

Report on the Lecture Organized by the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) on the POSH Act

On the occasion of International Women's Day (8th March 2025) a programme was organized jointly by the Women Cell and the Internal Complaint Cell of the college in which students and staff participated enthusiastically. The chief guest for the celebration was Dr. Bhupinder Singh Thakur, Principal Govt. College Theog. The programme began by the formal welcome of the chief guest and the resource person by the convener of Women Cell Dr. Nidhi Dhatwalia.

As a part of the celebration various activities spreading the message of equality, empowerment, progress and respect for women in all spheres were organized to engage students creatively and meaningfully. These activities included Poster making, Poetic recitation, Presentations and cultural performances by the students in addition to the lecture on POSH Act by the legal expert. A lecture on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act, 2013 was delivered by Advocate Aditi Sharma, a legal associate(District Court Shimla) –an expert in civil cases focusing on matters related to property disputes and family law. The main objective of the lecture was to enhance awareness among students and staff regarding the issues of sexual harassment at work place and how POSH Act provides legal protection in such cases/ circumstances ensuring safe and secure working and learning atmosphere. Advocate Aditi commenced her session by explaining the theme for the International Women's Day (8th March 2025): "*For all Women and Girls: Rights Equality and Empowerment*". She asserted that the theme reminds us that every woman and girl regardless of her background deserves equal rights, opportunities and respect. Through her presentation titled "Women's Rights, Equality and Empowerment –Our collective Responsibility" she touched upon the various aspects such as - the Status of women in India-A Historical Perspective, Articles in the Indian Constitution on Equality and Women's Rights, Crime against women in India, Women's Rights and Legal Protection in India , Sexual Harassment at Workplace and POSH Act, Procedure to register a complaint, Challenges and stigma around filing such complaints ,Free legal aids for women and Women's responsibilities to break the stigma. She also elaborated on the historical background and the need for the POSH Act, referencing the landmark Vishaka Guidelines that laid the foundation for the legislation. She concluded her session by sharing some inspiring case studies of Women's empowerment – highlighting the contribution of women like Savitribai Phule, Kiran Bedi, Mary Kom, and Droupadi Murmu who changed the history. The lecture concluded with an engaging question–answer segment, during which participants sought clarity on various aspects of the Act, including preventive measures and punitive actions.

The session was highly interactive, with students and faculty actively participating in discussions. The chief guest for the programme, Dr. Bhupinder Singh Thakur , appreciated the efforts of the students and the members of ICC for the highly informative, entertaining and engaging International Women's Day Celebration. The ICC expressed gratitude to advocate Aditi for her enlightening and empowering presentation, which significantly enhanced the participants' understanding of their rights and responsibilities. The programme ended with a vote of thanks to the chief guest and the resource person by the convener ICC Dr. Raksha Kalta.





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महिला सशक्तिकरण और महिलाओं के अधिकारों पर की विस्तृत चर्चा



ठियोग। राजकीय महाविद्यालय ठियोग में शनिवार को अंतरराष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस मनाया गया। यह आयोजन वुमेन सैल तथा इंटरनल कंप्लेंट सेल के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में आयोजित किया गया, जिसका संयोजन डॉ. निधि धतवालिया व डॉ. रक्षा काल्टा ने किया। प्राचार्य डॉ. भूपिंदर सिंह ठाकुर मुख्य अतिथि के रूप में उपस्थित रहे। समारोह की स्रोतविद एडवोकेट अदिति शर्मा रहीं, जिन्होंने महिला सशक्तिकरण और महिलाओं के वैधानिक अधिकारों पर विस्तृत जानकारी साझा की।

Dr. Raksha Kalta

Convener ICC

Principal

Govt. College Theog