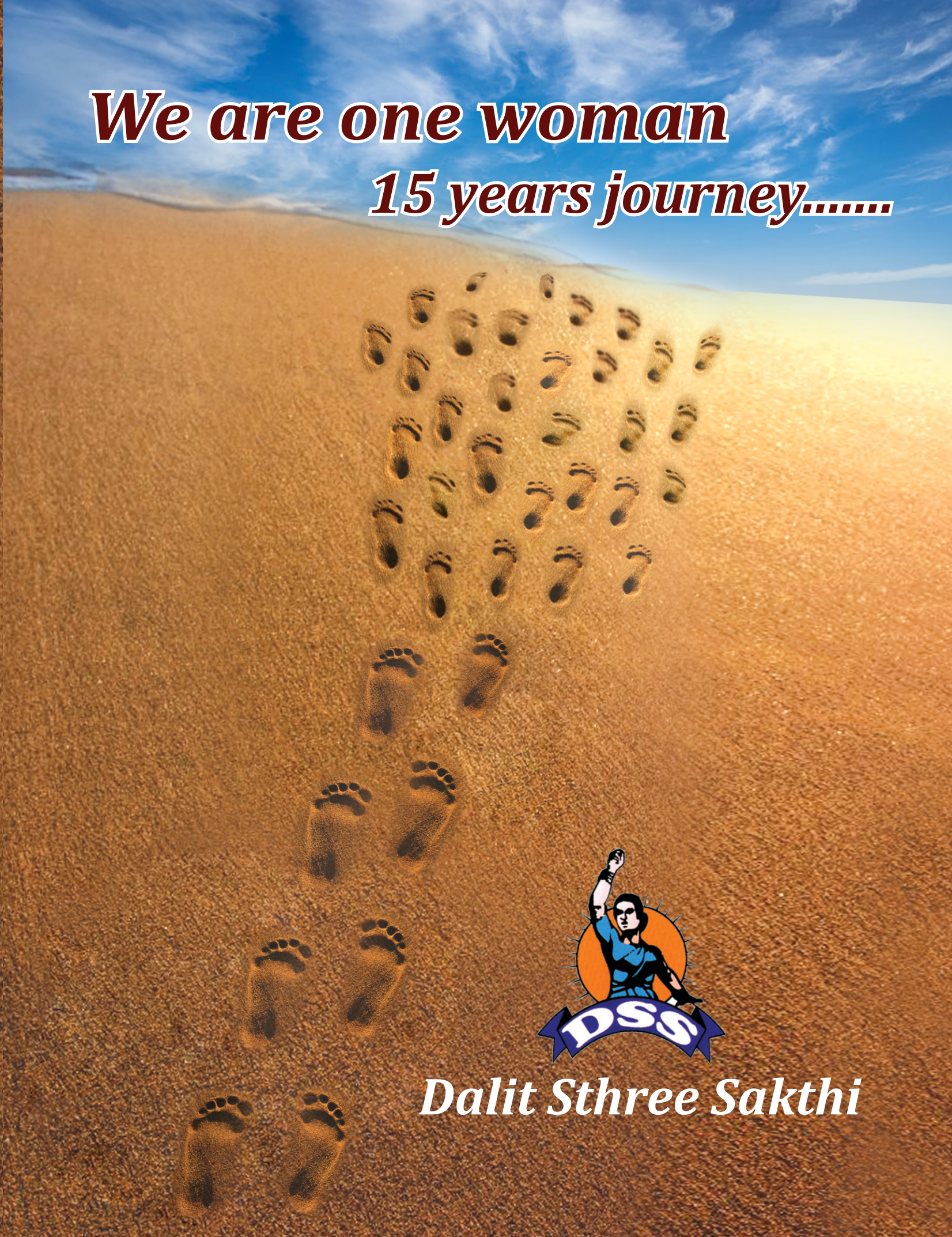
We are one woman

15 years journey.....



Dalit Sthree Sakthi

We are one woman

15 years journey.....

Dalit Sthree Sakthi

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1. REFLECTIONS IN A MOMENTOUS YEAR

This year is momentous for Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) as we completed 15 years of our journey in enabling dalit women empowerment. It's momentous in many ways, for the quantum of work turned out during the decade and half, for the evolution of DSS from a small band of 3/4 activists in 2006 to what it is now, quantitatively and qualitatively. The 15th anniversary of DSS is an opportune moment to look back and to assess the impact of our efforts.

When DSS was established in 2006, there was no forum that gives voice exclusively to dalit women. A vacuum existed as far as the human rights of dalit women are concerned. In 2006 in such a neglected context DSS emerged to fill the vacuum and give voice to the dalit women.

When, DSS commenced its activities in 2006 we were a small band of 18 people in 5 districts, struggling to gather and consolidate the scattered dalit women for whom it was a strange experience to sit as a group to discuss about themselves. Now, after a decade and half, DSS is a force to reckon, with about 2400 women collectives, totalling to 12000 women collective members and a total of 185000dalit women actively engaged in asserting their human rights and economic entitlements. In the course of 15 years journey in enabling empowerment and struggling for entitlements, DSS was able to address 6,456 major and 13,909 minor atrocities on dalit women/girl children, conducted 44 Round Table Conferences, 30 Public Hearings, campaigned through various means including RadhaYatras consecutively for 5 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 about 3 crores rupees while another 5 crores rupees was procured in the form of wages in NREGA apart from rehabilitation and other schemes. DSS presented multitude of petitions/representations to various authorities, human rights commissions to the tune of about 10,000during the past 15 years. Dalit women were trained on gender and other relevant issues through 1021 trainings in the past 15 years. We take pride not only in the magnitude of the work turned out by us, but also the quality. DSS stands out to be the single working organization well known in the Government circles, media and other NGOs in the State of A.P. and Telangana.The decade and half that passed by witnessed movements that focussed on women, dalit and child rights.

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, state & national commissions. The media coverage of DSS activities during the past 15 years is innumerable and runs into thousands of news items

published throughout each year. 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 innumerable awards conferred during the past 15 years by reputed organizations is a feather in the cap of DSS.

The decade and half that passed by was turbulent in many ways and dalit women faced lot of hardships. Dalit women are particularly vulnerable to economic insecurity and financial dependence. The burden of New Economic Policy and globalization fell on dalit women in the form of cut or denial of welfare schemes. Due to the neglect of agriculture and the reforms in the agricultural sector, dalit women are denied even wage labour.

Last year i.e.2020 was horrific as Covid -19 terrorized people and disrupted the entire social, economic and pollical life. The COVID-19 pandemic is farmore 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 dalit women in particular. Everything was stalled and all benefits due to dalit women got delayed due to the atmosphere of non-functioning in the State. Despite such a state of affairs, DSS could do its best in conducting Legal Clinic and Round Table Conferences for redressal of victims of atrocities and for speedy justice and sanction of compensation to victims of atrocities.

DSS continually worked for the protection and promotion of human rights of dalit women and girl children. At the same time DSS has the perspective that economic empowerment of dalit women is very much central to realizing women's rights and gender equality. It is necessary to facilitate dalit women to grab their legitimate share in existing markets; their access to and control over productive resources. With this perspective DSS has embarked upon the project of turning every dalit woman as an entrepreneur under SCSP and TSP Act, by inspiring, assisting them to start a commercial venture. DSS could motivate and help many dalit women to start their own businesses during the past decade and half.

When we look back into our 15 years journey, we realise that it was arduous and thorny. It was not easy to replace or transform traditional thinking or inculcate new ideas or practice. In a dominant social atmosphere of gender inequality it was hard to mobilize dalit women to struggle for their rights, as it was not welcome in their families also. It took time for cultivating new culture and imbibing new thinking, but each year the confidence of the women grew and consolidated. It was not a thorough welcome with governmental authorities also in beginning, but over a time having established our credibility, DSS could earn the status of a recognized organization with every governmental department. Now DSS is having membership in Vigilance and Monitoring Committees, School Management Committees. Telangana government nominated DSS Convener as one of the experts in drafting Rules under Juvenile Justice Act.

It must be recorded here that our journey all these years in enabling empowerment of dalit women was not alone. DSS always joined hands with all like minded organizations in strengthening the movement. Other organizations, government officials, media helped our every activity and boosted the confidence of dalit women in their march towards overall well being. I wish to thank the DSS team from top to bottom, all democratic organizations, officials and everyone who helped the cause of empowerment of dalit women and girl child during the past and appeal for the continued support of all in the years to come.

Jhansi Geddam

National Convener

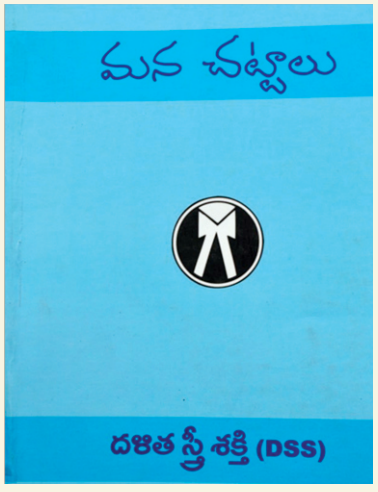
2. ABOUT DSS

To state in straight and simple terms DSS is the voice of dalit women and girl children. DSS came into existence in 2006 in the context of utter neglect of dalit women and girl children who are at the bottom of the yoke of caste hierarchy. The founder and its convener is a dalit woman who knows the situation of dalit women and feels strongly for their emancipation. There were many dalit organizations but they were mostly reactive and were confined to reacting when an atrocity occurs. The movements were mostly about questioning caste domination and attacks on Dalits. There were none to positively and continuously work for dalit women empowerment. In such a context of vacuum for dalit women representation, as a dalit woman and with the help of a few Dalits, the convener of DSS started the organization with the avowed objective of creating an exclusive platform for dalit women and girl children. Since its inception in January 2006 DSS has been exclusively working on the empowerment of dalit/adivasi women and girl children. DSS successfully addressed all issues of dalit/adivasi women and girl children in the State of A.P and Telangana, by documenting and raising its voice against inter and intra community violence on dalit women, gender disparities and denial of socio, economic and political rights.

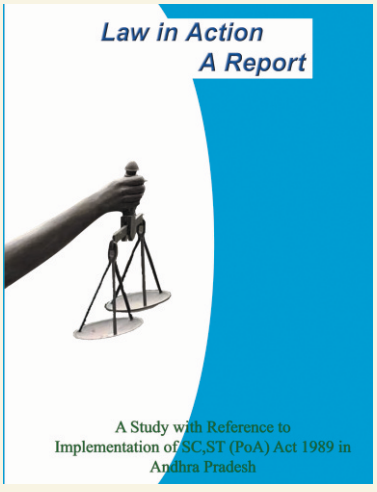
In its arduous but successful journey during the past 15 years, DSS has accomplished in giving voice to the hapless dalit women and facilitated them to identify themselves and be articulate. Active leaders were encouraged to form into collectives, unionized at mandal, district & state levels and were facilitated to think about themselves and the issues pertaining to them. It has led the dalit women to think about their role as an individual, in the family and society. This made them to shift their thinking towards what is available to them and what is being not given or denied to them and the reasons for denial.

3. HIGHLIGHTS OF 15 YEARS

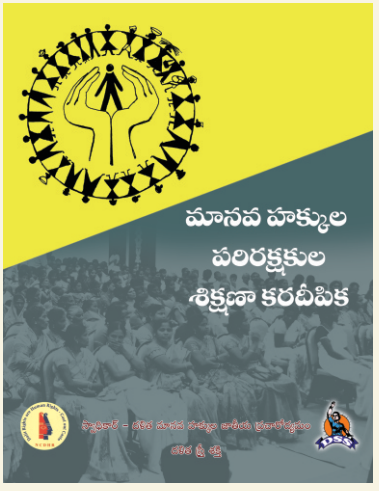
PUBLICATIONS



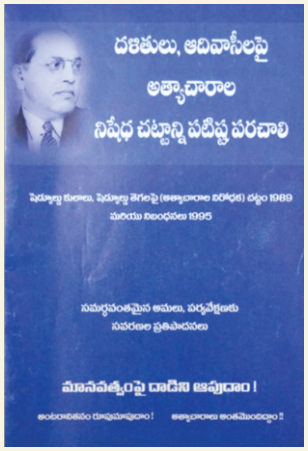
A 427 page compendium of 30 useful Acts relevant to dalit/adivasi women published in Telugu 'ManaChattalu'.



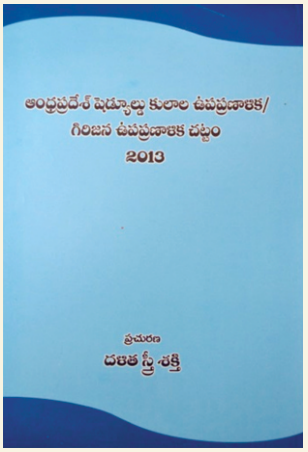
A Study carried out jointly with CID (Police Dept) on implementation of SC,ST (PoA) Act was published as a booklet 'Law In Action'



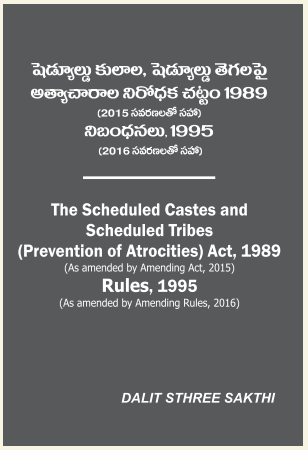
Human rights training manual in Telugu



The proposed amendments booklet of SC, ST (PoA) Act

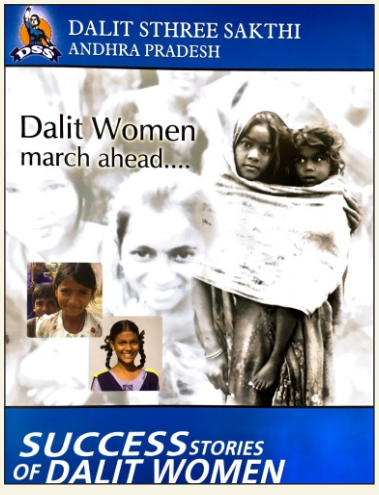


SCSP/TSP Act in Telugu

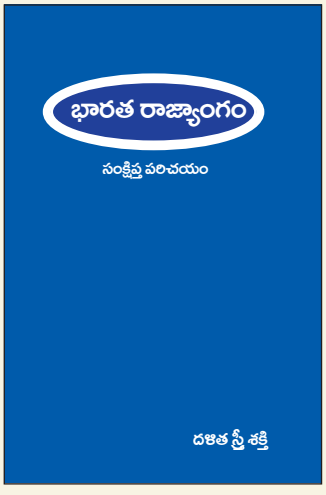


SC/ST (PoA) Act in Telugu and English

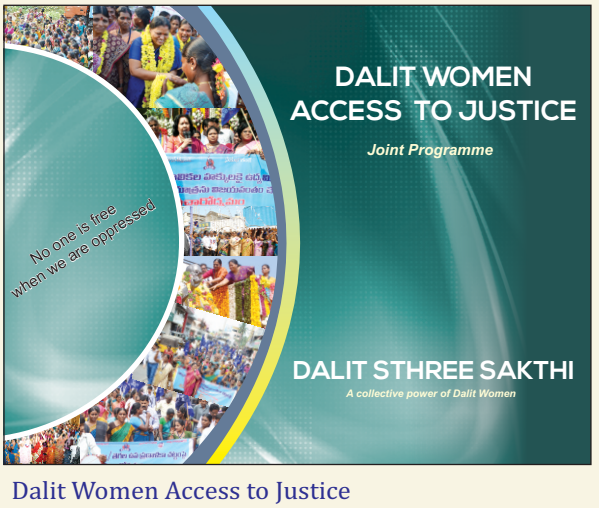
Dalit Songs book



Success stories in 5 years



Constitution
A Brief introduction in Telugu



Dalit Women Access to Justice

4. WHY ONLY DALIT WOMEN

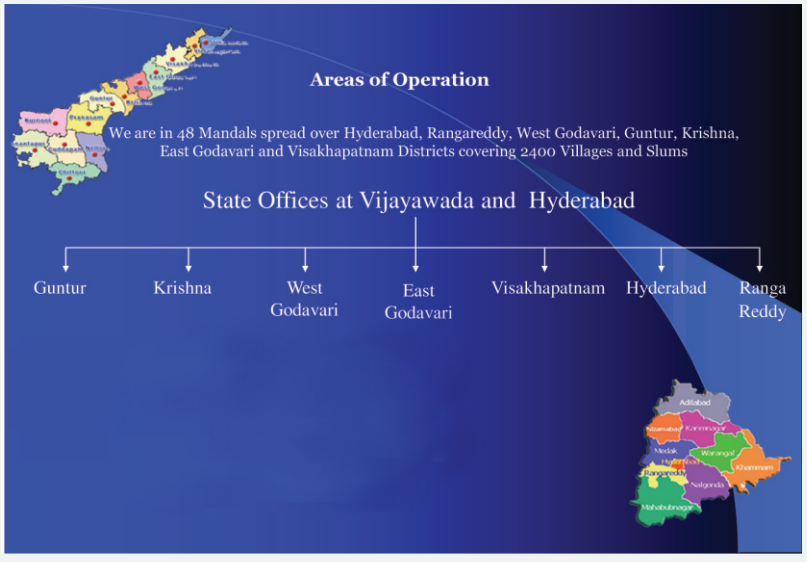
One may ask why DSS chose to work only among dalit women, when women of every hue as such are oppressed and disempowered? All the time DSS is faced to answer this usual and natural question posed by everyone. Yes, its true, that women as such are oppressed, enslaved.The root of women enslavement lies at the oppression and enslavement of the marginalized women (in class terms) and dalit women (in caste/class terms). So far all the feminist/women movements have focussed only on some individual rights, without addressing the real, large scale and massive oppression practiced on dalit women. Unless, the dalit and marginalized women enmasse are drawn into the struggle for empowerment the women liberation movement cannot go ahead in any tangible way.

It is the dalit women who are denied basic rights and human dignity and exploited in multifarious forms, like bonded labour, domestic labour, trafficking, prostitution, manual scavenging, domestic violence, rape, murder and other cruel forms. These peculiar forms of oppression and specific reality of dalit women was not in the agenda of the feminist movements. When non-dalit or dominant caste women are raped these organizations and media make a lot of noise as we have seen in Disa rape or Delhi rape, but the same organizations and media ignore even much more brutal rapes of dalit women like the recent Hatras incident or many such rapes. Caste bias can be seen in the media and mainstream feminism. There is no one to help or speak for dalit women. They face more sexual violence because they don't have any power. When a Dalit woman is raped, police are slow to register a complaint; investigations are tardy; officials raise doubts if there was a rape; authorities side with the upper caste perpetrators of violence. Even the media, dominated by upper caste journalists behave as if it is not a news. In other words, everyone conspire to downplay or erase the links between sexual violence and the hierarchies of caste.

Even dalit movements are basically male rights movements. Though dalit women participate in these movements, the issues of dalit women rights are not addressed by these movements. Not only that, all these dalit movements never recognise dalit women in leadership roles. There is not even one dalit organisation with woman at the leading role or in the leading committees. Likewise, all political parties, including leftist parties, also draw support from dalit women in their gatherings, movements but they never accord even minimum leadership role to dalit women nor do they take up dalit women issues.

Thus, one can see the vacuum as far as the human rights of dalit women are concerned. Hence it is necessary to have a platform that works exclusively for dalit women. It is of utmost significance that it is the dalit women who need to be organized and enabled towards empowerment, so that their struggles against oppressive forces will have liberating effect on all sections of women. With this perspective, DSS embarked upon the project of enlightening and enabling dalit women as such and mobilizing the support of all conscientized sections of the society to strengthen the dalit women movement.

5. WHERE WE WORK

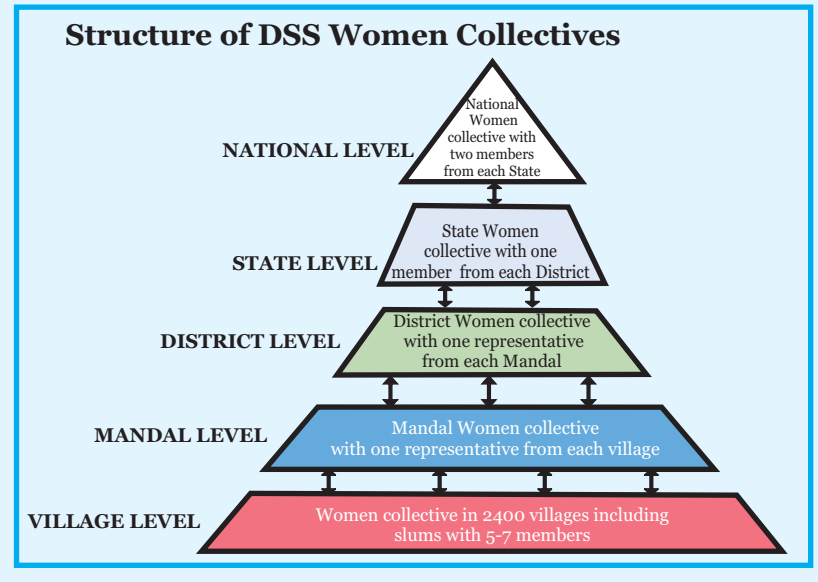


Making Human Rights a reality on the ground :Volunteer army in the field:

The foremost objective of DSS in consonance with its goal is to enable empowerment i.e. facilitate the inarticulate, unorganized dalit women and girl children, in contrast to stereo type welfare mode activity like giving or promising funds/schemes. The perspective/functioning of DSS, being different, we had to break a new ground and convince people that they should not expect anybody to "give" them but they should fight and "get" what they deserve and what they need. Though it was a bit difficult to inculcate a new culture of "demanding" and "getting", DSS could successfully inspire the dalit women and girl children to know, to be aware and move on the path of struggle for rights and entitlements.

Surpassing a culture of staying indoors and confined to household work, now the dalit women are functioning like an army of volunteers in defence of their rights and entitlements.

Village Women Collective (VWC) is formed with 5 to 7 members in all the 2400 villages including slums spread over 7 districts. Mandal Women Collective (MWC) has been formed with one representative from each VWC of the respective mandal/block. District Women Collective (DWC) is formed with one representative from each MWC. Similarly the State Women Collective (SWC) constitutes of two representatives from each DWC. The National Women Collective (NWC) is constituted with three members from each SWC.



- Women Collective of 7 dalit women in each of the 2400 villages including slums in 7 districts are actively engaged in meeting periodically and discuss the issues connected to their welfare, rights and entitlements.
- Fact findings: Whenever an atrocity or rights violation occurs, the dalit women collectives go collect the facts and monitor the legal process. Depending on the situation and need the women pressurize the police to act in accordance with law, approach the revenue and police higher ups for necessary action, report to the media.
- Where there is no swift action or collusion, the dalit women organize protests in the form of dharna/rastaroko or other forms.
- Organize the defence of the victim and see that the victims are assured of support of the community and boost their self confidence.
- Check any fraudsters from bargaining the victims for a compromise or surrender.
- Send the reports to the district and state office.
- Likewise, identify economic entitlements and petition to the appropriate authorities for sanction of schemes.
- Organize the local women for any state level programmes and lead them to the event and

SAVE INDIA
PROTEST AGAINST
E U-AWFULL VERDICT OF SUPREME
ON SC, ST (POA) ACT

" STOP Shedding
DALIT BLOOD in the
name of Caste,
Religion etc.,
You live in civilized

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

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దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

6. OUR WORK - WHAT WE DO

Journey to Equality --- Ending violence:

Oppression, untouchability, poverty, illiteracy are all intertwined and constitute one vicious circle, where one leads to and forms the basis of the other in the chain. In addition to the caste/gender violence, the dalit women and girl child face domestic violence of the worst sort. This chain of vicious circle has to be broken with a multi pronged approach and the efforts should be to realize the objective of mainstreaming the dalit women and girl children into potential rights activists, leaders and entrepreneurs.

Hence, for DSS, transforming social, economic and gender relations are the key words to enable empowerment in objective terms and all our activities are designed with this perspective.

Ending violence : Raising her voice and making rights real to the dalit women:

Age old perspectives and practices of caste system are firmly ingrained in the minds of the society and this mind set lead to the feeling and practice of taking lightly the body and lives of dalit women. This mindset is so firmly ingrained in the mindset of society from top to bottom. Notions of caste superiority, purity are so deep that they constitute the subconscious of all , in all spheres of administration, police, judiciary, political parties, cadre, leaders of all parties and even media. This ingrained prejudice gives rise to impunity among the dominant castes in committing all forms of violence including sexual violence on dalit women. The impunity is not for the perpetrator of the crime alone, it pervades all round including the media. For the media, it is not a big issue and when a dalit girl is raped, there is no ample coverage in the press because it does not prick their heart. When a dalit girl is raped and murdered, the police take it easy, the middlemen take it easy and try to settle the crime with meagre amount of money. The police do not take the complaint/book an FIR/, they pressurize the victim to compromise, investigate tardily, treat the accused leniently, the prosecution does not take the issue seriously, and ultimately the case comes up without proper charge sheet, proper evidence or effective arguments. The entire case is muddled in such a way that the judge feels that the accused was being harassed without evidence and the great rule of benefit of doubt is extended to him and acquitted. The perpetrator emerges as 'innocent'. Then, these acquittals are wonderfully used by the entire system again to raise their voice that false cases are being foisted by the dalits and that the Atrocities Act is being 'misused' and should be abolished to save 'innocents'. Umpteen illustrations can be given to establish how the process explained above operates, but the sensational massacre of Tsundur dalits is enough if one can make a case study of how all the accused emerged as 'innocents'. There is a real *de facto* law and an unwritten constitution of the caste system, that permeates the entire administrative, police and judicial systems overriding the ideal*de jure* law and written Constitution of India. Everyone in the system abide by the *defacto* caste law and obliterate the written law. This systemic operation is the basis for the perpetrators to continue their orgy of sexual violence on dalit women/girl children.

Unfortunately, the system operates in such a way that the dalit men, dalit elders in the locality and sorrowfully, the dalit women victims themselves bow down before the reality which is perceived as mighty, stupendous and unbreakable.

DSS, having grasped the logic of systemic operation of caste domination and the desolate feelings of the dalit women in the face of apparently mighty caste domination, inspired the women to unite, organize and fight back the

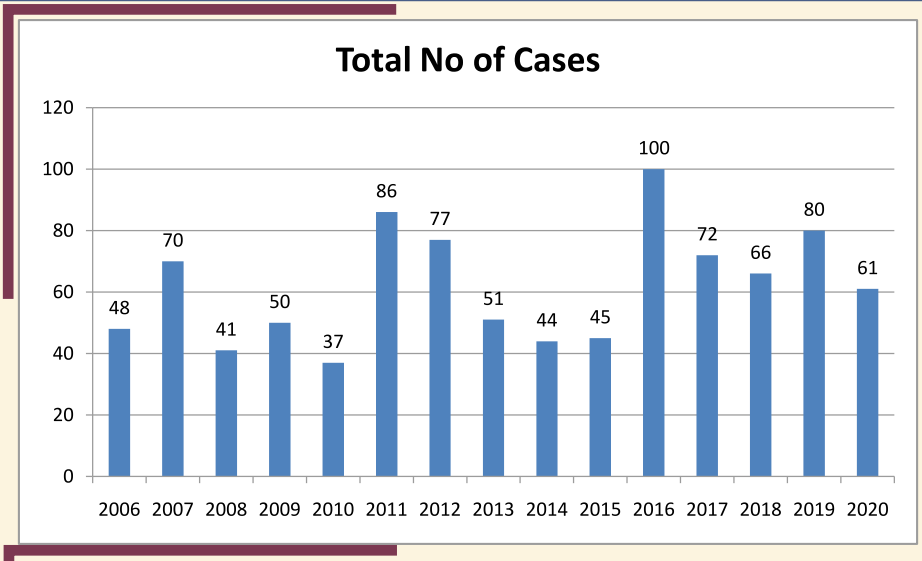
domination. Trainings to educate the women, external support helped them to take the steps and go ahead in breaking the impunity. Once they saw the success of their efforts in getting the so called dominant caste perpetrator arrested, it boosted the confidence of the women that they 'can'. Over a decade and half, the dalit women marched ahead without looking back and are now stubborn in following up all instances of rights violations to their logical end.

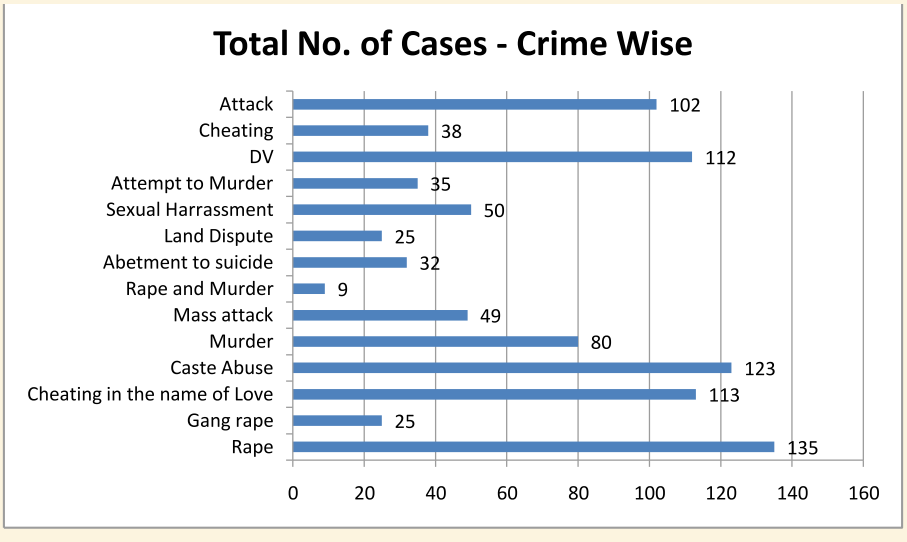
It is pertinent to note that the dalit women/girl children are perceived as sex objects not only by the dominant caste but by dalit men also. DSS came across number of instances of dalit males raping/cheating a dalit woman/girl child. In the course of breaking impunity and struggling for rights whenever a dalit woman rights are violated, DSS took up the case irrespective of whether the perpetrator is dalit or non-dalit. DSS had taken up the issue of domestic violence in a big way and fought against the violence, torture and domination of dalit men in the families.

