

15th **Annual Report** **2020**



DALIT
STHREE SAKTHI





Dalit Sthree Sakthi

*15th
Annual Report*

2020

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FOREWORD



Jhansi Geddam
National Convener
Dalit Sthree Sakthi

The year 2020 has been significant in many ways. It will go in the history of mankind for the terror created by Covid-19. The COVID-19 pandemic is far more than a health crisis. The lockdown in India, gave rise to multiple issues of social, educational, economic, political, agricultural, psychological which had created devastating impact on the lives of the people in general and vulnerable people in particular. During the lock-down those who didn't have resources left with them have started to move to their villages because of the unavailability of jobs and money in the cities. Unprecedented exodus of migrant workers from across the states walking thousands of miles barefoot with their children, pregnant wives will go on record as a major calamity in the post independent India. The virus threat affected the social, political and economic life of the entire world. Unforeseen and hitherto never imagined ways of living emerged in the wake of Covid-19. New terminology like lock-down, social distancing and ways of life came into being. Everyone is seen wearing a mask on the face and a sanitizer in the pocket. Public meetings, large scale gatherings for religious, political and social events are forgotten. Schools, colleges, private and government hostels and all other educational institutions remained closed for about an year. Public transport like buses and trains are closed for more than an year and only recently a limited transport started operating. Most people remained indoors for long times which resulted in physical, psychological problems like obesity, rise in domestic violence. New forms of interaction like online education or judiciary, has brought about major transformation in education and judiciary. But, again the benefits from these transformations were limited to the elite because of the gap in the digital connectivity of our country.

Added to the Covid crisis unprecedented rains and loss of crops had driven dalit tenant farmers to bankruptcy. Thus, this year's annual general body meeting is being held in the bleak scenario of all round deteriorating economic situation for the people, particularly for dalits. The prices of all essential commodities sky rocketed and dalits are driven to starvation due to lack of purchasing power to buy daily needs. The women lost employment as wage labor due to the crisis in agriculture.

Despite all odds, DSS carried on its activities to extent possible. DSS developed whatsapp groups and monitored the dalit women situation during the lock-down. DSS provided relief to the needy dalit families and mobilized such relief from government and other sources. Despite the Covid threat, during 2020 DSS addressed more than 120 incidents of violence on dalit women and girl children and stood in support of the victims. In an incident in Guntur when a six year old girl belonging to beggar community was raped, DSS intervened and mobilized immediate succour from the District Collector to save the family. DSS could conduct the Round Table Conferences in both the states through Zoom and carried out other programmes like , gender campaigns, conferences also by taking necessary precautions.

This year is special for DSS as it completes fifteen years of its inception. A brief recapitulation of fifteen years journey of DSS is not out of context. Dalit Stree Sakthi (DSS) is the only organization in the state of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana that works exclusively for the empowerment of Dalit, adivasi women and girl children. For the past fifteen years, DSS has been implementing programmes aimed at uniting the dalit women on to one platform and facilitating their empowerment so that they can defend their rights by questioning all violations.

Being dalit and being woman means multiple discrimination. Dalit women are born into an 'untouchable' caste in an apartheid-like system designed to oppress them, deny them their rights. The severe discrimination they face from being both a Dalit and a woman, makes them a key target of violence and systematically denies them choices and freedoms in all spheres of life. Dalit women often are forced into the market of modern slavery and are key targets for trafficking into slave labour and prostitution. These peculiar forms of oppression and specific reality of dalit women was not in the agenda of the feminist movements. Thus there was a vacuum as far as the human rights of dalit women are concerned. In such a neglected context where there was none to talk specifically about dalit women and their peculiar needs, DSS emerged to fill the vacuum and give voice to the dalit women in 2006. Now, after a decade and half, DSS is a force to reckon with having established about 210 women collectives, totalling to 1500 women collective members. These women collectives have influence on dalit women of their villages which is approximately 1.5 lakhs. In the course of decade and half journey in enabling empowerment and struggling for entitlements, DSS was able to address 5000 major and 15000 minor atrocities on dalit women/girl children, conducted 16 Round Table Conferences, 11 Public Hearings, campaigned through various means including Radha Yatras consecutively for 4 years, covering approximately 5000 kilometres of travel every year. The total amount of compensation procured by the victims of atrocities with the assistance of DSS is huge and runs into crores of rupees. DSS presented multitude of petitions/representations to various authorities, human rights commissions in the decade and half. Dalit women were trained on gender and other relevant issues through regular trainings. We take pride not only in the magnitude of the work turned out by us, but also the quality. DSS stands out to be one of the working organization well known in the Government circles, media and other NGOs in the State of A.P. and Telangana. The entire organization spent many hours brainstorming on our growth plans and the impact we made and expect to make so that every dalit women is well informed and where dalit women and girl children are empowered to stand up against violence and demand their rightful entitlements. The decade and half also saw significant engagements and DSS was fortunate to host high profile visitors, like: state level officials of Police, Social Welfare, Women and Child Welfare, Judiciary departments, State & National Commissions. The media coverage of DSS activities is innumerable and runs into thousands of news items published throughout each year. A niche for DSS is the innumerable awards conferred on it during the past 15 years by reputed organizations.

The past serves as a strong foundation for DSS to concentrate further on the consolidation and expansion of the achievements. We hope to carry out the empowerment process of dalit women and girl children to new heights in the years to come. The achievements and strength of DSS is not its own or exclusive. We are humble enough to be aware that the support of various sections of people, the media, the intellectuals, government officials, and other democratic minded organizations is behind the success of DSS. We are thankful to each and every one that supported and strengthened DSS in multifarious ways. We commit ourselves to the continue the path of dalit women empowerment and appeal to all democratic forces to extend their support in future also.

EMPOWERING DALIT GIRL CHILDREN

Give Quality Education to Dalit Girl Children:

DSS firmly believes that only through quality education dalit girl children can be capacitated and empowered to transform them into future self-reliant women. Only through this process dalit women can break the cycle of discrimination and atrocities committed on them. Towards this objective DSS has been putting all efforts to break the cycle of exclusion and discrimination of dalit girl children through various activities.

The educational backwardness of the dalit communities is generally attributed to poverty and illiterate home environments prevailing among them. But this is only half truth. The poor infrastructural facilities, lack of effective pedagogic methods, mal treatment of dalit girls at schools and hostels adversely affect the schooling of dalit girl children. Despite active encouragement from impoverished family members, the apathetic treatment by teachers and school administrators, exploitation by school staff is having lot of negative impact in sending the dalit girls to schools. Children feel emboldened to study when the school atmosphere is welcoming and encouraging. If the teacher and peers exhibit a loveable atmosphere, the child feels happy to go to school. In most of the schools these days in India, children from dalit communities are humiliated, forced to do labor like cleaning the school premises, cleaning the toilets, often beaten up, ridiculed, made to sit separately due to untouchability, supplied food in leaf plates, forced to wait until everyone completes their lunch etc. Dalit children at an innocent age don't understand why all this is happening and feels withdrawn,

DSS strongly feels that this situation should not continue and had taken up activities to ensure safe environment at schools, hostels and anganwadi centres so as to inspire the dalit parents to send their children for education. DSS has been spreading awareness among the women that education is neither a privilege nor a favour but a basic human right to which all girls and women are entitled. In all its meetings, trainings DSS propagates that Education is a human right and that it is incorporated in article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is necessary to curb all reprehensible, degrading and discriminatory practices that have become routine in the government schools these days. In this regard DSS pays special attention to continuous monitoring of anganwadis, schools, social welfare hostels to see that all sorts discrimination, exploitation is eradicated and dalit girls are given quality education. As part of monitoring, DSS brought out many lapses and other issues in these institutions to the notice of administration and solved them. The children and parents are continually motivated to monitor the institutions along with DSS. Dalit Women Collective members are enlisted in school management committees so that they can play a role for the safety of dalit girls and boys in the schools. With the continuous monitoring by DSS, now there is decrease in exploitation of children and improvement in treating the children. Now there is awareness among the children and parents to address the issue of development and question any violations. Apart from regular monitoring, DSS conducted campaigns for quality education of dalit girl children and was part of the movement for zero discrimination at educational institutions along with NDMJ. DSS conducted workshops on the draft bill aimed at zero discrimination in educational institutions.

Another state level intervention made by DSS for quality education was filing a case in the High Court. In the educational system as it stands now, dalit and other poorer sections of society send their children to government schools for education, where the standards are not up to the mark. They can't afford to join their children in private English medium schools as the fees is high. To break this

scenario and to provide same standard of education to the poor, the Government of A.P. made English compulsory in the government schools and also taken up other measures to improve the standard of education in the government schools. All dalit sections in the society welcomed the decision of the Government and felt happy at the government's decision. But this decision was opposed by a section of people and they challenged the government initiative in High Court. At this juncture, Dalit Sthree Sakthi intervened and opposed the writ petition as respondent along with the Government of A.P.

Parliament enacted Juvenile Justice Act and model rules were framed. The law provides that the States shall frame their own Rules for implementation of the Act. A few states framed the Rules. For the State of Telangana an outline of the Rules was framed and the Commissioner of Women and Child Welfare was assigned the task of finalizing the Rules so that they may be enacted by the Legislative Assembly. The Commissioner of Women and Child Welfare constituted a Committee of 6 experts to deliberate and finalize the Rules. Jhansi Geddani, Convener of Dalit Sthree Sakthi is one of the members of this expert committee. Deliberations spreading over a number of sessions were conducted and Dalit Sthree Sakthi played its role in finalizing the Rules under JJ Act.

Due to the Covid pandemic school were closed for more than 10 months now and the entire academic year was disrupted. Only since two months teaching started through online classes. This online system of running the academic sessions did not reach the government schools and poorer sections. The online classes were limited to private institutions and middle and upper middle class people. There are no computers and internet facilities in government schools. The lower middle class and poorer sections also do not have desk tops/lap tops or smart phones and internet. As such the dalit children are continuing to suffer the loss of academic year. The governments of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have done nothing to solve this situation. But it is reported that in the State of Tamilnadu the government is providing smart phones and internet to poorer sections of the state for the benefit of online classes.

This year, with a view to focus on the importance of education for dalit girl children, DSS organized its annual General Body meeting of Andhra Pradesh with the theme of Give Quality Education to Dalit Girl Children.

DALIT GIRL CHILDREN – ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION

Andhra Pradesh Annual State Conference was held on 25th February 2020 at Conference Hall of Hotel Swarna Palace, Vijayawada.

Every year, Annual General Body meet is conducted to boost the self-esteem of the members and leaders of women collectives of the villages. They will be travelling to the venue from their villages and the very fact of going to a distant place to attend a meeting gives lot of exposure to them. At the venue the dalit women will have the opportunity of interacting with each other. Annual conferences are always held on a theme and the gathering is educated on the theme with high level dignitaries/intellectuals as resource persons.

The theme selected for the Andhra Pradesh General Body was: “**Dalit Girl Children – Access to Quality Education**”.

Eminent personalities were invited to elaborate on the selected theme. The following dignitaries attended the conference and inspired the dalit women gathering

DSS Women Collective leaders and the team members along with the Convener of DSS first garlanded Ambedkar statue near Bus Stand and then Proceeded to the venue of the General Body in a procession.

All the dignitaries first garlanded the photos of Dr BR Ambedkar and Savitribai Phule and then occupied their respective seats on the dais.

The chief guest of this conference is Sri B Raj Sekhar, IAS, Principal Secretary to Govt of AP, School Education, while the other dignitaries were: Sri B Udaya Laxmi, IAS, Health & Medical Department, Principal Secretary to Govt of AP, Sri Chayaran, IAS, Home Secretary, Retd, Sri Yesuratnam, MD of Christian Minorities Corporation, A.P., Sri A Subrahmanyam, Dean of Law, (Retd) Acharya Nagarjuna University, Sanja Ambedkar, Bank Manager, Retd, Sri Manikyam DEE, APTRANSCO, Dr N Siddoji Rao, Convenor, SC, ST IAS/IPS Officers Forum, Sri Daniel Vijay Prakash, National Program Manager of DSS presided the meeting.

Jhansi Geddam, National Convener, Dalit Sthree Sakthi narrated about the activities of DSS since its inception and highlighted the tasks accomplished during the year 2019. The 13th Annual report containing the report of activities done during 2019 in Telugu was released by Sri B Raja Sekhar, IAS and Sri Chayaran, IAS.



Prof. A. Subrahmanyam spoke about the social and political situation in Andhra Pradesh. He commented that the media, people are divided on party lines and their perspectives are influenced by the parties. The two leading political parties and newspapers are divided on caste lines and all other people belonging to various castes including the oppressed castes are divided on the party lines. He suggested that people should raise above prejudices and party affiliations and cultivate the habit of thinking objectively. He asked everyone to introspect their perspectives and prejudices and come out of unconscious influences. He quoted, the famous intellectual, Noam Chomsky and narrated how the media and mainstream political parties 'manufacture consent' of the people on important issues. In this connection he analysed how the dominant media and upper caste political elite manufactured consent of the people in favour of encounter of rapists in the recent incident of rape and murder of



Disa. He suggested everyone to think and study about questions like, why such rapes did not occur 40/50 years ago? What type of 'development' and factors like, western culture, urbanization and industrialization, has turned the rural poor to migrate to urban slums and how these factors created/turned poor youngsters to turn as criminals/rapists? In this connection he quoted Arundhati Roy who felt that more such crimes like

the Delhi gang rape are likely to occur in future in which poorer sections from slums may become rapists.

Sri Udayalakshmi, spoke about the need for hard work and education for achieving women empowerment. She reminded that the rights that the women have now is the result of many historical movements by women. She pointed out that the self-help groups played significant role in developing women and their economic empowerment. She suggested that education is important for women and in this connection, she cited the achievement of Ms. Poorna, a young girl who with her commitment and hard work was able to scale the Everest mountain and hoisted the national flag there. She highlighted the strong roots of democracy in the country and told that this nation was the place for such great personalities like Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Mahatma Gandhi. She drew the attention of the gathering to the fact that women are able to exhibit their strengths and skills in the defence forces on par with men. She called upon the women to improve their life skills and develop further.



Sri Chaya Ratan, explained how the girls hailing from dalit communities are deficient in physical health due to lack of proper nutritional diet. In this connection she narrated her experience that many dalit women could not get selected in police recruitment due to lack of physical fitness requirements, like chest, height, weight etc. She recollected how she worked out to see that a G.O. is issued relaxing physical fitness measurements for

dalit women in view of the fact that dalit women are mostly weak. She called upon the dalit women to see that their girl children are educated properly without leaving the entire responsibility on the teachers/schools.

Sri Rajasekher, highlighted the importance of educating the children. He pointed out that earlier schools were located at long distances and that was the problem for sending the children to schools. But now most of the schools are located within one-kilometre distance but now the problem is about the quality of education in the schools. In most of the schools



the strength is less than 30 as the parents are concerned that the quality is not up to the expectations in these schools. This is an indication that the dalit parents are now seriously concerned about the education of their children, which is a very positive development. He then expressed his opinion that the existing system of school education in Delhi should be replicated in our State also. He called upon the parents to be active and suggested that the parents committees should play key role in streamlining all aspects of the school education and should not leave everything to the teachers/ government.

Mr. Mahesh from Quest Alliance gave power point presentation and he stressed the need to equip the children on Science, Technology, English and Maths (STEM).

Sri Sanja Ambedkar, Dr. Siddoji, Sri. Manikyam, Jayaraj, Sri. Prakash Kumar, K K Raja and Sri. Samuel John stressed the need for education of dalit children and to lay future path for their empowerment.

DSS cultural team inspired the gathering with emotional songs on Ambedkar and songs on dalit lives.



Stress on quality education for Dalit girls

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Vijayawada: School Education Principal Secretary B Rajasekhar said here on Tuesday that education was important for Dalit girls but it was high time the stress should be on quality education. He was addressing the seminar on 'Dalit girl child-Access to quality education' organised in connection with the 14th annual state conference of Dalit Stree Sakthi. Rajasekhar said that State government was giving utmost importance to the girl education. "Earlier, the problem used to be the proximity of the schools for the girls but now the problem is providing quality education," he said.



Principal Secretary, Labour and Employment, B Udayalakshmi addressing the 14th annual State-level conference of Dalit Stree Sakthi in Vijayawada on Tuesday

The principal secretary, elaborating the schooling system in Delhi, stressed on the importance of English medium for dalit girls.

Former IAS officer Chaya Ratan said that women secured rights after long struggles and reforms. She said that the parents should take care of their children to mould them into good citizens. "The teachers should be more responsible in shaping the future

ries of the DSS. She thanked the women leaders who cooperated with the DSS all these years.

She said that they had undertaken gender sensitisation in the schools and villages last year. She exhorted Dalit women to join the mainstream to

retired bank manager Sanja Ambedkar, Manikyam, DE of AP Transco, Dr Siddhoji Rao and others participated in the meeting which was presided by Daniel Prakash, general manager of DSS.

Earlier, Chava Ratan and R.Ra.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Vijayawada

SPEAKERS at a conference on Dalit girl children organised by Dalit Stree Sakthi (DSS) to mark its 14th anniversary stressed the need for equal opportunities in education for girls, so that they can be self-confident. The emphasis of the meet was also on safety and security of women.

Principal Secretary (School Education) B Rajasekhar, the chief guest on the occasion, said education was being given top priority by the government. Emphasising the need for quality education, Rajasekhar elaborated on the education system in Delhi and how important it was to introduce English medium education in government schools, especially in schools for Dalit students.

Pointing out that the majority of such children were students of government schools.



Artists perform during the 14th annual conference of Dalit Stree Sakthi in Vijayawada on Tuesday | PRASANTH MADUGULA

tan stressed the importance of the role of the teachers in educating Dalit girls and also emphasised the need of nutritious food for them.

Geddam Jhansli, national

along with me in DSS' journey in the last 14 years," she said.

She spoke about the need for equal opportunities for Dalit girls in education and other spheres of activity and said

బుధవారం 26 ఫిబ్రవరి 2020

దళిత బాలికలకు నాణ్యమైన విద్య

గవర్నర్ శివ్, మున్సిపల్ : పాఠశాల విద్యను ప్రభుత్వం అత్యధిక ప్రాధాన్యత ఇస్తోందని ప్రధానంగా దళిత బాలికలకు నాణ్యమైన విద్య అందించడానికి లక్ష్యపూరిత ప్రయత్నం చేసేలా పాఠశాల విద్య ప్రోత్సాహం పెంచే బి.రాజశేఖర్ పేర్కొన్నారు. మంగళవారం గవర్నర్ శివ్ లోని ఓ హాల్ లో దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి 14వ మహాసభ నిర్వహించారు. దళిత బాలికలకు నాణ్యమైన విద్య అనే అంశంపై సవస్థు నిర్వహించారు. ముఖ్యఅతిథిగా విద్యమంత్రి బి.రాజశేఖర్ మాట్లాడారు. దళిత బాలికలలో కల్పన అందరినీ, ఎంతో పేదరికంలో ఉన్నా విశ్వవిద్య అందించాలని పేర్కొన్నారు. ఒకప్పుడు పాఠశాలలు దగ్గరలో ఉండేవి కాదు, ఇప్పుడు ప్రతి ఊరిలో పాఠశాలలు ఉన్నాయని తెలిపారు. దళిత పిల్లలకు అందరినీ విద్య అందించడంపై దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి పాఠశాల కృషిపైను ఉదాహరణగా తెలిపారు. మంచి మన పిల్లల ప్రతిభను ప్రోత్సహించేలా పాఠశాలలు చేతిలో పెట్టాలన్నారు. ఆరే కాకుండా పాఠశాల విద్య



వార్షిక సేవేదికను ఆవిష్కరిస్తున్న దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి సభ్యులు

కమిటీ సభ్యులుగా తల్లిదండ్రుల పిల్లల బాధ్యత తీసుకోవాలని కోరారు. ఇవివల్ల అధికారిక రాయదారితో మాట్లాడటం అనేక ఇబ్బందులు, సంస్కరణల తర్వాత స్త్రీలు హక్కులు సాధించారన్నారు. పిల్లల మంచి పాఠశాలలు పెరగాలంటే తల్లిదండ్రులు, ఉపాధ్యాయులు బాధ్యత వహించాలని కోరారు. దళిత బాలికలకు సంపూర్ణ కల్పన కంటే ఉపాధ్యాయుల దివి కల్పన అందరినీ తెలిపారు.

దళిత బాలికలకు సోపానాలను చాలా అవసరమని, శారీరక ధృఢత్వం పొందు మునుపేర ఎదుగుదల పొందుతారన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వెన్షన్ గెట్ల రూపు గత 14 సంవత్సరాల సుదీర్ఘ యాత్రంలో దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి సాధించిన విజయాలను, ఎదురైన అడ్డంకులను వివరించారు. గత ఏడాది పాఠశాలలు, గ్రామంలో ఉపమానకలపై పోరాటం చేశామని తెలిపారు. దళిత స్త్రీలు ఆస్తి యజమానతలకు

దళిత బాలికలకు నాణ్యమైన విద్య

విజయవాడ (గౌండ్ సెన్టర్), ఫిబ్రవరి 26: దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి 14వ రాష్ట్ర మహాసభ సందర్భంగా స్వర్ణ పూర్ణి కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాల్ లో మంగళవారం దళిత బాలికలకు నాణ్యమైన విద్య అనే అంశంపై సవస్థు నిర్వహించారు. ముఖ్యఅతిథిగా మంత్రి బి.రాజశేఖర్, లా.యంత్రం, బి.ఉదయలక్ష్మి ప్రసంగించారు. జానీయర్ ప్రకాష్ అధ్యక్షతన ఆగిన ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో లా.యంత్రం మాట్లాడుతూ అనేక ఉద్యమాలు, సంస్కరణల తర్వాత స్త్రీలు హక్కులు సాధించారన్నారు. పిల్లలు మంచి పాఠశాలలు పెరగాలంటే తల్లిదండ్రులు, ఉపాధ్యాయులు అందుకు బాధ్యత వహించాలన్నారు. దళిత బాలికలకు సంపూర్ణ కల్పన కంటే ఉపాధ్యాయుల దివి కల్పన అందరినీ తెలిపారు. దళిత బాలికలకు సంపూర్ణ కల్పన కంటే ఉపాధ్యాయుల దివి కల్పన అందరినీ తెలిపారు.



దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి 14వ వార్షిక కృషి సేవేదికను ఆవిష్కరిస్తున్న సభ్యులు

దళిత బాలికలకు సోపానాలను చాలా అవసరమని, శారీరక ధృఢత్వం పొందు మునుపేర ఎదుగుదల పొందుతారన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వెన్షన్ గెట్ల రూపు గత 14 సంవత్సరాల సుదీర్ఘ యాత్రంలో దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి సాధించిన విజయాలను, ఎదురైన అడ్డంకులను వివరించారు. గత ఏడాది పాఠశాలలు, గ్రామంలో ఉపమానకలపై పోరాటం చేశామని తెలిపారు. దళిత స్త్రీలు ఆస్తి యజమానకలపై పోరాటం చేశామని తెలిపారు.

విజయవాడ, బుధవారం 26, ఫిబ్రవరి 2020

విశాలాంధ్ర

సమాజంలో అసమానతలను పారద్రోలుదాం

విజయవాడ, బుధవారం 26, ఫిబ్రవరి 2020

సాక్షి

విద్యాభివృద్ధికి ప్రభుత్వం అధిక ప్రాధాన్యం

వి.ఎస్.ఆర్.ఐ.ఐ.టి. రాజశేఖర్

విజయవాడ (వి.ఎస్.ఆర్.ఐ.ఐ.టి.): రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వం విద్య అనే ప్రాధాన్యతను ఇస్తోందని మంత్రి బి.రాజశేఖర్ అన్నారు. విజయవాడలో నిర్వహించిన దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి 14వ రాష్ట్ర మహాసభలో ఆయన పాల్గొన్నారు. ముఖ్య అతిథిగా మంత్రి బి.రాజశేఖర్ మాట్లాడుతూ అనేక ఉద్యమాలు, సంస్కరణల తర్వాత స్త్రీలు హక్కులు సాధించారన్నారు. పిల్లల మంచి పాఠశాలలు పెరగాలంటే తల్లిదండ్రులు, ఉపాధ్యాయులు బాధ్యత వహించాలని కోరారు. దళిత బాలికలకు సంపూర్ణ కల్పన కంటే ఉపాధ్యాయుల దివి కల్పన అందరినీ తెలిపారు.

డ్రం రూపి

స్వల్ప రూపి మూల్యం వల్ల ప్రస్తుత అసమానతలను పూర్తి స్థాయిలో పారద్రోలుట విద్యార్థులకు దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి 14వ వార్షిక సందర్భంగా అనేక అడ్డంకులను ఎదుర్కొన్న ముందుకు విజయవాడలో దళిత మహాసభ జరిగింది. ఆ దిశగా గ్రామీణ దళిత స్త్రీలు ఎదురైన అడ్డంకులను, రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వం తీసుకోవాలన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వెన్షన్ గెట్ల రూపు గత 14 సంవత్సరాల సుదీర్ఘ యాత్రంలో దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి సాధించిన విజయాలను, ఎదురైన అడ్డంకులను వివరించారు. గత ఏడాది పాఠశాలలు, గ్రామంలో ఉపమానకలపై పోరాటం చేశామని తెలిపారు. దళిత స్త్రీలు ఆస్తి యజమానకలపై పోరాటం చేశామని తెలిపారు.

