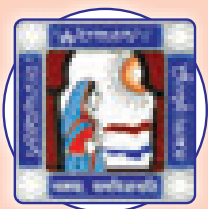


Roshni

JANUARY –MARCH 2019



ALL INDIA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



EWS childrens schooling, by Dhoori Hun Main, Rohini, Delhi



Women entrepreneurs exhibition & sale by AIWC Kozhikode



A Culture of Peace seminar, IIC, Delhi, 31st January



Homage to Smt Sarojini Naidu, 13th February



AVI students working in the kitchen garden on World Earth Day



Ms Kalyani Raj, AIWC, & Ms Asha Chandra, AIWEFA



AIWC's Daycare Centre for Women Senior Citizens, Amritsar



AIWC Education Trust Awardees, Bihar branch, Patna

ROSHNI

Journal of the All India Womers Conference

January - March 2019

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From the Editors Pen

Dear Sisters,

Greetings and best wishes for a new year of renewed aspiration, of seeking and finding new paths towards progress.

In AIWC, the new year started with a seminar with the intriguing title “The Culture of peace” Culture? Peace? What can be the shape, colour or sound of a culture for peace? As the seminar unfolded, answers came, ways were identified for the immense task of moving towards a peaceful global future. Whether local, national, or global, there are roles for women in the historic process. Defining the concept from many parameters, were an impressive array of diplomats, administrators, lawyers, conservationists, and policy makers. Together they drew a picture of peace, not as an abstract ideal, but a force shaping our lives and our future.

Our growing “grey” population raises many questions about their welfare. Responding to the need are recent legislations, and agencies who extend help to the aged. Smt Bina Jain, our Patron, tells us how we can respond to the aged’s silent cry for help.

The term “A Labour of Love” is an apt description of Smt Bargavi Devendra’s rescue and reprinting of Stri Dharma journal, an early womens journal, published from Chennai (then Madras), from 1918- 1935.

How deep is your national integration? You will know after you answer the quiz. Answers are elsewhere in this issue.

We bring you glimpses of activities and news from branches far and near.

Happy reading!

- Mythily Jagannathan

Presidential Address by Smt Rakesh Dhawan

- AIWC Annual Conference, Kakinada, 9th-10th January, 2019

Dear Sisters,

It is a great honour and privilege for me to welcome you all in Kakinada. Kakinada is a Port City in East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh. It is a beautiful place surrounded by famous temples and beaches. This was a Dutch Colony, it was called Cocanada, and when British East India Company took over, they also called it by the same name. The name was changed to Kakinada after Independence.

I am especially thankful to Mrs. N. Bhanumati for hosting this Conference in this beautiful city. It is always my pleasure to see the happy faces of my sisters from all over the country gathered together to discuss and share their achievements in the last one year. I hope we will have a fruitful session in the next two days here.

I would like to recall my first Conference as President, where I shared with you my Vision for the three years tenure. While I am happy we have achieved a lot, but at the same time, I must say that there is a lot to be done yet to fulfill our promise. I once again urge each one of you to come out with new ideas which could lead us to a satisfactory level where the name of such a big Organization is shining in the country. We have had a glorious past, where we have done a lot to empower women, to keep up the same momentum to tackle the current

day issues; we have to work really hard with total dedication.

Current issues which need our utmost concern are the growing instances of violence against women and children. This is the time when we have to raise our voice to create awareness among young boys to bring an end to this problem. It is high time our mind set is changed to accept gender equality.

The #MeToo Movement, I agree needs our support, it is high time women got the courage to stand up and speak. There is a slight concern which comes to my mind, that is, in many instances we hear the voice only from one side, there are situations where the Man is also a victim, and there are women who are taking advantage of the situation to their benefit.

There is also an urgent need to deal with the criminal minds which lead to such atrocities. Why and how? We have to encourage more studies in psychological issues. We have to demand for special courses in psychiatry in the Universities to deal with this issue, to understand them and treat them at the beginning. We run shelter homes in Delhi and many other places, Government agencies send us victims to take care, but we have noticed that they come to us with such difficult mental issues, it becomes difficult to with.

We need specialists in psychiatry to deal with them.

We have to create healthy atmosphere for young girls to grow up in. Provide more facilities for sports, yes there are facilities available in cities and big towns, but what about small towns and villages? May be as a national level organization we should take interest in this field also.

Further, I would like to congratulate our Secretary General Kalyani on being a speed Task Master with keen eye on every day operations and thorough guidance to all the branches. Our Treasurer Manju who is there with all her support for the timely financial processes and together they have been our backings for the successful achievements of the year.

I must congratulate our Trusts –Education, Health and Old Age which are strong

pillars to AIWC for excellent work especially with the long term holistic programs which are helping us to eradicate various hurdles thoroughly in the areas of education, health care or elderly and mother and child care.

Simultaneously, I mourn for our great loss of our Patron Dr. Aparna Basu who has been an inspiration to many of us in her entire journey. I believe she impacted the lives of everyone, not only as a Patron but with multidimensional portrayals as a teacher, as a counselor, guide and friend and always had encouraging things to say to everyone. I conclude my speech by asking all of you to let's together promise ourselves that we shall continue to strive for that entire she had dreamt to change, which I think will be the greatest tribute to Dr. Aparna Basu.

SHE UnLTD Awards 2019 for inspiring women entrepreneurs:
Women entrepreneurs are breaking new ground every day, although the proportion of women in the labour force is steadily declining. The Times She UnLTD awards were launched recently for women who launched into innovative and creative businesses. Initially, the awards will be for entrepreneurs working in Mumbai, Delhi (including Noida and Gurugram), Chennai and Bangalore. Achievers in fashion, beauty, and food industries will be selected, and finalists will meet a jury of eminent industry experts to present their story, and describe their business journey. (Times of India)

Report by Smt Kalyani Raj, Secretary General

AIWC Annual Conference, Kakinada, 9th-10th January, 2019

Respected Patrons, Rakeshji Manju and my dear colleagues.

Wish you all a very Happy & Prosperous New Year 2019!

After almost 10 years we are here again in Kakinada for an Annual Conference. It was a great experience for us to attend the half yearly conference in 2009 and participate in the Durgabai Deshmukh village adoption program. Thank you Kakinada branch for hosting this conference and making our stay comfortable. I am happy to see a good turnout of members and let us hope to have some meaningful outcome of the 91st Annual conference.

It is my privilege to present the report for the last six months.

EVENTS AT THE HEAD OFFICE-

Date	Event	Outcome/Decisions
7 th August, 18	Consultation on Short stay homes of Muzzafarpur – letters were sent to Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dipak Misra Chief Justice of India , NCW, DCW, Hon'ble Minister Women & Child Development, Home Minister, Police Commissioner of Delhi	The social auditing of short stay homes must be done frequently and blanket powers must be given to the investigative agency. The NGO members working in this field should be made members of such committees. Muzzafarpur incident should not become an excuse for the authorities to take over all the homes from NGO's. It is recommended that the CBI investigations of Short stay homes should be monitored by the Hon. Supreme court.
14 th August, 18	Independence Day Celebration & Teej Festival Bapnu Ghar premises	Was celebrated with AVI students and Bapnu Ghar inmates.
	book discussion written by late Prof. Aparna Basu, 'Women in Satyagraha' published by the Publications Division, GOI	The event was participated by National Gandhi Museum members, academic & journalist and had excellent deliberation.

22 nd October, 18	Discussion on #Me Too Movement	All India Women's Conference stands in strong solidarity with all the victims who have shown the courage to raise their voice against such harassment and violence against women at workplace. We further hope that with this movement the women will not have to suffer in silence and shall come forward to express their traumatic experience in all fields of workplace.
23 rd – 25 th , Oct, 18	– Shilpkala Utsav	The 7 th edition of the annual Shilpkala Utsav a three-day affair showcasing India's rich cultural heritage focused around eco-friendly crafts was held 23 rd – 25 th October 2018. The Event was inaugurated on 23rd October by the Ambassador of Mexico in India, H.E. Ms. Melba Pria

HEAD OFFICE / PERMANENT PROGRAMS-

All the Permanent projects in the Head Office are being managed efficiently by the respective Member-in-Charges.

Department	Member in Charge	Achievement
Hostel	Mrs. Rashmi Nigam	Repair and painting work has been undertaken in hostels. Out of the capacity of 249, there are currently 227 residents in both the hostels together. Regular interaction with wardens, hostellers & the staff is being held for the smooth functioning of the hostel.
Library	Mrs. Yuthika Misra	The ready to use collection in the library is 12042 books and 2355 reports. The Library Management software, Koha, has been updated to the latest version of Koha 16.11.08.000. Library also continued subscription of 2 journals, 18 general magazines and 6 daily newspapers, 5 in English language and 1 in Hindi. 28 complementary journals and newsletters were received in the library in this period.
Roshni	Mrs. Mythily Jaganathan	There has been some delay in the publication of last two issues of Roshni due to administrative challenges. The MIC continues to welcome article and material for publication from branches and members.

Bapnu Ghar	Ms. Magdleen Marin	Total cases received 75+15 previous cases. Out of this 73 cases were solved. Officials from different departments of ministries have visited Bapnu Ghar recently. Teej, Janmastami, Independence Day, and Christmas were celebrated with inmates.
AVI College	Mrs. Suman Yadav	July-December 2018, session started with admission of students for the existing courses. There were 54 students admitted for the NIOS course and 38 for AIWC courses. Total there are 92 students. This semester there is a rise of 31 students. After six months of successful completion of all the courses, examinations were held in December, 2018.
Textile Unit	Mrs. Indira Chatterjee	We have had good number of students getting training from the unit for this session. Most of them are retired govt. school teachers. The textile unit has also been displaying products in the Exhibition centre.

Detailed report of all Members in Charges attached in Annexure II.

I am also happy to highlight some of the achievements AIWC has had during past 6 months.

1. UNEP Accreditation- it is a matter of pride that UNEP granted accreditation to AIWC immediately on submission of our application.
2. Participation in Rabb Symposium, North Carolina State University

Officials from the above university had gone through AIWC website and the reports uploaded by us relating to SDG Monitoring & Review and GUCCI Project. Ms. Sandria Freitag-Professor from the University visited our office and met with the office bearers in July and followed it up with inviting me to the symposium in the University in September. I felt privileged to present

AIWC's initiatives to an audience of academics on skype. The university has also approached us for a visit by their students to Jaipur branch.

3. Women & Child Ministry has listed AIWC as official trainers on 'Sexual Harassment at workplace'. Some government departments have already approached us and we propose to schedule a training for a group soon.
4. AIWC was invited to be panelist in one of the events in the Indian Pavilion during COP 24 in Katowice, Poland. It was an honour for me to speak on 'Women in Climate Change discussion' and present AIWC's work in the field. Vice-President, Mrs. Usha Nair was also invited to facilitate workshop conducted by WECF & CTCN. She presented the solar cooker project managed by our branches.

