

STREE MUKTI SANGHATANA

ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2013

Dear friends

I am presenting this executive summary of the annual report for the period from January to December 2013 to this august general body of Stree Mukti Sanghatana.

Before enumerating the massive work done by SMS I wish to express my deep gratitude to all the participants of Stree Mukti Sanghatana, their active support, involvement and the contribution made by them in making the work meaningful.

I also wish to mention here the significance of our work. All the activities undertaken form an integral part of the work culture of SMS. Since 1975 SMS has been conducting all its activities and programmes keeping in mind the interconnectivity of all the issues related to women.

Activity Report

Prerak Lalkari : Since 1986 SMS has been publishing Prerak Lalkari. It has consistent track record of 27 years. It is now known all over Maharashtra as the voice of women's movement & oppressed people. The magazine is devoted to the gender issues with special attention to the Indian constitution. Many small libraries from rural Maharashtra are members of Prerak Lalkari. Thus the magazine is available to the people from rural Maharashtra. The Editorial Board has consciously tried to cover local, regional, national & international issues concerning women as well as other important problems. It has also tried to give a comprehensive record of happenings in the world. The objective was to disseminate the information to the widespread activists connected with Stree Mukti Sanghatana with a view to enhance their understanding.

This year Ms. Karuna Gokhale and Ms. Yogini Raul took responsibility of assisting in editing . Discussions were held from time to time for contents of each issue. There is good response to the regular columns by Karuna Gokhale and Arvind Vaidya regarding international news & makers of modern world respectively. Yogini Raul has contributed in the field of literature.

The special issue published on the occasion of devoted to International Women's Day dealt with the development of social consciousness. In last 27 years the world has changed very rapidly. New nations have emerged on the horizon. The political equations of the old world have changed. Many new problems & challenges have confronted the social ,political & economic movements. Prerak lalkari has tried to take a comprehensive cognizance of the same by inviting articles on social democratic rights movement, women & media, laws, education,

serials from Pakistan, media education, etc. There are remarkable contributions in stories & poems as well.

On the international scene the world witnessed a very remarkable event. Malala Yusufzai, 16 year young girl from Pakistan addressed the United Nations Assembly. She survived the attack on her from Talibani terrorists and has devoted her life to girls' education. She has become a symbol of courage for all the girls of the world. Her speech was translated in Prerak Lalkari.

Nanda Salve, Arundhati Shinde & Madhuri Sharma gave valuable assistance for administrative work.

The print order is 2500. The revenue from membership & advertisement was approximately Rs. 165,000/- SMS is receiving grant from Maharashtra Rajya Sahitya Aani sanskriti Mandal amounting to Rs.30000/- It barely matched the expenses. All of us have to make utmost efforts to increase membership & procure advertisements for special issue.

2. family Counseling Centers

Family Counseling Centers have been working for 28 last years. SMS was founded in 1975 Since then it has been continuously fighting for gender justice, equality & social justice. SMS participated in all campaigns on domestic violence, amendments in laws, & mitigation of violence in general. The major campaigns were related to dowry deaths, custodial rape, mental & physical torture of women, abandoning of women & children, eviction from residential homes etc. Because of the awareness campaigns taken up by women's movement many laws were amended & new laws were promulgated during the UPA regime However implementation lagged behind. Stree Mukti Sanghatana has consciously worked for welfare of women through its various programmes including FCC. Because of the increased access to law & judicial system as well as policewomen have started to seek redressal of their grievances related to domestic violence & human rights. Stree Mukti Sanghatana has give the slogan Viloncefree world for women & children and society in general. . We consider it an important right. The centers are located in Parel, chembur, Vashi, dombivali, Buldana & Osmanabad. SMS receives partial grant from Maharashtra State, Social Welfare & Adisory Board for Chembur & Vashi centers. It is also provided funding from Women & child Welfare Mininstry, Maharashtra State for Buldana & Osmanabad centers. These two centers are located in police stations.

