

National Commission for Women Empowered Muslim Women with Awareness Program on Women-Centric Laws and Schemes

Lucknow, September 14, 2023

The National Commission for Women (NCW), in collaboration with the Deen Dayal Upadhyay State Institute of Rural Development (DDU SIRD), successfully conducted a one-day "Awareness Program for Muslim Women on various women-centric laws and schemes." This milestone event aimed to empower Muslim women by enlightening them about their legal rights and the government schemes available to enhance their socio-economic status. The program took place on September 14, 2023, in the vibrant city of Lucknow.

The event featured distinguished speakers who shared valuable insights on some critical topics.

Prof. Shirin Abbas, a Women and Gender Rights Expert, delivered a comprehensive discourse on the evolution of Islamic law and the spaces it provides for Muslim women.

Role of NCW in Complaint Grievance address Mechanisms was discussed by Ms. Tunika Sharma, Legal Counsellor at the NCW who elucidated the pivotal role of the commission in addressing and resolving complaints, ensuring women's rights were upheld. Ms. Archana Singh, Head of the One Stop Centre in Lucknow, elaborated on the crucial role these centers played in providing assistance and support to women in distress. Mr. Sarvesh Pandey, Coordinator at the National Commission for Women, elucidated various government schemes to empower women such as Swaran Jyoti Yojna and Aajeevika

The program culminated in an Open House Discussion, allowing participants to share their perspectives and discuss the challenges they faced. This event marked a significant step towards empowering Muslim women by equipping them with knowledge about their rights and access to government schemes.

Ms. Rekha Sharma, the Chairperson of NCW, emphasized the importance of empowerment over protection for Muslim women and celebrated their newfound independence to embark on the Hajj pilgrimage, marking a significant milestone. She stated, "As Chairperson of the NCW, I firmly believed that women formed a diverse tribe, and our common battle lay against patriarchal mindsets, not religion. The law didn't discriminate based on religion, and as women, we should unite in pursuit of equal opportunities and awareness."

The NCW proudly looks back on a productive and enlightening dialogue that contributed to the advancement of women's rights.