

Annual Report

2009-10



Sakhi

Published by

Sakhi

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Programmes and Events of Sakhi from April 2009 to March 2010

Sakhi continues its functions as a resource center, supporting and facilitating the building up of a gender perspective among local governments, women's groups and civil society initiatives. The ongoing initiatives are the information related programmes, strengthening the local level governance, building the leadership of women, life skill education of adolescents and responding to various needs from the communities we work with.

1. Library and Documentation

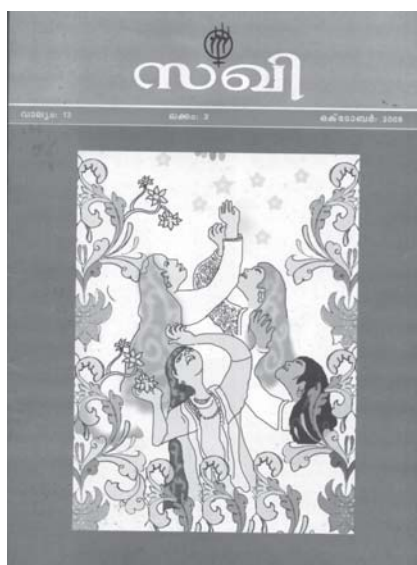
Over the last fourteen years of work, we have been able to collect and disseminate a rich source of data from our vast collection of around 8000 books on gender and related issues and a documentation center with number of journals, reports, research papers, newspaper clippings, posters and video films.

The library of Sakhi is now affiliated to the library council of Kerala and rated as B grade library. It has about 410 regular members and average 40 – 50 books are issued in a month. There is a great demand for our books and documented clippings from researchers, students from schools and colleges, professionals and foreign researchers.

Newsletter /Publications

Knowledge accumulated is of no use unless it is disseminated. Aware of this, Sakhi gives importance to publishing relevant news and reports on gender related issues to a wide range of audience. In the reporting period three issues of Sakhi newsletter were published in Malayalam reaching out to 500 individuals through subscriptions and a wider reach out to grassroot level women through our seminars and training programmes. An assortment of topics such as Old age problems and solutions, adolescent issues, cyber crimes, women and politics, Health





issues related to women; were covered giving timely and relevant information.

This year Sakhi published a training manual on Vigilance Cells(jagrutha samithis) in Panchayats. This manual is based on the training programmes and experiences of our resource team in 10 panchayats of Trivandrum district where the Jagratha samithis are made active and functioning

We also reprinted the book on violence

against women which is in great demand in different training programmes.

This year on the occasion of Fortnight campaign on Violence against Women (Nov 16th to December 10th) we prepared 6 posters related to gender (equal sharing of responsibilities between men and women at home, equal job opportunities for women and freedom to travel.)

On the occasion of women's day 3 posters were prepared on adolescent issues and problems.



2. Gendering the governance process

We were associated with the decentralization process in Kerala right from the start and continue to assist in Local Governments in mainstreaming gender in the planning process.

Sakhi selected 10 Panchayats in Trivandrum district for focused intervention and trained a resource team of women who will be the leaders and trainers and who will be capacitated to carry on the gender related programmes in the Panchayats.

The following programmes were conducted for various stakeholders from these panchayats.

Formation of Resource Team(RT)

As an ongoing process to assist and take forward the formation of Jagratha Samithi and its smooth functioning, a resource team of 20–25 women (149 Nos) each from **Vellarada, Kalliyoor, Kuttichal, Amboori, Kunnattukal, Karimkulam and Maranelloor Panchayats** were selected and given an intense training, one day a month over a period of one year



This training included a wide range of topics taken in 12 sessions covering topics like

- Gender analysis – Gender, masculinity, sexuality, violence against women.
- Personality development, leadership, communication skills
- Participatory rural appraisal (PRA), Globalization.
- Women in media
- Panchayati Raj systems, local level planning, Gender planning and budgeting
- Teaching skills, presentation skills, facilitation, organizing skills and good reporting.



They were also given teaching practices, field study and exposure visits to different panchayats. As an outcome of this training resource team members began preparing newsletters, street plays. They also started taking classes independently in different Panchayats and began responding to local level issues. We are proud to say that now they perform as an action group in their own panchayats. After completion of this training program certificates were awarded to these women. As a follow up, they wanted to learn cycling and Sakhi provided one or two bicycles in each village so that they can learn cycling

Training programmes, towards activating the jagratha samithis

- Awareness programmes were conducted for Asha Volunteers, ADS and CDS members of Panchayats and Ward level Kudumbasree members. These awareness programmes included the role and importance of Jagritha Samithi, Violence, Prevalence of Suicides, Misuse of ICT, Drug and Alcohol abuse, Women and Law, Women and Health. These awareness programmes became a success with the cooperation of team from the primary health centre, Local police, Excise Department and Local NGO's.
- Panchayat level conventions on Jagritha Samithi were organized in different Panchayats

- 2 day Jagritha Samithi Training of Trainers was conducted for NGO from Kerala State. This was with a view to motivate women's organizations to collaborate with local governments to facilitate this grassroots level mechanism to address violence against women. There were 35 participants. Systematic awareness– building and training were given on role and function of Jagritha Samithi basic concepts of Gender, Violence etc.

