**CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KERALA**

**GENDER EQUITY PROMOTION PROGRAMMES**

**REPORT**

Various departments, Centre’s and NSS Units in the University are conducting Gender sensitization programs, Workshops, training programs, public lectures, conferences, Seminars/Webinars. Under the leadership of former Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) G Gopa Kumar, the Centre for Women's Studies was launched in Central University of Kerala on 25th April 2018.

International Human Rights Day, National Girl Child Day and International Women’s Day are observed with Public lectures, National Seminars/Webinars, Workshops, Training programs on topics like, Gender Equality, Rights of Women, Human Trafficking, Women Empowerment: Emerging Trends and Challenges, Times We Thought Beyond Gender, Voyage for Change. International Women’s Day is celebrated every year with programs, workshops and felicitation of Women’s achievers. An interaction of women employees and students at Central University of Kerala with the Hon’ble Vice Chancellor was convened as part of International Women’s day celebrations, 2021. Vice Chancellor promised that he will initiate the steps required to make the campus women-friendly.

Women Health is a concern in today’s time. Departments, Centre’s and NSS Unit organizes Round table Conference, talks, interaction programs and Workshops on Health related issues of Women. Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, Concepts and Methodological approaches to researching health inequities and intersectionality, Reproductive Health, Youth and Emotional Well – being, Self care matters in Mental Health, Menstruation and Menstrual Hygiene – ‘Breaking the Bloody Taboo, Common Health Issues of Adolescent Females, Health and Nutrition.

Awareness programmes and Competitive tests for awareness : Empowerment of Women in India: A Legal Perspective, Sexual Harassment at Workplace: Awareness & Safeguards, Women’s Safety: Ethico-Legal Dimensions, Ecofeminism and Environmental Policies of India, Laws Related to Women

Training programmes & motivational lecture are conducted to motivate the students irrespective of their gender. Personality development programs are regularly conducted. National Seminar/Webinars, Talks, Public lectures conducted by various departments on topics like, Women and the Environment, Voices of Women in Hindi Literature, Covid 19 and its gender dynamics, The Conjunction of Two Pandemics: Gender Inequality and COVID 19, Feminism in Malayalam Novels, Women, Technology, and Development. The Centre for Women’s Studies in collaboration with the E Sreedharan Centre for Life Skills Education organized an International Webinar series with 7 lectures on Women and Development, extending from December 2020 to May 2021.

Centre for Women's Studies is working on a Research Study on ‘Women Mental Health - Impact of COVID-19 on Mental Health: A study on Common Mental Disorders among Women in Kerala, India' funded by the National Commission for Women, New Delhi sanctioned in January 2021.

**Initiatives for a women friendly Campus :**

A Sub Committee for making the Campus Women friendly was constituted under the Campus Development Committee in November 2020. Amenities for 6 Women’s recreation rooms have been procured which will be accessible to all students, staff and faculty members in every alternate teaching blocks and hostels. Sanitary pads vending Machine installed in all academic blocks and hostels. Safe Ride Program for Women is launched for Women working after office hours will be shuttled from the buildings till hostel or main gate. A 6 seater electric vehicle has specifically been purchased to provide safe ride facility for women in the campus. The Central University of Kerala launched the Creche for its employees and research scholars on 8 March 2021. The creche area is divided into Breast- Feeding Room, Office Room, Play Area-cum Activity Room, Wash Room and Sleeping Room. Thematic painting has also been done.

Gender sensitization is part of the syllabus in many of the departments. Dept. of English offers papers viz, Women and Islam, Women and Writing, Women and cultural forms, Introduction to Gender Studies, Post secular Feminism. Dept of Hindi offers an Elective Course in Women Studies. Dept. of Public Health & Community medicine offers papers – Health inequities and Gender issues in Health. Social work departments offers papers like, Social Work Profession History and Ideologies, Social Welfare Administration**,** Social Planning and Development of Marginalised, Labour Legislation**,** Employee Relations and Labour Welfare**,** Rights of Women and Gender Justice, Gender and Society. Dept. of Public Health & Policy Studies offers Gender Studies, Public policy in disaster management, Social justice and administration.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*