

## **One Day Basic Training Programme on Human Rights & Women Rights**

**Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut** in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission of India organized a training programme on Human Rights on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. This was the Third training programme organized by **Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut** with the major financial support of National Human Rights Commission. 282 students and faculty members from different Universities participated in the training programme. On an average every session was seen with the presence of a minimum 110 participants. The objective of this training programme was to focus on SDG 4 and SDG 5 through interactive sessions and spread awareness on various issues related to human rights of women and participants will be skilled about the role of human rights volunteers in the society. Registration was done through online and offline mode. All participants were provided with the kit (i.e. folder having notepad, pen, strings and course material) at the registration desk. The total 120 kits were prepared out of which 110 were given to delegates and 10 were kept for resource persons. Dignitaries and guests were provided with badges during the tilak ceremony at the main entrance. The event was properly recorded and wide media coverage was done through national and regional newspapers. For smooth execution of the event various committees were formed and a team of 25 student volunteers were made. Volunteers were also provided with strings. The training programme had five technical sessions with themes varying from introduction to SDGs and Human Rights, Gender Equality: Need of the Time; Role of HEIs to ensure gender equality; Gender Equality and the human rights of women and LGBTI persons & Role of Law Students & Civil Society in the Attainment of Gender Justice respectively. The sessions were aimed at developing an understanding of human rights and its application in the field by the participants with the help of experts from the field of Human Rights. In each session, the concerned resource persons were welcomed by planters and at the end of each session they were felicitated by the mementoes. The one day training programme was also accompanied with two times tea and snacks in the morning and evening and exquisite lunch for all the participants. Three LL.M students i.e. Manisha, Usha and Rakesh were appointed as rapporteur for the event.

### **Inaugural Ceremony:-**

The inaugural programme started at 9.30 am with the dais formation followed by Saraswati Mantra invocation and

lamp lighting ceremony. Dignitaries were welcomed by planters as a part of Subharti culture and environment friendly drive. It was then followed by a welcome speech and concept presentation by Dr. Reena Bishnoi, Professor at Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law & Presiding Officer (ICC) Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut. She started her speech by welcoming all dignitaries and saying that the National Human Rights Commission since its inception on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1993 seriously looking into training and education of various segments of society

towards Human Rights. Educating University students is one of the prime responsibilities in this regard. According to Section 12 (h) of Protection of Human Rights Act 1993 – NHRC is mandated to “spread human rights literacy among various sections of society and promote awareness of the safeguards available for the protection of these rights through publications, the media,

seminars and other available means". In her speech she spoke about the training programme and how it focuses on sensitizing University students and faculty members on human rights issues. She also gave a brief about the sessions to be carried out during the training programme and a brief introduction about the resource persons. She concluded her speech with the quote by Swami Vivekanand "There is no hope of rise for that family or country where there is no estimation of women, where they live in sadness."She also emphasized the development of Human Rights and enlightened the participants for their Role in the society regarding the promotion of Human Rights.

The keynote address was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha, Director, Indian Law Institute, New Delhi. While quoting the concept note he mentioned that for understanding Human Rights, we can look to the definition under sec 2(d) which include life, liberty, equality, dignity, guaranteed by the constitution. He also talked about UDHR which contains 30 Articles and International Covenants. Dr. Sinha pointed out that Hansa Jivraj Mehta got the credit to replace the phrase "All men are born free and equal" to "All human beings are born free and equal." He said that cases related to women are many: Vishaka Vs State of Rajasthan, NergeshMeerza, The Chairman, Railway Board & ORS v. Mrs. Chandrima Das; Hariharan v. Reserve Bank of India & even many more. Dr. Sinha highlighted the changes by 2019 Amendment in NHRC composition.

Mr. Neeraj Kumar Jha, Deputy Commandant, RAF Academy for Public Order, Meerut talked about Citizenship Amendment Act 2019. Mr. Neeraj has shared his experience when his team dealt with violence which occurred in Aligarh Muslim University. He also said individuals have a responsibility to ensure that they exercise their rights with consideration for the rights of others.

Justice Shri Rajesh Chandra, Former Judge of High Court of Judicature, Prayagraj said that there are various statutes related to women empowerment but there are women who were not aware of those rights. Justice Chandra also pondered upon the apex court verdict in which the daughter belonging to the non-tribal is entitled to equal share in the property of her father, there is no reason to deny such a right to the daughter of tribal communities. He said that Triple talaq, Haji Ali Dargah case and the Sabarimala women's entry issue-are all three cases about misogynistic and patriarchal discrimination.

Further the programme was addressed by Dr. Shalya Raj Chief Executive Officer, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University. She said it is a harsh reality that women have been ill-treated in every section of society for ages and India is no exception. The irony lies in fact that in our country where women are worshiped as Shakti, the atrocities

are committed against her in all life. From the cradle to grave, females are under the clutches of numerous evils acts as discriminations, oppressions, violence's within the family, at the workplaces and in the society. To improve the status of the women in the society the need of the hour is that laws should be enacted but they should be backed by strong public willingness and public opinion because so long as conservative social thinking remain deep rooted in the society laws will not be able to achieve their ends. It must be asserted that social reforms in social thinking, behavior and law would be effective only if they are backed by a major section of the society. She enlightened the students by her auspicious word and said, "Law students and lawyers are the promoter's & protector of the Human Rights". She also said that rights come with duties.

Prof. (Dr.) Abhay M. Shankar Gowda, Pro-Vice Chancellor of the Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut in his address stated that the incorporation of health concerns in the 'rights' discourse, both at the international and domestic level – recognizes that the legal system bears the responsibility of aiding the medical profession in advancing the 'right to health'. In fact, the onus on governmental agencies goes beyond aspects like the regulation of the medical profession and support for research and development in the medical field. It also includes policy-choices pertaining to education, housing, environmental protection, labor laws, social security provisions and the protection of intellectual property among others. Dr. Gowda also said that women are superwomen because they are multitasking so they should be treated equally. Since the end of World War II, many such aspects have come to be recognized as part of a 'right to health' in international human rights but there has been considerable disputes regarding the scope and nature of this right. Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948 (UDHR) encapsulated the 'right to health' in the following words: "1. Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control. 2. Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection." While this declaration articulated the core elements of public health concerns, it did not create any binding obligations on the members of the United Nations. In subsequent years, the right to health came to be incorporated in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) which was presented before the UN General Assembly in 1966 and adopted in 1976. While Article 12(1) of the ICESCR referred to the 'right to health' in aspirational terms, Article 12(2) mandated specific measures on part of the state parties to the covenant. He also emphasized that the 'right to health' cannot be conceived

of as a traditional right enforceable against the state. Instead, it has to be formulated and acknowledged as a positive right at a global level – one which all of us have an interest in protecting and advancing. He congratulated the Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut for organizing such platforms for deliberations on such issues and thanking the resource persons for giving their valuable time for leading the discussions.

Later all the dignitaries were felicitated by mementoes as a mark of respect. The inaugural ceremony ended with the vote of thanks delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Vaibhav Goel Bhartiya, organizing secretary of the one day training programme and also presented an overview on the human rights and development of specific rights for women. He

stated that Protection and Promotion of Human rights have become a priority for governments' across the World. These rights have also become pivotal in the lives of human beings because without these basic rights one cannot think to lead respectful and dignified life in this cosmos. At international level, bundle of Conventions, Declarations and Treaties have been formulated to provide adequate guidance to member states' to enact laws in their respective

Countries to protect and promote human rights. Having inspired from international mandate on issues of human rights and their increasing violations worldwide vis-à-vis in India, the Government of India has also passed a specific law known as The Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. This law prescribes for the establishment of National Human Rights Commission and State Human Rights Commissions for each State to further the goal of protection of human rights. The NHRC has been assigned multiple tasks under the Act to defend human rights. He stressed that the National Human Rights Commission as well as the State Human Rights Commissions are doing a wonderful job in the area of protection and promotion of human rights. It is taking suo motu cognizance of the human rights violations and issuing directions to the states and their agencies to prevent violations. Likewise, it is frequently entraining human rights complaints from different parts of the country and is not scared from imposing penalties and fines on guilty state agencies. The interests of vulnerable sections of the society such as women, children, and members of schedule caste, schedule tribes and old aged persons have been specially safeguarded. During its more than four decades working, it has exhibited a great role towards protection and defending human rights. He also informed that people have been frequently made aware about their human rights through modus of workshops, seminars, symposiums and conferences, free legal aid camps by the Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law. After the address by all the dignitaries, mementoes were given as a mark of respect.

## **Session 1: Introduction to SDGs & Human Rights**

Chair: Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha, Director, Indian Law Institute, New Delhi

Co-Chair: Dr. Sarika Tyagi, Associate Professor, Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law

The first part of the presentation by introducing the audience to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). The UDHR is a declaration adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10<sup>th</sup> December at Paris which represents the first global expression of what many people believe to be the rights to which all human beings are inherently entitled. The presenter briefed the audience about all the thirty articles which are there in the UDHR.

Another speaker talked about the analysis of the role of the Government in attaining SDGs. He said that development can be the social, economic, and environmental goals of sustainable development. He also focused on United Nations MDGs 8 goals strategies to be achieved by 2015&17 interlinked goals of SDGs to be achieved by 2030. Through this platform he discussed policies like Made in India, Skill India, Swacch Bharat, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao and creation of common awareness among people and formation of new platforms should also be included.

Another speaker highlighted promoting women's rights and achieving the SDGs. Millennium development goal and he mentions that poverty, hunger, poor health, dowry are the reasons for discrimination. Suggestions by speaker were reservation in politics for women at least 30% and maternity and paternity leave etc.

One of the presentations was about the introduction to UDHR in the Indian context. In other words, the speaker briefed the audience about how the makers of the Indian constitution adopted a large part from the UDHR while writing the constitution. Then the speaker went on to speak about the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles of State Policy stated in the Indian constitution and how these have been borrowed from the UDHR.

The last part of the presentation was based on the International Covenants regarding Human Rights where the speaker went on to speak about the International Bill of Human Rights which consists of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its two optional protocols and how the makers of the Indian constitution has borrowed from each of these. The core treaties with regard to international human rights and the committees set up with respect to each of these treaties were also mentioned by the speaker. The whole presentation was a very insightful one.

In the human rights training held at **Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut**, Dr. Manoj Kumar Sinha reflected on the situation of India and the turmoil and violence faced by people in the North-East. His speech was an enlightening

experience and the audience benefitted by his inspiring address while he spoke about the condition in India and the need for execution of legislations. His speech gave an insight about how human rights are an emancipation of rights for the benefit of others. The session also emphasized on the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, Composition and functioning of NHRC/SHRCs, Other National and State Commissions. The session proved to be effective with the use of case scenarios by the speaker to enhance the understanding of the participants. The session also proved to be very enriching as it threw light on from defining the role of NHRC and SHRC to its rules and responsibilities and process happening within the respective institution such as the selection and recruitment of members, promotion and protection of human rights etc. The session concluded with the speakers on critical views on the impact created by the respective Human Rights Commissions of our country and the need for effective governing mechanisms to provide the needed support for the right people at the right time.

Dr. Sarika Tyagi, **Associate Professor, Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law** said that human rights are essential to achieving sustainable development that leaves no one behind and are central to all its three dimensions – social, environmental, and economic.

At last vote of thanks was given by Dr. Reena Bishnoi, Professor, Subharti Law College and memento were given as marks of respect and appreciation to the resource persons. Certificates to presenters of this session were also given. **Session 2: Gender Equality: Need of the Time**

Chair: Prof. (Dr.) Anjali Khare, Head & Professor, Subharti Medical College

Co-Chair: Prof. (Dr.) Sartaj Ahmad, Subharti Law College

First presenter focused on women empowerment. She said it is broadly divided into categories like: Political, Socially, Economical, psychological. Secondly, she mentions Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, right to education is basic human rights, Surrogacy law, MTP Act. She even said that Political commitment leads to social commitment and it is not about male and female empowerment but it's social empowerment.

Another speaker discussed the need and importance of gender equality in the present scenario. She draws the attention of all that women are responsible for their status. She said that New Zealand is the first country which gave voting rights to women.

Another speaker focused on Gender Equality- Need of Time. She draws the attention that Gender equality is among the goals of sustainable development; Women have to face many problems, lack of health care etc. The majority of women are suffering from gender discrimination and also mentions that men and boys are also discriminated against and there are no special laws for men.

Last speaker discussed the Protection and Promotion of Gender Equality and Human rights. He

said that in ancient times Lord Rama, Krishna, Hanuman are the gods who are recognized by their mother names. Article 14, 15 & 16 talks about whether women should be given equal rights.

Dr. Anjali Khare, Professor, **Subharti Medical College, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut** addressed everyone to respect each other's rights and dignity. Respect for others: because a lack of respect for someone fails to appreciate their individuality and essential dignity. Non-discrimination: because equality in human dignity means we should not judge people's rights and opportunities on the basis of their characteristics. Tolerance: because intolerance indicates a lack of respect for difference; and equality does not signify uniformity.

Dr. Sartaj Ahmed, Professor, **Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut** pointed out that most of the people are not aware of their rights. We should be aware of their rights. He also said respecting the rights of others entails responsibility for one's actions and exerting effort for the realization of the rights of one and all.

At last vote of thanks and memento as token of respect was given by Dr. Vaibhav Goel Bhartiya, Organizing Secretary of the programme. Certificates to presenters of this session were also given.

### **Session 3: Role of HEIs To Ensure Gender Equality**

Chair: Justice Rajesh Chandra, Former Judge at High Court of Judicature, Prayagraj & Prof. (Dr.) Vaibhav Goel Bhartiya, Dean-Faculty of Law, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University

One of the young presenters talked about gender equality and employment of women and girls in our Indian society. She said that sex ratio of women is less than male and female foeticide, low status of women, abortion etc. and girl children were sold out in poor families. Education is the powerful tool for changing society like Sarva Siksha Abhiyan. She also highlighted that legal education is a powerful tool for social change for the present and future which prevents any kind of abuse. Her suggestion was that the law student should do role play, drama and legal aid campaigns for creating awareness among people. She talked about the role of NGO's like the Naz foundation, etc which fought for gender equality.

In this session another presenter discussed the topic-Importance of Human Rights in Our Lives. She highlighted that females are always conditioned for their way of living and they are always told by the family what to do or what not to do in studies and opting for a career. In rural areas girls only get permission for education only in girls' colleges and they do not even get a chance for higher and further education. She also said that women's representation in Ph.D. is also less due to their family responsibility etc.

One of the speakers touched on the topic - Empowering Tribal women and Promoting Human

Rights. She focused on literacy as one way by which tribal women empowerment can be made because only 54.4% women are literate as compared to 71.1% of male. She even said that the three E's of progress of tribal women are Education, Empowerment, Emancipation.

Justice Rajesh Chandra, **Former Judge at High Court of Judicature, Prayagraj** addressed everyone Higher education institutions (HEIs) are incubators for the thought leaders and social leaders of the future. HEIs and systems where norms for gender equality are practiced and modeled, and where the voices and ideas of women are valued and raised up, are powerful tools for accelerating progress towards the equality and empowerment of women and girls everywhere. He also said that there is a critical need to address gender inequalities in higher education

requiring concerted efforts from governments, higher education oversight and funding bodies, HEIs and other partners. He pointed out that action is required to transform discriminatory gender norms, meanwhile Subharti University is a women centric university where major stakeholders are women like it's CEO, Controller of Examinations, HOIs of certain departments, etc.

Dr. Vaibhav Goel Bhartiya, **Professor & Dean, Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut** said that the results reveal that higher education institutions play a positive role in gender equality and women empowerment. It can be said that higher education institutions succeeded in closing the gap between males and females in access to higher education",

At last vote of thanks was given by Mr. Vikas Tyagi, Assistant Professor, Subharti Law College and mementos were given as marks of respect and appreciation to the resource persons. Certificates to presenters of this session were also given.

#### **Session 4: Gender Equality and the human rights of women & LGBTI persons**

Chair: Mr. Neeraj Kumar Jha, Deputy Commandant, RAF Academy for Public Order, Meerut Co-Chair: Prof. (Dr.) Reena Bishnoi, Faculty of Law, Subharti Law College

Very interesting presentation was made on Women Empowerment in India with special reference to the vision of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Both the presenters divided the paper into three parts- Personal Efforts of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar; Efforts made by legislature and Aspect of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

Other speakers focused on Parenthood for Transgender. They said that NALSA case judgment led to the recognition of transgender people as the 'third gender' by the Supreme Court of India, affirming that the fundamental rights granted under the Constitution of India will be equally



applicable to them, and gave them the right to self identification of their gender. They also said that there is a violation of transgender adoption rights. There are adoption rights in the USA, U.K and South Africa.

Another mature speaker discussed Human Rights attainment and Ambedkar's Vision on Financial stability among Women. He said that financial stability of women and the three tiers of Dr.B. R Ambedkar are women and counter revolution and rights of Hindu women etc. He also ponders upon the Hindu code bill's role and its importance and actual law is what is practiced in the society and not a paper written law. He also suggested that dowry is the symbol of status in society . This mindset among people should be changed for the equal status and protection of women. Another budding presenter said change the Mindset of Society. She talked about third gender human rights and third gender in Mahabharata shikhandi. She said that the people only talk about women rights not about 3<sup>rd</sup> gender rights. The Supreme Court emphasized on third gender rights in 2019. Transgender were treated like a curse and a right can be given through political representation, economic policy, special reservation etc. in Mumbai first trans gender saloon was opened.

Shri Neeraj Kumar Jha, **Deputy Commandant, RAF Academy for Public Order, Meerut** **addressed** everyone and said education is the way to empowerment and it plays an important role. He said that if you analyze the position of women in the north-eastern Indian states of India are relatively better than their counterparts elsewhere in the country in terms of mobility, life choices, space in their lives, and so on. Various indices also give us the idea of a comparatively better position of women in the north-eastern states of India. He pointed out that even in Chhattisgarh region the work force participation rates of women are found to be equal with the male counterparts. He also compared that the status of women at rural level in certain areas at times look relatively better than urban areas. So, through education as well as society, mindset should be referred to as a point of psychological strength.

Prof. (Dr.) Reena Bishnoi, **Presiding Officer, Internal Complaint Committee, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut** said that third gender are vulnerable groups. SDGS Article 5 talks about gender Equality and it is not a women issue but it is a human issue. She also emphasizes gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls as crucial to achieving all goals and targets and calls for the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Agenda.

At last vote of thanks was given by Ms. Ana Sisodia, Assistant Professor, Subharti Law College and memento were given as marks of respect and appreciation to the resource persons. Certificates to presenters of this session were also given.

**Session 5: Role of Law Students and Civil Society in the attainment of**

**Gender Justice Chair:** Dr. Vinai Kumar Singh, Deputy Director, ISIL, New

Delhi

**Co-Chair:** Dr. Sarika Tyagi, Associate Professor, Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law

First speaker talked about In Depth Analysis of Personal Laws that Contradict Gender Equality in India. He focused on Gender Justice- regardless of gender there should be equal opportunity irrespective of their sex. He said that women are often paid less as compared to male counterparts and gender equality for the just and fair society. 1 out of 3 women are sexually abused and a 2020 report says that 15.3% women are abused. Protection of women rights given under IPC, Family Law, Maternity Benefit, right against Female foeticide, sexual harassment at workplace.

Another speaker presented the topic-Analysis of Human Rights of Prostitute Child in India. He said that a prostitute's child faces many problems and challenges because their mothers are sex workers and they are abused, bullied and discriminated against by society & societal acceptance is also not observed and the health rights of such children are also poor. He discussed the judicial pronouncement given in Gourav Jain's case in which the Supreme Court directed that the prostitute's child "should be segregated from their mothers and be allowed to mingle with others and become a part of the society". On the other hand in Bandhua Mukti Morcha Judgement, the Court talked about the significance of securing children's rights to education, wellbeing, and advancement.

One of the speakers presented the topic-Rights of the Elderly Persons. She said that elderly people do not get support and they are isolated by their family and society. Right for older citizens mentioned in Article 41 & 46 of Indian Constitution. Article 21 also explains the rights of older people. She suggested that to prevent the pollution of our strong values we should respect and give rights to elderly people.

Another young presenter put her points on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. She also analyzed that the constitution of India includes basic human rights which is mentioned under part III & IV of the Indian Constitution. Human rights are applied to men, women and LGBTQ also. She brought up the fact that in history we observed that if a person does not belong to the high class, they are humiliated and treated oppressively.

Last presenter discussed the topic-Human Rights a Critical Analysis of the Violation of Women's Human Rights in India. He highlighted women's human rights at international level and women human rights in the Constitution. He also discussed challenges facing Indian women and statutory law for safety and protection of women. Dr. Vinai Kumar Singh, **Deputy Director, ISIL, New Delhi** addressed on various issues. He talked about gender equality and human rights and

about sexually gender-based violence, reproductive & mental health of women and MTP 2021 Amendment Act. He also told how to work on the gaps between gender equality and progressive development of law. Shri Vinai discussed the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. He said that the declaration identifies human rights defenders as individuals or groups who act to promote, protect or strive for the protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms through peaceful means. He said that the key role of human rights defenders in the realization of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and legally binding treaties and in the international human rights system. He addressed the gathering that they are human rights defenders. NHRC has been assigned multiple tasks under the Act to defend human rights. Dr. Sarika Tyagi, Associate Professor, **Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University Meerut** said that a vibrant civil society is a key element in a democratic society. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are important actors. She also highlighted that in order to be truly democratic, civil society organizations should be capable of representing the needs and interests of

both their male and female members. A concern for gender equality is part of a broad social agenda, not just the responsibility of women's organizations.

The question and answer session that followed had many enthusiastic students raising doubts, questions, suggestions, and remarks. Overall the session was very informative, intriguing and empowering. Mementos were given as marks of respect and appreciation to the resource persons. Certificates to presenters of this session were also given.

### **Conclusion:-**

In the valedictory session Ms. Manisha Singh student of LL.M summarized the detailed report of the one day training programme in a very well structured manner. In his valedictory notes Dr. Vinai Kumar Singh, presented an overview on human rights. He stated that Panchtatva relating to Human Rights are Accountability,

Participation, Good Governance, Protection and Justice which have become priority for governments' across the World. Dr. Vinai brought forward the issues relating to NRI marriages and challenges faced by women. He also said specifically the last 20 years has reflected large development in the context of reproductive rights and mental health jointly. He referred to recent judicial pronouncement given in the case, X vs Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, the Supreme Court delivered a significant judgment that there should not be any distinction between married and unmarried women in seeking an abortion of pregnancy in the 20-24 weeks terms arising out of a consensual relationship. It

stated that all women are entitled to safe & legal abortion. He also stressed that human rights treaties are particularly susceptible to reservations because human rights treaties aim to regulate states' domestic behavior. Most reservations made are in relation to family and marriages. He also said that CEDAW is there but the world is also talking about looking beyond CEDAW.

Dr. Vaibhav Goel Bhartiya, organizing secretary of the one day training programme in his concluding remarks stated National Human Rights Commission as well State Human Rights Commissions are doing a wonderful job in the area of protection and promotion of human rights. It is taking suo motu cognizance of the human rights violations and issuing directions to the states and their agencies to prevent violations. Likewise, it is frequently entraining human rights complaints from different parts of the country and is not scared from imposing penalties and Fines on guilty state agencies. The interests of vulnerable sections of the society such as women, children, and members of schedule caste, schedule tribes and old aged persons have been specially safeguarded. During its more than three decades working, it has exhibited a great role towards protection and defending human rights. He also informed that people have been frequently made aware about their human rights through modus of workshops, seminars, symposiums and conferences, free legal aid camps by the Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law. The notion of condemning all forms of violence was evident in every section of the speakers. Dr. Vaibhav also motivated the audience about gender neutral approach. He discussed the role of law students and civil society for gender justice & also the role of educational institutions for gender equality. He also pointed out that the outcome of the training programme was also achieved as participants came to know about human rights of women and became skilled about the role of human rights volunteers in the society.

### **Human Rights Pledge**

Dr. Vaibhav Goel Bhartiya, Organizing Secretary made a Human Rights pledge which has been taken by all the students, participation along with faculty members.

Ms. Afreen Almas, Assistant Professor, the convener of the programme delivered the vote of thanks to all the dignitaries, resources persons and participants. Ms. Afreen also thanked all the colleagues, staff and students who had worked incessantly to make the programme a success. And she thanked Mistress of Ceremony Ms. Bhawini Kaushalya and Ms. Srishti Bhardwaj students of BA.LL.B Xth Sem. She also paid special thanks to the National Human Rights Commission for its sponsorship. The valedictory session was preceded by the distribution of certificates to the rest of participants.