The following initiatives have been undertaken at the Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, under gender sensitization and awareness:

I. As mandated through Communication D.O.No. 1542 Dated 29.08.2016 regarding implementation of norms related to Gender Champions as mandated by UGC, the following two students were appointed Gender Champions in the Department of Geography on the basis of their applications for the same.

i. Shinjini Bhattacharjee
ii. Rupsa Ghosh

The two Gender Champions have been actively engaging with students on the Delhi School of Economics Campus on issues related to gender and gender sensitization.

II. The Gender Champions have been working under the overall supervision of Dr. Anindita Datta to build awareness and gender sensitization towards safe and inclusive work spaces. In this regard, annual events on International Women’s Day have been organized.

International Women’s Day is a worldwide event that celebrates women’s achievements – from the political to the social – while calling for gender equality. Its roots can be traced to 1908, when 15,000 women marched through New York City
demanding voting rights, better pay and shorter working hours. In 1910, a woman called Clara Zetkin – leader of the ‘women’s office’ for the Social Democratic Party in Germany – tabled the idea of an International Women’s Day. She suggested that every country should celebrate a day for women to push for their demands. In 1911, it was celebrated for the first time in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland on March 19. In 1913, it was decided to transfer IWD to March 8, and it has been celebrated on that day ever since. However, the day was only recognized by the United Nations in 1975. Since then, every year on IWD, women across the world come together, to force the world to recognise the inequalities between women and men.

In the spirit of the above, the Gender Champions organized an event on 8th March, 2017, titled ‘Women and Space: Issues, Initiatives and Interventions’. Under this, the following talks had been delivered:

1. **Women in Public Spaces: Community Art Interventions in Khirki Village**, by Sreejata Roy

The talks were followed by an interactive session and songs for gender equality. Attached below are photographs of the event:
International Women’s Day
8th March, 2017
Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics
Invites you to a panel discussion
‘Women and Space: Issues, Initiatives and Interventions’

- Women in Public Spaces: Community Art Interventions in Khirki Village. Sreejata Roy (Artist)
- Not Just a Piece of Cloth: A Goonj Initiative on Breaking the Shame and Silence around Menstruation. Team Goonj
- Mahila Panchayats and their Role in Expanding Legal Spaces in Low-income neighborhoods. Swagata Basu

Time: 11.30 am onwards
Venue: Lecture Hall I, Department of Geography
All are invited!
On 8th March 2018, the theme of the event was ‘Gendered Lives and Everyday Spaces’. Under this, a screening of short films, followed by a discussion on the theme and finally a concluding session on singing of feminist songs had been conducted.

Following are some photographs from the event:
International Women's Day
8th March, 2018

Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics
Invites you to a
Screening of Short Films

and a discussion on
‘Gendered lives and Everyday Spaces’

followed by
Singing of Feminist Songs

Time: 2pm onwards
Venue: Lecture Hall I, Department of Geography

All are Invited!
International Women’s Day, 2018
III. There have been many lectures, seminars and talks organized by Dr. Anindita Datta, under the Department Seminar Series on themes related to gender and space (refer to Department website archives for details).

Shinjini Bhattacharjee

Gender Champion

Department of Geography

University of Delhi