

Rules and regulations of the small producers group

- Four women have to compulsorily participate in the SPG group and one of them should take up the leadership position
- In their villages two SPG meetings in a month should be conducted
- Date and time of the SPG meeting should be fixed and the minutes of the meeting should be documented
- Once in six months leadership has to be changed among the four members
- There should be self confidence in everyone

Programme:

Seven workshops were organised to give tailoring training to make cotton bags by resource persons to women and girls. About 48 members got information regarding bag stitching and how to market it.

Impact:

- Backward villages where women are not able to get any kind of employment opportunities and income. A survey was carried to find out women who have learnt tailoring and interested in it was listed out.
- Discussed about the formation of SPG groups and each were given a name. Group's leadership was given to one member in each group and created awareness on the rules and regulations of the groups and its main objectives.



- Resource persons rendered training on cotton bag stitching to women at Okkuta and at the village level
- They have called for meetings with other SPG groups and shared the subject with them more trainings were given on bag stitching

Subjects that were discussed in the meetings:

- Women who knew tailoring in the villages were listed out
- Formation of SPG groups
- Objective of the SPG programme
- Naming of the SPG groups
- To select poor women for the SPG groups
- SPG committee to have compulsorily four members
- Informed about the rules and regulations of SPG
- Informed to hold meetings twice in a month

- Discussed about the membership fee
- Discussed about the place and date for the meetings
- Informed about the training programme
- Discussed about the purchase of tailoring machines
- Discussed about taking loans from the banks
- Told and showed videos on motivation and sharing
- Training given to women on income generating products
- Selected the group leaders
- Bag stitching training received
- To change the leadership of the group once in every six months
- Information was shared about 500 meters of cloth that was received and to start stitching bags
- Informed about using of the same colour thread for stitching and quality of stitching
- To discuss about marketing of bags
- Convinced that each one is responsible for the bags that they have stitched
- Discussed about three groups- each being involved in cutting, stitching and embroidery making and women getting employment opportunities
- Every meeting Okkuta has discussed about expenses incurred

Problems faced in the SPG groups:

- In some of the villages women go for labour work and do not find much time to

stitch. Okkuta asked women to help each other in stitching quality bags and get trained to make more bags, but this was not happening

- Every day new issues are faced by the women to come together to work
- Women have shown enthusiasm after receiving the training but there is no encouragement at the home front. There are examples of staff of Okkuta visiting the villages and discussing with families about its convenience and usage

Results:

- Received information regarding digital marketing
- Applied for loans to banks for the purchase of power machines. Applications were submitted for government schemes with subsidies and it is been followed up
- More trainings were taken on bag stitching
- More women are joining the groups
- Bags are stitched as per Okkuta's costing
- Positive changes are noticed among women

3. Marketing Bags:



Pamphlets describing the bags made by SPG women and its usage were distributed as a strategy towards marketing.

Activities:

Invited resource persons and discussions were held about marketing of bags to those women who were engaged in stitching of bags. Discussions were held in 12 villages covering all those who were engaged in it.

Impact:

- Introduced the cotton bags to the government departments
- Got opportunity at the local and hobli level to sell bags in the fairs and festivals
- SPG women have understood the local market needs and accordingly have started to do sales
- To stitch bags as per the requirements of the people
- Rural women have got information regarding digital marketing through Okkuta's programme

Issues:

- SPG women in the villages are yet to gain some more knowledge about marketing
- Cotton bags are stitched using quality cloths, hence the cost of the bags are high and because of it marketing has been a problem
- All SPG women are not coming forward to market the bags
- Visited government departments to discuss about sales of bags, but they were not much cooperative about it by quoting the rules and regulations

Results:

- Created awareness regarding marketing of cotton bags through pamphlets
- SPG women have sold bags in the local shanties and melas



- Created awareness to government departments regarding cotton bags and usage and the objective for stitching it. Requested to help in marketing of these bags
- Till now 500 bags were sold through SPG women and Okkuta
- Created awareness about the environment friendly bags and its usage. To support and encourage rural women in this endeavour to empower them financially

