

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY
Report on Panel Discussion on SDG – 5
Achieve Gender Equality and Empowerment of women and Girls
Venue: Incubation Centre Seminar Hall -1
Date: 18th March 2024 Time: 10 a.m to 1 p.m

The panel discussion on gender equality and women empowerment, organized by the Department of Public Policy, was a thought-provoking event that brought together esteemed speakers and engaged students in a meaningful dialogue. The event commenced with an invocation ceremony, followed by insightful addresses from Dr. D. Ayub Khan Dawood, Dean, SSSH and Dr. R. Radhai, Head, Department of Public Policy setting the stage for the panelists to delve into various aspects of gender equality and also extended their felicitations to the esteemed guests.



The panelists, Ms. Nivedita Hamsadhvani Louis, Ms. Geetha Ilangovan, and Ms. J. Deepalakshmi, shared their expertise and experiences, enriching the discussion with diverse perspectives. Their presentations highlighted the challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality, inspiring the audience to take action.

Dr. D. Ayub Khan Dawood, the Dean of the School of Social Sciences and Humanities, delivered an enlightening speech emphasizing the significance of gender equality. He elaborated on various strategies for empowering women and urged students of Public Policy

to devise policies that not only benefit society but also foster gender equality.



Dr. R. Radhai, Head, Department of Public Policy and Programme Convener, presented the inaugural address. She illuminated various facets of gender equality and highlighted the challenges associated with achieving it.



The first panelist, Ms. Nivedita Hamsadhwani Louis, a renowned Writer and Co-founder & Editor of HER STORIES, captivated the audience with her insightful keynote address. She delved into the intricate issues that obstruct women's empowerment, offering pragmatic solutions. Drawing from a rich tapestry of real-life experiences, she vividly portrayed the myriad challenges women encounter, effectively highlighting the urgency of women's empowerment and fostering a deep-seated awareness of the pressing issues facing women today.



The second panelist, Ms. Geetha Ilangovan, brought a wealth of experience to the discussion as a Former Civil Servant, Journalist, and Documentarian. Her presentation was a comprehensive exploration of women's rights as fundamental human rights. Ms. Ilangovan meticulously examined a range of laws and rights pertinent to women and girls, underscoring the critical need to safeguard their physical and mental well-being. She also delved into the societal challenges of child marriage, dowry practices, and entrenched male patriarchy in Indian society, offering a nuanced perspective on these complex issues.



Ms. J. Deepalakshmi, an accomplished Technical Writer, Author, and Translator, offered a compelling perspective as the third panelist. Her discussion centered on the crucial topic of gender equality in child-rearing, shedding light on the pervasive issues of gender bias within families. Ms. Deepalakshmi passionately advocated for inclusive policymaking, emphasizing the necessity of policies that address the diverse needs of all genders. Additionally, she explored the impact of religious rituals, cultural beliefs, and caste practices on perpetuating gender inequality, providing a nuanced analysis of these societal influences. Ms. Deepalakshmi's presentation concluded with practical suggestions for parents, offering guidance on fostering an environment that promotes equality in raising children.



Vote of thanks was delivered by Ms. Nandhika, Final Year Public Policy Student. In conclusion, the panel discussion was highly successful, stimulating thoughtful reflection and inspiring action towards gender equality and women's empowerment. The panelists' presentations offered valuable insights into the intricate nature of gender issues, urging stakeholders to collaborate in creating a more inclusive and fair society. As the event concluded, attendees were imbued with a renewed sense of purpose and dedication to advocating for gender equality in their respective spheres. The Department of Public Policy expresses its gratitude to the panelists, moderators, and attendees for their invaluable contributions to this significant discourse.

Head Coordinators

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Panel Discussion on
SDG- 5



**ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND
EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS**

Department of Public Policy

VENUE : INCUBATION CENTRE SEMINAR HALL - 1

ON 18-03-2024 | 10.00 A.M TO 1.00 P.M

RESOURCE PERSONS

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Writer, Co-founder & Editor : HER STORIES

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Technical Writer, Author cum Translator

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