

**REPORT OF THE SYMPOSIUM ON “GENDER EQUALITY AND HEALTH PROMOTION
IN WOMEN” ORGANISED BY FACULTY OF PHARMACY AND WOMEN’S STUDY
CENTRE UNDER THE AEGIS OF IQAC.**

A two-day Symposium was organised by Faculty of Pharmacy and Women’s study Centre under the aegis of IQAC, Integral University on 22nd and 23rd of August, 2022 on the topic “Gender Equality and Health Promotion in Women”. The Symposium was intended to apprise regarding gender-oriented issues and gender inequalities which can give rise to a socio-psychological imbalance between men and women in access to basic amenities concerning social wellbeing, physical and mental health. We, at Integral University believe in creating a sustainable, holistic learning environment that enriches and caters to the needs of all stakeholders. In the recent times, we have been a witness to several issues concerning gender bias existing in the society at various strata posing threat to physical & mental health of women. We all know that a healthy society can dwell only when there is equality in terms of basic amenities and opportunities provided for one and all. Hence, with this vision and focussing on the lines of UNAI (United Nations Academic Impact Principles), the symposium was organised with the UNAI principal no.3 as its core theme which states, “A commitment to educational opportunity for all people regardless of gender, race, religion or ethnicity.”

DAY- I

Inaugural Session: The symposium began with a welcome address by Mrs Kavita Agarwal, Chairperson, Women’s Study Centre and Head, Department of Computer Science and Engineering. The first day program of the symposium was moderated by Dr Arshiya Shamim, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy, where she welcomed the guest speaker and highlighted the importance of gender equality and health promotion in women.

Scientific Session: Prof. Sujata Sharma, Department of Biophysics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, delivered the key note address in the first session of Day-I. She outlined on the topic the “Impact of underrepresentation of women and pervasive inequalities in the society.” She highlighted the patriarchal setup, gender bias and social customs targeting women which dictate that supervision of by men is implicated in all affairs. Further, she opined that girls should be motivated by goal accomplishment like self-actualization, esteem, love and belonging. She emphasized on efforts to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Next the Second Speaker of the session, Dr Anurekha Jain, Founder NGO Anokhi Manav Sewa Samiti, Prof TIT College of Pharmacy delivered her address on the topic “To overcome gender bias and advocate women employment”, where she spoke about education, innovation and entrepreneurship among women. She highlighted on the need for realising the purpose of education

among women as it provides livelihood employment viz. free lancing, and entrepreneurship. She exclaimed that future women entrepreneur should focus on planning, organization, decision making and risk bearing.

DAY- II

The Day-II of the session started with the welcome address by Mrs Shabana Khatoon, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy, where she welcomed the guest speakers.

