



United Nations
Academic Impact



CHRIST
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
BANGALORE | DELHI NCR | PUNE

Voices of Equality

"From Dialogue to Action
on Gender Justice"

Newsletter

SDG 5 Hub

UNAI SDG 5 HUB CHAIR
PRESENTS

VOICES OF EQUALITY

SDG 5 MEGA EVENT



26TH JULY 2025

CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Central Campus, emerged as the epicenter of a national-level discourse on gender empowerment through its landmark event, "Voices of Equality".

Organized under the banner of the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) Global SDG 5 Hub Chair, the event convened thought leaders from the corporate world, NGOs, academia, and civil society to accelerate action toward Sustainable Development Goal 5: Gender Equality.



The event was graced by Dr. Fr. Jossy George, Director of the Bannerghatta Road Campus, and Dr. Leena James, UNAI SDG 5 Hub Chair, who both underscored the importance of collective advocacy for dignity, inclusion, and respect.

Fr. Jossy George highlighted the critical issue of underrepresentation of women in politics, stating: “Gender equality is not a women’s issue—it’s a human issue.”

“Gender equality is not a women’s issue—it’s a human issue.”

Dr. Fr. Jossy George, Director



“Every voice counts. This platform envisions a world where no one is left behind, irrespective of gender,”

— Dr. Leena James
UNAI SDG 5 hub chair



SMT. BRINDA ADIGE

Activist and social warrior

Delivering a compelling keynote, activist Brinda Adige reaffirmed that equality is a constitutional right, not a concession, stating:

“When women lead, decisions are more inclusive and compassionate.”



SMT. JIJA HARI SINGH

1st Women IPS officer from south india

Smt. Jija Hari Singh, India's first woman IPS officer from South India, delivered a powerful address on shattering patriarchal barriers and championing women's right to live with freedom, dignity, and self-worth.



The SDG 5 Hub Chair hosted a dynamic and thought-provoking panel discussion moderated by Dr. Jyoti Kumar, bringing together a distinguished group of leaders, changemakers, and advocates committed to advancing gender equality and empowerment.

A vibrant panel discussion moderated by Dr. Jyoti Kumar featured influential voices like:

Majid Ali Khan - HR, CHRO

Sujatha Ramani - CEO, Pollinate group

Parimala Jaggesh - Founder, Alamirap Nutrition

Natasha Shirazi - Culture, Diversity & Inclusion Lead, DELL

Kanchan Dwivedi - Founder, Inspire

Priya Varadarajan - Founder and CEO, Durga



The discussion was rich with insight, personal stories, and actionable recommendations. Each panelist underscored the urgency of systemic change—from organizational frameworks to societal mindsets—to achieve genuine equality. They collectively emphasized that progress demands both institutional reforms and grassroots activism, working in synergy to break barriers and create inclusive spaces.

The session concluded with a call to action for stakeholders across sectors to collaborate, innovate, and commit to measurable goals, ensuring that gender equality is not just an agenda item, but a lived reality.



APPRECIATION IN BLOOM



Following the insightful and thought-provoking panel discussion, Christ University expressed its heartfelt gratitude to the distinguished panelists through a special gesture of appreciation. Each speaker was presented with a vibrant potted plant, symbolizing growth, resilience, and the continuous nurturing of ideas that drive positive change. Alongside the plant, a thoughtfully curated goody bag was gifted, reflecting both warmth and hospitality.

The potted plant served as a living reminder of the conversations that took place—conversations aimed at cultivating equality, dismantling barriers, and sowing seeds of inclusivity within communities and institutions. The goody bag, filled with meaningful mementos, represented the University's deep respect for the time, expertise, and passion each panelist brought to the forum.



This gesture powerfully underscored Christ University's unwavering commitment to sustainability and mindful appreciation, while reinforcing the event's central message: that by investing in the growth of both ideas and people, we lay the foundation for enduring societal transformation.

The event concluded with a Q&A session and breakout group discussions, generating practical strategies to advance gender justice frameworks in academic and professional spaces.

NETWORKING SESSION

The breakout discussions were structured to encourage deeper interaction and collective brainstorming. Small, focused groups exchanged practical strategies to strengthen gender justice frameworks across academic institutions, workplaces, and community spaces.

Ideas ranged from:

- Embedding gender sensitivity into curricula and training programs
- Establishing peer mentorship models to support women and marginalized groups
- Creating clear reporting mechanisms and safe spaces in professional environments
- Building stronger alliances between academia, corporates, and NGOs to drive systemic change



This final session not only solidified the day's learnings but also transformed inspiration into actionable pathways. Participants left the room energized and equipped with a sense of shared responsibility—ready to take concrete steps toward making gender equality a reality in their own spheres of influence!



INTERACTIVE WRAP-UP



By facilitating this open exchange, Christ University ensured that the spirit of Voices of Equality extended beyond the stage—transforming connections into actionable collaborations that can drive real-world impact.

The informal setting allowed conversations to unfold organically, breaking down hierarchies and enabling participants to connect as equals. Students benefited from direct access to leaders in their fields, while professionals found fresh perspectives and inspiration from the next generation of changemakers.

This interactive exchange reinforced one of the core messages of Voices of Equality: progress is best achieved when individuals and institutions come together, share knowledge, and commit to collective action. The session concluded with the exchange of contact information, promises of future collaboration, and a renewed sense of shared purpose—ensuring that the connections made would continue to bear fruit long after the event.





A key takeaway was the collective understanding that gender equality is more than just a policy goal — it's a basic right and a catalyst for progress in every sphere of life. The discussions highlighted the need to break free from stereotypes, empower women to step confidently into leadership roles, and foster an environment where equality is embedded in everyday actions and mindsets.

The energy in the room made one thing clear: the session was just the beginning. The relationships and ideas born here will continue to grow, fueling initiatives that turn conversation into impact. Together, we're building a network that works for change — and a future where equality is the norm.





Voices of Equality continues to serve as a transformative platform for inclusive leadership, sustained advocacy, and action-driven dialogue—cementing Christ University's role in championing gender equity on national and global stages.

