



# GOVERNMENT TRAINING COLLEGE, HOOGHLY

(Affiliated to BSAEU | Recognized by NCTE)

(Estd.: 1955)

Chawk Bazar, P. O. & Dist. Hooghly, P. S. Chinsurah

West Bengal – 712103

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## REPORT ON WEEK-LONG GENDER SENSITIZATION AWARENESS PROGRAMME

### Introduction:

A week-long Gender Sensitization Awareness programme was organized by the Trainees and the Teacher Educators of Government Training College, Hooghly on and from **15.12.2023** to **22.12.2023** as per NCTE guidelines with the aim of promoting a deeper understanding of gender issues, fostering inclusivity, encouraging positive changes in attitudes and behaviors and to stop Gender discrimination in the community.

### Objectives:

The primary objectives of the Gender Sensitization Awareness Programme were as follows:

- a. Increase awareness:** To raise awareness about gender-related issues and promote a better understanding of the complexities surrounding gender roles and identities.
- b. Foster inclusivity:** To create an inclusive and safe space for participants to discuss their experiences, challenges, and perceptions related to gender.
- c. Promote empathy:** To encourage empathy and understanding among participants, fostering a supportive environment that promotes gender equality.
- d. Challenge stereotypes:** To challenge and break down stereotypes and biases related to gender that contribute to discrimination and inequality.

### Activities:

**Film Screenings:** Two films, namely *Shwet Patharer Thala* (1992) directed by Prabhat Ray and *Chitrangada: The Crowning Wish* (2012) directed by Rituparno Ghosh were screened. The screening of films highlighting gender-related issues allowed participants to gain insights into real-

world challenges faced by various individuals and communities. The film by Prabhat Ray acts as an antidote to women's subalternity and suggests that tempered feminism is the only key to bring gradual transformation in societal thinking within patriarchal structures. And, ***Chitrangada: The Crowning Wish*** shows a mixed recognition of other gender with depiction of difficulties faced by other gender. Each film was followed by a discussion session to allow participants to share their thoughts and insights.

### **Cinema as a tool for promoting Gender Sensitization Awareness:**

Cinema is a powerful, revolutionary tool with the ability to shape and change the opinions of a targeted audience. It can also be a powerful medium for promoting gender sensitization by reflecting and influencing societal attitudes towards gender roles, stereotypes, and issues. Cinema has the ability to represent diverse and realistic portrayals of men and women and, also, other gender. Movies can address and bring attention to various gender-related issues such as gender inequality, discrimination, violence against women, and LGBTQ+ rights. This can help break down prejudices, challenge biases, and promote a better understanding of the challenges faced by individuals of different genders.

### **Conclusion:**

The week-long Gender Sensitization Awareness Programme served as a catalyst for positive change, fostering a more inclusive and equitable environment. It is imperative to continue such initiatives to create a society that values and respects the diversity of gender identities.