స్వల్ప రూపి మూల్యం వల్ల ప్రస్తుత అసమానతలను పూర్తి స్థాయిలో పారద్రోలుట విద్యార్థులకు దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి 14వ వార్షిక సందర్భంగా అనేక అడ్డంకులను ఎదుర్కొన్న ముందుకు విజయవాడలో దళిత మహాసభ జరిగింది. ఆ దిశగా గ్రామీణ దళిత స్త్రీలు ఎదురైన అడ్డంకులను, రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వం తీసుకోవాలన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వెన్షన్ గెట్ల రూపు గత 14 సంవత్సరాల సుదీర్ఘ యాత్రంలో దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి సాధించిన విజయాలను, ఎదురైన అడ్డంకులను వివరించారు. గత ఏడాది పాఠశాలలు, గ్రామంలో ఉపమానకలపై పోరాటం చేశామని తెలిపారు. దళిత స్త్రీలు ఆస్తి యజమానకలపై పోరాటం చేశామని తెలిపారు.

ఉదయలక్ష్మి సమాజంలో మార్పు కోసం దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి చేస్తున్న కృషి అభినందనీయమన్నారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా దళిత స్త్రీ 14వ వార్షిక సేవేదికను ఆవిష్కరించారు. సభలో క్రీస్టియన్ మైనార్టీస్ కాన్ఫరెన్స్ ఎంపీ యెనురత్నం, రిజిస్ట్రార్ జ్యూరీ మేనేజర్ మాజీకృష్ణం, కెన్సర్ అలయన్స్ మహిమ, సంజా ఆంజెల్స్ కలిగి ఉన్నాయి.



14th Annual State Conference of Dalit Stree Sakthi

DALIT ADIVASI WOMEN - SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Telangana: The 14th State conference of Dalit Stree Sakthi for the state of Telangana was held on 6th March 2020 on the theme “Dalit Adivasi Women - Sustainable Development” at Conference Hall, Ravindra Bharathi, Hyderabad. The dignitaries on the dais were Sri Gopal Rao, IAS, Former Secretary, Sri Vasantha Kannabhiran, Founder, Asmitha Resource Centre, Sri PSN Murthy, IDAS, Retd, Founder President of Ambedkar Mission, Dr A Subrahmanyam, Retd Dean of Law, ANU, Prof Ratnam, HCU, Prof Pushpa Chakrapani, DBRAOU, Dr Siddoji Rao, Officers Forum/ Help Desk, and organisation heads Vinod from Ambedkar Protection Committee, James from USA, Ramana from ST Employees Welfare organisation, Ambika and Indira from Aman Vedika, Ramchandar, Indira, Anitha, Mallesh, Narasimha from Ambedkar associations.

Sri Danial Vijay Prakash, National Program Manager of DSS presided the conference and Jhansi Geddam, National Convener of DSS outlined the theme of the annual conference.

14th Annual Report in English were released by Sri Gopal Rao, IAS, Former Secretary and Sri Vasantha Kannabhiran. All the speakers commended the work of Dalit Stree Sakthi's and their commitment in rendering justice to dalit women and girl children in all aspects.



Prof. A. Subrahmanyam spoke about the destructive process of development that has taken so far. He said that it is the profit making capitalist and imperialist forces that are behind the so-called development and these forces are destroying nature and environment in the name of development. He referred to the ongoing projects like uranium extraction from Nallamala forest and aluminium extraction from Araku forest.

Ms. Vasantha Kannabhiran appreciated DSS work for the past decade and half. She remembered her association with DSS and how she always attended the conferences and other programmes of DSS. She said, while DSS and others are working continuously for awakening the society on the rights of the women, still the atrocities on women are going on. There is need to intensify the work further until the goal is achieved.



Sri PSN Murthy pointed that dalit women are mostly anaemic and the concept of sustainable development is right now not relevant to them. Dalit women should have full access for information and education. Only then they can have understanding of development process. Dalit women should be able to launch movement like the Shahin Bagh movement going on now and dalit women should be educated to progress like that.





Sri James, industrialist from USA called upon dalit women to become self-reliant and advised them to collaborate with all other castes. He said, financial stability is necessary for sustainable development and he advised Dalits to venture to go abroad to all countries.



Sri Gopala Rao, pointed out that in an unequal society like our development is not possible. Caste and religion are obstacles for achieving equality and Hindu religion itself creates inequalities. There is no equality for women in this society and this situation should be rectified. The dalit men should take the responsibility for the progress of dalit women. The education system should be geared to promote equality of women and curriculum should be modified to include lessons about women equality. Women should get their share of economic development for their advancement. Unfortunately, now a days the government is resorting to all sorts of oppression and violation of rights. These days it has become difficult to protect one's right to life and all should unite first to protect our right to life, then only we can fight for development.



Pushpa Chakrapani lamented at the lack of proper guidance and education about sex and related matters to the youth and adolescents. Youngsters get sexual ideas and temptations when they see girls/women but they are not educated about the roots of these ideas. Due to lack of proper education youth are getting deviated to resort to sexual crimes. Women has to play various roles as mother, wife, public person, etc and women are unable to reconcile the clash between various roles.



Prof. Ratnam pointed out the inequalities between dalit men and women apart from general inequalities. He said he alone could study up to university education and acquire the job of professor while the dalit girls who were his classmates during the school days dropped out at the 9th/10th class level only. This shows the difficulty of dalit women to go up in higher education. Further, he pointed out the inequalities in job level also. For example, in his high position as a professor

his daily work is limited and enjoys lot of leisure and holidays and leaves, but dalit Adivasi women who work in the lower level like sweepers etc have to do heavy work every day and they do not have leisure. If they are absent to work even for a day, their wages would be cut down. Thus, there is lot of oppression of women at the lower level and he suggested that there should be a separate policy for dalit/Adivasi women labour and for their upliftment. He demanded separate quota of political reservations for dalit/Adivasi women.

DSS cultural team inspired the gathering with emotional songs on Ambedkar and songs on dalit lives. Vote of thanks given by Sri Bhagya Laxmi, State Coordinator of DSS.



ఎస్సీ మహిళలకు ప్రత్యేక పాలసీ అవసరం



ప్రత్యేక సంచకను అభివృద్ధిచిన అతిథులు

రవీంద్రభారతి, న్యూఢిల్లీ: ఎస్సీ మహిళల అభివృద్ధికి ప్రత్యేక పాలసీ అవసరమని వక్రలు డిమాండ్ చేశారు. దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ఆధ్వర్యంలో శుక్రవారం రవీంద్రభారతి సమావేశ మందిరంలో 'దళిత, ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీలు - సుస్థిర అభివృద్ధి' అనే అంశంపై సదస్సు జరిగింది. దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి కార్యక్రమ మేనేజర్ డానియల్ ప్రకాష్ అధ్యక్షతన జరిగిన ఈ సభలో ఐఎఎస్ అధికారి గోపాల రావు, సామాజికవేత్త వసంత కన్నాభిరామ్, హెచ్ఎస్యూ ప్రొఫెసర్ రత్నం, విశ్రాంత ఐడిఎస్ అధికారి పి.ఎన్.ఎన్.మూర్తి, ప్రొ. సుబ్రహ్మణ్యం, ప్రొ. పుష్పాచక్రవర్తి, జేమ్స్, డా. సిద్ధోజీరావుతో పాటు వివిధ సంఘాల నేతలు, ప్రతినిధులు మాట్లాడారు. ప్రస్తుత వ్యవస్థలో స్త్రీలకు తగిన గౌరవం దక్కడం లేదని ఆయన అభిప్రాయపడ్డారు. స్త్రీలను గౌరవించాలనేది విద్యా వ్యవస్థలో ఉండేలా చూడాలన్నారు. ఆర్థికాభివృద్ధి జరగాలంటే ఆర్థిక స్వావలంబన, సమాన వాటా అవసరమన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీలు తమ హక్కుల కోసం షహీద్ బాగ్ తరహా ఉద్యమాలు చేయాలని పిలుపునిచ్చారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూన్సీ గెడ్డం మాట్లాడుతూ.. రాజ్యాంగ నిర్మాత అంబేద్కర్ భావజాలంతో ముందుకు వెళ్తున్నామని, సమానత్వం దిశగా పయనించాలంటే ఆర్థిక, సామాజిక అంశాల్లో అవగాహన అవసరం అన్నారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి 14వ వార్షిక నివేదిక సంచకను అతిథులు ఆవిష్కరించారు. భాగ్యలక్ష్మి వందన సమర్పణ చేశారు.

Governments taking away Dalit and tribal rights'

Not even 50% of the SC/ST sub-plan allotments are spent

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT HYDRABAD
Retired IAS officer T.Gopala Rao has noted that the present governments are attempting to take away the existing rights of Dalits and tribals, instead of protecting them.

Humanity is more important than patriotism and nationalism, and women have the strength to achieve anything if they so desire.

of development as yet. Mr. Murthy has given a call to dalit women to collaborate with current progressive movements against the controversial CAA. Women's activist Vasanta Kannabiran said humanity is more important than patriotism and nationalism, and asserted that women have the strength to achieve anything if they so desired.

Speaking as chief guest at the 14th annual congress of Dalit Sthree Sakthi organisation with the theme 'Dalit Women-Sustainable Development' here on Friday, Mr.Gopala Rao expressed fears that the Andhra Pradesh government might be bent upon recovering lands previously allotted to dalit women, in order to fulfil its promise of distributing 25 lakh housing pattas.

VASANTA KANNABIRAN, Activist.

ST sub-plan allotments are being spent, and even where spent, the direct benefit reaching the target groups remains less than 25%, Mr.Gopala Rao said, revealing intentions about taking to legal recourse soon on the subject. Lamenting that no political party is now speaking about land distribution, he said it leaves Dalit and tribal communities on State's mercy for livelihood.

Latin American example
Former civil liberties activist Subrahmanyam said development has now become synonymous with destruction, and the trend hark back to the fall of Latin America in the hands of MNCs in cahoots with local capitalists leading to collapse of environment, lifestyle and social relations.

To take legal recourse
Land had been transferred on dalit women's name during previous regimes in the joint state, for uplift of underprivileged communities, he noted.

Retired Indian Defence Accounts Services officer P.S.N. Murthy debunked the idea of sustainable development as irrelevant to Dalit communities as they haven't got even their rightful share

National Convener of Dalit Sthree Sakthi, Gadda Jhansi noted that equality for women is not possible without sustainable development.

Not even 50% of the SC/

ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి

దళిత స్త్రీల అభివృద్ధికి ప్రత్యేక పాలసీ ఉండాలి : దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి

రవీంద్రభారతి, మార్చి 6 (ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి): దళిత స్త్రీల అభివృద్ధికి ప్రత్యేక పాలసీ ఉండాలని దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి డిమాండ్ చేసింది. శుక్రవారం రవీంద్రభారతి కాన్ఫరెన్స్ హాల్లో దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి ఆధ్వర్యంలో 14వ వార్షిక మహాసభ జరిగింది. ఇందులో భాగంగా 'దళిత, ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీలు - సుస్థిర అభివృద్ధి' అంశంపై సదస్సు జరిగింది. ముఖ్య వక్రలుగా గోపాలరావు, వసంత కన్నాభిరామ్, రత్నం, సుబ్రహ్మణ్యం, పీఎన్ఎన్ మూర్తి, పుష్పాచక్రవర్తి, జేమ్స్, రమణ, డా.సిద్ధోజీరావు, అంజకతో పాటు వివిధ సంఘాల ప్రతినిధులు పాల్గొన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూన్సీ గెడ్డం మాట్లాడుతూ 14 ఏళ్లుగా దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి ఉద్యమంలో సాధించిన విజయాలు, ఎదుర్కొన్న సవాళ్లను వివరించారు. గోపాలరావు మాట్లాడుతూ సమానత్వం లేని సమాజంలో అభివృద్ధి సాధ్యమా అని ప్రశ్నించారు. కుల, మత, వ్యవస్థలు అభివృద్ధి నిరోధకాలన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి చేస్తున్న సేవలను కొనియాడారు.



సావనీర్ను ఆవిష్కరిస్తున్న అతిథులు

STRATEGIES TO BREAK THE CHAIN OF CASTE VIOLENCE

Caste Based Violence and the Strategies to Break the Chain of Impunity:

History of the world is history of violence. There has been violence in various forms throughout the world and India is no exception. Violence pervades the lives of many people around the world, and touches all of us in some way. But now in the era of civilization and human rights, violence is being questioned and attempts to eradicate it are being made. Violence thrives in the absence of democracy, respect for human rights and good governance. Therefore, in the modern period, the existence of violence is a definite indication of absence of democracy and rule of law. In addition to the general violence that exists everywhere, the peculiar aspect of caste based violence is specific to India. The very existence of caste system itself connotes violence. On the face of it, caste hierarchy denies equality and as such it is symbolic of discriminatory violence. One may ask how discrimination can be labelled as violence? Yes, discrimination involves superiority and power of a few over the others and this creates fear and threat among the powerless to be submissive which itself is violence in a permanent and structural form. In our day to day conversations, whenever we mention the term 'violence' we usually limit it to physical harm. But this is a narrow understanding of violence. Let's us see how the World Health Organisation defined violence:

“The intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or against a group or community, that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment or deprivation.”

One has to grasp the prevalence of violence in its multifaceted and broader sense and not in the narrow sense of physical harm only. Violence can be classified as:

Physical violence.	Sexual violence.	Psychological violence.
Neglect.	Emotional Violence	Spiritual Violence
Cultural Violence	Verbal Abuse	Financial Abuse

The Dalits are subjected to all these forms of violence and on occasions one or the other form bursts out into physical violence or mass attacks. There is constant psychological and emotional violence in the caste system itself. Segregation of living areas of Dalits is common in rural areas. Their boundaries are well defined and if a dalit roams outside the area he is under a psychological threat of being questioned or attacked. A dalit experiences the same psychological pressure when he goes to a shandy, a temple, a social function or a hotel in the village. Psychological violence in the form of coercion, defamation, verbal insult or harassment is common in rural areas.

In case of a few adivasis, the symbolic violence of caste is more intense than physical violence. A few tribes are derogatorily referred to as “criminal tribe” and they are described as “primitive” or “savage”. The practice of untouchability is brazen in schools at the mid-day meals where the dalit /Adivasi children are made to sit separately. Likewise, in schools these children are asked to clean the premises or toilets. In rural areas at the seating in the buses also segregation and untouchability is practiced.

While this is the scenario in rural areas the situation in urban and metropolitan areas is not much different. The theory propagated by a few intellectuals that in urban areas and towns there is no untouchability or discrimination is a myth. Ashwini Deshpande a professor of economics at the

University of Delhi, in her article “The Ugly Reality of Caste Violence and Discrimination in Urban India”, in the “Wire” of December 2017 argues that there is residential segregation, discrimination in labour markets and covert and overt practices of untouchability in urban and metropolitan areas. She cites the 2016 report of the National Crimes Record Bureau (NCRB) which, for the first time, has released separate figures for 19 metropolitan cities on crimes against Scheduled Castes and Tribes. These are 19 large metropolitan cities with populations of over 20 lakhs (two million). In the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh young dalit men were brutally murdered for inter-caste love marriages with upper caste girls.

Thus, the very fact of being a dalit exposes him or her to various forms of violence. DSS addressed a number of instances of atrocities against dalit Adivasi women and girl children. The atrocities that were dealt by DSS during the reporting period are many in terms of categories and numbers. They are:

Land Grabbing:

In rural areas of Telangana, surrounding the city of Hyderabad and other towns the land values have gone up due to urban expansion and real estate market. A few Dalits and adivasis have been holding ancestral lands which they have been cultivating since generations. With the rise of land values Dalits land is being grabbed forcibly by the dominant caste people with the connivance of the police and revenue departments.

Humiliation of Sarpanches:

Dalit, Adivasi sarpanches are humiliated and the functions headed by them are either spoiled or boycotted. Dalit sarpanches are not allowed to function or exercise their powers. In some instances they are cheated.

Caste Abuse and Attack:

Abusing in the name of caste, humiliating and attacking Dalits is very common.

Rape and other forms of Sexual Assault:

Minor girls and Dalit women are raped or sexually assaulted.

Cheating in the name of Love:

Dalit girls are lured to have sex by promising marriage and they are cheated after some time. In a few instances the dalit girls are harassed, abused and abandoned after marriage.

In the reporting year DSS had taken up 120 instances of various caste based atrocities of which the details of a few cases are given in the pages that follow. Further, with regard to caste based violence DSS conducted various activities aimed at redressal for the victims, sensitization of society and concerned departments. These activities include conducting Legal Clinic, Round Table Conference with all concerned, Representations to officials and Human Rights Commissions. These activities are presented in the following pages.

Siddeswar - Caste Abuse / Attack

Details of the Victims:

Name of the Victim /Age : Ayyavari Siddeswar/30
Caste : SC Mala
Village : Modallaguda
Mandal : Nandigama
District : Ranga Reddy
State : Telangana

Details of the Accused

Name of the Accused / Age : Maheswaram Murali Goud/27
Maheswaram Siva Kumar Goud/27
Caste : BC, Goud
Village : Modallaguda
Mandal : Nandigama
District : Ranga Reddy
State : Telangana

Details of incident /FIR

Date of Incident/Time : 9/3/2020 at 8.30 pm
Place of Incident : Survey No. 542 at Victim's agriculture land
Type of Atrocity : Caste Abuse and Attack
Date of lodging the first complaint : 9/3/2020
Date of FIR : 11/3/2020
F. I. R No : 48/2020
Police Station : Nandigama

Sections applied in the FIR

I. P. C : 447,324,504,384 r/w 34
SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989 : 3(1)(r)(s)

Details of the Case:

Ayyavari Siddeswar, s/o Narsimlu, Modallaguda village, Nandigama Mandal, Ranga Reddy district. He belongs to S.C. Mala caste and ekes out living as agriculturist and grazing cattle. They sell milk out of cattle grazing. The cattle and grass are kept at nearby land where there is a bore water also. On 09-03-2020 at about 7.30 p.m. he fed the cattle with grass and water and was proceeding back home. At that time, he got a call from his sister and he was talking with her on phone. Suddenly three persons came on a bullet motor cycle and attacked him. They are: Maheswaram Muralidhar Goud, s/o Sivaramulu Goud, Maheswaram Sivakumar Goud, s/o Pentaiah Goud and another unknown person. They all belong to Modallaguda village. While attacking they abused Siddeswar by caste name, saying "mala, madiga Lanja kodakallara" and hit with a stone on his head. While one of them held the hands of Siddeswar, other hit him the stomach with hands while the other unidentified person hit him in the stomach with his shoe. Sivakumar forcibly took away the mobile phone from Siddeswar. Siddeswar was having on his person about Rs.20,000/ being the sale proceeds of milk of that month. They robbed that money also. As Siddeswar was talking to his sister on phone at that time, she sensed that someone attacked him and she rang up to her another brother immediately. That phone was switched off, so she rang up to the neighbors of Siddeswar and through them passed on the information to Siddeswar's family about the attack. The family along with other immediately rushed to the scene and

seeing them the attackers fled away. Siddeswar who got bleeding injuries on the head. They took him to Nandigama police station who got him admitted at Government Hospital, Shad Nagar where they stitched the injuries on head. A complaint to the police was also given. But on 10-03-2020 when the victims approached the police, the police dragged on without registering the complaint and suggested compromise. The victims insisted that the case must be registered.

Background:

There are events that happened in the previous year which led to the sudden murderous attack on Siddeswar. Siddeswar has one chunk of five and half acres and another chunk of seven and half acres of land at two survey numbers, which is cultivated by him and his family members. Adjacent to his five and half acres land one Naveen Reddy has his land. Naveen Reddy forces the owners of land adjacent to his land to sell their land to him at the prices dictated by him. The attackers Murali Goud and others belong to the group of Naveen Reddy and they are also part of the land grabbing by threatening and forcing. Last year, Raghavendra Goud, brother of Murali Goud asked Siddeswar to sell his land which was initially rejected by Siddeswar's father and brothers. They refused to sell the land as it was their ancestral land. But due to pressure and to avoid quarrel Narsimlu, father of Siddeswar and Venkatesh, brother of Siddeswar reluctantly agreed to sell the land and accepted two cheques given by them towards the sale. But the cheques bounced. When, Siddeswar's brother Venkatesh questioned them about the cheque bounce, Raghavendra Goud and his gang attacked him. Venkatesh gave a complaint to the police at Kottur police station. But the case was not registered by the police. Raghavendra Goud and his family, started cultivating the land and dug trenches around it with JCB. Thus, without payment of sale amount they occupied the land and started enjoying it. Venkatesh filed cheque bounce case also. In the light of these developments, Raghavendra Goud and his gang thought of eliminating one of the family members of Narsimlu and they made the murderous attack on Siddeswar on 9-03-2020.

Siddeswar and his family explained everything to the police on 10-03-2020 and requested for registering the case on the attackers. Despite all this, the police did not register the complaint given by Siddeswar. Meanwhile the attacker Raghavendra Goud and his gang approached the police on 10-03-2020 and negotiated with the police. Finally, as Siddeswar was insist the police registered the case against Raghavendra Goud and others on 11-03-2020, but they registered a counter case of attempt to murder on Siddeswar also, on the complaint of Raghavendra Goud that Siddeswar attacked him on 10-03-2020. But actually, Raghavendra Goud was in the precincts of police station negotiating with the police on that day.

Interventions:

- Conducted thorough fact finding
- Strengthened the victim and his family members
- Penal and Pecuniary follow up of the case

Present Status:

- Accused not arrested
- Charge sheet not filed
- Compensation yet to be paid

Recommendations:

- Accused should be arrested
- To give protection to the victim to retain his Land

Sunitha - Death Due to Doctor's Negligence

Details of the Deceased:

Name of the Deceased /Age	: Buddamolla Sunitha/42
Caste	: SC Mala
Village	: Rajiv Gruha Kalpa, 12/9 Vombe Colony, Milardevpalli
Mandal	: Rajendra Nagar
District	: Ranga Reddy
State	: Telangana

Details of the Accused

Name of the Accused / Age	: Dr Raghavender Goud/48 & others
Caste	: BC Goud
Village	: Milardevpalli
Mandal	: Rajendra Nagar
District	: Ranga Reddy
State	: Telangana

Details of incident /FIR

Date of Incident/Time	: 28/5/2020 About 11pm
Place of Incident	: Sri Srinivasa Multi Specialty Hospital
Type of Atrocity	: Death Due to Negligence
Date of lodging the first complaint	: 28/5/2020
Date of FIR	: 29/5/2020
F. I. R No	: 481/2020
Police Station	: Milardevpalli

Sections applied in the FIR

I. P. C	: 304 A
SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989	: 3(2)(v)

Details of the Case:

Buddamolla Satteyya and Sunitha are residents of Vubagunta village, Shabad Mandal, Ranga Reddy district. They are S.C. Mala by caste and he works as a plumber. As there was no sufficient earnings in the village, he shifted to Milardevpalli, Rajendra Nagar mandal and settled there in Rajiv Gruha Kalpa works. On 28-05-2020 Sunitha suffered pains and sprains in the hands and legs. She was taken to "Sri Srinivasa Multi Specialty Hospital" opposite to police station of Milardevpalli. This hospital was inaugurated about 6 months ago and it belongs to the relatives of local M.L.A. Prakash Gowd. At the time when Sunitha was joined in the hospital one Mr. Raghavendra Gowd was on duty. He treated her and by about 11.00 a.m. Sunitha got relief and felt cured. Then the doctor told Sunitha, her husband and relatives that though it is cured now, for permanent cure it is necessary to know the actual cause by examining blood reports. Sunitha and her relatives agreed and got the blood tested. The reports came in the evening and at about 8.00 p.m., Dr. Raghavendra Gowd and another doctor examined the reports and informed them that Sunitha has sodium deficiency and that it is necessary to give sodium injections. They said that it is necessary for her to be admitted in the hospital for three days treatment. Then they started giving her glucose. At about 8.30 – 9.00 p.m. Sunitha felt severe pain and cried. She asked them to remove glucose saline. Husband and relatives of Sunitha approached the doctor and told him that Sunitha was feeling pain and crying.

