

**“Freedom cannot be achieved unless women have been emancipated from all forms of oppression”**

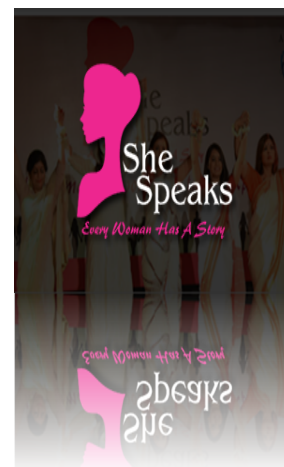
**– Nelson Mandela**



**ANNUAL REPORT 2017 - 2018**

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**Aambra Foundation Presents**

**She Speaks**  
*Every Woman Has A Story*

*How To Make The Ecosystem More Friendly Towards Working Women*

**Eminent Panelists**

Dr Rebecca Reichmann Tavares  
UN India Representative

Ms Vinita Sethi  
Vice President, Apollo Hospitals

Ms Archana Datta  
former DG, Doordarshan & AIR

Mr Anurag Batra  
Chairman, Editor in Chief, Businessworld

OSA, Ambassador - Ms Manju Sethi  
Introduction & Moderation - Ms Vinita Bakshi

Breaking the walls of silence

"It Takes **COURAGE** To  
**BREAK** The **SILENCE**"

Join us in our effort to create a platform  
where she can share her true stories

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 Time: 5:30pm  
Venue: India International Centre, Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi 110003

# Welcome Note

## *FROM FOUNDER'S PEN*

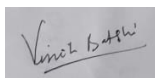
### **Dear Friends,**

As we accomplish yet another successful year organizing workshops, seminars, building knowledge base and advocacy aimed towards women empowerment, it gives me immense pleasure to present to you the Aambra Annual Report 2017-2018. As years go by, I find myself creating better impact and outreach.

We were able to collaborate with Cultural and Educational Institutions in North East region of the country going beyond Delhi-NCR. SheSpeaks reached Guwahati where we collaborated with Royal Global University and were supported by volunteers from IIT Guwahati. A cultural performance was organised with Amrapali Reportree.

We reached as far as Andamans, South East with SheSpeaks spreading our knowledge and impact base to include women from various socio, economic, ethnic and lingual groups.

Women empowerment has always been a constant effort. Through pragmatic research we were able to raise meaningful issues through length and breadth of the country. In near future we stand committed to a vision of gender equity and economically empowering women.



Vinita Bakshi  
**Founder of Aambra Foundation**

# Introduction

## **Aambra Foundation**

**The 2017-2018 Annual Report** illustrates the various programs organized by Aambra Foundation in order to facilitate women's voice and their participation in work force.

In an attempt to contribute towards women empowerment, a series of panel discussion cum seminar in a project mode was commenced through our SheSpeaks platform, a flagship project of Aambra Foundation. These series were led by some of the experts in the field who highlighted the major cultural elements that has a role to play in the realm of women in working environments.

The report will also highlight our newest endeavors in Assam, where we conducted our very first outstation panel discussion cum seminar.

## **Vision and Mission**

## VISION

### *Vision of equality and dignity*

Aambra Foundation believes in creating equal rights for both men and women.

Aambra Foundation promotes empowerment of women and community-based efforts in building a resilient society for protecting the rights of women, children and disempowered people.

## MISSION

- Promote **gender equality** by bridging gender gap and empowering women in need of protection
- Practice **socially inclusive** and **holistic development**
- Strengthen **enabling environment** for development of dispossessed and disempowered people
- Build **synergy** among individuals, institutions and commoners through debates, dialogues and congregations

# Location



# Brief History

Every small step that we take to reach out to the others is a small journey towards the mammoth task of improving the canvas of human lives. We touch human life in many ways. There are social constructs and paradigms as old as human civilization is on our planet. In this ever changing and ever evolving world there is a constant give and take flow of information and communication from each one of us both inwards and outwards.

There are so many things around us which we have observed right from the time we were born, so much that we stopped noticing them or pondering about them. Gender bias is one such area where more needs to be done than is being done.

One of our primary objectives as an organisation is to highlight issues of contemporary relevance to the Modern India.

At Aambra, we believe both the genders complement each other and are not in competition with each other to prove supremacy.



She Speaks is a flagship project of the Aambra Foundation. It was conceptualized to give a voice to issues relating to women and celebrate their strength and success. We invite accomplished and inspiring men and women from different walks of life to share their stories of success, struggle and challenges and present case studies.

