BHUMIKA WOMEN’S COLLECTIVE

Annual Report
2013-14

Supported by

Oxfam India
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Bhumika Women’s Collective

Bhumika Women’s Collective based in Hyderabad was started in 1994. It helps the women in distressed and vulnerable conditions, now spread across the country. Bhumika focuses on all women’s issues including Domestic Violence. Bhumika Women’s Collective is a co-ordinating partner of Oxfam India, anchoring the Civil Society Alliance at the Andhra Pradesh state level and also undertakes various research activities on women related issues and provides legal assistance and gives feedback to various related departments for supportive measures.

**Vision:** Promoting Violence Free Lives for Women in Andhra Pradesh.

**Mission:** Bhumika’s focus is on Gender equality and Rights of women advocating a life of dignity and justice for female world. Support through Tele Helpline, advocacy with Department of Women and Child Development, Judiciary, State Legal Services Authority, Home Department and allocation and implementation of projects and laws related to women.

**Objectives of Bhumika Women’s Collective:**
- To support women by providing counsel in health, legal and psychological issues
- To support research towards understanding the various aspects of women’s issues
- To recover feminist history, literature and art by supporting projects based on empirical research
- To create a common forum for networking among academician, activists and students from different fields by organizing discussions, seminars and workshops
- To study trends in mass media in relation to women’s concerns by organizing film review discussions
- To build up a documentation center as a resource facility in pursuance of the above objectives
- To create awareness and educate women

**Organizational Profile**

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<td>Permanent Account No.</td>
<td>AATB6590L</td>
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<td>Registered Office Address</td>
<td>HIG-II, Block-8, Flat -1, Baghlingampally,</td>
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Bhumika Helpline

Bhumika Helpline was started in 2006 which supports the women in distress through telephonic counseling and linkage building. Today “Bhumika” has become more popular for its toll free tele helpline 1800 425 2908 for women and in the process emerged as advocacy organization at the state level.

The main objectives of Helpline:
- To reach out to every woman in distress and in need of care and protection by responding to calls – for legal advice and guidance, rescue, missing cases, shelter/short stay home, protection from abuse and exploitation, counseling, emotional support and guidance.
- To enable them to gain confidence, self esteem and self worth.
- Empowering women with information regarding legal and medical assistance etc.
- Offer immediate services in cases of Domestic Violence and atrocities in the form of: Placement in institutions or referring to hospitals / police stations / family courts, Protection Officers, Legal Services Authority, etc.
- Counseling on Phone line and maintaining confidentiality
- Referral to other services including medical, psychiatric, legal, educational and vocational
- Be a liaison between Police and Organizations working for women and children and act as a platform to facilitate the rehabilitation of women in need of care and protection.
- To document the work of the Helpline for wider publicity.

Civil Society Resource Facility (CSRF)

The research and advocacy issues are dealt by the unit of Bhumika Women’s Collective, primarily known as Bhumika Civil Society Resource Facility (CSRF) was started in the year 2009 with the support of Oxfam India.

Objectives of CSRF:
- To advocate for effective implementation of Acts, Programmes and Schemes meant for women in need.
- To undertake research and studies on women issues
- Create a platform of various women’s organizations, and other civil society Members
- Educate women on legal rights
- Create awareness about Gender discrimination, Women’s rights etc by developing and disseminating brochures, pamphlets, handouts, posters etc.

Activities Undertaken

SILENT PROTEST AGAINST ATROCITIES ON WOMEN AND GIRLS
A Silent Protest against atrocities on women and girls was held on 22nd April, 2013 at Ambedkar Statue, Liberty in solidarity to the 5 year old girl (Rape Survivor) at New Delhi, Bhumika Women’s Collective has organized a Silent Protest against Atrocities on Girls and Women on 22nd April, 2013 at 10.00 AM near Ambedkar Statue, GHMC, Liberty. Some of the Civil Society Group members have joined in the Protest. The protest was held covering the faces with black cloth and the demands were displayed with quotes on placards to stop VAW and girls for protection of their rights and dignity.

Some media persons have taken the voices of organization representatives on the issue. Besides, the attended organizations have preset and resolved to initiate a special activity with on 14th of every month, to conduct this type of activity either a rally / Protest / Meeting / Dharna / Press Meet, or any other activity.

LETTER TO PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, WCD
A letter was posted to the Principal Secretary, WCD and Health & Family Welfare; Commissioner, WCD, Chairperson, A.P. Women’s Commission requesting for establishment of Support Centres for Women (One Stop Crisis Cell) in convergence with Health Department by replicating the model of Kerala State Government’s Bhoomika Gender Based Violence Project. We have collected the respective information and submitted to Commissioner, WCD for further process.

MEETING WITH SOCIAL WORKERS AT SUPPORT CENTRES
A meeting was conducted on 2nd August, 2013 with all the Social Workers working in 5 Support Centres for sharing of the learnings of Counselor’s training at TISS, Refresher training and Exposure Visit at Ahmedabad held in previous months. The purpose was to share the learnings and to plan for strengthening of the existing procedures. There was participation from 3
centres, where we have reviewed on the present working situations and the initiating changes in the process of documentation – updating of registers, adopting new formats, measures to be taken in taking applications from the survivors, assurance letters, RTI, clear and common understanding on the reporting formats, preparation of case studies, submission of reports and the active role of social workers in strengthening the functioning of the support centres, sensitivity, attitudes, qualities of a social workers, their roles and responsibilities.

OXFORD CONSULTANT, MS. ANKITA HANDOO AND MS. SAMEEN ALMAS, IPE FLOBAL, NEW DELHI visited our office on 1st July, 2013 along with Mr. Joseph & Ms. Ranjana Das from Oxfam India. The purpose of the visit was to document the best practices and interventions of the organisation under the Project in connection with winding up of the Project by December, 2013. Ms. K. Satyavati, Chief Functionary had made a presentation on the activities done so far under Bhumika Helpline and advocacy along with the achievements and the challenges faced. It was suggested by them to developing Network of Teachers and incorporating of Bhumika Helpline in school curriculum.

GENDER SENSITIZATION TRAINING AT JUDICIAL ACADEMY

Gender Sensitization training was conducted to the newly appointed judges at Judicial Academy on 5th August, 2013. The Resource persons were Ms. K. Satyavati, Chief Functionary, Ms. Padma & Ms. Usha, free lancer resource persons who have worked with AP Mahila Samatha Society. First, to become familiar to each other, self introductions were made. The objective of the training was shared by Ms. Satyavati.

The whole training methodology was participatory, interactive and through small group discussions. The first session was started with the expectations / their views on the meaning of gender and in making them understand the meaning of the gender, where there were different views and finally it was made realised that, Sex is biological and Gender is socially constructed behaviour of human beings.

The session was then followed by discussion on the concept of gender, difference between Sex – Gender, qualities of male – female and in small groups it was discussed on the roles of male and female at different stages from birth to oldage. There presentations from each group were wonderful and the discussion paved a path to everyone to understand the role in various sectors. Many of the persons felt that, the women are most neglected and given least importance to their issues and there is definitely a need to be sensitive towards the issues. But, anyhow there were some female and male persons who obliged that, the women are misusing the provisions under various acts and even there are women who harass their husband and in-laws.
In conclusion, many of them expressed that, even though there are some changes in the attitudes of the male persons, and still takes much time and it is the responsibility of everyone to ensure end violence against women. They have requested to have one more day for such a training.

**MS. NISHA, NATIONAL DIRECTOR**, Oxfam India has visited Support Centre for Women, SWARD at CCS, Basheerbagh on 6th August, 2013. In this connection, Ms. K. Satyavati has also visited Support Centre to discuss with the National Director and shared about the functioning of Helpline, CSRF and the achievements so far in the project.

**PARTNER’S MEET ON ENDLINE**
A 2 days meeting was conducted by Oxfam India on 26th & 27th August, 2013 at New Delhi in collaboration with Sambodhi was attended by the Research Associate. The meeting was focussed on the discussion of various tools and techniques developed by Sambodhi team for conducting endline study in connection with winding up of the project. The meeting was participatory, where it was discussing in detail on the expectations from the endline, assessing the changes, documenting of best practices, achievements, challenges, strategies adopted, impact on the systems / institutions, sustainability of the project, etc. It was also planned to visit each state, conducting a state-wise meeting, planning tools accordingly. It was also informed that, a separate team would be visiting / collecting information on policy changes through advocacy in all the states and need to provide required information to their team for documentation.