Family plays an important role in society. SMS therefore gives utmost importance to healthy relations in the family as well as community. SMS provides

various services to needy women & children. All family members are welcome in the center for finding solutions to problems at hand. As a result many volunteers offer their services & expertise in various fields whereby the work is efficiently carried out. The social work institutes also send their students for field work. More & more women & men are approaching FCC for redressal of their grievances. As of today there are 12 trained social workers & 15 volunteers. The services are free of charge. It is our experience that the number of cases is on the increase every year.

The SMS trained volunteers for dealing with rising demand for NGO representatives on Vishakha Committees by educating them about Laws related to women. SMS activists are nominated on about 25 committees of various establishments on Vishakha Committees. .

During this year DIR in 31 cases were filed through Protection officers in the courts under PWDVA (2005) The Protection of women from domestic violence Act 2005 is still not implemented properly. The sr. counselors from Buldana & Osmanabad work as protection officers. The Government has appointed 36 independent protection officers in Maharashtra. Their training is under process. The registration of cases is increasing day by day in all the centers. Women need this service in their own localities as they do not have means or money to cope with the exigencies created by violence perpetuated against them. There is ever increasing need for funds to provide various services such as counseling, financial assistance, shelter, alternate skills & employment. It is generally perceived that women misuse the provisions of laws meant for their protection. However SMS experience is otherwise & we firmly oppose any attempts to amend the laws detrimental to the interests of women.

success stories : One pregnant woman could not go for work as she was battered by her husband. She had to face abortion. The counselor advised her to file case under DV Act. The Honorable court ordered compensation of

Rs. 200000/- as well as salary of 4 months.

In another case the husband refused to accept that he was married to the aggrieved woman as she did not have proof of marriage. The protection officer gave evidence & the aggrieved woman was granted alimony of Rs. 1000/- p.m. The women get orders from court for custody of children & other reliefs as well.

The Central Government has promulgated a law for protection of old people. But the same is not implemented properly. The children often mislead their parents in the name of unemployment, price rise etc. & refuse to look after them. They

forcibly take possession of their residential homes & drive them out. There is no adequate provision for old age homes. This problem is becoming severe day by day & needs to be addressed. Many old people have started to come to the centers for this problem.

The basic principles of counseling are observed in all the centers of SMS. The objective of the centers is to provide immediate help & relief to the needy woman, give her access to the govt. machinery- protection officer, police, shelter, urgent assistance etc. Thereafter the SMS tries to network among other organizations working in the same field for common cause. SMS has dealt with mental & physical torture, cheating, bigamy, irresponsible behavior, untrustworthy attitudes, torture of old people, etc. It is also observed that percentage of bigamy is more in police & military personnel.

SMS has conducted various programs on new legislations regarding sexual harassment at work place, child sexual abuse, uniform civil code, problems of muslim women. The activists of SMS are working on committees for prevention of sexual harassment.

SMS has conducted study circles throughout the year for women coming in the centers on protection of women, recommendations of Varma committee, Gender budget, de addiction, laws regarding women & children, women's rights, human rights, PCPNDT Act, cyber crime, mental health, women's freedom & equality, proper diet, women empowerment, stress management, parenting, eve teasing, premarital counseling, etc.

All the counselors & volunteers participated in the programmes conducted in Anand Nagar, Ramanmama Nagar, Pestom Sagar, Shramjeevi Nagar, Ghatla, etc. for parisar Bhagini & anganvadi workers. Sessions were also conducted in Digha, Vashi, Sarsole, Rabale, Koparkhairne, Mhatre Vidyalaya, Dnyanmandir Vidyalaya

SMS has participated in several programmes organized by other organizations & networks. In Mangaon Amardeep Sanstha conducted a programme on human rights in Which Mulgi Zali Ho! was performed by SMS. SMS participated in programmes organized by women & child Welfare Dept, Mumbai police, Human Rights Commission, Maharashtra, State Women's Commission. The SMS participated in Anti violence programs in the fort night of 25th Nov. to 10th Dec. along with other organizations.

