



WOMEN'S MANIFESTO

A women's initiative for women empowerment and social welfare

Newsletter

Issue: 01

There is light at the end of the tunnel...

The idea of the 'Women's Manifesto' was conceived by a handful of young women who strongly felt for the cause of humanity in general and women in particular, at a time when the violation of the rights of women was ever in increase, in its variety and intensity. The public remained mere spectators with not many crying loud foul. They experienced a vacuum in the environment, emptiness in the air. They spent sleepless nights together, shared their concerns, patted and consoled each other and pondered over the need for being together at the time of turmoil. They resolved to dedicate themselves for the cause of humanity, and more specifically the cause of women, without whom there is no existence of humanity. They had no barriers of region, religion, caste or creed to stop them from the mission. They put their time, effort and resources together, and reached out in their own way to support the women in distress and join hands with other activists in the field in solidarity with the cause. A few steps moved ahead, they realized the need to formally set-up an organization and ensure the sustenance of their efforts through generations. The name 'Women's Manifesto' is self – explanatory of the uniqueness and universality and relevance of the spirit which guide them. Yes, the initiative has not crossed its infancy. But they do experience the pleasure of being able to stand on their own, move forward one or two steps with confidence, and strive to make their own mark in the history of women empowerment in their own way. The journey continues. More and more dedicated volunteers will join this caravan. Indeed, there is light at the end of the tunnel...

President
Swaliha CA

Women's Day 2014

On International Women's Day, Women's Manifesto organised women's gathering and launching of women managed guidance, counselling, legal aid and skill development program at Jamia Nagar, New Delhi on 8th March 2014.



“Young women should come forward as agent of women empowerment and social change” said Mrs. Ishrat Begum while inaugurating the program. Other guests who spoke on the occasion include Mrs. Shahista, President Jamaat-e-Islami Hind Women Wing, Delhi and Haryana, Dr. Anees Khatoon, Senior Secondary School, Jamia Millia Islamia, and Nagma Parveen, President Jamaat-e-Islami Hind Women Wing, South Delhi. Program started with welcome speech of Swaliha, President of Women's Manifesto, Mrs Shabnam Saifi presided over the function. Mrs Sharnas Muthu, General Secretary explained role of women in present social structure and need of women managed centre for Counselling, Guidance, Coaching, Skill Development, Legal Aid and Research. Program concluded with a vote of thanks by Mrs. Nikhath, Treasurer of the organisation

From the editorial desk...

The editorial board of Women's Manifesto takes immense pleasure in releasing the first issue of its Newsletter. The issue covers our journey till date, as an organization. Women's Manifesto is an initiative by some dedicated young women who aim to build a strong network of women and support each other in the process of becoming self-reliant. The organization is just a few years old, and has been registered as a society. Within this short span of time, organization could take some baby steps to address important issues such as women's education, career counselling of young girls, women entrepreneurship, and accommodation for girls in need. This could not be possible without the help of some volunteers and individuals who extended their wholehearted support to us. We'll always be in need of your support to expand our programmes in future and make them a success.

This Newsletter is our new initiative to communicate ourselves and disseminate our manifesto to the society. The editions which will unfold in future will reveal more reports, findings and information. We hope this will be turned to be a magazine in the near future. We also hope that we will get support from every one to make this in-house production as meaningful as possible.

Admission Orientation

Admission Orientation cum Workshop was conducted at the headquarters of Women's Manifesto in New Delhi on 12th April 2014. Program aimed to assist girls in getting admission for various courses of different universities and capacity building of volunteers of different universities by



sharing latest information on various courses, admission process and facilities of all universities and institutions. Mrs. Haseena KV, Noorunnisa, Thasni, and Mrs. Shruti Dalela, introduced about Delhi University, JNU, JAMIA and IGNOU respectively. Girls and their mothers attended the program along with volunteers. Mrs. Swaliha, President of Women's Manifesto declared that the organization will provide all support including arrangement of accommodation facility to girls to ensure their admission in different major universities of National Capital.

Participation in Jamia Neighbourhood Program

Representatives of Women's Manifesto, Mis. Noorunnisa and Mis. Thasni participated in the NGO capacity building program conducted by Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. This program is sponsored by UGC through Central Universities for development of its neighbouring community through neighbouring NGOs.

Career Guidance

A Career Guidance Program was conducted on 7th May 2014 at Jamia Millia Islamia Senior Secondary School for girls of 12th standard. Program started with motivational class of Mrs. Sharnas Muthu on career planning and goal setting.



Various courses and institutions were introduced to students by Mrs. Shruti Dalela. Most of the students out of the 100 participants interacted with experts and expressed



their gratitude for conducting such a useful program for their career development.

