

Mahila Shanti Sena has a major role to play - Prof. Rama Singh

The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension, Gandhigram Rural Institute Deemed University organized an interaction programme with



Dr. Rama Singh, Professor of Biology, Mc. Master University, Hamilton, Canada on February 2, 2017. The programme was attended by the members of Mahila Shanti Sena, faculty member and staff of the Department of LL&E. Dr. M. Mallamal, Professor, Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Science and Dr. K.Velumani, Director of the Centre for Women's Studies were also present on the occasion.

In this interactive programme Dr. Rama Singh narrated in brief the story behind the evolution of Mahila Shanti Sena and its relevance in solving the problems of women. She said that the very concept of Shanti Sena was envisioned none other than Mahatma Gandhi and was formally started at Vaishali, Bihar in February 2002. Later on such groups have been formed in Odisha, Assam, Manipur, and Arunachal Pradesh. In Tamil Nadu the first training programme under the banner of Mahila Shanti Sena was organized at Gandhigram Rural Institute in June 2015, by Dr. R.Kalpana, Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension, GRI, Gandhigram. Dr. Rama Singh told that in the changing social scenario Mahila Shanti Sena can play a major role for the empowerment of women.

Thereafter, the participants raised a number of questions and queries about the problems they were facing while working in the community. Smt. Philomina Rose Mary, Smt. M. Nagavalli, Smt.



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Velliammal, Smt. Mahalaxmi and Smt. P. Geetha also shared their experience and views.

Dr.L.Raja, Professor and Head of Department and Dr. R.Venkataravi, Associate Professor, Lifelong Learning and Extension translated the views expressed by Dr.Rama Singh in Tamil for the benefit of the participants.

-Dr. L.Raja

Professor Soren Ehlers visited IIALE



Professor Soren Ehlers, Associate Professor, Danish School of Education, Aarhus University, Denmark visited International Institute of Adult and Lifelong Education (IIALE), New Delhi on March 22, 2017 and had a discussion with Prof. S.Y. Shah, Director, Dr. V. Mohankumar, Joint Registrar, Smt. Kalpana Kaushik, Administrative Officer and Ms. Shalini Singh, Senior Fellow, IIALE regarding collaborative programmes between the Institute and Aarhus University. During his visit he was presented a copy of the book "International Dimensions of Adult and Lifelong Learning" in which the Roby Kidd Memorial Lecture delivered by Professor Soren Ehlers is also a part.

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Indian Adult Education Association Students' meeting at IGNOU Study Centre



International Institute of Adult and Lifelong Education (IIALE) is a Study Centre of IGNOU for the courses MA in Adult Education (MAAE) and Post Graduate Diploma in Adult Education (PGDAE). In this academic year in all 8 students have enrolled out of which 6 are in MAAE and 2 in PGDAE. The Study Centre organized an introductory meeting with the students on March 2, 2017 in which students had an interaction with Shri K.C.Choudhary, Chancellor, International Institute of Adult and Lifelong Education and the faculty members - Prof. S.Y.Shah, Dr. V. Mohankumar and Dr. Bani Bora. Some of the major points discussed were on receipt of study materials, completion of assignments at the earliest, planning for Community-based Practical Activities, Workshop-based Practical Activities and Adult Education Training Centre/Institution-based Practical Activities and submission of application form for Term End Examination in June 2017 for which March 31st last date without late fee.

The Chancellor of IIALE desired the students to visit the Study Centre as many times as possible not only to interact with the faculty but also for referring books in the library. On his direction the students were given a book "New Companion to Adult

Educators" written by Dr. Madan Singh for reference. Smt. Neha Gupta, Librarian has been advised to extend all help to students in locating the books whenever they want.

In order to have frequent interaction and exchange of ideas between the students and faculty Smt. Kalpana Kaushik, Programme Incharge, IGNOU PSC – 29049P created a group in WhatsApp which is now frequently used by the students.



"In challenging domains like the defence services, police and security forces, in sports, academics, space research and innovation, in taking up the cause of the vulnerable and the exploited, in community outreach and mass healthcare initiatives, women are indispensable for good team work and success. It is often not easy – we must admit that they are frequently subjected to unfounded biases and discrimination. Yet, the fact that they are able to overcome these and inspire esteem and respect is commendable indeed".

