

## Report on International Women's Day



On **8<sup>th</sup> March 2021** International Women's Day was celebrated. Dr. Jayakumari B.R, Principal, SBRR Mahajana First Grade College, Mysore was invited as chief guest. The programme began with the welcome note proposed by Smt Deepu.P, Principal and presided over by Prof K.B Vasudeva, Director of Legal studies. Inaugurating the occasion she began her speech by highlighting that 'knowledge is asset', students should know how to utilize this asset as it gives them the strength of taking right decision and moving in a right direction. She appreciated the success of every teacher present in the college.

Speaking on the importance of celebrating Women's day she said that we have to remember those who are the cause for this celebration. Highlighting this year 2021 theme 'Choose to challenge', she said the cause for fight against Women's Right began way back in 18<sup>th</sup> century by Mary Wollstonecraft. She was an English writer, philosopher, and advocate of women's rights. She is best known for A Vindication of the Rights of Woman (1792), in which she argues that women are not naturally inferior to men, but appear to be only because they lack education. She suggests that both men and women should be treated as rational beings and imagines a social order founded on reason. With the emergence of the feminist movement at the turn of the twentieth century, Wollstonecraft's advocacy of women's equality and critiques of conventional femininity became increasingly important. Even before this in 12<sup>th</sup> century Akkamahadevi, the great Kannada poet marked the beginning of the revolution. Blind beliefs should be eradicated from the society to ensure freedom for women. If women are to take independent decision, she

should be educated. Justice is for all, if one seeks justice it is their right, it is not begging. She too claimed for the rights of women and it developed stage by stage.

Further speaking on the background of celebration she said it is a global holiday celebrated annually on March 8 to commemorate the cultural, political, and socioeconomic achievements of women. It is also a focal point in the women's rights movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence against women. In 1857 at New York, Women working in textile mill together agitated for their rights. Clara Zetkin, a communist activist, and advocate for women's rights took the leadership claiming for voting rights, equal pay equal work etc. This also inspired German delegates at the 1910 International Socialist Woman's Conference to propose "a special Women's Day" be organized annually, albeit with no set date; the following year saw the first demonstrations and commemorations of International Women's Day across Europe. After women gained suffrage in Soviet Russia in 1917, the beginning of the February Revolution, Women's Day was made a national holiday on March 8; it was subsequently celebrated on that date by the socialist movement and communist countries. The holiday was associated with far-left movements and governments until its adoption by the global feminist movement in the late 1960s. International Women's Day became a mainstream global holiday following its adoption by the United Nations in 1977. On March 8<sup>th</sup> 1910, US government declared International Women's Day. it was the first success of centaur's agitation.

Speaking on today women rights, she said every woman should take the initiative of achieving her goal. The act of female feticide, child marriage, dowry harassment, ragging, sexual harassment, trafficking, acid attack, murder, rape, discrimination in politics etc. are the common crimes committed against women. Through these she is made to feel discriminated and downtrodden. In order to tackle these issues, self-confidence is required and also awareness should be created both at workplace and within the family. Today, bringing the change is not easy, it is big challenge. Every society has its own restrictions. But it is not impossible to bring change. What is more important is positive thinking. It is the yardstick for bringing change in our self and within the society.

Speaking on Mental health, she said every woman should find time for herself. Involving in workout, reading, listening to music are the key to success and this keeps both our physical and mental health strong. The key to change is to do what one can do for bringing change. This may be within the family or at society level. When society is healthy there is no violation of women's

right. She concluded her speech by delivering oath to fight against the violation of right of women.

Prof K.B Vasudeva, in his presidential speech said that, for bringing any change strength is more important. Women are worshipped in the form of *shakthi* in India, the source of strength. When women feel they are protected, it marks the real change in the society. Speaking on spirituality, he said there are different perceptions on soul, scientifically and spiritually they have different meaning. For bringing any change consent is more important and we all should be together for bringing the change.

Concluding the programme, Dr. Prakruthi A.R proposed a vote of thanks. Teaching, non-teaching staff and students were present in this occasion