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BRIDGING THE GENDER GAP FOR ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)



IISWBM



Indian Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management

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The seminar focused on the intersection of artificial intelligence, gender inclusivity, and environmental stewardship. Experts from academia and industry gathered to discuss how increasing women's participation in STEM - specifically in AI and energy sectors - is not just a matter of equity, but a necessity for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr. Binoy Krishna Choudhry (Head of Dept, Public Systems Management) The seminar commenced with a welcome message on behalf of Dr. KM Agarwal, who lauded the initiative taken by the Council for Women in Energy & Environmental Leadership (CWEEL). He emphasized the critical need for inclusivity in the tech landscape. He noted that AI systems must be designed by diverse teams to avoid bias and that the active participation of women is foundational to the "Public Systems" approach to sustainability.





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Prof. Piyali Sengupta (Lead Officer, CWEEL Kolkata Group) provided a comprehensive overview of CWEEL's mission and its local impact. To support women in the energy and environmental sectors through inclusive leadership. She highlighted how the Kolkata group facilitates career guidance programs, mentorship, and networking to bridge the professional gender gap.





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Prof. Dr. Sharmistha Banerjee (HOD, Dept. of Business Management, Calcutta University) Dr. Banerjee delivered a compelling talk on the gendered perspectives of environmental crises. She discussed the profound impact of Climate Action (SDG 13) and more women must enter STEM and AI fields to ensure that sustainable solutions are empathetic and comprehensive.





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Ms. Arundhati Mukherjee, Head Fuel Management MTPS, DVC, transitioned the conversation from theory to industrial application. She explained the role of AI in grid moderation, resource management, and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP). A core tenet of her speech was the development of "Responsible AI" that accounts for ethical considerations. She called for increased female representation in the energy sector to drive innovation in decarbonization.





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Debashish Ghosh (Former VP & Head - Energy & Decarbonisation, Hindalco) Representing a seasoned industry viewpoint, Mr. Ghosh reinforced the importance of gender diversity across the entire organizational hierarchy. He noted that a diverse workforce leads to better problem-solving in complex areas like decarbonization and industrial efficiency.





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The seminar concluded with a closing address by Prof. Sarbani Mitra (Liaison Officer, CWEEL Kolkata Group). She expressed gratitude to the speakers and participants, reiterating that the synergy between AI and female leadership is the key to a sustainable future. To achieve the SDGs by 2030, the tech industry must move beyond tokenism and actively integrate women into the design and REPORT Bridging of AI for environmental solutions.