**PLANNING MEETING ON PERSPECTIVE BUILDING WORKSHOP**
A planning meeting was held at Office of Oxfam India, Secunderabad on 3rd August, 2014 to discuss on organizing a Perspective Building Workshop on “Addressing the violence issue of Violence Against Dalit Women (Both public and Domestic Forms)”, which is a Joint Programming on Violence against Dalit Women (JP DWDV) a joint initiative under DFID -IPAP between Christian aid, Oxfam India and Water aid.

Under the JP DWDV aegis the initial plan was to have a perspective building workshop in each of states of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh for all the IPAP NGO partners followed by a Public Hearing at the state level which will be a collaborative effort of partner NGOs of Christian aid/Oxfam India and Water aid. Since the project is almost coming to an end, rather than conducting a perspective building workshop, it was planned to **organise a sharing and learning workshop on 7th & 8th October, which in the course will also try to build the perspective of the partners on the issue.**

**INQUIRY ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORKPLACE CASE**  - Ms. K. Satyavati, Chief Functionary is one of the Member in the Complaint Committee constituted by CISF DAE Head
quarters at Hyderabad. On her behalf, Ms. Kalpana, one of the Helpline Counselor has took part in the inquiry processed from 12th – 14th September, 2013.

SHARING & LEARNING WORKSHOP ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST DALIT WOMEN

A two-day experience sharing and learning workshop has been jointly organized by Bhumika Women’s Collective and Dalit Stree Shakti (DSS) on 7th & 8th October 2013 at Hotel Minerva Grand, S.D Road, Secunderabad. This joint programming initiative is an effort by Oxfam India, Christian Aid and Water Aid to address the issue of violence against dalit Women in Andhra Pradesh.

The 2 days workshop was attended by all the partners of Oxfam India, Christian Aid and Water Aid. The whole workshop was presided over by Mr. Nanda Gopal, Christian Aid. In these 2 days, all the partner NGOs have presented on their experiences in working on the issues of Domestic Violence and Dalit Women through various interventions. A charter of demands was also prepared which would be further submitted to Govt. for empowerment of SCs.

CHARTER OF DEMANDS

- Women and Child Development Department to be shaken up from its dormant state and pointed on the path towards proactive action
- Compensation in cases related to domestic violence to be received in a lump sum amount in place of instalments
- Domestic Violence Act to focus more on dalit women
- INGOs to develop a perspective based on dalit women and arrive at a common consensus regarding the same
- Attempt to revive the flagging spirits of NGO networks
- Special budget to be included in gender budget for creating awareness pertaining to DV Act to dalit women, specifically from 4th April to 14th April, with IEC material and ensuring the implementation of the same.
- Allocate 50% of the budget for women in SCSP/TSP Act, specifically in terms of property rights
- Including DV Act in schemes, such as Rachabanda
- Educating newly elected members, be they dalits or non-dalits, of local self governance bodies on the issues related to dalit women
- Government schools to be provided with functional toilets with water facility, safe drinking water and nutritious mid day meals.
- A study to be conducted at the state level on atrocities against dalit women
- Construction of ISLs to be undertaken at fully subsidized rates
• Provision of more helplines for dalit women in distress
• Proper monitoring and maintenance needed in social welfare hostels
• Vigilance committee meetings to be conducted systematically at the divisional level
• Women in sub-categories of dalits also to be provided awareness
• Inculcation of the concept of equality among dalit girls right from childhood
• Dalit colonies to be integrated within villages instead of being far away
• Any committee formed for addressing the issues of dalit women to comprise representation from dalit women
• Training to be provided to protection officers and judiciary on the aspects of dalit women
• Greater emphasis to be given to health issues that take the backseat for dalit women because of socio-cultural practices
• INGOs to encourage more such platforms for the purposes of cross-learning
• AP Devadasi (Prevention of Dedication) Act 1988 to be amended by passing further rules within one month
• Government to maintain disaggregated data that would cover dalit women also

Mr. Nandagopal expressed that, the two-day workshop has facilitated all the participants in obtaining clarity on issues with enhanced receptiveness. He said that this is the first instance of INGOs coming together on such an issue, and a key learning garnered from this meeting is that forming a consensus while working with diverse ideologies on the same platform poses a huge challenge. Hence, this workshop can be construed as a major step forward in the right direction.

Way Forward:
• Documentation and dissemination of this two-day workshop to be undertaken
• Formation of a small committee for taking forward the aforementioned demands that would include Ms. Jhansi, Ms. Amal, Ms. Grace Nirmala, Ms. K. Satyavati, Ms. Vijaya and Ms. Shivakumari. Anyone undertaking any study in relation to this issue to consult with the above committee members.
• Committee to play a proactive role in thinking about ways to take processes further and explore activities in which everyone can be participants
• 28th October, 2013 set as the date for taking up the charter of demands forward

ENDLINE FIELD TRAINING
On 11th October, 2013 Ms. Kalpana has participated in the training to field staff of Sambodhi on Endline held at St. Ann’s, Secunderabad. She has given some suggestions in understanding the DV issues in A.P. context, improving the questionnaire and also oriented on the manner of information gathering from the survivors in view of sensitized issues.

STATE LEVEL CONSULTATION ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORKPLACE
A state-level consultation meet has been organized on “The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013” by Bhumika Women’s Collective in collaboration with A.P. Women’s Commission with the support of Oxfam India at Jubilee
Hall, Public Gardens, Nampally, Hyderabad on 19th October 2013. A total of 250 people, with majority being women from various disciplines, have participated, including police department, civil society organizations, NGOs, judiciary, journalists, psychiatrists, women’s organizations, Women and Child Development department, State Women’s Commission, media and writers among others. The guest speakers on the Consultation were Sri Mahesh Bhagawat, IPS; Sri Anjani Kumar, ACP; Sri Ranga Rao, DCP; Sri Chiranjeevi Chowdary, Commissioner Women and Child Development.

The guests in their address expressed the need of framing the rules at the earliest possible and highlighted the main features of the Act. The participants have shared their experiences in the working places, the constitution of Internal Complaints Committees and the complaints.

There were held group discussions, where the groups have come out with a set of recommendations for implementation of the Act:

- Government should undertake massive awareness program on the act of sexual harassment of women at workplace through various modes including *kalajatha*, wall painting and writings and poster distribution
- Sensitization workshops for parents and children on the act
- Special orientation for the heads of departments (HoDs) on the act
- Formulating policies for the official websites
- Media canvassing at a large scale
- Rolling captions about the act on television and cinema/films
- Provision of toll free numbers for support to the aggrieved
- Establishing functional grievance committees in every private and public office
- Regular trainings to NGOs, Social Action Committees (SACs), Gender Committees (GCs), Samatha Dandu, Mahila Courts and SHGs on the act.
- Setting up of mobile courts
- Taking immediate and stringent actions against the harasser(s)
- Bottom-up monitoring mechanism (village to state) for the implementation of the act
- Allotment of sufficient funds for the formation of committees in private and public sectors
- Stringent action to be taken against the organization in case of non-implementation of the act
- Regular orientation and sensitization trainings to the committee members
- Organizing periodic refresher trainings to the committee members
- A G.O to be issued for conducting gender sensitization and prevention of sexual harassment act in trainings for officers and staff in both government and private sectors with budget allocation
- Periodic campaigns to be organized by WD & CW, DRDA, Education department in collaboration with NGOs and other line departments on women’s issues including
sexual harassment act for students, women, youth and general public. Required budget to be provided by the concerned departments

- Display of helpline numbers in police stations and hoardings

**VISIT BY MS. ANURADHA & MS. SONALI, SAMBODHI**

As part of IPAP Project Endline Evaluation, on 24th October, 2013 Ms. Anuradha Rajan, Consultant & Ms. Sonali, Sambodhi, New Delhi has visited Support Centre and Helpline. They have discussed about the functioning of support centre in addressing the DV issues. They have made a home visit to one of the Survivor, who approached support centre and gathered information on the support she received. They have also visited or office to know more about the Helpline. They have stated that, this is a unique intervention and we have provided them with the information on the functioning of helpline, helpline activities, networks, data base, the nature of cases, process of counselling and the support for women in distress, risk management, etc.

**DISCUSSION WITH SAMBODHI TEAM**

As a part of Endline evaluation, Ms. Anuradha Rajan and Ms. Sonali have visited Bhumika office on 25th October, 2013 and there was a discussion held with all the IPAP partners of A.P. The discussion focused on the larger issue of domestic violence and then the cases that have been addressed through Women Support Centres and Helpline. All the partners have shared their experiences on the following:

- Government officials in the relevant departments (Police, PO under DV act, Women & Child Development officer) are sensitised about the issue of VAW and have increased knowledge of the laws, rules and regulations related to VAW and support services and related budgetary allocation procedures to be followed for expenditure.

