

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

I feel honoured and privilege in writing the report of RUWA for the annual magazine “Shakti”. All cells of RUWA and the members work tirelessly with commitment and dedication for the fulfillment of the objectives of RUWA. It gives me immense pleasure in presently their multiple and diverse activities.

Creating awareness and ensuring non-discrimination of women in the field of education, employment and other social conditions is a main objective of RUWA. To bring this into operation RUWA organizes academic and cultural activities. In this series a gender sensitization workshop was organized in Govt. College Jaipur on Dec, 2016. Former Presidents of RUWA Prof. Beena Agarwal, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain and Dr. Urvashi Sharma, Associate Professor of Hindi Department of University of Rajasthan addressed the students on women issues.

RUWA initiates and support efforts for removal of social evils and conditions that are detrimental to the status and dignity of women. As such during the Violence Against Women (VAW) fortnight a workshop was organized in Law College of Rajasthan University on 02-12-2016. RUWA president Prof. Asha Kaushik, convener Legal Cell Prof. Lad Kumari Jain and counselor of FCC participated in the workshop.

Similarly an awareness programme was organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2016 in Sat Sai College , Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur for the publicity of different programs of RUWA. Vice-President, RUWA Dr. Kokila Jain , Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Convener, Legal Cell, Smt. Shyama Sharda convener FCC, Dr. Janki Moorjani, Co-Convener FCC and Counselors Vijaya Sharma and Priyanka Kumpawat also interacted with students.

Debate discussions and poster competitions are effective means of socialization of young boys and girls. To sensitize the youth on important gender issues. Inter-collegiate debate and poster Competition has been one of the most consistent annual activity of RUWA. The Academic Cell of RUWA organized *debate and poster* competition for college and university students of the city on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017. The Topic of the debate was – “Economic Independence is the only basis of women empowerment. Students of 11 colleges of the city participated in the competition and expressed their views in favour and against the motion. Prof Kamal Vashishtha, Department of education, Jaipur National University was the Chief Guest and Prof. Asha Kaushik chaired the competition. Dr Rashmi jain, convener of academic cell, RUWA welcomed the guests and elaborated on the importance of having a debate on women’s issues. The judges of the debate competition were Dr Nidhi Singh, Associate Professor, Department of English, UOR and Dr Deepa Mathur, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, UOR. The programme was well attended by the members of RUWA. Former Presidents Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Prof. Beena Agarwal also encouraged the participants with their presence.

RUWA is a social service oriented women’s organisation. Its cells Helpline, FCC and Shakti Stambh provide a forum to study and understand women problems. RUWA receives numerous interns throughout the year. On 24 Jan 2017 30 Law interns from PUCL had one day programme in Shakti Stambh. They were addressed by convener Legal Cell Prof. Lad Kumari Jain. She provided details about RUWA campaigns against dowery deaths, Sati, female foeticide and other issues offending status and condition of women. She also stated legal protection available to women and girls. Dr. Shashi Lata Puri convener Shakti Stambh informed interns about the role of Shakti Stambh in providing shelter to distressed women. On 22-24<sup>th</sup> November also interns of

PUCL and M.Ed Students of Vashundhra Women's College, Achrol, Jaipur came to visit RUWA.

Important national festival and days are celebrated in RUWA. On Republic Day on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017 flag hoisting ceremony was followed by a vibrant cultural programme by the inmates of Shakti Stambh. On this occasion former President RUWA Dr. Maya Tandon was Chief Guest. The celebration was attended by former Presidents of RUWA, Members of executive, Conveners of all cells of RUWA, life and general members of RUWA, Counsellors of all cells, present and past residents of Shakti Stambh. Two inmates were given gifts for the services rendered by them. For Minta Devi who has delivered a baby boy in Shakti Stambh.

RUWA organises interactions with intellectuals and experts on women issues from various fields. On 30 Jan 2017 renowned author Chitra Mudgal visited Shakti Stambh, she was very keen to meet and talk with residents of Shakti Stambh. She encouraged residents to fight courageously. She narrated her life experience. Residents also shared their unfortunate circumstances with her. Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Prof. Sudesh Batra, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Dr. Madhulika Sharma, Smt. Neelima Tikku also participated in the literary interactions.