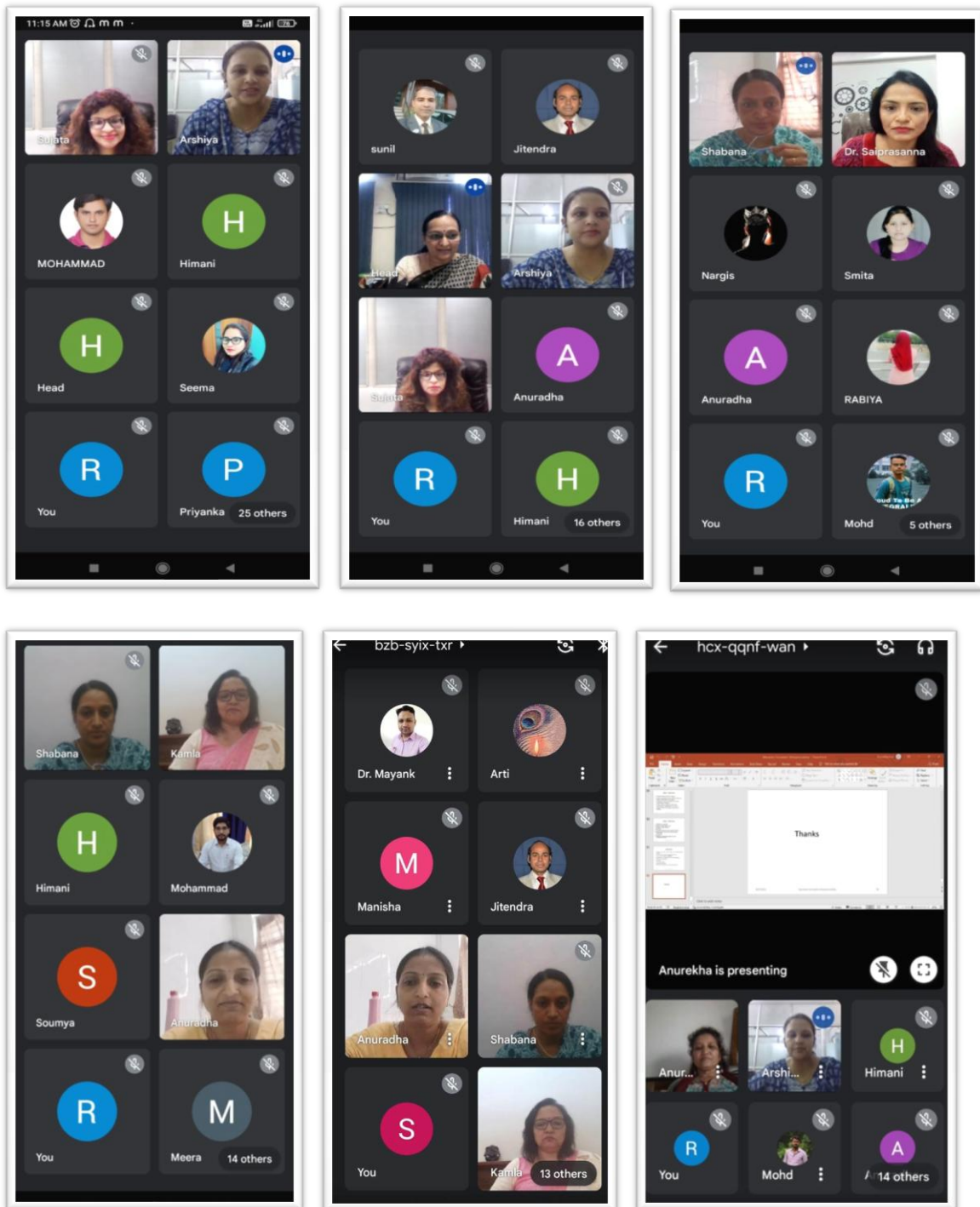
First speaker for the third session on Day-II of the symposium was Dr Saiprasanna Behera, Director at CRO Pharmatrendz Pvt. Ltd. She delivered her address on the topic “Advocation of women health: Fundamental driving force for attainment of sustainability”. She highlighted that social, economic, environmental, political and demographic transitions affect women’s health and their rights and roles in society. She outlined that we should develop and implement an accountability framework and indicators for women and health and establish independent mechanisms at global and country level to support catalyse and ensure accountability for global, national and regional action for women and health.

The esteemed speaker of the second session was Prof (Dr) Kamla Pathak, Dean Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Medical Sciences, Saifai, Etawah. She delivered her address on the topic “Societal denial of gender equality and its consequences”. She highlighted that gender inequalities impact health, economic condition, sex ratio and education attainment of women. Uneven access to education, lack of employment, job segregation is some of the inequalities faced by women all over the world. She concluded by outlining that the World Economic Forum estimated that it will take another century before true gender equality becomes reality.

All the four speakers, experts in their respective domains, were further invited for a panel discussion with the organisers and participants of the symposium on the various aspects like gender bias, inequality and societal dogmas that limit the provision of opportunities for all, based on the gender. This session witnessed an enthralling discussion amongst panellists and brought to surface some less spoken inevitable issues faced by women in general. The programme was concluded with a vote of thanks given by Dr Anuradha Mishra, Associate Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy, Integral University, Lucknow, who congratulated and expressed his heartfelt gratitude towards the eminent speakers.

The organisers of the event were Dr. Anuradha Mishra and Dr. Shazia Usmani. The committee members were Dr. Vaseem A. Ansari, Dr. Arshiya Shamim, Mrs. Shabana Khatoon and Ms. Rufaida Wasim, student co-ordinators.

The Faculty of Pharmacy and Women's study Centre under the aegis of IQAC, Integral University strive to implement the suggestions forwarded by the Invited Guest speakers and contribute to commit to educational and health opportunities for all people regardless of gender, race, religion and ethnicity.



Dr. Tarique Mahmood,
Head, Department of Pharmacy.

Mrs. Kavita Agarwal
Chairperson, Women's Study Centre