-President Pranab Mukherjee
while presenting Nari Shakti Puraskar on International Women's Day 2017

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7th March, 2017
From Dr Anthony Cree, OAM
Chair, World Literacy Council

Re: Forthcoming World Literacy Summit in Oxford,
March 2018

Dear members of the World Literacy Council,

We are pleased to announce that the next World Literacy Summit will take place in Oxford from the 24th to the 27th of March, 2018. Previous summits in Oxford have been instrumental in making some important changes in literacy policy in some of the most disadvantaged places in the world. Since 2012, when we held the first literacy summit in Oxford, there has been an improvement in literacy levels in 10 of the 28 lowest literacy countries in the world. There has also been a change in international opinion to recognize that gender differences in literacy levels in many countries account for the differences in employment levels and even the G.D.P. and wealth of the countries concerned. We feel that both the 2012 and 2014 summits contributed to these developments.

In 2015/16 conference, we introduced the World Literacy Council Awards. These awards recognized national literacy improvement, literacy organizations, and individuals who had made an important contribution to literacy levels in their countries or indeed internationally. We are adding to these awards the Schweitzer Medal, which will be a unique award recognizing an individual whose contribution has been in the tradition of Albert Schweitzer. The award will also include the opportunity to lecture in Oxford and also to undertake a period of research there.

We will be publishing further details of the conference on our website and it is hoped that unlike some earlier conferences, 2018 one will provide an opportunity for people to attend at a significant discount. The conference (unlike previous conferences) will not include an accommodation package, but accommodation will be available through the Oxford University Accommodation Service. Discounts will also be available for

accommodation. Another important factor will be the possibility of one or two-day tickets to the conference. This is important for students and other individuals who can neither spare neither the time nor the money to attend a full conference. Those who attended earlier Oxford summits will be pleased to hear that many of the highlights have been retained. The opening will still be at the famed Sheldonian Theatre, the dinner will still be at the Balliol Hall, and the opportunity to actually give a paper will be extended to the widest number of people possible.

We look forward to you attending in 2018.
Very best wishes

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Seminar on Time Management

The State Resource Centre, Kerala in collaboration with Kerala State Branch of Indian Adult Education Association and Dr. K.Sivadasan Pillai Foundation organized a one day seminar on "Time Management" on February 25, 2017 at Thiruvananthpuram. Dr. V.Reghu, Vice President, IAEA while introducing the topic said that individuals should value time to succeed in life and those who waste the time cannot create an identity of their own. He said that time management is managing the time effectively so that right time is allocated to the right activity, allocate time to activities as per their importance and make use of time to the best of ability as it is limited. He further said that time management includes effective planning, setting goals and objectives, setting deadlines, delegation of responsibilities, prioritizing activities and investing right time on right activity.

Shri John Mathew, former Additional Secretary, Kerala Legislative Assembly moderated the session.

Shri Harish Kumar S., Secretary, IAEA Kerala State Branch welcomed the audience while Dr. V.M. Sasikumar, Executive Director, Dr. K.Sivadasan Pillai Foundation gave the concluding remarks.

- Harish Kumar S.

Documents



Chatterjee, Suhita Chopra and Sengupta, Jaydeep. Death and Dying in India: Ageing and end-of-life care of the elderly. Routledge, 2017: 208p.

This book examines different settings where elderly die, including hospitals, family homes and palliative set-ups. The discourse is set in the backdrop of international attempts to restructure and reconfigure the health delivery system for ageing population. It makes critical commentaries on global developments, offers state-of-art reviews of recent advances, substantiates and corroborates facts by personal narratives and case histories. The book overcomes a segmental understanding of the field by weaving various sociological, medical, legal and cultural issues together. This book examines biomedicine's potential to meet the complex needs of the dying elderly. In an attempt to bring cultural sensitivity in end-of-life care, they explore the lost Indic 'art of dying' which has the potential to de-medicalise death.

Increasing public sensitivity to poor dying conditions of the elderly in India and facilitating changes to improve care systems, this book also demonstrates the limitations of the western specialization of death.

