

REPORT

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

On

The theme

***“Gender Equality Today For A Sustainable
Tomorrow”***

07-08th August, 2022



Organized by:

Rajiv Gandhi University (A Central University),
Rono Hills, Doimukh – 791112
Arunachal Pradesh, India

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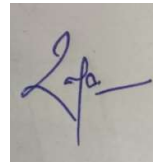
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, I express with innermost regard and sincerity, the sense of gratitude to our honourable Vice Chancellor, R.G.U, Prof. Saket Kushwaha for his constant guidance and support. I owe him thanks for the way he has always encouraged me and the whole team.

I also express my deepest gratitude to the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Amitava Mitra and the Registrar, Dr. N. T. Rikam, who always boosted my morale and has been a guide helping me through thick and thin. I am indebted to you both for your guidance.

I also extend my gratitude to The First Lady of Arunachal Pradesh, Smt. Neelam Mishra, the First Lady of Rajiv Gandhi University, Dr. Vaishali Kushwaha and Chairperson of Oju Welfare Association, Smt. Ratan Anya for taking out their time to grace the event as Chief Guest, Guest of Honour and the Special Guest.

I must also thank Dr. Topi Basar, Assistant Coordinator, for unconditional support and dedication to make the event a success. My heartfelt gratitude also goes to all the loving committee members, colleagues, guest faculty members, research scholars, students and every women of RGU for providing their emotional and moral support. Their cooperation and support can never be forgotten.



Prof. Tage Rupa Sora
Programme Coordinator

PART 1: PREFACE

1.1 The University

Rajiv Gandhi University (formerly Arunachal University) is the premier institution for higher education in the state of Arunachal Pradesh located at the picturesque tabloid of Rono Hills approximately 25 km away from the state capital Itanagar. Late Smt. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India, laid the foundation stone of the University on 4th February 1984 at Rono Hills. Ever since its inception, the University has been trying to achieve excellence and fulfill the objectives as envisaged in the University Act. The University was recognized as a Central University in the year 2007 established under the Act of Parliament. The University has been maintaining its academic excellence and individuals from its alumni group are contributing at significant positions not only in State and Central Government Services, but also in various Institutions, Industries and Organizations. The University has continuously maintained its premier status among educational institutions across India.

1.2 Sponsoring Agency

The Program was sponsored by the Rajiv Gandhi University.

1.3 Background

International Women's Day (IWD) is a globally celebrated annually on March 8 to commemorate the cultural, political, and socio-economic achievements of women. It is also a focal point in the women's rights movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women. The UN observes the holiday in connection with a particular issue, campaign, or theme in women's rights. Every year it is celebrated with some theme and has a long history, such as in the year 2020, the theme was “I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights it”; 2021, it was “Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world” and in 2022, it was “Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow”. Women are strong, powerful and invincible. With thousands of mantras encouraging women's existence every day, a special day is indeed a necessity to celebrate women's achievements in all aspects of life. Whether she's a teacher, homemaker, economist, engineer or pioneer, women have been making the world a better place with their infinite strength, determination and belief. With power enough to shatter the shackles of patriarchy, women are rising above societal hurdles every single day, making

them a stronger force to reckon with, in modern times. Thus International Women's Day is celebrated to rejoice the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women all over the world. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity.

This year, National Implementation Committee, chaired by Hon'ble Home Minister, has approved the event "Women's Day" on 8th March, 2022 to be celebrated by Ministry of Women and Child Development as part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM). Therefore, Rajiv Gandhi University also joined with the country in celebrating the Women's Day as a weeklong celebration.

1.4 Theme

The week long International Women's Day celebration was organized on the theme "***Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow***".

1.5 Date of the Celebration

The International Women's Day celebration was successfully conducted on 7th & 8th March, 2022.

1.6 Mode of Operation

The main program was conducted offline at the Main Auditorium at RGU and various other spots of RGU for the various activities.

