

## **Bid to step up technical education for girl students**

**(Report published in Assam Tribune on 29.11.10)**

Celebrating its first foundation day on Saturday, 27.11.10., the Women Engineers' Forum of Assam, a first of its kind body of the women engineers, have decided to step up its awareness programme for technical education among the girl students.

To mark its first anniversary, the forum also extended a one time financial assistance to a needy meritorious girl student Aparajita Chakravarty, a student of the Assam Engineering College.

Speaking as a distinguished guest of the occasion, Professor Utpal Miri, Retd. Director of Technical Education, Assam, said that there was a time when not many women choose engineering as their career. "The situation has changed now as we have a very good number of competent women engineers and with each passing year, girls are doing good results in the engineering colleges and other engineering institutes," he said.

Miri further said that the forum should not limit itself to the works related to the works related to welfare of girls and women only. "It should set an example of before the society by working for cross sections of people, both male and female," he said.

MD Bhandari, Retd. Group General Manager of Oil India Ltd., while speaking on the occasion said that despite being a nascent organization, the forum has a good platform to the women engineers of the state.

Speaking as the chief guest of the programme, JP Rajkhowa, Rerd. Chief Secretary of Assam lauded the initiative taken up by the forum to help needy meritorious girl students of engineering college.

"In our society, not just women but men are also deprived of their rights. I hope that the well-educated engineers and technocrats of this forum would take more such initiatives to uplift the backward sections of the society," he said. Rita Rajkhowa, president of the forum presided over the function.

Borgeet, recitation, bhajan, dance programmes also marked the occasion.

Earlier, in her welcome address, Rekha Mazumdar, secretary of the forum said that since its inception, the forum has been taking steps to promote technical education among the girl students. "The forum was formed with the objective to bring all the women eningineers of the state at one platform and to promote friendly relations among them and to work for uplift of the women engineers of the State", she added.