

# Report on Community Outreach Program: Collaboration with Project Baala

**Department/Committee/Cell/Cultural Clubs, Others:** Department of English, Kalindi College, University of Delhi

**Name of the Activity:** Community Outreach Program in collaboration with Project Baala

**Nature of Activity:** Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Student Sensitization and Community Service

**Coordinators:** Ms. Rashmi Yadav and Ms. Aastha Yadav

**Supervising Officer:** Dr. Chaity Das

Introduction and Objectives

In February 2025, the English Department of Kalindi College signed an MOU with Project Baala as part of a dedicated Community Outreach Program. This initiative aims to:

- Sensitize students regarding menstruation, gender sensitivity, and equality.
- Inculcate a spirit of community service through research and fieldtrips.
- Provide hands-on experience and exposure to pressing social problems.
- Eliminate misconceptions about menstruation among young girls in marginalized communities.

## Participant Details

- Initial Strength: A group of 40 students became an active part of the initiative.
- Note on Participation: There has been a slight change in the number of active participants as several students graduated after their third year during the course of the program.

## Phase I: Online Training and Capacity Building

The program included a series of rigorous online training sessions designed to prepare students for field-level interventions. Participants engaged in debates and unearthed new perspectives regarding menstrual health.

## Training Schedule

- First Training Session | 4th July | 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Second Training Session | 8th July | 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Third Training Session | 8th August | 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- Final Training Session | 24th October | 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

## Demo Sessions and Workshops

Following the training, students underwent demo sessions to test their delivery based on a provided Workshop Script. This script included essential pointers while allowing students to design their own games and icebreakers for community engagement.

- Demo 1: 1st December (8:00 p.m.)

- Demo 2: 2nd December (12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

### **Phase II: Specialized Skill Training (26th February)**

To streamline field operations, the group was divided into specialized clusters:

- **Group 1** (2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.): Focused on Soft Skills, Community Etiquette, and Social Media Data Collection.
- Members: Shreya, Nikki, Bhawna.
- **Group 2** (8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.): Focused on Soft Skills and Impact Data Collection.
- Members: Anushika, Sanchi, Sneha, Anshika, Muskan.

Students were also provided with the KOBO Training Manual to familiarize themselves with digital data collection tools for the field trip.

### **Phase III: Field Visit – Baraula Gaon (JJ Colony)**

The practical application of the training involves a two-day field visit to Baraula gaon ki jhuggi jhopdi / JJ Colony.

Field Schedule.

- Day 1 (9th March): Attended by Anushika, Purva, Sanchi, Sneha, and Anu.
- Day 2 (10th March): Attended by Muskan Pandey, Nikki, Shreya Shahi, and Bhawna (Focus on data collection and social media work).
- Reporting Time: 11:15 a.m.
- Logistics: Nearest metro stations are Botanical Garden and Wave City Centre, Noida.

Essential Guidelines for Field Volunteers

To ensure safety and cultural sensitivity during the visit, all students must adhere to the following:

- Attire: Wear comfortable shoes and preferred Indian formal wear (Kurti and jeans or suit with a scarf/dupatta).
- Health & Safety: Carry hand sanitizer, a face mask, and drinking water.
- Food: Have a heavy breakfast before arrival and carry "snackables," as no formal lunch break is scheduled during the field intervention.

### **Learning and Outcomes of the Training Program**

The comprehensive training sessions with Project Baala provided participants with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary for effective social intervention.

The key outcomes include:

- Subject Matter Expertise: Participants gained a profound understanding of menstrual health, gender sensitivity, and equality, unearthing new perspectives and debunking common societal misconceptions.
- Capacity Building: Through the series of four online training sessions, students developed the ability to facilitate complex discussions on social issues.
- Skills: By practicing with a specific workshop script and designing original icebreakers, students learned how to engage diverse audiences effectively.
- Technical Proficiency: Participants acquired technical skills in digital data collection by mastering the KOBO Training Manual, ensuring accurate impact assessment during field visits.

- Professionalism and Ethics: The specialized training in soft skills and community etiquette prepared students to engage with marginalized communities with empathy, cultural sensitivity, and professional decorum.
- Community Impact: The program successfully trained a cohort of student leaders to act as catalysts for awareness, aiming to improve menstrual hygiene practices and social outcomes for young girls in JJ colonies.