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Theme of the Year

"#BALANCE FOR BETTER"

A woman with a book and pen,

Has a potential to move nations.

A woman with a mind and a voice,

Has the power to change worlds.

**A constructive future is built by a gender
balanced world,**

**In which every one has a distinct role to
be played.**

A nation's development is evident,

When gender equality is predominant.

**Hence, balance drives us to a better
working world.**

**"Better is the Balance, Better will
be the World."**

-Farahath Tabassum, ME

Annual Report for the Academic Year 2018-19

"Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance."

– Kofi Annan

In order to ensure gender balance in the campus, Women's Cell of GPREC organised various activities and events during the academic year 2018-19.

International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8th, 2018 in the campus. Dr. Shobha Bindu, Professor of CSE, was the Chief Guest for the function. The fourth edition of the women's cell magazine, "SHE VOICE" was released on the occasion of International Women's day celebrations.

Women's Cell, in association with IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group, has organized the following activities to encourage and uplift the inherent talents and skills of the girl students:

- Elocution competition on "Women, Technology and Entrepreneurship-Issues and Challenges" on 6th August 2018. G. Thrisaamaa, from EEE won first prize and second prize was shared by two students, D. Bhavishya and S. Deva Harshini from ECE.
- In order to improve the writing skills of a student and envelope the student's mind with the knowledge on the awareness of cultural concerns on women's development, an Essay writing Competition on "Indian Culture and women's progress" was conducted for girl students in our college on 13th august 2018. S. Deva Harshini, from ECE and S. Ayesha Iffath bagged first and second prizes respectively.
- In order to enhance the debating skills in girl students of GPREC, a debate was conducted with different topics on 24th Sep, 2018. N.Chandana Priya, D.Sucharitha, K.N. Mounika won the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes respectively.
- A self-defence programme 'MISSION SAHASI' was organized in association with ABVP at Outdoor Stadium, Kurnool on 30th October 2018. Girl students of GPREC participated in demonstration of self-defence techniques to build up self confidence in women.
- As a part of **Gender Champion contest**, Women's cell and IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group has conducted various competitions like poster presentation, debate, group discussion and final interview were conducted, in which Miss K. Harika of 3rd ECE bagged the championship.





- An awareness programme was conducted for rural girl students of Pasupala village in three phases in which a survey was conducted related to their personal and health issues by the GPREC girl students. In the second phase of the programme, female health awareness session was conducted to the girl students of GPREC to roll out the same to the rural girl students. Dr. C. Spoorthi, MD, was the speaker of the session. In the third phase, health kits were provided to these rural girl students after educating them about their personal and female health issues and possible solutions.



- On the occasion of IWD-2019, various competitions like elocution, mock parliament and poster presentation competitions were conducted on the theme **“Think equal, Build smart, Innovate for change”**.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT: WINDS OF CHANGE

Women empowerment has become the buzzword today with women working alongside men in all spheres. They profess an independent outlook, whether they are living inside their home or working outside. They are increasingly gaining control over their lives and taking their own decisions with regard to their education, career, profession and lifestyle.

With steady increase in the number of working women, they have gained financial independence, which has given them confidence to lead their own lives and build their own identity. They are successfully taking up diverse professions to prove that they are second to none in any respect.

But while doing so, women also take care to strike a balance between their commitment to their profession as well as their family. They are playing multiple roles of a mother, daughter, sister, wife and a working professional with remarkable harmony and ease. With equal opportunities to work, they are functioning with a spirit of team work to render all possible cooperation to their male counterparts in meeting the deadlines and targets set in their respective professions.

Women empowerment is not limited to urban, working women but women in even remote towns and villages are now increasingly making their voices heard loud and clear in society. They are no longer willing to play a second fiddle to their male counterparts. Educated or not, they are asserting their social and political rights and making their presence felt, regardless of their socio-economic backgrounds.

While it is true that women, by and large, do not face discrimination in society today, unfortunately, many of them face exploitation and harassment which can be of diverse types: emotional, physical, mental and sexual. They are often subjected to rape, abuse and other forms of physical and intellectual violence.

Women empowerment, in the truest sense, will be achieved only when there is attitudinal change in society with regard to womenfolk, treating them with proper respect, dignity, fairness and equality. The rural areas of the country are, by and large, steeped in a feudal and medieval outlook, refusing to grant women equal say in the matters of their education, marriage, dress-code, profession and social interactions.

Means of Women Empowerment

Education: Without proper and adequate education, women cannot become empowered individuals. They need to be encouraged to go for higher studies so that they can contribute significantly in the creation of a knowledge society

Communication Skills: Without developing skills for effective communication, women cannot make their voices heard. It is essential for them to communicate effectively to become successful. As leaders, they need to put across their points to the people so that a family, team or company can be effectively managed.

Disposable Income: Women need to earn well to have their say in important financial decisions governing their lives. Being

financially independent gives women power over lives and also contributes to the growth of businesses.

Power of Internet: Access to the internet has opened the floodgates of knowledge and awareness and increased social interaction reach and influence of women. The liberalizing influence of the World Wide Web has broken all taboos, myths and misconceptions regarding women.

Conclusion: Women Empowerment helps to make the society and world a better place to live in and march forward on way to inclusive participation. It means increase happiness for the family and the organizations where women make a difference. Active participation of women in decision making process and in planning and implementation of development programmes is also required.

Women's lives must converge effectively and all the efforts in this direction should be focused towards the goal to bring about a social change leading to manifestation of balance between male and female forces in the society.

--M. Guru Charan, IV Sem EEE.

GENDER EQUALITY AND FEMALE EMPOWERMENT AS A NORM



Sustainable development will be impossibility without the potential contributions from women. The very notion of gender equality entails the belief that injustice is associated with the very definition of the concept. It is imperative that we reflect on this association. Injustice arises out of society's inability to accept the fact that men and women should be equal. The realization that sustainable development is not possible without equality between men and women is a relatively recent finding and directly linked to sustainability issues. A holistic, comprehensive approach to sustainability is one of the most important ways to support and maintain gender justice and equality. The world needs to urgently define the issues of social responsibility, so that the major themes related to the human being can be shared among all genders. Defending equality between men and women, or boys and girls, is as important as combating domestic violence, or empowering low-income groups. Teaching that rights should be equal, as well as opportunities and performance, are mandatory themes, reminding us that the road to true equality is still long. The importance of rectifying gender injustice and restoring women's dignity in parts of the world is unquestionable. Gender equality is the fifth Sustainable Development Goal of INDIA. INDIA

acts to empower women and girls in all its programs. With stepped-up action on gender equality, every part of the world can move towards sustainable development by 2030, leaving none behind.

The targets include ending all forms of discrimination against women and girls, eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation, eliminating harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation. Women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life need to be ensured, as also universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the review conferences. Other goals include reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws, enhancing the use of enabling technology to promote empowerment of women, and adopting and strengthening sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and empowerment. Indeed, the importance of women in the sustainable development of society is more than just a theoretical or intellectual discussion. It is a campaign or cause that unites women in the awareness of their fundamental role for this sustainable development to be achieved.

Women actively contribute in all sectors of productive activity, side by side with men, seeking equality based on respect and recognition of their role in society. However, their rights continue to be denied and their contribution to the sustainability of society are stunted or overlooked. Women's roles should be increasingly valued as an active presence within the family with responsibilities, whether in the world of work, communities, or just as mothers. Their contribution is indispensable to a sustainable society, since their participation has become an example of social inclusion and empowerment.

Daily reality: For many women this recognition and appreciation of their abilities is part of their day-to-day life. Tragically, most women aren't recognized in any sense that would empower them. It is a serious, crippling and psychologically debilitating problem. Most women earn less than men in the same professions, are victims of discrimination, struggle with work and home and are often still the targets of aggression and sexual harassment. How, then, can one imagine sustainable development without the potential of women, which has not been supported enough the world over so far? We need to create the necessary mechanisms for new ideas to be considered in a serious and responsible way. There are many obstacles along the road to true equality. We should encourage women to seek independence and not be afraid to consider alternatives that can generate multiple income streams. Parents

need to educate sons and daughters so that they respect each other and are willing to share domestic work. Boys need to be taught not to reproduce expressions such as "This is a woman's thing," or denigrate certain professions or activities. Such discourse violates the dignity of women who give decades of their lives doing thankless and often unpaid or low-paid work taken for granted, often by men. Finally, we all have a moral responsibility to report cases of violence, abuse and sexual exploitation against children and adolescents. There is always more we can do. When women uplift themselves (and we uplifted by other women and men), men and children benefit. A world where women and men can realize their full potential is an imperative.

-- M. Harshitha Bai, VI Sem ECE.

AMRITA DEVI

Khejadli is a village in Jodhpur district of Rajasthan, India. It is the place where Chipko movement originated in India. It was a Tuesday, black Tuesday in Khejadli. 10th day of the bright fortnight of the month Bhadra in 1730 A.D. Amrita Devi a mother of three daughters viz. Asu, Ratni and Bhagu bai was at home with her daughters. Suddenly, she came to know that many people had descended in their otherwise sleepy village. It was a party of Maharaja Abhay Singh, Ruler of Marwar (Jodhpur) state who wanted to fell green Khejri (Prosopis cineraria) trees to burn lime for the construction of his new palace. Since there was a lot of greenery in the Bishnoi villages even in the middle of Thar Desert, the king ordered his men to get the woods from Khejri trees.

Amrita Devi protested against King's men attempting to cut green trees as it was prohibited in Bishnoi religion. The malevolent feudal party told her that if she wanted the trees to be spared, she should give them money as bribe. She refused to acknowledge this demand and told them that she would consider it as an act of ignominy and insult to her religious faith. She said that she would rather give away her life to save the green trees. It is at that stage she spoke these words:

**"Sar sântey rūkh rahe to bhī sasto jān"
(सर सान्ते रूख रहे तो भी सस्तो जाण)**

Meaning: If a tree is saved even at the cost of one's head, it's worth it.

Saying these words, she offered her head! The axes, which were brought to cut the trees, severed her head from her trunk. The three young girls Asu, Ratni and Bhagu were not daunted, and offered their heads too!!

Since the supreme sacrifice by those four had not satisfied the royal party, and the felling of green trees was continued, it was decided that for every green tree to be cut, one Bishnoi volunteer would sacrifice his/ her life. In the beginning, old people voluntarily started holding the trees to be cut in an embrace as in the Chipko movement of 20th Century in Uttar Pradesh. Soon, young men, women, including recently married ones and children were sacrificing themselves in a similar manner.

The Government of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, Department of Forest, have started the prestigious state level Amrita Devi Vishnoi Smriti Award for excellent contribution to the protection and conservation of wild animals. The Award constitutes cash Rs. 25000/- and a prashasti. This time Dr. Ragini Shah of Banswara has achieved this award.



--D. Sreeja Reddy, IV Sem CSE

DEEPA MALLIK : A Paralympics Medalist

“A great source of inspiration for today’s young minds”. She is a woman who again proved that physical limitations cannot deter a strong mind. Deepa Mallik was an Indian woman who was diagnosed with a spinal tumour at the age of 30 and was paralyzed below the waist. Since then Deepa was bound to wheel chair. Her disability bounded her physically but failed in looking up her spirit. At the age of 36, deepa decided to start her career in sports. No social comments could stop her. No Indian women athlete had participated in sports before. She made history by winning silver medal in “shot put”. Not only this, she is multitalented and won awards in discus throw, javelin throw and biking tournament. She was also honoured with Arjuna Award. Totally she has won 78 National and International awards.



“A dream simply remains as a dream until we find courage to pursue it. Deepa’s story surely help many of us to find that courage and determination to fulfill our dreams!”

--R.Deepika, IV Sem ME

ROSEMARY MARINER,

Path Breaking Navy Pilot and Commander, Navy’s First Female Pilot

Rosemary Mariner, who shattered barriers when she became one of the Navy’s first female pilots and the first woman to command a naval aviation squadron-and who later successfully fought for a congressional measure serving in

combat –died on Jan 24 in Knoxville, Tenn. When Captain Mariner joined the navy in 1973, she was a lincensed pilot and a graduate of Purdue University, where she had been the first woman to enroll in a newly created aeronautics program. She had been enthralled by flight since she was young, when she watched Navy pilots taking off from Naval Air Station Miramar in San Diego.

After graduating from officer candidate school in 1973,Captain Mariner was chosen for the Navy’s first flight-training class for women; she was among six of its graduates to earn wings in 1974.The next year she became the first female aviator in the Navy to fly a jet attack craft, a single-seat Skyhawk. After various postings, she was named commander of a Navy tactical electronic warfare squadron at Naval air Station Point Mugu in Southern California in July 1990. Captain mariner was a leader of the Women Military Aviators organization. In,1992, she worked with members of Congress and a Defense Department advisory board to overturn laws and regulations keeping women from combat.

In April 1993, Defense Secretary, Aspin lifted the restrictions on female pilots flying combat missions. Until then, female aviators in the Navy, Army and Air Force had been limited to training and other non-combat jobs. When she retired from the Navy in 1997, Captain Mariner had become one of the nation’s leading advocates for equal opportunity in the military.

In her later years in the navy, Captain Mariner attended the National War College in Washington, earned a master’s degree in National Security Strategy and served on the staff of the joint Chiefs at the Pentagon. In tribute to her, the Navy conducted “its first all-female flyover” at her funeral service on February 2nd, 2019 at her funeral service in Maynardville, Tenn.

