

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA, KORAPUT

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS

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Central University of Odisha Organizes International Women's Day 2022

On the occasion of the International Women's Day a webinar on "Break the Bias" was organized by CUO on March 8, 2022 under the *Theme: Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow*. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. Sharat Kumar Palita, Vice Chancellor, CUO. In his address he highlighted the achievements of women across the world and India and asserted that CUO as an educational institution is striving sincerely to provide a suitable platform to women faculty, staff and students. He also mentioned about the role of women in upholding the family system especially in tribal societies like Koraput. The Keynote Speaker and Guest of Honour was Padma Shri Prof. Najma Akhtar Vice Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. In her address she highlighted on gender equality for sustainable development. She also stressed on the policy decisions for climate sustenance goals and the inclusion of women in it. She also indicated the need for finding the cause for gender inequality and building the power of women to equalize men.

The Chief Guest for the occasion was Prof. Annpurna Nautiyal, VC, Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Uttarakhand. In her address she highlighted the different threats arising due to climate change with special reference to hill ecosystem like cloud bursts, agriculture and water scarcity problems. She emphasized on the technological interventions needed in harnessing the ecological and medicinal values of the various plants present in the hills for climate resilience. She also highlighted the inclusion of women in livelihood development, farm and non-farm areas. She also stressed on the access to equity and inclusiveness in education, health, basic facility and employment for women which is laid down in NEP.

On this occasion, the ICC, Central University of Odisha officially released a book titled, "*Gender Equality and Empowerment: Workplace, Safety and Wellbeing*" with Dr. Kakoli Banerjee as the Editor. One minute silence was observed in respect of Bharat Ratna Late Lata Mangeshkar, the legendary playback singer. A tribute was offered by CUO to her and Gitashree Ms. Sandhya Mukhopadhyay for their incredible contribution in music. The tribute was coordinated by Dr. Sourav Gupta, Asst. Prof. in J&MC, research scholars and students in which the songs of late singers were performed by students and research scholars.

The Guests were introduced by Dr. Meera Swain, Faculty, Anthropology and Dr. Sony Parhi Faculty, J&MC. Concluding remarks were delivered by Dr. Asit Kumar Das, Registrar, CUO, where he stressed that Sex is a fact but Gender is a myth and appreciated the ICC team for conducting a timely webinar on this auspicious day. Other dignitaries included Finance Officer, Mr. K. Kosala Rao and Controller of Examinations Dr. Ram Sar, Visiting Professors, Faculties and Staffs.

A large number of participants including students and faculty along with contributing authors of the inaugurated book joined the webinar in blended mode. Vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Rudrani Mohanty, Faculty & Member ICC. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Kakoli Banerjee, Presiding Officer, ICC, CUO.

Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer