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Dr. (Mrs.) Victoria A. Masih has long standing experience in the field of law and related issues. She has been working in SHUATS in various responsible and esteemed positions for the last 17 years. Presently she is an Associate Prof. in the Dept. of Agricultural Economics, Naini School of Agriculture, SHUATS. She is also simultaneously responsible as the Director of Directorate of Legal Affairs. She completed her Ph. D. from SHUATS with focus on Higher Education Rights of Minority Educational Institutions. Her areas of interest are on field of human resource management, intellectual property rights issue and education rights.

Presentation Summary

Gender Sensitization and Related Issues

Let' begin with defining the term Gender sensitization. Sensitization in the sphere of humanities and social sciences is seen as awareness informed propensity or disposition which aims at changing behaviour so that it is sensitive to certain issues. Gender sensitizing "is about changing behaviour and instilling empathy into the views that we hold about our own and the other genders." It assists in "examining/identifying one's personal attitudes and beliefs and questioning the 'realities'. Sensitizing the people on gender issues and sensitizing them through mass sensitization campaigns, trainings/workshops, programmes etc. can be understood as tools for propagation of gender sensitivity. The following discussion focuses on educating the students who go for excursions and field trips to rural areas on gender sensitivity issues. There needs to be awareness among the students as how to coordinate and behave within their team comprising of students of both sexes i.e. intra-relationships and also they should be educated to approach and work in rural milieu. This becomes even more sensitive when students have to interact and work with women and girls. Thus, the deliberations for this lecture aim to enable the students to reflect on their understanding of sex and gender, clarification on the differences between sex and gender for the students, enhance their understanding of the idea of gender and also to improve the comfort level of the students with these issues.