Across centuries and continents, especially in South Asia, a woman's voice has remained stifled due to socio-economic, politico-religious and other factors. There is a viciousness in the name of family honour/shame and so on that prevents women from openly talking about their troubles. She Speaks hence endeavours to give a voice to the silent sufferings of these women.



# SEMINARS

Through our seminars, we ensure that women's voice is heard through a broad spectrum of society. We encourage and facilitate a dialogue between the panelists, participants and the audience. We have been actively engaged in helping women gain employment through various workshops as well.

Panels are drawn from the government, media, art and culture, NPOs, politics, corporate, policy makers, civil society, banking, writers, authors and journalists.

An attempt is made to present a unique case study in every edition of SheSpeaks. Not only the case study is analyzed but also the solutions to the problems are deliberated and discussed. Eminent policy makers on board plan the road ahead for redressal and eradication of the problems.

Realizing the need for a balance between the works of fiction and non-fiction, we even created "Writer's Nook" – a platform for established and debut authors from around the globe to share, read, review and launch their work.

# Highlights from SheSpeaks Seminar Series



**SheSpeaks Edition 4: Harassment of women in the workplace**

The mark of civilisation is when everyone lives in a meritocracy, in physical and emotional safety. An ideal situation it might be! but for thousands of years it has been a work in progress.

While legislations can only be a guidepost for behaviour change, harassment in the workplace has deeper roots as it mirrors set attitudes in societies, people's homes as well as academic institutions.

In this seminar, the panellists were **Vivek Atray** (IAS, Author, Motivational Speaker), **Vasu Primlani** (Standup Comedian, Gender Activist), **Dr. Pratibha Jolly** (Principal Miranda House), **Ira Singhal** (IAS Topper 2015 Batch), **Vikram Dutt** (Author, Writer & Activist) and **Amitabh Satyam** (Ivy League Prof., Author) who gathered together to fight the cause. Their presence in the seminar itself is the proof that we are indeed making progress towards empowering women to raise their voices and fight against injustices.

# Highlights from SheSpeaks Seminar Series



**SheSpeaks Edition 5: Tagging and typecasting women**



Labelling or tagging and typecasting women is a convenient method used by men as well as women to abuse, defame and slander girls and women. The preconceived notions whereby females and males are arbitrarily assigned characteristics and roles determined and limited by their gender. Stereotypes about women both result from, and are the cause of, deeply ingrained attitudes, values, norms and prejudices against women.

Leading experts from various domains like **Urvashi Butalia** (Published and Author, Zubaan), **Garima Gupta** (IAS, Director of Higher Education, Govt. of Delhi), **Bulbul Dhar James** (Associate Professor, Jamia Milia), **Dr. Alana Golmei** (Women's Rights Activist) and **Dr. Amrinder Bajaj** (H.O.D., Obstetrics & Gynaecology, MAX) guided the event by initiating dialogues that inspired women to reflect on their own surrounding and how it has been weighed down by the existent ingrained attitudes, values, norms and prejudices against women.



**SheSpeaks Edition 6: Sex Trafficking of girls and women in the Subcontinent**

Trafficking of girls and women is a critical problem worldwide. The foundation invited Trafficking Survivor Stories on the official website as a tribute to trafficking #survivors in order to enable and motivate women fight this form of abuse. Aambra Foundation further seeks to institutionalize an award with monetary component to the survivors willing to share their stories of resilience.

A discussion was led by **Mr. Amod Kanth** (IPS, Social Entrepreneur), **Mr. Ashok Sajjanhar** (Former Ambassador), **Ms. Divya Arya** (BBC Women's Affairs Journalist), **Ms. Kamla Bhasin** (Activist & Social Scientist), **Ms. Mamta Singh** (IPS) and **Dr. Nupur Roy** (Social Scientist, Professor) who later commemorated the day by honouring women achievers who have made a mark in various fields and the survivors who stood strong.

# Highlights from SheSpeaks Seminar Series



**SheSpeaks Edition 7: Does Gender Equality depend on area and environment**

Area the physical boundary the concrete reality of the space in which we dwell and environment which is more of metaphysical reality is our eco system. The factors, the influences, intangible aspects that play on physical or concrete reality of a human entity.

Do these external factors contribute to gender equality? Are some parts of geography tilted favorably towards it. Or are these just perceptions?