During this year SMS has given practical training to the students of SNTD, TISS, Nirmala Niketan, Tilak Maharashtra Open University. Ms. Shobha Kokitkar

attended four day workshop organized by Dasara During this hard task the counselors also face depression & frustration. Hence SMS periodically organizes workshops, study circles etc. The centers have

During this hard task the counselors also face depression & frustration. Hence SMS periodically organizes workshops, study circles etc. The activists often face crucial questions & feel distress & helplessness. The women's movement is fighting for the rights of women for last several decades. Some changes are visible. Yet we have a long way to go for total violence free society. Women are slowly gaining confidence & are being empowered. Yet the basic problems seem to be untouched. The FCC activists have helped in other units to deal with domestic problems especially women from Parisar Vikas.

Annual Report : Table of cases January 2013 to Dec. 2013

cases	Parel	Chembur	Vashi	Dombivali	Usmanabad	Buldhana
Register	91	208	181	25	127	253
Unregister	264	295	60	42	-	170
Pending	43	90	24	23	29	22
Closed	52	118	157	2	98	231
Male	06	21	27	6	19	37

Help provided

Sr. No.	Assistance	Parel	Chembur	Vashi	Dombivali	Usmanabad	Buldhana
01	Counseling	355	503	98	67	127	423
02	Legal help	22	22	31	03	07	35
03	Police help	04	04	16	4	13	16
04	Short stay home	02	03	1	1	04	01
05	Psychiatric help	05	01	3	2	02	03
06	Educational help	04	-	1	-	01	01

07	Financial help	01	-		-	-	03
08	D.V.Act cases	-	02	3	-	14	12
09	Cases thru P.O.	05	-	10	-	-	04
10	other institution	01	02	9	1	01	03
11	de-adication	02	-	6	-	01	06
12	Rehabilitation	04	01	1	-	1	07
13	Access cases	02	-		1	58	02
14	Medical Help	01	02	1	-	04	09
15	Hostel for children	02	-	1	-	-	-
16	Custody of child	02	-		-	-	-

Out come

Sr. No.		Parel	Chembur	Vashi	Dombivali	Usmanabad	Buldhana
01	Reconciliation	06	41	45	2	58	187
02	Separation	44	17	36	-	04	09
03	Mutual settlement	11	03	1	4	04	23

Qualitative Analysis

Sr.No.	Type of Problem	Parel	Chembur	Vashi	Dombivali	Usmanabad	Buldhana
01	Mental & Physical harassment	355	503	241	20	127	423
02	Marital discord	04	21	27	24	72	49
03	Dowry demand	-	10	1	-	18	41
04	Bigamy	-	04	-	04	04	11
05	Alcoholism	07	56	23	56	80	79

06	Suspicious nature	03	05	1	05	95	43
07	Psychological	-	09	10	09	53	04
08	Extra marital relation	09	15	19	15	32	23
09	Sexual harassment	02	05	1	05	01	10
10	Rape case	01	02	-	02	-	-
11	Ir responsibility	06	08	-	08	42	22
12	Interference of parents	02	06	-	06	60	08
13	Cheating in marriage	01	07	-	07	21	01
14	<i>harassment sons</i>	05	16	2	16	08	01
15	Property matters	11	05	6	05	07	06
16	Economical	-	07	3	07	72	04
17	Conflict between neighbours	-	03	3	03	03	03
18	sexual harassment at workplace	-	-	-	-	-	01
19	Pre-marital issue	-	-	2	-	-	06
20	Children Custody	01	-	-	-	11	-
21	superstition	-	-	-	-	02	-
22	Attemptedmurder	-	-	-	-	-	07

Parisar Vikas & Parisar Vikas Udyog :

The work is suffering because of lack of funds since last two years. Even then SMS is making utmost efforts to carry on. SMS is paying honorarium of about 23 volunteers from Mumbai, Navi Mumbai & Thane. 6 parisar centers from Mumbai & 2 from Thane had to be closed. SMS is unable to pay rent of Parisar centers.

The Waste pickers are attached to these centers as if their parental homes. We are trying to continue the work.

