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## PROFILE OF MANDAL SAMAKHYAS VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS AND THE RESPONDENTS OF MEDAK DISTRICT.

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**Abstract:** Women's empowerment in Andhra Pradesh has been there. But is originate recently from the unstuck movement started by the state's rural women in the 1990s. Some media commented as a development due to women's literacy movement, Adult education and dissent of women about several deaths due to liquor tragedies. The world Bank support is 2000 made A.P government expand the programme as a thrift based programme where women could make small savings. There by they learn to make their own resources and meet their family's needs regarding food and medicine. This programme was called velugu and several Mss and VOs were also involved. Velugu programme is called and expanded as Indira kranthi pathan (IKP) for the all round development of poor women ikp is thus a portal for social, legal political and economic empowerment of poor women in Andhra Pradesh. The sample studied in the area selected for the study is active and ikp is beneficial (/H: WB Rept on wn empt.ap.htm/)

**Introduction:** The MSs and VOs hope to secure grants through AP government. The World Bank's AP Rural poverty reduction project. IT supports the programme and hence It contributed to women's empowerment directly and indirectly. In other words, it promoted women's social, economic legal and political empowerment to reduce poverty among the poor and the poorest of the poor.

It is important to note as to how VOs and Mss can play the role. First of all they have to be aware of the World Bank projects that take the women's self-help group (SHG) movement realize its objectives. The resources are for youth and schools, jobs and scholarships, procurement and tenders and client connections, in all 22 districts of A.P. It has become the model for livelihood programmes in other states too including Tamilnadu and Bihar.

The women Self help groups hold regular weekly meetings, save and repay regularly. They use trained book keepers for proper book keeping. These members abide by the principles of avoiding child marriages, child labour, domestic violence and marriages, child labour, domestic violence and wasteful expenditure in family and society. These weekly meetings of SHGs are helped by the VOs and MSs as they provide platform for sharing and discussing broad social, legal, political and economic issues affecting their lives. These issues range from entitlements to land access to NREGA and PDs. They discuss the work of teachers and health workers. In case of domestic violence they also discuss women's rights.

Another important programme of these organizations is to discuss family planning, the number of children they should have and the spacing between births, to protect the health of women. World Banks' expenditure the world over helps in realizing and implementing a significant change in their ability to exercise reproductive choice within the household. These are radical changes in a conservative society of rural India. Hence the VOs and MSs should play a sensitive role that helps in realizing the fruits of empowerment.

The profile of there organizations are linked with key

outcomes. Their work is a continuous and evolving process. These poor women's groups have made a number of gains I different spheres. In Medak districts women's groups prevented over 5000 child marriages. A study by center for economic and social studies (CESS) in Hyderabad found that child marriages have declined among project participants. These groups campaign against women aereo braking and girl children with the support of police, the revenue administration and VOs and MSs.

These organizations bid for reducing child labour and campaigned for residential schools in six districts. This provides equality education to girl child laborers. The area of study is a beneficiary among 40,000 girls who are now enrolled in these schools. This is a good beginning and studies have to be made regarding impact evaluation. The students are keen because of hope and commitment and the schools claim regular attendance, academic results and facilities provided to them. CESS reports state that there is a fall in the school drop out rate from 14.8% to 4.3% in 2005-2006.

Women's empowerment is hundred because of exploitative social practices against them. These groups hold regular "Dharnas, Rasta rook" programmes. They claim success in eradicating exploitative social practices such as the "Jogini" (temple concubine) system Medak activists of these organizations have formed community activist group to check this outdated system. A confession from a Jogini says. "I was made a Jogini when I was eleven years old by my parents. Joining the SHG gave me confidence and despite opposition, I got married to lead a normal life. There are still thousands of Jogini still operating in around my community, whom we are trying to rehabilitate. AS the children of these Jogini mothers are considered illegitimate by the village, we are going to conduct DNA tests for four thousand of them to determine who their father is and ask them for support. We want to ensure that these children are proud of their mothers and lead a normal life". This case study illustrates how these groups can play a dynamic role. And in Medak district role. And in Medak district such joginis themselves have formed village

organizations as community activists against the Jugini system.

Women's groups also discuss sensitive issues such as gender violence and make special efforts to identify victims and help them to start new livelihoods. These groups take help from finding agencies to improve food security of the poor over a half million households in six districts have benefited from access to food grains and other essential commodities of good quality at cheaper or lower rates on credit basis. Destitute women, especially elderly widows are helped by a special programme. In Medak also called methuku in old terminology, a fistful of rice is contributed by every member to a common pool. From this rice is distributed among these destitute women. Some groups also work to provide Health insurance for the poor on a pilot basis. A community managed risk fund is formed to provide quick financial support to meet family's health expenditure.

Under this, 1.2 million women SHG members purchased life insurance cover. Over 160,000 disabled persons have been mobilized into some 17,500 SHGs and have received support to start new livelihoods. The World Bank project has facilitated the resolution of several land issues affecting the poor including the restoration of illegally occupied land. Para legal people have been

trained and lock adalats (public courts) with the help of a law college at Hyderabad were conducted. This was to create a land rights center or tribal areas. Land access for tribal and the poor is one such activity of these groups under the project. Improved farming practices are also practiced by members of these groups. Women's groups also developed a local movement against the indiscriminate use of pesticides, covering 186,000 acres by 2006-07. They replaced chemical and other external inputs with local talent and natural methods of pest management. Thus the women groups reduce the cost of cultivation. This means that a farmer will have about 75% of increase in his/her income. Such situations contribute to farmer's health. Social empowerment issues are the basis of economic empowerment of women. Several groups have enabled women's organizations to develop the skills to negotiate with market institutions and develop other financial services. All these services have contributed to political empowerment of women in the districts. Grassroots leaders have been developed because of these programme in the local government elections 32,000 candidates filed their nominations for a variety of positions. Among them 9500 women from SHGs and MSs were elected at various levels. This case illustrates political empowerment in Medak district.

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