



Women's Collective Annual Report 2018 - 2019:

Introduction:

WC in its 24th year of inception, continued to focus on strengthening the marginalized communities particularly the women, children, daliths, advises, and religious minorities and enable them to participate in the process of their development as active members of civil society to establish constitutional rights and citizenship entitlements for themselves. WC work covers 1383 villages falling under 23 Parliament constituencies, 43 assembly constituency, 581 Village Panchayats, 72 taluks, 88 unions, 4 city Corporations and 16 districts. The Team consists of 69 volunteers at varied level, 29 coordinators, 54% Volunteers are daliths, 36% Single women, 1% Physically Challenged, 61% Hindu, 1% Muslims, 38% Christians, 3% men.

Women's Collective is an active women's institution whose goal is to serve, particularly the women of this land with multifarious plans and tasks for their benefit and upliftment. This is a registered organization under the Tamil Nadu Society's Registration Act of 1975 on the day of 15th September 2001 as a non-profit making Voluntary organization.

WC is registered under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act 1975 on 15th of September, 2001 as a non- Profitable Voluntary organization. It has been registered under 12 a section of Income Tax and has Income Tax exemptions u/s 80G. The accounts are operated at Corporation Bank, Periyar Nagar branch, SB A/C 520101008209789 and at Bank of India, Kolathur Branch from 2005 SB A/C 802710110000211. The annual auditing is done for the last Seven years by:

M/s. Manohar Chowdhry & Associates

3A, Myna Teppakulam First Street, East gate, Madurai – 625 001

PH: 0452-2331173, 0452-2331271

WC had its Executive meeting in July, October 2018 & January, March 2019 and Annual General body in July, 2018. **The members were not paid any travel or sitting charge to attend the meeting** in 2018-19.

Women's Collective Executive Members 2018-2019

Name	Name of the Father/Husband	Occupation	Office held in the Association if any	Relationship with office bearers, if any	Address
Ms. Sheelu	Francis	Social Worker	President	Nil	7, Sixth street, Anjugam Nagar, Kolathur, Chennai-600099
Ms. Krishnaveni	Veeraswamy	House Wife	Vice President	Nil	1/12, Melkullakarai street, Arungkunam post, Maduranthagam, Kanchi
Ms. Ponnuthai	Sappani	Social Worker	Secretary	Nil	79, Shenbaga vinaygar, Kovil Street, Vasudevanallur Tirunelveli
Ms. Josephine	Raja	Social Worker	Treasurer	Nil	3/A Villuvan Nagar, Polur, Thiruvannamalai
Ms. Dillibai	Vittal Rangan	Social Worker	Jt. Secretary	Nil	1/26, Perumal koil street, Aathanur, Maadampakkam Post, Guduvancherry, Kanchi – 603202
Ms. Chithradevi	Ellumalai	Social Worker	EC Member	Nil	5/175 North Forest Road, Periyakulam, Theni dist
Ms. Saral	Alphoen Raj	Social Worker	EC Member	Nil	17/155, HMK Building, Kothagiri, Nilgris - 17
Ms. M. Mary	Raja	Social Worker	EC Member	Nil	29/13, Mariamman Koil street, Narasingapuram Post, Attur, Salem – 636108
Ms. Kamala	Arul	Social Worker	EC Member	Nil	Gandipet, Ulunthai post, Sri Perambadur, Thituvallur – 602105
Ms. Arulselvi	Ganesan	Social Worker	EC Member	Nil	6/467, Street. Marrys Colony, 3rd Street, Tuticorin – 628002
Ms.Ranganayagi	Murugesan	Social Worker	EC Member	Nil	Old Ranjendiran Hospital 2nd Floor, MG road, Palacode T.k., Dharmapuri – 636808.

Note: The above committee members are not related to each other

State Women Conference:

State Women Conference is an annual event, which is planned during the first half of every year. The 24th conference was held at Thiruvallur district, the North part of Tamil Nadu State, from 30th to 31st July 2018. A topic of current affairs is generally decided as the main focus during the conferences, and the topic was "Women Towards Change" this year. The Conference was held in "Sri Lakshmi Narayan Mahal", Sevaipet, Thiruvallur. A Conference Committee was formed with neighboring district Co-ordinators, who took the responsibility of arranging the venue, food, conference events including public meetings, a mass rally and the speakers for the events. 280 registered as participants and took part in the conference.





Outcome:

Last year we came across many natural disasters like heavy rainfall, flood, cyclone which caused lots of damages to the crops. In this regard, what kind of decisions can be taken to protect our hard work from such disasters, and in what measures Government is going to bring out steps to prevent the crops from such natural calamities.

