

Workshop Report: Orientation on PRASHAST

On **September 12, 2024**, The Air Force School, Delhi Cantt, organised a comprehensive workshop on the orientation of **PRASHAST** tool for teachers which was facilitated by Ms. Anjela Dahiya, the school counsellor. The primary objective of this workshop was to introduce teachers to Prashast, a screening tool developed by CIET-NCERT. The tool is designed to assist in the preliminary assessment of students, aiding in the identification of potential disabilities as outlined in the RPwD Act, 2016. The session focused on explaining the two-part structure of Prashast: Part-1, which is used by regular teachers for initial screening through objective-type items, and Part-2, which is intended for special educators, counselors, and school heads for a more detailed second-level screening.

During the workshop, Ms. Dahiya emphasized the importance of Prashast in aiding teachers to identify students who may need further evaluation and support. Teachers were guided on how to use the tool effectively, with specific attention given to understanding the checklist of 21 disabilities and the importance of providing accurate and thoughtful responses. Key guidelines were discussed, including the need to ensure comprehension of the tool before filling out questionnaires, considering the student's home language, and avoiding labeling or diagnosing based on initial observations. Teachers were also advised to note any sensory concerns, opportunities for skill development, and the duration of any observed behaviors to ensure a fair and supportive referral process. The workshop equipped teachers with essential knowledge to utilize Prashast in a manner that supports student needs while adhering to proper screening procedures.

