredited with 'A' grade by N.A.A.C.(U.G.C.)(2006 क्ष 2017) सत्यमेव जयते नानृतं सत्येन पन्था विततो देवयानः। "Oldest Women's College of Odisha!"

Institutional Distinctiveness

7.3.1

Empowering Vision: THE HEI's Journey towards Inclusivity and Excellence

In line with its vision-mission and the objectives of the founders of the college, women empowerment has been given the paramount priority to inculcate a sense of self-worth, ability to determine the choices, and the right to determine social change in the women students. The college strives by adopting various constructive ways and means to mould the women learners irrespective of their social origins and physical abilities into efficient and self-reliant women. The metamorphosis of attaining holistic empowerment is the eventual aim of the college.

Education for the Underprivileged Students:

The institution is known for its commitment to prioritize visually challenged students. The college is dedicated in providing quality education and support for their academic success. With a focus on addressing the unique needs of these students, the institute has made significant strides in improving accessibility and inclusivity in campus

The HEI has taken concrete steps to ensure visually challenged students to receive the necessary resources and assistance to excel in their studies. From providing recorded versions of courses in literature subjects like UG Odia program to offering various scholarships and free-ships, the institute has made significant efforts to level the playing field for these students.

One of the key initiatives at the HEI is the provision of campus resources to aid visually challenged students in their academic pursuits. These resources include specialized assistive technologies, such as screen readers and Braille displays, which enable students to access course materials, academic texts, and research materials. Moreover, the institute has invested in creating a supportive learning environment, equipped with accessible classrooms and study areas, fostering an inclusive atmosphere for all students

To further enhance the learning experience, the college has introduced assistive services. From individualized tutoring to adaptive learning techniques, these services play a crucial role in the academic growth and development of these students.

In addition to academic support, The HEI has shown its commitment to the overall well-being of visually challenged students. The institute has established a dedicated hostel, equipped with all basic amenities, to accommodate the e students comfortably. The hostel environment is designed to be accessible and inclusive, catering to the specific needs of its residents. Tactile paths are constructed in the campus to facilitate safe locomotion of these students.

Recognizing the potential and talent of visually challenged students beyond academics, the HEI has actively encouraged their participation in extracurricular activities. In particular, the institute has

embraced sports as a means of empower and and inclusion. One such sport is cricket, and it has proved to be an avenue for visually challenged students to showcase their skills and abilities. As a result of the institute's efforts, a few visually challenged students have become proud members of the Odisha Cricket Team for visually challenged players. Their achievements highlight The HEI's commitment to nurturing both their academic and extracurricular talents, proving that disability is not

The HEI's initiatives extend beyond its campus, as it endeavours to raise awareness about the abilities and potential of visually challenged individuals. Through community outreach programs, the institute aims to dispel misconceptions surrounding visual impairment and promotes a more inclusive society. The impact of the HEI's dedication to visually challenged students goes beyond their time at the institute. The education and support the y receive for preparing themselves for successful careers and active participation at different levels. Armed with knowledge and skills, these students emerge as confident individuals who can contribute meaningfully to their communities and beyond.

Inspired by the vision of transformational change in rural/slum development processes, the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan has been undertaken by the students of this college as envisaged in the Community Outreach Activities. The College has always been in the forefront in organising various such activities, treating it as a Best Practice by the students to extend their services to the society at large. The activities are broadly categorized as under.

- 1. Educational activities in schools/anganwadis
- 2. Health and Nutritional Awareness
- 3. Voter awareness
- 4. Road safety measures
- 5. Anti-curruption rallies
- 6. Institutional birth awareness
- 7. NSS volunteers helping aged/physically challenged voters during the elections

In conclusion, the HEI stands as a beacon of inclusivity, providing visually challenged students and the under privileged sections of the society with quality education, support services, and opportunities for personal growth. By prioritizing their unique needs, the institute has created an environment where these people can thrive on a healthy and prosperous life. The success stories of visually challenged individuals excelling in academics and sports serve as an inspiration to others, breaking barriers and paving the way for a more inclusive and compassionate world.