2. SESSION WISE REPORT

2.1 Events on 7th March, 2022

There were many events on 7th of March, 2022. It started with a **Walk-a-thon** from Gumto Railway Station to RGU Campus. Participants gathered at RGU campus around 5:18 am. They were taken to Gumto Railway Station by university bus. The Walk-a-thon started with some stretching exercise instructed by Dr. Meenu, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Education followed by a speech on the importance of physical activities and exercise in maintaining a healthy life. She stressed on adopting an active life and highlighted that walking can be adopted by people of all ages. The event was flagged off from Gumto Railway Station by Dr. Anil Mili, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Education. Many teaching and non-teaching faculties, research scholars, and students of RGU participated in the event. The participants reach the finish point, that is, RGU campus at 7 am. The winner of the walk-a-thon was **Jomter Yomcha**.

Other event of the day was a **volleyball match** which was played by many groups comprising of students, staffs and children of RGU campus. The play started at 3:30 pm and the match point was 25 (best of 3). Several matches were played like BPED team A vs BPED team B, RGU team A vs RGU team B, Law dept. vs Education dept., RGU team B vs Tigress Women Winner, BPED team B vs Law Dept, to name a few. The final winner was BPED team A.

Another sports event which happened on the day was **Tug of War** which was also taken part by many groups of students, staffs and children of RGU campus. Tug of war was played among various teams such as Law Dept. Vs RGU, winner: BPed vs Education, etc. The Final round was played between BPed. Vs Law Dept in which the winner was B. Ped team.

Inauguration of stalls by Dr. Vaishali Kushwaha, the First Lady of the Rajiv Gandhi University at 10 am in the lawn of Convention Hall, RGU. There were 17 stalls displaying apparels, accessories, plants, paintings, sculptures and many authentic foods.

2.2 Online Discussion on Women Issues on 7th March, 2022:

The online discussion on Women Issues kick started with the moderator, Dr. Topi Basar with a note on the pertinence of the topic of issues faced by women and the need for such academic discussions. It was followed by a welcome address from Prof. Kesang Degi, Head, Department of Education, RGU. Then the technical sessions followed.

1st Session:

The speaker of the first session was introduced by Dr. Topi Basar. The first deliberation was given by **Prof. Vandana Upahyaya**, Dept. of Economics, Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU) on the topic “Positive Shift Towards Greater Empowerment of Women”. She highlighted researches and surveys showing the participation of women on numerous aspects. She compared the indexes of many countries to show the status of women in India and Arunachal Pradesh in particular. She noted that it is time the women realizes their worth and work to be independent. She focused on many issues faced by the women today in a tribal culture with a deep exploration on their economic aspect. Thus, she focused on encouraging the women towards economic independence and financial wisdom to bring freedom from the societal shackles.

2nd Session:

The speaker of the second session was also introduced by Dr. Topi Basar. Second resource person of the day, **Miss Radhilu Chai**, former chairperson, Arunachal State Commission for Women, delivered on the topic “Eliminating Gender based Discrimination and Violence for Bringing Change”. She gave many insightful examples from her experience and noted the daily challenges faced by women on day to day life. She also highlighted the status of women in tribal culture in relation to property rights. She asked all the women to come out of the closet and fight for their right. It is only when women have confidence in herself that society will also recognize her worth.

The Vote of Thanks was given by Dr. Dharmeshwari Lourembam, Head (in charge), Department of Psychology, RGU. The online discussion ended on a warm tone set by Miss Leeyir Ete, who acted as the master of the ceremony. The session was witnessed by more than 60 participants, resource persons and esteemed dignitaries.

2.3 Main Celebration 8th March, 2022:

The International Women’s Day was celebrated in RGU with the theme “Gender Equality today for a sustainable tomorrow” on 8th March, 2022 at the main auditorium of Rajiv Gandhi University. The day was organised by university’s women wing. The First Lady of Arunachal Pradesh, Smt. Neelam Mishra, the First Lady of Rajiv Gandhi University, Dr. Vaishali Kushwaha and Chairperson of Oju Welfare Association, Smt. Ratan Anya graced the event as Chief Guest, Guest of Honour and the Special Guest respectively. The programme was organised with adherence to the SoPs laid down by the government.

