



## **RAMA DEVI WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY**

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### **Consultancy and Awareness Programme Undertaken Jointly for the NGOs**

1. 'Centre for Youth and Social Development' (CYSD) and
2. 'Sakha' Bhubaneswar NGO Working on Transgender Rights.

1. Research project report on: '**Mitigating Sexual Gender- Based Violence (SGBV) Through Community Awareness and Support Systems; Training Women and Men as SGBV Warriors in Odisha**' conducted A Situation Analysis with CYSD 2022
2. Learning-Cum-Experience Sharing Consultation on '**Quick Impact Project: Mitigating Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Through Community Awareness and Support System**' held on 28 April 2021
3. Research webinar on '**Impact of COVID 19 on Women and Girls in Odisha**' held on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2020, Time: 11:00 Am To 12:30 PM.
4. '**Transgender Policy, Migration policy for arresting COVID related violence against women**' Sarala Devi Centre for Gender Research and Department of Gender Studies of Rama Devi Women's University jointly with Centre for Youth and Social Development CYSD, NGO and various stakeholders held on 10th January 2022.
5. Awareness Program on '**Transgender Person's Protection of Rights Act, 2019**' Held On 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

  
**Director IQAC**  
**Rama Devi Women's University**  
**Bhubaneswar**

  
**Registrar**  
**RD Women's University**  
**Bhubaneswar**

1. **Research project report on: ‘Mitigating Sexual Gender- Based Violence (SGBV) Through Community Awareness and Support Systems: Training Women and Men as SGBV Warriors in Odisha’** conducted A Situation Analysis of Centre for Youth and Social Development 2022

## **A Situational Analysis- 2021**

### ***Contents***

1. Introduction
  - 1.1 Setting the Context
  - 1.2 Definitions
  - 1.3 Context of Odisha
  - 1.4 Types of Violence – Conceptualization
2. Review of Literature
3. The Pilot Study
  - Objectives of the Situational Analysis
  - Methodology
4. Key Findings and Observations
5. Findings and Analysis
6. Conclusion and Way Forward

A detail report is available at Centre for Youth and Social Development, Bhubaneswar.

2. Learning-Cum-Experience Sharing Consultation on **‘Quick Impact Project: Mitigating Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Through Community Awareness and Support System’** held on 28 April 2021

### **Brief Report about the Consultation Services 28 April 2021)**

Prof. (Dr.) Jyotirmayee Acharya, Dept. of Gender Studies & Coordinator, Sarala Devi Centre for Gender Research, Rama Devi Women’s University, Bhubaneswar as a moderator of the programme has welcomed the esteemed guests of the inaugural programme entitled **‘Learning-Cum-Experience Sharing Consultation on ‘Quick Impact Project: Mitigating Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Through Community Awareness and Support System’** held on 28 April 2021. Esteemed Vice Chancellor Prof. Aparajita Chowdhury, Rama Devi Women's University, Bhubaneswar was the Chief Guest. Shri Jagadananda, Mentor and Co-founder, Centre for Youth and Social Development was the convener. Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Odisha State Commission for Women is the key speaker of the inaugural session. Dr. Aliva Mohanty, Associate Professor, Head of the Dept of the Gender Studies and Ms. Uppali Mohanty, Senior researcher, and Coordinator of Gender Cell, CYSD, faculty colleagues and colleagues from CYSD, dignitaries, SGGV volunteers and students have participated in this programme.

Centre for Youth and Social Development founder Shri Jagadananda sir, Mentor and Co-founder, and Chairman Shri Prafula Kumar Sahoo have created a sustainable platform to undertake many action research along with project interventions in Odisha in the past four decades. Rama Devi Women’s University as a partner was conducted One of the technical sessions in the consultancy workshop entitled **“LOCALIZATION SGBV MITIGATION PLAN”**. This technical session is a part of the larger action research titled **“Mitigating Sexual Gender-Based Violence Through Community Awareness and Support Systems; Training Women and Men as SGBV Warriors in Odisha”**. Which was jointly conducted by CYSD, Dept of Gender, Studies, and Sarala Devi Centre for Gender Research of Rama Devi Women’s University, Bhubaneswar. In the technical session we have with us Ms. Alka Narang, Gender Specialist, UNDP, New Delhi. I extend a warm welcome to Alka madam. Madam will share with us on the topic. My warm welcome to the next panelist Ms. Mousumi Kundu. Ms. Kundu is the Deputy Director Program Break Through, New Delhi. Mousumi

