



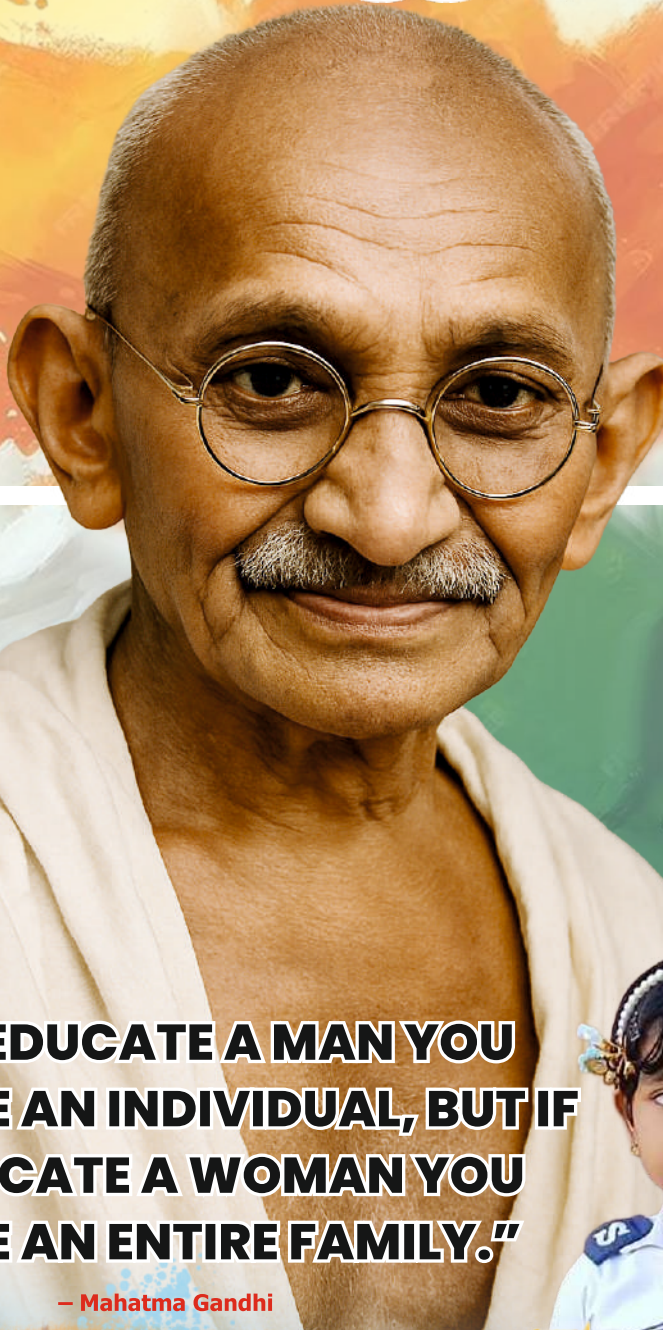
A Monthly Publication of The Salvation Army

₹. 15.00



The **WAR CRY**

October 2025 | Vol. : 26 / No. : 10



**"IF YOU EDUCATE A MAN YOU
EDUCATE AN INDIVIDUAL, BUT IF
YOU EDUCATE A WOMAN YOU
EDUCATE AN ENTIRE FAMILY."**

— Mahatma Gandhi



www.salvationarmy.org/india



BORN TO LEAD

Leadership is not merely about holding a title or being in charge—it is a divine calling. In the Bible, God chooses leaders not based on their strength or intelligence, but on their willingness to listen and obey Him. From Moses to Esther, David to Paul, Scripture is filled with individuals who were born to lead—not because they were perfect, but because they trusted God and followed His plan.



Major Amrik Masih, Editor

As we celebrate the International Day of the Girl, we are reminded of a powerful truth: girls are born to lead. They are not just the future—they are the present. Created in the image of God, girls possess the strength, wisdom, and grace to shape families, communities, and nations.

In Genesis, God describes woman as Ezer Kenegdo—a helper who is equal, strong, and corresponding to man. This term affirms that girls are not created to be less, but to stand alongside, lead with, and contribute equally to God's purposes in the world.

History, especially in India, offers inspiring examples of women who led with courage and conviction. Rani Lakshmibai, the warrior queen of Jhansi, fought valiantly for freedom. Mother Teresa served the poor with compassion, becoming a global symbol of love in action. Kalpana Chawla, India's first woman in space, broke barriers in science. Kiran Bedi, the first woman IPS officer, redefined leadership in law enforcement. Indira Gandhi, India's first female Prime Minister, led the nation through critical times with strength and resolve.

These women are more than historical figures—they are role models. They show us that leadership is not about gender, but about purpose, passion, and perseverance.

The Bible also highlights young women who led with faith. Esther risked her life to save her people. Deborah judged and led Israel with wisdom. Mary, a young girl, said yes to God's plan and became the mother of Jesus. These women were chosen not for perfection, but for their willingness to follow God.

Today, many girls still face challenges—limited access to education, safety concerns, and societal expectations. But we must remember: girls are not waiting to be empowered—they are already empowered by God. What they need is opportunity, encouragement, and support.

As Mahatma Gandhi said:

"Woman is the companion of man, gifted with equal mental capacity... If by strength is meant moral power, then woman is immeasurably man's superior... If non-violence is the law of our being, the future is with women."

This truth resonates with both Scripture and history. Women and girls are not only equal—they are essential. Their moral strength, spiritual depth, and leadership potential are gifts to the world. As we honour the International Day of the Girl, let us celebrate their worth and commit to nurturing their leadership. The future is not just with women—it is being shaped by them today. Let us walk with them, learn from them, and lead alongside them, knowing they are truly born to lead.

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LASTING LEGACY OF DAVID BRAINERD: A LIFE OF DEVOTION AND MISSION



As I am writing an article for All India War Cry for the month of October, I came across the life of David Brainerd (1718–1747), a young American missionary whose short but impactful life left a lasting legacy in Christian history. Born on April 20, 1718, and lost his breath on 9th October 1747. Though he lived 29 years and served only for 4 years, he left an impactful life and legacy. This would be worth reading. Nowadays, we are praying and waiting upon the Lord's blessing and His guidance for our officers. As many officers of the Salvation Army are travelling to attend the National Officer Councils in Chennai, let the life of David Brainerd be a model and inspiration for us.