- District level support institutions established in collaboration with police department in four states (Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Gujarat).

- Women experiencing violence especially those from marginalised communities in the program districts increase their access to formal justice system and support services

- Men and women aged 15-50 years in the program districts are sensitised on VAW and have demonstrably increased their knowledge on laws related to violence against women and legal and other support services available for those experiencing violence

- Villages and towns in the program districts have pressure groups and/or youth activists and/or committees on VAW that are equipped with the knowledge of laws related VAW and support services to support women experiencing violence in seeking appropriate services.

After the discussion, the Sambodhi team were very much impressed on all the project activities, encouraged us for continuation of functioning of the helpline and support centres and shared that, they would inform with Oxfam for further ways for sustainability of the interventions.
16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM – AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AT PARIGI

In part of 16 Days of Activism against Gender based Violence, an Awareness Campaign on Violence Against Women was organized by Bhumika Women’s Collective in collaboration with Sub-Divisional Police, Chevella, Ranga Reddy District on 26th November, 2013. The main purpose of conducting the Campaign at Parigi was that, the DSP has called on our Helpline and requested for conducting an awareness campaign as there are many issues of love marriages in the adolescent age, girls cheated in the name of love and more number of sexual assault cases have been reported in the area frequently.

The programme was organized on 26th November, 2013 at Parigi mandal, Ranga Reddy District. There were attended about 3,500 students from all High Schools, Junior and Degree Colleges in the division (14 mandals), Teachers, Lecturers, Media and Police personnel. Ms. Raja Kumari, SP was the chief guest for the programme. The campaign was started with a rally in the town of Parigi for providing awareness on prevention of atrocities against women and girl children. Then, there was a meeting, in which there was a presentation made by the DSP making aware the students on the life skills and the role of everyone in prevention of atrocities, followed by a presentation on Nirbhaya Act and release of posters on Nirbhaya Act. The speakers, Ms. K. Satyavati have discussed on the issues of child marriage, sexual assault and explained about the functioning of Helpline, the calls received and the interventions of Bhumika and made everyone to realise the importance of education and the active role of adolescents in promoting violence free lives to women and girl children.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM – AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AT SHOPPERS STOP – 7TH DECEMBER, 2013

As a part of 16 days of Activism against Gender Based Violence Campaign, 2013, we have organised awareness campaigns in different schools and colleges and sensitized boys and girls in the adolescent age group.

On 7th December, 2013 an awareness programme was conducted at Shopper’s Stop, GVK One, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad to the employees of the Shopper’s Stop. There were attended a good number of 100-120 workers to this programme. We have discussed on the reasons for increasing atrocities against women, safety and protective measures, human values, role of everyone in preventing VAW, Laws & Acts related to girls and women, particularly recent Acts - PWDV Act, Nirbhaya Act, PoCSO, Sexual Harassment at Workplace, constitution of Internal Complaints Committee at every workplace, role of employer and employees, etc.

We have also presented a short film on self protection and after that, discussed on the film, where everyone expressed that, the situation of a female person will be the same as doing work
at home, workplace and the harassment at home, roads and at workplace. They expressed that, women should be brave to protect herself from others. It is also the responsibility of everyone to respect each other as human beings.

It was a new experience for us, where we have involved in generating awareness to various stakeholders at community, schools, colleges, SHGs and sensitized many officials in various departments. We are very happy to reach this group of working people also, where these young women have come from vulnerable group, immediately after their schooling and junior colleges.

VISIT TO A.P. LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
On 5th December, 2013 Ms. K. Satyavati & Ms. Saritha have visited to A.P. Legal Services Authority office and discussed on fund raising for Bhumika Helpline in connection with completion of the Project support by Oxfam India. Also requested for allotment of Advocate and Para legal Volunteers for refunctining of Legal Aid Clinic. They have explained about the procedure of applying for grant under NALSA.

INTERACTION WITH DIRECTOR OF DR. REDDY’S LAB
Ms. Ranjana, Programme Co-ordinator, Oxfam India and Ms. K. Satyavati have visited Dr. Reddy’s Lab at Ameerpet, Hyderabad on 11th December, 2013 to discuss on Fund Raising for continuation of the Project interventions of Helpline and Support Centres for Women in A.P.

REVIEW, VOLUNTEERS AND ADVOCATES MEETING
Annual review, Volunteers and Advocates meeting was held on 18th January, 2014 at Hotel Woodlands, Himayatnagar. There were attended representatives from IPAP partners, NGOs, volunteers, Advocates, Bhumika Executive Committee members, students, media and other individuals. The meeting was started with a warm welcome by Ms. K. Satyavati, the Chief Functionary. There was self introduction of the participants and the Chief functionary has explained about the purpose of today’s meeting, so as to share the progress of Bhumika interventions and plan for future activities in view of the completion of the project of Oxfam India.

Presentation on Bhumika Interventions with the support of Oxfam India:
There was a presentation made on all the interventions – Helpline, CSRF- Advocacy, Support Centre for women. The progress of the activities since inauguration of Helpline was presented with the specific milestones, achievements in the advocacy activities, collaborative efforts of NGOs, convergence with Police, Judiciary, WCD, Shelter Homes under PWDV Act; the challenges faced, support of networks, etc. Ms. Satyavati has expressed thanks to all for being
with Bhumika in extending their support in all the ways and unhappy for winding of the project.

After the presentation, all the participants shared their views in working with Bhumika and suggested ways for continuation of Helpline and support centre functioning.

The following were the suggestions:

- Children and public are connecting to Helpline. Its Govt. responsibility to take forward the survival of the Helpline and Modalities to be discussed with WCD
- To sensitize the Govt. to take up the functioning of Helpline and Safe shelters for permanent solutions
- Govt. to revive the existing support system
- NGOs should also work with other Govt. departments like Judiciary, administration, etc for better programmes for the well being of women and children
- We should also learn and adopt some strategies to work with Govt. to make officials / systems more pro-active
- All the NGOs should be together and should have mutual collaborations and think for everyone’s well being without going for individual recognition
- Different strategies to be adopted to make sensitize the govt. officials
- There is no much difference between the situations & positions of women in rural and urban areas. Bhumika is reaching all the categories of women and Helpline is a tool to work on the issues of women in urban areas.
- All the CSOs / NGOs should work together for lobbying with Govt.
- Communicate the strategies in various ways.
- Should act as pressure group in mainstreaming such Helpline interventions
- All the systems should be women friendly and enable justice to women. The forms of functioning of Helpline should be changed.
- Awareness on the support systems - scrolling of helpline numbers, institutions, information of acts on sexual assault on girls & women
- Sensitizing of all the young men and women in all educational institutions in increasing their confidence in ending sexual assault issues
- Publication of Helpline and support systems information in school, intermediate books
- All the NGOs should work on creating awareness and sensitizing the parents in upbringing the children and have a check on their roles and behaviour
- Its every citizen’s responsibility to help others in the society in whatever the need.
One of the volunteer also expressed that, there is still a need to reach to all women through social media and hence develop website for this purpose.

Active role of CBOs in every village and the role of Panchayat to be made active.

Finally one of the member from CFAR suggested that for reducing VAW issues, media advocacy should be there and offered Bhumika to work on the issues of Sex Workers in partnership with CFAR in Andhra region, where the situation is critical in the areas and an active NGO like Bhumika could only bring change in their lives with the support of CBOs. Ms. Satyavati has positively reacted and replied that, definitely we would conduct some campaigns in those areas and expressed thanks for the offer.

There was definitely a positive note from all the participants on the expectation of functioning of the Helpline and many of the members expressed their willingness to work voluntarily until there is a sufficient fund raised. Finally, Ms. K. Satyavati have expressed heartfelt thanks to all for the hope of functioning of the Helpline and the support to be extended from all.

PRESENTATION AT NAANDI FOUNDATION

With the reason of winding up of the Oxfam Project, we have approached Naandi Foundation (working for girl children in A.P.) on 21\textsuperscript{st} December, 2014 and gave a presentation at their office on the functioning of Bhumika Helpline in addressing VAW and also reach to girl child with the publication of Helpline number in 9\textsuperscript{th} class text books and increase of calls from school students.

