

Most of us, as architects, know we have a professional responsibility to society and the user, but are careless about our moral and social responsibilities.

The seminar arranged by the Sukiti foundation, was, for this reason especially enlightening, in that, it reminded us that our profession demands us to be sensitive to ~~all~~ ~~make~~ every section of society and design spaces that are great experiences for everyone.

The lecture was an eye-opener for many of us who are educated in a system and society that rarely focusses on the physically challenged and their needs and rights.

It was truly an enlightening session to create an awareness to such issues for both the students and the professional community. I thank everyone who made this event possible

- Reetha John 1st Yr. B.Arch.

All slopes are not ramps

An eye opener into how we as architects have complicated immensely the lives of a category of people who comprise a sizeable section of our population.

A timely reminder for us to retune our sensitivities and sensibilities and make

architecture truly the all-encompassing field that it is deemed to be.

Sangueta Kamath
Final yr. B.Arch.

The idea of including such important unaddressed issues which most of the architects failed to address was very enlightening and thoughtful. It was not just the idea of addressing issues on the basis of standards and specifications but also how every environment has a psychological impact on the gifted children. It was very useful and we felt time was spent for a good cause!

Furthermore, this would be applicable at all walks and points of our life and would remind us at every stage.

'Thank You'

Rekha Ravikumar
5th Yr.

Being a final year student, I never knew
that all slopes are ramps, so that
was itself so different and
a catalyst for me and the video's
really made me think, though
I am not sure how would
this directly affect me, but
its image will rise at the
right time, I think and I hope.

A. Elangovan
VI yr. B. Arch

All slopes are not ramps.

The lecture series along with the workshop addressed the need for Universal design principle which is usually not emphasized ~~at~~ during the regular design studios. The lecture was highly beneficial to the students in emphasizing the need for barrier free environment. Many know but who really makes ^{a difference} ~~things~~. The lecture made students conscious on the different issues & difficulties faced by the disabled which was a real eye opener.

B.Arch
II year.

All Slopes are Not Ramps

"When the heart is full; words are few"
*As a student of architecture, I owe my sincere gratitude to the Suketi foundation for having conducted an extremely enlightening workshop on barrier free architecture. This seminar opened our eyes to aspects which we often ignore in the course of our design. The images and words put forth during this workshop is sure to make us pause for a minute and think of our differently abled friends before we begin any design.

Apartha Mahindran
Final Yr. B.Arch.-

'All Slopes are not Ramps'
'Thank You'

One point clearly brought out by the seminar was the fact the differently abled might be a small number in reality to design for but the same design would cater to a larger section that includes the old and people who are temporarily disabled. Even one step makes a difference.

Also as architects we should try and integrate such features of design and see the scope of doing so in a cohesive and aesthetic manner.

Sandhya Mishra
B. Arch Final Year.

"Differently abled and not disabled"
is an oft repeated phrase, ~~but~~
but something that is generally
believed and followed. This is
most evident in our field of
architecture where differently abled
people are not even considered a
valid client profile. In this
climate of indifference, the workshop
conducted by Sukuti foundation
was ~~an~~ extremely enlightening. It
made us really look at ~~such~~
a silent, suffering group and
fully realise the significance of
the phrase "All slopes are not
ramps".

- Sujana Lingala
B Arch 4th year

The workshop brought to light facts from reality that we take for granted. generally. Ms. Sowmya and other guests by giving details of the difficulties that they have faced personally influenced us to a great degree and made us conscious.

Also, it has made us more aware of our environment. and we have started to take notice of our environment surroundings esp. problems within college. Thank you for the seminar.

L. Priyadarshini
I Yr.

The ^{workshop} ~~lecture~~ organized on barrier free environment was far from reading a book titled 'standards for disabled'. It was meaningful right from the organization of this event by persons or rather victims of careless designers.

The enthusiasm of the organizers like Sowmya Simhan created a desire and a feeling of responsibility firstly to give the event our complete participation and on a future note to remember this workshop as ^{a citizen} ~~an individual~~, as an architect.

Apart from the standards and case studies brought out through the lectures, what will remain in my mind forever is the statement 'It is not charity by the society but their right'.

Sorachi Ramanathan

(Final Year)

even though we people think we know everything
that's happening around us, ~~there~~ there are many
things ~~we don't~~ ~~hear~~ we aren't heard of. so
The seminar was about one such issue that
majority people don't address except the
affected ones; I think, After this seminar
I could also go out for campaign for these
people

N. udhayanjan
IIth yr.

Thanks for the insight.

It is not practically ~~not~~ possible for a professional to fully know & understand people from all walks of life and yet, there lies an undictated responsibility to offer the best possible design solution to unknown users. A very personal approach is required especially for people who are physically challenged. The statistics provided at the last workshop was surely an eye opener for we have so far lived in blissful ignorance of the difficulties of the physically challenged in our 'barriered' environments.

It was indeed appalling to note that even a window opening in the wrong direction can be disastrous. Thanks to all the people who conducted the workshop and shared their knowledge and more importantly, their personal experiences & difficulties, for it indeed made a big impact when an affected person opened up her heart. It is not wrong for the organisers to believe that we, the future architects will make ~~and~~ better environments and spread the information through sensitive designs solutions.

Saranya
Final Year

"ALL SLOPES ARE NOT RAMPS" - An enlightening workshop.

Freedom of being was not only a film on information regarding the workshop but also a ~~very~~ ^{thought} provoking. Basic knowledge of barrier free environment that has to be incorporated by an architect in his designs was clearly defined by Mr. Ar. Abhishek Ray. A brief lecture on design for children & elderly by Ms. Ar. Mondita Chatterjee was very informative. Further lectures delivered by Mr. R. Ramachandran on management of environment and by Mr. S. SankaraRaman on accessibility in the rural environment made our mind clear on how, ^{and why} a barrier free society must be met by every architect while designing. The field trip conducted by Sukiti Social Foundation and department of architecture to Egmore railway station gave us live experience

of the barrier free built environment,
in public places. On the whole the
true meaning of "ALL SLOPES ARE
NOT RAMPS" was brought to light
by the efforts taken by the Sukirti
social foundation.

—SUJATHA

11 YEAR B. ARCH