



SPECIAL REPORT



Volume 1, Issue 01 | March —2018

Special points of interest:

- UGC Policy
- Special Information & Guidance
- Guidance for Career Placements
- Scholarship schemes
- Aids & appliances.
- UNIVERSITY POLICY

Inside this issue:

Message of Dean Students Welfare	...
Message of coordinator	...
About Special Cell	...
Objectives	...
UGC-Assistance	...
Functions	...
Activities	...
Achievements	...
Gallery	...

Equal Opportunity For Differently-abled Students



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 Coordinator, Special Cell, DSW



Message from DEAN,DSW

It is a matter of great honour that Department of Students Welfare, University of Kashmir has succeeded in its endeavour to bring out the Achievement Report titled “DSW-SPECIAL”. It gives coverage to activities carried out by the Special Cell which is functioning under the auspices of the Department of Students Welfare reflecting the aims, objectives and programmes of the Special Cell.

Since myriad revolutionary changes are taking place across the globe in diverse fields, persons with disability can't lag behind. Disability has various forms namely physical, mental, social, emotional, economic and learning disability etc. Any person badly affected by any form of disability is not to be taken as a liability. Challenged and a differently-abled person with a hidden talent needs facilitating measures for exposure. The Special Cell has carried out such activities that provide much needed confidence and creative exposure to differently-abled students and officials of the university for leading a successful life in the modern world.

Our pursuit to achieve the objectives, commendably delineated and enumerated by Mr. Shaheel Mohmad, Coordinator Special Cell, in the process of establishing vertical horizontal and institutional linkages for achieving the objectives. The proper welfare of challenged persons determines the glorious future of the nation. This way the pain, agony and discomfort they are faced with can only be imagined and sympathised with.

Our Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Khurshid Iqbal Andrabi, a widely acclaimed visionary, has altruistically taken an avid interest in developing, strengthening and empowering the Special Cell. The welfare of challenged persons is uppermost priority in his mind. His overarching concern for empowerment of the challenged persons is a source of inspiration for us. His special concern in accepting our proposals and providing all kind of support for empowerment of physically challenged /differently-abled students and officials of the University, is demonstrated by the fact that as and when any proposal is forwarded same stands authorised without any delay.

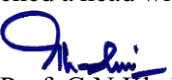
Our sincere thanks are due to Prof. Khurshid Ahmad Bhat, Worthy Registrar, University of Kashmir. His assiduity and his avuncular attitude towards physically challenged students and young employees has been a key factor in making all student welfare programmes successful and purposeful. His whole-hearted support and gracious favour has been instrumental in making the programmes organised by Special Cell meaningful and student friendly. The extra ordinary support and concern of the worthy Registrar has been a moving spirit behind all activities organised by DSW.

It also redounds to the credits of the worthy Prof. Nilofer Khan, Dean college development council and former Dean Students Welfare, that under her astute stewardship the Special Cell has registered commendable achievements. She is an embodiment of humanism and deep dedication. Thanks to her sincere efforts, her keen and consistent attention towards the specially-abled students.

It is worth mentioning that the Special Cell stands established since 2009 and the untiring efforts of Mr. Shaheel Mohammad, Coordinator Special Cell is highly laudable for making it a vibrant unit. It is due to his commitment and dedication that the Special Cell has carved out a niche in the university successfully. Notwithstanding his loco-motor disability which has never proved any obstacle in the way of his dearest mission and the cherished objectives of the Special Cell. Mr. Shaheel Mohmad has marched a head with his mission.



Prof. G. N. Khaki
Dean Students Welfare


Prof. G. N. Khaki
Dean Students Welfare

From the Coordinator's desk

Foreword

The achievement Report “The DSW Special” is being brought out at the express initiative of Dean Students Welfare, university of Kashmir. This is 3rd addition which highlights the genesis and objectives of the Special Cell as also the performances, competencies, programmes and attainments registered by the Cell. It gives coverage of the activities carried out by the Cell which is functioning under the auspices of the Department of the Students Welfare. It gives a glimpse of what is going on and how we have succeeded in our worthwhile endeavors to scale new heights and touch new horizons notwithstanding our disabilities. We don't boast to have done much. It is only a humble start. It can be well described as 'the petty done , the undone vast'. However, we draw a satisfaction that we have played a pioneering role taking a small step in the right direction in our quest for the below mentioned objectives of:

1. Providing access to higher education, employment and rehabilitation.
2. Strengthening social participation obviating attitudinal and environmental barriers, activity limitations, social stigma deterrents etc.
3. Ensuring empowerment and development of the an inclusive educational society.
4. Facilitating and ensuring equity overcoming the challenges.
5. Creating an understanding and building competencies in university rank-and file for dealing properly with persons having disability of any sort;
6. Creating opportunities for exposure of hidden talent of differently-abled persons;
7. Providing all kind of support to differently-abled persons in the University and its affiliated institutions/colleges.
8. Facilitaing hassle-free submission of forms, admissions, testing, exams and certification.

It redounds to the credits of the university authorities, that they took an initiative to set up the Special Cell in 2009 with the undersigned as its coordinator. The initiative enjoyed an across-the-board support as it opened a new window of opportunity enabling the challenged persons to keep in step with the march of the world with dignity & honour. The worthy authorities, deserves all the kudos for their sagacious approach. We owe our profound debt of gratitude to the gracious favour of their encouragement and guidance that stood us in good stead in supplementing the efforts and in establishing the Special Cell.

It also redounds to the credits of the worthy Deans, Department of Students Welfare, that under their astute stewardship the Special Cell has registered commendable achievements. They are embodiment of humanism and deep dedication. Thanks to their sincere efforts, keen and consistent attention towards the challenged persons. I consider them second to none in their commitments to whatever they undertake for the welfare of students as well as of officials. They are humane and more concerned about the welfare of persons with disability of any sort. It is due to their unique administrative acumen that rank and file members of the department are my facilitators. Their involvement, cooperation and devotion help me in my dearest mission and my cherished dreams.

Above all, we really exult over having our worthy and highly esteemed Vice-Chancellor who commands a superb and spotless reputation for his dynamism, inspiration, dedication, commitment and high integrity. He is steadfastly determined to develop and empower the Special Cell on some admirably new and innovative lines. He is widely known for his far-sighted vision, highest sense of devotion and dedication. The welfare of the weaker sections and challenged persons of the university is paramount in his mind. His all-out efforts in this behalf are underway.



**Shaheel Mohmad
Coordinator, Special Cell**

Shaheel Mohmad
Coordinator, Special Cell

From The Counselor's Desk

Welcome to University Of Kashmir!

There are many opportunities and challenges which we are suppose to face in our daily life, so is the case with our academics. We face many problems, challenges and issues in taking duff decisions with regard to our academics. We at the Special Cell understand that everyone needs to be listened to at some time in their life. We want to be there for students who need a listening ear.

The move from college to University is a very big step in one's life, which needs hard work in your exams, spent sleepless nights, and now, you are all set to lay down the foundation for your bright future. By choosing to create a bright and successful future for yourself from our institution means that we, the teachers and management at University are also responsible for your success and growth. You will cherish every day at your University, right from day one, you will feel welcome by all of us here – your seniors, your new lecturers, and members of administration you will get to interact with. What's more the energetic environment will have you charged up to achieve your dream with confidence like never before. I assure you, you are at home.

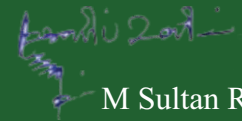
We have envisioned a dream, where the students not only achieve an excellent academic record, they eventually establish themselves as a better and successful human beings, who are capable enough to contribute to the economic enhancement of the nation.

We are looking forward to welcome you all to the bounty of opportunities that awaits you at University Of Kashmir.

Wishing you all green lights and success!



M Sultan Rather
Counselor, Special Cell DSW



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Counselor, Special Cell DSW



Special-Cell at a glance

The Special Cell was set up in 2009. The cell is under the supervision of Dean Students Welfare and the Coordinator in-charge of the Cell for under taking all sorts of activities and affairs regarding welfare of students with various differently-abled. The basic activity of the cell is to see the welfare of physically Challenged students and the employees working in the University. With the notification of the Persons with differently-abled (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, the Central Government has recognised and legislated the rights of the persons with differently-abled. The Act, apart from 3% reservation in employment, provides for education and promotion of research in the area of prevention of disability and their rehabilitation.

