

SAMBHAV 2010: A Report

THE INAUGURAL EVENT

This year again Association for Learning Performing arts and Normative Action (ALPANA) organized the two-day dance and music extravaganza. It was a two-day event held on the 13th and 14th of November. The first half of both the days saw international seminars with speakers from the 15 participating countries talking about, 'Shared experiences on physically and mentally challenged persons and inclusive growth.' The seminar on the 13th was held at the main auditorium at the India International Centre and on the second day that is the 14th, at the IIC Annexe. The evenings on both the days were graced by spectacular performances by the participating nations; these performances were held at the main auditorium, IIC.

On 13th November, at IIC Main Auditorium, the inaugural function of SAMBHAV 2010 started a little after 10:00 a.m. The compere Dr. Anupama Singh welcomed the audience to SAMBHAV 2010. The chief guest for this occasion was Shri B.L. Joshi, HE the Governor of Uttar Pradesh and the inaugural session was presided over by Ambassador Suresh K Goel, Director General ICCR. The dignitaries were then assisted on to the dais by founder-president of ALPANA, Ms. Alpana Nayak and Vice-president of ALPANA, Mr. B.K. Dash and assisted him in lighting the ceremonial lamp. Then they were felicitated with bouquets by Ms. Alpana Nayak and Mr. Debjit Rath. Dr. Anupama Singh, MBBS then went on to thank the different organizations- Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, ONGC Ltd, GAIL (India) Ltd, SAIL Ltd., Power grid Corporation of India Ltd, Petronet LNG Ltd., NTPC Ltd, IOC Ltd., Bureau of Energy Efficiency, REC Ltd, PTC India Ltd, SPMC Ltd, BP Koirala India-Nepal Foundation, India Sri Lanka Foundation and India Bhutan Foundation. Then the Ambassador Suresh K Goel was invited to preside over the function. Ms. Alpana Nayak took to the mike and thanked the audience for making time to attend this event and also the chief guests.

This was followed by a welcome song, "Swagatam, shubh swagatam" sung by the physically and mentally challenged children from ALPANA.

Dr. Anupama then introduced the organization ALPANA to the audience, briefly stating the history of the organization and its field of work. She then invited Ambassador Suresh K Goel, Director General ICCR, to address the audience. He began with complimenting the work done by ALPANA and he informed the audience that the welcome song was one of the best renditions of this song, he had ever come across. He believes it is unjust to refer to these children as challenged and that by referring to them this way we actually create a distinction between them and us, which is uncalled for. He thinks it is time we question ourselves that whether we should allow such discrimination. He pointed out rightly that the neglect of these challenged people in India is cruel and that not only implementing laws will help in their upliftment but we have to make them a part of our conscious. Finally he ended with saying that to mainstream the lives of special children; they have to be provided with opportunities.

Dr. Anupama Singh then invited the chief guest, Shri B.L. Joshi, HE the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, to address the audience. Shri B. L. Joshi began with reminiscing about the last time he had been invited by ALPANA, to SAMBHAV 2006 and congratulated the organization on its spectacular growth. He agreed with Mr. Goel about the pending action that needs to be taken for the empowerment of specially-abled people. He said that we need to open up our hearts and our purses to render help to these people. He went on to say that, now SAMBHAV has become a huge platform for inclusive arts and congratulated ALPANA on achieving this. He feels that even though India has a long history of empowering the disabled, and even our constitution has provisions for it, we as citizens have to make it happen. He went on to add that with the recent technological advancements, aids are now available for utilizing the potential of the specially-abled people and in the light of this, companies should voluntarily provide jobs to these people. He ended with the hope that this event will greatly inspire the specially-abled youth.

