

REPORT ON THE WORKSHOP

“Capacity Building of University Students through an Ambedkarite Lens”

Organised by: Dr. Ambedkar Chair, KISS Deemed to be University

Supported by: Dr. Ambedkar Foundation, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India

Date: 8 August 2026

Time: 4:00 PM onwards

Venue: KISS-DU Auditorium, KISS Deemed to be University

The Dr. Ambedkar Chair, KISS Deemed to be University organised a Workshop on “Capacity Building of University Students through an Ambedkarite Lens” on 8 August 2026 at the KISS-DU Auditorium. The workshop was organised with the support of the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, as per the communication issued by the competent authority of the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation vide E.O. No. 108524 dated 03.08.2026.



The workshop was conceptualised with the objective of promoting holistic capacity building among university students by connecting leadership development, effective communication, community engagement, social responsibility, social inclusion and constitutional rights with the values and principles associated with the Ambedkarite vision of an egalitarian

and inclusive society.

The programme was designed to provide students with both conceptual understanding and practical perspectives on leadership, career development, community participation, social transformation, constitutional rights and access to government support mechanisms.

Objectives of the Workshop

The principal objectives of the workshop were:

- To develop leadership qualities and effective communication skills among university students.
- To strengthen students' abilities in teamwork, decision-making and collaborative problem-solving.
- To sensitise students to career opportunities, higher education, entrepreneurship and skill development.
- To encourage students to identify local and community-level challenges and engage constructively with them.
- To introduce participatory approaches to community development and social transformation.
- To encourage students to formulate individual and community action plans.
- To create awareness about social justice, equality and constitutional provisions.
- To familiarise students with rights, entitlements and relevant government support schemes.
- To develop a sense of social responsibility and constitutional consciousness among young learners.
- To encourage students to understand capacity building as an important instrument of individual empowerment and wider social transformation.

Inaugural Session and Welcome Address

The workshop commenced with the Welcome Address and an orientation on the objectives and expected outcomes of the programme by Professor Chittaranjan Bhoi, Chair Professor, Dr. Ambedkar Chair, KISS-DU.



In his introductory remarks, the Chair Professor situated the workshop within the broader vision of capacity building and social empowerment. The programme sought to enable students to develop not

merely professional competencies but also leadership, social awareness, constitutional consciousness and a commitment to inclusive development.

The Ambedkarite perspective provided the intellectual framework for connecting individual development with social justice, equality, dignity, rights and responsible citizenship.

Session I: Leadership, Communication and Capacity Building

The first technical session, titled “Leadership, Communication and Capacity Building,” was conducted by Shri Saroj Kumar Dash, Director, Training and Placement, KISS-DU.

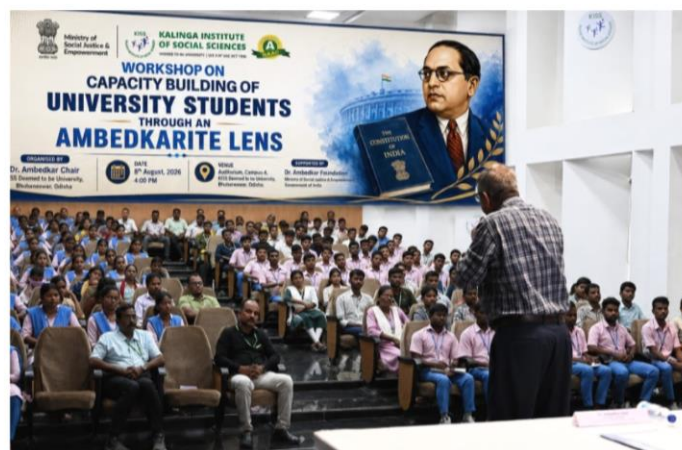
The session focused on the importance of leadership qualities in students and the role of effective communication in academic, professional and social life. Particular emphasis was placed on developing teamwork and decision-making skills which are essential for students to function effectively in diverse institutional and community settings.

The session also addressed important dimensions of students’ career development, including:

- Career guidance
- Opportunities for higher education
- Entrepreneurship
- Skill development
- Leadership development
- Effective communication
- Teamwork and decision-making

The interactive nature of the session, including a Question-and-Answer segment, provided an opportunity for students to engage with the resource person and seek clarification on issues relating to their academic, professional and career development.

Session II: Community Engagement and Grassroots Development



The second technical session, “Community Engagement and Grassroots Development,” was conducted by Dr. Sabyasachi Rout, Senior Manager, Projects, KISS.



The session shifted the focus from individual capacity building to the wider social and community context. It emphasised the importance of understanding challenges at the local level and responding to them through participatory and community-oriented approaches.