GUCCI Project:**Delhi**

Most of the reports under the project have been submitted to Gender CC. Final recommendation and strategy paper is being finalized. A waste management project is being undertaken in the resettlement colony of Budh vihar after detailed assessment and consent of Gender CC.

Mumbai-

The Stake Holders Workshop for the Policy Makers of the Mumbai Municipal Corporation was conducted on 30th Nov 2018 by the Mumbai Branch AIWC at the CTIRC at Borivili. It was attended by 62 officials of the Mumbai Municipal Corporation including the Ex Mayor of Mumbai, Dr. Shubha Raul. The objective of this workshop was to make the officials and policy makers aware as to what policies should be adopted to manage the problem of Climate Change with respect to Mumbai City and more importantly, how women

should be included in the policy making decisions. The BMC officials made significant contributions on the solutions to fight the disasters of Climate Change. They updated all about work that the BMC is already doing, much of which is not known to the public and also informed of the many projects in the works. They also shared many ideas on how those measures could be enhanced with the inclusion of women in decision making.

Gender CC holds international conference under the project in each country every year and it is AIWC turn to host the meeting in Mumbai. The meeting will be held between 26th - 28th February. The meeting will be participated by all the GUCCI teams.

Chennai & Kolkata- Kick off meeting and training for extension of the GUCCI project was held in Chennai on 10th – 11th November. The meeting was attended by Kolkata, Chennai & Mumbai teams. Both the new cities have started work on the project.

Zonal Conferences attended by me -

15 th September, 2018	Central Zone B-Mhow Mahila Sangh, Sub Branch of Indore
29 th September, 2018	Eastern Zone –Bolpur Shanti Niketan
13 th November 2018	South zone A - Pondicherry
15 th November 2018	South Zone 'B' - Kerala and Karnataka, Palakkad
28 th November, 2018	North Zone – Ujjawal Women's Association, New Delhi
21 st December, 2018	Central Zone-A, AIWC Saharanpur

Enhancing Life Skills Training Programs for boys and girls

Program details			
S.No	Programme Name	Total Program	Total Beneficiaries
1	Enhancing Life Skills Training Programme for Girls	16	721
2	Enhancing Life Skills Training Programme for Boys	4	121
	Total	20	842

State wise distribution	
State	Total no. of Programs
West Bengal	1
Karnataka	3
Kerala	7
Maharashtra	3
UP	2
MP	2
Gujarat	2
Total	20

One Day Awareness Programs

Awareness Programs Details	
Total Programs Conducted	97
Total Beneficiaries	8788

Awareness Programme Details	
State	Total No. of Programs
Andhra Pradesh	3
Bihar	1
Gujarat	5
Haryana	1
Karnataka	2
Kerala	11
Madhya Pradesh	3
Maharashtra	18
New Delhi	3
Pondicherry	2
Punjab	4
Tamil Nadu	1
Tripura	3
Uttar Pradesh	9
Uttarakhand	8
West Bengal	23
Total	97

Category Wise Distribution	Total No. of Programs
Health Camps and Awareness Program	39
Adolescent Healthcare Program	3
Child Rights and Abuse	1
Communal Harmony and National Integration	4
Consumer Awareness	3
Disaster Management	5
Energy Efficiency and Energy conservation	1
Environment	14
Gender Sensitization	1
Good Touch and Bad Touch	1
Legal Awareness	6
Senior Citizens	3
Menstrual Hygiene	4
Violence Against Women	6
Mental Health and Brain Next Kit	2
Triple Talaq and Muslim Marriage Act	1
Any Other – World Population day, Cyber Crime	2
Juvenile Delinquency and Preventive measures	1
Total	97

Total numbers of beneficiaries program wise

Total Number of Beneficiaries	
Programs	Beneficiaries
Health Camps and Awareness Program	3422
Adolescent Healthcare Program	197
Child Rights and Abuse	89
Communal Harmony and National Integration	789
Consumer Awareness	194
Disaster Management	581
Energy Efficiency and Energy conservation	53
Environment 1335	
Gender Sensitization	100
Good Touch and Bad Touch	35
Legal Awareness	735
Senior Citizens	186
Menstrual Hygiene	466
Violence Against Women	448
Mental Health and Brain Next Kit	45
Triple Talaq and Muslim Marriage Act	49
Other-World Population day, Cyber Crime	129
Child Delinquency and Preventive measures	100
Total	8788

Anemia Free Society

State Wise Distribution	
State	Programs conducted
Andhra Pradesh	2
Gujarat	2
Karnataka	2
Kerala	3
Maharashtra	1
Tamil Nadu	2
Uttar Pradesh	3
West Bengal	4
Total	19

Anemia Programme Status	
Total Beneficiary tested	1719
Detected Anemic	354
Recovered from Anemia	316

1. Few branches have provided De-worm tablets for all Beneficiaries by doctors Advice.
2. Some beneficiaries are on nutrition Diet.
3. Mostly anemia review program is yet to be done.

Commendable work done by the branches under Short term programs

Programs conducted in villages and slum area and reported well

One Day Awareness :

1	Gurgaon Gramin Mahila Mandal, Haryana : Save Environment
2	Unnayan Sanstha , Uttar Pradesh : Home based Nutritional and Health care to expectant and Nursing mothers and children
3	Sparsha Welfare Foundation Constituent Branch, West Bengal : Health programme- Eye check-up camp
4	Rajkot Branch, Gujarat : Juvenile Delinquency and preventive measures
5	Parvatiya Mahila Chetna Seva Samithi, Uttarakhand : Tree Plantation and Save Environment
6	Santacruz East Mumbai Branch, Maharashtra : Health Programme-Cancer Detection Camp

Branches provided best Documentation

One Day Awareness:

1	Behala Utsab Foundation, West Bengal: Thalassaemia camp
2	Chowringhee Constituent Branch, West Bengal : Violence against Women
3	Unnayan Sanstha ,Uttar Pradesh :Home based Nutritional and Health care to expectant and Nursing mothers and children
4	East Calcutta Constituency, West Bengal: Environment-Swatch Abhiyan Refuse Plastic and Environmental Awareness
5	Rajkot Branch, Gujarat : Child Delinquency and Prevention Measure
6	Sparsha Welfare Foundation Constituent Branch, West Bengal : Eye Check-Up camp
7	Regent Park Constituent Branch, West Bengal : Girl Child Safety

Covered large no. of beneficiaries and activities have been very well detailed

One Day Awareness :

1	Bihar State Branch, Bihar: Communal Harmony and National Integration
2	Sevalok West Tripura, Tripura : Menstrual Hygiene
3	Pondicherry Women's Conference, Pondicherry : Legal Awareness Programme
4	Kanpur Branch, Uttar Pradesh :Water Conservation and Tree Plantation
5	Dadar Matunga Branch, Maharashtra: Eye check-up camp
	Anemia Program:
1	Santacruz East Branch, Maharashtra :
2	Gnanjyothi Sanmsthe Mysuru Constituent Branch, Karnataka
3	Mani Nagar Shakha ,Gujarat

Out of the Box Programmes:

One Day awareness

1	Jadavpur Constituent Branch, West Bengal: A life with Osteoporosis and Women Psychology
2	Tripura Adibashi Mahila Samity ,Tripura :Triple Talaq and Muslim Marriage Act
3	Sharda Mahila Mandal Peth, Maharashtra: Mental Health and Brain Next Memory and Cognitive Exercise

Long- term programs

Integrated Literacy and Skill Development program	
Ongoing programs	12
State wise distribution	
UP	4
AP 1	
West Bengal	3
Rajasthan	1
Delhi	2
Bihar	1
Total	12
Total no. of beneficiaries	
Total no. of women	654
Total no. of children	698

Udaan	
Total no of programs	14
Programs completed in October 2018	7
Ongoing programs	7
Total beneficiaries	Around 400
State wise distribution	
Kerala	3
West Bengal	3
Pondicherry	1

Mother and Child and Day Care for old	
Uttrakhand	1
West Bengal	1
AP	1
Total beneficiaries	Around 300

Part time Dispensary	
UP	1
Uttrakhand	2
West Bengal	3
Total beneficiaries	758

Partial assistance to Value based AIWC Schools	
MP	1
AP	1
Uttrakhand	1
Total beneficiaries	468

Area wise programs conducted by the branches

Short -term programs

Rural	13
Slum/Underprivileged	19
Village	12
Urban	40
Semi Urban	15
Disabled	1
Total	100

Long term programs

Rural	5
Slum /urban slum	5
Village	2
Urban	12
Semi Urban	7
Tribal village	-
Total	31

Empowerment Cell- Capacity Building- TOT

S.No	Branch Name	Zone
1	AIWC East Kolkata Constituency	Eastern Zone & North Eastern Zone
2	Sarvajinik Mahila Mandal, Bardoli	West Zone (B)
3	Pune Mahila Mandal	West Zone (A)

Sustainable Development Goal's Consultation Meeting

S.No	Branch Name	Status
1	Amritsar Branch	done
2	AIWC TVPM Branch, Kerala	done
3	W.I.A	done
4	Akhil Mahila Mandal, Peth Tal,Nashik	done
5	East Rajasthan	done
6	Odisha, Balasore District	Yet to be done
7	Gandhi Nari Kalyan Samiti- UP	Yet to be done
8	Bangalore	Yet to be done
9	Tripura	Yet to be done
10	Madhya Pradesh	Yet to be done

Commendable work done by the branches under Long Term Programs

Integrated Literacy and Skill Development Program

AIWC East Calcutta Constituent Branch, Kolkata: The SHG groups formed following the completion of last batch of training is functioning very well. They continue to make products at home and sell direct in the market.

Dhuri Hoon Mein Branch, Delhi: Apart from Literacy training, the branch is doing extra efforts to equip children & women with leadership quality for doing other programs for the benefits of the community.

Mithila Mahila Samaj branch: sustaining the program in hard circumstances, Making maximum women literate and earn money through constant efforts and getting encouraging response from community

Udaan

Nathencode Vanitha Samithi, Kerala : Branch is planning to take up school uniform stitching initiatives for beneficiaries. Creating constant motivation in the community and trained new participants to increase their strength. Branch is taking initiative again to revamp the activities for the victims who lost their livelihood in recent flood.

Pondicherry branch: is covering maximum beneficiaries and making decoration items from waste material.

Part time dispensary Mother and Child and Day Care for Old

Moradabad branch- For covering maximum beneficiaries and also helping community people. For example: Branch helped a differently able boy to get a disability certificate.

Self sustained resource centre being managed by branches

Samyukta Branch
East Rajasthan, Jaipur Branch

East Calcutta Constituency Branch
Kolkata Branch

Concluding Remarks

While branches have been very active in creating awareness about various relevant topics, long term, sustainable and impactful programs are comparatively less available. We should try to optimize AIWC's strength with the wide network of members as well as presence. I would therefore encourage branches to come up with some meaningful programs which will have a long lasting, effective and strong impact on the community at the same time reach out to larger number of deserving beneficiaries. We could also think of any need based initiative which will ultimately lead to an AIWC established permanent in the society.

