

# NATIONAL WEBINAR ON LEARNING DISABILITY:AN OVERVIEW

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JUNE 29 2021

A webinar was organized by the Department of Psychology of Vimala College, Thrissur on June 29, 2021 from 3:30pm to 4:30 pm. The main aim of the webinar was to give the students an overview about Learning Disability.

The webinar was conducted by the faculty coordinator Dr. Sinto P Anto, Assistant Professor and Head of Department of Psychology, Vimala College. The webinar was coordinated by Ms Gadha K.B the student coordinator from the Department of Psychology. The webinar started with a prayer by Ms Parvathy Thondattil, followed by a welcome speech by Dr. Sinto P Anto. The resource person was Smt Anju Narayanan, MSc(Psy), PGDLD, Special Educator Primus Public School, Bangalore. The webinar had begun by explaining the two types of learning disability that is Specific Learning Disability and General Learning Disability. Explanation was given how to differentiate between Specific Learning Disability and General Learning Disability. The main focus was towards Specific Learning Disability. She explained Specific Learning Disability as a neurodevelopmental disorder which was a lifelong condition. She said that it was seen in people with visual, hearing, motor disabilities, IQ below average (below90), emotional disturbance trauma, environmental, cultural disadvantaged. Then she moved onto the three types of Specific Learning Disability which were mainly Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and Dysgraphia. Then a brief explanation was given about all the three types.

Dyslexia affected the reading region due to which spelling, vocabulary, comprehension and written expression were affected. It lead to slower cognition of word, word substitutions, omission of words, phrases and sentences. Dyscalculia included inability to learn numbers, facts and to perform fundamental mathematical operations. It lead to difficulties like reading or comprehending word problems, mental math and problem solving strategies. Dysgraphia is the difficulty in both physical act of writing and the quality of written expression. It lead to difficulties with syntaxes, structure, grammar and the difference between the written ideas and understanding demonstrated through speech. After that the causes of Specific Learning Disability was demonstrated as genetic or neurological factors which altered brain functioning and prenatal, perinatal, or postnatal factors. The presentation was concluded with the methods like management in home and school and accommodation and concessions by different boards of education which could help for people affected by Specific Learning Disability.

At the end of the webinar there was an interactive session between the participants and the resource person. The resource person successfully answered to the queries of the participants and helped them in increasing the awareness about Specific Learning Disability. A vote of thanks was given by Ms Farzana Lishad. 101 students participated in the webinar. An E-Certificate was provided to the participants towards the end of webinar