

(Affiliated to Uttarakhand Technical University)
Dhoolkot, Chakrata Road, Dehradun-248011, Uttarakhand

#### CRITERIA 7.1.7

The Institution has disabled-friendly, barrier free environment

POLICY DOCUMENT FOR DISABLED-FRIENDLY, BARRIER FREE ENVIRONMENT

Director Tula's Institute, Dehradun



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#### POLICY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The Government of India formulated the national policy for persons with disabilities in February 2006 which deals with educational rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, therefore in view of this Tula's Institute has implemented these policies in the teaching and learning process. The Tula's Institute policy recognizes that persons with disabilities are valuable human resource for the institution and seeks to create an environment that provides equal opportunities, protection of their rights and full participation in the academic environment.

The focus of the policy is on the following:

- To ensure that the design of the building such as ramp/ lift should be according to the disabled persons.
- To ensure the accessible, gender-sensitive, safe, usable and functional washroom facilities should be provided for disabled persons.
- 3. To ensure the proper text and pictogram signage such as tactile path, lights, display boards, signposts are necessary, located to be visible and touchable.
- 4. The use of signage of male and female symbols, in accordance with local customs and standards, with raised outlines and bright color contrast will be more evident to everyone and particularly helpful for persons with visual impairments.
- 5. Learners with disabilities need to be adequately and appropriately supported in and out of the classroom with the right resources and assistive technology, and with leadership, teaching staff and college communities that are responsive to their needs.
- 6. To ensure the accessibility of software tools and technology for the people with disabilities.
- Provision for enquiry and information: Human assistance, reader, scribe, soft copies of reading material, screen reading.

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INFORMATION BROCHURE ON DISABLED-FRIENDLY, BARRIER FREE ENVIRONMENT

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India has around 80 million people with disability, which may be age related, accident related or due to some medical conditions. According to the Word Bank, one in every 12 households in India has a person living with disability. The Indian policy-makers are aware of the issue and Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, tried to address some of the concerns faced by differently-abled persons in India. The Act specifically refers to ease of access to public or private buildings, workplaces, commercial activities, public utilities, religious, cultural, leisure or recreational activities, medical or health services, law enforcement agencies, transport infrastructure, among others. In 2015, the Prime Minister rolled out the "Accessible India" (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) campaign, with a motive to make it convenient for persons with disabilities to access administrative buildings and transport, among other things. The campaign has been launched in seven States including Delhi and Haryana. The government is also committed towards socioeconomic transformation (Swavlamban), of the persons with disability by year 2020 and in this context, India can learn from the global best practices and some of the initiatives taken within the country.

At the Workplaces and Educational Institutions, Disabled people found it difficult to access the facilities. Some of the common problems faced by the disabled persons and students are to access the class room, laboratories, washrooms, upper floors of building, library, play grounds, hostel mess and cafeterias etc. Therefore at the institute level to build a disabled friendly environment, the following facilities can be helpful:

- Built environment with ramps for easy access to classrooms, laboratories, library etc.
- · Disabled-friendly washrooms
- · Signage including tactile path, lights, display boards and signposts
- Assistive technology and facilities for persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) accessible website, screen-reading software, mechanized equipment
- Provision for enquiry and information: Human assistance, reader, scribe, soft copies of reading material, screen reading.

However, there is need for more work to see if such facilities can help to build such facilities which are disabled-friendly. Buildings can be with an emergency button, which can help community workers (for example, guards) to respond fast to the needs of the disabled person.

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# 2. Differently Abled (Divyangjan) Friendliness, Barrier Free facilities in the campus

Tula's institute aims to provide an inclusive education framework for all and so strives to create a barrier free and differently abled (divyangjan) friendly environment in our campus. Lifts/ramps, special toilets/bathrooms as well as specific facilities are provided all over the campus wherever required. A special reading hall for differently-able students, Braille books and assistive software (screen reading) and other equipment are available in the Knowledge Resource Centre. Scribes and additional time are provided at the time of examination as per norms. Divyangjan-friendly wheelchairs, vehicles and equipment are provided to employees/students as per their requirement.

### 3. Types of facilities

- 3.1 Ramps facility
- 3.2 Disabled friendly washrooms
- 3.3 Signage including tactile path, lights, display boards and signposts
- 3.4 Provision for Scribe
- 3.5 Physical facility (wheelchair)

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