Last two years I have tried my best to reach out to maximum branches, encourage them to take different programmes, provided all kinds of facilitation and enhance the capacity of members in all possible ways. I sincerely hope that my efforts have met your expectations. With the confidence imposed by each one of you in me and the encouragement provided, let us hope that together we can make 2019 even better for the organization.

Best wishes again for the New Year and warm regards.

**If There is to be Peace in the World
 There is to be peace in the nation
 If there is to be peace in the nation
 There must be peace in the cities
 If there is to be peace in the cities
 There must be peace between neighbours
 If there is to be peace among neighbours
 There must be peace in the home
 If there is to be peace in the home
 There must be peace in the heart**

Old English rhyme

Give A Helping Hand To Elders

- By Smt Bina Jain, Patron, AIWC



Elderly Women Need Special Attention!

Women and men age differently. Both have their concerns. The problems of elderly women are exacerbated by a lifetime of gender based discrimination, often stemming from deep- rooted cultural and social bias. It is compounded by other forms of discrimination based on class, caste, disability, illiteracy, unemployment and marital status; patriarchal hierarchy and access to property rights are also discriminatory.

Burdened with household chores for a longer span of time compared to older men, older women "don't have time" for leisure or recreational activity.

Women also experience higher rates of chronic illness and disability, later in life, than men. Women suffer poor mental health status, especially if they are single /or widowed. Over 50 % women over the age of 80 are widows. Elderly women and their problems need attention. Their

numbers are likely to increase in the future, and given the multiple disadvantages they face in life, they are likely to be grossly unprepared to tackle these issues.

The level of awareness about human rights of older people in Indian society, particularly among older persons is very low. Being a developing country, despite fast increasing elderly population, there is no special focus on rights of the elderly. Therefore protection of human rights of older people is still not a major issue for most Indians. Status of old age security systems including old age health care, and facilities is dismal, many older persons have no access to primary health care in old age.

Ensuring rights of the aged

The following facts should be taken care of to strengthen the rights of the aged.

- Safety- protection of life and property of senior citizens
- Social security with minimum procedure so that benefits reach all. Pension amount should be sufficient to maintain themselves and meet day to day needs.
- Health services at nominal cost and with minimum paperwork
- Suitable employment to provide financial security and stability.
- NGO friendly schemes to provide shelter, counseling to the aged

- Prompt release of funds to NGOs to run the day to day activities of old age homes
- Prompt redressal of grievances as far as property matters are concerned
- Promotion of schemes that provide services in an integrated manner to address problems of loneliness, depression, worthlessness among the aged and encourage the proud feelings of usefulness, self- respect, self- dignity
- Schemes focusing on special needs of elderly women to be encouraged
- A paradigm shift is needed from a social welfare to a rights- based approach. Welfare of the aged is not to be looked at from a charity view-point.
- Focus on awareness activities to enlighten the aged on their rights, and about policies, schemes etc, so that they may avail the benefits

An Act for Senior Citizens Rights

The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007 states that: "When parents cannot maintain themselves and they are neglected by children, they can claim from their son/daughter, and in their absence, from grandson/ granddaughter, maintenance for livelihood, shelter, and health care, by making an application to a tribunal under the Act. The amount can be a monthly allowance upto Rs 10,000/- per month, depending upon the income of the children/ grandchildren, number of family members, other family circumstances etc

Easy and speedy procedure has been laid down, for claiming benefit from the Act. The authority for dealing with applications is given to Sub- divisional officers of Revenue Departments. If a senior citizen is incapable of making an application, he can authorize any person or NGO to act on his behalf. Advocates cannot appear in the proceedings on behalf of any party.

Notice is issued to the person against whom the application is made, and he/she is heard before passing the order. If a senior citizen does not have children /grandchildren, then the application can be made by the senior citizen against a near relative/ heir, who will inherit the property of the senior citizen on his demise.

In order to assist the helpless senior citizens, who are neglected by their children, it is necessary that helpful friends approach NGOs or NGO federations, or get information about the Act online. Friends or social workers with knowledge of the Act, can then contact the appropriate person at local level to be reached by the neglected parents/ senior citizens. There can be discussions with the parents /senior citizens and their children to see whether something can be worked out. If no settlement is reached, then an application can be filed before the Tribunal. It is also necessary that there is coordination between different Ministries/ Departments ,such as Health, Social Welfare, Law, Social Justice, Public Relations, and Home Affairs.

Action Plan for Helping Elders

There are numerous agencies/ NGOs who

are helping elders through various programs and initiatives. For establishing an interface with NGOs as well as key government departments, it will be useful to apply online for the NGO Partnership registration in Darpan portal of Niti Ayog, Government of India. The information given about implementation of the Act and about concerned Departments and officials at different levels, will help to identify procedures for attending to complaints, solving problems of elders, systematic follow up on individual case.. for securing relief or benefits under the Act.

For reaching help to elders, some broad areas suggested are:

1. Registration of the elder in the NGO working in their area,, by giving name, address, telephone/ mobile numbers, email address, if any
2. Identifying the area of activity in which help is required, such as protection of life/ property, health care, old age

home, claiming benefits from schemes of governments, corporations, municipalities, gram panchayats etc.

3. Coordination with the government at different levels, in public services, public relations, consumer complaints, publicity through print media, radio/ television, and others.

Of course, it is also necessary for the government to train and sensitize officials at different levels, to make them conversant with the Act, become aware of the issues in maintenance and welfare of senior citizens, and to coordinate effectively with voluntary agencies and NGOs. It is also necessary that there is coordination between different Ministries/ Departments, such as Health, Social Welfare, Law, Social Justice, Public Relations, and Home Affairs, for effectively implementing the Act.

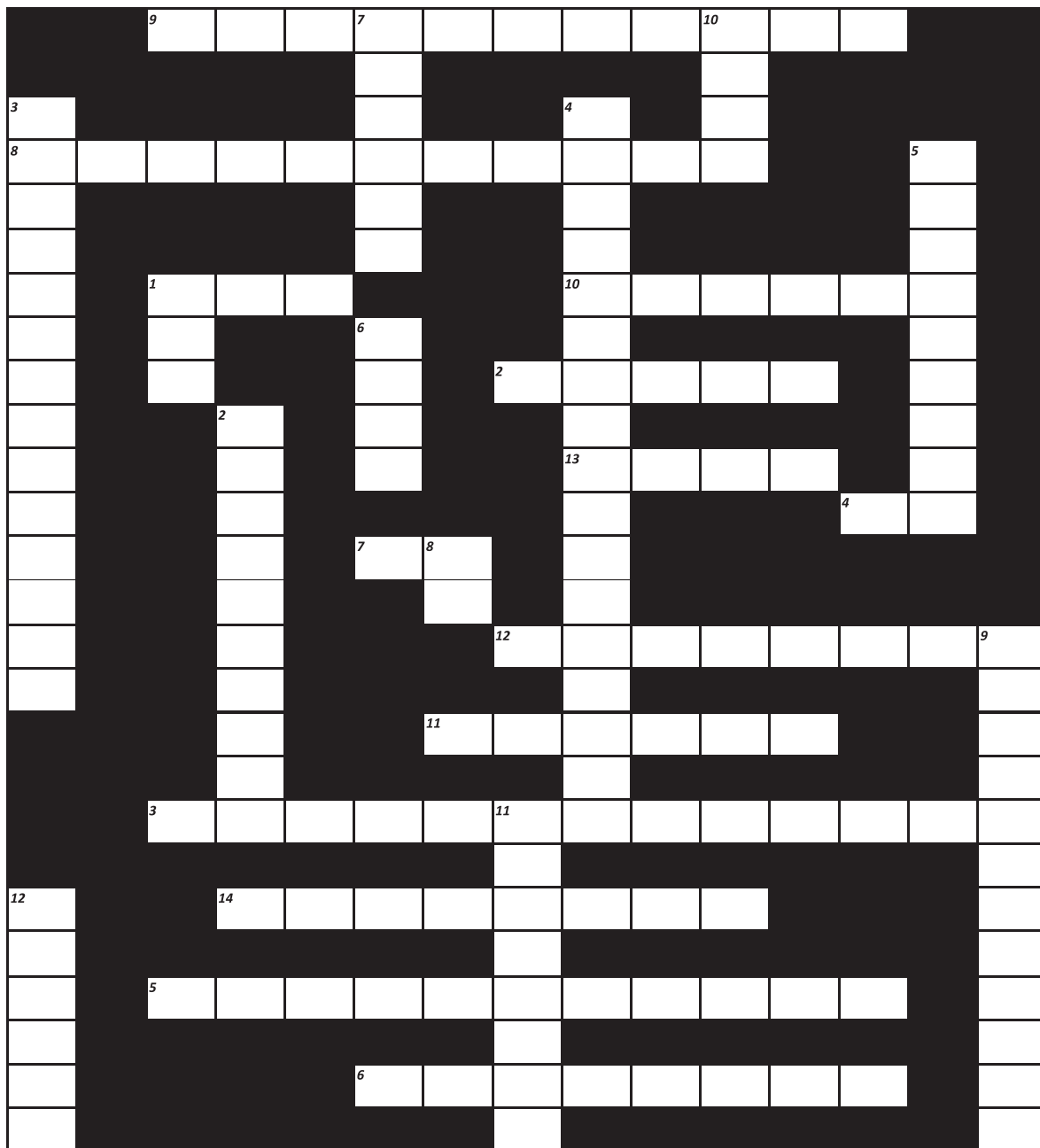
(Extract from a presentation by Smt Bina Jain on World Elders Day)





National Integration Cross-word

-by Farida Hussain, MIC, National
Integration



CROSSWORD PROMPTS- ACROSS

- 9 ----- was the Iron Man of India
 8- ----- was the first woman President of the Indian National Congress
 1- How many Fundamental Rights are mentioned in the Constitution-----
 10- ----- was the first state formed on linguistic identity
 2 ----- is the part of the Indian Constitution which deals with Fundamental Rights
 13----- was the camp language developed by the mingling of the Persian and Hindustani soldiers
 4 Article----- denounces un-touchability
 7 How many minority districts are there in India?
 12 ----- was the warrior Queen of 1857
 11 Rani Chennamma of ----- led this first rebellion against the British in 1824
 3 ----- was Chairman of the National Integration Council
 5 ----- was the Muslim General of Maharaja Shivaji's army
 6 ----- was Commander in Chief of Rani Laxmi Bai's army

- 14----- was Bapu's first name

DOWN

- 1 How many are the fundamental Rights
 2 - --- was Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution
 3 - --- was the Permanent President of the Constituent Assembly
 4 ----- introduced the three language formula
 5 - ----- was when was the Indian Constitution came into force?
 6 The First War of Indian Independence took place in -----?
 7 Mandalis and samitis were called -----
 8 - ----- were the number of states at the time of Indian Independence
 9 - ----- was the Iron Lady of India
 10 - ----- was the popular Bengali fabric that British tried to wipe out through textile imports
 11 - ----- was the Commander in Chief of Emperor Akbar's army
 12 Maharana -----of----- fought the might of Akbar's army

National Integration Cross-word answer page 24

The highest education is that
 which does not merely give us
 information but makes our life
 in harmony with all existence.

