

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2007-2008
OF
GAYATRI RURAL EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY**

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I am, on behalf of GRES, pleased to present the annual report of our organization for the year 2007-2008. First of all the organization sincerely extends its gratitude to all the donors, Central Government, State Government, Departments, Private Agencies, Industrialists and well wishers for rendering various kinds of selfless support in pursuance of our activities. The following are the mile stones of our activities.

I. IMPORTANT TRAINING PROGRAMMES ATTENDED

Our Secretary, Mrs. S. Krishna Kumari attended the training programme on Sustainable Agriculture methods conducted by Centre for Sustainable Agriculture, CSW, Hyderabad and WASAN, Hyderabad. This exposure training has become the key aspect of encouragement for our farmers on bio-diversity methods, organic farming methods, non pest management methods and formation of women farmer groups among the farmers in the rural areas.

GRES – Team underwent exposure and training programme in methods for formation of Women farmer Groups conducted by Department of Agriculture, Srikakulam

II. IMPORTANT SEMINAR ATTENDED

Our organization was invited by National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad to attend a seminar on Regional Programme On Capacity Building In Organic Agriculture at State Institute of Rural Development, Raipur (Chattisgarh). Mrs. S. Krishna Kumari our Secretary, attended this Seminar and shared valuable experiences among many National Level organizations which are working for sustainable agriculture through organic methods. Our organization got rich experiences from the seminar. Our Secretary visited many like minded organizations and GRES's objectives were made known to them for the sake of our future activities. We extend our sincere gratitude to NIRD for giving this opportunity to our organization.

III. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY-BASED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (SCBRMP)

SCBRMP enhances people's environmental awareness and builds their capacities in natural resource utilization, protection, and management. Directed towards the formation of community resource management structures, the program aims to promote participatory and community-directed approaches in the protection and rehabilitation of natural resources including coastal and marine, forest and water resources. It also mobilizes community actions to address resource destruction

and depletion, biodiversity erosion and unsustainable utilization of land and aquatic resources. through :

A. Awareness Generation Programme



With the support of Andhra Pradesh State Social Welfare Board Awareness Generation Programme for women [AGP] on 1) Status of Women 2) Women and Law 3) Women and Health 4) Community Health and Hygiene 5) Women Technology and Environment 6) Women and the State Government 7) Religion Culture and Women and Economy 8) Women Social Action 9)

Panchayats and Grama Sabhas 10) Nation Integration and Communal Harmony 11) Legal Literacy 12) Women Empowerment 13) Right to Information Act 14) HIV/AIDS , 15) sustainable agriculture and pest side management and economic development were conducted in 22 mandals covering 245 villages . Totally 19,867 benefited from this AGP Programmes

B. Adult Literacy Programme



With the support of Local Industrialists Adult Literacy Programme is being conducted in 123 villages in our rural areas of operation. 2300 women and 500 men are learning regional language in the evenings. Now they can read and write. It has become eye opener to their all round development

C. Free medical camps



Three Free medical camps were conducted in three centers, i.e., in Borubhadra, Santabommali, and Pinnintipeta villages and Mandals and 5000 families benefited through these camps. Free medical treatments were given to the poor and proper medical advice was given to the poor of the rural areas.

D. Free eye camps

Two free eye camps were conducted and more than 125 poor got benefited through these camps. The poor in the remote areas got proper medical treatments and advice.

E. Training and awareness on women and child development programme, .



As our organization involves in women development programme, they were in need of awareness and training in their day-to-day life in the aspect of care for the aged women, economic affairs, education, care for mother, child development, child care, breast feeding and hygiene. Also aged women are not taken care of by the family members and the society. Our organization gave proper training and awareness

among the poor family members on the importance of aged women and their rights. To enlighten these aspects among the society our organization conducted women development programme in 25 centres. There was wide acceptance for this programme and more than 5000 families got benefited by these programme because of women were made strengthen their participation in decision making in the family and in the society and to deal with social issues including atrocities on women and children

F. Condensed Course: CSWB New Delhi has sanctioned this project to provide education to those women like young widows, women deserted by their husbands for various social and economic reasons dropped out of school and could not pursue their studies.