Dalit women/girl child developed awareness about domestic violence and exploitation of girl children in the Social Welfare hostels and are exposing these forms of violence.

Atrocities addressed by DSS during the past 15 years:

The graphs below give the figures of various atrocities committed on dalit women and girl children, year wise, crime wise that were taken up by the DSS.





Sexual Violence:

The above figures are of only major atrocities. During the decade and half that passed by DSS had addressed a total number of 928 incidents. It is well known that members of dominant castes have since ages been using sexual violence against Dalit women and girls as a tool for punishment, humiliation and assertion of power. In the olden times, till about two decades ago this phenomenon could go unquestioned due to utter dependence of the dalit families on the landlords, as wage labourers, bonded labour etc. But of late, with the raise of dalit movements and assertion, this could not go on silently. However, the assertion by dalits is so enraging to the dominant castes that they seek to re-inforce and try to establish their authority and superiority by subjecting the dalit women to indecent and inhuman treatment.

In addition to these perceptions, the exposure to the growing onslaught of porno and western media also unleashed a major sexual cult/culture in the society. In the light of this new culture, rape is becoming common. Not just the male youth, but even school children now want to gang rape someone. In fact gang rape is now an everyday news. An outburst and a big debate took place only in the Nirbhaya incident of 2012. There was not much discussion later. Even the so called outburst and debate during Nirbhaya movement was more emotional than mature. That movement, which was blown out of proportions by the press had the overtones of expression of feelings of revenge against a few individuals and against a class, rather than a cool debate of why and how these things are happening and how to cure the ills of the society and how to remove the root of the problem. Though, a few intellectuals like Arundhati Roy tried to explain the phenomenon, there was none to reflect on it. Everyone was only with one demand, "hang them", that's all, as if hanging a juvenile stops all rapes in future. Almost none raised the demand to ban porno or sexualizing women in films and media. No one discussed about the regular rape of dalit women in the country side, thereby exposing the partial perspectives of the movement. Later in Disa rape and murder also there was no debate but only revenge and caste prejudice, as the victim was from Reddy caste and perpetrators were from back ward castes/muslim. The leaders of dominant caste political parties rallied for the punishment of the criminals in such a big way that the suspects were killed in an encounter. No one reacts in a similar way if the victim is a dalit woman and perpetrators are from dominant castes.

Thus, now we have a situation where there is caste domination and sexual exploitation on the one side and the newly emerging sex culture adding to it the new ways and methods. The total impact of these influences resulted in increased number of rapes of dalit women and girls not only by the dominant castes but even by dalit men and youth. Since, the hurt and violence experienced by the dalit woman if she is raped is

same, irrespective of whether the perpetrator is dalit or non-dalit, DSS, addressed both inter and intra community violence committed on dalit women and girl children. This is more important in view of the fact that dalit organizations usually never take up the atrocities committed by dalit men on dalit women.

Whenever, DSS takes up an issue of atrocity, it is followed up from F.I.R. to until conviction. This involves monitoring investigation, meeting Investigating Officers and other officials, presenting cases to higher officials in the district and at State level, raising the issue in Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meetings, meeting the Public Prosecutors, ensuring sanction of compensation, appointing advocates for training the victims and witnesses, follow up trial process and see that the case is successful and the accused get conviction.

Violence can be checked only if the impunity is broken and perpetrators are convicted without fail. Actually, if rule of law is implemented at the minimal level, there is no scope for any criminal to escape, whatever be the crime. But, strangely and shamefully, in our country rule of law exists only for academic purposes and *almost none* in the administration of justice (revenue, police, prosecutors, judiciary etc) believe that rule of law is for implementation towards all. Invoking a law or implementing is never automatic; it is always influenced by caste, class, corruption, political pressure and the like. Since, the real power is in the hands of the dominant caste and they are in the higher echelons of police, revenue

etc, laws in favour of Scheduled Castes/Tribes is never implemented, whereas laws against them are immediately implemented. In other words, in India, law never takes its own course, it always takes the course as directed by the dominant caste/class, in a brazen and unashamed manner. For long, criminal law meant only IPC and it was implemented always against the dalits. Whenever a complaint is there against a dalit, true or false, and even without a complaint, the police jumped into action to implement various sections of IPC against a dalit, but never against a dominant caste person for what he did to a dalit. A dalit never had the status of a complainant under IPC. Powerful dalit movements of 1980s brought about a change from this accused status under IPC to that of a complainant status under the SC,ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act in 1989. The age old oppressive and humiliating practices that were 'normal' and were never regarded as crimes under IPC, now became crimes and a dalit acquired the status of a complainant. The passage of this Act brought about real life to Art.17 of the Constitution.

Rohith's letter to VC on
Joint Action

Save India from Manuvadis
Date : 13-04-2018
Venue : Telugu University, Hyderabad
Dalit Sthree Sakthi & Officers Forum : Help Desk

THE PARLIAMENTA

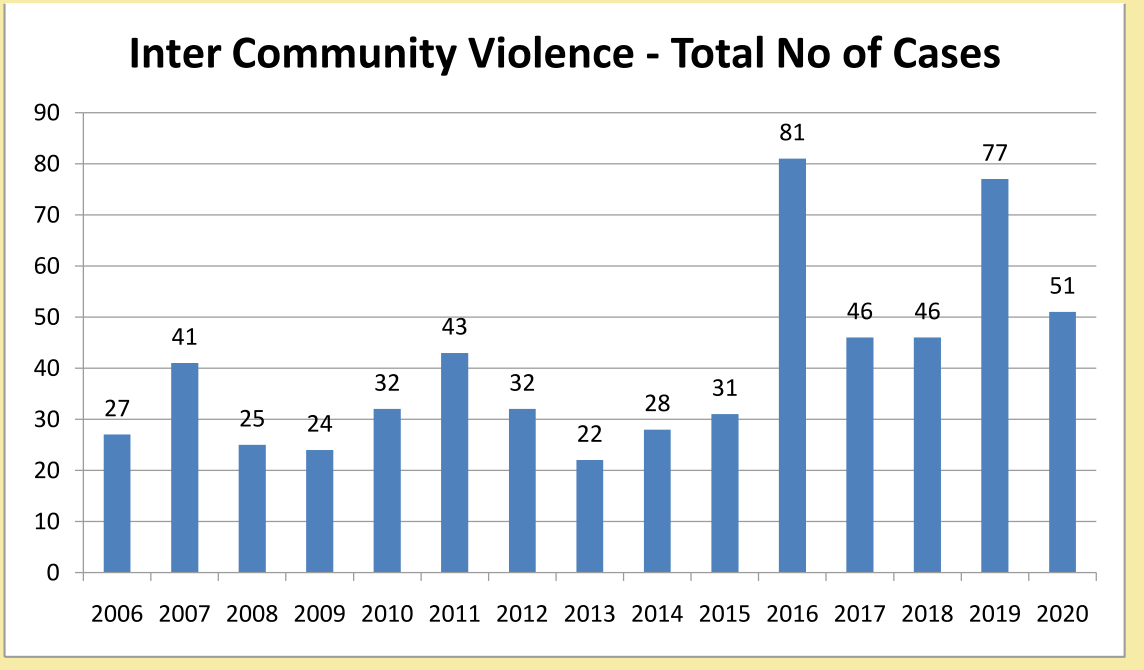
Stop Shedding DALIT BLOOD
In The Name of Caste
Religion etc...
Officers Forum, Dalit Sthree Sakthi
& Other Organisations
SAY NO TO CASTE
Officers Forum
Dalit Sthree Sakthi
దళిత యువతపై జరుగుతున్న
దారుణ మారణకాండను అంతంచేద్దాం!
Officers Forum, Dalit Sthree Sakti
& Other Organisations

SAVE
DALIT STUDENTS OF HCU

FOURTH DAY STRIKE

లక్షింపేట దళితులపై
నరమేధాన్ని ఖండించండి!
లక్షింపేట దళితుల పారాట సంఘీభావ కమిటీ

But the Act becomes effective and convictions can be recorded only if it is properly implemented in letter and spirit by all concerned departments. But as things stand today, only a few appear to be willing to discharge their duties with commitment while majority lack concern, are deficient in knowledge of law/procedures. The problems commence from the very beginning, i.e. from the stage of registering cases.



As for as the SC, ST(PoA)Act is concerned the police are never pro-active, on the other hand in many instances, they even threaten the victims to compromise. They are advising, luring and even threatening the victim to settle the issue and enter into compromise as the perpetrator is offering fat amount. Having advised/threatened the victim to take amount, they give time to the victim to think twice before registering the case and in order to force compromise they delay the registration of cases, arrest of the accused and investigation, etc. The police take interest in compromising the case not only due to caste prejudice but they also stand to gain reasonable amount from the rich accused if they succeed in rescuing the accused from the case.

DSS resorted to protest actions, complaints to higher officials, exposure in media, representations to various Commissions, petitions in Courts to get an FIR registered. Police who are basically reluctant to book the case raise so many objections and in the first instance itself they raise the technical objection to bring caste certificate from MRO that the victim belongs to scheduled caste to delay the registration or investigation of the cases. Similarly the MROs are issuing certificates as BC 'C' thus helping the accused to escape.

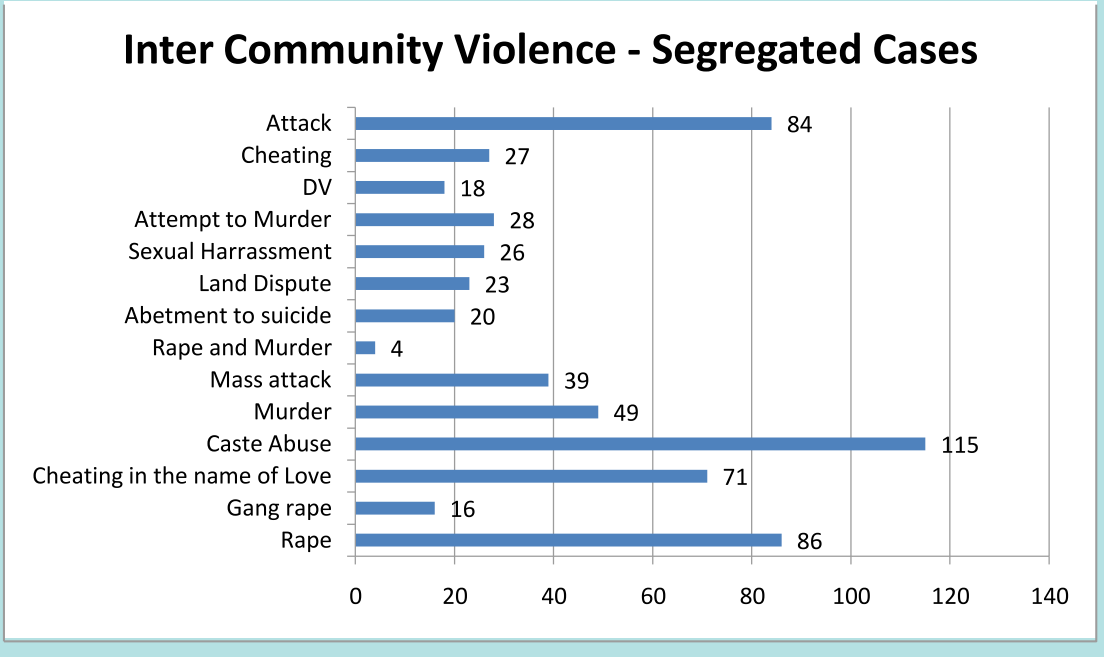
Improper registration is another hurdle, i.e. the police do not register the case under S.C.S.T (PoA) Act but book the case under section of IPC only or register under improper sections of S.C.S.T (PoA) Act.

Police, write down the oral complaint of the victim falsely omitting important details to weaken the case. They omit or write falsehood on important facts like the names of the accused, time and place of occurrence, nature of weapons, injuries etc and take the thumb impression of the victim. The dalit

victims who are mostly illiterates simply put their thumb impression or sign and go away. Later, in court depositions, the accused lawyer bombards them in cross examination showing that what they stated earlier and what they are stating in the court are contradictory and argues that the victims are stating falsehood. Thus, the unfair recording of FIR, statements by police etc help the accused in many ways.

In the incidents of rape on many occasions the police deliberately delay in sending the victims for medical examination because if immediate medical examination is done the semen and other evidences can be easily collected and delay will pave way for disappearance of such crucial incriminating evidences. Similarly, the police immediately don't go to the scene of the offence or try to arrest the accused; instead, they require the victim to provide them transport to go over to the place of the accused to arrest him.

The Prosecutors are not trained and are half hearted or corrupt. The period of trial is also lengthy and many cases are pending in the so called special courts which are in fact regular courts that are burdened with all other cases along with cases under SC, ST (PoA) Act. These are just regular courts that are simply designated as special courts by a notification to deal with cases under the SC, ST (PoA) Act in addition to their regular work.



Crossing all hurdles, if an atrocity case reaches the court, still the final conviction of the accused depends on various factors like the efficiency of the public prosecutor, proper deposition by the victims and witnesses, the appreciation of the evidence by the judge concerned and other factors. The appreciation of evidence and application of law is the privilege of the judge who conducts the trial. There is the general principle of administration of criminal justice, namely; *that the guilt of the accused shall be established beyond all reasonable and probable doubt and that in cases where there is a doubt as to the guilt, the accused shall be given the benefit of doubt*. Though, this is a cardinal principle of criminal justice administration, this is selectively applied. In cases like the Delhi gang rape , where there is large scale hue and cry in the media and in public, this principle is never applied and the courts usually go by public opinion, even without strong evidence. This is what is termed as trial by media. It is well known these days that in many cases, the courts are giving conviction without strictly

applying this doctrine, if they are convinced otherwise that the accused committed the crime. But in cases under SC,ST (PoA) Act, the benefit of doubt is given to the dominant caste accused and in most cases, the accused are acquitted on this ground.

Thus, from the stage of FIR to judicial pronouncement, the case is sabotaged in various ways and for these reasons, getting convictions in atrocity cases is difficult and are as such very low.

DSS during the decade and half intervened at every stage and was able to see that in as many cases as possible the accused were convicted.

Experience of DSS with regard to payment of Compensation:

Year	Compensation, Etc (in Rs)
2006	0
2007	400000
2008	350000
2009	650000
2010	654000
2011	601250
2012	660000
2013	435000
2014	62,25,000
2015	1240000
2016	24,52,600
2017	1085000
2018	45,00,000
2019	36,00,000
2020	21,25,000
Total	2,49,77,850

As the figures above show DSS was able to facilitate the dalit women get maximum compensation. But, DSS, in its 15 years of experience of going around the offices for the sanction of compensation, grasped that there is a topsy-turvy understanding about the compensation aspect under the SC,ST(POA) Act. The dominant caste outlook pervades the personnel of the administration and the police establishment, which is actually a feudal outlook of perceiving the compensation as charity. It is seen as if the crime is atoned with compensation and as if it is in lieu of the punishment. With this muddled thinking, in utter ignorance of the constitutional philosophy, the personnel in the administration and the police treat the victims as if they are beggars and humiliate them by making them to run from pillar to post in fulfilling web of bureaucratic procedures before the amount is released. Actually, the juristic philosophy behind providing compensation, is that the State is atoning its sin in its failure to prevent an atrocity by the feudal elements. It is a measure of social justice and one step in abiding by Art.17, the other steps being arrest, prosecution and conviction of the criminals. Thus, understood, it is the duty of the administrative machinery to go to the victim and give compensation at his door step as atonement for the failure of the executive. Unfortunately, given the ***illiteracy*** among those occupying the positions of bureaucracy, they behave akin to feudal lords. In fact, they think, 'you are lucky to have been raped and you are getting so much amount'. In the experience of DSS, so far compensation is not paid by the government on its own initiative even in a single case. Without representation no compensation is paid, which is proof that none in the executive hierarchy understood the concept/philosophy of payment of compensation under the SC, ST(PoA) Act nor did they digest the spirit of constitution or laws.

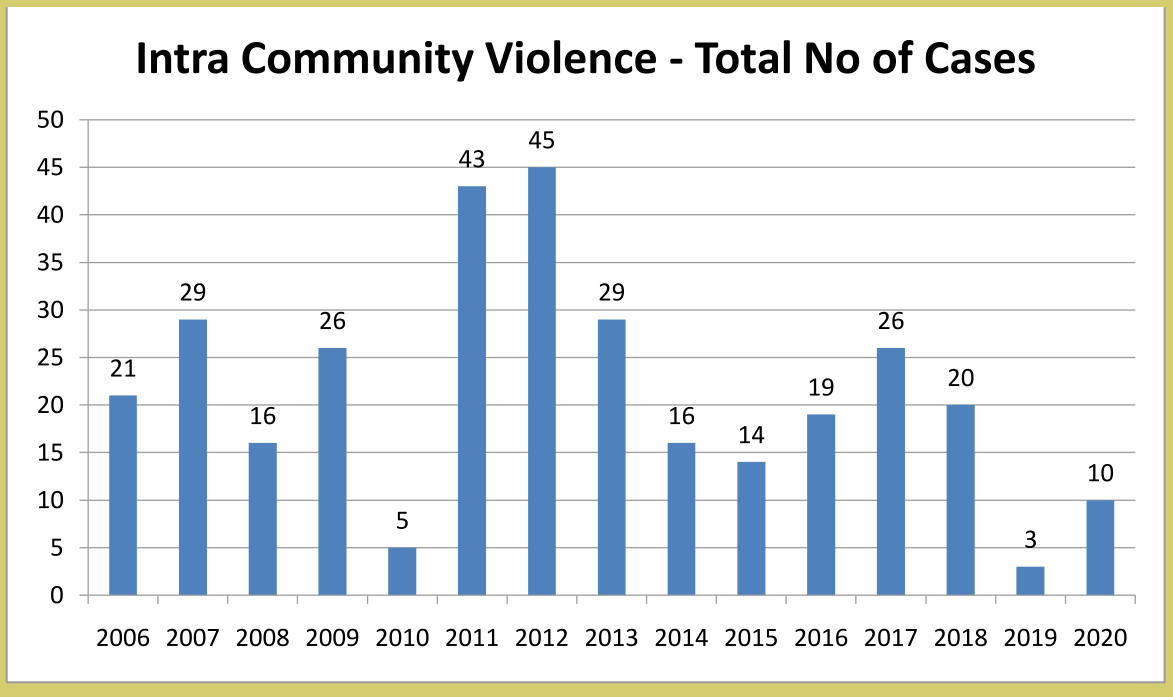
Payment of compensation on time will be helpful for the victims to withstand the pressures. This is paid in some cases after FIR, in some cases after charge sheet, in some cases after medical reports and the remaining portion after the completion of trial or judgment. The quantum of compensation has been increased in the year 2014 starting from a minimum of Rs75,000/- to a

maximum of Rs. 7,50,000/-. In instances of inter-community violence, first stage compensation is paid by the Social Welfare Department. Social Welfare Department has to pay compensation through 'C' Section in Collectorate stage wise to the victims of atrocity cases based on the rules under the Act. Usually, what happens is, that too after representing only, the 1st stage of compensation is released and the next stage is not paid. Likewise the rehabilitation process is also not taken care of. One reason is lack of perspective and the other reason is lack of proper procedure. Compensation is paid after repeated pursuance by DSS in the form of representations, advocacy & lobby. The team of DSS narrated that, to get compensation from the Women and Child Welfare Department is almost impossibility and a testing time for the victims. For reasons best known to the concerned departments, payment is inordinately delayed for years together. The officers at respective levels say that nothing is pending with them, but the compensation never reaches the victim.

Domestic violence

Domestic violence in its worst forms has become a menace among the poor dalit families. DSS almost regularly deals with such cases where women run to DSS for protection from the husband. The husbands continually torture their wives on every possible pretext. In a number of cases of domestic violence, the husband is drunkard and has extra-marital relations also. The tortured women narrate their woes of domestic violence as the single most problem faced by them. Most of the women attributed this domestic violence of their men to alcoholism. As a rule almost all the dalit women are unaware of the new legislation, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act. This Act has not actually become popular among dalit women as the provisions of this Act which confer rights in the property of the husband and such other rights like sharing residence in marital home etc which are not practicable vis-à-vis a dalit woman. In most cases, where a dalit woman is subjected to cruel domestic violence, it is just impossible for her to take recourse to DV Act and claim share of residence in the marital home. She would prefer to run away from the husband and take shelter in the natal home. Unfortunately, given the situation of poverty, the woman is not so welcome in the natal home also, as they feel it is burden and shame on them. In such cases, the woman silently suffer the violence and resign to fate. Wherever, she stands a chance of support at the natal home, she invariably comes back and continue living there. It is clear that alcoholism can only become a pretext for domestic violence if it has otherwise ideological acceptance, as a right of the husband. With the awareness imparted through gender trainings and gaining economic independence many women in the target area are growing assertive and are protesting domestic violence.

Through our study of domestic violence, we noticed that there are changed perceptions among men and in many cases, suspecting the fidelity of the wife without any substantial basis or evidence appears to be a modern psychological disease of all younger husbands without exception. This actually appears to be the single most important reason for the cruel domestic violence of the husband in majority of the cases. It was reported that many husbands are checking the calls of their wives mobile. In this attitude, apart from the question of real or imagined infidelity, his authority and monitoring the wife's movements and total denial of private space to her is what hurts the women. Not only the worst domestic violence but also murders are taking place on suspicion of fidelity of wife.


Intra Community Violence - Total No of Cases
50
45
40
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
21
29
16
26
5
43
45
29
16
14
19
26
20
3
10
2006
2007
2008
2009
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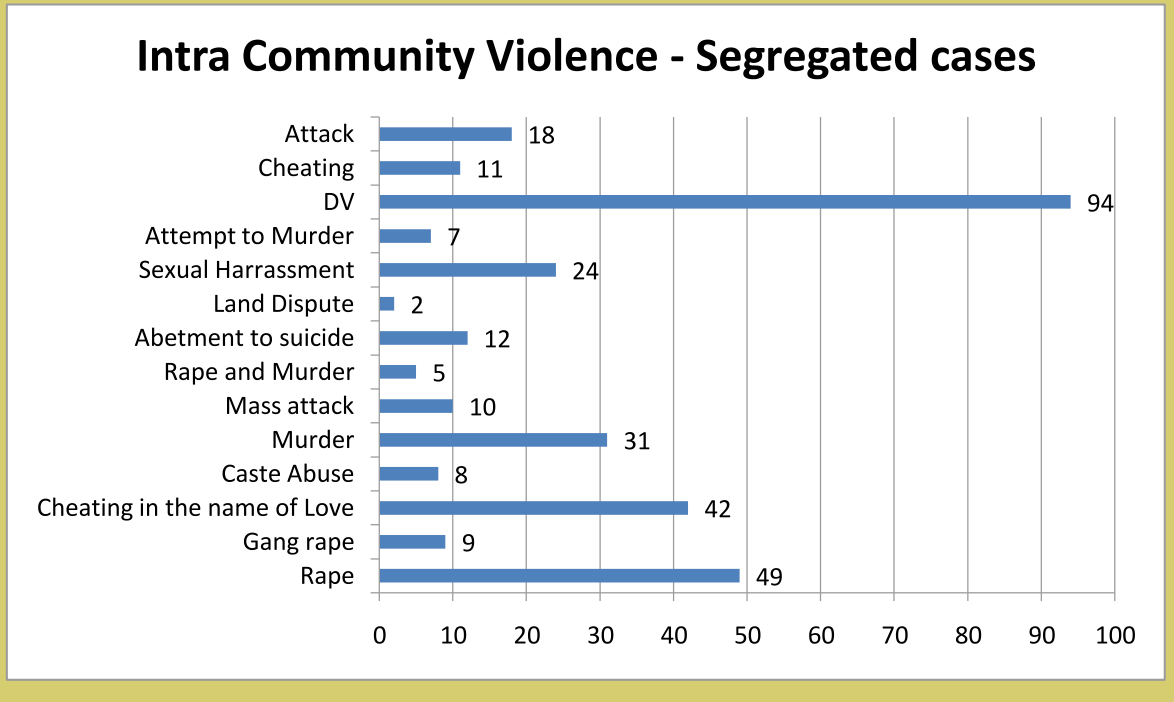
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020


Intra Community Violence - Segregated cases
Attack
Cheating
DV
Attempt to Murder
Sexual Harrassment
Land Dispute
Abetment to suicide
Rape and Murder
Mass attack
Murder
Caste Abuse
Cheating in the name of Love
Gang rape
Rape
18
11
94
7
24
2
12
5
10
31
8
42
9
49
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100

ROUND TABLE CONFERANCE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST DALIT WOMEN
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

Murder on suspicion of infidelity of wife - A Few Illustrative Cases

The patriarchal madness of men to control the sexuality of his woman partner appears to have reached its acme among dalit men. DSS came across a few cases like, Ratnavali, Suguna, Vanajakshi and Aruna, where the husbands cruelly murdered their wives on suspicion of her extra-marital relationships.

There are various possible reasons for growing domestic violence, as stated by dalit women, academics and others:

- ✓ With the advent of modernity, the general cultural change that has come to stay has loosened the taboos relating to sex and made sex more easy and free. None today believes sex to be sin. But, strangely, men want free sex but when it comes to their women (wife, sister, mother etc), men continue to have the age old patriarchal conservative view of controlling women's sexuality and maintaining her purity.
- ✓ Domestic violence and control of wife by the husband is considered to be unquestionable norm by the older generation of women, but there is resistance and unacceptability among the younger women of the present generation.
- ✓ Males developed double standards. They welcome other women to cheat their husbands/parents and have sex with them. They also learn such things around and through porno. Then they superimpose these experiences and perception on their wives. They suspect her if they see her talking in a friendly manner with other males, be it neighbours or colleagues or former classmates. They start suspecting her and yell at her saying she has relationship with the males that she was talking in a friendly manner or with the colleagues. Once seed of suspicion is sowed, he checks her mobile and continually torture her in all possible ways.
- ✓ Though largely unreported, marital sexual violence is highly prevalent among the urbanized dalit males. The study suggests that higher rates of intimate partner violence is related to gender norms based on culture and religion that confer absolute sexual and other forms of control of men over women.
- ✓ Indira Jaisingh, noted lawyer and women rights activist says: Sexual violence against women is unique as it begins in the home and moves out to public places. The problem begins with the assumed consent that women give to sexual intercourse within a marriage. Flavia Agnes, the lawyer and feminist, Observes: "in a continuum of a range of violence that takes place within the matrimonial relationship. Violence can include excessive sexual demands, making your wife perform sex acts despite her protests, forcing her to watch and re-enact porn, or verbally humiliating her during sex". This observation is true and in many cases sexual violence of men on their wives is motivated by porn.
- ✓ On the other side, the expectations of educated dalit men are increasing tremendously. The dowry system which was a brahmanical/dominant caste tradition sneaked deep into dalit families. This drastic change is leading to violence in the family.
- ✓ Increasing poverty and lack of opportunities for earnings in contrast to high aspirations of youth is resulting in frustration and alcoholism among the youth. This further deteriorates the already insufficient and poor earnings of the family and intensifies the frustration which is leading to demands of dowry as an easy way out and domestic violence on the dalit women.

Thus, for the dalit women, when it comes to their very basic existence as human being and

to flourish and grow with dignity, it is patriarchy i.e. male oppression in all its forms that comes as a block and therefore patriarchal violence cannot be ignored and it is urgently necessary that dalit rights discourses take this into account and prepare the dalit women (and men) for a major battle against patriarchy along with caste oppression. In fact, there is an explosive situation among the dalit women concerning domestic violence which may burst at any time.

Having continually dealt with cases of domestic violence, DSS has taken up the issue in a big way. First, DSS would make all possible attempts to counsel the husband and transform him to behave properly. Thus, DSS would try first to see that the family doesn't break. If the attempts fail or in cases where DSS finds that it is impossible to continue with such a cruel husband or in such similar cases, DSS would help the victims to seek legal action against the perpetrator of domestic violence. DSS documented the cases of domestic violence and campaigned against it. A round table conference was conducted on domestic violence focussing the menace and rendering justice to the victims.

6. DALIT GIRL CHILDREN - AREN'T THEY FUTURE CITIZENS

The first Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru said that 'Children are like buds in a garden and should be carefully and lovingly nurtured, as they are the future of the nation and citizens of tomorrow'. In modern period, from 19th century onwards, every nation developed a new understanding of children, their protection and development and the role of the State in this regard. Now, in the era of human rights discourse, it is universally accepted by all that childhood is the period of joyful and healthy growth along with learning. Recognising the need to safeguard and protect the children everywhere, the UN adopted child rights convention which guarantees safeguards for happy and healthy childhood for every child and confers various rights on them. The convention assures that every child is entitled to these rights without distinction of race, colour, sex, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status whether of himself or herself or his or her family.

Situation of Dalit Girl Children:

Nehru's vision of future of children is practically neglected as far as dalit girl children are concerned. In our country, dalit girl children are deprived of all the rights conferred by the child rights convention, as if the convention is not applicable to them. As it stands today, these girl children are being socialized in the age old ideology of gender stereo types by most of the parents. Due to the prevailing patriarchic outlook most of the dalit girl children are not sent to schools and are employed as child labor or domestic servants. The parental outlook itself towards dalit girl children is to dispose of her at the birth itself by killing or by selling away, ill-treat, give away in child marriage, employ as domestic servant. If a dalit girl is employed as a domestic servant, she has to silently suffer the worst torture unlimited hours of work and sexual exploitation. Reports of torture, sexual abuse of dalit girl children employed in the houses have become common. The publicized reports are only tip of the iceberg. Majority of the domestic girl children silently suffer torture and rape as usually they are kept *in communicado* from parents who live in a far of place and no confidence that parents would respond positively and no courage.

The only way to save the girl child is to educate her and send her to school. Even after 74 years of independence and promise of equality, discrimination of dalit girl in the field of education is continuing. Given the poverty and lack of resources, dalit families are not able to

send their children to private schools. Even though there are government schools and social welfare hostels, the quality of education is very poor in these hostels due to neglect, corruption and lack of funds. Apart from poor quality of education, safety for boys and girls at these hostels is lacking. Frequent incidents of girls being sexually exploited by the wardens/other staff are being reported in the media. This atmosphere further frightens the parents of dalit girl children to send their daughters to social welfare hostels.

SAATH SITHEE SAKTHI (SSS)
NATIONAL SALIT MOVEMENT FOR JUSTICE (NSMJ)

A B C D E F G H I J
K L M N O P Q R S
T U V W X Y Z

Consultation On Zero Discrimination
In Education Institutions

Cheating in the name of love

Another atrocity committed on girl children is cheating her in the name of love, Instances of cheating in the name of love are in the rise in the State of A.P and Telangana. In the past 15 years, DSS documented innumarable instances of cheating in the name of love. On a deeper analysis, these cases are nothing but rape without using force. In the social life and norms as it obtains today, a girl will not agree for pre-marital sex, not only because it is still a taboo and but it is also problematic due to the associated problems of pregnancy, etc. For this reason usual method employed by the men, irrespective of his caste, is to pretend love and promise marriage to seduce the girl to have sex. If the girl feels assured of marriage she will consent to have sex during the so called period of love and is not afraid of pregnancy also, as she believes that they soon will be getting married. In situations like this, the girl also consents to have sex with the perception that it will help in consolidating the relationship and committing him to marriage, with the hope that her marriage problem will be over and life settled. In large number of cases that are coming up now, the male uses her for a while in the name of love and refuses to marry her when she pressurizes him to marry. He abandons her and will go to any extent, even facing criminal case for cheating. This type of cheating is resorted to equally by the dominant caste and dalit men towards, the dalit women and girl children. Invariably, in all cases, the male gets the support of his family to abandon her and go for another marriage to gain everything that is associated with a fresh marriage. In most of these cases, the male tries to settle the issue with money payment, raises allegations that the woman is of loose character and that the pregnancy could be due to someone else etc. In cases of this type, since it is consensual sex between them, only possibility for legal action is registering a case under cheating, which is very difficult to be established in court of law, since it is necessary to prove the linkage between the admittedly voluntary sexual relationship and promise of marriage. It is invariably necessary, to have DNA test conducted to establish the parentage to secure a conviction for cheating. Now after the enactment of POCSO Act and its amendments in 2019 the Act is attracted if the girl is below 18 years, but in all other cases only cheating is the offence.

In these cases of cheating in the name of love, dalit male and his family behaves in the same fashion as that of dominant caste male and resorts to the same techniques, similar allegations etc.

Cases of cheating in the name of love present a pattern:

- The male pretends love to seduce the girl to have sex and deliberately cheats her.
- The girls succumb to this type of cheating due to their vulnerable situation of solving the marriage problem and her innocence in believing his love to be true.
- The cheating males, dalit and non dalit, reject marriage after exploiting her sexually, once their object of having sex is fulfilled. This is reflective of the attitude of perceiving the girl only as means of sexual gratification.
- The feeling of impunity for the cheater comes from societal values and loose legal framework. In cases like this, ultimately, the girl stands to answer why she conceded for sex before marriage, namely, why she violated the social norm – marriage first and sex only after marriage. On this question, since, to have pre-marital sex is seen as a sin committed by the girl, there is not much societal support to her including from the family.
- In law, the perpetrator cannot be booked for rape etc since the sexual relationship is admittedly, consensual. At worse it is a case of broken promise of contract of marriage

and at best it is cheating in criminal law. But it is difficult to establish cheating. Moreover, it is not easy to establish that she consented to sex for the only reason of promise of marriage and further to establish parentage in situations of pregnancy.

- With the enactment of POCSO Act offence of rape can be booked only if the girl is below 18 years of age.
- In cases like this it is difficult to force the male to marry her by resorting to legal action.
- Even if this is achieved, i.e. forcing him to marry with the threat of criminal case, the marital relationship continues to be very fragile, filled with hatred and continual abuse, violence and demands for dowry which he lost because of this forced marriage.
- In cases of cheating in the name of love, it is pure economic/class attitude that operates in its vulgarity. The males even ridicule her that she is unfit to marry him in view of his status to marry girls from economically sound families. The males openly say that they never had any love towards her and it was only sexual urge that prompted them to be with her. Further, they take shelter under the moral norms concerning pre-marital sex and question her, raise doubts of her fidelity, as if it is sin of pre-marital sex is applicable only to the female.
- Thus, it can be seen that in most cases of cheating in the name of love, class/economic perspective dominates the entire episode. Caste perspective also operates, namely, the accused feels that being a dalit woman, she can be compromised or in any case she can't tilt the balance of social/legal/economic power against him. This attitude is same whether the accused is a dominant caste male or dalit male and strangely, though, a dalit male in this category of cases is just the dominant caste male with the same perceptions of caste/class/patriarchy.

Strategic Campaign of DSS to rescue the dalit girl children:

As part of containing violence and breaking impunity, DSS had taken up the programme of mainstreaming dalit girl children, so that they may turn out to be educated, empowered and useful citizens when they grow up as women. Having identified that, if the innocent dalit girls can be saved from all the above dangers, only through education, DSS worked out a systematic plan of action. Since, parents cannot get their girl children educated, the need of the hour is to streamline the Anganwadis, Social Welfare Hostels and Government Schools for imparting better education to dalit girls.

Unfortunately the situation of social welfare hostels is horrible. There are not even bare minimum facilities in these hostels like potable water, toilets, clothing and worse still the food supplied is infested with worms. There are no proper teachers or wardens. Going by media reports alone the number of instances of sexual exploitation and the prevalence of pregnant children in the hostels is on the rise. In most cases the culprit is either the teacher or the warden.

DSS chalked out a programme with the following immediate objectives:

1. Conduct scientific survey and study of the existing situation of Dalit Girl Children, Social Welfare Hostels, Anganwadis and Government Schools.
2. To formulate strategies and draw up programmes and activities to improve the situation on the basis of study.
3. To monitor and check the corruption in the social welfare hostels and to launch movement for release of more budget.

DSS conducted survey covering 1401 Dalit Girl Children, 760 Anganwadi Centers, 528 Government Schools and 46 Social Welfare Hostels in the working area of Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) spread over 8 districts.

Campaign on "Qualitative Childhood to Dalit Girl Children":

Every year DSS takes up a mega campaign programme and reaches out to nook and corner of the State with the campaign theme and materials. Conducting RadhaYatra with 100 member strong dalit women activist team and going around the state covering all villages, mandal headquarters and district headquarters has been a regular annual event. In the year 2010, the theme of the RadhaYatra was on girl child with the slogan, *"Qualitative Childhood to Dalit Girl Children".* This campaign was successful in educating the society in general about the plight of dalit girl children, the dalit communities in particular about the need to educate their girl children and also the need to cleanse the stench in the administration of social welfare hostels.

Trainings were conducted to the parents and girl children in hostels to monitor the functioning of the hostel and check corruption. The women collectives took up responsibilities to continuously monitor the safety, quality of food, amenities, quality of teaching and take up the issues with concerned authorities.

Hundreds of issues pertaining to the proper maintenance of the Social Welfare Hostels, Government schools and Anganwadi centres were identified and resolved by the women collectives of DSS. The following are various issues on which representations were given:

Additional rooms, drinking water, water for usage, toilets, building repair, new building, blankets, uniforms, quality food, warden, unhygienic surroundings, compound walls, fans and lights,watchwoman, cosmetics, tutors, drainage,

toys, shifting to better premises, ayah, lack of teachers, time maintenance of teachers, increase of strength etc. The details representations submitted and issues resolved are as follows:

	No of Issues Represented	No. of Issues Resolved
AWC	12941	7003
Schools	20784	11417
Hostels	624	394

Motivation of youth in Schools, Hostels and Colleges:

DSS has been engaged in regular motivation camps to youth and girl children in schools and colleges. Due to influence of media, particularly internet, mobile phones with whatsapp, Facebook and other applications, the youth are spending, rather fiddling away, lot of time in net and apps. While a majority are thus wasting time, quite a few are abusing the mobile and net for watching porno and sending obscene messages, photos etc to girls. Cheating girls, taking her nude photos/videos and uploading them to net or blackmailing them with the threat of uploading etc type crimes are increasing and in most cases it is youth and college students. In Mumbai, students of X class gang raped a girl in their class, videoed the rape act and uploaded it in whatsapp . This cann't be dismissed as an isolated or rare event, but is tip of the iceberg beneath the carpet. A bit lesser but similar crimes occurred in multitude. We may have to witness much more shocking news in the coming years, if adolescent and youth force is not channelized properly.

Likewise, the youth, even from middle class, studying B.Tech etc., are resorting to thefts, chain snatchings etc for making easy money for luxurious spending. Going to pubs, drink and drugs party in secluded areas with girls is becoming common in metropolitan cities like Hyderabad. Girls are also falling into this type of activities and developing desires for luxurious way of life and consumer goods, like smart phone, tablet, various electronic goods etc. Inspired by such desires they are falling prey to cheaters who promise everything and exploit the girls sexually. Instances of cheating in the name of love are increasing year after year, in all of which young girls are becoming victims.

There is no organization or governmental programme to concentrate on the youth and motivate them on right path. DSS had taken up inspiring and motivating the adolescents and youth in a big way on a continuous basis. DSS conducted youth motivation camps in colleges, schools and hostels, explained the adolescents and youth the pros and cons of consumerism, the evil effects of drugs, alcoholism, the need to transform personal and family financial situation through hard work, entrepreneurship and other right means. They were inspired with the live examples of successful person in various fields and also the great leaders in the past who contributed to the nation. The youth were explained the shame they and their family will have to face if they are involved in criminal or anti-social activity. It is necessary also to make the youth understand that no one can escape by doing a wrongful act and will have to face bitter consequences for thoughtless acts if done in temptation. DSS was able to involve 75,975 youth and adolescents in these motivation camps and was able to tell them everything in a participatory manner, with proper modules and methodology. So far DSS conducted camps continuously in various colleges/educational institutions in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The students were explained various aspects of leading a rightful life for their personal and national welfare. All our camps were appreciated by the concerned college managements.

AWARENESS CAMPS TO YOUTH

కస్తూరిభాగాంధి బాలికా విద్యాలయం

AWARENESS CAMPS TO YOUTH

Gender Equality

AWARENESS CAMPS TO
Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS)

AWARENESS CAMPS TO YOUTH
Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS)

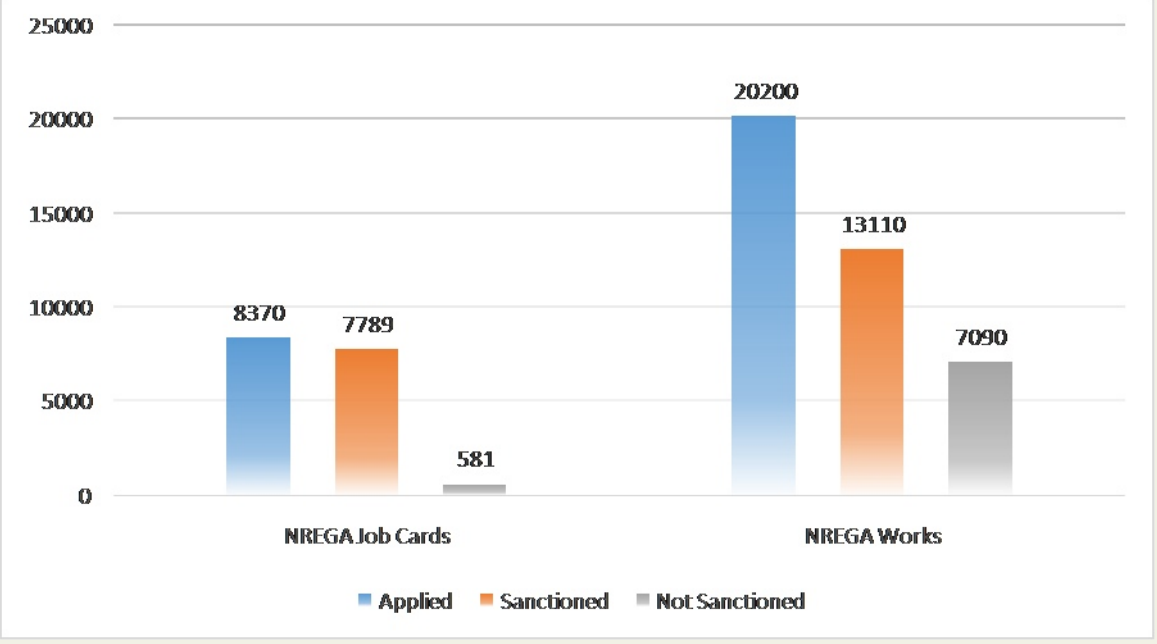
7. FACILITATING DALIT WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Assertion for rights inspires to grow and be independent economically and economic independence boosts self assertion. Both are intertwined and one strengthens the other. Hence it is necessary to devise plans for economic independence of dalit women by enlightening them and motivating them to demand for various entitlements.

Women are particularly vulnerable to economic insecurity and financial dependence. Household surveys show that women are less likely than men to receive a pension in old age, and where they do, their benefit levels are usually lower. The women collective members are equipped with knowledge on issues and identification of issues. The women collective members of respective villages are instrumental in identifying the beneficiaries and preparing applications, submitting them in the grievance cells and regularly follow up for achieving them. In the process of accessing rights & entitlements they have procured the maximum number of schemes.

DSS, in particular paid attention to the MGNREGA in the target area and conducting survey of implementation of the scheme and lobbied for sanction of maximum benefits to the women of target area, as shown below:

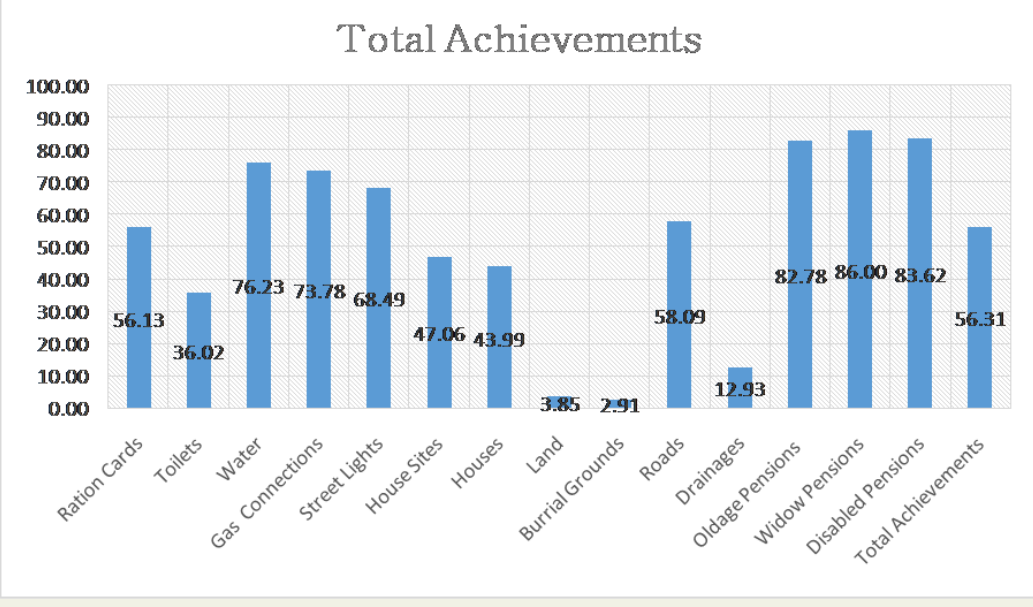
MGNREGA Job Cards and Works Obtained



Amount Received through NREGA

Year	Amount (Rs)
2008	500,000
2009	1,500,000
2010	10,420,000
2011	10,050,000
2012	16,750,000
2013	29,012,000
2014	21,604,000
2015	10,564,000
Total	100,400,000

Various schemes procured by the women in the target area during the 15 years:



Dalit Women as Entrepreneurs

DSS has been insisting for the implementation of SC Sub Plan and Tribal Sub Plan and has raised its demand for equal budget to dalit adivasi women. It played an active role in getting the SCSP/TSP Act in the year 2013. DSS has translated the Act into local language and campaigned continuously in all its villages. At the end of the year (2013) DSS organized a Rathayatra for 10 days with a contingent of 100 dalit women and campaigned on SCSP/TSP Act in its working area.

DSS has been continuously creating awareness to its women collective members on the importance of economic empowerment to bring change in dalit women lives. In this process the women collective members, youth organizations, Panchayat Raj leaders and team were trained on the Act and various schemes through the concerned department under SCSP/TSP Act.

300 selected women collective members have been given continuous inputs on the entrepreneurship and other essential aspects. All these 300 members have been registered with industries department with all necessary information, documents pertaining to their respective businesses. Similarly for all these 300 members on line application have been filed for the concerned banks seeking loans. Some of the women collective members got benefitted.

8. HOW WE DO

Capacitating Dalit Women, Public Hearings, Round Table Conferences and Campaigns

Trainings:

Capacity building is crucial for systematic organizational functioning and achieving the objectives. In DSS, trainings assume lot of significance. The work plan of the organization is implemented by the team with the participation of women collectives. Hence, the team and all members of women collectives need to be trained concerning the work plan and objectives of DSS.

Training of the team takes place after Induction. Training is the process of enhancing the skills, capabilities and knowledge of team members for defending and promoting the rights of dalit women and girl children. Training process moulds the thinking of team and leads to quality performance. It is continuous and never ending in nature.

Trainings in DSS are given on the following:

Induction is given to the new candidates who join as team members. This training familiarizes them with the organizational mission, vision, rules and regulations and the working conditions.

1. The existing team members are trained to refresh and enhance their knowledge.
2. If any new laws are enacted or new amendments made to the existing laws, training is given to the team members to brush up their knowledge with those changes.

Ways/Methods of Training

Training is generally imparted in two ways:

Orientation and Placement

Once the candidates are selected for the team induction training is imparted. The freshly appointed candidates are then given orientation on the goals, objectives and dalit women situation. The work done so far and the nature of the work is explained to them in order to familiarize and introduce the organization to them. Generally the information given during the orientation programme includes-

- DSS Vision, Mission
- Organizational structure, target area
- Goals
- General rules and regulations

In short, during Orientation the team members are made aware about the mission and vision of the organization, the nature of operation of the organization, policies and programmes of the organization.

The main aim of conducting Orientation is to build up confidence, morale and trust of the team members in the new organization, so that he becomes a productive and an efficient member of the organization and contributes to the organizational success. It helps the new team members to catch up with the processes and address any skill gaps. Every individual has some shortcomings and training and development helps team members to iron them out. If shortcomings and weaknesses are addressed, it is obvious that a team member's performance improves.

Since, the nature of work of DSS is much akin to organizing a dalit women movement for rights and economic entitlements, good knowledge of law and society, social movement, dalit situation, dalit women situation is highly needed in the day to day work of the team members, dalit women collective members and youth.

Regular trainings are organized to Women Collective Members, Youth (Male & Female), Children, Panchayatraj Leaders. Hundreds of trainings were conducted during the last 15 years. The topics chosen for the trainings are tailored to advance the objectives of DSS. The varied topics covered are : the DSS Concept, Dalit Women Concept, Child Rights, Dalit Women Rights, Penal & Pecuniary Follow Up, Leadership , Government Schemes, NREGA, Gender Concept, Roles and Responsibilities of Women Collectives, SCSP/TSP Act, Domestic Violence Act, SC, ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, Women Related Acts and relevant provisions in IPC & Cr.P.C., Fact Finding Skills, History of Movements, Monitoring of Anganwadi Centres, Schools and Hostels, Identification and follow up of Issues, Personality Development, Local Resource Mobilization, Ambedkar Ideology, Human Rights, Constitution, Rights & Entitlements, Panchayatraj Act.

DSS made it a point to translate all the above laws into Telugu language and published as a compendium 'Our Laws', which is supplied to all the trainees as a hand book for ready reference. In addition, DSS published booklets on: Constitution – A Brief Introduction in Telugu and English, Songs book, DHRDs Karadeepika, 'Law In Action', CERI book on Electoral Reforms in India, Domestic Violence Act, POCSO Act, SC,ST (PoA) Act, Human rights, model bill on Zero discrimination in schools

Training on gender equality and women empowerment:

The Global Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing 1995, requests Governments and other actors to mainstream a gender perspective into all policies and programmes, so that, before decisions are taken, an analysis is made of the effects on women and men respectively. But this is least practiced in organizations. Age old traditions, routinization of bundle of unconscious habits, cultural constraints in the society and family hinder the participation of women in capacity building initiatives. Even when the women attend such trainings, the question still remains whether their participation is 'active'. In fact in the working area of DSS 15 years ago, the dalit women felt strange to attend a gathering of women or a training programme.

Slowly, but steadily, the participation increased in terms of number and the urge to know and be empowered. Those women that were enlightened in the first few phases and were able to change the gender relations and roles to some extent, stood as living examples for the others to emulate and evoke interest in knowing.

Gender Sensitization Trainings:

What is a gender sensitization ?

DSS understands that Gender sensitization means imparting an understanding of existing gender relations and the obstacles to women's active participation in socio-economic life. It's not just imparting some feminist ideas to women, gender sensitization includes men and women so that they be free from morbid and outdated view of their respective roles and can move together. With such a freedom, if both men and women actively participate in the socio-economic life, economies tend to grow faster and the well being of everyone gets enhanced. Thus, Gender sensitive capacity-building initiatives can contribute to poverty reduction and sustainable development. Traditional beliefs, taboos imposed by male dominated patriarchal system and the resultant social and cultural restrictions so far excluded women from decision making process, public life and access to information. Trainings should be designed to break this cycle of exclusion.

Sex and gender

Recent global trends and debates over gay marriages, sex transformations and the related movements, court cases have created more confusion than clarity to gender question. DSS trainings are clearly, only confined to understanding the gender roles with the aim of freeing women from oppressive traditions and to bring her into the mainstream socio-economic life.

There are many differences between men and women. These differences can be classified as : natural/ biological and social. In other words, differences by birth and differences that are acquired. Sex refers to the biologically determined differences between men and women that are universal. Gender refers to the social differences between women and men that are acquired through socialization and passed on from generation to generation. These gender differences vary within a region, caste and between regions, nations and cultures.

By gender equality we mean that all human beings be free to develop their personal abilities and make choices without being hindered by gender taboos.

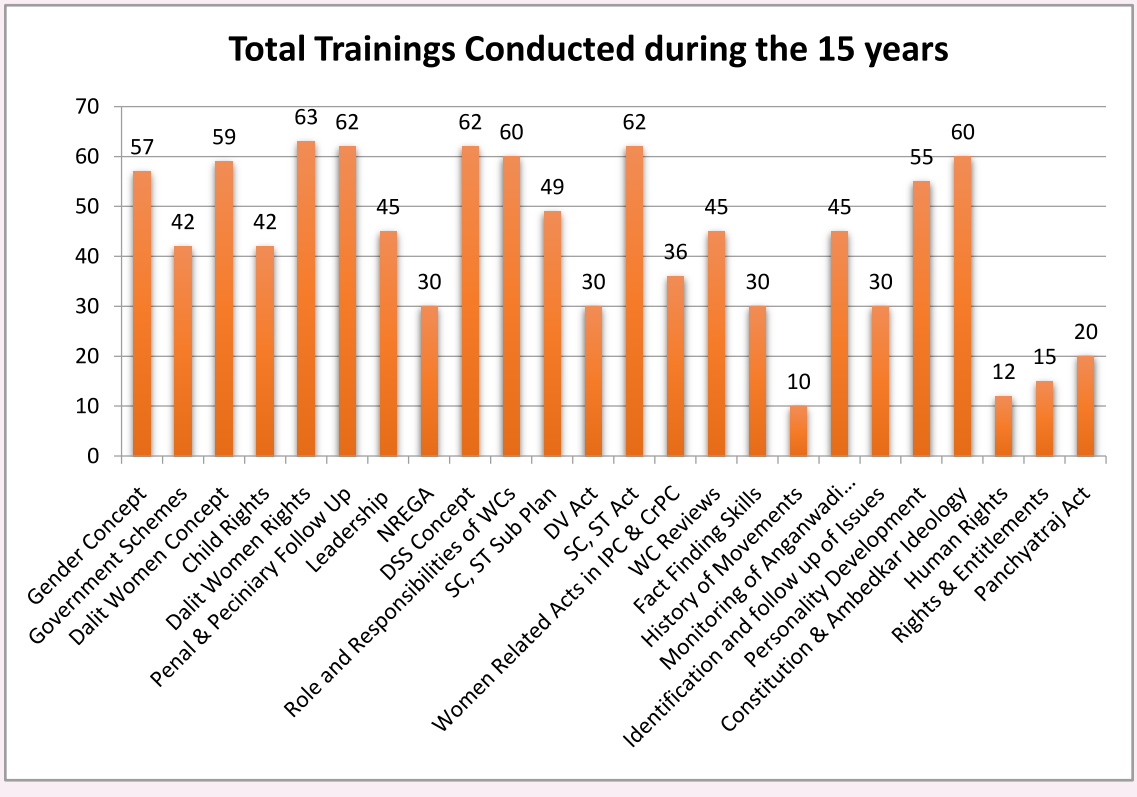
Among women, particularly dalit women in India, the traditional, oppressive gender roles are so strongly institutionalized that they are internalized by women themselves and passed on from generation to generation. The common women are mostly unconscious of the gender prescriptions and take them as axiomatic without even a moment's reflection. It looks so odd and depressing to see a mother discriminating between her daughter and son and burdening the girl child with all domestic chores and forcing her to sweep, to cook and to fetch water, while leaving the son to play. To bring about a change in this type of outmoded, inhuman

gender perspectives and socialization of a girl child within the family, was the immediate challenge before DSS, when it commenced its work.

Hence, in tune with the reality, DSS initiated its training programmes to address the immediate dalit women reality, without getting engrossed in unrealistic, highly theoretical modules. DSS training took into consideration not only the general reality of dalit women in the two Telugu speaking states, but also the micro village reality.

Trainings are meant to be a tool, strategy, and means to effect individual and collective transformation towards gender equality by raising awareness of institutionalized oppressive gender norms and encouraging to shed them.

In the trainings, we were guided by all the international human rights instruments and the Constitution of India, all relevant laws/topics concerning women, dalits, human rights and violence against women.



LEGISLATOR
JUDICIARY

EN COLLECTIVE MEET
STHREE SAKTHI(DSS)

TRAINING ON HUMAN RIGHTS MECHANISMS FOR CSOs

STATE WOMEN COL MEET
DALIT STHREE

TRAINING ON SCSP/TSP ACT
& ENTREPRENEUR PROMOTION
ORGANIZED BY
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

Women's Human

Trainings to Panchayat Raj Representatives:

This was a special programme organized by DSS successfully with the objective of empowering the dalit women in villages.

DSS has organized Workshops for the newly elected gram panchayat Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Ward members and Mandal Parished Territorial Constituency (MPTC) members in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The trainings were focused on

1. Panchayat Raj Act
2. Roles and Responsibilities of Panchayat Raj leaders
3. Personality development
4. Gender Perspective
5. Awareness on SCSP/TSP and SC,ST (PoA)Act

These workshops for the Panchayat Raj leaders is significant as they play a key role for the progress of the villages and in implementation of various schemes and works that impact the livelihood of dalit women in the villages. Due to the policy of reservation for women and dalits in the elections for panchayat raj , number of women representatives were also there and it is all the more important to see that the women leaders are allowed to exercise their powers and functions, instead of their husbands. These workshops served this purpose also.

Public Hearings/Round Table Conferences (RTC)

Public Hearings and Round Table Conferences are conducted almost every year to focus the plight of the victims in accessing justice and the apathy of the justice administration system.

