



SARVAJANIK UNIVERSITY

REPORT
ON

SAMATVAM

EQUALITY, RESPECT AND EMPOWERMENT



ORGANIZED BY

**WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CELL
SARVAJANIK UNIVERSITY**

HELD ON

10th MARCH 2026

GENDER SENSITIZATION PROGRAM

CO-ORDINATED BY

DR. KAUSHIKA PAL

Objective of SAMATVAM

SAMATVAM – Equality, Respect & Empowerment aims to promote gender sensitization by fostering awareness, inclusivity, and mutual respect among students, while encouraging critical thinking and creative expression on issues of equality and empowerment. It seeks to challenge stereotypes, unlearn biases, and inspire a more equitable and inclusive society.

Details of Samatvam

Date and Time:	10 th March 2026, 10:00 AM Onwards	
Venue:	Sarvajanik University Seminar Hall	
Targeted Audience	Students of Sarvajanik University	
Total Participation	164	
Convener & Coordinator	Dr. Kaushika Pal	
Organized By	Women Development Cell, Sarvajanik University	
WDC Committee Members	Dr. Delnaz Variava (SRLIM) Dr. Shikha Samaiya (SCOPA) Dr. Roshni Langrana (SCCCA) Dr. Neha Sheth (BRCM) Dr. Vrushti Patel	Dr. Toral Desai (SRKI) Dr. Vaishali Koshti (SCOL) Prof. Bhavana Vimawala (MS-IDPT) Dr. Manisha Sharma Ms. Tejal Surati
Advisor	Dr. Meera Sharma, Scientist and Patent Attorney	

Inaugurations:

Dignitaries in Attendance & Lamp Lighting Ceremony

The inauguration ceremony was graced by esteemed dignitaries whose presence added great significance to the event:

Shri Ashish Vakil, Chairman, Sarvajanik Education Society

Prof. Dr. Kiran Pandya, Provost, Sarvajanik University

Ms. Shraddha Shah, Renowned Dancer & Guest Speaker

Adv. Hiral Panwala, Guest Speaker

The program commenced with a prayer followed the traditional lighting of the ceremonial lamp, symbolizing the dispelling of ignorance and the ushering in of knowledge and awareness.

The event began with a warm address by Dr. Kaushika Pal, Convener of the Women Development Cell, Sarvajanik University. She extended a heartfelt welcome to the dignitaries and participants and provided an insightful overview of the “SAMATVAM” initiative, highlighting its focus on promoting gender sensitization through equality, respect, and empowerment.

As a mark of respect and appreciation, the distinguished guests were felicitated with floral tributes: Shri Ashish Vakil felicitated the first guest speaker, Ms. Shraddha Shah and Prof. Dr. Kiran Pandya felicitated the second guest speaker, Adv. Hiral Panwala.

During the inauguration, Shri Ashish Vakil, President of Sarvajanik University, delivered the Presidential Address and appreciated the initiative SAMATVAM – Equality, Respect & Empowerment. He highlighted that this program marks one of the first structured efforts towards gender sensitization at the University level under the Society. He elaborated on the rich legacy of the Sarvajanik Education Society, established in 1912 in Surat, which has consistently worked towards making education accessible and inclusive. He proudly noted that the Society has been a pioneer in promoting women’s education, having established dedicated institutions for girls as early as 1934 with the Sarvajanik High School for Girls, at a time when such initiatives were rare. He emphasized that initiatives like SAMATVAM play a crucial role in nurturing equality, respect, and empowerment among students, and encouraged all participants to actively engage, reflect, and contribute towards building a more inclusive and equitable society.

During the inauguration, Prof. Dr. Kiran Pandya, Provost of Sarvajanik University, shared his words of motivation for the Women Development Cell and the students. He delivered an inspiring and motivating address emphasizing the importance of gender sensitization in today’s academic and social landscape. He highlighted the crucial role of educational institutions in shaping responsible, aware, and empathetic individuals, and stressed that true progress can only be achieved through equality, respect, and inclusivity. He encouraged students to become more conscious of social issues, thereby contributing to a more balanced and empowered society. He also expressed confidence in the Women Development Cell, stating that it will continue to play a significant role in promoting awareness, organizing meaningful initiatives, and working progressively towards the holistic development and empowerment of students.

