

## Report on Observation of International Women's Day 2019

Like every year, Samaj Unnayan Kendra observed 8<sup>th</sup> March as International Women's Day, 2019 in its Fultala Baruipur Office Premises. The theme for International Women's Day 2019 was "Think equal, build smart and innovate for change".



SUK has been working in Sundarban and other outskirts, hard to reach area to serve the vulnerable since 1975 (registered in 1979). SUK has grown into a vibrant institution with various thematic divisions and units.

It is guided by its mission of Holistic & sustainable development in livelihood, health, nutrition, education and protection of poor & disadvantaged groups through skill building, knowledge sharing and transfer of technical knowhow.

Under the governance of distinguished persons, SUK has been serving towards vulnerable communities in the backward, disaster prone belt. Its core activities are in the areas of mentioned (in mission & vision statement) sectors. SUK reached out to over two million populations both directly and indirectly during its course of journey. It is a well recognized organization in State & National level and thus adhere to observe the important days like 8<sup>th</sup> March.



On that day famous persons & speakers like Prof. Ashokendu Sengupta, Chairman (Retd.) -WB State

Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Dr. Susmita Bhattacharya, Asst. Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Calcutta, Dr. Parveen Banu, Renowned Gynecologist and Activist in Menstrual Health issue, Ms. Sikha Banerjee, Principal-School of Nursing- Asia Heart Foundation (RTTICS), Ms. Anita Samanta- Vice Principal-

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School of Nursing- Asia Heart Foundation (RTTICS), Mr. Shantanu Mukherjee- Asst. Director, South 24 Pgs R.O., Consumer Affairs & Fair Business Practices, Mr. S. C .Sarkar – Rehab Officer- VRCH- Govt. of India, Mr. Shantimoy Chakraobarty- Chief



Functionary of Dinante, Mr. Pradip Barui (Ex. Dy. Director- West Bengal State Social Welfare Department), Mr. Nirmal Mandol – MLA- Baruipur East, Mr. Abu Taheer Sardar- Jana Swasthya Karmadhkhya- South 24 Pgs Zilla Parisad, Mr. Prakash Mandol – Siksha Karmadhkhya- South 24 Pgs Zilla Parisad, Mr. Ajoy Maity- Jana Swasthya Karmadhkhya- Baruipur Panchayet Samity, Mr. Shyamsundar Chakraborty- Vice Chairman- Baruipur Panchayet Samity, Mr. Shasanka Chakraborty, Mr. Bapi Banerjee, Mr. Kanai Das, Mr. Pranab Ganguly- Members- Ramnagar II Panchayet, Mr. Pritanu Mishra- Representative of Water for People, Mr. Asok Mandol- Representative of Mennonite Central Committee, Mr. Aneesh Basu- Representative of Raymond, Mr. Debasis Mandol- Chairman- Indo Webel Lens, social activists like Mrs. Ratna Mandol,



Ms. Sunita Kar, Mr. Amal Sen, Ms. . Sagarika De and the bright presence of Mr. **Bikaramjit Sen, Mr. Dibyaloke Roy Chowdhury and Mr. Avijit Kumar-** Representatives from **Acid Survivors & Women Welfare Foundation** were present to enrich this mission.

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Women lost their husbands due to tiger attack, girls/ women having disability, acid survivor, family discarded women, rescued girls/ women from trafficking were present among the audience.

The discussion based on the challenges, opportunities and exploring ideas for accelerated actions to empower and entitle to the rights for the girls and women in education, protection and health, thus creating friendly communities. The eminent speakers shared their views and thoughts on the theme and suggested actionable areas for cooperation.

How the society can advance gender equality and the empowerment of women, particularly in the areas of social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure- these were highlighted in during this programme.

SUK believes that the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires transformative shifts, integrated approaches and new solutions, particularly when it comes to advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls- this stands to observe this sort of valued days.

The last buzz words came out as ending violence against women, economic empowerment, governance & leadership.

**SUK is grateful to all participants, well wishers and all others who extended their cooperation and service to make this day meaningful and success.**