

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

ADITI MAHAVIDYALAYA

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

NEWSLETTER



A Year of Impact, Growth, and Meaningful Engagement

The academic year 2024-25 has been a vibrant period of academic excellence, professional development, and impactful community engagement for the Department of Social Work at Aditi Mahavidyalaya. This newsletter celebrates the diverse initiatives, collaborative efforts, and transformative learning experiences that have shaped our students' journey.



Orientation Programme

The Department of Social Work held two orientation programmes in 2024 to help all students understand social work and fieldwork better. The three-day programme for second and third-year students, coordinated by Dr. Mali Devi Sawariya and Prof. Sunita Bhamani, included sessions on community work, counselling, social innovation, SWOT analysis, cultural sensitivity, ethics, communication, and social welfare administration. The first-year programme, also led by Dr. Mali Devi and Prof. Sunita Bhamani, covered basic ideas of social work, leadership, social justice, and report writing, followed by sessions on fieldwork, working with different groups, and professional ethics. It ended with a field visit to Navjyoti India Foundation, Bawana, where students observed community work, shared their reflections, and wrote journals, giving them a strong start to their journey in social work.

Teachers' Day Celebration

The Ekta Society of the Department of Social Work organized a warm and meaningful celebration to mark Teachers' Day. The event featured:



- Cultural performances by students
- Heartfelt speeches expressing gratitude
- Handmade tokens of appreciation
- Interactive student-teacher bonding activities

The celebration fostered a sense of respect and strengthened the student-teacher bond, leaving behind joyful and memorable experiences for all involved.

| September 5, 2024

International Talk on Risk Assessment and Correctional Counseling

The Department of Social Work and Legal Aid Clinic at Aditi Mahavidyalaya, University of Delhi, organized an international talk on “Risk Assessment and Correctional Counseling: India-Taiwan Experience Sharing.” The keynote speaker, Prof. Min-chieh Jay Linn from National Chungcheng University, Taiwan, shared his expertise in counseling psychology and criminology, focusing on comparative practices in India and Taiwan.

Coordinated by Dr. Mali Devi Sawariya, Prof. Sunita Bahmani (Teacher In-Charge) and TEEP Indian Expert and Coordinator of the Legal Aid Clinic, the event aimed to promote cross-cultural exchange and collaboration in correctional counseling. Advocate Parvinder Sehrawat from DLSA also contributed insights on India’s legal and correctional framework.

The session was inaugurated by Prof. Mamta Sharma, Principal, followed by remarks from Prof. Sunita Bahmani and a keynote address by Prof. Beena Antony Reji. Prof. Linn discussed the use of risk assessment tools, the integration of technology in Taiwan, and the importance of community-based rehabilitation practices in India.



| August 13, 2024

Online Session on Children with Special Needs

An online session titled “Children with Special Needs: Intervention & Rehabilitation” organized by the Department of Social Work in Collaboration with Swami Dayanand Hospital. The session was inaugurated by Prof. Mamta Sharma (Principal, Aditi Mahavidyalaya), and Dr. Surendra Singh Bisht (HOD, Pediatric Department, Swami Dayanand Hospital) was welcomed along with his multidisciplinary team by Prof. Sunita Bahmani (Teacher In-Charge), Department of Social Work. Team members included professionals from various domains such as optometry, clinical psychology, occupational and physiotherapy, audiology and speech therapy, dentistry, and social work. Dr. Seema Rani presented the concept note, and the experts discussed the challenges faced by children with special needs and the range of services offered by the hospital. The session concluded with an interactive Q&A and a vote of thanks delivered by Prof. Beena Antony Reji. A total of 29 students and 9 faculty members attended the session.

| August 20, 2024

National Social Work Week Panel Discussion

The Department of Social Work at Aditi Mahavidyalaya, in collaboration with the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI), organized an online panel discussion on “Roles of Social Worker in School Settings: Scope and Challenges” as part of the 5th National Social Work Week. The event saw participation from 22 students and 8 faculty members. Prof. Sunita Bahmani, TIC, welcomed the attendees and introduced the panelists. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Beena Antony Reji.

The panel featured Prof. Sanjoy Roy, Head of the Department of Social Work, University of Delhi, and Dr. Arti Mann, teacher at MCD School, Nawada, with moderation by Dr. Aneesh T. V. Prof. Roy discussed the growing importance of social work in schools and its alignment with the New Education Policy, while Dr. Mann emphasized the challenges of social exclusion and the vital role of school social workers in promoting inclusivity. Dr. Gyanvati concluded the event with closing remarks and a vote of thanks.



