

**Proceeding**  
of  
**NAAC Sponsored Seminar, 2023**  
Day Long National Seminar  
on  
*Women Empowerment in Higher Education: Challenges & Prospects*  
On  
20<sup>th</sup> June, 2023



**Organised by**  
**Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)**  
**Ambedkar College**

01.7.23  
DR. SUBRATA SHARMA  
PRINCIPAL I/C  
AMBEDKAR COLLEGE, UNAKOTI  
TRIPURA-739230

## 1. Theme of the Seminar

The necessity of the seminar emerges out of the fact that the largest democracy in this globe i.e. India holds 42 percent of female faculties in Higher Education against 58 percent of their male counterparts. Despite the well decorated gender friendly policies in different universities, colleges or the stand alone institutions, the participation of women leaders is very low. It is mostly due to the glass ceiling approach that stops women from holding leadership positions in Indian academia. The presence of 7 female Vice Chancellors in 54 Central universities across the country indicates the alarming status of gender discrimination in Higher Education (Jain, 2022).

Human history had has witnessed the intolerance of men towards the female leadership. The father of all sciences, Aristotle remarked on the inferior status of women, hence he kept females aside from authority. By denying their civil rights, he affirmed, 'women's rightful place is the household chores'. This established myth has still dominated the present trends.

Although women have made remarkable development in academia but it is very difficult to quantify. Family responsibility, motherhood, lack of social acceptance and self motivation, lack of gender friendly policies, sexual harassment at work place and most importantly male chauvinism against women leadership are the guiding factors behind the poor leadership roles of women in Higher education. The institutional formalism between the female friendly policies and their real applications has marked serious shortage of female leaders in Higher Education sector. The COVID 19 has widened the gender disparity in various regular sectors including academics. Women faced more terminations from men during the pandemic. 'Women are incapacitated for leadership' myth has further accentuated the gender stereotype among the patriarchs.

The main purpose of the seminar is not the inculcate misandrist values but to actualize gender specific structure to ease the path of equality for 'half the sky'. With the main theme of gender parity in Higher Education, in the background, the Department of Political Science, Ambedkar College, invites interested researchers and academicians from various social science disciplines in universities and research institutes for presentation of their papers in the seminar. The papers are to conform to either of these following themes:

- Education and gender justice
- Female leadership in Indian academia
- Status of women in organized/unorganized sectors
- Gender parity/disparity in Higher Education Institutions
- Gender harassment at workplace

DR. SUBRAJIT K. THAKUR  
PRINCIPAL I/C  
AMBEDKAR COLLEGE PATIROY, UNAKOTI  
TRIPURA-752220

### Sub-Themes:

With the main theme of gender equality issue in Higher Education in India, in the background, the IQAC, Ambedkar College, invite papers in the seminar. The papers are to conform to either of these following themes:

- Education and gender justice
- Female leadership in Indian academia
- Status of women in organized/unorganized sectors
- Gender parity/disparity in Higher Education Institutions
- Gender harassment at workplace.

## 2. EVENT SCHEDULE

### Venue: Auditorium

#### 10.00 AM to 10.300 AM : Registration

#### 10.30AM to 12.00 noon: Inaugural Session

• 10.30	• 10.35 am: Welcoming the guests to the dais
• 10.36	• 10.40 am: Formally welcoming the guests by presenting floral bouquet.
• 10.40	• 10.45 am: Inauguration of the programme by lightning the holy lamp by Dignitaries
• 10.46	• 10.50 am: Inaugural Song by students of Ambedkar College
• 10. 51	• 10.56 am: Welcome address by Dr. Dipikanta Chakraborty, Organizing Secretary
• 10. 57	• 11.15 am: Keynote address by Prof. Chandrika Basu Majumder
• 11.16	• 11.45 am: Speech by Inaugurator
• 11.46	• 12.00 noon: Presidential address and vote of thanks by Dr. Subrata Sharma, Principal i/c, Ambedkar College

