### **Action Taken Report**

Plan of Action	Outcome
Faculty workshops on research and pedagogy (especially in terms of online teaching)	LSR has conducted various programs on research and pedagogy for faculty members. For example, a full day workshop was organized by IQAC-LSR on 31st August, 2019 for the faculty of the college on the 'Role of ICT in Teaching and Research.' The topics covered included: 'Role of Artificial Intelligence and it's links with Education' by Prof. M.M Pant (Former vice-chancellor, IGNOU), 'Nuisances of the Cyber World' by Mr. Neeraj Arora, a practising advocate and cyber security expert, and 'Using Excel for data entry and data analysis' by Dr. Geetanjali Sahi. After the shift to online teaching, seminars were organised with the faculty on managing Google Classrooms and using Google Meet for teaching.
Organising Seminars and Conferences at the International, National and Institutional level	Multiple forums within college have facilitated interactions through seminars at regular intervals involving the participation of eminent scholars from India and abroad. Group discussions and seminar courses proliferate in departments the year round, while coming to a more intensive head on special occasions like National and International Conferences and Departmental Academic Meets. Seminars in recent times have been conducted on topics such as 'Dealing with COVID stress', Behind the screen warriors: Indian Scientists & Covid 19 pandemic', "Financial Mathematics: Pedagogy and Career Perspectives' and 'Deepening Democracy In India: Some Reflections From the Urban Peripheries'. Experts invited for such seminars have included Professor Gurpreet Mahajan, Centre for Political Studies, JNU, Mr. Sandeep Das, Director at PwC, IIM Bangalore alumnus, Dr. Mudita Rustogi, Marital and Family Therapist, Illinois, USA and Dr TV Venkateswaran, Scientist in Vigyan Prasar, Department of science and technology.
Capacity building and soft skills sessions for students	A host of workshops were conducted for students to build their capacities in academic and non-academic areas. Several workshops on research related topics were also conducted by different departments. As an example, a workshop on Research paper writing by Ms. Somosri Hore, PhD scholar at University of Delhi and alumna of Lady Shri Ram College was organised by the Department of Philosophy. In addition, the Department of Mathematics conducted a certified 18 hours workshop on Machine Learning in R in collaboration with an external agency Compute Minions for the student body, inclusive of all departments. Workshops and sessions have also been conducted on soft skills such as stress management, critical thinking and effective communication skills.
Certificate courses for LSR students	A number of certificate courses have been conducted. The department of Psychology conducted an Online Short-term Certificate Course titled 'COVID-19: The Psychology of Human Behaviour' with 35 students from different departments of LSR. The course, which was the first of its kind in college, commenced on

the 14<sup>th</sup> of July and concluded on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July, 2020. This course was an exploration of the psychology of human behaviour, relationships and social support within the context of the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic. Those who completed all attendance requirements and submitted high quality assignments within the stipulated deadlines were awarded certificates at the end of the course. The course was successfully completed by each student who was recruited for it. The college has also been conducting language course (which are certificate based) on Spanish, French, German and Russian.

## Providing an Impetus to innovation and leadership among students

LSR was selected by MHRD's Innovation Cell (MIC) for the constitution of Innovation Council in the college to promote innovation among its students. The Council has been actively taking various steps to promote innovation and entrepreneurship endeavours among students by hosting a multitude of talks, competitions and workshops. Recently the Council members attended following **online Leadership talks** organized by Ministry of Education. Some of these include:

- Leadership talk by **Prof. K. Vijay Raghavan** (Principal Scientific advisor, Government of India) and Dr Abhay Jere. The talk was focused on challenging issue of Covid pandemic and ways to deal with this pandemic.
- Leadership talk by **Mr. Mahesh Babu**(CEO, Mahindra Electric Mobility Ltd.) with Dr Abhay Jere. The talk highlighted need to find solutions for covid through technology.
- Leadership talk by **Ms. Ashwini Deshpande** (Co-Founder and Director, Elephant Design) with Dr Abhay Jere. Speaker motivated everyone to unravel the creativity in themselves. She also discussed her journey as a woman entrepreneur.

#### Focus on mental health and well-being of LSR community

• LSR has placed a strong emphasis on the mental health needs and well-being of the student community. An important initiative in this regard has been the creation of the Peer support program by the department of Psychology. The program is akin to the "buddy system" to provide psychological support to students of LSR. Some of the issues addressed by this program include adjustment problems particularly in regard to Covid 19, relationship difficulties, academic concerns and other issues relating to self-esteem/body image. Peer supporters are selected through an application process followed by interviews. They receive training by the faculty coordinator of the program. Open to the entire college, the peer supporters provide an informal setting to students to share their experiences and ways of coping with everyday problems.

- The department of Psychology has also celebrated a Mental Health Awareness Week annually for several years on themes such as "Pathshala Pathos: Struggles of Gen Z" and "Socio-Emotional Resilience." Mental health experts, counsellors and therapists engage with the students through workshops and panel discussions during the week-long awareness event.
- Two RCI trained counsellors have been employed by the college to assist students with their mental health needs.

# Augmenting infrastructure and accessibility for all students

LSR attempts to address questions of inclusivity by creating classroom spaces within which students from different segments of society get the opportunity to voice their opinions. Beyond the classrooms, the SC-ST Cell and REACH have remained active in their efforts to raise social awareness around societal divides. *Swavalamban*is a resource centre in college for differently-abled students, particularly for those with visual disabilities. It provides access to assistive technology and equipment including the Everest–D Braille Embosser, Screen Reading Software, Lex-Talk Scanner, Book Scanners, DAISY Recorders and Players and OCR software for English and Hindi. The resource centre also has computer systems that facilitate the work of both English and Hindi discipline students. REACH works with the Equal Opportunity Cell of the University of Delhi, to ensure that students have access to reading material, laptops and other recording devices provided by the University.

For the term 2019-20, the focus of REACH was on greater infrastructural accessibility coupled with awareness raising and sensitization in order to create and sustain an inclusive learning environment for students with disabilities. This was supported by an attempt to amplify the voices and experiences of students with disabilities in college through various informal events, online campaigns and their newsletter.

### Infrastructural Accessibility

- Accessible ATM: The College ATM now has an audio output which would enable blind students to transact independently.
- Regular Functioning of elevators: Throughout the year, REACH maintained constant communication with the administration to ensure regular and smooth functioning of the elevator.
- Volunteers to map out inaccessibility: REACH assigned a few volunteers the task of noting down various forms of inaccessibility in and around college and also to attend to issues such asthe improper arrangement of furniture in classrooms which make it difficult for wheelchair users to manoeuvre and for blind students to find their way.

## Continued interaction with accomplished alumna of college

Since its inception in 1956, Lady Shri Ram College for women has produced a long line of distinguished alumni. The Alumna cell is a student body with the aim to foster and bridge the interaction between the institute and its Alumni. Most recently the IQAC of LSR organised an interaction with the alumnae of the institution on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Alumnae from diverse backgrounds and walks of life were present in the function. There were legal luminaries like Justice Gita Mittal, Senior Advocate Geeta Luthra and Additional Solicitor General Pinki Anand. The alumnae belonging to - The Indian Administrative Services, the Indian Revenue Services, Indian Police Service, the Corporates, among others- attended the function. The event began with a presentation by the Principal, Dr. Suman Sharma on the current activities and endeavours of College. This was followed by a discussion by the alumnae on their journey as a college student. They were also requested to fill a feedback form sharing how College had shaped their lives and their career decisions.

### Promoting interdisciplinary collaborations

The College encourages interdisciplinary collaborations, for e.g., the Research Circle of the Department of Psychology organized a session on Ethnography in collaboration with the Department of Sociology. Further, the Research Circle welcomes students from all departments including BA program, Commerce, and Economics to conduct independent studies on interdisciplinary topics under faculty supervision. The talks and seminars organized by departments are open to students from all disciplines. The faculty members from different departments collaborate on research and publications, for instance, Dr. Smita Sahgal and Dr. Pankaja Ghai recently published a chapter in a book titled,' Women: Struggle, Survival and Success'. The Department of Hindi regularly invites members of the faculty of various departments to deliver lectures to their students.

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