OBR ie One Billion Rising is a global movement founded by Eve Inster in 2013 to fight against rape, sexual violence and other forms of violence against women. On Feb 14, 2017 to express solidarity with women across the globe RUWA and Other NGO organized the programme of OBR in the premise of Umang School. Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Ladhakumari Jain, Dr. Malti Gupta, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri represented RUWA. Warden Shakti Stambh Smt. Santosh participated in the celebration along with Shakti Stambh residents. Radha Prajapat a resident of Shakti Stambh recited a poem based on the fears of parents in bringing up their daughters. the poem her point was highly appreciated by the audience.

On 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 Former activist of Oxfam International Baby Ji visited accompanied by Former President RUWA Prof. Pratibha Jain. RUWA President Prof. Asha Kaushik welcomed the guest and provided details of activities of different cells RUWA. Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Dr. Kokila Jain, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Nivedita from PRIA, Smt. Manju Joshi from Sikon-Dikon and counselors of all cells participated in programme.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 30 students and Two teachers from Poornima College visited RUWA to understand its different activities. Convener Helpline Prof. Pawan Surana, Convener Legal Cell Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Convener Shakti Stambh Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Co-convener FCC Dr. Janki Moorjani, Joint Secretary Dr. Anita Rathi provided detailed information about RUWA and its cells. RUWA President Prof. Asha Kaushik presided the programme.

RUWA has asserted itself with campaigns and celebrations that signify solidarity of women across the globe. It associates with other women groups on all common issues. International Women's Day celebration on March 8 to build support for women's rights has been celebrated by RUWA ever since its establishment. RUWA celebrated Women's Day on March 8, 2017 with numerous Women's organization in the premises of Shahid Smarak, MI Road, Jaipur. RUWA was represented on the occasion by President RUWA, Prof. Asha Kaushik, Former Presidents of RUWA, Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain and Mrs. Gerda Unnithan, Secretary RUWA Dr. Purna Puri, Joint Secretary RUWA Smt. Nidhi Sharma, Convener Shakti Stambh Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Convener Rehabilitation Cell Mrs. Bimla Duggad, Counselors Prem and Sangeeta Jadon and residents of Shakti Stambh. The celebration was made vibrant and colourful by songs and slogans related to the theme of women empowerment. Shakti Stambh residents

Radha and Prem recited poems based on the conditions of daughters and girls in our society. A stall of Mathris prepared in Shakti Stambh was set up during the programme.

Rajasthan University Women's Association( RUWA),Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) , and Department of Psychology, University of Rajasthan jointly organized an interactive session on Gender Discrimination and violence against women on 27 th March . Dr Prerna Puri secretary RUWA welcomed the participants and introduced the theme. Senior officer Ms . Nivedita of PRIA talked about the objective of PRIA –NGO and Martha Farrell foundation.She told about KBC program i.e Kadam Badhate Chalo through which with the help of youth they are working for violence against women .Around 50 people participated in the program including RUWA president Prof Asha Kaushik , Prof. Manju Mehta ,Mrs Neelima Tikku ,faculty members Dr Madhu Jain, Dr Uma Mittal ,Dr Rashmi Chodhary from Dept. of Psychology and Dr Manish from Dept. of Philosophy,students,and research scholars from different departments .The audience were shown a short film 'That Day after Everyday' directed by Anurag Kashyap . In the end President RUWA Prof. Asha Kaushik gave her concluding remarks.

It is a matter of prestige for RUWA and Shakti Stambh the in an order of 27-03-17 of Double Bench of Hon'ble Justice Mr. Ajay Rastogi, Hon'ble Justice Mr. Kailash Chandra Sharma of High court of Rajasthan a reference of RUWA for providing assistances to the females and victims of domestic violence was given. Advocate Kriti Saraswat had suggested name of RUWA for keeping a women who had taken treatment in psychiatric hospital. Her father and husband both were not ready to take her custody. Before giving there judgement hon'ble judges wanted that some responsible person from RUWA may remain present in court on 28-03-17. As per the order of the honourable court convener legal cell Prof. Ladmumari Jain and convener Shakti Stambh Dr. Shashi Lata Puri appeared in the court. Lad kumari jain informed the Hon'ble judge that Shakti Stambh is a Short Stay Home and for a psychiatric patient it will not be a permanent and proper solution. Shashi Puri added the rules and regulations for inmates of Shakti Stambh. A bulletin of Shakti Stambh, List of Executive members and pamplates were submitted before the court for their perusal.