In 1739, Brainerd entered Yale University to prepare for ministry. However, his time there was turbulent. He contracted tuberculosis, which plagued him for the rest of his life, and was expelled in 1742 for making a private remark about a tutor's lack of spiritual grace. Despite efforts by prominent figures like Jonathan Edwards to have him reinstated, Yale refused, prompting Brainerd to pursue missionary work instead.

Licensed to preach by the "New Lights," a group of evangelical Presbyterians,

Brainerd was commissioned by the Society in Scotland for Propagating Christian Knowledge to minister to Native American tribes. He began his mission in 1743 at Kaunaumeeek, a Mohican settlement near Albany, New York. Living in harsh conditions, he endured loneliness, illness, and physical hardship, yet remained committed to his calling.

Brainerd later ministered to the Delaware Indians in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. His work at Crossweeksung, New Jersey, was particularly fruitful, where he helped establish a Native American Christian community with over 130 members. His health deteriorated rapidly due to tuberculosis. In 1746, he moved to the home of Jonathan Edwards in Northampton, Massachusetts, where he was cared for by Edwards' daughter, Jerusha. Brainerd died on October 9, 1747, at the age of 29.

Brainerd's legacy was cemented by Jonathan Edwards, who published *An Account of the Life of the Late Reverend Mr. David Brainerd* in 1749, based on Brainerd's journals. This biography inspired generations of missionaries, including William Carey, Jim Elliot, and Adoniram Judson. His life also influenced the founding of institutions like Princeton and Dartmouth Colleges, which aimed to



Commissioner John Kumar Dasari
International Secretary
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continue his mission of education and evangelism.

Though his life was brief, David Brainerd's unwavering faith, sacrificial service, and spiritual writings continue to inspire Christians worldwide. His story is a testament to the power of dedication, even in the face of suffering.

As I am reading this great life of the servant of God, let's get an inspiration on how much we may live and do for the extension of his kingdom. Through 29 years of life, 4 years of ministry 130 converts and many missionaries being inspired by his life. ✝

5G: GOD'S GIRLS GROWING IN GRACE AND THE GOSPEL



Commissioner Mani Kumari Dasari
International Secretary
South Asia, IHQ-London

Today's digital age, 5G is the latest generation of wireless communication more than just faster internet following 4G. It symbolizes Faster speeds, Lower latency, Greater capacity, improved reliability, connectivity, and access. Let's reimagine 5G as a spiritual nourishment, that empowers girls with biblical knowledge:

God's Word: As young girls grow in today's complex world, they often face pressure to conform to shifting societal standards. To stand firm, they must be grounded in the unchanging truth of God's Word. To overcome all the challenges they should read and meditate the word of God to grow in the faith, character, and purpose. God's Word teaches them to Identity in Christ, help them to understand that they are beloved daughters of God, provide them wisdom and Guidance for daily life.

Strength and Courage: God's Word empowers them to be bold and resilient. Purity and Holiness helps to honour God, Equipping girls with the truth of Scripture, helping them build a strong foundation in faith. *"How can a young person stay on*

the path of purity? By living according to your word." Psalm 119:9. This helps them develop godly character and values.

Growth: True growth is spiritual, emotional, and intellectual. Through intentional discipleship and study, girls can deepen their relationship with God and develop into confident, wise, and compassionate individuals. Encouraging spiritual, emotional, and intellectual growth through discipleship and study. Spiritual Growth will help them to deepening relationship with God through prayer, worship, and reading the Scripture. Bible Study group, personal devotions and spiritual mentorship is needed to grow in the Lord. *"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."* 2 Peter 3:18

Grace: For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8-9. Teaching the power of God's grace to them will bring great confidence and compassion. Helping individuals understand their identity in Christ. The Christ brought assurance of Salvation, Freedom from shame and sin, boldness in prayer and service.

Gospel: Preaching the gospel is very important to bring change holistically. Inspiring them to share the Good News

boldly in their communities and beyond. Empowering through gospel to overcome fear, stress and speak with clarity. Cultivating confidence to share their testimony, encouraging to communicate the gospel with courage to the congregations. 2Timothy 4:2 says Preach the gospel in season in season and out of season. Francis of Assisi, said "Preach the gospel if necessary use words

Generation: Raising a generation of young women who lead with integrity, purpose, and biblical wisdom. Encourage the next generation to adopt and nurture a strong faith. Teaching them about God's love, grace, and promises which can build a foundation that they will rely on throughout their lives. We should share stories of faith, we can inspire them to seek a personal relationship with their Creator. This spiritual connection with God and Holy spirit will guide them to face every challenge and reminding them they are never alone. Hebrew 13:5 says I will never leave you nor for sake you. God is always with generations to generations.

As 5G technology connects the world, biblical knowledge connects girls to their identity in Christ, their purpose, and their calling. Let's invest in this generation God's Girls so they can rise up as leaders, teachers, and changemakers rooted in the Word.





GENDER EQUITY:

A STEP TOWARDS BALANCE ROLE IN THE FAMILY AND MINISTRY

Highlighting from my previous article in the India war cry some years back the topic 'Gender Equity in Christian Ministry' was written like this - In the majority of Indian context and culture, we may still consider it a challenge to give equal status or position to women compared to what is being given to men. In such scenario, we need to take it as a challenge to get women involved and occupy the same level as that of men. But the other thing we need to consider is that, in order to accomplish the tasks that lie ahead of us, for both men and women, we need sincere commitment and full reliance upon the Lord. Also, we must be responsible and accountable to the responsibilities that we are given. The question is: are we ready?

A recent poll that I conducted in our women officers WhatsApp group on gender equity revealed encouraging insights into how equality is perceived and practiced in various areas of life. Among 187 members the highest number of respondents i.e. 74 affirmed that they enjoy equal opportunities in the ministry, this is encouraging, yet it also highlighting that there are still gender-based barriers still exist within the ministry and in our leadership roles. However, there are still women who are individually called by God continue to face fewer opportunities to participate and often accept themselves a secondary position subjectively to stand besides men.