The Objectives of Public Hearings and Round Table Conferences are:

- Sharing and understanding of the agony of the victims in accessing justice and the psychological trauma they are undergoing after the violence.
- To sensitize the various personnel involved in the administration of justice.
- To sensitize the public at large about the way justice system operates in case of dalit women.
- To share the experiences of DSS team.
- To share the ground realities pertaining to impunity.
- To share the ground realities of Anganwadi Centres, Schools and Social Welfare Hostels.
- To share the situation of elected dalit women representatives of Panchayat Raj.

Public Hearings and Round Table Conferences are organized at district and state level involving victims & witnesses, higher officials of all concerned departments of the government, Commissions, advocates, social activists, reputed intellectuals of state and national eminence and media. All these years, Public Hearings served the purpose of accessing justice to the victims, sensitizing the officials and public at large through media. Each time, a few instances of about 20 to 30 atrocities involving gross injustice are taken up with documentation of all meticulous details and presented before the selected Jury. The victims/witnesses themselves explain the atrocity and their plight in accessing justice, the hurdles they faced in the process. The concerned officials present make a note of the lapses and give public assurances for resolving the lapses. DSS further pursues the issues with the officials to see that the promises made by them are implemented and in most cases, DSS is able to resolve even the complicated problems like inclusion of relevant sections, production of certificates, payment of compensations, change of public prosecutors etc. During the past 15 years DSS organized public hearings and round table conferences. The juries were each time constituted with persons of credibility, integrity and intellectual eminence.

Methodology and broad structure of public hearings

Each State level public hearing would be either a one day or two-day event and would consist of breakup of sessions, as per the number of cases selected for presentation. The modalities used are:

1. Testimonies by victims, their parents wherever relevant and the hurdles they are facing in getting justice.
2. Witnesses to corroborate the version of the victims.
3. Case studies of each atrocity or other form of violation of the rights of dalit women or girl child.

4. Fact Finding Reports or other relevant data concerning the incidents, the village and progress of the case, detailing shortfall in the implementation of law and procedures.

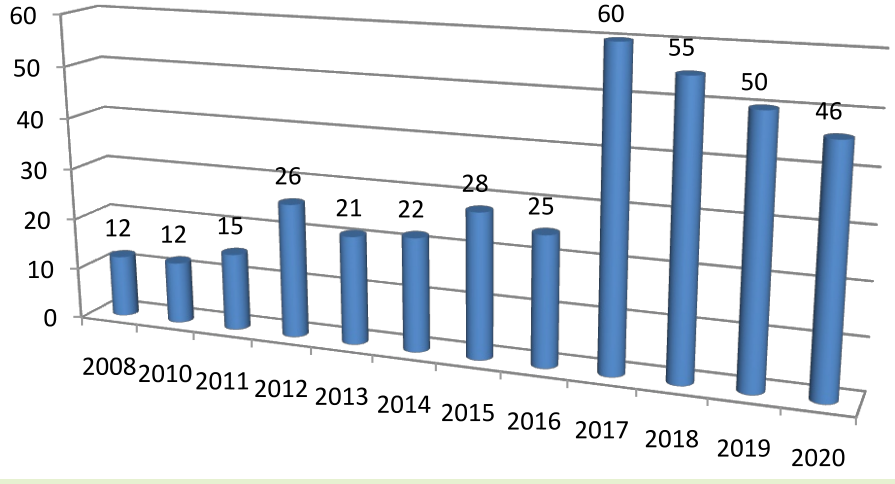
5. Preparation and submission of jury kit to the jury members and media containing all details of each incident and the names and details of the victims/witnesses that are going to present their testimonies.

Public hearings/RTCs provide an opportunity for a general sensitization of the society at large through media and every public hearing and round table conference served this purpose. All these events were covered in leading TV channels and press, including national English daily like the Hindu, thereby giving voice to the issue of injustice to dalit women and girl child. DSS always involved other dalit organizations, rights organizations, political parties in the public hearings, thereby providing them an opportunity to directly see and listen to the plight of dalit women.

DSS was able to facilitate the victims to gain confidence through these public hearings and assist them in getting the hurdles resolved, get compensation etc.

Having conducted state level public hearings to focus the plight of victims and to render justice, DSS trained the women collectives of district to gather data, document the injustices in the process of implementation and conduct district level public hearings and round table conferences, to solve serious cases of the district.

No. of Cases Presented in State level Round Table Conferences & Public Hearings



ON ATROCITIE
DALIT WOMEN & GIRL CHILDREN
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

NATIONAL CONFERENCE
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI
ND TABLE CONFERENCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION
SC,ST (PoA) Act & SCSP / TSP Act
21st Feb 2017
: SSS KALYANA NILAYAM, HYDERAB

ON ATROCITIES AGAINST DALIT WOM
GIRL CHILDREN

Round Table Conference on
Violence against Dalit Adivasi Women

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE
ON VIOLENCE AGAINST DALIT WOMEN

Round Table Conference on
Violence against Dalit Adivasi Wome
Girl Children

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE
ON CASTE FREE INDIA
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI
SAY NO TO CAS

Round Table Conference on
Violence against Dalit Adivasi Women
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి
కాన్ఫరెన్స్

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING
ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE ON
VIOLENCE ON
DALIT WOMEN & GIRL CHILDREN
LIT STHREE SAKTHI

బుల్ కాన్ఫరెన్స్

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE
ON
ATROCITIES AGAINST DALIT WOMEN AND GIRL CHILDREN
DALIT $THREE SAKTHI

AGAINST DALIT WOMEN & GIRL CHILDREN
LIT STHREE SAKTHI
Date: 15-12-2011, Visakhapatnam

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి
రౌండ్ టేబుల్ కాన్ఫరెన్స్

Organised by :
Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS)

6th ANNUAL WEST GODAVARI DISTRICT CONFERENCE
PUBLIC HEARING
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

Campaigns /RadhaYatras:

Conducting RadhaYatra as a campaign method is not uncommon in India. Almost all leaders of political parties went around the country/state in this type of RadhaYatra in luxurious buses, vans to reach to the people and campaign their programmes, manifestos etc. But none from rights organizations, conducted this type of RadhaYatra to campaign on rights themes. DSS had taken up this novel and effective programme and conducted RadhaYatras on a regular basis, campaigning on various themes concerning the rights of dalit women and girl children.

RadhaYatra of DSS in two ordinary lorries which are decorated with flexi banners of the main theme, with a band of 100 activist dalit women. The route is organized in such a way that almost all nerve points in the State are touched. Usually, the march goes for a 10 day period and the 100 band of activists will be on the move from the first to the last day. The team of RadhaYatra would reach the specified destinations and address the dalits and general public and enlighten them on the theme, with speeches, pamphlets, posters and booklets.

Radha Yatra has the special advantage of reaching to the nook and corner of the state and atrocity prone remote villages. Those of the people who have less mobility and opportunity to participate in any programme outside their villages, will have the chance to know about the rights etc in this unique programme of reaching the people. Another advantage of RadhaYatra is that it helps in sensitizing the entire society about the plight of dalit women and girl children, as the yatra goes to each town/village and is advertised through posters and pamphlets. Yet another advantage is that at each place in the State the media covers the event and the theme and speeches, thereby focussing the dalit women and girl children plight continuously for the period of 10 days. This helps in sensitizing the society at large.

DSS takes great pride in recording that through RadhaYatras of the past 15 years, the team travelled 22372 kilometres in terms of distance, contacted 5483 villages, 235 mandals, 9 districts, addressed 376 public meetings, involved 3,99,500 people. The table below give the details.

S.No	Year	Starting to ending dates	Theme	Kilometers	Team of Persons
1.	2008	15/11/2010	Dalit Rights	3950	60 Members
2.	2010	15/11/2010 to 23/11/2010	Qualitative childhood to Dalit Girl Children	Hyderabad to Visakhapatnam 4064 Kms	3 Decorated Vehicles
3.	2011	05/11/2011 to 14/11/2011	Campaign for accessing the Rights of Dalit Women and Girl children	Visakhapatnam to Hyderabad 4567 Kms	60 Members
4.	2012	06/12/2012 to 15/12/2012	Acessing the Rights of Dalit women and Girl children	4981	80 Members
5.	2013	18/11/2013 to 27/11/2013	Campaign on SCSP/TSP Act	Visakhapatnam to Hyderabad 4900 Kms	100 Members
6.	2016	01/04/2016 to 14/04/2016	Campaign on Ambedkar- Women	Rangareddy District to Visakhapatnam (Padayatra at all districts)	100 Members

పెద్దూళ్లు కులాలు / తెగల ఉప ప్రణాళికా చట్టంపై ప్రచారోద్యమం
దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

KALYAN

దళిత స్త్రీలు, బాలికల హక్కులకై ఉద్యమించండి
హక్కుల చైతన్య యాత్రను విజయవంతం చేయండి
ప్రచారోద్యమం

ON 14-4-1990

స్త్రీలు, బాలికల హక్కుల సాధనకై ప్రచారోద్యమము
ముగింపు సభ
దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

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 Sthree Sakthi responds to this UN call every year and conducts campaign on the theme of violence against women. Every year Dalit Sthree Sakthi inaugurates this campaign with a press conference followed by campaigns in villages and slums. In these annual campaigns, Dalit Sthree Sakthi specially focusses on the violence going on Dalit, Adivasi women and girlchildren. Further, through these campaigns, every year Dalit Sthree Sakthi seriously focuses on gender inequality which is the root of all forms of oppression and violence against women. Through these campaigns Dalit Sthree Sakthi has been able to enlighten the public in general about the patriarchal ideology and how it is rooted in the minds of all. DSS through its speeches during the campaign educates how even women unconsciously adhere to the patriarchal ideology. Through posters and slogans the campaign highlights how caste, religion, cinema and even the educational system propagate patriarchal ideology in various forms. During these campaigns every year, Dalit Sthree Sakthi conducts conferences and meetings also at select places by inviting local resource persons, thereby involving local leaders and intellectuals.

Gender Campaign
మహిళలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా
అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమం
నవంబరు 25 నుండి డిశంబరు 10 వరకు

మహిళలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా
అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమం

Campaign on
Gender Equality

హింసలేని సమాజాన్ని నిర్మిద్దాం!
Campaign on
Gender Equality
Dalit Sthree Sakthi

70 YEARS OF

Campaign on
Gender Equality

మహిళలపై హింసకు వ్యతిరేకంగా
అంతర్జాతీయ ప్రచారోద్యమం
నవంబరు 25 నుండి డిశంబరు 10 వరకు
దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

9. EVENTS TO STIMULATE - SIGNIFICANT DAYS

Every organization, governments and other institutions annually celebrate certain important days like, International Women's day, Ambedkar Jayanthi etc. But, these days, in some institutions are being celebrated as if it's an obligation. Politicians also just go and garland Ambekar statue only for publicity and without any inspiration in heart of the hearts. Some of them may not be even knowing why Ambedkar is garlanded and revered and do it as an obligation, so that others may not accuse, that's all in it. Over a time, the public also got tuned to this routine activity without spirit. It is necessary to reverse this dispirited trend and morose way of celebrating these great days. Hence, as a break, DSS devised a novel way of campaigning on a theme as part of celebrating these important days to make them more relevant to the dalit women. Each year, March 8th, for example is celebrated as Shramika mahila dinothsavam, (working women festival). Taking the opportunity, a campaign among the dalit women is conducted and they are explained about the significance of March 8th and about working women rights. Independence Day was celebrated as a campaign and seminar on the topic "Dalit Women in Independent India". Likewise, Ambedkar Jayanthi, Republic Day and other significant days were celebrated on various themes as given below:

Date	Place	Theme	Number of Participants attended
26/01/2007	Press club, Vijayawada	Dalit Women – Constitution	150
14th and 15th of February 2007	Lakshmipati Gardens, Kavadiguda, Hyderabad	1st Annual General body meeting	1000
08/03/2007	Press club, Vijayawada	Dalit Women Self Respect Day	200
14/4/2007 to 20/4/2007	24 districts	Rathayatra to campaign on dalit rights	10000
15/08/2007	UTF Hall, Kakinada, East Godavari, AP	Role of Dalit Women in Independent	200
19/1/2008	Ambedkar Bhavan, Guntur	2nd District Conference	200
21/02/2008	Conference Hall, Madina Educational Society, Nampalli, Hyderabad	Round Table Conference on violence against Dalit Adivasi women	80
22nd Feb. 2008	Mohammadi Function Hall, Musheerabad, Hyderabad.	State General Body meeting	1000
11/12/2008	MDO office, Chevella, Ranga Reddy District, TS	2nd District Conference	100
14/4/2009	Press club, Vijayawada	Dalit Women – Equal Opportunities	200
25th and 26th Feb 2009	SSS Kalyana Mandapam, Hyd	3rd State Conference	1000
18/12/2009	Press club, Hyd	4th District Conference, Hyderabad	150
23/01/2010	YMCA, Visakhapatnam	60 Years of Constitution & 20 years of SC, ST (PoA)Act - Review	250
25/2/2010	SSS Kalyana Mandapam, Hyd	Public Hearing on atrocity cases	1000
26/2/2010	SSS Kalyana Mandapam, Hyd	4th State Conference	1000
6/2/2010	Sundaraiah Vignana Kendram		200

1st to 7th March 2010	Campaign in districts	Qualitative Childhood To Dalit Girl Children	1500
08/03/2010	Press club, Vijayawada	Qualitative Childhood To Dalit Girl Children	150
14/04/2010	Guntur	Empowerment of Dalit Women and Girl Children	300
01/08/2010	Jubli Hall, Hyd	Review on 20 Years of SC, ST (PoA) Act 1989	200
15/08/2010	Officers Club, Kakinada	Campaign for Electoral Reforms in India (CERI)	500
18/10/2010	HASSS, Hyderabad	Capacitating the Panchayat Raj leaders for effective functioning	100
15th to 23rd Nov. 2010	Campaign (Rathayatra)	Campaign on Qualitative Childhood	5000
10/12/2010	MDO office, Ranga Reddy District	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	100
15/12/2010	Officers Club, Kakinada	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	150
16/12/2010	Revenue Bhavan, Eluru	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	200
18/12/2010	Press club, Vijayawada	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	200
21/12/2010	Vavilala Bhavan, Guntur	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	200
4/3/2011	Indira Park, Hyd	Public Hearing on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	1000
5/3/2011	SSS Kalyana Mandapam, Hyd.	5th State Conference	1000
15/08/2011	Press club, Vijayawada	Our children in Independent India	250
06/04/2011	Press club, Vijayawada	Panchayat Raj Leaders - Electoral Reforms	200
30/11/2011	Press club, Hyderabad	Public Hearing on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	100
7/12/2011	Machilipatnam	Public Hearing on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	100
8/12/2011	SC Corporation Hall, Guntur	Public Hearing on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	100
13/12/2011	Jabilee Conference hall, Eluru	Public Hearing on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	150
14/12/2011	Officers Club, Kakinada	Public Hearing on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	150
15/12/2011	YMCA, Visakhapatnam	Public Hearing on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	150
28/6/2011	Ambedkar Bhavan, Chevella	Dalit Women & Ambedkar Youth Associations - Electoral Reforms	220
1/3/2012	SSS Kalyana Mandapam, Hyd	Public Hearing on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	1000
2/3/2012	SSS Kalyana Mandapam, Hyd.	6th State Annual Conference	1000

08/03/2012	Press Club, Visakhapatnam	Development of Dalit Women	150
14/04/2012	8 Districts	Anti-Liquor Campaign	2000
15/08/2012	Ravindra Bharathi, Hyderabad	Inequities in Independent India	250
03/09/2012	Ravindra Bharathi, Hyderabad	Campaign on Strengthening of SC, ST Act and Proposed Amendments	200
6th to 14th Dec 2012	Campaign (Rathayatra)	Campaign Rights of Dalit Adivasi women	5000
6/12/2012	Pressclub, Hyd	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	100
7/12/2012	Vikarabad, TS	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	100
8/12/2012	SC Corporation Hall, Guntur	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	100
10/12/2012	Medical Association Hall, Machilipatnam	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	100
11/12/2012	Jabilee Conference Hall, Eluru, West Godavari	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	100
13/12/2012	Officers Club, Kakinada	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	100
14/12/2012	VJA Press Club, VSP	Round Table Conference on Violence against Dalit Adivasi women and girl children	160
28/2/2013	SSS Kalyana Mandapam, Hyd.	7th State Annual Conference	1500
29/2/2013	SSS Kalyana Mandapam, Hyd.	8th State Annual Conference	200
08/03/2013	Ravindra Bharathi, Hyd.	Shramik Women – Ways Forward	150
12th to 27th Sep 2013	8 districts	Workshops for panchayat Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Ward members	1500
18th to 26th Nov 2013	Campaign (Radhayatra)	Campaign on SCSP/TSP Act	3000
04/02/2014	St Ann's Generalate, Hyderabad	Legal Clinic: Way forward to reform the living law	200
22/02/2014	Ambedkar Spoorthy Bhavan, Hyd.	Rallying together civil society forces in support of Dalit women	250
4/3/2014	Ravendra Bharathi, Hyd	Women's Day Celebrations	150
08/03/2014	Rotary Club, Amalapuram	ShramikaStreelu - Sadhikarata	400
15/3/2014	SVK, Hyd	RTC on SC/ST Act amendments	100
14/04/2014	Press Club, Basheerbagh, Hyd.	Dalit Women In Modern India	350
12/6/2014	Ravendra Baharathi Conference hall, Hyd	Judiciary and its functioning	120
15/08/2014	Vikarabad & Kakinada	Role of Youth in the Society	1000
30/10/2014	Amalapuram	Brain storming session on Dalit movement	100
21/11/2014	Officers Club, Kakinada	Victims and Witnesses meet	120
22/11/2014	Press club, Hyd	Victims and Witnesses meet	120

6/2/2015	JC Convention Centre, Vja.	9th Annual State Conference	1000
28/2/2015	Ravindra Bharathi, Hyd	9th Annual State Conference	1500
04/03/2015	S.V.K. Hyderabad	Dalit Women – Economic Empowerment	200
6/3/2015	VJF Press club, VSP	Dalit Women – Economic Empowerment	200
14/04/2015	Tank Bund	Ambedkar Jayanthi Celebrations	150
15/08/2015	SVK, Hyd	Independent India – Development of Women	100
26/1/2016	Ravindra Bharathi, Hyd.	Give Us Our Constitution	250
4th& 5th March 2016	SSS Kalyana Mandapam, Hyderabad	Enabling Empowerment: A Decades Journey	1000
10 /3/ 2016	Ambedkar Bhavan, Vizag	Dalit Women – Empowerment	300
14/4/2016	Basheer Bagh Press Club, Hyd.	Ambedkar – Women	350
15/4/2016	HASSS, Secunderabad	Workshop on Entrepreneur Promotion	400
15/8/2016	Ravindra Bharathi, Hyd.	Break the Shackles – March Forward towards Real Freedom'.	300
15th and 19th of Nov. 2016	East Godavari & Guntur	Consultations with students, Teachers, Parents and CSOs	400
25th Nov to 12th Dec 2016	5 Districts	Ending Violence on Dalit Women	700
3/1/2017	DSS Office, Hyderabad	Dalit Women – New Endeavours	100
26/1/2017	Visva Brahmana Conference Hall, Guntur, A.P	Constitution and Caste	200
21st& 22nd Feb 2017	SSS Kalyana Mandapam, Hyderabad	Break the Barriers of Dalit Women Empowerment	1500
8/3/2017	Press Club, Vijayawada, AP	Dalit Women – Entrepreneurship	260
11/4/2017	Conference hall, SC Corporation, Guntur	Ambedkar – Women	200
14/4/2017	DSS office, Hyderabad	Ambedkar's Thought is a Shield to the Country	50
24/5/ 2017	Press Club, Gandhinagar, Vijayawada, AP	State Advocates Forum meet	40
8/7/ 2017	Conference Hall, Amalapuram, E.G.Dt. A.P.	District Advocates Forum meet	30
27/9/2017	DSS Office, Hyderabad	State Advocates Forum meet	30
15/8/ 2017	Conference Hall, Ravindra Bharathi	70 Years of Independent India: Inclusion & Exclusion	170
25th to 10th Dec 2017	All Districts	Ending Violence on Dalit Women	1000
3/1/2018	Conference Hall, Ravindra Bharathi	Quality Education for All	150
26 /1/ 2018	SC Corporation Hall,Guntur	Constitution and Governance	200
10/3/2018	SC Corporation Hall,Guntur	Dalit Women – Empowerment	250
22/2/2018	Ambedkar Bhavan, Vijayawada, AP	Dalit Women – Inclusive Growth	1000

6/3/2018	Conference Hall, Ravindra Bharathi	Dalit Women – Inclusive Growth	180
17/4/ 2018	SC Corporation Hall, Guntur	Constitution of India: Reality	200
1/5/ 2018	All Districts	National Resistance Day	200
15/8/ 2018	Conference Hall, Makineni Basava Punnaiah Vignana Kendram, Vijayawada	Equality in Independent India	300
6/11/2018	Hotel Swarna Palace, Vijayawada	Prevention of all Forms of Discrimination and Violence Against Children in Educational Institutions Bill – 2018	300
Nov 25th to Dec 10th 2018	5 Districts	Me Too — Dalit Women Break the Silence International Campaign on Eradicating the Violence on Women	1000
3/1/2019	Conference Hall, SVK, Hyd.	Education without Discrimination	100
26/1/2019	Press Club, Vijayawada, AP	Reservations: Problems and Prospects	250
12/2/2019	Swarna Palace, Vijayawada, AP	Dalit Women Marching Ahead towards Equality	800
20/2/2019	SSS Conference Hall, Hyderabad	Dalit Women Marching Ahead towards Equality	800
8/3/2019	Press Club, Vijayawada, AP	Dalit Women and Development	250
14/4/2019	Car Rally	Propagation of Dr B R Ambedkar Ideology	1000
15/8/2019	Press Club, Vijayawada, AP	Equality of Opportunities in Independent India	150
25th Nov to	All Districts	Women are not Objects – Break the	
10th Dec 2019		Impunity	10000
3/1/2020	Press Club, Vijayawada, AP	Education – Gender Equaty	100
26/1/2020	Conference Hall, Ravindra Bharathi, Hyd.	Constitution: Contemporary Challenges	150
12/2/2020	Swarna Palace, Vijayawada, AP	Dalit Women Marching Ahead towards Equality	800
20/2/2020	SSS Conference Hall, Hyd.	Dalit Women Marching Ahead towards Equality	800
8/3/2020	Visvaswar Reddy Bhavan, Ranga Reddy District	Shamika Women Self Employment	250
12/3/2020	Viceroy Hotel, Guntur, AP	Shamika Women Livelihood Opportunities	250
25/2/2020	Swarna Palace, Vijayawada, AP	Dalit Girl Children – Access to quality education	700
6/3/2020	Conference Hall, Ravindra Bharathi, Hyderabad, TS	Dali Adivasi Women – Sustainable Development	150
25th Nov to 10th Dec 2020	All Districts	Campaign for gender equality	2000

Liberty!
Equality!!!
Equity!!!
Self Respect!!!!
Constitution
Contemporary Challenges

Constitution of India : Rea
Organized by:
Dalit Sthree Sakthi
Date : 17/04/2018; Venue: SC Corporation

AMBEDKAR
FATHER OF MODERN INDIA
LET'S MARCH AHEAD IN HIS
FOOT KRINTS....
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

CITIZEN DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
అంతర్జాతీయ మహిళా దినోత్సవం సందర్భంగా
శ్రామిక స్త్రీలు - స్వయం ఉపాధి
దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

FATHER OF
MODERN INDIA
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

Conference on

CONFERENCE ON
DALIT WOMEN IN MODERN INDIA
DATE: 14-04-2014
HYDERABAD
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

AMBEDKAR
FATHER OF MODERN INDIA
LET'S MARCH AHEAD IN HIS
FOOT PRINTS....

INDEPENDENT IND

Quality Edu For All
Date: 03 JANUARY 2013.
VENUE: RAVINDRA BHARATHI
HYDERABAD.

TRAINING ON
DALIT HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

70 YEARS OF INDEPENDENT INDIA
INCLUSION & EXCLUSION
HELP DESK
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

INEQUALITIES IN INDEPENDENT INDIA

SEMINAR ON
DALIT WOMEN
DATE : 8th MARCH 20
PRESS CLUB, VIJAY

DEPENDENT INDIA
ELOPMENT OF DALIT W
ORGANISE
2015
DARAYYA VIGNANA KENDRAM
DALIT ST

శ్రామిక స్త్రీలు - ఆర్థిక సాధికారత
దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి
తెలంగాణ

OF DALIT WOMEN
ORGANISED BY
ALIT STHREE SAKTHI

WORKSHOP ON

Campaign on
Gender Equality

10. MARCHING TOGETHER -- ANNUAL STATE AND DISTRICT CONFERENCES

Annual General Body meeting is an event to look back and review the work done, accomplishments and the difficulties faced. Throughout the year, the women collectives would be busy with field work in their respective places and have no chance of meeting their counter parts from other districts. Annual Conferences is an opportune moment for all the activists to meet across the districts and both the Telugu states to share their experiences. Every year, DSS organizes Annual Conferences, which would be like a mass carnival of dalit women. About a 2000 high spirited dalit women from across the State gather at the venue which looks like a march giving the image of history in the making and the assertion of dalit women against institutionalized caste discrimination. The very fact that Dalit women from nook and corner of the State converging at the State Capital, that too on their own without any arranged transport signifies their awareness and interest in the rights movement.

This occasion of large gathering of dalit women at one place is utilized to educate them by arranging inspiring speeches by stalwarts in Ambekar ideology and women rights. Usually, the General Body meeting goes on for two days with educative events. On a few occasions, the General Body meeting is preceded by a Public Hearing. Intellectuals, journalists of State and National stature have attended these mass general body meetings and addressed them.

Annual Conferences serves the purpose of educating, boosting the spirit of all women activists and also sends the message to all sections that dalit women no longer tolerate if their rights are violated. Every year the Annual Report is released in Telugu and English languages by prominent people during the annual conference.

General Body event is invariably highlighted and widely covered by the print and electronic media in the districts and states and thereby promoting visibility to the dalit women cause.

We are one woman - 15 years journey.....

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి
DISTRICT CONFERENCE ON EMPOWERMENT
DALIT WOMEN & GIRL CHILDREN
EAST GODAV
DALIT STHREE SAK
దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి
మహాసభ

DISTRICT CONFERENCE ON EMPOWERMENT OF
DALIT WOMEN & GIRL CHILDREN
VISAKHAPATNAM
దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

DALIT STHREE SAKTHI
ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF

Liberty!
Equality!!
Equity !!!
Self Respect !!!!

12th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

12th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI
Venue : Ambedkar Bhavan, Vijayawada
AP.SC WELFARE ASSOCIATION
VIJAYAWADA

DALIT STHREE SAKTHI
VENUE : SSS KALYANA NILAYAM, HYDERABAD

2012

DALIT STHREE SAKTHI
DALIT WOMEN MARCHING AHEAD TOWARDS EQUALITY

2012

DISTRICT CONFERENCE ON EMPOWERMENT OF
DALIT WOMEN & GIRL CHILDREN
GUNTUR
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి
9వ రాష్ట్ర మహాసభ

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి
మహాసభ
తేదీ: 04-03-2014

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి
తేదీ: 26 ఫిబ్రవరి 2010

13th ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE
DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

TELANGANA STATE
CONFERENCE

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

12th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి
9వ రాష్ట్ర మహాసభ

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

RAVINDRA BHARATHI

9వ జిల్లా మహాసభ
రాజ్యాంగం - దళిత స్త్రీలు

సమానత్వం
సమభాగం
ఆత్మగౌరవం
దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి
ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

11. JOINING HANDS - COLLECTIVE ACTIONS WITH LIKEMINDED ORGANIZATIONS

No rights organization can function in isolation and DSS doesn't subscribe to the notion of isolated functioning. In fact, the chief objective of DSS is to sensitize and mobilize the support of all sections of population at the State, National and International levels, to the dalit women movement for rights and justice. In the past 15 years DSS could focus the dalit women question on the agenda of all, through its campaigns, public hearings, public meetings, protest actions and other activities.

Networking reflects the perception of interdependence of different actors within the communities. It is a means and carrier of mobilization as well as a flexibility-oriented organizational strategy. In this setting, DSS understands networking as a meaningful communication with other NGOs, media, political parties and others for the achievement of its goals in an atmosphere of mutual cooperation. With this perspective, DSS made every effort to mobilize the support of all possible sections, particularly, democratic minded organizations, political parties, women and dalit organizations, for the cause of promoting the human rights of dalit women and girl children.

Our Growing partnerships with Network Partners:

DSS took initiative and formed a network of likeminded organizations, called State Women's Rights Forum in the year 2008 for the purpose of addressing major incidents of violence against women at state level.

DSS was always invited by other mass organizations to participate in their programmes and DSS always attended those events. On those platforms, DSS presented its views with a dalit women perspective, thereby advocated the cause of dalit women. DSS attended umpteen meetings organized by Dr.Ambedkar Open University, University of Hyderabad, etc. Whenever, a democratic struggle was going on under the leadership of anyone, DSS always took part in the struggle. When students of various Universities were struggling against the high handed and authoritarian actions of the Vice-Chancellor, DSS was part of the struggle. In the recent event of discrimination of dalit scholars of UOH, DSS was part of the struggle of the Dalit Scholars.

DSS participated, collaborated in conducting campaigns carried out under the auspicious of other NGOs and government.

