<u>CHAPTER – 18 (Manual – 17)</u>

Other Useful Information

The Department of Women and Child Development conducts various celebrations/programmes periodically for the welfare and awareness of public particularly for women and children. During the conduct / celebration of International Women's Week, Women's Day, ICDS Day, Children's Day, Brest Feeding Week etc., Awareness Programmes are arranged on various important issues related to women such as:-

- Dowry Prohibition
- Child Marriage
- Women's Property Rights
- Legal Rights of Women
- Nutrition
- Health Care
- Gender Equality
- Women Empowerment
- Importance of Education to Girl Child
- Savings and Micro-credit
- Self-Employment
- Income Generating Activities
- Equal Wages
- Participation in Politics
- Violence against Women
- Convergence of Departments etc.,

This Department also takes part in Orientation Training Programmes organized by Puducherry Corporation for Development of Women and Differently Abled Persons Ltd., Mangalam Society, Food & Nutrition Board, Other Line Departments and NGOs

CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK

The International Women's Week is celebrated from 1st to 8th March every year. The Women's Week is celebrated with the objective of focusing attention on issues affecting women and it has been the practice to organize programmes like cultural activities, and competitions among SHG, AWWs, AWHs, Adolescent Girls and staff member on cookery,

koolam, elocution, essay and sports. It was particularly appropriate to celebrate the week at the grass root level for awareness generation among the socially disadvantaged groups.

CELEBRATION OF CHILDREN'S DAY

The 14th November is celebrated as universal Children's Day every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of our Late Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and each year a National theme is selected to focus our attention on a specific issue. The day is celebrated by performing cultural programmes by the Anganwadi Children and the best children in each Anganwadi are selected. Sweets are distributed in all the Anganwadi Centres. Prizes are distributed to the best children of Anganwadies.

CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S DAY

To celebrate the birth anniversary of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, November 19^{th} to 25^{th} is being celebrated every year as National Integration Week with November 24^{th} as Women's Day to foster the spirit of patriotism, communal harmony and national integration.

The National Integration Week celebrations provide an opportunity which should be fully utilized to reaffirm our faith in the spirit of tolerance, co-existence and brotherhood without discrimination on grounds of religion, race, community, caste or place of birth.

The National Integration Pledge is taken every year on 19th November and the Women's Day celebrated on 24th November highlights the importance of women in Indian Society and their role in development of Nation. Workshops, seminars on women's rights and camps are conducted during this day.