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Press Release

IEPFA-NCAER

Investor Education and Protection Workshop

Thursday, March 07, 2024, 2:30 pm-5:00 pm IST

Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) and National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) hold workshop on women empowerment in collaboration with International Management Institute (IMI), New Delhi

on

“Promoting Women Financial Literacy for Viksit Bharat through an Effective Investor Education and Protection regime in Digitalized Era”

New Delhi, March 07, 2024

Financial literacy and independence emerged as the key elements for women empowerment at a workshop organised by Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) and the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), in collaboration with International Management Institute (IMI), here to mark the International Women’s Day.

Recognizing the pivotal role of financial education in empowering women and its significance as a catalyst for societal advancement, the workshop sought to address and adapt financial literacy for the digital age, focusing on both its opportunities and challenges.

In her keynote address at the workshop titled "Promoting Women Financial Literacy for Viksit Bharat through an Effective Investor Education and Protection Regime in the Digital Era", IEPFA CEO and joint secretary in the corporate affairs ministry Anita Shah Akella stressed on financial literacy of women in the digital world as she underscored the need for women to equip themselves with knowledge and skills for modern finance. She said women should recognize their financial power, and should be able to navigate the digital landscape without cyber threats.

Dr C S Mohapatra, IEPF Chair Professor at NCAER, said as India strives to be a developed nation by 2047 through the “Viksit Bharat @ 2047” mission, promoting financial education is an integral component of empowering women, providing them access to financial information and opportunities as also promoting their individual financial well-being. Prof Mohapatra also discussed the mechanism of how one can claim unclaimed shares, debentures, etc. and revisited the investor education and protection regulatory regime in India.

Prabhu Narayan, Director (Cyber Security), in the finance ministry, highlighted digital inclusivity. The introduction of Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) by RBI was cited as a step towards making transactions seamless and inclusive. He emphasized the importance of robust cybersecurity measures in safeguarding India's digital future against increasing risks and underscored the need for comprehensive cybersecurity education and protocols at national and organizational levels.

Ms Amrita Monga Kapoor, Chief Mentor & COO, Swadhaar FinAccess, stressed on the critical connection between women's empowerment and financial literacy, and the role financial inclusion and investor education in driving economic growth and personal development. A significant focus was also placed on the transformative potential of digital banking innovations in enhancing accessibility and efficiency for women.

Ms Sonia Singh, Senior Financial Journalist, emphasised the critical impact of socio-cultural factors on women's financial literacy and empowerment, advocating for tailored educational strategies to overcome these barriers. She pointed out innovative education and protection models that significantly boost women's economic participation.

Ms Aprajita Sharma, Assistant Editor, Mint, spoke of the critical link between financial planning, knowledge, and increasing female participation in finance. She advised saving and investing by those new to the workforce, highlighting the importance of enhancing financial literacy.

The banner features logos for NCAER (founded 1956), IEPF, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, and IMI New Delhi. It specifies the event on Thursday, March 7, 2024, from 2:30 PM to 5:00 PM (IST) at IMI Auditorium, New Delhi-110016. The title of the workshop is "Promoting Women Financial Literacy for Viksit Bharat through an Effective Investor Education and Protection regime in the Digitalized Era".

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| Dr. C. S. MOHAPATRA | APRAJITA SHARMA | ANITA SHAH AKELLA | SONIA SINGH | AMRITA MONGA KAPOOR | PRABHU NARAYAN |
| IEPF CHAIR PROFESSOR NCAER | ASSTT.EDITOR MINT | CEO IEPPA & JOINT SECRETARY MINISTRY OF CORP. AFFAIRS | SENIOR FINANCIAL JOURNALIST | CHIEF MENTOR & COO SWADHAAR FINACCESS | DIRECTOR (CYBER SECURITY- FINANCIAL SECTOR) MINISTRY OF Finance |
| Speaker & Moderator | Speaker | Keynote Address | Speaker | Speaker | Speaker |

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About IEPFA

The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) was set up on September 7, 2016, under the aegis of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India, for administering the Investor Education and Protection Fund for making refunds of shares, unclaimed dividends, and matured deposits/debentures, among other things, to investors.

About NCAER

NCAER is India's oldest and largest independent economic think tank, set up in 1956 to inform policy choices for both the public and private sectors. It is one of a few independent think tanks world-wide that combines rigorous economic analysis and policy outreach with deep data collection capabilities, particularly for large-scale household surveys. NCAER is led by its Director General, Dr Poonam Gupta, the institution's first woman head, who assumed office on 1 July 2021, and it is governed by an independent Governing Body currently chaired by Mr. Nandan M. Nilekani.

IEPF Chair Unit at NCAER

The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA), Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India established an IEPF Chair on Regulation and a Programme of Economic & Regulatory Research at NCAER on Indian Investor Education, Awareness & Protection, in March 2020 with the objective of pursuing research that will help improve investor education and protection in India, and ultimately the investment climate. The objective of IEPF Chair is to work in the broad areas of economics and regulation.

IMI

Set up in 1981, IMI New Delhi is India's first corporate sponsored business school. It was formed in collaboration with IMD Lausanne (then called as IMI) it soon carved a niche for itself and became a thriving hub for research and knowledge. Today, it is an established knowledge repository and training ground for aspiring managers.