School of Medical and Allied Sciences (SMAS)

Report

On

Promoting Gender Equity and Sensitization

Date: 28 April 2025

Venue: B-Block, Room No. 120, First Floor

Event Type: Guest Session

Mode of Activity: Offline

Target Group: SMAS Students

Course: Social and Preventive Pharmacy (BP803T), Pharmaceutical Jurisprudence (BP 505T) & Social Pharmacy (ER20-11T)

Resource Person: Dr. Shobhna Jeet, Chairperson Gender Sensitization and Safety Committee, K.R. Mangalam University

Event Convenor: Prof. (Dr.) Hema Chaudhary, Dean SMAS

Event Coordinator: Dr. Saroj Yadav & Mr. Yash Jasoria (Assistant Professor, SMAS)

Organized by: School of Medical and Allied Sciences (SMAS)

Number of Participants: 24

INTRODUCTION

Gender equity and sensitization are foundational to building inclusive and progressive societies. Recognizing this, a dedicated session was organized to raise awareness, build empathy, and promote dialogue on gender-based issues, while aligning with the principles of Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5): Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. The session brought together students, faculty, and experts to foster understanding, challenge biases, and advocate for lawful and ethical equity practices.

OBJECTIVES

- To develop empathy and sensitivity towards gender issues among participants.
- To explain the concept and importance of gender sensitization and equity.
- To create awareness about existing gender-related laws and rights.
- To highlight the relevance and urgency of SDG 5 in the local and global context.

- To encourage active participation in promoting an inclusive environment on campus and beyond.

METHODOLOGY

The event began with a warm welcome address by Prof. (Dr.) Hema Chaudhary, Dean, School of Medical & Allied Sciences (SMAS), who emphasized the significance of gender sensitization in academic and professional spaces. She introduced the theme of the session and highlighted the need for students to cultivate empathy and become aware of their roles in ensuring a safe and inclusive environment.

Following her introduction, the key speaker, Dr. Shobhna Jeet, led a comprehensive and engaging session. Dr. Jeet sensitized the students by explaining critical concepts such as empathy, where she encouraged participants to understand and relate to others' experiences. She defined sensitization as the process of raising awareness about gender issues, emphasizing the significance of challenging existing stereotypes and fostering inclusivity. Dr. Jeet also explained the difference between gender equity and gender equality, stressing that equity is about providing fair treatment, opportunities, and access based on individual needs, while equality focuses on equal treatment for all. She further discussed the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (POSH Act), elaborating on the legal frameworks designed to protect individuals from harassment at the workplace.

During the session, SDG 5 (Sustainable Development Goal 5), which advocates for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, was highlighted as an essential global goal that ties into the discussions on legal rights and societal responsibilities.

Additionally, Dr. Jeet informed the participants about the Gender Sensitization Committee and the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) established within the institution to address complaints of sexual harassment, as mandated by the POSH Act. She explained the procedures for filing complaints, the support mechanisms available, and the importance of confidentiality. Suggestions were made for filing complaints, including the option for anonymous reporting, ensuring that victims feel secure and supported throughout the process. Dr. Jeet also emphasized the importance of these committees in upholding a safe and respectful environment for all.

OUTCOMES

- Gained a clear understanding of gender equity and its importance in creating fair opportunities.
- Developed empathy by understanding the perspectives and experiences of others regarding gender issues.
- Learned about the significance of gender sensitization in breaking stereotypes and fostering inclusivity.
- Acquired knowledge of gender-related laws, particularly the POSH Act, and their role in protecting individuals from harassment.
- Understood the importance of SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and how to actively contribute to its achievement.
- Gained awareness of institutional support systems like the Gender Sensitization Committee and Internal Complaints Committee (ICC).
- Felt motivated to take proactive action in promoting gender equality and creating safe, inclusive environments.

CONCLUSION

The session proved to be a meaningful and impactful experience for students, enabling them to gain a clear understanding of gender equity and the importance of fair opportunities for all. Through thought-provoking discussions and real-life examples, students developed a deeper sense of empathy and became more conscious of the societal biases surrounding gender. The concept of gender sensitization was effectively communicated, helping students recognize the need to challenge stereotypes and foster inclusive attitudes. Awareness about the POSH Act and the institutional mechanisms like the Gender Sensitization Committee and the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) empowered students to understand their rights and the procedures for seeking redressal. The emphasis on SDG 5 (Gender Equality) inspired students to align their actions with global goals and commit to building respectful and safe environments. Overall, the session motivated students to become proactive agents of change, promoting gender equality within their academic and social communities.

IMAGES



Image 1: Prof. (Dr.) Hema Chaudhary, Dean SMAS, addressing the gathering during session



Image 2: Dr. Shobhna Jeet, Guest Speaker, delivers the keynote address on Promoting Gender Equity and Sensitization



Image 3: Dr. Shobhna Jeet sensitized students about the roles of the Gender Sensitization Committee and the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC)