Need and Role of Nutrition towards Gender Equality: A participative model for inclusion and development of women in India

By:

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Background

Present Status of Women in Rural India:

- More than 74% of rural female workforce in India is in agriculture
- Though women spend more time in the field managing the various operations, but they remain unrecognised by the state and the society
- Their rights to be called as a farmers is completely exploited
- Land ownership directly rights directly affects the control over the income
Sad and Alarming Picture and Figures

• Between 2005 and 2015 more than 2,000 women were killed who were branded as witch earlier (Report of NCRB, India)

• Crop failure and additional expenses for curative health care were among the main reasons for it

• One third of women of reproductive age in India are undernourished (Unicef India Website)
Need of Nutrition Towards Gender Equality

• The present structure of the Public Distribution System (PDS)
• Nutrition can help in resolving the various problems (at family level)
• Can address various societal issues
• Can promote peace
• Can help in creating awareness and sensitizing the rural masses

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Role of Nutrition towards gender equality

- Fair treatment (will be considered as an asset)
- Acceptance
- Increased participation in agriculture operations
Role of Nutrition towards gender equality (Contd)...

Clear understanding of livelihood options

Autonomy

Increased productivity in agriculture operations

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So, why do we actually need a new model?

- To ensure participation
- Bottom up approach of development
- To ensure control over resources
- To make the women financially self sustained
- To ensure a say in the household decision making process
The model

Election of female farmer friend (at village level)

Complied at cluster level, (Clerk grade), salary ranges from 15,000-18,000

Collection of details at start of every quarter (types of crop grown)

Payment will be done here

Information sent to Block office

Scientist

MIS

Issue of card based on number of dose/type of chemical required

entry will be done by the vendors

Set up of ration dealership at cluster level (run and managed by SHGs) (term wise)

Eventually change it to organic fertilizer

Women support group (WSG)

NUTRITION & GENDER EQUALITY

Self-service mode of cooking

Importance of Nutrition

Training fortnightly

Cooperative model and account transfer

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Assumptions & Risks

**Assumptions**
- Mutual Cohesion
- More training will make the women understand
- Sensitizing the male members
- Less govt. intervention
- More govt. support

**Risks**
- Sustainability
- Monitoring of the MIS
- Polarization of the Ration Centre
- Caste and Politics

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