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## Seminar on transgenders' rights



The seminar in progress

### POST NEWS NETWORK

**BHUBANESWAR:** A seminar on the rights of transgender people was organised at IIT, BBSR here in association with 'Women Welfare Cell IIT-Bhubaneswar' recently.

The discussion was titled 'New

rights of transgenders and efforts to bring them to the mainstream'. The speaker at the event was Manabi Bandopadhyay and the session was attended in large numbers by students, faculty and staff.

A highly interactive session was put forward and there was a

healthy discussion on transgenders, their life and the struggle they undergo. The speaker also talked about the rejection she had to face from the mainstream society including her parents and family. But she "kept her hopes alive" and she had her education, also underwent a surgery and she is "today proud to be a woman in her own rights."

In 2016, Odisha became the first state in India to give transgender people social welfare benefits - such as a pension, housing and food grains.

In a landmark judgment in April 2014, the Supreme Court recognised transgender as a legal third gender and called on the government to ensure their equal treatment.

The court recognised the community as a marginalised group and directed authorities to implement policies to improve their socio-economic status.