



## GENDER SENSITIZATION CELL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE 2019-20 & 2020-21

The Teacher's Council of Government College Darjeeling was formed on Nov. 2019 for the period of 2019-2020. A sub-committee of the Council was initiated on the same day to spread awareness about Gender Sensitization in the college campus. The Committee consisted of two Jt. Convener and other four teaching members of our college. On 26<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2019, a meeting was held by the members of the Gender sensitization sub-committee to prepare the schedule for the program for the given year. The Program that was selected for the said year was Women's Day celebration, Mother's Day celebration and Human Trafficking awareness program for the students.

As the part of the committee of an educational institution we felt it was our duty to spread awareness about Gender Sensitization among the staff members as well as students attending our college. As Gender Sensitization is the process of creating awareness regarding gender equality issues and modifying the behavior and views the people hold about themselves and other genders. This process helps in examining people's "personal attitudes and beliefs and questioning the 'realities' they thought they know." With this view in mind the members of our committee proceeded to prepare to celebrate Women's Day on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The events planned for this day were a program where students and teachers participated to bring together a short set of speeches which focused on the Women's Right movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality and violence and abuse against women etc. The students also volunteered to make some posters to put up on the notice boards around the college. However we had only just completed the Celebrations of Women's Day successfully and were looking forward to the rest of the events planned ahead for the rest of the year when a sudden surge of Covid-19 hit the country and all offline gatherings were put on hold. This rendered us unable

to put forward any programs or take any action to spread awareness as all college activities were suspended for the upcoming months of 2020 and all activities of the Gender Sensitization Committee came to a halt.

The activities of the Committee remained stagnant and no further programs were planned until late in the year when online classes had finally started taking place for some time and the teachers grew accustomed to using Google meet and some of us teachers decided to set up an online seminar to speak with the M.A. students of Nepali and English Departments on the topic of Human Trafficking awareness. The teachers involved informed their students about the seminar via Whatsapp groups and the students attended the seminar on October 5<sup>th</sup> 2020.

In Conclusion, we were unable to complete all the events that we had planned for the academic year amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. However we hope that the small effort we put forward by planning the two events made its way to enhance at least some awareness about gender sensitization among the people present for those events on the mentioned days.

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Gender Sensitization Cell Committee

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