

## **National Girl Child Day observed in VFSTR**

National Girl Child Day is celebrated every year on 24 January to encourage the opportunities for the girl child in the society, give them better living with respect to education, medical facilities and care.

VFSTR is always in the fore front to encourage the girl students. The A-Block of VFSTR was seen vibrant with the girl students holding the pluck cards, “India will Shine when the girl child shines” and the echoes of the slogans were attracting the people on the campus here on Thursday.

Around 100 students actively participated in the rally with great amount of zeal and enthusiasm which has started from A- Block to the sports ground of U-Block. Chairman, Vignan Group of Institutions, Dr. L. Rathaiah , faculty members of S & H and from other departments have actively participated in the rally.

Dr. L. Rathaiah while speaking on the occasion threw light on the importance of this day and the need of empowering the girl child by ensuring her equal opportunities of growth and development.

Dr. Usha Rani asserted that we cannot imagine a society without women and it is the social responsibility of every citizen to come forward for protection and upliftment of women folk. Many students also came forward by expressing the views on Empowering Girl Child.

### **All You Need To Know**

The National Girl Child Day is celebrated in India every year on January 24. First initiated in 2008 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the National Girl Child Day aims to promote awareness on a range of issues including education, health, and nutrition.

The government, through schemes like 'Dhanalakshmi', has introduced various measures to strengthen the status of the girl child in the society. Launched by the Women and Child Development, the 'Dhanalakshmi' scheme ensures that basic needs of the girl child such as immunization, birth registration and school maintenance are taken care of till Class 8.

Other measures like the Prohibition of Child Marriage Restraint Act 2006, Pre-Conception & Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act 1994, Domestic

Violence Act 2009, POCSO Act 2012, etc were introduced to stop various injustices against the girl child.

### **Objectives**

- To increase awareness among the people and ensure every girl gets equal importance as their counterparts.
- To increase awareness against the social stigma and discrimination faced by girl.
- To generate awareness on the issue of declining Child Sex Ratio and create a positive environment around valuing the girl child.

Only 65.46 % of the female were found to be literate as against 82.14% of male, as per the 2011 census. The survey also revealed that gender discrimination was still prevalent in the society.

The government has introduced various schemes to ensure every girl child enjoys a better life. Here are few rights in India:

- Use of ultrasound tests for gender discrimination has been made illegal in India.
- Child marriages have been restricted.
- 'Save the Girl Child' has been introduced by the government.
- Introduction of Self-Help groups to ensure a better livelihood for girls in rural areas.