

SOUTHERN RAILWAY MAZDOOR UNION

(Registered No.3067, Recognised & Affiliated to All India Railwaymens Federation and the Hind Mazdoor Sabha)

CENTRAL OFFICE

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GENERAL SECRETARY

ASST. GENERAL SECRETARY / AIRF / NEW DELHI
MEMBER / JCM (NATIONAL COUNCIL) NEW DELHI
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C.A. RAJA SRIDHAR

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT – AIRF / NEW DELHI
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DELHI

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 25TH NOVEMBER 2010 A REPORT

SRMU observed the International day for elimination of violence against women on 25th November 2010 at Hotel Picnic meeting hall, Chennai 600 003. More than hundred staff in Chennai area participated in this programme irrespective of the gender.

The first session was an interactive session wherein the definition of violence, the types of violence viz. physical, psychological, financial, sexual, spiritual were discussed in detail. The laws, Acts which protect the women and the various forums at all levels were also explained. Pamphlets explaining the same were distributed along with white ribbons for the participants. Special attention was given to the unforgettable butterflies - the Mirabel sisters as a salute of the day.

Discussions on Domestic Violence and Violence at workplace steered the participants' enthusiasm and the methodology to fight against any such violence was discussed especially while tackling the aggressive public across the counters. An interesting subject "**Violence against Women by Women**" both domestic and at workplace was also discussed and the need for self analysis and change of attitude were the remedial suggestions. The modalities to be followed on occurrence of any of such violence, were also discussed which had the last line as "UNITY IS STRENGTH" and "TOGETHER WE MUST". **Unanimously it was spelt that everyone is safe under the roof of SRMU**, as there were previous records of immediate permanent redressal without any unpleasantness. The need to spread the awareness to other women regarding their safety and to help them in need was promised by all participants whole heartily.

Secretary Sri.Shivasubramanian elaborated the role of SRMU in each and every s welfare irrespective of the gender, and also exclusively for women. V.P.Sri.S.N.Krishnan described the various health hazards to which women are subjected and insisted on periodical medical check up. Treasurer Sri.Marlon Prabhu briefed about **the plight of women in unorganized sector and SRMU's responsibility to educate & help them in creating awareness in knowing their rights**. Sri.Pramod Bagat insisted the necessity of the male fraternity to involve themselves in eliminating violence against women.

Sri.C.A.RajaSridhar, President/SRMU in his speech described the effects of male chauvinist society and strongly recorded that a society is said to be civilized only when there is no violence against women, in any form. Though there are many forums to safeguard the women welfare, he stated that it is the responsibility of the Trade union to safeguard women not only at workplace, but also domestically including the welfare of their wards. Gender equality is being talked about worldwide and women should come forward to shoulder responsibilities in this forum to help the sisters in need. He insisted a **24x7 SOS help line for SRMU to help women**, and elaborated the persistent efforts of SRMU during 5pc and 6pc regarding flexi timings, flexi place, extended ML, Childcare leave and its rider, and assured that steps will be taken to increase the duration of CCL to the maximum of 6 months at a stretch.

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The effects of outsourcing were elaborated and he vehemently opposed any of such moves by the administration and explained the SOCIALLY DESIREABLE, FINANCIALLY AMIABLE attitude of the commission while planning for Railways'. He affirmed that SRMU has always safeguarded its employees, even before they are touched by the problems and the need to have a persistent fight to achieve our goals. During the interactive session, he assured that concrete steps would be taken to organize medical camps, master health checkup and to eradicate occupational hazards.

The programme ended with the colourful handprint pledges to eliminate violence against women.

Sd/-

(M.RENUKA LAKSHMI)
ZONAL CHAIRPERSON-SRMU