February 4, 2025

Pearl Memorial Day

The Department commemorated Pearl Memorial Day in honor of a late student, Ms. Pearl. The event featured a poster competition on the theme "Viksit Bharat @2047", encouraging participants to envision a developed India on the centenary of independence. With 28 students and 13 faculty members participating, the event successfully showcased student creativity across topics like technology, sustainability, and social justice. Mr. Baldev, Dr. Mali Devi Sawariya and Prof. Sunita Bhamani, (T.I.C) coordinated the event.

The event encouraged students to envision a developed and progressive India by the centenary of its independence. Held under the guidance of Principal, Prof. Mamta Sharma and faculty members Prof. Sunita Bhamani, Prof. Seema Rani, and others, the competition saw enthusiastic participation across disciplines. Students presented creative posters reflecting themes such as technology, education, sustainability, and social equity.

The entries were evaluated by a panel comprising Prof. Sunita Pareek, Dr. Sheetal Sharma, and Dr. Indu, and the winners-Ms. Varnika (BSW), Ms. Ruby (BSW), and Ms. Hadia (B.A. Prog), were announced during a ceremony. Cash prizes were awarded in recognition of their talent. The event served as both a celebration of creative expression and a tribute to a cherished member of the college community.



October 22, 2024

Diwali Mela

The Department hosted the much-awaited Diwali Mela, organized by the Ekta Society and coordinated by Ms. Manisha Pal, Prof. Sunita Bhamani (T.I.C), and the Ekta Society Governing Body. Prof. Mamta Sharma, Principal of Aditi Mahavidyalaya, inaugurated the event.

The celebration showcased:

- Traditional diyas stalls
- Mehndi stalls and designs
- Diya decoration activities
- Rangoli competitions
- Floral and colorful decorations symbolizing unity and prosperity

Students, faculty, and staff participated enthusiastically, creating a vibrant atmosphere filled with cultural expression and festive spirit. The event successfully blended celebration with social interaction.

February 15, 2025

TATTVA Educational Conclave

The department continued its intellectual pursuits with the TATTVA Educational Conclave, held at the Institute of Lifelong Learning Auditorium, North Campus, Delhi University. Jointly organized by Vivekananda Darshanika Samajam and the Delhi School of Social Work, the event featured Admiral R. Hari Kumar, former Chief of Naval Staff, as the chief guest. Distinguished speakers included Prof. Sushma Yadav, Prof. Ranjan Tripathi, and Prof. Sanjoy Roy.

Faculty members Dr. Mali Devi Sawariya and Dr. Aneesh T. V., along with thirty students from B.A. Social Work programme, actively participated. Admiral Kumar emphasized the role of values in education, encouraging students to read and uphold India's traditional value system. A lively Q&A session followed, along with a panel discussion on value-based education led by esteemed academicians and experts.



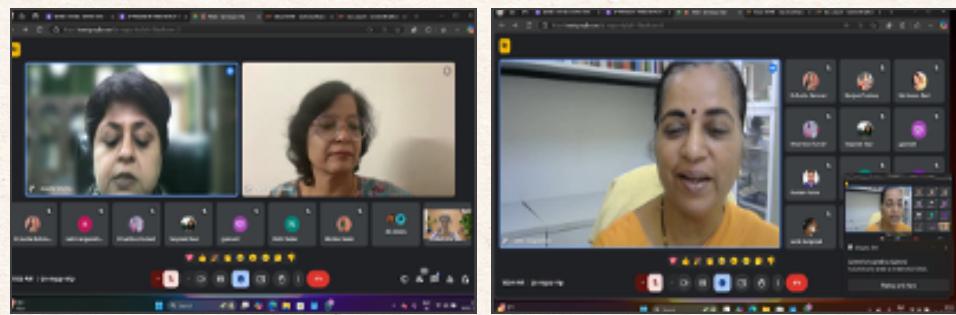
February 20, 2025

World Social Justice Day Celebration

The Department of Social Work, Aditi Mahavidyalaya, University of Delhi, in collaboration with the National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) under the Viksit Bharat @2047 initiative, organized a virtual event to mark World Social Justice Day. The program aimed to promote awareness around equality, human rights, and social justice. Prof. Sunita Bahmani welcomed the participants and distinguished guests, highlighting the significant role of social work in advancing justice for marginalized communities.

The keynote speaker, Ms. Manjula Pradeep, a renowned social worker and human rights activist, emphasized the importance of constitutional values, inclusivity, and structural transformation in the field of social work. The event featured insightful discussions moderated by Dr. Mali Devi Sawariya and saw active participation from over 55 students and faculty members.

