

PRESS RELEASE NO- 96

Muskan Welfare Society starts ‘helpline for women and child in distress’

First Lady launches skill development programme

Itanagar, Feb. 2: “An ideal society can be realized only if women have equal rights and positions to their male counterparts. For this, we need to improve the quality of life of our womenfolk. The best way to do that is to provide them better education and training,” stated State’s First Lady, Ms. Anupama Singh, the Chairperson of MWS, while inaugurating the month-long Skill Development Programmes on **Computer Literacy** and **Spoken English** at the IGNOU Regional Center, on Feb 2 last. The Courses are being conducted by the Muskan Welfare Society in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), reports **PRO to Governor**.

To mark this day, the Muskan Welfare Society launched its **helpline number (09856057579)** for **‘women and children in distress’**, which will be activated within few days. The service initially will remain active from 10 am to 4 pm every day, till it is made active round the clock.

Expressing gratitude to IGNOU, especially the Regional Director Dr S J Neethirajan for collaborating with MWS, she hoped that the initiative will be a result oriented one and the trainees will avail maximum benefit out of it. Conducting these courses, she added, we aim to instill confidence amongst the women, girl child, youth and also all others from weaker section of the society, who did not get equal opportunity to excel.

Extending her appreciation to all those who had helped the MWS, the Chairperson said, “We are very happy that many people came forward and gave us encouragement, especially our Patron in Chief, His Excellency, General JJ Singh, Governor of Arunachal Pradesh and Hon’ble Chief Minister, Shri Dorjee Khandu ji.”

Speaking on the occasion MWS Secretary, Mamata Riba Naksang gave an overview of the initiatives of the MWS. She said that with an objective to work for upliftment of the women, children, youth, disabled and weaker sections of the society, Muskan Welfare Society, which has the privilege to have Padma Shree, Ms. Mamang Dai, noted social workers, senior women officers of the State Govt. and medical practitioners among its members was formed in 2008. Right from distribution of warm clothing to financial assistance the needy, MWS has its role in setting up of the only Toy Train in the State, Cleanliness drives, Promotion of eco tourism by organizing hiking, Plantation programmes, Breast Cancer awareness camp, Sending of life saving medicine

for people of Anini, Blood Donation Camps, Heart surgeries and Revival of Tangkha painting and handmade paper making.

The IGNOU Regional Director, Dr S J Neethirajan said that in the society everyone is not getting equal opportunity to acquire skill, but IGNOU and Muskan Welfare Society are venturing to do justice for some of them. The disabled and disadvantage group can be empowered by enhancing skills, he added.

Royal International School, Principal J Henry David, who is one of the resource persons for the Spoken English course highlighted the importance of English in today's world. IGNOU Coordinator SN Sharma gave the vote of thanks. Students of the Royal International School, Naharlagun presented a cultural programme in the inaugural session.

It may be mentioned here that no fee is being charged from applicants for the month-long courses, rather a stipend of Rs. 50.00 (Rupees Fifty) would be given to each participant enrolled in each Course for every working day, **adds the report.**

Sd/ Ing Tayeng PO