The inauguration was further enriched by two highly inspiring and thought-provoking keynote sessions, which left a lasting impact on the audience.

Ms. Shraddha Shah shared her inspiring journey as a dancer, highlighting the significance of discipline, perseverance, and self-expression in achieving personal and professional growth. She beautifully articulated how art serves as a powerful medium for self-discovery, confidence building, and emotional strength, encouraging students to embrace their individuality and pursue their passions with dedication.

Adv. Hiral Panwala delivered a compelling and insightful session focusing on legal awareness and self-advocacy. She emphasized the importance of being informed about one's rights and responsibilities, and the need to stand up with confidence in the face of challenges. Her practical insights and real-life perspectives provided valuable guidance, motivating students to become aware, empowered, and responsible individuals in society.

As part of the ceremony, Shri Ashish Vakil, President of Sarvajanic University, formally launched the “Tejasvini” initiative. This initiative aims to recognize and celebrate women within the university community whose life journeys reflect strength, resilience, courage, and inspiration. In his address, he emphasized the importance of acknowledging such inspiring stories and fostering a culture of equality, respect, and empowerment, encouraging women to come forward and share their journeys as a source of motivation for others.



The inauguration concluded with a formal Vote of Thanks delivered by Dr. Toral Desai, who expressed sincere gratitude to the management, dignitaries, guest speakers, organizing committee, and participants for their valuable contributions and enthusiastic participation, making the event a meaningful and successful beginning. This was followed by the National Anthem, and the event SAMATVAM – Equality, Respect & Empowerment was officially declared open.







During the prize distribution ceremony, the Registrar Shri Ashish Desai, addressed the gathering and spoke about the strength and potential of women in shaping society. He appreciated and congratulated the efforts of the Women Development Cell (WDC) for successfully organizing the programme. He also motivated students to truly understand the changing social dynamics, especially in today's context where both partners contribute equally in professional and personal spheres, emphasizing the importance of mutual respect, understanding, and shared responsibilities.

Competitions of SAMATVAM

The Women Development Cell of Sarvajanic University successfully organized a series of creative competitions on 10 March 2026 at the University Seminar Hall, aimed at promoting gender sensitivity, creativity, and social awareness among students. Students from all eight constituent colleges participated in the competitions.

All competitions witnessed enthusiastic participation and served as effective platforms for students to express their perspectives on gender equality and empowerment. The Women Development Cell successfully fostered awareness and engagement through these creative initiatives, reinforcing the values of inclusivity and respect within the university community.

1. Poster Creation Competition

The Poster Making Competition was conducted under the theme “Samatvam – Equality, Respect, and Empowerment.” The event encouraged participants to visually express ideas related to gender equality, inclusivity, and empowerment. Students showcased innovative and impactful posters based on themes such as equal opportunities in education, women in leadership, and mental well-being across genders. The competition emphasized clarity of message, creativity, and effective use of minimal text.

Date and Time:	11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Venue:	Sarvajanik University Seminar Hall
Coordinated By	Dr. Kaushika Pal, Dr. Delnaz Variava
Winners	1st Prize: Priyanshi Dudhat and Devanshi Dudhat, B.R.C.M. College of Business Administration (BRCM), Surat 2nd Prize: Shah Moksh Nitinkumar and Lad Kenil Hitesh Kumar, Sarvajanik College of Engineering & Technology (SCET), Surat 3rd Prize: Parth Kariya and Vasu Nadoda, B.R.C.M. College of Business Administration (BRCM), Surat
Judges	Prof. Zankhana Vaishnav, SCET, Sarvajanik University Prof. Anjana Ghelani, SRKI, Sarvajanik University

2. BookMark Creation Competition

The Bookmark Making Competition was organized alongside the poster event, encouraging participants to create meaningful and artistic bookmarks reflecting the theme of gender equality and empowerment. Participants used handmade techniques to design bookmarks with powerful quotes, symbols, and minimalistic art representing inclusivity and awareness.

Date and Time:	11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Venue:	Sarvajanik University Seminar Hall
Coordinated By	Dr. Kaushika Pal, Dr. Delnaz Variava
Winners	1st Prize: Krunal Dey and Vruti Tailor, Sarvajanik College of Engineering & Technology (SCET), Surat 2nd Prize: Harshi Rajeshkumar Tandel and Riya Vadaliya Sarvajanik College of Engineering & Technology (SCET), Surat 3rd Prize: Kanya Malhotra and Nandini Zanzmera, Sarvajanik College of Engineering & Technology (SCET), Surat
Judges	Prof. Zankhana Vaishnav, SCET, Sarvajanik University Prof. Anjana Ghelani, SRKI, Sarvajanik University

Both The competition highlighted students' creativity in conveying impactful messages through small yet meaningful designs.