Prof. Neena Pandey contributed to the dialogue by reinforcing the relevance of applying social justice principles in practice. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Aneesh, acknowledging all contributors. Overall, the session served as a powerful platform for dialogue and reflection on the evolving role of social work in building a more equitable society.



March 18, 2025

International Webinar on Social Innovation and Social Work

The Department of Social Work at Aditi Mahavidyalaya, University of Delhi, organized an international webinar on "Social Innovation and Social Work." The session focused on how innovative approaches can be used to intentionally address social challenges and how social innovation can serve as a valuable tool for social workers. The resource person for the webinar, Dr. Tiffany Laursen, adjunct professor at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, is a practitioner dedicated to helping ordinary people make extraordinary changes. With experience in both scientific research and practical application, Dr. Laursen strives to bridge the gap between theory and practice by applying scientific insights to real-world social impact work. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, a Master's from Harvard, and a B.A. from SUNY Empire State College. The event was moderated and coordinated by Ms. Aksa Jan, Guest Faculty. The program featured a welcome note by Prof. Seema Rani, a keynote address by Prof. Sunita Bahmani, an interactive session and Q&A with Dr. Laursen, and concluded with a vote of thanks by Ms. Aksa Jan. The webinar provided a meaningful platform for academic exchange and highlighted the evolving role of innovation in social work practice.

March 6, 2025

Networking and Community Building Seminar

Students and faculty members from the Department of Social Work, Aditi Mahavidyalaya, participated in a seminar on 'Networking and Community Building' at Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, University of Delhi. The event was organized by the Department of Social Work, Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College. The seminar featured technical sessions that explored the realities, challenges, and expectations of fieldwork, including a panel discussion with representatives from various NGOs.

The second session focused specifically on networking and community building within the Indian context. This seminar provided students with valuable academic insights into fieldwork practices, while the experiences shared by NGO professionals offered a practical understanding of the challenges and approaches involved in community-based work.



April 8 to 11, 2025

Rural Camp in Himachal Pradesh

The Department of Social Work organized a rural camp for third-year B.A. Social Work students at SUTRA in Jagjit Nagar, Solan, Himachal Pradesh. The camp was attended by 23 students and guided by faculty members Dr. Rakesh Choudhary, Dr. Aneesh T.V., and Ms. Manisha Pal. Students engaged in a session led by Mr. Gange Pandit, who shared the history and work of SUTRA, an organization known for its contributions to rural development and women's empowerment.

The students visited the villages of Kuthar and Dadwa, where they interacted with Panchayat and Mahila Mandal members, school children, and conducted participatory rural appraisals (PRA). They later presented their findings through posters to faculty and SUTRA staff.

The camp enriched students' understanding of grassroots development, rural community structures, and the practical application of participatory approaches in community development.



April 22, 2025

Drug Abuse Prevention Awareness Program

The Department of Social Work at Aditi Mahavidyalaya organized an impactful awareness program on drug abuse prevention in collaboration with the Imperial Service Development Society (ISDS), the National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. Coordinated by Ms. Aksa Jan, the event featured engaging sessions led by Mr. Vasu Dev and Mrs. Seema Sharma from ISDS. They shared real-life experiences and strategies for resisting peer pressure and substance abuse. The program included case studies, group discussions, myths vs. facts activity, an awareness quiz, and a collective pledge to "Say No to Drugs and Yes to Life." Prof. Sunita Bahmani delivered the welcome address, and Dr. Aneesh T.V. and Dr. Rakesh Chaudhary played key roles in organizing the event. With active participation from 42 students and support from volunteers Varnika, Farheen, Tanisha, and Sadhna (Semester IV BSW), the event successfully fostered awareness and encouraged students to become peer educators in promoting a drug-free campus.

25 April, 2025

SMILE Seminar on Hard-to-Reach Populations

Students attended a seminar on "Hard to Reach Population- SMILE (Beggary)" at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar International Centre. Organized by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in collaboration with The World Bank. The session focused on the SMILE scheme-Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise-and addressed the complexities of beggary as a social issue. The discussions emphasized the need for a strategic and collaborative approach involving multiple stakeholders. Students Sonia, Jyoti, Farheen, Neha, and Shivani, faculty member Ms. Aksa Jan, attended the seminar.

The event provided valuable insights into global perspectives, including practices from countries like Brazil and Ethiopia, enhancing students' understanding of inclusive social policies and intervention models.

These diverse initiatives organized and attended by the Department of Social Work throughout the year collectively promoted awareness, dialogue, and innovation in addressing social challenges. They reflected the department's unwavering commitment to fostering a socially conscious, inclusive, and practically grounded learning environment for its students and academic community.

