

ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾಯಿತ
ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ಸಹಯೋಗ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರೇತರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ
ಸಮಾಲೋಚನೆ

ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಕೇಂದ್ರ

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ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಕೇಂದ್ರ
ತರಂಗ 10ನೇ ಕ್ರಾಸ್ ರಾಜ್ ಮಹಲ್ ವಿಲಾಸ್ ಬಡಾವಣೆ
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ದಿನಾಂಕ 20ನೇ ಮಾರ್ಚ್ 2000 ದಂದು ನಡೆದ ಸಭೆಯ ನಡವಳಿಕೆಗಳು

ದಿನಾಂಕ 20ನೇ ಮಾರ್ಚ್ 2000 ದಂದು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸಹಯೋಗ ಕುರಿತ ಒಂದು ದಿನದ ಸಮಾಲೋಚನಾ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಯಿತು. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಕೇಂದ್ರವು ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸಿತ್ತು. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಮಾರು 45 ಮಂದಿ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದರು. ಅವರಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತರು, ಪತ್ರಿಕೋದ್ಯಮಿಗಳು, ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ನೌಕರರು ಮತ್ತು ವಕೀಲರು, ಸಂಶೋಧಕರು ಇದ್ದರು. ಈ ಸಮಾಲೋಚನೆಯು, ಕಡಬ್ಬಾಹಿಷ್ಕಾರವನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ 4 ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾಯಿತರಾದ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ (ಇಡಬ್ಬಾಹಿಷ್ಕಾರಿಗಳ) ಸಹಯೋಗಕ್ಕೆ ಒಂದು ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ವಿವರ ಮತ್ತು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿದವರ ಹೆಸರಿನ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳಾದ ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಮೀರಾ ನೆಕ್ಸೀನಾ ಅವರು ಮಾತನಾಡುತ್ತಾ, ತಾವು ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾಗ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯ ವೈಖರಿಯನ್ನು ನೋಡಿದಿರುವುದಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಹಿಂದಿನ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮೌನವಾಗಿ ಕುಳಿತಿರುವುದನ್ನು ನೋಡಿದಿರುವುದಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಆದರೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ಹುಟ್ಟಿಸುವ ವಿಚಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಕುರಿತು ಚರ್ಚೆ ನಡೆದಾಗ ಆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಮಾತನಾಡಿರುವುದನ್ನೂ ಅವರು ಗಮನಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಮೂಲತಃ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಆತ್ಮ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸದ ಕೊರತೆ ಇದೆ ಎಂದು ಅವರು ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ ಪಟ್ಟರು. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಆತ್ಮ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ವಂತ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿತ್ವ ಬೆಳೆಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾದರೆ ತರಬೇತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾರ್ಯವಿಧಾನಗಳಿಗೆ ಅವರನ್ನು ಪರಿಚಯಿಸುವುದು ಇವು

ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಆಗಲೇ ಬೇಕು. ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಸಭೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸದಸ್ಯರನ್ನು ಅನರ್ಹಗೊಳಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಆದರೆ ಸತ್ಯಸಂಗತಿ ಏನೆಂದರೆ ಈ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೂ ಸಭೆಗೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗಲು ಅವಕಾಶ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೂ ಸಭೆಗೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗುವುದು, ಹಾಜರಾಗದಿರುವುದು ಈ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಇಚ್ಛೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ನಗರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಇದೇ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಇದೆ. ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಒಂದು ಕಾನೂನು ಅರಿವು ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರ ನಡೆಸಲಾಯಿತು. ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ ಮೂರನೇ ಒಂದರಷ್ಟಕ್ಕಿಂತಲೂ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪುರಸಭಾ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಹಾಜರಾಗಿದ್ದರು. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಸಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯು ದೊರಕದಂತೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ರಾಜಕೀಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೆ ಎಂಬುದು ಮನವರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು ಅವರು ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ರಾಜ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳ ಮತ್ತೂ ಕಾರ್ಯವಿಧಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅದರಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ವಿಷಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆಯ ಅಗತ್ಯತೆಯನ್ನು ಒತ್ತಿ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಮಾಖ್ಯದ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾದ ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ರೇವತಿ ನಾರಾಯಣ್ ಮಾತನಾಡುತ್ತಾ ತಾವು ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ರಾಜಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮತ್ತೂ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವಿಕೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತಾವು ಅನೇಕ ಬಾರಿ ಹೊರಗಿನ ಜನರು "ಹೆಂಗಸರ ಕೈಲಿ ಇವೆಲ್ಲ ಆಗಲಿಲ್ಲ" "ಅವರಿಗಲ್ಲದೆ ಅಂಥ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯ" ಎಂಬಂಥ ನಕಾರಾತ್ಮಕವಾದ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡುವುದನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸಿರುವುದಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಕೇವಲ ಅಂಕಿಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಎಣಿಸುವಂತಹ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಬದಲು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತೂ ಅವರಿಂದ ಆಡಳಿತ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಕುರಿತು ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ನಡೆಸುವ ಒಂದು ಒಬ್ಬ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಅವರು ಹೇಳಿದರು. ಕೇವಲ ಮೂರನೇ ಒಂದರಷ್ಟು ಸ್ಥಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರನ್ನು ತಂದು ಕೂರಿಸಿದರೆ ಏನೂ ಸಾಧಿಸಿದಂತಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರನ್ನು ಈ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯೆರಾಳಕ್ಕೆ ಅನೇಕ ಸಲ ಸಹಸದಸ್ಯರನ್ನಾಗಿ ನೇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತೂ ನೇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಮಾಖ್ಯವು ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ನಿರಂತರ ಬೆಂಬಲ ಒದಗಿಸಿ, ಅವರಿಗೆ ಬೆಂಬಲಕಾರಕ ಕಾರ್ಯವಿಧಾನವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಶ್ರಮಿಸಿದೆ. ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಮಾಖ್ಯವು ಬಡ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತೂ ಅವರ ಸಂಘಟನೆಗೆ

ಒತ್ತು ನೀಡಿದೆ. ಒಬ್ಬ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ವಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗೆ 30 ಜನಗಳ ಒಂದು ಸಮೂಹ ಅಥವಾ ಸಂಘವನ್ನು ಬೆಂಬಲಿಸುತ್ತವೆ ಮತ್ತು ಆಕೆ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರ ಕೊಡುತ್ತಾನೆ. ಚುನಾಯಿತ ವಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿ ಈ ಸಮೂಹದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುತ್ತಾನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಆಕೆಯು ತನ್ನ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ತನಗೆ ನೆರವಾಗಲು ಅವರ ಸಮೂಹ ಶಕ್ತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರತಿಭೆಗಳ ನೆರವು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾನೆ. ಈ ಸಮೂಹವು ಆಕೆಯು ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾಪಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ವಾದ ವಿಷಯಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅವಳಿಗೆ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶನ ನೀಡುತ್ತದೆ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಷಯ ತಿಳಿಸಿ ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಇಂಥ ಸಂಘಗಳ ಅನೇಕ ವಹಿಳೆಯರು 93ನೇ ಇಸವಿಯ ನಂತರದ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸಿದರು. ಅವರಲ್ಲಿ ಬಹಳ ಜನ ಗೆದ್ದರು ಕೆಲವರು ನೋತರು. ರೇವತಿಯವರು ಬದಲೇ ಕಾರ್ಯವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಮತ್ತು ಒಂದು ಹೊಸ ಗೌರಿಕೆಯುಳ್ಳ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಒತ್ತಿ ಹೇಳಿದರು. ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಮಾಜ್ಯವು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸಭೆಯ ಸಭೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ನೇರವಾಗಿ ವ್ಯವಹರಿಸಲು ಉತ್ತೇಜನ ಸಹಾ ನೀಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಚುನಾಯಿತರಾದ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಲ್ಲಿ ಅತ್ಯ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಮೂಡಿಸುವುದು (ಈ ಅಂಶವನ್ನು ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ವಿಲರಾ ನೆಕ್ಸಿನಾ ಅವರು ತಾವು ಅಡಿದ ಮಾತುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒತ್ತಿ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ), ಸಂಘಗಳ ಒಕ್ಕೂಟವನ್ನು ರಚಿಸಿ ತಮಗೆ ಬೆಂಬಲ ನೀಡುವಂತಹ ಒಂದು ನಿರ್ಣಾಯಕ ಗಾತ್ರದ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ಷಮವನ್ನು ಬೆಳೆಸಿ ಉಳಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಬರುವುದು, ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ಷಮವಹಿಳೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಕಾರ್ಯ ವಿಧಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ದೃಷ್ಟಿಕೋನವನ್ನು ತುಂಬುವುದು, ಮತವಾಸ, ಪ್ರಚಾರ, ಚುನಾವಣೆಗೆ ನಿಲ್ಲುವುದು, ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೆಂಬಲ ನೀಡುವುದು, ಮುಂತಾದ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ಷಮವಹಿಳೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ ನೀಡುವುದು ಆಗತ್ಯ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಮಾಜ್ಯವು ಸುಲಭವಾಗಿ ಕಲೆಯಬಹುದಾದಂತಹ ತರಬೇತಿ ಪಠ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಬಳಸುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಸಹಾ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಡಾ : ರೇವತಿ ನಾರಾಯಣನ್ ಅವರು ತಾವು ' ಸಂಚಾರಿ ' ಎಂಬ ಒಂದು ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿ ಹೊಸ ಸಮರ್ಥ ಸಂಘಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾರ್ತಾ ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲು ತಾವು ಸಿದ್ಧ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

'ಸರ್ವ' (SARVA) ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ರಜನಿಯವರು ಗ್ರಾಮ
 ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಳೆದ ಸುಮಾರು ಏಳು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಕಾಲ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೊಂದಿಗೆ
 ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿದ ತಮ್ಮ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಅನುಭವ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಲ್ಲಿ ಆತ್ಮ
 ವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಮೂಡಿಸಲು ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದ ಮೊತ್ತ, ಮೊದಲ ಕೆಲಸವೆಂದರೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು
 ತಾವೇ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಎನ್ನುವ ಭಾವನೆಗಳನ್ನು ತೊರೆದು ಹೊರಬರುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು
 ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಗುರುತಿಸಿತು. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು, ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು
 ತಮ್ಮ ಅನುಭವಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಸ್ಪರ ಹಂಚಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಒಂದು ವೇದಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಆಧಾರ
 ಒಂದು ಸ್ಥಳಾವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವ ಅಗತ್ಯತೆಯನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ
 ಅವರಲ್ಲಿ ಐಕ್ಯವಿತ್ತೆ ಉಂಟಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಸಹಾ ಮನಗಂಡಿತು. ವೇದಿಕೆ
 ಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಸ್ಪರ ಮಾತನಾಡಿದಾಗ ಅನುಭವ ಹಂಚಿಕೊಂಡಾಗ ಈ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು
 ಒಂದೇ ಬಗೆಯ ಸನ್ನಿವೇಶಗಳ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಭಗಳಿರುವುದನ್ನು ಕಂಡುಕೊಂಡರು
 ಮತ್ತು ಪರಸ್ಪರ ಭಾವನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸುಲಭವಾಗಿ ಹಂಚಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಮತ್ತು ಸುಲಭವಾಗಿ
 ಕರೆಯಲು ಈ ವೇದಿಕೆ ನೆರವು ಮಾಡಿತು. ಸರ್ವ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು
 ಆಗಾಗ್ಗೆ ಒಂದೆಡೆ ಸೇರಲು ಅನುವು ಆಗುವಂತೆ ಒಂದು ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ-
 ಸಲು ನೆರವು ನೀಡಿತು. ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ (ಇದು ಎರಡು ವರ್ಷ ಹಳೆಯದು)
 27 ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಗೊಂಡಿತು. ಈಗ ಅವರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 65ಕ್ಕೆ ಏರಿತು.
 ಮೂರು ತಿಂಗಳಿಗೊಮ್ಮೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇವರು ಸುಮಾರು ನಾಲ್ಕು ದಿನಗಳ
 ಕಾಲ ಸಭೆ ಸೇರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಗತಿ ಮಂದ ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ರಮೇಣ
 ವಾಡುದು. ಇದು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ಸಂಭವಿಸುತ್ತಿತ್ತು
 ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಉದಾಹರಣೆಗೆ ಒಂದು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಯು
 ಮದ್ಯ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಯಶಸ್ಸು ಕಂಡ ವಿಷಯವು ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಾ-
 ಲಯದ ನೆರವಿನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಯು ಅದೇ ರೀತಿ
 ಮಾಡಲು ಹುರಿದುಂಬಿಸಿತು. ತರುವಾಯದ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೂರಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು
 ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಈಗಲೂ ಸಹಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿ-
 ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸದಸ್ಯತ್ವ ಉಳಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಪ್ರತಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ
 ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕನ್ನಡ 3-4 ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಇರುತ್ತಾರೆ.

' ಸರ್ಜೆ ' ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿದ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವೆಂದರೆ ಶಿಬಿರಗಳನ್ನು ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸುವುದು. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮರ್ಥ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸುವುದು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಅಂತಹ 200 ಶಿಬಿರಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಸರ್ಜೆ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಟ್ಟಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಿ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಪಕ್ಷ ಶೇ.80 ರಷ್ಟು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ತರಬೇತಿ ನೀಡಲು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿದೆ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಎನ್.ಬಿ.ಎ.ಎಸ್. ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಡಾ : ಶಾಂತಾ ಮೋಹನ್, ಇವರು ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಆಡಳಿತ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ತಾಳಲು ಕಾರಣವಾದ ಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ನೆನಪಿಸಲಾರಂಭಿಸಿದರು. ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರನ್ನು ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ರೋಲ್‌ಪ್ಲೇನು ದುರ್ಬಳಕೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ, ಬಲಪ್ರಯೋಗ ಮತ್ತು ಹಿಂಸಾಚಾರ ಮುಂತಾದವುಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಹೇಗೆ ಕಡೆಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂಬುದು ನೋಡಿದಾಗ ತಾವು ಪ್ರವೇಶಿಸಬೇಕಾಯಿತು ಎಂದರು. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ಎರಡು ಬಾರಿ ಜಯಶೀಲರಾಗಿದ್ದ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಜಯಶೀಲರಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಅವರನ್ನು ಹಿಮ್ಮೆಟ್ಟಿಸಲಾಯಿತು. ಎನ್.ಬಿ.ಎ.ಎಸ್. ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಈಗ, ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಮಾರ್ಪಡೆ ಹಂತದಿಂದ ಹಿಡಿದು ಈಗಿನ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳ ಅಧಿಕಾರಾವಧಿ ಮುಕ್ತಾಯವಾಗುವವರೆಗೆ, ಪುನಃಪುನಃ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೊಂದಿಗೆ, ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೊರ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ, ಈ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರತರಾದ ಸಂಘಟನೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಲು ಹಾಗೂ ತರಬೇತಿ ನೀಡುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಲು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿದೆ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಡಾ : ಶಾಂತಾ ಮೋಹನ್ ಅವರು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ' ದೀರ್ಘಾವಧಿ ' ಹಿತಾಸಕ್ತಿಗಳನ್ನು (ಹಿಂಸಾಚಾರದಿಂದ ರಕ್ಷಣೆ, ಆರೋಗ್ಯ, ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ) ಪುನಃಪುನಃ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಗುರಿಗಳ ಜೊತೆ (ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಸೌಕರ್ಯ, ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳು) ಹೋಲಿಸಿದರು ಮತ್ತು ಈ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಗುರಿಗಳ ^{ನಿಷ್ಠೆ} ಅಗತ್ಯಗಳಂತೆ ಕಾಣುವುದರಿಂದ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ದೀರ್ಘಕಾಲೀನ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಭವಿಷ್ಯ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಗೌರವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು

ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ' ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿ ' ಯಾದ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಅಥವಾ ವಿಚಾರವನ್ನು
ನಾಂಪ್ರದಾಯಿಕ ಆಳತೆಗೊಳಿಸುವುದು ಬಳಸಿ ಪುನಃಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆ, ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವುದು
ಎಂದು ವರ್ಗೀಕರಣ ಮಾಡಬಾರದೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಪುನಃಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆ ಜಾತಿ ವರ್ಗದ
ವುತ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಿಂದ ಜನನವೇ ಗೆದ್ದಿದ್ದ ದಲಿತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯೊಬ್ಬಳು ತಾನು ಯಾರಿಗೆ
ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಾಗಿರಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಎತ್ತಿದಳು ? ತನಗೆ ಬೆಂಬಲ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ
ನೀಡಿದ್ದ ತನ್ನದೇ ಸಮುದಾಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅಥವಾ ತಾನು ಎಲ್ಲ ಜನನವೇಗೆ ಸುತ್ತು ತಾನು
ಒಂದು ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟ ಪ್ರವರ್ಗಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿದವಳೆಂಬ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಗೆದ್ದಿದ್ದಾಳೆಂದೇ ಆ
ಸಮುದಾಯಕ್ಕೋ ?

ಐ.ಎನ್.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ ಯು ಅನೇಕಾನೇಕರೇ ಡೈರೆಕ್ಟರ್ ಆದ ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ವಿಲರಾ ಎಂ.
ಆವರು, ಮಹಿಳೆಯರನ್ನು ಪಾಲಿಸುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಈ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಕ್ಕೆ
ಐ.ಎನ್.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ. ಯು ಪರವಾಗಿ ತಮ್ಮ ಬೆಂಬಲ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿದರು ಮತ್ತು ಜನನಾಯಕ
ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಜಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಎನ್.ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳ
ಕುರಿತಂತೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪ್ರಚಾರವನ್ನು ಐ.ಎನ್.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ.ಯು ವಾರ್ತಾ
ಪತ್ರವಾದ ' ಉದಾ ಪ್ರಚಾರ ' ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾಡಬಹುದೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ವಿಲರಾ ಅವರು ಎರಡು ಮುಖ್ಯವಾದ ವಿಚಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಭೆಯ
ಮುಂದಿಟ್ಟರು.

ಅವುಗಳೆಂದರೆ,

1. ಜನನವಣಿ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡುಬಂದ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಜನನವಣಿ
ಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ' ಅವಿರೋಧ ಅಂತ್ಯ ' ಮತ್ತು ' ಒಮ್ಮತ ಅಂತ್ಯ ' ಗಳಿಂದ
ಹೊರ ಹೊಮ್ಮಿದ ಚಿತ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ಇವುಗಳ ಸಂವೈಯವನ್ನು ಹೋಲಿಸಿ
ನೋಡಿದಾಗ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸಂಬಂಧದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿರುವ ಅಂಶ.

ಈ ಪ್ರವೃತ್ತಿಯು ' ಒಮ್ಮತ ಅಂತ್ಯ ' ಎಂಬುದರ ಋತವಾದ ಅರ್ಥವೇನು ?
ವಿರೋಧಿಸದೇ ಇದ್ದವರು ಯಾರು ? ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾಪಿಸಿದವರು ಯಾರು ?

ಇತ್ಯಾದಿಗಳನ್ನು ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗಿ ವಿಶ್ಲೇಷಿಸಿ ಅರ್ಥಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ
ಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯತೆ ಸೂಚಿಸುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದರು.

2. ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ವಿಲರಾ ಎಂ. ಅವರು ಸಭೆಯ ಮುಂದಿಟ್ಟ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು
ಅಂಶವೆಂದರೆ, ಮೇಲೆ ವ್ಯಕ್ತವಾದ ಚಿತ್ರವನ್ನು ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳೊಳಗಿರುವ
ಪ್ರಚಲಿತ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಜೊತೆ ಜೊತೆಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದು ನೋಡಬೇಕು
ಮತ್ತು ಅದು ಎಷ್ಟರ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಂಶವಾಗಿದೆ ? ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು
ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿನ ಈಗಿರುವ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಸಂಘರ್ಷಕಾರಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರ
ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಾಗಿ ಹೇಗೆ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸುತ್ತಿ-
ದಾರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದಾರೆ ? ಅವರು ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಅನುವು ಮಾಡಲು ನಾವು ಹೇಗೆ ಯೋಚಿಸಬೇಕು ?
ಎಂಬ ವಿಷಯಗಳ - ವಿಚಾರಾರ್ಹ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಈ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ, ಐಕ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಜಾಲಗಳು : ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ
ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ಸಂಘವು ಅವರಿಗೆ ಬಲ ಒದಗಿಸುತ್ತವೆ ಎಂದು ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯಪಟ್ಟರು.

ಎನ್.ಎ.ಎ.ಎಸ್. ನ ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಆಶಾ ರಮೇಶ್ ಅವರು ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ
ಯುಗವನ್ನು ಕೇಂದ್ರವಾಗಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮತ್ತು ಗುಜರಾತ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತಾವು
ಮಾಡಿದ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಕುರಿತು ಹೇಳಿದರು. ' ಅವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಗೊತ್ತುವಳಿ ' ಎಂಬ
ಅಸ್ತ್ರವನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮೇಲೆ ಕಟ್ಟುವಾಗ ಪ್ರಯೋಗಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.
ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು, ಪುರುಷ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯು ತಮ್ಮ
ಮೇಲೆ ನಿರುಂತ್ರಣ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅನುಮಾನ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿದರು. ಆ
ಸಾಧನದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಬ್ಬ ಮಹಿಳೆಯೇ ಇರಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಅವರು ಔಚ್ಛಿಸಿದರು. ಆಶಾ
ಅವರು ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳ ಕೆಲವು ಕನಕಾರಿ

ಅಂಕಿಅಂಶ ನೀಡುತ್ತಾ ಬಹಳಷ್ಟು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೂ ಅದಿರಲಾರ್ಥವಾಗಿ ಅಂತಿಮ
 ಗೊಂಡಿರುವುದನ್ನು ತೋರಿಸಿದರು. ಸುಮಾರು 54 ಸಾವಿರ ಟಲ್ಲರ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳ
 ದೈಕಿ ಸುಮಾರು 19,000 ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳೂ ಅದಿರಲಾರ್ಥವಾಗಿ ಅಂತಿಮಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.
 ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಪ್ರಚಾರದ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಅಷ್ಟೇನೂ ಇರಲಿಲ್ಲ.
 ಪ್ರಚಾರವಿಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೂ, ಅವರು ಮದ್ಯದ ಶಾಖೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕಂಡುಕೊಂಡು
 ಬರುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು... ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ರವಿಕೆ ಕೂ ಹಾಗೂ ಎಲೆ ಆಡಿಕೆ ಹಿಂಚರರು
 ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಈ ಸಲ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಚುನಾಯಿತರಾಗಿರುವ ಮಹಿಳೆ
 ಯರಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಥಮ ಬಾರಿಗೆ ಚುನಾಯಿತರಾದವರು ಎಂಬ ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು ಅವರು
 ಮತ್ತೆ ಹೇಳಿದರು. ತಮ್ಮನ್ನು ನಿಯಂತ್ರಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ತಮ್ಮನ್ನು ಬಳಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳು
 ಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ತಮ್ಮನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಂಡು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬ
 ವಿಚಾರವನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಈಗ ಅರ್ಥ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ ಭ್ರಮೆ
 ನಿಸವಾಗಿದೆ. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಾಗಿ ತಮ್ಮ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಗಳ
 ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅತಿವ ಕಾಳಜಿ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಾಮಾಣಿಕವಾಗಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿ-
 ದಾರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಈ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಒಂದು ಸಣ್ಣ ಹಿನ್ನೆಡೆ ಉಂಟಾದರೂ ಅದನ್ನು ಅವರು
 ಬಹಳ ಗಂಭೀರವಾಗಿ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೆ ಎಂದು ಅವರು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಇತರ
 ಅನೇಕ ಭಾಷಣಕಾರರು ಹೇಳಿದ ವಿಷಯಗಳನ್ನೇ ತಾವು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾ, ಚುನಾಯಿತ
 ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ಆತ್ಮವಿಶ್ವಾಸವನ್ನು ಬೆಳೆಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಒತ್ತಿ
 ಹೇಳಿದರು. ನವ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರನ್ನು, ಅವರು ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡುವ ವಿಷಯ
 ಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆಕೆ ಕೇಳಿದಾಗ, ಮದ್ಯವಾಸ ವ್ಯಸನದ ನಿವಾರಣೆಗೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಮೊದಲ ಆದ್ಯತೆ
 ಎಂದು ಅವರು ಹೇಳಿದರು. ಈ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ
 ಗೊತ್ತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಲವಾರು ತರಬೇತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಿದ್ದು,
 ಅಂತಹ ಆವಕಾಶಗಳ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನವನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಲು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ.
 ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸುವ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು " ಅಲ್ಪಸ್ವಲ್ಪವಾದರೂ " ಅಕ್ಷರಸ್ಥರಾಗಿರ
 ಬೇಕು - ಇವೇ ಮುಂತಾದ ನೆಪ ಎತ್ತಿ ಒತ್ತಾಯ ಹೇರಿ ಮರುಷರು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ
 ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡದಿರುವಂಥ ತಂತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಸೂಚಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ; ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೂ
 ನಹ ಇದೇ ರಾಗ ಹಾಡಲಾರಂಭಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎಂದು ಆಕೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಎನ್.ಐ.ಎ.ಎನ್. ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಯು ಮಾತನಾಡುತ್ತಾ " ಜನಾಂಗೀಯ
 ಪರರಕ್ಷ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿ" ಗಳು ರನ್, ಅಥವಾ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣದಂತಹ ಎದುವ
 ಕಾನೂನುಗಳ ಕೆಲಸದ ಅಲಾವಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೆ.
 ಆದರೆ, ಜನಾಂಗೀಯ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಮದ್ಯಪಾನ ವ್ಯಸನವನ್ನು
 ಹೊಡೆದೋಡಿಸಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಹಳ್ಳಿಗರಿಗೆ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರಿನ ಸೌಭ್ಯವನ್ನು
 ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲು ಮುಂದಾಗುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಎಂದರೆ, ಪುರುಷರು ಹಾಗೂ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು
 ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡುವ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳು ಒಂದೇ ವಿಧವಾಗಿಲ್ಲ, ವಿಭಿನ್ನವಾಗಿವೆ.
 ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಮೌಲ್ಯವಾಚನಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕ ಮಾನದಂಡವನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ
 ಉದ್ಭವಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಉತ್ತಮ ಆಡಳಿತ ಎಂದರೆ ಏನು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಪುನಃ
 ಪರಿಭಾವಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಇಂದು ಒದಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರಲ್ಲದೆ, ಜನಾವಣಾ
 ಪರಿಷತ್ ಚಿತ್ರ, ಜನಾವಣಾ ತರುವಾಯದ ಚಿತ್ರ ಹಾಗೂ ಜನಾವಣಾ
 ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರನ್ನು ಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಹೊರಗಿಡಲಾಯಿತು.
 ಮುಂದಿನ 5 ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಆಡಳಿತಕ್ಕೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪ್ರಮಾಣಗಳನ್ನು
 ಪುನಃ ರಚಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಗಂಡಸರು ಹೆಗ್ಗನರೊಡಗೂಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಡೆಸುವ
 ಯೋಜನೆ ಎನ್.ಐ.ಎ.ಎನ್.ಗೆ ಇದೆ. ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಜನಾಂಗೀಯ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಿಗೆ
 ಕನ್ನಡದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ವಾರ್ತಾ ಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಕಳುಹಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಮಹಿಳಾ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
 ಇದ್ದಾಗ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳೂ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೇ ಇರಬೇಕೆಂದು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯಪಡಿಸಿ
 ಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಇದೆ. ಇಲ್ಲವಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೈ ಮೇಲಾಗುವ
 ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆ ಇದೆ. ನಂತರ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಜನಾಂಗೀಯ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಇರುವ
 ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ತಾಲೂಕು
 ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಹತ್ತಿರವಾದ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸಬೇಕು. ಹಲವು ಬಾರಿ ಜನಾಂಗೀಯ
 ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಿಗೆ ತಾವು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಆಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎನಿಸು-
 ತ್ತದೆ. ಏಕೆಂದರೆ, ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ತಾವು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಬಹಳ
 ಗಂಭೀರವಾಗಿ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ ಎಂದರು.

ಐ·ಎಸ್·ಎನ್·ನ ಡಾ : ಶುಭಾ, ಅವರು ಮಾತನಾಡಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಿಂದ
 ಜನಾಂಗೀತರಾದ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇರಳದಿಂದ ಜನಾಂಗೀತರಾದ
 ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ನಡುವೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲು ತಮ್ಮ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ನಡೆಸಿದ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳ
 ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತುಸು ಹಿಂಜರಿಕೆ, ಮಾನಸಿಕ ತಡೆ,
 ಸಂಕೋಚ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಕೊನೆಕೊನೆಗೆ ಈ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನದಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತಮ ಫಲಶ್ರುತಿ
 ಹಾಗೂ ಒಗ್ಗಟ್ಟು ವ್ಯಕ್ತವಾಯಿತು. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಿಂದ ಎರಡು ಮಹಿಳಾ
 ತಂಡಗಳು ಕೇರಳಕ್ಕೆ ತೆರಳಿದವು. ಈಗ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ
 ಜನಾಂಗೀತರಾಗಿರುವ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಪುಂಡೆ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮೇಲಿನ ಹಂತಗಳ
 ಜನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸಲು ಯೋಜಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸದರಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯವರು
 ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಂಶೋಧನೆಯನ್ನೂ
 ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 'ಅಪಡೇಟ್' ಎಂಬ ಹೆಸರಿನ ಮಾತೃಕಾ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಗ್ರಾಮ
 ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಕನ್ನಡದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದು,
 ಸೂಕ್ತ ಸಂಭಾವನೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಅಪಡೇಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ
 ಅವರ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯಗಳನ್ನೂ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲು ಸಿದ್ಧರಾಗಿರುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಡಾ : ಶುಭಾ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.
 ಜನಾಂಗೀತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ಒಂದು ಗುಂಪಿಗಾಗಿ ಕೇರಳದ ಕೊಟ್ಟಾಯಂ ಗೆ
 ತಾವು ವಿವರಿಸಿದ್ದ ಪರಿಚಯ ಪ್ರವಾಸದ ಫಲಶ್ರುತಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಈ
 ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಹೊಸ ವಿಷಯಗಳನ್ನೂ ಕಲಿಯುವಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಉತ್ಸಾಹವನ್ನೂ
 ತೋರಿಸಿದರಲ್ಲದೇ ಚಿಕ್ಕಪುಟ್ಟ ವಿಷಯಗಳೂ ಅವರಿಗೆ ವಿಷಯ ಹೊಸ ವಿಷಯ
 ತಿಳಿಸಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟವು ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರು.

'ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪ್ರವೃತ್ತಿಯ ಕೂಡು ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ಗ್ರಾಮ
 ಮಟ್ಟದ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಮೂಹಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ನಾಗರಿಕ ಸಮಾಜದ ಓಲಗಗಳ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ
 ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಜನಾಂಗೀತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು' - ಸಿ.ಪಿ. ಸುಜಯಾ ಅವರು,
 ಇನ್ನೂ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ನಿರತವಾದ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಶಿಲ್ಪಕಲೆಯ ತಮ್ಮ ಪ್ರಬಂಧವನ್ನೂ
 ಮಂಡಿಸಿದರು.

ಸಧೀಲವು ಅಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಪಾತ್ರ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯ ಬಗೆಗಿನ ಉಪಯುಕ್ತ ವಿಮರ್ಶೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾನವಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಜನಜನಿತವಾದ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಪ್ರಬಂಧದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೊದಲು ಮಂಡಿಸಲಾಯಿತು. ಆ ತರುವಾಯ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ತಾವು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾದ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ಆಳವಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಶಾಲವಾಗಿ ರೂಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ನೆರವಾಗಿ ಸಧೀಲವು ಸರ್ಕಾರೀತರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಮಾಡಿದ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳ ಹಾಗೂ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಹಾಗೂ ಓಲಗಳ ನಡುವಣ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಇವುಗಳನ್ನು ಕುರಿತು ಹೇಳಲಾಯಿತು. ಪ್ರಬಂಧದ ಮುಂದಿನ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಧ್ಯಪ್ರದೇಶ, ಉತ್ತರಪ್ರದೇಶ, ಒರಿಸ್ಸಾ, ಅಂಧ್ರಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗಿರುವ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಜಾಲ ಕುರಿತು ಕೆಲವು ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಯಿತು. ಆ ತರುವಾಯ ವಿಭಿನ್ನ ಸನ್ನಿವೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಮಟ್ಟದ ತಂಡಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಅಂಥವೇ ಇತರ ಗುಂಪುಗಳ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಬಲದ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗೆ ಅವು ನೀಡಿರುವ ಕೊಡುಗೆಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ವಿವರಿಸಲಾಯಿತು. ಅಂತಿಮವಾಗಿ ವಿಭಿನ್ನ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಂಘ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಮಧ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಅರ್ಥಪೂರ್ಣವಾದ ಒಡನಾಟವನ್ನು ತರಬಹುದಾದ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಯನ್ನು ಕಂಡುಹಿಡಿಯಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ತಮ್ಮ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮತೆಯನ್ನು ಜೇಗೆ ಬೆಳೆಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸಲು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸುಖಯು ಆವರ ಪ್ರಬಂಧದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುರುತಿಸಲಾದ ಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ :

- ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಪರಿಸರದಲ್ಲಿ ಎದುರಾಗುವ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿದ ಬಗೆಗೆ ಬೆನ್ನಾಗಿ ಗೊತ್ತಿದೆ. ಈ ಬಾಹ್ಯ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೋಲಿಸಿದರೆ ತಾವು ಇನ್ನೂ ಉತ್ತಮವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಬಲ್ಲೆವೆ ಎಂಬ ಆವರ ಭಾವಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ.

- ದರತ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರ ಕಡೆಗಳಿಗಿರುವ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಗುಂಪುಗಳ ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೂ, ಈ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಬಲ ಬೆಳೆಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಮೂಲಕ ನಿವಾರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ.
- ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಾಗಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾದ ದೈಹಿಕ, ಬೌದ್ಧಿಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಹಿಂಸೆ ಅನುಭವಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅವರನ್ನು ಕಟ್ಟಿದಾಗ ನಡೆಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.
- ದೈನಂದಿನ ಹೋರಾಟ, ಹೊಟ್ಟೆ ಹೊರೆಯುವ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೊರಗಿನ ಹಸ್ತಕ್ಷೇಪಗಳ ವಿರುದ್ಧದ ಹೋರಾಟಕ್ಕೆ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೂ, ಇದು ಅವರ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗೆ ಹೊಸ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವನ್ನು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.
- ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ತಂಡಗಳು ಪರಿಷರ, ತಾಳಿ ಬದುಕುವುದು ಮುಂತಾದ ವಿಷಯಗಳನ್ನು ಎತ್ತಿಹಿಡಿಯುವ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರೇರಣೆ ನೀಡಿರುವ ಅನೇಕ ನಿರರ್ಥಕವಾಗಿವೆ. ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದ ಒಂದು ಹಳ್ಳಿಯ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನಡೆಸಿದ ಹೋರಾಟದಿಂದ ತಮ್ಮ ಸ್ವತ್ತನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಗೆ ಸಫಲರಾದರು ಎಂಬುದು ಅಂಥ ಒಂದು ಉದಾಹರಣೆ. ಅದೇ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡು ಬಂದ ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ನಿರರ್ಥಕವೆಂದರೆ, ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಓಟಗಳ ಅಶ್ರಮ ದಲ್ಲಿ ಎರಡು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳು ತಾವೇ ಜೈವಿಕ ವ್ಯರ್ಥ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮರು ಬಳಕೆಗೆ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಂಡರು. -ಈವರೆಗೆ ಕೇವಲ ನಿರರ್ಥಕ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಸೌಕರ್ಯಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಪರಿಷತ್ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳ

ಆದ್ಯತೆ ಗುರುತಿಸುವುದರಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿವರ್ತನೆ ಉಂಟಾಗಿದೆ. ಎಂ.ಕೆ.ಎನ್.ಎಸ್. ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಕುರಿತು ನಡೆಸಿದ ಪ್ರಚಾರದಿಂದಾಗಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಪ್ರಚಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ವೆಚ್ಚ, ನೈತಿಕ ತತ್ವಗಳನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಯಿತು. ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಪ್ರಣಾಳಿಕೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಮಾನತೆಯನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿದ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆಗಳನ್ನೊಳಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದವು.

- ಅಧ್ಯಪ್ರದೇಶ ಹಾಗೂ ಉತ್ತರದ ಇತರ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗಿರುವ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಜಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಒಂದಿಷ್ಟು ಸಾಧನಗಳನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದರೂ ಅದನ್ನು, ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಪುರುಷ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ರೂಪಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ವಕಾಲತ್ತು ವಹಿಸುವುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಪರ ಗುಂಪು ಬೆಳೆಸುವುದು ಅವರ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಜಾಲಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಬರಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.
- ಕಳೆದ 2 - 3 ದಶಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಗುಂಪುಗಳು, ಸಮಸಾಹಗಳು, ಬಳಕೆದಾರ ಸಂಘಗಳು, ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮಂಡಳಿಗಳು ಮುಂತಾದವುಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಅನೇಕ ಪಟ್ಟು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿದೆ. ಮಹಿಳಾ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಯೋಜನೆ ಕುರಿತಂತೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಸಂಘಟಿಸಿದ ಹೊಸ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶನಗಳಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಾಗಿ ಇಂತಹ ತಂಡಗಳು ರಚನೆಯಾಗಿವೆ (ಉದಾಹರಣೆಗೆ ಡಿ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ.ಸಿ. ಆರ್.ಎ., ಆರ್.ಎಂ.ಕೆ. ಮುಂತಾಗಿ). ಆ ವೈಕಿ ಬಹುಪಾಲು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಸ್ವಾಯತ್ತತೆಯನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟು ರಚನೆಯಾಗಿವೆ. ಆದರೂ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಾದ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಮಾಜ್ಯ, ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ.ಡಿ.ಪಿ. ಮುಂತಾದವುಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಹೊಂದಿದೆ. ಸಾಲ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರನ್ನು

ವಿವಿಧ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಥಾನಹಾಂವು ಗುಂಪುಗಳನ್ನು ರಚಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

- ವಿಭಿನ್ನ ಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಪ್ರಯೋಗ ನಡೆಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಮತ್ತೂ ತಮ್ಮ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವನ್ನು ವಿಸ್ತೃತಗೊಳಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಇರುವ ಅವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ಇವು ಕಂಡುಕೊಂಡಿವೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವಂತಹ, ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮದಿಂದ ಧನ ಸಹಾಯವಿರುವ ' ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಸ್ಥಾನಹಾಂವು ಗುಂಪು ' ಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಐಸಿಡಿಎಸ್ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿಹಾಂವು ಪ್ರೇರಣೆಯಾಗಿ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಅನೇಕ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮಂಡಲಗಳು ಹೇಗಿದ್ದವೋ ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಇರುವ ಬಡ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಾಗಿ ಉಳಿದಿದೆ ಸಿ.ಐ.ಎನ್.ಐ., ಎಸ್.ಎಂ.ಐ.ಆರ್.ಎ. ಗಳಂಥ ಓಲಗ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗಳನ್ನು ವೈಚಾರಿಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರಿಯಾಶೀಲ ವೇದಿಕೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ತನ್ಮೂಲಕ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿವೆ. ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳು ಅದರಲ್ಲೂ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಈ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಕೂಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಡೆಸಿದರೆ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕೃತ ಯೋಜನೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ಮರಣ ಸಮಾನತೆಯುಳ್ಳದಾಗಬಲ್ಲದು.
- ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಆಡಳಿತದ ಕಾರ್ಯವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ವಾಯತ್ತತೆಯನ್ನು ನೇರವಾಗಿ ಬಾಧಿಸುವ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲವು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಾನಾಂತರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತುಸು ಅಸಮಾಧಾನವೂ ಇದೆ.

ಚರ್ಚೆಯ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಎತ್ತಲಾದ ವಿಷಯಗಳು

ಪ್ರಬಂಧಗಳನ್ನು ಮಂಡಿಸುವಾಗ ಚರ್ಚೆಗೆ ಬಂದ ಕೆಲವು ವಿಷಯಗಳನ್ನು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ದೀಪಾ ಧನರಾಜ್ ಅವರು, ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಜಾತಿ

ಹಾಗೂ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಗುರುತಿಸಲಾಗುವ ಭ್ರಷ್ಟ ರಾಜಕೀಯದಿಂದ ದೂರವಾದ ಹೊಸ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿತ್ವವನ್ನು ಅರಸುತ್ತಾ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಸಾಧನಗಳನ್ನು ತೊರೆದಾಗ ಉಳಿದಿರುವ ಅಪಾಯದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಆಗ ಉದ್ಭವಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಎಂದರೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಹೊಸ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಸತ್ಯವ್ಯವಹಾರದ ರೂಪಿಸಬಲ್ಲರೇ ಎಂದರೆ ಹೊಸ ಸ್ತ್ರೀವಾದಿ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿತ್ವದಿಂದ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ, ಅಲ್ಲಿಗಿರುವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ, ಹೋರಾಟ, ಹಿಂಸೆ, ದುಡ್ಡನ್ನು ಬಳಸಿ ಮತದಾರರ ಶೋಷಣೆ ಮೂಡುವ ರಾಜಕೀಯದಿಂದ ವಿಭಿನ್ನವಾದ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜಕಾರಣ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವನ್ನು ತಿದಬಲ್ಲರೇ ? ಅದರಂತೆ ವಿಜಯನ ಆವರಣ, ಕೇರಳದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜಕೀಯವಾಗಿ ನವ್ಯವಾದ ಅಭಿವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ಕೊಡದಿರುವ ಮಟ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಪಕ್ಷ ರಚನೆ ಬಲಯುತವಾಗಿರುವುದು ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಎದ್ದು ಕಾಣುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ರಾಜಕಾರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಉದ್ಭವಿಸುವ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಳೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದು ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿವೇಚನೆಯಿಂದಾಗಿ ಅವರನ್ನು ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳಿಂದ ದೂರವಿರಿಸುವ ಅಪಾಯದ ಸೂಚನೆ ಗೋಚರಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನೋಡಬೇಕಾಗುವುದಾಗಿ ವಿವರಿಸಿದರು. ಅಲ್ಲಿಗಿರುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಸಾಧನಗಳು, ಮೈತ್ರಿ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಎಷ್ಟರ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಲ್ಲರು ಎಂಬ ಬಗ್ಗೆಯೂ ಚರ್ಚೆ ನಡೆಯಿತು.

ಸಭೆಯ ಮುಕ್ತಾಯದಲ್ಲೂ ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಂಡವರು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಂಡ

ಹೊಸದಿಗ್ಗಾರಿಗಳ

- ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ತಮ್ಮದೇ ಆದ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಸಮರ್ಥವಾಗಿವೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸಬೇಕು.
- ' ' ದುಡ್ಡು ಮೂಡುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ' ' ಎಂಬುದು ಚರ್ಚೆಗೆ ಮುಕ್ತವಾಗಿರುವ ವಿಷಯ. ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಚುನಾಯಿತರಾದ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ ತಮ್ಮ ಹಿಂದಿನವರು ' ದುಡ್ಡು ಮೂಡುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ' ಎಂದು ' ಮೂಡುವ ತಪ್ಪನ್ನು ' ತಾವು ಮೂಡುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ.

- ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳ ನಿರೂಪಣೆ
ಮೊದಲಿಗಿಂತ ಈಗ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿದೆ.
- ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಕೂಡ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳನ್ನು ಬಳಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಅಥವಾ
ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಸಮರ್ಥರಾಗಬೇಕು.
- ವಾಸನಾಧನ ಕೂಡಾ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಅಂಶವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.
ಒಬ್ಬ ದಲಿತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯನ್ನು ಅಯ್ಯೂ ದಲಿತೇತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾವಣೆ
ನಿರೂಪಣೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆಕೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜಯಶಾಲಿಯಾಗಬೇಕು.
ಆದರೆ ತಾನು ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾರನ್ನು ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ ಎಂಬ
ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಜ್ಞಾಸೆ ಉಂಟಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಎಂದರೆ, ತನ್ನ ವರ್ಗದ ಜನರನ್ನು
ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಸಬೇಕೆ ಅಥವಾ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತನ್ನನ್ನು ಗೆಲ್ಲಿಸಿದವರನ್ನೇ
ಎಂಬುದು ಅವಳಿಗೆ ಉಂಟಾದ ಸಂದೇಹ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ವಿಧಾನಮಂಡಲ ಸದಸ್ಯರು
ಹಾಗೂ ಸಂಸತ್ ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಗೆ ಇರುವ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟ ವಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗೆ
ನೇರವರೂ ಅದೇ ವಾರ್ಡಿನಿಂದ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸಬೇಕೆಂಬುದನ್ನು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯಪಡಿಸಬೇಕು.
- ವಿವಿಧ ಸ್ತರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತೂ ವಿವಿಧ ವರ್ಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮನ್ವಯ ಸಾಧಿಸಬಲ್ಲಂತಹ
“ ಸಂಸಾರಿ ತರಬೇತಿ ತಂಡಗಳ ” ರೀತಿಯ ತಂಡಗಳು ರೂಪಿತವಾಗಬೇಕು.
ಇದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಶಕ್ತ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ
ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳೆಂದು ರೂಪಿಸಬೇಕು.
- ಈ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕುರಿತಂತೆ ಸತ್ರಿಕೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಇರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡರೆ
ಈ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಯಶಸ್ಸಿನ ಕಥೆ ಇತರರಿಗೆ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

- ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಗಲ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸಂಭಾವನೆ ಆತ್ಯಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿರಬಹುದು ಅದನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ.
- 'ಸುತ್ತಮುಖ ಮುಂದಾಳು' ಎಂಬ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪರಿಶಲ್ಪನೆ ಅಗಲ ಬೇರೆಯಾದರೆ ಆಗಿದೆ. ಸಮಾನ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ವರ್ಗ ಭಿನ್ನತೆಯನ್ನೂ ವಿಚಾರಿ ಒಗ್ಗೂಡುವ ಪ್ರವೃತ್ತಿ ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.
- ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ. 33-3 ಸ್ಥಾನಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದಲೇ ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ಪುರುಷ ಸಮಾನತೆಯುಳ್ಳ ಆಡಳಿತವನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಿದಂತಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.
- ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ತಮ್ಮ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳಿಂದ ವಂಚಿತರಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಗಲಿರುವ ಕಾನೂನಿನ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರಿಗೆ ರಕ್ಷಣೆ ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ತಮ್ಮ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳನ್ನು ಸಮರ್ಥಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಅವರಿಗೆ ತರಬೇತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ನೀಡಬೇಕು.

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿ.ಎಸ್. ಬದರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಅಹಲ್ಯಾ ಭಟ್ ಅವರು ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ಪುರುಷ ಸಮಾನತೆಯ ಪರಿಶೋಧನೆಯ ಪರಿಶಲ್ಪನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಒಂದು ಪ್ರಾಯೋಗಿಕ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳ ಸವಿಲಾಸನೆಯನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿ 'ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ಪುರುಷ ಸಂವಿಧಾನ ಪರಿಶೋಧನೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ಬಲಪಡಿಸುವುದು' ಎಂಬ ವಿಷಯದ ಕುರಿತಾಗಿ ಈ ಸಂಸಾದವನೆ ತಂದ ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ವಿವರಿಸಿದರು. ಈ ಅಧ್ಯಯನವನ್ನು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ, ಗ್ರಾಮ್ಯ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ಪುರುಷ ಸಂವಿಧಾನ ಪರಿಶೋಧನೆಯನ್ನು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣಗಳಿಂದ ನಿರಂತರಕಾಲಕವಾಗಿ ಸುಲಭವಾಗಿ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಬಹುದಾದ ಒಂದು ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆಯನ್ನು

ಮೂಲಕ ಅಂಕಿಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ಹೇಗೆ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದೆಂಬುದನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸಲು ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆಗೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಹಾಗೂ ತುಮಕೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯ್ದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿ ರೂಪಿಸಲಾದ ಪ್ರಶ್ನಾವಳಿಯೊಂದರ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾದರಿಯಾಗಿ 2500 ಕುಟುಂಬ ನದಸ್ಯರ ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆಯನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಲಾಯಿತು. ಭಾರತ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯು ಶಿಫಾರಸು ಮಾಡಿದ ಅಂತಿಮ ಗುಂಪಿನ ಸೂಚಕಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸಿದ ಸಮಾವೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಕೆಲವು ಸೂಚಕಗಳನ್ನು ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ನೇರಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಇದಲ್ಲದೆ ಆಸ್ತಿ, ಒಡತನ, ಹಿಂಸೆ, ಕಿರುಕುಳ, ನಿರ್ಬಂಧನೆಯನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವುದು, ಪ್ರವಾಸ ಮುಂತಾದ ಮಹತ್ವದ ವಿಷಯಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ಪುರುಷರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕವಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟ ಸಮಾಹ ಚರ್ಚೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಲಾಯಿತು. ಸ್ತ್ರೀ ಪುರುಷರ ಪಾಲನೆಗಳುವಿಕೆಯ ದಾಮಾಪ್ತಾ, ಕೆಲಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗಿಯಾಗುವ ರೀತಿ, ಆಸ್ತಿ, ಒಡತನ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗುವಿಕೆಯ ಅವಧಿ, ಸಾಕ್ಷರತೆ, ಸಂತಾನ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ, ಉಳಿತಾಯ, ಹಿಂಸೆ, ಕಿರುಕುಳ, ನಿರ್ಬಂಧನ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ಈ ವಿಷಯಗಳ ಬಗೆಗೆ ಅಂಕಿಅಂಶ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸ್ವಾಸ್ಥ್ಯದ ಬಗೆಗೂ ಅಂಕಿಅಂಶಗಳ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ಈ ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆ ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿತ್ತು.

ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಲಾದ ಅಂಕಿಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಎರಡನೇ ಹಂತದ ಅಂಕಿಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ಬಳಸಿ ಜಿಡಿಪಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಜಿಡಿಎಂ ಗಳನ್ನು ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಪಾಕಲು ಯುಎನ್‌ಐಡಿ ರೂಪಿಸಿದ ಕಾರ್ಯವಿಧಾನ ಮೂಲಕ ಬಳಸಲಾದ ಸೂಚಕಗಳನ್ನು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತಪಡಿಸಲಾಯಿತು. ಈ ಎರಡು ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳು ಪುರುಷ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ನಡುವಣ ಅಸಮಾನತೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಬೆಳಕು ಚೆಲ್ಲಿದ್ದು.

ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟ ಸಮಾಹ ಚರ್ಚೆ ನೇರಿದಂತೆ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳ ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆಯಿಂದ ತಿಳಿದುಬಂದ ವಿಷಯಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಅನುಭವಗಳಿಂದ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಮಾರಕೆಯನ್ನು ಸರಳಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಈ ರೀತಿಯು ಉದಯಕ್ಕೂ ಅಂಕಿಅಂಶಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳ ಮಾದರಿ ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಬಹುದು ಎಂಬುದು ಮನದಟ್ಟಾಯಿತು.

ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿದವರೆಲ್ಲರ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯವನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿ ಕಾರ್ಯವಿಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೆಂಬಲ ನೀಡುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಎರಡು ಅಂಶಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ಅಂದರೆ, ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ದಾಖಲೆ ವರ್ಗೀಕರಣಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯ ರಚನೆಯ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಲಾಯಿತು.

ಈ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಸಮಾಲೋಚನೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಿ
ಈ ರೀತಿ ಹೇಳಬಹುದು.

ದುನಾಯಿತರಾದ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿವಿಧಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ನವೀನ
ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪ್ರಜ್ಞೆ ಬೆಳೆಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಒತ್ತಿ
ಹೇಳಲಾಯಿತು. ಈ ನವೀನ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪ್ರಜ್ಞೆ ಅವರನ್ನು
ಒಂದೆಡೆ ಕೂಗಿನ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ ನಿಷ್ಠೆ ರಾಜಕೀಯದ ಬಿಗಿ ಕವಚದಿಂದ
ಮುಚ್ಚಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡು ಕೂಗಿರುವ ಗಂಡಸರೇ ರೂಪಿಸಿದ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯು
ಮಾದರಿಗಳ ಬಿಗಿ ಕವಚದಿಂದ ಮುಚ್ಚುಗೊಳಿಸುವಂತರದ್ದೇಕೆ. ಹೀಗೆ
ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಒಂದು ವಿಶಾಲವಾದ ಮತು, ಮಹಿಳೆಯರದೇ ಆದ
ಐಕ್ಯಮತ್ಯದ ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಒಂದುಗೂಡಿ ನಿಲ್ಲಬೇಕು. ಇದು
ಮಹಿಳೆಯರನ್ನು ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿ ಆಡಳಿತ ವಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ತರುತ್ತದೆ
ಮತು, ಉತ್ತಮ ಆಡಳಿತಕ್ಕೆ ಮಾರ್ಗ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.

- ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಗಮನ ಹರಿಸುವಾಗ, ಅವರಿಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ಅನುಕೂಲ
ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವಾಗ ನಾವು ಬಡವರು ಮತುಕಡು ಬಡವರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಥಮ ಪೂಜನು
ನೀಡಬೇಕೆಂಬುದು ಒಮ್ಮತದ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯವಾಗಿತ್ತು.
- ನಾವು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗಿರುವ ಸಾಧನ ವಿಶಾಲವಾದುದನ್ನು ಮಾತನಾಡಿದ ಭೌತಿಕ
ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ವಿವಿಧ ಆಲೋಚನಾಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿಶಾಲವಾದುದೇನೋ
ಅಗತ್ಯ ಆದರೆ ಅದಷ್ಟೇ ಸಾಲದು.
- ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಆಡಳಿತ ನಡೆಸುವಾಗ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ತಮ್ಮದೇ ಆದ
ಆಡಳಿತಗಳನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಈ ಆಡಳಿತಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಬೆರೆ
ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಏಕೆಂದರೆ ಆವು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು (ಅದರಲ್ಲೂ ಬಡ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು)

ತಾವು ಉಾರ್ಜಿತವಾಗಿ 'ವೆಳ್ಳೆ' ಹೊಂದುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಮಾಜದ ಮೂಲ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಮಾನತೆಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ, ಉತ್ತಮ ಆಡಳಿತದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಕಳಕಳಿಯನ್ನು ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಬಹು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ಉನ್ನತ ಬಾರಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಕಾಲಿನ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಅನುಸರಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಕಾರ್ಯ ವಿಧಾನಗಳ ಯುಕ್ತತೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಎತ್ತುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಈ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಈ ದೀರ್ಘಕಾಲೀನ ಭವಿಷ್ಯತೆ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಾನು ಪುನಃ ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.

- ಮೇಲಿನ ಅಂಶದ ಜೊತೆಜೊತೆಗೆ ಪರ್ಯಾಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಅಥವಾ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ತತ್ವಗಳಿಗಿರುವುದು ಅಥವಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಜಾಲವಾಗಿರುವುದು ಅಥವಾ ಮೌಲ್ಯ ಮಾಪಕ ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳಿಗಿರುವುದು, ಅವುಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಹೊಸ ಅಳತೆಗೋಲುವುದನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ.
- ನಾವು ರೂಪಿಸುವ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದೊಳಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿಕೆ, ಉತ್ತರದಾಯಿತ್ವದ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯೂ ಇರಬೇಕು. ಪುನಾಯಿತರಾದ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಬಹುಮತ, ದಲಿತರು ಮತ್ತು ಕಡು ದೀನ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮತ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರರಾಗಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು. ಈ ಕೊಂಡಿಗಳು ಈ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯು ದೊಡ್ಡದಾಗಿ ಬಲವಾಗಿರಬೇಕು. ಇದು ಪುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳಿಗೊಂದು ಮೌಲ್ಯ, ಬೆಂಬಲ ಮತ್ತು ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮಾತೃತ್ವವೆಂದು ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗತ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮೂಹ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಮರಸ್ಯ ತರುತ್ತದೆ.
- ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವು ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಬಹುಮತ ಅಸ್ತಿತ್ವವನ್ನು - ಎಂದರೆ ಮತದಾರಳಾಗಿ, ಬೆಂಬಲಕಾರಳಾಗಿ, ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿನಿಯಾಗಿ, ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯಾಗಿ, ನೋಲುವುಬಿಡದ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿನಿಯಾಗಿ, ಮಾಜಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳಾಗಿ, ಕೌಟುಂಬಿಕ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯಾಗಿ

ಕಾರ್ಯಜಾಲದ ಸದಸ್ಯಳಾಗಿ, ಗ್ರಾಮಸಭೆಗಳ ಸದಸ್ಯಳಾಗಿ, ಇವೇ ಮುಂತಾದ ಬಹುಮುಖ ಅಸ್ತಿತ್ವವನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಮತ್ತು ಈ ವಿವಿಧ ಮುಖಗಳ ಅಗತ್ಯತೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಒದಗಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ.

- ಇಡೀ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದುದ್ದಕ್ಕೂ ಈಕೆ ಮಹಿಳೆ, ಈಕೆಯ ಅಗತ್ಯತೆಗಳ ಬಿಭಿನ್ನ ಎಂಬ ದೃಷ್ಟಿಕೋನವನ್ನು ಉಳಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಬರುವಂತೆ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೆ ಜನಾಂಗೀಯ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು " ಪರಿವರ್ತನಾಕಾರಕ ತಂತ್ರಗಳ " ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಗಮನ ಹರಿಸುವ ಬದಲು ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಆಡಳಿತದ ದೈನಂದಿನ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯ ಹೊರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಒತ್ತಡಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಗಮನವನ್ನು " ಹೊಟ್ಟೆ ಹೊರೆಯುವಿಕೆ " ಯತ್ನ ಮಾತ್ರವೇ ಗಮನ ಹರಿಸುವಂತಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.
- ಈಗಿರುವ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯ ದೋಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದೆಂದರೆ, ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಇಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಆಗುವ ತೊಂದರೆಗಳು, ' ರೋಲಿಸ್ಟರ್ ' ಮತ್ತು ' ಅವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಮತ ' ಗಳ ಎಂದರೆನು ಎಂಬ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಈ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಪೂರ್ಣ ಆರಿವೇ ಇಲ್ಲದಿರುವಾಗ ಅವರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಆವುಗಳನ್ನು ಆಸ್ತ್ರವಾಗಿ ಬಳಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯ ಹಕ್ಕನ್ನು ಅವರಿಗೆ ದೊರಕಿಸಿ ಕೊಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಭಗೀರಥ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು.
- ಹೆಣ್ಣಾಗಿ ಹುಟ್ಟಿದ ಕಾರಣ ಆಕೆ ಅನುಭವಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ವಿಚಾರಗಳನ್ನೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕತೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಾಮಾಹಿಕ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮೂಲಕ ನಿವಾರಿಸಬೇಕು. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ತಮ್ಮದೇ ಆದ ವೇದಿಕೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಕಾರ್ಯಜಾಲಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ತಮ್ಮ ಅನುಭವಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಸ್ಪರ ವಿವಿಧವಾದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಇಚ್ಛಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅದು ತಾವು ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿಯು ಮತ್ತು ದುರ್ಬಲರು ಎಂಬ ಅವರ ಭಾವನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹಗುರಗೊಳಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಜಾತಿ ಮತ್ತು ವರ್ಗ ವಿಚಾರ ಇತರೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೊಂದಿಗಿನ ಅವರ ಒಡನಾಟವು ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ

ಏಕೆ ಐಕ್ಯಮತಗಳೂ ಉಳಾಗುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಹಕರಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.
ಒಬ್ಬಾಗಿ ದುಡಿಯುವುದು ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಬಹಳ
ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಅಂಶವಾಗಿರಬೇಕು. ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಜಾಲಗಳನ್ನೂ ಅಥವಾ
ವೇದಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನೂ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ನಿಧಾನವಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು ಮತ್ತು
ಬಲಪಡಿಸಬೇಕು. ತಮ್ಮದೇ ಆದ ಗತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮೋಡಿಸಬೇಕು. ಯಾವುದೇ
ಆತಂಕ ಸಲ್ಲದು.

- ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಆಡಳಿತದ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಕುರಿತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು
ಪ್ರವೇಶಿಸುವುದರ ಸಂಬಂಧದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಬ್ಬವೆ ಆಡಳಿತಗಳ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ರಚನೆಗಳನ್ನೂ
ನೀಡಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಾದವರೂ, ಎರಡೇ ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಇರಬೇಕು,
ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೌಚಗೃಹಗಳು ಇರಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಒತ್ತಾಯಪಡಿಸುವುದು, ಬಡ ಜನ
ವಿರೋಧಿ, ಮಹಿಳಾ ವಿರೋಧಿಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು
ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಷೇಧಿಸಿದ ಕಳಕಳಿಯಿಂದ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ.
ಈ ತರಹದ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧಗಳು ಅವರನ್ನೂ ದೃಶ್ಯಗೊಳಿಸುತ್ತವೆ. ಯಾವುದೇ
ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸ ಮೂಡಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರವೃತ್ತವಾಗಿ ಗಮನನೀಡಬೇಕು.

- ಗ್ರಾಮಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಾರ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ನು
ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಆಡಳಿತ ಅನುಭವದ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ತ್ರೀ
ಸೌತಂತ್ರವಾದವನ್ನೂ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದ ಆಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ. ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯ
ವಿಧಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ ಕಾರಣದಿಂದ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಾಬಲಗಳೇ ಆದ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ-
ಗತ ಪರಿವರ್ತನೆಯ ನಿವಿಧ ಕೆಲಸಗಳನ್ನೂ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಿ, ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಮಾಡಿ
ಉಪಗ್ರಹ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಒಂದು ತತ್ವ ರೂಪಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು
ನೋವು, ಕಣ್ಣೀರು ಸುರಿಸುವುದನ್ನೂ ಬಿಟ್ಟರೆ ಬೇರಾವ ರೀತಿಯಾಲೂ
ತಮ್ಮ ಭವನಗಳನ್ನೂ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪವಾಗಿ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿನ ಅವರ ಅಸಮರ್ಥತೆ
ಅವರು ದೈಹಿಕ ಹಿಂಸಾಚಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಪಕ್ಕಾಗುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆ ಈ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಅನುಭವ
ಗಳನ್ನೂ ಪರ್ತಿಗೆ ಒಂದು ತತ್ವವನ್ನೂ ರೂಪಿಸುವಾಗ ಸ್ತ್ರೀಯನ ನಡವಳಿಕೆ.

సభ్యుల పాగవహినీదర పట్టి

<u>దేసరు మత్తు వికాస</u>	<u>దూరపాణ సంఖ్య</u>
1. మిస్. మిలరా సక్సెనా కార్యదర్శి, కనాణక సర్కార, మహిళా మత్తు మక్కళ ఆభివృద్ధి, బహుమతి కట్టడ, డా. అంజేడకర్ విడిది, బెంగళూరు-560 001.	2200247
2. డా. ఎన్. శివణ్ణ, సామాజిక మత్తు ఆర్థిక బడలాపణిగళ సంస్థ, నగరబావి బెంగళూరు-560 072.	3355468 : 3355519
3. మిస్. అమ్మ, జూలినేఫ్, ఎస్.టి. బీడ రిటైన్, కూలరమంగళ, బెంగళూరు-560 034.	5521831
4. డా. కేలూ నారాయణ్, సమన్వయకారి, సమన్వయకారి ఆరోగ్య సేవ, శ్రీ లినివాస నిలయ, జక్కనంద్ర, 1నీల మేలన్, కూలరమంగళ, 1నీల బాక్, బెంగళూరు-560 034.	5531581 : 5525372
5. డా. రేవతి నారాయణ్, మహిళా సమకళ కనాణక, 1నీల ఆడ్రస్స్, 2నీల మేలన్, బీ.ఎ.ఎల్. 3నీల కంత్, బెంగళూరు-560 075.	5277471 : 5262988 ఫ్యాక్స్ : 5297765
6. మిస్. మిలరా, సహ నిర్దేశకర, బిఎస్ఎస్ 6నీల మతి, మణిపాల' సెంటర్, బెంగళూరు.	5583701 ఫ్యాక్స్ : 5583704
7. మిస్. దీపా ధనరాజ్, నం : 268, 3నీల మేలన్, 5నీల ఆడ్రస్స్, కూలరమంగళ, సజాఫుర రస్త్, బెంగళూరు-560 034.	5534964

8. ಡಾ. ಶುಭಾ ಕೆ
ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ,
ಫೌಂಡ್ ನಂ : 203, 2ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ,
ನಿಶಾಂತ ಮನಾರ ಅಪಾರ್ಟ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್,
8ನೇ ಮೇನ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, 9ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ,
ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 003.
- 3315 017
9. ಮಿಸ್. ಸರತ ರಾಜ್,
ಪತ್ರಕರ್ತ, (ಇಂಡಿಯನ್ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪ್ರೆಸ್),
ಡಿಫೆನ್ಸ್ ಕಾಲೋನಿ,
ಇಂದಿರಾ ನಗರ, ಜಿಜಿ ಹಾಸ್ಟಿಟಲ್,
5ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆ, 4ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
- 2866 893(ಕಚೇರಿ)
5282283(ಮನೆ)
10. ಮಿಸ್ ರಜನಿ,
ಸರ್ಕೆ,
6ನೇ ಮೇನ್, 4ನೇ ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಜಯನಗರ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 011.
- 6344226 : 6635361
ಫಾಕ್ಸ್ 6635361
11. ಡಾ. ಎನ್. ಶಾಂತ ಮೋಹನ್,
ಓಪ್ನ್ ಫಿಲಿಕ್,
ಫೌಂಡ್ ಪಾಸ್‌ಟೆಂಗಳ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ,
ಬಿಬಿಎಸ್ ಕಾಂಪಸ್,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 012.
- 3346594
12. ಮಿಸ್. ಅಶಾ ರಮೇಶ್,
ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಯು. ಫಿಲಿಕ್,
ಎನ್‌ಬಿಎಸ್,
ಬಿಬಿಎಸ್ ಕಾಂಪಸ್,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 012.
- 3346594
13. ಡಾ. ಅನುರಾಧ ಪ್ರಸಾದ್,
ಸ್ವಿಸ್ ಹೆಲ್ಪ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೋಆಪರೇಷನ್,
ಡಿ-3, ಸಿ ಎ ಎಸ್ ಎ ಲವೇಲೆ 4,
12 ಹಿ ಲವೇಲೆ ರಸ್ತೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 001.
- 2243762 : 2243866
ಫಾಕ್ಸ್ : 2243763
14. ಮಿಸ್. ಚಿತ್ರಾ ಬಾಲಕೃಷ್ಣನ್,
ಮಾನವ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ,
14 :33 :2 37ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ,
8ನೇ ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಜಯನಗರ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 082.
- 6639107
15. ಡಾ. ಸಂಗೀತಾ ಪುರುಷೋತ್ತಮನ್,
ಬೆನ್ಸೆ ಪ್ರಾಕ್ಟೀಸ್ ಫೌಂಡೇಷನ್,
ನಂ :1, ಪಾವ್ ಗ್ರಾವ್,
ವಿಕ್ಟೋರಿಯಾ ರೋಡ್,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 047.
- 5545347 :536 8319

24. ಮಿಸ್.ಸಿ.ಸಿ.ನುಜಯ
ನಂ:88, ಗುಲಾಬಾವರಿ ಅನಾಚ್‌ಪೆಂಟ್,
ಪಾಲಕ್ ನಂದಿ | ಚಾರ್‌ಕಾಪ ಹತ್ತಿರ,
ಹೊಸ ದಾಂ-19. 6429401
25. ಡಾ.ಕೆ.ಎಸ್. ಕೃಷ್ಣಮೌಲ್ವಿಪಿ,
ಡೆಪ್ಯೂಟಿ ಗವರ್ನರ್ (ಡಿಪ್ಲೊ) - ಆರ್.ಬಿ.ಐ.,
ಸಿ-601, ಅರ್ಚ್ ಗಾರ್ಡನ್,
47ನೇ ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್ 2ನೇ ಫೆಬ್ರವರಿ 88ನೇ ಬ್ಯಾಕ್,
ಜಯನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 082.
26. ಮಿಸ್.ರೇಣುಕಾ ವಿಶ್ವನಾಥ್,
ಬುವನ್
ನಂ:94 5 9ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ,
ಆರ್.ಎಸ್.ಸಿ. ಬಹಾವ್ತಿ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 080.
27. ಮಿಸ್. ಅನವಿಕ್ರಮಿ ದೇವಾಯಿ,
ಕಿರಿನ ಸ್ವಾಗತ್ ಕ್ಷ,
ಯು.ಜಿ.ಸಿ.
ಎಬ್ 117, ವಸದೇವಾ ರಸ್ತೆ,
ಹೊಸದಾಂ-110 003. 011- 3237143
28. ಮಿಸ್. ವಸಂತ,
ನೂತ್ ಇನಿಟಿಟಿ ಫಾರ್ ಸೋಲ್ಯೂಯರ್ ಆಫ್ಸನ್,
93-2 ಪಾರ್ಲ್ಮೆನ್ಟ್ ಕಾಂಪ್ಲೆಕ್ಸ್ ಬೆಡ್ ರಸ್ತೆ,
ಕಾಕ್ಸ್ ಬಸ್,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 005. 5485134 : 5483642
29. ಮಿಸ್.ದೀಪಾ ವಸಂತ ಕುಮಾರ್,
ಇನ್ಸಿಟ್ಯೂಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಸೋಲ್ಯೂಯರ್ ಸ್ಟಡೀಸ್ ಬ್ರಾನ್ಚ್,
601, ಮುನಿಷಾಲ್ ನೆಂಟ್,
47, ಡಿಕ್ಸನ್ ರಸ್ತೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
30. ಮಿ. ವೆಂಕಟರಮಾ ಎ.
ಜನೋಬರು (ಬ್ರಾಡ್ ಆಫೀಸ್),
ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಬ್ರಾನ್ಚ್,
ದಿವೇನಹಳ್ಳಿ.
31. ಮಿಸ್. ಸುಶೀಲಾ
ಜನೋಬರು (ಬ್ರಾಡ್ ಆಫೀಸ್)
ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಬ್ರಾನ್ಚ್,
ದಿವೇನಹಳ್ಳಿ.
32. ಮಿಸ್.ರೇಣುಕಾ ವೆಂಕಟರಮಾರ್,
ಹೆಂಸರ ಹೆಕ್ಟನ್ ಸರ್ಚ್,
ಜಯನಗರ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

33. ಮಿ.ಸಂಧ್ಯಾ ಜಿ.
ಸಖೀ,
ಟಿ.ಸಿ.27 :2323,
ಕಾನ್ಪುರ್ ರಸ್ತೆ,
ಬ್ರವೇನ್‌ವಾಲ್, -1.
34. ಮಿ. ಚಾರ್ಲ್ಸ್ ಗೈಗೇವ್,
ವರಡನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಸಹಾಯಕ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
35. ಮಿ.ವಿ.ಎಸ್.ಬದರಿ,
ಗೌ.ವಿ.ರೇಶಕರು,
ನಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ,
" ತರಂಗ " 10ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ,
ಆರ್.ಎಮ್.ವಿ. ಬಡಾವಣೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 080 .
36. ಮಿ.ಸಂ. ಸುಮನ್ ಕುಮಾರ್,
ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ
ಸಮನ್ವಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ,
ನಿವಾಸ
ಅಟ್ ಮೋಸ್ಟ್ : ಟಿಕೋಲಾ,
ಬಜಾರ್ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.
ಕಚೇರಿ :
ನಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ
' ತರಂಗ ' 10ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ,
ಆರ್.ಎಮ್.ವಿ. ಬಡಾವಣೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 080.
37. ಮಿ.ಸಂ. ಅಪಲಾ ಭಟ್,
ಕನ್ಸಲ್ಟಿಂಗ್,
ನಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ
ತರಂಗ * 10ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ,
ಆರ್.ಎಮ್.ವಿ. ಬಡಾವಣೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 080.
38. ಡಾ. ದೇವಕಿ ಜೈನ್, ಬ್ರ.ಸಿ.ಪಿ.,
ನಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ
' ತರಂಗ ' 10ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ,
ಆರ್.ಎಮ್.ವಿ. ಬಡಾವಣೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 080.
- 3340928
ಫಾಕ್ಸ್ : 3461762
- 08352-31539(ಮನ)
- 3340928
ಫಾಕ್ಸ್ : 3461762
- 3340928
ಫಾಕ್ಸ್ : 3461762
- 3462492 :3344113
ಫಾಕ್ಸ್ :3461762

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಕೇಂದ್ರ

ಪಿಆರ್‌ಐ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳ

ಸಹಯೋಗ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಒಂದು ದಿನದ

ಸಮಾಲೋಚನಾ ಸಭೆ

ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ

ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 9-30ರಿಂದ
10-00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ

: ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮತ್ತು ಕಾಫಿ

ಗೋಷ್ಠಿ I

: ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆ - ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಮೀರಾ ಸಕ್ಷೇನಾ
ಐ.ಎ.ಎಸ್., ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಮಹಿಳೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10-00ರಿಂದ
13-00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ

: ಸ್ವಾಗತ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಷಯ ಮಂಡನೆ :
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಸುಮನ್ ಕೋಲ್ಹಾರ್
ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಘಟಕರು
ಕೆಡಬ್ಲ್ಯುಐಆರ್‌ಸಿ

ದಿನದ ಕಾರ್ಯಕಲಾಪಗಳ ಪರಿಚಯ :

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿ. ಎಸ್. ಬದಲಿ
ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು ಮತ್ತು
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಅಹಲ್ಯ ಎಸ್. ಭಟ್
ಸಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ

ಗೋಷ್ಠಿ II

: ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ :
ಡಾ|| ರೇವತಿ ನಾರಾಯಣನ್
ರಾಜ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು
ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಮಾಖ್ಯಾ

ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10-30ರಿಂದ
ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 12-00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ

: ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಚರ್ಚೆ
ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಉಪನ್ಯಾಸಕರು :
ಡಾ|| ರೇವತಿ ನಾರಾಯಣನ್
ಡಾ|| ಶಾಂತಾ ಮೋಹನ್, ಎನ್‌ಐಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ರಜನಿ
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಆಶಾ ರಮೇಶ್
ಡಾ|| ಶುಭಾ

ನಂತರ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವವರ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ ಮಂಡನೆ ಹಾಗೂ
ಅವರು ವಹಿಸುವ ಪಾತ್ರಗಳು.