RUWA has always been concerned with health issues of women. A free health checkup cum workshop on *Self – Management of Diabetes* with Psychoneurobics was organized by Prof. Dr Malti Gupta, Convener, Medical and Health Cell RUWA under the joint auspices of RUWA, SSY Family Jaipur and Marudhar Hospital Jaipur in the campus of *Shakti Stambh*, Satish Chandra Vachanalya Bhawan on May 13, 2017. Prof Asha Kaushik, President RUWA, welcomed the keynote speaker Dr. Chandra Shekhar Tiwari,Director SIGFA Solutions Faridabad, Dr. Arvind Pandey Vice President SIGFA Solutions and Dr. Arvind Gupta, M.D. D.M Diabetologist, Dr. Malti Gupta gave introduction of Dr. B. K. Chandra Shekhar who is renowned inventor of GEO Rhythm technique using 3 D images - A practice which lowers stress by regulating the biochemical source of stress.The practice of the technique was performed on the participants through checkup of blood sugar and blood pressure before and after the intake of charged water. The staff of MarudharHospital, Madam G. J. Unnithan with her staff of Khejri Sarvodaya Health Centre and Dr. Parmanand Bharagav's staff provided pre and post checkupservices. RUWA members, counsellors, staff and residents of *Shakti Stambh* participated in the workshop the practices of technique of pre and post checkup of blood sugar and blood pressure were also performed on them. Prof. Beena Agarwal former President RUWA in her concluding remarks said that it was a useful awareness program for diabetes as well as non – diabetic participants. Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Convener *Shakti Stambh*, RUWA, gave a Vote of Thanks on behalf of RUWA.

On June 21, 2017 the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Yoga Day was celebrated at *Shakti-Stambh*, Satish Chandra Vachnayalaya Bhavan. The program began with an introductory lecture on Yoga by Dr. Kokila Jain, Vice- President RUWA. She briefed in simple words the meaning and importance of Yoga in day to day life. She advised residents of *Swadhar Greh* to practice Yoga for managing tension and stress and to lead a happy and peaceful life. On this occasion the Chief Yoga Guru was Miss Janaki Pareek, a Yoga teacher in India International College for Girls, Jaipur. Miss Janaki taught different *asans*. The resident, staff of all RUWA cells and Interns under training of RUWA practiced Yoga. Miss Janaki narrated the utility of these *asans* for good health. Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Convenor - *Swadhar Greh*, thanked Miss Janaki for accepting the request in short notice to teach Yoga at *Swadhar Greh*.

RUWA conducted an internship program for 8 students of different faculties from June 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017. The Internship programme was inaugurated by RUWA President Prof Asha Kaushik gave an introductory lecture on the structure, activities and role of RUWA. Secretary, Dr. Prerna Puri discussed in detail with interns the rules and procedure of internship. From June 01, 2017 the interns were attached with various cells. Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Convener – Legal Cell briefed them about the plethora of cases related with women laws and the grievance - redressal mechanism adopted by RUWA. Smt. Shyama Sharda told them about Family Counselling cell. Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Convenor *Shakti Stambh* discussed with them the role and working pattern of *Shakti-Stambh*. Interns observed and participated in hearing of the cases of residents of *Swadhar Greh* and suggested solutions for the redressal of their problems. Interns also celebrated International Yoga Day with inmates of *Shakti-Stambh* on 21<sup>st</sup> June. Prof. Reena Mathur, Convener of Mahila Salah and Suraksha Kendra, provided them information regarding registration of the cases properly in files and counselling between the disputed parties. The interns visited to RUWA room at University of Rajasthan with Prof. Beena Agarwal and sorted the record of RUWA files. They were also given training for one day at Helpline. The interns presented their reports in the presence of Prof. Asha Kaushik, Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Smt. Shyama Sarda, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri and Dr. Prerna Puri. They were awarded certificate for successfully completing their internship.

On July 7, 2017, Mrs Kamla Kaswan, Chairperson of Rajasthan State Social Welfare Board, paid a surprise visit of Family Counselling Centre, RUWA and inspected it. Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Smt. Nidhi Sharma, Mrs. Neelima Tikku were present at the time of inspection. Mrs. Kaswan discussed with RUWA members about various new projects going to be started by Social Welfare Board.