Government of India. India 2017. Ministry of Information Broadcasting, Publication Division, 2017.

India 2017, A Reference Annual, gives a comprehensive view of country's progress in the field of rural and urban development, industry and infrastructure, science and technology, art and culture, economy, health, defence, education and mass communication. It also incorporates sections on general knowledge, current affairs, sports and important

events. It is a rich source of authentic and definitive data.

Monster India. Monster Salary Index 2016. Monster India, 2016: 20p.

Women in India earn 25% less than men, proving that gender continues to be a significant parameter in determining salaries in India, according to the Monster Salary Index (MSI) on gender for 2016. While men earned a median gross hourly salary of Rs345.8, women earned Rs259.8 in 2016. The gap has narrowed by two percentage points from 27.2% in 2015 and is closer to the 24.1% in 2014. About 68.5% women at Indian workplaces also feel that gender parity is still a concern and the management needs to "walk the talk".

Analyzing the employment intensive sectors, the index derives that the average gender pay gap in the manufacturing sector stood at 29.9%. This is an improvement of 5 percentage points from 2015—the highest in India. This was followed by a 25.8% pay gap in the IT sector. The gender pay gap in the banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) sector was at 21.5%, which is still below the general gender pay gap in India (25%). In education and research sector, the average gender pay gap was at 14.7%.

Some Sectorial Overview: Information and Communication Technology Services:

- The average gender pay gap of 38.2% is one of the widest observed in this report. Women earn Rs142.5 less per hour than men. This means that men gain another 38.2% more of their salary.
- Salaries for both, men and women, decreased in 2015 and then rose above the 2014 pay levels in 2016.
- Absolute decreases and increases have been stronger for female employees.

Financial Services, Banking and

Insurance

- The gender pay gap in the financial services, banking and insurance sector amounts to 21.5%.
- This is slightly under the general gender pay gap in India (25%). On average, men earn an hourly median wage of Rs346.4 and women Rs272.
- The comparison of the three years reveals that the wages for both genders experienced only little changes from 2014 to 2015.
- In 2016, however, wages rose by Rs144.3 (+45.4%) for male employees and by Rs79.5 (+29.8%) for female employees. Therefore, while the gender pay gap shrank slightly from 2014 to 2015, it grew again in 2016 to 25.0%.

Education and Research

- In the education and research sector, the gender pay gap amounts to 14.7% on average. It is nearly 10 percentage points below the overall level of 25%
- Hourly median wages for men have risen by 7.0% from Rs190.5 to Rs203.8 between 2014 and 2016
- Women also gained more in 2016 than 2014 as much as Rs50.5 (32.8%). The gender pay gap increased again from 19.2% and 13.1% in 2014 and 2015, respectively, to 3.4% in 2016.

Healthcare, Caring services, and Social Work

- On average, a 22.6% gender gap exists in the healthcare, caring services, and social work sector. Male employees earned Rs242.4, female employees Rs187.6 per hour (-Rs 54.8)
- The gender pay gap was smallest in 2015 with only Rs8.3 (3.6%) making wages nearly equal. In 2016, however, the gap increased significantly to Rs103.3 (39.9%).

Compiled by Neha Gupta
Jr. Librarian-cum-Documentation
Assistant

Nehru and Tagore Literacy Awards

Nomination Form

1.Name of the Institution/Individual recommended	
2.Complete postal address with pincode, telephone (office, residence), mobile number	
3.Outstanding work done by the Institution/Individual recommended (pl. give as much details as possible. If needed, a separate sheet can be attached alongwith the nomination).	
4. The name of the person who recommends the institution/ individual with designation, serving institution and complete postal address with telephone/ mobile number	
5. Specific recommendation clearly indicating the reason for suggesting the name of institution/ individual for the award	
6.Any other information the recommending person wish to give	

Date:

Signature
Name and complete address

International Conference on Lifelong Learning at Kalyani University

A two day International Conference entitled “Lifelong Learning in Developing Countries: Issues and Perspectives” was organized by the University of Kalyani, West Bengal on February 17-18, 2017. The conference was followed by a workshop on February 19th for developing the Curriculum of Lifelong Learning Appropriate to Post-Modern India.

