



ACHARYA INSTITUTE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

(NAAC Re-accredited 'A+' and Affiliated to Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University)

Soladevanahalli, Bengaluru-560107

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

Report Submission: 30/05/2026

Semester:	EVEN	Academic Year:	2025-26	Venue:	Amara Soundarya Foundation
Event Date:	09/03/2026	Time:	10:30AM TO 01:30 PM	Duration:	3 Hours

TYPE OF EVENT: Industrial Visit

EVENT NAME: "Orientation Visit to Amara Soundarya Foundation"

Target Audience:	First year BSW students	Number of Participants:	10
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Objectives:

1. To provide BSW students with practical exposure to an institution working for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
2. To understand the educational and therapeutic services provided for children with Autism, Down Syndrome, learning disabilities, and other developmental challenges.
3. To familiarize students with the concept of inclusive and special education for children with special needs.
4. To understand the role of early intervention, individualized education programs, and therapy-based support in child development.
5. To help students understand the role of social workers and multidisciplinary professionals in supporting children with disabilities and their families.

Program Introduction:

As part of the academic curriculum, the Department of Social Work organizes field orientation visits for students to provide them with practical exposure to various welfare and development organizations. These visits help students understand the functioning of institutions that work with different vulnerable populations.

In this context, the Department of Social Work organized an orientation visit for the Second Semester Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) students to Amara Soundarya Foundation, Bengaluru on 09 March 2026. The visit aimed to help students understand the services provided to children with intellectual and developmental disabilities and the importance of specialized educational and therapeutic interventions.



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During the visit, the students and faculty members were addressed by Mrs. Nirmala Amarnath, Chairperson of Amara Soundarya Foundation, who provided an orientation about the institution, its vision, and the various programs implemented for children with special needs.

Theme of the Event: Inclusive Education and Rehabilitation Services for Children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Detailed Report:

The Department of Social Work organized an orientation visit for the Second Semester Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) students to Amara Soundarya Foundation, Bengaluru on 09 March 2026. The visit was organized to provide students with practical exposure to institutions working with children with special needs and to help them understand the various interventions used to support children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Amara Soundarya Foundation is a specialized institution established in 2004 under the Amara Sathvika Social and Education Trust. The foundation was established by Mrs. Nirmala Amarnath in memory of her husband Mr. Amarnath, an award-winning film producer, and her sister-in-law Ms. Soundarya, a well-known actress from the South Indian film industry. The institution was founded with the vision of serving children with disabilities and helping them lead a dignified and meaningful life through education, therapy, and skill development.

At the beginning of the session, Mrs. Nirmala Amarnath warmly welcomed the students and faculty members and provided an overview of the organization. She explained that children with disabilities often face social discrimination, lack of educational opportunities, and difficulties in accessing appropriate care and support. The foundation was established to address these challenges by creating a supportive environment where children with special needs can receive quality education and therapeutic support.

The foundation caters to children with conditions such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, Down Syndrome, mild intellectual disability, and learning difficulties. The institution aims to provide individualized education and therapy services in a child-friendly and inclusive environment. The programs are designed by experts and professionals who work together to support the physical, cognitive, emotional, and social development of children.

During the visit, the students were introduced to the infrastructure and facilities available in the institution. The classrooms were well-lit, spacious, and designed to create a comfortable learning environment for children. The classrooms were equipped with ergonomic furniture, green boards, display boards, and learning corners that encourage creative learning and exploration. These facilities help children engage in learning activities in a supportive and stimulating environment. The institution



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also has a well-maintained library, which promotes the habit of reading among children. The library contains a wide range of fiction, non-fiction, reference books, and educational materials. Reading programs are organized regularly to help children develop language skills and improve their cognitive abilities.

Another important facility is the activity room, which is used for conducting arts and crafts activities, small social gatherings, and science-related learning activities. These activities help children improve their creativity, social interaction, and confidence. The foundation also provides various therapeutic services that support the developmental needs of children with disabilities. One of the important therapies provided is Sensory Integration Therapy, which helps children process and respond to sensory stimuli effectively. This therapy is particularly beneficial for children with autism and sensory processing difficulties, as it helps improve their ability to interact with their environment.