DR. SUBRATA SHARMA  
PRINCIPAL i/c  
AMBEDKAR COLLEGE, PATILLOI, UNAKOTI  
TRIPURA-799290



Tea Break - 12:00 noon -12:15 pm**Technical Session- I, (12.16 - 1.15) pm**

**Chair:** Prof. Swarupa Bhattacharya, Professor, Dept. of Political Science, GC College, Assam

**Rapporteur:** Mrs. Melody Darlong, Astt. Prof. Dept. of Philosophy

**Papers:**

• Ratan Kumar Das	• A study on the attitude of Teachers and students towards gender disparity in Higher Education Institute in Tripura."
• Dr. Anupam Mallik	• Harmonious and Sustainable Development of Women Empowerment to Eliminate Gender Inequality through Higher Education in India
• Pankaj Debbarma and Maitreya Chakrabarti	• VULNERABILITY OF FEMALE DOMESTIC WORKERS IN AGARTALA CITY
• Pratima Das Ray	• Women Empowerment through Effective utilization of ICT in College of Teacher Education, Unakoti, Tripura – a Case Study
• Dr. Joynul Hoque	• Empowering Rural Muslim Women: Challenges in Higher Education in Assam

Lunch Break, 1:15 - 2:00 pm**Technical Session – II (2.00-3.00pm)**

**Chair:** Dr Biplab Debnath, Department of Political Science, Tripura University.

**Rapporteur:** Mrs. Anwesha Dey from the Department of Physiology

**Papers:**

• Shantaraj Debbarma	• Can Ethics Solve the Problem of Gender Based Harassment?
• Abul Hussain	• Government Initiatives and Scholarships to Promote Women's Education in Assam".
• Gautam Das	• ভারতীয় শিক্ষা ব্যবস্থায় বাঙ্গালী মহিলাদের অবদান
• Kalipadha Debnath	• IMPACT OF GENDER HARASSMENT ON WOMEN ENTREPRENEUR SPECIAL REFERENCE TO AGARTALA MUNICIPAL AREA

DR. SUBODH K. SHARMA  
PRINCIPAL I/C  
DEBKAR COLLEGE, UNAKOTI  
TRIPURA-799290

➤ **Parallel Session**

**Chair:** Prof. Jayati Gupta, Former Professor, Department of English, West Bengal State University, West Bengal

**Rapporteur:** Dr. Lalhrinunga Hmar, from the Department of History, Ambedkar College

**Papers:**

• Dr. Jamal Uddin Choudhury	• Unleashing Potential: The Role of Higher Education in Empowering Indian Women"
• Dr. Md. Imam Uddin Ansari	• Women's education & Political Participation in India
• Apu Das	• Relevance Of Mahatma Gandhi's Ideas On Women Empowerment and Gender Equality
• Sanjay Das	• Women Empowerment in India: Government Initiatives

**Awarding Certificates**

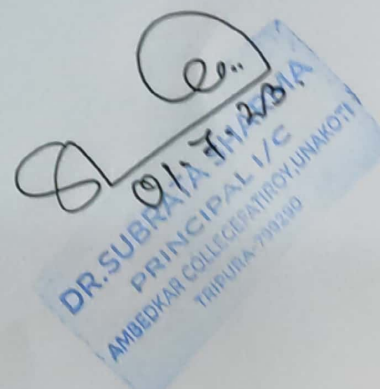
**3.00 pm - 4.00 pm:**

**Resource Person:**

- Prof. Dr Chandrika Basu Majumder, Tripura University
- Dr Biplob Debnath, Tripura University
- Dr Swarupra Bhattacharjee, Gurucharan College, Silchar, Assam
- Prof. Jayati Gupta, Former Professor, WB State University (Virtual)

**Organising Committee**

1. Dr Subrata Sharma, Principal i/c, President
2. Dr. Chandan Debnath, Coordinator, IQAC
3. Dr. Anil Kumar Acharya, Organising Coordinator
4. Dr. Dipikanta Chakraborty, Convener
5. Smt. Puspawng Hrangkhawl, Technical Coordinator
6. Mr. Sanjib Choudhuri, Member
7. Dr Manish Nandi, Member
8. Mr. Tapas Bhowmik, Member



