

`Dignified Menstruation for Ending Child Marriages`

Fourth International Virtual Conference on Dignified Menstruation

**Organised by Viluthu – Centre for Human Resource Development
in partnership with the Global South Coalition for Dignified Menstruation (GSCDM)**

**Thursday, 8th of December, 2022, Colombo Sri Lanka
10.30AM to 6PM**

Agenda¹

10.05 AM – Registration and Instructions for Online Participants via Zoom

Opening Session

10.30 AM – Start of Conference, Welcome Speech by *S. Devapura*, Research Coordinator- Consultant, Viluthu

10.40 AM – “Say No” Song Rendition *Dr. Shikshita Malla*, Nepal

10.45 AM – Inaugural Speech by *Maithreyi Rajasingam*, Executive Director, Viluthu

10.55 AM - Rinku’s Story: A Tale of Strength from a Survivor of Child Marriage, by *Rinku Thakur*, GSCDM, Nepal

11.10 AM – Speech by the Chief Guest, *Prof. R. Surenthirakumaran MD (Com. Med.)*, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka

11.30 AM – Key Note Speech by *Mili Adhikari*, Director GSCDM America Chapter, Founding Member of GSCDM, USA

11.55 AM – *Five Minute Break*

¹ All times given in Sri Lanka Standard Time

Session One: Establishing Dignified Menstruation – From Problem Areas to Equal Rights

12 Noon – Start of Session One, Remarks by the Moderator - *Shradha Shreejaya*, Sustainable Menstruation Kerala Collective, India

12.05 PM – Dignified Menstruation among Adolescent Girls in Selected Schools, Jaffna Zonal Education. *Dr. Rajeev Gobalamoorthy*, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka

12.25 PM – Dignifying Menstruation in Transgender Men. *Night Okindo*, Trans Empowerment Initiative, Kenya

12.45 PM – Challenges faced by the Local Women Council Leaders on Period Poverty and the lack of Menstruation Health facilities in the Councils (Piradesa Sabhas) in Jaffna Peninsula after Covid and the Economic Crisis Situation in Sri Lanka. *T. Kiruththiga*, Sri Lanka

1.05 PM – Speech by *Rose Achayo Obol*, National Union of Women with Disabilities of Uganda, Uganda (Representing International Disability Alliance)

1.25 PM – Q&A Session/ Discussion

1.45 PM – Lunch Break

Session Two: Making Menstruation Dignified – Global Perspectives on Awareness Building

2.15 PM – Start of Session Two, Remarks by the Moderator - *Archana Patkar*, Advisor to the GSCDM, UNAIDS Geneva

2.20 PM – Menstrual Health of Kashmiri Women in Remote Areas and Their Aspirations *Swati Bedekar*, Vatslaya Foundation, India

2.40 PM – Reaching Millions via Social Media – ‘Clicktivism’ As a Tool to Tackle Taboos around Menstruation and To Empower Young Women around the Globe. *Chiqui de Veyra, Sami Pande, Jan-Christoph Schlenk*, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Philippines, Nepal, Germany

3.00 PM – Live you are Menstrual Care: Access to Menstrual Health for Girls and Teenagers. *Francy Garcia Fajardo*, Oriéntame, Colombia

3.20 PM – Speech by *Anne Pakoa*, Vanuatu Human Rights Coalition, Vanuatu

3.40 PM – Q&A Session/ Discussion

4.00 PM – Five Minute Break

Session Three: Grassroots Level Change – Battling Menstrual Discrimination a Village at a Time

- 4.05 PM** – Start of Session Three, Remarks by the Moderator - *Dr. Richard Anthony*, Lecturer in Sociology and Academic Researcher, United Kingdom
- 4.10 PM** – Dignified Menstruation amongst Girls, Boys & Youth. *Samir Pariyar*, Dignified Menstruation Activist, Nepal
- 4.30 PM** – Teen marriages in Batticaloa: OrCED's View. *Puvanenthira K*, Organization for Community Empowerment & Development, Sri Lanka
- 4.50 PM** – A sociological research about "Impact of Napkin Price Increase and Taxation on Menstrual Hygiene" Centred in Senaikudi Iruppu village. *M. Divaincy Fernando*, Sri Lanka
- 5.10 PM** – Rural Women's Challenges in Menstrual Related Issues and Impact of Increasing Prices of Sanitary Napkins: A Study From Sammanthurai Village In Ampara. *Palaniyandy Rishanthiny*, Sri Lanka
- 5.30 PM** – Q&A Session/ Discussion

Closing Session

- 5.50 PM** – Concluding Remarks and Reflections - *Inthumathy Hariharathamotharan*, Head of Programmes, Viluthu, Steering committee member of GSCDM

6 PM – *End of Conference*