

International Women's Day -2020

'Each For Equal'

Sree Vidyanikethan Educational Institutions celebrated *International Women's Day* on 8th March 2020. Dr. V.R. Anitha, Convenor, Women Empowerment Cell, began the programme explaining the origin and aim of the International Women's Day, and theme of the International Women's Day-2020. She also gave a brief account on the events held in connection with the celebrations of International Women's Day.

The Hon'ble Chairman and Chief Guest, Dr. M. Mohan Babu while addressing the gathering asserted that behind every successful man, is a woman. We should love, encourage, respect, support and inspire every woman. He also expressed his disappointment about the issues of woman in the society. He expressed his reverence for women. The chairman advised everyone to educate girls and women of all ages to defend themselves. He concluded his speech blessing women; "May every woman live with peace, health and wealth."

The Guest of Honour Mrs. Sasi Bindu, Managing Director, Ravands, IWN Member Cell, Tirupatisaid that she was using the platform of the occasion to focus on positive shades of the society. She asserted that the gathering of women for the celebration itself shows that they are on their half-way of their empowerment. She highlighted that women had already won the equality and they have to understand how to sustain it in the society. She enlightened the women that rights have to be used as tools not as weapons against the opposite gender or the society. Being an empowered woman, she should have four responsibilities; *as an Individual, as a part of family, as a professional and as a citizen*. "A woman is naturally empowered if she balances all the four" she added. She also suggested that employers should recruit women and designate key positions equally with men as a gesture of gender equality.

Dr. P. C. Krishnamachary, Principal, SVEC, while emphasizing the theme of the Women's Day asserted that equality would bring people of every gender, age, race, religion and country together to drive actions that would create the gender-equal world. He wished that women should be well versed with the technology and innovation on par with men. He concluded his speech saying that women should speak with one voice, and work with solidarity and strength.

Prof. B. Mohan, Director, SVIM, stated that respect for women should start at home. He also highlighted that there has been a tremendous increase of women in Higher Education.

Later, Dr. B. Anuradha, Principal, SVCN, stated that women should be aware of various schemes and opportunities prevalent for them in the society in order to be empowered. “Working women are more stressed than men as they have to balance work and family life. Men should support and empower them socially, physically and emotionally” she added.

Finally, Dr. Anna Balaji, Principal, SVCP highlighted the strength of women illustrating the power of Goddess Lakshmi, as Minister of Finance, Goddess Saraswathi as Minister of Education and Goddess Parvathi, as Minister of Defence. While sharing his personal and professional experiences, he said that he was motivated and encouraged by many women throughout his life.

Mr. Ravi Shekar, Director (F&A), Deans, Heads of the Institutions, Heads of the Departments and Members of faculty graced the occasion. The events *Dumb Charades* for men and women faculty, *Instant Cooking* for faculty and students, *Guess Handbag Items* for men faculty and staff, *Best from Waste* for women faculty, staff and students and *Comic Show* for students were conducted. In *Best from Waste*, the participants showcased their talent, creativity and innovation and made the event colourful. The winners of the events were given prizes.



Hon'ble Chairman Dr. M. Mohan Babu addressing the gathering



Guest of Honour Mrs. Sasi Bindu, Managing Director, Ravands, IWN Member Cell, Tirupati



Principal Dr. P.C. Krishnamachary addressing the gathering