Policy on Accessible Facilities for Persons with Disabilities

Preamble

Kristu Jayanti (Deemed to be University) is committed to a barrier-free campus where students, staff and visitors with disabilities can move freely, learn, work and participate independently and with dignity, in line with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and Sustainable Development Goal 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

Objectives

- To provide a barrier-free physical, digital and information environment across the campus.
- To follow accessibility standards in all new construction and in the modification of existing facilities.
- To audit accessibility regularly and correct the gaps found.

Accessible Physical Facilities

The University shall endeavour to provide, as per need and the accessibility standards issued by the Government of India:

- Ramps, handrails, lifts and accessible entrances to classrooms, laboratories, library, administrative offices and auditoria.
- Accessible washrooms, drinking water points and reserved parking.
- Tactile paths, Braille and large-print signage, and clear colour-contrast markings.
- Accessible seating in classrooms, the library and event venues, and accessible hostel rooms.
- Evacuation plans and assistance for persons with disabilities during emergencies.

Accessible Digital and Information Facilities

- Accessible University website, portals and learning management systems, following recognised accessibility guidelines.
- Library resources and learning material in accessible formats such as large print, audio, Braille and screen-reader compatible text.
- Notices and announcements communicated in accessible formats.

Audit and Funding

- An accessibility audit of the campus shall be carried out at least once a year, with an action plan for the gaps identified.
- A budget shall be allocated each year for accessibility improvements.
- Accessibility shall be considered in the design of every new building and renovation.

Procedures and prerequisites in this regard will be as per the University Regulation.

Details of the Committee: -

1. Chairperson - Student Welfare Officer
2. Member – Senior Dean
3. Member – Head, Estate / Maintenance
4. Member – Senior Faculty Member
5. Member – Junior Faculty Member
6. Member – Representative from Administrative Staff
7. Member – Head, IT Services
8. Parents Representative – (name)
9. Students Representative – Student Council Member (Male)
10. Students Representative - Student Council Member (Female)

All the members of the Committee shall be nominated by the Vice Chancellor.

Functions of the Committee

1. Ensuring barrier-free environment/ lifts/ ramps for easy access to classrooms, library, washrooms and other facilities at the campus.
2. Conducting the annual accessibility audit and following up on the action plan.
3. Advising on accessibility in new construction, renovation and digital platforms.
4. Conducting awareness sessions on the availability of attendants and accessible facilities to help disabled persons to move freely in the University.
5. Receiving feedback from persons with disabilities on facilities and recommending improvements.
6. Consulting and seeking guidance from the Equal Opportunity Cell, and submitting quarterly reports of grievances to the Advisory Committee for suitable action.
7. Addressing the difficulties/grievances of persons who approach the Committee and recommending unresolved issues to the Anti-Discrimination Officer.

Review of the Policy

This policy shall be reviewed at least once every three years, or earlier if required by changes in law or University Regulations.

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