



VIDYA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Thalakkottukara, Thrissur – 680 501

(Affiliated to APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University)

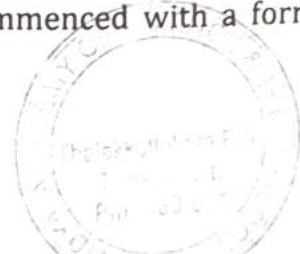
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WOMEN EMPOWERMENT CELL

Annual Activity Report – 2025-26

The Women Empowerment Cell of Vidya Academy of Science & Technology, Thalakkottukara, organized two impactful programmes during the academic year 2025-26, each preceded by a planning meeting of the cell members to ensure systematic coordination and effective execution. The first programme was an Extempore Competition titled 'RISE – Resilience, Inspiration, Strength, Empowerment,' held on 10 October 2025 from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM in the Conference Hall (SB-1-114), in association with the Institution of Engineers (India) [IE(I)], to commemorate the International Day of the Girl Child. The event was themed 'Empowerment Under Pressure: Girls Leading Advocacy and Upholding Rights During Humanitarian Crisis,' and aimed to provide a platform for girl students to articulate their opinions, analytical thinking, and leadership potential on critical issues facing girls globally. The welcome address was delivered by Ms. Resmi K. Rajan, Convenor of the Women Empowerment Cell. A total of 15 enthusiastic students from various departments participated, with each contestant given 5 minutes to prepare and 5 minutes to deliver a structured speech. The competition was judged by Ms. Surabhi M.S., Asst. Librarian, and Ms. Ponsy Paul, Asst. Professor, Civil Department. The quality of the speeches was exceptionally high, with participants articulating complex ideas on gender equality, climate crisis, and economic instability with remarkable clarity and confidence, embodying the RISE spirit by presenting girls not as victims of crisis but as powerful agents of change. First place was awarded to Ms. Aysha Shafeek M M (S3 B.Tech Computer Science) and second place to Ms. Gayathri C G (S5 B.Tech Computer Science). The event concluded with the distribution of certificates and an encouraging closing address by the judges.

The second programme of the year was 'GIFT – Giving Inspiration & Fostering Trailblazers,' the International Women's Day celebration organized by the Women Empowerment Cell in association with IQAC and ISTE on 6 March 2026 at 11:30 AM in Pranavam Auditorium. As 8 March 2026 fell on a Sunday, the celebration was held on the preceding Friday to ensure maximum participation of students and faculty. The programme commenced with a formal



welcome address and inaugural lamp-lighting ceremony, followed by a presidential address by the Principal, who reflected on the significance of Women's Day and the imperative of empowering women in every sphere of life. The Chief Guest for the occasion was Ms. O. Sajitha, Circle Inspector of Excise, Janamaithri Excise Squad, Nilambur – Kerala's first Woman Excise Inspector – who delivered an inspiring Women's Day Special Address, sharing her personal journey of dedication, courage, and visionary leadership, and deeply motivating the student audience to pursue their dreams with confidence and resilience. Cultural performances by girl students added vibrancy and grace to the event, reflecting the spirit and strength of women. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by the Convenor and a group photograph with the Chief Guest. The event successfully fostered a sense of pride, inspiration, and empowerment among participants, with the real-life experiences of a pioneering woman leader and the cultural performances together reinforcing confidence, teamwork, and the enduring significance of women's empowerment.