



**STEWART SCIENCE COLLEGE, CUTTACK**  
**GENDER EQUALITY PROMOTION PROGRAMMES IN THE COLLEGE**  
**SEMINAR REPORT**

Under the Gender Equality Promotion Programme, Stewart Science College, Cuttack had organised a one day Seminar on the theme "**Gender Equality, Feminism in Contemporary India: Issues and Challenges.**" on **18<sup>th</sup> February 2015** which was presided over by the Principal Mrs. Naliniprava Das, the Chief Guest and Resource Person ,Ms. Mamata Bose, P.O & Protection Officer, Cuttack and other Members of Staff of the college and students.

The aim of the seminar was that it focused on two purposes, that is:

**1.** The seminar's objective is to enrich the knowledge of the students and teachers through interaction with each other and to highlight Gender equality and feminism as an instrument of ordering and social transformation in the community.

**2.** In this occasion, some strong suggestions were given for positive reforms towards Gender Justice and Feminism regime prevailing in our society so that these laws not only meet the requirements of the commitments and revolutionary development but also to meet the needs of the society as well. During the post launch session, discussion was also brought down on the following subjects and more emphasis on the part of the authorities and social organisations were demanded to focus on these issues, such as:

- a. Crime against women and its impact on them.
- b. Women education and media.
- c. The role of education in removing gender inequality.
- d. Status of women in the society.
- e. Gender discrimination & discrimination based on religion.
- f. Women rights protection and judicial response problem related to education.
- h. Programs undertaken for the welfare of SCs/STs /OBCs & Minority's women.

The post launch session was more interactive particularly by the student participative on the above themes and accordingly their views and opinions were invited for further actions. Around 123 numbers of students from the degree courses including boys and girls had participated in the seminar along with 32 numbers of teaching staffs from the college.



## STEWART SCIENCE COLLEGE, CUTTACK

### A REPORT ON THE GENDER EQUALITY PROGRAMMES IN THE COLLEGE

#### Seminar on Women Empowerment in India in 21st Century: A Journey Just Begun

A seminar on the theme and title "**Women Empowerment in India in 21st Century: A Journey Just Begun**" is conducted on **8th March 2016**, i.e. on the International Women's Day. The Seminar was addressed by DR. Hiranmayee Biswal an eminent academician and presided by Dr.Jayant Kumar Das, Principal. The seminar aimed at analysing the progress and achievements towards the Women Empowerment in particular & gender equality in general and also the road ahead in this regard apart from highlighting the challenges & hurdles and suggesting remedial measures in order to achieve women empowerment in our country.

#### Objectives of the Seminar:

The objectives of the seminar are as follows:-

- To analyse the progress achieved towards the goal of women empowerment in India.
- To highlight the existing social legislation, government enactments & policies regarding their implementation.
- To highlight the importance of women empowerment in bringing gender equality, enhancing the social status of women and achieving the social and economic growth of the country.
- To identify the road blocks in the path of women empowerment and suggest remedial measures.
- To examine the role of various civic societies and NGOs working in the field of women empowerment.

#### Themes of the Seminar:

With the above aim and objectives, the sub themes of the seminar are as follows:-

- Social and Political dimensions of the issue of Women Empowerment in India
- Women Empowerment - the key to achieve Social & Economic growth of the country
- Social legislation, Government policies and enactments to achieve women empowerment
- Attitude and biased perspective of society - a major hurdle in achieving women empowerment
- Role of Judiciary in Empowering Women in India
- Crimes against women- a blot on gender equality and women empowerment
- Role of civic societies and NGOs in achieving women empowerment in India
- Challenges and hurdles in the journey of women empowerment and suggested measures to overcome these hurdles
- International Women's Day - its relevance in the Indian Perspective



## STEWART SCIENCE COLLEGE, CUTTACK

### A REPORT ON THE GENDER EQUALITY PROGRAMMES ORGANISED IN THE COLLEGE

'An Interactive Workshop on Women Empowerment' for the grass root level women"

#### **A Seminar on Gender Equality through Women Empowerment held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2017 in the college Hall.**

The internalization of the dominant patriarchal ideology leading to the subjection of women in all domains—social, cultural, political, legal, religious and so on—provides the platform for constituting the concept of gender and hence in the present context Gender Studies has come to acquire tremendous significance, drawing increasingly provocative interest from academic readers as well as social activists. Our desired goal is to make an assessment of women's position by examining their participation and performance in various fields.

#### **Objective:**

The one-day Seminar aims at providing a suitable platform for discussing the issues related to gender discrimination and at the same time to project women's participation as well as experience in various fields.

#### **Sub Themes:**

- 1) Social and Ideological Subjection of Women as Represented in Indian literature
- 2) Representation of Women in Legal and Political spheres.
- 3) Entrepreneurship, Managerial Skills and Women.
- 4) Women as decision-makers.
- 5) Social Mores, Power Politics and Female Psychology.
- 6) Women in Historical Narratives.
- 7) Mass Media, Information Technology and Women
- 8) Gender discrimination in Curriculum.
- 9) Women in Scientific Research.

Instances of how gender equality contributed to a healthy society in the ancient times and the factors later on that caused subjugation of women to the detriment of the family system were analysed in depth at the inaugural of the seminar on '**Sensitisation of Human Rights and Promotion of Gender Equality in India through Indian literatures**' at Stewart Science College on 20.01.2017

The Seminar was addressed by Dr. Arpita Sabath an eminent educationist , who was of the opinion that though there has been progress in the socio-economic conditions of women of late, the status of women still left much to be desired. Acknowledging that gender inequality constituted human rights violation, speaker insisted that the educated section in the society must take the lead to raise women's status on par with men.

Quoting extensively from ancient literature to assert the prevalence of equality of men and women as a birth right in ancient times, the guest who presided over the session said, the equal enjoyment of social, economic and cultural rights was a reflection of the prominence accorded by mankind to a humanistic outlook. Over the ages, inequality had taken roots in fissiparous tendencies perpetuated by sectarian elements in the society, he felt, placing the onus on rectifying the situation on the younger generation.

Delivering the special address, the Chief Guest said that the impact of human rights sensitisation will be realistic when learnt from literature. He underscored the need for making awareness exercises

percolate to wider sections of the people and opined that human rights must manifest in all subjects in order to be understood well rather than being taught as a separate subject.

The Director of the Centre for Women's Studies, observed that notwithstanding the progress in the society, denial of rights to women even in educated families was a cause for deep concern. Unfortunately, foeticides even in some urban pockets in the State were carried out through misuse of technology. Persistence of dowry system, she pointed out, was the cause for aversion towards girl children in families.