Then the doctor told them that there would be pain while administering medicines and asked them to go away from there, saying that Sunitha would not co-operate for treatment if they are present around her. At about 10.00 p.m. the husband and relatives went to see Sunitha, they found her shifted from general ward and joined in ICU. Shocked at the turn of events, they asked the doctor what happened and why she was shifted to ICU. They asked the doctor to show her to them. Then they all went to ICU and saw her and found her unconscious. They questioned the doctors to tell them what happened. The doctors said, nothing happened, she is fine and just they shifted her to ICU because there is A.C. there and that she is sleeping. The doctors asked them to go away from ICU. But after some time, the relatives noticed that the doctors and nurses are running around and were in commotion, they felt that something had gone serious and saw Sunitha in ICU. They found her on ventilators and then they grasped that it was serious and that the treatment turned out to be spurious. It was around 11.00 p.m. at that time. The relatives started shouting at the doctors for their misdeeds, then Dr. Raghavendra Gowd told that she was alright and that the pulse is fine and suggested them to take her to Apollo hospital. Then they shifted her to their ambulance along with two nurses. But the relatives insisted that the doctors should accompany them to tell the doctors at Apollo about the medicines and treatment given by them. Then the doctors told them to go first and that they would follow. But the relatives got suspicion and kept Mr. Sudhakar, the brother of Sunitha at the doctors to see if they would start or not. As he was there and pressurizing them to start, the doctor started in his car along with Sudhakar and reached Apollo hospital. There he asked Sudhakar to get down and stay there while he will park his car and come back. But instead of parking the car, he sped away in the car at a high speed. At that time the Apollo doctors who examined Sunitha told the relatives that she was brought dead and she expired 15 minutes ago. When the relatives of Sunitha asked the doctors at Apollo about the cause of death, they replied that they can't say anything without examining case sheets and line of treatment.

All the relatives went back to Sri Srinivas Hospital by around 11.30 p.m., by then there were local politicians and police at the hospital. The husband gave police complaint against the doctors at the Milardevpalli police station. From then onwards until the afternoon of next day the politicians and the police attempted to convince the husband of Sunitha for a compromise. The ACP himself gave Rs.50,000/ to Mr. Sudhakar, the brother of Sunitha telling him to utilize the amount towards funeral expenses. The police themselves arranged a DCM and transported the dead body to their village.

Interventions:

- Conducted thorough fact finding
- Strengthened the deceased family members
- Penal and Pecuniary follow up of the case

Present Status:

- Accused not arrested
- Under investigation
- Compensation yet to be paid

Recommendations:

- Accused to be arrested
- Speedy Investigation

Aruna - Cheating, Forcible Marriage & Attempt to Murder

Details of the Victims:

Name of the Victim /Age	: Pandiri Aruna/25
Caste	: SC Madiga
Village	: H No: 12-14-159, Vinoba Nagar
Mandal	: Lalapet
District	: Hyderabad
State	: Telangana

Details of the Accused

Name of the Accused / Age	: Md Imran Khan/27, Siddika/49, Md Sadik/67, Md. Ayub/55
Caste	: OC Muslim
Village	: Vinobha Nagar
Mandal	: Lalapet
District	: Hyderabad
State	: Telangana

Details of incident /FIR

Date of Incident/Time	: 29/12/2019 at about 12.30 noon
Place of Incident	: Near Yadagiri Gutta Temple
Type of Atrocity	: Cheating, Forcible Marriage, attempt to murder
Date of lodging the first complaint	: 7/1/2020
Date of FIR	: 12/1/2020
F. I. R No	: 15/2020
Police Station	: Osmania University

Sections applied in the FIR

I. P. C	: 376,342,420
SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989	: 3(1)(r)(s)

Details of the Case:

Pandiri Aruna, 25, S.C. Madiga, is in her Degree second year in Andhra Mahila College, Osmania University. She is the last child of Venkatesh and Jyothi, who have two sons and two daughters. They are residents of Vinobha Nagar, Lalapet, Hyderabad. One Mr. Imran, S/o Ayub family also are residents of the same street and these two families have friendly relationship. Imran used to talk to Aruna now and then and slowly this developed into love between them.

Though Aruna did not agree for love initially, in due course they have been moving together. They together smoked and had drinks also. Like this they spent about 4 years. Over a time both the families came to know about their movements and they were warned by their respective families. Minor skirmishes also took place between them. The parents of both families started looking for alliances to settle them.

In the process the marriage for Imran was fixed by their parents. Then Imran told the matter to Aruna and proposed that they should marry immediately to avoid marriage fixed by his parents. But Aruna refused and told him that she doesn't wish to marry until she completes her degree course. After that,

on 27-12-2019 Imran took away Rs.10,000/- from his house and absconded from the home. On 28-12-2019 the parents of Imran approached Aruna's family and asked about Imran. They said, they were not aware where did he go as they are not in know of the things really. But the parents of Imran did not believe them and they abused Aruna and her parents.

On the same day at about 12.30 in the night and told her that he was in Tarnaka area and that he cannot live without her. He said as his mother is forcing him to marry someone. He further told Aruna that his mother even suggested him to have sex with Aruna for a few days to satisfy his desire and leave her so that they can get him married to a Muslim girl. He told Aruna that he left his home as he felt bad against his mother for such a suggestion. All this conversation convinced Aruna very much and she agreed to go with him.

On 29-12-2019 at 7.00 a.m. Aruna went out of the home on the pretext of fetching breakfast from outside and went to Tarnaka to meet Imran. When she met Imran at the specified place, he was with his friends Narsingh and Chinna. Immediately on the same day i.e. on 29-12-2019 all the three of them went to Yadagirigutta in a bus and there they got married by exchanging garlands at about 12.30 p.m.

Then also Aruna insisted on registered marriage instead of that type of garland exchange. Imran told her that it being Sunday it is not possible for registered marriage and insisted that they should marry otherwise their parents may catch them and further that if they get married, they can't do anything. He took away her phone also and switched it off and got married in that way.

After that type of marriage Imran took a room in Yadagirigutta and stayed there from 29-12-2019 to 05-01-2020. While in the room Imran frequently spoke on phone and when Aruna enquired as to who he was speaking to, he didn't reveal. But obviously he was speaking to his mother and family members. On 05-01-2020 Imran took Aruna and started to his house. Aruna was afraid to go to their home, but Imran assured her that they would accept the marriage otherwise they can go away and live elsewhere.

But after entering into the house of Imran, his mother and father closed the doors and bet both of them. Knowing about their coming back to the house of Imran and that they are being beaten up, the parents of Aruna reached Imran's house. Imran's parents told them not to create nuisance at their house asked them to stay away.

Then Imran's uncle Md. Sadiq brought his auto and, in that auto, took away, Imran, Aruna, father of Imran Md. Ayub and mother of Imran Ms. Siddiqi to one house at Bharat Nagar, Moulali. There she was confined in a room where all waste material is dumped.

Throughout the day Imran's father and mother came now and then and bet her. They burned dry chillies also to suffocate her and she was tortured the entire day. She was not even given a glass of water. Only they were seen throughout the day but Imran didn't come even once. After that they shifted her to another house and told her that she should convert totally to Islam then only they would marry her to their son.

They asked her to go home and come back after convincing her parents for such conversion. Aruna replied that they got married already and asked them to take her to her parents. Meanwhile Imran came there. Then Aruna asked him where did he go and why he didn't appear the entire day and told him that she was beaten up by his parents. Imran replied, he doesn't know who she was and why would his parents beat her.

Then they forcibly took her in an auto and left her at nearby bushes. In that dark night without knowing where to go Aruna was walking along the railway track. Some passer-by saw her and

informed her parents. Then at about midnight Aruna's younger brother came and picked her up. A complaint to the police was given.

Interventions:

- Conducted thorough fact finding
- Strengthened the victim and her family members
- Penal and Pecuniary follow up of the case

Present Status:

- Accused arrested
- Under investigation

Recommendations:

- Proper sections to be added
- Stay should be vacated
- Speedy Investigation
- To Pay Compensation and Rehabilitation

Ammulu – Cheating in the name of Love & Kidnap

Details of the Victims:

Name of the Victim /Age : Lyagala Ammulu/16
Caste : SC, Madiga
Village : Mokila
Mandal : Sankarapalli
District : Ranga Reddy
State : Telangana

Details of the Accused

Name of the Accused / Age : Jukanti Sekhar/26
Caste : BC, Kurva
Village : Kaisaram
Mandal : Patancheruvu
District : Sangareddy
State : Telangana

Details of incident /FIR

Date of Incident/Time : 20/4/2020 at 11.00pm
Place of Incident : Victim's house
Type of Atrocity : Cheating in the name of Love & Kidnap
Date of lodging the first complaint : 21/4/2020
Date of FIR : 21/4/2020
F. I. R No : 152/2020
Police Station : Sankarapalli

Sections applied in the FIR

I. P. C	: 366,376(2)(N)
SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989	: 3(2)(v)
Others	: 5(l) r/w 6 of POCSO Act

Details of the Case:

Lyagala Srinivas and Anasuya are wife and husband, belonging to Madiga caste, residents of Mokila, Sankarapalli, Ranga Reddy district. Srinivas works as a wage laborer in a Toddy shop in the locality, while Anasuya also works as a laborer. They have two daughters, Ammulu (16 years) and Jessika (3 years). Ammulu studied up to Intermediate and discontinued. Her health is not so good and she stays at home. Jessika, being a small child, also stays at home.

Due to Covid situation all shops are not running and all activities have come to halt. As such Srinivas and his wife also are now jobless and staying at home. Anasuya's brother and his wife Amrutha used to regularly make calls to them and talk. Particularly they used to talk with Ammulu very affectionately.

Since they are near blood relatives, Anasuya and her husband Srinivas never suspected anything and took their phone talk as true affection and love. Whenever they rang up Amrutha used to talk to Ammulu most of the time. Over a time Amrutha could win the confidence of Ammulu through her regular telephonic conversations and strengthen her grip over Ammulu.

She slowly planted seeds of hatred in Ammulu's mind against her parents. In the course of conversations with Ammulu, she used to call her most when she is alone and call her through video conferencing.

In the course of such conference calls Amrutha introduced Ammulu to one Mr. Sekhar, s/o Anjayya, native of Kyasara village. She encouraged them to talk with each other several times. Over a time, Amrutha proposed to Ammulu to marry Sekhar for her bright future. She told Ammulu that her parents are more interested in the younger daughter and that they are not bothered about her future. She tried her best to entice Ammulu to accept to marry Sekhar and guaranteed that her life with Sekhar would be well-off. Despite all her efforts, Ammulu was not convinced and she hesitated to accept the proposal.

Further, Ammulu did not continue further phone conversations with Amrutha. Then Amrutha told the mother of Ammulu that she loves Ammulu so much but Ammulu is not talking with her.

Ammulu's mother Anasuya said she will tell Ammulu to talk to her. After this, in the month of January Amrutha came to the house of Anasuya and stayed there for a week. During that week Amrutha spoke to Ammulu privately several times and convinced her to be friendly with Sekhar. Whenever they were alone, Amrutha made conference call and encouraged Ammulu to talk to Sekhar.

Ammulu's birth day falls on February 12th and Amrutha secretly planned that Sekhar and Ammulu meet and spend time on that day. As planned, she came to the house of Anasuya on February 11th and told the parents of Ammulu that she would take Ammulu with her and this time celebrate her birth day in her house with new clothes etc.

As she was blood relative, Anasuya did not suspect anything and agreed with the proposal. Then Amrutha started to her place along with Ammulu and stopped at a cool drink shop at Sankarapalli on the way. Sekhar was already there at that shop waiting for them.

They spent some time, had cool drinks. But after consuming cool drink, Ammulu complained drowsiness and insisted to go home. They went to Amrutha's home at Dobipet. Next day i.e. on 12th February as planned, Amrutha brought Jeshika and along with Ammulu went to Patancheruvu Yellamma temple.

There, Sekhar was already there and Amrutha sent Ammulu with Sekhar. They both went around the city to hotels, movie and Sekhar brought her clothes and gifts. They returned from Patancheruvu to Dhobipet at 7.00 p.m. Next day i.e. on 13th February Ammulu's mother came and took Ammulu back home. Later, Ammulu and Sekhar used to call each other and also meet secretly at Sankarapalli. Thus, over a time Ammulu was totally convinced and she fully treaded into the trap of Sekhar. Actually Sekhar was married already and had a son also.

Sekhar is a habitual womanizer and he already cheated three girls. He used to trap girls, marry them and abandon them after some time. Sometime after marriage, he tortured his previous wife physically and mentally. He even used to show to his wife photos of other girls in his trap and torture his wife. Unable to bear his torture his previous wife left to her house. Now he is free and spent all the time to trap Ammulu.

He pretended deep love with Ammulu and threatened to die if Ammulu doesn't marry him. He told Ammulu to elope with him and told her that she can give an SMS to her parents that she has two months pregnancy and that she is marrying him. He convinced her that they can stay at some place for six months and come back again as by that time the anger of her parents would cool down. Ammulu was thus convinced to elope with him on 20th April 2020.

As planned, he took her on his motor cycle on that day at about 11.00 in the night. As everyone was sleeping, they didn't notice her going away for more than an hour. At about 12.30 in the night they noticed Ammulu was missing. They searched at all possible places and it was recorded in the CC footage that she left on motor cycle. In the morning parents of Ammulu gave complaint at Sankarapalli police station.

Sekhar took Ammulu to a room at Isnapalli X roads and had sex with her. He used to keep her alone there and have sex regularly. He said he was making marriage arrangements and trying to convince his parents about the marriage. Thus, he passed on days.

At the time of leaving the house Ammulu took with her the mobile bearing number 9177286105. Sekhar switched it off. But the police traced the signals and located the area where Ammulu was staying. Sensing the search operations of the police, Sekhar told Ammulu that it is better they go to Sankarapalli and meet her parents. He convinced Ammulu to tell her parents that they were married and that she was 2 months pregnant. Ammulu parroted the story told by him and tried to protect him.

But police arrested Sekhar and in their investigation unraveled the truth about Sekhar and his past cheatings. A case of kidnap was registered on 21-04-2020 but after investigation the sections were altered to SC, ST (PoA) Act and POCSO Act on 24-04-2020. In this entire episode of cheating Amrutha was instrumental and she enabled Sekhar in cheating Ammulu. She is no absconding.

Interventions:

- Conducted thorough fact finding
- Strengthened the victim and her family members
- Penal and Pecuniary follow up of the case

Present Status:

- Accused arrested
- Charge sheet filed
- Compensation yet to be paid

Recommendations:

- Speedy Trial
- To pay immediate compensation
- Provide further studies

Mantribai – Murder

Details of the Deceased:

Name of the Deceased /Age : Ramavath Mantri Bai/60
Caste : ST, Sugali
Village : Sivapuram Tanda
Mandal : Nakerekal
District : Guntur
State : Andhra Pradesh

Details of the Accused

Name of the Accused / Age : Bonamukkala Srinivasa Reddy/40
Caste : OC, Reddy
Village : Nakerekal
Mandal : Nakerekal
District : Guntur
State : Andhra Pradesh

Details of incident /FIR

Date of Incident/Time : 3/8/2020, at 9am
Place of Incident : Near Siripuram Thanda
Type of Atrocity : Murder
Date of lodging the first complaint : 3/8/2020
Date of FIR : 3/8/2020
F. I. R No : 131/2020
Police Station : Nakerekal

Sections applied in the FIR

I. P. C : 302
SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989 : 3(2)(v)

Details of the Case:

Ramavath Mantri Naik and Mantri Bhai are husband and wife. They belong to S.T. Sugali caste and are residents of Sivapuram Tanda, Nakerekal, Guntur district. Their livelihood is agricultural labor. They have 5 daughters, but one of them died. The remaining four are: Anjamma Bhai, Lakshmi Bhai, Sali

Bhai and Saraswathi Bhai. All the four daughters are married. They have 2.75 acres of land. They incurred debts for the marriage expenses of their daughters. They took a loan of Rs. 3,80,000/ two years ago from one Mr. Srinivasa Reddy at the rate of Rs. 2/ interest. Since about 20 days Srinivasa Reddy has been pressurizing to repay the loan. He was visiting the house of Mantri Naik regularly and abusing him and threatening him. Srinivasa Reddy was insisting Mantri Naik to transfer his 2.75 acres of land totally towards the repayment of the loan. Mantri Naik told him that he will transfer provided Srinivasa Reddy pays market value of the land and gives money after deducting his loan amount. Srinivasa Reddy was saying that the land is sufficient enough only to clear the loan and doesn't cost more than that. Mantri Naik refused his assessment of the value of the land and said that he would sell the land to any other person and pay his loan amount. Since Srinivasa Reddy has the sinister motive of taking away the valuable land of Mantri Naik towards loan, he did not agree for his proposal. Srinivasa Reddy told all tractor owners in the village that the land belongs to him and no one should go to work on the land if Mantri Naik calls them. Mantri Naik who came to know of this got hurt so much that he wanted to ask explanation from Srinivasa Reddy for his propaganda. Mantri Naik along with his wife Mantri Bhai waited for Srinivasa Reddy and on 3-08-2020 when he was going on his tractor questioned him why he was propagating like that and threatening the tractor owners not to work on his land. Srinivasa Reddy got enraged at Mantri Naik and abused him: 'you low caste fellow, how dare you stop my tractor and question me'. Shouting like that he drove the tractor on Mantri Naik's wife, Mantri Bhai. The tractor went on her waist and killed her. At that time the wife of Srinivasa Reddy also was on the tractor and being a woman also she shamelessly encouraged Srinivasa Reddy to drive ahead on Mantri Bhai. Mantri Naik's elder brother Balu Naik who came there on motor cycle tried to chase the tractor and he with the help of a relative carried the seriously injured Mantri Bhai to the government hospital, Narasaraopet. But the doctors there declared that she was dead by then. Complaint was given and registered on the same day. Srinivasa Reddy was arrested.

Interventions:

- Conducted thorough fact finding
- Strengthened the deceased family members
- Penal and Pecuniary follow up of the case

Present Status:

- Accused arrested
- Under Investigation
- Compensation sanctioned

Recommendations:

- Speedy Investigation
- Pay 2nd stage Compensation

Babu - Land Issue – Caste Abuse and Attack

Details of the Victim:

Name of the Victim /Age : Pallapati Babu/48
Caste : SC Madiga
Village : Pallapadu
Mandal : Vattichurukuru
District : Guntur
State : Andhra Pradesh

Details of the Accused

Name of the Accused / Age : Kurri Veera Reddy/55
Caste : OC Reddy
Village : Soupadu
Mandal : Vattichurukuru
District : Guntur
State : Andhra Pradesh

Details of incident /FIR

Date of Incident/Time : 19/12/2019, at about 5pm
Place of Incident : Near Yalagarayudi Tank
Type of Atrocity : Caste abuse and Attack
Date of lodging the first complaint : 19/12/2019
Date of FIR : 21/12/2019
F. I. R No : 172/2019
Police Station : Vattichurukuru

Sections applied in the FIR

I. P. C : 324
SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989 : 3(1)(r), 3(1)(s)

Details of the Case:

Pallapati Babu (48 years) and his wife Mariyamma belong to S.C. Madiga caste and they are residents of Pallapadu village, Vattichurukuru mandal of Guntur district. They eke out living as agricultural labourers. They have three children, two daughters and a boy. Eldest daughter Anusha is married, second daughter Sruthi is studying B. Pharmacy, while the son Mastan completed his degree. Pallapati Babu agreed for watering the crop of one Mr. Linga Rao, belonging to Yadav caste and has been doing the work for about 4 days.

While he was watering the crop of Linga Rao water overflowed and seeped into the adjacent land of Veera Reddy. Babu completed his work and took the wages from Linga Rao and left. After that, on 19-12-2019 did another labor work on the land of one Mr. Sambaiah and was returning back home. On the way when he reached near Yalagarayudi Cheruvu, a tank in between the villages of Pallapadu and Soupadu. At that point he noticed, Veera Reddy standing there along with one Mr. Pamulapati Sreenu.

Veera Reddy stopped Pallapati Babu and questioned him in a rude manner, why he watered his land. Pallapati Babu replied that he doesn't know that those two bits of land has connection and that the same source of water flows between them. He said, "please ask Linga Rao for whom he worked as a

laborer". To this Veera Reddy got enraged and abused Babu in the name of caste and bet him. He said: "you madiga na kodaka, you watered my crop and now you are preaching me morals". While saying so he bet Babu with a stick. Pamulapati Sreenu who was there along with Veera Reddy intervened and prevented Veera Reddy from beating further. Pallapati Babu complained against Veera Reddy for caste abuse and causing hurt at Vattichurukuru Police station.

Interventions:

- Conducted thorough fact finding
- Strengthened the victim and his family members
- Penal and Pecuniary follow up of the case

Present Status:

- Accused arrested
- Charge sheet filed
- Compensation sanctioned

Recommendations:

- Speedy Trial
- Pay 2nd stage Compensation

Kanaka Durga - Caste Abuse and Attempt to Murder

Details of the Victim:

Name of the Victim /Age : Suraj Kanaka Durga/45
Caste : SC Mala
Village : Hayatnagar
Mandal : Abdullapur
District : Ranga Reddy
State : Telangana

Details of the Accused

Name of the Accused / Age : Dodda Gopi/30, Vijayamma, Pala Sreenu
Caste : BC, Yadava
Village : Kaza
Mandal : Mangalagiri
District : Guntur
State : Andhra Pradesh

Details of incident /FIR

Date of Incident/Time : 7/2/2020, at 12noon
Place of Incident : Near disputed land, Pullaiah Nagar
Type of Atrocity : Attack and Attempt to Murder
Date of lodging the first complaint : 8/2/2020
Date of FIR : 8/2/2020
F. I. R No : 52/2020
Police Station : Mangalagiri Rural

Sections applied in the FIR

I. P. C : 324,307,509,447,506r/w 34
SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989 : 3(1)(r),3(1)(s), 3(1)(t)

Details of the Case:

This is a case of attack on a scheduled caste woman to take away her house site. The victim lives in Hyderabad but the incident occurred at Kaza village, Guntur district.

Mrs. Suraj Kanaka Durga, 45 years, S.C. Mala by caste, w/o Satyanarayana is native of Kaza village, Guntur district. She divorced to her husband due to clashes and is now living at Hayatnagar, Hyderabad with her son, Sai Kalyan who is in Inter Second year. She teaches at Vivekananda School, Hayat Nagar. She had a brother Suraj Usha Kumar at Kaza, Mangalagiri mandal, Guntur district. He passed away two years ago. There is about 47 cents land in Pullaiah Nagar, Kaza village in his name and as he is no more and he had no wife or children, Suraj Kanaka Durga became the legal heir of that property. She took possession of that land and she used to visit the site now and then and spend some time in the village. She visited Kaza village on 06-02-2020. On 7th i.e. the next day she went to see the site. There is one temple of local deity Tirupatamma adjacent to her site. One Mr. Dodda Gopi, Yadava by caste, constructed one room in between the site of Kanaka Durga and the temple. He lives by doing selling milk.

Being Yadav's, they didn't like an SC woman have land adjacent to their house and they had an eye on her site, as the cost of land is very high in Kaza village, being on NH5. On the day when Kanaka Durga visited the site, Dodda Gopi, his mother Naga Malleswari, his sister Parvathi, his aunt and one Mr. Pala Srinu, Vijayamma and his relatives attacked Kanaka Durga causing injuries to her. She was dragged in to their room and they attempted to pour kerosene and set fire. Frightened Kanaka Durga screamed for help. Hearing her shouts, the neighbors in the locality came there. One Mr. Venu and his wife Madhavi who came along with others dialed 100 about the incident and they took her to NRI hospital. After initial treatment there she recovered and the same afternoon she approached Mangalagiri police and gave a complaint.

Interventions:

- Conducted fact finding
- Strengthened the victim
- Penal and Pecuniary follow up of the case

Present Status:

- Accused arrested
- Under Investigation
- Compensation yet to be paid

Recommendations:

- Speedy Investigation
- Pay Compensation

Jyothi – Minor Girl Rape

Details of the Victim:

Name of the Victim /Age	: Nallabotula Jyothi/6
Caste	: ST, Chenchu
Village	: Siva Parvathi Colony, Perecherla
Mandal	: Medikonduru
District	: Guntur
State	: Andhra Pradesh

Details of the Accused

Name of the Accused / Age	: Durgam Swamy/60
Caste	: BC, Vaddera
Village	: (Ankireddy Palem), Nallapadu
Mandal	: Guntur
District	: Guntur
State	: Andhra Pradesh

Details of incident /FIR

Date of Incident/Time	: 22/9/2020 at about 4pm
Place of Incident	: Perecherla
Type of Atrocity	: Rape
Date of lodging the first complaint	: 22/9/2020
Date of FIR	: 22/9/2020
F. I. R No	: 429/2020
Police Station	: Medikonduru

Sections applied in the FIR

I. P. C	: 363,376,376A
SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989	: 3(2) (Va)
Others	: 6 of POCSO Act

Details of the Case:

Nallabotula Pitchaiah and Kamala are wife and husband. They belong to S.T. caste and are residents of Siva Parvathi colony at Perecherla. They live by begging and as wage laborer also. They have 4 children, first a boy, Vijayanand, 10 years, then Jyothi, 6 years, then a boy Kiran, 4 years and again a girl Mani 18 months. The boy Kiran is handicapped by birth. During the time when the incident happened Pitchaiah had gone to Hyderabad for work as a laborer. Kamala also goes to work. They keep the children with the aunt of Kamala. On 22-09-2020 while Pitchaiah was away in Hyderabad, Kamala had gone to work at Mirchyard, Guntur.

