

Seminar Program and Call for Papers  
**International Seminar on Women's Empowerment**

At  
Mrs. Helena Kaushik Women's PG College  
(<http://helenakaushik.org>)  
P.O. Malsisar, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, India 331 028

Wednesday-Friday, January 11-13, 2012

### **1. Seminar Statement**

There is a general acceptance now that women have to be considered as equal participants in all walks of life in society rather than dependents in a welfare state. In the last decade, a few government programs exclusively for women like Development of Women and Children in Rural Area (DW CRA) have been implemented. Giving attention to gender perspectives in economic decision-making simply makes good economic sense.

Existing gender inequalities can, for example, undermine the effectiveness of trade policies or policies on foreign direct investment by affecting the factors that are critical to the successful implementation of such policies. Because of existing inequalities women may, for example, face difficulties in responding to incentives and opportunities.

As a result of gender inequality in the ownership of economic resources, women may lack the necessary property rights to qualify for credit to take advantage of new investment opportunities in the export or domestic sector. Women workers may have particular constraints, such as lack of childcare and sole responsibility for other reproductive activities, which can affect their ability to respond appropriately to price signals. The barriers women farmers and entrepreneurs face in accessing credit, technical assistance and training may also negatively affect their ability to expand production and take advantage of new opportunities.

The economic and financial dependency of women, particularly rural women on their families, can be reduced and financial independence increased to empower women if they have their own source of income from economic activities of their own. Thus helping women entrepreneurs in their own farming, family and rural setting by making it possible for them to engage in productive economic activities as small scale business enterprises can be a significant source of their personal economic empowerment and national development.

### **2. Education and Training of Women**

The economic and financial dependency of women, particularly rural women on their families, can be reduced and financial independence increased to empower women if they have easy access to education and training in vocations whereby they become capable of owning economic activities to

generate their own source of income. With proper education and training women's engagement in small micro enterprises (SMS) can be a significant source of their personal economic empowerment.

### **3. The Focus of the Seminar**

The main focus of the seminar is on:

- The existing arrangements for education and training in rural areas, including possible vocational enterprises in each area, district, state, etc.
- Adequacy and constraints on financial resources
- Regulatory and legal changes
- Strengthening democratic participatory mechanisms
- Identification of successful models for replication
- Monitoring and evaluation system
- Impact on the status of rural women
- Policy recommendations

### **4. Tentative Programme**

#### **Day 1**

- 18:00- 20:30 Opening Ceremony Dinner
- Welcome Remarks
- Opening of the Seminar
- Introduction of participants present and themes
- Cultural Program

#### **Day 2**

- 09:30 –11:00 First Session: Status of Women
- 11:00-11:30 Coffee/Tea
- 11:30- 13:00 Second Session: Education and Labor Market Participation
- 13:00-14:30 Lunch
- 14:30-16:00 Third Session: Access to Adult Education and Training
- 16:30-19:00 Cultural Evening/Visit to nearby places
- 19:30-21:00 Dinner

#### **Day 3**

- 09:30 –11:00 Fourth Session: Access to Higher Education
- 11:00-11:30 Coffee/Tea
- 11:30- 12:30 Fifth Session
- Summary and Recommendations from each session
- Policy Recommendation from the Seminar
- 12:30-13:30 Concluding Luncheon Session
- Recognition of participants
- Plans for publication of proceedings

### **5. Seminar Support to Authors/Presenters/ General Attendees**

A stipend of Rs. 2,000 will be awarded to each academic author/presenter whose research paper has been accepted to be included in the seminar

proceedings book. Authors whose research papers are accepted for presentation but not included in the conference volume will receive Rs. 1,000. Authors must submit their papers in electronic form (e-mail, CD, etc.) by October 31, 2011 to the following editorial board members: [skaushik@pace.edu](mailto:skaushik@pace.edu), [aurogopal@gmail.com](mailto:aurogopal@gmail.com)

Authors must submit the revised version, if a revision is warranted, within one week following the seminar. This will allow quick publication of the book.

Travel expenses for academic authors not receiving any support from their colleges, universities, business employers, government, etc. will be reimbursed at second class sleeper by train from long distances to Jaipur and Delhi, bus fares from Delhi and Jaipur, and shared taxi expenses for two or more from Jaipur and Delhi to the College.

Train from Delhi on the Delhi-Bikaner line takes 4 hours to Sadulpur. It takes about 40 minutes by bus/taxi from Sadulpur to the College.

Bus from Delhi to Jhunjhunu and then local bus from Jhunjhunu to the College door takes about 6 hours.

Express bus from Jaipur takes about 5 hours to the College door.

Distance to the College from Jaipur is 200 km (about 3 hours) and from Delhi 260 km (about 5 hours). Distance from Jhunjhunu on the south and Sadulpur on the north is about 33 km in each direction on the Jhunjhunu-Sadulpur road. Distance from Pilani and Chirawa on the east and Churu on the west is also about 33 km in each direction.

Authors and presenters will be guests of the College - room and board will be provided free of charge including registration fee. Accommodation will be provided in the modern Guest House with AC, running hot water, space heater, etc. on the College campus.

Business, Government and NGO employees are requested to get travel reimbursement from their employers. The College will provide free room and board in its Guest House to all invited guests and non-academics making presentations.

## 6. Registration Fee

- A. Authors/Presenters/Invited Dignitaries and Special Guests: *None*
- B. General Attendees :
  - a. Academic teaching and research staff: Rs. 1,000.00
  - b. Students: Rs. 500
  - c. Government and NGO staff: Rs. 1,000.00
  - d. Business staff: Rs. 2,000.00
  - e. International: Rs. 2,000.00

- f. Students/lecturer volunteers at MHKWC: None
- g. Non-student women : None

Registration fee covers tea/coffee, seminar related meals and conference documents from January 11 to 13, 2012. Accommodation for invited guests and presenters will be arranged by the host institution. Accommodation for attendees may be requested and will be provided on availability at a reasonable cost.

## 7. Registration Form

Name: -----  
 Address: -----  
 Affiliation/Employer/Organization-----  
 Phone: -----Fax: -----  
 E-Mail: -----Web: -----  
 Traveling from: -----Via-----  
 Arriving Delhi-----on-----or Jaipur-----on-----  
 Arriving at MHKWC on -----by personal car, taxi or bus-----  
 Author/presenter/dignitary: Yes -----No -----

Title of the paper/presentation: -----

Registration fee (payable to Mrs. Helena Kaushik P.G. College).  
 Please check one of the following:

Check No. ----for Rs. ----- Draft No. ----for Rs. -----

Money Order No. ----for Rs. -----Not Applicable-----

Please complete the form at the earliest and e-mail/fax/snail mail to:  
 helenakaushikpgcollege@yahoo.com, and copy to [skaushik@pace.edu](mailto:skaushik@pace.edu)

Contact persons at the College:

Mr. Naveen Sharma, Office In-charge

E-mail:

[helenakaushikpgcollege@helenakaushik.org](mailto:helenakaushikpgcollege@helenakaushik.org); office@helenakaushik.org

Phone: 91 01595 276593, 276818 Fax: 91 01595 276593

Postal Address: Mrs. Helena Kaushik Women's P.G. College, P.O. Malsisar,  
 Dist. Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, India 331 028