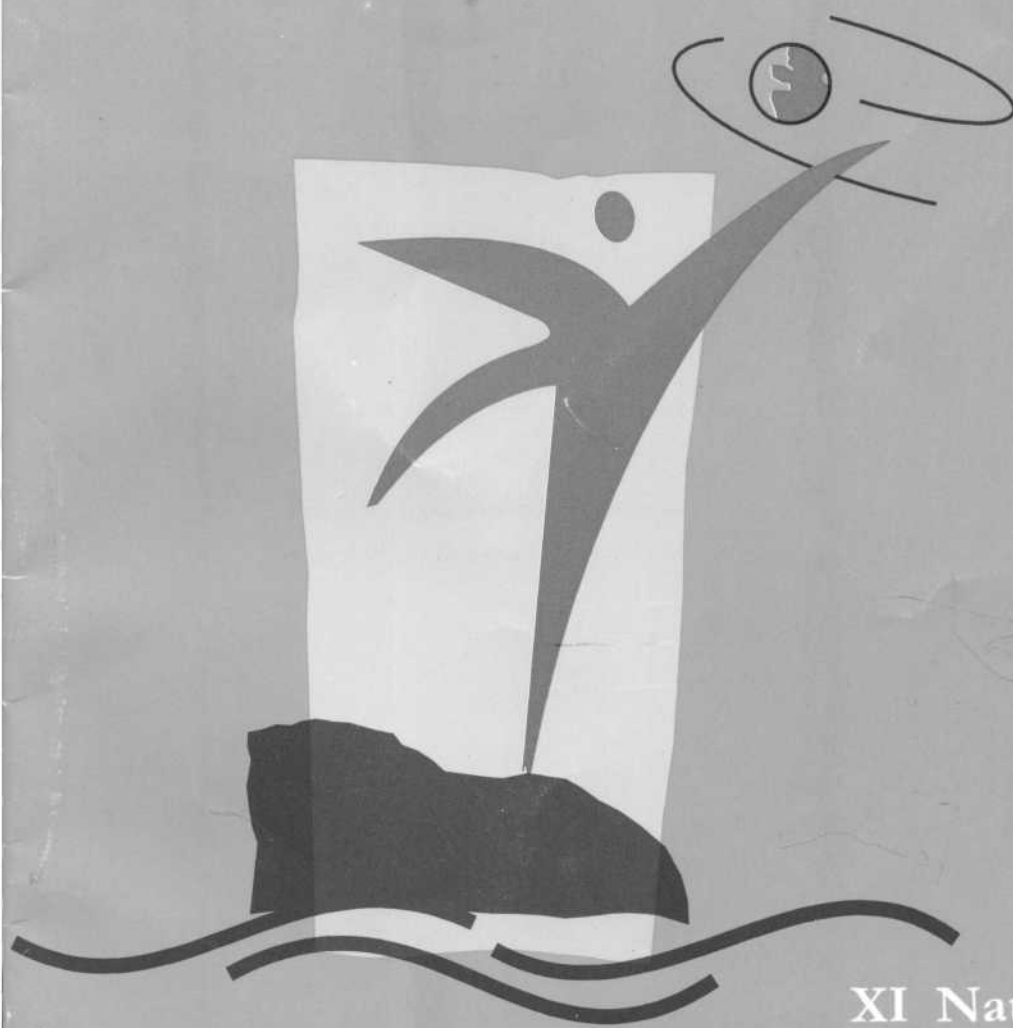


General Secretary, Treasurer and Editor's Report



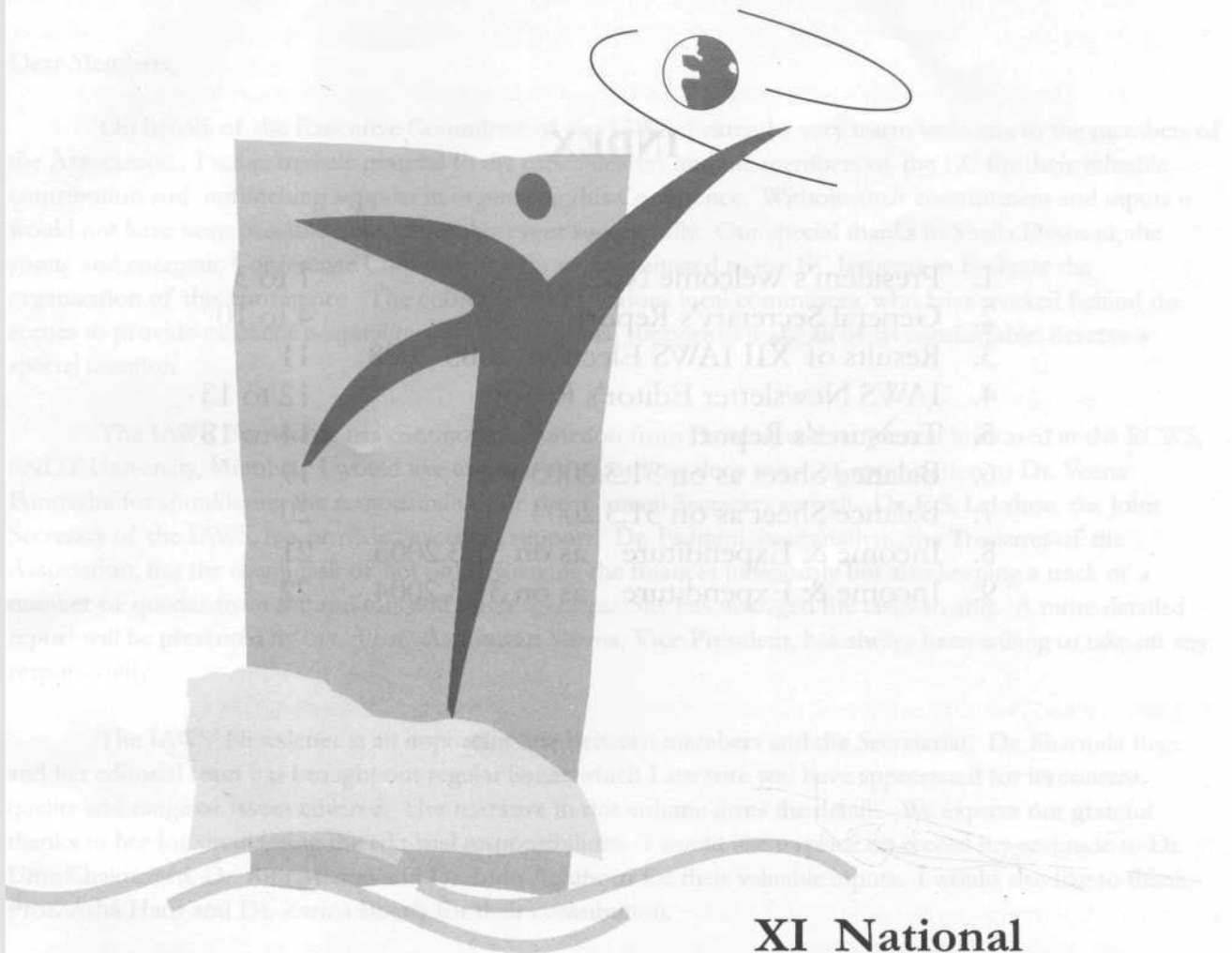
XI National
General Body Meeting

5 May, 2005

The International Centre, Dona Paulo, Goa

Organized by : **Indian Association for Women's Studies**
www.iaws.org

General Secretary, Treasurer and Editor's Report



XI National General Body Meeting

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME NOTE

Dear Members,

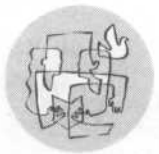
On behalf of the Executive Committee of the IAWS, I extend a very warm welcome to the members of the Association. I am extremely grateful to the office bearers and the members of the EC for their valuable contribution and unflinching support in organizing this Conference. Without their commitment and inputs it would not have been possible to organize this event successfully. Our special thanks to Shaila Desouza, the young and energetic Conference Coordinator who was nominated to the EC last year to facilitate the organization of this conference. The coordinators of various local committees, who have worked behind the scenes to provide excellent hospitality and organizational support to make all of us comfortable, deserve a special mention.

The IAWS' Secretariat has continued to function from Bombay and at present is located at the RCWS, SNDT University, Mumbai. I would like to place on record my deep sense of appreciation to Dr. Veena Poonacha for shouldering the responsibilities of the General Secretary so well. Dr. C.S. Lakshmi, the Joint Secretary of the IAWS, has provided excellent support. Dr. Padmini Swaminathan, the Treasurer of the Association, has the tough task of not only managing the finances judiciously but also keeping a track of a number of queries from the auditors and other agencies. She has managed the tasks so ably. A more detailed report will be presented by her. Prof. Rameswari Verma, Vice-President, has always been willing to take on any responsibility.

The IAWS' Newsletter is an important link between members and the Secretariat. Dr. Sharmila Rege and her editorial team has brought out regular issues which I am sure you have appreciated for its content, quality and range of issues covered. Her narrative in this volume gives the details. We express our grateful thanks to her for shouldering the editorial responsibilities. I would like to place on record my gratitude to Dr. Uma Chakravarti, Dr. Ritu Menon and Dr. Indu Agnihotri for their valuable inputs. I would also like to thank Prof. Asha Hans and Dr. Zarina Bhatta for their contribution.

Last but not the least, all the sub-theme coordinators, paper presenters and the participants deserve a special mention as their valuable contribution and enthusiasm makes all the difference to the success of the Conference and to the quality of discussions.

The IAWS' Secretariat has continued to function from Mumbai. While it is healthy to run the Secretariat from different places and thus have the opportunity of harnessing talent and energy of our members



in different institutional locations, it has always created procedural problems while raising funds as the Association is registered in Delhi and it is difficult to explain to the funding agencies the concept of a rolling Secretariat. It also creates difficulties in transferring papers and maintaining records. During our tenure, we had to settle more than a decade old cases of grants received from different sources.