Financial equity has also emerged strongly with 69 participants stating that both partners access their bank account. This indicates that transparency and shared responsibility in managing family resources may need to be reviewed. Similarly, less than 50% of the group members noted that household finance has been managed by them, this highlights the need for trust-based partnership in the family role. Additionally, 65 respondents agreed that both voices are heard equally in the ministry as well as within their relationship. These finding underscores the importance of mutual respect and open communication in home and community.

Overall, the poll reflects that within the Salvation Army in India, there is steady progress towards gender equity. Nevertheless, continued dialogue and practical actions continues to be necessary to ensure fairness in every sphere. Gender equity is not just equal access, equal platform or equal opportunities. In order to function efficiently, it requires shared responsibility, respect and collaboration between partners.

Gender equity not only focus on developing women, but it also involves men and women receiving equal opportunity. Unlike gender equality, gender equity may require different treatment to different people. We must do better, and we can! In giving support to



Commissioner Lalhlipuii

Territorial President of Women's Ministries
India South-Eastern Territory

everyone based on their unique circumstance, we can ensure that every person is equally valued in our ministry, family role and workplace. Let every voice be heard and respected for each of us deserve fairness and equal treatment according to one's own needs.

Gender equity is not about competing roles but complementing one another in love, in dedication and in services. In family it nurtures harmony and provides shared growth. In the ministry it strengthens every area of our mission in serving humanity, personal development, building confidence to create more capabilities. Where there is a healthy mission automatically growth follows.

Embracing gender equity in the ministry will lead us to inclusive leadership, where both men and women bring unique perspective, compassion and strength that will enrich our work. We need to learn to utilize God's given gift to all individual. We may preach and teach the parable of the talents, illustrating the importance of using one's gift and abilities for God's purpose. Let us also give more space and opportunity to come out with the talent and potentials which is unconsciously hidden within some people.

Ultimately a balance role in family and ministry help us to reflect the reality of God's design for unity, respect and shared purpose. There is no boundary in God's grace!

There is no discrimination when the Bible declares how much we are valued in 1Peter2;9 which says - 'But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation God's special possession, that you may declare the praise of him who called you out of darkness in his wonderful light'



EQUALITY



EQUITY

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD: A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE

The International Day of the Girl Child, celebrated every year on October 11, is a global observance declared by the United Nations to highlight and address the needs and challenges girls face, while promoting girls' empowerment and the fulfilment of their human rights. This day is not just a call to action - it is a celebration of the potential, strength, and dignity of every girl.

In the Bible, the value of girls is deeply rooted in the truth that all human beings are created in the image of God. The Bible affirms the worth of girls and women, calling for justice, compassion, and equality.

"So, God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."—Genesis 1:27

The Global Reality for Girls

Despite progress, millions of girls around the world still face significant barriers:

- ▶ **129 million girls** are out of school.
- ▶ **1 in 5 girls** is married before the age of 18.
- ▶ Girls are more likely to be victims of **gender-based violence, child labour, and human trafficking**.
- ▶ In many cultures, girls are denied the right to make decisions about their own lives.

These are just social or political issues—But their are moral and spiritual concerns also. The Bible calls us to defend the vulnerable and speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves.

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute."—Proverbs 31:8

Jesus and the Dignity of Girls

In the New Testament, Jesus consistently uplifted the status of women and girls in a society that often marginalized them. He healed them, spoke to them with respect, and included them in His ministry.

One powerful example is the story of

Jairus' daughter in Luke 8:40–56. Jesus raised a 12-year-old girl from the dead, showing not only His divine power but also His deep compassion for a young girl and her family. "My child, get up!" — Luke 8:54

This act of restoration is symbolic of what we are called to do today: to raise up girls who have been silenced, neglected, or oppressed.

Education: A Biblical Mandate

Education is one of the most powerful tools for empowering girls. It opens doors to opportunity, reduces poverty, and promotes health and well-being. The Bible emphasizes the importance of wisdom and learning: *"She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue."*—Proverbs 31:26

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge."—Proverbs 1:7

When girls are educated, they are more likely to delay marriage, have healthier families, and contribute to their communities. Investing in girls' education is not just smart policy - it is a biblical principle.

Ending Child Marriage and Exploitation

Child marriage is a violation of human rights and a form of gender-based violence. It robs girls of their childhood, education, and future. The Bible calls for the protection of children and the upholding of justice:

"Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow."—Isaiah 1:17

We are called to be advocates for girls who are forced into marriage, trafficked, or abused. The Church and faith communities have a vital role to play in changing harmful cultural norms and promoting the dignity of every girl.

Health and Well-being

Girls face unique health challenges, including limited access to menstrual



Colonel Sunita Andrews Christian

National Secretary for Women Development
India National Office, Kolkata

hygiene, reproductive health services, and mental health support. The Bible teaches that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit and should be treated with care and respect: "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you...? Therefore, honour God with your bodies."—1 Corinthians 6:19–20

Ensuring that girls have access to healthcare, nutrition, and emotional support is a way of honouring their God-given dignity.

Leadership and Voice

Girls are not just future leaders—they are leaders today. Around the world, girls are speaking out against injustice, leading climate movements, and advocating for their rights. The Bible is full of stories of young people who made a difference - like Esther, Mary, and Deborah.

1 Timothy 4:12 - *"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity"*

I would like to encourage all the girls by above verse to set an example for others in every aspect in their life. Sky is the limit. Work hard and overcome all the challenges in every circumstance because the Almighty God is with us. He will strengthen you and sustain you to the very end of this age.

Have a blessed International Day of the Girl Child!



CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD

ADVOCATING FOR EMPOWERMENT, PROTECTION AND GENDER EQUALITY

Every year, October 11 marks International Day of the Girl Child, an important occasion dedicated to recognizing the unique challenges girls face around the globe. We should be acutely aware of the vital role we play in advocating for the rights and well-being of girls. This day inspires us to reflect on our collective commitment to ensuring that every girl has the opportunity to thrive in a safe, nurturing environment.