Awareness programmes and Leadership training programmes

- Leadership training was given at Perumkadavila Block for 60 participants
- A series of Gender Awareness class was given to Asha workers and Anganwadi workers in which 170 participated
- 3 Regional level meetings for Elected Women Representatives were conducted at Chiryankil, Neyattinkara and Trivandrum for 213 participants.
- One day seminar on project ideas on women component plan (WCP) was conducted for Elected Women Representatives. 45 elected women took part.

Experts from different areas who worked on Project ideas discussed the available projects in the panchayats. Discussions and debates were conducted on the weakness of these project ideas. It was seen that some of the project did not come into existence due to lack of technical expertise, financial problems etc. There was also a discussion on how to write project proposals. New project ideas were put forward which included 50% women's participation.

- 22 panchayat leaders from different panchayats were taken for exposure visit to Kannadi and Muthalamadu panchayats in Palakad district to study the effective function of NREGA's and to understand viable projects watershed management, Nature fresh milk processing unit, Nutrimix self employment unit for WCP . They also learnt the effective usage of sowing machine in paddy cultivation in Vadakkancherry block
- 2 day workshop for 30 members from 10 panchayats was conducted on Gender perspective planning.
- A three day training programme was conducted for elected women representatives of Maranelloor and Vellarada panchayat on Gender And Development in which 45 members participated.
- Sakhi also conducted a survey of Old people of Kuttichal Panchayat. During the study we got a lot of insight on the conditions of the older members of that Panchayat. It was an interesting survey with lots of input from

many old people from the Panchayat. During the survey they spoke freely regarding their health, financial exploitation by their own children, loneliness, physical and verbal harassment.

Main agenda of these trainings

1. To explain the 73rd Constitutional Amendment to the elected women *panchayat* members.
2. To make elected women aware of laws protecting women's rights and make them aware of their roles and responsibilities in local development.
3. Role and Function of Jagritha Samithis..
4. To develop women's leadership and communication skills for enhancing social mobilization.
5. To make them find ways and means to interface with other layers of local self-governance within the State and claim the *panchayat's* entitlements.
6. To familiarize them with rural/women/child development programmes to reduce poverty
7. To empower them to identify and break cultural barriers and improve their social-economic condition.

The Kalliyoor panchayat was assisted to conduct the Status of Women's study.

Our training programmes had a unique impact as it was accompanied by the continued presence and guidance from our staff on any issues which came up from time to time as well as due to the regularity of the training sessions which responded to their needs. It helped to create a process to self-awareness that created in them the ability to get at the real issues in an analytical manner . The approaches adopted by us were participatory and inclusive of the knowledge and creativity the trainees had acquired. The efforts were geared to help unlock the potential and collective power of these women and make them partners in local level development. We are hopeful that many of them will be selected to contest the next elections

3.Capacity Building programmes

Gender Mainstreaming has been our accepted strategy for promoting gender equality. We believe that Mainstreaming is not an end in itself but a strategy, an

approach, a means to achieve the goal of gender equality. As an ongoing programme to this cross cutting theme Sakhi continues to give capacity building programmes to a wide range of participants.

We have been able to organize a number of gender trainings and awareness programmes for a wide range of participants from College students, NGO activists, teachers, Panchayat women members etc.

- A three day adolescent training of trainers was conducted for NGO activists from different NGO's, activists working with adolescents, in Kerala from 26th to 28th June 2009 . There were 23 participants.
- A three day gender training of trainers was conducted for NGO activists from various organizations in Kerala from 29th to 31st July 2009. There were 25 participants.
- As a part of our ongoing activities Sakhi continued to give Gender sensitization class for students of different colleges. These gender awareness class contained sessions on basic concepts of gender, gender based violence, misuse of ICT and new forms of violence against women and girls.
 - ✓ One day gender awareness class was given for MSW, MA Sociology and MA Personal Management Students of Sociology Department of Loyola College, Sreekariyam.
 - ✓ Two day gender awareness class was given for graduates of WMO College, Muttill, Wayanad
 - ✓ Two day gender awareness class was given for social work students of LISSAH College,Kozhikode.
 - ✓ Two day gender awareness class was given for TTC students for Mar Basilous College Bethery
 - ✓ One day class on gender perspective and awareness was given for LLB at the Emanuel College,Vazhichal, Trivandrum

4. Working with adolescents

Adolescents today are affected by a whole range of conflicting changes that are threatening to their well being and even survival. Some of the major conflicts affecting adolescents as a group are sexual and reproductive health problems, violence and abuse, psychological, economic and social problems Even though adolescents form one quarter of the population in India, their needs and issue are little understood and poorly served. Besides lack of proper life skill education

and increasing sexual violence some of the problems faced by the young people in the state are high educated unemployment, high rate of substance abuse and high rate of suicides.

Realizing the significance of working with young people and already working with them since a long time, Sakhi decided to scale up the programme with a new strategy.

Life skill education programme for adolescents

From January 2010, Sakhi started a new phase in our work with adolescent girls and decided to work with adolescents through 10 panchayats in Trivandrum District. Since our strategy has been to work through local level governments, in this programme too, we chose to build the capacity of local level government functionaries – ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist) Anganwadi workers, ICDS Supervisors (Integrated Child Development Scheme), Local NGO's and peer educators. This will ensure that the programme will continue even if Sakhi withdraws and that the programme can be integrated with the local level planning of the panchayat.

