## Report on Women's Day Activity – Department of English

International Women's Day was celebrated at the Department of English, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Dr. D. Laura Dameris Chellajothi, Associate Professor, Department of English, Bharathidasan University addressed the students, scholars and the lecturers. The gathering was welcomed by Ms. Gowsalya, II M. A. English. Dr. D. Laura Dameris Chellajothi gave the chief address. Her talk began with the historical connection associated with the Women's day celebration stating, with reference to the Suffragette movement, the labour movement in North America and the Garment worker's strike in 1908. Then, she illuminated the minds of students by identifying the stereotypes and misconceptions associated with women, that were strongly rooted in the society in the name of culture and tradition. Her talk highlighted the contribution of great people such as Savitribhai and JyotiraoPhule, Ambedkar, Tarabhai Shinde, and Periyar, for women's equality and rights. She quoted Estelle Freedman, saying that "women and men are inherently equal but men are more privileged." She concluded her speech by emphasizing that each individual deserves his/her own space to live in this world and also allow others to inhabit his/her personal space irrespective of gender, class, caste and race. Finally, Ms. Anusree, II M. A. English proposed the vote of thanks.

