

Gender Equity

The term gender refers to the economic, social and cultural attributes and opportunities associated with being male or female. In most societies, being a man or a woman is not simply a matter of different biological and physical characteristics. Men and women face different expectations about how they should dress, behave or work. Relations between men and women, whether in the family, the work place or the public sphere, also reflect understandings of the talents, characteristics and behavior appropriate to women and men. Gender thus differs from sex in that it is social and cultural in nature rather than biological. Gender attributes and characteristics, encompassing, inter alia, the roles that men and women play and the expectations placed upon them, vary widely among societies and change overtime. But the fact that gender attributes are socially constructed means that they are also amenable to change in ways that can make a society more just and equitable.

Gender equity is the process of being fair to women and men. To ensure fairness, strategies and measures must often be available to compensate for women's historical and social disadvantages that prevent women and men from otherwise operating on a level playing field. Gender equality required equal enjoyment by women and men of socially – valued goods, opportunities, resources and rewards. Where gender inequality exists, it is generally women who are excluded or disadvantaged in relation to decision –making and access to economic and social resources. Therefore a critical aspect of promoting gender equality is the empowerment of women, with a focus on identifying and redressing power imbalances and giving women more autonomy to manage their own lives.

Women Empowerment Cell is established in the college on order from the then Commissioner of Collegiate Education, Andhra Pradesh in December 2012 to redress the historic power imbalance between men and women. The cell is established with an objective to sensitize girl students on gender issues, create awareness about their rights accorded in the constitution, enhance and inculcate life skills to face varied situations in life and to impart knowledge to withstand competition and to prove their metal, to redress the grievances of girl students and thereby to attain gender equity.

The Women Empowerment Cell plans its activities before the commencement of the academic year keeping in view the above said objectives. The activities of the cell are planned in such a way that they neither overburden the students not create a hitch with the other academic activities of the institute. The cell undertakes broadly sensitization and awareness programmes, skill enhancement development programmes, career advancement programmes and personality development programmes.

Every year after the commencement of academic year anti ragging and gender sensitization programme is undertaken for the benefit of fresher's to the college in particular and girls students in general. Police officials also attend to the programme and address the students. Senior faculty members advice students about the hygiene and its importance in their personal life and in maintenance of the campus cleanliness.

The cell organizes seminars on issues related to gender by inviting resource persons from university and institutes of higher education. The cell organized a seminar on “Women's Rights – prospects and Challenges” in 2017, “growing Violence against Women- Causes and challenges” in 2018, “Gender Inequality----- Issues and

challenges". Besides the cell celebrated constitutional Day on 26.11.19, where in students enacted a skit depicting the rights of citizens in general and women in particular.

The women empowerment cell organizes workshop to enhance skills of girl students. It organized "jewels making workshop", "Disaster management workshop" and "Handicrafts making workshop" in last three years.

The cell organizes food festival, Rangoli competitions, and Mehendi competitions in the month of January every year on eve of 'Sankranti' to promote cultural values among the students. Besides they are imparted with career counseling. In 2018, P.Tulasi secured 5 lakh rupees cash award from the then Chief Minister of the state in Elocution competition. Every year number of girls secure admission in postgraduate courses and secure placements in the campus selections. This year also 21 girls secured ranks in AUCET, which enables them to seek admission in PG courses.

The Women empowerment cell also takes initiative to redress the grievances expressed by the girl students through counseling.

The college provides separate waiting hall for the girl students. Napkins vending machine and incinerator were installed in toilets keeping in view the health and hygiene of the students.

The women empowerment cell of the college undertakes above activities to attain gender equity and to move towards gender equality.