The 10 panchayats selected are Kuttichal, Kallikad, Amboori, Vellarada, Kunnattukal, Chenkal, Maranalloor, Kalliyoor, Karumkulam and Kadinamkulam.

The key facilitators were from the existing resource teams (RT) capacitated by Sakhi over last one year. It was decided to focus on girls children from the age group of 13 years to 15 years and from 6th to 9th classes.

Initially one day orientation programmes were conducted in these 10 locations inviting adolescent girls and the other stakeholders like members of the resource team, local government functionaries and the elected members of the Panchayats. Besides making the local governments actively involved in the programme, this also was aimed at enlisting the cooperation of parents and other key functionaries of the local area. Group discussions were conducted to understand the problems experienced by children in their lives and this itself was an eye opener to the representatives of parents and local facilitators. Children spoke of the various problems faced in their homes, in classrooms and while travelling to school and in public places. A need assessment was also done among the children individually using a questionnaire. This will be the bench mark survey of their awareness. After the presentation of their issues, the objective of the programme was explained and groups were formed.

A total of 36 sub-centres were selected from the 10 panchayats. Each group will have minimum of 25 children.

This orientation programme was followed by a planning meeting for facilitators at the panchayat level. The facilitators were divided among the 38 sub-centers selected.

Awareness programmes were conducted for the parents of the children selected from these sub-centres.

Two day training for the local facilitators was conducted at 5 regions. During the training, topics like physiological and psychological changes during the adolescent period, sexuality, gender and masculinity, parenting & counseling, psychology of children etc were taken by the experts the respective field.

Selected panchayats and sub-centers at a glance

SL. NO	NAME OF THE PANCHAYAT	SUB-CENTRES
1	Amboori	3
2	Vellarada	4
3	Kuttichal	4
4	Kallikkadu	3
5	Maranalloor	4
6	Kalliyoor	4
7	Kunnathukal	4
8	Chenkai	4
9	Kadinamkulam	3
10	Karimkulam	3
	TOTALS	36 nos

This programme is an ongoing one . So about 1000 children and 100 facilitators are capacitated and we expects this to snowball into a movement of children in these areas and will have a ripple effect in the State.

Some of the programmes conducted in the last part of 2009

- Capacity Building of the Adolescents – Tapping on the growing participation of the adolescents and capitalizing on their energy and enthusiasm Sakhi continues to impart monthly adolescent class for adolescent boys and girls every month on second Saturday in Pulluvilla. . It is interesting to note that innovative method used by the resource team of Sakhi created a sustained level of interest among the group. These sessions include a wide range of topics like health, leadership qualities, personality development, communication skills etc.
- A two day adolescent camp was conducted for the adolescent boys and girls separately of Pulluvilla group. These two groups were given training on media and how to create a newspaper, and how to collect information. They were divided into 4 groups and 4 newspapers were created. This was a new experience for them as they learned many facts about real life through newspaper.
- A 5 day self defense course was conducted for adolescent girls of Pulluvilla group in which 23 girls participated. Ms.Asha Gopinath facilitated the workshop. These girls were given intense training on every aspect of self defense including exercises for strengthening their body.

5. Safe City Free of Violence Against Women and Girl

In 2008–09, Sakhi had conducted a survey and interview of 200 women in the city regarding violence in public places and organized a campaign on city free of violence against women. Sakhi also collaborated with Kerala state road transport corporation (KSRTC) to take sessions on gender to the bus conductors in Kerala regarding gender and violence.

As a part of this activity Sakhi designed a sticker giving a message – “Behave decently with women, safe journey is the right of the women” The women helpline number and the traffic helpline number was also depicted in the sticker so that immediate assistance will be accessible to the victims.

Women and girls are vulnerable to violence both within and outside the home. Realizing the gravity of the issues, Sakhi with support from Jagori in Delhi undertook a UNIFEM project which deals with ‘ Safe City Free of Violence Against Women and Girls. The primary focus of this project will be on violence in the public domain which will include sexual harassment, staring, touching, sexual



assault, attempted rape, stalking, lewd comments etc. These forms of violence demand different responses and strategies precisely because of their location in the public.

On 25th November 2009 Sakhi launched “Safe City Free of Violence against Women and Girls Initiative: pilot study in Thiruvananthapuram” on the occasion of the inauguration of the ‘16 days campaign’ at Kesari memorial hall Trivandrum. Mr. Senkumar IPS (Chairman & Managing Director of KSRTC), Mr. Hemachandran IPS (Inspector General of Police, South Zone), Mr. Sivankuty (MLA), Ms. Baby Amma (Circle Inspector of State Women’s Cell..

After the initializing the program there was a constitution of steering committee of 12 members as well as an advisory committee of 7 members.

Phase one of the project included various activities such as base line survey of 800 women and 200 common witnesses(men and women), focus group discussions, capacity gaps analysis, organizing pre and post survey meetings etc. While undertaking the survey, our investigators faced a very serious difficulty in getting women to talk on issues of safety. This is either due to fear or embarrassment which comes from their patriarchal upbringing and socialization. It is surprising that this happens in the city and from educated middle class

women rather than poor working women. It was even more difficult to get men to respond to the survey

A one day consultation with government officials from different departments was conducted for developing mechanisms of creating safety and prevention of Gender Based Violence on 28th January 2010. Ms Kalpana from Jagori New Delhi identified the three components of safety as law enforcement, social prevention and physical planning. Creating linkage between these three components and building partnership with different agencies are important to make city safe for women. The safe city initiative should be a bottom up process that we need to hear what women want for a safer city.