With the support of Andhra Pradesh State Social Welfare Board, Hyderabad, condensed courses were provided to 50 SSC Failed poor girls to enable them to pass SSC Exams in Borubhadra village of Santhabommali Mandal

IV. Environment Education Awareness

GRES has organized various programmes relating to environment as follows:

a. National Environment Awareness Campaign 2007- 2008 theme" biodiversity conservation"

Biodiversity – or biological diversity – is the variety of all life, the variety of plants and animals and the range of areas where they live. Biodiversity includes habitats, species and genetic diversity which is sometimes described as our "natural heritage". Biodiversity is disappearing at an alarming rate worldwide; largely due to loss of habitats, therefore it is very important that we all do our bit to protect and conserve our natural heritage for future generations.

With the support of Ministry of Environment and Forest Department, Our organization has conducted National Environment Awareness Campaign 2007- 2008 theme" biodiversity conservation" in 14 villages in 4 mandals (Laveru, Srikakulam, Amadalavalasa and Echerla) in the time shedule of 18 days with the participants of Women including SHG,



Women FormeGroups, Anganwadi Workers, ANM's, NGOs, Voluntary Workers Farmers, Rural Population General Public, Social Workers by way of conducting work shops, seminars and rallies . The programme was launched with a big rally flagged by Sri.Dharmana Prasada Rao Minister for Revenue along with district collector and district officers on 8-3- 2008 and 3875 women benefited through these

campaigns.

B. Seminar on Mass Environmental Awareness

Our organisation has conducted district level Seminar / workshop with a main objective to provide a forum to professionals, scientists, environmentalists, other groups of the society to share knowledge and experience on various aspects of environment and for creation of mass environmental awareness. and nearly 300 members have participated in this workshop/seminar.

V. POLICY RESEARCH, ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNS (PRAC)

GRES's research, advocacy and campaigns program generates and promotes relevant information, actions and proposals on key development issues and concerns affecting agriculture and small-scale farmers and HIV/AIDS, Women rights, eradication of child labour, adolescents and women from trafficking, rehabilitation programs to disabled children, street children etc

A. Stigma and Discrimination on HIV/AIDS Programs(SDP)

Preventing the Stigma and discrimination on HIV/AIDs through mobilizing the population and stakeholders and contribute to achieving the Millennium Development (MDG) Goal 6 "Halt and reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015". It has linkage to other MDGs, in particular those related to poverty reduction and infant mortality

B. Prevention of HIV/AIDS

NGOs play a pivotal role in the prevention of HIV/AIDS as they work closely with people who engage in high-risk behaviour. Gayatri Rural Educational Society (GRES) has tied up with 125 small NGOs from coastal districts of srikakulam ,vijayanagaram and visakhapantam and is striving to create an effective network to enhance awareness and achieve behavior change.

The aim of NGO collaboration is to educate the vulnerable groups engaging in high risk behaviour and to promote safe sex. GRES encourages area and population-specific intervention programmes by grassroots-level NGOs.GRES supports and links up with many NGOs to create awareness, provide proper counseling, promote safe sex, care and treatment-seeking for HIV/AIDS cases.



The groups identified for intervention programmes are truck drivers, commercial sex workers, migrant labour, industrial workers, refugees, fishermen, slum dwellers, hotel and lodge workers, domestic help, students ,men to men, women to women and street children.GRES has developed working relationships with other ngos to ensure that the hiv/aids situation is properly and adequately addressed in the appropriate manner. training programmes on preparation and management of a project are held, apart from workshops and seminars for ngos

Through NGOs, GRES provides support for the following activities:

- STD treatment provided to 1138 persons



- Home care for people living with AIDS: provided to 58 member
- Awareness Camps to the rural youth (age group between 12 to 18) and 65000 were benefited
- A total of 11632 packets of condoms have been distributed
- Linkages have been established with local NGOs, government hospitals, religious leaders and community groups for effective implementation.
- Over 40 local healthcare providers have been sensitized and trained on issues related to HIV/AIDS and STIs.
- Thousands of people have been reached through communication channels like magic shows, street plays, quiz competitions and audiovisual shows.
- Information has also been disseminated through pamphlets/posters and stickers Covering various aspects of HIV and STIs.
- A total of 1806 people received counseling
- Identified and trained community volunteers who help in bringing awareness on HIV/AIDS and in implementation of the project.

B. Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation (TCSE)

Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation and Re-integration of Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation programmes were conducted and rehabilitation was provided to nearly 25 trafficking girls.

VI..SUSTAINABLE FARMINGPROGRAM(SFP)



SFP develops farmer-initiated, location specific and sustainable farming technologies in partnership with community organizations to promote appropriate alternatives to mainstream agricultural processes that have been responsible for losses in farm productivity and income, biodiversity, indigenous knowledge systems, and community control over genetic resources. 230 women were benefited from this

programme

A. Independent Mahila Rytu Mitra Groups



1489 Mahila Rytu Mitra Groups (each group consisting of 15 members) are formed and functioning in various villages in our area of operation i.e. District.. They are saving regularly in the bank accounts opened in the jurisdiction. They are making on lending within the groups. Regular weekly meetings are conducted by our field staff. Trainings on income generation

activities were conducted for them. Bank linkages were made between the groups and the banks. They have availed loans and generate income for their livelihood

VII. RURAL LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (RLDP)

RLDP contributes to the development of sustainable livelihood systems and the



promotion of greater equity in rural areas by increasing incomes of rural households, both from farm and off-farm sources. GRES has provide Health Care to the women and children with main focus of control the diseases duly , conducting regular surveys and organized Health camps to educate public and treatment, awareness about Polio, Small box, T.B. Jaunties, Malaria, Typhoid, Aids, Leprosy etc

The program's key strategies revolve around facilitating the poor's access to credit and market and developing economically viable and sustainable enterprises where the beneficiaries effectively exercise management and control over these activities and receive equitable benefits from the same and 1145 families benefited through these programs.

A. Rural Livelihood Program For Women Through Vegetable Cultivation In Santabommali Mandal



GRES has provided - training, seed distribution, land preparation and marketing efforts with the support of agriculture department authorities. With a new components like . vermiculture, literacy and health .Till now, 10 groups were formed and 2,00,000 plants developed and distributed among the members of the groups. Thirty acres of land is being

cultivated for vegetables. 500 quintals of vegetables were grown, including capsicum, cabbage, cauliflower, tomato and brinjals. Out of this, 120 quintals was sold and the income of approximately Rs. 1,16,000 was generated for the federation of 150 women.

All the participants in the project have grown vegetables at least five times more than before. A plant that gave 1 kg tomatoes now gives 5 kg. Each woman earned Rs. 500 to 600 per month on an average. SHGs have been formed in 10 villages and their total saving is approximately Rs. 53,000, which helps them to take loans for various other income-generating activities.

VIII. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM(WEP)

Women empowerment programmes through skill and vocational trainings for sustainable livelihood. Forming women former groups, SHG groups, Micro Finance for sustainable livelihood.

A. Independent Self Help Groups AND MICRO CREDIT FINANCE

According to GRES aim to establish self-managed and self-reliant group capacities at the community levels so that people can improve the economic and social conditions for themselves and their families through collective action. 27 NGOs in district are working under MNGO of GRES for formation of SHG groups



Since last 3 years , self help groups were formed with the participation of 8700 women with a financil involvement of Rs. 41,52,591 and functioning in various villages in our area of operation i.e in entire district consisting of 38 mandals. They are saving regularly in the bank accounts opened in the jurisdiction. They are making onlending within the groups.Regular weekly meetings are conducted by our field staff. Trainings on income generation activities were conducted for them. Bank linkages were made between the groups and the banks. They have availed loans and generate income for their livelihood..Sofar GRES is running Micro Credit program with nearly 8700 women members participation. It is our view to enhance the loan portion from 1000/- per member to 25,000/- per member from next year onwards.