Educate Women = Educate Society

This program is intended to help girls, ladies and homemakers, who could not attain their educational dream due to personal, family and social problems. Organisation provides assistance / arrange special coaching for such candidates to complete their education through online or regular stream. A few girls were assisted to get readmission for studies in school and college level.

Social & Environmental Intervention

Team of Women's Manifesto visited Mrs. Jaseera, who protested at Jantarmandar against sand mafia. Organisation supported her struggle to protect environment and her demand to formulate mechanism to implement Coastal Regulation zone rules. Our volunteers extended whole hearted support to Jaseera and her children in fulfilment of their personal



needs during her strike at Delhi. Organisation participated in her sendoff gathering held at Jantar Mantar in January 2014 and distributed school bags to her daughters to inspire them for the study immediately after reaching back to home.

Accommodation Facilitation

The organisation facilitates for temporary accommodation for girls and their parents reaching Delhi for education, job etc. During the last year this support was extended to nearly hundred persons by providing nominal contribution toward the maintenance cost.

Children's Corner

Office premise is also utilised for gathering and more education of children in the neighbourhood under an NGO working for welfare of students.

Resource Development Program

Human resource development is an important area where the organisation would like to contribute much more with its well qualified members and volunteers. This program intended to make available sufficient resource persons within the organisation and society to guide and assist women community. Our executive member participated in the trainers training program on "Legislative Procedure" conducted by Women's Initiative in Development" in July 2014 to create political awareness among women. Now we are having our own resource persons for various topics such as legal aid, career guidance and political awareness.

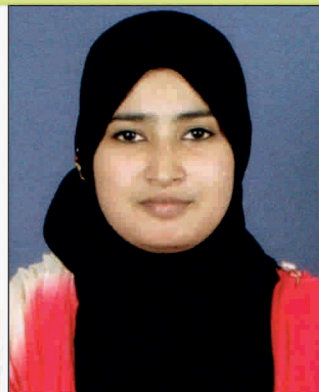
Award and Honouring

A reception was arranged to "National Award to Teacher 2014" winner Mrs. Safiya Shamsudheen at our Delhi office.

We are proud of our members Ms. Thasni and Ms. Femina who got gold medal in M.A. Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Another member from our organisation, Ms. Sana Parveen secured second rank in M.A. Social Work from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. We felicitate Ms. Thasni and Ms. Femina for sharing first rank by obtaining same mark, and Ms. Sana Parveen for securing second rank.



Mrs. Thasni CT got gold medal in MA Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi



Mrs. Femina TK got gold medal in MA Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.



Miss Sana Parveen secured second rank in MA Social Work from Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

Human Right Advocacy and Research

Women's Manifesto team visited gang rape victims and their villagers who are conducting indefinite Dharna in Jantar mantar from April 2014. These strike started as a consequence of not taking necessary action by authority against the culprits who jointly raped four Dalit girls in the Bhagana village of Haryana. Considering the gender and social aspects of the incident Human right activists, Dalit activists, Women activists and some other social and political movements are



supporting the protest. Women's Manifesto join the protest for want of justice to the victims. Our research and documentation team collect information to bring women's concerns to the policy makers for improved legislation and better implementation of justice delivery system.

Entrepreneurship Development Program

This program helps ladies to identify their potential and gain financial independence through self-initiatives as well as through self-help groups. Organization could take initiatives



to start one such Self Help Group of ladies specialised in making and supplying homely snacks for functions and parties. It was launched on April 2014.

Women's Manifesto stall was arranged in JIH Delhi & Haryana State Conference held at Jamia Nagar, New Delhi on 7th December 2014. Stall focussed on introducing the concept and scope of Self Help Group among women visitors through colash, brochure, products and services available in the stall. Food products including snacks and paper card were the major attractions.

Women Entrepreneurship Survey

A survey was conducted among women entrepreneurs participating in the India International Trade Fair 2014 which is organised with the theme "women



empowerment". 10 member team of the organisation interacted with women entrepreneurs participating in the fair using a pre-scheduled questionnaires to understand their motive, experience, uniqueness and future plan.

Relief and Rehabilitation

A team of our organisation including President and General Secretary visited the Burmese refugees' camp at Madanpur Khadar in New Delhi. Team interacted with girls and women in the camp. Team identified that the condition of the members in the camp especially women are very pathetic. We decided to provide possible help to fulfil their day to day needs as human being. Our volunteers participated in relief work sponsored by philanthropists in this camp.

- **Editorial Board:** Sana Parveen, Nadiya Abdul Rasheed, Sharnas Muthu, Shabnam Saifi

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