Kamala's brother's son Raju and her daughter Jyothi were sent for begging at Perecherla bus stand. This is the regular place of their begging. Near the bus stand an old man was regularly giving money to Jyothi when she goes there begging. For the past 3 days he has been giving money and on the 4th day i.e. on 22nd September 2020 at about 4.30. p.m. when Jyothi approached him he gave 4 fruits and took her away. He took her to a place near railway station and kept her there. At about 8.30 p.m. he raped Jyothi and abandoned her at the heap nearby and left.

Raju who went to begging along with Jyothi came back alone and told the parents that Jyothi was missing. Kamala who came back from work searched for Jyothi at all possible places and then gave complaint to the police. Police took up investigation and identified the culprit through CC footage and arrested him. He was from Nallapadu area. Jyothi was found at the heap and was admitted to Guntur Government Hospital. DSS intervened and mobilized immediate succour from the District Collector to save the girl and got surgery done.

Interventions:

- Conducted thorough fact finding
- Strengthened the victim and her family members
- Penal and Pecuniary follow up of the case

Present Status:

- Accused arrested
- Payment of Immediate Relief

Recommendations:

- Speedy Investigation
- To Pay Compensation and rehabilitation

Sudha – Caste Abuse and Dowry Harassment

Details of the Victim:

Name of the Victim /Age : Vankayalapati Sudha/25
Caste : SC Madiga
Village : Yadavapalem
Mandal : Pedakakani
District : Guntur
State : Andhra Pradesh

Details of the Accused

Name of the Accused / Age : Aarudala Chintaiyah/26
Caste : BC, Yadava
Village : Yadavapalem
Mandal : Pedakakani
District : Guntur
State : Andhra Pradesh

Details of incident /FIR

Date of Incident/Time : 2/7/2020 at 11am
Place of Incident : Accused Grandmother's house
Type of Atrocity : Caste Abuse and Dowry Harassment
Date of lodging the first complaint : 2/7/2020
Date of FIR : 6/7/2020
F.I. R No : 361/2020
Police Station : Pedakakani

Sections applied in the FIR

I. P. C : 506 r/w 34
SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989 : 3(1)(s)

Details of the Case:

Vankayalapati Koteswara Rao and Marthamma, SC Madiga by caste, are the residents of Thufan Nagar in Guntur. They have five daughters named Mary, Padma, Sudha, Yasodha and Haritha. Four daughters have been married and the youngest one lives with the oldest daughter, Mary after the death of their parents. The third daughter Sudha (25) was married to a Muslim named Hussain (36). Due to poor economical situations, Koteswara Rao married Sudha to Hussain who is a divorcee and is working as a lorry driver.

Hussain and Sudha lived in Yadavapalem at Pedakakani and have two daughters named Roshini (5) and Sameera (3). Hussain always had a suspicion on Sudha and harassed her mentally and physically. He used to scold her whenever she went to a function and never even allowed her to go to her sisters' house also. Due to Hussain's harassment and unbearable behaviour, Sudha grew acquaintance with one Mr. Chinthayya, who was a neighbour to Hussain's house.

Chinthayya was a construction worker and he moved closely with Sudha whenever Hussain was not at home. Their acquaintance turned into love. One day, Hussain saw Sudha with Chinthayya at their house and informed to Pedakakani Police Station and her family members. He filed a complaint against Chinthayya accusing him of trying to rape his wife.

Chinthayya immediately fell on the feet of Sudha and begged her to reveal the truth or else his mother, a heart patient, would not be able to take this news. Sudha explained to the police that she was in a relationship with Chinthayya as she couldn't bear the mental torture by Hussain. She also admitted to the police that Chinthayya did not try to rape her in front of her husband.

Upon Sudha's confession, Hussain told the police and the elders that he wouldn't want to live with a wife who was having an illicit relationship and took divorce on mutual consent. Hussain also took the children along with him. Chinthayya accepted to marry Sudha after speaking to her mother and they even exchanged garlands at the Pedakakani Police Station. Later they got married on February 15th 2019 at Sri Lakshmi Tirupatamma Temple at Penuganchiprolu, Guntur.

After marriage, Chinthayya along with his wife Sudha, rented a house from his uncle Arudala Yerrayya and lived happily until November 2019. When Chinthayya came to know that Sudha was pregnant in November, he insisted her to get aborted as he was not ready for kids. He took her to KNR Hospital in Amaravati Road at Guntur and got her aborted. After Sudha got aborted, there was a lot of change in Chinthayya's behaviour. He regularly harassed her to bring dowry and beat her up daily.

Chinthayya's mother Sivamma and brother Basavayya also pestered her that she was married priorly and didn't bring any dowry. Later, Chinthayya took the abortion papers and the marriage proofs and left the house. Sudha lodged a complaint in Pedakakani PS on 23rd January 2020 stating that Chinthayya tormented her to get dowry and that he is not coming to house.

An FIR was filed under sections 498-A, 313 IPC and 3,4 DPA. Chinthayya was called by the police and was brainwashed. He accepted his mistake and agreed not to repeat this mistake and started living with Sudha.

Again, in June 2020, he started harassing her to bring dowry and pestered her that she was an already married women. He physically and mentally tormented her to leave him and go away.

By then, Sudha was pregnant again. Since Sudha was not leaving the house, Chinthayya left Sudha and went to his grandmother's house in Namburu.

On 2nd August 2020 Sudha went to Namburu and asked Chinthayya to return to their house, but he rejected. Chinthayya's mother and brother abused Sudha in the name of caste and scolded her to get lost. They said that they wouldn't let their child grow in the womb of a lower caste woman and asked her to get aborted.

They said that they would never accept her as their daughter-in-law and she shouldn't live anymore with him. They said they would give her an amount of 1,50,000 and asked her to get lost and if she created a scene, they would not even pay that amount.

They told Sudha that Chinthayya accepted to marry her only because he was afraid of a court case, or else he would never even have married her. They threatened her that there were no clear-cut proofs to the marriage and challenged her she could do whatever she could.

Sudha immediately reported in Pedakakani Police Station and pleaded them to persuade Chinthayya to live with her. She might have committed a mistake due to ignorance but, she begged them to provide her a support from Chinthayya as her parents are also are not alive.

Interventions:

- Conducted thorough fact finding
- Strengthened the victim and her family members
- Penal and Pecuniary follow up of the case

Present Status:

- Accused arrested
- Under investigation
- Compensation Paid

Recommendations:

- Speedy Investigation
- To Pay 2nd stage Compensation

Foisting Theft Case

Details of the Victim:

Name of the Victim /Age : P Suresh/25
Caste : SC, Mala
Village : Kummarawadi basthi
Mandal : Asif Nagar
District : Hyderabad
State : Telangana

Details of the Accused

Name of the Accused / Age : Chintala Baleswari & Padma Rao
Caste : BC, Yadava
Village : Kummarawadi basthi
Mandal : Asif Nagar
District : Hyderabad
State : Telangana

Details of incident /FIR

Date of Incident/Time : 18/6/2020
Place of Incident : Kummarawadi basthi
Type of Atrocity : Foisted Theft Case
Date of lodging the first complaint : 18/6/2020
Police Station : Asif Nagar

Details of the Case:

Mrs. P Balamani (48), w/o P Eswaraiah (late), belonging to S.C. Mala caste, residents of Kummarawadi basthi, Asif Nagar. P. Suresh (25 years), s/o of P. Balamani was in love with one Ms. Mounika (20 years) hailing from Yadava caste for the past 8 years. Mounika is in her 2nd year Degree course in Sindhu College, Mehdipatnam.

They are both majors and got married on 8th June 2020 at Arya Samaj in the presence of a few friends. After the marriage, they reported the matter at the nearby police station at Asif Nagar, seeking protection. The station house officer is Mr. Sk. Buran. They also made a representation to higher police officials.

Certain coincidence of events happened on that day i.e. on 8th June 2020. As Mounika had gone with Suresh, her parents, Chintala Baleswari & Padma Rao came to Asif Nagar police station to give a complaint on the missing of their daughter. They told the station house officer that they suspect Suresh. Upon that information, the SI summoned Mr. Laddu, the brother of Suresh for enquiry. Mr. Laddu runs a mechanic shop in Asif Nagar.

As Mr. Laddu was not aware of the marriage of his brother, he told the same to the SI. While these discussions were taking place at the police station in the afternoon, Suresh and Mounika approached the police after marriage seeking protection. The SI after discussions with everyone said that they are majors and nothing can be done and asked everyone to disperse. While at the police station the parents of Mounika took her signatures on papers the contents of which is not known.

After marriage when, Suresh and Mounika returned to their house, their family warned them about the consequences from Mounika's family. They moved out and are staying separately.

While the developments took place as above the SI Sk. Buran called Mr. Laddu and his brother on 18-06-2020 to the police station and told them that there was a complaint from the father of Mounika that their gold and money was stolen. He said that as per their complaint Rs. 6/lakhs and 9 tulas of gold was taken away by Mounika.

The SI called them on 19th and 20th also. A constable also was sent to bring Mr. Laddu on one of those days. Thus, the SI was calling the brother of Suresh continuously and he threatened them to bring his brother Suresh and Mounika or else a theft case will be filed against them. Mr. Laddu and his family allege that political leaders also were mobilized by the parents of Mounika to influence the SI to harass them. In these circumstances, Mr. Laddu requested an advocate to help him and in the presence of the advocate, the SI gave time to Mr. Laddu up to Monday i.e. on 21-06-2020 to bring his brother.

In the light of above DSS is apprehensive that the family of Mounika who are unable to digest her marriage with a scheduled caste person may cause harm to them. Last few years seen many attacks on the inter-caste marriages, particularly the gruesome event of the murder of Pranay in Miryalaguda.

DSS approached and represented on 26/6/2020 to Hon'ble Chairperson of State Human Rights Commission to direct investigation of the case and order for protection of the newly married couple and issue such other directions or orders that the Hon'ble Commission may deem fit in the interests of justice. On the same day SHRC issued orders concerned PS.

Interventions:

- Conducted thorough fact finding
- Strengthened the victim and her family members
- Approached SHRC to issued orders

Present Status:

- They are living happily

LEGAL CLINIC-A REPORT

It was 31 years ago that the SC/ST (PoA) Act came into force to prevent atrocities on Dalits. But even after this long period, atrocities continue unabated with new forms of untouchability raising across the country. Despite the stringent Act and its latest amendments to plug the loop holes, the Act is never seriously implemented by those whose duty it is to protect the Dalits. The experience of DSS shows that it has to struggle and push the case against all odds and all powers to see that the law takes its course. Dalits are so tired and exhausted in continually attempting to see that law takes its course. In order to access justice to Dalit Adivasi Women & Girl Children DSS has to continually monitor the personnel of criminal justice administrations, appeal to higher authorities and rights commissions. In addition to appeals and petitions to courts, commissions DSS has organized Legal Clinics, Public Hearings and Round Table Conferences at district and state level during the past 14 years. Similarly, it has engaged with the concerned officials of police, judiciary, social welfare department, women & child welfare department, print & electronic media at district and state level, sensitized them, participated in the vigilance and monitoring committee meetings for follow up of the cases.



As part of its efforts to render justice to the dalit women victims of atrocities DSS organized this legal clinic on 9th October 2020, at Guntur, A.P. The chief objective of the Legal Clinic is to give a fillip to deliver speedy justice by bringing together the Victims, Witnesses, Human Rights Defenders, Advocates, Social Welfare Department, Police Department, Director of Prosecutions, State & National SC Commissions so that a concerted effort can be initiated by all concerned. This

Clinic is intended to provide an opportunity to the jury is to perceive directly the distress and predicament of the victims and witnesses of selected 22 blatant incidents of violence, so that they can evaluate the penal & pecuniary action taken and recommend for necessary further action till logical end. The other objective of this Legal Clinic is to see that the S.C. & S.T. (PoA) Amendment Act 2015 is appropriately implemented in at least the select few cases which will go a long way in realizing the objectives of the Amended Act.

As such 22 cases were selected for presentation before the Jury of this Legal Clinic. Earlier we organized these Legal Clinics in closed halls with officials and victims face to face so that the officials can see the victims and witnesses physically, elicit information from them and respond appropriately. Victims and witnesses also gained confidence when the officials spoke to them and assured justice. But the Covid situation disrupted all our activities including a face to face interaction of victims and officials. As per the suggestion of the concerned officials, this time we organized this Legal Clinic through Zoom conference. All the victims concerning the 22 cases of atrocities gathered at a hall in hotel Viceroy, Guntur town and were seated in safe distance wearing masks. Ms. Jhansi Geddam, National Convener of DSS and Ms. Hemalatha., A.P. State Coordinator, assisted the



victims and witnesses in presenting their cases and the agony in getting justice. A jury kit with all details of 22 cases, their present status was already given to the participating officials. Sri. M. Ravichandra, IAS, Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Government of A.P. was the chief guest for the clinic, while Sri. Rajendra Prasad, Deputy Director of Prosecutions, Government of A.P. and Sri Suez, Director of State Women Commission were the other officials that participated in the Clinic. The 22 cases selected by DSS were most heinous involving atrocities like rape of minor girls.



The victims one after the other presented the details of how they were subjected to atrocity and narrated how they have been running from pillar to post in getting justice. Most of the victims had problems in getting compensation as per the Act and in getting the accused arrested. The invited officials, Sri. Ravichandra and Sri. Rajendra Prasad interacted with the victims and actively participated in the proceedings by enquiring the details from the victims, assuring them and consoling them. Both the officials appreciated DSS for organizing the clinic and bringing to their notice the situation of victims of atrocities.

Sri M. Ravichandra, IAS, Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh has said that he read the jury kit thoroughly and is fully aware of the cases. He attentively heard the woes of each victim and intervened to get further clarifications and gave appropriate suggestions in a few cases. He suggested that the case of minor girl who was raped may have to be registered under Section 376, despite the fact that the accused married the victim to avoid criminal case. He said that the accused cheated the victim and had sex with her when she was below 18 years of age. Later, he married her, but the original crime of having sex with minor girl is a crime and continues to be so despite the marrying her later. If it is registered as rape as per rules, she will be given government job.

He observed that in most cases, the accused and victim are familiar to each other and there was cheating by the accused. In a situation like this, the victim is undergoing a crisis of whether to go for an atrocity case or to compromise. This type of crisis will create a psychological trauma in the victim and it is necessary to extend counselling to the victim. He assured to take care of the aspects of compensation and speedy justice and suggested DSS to extend the services of counselling the victim.

While analysing the implementation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (PoA) Act he lamented that only 10% of the law is applied in actual practice. He commented that even after 31 years after the enactment of law there are still doubts as to various provisions of law. There are loop holes in payment of compensation and he said he is trying to get clear Government Orders for payment of compensation to be paid with the filing of charge sheet as per the judgment of the High Court. He added that the file concerning the compensation etc is pending for 8 months with the finance department. He added that he is working for developing a software at a cost of Rs.3 crores to monitor all cases from FIR to judgment and payment of compensation at every stage. He reminded that all departments will have to seriously work in implementation of the Act and that in



the district of East Godavari when the treasury department dodged in clearing the files in time, they were warned that they would be charged under Section 4 of the Act. Further, he explained that he is trying to solve the issue of payment of pension of Rs.6,500/ by writing to the Government of India to make necessary changes as the Act limits only to Rs.5000/. Similarly, he said he had clarified the confusion prevailing with regard to 'legal heirs' and that in case the rape victim is alive, she will have to be paid all the benefits. He appreciated Dalit Stree Sakthi and thanked DSS for organizing this legal clinic and arranging interaction with the victims of atrocities.

Sri. Rajendra Prasad, Deputy Director of Prosecutions, Government of A.P. participated with enthusiasm and clarified the issues that have come up in the presentation by the victims. He gave useful suggestions and assured suitable action wherever necessary. When the rape victim narrated her agony, he responded and explained that rape victims should seek legal assistance from the time of commission of offence from the Public Prosecutor under the Act. He said that the office of the Public Prosecutor is open 24 hours of the day to assist the victim and she can knock the door of the Public Prosecutor any time and he should extend all necessary assistance. If any Public Prosecutor doesn't respond to assist the victim or DSS can complain to the DOP.

Ms. Jhansi Geddam, At this stage the National Convener of DSS, Jhansi Geddam brought to the notice of Sri. Rajendra Prasad that PPs are not giving legal advice and they are simply sailing with the police and returning the file without any changes. Due to this, cases are not filed under proper sections thereby helping the accused. She pointed out that the accused are marrying the victims to avoid rape cases and the police are simply booking the cases under Section 498. Further, she brought to his notice that the police are serving the summons at the last minute in some cases the night before the trial and this is making it difficult for the victims and witnesses to attend the court. They are not briefed at all.

Sri Rajendra Prasad, responded that the entire Chapter 4A with 12 clauses extends protection of victims and witnesses. He said that the schedule for sessions trial is prepared 30 days before the commencement of the trial and assured disciplinary action against erring PPs/police and warned that they will be charged under Section 4 if they violate the rights of victims/witnesses. He cited the incident of how a PP is charged under Section 4 of the Act in Anantapur when she avoided a case by colluding with the accused. Referring to the minor girl who presented her case, he clarified that even if the victim is married also, she can restore previous FIR of rape and suggested to contact the PP at Guntur.

He suggested that the police are avoiding arrest by taking shelter under the decision of the Supreme Court. But they can always arrest if they note in the check list that the accused is likely to intimidate or destroy evidence. He felt that NGOs can guide the victims and bring pressure on the Public Prosecutor. NGOs should see that there are independent witnesses even if they are from the same community or are neighbours. If such independent witnesses are secured closure of cases can be avoided. If the victim has injuries then the evidence of the victim is enough even without independent witnesses. He suggested proper training of the witnesses to stand up against cross examination, particularly, the questions in cross examination to establish the victim as a Christian.

Ms. Jhansi Geddam thanked the officials for their enthusiastic participation and their assurances for rendering justice. Ms. Hemalatha thanked all the victims/witnesses and other network partner participants for the trouble taken by them in attending the clinic and making it a success. The media gave wide coverage of the Legal Clinic.

Ms. Suez, Director, State Women Commission who participated in the Clinic gave useful suggestions and assured to act on the complaints received by the Commission. She said that she will place all the cases submitted at the Clinic in the Women Commission and initiate appropriate action.

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE

As concluding part of the campaign in A.P. and Telangana States, a Round Table Conference (RTC) was conducted on **10th December 2020** to mark the Human Rights Day.

The RTC is a convenient way to focus on the redressal of dalit, Adivasi women and girl children victims of various atrocities. In this RTC, concerned officials of various departments will listen to the victims and witnesses of violence and take decisions on the spot to redress their grievances.

This year's RTC was held at Madina Education Centre, Nampally, on 10th December 2020. Out of a large number of cases DSS selected dalit Adivasi victims and witnesses of 24 cases of atrocities who gathered at the venue and narrated their struggle for justice and the hardships they are facing in the implementation of SC, ST(PoA) Act and other laws. A booklet consisting of full details of each case was prepared and circulated to the participating officials beforehand. Concerned officials from Director of Prosecutions, Women and Child Welfare, Social Development departments participated in the Zoom conference. Heads of various organisations also attended. Important officials and others who participated in the RTC are:

- Ms. Divya Devaraj, IAS, Commissioner, Women & Child Welfare Department
- Ms. Vyjayanthi, Director of Prosecutions, Telangana State
- Ms. Lavanya from Social Development Department
- Dr. Siddoji Rao, Convener, SC&ST, IAS/IPS Officers Forum
- Sri. Narsingh Rao, President, All India SC/ST Federation
- Ms. Rajitha, Lecturer
- Dr. Sudarshan Balaboyina, Lecturer

Apart from the above officials and functionaries, heads of various organizations, representatives of print and electronic media attended the RTC.

Jhansi Geddam, National Convener of DSS spoke about the 16-day gender campaign and its international significance as UN call for ending the violence on women. She explained how the campaign was carried out in villages, slums and cities. The purpose of this campaign is to sensitize the society on the violence on dalit, Adivasi women and girl children. She stressed the need to enlighten everyone in the society about the gender discrimination and the roots of patriarchal order. She pointed out how deep rooted the patriarchal order is that even women unconsciously follow and reinforce the gender oppressive norms. These oppressive and discriminatory norms are strengthened by literature, movies and even by the education system. Then she narrated how the personnel whose responsibility it is to implement the laws are failing to do their duties due to various bias and negligence. Though SC,ST(PoA) Act is stringent the perpetrators of atrocities are able to escape punishment because of the lapse in proper implementation. She explained about the 24 cases of victims of atrocities and their woes in getting justice.

Then the victims of 24 cases of atrocities narrated how the atrocity took place and their difficulties in getting justice and compensation. The victims broke down while explaining their griefs. The



participating officials in Zoom responded to the problems of the victims.

Ms. Vyjayanthi, Director of Prosecutions: She assured that she will discuss with the PPs and other concerned about the issues of the accused not being arrested, counter cases foisted on the victims as a revenge, improper registration of sections of law. She assured to rectify the illegalities. Commenting on the medical negligence of doctor in Sunitha case, she condemned the negligence of the doctor and suggested to complain against him to All India Medical Board.



Officials of the Women and Child Welfare assured to provide education, shelter to the girl children victims of rape and other atrocities. Further, she said that a decision was taken to provide compensation and relief to the victims irrespective of evidence.

Officials of Social Development assured to examine the 24 cases in detail and solve the issues like delay in getting justice and see that compensation and rehabilitation is provided at the earliest.

Heads of various organisations who attended the RTC appreciated DSS for its work and assured solidarity with DSS in getting justice for the victims.

Impact:



The visible and immeasurable impact of the campaign and RTC may be summarised as follows:

- Victims who have been undergoing agony all the time felt relieved after the RTC. Their morale got boosted and they gained self confidence that they can stand up to fight until they achieve justice.
- As for as other participants, including officials, are concerned, face to face interaction with the victims served as mirror

of the ground reality of how the system is functioning in fact. This definitely made all of them to reflect on the gap between the reality and the ideal which makes them to think of ways to rectify the loopholes.

- The media persons that attended the RTC themselves saw the reality of functioning of the system as well as the agony of the victims which influenced them to sympathetically understand the situation of dalit women. The wide coverage of the RTC in the print and electronic media helps the dalit women, men and society at large understand about the plight of the dalit



women and how the SC, ST Act is diluted in reality. Further, the RTC and its wide coverage helps in shattering the arguments of a section of prejudiced persons who propagate that the SC, ST Act is being misused.

- The gender campaign, conferences in the villages, slums and town centres enlightened the dalit women and also dalit men about the gender discriminatory practices.
- The participating organizations were motivated about the work of DSS on gender disparities and it strengthened the networking bonds with DSS.
- Due to Covid situation there was a lull prevailing among the social activists and organizations. The 16-day campaign and RTC gave a fillip to everyone.
- Thus the 16 days gender campaign and the concluding RTC has discernible and invisible impact on various sections of the society and definitely gives a boost to the social consciousness in right direction.



దళిత ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీలు సాధికారత-స్వయంప్రతిపత్తితో ఆర్థికంగా స్థిరపడి బానిససంకెళ్లు చేదిస్తారు

డిఎస్సీఆర్ బాలీయ కన్వీనర్ గ్రూప్ రూప్పీ
తర. ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీలు-బాలికలపై జరిగిన హింసా సంఘటనలపై
వివరాలను తెలిపి ఆదివాసీ సమావేశం
24 కేసులకు సంబంధించిన తమ వేదనను అభివ్యక్తం చేశారు.



రాండ్ బీటల్ సమావేశంలో ప్రసంగిస్తున్న గ్రెగ్ డయాన్, సిద్ధికాబ్, పద్మిని దాస్

అంబేద్కర్, డిసెంబరు 10 ప్రాంతీయ దళిత ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీల సాధికారత, స్వయంప్రతిపత్తి కలిగి వారు ఆర్థికంగా స్థిరపడి తమ స్వయంప్రతిపత్తిని ముందుకు తెచ్చుకోవడానికి సాధించారు. దళిత స్త్రీలు ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీలను కలిపి 25 ఏళ్ల దీనిని 108 సేవలకు అందించారు. ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ లోని గ్రామీణ ప్రాంతాల్లోని దళిత ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీలు, బాలికలపై జరిగిన హింసా సంఘటనలపై ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ లోని దళిత ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీల సమావేశం జరిగింది. దళిత స్త్రీలు ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ లోని దళిత ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీల సమావేశంలో తమ వేదనను అభివ్యక్తం చేశారు. దళిత స్త్రీలు ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ లోని దళిత ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీల సమావేశంలో తమ వేదనను అభివ్యక్తం చేశారు. దళిత స్త్రీలు ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ లోని దళిత ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీల సమావేశంలో తమ వేదనను అభివ్యక్తం చేశారు.

Violence against Dalit, Adivasi women decried

Victims share details on atrocities and their fight for justice

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD

A round table meeting organised by the NGO, Dalit Shree Sakti on Thursday, heard and condemned the violence against Dalit and Adivasi women and children.



