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# AU TALK

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WHAT'UP ON AU CAMPUS



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## Empowerment and Reservation

**\*Anuradha Agarwal**

In recent times, we have heard and read these two words quite frequently in the context of the Nari Shakti Vandana Adhiniyam (popularly called the Women Reservation Bill, 2023), which is claimed to be a woman-empowering measure by the government. Now, the pertinent question arises about the effectiveness and future implications of gender-based reservation of seats in Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies in India. To deal with this, one has to understand the meaning of empowerment. 'Empowerment' basically means the freedom to choose and to make meaningful decisions that affect the course of an individual's life. The problem for women is created by patriarchal structures and institutions, which prevent women from making important decisions in their lives. To continue with studies or to marry, who to marry, to hold a job or give it up for children, to buy a particular property or to dispose of property – these are some common choices that all women have to make at one or the point in time, but, unfortunately, women usually do not have the freedom to take decisions independently. Many times, their choices are dictated by others. Hence, if the government measures do not cater to the needs of ordinary women at the ground level, empowerment at the large scale will never be more than a pipe dream. The reservation of seats in legislatures can create greater parity, as the number of women in the parliament and state legislatures will double from their current ratio of 10-15 per cent. Women will become a potent pressure group within legislature parties; it is a well-known fact that women legislators across party lines have united on certain issues affecting women (The history of the woman's reservation bill is a clear example). However, given the male-dominated decision-making structures within the government, one wonders how far women will be allowed to exert their influence in policy decisions and whether they will be made chairpersons of important committees and members of the inner cabinet so that they can exercise their power. A beginning has been made, and women are sure to take over. But as of now, the 106th Amendment Bill (through which reservation in legislatures will be implemented after 2030) does not empower women as it claims to do so.

**\*Senior Professor and Director, Centre for Women Studies, University of Allahabad**

## Woman's Voice in Art: From Liberation to Empowerment

**\*Jaya Kapoor**

*Art wasn't supposed to look nice; it was supposed to make you feel something."*

*- Rainbow Rowell*

The journey of empowerment begins first with an understanding of what disempowerment is. A shared sense of being deprived of opportunities inspires resistance, gives the guts to think of saying a 'No', and finally instils the courage to stand up and say that 'No' loud and clear.

The prejudices about the competence of women have always been so deeply entrenched that the earliest female voices registered their presence either under male pseudonyms or anonymously in the literary world. The famous Bronte sisters, Louisa May Alcott aka A. M. Bernard, Mary Anne Evans aka George Eliot, Violet aka Vernon Lee, Alice Bradley Sheldon aka Bradley Sheldon as recent as J. K. Rowling are just some women writers who wrote under pseudonyms to escape social bias. The works of the woman writers who chose to write in their own voices were received as domestic tales that are just a source of in-house entertainment. The list of extraordinary singers and dancers who were relegated to the status of 'public women' is even longer. The women artists' creative works/performances were, in reality, attempts to find a release from the stifling world where both education and opportunities for expression were taboo for women.

Around the end of the first millennium the nuns in Germany came together to enact plays written by Hrotsvitha (CE 935-973) in the closed precincts of the Churchyard, while the women in the Tagore household in the early twentieth century enacted plays much before modern drama found its shape and form in both societies. Hrotsvitha is a fascinating figure as she is one of the earliest women to write plays and also speak about her life and times. Mirabai's poetry is not just her expression of devotion and love for Krishna but also a voice of protest against the restrictions imposed on her in the name of honour, pride, and respect. It taught women that devotion to a deity as a personal expression of faith is not prohibited. Their faith could be their strength. There were so many such voices like Lal Ded, Akka Mahadevi, Andal, and Hubba Khaton, who sang songs of devotion, making their very presence a challenge to the traditional narratives. Mahadevi Verma's Shrinkhala Ki Kariyan and young Ismat Chughtai's stories like Lihaf and Tedhi Lakeer document the pains and pangs of being the second sex; they bring the hidden complex world of a zenana to life. They were all in their own unique ways challenging the stereotype and underlining the resilience of a woman in the face of challenges. A similar commitment is seen in the resolution of performing artists like Mallika Sarabhai and Shovana Narain, singers like Begum Akhtar and M. S. Subbulakshmi, and musicians like Gauhar Jan in the field of performing arts. They redefined their craft, refined it, and raised it to the levels of high art while simultaneously reinterpreting narratives and styles to highlight and problematize the issue of the place of women in stories and society.

Women have been using arts to express, sensitize, and create a community of compatriots to gradually strengthen the cause for woman empowerment by giving center stage to the marginalised female voices.

**\*Professor and Public Relations Officer, University of Allahabad**

**Sacrifice, thy name is woman!****\*Syed Ibrahim Rizvi**

God created Adam from dust and then to make his companion, he created Eve from one of the ribs of Adam. So goes the narrative in the Book of Genesis of the Bible. The biblical narrative further goes to explain how the serpent deceived Eve to taste the fruit of the forbidden tree leading to the banishment of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden. Religious perspectives may sound hyperbolic, but pure scientific knowledge also lends credence to the fact that even biologically there are many differences between males and females. After bestowing males with strength, dominance, power and arrogance, nature compensated for its folly by complimenting females with beauty, compassion, love and humility. Perhaps it was in acknowledgement of the prime qualities bestowed upon the female sex that nature entrusted the responsibility of propagation of life to this gender. The genesis and continuation of life on this earth owe its existence to females of all animal species. The sustenance of the difficult gestation period and childbirth is a huge sacrifice, which the female makes for mankind.

The evolution of humans through 3.5 billion years of historical process created intellect and intelligence hitherto unparalleled by any existing animal. However, the development of a patriarchal society brought certain concepts which were beyond any logical explanation. Humans became the only species that started to discriminate against the female sex. A large section of the society still does not celebrate the birth of a girl child. From childhood, the girl learns to play second fiddle to her younger or elder brother. Specific instances apart, the child herself is not able to recognize how her status is always a notch below the boy in the household. The situation is so rampant that nobody understands the emotional sacrifice of the girl.

A few years past childhood, the girl undergoes another societal diktat for wearing clothes that conform to the parameters of a particular cultural group. The girl is made to make another sacrifice. While the male is free to make merry, the girl is wrapped in the boundaries of customs and traditions. An adolescent and teenage girl is probably the most vulnerable person in a family. While biological development creates a myriad of psychological uncertainties, the social pressures are overbearing. The emotional sacrifice of the girl is lost in the chorus of family norms and traditions. For the male child, the teenage years are full of joy and tantrums, but the girl in the family is frequently made aware of her future responsibilities. The frequently changing roles of the female are always associated with extreme sacrifices of which even she is unaware.

It is indeed a sad commentary that we don't acknowledge the supreme sacrifice of the female gender which transforms itself from a girl to a sister to a wife and to a mother without making us aware of the inherent sacrifices involved.

**\*Senior Professor and Dean, Research and Development, University of Allahabad**

## Millions

\*Smita Agarwal

In my country, this huge, chaotic country, the poor die like animals.  
 Mostly, the very poor are women, who've worked their bodies like  
 Asses, mules, donkeys fetching water from the well, cowpats from the fields,  
 Fuel and fodder from the forest, to keep home and hearth going. Researches

Tell us – Ants walk –kms./lifetime; birds fly –miles/hr. These women  
 Work 27 hrs/day. In my country, this huge chaotic country, women  
 Are thrashed like dirty linen, burnt like faggots, starved like an  
 Unfathomable, incurable disease. To put it plainly,

They revive to keep home and hearth going.

Very poor women die like animals; curled up in a corner, sometimes  
 Whining and moaning, usually, very quiet. Pappu, angled across  
 The doorway like a Khajuraho semi-nude may inform you –  
*Amma is ill. She can't do your dishes today.* May I see her?

You may toss your request in the air. Inside the hut you may spot a bundle  
 In the foetal position. Two eyes-with-an-animal-glow may snap  
 Awake at Pappu's exhortations. A flash of recognition, then,  
 A look of despair. Everything'll be just fine,  
 You may hear yourself blurt out

You may rush out, hand over a few rupees to Pappu. For medicines . . .  
 Pappu's father, sitting on a string cot a few feet off the hut may say,  
*She's very ill . . .* Three days later, Kamla will be dead.  
 In this country, this huge, chaotic country, hill-women fall off

Trees they've climbed to collect deadwood and fresh leaves, and are handicapped  
 For life. Women are mauled by bears. A few feed the juice of poisonous  
 Berries to their just-born baby girls; some, with the approval of the  
 Entire family, of course, kill the female foetus in the uterus.

In this country, this sending the Chandrayan to the moon country,  
 Women are squashed like flies or mosquitoes and  
 Women continue to survive men in this country . . .

\*Senior Professor, University of Allahabad

## **Cervical Cancer Prevalent in Women: Diagnosis, Therapeutic challenges, Prevention and Cure**

**\*Bechan Sharma**

Cervical cancer is caused by human papillomavirus (HPV). It commonly occurs due to a sexually transmitted infection (STI). The persistent infection with high-risk subtypes of HPV and the viral oncoproteins E5, E6 and E7 cooperate with the host factors to induce and maintain the malignant phenotype. All HPVs are non-enveloped, icosahedral double stranded DNA (dsDNA) viruses containing a circular genome of about 52-54 nm in diameter and 8Kbp size. It stays bound to the cellular histones and is contained in a protein capsid comprising 72 pentameric capsomers. Some of the HPV strains are reported to trigger changes or cause mutations in the cellular DNA in the cervix leading to development of tumour. However, not all the precancerous cells of the cervix may progress into cervical cancer. Cervical cancer develops in the cells that line the cervix, a cylinder-shaped connective tissue situated between a woman's vagina and uterus. The cervix has two parts: the exocervix, which is located at the top of the vagina and covered in squamous cells, and the endocervix, which is located at the bottom of the uterus and covered in epithelial cells. The connection of the two cell types is known as the transformation zone, where the precancerous cells change and trigger the development of cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer in women globally with an estimated 604 000 new cases and 342 000 deaths in 2020. According to the National Cancer Registry Programme Report, the prevalence of cervical cancer in India was 36014 in the women aged 35 to 44. The highest rates of cervical cancer incidence and mortality are in low- and middle-income countries including India. This reflects major inequities driven by lack of access to national HPV vaccination, cervical screening and proper diagnosis, timely treatment services as well as social and economic determinants. Cervical cancer is caused by persistent infection with the HPV. Women with low immunity due to any other viral infections such as those living with HIV are 6 times more likely to develop cervical cancer compared to women without HIV. Prophylactic vaccination against HPV and screening and treatment of pre-cancer lesions are effective ways to prevent cervical cancer and are very cost-effective. Cervical cancer can be cured if diagnosed at an early stage and treated promptly. Countries around the world are working to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer by 2030.

The early signs and symptoms of HPV infection include unusual vaginal bleeding, which may occur between menstrual periods or after menopause or after the advances of tumour and its invasion in nearby tissues; abnormal vaginal discharge, which may be thick, odorous and/or tinged with blood; menstrual periods that are heavier or longer-lasting than usual; vaginal bleeding or pain during sexual intercourse; vaginal bleeding during a pelvic examination; pain in the lower back or pelvic region; pain during urination, urinary urgency or frequency and leg swelling. The routine screening usually is pap smear test can detect the precancerous and cancerous cells in the cervix, which may help in prevention and cure of the disease. Along with it, the HPV testing can be confirmatory in such cases by pelvic examination, colposcopy, biopsy and endocervical curettage.

The early treatment of cervical cancer is essential as it may transform the healthy cells into the cancerous cells in the cervix known as dysplasia. The first-line treatment in the early stage of cervical cancer is surgery combined with radiation therapy and chemotherapy (oral or intravenous administration of potential drugs). The most effective single agent, which has been used for the last 30 years to treat cervical cancer is the platinum-based chemotherapeutic, cisplatin. Cisplatin can be used as a single drug or in combination with topotecan or paclitaxel or 5-fluorouracil or bleomycin. Chemotherapy may also be combined with radiotherapy.

The major challenges in the treatment of cervical cancer include its high cost, tumour drug resistance and serious side effects of the therapeutics. World Health Assembly in 2020 called for the "Elimination of Cervical Cancer" by 2030 through achieving the following 3 targets: (1) HPV vaccination of 90% of girls by the age of 15 years, (2) screening of 70% of women at 35 years and then 45 years with high-performance tests, and (3) treatment of 90% precancerous lesions and management of 90% invasive cancer cases. It is thought that the repurposing of drugs using non-cancer drugs targeting the key host factors that co-operate with the HPV on coproteins such as E6 and E7 responsible for progression of cervical cancer. It may help identify and generate highly potential, safe, and cost-effective drugs. However, extensive research is required in this context to develop effective vaccines and efficacious anti-HPV therapeutics for proper disease management and prevention.

