



### 7.3.1 Performance of the institution in one area of distinctiveness related to its vision, priority and thrust

Describe the institutional performance in one area of distinctiveness related to its vision, priority and thrust in not more than 500 words

#### **Response:**

Among the Colleges of Education in the State of Tamil Nadu, N.K.T. National College of Education for Women is the only College of Education offering B.Ed. Special Education (Visual Impairment) Programme in an **inclusive set-up** with adequate facilities that prepares students to acquire knowledge and develop competencies to impart education to both special and general students with the choice to be placed either in General or Special Schools. The B.Ed. in Special Education (Visual Impairment) Programme is recognized by the Rehabilitation Council of India and initially affiliated to University of Madras and then by the Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University, Chennai.

The Programme is offered since 2003 with intake of 30 students. The Department of Special Education with good infrastructure that functions in an accessible and barrier free environment, is adequately equipped with Adaptive Technology, Softwares like JAWS, NVDA and Duxbury. The Department is also equipped with Assistive Devices, such as, Computerized Braille Embossed Printer, Perkins Braille Machine, Slate and Stylus, Pocket Braille Slate, Alphabet Braille Slate, Word Building Braille Slate, Taylor Frame, Abacus, Geo Board, Geometry Kits, Spur wheel, Adapted Measuring Tape and Scale, Thermoform Machine, Science and Mathematics 3 Dimension Models, Crossword Puzzle, Tactile Diagram Sets and Mobility Devices, such as White Cane and Folding Cane. In addition, Low Vision Optical Devices, Non-Optical Devices and

Recreational kits are available to train student-teachers with knowledge and skills to empower the visually challenged to live independently.

**The Department of B.Ed. Special Education (Visual Impairment) claims its uniqueness for the following reasons:**

- Educates student-teachers to acquire knowledge and develop competencies and skills to impart education to both general and visually impaired students.
- Offers tailor made courses for student-teachers to acquire knowledge and skills in Perspectives in Education, Curriculum and Pedagogic Studies, Disability Specialization (Visual Impairment), Cross Disability & Inclusion and Enhancing Professional Capacities.
- Offers skill-oriented training along with theoretical perspectives to student-teachers in various areas like effective use of Braille, Assistive Devices, Daily Living Skills and Orientation & Mobility.
- Provides Scribe and Reader services to engage and support the visually impaired students.
- Facilitates student-teachers to gain varied experiences through exposure to different categories of schools like, General & Inclusive School, Special School (Blind School) and Cross-Disability School (Hearing Impairment, Intellectual Disability & Multiple Disabilities).
- Creates opportunities to visit National Institutes like National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD) & National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disability (NIEPVD) that serve as a National Resource Centers for empowering persons with Multiple Disabilities.
- Organizes various Continuous Rehabilitation Education (CRE) Programmes for Special Educators.
- Motivates students of NKT Differently-abled Club to organize programmes for familiarizing State and Central Government Schemes and Policies.
- Provides a platform to show-casing the talents of differently abled children.
- Widens placement opportunities as student-teachers of the Department of Special

Education are able to cater to requirements of Educational Institutions in an inclusive set-up.

In line with the Vision of the Institution, the Department of Special Education acts as a catalyst in providing Teacher Education and School Education under the inclusive setup, thereby contributing towards human development to meet the dynamic challenges in Education.

# DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION



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