

Notice re: Open Forum on Gender Sensitisation at UGC Office , Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg- 13 th April at 10:00 am

As you are aware the UGC has set up a Task Force to recommend measures to ensure the safety of women and youth, and programmes for Gender sensitisation on campuses across the country. This is a matter of the highest priority as has been mandated by the Government.

The Task Force has been visiting a number of campuses towards fulfilling its aims of obtaining a Ground level understanding of the issues involved. In order to undertake a similar endeavour with regard to Delhi University and its network of colleges in this city, the UGC is arranging an Open Forum at its own premises on Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, Near ITO on Saturday, 13th April 2013, which would be a very central location to enable full participation from across the city. We look forward to having interactions with members of the Committee against Sexual Harassment, the Women's Studies Development Centre and Women's Development Cells of the colleges, as well as with students, faculty and staff to learn how best to facilitate and support efforts in this crucial area that requires urgent and significant engagement. The purpose is to assess best practices and also take on board suggestions for the improvement of existing mechanisms of redressal in our spaces of Higher Education in the country.

I have the faith that you are one with the efforts of the UGC in this direction and will be grateful if you can extend all support to the members of the Task Force in this regard. The Task Force is NOT a grievance redressal mechanism. At this stage its focus is to elicit views and suggestion that will help eradicate the menace of gender based violence on our campuses, root out cultures of impunity and nurture practices that mainstream gender sensitisation as an essential and integral part of the teaching-learning practices. Your support will go a long way in strengthening this effort.

Meenakshi Gopinath (Chair, UGC Task Force)
Mary E John (Co-chair)
and other members.