HALF DAY WORKSHOP ON "PROMOTING VIOLENCE FREE LIVES FOR WOMEN IN INDIA"; SHARING THE ANDHRA PRADESH EXPERIENCE; AN INITIATIVE BY OXFAM INDIA

A Half day workshop was conducted by Oxfam India on 30\textsuperscript{th} January, 2014 for sharing the AP Experience of the Project on “Promoting Violence Free Lives for Women in India”, an initiative by Oxfam working on the issues of domestic violence against women for the last 5 years. The purpose of the workshop was, as the Oxfam project coming to an end in March 2014 and in order to connect the partners with some of the Organizations, Corporate Houses through their corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives, and Foundations who are currently working or are interested on working on the issue of women’s rights and equality to support the partners.

MEETING ON CRIMINAL LAW (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2013 AND POCSO ACT, 2012

Bhumika Women’s Collective has organized a one-day meeting on Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences POCSO Act, 2012 at Akshaya Hotel, Himayatnagar on 11\textsuperscript{th} February 2014 with support from Oxfam India. Around 70 -75
representatives from various NGOs, educational institution, media and writers have participated in the proceedings.

Ms. K. Satyavati, Executive Director, Bhumika has welcomed all and appreciated the presence of the participants, despite there being a call for Telangana bandh. She has requested all the participants for quickly introducing themselves. Furthering the proceedings, Ms. Satyavati has said that the present venue has become a landmark of sorts for Bhumika since a number of meetings and discussions have been held here. The year 2013 has been ground-breaking, in that a few acts have been introduced and a few existing ones have been amended. She said that though the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, is a very crucial piece of legislation, there is no mention of the name Nirbhaya in the same. Similarly, knowledge pertaining to the POCSO Act, 2012, is also sadly lacking among the general public, including the implementers. A meeting related to the POCSO Act, 2012 was recently organized for the DCPs and SPs of the state, which implies that the police are also playing a proactive role in issues associated with children.

After this, a documentary film by Ms. Ramadevi, DSP Warangal, was shown to the audience, which was highly detailed in enumerating the various situations under which women are harassed, be it acid attacks or domestic violence or gang rapes, in addition to the different IPC sections under which perpetrators would be liable for punishment. This documentary film was appreciated by one and all because of its comprehensive and lucid presentation.


Adv. Vidya Reddy started her address by commenting that the documentary film witnessed a few moments back was the picture format of IPC amendments in the existing act. She said that due to inadequacies in the existing act, a few significant changes have been made to fulfill the requirements of delivering justice. This act has come into force from February 2013 with some amendments in Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and POCSO, 2012. She has explained in detail of each section pertaining to the act.

Presentation on POCSO Act, 2012

Mr. Ramana Kumar has appreciated the remarkable work being undertaken by Bhumika, in addition to the activities being conducted by CSS, CID Department, Women Protection Cell. He said that while, in the past, outraging the modesty of a woman was punishable under various sections of the IPC, after the Nirbhaya incident, a significant number of amendments have been introduced for safeguarding the rights of women and dispensing justice to them in a timely and fair manner. He has given a clear explanation on POCSO Act, 2012 and also clarified the doubts of the audience.
Inauguration of Posters

Ms. Satyavati then invited Mr. Ramana and Ms. Anusuya, DSP, Women’s Protection Cell, to unveil four posters on Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013.

In the post lunch session, there was sharing of experiences with working on women and girl children issues.

VISIT TO DGP OFFICE

On 7th February, 2014 by Ms. K. Satyavati & Ms. Sarita, to discuss with the DGP on the mainstreaming of Helpline and Support Centres, but did not get the appointment of DGP and hence, discussed with Sri S. Umapathi, (Former IG) on the possible ways of continuing the Helpline and Support Centres.

IPAP LEARNING & CLOSURE EVENTS

The Research Associate and one of the Social Worker of the Support Centre have participated in the IPAP Learning & Closure events held from 5th to 7th March, 2014 at New Delhi organized by Oxfam India. There were presentations on the endline evaluation by Sambodhi Team, Process Documentation, Best Practices, Thematic Wise documentation, where all the members who took part in the evaluation opined of the need for continuation of the project.

In the closure event, there were attended Ms. Nisha Agarwal, National Director, Oxfam India, the Chief Guest Mr. Sam Sharpde, Director, UK Aid, corporate and other NGOs at New Delhi along with representatives from all the IPAP partners. Ms. Ranjana Das Program Manager has presented to the Director, DFID in detail the DFID IPAP programme. The impact of the programme was clearly presented in all the States. One person from each State have shared their experiences in the IPAP project and best practices. Bhumika’s work on Helpline and Advocacy received a great applause at the national level. Oxfam India has appreciated the partnership of all the NGOs under the Gender Justice Project. As a praise for appreciation, the National Director and the Programme Directors have expressed their gratitude for being partnering with all the NGOs, which have given many fruitful results in ending violence against women. Each NGO were presented a Momentum and a plant on the occasion.
LAADLI PROGRAM
(WORKING WITH MEDIA ON WOMEN & GIRLD CHILD ISSUES)

A Mumbai based organisation, Population First working on girl child issues announcing Laadli awards to Media working on girl child issues with focus on gender sensitivity. We have been a collaborating agency for Southern Region since 2008-09. This year Bhumika has been nominated as one of the Collaborative agency and also mentor to one of the Kerala based organisation. As a collaborating agency, Bhumika have co-ordinated with the co-ordinating agency in selection, screening and announcing the best programmes in media.
SUPPORT CENTRES FOR WOMEN

Bhumika Women’s Collective is a State level co-ordinating partner of 5 Support Centres for Women in A.P run with the support of Oxfam India. We are very thankful to Shri. A. K. Khan, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Hyderabad for passing orders in starting the Centres across Andhra Pradesh. These Centres are aimed at providing a multi-pronged support required for survivors and complainants of violence, to prevent and counter crime against women and engage with the youth, families and communities on the issue of violence against women. In this regard we would like to share the progress of these Support Centres in our report through a statistical presentation. There has been a tremendous impact upon the people especially women after these Centres have been established in the Women Police Stations. Women and their respective families have been approaching the Centres for counseling services which had created a greater impact. These Centres have curbed to some extent the registration of cases under the 498A section which has been misinterpreted and misused under the PWDV Act, 2005 and emphasized on filing DIRs, going for counseling etc. Hence the Support Centre has been a stepping stone in creating awareness about the Act and helped many women to reconcile and lead a life free of violence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Support Centre</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Place of Work</th>
<th>Date of Commencement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support Centre for Women</td>
<td>Bhumika Women’s Collective (from 1.4.2013)</td>
<td>Women Protection Cell, CID office, Lakdikapool, Hyderabad</td>
<td>23.06.2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Centre for Women</td>
<td>Sarvodaya Youth Organisation</td>
<td>Women Police Station, Hanmakonda, Warangal</td>
<td>05.03.2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Centre for Women</td>
<td>Krushi</td>
<td>Women Police Station, Mankammathota, Karimnagar</td>
<td>02.11.2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Centre for Women</td>
<td>Anantha Paryavarana Parirakshaka Samithi</td>
<td>Women Police Station, Anantapur</td>
<td>06.07.2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Centre for Women</td>
<td>Society for Women And Rural Development</td>
<td>Women Police Station C.C.S, Basheerbagh, Hyderabad</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Oxfam India has transferred the responsibility of functioning of the Support Centre for Women at Women Protection Cell, CID office, Hyderabad to Bhumika Women’s Collective from April, 2013. The Social Workers were appointed at the Centre, oriented on their roles and responsibilities, documentation, introduced to Ms. Anjana Sinha, IG-CID, and functioning well.

**No. of Cases dealt by the Women Support Centres in the year, April, 2013-December, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support Centre</th>
<th>Bhumika, WPC, Hyderabad</th>
<th>SWARD, CCS, Hyderabad</th>
<th>APPS, Anantapur</th>
<th>SYO</th>
<th>Krushi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of cases dealt</td>
<td>379</td>
<td>763</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>315</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On the occasion of 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence Campaign, 2013, Bhumika have printed pamphlets and cards on the theme of 16 Days of Activism and cards on ending violence against women. These were distributed to all the NGOs and participants in all the programmes held from 25th November to 10th December, 2013.
CAPACITY BUILDING

TISS TRAINING TO COUNSELORS
One of the Helpline Counselor, Ms. Ramya has attended the TISS training programme supported by Oxfam India from 29th May to 17th June, 2013 at TISS, Mumbai.

TRAINING ON PREVENTION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF WOMEN AT WORKPLACE ACT, 2013
The Chief Functionary and the Research Associate have attended training on prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013 on 3rd & 4th June, 2013 organised by Oxfam India at Hyderabad. The participants included all the IPAP partners of A.P and Karnataka. The Resource Person was Ms. Soma Sen Gupta of Sanhita, a Kolkata based organisation.

REVIEW AND MONITORING VISIT BY MS. RANJANA DAS & MS. TANUSHREE, OXFAM INDIA – On 11th July, 2013 a review and monitoring visit was conducted at our office by Oxfam team. As this is the final year of the project, it was suggested by Ms. Ranjana to focus on conducting campaigns in schools and colleges, preparation of booklets on the new Acts – POWSHAW Act, Nirbhaya Act, posters on Domestic Violence, conduct exposure visits of WCD & Home Dept. to our Support Centres, so that, we could show case our work and try to mainstream the centres. Further, Ms. Tanushree, Finance Officer has verified all the accounting procedures, suggested for strengthening of the accounts systems in all the aspects.

REFRESHER TRAINING & EXPOSURE VISIT
The Research Associate has attended for Refresher Training and Exposure Visit held from 16th – 20th July, 2013 at Ahmedabad organised by Oxfam India with support of TISS (VAW). There were attended the Social Workers of Support Centres in the States of AP, Odisha, Gujarat, UP and Uttarakhand to the training.

SOCIAL MEDIA WORKSHOP
The Research Associate have attended to "Workshop on Digital and Social Media for NGOs" organised by South Asia Fundraising Group at New Delhi held on 29th & 30th October, 2013.
Ms. Vidya Reddy, Helpline Panel Advocate on behalf of Bhumika Women’s Collective have attended the two day workshop which was conducted by the CISF (Central Industrial Security Force) at New Delhi on 29th and 30th April, 2013. **From A.P. Bhumika Women’s Collective was the only NGO invited and imparted two sessions on gender issues in the workshop.** The workshop was inaugurated by DGCISF, activist and actor Shabana Azmi. The other speakers were Ms. Laxmi Rajan, Professor, TISS, Hyderabad on gender sensitization and Ms. INDIRA JAI SINGH, Advocate oriented on SEXUAL HARASSMENT.

The first meeting of the Committee was convened by Bhumika Women's Collective on 30th April, 2013 at our office. The main objective of the meeting was served with discussion and framing of objectives of the Committee. In this meeting, it was proposed to name the committee. The Chief Functionary of Bhumika and Ms. Prasanthi (APMSS) have selected Name as “BHAROSA” We are with you… We are for you. And selected a logo.

The Chief Functionary has attended a Seminar on Protection of Girl Child on 4th April, 2013 at Ravindra Bharathi organised by Tharuni and A.P. Balala Hakkula Sangham.

The Chief Functionary has participated in the Regional Consultation on Communalism and Law on 5th April, 2013 jointly organised by Human Rights Law network (HRLN-AP) and Aman Vedika. The agenda of the consultation was to explore ways and means to effectively combat communalism in the respective areas of working.

A meeting was held by Legal Services Authority with NGOs on 17th April, 2013 at 4.00 PM in the Court Hall of XX Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Hyderabad to discuss on implementing the Schemes and organizing of programmes as directed by APSLA and National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi. The Chief Functionary has participated.

The Research Associate has attended the Discussion on Secularism – Art and Literature held by one of our IPAP partner, Shaheen on 4th May, 2013.

A State Level Meet organised by National Alliance of Women (NAWO) on 8th May, 2013 was attended by the Chief Functionary and as a key Speaker addressed the participants on the present scenario of violence against women, sexual assault on girls and implementation of related Acts. There was also a discussion on the Women in Local Governance in view of the Panchayat Elections to be notified in the forthcoming months.

The Chief Functionary has participated in launch of Indian Women Network (IWN), initiated by Confederation of Indian Industry, a first of its kind initiative in the country on 10th May, 2013. IWN is an exclusive platform for Career Women - Professionals & Entrepreneurs to network, learn, share & seek better opportunities.

The Chief Functionary has participated in the special event of Oxfam India organised on the eve of completion of First Year of their “Create to Inspire Fellowship 2012” event on Sustainable Consumption held in Hyderabad on 12th August, 2013, which is also the International Youth Day.

The chief functionary has visited Chanchalguda Women’s Prison on 3rd July, 2013 (Bhumika being ex-officio member for visiting and counselling the women prisoners).
Consultation on “Women – Challenges to Overcome” was convened on 6th July, 2013 at Jubilee Hall by A.P. Women’s Commission with all the NGOs, was attended by Ms. K. Satyavati, Chief Functionary and Ms. Saritha, Research Associate. It was the first meeting of Women Commission, after constitution of members in full fledged manner. The meeting focused on the discussions on various forms of atrocities against women and girl children, the role of AP Women Commission in addressing all such issues and developed a route map for functioning of the Commission.

Human Rights Forum- Hyderabad Unit 4th Conference - The Chief Functionary has participated in the Public meeting of HRF conference on 26th July, 2013, where it was discussed on the Continue tragedy of Adivasis killings and Constructions workers – issues and Rights.

The Chief Functionary was specially invited to attend a meeting with the Chairperson, A.P. Women’s Commission on 26th July, 2013 held at their office at 3.00 pm. The issues of VAW and the strategies to be adopted by the Commission was discussed in detail and planned to declare “Quit Dowry Day” on 9th August, 2013 in connection with Quit India day. But, it was suggested by Ms. Satyavati to make it on 14th in part of OBR and conduct activities like Press Meet, Meeting with NGOs, etc.

Meeting with A.P. Women’s Commission was attended by the Chief Functionary on 30th July, 2013, where there was discussed on the Commission’s Plan of Action with activities was framed for the year, 2013.

Legal Services Authority convened a meeting on 3rd August, 2013 at their office at Nampally Criminal Courts, where the Research Associate and one of the Helpline Counselor has attended the meeting.

Gender Budgeting Workshop was organized on 20th and 21st of August 2013 at CESS conference Hall, Hyderabad on Gender Responsive Budgeting with the support of UN Women, New Delhi.

AP Women Commission convened a meeting on 2nd September, 2013 at their office to prepare a paper on women’s rights to present at National Commission for Women, (to draft a “Bill of Rights” regarding Rights of Women. Ms. Ramya, one of the Social Worker at Support Centre for Women, WPC has attended the meeting.

Sri Vidya’s Special School Annual Day celebrations were performed on 7th September, 2013, where Ms. K. Satyavati has been invited as Chief Guest to the celebrations.

Phone line interview was taken by Ms. Tanvi, student of Nalsar University, which was attended by Ms. K. Satyavati on 13th September, 2013 on the issues of increasing crimes against women, Nirbhaya Fund, Fast Track Courts, Public Movements in bringing about change in Govt. Legislations, etc.

Consultation on “Global Charter on Right to Participation in Local Democratic Governance” held on 24th September 2013 at CESS, Begumpet, Hyderabad. The consultation is being jointly hosted by APMAS, Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) and Logo Link – Learning Initiative on Citizen Participation in Local Governance. Ms. K. Satyavati, Chief Functionary has participated.

Meeting on Women –Land Rights – Food Sovereignty held on 26th September, 2013 at St. Anns’ Generalate, Secunderabad organized by Rythu Swarajya Vedika was attended by Ms. K. Satyavati, the Chief Functionary.
- **Gandhari** – a premiere Cultural Campaign on Violence against Women (performed by Ms. Rajeswari Sainath) was organized by Asmita on 27th September, 2013 at Ravindra Bharathi, where the Research Associate has attended to the show.

- **Silent Protest against atrocities on Women** was held by Shaheen Women Resource Centre on 28th September, 2013 at Dharma Chowk, Indira Park on against the issue of a muslim polytechnic student house arrest and sexual assault. The Research Associate and one of the Helpline counselor has participated in the Protest and raised voice on the atrocities against women and girl children.

- **Process Documentation Workshop** - For the purpose of bringing out a learning document, a workshop was conducted on 12th December, 2013 by Oxfam India at CHAI, Secunderabad to capture the processes, the strategies, the outcomes and the challenges that have made the project vibrant over the years. There were attended all the IPAP partners in A.P. along with Ms Ranjana Das and Ms. Advaitha. In the workshop, there was a thorough review on the log frame of IPAP project, group wise exercise on - CSR & Advocacy, Working with the Community, Support Centre and Working with Govt. officials and best practices in the project.


