

# Friends ♀ of WIT

Reaching Out 38



*Best Wishes for 2016*



With Best Compliments

**WESTSIDE**

## LOOKING BACK...LOOKING AHEAD

**A**s the popular song goes, What a Wonderful World! But what a mess mankind has made of it! Terrorism has led to turbulent times and no corner of the world is safe or secure any more. The environment too is under threat and critical climate change is creating unheard of problems in our wondrous world.

Nearer home, the economy is picking up bringing good cheer with GDP inching up to around 7.4%. And the good news for WIT is that the recovery of all our Income Tax dues, which has been a major concern these past two years, seems to be nearing an end.

WIT has had a hard-working but rewarding year with many highs and several challenges thrown its way. New programmes have been initiated to add to the number of beneficiaries – our main objective or *raison d'être*.

As the New Year stands before us, let's look ahead to new inspiration, new ideas, new opportunities! Here's to a wonderful 2016.

## REMEMBERING KAMILA



1918-2004

### Changing Lives In A Changing World

**F**ounder's Day is celebrated each year to honour, recall and give thanks to Founder-Chairman Kamila Tyabji for the remarkable institution set up and nurtured by her. Her efforts to make women financially independent through training in livelihood

skills and education have been continuing with renewed vigour these past eleven years since she passed away.

Kamila's birth anniversary, February 14th, was celebrated on February 17th at the WIT Centre, Panvel, with much warmth and camaraderie by guests, Governing Body members, staff, students and women workers.

The Chief Guest, Mrs Arathi Shetty, Director, Allcargo Logistics, graced the occasion. She spoke of the importance of organizations, like WIT, working to promote the advancement and welfare of women and children, and explained the priority and special programmes her company funded to enable the economic upliftment of women.

Allcargo Logistics have contributed towards the Nursing course at WIT in the last few years and earlier in the year towards the much-needed repairs at the WIT Centre. WIT greatly appreciates their support extended so graciously.

Students of the WIT Balwadi and Nursing School provided lively entertainment, followed by a delicious lunch hosted by members of the Governing Body.

## AWARDS AND REWARDS



**Shyamla Nath**, our CEO received the Rex Karmaveer Global Fellowship and Karmaveer Chakra award 2013-2014 from iCONGO for her work in the development sector for over 15 years



**Dolat Kotwal**, former Chairman, was awarded a REX Karmaveer Chakra Award for her work in the NGO sector over the past three decades. These awards were received in New Delhi at a special event attended by those connected with the NGO world and special guests.

Rewarding and fitting tributes for the Founder-Chairman and members of WIT.



In March 2015, **Kamila Tyabji** was selected for a posthumous Lifetime Achievement Karmaveer Puraskar Award, which was accepted on her behalf by **Dhanoo Khusrokhani**, current Chairman.

## REPAIRS & RESTORATION

**T**he year started with an urgent need to repair leaking roofs, walls and bathrooms; replace overhead tanks and waterproof the terraces at the Kamila Tyabji WIT Centre, Panvel.

The initial cost, a sizeable amount, was met very fortunately by a generous grant from the A.H. Wadia Trust. A part of the hostel building and Nursery classrooms had been donated by the A.H. Wadia Trust over 30 years ago, so WIT was pleased that the Trustees graciously sanctioned funds for these repairs also.



*The Kamila Tyabji WIT Centre: a landmark in Panvel*

# WIT'S MULTI-FACETED ACTIVITIES

## NURSING & NURTURING

Three decades of successfully training women in the crucial nursing and healthcare sector in India has resulted in more than 700 women qualifying to earn a livelihood through WIT.

There is an acute shortage of nurses in our society while the demand is increasing along with the increase in population. Being affiliated to the Indian Nursing Council and the Maharashtra Nursing Council has meant that WIT has maintained high standards, with cent percent results each year, filling a vital void in the nursing field.

Anshu Kaul, Director, WIT School of Nursing, reports that the syllabus of the course is strictly followed along with several additional workshops, seminars, and visits to clinics, hospitals, villages. The good news is that Navi Mumbai's Municipal Corporation Hospital has also been included from December 2015.

During the year, WIT Nursing students participated in the annual Walkathon organized by the Keraliya Cultural Society on International Women's Day celebrated in March. They also enthusiastically performed a street play on AIDS Day on this important issue.

Realising the demand for paramedical training for nurses

trained in the basics of nursing, WIT has commenced classes from August 2015 in Nursing Care, a full time one-year course for students who have an SSC Certificate. To run this course, WIT has registered with the Maharashtra Board of Vocational Education. WIT also offers another one-year part-time course, the Health Workers Assistant Course for students who have passed the SSC examination.

As part of their Corporate Social Responsibility Programme, Capgemini is sponsoring the Paramedical and Teacher's Training Courses affiliated to SNTD Women's University, for 3 years.