Sl. No.	Date	Venue	Name of the Programme	Resource Person/Department	Participants/ Girls /Boys
1.	17.04.2021	G.M.O	Demonstration of Skill Related Activities	Dr.Keerthi Shekhar	22
2.	26.06.2021	G.M.O		Dr.Keerthi Shekhar	21
3.	3.07.2021	G.M.O		Dr.Keerthi Shekhar	12
4.	19.07.2021	G.M.O		Dr.Keerthi Shekhar	21
5.	20.07.2021	G.M.O		Dr.Keerthi Shekhar	28
6.	17.08.2021	Sonnvadi		Dr.Keerthi Shekhar, Mr.Rajeev	18
7.	17.08.2021	Chitteri		Dr.Keerthi Shekhar, Mr.Rajeev	20
8.	03.10.2021	Mbl		Dr.Keerthi Shekhar, Mr.Rajeev	16
9.	30.11.2021	Mbl		Dr.Keerthi Shekhar	27
10.	24.03.2022	M.B.L		M.S.Jayalakshmi G.M.O	25
				total	210

Methods of marketing:

- 100 metres of cotton cloth was procured from the market and distributed to skilled tailoring members to stitch bags
- The bags stitched in the SPG groups to be quality checked by the four members, if there are any mistakes to be discussed and rectified. This would help stitching quality bags quickly was the advice given by the resource persons
- Government of Karnataka under Sanjeevini scheme has organised Saras melas (Exhibition) to promote and market the products of women members. Members of the Okkuta are utilising this platform to



sell their produce. Local government departments do disseminate information to Okkuta regarding these melas and women are utilising it.

- Women and girl children to utilise the opportunities said by the local department as they have well established the contacts
- Bags are been sold at the shanties within gram panchayat and cluster levels
- Bags are been sold at Grameena Mahila Okkuta's meetings, training and workshops. As well women do explain the need to utilise cotton bags
- They had utilised the stage of Rotary Lake side Kolar during their meetings to sell bags

- Working committee members of the Okkuta and staff along with SPG members met the DC and ZP officials, W&CD department, horticulture department agriculture department officials and showed their bags and requested to arrange for marketing it locally as well to encourage and support them
- Created awareness to people about the usage of cotton bags and sold bags at the taluk and zilla network meetings and
- Pamphlets regarding cotton bags were distributed to government department to create importance

Vigilance Committee

Objectives:

- The vigilance committee members identified at each village to work on the issue of violence and harassment on women and girl children in the community.
- Training of VC members on Laws and Rights, to support women and girl children.
- Encourage and promise to build leadership at the village level.

Impact:

- Information dissemination is faster at the village level due the presence of VC members
- When programmes are organised at the village level VC members able to organise women
- VC members disseminate the information to the village women

- When they come to know about the problems faced in the villages, they take the leadership to solve the problems
- VC members will visit the panchayats and collect the information regarding various benefits and inform the women in the villages
- They work specially with those women who are been affected by violence
- VC members are aware of the status of the rural women, hence they are able to identify the women victims and give them appropriate advice and console them
- All the women from villages are not able to participate in the training programmes, hence VC members give legal awareness. So 70 percent of the women are aware of the legal aspects / laws
- Women have gained awareness on property rights
- They have gained information by attending the meetings and programmes at the village level
- Women are aware that Grameena Mahila Okkuta takes leadership in conducting village level programmes
- Victims of violence do not cooperate



when the members try to console. They have to convenience and take them to santhwana Kendra

- Provide information to the victims of violence regarding the government facilities



Problems / solutions:

- Village women not cooperate with the VC members when they go to disseminate information
- Victims of violence do not disclose immediately about their problems to the VC members, only after stressing about they start to speak about it
- Women are being informed to pass the information to Okkuta when they are facing violence but they do not inform
- When VC members go to the households of the victims of violence to discuss about to the family members. The male members of the family question the VC members asking who has given them the authority to question them
- When VC members go to give legal awareness to family members they ignore and women do not cooperate
- Some Women are trying to solve their problems locally and do not like to report it to Okkuta

