

Report on One Day State Level Seminar on “Contribution of Women in Nation Building: Creating Momentum on Social Inclusion”

Held on 10-03-2018 at

The Lords Universal College of Education, Malad (E), Mumbai-97

The seminar was held at the conference Hall of the Universal High school. The highlight of the seminar was the eminent speakers from the education sector and social organizations who shared their knowledge and experiences with the participants and students in their respective sessions.

Session I

The inaugural session began with the prayer and lighting of lamp. Dr. Vibhuti Patel, Chairperson and Professor at Advance Centre for Women Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences in her keynote address laid the strong emphasis on the “**Importance of Contribution of Women towards Nation Building.**” She insisted upon the participation of women in governance and the role of Indian women in constructive economic activities. She focused on affirmative action required to favor women in today’s challenging times and concluded her session with by giving everyone food for thought that there is a significant need for reversal of trends through education.

Session II.

After the tea break esteemed panelists: Ms. Pratibha Gokhle, Dr. Smita Desai, Dr. Jyoti Bawane Ms. Sharmila Kher and Ms. Urmila Pawar presented their views on various subthemes of the Seminar.

Dr. Smita Desai began her discourse on a sub theme ‘**Women Entrepreneurship and Social Inclusion**’ by showing an inspiring short film. She introduced the audience with the terms intrapreneurs and entrepreneurs and highlighted on women who have broken the glass ceiling. She narrated her experience as a women entrepreneur laid emphasis on the fact that gender equality is both moral as well as economic. Her thoughts reflected her beliefs and experiences as a woman entrepreneur were very encouraging and motivating.

Dr. Jyoti Bawane presented her views on subtheme “**Educator’s Contribution towards Enhancing Status of Women in Society and Life skills for Social Inclusion of Women**”. She

gave a macro level perspective of women's role, and their active participation in every sphere of life. The factual situation that she shared was an eye-opener for reality of status at rural level. She stated that educators play a significant role in the upliftment of women by strengthening education opportunities for girls, spreading awareness about health care and hygiene in both rural and urban areas. She asserted on investing in women for the economic development of the country. She gave an insight into the way life skills act as an important component in creating gender sensitivity. She concluded with thoughts on reexamining the gender stereotypes and working towards an equitable society.

Mrs. Sharmila Kher started her talk on the subtheme “**Self Realization of Women for mainstreaming**”. She suggested that every coin has two faces so if we speak of gender equality we cannot leave men behind; we have to take them in equation also. She spoke about assertion not aggression and converting men into friends not enemies. Lastly, she established that women should be proud of what they are doing and should recognize their own potential.

Dr. Pratibha Gokhale highlighted on “**Social Inclusion of Women through Public and Academic Libraries**” She spoke about self -motivation, self -inspiration and self- image which are the driving factors for women empowerment. She discussed how the Indian Government is trying to work from the grass root level to improve the status of women and how libraries can be helpful in disseminating knowledge for the upliftment of women. She discussed the role of women librarians in public & academic domain of the society.

Ms. Urmila Pawar expressed her views on “**Reservation Policies for women in India for social Inclusion: Current Status**”. She spoke about the status of women during the ancient times especially in the pre independence period and how with the efforts of the likes of Savitri Bai Phule and B.R. Ambedkar there were attempts for the upliftment of women. Comparing it with the present times she insisted that the women had more freedom now as they had better opportunities. She concluded that knowledge is the key to success for women to develop their inner strength.

The panel discussion concluded with an interactive question answers session where everyone could clarify their doubts and enforced the message of all the subthemes.

Session – III

Dr. Veena Deshmukh oriented the participants about the writing of research proposal and converting the research studies into research article. Dr. Veena Deshmukh then delivered a session on the topic “**Highlight for Increasing the Impact Factor of the Research Articles**”. The inputs and feedback during the session served as a good learning experience for conducting the research and writing of research article.

Session – IV

Parallel sessions on the participants’ paper presentations were chaired by the panelists of earlier session. The presentations concluded with question answer session and fruitful interactions among the chairpersons and participants.

Session – IV

Dr. Sugra Chunawala, Dean and Director, Professor, Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education in her valedictory address, discussed the worldwide trend of fewer women participating in the growth of science and technology. She highlighted that technology is often perceived as complicated and engineering is seen as a masculine profession and the technological content of women’s activities is not appreciated. She concluded by emphasizing that technology education should be introduced in schools and it has to be completely restructured so as to make it inclusive.

The seminar was concluded with overall Vote of Thanks and National Anthem.



INAUGURAL SESSION



PANEL DISCUSSION



ORIENTATION



VALEDICTORY SESSION