To answer these prevailing questions, we collaborated with experts from Assam – **Ms. Indrani Dev** (Philanthropist, Former FICCI Chairperson NE Chapter), **Mr. Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta** (Addl DGP Govt of Assam, IPS), **Dr. Anwesha Mahanta** (Artist & Sattriya Dance Expert), **Ms. Tanushree Hazarika** (Entrepreneur & Editor in Atvi Infotainment) and **Dr. Polly Vauquiline** (Associate Professor, Guwahati University).





**SheSpeaks Edition 4.1 : Harassment of women in the workplace**  
Location – Andaman & Nicobar Islands

# Continuation . . .



Glimpses of an eclectic dance performance by RUDRO JAYANTA BHAGAWATI and PRANAAME BHAGAWATI along with AMRAPALI REPERTORY



Glimpses of Sattriya Dance – a dance drama depicting the divine acts of Lord Krishna.



# Aambra Foundation in collaboration with Royal Global University

**She Speaks**  
*Every Woman Has A Story*

**ROYAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY**  
GUWAHATI

**AAMBRA**  
Aambra Foundation

**Aambra Foundation in collaboration with  
Royal Global University presents**

**HAVE YOUR SAY !**

**PARTICIPATE**

**Contest open to everyone 16yrs -24yrs**

**Trophy & Cheque of Rs 10,000 Shall be Awarded**

**Contest link will be live from 15th to 22nd June 2018**

**shespeaks.co.in**

Aambra Foundation in association with Royal Global University, Guwahati presented **SheSpeaks Edition 7.0** and **#haveyoursay** contest.

# Media Coverages



**NBT** नवभारत टाइम्स | Text View Comments Email Print | **GET** YES BANK NE SAVINGS ACCO INTEREST

## ‘हमलों का जवाब दें महिलाएं’

■ वस, नई दिल्ली: आंबा फाउंडेशन की ओर से बुधवार को अंबे एगजल सेमिनार 'She Speaks' को आयोजन किया गया। इंडिया इंटरनेशनल सेक्टर में ह्यू सेमिनार में कई महिलाओं ने 'डिजिटल एंड ट्रांसफॉर्मेशन विमर' के दौरान भाग लिया। वेबिनर्स ने बताया कि महिलाएं पर, सख्तेपै और अक्सिस में कैसे चीन्ने को मैनिज करती हैं।



को लेकर और परडर विनिता बख्शी ने बताया कि कई रटियों से फेमिनिस्ट मुवमेंट बन रहे हैं, लेकिन महिलाओं को जरूरत है सिर्फ अलर्ट रहने की। विनिता बख्शी हैं 'अगर एक महिला का तकक हो चला है या फिर वो अपना हो चली है या मिनिम है तो उस पर टैग चले दिया जाय जव है? यह सब ओपेन चतकक लेने के बीच मतत लेब पैदा करत है। सेमिनार में रिकॉर्स ने भी महिलाओं को लेकर हो रही रटियोंकेटवप बतते पर डिस्टर में अपनी बात रखी और कहा कि महिलाएं अपने रेटेड सफ़र रखें, उन पर हो रहे हमलों के खद जवक दे, जिससे उनकी सेक्युरिटी में एक अलग डेन बनकर आया। सेमिनार के टॉपिक पर एक सर्टिफिकेट भी डिजाईन किया गया। 'शी स्पीक्स' ने फेमिनिस्ट के तौर पर सपोर्ट और पब्लिसस करने की स्ट्रटजीय, फर्मिंग गुय अडवैटरी, डॉ. अमीरत करी बकन मसहूर लेखिका, डॉ. बकुवत धार जेस ब्रानन स्टूडन पब्लिशिस्ट और डॉ. अनन मुनूट थीं।

एवंड रेव परसेड ने कहा कि हम लोगों को महिलाओं की परेशानियों को तवगन लेना, साथ ही महिला और पुरुष की तरफ से समान आन चाहिए। 'She Speaks' सेमिनार में चोक नेट के तौर पर शामिल हुई ट्रेनिंग्स एंड टैलेन्ट की सॉल बमिनिर

**Experts: Bill to rein in human trafficking for sex**

By Anshu Anand

THE Ministry of Home Affairs has introduced a bill to curb human trafficking for sex. The bill, titled 'The Human Trafficking (Amendment) Bill, 2017', aims to strengthen the existing legal framework and provide for the punishment of offenders. It also provides for the protection and rehabilitation of victims.

The bill defines human trafficking as the recruitment, transportation, harboring, or sheltering of a person with the intention of exploiting that person for sexual purposes. It also covers the recruitment, transportation, harboring, or sheltering of a person with the intention of exploiting that person for other purposes, such as forced labor or slavery.