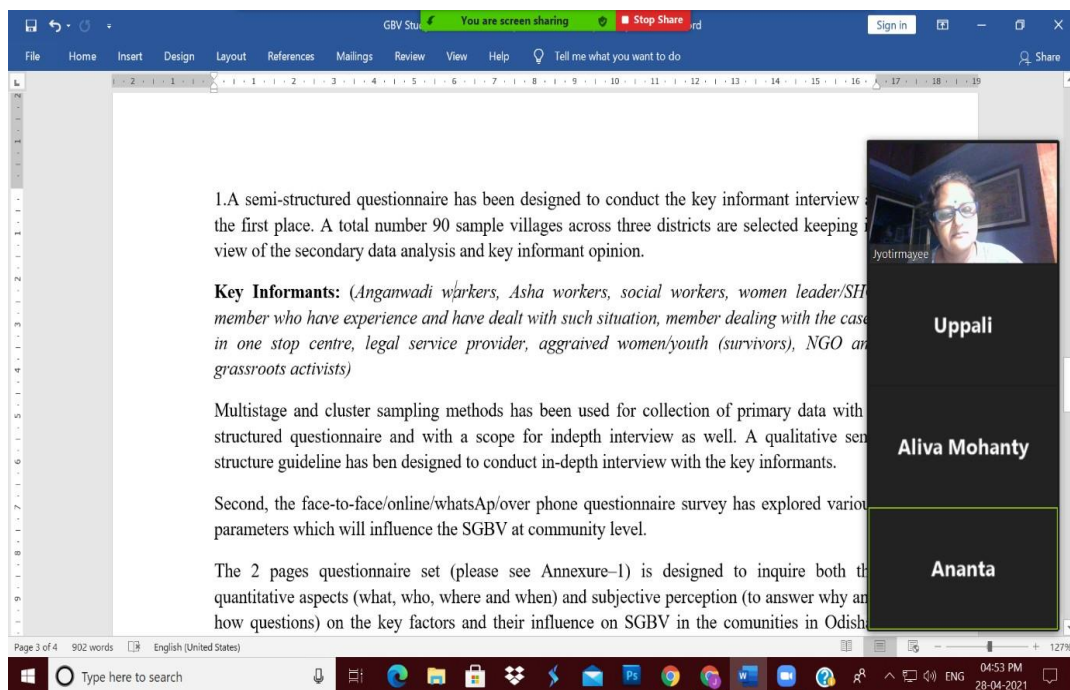
madam will share her precious experience on today webinar topic. I also extend my warm welcome to Ms Bishaka Bhanja, National Alliance of Women's Organizations Odisha Chapter. She is well known to us as she is one of the advisory members of RDWU. In this technical session first, we will carefully listen to the Experience of Sexual and Gender Based Violence Warriors who are present with us. At the end of sharing, I will request the panel members to respond to SGBV warriors and give their insights. I will request the gallery and dignitaries and participants to respond to the SGBV warriors. We will end up the session with concluding remarks and way forward.

### **Concluding Remarks and way Forwards**

“LOCALIZATION of SGBV MITIGATION PLAN is the outcome of this research. As we heard the voice of the SGBV warriors and based on the findings of the action research, it is the time to conclude the ways and means of localizing the SGBV mitigation plan. The situational implementation of the study outcomes no doubt has the potential to **Mitigating Sexual Gender-Based Violence Through Community Awareness and Support Systems and Training Women and Men as SGBV Warriors in Odisha**”.

The frequency of violence during pandemic has increased and the violence is more prevalent and visible in these three districts. The primary reasons for violence during pandemic comprised of loss of jobs of the menfolk and subsequent frustration due to lack of income. Adding to the woes, alcohol addiction was also found to be a primary reason. However, the prevailing masculinity dominated norms and gender stereotypes in the community, discrimination, bigamy, and aggressiveness towards women act as fueling factors towards SGBV. In absence of alternative shelters, the women are forced to live with their offenders as they have nowhere to go and no one to seek help from. There is no community structure that would help the survivors of SGBV. The knowledge and awareness regarding government Helpline numbers and place for registration of complaints is highly abysmal across the districts. Survivors know about registering complaints at the police station, however, due to fear factor they do not want to get entangled in it. Such scenarios aggravate the matter beyond repair.