The National Policy for persons with differently-abled announced in 2006, attempts to ensure equality, freedom, justice and dignity of individuals and implicitly mandates an inclusive society for all including persons with differently-abled. It ensures a dignified life for persons with differently-abled by providing them with equal opportunities, protection of their rights and assuring full participation in the society.

In this connection, U.G.C. has also shown its commitment and have also issued its guidelines for addressing the issues of Persons-with- differently-abled in all higher institutions of the country. To address this human centric objective towards persons with differently-abled, the University of Kashmir established a Special Cell within the ambit of the Department of Students Welfare. This Cell comprises of the Dean Students Welfare, Coordinator & Counselor Special Cell and members drawn from physically challenged students who stand enrolled in different Teaching Departments and research centres / institutes. This Cell guides the authorities about the variegated problems being faced by these students and suggests measures to facilitate their smooth academic pursuits and their welfare in the University.

About the Special Cell of DSW





Functions of Special Cell

- Facilitating and Monitoring the admission process regarding Special students in various courses;
- Guiding the students, officials and officers about the rules of reservation, welfare schemes, and disability concerns;
- Maintaining liaison with the Social Welfare Department in all districts of the State for reimbursement of fee concessions extended to special students with physical, mental, economic, emotional, social, learning disabilities etc ;
- Compilation and annual submission of the detailed enrolment lists of special students to the Govt. of J&K, Ministry of HRD and UGC every year;
- Settlement of unpaid amounts of scholarships, and submission of Utilization Certificates to the sanctioning authorities;
- Conduct of pre-admission guidance programmes for specially challenged students;
- Conduct of pre-enrolment counselling classes for Special students;
- Conduct of remedial classes for Special students;
- Dealing with the representations of students and officials with physical, mental, economic, emotional, social, learning disabilities etc;
- Functioning as a Grievances Redressal Cell for students and officials with varied disabilities;
- Work for rehabilitation of special students;
- Act as bridge between University authorities and challenged students for providing them better facilities at the campuses;
- Ensuring implementation of human rights laws.
- Ensuring the implementation of UGC guidelines regarding access to barrier-free education, employment, empowerment, rehabilitation and equity.
- Sensitising the society about the challenges face by specially challenged persons by conducting seminars, workshop, orientation programmes etc;
- Monitoring the working of welfare services provided by different organisations/ institutions and other stake holders;
- Suggesting suitable measures for effective implementation of policy and programmes regarding differently-abled persons.

Achievements & work done

Apart from Day to Day activities, guidance and counselling and fast-track information made available in the Cell, the following activities have been successfully carried-out.

- Over thousand students were provided information and guidance at counselling camps in the University campus at the time of Admission sessions in 2009 to 2017. Special counselling sessions were organized for specially challenged students.
- Information was provided to the students about the reservation policy during the Entrance Examinations and some students were made available for resolving the queries of specially challenged students.
- Consequent upon strenuous efforts of Coordinator Special Cell the authorities allowed “Reservation in Distance Mode also” to accommodate physically challenged students in B.Ed./M.Ed & M.A courses through Directorate of Distance Education.
- Case Studies on the Working of Special Cell in the University of Kashmir vis-a-vis physically challenged students enrolled of university was got conducted in which 182 physically challenged students were covered.
- An amount of Rs.18 lacs, sanctioned by Social Welfare Department, Govt. of J&K, was distributed among 182 students under scholarship scheme for the years 2016 & 2017.
- An amount of Rs.10 lacs, sanctioned by Department of Disability Affairs, MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT, GOI was distributed among 50 students under scholarship scheme for the years 2016 & 2017.
- The Number of Physically Challenged Students, enrolled in University during 2016 & 2017, is complied as under:

Proposed activities for year 2018- Special-Cell, DSW, University of Kashmir

S.N	Program Name	Activity	Target	Expected Outcome
01	Awareness among public regarding Disability issues in educational institutions Through marathons, poster - competitions and painting etc.	Programme at university level or in any higher educational institution	No. of participants 150 for a program. No. programmes 02 a year	Basic outcome of this program will be to sensitize the public regarding their role to empower physically and mentally challenged people in their area of concern. Students, teachers, administration officers shall be the participants.
02	Interaction session with physically challenged students	Meeting	Once in a semester No. of participants 150	Develop interest of the special students towards education, employment and to overcome social stigma.
03	Training / refresher course for teachers/scholars Through UGC-Human Resource Centre	Workshop with teachers of University/college level	No. of participants 100.	Develop sensitization among teachers regarding how to deal with differently abled
04	Workshop on NVDA for visually impaired students	Workshop with resource persons from outside J&K especially national institute of Dehradun, NAB Delhi, etc.	No. of participants 50 15 days	Develop technological use in educational skills among students with visual impairments(blind)
05	Health assessment camps	Organize a health camp for special children by doctors of university health centre	twice	To provide disability health to the needful and to take preventive measures regarding those who possess minor disability but are going towards retardation day by day.
06	Verification of disability certificates	Meeting with issuing authorities like chief medical officer, medical superintendent of hospital concern and four specialists involved with assessment process	No. of participants 10.	To verify disability certificates and to take prevent measures regarding those who possess minor disability but take benefits on fake certificates
07	World white cane day	To impart new technological innovations in education among 50 identified visually impaired persons	15th of October 2018	To improve the conditions of visually impaired children, who are mostly neglected because of lack of Braille education. To Generate confidence & hope among visually impaired to start their new independent life. Give them computer education with talking, Braille software and develop their interest towards studies and employment.
08	International day of Differently-abled/ Disability day	Conduct seminar at university level, invite local leadership to deliver speeches with respect to perspective of dealing disability, invite intellectuals to deliver speeches regarding role of administrators, teachers and community towards physically challenged.	Once in a year on 3 rd December at university level No. of participants 550	To encourage and recognize success stories in disability sector, including students showing extra ordinary performances in their studies and administrators played important role in redressing disability issues, media persons who highlighted disability and finally to those who created the employment opportunities for physically challenged.



Status note on Equal Opportunity for differently-abled Persons UGC Circulars/schemes towards assistance to Universities/Colleges for Differently-abled Persons

The University Grants Commission (UGC), from time to time has been conveying to the universities and Deemed Universities, the policy decisions, including reservation in admission and employment of the Government of India pertaining to the persons with disabilities. In addition, the decisions taken and the guidelines framed at the level of the Commission in this regard have also been notified to all Universities for implementation. The Commission had also circulated the Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 to the universities requesting them to strictly follow the provisions contained therein.

The circulars issued by the UGC to all Universities, inter-alia, include the following:

S.No.	Purpose	UGC Reference
1.	Extending facilities of cassette recorders for blind students in Universities	No.F.15-3/80(CP) dt.23.04.1980
2.	Employment of the physically handicapped in the teaching posts.	No.F.11-5/95 (CPP II) dt. 14.10.1997
3.	3% reservation for the persons with disabilities in the appointment of lecturers	No.F.11-5/95 (CPP II) dt. 03.02.2000
4.	3% reservation for persons with disabilities fro admission to all courses and 3% reservation in jobs.	No.F.11-5/95 (CPP II) (Vol III) dt. 18.07.2001 No.F.6-1/2002 (CPP II) Vol. II dt. 21.10.2005/1.11.2005
5.	5% relaxation in marks at Master's level for physically handicapped persons for appearing in the NET examination	No.F.6-1/2002 (CPP-II) dt. 5.06.2002
6.	Relaxation in upper age limit (up to 5 years) to persons with disabilities in admission to various courses	No.F.6-1/2002 (CPP II) Vol. III dt.02.08.2006

Equal Opportunity Cell (Special-Cell) DSW is working for over all development and welfare of the students with different-abilities, in addition to other weaker sections of student community. The Cell is run by the coordinator under UGC merged schemes from last a decade now.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) provides the following relaxations to differently-abled candidates in the UGC-NET/SET:-

UGC accepts application form of the differently-abled candidates who have obtained 50% marks in their Post Graduation whereas the application of general candidates are accepted at 55% marks at Post Graduation level.