— Rabindranath Tagore

AZQUOTES

The 158th birth anniversary of Poet Laureate Rabindranath Tagore was celebrated world-wide on 9th May



Technology revolution must benefit women



Mlambo-Ngcuka (third from right) is calling for the revolution in technology to be used to benefit the world's poor and especially women who will not achieve gender equality without "the giant leap that 21st century innovations can bring".

UNITED NATIONS: The head of the UN women's agency is calling for the revolution in technology to be used to benefit the world's poor, and especially women, who will not achieve gender equality without "the giant leap that 21st century innovations can bring".

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka said in an interview and speeches ahead of the Commission on the Status of Women's annual meeting starting March 11 that sanitation, clean water, good roads, affordable Internet service and use of mobile phones to transfer money and pay bills are critical to changing women's lives.

Mlambo-Ngcuka stressed that "the 21st century is about large ideas, scale and speed".

She pointed to affordable Internet service and the use of "mobile money" through mobile phones that is changing the lives of women in Kenya in the same way that microcredit — small loans — has enabled hundreds of thousands of women in developing countries to start businesses.

In some countries, "mobile money" can be used to pay for the delivery of water or buying energy, "so it's not a luxury to have that kind of infrastructure," Mlambo-Ngcuka said. "It's a game-changer. It changes for better the GDP of countries."

In Rwanda, Mlambo-Ngcuka said, drones are being used to deliver medicine to rural areas, and in West Africa, drones are being used to oversee fields and sprinkle organic material to kill pests. And she said block chain technology — storing digital information about transactions in a public database — can be used to deliver services to displaced people.

She said the biggest challenge in implementing the UN goal of achieving gender equality by 2030 is the need to accelerate the pace and scale-up action.

"Some countries think water is more important than broadband" high-speed Internet access, "but you actually need both," she said.

Mlambo-Ngcuka said it has been the technology of social media that has given women a platform to speak out against sexual harassment and sexual misconduct. But she said greater efforts are needed to change bad laws and implement good laws against sexual harassment, abuse and domestic violence.

Looking to the future, Mlambo-Ngcuka said the world must not accept that it will take more than 200 years to achieve gender equality at the current pace.

That means "only the grandchildren of the grandchildren of the grandchildren will achieve gender equality," she said, which is unacceptable. "Without intentional action, this continued slow pace is a real risk."

International Women's Day 2019



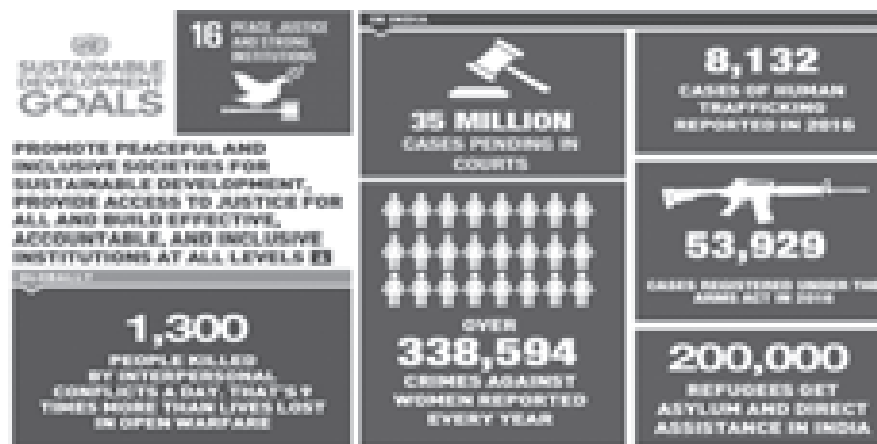
The theme for International Women's Day (8 March) this year, "Think Equal, Build Smart, Innovate for Change", puts innovation by women and girls, for women and girls, at the heart of efforts to achieve gender equality.

Achieving a gender-equal world requires social innovations that work for both women and men and leave no one behind. From urban planning that focuses on community safety to e-learning platforms that take classrooms to women and girls, affordable and quality childcare centres, and technology shaped by women; innovation can take the race for gender equality to its finishing line by 2030.

It begins with making sure that women's and girls' needs and experiences are

integrated at the very inception of technology and innovations. It means building smart solutions that go beyond acknowledging the gender gaps to addressing the needs of men and women equally. And ultimately, it needs innovations that disrupt business as usual, paying attention to how and by whom technology is used and accessed, and ensuring that women and girls play a decisive role in emerging industries.

Peace building and Post-Conflict Recovery



The experience of recent years has also led the United Nations to focus as never before on peace building efforts to reduce a country's risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities for conflict management, and to lay the foundations for sustainable peace and development.

Building lasting peace in war-torn societies is among the most daunting of challenges for global peace and security. Peace building requires sustained international support for national efforts across the broadest range of activities – monitoring

ceasefires; demobilizing and reintegrating combatants; assisting the return of refugees and displaced persons; helping organize and monitor elections of a new government; supporting justice and security sector reform; enhancing human rights protections and fostering reconciliation after past atrocities.

The United Nations has been at the center of expanding international peace building efforts, from the verification of peace agreements in southern Africa, Central America and Cambodia in the 1990s, to subsequent efforts to consolidate peace and

strengthen states in the Balkans, Timor-Leste, and West Africa, to contemporary operations in Afghanistan, Haiti and Sudan.

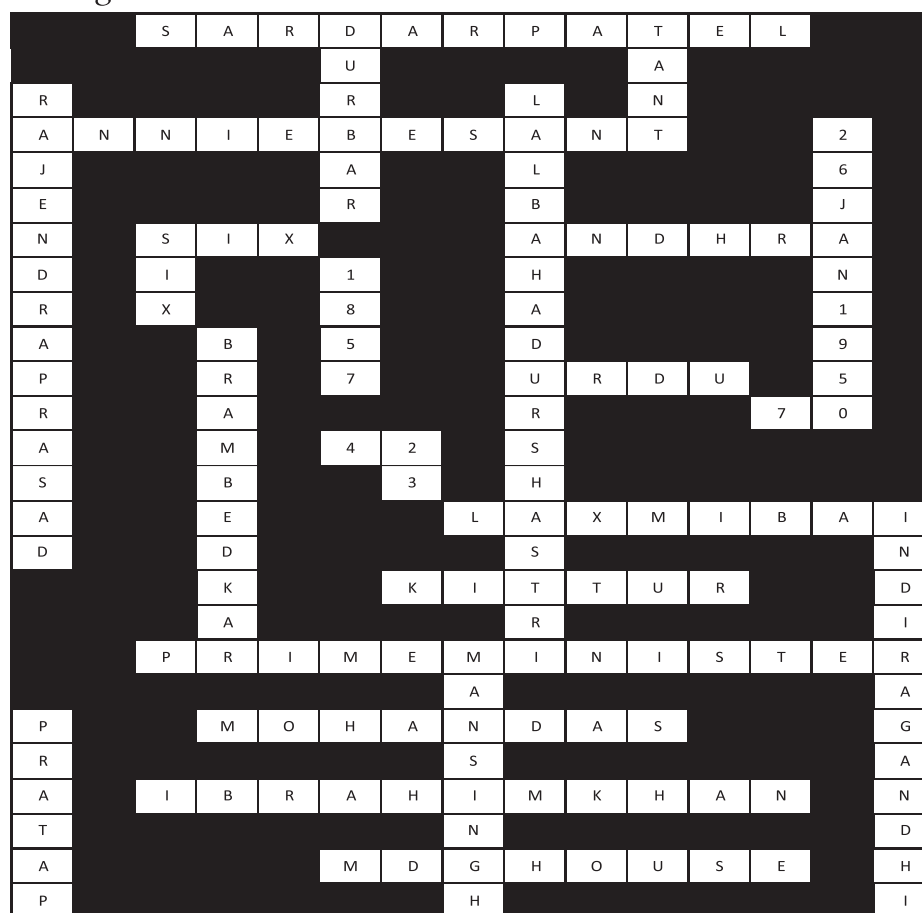
ECOSOC and Peace building

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) has played an “avant-garde” role in developing mechanisms to respond to the problems facing by countries emerging from conflict and thus helping to prevent the deterioration of human security.

In 2002, the Council established the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Groups to help define long-term programmes of support

for countries emerging from conflict and created two groups on Guinea-Bissau (created in October 2002) and on Burundi(created in July 2003). While the mandates of the two Groups have been terminated as the peace building challenges of these countries are now being addressed by the Peace building commission (PBC), the Council retains its role in providing advice to Haiti on a long-term development strategy to promote socio-economic recovery and stability through the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti. The first Advisory Group on Haiti was created in response to a request by the Security Council, using Article 65 of the United Nations.

National Integration Cross-word answers



A Culture of Peace Seminar

- Inaugural Address By Smt Rakesh Dhawan, President, AIWC



Greetings from All India Women's Conference.

We have propagated peace for centuries since the "Shanti Path" (Peace Hymn) of the Vedas (holy scriptures). It is a country which gave birth to Buddha, Mahavira, Ashoka and Mahatma Gandhi.

There is no enemy outside our soul. The real enemies live inside us i.e. Anger, Greed, Pride and Hate causing a chaotic social imbalance

And this social imbalance is one of the causes of a broken society and a current issue today. Increasing terrorism has shattered the lives of millions. This continues to be a major threat to the safety and security of people which is the backbone of peace. After making terrorist attacks, these terrorists escape to other country where they are governed by the laws of that particular country and can't be punished by the country from where they escaped. I wish to question here is what can be the ways/solutions and method to

tackle this problem at international level?

With a strong belief that Peace is not just absence of war and conflict, it is everything, a sense of security, constructive thinking and a chance to flourish. A holistic approach towards the society through various modes that is education, employment, Food security, Gender Equality, housing, access to health care, Water, absence of all kind of violence security effective governance, strong judiciary, a strong policy can transform conflict ridden societies into cohesive and harmonious. At AIWC we believe women can foster a culture of peace at home, in the family and in society.

Peace and security are required at multiple levels. Global, Local and State level at home, workplace and in all institutions. The SDGS aim to reduce all forms of violence, and work with government and communities to find lasting solutions to conflict and insecurity. Strengthening rule of law and promoting human rights is key to this process We must reject all forms of violence, form peace brigades, sensitize police, beaurocracy, judges, Most of the insurgency and conflict is due to injustice, discrimination and unemployment.

Ecological justice and disaster risk reduction and absolute prohibition of weapons. The money spent on making weapons should be drastically reduced and instead spent towards a more humane world. This money could be spent in a world where basic human needs have

not yet been met, the vast resources allocated to the modernization of nuclear weapons arsenals could instead be redirected to meeting the Sustainable development Goals.