- **\*Senior Professor and Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Allahabad**



## सक्षम नेतृत्व में महिला सशक्तिकरण



'पूरब का आक्सफोर्ड' के रूप में ख्यातिलब्ध इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय की स्थापना 23 सितम्बर सन् 1887 ई0 में हुई। यह भारत के चार सर्वाधिक प्राचीन विश्वविद्यालयों में से एक है। अनेक राष्ट्रीय एवं अन्तरराष्ट्रीय स्तर की हस्तियाँ गौरवपूर्ण अकादमिक परम्परा वाले इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय की उपज रही हैं।

29 नवम्बर 2020 को तत्कालीन मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय (वर्तमान में शिक्षा मंत्रालय) ने प्रोफेसर संगीता श्रीवास्तव को कुलपति पद पर नियुक्त किया। तकरीबन 133 वर्षों के इतिहास में किसी महिला के इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति पद पर नियुक्त होने का यह पहला अवसर था। आदरणीया कुलपति महोदया की कुशल प्रशासनिक क्षमता और दृढ़ निश्चय के कारण बाह्य एवं आंतरिक अवरोधों के बावजूद विश्वविद्यालय की मुख्य धारा में महिलाओं को लाने का प्रयास सराहनीय है। वर्षों से शिक्षकों की कमी से जूझ रहे विश्वविद्यालय को आदरणीया कुलपति प्रोफेसर संगीता श्रीवास्तव ने शिक्षक भर्ती का उपहार देकर नवीन ऊर्जा प्रदान करने का कार्य किया है। अब तक विभिन्न विभागों में तकरीबन 500 शिक्षकों की भर्ती हुई जिनमें लगभग 84 महिला शिक्षक हैं। इसके साथ ही विश्वविद्यालय की आंतरिक व्यवस्था में भी महिलाओं की भागीदारी निरंतर बढ़ रही है।

समाज की आधी आबादी जो आज भी अपने अस्तित्व के लिए प्रयासरत है, उसे प्रोफेसर संगीता श्रीवास्तव के निर्देशन में उचित प्लेटफॉर्म मिला है। इससे पूर्व भी विश्वविद्यालय में वर्षों से शिक्षक-नियुक्ति के प्रयास कुलपतियों द्वारा किये गए किंतु प्रशासनिक, न्यायिक तथा अन्य दृश्य-अदृश्य अवरोधों के बावजूद आदरणीया कुलपति महोदया के नेतृत्व में ही शिक्षक भर्ती प्रक्रिया सफलतापूर्वक पूर्ण हो पाई है।

महिलाओं की क्षमता और अपरिमित ऊर्जा पर भरोसा करते हुए विश्वविद्यालय प्रशासन में महिला शिक्षकों को सक्रिय भागीदारी के अवसर मिले हैं। कभी सार्थक प्रेरणा और कभी कठोर अनुशासन का प्रयोग करते हुए आदरणीया कुलपति महोदया ने अवरोध के बिंदुओं को दूर करने का निरंतर प्रयास किया है।

विश्वविद्यालय में 'इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर' से लेकर केन्द्रीय पुस्तकालय के नवीनीकरण, डिजिटलाइजेशन, सशक्त पब्लिसिस, कैम्पस की स्वच्छता, 'पेपरलेस वर्क' के साथ ही शिक्षकों एवं विद्यार्थियों में खेलकूद में भागीदारी तथा अन्यान्य प्रतियोगिताओं की ओर निरंतर ध्यान दिया जा रहा है। 26 जनवरी 2024 को गणतंत्र दिवस के अवसर पर अपने उद्बोधन में आदरणीया कुलपति महोदया ने शिक्षकों को अकादमिक क्षेत्र में सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रदर्शन करने के साथ ही कक्षा-व्याख्यानों में विद्यार्थियों के लिए 'चरित्र निर्माण एवं व्यक्तित्व विकास' विषय को शामिल करने पर जोर दिया। विद्यार्थियों के रूप में भावी पीढ़ी के सर्वांगीण विकास की यह दृष्टि आदरणीया कुलपति महोदया के भीतर वात्सल्यमयी और अनुशासनप्रिय माँ के गुणों को दर्शाती है।

शिक्षक-भर्ती प्रक्रिया में देश के सुदूर कोनों से प्रतिभाशाली अभ्यर्थियों का चयन, महिला अनुपात का ध्यान रखने के अतिरिक्त कुलपति महोदया का एक अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण योगदान विश्वविद्यालय में 'क्रेच' की स्थापना करना है, ताकि ऐसी महिला शिक्षक जिनके छोटे बच्चे हैं, वे 'क्रेच' में अपने बच्चों को उचित देखभाल के भरोसे छोड़कर बिना भावनात्मक एवं मानसिक दबाव के कार्यस्थल पर अपना बेहतर योगदान दे सकें। कुलपति महोदया के इस दूरदर्शी योगदान के लिए विश्वविद्यालय में युवा महिला शिक्षकों की वर्तमान पीढ़ी और आगामी पीढ़ियाँ सदैव आभारी रहेंगी।

कुलपति महोदया अपने अकादमिक क्षेत्र 'फैमिली एण्ड कम्युनिटी साइंस' में गहरी पकड़ रखने के साथ ही साहित्य एवं संगीत में भी गहन रुचि रखती हैं। कुलपति के रूप में इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय में अपने प्रथम उद्बोधन में आदरणीया प्रोफेसर संगीता श्रीवास्तव ने रमानाथ अवस्थी की कविता की पंक्ति- 'कुछ कर गुजरने के लिए मौसम नहीं मन चाहिए' के माध्यम से विश्वविद्यालय की निरंतर उन्नति का जो प्रण लिया था, उसे अब तक अपने तीन वर्षों के कार्यकाल में बखूबी निभाया है।

डॉ० सुरभि त्रिपाठी  
असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर हिन्दी एवं आधुनिक भारतीय भाषा विभाग

## मीडिया को नई सृजनात्मक ऊर्जा दे रही हैं महिलाएं

कई वर्ष पहले नारीवादी विचारक सिथिया एनलो ने भूमंडलीकरण के समर्थकों से पूछा था कि 'तुम्हारी व्यवस्था में औरतें कहां हैं?' इस छोटे से सवाल का उस समय लंबा जबाब दिया गया था कि 'औरतें कहां नहीं हैं, किस मोर्चे पर नहीं है?' पर सच तो यह था कि उस समय भूमंडलीकरण के दौर में औरतें जितनी सबल दिख रही थीं, उससे कहीं अधिक हारी हुई थीं, बाजार के जाल में फंसी हुई, अपनी आजादी की कीमत चुकाती हुई और हाफती हुई, अपने समय की दुरुहताओं से लड़ती-भिड़ती हुई। लेकिन, इक्कीसवीं सदी के इस तीसरे दशक में बहुत कुछ बदल गया है। हमने पिछले एक दशक में स्त्री शिक्षा को लेकर जो बदलाव देखा है, वह अभूतपूर्व है। प्रोफेशनल होने की होड़ में पुरुषों के साथ कदमताल मिलाती महिलाओं ने पूरे परिदृश्य को ही बदल दिया है। हाल की एक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार देश में मीडिया और इंटरटेन्मेंट इण्डस्ट्री की टॉप 25 कम्पनियों के 13 प्रतिशत शीर्ष पदों पर महिलाओं का कब्जा हो गया है। जो वर्ष 2021 से 10 प्रतिशत अधिक है। यहां यह भी जानना जरूरी है कि इस समय टेलीविजन चैनलों में लगभग 52 प्रतिशत, रेडियो में 20 प्रतिशत और प्रिंट में 13 प्रतिशत रिपोर्टर महिलाएं हैं। वेब मीडिया में यह प्रतिशत 60 से भी अधिक है। रोचक यह कि ये प्रतिशत पिछली सदी के अंतिम दशक में मात्र 10 से 12 प्रतिशत तक ही था।