The conference was attended by internationally eminent scholars from U.S.A, Denmark, Norway and



Malta. Two eminent scholars, one from U.K and another from Mexico though were unable to attend the conference, sent their papers. Eminent Indian scholars from Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal graced the conference with their presence.

The Inaugural session was addressed by the Hon’ble



Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sankar Kumar Ghosh. He stressed the importance of lifelong learning in countries like India. He wanted lifelong learning initiatives to cover people in the so-called superannuated age group since a large section belonging to this group remain active citizens capable of contributing immensely in the development and welfare of the nation.

The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Peter Mayo of the University of Malta - a highly acclaimed personality in the field of lifelong learning globally. He gave a historical perspective of the evolution of the concept and practice of lifelong learning and how the conflict of capital and labour was visible in the implementation of lifelong learning in the West.

Prof. V. Reghu, formerly of Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development in his theme address explained how Kerala achieved phenomenal success in

the field of primary education in the state and how it is successfully implementing lifelong learning in all spheres of life and work.

Prof. Asoke Bhattacharya, formerly of the University of Jadavpur and a Core Committee member of the Organizing Committee stressed the need of lifelong learning for all-round development of the country. He also read out the address sent by Prof. Margaret Ledwith, Emeritus Professor of the University of Cumbria. Prof. Ledwith in her address pointed out how the poor people were being marginalized in the United Kingdom. She called upon the international community to resist such measures.

The welcome address was delivered by Prof. Prasenjit Deb, Head of the Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension.

In the first plenary session, Prof. Anders Holm of the University of Copenhagen spoke about the life of N.F.S. Grundtvig and his contribution in the field of present-day Lifelong Learning.

Dr. Synnoeve Sakura Heggem, an eminent Grundtvig scholar from Norway spoke on Grundtvig’s Heart – Rhetorics which in her opinion was a universal key to lifelong learning. Dr. Marilyn Wilhelm, a renowned educationist from the United States of America spoke on Education which she considered an art for healing the social maladies. Rev. Mette Geil from Denmark spoke on the world’s first folk high school and non-formal education institution which was established in Denmark way back in 1844. Prof. Mark Bradshaw Busbee, Head of the Department of English, Samford University, US and a well-known Grundtvig scholar spoke on Grundtvig’s educational use of medieval ‘nordisk’ literature. Among other significant papers were those of Prof. P. Adinarayana Reddy of Sri Venkateswara University Tirupati and Prof. Xicotencatl Martinez Luis of Mexico.

Around 160 papers were presented at three venues in the university. All the presenters were personally present with the exception of only a handful who could not attend.

The workshop to develop new curriculum for two years master’s degree in adult education and extension/lifelong learning on 19th was attended by all the foreign and Indian experts. The discussion in the workshop gave a lot of inputs for inclusion in the curriculum. Prof. Asoke Bhattacharya and Prof. Prasenjit Deb coordinated.

Cultural programme was held in the evenings which was enjoyed and appreciated by one and all.

- Prof. Prasenjit Deb

Nagaland University is organizing Research Methodology Course

The Department of Teacher Education & Department of Education, Nagaland University, Kohima is organizing a 10 day ICSSR sponsored Research Methodology Course for Ph.D. students in Social Sciences (such as Psychology, Philosophy, Social Work, Sociology, Anthropology, Education, Teacher Education, Economics, Political Science, Population Studies, Management Studies, etc.) from May 16-25, 2017. The objective of this course is to provide the scholars an orientation in research methodology focusing on both quantitative and qualitative methods of research analysis.

Young researchers who are pursuing their Ph.D. programme in universities and research institutions are eligible to apply. The application should be in specific format and submitted to course Director through e-mail along with the bio-data forwarded by Head/Dean/Research Supervisor of the institution/university of the concerned applicant. The number of seats available is only 30 and the last date for submission of application is April 10, 2017. Selected candidates will be intimated through e-mail and in university website by April 12, 2017.

For more details regarding the programme Research Scholars may visit Nagaland University Site (Home page) which gives details including brochure and form of application.