Goal 16 of sustainable development agenda of UN is dedicated to promote peaceful and inclusive societies provision of access to justice for all and building effective accountable –institutions at all levels. No one is to be left behind

Our Peace proposal should include a universal respect for human dignity, Respect all religions, create public awareness that wars bring nothing but death and destruction. Countries must take measures to protect those who are most at risk - women and children against Violence, Crimes and Exploitation.

If as the UNESCO declares that "since wars begin in the minds of men, then it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed." We need a coalition for peace, a coalition of educationist,

environmentalists, artists, youth organizations, human rights activists, religious and spiritual leaders and women's NGO. Art and culture is more than entertainment...it is connecting cord that brings cultures and people together.

While conventional development models stress economic growth as the ultimate objective, I would take the cue that true development of human society takes place when material and spiritual development occur side by side to complement and reinforce each other.

I feel that we must have peace education as part of our syllabus in schools and colleges. Children must be taught that violence leads only to greater violence and that conflicts can be resolved peacefully.

Let's each one of us come together and become powerful peace builders reject violence and work to build peaceful solutions. Let's respect each other as brothers and sisters despite our different views, cultures, faiths or traditions.

Seminar Report

by Dr Manju Kak

Amy Chua, author of the book *Tiger Mom* in her new forthcoming book *Political Tribes: Group Instinct and the Fate of Nations*, expounds on how America is being pulled by tribal divisions and how the 'super group' (America) is being split by race and class. According to her, "In America today, every group feels threatened."

In these cases, there are no tanks in the streets. Constitutions and other nominally democratic institutions remain in place. People still vote. Elected autocrats maintain a veneer of democracy while eviscerating its substance. This is how most democracies die today: slowly, in barely visible steps. When democratic norms are slaughtered, peace is slaughtered.

The Institute of Economics and Peace (IEP), a leading global think tank has its core asset in its benchmark study in measuring peace and quantifying its economic value in what is known as Global Peace Index (GPI). It estimates the economic impact of violence and conflict on the global economy. Having analysed its reports, international forums such as UN and World Bank as well as academic institutions have begun to utilize its data and information. The 12th edition of the GPI which was released on 12th June, 2018 reports that the global level of peace has deteriorated by 0.27% in the last year, marking the fourth successive year of deteriorations. The report reveals a world in which the tensions, conflicts and crises that emerged in the past decade, remain unresolved, especially in the Middle East, resulting in a gradual and sustained fall in peacefulness. It is relevant at this point to reiterate that it is the women and children who are the worst sufferers in most cases of violations of peace.

It therefore, becomes imperative to regenerate a culture of peace, mutual respect and harmony amongst the diverse units of society that tend to develop antagonistic relationships. To this end, multi-dimensional social initiatives to promote trust building and national integration via recognition of shared aspirations and shared history is of the essence. Also, micro-management of society through promotion of inner spiritual peace and universal view of life amongst individuals is the urgent need of the hour. Additionally, acknowledging the fact that all cultures and religions since

ancient times have promoted the ethos of humanitarianism is of utmost importance. This in turn would have a ripple effect on the international peace initiatives and make them effective.

Women have played a vital role in the conservation and preservation of India's immense tangible and intangible heritage since time immemorial. Tangible heritage is visible in the natural beauty, bountiful resources, strengths of location and topography along with monuments, art, music, literature etc. which are universally recognized as symbols of a nation's culture, identity and civilizational achievement. The Indian tangible heritage is a saga of veneration of women, powerful portrayal of women and prominence of women in society and plays vital role in inculcating an attitude of respect for all genders and a sense of pride in heritage.

Intangible heritage on the other hand, is reflected in the standards for individual and community roles which are largely constructed by cultural backgrounds, since culture is a value system passed on for generations through social upbringing. It is found that our cultural and religious values, our way of life found in our traditions and folk lore often evolve from the family & community as a unit and women are the main keepers and transmitters of intangible heritage which is an important prerequisite for peace. Hence, women as peace educators can optimally concretise the agenda of securing lasting peace through their multiple roles.

In this light, understanding the spirit of the

Constitution of India is equally important to know how its relevant provisions that provide safeguards for its citizens in a democratic set-up where diplomacy and foreign policy, media as an opinion maker and vox- populi, institutions, sustainable development goals and the part played by the civil societies in maximising good governance, are key agenda drivers for peace. Insights into these diverse aspects of modern democracy along with the message of inter-religious respect and commonality need to be disseminated to the populace in order to sensitise and empower them.

Additionally, the current paradigm of severe internal security threats resulting from escalating civil-strife has far reaching impact on human life and psyche. The role of women in bringing about attitudinal change, conflict transformation and development is crucial for securing lasting peace. Exploration of ways by which equal involvement of all genders may be secured at all levels of internal and external peace programs so that a culture of peace may be strengthened is the urgent need of the hour.

In this context, the awareness of relevant human rights provisions along with dalit and minority rights provisions, Humanitarian Law provisions, UN Charter provisions and resolutions, case studies of women in conflict situations etc. is necessary along with a field to classroom approach for early acculturation, awareness of India's cultural diversity and its resilient ethos of unity in diversity that ensures harmony is essential for prevention of ethnic and communal

conflicts. Knowledge of relevant corporate interventions, international initiatives, value of grassroot approach and volunteerism is helpful.

Above all, a convergence of all stakeholders to develop a converged strategy for peace education program that can be implemented nationally is of utmost importance in consonance with training of women peace educators for value creation in society. Creating networks for national peace coalitions, reconnecting global networks and stakeholders for CoP to overcome bad governance and partial ignorance towards peace; to ameliorate the sufferings caused by current models of ineffective leaderships, failing states and politicization of civil societies and international NGOs is a felt need that AIWC wishes to intervene in and develop a matrix of strategic peace education program that effectively factors in the scenario of rising dis-values leading to destruction of familial and social cohesiveness which is essential for a sustainable and functional society.

Keeping the above mentioned problems and goals in mind, on Jan 31st 2019, and 1st Feb 2019, AIWC organised a two -day strategy workshop on "A Culture of Peace" at India International Centre with more than 75 participants. This endeavoured to bring all stakeholders to the table to attempt to evolve a converged peace education program that can stand the rigours of field application and prove truly effective in terms of general peace index of the country.

Members of AIWC's nine zones were represented as well as members from the Delhi branches, Civil Society, Academics, researchers and social workers.

The aim of the workshop was to

- a. Gain a perspective on different aspects of human progress that eliminates violence.
- b. Bring forth realistic attitudinal changes that would lead to peaceful co-existence by accepting diversity in all its forms.
- c. Repair the emotional fabric of society

The program was divided into 4 sessions, each having a list of eminent speakers.

Highlights of the sessions were:

Understanding the Indian Paradigm (1st session)-Macro-view of peace as an integral component in the democratic fabric of the nation. The speakers representing the 4 pillars of democracy presented their perspective on peace from the standpoint of their respective institutions

Frameworks for Securing Peace (2nd Session)- the speakers emphasized the role of education in bringing about positive change and harmony. Culture was said to be another great tool that could act as a glue to bind communities together.

Strategies for Coalitions for Peace (3rd session)-The discussion focused on building knowledge networks to translate knowledge to reality. The issues faced by different groups like scavengers, minorities etc. were discussed. An overall discussion was on communication of the demerits of war through plays, nukkad nataks, and stories.

"A culture of peace" strategy workshop (4th session)-The session was about individual transformation. AIWC members from different zones joined with peace educators, and others to engineer attitudinal changes by which they could become a guiding force for attitudinal changes in family and society, ensure peaceful communication and co-existence, in order to bring about a culture of Peace and Harmony.

The Sessions were highly engaging and the speakers drawn from bureaucracy, academia and NGO's were well conversant with their subject matter. Their suggestions and recommendations will be circulated in a report.

It is hoped that we can carry the work forward in a meaningful way in the coming months.

With inputs from Dr. Anupama Sharan, & Mrs Meenakshi Kumar

Stri Dharma- *A Journal Championing Women*

- By **Bargavi Devendra, Secretary WIA Chennai**



**Smt Bargavi Devendra with
original Stri Dharma copies**



Stri Dharma relaunched, June 2018

Stri Dharma was perhaps the earliest national journal in India, championing womens' cause. Published from 1918 to 1938, it was brought out in 6 languages- English, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, and Telugu. It was published from WIA, Chennai, with Mrs Margaret Cousins as the first editor. Containing a fund of useful, relevant information for women, it was sent to other womens associations in India and abroad, the annual subscription being 12 annas (three-fourth of a rupee). Thus it helped to maintain a link with womens movements in India and different parts of the world.

Stri Dharma would have vanished into the mist of history but for a chance enquiry in 1927, about a journal published by WIA nearly a hundred years ago. This was in 2017, the WIA Centenary year, so with a target to locate the journal at the earliest, I started my hunt for the magazine, finally finding copies of the journal in the Tamil Nadu Government Archives. After 6 months of work of selecting, copying, arranging, and reprinting we had with us 8 neatly bound volumes of the journal, forming a historic link with the early years of the womens movement in our country!

Stri – Dharma, the official voice of Women's Indian Association (WIA) was a monthly publication, which became a quarterly journal after three and half years. It carried news and events of interest to women, reports from the branches and articles on women's condition. It was “the voice, ear, eye of our members, it will speak what we would say to each other and through the words written on its pages we shall see what sisters would say to us.” Its role was to train, and guide wives and mothers to mould youth, the future rulers of the country.



Our symbol represents the ideal influence of woman, which is the object of our Association to make an actuality in every detail of daily life in every part of India. The work has begun in the Madras Presidency (the place of the woman's feet), but its life – force springs from religion (her heart is in the region of Benares) and its intellect must be as clear and cool as the Himalayan regions into which rises her head.

Serene and self-reliant must stand each member, with hands outstretched to sisters and brothers both in the East and West, to give them from her active right hand Beauty and Prosperity represented by the lotus, the flower that bears within itself male and female qualities equally, and from the lamp in her left hand to extend the steady flame of inspiration which will light the fire of the united life of man and woman, the fire of devotion to our Sacred Religion and of love for humanity, the fire of patriotism, the fire of zeal for reform.

Thus she represents Religion, Knowledge, Organisation, Service, Beauty, Prosperity, Inspiration and Co-operation all offered freely to Mother India by each of her daughters.

Coverage of events and policies:

After some years of its formation, Women's Indian Association had added a clause to its constitution which said the political policy of the association was to work for reform through the legislative councils. Through its pages, *Stri Dharma* reveals the efforts made by women activists to reform laws, and achieve voting rights for women in India.

Along with political rights, social upliftment, education of women, eradicating grievances of women, and taking part in the struggle for freedom were all part of the campaign for women. Another interesting aspect was that all the discussions were inclusive and international in approach.

