

# Refresher Course in Gender Studies Concludes at UGC-HRDC, University of Kashmir



KU 25<sup>th</sup> January: A two-week long interdisciplinary Refresher Course in Gender Studies concluded on Saturday at UGC-HRDC, University of Kashmir. Course was attended by a total of 40 Assistant Professors belonging to various colleges and universities of the Kashmir valley. Valedictory function of the course was held today at UGC-HRDC that was chaired by Prof. Nilofer Khan, Incharge Vice-Chancellor, University of Kashmir. Speaking at this occasion Prof. Nilofer Khan, Course Coordinator stated that the objectives of this course were to create awareness and better understanding about the notion of patriarchy, concept of feminism, gender justice and equality and its inter-linkages with other socio-political institutions like caste, class, religion and state. Prof. Nilofer Khan hoped that the participants would utilize the knowledge acquired through this course in their personal as well as official life and would contribute their bit in addressing the related issues at the societal, institutional, community, national as well as international level.

Prof. Shabir Ahmad Bhat, Director, UGC-HRDC, University of Kashmir in his address stated that the idea behind organizing this course was to make the participants understand the nuances of gender justice and its significance in the contemporary world so that they could spread awareness among their students and the society against systemic gender discrimination of

all sorts. He emphasized that the participants of the course were provided with a platform where they could freely discuss the issues related to gender discrimination, women empowerment and emancipation that in turn could help them contribute towards a knowledge system and pedagogy free from all kinds of gender stereotypes. Prof. Shabir also hoped that the course will sensitize the participants effectively towards gender justice and power relations defining the male and female relationship in a socio-cultural context.

Assistant Coordinator, Dr. Muzamil Jan of the Institute of Home Sciences stated that a faculty member who values, practices and espouses gender equality would definitely inspire his/her students to make their career decisions in an unbiased and confident manner. Dr. Muzamil Jan gave details of the resource persons invited and the topics related to gender studies covered during the two week long course that had commenced on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Coordinator, UGC-HRDC, University of Kashmir, Dr. Mohammad Ishaq Geer conducted the proceedings of the session and proposed vote of thanks. He hoped that the course will be helpful to the participants in future in designing a gender-sensitive curriculum and teaching-learning process that in turn would be instrumental in bringing about positive social change towards an egalitarian society.