The Scholars may also contact the Course Director Dr. M. Rajendra Nath Babu, Assistant Professor (Mobile – 09440858111, 0940220756, e-mail: mrnb.svu@gmail.com or mrjendranathbabu@gmail.com or the Course Coordinator Smt. Narola Chuba, Assistant Professor (Mobile – 09436011390, e-mail: narochuba@yahoo.co.in)

‘औरत’

संघर्षों की पोटली को सर पर थामे
माँ, बेटे और पत्नी की भूमिका निभाती
सुख-दुःख की परछाईयों को जीवन्ता से लॉघती
साहसी औरत
जो कभी,
रहती थी चारदीवारी में
आज! बन्द किवाँड़ों को धकेल बाहर आ खड़ी है

अपनों के सपनों को पल्लू में बाँधे
कल के कर्णधारों को गोद में दुलारती
अपनी मुट्ठी में उनके भविष्य का खजाना बटोरती
प्रेरणाशील औरत
जो कभी, छुपती थी पर्दे में
आज! दूसरों को अपनी पदगामिनी बना रही है

अपने कन्धों पर पराक्रम का दोशाला ओढ़े
ज़िन्दगी की ऊँची-नीची पगड़ण्डियों पर निर्भीकता से कदम बढ़ाती
सफलता की सीढ़ियों को नापती
सबला औरत
जो कभी,
थी अबला के रूप में
आज! आसमान की बुलन्दियों को छूने को बेताब खड़ी है
— कुसुम वीर

Pakistan Education Statistics Report states that over 22 million children are out of schools. As many as 70% children in Balochistan and 58% in Federally Administered Tribal areas are out of school. (source: HT dt. 10.3.2017)

The Federally Administered Tribal Area is a semi-autonomous tribal region in North-Western Pakistan, bordering Pakistan’s provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan to the east and south and Afghanistan’s provinces of Kunar, Nangarhar, Paktia, Khost and Paktika to the west and north. The Federally Administered Tribal Areas consist of seven tribal agencies (districts) and six frontier regions, and are directly governed by Pakistan’s federal government through a special set of laws called the Frontier Crimes Regulations (FCR).

The territory is almost exclusively inhabited by the Pashtuns, who also live in the neighbouring provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Northern Balochistan. They are largely Muslims. The main towns of the territory are Parachinar, Miranshah, Razmak, Kaniguram, Wana, Kalaya, Landi Kotal, Ghalanai and Khaar.

“The objective of government in peace
and in war is not the
glory of rulers or races but the happiness
of the common man”
-Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

Announcement

Nehru and Tagore Literacy Awards

Nominations Invited

Indian Adult Education Association invites nominations for Nehru and Tagore Literacy Awards for the outstanding work done for the promotion of literacy, adult education, continuing education and lifelong education. A model nomination form is given at page 10 here and the format can be used by the recommending person/institution.

Nehru Literacy Award instituted in 1968 is given to institutions/individuals in recognition of the services rendered and meritorious work done for the promotion of literacy and adult education in the country.

Tagore Literacy Award instituted in 1987 is given to those institutions/individuals who have given significant contributions for the promotion of literacy, adult and lifelong education, creating awareness and improving the social and economic status of women in the country.

The institutions / individuals nominated for Awards should have at least ten years of outstanding work in the field of literacy, adult education, continuing education and lifelong education and the assessment will be on the new initiatives taken and also the extent to which the work done can be a model for replication for others.

The awardees will be selected only on merit from the names nominated by NLMA, DAE, NUEPA, NCERT, UGC, Universities, State Literacy Mission Authorities, State Resource Centres, Members of IAEA and other educational institutions of repute.

The last date for receipt of nominations for both the Awards is July 15, 2017.

Nominations may be sent in a sealed envelope directly to Dr. Madan Singh, General Secretary, Indian Adult Education Association, 17-B, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi-110 002 with all details about the institutions/individuals, outstanding work done, awards, if any, already received, specific recommendations for nominating the institutions/individuals. One can nominate more than one institution/individual but each one should be in a separate envelop.

The decision of the Selection Committee will be final.