On 29th January 2010, a consultation with non-governmental organizations and likeminded individuals was arranged at Sakhi. Discussions were based on the main parameters of safety which included proper lighting in the streets, erection of more public toilets, the possibility of women approaching the police stations fearlessly for complaints. It was suggested that in Kerala we have the women component plan (WCP) fund in the local self governments which can be utilized to ensure women's safety and needs at public places. Also Jagratha samithis at local self governments can intervene in women's safety issues. The head load workers can be entrusted to monitor women's safety at their places. Dr.Mridul Eapen, member State Planning Board opined that even now the seating arrangements in schools are not healthy as girls and boys sit separately on two sides of class. This puts restriction on developing a healthy relation between boys and girls. Therefore parents and of course teachers too should be educated in this regard.

The process of data compilation and FGD are going on and other methodologies like safety audits will take place in the coming year which will equip us to suggest measures to enhance safety of women and girls in the city. We plan to extend the programme to other cities in Kerala too.



6. Maternal Protection Study

Maternity protection is a significant intervention that recognized women's reproductive rights whether they are in the formal or in the informal sector or 'non – workers'. It is a key instrument in promoting equal opportunity for women.

Sakhi in collaboration with Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai decided to conduct a study for assessing the coverage and effectiveness of national efforts to provide quality maternity protection for all. The project is being funded by Ministry of Labour & Employment (MoLE), Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO), New Delhi. The study is being coordinated by Ms. Nalini Nayak.

This study seeks to understand and conduct an in dept desk review of State Level data and research on women's employment in organized sector by using establishments data; to obtain a picture of efficacy in functioning of schemes and act; to conduct focus group discussion of workers receiving benefits under the ESI act and MB Act and understand implementation related experience and to conduct representatives case studies of women workers in the informal sector.

As a part of this study a round table discussion was conducted on 30 September 2009 in Centre for Development studies (CDS(with officials from ESI Corporation, Thrissur, Planning Board Trivandrum, Kerala Construction & Other Workers welfare Board, Thiruvananthapuram, Professors, Researchers and Retd ILO from CDS, SEWA – Union, AITUC – State committee member, Working women's executive, executive member Construction & OWWFB, Directorate of Social Welfare, Kerala Mahila Samakya, Tvpm, NRHM. The main agenda of this discussion was a means to get the worker's representatives, the various boards, the department of social welfare, activists and academics to collectively suggest how maternal benefits could be universalized, what institutional arrangements would be required to do so and how resources could be mobilized for the same. Ms.Nalini Nayak made a presentation on the general situation of maternity benefits in Kerala with the coverage of the ESI, the Welfare Boards and the centrally sponsored schemes like the ICDS, the JSY and the NRHM, and the NREGS. This was in the framework of the division between the organized and unorganized sector workers, the contributory and totally government supported schemes and the one time payments vs the maternity cover and care. The

extensive coverage of pregnant and lactating women under the ICDS scheme was striking.

Many case studies were conducted of select group of unorganized workers to gain a deeper understanding of whether these women are availing maternity protection, sharing their experiences. In the case of Kerala, it was agreed that workers in the organized sector receive their MB without much difficulty and that a women do not undergo any discrimination in the workplace because of the fact that she requires leave to bear and nurture children. The problem arises in the unorganized sector where it is difficult to assess the actual numbers and the work that women do. There was a feeling that even this section of workers is covered by the Welfare Boards. At present not all the welfare boards provide uniform coverage although there is an ongoing process in Kerala to study how uniformity can be brought about.

Regarding the unorganized workers, it is important that the government schedules the work. Once the work is put on a schedule then the minimum wages are also fixed and the process for benefits can begin after. Presently in Kerala, the domestic workers as well as the IT workers have come under a schedule.

In case of Commercial shops and establishments it was also stated that there has been a concerted effort to bring all the shops and establishment either under the ESI or in cases where there is even one employee that the employer registers in the Welfare Board. This is a contributory fund in which the workers are also covered for maternity after one year membership and where they also get a cash benefit based on their earning for 12 weeks after delivery. This is the only welfare fund that offers this facility for the delivery of two children.

The situation of teachers in the private sector is a major concern. This sector is booming and the majority of teachers are young women who are treated a casual workers and expected to leave at marriage or when bearing a child. There is no system to register these establishments and since education is not considered an industry, teachers are not considered workers. Hence such establishments are not registered under the Shops and Commercial Establishments Act. This section of women workers need to be recognized and the state needs to reconsider its nomenclature of this sector and make urgent provisions for wages and conditions of work for women workers in this sector.



7. Occasional Seminars at a glance

❑ Women's Health – A Social Model of Health

As part of a programme called 'Sangam-IndOz', an Australian researcher Shobhana Chakrabarti from Perth Western Australia approached Sakhi to help conduct a workshop in Kerala. This is one in a series of workshops conducted by her in India on Women's Health (Social Model of Health) and Empowerment.



