

WOMEN'S STUDIES RESEARCH CENTRE

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BRACH PROFILE

The Women's Studies Research Centre over the past seventeen years of its existence has been contributing to the pursuit of a more comprehensive, critical and balanced investigation of the cause of gender disparity by analyzing the structural and cultural factors and help develop alternate concepts, approaches and strategies for development. As part of the critical theory women's studies has served as an instrument that questions the traditionally held premises, theoretical categories and in addition to class, ethnicity, religion and caste as tools of analysis, gender as a social category has been included in the understanding of social reality.

Major Achievements of the Women's Studies Research Centre

A. **Research** : Recent Research Projects undertaken and completed

- **Haryana ke Lokgeet : Aik Adhayan.**
- **Women's Access to Health Facilities: A Study**

- A Study of Women Entrepreneurs in Haryana
- A Study of Declining Sex Ratio: A Case Study and Media Reflections
- A Study of Women in the Unorganized Sector of Employment
- Family Violence Against the Girl Child
- Professional and Technical Education in Haryana – A Gender Analysis of Enrolment

B. Monitoring Agency

- The Women's Studies Research Centre was identified as a Monitoring Agency by the Department of Women & Child Development, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, New Delhi, to monitor and review the NGO's funded by the Ministry of Human Resource Management in the State of Haryana in 2003.

C. Training

- The Women's Studies Research Centre has organized Orientation Courses in Women's Studies regularly since 1997 for University and Colleges Lecturers, sponsored by the Department of Higher Education, Haryana.
- The Northern Region UGC Training of Trainers Workshop on 'Capacity Building of Women Mangers in Higher Education' was held at the centre from 24-28 October, 2005. A group of 28 participants selected from 10 states Viz: Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh attended the workshop. This five days Training of Trainers workshop was one of the five regional workshops conducted in the country and the participants of the workshop were expected to conduct Sensitization / Awareness Workshops in their respective regions. All the workshops were funded by the UGC. Being the Regional Co-ordinator of the Workshops Dr. Reicha Tanwar, Director, Women's Studies Research Centre, co-ordinated all the 12 workshops of the Northern Region. These Workshops were held at Delhi University, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pant Nagar, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Allahabad University, Allahbad Rohilkhand University, Bareilly, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, Jammu University, Jammu, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and M.D.U. Rohtak.
- The Centre organized the Northern Region UGC Consultation Workshop in Women's Studies on 12-14 December, 2005. The workshop was attended by 45 participants from 10 states of the Northern Region. The participants were Directors of Women's Studies Research Centre, Members of UGC Standing Committee, nominees of the Vice-Chancellors of Universities and other Women's Studies Experts. Recommendations were also made for further strengthening the Women's Studies Centres.

D. Consultations and Seminars

- The British Council Division sponsored an event Women and Peace in March 2001. The Women's Studies Research Centre Participated as a partner in the National Meet at New Delhi in April 2001. On International Women's Day, March 8, 2001 the Centre organized a Colloquium on "Women, Development and Peace", it was sponsored by British Council Division, New Delhi. Dr. Zarina Bhatti, President, Indian Association of Women's Studies was Chief guest on this occasion.

- The Centre organized a Round Table Consultation on “National Policy for Empowerment of Women 2001” on 16 - 17 March, 2004. This consultation was sponsored by the National Commission for Women.
- The Centre organized the Regional Conference of the Indian Association for Women’s Studies on ‘Women and Civil Society’ on 29 – 30 Nov, 2004. Dr. Kumud Sharma President Indian Association for Women's Studies, Dr. Zarina Bhatti, Dr. Indu Agnihotri and Dr. Prem Chaudhry participated in the conference.
- The Centre organized Kurukshetra University Golden Jubilee lecture on 'The Indivisible Trinity: Education, Culture Dynamics and Participatory Democracy' by Prof. Vina Mazumdar, Chairperson UGC Standing Committee on Women's Studies.

E. Extension

- The Women's Studies Research Centre in collaboration with Department of Women & Child Development, Haryana organized 'Gender Sensitization Training Course' for the Development Functionaries of the state. 138 Training Courses of three days each were conducted in five districts of the state i.e. Ambala, Yamunanagar, Kurukshetra, Kaithal and Karnal from April 2006 to August 2006. Special training and reading material in Hindi was prepared for the participants who were police personnel, health workers, school teachers and panches / sarpanches. The objective of the training programme was to sensitize the development officers at the grassroot level of various gender issues including the serious issue of declining sex ratio in the state and also to acquaint them with various policies and programmes for women's empowerment.
- The Centre organized a Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Training Programme for Rural Women in Bhorsaidan Village, Kurukshetra from 16th – 18th March 2006, sponsored by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Kurukshetra, under the Skill Development Initiative (SDI) Scheme. The objective of this training programme was to develop entrepreneurial and income generation skill among the rural women. As follow up action, marketing and sales skills were incorporated. The Centre is successfully running a Tailoring and Embroidery Centre for rural women Since August 2006.