



## HIRALAL BHAKAT COLLEGE

ESTD:-1986

NALHATI, BIRBHUM, WEST BENGAL, PIN.-731220

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### REPORT OF ONE DAY SEMINAR ON WOMEN TRAFFICKING ON 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2016

Hiralal Bhakat College, Nalhati, organized a one day seminar on ‘**Women’s Trafficking: A Call to Action for Everyone**’ on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2016, in Room Number 18 of the college. The Seminar was held by the Gender Cell in collaboration with IQAC of Hiralal Bhakat College. All interested teachers and students were invited to join the seminar.

The dignitaries on the dais were **Prof. Debabrata Saha**, Honourable Teacher In Charge of Hiralal Bhakat College, eminent social worker **Smt. Anchita Ghatak** , and **Shri Tushar Kanti Talukdar** , former Commissioner of Police, Kolkata.

The programme started at 10.30 AM with inaugural song by students of Third Year. Opening remarks and introduction of the seminar were given by Dr . Suddhasattwa Banerjee, coordinator of IQAC of the college. It was followed by presentation of bouquet of flowers and traditional shawl to the dignitaries on the dais by the students.

The seminar had an auspicious start with welcome address by Honourable Teacher In Charge, Prof Debabrata Saha. In his address, he spoke about the importance of raising awareness about human trafficking. He laid stress on the need of socio-economic improvement of women and education at the grass root level to combat the issue. In his speech he talked about a multipronged approach of prevention, protection, prosecution and rehabilitation in order to empower women and reduce their vulnerability.

The keynote address of the seminar was delivered by eminent social activist Smt. Anchita Ghatak. In her thought provoking lecture she shed light on the heinous crime traps that force countless women and girls in forced labour and sexual exploitation, that shatter their dreams and rob them of their fundamental rights. She also spoke about the need of empowering communities through education,

*Anchita Ghatak*



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awareness campaigns and workshops, and providing women with economic opportunities to reduce their vulnerability to trafficking. She spoke about strengthening family support systems of women as they can act as a safety net and prevent the desperation of driving women into the clutches of traffickers. Lastly she addressed to the issue of gender inequality and the need to combat deep-rooted patriarchal norms of our society that enable such evil to prosper.

The next speaker of the seminar was Shri Tushar Kanti Talukdar, former Commissioner of Police (Kolkata), who was also the special guest in the seminar. He began by talking about experiences and observations he collected in his long impactful career. He spoke about the need of establishing more stringent anti trafficking laws with harsher penalties. He put special stress on ensuring effective implementation of the said laws and swift prosecution of offenders. He said that equipping law enforcement officers and social workers with specialized training to identify and combat traffickers was a crucial part of the fight against trafficking of women.

The seminar was concluded by Amrita Biswas, Convenor of the Gender Cell of Hiralal Bhakat College who spoke about raising awareness on the issue and ended the seminar with a vote of thanks. Apart from teachers of various faculties and non-teaching staff of the college, the seminar was also attended by 50 female and 30 male students.

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