Dalit Shree Sakti holding a round table. ARRANGEMENT

A total of 24 victims from both the sections shared details about the atrocities perpetrated against them and their fight for justice, at the meeting, which was attended online by government functionaries, including Commissioner, Social Welfare, Yogita Rana, Commissioner, Women Development and Child Welfare, Divya Devarajan, and Director of Prosecutions Vjayanthi.

ness campaign should be launched against the patriarchal belief system that pervades across the spectrum irrespective of castes, religions, class, gender and culture, while influencing the spheres of literature and visual media too. Babasaheb Ambedkar's thought alone can lead to an emerge out of slavery. Dalit Shree Sakti has conducted a campaign among Dalit and Adivasi women between November 25 and December 10, responding to the call by the United Nations, she said. Ms. Vyjayanthi said that in cases where the accused have not been arrested, where vindictive cases are

ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి శుక్రవారం 11 డిసెంబరు

మా కొడుకుపై అత్యాచారం చేసినందుకు ప్రభుత్వం వరంగల్ జిల్లా, అన్నారం తండా సుబ్బి నిడదవోడలోని ఒక ఆస్పత్రిలో నేను నా భార్య పనిచేసే కుటుంబాన్ని చదివించుకుంటున్నా. అదే ఏరియలో డైవర్ గా పనిచేసే నాకు మా పెద్ద పిల్లగారి(10)పై అత్యాచారం చేసింది. ఆ సంగతి ఇంకా చెబితే, సంపూర్ణాని పిల్లగారిని వివరంగా కోల్పోయింది. ఆ పిల్లలకు అంగం మీద పెద్దగాయలు, మూత్రం కూడా బయట అయింది. ఆసుపత్రిలో పడిపోయింది. డిసెంబరు 10 (ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి): దళిత, ఆదివాసీ అమ్మాయిలు, మహిళలపై హింస నానాటికే పెరుగుతున్నట్లుగా, నేరస్థులకు తగిన శిక్ష పడకపోవడమే అందుకు ప్రధాన కారణమని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి సంఘటన జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గ్రెగ్ డయాన్ అనేదన వ్యక్తం చేశారు. వక్రరాజ్య సమితి సీనియర్ మేరక స్త్రీలపై హింస వ్యతిరేక ప్రచారద్యమం ముగింపు పందర్బంగా గురువారం నాంపల్లిలోని మదీనా విద్యాసంస్థల సభామందిరం వేదికగా దళిత, ఆదివాసీ మహిళలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా రాండ్ బీటల్ సమావేశం జరిగింది. కార్యక్రమంలో తెలంగాణ మహిళా, శిశు సంక్షేమ శాఖ కార్యదర్శి దివ్యా దేవరాజ్, సాంఘిక సంక్షేమ శాఖ కార్యదర్శి

'ప్రభుత్వం బాధ్యతాయుతంగా ఉండాలి'



సమావేశంలో మాట్లాడుతున్న రూప్పీ, నాంపల్లి, సూనీమిడే: సమాజంలో అది వాసీ, దళిత, గిరిజన మహిళలు, బాలికలపై జరుగుతున్న అత్యాచారాలు, హింసను నివారించేందుకు ప్రభుత్వం బాధ్యతాయుతంగా వ్యవహరించాలి

హరించిన దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి సంస్థ జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూప్పీ గ్రెగ్ డయాన్ చేశారు. మానవ హక్కులను గౌరవించాలన్న రాజ్యాంగ సూత్రం ద్వారా బి.ఆర్.అంబేద్కర్ భావజాలాన్ని పలుకగలదని అభిప్రాయపడ్డారు. మానవ హక్కుల దిశాత్తూ పురస్కరించుకొని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి సంస్థ ఆధ్వర్యంలో గురువారం నాంపల్లిలోని మదీనా విద్యాసంస్థల సభామందిరం వేదికగా దళిత, గిరిజన, ఆదివాసీ స్త్రీలు, బాలికలపై జరిగిన అత్యాచారాలు, హింస సంఘటనలపై రాండ్ బీటల్ సమావేశం నిర్వహించారు. సమావేశంలో 24 కేసులకు సంబంధించిన

బాధితులు, సాక్షులు, సంబంధిత అధికారుల ముందు తమకు జరిగిన అన్యాయాలు, వేదనను వెలిబుచ్చారు. సాంఘిక అభివృద్ధి శాఖ కమిషనర్ యోగితారాణా, మహిళా శిశు సంక్షేమ శాఖ కమిషనర్ దివ్యాదేవరాజ్, క్రైరెగ్గర్ ఆఫ్ ప్రొసెక్యూషన్స్ బైజయ్యలతో జామ్ మీటింగ్ ద్వారా బాధితులతో మాట్లాడారు. ఈ సమావేశంలో రూప్పీ గ్రెగ్ డయాన్, ఎస్సీ ఎస్సీ అసెంబ్లీ ఫోరం కన్వీనర్ డాక్టర్ సిద్ధికాబ్, ఆలం దియా ఎస్సీ ఎస్సీ పెడరేషన్ ప్రతినిధులు నర్సింగరావు, లెక్కర్ రజిత, డాక్టర్ సుధర్శన్ బాలబోయన, వివిధ ఆదివాసీ, దళిత సంఘాల ప్రతినిధులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

బాధితులకు బాసటగా నిలవాలి...

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూప్పీ » ఆదివాసీ, దళిత మహిళలు, బాలికలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా సదస్సు

హైదరాబాద్ సీటీ, డిసెంబర్ 10 (ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి): దళిత, ఆదివాసీ అమ్మాయిలు, మహిళలపై హింస నానాటికే పెరుగుతున్నట్లుగా, నేరస్థులకు తగిన శిక్ష పడకపోవడమే అందుకు ప్రధాన కారణమని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి సంఘటన జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గ్రెగ్ డయాన్ అనేదన వ్యక్తం చేశారు. వక్రరాజ్య సమితి సీనియర్ మేరక స్త్రీలపై హింస వ్యతిరేక ప్రచారద్యమం ముగింపు పందర్బంగా గురువారం నాంపల్లిలోని మదీనా విద్యాసంస్థల సభామందిరం వేదికగా దళిత, ఆదివాసీ మహిళలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా రాండ్ బీటల్ సమావేశం జరిగింది. కార్యక్రమంలో తెలంగాణ మహిళా, శిశు సంక్షేమ శాఖ కార్యదర్శి దివ్యా దేవరాజ్, సాంఘిక సంక్షేమ శాఖ కార్యదర్శి



దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి రాండ్ బీటల్ సదస్సులో తన కన్వీనర్ గ్రూప్ ఆధికారులకు చెబుతున్న బాధితురాలు... చిత్రంలో రూప్పీ అధిపతులు

బైజయ్యలతో తదితర ఉన్నతాధికారులు ఆన్లైన్ ద్వారా కుల వివక్షతో పాటు లైంగిక దోపిడీకి గురైన 20 మంది బాధితుల గేద విన్నారు. సమాజంలో కుల, లింగ వివక్ష పాతుకుపోయారని దానికి సదస్సులోని బాధితుల ఆక్షేపణలతో నిదర్శనమని బి.ఎస్. బి.ఎస్. అధికారుల ఫోరం కన్వీనర్ సిద్ధికాబ్ అంటోడన వ్యక్తం చేశారు. కన్వీనర్ రూప్పీ మాట్లాడుతూ బాధితులకు సప్తవరసలలో పాటు బాలికలకు చదువు, వసతి సౌకర్యాలను కల్పించాలని అధికారులను కోరారు. కార్యక్రమంలో ఆర్ ఇండియా ఎస్సీ, ఎస్సీ పెడరేషన్ ప్రతినిధి నరసింగరావు, అధ్యాపకులు రజిత, డాక్టర్ సుధర్శన్ బాలబోయన తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

REPRESENTATIONS TO OFFICIALS AND COMMISSIONS

Justice to victims can be accessed only if we attempt all approaches. The way bureaucracy functions, registration of a case or payment of compensation to the victim doesn't happen automatically. One has to go around the concerned offices and get the things done. Giving a representation to the district level officials and meeting them along with the victims is very important in getting things done. A detailed factfinding report with specific violations is submitted to the concerned District Collectors and Superintendent of Police demanding necessary action. Usually, the higher officials either call the concerned official and instruct them or send a note to attend to the issue. If a phone call or a note/instruction from the district Collector or Superintendent of police goes down to the lower officials then the lower-level staff act fast and report the matter to the higher up. For this reason, Dalit Sthree Sakthi as part of its relentless efforts for speedy justice to victims, it continuously approaches the concerned officials, commissions and the prosecution to speed up the penal and pecuniary process. When we meet the higher officials along with the victim, the concerned official will be able to see the issue directly and get convinced about the injustice done to the victim.

Another forum for getting justice is District vigilance and monitoring committee meetings. DSS is member of these committees at various places and always promptly attends these meetings with data of cases and their present status on all aspects. There at the meeting DSS brings to the notice of the higher ups about the pit falls in the case and the need to render justice. The higher officials can instruct the concerned staff to do the needful.

In some cases, representation is sent to the national and state level human rights commissions. At the state level commissions DSS has credibility with the concerned higher ups and in urgent cases, DSS take appointment and meets the Chairman of SHRC along with the victims. Representation to the Commissions help in moving the things and speeding up the process. Usually, the Commission gives notice to the concerned police or other officials to file the report in answer to our representation and this makes the concerned official to discharge their duty and report to the Commission.

CAPACITATION

Dalit communities in the villages and slums need to be made aware of the various human rights and they should be made conscious of their rights to lead a life of dignity and self respect. It is the activists and human rights defenders that take the message of rights to the grass roots. Hence, training in human rights is essential for every activist, particularly dalit human rights defenders. Human rights education is a learning process that builds up the required knowledge, values, and proficiency of human rights so that these defenders can propagate in the field at the grass root level the various rights. More importantly, these trainings help develop an acceptable human rights culture. Human rights education is a way to empower people so that they can develop the necessary knowledge and skills to protect their rights and help in protecting the dignity and equality within the dalit community in their working area. Whenever an atrocity or other violations take place, the dalit women should be able to raise their voice in terms of human rights violations. With these objectives dalit human rights defenders are trained regularly about the international human rights and the rights under the Indian Constitution and various laws.

Likewise, young dalit advocates who help the dalit victims and witnesses need to be appraised of the intricacies of special laws, particularly, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. This Act was amended and made more stringent, but most of the personnel whose duty it is to implement this Act are not aware of the latest amendments. Similarly, the dalit victims and witnesses also are not aware of their rights under the latest amendments. In this context it will be helpful if the young advocates are trained in the latest position of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. Hence a training of the advocates on all special laws, particularly, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act is necessary.

DALIT HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS TRAINING

Dalit Human Rights Defenders Training has been a regular event conducted annually to train the young human rights defenders in the various processes involved in defending the human rights of Dalits, such as fact finding, the situation of human rights, monitoring cases, filing appeals with the rights commissions and the procedures. This year's training was conducted at hotel Viceroy, Guntur town on 28th September 2020. About 30 activists in human rights from various districts participated in the event. All norms concerning Covid-19 were taken and the participants were seated at safe distance and were wearing masks.

The Chief Guest at the event was Prof. K. Sudhakar Babu, Principal, JC College of Law, Guntur while other speakers were, Prof. Farahad, Professor in Engineering College, Sri. Vijaya Kumar, Retd. Manager of Andhra Bank, Ms. Jhansi Geddam, National Convener of DSS, Ms. Bhagya Lakshmi, State Coordinator of Telangana State, Ms. Hemalatha, State Coordinator of A.P. State, Sri. N. Sateesh, Advocate, Guntur.

Prof. K. Sudhakar Babu, highlighted the importance of human rights education in general and to the human rights defenders in



particular. He explained the importance of various international human rights and how they are incorporated in the Indian Constitution. He analysed the working of the courts in issuing various writs in protecting the fundamental rights and the role of human rights organizations in defending the rights of the marginalized section through Public Interest Litigation.

He felt that there is equality among animals and no animal kills or injures its own species. But among human beings, some people feel they are superior and subject others to torture and humiliation for their ego satisfaction, thereby violating human rights. Further, a few humans exploit others for their comforts. In the course of social evolution, we have created many institutions like family, marriage, caste, religion, etc but these institutions instead of promoting equality and unity created various inequalities. Many problems of the society are due to the lack of values in the institutions of State and education system. Further, the market relations everywhere contributed for the deterioration of values resulting in violation of human rights. He called upon the activists to utilize the institutions like NHRC and other rights commissions in protecting the rights of the poorer sections. He explained various provisions of law relating to bail, legal aid etc in getting a fair trial. He advised the activists to monitor the cases till the end to get justice.

Ms. Jhansi Geddam, explained the role of DSS in defending the human rights of dalit women and girl children. She drew the attention of the participants to the important laws such as SC/ST (PoA) Act in protecting the rights of Dalits. Though the Acts are there, they can be realized only if the activists keep continuous vigilance. Further, she insisted on the importance of education and inclusion of human rights in the curriculum for spreading awareness among the youth. She stressed the importance of translating the important laws into easy Telugu so that the semi-literates and illiterates also can get equipped with the knowledge of various provisions of special enactments. In this context she pointed out how DSS has been continually bringing out in Telugu various laws concerning dalit human rights whenever they were enacted. She cited; the compendium of laws published in Telugu by DSS titled “Mana Chattalu:(Our Laws).



Dr. Farahad, appreciated DSS for working to promote the rights of women and girl children. She pointed out that it is only DSS that is concentrating on the rights of dalit women and girl children. She stressed the need for all women to educate and improve awareness of their rights so that they can transform the society. She felt that unless the women take active participation in the society there can be no progress in the country.



Mr. Sateesh, touched upon the role of advocates in assisting the human rights defenders and how to move the human rights court at the district level for immediate relief in case of illegal arrests. He cited the great poet Joshua who advocated equality of women when none else was talking about women's rights.



Mr. Vijaya Kumar, highlighted the Covid-19 situation and how human rights are protected during such a situation. There is no possibility to protest or organize public meetings during the past 6 months and he hoped that shortly we will come over the situation and would be able to work as before.



Ms. Bhagya Lakshmi and Ms. Hemalatha spoke on the topics of fact findings, addressing the grievances of dalit women, approaching the district officials and monitoring the cases.



దళిత హక్కుల పరిరక్షణకు పోరాడాలి

నెహ్రూనగర్: దళిత మానవ హక్కుల పరిరక్షణపై పోరాడాలని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గడ్డం రూస్సీ పేర్కొన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి అధ్యక్షులలో దళిత మానవ హక్కుల పరిరక్షణకు శిక్షణ కార్యక్రమం సోమవారం ఆరంభంపేటలోని ఓ హోటల్లో నిర్వహించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ కుల, మత, ఆధార వ్యవహారాలు మారాలన్నారు.

విద్యావ్యవస్థ లోపంతోనే విలువల్లేని సమాజం

● దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూస్సీ

గుంటూరు, సెప్టెంబరు 28: విద్యావ్యవస్థలో లోపంతోనే విలువల్లేని సమాజం రాజ్యమేలుతుందని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూస్సీ గడ్డం ఆందోళన వ్యక్తం చేశారు. ఆరంభంపేటలోని ఓ హోటల్లో సోమవారం దళిత మానవ హక్కుల పరిరక్షణ శిక్షణ సోమవారం జరిగింది. ఈ సందర్భంగా ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ సమాజాన్ని మార్చటం కోసం చట్టాలు, రాజకీయ వ్యవస్థపై జ్ఞానవంతులు కావాలని ఆమె పిలుపునిచ్చారు. కార్యక్రమంలో జేకేసీ లా కళాశాల ప్రిన్సిపల్ సుధాకర్బాబు, ఇంజనీరింగ్ కళాశాల ప్రొఫెసర్ డాక్టర్ ఫరహాద్, అడ్వకేట్ సతీష్, తెలంగాణ, ఏపీ కో ఆర్డినేటర్లు భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, హేమలత తదితరులున్నారు.

CAPACITATION OF ADVOCATES

A meeting of the advocates was organized by DSS on 21-10-2020 at Press Club, Vijayawada. Advocates from Guntur and Krishna districts participated in the meet. The objective of the meet was to bring awareness among the advocates on the S.C.S.T. (PoA) Act and its implications. The meeting was presided over by Jhansi Geddam, National Convener of DSS. She explained the objectives of the meeting and the need for advocates to be vigilant about the cases filed under the S.C.S.T. (PoA) Act. She explained in detail about the loopholes in implementation of the Act and cited illustrative cases where the police and prosecuting authorities have done injustice to the victims. She spoke at length about the various atrocities, particularly, rape of minor girls and how the concerned authorities are failing to do justice. She explained about the latest amendments to the S.C.S.T. (PoA) Act and how the implementing authorities are not aware of these amendments. She exhorted the advocates present to be articulate about the latest amendments and monitor the cases properly.



Jhansi Geddam spoke about the other special laws like Disa Act, POCSO Act and lamented how dalit minor girls are being raped despite the existence of such special laws. She appealed to the advocates to monitor the cases and see that the victims get justice. She explained about the objectives of providing compensation in the S.C.S.T. (PoA) Act and commented that the concerned departments have not grasped the objectives of Act. Due to lack of appreciation of the objectives of payment of compensation, the concerned departments are harassing the victims by not disbursing the amounts in time. She requested the advocates to monitor proper payment of compensation to the victims as per the guidelines.

The advocates actively interacted and spoke about the real ways in which the cases are conducted in the courts. Sri. Sunil, Assistant Public Prosecutor, Guntur, Sri. Srikanth, Advocate, Sri. Ankaiah and women advocates, Ms. Veda, Ms. Aruna, Ms. Dayaratnam interacted actively at the meet. They explained in detail as to why many cases are getting either closed or acquitted despite the fact that a serious atrocity was committed. Among other things, they cited the issues like the ignorance of the victims



and their failure to depose properly in the court. Another major reason for losing cases is due to inordinate delay in completing the trial. Due to inordinate delay the victims and witnesses are unable to depose properly. Moreover, the accused are able to convince the victims and witnesses to leave them. Further, the delay and disinterest of prosecution in cases is causing improper depositions by the witnesses and victims. They explained that since the victims are economically weak and dependant on the accused for work, in course of time they are compromising. The advocates said that in the recent times every case is being viewed as a political case and the clash of politics and intervention of local political leaders is causing hurdle to the proper handling of cases.

Sate Coordinators of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Ms. Bhagya Lakshmi and Ms. Hemalatha spoke about the worst scenario with regard to the implementation of the Act in their respective States. They narrated how the police and politicians are colluding with the accused and threatening the victims. They felt it is shameful for the implementing authorities to side with the accused.

All the advocates present assured to be in touch with DSS and promised to monitor the atrocity cases taken up by DSS and help the victims and witnesses.



Concern over growing atrocities against Dalit, Adivasi women

- Addressing a meeting of advocates from Krishna and Guntur districts, Dalit Stree Shakti national convener Geddam Jhansi says despite govts enacting several laws prescribing severe punishments, atrocities against minor girls are going on
- Calls for a thorough change in judicial system to ensure justice to the victims

HANS NEWS SERVICE
VIJAYAWADA

EXPRESSING concern over the growing atrocities against minor girls belonging to Dalit and Adivasi communities, Geddam Jhansi, national convener of Dalit Stree Sakthi, said here on Wednesday that in spite of the enactments like SC,ST Atrocities (Prevention) Act, POCSO Act, Nirbhaya and Disha Act, there has been steady rise in the number of atrocities.

Jhansi was flanked by coordinators of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh — Hemalata and

Bhagyalakshmi — while presiding over the meeting of advocates of Guntur and Krishna districts.

Elaborating the problems the victims are facing, Jhansi said that it was imperative that the judiciary needs thorough change to provide justice to the victims.

Advocates including Guntur assistant public prosecutor Sunil, Srikanth, Ankaiah, women advocates Veda, Aruna and Dayaratnam attended the meeting.

The advocates reeled out the issues that were resulting in the acquittal of the accused. According to them, there was no aware-



Geddam Jhansi, national convener of Dalit Stree Sakthi flanked by coordinators Hemalata and Bhagyalakshmi addressing the advocates meeting in Vijayawada on Wednesday

ness in the victims, inordinate delay in the trial of the cases, and also delay and defects in prosecution, importantly, the victims who are financially weak, could not cope up with the pressure from the accused since they were working under them.

The advocates expressed concern over the politicisation of atrocity cases. It would be possible to stop the atrocities

against the Dalits and Adivasis if the police and the judiciary functioned in a right manner.

The coordinators Hemalata and Bhagyalakshmi narrated the shortcomings in the prosecution of accused in both the states.

The Dalit advocates should work hard for the protection of the victims and give a helping hand for the Dalit Stree Sakthi in handling the cases.

మహిళలకు న్యాయం జరిగాలంటే న్యాయవాదుల

విశాఖ-విజయవాడ (గాంధీనగర్) : మహిళలపై జరుగుతున్న అకృత్యాలు, కేంద్ర రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వాలు ఎన్ని చట్టాలు తీసుకువస్తున్నా అవి బాధితులకు సత్వరం న్యాయ బాధితులకు న్యాయం జరిగాలంటే న్యాయవ్యవస్థ, న్యాయవాదుల పాత్ర ముఖ్యమని, చేసే విధంగా న్యాయవాదులు ముందుకు రావాలని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూపా గాంధీనగర్ ప్రెస్ క్లబ్ లో బుధవారం దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ఆధ్వర్యంలో పలు జిల్లాల న్యాయవాదులకు విజయవాడలో విజయవాడ ప్రెస్ క్లబ్ లో దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ఆధ్వర్యంలో బుధవారం న్యాయవాదుల సమావేశం జరిగింది.

న్యాయ వ్యవస్థ తీరు మారాలి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూపా

గాంధీనగర్ (విజయవాడసెంట్రల్): తెలుగు రాష్ట్రాల్లో న్యాయ వ్యవస్థ పనితీరు మారాలని, దీనికి న్యాయవాదుల పాత్ర ప్రధానమైనదని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూపా గాంధీనగర్ ప్రెస్ క్లబ్ లో దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ఆధ్వర్యంలో బుధవారం న్యాయవాదుల సమావేశం జరిగింది.

ది. ఇందులో పాల్గొన్న ఆమె మాట్లాడిన అత్యధిక నిరోధక చట్టం, పోకో, లాంటివి ఉన్నా మహిళలపై అత్యాచారాలు జరుగుతున్నాయని ఆవేదన వ్యక్తం చేశారు. న్యాయ వ్యవస్థ, అరుణ, దయారత్నం, అంకయ్య దుతూ..బాధితులు చైతన్యవంతులుగా ఉన్నప్పుడు కూడా వంటి కారణాల వల్ల న్యాయ వ్యవస్థలో న్యాయాన్ని వివరించారు. సమావేశంలో ఆర్డినేటర్లు హేమలత, భాగ్యలక్ష్మి

'దళిత మహిళలపై దాడులు పెరగడం ఆందోళనకరం'

గాంధీనగర్, న్యూస్ టుడే:

రాష్ట్రంలో దళిత మహిళలపై దాడులు, అత్యాచారాలు పెరగడం ఆందోళన కలిగిస్తోందని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి రాష్ట్ర కన్వీనర్ గడ్డం రూపా అన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ఆధ్వర్యంలో బుధవారం ప్రెస్ క్లబ్ లో నిర్వహించిన న్యాయవాదుల సమావేశంలో ఆమె మాట్లాడారు. మహిళలపై అత్యాచారాల నివారణకు ప్రభుత్వం ఎన్ని కఠిన చట్టాలు చేస్తున్నా నిర్వీర్యమవుతున్నాయని ఆవేదన వ్యక్తం చేశారు. న్యాయవాదులు దయారత్నం, అరుణ దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ప్రతినిధులు భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, హేమలత తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

MARCHING TOWARDS A WORLD OF EQUALITY

CAMPAIGN FOR GENDER EQUALITY

Under the auspices of UN Women, International Campaign against Violence on Women is conducted regularly every year. UN Call for an active campaign world over on this theme for 16 days, starting from 25th November and culminating on 10th December Human Rights Day. All activist organizations world over responds to this call of UN and conduct campaign for 16 days and sensitize the society against all forms of violence on women. Dalit Stree Sakthi responds to this UN call every year and conducts campaign on the theme of violence against women. As part of the annual feature, this year also Dalit Stree Sakthi inaugurated its campaign against all forms of violence against women on 25th November. Dalit Stree Sakthi specially focusses on the violence going on Dalit, Adivasi women and girl children. Further, Dalit Stree Sakthi is seriously attempting to focus on gender inequality which is the root of all forms of oppression and violence against women. In this campaign Dalit Stree Sakthi is enlightening the public in general about the patriarchal ideology and how it is rooted in the minds of all. Unfortunately, even women unconsciously adhere to the patriarchal ideology. Caste, religion, cinema and even the educational system propagate patriarchal ideology in various forms. Dalit Stree Sakthi has geared up to conduct public meetings, gatherings in villages, towns, district centres on this theme and is conducting awareness camps.