OUTREACH SUMMARY

PARTICULARS	Apr '05-Mar- 06'	Apr '06-Mar- 07'	Apr '07-mar-08'
Number of Units	2	3	5
Number of Members	840	4,305	8,820
Number of Groups	56	269	588
Number of Active Clients	399	1,660	2,092
Number of Active Loans	381	1,598	1,991
Total Number of Loans	399	2,059	21,371
Value of loans (Rs)	3,99,603	20,60,241	41,52,591
Gross Loan Outstanding(Rs)	3,45,000	17,91,241	35,64,591

B. Skill development Training Programme



Gres has identified Some entrepreneurial skills and provides trainings in the following trades and 250 (each trade consisting of 50 women)women in the age groups of 20 to 35 benefited identified Now they are able to work and earn money independently to stand on their own legs.

- Dress designing, stitching & embroidery
- Jute/quilted/fancy bags
- Computer Education & DTP
- Toys making
- Beautician course

C. Vocational Training Programme

Adda Leafs & Garments making is another important programme conducted by GRES. In this unit 75 women in the age group of 25 to 45 including 5 disabled girls underwent training. Now they are able to work and earn money independently to stand on their own legs.



Similarly 50 girls in the age group of 19 to 24 were trained in computer training Programme and out of 50, 45 girls are working in various companies and shops and remaining 5 hve established internet offices to generate the income..

With the support of APITCO under control of District Youth Welfare Officer , the training programme to 50 women was conducted in the trade of Bed Side Assistance and wage employment was provided to these 50 girls to work in various hospital in the district

D. Income-Generating Programmes For Women In Town Conducted

GRES has provide Training Programmes to women in the trades which are marketable duly upgraded their skills in order to meet the demands of changing work environment to enable and empower women to access remunerative employment opportunities, which will instill self-confidence and enhance their self-esteem.

GRES has provided training to the women from marginalised farming families in various skills such as health food processing, pickles making, and sewing. A total of 130 women in the age group of 25 to 45 received training in small economic activities, entrepreneurship and marketing their products. It was also helped in production and developing marketing strategies.



IX.. WOMEN AND CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (WCDP)

GRES has taken up the following programmes for women and child welfare

A. Family Counseling Centre :

GRES run the Family Counseling centers for salvation of women family problems in the district with the financial support from Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi to provide preventive and rehabilitative services to women and children who are victims of atrocities and family maladjustments.



The Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi has given a permission to our organization to run the Family Counseling Centre (FCC) duly providing the grants.

196 women were given counseling sofar since 3 years and provided Rehabilitation 21 women by GRES. The

performance report for current is as follows:

SL.NO	Reasons conflict according to Clients	No of families benefited
01	Mental Harassment cases	09
02	Maladjustment Cases	
	a.Personal Differences	08
	b.Interference of Parents	05
	c.Extra Marital relations	18
	d.Economic Crisis	02
	e. Alcohol addiction	28
	f.Marital maladjustment	05
03	Dowry Harassment cases	11
04	Referred for police assistance	02
05	Vocational Trainings provided	02
No of Family cases settled		90

B. Programme for the Disabled Children

Education is considered as an important tool for the disabled for their development, our organization gave educational support to 88 deserving disabled in our area of operation. They got special fees, notebooks, examination fees, technical training and other connected study materials from our organization.



Free uniform dresses were given to 30 poor disabled school going students so that they can mingle in the main stream with other students in the educational institutions without shy and inferiority complex and proceed with their career confidently.

Awareness about the disability, its causes, its consequences and its psychological effects on both the disabled, family concerned and the society is essential. On this basis awareness generation programmes were conducted in various centers. Many disabled and the

concerned parents/guardians participated these programmes and got benefited in the aspect of prevention, treatment and placements for the trained disabled.

