



Establishment of Chairs in the Name of Eminent Women

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Why in News

On the occasion of **National Girl Child Day (24th January)**, the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) have launched an initiative called '**Establishment of Chairs in the Universities in the name of eminent women administrators, artists, scientists and social reformers**'.

The programme intends to establish **10 chairs** across different universities after eminent women to encourage women to pursue higher education and excel in their chosen fields.

Key Points

- **Objectives:**

The establishment of chairs will help the universities to recognise women's contributions and promote female role models in respective fields especially the formulation of public policies.

- **Time Period:**

Initially, the chairs will be set up for a period of 5 years.

- **Funding:**

Each chair will be funded by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (₹50 lakh per year).

- **Eligibility:**

- All the universities that are eligible to receive grant-in-aid from the UGC are eligible to apply for the establishment of the Chairs.
- Any scholar or academician in the age group of 55-70 years, with specialisation in their fields, will be eligible for the chair.
- The selected academicians will be appointed for a period of five years, which can be extended to another five years.

- **Functions:**

- Engagement in research and, in turn, contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the area of the study.
- Strengthening the role of university/academics in public policymaking.
- Designing short-term capacity-building programmes for teachers in higher education.
- Providing a forum for inter-university/ intercollegiate Post Graduate and Research level dialogues, discussion meetings, seminars.

- **Assessment:**

- The University will review the progress of the Chair **annually** and submit a final report on the activities and outcome of the Chair to the UGC after **five years**.
- However, the UGC may undertake the exercise of reviewing the Chair for its continuance, at any stage.

Sr.No	Subject	Proposed Name of the Chair
1	Administration	Devi Ahilyabai Holkar A proficient ruler and an erudite politician of Malwa; also known as Malwa queen
2	Literature	Mahadevi Varma A freedom fighter, Hindi poet, academician
3	Freedom Fighter (North East)	Rani Gaidinliu Naga spiritual and political leader who had led a revolt against British rule in India
4	Medicine & Health	Anandibai Gopalrao Joshi India's first woman physician
5	Performing Art	Madurai Shanmukhavadiyu Subbulakshmi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indian Carnatic singer from Madurai, Tamil Nadu. ● The first musician ever to be awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honour.

6	Forest/Wildlife Conservation	Amrita Devi (Beniwal) She sacrificed her life along with her three daughters to save green trees being felled by the Maharaja of Jodhpur in Marwar, Rajasthan in 1730.
7	Mathematics	Lilavati It is a treatise on mathematics, written by Indian mathematician Bhāskara II's in 1150.
8	Science	Kamala Sohonie The first Indian woman to receive a PhD in a scientific discipline and also paved the way for women to study at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru.
9	Poetry & Mysticism	Lal Ded Played a lead role in the creation of Vatsun style of mystic poetry.
10	Educational Reforms	Hansa Mehta A social activist, educator and eminent writer.

Source: PIB