वास्तव में बदलती दुनिया और बदलते समय में जब टेक्नोलॉजी नित नए – नए आयामों के साथ संचार की दुनिया को बदल रही है, तब एक बड़ा बदलाव यह भी देखने को मिल रहा है कि एक बार फिर मीडिया और महिलाओं के बीच की नातेदारी मजबूत हो रही है। वेब मीडिया ने तो महिलाओं के लिए एक साथ कई-कई खिड़कियां खोल दी हैं, जिनमें से कुछ अपनी परंपराओं और सरोकारों की तरफ खुली हैं तो बहुतेरी खिड़कियां वैश्विक सृजन परिवेश की ओर खुली हैं। भारतीय महिलाओं की सृजनशीलता से पूरा विश्व चमत्कृत हो रहा है। यह अनायास नहीं है कि वेब मीडिया में महिलाओं की भागीदारी पहले से कई गुना बढ़ गई है। यह भी अनायास नहीं है कि देश के एक बड़े अखबार ने अपने यहां अलग से 'महिला संपादक' का पद सृजित करके और उस पर नियुक्ति करके आने वाले समय की प्रतिध्वनि से रू-ब-रू करा दिया है। दरअसल कोरोना महामारी के समय और उसके बाद के एक वर्ष तक लगा था कि मीडिया और महिलाओं के बीच कीनातेदारी कुछ कमजोर पड़ जाएगी, लेकिन वर्ष 2023के जाते-जाते हमने देखा कि मीडिया जगत का ऐसा कोई कोना नहीं बचा, जहां महिलाएं आत्मविश्वास और दक्षता से मोर्चा नहीं संभाल रही हों। एक बड़ा सच यह है कि मीडिया में इन दिनों जिस संवेदनशीलता की जरूरत महसूस की जा रही है, वह महिलाओं में नैसर्गिक रूप से पाई जाती है। साथ ही सृजनशीलता का भाव भी पुरुषों से अपेक्षाकृत अधिक ही होता है। शायद यही वजह थी कि प्रख्यात पत्रकार और शिक्षाविद महामना मदन मोहन मालवीय ने बहुत पहले ही कह दिया था कि— "पत्रकारिता में महिलाएं अधिक संख्या में आ जाएं तो समाज को बेहतर बनाने में मदद मिल सकती है।" तय है कि आने वाले समय में मीडिया में महिलाओं की प्रस्तुति को लेकर सचेतता तो बढ़ेगी ही, साथ ही उनकी सोच व रचनात्मकता भी नित नए होते मीडिया में देखने को मिलेगी।

— डॉ. धनंजय चोपड़ा

कोर्स कोआर्डिनेटर

## Empowering Women in India – Need and Solutions

**\*Sonal Shanker**

Our social structure clearly reflects the secondary status it has accorded to women. Deep rooted patriarchal ideologies and consequent gendering of men and women have institutionalized such status. They have been at the receiving end of violence, exploitation and subjugation by the male dominated society all over the world. Our tradition-bound society makes it even more difficult for women to come out of their shackles and get empowered. Universally a child is regarded as most secure in the mother's womb. The irony of a girl child is that she is not secure even there. A female embryo faces struggle for survival in her mother's womb and its survival tragically is dependent upon the mindset of her parents. Female foeticide is widespread in India, and it is difficult to arrest it as it is done in secrecy with the connivance of parents and medical practitioners.

Even if a girl child takes birth, she is unfortunately many a times denied access to resources in the form of balanced nutritious diet, good education and equality of treatment as compared to the male child in the household. Many parents consciously discriminate in styles of upbringing of a girl child vis-à-vis a male child. While a male child is allowed to develop freely with no restriction on movement, unreasonable restrictions are imposed on a girl child resulting in her stunted growth. Normally environment of home is regarded very safe for any child but in many cases, that very environment does not remain safe for a girl child who regrettably is sexually abused by mentally sick close male relatives/acquaintances. With abuse/molestation/rape of a girl child being linked with family honour in India, there is a conspiracy of silence to keep the unfortunate incident under wraps and deplorable efforts are made to totally hush-up the matter with connivance of the parents.

When a girl child or a teenage girl steps out of the house to pursue her studies, she is exposed to sexual harassment on roads and in public transports and also faces the possible hazard of becoming a rape victim. Trafficking of girls/women has gained significant proportions. Every year thousands of girls and women are forced into prostitution. Domestic violence and sexual harassment of women at workplace are rampant. All the above examples are just a glimpse on how insecure millions of girls/women are in Indian subcontinent.

Women constitute about fifty percent population of India, so the empowerment and uplift of our nation as a whole as well is inextricably linked to empowerment of women as a group. Women empowerment in its most basic form may be understood as creation of an enabling environment where women can freely access all resources and avail all available opportunities without discrimination and achieve whatever they want without coercion and undue influence from society. It is not as if nothing has been done, multipronged efforts have been made in this direction. Numbers of laws for protection of women have been enacted. However, there is still a long way to go. Enforcement of laws, creation of sustainable educational opportunities and retaining women therein, breaking gender stereotyping through education, media and like, creation of awareness and support systems, giving suitable reproductive choices and childcare facilities and very importantly creation of jobs for women are few areas which require a relook on the part of state and the civil society. Making women stakeholders in decision making process at the highest level is again very important; in fact, the latest policy of Reservation of women in Lok Sabha is a step in this direction only.

Women empowerment is not a set of mere words or a fad, it's an entire philosophy which has changed the nature of discourse related to women. Questions are too many and all of us, as right-minded citizens have to find correct answers.

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## Importance of Body Composition and Aging in Women: Health at Every Size

\*Neelam Yadav

India is an important front in the fight against malnutrition and is grappling with the coexistence of under-nutrition, over-nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies. Women's health remains a challenging issue and led to the double burden of diseases with a surging prevalence of non-communicable diseases. Women currently make up 22 per cent of India's GDP and contribute around 2.5 times more to unpaid care and domestic work than men and it often goes uncounted. Hence, the health of women is of prime concern in the present scenario as women, throughout the world. National Family Health Survey, 2019-20 (NFHS) - 5 shows that approximately 19% of women are underweight and 57 % are anaemic. In contrast, according to the current 2020 global nutrition study, one in every three people globally is obese. In India, the prevalence of overweight or obesity among ever-married women aged 15-49 years has risen from 20.6% in the NFHS-4 (2015-16) to 33.2% in the NFHS-5. An urban survey (National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau-NNMB, 2017) using WHO Asian cut-offs found that 52% of men and 59% of women were overweight or obese ( $BMI \geq 23 \text{kg/m}^2$ ).