The bill prescribes a maximum punishment of life imprisonment for those who are found guilty of human trafficking for sex. It also provides for the protection and rehabilitation of victims, including the provision of medical and psychological services, and the opportunity to work and study.

The bill is expected to be passed by the Parliament in the near future. It is a significant step towards the eradication of human trafficking for sex in India.

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सूचना: सुबह 6 बजे से 11 बजे तक की एड्स के खद रटों की वही सेकत | विमर | #मन्युविमर 2018 #अंटी एक्स 201

### सेमिनार: महिलाओं से जुड़े मुद्दों पर ये है SHE SPEAKS की राय

नई दिल्ली: नवभारत टाइम्स | Last updated: Sun, 10 Dec 2017 12:36 AM IST



- यदिनी खबरें**
- सर्व में ब्यवहार, COI में गुलार ललगा 136 करोड़ रुपये का जुर्माना
  - रेल बंधि: लखर के ब्युनिमर पर सख्त कास्टोरी पूरे से निरपार
  - बतक सत: लोकतण की बरालगी 5 मरत लके तिगु बखी
  - बड़ा हावक: PPF सखीन खान करत की डेवरी, तिग तिपेकक में है

**Director Seminar tomorrow**

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, June 25: Assam Foundation is organising its seventh tri-annual seminar 'She Speaks' at Royal Global University here on June 27.

The seminar titled 'Does Gender Equality depend on area and environment', aims at shedding light on the issues that concern gender equality and marginalisation of a segment of population through real life incidents and perspectives.

The seminar will include a panel discussion between Indrani Deb, philanthropist and entrepreneur; Tanusree Hazarika Aggarwal, entrepreneur; Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta, Addl DGP, Assam and Dr Anwesha Mahanta, Sattriya dance exponent. The panel will be moderated by Vinita Bakshi, author and founder of She Speaks.

**IN THE COURT OF THE CIVIL JUDGE, 180 - 3, KAMRATI AT GUWAHATI**

Money Suit No. 181/2017

State Bank of India, Small and Medium Enterprise Cell (SME) against M/s. Sankar Singh & Co. (SME), Plaintiffs vs. M/s. Sankar Singh & Co. (SME), Defendants.

Whereas the above named Plaintiff has instituted the above Money Suit against you for recovery of the Rs.2,56,277 (Two Lacs Twenty Three Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Seven Rupees only), therefore you are hereby asked to appear before the Court personally or through your appointed Advocate on the Day of August 2018 at 10.30 a.m., failing which the matter shall be heard ex-parte.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court on this 18th Day of June, 2018.

Civil Judge, No. 3, Kamrati at Guwahati.

# Legal Profile & Governance

## Legal Profile

**Aambra Foundation is registered under the following :**

- Indian Trust Act, 1882
- Section 12 A read with 12AA(1)(b) of the Income Tax Act, 1961
- Section 80G (5)(VI) of the Income Tax Act, 1961
- The Income Tax Act, 1961 for Permanent Account Number (PAN)
- NGO Darpan (NITI Aayog)

## Governance

**Aambra Foundation practices transparency and conforms to the requirements of law and governance**

- Trustees meet at regular intervals to discuss and decide organisational matters.
- Views of Advisors and members of Core Council are obtained periodically according to needs.
- Annual accounts of the Trust are audited by a Chartered Accountant.
- Annual return of income is filed according to law.
- The Trust respects meritocracy.
- Trustees work voluntarily with selfless dedication, and do not receive any money for their services.

# Management

## **BOARD of TRUSTEES**

Nirmala Sharma, Managing Trustee, Educator, Teacher, Thinker (BA, B.Ed)

Vinita Bakshi (Founder and Director Programmes, AAMBRA Foundation) Vinita is an alumna of Delhi School of Economics, an author and a social entrepreneur.

## **EXECUTIVE BODY**

Vinita Bakshi (Founder and Director Programmes, AAMBRA Foundation) Vinita is an alumna of Delhi School of Economics, an author and a social entrepreneur.

Parantap Bakshi (Director of Administration, B.Com, University of Delhi)

## **ADVISORY BOARD**

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**Rajiv Makhni** (Media Personality)

**Arvind Singhal** (IIT-Roorkee)

**Amarendra Khatua** (Former DG, ICCR)

**Manju Seth** (IFS)

**Deepshikha Sharma** (IRS)

**Sameera Moledina** (Journalist)

# Collaborators