The social implications of neglecting girl child rights are profound. In many communities, girls encounter barriers such as limited access to education, early marriage, and gender-based violence. As a Christian organization, the Salvation Army emphasizes the inherent dignity of every individual, reminding us that

empowering girls is not just a social obligation but a moral imperative. Our faith calls us to uplift those who are marginalized, and girls worldwide are among the most vulnerable.

On this International Day of the Girl Child, let us celebrate the resilience and potential of girls while renewing our commitment to their protection. Through initiatives focused on education, health, and social support, we can help break the cycle of poverty and empower young women to become leaders in their communities. By actively engaging in discussions and programs that promote gender equality, we contribute to a brighter future where every girl can pursue her dreams without fear.



Commissioner Ratna Sundari Polimetla
Territorial President for Women's Ministries
India Western Territory

As we honor this day, let's remember that protecting our girl children today is essential for fostering a socially equitable world tomorrow. Let's work together to create opportunities and elevate the voices of girls everywhere, ensuring they are heard, respected, and empowered.



THE WARRIOR

HER VOICE, HIS VICTORY • EPHESIANS 6:10-18

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL 2025



"Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man."

Mahatma Gandhi

LET THEM BLOOM, MORE BEAUTIFULLY



Captain Shermila Girish
Child Protection Officer
India South Western Territory

Children are not object to be moulded, but personalities to be developed - Jess Layer

We must give children the time and opportunity to develop physically and mentally. In this situation where everything has changed in learning methods, attitudes, lifestyle etc... understanding those changes plays a crucial role in their well-being

Children growing up in this technology driven era face many challenges while simultaneously providing them with opportunities to thrive. Remember, that access to information and relations at their fingertips also exposes them to the potential for harm to their physical and mental health. As their intelligence and thoughts grows as part of their personality development from infancy to adolescence. It is very difficult task to properly protect them. This is not only our responsibility but also their right.

The RTE Act (Right to Education) signed in to law by the president of India on August 26, 2009 was a new milestone in the protection of Children's right in India.

But while education plays an important role in child development, there are other factors are involved as well.

1. Provision

We need to create an environment where we can acquire the right to good education, acquire quality values, attitudes, knowledge and skills. We also need to provide opportunities for creativity, leisure time and the possibility of participating in recreational activities. We need to ensure that schools have playground, play equipment, healthy surroundings, good food, toilet facilities, study materials, libraries, laboratories and full-time teachers. Through this we can find out and enhance their talents and make them excellent in those areas.

2. Protection

Child protection is based on laws and policies designed to protect the rights and welfare of children. Juvenile Justice Act (Protection and care of children) and protection from sexual offences (Pocso Act.) are the examples. Furthermore, parents at home, and by Right to be protected from teachers at school, and to have their privacy protected in all places, is also included in the protection category. Therefore we stick on attention to raising awareness about the child Protection and advocating for policies that promote rights.

3. Participation

The UN recognize the right of children to express their views can be considered in decisions that affect them. This participation not only gives them a voice but also empowers them, build confidence and make them responsible. By paying attention to what children have to say and valuing their contributions, we can build better relationship with teachers

and parents and influencing their lives.

We must provide children with the love, support, and education they need to nurture their dreams and help them reach their full potential. It is the time to reaffirm our commitment to creating a safe, healthy, and happy world for them.



POEM

YOU ARE

You hold my hand
As I walk through the night;
You hold my heart
As I face the world;
Through the storm,
You are my peace.
And I say of the Lord
You are—
Awesome, Marvellous,
Colossal, Radiant,
Fearful, Wonderful,
All-Powerful.
I behold You through creation
And again, I proclaim
You are—
All things Great,
All things Good,
All things Beautiful.



Ms. Rammuanawmi
Ebenezer Corps, Central South Division
India Eastern Territory



CELEBRATING THE STRENGTH AND SPIRIT OF *Girls*



Major Anil Masih

Literary Officer, THQ, New Delhi
India Northern Territory

International Day of the Girl 2025

Sunday, 5th October 2025, marks a powerful moment of global unity as The Salvation Army joins hands across continents to celebrate the International Day of the Girl. This day is more than a commemoration - it is a call to action, reflection, and empowerment, coordinated by the International Social Justice Girls' Group.

A Global Movement Rooted in Faith

The Salvation Army's observance is deeply anchored in its mission to serve humanity with compassion and justice. This year's theme, "The Warrior: Her Voice, His Victory", draws inspiration from Ephesians 6:10-18, invoking the spiritual metaphor of the Armour of God. It calls girls and women to embrace their divine strength, voice, and purpose in a world that often overlooks their potential.

This theme is not just symbolic—it is a declaration. Girls are warriors. Whether advocating for education, standing against injustice, or nurturing their communities, their voices matter. Every corps and ministry unit is encouraged to engage girls meaningfully, allowing them to lead, speak, and shine.

Why This Day Matters

Despite progress, girls around the world continue to face significant barriers. The United Nations established the International Day of the Girl to spotlight these challenges and promote gender equality. The Salvation Army adds a spiritual dimension to this mission—affirming that every girl is created with purpose and power.

This day is also a time to reflect on the stories of girls who have overcome adversity. From escaping cycles of poverty and violence to leading change in schools and churches, their resilience is a testament to the divine strength within them.

Empowering the Next Generation

Empowerment is not just about

opportunity—it's about listening, learning, and walking alongside. This year's theme encourages girls to speak boldly, knowing their voice is part of God's victory.

In practical terms, this means:

Creating safe spaces for girls to share their experiences

- ❖ Mentoring and leadership development within corps and communities
- ❖ Advocating for policies that protect and uplift girls
- ❖ Celebrating diversity and recognizing each girl's unique story

Some Challenges Faced by Girls in India

India's girls face some of the most pressing challenges globally. Here are key issues that demand urgent attention:

1. Human Trafficking, Kidnapping & Missing Girls

According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) 2022:

172 girls go missing every day
170 girls are kidnapped daily; 3 are trafficked
62,099 girls were kidnapped or abducted in 2022

94,079 girls were reported missing
1,059 girls were identified as trafficking victims
The highest cases were reported in West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar, and Delhi

These figures reflect systemic vulnerabilities driven by poverty, domestic abuse, and lack of education.