- Ms. Satyavati has participated in the meeting held on 26th October, 2013 by Action Aid on the occasion of “Girl Child Day” and she was one of the guest speaker to address the participants on girl child issues. After this we were also a part of the discussion on designing of Girl Child Policy and shared our suggestions in improving the draft with necessary measures in schools in addressing the needs of girl children.

- Ms. K. Satyavati have participated in Seminar on “Developing a Common Assessment Framework on Social Inclusion of Marginal Communities” held on 29th October, 2013 at CESS, Begumpet, Hyderabad organised by Centre for Advocacy Research.

- The Research Associate have participated in a discussion held on “Citizens Charter on the Services of GHMC” held by APSA and COVA on 5th November, 2013 at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram.

- Ms. Seshaveni, Panel Advocate of Bhumika Helpline have participated in consultation on ‘Barriers (Formal and Informal) in Implementation of the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005 in the context of Women Agricultural Producers” organised by Rural Development Institute at Hyderabad on 9th November, 2013.

- Ms. Satyavati have attended a meeting held on 11th November, 2013 by A.P. Women’s Commission at their office to discuss on planning for taking up of activities under 16 days of Activism against Gender based Violence from 25th November to 10th January, 2013, where A.P. Women commission have declared “Women Safety Fortnight”.

- Ms. K. Satyavati have participated in the meeting with Parliamentary Standing Committee of Railways, who visited Hyderabad on 13th November, 2013. The meeting was organised by South Central Railway, Secunderabad at Taj Deccan, Hyderabad with some of the NGOs working with women to discuss about the issues of “Women Passengers Safety in Sub-urban Railways”. There was a discussion on the safety of women passengers and a set of recommendations were prepared along with APMSS and submitted to the committee.
• Bhumika staff have participated in Consultation on the “Effective Implementation of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005” organized jointly by Centre for Social Research, New Delhi and Vasavya Mahila Mandali in collaboration with A.P State Women Commission on at Hyderabad and Oxfam India on 15th November, 2013 at Hotel Quality Inn, Hyderabad.

• Ms. K. Satyavati have participated in the meeting of A.P. Women’s Commission at their office held for finalising the Women Safety Fortnight and suggested to approach all the NGOs organising programmes on one topic everyday as part of 16 days of activism against Gender Based Violence. Bhumika have been taken the responsibility of conduction programme on 29th November, 2013 with the topic on PWDV Act, 2005.

• Ms. K. Satyavati has participated in a Stocktaking Exercise on RTE for Telangana Region held on 21st November, 2013 organised by A.P. Child Rights Alliance at Hyderabad.

• 3 members have participated in the event conducted by AP Women Commission on the occasion of International Day against Violence on Women at Indira Priya Darshini Auditorium, Public Gardens, Hyderabad on 25th November, 2014.

• Participated in the events conducted by NGO partners on the occasion of 16 Days of Activism Campaign.

• Ms. K. Satyavati has participated in "DISABILITY AWARENESS WALK 2013" at Necklace road Hyderabad on 3rd December, 2013 at 07:00 AM organised by Disabled Rights Forum on the occasion of International Disabled Persons Day.

• Convened and participated in All Women Meet held on 1st Saturday in December, 2013 and January, 2014.

• Ms. Satyavati has participated as a guest speaker in the programme organised by Action Aid at Nalgonda on 10th December, 2013 in view of Human Rights Day and addressed on girl child issues in the district.

• The Research Associate have participated in a programme conducted on the occasion of Human Rights Day on 10th December, 2013 held by Asmita Resource Centre at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram, Hyderabad.

• The Research Associate have participated in “Round Table Conference on Sexual Assault & Violence” organised by Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust at Hotel Sandhya, Lakdikapool on 11th January, 2014.

• Action Aid has organised a Legal Literacy Camp at Mahabubnagar on 19th December, 2013. Asha Singh, National Monitoring Committee member has attended the programme and Ms. K. Satyavati have attended the camp as a panel member.

• Meeting with Commissioner, Family Welfare on PCPNDT held on 24th January, 2014 was attended by Ms. K. Satyavati, being one of the State Level Committee member. It was discussed on improving the girl child sex ratio and identified some NGOs working in Warangal and Nalgonda districts for the purpose.

• Seminar on Women’s Safety was organised by the Hyderabad City Commissioner of Police at FICCI building, Lakdikapool on 25th January, 2014. Ms. K. Satyavati was one of the guest
to speak on the issue of Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place Act, 2013. Ms. Saritha, Research Associate has also participated in the seminar.

- **Round Table Conference on Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act, 2013** organised by Women Journalists Forum on 25th January, 2014 at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram was attended by Ms. K. Satyavati and highlighted the importance and mandatory of forming of Internal Complaints Committees at all workplaces.

- **A.P. Women Network meeting** was held on 8th February, 2014 was attended by Ms. K. Satyavati and suggested ways to take forward their goal and mission of the network in working on the issues of Domestic Violence more effectively.

- **Employees Voice Meeting** was attended by Ms. K. Satyavati on 8th February, 2014 as one of the guest speaker and addressed the group on the highlights of the Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act, 2013, setting up of internal complaints committees at all the workplaces, the process of implementation of the Act, meaning of terms in the Act.

- **In part of Campaign on Stop Acid Attacks**, a rally was held on 9th February, 2014 at Dharna Chowk, Indira Park, Hyderabad, the National Level Campaign being initiated by Mr. Allob Bikship (Delhi based Activist) with support of Roda Mistry college of Social Work, Hyderabad. Ms. K. Satyavati has participated in the rally and demanded for ending of all forms of violence against women and girl children and ensure safety to women.

- **A.P. Women’s Commission** have conducted an interactive session on 13th February, 2014 at their office, to discuss and take “Follow-up Action after 16 days of Activism and National Conference of State Women Commissions at Hyderabad. The Research Associate have participated in the meeting, where there was discussion on Action Plan of AP Women Commission basing on the results from the activities on 16 days of activism.

- 3 members have participated in event organized in connection with One Billion Rising on 14th February, 2014 by Asmita at Lamakan, Hyderabad.

- **Hyderabad Travel Meet 2014 – Curtain Raiser Press Meet** was held on 19th February, 2014 at Hotel Haritha, Begumpet was attended by Ms. K. Satyavati. The **Hyderabad Travel Meet 2014**, was being organized for the first time by Tourism Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh from 21st to 23rd February 2014 at Paryatak Bhavan, Begumpet, Hyderabad.

- A letter was submitted to the Director MEPMA on 10th March, 2014 requesting for giving opportunity to Bhumika in providing gender trainings to SHG members.

- On the occasion of Women’s Day, Pilupu organization, Nalgonda have organized a meeting with single women at Turkapalle, Nalgonda district on 11th March, 2014. Ms. K. Satyavati was one of the guest speaker on the issues of Single Women. The Research Associate have also participated in meeting.
• AP Women’s Commission on the occasion of Women’s Day on 12th March, 2014 have felicitated the 20 NGOs, who have worked best on women and children issues. Ms. K. Satyavati have been received award from Bhumika.

• One of the Social Worker from Support Centre have attended the workshop on PWDV Act, 2005 organised by Makro Foundation on 19th March, 2014 held at YWCA, Secunderabad.

• One of the Social Worker have attended the inaugural session of the Counseling Centre of My Choices on 21st March, 2014, which was newly established at AC Guards for the survivors of Domestic Violence.

• The Chief Functionary have participated in the meeting held by Judicial Academy on 22nd March, 2014.

• The Chief Functionary have participated in the “Children Magazine” release function organized by Aman Vedika Rainbow Home on 24th March, 2014 held at their Home in Vijaya Nagar Colony, Nampally.

• Ms. K. Satyavati, the Chief Functionary was invited to the Seminar as a Chief Guest organized by Dravidian University, Kuppan on 27th March, 2014.
RESOURCE FACILITY TO OTHER GROUPS

TRAINING TO APMSS TEAM ON WOMEN’S MOVEMENTS
A session on Women’s Movement has been given by the Chief Functionary in a training to staff AP Mahila Samatha Society held at Hyderabad on 10th July, 2013.

LECTURE AT APMAS
The Chief Functionary has attended a lecture organized by APMAS on the occasion of 70th birth anniversary of late Shri. Smarajit Ray, on 16th July, 2013 at 4 pm in the conference hall of the Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), Hyderabad. The memorial lecture was delivered by Dr. Rajesh Tandon, the co-founder and President of PRIA, based in New Delhi on the topic of ‘Role of Civil Society in the changing context of India’. This topic has been identified as Late Shri. Ray had deep interest and contributed a lot in the area of GO-NGO collaboration in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

RURAL JOURNALISTS OF KARIMNAGAR DISTRICT were given trained and sensitized on gender issues in a workshop organised by AP Mahila Samatha Society on 21st September, 2013 at their office at Karimnagar, where Ms. K. Satyavati, Chief Functionary was the Resource Person at the Workshop.

