

MATRU SCHAYA SOCIAL CENTRE, BHANDARAJ- CELEBRATING WOMEN



500 Women from 15 Villages Unite at Matru Schaya Social Centre, Bhandaraj, to Celebrate International Women’s Day with Culture, Empowerment, and Recognition.”

Bhandaraj, March 9, 2026: Matru Schaya Social Welfare Society, Bhandaraj, celebrated International Women’s Day with great enthusiasm at the Matru Schaya Social Centre under the leadership of Adv. Sr. Hira Parkhe, Executive Director of the Centre.



The program was graced by Most Rev. Bishop Malcolm Sequeira, Bishop of Amravati Diocese, as Chief Guest. The inauguration was carried out by Dr. Varsha Deshmukh, Principal of Panjabrao Deshmukh Law College, Amravati. Other distinguished guests included Inspector Suraj Bonde (Police Inspector, Anjangaon Surji), Dr. Dilip Kale (President, Sant Gadge Baba Study Centre, Amravati), along with several dignitaries from the region.



The celebration began with a traditional welcome—guests were greeted with *arti* and *lazim* performed by young women from the skill training centre. A symbolic torch (*mashal*) was passed from a senior citizen to a young girl, signifying the continuity of women’s empowerment across generations. This was followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by Most Rev. Bishop Malcolm Sequeira and other dignitaries, accompanied by a graceful prayer dance seeking divine blessings.



Guests were honored with shawls, bouquets, and welcome songs presented by the staff and students of Matru Schaya. The event witnessed the participation of nearly 500 women from 15 tribal villages, each village presenting vibrant dances themed around

women’s empowerment. The program featured cultural performances, skits, awareness songs, and inspiring speeches, leaving a lasting impression on the audience.

On this special occasion, five staff members of Matru Schaya Social Centre were felicitated with the *Gaurav Puraskar 2026* for their dedicated service:

- Mr. Swapnil Salkar – Administrator & Accountant
- Mr. Nitin Jamink – Project Coordinator
- Ms. Asha Dhabade – Counselor
- Mr. Dolaram Tote – Supervisor
- Ms. Shobha Nitnaware – Tailoring Teacher

The program was anchored by Ms. Shobha Nitnaware and Ms. Rani Rakshskar, while the vote of thanks was delivered by Ms. Achal Bobade, Coordinator of Matru Schaya. In her concluding remarks, Director Sr. Hira Parkhe expressed heartfelt gratitude to the management committee and every staff member for their tireless efforts in making the event a grand success.

The celebration concluded with a delicious meal served to all participants, making the day truly memorable. The event stood as a testament to the strength, creativity, and resilience of women across the villages, reinforcing the mission of Matru Schaya Social Welfare Society to uplift and empower women.