***Awareness campaigns**

18/1/2013 :A work shop was held in Rafi Nagar office on the occasion of 20th year of fall of Babri Mosque . 50 women participated. Ms. Hasina Sheikh spoke.

31/1/2013: SMS conducted Campaign against violence on women in collaboration with Akshara. We visited every house in the locality & spoke about help line. A programme was conducted in Narayan Guru College.

14/2/2013:women participated in Billion Rising Campaign in Bandra Band Stand.

In February Ms. Vijaya Shrinivasan conducted a workshop for waste picker activists on the project to understand the situatin of world waste pickers. Further studies are to be conducted in 2014.

21/5/2013: GMMC is preparing a plan for 20 years. SMS along with Yuva, Akshara, UDRI, Aakar etc. pointed out the lacunae in the plan.

6/6/2013: 55 women participated in the demonstration against price rise

Biogas training: 29 women had enrolled for the training, 19 women completed the course. In all 19 subject were taken in the training. Bharati Sharma, Subhash Mhapsekar, Shobha Kokitkar, Vishwajeet Mithbavkar, Ajima Shekh, Suresh Savant, Mahendra Rokde, took the sessions. The family members of the trainees also attended the classes.This change is visible because of training.

4/6/2013 :In one slum a woman was raped. her child was threatened to death.The police did not help her properly. Because of the intervention of SMS a case was registered & culprit was apprehended.

21/8/2013: A work shop was held on the legal provision of section 498A.

18/10/2013: The activists visited the Pace Center of Pratham. It is training center. 4 children from the slums are participate in the training .

20/10/2013: Asha Gangurde & 4 other activists attended Pension Conference in New Delhi.It was attended by well known activist Aruna Roy, Khasdar Vaghchoure, & others.

31/10/2013: A meeting of Advanced Locality Management was held in Chembur Highschool. 45 organisations participated in the meeting.

26/11/2013 : Trade union activists from Korea visited our office.

28/11/2013: A rally of workers from unorganized section was organized in which waste picker women participated.

2/12/2013: there was a rally for law against superstitions. A demand to apprehend the murderers of Dr. Narendra Dabholkar was made.

OPPI as usual gave donation for awareness of environment in schools about usage of plastic

In New Mumbai Sale was organized on the Divali festival. It was to promote the products of women's SHG. Our groups participated in the same.

Public hearing : public hearing was conducted on 5/2/2013 in collaboration with Alliance of waste pickers in the premises of Mumbai Patrakar sangh Mr. Laxman Dhoble, Minister for water distribution attended along with president of Aannabhau sathe Mahamandal. 40 waste pickers of SMS attended the hearing along with other activists from other organizations for following demands.

- a) Identity card to waste pickers.
- b) Board of waste pickers to be created.
- c) Waste pickers to be absorbed in the work of local self govt.
- d) Scholarships to be given to the children of waste pickers
- e) Waste pickers to be taken into consideration in development plan
- f) Employment to urban poor.
- g) Promulgations of separate law for waste pickers

A follow up meeting was organized in the residence of Minister Dhoble on 8/3/2013 All the issues were discussed. women joined the 8th March rally thereafter. On 7th March a rally was organized by SMS, Pratham, IRCW, Niramay, Lokseva sangam, Apanalay, Ekam Foundation. The programme was called Navjawanoka dour- Samanata ki oar.

The solid waste management rules of Maharashtra Govt. did not take cognizance of waste pickers. Hence a memorandum was prepared by all organizations working with waste pickers to be submitted to the Govt.

visits to Nisargrun Prakalp : Ajit Joshi (Dy. commissioner, GHAGGR), Nitin Kulkarni Journalist, Gopal Sadan(New Delhi), Asha Khandekar (RWSA),S.K. Ambhure (DY.Engineer, MIDC, Dombivali) Dr, Yathi Nair(Banglore) M.A.Chavan, (Admn officerRCF) Vidyamandir Highschool) Bhagyashri Kelkar (Makrand Sahnivas)

The SMS organized stalls in following places.

