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National Seminar on Combating crime against Women by Women Cell of Sikkim University

By Kriti Ghatani, Member, Women Cell and PhD Scholar, Department of Microbiology.

The National Seminar on “Combating crime against Women” held on 7th June 2014 at Sikkim Government College auditorium was a learning experience for the university community. Ms Rebika Rai, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Applications and Member Secretary, Women Cell, Sikkim University welcomed all the participants.

Shri T.K Kaul, Registrar, Sikkim University delivered the special address in which he dealt upon some recent developments involving attacks on women across the country and underscored the need to have a zero tolerance approach to crime against women and that it should start from family itself. The attitude against women should change both in work place and home and then only the crime against women will end, he said. Professor Gangotri Chakraborty, Dept of Law, University of North Bengal delivered the key note address. She began by saying that combating is the key word, a word of universal acceptance insofar as crime against women is concerned. Women continue to be at the receiving end and crime starts as foeticide. She recited a line from “Manusmriti”, the most important and earliest work of the Dharmasastra textual tradition of Hinduism, “Yatra Naryastu Pujyante, Ramante Tatra Devata”, meaning Women are honoured where, divinity blossoms there, womanhood is a symbol of eternal virtues of humanity expressed in compassion, selfless love and caring for others. She advised young ladies to break the stereotype of discrimination and difference by projecting to the world not to discriminate women but recognise the difference. She also advised women to come out of the shell, forget about the other gender and begin the grassroots level of sensitisation now with a gender friendly system.

Dr Kavita Lama, Associate Professor, Dept. of Nepali and Chairperson Women Cell, Sikkim University informed the national seminar was intended to generate awareness against the accelerating crime against women.

The first technical session started with Ms Chandrakala Cintury, Former Secretary, Government of Sikkim and Member of Women Cell, Sikkim University. She started by lamenting about the social, private and family life changing in this current era. “There are much more



crime in India as a whole due to dowry and suicidal cases in Sikkim have taken a leap against all ends”, she said. Ms Sandhya George, Advocate from Kochi delivered a lecture on, “The Impact of Domestic Violence Law”. She gave a brief about violence of two types, Domestic and Sexual Violence. She gave an idea on the laws that were within the frame work of the Indian Penal Code. Dr Nidhi Saxena, Assistant Professor, Department of Law, dealt with the Information Technology Laws and Cyber Crime against Women. She said, cyber crime leads to the victimization of women through harassment, defamation, phishing, morphing up of pictures for pornographic pictures and cloning of account.

The last speaker about the session was Dr. V. Krishna Ananth, Associate Professor and Head Department of History. He delved into the historical aspects of crime against women with reference to Phoolan Devi, denial of rights to Muslim women by Rajiv Gandhi by enacting a law to reverse the Supreme Court’s judgment on maintenance in the Shah Bano case. Chronic malnutrition that women suffer from due to so called social and traditional practices in families is also a crime against women he added.

Editorial Board

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A Discourse on Telangana at the Department of History



The people of Hyderabad State got freedom on 17 September 1948.

The people of Andhra agitated for separate Andhra state from Madras Presidency and they got it in the year 1953. By that time, they made Kurnool as their capital without any infrastructure and with a deficit budget. Telangana was part of Hyderabad State, having Hyderabad as its capital with all infrastructures and surplus budget. Hyderabad, built by the Qutubshahis 400 years ago, he stressed was the 5th largest city in India in 1956.

According to him, in the pre-United Andhra days, the Hyderabad State was having a surplus budget and Andhra was having deficit budget. The "Gentleman's Agreement" before the making of united Andhra Pradesh State was violated immediately after forming the state he argued and that happened because the MLAs from Andhra region were in a majority in the state assembly. This, according to him led to the Telangana region being ignored by governments over time and also to discrimination against the Telangana people in the employment and education. The lecture session followed by animated discussion was chaired by Dr. V. Krishna Ananth, Head, Department of History while Dr. T. Vijay Kumar, Associate Professor in the department introduced the speaker.

Students and research scholars from the department and teachers from the various other departments attended the lecture. Ms. Sangmu Thuendup proposed a vote of thanks.

The political, economic and developmental aspects involved in the formation of the Telangana state, was discussed with the usual emotional quotient too on June 13, 2014. Organised by the Department of History, Jaya Prakash Rao, who had recently retired Osmania University spoke on "The Integration and Disintegration of Andhra Pradesh: Lessons from Telangana" at Barad Sadan.

Delving deep into the circumstances in which the demand for a separate Telangana was born as early as in 1969, the speaker also underscored the context in which it picked up steam and turned into a mass movement in recent times. He explained that Telangana was part of erstwhile Hyderabad State of Nizam and Andhra was the part of the erstwhile Madras Presidency of British India.

Editor's Note

The month that went by were the last few days of teaching for the Spring Semester, 2013-14. Beginning June 21, students were let to prepare for the end-semester examinations while the members of the faculty were engaged in setting of question papers for the examination. Most of those who were selected for teaching in the university had joined and settled down. Applications for admission to the 29 departments in the university poured in during the month. The university expects an increase in the students' strength by at least 800 more this coming academic year.

The Academic Council met on June 13, 2014 to approve the new syllabus for undergraduate courses in the integrated programmes as well as in the affiliated colleges of the university. A few departments also added new papers to the existing Masters syl-

labus and all these, approved by the various school boards, were endorsed by the Academic Council. The Executive Council too met during June 2014.

As for activities, the NSS Cell organized participation of our students in the Green Walk, organized by the Department of Forest, Environment and Wildlife Management, Government of Sikkim, on June 22, 2014. The NSS Cell also organized a blood donation programme in which 43 units of blood were donated by students, officers and faculty members of the University. A seminar on 'Combating Crime against Women' was organized by the Women's Cell of the University on June 7, 2014.

Dr. V. Krishna Ananth
(for the Editorial Board).



Events

NSS Cell organizes blood donation camp

A Report by Dr. Sujata Upadhyay, Programme Coordinator, NSS

On the occasion of World Anti-Drugs Day, (June 26, 2014), NSS volunteers of Sikkim University organized a voluntary blood donation camp in collaboration with Sikkim Manipal University at 5th mile Tadong near here Thursday. A total of 43 students and staffs of Sikkim University including Registrar, T.K Kaul and Controller of Examination, Dr. Suresh Kr Gurung donated their blood. The donors included a number of teachers in the university too as well as students from a cross section of the departments.

The camp was held between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. Sikkim Manipal University had sent a team had seven members comprising of a doctor, nurses, nursing attendants and cleaning staff.

The donors, being teachers and students came from 14 academic departments from University with maximum number of participation from Department of Zoology followed by the Departments of Commerce and the Department of Horticulture.

Publication

Ms. Lekhika Chettri, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Application

Visual Cryptography Scheme Based On Pixel Expansion for Black & White Image, International Journal of Computer Science and Information Technologies, Vol. 5 (3) , 2014, 4190-4193.

Ms. Rebika Rai, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Applications

IASC-CI: Improved Ant Based Swarm Computing for Classifying Imagery”, International Journal of Computer Science and Information Technologies (IJCSIT), ISSN: 0975-9646, Volume 5, Issue 3, pp. 4181-4189, May-June 2014.

Seminars/Conferences

Dr. Dhriti Roy, Assistant Professor, Department of Chinese, presented a paper titled, "Zhemengxiong as Depicted in Qing Official Documents: Exploring Sikkim's Cultural and Commercial Ties with Tibet in Light of Qing China's Perception of the Sub-Himalayan Region", at the International Conference, "100 Years After the Simla Conference 1913-1914", held from 06-07 June, 2014 at the Institute of Advanced Study, IIAS, Shimla.

Dr. Samar Sinha, Assistant Professor, Department of Nepali, participated in the 8th Linguistics Spring School in the Indian Mountains (LISSIM 8) held at Solang Valley, Himachal Pradesh from 24 May to 06 June 2014 organised by the Formal Studies in Syntax and Semantics of Indian Languages (FOSSSIL). The theme of the LISSIM 8 was WH/PHI. He presented his work on the theme of "WH in Indian Sign Language."