When, National Dalit Movement for Justice launched national campaign demanding amendments for SC, ST (PoA) Act, DSS played an active role at state and national levels. We conducted meetings, seminars on the issue, published a booklet in regional language and widely circulated. Due to the concerted efforts of everyone at the national level, the demand was achieved and the Act was amended as desired by the people.

DSS was part the campaign on '60 years of Indian Constitution' and was instrumental in the Joint Action Committees formed for '20 Years of SC, ST (PoA) Act', etc. Similarly when dalits were brutrally massacred in Laximpet, Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh over land rights issue, State level protest against the massacre took place. A concerted effort of Joint Action Committee to punish the culprits, to do justice to the dalit victims of Laximpet took place under the united banner 'Laximpet Nyaya Porata Samithi'. DSS was part of this network in seriously building and participating in the movement. Likewise we collaborated with CERI on the issue of election reforms and conducted meetings in the State and translated and published the booklets pertaining to Electoral Reforms.

DSS, not only collaborated with other organizations, but carried on a continuous contact and rapportwith government departments, rights commissions and media. For all the public hearings, round table conferences and general body meetings, DSS involved government officials, functionaries of commissions and media representatives.

As we continued to engage with dalit women across the two states of A.P. and Telangana, our work brought us into several short-term and long-term collaborations with other organizations in the region during the past decade.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Memorial Trust, Hyderabad
Seminar on
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar 's Thoughts
Relevance to Contemporary Indian Society
on the eve of 125th Birth Anniversary Celebrations of
Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
8th April, 2017 from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Memorial Trust, Hyderabad
Seminar on

Homage to the Champion of Social Justice
Sri P.S. Krishnan, IAS (Retd)
(30-12-1932 to 10-11-2019)
Date : 28th November'2019

Christian aid
Towards Inclusion

SOUTH REGIONAL TRAINING ON
ATROCITY TRACKING AND MONITORING(ATM)
Organized by: Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS)

A.P.U.W.J

RPI

CASTE FREE INDIA

WELCOME TO
Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's
Birth Anniversary
Celebrations
MBEDKAR STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
University of Hyderabad
NAVEENA MAHILA
AWARDS 2012-13
AWARDS 2012-13
tv9 HD
AP's
NEWS HQ

Workshop on
Empowerment of Scheduled Castes
under SC Sub Plan
Social Welfare Department

ప్రపంచ మేధావి, రాజ్యాంగ నిర్మాత
డా॥ బి.ఆర్.అంబేద్కర్
విగ్రహాలను ధ్వంసం చేసిన కారణంగా
లపబ్లిక్ డే ని నిరసన దినంగా పాటిద్దాం!
దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

SRI. A.S.N.M.GOVERNMENT COLLEGE
PALAKOL, West Godavari District
Re-accredited by NAAC – 'B' with 2.61 CGPA

ON VIOLENCE AGAINST DALI
& 8th October, 2013

20 Years of SC & ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act-1989
-- An Overview
On 30-04-2010, 4-00 p.m.
At Indira Priyadarshini Auditorium, Hyderabad
& ST (PoA) Act-1989

ఆంధ్రప్రదేశ్ మహిళా కమీషన్
"మహిళ - అధిగమించాల్సిన సవాళ్ళు"
సదస్సు- తేది 06-07-2013

ఆల్ ఇండియా దళిత రైట్స్ ఫెడరేషన్ ఆధ్వర్యంలో
ఒక్కరోజు నిరాహార, నిరశన భీక్ష

SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMEN
DALIT EMPOWERMENT WEE
5 - 14 April 2010, Jubilee Hall, Hyderabad
CONFERENCE ON
POA Act

State Annual Consultative Meeting, 2014
Organized by

UGC SPONSORED NATIONAL SEMINAR ON
WOMEN-ISSUES AND CHALLENGES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK
SRI PADMAVATI MAHILA VISVAVIDYALAYAM,
TIRUPATI

60 Years
INDIA

75 of
Dalit Politics
National Convention

CONFERENCE ON
GIRL CHILDREN

Sri S.R.Sankaran
Memo

Head Office

75 of
Dalit Politics
National Convention
17th December 2011, Ravindra Bharathi, Hyderabad

Come Let's Build 'Caste Free India'
రండి...కులరహిత సమాజాన్ని నిర్మిద్దాం

N FOR
TE FREE
DIA

12. CULTURAL TEAM

The cultural team is part of DSS team and has immense responsibilities to carry on. In the campaigns, trainings, public hearings and during General Body meetings, it is the cultural team that is always at the lime light. Inspiring songs, dances fulfil the task of taking the message of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the theme of women empowerment to the public at large in a simple way and

understandable language and tune. Various concepts, practices and the reality of the system are loaded into the songs in easily understandable language and tune and thus the cultural team plays a crucial role in inspiring the dalit women. The team has been continuously improving the themes, the subject and the songs to keep abreast with the changing situation, thus strengthening the DSS movement.

13. FELICITATIONS

DSS has come to be reckoned with as an organization with commitment and sincerity. The hard work and achievements of DSS was recognized by all concerned. The Commissions, the government and police officials, the media always appreciated DSS and their appreciation is expressed in various ways like, participation in DSS programmes as a measure of solidarity and resolving the dalit women issues to their best. DSS's work got recognition from other quarters also. A few reputed Governmental and Non-Governmental agencies conferred awards on DSS and felicitated the Convener.

14. WOMEN COLLECTIVES

DSS women collectives have been vibrant and enthusiastic to learn, to struggle and to achieve. Their participation in reviews, trainings has been active and lively. Any time and any place, a hall, on the ground or under a tree, they assemble promptly and listen attentively. DSS encouraged participative learning and the dalit women always raised queries about the activities, the problems they encountered and the doubts they have concerning the procedures and plans.

The dalit women actively participated in protest actions like, dharnas and in meeting the concerned officials of the district administration. The dalit women collectives, organized campaigns against consumption of alcoholic drinks and held meetings, conducted public protests and marches with placards and slogans against liquor consumption.

త్రాగుడు మానుదాం!ఆరోగ్యాన్ని కాపాడు కుందాం!!
- దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి

STATE WOMEN COLLECTIVE MEET

15. PRESS COVERAGE - MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS:

Press and electronic media play a very important role in taking any message to a larger section of the people. A dharna against an atrocity may take place with 100 people, but if the event is reported in the news papers and TV channels , the news about the atrocity, the failure of the government machinery in rendering justice will reach millions of people, thereby exposing the colluding officials and bringing pressure on the Government to act.

Similarly, the owes of the victims in a Public Hearing/Round Table Conference, the speeches in a seminar, a fact finding report of an atrocity—everything concerning dalit women, if it is reported in the press and electronic media, it will have sensitizing effect on the public in general and pressurizes the government to rectify the injustice. Thus, media plays crucial role in spreading the news and canvassing an issue.

In the State of A.P and Telangana, DSS involved media also in dalit women issues. Due to the continuous work of DSS on dalit women issues and the march of dalit women movement, dalit women got reasonable space in print and electronic media during the past 15 years. Further, DSS established high credibility with Government officials, the police and the Commissions. Due to this credibility, DSS could convince the concerned departments/Commissions to render justice and every such event was covered in the print and electronic media. DSS's protest actions, its participation in meetings, its campaigns like the RadhaYatra, Public Hearings and Round Table Conferences got extensive coverage in the media, thereby promoting the cause of dalit women. DSS involved media personnel in its public hearings and conferences and thereby established good will and credibility with the media. Thus, DSS always got reasonable coverage of its activities in media. The women collective members of DSS got the 'Achievement Awards' from TV9 channel.

CVR NEWS
T NEWS

ABN
RK

THE HINDU • THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007

Dalit women plan united fight for rights

Dalit Sthree Sakthi urges State to initiate measures to end alleged exploitation of women

Special Correspondent

HYDERABAD: Dalit women from Krishna, Guntur, East Godavari, Ranga Reddy, Kadapa and Visakhapatnam districts converged here under the banner of 'Dalit Sthree Sakthi'(DSS) to fight atrocities committed against them.

DSS convenor Jhansi Geddam chaired their first annual general body meeting here on Wednesday. The two-day meeting will adopt a declaration seeking steps by the administration to end the alleged exploitation of Dalit women at their work places. It would also seek an end to atrocities, including trafficking, rape and attacks by high castes.

Agenda

The DSS would strive for freedom, equality and self-respect of Dalit women, Ms. Jhansi declared amidst loud cheers by the gathering.

Vasantha Kannabiran, president of Asmitha, Vijayabharati, a retired principal and wife of State Republican Party president B. Tharakam, Paul Diwakar, convener, National Council for Dalit Human Rights and Vimal Thorat, convener, All-India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Manch , called upon Dalit women to strive unitedly under the DSS banner to secure their rights which were being denied even after five decades of independence.

Mary Ravindranath, chairperson, State Women's Commission, said 80 per cent of the complaints received by the organisation pertained to Dalit women who were exploited because of their poverty. They had to lead a struggled existence and work mostly because of inadequate family support. She expressed distress at the rampant trafficking of Dalit women in the coastal districts.

Only a sustained and united drive by organisations like DSS would help put an end to crimes against them.

She outlined steps being taken by the Commission to redress grievances of the complainants.

PLEDGING SUPPORT: *Dalit women participating at the Dalit Sthree Sakthi's first Annual general body meeting in Hyderabad on Wednesday .* – PHOTO: G. KRISHNASWAMY

Meet against cultural policing on Feb.13

Staff Reporter

- Assaults on women in the guise of morality termed 'street censorship'
- Social apathy towards dowry deaths, infanticides deplored

HYDERABAD: Women for Cultural Freedom, a confederation of women's organisations constituted post- Mangalore attacks, will conduct a public meeting on February 13 at Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University, Nampally, to generate and influence public opinion against cultural policing.

Sharing details at a press conference here on Wednesday, Volga, eminent author from Asmita Resource Centre for Women expressed fear about the imminence of such attacks in the city in the context of St. Valentine's Day on February 14. Citing the Mangalore pub assaults and the attack on the daughter of a Kerala Minister, she termed the highhandedness as "a kind of street censorship" and asserted women's freedom in choosing which culture to emulate.

"Dictating women's movements in the name of culture has become the order of the day. Earlier too, women were attacked for their expression through movies and books. Who is to decide which culture is ours? Unless we come together to protect ourselves, the oppression would increase manifold," Ms Volga said. Students and women will be invited to the meetin for an open discussion, sh said.

Muddled feelings

Vasanta Kannabiran fro National Alliance for Wome said, the meeting could r solve confusion among pa ents who are prone t muddled feelings about th acceptability of pub culture i the context of the attacks.

"Society suffers from mar scourges such as dow deaths and female infant cide. Are these people beatin up the erring husbands parents? Their apathy t wards such issues is amp evidence of what they star for," said M. Sumitra fro Ankuram.

Jhansi from Dalit Str Shakti, A. Satyavathi fro Bhoomika (magazine) ar Sharifa Siddiqui from Musli Women's Rights Netwo participated in the press co ference.

DALIT STHREE SAKTHI

Women urged to fight for land rights

Express News Service
Hyderabad, February 25

DALIT women in the third State-level conference, Dalit Sthree Sakthi, have given a call to fight for land rights by joining hands with progressive forces.

The two-day programme to discuss the problems pertaining to Dalit women was organised at the SSS Kalyana Mandapam at Padmarao Nagar here today.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Madhavi said, "Even after decades of struggle, Dalit women could not secure their rights and they are not being offered wages corresponding to the labour that they put in. Dalit women are among the marginal lot who are being alienated from their labour." She also added that even exclusive programmes launched by the government for the benefit of Dalit women were not reaching them.

There was a separate session on the sexual abuse of Dalit girls in the State. Eminent Telugu litterateur Volga said it was unfortunate that even in this modern world there was discrimination with regard to Dalit women in various sectors and added that education was the only tool to eradicate various social stigmas. Dalit Sthree Sakthi members from eight districts participated in the confer ence.

State convener G Jhansi i formed that they would b launching a documentary o the final day of the conference

SHOW OF STRENGTH: Members of the Dalit Sthree Sakthi raising slogans at the third State conference in Hyderabad on Wednesday.

sunday express HYDERABAD SUNDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2009

Police yet to arrive at any conclusion

Express News Service
Hyderabad, November 7

FORTY-EIGHT hours after Anusha, the B. Com third-year student of Villa Marie college jumped to death in the college premises, the Punjagutta police are yet to arrive at a conclusion on whether the other four students drove her to end her life or was there any other reason.

Meanwhile, an organisation, Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) has alleged that Anusha was being harassed on caste basis, after her friends came to know that she was a Dalit.

Though the police had registered a case under Section 306 IPC (abetment to commit suicide), investigation so far has not led the sleuths anywhere.

"The victim's parents have alleged that a few other students were responsible for her suicide. But we have to investigate the matter thoroughly and can come to a conclusion only then," West zone DCP C Ravi Varma told Express.

The police are going through the mobile phone details of Anusha.

The parents of Anusha had alleged that Anusha took the extreme step unable to bear the humiliation by her friends.

Anusha leaped to death from the fourth floor of Villa Marie college campus at Somajiguda on Thursday.

Meanwhile, the Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) has formed a fact-finding committee to go into the details of the case. The team met

Meanwhile in a new twist to the incident, Dalit Sthree Sakthi has alleged that the girl was harassed on account of her caste

her parents, relatives, friends and also the police officials as part of their probe.

Bringing in a new twist to the case, the DSS members said that Anusha was a relative of Congress MLA R Varaprasad Rao, a supporter of YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. "Of late, his closeness to Jagan and the media attention he grabbed revealed that he is a Dalit. From then onwards, Anusha was being harassed on caste-basis," DSS members alleged.

The committee has submitted a report to Home Minister P Sabita Indra Reddy and Additional DGP (Law and Order) AK Khan and urged them to take measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future.

THE HINDU • SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2009

DSS demands action in Dalit 'rape' case

Dalit Sthree Sakthi submits memorandum to Director-General of Police

Special Correspondent

- 15-year-old 'gang raped' by landlord, policemen
- Crime reportedly perpetrated a month ago

HYDERABAD: Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS), which has brought to light the kidnap and gang rape of 15-year-old Dalit girl by a landlord and policemen in West Godavari district, has demanded stringent action against the culprits and compensation to the victim.

In a memorandum submitted to the Director General of Police, Geddam Jhansi, convenor of the DSS that works for protection of rights of Dalit women in eight districts, said it was nearly a month now since the crime was perpetrated, yet no arrests have been made so far. Neither medical examination of the girl nor identification parade of the accused were conducted.

Delay

Cases were booked belatedly under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Prevention of Atrocities Act and investigation officer appointed only after DSS took it up with the higher-ups in the police, the Andhra Pradesh State Human Rights Commission and the National Human Rights Commission.

Narrating the harrowing experience of the girl, Ms. Jhansi said, the teenager from Kontheru village of Yelamanchili mandal in West Godavari was lured by landlord Ravi Chandra, belonging to upper caste, with the promise of a job.

Her father, Mohan Rao, who worked as a driver of the landlor's tractor was away at that time.

Ravi Chandra took her away on May 2 to Yanam where and his three friends allegedly raped her.

Mohan Rao registered a complaint with Yelamanchili police about his 'missing' daughter.

Threat

On coming to know about the police complaint, Ravi Chandra took the girl to Hyderabad where he and the girl's maternal uncle, Venkateswarlu threatened her against revealing the truth.

She was brought to Yelamanchili police station on May 15 and produced before the Additional Judicial First Class Magistrate Narsapur who issued orders to shift her to Juvenile Home in Hyderabad.

Instead of being shifted immediately, she was detained in the police station for the next three days and allegedly raped by the Sub-inspector and three police constables.

పోలీసుల వైఫల్యం వల్లే... మహిళలపై వరుస దాడులు

ప్రజా సంఘాల ఆగ్రహం

ROUND TABLE HELD ON DALITS
Former EC for proportional representation
Constitution is excellent, says law varsity V-C
Dalit women still face harassment: DSS
CM ORDERS PROBE INTO RAPE OF DALIT GIRL
Meet on Dalit women rights
Majority facing exclusion
Police accused of being gender-insensitive
Hearing into violence against Dalit women
Dalit Stree Sakthi to inspect SW hostels, anganwadis
'No provision in law to hold officials accountable for delays'
SC Panel Favours Fast Track Court on Lakshmipeta Violence
Cops Failed to Act Despite Alerts: Dalit Assn
Justice eludes sexually abused Dalit girls
Dalit women fail to get justice, says Stree Shakti
RIBUTES POUR IN FOR SANKARAN
Action demanded against teachers who exploited girls
Round-table on SC, ST Act organised
Sabita's Followers Harass Women, Dalits: Activis
Dalit Children Hit by Malnutrition'
Lakshmipeta victims demand special court
Organisations stage protest st Laxkhmipet incident
'Set up Spl Court at Laxmipet'
Poor should elect right persons: Dalit Stree Shakti
ases of cheating, injustice against Dalits
SC Commission Favours Fast Track Court for Lakshmipeta Clash
Student Team to Release Its Probe Report Soon
Dalit victims cry for justice
Shocking stories of rape, murder of minor girls at public hearing
Campaign on Dal rights launched
VIJAYAWADA
'Need to develop a healthy environment between a girl and her parents'

BLACK SATURDAY

"What about Triveni, the girl who died after she was gang-raped in Borabanda? Or the 70-year-old Sub-bamma, who was raped in Eluru? " — Geddam Jhansi, Dalit Sthree Shakti Moment of Shame

"Special Parliamentary sessions are conducted for FDI, but not for discussing rapes and other atrocities committed against hapless women? " — Sarojini Devi, mother of Pratyusha

"I wonder if there is any other species in the world, which would sexually assault females. We need a cultural revolution aimed for women's self-respect " — A Jayaprabha writer

"State awards should be instituted in the victim's name, and awarded to those fighting against sexual atrocities at district, state and national level " — Srihari Madiga, Jai Bheem Youth Association

THE HINDU • SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2012

A life ends, spirit lives and the city prays

Demanding justice, people from different walks of life take part in candlelight vigils, march from Necklace Road

Swathi. V

HYDERABAD: The city joined with the rest of the country on Saturday in mourning the Delhi gang-rape victim who breathed her last at a Singapore hospital after battling for 13 days.

Candlelight vigils were conducted by concerned citizens, mostly students, and scores of people gathered on the Necklace Road by evening to condole the death of the 23-year-old unidentified victim.

What more, profile photos have been reduced to a black dot on the social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter as part of the 'black dot movement' which triggered off a week ago. Women on social media are replacing their profile pictures with black dot images as a mark of protest. "A nation where daughters are neither safe inside the womb, nor outside," read a poster that was widely circulated on the Facebook.

Sense of insecurity and vulnerability are palpable among all sections of women, right from students to women's activists. "I will not be able to trust even my neighbour now. Never before have I been reminded so starkly that I am living in a world full of men," said Y. Neelima, a young veterinary doctor.

Sarojini Devi, mother of Pratyusha, the movie artiste who died in mysterious circumstances 10 years ago, feels that the moneyed class in this country are beyond punishment.

"It has been ten years since my daughter had died, and I'm running from pillar to post, doing rounds of the court. Speedy justice is a mirage. There is no security in India for women," she fumes.

"It seems there are two Indias within India – one, that encourages girls to go out, study , struggle and excel, the other still looking upon woman as eye candy," complained A. ayaprabha, the fiery writer of yesteryear.

Gender sensitisation

A blueprint of action should be drawn up with elements such as gender sensitisation of public authorities, establishment of fast track courts, police reforms, and cleaning up of politics, she feels.

Geddam Jhansi of Dalit Sthree Shakti is reminded of a similar incident in city a few years ago when a 12-year-old girl was raped by a band of hooligans, and the culprits are still at large.

"The current incident has drawn the nation's furore. There are many incidents which do not get reported especially if they are Dalit and adivasi women," she points out. Application of 'gender lens' across various spheres for long time to come is the only way to find a solution, she says.

Police blamed

"In most of the rape cases, culprit goes scot-free due to delay. Victims are usually ignorant about the need to give vaginal swabs immediately after the incident. Delay on part of the police is another reason," says Samatha Roshni, a doctor and activist. She recalls the case of one rapist landlord displaying the belongings of his Dalit victims as trophies in his drawing room/K. Sujata, another activist, says gender sensitisation among policemen will go a long way against victimisation of the victim. "Death of the victim is very sad, but not unexpected. Widespread protests about the incident are one positive outcome because it has brought the gender issues into mainstream. In those terms, we can place this incident alongside Ramiza Bi's and Bhanwari Devi's," she says.

BLACK DOT MOMENT

"A nation where daughters are neither safe inside the womb, nor outside." – a poster that was widely circulated on Facebook

LET HER SOUL REST IN PEACE: Protesters hold candles and placards during a rally in Hyderabad on Saturday, following the death of the Delhi gang-rape victim. —PHOTO: G. RAMAKRISHNA

THE HANS INDIA, 7 APRIL 2013

Seminar on ill-effects of liquor

THE HANS INDIA, 7 DECEMBER 2012

Campaign to focus on Dalit women's rights launched

OUR BUREAU

Hyderabad: Dalit Stree Shakti (DSS), an organisation for the rights of Dalit women and girls launched a 10-day campaign were headed by an 80-member contingent led by DSS convener Jhansi Geddam. The campaign were launched in Tank Bund on Thursday in the presence of thousands of women contingent of DSS activists drawn from the State including Nizamabad, Ranga Reddy, Guntur, Krishna, East and West Godavari, Vishakapatnam and Rainy conclude on December 17 with a massive rally in Hyderabad on Thursday (Photo: Inset)

Minister Geetha Reddy speaking at Rishtala Chaitanya Bharathi Institute, Tank Bund in Hyderabad on Thursday (Photo: Inset)

Laxmipeta of Srikakulam district on December 11.

"Though many of Dalit women are victims of Dalit women are victims of the perpetrators of the caste system, the campaign wants Dalit to unite and fight against the caste system," said Rami Gaddam.

Besides a strongest action against the perpetrators of tribal women and girls, DSS would focus on various issues such as the implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 in the Scheduled Areas.

Many Industries Minister P Gowda Reddy garlanded the statue of B R Ambedkar in the Tank Bund marking the launch of the campaign. Social Welfare Department Commissioner and working with the government to make a historic move by making ST SC and girls law that protects the interest of Dalit women and girls.

Dalit victims cry for justi

Continued from Page 1

is a case pertaining to abetment to suicide of a 14-year-old girl Ramulu, a Ranga Reddy district by a school teacher, the jury had that a complaint and dying declaration should be filed in a court and joint trial should be taken up. The accused in this case is yet to be arrested.

Some of the important cases that came up before the jury pertains to Chellapu Devi, a 15-year-old girl from Parimala, who had to be helped up the steps by her 10-year-old sister Parimala.

Devi has a five-month-old son. She is both dumb and mentally retarded.

Devi, a native of Devaryamram village, Vishakapatnam district, was raped by one K. Ramana (23 years), a resident of the same village and a close relative of her father.

Devi lost her mother three years ago, and depends on Parimala for everything. It is Parimala, who spoke on behalf of her elder sister and narrated Devi's sordid past to the jury and prayed for justice.

Later her father Seshu Rao joined in and said, "Taking advantage of the situation, Ramana, who often used to visit our house exploited my daughter and by the time I came to know about it, my daughter was pregnant by four months and she gave birth to a son.

The hapless father sought help as the accused is moving freely with no proper action against him.

"We want just justice," cried Tirupatamma.

Her voice shaking and eyes filled with tear, whose 12-year-old daughter Triveni was gang raped by five unidentified persons on March 29, 2010. On the day of the incident, Triveni's parents were away to deposite wedding cards of their eldest son.

Five unidentified persons entered the house during late hours, beat up Triveni's two younger brothers with iron rods leaving them unconscious and raped the girl. When the neighbours checked next morning three of them were lying unconscious and in a pool of blood.

The little girl succumb some days while undergoing treatment. The accused are yet to be identified and arrested.

In another incident, 1 October, a 16-year-old who was kidnapped and sexually exploited by two men and escaped from their clutches, looked out for rehabilitation and help to her dependants and justice to them.

They looked tired. They said, they had to run pillar to post to convince the police to register a First Information Report (FIR). They spent years in and around courts and yet were unable to get justice, they rued.

Need for women's role in electoral process stressed

THE HANS INDIA

Public hearing brings to light exploitation of Dalits

Youths' Role in Nation's Growth Stressed

Skits Cancer of Dalit Stree Sakthi Jhansi Geddam addressing students in Vishakapatnam on Thursday

THE HANS INDIA

Attacks against women decried

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Eluru: Geddam Jhansi, National Convener of the Dalit Sthree Sakthi, on Tuesday expressed her agony on the brutal attacks and murder on women in recent times.

She was addressing the meeting organised by DSS on 'Atrocities and violence against Dalit and Adivasi women' as part of international campaign to eliminate crime against women, being held from November 25 to December 10.

Programme manager Daniel Prakash, SC, ST cell police officials Srinivas Rao, Surya Chakraveni from Mother and Child Welfare department, ITDA and AIDRF officials were present.

Jhansi recalled the recent murder of Disha in Hyderabad and many organisations expressed their ire on the murder across the country to take stern action against the culprits.

She said that on many occasions the atrocities against marginalised sections like Dalits and Adivasis are overlooked when they are attacked. She said that attacks on Adivasi and Dalit women are on rise however they are not brought into limelight and the culprits are left free.

She recalled the incident of T Lakshmi of Komarambheem district of Telangana which happened prior to the murder of Disha. Stating that the attention on atrocities is poor on the marginalised sections she appealed to the police department to treat everybody equally and take stern action against the culprits when women are subject to attack without discrimination of sects.

Dalit Stree Shakti national convener Geddam Jhansi addressing a meeting on 'Atrocities against Dalit and Adivasi women' in Eluru on Tuesday

'Women being trapped in the name of love'

AP Women's Commission chairperson Vasireddy Padma addressing a roundtable organised by Dalit Sthree Shakti in Vijayawada on Tuesday. Ravichandra, Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department and Geddam Jhansi, national convener of Dalit Sthree Shakti are also seen.

Relatives of Dalit Victims narrate their trauma to the jury at a public hearing at Hyderabad on Thursday.

THE CITY HANS
THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019

DALIT GIRLS DECEIVED IN THE NAME OF LOVE

THE CITY HANS
THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019

DALIT GIRLS ... N THE NAM

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
HYDERABAD
TUESDAY

Roundtable conference on 'Violence against Dalit Adivasi Women' held by the Dalit Sthree Sakthi on Monday

...SS holds conference on ...violence against women

...akes recommendations for handling of SC/ST cases by the p...

PRESS NEWS SERVICE

...E round table conference 'Violence Against Dalit Adi... Women', organised by ... Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) ... on Monday, painted ... art-wrenching scenes as ... tims narrated their ordeals ... the panel comprised of ... h-level bureaucrats.

As many as 26 cases pertain... to offences including rape, ...etment to suicide, cheating, ...ual exploitation, land en...achment, caste abuses, and ...ental harassment were dis...ssed case by case after the ...tims disposed of their har...wing experiences.

In two cases, the victims ...ve been awaiting justice for more than a decade. A panel comprising of Nalini Raghuraman, Political Economy Adviser at the British Deputy High Commission, former Indian Ambassador Vinod Kumar, Dr Siddoji Rao, convener of IAS/IPS Officers' Forum, and PV Giri, DCP Crimes (Rachakonda Commissionerate) heard the grievances of the victims.

Expressing fear for his life, Pranay Perummalla's father Balaswami said that the accused who were facing charges in his son's murder case are pressurising them to "settle" the case. The aggrieved father said that he would not give up on the case and fight it until his last breath.

He demanded the government to constitute a ... fast-track court to hea... case, and said that the tr... the case had not even st... yet.

Geddam Jhansi, Conv... of DSS, said that judges ... pronounce judgement ... Dalit and Adivasi cases sh... be awarded points just ... judges who pronounce ... ments in Anti-Corruption ... reau (ACB) cases.

The conference made ... eral recommendations t... government, including th... mand to take action ag... police officers under Sect... of Scheduled Caste and Sc... uled Tribe (Prevention ... Atrocities) Act and const... ing special courts to const... speedy trial in SC/ST cas...

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2019

Victims pour their woes out at Dalit Sthree Sakthi roundtable

Authorities urged to ensure speedy probe into cases

STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA

Victims of sexual assault, caste discrimination and other atrocities from the SC/ST communities poured their woes out before A.P. Mahila Commission chairperson Vasireddy Padma and Secretary to Govt. (Social Welfare) M. Ravichandra and other government officials at a roundtable organised by Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) in the city on Tuesday.

SC, ST communities were presented.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Ravichandra stressed the need for sensitisation of the department staff and officials so that victims are shown empathy while resolving the issues.

"There are many Acts to deal with the atrocities but implementing them is the key," Mr. Ravichandra said.

He further said that meetings with all the depart-

rape under the pretext of marriage has gone up of late.

"Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy is going to introduce a bill for women safety that promises investigation and trial of cases of crime against women within 21 days. Due to delay in conviction in many cases, accused are being set free while victims bear the pain. In this context, the new law will ensure speedy trial and conviction." Mr. Padma said.

Stalking, sexual harassment or sexual assault of SC/ST women will lead to compensation of ₹2 lakh. A rape victim would get ₹5 lakh while a gang rape or acid attack victim would get ₹8.5 lakh

HYDERABAD HANS 28 APRIL 2012

"Written by K R Venugopal IAS

(L-R) Jhansi, Convenor, Dalit Stree Shakti, A Laxmaiah, Deputy Director, National Institute of Nutrition, Y V Satyanarayana, CDS General Secretary, K R Venugopal, Former secretary of Prime Minister, K Madhava Rao, Former Chief Secretary and Prof Rama Melkote, state advisor for Central Commission on Right to Food.

Book on ICDS can be 'guide' to policymakers

OUR CORRESPONDENT

The book *Integrated Child Development Services, a flagship adrift* written by K R Venugopal, former secretary to Prime Minister, which documents poor implementation of the ICDS scheme and exposes the ground realities of beneficiaries, was appreciated by speakers, including intellectuals and social workers.

The book, based on the research work of KR Venugopal, which was released some time back, drew the attention of intellectuals and social workers at a programme organised by the Centre for Dalit Studies (CDS) here on Friday, where speakers stressed the need for taking up the scheme seriously.

The speakers said that the implementation of the scheme was anganwadi centres, yet the centres were neglected. Pathetic conditions were prevailing in anganwadis. There was no infrastructure and the anganwadi workers were poorly paid. They were being treated as 'bonded' labourers. A more disturbing trend was that the nutritious food supplements being supplied to the children attending anganwadis were grossly substandard, the speakers said.

The speakers suggested that the research work carried out by Venugopal could be the guiding light for the implementing agency. The research work would help in the effective implementation of the scheme by removing the lapses, the speakers said.

The research was carried out between 2008 and 2010 in the drought-prone Anantapur and neighbouring districts, covering 129 villages in Andhra Pradesh. The research work helps the implementing agency in improving its activities in a holistic and realistic manner so as to cover the nutritional, mental and physical health and education of a child from the time of conceiving in a mother's womb.

The joint secretary of the Center for Dalit Studies, Y V Satyanarayana, said that the book would be a guide for those working in ICDS. He regretted the lack of infrastructure and equipment in anganwadis. He also said the remuneration paid to the anganwadi workers was deplorable and demanded that they should be paid a minimum of Rs 10,000 a month.

Former chief secretary Kaki Madhava Rao felt one-fourth of the contents mentioned in the book would be more than sufficient to frame legislation on the effective implementation of the scheme.

Editor-in-chief of *HMTV and The Hans India* K. Ramachandra Murthy said that issues like malnutrition, illiteracy and perinatal deaths would have ended had the scheme been properly implemented from the time of its introduction in 1975. Many officials could have done research like Venugopal, but they did not take up responsibility. Venugopal had taken a lot of pains in the interests of society, he said. Prof Rama Melkote said that the project should be taken up seriously by the government to remove the existing deficiencies.

Dalit Stree Shakthi convenor Jhansi said the book should be published in Telugu so that it could reach the masses.

The author of the book, Venugopal, said that the country would fail if ICDS programme was not implemented properly. "It is about the mental, physical health, right to education and nutrition of the all the stakeholders, especially the dalits and downtrodden masses," he said. "Unless anganwadis are converted into crèches and the anganwadi workers are paid dignifiedly, the future of the children cannot be secure," Venugopal said.

MONDAY 5 MARCH 2012

THE HANS INDIA

SC, ST Study Circles demanded

OUR BUREAU

Rajahmundry: The SC and ST Study Circles should be established in the revenue divisions along with all the district headquarters, and 25 per cent reservations should be implemented to SC, ST students in all corporate educational institutions as per Right to Education Act, Dalit Chaitnaya Bheri demanded at Rajahmundry on Sunday. The meet demanded action against those officials who diverted SC, ST sub-plan special funds.

The seats should be allocated to SC and STs based on the population in local bodies, Parliament and Assembly polls. They urged for lake in the mess charges of hostel students as well as the scholarships for the day scholars.

The meet has also demanded filling up of SC, ST backlog posts in the state and the central governments and for the implementation of SC, ST reservations in filling the nominated posts.

Loans should be provided for Dalit entrepreneurs up to Rs one crore without guarantee as in Maharashtra.

The meet has also demanded the protection of 1/70 Act and the protection for the Dr BR Ambedkar statues. Superintending Engineer, AP Transco, Visakhapatnam, N Gangadhar, Executive Director, SC Corporation, East Godavari district, V Mahipal, Joint Director, social welfare department, T Vijay Kumar, Dalit Sthree Shakthi state convener Geddam Jhansi also were present.

DALIT WOMEN GIVE VOICE TO THEIR PLIGH

Jury members at the public hearing say the govt must take stringent action against errant policemen who fail to take act against attackers and provide compensation to victims

Express News Service

A father of a Dalit victim (top) and a woman in tears after recalling their problems at a public hearing organised by Dalit Stree Shakti in Hyderabad on Thursday. | PTI Photo

Hyderabad: "I was raped by a married man when I was 14 years old. I tried to hang myself after the rape, but my family stopped me," said a 16-year-old Dalit girl, who is mentally and physically challenged.

She is not the only victim who spoke about her plight on Thursday. About 27 cases of exploitation and attacks on Dalit girls and women were heard at a public hearing conducted here by Dalit Stree Shakti. The 16-year-old also revealed she has not received the Rajiv Aarogyasri compensation promised by government officials.

"My attacker was arrested by policemen and released after a few weeks," she alleged. Similarly, a 17-year-old girl spoke about how she was beaten up by a middle-aged man and how he stabbed her in front of her family members just because she refused his sexual advances.

Justice V Eswaraiah, former Supreme Court judge demanded the government to take stringent actions against culprits and provide reasonable compensation to victims. "Many cases of atrocities on Dalits have not been registered at police stations because policemen belonging to upper castes," said KR Venugopal, former secretary to the Prime Minister. He appeals to victims to approach NGOs to prevent officials from taking action against them.

గురువారం 28 ఏప్రిల్ 2016

నమస్తే తెలంగాణ

అంబేద్కర్ ఆశయ సాధనకు కృషి చేయాలి

బోడంపహాడ్‌లో ఘనంగా అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహావిష్కరణ

అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహానికి నివాళులర్పిస్తున్న సర్పంచ్, ఎంపీటీసీ

విగ్రహాన్ని ఆవిష్కరిస్తున్న ఏపీఎస్ అధికారి కళ్యాణ్ చక్రవరి

షాబాద్: భారత రాజ్యాంగ నిర్మాత బాబా సాహెబ్ అంబేద్క
ఆశయ సాధన కోసం ప్రతి ఒక్కరూ కృషి చేయాలని ఏపీఎస్ అ
కారి కళ్యాణ్‌చక్రవర్తి. దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ గడ్డం రూ
అన్నారు. బుధవారం షాబాద్ మండలంలోని బోడంపహ
గ్రామంలో నూతనంగా ఏర్పాటు చేసిన అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహా
గ్రామ సర్పంచ్ కోరే అరుణ, ఎంపీటీసీ చాకలి రాములమ్మల
కలిసి వారు ఆవిష్కరించారు. పూలమాలలు వేసి ఘనంగా నివా
లర్పించారు. ఈ సందర్భంగా వారు మాట్లాడుతూ... అంబేద్
ఆశయ సాధన కోసం ప్రతి ఒక్కరూ కృషి చేయాలని తెలిపా
దేశంలో ఇంకా అంటరానితనం, కులవివక్ష కొనసాగడం దార
మన్నారు. గ్రామ సర్పంచ్, ఎంపీటీసీ మాట్లాడుతూ.. తెలంగా
ప్రభుత్వం ఏర్పడిన తరువాత దేశ నాయకుల జయంతి, వర్ధం
లను ఘనంగా నిర్వహిస్తున్నట్లు వివరించారు. హైదరాబాద్
125 అడుగుల ఎత్తులో అంబేద్కర్ విగ్రహం ఏర్పాటు చేయ

Stree sakthi demands fair deal for atrocity victims

Staff Reporter

Rajahmundry: Dalit Stree Shakthi, a community-based women's organisation working for the rights of Dalit women, on Saturday alleged that sexual exploitation of girls and women from the Dalit community was on the rise.

State convener of the organisation Geddam Jhansi said at press conference that atrocities against Dalit sex in the whole community were common place and seldom did the victims get justice. Citing few special cases in the city—of the nursing student who was allegedly gang-raped and a 15-year-old physically challenged girl reportedly raped by her 65-year-old neighbour at Bhavanipuram, leading to her getting pregnant, she said that in the higher-ups of various departments had reacted favourably. The lower-level officials had neglected implementation of the orders passed in the two cases. In the nursing student's case, Ms. Jhansi alleged that the victim was deliberately being projected as "psychologically upset" to support the fact that eight unusual and influential people behind the offence. Ms. Jhansi said only a CBI enquiry would help the public know the chain of events.

DNA test

In the second case of the rape of the differently abled girl, Ms. Jhansi said while the State Human Rights Commission had directed the authorities to get the DNA test conducted on the 'victim' and the accused, and if need be take steps to terminate the pregnancy, no progress had been achieved on this account so far. She said the authorities concerned must expedite the process to ensure justice to the hapless girl.

The BJPC had directed the district Collector to grant disabled pension to the physically challenged disabled girl, widow pension for her mother and consider a grant of house or a house site under a scheme, she said. Programme manager of the organisation Dasari Vijay Prakash was present.

SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2014

HYDERABAD HANS

CITYSCAPES

25 major cases of atrocities on dalits pending

Twenty five major cases of atrocities against dalit adivasi women and girl children are pending in Rangareddy and Hyderabad districts. This came to light in a round table conference held at the Press Club in the city on Saturday.

The cases were presented before the officials of different departments such as police, social welfare and judiciary. The victims and witnesses narrated their problems. In response, the social welfare department officials assured the victims that compensation would be provided and that payment would not be delayed in the future.

Srinivas Reddy, DCP, crime, mentioned that the responsibility of eradicating such incidents is on every person in the society. The speakers felt that illiteracy among people was the main cause for exploitation and for oppression. Dalits should unite to obtain justice. In response of these [illegible] would recheck and act accordingly.

[illegible]s, programme manager, DSS, explained the [illegible]ansi Geddam drew the attention of officials [illegible]tments. She said that compensation was de- [illegible] not rehabilitated. She demanded that special [illegible]k into the pending cases.

[illegible] State Women Collective members Kavitha, [illegible], Swapna and Vennela Hyderabad co-ordi- [illegible] meeting.

HYDERABAD HANS 1 MARCH 2013

Call to expand DSS base

[illegible]UR BUREAU

[illegible]alit Stree Shakti (DSS)

Kaki Madhava Rao, IAS (retd) and RS Praveen Kumar (IPS), secretary, social welfare

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
VIJAYAWADA WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2013

'More Awareness Nee on SC/ST Sub-Plan Ac

Express News Service

Rajahmundry: Dalit Stree Shakti (DSS) leader B Jhansi has underlined the need to draft an action plan to bring awareness among the SC/STs about the SC/ST Sub-Plan Act and its strict implementation. The Act, which came into force after many agitations, is a constitutional right of the SC/STs. It states that the amount sanctioned for the SC/STs should be spent only for them and not diverted. The Congress gov- [illegible] tion for [illegible] mentati [illegible] Act, bu [illegible] official [illegible] funds, [illegible] ing a p [illegible] Ambed [illegible] here Tu

Municipal commissioner G Rajendra Prasad flagging [illegible] on Tuesday | EXPRESS PHOTO

ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి | హైదరాబాద్ | శనివారం 5 మార్చి 2016

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి సభలో పుస్తకాన్ని ఆవిష్కరిస్తున్న మాజీ సీఎస్ కాకి మాధవరావు తదితరులు

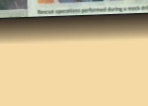
దళితుల్లో ప్రశ్నించే తత్వం పెరగాలి

- హక్కులతోపాటు జ్ఞానమూ అవసరం
- దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి జాతీయ మహాసభల్లో

మహిళలు ప్రత్యేక శ్రద్ధ పెట్టాలని, ఇంటిని గ్రామాన్ని [illegible] చూసుకోవాలని కాకి మాధవరావు కోరారు. కళాశాలల్లో హక్కుల

CITY HANS
THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019

DALIT GIRLS IN THE NAM



MBMV DEM
OF TE

SCR ORGA
MOCK D

Shyam Sundar Matham

Vijayawada: Of late, a number of cases are reported as to how the girls are targeted in the name of love. Dalit and Adivasi girls in particular are more prone to these predators that are out to use and throw them out after some time.

These predators are audacious enough to lure the girls in their face once their purpose is served stating that they could not marry them since they belonged to the scheduled castes and their parents would never accept them in their family.

Most of the girls silently suffer and lead the life keeping their grief in their hearts. Though they never [illegible] their forgiveness won't matter at all for these predators.

A few girls choose to file complaints with the police and very few of these cases are registered and followed with action. Ironically, these criminal cases never reach the logical conclusion with the girls keep on waiting for justice for years and [illegible] victim would get.

Stalking, sexual harassment or sexual assault of SC/ST women will lead to compensation of ₹2 lakh. A rape victim would get ₹5 lakh while a gang rape or acid attack victim would get ₹8.5 lakh

As per the amended Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995, in 2016, the victims got compensation ranging from Rupee

Hans News Service

Vijayawada: Members of Mathru Mandhuma Yuddha Sainika (MBMV) steering committee on Wednesday staged a dharna here on Wednesday demanding that the state government cancel GO Ms 81 and 85 and continue medium of instruction in both Telugu and English as usual. Addressing the gathering, MLC V [illegible] shou

Hans News Service

Vijayawada: South Central Railway, Vijayawada Division conducted Mock Drill in association with Civil Defense Organization, SCR under the supervision of K Srinivas, Sr Divisional Mechanical Engineer, Vijayawada at Mineral Siding near Wagon Depot on Wednesday.

Dr VS Manoj, Assistant Chief Medical Superintendent, Railway Hospital, P Raghunath Reddy, Sr [illegible]

THE HANS INDIA
VISAKHAPATNAM FRIDAY 11 MARCH 2016

Dalit Sthree Sakti meet held

OUR BUREAU

Visakhapatnam: Members of Dalit Sthree Sakti organised a meeting here on Thursday to mark International Women's Day. Executive director of SC Corporation K Mahalaksmi was the chief guest.

National coordinator of Dalit Sthree Sakti and senior High Court lawyer Geddam Jhansi spoke on the importance of the day and said it was a great achievement for the Dalit women to come out of bonded labour and forcing the ruling class to recognise their rights. She appealed to all the women to make efforts to achieve self reliance to survive in society.

She did not hope much from the present governments at the Centre and State to do any good for the Dalit women.

Mahalakshmi spoke on various schemes being extended to the Dalit women and asked them to utilise all the welfare schemes that were launched by the government and create awareness among the rural women on the benefits of the schemes.

సాక్షి | రంగారెడ్డి | మంగళవారం | మార్చి | 22 | 2016

[illegible]లు పరిష్కరించండి

[illegible]క్తి జిల్లా కోఆర్డినేటర్ భాగ్యలక్ష్మి

[illegible]ని దళిత కాలనీల్లో సమస్యలు పరిష్కరించాలని దళితస్త్రీశక్తి జిల్లా కోఆ
[illegible]ర్తారు. మండలంలోని ఆలూరు ఎస్సీ కాలనీ సమస్యలపై సోమవార
కలిసి ఆమె ఆర్డీఓ, ఎంపీడీఓ, ఎస్సైతో కార్యాలయంలో పిర్యాదులు
[illegible]ా ఆమె మాట్లాడుతూ .. మండలంలోని ఆలూరు ఎస్సీ కాలనీలో
[illegible]వాటిని ఎవరూ పట్టించుకోవటం లేదన్నారు. ప్రస్తుతం తీవ్రమైన సీజ
[illegible]ందుకు నీరు లేక జనం నానా అవస్థలు పడుతున్నారని చెప్పారు
[illegible]రపరా చేస్తామని చెబుతున్న నాయకులు వారానికి ఒక్కసారి సరఫర
[illegible]ర్లిందారు. ఉపాధిహామీ పథకంలో పనిచేసిన కూలీలకు కూలీ డబ్బులు

Rath yatra on SC, ST Sub-Plan Act flagged off

Led by Dalit women, it will cover seven districts

Staff Reporter

VISAKHAPATNAM: A 'rath yatra' with 100 Dalit women leaders to generate awareness on Scheduled Caste Sub Plan/ Tribal Sub-Plan Act (SCSP/TSP) was flagged off at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar statue near LIC Circle here on Monday.

The rally, headed by Dalit Sthree Sakthi State convenor Jhansi Geddam from Hyderabad, is on a mission to highlight the Act, human rights besides the schemes and subsidies available for Dalits.

In an effort to educate Dalits on the subject in Visakhapatnam, East, Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Ranga Reddy and Hyderabad districts, the 10-day campaign also includes conference on 'empowerment of Dalit women and girl children' in each district. The yatra will cover 1,400 villages in 47 mandals. The objective is to bring two elements to the forefront – complete awareness on the SCSP/TSP Act and to help strengthen the quality of life for Dalit women and girl children through its effective implementation," Ms. Jhansi Geddam explained.

Before flagging off the rally, former Mayor D.V. Subba Rao encouraged the Dalit women to continue their mission until the present Act reach the targeted community. "Merely having an Act in place does not serve any purpose. An Act on only breathe life if the concerned people take the issue to its logical leaders," he said.

Some of the Dalit women voiced their long suppressed emotions through. Eklavya Vice-Chancellor of Adikavi Nannaya University, Rajahmundry P. George Victor, among others also spoke and garlanded the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar before flagging off the yatra.

SPREADING THE WORD: *Dalit activists headed by the Dalit Sthree Sakthi singing songs during the first day of the 'rath yatra' in Visakhapatnam on Monday.* – PHOTO: C.V. SUBRAHMANYAM

Dalit family attac over finance dispute

Staff Reporter

HYDERABAD: Tension gripped Rampally village near Keesara on Friday night when upper caste people attacked a Dalit's family in connection with a financial dispute.

At least six persons -- one of them seriously -- were injured. Trouble broke out after a quarrel between Kalyan, a Dalit, and Rakesh over a financial dispute.

After Kalyan lodged a police complaint against Rakesh, village elders K. Anji Reddy and K. Srinivas Reddy along with their followers threatened Kalyan to withdrew the case registered against Rakesh. Kalyan, however, did not budge.

Angered over this, Anji Reddy, Srinivas Reddy and their followers entered Kalyan's house late on ... night and attacked ... of his family with st... empty bottles.

Girl kicked?

They did not spar... pregnant woman Ma... reportedly kicked ... year-old girl Bujji.

Fearing that the... would kill them, ... family members too... in a nearby graveyar... unday morning.

ACP, Alwal, G. Gan... dy said a case unde... 307 of IPC (attempt... der) was registere... the accused and eff... on to trace them.

The Dalit Sthree ... a press release, co... the incident at Ke... demanded action... those involved.

Rath yatra on SC, ST Sub-Plan Act flagged off

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...over growing atrocities against Dalit, Adivasi women

- Addressing a meeting of advocates from Krishna and Guntur districts, Dalit Sthree Shakti national convenor 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 Sthree 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 awareness 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 Sthree Sakthi in handling the cases.

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

'Governments taking away Dalit and tribal rights'

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

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

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.

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.

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.

Not even 50% of the SC/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.

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

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 of development as yet.

Mr. Murthy has given 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.

Latin American example

Former civil liberties activist Subrahmanyam said development has now become synonymous with destruction, and the trend harks 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.

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

No escape for Dalits from caste discrimination

ANDHRA PRADESH | THE HINDU • FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2012

FLIGHT: *Parimala taking care of her mentally challenged sister's child at the public hearing organised by Dalit Sthree Sakthi in Hyderabad on Thursday. (Right) Hanumantha recounting how his daughter had committed suicide.* – PHOTOS: MOHAMMED YOUSUF

Aruna's murder: Dalit women outfits decry govt's inaction

THE HANS INDIA 6 JANUARY 2013

OUR BUREAU

Hyderabad: Women's organisations of schedules communities on Saturday decried the attitude of government, political parties and social organisations that took to streets and campaigned blatantly against Delhi-rape incident but failed to enact likewise on the murder of P Aruna belonging to scheduled community and a student of Osmania University.

Forum of Dalit women organisations comprising of over 30 associations staged protest near Ambedkar's statue at Tank Bund against the subjective reaction.

"Expressing concerns and extending solidarity to the campaigns against Delhi rape incident Chief Minister, ministers and political parties skipped dinner meetings, while civil organisations conducted candle light marches protesting the incident

Forum of Dalit Women staging demonstration against suspected murder of P Aruna, an OU student at Ambedkar statue near Tankbund on Saturday.

Need for judiciary to stay impartial

HANS INDIA
HYDERABAD | FRIDAY 13 JUNE 2014

OUR BUREAU

A round-table points to increasing caste and religion influence on judges

DSS Demands Closure of Wine Shop at Kankipadu

Express News Service

Vijayawada: Dalit Stree Sakthi (DSS) president Jhansi Geddam here on Wednesday demanded that district collector P.Sa... Dhanunjaya Reddy ... take immediate steps for the closure of the Lucky Wine Shop at Kankipadu stating that it was directly responsible for the death of a Dalit and injuries to his nine-year-old grandson-village in the district.

She also asked the collector take steps to provide adequate police to the family members of both Ravitej... [illegible] ... department to people of the Scheduled Castes (SC) of Pamidimukkala ...

The DSS State convenor, along with other leaders of the organisation, met the collector here on Wednesday and demanded allocation of funds from the Special Component Plan (SCP) to create socio-economic awareness among the SCs. She denounced that the village be declared as atrocity prone area.

Jhansi wondered why the Excise Department had not taken any action on the owners of the wine shop even after the incident of death happened in front of the wine shop which was kept ... tion of norms ... collector to c... shops.

She alleged ... caused, who ... died couldn't ... cousin of Ra... harassment ... ers also alleg... The shop ha... since the lic... It op... near B... Pamidimadi... gally shifte... Kadiyadda...

The DSP ... commissio... Madhavadh... urged him to ... GHs were published ... Programme manager ... G Dasu, Vijay Pra...

Campaign for gender equality begin

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Vijayawada: The Dalit Sthree Shakti (DSS) has raised the call for gender equality and participation in the campaign opposing violence ... 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 ... girl children. In this camp... ign, Dalit Sthree Sakthi is e... lightening the public in g... neral about patriarchal ide... logy and how it is rooted ... the minds of all. Unfortun... tely, even women unconsci...

Violence agair... Adivasi wome...

Victims share details on atro...

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

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

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 Vyjayanthi.

Speaking on the occasion, national convenor of Dalit Sthree Sakti Jhansi Geddam said, "In order to achieve gender equality, an aware-

Dalit Sthree ...

ness camp... launched ag... chal belief ... vades acros... irrespective ... gions, class, ... ture, while ... spheres of ... sual media ...

Babasahe... thought alo... equal socie... and said em... tonomous ... women ca... cial inde...

Strict implementation of SC, ST Act sought

- Social welfare principal secretary admits that there is a negligence in case of crimes against SCs and STs because of which victims are denied compensation and justice

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Geddam Jhansi, national convener of Dalit Stree Sakthi, addressing the zoom conference on the atrocities ... Dalits in Guntur on Friday

Guntur: Principal secretary of social welfare department Muddada Ravichandra, deputy director of prosecutions Rajendra Prasad and director of AP Women's Commission Ravuri Suez and leaders of various women's associations in a Zoom conference here on Friday opined that the SC and ST Act should be strictly implemented and the victims should be compensated and rehabilitated as early as possible.

Ravichandra admitted that there has been negligence in the system which is resulting in delay in payment of compensation, rehabilitation of the victims. He said the welfare department had prepared some GOs to overcome this problem and they would be issued soon for the proper implementation of the enactment. The GOs were formulated in such a way, even the officials would also be penalized under Section 4, if they violate the rules, he said.

The principal secretary said that compensation was pending in over 900 cases since 2010. He complimented the Dalit Sthree ... against injustice.

Deputy director of prosecutions Rajendra Prasad underlined the role of government pleaders in administration of justice to the victims. He said that the SC and ST Act is a perfect enactment but the role of voluntary service associations is also important in its implementation. The public prosecutors should be more careful while handling such cases, he said.

Dalit Sthree Sakthi ... Jhansi expressed conc... the inordinate delay i... istering justice to the v... the atrocity cases. She ... the cases were fizzling ... courts due to the po... prosecution. There ... pressure on the victim... promise with the pen... which is sad, she said.

State coordinator ... leaders of various ass...

'Governments taking away Dalit and tribal rights'

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

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

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.

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.

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.

Not even 50% of the SC/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.

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

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 of development as yet.

Mr. Murthy has given 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.

Latin American example

Former civil liberties activist Subrahmanyam said development has now become synonymous with destruction, and the trend harks 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.

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

HYDERABAD HANS 28 FEBRUARY 2013

CRIES FOR JUSTICE FROM UNKNOWN NIRBHAYAS

Round table on atrocities on Dalit women, girl children

Goddam Jhansi, Dalit Stree Shakti state convenor speaking at the round table conference

THE HINDU • SATURDAY,

Police inaction in harassment cases

INDIAN EXPRESS WEDNESDAY 13.02.2019

Agriculture and Civil Supplies Departments principal secretary B Rajsekhar and DSS national convenor Geddam Jhansi | P RAVINDRA BABU

Inclusive growth vital for uplift of Dalits

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Vijayawada

B Rajsekhar, Principal Secretary, Agriculture and Civil Supplies Departments, has said that inclusive growth was vital for the empowerment of Dalit women.

Addressing the gathering during the 13th annual State conference of Dalit Sthree Sakthi conducted here on Tuesday, he said, "All the political leaders use this term, but we need to see if they actually implement it. For instance the State budget is ₹2.3 lakh crore, but how much has been allotted for the welfare of Dalits."

Echoing his views, AP Tobacco Board Chairperson and Managing Director Kaki Sunitha highlighted the importance of education for the economic and political development of Dalit women. Dalit Sthree Sakthi National Convener Jhansi Geddam said that they nurtured 50 Dalit women entrepreneurs last year.

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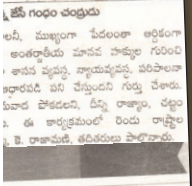

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HANS INDIA 16 MARCH 2014

SC/ST community gets more power to fight in

OUR BUREAU

Hyderabad: Ten days after the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Ordinance was cleared, Dalit Stree Shakti conducted a meeting to brief non-government organisations (NGOs) working in the sphere of Dalit movements on the new amendments to the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities.) Amendment.

Jhansi Geddam, state convenor, Dalit Stree Shakti said, "The ordinance issued on March 4, has several measures for SC/ST community to fight against atrocities as many clauses have been added with a special chapter on victims' rights protection. This ordinance makes it mandatory for the police department to provide information of the date of investigation and also the FIR and chargesheet copy." More than 50 NGOs from across the State participated in the meeting held on Saturday. Social Welfare Department joint director Raghuram stated, "The ordinance gives the SC/ST community, especially the women, a lot of powers and allows them speedy trials. The ordinance makes it mandatory for the State to establish special courts to clear cases within two months."

Dalit Stree Shakti state convenor Jhansi Geddam speaking at the meeting

SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Ordinance -2014

- Provide a copy of the recorded FIR free of cost
- Immediate relief in cash or kind for victims or their dependents
- Informing rights of atrocity victims at the time of making complaints and registering FIR
- Atrocity victims to be provided information on the status of investigation and chargesheet free of cost

Electoral offences

The ordinance provides clear guidelines in matters relating to electoral offences and would be treated as atrocities on the community. Raghuram said, "Stopping an SC/ST from filing his or her nomination, forcing people to vote to a particular candidate and visiting Dalit localities to influence voters would be termed as atrocities and would be booked under Prevention of Atrocities Act."

Ordinance translated into Telugu

In an effort to spread awareness among people, Dalit Stree Shakti translated the provisions of the ordinance in Telugu language and distributed it among NGOs so that it could be further distributed in Dalit localities and among the community.

Preventing entry in place of worship, social economic boycott and promoting enmity would all now be considered as cruelty against SCs and STs.

THE HINDU • SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2015

"Real Women's Day is when Dalit women are empowered"

Staff Reporter

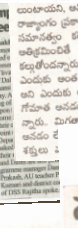
VISAKHAPATNAM: Observance of Women's Day will be real only when women of weaker sections are treated on par with those in the mainstream. There is a need for members of oppressed caster to come out of their shell and be aware of their rights, Acts, and welfare schemes, convener of Dalit Stree Shakti (DSS) Geddam Jhansi has said.

Addressing a district-level meeting on Friday as a prelude to the International Women's Day, Ms. Jhansi said that the voice of Dalit women was often hushed up and ignored for many reasons. "Instead of organising rangoli contests and beauty pageants to mark the day, people should think in terms of uplifting the weaker sections and empowering Dalit women with greater awareness on various subjects," she said.

She urged the government to implement the SC/ST Sub-Plan and other government schemes effectively and help improve the standard of living of the tribal people.

HANS INDIA

Dalit women urged to turn entrepreneurs



సాక్షి తూర్పుగోదావరి | తిరవారం | అక్టోబర్ | 15 | 2016

SATURDAY 9 MARCH 2019 CAPITAL REGION CityHans

Dalit women very strong to face life

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Vijayawada: Dalit women are very confident, courageous to face the challenges in life, said Moka Satti Babu, additional project director of Rajiv Vidya Mission while addressing the conference on Development of Dalit Women in connection with the International Women's Day at the Press Club here on Friday.