The event kick started with National Anthem followed by the University Song. Prof. Nandini C. Singh gave the welcome address. In her speech she talked about the role of woman in bringing sustainable change which imparts gender equality. She recollects her years of experience in this university and the growth of women power with time. She noted the potential of women in bringing positivity in the society. After the welcome address the special invitees were felicitated. Girl children of RGU campus gave a wonderful boxing demo. RGU lady teaching faculties then performed a group song “*komal hai kamzor nahi*”. A special book “Adaptability in crisis: a psychological perspective” by the Department of

Psychology was also released. RGU non-teaching staffs performed a beautiful traditional group dance.

Smt. Ratan Anya, the Special guest of the programme talked in length about the various initiatives of the Oju Welfare Association for the welfare of women and children of the society. One of the important initiatives by the association is the Women Helpline (WHL) number 181 which is directly benefitting the distressed and under privileged woman. Started in 2016, she shared that more than 1104 calls has been entertained in which most common ones are domestic violence which is followed by polygamy related problems. Alcoholism is one of the important problems which is tearing apart the families. Another significant initiative is the free legal aid for the victims and the distressed. Temporary shelters are being provided to the destitute women and widows. Vocational trainings are imparted to them for enhancing their skills in tailoring, weaving etc. which builds their confidence to face the society. A special children home is also available for age group of 7-18 where victims of various juveniles cases are put up majorly. Proper rehabilitations and counselling are conducted. A specialised adoption centre is also being run by the association, she added. The OJU mission school have been giving opportunities to economically underprivileged children by providing them with free education. Another significant vertical of the association is the OJU crafts centre which produces lots of products which also highlights the glory of Arunachal in terms of its crafts and beauty. She expressed her willingness to collaborate with Rajiv Gandhi University for various outreach and training programmes especially in handloom sector.

After the speech, Wushu Champions (Ms.Mepung Lamgu, Ms.Nyeman Wangsu, Ms.Dani Nuri, Ms.Taug Ama, Mr.Bamang Ampa and Ms.Yorna Rosni) were felicitated for their achievement for the state and country. RGU research scholars then performed a magnificent group dance on “*Bekhauf Azad he jeena mujhe*”.

Dr.Vaishali Kushwaha the First Lady of the Rajiv Gandhi University in her speech emphasised on importance of women in nation building. Women today are making a mark in all field including sports, education and had charted too many other fields which many think are not meant for women. The status of the women has developed a lot, but still more to go, she added. She highlighted the history of the International Women’s day and the various themes it has incorporated. This world-wide celebration awares the society about the

impacable contribution of the women in the upliftment of the society. Lauding the theme “Break the Bias” this year, she noted that it will inspire all to go beyond current unequal society and believe in women’s strength (Nari Shakti). She pointed out the importance of Women empowerment in holistic and sustainable development in the world.

A group song by students of Music Department pleased the audience. Followed by another group dance by the non-teaching lady staff of RGU.

Smt. Neelam Mishra, the First Lady of the state in her speech calls upon to bring equal opportunity for all. The constitution of our country guaranteed equal rights for all but still many disparities can be observed in the society. Talking on the theme of “Break the Bias”, she shared that it’s time to celebrate for being an empowered woman. Sharing some of her personal take on the issues of the woman in the society, she added that societal change starts with change in mindset in the family and every small steps contributes to the change. Mindset is big problem which brings in lots of gender disparities. Education is another one that can change this disparities and it should be equally provided to both the gender. She added, economic independence as a defining factor which can bring the desired change. One has to work hard to achieve the goals. A significant problem specially in our tribal state is lack of awareness. Schools and colleges should be used in creating such awareness to the younger generations. Social evils like dowry is eating up our system and it should be discouraged. She highlighted that the law of the land is very Strick and for every crime, there is a law and the law should be applied equally. The first lady sharing the famous poem by our late Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Bajpai “Kadam Mila ke Chalna Hoga”, she added, it is high time that we should create enough physical and mental strength to achieve success in life.

The teaching and non-teaching staffs together presented a diversity walk displaying the rich culture of the employees of Women of RGU. The wonderful diversity walk was followed by the vote of thanks proposed by Prof. Tage Rupa Sora who was also the programme coordinator.

As part of the celebration, many beautiful stalls were put up in the lawn of the convention hall where selling of many apparels, accessories, plants and many authentic foods could be seen. There were 17 stalls of various items. The stalls were judged by the experts and Oju Mission Arunachal came out as the best stall.

PART 3. APPENDICES & ANNEXURE

3.1 Programme Schedule

The programme schedule is as mentioned below:



International Women's Day Celebration
Rajiv Gandhi University
Rono Hills Doimukh

Tuesday, 8 March, 2022
Venue: Convention Hall

Women's Day Programme

09:00 am Arrival of Guests
09:30 am Opening of programme with national Anthem and University Song
09:40 am Welcome Address, Prof. Nandini C. Singh
09:50 am Felicitation of Chief Guest, Guest of Honour and Special Guest
10:00 am Group Dance by RGU Non-teaching staff
10:10 am Boxing Demo by Girl Children of RGU campus
10:20 am Book Release of Department of Psychology
10:30 am Group Song by RGU Lady teaching Faculties
10:40 am Address by Special Guest
10:50 am Felicitation of Wushu Champions
11:00 am Group Dance by RGU Research scholars
11.10 am Address by Guest of Honour
11.20 am Group Song by Students of Music Department
11:30 am Group Dance by RGU Non-teaching staff
11.40 am Address by Chief Guest
12.00 am Diversity Display, by Women of RGU
12.10 am Vote of Thanks, Programme Coordinator

Followed by Refreshment

Annexure 3.2: Photograph



Photo 1: Flag off for Walk-a-thon at Gumto Railway station



Photo 2: The participants of Walk-a-thon



Photo 3: Inauguration of Stalls



Photo 4: Stalls



Photo 5: Display by Fine Arts Student

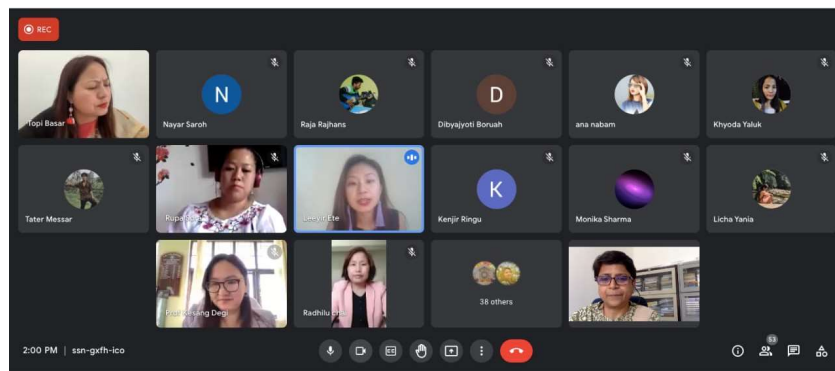


Photo 6: Online Discussion on Women Issues



Photo 7: Participants with First Lady of Arunachal Pradesh



Photo 8: Lady Teaching faculties with the Guest

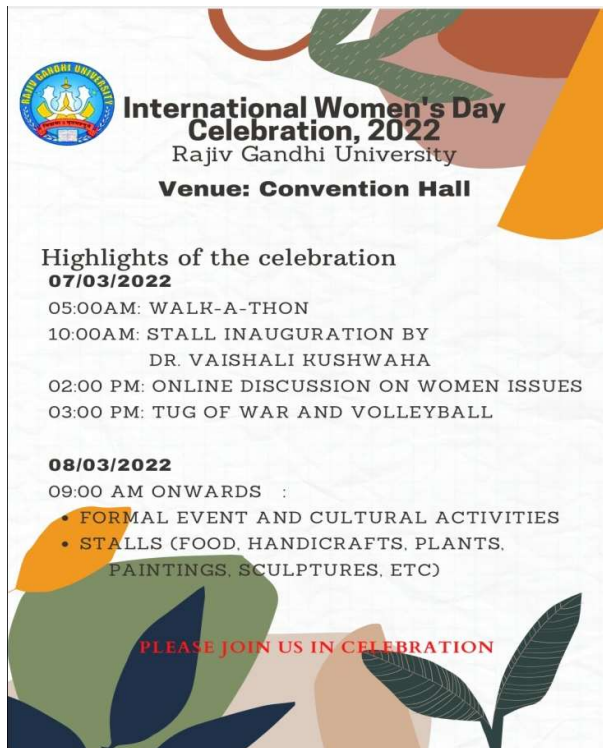


Photo 9: Diversity walk by the RGU women



Photo 10: Our honorable Guest

3.3 Brochures



International Women's Day Celebration, 2022
Rajiv Gandhi University
Venue: Convention Hall

Highlights of the celebration
07/03/2022
05:00AM: WALK-A-THON
10:00AM: STALL INAUGURATION BY
DR. VAISHALI KUSHWAHA
02:00 PM: ONLINE DISCUSSION ON WOMEN ISSUES
03:00 PM: TUG OF WAR AND VOLLEYBALL

08/03/2022
09:00 AM ONWARDS :
• FORMAL EVENT AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES
• STALLS (FOOD, HANDICRAFTS, PLANTS, PAINTINGS, SCULPTURES, ETC)

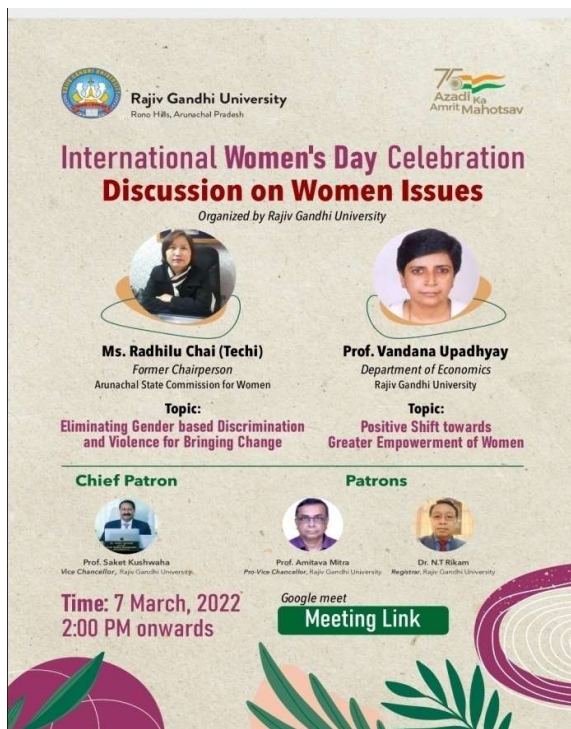
PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATION



7th March
International Women's Day celebration
Theme:- Gender Equality Today For a Sustainable Tomorrow
WALK-A-THON
GUMTO RAILWAY to R.G.U Campus
Reporting Time: 5:00 AM

Participants:
Only Womens
Category:
A- 40 years
B- 40+ (Veterans)

EVENTS
Volleyball Tug of War
Venue: RGU
Organized by:
Rajiv Gandhi University, A.P
Contact: Dr. Tadang Minu
+91-7896920345



International Women's Day Celebration
Discussion on Women Issues
Organized by Rajiv Gandhi University

Ms. Radhilu Chai (Techi)
Former Chairperson
Arunachal State Commission for Women
Topic:
Eliminating Gender based Discrimination and Violence for Bringing Change

Prof. Vandana Upadhyay
Department of Economics
Rajiv Gandhi University
Topic:
Positive Shift towards Greater Empowerment of Women

Chief Patron
Prof. Saket Kushwaha
Vice Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University

Patrons
Prof. Amitava Mitra
Pro-Vice Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University
Dr. N.T. Rikam
Registrar, Rajiv Gandhi University

Time: 7 March, 2022
2:00 PM onwards
Google meet Meeting Link

Annexure 4: Media Coverage

The programme was well covered in Local media of the state.

Following are the links of media coverage:

<https://youtu.be/b732KRfuAAw>

https://fb.watch/bMd4_KAfEs/

<https://youtu.be/iG-XEuRVOQY>