



**DEPARTMENT OF ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION &
EXTENSION,
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI
Delhi – 110007**

GENDER SENSITISATION ACTIVITY REPORT

ACTIVITY 3 (lecture series)

LECTURE CUM DISCUSSION

BY- Bijayalaxmi Nanda

Date- 27July 2017

Nodal Officer- Dr. Vandana Sisodia

Gender Champions- Kamal Singh Rathore

Nirmal Kaur

Introduction

A lecture cum discussion activity was organized in the Department of Adult Continuing Education and Extension under the guidance of our nodal officer **Dr. Vandana Sisodia**. Our guest speaker was **Dr. Bijayalaxmi Nanda**. She is an academician, feminist activist and researcher who teaches Political Science and Gender Studies in Miranda House, Delhi University, Delhi, India. She coordinates a self-funded initiative called Campaign Against Pre-Birth Elimination of Females(CAPF) from 2002 which works with the youth to raise awareness and advocacy and to support women survivors and victims of gender violence and discrimination. Books written by her include co-authored Human Rights, Gender and Environment (Allied Publishers 2006) and co-edited Understanding Social Inequality (Macmillan 2010). She Specializes in Political Theory and Gender Studies. Her publications include Human Rights Gender & Environment and Understanding Social Inequality. She is a recipient of ICSSR Doctoral Fellowship. She is involved with feminist Research and Activism. The topic of discussion was Women rights and Empowerment. She interacted with participants and tried to make an environment of active participation.



(Dr. Bijayalaxmi interacting with participants)

DISCUSSION

Dr. Bijayalaxmi Nanda discussed about the various aspects of gender inequality and biasness. She discussed about the women rights, women philosophers, different types of

feminists, kind of feminism, Sex Gender Distinction, role of women in leadership. women empowerment, patriarchy system, impact of technology and other notions existing in our societies.

A need of Equality- Feminism

Feminism is a range of political movements, ideologies, and social movements that share a common goal: to define, establish, and achieve political, economic, personal, and social rights for women. This includes seeking to establish educational and professional opportunities for women that are equal to such opportunities for men.

Feminism in India seek gender equality, the right to work for equal wages, the right to equal access to health and education and equal political rights. India feminists also have fought against culture specific issues within India's patriarchal society, such as SATI PRATHA.

Despite the progress made by Indian feminist movements, women living in modern India still face many issues of discrimination.

History of Feminism in India-

First phase- Beginning of the mid nineteenth century when European colonists began to speak out against the social evils of 'Sati'. The Second phase from 1915 to independence, when Gandhi incorporated women's movements into the Quit India movement and independent women's organizations began to emerge. And third phase (post-independence) which focused on fair treatment of women in all aspects of life.

Sex Gender Distinction

Dr. Bijayalaxmi said that sex is biological determination but gender is a socially constructed behavior. From the very early age children are treated unequal based on their gender and this biasness leads inequality in society. Some gender based notions in society are – 'boys don't cry; girls do', 'boys climb tree; girls don't', 'men earn; women don't' and these notions need to be changed for the betterment of the society.



(Dr. Bijayalaxmi Nanda discussing women rights)

Women rights in India

Dr. Bijayalaxmi said that every woman should be aware of her legal rights such as-

1. Right to equal pay
2. Right against harassment at work
3. Right against domestic violence
4. Right to maternity-related benefits
5. Right to property etc.

Role of technology

Dr. Bijayalaxmi said that the technology should be work in a way that it aware the women about their rights, and the trend that we see in television advertisements, comedy shows and other stuffs that objectifies women need to be changed. A fair treatment should be given to all. More women oriented movies should be made to change the rigid mindset of our society. Women writers should be promoted and a mass approach for gender equality should prioritized.

CONCLUSION

It was the active participation from all that made the discussion fruitful and enlightening. Dr. Bijayalaxmi Nanda made an excellent environment ensuring every participant can make his/her points and able to share thoughts. Dr. Bijayalaxmi Nanda who works compassionately for women empowerment and Gender sensitization discussed various aspects regarding gender parity. From history of feminism to the present scenario, she covered many things like how this gender inequality develops, what should be done to empower women and creating a platform where men and women can equally participate.



(a participant making her point)

Thankyou-

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