



# NCDHR

## ALL INDIA DALIT MAHILA ADHIKAR MANCH

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All India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Manch (AIDMAM) organized an Annual Convention "**Dalit Women's Participation in Development of Nation**" on June 25, 2009. More than 300 hundred Dalit women/activists participated in the convention from different parts of the country. AIDMAM focused in the six states of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Orissa, Delhi and Bihar. All the state coordinators shared their experience in the form of report which will publish soon.



Chief Guest were **Prof. S.K. Thorat** (Chairperson, UGC), Ms. Annie Namala (Director, Centre for Inclusion and Equity), Prof. Vimal Thorat (National Convener, AIDMAM), Mr. Paul Divakar (Gen Secy, Dalit Arthik Adhikar Andolan) and Mr. Wilson Bezwarra (National Convener, Safai Karmachari Andolan).

Programme began with the inaugural session by Prof. S. K. Thorat. Prof. Thorat expressed his solidarity with Dalit women and appreciated that a large number of Dalit Women have come together on a platform provided by AIDMAM. He said that right is a claim; you can't get it unless you fight for it.

Other speakers highlighted the issues of Dalit women and gave some ideas to achieve their rights through building Dalit women leadership and making Dalit Women organizations / associations. **Prof Vimal Thorat**, National convener of AIDMAM, gave an overview of Dalit women's situation in India and talked about how to overcome these barriers.

AIDMAM is a forum of Dalit Women committed to challenging the nexus of patriarchy, caste, culture and class oppression, exploitation and marginalization of Dalit Women.

This is a quest for accessing and ensuring Dalit Women's right to life, security, development, dignity and equality in a violence-free society.

Some specific programmes (Janany Suraksha Yojana, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, allowance for unemployed, Berojgari Bhatta), Dalit budgeting) and the schemes / policies were discussed. Participants shared their experiences about the actual implementation of said schemes. Many questions came from participants which were clarified by the speakers.