**Body composition of women:** Women had consistently higher total and regional fat mass. The human body is composed of fat, lean tissue (muscles and organs), bones, and water. Since each person has a unique body composition, the ratio of skeletal muscle mass to fat mass will differ from that of another person. A healthy gain in body weight is important, particularly at growing age ( $BMI 18.5-22.9 \text{kg/m}^2$ ). Women can increase their bone mineral density (BMD) till the age of 30 years and low BMD is associated with less BMI and make women prone to osteopenia and osteoporosis during menopausal transition. After the age of 30, women start to lose lean tissue; muscles, liver, kidneys, and other organs may lose cells and changes in BMI are mostly related to an increase in fat percentage. Bones may lose nutrients and become less thick. Tissue loss lowers the quantity of water in your body. Women's body fat levels continue to rise after the age of 30. Furthermore, menopause leads to women's fat gain.

**Importance of nutrition to maintain healthy body composition in women:** Obesity also increases the risk of nutritional insufficiency. Early life exposure to under nutrition is frequently associated with the consumption of highly processed food, which includes relatively few nutritious elements such as vitamins, mineral components, and polyphenols while being high in fat, sugar, salt, and energy. In recent times, the recommended diets concentrate on altering the ratios of essential component such as proteins, fats, and carbohydrates. As a result, there have been modifications in body composition and observed weight loss effects within a relatively brief period of the experiment. Body composition can be improved by decreasing fat mass and increasing muscle mass through exercise and nutrition. An ideal weight consists of the right proportion of fat (<33%), fat-free mass (>33.5 %) and total body water (45-60 %). The healthy eating philosophy advocates the idea that an individual's ideal weight cannot be established by the numbers on a scale, a height/weight chart, or calculating body mass index or body fat percentages. Rather, it defines a "healthy weight" as the weight that a person achieves when they transition to a fuller and meaningful existence. This includes following internal hunger, desire, and satiety cues, as well as engaging in appropriate physical exercise.

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## NEP2020: Empowering women and bridging gender gaps

**\*Sangeeta Singh**

Education serves as a crucial tool for holistic development of an individual. It is a basic human right, however, for many women and girl children, getting access to education is an arduous task. The primary reasons are lack of accessibility to educational spaces, gender discrimination, financial hardships, engagement of girl children in household chores and early marriage. Education has a crucial role in empowering women to fight against societal injustices and carry on their ongoing battle against exploitation. It is essentially worthless to talk about “women empowerment” until education is made available to every woman and girl child.

NEP 2020, the third policy of education of the country recognizes diversity and seeks to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all” by 2030. The policy acknowledges the role of women in shaping social mores, both within their own generation and in subsequent ones. The present article highlights the key points of NEP 2020 focusing on women empowerment and gender equality through education which are as follows:

- The policy recognizes gender disparity in education and therefore, has recommended Government of India to constitute “Gender Inclusion Fund” for providing quality and equitable education for girls as well as transgender students. The funds will be used to provide the facilities of sanitation and toilets, bicycle for mobility and conditional cash transfers etc. for assisting the girls and transgender students in gaining the access to education.
- The policy acknowledges the intersectionality of gender and all Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs). Women in the SEDGs experience even greater degree of social exclusion and inequity. Therefore, the policy recommends that the “policies and schemes designed to uplift students from SEDGs should be especially targeted towards girls in these SEDGs”.
- According to CARE India report (2021), among the children under 15 years old, more females (3.2%) than boys (2.7%) are not in school in the country. Girls face infrastructure barriers including lack of WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) facilities and lack of boundary walls in schools. NEP 2020 aims to develop effective and sufficient infrastructure facilities for providing safe and engaging school education at all levels. It will be achieved by upgrading and enlarging schools already existing, establishing quality schools in outreach areas, providing safe and practical conveyances (especially for girl children) and hostels so that all children would get the access to quality education irrespective of their diverse needs.
- To address and prevent the school dropout rates, NEP 2020 emphasizes the provision of free boarding facilities for the students coming from disadvantaged economic backgrounds. Best teachers will be deployed in the areas where dropout rates are high, curriculum will be revised to make it engaging and useful for students, quality of education will be given the priority for retaining students especially girls and children from under-represented groups.
- Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas will be extended and strengthened to increase the participation of girls from socio-economically disadvantaged groups.
- NEP 2020 recognizes the concerns regarding child’s rights and safety, especially girls. It seeks to provide infrastructure facilities, separate hostels for girls, deployment of female wardens and security guards in the hostels. Careful attention will be given to their safety issues related to substance abuse, gender discrimination and harassment in the schools. The policy advocates for effective mechanisms for reporting and due process regarding any violation of children’s/adolescents’ rights or safety.
- The policy places a strong emphasis on creation of a curriculum that is gender-sensitive, dispels gender stereotypes, advances gender equality, and takes into account the diverse needs and interests of both boys and girls. It seeks to incorporate diverse perspectives, experiences, and contributions of both men and women in various disciplines of academic fields.

Overall, NEP 2020 is a comprehensive policy that is committed to achieve gender equality and promote women empowerment. It acknowledges gender disparities and challenges faced by the girl child and women in getting access to education. By emphasizing on inclusive pedagogy, curriculum, provision of infrastructure facilities, protection of child’s rights and safety issues and provision of financial support, the policy intends to create an environment where every girl thrives and realize her full potential.

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## गणतंत्र दिवस समारोह

इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय में 26 जनवरी को गणतंत्र दिवस समारोह हर्षोल्लास पूर्वक मनाया गया। मुख्य समारोह सीनेट कैंपस में आयोजित हुआ जिसमें कुलपति प्रो संगीता श्रीवास्तव ने ध्वजारोहण किया और एन सी सी के कैडेट्स ने गार्ड ऑफ ऑनर का दिया।



अपने संबोधन में कुलपति प्रो संगीता श्रीवास्तव ने छात्रों और छात्राओं से अपने विद्यार्थी जीवन को अनुशासन एवं संयम से विद्याध्ययन को समर्पित करने की सलाह दी। उन्होंने छात्रों को अलग अलग विषय से जुड़े क्लब बनाने की बात कही जिसमें छात्र अंतर्विषयक चर्चा एवं विचार विमर्श कर सकें। इससे विश्वविद्यालय की अकादमिक स्वतंत्रता का लाभ उठाना चाहिए। जिस स्वतंत्रता और राष्ट्र मूल्यों को हमें विरासत में दिया गया है उनको संभालने और सुरक्षित रखने की आवश्यकता है। ये तभी संभव है जब सभी अपनी जिम्मेदारी समझें और पूरी करें। उन्होंने छात्रों को ऐसी गतिविधियों से विरत रहने की सलाह दी जो भविष्य को भटकाव की राह पर ले जाएं। विश्वविद्यालय में किए जा रहे बदलावों के संदर्भ में उन्होंने बताया कि सरकार ने सीनेट हॉल के पुनरुद्धार के लिए 15 करोड़ रुपए दिए हैं।

