



REPORT ON

AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON GENDER INEQUALITY

An awareness programme titled "Driving Gender Equality" was organized by the Internal Compliance Committee (ICC), Lumding College on 18/03/2023. The resource person being invited for the occasion was Shri Ashish Dey, Secretary and Chief Executive Officer, Ghoroa (NGO).

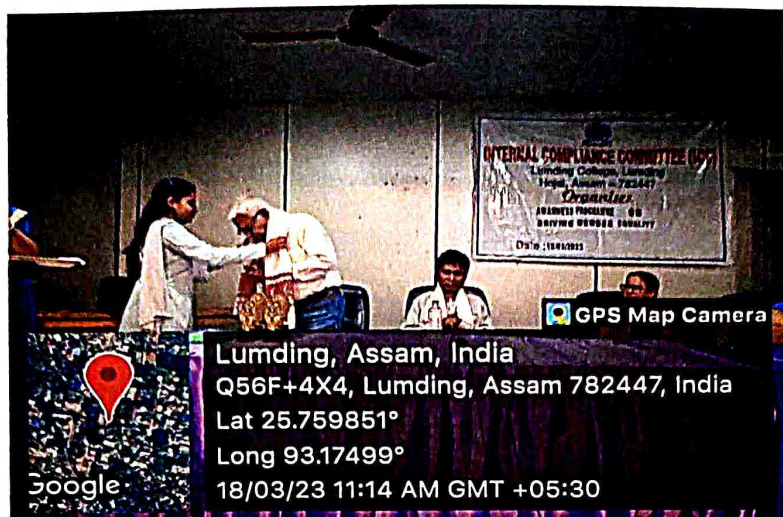


The programme, hosted by Dr. Onkita Misra from the Department of Bengali, started with formation of the dais wherein the invited speaker, Mr. Ashish Dey, Principal of the College, Dr. Mrinal Kanti Paul, Dr. Gitanjali Nath, Associate Professor from the Department of Assamese and Dr. Nibedita Dutta, Associate Professor from the Department of Geology were invited over to the stage to take their respective seats. It was followed by the felicitation of dignitaries with the assamese traditional gamusa.



From left: Mr. Ashish Dey, Dr. Mrinal Kanti Paul, Dr. Gitanjali Nath and Dr. Nibedita Dutta.





Felicitation of the invited guest.

Next, Dr. Mrinal Kanti Paul was invited over to speak a few words on the occasion. In his speech, Dr. M.N. Paul welcomed the speaker and appreciated the Internal Compliance Committee for taking up the initiative to organize the programme. He further spoke on the importance of organizing these kind of awareness programmes in today's days and age when discrimination based on gender continues to grow.

After the speech by the Principal Dr. M.N. Paul, the convenor of Internal Compliance Committee, Dr. Jahnabi Das Bhattacharjee was asked to speak a few words on the occasion. She started her speech stating how one of the important aspects of a democratic society is the elimination of gender discrimination and that the root cause of this vigorous disease is the stereotypical society itself. When a child is born, the discrimination begins; if the child is male, he is given a car, bat and ball with blue, and red colour clothes, whereas when a child is female, she is given barbie dolls with pink clothes. She further stated how we all are raised with a mentality that boys are good at sports and messy, but girls are not good at sports and are well organised. This discriminatory mentality has a deeper impact when girls are told not to work while boys are allowed to do much work. She also highlighted how this discriminatory behaviour in society leads to hatred, injustice and much more. This gender discrimination is evident in every woman's life at the workplace, in educational institutions, in sports, etc., where young girls and women are deprived of their rights and undervalued. She ended her speech saying that this major issue prevailing in society can be solved only by providing equality to women and giving them all rights as given to men.





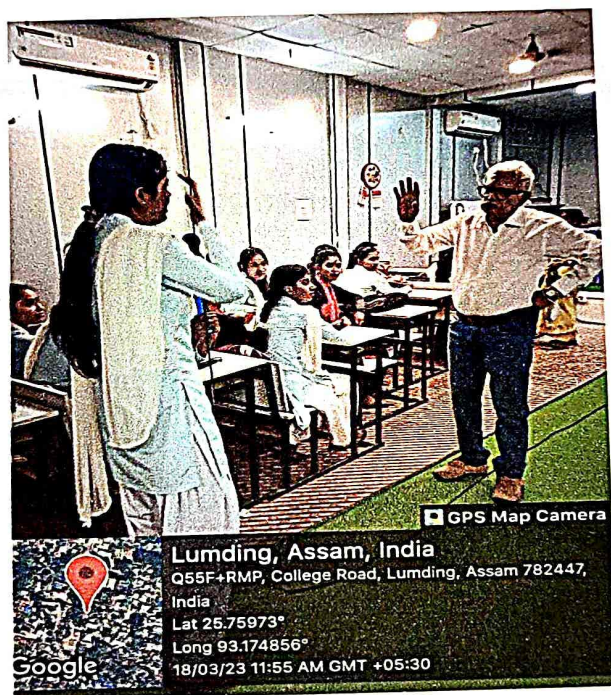
Dr. Jahnabi Das during her speech.

After the speech by Dr. Jahnabi Das Bhattacharjee, the invited speaker, Ashish Dey, was handed over the mic. In a very interactive session with the audience, Mr. Dey started off with asking what gender is. After listening to the responses from the audience, he spoke about the difference between biological sex and gender, which is socially constructed. Gender refers to the characteristics of women, men, girls and boys that are socially constructed. This includes norms, behaviours and roles associated with being a woman, man, girl or boy, as well as relationships with each other. He further spoke about how gender inequality and discrimination faced by women and girls puts their health and well-being at risk. Women and girls often face greater barriers than men and boys to accessing health information and services. These barriers include restrictions on mobility; lack of access to decision-making power; lower literacy rates; discriminatory attitudes of communities and healthcare providers; and lack of training and awareness amongst healthcare providers and health systems of the specific health needs and challenges of women and girls. Moreover, he stated, rigid notions of masculinity, wherein boys are expected to remain strong or may encourage boys and men to smoke, take sexual and other health risks, misuse alcohol and not seek help or health care. Such gender norms also contribute to boys and men perpetrating violence – as well as being subjected to violence themselves. They can also have grave implications for their mental health. He ended his speech talking about how rigid gender norms also negatively affect people with diverse gender identities, who often face violence, stigma and discrimination as a result, including in healthcare settings. Consequently, they are at higher risk of HIV and mental health problems, including suicide.





Mr. Ashish Dey while addressing the audience.



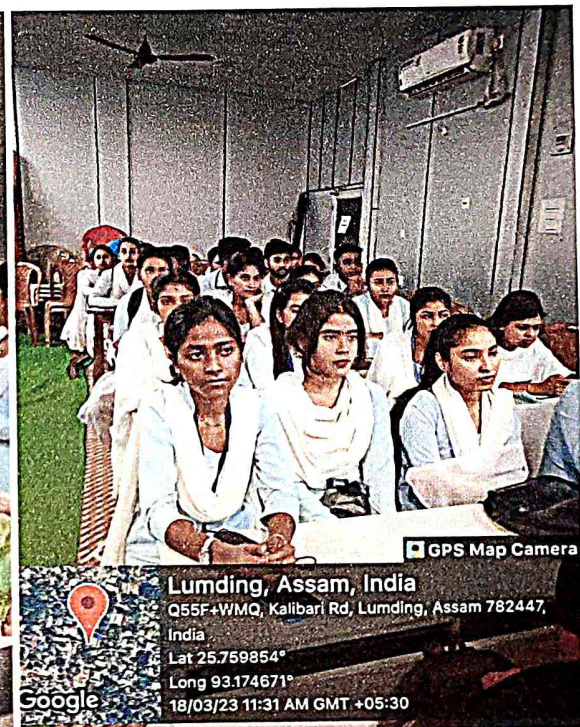
During interaction with students.

After the speech by the invited speaker, Mr. Ashish Dey, there was a dance performance by a group of students from the dance group “Murchana” of the cultural and literary club of Lumding college. The programme ended with a Vote of Thanks by Mrs. Reeta Das, from the Department of Education.





Dance performance by MURCHANA.



Report prepared by:
Rapporteur Group, IQAC,



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Lumding College



Signature

1. Mrs. Seema Nath (Convener)
2. Mrs. Antara Choudhury (Member)
3. Ms. Sudhangshu Priya Bharati (Member)
4. Ms. Sampurna Bora (Member)
5. Ms. Deborah Daolagupu (Member)
6. Dr. Jahnabi Das (Member)
7. Ms. Chandrawali Goswami (Member)

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A. Choudhury
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