



**NORTH KAMRUP COLLEGE**  
নর্থ কামৰূপ মহাবিদ্যালয় BAGHMARA, ASSAM  
AFFILIATED TO GAUHATI UNIVERSITY



## NORTH KAMRUP COLLEGE

### INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS FOR THE ACADEMIC SESSION 2021-22

#### **GENDER EQUALITY AND EDUCATION: AN INITIATIVE PROMOTING GIRLS' EDUCATION**


It is rightly said — if you educate a man, you educate an individual. But if you educate a woman, you educate a nation. Education is an integral part of every individual's life but when girls are educated, countries become stronger and prosperous. Given their disproportionate presence, women's enrollment in higher education has been a source of concern worldwide. However, enrollment is significantly more unequal in developing countries where women are constrained by socio-economic and socio-cultural constructs and rarely have the opportunity to attend college.

Numerous studies show that illiterate women have high levels of fertility and mortality, poor nutritional status, low earning potential, and little autonomy within the household. A woman's lack of education also has a negative impact on the health and well-being of her children. Therefore, there is a need for minimum threshold of education (more than 5 or 6 years) that must be achieved before bringing about significant improvements in female autonomy. Of the literate women in India, 59 percent only have primary education or less. This level of education may not be sufficient to meaningfully improve the status of these women.

There are three major barriers for girls' education in India. The college has developed means to prevent it which are as follows:

1. Awareness regarding Menstrual Health and Hygiene: The major educational problem faced by girls, especially girls from rural areas, is that although they may be enrolled at the beginning of the year, they do not always remain in school. **This girl students are also likely to drop out when they reach puberty.** The college, adhering to the best practice of the session, is committed to generate awareness regarding menstrual health and hygiene. This not only breaks the cultural stereotype surrounding puberty, it also liberates the girl students from the age-old cultches of these taboos. The college also has a sanitary pad vending machine installed which encourages the girls to attend college even during their menstrual days.
2. Admission Drives to Counsel Parents for Daughter's Education: If a family has to choose between educating a son or a daughter, because of financial restrictions, typically the son will be chosen. **Negative parental attitudes towards educating daughters can also be a barrier to a girl's education.** The faculties of our college engage in various admission drives before beginning an academic session and visit families with girl children in nearby areas and even in remote localities. They counsel the parents to get their daughters enrolled in the college for higher education.
3. Adequate Number of Female Faculty and Non-Teaching Staff: **Lack of female teachers is another potential barrier to girls' education.** Girls are more likely to attend school and have

higher academic achievement, if they have female teachers. For the same, the college has a higher number of female faculties and non-teaching staff making it a suitable environment for girls to get enrolled as students in the institution.



Principal  
North Kamrup College  
Baghmara, Dist.-Barpeta



Co-ordinator  
IQAC  
North Kamrup College