

THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE IAWS
& THE CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES,
PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY
INVITES PARTICIPANTS FOR A WORKSHOP ON
FEMINIST WRITING



Indian
Association for
Women's
Studies IAWS



CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Learning History, Writing
Futures: A Workshop of
Reflection and Writing

10-11 NOVEMBER 2025, PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY

Ideas about feminism and/or the women's movement are often the subject of rhetorical discussion and are often elusive. The academic entry of women's studies has further complicated this understanding. There is also a generational difference in the perceptions of the women's movement. It is our intention therefore to elicit some reflection and discussion around these issues through inviting young people to a workshop on feminist writing.

THE WORKSHOP IS PROPOSED AS A REFLECTION AND WRITING WORKSHOP FOR 30 YOUNG SCHOLARS AND ACTIVISTS:

- ✓ Who wish to engage with feminism, feminist ideas, feminist writing focused on an idea of "writing women's lives"
- ✓ Who write in English, and/or regional languages, for instance (but not limited to) Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada
- ✓ Proficiency in English is not expected, but be able to communicate in English as the medium of the workshop will be English

The proposed format of the workshop:

The workshop will comprise short lectures, group work writing with facilitators/mentors on varied forms of writing women's lives, feedback and discussion among participants. Participants will also engage with material circulated in advance.

THOSE SEEKING TO REGISTER FOR THE WORKSHOP SHOULD

- 1 Send a sample of your writing of around 500-800 words in word document
- 2 Send your CV (with email id and phone number)
- 3 The Google form link: [Fill in this google form at this link:](#)

PLEASE SEND THESE TO: WRITINGWOMEN25@GMAIL.COM BY 22 OCTOBER 2025. ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED, AS WELL AS 2ND CLASS RAIL TRAVEL FARE. PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO PARTICIPANTS FROM MARGINAL BACKGROUNDS.

For further details contact: Meena Gopal, Centre for Women's Studies, Pondicherry University.
Email: writingwomen25@gmail.com



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ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES, PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY:

The Centre for Women Studies in Pondicherry University was established in 1999. The Centre offers academic courses in Women's Studies and encourages research that is multidisciplinary. The prime aim of the Centre is to create critical awareness and sensitivity towards women's and gender issues in every field – with the objective of incorporating women's studies perspective in teaching and research programmes, create visibility of women's issues and develop an interdisciplinary network to understand and address women issues. The primary role of the Centre is conceptualized as knowledge building and its transmission is through teaching, research, field work, documentation and dissemination. In 1999, the Centre offered two research programmes - the M.Phil. and Ph.D. in Women's Studies and one diploma programme. In the academic year 2012-13, the Centre decided to cater to students through the introduction of soft-core or elective courses. The courses were also framed as a policy decision to create an option for postgraduate students to take courses on Women's Studies and thereby contribute in sensitization and awareness of students across the University. Currently the Centre offers a full-time Ph.D. and an M.A. in Women's Studies begun in 2019. Further details at <https://www.pondiuni.edu.in/department/centre-for-womens-studies/>

ABOUT THE IAWS:

The formation of the IAWS can be traced back to the resurgence of the women's movement in India in the mid-1970s and the publication of Towards Equality, the report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India (CSWI) set up by the Government of India prior to the First UN World Conference of Women held in Mexico in 1975. Gradually, several social scientists, activists and academics, associated with the CSWI process, chose to develop initiatives in the field of Women's Studies. The IAWS has emerged as a premier professional association that aims to further women's studies as an interdisciplinary academic field concerned with women, the politics of women's studies and the women's movement, feminism and gender. It undertakes independent and collaborative activities to promote discussion on women in emerging fields including the fields of citizenship, legal rights and environment. Further details at <https://iaaws.co.in/ec-member24-27.php>

Southern Regional Committee (SRC) of the Indian Association of Women's Studies

A Suneetha
Independent Researcher
Hyderabad

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Sowjanya Tamalapakula
School of Liberal Arts &
Humanities,
Woxsen University,
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Aruvi
Trans-activist &
Teacher,
Chennai

Aruvi Ravana
Trans-activist, Poet,
Writer & PhD scholar,
Goa University

Archanaa Seker
Activist and Independent
Researcher,
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Rekha Raj
Dalit feminist scholar,
Writer & Activist,
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Deepa Ebenezar
Azim Premji University
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Du Saraswathi
Writer, Researcher, Theatre
Person and Dalit Feminist
activist, Bengaluru

R. Sunandamma (rtd)
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University, Vijayapura

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