A one day seminar was conducted in February for 35 participants from media, law, health workers, teachers of nursing schools leaders of local governments, NGO's, women activists and students. The objectives of this seminar were to showcase innovative health projects and practices; to assess transferability of practices; to stimulate innovation in community health education; and to promote networking and collaborations. There was discussion on the local health institutions in Kerala being handed over to the local governments which gave possibilities of intervention. The workshop was an eye opener on the possibilities of further improvements to be done in order to do better interventions. As Sakhi is already collaborating with 10 panchayats on Life skill education for adolescent girls, the workshop helped the panchayat leaders to view it in the correct perspective.

❑ **A seminar on Section 377 IPC**

A half a day seminar was organized by Sakhi to discuss the verdict of Delhi High court regarding Section 377 IPC. Dr.Jaysree, faculty from Pariyaram medical college, Kannur gave a detailed explanation of section 377 of IPC and the from Delhi high court verdict repealing this section. She explained the problems faced by queer groups in the country and specifically the attitudes prevailing in Kerala. It was decided to have a programme in front of the secretariat under the banner of 'Rainbow' to give wider awareness on the issues

❑ **Seminar on the old age act**

A debate was conducted on the 5th May 2009 at Kesari Memorial Hall in relation to the State Geriatric policy – 2006 and Central Government Geriatric Law –2007. Dr P.K.B.Nair Director of Geriatric Centre presented the details regarding the policy. Insight was provided on the care taking of old people. All aspects of exploitation of old women were discussed in an in depth manner

❑ **Seminar on ASEM Treaty**

Seminar was conducted on ASEAN Treaty on 19 Sep at Kesari Memorial Hall. Prof. Koshy P Mathew retired professor from Department of Economics, Kerala University discussed the pros and cons of the treaty and its effects especially upon the Kerala women.

❑ **Better Implementation of PWDVA Act**

A one day seminar was conducted for discussing better implementation of the PWDVA Act at Sakhi on 16 Oct 2009. There were discussions to ensure a bid to speedy disposal of justice.

❑ On 14th November 2009 Kerala poetess and activist Smt. Sugathakumari was selected for the Ezhuthachan Award for 2009. Sakhi honored Smt.Sugathakumari in a function conducted at Kesari Memorial Hall on 25th November 2009

❑ Sakhi conducted a book review of the book Tug and Tear : Dealing with child Sexual Abuse written by Albertina Almieda at Sakhi Women's Resource Centre on 27 July 2009 . This review was done by the author itself who described the contents of the book. On the whole this was an enriched experience with discussions and experience sharing from the participants.

❑ **Misuse of Communication Technologies and Violence Against Women**

We are witnessing a rapid growth in the Information Communication Technologies. Internet and mobile phones have changed the way human relationships work. But, misuse of these technologies are leading to problems related to invasion of privacy, freedom of expression, loss of security and safety especially among women and children. The way to overcome these hurdles is to equip our women and children with technical skills, legal awareness and the responsible use of internet and mobile phones.





Kerala State Information Technology Mission (KSITM) and Sakhi Women's Resource Centre jointly organized a series of workshops and awareness programmes on 'Misuse of Communication Technologies and New Forms of Violence Against Women and Children' in Schools and Colleges. The launching of the programme is held on **14th December, 2009** at **The Cochin College, Ernakulam**. The Women's Cell at the college also took a very active role in making this programme a success.

❑ **Women shall lead: Programme for empowerment of women in Politics**

As a part of the campaign on getting women's reservation to parliament and assemblies passed, Centre for Social Research, New Delhi with support from UNDEF planned to enhance the capacity of 1000 women from all over India, in order to give a clear message to political parties that there is no dearth of trained and capacitated women who are willing to contest elections. In Kerala, Sakhi collaborated in this process and conducted a three day workshop for women in politics from 4th to 6th August 2009.



ശിശുപരിചരണത്തിൽ
പുരുഷൻ കൂടുതൽ ഉത്തരവാദിത്വമെടുക്കുമ്പോൾ,
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കുട്ടികളും അച്ഛനും തമ്മിലുള്ള
ബന്ധവും ദൃഢമാകും

സഖി വന്മിയൂർ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം 35 ഫോൺ: 0471 2462251



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പങ്കുവയ്ക്കപ്പെടുന്നു.

സഖി വന്മിയൂർ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം 35 ഫോൺ: 0471 2462251

Prior to the programme, Sakhi compiled a list of 40 women who have the leadership potential and who are interested in politics and their profile was collected. Only 31 of them could come for the training due to various problems. Some of them were already active in politics and belonged to different political parties. Interactive sessions were used in a very creative way to impart the relevance of women's participation in democracy and politics. Justice Sreedevi (retired) who is the chairperson of Kerala State Women's commission inaugurated the programme. Mr. Radhakrishnan R from the People's science movement, Ms.C.S.Sujatha (ex MP), Mr.Karthikeyan MLA, Ms.Nalini Netto IAS, Ms. R. Parvathi Devi, Dr. Radhakrishna Pillai from CSR and staff of Sakhi handled the various topics like the constitution of India and the political system in India, gender, advocacy, resource mobilization while contesting election, election campaigns etc were communicated. A film called Dweethiya paksha (second time) which is on women and election process was screened. The training became an enriched sharing of experiences when participants shared their individual experience during elections.

8. Campaigns

In the reporting period Sakhi conducted two major campaigns – one around 8th March 2010 on International Women's Day and one around 25th November 2009.

