

Newsletter



Of

International Women's Day 2026

**District Legal Services Authority,
Durg (C.G.)**

Theme: GIVE TO GAIN
—Empowering Women for an Inclusive Society

Date: 07 March 2026

**Venue: New Conference Hall (Fourth Floor),
District & Sessions Court, Durg (C.G.)**

**Prepared by:
The Newsletter Committee**

Committee formed for International Women's Day 2026

GUIDE

(Direction & Valuable Guidance)
Shri K. Vinod Kujur,
Principal District and Sessions Judge,
Durg (Chhattisgarh)



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Ms. Sunita Bara,
IV District & Additional Sessions
Judge, Durg (Chhattisgarh)



Member

Mrs. Sushma Lakra,
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Shri Umesh Kumar Bhagwatkar,
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority,
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Member

Mrs. Kamini Jaiswal
III Civil Judge, Senior Division,
Durg (Chhattisgarh)



Member

Ms. Shweta Patel,
IV Addl. Judge To The Court Of I Civil
Judge Sr. Division, Durg (Chhattisgarh)



Member

Mrs. Aishwarya Diwan
XVII Civil Judge Junior
Division, Durg (Chhattisgarh)



Member

Ms Ritika Dhidhi
XIII Civil Judge Junior
Division, Durg (Chhattisgarh)



Member

Mr. Pankaj Sharma
XIV Civil Judge Junior Division,
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Technical Support

Ms. Nidhi Dua,
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District Court, Durg (Chhattisgarh)



Message.....



Shri K. Vinod Kujur
Principal District & Sessions Judge, Durg

International Women's Day provides a meaningful opportunity to reflect upon the role, strength and invaluable contributions of women in every sphere of life. It is a day to acknowledge the journey towards equality, dignity and empowerment, and to reaffirm our collective responsibility to create a society where women feel safe, respected and encouraged to realize their full potential.

The celebration of this occasion at the District Court, Durg, has been organized in the spirit of guidance and inspiration received from the **High Court of Chhattisgarh, particularly under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble the Chief Justice Ramesh Sinha**. The encouragement extended by the Hon'ble High Court continues to inspire initiatives that promote awareness about women's rights, safety and empowerment within the justice system and beyond.

This year's theme, "Give to Gain," conveys a profound and constructive message. When society provides women with equal opportunities, respect, education and protection, the entire community benefits. Empowering women strengthens families, institutions and the nation itself. It is through such collective efforts that we move closer to achieving the ideals of justice, equality and human dignity envisioned in our constitutional framework.

The programme organized by the District Legal Services Authority, Durg seeks to promote awareness regarding the legal protections available to women and to encourage meaningful dialogue on issues concerning women's safety and empowerment. It is my humble hope that the discussions and deliberations held during this event will prove useful and effective in enhancing understanding and awareness among participants.

Within the District Court establishment, we remain committed to fostering an environment of dignity, respect and safety for all. Every effort is made to ensure that women working within the institution are provided a supportive atmosphere that enables them to grow professionally with confidence and security.

On this important occasion, I extend my heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all women. May this celebration inspire continued efforts towards building a society where every woman is empowered, protected and valued.

(Sd/-)

(K. Vinod Kujur)
Principal District & Sessions Judge
Durg (Chhattisgarh)

Women's Day and the Commitment of District Court Durg Towards Women's Safety

International Women's Day is a significant occasion to recognize the strength, achievements and invaluable contributions of women in every sphere of life. It also serves as a reminder of the collective responsibility of institutions and society to ensure the safety, dignity and empowerment of women. In this spirit, the **District Legal Services Authority, Durg**, functioning under the guidance of the **High Court of Chhattisgarh**, has consistently undertaken various initiatives aimed at promoting women's safety and legal awareness in the district.

The celebration of International Women's Day at the District Court, Durg was not merely ceremonial but reflected the continuing commitment of the judiciary towards strengthening the protection of women's rights. Over the years, several programmes, seminars and legal awareness activities have been organized to inform women about the legal safeguards available to them and to encourage them to confidently exercise their rights.

As part of these initiatives, workshops have been conducted on important legislations such as the **Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013**, commonly known as the POSH Act. These workshops aim to create awareness about the prevention of workplace harassment, the role of Internal Committees and the mechanisms available for addressing complaints. Such programmes contribute significantly to promoting a safe and respectful working environment for women.