The age limit for general candidates for Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) is 28 years, whereas 5 years relaxation is given to the differently-abled applicants.

UGC gives 5% relaxation in marks to differently-abled candidates as compared to general candidates, while deciding cut off marks.

UGC provide a minimum of 3% reservation to differently-abled candidates out of the total qualified candidates for the award of JRF in the Net Examination.

UGC gives relaxation in the NET examination fee to differently-abled candidates as given below:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------|
| a) General | : | Rs.1000/- |
| b) OBC | : | Rs.500/- |
| c) SC/ST | : | Rs.250/- |
| d) differently-abled Candidates | : | Rs.250/- |

For visually differently-abled candidates, UGC provides thirty minutes extra time for Paper-I and Paper-II separately, forty five minutes extra time is provided. They are also be provided the services of a writer.

Physically differently-abled candidates can also



Notable Events

International day observed at KU

Make research on disability studies for productive in social development: Prof WANI

KU December 4: Prof M A Wani Dean Academic affairs Tuesday said that service to differently-abled is a mission with Kashmir University and it will be carried forward despite difficulties

Prof wani was speaking at the valedictory programme 'International Day of differently-abled Persons' on the theme 'creating barrier free higher educational institutions for differently-abled persons' organized by special cell for physically challenged Department of Students Welfare University of Kashmir.

The event was attended by more than 300 participants who had gathered at the Ghandi Bhawan of the Kashmir University to raise the awareness on the rights of persons suffering disabilities.

Dean students welfare Prof Nilofar khan coordinated the event along with coordinator special cell Mr shaheel Mohammad



Prof M A wani, chief Guest came out with innovative ideas to help the differently-abled and said that we have to make them productive and creative participants in social and economic development. He said that we need to empower the specially challenged people through trainings and special education programmes so that they can contribute meaningfully to the society. Prof M A wani said that that quality of education and special care are concerns which we need to address while thinking of the well being special children. Prof wani highlighted the role of Vice chancellor in helping to create barrier free environs for physically challenged students at KU and announced the the scope for the committee looking after the needs of these people will be broadened.

“it is only through knowledge empowerment that the physically challenged will be able to overcome their handicap to fulfil the purpose of their lives” He said

Prof Nilofar Khan Dean Students Welfare in her welcome address said that we approach the concerned quarters for implementation of the recommendations at the end of the seminar. Prof Khan said that that there is need to Integrate the physically challenged with the society so that they can handle their lives with Confidence and not remain dependent on others always. Prof Nilofar talked about the initiatives of University of Kashmir to problems of physically challenged people and looked forward to joint mechanism to be evolved by the department of social welfare and University

of Kashmir for a broad based approach to this issue.

Shaheel Mohammad Coordinator Special Cell Department of student's welfare presented the report for the year before the gathering.

The Special Cell of Department of Students Welfare in collaboration with Faculty of Education organised an International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3rd December, 2013 at Media House, MERC. The theme of the function was “ Special Education-Need of the Hour”. Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Two parallel sessions in the domain of art and literary activities (Poster and symposium competition) were also conducted simultaneously on the occasion.

Dean Students Welfare, Prof. (Mrs) Nilofer Khan while welcoming the Chief Guest and other Guests said, “the day aims to create an awareness of disability issues and the fundamental rights of persons with disabilities. differently-abled persons are often discriminated against and that is never an ideal condition. Society must take adequate steps to involve persons with disabilities in the main stream in each aspect of life whether it is social, political, economic and cultural”. The Coordinator of Special Cell Mr. Shaheel Mohammad highlighted the functions, responsibilities and achievements of the Cell. He also thanked the authorities for their whole-hearted support and cooperation.

The Chief Guest, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, delivered a scintillating speech at the inaugural function of the event. He said “people should practically help the physically challenged persons and not merely by words. “We have to make them productive and creative participants in the social and economic development of the Nation” Prof. N. A. Nadeem said, “We must realize the difficulties and obstacles which are being faced by the physically challenged persons and we must find ways and means to ensure a dignified way of life for them. That is the desirable need of the hour by which we can earn the pleasure of Almighty”.