Through the journal, WIA discussed and promoted reforms like equal status under the law to all Indians, compulsory primary education for girls, and reform in inheritance laws for Hindu women. From the early twenties, a number of appointments in municipal councils and local governments went to women. In Madras Presidency, most of the board appointees were from WIA. Mrs. Margaret

Cousins, then Secretary, WIA, was the first woman in India to be an honorary magistrate. She successfully proposed prohibition of woman and child labour in coal mines.

The journal records the strong protest by WIA to the South African Government against their continued exclusion of women from the rights of citizenship. The Association also wrote to the League of Nations to include women in their committees. Later, it supported Japanese women's rights to attend political meetings.

From *Stri Dharma*, it seems the period between 1924-1926 can be called the child welfare period, when several programs of child welfare were started.

In 1932 – 1933, the journal records discussions on temple entry, and passing of a proposal for temple entry of all. The journal hails the Proclamation of the young maharaja of Travancore, Raja Balarama Verma issued on November 12, 1936, prohibiting caste discrimination in temple entry. Even today, this is considered a historic day in social reform in India.

Mahatma Gandhi's message given to Mrs

Margaret Cousins, when she met him in Yerrawada Jail was printed in the December 1932 issue of *Stri Dharma* as: "Women have great powers of persuasion. The education of public opinion in favour of opening temples to Harijans is a matter for which these powers can be particularly valuable. I shall be glad if as many members of the Women's Indian Association as possible will proceed to Malabar to help in securing a referendum of bonafide temple goers within a radius of 10 miles around Guruvayur temple to agree to the opening of the temple to the Harijan brothers and sisters. The Zamorin is a good man and not obstinate but he has to carry the co-trustees with him and he must have a preponderance of public opinion in favour of temple entry before he could open the temple gates. It will be particularly useful if caste ladies and Malabar ladies will undertake this work, the more orthodox they have been, the more useful it will be if their opinions have been changed by a true 'realization of religion'. The Women's Indian Association has continuously done useful service for the country. I appreciate very much the strenuous labours of its secretary Dr. (Mrs.) Muthulakshmi Reddi at the time of my fast and send her my thanks. I am sure the members of the Women's Indian Association will be to the forefront in the work that ladies have to do in the 'Anti-untouchability campaign.'"

Mention is made of social service institutions established by WIA such as Madras Sevasadan, Madras Children's Aid society, Avvai Home, Swadeshi emporium and Montessori schools, with WIA

members spending from their own pockets for the work.

The Women's Indian Association was instrumental in starting the Vigilance association in Madras for the betterment of women and children. With its help, the police closed one hundred and fifty houses of illfame in 1934 itself. WIA also started and maintained rescue homes and orphanages. It was due to these efforts that the Madras Children's Aid Society came into existence and later, "Juvenile Courts" were established.

Four important Reform bills in the Legislative Assembly supported by WIA discussed by experts in the journal are:

- Mr. B. Das's Sarada Act amended bill.
- *Dr. Deshmukh's bill to Amend Hindu Law Governing Hindu Women's rights to property.
- *Dr. Bhagavan Das bill to validate marriages among caste Hindus.
- *Rao Bahadur M.C. Raj's bill for removal of caste disabilities.

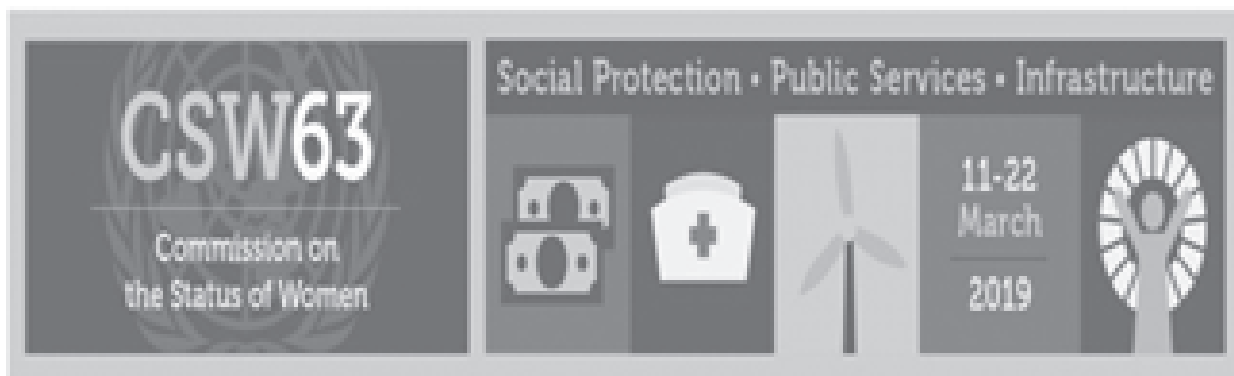
Through *Stri Dharma*, we can follow crusades against social evils like the devadasi system, and caste discrimination.

Many of the women's issues published in the journal are relevant even today, and can well be the subject of a thesis!

During the centenary celebrations of WIA in 2017, it was decided to revive the journal which had carried the torch for women nearly a hundred years ago. Prayers to the Almighty to bless this resolve.

CSW63 Conference, 2019

- by Dr Manju Kak, Treasurer, AIWC



I was privileged to attend the CSW63 on behalf of AIWC. It is my pleasure to report that it was a great gathering of dedicated women from civil society, NGOs and Governments. Some of the interesting events are mentioned below to give you an idea of the diversity of topics discussed-

Women's participation in Peace Building & Security; Harnessing the SDGs to secure Women's Rights to land; Celebrating and Advancing women's Political Participation; Barriers to Justice for Indigenous women and girls; A Climate Justice dialogue – enabling grass root and indigenous women's participation in Gender Responsive Climate Action; Women's Rights and 20-30 Agenda etc.

I myself was able to address a forum organized by the American Law Institute on the SDGs and participate in several others. Of these, of special interest on 19th March, was the briefing by the UN Women on the Global Forum to be held in 2020. This meeting was conducted by Ms. Lopa Bannerjee (Director Civil Society Division U.N.). The consultation was to elicit support and exchange views for the planning of Beijing + 25 to be held next

year.

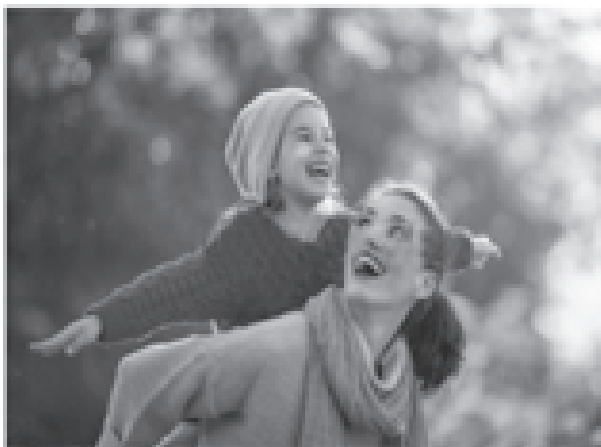
Briefly this Global Forum will review the 12 critical areas of concern for women that were outlined at the Beijing Conference for Women in 1995. While the National Action Plan is being prepared at government levels universally, there will be areas where Civil Society believes that its view points are not adequately represented by the national government reports, Ms. Bannerjee said.

To fill that gap she urged NGO's to submit their parallel reports which will go up on UN Women website along with the ones officially submitted by member governments. The time line is May, 2019. The National level reports will go into the Regional reviews and those in turn into the Global Reviews that will be discussed at the Global Forum. The time line for this is from October-January, 2020. The host countries suggested currently from the Global North and Global South are : France and Mexico.

It was suggested that NGO's could set up a Task Force with a Steering Committee to collectively execute this action at a National level. However there was no consensus on this.

Challenges to Motherhood Today

- By Dr. Ramesh Madan, Deputy Director (Retd.), ICSSR



A mother understands what a child does not say. Jewish Proverb

Motherhood is still revered all over Asia & especially in India. People of the third world still feel that a woman does not become a full fledged woman, unless she gives birth, and a sterile woman tends to lose self respect. Barren/childless women often visit saint and sadhus to get blessings and visit places of pilgrimage for begetting a child. Although, use of fertilization drugs, surrogacy, test tube babies, artificial insemination and buying and selling of motherhood is not so common in India as in countries of the advanced world but there are now test tube babies. It was first in 1976 that a test tube baby operation was done by Mr. Mukherjee, but it was kept a secret, and revealed only in 1996 when Dr. Mukherjee, who was attacked for being a fraud, committed suicide.

'Child Rearing' is as important as 'Motherhood'. It is during the first five years that love of parents, nutritious food, mental stimulation and healthy

environment, are all essential for a child's growth. Despite change in the lifestyle & status of women, even today, maternal instinct is recognized as a biological factor which helps to nurture infants. The Indian Government taking into consideration this factor, increased maternity leave from three months to 4½ months and now to six months. Central govt. has also provided the provision of leave with pay for rearing of the girl child. For others in MNC's and private jobs, maternity leave is given according to labour laws. Work from home is being allowed by many public and private companies to help expecting mothers to rear infants.

Prenatal growth of a child

In India, it is believed that the development of a child begins from the womb itself. According to the epic Mahabharata, Abhimanyu the warrior son of Arjun and Subhadra, was yet to be born when he heard Sri Krishna narrate to his sister Subhadra, his experience of chakravyuh, a military formation. He described how step by step the various defensive circles could be penetrated. It was a military formation and an effective form of defence. Subhadra did not find it interesting & fell asleep but the yet to be born Abhimanyu heard him. By the seventh step Krishna realized that Subhadra was asleep, and he stopped, Abhimanyu thus could obtain the technique of breaking in but not breaking out of the circle, and was killed in battle. That Abhimanyu got all the three

sanskaras in the womb itself, shows that an infants healthy mental growth begins even before it is born, was a fact known since ancient times.

Recent scientific findings have shown that babies can indeed hear from inside their mother's womb. Mothers role biologically, medically or socially to bring up a child is considered essential. This is seen even in our art, sculpture & paintings which show a strong mother child relationship. The painting "Mother & Child", of the late M. F. Hussain in which Madhuri Dixit was the "mother", was exhibited in Lalit Kala Academy, and was a best selling painting of the artist.

Now the question arises in a contemporary situation, where both the parents are working, can mother still be the first teacher. In earlier times, 'Joint Family System' meant learning from grandmother, paternal aunt and other females living together in a family. Most of the times, the inexperienced mother on the birth of her first child depended on others for rearing the infant.

Development of children today

The present situation in contemporary

India is due to existence of 'Nuclear Family system,' and women going out to work. Often, the child's development depends on the 'creches or maids or any other support system. Mothers of young children are often overburdened with dual work responsibilities i.e. work outside & work at home. A mother may feed her child but the child's behavior, and mental growth depends on others in the home and outside. Dominating fathers can also make or mar for a child's development. Interference of grandparents, family politics, family jealousies can also wrong ideas to children.