इस अवसर पर कुछ शिक्षकों एवं कर्मचारियों को पुरस्कार भी दिए गए। सर्वश्रेष्ठ शिक्षक का द्रोणाचार्य पुरस्कार विज्ञान संकाय में केमिस्ट्री विभाग से डा मनोज कुमार गंगवार को एवं कला संकाय से फिलोसॉफी विभाग के डा सूर्यकांत महाराणा को दिए गए। राइट्टर अवार्ड बायोकेमिस्ट्री विभाग के प्रो एस आई रिजवी को दिया गया। मेरिट अवार्ड बॉटनी विभाग से प्रो शिव मोहन प्रसाद को एवं इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स एवं कम्युनिकेशन विभाग के प्रो आशीष खरे को एवं फिजिक्स विभाग के डा नीतिकांत को एवं जियोग्राफी विभाग के डा पवन कुमार शर्मा को एवं सेंटर फॉर फूड टेक्नोलॉजी से सुश्री वंदना वर्मा को दिए गए। सर्वश्रेष्ठ रिसर्च स्कोलारवक पुरस्कार उर्दू विभाग की कु नेहा को दिया गया। इसके अतिरिक्त कुछ गैर शैक्षणिक कर्मचारियों को भी सम्मानित किया गया जिनमें वी सी सेक्रेटेरियट के असिस्टेंट रजिस्ट्रार श्री देवेश कुमार गोस्वामी एवं श्री निखिल आनंद एवं कुलसचिव कार्यालय के श्री शिव राम को दिया गया।

## गांधी विचार एवं शांतिअध्ययन संस्थान

मनुष्य का पहला धर्म दूसरों की सेवा होना चाहिए : प्रो.मनमोहन कृष्ण

संस्थान में गांधी संगत के अंतर्गत विशिष्ट व्याख्यान एवं प्रमाण - पत्र वितरण कार्यक्रम का आयोजन हुआ। कार्यक्रम के शुरु में संस्थान के निदेशक प्रोफेसर संतोष भदौरिया ने स्वागत वक्तव्य में संस्थान में पिछले एक वर्ष में सम्पन्न अनेक गतिविधियों से अवगत कराया। उन्होंने इन गतिविधियों में मुख्य रूप से राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठीएगोष्ठीए कार्यशालाए गांधी सप्ताह ए विशिष्ट व्याख्यान ए किशोर केंद्रित कार्यशाला ए अनुवाद कार्यशालाएकिताब पर बातएपुस्तक प्रदर्शनी आदि कार्यक्रमों का जिक्र किया। उन्होंने एक वर्ष में गांधी भवन में आयोजित विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों के दौरान लगभग एक हजार से अधिक छात्र - छात्राओंशोधार्थियों शिक्षकों एवं नागरिक समाज के लोगों की भागीदारी की सूचना दी। अपने वक्तव्य के अंत में उन्होंने गांधी संस्थान की पृष्ठभूमि और इसके महत्व को रेखांकित किया।



कार्यक्रम के मुख्य अतिथि अर्थशास्त्र विभाग के पूर्व अध्यक्ष एवं प्रोफेसर मनमोहन कृष्ण ने गांधी को याद करते हुए उनके जीवन के मुख्य पक्ष सत्य और उसके विविध पहलुओं पर अपने विचार प्रकट किए। उन्होंने हम सभी को सत्य के परीक्षण पर ध्यान देने की बात की। उन्होंने केवल तथ्य प्राप्त करने तक सीमित न रहकर उसके अन्वेषण पर कार्य करने पर जोर दिया। गांधी द्वारा निकाली गई प्रमुख पत्रिकाओं - हरिजन ए नवजीवन ए यंग इंडिया आदि का जिक्र करते हुए उन्होंने उनके अवलोकन की ज़रूरत को भी रेखांकित किया। उन्होंने कहा की गांधी का जीवन हमारे सामने असीम संभावनाओं के द्वार खोलता है। गांधी का जीवनए विचार और कर्म आज हम सभी के लिए बेहद प्रासंगिक एवं प्रेरक हैं। जैसे गांधी दिनभर आजादी के आंदोलन आदि का संचालन करते और रात में आकर लेखन करते थे। उन्होंने अंबेडकर के उस कथन का भी जिक्र किया जिसमें उन्होंने कहा था यदि हाशिए का व्यक्ति मुख्य धारा में न आ सके तो ऐसी आजादी का कोई औचित्य नहीं है।

व्याख्यान के बाद गांधी सप्ताह के प्रतिभागी विजेताओं को प्रमाण-पत्र प्रदान किए गए। इसके बाद इस वर्ष गांधी सप्ताह के दौरान संस्थान में " कबीर गायन एवं गांधी गीतों की प्रस्तुति " करने वाले बरगद कला मंच के प्रतिभागियों को प्रमाण-पत्र प्रदान किये गए।

कार्यक्रम का संचालन संस्थान के असिस्टेंट प्रोफेसर डॉ. तोषी आनंद एवं धन्यवाद ज्ञापन डॉ. सुरेंद्र कुमार ने किया। इस दौरान डॉ. राजेश सिंह ए हरिओम कुमार सहित बड़ी संख्या में छात्र-छात्राएं एवं शोधार्थी आदि उपस्थित रहे।

### राजभाषा अनुभाग

राजभाषा उत्सव-2023 के अवसर पर आयोजित विभिन्न प्रतियोगिताओं के विजेताओं को प्रमाण-पत्रों का वितरण युवा दिवस के अवसर पर आयोजित समारोह में किया गया। उल्लेखनीय है कि सितंबर माह में आयोजित राजभाषा उत्सव- 2023 के अंतर्गत सुलेख प्रतियोगिताएं निबंध प्रतियोगिताएं कार्यालयीन-पत्र लेखन प्रतियोगिताएं तात्कालिक भाषण प्रतियोगिताएं प्रेरक-प्रसंग प्रतियोगिताएं स्वरचित कविता पाठ प्रतियोगिता और वर्तनी लेखन प्रतियोगिताओं आदि का आयोजन विद्यार्थियों और कार्मिकों हेतु किया गया था। पुरस्कार राशि क्रमशः प्रथम ₹25000, द्वितीय ₹20000, तृतीय ₹15000, सांत्वना ₹12000 रही।