National 3 Days Workshop On NVDA (Non Visual Desktop Access 2015)



World White Cane Day-2015

The Special Cell, Department of Students Welfare university of Kashmir organised a One-Day Awareness Programme on the eve of “World White Cane Day” in the Media House Auditorium of the University.

Speaking on the occasion Dean Academic Affairs, who was the Chief Guest on the occasion, said that the World White Cane Day for Persons with visual impairments is an International observance . Prof wani said that it has been observed with varying degrees of success around the planet. The day aims at promoting a better understanding of persons with visual impairments, with a focus on the rights and gains to be derived from the integration of such persons in every aspect of the political, social, economic and cultural life of our communities. He assured all the help and support to the Special Cell of the DSW for the betterment of the physically challenged persons .

Speaking on the occasion Prof.(Mrs) Nilofer Khan, Dean Students Welfare University of Kashmir, said that her Department will do everything to address the problems of the physically challenged students of the university and those spread all over the valley. She delineated the strategies for achieving the objectives and targets fixed by the Special Cell. She also Shed light on the polices and programmes of the university for the empowerment of the Cell. Mr. Shaheel Muhammad, Coordinator Special Cell, delivered a key note address in the opening session. He enumerated the facilitating factors as well as the impeding factors that are coming in the way for welfare of physically challenged persons in the University. He brought home the measures that are being proposed for exposure of hidden talent of the differently-abled persons. He presented a Concept Paper which received wide applause from the audience. Mr. Javid Ahmad Tak, Chairman Helpline(NGO) Mr. Tariq Bashir, Lecturer, History, DIET Anantnag. ,Dr. Zafar Iqbal, Clinical Psychologist CRC and Mrs Urfana Amin, representative School Education made paper presentations on the occasion. Qazi Irfan Ahmad who was representing Social Welfare Department made a power point presentation on “Social Welfare Schemes for Special Children “ on the occasion.



Awareness cum orientation programme for differently-abled students





one day awareness cum training workshop on (24th May, 2017) organized by Department of Students Welfare, Dean Colleges Deployment Council and Allama Iqbal Library University of Kashmir in collaboration with IIT Delhi & Saksham Organization

One Day Non-Visual DESKTOP ACCESS (NVDA) workshop on Assistive Technologies- 24th MAY 2017

Special Cell (DSW), Department of Students Welfare in collaboration with Dean Colleges Development Council and Allama Iqbal Library, University of Kashmir in association with IIT Delhi & Saksham Disability, J&K D-Abled Org., Humanity Welfare Organization-Helpline (NGO) State Welfare Association Of Blind (SWAB) Srinagar (J&K) organized One Day Non-Visual DESKTOP ACCESS (NVDA) workshop on Assistive Technologies for Visually Impaired Persons coordinated by Mr. Shaheel Mohmad, Coordinator, DSW. Around 50 visually impaired students were trained about the latest technological assets in their daily use.

Awareness programme on Healthcare/Medical Education and Research.

The Special Cell, Department of Students Welfare and Department of Law, University of Kashmir is organising awareness programme on Healthcare/Medical Education and Research in collaboration with KASHMER- a registered non-profit organization of US based healthcare professionals of Kashmiri origin. The member based group besides being a platform for healthcare professionals of Kashmiri origin to network and further education and research goals, views improving healthcare delivery and access in underserved communities globally, especially in our native Kashmir, as a primary goal. Ms Nahid (from USA Kashmiri based Foundation) and SM. Shaheel, Coordinator, Special Cell DSW conducted the proceedings. Around 100 Law students participated in the practical session on basic health care.

Blood Donation Camp to be held on 23th September, 2017

Special Cell of Department of Students Welfare in collaboration with Department of Transfusion and Medicine SMHS Hospital Blood Bank, Government Medical College, Srinagar organized Blood Donation camp on 23th September, 2017 in the lawns of Gandhi Bhawan at 10:30 a.m.