A group of members of Tejswani unit of International Sarvarth Sidh Trust an NGO which is working for the empowerment of women visited *Shakti Stambh* on July 25, 2017. Prof Asha Kaushik welcomed the members of the unit. Dr. Shashi Lata Puri shared with them the role and activities of *Shakti Stambh*. Dr. Kokila Jain Vice-President RUWA and Dr. Prerna Puri also discussed about the various activities of RUWA. In order to celebrate *Teej*, *Lehriya Sarees* and *Ghevar* by them to distributed to the residents of *Shakti Stambh*.

On 15<sup>th</sup> August 2017 the Independence Day was celebrated with full enthusiasm by RUWA members, Staff of RUWA Cells, Present and former residents of *Shakti Stambh* and distinguished guest. The Chief Guest on this occasion was Prof. Kanta Ahuja, former Vice-Chancellor University of Rajasthan and Guest of Honor was Hemali Ji from Rishi Sanskriti Vidhya Kendra. Flag Hosting Ceremony was held in the lawns of campus and all joined for national anthem. The programme began with welcome address by RUWA President Prof. Asha Kaushik who wished Happy Independence Day and Happy Janmasthmi to all gathered in RUWA

Hall. She gave a formal introduction of Prof. Kanta Ahuja and Hemali Ji. As Shakti Stambh was formed on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1987. Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Convener Shakti Stambh congratulated RUWA members on the eve of foundation day of Shakti Stambh. Besides good wishes for Independence Day and Janmashmi. She informed member that Shakti Stambh has been upgraded in the Swadhar Greh Scheme of Govt. Of India from March 2017. Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Dr. Alka Rao who are among the founder members of Shakti Stambh narrated their experiences of incidents of origin of Shakti Stambh and its landmarks of 30 year journey. Dr. Alaka Rao shared her memories how her mother had suggested the name Shakti Stambh. Prof. Sudesh Batra chanted poems from her diary giving message of empowerment of women. Hemali Ji discussed the activities of Sidh Samadhi Yoga and its introductory and other camps which are very useful for physical, mental and spiritual Health. Dr. Malti Gupta convener Medical and Health Cell of RUWA also encouraged members for attending camps of SSSY. RUWA Vice President Dr. Kokila Jain, Secretary Dr. Prerna Puri, Joint Secretary Asha Vyas, Treasurer Dr. Madulika Sharma, Dr. Sarojini, Convener Land and Building, Dr. Maya Tandon, Former Vice President Dr. Joya Chakravarty, Dr. Janki Moorjani, Co-convener FCC, Co-Convener of Shakti Stambh Dr. Teena Sawhney and Mrs. Amita Upadhyaya, Dr. Rajni Singh, Mrs. Usha Nangia, new RUWA member Jahida Shabnam from Kanodia College, Vibha Tapadia from NWR (North Western Railway), Mrs. Jyoti Chouhan, Executive Director, Rajasthan Roadways and Nistha Puri, Senior ADFM (NWR) were also present on this occasion. Shashi Puri informed that Padam Shree Dr. Ashok Pangadia has donated Rs. 25,000/- to RUWA. His Sister Miss Kamal Pangadia a dedicated social worker and life member of RUWA presented the check to RUWA President Prof. Asha Kaushik. Prof. Joya Chakravarty offered that she wants to make the payment for the refreshment on this occasion. Residents of Swadhar Greh distributed cards made by them to all Guests.

On 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017 Prof Asha Kaushik represented RUWA in a women's organization meetings/Round Table organized by Plan India to deliberate upon findings of their project : 'Girls Aspiration for Rights and Values' (GARV) and get inputs from other NGOs on how they are addressing women's and girl's issues. Prof. Kaushik spoke about RUWA's democratic structure, its functioning through the various cells, its valuable partnership with other state and national organizations in the women's movement in Rajasthan and even beyond.