Then, the vote of thanks was delivered by Mr. B. K. Dash, Vice-president of ALPANA. He began by thanking the guests for sparing time from their busy schedules and coming on out to encourage ALPANA society and the artists with their presence. He thanked the numerous organizations and the various people who have helped in anyway the event to become a success. He thanked ALPANA's domestic and international partners - Jeevan Jyoti Home, Missionaries of Charity, NCZCC, Allahabad, NEZCC, Kohima, SCZCC, Nagpur, WZCC, Udaipur, Shri Chaitanya Parimal, Indore, Theosophical Society Viklang Vidyalaya, Udaipur, School for Disabled, Nagpur, State Council of Educational Research and Training, Aizawl, Africa Theatre Project, Abuja, Nigeria, Dhruvad Group, Lahore, Pakistan, Sunagava, Kathmandu, Nepal, Prof Channarong, Bangkok, Thailand , School for the Deaf, Ratmalana, Colombo, Sri Lanka, Mandalay Disabled Troupe, Myanmar, Tarayana Foundation, Thimpu, Bhutan, SWID, Dhaka, Bangladesh, Agulhas Theatre Works (ATW), Johannesburg, South Africa, YPAC, Jakarta, Indonesia, Art Council of Mongolia, Ulaanbatar, Mongolia, The Rhythmic Interactive Spastic Enablers (R.I.S.E.), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Deaf Beat Troup, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Famous People Players (FPP), Toronto, Canada, Centre for Economics & Policy, London, England and Psychoneurologic Boarding School-25, Moscow, Russia. He acknowledged the efforts of Miss Michelle Oraa Ali for cover design, Impact Printers, Jasbinder Travels, DTDC courier services, OK Art for banners and display, Priyadarshini Tripathy for the website and art exhibitor, Mr. Harjee Gandhi. Also expressed gratitude towards Embassies of India in Russia, Myanmar, Thailand, Nepal, Bhutan, Mongolia, and Indonesia. High Commissions of India in Nigeria, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, South Africa, Pakistan, Canada, UK. India Culture Centres in Moscow, Dhaka, Jakarta. Embassies and High Commissions in New Delhi of Russia, Myanmar, Thailand, Nepal, Bhutan, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Malaysia, UK, Canada and South Africa. He then announced the inauguration of the international art exhibition of paintings done by special artists. Dr. Anupama Singh then invited the team leaders of the participating countries onto the dais for a group photograph.

The art exhibition was inaugurated in the IIC foyer by Shri Wajahat Habibullah, Former Chief Information Commissioner of India and Shri B. L. Joshi. Participants from the various countries mingled with each other as they looked at the beautiful display put up by the special artists. This marked the end of the inaugural session and beginning of the tea break.

FIRST DAY OF INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR – 13TH NOVEMBER, 2010

SESSION A

Dr. Anupama Singh, MBBS welcomed the audience back to the first session of the International Seminar on 'Shared experiences on physically and mentally challenged persons and inclusive growth,' after the break. She then requested the speakers to take their place on the dais and invited Mrs. Leela Venkatraman, Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee and noted dance critic, to chair the session.

Mrs. Leela Venkatraman began by thanking the ALPANA society for an opportunity to be present at this event. She justly pointed out each and every one of us is challenged and that she too felt challenged at having to chair the session. She explained that though she has been writing, talking and watching dance as a performance very closely, dance as a therapy is new to her and so, her interest. She went back to our medieval Indian scriptures and said that all these texts mention dance on an ideal body and never have they talked of dance for a body that is not ideal but ALPANA's work has done just that, has presented dance so beautifully through a body that is said to be not perfect. She feels that what SAMBHAV and ALPANA are doing for the challenged people is what is exactly needed for them. She explained that Indian dance forms have certain aspects which act like therapy for the body.

Mrs. Leela Venkatraman then invited Ms. Diane Lynn Dupuy, CEO of the Famous People Players (FPP), Canada, to deliver the keynote address. Ms. Diane founded the FPP in 1994. She began her address with mention that the ALPANA society was a treasure for India. Ms. Diane got the audience involved in her traumatic experience as a child and through those experiences the birth of Famous People Players. She was said to be a slow learner because she failed grades, but now she says that happened not because she was silly but because she was not interested in what was happening in class as she had a very creative mind. She got tired of school and dropped out and then began performing with puppets and started entertaining people with her puppet shows. Once she was invited to an institute for challenged people and from there she got the idea for her company – the FPP. She explained to the audience what the FPP exactly did; the challenged people she worked with would dress in black and bring a life-size famous person puppet to life. She talked of her experiences during training these people and at times how difficult it got. Ms. Diane then told the audience about the first ever performance put up by FPP; they were bringing a puppet of Liberace to life and that to before Liberace himself. No one knew about the FPP then and people with special needs were not looked upon kindly by the society but this performance by FPP touched Liberace and he invited the FPP to perform in Las Vegas. This experience changed their lives and from there, there was no looking back. The FPP moved on to far greater things like performing at Broadway. Then again they were applauded there. She urged the audience to visit Toronto and experience the 'magic' for themselves. She said that the true sign of a performer is to move the audiences and the morning song did just that. In the end she got the audience to stand up and repeat an oath after her and announced the whole of the audience to be 'dream makers'.