Gender-based violence continues to pose

a major roadblock to women's human rights, peace and development every where. This 16-day period creates a solidarity movement which raises awareness around gender-based violence, works to ensure better protection for survivors of violence and calls for its elimination.

As a part of this campaign Sakhi designed a sticker giving a message – “Behave decently with women, safe journey is the right of the women” The women helpline number and the traffic helpline number was also depicted in the sticker so that immediate assistance will be enabled to the victims.

On 25th November 2009 Sakhi launched the inauguration of the ‘16 days campaign’



തങ്ങൾക്കിഷ്ടമുള്ള ജോലി തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കാൻ
സ്ത്രീകൾക്ക് സാധ്യത ലഭിക്കുമ്പോൾ
കുടുംബവരുമാനം വർദ്ധിക്കും;
സ്ത്രീകളുടെ കഴിവുകളും സാധ്യതകളും
രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ വികസനത്തിന്
പ്രയോജനപ്പെടുത്താൻ സാധിക്കും.

സഖി വഞ്ചിയൂർ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം 35 ഫോൺ: 0471 2462251



പുരുഷന്മാർ വിട്ടുജോലികൾ
സ്ത്രീകളുമായി പങ്കിടുമ്പോൾ
ബന്ധങ്ങൾ ആഴത്തിലുള്ളതും
ശക്തവുമാകും
ഒരുമിച്ച് കൂടുതൽ സമയം
ചെലുവഴിക്കും
പരസ്പരധാരണയും
പങ്കുവയ്ക്കലും
ഉഷ്ടിയുറപ്പിക്കപ്പെടും

സഖി വഞ്ചിയൂർ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം 35 ഫോൺ: 0471 2462251



**സ്ത്രീകൾക്ക്
സ്വതന്ത്രമായും നിർഭയമായും
സഞ്ചരിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമ്പോൾ
അവസരങ്ങൾ കൂടും;
ആത്മവിശ്വാസം വർദ്ധിക്കും;
സാധ്യതകൾ ഉപയോഗപ്പെടുത്താനാവും.**

സഖി വന്ധിയുൾ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം 35 ഫോൺ: 0471 2462251

discussions were carried on about the risk factors for high suicide proness in



**ബന്ധങ്ങളിൽ തുല്യത
ഉണ്ടാകുമ്പോൾ
സ്നേഹത്തിന്റെ ആഴം വർദ്ധിക്കുന്നു.
പരസ്പരബഹുമാനവും
വർദ്ധിക്കും.**

സഖി വന്ധിയുൾ, തിരുവനന്തപുരം 35 ഫോൺ: 0471 2462251

at Kesari memorial hall Trivandrum. Mr. Senkumar IPS (Chairman & Managing Director of KSRTC), Mr. Hemachandran IPS (Inspector General of Police, South Zone), Mr. Sivankuty (MLA), Ms. Baby Amma (Circle Inspector of State Women's Cell), In the function MLA, Mr. Sivankuty handed over 5000 stickers to KSRTC Managing Director.

On 28th Nov 2009 Sakhi conducted a seminar in Kuttichal panchayat on Suicide prevalence in Kerala. Kerala is one of the very suicide-prone states in India. The suicide-rate of Kerala is about three times the national average. The depressive issue has become an obsessive factor both towns and villages alike. There is a high prevalence of suicidal attempts among all age group (15 – 59 yrs) A comprehensive discussions were carried on about the risk factors for high suicide proness in Kerala. Specific action for suicide prevention was also discussed.



On 28th Nov 2009, a seminar was conducted on Adolescents and violence. Violence is a growing problem among adolescents all over the world. Exposure to violence can have lasting and pervasive effects on an adolescent's mental and physical health, general well-being, and ability to become a productive adult. This seminar addressed the issues and problems regarding violence in relation to adolescents

On 5th Dec 2009 a seminar was conducted on violence against women and alcoholism in Maranelloor panchayat. Violence against women is a serious problem in Kerala and when it is combined with alcoholism it becomes a grave issue. In a discussion initiated by Sakhi causes related to alcohol induced violence were put forward along with solutions for prevention.

On 1st Dec 2009 a one day seminar was conducted on the women's reservation bill. Women have already suffered several forms of discrimination in India including foeticide, infanticide, dowry deaths, physical abuse, rape, less wages compared to male counterparts. They are also discriminated against in food, health, education and choice of livelihood. Women's Reservation in decision making bodies is expected to help address these grave concerns affecting the very survival of women. The move to bring 50% reservation in the local bodies is a great step and it is expected that this will lead to drastic changes in the area of governance

On 3rd Dec 2009 on the occasion of Bhopal Disaster Day a large seminar was conducted in collaboration with Thanal an environmental organization in Trivandrum on the commercial cultivation of 'Bt brinjal', the world's first genetically modified (GM) eggplant with insecticidal toxin protein from the soil bacterium Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*). In the seminar the formation of BT Brinjal was explained creating an awareness regarding the safety risks of human



consumption of these BT Brinjals. There was an exhibition of various indigenous varieties of brinjals which are cultivated by the farmers in South India. Various dishes made from also was on display.

On 9th Dec as a part of campaign in Kunnattukal panchayat vehicle rallies using posters, corner meetings, public meetings, leaflet distribution etc were used as methods for wider interaction with the civil society. Responding to current issues like safety of women while in public places and traveling and the misuse of ICT especially of mobiles was taken up by us and this enabled access to various new members of the community participating. On the occasion of 2010 Women's Day Sakhi designed 6 posters depicting gender. On March 8th there was a poster exhibition In the city.

