

**Women's Studies Centre**  
**Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak,**

Established in January, 2010 with financial support from University Grants Commission, New Delhi, Women's Studies Centre at Maharshi Dayanand University is a leading interdisciplinary centre. From the very beginning, the thrust has been to understand women's issues from gender perspective and thereby develop a comprehensive and critical approach to strengthen gender equality for overall empowerment of women in the society. The Centre is engaged in micro-level field studies and generation of awareness programmes. For this, it actively collaborates with academia, government establishments and civil society to have broader perspective on wider issues concerning women in contemporary India in general and Haryana in particular.

Women's Studies Centre also strives to disseminate knowledge among different strata of society by promoting dialogue between academia and activists, social work and policy making. By facilitating research, advocacy, documentation and extension work, efforts are initiated to enhance the visibility of women in the community and wider society. As a strategy, it seeks to strengthen individual and institutional efforts to enable women's empowerment in the society.

**Core Areas**

- Indicators of women's status
- Women's Health and Wellbeing
- Customary Traditions, Institution of Marriage and Social Change
- Khap Panchayats in Haryana: Socio- Economic Dimensions
- Gender Biased Sex Selection
- Violence against Women
- Women in Unorganized/Informal sector
- Women's Empowerment through Panchayati Raj

## Positions

Name	Position	Nature of Appointment
Dr Pushpa Dahiya, Professor, Dept of Botany	Director	Additional Charge
Dr Neerja Ahlawat Assistant Prof., Dept. of Sociology	Dy. Director	Additional Charge
Ms Poonam	Clerk-cum-Typist	On hiring basis
Mr Mukesh	Peon	Permanent university employee

Email id [womenstudies.mdu@gmail.com](mailto:womenstudies.mdu@gmail.com)

## Research Projects Completed

1. Customary Traditions, Institution of Marriage and Social Change
2. Male Marriage Squeeze: Violence against Cross Region Brides in Haryana

## Advisory Committee Members

Prof Pushpa Dahiya, Director WSC

Dr Neerja Ahlawat, Dy. Director WSC

Prof. Indu Agnihotri, Director CWDS, Delhi (External Expert)

Prof Sangeeta, BITS, Pilani (External Expert)

Prof. Jitender Prasad, Dept. of Sociology, M.D.University, Rohtak

## Standing Committee Members

Prof. Pushpa Dahiya, Director WSC

Dr. Neerja Ahlawat, Dy. Director WSC

Prof. Rohini Aggarwal, Dept. of Hindi, M.D.University, Rohtak (Expert)

Prof. Suman Lata, Dept of Law, M.D.University, Rohtak ( Expert)

## Workshops/ Seminars (2010- 2016)

- Workshop on **Emerging Trends in Gender Studies in India**, 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2010
- Workshop on **Integrated Initiative to Combat Declining Sex Ratio in Haryana**, in collaboration with Women Power Connect WPC and HNYKS, 30 June, 2010

- National Seminar on **“Eliminating Daughters: Paradox of Development in India”** 15-16<sup>th</sup> December, 2010
- National Seminar on **‘Women Society and State’**, 9-10 February, 2012.
- Workshop on **“Workplace Sexual Harassment of Women”** for conveners of Women Cell /teachers of degree colleges affiliated to M.D. University, 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.
- Two day National Seminar on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 on **“Gender Inequality and Violence against Women in North-West India”** in collaboration with ICSSR, Chandigarh
- 10 Days Workshop on **‘Understanding Gender Studies: Conceptual and Methodological Issues’** funded by ICSSR, Delhi from September 09-18, 2014
- Workshop on **‘Right to Information’** on December 29, 2015
- Workshop on **‘Reproductive Rights and Reproductive Health’**, November 30, 2015
- Workshop on **‘Women Visibility and Space’**, February 11, 2016

### Community Outreach Programmes

- Health Assessment and Awareness Camp in collaboration with the Department of Psychology (DRS-Phase II) for female students of the university, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011
- Awareness Campaign against Female Foeticide, 21st January, 2012
- Workshop for members of Panchayat and Sarpanchs on **“Health and Legal Awareness”**, on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 to sensitize them about health and legal issues.
- Interactive Session with members of Panchayat and Sarpanchs on the issue, **‘Social, Political and Legal Issues’**, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2013
- Health Awareness and Gender Sensitization Camp was organized at Lakhna Majra, on 29<sup>th</sup> March and 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2013.
- Health Camp for class IV Women employees of M.D.University, Rohtak, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2013
- Health Camp for class IV women employees of M.D.University, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### Other Activities

- Celebration of International Women’s Day was celebrated on 8.3.2013 by organizing competitive activities on the topic **“Women Born or Made”** through symbolic and verbal medium.
- Essay writing competition on **“Violence Against Women”** among the students of University teaching departments of the university
- Celebration of International Women’s day on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 by organizing painting, slogan writing, collage making competitions and verbal expression among the students of different departments of the university on the theme **“Nurturer: Thy name is woman”**.
- Screening of Documentary Films (**‘Azadi’**, **‘I am Nirbhaya’** and **‘India Untouched’**) on **‘Gender Sensitization’** on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- Essay writing competition among the students of University teaching departments on the topic **“Beti Bachao, Samaj Bachao”**.
- Inter-college/inter-departmental Painting competition and Poem Recitation competition on the theme **“Rainbow- The Colors of Womanhood”** was organized on November 20, 2015.





























