SEMINAR ON SECURITY OF WOMEN PASSENGERS IN RAILWAYS - RPF WORKSHOP
Ms. K. Satyavati has participated in “Seminar on Security of Women Passengers in sub-Urban areas” organized by RPF Police at RPF Training Institute, Moulali on 15th October, 2013. As a guest speaker, she has addressed the group on violence against women, gender perspective, Bhumika Helpline, Support Systems to women in Andhra Pradesh, Support Centres for Women, PWDV Act, Nirbhaya Act and Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act and protection to women and girl child passengers in railways.

RPF WORKSHOP
On 17th October, 2013 Ms. K. Satyavati, the Chief Functionary have as one of the Resource Person for generating awareness to RPF, Hyderabad division on gender issues, VAW and safety of Women Passengers in railways addressed the group on violence against women, gender perspective, Bhumika Helpline, Support Systems to women in Andhra Pradesh, Support Centres for Women, PWDV Act, Nirbhaya Act and Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act and protection to women and girl child passengers in railways.

WORKSHOP ON POSHAW TO SOUTH CENTRAL RPF
The South Central Division RPF, division have conducted a workshop on PoSHAW on 21st October, 2013, where Ms. K. Satyavati, Chief Functionary was one of the resource person and addressed the group on Protection of Women at Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act, 2013, stressed upon the constitution of Internal Complaints Committee and also shared upon the experiences as a Internal Committee Member in other departments. She has also touched upon the issues of violence against women, gender perspective, Bhumika Helpline, Support Systems to women in Andhra Pradesh, Support Centres for Women.

**ORIENTATION TO MEMBERS OF A.P. WOMEN NETWORK**

On 12th November, 2013 Ms. Satyavati has oriented the members of A.P. Women Network on the issues of Domestic Violence, PWDV Act and its implementation in the State, various support systems for women in Andhra Pradesh. They have requested to join the Network.
The Regional Electronic Media, ABN Channel on 1st April, 2013 has taken the views and opinions of the Chief Functionary on the issue of Female infanticides and killing female children, which has happened continuously in Kurnool district and the suggestions to curtail the practice.

The Electronic Media, TV5 has taken voice of the Chief Functionary on the issue of Sexual Assault on Girl children in relation to the sexual abuse on the 5 year old girl.

The Electronic Media, CVR News has taken voice of the Chief Functionary on the issue of Sexual Assault on Girl children in relation to the sexual abuse on the 5 year old girl.

The National Electronic Media, CNN-IBN on 10th June, 2013 interviewed the Chief Functionary of Bhumika on the functioning of Bhumika Helpline particularly in addressing the issues NRI deserted women.

On 11th June, 2013, the Regional Electronic Media, ETV interviewed the Chief Functionary on the present status of crimes against women and the implementation of various acts in the state.

NTV interviewed Ms. K. Satyavati on 13th September, 2013 on Nirbhaya Judgement, where she has expressed that we are against Capital punishment and requested the media for spreading awareness on the new Acts.

Interview by Eenadu, Vanitha TV was conducted on 13th September, 2013 with Ms. K. Satyavati on the news on Nirbhaya Judgement, where she has expressed that we are against Capital punishment and requested the media for spreading awareness on the new Acts.

On 9th October, 2013, Ms. K. Satyavati have given an interview on All India Radio on the functioning of Bhumika Helpline for Women in distress. The programme was telecasted twice in the week and with this, there was an increase in calls at helpline.

Ms. K. Satyavati has been one of the guest speaker in TV 5 programme to discuss on the present status of women in A.P. and VAW issues held on 1st December, 2013.

Ms. K. Satyavati has taken part in a talk show on the latest Act, on Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act organised by Naveena, TV9 on 17th December, 2013.

10 TV, Electronic media, have interviewed Ms. K. Satyavati on 25th January, 2014 on the present status of implementation of the Act on The Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act, 2013.

TV 9 Naveeeena have shot an exclusive programme on Bhumika Helpline on 17th March, 2014. The total episode covered with Bhumika Helpline and its process of functioning in addressing the violence issues. The Co-ordinator, Helpline Counselors and Social Workers of Support Centre have participated in the talk show.
Assessor Visit by Credibility Alliance - Mr. Wilson Vijay Kumar Prasanna, from Karimnagar who have visited Bhumika on 26th June, 2013. In part of his visit, he has interacted with the Chief Functionary, EC members, Accountant, Research Associate and Helpline Counselor. The major discussion was on Governance issues and suggested preparation of Annual Report on the lines suggested by Credibility Alliance.

On 8th April, 2013 a batch of 12 students along with 1 Faculty member of Home Science College (Food and Nutrition Department – 3rd Year) visited our office and were oriented on the functioning of Bhumika Women’s Collective and activities of CSRF and Helpline. They were also provided with information on Acts, related to women and girls, status of women, support systems for women and the qualities of a Social Worker.

Ms. P.T. Sanjana, student of 1st Year B.A., L.L.B (Hons.), NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad has been placed with us for her internship with topic on “SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF WOMEN AT WORKPLACE” from 9th May to 31st May 2013.

On 7th August, 2013 2 persons from Vasavya Mahila Mandali visited our office and discussed on Bhumika’s activities on Advocacy on PWDV Act, 2013 and planned for collaborative Advocacy at National level.

Faculty members of Roda Mistry College of Social Work visited our office on 7th August, 2013 to discuss on the functioning of Bhumika helpline and CSRF activities. They have requested for placing their MSW students at Bhumika for their field training in part of concurrent block placement for a period of 3 months.

Placement of Students for field training – a batch of 6 students of 2nd year M.S.W. from Roda Mistry College of Social Work, Hyderabad have been placed in our office for their field training as part of their M.S.W course from September, 2013 and continue till October, 2013.

Students of Roda Mistry College of Social Work were oriented on the functioning of Bhumika Helpline and CSRF. There were a total of 60 students and 2 Faculty members, who have visited our office in part of Observation Visits, had interaction with the staff and showed interest to participate in Bhumika’s activities.

Ms. Jyothi Patil, an independent consultant has visited our office 18th November, 2013 for documenting the strategies adopted in implementation of the project for 4 ½ years. She was provided with all the information on functioning of the Helpline, CSRF activities, Support Centres and the achievements in addressing DV issues.

Ms. Amy, who was conducting research for her PhD dissertation has visited our office on 19th December, 2013. The focus of her work was in the area of gender issues and development, specifically on women's empowerment and activism. Currently she was researching on response to domestic violence, working with women's collectives and NGOs to do this (both here in Hyderabad, and in Seattle, U.S.A.).
• **From Roda Mistry College of Social Work**, Hyderabad, a batch of 7 students of MSW I year have been placed with Bhumika for their field training as of concurrent placement from 1st January 2014 to 30th March, 2014.

• **Visit by ADP personnel** – The Chief Functionary, Sri Srinivas and the Program Manager, Sri G. Sreedhar, of ADP, a software company have visited Bhumika office on 8th February, 2014 and discussed on the functioning of Helpline and its activities. They were very much interested to discuss on addressing the violence issues and work in collaboration with Bhumika.

• **Students of Loyola Academy** visited on 29th January, 2014 to Bhumika office. A group of 5 students were oriented on the functioning of Bhumika Helpline, Support Centre for Women and CSRF activities. They have absorbed the process of counselling on Helpline.

• Mr. Thomas and Mr. Suhas Nari from Karl Kubel Stiftung, a German based organization have visited our office on 12th March, 2014 to know about the functioning of Bhumika on Violence issues with a view to start their programmes in A.P.

**CHALLENGES**

- Functioning of Support Centre at WPC was a major challenge.
- Lack of Support of Police at Support Centre
- For filling up of the posts of Social Workers and Counselor at Helpline, we have interviewed many M.S.W candidates. But, it was wondering to know that, there is a huge gap in understanding of the basic concepts on social issues.

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

**MEMBER IN COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE AT NATIONAL LEVEL**
The Chief Functionary, Ms. K. Satyavati has been nominated as one of the members in the Complaints Committee constituted by national level Network of Women in Media India (NWMI) under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013.

**BHUMIKA HELPLINE IN TEXT BOOK**
Bhumika Helpline number has been featured in 9th standard Social Science text book printed by SCERT in the chapter on “Women Protection Acts”. It was mentioned that, any one would call on the Helpline number for any Domestic Violence issue and for Stopping of a Child Marriage.
CERTIFICATE OF CREDIBILITY
Bhumika Women’s Collective (With the support of Oxfam India) have been issued a Certificate of Accreditation by Credibility Alliance under Minimum Norms prescribed for Good Governance of Voluntary Organisations.

COVERAGE IN THE HINDU
The Helpline number has been featured in Social Science text book of SERT of 9th standard. The consistent advocacy of our team with the State Government has resulted into this achievement. The cover story was published in the The Hindu on 3rd October, 2013. The Oxfam India Regional Manager, Mr. Akshay has been quoted in the story.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER IN FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
Ms. K. Satyavati has been nominated as one of the Advisory Board Member in the State Level Committee (PCPNDT) of Family Welfare Department, constituted by Ms. Anuradha, Commissioner of Family Welfare.

MEMBER IN LOCAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE
Ms. K. Satyavati has been nominated as one of the member in Local Complaints Committee constituted by CISF Police, Hyderabad.

STATE LEVEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PC & PNDT
Ms. K. Satyavati, have been nominated as one of the NGO member in the State Level Advisory Committee and State Level Inspection & Monitoring Committee for PC & PNDT Act for involvement of effective implementation of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 and Rules 1996 in the State, constituted by Department of Health and Family Welfare.

DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Internal Committee Member constituted under Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace in Society for Social Audit, Accountability and Transparency of Department of Rural Development, Govt. Of Andhra Pradesh.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL, SPECIAL PROTECTION FORCE, SECUNDERABAD
Nominated as one of the member of SPF Committee of SPF Complaints Committee on Sexual Harassment pertaining to the SPF working women.
GOVERNANCE

1. Organisation Structure

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Chief Functionary
↓
Research Associate ↔ Counselors ↔ Social Workers in Support Centres
↓
Accountant ↔ Support Staff
↓
Office Assistant
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2. Executive Committee

President - Ms. R. Santha Sundari
Writer, Award winner of National Human Rights Commission

Vice President - Dr. P. Madhavi
Professor, Dept. of Economics, Kasturba P.G. College, Osmania University, Hyderabad; Human Rights Activist & One of the State Advisors’ under Right to Food (Supreme Court)

Secretary - Ms. Kondaveeti Satyavati
Journalist, Writer, Activist & Editor of Bhumika Magazine

Joint Secretary - Ms. N. Geeta Reddy
Govt. Service, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh

Treasurer - Ms. P. Shailaja &
Researcher & Editorial Member of Bhumika Magazine

Members
1. Dr. Samata Roshini .P - Doctor, Writer & Activist
3. Dr. P. Lakshmi - Famous Feminist Writer, Poetess and Working as Lecturer.
Silent Protest Against Atrocities on Women & Girls – 22nd April, 2014

Bhumika Women’s Collective organised a silent protest on Monday against atrocities on girls and women at 10.00 am near the Ambedkar statue. This was held to express solidarity with the 5-year-old victim of sexual assault in Delhi. Representatives of various civil society organisations joined hands during the silent protest. The participants included Indira Jena (Nirmaya), P Prasanthi (AP Mahila Samatha Society), K Shiva Kumari (SWARD), Swaroopa Rani (AIDWA), Shiva Rani (APS A), Sujatha (Dalit Bahujana Resource Centre), Indira (Aman Vedika) and other individuals from different sectors.

State Level Consultation on PoSHAW Act, 2013

State Level Consultation on Sexual Harassment at Work Place – held on 19th Oct. 2013
CURING SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Women groups pitch for spl cells at workplaces

Ori Bursik

Hyderabad: AP State Women’s Commission (APWCC) and several groups called for steps to establish special cells at workplaces under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

On Thursday, Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao met the group leaders and said that the government would establish special cells at workplaces.

The groups cited various incidents of sexual harassment against women in the workplace and demanded action.

“Women are being subjected to harassment both in the workplace and in society,” said a leader from the Hyderabad Women’s Collective.

The APWCC has been working towards the prevention and redressal of sexual harassment at workplaces.

“The government should take immediate steps to establish these special cells at workplaces,” said a leader from the Shilparamam Arts, Crafts & Cultural Society.

Hansika, 9th Oct, 2013
Anti-human trafficking units to be doubled in State

Awareness of law important to protect women

By Anindita Protap Chatterjee

In a bid to double the number of Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) in the State, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has announced plans to increase the number of AHTUs from the current 49 to 98. This decision was taken during the meeting of the Ministry’s High Level Committee on Human Trafficking.

The move comes in response to growing concerns about the issue of human trafficking, particularly of women and children. The Ministry has identified a need to strengthen the existing AHTUs to ensure timely and effective action against traffickers.

"The doubling of AHTUs will ensure a more robust and effective response to the problem of human trafficking," said the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment. "We are committed to protecting the rights of vulnerable groups and ensuring their safety and well-being.

In addition to the increase in AHTUs, the Ministry has also announced several measures to enhance awareness among law enforcement agencies and the general public about the importance of these units. Public awareness campaigns and training programs will be held to educate people on the signs of human trafficking and the steps they can take to report it.

The Ministry has also directed state governments to establish a mechanism for the rapid identification and rescue of trafficking victims. This will involve coordination between AHTUs and other law enforcement agencies to ensure a seamless response to cases of human trafficking.

The decision to double the number of AHTUs is part of a broader national strategy to combat human trafficking. The Ministry has been actively working with various stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations, to develop a comprehensive approach to tackling this issue.

The doubling of AHTUs is expected to provide a significant boost to the efforts of law enforcement agencies in combating human trafficking. The Ministry has expressed confidence in the ability of the AHTUs to effectively address this pressing issue.

Andhra Jyothi - 12th February 2014
Bhumika Helpline Number in School Text Books & Coverage in The Hindu Newspaper

District Collector at the district level, Revenue Divisional Officer at division level, Tehsildar or ICDS Officer at mandal level and Gram Panchayat Secretary at village level are the authorities in stopping child marriages. Anybody can complain or intimate to the above officers to stop the child marriages. Sometimes the court may initiate and file suo motu (on its own initiative) when it has reliable information and punishing the concerned.

Sometimes marriages are performed for the under aged i.e. less than 15 years without their consent. How do we stop such marriages? Who will help us?

Do You Know?

Seek assistance in case of any harassment and domestic violence using toll free Bhumika help line 1800 425 2908 and stop child marriages. Friends, relatives, neighbours, teachers can inform to the village secretary and Tehsildar to stop child marriages.

M. Sai Gopali

HYDERABAD: The popular helpline number for women in distress (1800-425-2908) run by the Bhumika Women’s Collective in Hyderabad, has now become a part of the Class 9 Social Studies textbook of the State Council of Education Research and Training (SCERT).

The helpline number was included in the section titled ‘Women’s Protection Act.’

Seek assistance in case of any harassment and domestic violence using the toll-free Bhumika helpline 1800-425-2908 and stop child marriages, reads the text in the book. Introduced in 2006, the helpline has so far received 25,000 distress calls from women and has handled a variety of issues including domestic violence, dowry harassment, marital problems and even harassment from in-laws.

The helpline number will now be ingrained in the minds of girls and boys. Whenever there is some distress, they will not hesitate to call the number. Over the years, the helpline number has become institutionalized and is synonymous with reaching out to women who need immediate help from domestic violence and any kind of harassment,” says an oldest Kondweti Satyavati, secretary of the Bhumika Women’s Collective.

Consistent effort

The mention of the helpline number in the textbooks did not happen overnight. It fructified after consistent advocacy by members of Bhumika and officials at Orissa, India, which is providing financial support for the functioning of the helpline.

“it’s a step ahead to make the helpline useful in school girls facing distress and domestic violence. Along with Bhumika, we were in dialogue with the government to institutionalize the helpline,” says Regional Manager, Oxfam Indra (South), Alosha Suman Basu.

Trained counsellors

The helpline is operated from the office of Bhumika in Bahadurpura, where three professionally trained counsellors monitor the phone lines between 8 a.m. and 11 p.m.

We have close to 200 volunteers who are ready to visit and rescue the distressed women immediately. There are close to 50 advocates associated with us to provide free legal help. We started the helpline to protect women from domestic abuse, but now women with all kinds of problems call in and we respond to their calls,” Ms. Satyavati says.
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Bhumika Helpline Tollfree No. 1800 425 2908

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Website: www.bhumikawomenscollective.com / www.bhumika.org