

Report of International Women's Day



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Date: 14 March 2022

Venue: Sindh Development Society Auditorium

Participants: [22 Female and 15 Male]

Participants/ Stakeholders : Ms. Farheen Mughal X-MPA Pakistan People Party Ashique Hussain Kalhoro, director WDD, Reshma Thebo, incharge safe houses Hyderabad , Firdos Sangi, Executive Director Association for Better community Development [ABCD], Nazish Fatima Active Women Foundation, ZaibunisaMallah District Council Member Local Bodies ,Dr. Irfana Nigar, women Jails, Mukhtiar Bhatti Director Sports, M Parkash Senior Advocate , Nadeem Ahmed Suraio , Paras Ghaffar Malik Executive Director Sindh Development Society SDS.

Key Objectives

- To support and acknowledge women contribution and efforts for women rights in Sindh Pakistan
- Promote girls education and engaging key actors for speaking in favor of ending all forms of violence and girls education
- Demonstration for demanding women friendly laws and policies that protect from harmful practices
- Raising Voice of Women and sensitizing key parliamentarians and public department provide safety mechanism and protection

Results

- **Ms. Farheen Mughal** promised to talk with Pakistan People Party Management and asked for safety mechanism of public institutes and talk with parliamentarians on women rights and protection
- Ms. Reshma Thebo Deputy Director Women development Department shared response mechanism of women protection and asked to write complaints simply and get response immediate basis.
- Ms. Zubaida Thaheem Incharge Darul Aman Hyderabad provided information to participants about services and complaints mechanism for survivors of violence and facilities that ensure protection in 24/7.
- Participant's knowledge is increased about complaint mechanism of WDD and Darul Aman and step of cases proceedings.
- Participants developed charter of demanded from parliamentarians and urges all departments to keep safe education and learning environments and punish to culprits of brutal killing of innocent girls of Sindh

Introduction:

Sindh Development Society celebrated international women day with collaboration of Shirkat Gah and Women Development Department Government of Sindh on 14 March 2022 at Sindh development Society auditorium and demanded for women protection, safety mechanism, girl's education and ends all forms of violence against women and girls in Sindh. It was attended by bar councils, CSOs, CBOs, community leaders, women, girls and students are part of program.

Proceeding

Mr. Irshad Ahmed shared aims and objectives of programs and said that Sindh Development Society is working since 22 years in rural and urban communities of Sindh and implemented more than 50 projects on women rights, capacity building, advocacy, gender equability and protecting their sexual and reproductive Health rights in Pakistan. He said that SDS always writes and speaks in favour of women rights and celebrated international days and movements in Sindh.

Mr. Paras Ghaffar Malik, Executive Director welcomed all participants and shared that SDS always celebrate women rights days and in continuity of programs. He said that women rights are exploited by male and women voice is not heard. SDS tries to reach valuable population and raise their voice for legislation and empowerment in Sindh.

Ms. Farheen Mughal X- MPA Pakistan People Party and said we have passed many laws and policies for women protection and safety mechanism in Sindh. She said that PPP is leading political party and lead by Muhtaramma Benazir Bhutto. He admired efforts of BB and said that all women and girls rights are addressed in parliament of Pakistan. She promised to talk PPP management for protecting rights and raise voice for implementation women friendly laws.

Ms. Reshma Thebo incharge safe houses Hyderabad Government of Sindh briefly shared role and response of women development department to sexual harassment, family issues, domestic violence and discrimination. She shared WDD established safe houses for women and girls protection as well as Child Maintenance center in Hyderabad. She said WDD has strong referral mechanism and connected with courts and protection centers. She suggested to participants if you found any GBV and DV cases; refer cases and get immediate justice and protection.



Participant is receiving certificate from Ms Mukhtiar Bhatti Director Sports University of Sindh

Ms. Zubeda Thaheem Incharge of Women protection Center [Darul Aman Hyderabad] briefly described services and process of complaints with participants. She said that there are many cases reported and still many women cases are in courts for justice. Darul Aman protects women and girls without any delay and open 24/7. She addressed that women and girls can come any time who are survivors of DV, GBV and families. We provide immediate support of Food and accommodation to survivors in free of cost and precede their cases for access to justice.