SL. No.	Date	Venue	Name of the Programme	Resource Person/Department	Participants Girls/ Boys
1	23.02.2021	GMO Office	Strengthening of Vigilance Committees	Mr. Kumaraswamy	75
2	25.02.2021	GMO Office		Mr. Chethan	40
3	01.11.2021	GMO Office		Dr. Roopa Barnard	30
4.	18.12.2021	Mbl		Mr.Kumaraswamy	30
5.	12.01.2022	GMO Office		M.S.Jayalakshmi	20
6.	26.03.2022	GMO Office		Dr.Roopa Barnard	15
				Total	215

Results:

- Identifying the VC members in the villages
- Victims of violence are discussing their problems with VC members
- Personal development of VC members
- VC members have developed leadership qualities
- Good relationship has been developed between VC members Santhwana officials
- When visiting the departments - police stations, free legal aid authority, santhwana centres they recognise the VC members
- VC members have become leaders in the villages
- They have gained knowledge about the benefits of government for the victims of violence
- VC members have understood the various laws pertaining to women and it

has been useful for both VC members and the community

- When programmes are conducted in the community, VC members take the leadership in doing it successfully
- Anusuyamma of Doddabandahalli was facing domestic violence and harassment, recognising it and consoled. Now this problem was solved by the village elders

GMO has been effective in building a team of vigilance committee members who are from the villages and are to some extent empowered. The targeted rights holders, particularly women have developed self-confidence and are able to articulate their concerns. Even within the family, the women have been able to voice their views and take decisions. They have even succeeded in convincing their husbands to become partners in the change process, as members of the CDC.

Case Studies

T. Lakshamma



daughter-in-law was continuing her education.

Lakshamma does coolie work and tailoring to lead her life. She also got trained in candle, soap, surf, shampoo making from the government training centre, Honnenahalli. Whenever she finds time she makes these products and sells it for her livelihood.

In 1999 she took the membership of Grameena Mahila Okkuta's self-help group and took the responsibility of book-keeper. She saw that the basic amenities to her village to be fulfilled, hence she approached the government departments to get bus service, milk dairy, scholarships for students and got for 66 poor women. Formed 100 women self-help groups and took the responsibility to get loans from SC/ST Corporation for 50 women.

After becoming the member of the VDC committee she took the responsibility to see the basic amenities of the village is addressed. She took the women to the grama panchayat and discussed about the NREGS work with the panchayat authority. Under NREGS scheme cattle shed, sheep rearing shed, soak pits were constructed, 30 members of the VDC got job under NREGS. With the help of women and girl children Lakshamma

approached Santwana Kendra to get justice for a 14 year girl child Sneha who was a rape victim, a complaint was lodged with the police station. Sneha resides with her mother and brother. Ramu along with his friends abducted her on her way to school and raped her. With the help of CDPO she is currently recovering and Ramu is been sent to Kolar sub jail.

Amalamma and Venu are husband and wife and they often fight over domestic issues, Amalamma took the drastic step to commit suicide. Lakshamma came to know about it and she met both of them and discussed and counselled them. Now they are living together peacefully.

Achievements at the village level:

- Encouraged women to participate in grama sabhas and ward sabhas
- Visiting anganwadis and schools to inspect whether timely distribution of nutritious food is taking place or not and to see that quality education is provided
- Had made construction workers card for 60 people. Rs.50,000/- for two people was given from the construction workers department from marriage assistance scheme
- Have done aadhaar card, ration card, E-shrama card and pensions for people

Case study -2

Narayanamma

W/o late Ramachandrappa VDC member aged 41 years resides in Bandahalli of Oorukunte Mittur grama panchayat and belongs to Adi Karnataka (SC) Community. She resides along with her son, who has studied ITI and works as a lorry driver. She works in the quarry (stones cutter)

AS a VDC member she works with girls and women in the village. She creates awareness about the various government schemes and benefits to them. Attends various programmes to gather information and it is her responsibility to disseminate it

to women. To access various schemes with the help of the staff and authorities she collects the relevant documents and submits it.

She has helped people get ration card, to link phone number to aadhaar card, EShram card, job cards and to get pensions, to make insurance in the banks etc. She has taken the responsibility for some of the committee members to get loans.