Mrs. Leela Venkatraman then introduced the next speaker, Dr. Suresh Deman, PhD, President, Centre for Finance and Policy, London, and requested him to deliver his talk.

Mr. Deman's speech was accompanied by a powerpoint presentation for better understanding. He began by introducing the audience to two types of disabilities – natural and man-made. He highlighted the unfortunate state of the disadvantaged people in India comparing it to their state in foreign countries, where they are treated as equals, but then he added that with the work being done by organizations like ALPANA, India is also moving towards an equal society. He said that for there to be change, it has to have a strategic plan, improvement of health status (especially for mental disabilities) and getting NGOs and governmental organizations to volunteer for their help. He then went on to list some strategies for change like, giving incentives to companies for having inclusive work force, educational strategy i.e. making people aware, need for activism, instilling in society proper conduct towards them like 'stop staring and laughing,' 'they are not one of them but one of us' and the need for passion rather than compassion. All these examples were examples of inclusive strategies and Mr. Deman believes that without such actions, no program for helping these people will be successful. He ended his talk with various examples of famous people who overcame disability and also cited the example of Paralympics, initiated by USA, England and Canada, which promotes inclusive sports.

Mrs. Leela Venkatraman then introduced the last speaker for the session, Mr. Prasong Ongpreechakul of Art for All Foundation, University from Thailand and requested him to deliver his speech.

Mr. Prasong began by talking about the measures taken up by Thailand as a nation, to integrate disabled people. Then he went on to introduce his foundation, they not only work with disabled people but also other vulnerable groups, they help them through art education. There has been a steep increase in the state of disabled people. This rise was also as a result of signing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. He then talked of future plans of his foundation for empowering people and communities with knowledge in self-immunisation and self-dependence. He gave example as to how Thailand was becoming an inclusive nation. Finally, Mr. Prasong talked of his personal experience as being a disabled person and how he overcame hurdles faced by him. He inspires the disabled people by saying that it is not only the society's duty to help them but that they should also utilize their potential and help the society. He ended with a message to remember, saying that we do not have to mainstream the disabled people but sometimes should try to enter their world.

With this Mrs. Leela announced the session open for questions. There were no questions from the audience as they took in the wonderful messages given by the speakers through their enlightening presentation. The chair then went on to relate a personal experience in her family, to say that, sometimes a handicap can trigger a mechanism for realizing one's potential. Hearing this example, Ms. Alpana Nayak introduced Aaliyah, a Dhrupad singer from Pakistan who is blind and went on to say that she was an example of what Mrs. Leela had just talked about.

The session was then announced closed with the presentation of participation certificates to the panelists.

SESSION B

Dr. Anupama Singh invited Dr. Sarita Sarangi, Member, Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights, to chair the session. She congratulated ALPANA and Mrs. Alpana Nayak on her efforts. She believed that not only laws will make a difference in the state of disabled people but there is a need for action through participation of media, NGOs and the government. She then introduced the first speaker for Session B, Mrs. Ajanta Rani Saha, Representative of SWID, Bangladesh.

Mrs. Saha's speech was accompanied by a computer presentation. She began with Bangladesh's perspective towards disability and added volume to her presentation by adding many figures. She enlightened the audience with information about mental retardation, the various types of mental retardation and its symptoms. Her presentation had photographs of the work her organization was doing and also the sort of infrastructure they have to help the disabled and these photographs helped the audience get a better picture.

The chair then invited the second speaker, Mr. Vilas Janhve, Resource Person, Theosophical Society Viklang Vidyalaya, Udaipur, to give his speech.

Mr. Janhve focused his presentation on the annual fest organized by his organization – UMANG. During this festival children are taught various art forms and at the end of the festival they have a talent showcase of all that the students have learnt during the festival. The teachers who are brought in are sometimes themselves challenged, thus they are more empathetic towards the students. He talked of the various activities done with the challenged children to help them. He said that by conducting UMANG, the organizers, like him get to learn so much. His presentation was accompanied with videos captured during UMANG 2009. Finally he ended by humming few lines from an old song – 'Jeena isi ka naam hai...'