There has always been this feeling that the IAWS should have a permanent Secretariat for efficient functioning, continuity and for retrieving and disseminating information more smoothly. For the first time we have succeeded in raising an institutional grant for the IAWS for almost five years (from HIVOS and Ford Foundation). The institutional grant has helped us in meeting the cost of the Secretariat's staff including a coordinator and office assistants at Mumbai and Chennai. It has also helped in providing small funds to collaborating institutions for organizing regional conferences.

During the term of the present E.C, the following regional conferences were organized by the IAWS:

- ❖ Western regional meeting on *Women's Studies: Teaching and Research* in collaboration with the RCWS, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai.
- ❖ Northern regional meeting on *Women Hold Half the Sky*, 9-10 January 2004, in collaboration with Women's Advisory Board, University of Allahabad, U.P.
- ❖ *Women and Civil Society*, December 2004 organized in collaboration with the Women's Studies Centre, Kurukshetra University, Haryana.
- ❖ Eastern and North-East regional meeting on *Women and Security* on 14-15 February 2005 in collaboration with the School of Women's Studies, University of Kolkata.

In the last few decades, Women's Studies has acquired a distinct identity and place within the academia. The growth and expansion of Women's Studies and its ideological dimensions face several threats from both within the academia and outside it. I am sure you are aware that IAWS took up the issue of the UGC's move to rename the University Centres of Women's Studies as 'Women and Family Studies Centres'. The IAWS successfully mobilized teachers, researchers and activists associated with the development of Women's Studies and women's movement. You will be happy to know that the move was dropped. We have to be vigilant. Despite strong protests from the Women's Studies scholars and activists, against some of the provisions in the UGC's Tenth Plan guidelines on Women's Studies which could subvert the basic principles of autonomy of universities and Women's Studies Centers, the revised guidelines have not taken these protests seriously. The replacement of the Standing Committee on Women's Studies by the Review Committee with limited representation from Women's Studies scholars is another area of concern. We should demand a more



representative body and reconstitution of the Standing Committee of the UGC. We are deeply concerned by the UGC's move which will mean abandoning the national mandate and the broader vision of Women's Studies. The EC of the IAWS strongly felt the need for a wider debate and consultations on several challenges facing Women's Studies and decided to hold a Plenary followed by a workshop to address major issues both theoretical and practical, facing Women's Studies.

National Conferences have played a significant role in debating various issues which concern women's movement and has provided a unique platform for sharing views on diverse issues. It is a space which provides an opportunity to bring fresh insights and ideas on a range of topics.

The elections for the next EC have been completed. The new EC will take charge in October. I wish the newly elected members a productive tenure.

I invite all the members to the proceedings of the General Body Meeting.

May, 2005

Kumud Sharma
President, IAWS



GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Distinguished Members of the Indian Association of Women's Studies!

