15-NOV-2016: A lecture on ‘Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation for Differently Abled Females’ was recently organized by the Training and Placement Cell, Aligarh Muslim University Women’s Polytechnic.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms N Sujata, Director, Shankara Special School, Noida, said that the enrichment and empowerment of persons with special needs was one of the key elements into making a society inclusive and successful as it taps into all its potentials and brings out its best. She added that the first step towards achieving this is awareness and equal opportunities.

"There is a need of bringing together the diverse population, cultures and abilities together with the sole aim of creating a society which is aware, sensitive and provides equal opportunities to the differently-abled by not just accepting and motivating them, but by also being a productive part in the development and betterment of skills, making them active economic agents, reaping the benefits of self-employment and jobs," said Ms Sujata.

While thanking the University Women’s Polytechnic for providing her a platform to showcase her efforts, Ms Sujata talked about the Shankara School initiative of VIAAN (Vibhavari Illuminating Actions and Abilities to Nurture Persons with Disabilities). She also explained how the students of Diploma in Costume Design and Garment Technology and B Voc (Fashion Design and Garment Technology) could earn their livelihood by targeting the requirements of people with special needs.

Dr Salma Shaheen, Principal, University Women’s Polytechnic highlighted the need of respectable employment for differently abled females in present scenario.

While talking about the relevance of the theme of lecture, Dr Shaheen pointed out that many initiatives were undertaken to improve the empowerment of people with disabilities in India and other developing countries, however, an adequate development in proportion to the pre-determined programmes and budget allocation never attained to date.

Mr Tariq Ahmed, Assistant Professor and Training and Placement Coordinator, University Women's Polytechnic proposed vote of thanks.

Ms Payal (Secretary, Shankara Special School and University Women's Polytechnic Alumna) and Dr Sheeba Manzoor, Associate Professor, University Women's Polytechnic worked vigorously to make this event a grand success.

Over 100 students and a large number of faculty members attended the programme.