

## Celebration of the 9<sup>th</sup> International Day of Women and Girls in Science

Every year since 2015, as per the directives of UN Women, the 11th of February is celebrated to mark the International Day of Women and Girls in Science. This year marked the 9th celebration of this day and a programme was organised by Department of Physics, Dibrugarh University, UGC Centre for Women's Studies, Dibrugarh University, and North Lakhimpur College in collaboration with Radio Gyanmalinee, FM 90.8 Community Radio Station of Dibrugarh University from 9th of February to 11th of February, 2024 at Dibrugarh University. Dr. Binita Pathak, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, Dibrugarh University; Dr. Kakali Bhuyan, Director, Women's Studies Centre and Head of the Department of Physics, North Lakhimpur College (A); and Dr. Nasmee Akhtar, Director in-charge, UGC Centre for Women's Studies Centre, Dibrugarh University acted as the Convenors of the programme. Empowering women and girls to lead in science is critical to creating a sustainable future for all. Therefore, with the theme, "Women and Girls in Science Leadership - A new era for Sustainability", on the 9th and 10th of February, outreach programs were conducted at high schools by the research scholars of the Department of Physics, Dibrugarh University to impart science education to young girls and inspire them to pursue a career in the field. Simultaneously, North Lakhimpur College also held outreach programs at five schools. Dr. Nasmee Akhtar presented a talk on "Women and Girls in Science: Issues and Concerns" in English. The talk was aired on Akashvani Dibrugarh on February 10, 2024, at 8:15 PM. Dr. Kakoli Bhuyan also participated in a program called "Antara" aired by All India Radio, Dibrugarh on February 11th, 2024 at 12.30 pm. An online interactive session with Dr. Anil Chandra Borah, Senior Regional Director of IGNOU, was organised on February 11, 2024, at 10:30 am. In this programme inaugurated by Dr. Biman Chetia, Principal, North Lakhimpur College (Autonomous) the participants and the resource person deliberated extensively on Women and Science offering invaluable insights and opportunities for women and their engagement with STEMM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine) fields.