It is now three years since this assembly met in Bhubhaneswar and reposed their confidence on the newly elected Executive Committee (EC) to conduct the affairs of the IAWS. It was with considerable trepidation that we took charge: For, on the one hand, there were high expectations from the members; on the other, the prevailing political regime was targeting institutions and forums that challenged their truncated world-view. This attempt to circumscribe secular spaces was evident from their insidious attempts to colonize educational institutions and undermine academic freedom. Having infiltrated various prestigious research and teaching institutions by placing their stooges in key positions, these forces were seeking to rewrite history and redesign curriculum in ways that would erode the secular and multicultural fabric of our society. Women's Studies Centres (WSCs) established within the University system were also targeted in this struggle for ideological control. As the representative organization of Women's Studies scholars and activists, the IAWS could not allow this attack to go unchallenged. The EC was the elected representatives of the IAWS. They had to respond to the 10th Plan guidelines that sought to dilute the political vision of Women's Studies within the University system.

The IAWS Campaign against Renaming Women's Studies Centres

The attempt to dilute the political vision of Women's Studies teaching, research and praxis is evident from the fact that the 10th Plan document did not recognize it as an important area of interdisciplinary scholarship. The WSCs established within the University system were seen as only providing extension services in the University system. Their contribution to research and teaching was not acknowledged. It was however only a few months later that the full import of the guidelines became evident to us. The University Grants Commission (UGC), in contravention to its established precedents, dissolved the standing committee for Women's Studies and vested its powers on a review committee to be headed by a person whose only qualification to the post was that she was a woman. An even more subversive action was the UGC's insistence that the precondition to receiving grant-in-aid by WSCs was that they be renamed Women and Family Studies.

It is perhaps a measure of the subversive potential of Women's Studies teaching and research programmes, that the UGC sought to undermine the very institution it had funded and shaped under the grant allocations made in the earlier plans. One of the first actions that the EC took was to spearhead a campaign against the renaming of the WSCs. Dr. Kumud Sharma visited Mumbai in June 2003 and chaired a meeting with senior Women's Studies scholars to discuss the plan-of-action. The IAWS then initiated a signature campaign and sent letters of protest. In this, the women's movement and the academic community gave us full support.

The overwhelming protest of the academic community (particularly Women's Studies scholars/activists)



from across the country had its impact, and the UGC was forced to shelve its decision. This is not to imply that the struggle is over. There are other serious concerns. For instance, the UGC has not yet constituted a Standing Committee in Women's Studies. The EC has brought these lapses to the notice of the present government and hopefully steps will be taken in the near future to rectify them.

The Struggle to Maintain Links with the UGC

The EC has also sought to ensure that its longstanding relationship with the UGC is not ruptured. Since its inception, the IAWS has lobbied for the introduction of Women's Studies within the university system. It has worked closely with the UGC to shape the development of Women's Studies programmes within the university system. A precedent that existed for over two and a half decades (since the time Dr. Madhuri Shah, the former chairperson of the UGC, became the first president of the IAWS after her retirement from office) was that the IAWS president during her tenure in office becomes the ex-officio member of the IAWS Standing Committee. In her capacity as member of the Standing Committee, she was able to represent the interests of the various WSCs and also shape the programmes. This support and cooperation between the UGC and the IAWS has unfortunately been broken in recent years. The EC has represented the need for a continued cooperation between the IAWS and the UGC to facilitate the development of Women's Studies programmes within the University system.

The Executive Committee Meetings

Apart from the joint EC meeting held in October 2002 in Bhubaneswar, when the present EC placed on record its appreciation for the dedicated services of the previous EC in having successfully completed the conference, the present EC during its tenure has organized 5 meetings on the following dates:

- 1) 14-15 January 2003 in Mumbai
- 2) 10-11 August 2003 in Delhi
- 3) 14-15 February 2004 in Mumbai
- 4) 2-3 August 2004 in Goa
- 5) 10-11 January 2005 in Delhi

Additionally it has held two Office Bearers' meetings on the following dates:

- 1) 1-2 October 2004, Mumbai
- 2) 19 March 2005, Mumbai



Apart from the business sessions when the EC concerned itself with raising funds for running the Secretariat, organizing programmes/conferences, the main concern of the EC was to protect, nurture and fulfil the obligations that were laid on it by the constitution of the IAWS. The organization of the national conferences, is undoubtedly its main activity. But it also, in the interim period between the two national conferences conducts a series of regional seminars/workshops in collaboration with universities in different parts of the country. The idea of organizing regional seminars/workshops during the interim period is to maintain the synergy created by the preceding IAWS national conference with the forthcoming event. It is also to promote Women's Studies scholarship in different regions and to ensure that the IAWS retains its link with the different parts of the country.

Regional Seminars/Workshops Research and Publications

In keeping with this established practice, the present EC also has organized various regional seminars/workshops during its tenure. The responsibility of organizing these programmes were shared by the EC members as follows:

- Northern region** : Dr. Kumud Sharma, Dr. Uma Chakravarti, Dr. Indu Agnihotiri, Ritu Menon and Dr. Zarina Bhatti
- Eastern region** : Prof. Asha Hans
- Western region** : Dr. Veena Poonacha, Dr. Lakshmi Lingam, Dr. Sharmila Rege
- Southern region** : Dr. Padmini Swaminathan and Prof. Rameswari Verma

In the Northern region, the IAWS conducted two programmes: The first entitled *Women Hold Half the Sky* was held on 9-10 January 2004 in collaboration with the Women's Studies Advisory Board, University of Allahabad, U.P. The second entitled *On Women and Civil Society* was organized in collaboration with the Women's Studies Centre, Kurukshetra University, and Harayana. Both these regional meetings generated a rich variety of ideas on the current development processes in the country.

In the East and North-Eastern regions, the IAWS in collaboration with the School of Women's Studies, University of Kolkata conducted a seminar on Women and Security on 14-15 February 2005. In the Western region a workshop was organized by the IAWS in collaboration with the Research Centre for Women's Studies, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai, from 16-17 February 2004. The workshop organized close to the EC meeting, enabled the various EC members to attend it and focussed on *Women's Studies: Research and Teaching*. The participants included IAWS members from Mumbai and teachers of Women's Studies in the various colleges of Mumbai. Some of the issues that were discussed focussed on the difficulties faced by the teachers in getting



Women's Studies accepted as a legitimate area of study within their respective disciplines as well as the various teaching/learning experiences. The ensuing discussions focussed on the impact of Women's Studies on the fundamental principles of each discipline and the ways in which the current explosion of Women's Studies scholarship affected the political vision of Women's Studies. Further, recognizing a need for the translation of Women's Studies material into regional languages, the IAWS provided financial support to Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule Women's Studies Centre, Pune University to bring out Women's Studies teaching material in Marathi.

