



Darjeeling, 09 Mar, 2015

TRANSLATION:**SIX-DAY TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR 32 VILLAGE HEALTH WORKERS BEGINS AT HAYDEN HALL**

Darjeeling, 9 March: Hayden Hall Institute observed International Women's Day through a series of awareness and community programmes focused on women's health, dignity, and empowerment. As part of the celebrations, a free health check-up camp for women was organised, where many women received medical examinations from healthcare specialists. According to Father Stanley, Hayden Hall has been observing International Women's Day through various programmes since 5 March.

On 5 March, nearly 150 participants joined a candlelight rally from Hayden Hall to Chowrasta, pledging to promote respect and dignity towards women in society. On 6 March, students from schools and colleges including St. Paul's School, Southfield College, St. Joseph's College, and NDA participated in exhibitions, cultural programmes, songs, and theatrical performances centered on women's issues.

On 7 March, children presented cultural performances in the presence of women participants, while theatre activists from Darjeeling also staged awareness dramas. The concluding programme on 8 March included awareness campaigns conducted by Hayden Hall volunteers across various municipal wards. During the programme, speakers highlighted the importance of gender equality, women's empowerment, and awareness against human trafficking, exploitation, violence, and the negative misuse of mobile technology. Participants also stressed the need to treat sons and daughters equally within families and encouraged women and young girls to remain alert and socially aware.

Poetry recitations were presented by Ishita Chettri and Shivani Chettri, while songs were performed by Kiran Khetri, Nishakar Rai, and Deven Rai. The programme was conducted by Devnarayan Sharma. The report also mentioned that the NGO World Vision India has been actively working in the Harsingh area for the past five years, supporting local children, women, and families through educational assistance, sports promotion, livelihood support, distribution of educational materials, livestock support, and financial aid for students unable to pay school fees.