

Women Studies & Research Centre, Rajiv Gandhi University
Report on the inauguration programme
Date: 5th September 2009
Venue: Conference Hall, RGU

The inauguration programme of the Women's Studies & Research Centre was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Ms. Anupama Singh, First Lady of Arunachal Pradesh, former president of Army Women Welfare Association. She had delivered inaugural speech. In her inaugural speech she congratulated the university and its faculty members and staffs by saying that a great step has taken through the establishment of Women's Studies and Research Centre. She remember the contribution of women towards the society and further the importance of new area of thought and knowledge from "The Women's Perspective". In her speech Ms. Anupama Singh drew attention towards the necessity of the policy decision on the matter like women reservation, legal rights for women. She focuses on the important of need driven researches especially on the areas like alternative perspective on the context of education, health care and financial empowerment for women. The difficult experiences of life of women are areas to be understood as she felt it that difficult experiences may not be similar for all women. Therefore, documenting generalised view may divert attention of the academicians on the issues like struggle for survival by the women in the space of family and society. Ms. Anupama Singh discussed the importance of gender sensitization programme as well as serious academic research to formulate effective strategies to deals with domestic violence, mental health, mental distress. At last she highlighted the importance and benefits of increasing decision making power of the women in the family and society.

The key note address was delivered by Ms. Jarjum Ete, Founder Chairperson, Arunachal Pradesh State Women's Commission.

The Chairperson of the inaugural programme Prof. K.C. Belliappa, Vice Chancellor, in his speech promised for extending all possible help required to Women's Studies and Research Centre. He remembered the importance of serious academic in relation to Gender studies and Women's contribution in it from both academicians and of activists. He further promised for financial help if centre requires from the university he had given thanks to the dignitaries present and grace the occasion.

The welcome address of inauguration of WSRC was delivered by Dr. Sucheta S. Chaudhuri. After welcoming all honourable and distinguished guests, intellectuals, social workers, students and

friends present in the occasion. She mentioned the special contribution of 2 persons behind the establishment of the centre. She remembered the initiative of Ms. Jarjum Ete who contributed from the outside of the University fraternity and Prof. K.C. Belliappa who could make it reality. In her welcome speech in short she summarized the growth of the concept Women's Studies in Indian Universities and specially remembered its existence in main stream academician. She describes Women's Studies as a new area of knowledge which will connect youth as well as intellectual and different agencies, to build up a progressive a classless society. The contributions of the Centre for the Women's Studies in different universities in India were particularly remembered by her. Mentioned were made on the research publications of the centre of the different universities which she referred as a Gendered Documents and Report. In this speech she declared primary objectives of the Women's Studies & Research Centre of Rajiv Gandhi University. That includes programme to develop understanding on women issues in the state of Arunachal Pradesh; conducting research activities on Gendered related issues; introducing teaching programme in women's studies at different level. She referred that Rajiv Gandhi University can play quite significant role for the benefits of the Tribal Women in the region. She summarised the research areas of the interest of the women faculty members of the RGU in her speech.

The programme was ended with the vote of thanks from Dr. Elezabeth Hangsing, Associate Professor, Department of Education RGU.

The Dignitaries graced the occasion are Ms. Vimal Mehra, DIG (P), Ms. Mipang Tadar, Deputy Chairperson of Arunachal Pradesh State Women Commission, Ms. Mamta Riba, Member Secretary Arunachal Pradesh State Women Commission, Ms. Christine Wanglat, Deputy Director, Dept. of RR&W, Mr. Tomy Ete, Secretary(PHE&WS) Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Ms. Gumri Ringu, former member of Arunachal Pradesh State Women Commission, Ms. Padmawati Manmow, President Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society, Smti. Samnem Ngenu, Chief Coordinator, APWWS, and Esteemed Senior Professors, and faculty members, Research Scholars, Students and members of campus Women Welfare organizations.