Satti Babu said that in spite of their confidence, the Dalit women are subject to inequalities in the society and are dying due to lack medical facilities. He deplored that the Dalit girls are facing sexual harassment in schools. He regretted that there was no representation to Dalit women either in Parliament or in the Assemblies.

He recalled the quote of Ambedkar stating that Dalit women development should be the criteria for assessing the development of the society.

Headvised the Dalit women to take examples of Savitribai Phoole and Ramabai instead of becoming slaves to the husbands.

Gaddam Jhansi, national convener of Dalit Stree Shakti, said that the Dalit women in the society are facing exploitation and repression. "It is high time the families in general and the men in particular are needed to be sensitised to bring Dalit women into the mainstream," she added.

Daniel Prakash, national programme manager presiding over the meeting and Prof Subrahmanyam, Samule John, Pollution Control Board member Nagarjuna, Dalit Stree Shakti leaders Hemalata, Vijayakumari, Manikyam, Padmalata, Mariyamma and others participated.

Moka Satti Babu, additional project director of Rajiv Vidya Mission addressing the Dalit Stree Shakti conference at Press Club in Vijayawada on Friday

ఆంధ్రజ్యోతి 4 తమ్మినేని కృష్ణవేణమ్మ

స్త్రీ-పురుష సమతావాద ప్రవ

స్త్రీల సమస్యల మీద, ముఖ్యంగా దళిత, ఆదివాసీ, స్త్రీల సమస్యల మీద నాయకులెవరికీ సరైన అవగాహన కాని, పరిష్కారంపై చిత్తశుద్ధ కాని లేకపోవడం కోవిలియం. స్త్రీ జాతిలోనే అత్యధిక్షస్తులనబడే స్త్రీల నుంచి దళిత స్త్రీలకు విముక్తి కలగకుండా రక్షణ కావాలి. అణగారిన స్త్రీల అభివృద్ధి సమాజ అభివృద్ధికి కొలబద్దగా గుర్తించాలని అంబేద్కర్ ఆనాడే తెలిపారు.

మంగళవారం 16. ఆగస్టు వార్త

బంధనాలు ఛేదిద్దాం! నిజమైన స్వాతంత్ర్యం కోసం ఉద్యమిద్దాం' : దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి పి

హక్కుల పరిరక్షణ అందరి బాధ్యత

మానవహక్కుల పరిరక్షణపై మహిళలకు శిక్షణ ఇస్తున్న దళిత స్త్రీశక్తి జాతీయ కన్వీనర్ ఝాన్సీ

SUNDAY TIMES OF INDIA, VIJAYAWADA, NOVEMBER 15, 2015

Dalit women, girls cry for justice

Victims Of Violence Against Women Narrate Their Ordeal

The entire focus is on Amaravati. If the state wants to address Dalit issues, the state is capable of doing it but there is lack of interest

— Jhansi Geddam, DSS national convenor

Jayanth.P@timesgroup.com

Vijayawada: A 20-year-old resident of Amalapuram in East Godavari district was brutally assaulted by an acquaintance who exploited her, promising a job. And to this day, she is hoping that the accused will be punished. "What is stopping the authorities to help me get justice? Is it just because I am a Dalit?" she demanded to know from those attending a conference organised by Dalit Stree Shakti (DSS) on the atrocities against women and young girls from

violence in one form or the other across the state.

All of them shared their stories and sought justice for the crimes committed against them, including gang rape, murder, cheating in the name of love, sexual exploitation, mob fury on the grounds of caste differences etc. Few of these cases are actively being pursued by the police and judiciary

"Years have passed by and the perpetrators are roaming scot free. The way that the judiciary and the police are working is not at all helping the victims. In some of the cases the SC/ST Act has not been implemented," said DSS national convenor Jhansi Geddam.

She attacked the TDP government for failing to protect the downtrodden

focus is on Amaravati. If Andhra Pradesh wants to resolve our problems, it is easy but there does not seem

caste so that they can have control," Rao recalled.

The victims reiterated that they are not fighting the case for the compensation that the government is supposed to give, but against the very basis of the caste system itself. "Discrimination should end. We don't want the compensation, we need justice," said K Venkateswara Rao, whose daughter was murdered after being raped at the young age of 12.

Social welfare director Samuel Anand Kumar, who was also present, said that he would ensure progress in the investigations. "The majority of the cases are from West Godavari, East Godavari, Krishna districts. We will work towards solving them," he said.

He told TOI that the department is planning to conduct a workshop for police, revenue and welfare officials to sensitise them to the issues. "Before the year ends, we will conduct the workshop. We will also identify the victims and provide economic support," he assured.

THE HANS INDIA

AMARAVATI SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2015

DALIT RAPE VICTIMS FAIL TO GET JUSTICE

OUR BUREAU

Round-table on atrocities

State Director of Social Welfare Anand Kumar speaking at a round-table on 'Atrocities against Dalit Women and Girl Children', organised by Dalit Sthree Shakthi (DSS), at Tana Bhavan in Vijayawada on Saturday

Vijayawada: Atrocities on Dalit girls are increasing in the state in the name of love. The State government has failed to prevent atrocities against Dalit women and children, according to Dalit Stree Sakthi members.

At a round-table organised on atrocities against Dalit women and girls here on Saturday, Dalit Stree Sakthi convener Jhansi Gaddam said that several cases of rape and murder of Dalit women are pending in Krishna, West Godavari and other districts of the State. She said more than 30 cases of atrocities were reported in the state.

She said in several cases the rape victims gave birth to children who grew up. Now even after four years, the government had failed to provide justice to the rape victims. She

She expressed surprise over harassment of SC/ST children in schools by upper caste students. Citing an example at Ramajulanka village of Mamidikuduru mandal in East

so far. Several victims presented their cases during the round-table.

PV Sunil Kumar, IGP, CID, I Samuel Anand Kumar, Director of Social Welfare depart-

SS teams to heck exploitation Dalit women

RESS NEWS SERVICE

derabad, Feb 23: Dalit Sthree thi (DSS) will constitute teams check caste and sexual loitation of Dalit women.

The DSS, which met here ently, also resolved to groom lit girls into able leaders. veral such suggestions came at the concluding meeting of DSS and the same were con- ved to Chief Minister Y S asekhara Reddy today, cording to DSS convener ddam Jhansi.

When the DSS representatives prised the Chief Minister of the lations in implementing the and ST Atrocities (Preventive) t, he assured them that he uld ensure the implementa- n of the Act and see to it that Dalit girls who were victims of e and atrocities got justice.

ఈ ఉన్మాదానికి అంతం లేదా?

DECCAN CHRONICLE

SATURDAY | 22 OCTOBER 201

AWARENESS OF RIGHTS STRESSED

DC CORRESPONDENT

GUNTUR, OCT. 21

Former judge K.G. Sankar asserted on the need for awareness about laws and Acts to the activists of human rights organisations.

The Dalit Sthree Sakthi organisation is conducting a two-day training programme for women activists at Guntur. Inaugurating the training session, Mr Sankar lamented that majority victims of human rights violation cases are Dalits and suggested human rights activists to work against the attacks on Dalits.

He opined that there were lot of Acts and laws for the protection of Dalits but a majority of them were not being implemented at the ground level. He felt there was no need of making new Acts and laws if the suppressed classes achieve good education and awareness about the laws. Mr Sankar said that he observed about misuse of Section 498 and SC, ST Atrocities Prevention Act and sought stopping misuse of the laws. DSS national convener G. Jhansi said that DSS is organizing the training through group discussions

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

HYDERABAD

THURSDAY 21.02.2019

'Subaltern women need orientation prior to trials'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ Hyderabad

DALIT Stree Shakti, a voluntary organisation, in their annual report has noted that most cases of sexual abuse against Dalit and Adivasi women in Telugu States are not processed and concluded within the stipulated time - two months from when the chargesheet is filed.

Underscoring the need for awareness of trial procedures, experts, who deal with caste and gender violence cases on a regular basis, said subaltern victims needed pre-trial orientation. "There is no pre-trial orientation for the victims. They have to navigate through the legal maze without any knowledge of their objective or the steps they need to take to get there," noted the report. As many as 25 cases of atrocities were studied by the organisation.

"Victims saw a lot of delay in the pre-trial stage itself. Most of it is because of hesitation in filing complaints and due to delay in FSL reports. Also, public prosecutors are known to neglect such cases and present weak arguments," the report read. Daniel Prakash, national program manager of DSS, said Dalit and Adivasi women needed help in accessing the services of the law. He announced that his organisation would hold special training camps on various Acts in the Constitution to help people safeguard their rights. "We will go to villages and hold training camps for women," he said.

THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS VIJAYAWADA 15 NOVEMBER 2015

VIJAYAWADA

Dalit Women Recount Harrowing Experiences

Most of the cases were of rape, murder or attempt to murder

AMARAVATI THURSDAY 16 J

DECCAN CHRONICLE

SUNDAY | 11 MARCH 2018 | VIJAYAWADA

DALIT WOMEN TOLD TO GET EDUCATED FIRST

DC CORRESPONDENT

GUNTUR, MARCH 10

The Dalit women were told to become industrialists and entrepreneurs during a meeting on 'Dalit women empowerment' held in Guntur on Saturday.

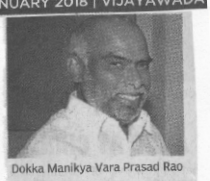
DSS national convener Jhansi Geddam, addressing the gathering, asserted on the need to acquire good education as it would help Dalit women to build their careers.

She reminded that education is the weapon which helped B.R. Ambedkar to get top position in India and asked Dalit women to provide good education to their girl children without bias.

Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce representatives Navin Kumar and Dr Anand said the trend has changed from government jobs to industrialists in the recent past.

DECCAN CHRONICLE

SATURDAY | 27 JANUARY 2018 | VIJAYAWADA



Dokka Manikya Vara Prasad Rao

Work for uplift of suppressed classes: Dokka

DC CORRESPONDENT

GUNTUR, JAN. 26

Telugu Desam MLC and former minister Dokka Manikya Vara Prasad Rao lamented that there were forces in society which aim to suppress women and prevent their empowerment.

The new generation has the responsibility to ensure and work for the uplift of these suppressed classes.

The Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) organised a seminar on "constitution-governance" on the occasion of Republic Day at Guntur on Friday. Addressing the seminar Mr Rao said that there were two groups in society with one fighting for their welfare and rights and the other for power and development. He lamented that the public was shunning morals which is very bad for the society. He opined that getting justice seems to have become a mirage from local panchayats to apex courts.

He asserted on the need to acquire good education and use constitutional rights by the suppressed classes and women for development and empowerment.

Former MLC K.S. Lakshmana Rao opined that real development and change in society would come only when the provisions under the Constitution are implemented in full.

Principal secretary to AP government (welfare) K. Praveen Kumar said that B.R. Ambedkar had put rights of women in the Constitution but still women have been failing to see much develop and sought to get awareness about their constitutional rights. DSS national convener G. Jhansi and other leaders addressed the meeting and sought measures by the gov-

'Dalit women should strive to excel in all fields'

Dr Sirdoji, Prof Macsood Syed, Prof Subrahmanyam, Nagaraju and Jhansi Geddam, national convener of Dalit Shree Shakti, paying floral tributes to Dr BR Ambedkar before starting a workshop on 'Equality in Independent India' in Vijayawada on Wednesday

OUR BUREAU

Vijayawada: Women in general and Dalit women in particular should strive to excel in all fields to achieve equality in society, said Jhansi Geddam, national convener of Dalit Sthree Shakti (DSS) while presiding over the workshop on 'Equality in Independent India' at Makineni Basavapunnaiah Vignana Kendram here on Wednesday.

Addressing the women's collective from various districts, who attended the meeting, Jhansi said that Dalit women should shed inhibitions and lead an independent life. She advised the Dalit women to treat the boys and girls equally at home to prepare the boys to treat women with respect. "Give them brooms to clean the house so that they could learn what is housekeeping and understand the

respect themselves to get respect from others. Devatoti Nagaraju, members of SC, ST Development Council, expressed concern over the casteism and how the people are becoming caste-centred. "If anybody wants to even rent a home, he is asked about his caste," he rued. Despite stringent laws, there is no safety and protection to Dalits, he added.

Prof Maqsood Syed, general secretary of BAMCEF, recalled that Nirbhaya Act was enacted when an upper caste woman was raped and killed but nothing would happen if Dalit women were raped and killed. Prof A Subrahmanyam, Dean of Law in Nagarjuna University, Dr Sirgoji, convener of IAS, IPS Officers' Forum, Anuradha, DE of APSER, Manikyam, Kiran and others spoke. Daniel Prakash, national programme manager of

SATURDAY 9 MARCH 2019

CAPITAL REGION

Dalit women very strong to face li

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Vijayawada: Dalit women are very confident, courageous to face any challenges in life, said Miss Sathi Babu, additional project director of Bala Vikas Mandir while addressing the conference on Development of Dalit Women in connection with the International Women's Day at the Press Club here on Friday.

Sathi Babu said, but in spite of their confidence, the Dalit women are subjected to inequalities in the society like are dying due to lack medical facilities. He deplored that the girl children are facing sexual harassment in schools etc. regretted that there was no representation to the women in their in Parliament or in the Assembly.

He recalled the words of Ambedkar stating that Dalit women development could be the criteria for assessing the development of the society.

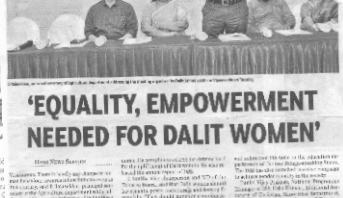
He advised the Dalit women to take

Kumaribai instead of becoming slaves to the humanists.

Gaddam Jhansi, national convener of Dalit Stree Shakti, said that the Dalit women is the victim of multiple exploitation and oppression. "It is high time the families in general and the men in particular are needed to be sensitised on being Dalit women

CityHans

WEDNESDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2019



'EQUALITY, EMPOWERMENT NEEDED FOR DALIT WOMEN'

HANS INDIA 9 MARCH 2014

Dalit women urged to fight for their rights

8th Annual Conference of Dalit Stree Sakthi held

Need for awareness among tribals about their rights

Conference adopts 10-point 2014 Declaration

Narra Ravi Kumar of Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI) speaking at Dalit Stree Sakthi (DSS)'s 8th annual conference in Hyderabad on Tuesday

S BUREAU

Hyderabad: Dalit women ... to come out of their co... know about the various ... and laws about women ... take advantage of the ... rnment programmes for ... STs, said B Udaya Lak... commissioner, tribal ... re department, at the 8th ... annual conference con... ed by Dalit Stree Sakthi ...) here on Tuesday. ...ing an example of how ... s are further pushed into ...wardness, she said that ...le from the plains buy ... in tribal belts, as a result ...atives suffer. There is a ... for tribals to be aware of ... Forest Regulation Act which states that tribals are entitled to the land they inhabit. On the occasion, two annual reports in English and Telugu language were released and a plan of action for 2014 was announced. Jhansi Geddam, convenor, DSS, said, "The core activity of DSS is addressing the issue of violence against Dalit women and children. Right to life and liberty is fundamental but this very right to life of Dalit women and girl child is under constant attack."

Dalits have been living the same life for thousands of years and the reason behind their sorry state is superstition and age-old rituals that have no scientific backing, said Narra Ravi Kumar of Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI). He called upon adivasi women to engage in small businesses and become self-reliant. Education backed by economic independence alone would allow them to break free, he added.

Anitha Mahadas, general manager, Rail Tel said, "Dalits should not waste time going out for dharnas for petty issues and instead concentrate on educating their children. Superstition is one of the reasons why they remain backward."

2014 declaration adopted

Accessibility to education, health and awareness about laws were the main issues that Dalit community needs, opined the speakers. The 2014 declaration was adopted with a 10-point agenda. The declaration includes to focus on: qualitative life for Dalit, adivasi children, empowerment of Dalit adivasi girls, a life of dignity with food, education and basic amenities bereft of violence, socio-economic-political rights, programmes on spreading awareness on Acts pertaining to women, protection of girl child, interaction between adivasi women and concerned departments and work towards pressurising governments of respective States of Telangana and Seemandhra to include separate policies for Dalit empower-

HYDERABAD THURSDAY 29 JANUARY 2015

Dalit Women Exhorted t... Become Entrepreneurs

Conference stresses need for women to achieve economic equality

Dalit women participating in the 8th State Conference organised by Dalit Stree Shakthi in Hyderabad on Wednesday

Express News Service

Hyderabad: Dalit women ... should focus on becoming entrepreneurs, as various schemes are in place for supporting Dalit entrepreneurs. Dalit women should make use of these incentives and excel as entrepreneurs as it helps them in achieving empowerment in all aspects, Jayesh Ranjan, vice-chairman and managing director of Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC), has said.

"Right from helping in preparing proposals and project reports to finding with banks for credit, government offers various services for Dalit women entrepre-... provided under various provisions. Women can know about all these incentives at any of the District Industrial Centres," he explained speaking at the state conference of Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) organisation in Hyderabad on Wednesday. Dalit Stree Shakti annual conference focused on empowering Dalit women and girls by developing them as entrepreneurs. Speakers at the conference highlighted the problems faced by Dalit women and exhorted them to courageously move forward to achieve economic equality and social status.

Unless economically empowered, equality cannot be achieved socially and Dalit women should ... former bureaucrat Koki Mathi... Rao on the occasion. Stressing that Dalit women have all the talent and skills to excel as entrepreneurs, N Ravi Kumar, member, Dalit Industrial Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI) urged them to focus on becoming entrepreneurs as that is the way forward for achieving financial growth, in the times of declining job market.

Social welfare department ... commissioner Prasad Raju, Assembly director Vasanth Kannabiran, Professor Purushotham Chakrapani, Bit Ambedkar Open University, DSS national convenor G Jhansi ... were among those participating in the conference attended by Dalit wo...

THE HINDU • WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2016

Dalit women urged to become entrepreneurs to prove themselves

STAFF REPORTER

VIJAYAWADA: Members of the Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) on Tuesday called upon the Dalit women to make use of the business opportunities and education as tools for growth.

The DSS organised a meeting on 'Dalit Women-Economic System' marking the death anniversary of B.R. Ambedkar.

Many Dalit women, including entrepreneurs, from various parts of the city took part in it.

Addressing the gathering, DSS national convenor Geddam Jhansi stressed the need for Dalit women to rise to the occasion and work for the betterment of their families.

The participants were given insights into start-ups and the schemes for aspiring women entrepreneurs.

"Entrepreneurship is a opportunity for Dal... women to prove their cap... bilities," she said.

The participants we... given insights into start-up... and the governme... schemes that provide he... for aspiring wome... entrepreneurs.

Representative from t... Dalit Indian Chamber ... Commerce and Indust... Rajamani, Deputy Manag... District Industries Corpo... ation Venkata Ramana a... others were present.

VIJAYAWADA SATURDAY 7 FEBR...

Awareness drive on SC & ST Sub-Plan

Welfare Funds not Reaching SC/STs: DSS

Express News Service

Vijayawada: Social welfare ... joint director Y Sobha Rani has called upon Dalit girls to approach her department for any help in regard to their educational pursuits.

Speaking at the ninth state conference of Dalit Stree Sakthi (DSS) here on Friday, she said that her department was working for the welfare of Dalits.

DSS national convener Jhansi Geddam said that funds allocated to SC/ST communities were not reaching the targeted group. Chairperson of women's cell of Acharya Nagarjuna University (ANU) said increase in cases of domestic violence and harassment of Dalit women were a casue for concern.

CityHans THURSDAY 08 DECEMBER 2016

THE HINDU HYDERABAD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2...

High time to protest violence against women: Jud...

Dalita Stree Shakti national conference held

HYDERABAD

The Dalita Stree Shakti National Conference on Wednesday resolved to conduct training at village level on various laws, mentor Dalit women as entrepreneurs, form youth wings, expand to new areas, among others. The conference was presided over by the national convenor Jhansi Geddam, and participated by IRTS officer Venkat Rao, academic K.Y. Ratnam from UoH, journalist Akhileshwari, feminist-writer Vasanth Kannabiran and others.

Judi...ge Shameem Akhtar (centre) who is the chairperson of District Legal Services Authority addressing the meeting organised by Dalit Stree Shakti in Ibrahimpatnam on Tuesday

...ANDHRA JYOTHY 24 JUNE 2012

దళిత గిరిజనుల సమానత్వానికి ప్రత్యేక చట్టాలు

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS VISAKHAPATNAM FRIDAY 26 AUGUST 2016

Watch Out for Atta... Dalit Women Told

Press News Service

...akhapatnam: The two-day awareness programme on empowerment of Dalit women, organised by the Dalit Sthree Sakthi, concluded here Thursday. During the sessions, social security and financial assistance and empowerment to women were discussed. A large number of Dalit women and Andhra University girl students were present.

Addressing the gathering at the concluding ceremony, Dalit Sthree Sakthi national ... asked the women ... out for attacks and ... She said that the D... en in particular fa... times in the present ... called upon the ... women to come f... put an end to the at... assaults on the wo... also appealed to th... to play a vital role ... awareness progra... various issues.

The speakers, ... programme ma... Prakash and distr... nator B Rajitha ta... various attacks ...

కృష్ణాజిల్లా | బుధవారం 7 డిసెంబరు | 2016

...ూటాదుముస్తు గెద్దం ఝాన్సీ

AMARAVATI FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 20...

Dalit women have become leaders after long struggle: DSS convener

Dalit Stree Shakti 12th Annual Conference held

Convenor Jhansi says the main aim of DSS is to make Dalit women to come into mainstream and grow politically

OUR BUREAU

Gaddam Jhansi and others at the Dalit Stree Shakti annual state conference in Vijayawada on Thursday

...ijayawada: Dalit Stree Shakti ...SS) convener Gaddam Jhansi ...id that decade-long struggle ...ansformed Dalit women into ...aders in the society who were ...-treated earlier.

She was the chief guest at the ...th State-level Annual Confer...ce of Dalit Stree Shakti (DSS) ...ganised at Ambedkar Bhavan ...re on Thursday. National pro...amme manager Daniel Vijaya ...akash also took part along with ...r. Jhansi said that the main ...n of DSS was to make Dalit ...omen to come to the main...ream and develop politically, fi...ncially and socially. The DSS was keen on giving better child... hood for Da... In a dec... had tackled ... of attacks ... children, sl... overcome n... women emp... that chang... society and ... she said. Di... R Kotaeswara Rao has said special ... for women should be ...

Accused under SC/ST Act getting bail in TS'...

THE INDIAN EXPRESS AMARAVATI TUESDAY 11.7.2018

Edn an effective weapon against violence, says DCP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

"WOMEN should have the ... ...ce and freedom to work ... ...nvasive rights. That is ... ...e only way we have ... ...real free independent and ... ...y where we can call our... ...n soft nation. We have to ... ...e to bring about this revol... ...tion," Geddam Jhansi, Sta... ...ecretary of Dalit Sthree Sakthi ... said on Monday.

...e was speaking at an event ... ...n city on the last day of ... ...0-day campaign on gen... ...quality and against gender... ...violence on women ...

...development and education is ... ...the most effective weapon ... ...against violence. If people are ... ...educated, they would be ... ...equipped to overcome all atro... ...cities. There are many Acts that ... ...protect the rights of women and ... ...if they should be aware of ... ...them."

Talking about TSSS' role in ... ...curbing violence against wom... ...en, Geddam Jhansi said, "DSS is ... ...working for women welfare and ... ...for protection of their rights for ... ...the past 15 years," she said.

To prevent violence against ... ...them, one must first look into its ... ...root cause. A lack of education, ...environmental and ... ...

HYDERABAD FRIDAY 4 JANUARY 2019

DSS calls for reforms in edn system

Hyderabad: On the occasion of Savitribai Phule's birth anniversary, the Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) conducted a meeting on topic 'Education without Bias' at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram. National Convenor of DSS G Jhansi, APTRI Director General Kalyan Chakravarthy, professors G Vinod Kumar, Shobha, Ratnam, Shailaja, Sudarshan, PSN Murthy and Dr N Siddhoji Rao spoke at the meeting. They all unanimously opined that in the existing biased society it was impossible to get the education without bias. They said based on the Kothari Commission Reforms, a common school system should be

ఆర్థిక వ్యవస్థలో ...స్త్రీలకు సమాన స్థానం కల్పించాలి

దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి కన్వీనర్ గెద్దం ఝాన్సీ

...ంధ్ర, విజయవాడ (గాంధీనగర్) : ఆర్థిక వ్యవస్థలో దళిత స్త్రీ ...మాన స్థానం కల్పించి, సమాజాభివృద్ధికి ప్రభుత్వాలు కృషి ...ి దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి కన్వీనర్ గెద్దం ఝాన్సీ అన్నారు. దళిత స్త్రీ శక్తి ...లో మంగళవారం గాంధీనగర్‌లోని ప్రెస్‌క్లబ్‌లో 'దళిత ...ర్థిక వ్యవస్థ' అంశంపై 11వ జిల్లా మహాసభ నిర్వహించారు. ...ఝాన్సీ మాట్లాడుతూ, సమాజంలో ...ంస లేని విధంగా దళిత స్త్రీల అభ్యున్నతికి ...సమాన స్థాయిలో ఆర్థిక వెసులు బాటు కల్పించలేదని అన్నారు. ...ంస జరిగి, సక్రమంగా ఉన్నట్లయితే, తప్పని సరిగా మార్పు ...ఉండలని సూచించారు. పంచ వర్ష ప్రణాళికల్లో స్త్రీలపై ప్రస్తావన ...అమలు చేయడంలో కృషి చేపట్టాలని తెలిపారు. సభ ఫైనల్ ...తప్పకుండా వారి అభివృద్ధికి ఖర్చుచేస్తే ఫలితం ఉంటుందన్న ...చేశారు. ఈ కార్యక్రమంలో జాతీయ ప్రోగ్రాం మేనేజరు జీడీ ...పరిశ్రమల శాఖ డిప్యూటీ మేనేజరు వెంకట్రావు, వేణు

Dalit women share their pain

OUR BUREAU

Nampally: A round table conference on 'Violence against Dalit Women' was organised by the Dalit Sthree Shakti here on Friday.

Twenty-five survivors shared gruesome incidents of being exploited socially, economically, physically, verbally and culturally by not only their spouses, but also their in-laws and family. Cases of starvation, forceful abortion, alcoholism, dowry harassment and cheating in the name of love were presented in front of the Child Welfare Committee chairperson, P Syamala, Superintendent of Police Parimala Hana Nathan, Retired High Court Judge Justice B Chandra Kumar, Sudha Rani, Professor at Ambedkar University and National Dalit Movement for Justice Project Co-ordinator Abirami Jotheeswaran among other eminent social activists.

Moved by the harsh realities of casteism prevalent in the State, the forum condemned atrocities that degraded the lives of Dalit women in the society and raised a need to modify existing laws of domestic violence and family protection to provide a safe and secured environment for not only Dalit women but those belonging to even other strata of the community.

Citing how 80 per cent of Dalit families were run by women, Nuthan said that sensitisation of communities in the neighbourhood over such issues can help in eradicating the social evil.

Justice Kumar said, "Everything undergoes a change and it is important for the survivors to hope for better lives than taking extreme steps of ending their lives."

He added that taking proper advice from the right people and being clear in the decisions relating to marriage can be the only preventive measures to put a stop domestic violence at the grass root level.

Cases of starvation, forceful abortion, alcoholism, dowry harassment and cheating in the name of love come to the fore

CityLife
HYDERABAD | SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2017

SATURDAY | 19 DECEMBER 2015 | VIJAYAWADA

DECCAN CHRONICLE

Call to fight gender inequality

Guntur: The Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) meeting here on Friday demanded radication of inequality and bias between men and women to ensure women empowerment. Addressing the meeting, DSS national convener Jhansi Geddam lamented the ongoing attacks on women, despite the Constitution having punishable Acts. She said that financial development of Dalit and tribal women is important to fight against gender bias.

Ms Jhansi said DSS is working for the uplift of Dalit, Adivasi and suppressed women of the society and asked women to get good education.

DSS leader, K. Madhu explained about the allocation of huge funds for SC/ST sub-plan by the government and suggested women to become industrialists, entrepreneurs and businesswomen by making good use of the scheme.

He said there is a good demand for various industries in Guntur district in view of its proximity to Amaravati.

DSS Guntur district coordinator, K. Vijayakumari, SNEHA director, Rajni Kanth and others also talked about the importance of empower-

wareness campaigns needed empower dalit women: DSS

Sthree Sakthi (DSS) national convener G Jhansi speaking at the 'Dalit Women-sability' conference in Vijayawada on Saturday

OUR BUREAU

wada: Dalit Stree Sakthi national convener Geddam has said there urgent need to bring ness among dalit women ir rights, Acts and welthemes through cam-

king at a conference on Women-Sustainability', ed by the DSS here on lay, Jhansi said that f dalit women was often

hushed up and ignored for many reasons. A majority of dalit women were exploited as they were ignorant of their rights. Unless dalit women were not economically empowered, equality and social justice could not be achieved in the competitive world. The dalit women should focus on becoming entrepreneurs as various schemes were in place for supporting them as entrepreneurs, she said. The DSS national convener urged the government to implement the SC/ST Sub-plan and other government schemes effectively and help improve the standards of the dalit women in society.

DSS national programme manager Daniel Vijay Prakash, State coordinator Bhagya Lakshmi, district coordinator Siraha, State leader GDV Prakash were among those who participated in conference attended by dalit women from various parts of the State.