In the Southern region, Dr. Padmini Swaminathan and Anandhi S conducted a research study entitled, *Making it Relevant: Mapping the Meaning of Women's Studies in Tamil Nadu* on the teaching of Women's Studies in Tamil Nadu.

The XI National Conference on Women's Studies

The major activity of the IAWS has always been the National Conference. In principle, the EC considers it important to move beyond metropolitan centers to the more marginal locations. Also to highlight local concerns, the EC organizes a panel on local issues. In selecting Goa as the site for the conference, the EC wished to pose questions (as indicated in the Goa panel) on the impact of tourism on the local communities. The organization of the conference was possible because of the coordinator of the local organizing committee, Shaila Desouza and the other committee members and volunteers as well as the International Centre, Goa and the Goa University. The energy of the volunteers is evident in all the committees. There has been a considerable sharing of responsibilities in this conference. The bag was prepared in Goa, the layout of the brochure was prepared in Delhi and printed in Mumbai along with the president's address, this report, the certificates, and the writing pad. The book of abstracts was printed in Pune. The process of conducting the conference themes and sub-themes has been democratic. After the theme and sub-theme of the conferences were finalized, scholars were invited to coordinate the plenary sessions and the sub-themes. The key paper writers were identified and invited to write papers. All the members of the IAWS have been informed about the conference dates, venue, themes and sub-themes and have been invited to send in their papers for any of the sub-themes.

Communication and Outreach

The IAWS has over the years maintained its links with its members through its newsletters; these quarterly newsletters edited by Dr. Sharmila Rege, have focussed attention on the various concerns within Women's Studies. It has reported on the IAWS opposition to the move by the UGC to rename Women's Studies Centers; carried information about the regional seminars/workshops as well as reported on the national conferences; and also initiated debates about Women's Studies theory and praxis. The Newsletters also serve as important documentation of the various activities of the IAWS, which we have submitted to our funding



agencies. In addition, information about the IAWS activities have been disseminated through the IAWS website. A special thanks here is due to Mr. Anil Saini, Dr. Sharmila Rege's husband, who has stepped in to update the website. We would not have been able to communicate about the conference activities without his timely help.

Despite our best efforts, one of the major problems that the IAWS faces is communication. Our members complain that they do not receive timely information about the IAWS activities. I request each one of you to inform us about their change of address. Despite our repeated requests to the members in the Newsletter, few bother to do so. A special thanks is due to Dr. Rohini Gawankar, who from her sense of dedication to the IAWS, has personally taken trouble to update the Secretariat on the change of addresses of members in Maharashtra. It would be nice if some of you would do so for your respective states. The Secretariat has prepared the membership directory and it would be nice if you could scrutinize it and inform the Secretariat about any discrepancies in it.

In order to extend the outreach of the IAWS, the Secretariat has also prepared a brochure, which has helped us to reach out to more members. These brochures were also deemed necessary to enable us to approach the various funding agencies for financial support.

Elections

At the office bearers' meeting held on October 2004, it was decided to select Dr. Vibhuti Patel as the election officer. She readily agreed to take charge. The election schedule was finalized as per the rules laid down in the constitution. However, due to postal delay the nomination forms did not reach the members on time. Therefore, the EC at its meeting held on 10-11 February 2005 decided to extend the last date of nomination. This, however, has not in any way upset the schedule laid down in the Constitution. The revised election dates also adhere to the election rules laid down in the constitution. And in accordance with the rules we now present the elected members of the new EC to the General Body. We will be handing over office to the new EC in October 2005. The time will enable us to complete the work of the conference (i.e., submission of narrative reports to the funding agencies, auditing of accounts, and changing the names of those operating the bank accounts) and hand over charge to the new EC. The EC would like to place on record its appreciation of Dr. Vibhuti Patel who has tirelessly worked towards the completion of the election process on time.

The IAWS Membership and the Directory

Consecutive General Secretaries have struggled with the publication of the membership directory, as new members join throughout the year and members do not inform the Secretariat about the change of address, despite repeated requests to do so in the Newsletter and on the website. As a result, newsletters do not reach the



members and the election process gets affected. I request each one of you to check your addresses and enter the correct mailing addresses in the book kept for the purpose in the registration counter. The IAWS spends an enormous amount of money to keep in touch with you. When the newsletters and other communication posted to you are returned it proves to be a drain on the IAWS resources. The IAWS membership, as on 31 March 2005, is as follows: Life 1158, Ordinary 139, Institutional 34, Student 22. In recent years the IAWS has opened its membership to the SARC countries and it organizes a South Asian panel to discuss regional issues and strengthen regional cooperation among women.

Since then, many ordinary memberships have lapsed, as have the student membership. My submission is that the category of ordinary members be abolished or that the rules governing the category be modified. This is because under the amendment of the IAWS Constitution in 2002, the national conference is held once in three years, and the term of office of the EC is now fixed for three years. Since the ordinary membership is only valid for three years, membership of this category of members expires before the election. Or it may so happen that a person elected under the ordinary membership category ceases to be a member during her term in office.

I also recommend that the General Body (GB) amends the eligibility criterion for standing for election and inserts a clause that states that a person would be eligible to contest election only if she has a valid IAWS membership of at least a year's standing. In the current elections it was found that one of the nominated candidates had only recently become a member. This would not be fair for the other members. Another equally important issue is should the membership of the IAWS be open to all, irrespective of whether the persons concerned has an interest in Women's Studies? Or if it should be restricted to those scholars, teachers, students and other professional who have shown a deep commitment to gender justice? An equally critical issue that the GB will have to debate about is whether the male members of the IAWS would be eligible to stand for election.

The Administrative Constraints

One of the features that reflect the truly national character of the IAWS is the fact that the IAWS secretariat has been located in different parts of the country. Also reflecting the national representation of the IAWS is the fact that its President's office is located in the Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi, its Treasurer's office is located in the Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai and its Secretariat is currently housed in the Research Center for Women's Studies, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai. The effective functioning of the IAWS is made possible by the administrative support it receives from the three host institutions where its offices are located.