RUWA also organises interactions with women activists and academicians from other countries to deepen cross-cultural understanding of women problems. An interactive session was organized on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2017 in joint auspicious of RUWA, Indo-German Society and Indo European Education Society with the group of sixteen women activists and intellectual of the Masanashi group from Israel led by Ms. Riki Cohen. The Subject for interaction was "Marriage or live in relationship ? Legal and Socio-Ethical Dimensions". President, RUWA Prof. Asha Kaushik welcomed the delegates and elaborated on the legal and ethical issues of live-in relationship. Prof. Pawan Surana being General Secretary of Indo German Society gave introductory remarks on the theme and said that the matter is very important and sensitive. The Collective voice raised in the discussion was to leave the choice of marrying or living in with the individual. Riki Cohen shared with the audience about the status of marriage in Israel. She said that in Israel 30% of the people have either one parent or half brother/half sister/many fathers. The Social relationships have become very confusing. Prof. Lad Kumari Jain opined that it is better to walk out of abusive marriage rather than stay in it. Dr. Rashmi Jain, Convener of programme raised the issue of commitment in relationship and the problems Children face when couples are in live in relationship. At the end of the discussion, it was found that questions of violence, lack of commitment, respect, love are universal issues and found globally. Rina Rohen

(biology teacher), Eynia Shoob (Music Teacher), Auyala (Retired banker). Kaya Tripathi from Reserve bank of India, Dr. Shashi lata Puri, Dr. Sarojini, Dr. Alka Rao, Resham Khetan shared their views on the issue. Dr. Rashmi Jain Convener Academic Cell RUWA conducted the programme and gave her vote of thanks in the end.

RUWA is being dragged in a dispute regarding the present campus of Shakti Stambh by a Janta Colony Sansthan of the local area. The members of this body have complained in Human Rights Commission that Jaipur Nagar Nigam has unlawfully allotted Satish Chandra Vachnalaya to RUWA and it should be vacated. To deal with situation on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017 A RUWA delegation comprising RUWA President, Prof. Asha Kaushik, Convener Helpline Prof. Pawan Surana, Convener Legal Cell Prof. Lad Kumari Jain and Convener Swadhar Greh Dr. Shashi Lata Puri met Shri Ravi Jain, Commissioner Nagar Nigam to brief the case and presented before him the allotment letter granted by Social Justice and Empowerment department, Govt. of Rajasthan to RUWA for conducting the Short Stay Home for distressed women.

Looking at the seriousness of the matter on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017 the same RUWA delegation met honorable Shri Prakash Tatia, Chairperson, Human Rights Commission to present the factual position of allotment of Satish Chandra Vachnalaya Bhawan to RUWA. The necessary and relevant documents were submitted for prasaal.

One Billion Rising (OBR) is a great event for expressing solidarity between women across the globe against the universal problem of gender violence. It's a huge call to all women to rise and raise their voice against their violence from birth to death. Collectively fighting violence against women is a major objective of RUWA. On 18<sup>th</sup> December 2017 RUWA organised a meeting of various women organisation of city in RUWA Hall for planning OBR programme to be performed on 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018. RUWA President Prof. Asha Kaushik welcomed all social activists and academicians. RUWA was represent by Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Dr. Malti Gupta, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Smt. Nidhi Sharma, Smt. Neelima Tikku. Other organisation were represented by Dr. Renuka Pamecha, Mamta Jaitley (Vividha), Bhagwati Rao (Vividha), Kusum Sewal (AIDWA), Students of PUCL and so on. All jointly expressed the need of awakening of women for participation in OBR. It was suggested that Nukka Natak, dance, drama, songs are effective means for spreading hope for the success of OBR movement in bringing a violence free life for women. OBR is a symbol of unity of women.

On **20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> January 2018** a two day-workshop on Zentangle Art –the art of untangling the tangles of one's mind and life was organised by the Swadhar Greh and Medical and Health cell of RUWA in association with Dignity of girl child foundation for Shakti Stambh residents. The team by Jonna Quincey from UK ,Mansi and Dr Meeta Singh director dignity of girl child foundation conducted the workshop. Participants included Linda from USA, Prof. Pawan Surana , Dr Shashi Lata Puri ,Prof. Beena Agarwal, Dr Malti Gupta ,Dr Sarojini ,Dr Prerna Puri, Shakti Stambh residents, counsellors of cells of RUWA and Warden of shakti stambh . It was unique and enjoyable activity ,very relaxing like any meditation through drawing simple lines and making beautiful pattern.

On **26<sup>th</sup> January 2018** the Republic Day was celebrated joyfully. Smt. G.J. Unnithan was Chief Guest of the Day. The flag hoisting ceremony was performed in the lawns of RUWA Campus followed by National anthem. The national celebration was attended by Members of Executive, former Presidents of RUWA, Life and General members of RUWA, Co-conveners and counsellors of all cells, present and past residents of Shakti Stambh. The residents of Shakti Stambh presented Cultural programme with songs and dances.