An educated and totally dedicated woman can certainly do this. Nobody is 'Ideal' both parents are equally responsible for the development of a child. Some fathers who drink or abuse in the presence of children, may find that the child becomes rude and unmanageable. In many Indian families father may be an atheist and mother very religious, so the child will follow one who has the greater influence. The time spent with the child, behavior and actions in his presence, will all affect his nature and behaviour. Mutual understanding, respect and love, between the parents will have the best influence on the child.



Panchshila- Five Principles: derived from Buddhist Noble Truths, was invoked by India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru to govern relations between sovereign states. The Panchshila Pact was ratified with China in an Agreement signed on 28th April, 1954, and at the Afro-Asian Conference at Bandung, Indonesia in 1955, and many times later. Though at times it proved ineffective, it continues to be the bed-rock of our foreign policy.

AIWC's Day Care Centre for Women Senior Citizens, Baranagar, Kolkata

- By Shikha Mitra, Vice-President, AIWC



Baranagar Day Care Centre provides activities, companionship for elders

The Baranagar Day Care Centre, ECSC branch, Kolkatta started its journey in the year 2015, and has now come a long way. It was in the year 2014 we came across some old women in the Baranagar Jute Mill area, who were neglected and ignored by their family members and were ill and frustrated with life. Majority of these women came from low income households, their family earned its livelihood as daily wage labourers, so there was no one to look after them at home. It was then that we decided to bring up this day care centre for the mental and economic upliftment of these women.

The centre's strength is 15, and elders are given lots of activities to keep themselves occupied. We organize counselling for them, along with certain fundamental education and physical exercise programs. They are also coached for making handicraft items, which later helps them to attain economical stability. Apart from this, we provide them nutritional food and free medical assistance with a doctor visiting them twice a month, providing medicines and

conducting all required tests. We also take care of their recreation by arranging various indoor games, taking them for outing and picnic.

We are glad to see the outcome of our centre, as now these women are physically much stronger than before, are mentally satisfied, and most importantly, happy with this new life. Today they have found the meaning of living. Many of them who lacked some day to day activity or skill are now capable. They can now fill their bank receipts, can sign important documents and can read the time. They are happy to be part of this centre and want others like them to join the centre for a better life experience.

"I am happy being here with the others like me. Before joining the centre I was frustrated with my life, and was suffering from insomnia but after being here I am happy and the medicines prescribed and provided by the centre are helping me get a good night's sleep", says Savitri Ghosh.

"I am now happy and satisfied with my life", says one of the beneficiaries Kamli Debi.



Far and Near

Activity reports from Branches

Sun City Road const. branch, AIWC Pune: A one-day Health camp on diabetes was held in November, on World Diabetes Day. It was attended by members and a large number of families from poorer sections. President, Smt Neeta Dharane welcomed the gathering and spoke of the wide-spread incidence of the disease. At present there are 6 crore diabetic patients in India. The symptoms, causes, and treatment of diabetes were described by Dr Swati Walimbe, and Dr Arati Datar, the specialists invited to the program. The reasons given were: uncontrolled food intake, being overweight, low activity, lack of exercise, lack of sleep, and tension. Hence a regular life with enough exercise, intake of fresh food, was advised. Random check of the disease was done in the group, and treatment prescribed.

Dr Seema Joshi approached the disease from the view-point of food and nutrition. She suggested a regular diet of fresh food, avoiding oily or processed food, and attention to nutrition needs of the body. Random check of the disease was done in the group, and treatment was prescribed.

Neeta Dharane, President



Sparsha Welfare Foundation, const. branch, AIWC SWS br.: We organized an Awareness and Eye-checkup camp, at Behala Bikasan Special school, Kolkata on 20th November. Ms Minoti Bhattacharjee, Secretary Behala Bikasan, said that it was the first time a Free Eyecheck-up camp was being held in the area.

Mrs Mira Bose, Secretary, Sparsha said the check-up was needed for special children, who could not express their problems. She thanked

Mr Kailash Khandelwa, of Lions International, and Mr Sanjib Kejriwal, Director of Sardha Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. for supporting the program.

There were 40 beneficiaries in all. Some children refused the eye-checkup due to fear. The eye camp could be held successfully because of the co-operation of the school authorities and local people like vendor Sh Vinod Bihari Parida, who took over co-ordination and smooth running of the camp.

Mira Bose, General Secretary



AIWC Regent Park const. branch: A one day awareness camp on "Girl Child Safety" was held on 18th November. Mrs Madhumita Majumdar, Secretary, Regent Park const. branch, raised the issue of why women who had explored the moon, and become heads of nations, were still not safe in their own surroundings. The branch had decided to address and act on this issue.

Mrs Luna Paul, the first speaker said that when aggression and assault on women had become an everyday occurrence, it was important to have friendly, straight talk about body parts, and follow a "no secrets" policy in discussions with girls and boys. She emphasized education of boys and girls in schools, and character building of youth. Speaking of empowering the girl child against safe and unsafe touch, she gave some examples from real life incidents. The following guidelines were given for girls:

Knowledge of facts and prevalence of violence against women

#Knowledge of the body, complex changes in mind and body at different phases of life

#Apply both intuition and intelligence to deal with an elder whose behavior causes uneasiness

#Never submit silently. Raise your voice and protest against any misbehavior/ misdeed

#In case of any incident, inform your teacher, parents, or any other trusted person

#Have the self-confidence to say NO to any misconduct with you

Ms Mitul Dasgupta, the second speaker, is an advocate dealing with women's rights. She said that violence against women is rooted in gender discrimination and our social norms. Education and awareness of their rights is necessary for girls. She described the different forms of violence against women. Parents and teachers must instil moral values in children, and serve as role models. If we are sincere, we will get results, she concluded.

The last speaker, Mr Anjan Chakraborty was a lawyer and Behavioral Science expert, and was a Senior Faculty, of Legal Aid Services in the city. He stressed education of the girl child to make her mentally strong and confident. He works with several organizations which have a network reaching all sections of society, and would respond to every call for help.

There was an interesting question answer session, with excellent participant by the group.

In conclusion Ms Paromita Sengupta expressed the desire that children, who are hope for the future, would speak out and fight any injustice meted to them.

Madhumita Majumdar, Secretary

AIWC Kakinada: On the occasion of World Aids Day, we conducted a one day Awareness program on Aids, and TB. The venue was the office of Cairn Oil & Gas Ltd, Amalapuram. Participants were from AIWC Kakinada and workers of Cairn Oil & Gas Ltd.

In the first session, Dr P. S. Sarma, District Co-ordinator, ENDTB project, gave a detailed explanation of the 2 diseases, and interacted with the group, clearing many doubts.

In the second session, the speakers were Dr P. Padmajavani, and Dr N. Vijayalaxmi. After speaking about Aids and TB, they went on to the subject of menstrual hygiene, its requirements, and hazards to health caused by unhygienic practices.

N. Bhanumathi, Secretary



AIWC Moradabad :



AIWC Moradabad organized cultural programs in Int Womens Day

Inter National women's day on 8th March 2019, was celebrated in the I M A Hall, Colectorate premises. Our Chief guest was the Commissioner, Moradabad and the Mayor presided, along with other dignitaries. There was a great celebration with cultural programs based on the theme of the Pulwama attack. There were group songs and Bharatnatyam by our members. Our President and Secretary gave the history of the of AIWC and our branch and our work. The Commissioner spoke of

women's rights and also of social responsibilities they should undertake. He greatly appreciated our work. In his speech, the Mayor asked us to continue our work of supporting elders, and training girls for livelihoods.

Rita Singh ,President



Sanjeevni Mahila Sanstha, Meerut: On Int. Womens Day we met womens groups and interacted with them on topics like health awareness and the civic duty of voting in the elections, in several interactive sessions.

Nishi Jain, President



South Delhi Lodhi Road(SODELO): On 10th March, we organized Int. Womens Day in Valmiki Nagar. When meeting jhuggi residents, we saw the plight of Smt Dhapo an elderly daily wager, who had been confined to a charpoy, after a speeding car



Ms Gomathi Nair donated for reconstructing weavers sheds

South - West Delhi Womens Association(SWEDWA): International Womens Day was a festive occasion held by us in Prem Dham ashram, Najafgarh. A large crowd of members, local womens groups, and differently abled students/ trainees of Prem Dham joined us and participated. The program was organized in co-ordination with Sh R.K. Massey, Director, Prem Dham, and our branches Guldasta, and Palam Womens Association.

The theme selected for the occasion was national integration, hence the presentations, discussions, songs, skits, dances were all relevant to the theme. The Sukhmanch theatre group grabbed attention with their vigorous enacting of a Nukkad Natak supporting womens right to dignity and social rights. Women acheivers in different fields like entrepreneurship, security, and social work were honored. SWEDWA Souvenir was released by Sh B.M.Verma, Ex- Chairman Haryana Electricity Board.

Janaki Rajaram, President



fractured her hip. We approached the CEO of Max India Foundation requesting donation of a wheelchair. Within 3 days, a brand new wheelchair was delivered to Smt Dhapo to her immense surprise and joy.

Meenakshi Kumar, Secretary



Int. Womens Day was celebrated by SWEDWA on the theme of National Integration.

AIWC Amritsar: Highlights of recent months-

· We organized a one day awareness program on Sustainable Development Goals- a universal call to end poverty, ensure peace and prosperity. Out of 17 goals, we selected 4- global warming, climate change, education, and health. The program commenced with scientist Sh P.S. Bhatti who has a long experience in dealing with environment, and conservation work. He told the large gathering about both natural and manmade reasons for global warming which was threatening our lives and destroying our environment. The Dr M.S. Bhatti, Assc. Professor , Environment change, GNDU, explained the options before us to reduce the effects of global warming and climate change. Among his suggestions were limiting the use of vehicles, pesticides, air conditioners etc, and promoting renewable energy with change of life- styles. Planting trees and taking vegetarian foods were other suggestions he made.

Ms Swaraj Grover, Principal (Retd), was of the view that higher education should be combined with maintaining our traditional culture and ways of life. Also awareness of sanitation and health needs should be part of education.

On health, DrDavinder Kaur, Prof. Government Medical college and Guru Ram Dass Medical Science Research, ASR, said that the goal for health was not for the present generation but for laying a foundation for future generations. She described ways and means to achieve health goals through

community participation.

*Our branch is actively associated with HIV/Aids control. To achieve a target oriented goal, we held a function sponsored by HIV/Aids Society, in which Ms Tanvi Mahajan and her team from Delhi held an inter- active session showed how negative thoughts can be thrown out and a positive approach initiated by a combination of yoga, meditation, and by adopting the tacky system.

#An Anemia Awareness camp was organized on our premises on 29th January. Dr Sanjeev Sareen, Laproscopic surgeon and Mrs Geetanjali Sareen were the chief speakers. The different causes of anemia were discussed, including excessive bleeding during menstruation. Persistent anemia, if not treated could lead to diseases of the thyroid, lungs, heart and kidneys. Some of the side- effects were joint pain, fatigue, and weakness.