2. Educational Disparities

Despite progress: Female literacy rate is 62.3%, compared to 80% for males
Only 3 out of 5 girls are enrolled in higher secondary education

3. Gender Inequality & Discrimination

Deep-rooted cultural barriers persist: Female foeticide and infanticide remain concerns
Girls often receive less nutrition, healthcare, and education
Malnourishment is more common among girls due to son preference

4. Child Marriage

India has the highest number of child brides globally:

1 in 4 young women (23%) were married before age 18

Over 50% of child brides live in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh

5. Abuse, Exploitation & Violence

Girls are disproportionately affected by:

Sexual abuse and domestic violence
Child labour and forced domestic work
Underreporting due to stigma and fear of dishonour

A Call to Action

As 5th October approaches, The Salvation Army invites officers, soldiers, families, and friends to participate in this global celebration. Whether through worship, outreach, or personal reflection, let us honour the girls in our lives and commit to building a world where they can thrive.

Let this day be a reminder:

Every girl is a warrior, equipped not just with courage and conviction, but with the spiritual armour to face life's battles. Her voice is powerful—and through her, God's victory is made visible.

Happy International Day of the Girl!
Let's celebrate, empower, and uplift—together.





THAT REFLECTS THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Dear Reader,

In this article, we are reminded that gender equity is not just a concern of society, but part of God's justice revealed through His Word.

Gender Equity: God's Justice in Action

Gender equity is one of the most important conversations in our world today. While the words equity and equality sound similar, they carry different meanings. Equality means treating everyone the same, but equity means ensuring fairness by recognizing different needs and removing barriers that prevent people from flourishing. True equity ultimately leads to equality.

Origin of the Idea

The roots of gender equity are not new. From the beginning of creation, God established the value of both male and female: *"So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them"* (Genesis 1:27). In God's design, men and women share equal dignity, worth, and responsibility. Sadly, over centuries, many cultures created systems where women had fewer opportunities, less voice, and little recognition. The call for gender equity is, therefore, not just a social demand but a spiritual reminder to restore God's original plan.

The Present Situation

Across the world today, progress has been made, but challenges remain. In many communities, girls still do not have equal access to education. Women often

face lower wages for the same work. In leadership and decision-making spaces - whether in governments, workplaces, or churches - men continue to dominate. At the same time, women bear heavier responsibilities in caring for families.

Yet there are encouraging signs of change. Nations are creating policies for maternity and paternity leave, workplaces are providing safe environments, and schools are ensuring equal access for girls and boys. Global voices like Malala Yousafzai remind us of the power of education for girls. When women are supported and empowered, entire families and societies are lifted.

Examples from the Bible

The Bible itself shows us powerful examples of gender equity in action. Deborah (Judges 4-5) was chosen by God as a prophetess and judge, leading Israel with wisdom and courage at a time when women were rarely given such roles. In the New Testament, Jesus consistently broke cultural barriers. He spoke with women publicly, welcomed them as disciples, and even chose Mary Magdalene to be the first witness of His resurrection (John 20:16-18). These moments demonstrate that God's Kingdom values the gifts of both men and women.

Why It Matters for Us

Gender equity is not about favouring one gender over another. It is about ensuring that everyone—man or woman—has what they need to use their God-given potential. Paul reminds us: *"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female,*



Major Thaya Anusuro
DDWM, Aralvaimozhi District
India South-Eastern Territory

for you are all one in Christ Jesus"
(Galatians 3:28).

For The Salvation Army, gender equity is part of our mission. Our work with women's ministries, education, health care, and leadership training continues to break barriers. Every time we provide space for women to learn, serve, and lead alongside men, we reflect God's justice.

Conclusion

Gender equity is not only a social responsibility but a spiritual calling. As followers of Christ, we are invited to create spaces where women and men can stand side by side, serving God with equal dignity. By practising fairness and support in our families, churches, and communities, we bring the light of God's Kingdom into the world.

May we, as Salvationists, continue to live out this truth—standing side by side, men and women together, reflecting the light of Christ in the world.



WHERE COURAGE GROWS –

THE STORY OF RISING FROM TESTIMONY TO LEADERSHIP IN ISJG

And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah: 6:8

I never imagined that my small, personal journey would one day connect me to something far greater than myself. I grew up believing that my voice was too small to make a difference. But being a 16-year-old girl back then I always wanted to do something bigger and greater which no other girl of my age does. There were times when I questioned my purpose and wondered if my story ever mattered.

But God was gently writing something bigger, and I began to see that my journey was not just about me- it was about being part of his greater plan. My story was not just a testimony of survival, but of calling. God was showing me that he places each of us where we are for a reason. That realization opened doors I never expected- to speak up, to step out and to connect with others who shared the same passion.

This journey led me to the International Social Justice Girls (ISJG) which is a part of the International Social Justice Commission (ISJC), the Salvation Army's voice at the United Nations. This gave me a framework to understand that the cries for fairness, dignity and equality around the world are not distant issues but part of God's heart for his people.

It showed me that speaking up is an act of faith and justice is a form of worship. But the place where my heart truly found a home was with the International Social Justice Girls (ISJG). Here, I am no longer just one girl with a testimony - I was part of a global sisterhood. ISJG is a movement of young women from different cultures, languages and backgrounds who share one heartbeat: to stand for justice, to raise our voices and to believe boldly in change.

This space helped me learn from one another, encourage each other and act together. This year marks my second year with ISJG and the journey has been nothing short of life- changing. I now serve as the Vice Chair Mentee and as part of the leadership team of ISJG. Stepping into this role has shown me that leadership is not about titles, but about listening, encouraging and creating space for other girls' voices to be heard.

It has been both humbling and empowering to grow alongside such an inspiring community. Through ISJG, I have seen the power of girls rising. Whether it is leading workshops in schools and churches or simply starting conversations that matter, we are proving that young women can be a force for transformation. ISJG taught me that even the smallest action -when rooted in faith - can ripple outwards to touch lives across the world.