A State Level convention on Freedom from Gender Based Violence against women and girls was organized in joint collaboration of RUWA and Save the Children on **2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018** at Hotel Ramada, Jaipur. The convention began with the welcome address by Prof. Asha Kaushik. Mrs. G.J. Unnithan chaired the inaugural session. Ms. Abha Bhiya, National Coordinator OBR was the key speaker, while Mr. Siddhart Pandey National Manager and Mr. Ramakant Satapathy, Save the Children were other speakers in the inaugural session. Prof. Lad Kumari Jain presided the technical session on freedom from Gender Based Violence -Challenges and The Way Forward. Speakers on child marriage were Prof. Kanchan Mathur, IDS and Ms. Usha, Vikalp. Dr. Meeta Singh DGCF and Prof. Beena Agawal spoke on declining Sex Ratio. Third topic of technical session was sexual abuse. Dr. Pritam Pal, Independent consultant on Gender and Health and Dr. Renuka Pamecha, WRG spoke on this issue. Prof. Pawan Surana was chairperson and moderator of open discussion: Freedom from Gender Based Violence - Challenges and the Way Forward. Mamta Jaitley, Dr. Sarojini, Dr. Maya Tandon, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Dr. Malti Gupta, Alka Parmar participated in open discussion. The consolidation of recommendation/way forward was done by Prof. Asha Kaushik and Mr. Sanjay Sharma. The vote of thanks were given by Dr. Prerna Puri, Secretary, RUWA and Dr. Hemant Acharya, Save the Children. The anchoring of the whole programme was done by Dr. Rashmi Jain. Dr. Rashmi Jain and Dr. Prerna Puri were in the reporting team of the convention.

On **11<sup>th</sup> February 2018** Dr. Vandana Agarwal ,NSS Program officer from centre for Museology and conservation, University of Rajasthan with 25 students visited Swadher Greh to know activities of various cells of RUWA.They were attended by vice president RUWA Dr Kokila Jain,Secretary Dr. Prerna Puri and convener Swadher Greh Dr . Shashi Lata Puri, Co - convener Amita Upadhyaya and counsellors and residents of Swadher Greh.

The Academic Cell held a series of programmes in colleges of Jaipur on ‘Relevance of Celebrating the Constitution and Democracy in India’. These awareness programmes were organized as part of RUWA’s contribution towards OBR campaign 2018. Prof. Asha Kaushik, President , RUWA was the keynote speaker in these programmes and Dr Rashmi Jain, Prof. Beena Agarwal, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Prof. Pawan Surana joined her in different colleges. The panel interacted with students of Maharani College, Subodh Girls PG college, Five Year Law College, Rajasthan College and Veer Balika PG Girls College in between **22<sup>nd</sup> January to 10<sup>th</sup> February 2018**. . The response of students and faculty members was heartening. The poster of RUWA and copy of Shakti Bulletin was presented to Principals of all the colleges and constant availability of the services of Swadher Greh ,Family counselling centre and 24 hour helpline was highlighted

The Annual Debate and Poster making competition was organized on **12<sup>th</sup> February 2018** by Dr. Rashmi Jain .The topic of debate was ‘In today’s scenario empowerment of women is possible only through technology’. The topics of poster making were ‘Sky is the limit’ and ‘Masks that a woman wears’. 12 colleges participated in the competition. Dr. Nandini Upreti was Chief Guest of the occasion and RUWA President Prof. Kaushik gave the concluding remarks.

A State level workshop was organized on **20<sup>th</sup> February 2018** at Hotel Ramada in joint collaboration of NACO, SAATHII i.e. Solidarity and Action Against the HIV Infection in India and Rajasthan State Aids Control Society. Goal of workshop was to improve access and quality of HIV Prevention care and treatment services for living in prison and Swadhar Greh and Ujjwala Greh and Other closed settings. Dr. Shashi Lata Puri Convener Swadhar Greh and

Sunil Sahu attended the workshop. The policy of Swadhar Greh that Aids Patient are to be transferred in Ujjawala Greh was discussed . The Press reporter present in the workshop inquired about working of Swadhar Greh . Dr Shashi Puri discussed with them the details of Swadhar Greh.

A Kaushal Vikas Training camp from **20<sup>th</sup> February to 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018** was organised by Department of Life Long learning at Shakti Stambh premises. Ms. Neha Mathur taught art and crafts to residents.

