

**CENTRE FOR EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN**

**ANNA UNIVERSITY ::CHENNAI**

**SEMINAR ON “WOMEN IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY: CAREER IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY”  
HELD DURING 15 – 16 MAY 2010 AT ANNA UNIVERSITY CHENNAI**

**REPORT**

The Centre for Empowerment of Women, Anna University Chennai in collaboration with the Women in Science, Indian Academy of Sciences, Bengaluru conducted a two day seminar on “Women in Science & Technology : Career in Science & Technology” during 15 – 16 May 2010 at the Henry Maudslay Hall at Anna University Chennai.

There were about ninety participants from various institutions of medical, engineering and arts and science colleges in and around Chennai. This seminar was inaugurated by Dr.S.Shanmugavel, Registrar, Anna University Chennai on the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 9.30 am. The presidential address was delivered by Dr.M.Sekar, the Dean, CEG Campus, Anna University Chennai. Dr.V.Balakrishnan, IIT Madras talked about Women in Science. The first session was chaired by Dr.Anju Chadha and Dr.Prithika Chary gave a talk on the topic ‘Current Concepts in Epilepsy Management’. The second talk was by Dr.Usha Vijayaragavan on the topic “The making of a flowering stem: Lessons from Molecular Genetic Analysis of Flowering in Model Plants.” The third talk was by Dr.B.Uma Maheswari on the topic “The Anusat Experiences”. The fourth talk was by Dr.Neelima Gupte, on the topic “Statistical Characterisers of Communication Networks”. The second session started after lunch chaired by Dr.B.Uma Maheswari. The first talk in the second session was by Dr.Radha Balakrishnan on the topic “Solutions in Bose Einstein Condeansates” . Dr.Nita sinha gave the lecture on “Flavour physics” followed by Dr.Aruna Dhathathreyan on the topic “Do Women have career choices? Which way now?” After the second session all the Chairpersons’ comments were placed. The third session was chaired by Dr.S.Shanmugavel and Dr.Prithika Chary. A film on Dr.M.S.Swaminathan, Chairman, MSSRF was screened to the audience.

Dr.M.S.Swaminathan, Chairman, MSSRF gave the public talk on “Women as transformational agents in Science &Technology”. A dinner was hosted to all the speakers and participants.

The second day of the seminar was started with first session with talk by Dr.Hema Achyuthan on the topic “Application of isotopes in paleoenvironmental studies to understand paleoclimate shifts”. The session II was chaired by Dr.Neelima Gupte and the first talk was by Dr.Anju Chadha on the topic “Using Enzymes – Nature’s own Catalysts for ‘Green’ Chemistry”. The second talk was by Dr.Sathyabhama Badhreenath on the topic “Archaeology as a career for Women”. Dr.R.Prabhavathy gave lecture on “Armoured Fighting Vehicles”. After lunch Prof.Ram Ramasamy gave a talk on “The Lilavathy’s Daughters Project” followed by a panel discussion by Dr.Neelima Gupte, DR.Archana Gupta, Dr.Ram Ramasamy and Dr.Sudha Nair. **The key recommendations of this seminar were:**

1. To conduct gender audit.
2. To ensure gender friendly environment in the work place.
3. To encourage faculty to carry out high end research in their tyopic of research and submit projects for funding.

The valedictory address was given by Dr.T.Ramasami, Secretary, Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India. Dr.S.Shanmugavel, Registrar, Dr.M.Sekar, Dean, CEG, Anna University Chennai participated in the valedictory function. Certificates were distributed to the participants.