

## **Women's Day Celebration at CPF**

The International Women's Day celebrated on 8th March every year started out as an occasion for women to protest against violation of their rights as far back as the early 20th Century. Today, however, International Women's Day provides opportunity to both assert the rights of women and to recognise the role played by the society in redressing gender inequity.

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day, Centre for People's Forestry organised an informal discussion among its staff on 8th March 2010 centred around the theme for the women's day: ***Equal Rights, Equal Opportunities: Progress for all.*** A few students from the Hyderabad Central University, engaged in an internship project at CPF, also participated in the discussion. Chaired by the Administration Officer and Senior Programme Officer - Gender and HIV/AIDS Concerns, the discussion theme evoked a lot of reactions from participants. Ranging from the role of the society in shaping women, women and property rights, women in armed forces to the current bill on reservation for women in the parliament were a few of the issues raised. The hour-long debate ended with the chair summing up the discussion.