Ipca Laboratories has sponsored the classroom requirements for the two Courses.



*Nursing students in a hospital learning environment*

# REACHING OUT...REACHING FOR THE STARS

Merely promoting the on-going programmes at the Kamila Tyabji WIT Centre, Panvel, and Mahim is not the full WIT story. WIT is increasingly being involved with outreach or Development Programmes in the wider community to enable many more women to benefit and become empowered.

**CitiBank** has complemented WIT's efforts through its **Payroll Giving Programme**, at regular intervals. WIT is beholden to Citibank as well as **Suresh Raina** of Hunt Partners, who helped nurture and support this scheme. Thank you so much for believing in our mission. WIT couldn't do

this without your generosity and commitment.

Tailoring classes of six months duration are being conducted for:

- Apnalaya, Govandi
- Dharavi Diary, Mahim
- Asha Sadan, Dongri
- MAVIM, Ghatkopar
- Ram Krishna Parishak, Thane
- Mahila Vikas Mandal, Ghatkopar

So far basic tailoring is being taught to these batches, comprising of around 30 women, each of whom pays Rs.100 per month. Future plans include starting Advanced Courses, to make women sparkle and shine, while reaching for the stars.



*Tailoring students display their journals*

# AWARENESS PROGRAMMES AND WORKSHOPS

**At Panvel**, a successful Cancer Prevention Workshop, with a cancer check-up for WIT staff and women workers was funded by the Guvanti Kapoor Medical Relief Charitable Foundation in association with the Indian Cancer Society, which provided a mobile van equipped to carry out check-ups. About 70 women participated while 30 of them underwent the check-up



**SAKHYA**, an NGO working in the legal field, was invited to conduct a workshop to enlighten WIT women on Women's Rights on September 8th. It generated a great deal of interest and queries on several vital issues were competently handled by SAKHYA.



**UTI** organized a very useful session on the National Pension Scheme for artisans. All women were entitled to join the Scheme by contributing a small amount every year.

**WIT** regularly works in association with the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) and its Design students. This year the Workshop for women artisans was on working with Sustainable Design, by using scrap materials to enhance products. Skills imparted were smocking, braiding, flower making, mobiles, etc. A very interesting and educative session for WIT women!

**WIT** helped **IWN**, the Indian Women's Network part of CII, the Confederation of Indian Industry, organize a mentoring meet for women.

WIT and NIFT conducted the session on Product Development and Pricing, while E-bay guided women on e-commerce. The event was held at the Sydenham College, arranged by SIMSREE, the Sydenham College Management Students group.



**S P Jain** students undergoing the Family Managed Business course visited Panvel, enjoyed a home-cooked style lunch and shopped with enthusiasm for WIT home linen and foods.

**Mumbai Explorers**, a group of international and Indian women visited WIT in March to view the progress being made by WIT women and the efforts WIT has made over the past three decades at the WIT Centre, Panvel.

Such visits provide WIT valuable exposure to different groups from time to time. They also relish the meals provided and shop for WIT products, boosting sales and income.

Moreover, Mumbai Explorers made a generous donation for WIT's activities.

In October 2015 about 25 members of **Indus International** were given a presentation at the WIT Showroom, Tardeo. Indus International has always been very supportive inviting WIT to participate in their annual Festival of Charities and also donating funds from time to time.



*Smiles all around after the Design Workshop by NIFT students*

**WIT** women were featured in a short documentary film projecting the progress made by women, who had benefitted from the training and livelihood programmes conducted by WIT. Thanks to Nawneet Rajan, who produced this film pro bono, it has proved an effective medium to showcase the positive impact of WIT, especially to institutions, corporates and individuals that WIT approaches for support.



WIT supported the heart-warming Concern India event 'Splash', an Art Competition for special children by donating gifts to all the 120 aspiring artists who attended the fun-filled morning. The boys and girls enjoyed themselves thoroughly as they came together to express their creativity and make new friends. Organised by Secure Giving, it was held at the Avabai Petit School, Bandra, on August 14th, 2015.



## MARATHON LADIES

Continuing the WIT tradition of participating in the annual Standard Chartered Marathon, Hilloo Damkewalla, Dhanoo Khushrookhan and Abha Mundra took part in Mumbai's high profile charity event in January 2015.



This year IDABRO, a market research company that assists WIT in locating venues for outside Sales and Exhibitions and sourcing orders and customers, partnered with Hindustan Unilever, for a Survey on Time Saved by Women using effective household products. HUL printed leaflets, which included an advertisement for their Rin detergent. The communication highlighted the fact that because Rin used less water and saved on washing time, women could utilize their time better by joining short-term courses conducted by WIT. Details in the leaflet helped to publicise WIT's vocational courses, such as the recently started short-term Paramedical Nursing Course of a year's duration.



## GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS

Working as a well coordinated team over the years has paid off in terms of continuity and overcoming constant challenges. WIT is lucky to have the following dedicated members, with Indu Shahani as President.

Indu Shahani	President	Vidya Ranadive	Vice Chairman
Dhanoo Khusrookhan	Chairman	Abha Mundra	Hon. Treasurer
Dolat Kotwal	Chairman Emeritus		

### Members

Dinoo Parakh	Shama Phadke	Irmela Futehally	Dipti Singh	Lyla Mehta	Zakia Khatib
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# SALES & MORE

**W**IT participates in Sales at different venues in and around Mumbai throughout the year to generate income and liquidity. WIT's iconic home linen, soft toys, stationery, delicious food products are always best sellers. Spread the word. Source new events for WIT.



## CORPORATE SALES

- Novartis
- CitiBank
- Fino PayTech
- Cipla
- Tata Capital
- Taj Imperial Club
- Viacom
- Bombay Gymkhana
- L'Oreal India
- Taj Wellington Mews
- Maersk
- Firmenich Aromatics India Pvt. Ltd
- Diebold Systems
- Lanxess India
- Marico
- 120 Media Collective
- Sanofi
- Kaya Clinic
- Abbott Healthcare
- Standard Chartered Bank
- Axis Bank
- Oberoi Hotel
- DCB
- CII
- Bank of Baroda
- CRISIL
- Lupin India
- Centrum
- HSBC
- J P Morgan
- IL&FS Financial Services Ltd
- Khaitan & Company
- Bank of India
- Future Generali
- Renaissance Hotel Mumbai
- Upper Crust
- Indo German Chamber of Commerce

## HOME SALES

- Dina Daver
- Shama Phadke
- Abha Mundra
- Bindu Datta



## NGO SALES

- Concern India Foundation
- Women Graduates Union
- AWC NGO Mela
- INDUS International
- Design One (Sahachari Foundation)
- BSPCA
- Samanta Coffee Morning



## INSTITUTIONAL SALES

- S P Jain College
- Breach Candy Club
- SNDT College
- NMIMS College
- Sophia College
- SIES College
- DSB International School



# A BIG THANK YOU, DONORS!

Thank you for your support as we continue to scale and reach out to more women providing educational access and opportunity. With the generous support of donors like you, WIT can continue to set bold goals.

- A H Wadia Trust
- Global Offshore Services Limited
- Allcargo Logistics Limited
- IPCA Laboratories Limited
- A G Family Trust
- Hansraj Damodar Charitable Trust
- Dhanoo H Khusrokhani
- Bai Hirabai Manchesha Gilder Charity Trust
- The Zoroastrian Charity Funds of Hongkong, Canton, Macao
- Vedant Maheshwari
- M K Tata Trust
- Hari Mundra
- Bai Alamai & Seth Ardeshir Talati and Seth Sarosh B Mody Charity Trust
- IHCL Corporate (Mumbai)
- United Way of Mumbai
- Anjali Bhavne / Siddharth Mundra
- Seth Purshotamdas Thakurdas & Divaliba Charitable Trust
- Abha Mundra
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- Rajeev Kumar Bhasin
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- Hiralal Parekh Parivaar Charity Trust
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- Hari Mundra
- Haigreva Khaitan
- Nalin Shah
- Firdaus Vevaina
- Chandrashekhar Bhaskar Bhavne
- Homi Commissariat
- R Gopalkrishnan
- Shoba Suren Sujan
- Mahrouk Vevaina
- Anita Jervis
- Naveen Kumar Kshatriya
- Rumi Jehangir
- Navaz Buhariwala
- Zenobia Adajania
- Jehangir Damkevala
- Zal Damkevala
- Hilloo Damkevala
- Eugenia Marie D'souza
- Keki Elavia
- Gooloo Panthaky
- Zarin Dubash
- Rishad Naoroji
- Hoofrishi Vakil
- Fatima Colaco
- Dorab Sopariwalla
- Mary Jimmy Behlihomji
- Gool Avasia
- Dr Dinesh Daftary
- **New Life Members**
- Khorshed Bahadurji
- Erna Guzder
- Ardeshir B K Dubash
- Feroz K A Dubash
- Perin F Dubash
- Anya F Dubash
- Jehangir E A Dubash
- Ursula Bhattacharjee



## Join Our Family



I would like to renew my membership/ become an Ordinary/ Life Member of Friends of WIT.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose Cash/Cheque for Rs.500/- Annual Membership, Rs.5,000/- Life Membership.

Please make out your cheque in favour of WIT, Women's India Trust and forward it to 23, Bombay Market, Tardeo, Mumbai 400 034.

E-mail: [witardeo@gmail.com](mailto:witardeo@gmail.com)

Website : [www.wit.org.in](http://www.wit.org.in)



*A donation of Rs 5,000/- would help sponsor a WIT student for one year*

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