

## Gender mainstreaming workshop concludes



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Ranjan K Baruah 17 July 2015 10127 views

Rajiv [Gandhi National](#) Institute for Youth Development (RGNIYD), Regional Centre, Chandigarh in association with North East Youth Foundation (NEYF) organized a Five-Day residential Workshop on Gender Mainstreaming at North East Diocesan [Social](#) Forum (NEDSF) in Kharghuli, Guwahati.

The [workshop](#) that began on July 13 last, successfully concluded on July 17 (Friday) and was attended by [over](#) 45 participants from across the Northeast region. Shobha R Gosa from Hyderabad facilitated the [workshop](#).

The main aim behind this [workshop](#) was to generate a generic awareness among the various young and upcoming social activists who have been working in different pockets across the region.

Gender-based violence has been on a rise in the entire nation and the [workshop](#) primarily focused on the core issues on identifying this gender-based violence. The participants were taught about the differences between what is gender and sex.

“Sex is the biological identification between a male and a female. Whereas gender is the social role(s) associated with each individual-irrespective of their respective sexes,” said Shobha on the first day of the [workshop](#), adding, “Gender mainstreaming does not restrict to women empowerment only. It means to bring equality between males and females.”

“Female cooking and male going out for earning livelihood is a gender based issue. Whereas the biological difference between a man and a woman is a sex related issue,” added Shobha.

To provide the participants with a various first-hand experiences that they may face while working in the field of social work, the participants were asked to perform various tasks and exercises. From case study to role-play, the participants in these five days engaged themselves in various activities.

Sharing about her experiences and challenges while on field, Rehana Rehman of ActionAid, while interacting with the participants said, “While on field, never ever talk to males and females separately. While going for a survey, always have a balanced numbers of male and female members and while putting the questions always see that your questions don’t hurt the sentiments of the respondents.”

“I have come and participated in this [workshop](#) which is for the first time in my life”, says Bikash Saikia, Secretary of Abakash from Majuli . He said that he is happy to share his feelings at this platform that has given him new ideas to work with the [community](#) for gender mainstreaming.

On the fifth and final day of the [workshop](#), participants were distributed with certificates of participation. On the penultimate day, a small cultural programme was also organized in which the participants took active part and presented a series of cultural programmes.

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