The chair then invited the last speaker Ms. Marie Wijeyeratne, Principal, School for the Deaf, Ratmalana, Colombo, Sri Lanka, to give her speech.

Ms. Marie began by giving the audience information about the state of special schools and inclusive education in Sri Lanka. She informed the audience that the public has not yet completely embraced this idea. She then went on to talk of some success cases from her school. Her presentation had numerous figures which made it more knowledgeable. Her presentation also gave a good account of the rights in place for the disabled in Sri Lanka.

The chair then took to the mike and being a member of the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights, she had some of her own experiences to relate in dealing with children with disabilities and how their rights had been violated. She ended by urging the audience to not only help in implementing laws but also to take actions. She then announced the session open for questions.

The question and answer session revealed that the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights had sensitized teachers towards handling disabled children. Various programs have been introduced in schools like psychological first aid to help the children. It also came through that the schools all over Delhi have been instructed to put in place parent teacher associations (PTAS) for addressing various problems. There were suggestions for legally binding students from mainstream schools to

interact with children from disabled children. There was opposition raised by some in the audience that people without disabilities should not be referred to as 'normal,' as it belittled the people with diverse abilities. Mrs. Leela Venkatraman suggested that next year onwards, organizers of SAMBHAV, should provide the speakers with a list of do's and don'ts, stating omission of words like 'normal' etc. Then Certificates were awarded to the panelists. With this Session B came to an end and lunch was announced.

SESSION C

The third and final session of the day began after lunch with Dr. Anupama Singh welcoming the audience back. She invited Deaconess Linda Olisa Middleton, CEO of the African Theatre Project in Nigeria to chair the session and requested all the speakers to take their place on the dais.

The chair then introduced the first speaker, Ms. Andrea Lucretia Naidoo, Resource Person, from Agulhas Theatre Works (ATW) in Johannesburg, South Africa. Ms. Andrea began a little differently; she invited one of her team members, a deaf dancer to give an introduction to the group. The introduction was given in sign language but there was no verbal translation, this was an attempt to make the audience realize what deaf face all the time. She then began her talk and started by talking about dance as a therapy and why it was the best choice for helping people with diverse abilities (the word she chose to refer to challenged people with). Ms. Andrea then went on to talk of the work done by ATW. The organization works with disabled, as well as, able-bodied people. She also shared in her presentation stories of people who had overcome their shortcomings and how dance had helped them do so. Her presentation was accompanied with photographs taken during workshops or classes conducted by ATW.

The chair then invited the next speaker, Ms. Seinn Mya Thuzar, Principal, School for the Deaf, Mandalay, Myanmar. Ms. Thuzar began with an introduction to her school and in her brief but to-the-point presentation she highlighted the objectives and methods her organization adopts to help the disabled.

The chair appreciated Ms. Thuzar's short but informative presentation and then went on to introduce the next speaker, Mr. Vijay Supekar, Resource Person, Shri Chaitanya Parimal, Indore and requested him to deliver his talk.

Mr. Supekar began with the chanting of a *shloka* and then began to explain to the audience the advantages of the innovative technique of helping challenged children that his organization has come up with, they help the children through '*bhakti sangeet.*' This method has been so successful because the music helps calm the minds of the challenged children. He provided the audience with figures to show the marked improvement seen in the patients due to the devotional music therapy. He also talked about a similar therapy done for the old in old-age homes. He even informed the audience about a CD which has devotional songs for the calming of the mind. He then went on to talk of the future plans of the organization to extend the devotional music therapy to psychic patients and prisoners. Finally his address came to an end with the rendition of another *shloka*.

The chair then thanked ALPANA society for putting together a program like SAMBHAV and then she announced the session open for question and answers.

The question and answer session revealed that there are only two organizations in Johannesburg working with people with diverse abilities. Also that, physiotherapy is now slowly making its way into the integrated dance programs so as to not cause pain to the challenged people, unknowingly. ATW has been unsuccessful in arranging for funds for their programs but now they have come up with a one-point agenda for gathering funds and are hopeful of yielding good results.

The chair then concluded the session by asking the audience whether they agreed that, dance, music and drawing and encouraging one another to grow and help people with diverse abilities to integrate into society, and she was responded to with an enthusiastic 'Yes!'

Finally the last session of the day came to an end with the presentation of certificates to the panelists and vote of thanks by Dr. Anupama Singh.