Dr. Kumud Sharma in her report has argued for a permanent office. This is an immediate necessity as it is difficult for us to explain to the funding agencies why the Secretariat shifts from one institution to another with the change of office bearers. The practical difficulties are because files and important documentation of the IAWS may get misplaced. Our experience during this term has been that the various government agencies, such as the Law ministry and the Department of Women and Child Development, who in the past have funded our activities, demanded that we produce the audited statements of accounts and the utilization certificates for the



funds received by the IAWS for the earlier conferences. These demands would have been impossible to meet if we could not have located the files. We have been able to trace many of these valuable documents because of the commitment of two of my colleagues, Shraddha Shah and Usha Lalwani who have opened dusty files stored in trunks to locate the files. But for Shraddha Shah's tenacity in following through every query regarding the IAWS's accounts we would not have been able to answer them. A word of appreciation is also necessary for the ways in which the previous ECs since 1982 have maintained their accounts. It is because every single voucher from the earlier conference is carefully preserved that we have been able to produce the required documentary evidence of expenditure. While we have been able to resolve the problems so far, there is an immediate need for a permanent Secretariat where the documents are carefully catalogued and preserved as well as the conference materials are archived. The rich data emerging out of the various conferences are in the eminent danger of being lost because of the lack of archiving facilities.

The General Secretary's office has had the responsibility of preparing the brochures, and the various publications (other than the book of abstracts, which has been undertaken by Sharmila Rege in Pune) I would like to acknowledge Ritu Menon's help in preparing the layout of the conference brochure and in Usha Lalwani's help in designing the cover for the various publications and the editing the materials that have been printed in Mumbai. Additionally, due to certain technical reasons, the filing of the income tax and getting the income tax exemption, the writing of the technical reports, maintaining minutes of the various meetings, conducting the elections and coordinating the conference has been the responsibility of the General Secretary.

Fund Raising and the Organization of the Conference

On principle the IAWS does not offer any kind of corporate funding nor does it lend its name to any kind of advertisements. Living up to this principle is becoming increasingly difficult as the cost of organizing the National Conferences is escalating and funding agencies are reluctant to disburse the amount required. Here a word of appreciation is necessary for Dr. Kumud Sharma, our president, for the consummate skill with which she has negotiated with the various funding agencies for grants to run the secretariat. HIVOS had given us one-year grant for the secretariat. Ford has given us a four-year grant to run the secretariat. It is entirely because of her efforts, the next EC will not have a problem of raising money to meet the administrative costs of running the secretariat and organizing the various EC meetings. We also need to appreciate Shaila Desouza and her team for the efficiency with which they have organized the conference. Shaila has also successfully raised money locally for the conference. I appreciate Dr. C. S Lakshmi for her support in coordinating the conference.

In conclusion I would like to add that coordinating the work of the IAWS has been an enriching experience. It has required close cooperation between the EC members and more particularly between the Office Bearers. The sharing of responsibilities has its advantages for it means that the organization is run on truly democratic norms.

May, 2005

Dr. Veena Poonacha



Results of XII Indian Association for Women's Studies (IAWS) Election, 2005-2008

Greetings !

We are happy to inform that we have been able to complete our task concerning IAWS Election, 2005.

1. In the Ordinary Members category **Dr. Joy Ranadive Deshmukh** has been declared elected uncontested.
2. In the Institution Members category, **Dr. Nisha Shende**, Amaravati University is declared elected uncontested.
3. In the Student Members category, no nomination has been received. Hence there is no representative.
4. In the Life Member category, 18 candidates were nominated and seconded. We also received consent letters from them. Dr. Meena Gopal withdrew from candidature. So 17 candidates were eligible for counting.
5. Here is the list of elected candidates in the Life Member Category for the Executive Committee of IAWS:

Sr. No.	Name
1.	Dr. Zarina Bhatti
2.	Dr. Mary John
3.	Prof. Asha Hans
4.	Dr. C. P. Sujaya
5.	Dr. Sumi Krishna
6.	Dr. Kamala Ganesh
7.	Dr. Kavita Punjabi
8.	Dr. Aparna Mahanto

We congratulate the elected candidates.

Sd/.

Dr. Vibhuti Patel

Returning Officer

17-L-0216

Dr. Sudha Mokashi

Teller

17-L-0184

Prof. Rekha Talmaki

Teller

17-L-0142



IAWS NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT (April 2003 - April 2005)

The present editorial board of the IAWS Newsletter was instituted in December 2002. Dr. Kumud Pawade, Prof. Pushpa Bhawe and Dr. Vidhut Bhagwat were invited as editorial advisors to guide the team; especially on the selection of themes for special issues and with ideas for increasing the outreach. The Editorial Board was instituted such, as to represent the different trends in Women's Studies and women's movement. This Editorial Board included Usha Wagh, publisher and founder member of the Dalit Mahila Forum, Dr. Medha Kotwal Lele, Political Scientist and founder member of Alochana Centre for Documentation and Research on Women, Kiran Moghe, Economist and General Secretary, *Janwadi Mahila Sabha*, Razia Patel, Lecturer in Education at the Indian Institute of Education and activist in the Muslim Women's Movement, Purnima Chikarmane, Director, Adult Education Department, SNDT, Pune and founder Member of *Kagat Kach Patra Kashtakari Panchayat* (Rag Picker's Union), Shruti Tambe, Sociologist and activist, *Saad Yuvati Maanch* and Dr. Vaishali Diwakar, Sociologist and researcher involved in issues of Gender and Media. Swati Dyahadroy and Anagha Tambe, Teaching Associates at the Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule Women's Studies Centre were invited to be Assistant Editors, who would contribute both to the content and to the nuts and bolts of publishing the Newsletter. The Office and Library staff of the Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule Women's Studies Centre, Ms. Ashtekar, Smita, Madhavi and Archana provided library and secretarial assistance for the Newsletter. The six issues published so far and the proposed special issue are the result of the collective efforts of this entire team.

The first issue was published in April 2003 and was a special issue dedicated to the reporting of the tenth IAWS Conference held in Orissa in October 2002. This issue sought to introduce the newly elected members of the Executive Council (2003-2005) and to put together the detailed reports of the sub-themes, plenary and the pre-conference workshop. The editorial team planned for and announced three regular columns: *Open Forum for Researchers*, *Women's Voices: Pioneering Contributions on Gender in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries* and *Alternative Networks*. *Open Forum* was meant to be a space to share research work in progress and to pose queries and dilemmas in doing Women's Studies. *Women's Voices* was an effort to bring to visibility the writings and compositions of women in the 19th and early 20th centuries in different Indian languages. *Alternative Networks* was an effort to undertake documentation of the booklets (movement literature) published in different languages and to disseminate their message through the Newsletter. Contributions to all three columns were invited; while some contributions to *Open Forum* and *Women's Voices* were received, we regret that *Alternative Networks* did not take off at all.