The major areas addressed included:

- Identification of local challenges
- Participatory approaches to community development
- Social transformation
- Preparation of individual action plans
- Preparation of community action plans

The session encouraged students to view themselves as active participants in the process of social change rather than as passive recipients of development. It highlighted the significance of community participation and grassroots engagement in creating sustainable and inclusive development outcomes.

The session also included a Question-and-Answer segment, enabling participants to interact with the resource person and discuss issues connected with community development and social transformation.

Session III: Understanding Social Inclusion and Constitutional Rights

The third technical session was titled “Understanding Social Inclusion and Constitutional Rights” and was conducted by Professor Chittaranjan Bhoi, Chair Professor, Dr. Ambedkar Chair, KISS-DU.



The session brought the workshop to its central Ambedkarite dimension by focusing

on the relationship between social justice, equality, constitutional rights and inclusive development.

The session provided an overview of the principles of social justice and equality and discussed the significance of constitutional provisions in safeguarding rights and promoting inclusion. Students were also introduced to the broader framework of rights, entitlements and government support schemes.

The session emphasised that capacity building becomes meaningful when individuals are aware of their rights, constitutional safeguards and available institutional mechanisms. In this context, constitutional literacy was presented as an important component of empowerment and responsible citizenship.

The Question-and-Answer component further enabled participants to engage with the themes discussed and clarify their understanding of constitutional rights, social inclusion and government support mechanisms.

Major Outcomes of the Workshop

The workshop provided an integrated platform for student capacity building by bringing together three interrelated dimensions:

Individual Capacity → Community Engagement → Constitutional Empowerment

The programme helped establish a conceptual connection between personal development and social responsibility. Leadership, communication and career development were discussed alongside community participation, social transformation, constitutional rights and social inclusion.

The workshop particularly reinforced the following broad outcomes:

1. **Leadership and communication:** Students were encouraged to develop leadership qualities, communication abilities and teamwork and decision-making skills.
2. **Career and professional development:** The discussion on higher education, career guidance, entrepreneurship and skill development broadened the perspective of students regarding future academic and professional opportunities.
3. **Community consciousness:** Students were encouraged to identify grassroots challenges and understand the importance of participatory approaches to community development.
4. **Social responsibility:** The workshop encouraged students to relate their individual growth with the larger objectives of social transformation and inclusive development.
5. **Constitutional awareness:** Students were sensitised to the principles of social justice, equality, constitutional provisions, rights and entitlements.

6. **Awareness of support mechanisms:** The discussion on government support schemes aimed to improve students' awareness of institutional mechanisms available for empowerment and development.
7. **Ambedkarite perspective:** The workshop sought to connect capacity building with the values of equality, social justice, dignity, inclusion and empowerment that constitute important dimensions of the Ambedkarite vision.

Relevance to the Objectives of the Dr. Ambedkar Chair

The workshop is significant in the context of the mandate and objectives of the Dr. Ambedkar Chair at KISS Deemed to be University. The programme translated the values of social justice, equality, education, empowerment and



constitutional consciousness into an interactive student-oriented capacity-building initiative.

The workshop also reflects the importance of taking Ambedkarite thought beyond academic discourse and connecting it with contemporary educational, professional, social and developmental concerns. By focusing on young university students, the programme sought to contribute to the development of informed, capable and socially responsible citizens.

The initiative is also aligned with the broader objectives of promoting awareness about constitutional values, social inclusion and empowerment among students and encouraging them to contribute meaningfully to society.

However, the Workshop on “Capacity Building of University Students through an Ambedkarite Lens” provided a meaningful platform for engaging university students with the interconnected themes of leadership, communication, career development, community engagement, grassroots development, social inclusion and constitutional rights.

The three sessions collectively offered a comprehensive framework for student empowerment—beginning with individual capacity building, moving towards community participation, and culminating in an understanding of social justice and constitutional empowerment.

The organisation of the workshop by the Dr. Ambedkar Chair, KISS Deemed to be University, with the support of the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India represents a constructive initiative towards taking the principles and relevance of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar’s thought to the younger generation.

More than 175 students, including postgraduate and Ph.D. scholars from the School of Tribal Legal Studies and Tribal Rights, the School of Tribal Resource Management and the School of Comparative Tribal Languages and Literatures of KISS-DU, participated in the Workshop.

The Dr. Ambedkar Chair expresses its sincere appreciation to the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation for its support and guidance in facilitating this important student-oriented initiative. The Chair also places on record its appreciation for the resource persons, university authorities, organising team and all participants whose contributions helped make the programme meaningful and purposeful.



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