SECOND DAY OF INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR – 14TH NOVEMBER, 2010

SESSION D

The second and final day of the international seminar on 'Shared experiences on physically and mentally challenged persons and inclusive growth,' began by a warm welcome address by Dr. Anupama Sigh and the lighting of the lamp by Padmashree Guru Smt. Saroja Vaidyanathan. Dr. Anupama Singh then invited Padmashree Guru Smt. Saroja Vaidyanathan to chair the session and the speakers from Canada, Malaysia and Bhutan were also requested to take their seats on stage.

The tone of the day was set by the song - '*Itni shakti humein dena data...*' sung by the mentally and physically challenged students of ALPANA society.

The first session began with the chair introducing the first speaker, Ms. Judith Schwartz, Resource person from Famous People Players (FPP) based in Toronto, Canada. Ms. Schwartz began with the story of her first meeting with Ms. Diane Lynn Dupuy, the founder of FPP. She then went on to talk of the state of the challenged community and about its evolution, ever since the formation of the FPP. The talk informed the audience, that with the example of FPP as an 'on-the-job' training program before them, many companies began providing employment to people with diverse abilities. She then shared the story of a young girl, who became disabled after she met with an accident but that did not deter her and how she now teaches integrated dance to disabled and non-disabled people. Her presentation ended with a video putting before the audience, the magic that FPP creates.

The chair was touched by the FPP presentation and then she invited Mr. Edwin Nathaniel, resource person from the Rhythmic Interactive Spastic Enablers (R.I.S.E.), Malaysia, to deliver his speech.

Mr. Edwin Nathaniel is a musician and now he uses his music as a therapy for helping disabled children. He essentially makes use of percussion instruments. He explained the advantages of percussion over other types of instruments, and also demonstrated some of the methods he follows to teach the children. These interactive activities had the audience engrossed. His speech was accompanied by a computer presentation, which helped the audience grasp the techniques better. Finally he ended his talk by showing a video, released by a Malaysian national television channel. By

the end of his presentation, Mr. Edwin had the chair and the audience awestruck on seeing the sort of work he does and his passion for it.

The chair appreciated Mr. Nathaniel's work and then went on to introduce the next speaker, Mr. Pema Gyalpo, resource person from Tarayana Foundation, Thimpu, Bhutan.

Mr. Gyalpo's brief presentation informed the audience about the work done by the Tarayana Foundation and the methods it uses to help the disabled and also gave an informative overview of the services that Bhutan offers to people with disabilities.

The chair congratulated Mr. Gyalpo on good work done and she hoped that soon Bhutan – though a small country but will have the best facilities to accommodate the disabled. The session was then announced open for questions.

During the question and answer session, a member from the Bhutan delegation, asked for help and consultation on the innovative methods from Mr. Edwin Nathaniel. Mr. Nathaniel was glad to be able to render his services. Then the panelists were awarded certificates of participation and with this session D came to an end and tea was announced.

SESSION E

The fifth session began after tea with Dr. Anupama Singh welcoming the audience back and she invited Prof. N.K. Chaddha, HoD, Deptt of Psychology at the Delhi University. She also requested the speakers from Mangolia, Nepal and Pakistan to take their seat on the stage.

Prof. Chaddha then took to the mike and first began by telling how he came to chair this session and then went on to invite the first speaker, Mr. Gankhuyag Namsrai, resource person from the Art Council of Mongolia, Ulaan Batar, Mongolia to deliver his speech.

Mr. Gankhuyag Namsrai began by introducing his team as being first time participants at SAMBHAV. He began by briefly mentioning the percentage of population made up by the disabled people and also the work being done for them. He then went onto talk of the functions of his organization. He specifically talked about one of the programs taken up by the Art Council of Mongolia, called the 'I Can Do It' program which works with disabled children and helps them through art education. His presentation was accompanied by pictures from the 'I Can Do It' workshops and finally he ended his presentation with a video narrating the story of a young girl with motion difficulties who overcame her problems through courage and motivation.

The chair then requested the next speaker, Ms. Aaliyah Rasheed, a Dhrupad singer from Karachi, Pakistan to give her speech.

Ms. Aaliyah being visually impaired read out from a paper written in Braille. She shared with the audience that she as a disabled person and other disabled people in Pakistan had to face every day. Then she began talking about her journey, from being an ordinary girl who was good in music to, a now successful singer and music teacher today. She ended by saying that she believed that one who's thought was limited and their mind was blocked, was in true sense of the word – challenged. She was received with a huge round of applause.