Continuing this effort, the celebration of International Women's Day this year included a seminar and workshop on the theme **"Give to Gain."** The theme conveys a powerful message that when society invests in the empowerment, education and safety of women, the entire community benefits. By supporting women and ensuring equal opportunities, society ultimately gains stronger institutions, inclusive development and social harmony.

The **District Legal Services Authority, Durg** also plays an important role in ensuring that women have access to **free legal aid and legal counselling** whenever they require assistance. Through panel lawyers and para-legal volunteers, women facing issues such as domestic violence, harassment or family disputes are provided guidance and support so that they can seek justice without fear or financial burden.

Another significant initiative is the organization of **legal literacy camps and awareness programmes** in different parts of the district. These programmes help spread awareness about laws protecting women and encourage victims to seek timely legal assistance. By reaching out to communities and creating awareness at the grassroots level, the District Court Durg contributes to strengthening women's confidence in the justice delivery system.

The celebration of International Women's Day also included the **felicitation of women employees of the District Court establishment**, recognizing their dedication and contribution to the institution. This gesture symbolized respect and appreciation for the role women play in the functioning of the judiciary and society at large.

Through these continued efforts, the District Court Durg reaffirms its commitment to building a society where every woman can live with dignity, security and confidence. The spirit of International Women's Day and the theme **"Give to Gain"** remind us that empowering women ultimately leads to a stronger, more just and compassionate society.

Woh Shakti Hai **– A Women's Day Recitation**

Woh shakti hai...

Woh sahas hai...

Woh hi toh hai naari.

She is the strength that nurtures life,
She is the courage that faces every challenge,
She is the silent force that keeps the world moving forward.

In her compassion lies the warmth of a mother,
In her determination lies the spirit of a leader,
In her wisdom lies the vision of a brighter future.

She builds families,
She shapes societies,
She inspires generations.

At every step of life,
She stands firm with patience and dignity,
Turning obstacles into opportunities.

A woman is not only the symbol of love and sacrifice,
She is also the embodiment of resilience, independence and progress.

Today, on this occasion of International Women's Day,
We celebrate her strength, her courage and her achievements.

Let us pledge to respect her rights,
Support her dreams,
And build a society where every woman can live with dignity and freedom.

Because when a woman rises,
A family rises...
A society rises...
And the nation rises.

Yes...

Woh shakti hai...

Woh hi toh hai naari.

Commencement of Programme by lightening of lamp by respected Principal District Judge.



A special highlight of the programme was the felicitation of women employees working in the court establishment. On this occasion, 13 women employees were honoured for their long and dedicated service, sincerity and outstanding contribution to the institution. The felicitation was carried out by the Hon'ble Principal District & Sessions Judge, Durg K Vinod Kujur along with other senior judicial officers. Following employees were felicitated for their long and dedicated service -

1. Smt. Lakshmi
2. Ms. Sarita Vaishnav
3. Smt. Chunni Masiya
4. Smt. Sushma Patel
5. Smt. Jogmani Yadav
6. Smt. Sulakshana Ratnakar
7. Smt. Yasoda Bai Dhruv
8. Ms. Kanchan Pandey
9. Ms. Khushi Mahilong
10. Ms. Bhanmati Koshley
11. Ms. Khusboo Devengan

12. Ms. Nitu Hela
13. Ms. Nutan Valmik
14. Deepa Tande



TECHNICAL SESSION

Legal Awareness and Inspirational Addresses

During the seminar, Smt. Shweta Patel, Civil Judge (Senior Division) delivered an informative address highlighting the legal protections available to women in India. She explained the constitutional safeguards under Articles 14, 15(3) and 21 and discussed the importance of various legislations enacted for women's protection. She also elaborated upon the significance of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and explained how the law provides immediate protection, residence rights and financial support to women facing domestic violence. She further informed participants about women's helpline numbers and support systems available through police authorities, One Stop Centres and counselling services.

Subsequently, Smt. Aishwarya Diwan, Civil Judge (Junior Division) spoke on the theme of the year "Give to Gain." She explained that the theme reflects a deeper societal philosophy: when society invests in women through respect, opportunity and equality, the entire nation benefits through progress, justice and stability. She emphasized that empowering women should not be viewed as an act of charity or concession but rather as a **strategic and moral investment in social development**. According to her, when women receive equal opportunities in education, employment, leadership and decision-making, society gains stronger families, inclusive institutions and sustainable progress.

