

VAPP Report 2017-18



The Voluntary Agency Placement Programme (VAPP) at Lady Shri Ram College for Women is a platform which connects students with the development sector. With a vision to sensitize the student body regarding various social issues, VAPP organises interactive sessions, workshops, discussions and talks by representatives of several NGOs. VAPP also aims at providing the students with volunteer, internship and placement opportunities in the development sector. Through its work, the society provides the students with a chance to make a positive contribution to community development and social welfare and also explore and question various social issues.

Events Organised in College

#Weallfitin Workshop by Amrit India Foundation: VAPP organised its first event for the academic session 2017-2018, the certified #Weallfitin workshop in collaboration with Amrit India Foundation, an NGO which works for the development of specially-abled children having intellectual disabilities. The workshop was organised on the 24th of August, 2017. Focusing on the aim to sensitize students about people with intellectual disabilities, the members of Amrit India Foundation conducted exciting activities such as writing the challenges we all face in our daily lives on chits, and decoding the colors not in accordance with their names. The workshop attracted a huge crowd. Towards the end of the session, the representatives from the organization informed the students about an internship opportunity which was later circulated to them by the society via email.

Discussion with Ms. Mrinalika Rathore: VAPP conducted its first Student led event for the session, on the 7th of September, 2017, with Ms.Mrinalika Rathore, who is the founder of Sashaktikaran Foundation, an NGO which aims to provide education to children in Rajasthan. The interactive session covered topics such as social entrepreneurship and helped the audience know more about the journey of the speaker, who has worked extensively in the development sector, from beginning her career as a mere volunteer to overcoming the hurdles of starting an NGO of her own.

Talk by Ms. Ankita Goswami: On the 14th of September, 2017 Voluntary Agency Placement Programme conducted its second student led event by former LSR graduate, Ankita Goswami who currently works with Teach For India. She provided the students with an insight into her journey in the social sector and also resolved queries of students related to the development sector. She ignited in students a fire to serve the society and work towards making it better through small steps aimed at a bigger vision and purpose in life.

Learning Style Inventory Workshop by Pravah: On the 12th of October, 2017, Voluntary Agency Placement Programme conducted a workshop on “Learning Style Inventory” by *Pravah*. *Pravah* has been working with the students of Delhi University by providing them with learning opportunities about social issues and helping them in developing skills to tackle the same. The workshop helped students understand their specific learning style and gave them an insight into why different people understand and learn the same things differently. Towards the end, the students were also informed about their prestigious 'Smile Internship'.

Interactive Session on the #GirlUP Campaign by the United Nations Foundation: On the 17th of October, 2017, members of the Voluntary Agency Placement Programme were privileged to host the United Nations Foundation for an interactive session in respect to its “Girl Up” campaign. The “Girl Up” is a campaign that aims at sensitizing the world regarding several issues faced by girls in 6 different communities including India and Ethiopia. Ms. Ridhi conducted the interactive session where she made the students aware about the aim, purpose and mission of the campaign through a power-point presentation. The session provided the students with an insight into the work done by United Nations Foundation across the globe through the campaign.

Leadership Workshop by the Gandhi Fellowship: On the 26th of October, 2018 Voluntary Agency Placement Programme organised the Leadership workshop by the Gandhi Fellowship. The workshop helped the students understand the concepts of self-awareness and value articulation, thereby linking it with the spirit of entrepreneurship. It was a certified workshop which gave the students a chance to know more about themselves, understand their own thought-process and self-worth in a more enriching and better manner.

Interactive Session by Teach for Green: On the 23rd of January, 2018, VAPP organised an interactive session with the NGO- Teach for Green (TFG). Teach for Green is a registered NGO working to promote sustainable lifestyles among local communities of India. TFG aims at raising environmental consciousness among individuals and focus on the development of youth and children in a natural and instinctive way by conducting activities using recyclable materials from their households and surroundings. The interactive session provided the students’ knowledge about work done by the organisation through its popular DIY workshops.

Pre-Placement Talk by Gandhi Fellowship: On the 25th of January, 2018 VAPP conducted a Pre- Placement talk by the Gandhi Fellowship. Gandhi Fellowship is an initiative of Kaivalya Education Foundation to develop young change leaders who would bring a large scale impact in our society. The Gandhi Fellowship is a 2 Year paid Residential, Professional programme in Transformation Leadership. Over the past few years, the Gandhi Fellowship has collaborated with VAPP, LSR in order to conduct its placement drive in the college campus. The pre-placement talk gave a thorough insight into the work culture, the mission and the significance of the Gandhi Fellowship. The members from the organisation shared their personal experiences which motivated the students to apply for the Fellowship and also solved all their queries regarding the application and selection procedure.

Interactive Session by Teach for India: VAPP in collaboration with Enactus, LSR organised the “The Trinity of Empowerment” interactive session by Teach for India. Teach for India is a social organisation which works in the area of education, providing students with better educational facilities, operating at a PAN-India basis. The three segment talk was conducted by Ms. Deepika Kalra who spoke on the topic- 'Research and Data in Education', Ms. Jasmine who covered the topic “Arts in Education” and Mr. Gaurav Singh who spoke on “Social Entrepreneurship.” The event was a huge success with a great turnout. TFI also told the students about the various opportunities of being associated with it such as in the capacity of a volunteer, intern or as a fellow. They also made the students aware about its Fellowship programme and provided them with details regarding its application procedure and selection criteria.