The institution also provides counselling and assessment services. Psychologists assess the developmental needs of children and prepare individualized education plans based on their abilities and challenges. Through these assessments, special educators design customized educational programs for each child under the Individualized Education Program (IEP) model.

Early intervention services are another important component of the foundation's programs. These services focus on supporting young children with developmental delays, particularly before the age of six. Early intervention programs aim to improve physical development, cognitive abilities, communication skills, adaptive behaviors, and social-emotional development. These services play a crucial role in improving the long-term development and independence of children with disabilities.

The institution also provides special education under the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) curriculum. Students are trained according to the NIOS syllabus and can obtain recognized certification under this system. The educational program is structured under three levels: Level A, Level B, and Level C, which correspond to the formal school levels of standards III, V, and VIII respectively.

In addition to academic education, the foundation provides remedial intervention programs for children who experience learning difficulties. These after-school remedial classes support slow learners and children with specific learning disabilities by providing additional academic guidance and support. The institution also emphasizes vocational training for students with disabilities. Vocational education helps individuals develop practical skills that enable them to live independently and earn their livelihood. The vocational training programs are designed according to the SCPWD job roles and focus on developing work-related skills among students.



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Several therapy services are also provided at the institution to support the holistic development of children. These include occupational therapy, which helps children develop fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination. Speech therapy is provided for children who face difficulties in communication, language development, and speech articulation. Speech and language pathologists help children improve their communication abilities through structured interventions.

The institution also conducts yoga therapy, which focuses on improving the physical and mental well-being of children. Yoga practices help children improve concentration, body balance, and emotional stability. In addition, music therapy and dance therapy are used as creative therapeutic approaches to improve emotional expression, reduce anxiety, and enhance self-confidence among children.

The orientation session provided an opportunity for the students to understand how multidisciplinary professionals such as special educators, psychologists, therapists, and social workers collaborate to support the development of children with disabilities. The visit also helped students appreciate the importance of inclusive education and early intervention in improving the quality of life of children with special needs. Overall, the visit provided valuable insights into the functioning of an institution dedicated to the education, rehabilitation, and empowerment of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