On March 6th Sakhi in collaboration with BCM collage in Kottayam District conducted a district level one day seminar. The main topics of this seminar were awareness of various issues regarding gender based violence. There was also a discussion on women's reservation bill.

A One day seminar was conducted on Women's Reservation Bill at Hassan Marikar Hall on 10 Mar 2010 which was participated by Panchayat members, NGO organizations and various other government officials. We also celebrated the passing of the women's reservation bill by having a rally.

9. Violence Interventions

In the reporting period Sakhi staff directly attended 25 cases of domestic violence, 15 child sexual abuse cases, 1 rape case and 4 sexual harassment cases. Many other cases were referred to either women's commission or the adults conducted



byAbhaya. We also had to deal with cases in which the violence was due to the misuse of mobile phones and internet. We have provided financial assistance to survivors for some of the cases.

10. Internship

Sakhi receives requests for internship from many students of social work, law etc from within and outside India. We limit this due to lack of sufficient staff to guide them. In the reporting period we had 2 interns– Ms Grace Mary and Ms Pheba Abraham from Marian School of Social Work (July 2009)

11. Visitors at Sakhi

Sakhi had a very heavy flow of visitors this year also. Our visitors include researchers, students, professors from various universities and NGO organizations of the world.

No	Name /Group and Place	No of persons	Time of visit
1	NGO – EKTA in Tamil Nadu	20	21 st & 22 nd May 2009
2	Subaan organisation	1	15 Jun,2009
3	University of Wisconsin, USA	2	17 Jun 2009
4	Representatives from Lawyers Collective, New Delhi	2	18 Jun 2009
5	University of Wisconsin, USA	4	20 Jun 2009
6	Mahila abhyan Samsthan Gujarat	20	6 th to 8 th Oct 2009
7	Rekhas Organisation	8	6 th Oct 2009
8	Thadikadu School, Kollam	48	7 th Oct 2009
9	Oslo University, Oslo	2	17 Nov 2009
10	Princeton University, USA	1	7 Dec 2009
11	Oslo University, Oslo	1	8 Feb, 2009
12	Australia University, Australia	1	16 Feb, 2009



12. Sakhi Staff as Resource Persons in Training Programmes/ Seminars/ Conferences Organized by Other groups

Programme/ Place	Resource Person	Date
Discussion with parents of Adolescents group in Kallambalam, TVM	Rejitha G	9 May 2009
Awareness class on Jagritha Samithi for panchayat members of Tholikode panchayat	Geetha J	15 May 2009
Class for Adolescent girls and discussion with parents in Chengeli, TVM	Rejitha G	23 May 2009
Class on empowerment of women for ICDS workers at Varkala	Rejitha G	8 Oct 2009
Awareness class on Jagritha Samithi for panchayat members of Varkala Block Panchayat	Geetha J	7 Jan 2009
Awareness class on Jagritha Samithi for panchayat members of Parasaa Block Panchayat	Geetha J	10 Jan 2009

13. Staff Participation in workshops / seminars conducted by other groups

Programme & Place	Staff	Date
Feminist Counselling Workshop by Jagori, New Delhi	Rejitha G	30 Sep 2009
Gender Budgeting Workshop by CBGA, New Delhi	Rejitha G	12 Nov 2009
3 rd Evaluation of PWDVA by Lawyers Collective, New Delhi	Rejitha G and Geetha J	13 Nov 2009

14. Organizational matters

Sakhi is a registered trust and is managed by the trustees

The present trustees are

Dr.Sundari Ravindran–Chairperson

Aleyamma Vijayan Secretary

Mercy Alexander Treasurer

Dr.Manju Nair

Prof.Neena Joseph

Mariamamma Sanu George

The trust board meets twice a year and takes all major policy and financial decisions and online consultations are held on other occasions.

In the reporting period, Aleyamma Vijayan who is the founder director of the organization voluntarily retired as Director and Mercy Alexander is the new director of the organization. Aleyamma continues to associate with the organization as the secretary of the trust and assists the staff whenever help is needed

In the last year, the contract of the librarian Ms.Lissymol ended and she moved out and in her place Ms.Sony S.R joined . Ms. Sreekala joined as community worker in April 2009. At present following are the staff who carried out all the above work with support from volunteers and local resource groups

Mercy Alexander, Rejitha G, Geetha J, Mini Rajkumar, Beenamol.S.G

Sreekala.T.S & Sony.S.R

We also thank our auditor Mr Thomas Mathew, Central Bank of India, Tech Vendors and Word Pecker for their continued guidance and support.