Obituary

Shri Om Prakash Rajeshwar Swami expired on March 13, 2017. He was working as Technical Assistant in Group of Adult Education, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal University, New Delhi.

Shri Swami was a Life Member of Indian Adult Education Association from March 1999.

The Indian Adult Education Association conveys heartfelt condolences to the members of the bereaved family and prays for the departed soul to rest in peace.



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Form IV

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I, Dr. Madan Singh, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated: 28-3-2017

Sd/-
Dr. Madan Singh
Publisher

SHG Convention-cum-National Conference on Women and Development

The Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (REC), Palli Samgathana Vibhaga, Visva-Bharati organised a two day SHG Convention-cum-National Conference on Women and Development on March 17-18, 2017. The inaugural session of the programme was graced by Swami Sarvalokanandaji Maharaj, Secretary, Ramakrishna Mission Lokasiksha Parishad, Narendrapur, Prof. Swapan Kumar Datta, Vice Chancellor, Visva-Bharati, Prof. Sabujkoli Sen, Director of Studies, Educational Innovations and Rural Reconstruction, Visva-Bharati, Prof. Amit Kumar Hazra, Registrar, Visva-Bharati, Prof. Sankar Majumdar, Principal, Palli Samgathana Vibhaga, Dr. Sujit Kumar Paul, Head, Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension (REC), Visva-Bharati and Dr. Rafikul Islam, Associate Professor, Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension. The programme was inaugurated by the dignitaries jointly lighting the ceremonial lamp in the midst of reciting Ved Mantra.

The entire programme was divided into two segments – March 17th was devoted to the members of Self-Help Groups, elected members of PRIs under the command area villages of REC and academicians to provide the academicians an exposure to the problems faced by people at grassroots level and also to know the success stories. The participants had an opportunity to discuss various issues, policies and programmes for women development with the Director of Allahabad Bank Self Employment Training

Institute, Bolpur, Birbhum, Senior Faculty members of the State Institute of Panchayat and Rural Development, Govt. of West Bengal, Kalyani,

Women Development Office, Bolpur-Sriniketan Block and Joint Director, Bankers Institute of Rural



Development. On this occasion an exhibition was also organized which showcased the articles crafted/prepared by women which included jute work, copper wire products, different designs on cloth (kantha, batic, khesh etc.), ceramics and eatables (both namkeen and sweets).

The second segment on March 18th was devoted for presentation of papers by research scholars, teachers, development professional and academics of various government and non-government institutions from different parts of the country. In all around 56 papers were presented in parallel sessions.

- Dr.Sujit Kumar Paul

Swami Shradhanand College Celebrated Golden Jubilee

Swami Shradhanand College, Alipur, Delhi established in 1967 is a part of University of Delhi run under the trusteeship of the Delhi government named after Arya Samaj Educationist Swami Shraddhanand. This college caters to the educational needs of around 5000 students from the nearby rural areas in various streams like science, arts and commerce. The college celebrated its Golden Jubilee by organizing a number of programmes from March 6 to 8, 2017. On this occasion all the departments of the college showcased the progress made by their departments in the last many years including success stories in an exhibition which was visited by present and old students, faculty members and staff of the college and the local people. Shri Vijay Goel, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports (independent charge) inaugurated the Golden Jubilee Celebrations while Prof. I.M. Kapahi, Member, University Grants Commission was the Guest of Honour.

Prof. Rajesh, Chairman of the Governing Body of Swami Shradhanand College inaugurated the Botanical Garden in the college and also chaired NAAC Committee Meeting on this occasion.

The college received a message of good wishes from Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister for Golden Jubilee Celebration.