Ms. Nazish Fatima Executive Director active Women Foundation said that women have power and today on international women day is contribution of shicago women who raised voice for equal wages and resist for equality and justice. 08 March is celebrated globally and all CSOs and Thinkers who acknowledged contribution and efforts and protecting their rights. She said that women and girls are deprived in Pakistan many cases have been reported in every year. She said that Women and girls have required attention of policy makers and protect their rights and end all forms of violence and discrimination in society and allocate budget and resource for women empowerment in Pakistan.

Ms. FirdosSangi Executive Director Association for Better Community Development acknowledged contribution of SDS and said that SDS always fights for women rights and resistance for ending all forms of violence against women and girls and strengthened capacity of CBOs , media, Lawyers, Doctors and others to make friendly spaces for women in rural and urban District of Sindh.

Ms. ZaibunisaMallah District Council Member women wing of PPP said that I started journey from Village and take steps for girls' education. She said that women rights are very important and equality makes different and provided education and vocational opportunities to women and girls. She said that I established many schemes of vocational, safe drinking water, sanitation and other schemes to empower women and girls. She said that girl's education leads change and highlights role of women in society. She said that gender inequality has strong roots and women rights are not protected and it is not writ of government of Sindh. She underlined that there are many laws passed for protection of women but not implemented due male dominant factors.

Mr. M Parkash Advocate and minority leader acknowledged SDS contribution for women empowerment and always raise voice for gender equality and justice. He said that women empowerment is need of this time. Pakistan is facing challenges of poverty, unemployment, shifting of loans and other governance crises. There is need to work women and men equally and need to develop strong relationship for facing crises. He said that men realized that women have strong economic score. Nowadays girls are getting higher education and get services in all departments of Pakistan especially police, army. Police and Army department is not endorsed by men and not prioritized for this job. He said now men and women are equally managing household economy and all families who prefer women doing job those are prosperous.

Ms. Mukhtiar Bhatti Deputy Director Sports University of Sindh said that women and girls are getting education and as well as they are part of sport. I am coach of girl's tournaments and travelled to national level won trophies. She said that girls are very sensitized in nature and strong in actions. They accept all challenges and resolve their issues. She said that we have to provide equal opportunities to women and men in all departments and all days should be for women rights. She said that I always support girls and don't disseminate at educational level. She addressed that public institutional are friendly for girls but girls evolved in friendship and promising with boys and we did not intervene at time. There are thousands of students are studying in different departments in university of Sindh and cases are on finger counting. We are taking positive steps for protection and safety of women and girls and taking serious to girl's education in Sindh.



Women leaders and artist are performing during theater

Theaters for Highlighting issues of harassment in universities of Sindh

Jagarta theater Group is strong component of SDS of mobilization performed sensitization theatre during seminar. The story focused on scenario of brutal killing

and steps blackmailing to girls in universities. 02 Characters are performed during the theater. One is professor who is involved in blackmailing and innocent girls who face violence and harassment in institute. A professor speaks vulgar language with her students. He said that if you make sexually satisfy to me than I increase your marks and pass in examination. The girls denied many times but professor did not hear to girls. Finally girl's complaints to institute management and shared story of violation and blackmailing. The participant speaks in favor of girls and suggested many department that protect girls from sexual harassment. The viewers of theater demanded every institute must have harassment committee as per the 2010 law and protection for women and girls in public departments and sensitized to policy makers for developing safety mechanism for girl's students in public institutes.

Conclusion

Dr. Irfana Nigar Women Jail Hyderabad said that there many women are suffering in jails and involved crime due to frustration. The women and girls have no respect, acknowledgment and encouragement in home and then they are doing crime. She said that women have leading role in society and need to hear their stories and respect them for exercising their legal rights. She concluded seminar and said that all charters of demands will be shared with policy makers and participant's demands will be discussed. She said girls are not safe in universities and majority of stories are not heard or not reported



Women Artist is posing during theater performance



Participants Received Certificate from M Parkash Senior Advocate