A group of Pranic Healers, Jaipur from SOHUM Prana And Aura Research Centre came to visit RUWA and its various cells under their monthly activity 'Will to Do Good'. Prof. Santosh Gupta coordinated the visit. Other members were Honey Singhal, Ms. Resham, Mrs. Kamla Chaturvedi, Mrs. Usha. They interacted with Shakti Stambh residents also. Dr. Kokila Jain, Dr. Purna Puri, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri discussed with them activities of cells of RUWA. The Members inspired to learn Pranic Healers Practice. The Group donated some necessary items for Shakti Stambh.

On **8<sup>th</sup> March 2018** International Women's Day was celebrated at Shakti Stambh. Prof. Asha Kaushik welcomed the members . Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Dr. Geeta Chaturvedi, Dr. Malti Gupta, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Dr. Meeta Singh, Dr. Zahida Shabnam, Dr. Sarojini also expressed their views on the occasion. The residents of Shakti Stambh presented a cultural programme. A sanitary pad winding machine was installed for Shakti Stambh residents . Kathan Tapadia an Engineering Student donated rupees two thousands for its installation to Safe Wing Company . President RUWA Prof. Asha Kaushik inaugurated the working of winding machine.

Prof. Asha Kaushik also addressed the employees of INFOSYS on **8<sup>th</sup> March 2018** on UN declared theme "Press for Progress".

On **9<sup>th</sup> March** a group of German students from different German universities under the leadership of Prof Surana visited Shakti Stambh and had a meaningful interaction with residents of Shakti Stambh. Prof. Asha Kaushik, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri discussed with them activities of RUWA and various cells.

On **11<sup>th</sup> April 2018** a workshop was organised on "Holistic Health through the science of Psychoneurobics" in joint collaboration of medical and health cell of RUWA and Department of Psychology at Humanities Block, Department of Psychology, University of Rajasthan , Jaipur. The key speaker was Dr. B .K. Chandra Shekhar renowned inventor of science of Psychoneurobics a unique therapy and technique for holistic healing of mind , body and soul. founder President of SIGFA Solutions, and a holder of Guinness Book World Record. Prof.(Dr.) Malti Gupta gave a brief report of the workshop and introduced the participants with need , relevance and importance of Psychoneurobics- the science of creating right vibrations for improving physical and mental health. Dr. Chandra Shekhar explained the 'aerobics of neurons' through his invention of Neurotic Machine which can test the state of mind of a person. He also demonstrated practical steps of charging water. He highlighted the benefits of meditation for improving memory and concentration .The workshop was well attended by 130 participants which included faculty members and students of Psychology and other departments and RUWA members.



On **14<sup>th</sup> April** RUWA was a partner as it has always been in the joint protest and Candle light vigil by all women, human rights and dalit organisation against the Kathua (Jammu) Gangrape and murder of 8 year old Asifa and also against the UP Govts. complete protection given to Kailash Sengar, a BJP MLA who raped a minor in Unnao district and killed her father in custody. Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Prof. Asha Kaushik addressed the gathering along with Dr. Malti Gupta, Dr. Sarojini, Dr. Prema Puri, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Dr. Neekee Chaturvedi and others.

On **23<sup>rd</sup> May** RUWA organised a discussion on 'Amendment to crime against women and related laws regarding it'. Prof. Asha Kaushik President RUWA welcomed the participants and sought suggestions on the Ordinance of 22nd April 2018 regarding death penalty of a convict of raping a girl child up to 12 years of age. She referred to already existing laws which can cover such cases. Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, convener legal cell thoroughly elaborated the technical facts of the subject under discussion. The open discussion was chaired by Mrs. G J Unnithan. She invited members to express their views. Majority of learned members felt that the ordinance was enacted hastily under certain pressure without considering the long and complex legal procedures of our judicial system which ultimately punishes only the victim and not the offender. Life imprisonment to rapist, cutting his private parts, public and social boycott of rapist and his family, fast and speedy trial courts were suggested as alternative to death penalty to control the crime. Mrs. Unnithan acknowledged the complexity of problem in her concluding remarks.

After this RUWA magazine "SHAKTI" was released. RUWA president Prof. Asha Kaushik and former President of RUWA Prof. Pawan Surana, Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Mrs. G.J. Unnithan, Prof. Beena Agarwal, Dr. Maya Tandon and editor of 'Shakti' Dr. Geeta Chaturvedi jointly released the magazine and copies of SHAKTI magazine were distributed among members. Dr Geeta Chaturvedi thanked all for their contribution in the publication of magazine. She highly appreciated Sunil Sahu for his support.