Disabled Children School Achievements

No. of children admitted	Boys	Girls	Total	1ST class	2ND class	3RD class	4TH class	5TH class
88	43	45	88	19	16	17	18	26

C. Elimination And Rehabilitation Of Child Labour



With the support of National Child Labour Project i.e Project Director of Sarvasikhsha Abhiyan ,GRES has been actively involved in child labour eradication as well as development of child labour through educating them in National Child Labour Project Schools to bring them to mainstream schools. The residential schools were organized for child labour and 98 children were benefited though this project during the year.98 children were made to take admissions in government schools. We have created educational opportunities for the children working in industries and motivated children to enroll and continue their formal education. GRES has organised the parents of the children working in industries for elimination of child labour

Child Labour School Achievements

No. of children admitted	Boys	Girls	Total	1ST class	2ND class	3RD class	4TH class	5TH class
98	33	65	98	09	21	24	20	24

D. Rehabilitation, Education & Assistance To Children On The Street



Another innovative project being implemented by GRES is Rehabilitation of Street Children /Beggars & Protection of their children upto 14 years of Age. 100 children were given shelter out of whom 95 are receiving formal education and the other 5 non-formal education and vocational training The Organization had made a survey and identified 275 beggar families. So far, the organization has rehabilitated 195 families in gainful economic activities, provided them house in Srikakulam urban slums and provided them financial assistance for their economic growth through Income Generation Activity.

Street Children School Achievements

No. of children admitted	Boys	Girls	Total	1ST class	2ND class	3RD class	4TH class	5TH class
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48	22	26	88	9	6	7	8	18
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E. Free Education Centre

The children of the families are now taught in a “Free Education Centre” being run by GRES. The resources required for this purpose is usually raised by the Organization through “Donations”, “Govt. Grant” and internal accrual

G. Workshops For Children In Various Mandals In The District

GRES organized 2 days workshops for children in srikakulam and children with the aim of providing them with opportunities of self expression through various activities stimulating both body and mind. It provides forum of interaction and learning through various creative and performing arts. There are series of sessions on music, dance, and theatre. There are art and craft sessions filled with interesting activities like drawing and painting, pottery, mask making and kite making. Forty children in the age group of 13-18 participated in the workshop . There were intellectual activities like debates, speeches, recitation and quiz competition. The Health and nutrition sessions focuses on adolescent health and nutrition requirements.



Similar workshops in remaining 37 mandal for the peiod from January 2007 to narch 2008 were organized and nealy 1200 children in the age group of 13-18 participated in the workshop

D. Women and sanitation

Sanitation is a much-needed area of intervention to reduce the enormous disease burden in the country. Even today, almost 700 million people have no access to toilets, which is a major cause for many of our distressing health indicators. Due to this reason a one day Workshop on Women and Sanitation was conducted with the participant ants from NGOs, Sanitation department and provided awarenes to enable them to implement in their concerned areas.



Also free medical camps were conducted and possible treatments were given to the disabled. Referral services were given to them so that they can contact the particular department or organizations for further possible assistance. Walking sticks, shoes and tricycles were provided to the deserving disabled according to their needs.

E. International Women's Day Programmes



With the collaboration and support from District Youth welfare Department and I.C.D.S, our

organisation has celebrated the International Women's Day Programme at district level with the women participants of nearly 800 and Sri.Dharmana Prasada Rao Minister for Revenue and District Collector along with all the district officers have participated in a BIG RALLY flagged by Minister for Revenue.

F.WOMEN NETWORK

As GRES is running Family Counseling Centre with the support from Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, a Women Net Work has been established in the district with the name of SRIKAKULAM WOMEN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK with the participation of nealy 3500 women members for campaign to end violence against women :



Goals and Achievements:

- Strengthen the movement and transform the lives of women in the District : 650 families benefited

Change values, attitudes and behaviours that discriminate against women and girls and encourage violence against them

*Demand action by governments, communities and individuals to end all violence against women E-Mail : sdwdnw@yahoo.com

X.FISHERMEN COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES FOR WOMEN

The fishermen who depend on the sea face more problems than others. And hence we have concentrated more on marine fisheries than on lake or river fisheries... From the studies we have conducted we observed that catamarans with OBMs have been draining the resources of fishermen with fuel costs, repairs, manhours etc. Fuel used for these OBMs is also ecologically destructive. GRES felt an imperative need to build further awareness on this especially among the younger generation of fishers. Around 60 fishermen and women participated