This year's Gender campaign by Dalit Stree Sakthi was inaugurated on **25th November** at 11.00 a.m. through a press meet at Press Club, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. Press reporters of all important print and electronic media attended the Press Conference. The press meet was addressed by Jhansi Geddam, National Convener, DSS and Bhagya Lakshmi, Hemalatha Coordinators of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Women Collective Leaders and dalit women activists also participated in the meet. The media persons were explained about the International importance of the campaign and the role of Dalit Stree Sakthi in curtailing violence on dalit Adivasi women and girl children. The schedule of the campaign up to 10th December was released to the press. The need to sensitize the society on gender issues and the need to curtail all forms of violence on dalit women and girl children was explained to the press representatives.



After the press meet, from the afternoon the campaign was conducted in slum areas of Vijayawada. The slum areas of Balaji Nagar, Tarakarama Nagar and Ranigari Thota were covered. The slum residents were gathered at a



centre point and they were explained about gender issues, the ongoing violence on marginalized women and how to combat the violence. The women were motivated to oppose all forms of oppression and violence.

After the press meet and campaign on 25th there was cyclonic storm creating chill weather with rains. Despite the adverse climatic situation, the campaign continued and dalit women participated enthusiastically.





Campaign on gender equality kicks off

Vijayawada: Dalit Stree Sakthi (DSS) launched a 16-day campaign against 'violence against women', which will culminate on December 10 (on Human Rights Day), here on Wednesday. As part of the campaign, the DSS activists visited a slum area in the city and sensitised the public about gender equality. Speaking on the occasion, DSS National Convener Jhansi Geddam said the main objective of the campaign is to highlight the importance of woman empowerment and to bring gender equality in the social order.

HANS INDIA AMARAVATI THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2020

Dalit Stree Sakthi launches advocacy on gender equality



Dalit Stree Sakthi national convener Geddam Jhansi releasing posters on gender equality along with other activists in Vijayawada on Wednesday

HANS NEWS SERVICE VIJAYAWADA

EXPRESSING concern over the deep-rooted male chauvinism in society and stressing on the gender equality in all the fields, Dalit Stree Sakthi (DSS) launched advocacy on massive scale here on Tuesday.

National convener of DSS Geddam Jhansi, addressing the gathering at the Press Club here, said that misogyny was deep-rooted in society whether it was caste, religion, culture, literature, movies and others. Jhansi said that the DSS will extensively organise meetings, conferences and awareness programmes on the need to eliminate gender discrimination and achieve gender equality in the two Telugu states for the next sixteen days till December 10, the day of human rights.

The DSS will conduct meetings in the city for three days from Thursday in Gun...

stitutions, liquor addiction, dowry harassment, discrimination in employment for women. Jhansi stating that if the women are educated the whole family will become educated, stressed on educating the women on large scale.

Earlier, DSS conducted meeting with advocates from the two Telugu states wherein they discussed the action to be undertaken to take the criminal cases against the accused in atrocities against women and girls belonging to Dalit and Adivasi communities.

Advocates including assistant public prosecutor Srikanth, senior advocates Sunil and Ankaiah and women advocates Veda, Aruna, Dayaratnam and others addressing the gathering elaborated on the various reasons for the weakening of cases. Lack of awareness among the victims, delay and defect in prosecution, financial backwardness of the victims, pressure from other sections to withdraw...

- DSS national convener Geddam Jhansi stresses educating women and says if the women are educated the whole family will become educated
- DSS members and the Dalit advocate will come forward to support the cause taken up by the women

CAMPAIGN FOR GENDER EQUALITY

DC CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA, NOV. 25

Dalit Stree Sakthi inaugurated its campaign against all forms of violence against women at Vijayawada on Wednesday. Jhansi Geddam, National convener of Dalit Stree Sakthi and Ms Hemalatha, coordinator of AP and Bhagya Lakshmi, coordinator of Telangana during launch of campaign said that the United Nations called for an active campaign for 16 days, starting from November 25 and culminating on December 10 on the occasion of Human Rights Day.

హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి ప్రచారోద్యమం జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూన్జీ గెడ్డం



గాంధీనగర్(విజయవాడ సెంట్రల్): లింగ సమానత్వం కోసం, స్త్రీలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమంలో భాగంగా డిసెంబర్ 10 వరకు ప్రచారోద్యమం చేపడుతున్నట్లు దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూన్జీ గెడ్డం తెలిపారు. స్థానిక ప్రెస్ క్లబ్లో ప్రచారోద్యమ వారో ప్రారంభం అవిష్కరించారు. ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ దళిత స్త్రీలు, బాలికలపై జరుగుతున్న హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా ప్రచారోద్యమం నిర్వహిస్తున్నామన్నారు. కలం, మతం, సంస్కృతి, సాహిత్యం, సినిమాలో విద్యావ్యవస్థలోనూ పురుషాధిక్య భావజాలం ఉందని చెప్పారు. దీనికి వ్యతిరేకంగా, లింగ సమానత్వం కోసం ప్రచార కార్యక్రమం చేపట్టినట్లు వివరించారు. అందులో భాగంగా తెలుగు రాష్ట్రాల్లోని జిల్లా కేంద్రాల్లో నభలు, సమావేశాలు, అవగాహన తరగతులు నిర్వహించనున్నట్లు వెల్లడించారు. ఈనెల 26, 27, 28 తేదీలలో గుంటూరు, పశ్చిమగోదావరి జిల్లాల్లో ప్రచారోద్యమం సాగుతుందన్నారు. తదుపరి తెలంగాణలో హైదరాబాద్, రంగారెడ్డి, విశాఖరాజ్ గోదావరి నిదరాజ్ గోదావరి జిల్లాల్లోనూ ప్రచారోద్యమం నిర్వహించనున్నట్లు తెలిపారు. BER 26, 2020

Dalit body launches gender campaign

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT VIJAYAWADA

Members of Dalit Stree Sakthi on Wednesday kicked off a campaign seeking gender equality and an end to atrocities against women.

Addressing a press conference, the organisation's national convener Jhansi Geddam said the members would visit slum habitations in city to educate Dalits, women and girl children about their rights and responsibilities.

The awareness drive is part of the annual International Campaign against Violence on Women, spearheaded by UN Women for 16



Members of All India Democratic Women's Association staging a protest over the rising instances of violence against women and children, in Vijayawada on Wednesday. -V.R.BAJU

of violence would share their experiences in the presence of officials of the departments concerned would form part of the campaign, she said.

"The organisation is focussing on shining the spotlight on gender inequality, a social evil that is at the root of oppression and violence against women, she said.

"Our objective is to help women understand the banes of this patriarchal ideology and the need to break free of it," she said.

She added that besides public meetings, the organisation would visit villages, towns and district centres

Ms. Jhansi said the campaign would move from here to Rajahmundry, Rajahmundry, Ranga Reddy and Vikarabad districts in

E TIMES OF INDIA, VIJAYAWADA THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2020

అంతర్జాతీయ గురువారం 26 నవంబరు 2020

జండర్ సమానత్వం కోసం ప్రచారోద్యమం

విజయవాడలో దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూన్జీ గెడ్డం ప్రారంభించిన ప్రచారోద్యమం ప్రవేశం చేస్తున్నామని ఆమె తెలిపారు. ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ దళిత స్త్రీలు, బాలికలపై జరుగుతున్న హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా ప్రచారోద్యమం నిర్వహిస్తున్నామన్నారు. ఈనెల 26, 27, 28 తేదీలలో గుంటూరు, పశ్చిమగోదావరి జిల్లాల్లో ప్రచారోద్యమం సాగుతుందన్నారు. తదుపరి తెలంగాణలో హైదరాబాద్, రంగారెడ్డి, విశాఖరాజ్ గోదావరి నిదరాజ్ గోదావరి జిల్లాల్లోనూ ప్రచారోద్యమం నిర్వహించనున్నట్లు తెలిపారు.

విశాలాంధ్ర గురువారం 26, నవంబరు 2020

లింగ సమానత్వం కోసం అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమం

విశాలాంధ్ర-విజయవాడ (గాంధీనగర్) : లింగ సమానత్వం కోసం అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమం ప్రవేశం చేస్తున్నామని ఆమె తెలిపారు. ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ దళిత స్త్రీలు, బాలికలపై జరుగుతున్న హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా ప్రచారోద్యమం నిర్వహిస్తున్నామన్నారు. ఈనెల 26, 27, 28 తేదీలలో గుంటూరు, పశ్చిమగోదావరి జిల్లాల్లో ప్రచారోద్యమం సాగుతుందన్నారు. తదుపరి తెలంగాణలో హైదరాబాద్, రంగారెడ్డి, విశాఖరాజ్ గోదావరి నిదరాజ్ గోదావరి జిల్లాల్లోనూ ప్రచారోద్యమం నిర్వహించనున్నట్లు తెలిపారు.

Campaign for gender equality begins

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Vijayawada: The Dalit Stree Shakti (DSS) has raised the call for gender equality and participation in the campaign opposing violence against women. Functionaries of the DSS started a 16-7-long campaign in keeping with the call by the United Nations Women, here on Wednesday. Jhansi Geddam, national

convener for DSS, addressed the gathering at the round table conference at the Press Club and said caste, religion and cinema, among other factors, are provoking gender-based discrimination in society. Inequalities should be addressed from the village-level and the DSS is committed to it, Jhansi said.

"We have especially focused on the violence against Dalit, Adivasi women and

girl children. In this campaign, Dalit Stree Sakthi is enlightening the public in general about patriarchal ideology and how it is rooted in the minds of all. Unfortunately, even women unconsciously adhere to patriarchal ideology," she added.

Public meetings, gatherings and awareness programmes will be conducted in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, she said.

As part of the campaign on 26th in West Godavari district various villages were covered. Dalit women gatherings of the villages were addressed and they were explained about the gender campaign and the need to fight against all forms of discrimination and oppression on women. The villages of Eluru, Pinakadimi, Chodimella, Koppaka and Vatluru of Pedavegi, Pedapadu mandals were covered on 26th November 2020.



On 27th November 2020 a conference on gender issues was held at Guntur in A.C. College conference hall from 11.00 a.m. onwards. This college is situated in the heart of the town and easily accessible to the people. The conference was attended by about 100 dalit women. The conference was addressed by Ms.Prasanthi Susanna, Managing Director of A.C. College spoke on the vulnerable situation of the women and stressed the need to continue to struggle for realization of the rights. She lamented that despite long struggles the rights guaranteed were not actually realized. She stressed the role of women as mothers, as mother is the first teacher to a child and the need for mothers to impart basic values to their children.

Jhansi Geddam, National convener of DSS explained about the theme and necessity of the campaign. She narrated various incidents of violation of rights of dalit, Adivasi women and how they didn't get justice in the present administration of justice. She explained how DSS has been relentlessly aiding the victims in getting justice. Further, she elucidated various special laws that exist for the protection of dalit women and girl children, but how the laws are not properly implemented due to the deep-rooted bias of the personnel in the justice administration system. She cautioned the dalit women to be vigilant and acquire knowledge of the laws and rules, so that they can demand their rights. Coordinators of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh States BhagyaLakshmi and Hemalatha also addressed the gathering. They recounted the incidents of violence that took place recently and what DSS has done in each of these incidents in getting justice. From among the audience the women collective leaders and Youth leaders came on to the dais and shared their experiences.

Before the commencement of the conference dalit women marched towards Lodge Centre at Guntur and garlanded Ambedkar statue.

After the completion of the conference in the morning of 27th, campaign was conducted in the villages of Tenali mandal in the afternoon. Kopalle, Angala Kuduru and Tenali villages were covered in which gatherings of dalit women were explained about the gender issues and ways to contain violence on women.





లింగ సమానత్వంతోనే అభివృద్ధి సాధ్యం

జిల్లాపరిషత్తు(గుంటూరు), న్యూఢిల్లీ:
 స్త్రీలపై జరుగుతున్న దాడులు, హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా ప్రతి ఒక్కరూ ఉద్యమించాలని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ అధ్యక్షురాలు గెడ్డం రూప్సీ అన్నారు. ఈ నెల 25 నుంచి డిసెంబరు 10వ తేదీ వరకు స్త్రీలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా నిర్వహిస్తున్న అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమంలో భాగంగా నగరంలోని ఆంధ్రా క్రైస్తవ కళాశాల ఆడిటోరియంలో దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ఆధ్వర్యంలో శుక్రవారం సదస్సు నిర్వహించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ లింగ సమానత్వంతోనే దేశాభివృద్ధి సాధ్యమనే విషయాన్ని గుర్తించాలన్నారు. సమాజంలో పురుషాధిక్య

భావజాలం కులం, మతం, సంస్కృతి, సాహిత్యం, సినిమా, విద్యా వ్యవస్థలో వేళ్లాసుకుపోవడంతో మహిళల అణచివేతకు గురవుతున్నారని తెలిపారు. మానవ హక్కులపై ప్రచారం చేసి లింగ సమానత్వం సాధించాలని వివరించారు. తొలుత లాడ్జి కూడలిలోని బి.ఆర్.అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహానికి పూలమాలలు వేసి మానవ హారంగా ఏర్పడ్డారు. ఆంధ్రా క్రైస్తవ కళాశాల ఎంపీ ప్రశాంతి సుసన్న, దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్, తెలంగాణ రాష్ట్రాల సమన్వయకర్తలు భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, హేమలత, జిల్లా నాయకులు విజయమ్మ, జయశ్రీ, మేరీనిర్మల, పెద్ది, మల్లేశ్వరి తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.



మాట్లాడుతున్న దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ అధ్యక్షురాలు గెడ్డం రూప్సీ

స్వయంకర్తలు భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, హేమలత, జిల్లా నాయకులు విజయమ్మ, జయశ్రీ, మేరీనిర్మల, పెద్ది, మల్లేశ్వరి తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ శనివారం 28 నవంబరు 2020

పురుషాధిక్య భావజాలంతోనే హింస

ప్రధాన్మంత్రి బ్యూరో, గుంటూరు సమాజంలో పురుషాధిక్య భావజాలం కారణంగానే మహిళలపై హింస చేబువేసుకుంటున్నదని దళిత మహిళా శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూప్సీ గెడ్డం అభిప్రాయపడ్డారు. సమాజంలో నెలకొని వున్న పురుషాధిక్య భావజాలం వల్ల మహిళలు అణచివేయబడతూ ఉంటూ అనునీచింపటం శోచనీయమన్నారు. కులం, మతం, సంస్కృతి, సాహిత్యం, సినిమాలు దివరకు విద్యావ్యవస్థ లో పైతకం ఈ రకమైన భావజాలం చేళ్లాసుకొని వున్నదని ఆమె పేర్కొన్నారు. జండర్ సమానత్వం కోసం జరుగుతున్న ప్రచారోద్యమంలో భాగంగా శుక్రవారం గుంటూరు ఎన్ కళాశాల లో సభ నిర్వహించారు. ఈ నెల 25 నుంచి డిసెంబరు 10 వతేదీ వరకు ఈ ప్రచారం జరుగుతున్నట్లు తెలిపారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా రూప్సీ తన క్రైస్తవంగాన్ని కొనసాగిస్తూ కుటుంబ వ్యవస్థ విద్యావ్యవస్థలో వివక్ష, మద్దతిని, వరకట్ట వేధింపులు, ఉపాధిలో దళిత



దళిత మహిళా శక్తి అధ్యక్షురాలు గుంటూరులో ఏర్పాటు చేసిన సమానత్వం

మహిళల పట్ల వివక్ష తదితర అంశాలపై ప్రతిఘటన చేపట్టాలని ఆమె చెప్పారు. వేదాల్లో దేవతగా వర్ణించటం, వాడుకలో బానిసగా చూసే భావజాలం కలిగి వుండటం, టోగవస్తువుగా చూసే కోణం ప్రబలి వుండటం వలన అత్యధికంగా పేదరికానికి గురవుతున్నారని ఆమె ఆవేదన వ్యక్తం చేశారు. భారత రాజ్యాంగ నిర్ణయాల ద్వారా వాహినీలతో అంబేద్కర్ ఆలోచనా విధానాన్ని, రాజ్యాంగ సూక్తి ని ప్రచారం చేయాలని వాద్యక కర్తవ్యం

దళిత మహిళా శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూప్సీ గెడ్డం

ప్రశాంతి మాట్లాడుతూ మహిళలు సమానత్వం కోసం ఎంత పోరాడినా అది సాధ్యం కావటం లేదని, నిరుత్సాహ పడటం, నిరంతర పోరాటం కొనసాగించాలని పిలుపునిచ్చారు. తల్లి ప్రదమ గురువని, పిల్లల్ని పెండ్లింట్లో జాగ్రాహక వహిస్తూ ఆమె పాత్ర పునరుద్ధరించే, జ్ఞానవంశమైన మహిళలు పెళ్లిల్ని పెండ్లిలో భాగరూక వహిస్తూ చుట్టుప్రక్కల ప్రాంతాల్ని లైత్యం చేయాలన్నారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా ముందుగా గుంటూరు లాడ్జి సెంటర్ లో అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహానికి పూలమాలలు వేసి, పోస్టర్లు డిస్ప్లే లలో మానవహారం ఏర్పాటు చేశారు. కార్యక్రమంలో ఉధయమ్మ, జయశ్రీ, మేరీనిర్మల, పెద్ది, మల్లేశ్వరి తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

విశాలాంధ్ర

గుంటూరు జిల్లా, శనివారం, 28 నవంబరు 2020

సమానత్వం కోసం ప్రచారోద్యమం

విశాలాంధ్ర-గుంటూరు కార్యకర్తల సేవ: స్త్రీని చూసే కోణంలో మార్పు తీసుకురావడంపై ప్రభుత్వాలు, సమాజం దృష్టి పెట్టాలని అప్పాడే జండర్ నాయం, సమానత్వం సాధ్యమవుతుందని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గెడ్డం రూప్సీ అన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీలు, బాలికలపై జరుగుతున్న హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి ప్రచారోద్యమం ప్రారంభించింది. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో భాగంగా శుక్రవారం స్థానిక ఏసీ కళాశాలలోని సమావేశ మందిరంలో జరిగిన సభలో ముఖ్యవక్తగా రూప్సీ పాల్గొన్నారు. విజయమ్మ, జయశ్రీ, మేరీనిర్మల, పెద్ది, మల్లేశ్వరి, తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గెడ్డం రూప్సీ

గుంటూరు ఎడ్యుకేషన్: మహిళలు చైతన్యవంతులైతేనే తమపై జరుగుతున్న లింగ వివక్ష, దాడులను సమర్థం గా ఎదుర్కోగలరని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గెడ్డం రూప్సీ అన్నారు. మహిళలు, బాలికలపై జరుగుతున్న హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమంలో భాగంగా దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ఆధ్వర్యంలో ఏసీ కళాశాల కాన్వెన్షన్ హాలులో శుక్రవారం సదస్సు నిర్వహించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా ముఖ్య అతిథిగా పాల్గొన్న రూప్సీ మాట్లాడుతూ మహిళలపై దాడులను నిరోధించేందుకు పదునైన చట్టాలు ఉన్నా, అవి అమలుకు నోచుకోవడం లేదన్నారు. మహిళలు ఆర్థికంగా స్థిరపడితే సగం బానిసత్వం పోతుందన్నారు. ఏసీ కళాశాల యాజమాన్య ప్రతినిధి ప్రశాంతి సూసన్ మాట్లాడుతూ మహిళలు సమానత్వం కోసం ఎంతగా పోరాడినా అది సాధ్యం కాదని, నిరంతరం పోరాటం చేయాలిన్న పరిస్థితులు



లాడ్జి సెంటర్లోని అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహం వద్ద

లాడ్జి సెంటర్లోని అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహం వద్ద మానవహారంగా ఏర్పడిన మహిళలు

ఎదురవుతున్నాయన్నారు. తొలుత దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ఆధ్వర్యంలో లాడ్జి సెంటర్లో మానవ హారం నిర్వహించారు. కార్యక్రమంలో సంస్థ నాయకులు విజయమ్మ, జయశ్రీ, మేరీనిర్మల, పెద్ది, మల్లేశ్వరి, పెద్ద సంఖ్యలో మహిళలు పాల్గొన్నారు.

శనివారం 28 నవంబరు 2020 ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి

దళిత మహిళలపై పెరుగుతున్న దాడులు

● దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూప్సీ

గుంటూరు(తూర్పు), నవంబరు 27: సాధికారతతోనే స్త్రీకి బానిసత్వం దూరం అవుతుందని దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గెడ్డం రూప్సీ అన్నారు. అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమంలో భాగంగా శుక్రవారం ఏసీ కళాశాల మీటింగ్ హాలులో జరిగిన సభలో ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ దళిత స్త్రీలపై ఇంటా, బయట దాడులు పెరిగిపోయాయని ఆవేదన వ్యక్తం చేశారు. తొలుత లాడ్జి సెంటర్లోని అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహానికి పూలమాల వేసి నివాళి అర్పించారు. కార్యక్రమంలో ఏసీ కళాశాల మేనేజింగ్ డైరెక్టర్ ప్రశాంతి సుసన్న, నంఘు కో ఆర్డినేటర్లు భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, హేమలత తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

On 28th November 2020 campaign was conducted in a few more slums in Guntur city, Israelpeta, Mission Forum, Gaddipadu, Namburu, Pedakakani. Large number of dalit women actively participated in the campaign.

With these meetings and conferences, the campaign in A.P. was completed and next the campaign was taken up in Telangana at Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Vikarabad districts.

On 29th and 30th November 2020 and 1st December 2020 campaign in the villages of Yethirajpalli, Milardevarampalli, Madireddypalli and other parts of Chevella, Vikarabad areas was conducted.

As part of the campaign a conference was held on **2nd December 2020** at 11.00 a.m. at Conference Hall, Municipal Office, Vikarabad. Heads of various mass organizations and advocates of the area participated and spoke in the conference. They extended solidarity to DSS.

Before the commencement of the conference dalit women marched towards Ambedkar statue and garlanded the statue. Then, a press meet was conducted followed by conference on gender equality.



On 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th and 8th December the campaign continued in the villages and slums of Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy and Medchal districts. The following areas were covered during these days:

Veer Nagar, Chintal Basti, Prakash Nagar, CC Nagar, Gundala, Chanvelli, Malkapur, Khanapur, Aloor, Kushaiguda, Jeedimetla, Balaji Nagar, Tukaram Gate, Addagutta, Bholakpur and Asif Nagar.



సమావేశంలో మాట్లాడుతున్న దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి నేషనల్ కో ఆర్డినేటర్ రూస్నీ



Press Meet

వికారాబాద్ : స్త్రీలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమం ప్రపంచవ్యాప్తంగా నవంబర్ 25 నుంచి డిసెంబర్ 10 వరకు (మానవ హక్కుల దినంగా) నిర్వహిస్తున్న దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి నేషనల్ కో ఆర్డినేటర్ రూస్నీ తెలిపారు. బుధవారం ప్రచార కార్యక్రమంలో భాగంగా వికారాబాద్ మున్సిపల్ కౌన్సిల్ సమావేశ మందిరంలో లింగ సమానత్వ సమావేశం నిర్వహించారు.

ఈ సందర్భంగా ఏర్పాటు చేసిన సమావేశంలో ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ స్త్రీ, పురుష సమానత్వం కోసం దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి పని చేస్తున్నదన్నారు. చాలావరకు దళిత స్త్రీలు అనేక రకాలుగా వేధింపులకు గురవుతున్నారన్నారు. స్త్రీ, పురుష సంబంధాలు, కుటుంబ, విద్యావ్యవస్థలో వివక్ష, మద్యపానం, వరకట్న వేధింపులు, ఉపాధిలో దళిత పేదలపై వివక్ష తదితర అంశాలపై సమాజంలోని అన్నివర్గాలను చైతన్యపర్చడమే ఈ ప్రచారోద్యమ ఉద్దేశమన్నారు. ప్రస్తుతం యువత డ్రాగ్స్ బారినపడుతోందని, పట్టుబా

లింగ వివక్ష వీడాలి



మాట్లాడుతున్న రూస్నీ

అనంతరి: సమాజంలో కొనసాగుతున్న లింగ వివక్షను విడనాడాలని, అందరూ కలిసి పోరాటం చేయాల్సిన దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూస్నీ గడ్డం అన్నారు. బుధవారం వికారాబాద్ పట్టణంలోని మున్సిపల్ కార్యాలయంలో ఆయా సంఘాలతో సమావేశమయ్యారు. అంతకు ముందు అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహం ఎదుట ప్రచారోద్యమాన్ని ప్రారంభించి ప్లకార్డులు ప్రదర్శించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ సీలపె హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా అంబేద్కర్ స్త్రీలు తెలిపారు. ఇందులో కస్తీలు, బాలికలపై జరుగే ప్రచారోద్యమాన్ని ప్రారంభించి స్వవంతులు కావాలన్నారు.



అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహం ఎదుట ప్లకార్డులతో ప్రదర్శన

స్త్రీ, పురుష సంబంధాలు, కుటుంబ వ్యవస్థ, విద్యాసంస్థల్లో వివక్ష విడనాడాలని పిలుపునిచ్చారు. సమాజంలో స్త్రీలు చైతన్యవంతులయితే మార్పు అనివార్యమవుతుందన్నారు. మహిళలు విద్యావంతులయితే కుటుంబంలో మార్పు వస్తుందని చెప్పారు. అంబేద్కర్ ఆలోచన విధానాన్ని, రాజ్యాంగస్ఫూర్తిని ప్రచారం చేయాల్సిన బాధ్యత అందరిపై ఉందని తెలిపారు. కార్యక్రమంలో తెలుగు రాష్ట్రాల కోఆర్డినేటర్లు భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, హేమలత, ఆయా సంఘాల ప్రతినిధులు పెండ్ల్యాల అనంతయ్య, నాగరాజు, రాములు, అంజయ్య, చంద్రయ్య, లక్ష్మి, యాదమ్మ, భాగ్యమ్మ, బాలమణి, మల్లేశం, అనంతరాములు, బండెయ్య, నర్సింపుల పాల్గొన్నారు.

గురువారం డిసెంబరు 3, 2020

ఈనాడు

దాడులను అరికడితేనే మహిళలకు ఆనందం

వికారాబాద్ మున్సిపాలిటీ, న్యూస్ టుడే: మహిళలపై జరుగుతున్న దాడులను అరికట్టినప్పుడే సంతోషంగా జీవించగలరని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూస్నీ అన్నారు. బుధవారం స్థానిక పురపాలక సంఘ సమావేశ మందిరంలో



కార్యక్రమంలో వివరిస్తున్న రూస్నీ

గురువారం 3 డిసెంబరు 2020

సమానత్వం కోసం ప్రచారోద్యమం



సమావేశంలో మాట్లాడుతున్న రూస్నీ

వికారాబాద్ : స్త్రీలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమం ప్రపంచ వ్యాప్తంగా ఈ నెల 10 వరకు (మానవ హక్కుల దినంగా) నిర్వహించడం జరుగుతుందని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి నేషనల్ కోఆర్డినేటర్ రూస్నీ తెలిపారు. బుధవారం ప్రచార కార్యక్రమంలో భాగంగా వికారాబాద్ మున్సిపల్ కౌన్సిల్ సమావేశ మందిరంలో జండర్ సమానత్వ సమావేశం నిర్వహించారు. స్త్రీ పురుష సంబంధాలు, కుటుంబ, విద్యా వ్యవస్థలో వివక్ష, తదితర అంశాలపై సమాజంలోని అన్ని వర్గాలను చైతన్య పర్చడమే ఈ ప్రచారోద్యమ ఉద్దేశమన్నారు. కార్యక్రమంలో ఉమ్మడి రాష్ట్రాల కోఆర్డినేటర్ భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, హేమలత, హైదరాబాద్ కోఆర్డినేటర్ హేమలత, సంఘాల ప్రతినిధులు నాగరాజు, రాములు, అంజయ్య, అనంతయ్య, చంద్రయ్య తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

గురువారం 3, డిసెంబరు 2020

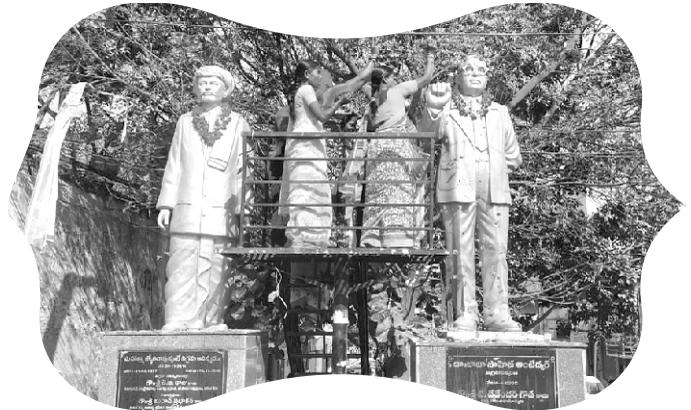
స్త్రీలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా ప్రచారోద్యమం

వికారాబాద్, డిసెంబర్ 2, ప్రభాకరవార్త : దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి అధ్యక్షులలో స్త్రీలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా వికారాబాద్ మున్సిపల్ కార్యాలయంలో అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమం ప్రత్యేక కార్యక్రమం ఏర్పాటు చేయడం జరిగింది. బుధవారం దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి నేషనల్ కోఆర్డినేటర్ గడ్డం జాన్సీ అధ్యక్షతన ఏర్పాటు చేసిన ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో దళిత స్త్రీలు, బాలికలపై జరుగుతున్న హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా రెండు తెలుగు రాష్ట్రాల్లో ఈ ప్రచారోద్యమం కార్యక్రమాలు నిర్వహిస్తున్నాం అన్నారు జాన్సీ. ఈ సందర్భంగా ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ స్త్రీ, పురుషుల మధ్య వ్యత్యాసం కర్తెక్ కాదని, మన సమాజంలో జండర్ సమానత్వం కోసమే ఈ ప్రచారోద్యమం చేస్తున్నామని అన్నారు. స్త్రీలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమం ప్రపంచ వ్యాప్తంగా నవంబర్ 25 నుండి మానవ హక్కుల దినం అయిన డిసెంబర్ 10 వ తేదీ వరకు 16 రోజులు జరుగుతుంది అన్నారు దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి నేషనల్ కోఆర్డినేటర్ గడ్డం జాన్సీ. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో దళిత స్త్రీ తెలంగాణ కోఆర్డినేటర్ భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, హైదరాబాద్ కోఆర్డినేటర్ హేమలత, ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ కోఆర్డినేటర్ హేమలత, వికారాబాద్ జిల్లా దళిత ఉద్యమ నేత పెండ్ల్యాల అనంతయ్య, మహిళ ఉద్యమకారులు పాల్గొన్నారు.



A conference was held at Ambedkar Bhavan, Chevella on 5th December 2020. Heads of various mass organizations and advocates of the area participated and spoke in the conference. They extended solidarity to DSS.

As concluding part of the campaign in AP and Telangana states, A Round Table Conference (RTC) was conducted on 10th December 2020 to mark the Human Rights Day.



లింగసమానత్వంపై ప్రజల్లో చైతన్యం రావాలి



ర్యాలీలో పాల్గొన్న దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి నాయకులు

దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూపి

చేపల్లె: లింగసమానత్వంపై ప్రజల్లో ఇంకా చైతన్యం రావాల్సి ఉందని దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గడ్డం రూపి అన్నారు. మండల కేంద్రంలో శనివారం దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి అధ్యక్షులతో స్త్రీలపై జరుగుతున్న హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా ప్రచారోద్యమంలో భాగంగా ర్యాలీ నిర్వహించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా నిర్వహించిన సమావేశంలో ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ.. లింగసమానత్వం కోసం ప్రపంచవ్యాప్తంగా ఉద్యమం కొనసాగుతోందని, ఇందులో భాగంగా నవంబర్ 25 నుంచి డిసెంబర్ 10 వరకు ప్రచారోద్యమం నిర్వహించనున్నట్లు తెలిపారు. ప్రజల్లో లింగవివక్ష అనేది లేకుండా పోవాలని, అప్పుడే మహిళలకు సమానత్వం లభిస్తుందన్నారు. కులం, మతం, సంస్కృతి, సాహిత్యం, సినిమాలు, విద్యావ్యవస్థలో కూడా ఈ భావజాలం ఉన్న విధానాలు మారాలని అన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీలపై జరుగుతున్న దాడులను అరికట్టాలన్నారు. ప్రతి బాలిక తప్పనిసరిగా చదువుకోని సమాజం గురించి అవగాహన పెంచుకోవాలని



మాట్లాడుతున్న రూపి

సూచించారు. మహిళలు ఆర్థికంగా ఎదిగేందుకు ప్రభుత్వాలు సహకరించాలని అన్నారు. ఈ సమావేశంలో రాష్ట్ర కోఆర్డినేటర్ భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, జిల్లాల కోఆర్డినేటర్లు ఎం. హేమలత, జి. హేమలత, వివిధ సంఘాల ప్రతినిధులు శ్రీనివాస్, నర్సింహారావు, పి. ప్రభాకర్, మల్లేష్, గాలయ్య తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

ఆదివారం 6 డిసెంబరు 2020

ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి

మహిళలు చైతన్యం కలిగిఉండాలి

● దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గడ్డం రూపి

చేపల్లె: సమాజంలో దళిత స్త్రీల ఆలోచన విధానాలపై చైతన్యం తీసుకువచ్చేందుకు దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి నిరంతరం కృషిచేస్తోందని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గడ్డం రూపి అన్నారు. శనివారం చేపల్లె మండల కేంద్రంలోని అంబేద్కర్ భవనంలో స్త్రీలపై జరుగుతున్న హింసపై అవగాహన కార్యక్రమాన్ని నిర్వహించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ.. స్త్రీలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమం ప్రపంచ వ్యాప్తంగా గత నెల 25వ తేదీ నుంచి ఈ నెల 10వ తేదీ వరకు స్త్రీలకు అవగాహన సదస్సులు నిర్వహిస్తున్నట్లు తెలిపారు. సమాజంలో స్త్రీలపై హింస పెరిగిపోతోందని వాపోయారు. దళిత స్త్రీలకు అన్ని రంగాల్లో చైతన్యం తీసుకువచ్చేందుకు నిరంతరం కృషిచేస్తోందన్నారు. ప్రతి ఏడాది అనేక అవగాహన కార్యక్రమాలు నిర్వహించి మహిళల్లో చైతన్యం తీసుకువస్తున్నట్లు



సమావేశంలో మాట్లాడుతున్న రూపి

చెప్పారు. సమాజంలో లింగ వివక్షకు సంబంధించి భావజాలం వేళ్లానుకుందన్నారు. దీంతో స్త్రీ, పురుష సంబంధాలు, కుటుంబ వ్యవస్థ, విద్యా సంస్థల్లో వివక్ష మధ్య పానం, వరకట్నం వేధింపులు పెరుగుతున్నాయి అన్నారు. కార్యక్రమంలో రాష్ట్ర కో-ఆర్డినేటర్ భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, వివిధ జిల్లాల కోఆర్డినేటర్లు హేమలత, ఎం.హేమలత, అంబేద్కర్ యువజన సంఘం సభ్యులు నర్సింహారావు, ప్రభాకర్, మల్లేష్, గాలయ్య, నర్సింహ, శ్రీనివాస్ పాల్గొన్నారు.

సమస్త తెలంగాణ

మహిళలు చైతన్యవంతులు కావాలి



అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహం ఎదుట ధర్మా చేస్తున్న మహిళలు

చేపల్లె: మహిళలపై జరుగుతున్న అన్యాయాలను అరికట్టాలంటే చైతన్యవంతులు కావాలని దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గడ్డం రూపి అన్నారు. మహిళలపై జరుగుతున్న హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా ప్రపంచ వ్యాప్తంగా ప్రచార ఉద్యమం చేపట్టాలంటూ భాగంగా శనివారం చేపల్లె మండల కేంద్రంలోని అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహం ఎదుట ధర్మా చేశారు. మహిళలు సమానత్వం కోసం పోరాడినా అది సాధ్యం కావడం లేదని ఆమె తెలిపారు. కార్యక్రమంలో రాష్ట్ర కో ఆర్డినేటర్ భాగ్యలక్ష్మి, జిల్లా కో ఆర్డినేటర్ హేమలత తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

ఈనాడు

మహిళల్లో మరింత చైతన్యం అవసరం

చేపల్లె, క్యూసేట్: మహిళల్లో మరింత చైతన్యం అవసరమని దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గడ్డం రూపి అన్నారు. యువతులు, మహిళలపై జరుగుతున్న దాడులకు వ్యతిరేకంగా దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి అధ్యక్షులతో శనివారం చేపల్లెలోని అంబేద్కర్ భవనంలో స్త్రీ, పురుష సమానత్వంపై సదస్సు నిర్వహించారు. తల్లిదండ్రులు తమ పిల్లలను లింగవివక్ష లేకుండా సమానంగా చూడాలని సూచించారు. మహిళలు చదువుకోవాలని,

ఆదివారం డిసెంబరు 6, 2020



చేపల్లెలో దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి ప్రతినిధుల ర్యాలీ

అప్పుడే చైతన్యం వస్తుందని తెలిపారు. కార్యక్రమంలో రాష్ట్ర సమన్వయకర్త భాగ్యలక్ష్మి ప్రతినిధులు శ్రీనివాస్, నరసింహారావు, ప్రభాకర్ మల్లేష్, గాలయ్య, నర్సింహ పాల్గొన్నారు.

MOMENTOUS DAYS

DSS celebrates international and national significant days of the year to stir the imagination of the dalit women/cadre/dalit girl children and to rouse them towards certain goals.

UN declares certain days and calls for their celebration world over. It is a powerful advocacy tool. International days are occasions to educate the general public on issues of concern, to mobilize political will and resources to address global problems. The declaration of international days and celebrating them also acts as a pressure on the governments to address the concerned issues.

Each international day offers people and organizations the opportunity to organize activities related to the theme of the day. These days are celebrated by the UN wings, governments, NGOs, public and private organizations, schools, universities and public are involved in these activities. This is done with a view to rise awareness among the larger population.

In addition to raising awareness, the UN takes advantage of these days to advise States on actions to tackle the serious problems around which many of these dates revolve.

DSS selects a few significant days and celebrates them with themes relevant to dalit women and girl children and takes the opportunity to inspire dalit women and general public.

Since a few years, apart from the regular significant days that we celebrate each year, DSS chose to celebrate the birth anniversary of Savitri Bhai Phule, to give impetus to the activities of DSS for quality education to dalit girl children. At the national level, as per government declaration, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan's birth anniversary on 5th September is celebrated as Teachers' Day. But among the dalit/bahujan sections now a demand is rising that Savitri Bhai Phule's birth anniversary on 3rd January be declared as Teachers' Day, as she was the first teacher who dedicated her life for educating the downtrodden women. The key objective of the decision to celebrate Savitri Bhai birth anniversary is to ensure that dalit women and girl children get inspired by late Savitri Bhai's distinguished life, who was a vociferous advocate of downtrodden women education. Hence, DSS celebrated Savitri Bhai's birth anniversary with the call to dalit women for quality education to dalit girl child.

The significant days celebrated in 2020 and the themes are explained in the pages that follow:

Education – Gender Equity



Dalit Stree Sakthi has organized a conference on “Education – Gender Equity” at Press Club, Vijayawada on the eve of Savitri Bai Phule Jayanthi on 3rd January 2020. Sri Akunuri Murali IAS., Advisor to Government of AP, Department of School Education was the chief guest and the other dignitaries on the dais were Sri Jhansi Geddam, National Convener of DSS, Sri Manikyam & Sri Anuradha from AP TRANSCO, Sri Rajinikanth State President of Sneha Club, Sri Ramesh from Childline, Sri K Prakash Kumar from BIRDS and the conference was presided over by GDV Prakash Programme Manager of DSS. District Women Collective leaders from West Godavari, Krishna and Guntur districts have participated.

Though the UN declared 24th January of every year to be celebrated as “Education Day”, so far, the Government of India has not drawn any programme in response to the UN call. Already the Government of India has issued circular to celebrate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam as Education Day, but it is mostly ignored.

During the days of Savitri Bhai Phule women including dominant caste women also were not sent to schools as women are supposed to be only housewives and do not need any education for themselves. In such a stagnant society Savitri Bhai advocated for the education of not just women but women from the oppressed castes. This very thought of her was highly visionary. For this reason, DSS chose to celebrate her birth anniversary in a befitting way and has been conducting every 3rd of January as Education Day with a theme to inspire the dalit women and has been continuing the practice.

Sri Murali highlighted the remarkable services of Savitri Bai Phule's for the downtrodden of our country and her thoughts about the education of the oppressed castes. In those days itself she championed for the rights of women. As a social reformer she pioneered for equality of men and women and brought a social revolution against various inequalities and feudal social norms in the society. During those days the people in the country were kept away from progress and were steeped in superstitious/blind beliefs. It was in such a society that Savitri Bhai worked with courage and vision. Now it is time for the downtrodden women to come on to the mainstream by taking Savitri Bai Phule as a role-model.

Sri Jhansi Geddamm has said that the dalit Adivasi women need to set goals for their development and work hard for social and economic development. It is necessary for every dalit women to reflect on social and economic reality and to come out of ignorance. A family will surely develop if the mother is knowledgeable, therefore, we need to educate our children, play a prominent role as changemakers in the society.

The other speakers explained about the life and work of Savitri Bai Phule as the first women teacher and how she has faced many hurdles and insults in order to provide education to the deprived and downtrodden women. The speakers inspired the gathering about the need to walk in the footsteps of Savitri Bai Phule to build a good society for our children. They stressed the importance of the role of women in building a society free from violence.



విద్యతోనే మహిళల అభివృద్ధి

విశాఖపట్నం - విజయవాడ (గాంధీనగర్) : మహిళలు సామాజికంగా రాజకీయంగా అర్థికంగా అభివృద్ధి చెందాలంటే అది ఒక విద్యతోనే సాధ్యమని ఆ దిశగా ప్రతి ఒక్కరూ విద్యకు అత్యంత ప్రాధాన్యత ఇవ్వాలని రాష్ట్ర విద్యాశాఖ కన్వలెంట్ ఐఏఎస్ ఎ.మురళి తెలిపారు. విజయవాడ ప్రెస్ క్లబ్ లో దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ఆధ్వర్యంలో సావిత్రిబాయి ఫులే జయంతి సందర్భంగా విద్య -జండర్ సమభాగం అనే అంశంపై సెమినార్ నిర్వహించారు. దీనికి దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ రూస్సీ గడ్డం అధ్యక్షత వహించారు. ముఖ్యవక్తగా విచ్చేసిన మురళి మాట్లాడుతూ సావిత్రిబాయి ఫులే ఆలోచనలు ఎంతో ఉన్నతమైనవన్నారు. ఆమె అణగారిన వర్గాలకు చేసిన సేవలు మరువలేనివన్నారు. సమాజం మారాలంటే తల్లుల పాత్ర ప్రధానమైంది అని అన్నారు. దేశంలో అక్షిల వెబ్ సైట్ లో అక్షిల చిత్రాలు వస్తున్నాయని అందులో మన దేశం ప్రథమ స్థానంలో ఉందని వాటిని నిషేధించాలని కోరారు. ఇటువంటి వాటి వల్ల హింస పెరుగుతుందన్నారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో అనురాధ, మాణిక్యం, రజనీకాంత్, డానియల్



సమావేశంలో మాట్లాడుతున్న మురళి, జింగా కృష్ణమూర్తి

ప్రకాష్ తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు. **మహిళలకు సావిత్రిబాయి ఫులే దిక్పాది** కొలి మహిళా ఉపాధ్యాయురాలు సావిత్రిబాయి ఫులే మహిళలకు దిక్పాది అని వైసీపీ ఎమ్మెల్సీ జింగా కృష్ణమూర్తి తెలిపారు. ఐలాపురం కన్వెన్షన్ హాల్ లో ఎస్సీ, ఎస్టీ, బీసీ మైనార్టీ విద్యార్థి సమైక్య ఆధ్వర్యంలో శుక్రవారం సావిత్రిబాయి ఫులే జయంతి నిర్వహించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా మహిళా ఉపాధ్యాయులకు ఉత్తమ ఉపాధ్యాయ అవార్డులను ప్రధానోత్సవం చేశారు. ముఖ్య వక్తగా విచ్చేసిన ఆయన మాట్లాడుతూ సావిత్రిబాయి ఫులే

జీవితంలో ఎంతో వివక్షకు గురయ్యారన్నారు. ఆమె త్యాగ ఫలితంగానే నేడు మహిళలకు హక్కుల గుర్తింపు లభించిందన్నారు. ఆమె జయంతి ప్రభుత్వపరంగా నిర్వహించేలా ముఖ్యమంత్రి దృష్టికి తీసుకువెళ్ళానన్నారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో మాజీ మంత్రి సాకే శైలజానాథ్, మాజీ శాసనసభ్యులు షేక్ మస్తాన్ వలీ, వైసీపీ నాయకులు బుద్దా నాగేశ్వరరావు, బీసీ జనసభ అధ్యక్షులు డాక్టర్ జి.గంగాధర్, మాజీ ఎంపీ కొనకళ్ల నారాయణరావు, ఏపీ బీసీ ఉద్యోగుల సంఘం అధ్యక్షులు పావులూరు తదితరులు పాల్గొన్నారు.

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Glowing tributes paid to Savitribai Phule

IIANS NEWS SERVICE

Vijayawada: Savitribai Phule extended unforgettable service to society by providing education to women at a time it was considered a taboo, said Murali, consultant to the State Education Department, while addressing the 189th birth anniversary celebrations of Savitribai Phule organised by Dalit Stree Shakthi at the Press Club here on Friday.

Murali said that Savitribai Phule as a feminist and social reformer brought social revolution in the society. He appealed to the women to take a cue from the great social reformer and come up in life.

Geddani Jhansi, national convener of Dalit Stree Sakthi, said that the poor and downtrodden women should come up in life. If the woman becomes literate the whole family would become literate, she said.

Recalling the services of Savitribai Phule, Jhansi said that the need of the hour was the formation of a society without violence. She expressed her concern over the mushrooming of porn web sites throughout the country and said that 84 per cent of Indians are watching porn web sites in their mobile phones.

Anuradha, Deputy Engineer, Manikyam, DE, AP Transco, Ramesh, Prakash and others were also present.



Murali, consultant to the State Education Department addressing the gathering at the 189th birth anniversary celebrations of Savitribai Phule in Vijayawada on Friday. National convener of Dalit Stree Sakthi, Geddani Jhansi is also seen

CONSTITUTION – CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES

Dalit Sthree Sakthi organized a conference on the theme “Constitution – Contemporary Challenges” on the eve of 71st Republic Day at conference hall, Ravindra Bharathi, Hyderabad on 26th January 2020. The conference was presided over by Sri. Kaki Madhava Rao, IAS, Former Chief Secretary, while Justice G. Chandraiah, Chairperson of State Human Rights Commission, Telangana was the chief guest. Other dignitaries on the dais were: Dr B Vijaya Bharathi, Former Director, Telugu Academy and writer, Dr Madhava Rao, Prof Kanche Ilaiah, Sri. A Murali IAS, Prof. KY Ratnam, HCU, Dr. Siddoji Rao, Convener of SC, ST, IAS, IPS Officers Forum, Jhansi Geddani, National Convener of DSS, GDV Prakash, National Program Manager of DSS. All the dignitaries on the dais expressed their opinions on the Indian Constitution and the state of its implementation. The highlights culled out from the speeches of the honourable guests are as follows:

- ✓ It's not the failure of the constitution, but the failure of the rulers in implementing it.
- ✓ The personnel of the executive wing and the legislature need to understand the provisions of the Constitutions and capture its spirit.
- ✓ Ambedkar had asserted that the constitution can really be implemented only if there is Social, Political and Economic Democracy.
- ✓ Ambedkar felt that caste, religion, race, gender disparities, regionalism and economic disparities will be the main hurdles in realising the constitution.
- ✓ The challenges are not new, but they need to be overcome or solved.
- ✓ Constitution reflects the thoughts and ideology of Dr B R Ambedkar. Most of the rulers often say that they are Ambedkarites, but their failure in the implementation of the constitution is an indication that they are against the ideology of Ambedkar.
- ✓ The political independence is now only limited to the national flag and national anthem
- ✓ The rulers are now saying that the constitution has become out dated and are proposing to bring in a new constitution. Do they mean to bring in Manu dharma sastra in the place of the constitution?
- ✓ Economic democracy has not been promoted after independence and therefore there is no remarkable change in the economic development of the Dalits.
- ✓ The government claims that there is growth in the GDP but we can clearly see that there is no real change in the lives of Dalit/Adivasis.
- ✓ There are economic disparities and the gap between the rich and the poor is widening. We all need to understand the ideology of Ambedkar in its true spirit to overcome all the hurdles.
- ✓ Justice should be equitable and reach all in the same manner.
- ✓ There must be equal opportunities in economic, social and political spheres.
- ✓ Life and Liberty is the birth right of everyone.
- ✓ We need to have gender equality, special opportunities for the oppressed and depressed, effective implementation of the special Acts.
- ✓ The elected representatives have to discharge their duties sincerely and effectively.
- ✓ In other countries there is only economic discrimination, whereas in our country we have caste discrimination and in the social ladder SCs and STs are being perpetuated in the lower rung as untouchables and exploited.

- ✓ Religion is posing a big challenge and as Dr B R Ambedkar said we need to come out of blind beliefs.
- ✓ Ambedkar suggested nationalization of land whereas, our rulers are privatising various government sectors and letting them off to a few corporate giants.
- ✓ Ambedkar visualized the plight of women, children, the aged and made provisions in the constitution for their protection, but the pity is that these provisions are not being implemented.
- ✓ Even after 70 years of independent India many are landless, homeless, unemployed and are denied basic amenities such as potable water.
- ✓ The role of executive and judiciary are very important in the implementation of the constitution.

Later Justice Chandraiah and Dr Vijaya Bharathi were felicitated. Dr Vijaya Bharathi responded to the felicitations. She said that the established practice has always been to felicitate only the poets and writers belonging to the brahmin community, but not Dalits. The British regime Jyothi Rao Phule was the first one to be felicitated which had sent shock waves across the country. Therefore, there is every need for us to honour and felicitate our own people, recognise and acknowledge one's services.

