

2

SUNDAY :→ 8 Jan. 2017

NAGPUR | SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2017 | PAGES 10

TIMES

BENNETT, COLEMAN & CO. LTD. | TIMESOFINDIA.COM | EPAPER.TIMESOFINDIA.COM



NAGPUR

International conference on UN devpt goals organized

Mohnish Nelarwar | TNN

Pushpita Chatterjee

Nagpur: The notion that a woman must endure a married life that is not working anymore must change, said anthropologist and assistant professor at Cornell University Lucinda Ramberg in her key note speech at the third International Interdisciplinary Conference at Gurunanak Bhavan, Ram Nagar on Saturday.

The conference was jointly organized by Association of Interdisciplinary Policy Research and Action, Nagpur, department of political science of Nagpur University and Tirpude College of Social Work (TCWS), Nagpur. University vice-chancellor Siddhart Kane, head of department of political science Mohan Kashikar, principal of TCWS KS Patil, conference secretary Vikas Jambhulkar, conference directors Shyam Koreti and Deepak Masram were present on the dais.

The subject of the conference was United Nations sustainable development goals in 2030 and development of the weaker sections in India. Topics like gender equality, poverty, health, energy and sustainable economic growth were among 18 points of discussion in the day long programme.

Experts from various fields deliberated on these topics in presence of students, teachers and social workers.

The crux of Ramberg's speech was the development and reformation of Dalit women who are as yet subjected to caste and patriar-



One of the speakers addressing the gathering

chal violence. Ramberg has closely studied the social behaviour of two Dalit communities in Karnataka between 2001 and 2016. Her study was focused on the role religion and sexuality play in politics of caste and gender in contemporary India and the way they are inhabited and endured by Dalit women.

According to Ramberg, the idea that development should empower people is an assumption which suggests that power is to be bestowed by those who have it over those who do not. "Women can truly be empowered when they are educated which will facilitate their development. It is only then that men and women will live as one without any difference between them," said Ramberg.

Ramberg said hierarchy in caste relation and holy men consign stigmatize labour. She also explained the concept of false religion which is gathered under superstition.

