



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

Annual Report - 2016



Supported by

**Anahata Stiftung
Germany**

Implemented by

PRABHATH RURAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

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The present Annual Report for the year 2016 is brought to provide a brief note of the ongoing welfare activities of the **Prabhath Rural Development Society (PRDS)**, which is supported by **Anahata Stiftung, Germany**.

The organization's primary goal is to help the poor, helpless, and weak by providing them with counseling, education, and other resources to alleviate human suffering and poverty. The report confidently states that PRDS has successfully stopped child marriages and that its work has led to a significant decrease in deaths and suicides in the three mandals it serves.

TAILORING, COMPUTER AND SPOKEN ENGLISH COURSES

For over seven years, PRDS has been providing free coaching in tailoring, computers, spoken English, Tally, and typewriting to women and girls from socially and economically disadvantaged communities. The three-month courses are designed with a proper syllabus that is taught through a combination of theory and practical classes. Exams are conducted weekly to assess learning, and upon successful completion, students are awarded certificates.

Vocational Courses: In collaboration with Sri Sathya Sai Government College in Kothacheruvu, PRDS organized a one-month vocational course for 60 students. The course covered both a Diploma in Computer Applications (DCA) and a Tally course, which students learned very well. Students also learned spoken English during the course.

- **Computer Course:** This training is recognized as a crucial step for the development of both the individual and the country's economy. The course includes two hours of daily classroom teaching and two hours of practical training in the computer lab. The curriculum covers everything from computer basics to operating systems, word processing, and desktop publishing software.
- **Spoken English Course:** Recognizing English as an essential international language, PRDS offers a course to improve communication skills and build self-confidence. Instructor Bhanumathi Maharaj teaches grammar, sentence construction, and pronunciation, helping students learn to read, write, listen, and speak English fluently. The goal is to provide students with the skills they need to succeed in job interviews and in life.

RANGOLI PROGRAMME

PRDS organized a Rangoli competition in Kesapuram village to create awareness about the importance of Indian festivals and traditions. The event, which was attended by 150 members and had 75 participants, aimed to bring a festive atmosphere to the village and provide women with a creative outlet. Prizes were awarded to the winners, and all participants were given gift hampers to encourage them. PRDS also explained that Rangoli designs are beneficial because the cow dung used to clean the floor acts as an antibiotic, and the rice flour used in the designs provides food for ants.

WOMEN'S DAY

On March 8, 2016, PRDS celebrated the 103rd International Women's Day at its office with 80 women in attendance. The event featured a speech by PRDS counselor Mrs. Sreevani, who recounted the historical significance of the day, including the 1857 strike in New York and the 1910 conference in Copenhagen. She emphasized the need for equal rights and for women to get educated for society to develop. Mrs. Sreevani noted that 545 cases of domestic violence have been successfully resolved through counseling.

LADIES CLUB ACTIVITIES

Preparation of Snacks: As part of a Ladies Club gathering, PRDS held a training session for members on how to prepare various snacks. The report details the ingredients and procedure for making **panipuri**. This practical activity provided a fun way for the women to gather, learn new skills, and socialize.

BABY BODY MASSAGE

PRDS organized baby body massage training programs in several villages, reaching 145 mothers and children. The training, led by Gloria, was introduced as an ancient and traditional practice with numerous medical benefits for both infants and parents. The report also provided details on the types of oils to use for each season and provided tips on how to properly massage an infant.

FAMILY COUNSELING CENTRE

PRDS runs a support center for women that primarily focuses on women's issues and domestic violence. The center offers a space where simple family disputes can be resolved before they destroy family institutions. PRDS also conducts legal awareness camps and screens films on gender discrimination to create awareness among the public and empower women to seek protection. The report highlights the organization's mission to protect women and serve as a "light in many families without lights".

SCREENING OF FILM SHOWS IN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

PRDS conducted gender awareness camps in villages, schools, and colleges across three mandals by screening films created by the Asmitha Resource Centre for Women. The films, including *Aadapillalam* and *Ameena*, aimed to create awareness about gender equality and discrimination, promoting the idea that women should be given equal priority in society. The films were screened separately for boys and girls to address the issues more effectively.

DISTRIBUTION OF PENCILS, RUBBERS, ETC.

On Republic Day, January 26, 2016, PRDS distributed pencils, erasers, and other stationery to children at the M.P.P. School in Jagarajupalli village. The school teachers helped distribute the items to the students, who were very happy.

DISTRIBUTION OF BLANKETS FOR 100 POOR PEOPLE

On December 25, 2016, PRDS organized a program at Sathya Sai Bhajana Mandir where blankets and food were distributed to 100 poor people. The initiative, supported by Mr. Ramkumar from the UK and his friends, was appreciated by all attendees, who felt very happy. The program began with a bhajan and a good message from Sreevani.

FOOD FESTIVAL

On December 30, 2016, PRDS hosted a food festival at its office to introduce guests and foreigners to Indian culture, customs, and traditions. A variety of food items and snacks were served, and the foreigners enjoyed the taste and admired the work of the PRDS staff.

DISTRIBUTED SPOKEN ENGLISH BOOKS

On November 12, 2016, PRDS celebrated a birthday at its office by cutting a cake and distributing 60 "Amrutha Advanced Spoken English" books to poor students. The students, who come from surrounding villages to learn courses like computer and tailoring, were very happy to receive the books as they could not afford to buy them. Food was also provided to all 120 students who attended the program.

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FOOD FESTIVAL

On December 30, 2016, PRDS hosted a food festival at its office to introduce guests and foreigners to Indian culture, customs, and traditions. The event featured a variety of food items and snacks for the guests to enjoy. The foreigners praised the taste of the Indian food and the efforts of the PRDS staff.

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PHOTO DOCUMENTATION





