



## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CELL, JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24**

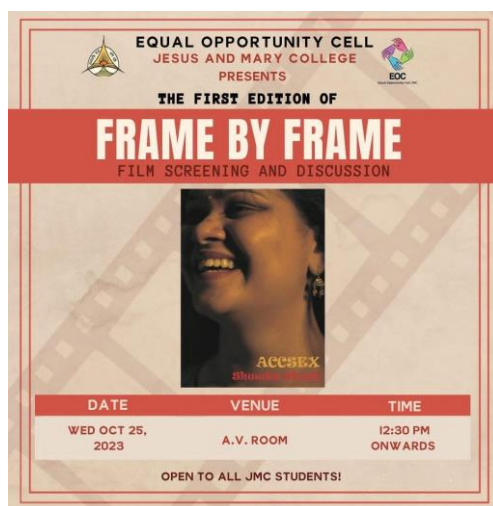
The Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC) at Jesus and Mary College stands as a beacon of social justice, continuing its dedication to creating pathways for students with disabilities and those from under-represented sections of society. Our mission is to foster an environment of awareness, equity, and equal opportunity, promoting social inclusion, diversity, and cohesion within our institution.

In line with our core values, the EOC continues to ensure that every student feels valued and included. The academic year 2023-24 has demonstrated our unwavering dedication to these principles.

In order to engage with the members outside of formal boundaries, we arranged an Ice Breaker session to begin the new EOC session with engaging and enjoyable games. After being guided through the society's vision by the office bearers, the members were prepared to embark on this fulfilling and enriching journey.

The EOC arranged a number of events all year long that brought together a diverse group of students with disabilities from various colleges. These events also provided plenty of opportunity for students with disabilities to actively engage in a range of activities and interactions.

The session began with a **movie screening on "Frame by Frame on Accsex" On October 25, 2023**, which addresses the issues of sexuality and accessibility for individuals with disabilities. The movie challenges the stereotypes of what is normal, abnormal, attractive, ugly, able, and disabled. The narrative of four disabled women—Abha, Kanti, Sonali, and Kanti—overcoming obstacles to their identities and sexual expression captivated the audience. After a group discussion that emphasised the right of disabled individuals to sexuality, the screening was held.



On **November 3rd**, The Equal Opportunity Cell of Jesus and Mary College organised a **fundraising stall at NSS Sparsh' 23**. The stall offered a variety of DIY activities, including a Polaroid photograph station, block painting, canvas painting, and customised cupcakes. The stall also featured a handcrafted personalised bookmark station. The stall was a success, attracting a diverse audience and fostering creativity and community spirit. The booth's success was attributed to the dedicated efforts of volunteers who coordinated the activities, ensuring a seamless experience for attendees. The stall transformed into a dynamic space where individuals engaged with the offerings, forged connections, captured moments, and indulged their senses.



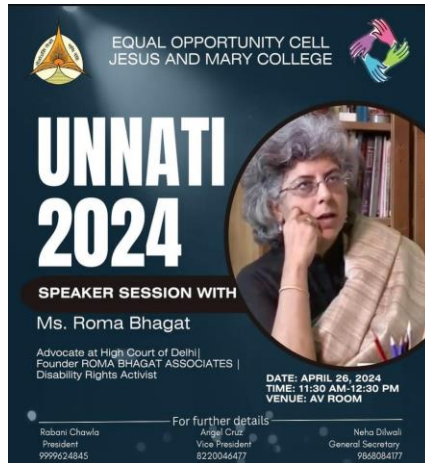
**Prayas '24**, an event organised on **Friday, March 15**, aimed to showcase the abilities of PWD college students and promote inclusivity. The event, titled "**Jazbaat**," featured various talents such as singing, dancing, instrumentals, music videography, and screenplay writing. The event was filled with joy, positivity, and a sense of community,

with volunteers and cell heads assisting participants. The participants also formed new friendships and bonds. The winners of each category were honoured in a prize presentation, showcasing the courage and perseverance of the competitors. The event was filled with joy, positivity, and a sense of community among the participants.

Followed by **Open-Mic: ZARAFAT 2.0**, in collaboration with the Women Studies Centre. The open mic was centred around the theme: “**Legacy of Helen Keller**”, a renowned author and a firm advocate of socialism, best remembered for advocating for the rights of the disadvantaged, primarily women and disabled people. The event was an exploration of her life and works, and delved into the complexities of her own journey of navigating through a chronic disability to becoming an acclaimed intellectual figure and a groundbreaking social activist. Through the open mic, people were invited to look within and explore their multifaceted identities.

The image contains two promotional posters. The left poster is for 'MONTAGE 2024 CULTURE CONNECT' and 'PRAYAS 2024' with the theme 'Jazbaat'. It is presented by the Equal Opportunity Cell and is for PwBD College Students. The event is on 15 March 2024, from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM at Jesus and Mary College. The right poster is for 'Zarafat 2.0' with the theme 'Legacy of Hellen Keller', presented by the Equal Opportunity Cell in collaboration with the Women's Studies Center. It is an Open Mic event on 15th March 2024. Both posters include QR codes for registration and contact information for the organizers.

On **26 April 2024**, the Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC) hosted a **speaker session at UNNATI, featuring Ms. Roma Bhagat**, an advocate at the High Court of Delhi and disability rights activist. Ms. Bhagat discussed the sociological aspect of disability, highlighting the need to challenge preconceived notions and foster inclusivity. She highlighted the legal discourse surrounding disability, acknowledging the barriers that impede its full participation. She advocated for positive discrimination, reservation policies, and comprehensive accessibility measures to dismantle these barriers and promote genuine inclusivity. The session concluded with a call to action, encouraging attendees to actively engage in initiatives advancing the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities.



EOC extends its sincere gratitude to the convenor and faculty members for their support and encouragement throughout this incredible academic year. With the greatest team imaginable, the journey has been tremendous. The society appreciates each and every person's contribution and belief in us.