**3. Report**  
**of**  
**NAAC Sponsored Seminar, 2023**  
**Day Long National Seminar**  
**on**  
**Women Empowerment in Higher Education: Challenges & Prospects**

**Ambedkar College**

**Organized by:** IQAC Ambedkar College, Fatikray. Sponsored by NAAC

**Theme:** *Women Empowerment in Higher Education: Challenges & Prospects*

**Date & Time:** 20/06/2023

**Mode of Delivery:** Hybrid

**No. of Participants/Presenters:** 16

**Resource Person:**

- Prof. Dr Chandrika Basu Majumder, Tripura University
- Dr Biplob Debnath, Tripura University
- Dr Swarupra Bhattacharjee, Gurucharan College, Silchar, Assam
- Prof. Jayati Gupta, Former Professor, WB State University (Virtual)

01.7.23-  
DR. SUBRATA SHARMA  
PRINCIPAL I/C  
AMBEDKAR COLLEGE FATIKRAY, UNAKOTI  
TRIPURA-799290





01.7.23  
 DR. SUBRATA SHARMA  
 PRINCIPAL I/C  
 AMBEDKAR COLLEGE FAKIRGURI, UNAKOTI  
 TRIPURA-799200



Dr. Subrata Sharma  
Principal I/C  
AMBEDKAR COLLEGE PATROY, UNAKOTI  
TRIPURA-793220



#### 4. Summary of Sessions

The main purpose of the seminar is not to inculcate misandrist values but to actualize gender specific structure to ease the path of equality for 'half the sky'. Although women have made remarkable development in academia but it is very difficult to quantify. Family responsibility, motherhood, lack of social acceptance and self motivation, lack of gender friendly policies, sexual harassment at work place and most importantly male chauvinism against women leadership are the guiding factors behind the poor leadership roles of women in Higher education. The institutional formalism between the female friendly policies and their real applications has marked serious shortage of female leaders in Higher Education sector. The COVID 19 has widened the gender disparity in various regular sectors including academics. Though the main aim of the seminar is to find the Issues and challenges for bringing gender equality in HEIs, but the presenters had thrown light on other aspects of gender disparity. The day started with an inaugural session. The session was inaugurated by the Dr Deepak kumar, IAS, Assistant Collector. The Organising secretary, Dr Dipikanta Chakraborty has given welcome address to the gathering. It was followed by the enlightening keynote address by Prof Chandrika Basu Majumder. The two Resource Persons – Dr Biplob Debnath and Dr Swarupa Bhattacharjee were also present in the dais. The inaugural session had been ended by the vote of thanks, delivered by the Principal i/c. Dr Subrata Sharma.

The Technical Session started at 12.15 PM, chaired by Dr Swarupa Bhattacharjee. The after-lunch session was presided over by Dr Biplob Debnath and Prof. Jayati Gupta. The presenters have touched different aspects of the theme – Women Empowerment through Higher Education. Dr Jainul Hoque presented a paper on the role of Higher Education in empowering the Muslim Women in Assam. It focuses on the ratio of the Muslim girls in Higher Education compared to their counterparts in rural areas of Assam. A paper has been presented on why Higher Education is an essential tool for achieving gender equality. Ratan Kumar Das has rightly highlighted the attitude of teachers and students towards gender disparity in Higher Education Institute in Tripura. A paper has strongly examined the key government initiatives and scholarships in Assam that have been instrumental in promoting women's education.

The Programme started with an inaugural session where Dr Deepak Kumar, IAS, Unakoti district, Tripura, has inaugurated the session. Prof Dr Chandrika Basu Majumder has given Keynote address and analytically read out the necessity of the seminar. The Principal in – charge, Dr Subrata Sharma has given the vote of thanks and formally closed the inaugural session. In her session, Dr Swarupa Bhattacharya apprehended the session and highlighted the need of gender parity. With a strong theoretical analysis Dr Biplob Debnath has discussed the need of equity and fairness. Overall the seminar was of great success.

