

International Women's Day is observed in Patiala



International Women's Day that celebrates the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women globally was observed in Patiala District of Punjab on March 8, 2021. The event recognized the contribution of women in water and sanitation.

As many as 50 champion women Sarpanches and Panchs attended the meeting organised by the District SBM team, and led by District Sanitation Officer, Mr. Prabhleen Dhanju.



The function that celebrated women was organized at the Mini Secretariat in Patiala and graced by the Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development) Smt. Preeti Yadav.

Addressing the Sarpanches, Smt. Yadav appreciated the efforts and contribution of women to the society. She congratulated all the women champions on International Women's Day and encouraged them to increase their participation in all areas.

She also told them to believe in equality and recommended that they avail the facilities and employment generation schemes offered to them by the Government. Providing them various details and contact numbers, she encouraged them to take up those schemes to benefit women. Besides, she applauded the efforts made by men in supporting the women to excel in their chosen fields.

The following women champion sarpanches were honored by the District administration on the occasion:



Smt. Nirmal Kaur: A Champion Sarpanch from village Devi Nagar Swai Singh Wala of Bhunerhedi Block, the Sarpanch had done exceptionally well in transforming her village, and making it neat and clean. Owing to her sincere efforts and dedication, the village became one of the first in the Block to get a Solid Waste Management Plant. She was recognized and acknowledged for her hard work.

Smt. Swaranjit Kaur: The Chairman of the Gram Panchayat Water and Sanitation Committee (GPWSC) of Village Dhugat in Block Patiala, Smt. Swaranjit Kaur has been working hard to provide safe and potable water supply to the community. Further, the GPWSC has been effectively managing the operation and maintenance of the water supply schemes. Her efforts were recognized during the event.

Smt. Anuradha Thakur: She is the only Sarpanch in the District of Patiala who encouraged women's participation and went on to form an all women GPWSC. The GPWSC comprises of 11 women from different sections of the villages who have been actively participating in maintaining their water supply scheme.

Smt. Gurpreet Kaur: The Sarpanch of village Routi Channa in Block Nabha has been performing her duties exceptionally well. She along with other GPWSC members have been ensuring that the village water supply scheme is functional, that consumers pay the tariff regularly and that the community gets safe drinking water.

Other sarpanches were given certificates for participation in the event.

On the occasion, a short video documentary on successful implementation of the solid waste management project in village Hardaspur of District Patiala was launched by the Smt. Preeti Yadav.



In addition, a special programme was telecast on Doordarshan Punjabi to showcase the contribution of women in sanitation. The programme covered the dedication and sincerity of Smt. Sher Kaur, a waste collector of the solid waste management plant in Village Jhuerhedi of District Mohali. Sher Kaur has been performing her duties incredibly well, consistently guiding the community members about good hygiene practices. For her efforts, she is paid Rs. 8000- 8500 every month. She is delighted that can make a small contribution to the society.

The programme concluded with the honouring of Ms. Mamta Bakshi, IEC Specialist (State Team Water) and all the district sanitation team members.



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