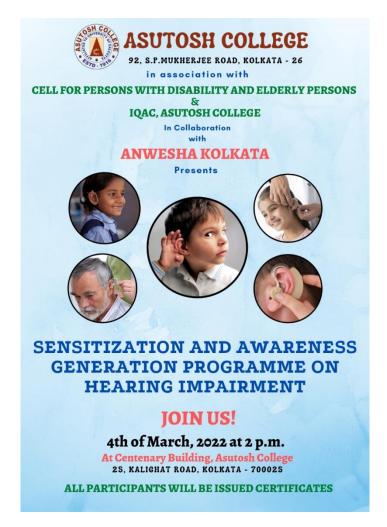
REPORT ON THE SENSITIZATION AND AWARENESS GENERATION PROGRAMME HELD ON 4 MARCH 2022



On the occasion of Wold Hearing Day on 3 March, an awareness generation and sensitization programme was held at the auditorium of the Centenary Building of Asutosh College. The Cell for Persons with Disability and IQAC collaborated with ANWESHA KOLKATA, a pioneering organisation comprising parents and well-wishers of the hearing-impaired in organising the programme.

The two convenors of the Cell—Supatra Sen from the department of Botany and Subhasri Ghosh from the department of History—along with the other team members and faculties of the College worked tirelessly to make the programme a success. Although the Vice-Principal and the Bursar could not be present due to prior commitments, the one of the seniormost faculty members of the College, Dr Sajal Bhattacharya of the department of Zoology graced the dais along with Dr Sriparna Dutta Ray, IQAC Coordinator and Head of the department of Zoology and Dr Rina Kar Dutta, Teachers' Council Secretary and Head of the department of Philosophy. On behalf of Anwesha Kolkata, Smt. Snigdha Sarkar and Smt. Anindita Chakraborty along with their team members were present. Noted E.N.T. specialist Dr N.V.K. Mohan was the guest of honour. The auditorium was packed with enthusiastic students and faculties who were eagerly waiting for the event to start. In fact the number of audiences far exceeded that of the capacity of the hall. In fact, so great was student enthusiasm that not everyone could be accommodated inside the hall and many stood outside listening with rapt attention to the speeches. The keynote theme- 'To hear for life, listen with care!' resonated strongly with a youthful student audience—a vulnerable demographic which is exposed to unceasing and sometimes unacceptable levels of noise.

After the opening remarks by the Convenor of the Cell-Dr Supatra Sen, Dr Mustafizur Rahman of the department of Zoology took over in anchoring the entire programme. The dignitaries on the dais were welcomed by the students following which Dr Bhattacharya initiated the proceedings with his lucid elaboration of the burning issue of hearing impairment which is afflicting millions across the world. Dr Dutta Roy, too, in her brief deliberation, very succinctly pointed out the need for such awareness generation campaigns. Dr Kar Dutta emphasised how during the Covid-induced lockdowns because of the new normal, too much dependence on earphones and audio accessories are wreaking havoc with our hearing senses. Dr Mohan strongly made the point that much hearing loss is preventable. This was also the most important takeaway for our students. Members of the Anwesha team spoke about their personal experiences of handling children with hearing impairment at home and how Anwesha as an organisation started its journey. A short documentary was shown which catalogued the journey of the NGO. The curtains came down with the vote of thanks delivered by Dr Manorama Chatterjee of the department of Physics, the seniormost member of the team. The students were presented with folders on behalf of Anwesha with materials which would help them have a better sense of the issue. They will also be presented with certificates by Anwesha. The presence of 158 students is an indicator of how they could identify with the theme and has further enthused the College to hold future programmes on similar lines.