Katika Veronica
Vice Chair Mentee, ISJG
India Central Territory

My testimony was just the beginning. As a 17-year-old girl, I now stand tall with passion and confidence knowing that God is able to do more than I could ever imagine. The journey has not always been easy, but it has been filled with grace. Each step has reminded me that my age is not a limitation - it is an opportunity to show that young voices carry strength, vision and the power to inspire change.

Today, it is woven into a bigger story-one that belongs to all of us. ISJG has taught me that justice is not a distant dream -it is something we live, speak, and create every day. And the beauty is that it does not take a platform or a title to make a difference; it takes courage, faith and the willingness to act. My hope is that every reader realizes that their story carries the same power. Because when we dare to join our voices, we don't just echo-we change the world!



**Wish you Happy
International Day
Of The Girl Child**



THE SALVATION ARMY ISWT OBSERVES INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING WITH BLUE HEART CAMPAIGN



In observance of the International Day Against Human Trafficking, The Salvation Army India South-Western Territory conducted the Blue Heart Campaign on July 27, 2025, across the territory. The campaign aimed to raise awareness about Human Trafficking through a series of impactful activities including rallies, awareness classes, seminars, public meetings, indoor gatherings, sessions with women's self-help groups (Kudumbashree), and community outreach programs.

A key event was held at Thiruvananthapuram Anayara Corps, attended by: Colonels Prakash Chandra Pradhan, Territorial Commander & Rani Phula Pradhan, Territorial President of Women's Ministries, Lieutenant Colonel Jose P. Mathew, Personal Secretary and Other distinguished guests

Major Leelamma Stephenson, Territorial Coordinator for Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT), led a rally at Pappad Salvation Army Church, demonstrating strong leadership and commitment to the cause.

The Blue Heart Campaign was implemented in 230 Corps across the territory, with leadership provided by Divisional Commanders, Divisional Directors of Women's Ministries, Divisional Staff, Corps Officers, and AHT Divisional Coordinators. An estimated 3,500 participants joined the campaign, reflecting widespread support and engagement.

Additionally, the Territorial Headquarters commemorated the International Day Against Human Trafficking with a special ceremony on July 30, 2025, at 10:00 AM. The event was inaugurated by Colonel Prakash Chandra Pradhan, who highlighted The Salvation Army's global efforts in combating human trafficking and emphasized the importance of protecting, rehabilitating, and reintegrating victims.

During the ceremony:

- ▶ Colonel Prakash Chandra Pradhan and Colonel Rani Phule Pradhan jointly conducted the Blue Ribbon Pinning Ceremony
- ▶ Lieutenant Colonel Sonia Jacob, Territorial Secretary for Women's Ministries, led the oath-taking ceremony
- ▶ Lieutenant Colonel Jacob J. Joseph, Chief Secretary, offered a prayer and blessing
- ▶ The AHT Territorial Coordinator delivered the welcome address

The event was attended by all officers and staff of the Territorial Headquarters, marking a unified stand against human trafficking. ✝

Major Leelamma Stephenson
AHT Coordinator
India South-Western Territory



THE WAR CRY

The Official Organ of
The Salvation Army in India

Regd. No. 69291/1997
October 2025
Volume: 26 Number: 10

William & Catherine Booth : Founder
Lyndon Buckingham : General

International Headquarters
101 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4EH, UK

Publisher

Colonel (Dr.) Andrews Dahyabhai Christian

National Executive Officer

Colonel (Dr.) Andrews Dahyabhai Christian

Editor

Major Amrik Masih

IT-Manager & Graphics Designer

Mr. Buddha Dev Bramhachary

The WAR CRY is published monthly.
Single copy ₹. 15.00,
Annual Subscription India ₹. 180.00,
Annual Subscription USA \$ 20.00
Annual Subscription UK £ 12

Money order, Cheque or Demand Draft, in favour of
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KOLKATA"

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Our Mission

"The Salvation Army is an International movement, a part of the Christian Church whose spiritual motivation has practical application in an evangelical, social, educational and health ministry.

It's goal is to help all people find fulness of life in a relationship with the living Christ discovered through the scriptures and demonstrated by holy living in peace and harmony with others."

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRAINING FOR AIZAWL CITY AREA WOMEN OFFICERS - IET

On June 19th and 20th, The Salvation Army, Territorial Women Ministries, organized IT Training for city-area women officers. A total of thirty-three women officers from the Central North Division, Central South Division, Territorial Headquarters, and the Officer Training College attended the event. The IT training took place at the Booth Mansion Conference Hall, Territorial Headquarters. Major Rosy Lalnunpuii, Women Development Officer, presided over the training. Mr. C. Rothangliana, Assistant to the Programme Department, and Mrs. Jean Vanlalrochhuangi, IT Coordinator, were the resource persons, dedicating two days to covering various subjects with the participants.

The first day was divided into two distinct sessions. The first session, led by Mr. C. Rothangliana, Assistant to the Programme Department, focused on Microsoft Word and Excel. This segment included both theory and practical training for Microsoft Word and Excel. In the second session, Mrs. Jean Vanlalrochhuangi, IT Coordinator, delivered a lecture on Microsoft 365. The training participants received instruction on utilizing Microsoft 365 as a vital connection point within The Salvation Army globally. The IT training

aimed to empower Women Officers to conduct their ministry effectively in a dynamic global environment. The delegates also found the first day to be engaging and beneficial.

In the second day of the IT Training, the first session was led by Mr. C. Rothangliana, Assistant to Program Department, focused on equipping participants with skills in poster and flyer design. A poster and flyer making competition was held among the delegates, offering a reward and an enjoyable experience. In the second session, Mrs. Jean Vanlalrochhuangi, IT Coordinator, delivered a lecture on the creation of PowerPoint presentations. Instruction was provided on preparing PowerPoint presentations via mobile devices and computers. In the modern world, sermons and seminars that incorporate PowerPoint presentations are highly effective. Training women officers in this skill is very beneficial.



At the conclusion of the two-day programme, a question-and-answer session was conducted. Prizes were distributed to participants providing correct answers, bringing the event to a pleasant close.

IT training for Women Officers is very important for continuing our ministry in the midst of advanced Information Technology, we expect it to be a big help in our ministry.