The meeting was concluded with a vote thanks by GDV Prakash.





SHRAMIK WOMEN-SELF EMPLOYMENT

International Women's Day was celebrated in the State of Telangana on March 8th on the topic **Shramik Women-Self Employment** at Visveswar Reddy Bhavan, Ranga Reddy district. Sri B. Bhagya Lakshmi, State Co-ordinator of Telangana State, presided over the programme. Jhansi Geddam National Convener of Dalit Sthree Sakthi attended the programme as Chief Guest while the speakers on the podium were:

Sri Narvotham Reddy, Sarpanch of Peddamangalaram village, Sri Rajitha Deputy Sarpanch, Latha and Sumalatha MPTCs, Mallesh Divisional Manager of Citizen Development Organization and GDV Prakash, Program Manager of Dalit Sthree Sakthi. Sri Narvotham Reddy called upon the women to get educated and occupy all governmental and political positions on par with men. He said that women are not inferior to anyone and they can prove their capabilities if opportunities arise. He advised women to study and grab all available opportunities.

Sri Jhansi Geddam, narrated the importance of the International Women's Day and how hundred years ago the working-class women fought against oppressive working hours and achieved 8 hours working day. She explained how the women have been struggling for various rights in the history and how we achieved various rights that we enjoy now. She called upon the women to study the struggles of women and various women's rights, instead of wasting time in watching TV serials.

She suggested that women should learn about the laws in the country concerning women like Domestic Violence law and follow the developments taking place in the country. Women should take care of the education of their children without leaving the entire burden on teachers. They should participate in the school management activities to see that the children get good education. The future of children depends on how we take care of them and mould them. Women should not only mould the children but also their husbands for a good family relationship. She advised women political leaders to gain knowledge and follow the day to day politics, identify the issues and resolve.

After her speech many women interacted and raised their problems, hurdles for moving towards work from the outside, domestic problems, financial problems etc.

Before the commencement of the meeting the organizers conducted games and sports for women on the eve of International Women's Day. The winners of various events were given prizes by Jhansi Geddam.



SHRAMIK WOMEN – LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES

Andhra Pradesh: International Women's day was celebrated on March 12th in the State of Andhra Pradesh on the theme **Shramik Women – Livelihood Opportunities**. Sri Kaki Sunitha, IAS, Managing Director, Tobacco Board, Govt. of India and Sri AV. Patel, General Manager, District Industries Department and Sri Naveen, Additional Director, DIC participated as guests of honour.

Sri GDV Prakash presided over the meeting while Jhansi Geddham, Convener of DSS explained the importance of International Women's Day.

Jhansi Geddham recollected how the historic struggle of women for 8 hours working day hundred years ago is now being celebrated as International Women's Day every year. She pointed out that the inequalities can be eradicated only if the women get empowered economically and called upon all women to work towards economic independence. Unless women contribute to the economy of the nation there can't be real growth of the economy in the country. She called upon the working-class women to concentrate on the education of their children and see that the future generation of dalit women turn out to be entrepreneurs and officers and not agricultural labourers. Public and government should understand the need for dalit women participation in the economic activities of the nation. She advised the dalit women to study what economic projects can be taken up and also about the various schemes of the government.

Sri AV. Patel pointed out that women by nature have positive thinking and for this reason they are able to run the families properly even in times of financial difficulties. If majority of the women become rulers of the country, they can run the country also with a positive outlook. He explained about the various schemes in the Industries Department and motivated dalit women to explore the opportunities. He told that the schemes in the industries department sanction loans with 25 paise interest up to 5 crores. He felt that if dalit women take up projects and develop economically, it automatically results in their empowerment. Dalit women can ward off all forms of oppression on them only if they develop educationally and economically.

Sri Kaki Sunitha pointed out that the women workers in the agricultural field are discriminated compared to the women in the employment field. In the field of employment all the women and men in the same cadre get same wages without discrimination. But in the agricultural field the wages are less and even in that the women get less wages than men. Since most of the dalit/Adivasi women are working as labourers in the agricultural field their wages and earnings are low and are continuing in a low economic status. She further said that, according to studies the working women in Andhra Pradesh are more in percentage terms compared to the percentage of working women at the all India level. Dalit women should demand equal wages in agricultural field also. She felt that the Government should take steps towards eradication of poverty among women and provide food security. She appreciated the government schemes in providing nutritious food to pregnant and lactating women but felt that the scheme should be further improved to provide better support. She said that the dalit women mostly suffer anaemic conditions due to lack of nutritious food. This anaemic condition of women results in the vicious chain of giving birth to weak babies whose mental faculties do not develop at the desired level and they lag behind compared to healthy babies born in well to do families. The well to do families then ridicule that the dalit children are less intelligent. This vicious chain can be broken only if the dalit women are fed properly with nutritious food. The producers and exporters of agricultural products demand higher prices for their products and exports but when it comes to paying for the labourers, they are very unkind.

She elaborated on the various laws and government schemes that are available for the educated as well as the illiterate for their economic development. She called upon all working women to know about the laws meant for their benefit and the law that protect their rights in factories etc. She cited Factories Act, Maternity Benefit Act and various other such laws. She lamented that even though there are many skill developments programmes dalit women are unable to utilize them properly. She suggested that this gap should be filled up by self-help groups specifically for dalit women. She concluded with the quote from Dr. B.R. Ambedkar who said self-help is best help and also that a nation flourishes only if the women of that nation develop.

Sri Naveen elaborated about various schemes, the requirements of qualifications, eligibility criteria etc for each scheme, details of documents to be submitted, the process of applying for a scheme online and benefits of each scheme. After the speeches of the guests, a few dalit women who grounded some projects explained how they are trying to establish their projects and the difficulties they faced and how they solved the difficulties etc.

Sri Hemalatha, Coordinator of DSS for Guntur district thanked the guests for attending the programme and for educating the dalit women about various aspects. She thanked everyone for their presence and making the programme a grand success.



AWARENESS CAMPS

Dalit Sthree Sakthi has organized awareness camps on 'Safe guarding human rights and SC, ST (PoA) Act during the Covid – 19 Pandemic' in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

On 17/10/2020, an awareness meeting was conducted in Tenali and Pedakakani mandals in Guntur District. On 18/10/2020, an awareness meeting was conducted in Navabpet mandal of Vikarabad district.

State coordinators Hemalatha and Baghyalaxmi and women collective leaders had participated and discussed the situation of their villages during Covid-19 period. Most of the villages mainly face issues like economic deficiency, lack of employment/labor and health issues. Even the children and youth are staying at home due to the COVID-19 spread. Along with all these problems, women are still facing inter and intra community violence. The awareness camps provided a proper platform for all the women to discuss about their situation and pave a path for creating a solution to all their socio-economic problems.



COLLECTIVE ACTIONS – JOINING HANDS

DSS has always been joining hands with likeminded organizations and individuals to promote the cause of dalit women. DSS not only worked with others on democratic issues, but always invited and involved others in its Round Table Conferences, General Body Meetings, as resource persons in trainings etc. We always welcomed to our midst persons from all fields, irrespective of their caste and political affiliation. It is necessary and need of the hour to enlist the support of all sections to promote the cause of dalit women. Joining hands with others and involving other democratic minded individuals and organizations not only helps in resolving an issue, but helps in sensitizing them towards the cause of dalit women. Hence, Dalit Stree Sakthi actively collaborated with many likeminded organizations. Sensitizing the public at large and dalit women in particular is not the prerogative of any one individual or organization, it is a collective work. Various streams of activities go to make up the whole, to transform the society and to take it to a new level. With this perspective of macro process, DSS always supported the individual and collective actions if they are in the direction of promoting Ambedkarist ideology and dalit women rights. This year also DSS had taken up, participated and involved various persons and individuals as a network to highlight certain issues in tune with the objectives of DSS. A few of them are detailed below.

SAVITRI BAI PHULE JAYANTHI CELEBRATIONS

Sneha Club organized a meeting on the eve of 190th birth anniversary of Savitri Bai Phule, on 3/1/2020 at Ramakrishna Plaza, Nandigama, Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh. The program was presided by Sri KZS Kumar, President, Sneha Club, Krishna District. Sri Jhansi Geddam, National Convener of DSS was Special invitee while Sri Sanja Ambedkar, Manager Syndicate Bank, Retd, Dr Hasina Begum, Social Worker, Nandigama, Dr Ratna Jyothi, Dy Director, Animal Husbandry, T Rajanikanth, President, Sneha Club and others were the guests of honor.

Sri KZS Kumar in his Presidential remarks highlighted the contribution of Savitri Bai Phule towards education of women and oppressed sections of the society.

Jhansi Geddam Spoke in her speech inspired the teachers that attended the meeting by explaining the ordeals of Savitri Bai Phule. About 200 years ago education for women was unimaginable, more so for the oppressed caste women. It was extraordinarily revolutionary for Savitri Bai Phule to have worked for education of oppressed women. Though she is the First lady teacher of India, the dominant culture has not given her due recognition. She was not only educationist but also Social reformer and author who wrote poetry.

Jhansi Geddam reminded the teachers in the audience their responsibilities towards the community and inspired them to emulate Savitri Bai Phule while discharging their duties.

After the guests delivered their speeches the organizers felicitated selected teachers of Krishna District for their eminence and services.



STATE OF THE LAW

Difficult Dialogues' in association with 'Phia Foundation', University of Goa, International centre of Goa along with other organizations organised a 3-day workshop covering various topics divided into sessions from 14th to 16th February 2020 at Panjam, Goa.

Surina Narula, MBE, CEO and Founder of Difficult Dialogues inaugurated the Program. A workshop was organised at V M Salgoacar college of law on 14th February 2020 on “Exploring Gender, Culture and Law” and it was anchored by Deepa Narayan and Fakeera Baawra. In the inaugural session the dignitaries on the dais have said that there is natural gender difference and we all need to accept, but at the same time we all need to fight against the unnatural gender differences and discrimination.

Jhansi Geddiam spoke in the inaugural session and shared the work of DSS. The law students, the DSS team along with minor girl victims of rape participated in the workshop.

Difficult Dialogues focussed in this year “State of Law” in the country and some of the key problems, and more importantly on what needs to be done to improve the Indian Legal system so that it can deliver equitable and timely justice, and protect all its citizens in an effective and seamless way.

In the 3 days of the workshop the various sessions were held. The moderators and panellists are highly eminent personalities like parliamentarians, Senior Judges and advocates in Supreme Court, Professors, Policy researchers, Industrialists, Vice Chancellors of different Universities and Women and Human rights activists.

The main panels are:

1. Democracy and the Rule of Law
2. After the Aadhar Judgement: Do individuals have the Right to Privacy
3. Law and Technology: What's the Future
4. Accountability vs Independence of Judiciary: Is the Balance Right?
5. Reforms in the Administration of Justice: What Can Help?
6. Free Legal Aid Services for Women & Children in India: Opportunities and Challenges
7. Gender, legal profession and the Courts: Is there a Backlash?
8. Discrimination Law and Minorities: Is Justice done?
9. Laws related to Children: Are they really in favour?
10. Making Environmental Laws Effective: How to achieve Sustainability?

DSS team Jhansi, Prakash, Hemalatha enthusiastically participated in the sessions and gained knowledge.



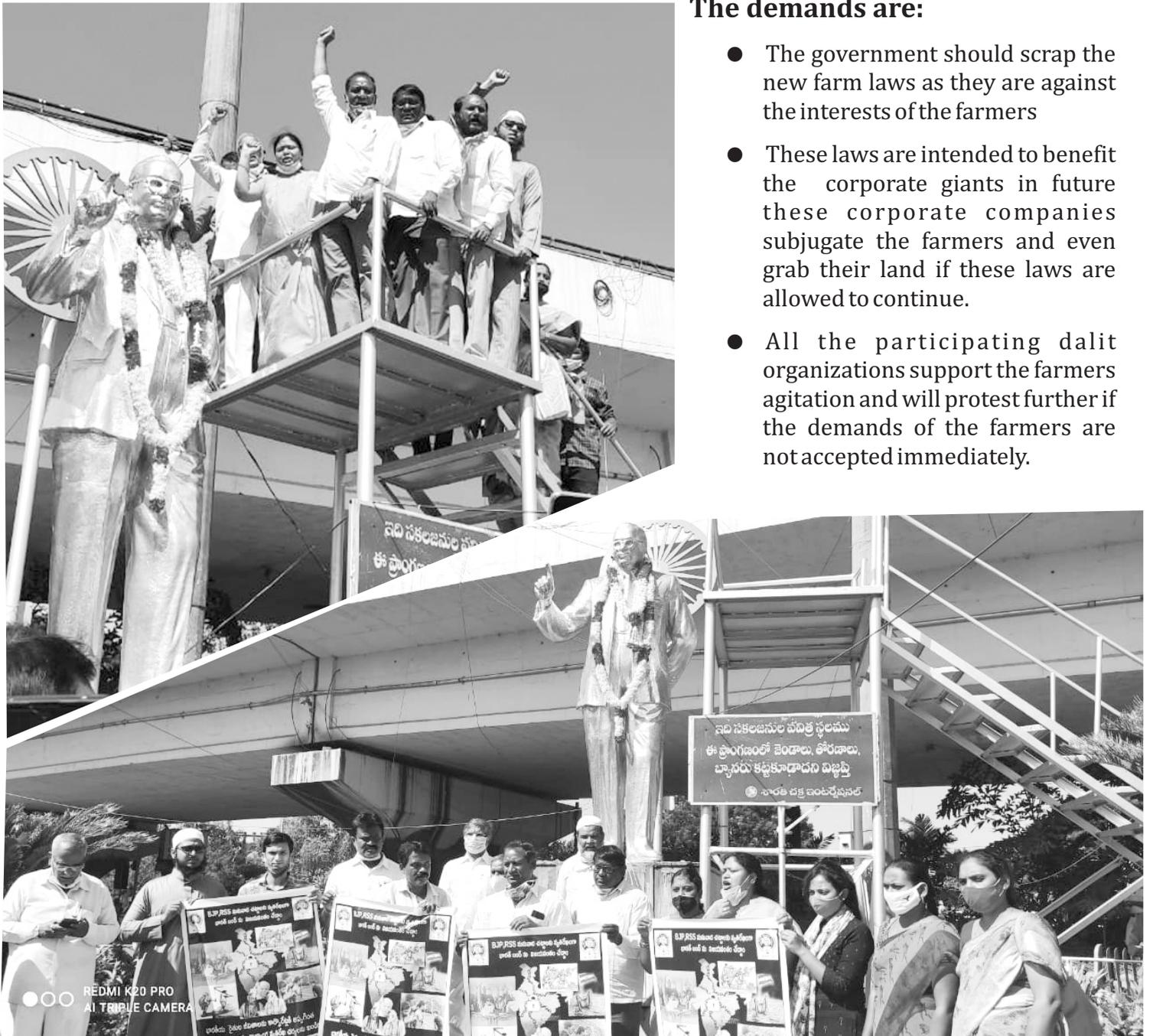
DHARNA IN PROTEST AGAINST THE FARM LAWS

The Central Government enacted three farm laws in a hurried way. Farmers feel that these laws have been passed in the interest of corporate giants and will harm the interests of the farmers. Farmers across the country have been protesting against these new farm laws and demanding that they should be scrapped totally. The government held talks with the representatives of the farmers but the agitating farmers are insisting that nothing short of scrapping the three laws is acceptable to them.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National SC/ST Federation, New Delhi conducted a dharna at Ambedkar statue on 18-12-2020 along with other dalit organizations DSS also participated in this dharna.

The demands are:

- The government should scrap the new farm laws as they are against the interests of the farmers
- These laws are intended to benefit the corporate giants in future these corporate companies subjugate the farmers and even grab their land if these laws are allowed to continue.
- All the participating dalit organizations support the farmers agitation and will protest further if the demands of the farmers are not accepted immediately.



PROTEST ON HATHRAS INCIDENT

DSS organized a protest on 3rd October 2020 on the Hathras incident. Hathras, a city in Hathras district of Uttar Pradesh became famous for the gang rape incident that took place on 14th September 2020, when the victim, a 19-year-old Dalit woman went to a farm to collect cattle fodder. Four men raped her and cut her tongue and injured her spinal cord in the process of gang rape. Her mother later found her lying and was brought to police station where she reported about how she was raped and injured and by whom. The police did not write a complaint, they didn't even call an ambulance to take her to hospital, even though she was in a precarious condition. For two weeks, the 19-year-old dalit girl fought for her life. But on the morning of 29th September she died in the Delhi hospital to which she had been transferred.

DSS along with dalit women collective leaders gathered at Ambedkar Statue, Guntur under the leadership of Ms.Hemalatha, State Coordinator of DSS and raised slogans in protest. Banners condemning the rape and negligence of the Government and police were displayed. Public attention was drawn to the gruesome rapes on dalit women and girls.



COVID 19 – Relief from DSS

1. The Situation

a) Virus Attack:

Covid-19 and its spread was not grasped fully until March 23rd, 2020. Meanwhile the spread from primary contacts and secondary contacts has already taken place. Realizing the rapid spread of the virus, the Central and State Governments declared lock-down of all social life from March 23rd 2020. The lock-down was extended in two phases. But, later, the Governments felt that entire economic activity had come to stand still and lifted the lock down in phases. Now there is no lock down or prohibition of any activity and with that the virus spread rapidly. As on date the number of cases in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is on the rise.

In Andhra Pradesh, the districts of Guntur, Kurnool, East Godavari, West Godavari and Krishna are worst affected while in Telangana Hyderabad, Suryapet and Ranga Reddy districts are affected with a greater number of cases. There appears to be every danger of further spread of the virus. This is happening due to negligence of certain sections of the people in strictly adhering to the norms of social distancing and other precautions.

b) The Lock-down and the People:

The outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic and the lock-down measures in its wake has taken everyone unawares and shocked. The sudden declaration of lock-down has affected everyone in various ways. The well to do could purchase all needed essential commodities and stay at home, while the Dalits, daily wage earners, migrant workers and all other marginalized sections were driven to starve at home. They have no reserve funds or bank balances to purchase essential commodities. They have to work every day to buy their daily needs and now they are starving.

Not only the daily wage workers, even other workers like vegetable vendors, fruit vendors and others who do petty trades are driven to starvation due to lock down. Likewise, all small job holders like those who work in cloth shops, tailoring shops, malls, theatres, hotels, bars & restaurants, hospitals, etc are driven to bankruptcy. These small job holders now can't pay house rents, purchase essential commodities for feeding the families. Due to lock-down servant maids, mostly dalit women, who work in number of houses and earn monthly wages are also driven to starve at homes. Most of these servant maids and small job holders reside in rented houses in slums or crowded colonies. Now they can't pay the rent for their small houses in slums. All the above-mentioned labour class mostly belong to Dalit Adivasi sections of the society. And all these daily wage labourers are facing severe crisis in the present pandemic. All the working areas of Dalit Sthree Sakthi has a very high number of such communities and individuals who are caught by this situation and are under life threat.

2. What Dalit Sthree Sakthi has Done

a) Awareness among the cadre:

DSS created a WhatsApp group with the women collective leaders, youth leaders, district coordinators and state team. All members of the group are in touch on daily basis exchanging information through messages and conference calls so that everyone knows what the other is doing. Everyone has been given the task of spreading awareness about the need to strictly adhere to the norms of social distancing and other precautions to be taken to protect oneself and the community.

b) Data Collection of Most Needy People:

In co-ordination with the NCDHR, Delhi, the team of DSS downloaded “CLAIMS” application and collected the data of the people who are in dire need of essential commodities in the period of lock-down and filled up the details of the people in the districts of Guntur, Krishna, West Godavari, East Godavari, Chittoor, Visakhapatnam, Ranga Reddy and Adilabad. The CLAIMS application records the details of the individual and community who are severely affected by the present pandemic situation. There is a provision of allotting different packages to the individuals whose details are recorded through the application and further processed with the government for the respective aid.

c) Distribution of Essential Commodities to Needy Dalit Families:

The amount sanctioned by Christian Aid for relief is about Rs.1,30,000/. The amount at the disposal of DSS being very limited, it was planned to see that the neediest beneficiaries be identified and helped with limited relief package.

Dalit families are the worst sufferers along with other marginalized sections. Though migrant workers were also starving without work and food, their need was mostly transport. They were all desperately trying to go back to their native states at any cost, by walk, by trucks etc. There was lot of media and social media coverage on the exodus of migrant workers and a large number of philanthropic individuals and NGOs came forward to feed the trekking migrant workers at various places enrooted. Though belatedly the Governments also responded to their calamity and arranged special trains to various states and supplied food.

In case of Dalits who are dependent on daily wages there was not much relief from the government, excepting supply of rice to the white ration card holders. There was no media coverage on the plight of Dalits. Philanthropists/NGOs concentrating on relief to dalit families in villages is negligible. Most of the poor dalit families economic sources have dried up totally as they don't have any work to do. Quite a number of dalit families work as agricultural labourers, petty vendors, auto drivers, taxi drivers, construction workers, masons, hamalis at wholesale markets/ transport companies etc. Dalit women and girls also go as agricultural labour, vegetable vendors, helpers in shops, servant maids, work in factories, run petty shops at home etc. Due to Covid lock-down all these activities came to an end and there was no way for the dalit families to make both ends meet. Not only all fiscal activity providing some succour to Dalits is closed but there is no hope also that it may revive in the near future. In these circumstances, the poor dalit families are in dire need of relief to endure and survive.

In view of the above situation, DSS decided to lend a helping hand to the poor dalit families identified by it. The staff and women collective leaders of the districts in which DSS is functioning have been pressed into service and they identified a few most needy families for extending relief. Further, it was also felt that most of the families have no problem with rice as it was supplied to them by the government and they need oil and pulses which they are unable to purchase. Hence, DSS made bulk purchase of oil, pulses and vegetables and distributed to the identified families as per the details given below.

Andhra Pradesh:

Essential Commodities like Oil, Pulses and vegetables were distributed at the following places on the dates mentioned:

Guntur District:

- ✓ on 29-05-2020 in the villages of Angala Kuduru and Kopalle of Tenali, Mandal, Guntur district.
- ✓ On 30-05-2020 in the villages of Peda Ravuru, Katevaram and Sajjana Peta, Tenali Mandal, Guntur District.
- ✓ On 30-05-2020, Stambala Garuvu area of Guntur town, Guntur district.



Krishna district:+

- ✓ On 31-05-2020 dalit residential areas of Vijayawada slums were covered. Rani Gari Thota, Tarakarama Nagar, Balaji Nagar, Kamayya Thopu, Kanuru, Pezzone Peta were covered.



West Godavari:

- ✓ On 24-06-2020 villages of Vatluru, Pina Kadimi, Chodimella were covered.





Telangana State:

Ranga Reddy district:

- ✓ On 22-06-2020, relief was distributed in the villages of BodamPahad, Ranga Reddy district.
- ✓ On the same day i.e. on 22-06-2020 relief was distributed in Gundala village, Chevella mandal, Ranga Reddy district.
- ✓ On 23-06-2020 Aluru village, Chevella Mandal, Ranga Reddy district.

Vikarabad district:

- ✓ On 23-06-2020 Yethirajpalli village, Nawab Pet mandal, Vikarabad district.



Advocacy with Government:

DSS through its cadre gathered information that a few families in the red zone of Guntur district are in dire need of essential commodities. DSS represented to the district Collector of Guntur district to help the needy people of villages of Guntur district. When the DSS team contacted and requested the Guntur district administration, the District Collector directed one donor, namely Sarada Peetam, to distribute their packages to the identified people indicated by DSS. As such, Sarada Petam distributed relief through the District Women Collective leaders of DSS. The local DSS women collective leaders of each village identified the neediest single women, widowed and deficient families and guided the distribution accordingly. Rice, oil, dal, wheat, turmeric powder, mirchi powder, salt and vegetables in the villages of Takkellapadu, Uppalapadu and Namburu.

Likewise, DSS contacted the Collector and DIG of Visakhapatnam and requested them to help the families in dire need of essential commodities in the red zone area, Allipuram slum in Visakhapatnam city. They immediately responded and arranged for distribution relief to the needy families.

The details of the rescue given to these families is mentioned below:



Vision

A society in which dalit women and girl children have real equality, dignity, rights and equitable share in resources.

Mission

To preserve, protect and enhance the rights and entitlements of dalit women and girl children to capacitate them to fight against caste, class and gender oppression.

Objectives

- ❖ To capacitate the dalit women and girl children with knowledge and skills to fight against untouchability, discrimination, inter and intra community violence and to access justice.
- ❖ To access quality education for dalit girl children and make them potential leaders.
To support and facilitate dalit women to access rights and entitlements.
- ❖ To establish linkages with like minded dalit and women organizations, networks and movements at state, national and international levels to influence policies and strategies related to dalit women and girl children.
- ❖ To document and publish stories and case studies of resilience and leadership among dalit women and girl children.
- ❖ To Sensitize the Policy makers, State Actors and Larger Civil Society towards the cause of dalit women and girl children.

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