Pratham Released Annual Status of Education Report 2016

Pratham, a leading NGO more interested in the field of education releases Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) regularly except in the year 2015. Recently it released ASER 2016 in New Delhi after conducting a massive survey of 589 rural districts covering 17,473 villages, 3,50,232 households and 5,62,305 children in the age group 3-16. The report highlights the following:

- At the all India level enrollment increased for all age groups between 2014 and 2016. No increase in private school enrollment between 2014 and 2016.
- Nationally reading ability has improved, especially in early grades in government schools.
- Arithmetic shows improvement in government schools in primary grades.
- Ability to read English is unchanged for lower primary grades.
- Children's attendance shows no major change from 2014.
- The out of school children between 6 and 14 years of age in Uttar Pradesh has increased from 4.9% in 2014 to 5.3% in 2016.
- The out of school children in Madhya Pradesh in the age group 6-14 years has increased from 3.4% in 2014 to 4.4% in 2016.
- The out of school children in Chhattisgarh in the age group 6-14 years has increased from 2% in 2014 to 2.8% in 2016.
- Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Manipur, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh have low attendance rates of

children at 50-60%.

- The all India enrollment ratio in the age group 6-14 years has slightly improved from 96.7% in 2014 to 96.9% in 2016.
- The proportion of Class 8 students who can solve a three digit by one digit division problem dripped from 68.4% in 2010 to 44% in 2014 and 2016 it was 43.3%. However, the proportion of class 3 students who can perform a 2 digit subtraction has increased from 25.7% in 2014 to 27.7% in 2016. This improvement, for the first time since 2010 comes mainly from government schools.
- English reading ability of class 3 students (reading simple words) at all India level increased from 28.5% in 2014 to 32% in 2016. The ability to read English at class 5 level found to be unchanged. However, 60.2% students of class 8 who could read simple sentences in 2009 declined to 46.7% in 2014 and further declined to 45.2% in 2016. 68.7% schools having usable toilets against 47.2% in 2010. Only 3.5% schools visited across India had no toilets in 2016.
- Only 20% schools had computers in 2016 which is marginally higher than 19.6% in 2014. However, 89% schools had computers in Kerala, 75.2% in Gujarat, 57.3% in Tamil Nadu and 55.1% in Maharashtra.
- Enrollment in government schools went-up in Kerala (from 40.6% in 2014 to 49.9% in 2016) and in Gujarat 79.2% in 2014 to 86% in 2016.

Youth Fair for Gender Equality organized at Raipur



The Centre for Women's studies, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, Oxfam India and State Resource Centre, Chhattisgarh jointly organized a Youth Fair (Just Gender) for Gender Equality in the university campus on February 25, 2017 to develop an appropriate sense of gender equality among the

university students through games and activities. The programme had two parts - seminar and youth fair. The inaugural session was presided over by Smt. Shatabdi Pandey, Chairperson, Chhattisgarh State Commission for Protection of Child Rights while



the Chief Guest was Shri Sonmani Bora, IAS, Secretary, Department of Social Welfare, Sports and Youth Welfare, Govt. of Chhattisgarh.

Shri Sonmani Bora in his address said that gender issue is of changing relationship from childhood to old age and not confined to men or women only. He cited the concept of "Ardha-Narishwar" from Indian mythology and emphasized that every man and woman contained the seeds of both male and female and the need is only to develop them in a balanced way by striking equilibrium within each person, male or female.

Smt. Shatabdi Pandey in her speech said that many times women are incapable of raising their voice to convince others – be it the members of her family, community or society. She felt sorry for those women who face emotional and physical stress and domestic violence. The ultimate end for all these problems is women becoming strong educationally, economically and a part of decision making.

Others present on the occasion were Dr. Rabish Das, Registrar, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Ms. Nirupama Bajpayee, Advocate (Bilaspur), Ms. Rubina Patel, Social Activist (Nagpur), Shri Anand Shukla, Regional Director, Oxfam India,

Chhattisgarh, Prof. Reeta Venugopal, Director, Centre for Women's Studies and Shri Tuhin Dev, Director, State Resource Centre.



A few selected students from different departments of the university (Gender Champions) conducted 15 stalls in the Fair which had gender oriented games like stop eve teasing (for boys), road side romeo (for girls), secret of beautification (only for girls), race for equality, sex determination and feedback (for the spectators). In the stalls discussions also were held on how to build a gender sensitive society in the presence of eminent guest and dignitaries. A film was also screened on women and gender equality.