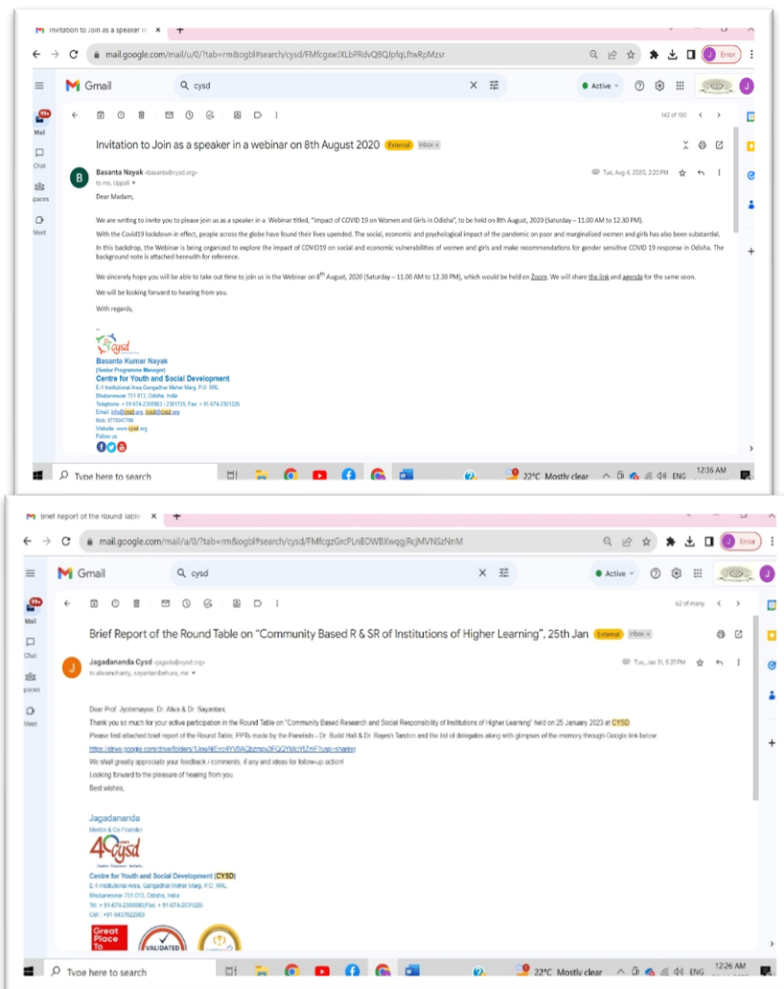
The training module designed based on the findings will facilitate the warriors for a better understanding of the situation and coming up with tailor-made solutions. Active engagement of the community representatives with the warriors to form to formidable pressure group for effective handling of the violence-based cases in future. Also, CYSD aims to create linkages of the available institutional mechanisms like One Stop Centre, Child Welfare Committee, Protection Officer, District Legal Service Authority etc. with the Help Desk (formed by CYSD) towards redressal of the issues. The situational analysis findings pointed out a gap between the available institutional mechanisms and the community. The survivors were also found to be ignorant about the same and hence, are unable to access despite of availability. Therefore, CYSD aims to bridge the gap by linking all of them through the Help Desk which would act as an intermediary between the government and the survivors.



**Figure 1:** Webinar Learning-Cum-Experience Sharing Consultation on ‘Quick Impact Project: Mitigating Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Through Community Awareness and Support System’ held on 28 April 2021

**2. Research webinar on ‘Impact of COVID 19 on Women and Girls in Odisha’** held on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2020, Time: 11:00 Am To 12:30 PM.

The Rapid Survey findings on COVID 19 and Challenges faced by Women and girls has been presented by Mr. Basanta Ku. Nayak, OBAC- CYSD one of the key researchers. In view of this backdrop, an interactive discussion with the participants and respondents of the community has been organized.



**Figure No 1&2:** Email Communication on invitation and thanks giving to the speaker’s consultants.

The Panel responded to the question and concerns. Ms. Nandita Pradhan, Director of Martha Farrell Foundation, PRIA, Ms. Rukmani Panda Programme Officer Oxfam Bhubaneswar, Dr. Jyotirmayee Acharya, Professor, HOD Dept. of Gender Study, Rama Devi Women’s University, Bhubaneswar, as an invited speaker responded from the gallery. Moderator of the webinar was Ms. Sneha Mishra, Secretary Aina. Ms. Upali Mohanty, CYSD present a formal vote of thanks.

3. **Transgender Policy, Migration policy for arresting COVID related violence against women'** Sarala Devi Centre for Gender Research and Department of Gender Studies of Rama Devi Women's University jointly with Centre for Youth and Social Development CYSD, NGO and various stakeholders held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**CONSULTATION ON DRAFT 'ODISHA STATE TRANSGENDER PERSONS POLICY 2021'**

**DATE: 10th JANUARY 2022 TIME 11.30 AM TO ONWARDS**  
MEETING HELD ON VIRTUAL MODE, BHUBANESWAR

**Debate on:**  
 Accessibility  
 Freedom of Expression  
 Dignity and Life without violence  
 Equal Access to Education  
 Equal Access to Health Services  
 Employment Opportunity  
 Right to family life  
 Homestead land and housing  
 Food Security  
 Facilitation in Transportation  
 Special Schemes for Welfare of Transgender  
 Social Security & Inclusion  
 State Level Transgender Welfare Board  
 Grievance Redressal Mechanism