NS INDIA Sun, 20 December 2015
epaper.thehansindia.com/c/7723966

INDIAN EXPRESS THURSDAY 30.11.2017 VIJAYAWA

Call to promote gender equality

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

DSS National Convener Jhansi Geddam has said that there is every need to create awareness and opportunities, inculcate self respect and promote inclusive education to lead the way towards gender equality.

As part of a widespread campaign of 16 days activism against gender-based violence the world over, from November 25 to December 10, Dalit Sthree Sakthi organised an awareness meet on gender equality at the press club here on Wednesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Jhansi Geddam said that the government should focus on providing security to women as domestic violence and dowry harassment are on the rise in the State. She said that the DSS was spreading legal awareness among women in rural areas, thereby transforming their lives.

DSS national programme manager GDV Prakash appealed to all the women to make efforts to achieve self reliance to survive in the society. He also urged the Dalit women to get their daughters educated.

Prof Swaroopa Rani, Department of Mahayana Buddhist Studies, ANU narrated how Dr. BR Ambedkar was concerned with the liberation of women in all aspects, which can be found in his writings, speeches and actions.

THE TIMES OF INDIA, VIJAYAWADA
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2017

Students in schools with clean loos do well: Official

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Vijayawada: The students who belong to the schools with clean toilet perform better, compared to the rest who have to use dirty toilets in schools. This remark came from V

Society. Ramulu participated in a seminar, "Public Hearing on Discrimination and Atrocities against Dalit Children in Schools" organized by Dalit Sthree Sakthi. Speaking on the occasion, Ramulu said that there is a direct correla- tion between the toilets at e perfor- students.

Another speaker Gaddam Jhansi, president of Dalit Sthree Sakthi, said that the education at schools have to transform for betterment of Dalits.

Deputy Director of School Education N Geetha, Krishna Kumar, member of AP State Commission of Child Rights, attended the programme.

THE HINDU
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2017

Call to enforce laws effectively to curb atrocities against women

Need for awareness at the grassroots level stressed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
VIJAYAWADA

There is a need to ensure effective implementation of the existing laws to curb atrocities against women in society, national convenor of Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) Jhansi Gaddam has said.

Addressing a conference organised here on Wednesday as part of the ongoing International Campaign on Elimination of Violence against Women from November 25 to December 10, she said the need of the hour was to unite and create a society without violence against the fair sex.

Stating that violence against women and girls was one of the most widespread, persistent, and devastating human rights violations, she said the objective of the campaign was to spread awareness at the grassroots level.

Ms. Jhansi took a dig at what she called the obsession of the governments with the VVIP culture, and spoke with sarcasm about how the entire security machinery was focussed on the visit of U.S. President Donald Trump's daughter Ivanka Trump to Hyderabad.

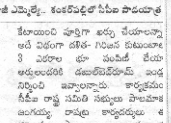
She said the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was an international treaty adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly. After the CEDAW came into existence, UN Women, a global champion for gender equality, working to develop and uphold standards and create an environment in which every woman and girl can exercise their human rights and live up to their full potential, initiated this global campaign, she said.

DSS programme manager Daneil Vijay Prakash underscored the need to elevate women's position in society. He said 'Manu dharma' had contributed a great deal in the backwardness of women and urged the governments to bring about a positive change.

Railway DSP M. Sathi Babu and association leader Swaroopa Rani participated.

Dalit Sthree Sakthi leader G. Jhansi addressing a conference in Vijayawada. • A.V.G. PRASAD

దళిత హక్కుల సాధనకు కృషి : మల్లేష్



బస్సు యాత్రలో మాట్లాడుతున్న మాజీ ఎమ్మెల్యే గుండా మల్లేష్

నమస్తే తెలంగాణ
సోమవారం, 16 జనవరి 2017

దళిత హక్కుల సాధనకు కృషి : గుండా మల్లేష్

బస్సు యాత్రలో మాట్లాడుతున్న మాజీ ఎమ్మెల్యే గుండా మల్లేష్

Atrocities against Dalit women continue in the State

Report compiled by Dalit Sthree Shakti, a Dalit women's empowerment collective, reveals startling facts

CityLife
HYDERABAD | SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2017

Central zone

Dalit women share their pain

AFTER 7 YEARS

Dalit group alleges official apathy in girl's suicide case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad

SEVEN years after the death of a 14-year-old Dalit girl in Miyapur, a report prepared by the 'fact-finding' team of Dalit Stree Sakti (DSS) accuses the principal and teacher of AP Social Welfare Residential School at Shivareddypet of abetment to suicide.

Renuka allegedly doused herself in kerosene and set herself ablaze in a suicide attempt on April 7, 2010. She was admitted to Gandhi Hospital but died on April 22. According to the DSS report, "Renuka had taken admission to fifth standard in the school. She often faced discrimination on grounds of her caste at the hands of teacher Lavanya and principal Dhana laxmi.

"On February 21, 2010, when Renuka's roommate screamed in her sleep, other students, including Renuka, also screamed which disturbed the sleep of two teachers. Furious, Lavanya pushed Renuka to the wall who suffered head injury. Though she recovered, she was not allowed to continue her studies by the principal."

After Renuka's death, DSS represented her case before the jury consisting of district and state-level officials. "Later, a memo was issued by Cyberabad police commissioner to Miyapur police for registration of the case under SC/ST (POA) Act. The HC was moved in this regard and a memo was filed in ASJ court later informing it of HC's direction. NHRC then passed orders for bring the case under the Act. A second charge sheet was filed in February 2016 by Kukatpally ACP," it said.

Alleging official apathy, the DSS has demanded that trial should begin and Renuka's parents should be rehabilitated under the Act at the earliest. "The accused should be punished for abetment to her suicide," it demanded.

'Police didn't act after Dalit was assaulted'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad

A fact finding report by Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) in connection with the abuse on grounds of caste and assault of Chedupalli Janagamma, a former sarpanch of Hanpalli village, Rangareddy alleged that the incident was a consequence of Shadnagar police's callousness.

According to the report, police did not take action as Congress workers allegedly attacked the woman for the first time on June 16, 2016. The report states that had the cops taken immediate action against the accused, the second heinous attack against her on Feb 17 could have been prevented.

"On the date of the incident, while Janagamma was building a room in her house, Ismati Srisailam's (Congress worker) sons entered her house and started abusing her verbally. They threatened her of dire consequences if she didn't withdraw her complaint. Then, they pushed her and she fell on the iron rods and got severely injured. They also assaulted and abused her son Shankar. The accused then abused her in front of the village," report said.

DSS claims that Janagamma filed a second police complaint against the accused. "Janagamma should be compensated. Police should file charges heet..." a DSS representative demanded.

INDIAN EXPRESS
WEDNESDAY 27.04.2017

'Victims turn hostile due to systemic insensitivity'

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
SATURDAY 08.07.2017

Ensure justice to Dalit victims, CS urged

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

FORMER principal secretary T Gopal Rao along with a group of volunteers, visited Garagaparru village and interacted with Dalit victims facing social boycott.

In a letter addressed to Chief Secretary Dinesh Kumar, Gopal Rao urged the State government to ensure speedy justice to the Dalit victims.

He also mentioned the demands of Dalits, which include provision of immediate relief of ₹1 lakh to each victim, establishment of a separate fair price shop with an SC as the dealer and immediate distribution of essential commodities.

Further, the Dalit victims also demanded setting up of a Primary Health Centre, allotment of house sites and sanction of pucca houses.

The Dalits in the village are aggrieved since the promises made to them by the SC, ST Commission Chairman and the Chairman of Andhra Pradesh SC Corporation pertaining to relief, have not been fulfilled so far, he said.

Call for inclusive growth of Dalit women

hey should grow politically, socially and join mainstream

ECIAL CORRESPONDENT
IJAYAWADA

Moving away from the past when they were relegated to he back seat, women in this nodern age were seeking heir share of sunshine, said . Sunitha, Secretary, Department of Women and Child welfare, here on Thursday.

రంగారెడ్డి | అదిలాబాద్ | నవంబర్ | 19 | 2017 సాక్షి

అత్యాచార బాధితులకు సత్వర న్యాయం చేయండి

అధికారులను ఆదేశించిన కలెక్టర్

అధికారులతో మాట్లాడుతున్న కలెక్టర్ రమణందనూరావు

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
WEDNESDAY 19.04.2017

Girl's fatal fall: DSS rejects police probe report

PRESS NEWS SERVICE
Hyderabad

act-finding report by the Dalit

On February 28, her father Garnepudu Rajkumar, who is an SC, received a phone call from Sandhya's colleague about the death and went on with the version of the 'witnesses' from the college which were made up," says Jhansi Geddam, national convener of

Sandhya never wakes up before 7 am, hence it is very unlikely that she will use a soap as early as 6:20 am."

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
VIJAYAWADA

Saturday, 29th July 2017

DECCAN CHRONICLE
WEDNESDAY | 12 APRIL 2017 | VIJAYAWADA

Dalit women told to follow Ambedkar

DC CORRESPONDENT
GUNTUR, APRIL 11

Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) asked women to follow the principles of B.R. Ambedkar and Phule for women empowerment.

The DSS conducted a meeting at Guntur on Tuesday and addressing it, DSS national convener G. Jhansi asked women to acquire good education to get best employment in today's competitive world. She praised Ambedkar of being the only person who asked woman to shun her husband if he behaves cruelly.

Acharya Nagarjuna University Professor Swarupa Rani lamented that many reformers belonging to upper classes got good recognition but Ambedkar and Phule, despite working for the women of all sections, failed to get recognition due to unnecessary bias. She mentioned that Ambedkar worked as union minister for labour for the welfare of workers by decreasing working hours to eight hours from earlier 14 hours and asked women to follow the footsteps of Ambedkar to acquire good education. Earlier, leaders of the DSS paid floral tributes to statues of Ambedkar and Phule at Lodge Centre and conducted a rally.

'Monitor functioning of different depts to safeguard Dalit rights'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Vijayawada

ADMITTING that there are discrepancies in the implementation of different Acts meant to address cases pertaining to atrocities against Dalits, officials said that measures would be initiated for effective implementation of those Acts.

Participating in the 'Round Table Conference on Atrocities Against Dalit Women and Girl Children' organised by Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) in Vijayawada on Friday, Director of Prosecution B Ramakoteswara Rao, retired judge Satyanarayana Reddy and Social Welfare department director Raghu Ram acted as Jury to hear the complaints of victims in 24 different cases of atrocity against Dalits during the day long session took notes of the individual cases and assured to strive for early disposal of the cases and justice to the victims.

Some of the cases that were discussed during the round table conference was attack and attempt to murder of one Jaya Sri Sumalatha of Dwaraka Tirumala in West Godavari that happened in October, 2015, the case of Narendra Devi, who was cheated in the name of Love, Veeramma, a minor girl who was raped and murdered in Janaki Ramapuram village of Krishna district in 2013, Vakapalli Mahalakshmi, victim of social boycott in Tallarevu, East Godavari district in 2016, social boycott of dalits in Garagaparru in May 2017.

Roundtable conference on Atrocities against Dalit at Press Club in Vijayawada on Friday | EXPRESS

Cases of Dalit atrocity in AP

Veeramma who was raped and murdered in Janaki Ramapuram village of Krishna district-2013

Attack and attempt to murder of Jaya Sri Sumalatha of Dwaraka Tirumala in West Godavari-2015

Vakapalli Mahalakshmi, victim of social boycott in Tallarevu, East Godavari district-2016

Social boycott of dalits in Garagaparru-2017

Leaders of Dalit organisations including general secretary of National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights N Paul Diwakar, founder president of Ambedkar Mission PSN Murthy, SC ST IAS IPS Forum in charge Siddoji said that in a certain time frame, the functioning of different departments has to be monitored with regard to implementation of laws and acts meant for safeguarding rights of Dalits.

"There is need for non official groups comprised of various Dalit organisations to study incidents of atrocities against Dalits, especially dalit women and children, in an unbiased manner and submit a report to the government for initiating action," Murthy said while others acceded with the suggestion.

In the concluding session, dalit women from Garagaparru explained that they were that they are being cheated and denied justice, with ongoing negotiations of truce between Dalits and Upper Caste people in Garagaparru.

Geddam Jhansi, the national convener of the Dalit Sthree Shakti (DSS) said the main objective of the round table conference was not address every case, but to bring the real cause of such incidents to the notice of officials and policy makers so that existing laws and acts can be effectively implemented for protection of Dalit rights.

95 pc of Dalit, tribal women face domestic violence, says survey

ESS NEWS SERVICE
erabad

programme organised under the banner "70 years of independent India: inclusion and exclusion" in the city on Tuesday, angana-based Dalit rights p launched a campaign nst domestic violence suffered by Dalit women.

e organisation Dalit Sthree hi's president Jhansi Gaddam, who presided over the programme, said that if Dalit women are empowered to lead the ements demanding our ts, it will only trigger the ibility of a revolution in our ty.

"We are launching a campaign against domestic violence. According to our survey, 95 per cent of the Dalit and tribal women population face domestic violence. For the upliftment of our society, the liberation of women from these atrocities is a must. In November, we will be holding a public hearing against this social evil," said Gaddam.

Former Andhra Pradesh chief secretary and SC, ST Officers' Forum head Kaki Madhava Rao unveiled the posters against domestic violence on the occasion.

"To end the suppression of Dalits in our country, only social development will not be enough but economic development is also a must. Bridging the gap between those thriving and the need of the hour. We have to realise that unlike the superpowers, we are the only country where the disadvantaged caste is suffering social exclusion," said Rao.

reservation provided by the ernment for the upliftment SCs and STs should be succ fully functional and should remain a game of numb which is visible only on pap was also asserted that for the liftment of Dalits, developm policy should be given more portance than welfare polici

Siddhoji Rao, the founder help desk for underprivile former civil servant PSN Mu were among the key participa at the programme. The re sentatives from Child Welf Committee in the state, m bers of Ambedkar Students' sociation from University of derabad, and a few students f Osmania University also sho

Relief eludes women victims of atrocities

Official apathy renders SC, ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act toothless; provisions rarely adhered to

SWATHI VADLAMUDI
HYDERABAD

Payment of pension as additional relief to victims of rape, gang-rape or murder, provided for under the SC, ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, are rarely ever adhered to. District Collectors have no clue about it, and letters to the government seeking clarity have evoked no response, say activists.

In case of atrocities including murder, death, massacre, rape, gang-rape, permanent incapacitation and dacoity, the Act entitles the victims or their kin to a basic pension amounting to ₹5,000 a month, with admissible dearness allowance and employment to one member if the deceased's family, provision of agricultural land and house.

The pension provision is never adhered to, alleges Dalit Sthree Sakthi, an NGO providing legal aid to SC/ST victims. "District Collectors have to pay the relief. But they refuse it saying there is no precedent. Letters to the government do not evoke any response," says Daniel Prakash, programme manager of the organisation.

In many instances, inclusion of sections of SC/ST Act itself becomes a challenge. A case in point is Renuka of Budige Jangala caste, who committed suicide in Ranga Reddy district reportedly due to harassment and humiliation by her teachers. Though a case was filed in 2010 immediately after her suicide, the police invoked SC/ST Act provisions only five years later.

"We raised the issue in District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee meeting, and the Collector asked the Cyberabad Commissioner to include the relevant sections. We realised that nothing had been done towards this when the victim's parents received summons from the sessions court. High Court was approached then, and we got a favourable ruling. However, the defendants approached another bench of HC and got the order cancelled," says Mr. Prakash, narrating the saga of ordeals.

> **District Collectors refuse relief saying there is no precedent. Letters to the government do not evoke any response.**
>
> DANIEL PRAKASH,
> Programme manager, Dalit Sthree Sakthi

The police fell in line only after the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) took suo motu cognisance of the case, learning about it through *The Hindu* newspaper. In its camp sitting at Hyderabad in 2015, NHRC ordered for inclusion of the relevant sections.

Apathy on the part of district administration or police is just a drop in the ocean that 'the victims' kin are forced to swim in before they attain or are denied any justice. Tardy progress is a common feature with respect to all SC/ST cases.

Renuka's case, for instance, has not come for trial until now. Eight years is a long fight endured by Hanumanthu, her father, who ekes a livelihood by begging.

another SC girl, a minor, was gang-raped and murdered in 2010. Eight years later, the accused are out on bail, while her two brothers, attacked by the rapists, are incapacitated for life. "No compensation or rehabilitation as mandated under SC/ST (POA) Act.

Convenor of DSS Gaddam Jhansi said getting the police to file a case is a struggle, and so is obtaining each relief under the Act. Mr. Ramulu said the relief provided for in the Act should be identified as rights of the victims, and not as benefits. Ms. Vyjayanthi said officials should work with more commitment in proper implementation of the Act. Women's activists from various organisations also took part in the meeting.

Victims, kin pour out woes at meeting

'Relief provided for in Act should be seen as right of victims, not as benefit'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

A round table conference by the Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) turned out to be a public hearing for the SC and ST women who poured out their woeful stories before a panel consisting of National SC Commission member K. Ramulu, Director of Prosecutions G. Vyjayanthi, and former chief secretary Kaki Madhava Rao, among others.

A total of 30 cases pertaining to offences including murder, rape, gang-rape, acid attack, abetment to suicide, attempt to murder, cheating, sexual exploitation, land encroachment, caste abuse, harassment, to name a few, were heard out. Some cases were filed back in 2010, while most others were filed in the past two years. The latest was that of Rasagna, a dalit girl who was murdered by a jilted lover.

A woman pouring her heart out at the round table conference organised by Dalit Sthree Sakthi in the city on Friday; mother of Rasagna, who was murdered by a jilted lover, breaks down while narrating the incident.
• BY ARRANGEMENT

Rasagna's mother Vijaya broke down while narrating the circumstances that led to her daughter's murder, and questioned the motive of the police in recording the statement of only one witness, when dozens had watched her daughter die. "My daughter was the family's bread winner. She died a horrible death while everybody watched," she said amid sobs.

Vinusha (name changed), an eight-year-old, could not comprehend why her mother was inconsolable. The girl, playing in the hall with her kid sister, was raped two years ago. She is yet to receive compensation or rehabilitation as mandated under SC/ST (POA) Act.

Convenor of DSS Gaddam Jhansi said getting the police to file a case is a struggle, and so is obtaining each relief under the Act. Mr. Ramulu said the relief provided for in the Act should be identified as rights of the victims, and not as benefits. Ms. Vyjayanthi said officials should work with more commitment in proper implementation of the Act. Women's activists from various organisations also took part in the meeting.

SATURDAY 08.09.2018

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

HYDERABAD

'Need for monthly review of SC/ST atrocities cases'

Despite being mandated by SC, ST (prevention of Atrocities) Act, in cases of atrocities under Act victims are not provided with immediate relief, said Jhansi Geddam, national convenor Dalit Stree Shakti at a round table conference on Atrocities against Dalit Adivasi women on Friday. During discussion, 30 such cases were discussed which have either been closed for lapses, social welfare or are lagging at judicial level. K Ramulu, member of National SC Commission said that amended Act is clear & thus its implementation has fewer hurdles

Justice still eludes rape victims: Jhansi

OUR BUREAU

Vijayawada: Geddam Jhansi, national convener of Dalit Sthree Sakthi, addressing the rape victims and witnesses at a workshop on 'Legal Clinic for Accessing Justice' here on Saturday lamented that justice still eludes Dalit women rape victims even 70 years after independence.

Rape victims and witnesses in 25 cases from across the state attended the workshop which was also attended by Director of Prosecutions Baira Koteswara Rao, DCP (Crime) Rajakumari, Additional SP Moka Sattibabu and DSP Ravi from PCR Cell, advocates and leaders of various associations.

Geddam Jhansi, national convener of Dalit Sthree Sakthi, said that the Dalit Sthree Sakthi would organise similar workshop every year inviting both the victims and witnesses and the officials concerned to fill the gaps in rendering justice to the victims.

Expressing concern over the inordinate delay right from registering the criminal case and awarding sentence to the guilty, she said that the laws of the land were not implemented properly.

"There has been no focus on atrocities against Dalit women," she said and added that penal and pecuniary laws were not implemented properly.

Jhansi said that after bifurcation of the state, the rape victims were not being even awarded ex gratia and the social welfare department is not implementing the enactment even one per cent.

Either the commissions or the officials were not afraid of the judiciary or the laws, she said and added that they were not treating implementation of SC,ST Atrocities Act as their responsibility.

As many as 25 victims of rape who attended the workshop expressed their woes. The Jury members, including the Director of Prosecution Baira Koteswara Rao and DCP (Crime) Rajakumari and others reacting to the sad incidents stated that it was really awful to listen to the problems of the victims. They said that the officials should understand the law and render social justice to the victims.

The officials, who attended the workshop, assured that they would take care in avoiding delay in rendering justice to the victims.

Daniel Prakash, programme manager of Dalit Sthree Sakthi, said that the neighbouring state of Telangana is ahead in implementing the enactment, including payment of ex gratia, pension, rehabilitation and policing while Andhra Pradesh is lagging behind. "It's high time the working style of social welfare department is improved," he added.

DCP (Crime) Rajakumari addressing the rape victims at a workshop on 'Legal Clinic for Accessing Justice' in Vijayawada on Saturday. Director of Prosecution Baira Koteswara Rao, Additional SP Moka Sattibabu, Geddam Jhansi, national convener of Dalit Sthree Sakth, and Daniel Prakash are also seen

THE HINDU VIJAYAWADA
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

'Honour killing accused threatened victim's parents'

Maruti Rao a land grabber: fact-finding panel

STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA

A fact-finding committee of the Officers' Forum-Telangana and Dalit Sthree Sakti (DSS), which examined the circumstances that led to the killing of Pranay at Miryalaguda, stated that the main accused Maruti Rao had been threatening the youth's parents for the last five years over his love affair with his daughter Amrutha.

Committee members A. Murali, Jhansi Geddam, N. Siddoji Rao and Vijay Prakash said Mr. Bala Swamy tried in vain to make his son Pranay end his relationship with the girl due to the constant threats from Mr. Maruti Rao.

"With his money power and influence in society, Maruti Rao got his son-in-law killed. Rao has developed relations with officials in the Revenue and Police departments and some politicians. Using this influence, he grabbed lands belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and amassed wealth," they alleged.

ENVIRONM

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THE TIMES OF INDIA, VIJAYAWADA
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2018

Private education makes way for discrimination, say experts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Vijayawada: A round table meet was jointly organised by the National Dalit Movement for Social Justice and Dalit Sthree Sakthi organisations, to discuss aspects and prominence of the Prevention of All Forms of Discrimination and Violence Against Children in Educational Institutions Bill, 2018, in Vijayawada on Tuesday. The bill provides security to students of the schedule caste and schedule tribe community, who are discriminated on the basis of their caste at multiple levels, said J Daniels, the programme manager.

Private education is the root cause of discrimination in educational institutions. The government should focus on improving the standards of government school education, said IAS Murali. The speakers stressed on the importance of education in bringing equality in society and said that discrimination continues to persist at village-level educational institutions.

THE HINDU
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018

Degeneration of institutions has hit ... low: ex-HC judge

'SC ruling on atrocities Act a pointe...

STAFF REPORTER
GUNTUR

Former High Court judge K.G. Shankar has said degeneration of public institutions has gravely affected the enforcement of laws.

Addressing a workshop organised by the Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) marking the 127th birth anniversary celebrations of Dr. B. R Ambedkar here on Tuesday, Justice Shankar said that the recent Supreme Court judgment on the Prevention of Atrocities (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Act reflected the weakening of public institutions such as police, the revenue and even the public hospitals whose reports are crucial during investigation in cases relating to atrocities against Dalits.

Further, the appointment of judges and expansion of courts has been completely neglected in such a way that ...fected. Justice Shankar Ambedkar was derided ...ing his life time, but was be... lauded now as his efforts are beginning to yield fruits in providing equality to women and emancipation of Dalits.

'Prophet of truth'

"Dr. Ambedkar was a prophet of truth. In the 1950s, he had fought for inheritance and other rights of women. The political degeneration has reached such a low that even Ambedkar probably would not have realised then, otherwise he would have provided more safeguards in the Constitution against political interference," he said. Project Director, Women and Child Welfare Department, K. Syama Sundari spoke.

Earlier, activists led by Geddam Jhansi, secretary of DSS took out a protest rally from the Ambedkar statue

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

TUESDAY 23.10.2018

Wounds of caste murder still hurt Pranay's family

SUNITA JOSE & Editorial

EXPRESS

VIJAYAWADA

WEDNESDAY 07.11.2018

SEMINAR

'Draft Act to prevent bias against Dalit kids'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Vijayawada

AN Acharya Nagarjuna University (ANU) professor has called upon parents of discriminated children in educational institutions to come forward and share their experiences with the media rather than remaining mute spectators.

Speaking at a programme organised jointly by Dalit Sthree Sakthi (DSS) and National Dalit Movement for Justice (NDMJ) on Prevention of All Forms of Discrimination and Violence against Children in Educational Institutions in Vijayawada on Tuesday, Professor A Subramanyam said discrimination against children of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) was still prevailing in various government schools in the State, especially while serving mid-day meals.

He underscored the need to draft an Act to take punitive action against those prejudiced against such children.

Students and parents in large numbers participated in the programme and shared their grievances.

"Even though, English medium education is mandatory at several government schools, the faculty in my school are prejudiced against us since we belong to weaker sections," said a Class 10 student from Guntur district. She complained the faculty sexually harass them and sought that action be taken before any more untoward incident took place.

Another girl student form Dendulluru in West Godavari district said lack of drinking water, poor toilets and bias while serving mid-day meals forced her to stay away from school.

16. PROGRESS AND IMPACT

- ✓ When DSS commenced its work in 2006 it was very hard to make a few women sit for discussing issues affecting them, but slowly they grew and now each village collective has about 5 -7women and there are about 2400 village collectives unionized at mandal, district, state and national levels. More than 1 lakh dalit women are actively participating in various activities of DSS. They travel from their villages to mandal and district headquarters to meet officials and travel to Hyderabad and other far off places to attend public meetings and General Body meetings. This visible quantitative and qualitative growth that occurred is due to the trainings and organization work of DSS in the past 15 years. This impact is highly qualitative, given the fact that DSS has worked on rights mode.
- ✓ Many women are coming forward to join the training programmes conducted by DSS on ideological issues, legal issues and rights issues.
- ✓ Members of women collectives are able to conduct fact finding of rights violation incidents on their own and able to record the same.
- ✓ Successive trainings and campaigns enlightened the dangers of sending away the dalit girl children as domestic servants and many parents are now willing to join their girl children in schools.
- ✓ Due to regular intervention, monitoring of all incidents of atrocities, the victims are able to stand up until the trial ends. The incidence of compromising with the accused has come down and this gave rise to a general feeling that it is not possible to escape punishment if one commits a crime.
- ✓ The active presence of dalit women collectives by conducting protest actions often boosted their confidence and projected a united image in the perspectives of dominant castes.
- ✓ The women collectives are able to assert dalit rights and tackle issues of domestic violence and alcoholism.
- ✓ Through media advocacy, DSS was able to focus a maximum number of atrocities on dalit women. In particular, the public hearings and round table conferences at State and district levels, helped in sensitizing the media on dalit women issues. Senior and high ranking journalists/Chief Editors attended DSS activities and gave extensive coverage to dalit women rights issues.
- ✓ Through the representations of DSS to various commissions and higher officials, public hearings/round table conferences, the official machinery was sensitized to a lot. Now the officials recognize DSS and attach lot of importance to its reports.
- ✓ Almost all important officials of the State Government, of the cadres of Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/DGP/DIG/S.P. have attached importance to DSS activities and attended its public hearings, round table conferences and other conferences at district and state level.
- ✓ DSS could monitor continuously, follow up and get the culprits arrested, convicted thereby sending message that those who commit atrocities will be accountable. In almost all the cases the culprits were arrested and convictions are increasing.

- ✓ DSS, by organizing advocates, police, victims, witnesses and prosecutors meet, was able to address the gaps in the judicial process. Such meets and lobbying by DSS made the Director of Prosecutions (DoP) to issue instructions to all public prosecutors in the State in dealing with cases of atrocities.
- ✓ Constituting a panel of advocates at districts helped in tackling legal issues for the women.
- ✓ Situation in the social welfare hostels improved due to periodic visits and awareness meetings by the DSS team and women collectives.The girls have become more aware and are articulate in questioning irregularities and are able to give complaints.
- ✓ The youth and adolescents in schools and colleges are attending the motivation camps enthusiastically, thereby signifying the willingness to learn and transform.
- ✓ Sarpanches (village government heads), Panchayat (village government body) members are becoming aware of what their rights and responsibilities are due to the trainings imparted to them and in turn are working actively to benefit dalit communities through their positions. After learning about the Panchayatraj Act through these programs, women Panchayat members have been empowered to actively take part in Panchayat Board Meetings, sitting in the meetings on chairs.
- ✓ People are becoming aware of government development schemes and programs, and are fighting to have them implemented.
- ✓ The amount of compensation granted to victims increased considerably and this impacted the victims not to yield to pressures of compromise and stand up with dignity.
- ✓ Incidents of domestic violence is reduced in the working areas.
- ✓ DSS is not only recognised in the Governmental circles, but DSS is member of vigilance and monitoring committees.
- ✓ Women collective members are enlisted as members of school management committees.
- ✓ DSS convener is nominated by the Telangana Government in the 8 member expert committee to draft the rules under Juvenile Justice Act.

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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