

OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICE

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES 2018-19

An office of Disability Service (ODS) was constituted for the first time in St. Teresa's College (Autonomous), Ernakulam in June 2018 under the Equal Opportunities Cell with a vision to cater to the needs of our differently-abled students and to provide them a stimulating environment to excel in academics as well as in extra-curricular activities. Ms. Lissy Jose, Assistant Professor of the Department of English and Ms. Greena Ann Devasia, Assistant Professor of the Department of Psychology were selected as the staff members in-charge of ODS.

As an initial step, ODS prepared a database of the differently-abled students in the college. The staff members in-charge of ODS visited every department in the college to collect the details of the differently-abled students in the respective departments who secured admission through PD quota and otherwise. The teachers met the concerned students in person, inquired after their welfare and collected their personal details and medical certificates. A letter was drafted to inform the differently-abled students and their parents regarding the benefits of UDID (Unique Disability ID), a welfare measure of the Central Government, and to provide guidelines to apply for the same. The letter was sent to the present students as well as the differently-abled students who graduated in the recent five-year period.

The college student union provided a platform for the differently-abled students of first year UG and PG batches to perform on the annual Talents Day which was held on 28th and 29th June 2018. The first biannual Parents-Teachers meeting was held on 16 November 2018 at 2.30 pm in the Sociology Audio-Visual Room. The agenda for the meeting was, a) To thank the students and parents for their prompt response in registering for UDID b) To inquire after the welfare of the students c) To collect feedback from the parents regarding the facilities provided by the college and about the conduct of the semester examination in October 2018 d) To elect student and parent representatives. Ten parents attended the meeting with their wards. Dr. Usha Nair, IQAC coordinator of the

college and Ms. Susan Cherian, the Student Dean also addressed the parents. In the discussion as part of the meeting, the parents voiced their concerns and expectations regarding the services provided by the college. Some requests that came up during the meeting were: to simplify the procedures related to the application for scribe and extra-time for end semester examinations, to provide career orientation classes for the differently abled students, to provide remedial classes for the differently abled students etc.



A special event was included in the Teresian Week competitions of this year on 23rd November 2018 to showcase the talents of our differently-abled students. Nazrin C.J of II DC Mathematics gave a scintillating dance performance during the same.



Every year, the college presents the Alappat Sisters Prize for a deserving physically handicapped student during the College Day Celebrations. This year the prize was awarded to Nazrin C.J of II DC Mathematics. She also represented the college at 2018-19 M.G University Youth Festival, *ALATHALAM* for Photography competition.