The second issue published in August 2003 was guest edited by Kiran Moghe and was a special issue on the 'World Social Forum 2004'. This issue brought together articles on gender perspectives on Markets, Fundamentalism, Conflict and Food Security. The controversy over the right wing government's decision to



rename Women's Studies as Family Studies was discussed in this issue and the decision condemned. Reports of the AIDWA Seminar on Son Preference in India and the workshop on Education for Democracy both conducted at the Asian Social Forum (ASF) 2003 and a report on 'ASF 2003 and Dalits' were published in this issue.

The next issue was a double issue (December 2003 and April 2004) outlining the debates around the commemoration of 25th December as Bharatiya Stree Mukti Din. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar had on this day set the Manusmriti to flames to protest against the brahmanical oppression of women and dalits. Scholars and activists were interviewed for their views on this day being commemorated as Indian Women's day. This issue guest edited by Dr. Vaishali Diwakar, Swati Dyahadroy and Anagha Tambe brought together the writings of non-brahmanical (abrahmani) /dalit feminists from Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. This issue was well received and several members from different regions sent in appreciative comments to the editorial board.

The next issue (September 2004) sought to connect members to the IAWS regional workshops organized in the Western, Northern and Southern regions. The regional workshops/studies in 2004 had focussed on engendering the disciplines and disciplining gender in India. The articles in this issue discussed the legacies and future of doing Women's Studies in India. The importance of tracing and comparing the particular formation of Women's Studies in different regional contexts and the urgency of debating questions of curriculum and degrees in Women's Studies were underlined.

The March 2005 issue guest edited by Pushpa Bhave was planned as a special issue on Goa - a kind of pre-conference preparation. It brought together articles on sex-tourism, a status report on Women in Goa and a report on gender in the Mohalla Committees in Mumbai- opening up thereby some of the issues that we would discuss at the Goa Conference.

The next issue April 2005 is an issue dedicated to the conference theme, seeking to introduce members to some of the conceptual issues in engendering citizenship and sovereignty. This issue will be guest edited by Kiran Moghe and Dr. Medha Kotwal-Lele and will form a part of the conference kit.

The editorial team wishes to thank all contributors and members of the IAWS for their critical appreciation, co-operation and support.

Pune, 2005

Sharmila Rege



TREASURER'S REPORT

Dear Members

I am happy to present the Financial Report for the period April 2003 March 2005.

I took over as Treasurer from Prof. Rameswari Varma, the outgoing Treasurer and the present Vice-President.

The detailed audited statement of accounts for the year 2003-4 is enclosed. This has been submitted to the IT Office at Mumbai. The balance sheet for the year 2004-5 is yet to be finalized by the auditors.

Highlights

In May 2004, the IAWS was successful in receiving a grant from the Ford Foundation for US \$ 68,000/ (split into four installments). We have received the first installment. A part of the grant is for institution building, namely, setting up an IAWS Secretariat in New Delhi. I hope the new office bearers will take up this task on a priority basis.

HIVOS sanctioned a grant of Rs.5,60,700/ for one year, December 2003-November 2004. We have submitted our interim statement of accounts to HIVOS. Once the balance sheet for 2004-5 is finalized we will send HIVOS the full accounts with a narrative report from the President.

Since April 2003 we have maintained a separate account for IAWS membership subscriptions. As on 07.4.05, we have added 131 members to our list. Table 1 provides an idea of the membership, status as well a state-wise.



Table 1

Status of Membership	Nos.	State	Nos.
		AP	6
Student Membership	6	Assam	2
Ordinary Membership	52	Bihar	3
Life Membership	67	Goa	3
Institutional Ordinary Membership	2	Gujarat	2
Institutional Life Membership	3	Haryana	2
Friends of Association	1	Himachal Pradesh	1
Total	131	J & K	4
		Jharkhand	4
		Karnataka	22
		Kerala	7
		Madhya Pradesh	1
		Maharashtra	20
		New Delhi	15
		Orissa	16
		Punjab	2
		Rajasthan	1
		Tamil Nadu	9
		Uttar Pradesh	7
		West Bengal	3
		International	1
		Total	131
Total money towards subscription	180587		

During the tenure of the present EC, regional workshops have been facilitated at several places in the country, including one each at RCWS Mumbai, Kurukshetra University, Kuruksahetra and Women's Studies Research Centre, Kolkata. The reports of these workshops are published in our IAWS Newsletter.



The status of IAWS funds position as on 31.03.05 is as given in Table 2:

Table 2: Fund Position of IAWS as on 31.03.05

Name of the Bank	Balance as on 31.3.05 (in Rs.)
ICICI	4,03,672
ICICI (Subscription)	1,80,587
Union Bank of India	74,934.89
HDFC (SB A/c)	2,42,770.45
HDFC Fixed Deposits	11,25,627.90
Bharat Overseas Bank	30,398.50
State Bank of India, Goa	4,82,610
Total	25,40,600.74

I need to add that in 2003 the choice of ICICI was deliberately done since at that time ICICI was among the few that had facilities that made coordination between major cities and between the different offices of IAWS easy and possible. Their 'payable at par' cheque facility cut down drastically on the need for DDs and/or cash payments, thereby eliminating the need to handle cash for a wide range of transactions.

Comments and Suggestions

1. There is no doubt that over the years IAWS has worked out systems of functioning and coordination that have enabled successive EC teams to carry forward the tasks for which IAWS has been set up. A significant item that needs to be singled out is the considerable documentation of IAWS records that is now available and which has enabled IAWS to file papers either with Funding Agencies or IT offices at short notices and long after the terms of concerned EC members were over. To cite a few examples from the present EC's case : It is precisely because of the documentation maintained by all our previous IAWS EC office bearers that we were able to answer queries of financial dealings of more than ten to fifteen years. Similarly, the General Secretary's office was able to follow-up submission of accounts to the IT and the Charity Commissioner's office based on the documents available.
2. Nevertheless, there are several grey areas that need to be attended to. It is extremely important to work out modalities of managing transactions that accrue at the IAWS Conference venue itself, particularly, registration and subscriptions. If this is not done, it can lead to several intractable problems. One, we



may not been able to figure out how much of the amount that we receive is due to registration and how much due to membership subscription. Given the voluntary nature of the work, it will not be possible, particularly with a full-time job, to really sit down and attempt this segregation by pouring over receipt books. Two, quite a few participants who become members at the venue of the Conference may/may not find their names in the IAWS membership database. Those who get back with photocopies of the receipts issued to them can be entered but we may still have to contend with the fact that quite a few may find themselves left out of the IAWS database.

