Press Release

08 March 2026

International Women's Day celebrated by the World Association of Authors and Researchers, Darbhanga Chapter

"Scientific temperament and awareness are needed in every woman," remarked Prof. Vijay Kumar Roy, Professor of English, University of Allahabad and President of WAAR. "To complete the unfinished journey from empowerment to equality, we humans need to unlearn unnecessary myths and misconceptions," mentioned Dr. Yugeshwar Sah, Assistant Professor and Head of the Department of English, C. M. Science College, Darbhanga, and Director, Darbhanga Chapter of WAAR. "Education is the vital foundation for women's empowerment," expressed Dr. Reeta Kumari, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, M. K. College, Laheriasarai, Darbhanga. "Women play a crucial role in every relationship," highlighted Dr. Ragini Ranjan, Assistant Professor & Head of the Department of Maithili, C. M. College, Darbhanga. "Empowerment is the beginning and equality is the destination," emphasized Dr. Richa Kumari, Assistant Professor, Department of English, C. M. Science College, Darbhanga.

A National Webinar on "From Empowerment to Equality: Rethinking the Role of Women in Shaping Modern Society" was organised by the Darbhanga Chapter of the World Association of Authors and Researchers (WAAR) on 8 March 2026 in the evening at 7:30 PM, marking the occasion of International Women's Day. The programme commenced with an introductory address by the anchor, followed by an eloquent invocation to Goddess Saraswati presented by Ms. Shruti. Ambe Kumari extended a warm welcome to the chief guest and all the dignitaries. Organising Secretary, Dr. Yugeshwar Sah cited Kaifi Azmi's famous lines, "Uth Meri Jaan! Mere Saath Chalna Hai Tujhe." He emphasized that the journey from empowerment to equality can be travelled through the process of unlearning, learning and relearning. He also cited Virginia Woolf while discussing the importance of relearning. He remarked that emancipation is not possible without education. He further highlighted that this is an era of rewriting, rethinking and recreating, where we have writers like Chitra Banerjee, Kavita Kane, Koral Dasgupta and many others contributing significantly.

Distinguished Speaker, Dr. Reeta Kumari, discussed the history of International Women's Day and reflected on the current situation of women in society. She mentioned that the level of progress in a society is a reflection of the status of women in that society. She also cited the poem "Nari Tum Keval Shraddha Ho" and expressed that a woman is not merely a person but an embodiment of inspiration, strength and love. She stated that women's empowerment means enabling women to take decisions related to their lives independently. According to her, education is the foundation of women's empowerment. She observed that although women, today, are independent at constitutional, political and social levels, patriarchal structures still limit their true independence. To bring equality in society, women must be given equal rights in all fields. She further emphasized that empowerment is not confined to any particular caste or group, rather, it is a universal goal for the entire world.

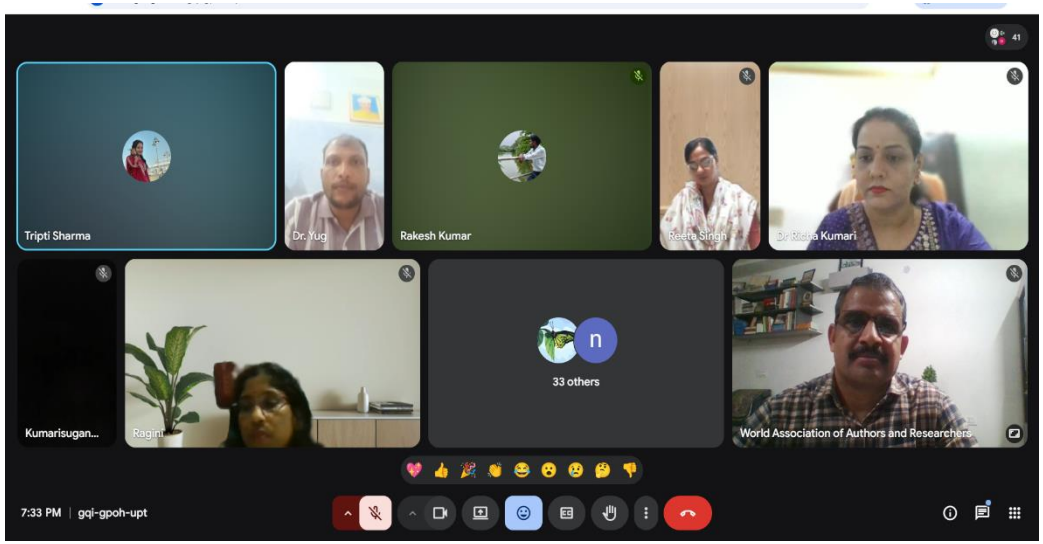
Chief Speaker, Dr. Richa Kumari, remarked that women's empowerment is a reflection, remembrance and responsibility. She emphasized that equality reminds us that women were never without power. Through practical examples, she reflected on various issues concerning women. She stated that every participant present in the webinar carries their own stories. She also observed that gender equality is not merely a social issue but a human issue. She cited examples of eminent women such as Anandi Gopal, Karnam Malleswari, Indira Gandhi, Rani Lakshmi Bai, Jhumpa Lahiri, Mary Kom and Apala, who have made their

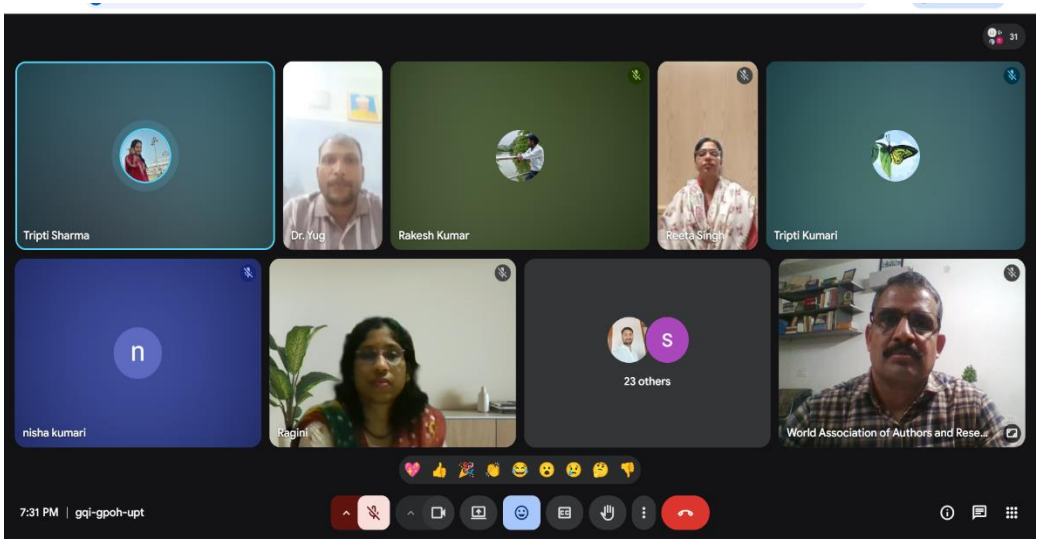
marks in the world. She emphasized that to build a just and equitable society, we must reflect on how education and awareness play a crucial role in an individual's life. She also quoted Maneka Gandhi, saying, "A society that frees its women, frees itself."

