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## Observation of National Girls Child Day and Gyana Shikha Lecture series started by the Department of Women & Child Development and Mission Shakti

Bhubaneswar, 24.01.2019

The National Girls Child Day was celebrated on 24th January 2019, at Bhubaneswar by the Department of W&CD and MS by starting a lecture series named “Gyana Sikha Lecture Series”. The Gyana Sikha Lecture series is to enhance the knowledge and build the potential of understanding of the staff and functionaries of the department. The purpose of the lecture series is to provide a knowledge platform, so that the officials of the department can widen their vision and be motivated. Eminent and subject experts will deliver a talk on a subject which is relevant and pertinent to the department.

Sri Prafulla Samal, Minister, WCD & Mission Shakti, SSEPD, MSME inaugurated the lecture series and said that the National Girl Child Day is a day to reaffirm our commitment towards the development of the girl child. Presently the focus is that no child will be out of school. The State has initiated many schemes and programmes towards the empowerment of the girls and women.

The theme of the National Girl Child Day is “Empowering the Girls” and in this context the 1st Lecture was on “Ensuring a better future for girls in Odisha” which was delivered by Dr. Deepa Prasad of UNFPA, Odisha. The lecture focused on the current situation of the girls in the state with regard to indicators of health and education.

On the occasion Smt. Anu Garg, Principal Secretary and Smt. Sujata Karthikeyan, Commissioner Cum Director, Mission Shakti and Mr. Reghu. G, Director, spoke on the need for greater focus on programmes for girl child.

DSWOs of the 30 districts and the State Officials of the department participated in the programme which was held in the Mission Shakti Bhavan. Hon’ble Minister inaugurated e-Prasikshan, which is a web based training MIS and is a joint initiative of the department and Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives. This MIS is designed to help ICDS Functionaries to keep track of and further improve their training requirements.

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