ಗೋಷ್ಠಿ III

: ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ :
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಸಿ. ಪಿ. ಸುಜಯಾ
ಸಾಮೂಹಿಕವಾಗಿ ಗುರುತಿಸಲಾದಂತೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ
ರೂಪಣೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ
ಸಮಾರೋಪ.

ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 12-30ರಿಂದ
1-30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ

: ಭೋಜನ

ಗೋಷ್ಠಿ IV

: ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ :
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ರಜನಿ, ಸರ್ಜೆ
ಡಾ|| ಶಾಂತಾ ಮೋಹನ್, ನಿಯಾಸ್

ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 1-30ರಿಂದ

: 3-00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಪೂರಕ
ಯೋಜನೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪುನರವಲೋಕನ - ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಸಿ. ಪಿ.
ಸುಜಯಾ ಅವರಿಂದ ಪ್ರಬಂಧ ಮಂಡನೆ.

ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3-00ರಿಂದ
3-30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ

: ಕಾಫಿ ವಿರಾಮ

ಗೋಷ್ಠಿ V
ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3-30ರಿಂದ
4-30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ

: ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಮೀರಾ ಎಂ., ಐವಿಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಟಿ

ಲಿಂಗಾಧಾರಿತ ತಾರತಮ್ಯದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಎಸ್. ಬದರಿ
ಮತ್ತು ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಅಪಲ್ಯಾ ಭಟ್ ಅವರಿಂದ ಪ್ರಬಂಧ
ಮಂಡನೆ.

ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಸುಮನ್ ಕೊಲ್ಹಾರ್, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್
ಕಾರ್ಯ ಸಂಯೋಜಕರು ಅವರಿಂದ ಸಮಾರೋಪ.

ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಮೆಕ್ಯಾಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ಅನುವಂಶೀಯ ಗ್ರಾಂಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡುವ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿ

- 1) ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಕಿಬರಗಳ :- ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಲ್ಲಿ ಇದ್ದಕ್ಕಿದ್ದಂತೆ ಸಂಭವಿಸುವ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ಕಿಬರಗಳನ್ನು ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸುವ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸ್ವಯಂ ಸೇವಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ರೂ. 25,000ಗಳವರೆಗೆ ಸಾಲ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 2) ಮನೆಶುಭಕರ :- ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಆದಾಯ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿಗಳನ್ನು ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಹೊಂದಲು ಬಾಂಕುಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಶೇಕಡ 25 ರ ಸಹಾಯ ಧನದೊಂದಿಗೆ ರೂ. 25,000 ಗಳವರೆಗೆ ಸಾಲ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 3) ಇದ್ದಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ :- ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ವ್ಯಾಪಾರ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದೆ ಬಂದು ಆರ್ಥಿಕವುಳ್ಳ ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವ ಶೇಕಡ 3ರವರೆಗಿನ ವಿಶೇಷ ಸಹಾಯಧನದೊಂದಿಗೆ ರೂ. 50,000 ಗಳವರೆಗೆ ಬಾಂಕುಗಳಿಂದ ಸಾಲ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 4) ಸಂಯುಕ್ತ ಸಾಲ ಯೋಜನೆ :- ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸಹಕಾರ ದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಸ್ವಯಂ ಇದ್ದಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಾಗಿ ರಿಯಾಯಿತಿ ಬಡ್ಡಿಯ ದರದಲ್ಲಿ ರೂ. 50,000 ಗಳವರೆಗೆ ಸಾಲ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 5) ತರಬೇತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ :- ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಕೌಶಲ್ಯವನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ, ಹಲವಾರು ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತರಬೇತಿ ನೀಡಲು, ಸ್ವಯಂ ಸೇವಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅನುದಾನವನ್ನು ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 6) ತರಬೇತಿ ಮತ್ತೂ ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳು :- ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ತರಬೇತಿ ನೀಡಿ, ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಂದುವರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಸ್ವಯಂಸೇವಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅನುದಾನ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 7) ಸಂಯುಕ್ತ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ :- ಆಧುನಿಕ ಸಮಾಜದ ಬೇಡಿಕೆಯನ್ವಯ 6 ತಿಂಗಳ ಮತ್ತು 3 ತಿಂಗಳ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ತರಬೇತಿಯನ್ನು ವಿಧ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಿಡಿತವಾಗಿ ನೀಡಲು ಸ್ವಯಂ ಸೇವಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅನುದಾನ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 8) ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ವಿಚಾರಗಳನ್ನು :- ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಬಗೆಗಿನ ಪ್ರಚಲಿತ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಚರ್ಚಿಸಿ, ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಸಹಕಾರಿಯಾಗಲು ನಿಲುವುಗಳನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಚಾರಗೋಷ್ಠಿಗಳನ್ನು ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 9) ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ :- ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಯು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಂದಲೇ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿಗಳನ್ನು ವಸೂಲಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಗೊಂಡು ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಿ, ಇದ್ದಕ್ಕಿದ್ದಂತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಹೊಂದಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಒಂದು ಗುಡಿಸುವ ಇದ್ದಕ್ಕಿದ್ದಂತೆ (ವಸು ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳನ್ನು) ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಮಾಜಗಳು ಒಂದುಗೂಡಿ ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸುವ ಯೋಜನೆಯಾಗಿದೆ.
- 10) ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ :- ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ (ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗಾಗಿ) ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ವಿವಿಧ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತರಬೇತಿ ಹೊಂದಿ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಮಟ್ಟವನ್ನು ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಸ್ವಯಂಸೇವಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ತರಬೇತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಾಂಪನ್ಮಯ ರೂ. 2,00,000ಗಳವರೆಗೆ ಅನುದಾನ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 11) ವಿಕಾಸ :- ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ತಮ್ಮ ಆದಾಯ ಮಟ್ಟವನ್ನು ಬಲಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ರೂ. 5,000 ಗಳ ಮೊತ್ತದ ಇತರ ಫಂಡ್ ಅಂಗಡಿಯೊಡನೆ, ರೂ. 5,000 ಗಳ ಮೂಲ ಬಂಡವಾಳವನ್ನು ಬಾಂಕುಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ನೀಡಿ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ 5 ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳ ಮಿನಿ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಸಾಂಪನ್ಮಯದ ಇದರ ಮೂಲ ಗುಣ.

- 12) ಸ್ವಾರಾಜ್ಯ :- ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ನಗರದ ಕೆಲವು ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಹಾಗೂ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ಸಂಕಷ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಬಡ ಮನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಆದಾಯೋತ್ಪನ್ನಕ್ಕೆ ಬಳುವಳಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಮನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ತದ್ಬಲಿ ನೀಡಿ ಗುತ್ತಾದನಾ ಘಟಕವನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಲು ಸ್ವಯಂ ಸೇವಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಪೂರ್ಣ ಅನುದಾನವನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.
- 13) ಜಾಗೃತಿ :- 11ರಿಂದ 18 ವರ್ಷದವರ ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ತಿಳುವಳಿಕೆ ಶಿಬಿರ ಮಾಡಿ ಅವರ ಯಶಸ್ವಿನಾವಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ತಿಳುವಳಿಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಕರಕುಶಲ ವಸ್ತುಗಳ ತಯಾರಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತದ್ಬಲಿ ನೀಡುವುದು.
- 14) ಸುವಿವೇಕ :- ಆರ್ಥಿಕವಾಗಿ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವಿಧವೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಣ್ಣ ಮಟ್ಟದ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಸೇವೆ ನೀಡುವುದು.
- 15) ಹಾಜರಾತಿ ಶಿಷ್ಟ ವೇತನ :- 5ನೇ ತರಗತಿಯಿಂದ 10ನೇ ತರಗತಿಯವರೆಗಿನ ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ವಿಧ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿವೇತನ, ಅಂಗವಿಕಲರಿಗೂ ಸಹಾ ಕೊಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

:- ಅಂಗವಿಕಲರಿಗಾಗಿ ಇರುವ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳು :-

- 1) ಆಧಾರ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಸಣ್ಣ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರ ಮಾಡಲು ಗುಚಿತವಾಗಿ ವೆಚ್ಚಿಗೆ ಅಂಗಡಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಬಂಡವಾಳಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ರೂ-6,000ಗಳ ಸಾಲವನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.
- 2) ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಬೂತ್‌ಗಳ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಅಂಗವಿಕಲರಿಗೆ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಬೂತ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಗುಚಿತವಾಗಿ ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 3) ಶಿಷ್ಟವೇತನ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಲಿಯುವ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಶಿಷ್ಟವೇತನ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
- 4) ತಜ್ಞ ವೈದ್ಯಕ ಸಲಹೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಶ್ರಮ ಸಾಧನ, ಬೈಲೆ ಗಡಿಯಾರ, ತ್ರಿಶಕ್ರ ವಾಹನ, ಗಾಲಕರ್ಪಿ, ಕೃತಕ ಅಂಗಾಂಗ ಮುಂತಾದ ಸಾಧನ ಸಲಕರಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಅಂಗವಿಕಲರಿಗೆ ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ

ತರಂಗ, 10ನೇ ಕ್ರಾಸ್, ರಾಜಮಹಲ್ ವಿಲಾಸ್ ಬಡಾವಣೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು - 560080.

ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 3340928, 3462492, ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ : 3461762

ಸಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು 1984ರಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿತವಾಯಿತು. ಸುಮಾರು 40 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಗೆ ಕಾರಣರಾದ ಶ್ರೀಮಾನ್ ಎಂ. ಎ. ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ್‌ರವರಿಗೆ ಗಿಡಮರಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇದ್ದ ಒಲವಿನಿಂದ ಸಿಂಹಯೋಜಕವಾಗಿದ್ದ ಪ್ರದೇಶವನ್ನು ಒಂದು ಫಲವತ್ತಾದ ವೈವಿಧ್ಯಮಯವಾದ ಉದ್ಯಾನವನವನ್ನಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಆಸೆಯು ಮೂಡಿತು. ಆಳವಾದ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಪರಿಸರದ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ್‌ರಿಗೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸುಧಾರಣೆಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಶೇಷವಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಥಿಕವಾಗಿ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಏಳಿಗೆಗಾಗಿ ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ. ಎ. ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ್‌ರವರು ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿದರು. ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಪ್ರದೇಶವು ಚಿಂತನ ಮತ್ತು ಚರ್ಚೆಗಾಗಿ ನಿರೃಬ್ಧ ಮತ್ತು ಶಾಂತಿಯುತವಾದ ಪರಿಸರವನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಿರುವುದಲ್ಲದೆ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ತತ್ವಶಾಸ್ತ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಸಿ ಜನರ ಏಳಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಉದ್ಧಾರಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಶ್ರಮಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಗುರಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಉದ್ದೇಶಗಳು

1. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಏಳಿಗೆಗಾಗಿ ಸವಲತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಜೀವನದ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾವಕಾಶಗಳನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವುದು.
2. ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಥವಾ ಸ್ವತಃ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಕಲೆಯನ್ನು ಅರ್ಥೈಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಉತ್ತೇಜಿಸುವುದು.
3. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಮತ್ತು ಪುರುಷರ ಸ್ವತಂತ್ರತೆಯ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ವಿಶೇಷವಾಗಿ ಮಾನವ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ರಕ್ಷಣೆ, ದಕ್ಷತೆ, ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಉದ್ಯಮಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಒತ್ತು ನೀಡುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಉತ್ತೇಜಿಸುವುದು.
4. ಇದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ಉದ್ದೇಶಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಅನೇಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು 1961ರ ಆಡಾಯ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ 80-ಜಿ ಸೆಕ್ಷನ್ ಪ್ರಕಾರದಂತೆ, ಮೇಲೆ ಹೇಳಿದ ಹಾಗೆ ಸಾಲ ಅಥವಾ ಸಹಾಯಧನ ಅಥವಾ ಗೌರವಧನ ಅಥವಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಆಸ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸುವುದು ಅಥವಾ ಅದರ ಭಾಗವನ್ನು ಉಚಿತವಾಗಿ ಅಥವಾ ಅಲ್ಪಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಶುಲ್ಕದ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಹಾಯ ಮಾಡುವುದು.

ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು

ಕಳೆದ 14 ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಬಡ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಏಳಿಗೆಗಾಗಿ ಸಮ್ಮೇಳನಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದಲ್ಲದೆ, ಅವರ ಆರೋಗ್ಯದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಶೋಧನೆ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದು ಅಗತ್ಯವಾದ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುತ್ತಾ ಬಂದಿದೆ.

ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಕಳೆದ 10 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಅನುಭವದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಲವಾರು ಸಮ್ಮೇಳನಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದಲ್ಲದೇ ಸ್ವತಃ ಸಂಶೋಧನೆ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೊಂದಿಗೆ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಮತ್ತು ಅಂತರ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗಾಗಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸಿ, ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಸರಿಸಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಅಗ್ರಸ್ಥಾನವನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದೆ. ಇದು ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ತನ್ನದೇ ಆದ ಭೂಮಿ ಮತ್ತು ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿದೆ. ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ "ಸ್ಟ್ರೀ ಸೂಚನಾ ಸಂಗಮ" ಅಥವಾ "ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಕೇಂದ್ರ" (ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲ್ಯು.ಐ.ಆರ್.ಸಿ.) ವನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿದ್ದಲ್ಲದೇ ಅದು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ವಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಮಾತ್ರವಲ್ಲದೇ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಐಸರಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಬುನಾದಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ಒಂದು ಬೃಹತ್ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರವಾಗಿದ್ದು ನಾನಾ ಭಾಗಗಳಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲಗಳನ್ನು ಕಲೆಹಾಕಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ.

ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಸಮ್ಮೇಳನಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ಅಥವಾ ಇತರ ಸಮ್ಮೇಳನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ನಿರಂತರವಾಗಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸ್ವರಕ್ಷೆಯ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಲೆಹಾಕಿ, ವಿಭಜಿಸಿ ಕಾರ್ಯರೂಪಕ್ಕೆ ತರಲು ಶ್ರಮಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲದೇ ಇದು ನ್ಯೂಯಾರ್ಕ್ನ ಯು.ಎನ್.ಡಿ.ಪಿ.ಯ ಮಾನವ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ವರದಿಯ ಶಾಖೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂಯುಕ್ತವಾಗಿ ಲಿಂಗಾಧಾರ ಸಮಾನತೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅಂತರರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರವನ್ನು ಒಂದು ಚೌಕಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು

1. ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ತನ್ನದೇ ಆದ ನಾಲ್ಕನೇ ಎಕರೆ ಫಲವತ್ತಾದ ಜಮೀನಿನಲ್ಲಿ ವೈವಿಧ್ಯಮಯವಾದ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಶೇಷ ರೀತಿಯ ಗಿಡಮರಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುವುದಲ್ಲದೇ ಸುಮಾರು ನೂರಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ರೀತಿಯ ಔಷಧಿ ಗಿಡಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದು, ಈ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಬಡ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಔಷಧಿ ಗಿಡಗಳನ್ನು ಬೆಳೆಸುವ ರೀತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತರಬೇತಿ ನೀಡುವ ಪ್ರಾತ್ಯಕ್ಷಿಕಾ ಸ್ಥಳವಾಗಿದೆ. ಇವರ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಸಸ್ಯಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ, ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧಕರಿಗೆ ಅವರ ಸಂಶೋಧನೆಗೆ ಅನುವು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಡುತ್ತಿದೆ.

2. ಲಿಂಗಾಧಾರಿತ ತಾರತಮ್ಯದ ಮೂಲಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಮಟ್ಟದ ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಳ್ಳುವಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಬಲಪಡಿಸುವುದು - ಈ ಅಧ್ಯಯನವು ಎರಡು ಗುರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದು, ಮೊದಲನೆಯದಾಗಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಲಿಂಗ ಸಮಾನತೆಯ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಅಂಶ ಅಂತರಗಳ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಸ್ತ್ರೀಯರ ಬಳಗಗಳಿಗೆ ಶ್ರಮಿಸುವುದು. ಎರಡನೆಯದಾಗಿ, ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಸ್ವೀಕಾರ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡುವ ಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಉತ್ತಮಪಡಿಸುವುದು.

ಈ ದಿವಸದಲ್ಲಿ ತುಮಕೂರು ಮತ್ತು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಟುಂಬ ಸಮಿತಿಯನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಿ, ಪರದಿಯನ್ನು ಹೊರತಂದಿದೆ.

ಮೇಲೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲದೆ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ವಿಳಿಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗಾಗಿ ಬೇರೆ ಬೇರೆ ಅಧ್ಯಯನಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾರ್ಯಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಿ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಅಂಗಾಧಾರಿತ ತಾರತಮ್ಯದ ಮೂಲಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದ
ಆದಳತೆದಲ್ಲ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಳ್ಳುವಿಕೆಯನ್ನು
ಬಲಪಡಿಸುವುದು

ಪ್ರಶ್ನಾವಳಿಗಳು

ಸಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ತ್ರಿನಿವಾಸನ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಸಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ

ಲಿಂಗಾಧಾರಿತ ತಾರತಮ್ಯದ ನವೀನತೆಯ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶಿ ಮಾದರಿ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆ

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ :

1	2	3	4
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I. ಕುಟುಂಬ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿ

1

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(ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವವರು : ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಯಜಮಾನರು ಅಥವಾ ಬೇರೆ ಯಾರಾದರೂ ವಯಸ್ಕ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸದಸ್ಯರು)

ಸಂದರ್ಶನದ ದಿನಾಂಕ :

ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು :

ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳು ಏನಾದರೂ ಇದ್ದರೆ :

ಈ ಕುಟುಂಬವನ್ನು II ಮತ್ತು IIIನೆಯ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳ ತನಿಖೆಗಾಗಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆಯೇ? ಹೌದು / ಇಲ್ಲ

ವಿಭಾಗ 1 : ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಮಾಹಿತಿ

101. ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಹೆಸರು

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 6

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು (ನಗರ) - 1. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು (ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ) - 2. ತುಮಕೂರು - 3.

102. ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಹೆಸರು

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 7 8

(ಸಂಕೇತಕ್ಕೆ (ಕೋಡ್‌ಗೆ) ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಿರುವ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ನೋಡಿ)

103. ಹಳ್ಳಿಯ / ಪಟ್ಟಣದ ಹೆಸರು

104. ನಿವಾಸ ಸ್ಥಳದ ಮಾದರಿ : ಹಳ್ಳಿ - 1, ಪಟ್ಟಣ - 2

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 9

105. ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವವರ ಹೆಸರು

ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವವರ ಲಿಂಗ : ಗಂಡು - 1, ಹೆಣ್ಣು - 2

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 10

ಕುಟುಂಬದ ವಿಳಾಸ :

.....
.....
.....

ವಿಭಾಗ - 2 : ಕುಟುಂಬ ಮಾಹಿತಿ

201. ನೀವು ಯಾವ ಧರ್ಮಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿದವರು?

11

ಹಿಂದು - 1 ಮುಸ್ಲಿಂ - 2 ಕ್ರೈಸ್ತ - 3 ಜೈನ್ - 4 ಇತರೆ - 5
(ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟಪಡಿಸಿ)

202. ನೀವು ಯಾವ ಜಾತಿಗೆ ಸೇರಿದವರು?

12

ಲಿಂಗಾಯತ - 1 ಒಕ್ಕಲಿಗ - 2 ಬ್ರಾಹ್ಮಣ - 3 ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ - 4
ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ವರ್ಗ - 5 ಇತರೆ ಹಿಂದು - 6 ಅನ್ಯಯಿಸದು - 8

203. ಮನೆಯ ಮಾದರಿ (ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿದಂತೆ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ) :

13

ಕಚ್ಚಿ (ಶೆಂಗಿನ ಗರಿ / ಹುಲ್ಲು ಛಾವಣಿಯ ಮಣ್ಣಿನ ಮನೆ) - 1
ಅರೆಪಕ್ಕ (ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಕೆಳದರ್ಜೆಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಮೇಲ್ದರ್ಜೆಯ ವಸ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು
ಬಳಸಿ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿದ ಮನೆಗಳು) - 2
ಪಕ್ಕ (ಇಟ್ಟಿಗೆ, ಕಲ್ಲು ಅಥವಾ ಸಿಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಿಂದ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿದ ಮನೆ) - 3

204. ಮನೆಯು ವಿದ್ಯುಚ್ಛಕ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿದೆಯೇ?

14

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 ———→ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 206ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

205. ವಿದ್ಯುಚ್ಛಕ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೀಪಕಲ್ಪದ ಬೇರೆ ಯಾವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸುತ್ತೀರಿ?

- | | | | | |
|--|---|----------|----------|-----------------------------|
| 1. ಸ್ನಾನಕ್ಕೆ ನೀರನ್ನು ಕಾಯಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ | - | ಹೌದು - 1 | ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 15 |
| 2. ಟೀ.ವಿ. / ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಆರ್. ಅಥವಾ ವಿ.ಸಿ.ಪಿ./ರೇಡಿಯೋ | - | ಹೌದು - 1 | ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 |
| 3. ರೆಫ್ರಿಜರೇಟರ್ | - | ಹೌದು - 1 | ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 17 |
| 4. ಗೃಹೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಅಡಿಗೆ ಉಪಕರಣಗಳು | - | ಹೌದು - 1 | ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 |
| 5. ಬಟ್ಟೆ ಒಗೆಯುವ ಯಂತ್ರ | - | ಹೌದು - 1 | ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 19 |
| 6. ಇತರೆ..... | - | ಹೌದು - 1 | ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 |
- (ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟಪಡಿಸಿ)

206. ನಿಮ್ಮ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವ ತರಹದ ಶೌಚಾಲಯದ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯವಿದೆ?

21

ಫ್ಲಷ್ ಶೌಚಾಲಯ - 1
ಗುಂಡಿ ಶೌಚಾಲಯ / ಕಕ್ಕಸು - 2
ಯಾವ ಸೌಕರ್ಯವೂ ಇಲ್ಲ / ಪೊದ / ಮೈದಾನ - 3

207. ಕುಡಿಯುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆಗಳಿಗೆ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರಿನ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯವಿದೆಯೆ?

ಇದ್ದರೆ ಸಾಕಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆಯೆ?

22

ಇಲ್ಲ - 1 ಹೌದು (ಸಾಕಷ್ಟಿಲ್ಲ) - 2

ಹೌದು (ಸಾಕಷ್ಟಿದೆ) - 3 → ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 211ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

208. ನೀವು / ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ನೀರನ್ನು ಎಲ್ಲಿಂದ ತರುತ್ತೀರಿ / ತರುತ್ತಾರೆ?

23

ಮನೆಯ ಹೊರಗಡೆ - 1 ಕಾಲೋನಿಯ ಒಳಗೆ - 2

ಹಳ್ಳಿಯ / ಬಡಾವಣೆಯ ಒಳಗೆ - 3 ಹಳ್ಳಿಯ / ಬಡಾವಣೆಯ ಹೊರಗೆ - 4

209. ಮನೆಗೆ ನೀರು ತರಲು ಎಲ್ಲರೂ ಸೇರಿ ದಿನದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು ಎಷ್ಟು ಸಮಯವನ್ನು ಕಳೆಯುತ್ತೀರಿ?

24 25 26

(ನಿಮಿಷಗಳನ್ನು ಮೂರು ಅಂಕಗಳ ಸಂಕೇತದಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲೆ ಮಾಡಿ)

210. ನೀರನ್ನು ಯಾರು ತರುತ್ತಾರೆ?

	ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ
1. ಗಂಡಸರು	
2. ಹೆಂಗಸರು	
3. ಗಂಡು ಮಕ್ಕಳು	
4. ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಮಕ್ಕಳು	
5. ಕೂಲಿಗಳು	

27

28

29

30

31

211. ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕುಟುಂಬದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಡಿಗೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಯಾವ ರೀತಿಯ ಇಂಧನವನ್ನು

ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸುತ್ತೀರಿ?

32

ಸೌದೆ - 1 ಬೆರಣಿ - 2 ಇದ್ದಲು - 3 ಸೀಮೆ ಎಣ್ಣೆ - 4

ವಿದ್ಯುಚ್ಛಕ್ತಿ - 5 ಎಲ್.ಪಿ.ಜಿ. - 6 ಗೋಬರ್ ಗ್ಯಾಸ್ - 7 ಸೌರಶಕ್ತಿ - 8

ಇತರೆ - 9

(ಸೈಜ್ ಪಡಿಸಿ)

232. ಕುಟುಂಬದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ವಾಸಿಸುವ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಯಾರಾದರೂ ಈ ಹಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ/ಪಟ್ಟಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಹೊರಗೆ 1998ರ ಯುಗಾದಿಯಿಂದ 1999ರ ಯುಗಾದಿಯವರೆಗೆ (29-3-1998 ರಿಂದ 18-3-1999ರವರೆಗೆ) ಮಗುವಿಗೆ ಜನ್ಮವಿತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆಯೇ? ಹೌದು - 1, ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 → ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 243ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ

ಹೌದಾದರೆ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಜನನದ ಬಗ್ಗೆಯೂ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸಿ (ಅವಳಿ, ತ್ರಿವಳಿಗಳನ್ನು ಬೇರೆ ಬೇರೆ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ)

ಹುಟ್ಟಿದ ಮಗುವಿಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟ ಹೆಸರು	ಕುಟುಂಬದ ದಾಖಲೆ ನಮೂನೆಯ ಸಾಲಿನ ತಾಯಿಯ ಸಾಲಿನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು ಬರೆಯಿರಿ (ತಾಯಿ ಸತ್ತಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ '95' ಎಂದು ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಹೋಗಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ '96' ಎಂದು ಬರೆಯಿರಿ)	ಹುಟ್ಟಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕ (ವಿಚಾರ ಮಾಡಿ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿ)	ಹುಟ್ಟಿನ ರೀತಿ			ಮಗುವಿನ ತಿಂಗಳು	ಮಗುವಿನ ಈಗಿನ ವಯಸ್ಸು ತಿಂಗಳುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ (ಬೇವಂತವಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ) ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ವಯಸ್ಸಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ '00' ಎಂದು ದಾಖಲು ಮಾಡಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅನ್ವಯಿಸದಿದ್ದರೆ '97' ಎಂದು ದಾಖಲೆ ಮಾಡಿ	ಮರಣ ಹೊಂದಿದಾಗ ಮಗುವಿನ ವಯಸ್ಸು ತಿಂಗಳುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ (ಮರಣ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದರೆ) ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ವಯಸ್ಸಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ '00' ಎಂದು ದಾಖಲು ಮಾಡಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅನ್ವಯಿಸದಿದ್ದರೆ '97' ಎಂದು ದಾಖಲು ಮಾಡಿ.	ಮಗುವು ಹುಟ್ಟಿದಾಗ ತಾಯಿಯ ವಯಸ್ಸು (ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಂಡ ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಹೆರಿಗೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳು	
			ಒಂದು - 1 ಅವಳಿ - 2 ತ್ರಿವಳಿ - 3	ಗಂಡು - 1 ಹೆಣ್ಣು - 2	ಹೆರಿಗೆ ಆದ ಸ್ಥಳ ಮನೆ - 1 ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ - 2					ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಾದರೆ ಹೆರಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿದವರು*	
233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242		
01 _____ ಹೆಸರು	538 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
02 _____ ಹೆಸರು	550 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
03 _____ ಹೆಸರು	562 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

* ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 242ಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಕೇತಗಳು
ಹೆರಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿದವರು

1. ತರಬೇತಿ ಹೊಂದಿದ ದಾಯಿ
2. ತರಬೇತಿ ಹೊಂದದ ದಾಯಿ
3. ಕಿರಿಯ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಹಾಯಕಿ (ಎ.ಎನ್.ಎಮ್.)
4. ಇತರೇ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ
5. ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರು
6. ಸ್ನೇಹಿತರು
7. ಇತರರು
8. ಹೇಳಲಾಗದು
9. ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

243. ಈ ಕುಟುಂಬದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ವಾಸಿಸುವ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಯಾರಾದರೂ ಈ ಹಳ್ಳಿಯಲ್ಲಿ/ಪಟ್ಟಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಹೊರಗೆ 1998 ರ ಯುಗಾದಿಯಿಂದ 1999 ರ ಯುಗಾದಿಯವರೆಗೆ (29-3-1998 ರಿಂದ 18-3-1999 ರವರೆಗೆ) ಮರಣ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಾರೆಯೇ? ಹೌದು - 1, ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 → ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 251ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ
(ಹೌದಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಮರಣ ಹೊಂದಿದ ಪ್ರತಿ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯ ಬಗೆಗೂ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ನಮೂದಿಸಿ)

ಮರಣ ಹೊಂದಿದವರ ಹೆಸರು	ಮರಣ ಹೊಂದಿದವರ ಲಿಂಗ ಗಂಡು - 1 ಹೆಣ್ಣು - 2	ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಯಜಮಾನರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಮರಣ ಹೊಂದಿದವರ ಸಂಬಂಧ*	ಮರಣದ ದಿನಾಂಕ (ವಿಚಾರ ಮಾಡಿ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿ)	ಮರಣ ಹೊಂದಿದಾಗ ಆತ/ಆಕೆಯ ವಯಸ್ಸು, ವಿಷ್ಣು? (ವಯಸ್ಸನ್ನು ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಂಡ ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ. ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇದ್ದರೆ "00" ಎಂದು ನಮೂದಿಸಿ. ವಯಸ್ಸು ತಿಳಿಯದಿದ್ದರೆ "98" ಎಂದು ನಮೂದಿಸಿ)	ಮರಣದ ಕಾರಣ** (ರೋಗ / ಲಕ್ಷಣಗಳು)	ಅದು ಹಾಯ್ನದ ಮರಣವೇ? (ಮರಣವೇನಾದರೂ ಗರ್ಭಧಾರಣೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ್ದರೆ ಗರ್ಭವೆತಿಯಾದಾಗ ಉಂಟಾದ ಅಥವಾ ಹೆರಿಗೆಯಾದ ನಂತರ 42 ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮರಣವೇ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ತಿಳಿದು ನಮೂದಿಸಿ) ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2
244	245	246	247	248	249	250
01 _____ ಹೆಸರು	575 <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
02 _____ ಹೆಸರು	583 <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
03 _____ ಹೆಸರು	591 <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

* ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 246ಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಕೇತಗಳು

ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಯಜಮಾನರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧ

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 02. ಹೆಂಡತಿ ಅಥವಾ ಗಂಡ | 08. ಸೋದರ ಅಥವಾ ಸೋದರಿ |
| 03. ಮಗ ಅಥವಾ ಮಗಳು | 09. ಬಾಳ ಅಥವಾ ಅತ್ತಿಗೆ |
| 04. ಅಳಿಯ ಅಥವಾ ಸೋಸಿ | 10. ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರು |
| 05. ಮೊಮ್ಮಗು | 11. ದತ್ತು/ನಾಕು ಮಗು |
| 06. ತಾಯಿ / ತಂದೆ | 12. ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದವರಲ್ಲ. |
| 07. ಅತ್ತೆ / ಮಾವ | |

** ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 249ಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಕೇತಗಳು

ಮರಣದ ಕಾರಣ

- | | |
|--|--|
| 01. ಜ್ವರ | 08. ವೃದ್ಧಾಪ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ |
| 02. ಜೀರ್ಣಾಂಗಗಳ ವ್ಯಾಧಿ | 09. ಮೋಟಾರ್ ವಾಹನಗಳ ಅಪಘಾತಗಳಿಂದ |
| 03. ಕಿಮ್ಮು | 10. ಇತರ ಅಪಘಾತಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಗಾಯಗಳು |
| 04. ಕೀಂದ್ರ ನರಮಂಡಲದ ರೋಗ | 11. ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆ |
| 05. ರಕ್ತ ಪರಿಚಲನಾ ರೋಗ | 12. ಕೊಲೆ |
| 06. ಮಗುವಿನ ಜನನ ಮತ್ತು ಗರ್ಭಧಾರಣೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ | 13. ವರದಕ್ಷಿಣೆ ಸಾವು |
| 07. ಷಶು ಮರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಕಾರಣಗಳು | 14. ಇತರ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಮತ್ತು ಗೊತ್ತಿಲ್ಲದ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದ |

251. ಈ ಕುಟುಂಬದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ವಾಸಿಸುವ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಯಾರಾದರೂ ಈ ಹಳ್ಳಿಯಲ್ಲಿ / ಪಟ್ಟಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಹೊರಗೆ ಕಳೆದ 15 ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅಸ್ವಸ್ಥರಾಗಿದ್ದಾರಾ?
ಹೌದು - 1, ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 (ಹೌದಾದರೆ, ಪ್ರತಿ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯ ಅಸ್ವಸ್ಥತೆಯ ಬಗೆಗಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ನಮೂದಿಸಿ.)

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ಅಸ್ವಸ್ಥರಾದವರ ಹೆಸರು	ಲಿಂಗ ಗಂಡು - 1 ಹೆಣ್ಣು - 2	ವಯಸ್ಸು (ಪೂರ್ತಿಯಾಗಿರುವ ವಯಸ್ಸನ್ನು ಎರಡು ಅಂಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ)	ಅಸ್ವಸ್ಥತೆಯ ಸ್ವರೂಪ / ಲಕ್ಷಣಗಳು*	ಅಸ್ವಸ್ಥತೆಯ ಅವಧಿ (ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಎರಡು ಅಂಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ)	ಔಷಧಿಯ ಪದ್ಧತಿ**	ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದು ಎಲ್ಲಿ***
252	253	254	255	256	257	258
01 ಹೆಸರು	600 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
02 ಹೆಸರು	610 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
03 ಹೆಸರು	620 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 255ಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಕೇತಗಳು
ಅಸ್ವಸ್ಥತೆಯ ಸ್ವರೂಪ /
ಲಕ್ಷಣಗಳು (ಲಗತ್ತಿ ಸಿರುವ
ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ನೋಡಿ).

** ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 257ಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಕೇತಗಳು
ಔಷಧಿಯ ಪದ್ಧತಿ

*** ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 258ಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಕೇತಗಳು
ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದು ಎಲ್ಲಿ

- ಮನೆ ಮದ್ದು
- ಅಲೋಪತಿ
- ಹೋಮಿಯೋಪತಿ
- ಆಯುರ್ವೇದ
- ಯುನಾನಿ
- ಇತರೆ
- ಯಾವ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಯನ್ನೂ
ಪಡೆದಿಲ್ಲ
- ಹೇಳಲಾಗದು

- ಮನೆ
- ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರ
- ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಘಟಕ
- ಉಪಕೇಂದ್ರ
- ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ

- ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ
- ನರ್ಸಿಂಗ್ ಹೋಂ
- ಖಾಸಗಿ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಾಲಯ
- ಧರ್ಮಾರ್ಥ ಸೇವಾಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
- ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ವೈದ್ಯರು

- ಖಾಸಗಿ ವೈದ್ಯರು
- ನಶಲಿ ವೈದ್ಯರು
- ಇತರರು
- ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆದಿಲ್ಲ
- ಹೇಳಲಾಗದು.

ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಕರ ಸಹಿ _____

ಸಂದರ್ಶಕರ ಸಹಿ _____

ಹೆಸರು _____

ಹೆಸರು _____

ದಿನಾಂಕ _____

ದಿನಾಂಕ _____

ಕಾಲಂ (1): 4-5 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ - 1, 5-6 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ -2, 6-7 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ -3, _____ 3-4 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ -24

ಕಾಲಂ (3) ಮತ್ತು ಕಾಲಂ (4) ಪೂರಂಭ ಸಮಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊನೆಯ ಸಮಯವನ್ನು ಕ್ರಮವಾಗಿ ಒಂದು ದಂಟೆಯ ವಿರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೂಡಿ
ಜಟಿಲವಹಿಸುವ ಸಂಕೇತಗಳನ್ನು ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಿದೆ

ಕಾಲಂ (10) : ಹಳದಿ ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ನಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ : ನಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು-1, ವನ್ಯ ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ನಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ : ನಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು-2, ನಲ್ಲಿಸಿರುವ-3,
ಇತರೆ (ನಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾಗದಿರುವ - ಉದಾ: ಮಲಗುವುದು, ತಿನ್ನುವುದು)-9.

ಸಿಂಗಮ್ಮ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ

ಲಿಂಗಾಧಾರಿತ ತಾರತಮ್ಯದ ನವೀನತೆಯ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶಿ ಮಾದರಿ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆ

ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ

1	2	3	4

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ : (ಸಂಕೇತದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ) 5

III. ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ವಿವಾಹಿತ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ 3 6

(ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವವರು : ಕುಟುಂಬದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ವಿವಾಹವಾದ ಪುರುಷರು ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ತ್ರೀಯರು).

ವಿಭಾಗ 1 : ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯ ವಿವರಗಳು

101. ಹೆಸರು.....

102. ಕು.ದಾ.ನಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸದಸ್ಯರನ್ನು ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವ ಸಾಲಿನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ

7	8

103. ವಯಸ್ಸು - ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ. (ಎರಡು ಅಂಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಕೇತದಲ್ಲಿ)

9	10

104. ಲಿಂಗ (ಗಂಡು - 1, ಹೆಣ್ಣು - 2)

 11

ವಿಭಾಗ 2 (ಅ) :- ಆಸ್ತಿಯ ವಾರಸುದಾರಿಕೆ

(ಅ) ಜಮೀನು :

201. ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕುಟುಂಬವು ವ್ಯವಸಾಯದ ಜಮೀನನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿದೆಯೇ?

 12

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 → ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 203ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

202. ಯಾರ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಇದೆ ?

 13

ಸ್ವತಃ - 1, ಗಂಡ/ಹೆಂಡತಿ - 2, ಸ್ವಲ್ಪಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸ್ವತಃ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಗಂಡ/ಹೆಂಡತಿ - 3, ತಂದೆ/ಮಾವ - 4, ಇತರ ಗಂಡು ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರುಗಳು - 5, ತಾಯಿ/ಅತ್ತೆ - 6, ಇತರ ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರುಗಳು - 7, ಗಂಡಸರುಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಹೆಂಗಸರುಗಳು ಒಟ್ಟಾಗಿ ಹೊಂದಿರುವುದು - 8, ಗೊತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ - 9.

(ಆ) ಮನೆ :

203. ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕುಟುಂಬವು ಮನೆಯನ್ನು / ಫ್ಲಾಟ್ / ನಿವೇಶನವನ್ನು ವಿಸ್ತಾರದರೂ ಹೊಂದಿದೆಯೇ?

 14

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 → ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 205ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

204. ಯಾರ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಇದೆ ?

 15

ಸ್ವತಃ - 1, ಗಂಡ/ಹೆಂಡತಿ - 2, ಸ್ವಲ್ಪಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸ್ವತಃ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಗಂಡ/ಹೆಂಡತಿ - 3, ತಂದೆ/ಮಾವ - 4, ಇತರ ಗಂಡು ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರುಗಳು - 5, ತಾಯಿ/ಅತ್ತೆ - 6, ಇತರ ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರುಗಳು - 7, ಗಂಡಸರುಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಹೆಂಗಸರುಗಳು ಒಟ್ಟಾಗಿ ಹೊಂದಿರುವುದು - 8, ಗೊತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ - 9.

(ಇ) ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳು :

205. ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕುಟುಂಬವು ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳನ್ನೇನಾದರೂ ಹೊಂದಿದೆಯೆ?

16

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 ———→ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 207ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

206. ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳ ಮಾರಾಟವನ್ನು ಯಾರು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ / ನಿಯಂತ್ರಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ?

17

ಸ್ವತಃ - 1, ಗಂಡ/ಹೆಂಡತಿ - 2, ಸ್ವಲ್ಪಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸ್ವತಃ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಗಂಡ/ಹೆಂಡತಿ - 3, ತಂದೆ/ಮಾವ - 4, ಇತರ ಗಂಡು ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರುಗಳು - 5, ತಾಯಿ/ಅತ್ತೆ - 6, ಇತರ ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರುಗಳು - 7, ಗಂಡಸರುಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಹೆಂಗಸರುಗಳು ಒಟ್ಟಾಗಿ ಹೊಂದಿರುವುದು - 8, ಗೊತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ - 9.

ವಿಭಾಗ 2 (ಆ) : - ಆಸ್ತಿಯ ಮೇಲಿನ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ.

207. ಕಷ್ಟ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀವು ಇತರ ಯಾರನ್ನೂ ಕೇಳದೆ ಯಾವ ಆಸ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾರಬಹುದು, ಅದ ಇಡಬಹುದು ಅಥವಾ ಗಿರವಿ ಇಡಬಹುದು?

1. ಜಮೀನು ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 18

2. ಮನೆ ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 19

3. ಪ್ರಾಣಿಗಳು ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 20

4. ಉಪಕರಣಗಳು
(ಉದಾ : ಟ್ರ್ಯಾಕ್ಟರ್, ಡ್ರೆಸರ್) ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 21

5. ಒಡವೆಗಳು ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 22

ವಿಭಾಗ 3 : ಸಂಪಾದನೆ ಮೇಲಿನ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ.

301. ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಮೂಲದಿಂದ ನೀವು ಆದಾಯವನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತೀರಾ?

23

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 ———→ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 401ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

302. ನಿಮ್ಮ ಆದಾಯವನ್ನು (ಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಅಥವಾ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ)

ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಇತರ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಗೆ ಕೊಡುತ್ತೀರಾ?

24

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 ———→ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 305ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

303. ಯಾರಿಗೆ ಕೊಡುತ್ತೀರಿ?

25

ಗಂಡ / ಹೆಂಡತಿ - 1, ತಂದೆ / ಮಾವ - 2,

ತಾಯಿ / ಅತ್ತೆ - 3, ಇತರರಿಗೆ - 4.

304. ಆದಾಯದ ಎಷ್ಟು ಭಾಗವನ್ನು ನೀವು ಕೊಡುತ್ತೀರಿ?

26

ಎಲ್ಲವನ್ನೂ - 1, ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಭಾಗ - 2, ಅರ್ಧ ಭಾಗ - 3,

ಕಾಲು ಭಾಗ - 4. ಕಾಲು ಭಾಗಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ - 5.

305. ನಿಮ್ಮ ಸ್ವಂತ ಉಳಿತಾಯ ಏನಾದರೂ ಇದ್ದರೆ ಅದರ ಮೇಲೆ ನಿಮ್ಮ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣವಿದೆಯೆ?

27

ಹೌದು - 1, ಇಲ್ಲ - 2, ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ (ಉಳಿತಾಯವಿಲ್ಲ) - 3.

ವಿಭಾಗ 4 : ಸಾಲದ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆ (Access to Credit)

401. ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತದಲ್ಲಿ (ಕಳೆದ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ) ನೀವೇನಾದರೂ ಸಾಲವನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದೀರಾ?

28

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 → ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 406ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

402. ಎಷ್ಟು ಹಣ?

29	30	31	32	33	34

(ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆರು ಅಂಕಗಳ ಸಂಕೇತದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ)

403. ಸಾಲದ ಮೇಲೆ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಬಡ್ಡಿದರ (%) ಎಷ್ಟು?

35	36

(ನಿರಂತರ ಅಂಕಗಳ ಸಂಕೇತದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ)

404. ಯಾವ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ನೀವು ಸಾಲವನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದೀರಾ?

37

ವ್ಯವಸಾಯ-1, ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ-2, ಗೃಹ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ/ದುರಸ್ತಿ - 3, ಮದುವೆ - 4,

ಬೆಸಧದ ಖರ್ಚಿಗಾಗಿ - 5, ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸ - 6, ಸ್ವಲ್ಪದೊಡ್ಡ - 7,

ಹಬ್ಬ / ಸಮಾರಂಭಗಳು - 8, ಇತರೆ - 9.

405. ಹಣವನ್ನು ಎಲ್ಲಿಂದ ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದೀರಾ?

38

ಬ್ಯಾಂಕು / ಹಣಕಾಸು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ - 1,

ಭಾರಿ ರೈತರು / ಜಮೀನ್ದಾರರು / ಮಾಲೀಕರು - 2,

ಸ್ನೇಹಿತರುಗಳು / ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರು - 3,

ಸರ್ಕಾರೇತರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ - 4, ಲೇವಾದೇವಿ-5,

ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಯೋಜನೆ - 6, ಚಿಟ್‌ಫಂಡ್/ಕ್ರೆಡಿಟ್ ಗ್ರೂಪ್-7,

ಇತರರಿಂದ - 8.

406. ಸಂಪ್ರದಾಯಿಕ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ ಮಾಡದೆ ಇರುವುದಕ್ಕೆ (ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ ಮಾಡದಿದ್ದರೆ) ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರಣವೇನು?

39

ಒತ್ತೆ ಇದಲು ಆಸ್ತಿಯ ಕೊರತೆ - 1, ಮಿತಿ ಮೀರಿದ ಸಂಪ್ರದಾಯ ಶರಣತೆ (Red Tape)-2

ಸೌಕರ್ಯದ ಕೊರತೆ-3, ದೂರವಿರುವುದರಿಂದ-4

ತಿಳಿದಿಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು 5, ಅನಕ್ಷರತೆ - 6, ಅಗತ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು-7,

ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ (ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವ ಮಾಡಿದರು) - 8

ವಿಭಾಗ 5 : ಚಲನ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ

501. ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಚಲನ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಬಿಸಾಡದರೂ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧವಿದೆಯೆ?

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. ಕಲಸಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಲು. | 40 |
| 2. ಪ್ರಾಣಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮೆಯಿಸಲು. | 41 |
| 3. ಕಟ್ಟಿಗೆ / ಮೇವನ್ನು ಕೂಡಿಹಾಕಲು. | 42 |
| 4. ನೀರನ್ನು ತರಲು. | 43 |
| 5. ಶಾಲೆಗೆ ಹೋಗಲು. | 44 |
| 6. ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಲು. | 45 |
| 7. ಅಂಗಡಿ / ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಗೆ ಹೋಗಲು. | 46 |
| 8. ಹಳ್ಳಿ / ಪಟ್ಟಣದ ಹೊರಗೆ ಇರುವ ಕಛೇರಿಗಳಿಗೆ/ವ್ಯಾಂಕಿಗೆ ಹೋಗಲು. | 47 |
| 9. ಹೋಟೆಲಿಗೆ / ಸಿನಿಮಾಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಲು. | 48 |
| 10. ಸ್ನೇಹಿತರುಗಳನ್ನು / ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರುಗಳನ್ನು ನೋಡಲು ಹೋಗಲು. | 49 |
| 11. ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮಂಡಳಿಗಳಿಗೆ / ಸಂಘಗಳಿಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಲು. | 50 |

(ಸಂಕೇತ: ಒಬ್ಬನೇ/ಓಳೆ ಹೋಗಲು ನಿರ್ಬಂಧವಿಲ್ಲ - 1, ಬೆಂಗಾವಲಿನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಹೋಗಬಹುದು - 2,

ಹೋಗಬಹುದು - 3, ಹೇಳಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ - 4, ಅಸ್ವಯಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ - 8)

ವಿಭಾಗ 6 : ನಿರ್ಬಂಧಿಸುವಿಕೆ.

601. ಕೆಳಕಂಡವುಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆನೀ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧಿಸುವನ್ನು ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕುಟುಂಬದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾರು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ?

- | | |
|---|----|
| 1. ಅಲ್ಪಾಯ ಕೊಳ್ಳುವಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾರುವಿಕೆ. | 51 |
| 2. ಸಾಲ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವಲ್ಲಿ. | 52 |
| 3. ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವೆಚ್ಚದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ. | 53 |
| 4. ಉಳಿತಾಯದ ರೀತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಎಷ್ಟು ಎಯುರರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ. | 54 |
| 5. ಎಷ್ಟು ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಬೇಕು. | 55 |
| 6. ಕುಟುಂಬ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ವಿಧಾನ ಅಳವಡಿಕೆ | 56 |
| 7. ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಬೆಳೆಸುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ. | 57 |
| 8. ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸ. | 58 |
| 9. ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮದುವೆ. | 59 |
| 10. ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ರಕ್ಷಣೆ. | 60 |
| 11. ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳ ಚಲನಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ. | 61 |
| 12. ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳ ನಕಟ ಬಗ್ಗೆ. | 62 |
| 13. ವಿರಾಮ ಕಾಲದ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ/ಲಜಾವಿನಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ. | 63 |
| 14. ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ / ಅರ್ಥಿಕ / ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಳ್ಳುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ. | 64 |

(ಸಂಕೇತ: ಸ್ವತಃ - 1, ಗಂಡ/ಹೆಂಡತಿ - 2, ಒಟ್ಟಾಗಿ - 3,

ಇತರರು - 4, ಹೇಳಲಾಗದು - 5, ಅಸ್ವಯಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ - 8)

ವಿಭಾಗ 7 : ಹಿಂಸೆ

701. ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ನೀವು ಹಿಂಸೆಗೆ / ಕಿರುಕುಳಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಗಾಗಿದ್ದೀರಾ?

1. ವರದಕ್ಕಿಣೆ ಬೇಡಕೆ. 65
2. ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು. 66
3. ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಮಗುವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ. 67
4. ಚಾರಿತ್ರ್ಯತೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಂಶಯ. 68
5. ಹಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕಾದಾಟ. 69
6. ಆಸ್ತಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾದಾಟ. 70
7. ಗಂಡ ಹೆಂಡತೆ ಕಾದಾಟ / ಅತ್ತೆ ಅಥವಾ ಮಾವ ಇವರೊಡನೆ ಕಾದಾಟ. 71
8. ಒಬ್ಬೊಬ್ಬ ಹೆಂಗಸಾಗಿದ್ದುದಕ್ಕೆ. 72
9. ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಂದರೆಗಳು. 73
10. ಜಾತಿ/ಜನಾಂಗದ ಜಗಳಗಳು. 74
11. ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಜಗಳಗಳು. 75
12. ಇತರೆ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ. 76

(ಸಂಕೇತ : ಇಲ್ಲ - 1, ಹೌದು, ಹಿಂಸೆ - 2, ಹೌದು, ಕಿರುಕುಳ - 3, ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ - 8)

ವಿಭಾಗ 8 : ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಬಗೆಗಿನ ಅರಿವು

801. ಪಿ.ಎಂ.ಆರ್.ವೈ. (ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ರೋಜ್‌ಗಾರ್ ಯೋಜನೆ) ಮುಂತಾದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಯೋಜನೆಯನ್ನು ನೀವು ಕೇಳಿದ್ದೀರಾ?

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 → ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 901ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

802. ನೀವು ಕೇಳಿರುವ ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಮೂದಿಸಿ.

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(ಒಟ್ಟು ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಎರಡು ಅಂಕಗಳ ಸಂಕೇತದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ.)

803. ನೀವು ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ಎಂದಾದರೂ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದೀರಾ?

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2 → ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 805ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

ಹೌದಾದರೆ ಅದನ್ನು (ಅವುಗಳನ್ನು) ನಮೂದಿಸಿ.

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804. ನಿಮಗೆ ಅದರಿಂದ (ಅವುಗಳಿಂದ) ನಿಜವಾಗಿಯೂ ಅನುಕೂಲವಾಗಿದೆಯೆಂದು ನೀವು ಭಾವಿಸುವಿರಾ?

81

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2

ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ 901ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ.

805. ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳದಿರಲು ಇರುವ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರಣವೇನು?

82

ಹಳಿ/ಕ್ಷೀತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು-1.

ಅಸಕ್ತಿ ಇಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು - 2.

ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶನವಿಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು - 3.

ಕಷ್ಟಕರವಾದ ಆಚರಣೆ ವಿಧಾನ - 4.

ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪ್ರಭಾವ ಬೇಕಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ - 5

ಗಂಡನ / ಹೆಂಡತಿಯ ಸಮ್ಮತಿ ಸೂಚಕವಿಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು - 6.

ಇತರೆ (ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಪಡಿಸಿ) - 7.

ವಿಭಾಗ 9 : ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸದಸ್ಯತ್ವ

901. ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೀವು ಸದಸ್ಯರಾಗಿದ್ದೀರಾ?

1. ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ / ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಒಕ್ಕೂಟ

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2,

83

2. ಕ್ರೆಡಿಟ್ ಗ್ರೂಪ್

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2,

84

3. ಚಿಟ್‌ಫಂಡ್/ಫ್ರಿಪ್ಸ್

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2,

85

4. ಸ್ವಸಹಾಯ

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2,

86

5. ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘ

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2,

87

6. ಮಹಿಳಾಮಂಡಳಿ/ಯುವತಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ/ಯುವಕ ಮಂಡಳಿ

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2,

88

7. ದಲಿತ ಸಂಘ

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2,

89

8. ಇತರೆ ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ (ಸೃಷ್ಟಿ ಪಡಿಸಿ)

ಹೌದು - 1 ಇಲ್ಲ - 2.

90

ಕೋಷ್ಟಕ 1

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಉಪಾಣ ಯತ್ನ ನಗರ ತ್ರಿವೇಣಿಯಿಂದ ಭವ್ಯ ಯಾತದ
ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಶನದ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಯಂತ್ರಗಳು ನಗರ	ತುರುಕುರು		
1. ಭವ್ಯ ಯಾತದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ (i) ಉಪಾಣ ತ್ರಿವೇಣಿಗಳು (ii) ನಗರ ತ್ರಿವೇಣಿಗಳು	346 2154	2086 414		
ಒಟ್ಟು	2500	2500		
	ಪುರುಷರು	ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು	ಪುರುಷರು	ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು
2. ಸಮಯ ಬಳಕೆಯ ಸೂಚಕಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂದರ್ಶನದ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳ ಕೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	48.5	51.5	54.7	45.3
3. ತ್ರಿವೇಣಿ ವಿವಾಹಿತ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂದರ್ಶನದ ಕೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	49.5	50.5	50.5	49.5
4. ಒಟ್ಟು ಕೇಕಡಾವಾರು ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	51.27	48.73	51.65	48.35

ಕೋಷ್ಟಕ - ೨

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಪಾಲಕರ ಕ್ರೀ-ಪುರುಷ ತಾರತಮ್ಯ ಸೂಚಕಗಳ ಮಾಲ್ಯ

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಸೂಚಕ	ಬಂಗಳೂರು (ನಗರ) ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ		ತುಮಕೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ		
		ಪುರುಷರು	ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು	ಪುರುಷರು	ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು	
1.	ಕ್ರೀ-ಪುರುಷ ದಾಮಾಪ್ತ	953.3		950.3		
2.	0-6 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ನುಂಟನಲ್ಲ ಕ್ರೀ-ಪುರುಷ ದಾಮಾಪ್ತ	854.9		889.2	●	
3.	ಕೆಲಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಲ್ಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾದ ಪ್ರಯೋಗ:					
		ಎ) ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕೆಲಸಗಾರರು	56.1	13.5	55.9	11.5
		ಬಿ) ಸಣ್ಣ ಕೆಲಸಗಾರರು	1.2	2.7	3.5	29.9
	ಸಿ) ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಣ್ಣ ಕೆಲಸಗಾರರು	57.3	16.2	59.5	41.4	
4.	ದಿನಪೋಷಣೆ ಕೃಷಿ ಕೂಲಿ ದರ (ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	41.20	29.79	30.97	22.30	

ಕೋಷ್ಟಕ 2 ಮುಂದುವರಿದಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಸೂಚಕ	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು (ನಗರ) ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ		ತುಮಕೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ	
		ಫಿರಕಿಯರು	ಮಹಲ್ಯಯರು	ಫಿರಕಿಯರು	ಮಹಲ್ಯಯರು
5.	7 ಬಾಗಿನ ಲಿಫ್ಟಿಂಗ್ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಯೋಗ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ (ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ)	92.19	82.69	76.97	59.86
6.	ಯಾನ್ತ್ರೀಕರಣ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಪ್ರಾಚಾರ್ಯನಿರತ ಶೇಕಡಾ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	62.6	53.5	45.3	30.7
7.	ಸಂತಾನ ನಿರೋಧದ ಶೇಕಡಾ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	<u>0.5</u>	44.9	<u>0.1</u>	53.7
8.	ಅವಾಳೋನ್ಮುಖ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	4.2	5.7	4.2	4.4

ಕೋಷ್ಟಕ ೨ ಮುಂಜುಬರಹಿಡಿ.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ನೂತನ	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು (ಸಗಲ)		ಕುಮಕೂರು	
		ಪುಸ್ತಕ	ಮಾಹಿಮೆ	ಪುಸ್ತಕ	ಮಾಹಿಮೆ
9.	15-59 ವರ್ಷ ವಯೋ ಗುಂಪಿನವರು ಒಂದು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ದಿನದಲ್ಲಿ ^{ಅಧಿಕ} ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಮಾಡುವ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಕರ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ (ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ)	480.0	388.2	461.1	507.0
10.	15-59 ವರ್ಷ ವಯೋ ಗುಂಪಿನವರು ಒಂದು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ದಿನದಲ್ಲಿ ವೇತನವಿಲ್ಲದ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಯಾಣಕರ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ (ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ)	163.4	326.0	223.2	346.0
11.	ಕೈಯ ಬಳಸುವ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ಪಾನೀತಿಯನ್ನು ಅವಾಹಿತ ಪುಸ್ತಕ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾಹಿಮೆಯಿಂದ ಶೇಖರಣೆ ಮಾಡುವ	6.6	1.2	26.5	2.8
12.	ಮನೆ: ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಟರಿ: ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸದ ಬಡವನ ಪಾನೀತಿಯನ್ನು ಅವಾಹಿತ ಪುಸ್ತಕ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾಹಿಮೆಯಿಂದ ಶೇಖರಣೆ ಮಾಡುವ	32.9	6.5	40.5	7.2

ಕೋಷ್ಟಕ ೨ (ಮುಂದುವರಿದಿದೆ)

ಶ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಸೂಚಕ	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು (ನಗರ)		ಕುಮಟಾ	
		ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು
13.	ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕ ಉಪಯೋಗ (ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ) ದ ಮೇಲೆ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಜೈವಿಕವಾದ ವಿವಿಧ ಪ್ರಭೇದ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಕೇಕಡಾ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	84.2	69.0	77.7	36.4
14.	ಸ್ವಂತ ಸಂಚಾರಕ್ಕೆ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧಗಳಿಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಪ್ರಭೇದ ಜಾಗೃತ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಕೇಕಡಾ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	95.7	32.5	91.4	17.1
15.	ಐಸಿಐ: ಅನ್ವಯಕ್ಕೆ ಗುರಿಯಾಗುವ ವಿವಿಧ ಪ್ರಭೇದ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಕೇಕಡಾ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ.	11.4	12.2	21.6	21.9
16.	ಕುಟುಂಬದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವಲ್ಲಿ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕವಾದ ವಿವಿಧ ಪ್ರಭೇದ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಕೇಕಡಾ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	0.2	2.0	1.4	5.4

ಕೋಟಾಕ 3.

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಕಸುಮಾಪತಿ: ಬುಟ್ಟಿಯರು
ಸಿರಿಗತಿಯ ಸುಾಕಕಗಟ್ಟ ಯಾಲ್ಯಗಟ್ಟ

(ದ್ವಿಪಯ ತ್ರೀಕ ಯಾಕಿಯಂದ ಯಾಲ್ಯ ಪದದದ್ದು)

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಸುಾಕಕ	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು (ಸಗರ) ಕಟ್ಟ		ತುಮಕೂರು ಕಟ್ಟ	
		ಪ್ರಮುಖರು	ಯಾಲ್ಯಯರು	ಪ್ರಮುಖರು	ಯಾಲ್ಯಯರು
1.	ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯತೆ ಕಲಾಪಾಕದ ಸ್ಪರ್ಷದ ಯುತ್ತು ಚುನಾಯಿತರಾದ ಯುತ್ರಿಗಟ್ಟ ಕೇಕದವಾರು				
	ಬ) ಲಢಾವಣೆಗೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಟ್ಟ, 1999				
	(i) ಯತೆ ಕಲಾಪಾಕದ ಯುತ್ರಿಗಟ್ಟ ಕೇಕದವಾರು	55.59	52.44	77.44	70.35
	(ii) ಸ್ಪರ್ಷದ ಯುತ್ರಿಗಟ್ಟ ಕೇಕದವಾರು	94.80	5.20	78.68	1.32
	(iii) ಚುನಾಯಿತರಾದ ಯುತ್ರಿಗಟ್ಟ ಕೇಕದವಾರು	26.03	25.00	34.67	-
	ಬ) ಲಢಾವಣೆಗೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಟ್ಟ, 1999				
	(i) ಯತೆ ಕಲಾಪಾಕದ ಯುತ್ರಿಗಟ್ಟ ಕೇಕದವಾರು	58.35	56.11	77.09	70.18
	(ii) ಸ್ಪರ್ಷದ ಯುತ್ರಿಗಟ್ಟ ಕೇಕದವಾರು	100.00	-	100.00	-
	(iii) ಚುನಾಯಿತರಾದ ಯುತ್ರಿಗಟ್ಟ ಕೇಕದವಾರು	17.65	-	25.00	-

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ 3 ಯುಎಂಎಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ

		ಅಂಕಸಂಖ್ಯೆ (ನಗರ)		ತಮಿಳುನಾಡು	
		ಪ್ರಭುತ್ವ	ಯುಜಿಎಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ	ಪ್ರಭುತ್ವ	ಯುಜಿಎಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ
2.	ನಿರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವವರ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯರು (31-3-99 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇದ್ದಂತೆ)				
	ಎ) ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ	81.45°	18.55°	88.57	11.43
	ಬಿ) ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ	76.06°	23.94°	68.15	31.85
	ಸಿ) ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಯುಜಿಎಲ್‌ಗಳು	68.71°	31.29°	94.87	5.13
	ಡಿ) ಒಟ್ಟು	77.02°	22.98°	71.45	28.55
3.	10 ನೇ ಯುಎಂಎಲ್ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿಸಿದ ಅನುಭವಗಳ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯರು (ಏಪ್ರಿಲ್ 1999)	50.50	49.50	55.65	44.35
4.	ಪಾಠಶಾಲಾ ಸಂಘಟನೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವವರ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	91.14	8.86	96.38	3.62
5	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಸಾಲದ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	80.09	19.91	76.70	23.30

○ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಪ್ರಯಾಣ ಮತ್ತು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿದೆ.

ಕೋಟ್ಯಂತ 4

ಸಲಾಹೀಯಾದ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಿದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಫಲಿತಗಳು

ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ವೀಯತಾಣ ಲಕ್ಷಣಕ್ಕೆ ಗುಂಪಿನ ಚರ್ಚೆಗಳು

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸವಾಗಬರುವುದುಗಳು	ಸಲಾಹೀಯಾದ ತ್ರಿಕೋನ		ವಿಭೇದ ತ್ರಿಕೋನ	
		ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	ಮಾಪನ	ಪ್ರಮಾಣ	ಮಾಪನ
1.	ಲಕ್ಷಣಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರಿವಿನಿಂದ ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳ ಒಟ್ಟು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	30	51	30	51
2.	ಭೂಮಿಯ ಒಡೆತನ ಹೊಂದಿರುವುದು ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	6 (20.0)	24	4 (13.33)	24
3.	ಮನೆಯ ಕಾನೂನುಬಾಹಿರ ಒಡೆತನ ಹೊಂದಿರುವುದು ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	14 (46.67)	6.0	12 (40.0)	3 (5.88)
4.	ಸಮಯ ಹೊಂದಿರುವುದು ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	27 (90.0)	19	28 (93.33)	29 (56.88)
5.	ತನ್ನ ಗಂಡನಿಗೆ ಹಿಂದೆಗೆ ತನ್ನ ಸಮಾನತೆಯ ಒಪ್ಪಿಸುವುದು ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	6 (20.0)	11	4 (13.33)	14 (27.45)
6.	ನಿರಾಧಾರ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವುದು ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	28 (93.3)	45	30 (100.0)	3 (5.88)
7.	ಹಿಂಸೆ: ಕಿರುಕುಳ ಅನುಭವಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಎರಡು ಮಾತಿಯಿಂದ ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	5 (16.67)	14	17 (56.67)	27 (52.94)

ಉದ್ದೇಶ :

ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆಗಳಿಂದ ಹಿಂಸೆಯ ಉತ್ತರಿಸುವ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳಿಂದ
ಕೇವಲ ಪ್ರಮಾಣವನ್ನು ಕಾಣುತ್ತದೆ.

ಕೋಷ್ಟಕ 5

ಜಿಡಿಪಿ ಮತ್ತು ಜಿಇಎಂ ಗಳ ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಸೂಚ್ಯಂಕ	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು (ನಗರ) ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ	ತುಮಕೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ
1.	ಅಂಗಸಂಬಂಧಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಸೂಚ್ಯಂಕ (ಜಿಡಿಪಿ)		
	(i) ಹೆಚ್.ಡಿ.ಆರ್	0.546	0.435
	(ii) ಸುಖಾಕ್ಷೇಪ (ಹೆಚ್.ಡಿ.ಆರ್: ಯುವನಿರತರ ಒಪ್ಪಂದದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಒಟ್ಟು ಸೂಚಕಗಳನ್ನು ಬಳಸುವುದು)	0.561	0.475
	(iii) ಸುಖಾಕ್ಷೇಪ (ಹೆಚ್.ಡಿ.ಆರ್: ಯುವನಿರತರ ಗಳಿಸಿದ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಸೂಚಕಗಳನ್ನು ಬಳಸುವುದು)	0.457	0.419
2.	ಮಾನ್ಯತೆಯಾಗಿ ಶಕ್ತಿ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕ್ರಮಗಳು(ಜಿಇಎಂ)		
	(i) ಸುಖಾಕ್ಷೇಪ (ಯುವನಿರತರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಒಟ್ಟು ಸೂಚಕಗಳನ್ನು ಬಳಸುವುದು)	0.867	0.355
	(ii) ಸುಖಾಕ್ಷೇಪ (ಯುವನಿರತರ ಒಟ್ಟು ಸೂಚಕಗಳನ್ನು ಬಳಸುವುದು)	0.703	0.485

- * GDI - Gender Development Index.
- * GEM - Gender Empowerment Measure.
- * HDR - Human Development Report.



Karnataka Women's Information and Resource Centre

an activity of the Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation

Tharanga, 10th Cross, Raj Mahal Vilas Extension, Bangalore-560 080.
Tel : 91-80-334 0928 • Fax : 91-80-346 1762
E-Mail : sstfb@giasbg01.vsnl.net.in

24 April 2000.

Dr. Thelma Narayan
Co-Ordinator
Community Health Cell
Bangalore - 560 034

Dear Sir/ Madam,

We hope you have received the Report we mailed you, on the 20th March Consultation that you attended. Please telephone us, if it has not reached you.

We would like to reconvene the same group on May 3rd
at 10.00 a.m.
at Tharanaga,

so that we may

1. Hear your comments on the Report, your ideas for action.
2. Report to you progress we have made since then (Report of two committees + Tumkur conference).
3. Also to receive from you the format we gave you to fill (ie which locales are you working with women).

We also have a meeting in Tumkur on May 2nd (formal invitation attached). If you are able to join us for that also we would be very happy.

We will have buses from Tharanga and will take care of all expenses you incur getting here.

Since time is short we would be grateful if you could phone us immediately regarding your acceptance both for May 3rd, in Bangalore and May 2nd in Tumkur.

With all good wishes.

Yours Sincerely,

Suman Kolhar
(Suman Kolhar)

Programme Co-ordinator, KWIRC

AP

pl. sup + sup I will be sup
- you can go instead of me
on 2nd.

Jw
27/4.

38
27/4/2000

Suman
27/4/2000

To
TN

holl
27/4

called up KWIRC
& informed them that
I am attaching.



Karnataka Women's Information and Resource Centre

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Tel : 91-80-334 0928 ● Fax : 91-80-346 1762

E-Mail : sstfb@giasbg01.vsnl.net.in

21.04.00

Dear Sir/ Madam:

As part of our interest in Strengthening Women's Participation in District Level Governance, in 1999 we conducted an innovative pilot methodological household survey for gender audit in two districts of Karnataka, namely, Bangalore (urban) and Tumkur. In order to disseminate the findings of the survey and to modify/simplify (if necessary) the proforma used for the survey, we are organising in collaboration with the Zilla Parishad, a district level Conference in Tumkur on the 2nd May 2000 from 9-30 am to 4 p.m. The venue of the Conference is ZP meeting hall, Tumkur.

The Conference will be attended by women Zilla Parishad and Grama Sabha members and State level and District level officers, representatives of NGOs and research organisations. We would seek their opinion on the tool of gender audit as well as their advice on its adaptation and link it to the national data collection systems.

We would also elicit response and participation by the EWR's present on the idea of associating themselves, as a group.

We would deeply appreciate your participation in this endeavour. We would arrange transportation from Bangalore for those who are coming from Bangalore. Lunch will be served at Tumkur. Kindly let us know your availability and requirements.

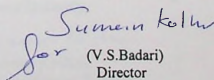
On May 3rd, the following day we wish to have a retrospective meeting, following through the ideas and actions coming out of the 20th March consultation. We request you to participate in that meeting also and confirm your availability to

Savitha or Rajeswari at 3340929 or 3462492 or Fax 346 1762

so that we may make appropriate arrangements.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,


(V.S. Badari)
Director



Karnataka Women's Information and Resource Centre

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Tharanga, 10th Cross, Raj Mahal Vilas Extension, Bangalore-560 080.

Tel : 91-80-334 0928 • Fax : 91-80-346 1762

E-Mail : ssfb@giasbg01.vsnl.net.in

DATE : 10.04.2000

Dr. Thelma Narayan
Co-Ordinator
Community Health Cell
Srinivasa Nilaya, Jakkasandra 1st Main
Koramangala 1st Block, Bangalore-34
Dear Dr. Thelma Narayan

We thank you very much for attending the one day consultations with Karnataka based Organisations on Associating Elected Women Representatives in Panchayat Raj Institutes held on 20th March 2000 at Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation, Bangalore and providing your suggestions which was of great value to us.

Please find enclosed a copy of the proceedings. We thank you once again and look forward for your kind co-operation in the near future.

Best Regards,

Suman Kolhar

Suman Kolhar

Programme Coordinator, KWIRC

AP. to see - *than fill.*
Pl. start a resource file on
"Associating Elected Women Representatives
in Panchayat Raj Institutions!
L
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The discussions held in the one-day interaction at Bangalore on 20th March 1999 marked the following parameters for an effective programme intervention in women and their participation in panchayati raj.

- It emphasised *the need for a new kind of political consciousness* in elected women representatives. One that would liberate them from existing straitjackets of identity politics on the one hand and, on the other, from current male-defined models of power. Thus *women should come together on a broad, gender based platform of solidarity*. This would effectively bring *gender* into *governance* and so lead to *good governance*.
- It was the consensus that in looking at women, in reaching out to them, *the first priority should be the poor and the marginalised*.
- *We have to go far beyond* the physical entity of reservation of seats for women. Reservations are necessary but not a sufficient condition.
- Women arrive at their own priorities in local governance. These priorities deserve to be given a high value because it shows women's (especially poor women's) interest in sustainability, in social infrastructure, in equity, in good governance. Poor women's situation very often questions the existing paradigms of development. These questions and these long range perspectives *should be valorised*.
- In tandem with the above point, *we need to evolve new yardsticks* in order to build alternatives, whether it is political philosophy, or networks or evaluator criteria.
- The programme needs to *build in accountability*. The accountability of elected women representatives to constituencies of the poor, the oppressed and the marginalised women. These links should continue to be strong throughout. This is a validating, supporting and empowering process for the EWR's. It harmonizes individual and collective leadership.
- The programme *needs to recognise women's multiple identities* in the political processes and should address all of them - women as voters, supporters, candidates, resource persons, defeated candidates, former candidates, family members, members of networks, members of gram sabhas, etc.
- A sustained *gender perspective has to be ensured throughout the programme*, otherwise the EWR's will find that the burdens and the pressures of day to day working in local government will dissipate the focus away to 'bread and butter' or 'potboiling' issues away from 'transformational' strategies.
- One of the negative features of the present system is *its lack of transparency* and the difficulties which the women experience in getting information timely. Instruments such as the roster and the no confidence motion are used against women in the absence of full information and knowledge. *The right to information should be taken up as a crusade in the programme*.
- The isolate which women suffer from as a feature of their gender identity should be addressed, again, through the collective mode of functioning. Women like to exchange their experiences through forums and networks, it lessens their feeling of helplessness and vulnerability. Their relating to other women across caste and class helps in the construction of solidarity in the programme. Collectivities should be a

prominent feature of any programme intervention. These networks or forums should be built up and strengthened slowly, nurtured by the women at their own pace and not hurried through.

- Backlash against women's entry into political activities in local government has to be safeguarded against. The insistence on literacy, on the two child norm, on the availability of toilets, are all instances of anti-poor, anti-women basis. Women take themselves very seriously in local governance and these types of defeats demoralise them. Confidence building measures become a primary concern for any programme intervention.
- There is need to construct feminist theory in India from the experiences of women at the grass roots in political participation and governance. The stories of transformation of individual women through participation in these processes can be collected and profiled to yield some useful construction of theory. Women's agony, their inability to articulate their feelings except through tears, their exposure to physical violence, all these experiences should be encased when constructing theory of discourse.

Associating Elected Women Representatives in PRI Institutions.

Proceedings of the meeting held on 20 March 2000.

A one day consultation on associating women in Panchayati Raj Institution was held in Bangalore on March 20, 2000. Karnataka Women's Information and Resource Centre organised the programme in which around 45 people participated. There were activists, journalists, Government officials and advocates. This consultation was a prelude to the networking of elected women representatives (EWR's) in 4 southern states initiated by KWIRC.

The programme started at ten in the morning. Ms. Suman Kolhar, programme coordinator, welcomed the gathering and explained the objectives of the programme. Mr. V.S. Badari and Mr. Parthasarathy offered their felicitations.

Ms. Meera Saxena Secretary Women and Child Development, Government of Karnataka. She has seen the functioning of the village panchayats when she was working in the Rural Development Department in the state. She has seen the women sitting silently, at the back. But she observed that when the matters were discussed which were of interest to them the women spoke up. She felt that the women basically lacked self confidence. She felt that training and exposure were the most vital interventions to build up women's self confidence and self image. Deputy Commissioners were earlier, disqualifying elected women members for not attending the panchayat meetings. But it is a fact that these women are not allowed to attend the meetings. It is not women's choice not to attend the meetings. The position is the same in urban bodies, where recently a legal literacy workshop was held and less than one third of the municipal councilors attended. Realising the crucial role that access to timely information plays in women's political participation, she emphasised the need for transparency in the panchayati raj programmes and processes, especially those related to the elections.

Revathi Narayan Director Mahila Samakhya, spoke of how the programme was often confronted with outside perceptions of all the negativities of women's performance and participation in panchayati raj, such as 'women can't do it', 'they don't have the capacity', etc. She spoke of the need for an alternative network, one that will not only count numbers, but which combines gender and governance. Merely placing the women in one third of the seats will not mean anything, women could be, and are, very often, co-opted into the system. Mahila Samakhya, on the other hand, has strived to become a supportive network to women, providing sustained solidarity to elected women representatives. Mahila Samakhya's emphasis is on poor women and in building their collectivities. One elected woman representative would have a group or sangha of 30

women to whom she is accountable. The EWR's keep their links with the group and call upon their collective energies and talents to help her discharge her duties. The group guides and briefs her on the important issues which she should take up in the panchayat meetings. Many sangha women had stood for elections in the post-93 scenario. Many won and some lost. Revathi stressed the importance of developing yard sticks, so essential for building an alternative network, as well as an accountability mechanism. Mahila Samakhya also encourages women to participate in the Gram Sabha meetings and to interact directly with panchayats. Building up of self confidence in the elected women, (a point stressed by Ms. Meera Saxena in her remarks), reaching and maintaining a critical size for the support network by building up a federation of sanghas, instilling a gender perspective in all activities and process, encouraging women to participate in all aspects of the political process-voting, campaigning, standing for elections, supporting EWRs. Mahila Samakhya is developing and using learner friendly training materials.

Dr. Revathi Narayanan mentioned that they are running a publication called Sanchari and are willing to publish news letters regarding our network.

Rajani from SEARCH, spoke of the institution's experiences over the last seven years of working with women at the Gram Panchayat level. The institution identified the need to break the feelings of isolation that the women suffered from as the first step in building up self confidence. The institution also realised the need to create a forum or a space for exchange of experiences by the women, which would also help to build up their solidarity. The women discovered a similarity of situations and contexts which made mutual sharing and learning easy. SEARCH helped them to set up a network so that they could meet together often. The network (which is two years old) started with 27 women which has now increased to 65. It meets once in three months, at different places for about four days. The pace is slow and gradual, issues taken up are often small and localised - for example, one GP's success in tackling the liquor problem inspired the other GP to do likewise with the help of the network. EWR's who are defeated subsequently, still continue with the network activities and membership. Each district has at least 3-4 members of the network.

Another initiative taken by SEARCH was to hold camps in which potential women candidates could be screened and identified. About 200 such camps have been held. SEARCH also plans to cover at least 80% of the women through training programmes at district, regional and state levels.

Dr. Shanta Mohan from NIAS traced the events which made the institution get interested in the subject of women in local governance. It happened during the recent elections when they saw how the women were being marginalised in the electoral process, through the misuse of the roster, through aggression and violence, etc. The women who were elected in the earlier two elections were not successful this time. They were kept back. NIAS now intends to work with men as well as women, with gram panchayat's as well as with communities outside, with organisations who were making interventions in the area, from the pre-election phase to the end of the present term of the panchayats, as well as in providing training.

She compared what she called the 'long term' interests (violence, health, education) of women with the 'short term' goals of men, (infrastructure, buildings) which appeared more immediate and thus were able to subsume women's more lasting perspectives and plans. It is clear that what is 'effective' need not be gendered as per conventional yardsticks. One of the dalit women who had won from a high caste constituency had raised a question, to whom is she accountable? Her own community which had supported and encouraged her or the community from where she stood for election and won only because she was from a particular category?

During the last session of the day, which was chaired by Meera M. She extended support to Associating initiatives on behalf of ISST, by disseminating relevant information regarding SSF's initiatives to network EWRs, through UMA PRACHAR, which is a known newsletter of ISST.

Ms. Meera intervened to present before the gathering two important points

1. The emerging scenario as seen during present elections of "unopposed and unanimous" elections to the GPs and that this number is comparatively very high for women members.

This trends commands greater understanding in terms of "what exactly is unanimous? Who did not oppose? Who proposes etc?"

2. Another point placed by Meera. M was the need to juxtapose the above scenario with the prevailing power structures within the villages and how much of a deciding factor it is? And how are women coping and performing their roles as EWRs within the given conflicting power paradigms in rural India. How do we plan to equip them to perform effectively?

And she felt, solidarity networks/ Association of EWRs could strengthen them more so in this context.

Asha Ramesh from NIAS, referred to her previous studies on Karnataka and Gujarat, profiling the elected women. The instrument of the 'no-confidence motion' was harsh on women. The elected women resented the total control exercised over them by the male panchayat secretary, they preferred a woman to take charge of the office. Asha presented disturbing statistics from the recent gram panchayat level elections showing that a large number of women were elected unopposed. As against 54 odd thousand elections that took place, about 19,000 candidates were elected unopposed. Women were not very visible in the election campaigns here. It was the men who went round campaigning, distributing liquor sachets!! Women distributed blouse pieces with betel nuts. She re-iterated the finding that all women who came this time to the panchayats were first timers. Women have now realised that they were being controlled, used and manipulated. They are disillusioned. Women are very earnest and conscientious about their responsibilities as EWR's and hence tend to take even a slight set back very

seriously. Echoing most of the other speakers, she dwelt on the need to build up the confidence of the EWR's. When she asked the newly elected women about their priority task, they replied that alcoholism was their first concern. Women were kept away from information about training programmes. In Karnataka there are lots of training programmes but most of the women are not able to take advantage of these opportunities. Disempowering strategies were also being proposed by men, such as the insistence that women who stand for elections should be 'somewhat' literate. She said even Deputy Commissioners were beginning to sing this tune.

NIAS representative said that often elected male representatives go for short term agendas which are more tangible in nature like roads or buildings and EWR's go for eradicating liquor menace and reaching drinking water facility to the villagers etc. That means the priorities set by women and men are not the same. There comes the question of setting the standards for evaluation. Hence there is a vital need for redefining what good governance is. She observed that in pre-election scenario, post-election scenario, and in election scenario women are excluded completely. NIAS have plans to work with both men and women to reset the norms of gender governance in the next five years. A new letter in Kannada is sent to all EWR's. There is a need to make it mandatory for female Secretaries for women Presidents, otherwise Secretaries tend to take superior roles. Mobility is a problem faced by EWR's so the training programs should be conducted closer to the Taluk quarters. Many times EWR's feel that they are not fairing well. This is because women take up their work seriously.

Dr. Subha from ISS spoke about the efforts made by the organisation to link up the elected women from Karnataka with those of Kerala. In spite of initial reservations, inhibitions and shyness the experiment ended with a sense of great achievement and solidarity. 2 teams of women from Karnataka went to Kerala. Women who were elected to the gram panchayat level now are planning to stand for elections at the next higher levels. They are also conducting research regarding women in gram panchayat. Dr. Shubha also mentioned that 'Update' a newsletter has been published about gram panchayat in Kannada and English and is willing to contribute their views in connection to our network in "Update" on appropriate payment basis. She also explained about the outcome of the exposure trip they conducted to Kottayam in Kerala for a group of EWR's. They showed much enthusiasm in learning new things. She said that the little little things made a big difference to them.

C.P. Sujava presented her paper, which is still work-in-progress, entitled "Towards a New Synergy in Political Consciousness. Elected women representatives in Panchayats, grass roots groups of women, volags and other organisations of civil society"

The paper first presents findings on the performance and participants of women in local governance arrived at in various reviews and evaluations. Then it dwells on the interventions of local ngo's which have helped the elected women to broaden and deepen their social action agendas and the relationship between the elected women and the volags. The next part of the paper presents some details of existing networks of elected representatives in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. She then

went on to describe the growth of grass roots groups and other similar collectivities under varying situations and their contributions to the advancement of women's collective strength. Finally an attempt is made to explore the possibility of a more meaningful partnership between different types of women's organisations and collectives and how this can be used to further the political agenda of women in governance through the panchayati raj system.

The findings presented by Sujaya included the following:-

- Elected women are keenly aware of the constraints in their working environment. But they also feel that they would be able to function much better if these external constraints are removed.'
- Women from the dalit and other marginalised groups suffer from special problems which need to be addressed with strategies of collective strength.
- Women face tremendous physical, mental and psychological violence and abuse in their life as elected representatives in the panchayats.
- Women EWR's priorities livelihood and everyday struggles, outside interventions create new spaces for action and thought.
- There are many examples of how local action groups have inspired EWR's and local women to take up issues of environment and sustainability. An example from Maharashtra is of village women able to access their property through the efforts of a campaign for women's rights. Another example from the same state is the action initiated by two gram panchayat's to recycle organic wastes on their own, under the tutelage of local volags. This led to a paradigm shift in the priorities of the largely male dominated panchayats who were earlier interested in construction and infrastructure. The Rights to Information campaign of MKSS led to panchayat campaigns fought on shoes string budgets and ethical principles, with manifestoes reflecting equity based proposals.
- Existing networks of elected representatives in the northern states as well as Andhra Pradesh have been set up by elected male representatives, though they have created spaces for women. Their main agenda seems to be advocacy and lobbying for increased powers to panchayats. More information is needed on these networks.
- The number of women's groups, collectives, user associations, mahila mandals etc. has grown exponentially in the last two or three decades. Many of them have come up in response to new Government-guided strategies of women's development and planning (as for example, DWCRA, RMK, etc.) Many have been set up with greater autonomy on women's part but still linked to Government programmes such as Mahila Samakhya, WDP, etc. Self help groups, more recently, are being set up in large numbers to involve women in a variety of activities, credit being the main activity.
- Most of these groups have discovered the flexibility to experiment with different inputs and broaden their working. Even the ICDS has been able to use the anganwadi as the trigger for forming "anganwadi self help groups" as in Karanataka, which are being funded by the State Women's Development Corporation. Many Mahila Mandals are not longer status-quo entities but have been yoked to radical and activist platforms by volags such as CINI, SUTRA, etc. The panchayats in general

and EWR's in particular, should interact with these collectives so that decentralised planning is becomes both 'effective' and 'gendered'.

- There was also some disquiet regarding the parallel lines of functioning in the rural areas by many organisations, which directly affected the jurisdiction and autonomy of local government.

Sujaya also summed up the presentations and interactions that took place in the morning sessions.

Issues raised during the discussions

Some of the important issues that came during the discussions on the presentations are recounted here Deepa Dhanraj brought out the dangers inherent in the elected women vacating the political space at the grass roots, in their search for a new individuality that is sought to be far removed from the corruption of identity politics of caste and class variety. The questions that was being thrown up then, is whether women can carve out a new political ethos, or in other words, can women use the panchayats to transform the present politics of confrontation, violence, money use and exploitation of voters through a new feminist political personality? Aleyamma Vijayan pointed out the examples coming into prominence in Kerala where the party structure is so strong that it inhibited women from political self expression. Examples were also quoted of apolitical women whose growing awareness and conscientisation were seen as threats to keep them out of elections. To what extent women will use the existing power structures, alliances and processes was also debated.

Commitments made by the participants at the conclusion of the meeting.

- It is to be noted whether these EWR's are able to make a political constituency of their own.
- Now 'not making money' is out in the open for discussions. The newly elected representatives say that they won't do the same 'mistake' as their predecessors did of not making money.
- Control of political parties in Panchayat elections are strong now than earlier.
- Women should also be able to 'use' or utilise the political parties.
- Residency is an issue which comes up during elections. One Dalit women was picked up and made to stand for election in a non-dalit area and she won the election. She wonders whom she represent in the Panchayat. Her own people or the people who made her won the election. So it should be made mandatory that only those belonging to a particular ward should contest from that particular ward. Like it is for the MLS's and MPs's.
- There should be something like 'mobile training teams' which does vertical as well as horizontal integration programs. For this we can make strong EWR's as key resource persons.
- Should be able to link press with the activities so that the success stories of women get influenced.
- Remuneration of EWR's presently given is quite less. It should be increased.

- The notion of good leader is redefined now.
- Women facing common problems have a tendency to bond together across various divisions.
- Just by putting 33.3% of women in Panchayats can't ensure gender governance.
- Women are facing problems during elections as they are deprived of their rights and are not in a position to take shelter under the existing law. Hence it is a must that training should be provided to these women to assert their rights.

Dr. Devaki Jain who chaired the session held that she sees the need of the network of women representatives as of two reasons, the reservation policy and of component plan that is executed in places like Kerala.

Sujaya presented a paper afterwards based on her observation on elected women representatives.

Later in the evening Mr. V.S. Badari and Ms. Ahalya Bhat explained about the concepts of gender audit and the Report brought out by this Foundation on "Strengthening Women's participation in District Level Governance through Gender Audit" based on the pilot survey funded by GEF (CIDA). The study was conducted to develop intelligible Gender Audits at the district level and to demonstrate how the data can be obtained from a survey that is simple enough to be collected periodically by district agencies. Bangalore urban and Tumkur districts were selected for the survey and on a sample basis 2500 households in each district was canvassed through a well designed questionnaire. The final set of indicators recommended by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India, and some of the indicators suggested in the Conference held at the Foundation were included. Besides the Focus Group Discussions were conducted separately for male and female respondents on major issues such as owning assets, violence, harassment linkage, decision making, mobility etc. The survey covered the data on sex ratio, work participation, ownership of assets, time spent on economic activities, literacy, sterilization, savings, violence, harassment, decision making etc. including the data on women's well being. The data was presented through a projector with relevant explanations by Mr. Badari.

Based on the data collected through the survey and also using the secondary data the indicators used in the computation of GDI and GEM using the UNDP methodology was demonstrated through the projector by Mrs. Ahalya Bhat. She also mentioned that the two measures focussed on the inequality between male and female.

The findings and the experience of the household survey including focus group discussion reveal that it is possible to conduct sample household surveys for this kind of meaningful data preferably by simplifying the questionnaire.

At the fag end of the day, it was the time to draw up conclusion. Ms. Suman Kolhar and Ms. Meera requested the participants how they could help to form the network of EWR's in Karnataka. On the basis of the opinion of the participants, it was decided to form committees on two aspects - training and documentation in order to support the networking programmes.

In the end Ms. Suman Kolhar, Programme Co-ordinator proposed a vote of thanks to one and all.

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WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE IN ANDHRA PRADESH

A paper presented at the seminar organised by the Institute of Social Studies Trust
Bangalore on Women in Local Governance: Experiences and Effective Strategies in
Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra
1st and 2nd of June, 2000

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The revitalization stage of Panchayati Raj, which had set in the late 70s, brought about several structural and functional changes in the system. One significant change is the passing of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment in 1993 which provided for reservation of not less than one third of seats and chair-positions to women in the Panchayati Raj bodies. The amendment, which could be regarded as one of the important achievements of the Indian Women's Movement, created high hopes among all those concerned about the increased and active involvement of women in grass roots politics, especially in decision-making. The expectation is that reservations to women could facilitate 'bigger and better share' to them in the whole process, 'infuse democratic way of functioning' in local government, help for decline in corruption and provide a space for women in the male dominated political sphere. Reservations are also considered to be responsible for offsetting and unsettling the status quo and for beginning the process of bringing out 'simple women' in the task of governance.

This paper would focus on the pattern of recruitment and performance of women members and chair-persons in Panchayati Raj institutions in Andhra Pradesh; experience of the writer in awareness generation, information dissemination and training of women in general and elected women members in particular; identification of future trends and the strategies for the political empowerment of rural women.

EXPERIENCE : Andhra Pradesh is one of the few states to introduce the system of Panchayati Raj as early as 1959. The component of the present three tier system are Zilla Parishads, Mandal Parishads and Gram Panchayats. The Mandal Parishads are smaller units than the former Panchayat Samithis and the Mandal Parishads are organised with the objective of 'going nearer to the door steps of the rural public'. Andhra Pradesh is the first state to provide early in 1986 reservation of chair-positions to women in Panchayati Raj bodies. The Andhra Pradesh Mandala Praja Parishads, Zilla Praja Parishads and Zilla Pranalika Abhivruddhi Sameeksha Mandals Act, 1986 provided reservation of 9% of the total number of offices of chairman of Zilla Praja Parishads and Presidents of Mandala Praja Parishads to women. This Act is important in that it ensured representation to women in key positions. The state is implementing the provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment and one generation of women members and chair persons have completed their term.

Seven years have passed since the passing of the Constitutional Amendment and it is appropriate to take stock of the experiences to plan for the future. The male dominated social setting, including the political has been strongly against the sharing of power by men and women. In a large number of cases, caste, familial or social nearness to the presidents of panchayat bodies have been given greatest importance in the recruitment process.⁴ Hence the quality of membership got heavily compromised in the first two decades of the implementation of the system of Panchayati Raj in general. Significant variations between the attendance in records and actual attendance were present. While the above had been the general trend, some women, though very few in number, had made real contributions. They moved resolutions and participated in deliberations and decisions. Women in key positions with interest and talent could play considerably important roles in decision-making. Sitamahalakshmi, who served as Sarpanch of Mukkamala Gram Panchayat in early sixties was a very active and promising woman and her Sarpanchship provided a source of inspiration to other women. She had several achievements to her credit, but was later forced to surrender her office. Threats, deadlocks, challenges, non-cooperation by officials and traditional objections- all have had their impact on the forced surrender of the office by this woman.⁵ During the period when 9% reservation of chair-positions was in operation, two women became Zilla Parishad presidents and 101 women served as presidents of Mandal Parishads. Of the 101 women Presidents of Mandal Parishads, 3 got elected to positions unreserved for women. These figures indicate a quantitative increase in respect of women's position in leadership roles and this was because of reservations. Selection of capable women must have led to qualitative improvement. It is needless to say that all sorts of manipulations have had their play in the choice of women candidates. But micro level studies made very clear that a new and young women's leadership had emerged. This is a sign of revitalization in the context of women's participation in the Panchayati Raj bodies. In a study conducted by the writer in 1989, it was found that not a negligible percentage of women (12%) contested for and assumed leadership roles. It is personal interest and initiative that had contributed to their decision to contest. Familial connections continued to have influence on recruitment but the impact was less than what it was in the 60s and 70s. Thirty two percent of the women elected as presidents, though nominally induced, performed effective roles with the help of family members and in some cases with the very active cooperation of husbands. Twenty eight percent of the women presidents were endowed with the ability to perform independent roles.⁶

Ganta Deenamma, former president of Yelamanchili Mandal Parishad West Godavari District, Subbalakshmi, former president of Undi Mandal Parishad in West Godavari District, Nagamani, former president of Bashirabad Mandal in Ranga Reddi District, Mallela Gouri, former president of Bikkavolu Mandal Parishad in East Godavari District, Parvati, former president of Anaparty Mandal Parishad in East Godavari District, Nalini Ram, former president of Kuppam Mandal Parishad in Chittoore District, Amudavalli, former president of Pichatur Mandal Parishad in Chittoore District, Gandu Savitramma, former president, Kesamudram Mandal Parishad in Warangal District and presently, member, State Commission for Women, Andhra Pradesh, Subhadramma, former president of Jammalamadugu Mandal Parishad in Cuddapa District are among the efficient women who served as chairpersons at the middle level institutions. Mrinalini, former president, Srikakulam Zilla Parishad, Rajeswari, former president of West Godavari Zilla Parishad, Geeta, former president of East Godavari Zilla Parishad have been successful women presidents at

the district level institutions. Very recently, Geeta has been elected to Rajya Sabha. The role of nominal performers was overshadowed by the officials or husbands thereby, defeating the purpose of reservation.

POST AMENDMENT SCENARIO: The post amendment phase proved beyond doubt that the women in Panchayati Raj moved from peripheral to leadership roles. In fact young and new women's leadership has increased which is made clear by field investigations in Andhra Pradesh. Several success stories have also come to lime light. A few examples could be given here. Karuna who had completed her term very recently contested and won a general seat in Chimvenla Mandal of Nalgonda District and later got elected as Mandal President, which position was reserved to Scheduled Caste women. This young woman's experience has been one of struggle and confrontation with officials, party leadership and the government at higher level. Cutting across several barriers, she could get benefits to her Mandal, concentrating on problems of drinking water, irrigation and education. She successfully fought against misappropriation, erring officials and a manipulated no-confidence motion. She carried the struggle with remarkable confidence and succeeded both in protecting her dignity and promoting democratic values.

Srinivasa Kumari, Sarpanch, Tadepalli village in Guntur District worked in a totally different atmosphere. This committed young woman has been a very efficient persuader, problem solver, and administrator. With a planned and phased programme, she repaid the loan left by her predecessor and mobilized funds for development works. Her focus has been on education, irrigation and other amenities to the villagers. She strongly feels that women are honest and could provide good politics. She said that women concentrate more on meeting the needs than on power, but for men power occupies top priority.⁸

In her recent field trip on 9th, 10th and 11th of April 2000, the writer interviewed women presidents of 14 Mandals in the East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh. A high proportion of these women are young, educated and are new entrants in respect of political involvement. Six of them have a very clear perception of their role and six have a reasonably good view. This is really an encouraging trend. An improvement in the quality of membership and an increase in the number of interested women are clearly visible. Of the remaining two women, one is ignorant and the other has a very limited perception of her role. Male domination in the case of three women and male interference in the performance of seven women were noticed. The remaining four women presidents have been independently performing their roles. As regards educational levels, two are graduates, two had education up to intermediate level, eight have secondary level education and those with elementary educational qualifications are two.

Kamidi Sitamahalakshmi of Karapa, Alamanda Vijayalakshmi of Tuni, Pechetti Vijayalakshmi of Ainavilli, Busi Jayalakshmi of Kothapeta and Sridevi of Mummidivaram are important among the Mandal presidents who have successfully completed their term very recently. Extensive interviews with these women revealed that commitment, honesty, service orientation and dedication are their cardinal virtues. Twenty eight year old Sita Mahalakshmi said "I have accepted the position not for the sake of status and power but to serve people. I strongly feel that development does not come all of a sudden, but takes place in stages". "Am I not competent to contest?

is the question that every woman is now posing to herself", said Vijayalakshmi of Tuni Mandal.¹⁰ Within a short period of assuming office, this woman picked up courage and feels that there is a lot to be done for women by women. Thirty five years old Pechetti Vijayalakshmi, emphasizing on the need for women's participation in the political process and for purposeful implementation of reservation told the writer that with increasing awareness, women are definitely going to be active in the political process. "I have the satisfaction that I performed my duties to the best of my capacity, and my work is recognized in each of the villages in my Mandal", she concluded.¹¹ Sridevi of Mummdivaram faced tough opposition from the local party leadership for being honest and committed. But her courage and the support of colleagues as well as public enabled her to successfully fight against four no-confidence motions.¹² Busi Jayalakshmi, the wife of a staunch TDP party worker in Kothapeta has shown concern for the development of her Mandal and a special concern for promoting the interests of Scheduled Castes. She regularly conducted Gram Sabhas and earned reputation as a powerful mobilizer of public support. Pointing out that women's presence makes a difference, she said that the kind of politics men and women play would be markedly different. "For women, respect and reputation are important, but men prefer conflicts and money making", she added. She is interested in contesting a second time and emphatically said "I had established positive influence on the people, and am confident that they would support me. I was always and am available to the people. Whenever they called, I went to help them and cooperated with them. I worked for equitable and fair distribution of favours and resources whether it be pensions for old aged or other benefits. The identification of needy people is done in Gram Sabhas. The women members of the Mandal and other women also have worked without party considerations and are making the best use of the available opportunities" she said.

Fatimabee, former Sarpanch of Kalva village, Orvakal Mandal, Kurnool District received the best Sarpanch award of the state government for her exemplary work in improving the conditions of her village. She also received the Fight Against Poverty Award sponsored by the United Nations organizations. This 39 years old 'tough as steel and soft as silk' lady was initially hesitant and even terrified to take up the role of Sarpanch. When interviewed after becoming Sarpanch, she said "I had never seen a city before, never sat in a room full of men, much less spoken in the presence of others."¹⁴ But participation in orientation programmes brought about marked changes in her attitude and approach. She gained enormous confidence and has worked for the development of her village. Behind the success of Fatimabee, are the concerted and continuous efforts of a voluntary organization called Proddu, meaning Sun Rise, headed by Sankaramma.

The above would suggest that the Constitutional Amendment has facilitated the entry of a large number of women in Panchayati Raj bodies and some of the women have been effective power partners. In places where young and energetic women assumed chair-positions, special attention is paid to promote income generating activities to rural women. Sitamahalakshmi of Karapa Mandal motivated a begging community called Budagajangalu to take up self-employment and engage in small business. This Mandal president could get the cooperation of the Women Welfare Department, Nodal Officer and the officials in the collectorate.

The success stories should not lead one to conclude that the outcome of the amendment has always been positive. Attempts to prevent capable women to enter the Panchayati Raj institutions have increased. New preventive dimensions emerged. These include kidnaps, forced withdrawals, illegal unseating, negative networking, harassment, subjugation and oppression. In a Mandal close to the capital of Andhra Pradesh, a woman was nominally placed in the role of president of a Mandal and functionally, it is the husband who is the president. He went to the extent of arranging for himself a chair next to that of his wife in her office. He goes through all the records and puts his initials on the official papers which he desires to be approved. The woman president, who was taught only to sign, fulfilled the formality of signing after seeing her husband's initial. This practice uninterruptedly continued. The members of the Mandal, other than the woman Sarpanch, officials and villagers never questioned the illegality. The Mandal Development Officer, who should function as the implementer of law allowed the practice to be continued. The point is, the officials, who should function as change agents, with exceptions, have become the perpetrators of male dominated political culture. The protectors of law have become supporters of illegal practices.

One of the unhealthy practices in the state of Andhra Pradesh is the constitution of All Women Panchayats to suit the needs of men. All Women Panchayats emerged in states like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Tripura, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. According available sources, there are thirty All Women Panchayats in India. Maharashtra has the largest number of such panchayats followed by Andhra Pradesh.

It is well known that ^{the} Committee on the Status of Women felt that one purposeful way encouraging rural women to enter politics is the constitution of All Women Panchayats and recommended accordingly. The committee clearly stated that the proposed statutory women's panchayats are not meant to be parallel organizations to Gram Panchayats and that they are recommended as transitional measures to break through the traditional attitudes in rural society. The committee hoped that the All Women Panchayats would reduce inhibitions and encourage women to actively participate in local bodies. It should be pointed out that long before the committee's recommendations, some All Women Panchayats were experimented with in the state. In the 70s, Mattupalli village in Kurnool District of Andhra Pradesh had an All Women Panchayat. In Gandhinagaram, a village in Warangal District, an All Women Panchayat was set up in 1981. The intention behind the formation of this panchayat was definitely not encouraging women's participation in decision making. The major factors contributing to the formation of this panchayat had been caste conflict, gender conflict and a spirit of compromise in the final analysis. It had merely a superficial stamp of 'all women' and the decisions remained those of the village leaders. In the period following the implementation of the amendment, Andhra Pradesh had eight All Women Panchayats. The formation of these bodies was not preceded by real commitment.

INTERVENTIONS: The writer is closely associated with a few organizations, in the state, working for awareness generation, information dissemination and training of women in general and elected women in particular. These associations include Ankuram, Young Women's Christian Association and Mahila Rajakiyadhikara Vedika. She is the Joint Secretary of Mahila Rajakiyadhikara Vedika. The vedika

conducted state level seminars and awareness generation camps in the districts of East Godavari, Nalgonda, Visakhapatnam, Krishna and Kurnool. The vedika has been instrumental for the formation of Mahila Ikyo vedika (United Women's Forum) consisting of women's wing members of political parties, intellectuals and women's groups. The vedika has also successfully conducted awareness generation camps in the nearby villages of Hyderabad. The members work both in their individual and collective capacities in the process of campaigning for political empowerment of women. The forum, which has completed six years of its existence, is awaiting registration.

The writer is a resource person for the training camps conducted by the Young Women's Christian Association, Secunderabad. The training module includes lectures, discussions, songs, games and role plays. The resource persons participate in role plays and project both meaningful and ineffective roles, thereby enabling the participants to choose the type of roles they like. They would be encouraged to identify problems and find ways and means of solving them. They would also be asked to play the roles. The songs composed by the resource persons are found to be useful information and interest generating sources.

A training camp to elected women representatives held at Anantapur in April 2000 by the Centre for Rural Action in collaboration with Ankuram where the writer participated as a resource person had produced very satisfactory results. A majority of the women who attended the camp were unaware of their membership in the Gram Panchayats. They only remembered that they were asked by village leaders to sign in some registers. The process of dialogue was used to give them information about the system, the nature of democratic institutions, rights, need for women's participation in Panchayati Raj institutions, the meaning of participation and other related matters. They had conducted model elections and model panchayats after the training. More important than these is the formation of Saadhikara Mahila Samakhya, an association of empowered women representatives.

The efforts made so far are only limited and a lot more has to be done.

FUTURE TRENDS: It is clear from the above that reservations to women opened up new areas. Women constituted a numerical minority in Panchayati Raj institutions but now one would be fascinated to see a big list of elected women to these bodies. The name boards on the front walls of the houses of some of these women definitely are status symbols. When one enters the houses of these women for interviews, the hesitance prevailing some twenty years ago is now absent. The researchers are received with lot of enthusiasm and some women heads of panchayats even told the writer that the visits of researchers would be a source of inspiration to them. These women proved beyond doubt that quantitative presence would lead to qualitative improvement.

Reservations had also opened up new techniques of oppression and exploitation in the context of women. This is not to say that the techniques are newly invented. These are not used earlier against women. Even promising women are kept at a distance from power positions. Despite the growth of preparedness to fight and assert, women, more importantly dalit women are subjected to several kinds of

manipulations and preventive measures. Women heads of Gram Panchayats are often told that their only duty is that of signing on papers and nothing else. Some of are asked to offices to fulfill the formality of signing. The local political leadership or the dominant male members of the panchayats exercise real power. In essence, it is the numbers game that the patriarchal society would be interested to play. Women, as rightly pointed out by Kumud Sharma, need to go beyond the numbers game to expand their share in political power. Women's movement should seriously question this practice and lodge a big protest. Extensive use of media and protest marches would be useful in this regard.

Experience in Andhra Pradesh and in several other states made clear that the device of no-confidence motion is frequently used to unseat women, especially young and assertive women. There are a good number of instances of dalit women being illegally unseated from their positions. Janaki Bai, a dalit woman who became the Sarpanch of Harpura village in Karnataka was allowed to continue in office for one year by the higher caste leadership because, according to the rules, no-confidence resolution could not be moved in first twelve months of the election. She was kidnapped on the day of illegal no-confidence vote against her. Her supporters hoping that there could not be no-confidence vote in the absence of quorum, went on a pilgrimage. But the pro male and anti dalit officials managed the show without quorum. She and her husband were beaten up and were freed only after the 'so called' no-confidence vote was passed. A combination of caste and gender politics and gross violation of rules is very much evident here. As noted, Karuna, former president of Chimvenla Mandal and Sridevi, former president of Mummidivaram Mandal faced similar situations. It is necessary that women's groups should extend support to such women in challenging illegal acts.

The future of women in Panchayati Raj is going to be one of conflict between assertion and suppression, the conflict getting intensified especially when young and capable women enter these bodies. The conflict gets intensified both within and outside the family. Women's groups should and are going to give tough fight against manipulations outside the family. Parties play a prominent role in the selection of candidates, whether male or female. Conflict between party leadership and women's wings are bound to increase. This should be looked at as a positive sign in the process of accommodation and adjustment. This results in an increase in women's component in the decision-making structures of political parties.

Closely related to political power is economic power. Women heads of panchayats are paying increasing attention for facilitating and promoting rural women's economic empowerment. Sitamahalakshmi, president of Karapa Mandal Parishad said that "women have picked up confidence and courage through DWCRA schemes. There is change in their life style. Though the income generating schemes have not been useful for getting adequate earnings, women are learning the importance of living on their own, gaining courage and are developing a feeling that they can stand and work on equal terms with men." For making men effective partners in the development process reforms, guaranteeing economic security to women are essential. Economic empowerment of women is going to be one of the top priority items on the agenda of women in Panchayati Raj.

Skill development is one of the prerequisites for effective role performance. It is all the more significant in the present context because of the considerable increase in the number of women representatives in rural local bodies. National and state institutes like the National Institute of Rural Development, Andhra Pradesh Academy of Rural Development, Rajiv Gandhi Institute, Tamil Nadu and Institute of Social Studies Trust, Karnataka and a large number of women's groups as well as other groups are engaged in awareness generation, information dissemination and training. But there seems to be a pressing need to rethink and to have a fresh look at the training modules and the items chosen for awareness generation and information dissemination. The modules identified and efforts put forth so far are varied and diversified. It is necessary to identify a broad training pattern for the country as a whole. Necessary modifications could be made depending on local requirements. Thus it is possible to strike a balance between uniformity and local needs. Awareness generation could focus on topics like social system, sub-systems, participatory democracy, government, rights, duties and local governance. Knowledge about women specific aspects such as women's status in general and rural women's status in particular, women's empowerment, urban-rural variations could form part of the awareness generation programme. It is very important to take elected women as resource persons as no other knowledge could be a real substitute to that gained out of experience. Training programme could focus on building confidence, promoting leadership qualities and preparing women for successful role performance. Networking based on large scale is another pressing need of the time. Women's political empowerment should occupy the position of top priority on the agenda of voluntary organizations committed for the promotion of women's cause. In addition to networking of voluntary organizations coordinated efforts of academics, activists, elected women representatives and women officials could bring about fruitful results.

Successful implementation of beneficiary programmes, depends among other factors, on the interest evinced by officials. Committed and service oriented women officials could be of added strength to women in Panchayati Raj bodies. Shashi Rekha, the Development Officer of Moinabad Mandal in the Ranga Reddy District of Andhra Pradesh received the best Mandal Development Officer award for her commendable work. She says that if the officers are correct, everything gets done well. She has been instrumental for the successful implementation of governmental schemes meant for women.

Women's groups and all those concerned about the empowerment of women should launch a strong protest against the unjust media - print and audio-visual. Positive roles of women are either relegated to the background or wrongly magnified roles are projected. Both are unhealthy symptoms for society in general and women in particular. Therefore careful watch on the media by women's associations is very much essential.

Identification of success stories and spread of information relating to these is necessary to counter the argument that women have not been successful representatives. Current research should give priority to this aspect and try to expose the manipulations that are taking place.

To make Women's Movement effective, its urban colour has to change and should spread to grass roots. To strengthen the role of women in Panchayati should be the immediate task of all those concerned about grass roots development.

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10. Interview dated 9th April, 2000 at Tuni, Tuni Mandal, East Godavari District, A.P.
11. Interview dated 10th April, 2000 at Amalapuram, East Godavari District, A.P.
12. Interview dated 10th April at Ainapuram, Mummidivaram Mandal, East Godavari District, A.P.

13. Interview dated 10th April, 2000 at Kothapeta, East Godavari District, A.P.

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Part I - Karnataka Panchayati Raj Act and its Implementation

The much awaited but unexpected announcement of the elections was received with an overwhelming response in the state. But there have been drawbacks. Following is an outline of some of the drawbacks observed. Invariably, these drawbacks have affected the less informed and less political individuals.

1. The period between the announcement of the election and the last date of nomination was very short. Consequently, women and men, especially those belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, were unable to garner support for their candidature.
2. The Karnataka Panchayati Raj Act decrees that an aspiring panchayat member needs to comply with the 'toilet rule' which states that an individual who does not have a latrine facility for his/her family members will automatically be disqualified. This was contested and the court allowed for a conditional relaxation of this rule on the February 9, 2000. However, this date coincided with the last date for filing nominations. In some cases, the court verdict and the emergency message to the Deputy Commissioners did not even reach the panchayats in time. As a result many aspirants were prevented from filing nominations.
3. Rotation of reserved seats has been detrimental to potential candidates from the reserved categories, especially women. In other words, though the spirit behind the principle of rotation is to give representative opportunities to those constituencies with a lower population of reserved categories, the manner in which the rotation of seats has been undertaken defeats this purpose. In actuality, it has in some places resulted in a misrepresentation of the population in the constituencies. In practice, this has meant that the candidates selected do not belong to the 'reserved ward'. Not only did the local party leaders and community see a 'unreserved' seat as a general male or reserved male seat the officials too use this terminology to legitimise this false conception. Seats termed 'General', 'OBC', 'SC' and 'ST', when not reserved for women were interpreted as a seat for which only a male candidate can contest. This was glaringly evident in that, in all the panchayats, the official letter listing the reservation of seats per ward stated the reservation for the General Seat as '*Samanya Purusha*' (a general male).
4. It was interesting to note that while few sitting male members could ensure nominations for this term too, none of the female sitting members was re-nominated. Repeatedly, it was pointed out that the rotation of reserved

seats was the single most important reason behind this. The male members have managed to retain their nominations by shifting their 'constituencies' or contesting as general candidates. For women, the situation is very different. First, women did not contest on general seats. Second, even in cases wherein their efficiency as a member has been established in the previous term, they have been denied a nomination on the grounds of providing opportunity to other persons.

5. On an average, most of the wards had three seats to which members are elected. Also, in a majority of the panchayats, these seats were listed as follows: a general seat, a reserved OBC seat and in some cases, a scheduled caste / tribe / woman seat. In the panchayats where the community was unaware of the ways to circumvent the Act with respect to who should be contesting for the general male seat, there was an election for all the seats and even the general male had to contest, as we evidenced in Koppal district (the cases of Boodhur and Heerur panchayats).
6. The lack of clarity in categorising caste and community groups has resulted in the overlapping of categories under which one could contest elections. There were some communities who were fortunate to be listed under two categories. For instance, in Koppal district, the Gaanigaru community, a sub-sect of the Lingayats, was listed as both OBC 2A / OBC 2B. This ambivalence eventually lead to the over-representation of these communities in the panchayats. Further, there were implementation problems due to the lack of clarity among the Tehsildars, with respect to the positioning of caste groups. For instance, in Dotihal Panchayat Parana Gowda, a person belonging to the Lingayat community with the help of an income certificate could contest under the category of OBC (B). However, normally Lingayats should contest under the general category.

Part II - Issues Emerging from the Local Dynamics of Panchayats

- ◆ It was observed that in all the panchayats the percentage of seats reserved for women was more than the mandatory 33 %.
- ◆ A large number of the members were unanimously elected across our sample panchayats.
- ◆ Also interesting is the fact that in all the sample panchayats, with the exception of one, a much higher proportion of women members were elected unanimously. Two questions emerging from this were:
 - 1) Is it a healthy trend for communities to elect members in this manner?

2) Should we be concerned about the higher percentage and see its link to the uncontested elections for the women seats?

These questions were of deep concern specially when we juxtapose them against our findings in the first phase of the study, wherein we found that uncontested candidates tended to be less accountable and less committed to their constituencies. Further, they failed to develop a constituency of their own even after the completion of the term.

- ◆ In spite of this being the third term, most of the women candidates are political novices. It is noteworthy that irrespective of the developmental status of the districts, this is one area where there is no inter-district variation.
- ◆ Most male candidates too can be classified as politically inexperienced. However, male candidates have had informal political training. Many of them have had some kind of experience campaigning for Parliamentary and State elections. Others have actively participated in the organisation of local level social and religious functions.
- ◆ The Karnataka Panchayati Raj Act 1993 clearly states that the Grama Panchayats are apolitical units of local governance. Further, it decrees that the elections to these bodies have to be conducted on a non-party basis. However, our field level experience proved the contrary. The influence of national level political parties on the Grama Panchayat elections was visible at many levels.

→ The contestants showed no hesitation to reveal their party affiliations. Many of the independent contestants had earlier attempted to gain party support.

→ In all panchayats, political parties convened meetings at the local level, soon after the announcement of elections.

→ Invariably meetings were attended by local party leaders and supporters, who finalised the candidates to be fielded. In fact, many of the candidates the parties eventually decided to support did not attend these meetings. This is especially applicable to the women members and in a few cases to the Scheduled Caste and Tribe male candidates too.

→ In many panchayats, Taluk and Zilla level party leaders and in some cases even the MLAs also played an active role in finalising the list of candidates. In this process various strategies were used to force a substantial number of potential candidates to withdraw their candidature in favour of party supported persons.

→ Though party symbols were not used, panels of candidates were formed on party lines. The party sponsored the printing of pamphlets wherein the names of the party supported candidates were mentioned ward-wise.

- ◆ Most of the women got their nominations to contest either due to their family's influence or affiliation with political parties. Not only were all the women contestants put up in reserved seats, often, their nominations were seen as a reward for the 'good' party work that their male family members rendered over the years. In contrast, the men were nominated for the following reasons:
 1. having a close relationship with a local leader
 2. being leaders in their individual capacity
 3. being an articulate member of a particular caste group
 4. a popular organiser at the village level for social and religious functions
 5. a benevolent landlord
- ◆ While a comparatively higher number of sitting male members could ensure nominations for this third term too, there were only two women sitting members from Udupi district being re-nominated to contest elections. In fact, we found instances, where women members with proven efficiency levels were denied the opportunity to a ticket this time, even upon requesting one from their parties.
- ◆ There is a general lack of interest among the women members, especially those belonging to the reserved categories. This is mainly due to the fact that they perceive themselves as not having lived up to the expectations of the community/constituency they represent.
- ◆ We also observed that several sitting women presidents were not inclined to recontest. For them, recontesting meant either a choice of losing or being elected as an ordinary member, which, for them, was a demotion and a situation that they opted out of.
- ◆ Another reason for opting out that is often quoted by women members is the fear of failure and the almost total absence in them of being a political entity. Many women were unable to develop their own constituencies, therefore could not bargain for their candidature on the basis of it. This is more so in the case of women members who were unanimously elected for the earlier tenure.

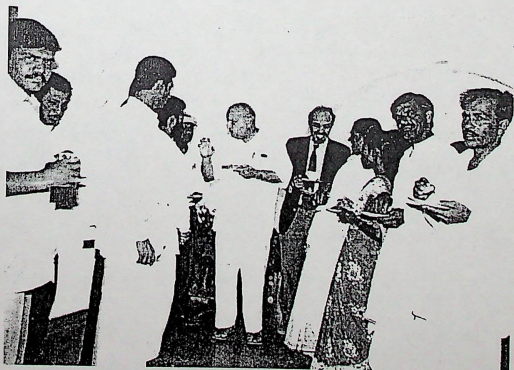
- ◆ Most of the uncontested women candidates of the earlier tenure, though they were efficient as members, were apprehensive of facing an election.
- ◆ Though education is often portrayed as the primary hurdle against women candidates being selected, our field experience does not substantiate this. There are many cases where women have been selected because they belong to families that can afford the expenditure of elections and that allow mobility and can provide escort.
- ◆ Women's involvement in the whole pre-election process was very minimal, almost insignificant.
- ◆ However, we would like to emphasize that even when the involvement was very partial and limited, we observed a remarkable change in the levels of confidence of the women contestants. Many women candidates, who shied away from being interviewed in the first round of fieldwork i.e. immediately after the last day of nominations, came forward to share their experiences in the second round i.e. the day before the election and on the day of the election.
- ◆ Generally speaking, the interplay of caste, class and party alliances play a very important role in both the selection of candidates for particular wards or villages as well as in the calculations for winnability. There are three types of arithmetic at work:
 1. caste/community: population of the particular caste/community in a given ward.
 2. village population : in a given ward, there can be two/ three villages. So when candidates are being selected from particular villages, it is the population of the village that determines the winnability.
 3. affiliation to a political party determines winnability.

Based on these calculations, we can understand the factors that determine the local dynamics of winnability. Caste, village, party and family politics and combinations of these play a crucial role in the selection of candidates.

- ◆ Amongst the number of issues that have emerged from the field, we would like to highlight certain pointers.
 1. We are in a paradoxical situation. In spite of being a non-political governing body, we see large scale party interference at all stages.
 2. Even in a non-political body, the calculations seem to favour political personalities.



Sharing their concerns with the Minister



Members in dialogue with the Minister and Director

3. The simultaneous phenomena of very few sitting members being re-elected and the large-scale unanimous election of candidates to the panchayats needs to be juxtaposed against the larger political culture prevalent in the society, which in fact favours a repeated re-election of political persons.
4. Grama panchayats provides the space for formalisation of the informal system of patronage that has so far been in existence.
5. We need to re-examine the viability of the prevailing intervention strategies – in terms of training and the like given that there is a trend in the above mentioned system of patronage which favours a new set of clients in each subsequent election.
6. In spite of all our apprehensions, we need to re-emphasize the monumental contribution of the 73rd Amendment in that it has allowed the disadvantaged sections, especially women, access to both an institutional and socio-political space.

**UMA NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTRE
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DEVELOPING GRASSROOTS WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN GOVERNANCE

Prema Gopalan, SSP Mumbai, India

April, 2000

INTRODUCTION

Swayam Shikshan Prayog – SSP means self learning initiative. SSP is a voluntary organisation based in Bombay, India. SSP partners with community women's groups and networks on multiple issues - credit, livelihoods, housing and infrastructure, basic services. Women's groups are usually organised around savings and credit. Through information and capacity building, SSP facilitates scaling up of innovations by women's groups and communities. Within districts, a community alliance of elected members and women's groups supports the participation of grassroots women in local governance and planning.

SSP's work with Panchayati Raj institutions began five years ago with the women voters campaign. We are at a threshold where elections to the Gram Panchayats, local self-governments in Maharashtra. This presents an opportunity for women's groups to participate in the "agenda setting" process. Women's collectives have an opportunity to articulate gender concerns such as credit, violence, health, education etc. Similarly, it is expected that women's groups will directly participate in the electoral process. SSP sees itself using this opportunity for looking back, building women's skills for agenda setting and creating a supportive environment through information and training on a large scale.

SSP'S PERSPECTIVE AND WORK ON ENGENDERING GOVERNANCE

The 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution of India provided the impetus for women to enter formal political spaces. This has presented a tremendous opportunity for grassroots women's participation in planning and development. Despite the large numbers of women in local governing bodies, however, gender issues are not addressed and women continue to be marginalised in local decision-making processes.

SSP's work on Panchayati Raj began with a campaign for women's vote in 1995. This was followed by training for 22,000 gram panchayat members in 1997. This goal was to create new institutional arrangements that would respond to the needs of women through partnerships with mainstream institutions.

SSP's intervention on engendering governance focuses on getting all the actors – government officials, women's collectives and elected members – to participate in learning and dialogue forums. These learning and convergence efforts are grounded in local reality, using local resources persons, local resources and skills. An essential ingredient of the process is that other key actors recognize capacities of women's collectives to play key roles in development.

Today, the Sakhi Panchayat (an alliance of women's collectives and elected women members promoted by SSP) represents a new kind of leadership. SSP

together with the alliance works towards transforming gram panchayats to become accountable and transparent, training elected members on legal issues, advocacy on devolution of power and resources, and finally building an informed and active constituency.

We would like to share some importance insights on how women's participation and leadership by an alliance of elected members with the support of women's collectives is changing the face of local governance.

Fostering grassroots democracy through mass participation of women, strengthening women's political leadership, building skills and capacities to participate in planning and local governance are some of the ingredients of the strategy. Women's collectives have emerged as the gate keepers of good governance.

- Mobilising communities to participate in local development
- Improving access to PDS/ration shops, anti poverty schemes
- Eliminated middle men/corruption in government schemes
- Made health care services and education accountable to women
- Ensuring that communities are informed through regular gram sabhas/village assemblies

Re-configuring women's role in communities

- Women's collectives are playing a key role in accessing and disseminating information on governments schemes
- Women are participating in gram sabhas in large numbers in order to voice their demands for local resources and services. In other words they are demanding greater accountability from elected members. Women' groups are also participating regularly at dialogue forums to get information from officials and provide feedback on government scheme
- Women leaders are also participating actively in panchayat level committees – PDS, school, health, water – in 300 villages.
- Women's collectives are actively monitoring the functioning of basic services and infrastructure; education health and social support programs
- Women are also playing a pivotal role in mobilising communities around village development issues. As a result of the sense of community ownership created, community contributions and tax collections have increased.

SSP's ongoing efforts include:

- Panchayati Raj training of 5,000 elected members and Block level officials (start January 20, 2000)
- Developing and field testing learning tools that assist women to collectively analyse and understand infrastructural facilities, basic services and social services. E.g. mapping of settlements assessing sewage and sanitation, roads, water supply
- Organising study tours and exposure visits to "best practice" villages
- Organising study tours to taluka/district offices in order to find out about government schemes and procedures to access these.
- Creating Sakhi Panchayat forums to dialogue with officials with a view to facilitating women's participation in decision making and local planning
- Micro-planning for infrastructure in select village with Mahila Sarpanchas/chaipersons

Subject:

Date: Tue, 30 May 2000 12:36:43 +0530

From: "ISST" <issiban@giasbg01.vsnl.net.in>

To: <sochara@vsnl.com>

30th May, 2000

Dear Mr. A. Prahalad,

INVITATION

Seminar: *"Women in Local Governance: Experiences and Effective Intervention Strategies in Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra"*

Venue: Conference Hall

National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS)

Indian Institute of Science Campus

Bangalore – 560 012

Ph:3344351/3346594

Date: 1-2 June, 2000

As you are aware, The Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST) is a private non-profit research organisation with its regional office in Bangalore and head office at New Delhi.

One of the projects at ISST on Women in Local Governance, is concentrating on Action Research, Training, Networking and Documentation of issues related to Panchayat Raj. It functions as a listening post for information on Panchayat Raj. ISST facilitates solidarity networks and exchange of information among these different constituencies by acting as a nodal point within Karnataka and at the national level.

We have great pleasure in inviting you to the seminar on *"Women in Local Governance: Experiences and Effective Intervention Strategies in Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra"* which is being organised to facilitate sharing of experiences of women in Panchayat Raj in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra; and to understand effective strategic interventions and insights from the experiences shared. This would go a long way in planning future initiatives to strengthen women in local governance both within and across the states.

Towards these objectives, it is proposed to bring together academicians, activists, officials; media representatives and elected women representatives in Panchayat Raj Institutions.

(238)

AP

AP
30/5

AP
30/5 like to attend

We are glad to inform that the Honourable Governor of Karnataka has consented to inaugurate and address the seminar in the morning of 1st June, 2000.

We do hope you will accept our invitation and enrich this endeavour by your active presence and contributions. Kindly confirm your participation by phone/fax/email to us at the earliest.

With regards,

Micra M

Associate Director

Encl: Programme Schedule (Tentative) & Location Map

"Women in Local Governance: Experiences and Effective Intervention Strategies in Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra "

Programme Schedule

<u>1st June 2000</u>	
9.30-10.00	Registration
10.00-11.00	Inauguration
11.00-11.15	Tea
11.15-1.30	"Experiences and Effective Interventions for Women in Local Governance" Andhra Pradesh, Kerala Maharashtra Tamil Nadu
1.30-2.30	Lunch
2.30-4.00	"Experiences and Effective Interventions for

	Women in Local Governance" Karnataka – Panel 1
4.00-4.15	Tea
4.15-5.45	"Experiences and Effective Interventions for Women in Local Governance" Karnataka – Panel 2
9.30-11.00	<u>2nd June 2000</u> <u>Experience sharing by Women in Local Governance</u> <u>Andhra Pradesh</u> <u>Kerala</u> <u>Maharashtra</u>
11.00-11.15	Tea
11.15-1.30	Experiences sharing by Women in Local Governance Tamil Nadu, Karnataka
1.30-2.30	Lunch
2.30-3.15	Effective Interventions – Discussions
3:15-3.30	Functional Tea
3.30-4.30	Evolving Strategies for Future
4.30-5.00	Valedictory

REGIONAL SEMINAR

**Women in Local Governance: Experiences and
Effective Interventions in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka,
Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu**

1st – 2nd June, 2000

PROGRAMME

1st June 2000

10.00 to 11.00
INAUGURAL SESSION

Welcome & Introduction

Dr. Swapna Mukhopadhyay,
Director,
Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST)

Inaugural Lighting of Lamp

Keynote Address

Mr. M.R.Sreenivasa Murthy
Secretary, Dept. of Rural Development
& Panchayat Raj, Govt. of Karnataka

Ms. Mahadevi *Sharanamma*
Elected Women Representative, Gulbarga

Honouring Elected Women Representatives

By Her Excellency V.S.Rama Devi
Honourable Governor of Karnataka

Inaugural Address

Honourable Governor of Karnataka
Her Excellency V.S.Rama Devi

Vote of thanks

Ms. Meera M
Associate Director
Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST)
Bangalore

11:00 to 11.30

Tea Break

Session I
11.15 to 01.30

Experiences And Effective Interventions For Women In Local Governance

Chairperson: Mr. L.C.Jain,
Chairman,
National Council of Rural Institutes,
Ministry of Education

Presentations By

- ❖ Dr. P. Manikyamba
Dept. of Political Science,
University of Hyderabad
Andhra Pradesh
- ❖ Ms. Aleyamma Vijayan
SAKHI, Trivandrum
Kerala
- ❖ Ms. Medha Kotwal Lele
Aalochana, Pune
Maharashtra
- ❖ Prof. G. Palanithurai
Gandhigram Rural Institute, Dindigul
Tamil Nadu
- ❖ Ms. Prema Gopalan
Swayam Shikshan Prayog, Mumbai
Maharashtra

1.30 to 2.30

Lunch

Session II
2.30 to 4.00

**Experiences And Effective Interventions
For Women In Local Governance
Karnataka – Panel I**

Chairperson: Ms. Meera Saxena, IAS, Secretary
Dept. of Women & Child Dev.
Government of Karnataka

Presentations By

- ❖ Dr. Revathi Narayanan,
State Program Director
Mahila Samakhya, Karnataka
- ❖ Ms. Padmamma,
Elected Woman Representative
Kolar, Karnataka
- ❖ Ms. Jayalaxmi Rao, Director,
Grama Vikas,
Kolar, Karnataka

4.00 to 4.15

Tea Break

Session III
4.15 to 5.45

**Experiences And Effective Interventions
For Women In Local Governance
Karnataka – Panel II**

Chairperson: Ms. C.P.Sujaya, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary
Himachal Pradesh (on leave)

- ❖ Dr. Abdul Aziz, Professor & Head
Decentralised Governance & Planning,
ISEC, Bangalore
- ❖ Dr. Shanta Mohan, Fellow,
Gender Studies Unit,
NIAS, Bangalore
- ❖ Ms. Vidyavathi, Director,
Special Economic programme,
RDPR Dept., Govt. of Karnataka

2nd June 2000

Session IV
9.30 to 11.15

**Sharing Of Experiences By Women
In Local Governance**

Chairperson: Dr. Abdul Aziz, Professor & Head
Decentralised Governance &
Planning, ISEC, Bangalore

Elected Women Representatives:

- ❖ Ms. Karuna, Andhra Pradesh
- ❖ Ms. Thresiamma Antony, Kerala
- ❖ Ms. Jayashree Dixit, Maharashtra

Translations by respective State delegates

11.15 to 11.30

Tea Break

Session V
11.30 to 01.30

**Sharing Of Experiences By Women
In Local Governance**

Chairperson: Dr. Revathi Narayanan,
State Programme Director,
Mahila Samakhya Karnataka,
Bangalore

Elected Women Representatives:

- ❖ Mrs. Margaret Mary, Tamil Nadu
- ❖ Mrs. Ashwathamma N. Reddy, Chandapura,
Karnataka
- ❖ Ms. Mahadevi, Gulbarga, Karnataka
Sharanamma

Translations by respective State/District delegates

01.30 to 02.30

Lunch

Session VI
02.30 to 03.30

Effective Interventions – Discussion

03.15 to 03.30

Functional Tea

Session VII
03.30 to 04.30

Evolving Strategies For Future

Chairperson: Dr. Poornima Vyasulu,
Advisor, DANIDA,
Bangalore

❖ Group Presentations & Discussions

04.30 to 05.00

Valedictory

EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH LOCAL BODIES
EXPERIENCE FROM TAMIL NADU

PROF. G. PALANITHURAI

Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies
Gandhigram Rural Institute - Deemed University
Gandhigram - 624 302

PAPER PREPARED FOR DELIVERY AT THE SEMINAR ON "WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE :
EXPERIENCES AND EFFECTIVE INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN KARNATAKA, KERALA,
ANDHRA PRADESH, TAMIL NADU AND MAHARASHTRA" TO BE HELD ON 1ST AND 2ND JUNE,
2000 AT BANGALORE ORGANISED BY THE INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES TRUST

EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH LOCAL BODIES

EXPERIENCE FROM TAMIL NADU

Introduction

As a student of Political Science I could not mention a worthy literature on the area of Women and Politics or an area linking the role of women in the political process of the nation. Till the enactment of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, Academics in Political Science were not sure and specific about the role to be played by the women in the process of the development of the society in general and the development of the women in particular. Political Scientists hardly find any role for the women in the political process of the society. Indian Council of Social Science Research had undertaken a major review of studies conducted in India on different areas of polity. I am unable to find a chapter on Women and Politics as I could see on Caste and Politics, Students and Politics and SC/ST and Politics. So this is the status of the women in politics in India. 73rd Amendment to the Constitution of India prompted the academics to use the concept "Empowerment of Women".

Empowering Women is a loaded concept which connotes different meanings to different individuals. To me empowerment of women refers to the process by which women are acquiring due recognition as men to participate in the development process of the society through the political institutions as a partner with human dignity. The barriers which had been very active in the process of the development of women on their own, have to be removed and for which interventions are imperatives at different levels. Reservation of seats in the Local Bodies is one of the steps in this direction and this is not the be all and end all. It has to go a long way in the process of development in the society. The reservation of seats for women has been looked at from many perspectives. One basic question normally addressed in this context is the objectives kept in the minds of the framers of the 73rd amendment to the Constitution of India, while providing 33.3% of reservation of seats to women. Secondly the women leaders who are in local bodies should have a clear cut perception about the objectives of the reservation of seats for women in local bodies. There are other notions on the same issue perceived by the people and the functionaries who are working with the leaders. One could see the incongruity and ambiguity in perceiving the role properly. There is a second aspect, the general perception about the role to be performed by the women leaders as the perceptions are being guided by the historical notion of women folk

and their responsibilities and capabilities. This provision of seats in the Local Bodies makes the women as well as the society to move out from the traditional perception track. This process has been initiated already. But in reality, despite several weaknesses, the elected women leaders are in position and discharging the earmarked responsibilities with varying degree of success. This study makes an attempt to locate the problems encountered by the women leaders and to find out the ways and means to facilitate the women leaders to discharge their role and function effectively in their domain.

Caveats

Women leaders cannot be treated as one entity. There are varieties of women leaders and the problems associated with women empowerment vary from one segment to another segment of women leaders. Intensity of intervention varies from one group to another. What we find in this small write up is the problems and perspectives of the women leaders who have been in the continuous struggle in establishing their position as leaders in the local body institutions. It cannot be generalized but the observations would indicate the trend of women leadership position in the local body institutions.

Classification of the Women Leaders

Never in the Political history of Tamil Nadu that the institutions of Governance had such massive number of women in positions as what we have been seeing in Local Bodies at present. All the women leaders who are in position have not volunteered themselves to contest in the election. It is a well known fact that they are driven to these position by an array of organisations, individuals and institutions. But after assuming office women leaders have exhibited their distinctions in terms of their perception behaviour and performance. Their distinct functions are the result of a number of factors. Before going into the details of the substantive issue of their perception, behaviour and performance we have to classify the category of leaders.

1. There are women leaders propelled by the male member of their family.
2. There are women leaders oriented by the NGO's for this specific task.
3. There are women leaders oriented by the party.
4. There are women leaders recruited by the community.
5. There are women leaders sponsored by their husbands with the support of the political party.

Of the five categories, a large number of leaders belong to the last category. Third and fourth category forms the next largest group. The other two are having the minimum numbers. The second and the third group are not having more number of leaders yet their activities are drawing the attention of the people as they have support base for their activities. All the other groups are having a wide variety of problems to be tackled to discharge their role and responsibilities. This classification is not exhaustive but it is done on the basis of the experience gained in the training conducted to the women leaders at various levels in Gandhigram Rural Institute sponsored by various funding agencies. The details are given below.

S.No.	Trainee Category	Sponsoring Agency	Total No.of. Leaders Trained
1.	Gram Panchayati Presidents Block Panchayati Presidents District Panchayati Presidents and ward members of Dharmapuri & Dindigul Districts	Population Foundation of India	0750
2.	Gram Panchayati Presidents and Vice Presidents Villupuram & Cuddalore Districts	DANIDA	0245
3.	Village Panchayati Presidents of Dindigul, Sivaganga, Madurai, Ramnad districts	CAPART	0425
4.	Village Panchayati Presidents of Theni, Thiruvavarur, Salem Nammakkal, Virudhunagar Dharmapuri	Social Welfare Board	0825
5.	Chairperson of Town Panchayats Municipalities of Sixteen Districts	Government of Tamil Nadu	2150
		Total	4395

Entry in to Positions

By and large the performance of the leaders are conditioned by a variety of factors and of which mode of recruitment is a key factor. As per their perception and understanding they are elevated to position through election on the basis of the caste, party affiliation, family, organisational affiliation, community, peer group, money, own reputation and past services rendered to the community. No single factor worked in an isolation. A combination of factors worked in the process of their elevation to the position. The same factors are responsible for their performance also. The leaders have been oriented by the peer group leaders, family members, community leaders and their husbands and they have to go by the advise of the people who had been responsible for their elevation to position through election. NGO's and political parties who have sponsored the candidates have given proper orientation to the women leaders. Certain groups of women leaders who have undergone training have got confusion over their role and responsibility as they are under the control of some extraneous forces. Because of the continuous orientation and capacity building exercise the women leaders have started moving out from the clutches of others to their own domain without much noise, through a variety of devices.

Problems faced by the Women Leaders

Normally to overcome the problems in discharging the role and functions of the leaders in the Local Bodies, the leaders capacity has to be enhanced. By enhancing the capacity, institutions can be managed effectively.

Government has not taken any serious step in the first three years to enhance the capacity of the leaders through the training programme. To impress upon the government about the importance of the training we took near about three years. Now the government has taken effort to conduct the capacity building exercise with the financial support of UNICEF, but the leaders have come to the final phase of their tenure. The women leaders have entered into the offices without any orientation. The moment the leaders peeped into the offices the officials have given orientation to the leaders on 'dos' and 'don't dos' by reading out some of the provision of the Tamil Nadu Panchayati Act. This kind of orientation has crippled the initiative of the leaders.

Generally it is a complaint made by all the women leaders that the officials are not cooperating with elected leaders by providing necessary information in time to enable them to perform their functions effectively. Further the leaders who are weak in terms of their capacity are being illtreated. The Dalit leaders are not even provided with a chair to sit in front of a clerk in the offices. Very rarely one would find officials treating the Dalit leaders with dignity. When fear psychosis is created in the minds of dalit women leaders in the beginning itself the leaders never think of meeting the higher officials at the district level during the whole period of their tenure. Officials who had performed the role in the same office without any interference in the absence of panchayat leaders now feel somebody has come and they have taken up the mantle and for them the officials are made accountable. This new system has pushed them from the stage of a decision maker and to an executive officer. Hence their reactions towards the leaders are always negative. The officials tried their level best to establish their control over the leaders by making use of the ignorance of the leaders.

The segments which had supported the women candidates in the election, have not extended their support to the same leaders for their functioning. The leaders who have not indicated a signal that they are working for the people who have costed their votes in the election in favour of them can not get the support of the same segments of the people. Even her party leaders at the grass root level are not extending their helping hand towards her activities in the panchayats. In the same way the caste leaders and family members exert pressure on the leaders to yield to their pressures. The caste leaders feel that the panchayat leaders are relying on the support base of the caste. Hence they also exert pressure on them. Husbands are the yet another problem to the elected women leaders. A large number of women leaders have been recruited to these position by the influence of their husbands in the party. When a seat is reserved for women, the male aspirant candidate seeks permission from the party to field his wife for the post. Such is the way most of the women leaders have been recruited. The male members have fielded the women for leadership position with the thinking that the administration could be controlled by them. Even after the election the husbands have tried their level best to control over the administration but in vain as the government have instructed the officers to check this kind of practice. Moreover wherever the husbands are establishing the administrative control over the panchayats, people have started questioning the capacity of the women presidents in managing the affairs of the panchayats. Over a period of time the women leaders have oriented themselves by way

of participating in the training programme conducted by various organisation, to manage their affairs of their own but they are not in a position to communicate this message to their husbands. Even after three years the male members of the women leaders family have not changed their perception about the competency and capacity of the women leaders. Still they feel that the women leaders are not having the needed capacity to manage their affairs. Hence they make themselves ready for accompanying the women leaders.

Managerial skill is an imperative for the leaders to manage the personnel and the resources well within the established frameworks of administration. Here the women leaders lack that capacity. In all fora they have indicated the problem yet decisions are not on the sight. Yet another problem they face in local bodies is the lack of communication skill. Tamil Nadu is known for inflammatory speeches. Political parties are having a separate wing of public speakers. The local body leaders have to share the dais with MLAs and MPs and officials in public functions. Of them, the women leaders used to cut a sorry figure as they are not able to communicate their ideas in an effective way as done by the MLAs and MPs. Further they need a communication skill to mobilise the people and to manage them in Gram Sabha and other public meetings. Nobody gives such orientation to them in the art of effective communication.

By providing this opportunity to women to work in the local bodies as leaders, work load of them has been increased enormously both in their houses and offices. Women leaders hailing from upper middle class family have been to some extent relieved of their duties at home as necessary arrangements have been made in the home to look after the affair which had been looked after by the women leaders before they were elected to positions in local bodies. But women hailing from poor families are facing number of problems. Their work load has been increased, panchayats are not paying anything to the leaders as salary even after handing over a variety of responsibilities to be handled by the leaders on par with a full time officer. In some of the places we find poor men and women assumed responsibilities and discharging their role and function. Poor coolie cannot afford to loose this wage by attending the panchayat works. It is natural on the part of the women leader who is a wage earner to handover responsibility to some one and performing her duties to the family.

Panchayat leaders at the Gram Panchayati level they have to maintain thirty one records. It is possible for an uneducated women to maintain all the records properly as per the rules and procedures. Even the clerks are finding in very difficult to maintain the same. Most of the women leaders are the victims of the accounting procedure in Tamil Nadu. This is a major area one has to concentrate as to how the women leaders could be saved from this ordeal. It is a general problem for all the leaders but it is more specific for women leaders about the non communication of the government orders to the leaders. Not only the government orders but also the schemes and programmes of the government. In the age of information, information flow is struck below the district level. Every office is instructed to have peoples charter and they have to be circulated among the people and their leaders. But now all those documents are kept in the respective offices. Officials are not willing to share this information with elected leaders.

Normally women would be sensitive towards women issues and that was the expectation of the leaders who have talked about the one third reservation of seats for women. But in reality, women leaders are brought and oriented in such fashion not to be sensitive towards women issues. Women leaders who have been trained properly are sensitive towards the women issues. They are periodically sensitised by the NGOs.

It is true that the administrative procedures which have been introduced in our system to administer development are so complicated not understandable to the commonman. But it helps the vested interest to develop a corrupt cotterie in the administrative system. The newly elected women leaders have moved into the office with a sense of hope, but they have seen a different picture in the scenario of administration. The women who are novis in administration have to either yield to the corrupt system or to struggle with the system. If she has chosen the later, who will help the women leaders is a major question.

The interference of politicians at the level of MLAs and MPs in the local body administration is an yet another disturbance faced by the women leaders. The MLAs and MPs with their area development fund have interfered in the administration of panchayats. The women leaders pleas and beseeches are not respected by the MLAs and MPs as they felt that women leaders cannot mobilise vote for them when they contest in the next general election.

What They Need?

Problems can be projected to any level and they can be visualised in a perspective manner but what is the solution? and what is the way out? It is not our analysis and suggestion but it is their suggestion which I explain in the following pages.

They need continuous training on the role and responsibilities to be discharged by them within the framework of the established political system at the Grass root level. How to administer development and social justice should be known to every one to perform their role effectively. Through orientation workshop and training, their capacity could be enhanced. This exercise should not be an one time affair. It is a continuous process where the women leaders can have an opportunity to meet and interact with other leaders. By doing so they could easily get the models for emulation. Hence training could be given to the leaders periodically but not by the officials. Officials use to threaten the leaders in their training programmes. Hence this could be avoided.

Further, leaders cannot perform their roles and duties without adequate information. Now it is a major handicap that leaders are not supplied with needed information for their functioning. Everywhere it is a cry of the leaders that the government orders are not being sent to the leaders. They are being sent to the offices and officers but they have not been given to the leaders. Unless the leaders have a centre for getting information, they felt that it is very difficult to carry out their activities to the level of the expectations of the people. They require the details of the Act, rules, regulations, procedures, government orders, programmes and schemes of the governments to be carried out in the rural and urban areas.

Next to training and information, the women leaders need a supportive organisation which is able to support the women leaders when they are in trouble. Women leaders are working in a given environment which is not so conducive for effective functioning of the women leaders. All the women leaders who are upright and committed have to face troubles and tribulations in the society and they have to swim against the current, and hence they felt that a supportive organisation is needed to provide moral support. This support can be done by the NGO's very effectively. The Panchayati supportive Non Governmental Organisation have to sensitise the women leaders periodically otherwise they will be non sensitive towards the women issues. There is yet another expectation from the women leaders that the mentally depressed women leaders in a complicated social structure require proper and timely

counselling. There are cases admitted in hospitals and took treatment for mental depression. This was explained by the women leaders at the state head quarter meeting in front of the Secretary of Rural Development, organised by Human Rights Foundation, Chennai. This can also be done by some committed NGO's.

Honorarium is yet another demand which could be seen rationally in the backdrop of the workload assigned to the local body leaders. It is our experience that the women leaders who are the bread winner of the family not taking responsibility without honorarium. Hence whenever programmes are organised for poor women by the NGO's, the women leaders are provided with their wage as they earn in their work spot. Hence corresponding to their workload, honorarium could be fixed and paid properly to them in time for the work done by the women leaders. Otherwise poor will not participate in the political and development process of the grassroots level institutions.

Leaders are on the Making

Though they have problems and inadequacies, women leaders have emerged and are able to perform the role and function as effectively and efficiently as men. The women leaders in the process of making themselves as leaders exhibited a variety. They are six kinds namely aggressive leaders, capacitated sober leaders, leaders with status quo aspiration, leaders with the aspiration of upward mobility, leaders with a mood of withdrawal and leaders with no idea.

A few cadre parties and a few committed NGO's have been continuously orienting the leaders and extending all their supports to the women leaders who have established their links with the party as party members and NGOs' as beneficiary. They always exhibit aggressive character and by which they are able to discharge their duties more effectively than the other leaders.

There is yet another category of leaders, who have been oriented and trained but not committed to any ideology or organisation. But they are committed in their work. They have participated in the programmes organised by the NGO but they donot have continuous linkage with NGO. They are capacitated leaders concentrating much on their responsibilities and they have performed very well as they have enhanced their capacity. They have aspiration to continue in public service but no specific position.

There is another category which is slightly different from the first one. The capacitated leaders have concentrated much on enhancing their capacity continuously

and performing their duties. While performing their duties, they see the response of the people based on the response, they have a desire to continue in office. But this category has fixed an ambition to continue in the same position and for which this category leaders have developed an art of managing the people in the local bodies. All their deficiencies are compensated by their public relations. Their linkage with the people are stronger as they are always with the people.

The fourth category leaders have a different aspiration. Though they have a number of deficiencies, by keeping themselves very active in discharging their duties they want to demonstrate to their party leaders that they are the opt candidates for Membership in Legislative Assembly. They are always busy in meeting the people and keeping their life busy by familiarizing themselves with the people. They consider the Panchayati institutions as launching pad for their political entry. But this number is very less but they are the models for emulation.

Another category leaders who are unable to meet the challenges of the role and unable to bear the pressure of the society and the family have expressed their desire to withdraw from public life. These leaders were brought to the public life by force by their husbands. The relationship between the husband and wife has undergone a change in the whole process of administering development through Panchayati Raj Institutions in most of the cases. Many of the husbands realized the fact that their wives have acquired needed capacity and hence they have to withdraw from the support space. But there is another segment of men who have determined not to allow their wives to attend to their duties on their own. Most of the women leaders have expressed that they have been facing problem in the local body institutions because of the interference of their husbands. This factor cannot be explained to their husbands by the women leaders of panchayats on their own.

There is yet another category which has no idea. They are in the hands of the male members of the family despite the pronouncement of the Government. The women leaders have not moved out from their houses for public works. They are not meeting the people. Virtually their husbands are operating the machinery. They are not bothered about it. It is a money spinning device which is ably tackled by their husbands by their muscle and money power. Officials are also cooperating with such leaders. They have no idea about the panchayats and they have no aspiration to contest in the next election. If their husbands ask them to contest they will contest otherwise they need not bother about it.

Rajiv Gandhi Chair Intervention

It is primarily a centre for research and policy advocacy. But it does a number of functions. Along with the elected leaders of the Local Bodies, the centre is involved in awareness creation work. It has been recognised as a model training centre and it has been organising training programmes for the leaders of gram panchayats, presidents of district panchayats. It provides vital information to local body leaders. It conducts a number of projects on vital issues affecting the normal functioning of local bodies. Based on the research findings, proposals being prepared and sent the same to the government. Since the Chairman of the Rajiv Gandhi Chair is closely working with the higher level functionaries, policy advocacy done by this centre is easily perceived and taken for policy decision. Apart from this activity, the chair has a network of NGO's for panchayati activities in the name of "Tamil Nadu Campaign for Panchayati Raj". Through this network the women leaders are sensitised periodically on the issues affecting their work. The centre helps the women leaders to form their own organisation to address the issues of women local body leaders.

Observation and Conclusion

Women have come to positions in the Local Bodies as provision has been made in the constitution. Outlook of the society towards the women has started changing. But the hurdles are continuing in the process of empowering women. Steps are being taken by the women on their own to overcome the hurdles. It is a long drawn process.

A structure which had been created over centuries to work against the interest of women cannot be altered within a day or two. It could be changed only by creating a movement by the mass and for which this provision of one third reservation of seats to women would help. On the ground to fight against the designs of the structure, an organised movement of the mass is an imperative. To make the women to achieve results in their positions an array of interventions are necessary.

They need orientation, sensitization, capacity building, information, counselling, continuously through an organisation. The ongoing experiments and experiences suggest that periodical training, orientation, sensitization make the women leaders to perform the assigned role in a better way than the navis. When the women leaders are responding to the socio political challenges in this society they are to be supported by the organisations and institutions which are working for empowerment of women. Wherever such interventions are obvious, achievements of the women leaders are substantial and impressive. Government will respond to the needs of these women leaders only when they are supported by organisations well known for their credentials.

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WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE: FIELD EXPERIENCE FROM KARNATAKA

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Introduction :

Reservation of seats and authority positions for women have brought a large number of women to panchayats as members and presidents. The enhanced quota for women (compared to the previous regime) and the categorywise reservation also brought into panchayats a large proportion of first generation elected representatives. Though this should be construed as a welcome development, in some quarters doubts are being expressed about the ability of women members to actually deliver the goods in the political space which is considered alien to them. A good deal of literature has emerged decrying "the larger than the life-size role" assigned to women in local governance. Indeed, bashing women members and presidents on this point has become fashionable in many circles even to the point of creating some myths about women's participation in the local governance system. The purpose of this note is to objectively evaluate the real and imaginary positions taken on the issue of women's representation in local governance.

The Problem of Proxy :

There is a view that since the number of positions in panchayats for women far exceeds the number of women who are competent and willing, the

panchayats get packed with inexperienced, illiterate and incompetent women members. And since the seats for women are reserved and rotated there is no chance for the sitting member to contest election next time; hence, every election brings in a new woman member who may not have previous experience. To top it all, it is also stated that since many of them are sponsored candidates they actually tend to be proxies for relatives and local leaders. By and large, this is true. Generally speaking, women members, when compared with their male counterparts, are less literate and less experienced. In such cases, relatives, especially husbands, and local leaders, especially the big land holders and contractors, serve as proxies to women members and women presidents. A recent study (SEARCH, April-June 1999) shows that the women members serve as a proxy to husbands, other relatives and local leaders, and that the proxy rate among them rises as one moves from membership of the panchayats to presidentship - for the presidentship the rate of proxy being much higher.

While admitting that the problem of proxy rule by relatives and local leaders is a fact of life, it may be desirable to note the following points: Out experience is that the proxy phenomenon is not confined to women alone; male members are also subject to this charge especially those coming from the reserved category. A majority of the males in this category are illiterate, inexperienced and incompetent. In their case also, sponsorship has been a common practice in so far as the number of reserved positions are in excess of

those who are competent and willing to contest. Under the circumstance, it is strange that so much noise is made about the proxy problem only in respect of women when it exists extensively among males also. This strange phenomenon needs to be understood.

In our formal as well as informal discussions when we confronted the male members on the above issue, a point that emerged was that they were not against women becoming members of the panchayats; their objection was to women being offered the authority position of presidentship. The objection was based on their perception that women, especially when brought through the reservation channel, would not deliver the goods. The point that this possibility is highly probable even in respect of the male members coming through the same channel is glossed over! In order to get some insights into this contradiction in the position taken, it may be worth referring to some incidents observed by the present writer: Under the previous panchayat regime (the 1983 PR Act), out of over two thousand Mandal Panchayats only two panchayats were headed by women. In one such Mandal Panchayat (Honganur of Channapattana Taluk) a hindu minority caste woman was elected as pradhan by a quirk of circumstances. But within a couple of months, a no-confidence motion was contemplated by the male members. What is surprising is that her own party members joined hands with the opposition to dislodge her. The lady, whom this writer interviewed, in so many words gave the reason that the male members were not willing to work "under" a woman. Though one has to

be cautions before generalising from this single instance, the fact that a mind-set of this nature among male members was visible on many occasions cannot be ignored. Thus, an evaluation study of the SIRD training program for the Grama Panchayats (B. Vijay Kumar *et.al.*, June 1997) refers to an incident where the organisers make the women members sit on the floor while the male members were accommodated on chairs. When this writer organised a training program for the Zilla Panchayat members at ISEC, Bangalore he was amused at seeing the male members always choosing to sit closer to the resource person leaving no choice to women but to sit in the back rows, and blaming the non-performance of panchayats on the large presence of women in the panchayat bodies!

These incidents, minor as they appear, reflect the inbuilt prejudice about the status of women in our society. This mind-set of the whole set applies equally to the sub set of the panchayats and creates an exaggerated version of the so-called incompetence of women members. It may be of interest here to digress a bit and examine why at all the proxy phenomenon obtains in the panchayats. Since women tend to be proxies largely for their family members and relatives, we interviewed some husbands and relatives to get a feel of why they shadowed the women members and presidents. The main point that emerged was the following: since the women are illiterate, elected for the first time and by reason of which are inexperienced they needed help and support from the close confidants. Husbands and close relatives come in handy to fill

the bill. Husbands and relatives also feel compelled to be always on the side of the women members especially with the woman president because if the latter made a mistake or conspired to make a mistake it will be a reflection on the family honour. Hence the relatives of the woman president in particular keep company just in case she needs any help. In the opinion of this writer this is quite legitimate and there should not be any objection to the women members and presidents taking the advice of close relatives or even be guided by them. In fact, when women members came to our training program, they came with their husbands/ relatives who even sat behind them in the session taking down notes on their behalf and even prompting them to answer a question and seek a clarification. If this is the role they play even back at home in the panchayat one should not have any objection to it.

Awareness, Perception and Participation :

One of the factors undoubtedly that is at the base of better performance of the panchayats is the higher level of awareness, and perceptions of, and participation in decision-making by, the members. A study of this aspect carried out in Chitradurga district (N. Sivanna, 1998) brings out some interesting results pertaining to male and female members. According to this study, women consistently obtained lower scores in regard to all the three parameters. However, the difference between males and females was slightly larger in regard to awareness (about 14 percentage points). But in respect of perceptions and participation this difference was lower - being 7 and 8.5

percentage points respectively. The slightly wider gap in awareness between male and female members is understandable considering that the former have a better chance of exposure to the goings on in the polity than the latter. However, lack of equal amount of exposure of female members has not deterred them from forming more or less equal perception levels and participating equally well in the decision-making process. Therefore, if the levels of awareness, perception and participation are an index of performance, then the performance levels of males does not appear to be too high to warrant creation of a myth that men can do better than women.

The above statement of facts is a quantified version of the performance potential of males and females. Let us now examine its qualitative aspect. In his informal and unstructured discussions with some Grama Panchayat members, this writer asked them to state in order of priority three development projects they would choose if funds were made available. The male members preferred a link road to the nearest town, a bus shelter and a community hall in that order. The women members' preference on a priority basis was drinking water, toilets and street lights. A harijan woman added "Rudrabhoomi" - a burial ground as her caste people were not allowed to bury their dead in the village burial ground! This gives a clue to the nature of felt needs of the people at the grass roots level. May be the intensity of the needs felt by the male and the female members is the same and may be the needs of males and females differ. But the point that cannot be over looked is that

women members are much closer to home - to the immediate needs of the family. In so far as local governments are expected to meet the immediate needs of the family, the quality of women's perceptions appears to be a shade better.

Consider another incident in support of this point. A panchayat in Kolar district was debating a question as to how it can utilise a grant received from an organisation. The male members of the panchayat proposed that an additional dairy building may be constructed using those funds as the present one was congested. Two women members who were present stood up and made an alternative proposal. They argued that the building where the anganawadi children are housed presently was dilapidated and as such it may collapse any time causing death of the young children. Hence, there was an urgent need to put up an anganawadi building. That the final decision went in favour of the dairy building is a different story. But the fact is that the concern of the women members to the safety of children cannot escape the attention of the readers.

Another case may be quite revealing. A Grama Panchayat did not have a panchayat building. So, the panchayat took a decision to put up a building for the purpose on a two gunta private plot belonging to a panchayat member who offered it for a price of Rs.20,000. A woman member intervened to make a suggestion. She said that it was atrocious to squander the precious panchayat

funds on purchase of land. She suggested that an announcement may be made to the effect that whichever village comes forward to donate two guntas of land, the panchayat will decide to locate the panchayat building in that village. If land is thus obtained free of cost, the amount that would have gone by way of price to be paid for land could be used for construction of the building or providing amenities to the villagers. Though the decision taken obviously went against her suggestion, the logic involved in her argument cannot be missed.

Training Needs :

From the above discussion, it appears that though the awareness levels of women are lower, the levels of their perceptions and participation are not far below those of male members. Moreover, qualitatively women capture the felt needs that are nearer home and the needs identified by them are of immediate nature. However, women members seem to be constrained from having their say in the decision-making process. As a result, they tend to lose out to the male members. This result may be due to their inability to lobby with other members and officials, their low levels of articulation skills, and perhaps to lack of information. Therefore, it appears that asymmetry of information, inability to lobby and to be articulate act as constraints on them to get the decisions in their favour. If these constraints are released by providing them with full information about the panchayat system, and training them in the art of articulation and lobbying, they possibly will effectively influence decision-

making. This makes out a case for organising special training programs for women to provide them with relevant information and to impart skills of articulation and lobbying.

Realising the need as also the importance of training, the Government of Karnataka sponsored several training programs for the benefit of members, presidents and vice-presidents of all levels of panchayats. The SIRD, DTI's, academic institutions and NGO's organised such programs in the State. In some cases, training programs were targeted exclusively to women members perceiving that they needed special attention. In many cases, the programs were targeted both for male and female members. The inputs given to the trainees were (a) basic information about the PR system with special emphasis on the legal, administrative and developmental aspects, and (b) skills of speaking in the panchayat meetings, seeking information, raising issues and debating on the proposals brought before the meetings and (c) leadership skills of handling people - citizens, officials and other elected members. Some institutions also placed emphasis on changing the attitudes of members on the question of reservation, equal opportunity for weaker sections especially women and depressed classes, on corruption, class and caste harmony and such other sensitive social problems.

It is difficult to capture the exact impact of training programs on the trainees. However, field experience seems to suggest that members benefited

from such programs though a need was felt that the training duration could have been extended, and repeat and follow up programs organised to update knowledge and to keep members' interest alive. On women members particularly, the training programs appear to have left a good impact. This point may be illustrated by sharing our own experience in respect of a program organised in ISEC for the members, vice presidents and presidents of Zilla Panchayats.

The fact that out of 700 persons who attended the program about 36% were women suggests that response from them was encouraging especially when viewed from their general reluctance to come out of their homes. On the first day we found them to be overwhelmed by the new environment and strange people. But our lady colleagues did their best to put the women trainees at ease. The women members did not speak much on the first day but gradually as they went through the sessions, they picked up courage and participated in the discussions. By the end of the program we hardly found any difference between the participatory levels of male and female members. A remark made by Dr.P.V Sheno, the then Director of ISEC, in regard to the participation of women members on the valedictory function of one of the programs in the presence of the Minister of Panchayat Raj and Rural Development may be of interest to note here. He said, "on the first day they would not speak at all in the sessions. But, on the second day they would open up, they would speak on the third day and roar on the fourth day". This is a dramatised assessment of

the participation of women members in the discussion. As a matter of fact, this writer who was the course coordinator, had the pleasant experience of getting congratulatory calls from the relatives of the women trainees after they went back from the course. A typical example is a call from the husband of a member who after conveying his congrats exclaimed: "My wife had never spoken in the panchayat meeting until recently. After she returned from ISEC, she made a speech". We also on and off received reports that our women members had become assertive, even quoted from the panchayat Act and referred to various Union and State Government programs and schemes funded by external agencies whenever occasions demanded. What a tribute to the role of training programs in empowering women members! All of this underlines the importance as also the usefulness of training for panchayat functionaries.

Concluding Remarks :

It is admitted that the women panchayat members and presidents do have limitations arising on account of their low literacy level and lack of experience and exposure to the world outside home. This is compounded by a spurt in demand for women to assume charge of local governance due mainly to reservation of seats and authority positions. Under the circumstance, in many cases they work as proxies to relatives and local leaders. But the phenomenon of proxy rule in panchayats is not the exclusive preserve of the female members alone; male members are also subjected to the same charge.

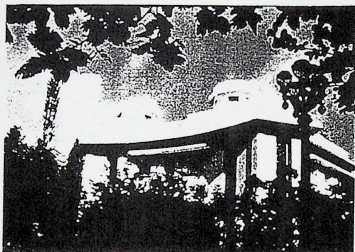
The levels of awareness, perception and participation among women members are, no doubt, lower compared with men but the resultant gap between the two does not appear to be wide enough to warrant such a severe criticism of women for their non-performance or low performance. Besides, the qualitative aspect of their levels of those parameters suggest that women members are nearer home and focus on the immediate needs of the family when compared with the male members.

Though women members do put across their views and appear to be logical in their arguments, they tend to lose the battle mainly because they are not articulative enough, not assertive and not equipped with adequate information. It is in this context, a need is felt to equipping them with knowledge, and skills of articulation and lobbying by organising training programs. Whenever training programs have been organised, women have responded better, shown immense interest and demonstrated their ability for quick learning. Therefore, it is suggested that training for women is a must and that repeat programs should be organised to update and keep their interest alive.

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Shared Spaces: The Beginning...
Associating Elected Women Representatives in Panchayat Raj Institutions
An Ongoing Process of Consultation with South India-based NGOs



Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation
Bangalore

Shared Spaces: The Beginning...
Associating Elected Women Representatives in Panchayat Raj Institutions
An Ongoing Process of Consultation with South India-based NGOs

Setting the Tone...

We want to create a network of the women in the panchayats. In Karnataka there are a number of organizations working with women in the panchayats. We want all of them to participate and would like to know what each can contribute to this effort. The idea is to associate the EWRs so that they can prioritize the issues among themselves or to the government.ⁱ

Karnataka is now entering the third term in the Panchayati Raj Institutions wherein quotas for women have been instituted. Karnataka pioneered the entire electoral quota system for women in the nation with a 25% quota for women in 1987. In 1993-94, after the passage of the 73rd and 74th Amendments, other states followed with a 33% quota by which time in Karnataka women were already governing for one term. In 1995, at the Fourth World Conference for Women, Beijing, a recommendation made by the Indian women's movement in this regard was to network elected women representatives (EWRs) to give them a stronger political voice and to provide support mechanisms for each other. Today again Karnataka will lead in yet another pioneering effort by initiating the process of federating EWRs as well as facilitate such a federation in 3 more southern states, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

Towards an Engendered Governance

Reservation is only the first point, it is what scientists would call a necessary but not a sufficient condition for participation. What do we want from reservation? It is to bring in engendered governance. One elected woman representative would have a group or sangha of 30 women to whom she is accountable. The EWRs keep their links with the group and call upon their collective energies and talents to help her discharge her duties.ⁱⁱ To rectify such a situation where EWRs face tremendous barriers organizations recommended:

- ◆ Transparency, training and exposure were the most vital interventions to build up women's self-confidence and self-image.
- ◆ Building up of self-confidence in the EWRs.
- ◆ Creating and maintaining a critical size for the support network by building up a federation of sanghas, instilling a gender perspective in all activities and process, encouraging women to participate in all aspects of the political process-voting, campaigning, standing for elections, and supporting EWRs.
- ◆ Need to develop a set of alternative yardsticks in governance to what men consider success.
- ◆ Last but not the least is building a federation of EWRs.

Why Federate Women at all?

Dialogue Among EWRs on the need for a Federation, Tumkur May 2nd:

Confirming the need for this federation, Champakamala said had this occurred during the last term, women members could have benefited strongly. Such seminars should be held at all levels, so women representatives can attend and benefit.

Reservation has made it possible for women to enter politics. To openly express individual views and ideas *a common platform* is needed. While EWRs have the knowledge, there is no forum or opportunity to express themselves. Forming an organisation to strengthen the participation of women in decentralized governance will increase women's self-confidence and solidarity.

EWRs expressed concern about what to do next after the term ended. Suman Kolhar responded citing her own prior experience as an elected ZP member and said that since then she has worked in various capacities with women both within and outside elected bodies. This experience need not only be used as an elected representative. The association would provide a space where *former EWRs can train new comers*.

One male representative showing support for a common platform for all women representatives said that co-operation from all sections of society (including men) is needed with self acquired knowledge. *With a network the women can speak freely and come up with solutions and fight for their rights. The women getting together have helped them exceed the 33% quota of the panchayats.* He also quoted how their organization was able to develop these qualities in women by extending the services under Indira Mahila Yogane, both at Gram Panchayat Level, and Block level by forming self help groups. These groups have brought many changes among women. Literacy, education, unity will help women fight for their rights.

In the view of one member, 50% women reservations are necessary in all the departments and women have to be *educated and trained*. This association can be a forum for such training. Projects cannot be simply planned, but should also be followed through where the process, progress and success of the planning and projects need to be traced. Just giving money is not enough.

When a man raises his voice to get things done it is easily accepted but when a woman raises her voice she is stereotyped as dominating or aggressive which makes it hard for her to lead. The association could provide a space where *women's collective voice* can be heard.

EWRs tend to focus more on the needs of women. There is lack of knowledge and awareness, specially girls need to be educated at all levels. Caste plays an important role in the panchayats. In the PRIs women should first see themselves and work together as women and not let caste determine one's alliances. The association will foster relationships among the EWRs to allow *building alliances*.

The rationale for a federation.ⁱⁱⁱ

At a gathering of EWRs, the women asked for a network, which is now 2 years old with 60 members from 13 districts. Though some women have lost the elections this time they want to stand at higher levels. Through the network exchanges have begun across districts and states (Karnataka-Kerala). This has helped build the self-confidence of EWRs. There is a feeling of inadequacy due to illiteracy but even illiterate EWR have proven to have successfully performed through training. *Thus training and networking can facilitate women's political participation.*

Thus, creating a new space where EWRs can seek solutions to their problems is the driving force behind the federation.

Terminology^{iv}

A clear meaning needs to be provided to the term "Federation." during the May 2nd field visit, in Tumkur, words used were several: Vedike (forum), Okkuta (union), Jalabhandra (network). The term "Federation" does not relate to any one of these words. So one should exercise caution when using this term.

What would such a federation of EWRs look like?

It is in essence, a space where women can dialogue, reflect and articulate their own problems related to governance, and furthermore seek solutions collectively in an environment of support and solidarity. The Federation would be primarily a women's organization where women of all political persuasions or affiliations can come together on a common gender action plank. Though politics will make its presence felt, let us work as one from the beginning.

- The federation needs to be a membership organization. It should have a floating membership with ex-members, current members and politicians. It should have a clear profile, have visibility, should be a coalition of women working in partnership.
- The federation should have a strong element or stress on information, publication and dissemination.
- The Federation would engage on all women's issues, not only local governance
- Only Gram Panchayats would be included initially and later on, the higher tiers can be included.
- The federation should be a facilitator group, with a set of working strategies such as:
- Action points emerging from one meeting to be passed on to other meetings.
- Views expressed in those meetings to be strengthened by communication to women's groups for their validation.

What would such a federation of EWRs do?

The most important functions of this federation would be:

- ◆ To act as a problem solving and support forum.

- ◆ To institutionalize a gender perspective.
- ◆ To exchange experience and for peer learning.

The federation must be located in a much larger framework where the network becomes central to decision making. It is very important that poor women get heard in the panchayat and even more important that their inputs are more fully utilized in larger fora thereby institutionalizing their [gender] perspective.

How does one negotiate the political identity of such a federation?

The issue that repeatedly arose was the relationship between this new federation of EWRs and political parties. Regardless of what elections are supposed to look like on paper at the Gram Panchayat level, the reality remains that EWRs are connected to political parties. Therefore the consequent federation will similarly have some political affiliations. Parties too will begin to look at such a federation as a possible bank of both voters and candidates. The fact that political party affiliations are legitimate at the higher tiers of the PRIs further complicates the situation.

Issues Relating to A Federation and A Network:

In federating and networking, roles and relationships of partners and networks, the meaning and significance of federation, basis of collaboration, functionality, equality of partners, apportionment of credit for work done amongst partners, access to materials and research and action plan are all significant.

Challenges and views articulated were:

- How one would form a Federation, which has endurance and permanence, in a constantly changing scenario created by new women being elected with each term?
- How to prevent the federation being hi-jacked by political parties?
- How does one assume convergence of interests between women's development and NGO?
- The Federation is an Association of Elected Women in Panchayats is an organization formed into a political group.
- Clarification is needed of the common goal and the time frame i.e. long or short term. A long-term strategy would yield a strong Federation.
- The economic position and lack of financial support EWRs have.
- There is a need to understand the whole issue of opposed and unopposed candidatures.
- The issue of residency and reservation: At the MP or MLA level they have to be residents of the constituency before they can stand for elections. At the GP level there is no such rule.
- Towing the party line and the consequences for EWRs who do not, especially in Kerala.
- Money should be available for meeting the needs of the elected members
- Flagging the what and how of collaboration, which should be sorted out
- Important differences about structure, sustainability, finances should be sorted out

The NGO Partners and their Commitments

The partners in the network already bring to this initiative tremendous experience in federating and working with EWRs. The reach and scale of their work is wide.

- Singamma Srinivasan Foundation (SSF) has taken the lead in the creation of Shared Spaces, a new political expanse towards federating EWR's. It has done so by calling together and forming a loose partnership-network of NGO and other partners working in the arena of gender and local governance.
- Ms. Ann Good, First Secretary, Canadian High Commission, New Delhi, said that more funds would be diverted to build up infrastructure and that she would carry this information and message to the South Asia meeting.
- SEARCH works in 12 districts in Karnataka training GP women. In the previous term, they mobilized 60 EWRs into a federation called Jaal bandha whose members are now trainers. In the shared spaces project, they will be field partner.
- MSK works in 7 districts in Karnataka with sangha women of which more than 200 have been elected. MSK would be the field NGO in federating and training the EWRs in the shared spaces project.
- In the other three states, the NGOs that will lead the project are Gandhi Gram Rural Institute in Tamil Nadu, Sakhi in Kerala and Lok Satta in Andhra Pradesh. Gandhi Gram Rural Institute provides livelihood opportunities for marginalized groups and builds women's leadership in rural areas. Sakhi helps women access information on gender and related issues. Lok Satta is a people's movement for governance reforms.
- NIAS brought into this process its own considerable experience through action research with EWRs.^{vi} NIAS is redefining what effective and engendered governance means. Their research has surfaced the radically different priorities of male and female elected representatives. NIAS would work directly with 45 women in nine Gram Panchayats in three districts of the State. There would also be a multiplier effect through partner-NGO's subsequently. The initial 45 women would become the resource persons-cum-trainers for the women coming in later.
- Institute of Social Sciences, Bangalore would participate in training and research. "Update", their publication can be used to promote the idea of the Federation and its exchange program in Kerala and Tamil Nadu can help EWRs interact.
- Janodaya would participate in awareness programmes in gram sabhas and in panchayat institutions at all three levels in those areas where it is at presently working. (Kolar, Malur, Shimoga (Tharikere, Sowlanga), Mysore-Urban, Mangalore-Urban, Kaup in Mangalore District). Janodaya works with grass roots women, concentrating on socio-eco-legal aspects to help women access justice. Janodhaya will identify within it a new working group to do this work and this can be decided after consultation with other members of Janodaya.
- ISST through its National Resource Center spoke of the organization's interest and commitment in disseminating information regarding the Project through Uma Prachar and in other activities such as documentation and training. ISST would be aiming at reaching 100 women this year.
- Ms. Deepa Dhanraj has said that she would develop films on training materials on issues like gender which could be useful for the network on all the four states picking up the unique points from the four state experiences.

- Ms. Purnima Vyasulu promised to fund the network from the Gram Panchayat Fund of WYTEP, if we can identify 'good' elected women. So it would also be necessary to start the identification process early. Purnima's particular interest lay in identifying women who would be actually working in agriculture.
- Ms. Meera Saxena has supported the project from the Department of Women and Child Development in launching the dialogue at Tumkur and has committed to future support of the project.
- The Honorable Minister of the Department of Information and Broadcasting, Dr. B.K. Chandrashekhara has committed full support to this initiative. The Department personnel participated and brought media presence to the Tumkur meeting.
- The Honorable Minister of the Department of Kannada and Culture, Mrs. Rani Satish has also extended her support.
- The Secretary of the Department of Rural Development, Mr. M.R. Srinivasmurthy has extended the Department's support to the project.
- Best Practices Foundation is committed to the documentation and dissemination of best practices in the fields of development, governance and gender globally and can conduct documentation and media campaigns of the project and its highlights.
- Other individual partners who have committed to partner with the project and extend their support include Laxmi Krishnamurthy, Vinod Vyasulu, Ammu Joseph and Dr. Thelma Narayan.

Some emerging ideas on operationalising the Network of NGOs and Other Partners:

- A common letterhead for the Project activities. Partners could claim credit for their contributions.
- Management structure which will ensure prompt communication to all partners regarding all aspects of the Project. It will also ensure the distribution of all relevant materials to all partners. The person who will adopt the nodal role for this purpose will be Suman Kolhar.
- Partners will aim at convergence and congruence through their activities. No problem was foreseen in getting their own internal organisational approvals.
- Partners should draw up their financial requirements and inform SSF so that resources could be located, both inside and outside the Project.
- Need for clarity and specificity on the numbers of elected women who would be covered under the Project. It was agreed to minimize the number of women and carefully select partners so that transactional costs are kept to a minimum but also ensure a solid block of EWRs.

What is the USP of the Federation?

A New Form of Training:^{vii} Capacity building was necessary, but not sufficient. What was more critical was training of a 'political' nature, where individual strengthening of skills would not be that important. Earlier type of training was more a 'one-on' and 'one-off' affair and what is being envisaged now would be more by way of a hand holding exercise, for the women, throughout their political term. Newly elected women feel the

most isolated. Some kind of pre-selection of women must take place before they are sent for training.

The gender audit process started by the Singamma Foundation could be a good entry point, and the EWRs could usefully learn about this tool.

Advocacy: Other references made were to the Advocacy Studies taken up in NIAS as well as in Pune, the work of DISHA in Gujarat, etc. This kind of a repertoire could build up the capabilities of the Federation and become another USP.

The Component Plan approach could also be a policy tool that could be taken up by the Federation.

Exchanges by EWRs: Kerala EWRs immensely benefited from the Karnataka EWR visit. It helped women to understand what was happening in the other parts of the country in local governance.

Structure of the Association

Prepare the constitution, the bye-laws, the Articles, which will lay down how the President, Vice President, Secretary and Officer bearers are to be elected.

Aims and Objectives

- To train elected women representatives to be courageous with self-confidence and not to be affected by atrocities or yield to pressure, in carrying out GP activities.
- To empower women representatives to solve their problems and assert their rights.
- To foster cordial relationship between EWRs of different gram panchayats.
- To facilitate the sharing of experiences among gram panchayat women not only within districts and states but also between states.
- To encourage women representatives who have completed their 5-year term to stand for elections and impart suitable training and empower them.
- An exercise to build a movement of women leaders to address their issues as their own.
- It goes far beyond a capacity building effort

Note: These aims are to be presented for dialogue to the EWRs and revised based on their input.

Documenting the Process

The three possible areas where the research team could work on:

- ♦ *Documenting the different processes which NGOs used to build federations*: Here the process by which EWRs themselves start to take ownership of the federation and are able to facilitate its spread is important to document. The idea would be to create a

manual like "What Works in Federating?" Further for other states who want to begin this process, such a process documentation would prove useful.

- ◆ *Surfacing what EWRs would like out of a federation:* For EWRs to have ownership over the federation, it is important that first and foremost they define what this federation will do and how it can be useful to them. This will help also surface the few action points around which EWRs can come together.
- ◆ *Documenting what the action group needed:* Here an action plan could be shared in advance with the partners responsible for research so that when specific events take place the researchers can be present.

Final Note^{viii}

All the partners are to work on one objective: **namely to build a new process, and thus to enable the recording of this process.** The spirit of the meeting was in line with a dream of the inverted pyramid namely, these will be pillars on which partners work and would submit joint proposals to funding agencies towards that purpose. SSF will act like a pump house- the federation needs information, and SSF carries the milestones and pushes forward dream of the federation.

Endnotes

ⁱ Suman Kolhar, Coordinator, KWIRC

ⁱⁱ Revathi Narayanan, MSK

ⁱⁱⁱ Rajani from SEARCH

^{iv} Poornima Vyasalu, Danida

^v Revathi Narayanan, MSK

^{vi} Shantha Mohan, GSU, NIAS

^{vii} Deepa Dhanraj

^{viii} Devaki Jain, SSF



Society For Participatory Research in Asia May 1, 2000

Dear Friend,

Please find enclosed a copy of Kannada Version of "Non-Governmental Organisations and Panchayati Raj". This note is prepared by Prof. Philip Oldenburg of Columbia University. Prof. Oldenburg, a regular visitor to India since early sixties. In 1998, he visited 12 project sites where participatory bottom up planning process was initiated by local NGOs in collaboration, partnership with local community and Panchayati Raj Institutions. In the first part of this note, the author raises a number of questions on the process of participatory planning.

The second part focus on discussion summary. After the field visit, author organised a one and half day long discussion with NGO staff who are active in strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), present and former government officials. The discussion centered around PRIs in the present administrative structure, availability of resources, NGOs involvement in PRI, access to information etc.

Author also agree that NGOs support to Panchayats is vital in the process of reinvigorating grassroots governance. The report also brings out examples and analysis. We hope you will find the report interesting to read and useful in your work.

If you need more copies, please write to us.

With best wishes and warm regards,

(Signature)
Chandan Datta

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*To
TN/RN/AP*

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PRIA is an International Centre for Learning and Promotion of Participation and Democratic Governance

(Signature)

K.S.P.

Women in Local Governance: *Experiences and Effective intervention strategies in Kerala.*

(Organized by Institute of Social studies trust at National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore. Date: 1-2 June-2000)

1. Background

In recent years, with the globalisation of economies and increasing control of the International financial institutions, issue of good governance is receiving special attention. It arises from the growing realisation that conventional development efforts have failed to achieve desired results- to eliminate poverty and inequality and to promote human rights. The various debates and approaches in this regard brings to focus the need to make public administrative institutions accountable to people whom they are supposed to serve. The expectation regarding a corruption free, transparent government is voiced again and again. The right to information campaign is turning to be a mass movement in the country.

Decentralization of power is a basic step in the right direction. This coupled with effective measures to enhance people's participation will go along way to make the political institutions responsive to the needs of the people, in resource allocation, in policy and administrative reforms. " Local self governance is a genuine effort towards political restructuring to achieve social transformation that is necessary for equitable, environmentally sustainable and gender-just development" (DAWN)

Kerala is pursuing this line--going through yet another path-breaking and revolutionary experiment- of power sharing, a truly decentralized and participatory development process. The Left Democratic Government has shown the political will to hand over 40% of the budget directly to be spend by the local bodies. Necessary rules, deployment of staff, and other administrative procedures and formalities have almost been completed. This experiment of giving power to people-Gram Swaraj- as envisioned by Gandhi and many others after him is slowly becoming a reality in Kerala.

This paper is an attempt to give a brief summary of this process and place the experience of women in that background.

2. Context

Kerala stands apart from other Indian states in having achieved high human development index (HDI) in spite of low per capita income and economic well being. It is the sixth smallest Indian State with a population of 30 million and with a highest density of population (790/ sq./km)

An average gram panchayat in Kerala has a population of 25199 and average population of a Municipality is 48785.

The social development in Kerala shows positive indicators like high literacy levels, low birth rates, high life expectancy and low infant mortality. The status of women in Kerala measured in terms of the above indicators is also better than their counterparts elsewhere.

This positive human development achievements are attributed to the various historical, cultural factors, a participatory political culture, conscious development and -redistribution strategies .

What is projected as the Kerala model of Development in the national and international development circles and debates come under sharp critique in the 90's with the realisation that of the poor economic performance in the agriculture and manufacturing sectors which makes the model unsustainable. The discussion of the paradoxes of the model brings to light the multi-dimensional crisis, which has become obvious in many ways. Economic stagnation, unemployment three times the national average, budget and trade deficit, increasing suicide rates, increasing violence against women etc clearly indicates that the present development strategies need to be revised. There are also inter-district inequalities-pockets of deprivation co-existing with overall progress.

It became clear that problems of development at the micro-level could be solved only through a change in the approach and strategy, from centralised to decentralised, from macro to micro.

The attempts of decentralisation in Kerala dates back to late 50's when the administrative reform committee recommended various measures towards devolution of powers (Isaac and Tharakan1995). Unfortunately the recommendations were not implemented as the Govt. was dismissed. A significant step in this direction was taken in 1987-91 when district councils were created. This was also dismantled when a change of Government took place.

The 72 and 73 constitutional amendments paved the way for decentralisation of power to local panchayats. With the Panchayat Raj elections in '95, the three-tier panchayat system came in to effect (2-10-'95). There are 990-gram panchayats, 152 block panchayats, 14 district panchayats, 55 municipalities and 3 corporations. The constitutional amendment made it possible to have about 5000 women elected to 1/3 posts in the local bodies.

As mentioned earlier, the LDF Govt. in Kerala which came to power in 1996, decided to give actual power to the local bodies to act as institutions of self-government and agents of local development. The Kerala Panchayati Raj and Municipalities Act 1994 was passed and a special cell was constituted in the state Planning board to oversee the decentralised planning process. To make this a popular programme and to ensure maximum participation of people, a campaign strategy was used.

According to the new act, the grama sabhas (all members of a ward- the constitutional subdivision of a local body) are vested with powers to identify local need and prepare plans in a scientific participatory and time-limited manner. It was made mandatory that they meet at least twice a year and discuss the development problems in their area, the options before them to solve them, estimate the resources that can be mobilised and arrive at plan proposals. In order to make these proposals into projects, the panchayats needed data and statistics. Each local body prepared a development report with all the necessary background information, data and resource potential of each area. Then development seminars were organised at each local body level in which taskforces were formed and they then undertook to develop the proposals into projects. At the end of this phase, each panchayat had a number of projects ready. In the 1st year, the common demands were for construction of roads, schemes for employment generation, housing and other non- productive areas. But the planning board directives were clear about the larger allocation needed for productive sectors like agriculture, minor irrigation, dairy projects, and manufacturing sectors. Health and sanitation were other areas, which received a boost from the planning board. In the next phase depending on the priorities, funds allocated by the government etc, projects that can be executed are selected. A voluntary technical core team (VTC) was formed at each local body to study the technical feasibility and viability of these projects.

Expert committees were formed at each level (BLEC, MLEC, DLEC) They recommend the projects to the district planning committee (DPC) who will have to finally approve the projects. Funds were directly handed over to local bodies.

In the next stage, the projects of different tiers of local bodies were integrated and block level and district level projects were also formulated

There are implementations and monitoring officers to help the local bodies to implement the projects in a time bound manner

The achievements and drawbacks of the Decentralised planning process are not within the scope of this paper. Yet it can be said with confidence that the local bodies have become local governments constantly interacting with people and responding to their needs. The contractor-bureaucratic nexus at the grassroots level is broken. It is not easy to change the mindset of people who had seen that local development is about roads and bridges. The Planning Board has been very consciously shifting the focus to productive sectors like agriculture and industry.

It has not been smooth all the way. There was resistance from legislators, opposition parties, and employees' organisations who felt that their power is threatened and their authority is getting eroded. There is also criticism that the CPI (M) who spearheaded the programme is jealously keeping full control over it and not making conscious effort to get the collaboration of the coalition partners.

Any innovative, pilot programme is bound to making mistakes and the path to success is in acknowledging mistakes, criticisms and strive towards bettering the scheme and that is what the planning board is claiming to do.

3. Women in Governance: Experiences and interventions.

A notable paradox of the Kerala Model was the poor representation of women in politics, in spite of high literacy levels and social development. Out of the 144 seats in the state assembly, number of women has been never more than 13 (10%). Even in the highest decision making bodies of various political parties, trade unions and service organisations, women's representation is either nil or absolutely low.

As mentioned earlier, large number of women could come in to the public realm through reservation of seats in the local bodies. 3954 women are members of gram panchayats out of which around 375 are presidents of panchayats, 564 are in block level and 105 at the district panchayats

Many more women are active in the decentralised planning process as convenors of various taskforces, as Key resource persons. For the first time in the history of the state, there is recognition, acceptance and visibility to women in politics. There is conscious effort to develop the capabilities of women leaders.

With this entire process of people's plan campaign, a very dynamic process is set in motion at the local level. Each year, projects have to be prepared, previous projects implemented. There are meetings at various levels and training programmes. All this makes the day of an elected representative packed with activities. This is specially the case of women, as they have to couple this with their household activities and professional work if they are employed outside.

Many women are coming into governance for the first time and they also have to spend time to learn a number of new things like rules, administrative procedures, project preparation, skills of public speaking, implementation, evaluation and monitoring.

The people's planning process has now entered the 4th year and it is interesting to assess the experiences of women in local governance in this challenging context

4. General approach

- ❖ The planning board has been responsible for this pilot and innovative project but in the board there are no women!
- ❖ In the initial phase of the planning process itself, conscious attention was given to give visibility to women in the process of development and it was included as a topic of training and handbooks. Although initially women's welfare was the title given, it was changed to women's development subsequently. In order to do this, women had to be brought forward to participate in large numbers from the planning process to execution of projects. From the beginning, planning board took steps and give directions to this effect

- ❖ The handbook on women speaks of gender, development, and status of women, model projects and exhorts the local bodies to earmark 10% of funds for projects exclusively for women. But in the 1st year, only 4.6% were spend for projects on women. Hence the planning boards made it mandatory that 10% is spend on women and only then DPC will give sanctions to the entire projects of local bodies. Due to conscious intervention, the share of women's component rose to 11.5%
- ❖ Another aspect was the stipulation that gender impact assessment was mandatory in the cost -benefit analysis of all projects
- ❖ Before each phase of the programme, training programmes were conducted on a wide variety of topics related to all areas of decentralised planing and concerns of women were integral to these Although it was intended to have at least 30% of participation of women in the state, district and local levels, nowhere this could be achieved. In the Key Resource training (KRP) of the 1st year, women's participation was only 17% and many dropped out subsequently. In adequate number of women resource persons affected training programmes at the lower levels a. The planning board also feels that active leadership of women to organise and implement programmes at the local level also was lacking in many places
- ❖ A special attempt to increase women's participation was to get the anganawadi teachers active in mobilising poor women who are the beneficiaries of the anganawadis. Kerala has about 14000 anganawadis and about 30000 related workers. A special handbook was prepared for the child care sector and conventions were conducted to involve the teachers in the plan campaign. The local bodies were given permission to give additional honorarium of Rs.100/- as an incentive for this work
- ❖ Special effort was made to get women to participate in the grama sabha. Although women could go to any subject group discussion, most went to women's development group and some went to the groups which discussed issues like drinking water, education etc.

Discussions were based around a questionnaire on women's situation in the panchayat. The overall participation of women in grama sabhas also was around 20%. It was mainly women from the economically backward sessions who participated with the hope of getting benefits. It is to be discussed whether the concerns of the rest of the society is more to do with macro policies that affect their economy like the import policies regarding cash crops like rubber, coconut or is there a general apathy to what is happening around them?

- ❖ The chapter on women in the development report of the panchayats gives an overall situation of women in Kerala. Yet, one must admit that in the secondary data collection to prepare the report, women's participation was not there as expected. It was on the basis of actual data that reports of other sectors were written but the chapter on women was written on the basis of common knowledge and understanding Subsequently, special attention is paid to conduct a status of women study through all the women's groups of the local bodies. Guidelines are discussed in the Training handbook for women taskforce members
- ❖ The taskforce that formed out of the group-discussing women's development were to prepare the projects for the women's component. Yet, because of the inadequacy

of training on development issues of women, lack of experts on gender and limited number of women volunteers have affected the project preparation. Many are aware of the issues of women but not of the potentials of gender based planning and development.

❖ Projects for women

Not only that sufficient money was not earmarked for women in the 1st phase but also most of the projects could not be considered as women's projects. Out of the total 4412 projects under the women's component in the 1st year, 59.15% (2523) were in productive sectors. 38.42% (1773) were in service sectors. 2.42% of the funds were spend for the infrastructure development. It is very relevant to ask how many of these were fit to be included as the women's development project. Projects for roads and bridges (1.22%-25 projects), sanitation (0.74%-22 projects), drinking water (0.28%- 14 projects), minor irrigation 0.85%-35 projects) electricity (0.31%-17 projects) could in no way be considered under the Women's component plan. Projects to improve facilities in schools , housing etc also were found to included as part of this

Of the projects in productive sectors, majority (1147) was in animal husbandry. All this was related to distribution of goats and chickens to individual beneficiaries. Although, these assets were transferred to women, there was no provision to see that women had its ownership or control of the income from them. There was no organisational support to see that the birds or animals were protected from diseases or marketing is undertaken collectively. So it is imperative to see that women are in control over the assets created and that they will directly receive and control the income and that they are assisted to develop the management capabilities. The same can be said of the kitchen garden projects (300Projects).

Most of the projects proposed as part of the industry (807) were related to the distribution of tailoring machines. There were industrial cooperatives etc oriented to give employment to women but these were prepared without giving sufficient attention to the forward and backward linkages.

A close examination of the women's projects reveals many shortcomings. Many of the projects were oriented to enhance the income of women but they never questioned the sexual division of labor or the gender discrimination in society. Most of the occupations promoted were those which women can do combining their household responsibilities.

There were 700 projects related to anganawadis but again without any innovation or new approach

In spite of all this, it has to be acknowledged that, in designing projects and programmes in local bodies, the need to include women was acknowledged and this was visible throughout the state.

A beginning has been made.

Very conscious strategies were used subsequently; using lessons learned from this 1st phase. Since it was difficult to get Key resource persons on a sustained basis to assist with the projects and programmes, it was decided to focus on training the

elected women representatives themselves , women members of the taskforces, anganawadi teacher's etc

In the 2nd phase 62.93% of funds were for the productive sectors, 36.14 in the service sector and infrastructure received 0.93%

There were many changes and improvements. In the 2nd year projects in the manufacturing sector showed about 40% increase at all levels. Tailoring machines were given only related to garment making units. Projects for individual beneficiaries were minimum.

One remarkable feature in the second phase was the emergence and active functioning of neighbourhood groups and self-help groups. A new wave of enthusiasm to get together and act collectively is emerging in many areas. In some places, women were able to mobilise 2-3 lakhs of rupees in 4-5 months. This will definitely help to improve projects in the next phase.

Even in this phase, in spite of strict monitoring, 10% of women's component plan goes for anganawadis, to construct buildings terming them as women's centers. But it is to be noted that women cannot have access to the place when children are there and when the building will be free, women are not free, as they have to take the kids home.

Funds for housing also has gone up, in spite of directions that only houses for female headed households can be included!

Although there is remarkable progress, a lot more have to be achieved. At the end of the financial year, (1999) only 65% of funds were spent and quick survey revealed that what was mostly unspent was money earmarked under the women's scheme. So implementation and monitoring is still areas where a lot of attention and pressure has to be there.

If such projects have to be properly implemented a special implementing officer have to be put in place. In the words of a panchayat member " Majority of the panchayats spend the 10% without scientifically studying the problems, needs, potentials and limitations of women locally. Hence you hear of women's coweded, women's milch animal project etc (Shailaja Surendran, member, Bisonwally Panchayat)

5. Experiences of elected women representatives.

The context of the decentralised planning process is such that requires a lot of time, energy and commitment from the part of the elected representatives. " People's plan Campaign(PPC) gave tremendous opportunities for those who want to do something. Earlier it was just meetings and office work. But after the PPC started, the development activities evolved through ward conventions and grama sabhas had to be executed and elected representatives had to work jointly with the bureaucracy. There was no place in our appointment diary for anything else." (P.Dhanalakshmi, President, Panthalay block Panchayat)

EWR - Elected Women Representative

85% of the EWR's are inexperienced in politics and is contesting in elections for the first time. 40% of them have entered politics through elections and 26% through working with women's organisations.

26% of them are below 30 years. 40% are between 30 and 40 years. Only 33.4% are above 40

Regarding education, women are ahead of men. 18% of women are graduates or post graduates. Only 13% men are in this category. What is significant is to note that 64.55% of women are educated up to either high school level or below it. According to a survey conducted by KSSP, 33% EWR's have no employment. For men this is only below 10%

The planning board in '98 conducted a survey among 1656 elected women representatives about the changes that have occurred after they became people's representatives. Majority of the women agreed that in 3 years time, their awareness about local government, the rules and regulations, skills of planning, writing and public speaking, ability to control meeting proceedings, deal with bureaucracy etc have substantially increased. This survey however did not examine their awareness of the planning from a gender perspective, their understanding of development (welfare, anti-poverty, equity, empowerment) nor gathered opinions on male perspective of the participation of women and the gender dynamics in the local bodies.

Most women had to face a lot of mental tensions, having to combine family and work responsibilities and handle prejudices against women. According to their own assessment 43.7% of women had to face slandering, mainly from opposition parties, contractors and the public.

Having entered the public realm created tensions within the family too. On an average, an elected women had to spend minimum 4 hours every day on programmes related to the local body and decentralised planning and another 2 hours for other public functions and activities. If they are working outside the home, then another 6 hours goes for that. All this, along with the household responsibilities leaves very little time for personal needs related to leisure and rest. The amount of time spend outside the home is creating some type of tension or other in families of 60% women. In 5% families, this tension is very high. These tensions are in the households of women who are between 30-40 years, where childcare and education are crucial.

From the above discussion, it is clear that the educational background, double work burden, expectations from the public in the context of the decentralised planning process, the lack of experience of the elected women and problems created by a male dominated political system have all made the life of an elected women very difficult and demanding. Hence, many women opined that they would not want to stand for another election. To make women in political process effective and responsive, lot of support from concerned women's organisations is a must.

6. Gendered governance

The experiences of Kerala shows that attempts to bring about effective and good governance does not automatically address the question of gender inequality. Like all other social relations, gender relations are also about hierarchies of power and privileges between men and women, giving rise to differing needs and interests. This also means differing and unequal capacities to meet these needs and realise these interests.

Governance is about interventions to address needs of people, matching social and economic resources with these needs. In this power is the decisive factor. If good governance is about equity and equality, gender and gender equity has to be major concerns in development. For example it is important to analyse how needs are perceived, voiced and understood? How resources are generated and allocated? How the differences of power and privileges between men and women influence upon this process?

The last 4 years of experience makes it very clear that women as a group lack the social and economic and political power. Yet not all women experience this lack of power in the same way. Their caste, class, age, educational background, political belonging, husbands party position etc affects a woman's position and clout. Women's perceived needs were those that addressed their practical needs and improved their positions. Even to these practical needs, the response was not enthusiastic as seen from the first year's allocation of 4% of funds. Even after insisting that over and above the allocations from general funds, 10% should be earmarked exclusively for projects on women, there was a tendency to put drinking water or buildings for anganwadis etc under this.

There were also incidences of sanctioned projects not implemented in time and funds lapsed due to negligence or silently defeating the women's programmes by mere absence or lack of interest. The power was shown in a subtle way, which makes it difficult to fight.

The challenge is to bring strategic concerns of women into projects. There are very few such projects that helped to change the position of women but beginnings are made to bring women from the domestic sphere into the public realm, empower them with economic independence. Self-help groups and neighborhood groups are very popular. Some panchayats allocated funds for certain innovative and non-stereotyped programmes because of the insistence of Key resource persons or a dynamic women panchayat member, an often cited example is of Balusseri, in *Calicut* Kanner where 106 girls and housewives were enrolled to study self-defense techniques (as a way of addressing increasing violence against women). Many housewives were forced to give up the training after one or two stages as the husbands were saying that they don't need a 'belt' at home! The panchayat who funded the instructors also felt that self-defense techniques are enough and not a black belt, which they would have got if they had completed the 4th stage. The final control over resources and the decision-making capacity is still with men. Many times in discussions comparison is made between the scarce resources and

whether it should be spend for drinking water or cycling for women! The point of the 10% fund utilisation as a pro-active step towards overcoming effects of a long and systemic oppression is met with stiff resistance.

The experience in Kerala makes it very clear that just by decentralising power or allocating funds or putting certain mechanisms in place, gender equity cannot be addressed. Kerala has taken a step in the right direction but it needs conscious intervention to progress further. Patriarchy as a system has deep roots in all institutions of society and sustained and long struggles, systematic intervention of all concerned persons, especially of women's organizations and movements only can bring lasting changes

Paper presented by Aleyamma Vijayan, Sakhi resource center for women, Trivandrum, Kerala-695001

T1

PRESENTATION ON "GENDER AND GOVERNANCE: EXPERIENCES AND INTERVENTIONS OF MAHILA SAMAKHYA, KARNATAKA"

- Dr.Revathi Narayanan, State Programme Director
Mahila Samakhya Karnataka

AT

ISST SEMINAR ON "WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE: EXPERIENCES AND EFFECTIVE INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN KARNATAKA, KERALA, ANDHRA PRADESH, TAMIL NADU AND MAHARASHTRA

T2

Mahila Samakhya - GOI project under Dept. of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development for the empowerment of poor rural women in Karnataka (1989), UP, Gujarat (1989), AP (1993), under Bihar Education Project in Bihar (1991), under DPEP in MP, Assam and Kerala (post 1996).

Vision : ▲Equality through education, ▲formation of empowered grassroot federations of poor women.

Strategy : Formation of Village level collectives as a starting point - collective reflection, analysis and action.

T3

SAMAKHYA : GIVING EQUAL STATUS TO ...
STATUS OF WOMEN REVISITED:
THREE KEY INDICATORS

- ✧ CHANGING STRUCTURES AND INSTITUTIONS
- ✧ ENHANCING ACCESS TO RESOURCES
- ✧ CHANGING IDEOLOGY

GENDER AND GOVERNANCE THEREFORE SEEN AS A CORE ISSUE FOR MAHILA SAMAKHYA

CALL IT SERENDIPITY OR WHAT YOU WILL

1987 : Local body elections in Karnataka with 25% reservation for women

1989 : MS Karnataka launched in Bidar, Bijapur and Mysore, 1991 - 92 in Raichur and Gulbarga

1993 : GP elections with 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % reservation for women
Sangha women contest and several win, especially on SC reserved seats.

1994 : MS Gender and Governance training woven into the Gramsat programme of Department of Women and Child Development , G.O.K.

MS SANGHA WOMEN ELECTED TO THE GRAM PANCHAYATS
(DECEMBER 1993 ELECTIONS)

Districts	No. Women elected	No. of women elected President	No. of women elected Vice - President
BIJAPUR	59	6	7
GULBARGA	33	2	2
RAICHUR	10	-	-
BIDAR	28	2	2
MYSORE	53	1	2
KOPPAL	26	-	-
TOTAL	209	11	13

The findings of a study on the experiences of *sangha* ewr's by the MS team confirm that an ongoing empowerment programme can create an enabling environment for poor women elected to the *panchayat*.

- ✧ The *sanghas* have provided continued support to the *sangha* ewr's through the political processes and thus created an enabling environment.
- ✧ The *sangha* experience, based as it is on women's agency, has enabled *sangha* ewr's to approach their role and tasks with gender and community interests at the centre.
- ✧ Several of the *sangha* ewr's have stayed accountable to the interests of poor women, establishing accountability mechanisms for themselves and for the processes of governance in general. They have been able to challenge patriarchy, class and caste barriers in their new roles.
- ✧ The *sangha* ewr's have challenged corruption, broken negative stereotypes of women and within the sphere of the *gram panchayats*, redefined political roles.
- ✧ The support structures of the *Sanghas* has the potential to function as the countervailing force to the co-optation of women *Panchayat* members into mainstream politics.

Sangha ewr's have been placed in categories 1-4 in order of decreasing 'effectiveness' as *panchayat* members. The four categories are

- Category 1: Women are articulate and effective in accessing resources for the *sangha* and community, challenging corruption, creating positive images of women in the community.
- Category 2: They are active in terms of accessing resources but much less so than those in category 1 in terms of challenging existing 'norms' and 'ideologies'
- Category 3: They are able to access only those resources that are normally available to any member. Their skills of articulation and confidence levels need to be built up.
- Category 4: Women are not effective, male relatives are de facto members of the *panchayat*.

T8

EFFECTIVENESS OF SANGHA EWR'S (1993 - 1998 GRAM PANCHAYATS)

Sl. No.	District	Category-1	Category-2	Category-3	Category-4	Total
1.	Gulbarga	8	5	18	2	33
2.	Bijapur	17	25	14	3	59
3.	Bidar	13	4	6	5	28
4.	Koppal	14	7	2	3	26
5.	Raichur	8	2	-	-	10
6.	Mysore	27	8	3	-	38
	Total	87	51	43	13	194*

* Data for 15 EWR's from Mysore not available. The actual total of sangha women elected to the gram panchayats from the MS districts is 209.

T9

HOWEVER

Clear by this time that much more needed to be done FOR MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN GOVERNANCE.

VITAL TO BREAK THROUGH THE ISOLATION OF THE ELECTED WOMEN REPRESENTATIVE

VITAL TO ESTABLISH A SOLIDARITY NETWORK, A SUPPORT AND ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM FOR THE EWR

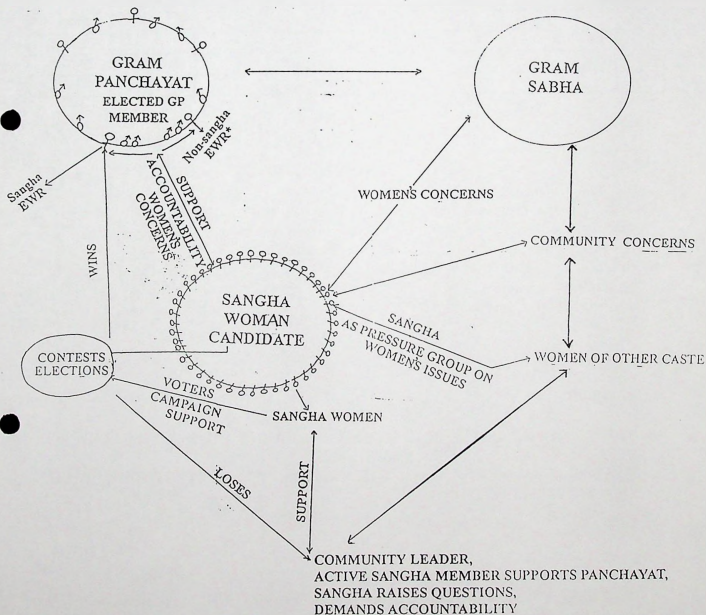
THESE ARE SEEN BY MAHILA SAMAKHYA KARNATAKA AS FUNDAMENTAL TO THE TRANSFORMATION OF POLITICS.

T10

MS STRATEGIES TO SET UP THE SOLIDARITY NETWORK FOR EWR ...

- ✖ EWR supported by the much wider process of politicisation of poor sangha women.
- ✖ That the election process and the candidates are only one part of this process given the current situation for reservation of seats.

POLITICAL ROLES OF SANGHA WOMEN



* EWR - PANCHAYAT WOMEN REPRESENTATIVE

T12

SANGHA WOMEN IN THE GRAM PANCHAYATS (FEBRUARY 2000 ELECTIONS)

DISTRICT	CONTESTED	WON	ADHYAKSHA	UPADHYAKSHA
Koppal	56	30	1	-
Raichur	30	16	1	-
Bellary	21	-	-	-
Bijapur	100	73	-	-
Bidar	60	44	-	-
Gulbarga	95	40	2	2
Mysore	42	22	-	-
Total	384	225	4	2

T13

CHANGING AND BROADENING POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF SANGHA WOMEN

- ✧ Although number of winning candidates has not increased dramatically, the quality of participation has been very different and more meaningful.
- ✧ Sangha women as candidates, voters, supports.
- ✧ Sangha women have discussed and negotiated with candidates in general and panchayat election.
- ✧ Sangha women have entered the fray in order to force men to contest.

T14

THE PITFALLS

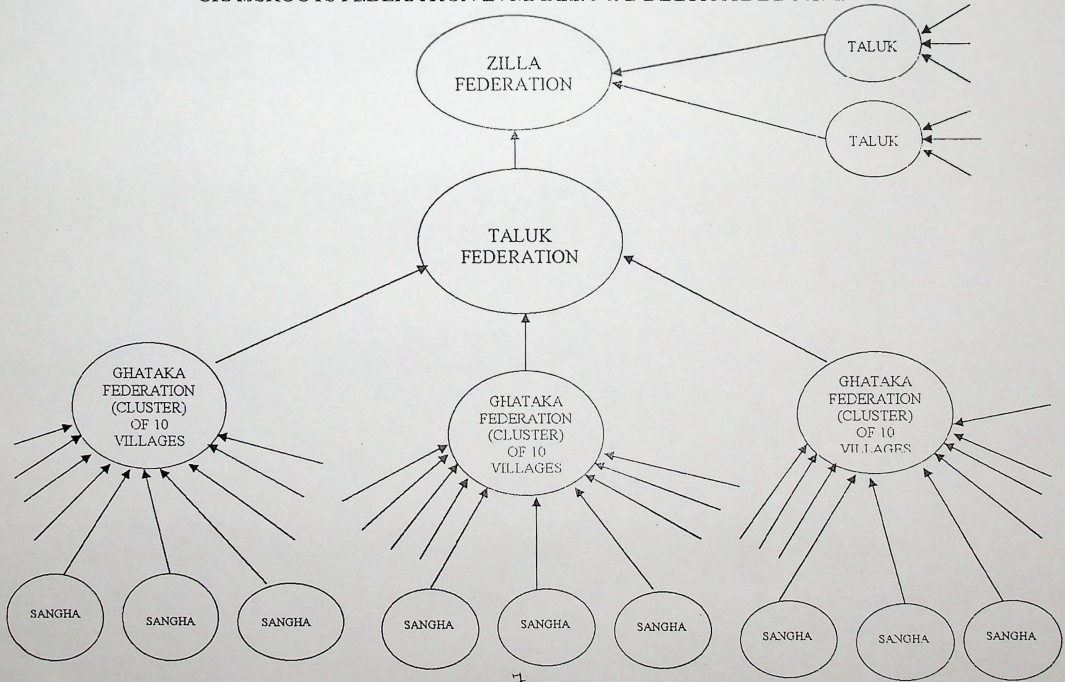
- ✧ SOME WOMEN HAVE HAD TO SPEND LARGE SUMS OF MONEY FOR ELECTION CAMPAIGNS IN MARCH 2000
- ✧ VERY FEW WOMEN HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONTEST THE TALUK PANCHAYAT ELECTIONS.

T15

BUILDING THE SOLIDARITY NETWORK

- ✧ Formation of sangha level committees for Governance and Panchayat Raj.
- ✧ Grassroot federations at ghataka, taluk and eventually zilla level.
- ✧ Issue based federation which are linked to each other. One such will be the federation of PR committee members.

GRASSROOTS FEDERATION IN MAHILA SAMAKHYA KARNATAKA



T17

ISSUE BASED FEDERATION - THE SOLIDARITY NETWORK FOR EWR's

- ✧ SUPPORT
- ✧ ACCOUNTABILITY
- ✧ BRINGING WOMEN'S CONCERNS ONTO THE PANCHAYAT AGENDA
- ✧ ACTING AS A "NURSERY" FOR WOMEN CONTESTING ELECTIONS.

T18

DREAM ON . . . AND WHY NOT ?
FOR WE MUST AIM FOR THE STARS TO REACH THE TREETOPS !!

T19

ALL WOMEN PANCHAYAT

16 member all - women gram panchayat elected in ATHANOR, AFZALPUR
TALUK, GULBARGA.

PROCESS FACILITATED BY MAHILA SAMAKHYA, GULBARGA TEAM.

MELA FOR SANGHA EWR's AND SANGHA PANCHAYAT COMMITTEE
MEMBERS AT ATHNOOR 18, 19, 20 APRIL 2000.

EXTRACT FROM MAHILA SAMAKHYA KARNATAKA TRAINING
PROGRAMME ON GENDER AND GOVERNANCE
CASE STUDIES USED TO LINK CONCEPT AND PRACTICE

MS SANGHA WOMEN IN THE PANCHAYATS

DREAMING THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM . . .

All this time, we have talked of what we can do in the future, as one *sangha* woman, as a *sangha*. (Resource team may do as many case studies as time permits, add other case studies if needed. What is important is to link concepts with our positive experiences).

Let us now listen to the stories of brave women, brave *sangha* women like you...

In this part of the session, we narrate the success stories of MS *sangha* women elected to the *panchayats*... how they are showing that politics can be changed, how they are bringing social justice and gender justice issues "on the *panchayat* agenda" / "into the working of the *panchayat*."

(Method of communication : From different parts of the tent, members of the resource team stand up and tell the story of one MS *sangha* EWR and how she has changed things around her. The changes can be told in Question and Answer form so that the group can participate.)

IMPORTANT: If a *sangha* ewr is part of the group, use her as a resource person, to tell her own story.

DEMANDING ACCOUNTABILITY FROM PANCHAYAT MEMBERS AND FROM THE COMMUNITY

Lakshmibai L.Maddar (Member of the Beeraldinni panchayat, Bagewadi taluk, Bijapur district) is a sahayaki (sangha leader) and is unusual in that she has been educated upto class VII. The other unusual fact about this Dalit woman is that she has won the elections from a general seat. There are seven women and five men in her panchayat. Two of the women are wives of wealthy Gowdas. All they did was come in cars every third meeting to sign the attendance register. It was their husbands who attended meetings in their stead. Until Lakshmibai pointed out that they were not supposed to. Not only was she able to allot IRDP loans to eight women from the sangha, she ensured that all these loans were repaid within 11 months- something unheard of in the history of the village. The bank manager was so pleased that he felicitated her at a public function. Values nurtured in the sangha have helped Lakshmibai become a respected member of the community.

- * As a *panchayat* member, Lakshmbai herself was accountable to the public (getting loans sanctioned to the poor)
- * Ensured that the public was accountable... making them repay loans in time.
- * Made other *panchayat* members accountable to the public... insisting that these women and not their husbands come to the meeting.
- * Changing the image of women politicians as weak and ineffective.
- * Changing the image of the politician as corrupt, inefficient, not responsible to community interests.

All the elements of empowerment are present

◊ **Was poor women's access to and control of resources changed.**

Yes, Lakshmbai not only won the elections (political space as a resource) but she did so on a general woman's seat in competition with wives of the village power elite.

Resources in the *panchayat* (IRDP loans, Ashraya houses) were made available to poor women.

◊ **Changing structures and institutions**

The *panchayat* as the domain of rich, powerful upper caste men was changed (refer back to Gowda in the 'Khali Hale' role play)

◊ **Changing ideologies**

- * Beliefs that women are ignorant, weak and inefficient were changed by Lakshmbai's actions.
- * Gaining the respect of community when her work was appreciated by the bank manager.

This case study shows how women's participation in politics can lead to empowerment and the transformation of politics.

"HOW HANUMAVVA FOUGHT GENDER AND CASTE BIAS BY BECOMING A PANCHAYAT MEMBER"

Hanumavva of Dhotihal village, Kushtagi taluk, Raichur district is a poor Dalit sangha member who eked out a living selling firewood on the outskirts of her village. Being a Dalit, she was not allowed to enter the main village. The turning point came when she contested and won the gram panchayat elections.

After the elections, the MS team put in considerable effort into training victorious sangha women (see section on training) Hanumavva benefited a great deal from these sessions. After one training she suggested to the MS team that non-sangha EWR's be included in the training. It would then be easier, she said, to influence panchayat decisions in favour of women. Hanumavva realised the importance of networking all ewr's in her panchayat. These seven women (sangha and non sangha EWR's) have become an effective lobby group on women's issues. The community soon became conscious of Hanumavva's clout in the panchayat. Village families with each other to invite her to their houses - the same woman who sold firewood outside the main village. Hanumavva is a role model in Mahila Samakhya, Karnataka and is an inspiration to sangha women who want to contest the elections. She made a great impact on members of the new sanghas in Bellary district.

“HOW SHARANAVVA CHALLENGED CASTE DISCRIMINATION”

Sharanavva, a sangha panchayat member from Gulbarga district found out that children from Dalit families were being discriminated against in the anganwadi. She persuaded the president of the panchayat, an “upper-caste” women, to sanction a second anganwadi for the Dalit children. When village powerbrokers tried to interfere with the selection of the teacher, Sharanava brought this to the notice of the local MLA and ensured that the selected candidate was appointed.

TAKING A STAND AGAINST CORRUPTION AND THE VILLAGE POWER ELITE.

Durgamma, a sangha member from Muddebihala taluk of Bijapur district was elected Vice President of her Panchayat. The President was a lady who belonged to the dominant Reddy community. All Panchayat decisions were made by her husband. Under the Ashraya scheme, Durgamma put in the applications of three extremely poor people. However, the allotment was made to some people known to be close to the President's husband. Durgamma also found out that these so called beneficiaries had given Rs.2000 as a bribe to him. She brought this up in the Panchayat and succeeded in changing the allotment in favour of the genuinely poor beneficiaries. Not only had Durgamma taken a stand against corruption, she had also confronted the village power elite.

Jhalabai (Bidar) fought to have proper seating for women members.
Nagamma(Bidar) arranged for proper roads and toilets for women.
Dhyamma (Koppal) helped her village get a water tank.

THE *SANGHA* AS A PRESSURE GROUP

“How the *sangha* can bring women’s concerns on the *panchayat* agenda”.

- ☉ *Sanghas* select they candidate, help her campaign for elections
- ☉ *Sangha* insist that the ewr’s inform them about *panchayat* work, discuss with her on what issues she can take up in the *panchayat*.
- ☉ *Sangha* get land, money and materials for the *sangha* mane(kutir) from the *panchayat*.
- ☉ *Sangha* women raise women’s issues in gram sabha meetings.



**PANCHAYTI RAJ IN ANDRA PRADESH :
EMERGING TRENDS**

Dr (Mrs) K.Jayalakshmi

**Paper presented to the National Conference on Women in
Local Governance: Effectiveness and Strategies
Organised by ISST, Bangalore at National Institute of
Advance Studies (June 1-2,2000).**

PANCHAYATI RAJ IN ANDHRA PRADESH: EMERGING TRENDS

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

The system of Local self-government existed in the villages during the days of Saravahanas and Kakatiya kings. Although dynasties changed yet the villages remained intact with a lot of autonomy. The present system of Local self-government draws its inspiration more from the panchayat, which existed in the ancient and medieval period. Until the advent of British, village was a unit endowed with sufficient administrative powers and sound economically. Initially the British gradually reduced the autonomy of these institutions but at a later stage they made attempts to revive them. One such measure was the Lord Ripon's Resolution of 1882, the Decentralization Commission of 1909, which subsequently paved way for the present Local government system, or the Panchayati Raj. Till Independence, no Sincere attempts were made to constitute Local self-government across the country.

Post-Independence Developments for Local –self Government:

During 1950s T.Prakasam introduced Firka Development Scheme and simultaneously the Community Development Programme was tried out in the State. Both these schemes had all the components of the present PRIs. With the formation of the state of Andhra in 1953, the coastal and southwestern districts. The present Telengana districts continued with the former Hyderabad State till 1 November 1956. In 1953, attempts were made to introduce the local –self-government in the state on the basis of the system operating in the then Madras State. The Local Institutions drew its regulations largely from the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, the Madras Districts Boards Act, 1920, and the Madras Village

Panchayat Act, 1950. In 1956 the state was re-organized and the present Andhra Pradesh was carved out and during that period the Hyderabad District Board Act, 1951, and the Hyderabad Village panchayat Act, 1951 were also included in the state Act and was applicable in the state. As all these Acts were applicable in the state, due to which three types of institutions emerged in the state they were district boards, taluk boards, and village panchayats. A three-tier system was operating at all the three levels. In Andhra Pradesh the District Boards were elected bodies with the President having executive authority. Their activities were confined to non-panchayat areas with an exception only in the area of education, public health and medical relief. The District Boards had to heavily rely upon land cess, education cess and surcharge or stamp duty, as it was their major source of income. The Taluk boards had similar functions like the District Board. Both the District Boards and the Taluk Boards had similar functions and were also constituted in an identical pattern. Whereas the village panchayats were different in nature and was classified into Class I panchayats with a population of five thousand and above and revenue of ten thousand rupees annually. The remaining village panchayats could not collect any revenue or less than the Class I panchayats. The Class I panchayats was divided into five wards and the Class II into two wards. Elections were held by secret ballot based on adult franchise. Seats were also reserved for Scheduled Caste members.

The functions of the Village panchayats included both obligatory and discretionary ones. Construction and maintenance of village infrastructure, Provision of basic facilities and remedial public health measures and improvement of agricultural activities and animal husbandry programmes formed part of the

obligatory functions. Discretionary functions included environmental upkeep, commercial and other services, educational infrastructure, public welfare measures, and improvement of agriculture and animal husbandry activities. The main sources of revenue were cess on land, transfer of property and taxes of different kinds. Special government grants were also given to the panchayat for teaching, purchase of school equipment and for running maternity and child welfare centers. All the three institutions had in-built limitations in terms of its constitution and functioning. Their jurisdiction was so large, which obstructed their functioning. Each of the three levels operated in a compartmentalized manner with no support from the villages. Both the government departments and the District Boards carried out similar functions like supervision of schools and dispensaries. Paucity of resources, inadequate staff and infrastructure, lack of technical guidance are often reasons for poor functioning of the district, taluk boards and village panchayats.

In 1952, the Community Development projects and the National Extension Service accelerated the activities in the rural areas. This resulted in establishing Large administrative machinery and advisory wings at the block and district levels. The elected representatives from the Assembly constituency and Parliamentary (M.L.As and M.Ps) were nominated to these advisory bodies. Panchayati Raj System in Andhra Pradesh can be chronologically divided into four phases. The Institution had its set of ups and down. An analysis for its non-functioning may enable us to understand the pulse of the ' Political will ' with related to PRIs in the state.

The First Phase: 1959- 65

Andhra Pradesh was one of the first states to accept the recommendations of the Balwantrai Mehta study team (1957) report with few exceptions and constituted a Panchayati samiti in each district on an experimental measure in 1958. An assessment of its working was made, and legislation was passed to create a three-tier system in the state. By 1959, the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Samithis and Zilla Parishads Act was passed and statutory elected bodies had been established in the districts. 235 Panchayat Samithis were constituted and subsequently others were established. By December 1959 the existing District Boards were statutorily abolished and Zilla Parishads were constituted in twenty districts of the state. At that point of time the government issued an adoption order to transfer functions, powers, staff, assets and liabilities of the erstwhile district Boards to the Panchayat Samithis and Zilla Parishads. During 1959, the village panchayats in the Andhra region were constituted under the Madras Village panchayat Act, 1950 and similarly in the Telengana region the Hyderabad Village panchayat Act was in vogue. Practically the three-tier structure was established and was corporate, statutory and representative in nature. All the three institutions at various levels were able to acquire, hold and dispose off property and enter into contracts with other agencies/ bodies.

The state had decided to statutorily abolish district boards and constituted Zilla Parishads in December 1959 in all the twenty-two districts. At this juncture, they had issued an order giving in the details that assets, powers, functions, liabilities, institutions and staff of the district boards were transferred to the Zilla

Parishads and panchayat samithis. Some amendments were made in the 1959 act that in 1963 stating that the Andhra area would be redefined, also restricted the membership of the legislators with voting rights to one samithi only, and prohibited a person from simultaneously being a legislator and a presiding member of any of these bodies. The amendment had prohibited the M.L.As from becoming the members of the Zilla Parishads or samithi if their constituencies were not part of any rural area, besides prescribing the term of the presiding members and prohibiting village officers from becoming members of these bodies.

in 1963, the government had thought of reducing the number of 448 samithi blocks staff in order to ensure economy in the expenditure on establishment. There was a move to carve out bigger blocks but without affecting the tempo of the developmental activities. In order to operationalise this aspects, a high powered committee was constituted with M.Purushottam Pai as the chairperson. This committee recommended larger blocks as it felt that the panchayat samithi blocks were essentially units of planning and development. It felt that while panchayats were envisaged as instruments of economic progress and social change, with the widest scope for the expression of democratic opinion at the village level, larger blocks would be financially stronger with increased scope for independent planning and execution of development programmes, including those under area planning. The committee also suggested categorization of blocks as, ordinary, backward and tribal and the abolition of the distinction between stage-I, stage -II, post-stage, and so on. The basis of categorization depended on the certain indicators like- per capita revenue; percentage of irrigated to the total area, literacy rate, and

percentage of children attending schools and road mileage, amongst others. It recommended allotment of community development funds on a varying per capita basis so that less developed blocks could get finances more than the others. In order to operationalise some of the recommendations put forth by the Pai committee an amendment was made to the 1959 act in 1964 to empower the government to alter the boundaries of the blocks and reconstitute the samithis. By July 1964, the number of blocks had been reduced from 448 to 321. At the same time some of the municipalities in the Telengana region were reduced to gram panchayats.

By 1964 the Andhra Pradesh Gram panchayat Raj Act, was introduced and it superseded the earlier acts of Andhra and Telengana. According to the present Act, every village had to have a gram sabha consisting of all the adult voters. The gram sabha was entrusted the responsibility to consider the annual statement of accounts and audit, the report of the administration of the previous year, the programme of works for the following year, and the proposals for fresh taxation or for enhancement of the existing taxes. These gram sabhas were presided either by the Sarpanch or the Upa-Sarpanch in case the former is absent.

The gram panchayat was constituted in a village with a population of ten thousand or above. In case it was less than that a group of villages were formed into a gram panchayat. Gram Panchayat was the lowest unit with proximity. All the eligible village voters elected the members and hence the membership depended on the total population and varied between five to seventeen in each panchayat. Prior to the existing reservation policy, one seat was always reserved for women in case of seven and two in nine seats in a gram panchayat. One seat was reserved for either

for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. The village was divided into as per the number of voters into as many wards as there were seats. Both the Sarpanch and the Upa—the members of the panchayat indirectly elected Sarpanch. Their term of office lasted for a period of five years only.

Powers of the Sarpanch: He was the executive head of the gram panchayat. Monthly meetings were convened and exercised administrative control over the executive officer, who at times was in charge of more than one gram panchayat. Apart from executive officer, the Sarpanch also had administrative personnel of the village—the gram sevak in charge of four to six villages and a primary school teacher. There was provision in the 1964 Act to constitute functional committees for agriculture, public health, sanitation and communication, and also two more committees in case there is a felt need from the members. The gram panchayat implemented all the developmental programmes with no exceptions. Due to lack of financial resources most of these programmes were not implemented in the desired manner. Apart from these panchayats, Nyaya Panchayats too was constituted for a group of three to five villages to tackle criminal and civil justice in the rural areas. Nyaya panchayat term of office was for three years.

Panchayat Samithi: This was the intermediate tier and all the M.Ps, M.L.As within the block and sarpanches of the gram panchayats were members of this body till 1965. An amendment was made to the 1959 Act stating that the M.Ps and M.L.As were banned not to hold any office of the President and Vice-Presidentship in the intermediate tier. In case the honorable members wished to hold office, they automatically ceased to be members in the Legislature. The term of office of the

President and the Vice-President could be extended by six months by the government or may be removed in case of complaints lodged against them by villagers or any other person. Ex-officio members were holding office as long as they were sarpanches or members of the legislature. The President of the Samithi convened, presided and conducted the meetings once in three months. The Block Development Officer was the chief executive officer of the Samithi and was responsible for implementing its resolutions of the standing committees. Although he was under the administrative control of the President yet was not entitled to vote or to move any resolution. The Panchayat Samithi implemented all the developmental programmes and also works related to the local economy and infrastructure.

Role of Women in PRIs:

Literature on Women's political participation often concludes by stating that women's participation in freedom struggle slowly dwindled successively in post-Independent era. There may be a host of reasons for the decline. Some may be structural, social and cultural too. Situation was no different at the PRIs. Although the Baiwant Rai Michta Committee (1957) recommended that besides the 20 members of the Panchayati Samithi, there should be 2 women "who are interested in work among women and children" as co-opted members, A similar provision was suggested with regard to the village panchayat. Accordingly, few states made some provisions in their act. The Committee on the Status of Women in India (CSWI) had recommended that statutory All-Women panchayat at village level, with autonomy and resources of their own for the management and administration of welfare, and

development programmes for women and children, as a transitional measure". This recommendation has never been adopted statutorily anywhere, though such all-women panchayats have emerged in some places for a short while. According to a study there were 13 all-women panchayats in Andhra Pradesh after the 1964 elections.

In Andhra Pradesh, the 1986 P.R.I. Act provided 9 percent reservation for women for the offices of Chairman of Zilla Praja Parishads and Mandal Praja Parishads. The act had also made provision of reservation at the gram panchayat level. In A.P. since 1986, reservation of 2-4 (22-25 percent) seats was provided for the gram panchayat, with two women to be co-opted in Panchayat Samithis. For the first time, the National Perspective Plan for Women (1998) recommended that thirty percent of the executive-head positions from the village to the district level should be reserved for women. Similarly, other states too have such all-woman panchayats -viz. Andhra Pradesh six, Haryana one, Karnataka one, Maharashtra nine, Madhya Pradesh four, Tamil Nadu one, Tripura one, and West Bengal one. This data is collected from the respective rural development department and district level officials and elected representatives. There may be some more all-woman panchayats which have not been brought to our notice.

Andhra Pradesh has two lakh ward members, 21,948 sarpanches, 14,647 Mandal Parishad Territorial Constituency members, 1098 mandal presidents and 1098 Zilla Parishad Territorial constituency members and 22 Zilla Parishad Presidents. Out of these members one third are women. Most of the problems expressed by women in A.P. too are similar to women elected representatives.

In A.P there has not been any sincere efforts to strengthen PRIs at all the levels. In fact two of the Zilla Parishad women Chairpersons were removed under corruption charges. Both of them were highly qualified and trained professionals with good practice in their respective field of excellence. One of them was made Rajya Sabha member very recently and continues to be Politburo member of the Party.

The PRIs decision-makers in A.P are in a very precarious position. Sincere efforts are made to constitute several parallel organizations be it in a small way. Efforts are geared towards Community based organizations who are at times promoted by NGOs or by departmental officials. Some of them are self-help Groups (thrift), Vana suraksha samithis, Village education committees (District Primary education Programme), Watershed committees, Water users association (elected body) with sufficient financial powers, School education committees (Primary and upper primary schools) and Mothers committee. These committees are expected to help the village community and also the PRIs in lending their assistance in the respective areas by resolving the problems and adopting strategies to mitigate them. On the other hand they seem to function independently without any interaction with the PRIs. This has further aggravated the problems for the PRIs functioning.

Women in A.P are formed into thrift groups. Mobilization process has commenced but sustaining these women groups is the larger issue and utilizing their services at the local institutional level is the key problem. Elections are due for the upper two tiers and for Gram panchayts by October 2000. Our efforts need to be to see to it the mobilized, articulate women from these committees become part of the PRIs at various levels and be better decision makers.



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7th June 2000

Dear Mr. A. Prahalad.

Thank you very much for accepting our invitation and participating in the regional seminar on "*Women in Local Governance: Experiences and Effective Interventions in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu*" on 1st - 2nd June, 2000 held at Bangalore.

Please keep us informed of any publications or developments in this area that will be interesting and useful to us.

Looking forward to your continued support in our future endeavour.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Meera M
Associate Director

Mr. A. Prahalad
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165
17/6/2000

Sumasud
17/6/2000

Manoj
19/6

Grassroots democracy at its best

By Our Staff Reporter

BANGALORE, JUNE 1. Sharanamma Peersab Kalasghar is no orator but she had the audience spellbound.

Nobody thought she would have anything to say as the rustic woman shared the dais with the Governor, Ms. V.S.Rama Devi, with the "pallu" of her sari on her head.

But as she started speaking everyone had to take note of her. A gram panchayat member from Cherbogga on the outskirts of Gulbarga, the gritty woman gave the examples of her courageous work and how she tackled man's world.

This was at the inaugural session of the two-day regional seminar on "Women in local Governance: experiences and effective interventions in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu", organised by the Institute of Social Studies Trust here on Thursday.

She was like any other woman when she was elected. But after attending a few meetings, she started taking interest in matters, for they concerned her and her neighbours. Within months, she knew the nuances of the gram panchayat administration.

Determined to get things done, she told her fellow members of the panchayat to

rid the area of unhygienic environment and garbage being dumped near the hamlets in her constituency. But the men remained unmoved. "I cleared the garbage myself. I had to threaten those who opposed it."

Then there was the problem of drinking water. When her pleas fell on deaf ears, she

mobilised the people of her area and staged a "rasta roko". When the Tahsildar sent her a message saying that the problem would be tackled and that she should withdraw the dharna, she did not relent.

She withdrew only when the officer arrived on the scene and took steps to ensure water

supply. "Soon, the pipes came and we had water." The men who were apparently envious of her, found an opportunity to run her down when she opposed their move to divert funds meant for repair of a temple.

They told her that funds were insufficient for temple's renovation and challenged her to do it on her own. "I accepted the challenge. I completed renovation by pledging my gold ornaments," she said.

But then the power did not corrupt her nor make her power-hungry. She declined to contest the elections held recently. "Women wanted me to contest again. But I told them it was not enough if only I know what is what." Now, another woman, Bhagyamma, won the seat. Saying this, she folded her hands humbly and went back to her seat. Her speech was translated into English.

The Governor was all praise for Sharanamma. She said men should work in tandem with women while the latter should fight their case assertively but with grace and not aggression. For ages, women suffered and the reservation of seats in electoral posts gave them an opportunity to emerge as equals to men.

After the inaugural function, Sharanamma had many women congratulating her.



The Governor, Ms. V.S.Rama Devi, inaugurating a workshop on women in local governance in Bangalore on Thursday. Also seen are (from left) Ms. Mahadevi, an elected representative from Gulbarga, Dr. Swapna Mukhopadhyay, Director, Institute of Social Studies Trust, Mr. M.R.Sreenivasa Murthy, Secretary, Department of Rural Development, and Ms. Meera M, Associate Director of ISSI.

THE HINDU

2 JUN 2000

State to set up receiving stations at all taluk headquarters

Video conferencing to be part of Panchayat Raj system

DH News Service

BANGALORE, June 1

The State government will soon set up receiving stations at all the 175 taluk headquarters to enable panchayat members to have direct interaction with Rural Development and Panchayat Raj officials and experts through live video conferencing facility for effective implementation and functioning of Panchayat Raj system in the State.

Delivering the key-note address of a two-day regional seminar on "Women in local governance: Experiences and Effective interventions in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra and Karnataka", here today, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Secretary M R Sreenivas Murthy said that frequent live interaction between experts and panchayat members was necessary to make Panchayat Raj system a success in the State. He said that the government was in the process of setting up a full-fledged studio at the Abdul Nazir Sab Institute of Rural Development in Mysore from where the video conferencing would be carried out.

Mr Murthy said that the State government had embarked on a similar exercise through satellite communication a few years ago and found that the facility was extremely successful in bridging the gap between the government officials and panchayat members. Therefore, the government had decided to make this a permanent

fixture by setting up receiving stations at all taluk headquarters. Satellite linking would also be soon provided to these stations, he added.

He said that the government would invite panchayat members once in a week or two at the taluk headquarters and initiate a debate between them and the panchayat raj experts on doubts, issues, clarifications and functions relating to Panchayat Raj system, through the live video conferencing system. This, he felt, would go a long way in strengthening the foundation

of Panchayat Raj institutions in the State. **TRAINING CAMPS:** Mr Murthy said that the State government would take up training programmes for the newly-elected gram panchayat members in the month of June in association with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) involved in the field of Panchayat Raj.

Subsequently, training camps would also be conducted for the zilla and taluk panchayat members, he added.

The training camps would be of three-four days duration and would orient and

assist the panchayat members towards learning their role in Panchayat Raj system, he explained.

DRAWBACKS: He pointed out that there were several drawbacks for women to actively take part in the Panchayat Raj system in the State.

Quoting a recent survey of panchayat members' educational background in four districts of the State, Mr Murthy said that 35 per cent of women members were found to be illiterate while just 9 per cent of men were illiterate. Illiteracy was one of the major setbacks for lesser role of women in Panchayat Raj, he said.

However, the State government had provided adequate opportunity for women to take part in this. Though the official reservation for women in Panchayat Raj system was 33 per cent, it came up to 45 per cent in Karnataka because of reservation for women candidates hailing from Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, he explained.

Delivering the inaugural address, Governor V S Ramadevi called on women to actively take part in grass-roots democracy like Panchayat Raj system. Women, she felt, were no less to men in any field and it was time they realised their potential for the good of society.

She honoured panchayat members from various parts of South India.

The seminar was organised by the Institute of Social Trust (ISST).

Its Director Dr Swapna Mukhopadhyay and Associate Director Meera M also spoke on the occasion.

Well-deserved honour for role model

DH News Service

BANGALORE, June 1

She has made a difference to her village and is now a role model for other women panchayat members. It was a rare but well-deserved honour for Ms Sharanavva, a former gram panchayat member, to share the dais with Governor V S Ramadevi at a regional seminar on women in local governance, held here today.

Mrs Sharanavva, an exemplary gram panchayat member (1993-99), hailing from a tiny hamlet Keribosaga in Gulbarga district, was today felicitated by the governor at the seminar for showing what women could do in Panchayat Raj. Mrs Sharanavva, who was a member of the Bheemanahalli Gram Panchayat, had played an instrumental role in improving the basic facilities of her village.

Not only she convinced her fellow-women folk to take up the job of clearing garbage that had become an environmental hazard, she took it as a challenge to provide drinking water to her village. Besides, she also prevented the 'diversion' of funds which were meant for repairs of a local temple.

Now as a former member, she is promoting others to take part in Panchayat Raj. "When will other women learn about their role in Panchayat if I continue to cling on to power," was Mrs Sharanavva's explanation for 'retiring' from grass-root democracy.

**Population In Sustainable Development:
Reproductive Health and Gender in Poverty Reduction**

Devaki Jain

August 27, 2002

UNFPA Panel: Globalisation Gender and Poverty

World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio +10)

South Africa

I am delighted to be back in South Africa.

I have a paper¹ with the supporting data and references and ground level experiences to support my arguments, but for this 5-7 minute presentation what I would argue is that **Sustainable Development is that which the poor especially poor women can sustain, and not the other way round, i.e. development which sustains the poor.**

Thus giving Poor women, agency to use Prof Amartya Sen's concept, and not taking the need based approach, which he in another place critiques, saying:

We need a vision of mankind not as *patients* whose interests have to be looked after, but as *agents* who can do effective things – both individually and jointly. We also have to go beyond the role of human beings specifically as 'consumers' or as 'people with needs', and consider, more broadly, their general role as agents of change who can – given the opportunity – think, assess, evaluate, resolve, inspire, agitate, and through these means, reshape the world."²

I also suggest that it is only what the poor women can bear that the planet can bear and therefore their power to make choices, to voice their ideas and the channeling of their views and practices into macro policy is vital for planet safety

I suggest that all the current approaches to poverty removal are inappropriate, if not flawed, and the evidence for that is all the documents speeches and anguish that flood Johannesburg and earlier too.

For example, today those who are working with the poor and with women are speaking against development, renaming the term or the goal as Transformation. and even that term is now rejected by many peoples movements Or as seven freedoms (UNDP HDR 2000)³, from hunger and other of the basics They are renaming per capita income as human wellbeing, poverty as deprivation, defence against poverty as human security. They are challenging GDP as a measure of progress, providing other indications of progress, as done by Halstead and Rowe who asked 'If the GDP is Up, Why is America Down?'⁴ Their argument was that incremental increase in the American GDP was due to the increase in the production of security equipment, which in turn was a result of increasing incidence of crime in the USA, and therefore, 'GDP was a measure of social decay'!

I would like to suggest that none of these modifications of current thought theories, renaming and reconceptualising are enough or appropriate response. They have not been able to roll back the Tanks that are trampling over poor women, and even what we know as, being civilised.

It is time for introspection and retrospection, even by the international women's movement, by their close partners like UNFPA and UNIFEM, which have been such brilliant, vivid, energetic, global voices - and this is what we did last month, at Kampala - a group of some 16 of us, a loose network, which includes Dr Thoraiya Obaid though she could not make it steered and encouraged by Dr Nafis Sadik.

I would be making some new proposals- knowing full well that new is as old as ever, such as

- that the very basis of economic theory has to be reconstructed, if one is serious about poverty eradication.
- that livelihood, jobs, employment, work with reward, whatever the name, has to be brought back to its legitimate place in this area. It shocked me that the Millennium Goals, and of course the World Bank in its P E proposals do not mention employment. Jobs have gone off the screen. In my paper I spell out why, as well as its value to women, the history of women's engagement with employment, as well as its relation to women's reproductive paths.
- that poor women are not the culprits, responsible for the fertility rates that are associated with them in high pop countries. Nor is it a matter of unmet needs, nor poor rich services. Poor women do not want that many children. Studies in India, are revealing that it is the power to say NO that is sorely needed.
- the importance of that capacity, that power is now understood when the scourge of HIV Aids is top on the agenda. This is a matter of relations of power which requires political institutions and vehicles to redress the traditional hierarchies - so that is the area to address. There is need to look at the Institutional Architecture of power and to reconstruct it so women can lead. A point of view that I know the Parliamentary Union would support
- that regional economic / political unions like the one Africa has just formed are a vital step to recast global inequality and hierarchies of power, but they need to re build their theoretical base, postulate a goal of full employment for a maximizing model, rather than postulate an increase in exports, or share of world trade or rate of GDP growth. This idea was welcomed by the Secretariat of Southern African Development Community (SADC) when I visited them some years ago
- that it is worth looking at Gandhi's political economy ideas again, as they include in them all the factors we need for resolving this impasse we have got into

I would start my "new " reconstructed economics from the proposition that

That poverty eradication is a dynamic and purposeful engine of growth, so that it becomes possible to make currency out of a new theoretical proposition I have called "Bubbling up Theory of Growth". Which counters the old 'Trickling Down Theory of Growth'. The Bubbling up theory argues that the process of removal of poverty can itself be an engine of growth, that the incomes and capabilities of those who are currently poor has the potential to generate demand which in turn will engine production, but unlike Keynesian economics, the production of goods that are immediately needed by the poor which are currently peripheral in production. The oiling, then, of this engine will bubble up and fire the economy, in a much more broad based manner. Unlike export-led growth, it will not skew production and trade into the elite trap, which is accentuating disparities and creating discontent.

I would also suggest that the heart of the matter of poverty is inequality, and discrimination. Poverty is related, in fact caused, by the tolerance and perpetuation of inequality. This extends not only to men and women, but to groups and then countries and regions Further -to all the various ways in which poverty has been decomposed, including the concept of deprivation, I would add discrimination. I would say that the existence of poor people is due to discrimination in all policies, political social and economic, a discrimination, which sustains disparities and, the existence of women at the bottom of the poverty pile, is an endorsement of discrimination.

Hence responses to this phenomena or "thing" called poverty have to react to discrimination and therefore need to be built around affirmative action, positive discrimination, an affirmation of rights, a political approach even more than an economic approach. Thus political restructuring is the key to economic growth with equity

This matches with the latest comment by Mark Malloch Brown, Administrator, UNDP, who in his Foreword to the Human Development Report 2002, says:

This Human Development Report is first and foremost about the idea that politics is as important to successful development as economics. Sustained poverty reduction requires equitable growth – but it also requires that poor people have political power.

I must say here that I had a similar view, expressed at a UNDP meeting in New York in 1997, where I said

Economics is about power. Politics is about control of that power. If economics has gone wrong, as indeed it seems to have,^v it is because of too little politics, not too much.

In my opinion one person who actually prepared and practiced the magical amalgam of morals, politics and economics which I suggest is necessary for removing this blot of poverty on our existence is Gandhi. He was a strategic

economist. His economic ideas were linked to his political symbolism. - mass mobilization- were brilliant and emancipatory.

While orthodox socialism addresses itself to inequality based on ownership of means of production, Gandhi focussed on inequality in consumption. His argument or his advocacy for austerity, simplicity in life style was based on developing in Indians, a consciousness of the problems of the poor. Consumption restraint minimisation of waste, livelihoods for all especially women, of the kind that they could cope with or bear, supported by a political appeal that Indians use their economic vote, i.e. their purchasing power to support this production. It was a policy that discriminated in favour of the poor.

I end by suggesting that the time has come to stop this tread milling that we are doing, here and everywhere, tinkering at the edges. If we are concerned about poverty we need to change the premises, but as I see, it is a big IF.

For those interested in GLOBALISATION I have a quotation from Gandhi:

According to me the economic constitution of India and for the matter of that of the world, should be such that no one under it should suffer from want of food and clothing. In other words everybody should be able to get sufficient work to enable him to make the two ends meet. And this ideal can be universally realized only if the means of production of the elementary necessities of life remain in the control of the masses. These should be freely available to all as God's air and water are or ought to be; they should not be made a vehicle of traffic for the exploitation of others. Their monopolization by any country, nation or group of persons would be unjust. The neglect of this simple principle is the cause of the destitution that we witness today not only in this unhappy land but in other parts of the world too^{vi}.

ⁱ Devaki Jain, Population in Sustainable Development: Reproductive Health and Gender in Poverty Reduction. World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio+10), Johannesburg, 2002.

ⁱⁱ Amartya Sen, 'Transition to Sustainability in the 21st Century', Keynote Address, at the Inter-Academy Panel called Sustainability and Freedom on International Issues, 15th May 2000.

ⁱⁱⁱ Freedom from discrimination, from fear, of thought and speech, from want, to develop and realise one's potential, from injustice and violations of the rule of law, freedom for decent work

^{iv} C.T. Cobb C.T. Halstead and Jonathan Rowe, 'If the GDP is Up, Why is America down?' *The Atlantic Monthly*, October 1995. pp 62-78

^v UNDP (1996) Human Development Report. Oxford University Press; New York

^{vi} M K Gandhi, Young India, 15.11.1928, Navjivan

Report of the Working Group on Decentralisation

Government of Karnataka.

March 2002

Some critical comments

April 2002

Q: What is the greatest obstacle in the way of Swarajya?

A: Gandhiji: It is the British Officers unwillingness to part with power, and our incapacity to wrest power from unwilling hands.

(Questions / Answers at University of Oxford, during Gandhiji's visit to England for the Second Round Table Conference - September to December 1931)

It is a praiseworthy effort. It covers a large ground to promote decentralisation. So far so good. But, unfortunately, the report is amazingly self-contradictory, if not self-destructive.

2. After elaborating a reasonably good superstructure, it proceeds to weaken it at its very foundations. If the Report is adopted as it is, it is certain to disrupt, if not destroy any prospects of meaningful and effective decentralisation. It will thus be an affront to the Constitution which mandates building of institutions of self-government.

3. First, we recount its good sounding propositions. It argues, and rightly, that for the entire scheme of decentralisation to succeed at operational level it is imperative that:

- The Adhyaksha must be the acknowledged executive head and the CEO answerable to the Adhyaksha just as a General Manager is to a CMD in a corporate entity and that, in any case, this arrangement had worked reasonably well between 1987-1992.
- The CEO should be the tallest administrative figure in a district and senior in service to the Deputy Commissioner, as was the practice between 1987 to 1992.
- All sectoral officers should be under the unified command of the CEO of ZP, as was the case between 1987 to 1992, for integrated planning and implementation at PRI levels; and state level sectoral heads providing mainly technical guidance.
- The PRIs should have untied funds hundreds of sectoral schemes now scattered and tied must be converged and untied for which there is considerable scope for developing integrated local and district plans by PRIs as per their respective priorities.
- The cardinal principle to be followed is that what can be done at a given level of the system should not be done unnecessarily at a higher level.
- The respective spheres of PRIs on one hand and Parliament and State Legislature on the other should be left "without encroachment" by the other.

4. We may now highlight some of the self-contradictory and self-destructive provisions of the Report, which make nonsense of the above propositions and principles.

5. **First, the position of the Adhyaksha.** Para 7.61 of the report says:

The position of Adhyakshas of PRIs at all levels is one that is most misunderstood, either deliberately or unwittingly. This is in spite of the law, which has made the position clear beyond doubt. **Under the PRI Act 1993, The ZP and the TP Adhyakshas are expressly described as the executive head of the ZP and TP respectively.**

A description of the powers and duties of the Adhyaksha at all PRI tiers levels clearly envisages that the task of being an Adhyaksha is a full time commitment for the incumbent.

Much has been already written and legislated upon **regarding the relationship between the Adhyaksha and the CEO** of the various tiers of PRIs. Suffice to say that the relationship between the Adhyaksha and the CEO is not one of the Chairperson with the Managing director of a company, but is that which exists **between a CMD and a General Manager**. This analogy requires some elaboration. The Adhyaksha functions as the Chairperson, because it is she who has been vested with the powers to call for meetings. She is also the Managing Director, not only because the law expressly declares her to be so, but also because she is responsible to the body in a manner that the CEO can never be; if the body loses confidence in her, she can be removed through a vote of no confidence. She is thus responsible to the elected body in the same fashion as a MD would be responsible to the Board of directors of a company, who acts on behalf of the shareholders at large.

On the other hand, the CEO is a professional. Even though he may not be recruited by the PRI, he **functions as an employee of the local body. He is thus akin to the General Manager of the PRI.** He does not have a 'shareholder stake', in the same fashion as does the Adhyaksha.

6. Compare the above with the totally contradictory position taken by the report in para 7.76:

Ensuring responsibility to the Elected Body: This is a concept that should be introduced into relationships between the CEO of any PRI and the elected representatives at that level. It must be made

clear in the law that the CEO is responsible not to the Adhyaksha, but to the Elected Body. This would reduce the possibility of any subjectivity or personal differences affecting the relationship between the CEO and the Elected Body. The Elected Body would certainly be expected to act with the maturity and moderation that individuals acting alone may not be able to show. We have suggested appropriate amendments in the law.

7. Thus the paramount status of Adhyakshas vis a vis CEO underscored by the Report in para 7.61 is slaughtered by it in para 7.76. This subsequent para (7.76) clearly aims to liberate the CEO from the control of the Adhyakshas. It is now argued that law should be amended to provide that "the CEO is not responsible to Adhyaksha, but to the Elected Body." One can read the motive for this somersault. In para 7.61 the interest of the panchayat as an institution of self-government were being promoted, in para 7.76 the bureaucracy is being protected from elected head of the panchayat.
8. Here all the differentiation argued by it earlier in para 7.61 about the role and relative status of Adhyaksha (who is likened to a CMD) and CEO (who is likened to a General Manager – an employee who is not a shareholder) is shattered with one blow.
9. The soundness of the reasoning of the report can be better seen if we were to extend the logic from CEO to the Chief Secretary of the State. It would mean that the Chief Secretary being made responsible directly to the Elected Body (the Assembly) and not the Chief Minister. Now, look at the argument of the report that the "Elected Body would certainly be expected to act with the maturity and moderation that individuals acting alone may not be able to show". In this case "individual" will mean Chief Minister. It is a polite way of saying that an Adhyaksha or a Chief Minister as individuals cannot be trusted to exhibit the kind of maturity and moderation the bureaucracy needs to safeguard its interests. Patently, the proposition enunciated by the report in this instance is not only unprincipled but untenable and absurd in practice.
10. The Report does not end here. It persists with its over anxiety "to minimise the possibility of such fears" on the part of bureaucrats called upon to serve as CEO's. It suggests the following further safeguards:

Second, if these are not enough, certain further safeguards can always be brought into position to minimize the possibilities of such fears. One possibility is to **bring in the concept of joint initiation of the report - providing space for the Chief Executive**

and the Adhyaksha of the concerned PRI to jointly initiate writing the CRs. The concept of joint initiators can be applied uniformly at the district, taluk and Grama Panchayat level for officials who work at these levels. However, one question would still remain: who will write the CR of the Chief Executive? We believe that there is no other method other than to accept that the Adhyaksha should write the report. It may be recalled that under the dispensation that prevailed from 1987 to 1992, it was the Zilla Parishad Adhyaksha who used to write the CR of the ZP CEO. No feathers were ruffled, even though then too, not always did the elected body and the officials see eye to eye. If there are still some fears that performance appraisals could be biased, then one could additionally introduce a system by which the concerned PRI body could collectively consider what ought to be written in the CEO's CR and authorise the Adhyaksha to do so. **This would be a natural application of the principle that we have propounded in this chapter, that the CEO is responsible to the PRI body under which he works and not to any particular individual such as the Adhyaksha, who only acts only as an agent of the body.**

11. Propelled by fears of bureaucrats, the Report thus forges institutional design joint initiation of CR, and that a PRI body "could collectively consider what ought to be written in the CEO's CR and authorise the Adhyaksha to do so". This has no parallel in the annals of administrative history.

12. One is left to wonder whether it is a prescription for effective governance of the panchayat institution or for its total disruption at the very apex?

13. **Second, Reestablishing the Primacy of CEO:** Now we look at another crucial proposition namely "Reestablishing the Primacy of the CEO in the administrative hierarchy of the District" advanced by the Report with its right hand and destroyed by its left hand:

For decentralisation to succeed, there has to be a conscious reversion to the earlier position of the CEO being senior to the DC. However, this is easier said than done. The encadrement of the CEO's post has been relaxed, to allow the post to be filled up by KAS officers. A main reason, but not the only one, is that there has been a decline in the yearly number of officers assigned to the IAS over the last decade. However, the shortage of IAS CEOs is exacerbated by the growing tendency to post IAS officers who have

the appropriate seniority for being posted as CEOs to secretariat and desk jobs when they could be better utilized in field postings. This is a distressing tendency and should be curbed.

Even if IAS officers were posted as CEOs, over time the decline in recruitments will restrict their availability. At that stage, perhaps the currently unthinkable may need to be considered - there may not be enough IAS officers to fill the 54 posts of Deputy Commissioner and the Chief Executive Officer.

14. It first argues that "for decentralisation to succeed, there has to be a conscious reversion to the earlier position of the CEO being senior to DC". Having said that, the Report hastens to throw it all to the winds "However, this is easier said than done". The ingenious, if not laughable, arguments it throws in later amount to: it is easier undone than said.

15. It first argues that through the total stock of IAS officers is limited and likely to shrink further, there is a misallocation of senior IAS officers. Too many are unwarrantedly posted at the Secretariat level. But it does not explicitly suggest that this practice (misallocation) must be changed to meet the vital needs of district panchayat administration. It does not even suggest that the number of senior IAS officers put in the Secretariat, be limited to 15 or 20, in view of shortages. Nor does it suggest that if a senior IAS officer is posted as CEO of ZP - which will take over many of the functions previously handled by the Deputy Commissioner, it is not necessary that an IAS officer should be posted as Deputy Commissioner and that post could hereafter go to KAS officers, if enough IAS officers are not available.

16. No, it makes the ZP as the sacrificial goat. ZP has to do without an IAS officer thus the idea of primacy of CEO remains stillborn. The Report now discovers that even District Forest officers could be made CEOs, that KAS officers training if upgraded could also enable them to be inducted as CEOs. But it does not say that DFOs and retrained KAS could also fill the post of Deputy Commissioners.

17. We are not competent to judge the comparative merit of an IAS officer vis a vis a KAS officer or a DFO. We are not even required to attempt such a comparison. But the reality is that a **superiority** has come to be assigned to an IAS over other services just as after Independence an ICS officer was *ipso facto* regarded as superior to an IAS officer. Such comparative valuation is inherent in the nature of a hierarchical order. Merit is not called for here.

18. We are concerned only with the fact that by taking shelter under a cliché "it is easier said than done" the report has destroyed its own proposition that the CEO must be head and shoulder over all other official appointees in the district. – Deputy Commissioner or sectoral officers – to symbolise the political status of the ZP / PRIs and to provide substance to CEO's leadership role in leading and coordinating development effort from planning to implementation.

19. Here again the report has succumbed to the frailties of the bureaucracy rather than to the dictates of the majesty which the Constitution required the authors of the Report to endow on the PRIs.

(Incidentally, the Report occupying 281 pages does not provide anywhere the text of the "Statement of Reasons and Objects" accompanying the 73rd Amendment or the text of some of its crucial Articles such as 243G, to enable a reader to evaluate whether the total impact of its recommendations is in conformity with the letter and spirit of the Constitutional mandate.)

20. **Third, No encroachment by MPs / MLAs.** The Report has argued that the respective spheres of PRIs on one hand and Parliament and State Legislature on the other should be left "without encroachment" by the other.

21. Let us now look at what the Report says in para 9.12:

We propose that the reform initiatives that we suggest should be taken up in selected assembly constituencies for one year. These constituencies can be selected with the full support of the local MLA. Thus elected representatives will be closely involved with the implementation of these changes. Thus all the reform initiatives that we have described can be implemented there, with concentrated and sustained attention. These constituencies could become the experimental laboratories for Panchayat Raj reform as suggested by us.

22. What a twist? The whole proposition is ridiculous. First, the so called reforms coming after 10 years of 1993 Act, are to be taken up only on "experimental basis". Second, that too only in selected Assembly segments. Third, mark the words Assembly segments not selected ZPs. These segments are to be selected with the involvement of local MLA, not ZP Adhyaksha.

23. This is worse than encroachment. It is a full scale authorised occupation of the ZP by the MLA chosen at the state level. MLA will thus enter from the front door. He will undoubtedly be hand picked by the Minister or Ministers – an act of patronage with predictable debasement of the entire process.

24. Fourth, Empowering the citizen through information. The Report:

- A vital and important aspect of ensuring accountability is to recognize the citizen's right to information and devise systems that ensure her easy access to it.
- It is a natural presupposition that if the right to information is to have any meaning, information itself will have to be systematised and packaged in a manner that makes sense to those who seek it. But this is easier said than done.
- We are not any closer to achieving this logical ideal even after fourteen years of decentralisation.

25. Alas, in spite of its well placed laments the Report has not endowed the PRIs with any concrete functions, funds or functionaries – so there is little to be packaged and provided by PRIs way of information.

26. Fifth, Ensuring upward accountability. The Report:

- Cynics are fond of pooh-pooing decentralisation in India on the ground that all that is decentralised is corruption, and it is therefore important that we devote great thought to devising accountability mechanisms that ensure that this does not happen. The best point to start would be to analyse the reasons why such a widespread negative impression about PRIs has taken root. We then can proceed to examining the patterns of defective decision-making that manifest in PRI functioning and then conclude with devising a system that cures such infirmities.
- Why does everyone popularly believe that PRIs are incapable or at best, capricious decision makers? First, while grass root level institutions have distinct advantages in localising government, they also face proximate political and social pressures that make traditional virtues of public administration such as impartiality, neutrality and anonymity difficult to realise locally.

- Second, regardless of whether PRIs are elected on a party basis or otherwise, they are political institutions. Elected members have constituencies both in the geographical and socio-political sense. One cannot avoid legitimate aspirations to nurse constituencies in today's context of highly competitive electoral politics and one must accept that there is bound to be a tendency to favour a region, a group of people or even individuals in developmental decision-making.
- Third, unlike legislators, PRI elected representatives are vested with executive authority and are empowered to take decisions having financial implications and authorise expenditure from public funds, decide levels of taxation, exercise power of collecting taxes and regulatory powers which are of a quasi-judicial character. These have the potential of making PRI members arrogant, despotic, feudal and litigant.

27. The third above (whose ever view it might be which the Report has gathered at such length and reproduced with little disapproval) is particularly laughable since the Report has itself documented that the PRIs have been endowed with only the peripherals. How, then and with what petty resources do they commit all these perfidies attributed to them?

28. Sixth, PRIs as spheres of Government. The Report:

- We can have greater clarity on how decentralisation should work if we conceptually recognise that each Panchayat Raj Institution constitutes a sphere of Government rather than a tier.

29. Alas, the Report has spent a lot of energy in dividing / rationalising functions as between the various PRI tiers, but has done little, very little, to carve out the spheres between the State Government and PRIs. The lion's share is remains undiluted in the hands of the state. The PRIs get only the residual. Much of the perfunctory treatment given by it to PRIs flows from this basic failure to cut to size the State Government's excessive administrative and financial occupancy, control over functions / funds / functionaries and to endow them in the PRI sphere. PRIs are not treated by the Report itself as a **sphere of Government**.

30. Seventh, Decentralised Planning by PRIs

The Report recognises the importance of decentralised planning. It also identifies the major impediments which continue to frustrate any progress with this objective. To quote the Report:

- As part of the initiative to progressively decentralise decision-making powers on all vital developmental matters affecting people's life, the planning process was also to be strengthened as an instrument to translate this objective into reality.
- However, the efficacy of institutional mechanisms for decentralised planning have been seriously eroded by several distortions that have taken away most of the decentralised nature of planning. Some of these distortions are elaborated below.
- **Lower levels of the PR system have neither been provided with the machinery nor capacity needed for undertaking meaningful planning.** While planning machinery is available at the district level, no planning support has been provided at the Taluk and Grama Panchayat level. This has hampered these bodies from preparing plans of required high quality and has therefore weakened the devolution of powers, functions and finances and people's participation through Grama Sabhas.
- The criteria suggested by the State Finance Commission for devolution of funds are not being followed by the Government.
- ~~There is a difference between precept and practice when providing untied funds to PRIs:~~
- It has been long accepted that for formulating a meaningful and integrated development plan based on local resources, PRIs should have the freedom to determine and plan for their priorities through the use of untied funds provided to them.
- However, the practice followed while finalising district plan was that scheme-wise outlays already decided at the state level, through the fixation of sector and minor head-wise allocations, were given the highest consideration and consequently, district planning exercises were de-facto plans imposed by the State.
- The planning process as implemented does not stir meaningful debate at the PRI level.
- There is often no rationale for separation of schemes into "District Sector" and 'State Sector Schemes'. The separation seems to be perception and convenience led, that is, the perceived convenience of officialdom.

- The Planning process at taluk and village levels is of poor quality and neither does, or is permitted to reflect the people's aspirations.
- Integration of Grama and Taluk Panchayat plans into the District plan tends to be mere summation, and not a synergistic integration.
- **It is clear that the current system of classification and sub-classification of schemes, inhibits both decentralised planning and the development that ought to flow from it. This is a clear case of over-engineering to the extent that the design has grown to monstrous proportions, stifling the very objectives of planning.**
- Lingering doubts that PRIs may not conform to the priorities of the state government constitutes a mental block that would be most difficult for the State Government to overcome.
- There is a widespread view that PRIs tend to be profligate in their spending and such assessments are not wide off the mark.

31. The report then proceeds to outline what it calls its 'mantra' to overcome these impediments to enable 'meaningful' decentralised planning. Its labours to that end, may be well-intentioned but they don't add up to provide the requisite conditions for decentralised planning. The Report miserably fails to treat effectively its own diagnosis.

32. The principal reason for the failure seem to be that it has not devised its remedies with reference to a clear goal as to the pith and substance of decentralised planning which had to be aimed at the Report was not required to invent that goal. The goal was given to it. It is stated explicitly in the Constitution. Article 243G(a) enjoins upon the Village Panchayats the responsibility of "**preparation of plans for economic development and social justice**".

33. The Report has not even cared to reproduce the text of Article 243 G(a) in its 281 page report.

34. In the absence of a well defined goal for decentralised planning, the Report has followed a hit and run approach - hoping that the isolated measures suggested by it will somehow add up to provide a creative environment and conducive conditions to foster and facilitate decentralised planning. Its very first mantra reveals the narrow basis of its approach:

Part one of the **Mantra** : simplification and rationalisation of schemes
 : Rationalisation of schemes that are implemented by PRIs is the first
 part of our decentralisation strategy for planning.

35. 'Simplification of Schemes' is desirable in itself. but given comprehensive diagnosis of what bedevils decentralised planning, it required not simplification but wholesale abolition of existing schemes conceived at the top. Abolition could be either by an order of the State Government to all its departments who have authored the schemes or by vesting unconditional authority in the decentralised bodies to review, restructure or abolish any scheme operating in their area, as they deem fit.

36. In the absence of taking such a surgical view, what the Report recommends (simplification, rationalisation, convergence etc.) are palliatives – all well-intentioned without their ability to cure the entrenched diseased system.

37. As for paving the way for the future, the Report had rightly diagnosed that **Lower levels of the PR system have neither been provided with the machinery nor capacity needed for undertaking meaningful planning. Lower levels of the PR system have neither been provided with the machinery nor capacity needed for undertaking meaningful planning.** But it fails to even spell out, let alone provide, the nature of the machinery that the PRIs will require to discharge satisfactorily the responsibility for area planning for economic development and social justice as mandated by the Constitution. The Report does talk of 'building capacity' – but what use that capacity if the machinery and wherewithal are not provided to put that capacity to practical use.

38. The modification/improvements it has suggested in the fiscal financial, budgetary spheres are necessary in themselves – but they amount to no more than tinkering with the system judged from the viewpoint of endowing the PRIs with capacity and wherewithal to do any credible decentralised planning.

39. Another reason why the report has failed to address this serious issue constructively is that it is unable to let go of the mindset.

40. After pinpointing excessive top down process, control and over anxiety 'not to let things go wrong' as the reasons for the non-start of decentralised planning in the past, the Report itself embraces this anxiety. Instead of relying on local accountability of PRIs to Gram Sabha etc., it resorts to law to enforce fiscal responsibility :

- Quite often, we have seen the phenomenon of an outgoing PRI making huge commitments towards new works, so that the new body is burdened down by the need to provide funds for spill over works. The problem has snow balled and brought a bad name to the entire concept of decentralised planning. The concept has now been subverted into a "grab what you can when it lasts" exercise, done by PRI members beyond closed doors.
- The result of such lack in planning discipline is two-fold. First, it reinforces the belief of the State government that PRIs are irresponsible spenders and second, if such plans are indeed approved, it spreads funds too thin, becomes counter productive and result in time and cost overruns.
- While legislative provisions introducing transparency and the duty to give information would mitigate the problem to a large extent, we also believe that the law should enjoin PRIs to observe fiscal responsibility and planning discipline. We propose to introduce provisions in the PRI act that enjoin fiscal responsibility to deal with the issues such as over-spending, taking up more projects than possible, violating due process and incurring wasteful expenditure.

41. Of course, it does not say that such a law should also apply to all other Government departments/agencies who chronicle over spender, misbudget, deviate from guidelines and are basically responsible for breeding fiscal indiscipline at ground level.

42. A look is merited at the composition of the Working Group which has authored this Report. Out of eight members six are IAS officers – serving or retired. Two are academics. There is not even one member drawn from amongst the PRIs representatives – past or present.

43. **Eighth, Amendments (proposed) to the Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act 1993:** The Working Group Report has proposed a number of amendments to the 1993 Act with the object of "carrying decentralisation forward". Some of the amendments are welcome such as transferring powers presently vested in Government and officialdom to State Election Commission and Ombudsman.

44. But there are also a number of other amendments proposed which are repugnant, if not obnoxious to the very essence of a "institution of self-government" envisaged by our Constitution. Some of such offensive

proposed amendments which are unprincipled, improper and repugnant, are listed below which must be rejected on all hands.

Provision / Proposed Amendment	Comment
Section 3.(1)	
(a) Vasathi Sabha	The provisions "as prescribed from time to time" and "subject to . . . as prescribed" must go. These give an open ended power to Government to interfere in the working of PRI. Let the Act specify what it can and leave the rest to the body concerned to adopt with the approval of its majority.
(b) Quorum: "as prescribed by the Government from time to time".	
(c) Powers, functions and responsibilities "subject to the manner and procedure as may be prescribed"	
3 (b) selection of beneficiaries and	(b) and (c) are superfluous. They do not require a law. In any case these are not permanent functions.
(c) verifying eligibility	
(d) "getting information" from the officials	(d) It is odd. It should rather say that the officials shall be bound to provide the required information within a reasonable stipulated period not exceeding one month.
(e) be informed by the Grama Panchayat of the rationale of every decision of the panchayat concerning the area of the Vasathi Sabha as may be prescribed in the Panchayat Jamabandi rules.	(e) It is carrying a good idea to absurd limits. The Vasathi Sabha / Gram Panchayats should workout their equations. no law is needed.
(g) providing and mobilizing voluntary labour and contributions in cash and kind for development programmes and supervising such development works through volunteer teams.	Mobilizing yes, but "providing" by law to say the least is unwarranted.
(h) "Resorting to persuasion"	Do we need a law to ask people to "resort to persuasion"?
(o) promoting harmony and unity among various groups of people in the area of the Vasathi Sabha and arranging cultural festivals and sports meets to give expression to the talents of the people of the locality:	This must be listed as the first function of the Vasathi Sabha and all PRI institutions in their respective spheres.
3 (1) "Cooperating with the employees of	This is odd. It is the employees who

Provision / Proposed Amendment -	Comment
the village panchayat "in the sanitation arrangements" and "rendering volunteers service in the removal of garbage".	should be directed to cooperate with the PRI. It is a superfluous provision in any case.

Section 54, Minutes

A copy of the proceedings shall be displayed on the notice board of the Grama Panchayat along with the details of the names of the members voting respectively for or against the resolutions decided upon in the said meeting and the notes of dissent

This is unprecedented and outrageous - that the names of members voting for / against a resolution of the Grama Panchayat are to be displayed on the notice board. It is unheard of. Is such a practice being followed in respect of State or Central Cabinet meetings? Clearly, the mentality behind this suggestion is that: PRIs ought not to be given the status and respect due to an 'institution of self-government'.

Section 54 (A)

Collective Responsibility of the Members towards decisions of the Grama Panchayat. All members attending and voting on resolutions passed by the Grama Panchayat shall be collectively responsible for the consequences of such approval.

Also, how does 54 reconcile itself to 54A, which says all members shall be "collectively responsible" and not only for the decisions but also "consequences" of their approval. But if names of those opposing a decision are to be displayed publicly will they still be collectively responsible for the decision? Mark also the word "consequences". Collective responsibility principle, as it applies to Cabinets, is for decision. Collective responsibility for the "consequences" of a cabinet decision is another matter. When Mandal reservations were decided upon by the Union Cabinet, individuals immolated themselves. That was a consequence was the cabinet held responsible for immolations. To invoke consequences here is intimidatory. It speaks again of the mental attitude towards PRIs.

Section 58, Functions of the Grama Panchayats

(1-A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) and Schedule I, it shall be obligatory on the part of a Grama Panchayat in so far as the Grama Panchayat fund at its disposal will allow, to make reasonable provision within the Panchayat area in regard to the following matters, namely –

- (i) providing sanitary latrines to not less than ten per cent of the households every year and achieve full coverage as early as possible;
- (ii) constructing adequate number of community latrines for the use of men and women and maintaining them;

The manner in which spell it has out functions of GPs is to ridicule the Constitution Article 243 G(a) which states the primary function to be to prepare area "plan for economic development and social justice" Of course latrines, water supply, enrolment in school are all important. But they are in any case listed in the Eleventh Schedule which is not referred to in the Report anywhere. To omit the primary function of economic and social planning and development as enjoined by the Constitution and highlight only latrines etc. is to belittle the 73rd Amendment.

Further, is law itself not being abused latrines to at least ten percent of the households without providing that the state shall provide adequate resources to enable GP etc., to provide latrines to at least 10 percent families annually.

Section 111(A), Exercise of statutory functions by the Secretary

Where the Secretary is conferred with any statutory powers or functions to be independently and solely exercised by such officer, the Grama Panchayat, the Adhyaksha, the Upadhyaksha, the Chairman of any Standing Committee or any member shall not interfere or influence the exercise of such powers or functions by the Secretary.

No statutory powers / functions should be assigned to officers of ZP / TP / GP – whether CEO, Secretary or any other officer of PRIs without prior consultation with the respective Adhyakshas and with their knowledge and consent. Or else the staff will misuse this double charge to evade undivided attention to the work of the PRIs and untampered control of Adhyakshas etc.

Similar comment on Sections 156 (A) / 193

Section 113, Appointment and control of employees

(2) The Secretary may, by order, fine, or withhold the increment of any employee appointed by the Grama Panchayat.

Any such order issued by Secretary must contain the reasons for fine or withholding the increment, and shall be preceded by a show cause notice and a reasonable opportunity being given to the person affected.

Section 113(A), Arrangements for additional technical staff for Grama Panchayat

(4) The Government shall continue to pay the salary, allowances and other dues to employees and officers transferred to the Grama Panchayat from Government, till such time as the Government finds that such expenses can be met by the Grama Panchayat concerned.

Provided Grama Panchayat by resolution in writing concurs to do so and accepts the responsibility for payment of salary etc., of such staff.

Section 138, Election of Adhyaksha and Upadhyaksha and term of office

(3) The term of office of every Adhyaksha and every Upadhyaksha of Taluk panchayat shall, save as otherwise provided in the Act, be twenty months from the date of his election or till ceases to be a Member of Taluk Panchayat, whichever is earlier provided that the member who is elected as Adhyaksha or Upadhyaksha to fill the casual vacancy in the office of Adhyaksha or Upadhyaksha shall hold office for the remainder of the period for which the Adhyaksha or Upadhyaksha in whose place he has been elected would have held office if the vacancy had not occurred.

This is unprincipled and contrary to what the Working Group has itself argued - that the term of the Adhyakshas etc., should not be curtailed.

The term must be the same as that of the PRI body i.e. 5 years.

This also applies to Section 177(3) to term of ZP Adhyaksha / Upadhyaksha.

Section 179, Resignation or removal of Adhyaksha / Upadhyaksha

Provision / Proposed Amendment	Comment
(4) Every Adhyaksha and Upadhyaksha of Zilla Panchayat shall, after an opportunity is afforded for hearing him, and if necessary after obtaining a report from the Ombudsman and considering the same be removable from his office as Adhyaksha or Upadhyaksha by the Government for misconduct in the discharge of his duties.	Why "if necessary"? Prior report of the Ombudsman must be mandatory where "removal" is proposed.

Section 197

(3) If the Zilla Panchayat or any of its committees or the Adhyaksha passes the resolution or order without resolving the inconsistency referred to in sub-section (2) it shall be the duty of the Chief Executive Officer, not withstanding any other provisions in this Act, to forward forthwith to the Government under intimation to the Adhyaksha a copy of the said resolution or order along with his written note and he shall not implement such resolution or order otherwise than as decided by the Government.	This is a fatal assault on the system. CEO must be accountable to the Adhyaksha, who is in any case accountable to ZP. CEO shall work under the supervision / control of the Adhyakshas
	This is another obnoxious provision, repugnant and dignity to the autonomy of institution of self-government. No official can be vested with such powers over an elected body. Yes, CEO can submit the resolution with his opinion for reconsideration of ZP. But must obey the final decision of the ZP. He cannot have the power to withhold.

Section 232, Power of Inspection and Supervision

(3) The notes of inspections by such officers after such inspections shall be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer, Executive Officer or the Secretary, as the case may be, for appropriate action.	This is highly improper. No action can be taken on the inspection report by CEO / Secretary. The CEO / Secretary cannot be allowed to act on the report on their own. They should place the report before the ZP / TP / GP as the case may be, for consideration and decision about follow up action, if any.
(4) The Zilla Panchayat, Taluk Panchayat or Grama Panchayat concerned shall take follow-up action on the report of the inspecting officer within thirty days from the date of receipt of such report and failure to take such action may be construed as "default in the performance of the duty" for the purpose of Section 268.	The inspecting official(s) concerned may be informed of the action taken by ZP.

Section 234. CEO's power

Chief Executive Officer's powers in respect of Grama Panchayat and Taluk Panchayat.

(1) The Chief Executive Officer may in respect of Taluk Panchayat and Grama Panchayat exercise the following powers, -

- a. call for proceedings of any Grama Panchayat or Taluk Panchayat or any extra of any book or document in the possession or under the control of the Grama Panchayat or Taluk Panchayat or any return or statement of account or report;
- b. require a Grama Panchayat or Taluk Panchayat to take into consideration any objection which appears to him to exist to the doing of anything which is about to be done or is being done by such Grama Panchayat or Taluk Panchayat or any information which appears to him to necessitate the doing of anything by such Grama Panchayat or Taluk Panchayat or within such period as he might fix;
- c. require a duty to be performed within a specified period if a Grama Panchayat or Taluk Panchayat has made default in the performance of any duty

Provided further that he shall forthwith forward to the Grama Panchayat or Taluk Panchayat affected a copy of the order with a statement of the reasons for making it.

(2) When the Chief Executive Officer makes an order under sub-section (1), he shall forward within seven days a copy of the order with a statement of the reasons for making it to the Ombudsman who may confirm or rescind the order or direct that

It is obnoxious. CEO of ZP cannot have such a power over TP and GP. In any case, if an order is passed prior (not post) approval of Ombudsman should be taken. But the very provision of giving powers of this nature to an official (who is not accountable) over elected (accountable) bodies is unprincipled and repugnant to the dignity of institution of self-government.

Provision / Proposed Amendment	Comment
it shall continue to be in force with or without modification permanently or for such period as he thinks fit.	
<hr/> Section 268, Dissolution of Panchayats	
Recommendation of Ombudsman also included	It cannot be "also included". Recommendation of Ombudsman should be mandatory

Section 310 (A), State Panchayat Council

(3) The State Panchayat Council shall meet at least twice a year	SPC has not met all these years. Nobody is accountable. The Report maintains complete silence about this matter. ^(*) It is a statutory body. If Adhyakshas of PRIs are accountable for not calling the meetings as stipulated, there should be even harsher provision for failure to obey the statute at the very top. Hence:
	In the event of failure to call the meeting of SPC within stipulated period there should be a penalty on Member-Secretary and Chairman and the reasons for delay and communicated to all members of the state Panchayat Council.

^(*)Perhaps the reason for the silence and many of the provisions which are affront to democratic decentralization may lie in the very composition of the Working Group which has authored this Report. Out of a total of its eight members not even one member was from amongst the PRI representatives – past or present. Six are IAS officers and two academics.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ
ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣ ಕುರಿತ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಪಡೆಯ ವರದಿ
ಮಾರ್ಚ್ 2002

ಕೆಲವು ಗಂಭೀರ ಸಲಹೆಗಳು
ಏಪ್ರಿಲ್ 2002

ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ : ಸ್ಮರಾಜ್ಯದ ಹಾದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅತೀ ದೊಡ್ಡ ತೊಡಕು ಯಾವುದು?
ಉತ್ತರ : ಗಾಂಧೀಜಿ : ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಬಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಡಲು ಇಚ್ಛಿಸಲದ ಬ್ರಿಟಿಷ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ಮತ್ತು ಅವರಿಂದ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಕಸಿದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗದ ನಮ್ಮ ಅಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯ ಈ
ಹಾದಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ದೊಡ್ಡ ತೊಡಕು.
(ಇದು ಎರಡನೇ ದುಂದು ಮೇಜಿನ ಪರಿಷತ್ತಿಗಾಗಿ ಗಾಂಧೀಜಿ ಇಂಗ್ಲೆಂಡ್‌ಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ
ನೀಡಿದಾಗ ಆಕ್ಸ್‌ಫರ್ಡ್ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ಮಾತುಕತೆ)

ಅತ್ಯಂತ ನಮ್ಮನಾಗಿ ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ವರದಿಯು ನಿರೂಪಿಸುವ ಈ ಅಂಶವು ತತ್ಪರಹಿತವಾದುದು ಎಂಬುದು ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟ. ಅಷ್ಟು ಮೂತ್ರವಲ್ಲದೆ ಇದನ್ನು ರೂಢಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತರುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಧ್ಯವೂ ಇಲ್ಲ.

10. ವರದಿ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಡಲೊಳಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೆಂಬ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಇಂತಹ ಧೀತಿಯನ್ನು ಕನಿಷ್ಠೋಚರವಾಗಿ ಅತಿಶಾಶ್ವತವನ್ನು ವರದಿಯು ಮುಂದುವರಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಸುರಕ್ಷಿತ ಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಇದು ಸೂಚಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.

ಇವುಗಳು ಸಾಕಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ, ಎರಡನೆಯದಾಗಿ ಇಂತಹ ಧೀತಿಯ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕುರಿತು ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ಸುರಕ್ಷಿತ ಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಒಂದು ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಯೆಂದರೆ- ಉದ್ಯೋಗಿಗಳ CR ಬರೆಯುವಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್‌ನ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೂ ಅವರ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಉಪಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತರುವುದು. ಈ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಉಪಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು, ಕಾಲೂರಿ ಮತ್ತೆ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಹಂತಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಮಾನವಾಗಿ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸಬಹುದು. ಆದರೆ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತೂ ಉಳಿಯುವ ಒಂದು ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ CR ನ್ನು ಬರೆಯುವುದು ಯಾವುದು? ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೇ ಅದನ್ನು ಬರೆಯುವುದನ್ನು ಹೊರತು ಪಡಿಸಿದರೆ ಬೇರೆ ದಾರಿಯೇ ಇಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ನಾವು ಭಾವಿಸಬಹುದು. 1987-1992 ರ ತನಕ ಜಾರಿಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದ ಆಡಳಿತ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪರಿಷತ್ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೇ ಜಿ. ಪಂ. ನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯ CR ಬರೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ನಾವು ಸ್ಮರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು. ಅಗಲೂ ಬಿಡುಬಿಡು ಸಮಿತಿ ಪುಸ್ತಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ನಡುವೆ ಯಾವ ಕೆಲಸವೂ ನಡೆಯಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಮತ್ತೂ ವರದಿಯು ಪೂರ್ವಗ್ರಹ ಕೂಡತವಾಗಿರಬಹುದು ಎಂಬ ಧೀತಿಯಿದ್ದರೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನವರನ್ನು ಬೇರೊಂದು ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತರಬಹುದು. ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯ CR ನ್ನು ಏನನ್ನು ಬರೆಯಬೇಕೆಂದು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿ, ಹಾಗೆ ಬರೆಯಲು ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಬಹುದು. ತಾನು ಅಧೀನದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಮಿತಿಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಬದಲಿಗೆ ಕೆಲವು ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಯಂತೆ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಂತಹ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಈ ಅಧ್ಯಾಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿಪಾದಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

11. ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಧೀತಿಯಿಂದ ಪ್ರತೀಕೋದಿತವಾದ ಈ ವರದಿಯು CR ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಉಪಕ್ರಮದ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಮುಂದೂಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯ CR ನ್ನು ಏನನ್ನು ಬರೆಯಬೇಕೆಂದು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಸಾಮೂಹಿಕವಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಬೇಕು. ಹಾಗೆ ಬರೆಯುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರನ್ನು ನಿರೂಪಿಸಬೇಕು. ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಚರಿತ್ರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಮವಾಗಬಲ್ಲ ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ಉದಾಹರಣೆಯೇ ಇಲ್ಲ.

12. ಇದನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸಿದರೆ ಈ ಸಲಹೆಯು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಪರಿಣಾಮವಾಗಿ ಆಡಳಿತೋದ್ಧಾರ ಅಥವಾ ಅದರ ಕುತ್ತವಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಚೆಲ್ಲಾಕಿಲ್ಲಿಯಾಗಿರುವುದಕ್ಕೋ ಎಂದು ಯಾರಾದರೂ ಅಶ್ಚರ್ಯ ಪಡಬೇಕು ಅಷ್ಟೇ.

13. ಎರಡನೆಯದಾಗಿ, ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ಅಗ್ರಗಣ್ಯತೆಯ ಮರುಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ ವರದಿಯು ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ನಿರ್ಣಾಯಕ ಅಂಶವನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವರದಿಯು ಇದನ್ನು ಒಂದು ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿಪಾದಿಸಿ ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ನಾಶ ಪಡಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದರಂತೆ, ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಶ್ರೇಣೀಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ಅಗ್ರಗಣ್ಯತೆಯ ಮರು ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ.

ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣದ ಹುಟ್ಟುಗೆ ಜಿ. ಪಂ. ನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಹಿರಿಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿರುವುದು ಅಗತ್ಯ. 1987 ರಿಂದ 92 ರವರೆಗೆ ಈ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಜಾರಿಯಲ್ಲಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ ಈಗ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಬದಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹಳೆಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ಮರಳುವುದು ಹೇಳುವಷ್ಟು ಸುಲಭವಲ್ಲ. KAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೂ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಾಗಬಹುದಾದಂತೆ ಈ ಹುದ್ದೆಯು ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ನು ಸರಿಗೊಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕೆಲವು ದಶಕದಿಂದ IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಾಗಿ ನಿರೂಪಿಸತಾರುತ್ತಿರುವವರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರಣ. ಇದೊಂದೇ ಕಾರಣವಲ್ಲ. ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದ ಕೆಲಸಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪ್ರಯೋಜನಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿರುವ IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಚಿವಾಲಯದ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತು ಕೆಲವು ಕೆಲಸಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಮೂಲಭೂತವೂ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರಣ. ಇದೊಂದು ಕಳಂಕಕಾರಿ ಸಂಗತಿ. ಇದು ಮುಂದುವರಿಯದಂತೆ ಕಡೆಯಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ.

ಈಗ IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಾಗಿ ನಿಯೋಜಿಸಬಹುದು. ಆದರೆ ಮುಂದೆ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಯ ಕಡಿತದಿಂದ ಅವರ ಲಭ್ಯತೆ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆ ಸನ್ನಿವೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಂತೆಂಥವರನ್ನೂ ಈ ಸ್ಥಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ 54 ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳನ್ನು ತುಂಬುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ದೊರೆಯಲಿಕ್ಕಿಲ್ಲ.

14. ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣದ ಯಶಸ್ಸಿಗೆ ಪಿ.ಪಂ.ನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಹಿರಿಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಾಗುವುದು ಅಗತ್ಯವೆಂದು ವರದಿಯು ಮೊದಲಿಗೆ ವಾದಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ತಕ್ಷಣವೇ ಇದನ್ನು ಹೇಳುವುದು ಸುಲಭ, ಮಾಡುವುದು, ಎಂದು ತನ್ನ ವಾದದ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಮಾತನಾಡುತ್ತದೆ.

15. IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಒಟ್ಟು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಿದೆ. ಅದು ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಯೂ ಇದೆ. ಹಿರಿಯ IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅನಗತ್ಯ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ನೇಮಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅನಗತ್ಯ ಎಂದು ವರದಿ ವಾದಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಪಿ.ಪಂ. ಆಡಳಿತದ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಅಂಗಗಳನ್ನು ಭದ್ರಪಡಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಈ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳನ್ನು ಬದಲಾಯಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ವರದಿ ಹೇಳುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಸಚಿವಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದ ನೇಮಿಸುವ IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು 150ರಿಂದ 20ಕ್ಕೆ ಸೀಮಿತಗೊಳಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂದೂ ವರದಿ ಹೇಳುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ವರದಿಯು ಗಮನ ಹರಿಸದ ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ಅಂಶವಿದೆ. ಹಿರಿಯ IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯೊಬ್ಬರನ್ನು ಪಿ.ಪಂ.ನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿ ನೇಮಿಸಿದರೆ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ಹಲವು ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅವರು ವಹಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೇ ಬೇಕೆಂದಿಲ್ಲ. ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ KAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ನೇಮಿಸಬಹುದೆಂದು ವರದಿ ಹೇಳುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

16. ವರದಿಯು ಪಿ.ಪಂ. ಅನ್ನು ಬಲಿಪಿತನಾಗಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಪಿ. ಪಂ. IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯಲ್ಲದೆಯೂ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. ಆದುದರಿಂದ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ಅಗ್ರಗಣ್ಯತೆಯ ಪರಿಶಲ್ಪನೆ ಹುಟ್ಟುವ ಮೊದಲೇ ಸತ್ತು ಹೋಗುತ್ತದೆ. DFO ಮತ್ತು ಬ್ರಾಹ್ಮಣ ಹೊಂದಿದ KAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಾಗಿ ನೇಮಿಸಬಹುದೆಂದು ವರದಿ ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಇವರನ್ನು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಾಗಿ ನೇಮಿಸ ಬಹುದೆಂದು ಮಾತ್ರ ವರದಿ ಹೇಳುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

17. KAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು DFO ಗಳಿಗಿಂತ IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಶ್ರೇಷ್ಠ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಇಂತಹ ಹೋಲಿಕೆಯ ಅಗತ್ಯವೂ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ನಂತರ ICS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಆ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿಯೇ (ಅಂದರೆ ICS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಎಂಬ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿಯೇ) IAS ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಶ್ರೇಷ್ಠ ಎಂದು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಈಗ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಆಡಳಿತ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು (IAS) ಇತರ ಸೇವೆಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಶ್ರೇಷ್ಠ ಎಂದು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಶ್ರೇಣೀಕರಣ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸ್ವರೂಪವೇ ಇಂತಹ ಮೌಲ್ಯೀಕರಣ. ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿಭೆಗೆ ಬೆಲೆ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

18. a) ಪಿ. ಪಂ./ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಸ್ಥಾನಮಾನವನ್ನು ಸಂಕೇತಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಮತ್ತು
b) ಯೋಜನೆಯಿಂದ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನದವರೆಗಿನ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳ ಮುನ್ನಡೆಸುವಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯು ವಹಿಸುವ ನಾಯಕತ್ವಕ್ಕೆ ಸತ್ಯ ಒದಗಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಇತರ ಎಲ್ಲ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರಾಗಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ವರದಿ ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಈ ಅಂಶವನ್ನು ವರದಿಯು ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೇಳುವುದು ಸುಲಭ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿ ತೇಲಿಸಿ ಬಿಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದು ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕಳಂಕಯು ವಿಷಯ.

19. ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತೊಮ್ಮೆ ವರದಿಯು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಶಾಹಿಯ ಚಪಲಕ್ಕೆ ಬಲಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾಮುಖ್ಯಗೊಳಿಸಲು ವರದಿ ಬರೆಯುವವರಿಗೆ ಇರಬೇಕಾದ ಗಾಂಧೀಯವನ್ನು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.
(ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 281 ಪುಟಗಳಿವೆ. ಆದರೆ ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ 73 ನೇ ಡಿಬ್ಬು ಪಡೆಯೊಂದಿಗಿರುವ ಕಾರಣಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಉದ್ದೇಶಗಳ ಹೇಳಿಕೆಯ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ಎಲ್ಲೂ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. 243ನೇ ಯಂತ್ರಕಲೆ ಹಲವು ನಿರ್ಣಾಯಕ ವಿಧಿಗಳನ್ನೂ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ವರದಿಯು ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ ನಿರ್ದೇಶನದ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟೀಕರಣವಾಗುವಾಗಿಯೇ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಒದಗಿಸೋಬ್ಬನಿಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ನೀಡುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.)

-ಮೂರನೆಯದಾಗಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್‌ನ ಚುನಾಯಿತ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಶಾಸಕರಂತಲ್ಲದೆ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅರ್ಥಕ ಪರಿಣಾಮಗಳುಳ್ಳ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕೂ ಇವರು ಸಶಕ್ತರಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ನಿಧಿಯಿಂದ ಖರ್ಚು ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೂ ಇವರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರವಿದೆ. ತೆರಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ, ತೆರಿಗೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರವೂ ಇವರಿಗಿದೆ. ಸರಕುಮಾರು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗೀಯ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಇವರು ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಅಹಂಕಾರಿಗಳೂ, ನಿರಂಕುಶಮತಿಗಳೂ, ಉಳಿಗಮಾನ್ಯ ಮನೋಭಾವದವರೂ ಆಗುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆ ಇದೆ.

27. ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೇವಲ ಹೊರಮೈಯ ಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾತ್ರ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆಯೆಂದು ಈ ವರದಿಯೇ ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಹಾಗಿರುವಾಗ ಮೇಲಿನ ಮೂರನೇ ಅಂಶ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವೆನಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಿಸಿ ಹೀಗಿರುವಾಗ ಯಾವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲಗಳಿಂದ ಅವರು ಮೇಲೆ ಆರೋಪಿಸಲಾದ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡುವುದು ಸಾಧ್ಯ.

28. ಆರನೆಯದಾಗಿ, ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಲಯಗಳಾಗಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು.
ವರದಿ :

- ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಸ್ವರವಾಗಿರುವ ಬದಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಲಯವೆಂದು ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಿದರೆ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣ ಹೇಗೆ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.

29. ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ವಿವಿಧ ಸ್ತರಗಳ ನಡುವೆ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಭಜಿಸಲು/ ತರ್ಕ ಬದ್ಧಗೊಳಿಸಲು ವರದಿಯು ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಶಕ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಖರ್ಚು ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ನಡುವೆ ವಲಯಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಇದು ಏನನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿಲ್ಲ, ಸಿಂಹಪಾಲು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೈಯಲ್ಲೇ ಉಳಿದುಕೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಉಳಿತ ಮತ್ತ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಪಾಲಿಗೆ ದೊರಕುತ್ತದೆ. ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ವರದಿಯು ಕಾಣಾಚಾರದ ಗಮನ ನೀಡಿದೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಆರ್ಥಿಕಾತ್ಮಕ ಸಮಾಜ ಹಣಕಾಸಿನ ಹಿಡಿತ, ಕಾರ್ಯ-ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು/ನಿಧಿಗಳು/ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರ ಹಿತೋಪಯನ್ನು ಕಡಿತಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾದಿಂದ ಬಂದುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದನ್ನು ಮತ್ತ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ವಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಲಯವೆಂದು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

30. ಎಳನೆಯದಾಗಿ, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕೃತ ಯೋಜನೆ.
ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕೃತ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಪ್ರಾಮುಖ್ಯತೆಯನ್ನು ವರದಿಯು ಗುರುತಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಉದ್ದೇಶದ ಪ್ರಗತಿಯನ್ನು ಹತಾಶಗೊಳಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ಮುಂದುವರಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ತೊಂದರೆಗಳನ್ನೂ ವರದಿಯು ಗುರುತಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.
ವರದಿ ಹೀಗಿದೆ:

-ಜನರ ಜೀವನದ ಮೇಲೆ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಬೀರುವ ಎಲ್ಲ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ವಿಷಯಗಳ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಗತಿಪರವಾಗಿ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಿಸುವ ಉಪಕ್ರಮದ ಭಾಗವಾಗಿ, ಯೋಜನಾ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನೂ ಬಲಪಡಿಸಬೇಕು.

-ಹೀಗಿದ್ದರೂ ಹಲವು ತಿರುಚುತಿವಿಗಳು ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕೃತ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಸಾಂಸ್ಥಿಕ ವಿಧಾನಗಳ ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿತ್ವಕ್ಕೆ ಗಂಭೀರ ಭಂಗ ತಂದಿವೆ. ಇವುಗಳು ಬಹುಪಾಲು ಯೋಜನೆಯ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕೃತ ಸ್ವರೂಪವನ್ನೇ ನಾಶಪಡಿಸಿವೆ. ಇಂತಹ ಕೆಲವು ವಿರೂಪಗೊಳಿಸುವಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಕೆಳಗೆ ವಿವರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

-ಅರ್ಥಪೂರ್ಣ ಯೋಜನೆಯನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಾದ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕತೆ ಅಥವಾ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವನ್ನು ಕೆಳ ಹಂತಗಳ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ಒದಗಿಸಲಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕತೆ ಲಭ್ಯವಿದ್ದರೂ ಅದನ್ನು ಕಾಲೂರು ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಹಂತಗಳಿಗೆ ಒದಗಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದು ಉತ್ತಮ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಯಾರಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗೆ ಆಡಳಿತೀಯಂಟು ಮಾಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದುದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಹಣಕಾಸಿನ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸಭೆಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಜನರ ಪಾಲಾಗೊಳ್ಳುವಿಕೆ ಬದುಕುಬಾಕುತ್ತದೆ.

-ನಿಧಿಗಳ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಕ್ಕೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಅಯೋಗ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದ ಮಾನದಂಡವನ್ನು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಅನುಸರಿಸುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ.

-ಮುಕ್ತ ನಿಧಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಒದಗಿಸುವಾಗ ಆದೇಶ ಮತ್ತು ಅನುಸರಿಸುವ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯ ನಡುವೆ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸವಿದೆ.

-ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲಗಳನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿ ಫೂರ್ಡ್ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಗ್ರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಬೇಡಿ, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಒದಗಿಸಲಾದ ಮುಕ್ತ ನಿಧಿಗಳನ್ನು ಉಪಯೋಗಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಕಮ್ಮಿ ಆದ್ಯತೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿ ಯೋಜಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯವಿರಬೇಕು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಬಹಳ ಹಿಂದೆಯೇ ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ.

-ಹೀಗಿದ್ದರೂ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಅಂಕಿಮಗೊಳಿಸುವಾಗ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಲಾದ ಯೋಜನಾವಾರು ವೆಚ್ಚವನ್ನು ಅನುಸರಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ಸಣ್ಣ ಘಟಕವಾರು ಮಂಜೂರಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದಪಡಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ, ಇವುಗಳಿಗೆ ಅತೀ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಗಮನ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ತರುವಾಯ ವಾಸ್ತವವಾಗಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನಾ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು ರಾಜ್ಯವು ಹೇರಿದ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಾಗುತ್ತವೆ.

-ಹೀಗೆ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಿಸಲಾಗುವ ಯೋಜನಾ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಅರ್ಥ ಫೂರ್ಡ್ ಚರ್ಚೆಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ಒದಗಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

-"ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ವಲಯ" ಮತ್ತು "ರಾಜ್ಯ ವಲಯದ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳು" ಎಂದು ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ತರ್ಕವಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕತೆಯು ಗ್ರಹಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅನುಕೂಲತೆ ಆಧರಿತವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಂದರೆ ಇದು ಅಧಿಕಾರಶಾಹಿ ಗ್ರಹಿಸಿಕೊಂಡ ಅನುಕೂಲತೆ.

-ತಾಲೂಕು ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಯೋಜನಾ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಗಳು ಕೆಳಗೆ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ್ದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಇವುಗಳಿಗೆ ಜನರ ಆಶಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರತಿಫಲಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಆಕಾಶವಿರಲಾರದಿಲ್ಲ.

- ಗ್ರಾಮ ಮತ್ತು ತಾಲೂಕು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಯೋಜನೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಏಕೀಕರಿಸುವುದು ಕೇವಲ ಸಂಗ್ರಹವಾಗುತ್ತದೆಯೇ ಹೊರತು ಸಮಗ್ರ ಸಂಯೋಜನೆಯಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

-ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ವಿಭಜನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಉಪವಿಭಜನೆಗಳ ಪ್ರಸೂತ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯು ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕೃತ ಯೋಜನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅದರಿಂದಾಗಬೇಕಾದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗಳೆರಡನ್ನು ತಡೆಯುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ವಿನ್ಯಾಸವು ಬೆಳೆದ ಅತಿ ಶಾಂತಿಶಕ್ತಿಗೆ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟ ಉದಾಹರಣೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಉದ್ದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ಉಪಯುಗವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ತನ್ನ ಆದ್ಯತೆಗನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲವೆಂಬ ಅನುಮಾನವಿದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಹೊರಬರುವುದು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಬಹಳ ಕಷ್ಟದ ಕೆಲಸ.

ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಸ್ವೇಚ್ಛೆಯಿಂದ ಖರ್ಚು ಮಾಡುತ್ತವೆ ಎಂಬ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯವಿದೆ. ಇದೂ ತಪ್ಪು.

31. ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕೃತ ಯೋಜನೆ ಅರ್ಥಫೂರ್ಡವಾಗುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಈ ತೊಡಕುಗಳಿಂದ ಹೊರಬರಬೇಕು. ಇದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ವರದಿಯು ಕೆಲವು ಸೂತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಸೂಚಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಕೆಲಸ ಒಳ್ಳೆಯ ಉದ್ದೇಶವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಇದು ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕೃತ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯಕವಾದ ಸಮನ್ವಯವನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ತಾನೇ ಪತ್ತೆ ಹಚ್ಚಿದ ರೋಗಕ್ಕೆ ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ನೀಡುವಲ್ಲಿ ವರದಿ ವಿಫಲವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

32. ತನ್ನ ಗುರಿಯನ್ನು ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳದೆಯೇ ವರದಿಯು ಪರಿಹಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದೆ. ಕಾರ್ಯಪಥದ ನಿಶ್ಚಿತ ಗುರಿಯನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ವರದಿಯು ಈ ಗುರಿಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರಶ್ನಿಸದೆ ಅಪ್ಪಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ. ವರದಿಗೆ ಈ ಗುರಿಯೇ ಆಧಾರವಾಗಿದೆ. ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯಕ್ಕೆ ಯೋಜನೆ ಸಿದ್ಧಪಡಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂಬುದು ಸಂವಿಧಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗಿಯೇ ಇದೆ. ವರದಿಯು ಈ ಗುರಿಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರಶ್ನಿಸಬೇಕೆತ್ತು.

33. 281 ಘಟಕಗಳ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲಾ 243 G(ಇ)ವಿಧಿಯ ಪಕ್ಕವನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ 111(a) ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವ ಕಾರ್ಯಾತ್ಮಕ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು.

ಕೆಲವು ಸಂದರ್ಭಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಸ್ವತಂತ್ರವಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಕೆಲವು ಕಾರ್ಯಾತ್ಮಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಅಥವಾ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯು ಈ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಅಥವಾ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವಾಗ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ, ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಅಥವಾ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸ್ವಯಂ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಹಸ್ತಕ್ಷೇಪ ಮಾಡಬಾರದು. ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಪ್ರಭಾವ ಬೀರಲು ಯತ್ನಿಸಬಾರದು.

ಟಿ.ಪಂ/ಕಾ.ಪಂ./ಗ್ರಾ.ಪಂ. ಗಳ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರ್ಯಾತ್ಮಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು/ಕಾರ್ಯ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಹಿಸಬಾರದು. ಆತ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ನಾವುದೇ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಆಗಿರಲಿ. ಇಂತಹ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಯಾವುದೇ ಹೊಣೆ ವಹಿಸುವ ಮೊದಲು ಆಯಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಿಸಬೇಕು. ಅವರ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ತಿಳುವಳಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಒಪ್ಪಿಗೆಯ ನಂತರವೇ ಈ ಹೊಣೆ ವಹಿಸಬೇಕು. ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೆ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಯು ಈ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ದುರ್ಬಳಕೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಯಿದೆ. ಆತ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಲಕ್ಷಿಸುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಯಿದೆ. ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಹಿತೋಪ ಮೀರಿ ವರ್ತಿಸುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಯೂ ಇದೆ.

ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ 156(A)/193 ರ ಬಗ್ಗೆಯೂ ಇಂತಹುದೇ ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿ.

ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ 113, ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಡೋಟಿ

2) ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ನೇಮಿಸಿದ ಯಾವುದೇ ಉದ್ಯೋಗಿಯು ಬಡ್ಡಿಯನ್ನು ಕನ್ನಡ ಅದೇಶದ ಮೂಲಕ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯು ತೆರಿಗೆಯಿಡಬಹುದು. ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯು ಉದ್ಯೋಗಿಗಳಿಗೆ ದಂಡ ವಿಧಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಬಡ್ಡಿಯು ತಡೆ ಅಥವಾ ದಂಡ ವಿಧಿಸುವ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರವಲ್ಲ. ಅದರ ಕಾರಣವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರಬೇಕು. ಆ ಉದ್ಯೋಗಿ ಅದಕ್ಕೂ ಮೊದಲೇ ನೋಟಿಸು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿರಬೇಕು. ಬಾಧಕ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗೆ ಉಚಿತ ಅವಕಾಶ ನೀಡಬೇಕು.

ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ 113(A), ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಗೆ ಜೊತೆಗೂಡಿಸಬಹುದಾದ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ.

4) ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ನೇಮಿಯಿಂದ ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಗೆ ವರ್ಗಾಯಿಸಲಾದ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ನೀಡುವ ವೇತನ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ಭತ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸಬೇಕು. ಗ್ರಾಮಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಇದನ್ನು ಭರಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಶಕ್ತೆ ಎಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಕುಡುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ತನಕ ಇದು ಮುಂದುವರಿಯಬೇಕು.

ಇಂತಹ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಯ ವೇತನದ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯನ್ನು ವಹಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತೇನೆಂದು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಒಪ್ಪಿಸುವ ತನಕ ಇದು ಮುಂದುವರಿಯಬೇಕು. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಿಖಿತ ನಿರ್ಧಾರವನ್ನು ಅಂಗೀಕರಿಸಬೇಕು.

ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ 138, ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಧಿಕಾರದ ಅವಧಿ

(3) ತಾಲೂಕು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ನ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಅಧಿಕಾರದ ಅವಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ 20 ತಿಂಗಳುಗಳು ಅಥವಾ ಅತೀ ಸದಸ್ಯತ್ವದ ಅವಧಿಯು ಕೊನೆಯತನಕ. ಇವರಡರಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದು ಮೊದಲೋ ಅದು ಅನ್ವಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಮುಂದಿನ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾಗಿ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾದವರು ಅಧಿಕಾರ ವಹಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ತನಕ ಇವರು ಅಧಿಕಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದುವರಿಯುತ್ತದೆ.

ಈ ಹೇಳಿಕೆ ತಪ್ಪೆ ರಹಿತವಾದುದು. ಕಾರ್ಯಪಥವು ವಾದಕ್ಕೂ ಇದು ವಿರುದ್ಧವಾದುದು. ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಮುಂತಾದವರ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಮೊಟಕುಗೊಳಿಸಬಾರದು ಎಂದು ಈ ವರದಿಯೇ ವಾದಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.

ಈ ಅವಧಿಯು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಸಮಾನವಾಗಿರಬೇಕು. ಅಂದರೆ 5 ವರ್ಷಗಳು. ಟಿ.ಪಂ. ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ/ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಅಧಿಕಾರವಧಿಯು ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ 177(3) ನೇ ಅಧ್ಯಾಯಕ್ಕೂ ಈ ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿ ಅನ್ವಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ 179, ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ/ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ರಾಜೀನಾಮೆ ಅಥವಾ ಪದಚ್ಯುತಿ

(4) ಟಿ.ಪಂ.ನ ಪ್ರತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಿಗೆ ಹೇಳಿಕೆ ನೀಡುವ ಅವಕಾಶ ಒದಗಿಸಬೇಕು. ಅನಂತರ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ತನಿಖಾಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ವರದಿ ಪಡೆದು ಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಈ ವರದಿಯು ಕರ್ತವ್ಯದೋಷವನ್ನು ಎತ್ತಿ ಹಿಡಿದರೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರನ್ನೂ ಸದಾ ಮುಡುಕಬಹುದು.

"ಅವಶ್ಯವಿದ್ದರೆ" ಎಂಬುದು ಯಾಕೆ? "ವಜಾ" ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಸೂಚಿಸುವ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ತನಿಖಾಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ವರದಿಯು ಕಠಾಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ 197

(3) ಜಿ.ಪಂ. ಅಥವಾ ಅದರ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳು ಅಥವಾ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಉಪವಿಭಾಗ(2)ರ ಅಸಮಂಜಸತೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಹರಿಸದ ನಿರ್ದಯಗಳನ್ನು ಲಂಗೆಕರಿಸಿದರೆ, ಕಾರ್ಯದ ಬೇರೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಅವಕಾಶಗಳನ್ನು ಗಣನೆಗೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳದ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ಅದನ್ನು ತನ್ನ ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ತರಬೇಕು. ಈ ನಿರ್ದಯ ಅಥವಾ ಅದೇಕೆನ್ನುವ ಅತೀತನುಷ್ಠೆ ತರಬಾರದು. ನಂತರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ನಿರ್ದಯದಂತೆ ಮುಂದುವರಿಯಬೇಕು.

ಇದು ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಮಾರಣಾಂತಿಕ ಹಲ್ಲೆ. ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಿಗೆ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿರಬೇಕು. ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಜಿ.ಪಂ.ಗೆ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿರಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರ ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯಂತೆ ಇರಬೇಕು. ಸ್ವಯಂ ಆಡಳಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸ್ವಾಯತ್ತೆಗೆ ಇದು ಅಪಾಯಕಾರಿ. ಹಿನ್ನಾಯಿತ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಯಾವ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗೂ ಇಂತಹ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಬಾರದು.

ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ನಿರ್ದಯವನ್ನು ಮರು ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆಗೆ ಜಿ.ಪಂ.ಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಬಹುದು.

ಆದರೆ ಜಿ.ಪಂ.ನ ಅಂತಿಮ ನಿರ್ಧಾರವನ್ನು ಅನುಸರಿಸಬೇಕು. ತಡೆ ಹಿಡಿಯುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಆತನಿಗೆ ಇರಬಾರದು.

ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ 232, ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರ

(3) ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆಯ ನಂತರ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯು ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆನ ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿಯನ್ನು ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗೆ, ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಅಥವಾ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ನೀಡಬೇಕು. (ಅಯ್ಯ ಸಂದರ್ಭಕ್ಕೆ ನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ) ಅವರು ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು.

ಇದು ಅಸಮರ್ಪಕ. ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ/ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ವರದಿಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ತಮ್ಮದೇ ವರದಿಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ/ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶವಿರಬಾರದು. ಅವರು ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಜಿ.ಪಂ. /ತಾ.ಪಂ./ ಗ್ರಾ.ಪಂ. ಮುಂದಿಡಬೇಕು. ಮುಂದಿನ ಕ್ರಮದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳು ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ನಡವಿದ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಜಿ.ಪಂ. ಕೈಗೊಂಡ ಕ್ರಮದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಬಹುದು.

(4) ವರದಿ ಪಡೆದು ಕೊಂಡ 30 ದಿನಗಳೊಳಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಪಟ್ಟ ಜಿ.ಪಂ./ತಾ.ಪಂ./ಗ್ರಾ. ಪಂ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆನ ಅನುಸರಣೆ ನಡೆಸಬೇಕು. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ವಿಫಲವಾದರೆ ವಿಭಾಗ 268 ರ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಂತೆ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೋಷ ಉಂಟಾಗಿದ್ದ ಎಂದು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ 234, ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಅಧಿಕಾರ

ಗ್ರಾ.ಪಂ. ಮತ್ತು ತಾ.ಪಂ.ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಗಳು.

ಇದು ಅಸಮರ್ಪಕ. ಜಿ.ಪಂ.ನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗೆ ತಾ.ಪಂ. ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾ. ಪಂ. ಮೇಲೆ ಇಂತಹ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಇರಬಾರದು. ಯಾವುದೇ ಸನ್ನಿವೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂತಹ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಬೇಕಿದ್ದರೆ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ತನಿಖಾಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ಅನುಮತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬೇಕು. (ಆದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ವಿನೋದನು). ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯೊಬ್ಬರಿಗೆ ಈ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪವಾದ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡುವುದು ತಪ್ಪುರಹಿತವಾದುದು. ಯಾರಿಗೂ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿವಲ್ಲದ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗೆ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯಾದ ಹಿನ್ನಾಯಿತ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡುವುದು ಸ್ವಯಂ ಆಡಳಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಘನತೆಗೆ ಹಿಂದುಮುಖವಾದುದು.

1. ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ತಾ.ಪಂ. ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾ. ಪಂ.ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಅಧಿಕಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಚಲಾಯಿಸಬಹುದು.

(a) ಗ್ರಾ. ಪಂ. ಮತ್ತು ತಾ. ಪಂ.ನ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಕಲಾಪಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ವಿವರಣೆ ಕೇಳಬಹುದು. ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳ ಅಧೀನದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆಗಾಗಿ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.

(b) ಗ್ರಾ.ಪಂ. ಮತ್ತು ತಾ. ಪಂ. ಗಳು ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯೊಂದಿರುವ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕೆಲಸಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿರುವ ಅಭ್ಯಂತರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳು ಗಣನೆಗೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಗ್ರಾ. ಪಂ. ಮತ್ತು ತಾ.ಪಂ. ಗಳು ಉದ್ದೇಶಿಸಿರುವ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕೆಲಸದ ಬಗ್ಗೆನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಅಪೇಕ್ಷಿಸಿದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಬಂಧ ಪಟ್ಟ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳು ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಆತನಿಗೆ ಪಡಿಸಿದ ವೇಳೆಯೊಳಗೆ ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳು ಕೆಲಸಗಳನ್ನು ಪೂರ್ತಿಗೊಳಿಸಬೇಕು.

REPORT**Discussion on
"Report of the Working Group on Decentralisation"
Date: 25-05-2002**

**Participants: Members of Panchayat Raj Mahila Federation
Ex and Present Members of Zilla, Taluka and Gram Panchayats.
Smt. Suman Kolhar (Ex. Vice President, Zilla Parisad, Bijapur)
Smt. Anasuya Sen Gupta, Ford Foundation, New Delhi
Smt. Nirmala Shiraguppi (DPC, Mahila Samakhya, Bijapur)
MSK Staff**

A discussion regarding the "Report of the Working Group on Decentralisation" was organized in association with Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation, Bangalore and Mahila Samakhya Karnataka. Bijapur on 25th of May 2002 at 11.30 A.M. Around 15 Panchayat Raj representatives both (Ex. and Present) participated in the discussion.

Firstly, an introduction of the Zilla, Taluka and Gram Panchayat members was made. The agenda of the meeting i.e., to discuss the critical comments on the decentralization report was informed to the participants.

Ms. Suman Kolhar, SSF mentioned that the report on "Decentralisation" was prepared by some of the Senior Government Officials and others for the welfare of the people of the State. The report is supposed to be presented in the Cabinet meeting. She mentioned that the main lacunae found in the report was that, no members associated with panchayat raj institutions were involved while preparing this report. The views, ideas and experiences of the members of panchayat raj institutions were not included in the report. She said that the members should have been consulted because they know the problems that exist in the panchayat raj institutions and solving such problems.

Critical comments on this report were read by Shri. M.C. Mulla, TP Member, Bijapur and Shri. Mahadevappa Hatti, Ex. Panchayat President, Bijapur.

[Section 3 (1)]:

There is a "Quorum" regarding this issue. But according to this report, the Government has all the powers to interfere in PRI and make changes accordingly. The members felt that when PRI is an independent body and has powers to take some independent decisions, the Government should not interfere in these matters.

Regarding selection of beneficiaries, they said that the decision to give houses and other benefits to the rural people must be given by the villagers as they know exactly the needs of the people and should not be decided by any Government Official.

They felt that the "Jamabhandi Programme" is purely meant for the villagers and the views of the villagers are important here and hence there is no need of law to interfere on these matters.

Relating to the issue of "Shrama Dana"/"Voluntary Service" for Sanitation arrangements or removal of garbage to be made compulsory i.e., co-operating with the employees of the village panchayat, the members mentioned that these kind of work should not be made compulsory as it is a matter of personal interest to render ones service for the improvement of the village.

According to the report, Section 54 on Minutes mentions that the proceedings of the meetings of Gram Panchayat should be displayed on the notice board with the details of the names of members voting for or against the resolution decided in the meeting and notes of dissent. This point was strongly opposed by the participants. They said that such a detailed report and names of the members cannot be displayed on the notice board. This kind of provision may give scope to develop rivalry among the villagers and such kind of practice is not followed in State and Central Cabinet meeting and hence should not be restricted on the PRIs?

Further, Section 58 mentions about the functions of the Gram Panchayat, i.e., providing sanitary latrines and constructing adequate number of community latrines for the use of men and women and maintaining them. The participants mentioned that constructing sanitary latrines, community latrines, water supply, etc. are all programmes of PRI for the development and welfare of the village. So, there need not be a separate mention of such activities and reiterated that these regular activities are already mentioned in the 11th Schedule of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment.

The next discussion point was regarding Section 111 (A) on exercise of statutory functions by the Secretary, which mentions that the Adhyaksha, the Upadhyaksha shall not interfere, or influence the exercise of powers or functions by the Secretary. The participants said that Adhyaksha has all the powers to exercise and not the Secretary and Secretary should follow the decisions taken by Adhyaksha and not vice versa. All the responsibilities of Adhyaksha cannot be given to the Secretary as it may lead to spoilage of whole panchayat raj system. Secretary should be under the control of Adhyaksha. They also said that the Secretary also has powers to exercise such as ordering fine or withhold the increment of any employee under him. The participants felt that the order containing such a decision should also contain the reasons for fine or withholding the increment and an advance notice should be issued on that person.

The next discussion related to the Election of Adhyaksha and Upadhyaksha and their terms of office as explained in Section 138. The term of office of every Adhyaksha and Upadhyaksha is only 20 months. The participants felt that the term of 20 months is

too less for any elected Adhyaksha and Upadhyaksha as the time just passes away in understanding the responsibilities of the elected members and by the time the work is started, their term ends and hence suggested that the term should be as earlier i.e., 5 years so that the developmental activities made and their results can be observed during that period.

Further any decision to be taken in Zilla Panchayat should be discussed by all the members and the views of the members should be considered. There should not be any individual decisions and group/collective decisions should be taken. The government officials associated with the Panchayat Raj Institutions can also participate in the work of Adhyaksha/Upadhyaksha, but the sole decisions of the official should not be considered, as the villagers know the problems faced by them.

Section 232 states the powers of Inspection and Supervision i.e., the notes of inspection by such officers shall be forwarded to Chief Executive Officer and the ZP/TP/GP concerned shall take the follow up actions on the report of the inspecting officers. The participants said that this point was highly improper and The Chief Executive Officer cannot be allowed to act on the report on their own. Instead they should place the report before the ZP/TP/GP for consideration and take decisions about follow up action. The inspecting officials concerned may be informed of the action taken by ZP.

The next discussion point was about the CEOs power (Section 234) which states that the CEO may in respect of Taluka Panchayat and Gram Panchayat exercise some powers like call for proceedings of any GP/TP and get any information from GP/TP. The participants also agreed that the CEO should not have any powers over TP/GP and the power to an official (not accountable) over the elected bodies is unprincipled.

The role of Adhyaksha and Secretary in panchayat raj institutions was made clear to the GP members and mentioned that both of them have equal responsibilities to share.

After the discussions, the Panchayat Raj members concluded that, according to Karnataka Panchayat Raj Act 1983, the period from 1987 – 1992 was an ideal period for people, public representatives and the Government Officials and why not such a system be followed and some aspects of the system could be incorporated in the report.

They said that it was very unfortunate that no representative of PRI was involved in preparing the report. The discussion concluded by reiterating that the Public Representatives and Government Officials should work together towards improvement of the PRI. The participants agreed the other comments on the report.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Ms. Nirmala Shiraguppi, DPC, Mahila Samakya Karnataka, Bijapur.

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Ex. Vice President, ZP
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1st June 2002

Brief Note on the Lecture delivered by Dr. H. Sudarshan at SSF

Dr. H. Sudarshan, Chairman of the Task force on Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka and the recipient of prestigious honors like Padmashree Award (2000), Right to Livelihood Award (1994) and Rajyotsava State Award (1984) visited Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation on 1-6-2002 and delivered a lecture on "*Health and Population Policy*" in connection with our two on - going projects, "Engaging local women politicians in public/macro policy making" and "Building budgets from Below". The Director & Staff of SSF along with the project field teams attended the lecture.

Dr. Sudarshan mentioned health as probably the most important element in our efforts to achieve an acceptable standard of living. He stressed that the involvement of the Panchayat Raj Institutions and of the community in providing health services should be encouraged for improving the quality of services based on real needs.

He described the health services being provided in the rural areas – especially ante-natal, natal and post-natal services- through the PHCs and Sub-centers and highlighted some of the recommendations made by the Task Force on Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka

- All essential staff attached to PHC's must stay at headquarters; PHCs must have round the clock services.
- Male health worker could be given the responsibilities of 2 subcentres
- Generally the quality of RCH services should be improved, the attitude of doctors and other staff should be positive and availability of safe abortion services should be ensured.
- The Taluk Panchayat should have control over the PHCs in the Taluk.
- A Medical officer should be appointed at the Taluk Panchayat.
- Training courses in health needed for empowering women members of the Panchayat and women community leaders with special reference to drinking water (chlorination of open wells) toilet and rural sanitation.
- Two persons are needed to attend a delivery – one to take care of the mother and the other to clean up the child quickly. So the Anganwadi worker could be trained and given additional amount to assist the ANM.
- Village communities should be encouraged to form village health committees with wide membership including representatives of women's group, the youth, the ANM, Anganwadi worker and others.
- Subcentres should be built within the village and not outside
- Emergency services should be provided at Community Health Centres (CHCs). An ambulance should be available at each CHC and needy patients should be transported to CHC at nominal cost (Re. 1/- per km).

He stressed on the immunization program to be attended by ANMs and the role of male health workers. According to him, Health and Population policies need not be separate, because they are related. There should be an "Integrated State Health Policy", he said.

According to Dr. Sudarshan, information relating to various schemes – Central, State, etc – should be made available at each Gram Panchayat office, as there is a need for creating awareness among the masses about the schemes. He reiterated the importance of Right to Information Bill and need based "Bottom up" approach for Macro planning.

**Networking Elected Women Representatives
at the Grassroots**

Final Report



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I Introduction

Grassroots institutions are the real instruments of democracy to make the people participate directly in governance and decide on the issues which are affecting the life of the people. Establishing linkages between people and the government is not so easy and that too in the countries like India where people are grouped according to different identities. But the steps towards decentralization of powers in India after the introduction of 73rd Amendment to the Constitution of India provide opportunity for multifarious social groups who had been hitherto marginalised. The marginalised cannot come to the mainstream like the dominant social groups in the decision making process of the governing institutions at grassroots.

Mere passing of a piece of legislation will not suffice to make the marginalised participate in the decision making process. Well organized supportive facilities and activities are required to enable them to take up responsibilities and discharge the same. Against this background networking of elected women representatives was thought of.

II Background

This initiative was taken by us because of the repeated plea made by the elected women representatives who came to Gandhigram to attend training programmes¹. The question posited to us by the Elected Women Representatives (EWR) was whether Gandhigram Rural Institute would serve as a supportive resource center for the EWR facing problems on the ground in managing the affairs of panchayats.

Sensitized and concientised EWR were keen on certain issues in panchayats after attending the training programmes, namely ensuring entitlements to the poor, evicting the encroachers from the encroachment of common properties and creating awareness among

the women about their problems and the remedy for the same. But conditions were not conducive for the EWR to tackle all those issues and they had to face a volley of problems in the panchayat administration². At this juncture, they were looking for an agency to help, guide, support and counsel them. To perform the above tasks we were also looking for an agency and at this juncture we contacted Devaki Jain, a well known woman activist and development economist. We had several rounds of discussions and finally the Ford Foundation came forward to support our activities along with such activities in other states, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh through the Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation.

III The Project

While taking up this project we deliberated on a dual strategy to be adopted to empower the EWR to overcome all their problems. Tamil Nadu was known for women development activities during the heyday of the Dravidian Movement under the leadership of E.V.Ramasamy Naicker and C.N.Annadurai and an array of legislations were enacted during the period of the Dravidian Parties in government. This had its own impact on the social transformation process of Tamil Nadu.

Women leaders in Local Bodies, from their experience with men leaders, thought it necessary to form an association of elected women representatives. They formed some associations but these associations did not have any structure. All the same they used them as a forum to meet the officials collectively to represent their problems. Upon seeing this development we felt that the elected women representatives need only facilitation. We started working on this line since the Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies has similar objectives.

The primary objective of the Chair is to activate grassroots democracy by conducting action research and extension

programmes. It has to work with the panchayat leaders for regeneration of the rustic folk and to create awareness among the people about the new system of governance through the new institutional arrangement namely Panchayati Raj System. The Chair will work at different levels. It will act as a policy research cell and give advice to the policy makers. It will also act as a nodal centre to offer training to the elected local body leaders in governance, especially in administering development. Further it will act as a coordinating agency for NGOs for people oriented participative action for sustainable development and good governance. This approach emanates from the basic premise that people are capable, honest, sincere and committed in deciding their destiny and hence all the issues will be visualized from the perspective of the people.

Against this background it was planned to keep the following as objectives and activities of the project: to enable elected women representatives to be courageous with self confidence and not to be affected by atrocities or yield to pressure in carrying out their role and responsibilities; to empower the elected women representatives to assert their rights; to facilitate the sharing of experiences among the elected women representatives not only within districts and states but also between states; to build a movement of women political leaders to address issues on their own; to make the government listen to the collective voice of the elected women representatives; to institutionalise a gender perspective in decision making. Keeping these as objectives, we have planned a charter of activities and strategies to be followed while carrying out the action plan. A consultation meeting was arranged on 26th August 2000 in Gandhigram by inviting women activists, feminists, scholars, gender specialists, lawyers, academics and representatives from women's organizations.



In this consultation meeting our activity chart as well as our approach was presented³. They included:

1. Networking the women leaders organizations
2. On request, organizing interface programme for the office bearers of the organizations in other States; e.g. Kerala and Karnataka
3. Supporting the women leaders organization while organizing conferences to discuss their problems annually
4. Organizing periodical meetings to sensitize the women leaders on gender and social development issues
5. Performing the role of policy advocacy - aggregating the problems of the women leaders and transmitting the same for policy and decision making at the appropriate level
6. Organizing counselling for the leaders who are under mental depression
7. Organizing capacity building exercise for office bearers of the associations to manage their organizations
8. To provide necessary information to the office bearers to perform their role and responsibilities as leaders of panchayats

9. To bring all the issues of the women leaders to the media for wide publicity
10. To provide legal assistance to women leaders through their organizations whenever they demand (Women Lawyers Association of Tamil Nadu has agreed to provide such assistance).

After a thorough discussion on the activity chart, the consultation meeting finalized the proposed agenda for action. It included:

- * Awareness creation
- * Sensitization
- * Information dissemination
- * Association formation
- * Creating supporting base - Information centre
- * Organizing interface programmes
- * Tie-up with NGOs
- * Documenting success stories on women related issues
- * Conducting women conventions meetings
- * Policy advocacy.

Before embarking upon the actual work in the field another meeting was organized at Gandhigram on 23rd October 2000 to pick partners from the NGO sector.



NGOs were invited to discuss the proposed activities and the approach to be adopted in this project. NGOs from all over the state participated and deliberated upon the charter of activities. They agreed upon the basic objectives of the proposal and to extend their support in carrying out the activities as partners. They divided the entire state into five zones. The activities have to be carried in all the five zones through the NGOs and the NGOs have to act as nodal and zonal resource centres for the elected women representatives⁴.

Based on the decision taken in the NGOs consultation meeting zonal meetings were organized at Madurai on 21st December 2000, at Thiruvapur on 2nd February 2001, at Chengalpattu on 16th February 2001, and at Karur on 21st March 2001. In all the zonal meetings the problems in panchayat administration and the problems of the women representatives were discussed⁵.



Finally office bearers were identified for the zones and districts in the respective regions. All the problems faced by the elected women representatives were properly documented and published for wider dissemination. Thus all those problems were brought to the annual meet of the elected women representatives drawn from all over the state at Gandhigram on 5th August 2001.



Women activists were invited to participate. They decided to highlight the problems faced by the elected women representatives and bring them to knowledge of the policy makers. Further they decided to share their experience in panchayat administration with media, for which the Rajiv Gandhi Chair would take the initiative. They further decided to share their success along with their struggle all the aspects were to be documented⁶.

Further they decided to visit model panchayats in other states, especially Kerala.

The day after the annual meet, a partners meet was arranged where the activities carried out in all the four states by our partners were discussed. It was decided to prepare a basic approach papers on certain issues which would be discussed with the members of the federation. Key issues were to be researched by making use of the resources available in the project⁷.

After the election to local bodies in the month of October, a training module was prepared to conduct a training programme for panchayati leaders⁸. Yet another module was prepared to conduct leadership training for the elected women representatives⁹. Both of them were published for wider utility. During January 2002 from 20th to 24th network meeting and interface were organized. In the network meeting the elected women representatives took up some key issues for discussion and these were sent to the Director of Rural Development. In the interface meeting, the elected women representatives interacted with their counterparts from Kerala¹⁰, which motivated them to work on social development issues. They decided that by carrying out activities in Tamil Nadu, Panchayats in Tamil Nadu should draw the attention of the whole country.





For the past two years the Elected Women Representatives Federation has been trying to bring the Central Minister to their meeting for a discussion. This year, on 20th February 2002, Mr.Venkaiah Naidu, Minister for Rural Development, Government of India, participated in their meeting. The Federation leaders expressed the problems that they are facing in local bodies and requested him to intervene and help them to discharge their roles and responsibilities. State level officials also participated and responded to the questions of the women leaders¹¹.



They organized the second annual meet in Gandhigram on 3rd May 2002. In the second annual meeting they discussed the Chief Ministers 15 point programme and made known to the government that all the 15 point programme activities come under the purview of panchayats. They also discussed the strategies to be followed to strengthen the Federation. They decided to form an advisory council including retired IAS officials, academics and representatives of the media¹².



Since the participants discussed the issues very broadly in the second annual meet, they decided to have another meeting on 9th May 2002 to make an indepth analysis of the issues. On 9th May 2002, selected leaders from all the districts met and analysed their problems and prepared a charter of demands to be presented to the government¹³.

IV Implications

So far the sequence of events have been traced. But the implications of the activities have not been explained. One should not assume that the federation has met once in a year and deliberated only in Gandhigram. They organized several meetings in several places. They met political party leaders and officials for presenting their charter of demands. They used to meet the press periodically and express their opinions on vital issues which are affecting the life of the people, especially women children and dalits¹⁴. Based on the training programme, we have collected the problems faced by the panchayati leaders generally and women and dalit leaders specifically

and those problems have been documented by our centre. These documents have been used by this Federation for policy advocacy. It was very difficult for them to get information regarding Government Orders, rules and schemes. But now they are being received from Gandhigram Rural Institute and so they regard G.R.I. as a resource centre. Contacting the Minister, higher officials, MPs and MLAs is no more a problem for them. Women leaders who are in this federating arrangement are highly sensitized on the issues of social development and more specifically on the issues of women and children.

Though Tamil Nadu, has a District Panchayat Presidents Association, a Block Panchayat Association, and a Gram Panchayat Association, only the Federation of Women Panchayat Leaders Associations is visible and sharply reacting on many of the vital issues. Even though the elected women representatives have a charter of demands, they are more keen on getting reservation of seats for women for ten years, retrieving common properties from encroachment, and, ensuring the entitlements of the poor through the public distribution system. Active leaders in the Federation are very much sensitized on these social development issues after visiting Kerala panchayats. During the first period the women leaders were harping on transfer of power, finance and functionaries. Now they speak about issues and problems. They have gained voice and bargaining power.

One major achievement that they have made through their work is getting the reservation of seats for women in Local Bodies extended for one more term. In is unique in the whole of the country. Another important milestone in their achievement is that the Federation had made the State Government withdraw the cheap liquor. They pleaded with the government that in every month higher level officials at the district level should convene a meeting of the women panchayat leaders and solve their problems. The Director, Rural Development, Government of Tamil Nadu issued an order immediately to District

Collectors to convene such meetings and solve the problems of the women leaders¹⁵.

Because of their repeated pleas and activities, the Federation of Women Leaders Associations is visible to the policy makers and 33.3% of seats have been reserved for women even in cooperatives societies. Likewise an order has been issued that in all statutory committees one third reservation should be provided for women. Some of the women panchayat leaders were in deep trouble. It was only the Federation which saved them. Menaka, the President of Oorappakkam was murdered in the panchayat office due to her stern action against encroachment. No FIR was filed till the Federation leaders went to the panchayat. It was only because of this Federation, that the culprits were booked. Another interesting note-worthy feature is that more number of office bearers in the Federation are now from dalit community and the Federation has focused its attention on dalit issues.

V Shortcomings

There are a number of projects in our centre and all are related to panchayati raj. Hence our activities are always focused on panchayati raj. Our basic aim is to muster a movement for panchayati raj throughout the state of Tamil Nadu. The regions are so vast that coverage becomes difficult. The leaders demand meetings in each and every district and the majority of them ask for interface programmes. One layer of elected women representatives is alert and they are oriented and concientised but other segments are not so well oriented. When oriented leders take up social issues for redressal they face a volley of problems and to tackle they are in need of a support structure. This calls for more partners in different regions. The leaders are still discussing a proposal for registering the Federation. They want to have a loose Federation and to keep it in Gandhigram since G.R.I. has made a name for rural development activities. We have not yet decided on this.

VI Plan of action for the future

The Federation's activities will be broad based, Block Panchayat and District Panchayat Women leaders will be enrolled. SHG leaders will also be enrolled. A permanent office has to be established. The Federation will be integrated with other Federations in other States. Meetings will be organized for the whole of South India for elected women representatives. Specialized training will be organized for office bearers of the Federation in accounting and office management.

VII Project Activities

<i>SIN o</i>	<i>Date & Place</i>	<i>Programmes</i>	<i>No. of Participants</i>
1.	28.08.2000 GRI	State level consultation on Feminist perspectives in Associating Women Representatives in Local Bodies	21
2.	23.10.2000 GRI	State level NGOs meet on Associating Women Representatives in Local Government	40
3.	21.12.2000 Madurai	Regional Network meet on Associating Women Representatives in Local Government	47
4.	02.02.2001 Thiruvavur	Regional Network meet on Associating Women Representatives in Local Government	35
5.	16.02.2001 Chengalpet	Regional Network meet on Associating Women Representatives in Local Government	36
6.	21.03.2001 Karur	Regional Network meet on Associating Women Representatives in Local Government	53
7.	05.08.2001 Gandhigram	State level meet on Elected Women Representatives of Local Bodies	320
8.	06.08.2001 Gandhigram	Inter agency meeting of the partners	15
9.	6, January, 2002 GRI, Kottayam	Network Meeting	150

10.	20-24, January, 2002 GRI, Kottayam	Network Meeting & First Interface Programme	40
11.	9-12, February 2002 GRI, Palakkadu	Network Meetings & Second Interface Programme	30
12.	20, February 2002	Women Panchayat Leaders meet - Hon'ble M.Venkaiiah Naidu, Rural Development Minister, Govt. of India	350
13.	23, April, 2002 Palakkadu	Third Interface Programme	20
14.	3, May, 2002 GRI	II Annual conference of Elected Women Representatives of Panchayat in Tamil Nadu	200
15.	9, May, 2002 GRI	Fourth Interface Programme	50

VIII Notes and References

1. Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies has been recognised by the Government of Tamil Nadu as a nodal centre for training and hence series of training programmes had been organised with the financial support of CAPART, Government of India, Social Welfare Board, Government of India, Population Foundation of India, DANIDA and DRDA, District Administration. For more details about the training programme see the following reports.

List of Reports on Activities Brought out by Rajiv Gandhi Chair

Sl. No	Year	Title of the Report	Sponsoring Agency
1.	1997	Report of the training programme conducted for District Panchayat Council Members on Social Development	Population Foundation of India
2.	1998	Report of the training programme conducted for Women Presidents of Gram Panchayats in Five Districts of Tamil Nadu	Social Welfare Board, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Chennai

3.	1999	Report of - the training programme conducted for Gram Panchayati Presidents and Vice-presidents on Panchayati Raj Administration with special reference to Water Supply and Sanitation in Villupuram District – Phase I	DANIDA Villupuram
4.	1999	Training for Gram Panchayati Presidents and Vice-Presidents on Panchayati Raj Administration with special reference to Water Supply and Sanitation in Villupuram District – Phase II	DANIDA Villupuram
5.	1999	A report on training on Improvement of Panchayat Administration and total Rural Sanitation Programme in Cuddalore District – Phase I	DRDA Cuddalore
6.	2000	A report on training on Improvement of Panchayat Administration and total Rural Sanitation Programme in Cuddalore District – Phase II	DRDA Cuddalore
7.	2000	Report of the training programme conducted for Gram Panchayati Women Presidents of Madurai, Ramanathapuram and Pudukottai Districts.	CAPART Hyderabad
8.	2000	Report of the training programme conducted for Gram Panchayati Presidents	CAPART Hyderabad
9.	2000	Report on the Training of Trainers on Multi Level Planning	State Planning Commission, Govt. of Tamil Nadu
10.	2001	A report of the training programme on Testing of Training Module for Training of Panchayati Raj Functionaries	Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, New Delhi

2. The problem faced by the women panchayati presidents had been documented. For more details refer to Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **Empowerment of Women: Problems faced by the Elected Women Representatives in Local Bodies in Tamil Nadu**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2001.

3. Detailed proceedings are reported in the document. For more details See Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **State Level Consultation on Feminist perspective in Associating Women Representatives in Local Bodies: A Report**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2000.
4. For more details about discussion, See Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **A Report on State Level NGO's Network meet on Associating Women Representatives in Local Bodies**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2000.
5. Entire discussions and deliberations have been documented. For details refer to the following documents: Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **A Report on Regional Level meet on Associating Women Representatives in Local Bodies – I**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2000.

Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **A Report on Regional Level meet on Associating Women Representatives in Local Bodies – II**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2001.

Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **A Report on Regional Level meet on Associating Women Representatives in Local Bodies – III**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2001.

Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **A Report on Regional Level meet on Associating Women Representatives in Local Bodies – IV**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2001.

6. Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **The Annual Convention of the Elected Women Representatives in Tamil Nadu: A Report**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2001.
7. For more details, Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **A Report on Inter-agency meeting of the partners working on the project Associating Women Representatives in Local Bodies – I**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2001.
8. Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **Panchayat Leaders and Functionaries training module**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2002.
9. Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **Module for Women Leadership Training**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2002.

10. **Rajiv Gandhi Chair, A Report on First Networking Meeting and Interface Programme**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2002.
- Rajiv Gandhi Chair, **A Report on Second Networking Meeting and Interface Programme**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2002.
11. **Rajiv Gandhi Chair, A Report on Women Panchayat Leaders Meet on 20.02.02**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2002.
12. **Rajiv Gandhi Chair, Report of the Second Annual Meet of Elected Women Representatives**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2002.
13. **Rajiv Gandhi Chair, Report of the Special meet of the Elected women Representatives of Local Bodies at Gandhigram**, Gandhigram: Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies, 2002.
14. Their activities are covered in the press. The details are:

New Indian Express 06.05.2002	Panchayat Chiefs. favour Govt. programmes. Women leaders keen on development activities of panchayats
Dinamalar 12.01.2002	Nanillam Union-Panchayat Leaders meet
Dinamani 13.01.2002	Network meeting of SSF-Thiruvapur Cheap liquor Scheme / Hitting below the belt.
Dinamalar 10.05.2002	Second Annual Meet of SSF Director of Rural Development – Suggest
Dinamani 29.04.2002	Annual Conference of Women Leaders at State Level
Dina Thanthi 01.05.2002	Annual Conference of Women Leaders at State Level
The Hindu 02.05.2002	Elected Women Representatives Meet
Dina Thanthi 04.05.2002	Elected Women Representatives Meet

The Hindu 04.05.2002	Information kiosks coming up for SHGs in 10 districts
The Hindu 08.12.2001	Cheap Liquor Scheme / Hitting below the belt. Women feel let down by a woman
Theekkathir 21.12.2001	Funds to Local Bodies plan to file PIL
Dinamalar 05.03.2002	A modified Family Card – Leader did – Minister encouraged
Dina Thanthi 04.12.2001	Satisfying the basic needs – Funds to Local Bodies – A request
The Financial Express 19.12.2001	Tamil Nadu panchayats plan to file PIL for release of statutory grants.
News Today 20.12.2001	Funds to Local Bodies 'Relent or face a stir' Women panchayat chiefs on warpath
Dinamani 20.12.2001	Funds to Local Bodies 'Relent or face a stir' Women panchayat chiefs on warpath
Dina Thanthi 20.12.2001	Funds to Local Bodies 'Relent or face a stir' Women panchayat chiefs on warpath
Dinamalar 20.12.2001	Allot 20% of MLA and MP fund to panchayats – leaders wish
Dinakaran 20.12.2001	EWRs meet at Chennai - a crisis on implementing activities - struggle on cheap liquor scheme
The Hindu 03.04.2002	No nomination for wards, polls went empower dalits
The Hindu 19.03.2002	Spell out stand on devolution: Tamil Nadu Panchayat
The Hindu 06.11.2001	Tamizh Natil Puthia Panchayathu Arasangam Dr.G.Palanithurai, South Vision, 6,Thayarsahib Second Lane, Chennai – 2 Rs.200.

New Indian Express 07.11.2001	End grant of funds to legislators. The Justice V.R.Krishna Iyer endowment lecture on 'Panchayati Raj' – S.S.Meenakshi Sundaram
Dinamani 06.11.2001	Fulfill the responsibilities and Commit your needy Dr.Pankajam, Vice-Chancellor, GRI – suggest
The Hindu 08.11.2001	Village panchayats told to concentrate on tax collection
New Indian Express 22.02.2002	Centre fixes target of 14 lakh SHG – M.Vengaiah Naidu, Rural Development Minister, Govt. of India at GRI.
Dina Thanthi 22.02.2002	Conference on Decentralization – going to be held in Delhi – an announcement
Dinamalar 21.02.2002	Conference on Decentralization – going to be held in Delhi – an announcement
Dinamani 22.02.2002	Conference on Decentralization – going to be held in Delhi – an announcement
The Hindu 16.02.2002	Participatory development key to panchayat raj
Dinamalar 16.02.2002	From Education to Family Planning – need for a change in training the leaders
Dinamani 15.02.2002	New method of training to the president – suggest
The Hindu 13.01.2002	Panchayat chiefs play key role in Primary Education
Dinamani 12.01.2002	Panchayat chiefs play key role in Primary Education
The Hindu 20.12.2001	Women panchayat chiefs threaten stir
New Indian Express 18.12.2001	Bureaucrats treat women panchayat president as servants

Dina Thanthi 07.10.2001	Women Panchayat chiefs threaten stir. Say 'No' to corruption in panchayat
The Hindu 06.10.2001	Women Panchayat chiefs threaten stir. Say 'No' to corruption in panchayat
Dinakaran 06.10.2001	Women Panchayat chiefs threaten stir. Say 'No' to corruption in panchayat

15. Letter is received from the Director Rural Development, Government of Tamil Nadu on 20.05.02

Associating Elected Women Representatives in Local Governments

About Lok Satta:

Lok Satta is a people's movement for governance reforms with wide reach and credibility in Andhra Pradesh. The three core activities of this five year old movement are:

- 1) **People's Watch:** Collective and informed grassroots assertion for corruption-free and better public services.
- 2) **Swarajya:** Advocacy and campaign for specific, inexpensive, locally achievable, strategic governance reform goals which are universally acceptable across the spectrum of political and public opinion as listed below:
 - Right to Information
 - Citizen's Charters
 - Empowerment of Local governments
 - Direct empowerment of citizens as stake-holders
 - Universal access to school education and Primary Health
 - Rural courts for speedy, time-bound and accessible justice
 - Toilets in every household
- 3) **Election Watch** movement to monitor elections for better democracy consisting of the following specific activities:
 - Verification of electoral rolls
 - Bringing pressure on parties to select candidates democratically through members' choice
 - Screening of candidates for corruption and criminal record, and making the findings public
 - Making all details of candidates public
 - Common platforms facilitating public questioning of all candidates
 - Monitoring polling process
 - Focusing on governance issues, in particular - devolution of power to local governments and stake-holders

Conceptualizing the Project:

In pursuance of the constitution amendments and the conforming State acts one-third of the elective positions in the Panchayat Raj institutions and Local governments are reserved for women. In a male dominated society participation and involvement of women in public institutions is very limited. Most of them are catapulted into elective positions without any experience in politics or political institutions. In this scenario women representatives of PRIs/Local Governments need orientation on various facets of the working of such institutions; their role and responsibilities, the expectations of the peoples and the limitations there of etc.

They also need to be provided inputs on administration, inter personal relations, conduct of meetings, inclusive attitude and consensus building.

As part of its campaign, Lok Satta established intimate links with leaders of local governments and advocates of local self-governance from the perspective of better governance. Lok Satta feels that reservation of one-third of the elective offices in local governments offers us an invaluable opportunity to help reshape governance agenda and change the culture of administration. Women, who are doubly disadvantaged on account of poverty, caste and other related social disabilities as well as gender, have a need and natural propensity to identify with other women exclusively. As they have stormed into local governments in large numbers without any real party experience and exposure to the corrupting influences in traditional power structure, it is opportune to help them organize separately as women leaders for better governance. Women also are naturally inclined to pay attention to real issues that make a difference to people's lives – schools, health care, toilets, water supply etc. Women leaders need to share the best practices they have developed or experienced, and facilitate propagation of the idea of people's direct participation.

All this involves women leaders coming together to associate themselves and eventually emerging as an effective pressure group and advocacy body. While the need for such an all-woman's association is felt, it requires external support and initiative in the early phases until it becomes an independent, viable, self-sustaining advocacy body.

The project was conceptualized with the specific and clearly defined goal to support capacity building of Elected Women Representatives (EWR) of PRI's/Local Governments, equip them with requisite skills and help them in performing their functions and duties in a responsive, transparent and accountable manner.

The project was designed to provide to EWRs of PRI's/Local governments, inputs on:

1. Broad understanding of the constitution, functions and institutional framework of the PRI's/Local Governments.
2. Enhancing their knowledge of policy issues
3. Linkages with Government and non-governmental organizations.
4. Identifying development needs in a participatory manner and allocation of resources on a consensual approach.
5. Developing a policy framework from their perspective - with emphasis on the following:
 - Right to Information
 - Citizens charters
 - Stake Holders groups
 - Empowering of Ward Committees
 - Empowering of Local Governments
 - Toilets for every Household
6. Nuances of administration, inter personal skills etc.
7. And impart in them a culture that they are elected not to promote themselves but to serve the people in contradiction to the current expectation of elected representatives; this genuinely

democratic perspective needs to be imbibed by them before they are acculturated to the prevailing male-dominated, power-centred societal norms of seeking salience without reference to public service or social good.

8. Create a State level forum to become a powerful pressure and advocacy group supported by a professional secretariat.

Equipped with a financial grant from SSF and our own resources, we took up the project of Associating Elected Women Representatives in Krishna, Medak and Mahboob Nagar Districts of Andhra Pradesh. Krishna district is in coastal Andhra and is reasonably well developed, where as Medak and Mahboob Nagar are in Telanagana and are backward districts. **All the three districts have women chairpersons of Zilla Parishads.** In view of the delay in elections to the Panchayat Raj institutions in 2001, the project was slightly behind schedule, but we were able to make up the last ground since then and completed it on schedule by 30th April, 2002.

Participatory orientation workshops were held for the elected Womens Representatives in groups – one group consists of ZPP's, ZPTC and MPP (1 meeting per district) , another group consists of Municipal Chairpersons and Counselors (1 meeting per district) and the last group consists of MPTC's and Gram Sarpanch's (6-8 meetings per district). The breakup of number of EWRs participating in the workshops is given in annexure I.

The content of the orientation programme was designed in such a manner that 70% of the time was allocated for inputs from experienced resource persons while the balance time was utilized for interactive session. Most of the time in the workshop was allocated for experience sharing on pre-identified issues. A detailed orientation manual was prepared in Telugu and distributed to the participants along with other relevant literature.

Medak: Of the 3 districts that were selected under this project, probably the best organized and most enthusiastic was Medak. Lok Satta's district unit had planned and executed all the programs quite systematically and not only surpassed its prescribed quota of 8 workshops but organised two more such workshops of EWRs. With the active assistance of Lok Satta, a chamber of EWRs was created in Medak district on 30th of March, with participation from across the political spectrum, which is a significant achievement in a highly polarized state like Andhra Pradesh.

Mahaboobnagar: In the case of Mahaboobnagar dist., the first workshop could not be organised as per our expectations. However, the subsequent 6 workshops were conducted with the participation of around 60% EWRs. Owing to the backwardness and remote nature of terrain we weren't able to mobilize as many EWRs as we hoped for. The process of creating a forum of elected EWRs is currently underway in the district.

Krishna : In the case of Krishna district the first category workshop of EWRs was successfully conducted. But, by the time we commenced organising second category level workshops there were already groups like Eenadu and other NGOs which organised similar workshops with media support and thereby preempted our initiative. But still we have conducted 4 other workshops with the involvement of about 70% EWRs. The process of creating a forum of elected EWRs is currently underway in this district also.

To sum up, our workshops were well received by the participant EWRs. Our methods were innovative and participatory. Unlike one-sided political speeches or academic lectures our resource persons were able to present their candid views on a range of women and governance related issues. We were exposed to the hopes and aspirations of these enthusiastic women at the grass roots level and based on the feed back we received we would like to slightly redesign the workshops in the 2nd phase of this project to address more women's related issues.

SSF Partners meet: We were privileged to host a partners meet with participants from the other 3 southern states during the first week of April in Hyderabad. We had a highly interesting meet with presentations from all the partners followed by lengthy sessions during which the partners were freely able to share their experiences and exchanged views and opinions on a wide range of issues.

Associating EWRs- Details of workshops held

Dist / Coordinator	Type of EWRs	Place of Meeting	Date	Participating EWRs	Remarks
MEDAK 1. Mr. BRM Rao 2. Mr. T. Srinivas	ZPTC *+ MPP* Presidents Municipal representatives MPTC + Sarpanches " " " " " " " District Chambers	Sangareddy	03/11/01	29	Ward Members included
		Medak	18/11/01	24	
		Narsapur	23/12/01	30	
		Kandi	05/01/02	35	
		Medak	06/01/02	32	
		Jogipet	27/01/02	37	
		Narayankhed	09/02/02	34	
		Zaheerabad	10/02/02	40	
		Pragnapur	23/02/02	113	
		Siddipet	28/02/02	35	
Medak	30/03/02	30			
	District Chambers		Total	439	
MAHABOBNAGAR 1. Mr. VL Murthy 2. Mr. Ram Mohan	ZPTC + MPP Presidents MPTC + Sarpanches " " " " "	Mahaboobnagar	16/12/01	22	
		Kalwakurthi	24/02/02	23	
		Narayanpet	10/03/02	38	
		Kothakota	17/03/02	26	
		Jadcharla	18/03/02	19	
		Nagarkurnool	23/03/02	27	
		Gadwal	24/04/02	31	
			Total	186	
KRISHNA 1. Mr. DS Rao 2. Dr. Sarangapani	ZPTC + MPP Presidents MPTC + Sarpanches " " "	Machilipatnam	09/12/02	29	
		Nuziveedu	23/02/02	31	
		Vijayawada	24/02/02	45	
		Machilipatnam	26/04/02	47	
		Gudiwada	30/04/02	42	
			Total:	184	

* : ZPTC - Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituency Member

° : MPP - Mandal Praja Parishad President

□ : MPTC - Mandal Parishad Territorial Constituency Member

NETWORKING ELECTED WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES



MAY 2002

FINAL REPORT

**SAKHI
RESOURCE CENTRE FOR WOMEN.
TRIVANDRUM-1, KERALA**

**Networking Elected Women
Representatives
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**

FINAL REPORT

March 2000 – May 2002

**Project Co-ordinator : Aleyamma Vijayan
Project Associate : Daya. J.**

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In association with

*Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation
'Tharanga', 10th Cross, Raj Mahal Vilas Extention
Bangalore – 560 080*

We acknowledge the services of Ms. J. Snadhya who worked in the project in the 1st Phase. Smt. Mercy Alexander associated with the project from the beginning and helped to organise meetings and consultations.

We also acknowledge the services of all our co-workers at Sakhi and last but not least the willingness and co-operation extended by the elected women representative and the presidents of the Grama Panchayats in Thiruvananthapuram District.

Networking Elected Women Representatives

In Trivandrum district, Kerala

Final report.

I. Background

1.1. History of local Governance

India has a long tradition of local governance and in as early as 1882, the Indian Government had announced its policy on local governance. In 1885, Local Bodies Act was passed. There were several efforts during independence struggle to understand and evolve appropriate local government institutions. It is in 1959, the Balwantrai Mehta committee, which recommended a three tier governance system (grama-block-district) in India without the intervention of political parties. It hoped that through democratic decentralization and by people's participation in implementing programmes panchayats would act as links between people and governments. On the basis of this, many states enacted new laws but the goals were not achieved. In 1977, the Ashoka Mehta Committee formed by Janata Party Government found out that mistakes in structural matters, apathy of the bureaucracy, power hungry leadership in the centre and states, corruption, lack of resources, lack of political will etc as the reasons of the failure of the Panchayat raj system. The Committee viewed the Panchayats as an agency to do the development works rather than as self-governing bodies or village self-governments.

The G.V.K.Rao Committee formed 1985 suggested strongly that, for Panchayats to involve in developmental work with people's participation, enough resource allocation and power for governance should be imparted to panchayats. District panchayat committees should be made stronger. Singhvi Committee (1986), Sarkaria commission (1988), Parliamentary Committee headed by P.K.Thungan etc made further recommendations to strengthen the panchyat raj system.

We acknowledge the services of Ms. J. Snadhya who worked in the project in the 1st Phase. Smt. Mercy Alexander associated with the project from the beginning and helped to organise meetings and consultations.

We also acknowledge the services of all our co-workers at Sakhi and last but not least the willingness and co-operation extended by the elected women representative and the presidents of the Grama Panchayats in Thiruvananthapuram District.

Networking Elected Women Representatives

In Trivandrum district, Kerala

Final report.

I. Background

1.1. History of local Governance

India has a long tradition of local governance and in as early as 1882, the Indian Government had announced its policy on local governance. In 1885, Local Bodies Act was passed. There were several efforts during independence struggle to understand and evolve appropriate local government institutions. It is in 1959, the Balwantrai Mehta committee, which recommended a three tier governance system (grama-block-district) in India without the intervention of political parties. It hoped that through democratic decentralization and by people's participation in implementing programmes panchayats would act as links between people and governments. On the basis of this, many states enacted new laws but the goals were not achieved. In 1977, the Ashoka Mehta Committee formed by Janata Party Government found out that mistakes in structural matters, apathy of the bureaucracy, power hungry leadership in the centre and states, corruption, lack of resources, lack of political will etc as the reasons of the failure of the Panchayat raj system. The Committee viewed the Panchayats as an agency to do the development works rather than as self-governing bodies or village self-governments.

The G.V.K.Rao Committee formed 1985 suggested strongly that, for Panchayats to involve in developmental work with people's participation, enough resource allocation and power for governance should be imparted to panchayats. District panchayat committees should be made stronger. Singhvi Committee (1986), Sarkaria commission (1988), Parliamentary Committee headed by P.K.Thungan etc made further recommendations to strengthen the panchyat raj system.

The 73rd and 74th amendments of the Constitution prescribed a uniform three-tier system: -district, taluk / block and village levels in the rural areas and town Panchayats in smaller urban centers, besides the traditional Municipalities and Corporations in the larger urban centres. Local bodies should have a uniform five-year term and in the event of dissolution, elections are to be held within six months. SC/ST representation proportionate to the population and **one-third reservation for women** were introduced at all levels. A state Finance Commission has to be appointed by every state government to decide on revenue sharing by these local bodies.

District Planning Committees (DPC's) is to be constituted in every district with two-third of the membership reserved for district Panchayats and urban governing Institute in proportion to the population. A separate 11th schedule was added to the Constitution listing 29 subjects that could be devolved to local self-governments. However, powers, finances and functional autonomy of the local self-governments were left to the discretion of the state governments.

1.2 About Kerala

Kerala is one of the 28 States in India. It has an area of 38,863 Sq. km occupying 1.18% of Indian Union with a population of 3.1 Crore (Census of India 2001). The state is divided into 14 Districts, 152 Block Panchayats and 991 Grama Panchayats. Besides these rural local bodies, there are 53 Municipalities and 5 Municipal Corporations. The quality of life indicators put Kerala closer to the developed countries than to the rest of India or third world nations despite its poor economic status.

Kerala's performance on the basic indicators has continued to improve since the early 1980's. The current **female-to-male ratio** is **1.58: 1** against the **National ratio of 0.933: 1**. In 1996, Kerala had 956 Primary Health Centres serving an average of 30,346 persons each, compared with an all-India average of 38,618. Health sub-centres numbered 5,094 serving 5,695 persons each, compared with an all-India rate of 6358. Kerala offered 147 hospital beds per one lakh people against the all-India average of 96 per one lakh.

The above set of high material quality-of-life indicators coinciding with low per capita income can be considered as "enigma" and a "paradox". The state's excellent gender-development indicators are often misleading. It is more visible when we take into account the work participation of women which is lower than the national average, increasing violence against women, lesser number of women in political arena, increasing suicide rates etc.

1.3 Decentralisation in Kerala

In 1996, the Left Democratic Front Government decided to go ahead with the bold experiment of devolution of power and devolution of funds to Local Self Government institutions. It was considered path-breaking and revolutionary experiment of power sharing under the banner of "People's Planning Programme". It was launched formally in on 17th Aug 1996.

The following were its objectives: -

1. Decentralisation and People's Participation.
2. 35-40% Plan Funds for Projects/Schemes formulated and to be implemented by Local Bodies.
3. All Departmental Schemes to be implemented in consultation with Local Bodies.
4. Local Bodies to prepare and priorities a list of projects
5. Maximum popular participation at every stage of planning process.
6. To break the atmosphere of cynicism.
7. To tap new resources both material and human and
8. To empower the Panchayats and make them real self-governments.

A major milestone was laid in the State Budget of 1996-97 when Rs. 69 crore was provided for urban Local Bodies and Rupees 143 crore for the rural Local Bodies as untied plan grants. Of the untied funds to the rural Local Bodies, rupees 100 crore was allocated to village Panchayats, rupees 15 crore for Block Panchayats and rupees 28 crore to the District Panchayats.

Share of LSGIs in the State's Plan

(Rupees in Crore)

year	grant in aid	State sponsored scheme	Total
1997-98	749	276	1025.00
1998-99	950	166.50	1116.50
1999-2000	1020	134.40	1154.40

The budgetary provision for grant-in aid to the Local Bodies had initially three components: Tribal Sub Plan (TSP), Special Component Plan (SCP) and General Sector Plan. Later on a Women's component plan (WCP) was also added

Certain broad guidelines were given regarding sectoral allocation in the plans of the Local Bodies. Thrust was given to three broad development sectors, namely productive, service and infrastructure. Rural LSGIs has to invest 40% of their grant-in-aid for the **productive sector** and maximum of 30% for the **infrastructure sector** and the rest of the 30% in the **service sector**.

1.3.1 The first stage -formation of Gram Sabhas.

The grama sabhas were constituted as the base of the 3 tier PRI's. Section 243 of the constitution defines gramasabha as a 'body consisting of persons registered in the electoral rolls relating to a village, comprised within the Panchayat. However the Constitution left the powers and functions of the gramasabhas to the discretion of the state legislatures.

To overcome the problem posed by the large size of the Panchayats in the state, the Kerala legislative limited the grama sabha to the voters in a ward. A typical Grama Panchayat has 10 to 12 wards. Besides, the Kerala Panchayat Raj Act of

1994 had endowed the gramasabhas with substantial powers and functions. They have to be convened at least twice a year. The Grama Panchayat is to present before the gramasabha the financial account, work report and a statement of the development activities that need to be undertaken in the ward. The law also mandate that the recommendations of the gramasabhas be given due consideration by all three tiers of Panchayats. If any decision of the *grama sabha* cannot be implemented, the reasons must be presented at the next *grama sabha*.

The *gramasabhas* are to participate in the preparation and monitoring of the Panchayat development plans to mobilize resources through voluntary labour and help in the selection of beneficiaries.

The *gramasabhas* provided an ideal forum to identify the needs of the people. Instead of *gramasabha* meeting as a general body of several hundred people, after a brief common gathering, the participants would divide into small groups, each dealing with a particular development sector, and discuss in depth the problems of that sector. Twelve groups/sectors are given preference namely Agriculture and Irrigation, Animal Husbandry and Fishing, Education, Drinking water, Sanitation and health, Industry, Transport and Energy, Housing and welfare, culture, Women's development, SC/ST welfare, cooperatives and Resource mobilization. Depending upon the Panchayat, some groups could be either enlarged or combined. However, it is mandatory to have separate groups to discuss development problems of women and SC/ST welfare.

Registration counters are opened one hour before the Sabha begin. Half an hour is allotted for Presidential address and inaugural speeches to be followed by 2 presentations of 20 minutes each regarding the development crisis in Kerala and PPC. (From the guidelines given to Panchayats on running the gramasabha.)

The state wide public inauguration of the campaign took place on 17 August 1996.

1.3.2 Second stage – Preparation of development report

A study of local geography and natural resources is conducted so as to chart out action plan for implementation. For this, each Panchayat had to prepare a

development report. Part I of the report consist of Introduction, economic social history and geo-physical conditions and human resources of the Panchayats.

Part II consists of 12 chapters giving the present status, problems and development prospects of each sector viz. Agriculture & Irrigation, Animal husbandry and fisheries, Industry, energy & housing, transport, education, health, drinking water and sanitation, women and development, welfare of SC/ST, culture and resource mobilization.

Then development seminars were conducted which was the nodal event of the second stage of the campaign. This was to consider the Panchayat/Municipal development reports and finalize their recommendation for the development proposals.

1.3.3 Third stage-formation of task force

Development seminars provided every Panchayat and Municipality with a list of recommendations regarding what to be done in each development sector. These sectors are classified into three: - Production sector, infrastructure sector, service sector and welfare sector. And in each of these sectors, task forces of 10 to 12 members were formed. And these task force members were trained as how to prepare project proposals and also methods to implement it.

Voluntary Technical Corps (VTC) (non official technical experts who showed willingness to undertake appraisal of plans) key Resource Person (KRPs), District Resource Persons (DRPs), Block level Expert Committee(BLEC) Municipal Level Expert Committee (MLEC) , and Corporation Level Committee (CLEC) were formed later. These expert committees are empowered to issue technical functions to the projects.

1.3.4 Gender and peoples planning programme

The government tried to give attention to women in the People's Plan Campaign in the following ways: -

Women Component plan (WCP)

Gender is included as an important criterion in the selection of beneficiaries in poverty alleviation programmes. Planning Board during the first year, gave a direction to all Panchayats to set aside 10% of the total fund for the welfare of women. But in no district the suggested minimum standard was reached.

During the second year of PPC the Planning Board made it mandatory to earmark 10% of plan fund for women development projects. Hence now all the Panchayats take serious effort to see to that the allotted money is spend for women.

1.3.5 Training programmes

In all the phases there were classes on women and development at the state and district levels training programmes. It drew attention to the marginalization of women in developmental process in the state, the discrimination and violence against women and emphasized the need for incorporating gender concerns in local level plans. Taskforce on women were given separate training on the women oriented projects.

During the discussions in gramasabha women welfare is a compulsory 'section' to be discussed. A structural write up on gender problems is provided to facilitate the discussions usually.

In the development reports, in which it is expected to write in detail about the current status on each area under different heads, a separate section on Women's Welfare was included so as to give significance to the welfare of women.

This background is necessary to understand in what context have we started the network and how much work burden the women members had as well as what kind of knowledge and skills were to be imparted. This intense process meant that the EWR's had very little time at their disposal too.

2. Networking elected women representatives.

This project of "Associating Elected Women Representatives" was an initiative in 4 southern states of India. The Singamma Srinivas Foundation, Bangalore with the support from FORD foundation, initiated it.

As a partner in this project, our attempt was to work with three different groups of women: Elected Women Representatives (EWR's) in Trivandrum, Dalit EWRs in Kollam and EWRs of the coastal belt.

2.1 Preparation work for the programme

Sakhi started the work on 1st March 2000. Already the Decentralised planning process had been initiated in Kerala and Sakhi was involved in the training programmes of panchayat members, and in the women's component plan. This project gave us the opportunity to focus on improving the working ability of elected women representatives in Trivandrum district.

During a period of three months, between March and May the preparation work for the programme was done. The major purpose of this was to create a good foundation for the work. This was done through getting deeper knowledge about the decentralized planning process and the situation of the EWRs.

~~This process included collecting of relevant materials on Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) and meeting people with deep knowledge in this field. Sakhi visited Planning Board, where we met officials like Mr. Thomas Isaac, member of the planning board and in charge of the decentralization program. Sakhi also met Dr. Seema, the consultant on gender in the Planning Board. Both of them gave us useful information and ideas on the how to continue our work.~~

The preparation period also included contact with people working closely with EWRs, participation in meetings and visits to others organizations working on this matter. Sakhi also collected secondary data on the decentralization planning process and met a few women members to discuss the possibilities of the idea of networking. During this period we planned the work in a more concrete way.

From the office of the Panchayat Directorate we collected the addresses of EWRs of Trivandrum district, and the addresses of Dalit EWRs of Kollam district. Letters were sent to activists, academicians, and women representatives requesting for their participation in one-day consultation to be held on the 17th June 2000.

Seventeen people who work in different levels of the peoples planning project participated in this meeting.

This one day consultation was meant to brainstorm on the idea of associating elected women members as we ourselves had apprehensions about getting together women of different political parties. Kerala is a highly politicized state and the political parties would wrongly interpret our intervention. We also wanted to consult the modalities and approaches.

The meeting deliberated on the implications and significance of Governance.

-Institutions like World Bank now talk of 'good governance' but it is from the perspective of 'efficiency'. These approaches pave the way for privatization and for competition and market economy

-The decentralization programme in Kerala is a genuine effort at devolving power to people.

-Yet, even here the middle classes are keeping away from the process. Apathy is a great social problem. If all sections of people do not participate, it weakens the democracy.

-It is the poor who will have to bear the ill effects of bad governance, of corruption and favoritism. The interests of the poor and marginalized rarely get reflected in governance.

-Women's participation in governance has always been very nominal. Although 33% women have entered public space, there is no gender perspective in governance. The patriarchal power usages and masculine political atmosphere makes women's participation difficult.

In these contexts the relevance whether a network is needed in Kerala was deliberated. It was pointed that the State Planning board is giving training to women and they are publishing booklets etc. What is the relevance of NETWORK THEN?

The elected members present in the meeting argued strongly for a network.

The reasons pointed out were

- > All members do not receive the training given by planning board, especially on gender and empowerment; sector specific matters like fisheries etc

- This network can compliment what the planning board is doing. This is not at all in conflict with their efforts
- Women who come to public space through elections come from various political parties, religions and castes. A network above all these considerations is important and only an organization like Sakhi can do this
- There are a lot of uncertainties regarding WCP. The need to move from practical needs to strategic concerns is very important and inputs from feminist organizations only will ensure that the planning is moving in the right direction. There is also need to sensitize men on gender. There are possibilities on dissemination of ideas on gender based planning, monitoring and evaluation.

The elected representatives believed that formation of self-help groups was the only way to achieve women's empowerment. Although there was relevance for these self-help groups due to their role in bringing women to the public forum, their effect in bringing about true women empowerment remained a contentious issue. In this context, there is an urgent need to develop a woman leadership with a comprehensive outlook. The role of a network in these circumstances is:

- To coordinate different women organizations and panchayats that come forward to study gender issues.
- To put pressure on political parties so that women are given the opportunity to contest in general seats apart from their reserved wards.
- To interact with the women representatives of other states.
- To impress upon women organizations on the need to give sufficient support for women representatives.

2.2 FIRST PHASE OF THE PROJECT

❖ *Starting the network*

In July 2000, the first three meetings of EWRs were held, and approximately 45 members from the three taluks of Neyyattinkera, Attingal and Nedumangad

participated. These centers were selected for the convenience of the members. We experienced some problems with low participation. We sent around 350 letters inviting the members and it was out of this 350 that 45 took part in the meetings. *Reluctance of the members to participate in a meeting convened across political lines by an unfamiliar organization was one of the main reasons for this low turnout.*



All three meetings included inputs on the subject of development, decentralization and gender. We impressed upon them the need to look upon a gender sensitive development paradigm and how over the years women were marginalized with regard to planning and implementation of development activities. We also explained the context in which reservation of seats for women became a necessity and how this opportunity could be used to the advantage of women and their empowerment. However, the participants were more concerned on personal experiences of being a female politician, and on fund utilisation reserved for the Women's Component Plan. They said that although women representation in the grama sabhas were significant most of them came with the intention of receiving personal benefits and were disinterested in other aspects of planning.

The questions of networking women across party connection were also discussed during all three meetings, and there were some discussions on whether it is possible to network above political considerations and perspectives. The EWRs in

general welcomed the idea, and they expressed great expectations. Their primary interest was in creating a forum for sharing experiences and learning from each other. The members agreed to bring more EWRs for next meetings and this showed their interest in the idea of a network.

❖ Women's manifesto

By the time the first phase was completed the panchayat elections were announced. We felt that there was a need to emphasize the necessity of giving more seats to women by accommodating them in the general seats also. And a woman friendly development plan needs to be evolved. So we decided to bring out a "women's manifesto" (right proclamation document) to be distributed among political parties and panchayat officials. For that the consultative committee met again and finalized the document. The document asked the political parties to give fifty percent of the seats to women and deny seats to accused people in offenses against women. The document asked the elected representatives to ensure gender equality, ~~in general plan apart from the women component plan.~~ The women component plan fund was to be utilized for the social and collective development of women. The necessity to form panchayat level Vigilant Committees to address violence against women was emphasized in the document. The document requested the government to take necessary steps to stop the selling of multinational consumer products through self help groups and help to make possible proper marketing of the products made by local level women entrepreneurs.

2.3 Networking Dalit EWRs in Kollam District

As mentioned in the background passage, one of our target groups was the Dalit EWRs in Kollam. On the first of August 2000, a meeting with this group was held. The purpose of meeting Dalit EWRs separately was to increase the understanding of Dalit women's situation, and to support them in the politics. At this occasion too, we faced problems low participation, Out of the 39 invited, only five came to the meeting. However, those who took part in the meeting, found it enriching and empowering, and wished to participate in forthcoming meetings. After the elections

in September, again efforts were made to get in contact with the Dalit EWRs in Kollam district. A survey form was sent to all 39 but only 9 responded. Only one among them was re-elected. Most of them responded saying that they had no problems as dalit members but they knew of others who had problems. Since dalit mobilization and activities were not strong in Kerala and since they had come from mainstream parties, it was not easy to network them on their dalit identity.

As we faced many difficulties in reaching this target group, and bringing them together into a network, we had doubts about continuing the work. Due to these problems, the work on Dalit EWRs did not continue

3. Elections – September 2000

In September the elections to the Local Bodies were held. During this time we visited a number of panchayats to observe and understand the election campaigns and the election process. The purpose was also to support and establish a good relationship to the women participating in this process.

Due to the rotation system, a great majority of the *sitting women members could not contest, as their wards became general seats*. The rotation system implies that a reserved seat becomes general after one election period. EWRs realized that they were given only reserved seats, no matter how good they performed during their tenure.

The election results gave some positive trends regarding women representation in local bodies. Of all the elected people's representatives in the local bodies, 38% are women, up from 35.8% in the councils that demitted office.

Presence of women as a percentage of the total number of elected representatives is the highest in Block panchayats, their strength being 40.79%. Politically, the block panchayats are the weakest link in the three-tier panchayat raj system.

The presence of women is the most insignificant in the Municipal corporations [35.07%] At the level of Grama panchayats, their number close to 5000 [approx: 36%] and at the level of district panchayats, their strength is only 34.7%

Statistics also show that almost 70% of the women elected representatives are less than 40 years old and men aged below 30 years is a meager 13%.

In respect of educational attainments too women are ahead of men. Roughly 22% of the women elected representatives are graduates or postgraduates, as compared to their 20% male counter parts. The total number of women representatives who have had college education would stand at 44.5%.

During this period Sakhi brought out a *publication* on "Women and Power". Through this publication we wanted to share some of our experiences and concerns expressed during the past six-month's working with the EWRs. This was widely read and appreciated

4. After the election – meeting with former EWRs

After the election, we realized that the majority of the EWRs with whom we had established contacts and started working were not re-elected. As mentioned, their seats became general seats in the rotation system, and only a few of the former EWRs were re-elected. This situation created some difficulties in our efforts to networking the EWRs, as it implied that we had to "start from the beginning" again. We convened a meeting of former members and 18 women came. Majority of them did not get their seats back once it is converted to the general ward. Besides this, since the decentralization process has started, the members have much more power and command and hence the position of panchayat member is a coveted one. There is stiff competition to get a party seat as now the members can travel a lot, get trainings and wider contacts. They will also get a remuneration of Rs.1000/-month. Hence the influential persons in the party see to it that their own persons get the seat. Some of the members' felt that women who develop as independent and assertive will be dropped out.

At this meeting many of them expressed concern about the future of projects in the panchayats initiated by them. They also felt that their chances being in the public space itself would be limited.

There was an animated discussion when one member said that the activities of the panchyats are highly politicized. The local committee of the party interferes in the disbursement of funds and in the selection of beneficiaries. Some felt that certain amount of partisan attitude is justifiable, as that only will help to strengthen the party base. In the strict sense, nobody can be 'impartial' or 'independent'. But majority disagreed with this view and felt that once elected, one should be able to rise above party affiliations and becomes true representative of all people.

They also made an evaluation of the last 5 years of People's plan campaign (PPC). In their assessment the WCP has really focused on income generation programmes like formation of self-help groups, micro level income generating programmes etc. The discussion was whether these are sustainable? What are the short term and long term advantages of such a process? What about the leadership of SHG's? There was a discussion on how the demand that only BPL (Below Poverty Line) be in the groups! The confusion arising out of such a situation was discussed. This will mean that those who are just above BPL and who have some leadership skills will not be in the groups with the danger that these will be completely under bureaucratic control.

Their suggestions on the tasks for the network in the coming months are the following:

- Issues of primary health care .All EWR's be helped to facilitate that the PHC's are working in a women friendly manner; that there will be facilities for normal delivery and primary health care are for gynecological problems
- Take initiatives to form 'Jagrutha Samithis' at all panchayts to enquire and take action on issues of violence on women
- To bring the gender concerns in the planning process.
- To develop the perspective that all problems are women's problems

Sakhi's help was demanded in the following areas.

1. To develop a criterion to assess whether a project is gender sensitive (develop indicators for gender based planning)

2. To develop a leadership training manual for women leaders of SHG's which EWR's can use to train them
3. To develop materials on adolescent health education

An ad-hoc committee was also elected during this meeting, which will support the forthcoming networking of new-elected women representatives. This committee had 7 members and they agreed to convey to the new members the need of such coming together of women members.

We assured them that they could continue to come to our meetings. But later on we learnt that they had pressure from their family members to stay on at home. Another obstacle was finance. While being a member they were receiving an allowance of Rs.1000/-month and now they have to depend on their husbands. Eventually, most of them dropped out of the network and only a handful continued to come for the meetings.

5. Second phase of the project

a) Another round of meetings with new members.

Three taluk level meetings with newly- elected EWRs were held in Trivandrum district during January and February 2001. On January 10th a meeting was held in Attingal area; On February 3rd a meeting was held in Neyyattinkara, and on the 15th a meeting was held in Nedumangad.



To establish contacts with the newly elected members was an uphill task. It was also difficult to start the process of implementing the idea networking again. But our work gave result, and compared to earlier meetings, the number of participants increased drastically. Between 40 and 70 women took part in each meeting during January and February. Elected Women in the panchayats heard from older members about the networking program, and we felt that the idea was slowly getting accepted and appreciated. The former EWRs we had worked with played an important role in this process, since they inspired newly elected EWRs to take part in our meetings.

The participants in this round of meetings were new in the politics, and hence they could not yet identify much of the problems of being a female politician. The discussion in the meeting focused on three things

- a) Getting to know one another.
- b) Politics and good governance
- c) Gender sensitivity in planning

Since all of them were aware of the WCP, the question raised was even if women's needs were given priority in designing projects, would it help to change the *condition* or *position* of women? The difference between these two were shown with examples. This further resulted in a discussion of how to differentiate between *needs and wants* and how *gender* is different from the biological difference and *is a social construct*.

The elected women present were from varied backgrounds and hence the response to the discussion was also varied. Some were eager to understand the conceptual issues whereas others were eager to get into practical aspects like new project ideas, how to manage the self-help groups etc.

The most urgent item on the agenda during the meetings with EWRs during the second round was to work on suitable ideas for projects on women in the panchayats. On directives from the planning board, the panchayats had to prepare

plans for the next phase in a time bound manner and there was pressure to bring up innovative projects under the women's component plan. The sessions and discussions on these meetings also focused on women and development, decentralization and the situation of female politicians.

Our effort here was to develop in the members a perspective on development. If they have to get involved in local planning, they need to know what is development, and how to maximum use the local resources. They also need to know the priorities to be kept in mind like the issues of food security, employment, and environment. Since the members were new, they were eager to learn.

We attempted a data collection process here by distributing survey forms in one meeting. 51 members responded.

b) Profile of the newly elected members-a study

The average age group the EWR's was 30-40. Only two were above 60.

Twenty-five of them studied up to SSLC; 18 up to Pre degree and 14 are degree holders. One is a practicing lawyer. *Only three women had education below SSLC.* Some of them were schoolteachers, anganawadi workers, mahila pradhan agent and self-employed like tailors etc. Majority of the women came from working class families. Their partner or brother worked casual labourer or agricultural worker.

None of the members in this survey were panchayat presidents. Only five had any positions like standing committee chairpersons.

Only seven out of the 51 were re-elected members and there was only one woman who contested and won from a general seat!

50% of the members were first time in politics or in any public position. Only 6 of them had membership in political parties and another 8 had membership in women's organizations of parties.

The basic information regarding the members was very useful in designing programmes for them in subsequent meetings.

c) Attending Gramsabhas

In the gram panchayats of Kerala, *Gramasabhas* were conducted in the end of July and the beginning of August for submitting the plan for 2001-2002. These *grama sabhas* were also supposed to have done the evaluation of the projects undertaken in 2000-2001. As part of the assurance given to the women panchayat members in the last network meetings, we participated in many *grama sabhas* conducted at different parts of Thiruvananthapuram. In some places we gave them some project ideas for the women's component plan.

We participated in the *gramasabhas* of

Kazhakkuttom,

Kadinamkulam,

Kunnathukal,

Vizhinjam and

Vattiyookavu.

In some places we also participated in the panchayat committee meetings. Observing and evaluating the procedures in the *gramasabhas* was very useful to a person who intends to study the peoples planning project.

- ⇒ Participation of women in the *gramasabhas* was comparatively high. Even where the panchayat member was a woman, men controlled the *gramasabha* procedures. Health and education did not come up for discussions of the *sabha* as major issues. The problems related to the ration card, (which deal with the clarification of BPL and APL family) the inability of Anganavadi to provide food for children and pregnant women, were raised as basic issues. But they were not asking such questions with the right consciousness but just as complaints.
- ⇒ Attendance of a large number of women (physical presence) in *gramasabhas* by itself cannot ensure true participation of women in planning. It is to be assumed that the decentralisation programme is not a success in terms of creating

awareness among public in general and women in particular, regarding their rights in the panchayati raj system.

- ⇒ Even women panchayat members were not adequately trained to facilitate a large meeting nor there was any strategy worked out earlier at the panchayat meeting how to handle a group and ensure a democratic process.
- ⇒ If large number of men is present, then the dynamics and process of the meeting invariably changes. It is noisier and men take over the process and all the decisions.

In our next round of meetings, we need to focus on training EWR's to facilitate group meetings in a democratic and participatory manner. They could convene leaders of self-help groups early and train them to act as key persons in the meeting. One of the most urgent items on the agenda during our meetings with EWRs has been to work on suitable ideas for projects on women in the panchayats, mainly. Self Help Groups (SHGs). The focus on SHGs arises from the implementation of the Women's Component Plan (WCP). The decentralization program implies that ten percent of the state budget for the panchayats should be spent on women. Because of this, many SHGs has started. During our meetings, the EWRs have expressed need for ideas on how to work on the WCP. The distribution on ideas for WCP would also strengthene the network of women. As a part of the work on ideas for WCP, we visited Allppey to study a few units there, working with women. We visited a unit in which women were trained in masonry skills, in vermiculture to make bio-fertilizer, and a sanitary mart where women make prefabricated doors windows etc for toilets and sell them. We also studied how rainwater harvesting works and how non-artificial fertilizer can be used. In spite of our best effort, only 9 members took part in this exchange programme but once they explained what they saw, there is great enthusiasm among others to participate.

In the beginning of May the election to the state Assembly was held. The EWRs were very much involved in this process and hence we could not have any meeting during this period.

In April we focused on getting more knowledge of successfully run economic programmes conducted by other NGO's. The aim was to arrange an exchange visit of interested women members there to get ideas to prepare their own projects. (More information to be found in the in the passage "women component plan and self help groups".)

April 7th, on the world health day, one network of women's organizations including Sakhi organized a workshop on the proposed women's health policy in Kerala. Sakhi invited all the EWR's and many of them participated in the workshop. This way of becoming part of larger women's movement in the state is inspiring to many women and they feel that even after their term as panchayat members is over, they have a public space to be present and get involved

d) Assembly elections

During the assembly elections the network of women's group (Kerala Streevedi) conducted a campaign against two candidates who were accused in sex scandals in Kerala. The men came from different parties and this created a debate among the EWRs about the need to stand above party politics in issues related to women.

On May 10th elections to the state assembly was held and United Democratic Front (UDF) came to power. Their approach to the Peoples Planning Campaign (PPC) was different from their predecessors, the Left democratic front (LDF). UDF Government announced some changes in the PPC with created a lot of confusion about the future of PPC. The fact that the government was facing financial crises also effected the situation for the panchayats.

During this period Sakhi was involved in many other activities related to our work with the EWRs. These activities included:

- Support to self-help groups
- Work with a sex trade case which was reported from a panchayat
- Organizing classes on gender in panchayats for leaders of self help groups

- Taking part of a module preparation and faculty of the training programs of the Kerala institute of Local Administration (KILA)
- Arranging a public hearing with in collaboration with the National Commission for Women and SEWA on how globalization is affecting women workers in the agriculture and fisheries sector.

During this period, we noticed a positive development in our contacts with the EWRs. We were pleased to see that the women started to make contact with us, to ask for support and consultation on different matters. They would phone when issues or cases of sexual harassment or violence came up and when then had to write a proposal. They also started to come to programs we arranged, for example during the World Health Day and Women's day.

e) Sub block level meetings

Until October 2001, we used to have *block level* meetings, but since the number of participating EWRs had increased, we decided to organize *sub block level* meetings. Now, we have five sub block levels, instead of three blocks, as earlier. The dividing into smaller groups encouraged better interaction and close communication among the participants.

Five meetings were held during this round. On October 12th, thirty EWRs in the area of Parassala participated in a meeting.

The Second and third meetings were held at Nedumangad and Chirayinkeezh. There were two resource persons, Ms Nalini Nayak and Ms C.S Chandrika. The main topic was how the socialization of girls is taking place and femininity is getting constructed.

We are living in a society where marriage is the primary concern of a girl child from her birthday where as education and job seeking are the primary concerns of a boy. The training given to children is oriented to develop the brain of the boy and the beauty of the girl. For girls life is a struggle. But the need to equip themselves with the process of how gendering takes place was felt by all.

The fourth meeting was held on 22nd January for the **Aralummood** block. We invited 50 members but only 15 participated. Due to the economic crises of the Government the panchayats were not willing to support the travel expenses of the members for any meeting other than the government function. In this session we spoke about reproductive health and the situation of adolescence girls. The session included an exercise about the construction of gender. We also discussed the role of parents, especially the role of mothers.

The fifth meeting at **Kilimannor** block was held in January 29th. 31 members participated in this session. We discussed the status of women in Kerala and the problems experienced by the female panchayats members. In this session we spoke to them about the reproductive rights and health of adolescent girls. Ms.S.Jaishree was the resource person. Daya.J assisted with the participatory sessions.

In this training, they were given three exercises. On three sheets they had to write ideal characteristics of 1) a girl 2) a boy 3) a panchayat member. After writing individually, they had to come together in groups and put together commonly agreed characteristics in Chart papers.

The general characteristics identified for the boys were the following

Intelligence, cleverness, Politeness, masculinity, braveness, education, occupation, human love, sincere, money, (There was difference of opinion about beauty; two felt physical beauty important, whereas others preferred inner beauty)

For girls the ideal characteristics were

Chastity, Calmness, sincerity, patience, obedience, cleanliness, respect to elders, submissive to men, very silent, good interactions, culture, beauty, disciplined, polite and educated.

The panchayat member should be: eloquent, lovable, able to freely interact, able to decide for oneself, education, patience and good will, brave, good dealings and behaviour.

It was interesting then to see whether what is considered ideal for girls is not helping them to be good political leaders. The process of socialization, which leads to the construction of what, is feminine and masculine is debated and the role of parents and especially of mothers is discussed. The members felt that in the changing cultural context where mass media is playing a big role, adolescent programmes are very crucial.

The discussion started on the status of women in Kerala. The composition of the group contributed a lot to the dynamics of the discussion. Six women were young and unmarried and three of them were presidents of panchayats. The exercises to write ideal qualities for men and women elicited different responses here, as many young and progressive thinking women were present. The group reports reflected that they identified more or less same characteristics for men and women

The group also chalked out the problems felt by women panchayat members. Most of the senior members felt that they have no problems. But the young members felt they were not taken seriously and they had to be doubly assertive to get things done. Most of the time they had to face words like "Kutty" (young girl). In one panchayat (Nagroor) the three women who belonged to opposition and ruling party had to stand together across party difference to establish their place and power. They said sometimes the condescending and paternalistic attitudes were disturbing them. Like, if they had to go to police station, the male members feel that they should be accompanied. Most often there will be only one chair and inevitably it will be the male member who gets the seat and EWR will have to stand along with the accused!

The anti sexual harassment committees in the line of Supreme court guidelines and its functioning were discussed here as the members were interested in this. Sakhi had made a poster on this and this was distributed to the members.

f) Networking EWRs in the coastal area of Trivandrum district

The third target group we have been working with is EWRs in the coastal area.

Since there are special circumstances in this area, due to the Coastal Regulating Act, we found it important to meet this target group. The purpose was to create awareness about the power this act gives to the panchayats in this area. Below is an overview from the two meetings in this area.

Before the meetings, two consultation meetings were held with Mr.A.J. Vijayan, Ms Nalini Nayak and Ms Mercy Alexander. All of them have years of experiences of with the fisheries sector and close relationship with all the coastal areas in the southern Kerala.

Sakhi invited all women members in eight coastal panchayats to a meeting on June 20th 2001. 28 women members participated in the meeting. The meeting included sessions on following subjects; The powers of the panchayats in relation to local resources, problems and resources in the coastal areas, globalization and how it effects our lifestyle, how the elected women can use their power in the decision making process to create a sustainable development. GIS maps were used to convey the ideas and to make them understand the ecosystems

All the members participating in the meeting wanted to follow up the session, and the second meeting was held on July 31. In this meeting Mr. Nandakumar, Professor in Geography from the University College Trivandrum took a study class about the coastal regulations act and coastal regulation zone, issues relating to the coastal environment was also discussed. In the afternoon we had planned to discuss problems of the members face as women, but the discussing developed into a discussion of equality of men and women.

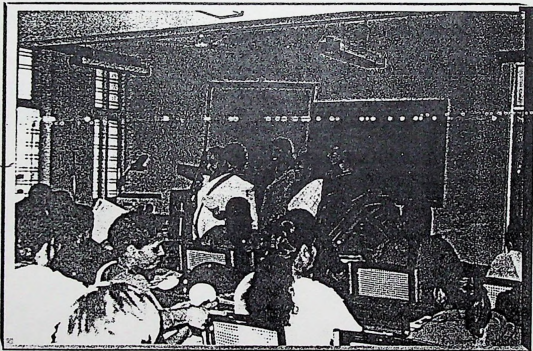
These meetings could not be then followed up due the busy schedule of members. But most members continue to participate in the other networking meetings

6. Final phase of the project

1) Residential Training

After a series of different one-day seminars and meetings we planned to organize one residential camp for the women panchayat members as requested by some of

them. We planned this camp for forty members. We send letters to nearly 200 women, who regularly attend our meetings. Two important conditions were there. One was about the number: each panchayat could send only two members. We wanted the maximum number to be only 40, so that meaningful interaction can happen. Second one was that this is a residential training and those who can stay only can participate in the camp. For confirmation of the participation we attached a reply post card with these letters. But most of them were not willing to stay in the camp. They had excuses like that they have children and their husbands were not able to manage the children etc. So they promised to come by early morning and go back only after the classes. 46 EWR's attended the classes, only fourteen of them residing there. The camp was on 24,25 & 27 of February.



Shri Vijayananth (IAS), the Secretary of planning and economic affairs, Government of Kerala took the first section. It was about the present situation of the people's planning campaign. He tried to explain about the economic crisis of the government. He says that all the money that was spent through panchayat was taken as a loan and we are committed to repay the money with 13% interest. So we are responsible for each and every rupee paid for development. We must make sure that we spend this money for sustainable development activities. He also

pointed out the lack of management skills of the authorities. The women were sharing their anxieties and worries about the present situation of peoples planning

Lot of games and exercises were planned for this camp. The classes were mainly focused on gender, development, law and history. We also provided some classes which helps to develop their communication skills. The subjects that were dealt with in the camp were Gender, critique of development, law, communalism, history and a class to develop their communication skills. As part of the law section we showed one documentary prepared for the state women's commission. For those members who were not able to participate in this camp, we are planning to conduct another camp. The women members pointed that awareness classes about gender equality must be conducted for men also and especially for the male panchayat members.

2. TWO-DAY WORKSHOP FOR EWR'S ON "JAGRATHASAMITHI"

We conducted this workshop on 29 and 30 April 2002 to explain the need and relevance of Jagratha samithis, how to initiate the process and the functioning of such forums.

The class began with an explanation of various forms of violence. We identified from the reactions of the members that the following were the dominant forms of violence experienced by women.

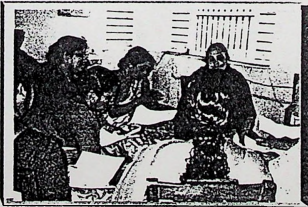
- Sexual violence
- Violence in buses and public places
- Economic problems
- Child abuse
- Violence related to dowry
- Violence inside the family
- Problems caused by alcoholism
- Mental harassment

A questionnaire to know their perspective on violence against women was distributed. The responses were the following.

1. They identified the major reasons for violence against a woman by her husband as alcoholism and economic problems.
2. For the question, whether wife beating is right, only two of them answered in positive. Those who gave no to this question justified beatings in situations where the wife is not attending the family matters or obeying her husband
3. For the question what should a woman do if she is beaten by her husband, most of them have the opinion that she can ask for the help of elders in the family or can approach a women's organisation. But there are EWR's who wrote that the wife must tolerate it.

For the last question, if there is a woman in their neighborhood who usually gets beaten by her husband, what will their intervention is, most of them answered that they would advise the husband who beat women. Some said they will not like to get involved in such personal affairs!

Prof Meenakshi Thampan, former MLA and Chairperson of the welfare committee for women and children of Kerala Assembly addressed the memebtrs. She opined that the participation in political power is very important for women. What we gained is the aftermath of a continuous struggle for equality. But the term equality had been very much misunderstood as physical equality. But actually it is social equality. She exhorted the members to keep fighting and stay on in the public space, even if their term as elected members is over.



Second day Mr. Jagajeevan from Kerala people's science movement took a class. He started with quoting from the speech of a male representative. "We have so many programmes for you, but if four women come together they fight and can't work efficiently. So if you promise that you will work together, we will give you more support." He asked the group's reaction to such a speech. Some women supported this idea because they believe that '*women are the enemies of women*'. If a man is criticized badly he can overcome it with his will power but a woman gets completely shattered. He explained how the socialization process of a girl and boy are so different. While a boy goes out to the world by age of 5, the girl has to go back to the home and limits her movements to the surroundings of her family. So she lacks that much experience and leadership quality compared to the man. This is not because of the woman's fault but of the society's. In the present society woman doesn't have a face...a taste...a place.... This must be changed. They must exploit the 73,74 constitutional amendments. The EWR's must prefer to intervene in the special problems of women as we have 10% WCP of the total plan fund.

The social organizations such as 'Gramasabha', Neighborhood groups, Libraries, Women's Neighborhood groups, Jagratha samithies, must be utilized for the welfare of women. To exclude male domination in the administrative level, women must interfere in it from the local level. For women to achieve the mental power to come to the mainstream, 'we must look into ourselves' he concluded.

There was a discussion on the sudden termination of the State women's commission by the Government in the name of austerity. The members decided to submit a memorandum to the Chief Minister of Kerala on this matter, expressing their protest.

7. Preparation of training materials and posters

We are preparing a set of **training modules and posters** for the elected women representatives. This is demanded by them as resource materials to train the leaders of self-help groups and for their own benefit.

We had a consultation meeting for the preparation of these training modules. The contents of this set of modules are given below:

1. About the panchayati raj and local self Government system, history of panchayati raj, about 73rd & 74th amendment, present structure of the system, about democracy (representative and participatory democracy) & relevance of three-tier system.
2. Concept of development: What is development? History of development, Present models of development (about new economic policy and related things) Development & common people, Resources for development, women & development and alternative concepts of development.
3. Status of women: About the development indicators related to the status of women, role of empowerment in building up their political status, gender relations in institutions, division of labour.
4. Women and law: Violence against women, types of violence, forms of violence, existing laws against violence, formalities regarding the formation of Jagratha samithis, guidelines for the Jagratha samithis, about CEDAW.
5. Women organizations and movements: differences between organizations and movements, about the four international UN conferences on women that prompted the governments to give attention to women's issues, brief history of women's movement in Kerala.
6. Women and panchayat administration: women friendly planning, the need for women's control in the use of local resources.
7. Gender budgeting:
8. Environment and development: resource maps formation, need to consider the impacts of human activities and development projects on the environment, social responsibility of people.
9. Information on the dynamics and politics behind the SHGs and micro-credits programs.

10. Women's empowerment-indicators, measures to achieve empowerment

8. Conclusion

• Major accomplishments

The achievements of the project cannot be easily quantified. It is a process of capacity building, developing new perspectives and vision. The EWR's who participated in the process will surely be confident to raise the gender issues in their own party organizations. Their sensitivity will be reflected in the decentralization process going on Kerala.

Even if the reservation system pushes them out of party politics, we are sure that many of them will continue to be in the **public space**, working actively for the cause of women.

The networking process was limited to Trivandrum district alone but it has set an example to many women's organisations working in different parts of Kerala and opened the possibility to work with local self Government institutions and elected women representatives. Other NGO's and training institutes can also use the training modules and posters prepared widely.

This initiative has also shown that women when engaging in politics is interacting differently from men and can be networked across political parties.

• Problems encountered and ways to address them.

The main problem was that the elected women members were overburdened with work that it was very difficult for them to be present for training programmes. The decentralized plan programme meant that each member had a very heavy workload like convening gram sabhas, preparing projects and meeting many deadlines. So at any point of time, one or the other panchayat had committee meetings or gramsabhas or standing committee meetings or meetings of SHG's. This meant that continuity could not be maintained which is very essential for a process of

capacity building. We overcame this by inviting a larger number of women so that we get at least one third of the members. We also tried to establish personal relation with the interested members like visiting the panchayat, attend gram sabha or SHG meetings etc.

Another difficulty was the high degree of politicization existing in Kerala. Elections to the panchayat are fought on party basis. Because of this it was impossible to form organization or association of EWR's. Hence we had to be cautious and be above party politics or specific ideological debates. That is also the reason for the attempts in Kerala are limited to **networking** rather than association. One or two occasions there were problems. In the last assembly elections, the feminist movement in which we were members organized a campaign against a Left front minister who was involved in a sexual harassment case. EWR's belonged to the left parties were upset and angry with us. But the movement also had a similar campaign against a former minister who was part of the United front government. So we pointed out that our politics is not of left or right but of standing for women's rights above political considerations. This was understood and taken in the right spirit. A recent incident is the move by the present government to dismantle the state Women's commissions. In the 2-day seminar, this was raised and most EWR's were willing to sign a petition condemning the move. But some congress party members were upset about this, seeing this as a move against the ruling government. Such difficulties will continue to be there because of the political atmosphere in the state.

• **Plan of action for the coming months.**

If the network has to be strengthened, it needs more members and more opportunities for learning. This can be through exchange visits and building capacities especially on managerial and technical skills. The EWR's manage a number of Self-help groups and they need skills to check accounts, to be aware of marketing opportunities etc. So besides perspective building, we may also need to help these women gain confidence by creating opportunities for skill development. Since the steps

to start "Jagrtha samities"(vigilance cells) are already taken, we plan to conduct more legal awareness sessions and equip them with knowledge of violence intervention programmes. Another area will be knowledge of Reproductive health needs of women and how Public Health Center's under each panchayat can be made more women friendly. At present we are engaged in a research programme to understand whether de-centralisation has made any impact on women's reproductive health. This will throw light on specific steps to be taken by the panchayat

The project has helped us in building a strong and lasting relationship with the women panchayat members. At the same time the network provided the members a platform to come together and share their problems and ideas. The members could also come close to the women organizations and interact with them about various gender related issues as well as development issues.

But it became evident that the political subordination of the members became a hindrance when it came to sincere intervention in women issues. Because of the rotating reservation system, the members have no hope of continuing at their present positions after their current five- year term. It is very difficult for them stay on in the public life because it needs money and most of the members cannot afford it. The society has not yet accepted women's entry into politics especially when they don't have any particular position in the power structure.

Considering this situation we plan to make the present network into a strong cohesive network giving enough support to the women members to become assertive and gender sensitive. It is also our aim to instill a new politics in them that has a different vision on planning and development.

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LIST OF ACTIVITIES

Date	Place	Participants	Participation	Nature of meeting
17-6-2000	Sakhi	members of the consultation committee	18	Consultation
7/7/00	SN Auditorium Neyyattinkara	EWRS from four blocks	25	Introducing the concept of network & talk on Development
14-7-2000	Teachers Hall, Attingal	EWRS from four blocks	9	Introducing the concept of network & talk on Development
21-7-2000	SS Complex, Nedumangad	EWRS from four blocks	10	Introducing the concept of network & talk on Development
28-7-2000 & 29-7-2000	CDS Guest house Trivandrum	Partners of the PRI project	9	Inter Agency Meeting
1/8/00	Public library hall Kollam	Dalit EWRS from Kollam	5	
10/8/00	YWCA Hall, TVM	EWRS from TVM	48	
26-8-2000	Sakhi	Mbrs of consultation Committee	16	Consultation
7/11/00	Sakhi	Former EWRS	15	For selecting an ad-hoc committee to help the network
8/12/00	P&T Hall	Ad-hoc committee meeting	9	Consultation
10/1/01	Teachers Hall, Attingal	EWRS from Four Blocks	48	Class on Development & on WCP
3/2/01	Municipal Townhall Neyyattinkara	EWRS from four blocks	72	Class on Development & on WCP
15-2-2001	SS Complex, Nedumangad	EWRS from four blocks	53	Class on Development & on WCP
8/3/01	YWCA Hall TVM	EWRS, SHG mbrs & Members of women groups	83	Women's Day programmes meeting & discussion on contemporary issues
7/4/01	YWCA Hall, TVM	Women who work with health sector including EWRS	98	Seminar on national health policy
10/4/01	P&T Hall, TVM	members of the consultation committee	17	Consultation
20-6-01	AICUF Centre, TVM	Members from coastal panchayats	21	Classon coastal zone Management
31-7-01	AICUF Centre, TVM	Members from coastal panchayats	15	Classon coastal zone Management
12/10/01	Panchayat commu nity Hall, Parassala -	EWRS from two blocks	30	Sexual health & rights of Addoloescent girls(class)
9/11/01	Panchayat commu-nity Hall, Chirayinkeezh	EWRS from threeblocks	32	Sexual health & rights of Addoloescent girls(class)
16-11-01	SS Complex, Nedumangad	EWRS from threeblocks	20	Sexual health & rights of Addoloescent girls(class)
22-1-02	Block panchayat Hall, Athiyannoor	EWRS from two blocks	9	Sexual health & rights of Addoloescent girls(class)
29-1-02	Block panchayat Hall, Pazhayakunnimel	EWRS from three blocks	31	Sexual health & rights of Adolescent girls(class)

24-2-02 – 26-2-02.	ICM,Poojappura	EWRS from TVM	44	Residential training
8/3/02	Mannam Memorial Hall, TVM	EWRS, SHG mbrs & Mbrs of women groups	128	Documentary show(Father,Son&Holy War, and discussion on communalism
29-4-02, 30-4-02	YMCAHall, TVM	EWRS from TVM	106	Classes on the formaton of panchayat level jagrathasamithi
6/5/02	AICUF Centre, TVM	EWRS from coastal panchayats	24	Classes on women & health

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Abbreviations used

PPC:	People's Plan Campaign
EWR:	Elected Women representative
SHG	Self-Help Groups
PHC	Public Health center
LSGI	Local Self-Government Institution
WCP	Women's component plan

Karnataka Women's Information and Resource Centre

1st April 2002

Associating Elected Women Representatives in Local Self Government

Summary Report

The project to associate women politicians' engaged in local self government (EWRs) into a federation of women politicians was initiated in four states with partners from varied backgrounds.

In Kerala the partner is a Women's Organisation, (SAKHI) which is known to have a track record of engaging in mobilisation of women to assert their rights - An organisation with a feminist perspective.

In Tamil Nadu the selection was based on an agency, which had not only engaged itself in strengthening the Panchayati Raj system but had also, participated in State Level Councils related to the laws and conventions to strengthen the Panchayati Raj system, namely the Gandhi Gram University.

The third partner in **Andhra**, Foundation for Democratic Reforms (FDR) has been deeply involved in strengthening democracy and strengthening it through advocacy for reform of some of the institution and laws related to democracy. They have been advocates for localising of governments and have spread across the state and are engaged in mobilising support as well as in training potential political candidates in participation and politics.

The fourth Partner, the home base, **in Karnataka**, the Karnataka Women's Information and Resource Centre has been engaged in district level planning as well as in partnership with the national and state level department of women and child development, in various policy and programme design exercises. It is committed to the devolution of powers to the local bodies, as a perspective and a belief, as the most effective vehicle for women's emancipation.

The first two years of this initiative has strengthened the belief, the premise on which the project was based, namely that there is a case for bringing the women politicians together in some form of network and association. This is a feed back from the variety of institutions who have been engaged in the last two years in various types of consultation with elected women, as well as from ground level non governmental agencies who have been engaged in training and advocacy of the elected persons men and women

For example, in the case of Kerala there was some concern and reluctance to begin with an association of EWRs. The strength of the political parties and the affiliations which all those engaged in politics have to the party, usually inhibits women or other social categories from coming together under any other banner than

the party. Thus the assumption that women could be associated across parties into a federation was challenged by the Kerala partner. However during the course of two years they have followed a strategy of bringing women's groups including EWRs together to discuss the larger issues in their environment whether it is globalisation, natural resource, or violence. During these sessions, which are for both creating awareness and getting opinions, the consciousness has emerged amongst the women that it is possible and useful to come together as women across the usual divides. Therefore some networks and some groups are getting strengthened, which could eventually emerge as informal structures of elected women, particularly addressing themselves to the problems of local self-government. The Kerala partner is also very conscious of the overall economic landscape and focuses on strengthening women in the economic roles, to which the political role is a handmaiden.

Tamil Nadu has added the gender dimension to the already existing associations of elected local politicians and this inclusion has been a transforming experience both for the university as well as for the state government. The voice of women and the mobilisation has added information to the political leadership in Tamil Nadu and one of the strong demands of EWRs, all India, that the rotation clause should be removed, has actually achieved in Tamil Nadu.

The third partner in Hyderabad, came on board late, as the local government elections took place only in the second half of 2001, is convinced that this can be an important social mobilisation in improving the quality of democracy and a strength of women's voice in the political process.

The home agency namely KWIRC had the advantage of being in a state which has the longest exposure to the devolution of government mainly Karnataka. Secondly, Karnataka has two additional advantages:

1. An innumerable number of NGOs who are engaged in some form of links with elected women either to train them in legal literacy or development schemes or to bring them together in agitations whether it is against arrack or against atrocities.
2. The second advantage is the strong Mahila Samakya programme. Mahila Samakya (MSK) programme has been one of the most effective consciousness raising programmes in the State. The KWIRC's State partner has been Mahila Samakya, and this has added momentum to the attempts to organise EWRs.

Methodologies and interconnections

KWIRC and SAKHI being women's organisations and also deeply feminist in perspectives have engaged themselves with the larger networks of women's organisations. For example in Karnataka the main partner for KWIRC has been Mahila Samakya, which had been acclaimed for extraordinary success in bringing a sense of self strength to women. Women from Mahila Samakya have entered politics on what can be called a feminist agenda rather than as proxies for men. KWIRC initially tried to work through the other NGOs – it started with consultation with 40 NGOs, and then a sub set a core group of 8, sent out a proforma to find out which villages or taluks or districts they were working in, tried to fund them to carry on the

membership idea. However after nine months of such an effort KWIRC found they were not making much headway, as most of the agencies had their own projects and the time and effort to negotiate MOUs with them, seemed a burden. Hence they began to engage themselves directly in building the association but chose areas for work were the close partners namely MSK, ISST, and NIAS do their work, or are engaged in working at the grassroot level with whatever was their special focus.

SAKHI has similarly allied itself with other agencies, which are also working with women and it holds other projects, which have focus on strengthening women's participation.

This methodology of alliances, "women centred consciousness – using" type of work is a characteristic which could be discussed and transferred as methodology to Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu where the organisations are not necessarily women led or feminist. In reverse, large scale operations, and the kind of methodology by which these agencies enter into what can be called mainstream, is a technique, which can be a value for the small feminist organisations.

[The KWIRC is now handling two other projects, which are linked to the federating idea and outcome. One is a UNIFEM funded project, called building budgets from below, which hopes to enable EWRs to draft revenue and expenditure statements according to the kind of development they wish to see. It is hoped that the summation of some budgets would become a critique of the state fiscal policy and thus women's voice would be engaged in macro fiscal policy. The other, funded by CIDA is to enable EWRs to engage in macro policy – as part of transforming macro policy. Both these projects have mentioned the federation as a useful platform and institution for sustaining these pilots – and it is hoped that the other state level federations can also access such projects].

Thus there is a cross fertilisation and synergising which has been interesting, though its real value and its impact has to be encashed in the second phase through more exchange and more interventions in each other's work.

Each agency has developed its own methodology, has also developed literature in order to operationalize the project. SAKHI has a newsletter in Malayalam as a part of its own work but the newsletter also becomes a medium, which can become an organ for the network of EWRs. KWIRC has been partnering with ISST's newsletter UMA. KWIRC also has been involving all the partners in every national conference that it convenes, be it on population policy or financing for district development or drafting a policy paper for Karnataka Government or developing indicators for preparing GDI / GEM by inviting them and hosting them at KWIRC's cost. What ever reports emerge out of these gatherings is usually sent to the partners.

Thus at the end of two years, KWIRC has prepared a list of documents which are available at KWIRC, a sublist which has been mailed to the partners and the third list which is the documents available generated by the partners as a part of the project. This will be an ever-growing list of documents, which can become, by itself, a resource pool.

The way forward:

The learning of last two years has revealed both the potential and the problems of bringing women into a federation. In Karnataka for example while the membership drive is growing the question would arise on the role that the local and state level federations would like to play and the source of financial support for the federation after the project period. In other words what is the momentum that will keep this growing unless there is an incentive that it brings rewards both to the women who are members and to the overall interest in devolution of power and equalising gender relations? This aspect has to be strengthened in the next two years both by, far more inward looking discussions as well as learning the SAKHI technique of enabling women to see the value of collectivity.

In Karnataka, another prospect is the report that has been prepared by Raghunandan, which is supposed to be a path breaking because of its commitment to devolution of power. Four copies of this report have been brought to be distributed to the partners. Raghunandan has been informed about the federation and its participation in the efforts that have been made in Karnataka to devolve financial and political power on to the elected bodies. Therefore the federation could become another partner apart from civil servants and civil society members in that process of pushing the system to devolve.

In Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, the women's formation has to emerge and their emergence has to be seen in relation to the existing power groups. The possibility of other women's organisations providing support to these new federations in Andhra and Tamil Nadu have also to be explored by those partners. So in other words, the women's platform is yet to be built and its own location in the overall firmament is to be established.

In Kerala, the embryo of local women politicians as a collective is just almost getting formed and therefore the next two years would have to see whether it gets formed at all and it is does what is the role it defines for itself.

At the end of two years the four state efforts would have to not only reveal that formations of local women politicians can be made, but what is the voice they bring what do they as women politicians wish to contribute, or seek to provide for themselves. This work will be nurtured over the next two years.

Other formations, which have inspired these groups, are the federation of Indian women lawyers and federation of Indian women journalist and the national women's parliamentarians association. Parliamentarians led by Najma Hephthulla have now challenged the bureaucracy and the technocracy arguing that they have to reclaim power into the representative institutions, away from both the bureaucracy and the NGOs. Local women politicians, if sufficiently strong and if enabled to assert themselves may claim back power to elected governance, as different from civic society and bureaucracy. This would be the overall aim of the project in the next two years but emerging with different colours with different localities.

However, reviewing and retrospecting the past it appears as if a common stream is emerging from the diverse institutions. Attached are tables, which give the events and activities of KWIRC and partner meetings – similar formats of each partner are in their proposals.

A gist of Inter Agency Meetings of the Partners is given below in a tabular form:

Date	Place	Subject	Outcome
20 th March 2000	Bangalore	Ist Inter Agency Meeting of the Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Need for a new kind of political consciousness – leading to good governance ❖ Project to aim at the backlashes that are already started ❖ Need to construct feminist theory in India ❖ Need for effective ways of communication
28 th and 29 th July 2000	Trivandrum, Kerala	IInd Inter Agency Meeting of partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Gandhigram to continue meetings with EWRs and parties ❖ Kerala to continue meetings in coastal areas and district level meeting of EWRs at Trivandrum and prepare training materials on gender and planning, critique of development, etc. ❖ KWIRC to federate old and new EWRs to preserve continuity
5 th August 2001	Gandhigram Rural Institute, Tamil Nadu	IIIrd Inter Agency Meeting of Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Gandhigram to identify good NGOs before forming of federations ❖ Sakhi to network locally with women from particular areas such as Trivandrum, Kollam and dalit communities ❖ Andhra Pradesh – identification of 3 districts viz., Medak, Mahboobnagar and Telangana ❖ Karnataka – identification of 7 districts of Karnataka for forming associations. The membership cards, posters and brochures were circulated in the districts to create awareness of the EWRs about the formation of federations

Exchange Visits

Date	Event	Subject	Outcome
December 15, 2000	Discussions with Ms. Pratibha Rao, Project Coordinator, Lok Satta	The Project Coordinator, KWIRC interacted with Lok Satta about the progress of the Project and the activities undertaken.	The Project Coordinator, Lok Satta expressed her interest in networking with Ms. Nandini Prasad, State Coordinator, Mahila Samatha Society, Hyderabad
July 5 - 10, 2000	Visit to Mohema Grama Panchayat at Alleppey with Ms. Deepa Dhanraj	To understand the functioning of the panchayats with local resource person Mr. Jos Chatakulam, Director, Centre for Rural Management, Kottayam	The 15 panchayat members were accompanied the project coordinator were exposed to field visits and this provided a way to share their experiences with the EWRs of Kerala
March 28 th , 2001	Visit by representatives of Gandhigram Rural Institute, Tamil Nadu to Karnataka Women's Information and Resource Centre, Bangalore on 28 th March 2001	The discussions pertained to the progress of the project and the meetings held by Gandhigram Institute in 4 regions of the State viz., South, North, East and West. The discussions also pertained to the functioning of SHGs in Tamil Nadu.	By exploring the update, ideas emerged on the future of the PRI Project. It was viewed that the SHGs women inspired EWRs, as they are better aware of the knowledge.
June 22, 2001	Visit to Lok Satta, Hyderabad by the Project Coordinator of KWIRC	Open discussion with Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan of Lok Satta, Andhra Pradesh. They had a discussion regarding networking of Lok Satta with Mahila Samatha Society, COVA and Ms. Fathima Ali Khan, Centre for Women's Studies, Hyderabad	They expressed their interest in networking with the local level NGOs and individuals

The Activities of KWIRC with the local level partners are given below in a tabular form: -

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Partner</i>	<i>No. of participants (EWRs)</i>	<i>Outcome</i>
18 th - 20 th April 2000	3-day Panchayat Mela at Athnur village, Gulbarga	Mahila Samakya, Karnataka	200 EWRs from 7 districts and 200 women members of Mahila Samkaya Sangha	The concept of association of elected women representatives was discussed. Many EWRs voiced disappointment at not being able to stand for elections owing to vagaries of roster points.
24 th April 2000	Seminar on Women's Political Empowerment Day held at Bangalore	Institute of Social Sciences	300 EWRs	The group felt the need for a state-level forum to voice the views of elected women.
26 th April 2000	Local level partners meeting held at SSF, Bangalore	Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation	Local level NGOs – ISST, BPF, MSK, NIAS, ISS (8 persons participated)	Discussions pertained to the areas and subjects that could be researched and documented.
2 nd May 2000	One day district level conference held at Tumkur	Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation	22 EWRs	The conference elicited and assessed the views on district level governance on gender audit as well as eliciting the views of a broad range of participants
3 rd May 2000	One day consultation with Karnataka based NGOs on gender audit held at Bangalore	Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation	25 NGOs	The conference concluded by saying that women can use these statistics to negotiate with the government to substantiate that there are structural conditions that prevent them from meeting official criteria and this statistical information can be used as a tool to represent their issues and concerns in dealing with government.

Contd....

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Partner</i>	<i>No. of participants (EWRs)</i>	<i>Outcome</i>
12 th May 2000	Local level partners meeting held at Bangalore	Mahila Samakya	12 NGOs	A decision was taken that the elected women would not be confronted with the idea of forming the association without adequate process and preparation
1 st and 2 nd June 2000	Two day workshop on "Women in Local Governance: Experiences and Effective Intervention Strategies in Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu	National Institute of Advanced Studies	40 NGOs	Exchanging of information with other states about the association was made. The local level partners informed about their partnership in federating the EWRs in 7 districts.
19 th June 2000	One day workshop -- preparation of a policy document and a strategy for women's development	Department of Women and Child Development, GOK and SSE	43 NGOs	Preliminary discussions pertaining to the policy document/vision statement was done.
27 th June 2000	One day meeting for selection of panchayats under "Gram Panchayat Fund"	DANIDA	20 villages	20 villages of Bijapur district were selected and preliminary discussions for meetings in these villages were held.
29 th June 2000	One day meeting for selection of panchayats under "Gram Panchayat Fund"	DANIDA	10 NGOs	Preliminary discussions were held about the gram panchayat fund
12 th December 2000	National Workshop on Community Driven Management and Decentralisation	UNDP -- World Bank and Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation	500 (K.C. Pant and Venkaiah Naidu were the chief guests	EWRs from Alwar district, Rajasthan shared their experiences

Contd....

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Partner</i>	<i>No. of participants (EWRs)</i>	<i>Outcome</i>
26 th July 2001	Core Committee Meeting of the partners	KWIRC, Bangalore	10 NGOs	Discussions related to the action plan, nomenclature of the federation and 73 rd and 74 th Amendment of the Constitution. The partners reiterated that they would help KWIRC in forming associations
5 th - 8 th March 2002	Mahila Samakya Sammelan - Sakhi	Mahila Samakya, KWIRC and CHC	500 women leaders	A movement of women in the leadership of EWRs was held to culminate the Women's Day celebrations. Several EWRs were enthusiastic in joining the federation of KWIRC.

Karnataka Women's Information and Resource Centre

Annex I

LIST OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES (March 2000 to March 2002)

Project Title: *Associating elected women representatives in local self government*

1. November – December 1999, Initial conceptualization of building a federation of EWRs - partners from the four states of the project attended the meeting
2. March 20, 2000 - Meeting with partner NGOs to formulate the concept of a federation – partners from the four states of the project and other local level NGOs participated in the meeting
3. April 18-20, 2000: Workshop of Political Awareness and discussion about the federation, Athanoor Village, Gulbarga.
4. April 24, 2000: Dialogue on the Experience-sharing and call for a state-level forum of EWRs at ISS, Bangalore.
5. June 1 – 2, 2000: Workshop on Women in Local Governance: Experiences and Effective Intervention Strategies in Karnataka, A.P. Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra, EWRs from the mentioned states attended. Function was graced by Her Excellency Rama Devi, Governor of Karnataka, ISST (at the NIAS premises).
6. June 19, 2000: Preparation of Policy Document and Strategy for Women's Development. Government officers, representatives of NGOs, Social Workers etc., attended organized by Department of Women and Child Development, Bangalore.
7. June 30, 2000: Seminar on Violence Against Women in which EWRs from panchayats attended at NIAS, Bangalore.
8. July 5-10, 2000: Meeting with GP women in Kerala to understand their needs at Alleppy (Alapura) district, Kerala.
9. July 12, 2000: Meeting on the National Population Policy and linking population issues to the panchayats at SSF, Bangalore
10. August 29, 2000: Meeting at SSF with Ms. Chandni Joshi, Regional Program Director, UNIFEM on Gender Budget.
11. August 30, 2000: EWRs of Tikota Gram Panchayat assembled for a one day workshop in Mahila Samakhya Bujapur Premises to discuss about the Panchayat Budget.
12. September 14-15, 2000: SSF participated in the workshop of Regional Consultation for Preparation of case study—a document on Gender and governance held in Bangalore.
13. September 18, 2000: A meeting in Ashrward, Bangalore on the Woman's Policy.
14. October 19 – 20, 2000: Two-day workshop on National Population Policy 2000 organised by Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation, Bangalore and Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
15. December 6, 2000: SSF participated in the one day workshop on the elections of Panchayat Raj Institutions – 2000 organised by Institute of Social Science, Bangalore.
16. December 12, 2000: Participated in the national workshop on Community Driven Management and Decentralization, organized by Planning Commission in Collaboration with UNDP – World Bank and Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.
17. December 15, 2000: Discussion on the PRI project with Ms. Nandini Prasad, State Co-ordinator, Mahila Samatha Society.

- Hyderabad and also with Ms. Pratibha Rao, Project Coordinator, Loksatta, Hyderabad.
18. December 27, 2000: Suman Kolhar & Nageena Khaleel participated in the Samavesha (conference), organized by the Mahila Samakhya Sangha Women in Kausalya Complex at Nanjagund Taluk, Mysore.
 19. December 27 – 29, 2000: Participated in the consultation meeting on the Base line reports of the facilitating Project related to Convention to Eliminate all forms of Discrimination against Women – CEDAW), organized by National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore.
 20. January 16, 2001: Participated in the meeting to discuss about EWRs Problems and Training Program, organised by Mahila Samakhya, Bijapur.
 21. January 17, 2001: Participated in the Women's political participation in Governance at a one day workshop held in NIAS, Bangalore.
 22. February 20, 2001: Interacted with the Southern States partners as well as our Karnataka partners regarding building documentation, as well as we had discussion on the way forward to firm the objectives of the project.
 23. March 13, 2001: Interview with the President of Baba Nagar Gram Panchayat.
 24. March 28, 2001: A meeting with Tamil Nadu partners, Gandhigram – Participants were Prof. Raghunath, Uma & Uma Shankar and from our foundation we had C.P. Sujaya, Suman Kolhar and Nageena Khaleel, at SSF, Bangalore.
 25. March 28, 2001: A round table meeting with Poornima Vyasulu, advisor DANIDA along with C. P. Sujaya and Suman Kolhar at DANIDA, Bangalore.
 26. March 28, 2001: A round table discussion with Revathi Narayanan & Savita, MSK along with C. P. Sujaya and Suman Kolhar at SSF, Bangalore.
 27. March 29, 2001: A round table discussion with Stephen, Search along with C. P. Sujaya, Suman Kolhar and Nageena Khaleel at SEARCH, Bangalore.
 28. March 30, 2001: A round table discussion with Revathi Narayanan, Usha, Savitha and Suman Kolhar on action plan of the PRI Project at MSK, Bangalore.
 29. March 30, 2001: A brain storming session with Devaki Jain along with C. P. Sujaya & Suman Kolhar at Tharangavana, Bangalore.
 30. March 30, 2001: A round table meeting with Meera, ISST along with C. P. Sujaya & Suman Kolhar at ISST, Bangalore on the action plan of the PRI Project.
 31. March 31, 2001: A dialogue in SSF with C.P. Sujayaji on Interim report of PRI Project.
 32. April 20, 2001: Participated in Sahayogini's meeting in MSK, Bijapur where convention of MSK members of seven districts was planned and it was recommended that convention would be held in Bijapur.
 33. May 17, 2001: Dialogue with Panchayat members and GP Secretary in Arakeri village (Bijapur district) where the discussion was held to call Gram Sabha as well as a few EWRs, and Sangha women had an open dialogue on their milestone-particularly on the anti-arack struggle.
 34. May 21 –22, 2001: Attended the First phase of Gram Panchayat's Training program, organized by ZP- Bijapur.
 35. May 25 –26, 2001: Ibid (Second phase – MSK Staff attended).
 36. June 8, 2001: Attended the Gram Sabha at Arakeri with MSK Staff and Asst. Agriculture officer.
 37. June 12 –13, 2001: Dialogue with Prof. Rameshwari Verma and Ms. Prarrulla, District Coordinator Mysore regarding Taluk federation at Mysore.
 38. June 19 –20, 2001: Attended the seminar on the Wither Panchayat in Gandhi Peace Foundation organized by AVARD in New Delhi.
 39. June 22 –23, 2001: Attended the seminar on the Municipal Councilors Role organized by COVA in Hyderabad.
 40. June 22, 2001: Visited Loksatta in Hyderabad and had an open discussion on

- the pre- election process in Hyderabad with Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan.
41. June 27, 2001: Visited Sonnappanahalli (Bangalore Rural district) with Jennifer Klot from UNIFEM, New York. There, the GP meeting was organised and the issues on budget were discussed.
 42. June 29, 2001: Suman Kolhar & Nageena Khaleel participated in the round table discussion on the women's policy in NIAS.
 43. July 20 -21, 2001: Suman Kolhar & Nageena Nikhat Khaleel participated in the seminar on Part IX of the Constitution: Issues and Problems" (Panchayats and Municipalities) at ISEC.
 44. July 26, 2001: Core Committee Meeting of the local partners at KWIRC, Bangalore
 45. August 2, 2001: A meeting in MSK, Bijapur where a discussion was held with EWRs on forming the federation
 46. August 5, 2001: Ibid, at Vishala, Bijapur.
 47. August 29, 2001: Participated in the workshop on women leadership organized by hunger project, Delhi.
 48. September 25, 2001: Suman Kolhar & Suchitra Vedant had a discussion with Mark Robinson on the extension of the PRI Project - (2nd proposal) in Bangalore.
 49. October 24, 2001: Mr. V.S. Badari and Mrs. Ahalya S Bhat participated in the discussion meeting on backtracking on decentralization in Karnataka, a talk given by Dr. Vinod Vyasulu at NIAS Bangalore.
 50. November 19, 2001: Participated in the Empowerment Day of Women function, organized by Bangalore District Co-operative Union.
 51. November 20, 2001: Discussion with Dr. Poornima Vyasulu about the 1st executive meeting of EWRs and on Orientation Program of selected women for WYTEP program (meeting scheduled to be held on 6th -7th December 2001).
 52. November 21, 2001: Meeting in MSK along with District Program Coordinators of 7 MSK districts about the federation of EWRs.
 53. December 6-7, 2001: General body meeting KWIRC, Bangalore, Mahila Samakhya, Bijapur and Vishala, Bijapur are jointly supporting the Brainstorming Session of EWRs in Bijapur and the first General Body Meeting of the Federation of District Level Women Panchayat members organized by the Women Panchayat Members in Bijapur. District-level association of EWRs was formed.
 54. December 29th, 2001: The district level association of EWRs was formed in Bellary district. Nearly 50 EWRs from different Gram Panchayats in three taluks attended the meeting.
 55. January 17th, 2002: The district level association of EWRs was formed in Gulbarga. 40 participants comprising of EWRs from Gram Panchayats of Gulbarga district and Mahila Samakya Sangha members were also present.
 56. January 19th, 2002: The district level association of EWRs was formed in Bidar. About 100 participants consisting of EWRs and Mahila Samakya Sangha attended the meeting.
 57. February 11th - 12th, 2002: Ms. Suman Kolhar, Project Coordinator and Ms. Indira participated in the training programme on Panchayati Raj where information about the associations formed by KWIRC were shared. About 20 EWRs and 10 EWRs from Raichur attended the meeting.
 58. March 5th - 8th, 2002: Mahila Samakya, Karnataka in collaboration with SSF/KWIRC and CHC, organized A Mahila Samakya Sammelan. SSF made a presentation on 6th March 2002 and described about the associations of elected women representatives. Several other themes viz., bringing women's agenda in panchayat raj and procedures and funds were also discussed.
 59. March 14th, 2002: The district level association of EWRs was formed in Koppal. About 120 EWRs and Mahila Samakya Sangha members attended the meeting.
 60. March 16th, 2002: The district level association of EWRs was formed in Raichur. About 40 EWRs and Mahila Samakya Sangha members attended the meeting.

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Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation

13th June 2002

To,

Dr. Thelma Narayan
Community Health Cell,
Bangalore

Dear Thelma,

Greetings from SSF, Bangalore.

We are happy to inform you that the project on "Associating Elected Women Representatives in Local Self Government" has completed the 1st Phase as on March 2002. We hope to receive the grant for the IInd Phase also. We thank you very much for the cooperation rendered to us in the process and wish to continue in future also.

We would like to keep you informed of the activities of the 1st Phase and hence we have pleasure in enclosing the reports of the partners of the Project viz., Sakhi - Kerala, Lok Satta - Andhra Pradesh and Gandhigram Rural Institute - Tamil Nadu. The Consolidated report would be sent to you in due course.

We also enclose the Critical Comments of Mr. L.C. Jain on the Report of the Working Group on Decentralisation brought out by Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department of Government of Karnataka. In this regard, a meeting was also held to discuss the Report as well as the critics at Bijapur on 25th May 2002. The reports are enclosed for your information.

We hereby request you to kindly advise us and suggest any corrections if any, that you feel could be made in the reports.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Suman Kolhar

(Suman S. Kolhar)
Project Coordinator

HRD - 10 2002 resource file

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M. T. V.

ಮಹಿಮೆ. ವಿಶೇಷತಃ ಭೂ ಸುಧಾರಣೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಆಗದೆ ಎನ್ನುವುದನ್ನು ಎಲ್ಲರೂ ಒಪ್ಪುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರದ ಕುರಿತು 14 ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ (Priya ಹಾಗೂ ಅದರ ಸಹಭಾಗಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಅಧ್ಯಯನವನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಿವೆ. ಈ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಬಂಗಾಳವು ಸೇರಿದೆ. ಶಾಲೆಗಳ ಆರಂಭ ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕ ಉದ್ಯಮಿಯಂತೆ, ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ನೀಡಿಕೊಡುವುದನ್ನು ಈ ಅಧ್ಯಯನದಲ್ಲಿ ಉದಾಹರಣೆಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಜಾಪಾತಿಕ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಪಾತ್ರವಿಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೂ ಶಾಲೆಗಳೇ ಇಲ್ಲದ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳಿಂದ ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ಕಿರು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಘಟಿಸುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಉದ್ಯಮಿಯ ಮುಖವೆತ್ತಾಳನ್ನು ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳು ಸುಖವಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿವೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಗುರಿಯನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿವೆ. 2001-02 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣಕ್ಕೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 1,07,774 ಎಂತು. ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಮಾರು 6,48,000 ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾತಿ ಇತ್ತು. 21,719 ಸಹಾಯಕಿಯರು ಮತ್ತು 450 ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯ ಇದ್ದರು. ಈ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಿರಿಯರೂ 2002ರವರೆಗೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು 17.31 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿಯನ್ನು ಖರ್ಚು ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಪಟ್ಟಣ, ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಅಂಶವು ಗಮನೀಯವಾಗಿದೆ.

ಒಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳು ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಲು, ಎಂದು Priya ಅಧ್ಯಯನವು ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದರೂ ವಿಶ್ವೇಶ್ವರ ಪಂಚಾಯತು ಮತ್ತು ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳು ಮುಂಚೂಣಿಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದವು. ಲಂಠಾ ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುಣಾತ್ಮಕ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಆಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಒತ್ತಿ ಹೇಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕರಲಕ್ಕೆ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಬಂಗಾಳದಿಂದ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪಂತಲೇ ಇಳಿವಾರಿಸಿದ ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳು ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕರತಕ್ಕೆ ಪರಿಶ್ರಮ ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆ, ಕರತಕ್ಕೆ ಕೈಪಿಡಿ ತಯಾರಿ ಗ್ರಂಥಾಲಯ ಪ್ರಯೋಗಾಲಯಗಳ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದಾಳತ್ವ ವಹಿಸಿರುವ ಉದಾಹರಣೆಗಳು ಕೇರಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಏನುತ್ತದೆ.

ಲೇಖನದ ತೊಪೆಯ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿರೋಧಾಭಾಸ ಹಾಗೂ ಗೊಂದಲಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗಿ ಗೊಳಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ, ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣವಿದ್ದರೂ, ವಾಸ್ತವವಾಗಿ ಈ ದಶಕಗಳ ಆಡಳಿತವು ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಬಂಗಾಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯನ್ನು ಸಾಧಿಸಲು, ಎಂದೂ ಒಳಿತಿಗಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಆಡಳಿತ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣ ಬಹು ಮುಕ್ತರಾಗಿ, ಅಷ್ಟೇ ಇದ್ದು, ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಮತ್ತು ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರವು ಉತ್ತರ ಹಿಂದೂಸ್ಥಿ ಮತ್ತು ದೆಹಲಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳಿಗೆ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಶಾಲಾ ಮಂಡಳಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೀರಿಸಿದ ಬಂದ ಆಡಳಿತಗಳನ್ನು ಪಾಲಿಸಿದ್ದವು ಎಂದು ಲೇಖನದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಹೇಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಬಂಗಾಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳಿಗೆ ವಾಸ್ತವದಲ್ಲಿ, ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳಾಗಲಿಗಿದ್ದ ಖರ್ಚು ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳಾಗಲಿವೆ. ಎಂದು ಅಧಿಕಾರದ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷವನ್ನು ಒಳಿತಿಗಾಗಿವೆ. ಪಂಚಾಯತು ಸದಸ್ಯರಲ್ಲಿ ಗಣನೀಯ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಶಾಲಾ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರಂತರವಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆಂದು ಹೇಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಲೇಖನದ ಉಪಸಂಹಾರದಲ್ಲಿ, ಹಲವು ವಿಷಯಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾಪಿಸಿ, ಅವುಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾದುಹೋಗುವ ಸಂಬಂಧದ ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ, ವಿಶ್ಲೇಷಿಸಿದೇ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆ ಮಾಡಿ ತೋಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷವು ಹಿಂದಿರುವ ಪ್ರಭಾವವು ಅನುಚಿತವಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಲೇಖನದ ಪರಿಭಾವಿಸುವುದು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡು ಬರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದರ ಅರ್ಥ, ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೇಲೆ ಹೇಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಉಪಸಂಹಾರದ ನಾಡಕ್ಕೆ ಆಧಾರ ಇಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ತೋರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹಾಗಾದರೆ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣ ಜನತಂತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳ ಪ್ರಭಾವವೆಂದೇ ಉಪಲೇಖಿಸಿ, ದೂರವಿಡತೆಗಳು ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುವುದು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿರಬೇಕೆ?

ಪಂಚಾಯತು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣದ ಮುಂದಾಳತ್ವ ವಹಿಸುವ ಬದಲು ಪ್ರಮುಖ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿರುವುದು ಎಂದು ಲೇಖನದ ಆರಂಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅದರ ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳ ಸ್ವಯಂ ಆಡಳಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಾಗಿ ಕೆಲವು ಮಂಡಲ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳು ಅನುವು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಡುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ, ಆಧಾರವನ್ನು ಕಟ್ಟಿ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಂತೆ ಅಡಮುಕಿ ಎಂದು ಟೀಕಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಬಗ್ಗಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೇಳಬಹುದು. ಗ್ರಾಮ/ಪಂಚಾಯತು ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ, ನಿರ್ಧಾರಗಳಿಗೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣವು ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರದ ಮೇಲಾಗಲಿ ಅನುಚಿತವಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಮುನ್ನವಾಗಲಿವೆನ್ನುವುದು ಉತ್ತೇಜನಕಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರೇರಿಕಾರಿ. ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಸಮುದಾಯವು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಯುಕ್ತವಾಗಿ, ಸ್ವಯಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಇದೆಯೇ? ಹಾಗೆಂದು ಭಾವಿಸಿದರೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು, ದಲಿತರು ಮುಂತಾದ ದುರ್ಬಲ ವರ್ಗಗಳಿಗೆ ಪಂಚಾಯತುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮೇಲೆಲಾಗಿ ತೋರುವುದನ್ನು ವಿರೋಧಿಸಬಹುದಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಮೇಲೆಲಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತು ದುರ್ಬಲ ವರ್ಗಗಳಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ಧಾರಗಳಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ಸ್ಥಾನವನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಿಕೊಟ್ಟಿದೆ ಎನ್ನುವುದನ್ನು ಮರೆಯಬಾರದು.

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Section on Underdevelopment and Health

THE UNTOLD STORY:
HOW THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTE
TO MATERNAL MORTALITY

T. K. Sundari

This article attempts to put together evidence from maternal mortality studies in developing countries of how an inadequate health care system characterized by misplaced priorities contributes to high maternal mortality rates. Inaccessibility of essential health information to the women most affected, and the physical as well as economic and sociocultural distance separating health services from the vast majority of women, are only part of the problem. Even when the woman reaches a health facility, there are a number of obstacles to her receiving adequate and appropriate care. These are a result of failures in the health services delivery system: the lack of minimal life-saving equipment at the first referral level, the lack of equipment, personnel, and know-how even in referral hospitals; and worst of all, faulty patient management. Prevention of maternal deaths requires fundamental changes not only in resource allocation, but in the very structures of health services delivery. These will have to be fought for as part of a wider struggle for equity and social justice.

The high maternal mortality rates in most of the developing countries, despite advances in health care, have prompted several studies analyzing the main causes of maternal death and groups at risk, so that medical care can be appropriately directed. However, the role of the health services system itself, both in preventing a woman with a complication in pregnancy or delivery from seeking medical help and in providing a woman who reaches a medical facility with appropriate care, has rarely been looked into. Of the several links in the chain of events that culminate in a maternal death, the role of an inadequate health care system characterized by misplaced priorities seems to be vital. This article attempts to put together evidence to this effect, using data from maternal mortality studies in several developing countries.

It is common practice for hospital-based studies on maternal mortality to look into "avoidable factors": factors that, if avoided, could have prevented the maternal death. In a number of cases, the researchers state explicitly that the avoidability of deaths was evaluated by standards realistic under the circumstances prevailing in that country at that time. The discussions in this article are based on such accounts.

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"PATIENT FACTORS," OR INACCESSIBLE
HEALTH SERVICES?

One of the standard categories into which avoidable factors are classified is what are known as "patient factors." Patient factors, as the name suggests, are deemed faulty action on the part of the patient, for which the health care system is not responsible and about which it is helpless to do anything. Table 1 gives an overview of the proportion of maternal deaths attributed to various patient factors in different studies (1-8).

Table 1
Maternal deaths with "patient factor" as an avoidable factor
in selected developing countries

Country: hospital/region (reference no.)	Factor	No. of all maternal deaths (%)	Years
Malaysia: all government health facilities in Krian district (1)	Refusal to go to hospital	95 (10%)	1978-
	Handled by traditional birth attendant and relatives; delayed medical aid	182 (20%)	1981
	Handled by traditional birth attendant alone; no medical aid	164 (18%)	
Vietnam: 22 institutions (2)	Patient not presented	22 (17%)	1984-
	Patient noncompliance	13 (10%)	1985
Pakistan: Civil Hospital, Karachi (3)	Patient's or relations' attitude	85 (67%)	1979-
	Deficient management by traditional birth attendants	11 (9%)	1983
Malawi: Kamuzu Central Hospital, Lilongwe (4)	Patient delay	29 (48%)	1985
Tanzania: Muhimbili Medical Center, Dar-es-Salaam (5)	Delay in arrival	11 (7%)	1983
	Interference with pregnancy	2 (1%)	
India: 41 teaching institutions (6)	Delay by patient or relatives	2,109 (45%)	1978- 1981
India: Anantapur district (7)	Lack of early and adequate antenatal care	18 (8%)	1984-
	Termination of pregnancy by unqualified personnel	18 (8%)	1985
Zimbabwe: Harare Maternity Hospital, Harare (8)	Late presentation	8 (16%)	1983
	Refusal of treatment	2 (4%)	
	Unbooked	5 (10%)	

Delayed Arrival or Nonarrival at a Health Facility

Of the various patient factors identified in studies, patients' nonarrival and delayed arrival at a medical facility feature prominently. It is also mentioned in some cases that the patient's and her relatives' attitudes were incorrect, leading to a preference to deliver at home with the help of relatives and/or traditional birth attendants, rather than go to a hospital or health center. Instances of the patient's refusal of treatment are also mentioned. (Delays due to distance and transportation problems are discussed later.)

There may be a number of reasons why women do not seek medical care during pregnancy and delivery. The first of these is probably a lack of awareness of the seriousness of the problem. In Anantapur, India, when family members of women who died were asked if they were aware of the seriousness of the problem, more than one-fifth indicated that they did not comprehend the seriousness of the patient's condition. Of those who knew about the seriousness, the great majority took steps to call a health worker/doctor or to move the patient to a hospital (7). Studies of maternal deaths in the Tangail and Jamalpur districts of Bangladesh indicate that women who developed complications during pregnancy more often received medical help prior to death than women who developed complications during labor and delivery or post partum (9, 10). These studies indicate that the seriousness of complications encountered during pregnancy, and of specific complications such as toxemia that lead to convulsions, is probably more apparent than the seriousness of prolonged labor or postpartum sepsis. This illustrates the failure of the health care system to reach out to the population with important health messages. If women knew how to identify danger signals that call for immediate medical attention, a large majority of them would certainly attempt to reach a health facility.

Poorer and higher parity women remain uncovered by medical services, whereas relatively well-off and lower parity women who are not at any special risk benefit the most (11). Poorer women and women with large families may find it difficult to get away from work at home and on the farms, often at the cost of their lives. In Zaire, for example, 13 of 20 maternal deaths occurred during the first five months of planting and harvest, seasons when the need for women's work in the field can make women reluctant to go to the hospital (12). Lack of available money is, of course, a major deterrent to seeking medical help. That economic factors are an important intervening variable in access to health care is evident from a study in Oran, Algeria, between 1971 and 1980 (13). The maternal mortality rate plunged from 157/100,000 live births in 1971-1975 to 91/100,000 in 1976-1980. One of the reasons for this decline was that after 1974-1975, when fees for medical services were waived in public hospitals, the number of unassisted home deliveries was greatly reduced.

There may be a number of other reasons why women prefer home delivery assisted by a traditional birth attendant or relatives. These include the unfamiliar setting at the health facility where the woman would be attended to by strangers, in the absence of her family and friends and the physical and moral support they offer; the possibility of being attended to by male doctors, unacceptable in some cultures; the nonolerance by hospital staff of cultural practices related to childbirth, such as consumption of special foods and practice of certain rituals; the total lack of sympathy and understanding on the part of

health personnel; and not least, the belief that childbirth does not need medical interference. All of these reasons are valid and cannot be ignored or disclaimed.

Failure to Seek Legal Abortion, or Interference with Pregnancy

Another patient factor often mentioned is the failure to seek a legal abortion, or interference with pregnancy. A detailed discussion of the complex issues surrounding why women do not seek legal abortions, or why they interfere with their pregnancies instead of preventing a pregnancy, is beyond the scope of this article. Some of the underlying reasons may be similar to those that explain why women do not seek medical help during childbirth: not knowing that abortions can be legally obtained, lack of information about where such services are available, and lack of resources. There are, however, many essential differences arising from laws that severely restrict abortions in several countries, and the social, cultural, and religious pressures against seeking an abortion where it may be available. In addition, the degree of privacy afforded by a traditional abortionist may be a factor. The least that can be said is that "failure to seek a legal abortion" cannot be classified neatly as a patient factor for which the woman alone is responsible.

Whatever the reasons for a woman's not going to a medical facility for pregnancy-related problems, the consequences are serious enough to warrant corrective action. To give an example from Kenya, several women who died of maternal causes in the Kenyatta National Hospital between 1972 and 1978 arrived in a poor condition after futile management had been attempted at home for many days (14). This was especially true of women who had illegal abortions. Most of those who died of puerperal sepsis had delivered at home. One patient who had delivered at home with the assistance of a midwife had been treated for nearly a week before she was admitted to the hospital. In Togo, again, women referred to the Centre Hospitalière Universitaire de Lome during 1977 included many with uterine rupture that had occurred several days earlier at home and had not been detected (15).

Nonuse of Antenatal Care

The next most important patient factor mentioned in studies is the nonuse of antenatal care by pregnant women. This is disturbing given the overwhelming evidence that the lack of antenatal care increases the risk of maternal death.

According to the famous Zaria maternity survey that monitored 22,725 deliveries in Ahmadu Bello University Hospital in Nigeria, antenatal care was associated with a reduction in maternal mortality in all age-parity groups (16). In American University of Beirut Medical Centre, Lebanon, the maternal mortality rate for those who had antenatal care was 19/100,000, whereas the rate for those without antenatal care was 197/100,000 (17). In Vietnam, only 34 percent of women who died had attended antenatal clinics, compared with 74 percent in the control group, a statistically significant difference (2).

Early antenatal care is important. In Thailand, mothers who started antenatal care in their first and second trimesters of pregnancy had lower maternal mortality rates than those who did not start antenatal care until the third trimester (18). It is also necessary to

make several antenatal visits spread over the gestation period, so that complications that arise at different stages may be identified and followed up. In Zaire (1981-1983) the maternal mortality rate was 250/100,000 live births for those who had made four or more antenatal visits, 270/100,000 for those who had made between one and three visits, and a very high 3,770/100,000 for those who had no antenatal care at all (12). Similarly, in a study of three hospitals in Senegal, 20 percent of the women who died had no antenatal care, compared with only 2 percent in the control group; and only 40 percent of them had made three or more visits, compared with 75 percent in the control group (19).

The case for early and adequate antenatal care is clear. The obstacles to use of antenatal care need to be investigated. There are some clues to the possible reasons for nonuse in these same studies. A community study from Ethiopia found that just as in the case of institutional delivery, it is the better-off and lower parity women who use antenatal care adequately (11). Use of antenatal care decreased with increasing parity, both in hospitals and in the Maternal and Child Health clinics. The extent of nonattendance among the high-risk women who were currently para 5 to para 8 was 35 percent, and that for women who were now para 8+ was 44 percent. Sixty percent of those who did not receive antenatal care had unwanted pregnancies. Women with unwanted pregnancies who did receive antenatal care tended to visit Maternal and Child Health clinics, which were free of cost.

The failure of higher parity women to seek antenatal care may not only result from lack of time and money. They may feel it is unnecessary to seek antenatal care, especially if their earlier pregnancies were problem-free. In the case of unwanted pregnancies out-of-wedlock, hesitation to seek antenatal care is understandable. As for high parity women with unwanted pregnancies, the very reasons for which the pregnancy was unwanted may also impose constraints in seeking antenatal care. The women may also not feel motivated for self-care.

The deficient quality of antenatal care may be another major deterrent. A study of Primary Health Centers in India found that women attending antenatal screening were not screened either for anemia or for high blood pressure or proteinuria to detect the risk of eclampsia (20). This can be a costly shortcoming, as judged from a study in Mozambique: more than 80 percent of the women who died had attended antenatal clinics, and yet there were deaths from preventable causes such as anemia and eclampsia (21, 22). Poor quality of antenatal screening and the indifferent attitude of health personnel in health facilities can destroy women's faith in the usefulness of antenatal care. Dare we blame the women if they decide that it is not worth expending their scarce resources on what may be a futile exercise?

Transportation Problems

In many instances, the late arrival of a patient at a hospital, usually classified as a patient factor, is the result of lack of transportation methods. Poor roads, lack of ambulances or other means of transportation to health facilities, and inadequate means of transporting emergency cases from peripheral to referral hospitals make the essential difference between life and death in most developing countries. In a heart-rending and extreme example from a Tanzanian study, a rural woman had to walk 70 kilometers after the onset of labor, reach a hospital, only to collapse on arrival (23).

Late arrivals and referrals account for a disproportionately large number of maternal deaths in hospitals. The following examples illustrate the magnitude of the problem:

- In Centre Hôpitalière Universitaire de Cocody, Abidjan, Ivory Coast, in 1986, the maternal mortality rate was 2,000/100,000 deliveries for those who had been transferred from within the urban zone, 3,000/100,000 for those who had been transferred from the suburban area, and 6,000/100,000 for those who had been transferred from rural areas (24).

- In the Maternity Hospital, Katmandu, Nepal, 40 percent of the women who died arrived in a very poor condition; 17 percent were unconscious. Forty-five of the 81 deaths (56 percent) occurred within the first day, 38 of them within the first eight hours (25).

- In an Aden Hospital, 73 percent of deaths were of women from rural areas who had to travel a long way. Ten percent of the women who died were dead on arrival, and another 15 percent died within an hour of arrival (26).

- In Zaire, all but two (90 percent) of the women who died were admitted in a critical condition. The most common complication was prolonged labor (greater than 18 hours) due to foeto-pelvic disproportion or malpresentation. Sixteen of the 20 women who died had been in labor for more than 18 hours, and nine of these had been in labor for 48 hours. The risk of death was more than 400 times greater for those who had been in labor for more than 48 hours than for those who had labored 12 hours or less. Prolonged labor resulted in a ruptured uterus in 14 cases, which increased the risk of death more than 100-fold (12).

- In Togo, women referred to Centre Hôpitalière Universitaire de Lome during 1977 included cases of uterine rupture that had occurred several days earlier (15).

- In a study of 48 hospitals throughout Tanzania in 1986, 63 percent of the 247 women who died had to travel more than 10 kilometers to the hospital where they eventually died. Of these, 37 percent lived more than 30 kilometers away (27).

- In Krian district, Malaysia, 73 deaths (8 percent) were due to poor transportation methods, and a further seven deaths occurred en route from one hospital to another (1).

When the hospital is far away, not only the distance but also the mode of transport becomes an important determinant of how soon medical help becomes available and, consequently, of survival chances. In Anantapur, India (1984-1985), 41 percent of all maternal deaths occurred at home, and 9 percent en route to a hospital. Of 140 women who were taken to hospital in a serious condition, 96 (69 percent) were transported by public bus, 27 (19 percent) by bullock carts, five (3 percent) by manually drawn rickshaws, and only 12 (9 percent) by motor-driven vehicle or by ambulance. Twenty-four women died on the way to hospital, and another 54 died immediately on arrival (7).

These problems are accentuated when the cause of death is a difficult-to-anticipate complication such as postpartum hemorrhage. In Gambia, where an extremely high maternal mortality rate has been recorded (2,360/100,000 live births), 11 of a total of 15 deaths occurred within four hours after delivery and were associated with hemorrhage or sudden collapse; there were no resuscitation facilities at the nearest dispensary, and the government hospital at Banjul was several hours' journey away, including a ferry crossing of the river Gambia (28).

Weather conditions may also affect the possibility for rapid transportation to hospital. A study covering three hospitals in Senegal found that maternal deaths from hemorrhage and uterine rupture occurred 1.7 times and 3.5 times more frequently in the four w months between July and October, and suggested that this is probably because of 11 way rain paralyzes transportation on mud roads and foot paths through which patients have to be transported (19).

All of the patient factors discussed above are a consequence not only of geographic inaccessibility but of the social, cultural, and economic inaccessibility of health services to pregnant women. Could we not consider attributing responsibility for these factors to the patient a case of "victim blaming"?

FAILURES IN THE HEALTH SERVICES DELIVERY SYSTEM

When other obstacles are overcome and women with a complication in pregnancy or childbirth finally reach a health facility, there may be yet other problems that jeopardize their chances of survival. Personnel and equipment are scarce, and health facilities are often unable to cope even with the small proportion of affected women who arrive. The quality of care is far from satisfactory, and may be summed up as "doing too little, too late." Table 2 shows the proportion of maternal deaths attributed to various "health service factors" in different studies (2, 6, 8, 29, 30).

Shortage of Trained Personnel

Many countries have a shortage of trained personnel not only at the specialist level but all down the ladder to the midwife. An extreme example is that of Gabon, where there is a shortage of trained obstetricians-gynecologists: six of the nine provinces c Gabon do not have the services of a specialist obstetrician. In addition, health center and even provincial hospitals do not have 24-hour services (31).

Even where the situation is not quite so bad, understaffing of health facilities is a common problem. In Malawi, at Kamuzu Central Hospital, Lilongwe, medical staff were at times required to be at the Central Hospital and the Old Wind Maternity three kilometers away at the same time, and this alone had contributed to maternal death in some cases (4).

Another problem is that staff have inadequate or inappropriate training and cannot cope with obstetrical emergencies. Cameroon is a unique case in point. A hospital study in Yaounde found that the incidence of deaths from ruptured uterus was high not only because of the poor standards of midwives in rural hospitals, but because specialists in referral hospitals were trained abroad and could not handle cases of uterine rupture (32).

Health personnel interviewed in a 48-hospital study in Tanzania stated that, in their opinion, the following were among factors contributing to high maternal mortality (27)

- Scarcity of medical and paramedical personnel, especially in rural areas;
- Poor on-the-job training of health staff at all levels;
- Low salaries, poor working conditions, etc., for health workers, leading to lack of motivation.

Table 2
Maternal deaths with "poor patient management in hospital" as an avoidable factor,
selected developing countries

Country: hospital/region (reference no.)	Factors	No. of all maternal deaths (%)	Years
Vietnam: 22 institutions (2)	Delay in diagnosis	68 (53%)	1984- 1985
	Wrong diagnosis	28 (22%)	
	Delay in treatment	80 (63%)	
	Wrong treatment	47 (37%)	
	Delay in referral	77 (60%)	
	Inappropriate referral	1 (8%)	
Malawi: Health centers and referral hospitals in Central Region (29)	Medical staff factors	30 (28%)	1977
	Nursing staff factors (includes failure to diagnose, failure to initiate appropriate treatment, delay in referral)	26 (24%)	
Zimbabwe: Harare Maternity Hospital, Harare (8)	Failure to diagnose/delay in diagnosis	4 (8%)	1983
	Failure to operate/ delay in operation	5 (10%)	
	Failure to give appropriate treatment	2 (4%)	
	Poor operative technique	2 (4%)	
	Overtransfusion	2 (4%)	
South Africa: 267 hospitals throughout the country (30)	Anesthetic problem	1 (2%)	1980- 1982
	Delay in diagnosis	11 (1%)	
	Delay in consultation or transfer	25 (3%)	
	Judgment errors in diagnosis	11 (1%)	
	Treatment given "too little, too late"	87 (11%)	
India: 41 teaching institutions (6)	Surgical and anesthetic problems	24 (3%)	1978- 1981
	Defective obstetric care	1,525 (32%)	

The unsatisfactory working conditions of lower-level health workers often tend to be overlooked, but may be a key cause of the scarcity of health personnel so vital to the improvement of coverage of maternal health services.

Lack of Equipment and Facilities

The absence of a blood bank or of facilities for transfusion can be one of the most catastrophic inadequacies in a health facility, and is one of the most frequently encountered. A patient with hemorrhage may not survive to reach the referral hospital.

In Gabon, a study from Centre Hospitalière de Libreville mentions that patients suffering from hemorrhage often were kept waiting until a donor with a matching blood group was found, before operative intervention (31). In some studies showing a high incidence of deaths from hemorrhage, absence of a blood bank was often a contributing factor. For example in Vietnam, where 48 percent of maternal deaths in selected hospitals during 1984-1985 were from hemorrhage, lack of blood led to deaths in 46 cases (36 percent) (2). In Kenyatta National Hospital, Kenya, no blood was available for a patient admitted in a highly anemic condition due to postpartum hemorrhage, until she died a day later (33).

Lack of other facilities and equipment is mentioned in many other studies. For example, the study of L'hôpital Arstride le Danec, L'hôpital Principal, and Centre Abbas Ndao in Senegal (1986-1987) found that 70 percent of the 152 maternal deaths were attributable to lack of equipment and facilities (19).

In the hospital at Libreville, Gabon, mentioned above (31), there was overcrowding, with a bed occupancy rate of 130 percent. Supplies of drugs were inadequate, and treatment was delayed until the patient's family bought the drugs from a pharmacy. There were even inordinate delays in transferring the patient to the operative block. In Vietnam, lack of drugs was responsible for 26 deaths (20 percent), and lack of other equipment for 14 deaths (11 percent) (2).

The study of maternal deaths in Kenyatta National Hospital also mentions overcrowding; patients often had to share beds and mattresses, leaving them vulnerable to cross-infection within the hospital. There was not enough clean linen, and even basic equipment such as gloves and antiseptic solution fell short of requirement (33). The lack of basic equipment in conjunction with overcrowding and the scarcity of trained personnel has led to an increase in in-hospital sepsis rates. Sepsis deaths increased from 8 percent of maternal deaths in 1953-1960 to 17 percent in 1961-1971, and stood at 12 percent in 1975-1982 in a hospital study from Durban, South Africa; during this period the maternal mortality rates also rose (34, 35). The reasons for this increase were overcrowding and nonadherence to aseptic and antiseptic principles when doing vaginal examinations, among other things. In Sudan, deaths from puerperal sepsis in the Khartoum Teaching Hospital, Khartoum, increased from 10 percent of all maternal deaths in 1968-1972 to as high as 32 percent in 1978-1982 (36). And in Venezuela, a study in Concepción Palacios maternity hospital, Caracas, covering the period 1939-1974, found that while the maternal mortality rate declined from 196/100,000 live births in 1939-1963 to 125/100,000 in 1964-1972, it subsequently rose to 144/100,000, owing to an alarming increase in post-cesarian section and puerperal sepsis deaths during the last ten years of the study (37).

Lack of equipment is a more acute problem in most peripheral hospitals; the Kenyan study found that of 92 women referred to Kenyatta National Hospital from peripheral hospitals, in 43 cases the anesthetist or the medical officer-in-charge was not available. In 19 of these cases the hospital had no facility for operative delivery, in 21 no blood was available, and in nine cases the hospital had no water or electricity. An added problem was that the hospital admitted high-risk patients when it had no facilities to tackle the problem, or had diagnosed the problem too late, delaying referral.

Poor Patient Management

Inappropriate action by health staff in treating patients has been identified in several studies as a factor contributing to maternal deaths.

Delay in diagnosis and treatment and inadequate treatment are often responsible for maternal deaths. There seem to be inordinate delays in initiating treatment even when the patient's condition is critical, for reasons quite apart from lack of equipment and facilities. Crucial decisions are delayed, and not infrequently, wrong decisions are made. Standard procedures for patient management are often absent, which makes it difficult for nursing staff and junior doctors to take appropriate action in emergency cases. Also, decision-making and initiation of sophisticated procedures in hospital settings are frequently concentrated in a small number of senior doctors and specialists, while other members of staff are restricted to carrying out instructions.

A study of Kenyatta National Hospital illustrates some cases of poor patient management. Lack of proper investigations of the etiological causes of infection led to an inappropriate choice of drugs and nonresponse of the microorganism to therapy. Decisions for operative interventions were at times taken too late, and the operations were entrusted to junior doctors. In one instance, a woman admitted for sepsis following abortion had to undergo one colpotomy and two laparotomies within a space of 10 days because the pelvic abscess was not properly drained in the first two procedures. Another instance of patient mismanagement in the same hospital was of two women with ruptured ectopic pregnancies who virtually lost their entire blood volume before they received laparotomy because cross-matching of blood for transfusion was inordinately delayed. Both women died following laparotomy (33).

In another study from the maternity and children's hospital in Saudi Arabia (1978-1980), mismatched blood transfusions were a factor in two of 29 deaths, one from hemorrhage and one from septic abortion (38). Delays in decision-making by the health personnel occurred in two instances: in a case of uncontrollable hemorrhage during cesarean section and in a patient with aneupartum hemorrhage, in which case there was delay in deciding about definitive surgery. In another instance the avoidable factor was clinical, namely, combining major surgery with cesarean section in a peripheral hospital with limited facilities. Delay in decision-making and failure to initiate prompt intensive care were responsible for several first-hour deaths in R.M.C. Hospital, Imphal, India (39). In five cases, immediate surgical interventions by experienced obstetricians could have prevented death.

A confidential inquiry into all maternal deaths in Jamaica between 1981 and 1983 gives a very useful analysis of avoidable patient management factors with respect to three major causes of maternal death: hemorrhage, sepsis, and eclampsia (40).

According to this inquiry, some of the factors contributing to deaths from hemorrhage were:

- Delays in midwives' appreciating the extent of blood loss and contacting a doctor;
- Delays in starting and inadequate resuscitative procedures for blood loss, partly due to unavailability of blood or plasma in many of the smaller hospitals;

- Delays in manual removal of the placenta in patients with retained placenta, or attempting this procedure without the necessary preliminary establishment of a reliable intravenous infusion;
- Inadequate use of ergometrine.

In the case of deaths from sepsis the avoidable factors were:

- Inadequate surveillance of body temperature in women with a prolonged first stage of labor, and post delivery;
- Not giving antibiotics to women with prolonged rupture of the membranes;
- Inadequate bacteriological investigations in women with puerperal pyrexia;
- Reluctance to use aggressive treatment with broad-spectrum antibiotics for women with puerperal pyrexia.

Avoidable in-hospital factors that were responsible for deaths from eclampsia included:

- Absence of relevant information on antenatal surveillance symptoms and signs (e.g., weight gain, blood pressure readings) at the time of admission to hospital;
- Inadequate monitoring of patient's blood pressure and urine, particularly on admission and immediately following delivery;
- Delay by hospital staff in initiating appropriate treatment when signs of preeclamptic toxemia were found or the patient had convulsions, the delay being due to lack of coordination among various levels of staff;
- Lack of a clear-cut clinical-therapeutic strategy for dealing with patients with eclampsia.

Problems related to operative techniques and administration of anesthesia also claim a large number of maternal lives, and routinely appear as a cause of death in most hospital studies of maternal mortality. One of the highest rates for maternal deaths from complications of anesthesia has been reported from Ivory Coast (110 deaths/100,000 live births) (41), and high rates of death associated with cesarean sections have been reported from Egypt (222/100,000 live births) (42) and Malawi (142/100,000 live births) (4).

A good proportion of deaths related to complications of cesarean section and anesthesia may in fact be related to the poor condition of the patient prior to the operation. Surgical procedures are often undertaken on emergency admissions as a last recourse, with the knowledge that survival chances are limited. However, the sharp increase in post-cesarean section sepsis in instances such as in Caracas, mentioned above (38), point to faulty in-hospital procedures. In Cuba, again, cesarean delivery was identified as a risk factor associated with maternal death in a study covering the period 1980-1984 (43). Forty-one of the 54 cases of death from sepsis during that period followed a cesarian section, and 13 deaths from complications of anesthesia were also simultaneously associated with cesarean section. In another example from Sudan, a study of all cesarean sections carried out in the Khartoum hospital between 1978 and 1982 found

that of 24 maternal deaths following cesarean section (of a total of 140 maternal deaths), only six could be attributed to underlying causes (36).

Clearly, the performance of medical systems in saving maternal lives entrusted to them is far from satisfactory. This is unfortunate, considering the difficulties that women must overcome in order to reach a referral facility. They have to leave their families behind, expend a great deal of money in finding a quick means of transportation, and find a suitable person to accompany them. The person accompanying has to find the means and money to stay in a strange town or city during the period of the patient's treatment. And if the patient should die, quite apart from the fact that it would greatly distress her to be away from family and friends in her last hours, transporting the body back home would prove both difficult and expensive.

We hope that the existence of a number of studies looking into avoidable in-hospital factors in maternal deaths demonstrates a commitment to effecting the required changes wherever possible.

CONCLUSIONS

The prevention of maternal deaths requires far-reaching social and economic changes beyond the confines of the health care system. The factors that make the natural processes of pregnancy and childbirth highly risky and even fatal for poorer women are structural; so are the factors that influence the value women place on their personal well-being, and those that influence their ability to seek health care for themselves. The last depends crucially on resources such as time, money, and information that women have at their disposal, and whether they have the authority for decision-making.

However, this does not absolve the health care system of its responsibility to make the fundamental changes in both the structure and the delivery of health services. From the fundamental changes in this article, certain areas stand out as priorities for action. These are presented not as policy recommendations to the medical status quo—whose priorities are, more often than not, determined by the interests of those in power and by their own professional interests—but rather as a proposal for action by health activists.

The starting point of an agenda for action would be to call for a drastic reallocation of national resources with a larger share for the health sector, and a substantial allocation within the health budget for the health care of women, of which maternal health care is one component. The health expenditure of a vast majority of countries falls short of 5 percent of gross national product. Less than half of this is allocated to "primary health care" (a term that has come to be used to define all health care below the secondary and referral levels, as opposed to the principle enunciated in the Alma-Ata Declaration). A minuscule amount of this allocation is spent on maternal and child health care, in which child health and family planning get the lion's share of the resources compared with maternal health. And although it is well known that maternal health cannot be improved without improvement of women's health in general, as far as the health care system is concerned women count only as mothers and have no existence prior to or after a pregnancy and delivery. Also, the disproportionately large share of resources allocated to family planning programs (often a euphemism for population control programs), at the cost of other aspects of maternal health care, can in no way be justified.

Appropriate reallocation of resources for women's health care would have to begin with strengthening health services at the community level. Women who are in great need of health care, and who run the greatest risk of maternal death, have the least resources to seek medical help. They can only be reached if services are available close to home, and ideally at their very doorsteps. What is needed is the deployment of thousands of community health workers who are also equipped for maternal health care. Training traditional birth attendants and local women to provide domiciliary care perhaps one of the best ways to invest resources. However, action in this direction has been disappointing. Far from being one of the cornerstones of the strategy for prevention of maternal mortality and morbidity, it remains a low-priority activity, carried out in sporadic and haphazard manner.

The next step in appropriate resource allocation would be to equip the first referral levels with the necessary supplies, equipment, and personnel. The World Health Organization guidelines on essential obstetric functions at the first referral level identify eight groups of functions that should be available at a health facility catering to a population of 100,000. Among these are surgical functions such as performing cesarean sections, surgical treatment of severe sepsis, and laparotomy for treatment of uterine rupture; anesthetic functions; and blood-replacement functions. This would bring about an estimated 5 percent reduction in the number of maternal deaths (44).

Shortage of trained personnel is often cited as a major barrier to upgrading first referral facilities. This is usually the result of the strict hierarchy in the division of labor among health personnel, and inflexible notions held by doctors regarding the ethical propriety of entrusting complicated interventions to lower level staff. The Centre Medical Evangelique's Nyakunde, Aba, and Aru hospitals in the Upper Zaire region have successfully overcome such barriers. Here, nurse practitioner surgeons deliver all types of labor, normal or complicated. A study of their performance has shown that the outcome of complicated labor in the hands of the nurse practitioner surgeons is comparable to the outcome of such cases in the hands of physicians (45). Training nursing and midwifery staff to deal with complicated deliveries is clearly a viable option but may not be welcome to the medical establishment, which would resent such an encroachment on its territory.

There have been a number of such creative interventions aimed at better utilization of scarce resources for maternal health care. In Ekedwani hospital, Malawi, for example an antenatal waiting shelter was opened for "high-risk" women, to deal with the problem of distances and transport. This greatly reduced the maternal mortality rate, obstetric emergencies having become a thing of the past (46).

The second major area for action is improving the quality of care in health facilities. This involves more than ensuring the availability of equipment and supplies and trained personnel; it also entails making the health services more socially accountable. There should be careful record-keeping, and records should be accessible to the public. Every maternal death and every complicated delivery should be carefully scrutinized. Preventing the recurrence of an "avoidable factor" should be a medical priority. Inappropriate organizational and managerial procedures that cause inordinate delays in instituting care must be challenged: it is not unusual for a patient to be kept waiting while paperwork is being completed or because the person authorized for decision-making is not present. More importantly, seeking health care should cease to be the dehumanizing experience

it now is, devoid of respect and consideration or even compassion on the part of health personnel.

The third and perhaps most urgent area for action is to assist and equip those most affected by the problem of high maternal mortality—women (and men) from the most deprived sections of society—to actively participate in demanding the changes outlined above.

The existing state of affairs in the health care system that contributes to high maternal mortality is not the consequence of mere inept planning or poor organization and managerial capabilities. It is a reflection of the priorities set by the social system in which the poor and powerless do not count. We do not expect the demands made in these pages to be handed down from above. They have to be fought for, as part of a much wider struggle for equity and social justice.

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SOWING THE SEEDS OF NEO-IMPERIALISM: THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION'S YELLOW FEVER CAMPAIGN IN MEXICO

Armando Solórzano

The Rockefeller Foundation's campaign against yellow fever in Mexico sought to advance the economic and political interests of U.S. capitalism. The campaign was implemented at a time of strong anti-American sentiments on the part of the Mexican people. With no diplomatic relationships between Mexico and the United States, the Rockefeller Foundation presented its campaign as an international commitment. Thus, Foundation doctors became the most salient U.S. diplomats. At the same time they made sure that the Mexican yellow fever would not spread to the United States through the southern border. The by-products of the campaign went beyond the political arena. Special techniques to combat the vectors allowed the Rockefeller Foundation's brigades to change the anti-American sentiments of the people. When the campaign ended, the Foundation had already set in place the foundation for the modern Mexican health care system. Benefits from the campaign also accrued to President Obregón, who used the campaign to strengthen his position of power. Mexican doctors adopting a pro-American attitude also allied with the Rockefeller Foundation to gain reputation and power within the emerging Mexican State.

The Mexican health care system is clearly an extension of the U.S. model of medicine (1-3). Was this the result of a benevolent flow of medical and technological assistance from the United States, as some authors might claim (4, 5)? Or should the historical process of the formation of the medical system in Mexico alert us to examine the broader influences of foreign medical programs in the social, political, and medical institutions? The overwhelming ideology of philanthropic institutions and the rhetoric of international medical cooperation compel the social analyst to question what is behind altruistic intentions (6). The critical approach represented by the Political Economy of Health maintains that the introduction of medicine in less-developed societies sets in motion very complex interactions affecting the productivity of the local labor force (7-9). Other transformations brought by medicine are perceived in the political balance of a country (10, 11), in the institutions of medical education (12), and in the production of a class-based delivery of health care services (13). The extensive involvement of medical philanthropy in Central and Latin America makes it necessary to analyze the consequences of their public health and medical programs. It is not an exaggeration to

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WH 14

HIGHER FEMALE THAN MALE MORTALITY IN SOME COUNTRIES OF SOUTH ASIA: A DIGEST

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This paper presents statistical evidence, which seems to be conclusive, that there exists a particular pattern of mortality in Ceylon, India and Pakistan where, contrary to general experience, female mortality is higher than that of the males. The sex ratios of the enumerated population in these three countries are among the highest in the world, and the age pattern of the sex ratios is such that they increase from childhood to adulthood to the old ages. Abnormally high sex ratios and selective migration cannot account for this particular pattern, but there is evidence of a higher degree of under-enumeration of females than males. The main responsible factor, however, seems to be higher female mortality, in the ages of maternity as well as in childhood. This shows the need for a regional or local approach to some demographic problems. In this case, for instance, model life tables based on average international experience are not representative.

1. THE PHENOMENON

EXCEEDINGLY high sex ratios among the total population have been observed in the censuses of Ceylon, India and Pakistan, over a number of decades. In addition, the censuses of these countries give a peculiar pattern of sex ratios by age, in which the sex ratios by broad age groups increase from childhood to adulthood to old age. This paper aims at putting together the evidence, which seems to be conclusive, that a main cause of this situation is a particular and local pattern of sex differential in mortality, where female chances of survival are lower than those of the males, throughout most of the age span. This phenomenon, which exists at least among the 20 per cent of world population who live in these countries, is important and deserves more attention among public health workers and sociologists, as well as demographers who need to make special allowance for this situation in forecasting mortality trends and in preparing demographic projections.

An excess of males over females has been observed in all population censuses of Ceylon. This excess is shown in Table 1 by ethnic group in 1946 and 1963. The pattern of increasing sex ratios with age exists among both the indigenous and the immigrant groups. Naturally, the immigrants¹ have higher sex ratios in ages 15 and above, but the pattern is distinct among the indigenous population which constituted 87 per cent of the total population in 1946 and 89 per cent in 1963. In fact, this same pattern of increasing trend existed among each indigenous ethnic group in the country, except for the small group of the "Burghers and Eurasians" which amounted to 0.63 per cent of the total population in 1946 and 0.43 per cent in 1963.²

* The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the United Nations.

¹ The immigrants are the Indian Tamils, Indian Moors, and others. The percentages of these three groups among the total population in 1963 were 10.80, 0.26 and 0.19, respectively.

² This group consists of descendants of Europeans who intermarried with Ceylonese. The 1963 sex ratios in the three consecutive age groups were 1021, 984 and 933.

TABLE 1. SEX RATIOS (MALES PER 1000 FEMALES) BY AGE IN CEYLON, INDIA, PAKISTAN, AND OTHER SELECTED COUNTRIES

Country group and year	Total Enumerated Population (in thousands)	Sex Ratios by age group			
		All Ages	0-14	15-44	45+
CEYLON					
<i>1948 Census</i>					
Total population	6,657	1130	1041	1166	1259
Indigenous	5,784	1100	1045	1113	1199
Sinhalese	4,621	1100	1048	1105	1219
Immigrant	873	1363	1010	1514	1831
<i>1963 Census¹</i>					
Total population	10,590	1082	1035	1063	1275
Indigenous	9,420	1075	1037	1058	1234
Sinhalese	7,518	1071	1038	1049	1231
Immigrant	1,170	1138	1021	1096	1663
INDIA					
<i>1961 Census</i>	356,768	1056	1045	1059	1074
<i>1961 Census</i>	438,775	1063	1057	1055	1100
PAKISTAN					
<i>1961 Census²</i>	73,880	1127	1042	1131	1253
<i>1960 Adjustment</i>					
Total population	101,450	1059	1011	1049	1268
West Pakistan	46,200	1074	1022	1060	1284
East Pakistan	55,250	1047	1002	1039	1253
<i>1961 Census</i>	90,283	1111	1085	1083	1272
INDONESIA					
<i>1961 Census</i>	96,319	973	1019	920	1009
UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC					
<i>1927 Census</i>	14,178	991	1043	961	960
<i>1937 Census</i>	15,921	1002	1031	990	965
<i>1947 Census</i>	18,967	981	1018	971	931
<i>1960 Census</i>	25,771	1012	1067	982	950
TURKEY					
<i>1946 Census</i>	18,790	1011	1120	1031	749
<i>1966 Census</i>	24,065	1034	1094	1050	874
<i>1966 Census</i>	31,391	1032	1078	1031	929
SYRIA					
<i>1960 Census</i>	4,565	1056	1114	1011	999

Sources: Ceylon: Department of Statistics, *Census of Ceylon, 1948*, vol. II, pp. 146-147; and *Census of Ceylon 1963* (10 per cent sample tabulations), vol. I, pp. 23-24, 1967.

India: The 1951 figures were prepared from unsmoothed data supplied to the United Nations Statistical Office. The 1961 size-sex distribution was taken from the United Nations *Demographic Yearbook, 1964*, Table 5, pp. 140-141.

Pakistan: The 1951 and 1961 figures are calculated from census data available in the United Nations *Demographic Yearbooks, 1960*, Table 5, p. 214 and 1965, table 6, p. 190. The source of the 1960 figures is cited in footnote 6.

The remaining countries: United Nations *Demographic Yearbooks 1948-1967*.

¹ 10 per cent sample.

² The sex ratios in this line correspond to the age groups 0-9, 10-39, and 40+, respectively.

An excess in enumerated males is also well known to students of Indian demography.³ It will be noticed in Table 1 that in 1951 the sex ratios were increasing from one age group to the next, and in 1961 the age groups 0-14 and 15-44 had virtually equal sex ratios while the ratio was much higher in ages 45 and above. The excess of males is distinct among most ethnic groups, including Hindus, Muslims, and particularly the Sikhs, with the 1961 sex ratios of the three groups being, respectively, 1062, 1070 and 1177. The only two exceptions are the Christians and the Zoroastrians (Parsis) whose sex ratios in 1961 were 1011 and 963 respectively. These two latter groups constituted only about 2.5 per cent of the total population.⁴ The excess of males is particularly high in the northern belt of states where sex ratios ranging between 1100 and 1157 have been observed in 1961. The only two states in which the 1961 sex ratios were below unity were Kerala (979) and Orissa (999).⁵ Pakistan has also maintained a very high sex ratio in the population enumerated in 1951 and 1961 and the increasing pattern of these ratios with age has prevailed in both West and East Pakistan. As Table 1 shows, the same pattern existed in the estimates for 1960 derived from adjusted 1961 figures and published in a report by the Planning Commission.⁶

The above-illustrated pattern is virtually unique. First, there are very few recent censuses of countries with negligible international migration where the sex ratios of the enumerated population is as high as the 1082 of Ceylon in 1963, the 1063 of India in 1961 or the 1111 of Pakistan in 1961.⁷ Second, the increasing or non-decreasing pattern of sex ratios with age is also almost unique. It will be noticed from Table 1 that neither this level nor the pattern existed in the 1961 census of neighbouring Indonesia. Nor did they exist in the relatively long history of censuses of the UAR and Turkey in the Middle East. It is also to be noted that all the censuses of the UAR and Turkey given in Table 1 show the "normal" decreasing pattern of sex ratios by age. Even in some censuses where the sex ratio of the enumerated population was high, as in Syria in 1960 and in several censuses of Turkey, the decreasing pattern existed.

2. COULD SEX RATIO AT BIRTH OR MIGRATION BE INFLUENCING FACTORS?

Of the four factors which can possibly account for this phenomenon, namely

³ For a detailed study of several aspects of this phenomenon see Visaria, P. M., "The sex ratio of the population of India and Pakistan and regional variations during 1901-61" in Ashish Bose, *Patterns of Population Change in India 1961-81* (Allied Publishers) 1967, pp. 344-345.

⁴ *Census of India, 1961*, vol. I, Part II-C(i), Social and Cultural Tables and *Census of India, Paper No. 1 of 1963, 1961 Census: Religion*.

⁵ *Census of India, Paper No. 1 of 1962; 1961 Census: Final Population Totals, 1962*.

⁶ Planning Commission, Perspective Planning Section, *Population Projections for Pakistan, 1964*.

⁷ In all countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America that had a population over one million in 1965, the censuses taken since 1960 show that only two countries had equally high sex ratios: these are Libya (1083) and Iran (1070). The 1953 census on China (Mainland) gave an overall sex ratio of 1076, but the increasing pattern of sex ratios with age did not exist. Taiwan's 1966 census showed a sex ratio of 1121 in the total population; this value is extremely doubtful not just because it is presented as provisional in the 1967 *Demographic Yearbook* but mainly because it is highly inconsistent with the corresponding values of 1038 observed in the 1956 census and 1059 provided by the population register for July 1966. Moreover, the increasing pattern of sex ratios with age did not exist in any of these age-sex distributions of Taiwan.

⁸ Among all countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America with a population over one million in 1965, the most recent census or survey had this increasing pattern of sex ratios only in the three countries under discussion here and Southern Rhodesia (African population). The "normal" decreasing pattern was observed in 16 out of 74 censuses. It is interesting to note that in 49 countries (66 per cent) the sex ratio curve had a trough in ages 15-44. This latter observation deserves attention since, in addition to the possibility of sex differences in misstatement of age, it may be indicative of relatively high under-enumeration of males in the working ages in many countries.

TABLE 3. A. SPECIFIC DEATH RATES IN CEYLON, INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Age	Absolute Values (per 1000)								Ratio of female rate to male rate (per cent)						
	Ceylon				India				Pakistan		Ceylon		India		Pakistan
	1953		1963		1958-59 ^a		1956-60 ^b		1962-65		1953	1963	1958-59	1956-60	1962-65
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F					
0-1-4	33.6	32.6	66.3	54.8					232	194					84
			8.4	10.4					25	33	97	124			132
					30.2	30.7	19.2	28.8					102	150	
5-9	3.0	3.6	1.9	2.1					4	4	120	111			100
10-14	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.1							108	92			
15-19	1.7	2.3	1.5	1.5							135	100			
20-24	2.0	3.6	2.1	2.6							180	124			
25-29	2.4	4.1	2.5	3.2	4.5	6.2	1.9	5.2	4	7	183	128	138	274	175
30-34	2.9	4.5	2.5	3.3							155	132			
35-39	3.9	5.4	3.5	3.8							138	109			
40-44	4.8	5.2	4.7	4.7							108	100			
45-49	7.1	6.8	6.8	6.0							96	88			
50-54	9.2	8.6	9.0	7.1							93	79			
55-59	14.6	12.5	13.8	11.9							86	86			
60-64	21.8	18.3	19.3	16.3	32.9	24.3	30.7	31.9	33	32	84	84	74	104	97
65-69			35.2	33.5								95			
70-74	72.4	77.5	56.0	50.5							107	90			
75+			141.0	154.0								109			
All ages	10.7	11.1	8.8	8.5	19.3	19.3	14.6	19.1	19	20	107	97	97	131	105

^a For rural areas only.

^b For 16 villages in the Ludhiana District, Punjab.

Sources: for Ceylon, U. N. Demographic Yearbook, 1960, Table 19, p. 142. For India and Pakistan: See footnotes 28 and 30 in the text.

an abnormally high sex ratio at birth, larger relative emigration of females or immigration of males, higher female mortality compared to that of the males, and relatively larger under-enumeration of females, the first two can perhaps be discarded despite the inadequacy of data. While sex ratios at birth lower than 105-106 have been observed in certain population groups, much higher ratios have not been frequently encountered, except among small groups where sampling error can account for the excess. In Ceylon where registration is known to be relatively much more complete than in other countries in the region, this ratio fluctuated annually between 103.2 and 104.0 during 1955-67. Several Ceylonese demographers have used values of the sex ratio at birth below the international average. Raja Indra, for instance, adopted the ratio of 104.0 observed in 1940-1944 since during these years the need to obtain rationed commodities stimulated registration of births.⁹ Again there is no evidence of a higher than normal sex ratio at birth in India or Pakistan. Since registration information in India is not reliable, the Demographic Training and Research Centre, Bombay, collected data on the sex ratio at birth among the births which took place during 1949-58 in hospitals and health centres. Among the total of 1,441,000 such reported births in all India, the sex ratio was 106.0.¹⁰

Sizable female emigration from Ceylon can be excluded since the indigenous Ceylonese migrated little out of the Island.¹¹ Moreover, the fact that the same pattern exists among the indigenous population excludes immigration as an important influencing factor. Neither can the observed excess of males in India be attributed, to any significant extent, to emigration from India. Not only has emigration from India been insignificant when compared to the total population, but also this migration has been highly masculine. Post-partition population transfers between India and Pakistan cannot be a significant factor in the observed excess of males. Visaria estimates the impact of the refugee movement on the sex ratio of the 1951 enumerated population of both countries to be less than half of one per cent. Moreover, these movements were apparently "family" migrations. From a discussion of sex ratios based on "persons born in the state," the author concludes that the high magnitude of the sex ratio in the northern belt in India is not, in the main, the result of selective migration. Nor does migration seem to be a significant factor in the high sex ratio observed in Pakistan, since high ratios existed for many decades prior to independence. Thus in Sind and Baluchistan the sex ratio has always been above 1200.¹²

3. THE EFFECT OF FEMALE UNDER-ENUMERATION

It seems evident, therefore, that the pattern of sex ratios observed in these three countries can be accounted for only in terms of relative female under-enumeration or mortality, or both. Several census reports of Ceylon discard the possibility of excessive under-enumeration of females and mention higher female mortality as the main cause of the relative deficiency in enumerated

⁹ Raja Indra, R., *Sinhalese Population Growth 1911-1946*. Department of Census and Statistics, Ceylon, 1955, pp. 7-8. See also Sarkar, N. K., *The Demography of Ceylon*, 1957, pp. 25 and 32.

¹⁰ Demographic Training and Research Centre, Bombay, *Newsletter*, Issue No. 2, August 1960, p. 17.

¹¹ See, for instance, Raja Indra, *op. cit.*, Appendix C, pp. 46-47 and Sarkar, *op. cit.*, pp. 187-189.

¹² Visaria, *op. cit.*, pp. 344-349. Kingsley Davis has estimated in his *Population of India and Pakistan*, Princeton University Press, 1951, p. 98, that the proportion of those living abroad and descending from an origin in the sub-continent was about one per cent of the total population of India and Pakistan.

females.¹⁵ The 1921 census report adds that "Further, on the assumption of under-statement of females, one would expect the proportion of males among the Mohammedans to have been very high, say higher than the Sinhalese, among whom the women are allowed more freedom. But this is not the case."¹⁶ The same type of argument was stressed in the 1911 census of India.¹⁷

Successive censuses of India have repeated the same regional pattern of sex ratios. The 1951 Census Report estimates, on the basis of post-enumeration check, that even though there was more under-enumeration of females than males, adjustment for relative under-enumeration would lower the sex ratio for India by only two points per thousand,¹⁸ and hence would not account in any significant degree for the excess of males in the enumerated population. Surveys have also given larger numbers of males in the population. For instance, the fourteenth round of the National Sample Survey which dealt with "Fertility and Mortality Rates in Rural India" gave larger numbers of males in the rural areas of all states except Orissa, Madras and Kerala. The sex ratio of all rural India was 1038.¹⁷ Though no information is available on the extent of sex difference in degree of under-enumeration as measured by the 1961 post-enumeration check, there is some evidence that the sex difference was similar to that of the 1951 check.¹⁸ In Pakistan, the above-mentioned Planning Commission's report on population projections states that the 1961 census contains substantial under-enumeration of females and children and gives the following estimates of under-enumeration: 2.75 million (5.5 per cent) among males and 4.70 million (11.0 per cent) among females.¹⁹ Recently published population projections for Pakistan prepared at the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics again concede the existence of relatively higher under-enumeration of females and make an adjustment equal to 1.84 million (3.7 per cent) among males and 3.54 million (7.6 per cent) among females.²⁰ But again the adjusted age-sex distribution has an overall sex ratio of 1066, with ratios equal to 1031, 1079 and 1144 in the three consecutive age groups, which is the same pattern shown in Table 1.

There is thus evidence in the three countries to indicate that, although available censuses suffer from higher under-enumeration of females, this particular factor apparently cannot account solely or even perhaps substantially for the observed level and age pattern of the sex ratio.

One should add that even though several censuses in countries of Asia and North Africa seem to indicate higher under-enumeration of females, existing statistical evidence cannot lend full support to the view that this result is to

¹⁵ As early as 1819, Pridham observed the correlation between the sex ratio and the general living conditions. See: Pridham, C., *An Historical and Statistical Account of Ceylon and its Dependencies*, vol. I, 1819, p. 451.

¹⁶ *Census of Ceylon: 1921*, vol. I, Part II, p. 3, 1916, vol. I, Part I, p. 144 and 1953, vol. I, *General Report*, 1957.

¹⁷ See: *Census of India 1951*, vol. I, India, Part I—A Report, p. 57.

¹⁸ *Census of India 1961*, vol. I, India, Part I—A Report, p. 58.

¹⁹ *The National Sample Survey, 14th Round 1965-1969*, No. 76, *Fertility and Mortality Rates in Rural India*, The Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India, 1963, pp. 114-115.

²⁰ *Census of India, Paper No. 1 of 1962, Final Population Totals—1961 Census, 1962*, p. vi and *Vizaria*, pp. 60-61, p. 350. Needless to say, if the extent of under-enumeration is anywhere near the 11 persons per 1000 enumerated in 1951 and 7 per 1000 enumerated in 1961 as given in the census reports, then such figures cannot account for the observed excess of males in the enumerated population, no matter what the sex difference in under-enumeration was like. See: *Census of India*, vol. I, Part II-A(i), *General Population Tables*, 1964.

²¹ *Op. cit.*, p. 1.

²² Boni, A. L., et al., *Population Projections for Pakistan 1960-2000*, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Karachi, 1963, pp. 7-12.

be expected on cultural grounds. If we take countries around the Indian Peninsula we find that censuses taken in 1960-1961 gave sex ratios among the total population equal to 973 in neighbouring Moslem Indonesia, 970 in neighbouring Hindu Nepal and 1004 in neighbouring Buddhist Thailand. As Table 1 shows, the sex ratio of the enumerated population in the United Arab Republic has ranged between 991 and 1012.²¹

4. SEX DIFFERENTIALS IN MORTALITY

The main question is then whether a higher female than male mortality exists (or existed) in Ceylon, India and Pakistan and whether this sex difference can account, in addition to under-enumeration, for the observed high sex ratios.²² The existence of this sex differential has been indicated by several demographers.²³ This situation was also frequent in the West and non-Western Europe before World War I.²⁴

²¹ In addition to the readings in Table 1, the sex ratios were 1008 in 1907 and 1003 in 1917.

²² This does not mean that Ceylon, India and Pakistan are the only three countries in the world where female mortality is higher than that of the males. In fact, in neighbouring Iran, if one accepts the hypothesis that the second census taken in 1966 had better coverage than the first census of 1956, the 1966 sex ratio of 1070 may well be indicative of higher female than male mortality in that country. The higher reliability of the 1966 census is stated by Bhasier, J., in: "A Note on the Population of Iran, 1900-1966," *Population Studies*, vol. XXII, No. 2, July 1968, p. 277. The author bases this view on the opinions of several sources.

²³ See particularly Sarkar, *op. cit.*, Visaria, *op. cit.*, and Rukanuddin, A. R., "A study of the sex ratio in Pakistan," in *Studies in Demography of Pakistan*, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Karachi, 1967, pp. 139-225.

²⁴ For a detailed presentation and discussion, see Stolnitz, George J., "A century of international mortality trends: II," *Population Studies*, Vol. X, No. 1, July 1956, pp. 17-42.

TABLE 2. LIFE EXPECTANCIES AT BIRTH IN CEYLON,
INDIA AND PAKISTAN

	CEYLON				
	1921	1946	1950	1955	1960-62
Males	32.7	46.8	56.4	58.1	61.9
Females	30.7	44.7	54.8	57.1	61.4
Females-Males	-2.0	-2.1	-1.6	-1.0	-0.5
	INDIA				
	1901-11	1921-31	1931-41	1941-50	1951-60
Males	22.6	26.9	32.1	32.5	41.9
Females	23.3	26.6	31.4	31.7	40.6
Females-Males	+0.7	-0.3	-0.7	-0.8	-1.3
	PAKISTAN				
	1962-64				
Males	49.6				
Females	46.9				
Females-Males	-2.7				

Sources: For Ceylon and India, except for 1931-41: United Nations *Demographic Yearbook*, 1967, Table 29, p. 704. The 1931-41 values for India are quoted from Davis, K., *op. cit.*, p. 62. For Pakistan: Yusuf, F., "Abridged life tables for Pakistan and its provinces, 1962-61," in IUSSP *Contributed Papers, Sydney Conference, 1967*, pp. 533-541. The death rates are those provided by the Population Growth Experiment during 1962-64.

Available values of life expectancies at birth in the three countries indicate the existence of the sex differential, as may well be seen in Table 2. Because of the varying degrees of accuracy of original data, with regard to both country and time, the levels and trends of the results in this table should be interpreted cautiously. The main weight of the figures lies perhaps in their consistency and in the fact that the excess female mortality has been accepted by the authors and the users. For instance, the 1951 census report of India makes the following comment in this connection: "there is a traditional fondness for male issues in most parts of the country and a corresponding dislike for female children. All the affection and care is bestowed on male children but female children are not much cared for."²⁵

It should be pointed out that in one instance a life table for India which was derived by the stable age distribution method applied to the 1951 census sex-age distribution gave a higher female e_0 , namely 34.7 years, as against 33.5 for males. The authors make the following important comment: "Thus there is a choice between explaining the recorded masculinity of the Indian population by assuming that the subordinate position of women caused their omission from the census, or by assuming that it caused their death in childhood. We have chosen the former explanation; the official census publication data and life tables in effect accept the latter. Quite probably the truth lies somewhere in between; females are doubtless undercounted somewhat more than males, and their risks of death exceed the male in childhood somewhat more than our life table shows."²⁶ This latter conclusion by the authors, which is substantiated by subsequent statistical evidence, seems to summarize the situation, at least in India and Pakistan. It is to be noted also that a recent study which allowed for the influence of mortality decline on the age distribution of India, has given as "quasi-stable" estimates of life expectation at birth during 1951-61, 37.80 years for males and 36.98 years for females.²⁷

Female mortality in the maternity ages 15 to 45 has been, and still is, particularly high relative to that of the males in the same ages. This can well be seen from Table 3, where the 1953 female death rate in Ceylon was over 80 per cent higher than that of the males in the most reproductive ages 20-29. In 1963, the excess in the same ages was still over 25 per cent; and in the age group 30-34 the excess was still almost one third of the male rate. In India, the female death rate in the reproductive ages 15-44 was 38 per cent higher than that of the males in the fourteenth round of the National Sample Survey (rural India, 1958-59),²⁸ and as much as 174 per cent higher in the Khanna Survey (Punjab, 1956-60).²⁹ Again in Pakistan the Population Growth Estimate (PGE) experiment which was conducted during 1962-65 on a national probability sample,

²⁵ *Census of India*, Paper No. 2, 1951, Life Tables--1951 Census, p. 26.

²⁶ Coale, A. J. and Hoover, B. M., *Population Growth and Economic Development in Low-Income Countries*, Oxford University Press, 1959, p. 351.

²⁷ P. M. Vauria, *Mortality and Fertility in India 1951-61* (Mimeo-graphed), Table 10, n. 28.

²⁸ *The National Sample Survey, Fourteenth Round: July 1958-June 1960, No. 76 Fertility and Mortality Rates in India*, Government of India, Calcutta, 1963, Table 5.2, p. 17. The Sample covered 2,500 villages, 234,000 households and 1.2 million persons.

²⁹ The survey was undertaken in 16 villages of the Ludhiana district in the Punjab. It gave sex ratios of total population very similar to those shown by the 1951 and 1961 censuses for the study villages. The resulting mortality rates given in Table 3, which are quoted from Vauria, *op. cit.*, p. 302, resulted from permanent observation by resident trained data collectors.

has shown that in ages 15-44 the female rate was 75 per cent higher than that of the males.³⁰

There is thus ample evidence in Table 3 to show that high maternal mortality is a major reason for the observed excess in female mortality. In addition, the table clearly indicates the existence of higher female mortality among young children above the first year of life. Thus, in Ceylon the excess in the female death rate in ages 1-4 was 24 per cent both in 1955 and 1963, while in ages 5-9 this excess was 19 per cent in 1955 and 11 per cent in 1963.³¹ In Pakistan the excess in the 1-4 age group was 32 per cent, while the male and female rates in ages 5-14 were equal. In India, the specific female death rate in ages 0-14 given by the Khanna study was 50 per cent higher than that of the males. The National Sample Survey indicates very little excess female mortality in ages 0-14 as a whole, but since the same survey gives a much lower infant mortality rate among females than among males (138 as against 153),³² the results clearly imply a higher female mortality rate in ages 1-14.

It is very puzzling to note, however, that available data do not indicate excessive female infant mortality relative to that of the males. Clearly the ratios of 82-84 per cent of the female to the male infant death rate in Ceylon in 1955 and 1963 and in the PGE results for Pakistan, and perhaps even the 90 per cent ratio of the female to the male infant mortality rates given by the Indian National Sample Survey, are so low that they raise suspicion. However, it is perhaps very doubtful that the degree of registering or reporting female infant deaths would be so seriously different from the corresponding degree among female deaths in the rest of the age span. Actually, other factors affecting the accuracy of the data being of equal influence, one has to assume that in Ceylon in 1963 and in the PGE in Pakistan there were, respectively, a 50 per cent and a 58 per cent under registration or under reporting of female infant deaths if one is to obtain a female to male ratio of death rates in infancy equal to that observed in ages 1-4. This assumption seems highly unlikely at least in Ceylon, which does not show evidence of serious relative neglect of registering female deaths in ages one and above and where the registered sex ratio at birth does not indicate more reluctance to report female births. In any case, if the figures on infant mortality presented here are not so erroneous as to reverse the truth, the result clearly poses a challenge to the view that female infants are given less attention, at present, than males on cultural grounds. Actually, if the sex differential is due to "attention" or "neglect," then available evidence seems to indicate that this factor operates after the baby is on her own feet.

The evidence thus seems to be conclusive that female mortality is higher, not only in the maternity ages, but also among young children. There seems to be little difference between the rates of mortality of the two sexes in ages 45 and above. The question then arises as to what extent this pattern of mortality could account for the observed sex ratio in the total population. This exercise

³⁰ The data were taken from Selzer, W., *Benchmark Demographic Data for Pakistan: A Review of Summary Estimates Derived from the PGE Experiment*, Pakistan, Institute of Development Economics, Research Report No. 22, Karachi, 1968, Table 7, p. 39.

³¹ In addition to the rates in Table 3, the rates for 1955 were taken from the *United Nations Demographic Yearbook, 1968*, Table 10, p. 412.

³² National Sample Survey, *op. cit.*, Table 5.3, p. 17.

has actually been carried out for India and Pakistan. Visaria has found that the excess of female mortality observed in the Khanna study villages can explain the deficit of females in the Punjab where such deficit is the highest among all states. Even the lower limit of the 95 per cent confidence interval around the sex ratio expected from the Khanna mortality pattern can explain about or over half of the imbalance of the sexes in the Punjab in various censuses.

The author also finds that excess female mortality with an average level equal to that observed in the Ramnagaram Health Centre area during 1950-52, which gave e_0 equal to 53.42 among males and 52.60 among females, would be sufficient to account for the sex ratio of the total population of India.³² Likewise, for Pakistan, Rukanuddin has shown that by taking a growth rate equal to 3 per cent and life expectancies at birth equal to 46.85 among males and 45.00 among females, this level of mortality can account for most of the observed relative deficiency in the enumerated females in 1961. The balance of the deficiency, which would then be ascribed to higher relative female under-enumeration, would be of the order of 2 per cent above an assumed level of under-enumeration of males. More of the female deficiency would naturally be accounted for by mortality if the female level is below that mentioned above.³⁴

5. TRENDS IN THE GAP BETWEEN FEMALE AND MALE MORTALITY

Ceylon is the only one among the three countries for which the age-sex specific mortality data presented in Table 3 can show recent trends. The data in Table 3 show that a main contributor to the gain in the relative level of female mortality in Ceylon has been the considerable improvement in maternal mortality, which reduced by 22 per cent the ratio of the female mortality rate to that of the males in ages 15-44 during the decade 1953-63. In ages 1-9, where the gap has also been serious, the ratio in ages 5-9 fell by 8 per cent during the same period, but there is no evidence of relative improvement in ages 1-4, since data for 1955 indicate that in this age group the ratio of the death rates of the two sexes was the same in 1963 as it was in 1955. As Table 2 shows, the decline has brought about a considerable narrowing of the longevity gap between the two sexes, from 2.1 years at the onset of the more rapid mortality decline in 1946 to 0.5 in 1963. Life expectancies for India presented in Table 2 show no evidence of a narrowing of this gap, but it must be remembered that even in 1951-60, the mortality level was still considerably higher than it was in Ceylon in 1946 and that the 1951-60 values of e_0 are the only readings yet available since the onset of the recent mortality decline.

If we try to visualize future trends in the sex differential by studying the assumptions made in recent population projections, we find that no narrowing of the gap is assumed in the projections up to 1980 prepared by the Registrar General of India. For lack of information, these projections maintain constant the deficiency of 1.3 years in e_0 shown by the 1951-61 life tables.³⁵ On the

³² *Op. cit.*, pp. 356-360.

³³ *Op. cit.*, pp. 216 and 218.

³⁵ Registrar General, India, *Revised Population Projections* (mimeographed), preliminary draft, 1967. These projections were prepared in 1964.

	1960-65		1980-85		Average Annual Gain	
	East	West	East	West	East	West
Males	49.2	51.1	60.8	61.3	.58	.50
Females	46.9	48.7	63.8	63.8	.84	.75
Females-Males	-2.3	-2.4	+3.0	+2.5	.26	.24

other hand, projections for Pakistan prepared recently at the Institute of Development Economics make the assumptions shown below concerning future trends in life expectancy of males and females in East and West Pakistan.²⁴ Thus, the projections assume not only a bridging of the gap but a continuation of female gain over the males. In view of the higher mortality level in the East, a faster average annual gain than that in the West is assumed for both sexes, but it is not clear why the females in the East, who had a lower e_0 than their counterparts in the West, should end up in 1980-85 with a larger gain over the males than in the West. On the average, the figures imply an annual gain in e_0 equal to a quarter of a year of females over males.

If we consider the effect of a possible improvement in registration in Ceylon to have a negligible effect on the study of difference in e_0 between the two sexes, the results in Table 2 indicate an almost constant pace of female gain in life expectancy over males equal to 0.1 of a year every calendar year since 1946. In view of the complexity of factors involved and differences in level as well as in sex differential, it is difficult to say whether such a pace of improvement as observed in Ceylon can be used in predicting future trends in India and Pakistan where the present mortality level is similar to that of Ceylon in the late 1940's. Though this pace may be acceptable *a priori* in India where the gap is small, the question that cannot be answered here is whether a faster pace, similar to that adopted in the Pakistan projections referred to above, would be more plausible. This question is important mainly in social development; demographic projections for the next twenty years will not be seriously influenced by the difference between the alternatives.

6. CONCLUDING REMARKS

The above observations indicate the need for a regional or local approach to the analysis of some demographic problems. "Borrowing" experience from developed countries or from countries that have data, though useful for many purposes, may not in some cases be logical or even plausible. For instance, in the countries studied here, it is clear from the above results that neither the present situation nor the trends in the near future are reflected in the model life tables derived from average international experience, which automatically provide a relationship between the levels of mortality among males and females once the level in the whole population is given. Even within the same region, generalizations attributed to "culture" may be over-simplifications.

²⁴ Huan, A. L., *et al.*, *op. cit.*, pp. 13-17.

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