On **28<sup>th</sup> May 2018** a discussion was organised on the Draft Rajasthan state policy for women 2018 by RUWA and with other women organisations in RUWA Hall. Ruwa members Prof. Asha Kaushik, Prof. LadKumari Jain, Prof. Shashi Sahay, Dr. Madhulika Sharma, Dr. Janki Moorjani, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri, Dr. Nandini Upreti, Dr. Damyanti Gupta, Dr. Meeta Singh, Dr. Neera Srivastava, Dr. Maya Tandon, Ms. Gerda Unnithan, Dr. Kokila Jain, Dr. Alaka Rao, Smt. Nidhi Sharma, Dr. Manju Dhariwal, Dr. Nandini Upreti, Dr. Daymanti Gupta, Dr. Shashi Sahya, Dr. Janki Moorjhani and from other women organisations Dr. Renuka Pamecha from WRG, Ms. Rajkumari Dogra, NFIW, Ms. Kavita Srivastava, PUCL, Mrs. Kusum Saiwal, AIDWA, Ms. Mamta Jaitley from Vividha, Kavita Sharma, Janvadi Mahila Samiti, Priney Sharma, PUCL, Pushpa Saini, WRG, Komal Srivastava, BGVS, Himashi Rastogi participated in this discussion. Prof. Asha Kaushik President RUWA welcomed all participants. She informed members that as Rajasthan State Policy for women 2018 is completed, WCD has sought suggestions by June 6. The purpose of meeting was seeking suggestions of members on the draft. Prof. Kaushik stated that the first draft of women policy was initiated in 2012 at Mahila Ayog after proper consultation with representative of various NGO's when Prof. Lad Kumari Jain was chairperson of state women commission. This draft was submitted in Nov.2014 subsequently the proposed draft was discussed and appreciated in July 2016 at a WCD meetings of Rajasthan Government officials in the presence of Women and Child Development Minister and

Chairperson Mahila Ayog. Then again revised draft was discussed in January 2018. Prof. Lad Kumari Jain also remarked that the first Draft was appreciated by the then chief secretary. Dr Renuka Pamecha suggested allocation of Budget and monitoring. Dr. Meeta Singh suggested that the term “sex selective abortion” should be used instead of Female foeticide in the draft. Referring to family planning, Mrs. Unnithan said that women should give more importance to general health. Dr. Shashi Puri suggested that girls should be made aware of taking balanced diet. Ms Nidhi Sharma, Dr. Shashi Sahay, Dr. Nandini Upreti, Dr. Janaki Moorjhani, Rajkumari Ji, Pragya Deshpande, Mrs. Pushpa ji, Komal Srivastav, Dr. Maya Tandon, Dr. Damyanti Gupta and Ms Kavita Srivastava also participated in the discussion and gave their valuable suggestions. Professor Asha Kaushik concluded the discussion and thanked all members and said that specific written suggestions should be sent by May 31, so that the same may be forwarded further.

On **13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> June 2018** Prof. Asha Kaushik addressed American Students at the American Institute of Indian Studies as RUWA President on ‘Forms of Harassment and how to combat harassment’.

On **18<sup>th</sup> June 2018** 37 Students from PUCL visited RUWA. Pragya Deshpande spoke on mental health of the women. Prof. Lad Kumari Jain, Dr. Shashi Lata Puri and Prof. Asha Kaushik addressed the students. Two students of Law College also joined them and they are doing their internship in RUWA.

Swadhar Greh and Medical and Health Cell RUWA organized 4<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day on **21<sup>st</sup> June 2018**. Dr. Kokila Jain Vice President RUWA invited yog Guru Smt. Manju Kedia on this occasion. She began yoga session with chanting Gayatri Mantra for peace of mind. She performed various yogas simultaneously explaining their benefit for different parts of body. Dr. Kokila Jain, Dr. Malti Gupta, Dr. Shashi Puri, Dr. Cheena Puri, Mrs. Usha Nangia, Counsellors of all cells including MSSK, interns and residents of Swadhar Greh followed and performed yoga exercises. Dr. Kokila Jain thanked Smt. Manju Kedia for giving her valuable time.