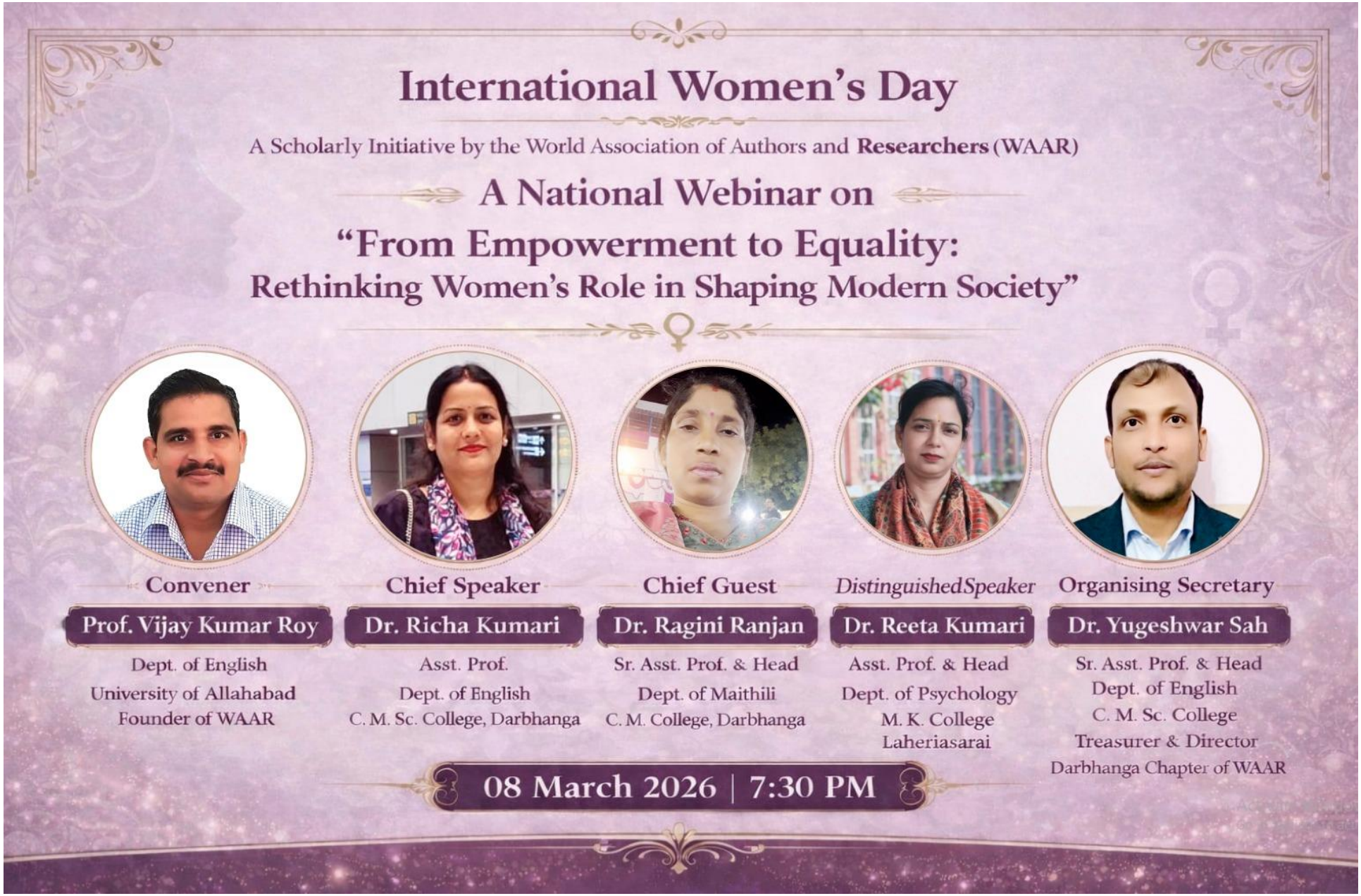
Chief Guest, Dr. Ragini Ranjan, recited her poem: "Har ek mahila mein ye saare gun hote hain,/Stri agar bahan hai to prem ka darpan hai,/Stri agar patni hai to purn samarpan hai… ." She also cited the Sanskrit verse: "Yatra naryastu pujyante ramante tatra devata,/Yatraitaastu na pujyante sarvaastatrafalaah kriyaah." She remarked that from ancient times to the present, women have often been unable to express their suppressed thoughts openly in society. Referring to learned women of the past such as Gargi, Maitreyi and Apala, she noted that women's status was relatively better in ancient times. However, she observed that the situation appears to have worsened in certain aspects in the modern era. She raised the important question of why half of the population — women — still struggle to voice their opinions at various levels, from family to society. She emphasized that women will be able to move forward confidently only when their voices are heard and valued within the family. Change, she noted, must begin at home. She also observed that women often balance professional responsibilities and household duties without recognition. Women deserve to be heard everywhere, just as they silently contribute to the well-being of their families. Life, she concluded, cannot be lived without struggle.

Chairperson, Prof. Vijay Kumar Roy, recited his self-composed poem "Jahar ko maine bhi piya." He stated that the poem reflects the condition of every woman. He also discussed the interpretation of the word "woman" in Christian discourse, noting that it has sometimes been explained as a combination of woe and man. He clarified that "man" symbolically represents a human being, not only a male person. He emphasized that women are often surrounded by blind-faith and superstitions, therefore, scientific temperament and awareness are essential for women's empowerment. He also quoted Edward Bulwer-Lytton, "The pen is mightier than the sword." He remarked that instead of holding a sword, we should hold a pen, which has the power to bring meaningful changes in society.

Ms. Pooja Kumari, M.A. English (BHU), proposed a heartfelt vote of thanks to all. The programme was gracefully and efficiently hosted by Ms. Tripti Sharma.







Dr. Yugeshwar Sah, Director, Darbhanga Chapter of WAAR