3. Debate Competition

The Debate Competition at Sarvajanic University was conducted on the theme “Gender Inclusiveness of Women in Society,” focusing on evaluating the extent to which modern society ensures equality across social, economic, political, and cultural domains.

The debate followed a structured For & Against format, with participants presenting arguments on critical issues such as recognition of unpaid domestic labour, gender quotas in leadership, the effectiveness of legal frameworks, and the role of media in shaping perceptions of women.

Participants demonstrated strong critical thinking by addressing complex dimensions of gender inequality, including intersectionality involving caste, class, religion, and age. Discussions also highlighted the gap between increased access to education and actual equality in professional and social spaces.

The competition successfully encouraged informed, respectful discourse while fostering awareness of structural and cultural barriers affecting women. Overall, the event provided a platform for meaningful dialogue and analytical engagement on gender inclusiveness.

Date and Time:	2:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Venue:	Sarvajanic University Seminar Hall
Coordinated By	Dr. Neha Seth, Dr. Vrushti Patel, Dr. Vaishali Koshti
Winners	1. 1 st Position: Arham Shah and Vatsal Naik, BRCM, Sarvajanic University 2. 2 nd Position: Khushi Mali and Parth Desai, BRCM, Sarvajanic University
Judge	Dr. Dhara Desai, Assistant Professor, SCET, Sarvajanic University

4. Movie Review Competition

The Movie Review Competition at Sarvajanic University centered on Gender Sensitisation, with the theme of Patriarchy, Women Empowerment, Women’s Journey and Social Stigma. Students presented critical analyses of films like The Last Colour and Jaya Jaya Jaya Hey, exploring multiple dimensions such as social norms, identity, resistance, and systemic inequality. The Last Colour was examined through the lens of widowhood and social exclusion, while Jaya Jaya Jaya

Jaya Hey highlighted everyday patriarchy and assertion of agency. Participants effectively linked cinematic narratives to contemporary society, offering thoughtful, analytical perspectives beyond storytelling. The event successfully fostered critical thinking and deeper awareness of gender issues.

Date and Time:	2:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Venue:	Sarvajanik University Seminar Hall
Coordinated By	Dr. Neha Seth, Dr. Vrushti Patel, Dr. Vaishali Koshti
Winners	1st Position: Shreevansh Khushboo, SCOL, Sarvajanik University 2nd Position: Mysha Mirza, BRCM, Sarvajanik University
Judge	Mr. Girish Solanki, Assistant Professor, SCOPA, Sarvajanik University



5. Logo Competition

A logo represents the Women Development Cell's identity, mission, and values. It ensures recognition, spreads awareness, and builds trust. It symbolizes empowerment, unity, safety, and growth, encourages participation, creates a sense of belonging, and strengthens communication, making the organization more visible and impactful.

Keeping this in view, a logo design competition was organized, inviting students to submit their creative logo concepts. The deadline for submission was 8th March at 12:00 PM. The students participated enthusiastically, and a total of 19 entries were received. Out of these, 7 logos were shortlisted and presented by the participants.

The presentations reflected the students' creativity, awareness, and perspectives on gender sensitization and women's development in the present context. During their presentations, participants also explained the rationale behind their chosen designs, highlighting the ideas and messages they intended to convey.

Among them, one outstanding design was selected and awarded as the best logo.

Date and Time:	11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Venue:	T&P Conference Room Second floor, Sarvajani University
Coordinated By	Prof. Roshni Langrana
Winners	Jenny Patel and Nidhi Malankiya, SCET, Sarvajani University
Judges	Dr. Toral Desai and Dr. Manisha Sharma





We are grateful to our honourable Provost, Dr. Kiran Pandya; Registrar and Shri Ashish Desai for their support and permission to conduct this event.

"A truly progressive university is reflected in the equality it practices, the respect it nurtures, and the empowerment it enables — Samantvam is our commitment to this vision."

Report Compiled by Dr. Kaushika Pal