

## **National Seminar On Challenges Faced by Women in the Current Scenario**

**Date: 12.10.2017**

**Venue: Preview Theatre  
Madurai Kamaraj University**



Women's Studies Centre of Madurai Kamaraj University organized a one day National Seminar on "Challenges Faced by women in the current scenario" at 12<sup>th</sup> October 2017. The Seminar was inaugurated by Prof.A.Ponnusamy CBCS Coordinator, Madurai Kamaraj University; Dr.R.Ramu, UPE Coordinator, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai and the chief guest Thiru K. Sugumaran, Superintendent of Police, VIth battalion Madurai, by lightening Kuthuvilakku and started at 10.30 a.m. **175 participants** participated in the seminar.

Dr. R. Radhika Devi, Director i/c, Madurai Kamaraj University welcomed the gathering. She welcomed the chief guest Thiru K.Sugumaran, Superintendent of Police, VI th battalion Madurai by saying he started his career as a Group I officer as Deputy Superintendent of police in Government of Tamil Nadu and his view and action in his service is always related to social reformations. Dr.R.Radhika Devi highlighted the importance of the seminar by saying while on one hand, India has seen an increased percentage of literacy among women, and women are now entering professional fields, the practices of female infanticide, poor health conditions and lack of education still persisting still continue. Even the patriarchal ideology of the home being a woman's 'real domain' and marriage being her ultimate destiny hasn't changed much. The matrimonial advertisements, demanding girls of the same caste, with fair skin and slim figure, or the much criticized fair and lovely ads, are indicators of the slow changing social mores. If one looks at the status of women then and now, one has to look at two sides of the coin; one side

which is promising, and one side which is bleak. This seminar would bring out issues adding to the two the sides of the coin and pave way for further insights on issues and challenges faced by women. The director welcomed the other dignitaries on the Dias Prof. A. Ponnusamy CBCS Coordinator, Madurai Kamaraj University; Dr. R. Ramu, UPE Coordinator, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai.

After the welcome address the dignitaries were honored and seminar Journal was released. The seminar continued with inaugural address by **Prof Ponnusamy CBCS Coordinator, Madurai Kamaraj University**. In his Address he spoke about the gender inequalities that happen in the family and how men are feeling superior to women. He indicated that men must respect women and men must adjust with certain difficulties uncertainties that happen in the home. He asked how many men could tolerate if a women is not able to cook for a day. , men should not consider her as money earning machine he should see women in other aspects and support her. Men should not stick on to age old patriarchal structure should change as per the rapid changes that take place in the society. Men should believe that women are equal to them and encourage women in all her aspects. He also told Gender equality must be insisted and initiated in the family first and other public institutions in the society through seminars like this, workshops and other training programmes.

Key note address was delivered by **Mr. K. Sukumaran Superintendent of Police, Vith battalion, Madurai**. In his key note address he said today women are facing many challenges and difficulties which affect not only them but their family also. We cannot specify only this issue affects women or this is the biggest challenge for women. For example violence against women is one of the biggest challenges for women. There are many laws to safe guard women but these laws seem not to be adequate unless when the protective agencies are not serious about them. The constitution of India provides that police is a 'state subject' is used for maintaining peace and security to all the people within their territorial jurisdictions. The police are primarily concerned with detection and investigation of crime and apprehending criminals by making arrests. Further he told that the ideal purpose of police can be best pointed out from duties of law enforcement officers laid down in the international code of enforcement ethics " as a law enforcement officer his fundamental duty is to serve mankind to safeguard lives and property of people and protect the innocent against deception the weak against deception or the weak against

oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence and disorder and to respect constitutional rights of all men (including women) to liberty ,equality and justice.”

He further mentioned that child and women trafficking incidence are high and he narrated how he along with group saved a girl child from trafficking from a train which was about to North India. They got the information very late that the child was trafficked without her knowledge in a train which was about to move within half an hour. Most of the time the information would reach the police very late and the police would find very difficult to trace the victim. He said people especially women are hesitating to approach police because of many loopholes are difficulties in the police process. Women should not mind that they should approach them and get the help of police on time. Finally he said that educational institutions and other agencies should join hands with police to safeguard women and child.

The inaugural session came to an end by vote of thanks by Dr.C.Subbulakshmi, Assistant Professor, Women Studies Centre, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai. The Seminar was concluded with a summary of day’s proceedings and Vote of Thanks.