

7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

With increasing awareness of hearing, speech and language disorders in India, the need of professionals dealing with such disorders are high. Various courses are provided by the Institute to train professionals in this field. We have a diploma, bachelors, masters, PG Diploma and PhD program. So far, the Institute has had a turnover of 1200 graduates at different levels (Diploma, UG, PG, PG-Diploma). In this way, the Institute contributes towards developing manpower in the area of communication disorders. The students are provided with diverse clinical exposure and the opportunity to learn under the guidance of knowledgeable and experienced faculty. They are given the chance to use advanced technology in specialized units of speech and audiology equipped labs for assessment and rehabilitation across speech, language, swallowing and hearing-related disorders with a disability friendly, barrier-free environment.

Exposure is not only restricted to Institutional set up, peripheral postings are provided to enhance their knowledge and build on their clinical skills. The students are provided exposure to hospital set up, private practices, various public awareness programs undertaken to sensitize the public on speech, language swallowing, hearing, and various disorders and community outreach programs and camps conducted to provide services to the rural population and others who cannot access these services.

National conferences and workshops are organized to enrich the knowledge of the professionals and students in the field and update their skills in one's area of interest, professionals from Dr. SRCISH participate national and international conferences/seminars or workshops.

Expert series conducted by successful individuals in our field help guide the students to make informed career decisions and develop a globally competitive attitude.

A multidisciplinary approach is incorporated in our Institute with in-house occupational/physiotherapy and psychology services. We have a Sign Language Unit mainstreaming towards inclusion. Many mainstream colleges have Sign Language as an external subject taught by the faculty of this unit. Students with hearing impairment are empowered at Sunnad school where they are provided education and training in vocational skills.

Keeping in mind the challenges faced by the parents and care givers of differently abled individuals, we have a Mothers Training Center to train the mothers of children with hearing impairment, communicate with the child. General queries from the parents are answered by professionals.