The main aim behind the camp is to aware people about value of voluntarily donate blood for needy persons. The camp was inaugurated by the Prof. Nilofer Khan Dean College Development, University of Kashmir in presence of Prof. G.N Khaki Dean Students Welfare, Dr. Khalid Chief Medical officer KU, Dr. Zubair HoD Blood Bank GMC and Shaheel Mohammad Coordinator Special cell DSW University of Kashmir coordinated the programme. At least 50 points of blood was donated by donors drawn from different departments of Kashmir University Govt colleges and government higher secondary schools. Donors came forward for the general cause of humanity so as to save human life with the noble cause behind the event.

**Guest Lecture by Allama Dr.Farooque Khan Sahib (Aalma & Sufi) .**

Department of Students Welfare in collaboration with Ghulaman-Siddiq-Akbar International & Gous-Ul-Azam Trust organized a Guest Lecture by Allama Dr.Farooque Khan Sahib on 26th October, 2017 at Gandhi Bhawan, University of Kashmir. The lecture was attended by a large number of students, scholars and employees of various Departments of the University. In his welcoming remarks Prof.G.N.Khaki Dean Students Welfare appreciated Allama Dr. Farouque Khan Sahib for their value presence in the valley. The programme was coordinated by Mr. Shaheel Mohmad Coordinator DSW and Mr Arfat while Mr. Mudasir Naqasbandi conducted the proceedings.

Battery cars facility for students with special needs (differently-abled) within the University campus.

To provide transport facility to differently students, the University of Kashmir in collaboration with J&K Bank has taken an initiative to make battery cars available for such students from all the gates from 11.09.2017. Chairman J&K Bank and Hon'ble Vice chancellor, University of Kashmir inaugurated the two cars near DSW and the same will remain available at all the gates for pick and drop services.

Live concert of Junaid Jamsheed “Nasheed” held at KU

Two days live concert in the memory of and a tribute to world renowned nasheed singer Junaid Jamsheed organized by the Department of Students, University of Kashmir in collaboration with Najam Nasheed Organisation at IBN-KHALDUN-AUDITORIUM, ALLAMA IQBAL LIBRARY, University of Kashmir on 26 & 27th September, 2017 . The concert was attended by a large number of students, scholars and employees of various Departments of the University of Kashmir. Performances were presented by two nasheed players Mir Sakib Mushatq and Salman Murtaza with two noted singers Irfan and Bilal who presented Naats which were appreciated and acknowledged by the audience. In his concluding remarks Prof.G.N.Khaki Dean Students Welfare appreciated the artists for their performances and reciting Naat's. The programme was conducted in supervision of Mr. Shaheel Mohmad Coordinator Special Cell conducted while Mr. Mohd. Shariq conducted the proceedings and provided a detailed life history of Junaid Jamsheed proposed the vote of thanks at the conclusion of the two days live event.

Prize Distribution and Award ceremony for *Mashwar-2017* to be held on 23rd December, 2017.

Special Cell-Department of Students Welfare, University of Kashmir in collaboration with People for Action and Collective Transformation (PACT), an organisation working in the development sector, organised the Culmination Convention and Prize Distribution ceremony for *Mashwar-2017*. *Mashwar*, a flagship initiative by PACT is a competition which encouraged students to identify social issues, research the scope of problem there under and present a feasible solution in the form of research papers or power point presentations. Close to 100 students from across the state participated in the competition, including from Kashmir University, Jammu University, IUST and students from around 30 Government Degree colleges of Kashmir division.

Students were required to choose from ten broad themes affecting Kashmir, such as Environmental Degradation, Education and Mental Health. Out of these 100 entries, 9 students were awarded cash prizes for their research.

The event included 2 workshops conducted by PACT on *How to Write a Research Paper* and *How to make an elevator pitch*. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Aymen Muhammad and Ms Esha Singh Alagh, both founding members of PACT Asia. The workshops were attended by 95 students. Followed by the workshop, Professor Asifa Jan, dean of School of Social Sciences and Dean Student Welfare, Dr. G.N Khaki felicitated the winners of *Mashwar 2017*. The event was coordinated by Mr. Muzamil Khursheed, founding member of the organisation, and Mr. Shaheel Mohmad Coordinator Special cell DSW.

Addressing to the gathering, Professor. Asifa Jan, the chief Guest on the occasion stressed on the need of the such events in Kashmir and thanked Pact Asia and DSW for taking concrete steps in this direction.