-Tuhin Dev

JSS Hoshangabad organized Interactive Session for Women



On the occasion of International Women's Day on March 8, 2017, the Jan Shikshan Sansthan, Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh organized an interactive session for women in which the vocational resource persons and beneficiaries of the Sansthan participated. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Ms. Amruta Thakur, Corporator, Itarsi Municipality and Social Activist. Initiating the discussion Shri S.A.Hussain, Director, JSS gave a number of points in favour of women to be enterprising and active participants in decision making. He said that while India is progressing well in many fields, women are still lagging behind which cannot ensure the inclusive growth.

Ms. Amruta Thakur in her address said that in the last many years women are progressing well in number of areas but the desired level is not achieved till date. To enable women be a part of decision making, many state governments have brought reservation of seats in local bodies but unfortunately, reservation in Parliament is still lingering in view of a few political parties taking a strong view against it. She said that women empowerment cannot be achieved by mere annual celebration but by strong action.

Ms. Shweta Choube, Programme Officer, JSS said that women in India work more than men but in return get less payment. Even in glittering cinema field lady actors grudge that they get less than the male actors. In a way this goes against the constitutional guarantee of "Equal pay for Equal Work". Unfortunately, none is bothered to take-up the matter to appropriate authorities or court of law for rectification.

The participants not only heard the talk given but also discussed/raised various points which they feel discriminated in their house and outside.

-S.A. Hussain

Lecture on Capacity and Life Skill Building in Lifelong Learning

The Kalindi College, University of Delhi organized special lecture session on February 28, 2017 on "Capacity and Life Skill Building in Lifelong Learning". The speakers were Prof. Rajesh, Department of Adult, Continuing Education and Extension, University of Delhi and Shri Nitish Anand, Research Scholar. Prof. Rajesh in his address spoke in detail about the life skills and how they are important to all the people, particularly youth. He said that those who do not practice life skills in day-to-day life cannot succeed in their life. He motivated the college students to study the subjects more to gain knowledge instead of for reproducing in the examination. He also wanted the

students to pursue need based courses like lifelong learning instead of choosing the traditional subjects as they have more opportunities in the employment market.

Shri Nitish Anand while speaking on soft skills and competence said that self-awareness, empathy, critical thinking, creative thinking, decision making, problem solving, interpersonal skill, effective communication, coping with stress and coping with emotion are important which the students should cultivate early in their life.

-Nitish Anand

National Seminar on Lifelong Learning



The Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Jammu organized a two day National Seminar on Lifelong Learning and Sustainable Rural Development on February 22-23, 2017. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri Abdul Haq Khan, Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir. In his address the minister said that in J&K rural development programmes are implemented more as a mission for which commitment and well defined vision and goals are necessary to achieve tangible targets. He said that a lot of benefits have reached the rural population through MGNREGP and Himayat but a lot more to be done in the days to come. He appreciated the university for organizing the seminar focusing on sustainable rural development and desired the students pursuing rural development course to do field work in rural areas to gain much needed experience and appreciation for the programmes implemented.

Prof. J.P. Dubey, Head of the Department of Adult, Continuing Education and Extension, University of Delhi in his Keynote Address said that rural development cannot be understood properly if it is not linked to extension work. Hence, students pursuing rural development course need intensive field work in which they can study the benefits of rural development programmes implemented in the villages.

Prof. Dalip Patil, Head of the Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension, University of Mumbai in his address spoke in detail about the history of university departments of adult, continuing education and extension/lifelong learning and the achievements made so far.

Prof. Deshbandhu Gupta, Dean, Academic Affairs, University of Jammu said that rural areas need more attention as they have a lot of potential for growth. Rural people must be given entrepreneurial skills so that they start self-employment to increase family income and supplement the income coming from agriculture operations.

Prof. S.K.Bhati, Head of the Department of Adult, Continuing Education and Extension, Jamia Millia



Islamia University, New Delhi was the Chief Guest in the valedictory function. He spoke on evolution of education system in the modern world and gave examples of benchmark set by some of the world countries. He also highlighted the role of universities in addressing the national goals and challenges confronted by the nation.

Dr. Kavita Suri, Director and Head of the Department of Lifelong Learning, University of Jammu and Ms. Sonakshi Samnotra also spoke.

-Dr. Kavita Suri