

## REPORT OF ADDITIONAL SKILLS ACQUISITION PROGRAMME

Additional Skills Acquisition Programme – ASAP – an initiative of the Higher Education Department of Kerala was introduced as a preventive measure to curb unemployment among the educated youth of the state. As skill training is an unavoidable part of acquiring jobs, ASAP provides training for selected students on various skill sectors. This Additional skill acquisition Programme was funded by ADB. ASAP was launched at Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit on 1st March 2019. Honourable Vice-Chancellor Dr. Dharmaraj Adatt inaugurated the function. Dr Sheeba S, Professor, Department of Vedanta and Miss Sumasree Sukumaran, faculty, Department of English, were appointed as the coordinator and the SDE of ASAP respectively. The classes for ASAP takes place from 8:30 to 9:30 in the morning. We have 27 students enrolled in this programme. The ASAP module is divided into two -- Foundation module and Skill module. The foundation module is further divided into communicative skills and IT skills.



Dr.Dharmaraj Adat Inaugurating the Additional Skill Acquisition Programme

The module not only focuses on communicative skills, but it has also incorporated soft skills development. Each unit in the foundation module is designed in a way as to provide overall development of the students. The first unit -- Personal Skills -- has introduced the students to the key aspects of Life Skills. This module is specially developed for the learners to overcome their inhibitions towards the English language. The second unit -- Social Skills -- focuses on developing the learners' qualities in personal, social and professional spheres. The third unit -- Organisational Skills -- helps the students to become more efficient, punctual, disciplined and productive. The fourth unit -- Professional Skills -- intends to explain to the students what the professional environment is. The fifth and last unit of the "Communication Skills in English" module is the Presentation module.

It was an opportunity for the interested student community to analyse their growth as ASAPIans. With regular classes, we have noticed tremendous changes in learners. From being timid and shy, they have evolved into confident individuals. They are more confident in handling the English language. There is also an increase in their marks in their examinations as well.

Another attraction of ASAP is the training provided to the students to cope up with the emerging wide spread knowledge regarding Computer operation. Basic Computer knowledge and advanced wisdom in DTP related activities were provided to them with the support of trained teachers. University authorities in its MOU had kindly consented to provide the required number of computers with net work and internet connectivity for training our students .A spacious class room well ventilated/air conditioned with the seating capacity of 30 trainees along with White board, LCD Projector was also allotted for the smooth conduct of classes.

Duration of Communicative skills is 100 hours and the duration of IT Skills programme is 80 hours.



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