3. To minimize occurrences such as the above, every Conference Secretariat along with the EC has to work out systems that are able to make this accounting segregation at the point of origin.
4. As a matter of principle, we have returned outstation cheques sent to us as membership subscriptions since it becomes difficult to tally subscription amounts against membership numbers (because of deduction of cheque-clearance charges), at the time of audit. However, wherever possible, we have helped such members by sending them filled ICICI paying-in chalangos so that they could deposit their cheques in their respective towns/cities.
5. It is our humble suggestion that the next EC comes out with a chart outlining the responsibilities and working relationship between the Secretary, President and Treasurer as soon as it takes over. (This is not the same as contained in the IAWS Constitution and/or the Society's Rules and Regulations). This suggestion is born out of our experience of these last two years and is aimed at smoothening and avoiding delays given the unique manner in which IAWS functions, namely, from three different locations (if the President, General Secretary and Treasurer happen to be in different cities as in the case of the present office bearers).
6. IAWS receives funds from a range of funding organizations, each emphasizing different components in their sanction towards meeting IAWS expenditure and each also requiring audited statements at different times and in the formats set by them. This again has several implications for the kind of coordination that needs to be built right from the start between the offices of the General Secretary, Treasurer and President. IAWS FCRA account is in Delhi. But bulk of the expenditure is incurred at the General Secretary's office. It has been an effort to constantly insist that:
 - Money deposited in FCRA account should be immediately sent to the Treasurer's office
 - Copies of documents pertaining to all receipts, including formats in which audited statements have to be sent, should be sent immediately to the Treasurer's office



- As far as possible the Treasurer's office should be the point from where disbursements are made to other offices (General Secretary, President, IAWS Newsletter Editor and Conference Coordinator). This is strictly to ensure that each transaction is covered with proper narration and documentation. It is also essential since funding periods do not strictly cohere with a particular EC's term. The spillover of accounts from one EC's term to another EC cannot be managed smoothly if we do not devise systems that are clear and can account for all entries in a clear and transparent manner. Now that we have recourse to electronic resources for storing data and conducting our transactions, we hope problems related to coordination and documentation can be drastically minimized.

A Checklist for the Next EC/Treasurer's Office:

1. Compile a list of the ORIGINAL IAWS documents (including Constitution, Bye-laws, Membership Lists different categories, FCRA letter, IT exemption letter, etc.), examine which office presently holds them, and when the new secretariat of IAWS is set up, please transfer them so that at one place we have these documents for reference.
2. Treasurer's office to insist on being sent copies of sanction and contract letters from funding agencies. These are generally received by the office where the FCRA account is and does not necessarily come to the Treasurer in a routine manner. But its non-receipt can create havoc at the time of audit of accounts.
3. Be constantly alert to the timelines and format-of-accounts requirements of different funding agencies. The main accounts need to be constantly fine-tuned to fit these different requirements.
4. Routine tasks: Prepare Balance Sheet every year (as on March 31st), which document needs to be submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs
5. Form 10 [B], Form FC 3, and IT Statement to be prepared apart from Balance Sheet

I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to all my EC colleagues for putting up with my stringent demands and apologies to members whose outstation cheques have been returned.

I would also like to extend a special thanks to Ms. Shraddha (Mumbai, General Secretary's Office) and to Ms. T. Maheswari (Chennai, Treasurer's Office) without whose cooperation and continuous input this tenure would not have been possible.

With best wishes to the next EC.

Sincerely

May, 2005

Padmini Swaminathan



INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.03.2003

As on 31.03.2002	LIABILITIES	Rupees	Rupees	As on 31.03.2002	ASSETS	Rupees	Rupees
68,585.00	CORPUS As per Last Balance Sheet		68,585.00	70,585.00	COMPUTER As per Last Balance Sheet	70,515.82	
					Less: Depreciation	9,350.40	61,165.42
384,274.00	LIFE MEMBERSHIP: per Last Balance Sheet	384,274.00		9,877.50	FURNITURE & FIXTURE:	9,877.50	
	Add: Additions during the Year	68,320.00	452,594.00		Less: Depreciation	987.75	8,889.75
67,500.00	CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP: per Last Balance Sheet	67,500.00		37,240.00	INVESTMENT:		
	Add: Additions during the Year	40,000.00	107,500.00		UTI 64	37,240.00	
68,153.21	OTHER EARMARKED FUNDS: per Last Balance Sheet		68,153.21	1,35,702.80	ADVANCES :		
				4,681.78	(As per Schedule 2)		38,000.00
				0.00	TDS on FD int (PY : 98-99)		4,681.78
	CURRENT LIABILITIES:				TDS on FD int (PY : 02-03)		1,868.00
10,500.00	Audit fees		10,800.00	20,000.00	GRANT RECEIVABLE:		
					Grant from Govt. of India		20,000.00
	FORD FOUNDATION:				CASH & BANK BALANCE :		
	per Last Balance Sheet	1,017,058.53		1,466.20	Cash in Hand	33,088.78	
	Add: Interest Allocation	36,455.00		86,496.13	Bharat Overseas Bank-New Delhi	873,130.13	
		1,053,513.53		29,694.06	HDFC Bank	885,448.94	
1,017,058.53	Less: Transferred to Income & Expenditure Account	483,556.80	569,956.73	402,514.58	SBM, J.L. Puram	0.00	
				105,800.00	Central Bank of India	0.00	
	Unutilised FORD FOUNDATION'S Conference Grant		3360.00		Union Bank of India	62,824.00	
					ICICI, Bhuvaneshwar	12,785.00	
	INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT: per Last Balance Sheet	1,758,176.27			ICICI, Chennai - 9206	318,041.00	
1,758,176.27	Less: Deficit during the Year	212,262.41	1,545,913.86	2,109,752.14	ICICI, Chennai - 1774	5,000.00	2,190,317.85
				360,511.00	DEPOSITS:		
					Fixed Deposit with HDFC		465,000.00
					Deposit with SBM & CBI		0.00
3,374,247.01			2,827,162.80	3,374,247.01			2,827,162.80

For INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

Sd.,
Veena R. Poonacha
General Secretary
Date : August 8, 2003

Sd.,
P. Swaminathan
Treasurer

For A. K. Ranganathan Associates
Chartered Accountants

Sd.,
A.K. Ranganathan
Proprietor



INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31.03.2004

As on 31.03.2003	LIABILITIES	Rupees	Rupees	As on 31.03.2003	ASSETS	Rupees	Rupees
68,585.00	CORPUS As per Last Balance Sheet		68,585.00	61,165.42	COMPUTER As per Last Balance Sheet	61,165.42	
					Less: Depreciation	8,110.53	53,054.89
452,594.00	LIFE MEMBERSHIP: per Last Balance Sheet	452,594.00		8,889.75	FURNITURE & FIXTURE:	8,889.75	
	Add: Additions during the Year	15,000.00	467,594.00		Less: Depreciation	888.98	8,000.78
107,500.00	CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP: per Last Balance Sheet	107,500.00		37,240.00	INVESTMENT:		
	Add: Additions during the Year		107,500.00		UTI 64		37,240.00
68,153.21	OTHER EARMARKED FUNDS: per Last Balance Sheet		68,153.21	38,000.00	ADVANCES :		
				4,681.78	Imprest - New Delhi		10,000.00
				1,868.00	TDS on FD int (PY : 98-99)		4,681.78
10,800.00	CURRENT LIABILITIES: Audit Fees		10,800.00		TDS on FD int (PY : 02-03)		1,868.00
					TDS on FD int (PY : 03-04)		10,191.81
	FORD FOUNDATION: per Last Balance Sheet	569,956.73		20,000.00	GRANT RECEIVABLE:		
	Add: Interest Allocation	84,854.36			Grant from Govt. of India		20,000.00
		654,811.09					
569,956.73	Less: Transferred to Income & Expenditure Account	282,706.55		33,088.78	CASH & BANK BALANCE :		
				873,130.13	Cash in Hand		2,084.95
				885,448.94	Bharat Overseas Bank-New Delhi		28,274.89
				62,824.00	HDFC Bank		234,472.92
3,660.00	Unutilised FORD FOUNDATION'S Conference Grant		372,104.54	12,785.00	Union Bank of India		53,630.00
				318,041.00	ICICI, Bhuvaneshwar		
				5,000.00	ICICI, Chennai - 9206		623,677.00.00
					ICICI, Chennai - 1774		26,145.00
	HIVOS		560,700.00		DEPOSITS:		
				465,000.00	Fixed Deposit with HDFC		2,821,726.11
1,545,913.86	INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT: per Last Balance Sheet	1,545,913.86					
	Add: Surplus during the Year	733,697.51					
			2,279,611.37				
2,827,162.80			3,935,048.12	2,827,162.80			3,935,048.12

For INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

For A. K. Ranganathan Associates
Chartered Accountants

Sd.,
Veena R. Poonacha
General Secretary
Date : October, 20 2004

Sd.,
P. Swaminathan
Treasurer

Sd.,
A.K. Ranganathan
Proprietor



INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES
Income & Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31st March 2003

As on 30.03.2003	EXPENDITURE	Rupees	Rupees	As on 30.03.2003	INCOME	Rupees	Rupees
10,000.00	Audit fees	10,000.00			Interest on Bank Accounts	58,015.35	
800.00	Service Tax	800.00			Interest on F.D's	1,64774.39	
						222,789.74	
11877.30	Depreciation		10338.15	2,09851.79	Less: Interest allocated to Ford Foundation	36455.00	186334.74
	Deficit from Conference & Project Activities (as per Schedule)		440982.00	3664.00	Ordinary Membership	45400.00	
				3500.00	Institution Membership	700.00	
				950.00	Student Membership	650.00	
2,05633.49	Surplus Carried Forward to Balance Sheet		0.00		Institutional Ord. Membership	10,000.00	
					Friends of Assnt. Membership	2,350.00	59100.00
					Royalty	853.00	
					Dividend from UTI	2,926.00	
				45.00	Miscellaneous Income	644.00	4423.00
				10000.00	Grant received from ICSSR		
					Deficit Carried Over to Balance Sheet		2,12262.41
228010.79			462120.15	228010.79			462120.15

For INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

For A. K. Ranganathan Associates
Chartered Accountants

Sd.,
Veena R. Poonacha
General Secretary
Date : August 8, 2003

Sd.,
P. Swaminathan
Treasurer

Sd.,
A.K. Ranganathan
Proprietor



**XI National
Conference
on Women's Studies**

**INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES
Income & Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31st March 2004**

As on 30.03.2003	EXPENDITURE	Rupees	Rupees	As on 30.03.2003	INCOME	Rupees	Rupees
10,000.00	Audit Fees	10,000.00		58,015.35	Interest on Bank Accounts	49,147.74	
800.00	Service Tax	800.00		164,774.39	Interest on F D's (IDS Rs. 10,192)	101,917.92	
				222,789.74		151,065.66	
10,800.00			10,800.00		Less: Interest Allocated to Ford Foundation	84,854.36	
10,338.15	Bank Charges		1,093.00	36,455.00			66,211.30
	Depreciation		8,999.51	186,334.74			
	Expenses:				Conference Grant		734,819.00
	-Salary	30,000.00			Ordinary Membership		3,500.00
	-Traveling Expenses	45,506.00		45,400.00	Institution Membership		-
	-Telephone Expenses	900.00		700.00	Student Membership		-
	-Newsletter	12,288.00		650.00	Institutional Ord. Membership		-
	-Workshop Expenses	10,000.00		10,000.00	Friends of Assnt. Membership		-
	-Postage and Courier	621.00		2,350.00			-
	-Printing and Stationery	3,591.80			Royalty		-
	-Miscellaneous Expenses	1,000.48	103,907.28	853.00	Dividend from UTI		3,192.00
				2,926.00	Miscellaneous Income		49,715.00
	Deficit from Conference & Project Activities			644.00	Sale of Publication		1,060.00
440,982.00				-	Deficit Carried Over to Balance Sheet		-
	Surplus Carried Forward to Balance Sheet		733,697.51	212,262.41			
462,120.15			858,497.30	462,120.15			858,497.30

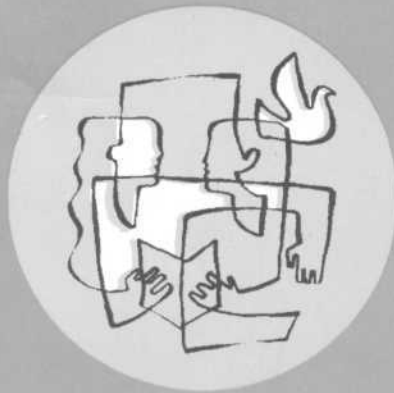
For INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

For A. K. Ranganathan Associates
Chartered Accountants

Sd.,
Veena R. Poonacha
General Secretary
Date : October, 20 2004

Sd.,
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