Major Programmes at a glance

Gender and Governance Programmes at a glance

S.No	Programmes	Venue	Date	Participants
1	Resource team training for 6 panchayats Vellarada, Kalliyoor, Kuttichal, Amboori, Kunnattukal, Karimkulam & Maranelloor panchayats	In the mentioned panchayats	From April 2009 to March 2010	149
2	Gender Awareness class	Kalikadu Panchayat	21-Oct-09	30
3	Seminar of Project Ideas	EWRS from different panchayats	4-Jul-09	45
4	Regional Level meetings for Elected Women Representatives	Neyyattinkara	22-Sep-09	64
5	Regional level zonal meeting for EWRS from Attingal and Nedumangad zone	YMCA	23-Sep-09	149
6	Awareness class on Jagritha Samithi for EWRS	Karimkulam panchayat	5-May-09	25
7	Awareness class on Jagritha Samithi for EWRS	Karimkulam panchayat	25-May-09	20
8	2 day workshop on 5 year perspective planning for EWRS of 10 panchayats	Hotel Highland	11th and 12th Aug 09	30
9	2 day trg on Jagritha Samithi for EWRS and NGO representatives	Kovalam Animation Centre	7th and 8th July 09	45
10	Leadership trg for EWRS	Perumkadavil Block	23-Mar-10	60
11	Awareness class for Asha Workers	Kallikadu PHC	11-Feb	55
12	Awareness class for Anganwadi workers	Chenkal panchayat	18-Dec-10	50
13	Awareness class for Asha Workers	Maranelloor panchayat	20-Nov-10	25
14	One day seminar and certificate issuance to Resource team members	YMCA	24-Oct-10	64
15	2 day trg on Gender Development for EWRS	Maranelloor panchayat	17 & 18 Feb 10	25
16	2 day trg on Gender Development for EWRS	Vellarada panchayat	11th to 14th Mar 10	20

Capacity Building programmes

1	Adolscent training of trainers	Kovalam Animation Centre	26 to 28 Jun 10	23
2	Gender Training of trainers	Kovalam Animation Centre	29 to 31 July 10	25
3	2 day Gender Awareness class	Mar Baselious TTC College Sultan Batheri	27 & 28 Oct 10	60
4	2 day Gender Awareness class	WMO College Muttill , Wayanad	30 & 31 Dec 09	39
5	2 day Gender Awareness class	Lissah College , Thamarassery, Kozhikode	1 & 2 Jan 10	34
6	One day Gender Awareness class	Loyola College, Trivandrum	1-Mar-10	30

Programmes for adolscents

1	Camp for adolscent boys	Pulluvilla	17 & 18 Apr 09	
2	Camp for adolscent girls	Pulluvilla	8 & 9 May 09	
3	One day orientation pgm for facilitators of Karimkulam, Kalliyoor, Kadinamkulam Chenkal panchayat	Kovalam Animation Centre	20-Feb-10	27
4	One day orientation pgm for facilitators of Kuttichal, Kallikadu and Maranelloor	Kuttichal panchayat	19-Feb-10	27

5	One day orientation pgm for facilitators of Vellarada	Vellarada panchayat	18-Feb-10	35
6	Training of Trainers for facilitators of Adolscent group	Kallikadu panchayat	19 & 20 Mar 10	29
7	Training of Trainers for facilitators of Adolscent group	Chenkai Panchayat	22 & 23 Mar 10	30
8	Training of Trainers for facilitators of Adolscent group	AICUF	29 & 30 Mar 2010	33
9	Training of Trainers for facilitators of Adolscent group	Vellarada panchayat	29 & 30 Mar 2010	56

Programmes on Safe City – Free of Violence against Women and Girl

1	Inauguration of Safe City Campaign	Kesari Memorial Hall	25-Nov-09	
2	Consultations with Government Officials	Hotel Geeth	28-Jan	
3	Consultation with NGO organisations and Like minded individuals	Sakhi Women's Resource Centre	29-Jan-10	

Programmes on Maternal Protection Study

1	Round table Discussion with various Government Officials	Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum	30-Sep-09	
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Programmes on Misuse of Communication and Violence against Women

1	Inauguration of the project Programme on Women in Politics	Cochin College, Ernakulam	14-Dec-09	
1	3 day Workshop for Women in Politics	Kovalam Animation Centre	4 – 6 Aug 09	

Programmes – Occasional Seminars

1	Women's Health – Social Model of Health	Kesari Memorial Hall	24-Feb-10	35
2	seminar on Section 377 IPC	Kesari Memorial Hall	4-Jul-09	20
3	Seminar on Old Age Act	Hotel Geeth	5-May-09	40
4	Seminar on ASEAN Treaty	Kesari Memorial Hall	19-Sep-09	19
5	Seminar on Better implementation of PWDVA Act	Sakhi Women's Resource Centre	16-Oct-09	19
6	Honoring Sugathakumari for Ezhuthachan award	Kesari Memorial Hall	25-Nov-09	25
7	Book Review of book Tug and Tear by Albertina Almeida	Sakhi Women's Resource Centre	27-Jul-09	16

Campaigns

1	Inauguration of 16 days campaign	Kesari Memorial hall	25-Nov-09	30
2	Seminar on Suicide prevalence in India	Kuttichal Panchayat	28-Nov-09	102
3	Seminar on Violence related to Adolscence	Kalliyoore Panchayat	26-Nov-09	259
4	Seminar on Women's Reservation bill	Pulluvilla Panchayat	1-Dec-09	39
5	Seminar on Cultivation of BT Brinjal	Hassan Marikar Hall	3-Dec-09	120
6	Seminar on violenc against women and alcoholism	Vellarada Panchayat	5-Dec-09	160
7	Seminar on Women Reservation Bill	BCM College Kottayam	6-Mar-10	49
8	Poster exhibition	In front of Secretariat Trivandrum	8-Mar-10	
9	Seminar on Women Reservation Bill	Hassan Marikar Hall	10-Mar-10	120