PHOTOS



Infront of Amara Soundarya Foundation



Inside view of Amara Soundarya Foundation



Dr. Kumaraswamy briefing about the Orientation Visit



Mrs. Nirmala Amarnath, Chairperson explaining about the Organisation



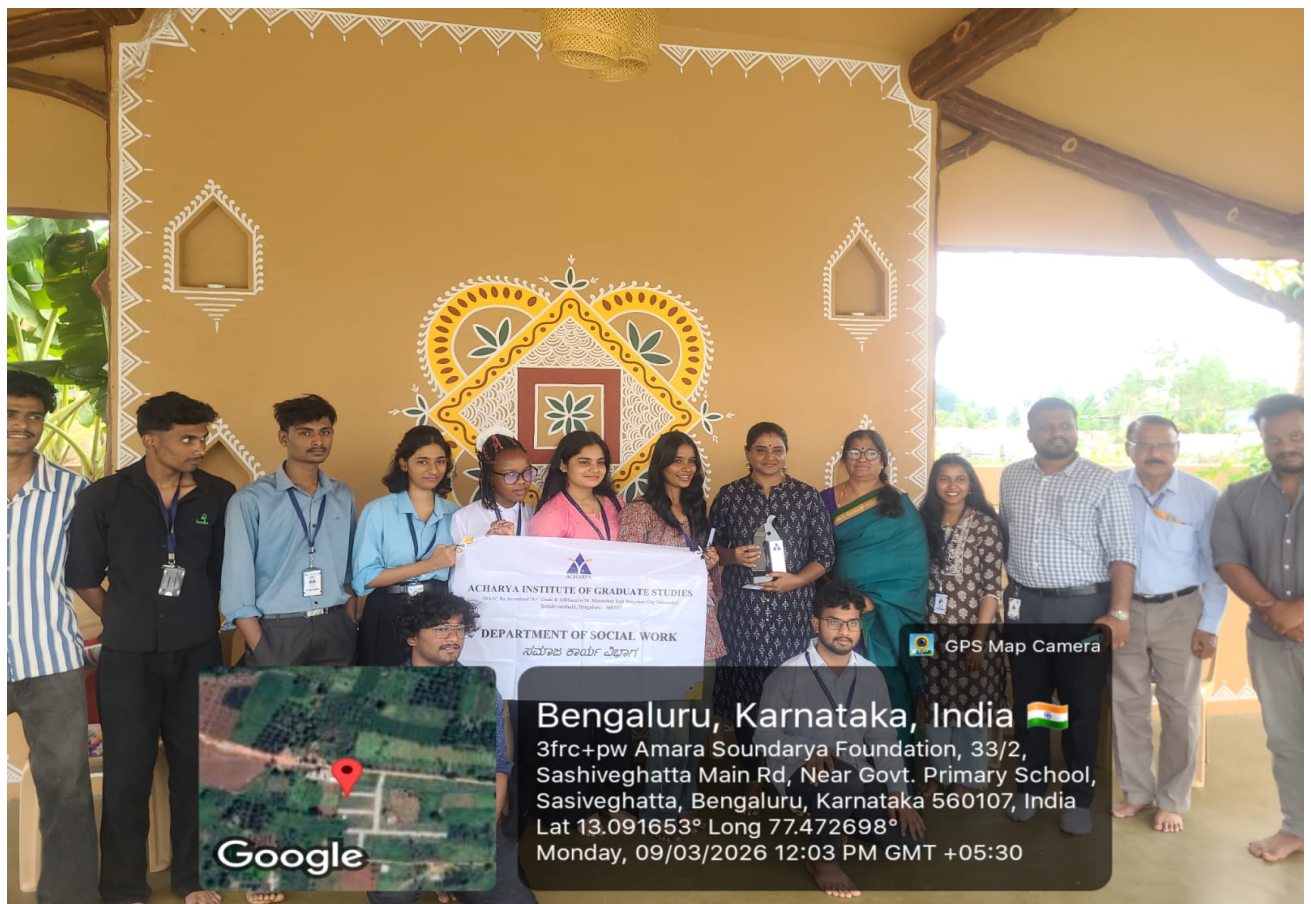
Students Actively participate in the Orientation



Dr. Mirshad delivering Feedback and Vote of thanks



Presenting Token of Love to the Chairperson



Group Photo with Staffs of Amara Soundarya Foundation

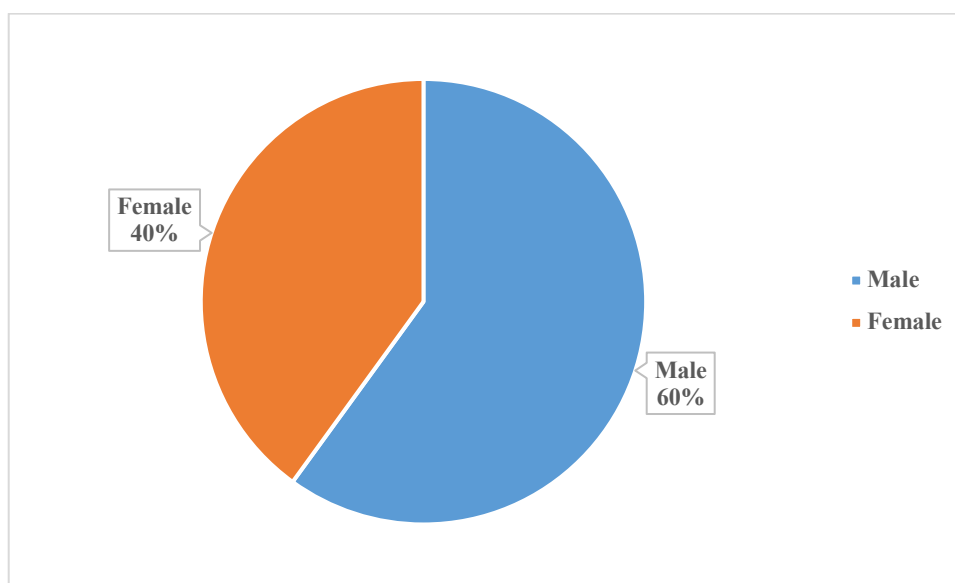
Outcome:

- Students gained practical understanding about institutions working with children with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Students developed awareness about special education, early intervention, and therapy-based rehabilitation services.
- Students enhanced their knowledge about inclusive education and individualized learning approaches for children with special needs.
- The visit helped students understand the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration in supporting children with disabilities.
- The interaction strengthened students' understanding of professional social work roles in the field of disability and child welfare.

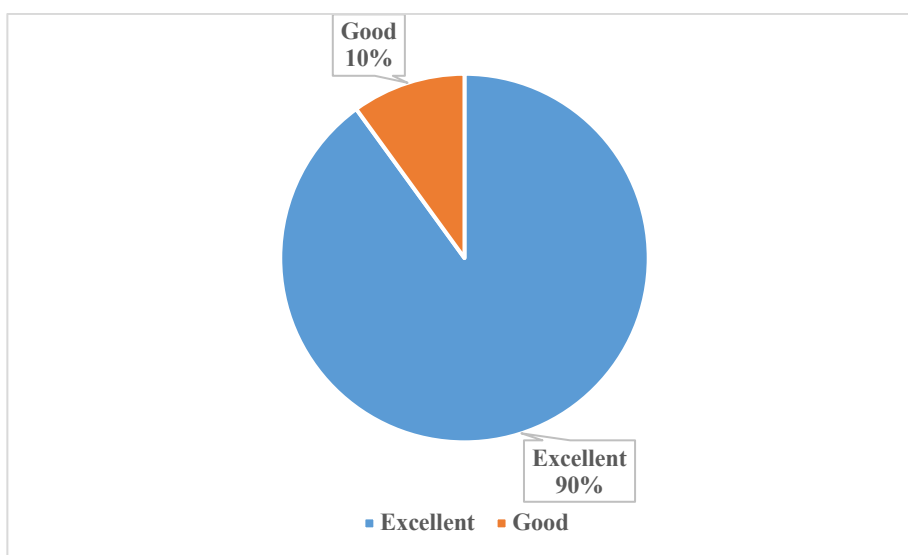
Conclusion:

The orientation visit to Amara Soundarya Foundation was highly informative and meaningful for the BSW students. The visit provided an opportunity for students to understand the educational, therapeutic, and rehabilitation services provided for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It helped bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical field experience by exposing students to the real-life functioning of a special education institution. Such visits play an important role in developing empathy, professional understanding, and commitment among social work trainees towards working with vulnerable and marginalized populations.

