

REPORT

Netaji Subhas Open University conducted one day awareness programme on Provisions for Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights)Act 2019 and rules 2020 in collaboration with Jayaprakash Institute of Social Change and this program was supported by National Institute of Social Defence on 2nd December'24. The objective of the program was to sensitise and aware the student community about the plight of transgenders in our community and also about the social legislation which exist to protect the rights of the transgender persons of our society.

Participants where the students of social work from Netaji Subhas Open University and Vidyasagar School of Social Work, Salt Lake .The program was conducted in the seminar hall of Netaji Subhash Open University Salt Lake campus. The total participant were about 62 in number.



In the inaugural session Mr Joydeb Majumder, Executive Director of Jayaprakash Institute of Social Change extended a warm welcome to the participants and expressed that the youths of our society must understand the problems of transgender persons, and must take initiatives to improve their status. He called for building up approaches to deal with it with lot of empathy. He further shared the background and rational of the program with the participants . Prof Anirban Ghosh, Director School of Professional Studies, gave his inaugural speech, said that we have been working together with JPISC for a long period now, and have been able to do many such program quite successfully. He further said that these program creates a zeal amongst the participants to work in the area in future. He extended his regards for the speakers and believed that this program shall be very effective and interesting for the participants. Dr Kasturi Sinha Ghosh in her delivery shared that a more inclusive approach is required in this regard, and finally she proposed the vote of thanks.



The first speaker Mr Monisankar Mukherjee, Deputy Director West Bengal Transgender Persons Development Board, talked about the various problems faced by the transgender persons of our society and he also explained the different Provisions that are exist for these persons.

Ms Mrittika Chatterjee, member of the Transgender Board, Hooghly, who is a transgender herself, shared her own experience. She also cleared up some of the myths that prevails in our society about the transgender persons in our society. She called for positive discrimination for the transgender persons , if at all we wish to improve their socio economic status. She is hopeful that in the next census we would have to better statistics about the transgender persons, which help to ensure their rights in coming days.

The last speaker of the session was Ms Soma Roy Karmakar, counsellor, explained some related terms, and then talked about psycho social implication of the reintegration of transgender persons in a very lucid manner. She shared the point of views of the parents of transgender persons and the kind of societal behavior that the transgender persons often have to face while they go for health care services. She presented some visual aids to explain her point of views.

The program was concluded after a question and answer session and certificate of participation was finally distributed at the end of the program.

Prepared by Dr Kasturi Sinha Ghosh and Dr. Monojit Garai