**Convenor(s):** Dr Dipikanta Chakraborty, Head, Department of Political Science, Ambedkar College, Fatikray, Tripura.

DR. SUBRATA SHARMA  
PRINCIPAL  
AMBEDKAR COLLEGE, FATIKRAY, UNAKOTI  
TRIPURA-791000

## 5. Keynote Address

by

**Prof. Dr Chandrika Basu Majumder**

**Senior Professor**

**Department of Political Science**

**Tripura University**

Wishing you a very good morning, to all the dignitaries present over here. First of all I would like to share my feelings with all of you when I am sharing the dais with my student and scholar Dr Dipikanta Chakraborty who pursued her PhD under my supervision. It gives me pride and pleasure to be here on the stage with her. I would like to congratulate Dr Chakraborty and the whole organising team for inviting me to this august gathering. I am indeed very happy to be here, meeting all of you and sharing my thoughts on the higher education system in general and the trends in the evaluation process in particular. I appreciate the team for selecting such a wonderful theme for the seminar. Friends, the education is the enlargement of mind but how could anyone enlarge the mind by depriving the half-sky?

My dear students, As per AISHE, the enrollment in higher education increases to 4.14 crore, increase of 7.5% from 2019-20 and female enrollment reaches 2 crore mark, increase of 13 Lakh from 2019-20. Female enrollment reaches 2 crore mark, increase of 13 Lakh from 2019-20. Gender Parity Index (GPI) has increased from 1 in 2017-18 to 1.05 in 2020-21. It is undoubtedly good news that shows the effective policies of Higher Education system in India for encouraging female participation.

But merely increasing the statistics will not relieve the Higher Education Institutions from empowering girls. In my class, I have personally targeted the female students from the economically weaker sections. With an anecdote, I am trying to explain my statement. One of the students from a PG batch was good and responsive in the class. I had discussed them the Domestic Violence Act, 2005. She enthusiastically participated in the class interaction. But to my great dismay, all my efforts went futile when I heard that she committed suicide subject to the domestic violence. These kinds of examples are a dime a dozen. The educated girls who are well aware of the Visakha Guidelines, i.e. the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act but they have often been subjected to sexual violence. Hence, mere translation of the acts will not solve issues of the women for what they are getting education.

DR. SUBRATA SHARMA  
01-7-22  
AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY, UNAKOTI  
TRIPURA-799290



## 6. Media Proceedings



Airnews Agartala

56m · 🌐

...

বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরি কমিশনের স্ব-শাসিত সংস্থা "রাষ্ট্রীয় মূল্যায়ন ও স্বীকৃতি পরিষদ" বা ন্যাক (N.A.A.C) এর পৃষ্ঠপোষকতায় আজ ঊনকোটি জেলার ফটিকরায় আশ্বেদকর কলেজের অডিটরিয়ামে অনুষ্ঠিত হয় জাতীয় পর্যায়ের আলোচনাচক্র। "উচ্চশিক্ষায় মহিলা ক্ষমতায়ন, প্রতিকূলতা ও সম্ভাবনা" শীর্ষক এই আলোচনাচক্রের উদ্বোধন করেন, ঊনকোটি জেলা প্রশাসনের সহকারী সমাহর্তা ড. দীপক কুমার। তিনি বলেন, মহিলাদের ক্ষমতায়ন মানে সমাজ তথা রাষ্ট্রের ক্ষমতায়ন। এছাড়া অধ্যাপিকা ড. চন্দ্রিকা বসু মজুমদার, ড. দীপিকান্তা চক্রবর্তী প্রমুখ ভাষণ দেন। সভাপতিত্ব করেন, কলেজের ভারপ্রাপ্ত অধ্যক্ষ ড. সুব্রত শর্মা। রাজ্য-বহিরাঙ্গ থেকে শিক্ষাবিদ ও গবেষকরা এতে অংশ নেন। মোট শোলটি গবেষণা পত্র এখানে উপস্থাপিত হয়।



Dr. Subrata Sharma  
Principal I/C  
Ambekar College, Fatikra, Unakoti  
Tripura-733290