Captain Fanny Lalremmawii
Commanding Officer
Aizawl Bazar Corps
India Eastern Territory

WOMEN LEADERSHIP SEMINAR, INDIA SOUTH-EASTERN TERRITORY

By the Grace and Guidance of God a successful one-day Women Leadership Seminar was conducted for DDWMs, DLOMs, and DWDOS of the India South-Eastern Territory on 24th July 2025 at the VTC-Nagercoil Conference Centre. The event was organized by the Territorial Women's Ministries under the leadership of Commissioner Lalhlimpuii, TPWM, with the inspiring theme "Next Step", based on Philippians 4:13 – "I can do all this through him who gives me strength." A total of 40 officers participated in the seminar. The day commenced with registration, followed by the official inauguration at 9:00 AM. I had the honour of delivering the welcome address and introducing the purpose and theme of the seminar.

The inaugural session was presided over by Territorial Commander Commissioner Lalhmingliana. He ceremonially lit the candles and offered deep reflections on the contrasting lives of Martha and Mary—emphasizing the importance of listening to God's word and cultivating a personal relationship with Him to confidently take the next step in our spiritual journey



A spiritually enriching morning devotion was led by Lt. Colonel Saratha, THLS, which set a reflective tone for the day and strengthened our spiritual focus in ministry.

Commissioner Lalhlimpuii, TPWM, the main resource person of this seminar facilitated multiple impactful sessions on:

- ▶ Personal Development
- ▶ Communication Skills – including practical exercises on verbal and written communication, group discussions, and a "chat work" activity.
- ▶ Teamwork – highlighted through an

engaging bridge-building activity symbolizing unity and collaboration in leadership.

Mrs. Adlin Leena member of the International Social Justice Commission (ISJC) for women representative for the India South-Eastern Territory. In her role, she educates and mobilizes women globally to champion justice, equality, dignity, and safety for all women and girls. Her thoughts reflect the ISJC's mission as The Salvation Army's strategic international voice on social justice, blending faith-based service with advocacy, research,

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CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING FOR WOMEN'S MINISTRIES CNI DIOCESAN CENTRE, KHAYBAR HOUSE, DALHOUSIE, INT

A transformative three-day Child Protection Training was held from June 10 to 12, 2025, at the CNI Diocesan Centre, Khaybar House, Dalhousie. The event brought together 30 dedicated delegates from various Corps, Divisions, and the Territorial Headquarters of India Northern Territory, all committed to strengthening child safeguarding practices within The Salvation Army.

The training was led by Captain Charles Chalrimawia, Zonal Child Protection Specialist, who guided participants through a comprehensive curriculum rooted in The Salvation Army's International Child Protection Policies. These policies are deeply grounded in biblical theology, emphasizing that child protection is not merely a legal or social obligation, but a sacred spiritual responsibility.

The theme of the training was inspired by Psalm 127:3 – “*Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from Him.*” This verse served as a powerful reminder of the divine value and dignity of every child.

Key Theological Foundations Explored:

1. Children are made in the image of God.
2. They are gifts from God.
3. They are developing beings.
4. They are dependent.
5. They are models of faith.
6. They are partners in mission.

Participants were introduced to the Global Strategic Framework for child protection and trained in practical approaches to safeguarding. Topics included preventing harm, responding appropriately to abuse, and implementing positive discipline. The



training emphasized the principles of awareness, response, and continuous improvement, equipping delegates with tools to create safer environments for children in all ministry contexts.

Engaging and Enriching Activities:

- » Bible studies that deepened spiritual understanding
- » Case studies that provided real-world context
- » Group discussions that encouraged collaboration
- » Interactive activities that reinforced learning
- » Experience sharing that built community and trust

The program also featured morning devotions, recreational evenings, and spiritual reflections, which nurtured both the hearts and minds of the participants. These moments of fellowship and worship added a rich spiritual dimension to the training.

The final session was graced by Colonel Vanlalfela, Territorial Commander, who delivered an inspiring message based on Matthew 19:14 – “*Let the little children come to me.*” His words served as a call to action, urging all present to be vigilant guardians of the children entrusted to their care. The event concluded with a heartfelt prayer and benediction, sealing the commitment of each delegate to uphold the highest standards of child protection.

Participants expressed deep gratitude and appreciation to Captain Charles Chalrimawia and the Territorial Leadership for organizing such a meaningful, insightful, and impactful training. The experience not only enhanced their knowledge but also renewed their spiritual dedication to safeguarding the most vulnerable. God bless The Salvation Army!



Lieut. Colonel Goldi Emmanuel Masih
THLS, THQ, New Delhi
India Northern Territory

Continued from page 13

and policy engagement to uphold human dignity worldwide.

» Her core focus areas include:

- (1) protecting women and girls,
- (2) ending gender-based violence such as domestic abuse, sexual violence, and human trafficking,
- (3) empowering women spiritually, socially, and economically,
- (4) promoting leadership among women, and
- (5) engaging with the United Nations to uphold justice

Within the local context of Tamil Nadu - where

crime against women cases increased by 3,233 over the previous year. She also highlighted Tamil Nadu government prevention programs and help lines available to support women.

An interactive session was led by Lt. Colonel Sundarabai (TS&G & MF Secretary), who encouraged open dialogue and active engagement in the ongoing work of Women's Ministries.

The final session was delivered by our Chief Secretary, Lt. Colonel Santhi Babu, who shared inspiring leadership lessons from the life of Esther. Her message challenged and motivated all women officers to take bold steps of faith

and align their leadership with the territorial strategic plan: People, Mission, Legacy.

A heartfelt vote of thanks was given by Lt. Colonel Vanaja (TLOMS & OC Secretary), acknowledging and appreciating the efforts of all who contributed to the success of the seminar.

We give all praise and glory to Almighty God for His presence, guidance, and blessing throughout the event.