Workshop on Inner Beauty by Digital Gandhi: On the 15th of March, 2018, VAPP conducted its last session for the academic year which was a workshop on “Inner Beauty” by Mr. Onkar K Khullar who is popularly recognized by the name of Digital Gandhi. Mr. Onkar K Khullar has been a former TEDx speaker, a brand creator and also a storyteller along with 7 other talents and skills, making his workshop one of the most exciting experiences to go through. The purpose of the workshop was to make the students realize, accept and believe in the radiance of inner beauty and helped students battling with personality and body shaming issues, overcome their fear and live their life the way they want to.

VAPP DURING TARANG, 2018:

Voluntary Agency Placement Programme successfully conducted three different events during Tarang, 2018, the Annual Cultural Fest of Lady Shri Ram College for Women. The details of each of the events are given below:

- a. **T-Shirt Painting and Clothesline Workshop:** On day one of Tarang, 2018, (2ND February, 2018), VAPP organised the T-shirt painting Workshop and Clothesline Display wherein students were provided with T-shirts and spray paints and were asked to paint the T-shirts and write thoughtful quotes on it from a given list provided by the society. The aim of the workshop was to donate the painted T-shirts to the underprivileged children through an NGO.
- b. **Block printing Workshop by the NGO-Khushbu:** On day two of Tarang, 2018 (3rd February, 2018), VAPP organised the Block-printing workshop in collaboration with Khushbu, an NGO which aims at empowering women and providing educational aid to the underprivileged children. The participants were provided with sheets of paper cut into different styles over which they could paint their favorite block-printing design. It was a paid workshop. The amount raised through it was donated to the NGO for their dedication, hard-work, and noble efforts.
- c. **Inward Bound workshop by Pravah:** On day 3 of Tarang, 2018 (4th February 2018), Voluntary Agency Placement Programme conducted the “Inward Bound” workshop by Pravah. Inward Bound workshop was an innovative and novel self-facilitated experience, aimed at enabling young people to gain a better understanding of themselves. Through the Myers Briggs Type Inventory(MBIT) the participants were able to understand answers to simple yet perturbing questions such as “Are you usually a good mixer or rather quiet and reserved?” Or “Do you tend to spend

a lot of time by yourself, or with others?"

- d. Pre-Tarang Online Competition:** VAPP also conducted an online pre- Tarang competition called '*STRIPTACULAR - COMIC THE SOCIAL WAY.*' Participants were asked to submit dialogues for comic strips on social issues of their choice. The vision of this online competition was to talk about the various social issues prevailing in our society in a creative and innovative manner.

**NEW INITIATIVES BY VOLUNTARY AGENCY PLACEMENT
PROGRAMME DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-2018:**

1. Monthly Newsletters: This year, for the first time, Voluntary Agency Placement Programme issued over four online newsletters with the vision to make the entire student body aware about the various crucial social issues prevalent in our society. The main purpose was to use the digital platform in order to expand the horizon and reach of VAPP's work, making the students aware virtually as well as through physical events. The newsletters were published on the following topics:

- a. Mental Health
- b. Illiteracy
- c. LGBT Community
- d. Sustainable Development

2. VAPP Internship Fairs :

VAPP successfully organised the second and third edition of its Virtual Annual Internship Fair. VAPP circulated the following internships as part of its Winter Internship Fair(December 2017) through the efforts and help of the Communications Team and the VAPP Union. In total, 13 such internship opportunities were provided by VAPP. Interested students brought to the VAPP database more than 25 internship opportunities in the field of social and development sector as part of the Summer Internship Fair. The fair was conducted in the month of March and April, an ideal time for the students to apply for the summer internships. Some of the many organizations which have collaborated with VAPP for internships this year include:

- Global Peace Foundation
- Saksharta Sadvidya Educational and Social Society
- Carnegie, India
- Parinayam Foundation
- Gramya Manthan
- Gramiksha- Vidhi
- Simply Blood
- Anaadi Foundation
- Teach For Green
- Pravah- SMILE-In-Turn-Ship
- Goonj
- Marg
- Start Up, India
- Maitri
- Anthill
- Deepalya
- Tarkeybein
- The Dais Foundation Hamari
- Panchan Vidhi
- The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab(J-PAL)
- Centre For Civil Society

- PRS
- STRAT COMM Consulting
- Womenite
- Barefoot
- Centre for Teacher Accreditation Ministry of Health and PwD
- Young Leaders initiative
- Agrasar School
- ISRN

3. Training Sessions: VAPP also conducted five training sessions for its members and the general student body of the college this year. The aim of the Workshops was to train students in necessary technical skills such as learning about using Excel effectively, writing formal and informal emails, contacting sponsors, compiling newsletters and designing posters.

4. Social Media Updates on Important World Awareness Days: This year, VAPP made it a rule to sensitize the student body regarding the pivotal awareness days pertaining to the various social issues via its social media platforms such as Whatsapp, Instagram and Facebook during the odd semester of the academic session.

5. Social Media Campaigns: VAPP organised two social media campaigns, one during each semester, which consisted of a series of posts pertaining to a pre-decided social issue. In order to spread awareness regarding suicide, VAPP organised a social media campaign on Suicide Prevention Awareness. During the even semester, it conducted an online campaign bringing to light the various issues, and problems faced by the children in our country. The purpose of these campaigns was to use the social media platforms of VAPP to make the students aware and to sensitize them regarding social issues not only through physical events but through the power and connectivity of the virtual world as well.