Date	Place
25 to 30 January	Pune
25 to 28 February	M – E/W Municipal Office
4 to 5 March	M.G.M Hospital, Parel
6 to 7 March	P. L. Lokhande Road
14 March	Eastern Garden Hiranandani, Kanjurmarg
21 March	Kashinath Ghanekar Theater, Thane
15 to 16 June	Nesco Ground, Goregaon
23 to 25 October	Kalidas Theater, Mulund
11 to 13 December	Our Lady High school, Sion

Health :

Eye camp was organized .The old people benefitted because of free check up & further treatment in concessional rates. This is done in Rafi nagar office.

Mata Bal Arogya Kendra

Sr.No.	Month	Patients	Hospital sent	Medicine Cost
1.	January	121		
2.	February	89		Rs. 11435.00
3.	March	106	2	
4.	April	98	1	
5.	May	73		Rs. 8944.00
6.	June	84	4	
7.	July	120		
8.	August	103	2	
9.	September	85		
10.	October	95		
11.	November	134	2	Rs. 14924.00
12.	December	130		
Total		1238	11	35367.00

SHG

S.N.	Area Name	Total Group	Present Group	Disorganize Group	Close Group	Disorganize/ Close
1	Ramanmama	20	11	3	6	No
2	Rafi Nagar	6	3	2	1	No
3	Gutam Nagar	23	9	No.	14	No
4	Sathe Nagar	32	20	3	9	No.
5	Anand Nagar	23	12	3	8	3
6	Shramjivi Nagar	39	20	3	16	2
7	Pestam Sagar	30	19	3	8	2
8	Kanjurmarg	26	16	4	6	1
	Total	199	110	21	68	8

Nature of problems

Detail	Raman mama	Gutam Ngr	Sathe Ngr	Anand Ngr	Shramjivi Ngr	Pestam Sagar	Kanjurmarg	Total
Family problem own solve	10	4	10	3	3	5	15	50
Problems sent to FCC	1	2	4	1	5	4	3	20
Adhar Card		20						20
Pan Card	2							2
Senior Citizen	2							2
Vedo patient	2			2			1	5
Children Cancelling	22		20			10		52
Children Addmition	19				21	10		50
Janani Safety				6				6
Ration Cases	9	10	20	4	25			68

Thane Center :Since 2006 ,Shobha Shonde & Arundhati Jagde are working in Bhimnagar, Sainath Nagar,Sathe Nagar & Ambika Nagar.

a) There were 26 SHG groups in 2012 This year 13 new groups are added. Their accounts were opened in Bank of Maharashtra.

b) 11 groups received grant of Rs.10000/- each under Suvarn Jayanti Yojana.10 groups received loan of Rs. 18,50,000/-4 women received personal loan. Rate of loan repayment is 98%. 50 women got BPL certificate. 42 women were given vocational training. 6 women got sewing machines from women & child development dept.

It is resolved to make a federation of SHG., Ms. Kamal Vichare gave donation of Rs. 100000/- for waste pickers in Thane.

Education : Jidnyasa Trust started classes for 5th & 6th standard. 6 girls were given educational help under LIC scheme.

Health : Thane Mahanagarपालिका distributed medicines for T.B & malaria. 22 women availed of the facility of medical checkup in Rajiv Gandhi hospital.

Jidnyasa :

SMS conducted Jidnyasa sessions in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Pune, Raigad. training of trainers was conducted. This programme is conducted for adolescent students in order to improve their concentration, attention span, stress management & value added knowledge about the mental & physical understanding as well as scientific explanations to their questions etc. Children are also given proper advice about behavioral problems. This a very important programme for adolescent girls & boys.

Cultural troupe

SMS has as always conducted cultural programmes in order to create awareness about gender equality & justice. The plays- Bap Re Bap, Mulgi ZaliHo, Bety Aayi Hai were performed in colleges, institutes, community, police club & schools.

Pune, Bldana, Navi Mumbai conducted all activities in spite of difficulties

The financial report is in the form of audited statements of accounts. and are filed separately.

I once again thank all the participants in the meeting.

Sharada Sathe

Secretary