--V. Kavya, VI Sem CSE.

THE PURSUIT OF HUMANITY



Co-founder of the GRACIA RAINA FOUNDATION, Priyanka Chaudary Raina is a social entrepreneur who has worked with many big corporates in the past. A software engineer by education, Priyanka completed a stint as a banker in the Netherlands, before moving back to India.

Embracing motherhood community and working towards the uplift of the girl child, has given her a new mission in life. Her experience as a young mother made her sensitive towards the needs of new mothers and children all over the country who are less privileged than her. This inspired her to become a social worker and she got full support of both her and her husband’s families.

Together with her husband, international cricketer Suresh Raina, she founded Gracia Raina Foundation in May, 2017 on the occasion of their daughter Gracia's first birthday. The foundation is dedicated to creating awareness and working closely with women and children who require help, ranging from physical to mental health issues and beyond. She is also setting up several GRF Wellness Centers devoted to maternal and neonatal health. The centers will run culturally-sensitive programs to provide primary care for mothers and new-born babies, as well as work towards increased awareness and knowledge.

Not only this, she also worked as RJ for two seasons of her show THE PRIYANKA RAINA SHOW, a show that is aimed at creating amicable atmosphere for women and educate everyone about how important is a safe environment for women in the country is.

She is a well-known face among the youth. She's is also a TEDx speaker and has conducted several motivational sessions at various universities such as IIT, IIFT Delhi and KIET. Priyanka believes that it is important to engage the youth of the country and make them more aware of their social responsibilities. If one wants to change a nation, then it is important to mobilize its women as well as youth.

She prides herself for her ability to balance charity work, family life and motherhood. She also finds time to go to the gym regularly to stay fit. While she thinks that being a woman entrepreneur is difficult as women have more responsibilities, she also feels that women are great at multi-tasking.

—R. Sweety, II-CSE

WHY MARCH 8???

International Women's Day is celebrated on 8th March every year in honour of their remarkable contribution to our society. The bottom line of celebrating women's day is due to the wide spread differences in various fields.

The history of women's day is steeped into antiquity which dates back to 1909 when the first National Woman's Day was observed in the US on February 28. The Socialist Party of America celebrated this day in honour of the garment workers' strike in 1908 in New York where women picketed and marched, demanding improved working conditions and equal rights. Luise Zietz proposed establishment of "International Woman's Day" in the general of the Socialist International (1910) in Copenhagen. Delegates, including 100 women from 17 countries, agreed with the proposal to promote equal rights, suffrage for women. But no fixed date was selected for observance. On March 19, 1911, that International Women's Day was observed for the first time in Germany, Austria, Denmark and Switzerland. Over 1 million men and women marched in demand for women's right to vote, to work, to end discrimination on job etc. As part of the peace movement, Russian women observed their first International Women's Day on last Sunday of February 1913.

It was again on 1917 they protested and called a strike for "Bread and Peace" on the last Sunday in February, which fell on 8 March according to Gregorian calendar. Four days later the Czar of Russia resigned and the interim government granted the right to vote to women. It was only during late 1975 that the United Nations started observing International Women's Day on March 8. The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action a historic roadmap was signed in 1995 by 189 governments, focusing on 12 vital areas and envisioned a better world.

International women's Day all about making women realize their worth and giving them boost to achieve as per their actual potential. On this day the world unites to appreciate their courage to cross all the hurdles and make tremendous improvement in all most all the spheres of life.

So make International Women's Day as your day and do what you can do to truly make a positive difference for women.

Pavani Reddy, IV Sem CSE

GENDER EQUITY AND EQUALITY

She is a daughter, sister and mother

Then why always she suffer..?

Why we differentiate between he and she

God didn't then why do we..?

This is disappointing everyone not only to me....

To girls we have to give support

Give education to them as it works as passport...

Now-a-days girls are competing in every field,

In army, in airlines and in court...

After getting education named wings,

Their flight will land to a bright future.

She may become a doctor, scientist or a teacher....

'He' and 'she' they both have quality,

They both have ability

So we should prefer gender equity and equality....!

TECHNOLOGICAL CONFESSION

(Let's confess about technology)

We don't have a distinct vision

But we need a Television

We don't appreciate others and clap

But we worry about Whatsapp

We can't define a kilogram

But love to be on Instagram

We don't read a book

But we just login to Facebook

We want tasks to be quicker

But we waste time on Twitter

(So guys we are giving importance to technology but not people.)

"USE TECHNOLOGY BUT DON'T GET ADDICTED TO IT"

—S.Kareema Ashmin, IV sem EEE