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DWCRA Strengthen the Women Empowerment

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Abstract:

The DWCRA was introduced mainly to give awareness to the rural women and to break social evils, superstitions etc. These DWCRA groups have been working in all districts in Andhra Pradesh state. The women members of DWCRA form groups 10-15 women each for taking up economic activities suited to their skill, aptitude and local conditions. DWCRA has started in 1982-83. It is a sub scheme of IRDP, DWCR A and IRDP are not mutually exclusive. Women belonging to identified rural families can become member of DWCRA and also avail themselves of subsidy and credit under IRDP.

1. Formation of Groups

A group may consist of 10- 15 women they may belong to one village or one street. They have to meet twice or thrice a month. They have to communicate the information about the works, which are going on under their leadership. The group members must get to know how they can supplement the family income with the help of economic activity and thereby raise the health, nutritional and educational standards of their children. The group members must get to know each other well understand the group strategy and recognize the strength and potential of the group. The state government is endeavoring to cover all the poor women through self help and DWCRA groups in next teams on a priority basis. Greater support will be provided to the DWCRA groups dealing with poverty elimination programs like IRDP. Social and economic infrastructure is provided to the women through establishment of DWCRA bazaars and training and technical resource center in every district.

State government is providing maximum help to the DWCRA and SHG groups through attaching the funds. Government is extending greater support to the SHG / DWCRA groups by allocating more budgets to enlarge coverage of SHG with working capital assistance. It is proposed set up a fund for the women with an initial out lay of 50 corers with equity from women financial institutions, NABARD and donor agencies some other financial organizations also provide financial assistance to the groups. Ex: IRDP, UNICEF, etc. there is an independent agency setup for continuous capacity building of the groups and Andhra Pradesh academy of Rural development is the nodal agency for training program. Some eligibility is essential to the groups to get the loans.

1.1. Aims and Objectives of the Programme

- Developing the status of life of the poor women in the rural areas.
- Improving the quality of life of the poor children.
- Enabling women to improve their earning capacity.
- Improving the impact of ongoing development programmers by stimulating, supplementing, strengthening and integrating.
- The selection of likeminded poor women linking in the neighborhoods.

1.2. Group Support to Individual

- Awareness about social and political situation.
- Information required for letter living and environment.
- Build capacity of woman to improve their status and utility of life.
- Access to appropriate technologies skill upgradation
- Self help and self governing capacity.

1.3. Budget Provision under DWCRA

Budget provision is made under DWCRA to meet expenditure on the following items.

A Revolving fund to be shared equally by Government of India, State Government and UNICEF.
Travelling allowance to be funded by Government of India and State Government as 50;50 basis.

1.4. UNICEF Funds will be Available for

- Salaries of approved staff for a period of 5 years
- Supplies and equipment for multipurpose centers (up to 50 thousand per centre
- Training workshops and seminars
- Training publicity imports

1.5. DWCRA Earns Praise of International Eminent

Former United Nations Secretary Sri Kofi Annan on his visit paid rich compliments to the DWCRA groups in the state and Chief Minister Sri N. Chandra Babu Naidu for his able leadership and said Andhra Pradesh was a model for all nations of the world. The rapid strides made by women in asserting themselves socially and economically throughout the DWCRA movement in the state came in for praise from the wife of the Malaysian Prime Minister, Siti Hasman Haji MohdAli. addressing DWCRA groups she congratulated the state Government for supporting such a valuable activity of self help groups. The 56 lakh members of DWCRA and SSSHGS proved how women could achieve success and be on their own when given an opportunity by men in the family, Government and various agencies, she said. MS. Haman said that poverty would not allow women to progress and achieve economic and political stability. Narrating the Malaysian experience in empowering women, she said that after Malaysia became independent in 1957, the Government focused on four areas in rural areas – poverty, illiteracy, ill- health and apathy besides development of infrastructure.

She said Malaysia now had achieved 100 percent literacy and people were keen to send their children not only to primary and secondary schools but even to universities.

1.6. Women Who Achieved Victory

Fourteen members Sathya Sai DWCRA Women under the president ship of Alivelamma in Manesamudram in Hindupur Rural Mandal achieved a lot, they got good results in the formation of mulberry and animal husbandry. They achieved the following results.

They saved one lakh rupees through DWCRA.

They are earning 40 rupees per day through the selling 4 liters milk.

Sarojamma who belonging to Meenakunta palli village has been earning 1500 rupees per month through the making of wooden plates which are useful for mulberries food.

1.7. Failures

- They neglected the saving amount.
- Revolving fund misused by 260 groups
- Group members disappointed due to the lack of encouragement
- Government did not release funds to the 96 groups due to the failure in engaging works.

1.8. Multipurpose Community Centers

Women's groups would need a common working place where they can assemble and carry on their activities. The design for the centre has been standardized and circulated to all states Governments. It provides for facilities for training production and child care and also includes residential accommodation for the additional Gram Sevika. The centre may also be utilized for demonstration of appropriate technology. The construction of multipurpose community centers is an approved activity under Jawahar Rojgari Yozana. Hence the cost of construction may be from the funds allocated under JRY and according to the norms laid down in the guidelines of that programme.

A Couple of decades ago DWCRA Will be reluctant to step out of the its comfort zones and think of venturing into business, Today a new breed of young women from rural areas has embarked upon a new entrepreneurial journey. Today DWCRA Women are self reliant and have proved their mettle by constantly evolving in both national and International markets. To empower them further state government is issuing the permit to the federation of SHG Women to self sand.

The DWCRA in Andhra Pradesh has enabled women to empower themselves rapidly during the last five years. During the pre DWCRA Stage, they were deplorably backward. They lived below the poverty line with no literacy, got married during their attitude and behavior. DWCRA experience has enabled them to take a few steps forward in their level of empowerment. Women were also becoming more aware of their rights and more social responsible

According to newspaper reports, DWCRA had made rural women realize the importance of education.

2. Conclusion

Generally women can't reach equal stage as men in various sectors. Different encourage methods are essential to reach the stage. First of all they should get the money. By the formation of DWCRA groups only they can pick up in all sections.

3. References

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