

# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT CELL

**S.M.MAHESWARI,**  
CO-ORDINATOR  
**S.G.LECTURER IN ENGLISH**

**Sri.Y.N.College, (Autonomous),Narsapur, West Godavary District, affiliated to Andhra University, is a reputed institution in this region. The college was accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade in the year 2004, attained Autonomous status in 2007, selected as college with potential for Excellence, and Reaccredited by NAAC at 'A' grade with a CGPA 3.40 in the year 2010.**

We would like to present a bird's eye-view of the **Women Empowerment Cell** of Sri YN College in this edition. It was **started in the year 2003** and since then it has been successfully playing a proactive role towards sensitization of the girl students towards gender issues in order to provide congenial atmosphere in the college campus. The Cell aims at creating awareness among the girl students and the women staff members to achieve socio economic liberation. It has been continuously striving for achieving gender equality and to sensitize the student community regarding the issues of eve-teasing, violence against women, female feticide etc. The cell has been organizing group discussions, lectures and interactive sessions with experts in the relevant fields to motivate and create awareness among girl students. It seeks to empower women as decision makers and to achieve economic, social and gender justice. On International Women's Day, every year the cell invites and felicitates eminent women from different walks of life to motivate and inspire the girl students. It also looks after the wellbeing of the girl students by providing all the amenities they require to continue their education in an amicable, inspiring atmosphere so as to become bold and healthy future citizens.

## **Training Programmes attended:**

**S.M.Maheswari**, Lecturer in English, coordinator of women empowerment cell, and **Ms.B.Swarnalatha**, HOD, Economics participated in the **SAM (Sensitivity, Awareness, Motivation) UGC sponsored workshop** on "**Capacity Building of Women Managers in Higher Education**" at Andhra University, Visakhapatnam from 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. to 7<sup>th</sup> Nov.2008; **S.M.Maheswari** was selected for TOT workshop and she Participated in **TOTs (Trainer of**

the trainees) **UGC sponsored workshop** at S.V University, Tirupathi from 18<sup>th</sup> Jan.to 23<sup>rd</sup>Jan.2010

**Dr.K.V.R.B.Varalakshmi**, lecturer in Sanskrit, **Ms.R.V.lakshmi Devi**, Lecturer in Commerce, **Ms.Pavani**,Lecturer in Electronics, **Ms.Sireesha**, lecturer in Bio-Technology participated in SAM Workshop at Sri.Y.N.College from 5<sup>th</sup> july to 9<sup>th</sup> july 2011

**Ms.S.M.Maheswari** participated in **MSEM (Management skills Enhancement Modules) UGC sponsored workshop** at S.V.University,Tirupati from 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>October 2011 on the following **two Modules**:

**Title I :Recognition and Elimination of Sexual Harrassment in Institutions for Higher Education** – 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October,2011

Author/s: Prof. Karuna Chanana and Prof. Reicha Tanwar

**Title II: Team Building and Decision Making in Institutes of Higher Education** – 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> October,2011

Author/s: Prof.Jaya Indiresan

### **Highlights:**

**The Women Empowerment cell has been organizing** group discussions, guest lectures on Legal ,social, political ,Economic ,and medical issues and interactive sessions with experts in the relevant fields to motivate and create awareness among girl students since its inception.

As a part of celebrating International Women's Day every year the women Empowerment Cell has been felicitating eminent women, to reward them for their services to the society

The cell conducted Women Writers' Meet of Bhumika group (Feminists) on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2006.Around fifty Feminist writers participated in the Meet. The discussions on Feminism were very impressive and intuitive

A legal awareness programme on "**Acts & Facts about Women's Autonomy**" was conducted on 19<sup>th</sup> March ,2009. Ms. Mahalakshmi, **Sr. Civil Judge**, Ms.Satyadevi, **Jr.civil judge**, Mr.Babunaik, **Addl. judicial I class Magistrate** were invited to speak on legal issues (domestic violence, sexual harassment ,etc.) relating to women

Eminent women activist **Ms Sandhya**, (**president,Pragathiseela mahila sammakya**) **&Dr.Samatha Roshni**, a social activist from Hyderabad were invited to talk on "**Violence against Women**" on 27<sup>th</sup> July,2009.

Ms.Krishnaveni Retd. Teacher spoke on "**The Importance of Meditation in the Life of Modern Women**" on 1<sup>st</sup> Dec.2009

Dr. Lalitha Devi Retd. Principal BGBS Women's college spoke on '**Empowerment of Women**' on 8<sup>th</sup> March ,2010,

On 8<sup>th</sup> March ,2011 Ms. Satyaveni, commissioner of Narsapur Municipality and Dr. Nagamani, Principal of BGS Women's college talked on **women empowerment and violence against women.**

A State wide two day seminar on **Telugu Natakasahityam-Sthreelu** (women in Telugu Natakasahityam) was conducted on 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Jan.2011. Around fifty women writers (feminists) from all over the state participated and presented scholarly and thought provoking papers on the topic. All the sessions were quite interactive and interesting. It was undoubtedly a wonderful, delightful and delicious feast to the critics and lovers of literature. It would be unjust if the Women Empowerment cell doesn't reiterate the magnanimous gesture of the Management for giving the opportunity to conduct such a rare Seminar

UGC sponsored 5day **SAM** (Sensitivity, Awareness, Motivation) **workshop on "Capacity Building of Women Managers in Higher Education"** was successfully organized by Ms.S.M.Maheswari(Local Coordinator) **from 5<sup>th</sup> July to 9<sup>th</sup> July 2011.** Prof.Susheela Kaushik (Core Group Resource Person,UGC) from Delhi ,Prof.U.Vindhya (Regional Coordinator) from Andhra University, Prof.Usha Rani (Sub-Regional Coordinator) from S.V.University,Tirupathi and five Resource persons attended to transact the five manuals –'Women Studies Perspective' by Dr. Ajailu nuimai from Central University,Hyderabad; "Women and Governance" by Dr. Vaasanthi from NALSAR University,Hyderabad; "Women and Academic Leadership" by Dr Ramani from St. Josef college,Visakhapatnam;"Personal and Professional Roles" by Dr Rani George from St. Ann's college,Hyderabad; "Women and Research" by Dr.Bhuvaneshwari from Tirupathi. Twenty four women lecturers from different Universities from the state participated in the workshop The whole training programme was interactive ,informative ,inspiring, thought provoking, interesting and quite unique. By organizing this prestigious workshop in our college the Women Empowerment Cell has definitely added an exquisite feather to its cap. The Women Empowerment Cell conveys its heart- felt thanks to the UGC, the Management (Governing Body) and the Principal for giving the opportunity to conduct the workshop.

On 15<sup>th</sup> February 2012 the Cell organized an Awareness Programme on **"Preconception and Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques"** for the Girl students and the women teachers. Mr.Ch Nageswara Rao (District Health and Media Officer) Dr. Suchitra, Mr. Krishna Mohan and Ms.Nagamani made the students aware of the diagnostic techniques and the Law pertaining to sex determination of the child in the mother's womb through ultra sound. The power point presentation on the topic by Mr .Nageswara Rao was quite informative and useful. An oath to save the girl child was taken by the audience at the end of the programme

It would be inexcusable if the women empowerment cell didn't appreciate what all help and cooperation that was extended by the Management and the then Principals and the principal staff and students at present - the very force behind - for organizing so efficiently all those amazing programmes in the college.

\*\*\*Thank you\*\*\*

