



Profile of Key Speakers: GIZ India Gender Day, 2016

9th March, New Delhi, India

1. Dr Ranjana Kumari : Director, Centre for Social Research

A renowned social activist and a prolific academician, Dr. Ranjana Kumari is the Director of 'Centre for Social Research' as well as Chairperson of Women Power Connect. Dr. Kumari has dedicated her life to empowering women across the South Asia region, and is also a prolific writer of many well-known publications.



She has served as the Coordinator of the South Asia Network against Trafficking (SANAT) in Persons and is a member of the Central Advisory Board on "Pre Conception and Pre Natal Diagnostic Tests Act, 2001", as well as the Committee for Prevention of Trafficking in Women and Children. Recently, Dr. Kumari has been a member of the **National Mission for Empowerment of Women** by the Prime Minister of India. Some of her most passionate causes have been the participation of women in democracy and governance, the termination of dowry practices and dowry-related violence, and the abolition of female foeticide. In the past, she was a member of the Task Force on Industrial Relations for The International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Geneva and worked as senior professional at United Nations.

Dr Ranjana Kumari combines the two roles of a women activist and scholar with great felicity and panache. Having dedicated her life to significant social causes, Dr Ranjana Kumari continues to impact the lives of many with her dedication and zeal. She is the voice of women on numerous T.V Channels and quoted extensively in print and electronic media.

2. Professor. Rekha Vaidya Rajan : Jawaharlal Nehru University

Dr. Rekha Rajan is a Professor of German at the Jawaharlal Nehru University where she has been teaching since 1975. She is currently also the **Dean of the School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies of the JNU**.

Her areas of teaching include German language and literature and she has specialized in representations of the Other in German literature. For several years now she has been doing archival research on the reports and letters of German missionaries stationed in Tamil Nadu in the 18th century. She has published several articles on this and on German literature in general.