**Guest Panellists:**

Advocate Chitranjan Behera, Odisha High Court, Cuttack  
 Sudarshan Chhotaray, Sr. Journalist  
 Sameer Ranjan Dash, State Lead, CFAR  
 Anil Kumar Pradhan, Secretary Shikshanusandhan  
 Rohan Mohanty, Social Activist

**Join with zoom link -**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86573191140?pwd=SBkKWEhNNTU5c0p6dXhWjdHUKz6QT09>  
 Meeting ID: 865 7319 1140  
 Passcode: 745394

**Figure 1:** SDCGR is taking up consultancy on research and advocacy work on Transgender Policy, Migration policy for arresting COVID related violence against women with Centre for Youth and Social Development CYSD, NGO and various stakeholders HELD ON 10<sup>TH</sup> January 2022.



**Figure No 2:** Panel members of the consultancy workshop entitled Engendered Menstrual Hygiene Management Education and Awareness (Fostering Transformation with Diverse Gender Group) held on Friday 27th May 2022



**Figure No 3 & 4:** Oath taking ceremony by the participants in the consultancy workshop entitled Engendered Menstrual Hygiene Management Education and Awareness (Fostering Transformation with Diverse Gender Group) held on Friday 27th May 2022. We Are Committed- Making menstruation a normal fact of the life held.



4. Awareness Program on **‘Transgender Person’s Protection of Rights Act, 2019’** Held On 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 Organized by Sakha jointly with P.G. Dept. of Gender Studies, Journalism and MassCommunication and English of Rama Devi Women’s University, Bhubaneswar.

SAKHA in collaboration with P.G. Dept. of Gender Studies (GS), Dept. of Journalism and Mass Communication and Dept. of English of Rama Devi Women’s University, Bhubaneswar has organized an Awareness Workshop on Transgender Person’s Protection of Rights Act, 2019 on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 at Academic Building Block-II with the sponsorship of Govt. of India. SAKHA is a pioneer state level community-based organization (CBO) in Bhubaneswar. Prof. Jyotirmayee Acharya, HOD Gender Studies, RDWU extended a warm welcome to the speakers, faculty and student participants and introduced the objective of this awareness programme. Around 110 students from the three Departments, including visually impaired students have participated. Prof., Acharya emphasized about the importance of research to enhance a holistic understanding about the Transgender Communities. With a note of heartfelt gratitude to Meera Maa and Sadhana Maa she said that the distinctive lived experience has enlightened the students’ understanding on the Transgender’s identity, equity, and equality.

This significant occasion was graced by Ms. Meera Parida, founder of SAKHA who is an eminent Social Activist and advocate of the Transgender wellbeing in Odisha and was the first Transgender Entrepreneur in India. Meera Maa is assertive about the difference between Transgender and Eunuch. She represented the Transgender viewpoints in the White House during 2017 and related how her community has been depicted in the Epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata. She was overwhelmed in their interaction with such a vibrant crowd of student participants and owes her heartfelt gratitude to the Vice Chancellor, RDWU. Esteemed speaker Ms. Sadhana Mishra, (Sadhana Maa), a Social Development Officer at Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) and Founding member of SAKHA Organization embellished her challenging journey from Satya Sundar Mishra to Sadhana Mishra. She pondered the stereotype stigmas of society through her life journey “Being beautiful is not a mistake, it’s okay to be different”, states Sadhana Maa.



**Figure No 1:** Awareness Workshop on Transgender Person’s Protection of Rights Act, 2019 on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 jointly organized by SAKHA in collaboration with P.G. Dept. of Gender Studies (GS), Dept. of Journalism and Mass Communication and Dept. of English of Rama Devi Women’s University, Bhubaneswar

She recalled her mother’s wise words that she is beautiful just the way she is. Ms. Mamata elucidated foreground study and policies of Transgender Person’s Protection of Rights Act, 2019. She analyzed agendas on recognition of identity of Transgender Persons, Welfare measures, Obligation of Education, Social Security and Health, Offences and Penalties of Transgender persons by Govt. of India. Dr. Manisha Mishra, HOD, Dept. of English, gave a literary knowledge on portrayal of transgender novels during the period of post- colonialism and the need for more reading and research on the issues of Transgender. Dr. Sayantani Behura, Asst. Prof. of GS recited a self-composed poem on the image of Meera Maa. Dr. Aliva Mohanty, Dr. Ahna Mansai, Ms. Geetanjali Naik were also attended. Ms. Nity, Assist. Prof., Journalism and Mass Communication, RDWU gave her vote of thanks towards the esteemed dignitaries, Vice Chancellor, CPGC, team members of SAKHA, colleagues, research scholars, volunteers.