

**National Workshop
on
DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality”
(as part of the International Women’s Day celebration)**

Date – 2nd March, 2023, (Thursday)

Time – 11.00 AM

On the occasion of International Women's Day, a one-day National Workshop on "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality" was organized on March 02, 2023, by the Center for Women's Studies, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur. Connecting and educating women online about technological advancements is crucial for highlighting digital innovations and closing the gender gap. Digitization, which is the primary focus of digital literacy, is the most essential skill required for the empowerment of women creating opportunities in academics, financial markets, and entrepreneurship for women. The programme opened various avenues of enhancing the digital skills and technological innovations of digitalization.

Inaugural Session-

The program was inaugurated at 11.00 and it started with the lighting of lamp before Goddess Saraswati .It was followed by the Kulgeet of Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, after which the guests were welcomed by presenting them small plants. Around 150 students registered for the workshop.

Welcome address was delivered by Prof. Reeta Venugopal, Director , Centre for Women's Studies, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University. She emphasized that skill development and digital awareness plays a crucial role in the overall development of any society besides positively impacting the daily lives of women and creates a wide range of opportunities for women. She talked about the contributions of women in the various fields like sports, academics and business. She also highlighted about the representation of women in all the departments on our university creating a impact and positive note for the society and future generations.

Ms. Sonali Jha, CEO and Founder, Cunomial Technologies, Bangalaoe was the key note speaker . She talked about her mission to empower women in tech and provide them with economic access. She said that the Women in Cloud Initiative is a community-led economic

development organization that helps to generate new global economic access for women entrepreneurs by 2030 through partnerships with corporations, community leaders, and policy makers. The Women in Cloud Initiative is led in collaboration with industry and community partners such as Microsoft, M12 - Microsoft's Venture Capital Fund, Accenture, Hitachi Solutions, Insight, Boeing, Meylah, and more.

This was followed by the address by Ms. Heena Animesh Netam, Joint Secretary of Higher Education, Chhattisgarh. She talked about the role of education and skill development for women empowerment.

Prof. Shail Sharma, Head, SoS in literature & Languages and Dean of Arts faculty was the chairperson of the inaugural ceremony. In her address she encouraged the students to come forward and enhance their skills and prepare themselves to become valuable contributors of the society. She encouraged women to empower themselves through education.

Women's Day is the day to acknowledge the achievements of the women champions of various fields. In this regard, women achievers of all the departments of Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur in the field of academics, sports, cultural were facilitated. The token of appreciation was sponsored by Srijansheel Vidushi Maliha Bahuudeshiya Sahkari Samity. 18 female students were facilitated for their excellence in the field of academics, 2 for sports, 3 for cultural activities and 1 for social work. 2 members of Srijansheel Vidushi Maliha Bahuudeshiya Sahkari Samity were felicitated for their social work. Ms. Anita Toppo Senior Assistant Programmer, SoS in Computer Science was facilitated for her contributions for imparting digital training and computer education as "Digital Woman".

Dr. Shailendra Kumar Patel, Registrar, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur gave his address to the house and congratulated all the women achievers for their remarkable contributions. He extended his support and cooperation as the administrative head of the university to all the deserving women students of the university. He said that it's a matter of pride that many departments of the university have female professors holding the post of Head of the department. He acknowledged and appreciated the various women-centric work done by Centre for Women's studies over the years. With this inaugural session came to an end which was followed by four technical sessions.

Technical Session

In the first technical session Ms. Sonali Jha, CEO & Founder, Cunomial Technologies, Bangalore, talked on Growth strategies with entrepreneurship pertaining 'Exceptional performance'. She emphasized that the focus on gender equity needs to be part of every society's DNA, and the aim of the campaign is to get the world talking about "Why equal opportunities aren't enough.". She further said that growing inequalities are becoming increasingly evident in the context of digital skills and access to technologies, with women being left behind as the result of this digital gender divide. The need for inclusive and transformative technology and digital education is therefore crucial for a sustainable future and is needed to harness the potential of technology and innovation to accelerate progress on the 2030 Agenda and the sustainable development goals.

In the second technical session Ms. Sonali Guha ,Cyber Forensic Expert ,Managing Director Technoking Group, Chhattisgarh& Mr. Ayush Guha ,Cyber Forensic Expert & Ethical hacker Chhattisgarh gave their presentation on “Awareness about Cyber Security and Ethical Hacking”. They explained the ways to to increase the cybersecurity and keep your information safe.They suggested that cyber security could be achieved by choosing our passwords wisely, by the use multi-factor authentication, one should know how to identify a phishing attack,updatingthe software regularly is equally important and one should stay aware of threats. They shared the help line systems to report the cyber crime. They suggested measures to avoid getting hacked while using social media platforms.

In the third technical session Promoter Director Dhavala Group, Chhattisgarh talked about “Women Entrepreneurship and steps for starting business, entire e-commerce sites, and about business managing technology". She shared her story of becoming an successful entrepreneur .She taught the basics of entrepreneurship and suggested ways for start ups.

In the fourth session Mrs. Srilata Dhawala, and Ms. Sunita talked about “Training & support for Women Entrepreneurship & Startup ”. Prof. Aditi Niyogi Poddar gave the concluding remarks of the technical sessions at the end. In all the event was a big success.

