

Report
on
GENDER EQUALITY IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA:
ROLE OF INSTITUTIONS AND YOUTH
Women Development Centre,
In collaboration with
IQAC
SLC (University of Delhi)
Shyam Lal College
Shahdara, Delhi

Chief Speaker: Smt. Delina Khongdup

Convenor of WDC: Dr. Rekha Kaushik

IQAC Coordinator: Prof. Kusha Tiwari

Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2026

Venue: Seminar Room & Board Room

Shyam Lal College, under the dynamic and visionary leadership of **Hon'ble Principal Prof. Rabi Narayan Kar**, successfully hosted, in collaboration with the Women Development Centre and IQAC, a one-day Lecture on “**Gender Equality in Contemporary India: Role of Institutions and Youth**”.

SLC (University of Delhi)
SHYAM LAL COLLEGE
NIRF Rank: 43, NAAC A++
WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
In collaboration with IQAC
organizes a lecture on
**Gender Equality in
Contemporary India:
Role of Institutions & Youth**
Smt. Delina Khongdup
Lawyer, Social Activist &
Former Member
National Commission for
Women

08 April 2026
10AM
Seminar Hall
New Building
Shyam Lal College

Dr. Rekha Kaushik
Convenor, WDC

Prof. Kusha Tiwari
Director, IQAC

Prof. Rabi Narayan Kar
Principal, SLC

Teacher Coordinators: Prof. Ashu Gupta, Dr. Niranjana Chichuan, Dr. Richa Tyagi,
Dr. Prem Lata Meena, Dr. Seema Guglani, Dr. Upendra Kumar, Ms. Jyoti Sharma,
Ms. Priyambada Gupta

Student Coordinators: Amrit Khetan,
Rishav Sharma, Reeti Jajoo

The event began with lamp lighting ceremony followed by an engaging lecture by Delina Khongdup, a former member of the National Commission for Women (NCW). Drawing from her extensive experience in gender justice, she shared important insights into the systemic and social aspects of gender equality. In her speech, she highlighted the key role of institutions like the judiciary, educational organizations, and government bodies in supporting gender-sensitive policies and practices. She also shared her perspective as a member of a matrilineal tribal community in Meghalaya, reflecting on how this experience shaped her views on gender roles and equality. The lecture included real-life case studies from her professional background, showing the ongoing challenges and the progress made in tackling gender-based issues. She encouraged students to get involved in initiatives that promote equality and social justice, stressing the importance of youth participation in driving change. A main point of her lecture was the inclusion of women in traditional and local governance, particularly in Meghalaya's Dorbars (village councils). These institutions, rooted in custom, have often limited women's involvement. Khongdup pointed out that achieving lasting gender equality needs both legal changes and a shift in societal attitudes. She called for educating community leaders and men to support women's inclusion, connecting cultural practices with constitutional equality, and inspiring women to take part in grassroots decision-making. She emphasized the need to bridge the gap between customs and democratic values to ensure better representation of women in local governance.

During her time at the NCW, Khongdup carried out outreach efforts focused on marginalized communities. Her work included addressing complaints about domestic violence, discrimination, and harassment, visiting regions to understand local challenges, and working with local authorities and civil society groups to improve grievance resolution. A key part of her work was promoting digital and cyber safety awareness. She offered programmes on online harassment, cybercrime, and safe internet use while encouraging women and girls to engage confidently with digital platforms. These initiatives helped improve institutional accessibility and build public trust in formal support systems. Khongdup also stressed the importance of women's leadership across various sectors. She explained that inclusive leadership leads to more balanced, compassionate, and effective decision-making. Her empowerment efforts focused on capacity-building programs to improve leadership and communication skills, advocating for greater representation of women in political, social, and administrative roles, and inspiring young women to break down traditional barriers and seek leadership opportunities. Additionally, fighting human trafficking has been a central focus of her work. Acknowledging the increased vulnerability of women and children, especially in rural and border areas, she led many preventive initiatives. These included workshops and seminars to educate communities about trafficking risks and warning signs, partnering with law enforcement and NGOs to strengthen prevention efforts, and promoting community awareness and effective reporting. Her approach also highlighted the need for survivor rehabilitation and reintegration, advocating for a comprehensive strategy that includes prevention, protection, and support.

The second segment of the event was an Inter-college Conventional Debate Competition that witnessed enthusiastic participation from students across various departments and colleges. The topics revolved around contemporary issues related to gender and feminism, such as the relevance of feminism in modern society, gender roles in the workplace, and the impact of media on gender perceptions, among others. Participants presented well-researched arguments with confidence.

Prof. Rabi Narayan Kar, Principal, highlighted the importance of gender equality and the lecture's main goals. The Lecture concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Rekha Kaushik, the

Convenor of WDC. Most significantly, the students who attended the talk were deeply fascinated by the ideas the speakers shared.

The Lecture attracted more than 150 students and more than 15 faculty members. There were 35 participants for intercollege debate competition. Refreshments were provided to attendees, participants and the organizing team members. The event concluded with the announcement of winners and the distribution of certificates.