Elaborating on the concept, she explained that "Give to Gain" requires **action-oriented support** rather than symbolic gestures. This includes providing quality education, mentorship opportunities, equal access to leadership roles and creating institutional environments where women can thrive without discrimination. She noted that true empowerment also requires society to challenge deep-rooted stereotypes, unconscious biases and structural barriers that limit women's participation. Further elaborating on democratic participation, she explained that constitutional provisions such as Articles 243D and 243T, which provide reservation for women in Panchayats and Municipalities, have enabled millions of women to participate in governance and decision-making processes, thereby strengthening India's democratic framework. Discussing the role of the judiciary, she observed that justice is not merely about punishment but about **ensuring dignity, sensitivity and fairness for victims**. She emphasized that judicial practices such as *in-camera hearings*, the use of respectful judicial language and protection of the dignity of victims reflect a victim-centric approach to justice.





During the programme, Ms. Neeta Jain, representative of the District Bar Association, Durg, also shared her views and emphasized that International Women's Day serves as an important occasion to reaffirm commitment towards women's rights and equal opportunities. She stated that the legal fraternity remains committed to protecting women's rights and ensuring access to justice.



The programme was further enriched by the address of **Shri K. Vinod Kujur, Principal District & Sessions Judge, Durg**, who shared a heartfelt message on the occasion of International Women's Day. He mentioned that the celebration was organized in accordance with the spirit and guidance received from the , which encourages institutions to promote awareness about women's rights, dignity, and empowerment.

In his inspiring address, he emphasized that International Women's Day is not merely a ceremonial occasion but a reminder of society's collective responsibility to recognize, respect and support the invaluable contributions made by women in every sphere of life. He noted that women play a vital role in shaping families, institutions and the nation as a whole.

Shri Kujur highlighted that the legal system in India has made significant progress in strengthening safeguards for women through progressive legislation and judicial interpretation. However, he observed that the true realization of these protections depends upon awareness, sensitivity and collective commitment within society.

He appreciated the initiative taken by the in organizing the seminar on the theme **“Give to Gain,”** which emphasizes that empowering women ultimately leads to the empowerment of the entire society. He remarked that when women are provided equal opportunities, encouragement and protection of their rights, society gains stronger institutions, more balanced decision-making and sustainable development.

In a touching reflection, he observed that women embody strength, compassion and resilience, and their contributions often go beyond recognition. He encouraged everyone present to cultivate an environment of dignity, equality and mutual respect in workplaces, families and public institutions.

As part of the celebration, Hon’ble Shri Kujur, along with other senior judges, felicitated **Thirteen women employees of the District Court establishment** in recognition of their dedication, sincerity and valuable contribution to the functioning of the institution. He appreciated their commitment and expressed hope that their achievements would inspire others.

Concluding his address, he conveyed his warm greetings to all women present and reaffirmed the judiciary’s commitment to upholding justice, equality and the dignity of women in society.

Special Attractions of the Programme

The programme also featured attractive rangoli designs and thematic decorations reflecting the message of International Women’s Day and the theme “Give to Gain.” These artistic displays became a special attraction and conveyed the message of women’s empowerment, equality and dignity.

A dedicated selfie zone was also arranged for participants, adding enthusiasm and engagement to the celebration.

During the event, women participants were honoured with roses and chocolates presented by male officers and staff members as a gesture of appreciation and respect.





Vote of Thanks

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Smt. Sunita Toppo, who expressed her gratitude to the Hon'ble Principal District & Sessions Judge, judicial officers, members of the Bar and all staff members for their cooperation in making the programme successful.



As we reflect upon the celebration of International Women's Day at the District Court, Durg, we feel that it was much more than a formal observance. The programme truly embodied the spirit of this year's theme, **"Give to Gain."** Through thoughtful discussions, inspiring addresses and meaningful interactions, the event provided not only valuable awareness about the legal rights and protections available to women but also instilled motivation and confidence among all those present. We experienced that when we come together to share knowledge, encouragement and respect, we take a meaningful step towards true empowerment. The celebration reminded us that when society gives support, opportunities and dignity to women, it ultimately gains a stronger, more compassionate and progressive community. In this way, the event beautifully reflected the essence of **"Give to Gain."**

PHOTO GALLERY



