



Sir/Madam,

We are happy to apprise you that the UGC Centre for Women's Studies, Dibrugarh University, with sponsorship from the National Commission for Women is organizing a National Seminar on **20-21 November 2024** on the topic "Harnessing AI Opportunities for Women". We Invite Faculties, Professionals, Research Scholars, and Students of your institutions/organisations to send their abstracts following the instructions given below.

Convenor

Dr. Nasmeeem F. Akhtar

Director i/c

UGC Centre for Women's Studies

Dibrugarh University

National Conference

on

"Harnessing AI Opportunities for Women"

20-21 November 2024

Co-Convenor

Dr. Barnali Das

Assistant Professor

UGC Centre for Women's Studies

Dibrugarh University

Co-Convenor

Debajanees Bora

Research Assistant

UGC Centre for Women's Studies

Dibrugarh University

Organised by

UGC Centre for Women's Studies

Dibrugarh University

Sponsored by

National Commission for Women

New Delhi

About National Commission for Women:

The National Commission for Women was formed to establish an equal and just livelihood for women by making legal and constitutional amendments for women in India. It was formed as a statutory body in January 1992 under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 (Act No. 20 of 1990 of Govt. of India) to: review the Constitutional and Legal safeguards for women; recommend remedial legislative measures; facilitate redressal of grievances and advise the Government on all policy matters affecting women. The Commission has been organising and facilitating workshops/consultations and has constituted expert committees for gender awareness and took up publicity campaigns against female foeticide, violence against women etc. to generate awareness in society against these social evils.

About Dibrugarh University:

Dibrugarh University, the easternmost University in India, was established in 1965 consequent upon the provisions of the Dibrugarh University Act, 1965, enacted by the Assam Legislative Assembly. The University was selected as one of the multidisciplinary education and research universities (MERU) under the Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM USHA) Scheme. It has a prolific and productive industrial academia interface. With its strong global links in teaching and research programmes, Dibrugarh University comprises 17 Departments and 16 Centres for Studies and hosts 177 affiliated colleges and institutes spread over nine

districts of Assam. Dibrugarh University is a member of the Association of Indian Universities and is recognised by all the universities in India and abroad. It is situated at Rajabeta, five kilometres to the South of Dibrugarh town and is well connected by road, rail, and air.

About the Centre:

The UGC Centre for Women's Studies is the only Centre for Studies at Dibrugarh University to be sponsored by the University Grants Commission, New Delhi. Ever since its inception in 1998, the Centre has been working relentlessly as a catalyst of social change with its focus on teaching, research, extension and networking, and documentation, thereby creating awareness about persisting concerns related to gender. Apart from involving itself in various research projects in collaboration with organisations such as the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Govt. of India, National and State Commissions for Women, and Zubaan Publications, the Centre at present offers PhD and Post Graduate Programmes in Women's Studies.

Concept Note:

Artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly integrating into both workplace and domestic settings, affecting women's opportunities for work and their position, status, and treatment in the workplace. Women in the labor force often earn less than men, spend more time on unpaid child- and elder-care jobs, hold fewer senior positions, and participate less in STEM fields. Contextual factors shape how men and women experience changes to their work that AI brings about, such as gender inequalities in labor force participation rates and pay gaps. Closing the digital gender divide presents opportunities for women's working lives, as digital skills can open access to online markets, enable women to start businesses online, provide career advancement opportunities, and open access to loans and financial services. AI systems can also optimize job search services to ensure equal opportunity for women when considering and applying for work. Investing in initiatives, projects, and companies that encourage women's access to digital devices and connectivity and develop women's digital skills can help women around the world prepare for and secure jobs.

Women experience a gendered divide in access to the internet and digital skills, largely due to cultural norms, and financial constraints, and lack of education. Research shows that women are 25% less likely than men to use the internet to search for a job and know how to leverage digital technology for basic uses. Further, access to digital information is crucial for helping women learn about, acquire, and develop digital skills. The need of the hour is to increase women's access to devices and the internet, complementing it with digital skills that can facilitate their entry, permanence, and growth in the labor market. Gender gaps in

access to ICTs vary in size and substance, and AI has the potential to help societies achieve their goals, but it can also deepen inequalities.

To address these and other such related issues, there is an urgent need to increase women's participation in AI, data science, and software engineering teams and educate men on gender bias in the technology sector. Keeping the above in view, this seminar aims to deliberate on the impact, challenges, and prospects of AI in the lives of women across all spheres.

The organisers invite submission of abstracts that address but are not limited to the following sub-themes:

- ❖ Women, Science and Technology and the Use/Abuse of AI
- ❖ Women and use of ICT and AI in Education
- ❖ Women, Health, and AI
- ❖ Women, Work, Entrepreneurship, and AI
- ❖ AI and Gendered Minorities
- ❖ AI and Gender Mainstreaming
- ❖ AI and Gender Based Violence
- ❖ Strategies to include more women in the field of AI-driven technology
- ❖ Policy initiatives for gender inclusivity in the STEM fields

Guidelines for Submission of Abstracts:

Participants are requested to submit an abstract of about 250-300 words in the docx (word doc.) format. Once the abstracts are selected participants are requested to submit the full paper.

The abstract should be written in Times New Roman, 12 font and double-spacing format.

The selected papers shall be published in an edited volume with ISBN.

Registration fee:

Faculties and Other Professionals Rs. 1500/-
Research Scholars and Students Rs. 800/-

Important Dates:

Last date of submission of abstracts: **20 October 2024**
Notification of acceptance of abstract: **25 October 2024**
Registration: **6 November 2024**
Submission of full paper: **10 November 2024**

The interested participants can submit their abstract and other queries relating to the seminar in the given email id: ugccwsdibruseminar@gmail.com