Prof. Chaddha could not agree more with Ms. Aaliyah and then he invited the last speaker, Ms. Subarna Chitrakar, resource person from SUNAGAVA, Kathmandu, Nepal to give her talk.

Ms. Subarna began by talking about the state of the intellectually challenged in Nepal. She first told the audience about the past, poor state of the challenged people but then she went on to say that with constant help and assistance provided to these people through creative ways like dance, music and sports by various organizations like hers, they have slowly emerged from a future which, at first had felt dark and bleak to a new and brighter future. She ended her presentation by sharing videos of dance and music performances by disabled persons. The Nepalese delegation showed their appreciation, by presenting a token of love from Nepal to Mrs. Alpana Nayak.

The chair then went on to share a personal experience he gained on his tour to the US, an encounter with a visually impaired boy. He then thanked the organizers and the session ended with the presentation of certificates to the panelists and vote of thanks by Dr. Anupama Singh.

SESSION F

The sixth and the final session of the international seminars of SAMBHAV 2010 began with a welcome address by Dr. Anupama Singh and then she requested Dr. Manjula Krippendorf, Consultant, Pediatrics and Neuro-developmental practitioner, to chair the session.

Dr. Manjula took to the mike and introduced the first speaker, Mr. Aegosa Rakhman, resource person from YPAC, Jakarta, Indonesia. He began his talk titled – ‘YPAC, Jakarta, House of love and care, the past, the present and the future. He first informed the audience about the gradual but bettering position of the disabled children. He talked of their goal, to make the society accessible to the challenged and not make the challenged children objects of pity but respectable human beings. He informed the audience about the principles, goals, methods and facilities of his organization. He ended his presentation with a touching video of the children at YPAC, Jakarta.

The chair agreed with Mr. Rakhman and stressed on the need for community accessibility as an essential aspect of rehabilitation for disabled people. She then invited the next speaker, Deaconess Linda Olisa Middleton, CEO, African Theatre Project, Nigeria, to deliver her speech.

Deaconess Linda began with the bleak state of the disabled state of the disabled people in Nigeria. Her talk revealed that only one state at present has been able to pass the Declaration of rights for the disabled person. The constitution of Nigeria talks of freedom from discrimination on grounds of sex, religion, political opinion and ethnicities but it says nothing about discrimination on the grounds of disability. There have been talks of providing protection to the disabled people but no concrete decision has been made yet. She urged the audience that the disabled should not be referred to as disabled but rather ‘differently able.’ The numbers she provided the audience with and the facts she stated, created a not so rosy picture of the state of the differently able in Nigeria. In the end she added that in her journeys around the world, she has witnessed the difficulties, that the differently able face while travelling and suggested that embassies world over should provide assistance to disabled travelers.

The chair appreciated Deaconess Linda's talk and her suggestions and hoped that very soon Nigeria will have a completely different story to tell. Then she invited the last speaker, Ms. Maria S. Zhiglova, resource person from the Psychoneurologic home for disabled citizens – 25, Moscow, Russia, to give her speech.

Ms. Marina did her presentation in Russian while Mr. Gankhuyag Namsrai from the Mongolian delegation, efficiently translated for the audience to understand. She began by introducing her team. She then went on to explain the work done by her institute. The unique aspect of their institute is that they cater to an older or adult group of the disabled population which is largely lacking in India. The organization provides clinical help, and helps the disabled people through the arts like music, dance painting and craft. These techniques help their clients heal better, physically and mentally. Her talk was accompanied with pictures of the beautiful work done by their clients. She talked of the various methods they use at the institute like teaching them painting and teaching them music. The patients perform on holidays, and these performances are a joy to watch. She also talked of the large number of eager volunteers, young and old, who help out readily at the home. She ended with informing the audience about their goal of helping the patients refrain from loneliness and an invitation to Moscow. At last she shared a video showing one of the music classes held at the home.

The chair was full of praise for the unique work being done by the Russian institute. The chair then went on talk of some new methods, which she picked up from the Russian presentation, these methods look for a holistic approach for helping these special people and also stressed on the need for volunteers who could understand these people better so as to be able to help them better. The chair wrapped up the session by praising all the three speakers and the final session of the international seminar of SAMBHAV 2010 came to an end with the presentation of certificates to the panelists and then lunch was announced.
