

SNDT Women's University, Mumbai

Press Note

March 8, 2017

Shreemati Nathibai Damodar Thackersey Women's University (SNDT WU), Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Department Government of Maharashtra and United Nations Development Programme organized an afternoon to inspire and empower the women of our nation on **March 8, 2017 at 12.30 pm** at the Sir Sitaram and Lady Shantabai Patkar Deekshant Sabhagriha at Churchgate campus of the University.

Prof. Shashikala Wanjari, Vice Chancellor, SNDTWU welcomed the dignitaries. She assured to maintain and continue the legacy of Bharat Ratna Dhondo Keshav Karve in her welcome address. She also said that the University aims to empower its girl students.

Ms. Amruta Fadnavis announced the commencement of a comprehensive skill development initiative titled **Swa-Disha** to empower 15,000 girls and women of SNDT WU over a period of one year through career counseling and internship placement programme. Ms. Amruta Fadnavis emphasized that one should have high aims in one's life and become like a Bamboo shoot which grows and touches the sky.

The programme also witnessed the launch of Swa:Adhar mobile App which provides information of SNDT Women's University and insights regarding women's rights and legislations. **ANVI** (Assistive Navigator for Visually Impaired) a GPS enabled stick developed by P.V. Polytechnic of SNDT Women's University for Divyang was demonstrated and launched during the programme.

Mr. Deepak Kapoor, Principal Secretary Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Department Government of Maharashtra said that only 2% of Indian population is skilled. He also highlighted the importance of skilling women for upliftment of the nation.

On the occasion of International Women's Day 2017, a panel discussion having the theme "Be bold for Change" was moderated by Mr. Deepak Kapoor and saw an active participation from Ms. Amruta Fadnavis, Prof Shashikala Wanjari, Ms. Madhura Velankar (a leading film actress), Ms. Leena Mogre (a leading fitness trainer), Ms. Nafeesa Moloobhoy (MD of A.S. Moloobhoy) and Ms. Aafreen Siddiqui Sherwani (UNDP).