- Has made caste certificates
- For 70 people got loans from Pin care bank, for one person loan amount of Rs. 52,000/- was accessed
- Got a loan of Rs.1,60,000/- by mortgaging land for a person

Protection of girls is her responsibility:

Shylaja is 16 yrs old girl studying in class X is from Bandehalli village and two youths raped her. She delivered a girl child and wanted to escape. After coming to know about her situation Narayanamma along with other VDC members met CDPO and gave a complaint to the police and with their help and also of the doctor she was shifted to Santwana Kendra. The youths were arrested and sent to jail. Mother and child are safe and are in the protection of Santwana Kendra.

Bhavyashree daughter of Vimalamma and Ramachandrappa is studying in I PUC. While going to college she was kidnapped by Mahesh and raped her. When this was brought to the notice of Narayanamma, she filed the complaint in the police station and approached

the CDPO and the Santwana Kendra authority. Narayanappa the president of Dalit sangha took the responsibility and saw that

Mahesh is sent to jail. Bhavyashree is under the protection of the CDPO.

Case Study - 3

Suma aged 31 years belongs to Vokkaliga community and is from Jayamangala village of T.Gopalahalli GP of KGF taluk. She has two children; daughter is studying in class 8 and son in class 6. She owns an acre of land and grows mulberry and is engaged in sericulture. She also does tailoring and her husband Manjunatha drives an auto to lead their life.



Suma is the member of GMO's SHG for the last 6 years. She use to save Rs. 100/- per month and took her savings to buy a cow to maintain her house. She got trained in tailoring with the government textile department. After getting trained for 3 months received a certificate and purchased a tailoring machine and started stitching at home. During Covid time GMO gave the order to stitch masks and she earned Rs.5000/- for it.

She got selected as a resource person for the year 2021-2022 for the government promoted Sanjeevini self help groups under NRLM. She is been selected for the T. Goplahalli GP.

Later she got trained under the GMO's small entrepreneurship programme and got trained in cotton bag stitching and stitched 150 bags.

She is a member of the VDC committee, she attends the Okkuta meetings and training and disseminates the information to other members of the VDC at the village level. Village level issues and women's issues are discussed and try to solve it at the village level itself and inform it to the Okkuta. With the help of Okkuta gets connected to the officials of various departments and gets the problems solved. She takes responsibility to prevent child marriages and violence against women.

Personally she got connected with many of the departmental officials, got awareness about gender equality and to understand about women and girls and their problems. Being the president of the SDMC (school monitoring committee), she came to know that mid-day meals and education was not taking place. She called parents and villagers and committee members for a meeting with the teachers and inquiry was done. It was brought to the notice of the concerned authorities and got the problem solved and got good teachers for the school.

She stitched good quality cotton bags and sold it in the monthly markets (santhe) at Suntrapalya and Bethamangala villages. As well as sold it in the Saras mela (exhibition) held in Kolar on the occasion of international women's day.

Case study - 4

Vijayamma w/o Venkatachalapathy, aged 37 years is from vokkaliga community and resides at Chittari village of Oorukunte Mittur Grama Panchayat. She has 3 children, eldest son is studying for I year degree, second son is

in II PUC and daughter is studying in 9th standard. She has an acre of mulberry garden and does tailoring to lead their life.

Since 5 years she is been the member of VDC at the village level and responsibly carrying out all the activities. She was able to get employment for 40 people from the GP. Created awareness for the community about the job cards and distributed it.

Similarly, Created awareness about the corona virus vaccination at the village level. Did Ayushman Bharath (Health insurance scheme by Government) health cards as well as 60 construction workers cards for the villagers by contacting the relevant authorities. Student scholarship applications were submitted. E-shrama cards for unorganised workers.

She has attended the training and workshops of the GMO and has disseminated it to the community members and got connected to the officials of various departments to access various schemes and benefits for the village.

She has formed the SPG groups and have given training for women and have started to make cotton bags. Recognising her work GMO has made her a member of the working committee for the last 6 months. She has personally got connected to the officials of various departments.

Case Study - 5

Asha w/o Nagaraju aged 36 years belongs to Adi Karnataka community and is from Minijenahall village of Oorukunte Mittur grama panchayat of Mulbagal taluk, Kolar district. She has two children, daughter is studying in class 7 and son is in class 6. Has 2 acres of land in which agriculture is carried out and also does tailoring to lead their life.