Captain S. Aslin Jenifer
TWDO, India South- Eastern Territory



TO GOD BE THE GLORY



Shilling Suresh Masih

D/O Lt. Colonels Suresh & Sumitra Suresh Masih

Dear Friends in Christ, I praise and thank God for His great mercy and unconditional love for me. Like anyone else, I always wished to do well in life, make my parents proud, do something nice for them in an attempt to cover for their sacrifices for us. All praise to God, I got the opportunity to work in the UK in April 2023. As much as it is exciting to move to another country for a job, it comes with its challenges. You need to step out of your comfort zone, change time zones, circadian rhythm, and the toughest part is to leave your loved ones back without knowing when you will see them again.

I would always remain grateful for the prayers of our family, friends and relatives. It felt as if they had filled me up with prayers like a balloon filled with air. The girl who always needed a companion to travel between cities, the girl who never sat on a plane, was flying to the UK on her own, was not just discovering maps and places



but also guiding others in a new country. I couldn't believe this girl, she was even cooking, when all she did was dishes in her Mum's kitchen all her life. Life isn't always bed of roses, it does come with thorns too.

I had exams to clear, I had so much to learn as I had taken up a new role at my job as a scrub nurse, I had to cook each day for me to keep going, for days when I didn't hear a word of Hindi around me, I started craving for it. But God was with me through it all, He took care of it. It was hard to keep going, but He remained patient with me. He also rewarded me with appreciation, nice weather, solo picnics, and friends.

The Salvation Army family is so huge that you will find it in any corner of the world. I found my family here in Salisbury too. The

corps welcomed me with so much warmth of love, I couldn't have ever imagined. It felt like home being with them, so much so that it helped me settle in quite smoothly. Then my sister, Martina joined me. By God's grace, she completed her Masters International Business Management from Cardiff. We kept visiting each other. Now she has moved with me to Salisbury and works part time at Salisbury Salvation Army as Community Mission Facilitator.

God works in mysterious ways, and He loves me greatly, I know. We are away from our parents, but God keeps them safe. He keeps blessing them for their hard work and service to His ministry. I believe in His word which keeps me encouraged at all times. The verse closest to my heart is Proverbs 3:6, "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." May the Lord guide you and lead you to His great blessing. In Jesus's name, Amen.



**CHRIST-LIKE
LEADERSHIP
FORMATION
FOR OUR
TURBULENT
WORLD**
**THE 2025 ATA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
TAIPEI, TAIWAN
11-15 AUGUST 2025



Colonel (Dr.) Andrews D. Christian, National Executive Officer, attended the Asia Theological Association General Assembly at Taoyuan, Taiwan, accompanied by Colonel Sunita A. Christian, National Secretary for Women's Ministries, and Major Samson Macwan of Secretary for HRDI.

Photo credit: Asia Theological Association

SEMINAR ON SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS AT RED SHIELD GUEST HOUSE, KOLKATA, INDIA

A transformative four-day seminar on Suicide Prevention Awareness was held from August 19–22, 2025, at the Red Shield Guest House, Kolkata. Centered around the theme “Changing the Narrative on Suicide,” the event aimed to address



the pressing issue of suicide and its impact on individuals, families, and communities. The seminar was organized by Colonel (Dr.) Andrews Christian and Colonel Sunita Christian serving as National Executive Officer and National Secretary for Women's Development, respectively.

The seminar was inaugurated by Commissioner Mani Kumari Dasari, International Secretary for the South Asia Zone, IHQ, London, who served as the Chief Guest. Her presence underscored the importance of collaborative and faith-based approaches to mental health and suicide prevention. The opening ceremony featured a symbolic candle-lighting, led by the Chief Guest and resource persons, accompanied by a spiritually uplifting message: “Jesus said, ‘I am the Light of the World.’ As followers of Christ, we carry His light to those in darkness.”

Commissioner Mani Kumari delivered a



powerful keynote address, expressing gratitude to the General, Chief of Staff, and the World President of Women's Ministries for their support. She emphasized the integration of spiritual values with social responsibility, quoting Psalm 139:14 – “I praise you because I am fearfully and

wonderfully made.” Her message encouraged participants, especially women, to recognize their divine worth and potential.

Spiritual affirmations shared during the seminar included:

- ▶ “Fearfully and wonderfully made” – Divine Design
- ▶ You are valued – God's masterpiece
- ▶ Created with intention and purpose
- ▶ Empowered to bring transformation

Morning devotions led by Commissioner Kumari and Colonel Sunita Christian enriched the seminar's spiritual depth. Themes such as “You are Valued,” “You are a Candle of Hope,” and “Changing the Narrative” (Acts 3:6) reminded delegates of their role in bringing light to those in despair.

The core training sessions were conducted by experts from Lifeline Foundation—Ms. Manjit Dhali, Ms. Mally Thanbi, and Ms. Sanghamitra—who provided compassionate and interactive training on suicide prevention. Their sessions empowered delegates to identify causes of depression and become effective mental

health advocates.

Training Highlights included:

- ▶ Introduction to Lifeline Foundation and its mission
- ▶ Listening Skills, Empathy, and the Emotional Wheel
- ▶ Feeling vs. Content: Understanding expressed vs. underlying emotions
- ▶ Loss and Grief, Interpersonal Issues, and Introduction to Suicide
- ▶ The Mind of the Suicidal, Mental Health vs. Mental Illness
- ▶ Panic Attacks, Self-Harm, and Psychological First Aid
- ▶ Dealing with Suicidal People and a Mock Session for practical application

A special segment titled Voice of Hope, led by Commissioner Mani Kumari Dasari, encouraged women officers to use their God-given voice to uplift others. Colonel Andrews Christian presented The Salvation Army's Perspective on Suicide Prevention, stressing that life is a sacred gift and urging delegates to respond with compassion and advocacy.



The Closing Session, themed “A Light Shines in the Darkness - The Legacy of Rahab,” highlighted transformation and redemption. A vibrant Cultural Evening and City Exploration added a refreshing touch, celebrating Kolkata's heritage and fostering unity.

Feedback & Evaluation: 25 senior women leaders participated, leaving spiritually enriched and empowered. Commissioner Kumari's devotions inspired a renewed commitment to serve.

Conclusion: The seminar was a deeply impactful experience, blending practical training with spiritual insight. Delegates departed with renewed purpose—to be voices of hope and agents of change in suicide prevention.



Colonel Sunita A. Christian
National Secretary for Women's Development
India National Office, Kolkata