Dr Sareen emphasized the danger of Hepatitis caused by infected needles during blood transfusion, and need to be aware of the danger caused by unsanitary surroundings during any treatment. The diet recommended for anemia was bajra, corn, eggs, seasonal fruits, green vegetables and jaggery instead of white sugar.

Technicians tested the blood of about a hundred students, school staff, and AIWC members. In all 50 students were found to be anemic, and will have follow-up checkup done later. Three months supply of vitamins, iron and calcium was given to anemic students.

Prem Duggal, President/Zonal organizer



Profile of Samyuktha

Highlights of recent activities:

Samyuktha is one of the main AIWC branches in Thiruvananthapuram, with 16 active constituent branches, and a total of 3750

members. We celebrate national days, and special days with programs for women, children and elders, the expenses are met from

our own contributions as well as from sponsors. We regularly implement AIWC Awareness, and other programs under our Annual schedule of activities.

#Anemia camps -We conducted 15 anemia camps in different constituent branches in Trivandrum district, which benefited 1679



Anemia camp by Samyuktha

#Other health camps included menstruation awareness camps conducted in 3 schools, and 2 camps for women held by our branches.

AIWC Education Trust scholarships- 5 students benefited, 2 for MBBS study, 2 for B. Pharmacy, and one for BDS. 5 new students



Adolescent camps in main and constituent branches

#Domestic violence against women- Priyadharsini Mahila Samajam,, Nellikonam, conducted an awareness camp on the subject. 78 people including Police officers, counselors, social workers, and the victim women participated. After the training, 2 women appealed to the Family Court and were placed in Shelter Homes. The counseling program is

persons, 375 of our previous beneficiaries were found to be cured of ailments.

#Anemia camps -We conducted 15 anemia camps in different constituent branches in Trivandrum district, which benefited 1679 persons, 375 of our previous beneficiaries were found to be cured of ailments.



Ms Deena Alfie, Secretary, was awarded for her work by Minister Sh Ramachandran

have applied for different courses.

Adolescent camps- 4 camps were conducted, and trainees were asked to conduct training of youth in their villages. Camps for boys are now to be held.



continuing.

Health camps for eye disorders, diabetes, and leprosy have also been held. About 200 cases of leprosy were detected, by our volunteer members, and sent for treatment,

We attend Kerala Govt. planning meetings and contribute our ideas and plans on how we

can jointly work for womens rehabilitation . we also contributed to the Chief Ministers flood relief fund sum of Rs.25000/- and supplied food, clothing etc to affected families and relief camps. Part payment for house reconstruction was made to a poor family.

#Recently a micro business unit was formed. Named Carishma, it has started production.

With the support of Dale View we also conducted training of Para legal volunteers in and around Trivandrum district on 15-09-2018 and 16-09-2018. Psychiatric Doctor Dr. Kiran Kumar and Women Protection officer Smt. Sreelatha, conducted the classes in the presence

of the District Legal Service Authority. There are 100 volunteers altogether participating in the program. During the period we formed one trans gender group in Attingal and it has started a production unit.

We celebrated Women's Day in most of our constituent branches with good participation in the programs. Eminent experts came and held classes on their subjects.

#We conducted AIDS awareness campaign and check up., attended by 123 people. Some cases were referred to the medical college hospital. Deena Alfi, Standing Committee member.



On 26 th January, at the 70th Republic Day parade, the Ministry of Women & Child showcased woman power in all sectors of the nation. All Woman Assam Rifles led the parade, with stunts on a bike by a woman officer. There were teams from Navy, Army Signals and Army Services

शाखा गतिविधियाँ

अग्रणी सुकृति महिला— फरीदाबाद शाखा : हमारी शाखा के सभी सदस्य साथ मिल कर कार्य करते हैं और अपनी सेवाएँ दूसरों तक पहुँचाते हैं।

एक सिलाई केन्द्र सरला गर्ग जी चला रही जो बहुत अच्छा चल रहा है। उसमें सभी उम्र की महिला आती हैं और सिलाई सीखती हैं। और हमने किचन वेस्ट और गार्डन के पत्तों की खाद बनाने के लिए मशीन लगाई है। हम गाय के मूत्र और गोबर से जीवामृत गौशाला से लाकर गार्डन में स्प्रे करवाते हैं। 4 पार्को को हमने गोद ले रखा है जिसकी मन्टेनस हम करवाते हैं। तथा वृद्ध आश्रम में धन राशि दे कर सहयोग करते हैं

शाखा सचिव :

श्रीमति प्रेमलता गुप्ता

संजीवनी महिला संस्था द्वारा एक दिवसीय जागरूकता कार्यक्रम ग्राम भावनपुर किला रोड, मेरठ में आयोजित किया गया। जिसमें लगभग 90 महिलाओं और लड़कियों ने भाग लिया।

सर्वप्रथम श्रीमती अतुल शर्मा जी ने निम्न Topics पर अपने विचार रखे।

- (i) महिलाओं के अधिकार
- (ii) महिला हिंसा के प्रति सचेत (धरेलू व बाहरी)
- (iii) मतदान जागरूकता

प्रश्नोत्तर राउन्ड भी हुआ। ग्रामीण महिलाओं को जागरूकता करने के लिए व वार्ता को रोचक बनाने के लिए संजीवनी सदस्यों द्वारा प्रत्येक विषय को "नुक्कड़ नाटक" के जरिए प्रस्तुत कर जागरूकता करने का प्रयास किया गया।

उसके बाद डा. सीमा जैन ने "स्वास्थ्य जागरूकता" के विषय में विस्तार से बताया। जिसमें उनकी जीवन शैली, खान-पान के साथ-2 विशेष रूप से अत्यन्त ही विस्तार में सर्वाइकल कैंसर के बारे में बताया।

महिलाओं ने अपनी-2 समस्याएं भी-रखी जिनका समाधान किया गया। संशोधित प्रश्न भी पुछे। "स्वास्थ्य" पर भी संजीवनी सदस्यों ने नुक्कड़-नाटक प्रस्तुत किया।

शाखा अध्यक्षा :

श्रीमति निशि जैन

गुरुग्राम ग्रामीण महिला मण्डल द्वारा प्रेमपुरी झाड़सा में महिला सुरक्षा पर एक दिवसीय कार्यक्रम आयोजित किया गया। कार्यक्रम का उद्घाटन श्रीमती टीना ए.एस.आई. महिला थाना सैक्टर-15 द्वारा किया गया। श्रीमती टीना ने सभा में महिलाओं व लड़कियों को सम्बोधित करते हुए बताया की पीड़ित महिलाओं को महिला थाने में आकर अपने हक के लिए रिपोर्ट दर्ज कराना जरूरी है तभी उनकी समस्याओं का समाधान उनके लाभ में किया जाएगा। आपकी सहायता के लिए महिला पुलिस भी नियुक्त हैं। सभा में सुमन हेड कांस्टेबल और दुर्गा शक्ति परियोजना की इंचार्ज ने बताया कि यदि घर या रास्ते में छेड़छाड़ का अपराध हो तो हरियाणा सरकार द्वारा जो दुर्गा शक्ति एप बनाया गया है उसको अपने मोबाइल में डाउनलोड करें और तुरन्त सूचित करें। दुर्गा शक्ति परियोजना की गाड़ी तुरन्त महिलाओं के मदद हेतु पहुंचती है। कभी-कभी चाहें तो मिर्च स्प्रे करने का यंत्र भी रखना चाहिए।

शाखा अध्यक्षा श्रीमति शोमा लाला

राधाकिशनपुरा, सीकर (राज.)

गाँव रैवासा रानौली में हमने एक दिवसीय कार्यक्रम कन्या भ्रूण हत्या रोकने के लिए किया।

कार्यक्रम को शुरूआत शाखा अध्यक्ष ने विषय को समझाते हुई सभी महिलाओं का वक्ताओं का तह दिल से स्वागत किया। कार्यक्रम के दौरान महिलाओं से सभी ने बातचीत की व फिर उनको समझाया।

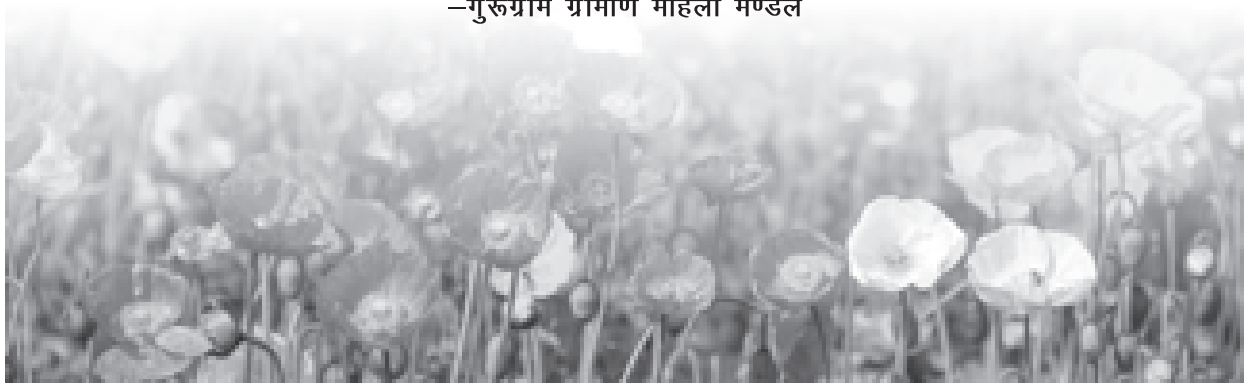
कन्या भ्रूण हत्या को रोकने के लिए महिलाओं को आवाज उठाने की जरूरत है। डर कर अन्याय सहने से कुछ नहीं होगा। बेटी को इंसान बना देना होगा और स्वीकार करना होगा कि बेटा हो या बेटी उसे जीवन जीने का अधिकार है।

डॉ दीपिका चौधरी ने शिशु हत्या एक अभिशाप/महापाप बताते हुई उनसे होने वाले नुकसानों से जागरूक किया।

शाखा अध्यक्षा पूजा चौधरी



महिला दिवस कार्यक्रम
—गुरुग्राम ग्रामीण महिला मण्डल





Health camp in Vidyaranya, by AIWC Mysore



Campaign against female feticide by East Rajasthan branch



One Day Legal Awareness program by AIWC Gudivada



Donation of wheelchair to accident victim, by SODELO branch



Awareness program in Shivari village, by Kasturba Mahila Mandal, Saswad branch



Foundation Day of AIWC Kalimpong, celebrated on 16th March



*Vocational Training by
Vishakha Vanitha Samithi, Vishakapatnam*



*Consumer Awareness and
RTI workshop by Chowringhee branch*



*Pavitra Phera with oath to save the girl child, by 96 couples,
organized by Ms Harsha Ladhani, MIC Gender Sensitization*



*Mass marriage of differently abled youth,
by Allahabad City branch*



Gender sensitization in DPS Ranpur, by Jagriti, Haridwar



*Innovative First generation learners workshop,
Garia-Mahamatala-Jadavpur const.br.*