

## Introduction

On 6th December 2023, 4 students of Cotton University from the Centre for Women's Studies were assigned with a **field visit/workshop** to **New Guwahati Adarsha High School, Guwahati Assam**, with an aim to orient and raise awareness among the students on Gender-Based Violence, by mainly focusing on **Violence against Women**. This is an annual UN mandated initiative to contain Gender violence.

Every year the UN releases a theme on **Violence against Women and Girls** where 16 days Activism is carried out in different institutes with various activities and campaigns.

This year's theme was:

**UNITE! Invest to prevent violence against women & girls. #NO EXCUSE.**

**CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES**

COTTON UNIVERSITY

Activism against Gender- Based Violence  
" 16 Days Activism"  
25th Nov-10th Dec,2023

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN STOPS HERE

UN MANDATED GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

STOP VIOLENCE

BREAK THE SILENCE

In collaboration with New Adarsha Vidyalaya High School, New Guwahati, Railway Colony Guwahati, Assam -781021

DATE:06/12/2023 TIME:12.30PM  
VENUE:NEW ADARSHA HIGH SCHOOL

UNITE FOR WOMEN





### **Trip Objective**

The main objective of conducting a field trip/campaign for students was to reinforce experiential and contextual learning. The programme was conducted in order to raise awareness and take preventive steps against Gender Based Violence in society and more importantly, to gain insight about the

younger generation's perspectives and understanding of gender, gender studies, gender-based violence, and how women and girls are the most vulnerable group towards violence.

### **Field Observation:**

We were introduced to the School by our HOD, Professor Rakhee Kalita Moral and Dr.Pooja Chetry. We are very thankful to them for giving us this wonderful opportunity.

The students who carried out the fieldwork/campaign at New Guwahati Adarsha High School were Mamushree Kakati, Alakananda Ghatak, Spreeha Baishya, and Bornisha Hazarika.

We reached the school at the given time which was 12.00 noon and then we were welcomed by the authorities, teachers as well as the Principal. We had a brief conversation with the Principal regarding the Campaign. We were very happy by his response towards the campaign as he was very delighted by the objectives of the campaign and also mentioned about having more such events in the near future to enlighten the students. And make the students vigilant citizens from an early age.

We were then guided by Binita Ma'am ( Binita Deka) a senior science teacher from the school who was very friendly and supportive throughout the whole campaign. where the staff assisted us in setting everything up in order to make the event a success. We then arranged everything as per the workshop schedule. The event was attended by all 85 pupils and 8 faculty members . After a comprehensive conversation among four of us, we began the programme by displaying our PowerPoint presentation, and then at 12:45 p.m., we began our event with an introduction by Bornisha, who thanked the Principal, teachers' authorities, and students for their valuable time.

- **Introduction** Our motive was to successfully accomplish the goals of our campaign by briefing on Gender based violence. Mamushree spoke on gender, gender studies, gender-based violence, the gender spectrum, LGBTQIA+, masculinity, and femininity, while Alakananda spoke about feminism, feminist movements, and violence against women and girls. Spreeha proceeded to work on women's movements, women's empowerment, and legal aid.
- **Question & Answer Round** And after the detailed introduction, we had a question and answer round in which every student actively participated, and we gave chocolates to the students who answered. Each response was followed by a more detailed explanation of the topic while enabling them to gain a broader understanding of the topics on Gender, Violence, and subsequent steps to be taken in order to constrain the violence.
- **Interaction Session** Then, Mamushree commenced with an engagement session in which she explained why the campaign was conducted in the educational institution, and what was their major objective behind hosting the event. Following that, we awarded chocolates to those who responded, and virtually everyone gave right responses, giving us the obvious notion that the kids were now aware of the drive behind the campaign, which was a positive response for us. The following session was a documentary session in which we exhibited a video on domestic violence, mental abuse, and physical assault perpetrated by a woman's spouse after their marriage. Afterwards, we had another round of engagement session, to which all of the children responded really well.
- **Documentary** Then, gradually, Mamushree began to explain the documentary, asking important questions from the movie and giving them an understanding about violence against women and girls and the other sorts of violence in the society. We stated different examples where we educated them about recognizing violence and all the actions that they can take against the wrong doings.

In the meantime, Alakananda and Spreeha carried on by presenting different instances of Violence:

#### **Sexual Harassment at Workplace;**

**Institutional Violence;**  
**Cyber Violence;**  
**Mental abuse (bullying, eve-teasing, etc);**  
**Rape.**

And then asked collective answers while explaining them about the wrong practices.

- At the end of the campaign, we held two major events:
- The Quiz Competition, which included three awards for three questions alone. The participant who raised their hand first would get a chance to answer and would then win if their response was accurate. And we were pleased to see the brilliant children actively participating. Their eagerness astounded us. The three presents contained objects that would inspire them to have a better future. After that, we posed queries at random and awarded chocolates to those who answered them.
- Finally, we had a feedback form (questionnaire) that was handed to 85 kids, and they all filled it out and gave us a very positive response.

After the **Campaign**, we discovered that they had an encouraging attitude and were aware of violence against women and girls. The campaign inspired them to band together in order to combat against gender-based violence.

We were also given refreshments, and the teachers assisted us throughout the event. We finished with a picture session with the lovely students and instructors.







### **Conclusion**

Our journey came to an end about 3:00 p.m. It is possible to infer that the field workshop/campaign was a success, and we considered that our goals were met.

Because the sessions were dynamic, reciprocal, and vociferous on both sides, and overall highly responsible. Interaction amongst pupils occurred, and the overall outcome was extremely satisfactory and cooperative. The feedback form (questionnaire) had an enthusiastic response, and their excitement to be a part of what we had accomplished on the day was palpable.

We learned a lot from this campaign, including **teamwork, time management, public speaking, cooperation**, and so on.

Overall, it's been a fantastic and really good learning and teaching experience.