कार्यक्रम के आरंभ में गांधी विचार एवं शांति अध्ययन संस्थान के निदेशक और राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति के संयोजक प्रो. संतोष भदौरिया ने सभी का स्वागत करते हुए कहा कि राजभाषा अनुभाग राजभाषा हिंदी के रचनात्मक प्रयोग और उसके प्रचार-प्रसार के प्रति सजग है। राजभाषा अनुभाग अपने कार्यक्रमों के माध्यम से सभी संकायों के विद्यार्थियों और कार्मिकों की सक्रिय सहभागिता और हिंदी भाषा के अधिकाधिक प्रयोग के प्रति प्रतिबद्ध है। जिसका सकारात्मक परिणाम है कि युवा दिवस के अवसर पर इतनी बड़ी संख्या में विद्यार्थी और कर्मचारी उपस्थित हैं। इसी सहभागिता को दृष्टिगत रखते हुए राजभाषा अनुभाग विभिन्न प्रकार की प्रतियोगिताएं कार्यशालाएं और सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम अपने विद्यार्थियों और कर्मचारियों को केंद्र में रखकर पूरे वर्ष आयोजित करता है।

कार्यक्रम के मुख्य अतिथि विज्ञान संकाय के डीन प्रो. बेचैन शर्मा ने कि कहा कि पुरस्कार जीतना तो अपने आप में बड़ा है ही साथ ही उतना ही बड़ा है इस तरह की प्रतियोगिताओं में प्रतिभा करना। हमें इस तरह की सांस्कृतिक गतिविधियों की प्रतियोगिताओं में प्रतिभाग अवश्य करना चाहिए। इस तरह के आयोजनों से हमें युवा पीढ़ी के हिंदी प्रेम और उसके प्रयोग की सटीक जानकारी मिलती है।

कार्यक्रम के अतिथि हिंदी एवं आधुनिक भारतीय भाषा विभाग इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय की सह- आचार्य डॉ. बसंत त्रिपाठी ने कहा कि आजादी के दौर से ही हिंदी हमें एक दूसरे के नज़दीक लाती रही है। हिंदी ही वह भाषा थी जो राष्ट्रीय आंदोलन में हमें बांधे हुई थी।

इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय की जनसंपर्क अधिकारी प्रो. जया कपूर ने कहा आज तकनीक के दौर में राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन को और गति मिली है। इस तरह की प्रतियोगिताएं हमें भाषा के प्रति हमारी समझ को बढ़ाती हैं, हमारी बोलचाल की भाषा को ठीक करती हैं। हमें सरल सहज शब्दों का प्रयोग अपनी भाषा में करना चाहिए जिससे के सामने वाला व्यक्ति सही तरीके से हमारी बात को समझ सके। कार्यालयीन भाषा में भी ऐसे शब्दों का प्रयोग करना चाहिए जिससे वह सहज और सरल लगे।

इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय के कुलसचिव एवं राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति के अध्यक्ष प्रो. नरेंद्र कुमार शुक्ल ने कहा हिंदी में कामकाज करना हमारी विधिक और संवैधानिक जिम्मेदारी के साथ-साथ नैतिक जिम्मेदारी भी है। हम कक्षेत्र में आते हैं और कक्षेत्र में आने के कारण हमें हिंदी के प्रचार-प्रसार को शत- प्रतिशत करना है। यह सुखद है कि हमारा राजभाषा अनुभाग कार्मिकों के लिए विभिन्न कार्यशालाएं तो आयोजित करता ही है बल्कि अपने विद्यार्थियों के लिए रचनात्मक प्रतियोगिताएं भी आयोजित करता रहता है। प्रत्येक वर्ष लगभग डेढ़ से दो लाख रुपये विद्यार्थियों और कर्मचारियों को पुरस्कार के रूप में दिए जाते हैं। कार्यक्रम का संचालन राजभाषा अनुभाग के अनुवाद अधिकारी श्री हरिओम कुमार ने किया तथा धन्यवाद ज्ञापन हिंदी अधिकारी श्री प्रवीण श्रीवास्तव ने किया।



जवाहरलाल नेहरू सेंटर फॉर डेफेरेण्टली एबेल्ड स्टूडेंट्स  
केंद्र (इ०वि०वि०)

इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय में हर्षोल्लास के साथ ब्रेल दिवस मनाया गया जवाहरलाल नेहरू सेंटर फॉर डेफेरेण्टली एबेल्ड स्टूडेंट्स केंद्र (इ०वि०वि०) ने ब्रेल दिवस (4 जनवरी 2024) के उपलक्ष्य पर इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय के दिव्यांग छात्रों हेतु दो प्रतियोगिताएं आयोजित की गईं। पहली प्रतियोगिता हिंदी गीतों की धुन सुन कर गीतों की पहचान और गीत के बोल बताने की थी। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम स्थान पर भारत सोनी, द्वितीय स्थान पर पंकज मिश्रा और तृतीय स्थान पर नारायण सिंह रहे। दूसरी प्रतियोगिता व्हीलचेयर रेस प्रतियोगिता (50 मीटर) थी। इस प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम स्थान उमेश चौधरी, द्वितीय स्थान पंकज मिश्रा और तृतीय स्थान रोहित शर्मा को मिला। दोनों प्रतियोगिताएँ मध्यकालीन एवं आधुनिक इतिहास विभाग, इलाहाबाद विश्वविद्यालय के प्रांगण में आयोजित हुईं। कार्यक्रम में केंद्र के संयोजक प्रो. आलोक प्रसाद के अतिरिक्त अंजुल कुमार, सौरभ कुमार, ओमजी पांडे (क. सहायक), डॉ. आनंद प्रतापचंद, डॉ. चंद्रभान यादव, संभ्रांत शुक्ला, सुशील यादव, विजय कुमार, प्रांजल बरनवाल, अनुरुद्ध कुमार, अनिल कुमार सिंह, महेश चंद्र तथा कई अन्य छात्र उपस्थित थे।



Department of Education

The first year M.Ed. students of the Department of Education, University of Allahabad completed internship programme in the three colleges offering teacher training programme. The colleges included Sadanlal Savaldas Khanna Girl's Degree College, Ewing Christian College and K.P. Training College located in Prayagraj. The internship programme provided the opportunity to the prospective teacher educators to link the theoretical and pedagogical underpinnings with the practice in teacher education institutions. It facilitated them to understand the educational management and functioning of teacher education institutions. During the internship programme, prospective teacher educators observed and assisted the teacher interns of the institute in curricular and co-curricular activities. It comprised preparation of lesson plans, seminar presentations, organising morning assembly, preparation of Teaching Learning Materials, and workshops related to art and craft. They also gained insight into the perception of the teacher interns and faculty members about the teacher training courses offered in the institutes. The internship culminated with the distribution of certificates to the prospective teacher educators on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023. The internship was successfully completed under the guidance of the head of the Department of Education, University of Allahabad, Prof. Dhananjai Yadav; coordinator, Dr. Sonia Sthapak, Associate Professor and members, Dr. Sangeeta Singh, Assistant Professor and Dr. Tushar Gupta, Assistant Professor.