Student feedback summary



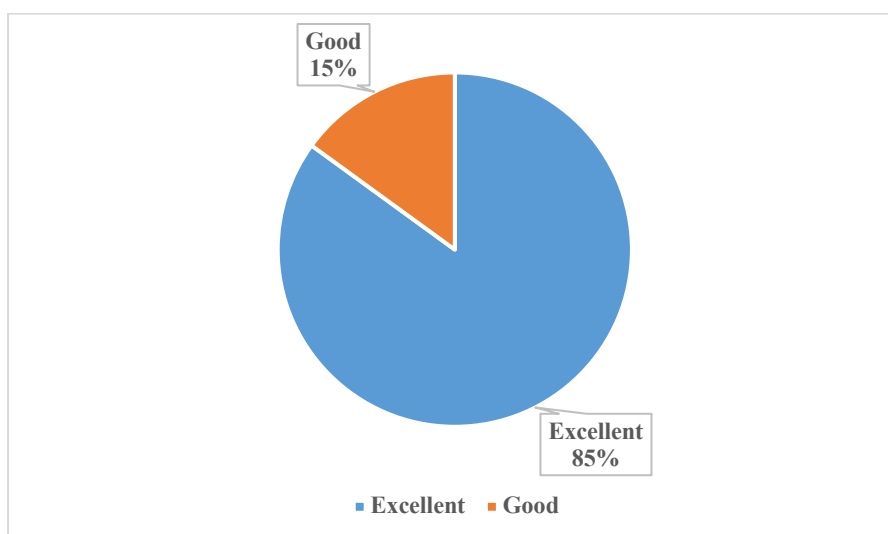
GENDER OF THE RESPONDENTS



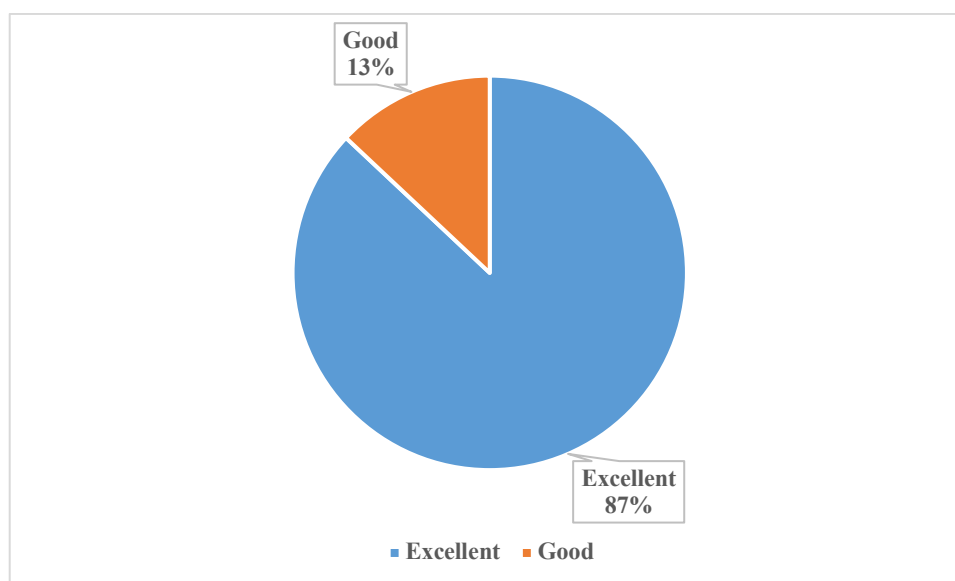
CONTENT AND RELEVANCE OF THE PROGRAM



ENGAGEMENT AND INTERACTION



PRACTICAL INSIGHTS AND APPLICATIONS



OVERALL EXPERIENCE

Feedback Analysis and Interpretation

The feedback analysis reflects an overwhelmingly positive response from the participants regarding the programme. The gender distribution shows that 60% of the respondents were male and 40% were female, indicating a balanced and inclusive participation.

In terms of content and relevance, 90% of the participants rated the programme as Excellent and 10% as Good, demonstrating that the sessions were highly relevant, well-organized, and effectively addressed the learning expectations of the participants. Engagement and interaction received an exceptional response, with 95% rating it as Excellent and only 5% as Good, highlighting the programme's strong emphasis on participatory learning and active involvement.

The practical insights and applications component was also well appreciated, with 85% of participants rating it as Excellent and 15% as Good. This suggests that the programme successfully bridged theoretical concepts with practical understanding, enhancing the overall learning experience.

The overall experience of the participants was highly satisfactory, with 87% rating it as Excellent and 13% as Good. These findings clearly indicate that the programme was very well received, achieved its intended objectives, and provided a valuable and impactful learning experience for all participants.