

Knowing the Unknown!

**One Day Orientation Program for School Teachers of
Association of People with Disability**



Organized by

TransDisciplinary University, Bangalore (TDU)

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Introduction

The Association of People with Disability (APD) is a non-profit organization based at Bangalore, Founded in 1959. They have worked extensively over the last 58 years to reach out and rehabilitate People with Disability from the under privileged segment APD's aim is to create an inclusive society, where people with disabilities are accepted into the mainstream economy and social life. A culture and eco system where they can earn, live and sustain with dignity and respect.

APD has approached, The TransDisciplinary University, Bangalore (TDU) to organize a one-day orientation program for the school teachers to incorporate biodiversity and primary health care in their module to teach their students. iSambhav through its CSR initiatives has come forward to reimburse their expenditure incurred towards this orientation program.

This one day orientation was organized on 30th June 2017 at TDU. The teachers had an opportunity to understand the basic tools for effective teaching, use of medicinal plants for primary health care related to the disable children, gardening, basics of heredity and genomics and the process of developing pilot enterprises through medicinal plants.

Session Details:

Dr. M. Abdul Kareem, Associate Professor and course coordinator gave an overview of the activities of TDU and briefed the participants on the schedule of the program.



In the first session, Dr. Harish Bhatt, Scientist, CES- IISC, focused on

- Ten effective tools for teaching the disabled children,
- Effective way of handling students with minimum efforts

- How to understand the difficulties of the students?
- How to solve their learning problems?
- How to make student understand science by conducting various activities.



Dr. Subramanya Kumar, Assistant Professor, TDU in his session focused on usage of commonly available plant drugs for wellness and primary healthcare (“*Prathamika Arogyakkagi Aushadhi Sasyagala Balake*”). He explained the participants on the possible usage of medicinal plants for maintenance of health and to treat primary health problems using commonly available medicinal plants. He also presented medicinal uses of some plant drugs like *Tinospora cordifolia*, *Embllica officinalis*, *Vitis vinifera*, *Ricinus communis* etc. in various primary health conditions.



Post lunch the participants visited Ethnomedicinal garden at TDU campus, Ms. Nandini, Consultant, TDU explained them about the propagation and nursery techniques of some of the medicinal plants which are essential for sustenance of such species. She highlighted that each species has a unique nursery and propagation technique. She also taught how to identify plants by touch, sense of smell. She also showed participants the vermicomposting pit and demonstrated the preparation of compost by using recycle items.



Next session focused on DNA life, Dr. Malali Gowda, Professor, TDU explained participants about the basics of hereditary science, importance of Genes and DNA. He taught participants about the applications of Gene technology in agriculture and human health. He also explained how to predicted upcoming diseases with the help of genomic studies. He also shared how people of his village indulged themselves in planting trees and converted deforested land in to green garden in his village and revival of ground level water.



Last session was seen on the “Livelihood generation with natural resources”- by Dr. Jaganantha Rao, Associate Professor, TDU explained the participants about what is natural resources; potential of natural resource to generate income and employment; he presented a case study of community collect, grade and prepare powders, oils and sell by using commonly available plants.



Feedback

In an oral feedback, participants conveyed that all the sessions more educative. They highlighted the following

- They learnt the steps for implementing the effective tools for teaching students.
- The method to identify plants by touch and smell was interesting to them. They are planning to use this method to teach their students.

- Some of the preparations for primary health care related to disable children were very useful to them.
- The applications of DNA life in conservation was new to them
- Many of the plants used in income generation programs are available with them in their garden. They were not aware that this could fetch them income. Hence they were surprise to know that the power and oil of these plants could provide them income.



Follow up:

- They are planning to make more visits with other batch of teachers
- Demonstrate the preparation for primary health care to the children
- Develop their garden with more species used for disable children.
- Insert the 10 effective tools in the teaching manual.
- Explore the possibility of preparing the powders and churns for income generation programs.

List of Faculty

1. Dr. M. Abdul Kareem, Associate Professor and Course co-ordinator, TDU
2. Dr. Harish Bhatt, Scientist, CES, IISC
3. Dr. Subramanya Kumar, Assistant Professor, TDU
4. Dr. Malali Gowda, Professor, TDU
5. Mr. Jagannatha Rao, Associate Professor, TDU
6. Ms. Nandini D., Consultant, TDU

7. Ms. Anu V., Senior Research Fellow, TDU

8. Ms. Amrita G., Research Fellow, TDU

List of Participants

SI. No.	Name of the Participants
1.	Chikkaraju
2.	C.B. Suresh
3.	Raju
4.	Prakash K.
5.	Mutharaju K. N.
6.	Kanthraj
7.	Sudha P.
8.	Shashikala R.
9.	Huchappa B.K.
10.	J.N. Suresh
11.	R. Raghavendra
12.	Basheer Ahmed