### Dept. of Music and Performing Arts

The department organized an international seminar on “Research in the Field of Art & Culture: Significance & Challenges” on 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Prof. Sanjoy Saxena (Dean, Arts), Prof. Swantantra Sharma (Former VC, RMTMAU), HOD Prof. Renu Johri (Head of the Department), and Dr. Vishal Jain (Convener) inaugurated the seminar. Renowned Padmshri Artist Malini Awasthi and Padmshri Prof. Ritwik Sanyal performed and expressed their views regarding research. Prof. K. Shashi Kumar and Prof. Sangeeta Pandit elaborated on research methodologies. Tim Richards from London U.K. played Tabla Recital.

On the Second Day, Prof. Pankajmala Sharma, Dr Madhu Shukla, Shri Alok Paradkar, Dr Gautam Chatterjee, Dr Sangeeta Ghosh and Dr Dhananjay Chopra explained different aspects of research. Shri Carsten Wicke from Germany played Rudra Veena recital. The students of the department performed Folk Songs and Dances. Dr. Vishal Jain Convener of the Seminar extended the vote of thanks.



### सेन्टर ऑफ फैशन डिजाइन एण्ड टेक्नोलॉजी

सेन्टर ऑफ फैशन डिजाइन एण्ड टेक्नोलॉजी, आई० पी० एस० की डॉ० सृष्टि पुरवार को माननीय मुख्यमंत्री श्री योगी जी द्वारा यू० पी० दिवस के अवसर पर “विशेष हस्तशिल्प प्रादेशिक पुरस्कार” (उद्योग एवं उद्यम प्रोत्साहन निदेशालय) प्रदान किया गया। डॉ० पुरवार को यह पुरस्कार हेंड एम्ब्राएडरी शिल्प के लिए प्रदान किया गया है इस अवसर पर संस्थान के निदेशक प्रो० आषीश खरे तथा केन्द्र समन्वयक डॉ० मोनिषा सिंह ने उनके उज्ज्वल भविष्य के लिए शुभकामनाएं एवं बधाई दी। डॉ० सृष्टि पुरवार को हाल ही में बाली, इंडोनेशिया में आयोजित एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय संगोशठी में “एक्सीलेंस टीचर एवार्ड” भी प्राप्त हुआ है। यह सेन्टर तथा विश्वविद्यालय के लिए गर्व की बात है।



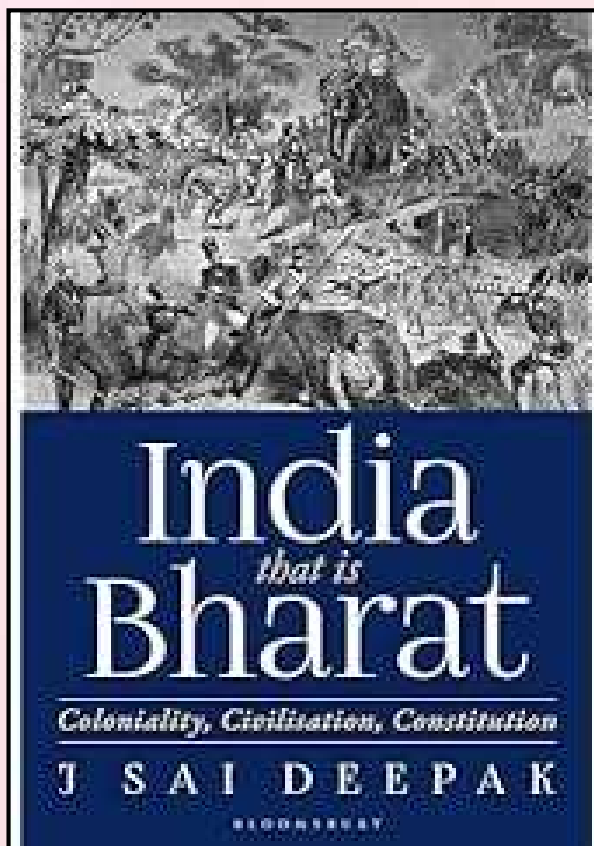
### Department of Sociology

The Department of Sociology organized an online inter-disciplinary refresher course on “Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Sustainability and Inclusive Development” under the aegis of UGC-MMTTC (Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre) (formerly HRDC), the University of Allahabad from 18.01.2024 to 31.01.2024. On the first day of the program, eminent professor Prof. Prabha Shankar Shukla, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, North Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong, enlightened the participants across the country by sharing his thought-provoking ideas on the importance of interdisciplinary research in social science disciplines and its contribution to knowledge production. Prof. Ashish Saxena, Head, of the Department of Sociology and Director, UGC- Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, the University of Allahabad, delivered the welcome address and discussed the relevance of the course and how this theme is incorporated into the new education policy. While delivering the inaugural address, the Chief Guest, Prof. Prabha Shankar Shukla, emphasized the importance of the indigenous knowledge system (IKS) and the need for inclusiveness in society. He defined indigenous knowledge and its dissemination from generation to generation.



On the last day of the program i.e. the ‘Valedictory Session’, eminent professors of various academic institutions enlightened the participants across the country sharing their thought-provoking ideas on indigenous knowledge system for sustainability and inclusive development in Indian society. While delivering the Address, the Chief Guest, Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai, Hon’ble Vice- Chancellor, Atal Bihari Vajpayee University, Bilaspur, Chhatisgarh taking the idea of divineness of the rich Indian heritage and knowledge system explained that India is a knowledge superpower and will remain the superpower irrespective of the economic domination of the western world.

The program coordinator Dr. C. Sathish, Assistant professor, department of sociology, methodically conducted the session with the generous support of Dr. Deborah Darlianmawii, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and finally, the vote of thanks was given by Dr. Keyoor, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology. 56 participants across various states, universities and colleges from various disciplines, were the distinguished participants.

BOOK OF THE EDITION*“INDIA THAT IS BHARAT”* by J Sai DeepakMOVIE OF THE EDITION*“ARTICLE 370”*Some Important Instructions for AU TALK

AU Talk is a monthly digital newsletter of the University of Allahabad that shares latest curricular and extra-curricular activities of the university. It seeks to enhance the perception of the university by highlighting its accomplishments in diverse fields of undertaking. Please note that

- AU TALK publishes news about seminars/workshops/conferences that have taken place at any Department or Centre of the University. A piece of news along with a **photograph of the organizers** should be emailed at [editorialboard.au@allduniv.ac.in](mailto:editorialboard.au@allduniv.ac.in)
- The magazine publishes informative articles also. Articles should aim to bring out important scientific, ethical, and environmental issues and must be lucid in their message to society. They can be written in Hindi or English. In one edition, the magazine can publish up to four such articles.
- **Do not send pictures capturing garlanding or shawl/memento-giving moments.**
- The magazine should be widely circulated among students and faculty and on all social media platforms so that the excellent work done under the auspices of the University of Allahabad reaches far and wide and benefits all.