A. Drying racks:

A huge amount of unsold fish go waste during rainy / festive seasons or when there is a glut. While men catch fish, women dry them in the sandy beach and fish get spoiled because of dust and sand. The unhygienic drying of fish unfit for consumption have a low economic value. Reducing the fish losses and improving the efficiency of post-harvest handling and processing are important concerns that affect fisherfolk's life. Drying is one of the simplest ways to preserve fish. GRES trained women in hygienic drying fish with the help of drying racks , raising their market value substantially . 130 Fisher women participated .

B..Community Health programmes for women from fishermen community conducted :

GRES has provided sustainable health care consists



of three components to the fishermen communities and 600 families benefited.

- provided a maternity and child care system in each Village.
- Collaborated with govt. to avail primary health services
- Strengthened community role in preventive health practices.

C. Training Programmes conducted

The following training programmes were conducted for women from fishermen communities in the following activities and 300 women benefited:

1. Post harvest technologies - drying fish in drying racks
2. Bio-intensive gardening technology
3. Pest control and organic farming

FUTURE PLANS

GRES has a strong faith that little intervention in need makes big difference, thus the success as mentioned above has encouraged GRES with following future programme:

- To organize water resource management programs
- Establishment of Rehabilitation and Care Center for Women in distress
- Establishment of four Water Harvesting Structures to provide irrigation facility to 2000 Hectares of land.
- Plantation of 120 acres of Medicinal plantations
- Establishment of a Rural Hospital
- Establishment of a Common Facility Center for providing training and skill
- Establishment of an Artisan guild for jute product /craft workers.
- Creation of Employment opportunity for 5000 Men/Women by Dec'2008.
- Establishment of an Old Age Home for Poor Old Aged People.
- Establishment of a Crèche for care of orphans, kids and adoption.
- Organize Seminars at district level on Environment, women empowerment And child rights
- Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation and Re- integration of Victims of Trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation
- Training programs to the fishermen community
- To implement a programme on "Reproductive & Child Health Care

(i) List of projects implemented in the last 3 years (April 2005 to March 2008)

	Name of the project	Funding agency	Duration	Total Amt
1	SHG - Micro Credit Prg	SHG GROUPS	On going	41,52,591
2	Rehabilitation of Child Labour ,Disabled Children,Orphans,Adolscents	DCLP, Srikakulam	9 moths	11,82,049
3	Income Generation Training Programs	APITCO	6 months	6,75,293
4	Family Conselling Centre	CSWB New Delhi	Ongoing	2,96,893
5	Short Stay Home	Women Welfare	One year	1,08,473
6	Rural Livelihood Dev Prog	Industries	8months	1,36,805
7	Sustainable Community Dev. Prog	CSWBNew Delhi	9month	1,71,510

8	Sustainable Farming Programs	iculture & public	10months	1,39,492
9	Awareness Generation Programs	CSWB New Delhi	6 months	1,58,522
10	Seminars& Workshops on Environmen	CSWB New Delhi	Ongoing	78,226
12	Condensed Course Program	CSWB New Delhi	4 months	1,71,850
13	Advocacy & Campaigns	Public		30,492
	TOTAL			73,28,457

FUNDERS: We would like to thank our funders

1. Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forest, New Delhi
2. Central Social Welfare Board, Women and Child Department, New Delhi
3. A.P State Social Welfare Board, Women and Child Department, Hyderabad
4. Project Director, Sarvasiksha Abhiyan, Govt. Of A.P. Srikakulam
5. Managing Director, APITCO, Hyderabad
6. District Youth Welfare Office, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Srikakulam
7. Executive Engineer, Water Works and Sanitation, Govt of A.P., Srikakulam
7. Presidents of 27 NGOs in the District
8. Managing Directors of Industries
9. Community Leaders

Sadasivuni Krishna Kumar
Secretary
Gayatri Rural Educational Society

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