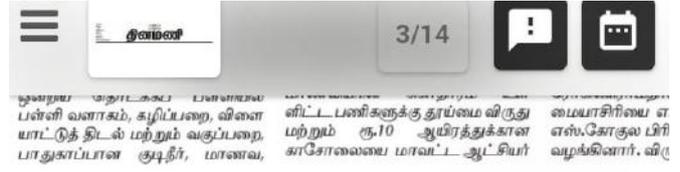
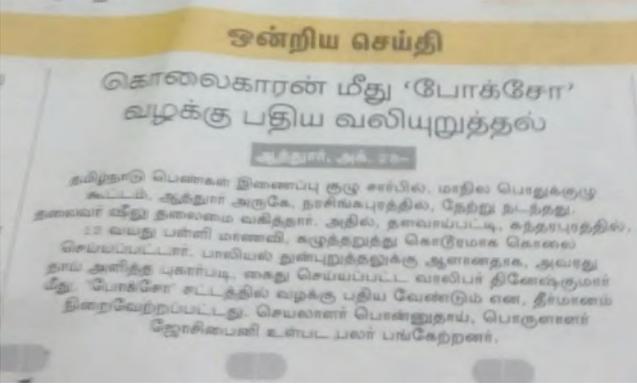
State Women farmers conference:

Every year “Women Farmer’s Conference” was conducted in North & South districts of Tamil Nadu. This year too WC conducted the Kalanjiyam Women farmer’s conference in those 2 regions. In South, the 18th Women farmers conference was conducted in ‘Bairava Mahal’ at Kovilpatti, Tuticorin districts on 13th & 14th October - 2018 and in North, the 19th women farmers conference was conducted in “Egapara Mupper Amithammal Thirmana Mandapam” at Narasingapuram, Salem district on 27th & 28th of October - 2018 in the title “Siruthaniyangali Meetadupom”. Delicates from various fields attended the meeting and gave the speech. Around 300 farmers took part in these conferences. The conference is presided by the Co-ordinators of Kalanjiyam Women Farmers Sangam.

In order to confirm safe food in all families we should bring in Kitchen gardening and terrace gardening. We should ban Genetically Modified Seeds in all districts. We advise the public to consume millet food in their daily life, which is more strengthen than rice and wheat and also stress the farmers to cultivate millet crops in their farms.







தமிழ்நாடு பெண்கள் இணைப்புக் குழு மாநாடு

ஆத்தூர், அக் 28: நரசிங்கபுரம் தனியார் திருமண மண்டபத்தில் தமிழ்நாடு பெண்கள் இணைப்புக் குழுவின் களஞ்சியம் பெண் விவசாயிகள் சங்க 19 -ஆவது மாநில மாநாடு ஞாயிற்றுக் கிழமை நடைபெற்றது. மாநாட்டுக்கு மாநிலத் தலைவர் வீலு தலைமை வகித்தார். கிருஷ்ணவேணி முன்விவை வகித்தார். மேரி அனைவரையும் வரவேற்றுப் பேசினார். நிகழ்ச்சியில் சட்டப்பேரவை உறுப்பினர் ஆர்.எம். சின்னத்தம்பி, நகராட்சி ஆணையர் கா.சென்னுதிருவேணன், மதிமுக மாவட்டச் செயலாளர் வ.கோபால்ராஜ், செங்கவல்லி வேளாண்மை உதவி இயக்குநர் சித்ரா, விவசாய சட்டமையப்பு அ.சண்முகவேல் மூர்த்தி, மாநில அமைப்பாளர் ரங்கநாதன், நகர்மன்ற முன்னாள் தலைவர் காட்டுராஜா (எம்எம்பழனிசாமி), முன்னாள் ஊராட்சி மன்றத் தலைவர் வி.செழியன், சட்டநிறுவ வேளாண் கடன் சங்கத் தலைவர் எஸ். மணிவண்ணன் உள்பட ஏராளமானோர் கலந்துகொண்டு வாழ்த்துத் தெரிவித்தனர். நிகழ்ச்சியில் சாரல் கலை இலக்கிய மன்றம் சார்பில் நாடு முன்னேற்றப் பாதையில் செல்வதற்குத் தேவை வேளாண்மையா, தொழில் நுட்பமா என்ற தலைப்பில் பட்டிமன்றம் நடைபெற்றது. முடிவில் சுமதி நன்றி கூறினார்.

Outcome:

Nearly around 300 women farmers participated in both the conference together and gained knowledge to save the traditional seeds, natural fertilizers etc., people even took an oath to save seeds for future cultivation, so as to protect their family from hybrid vegetables, and even not to encourage their children to eat junk foods.

Seed Festival:

Now-a-days “**Traditional Seeds**” has almost disappeared and we are pushed to such a state in which, we have to buy the seeds compulsorily from the Government or from some firms or companies. To remove this unfavorable condition, seed festivals are organised in the villages. Seeds are collected from their own region those seeds are exhibited in the seed festival.

This festival’s main motive is to give awareness about the Traditional Seeds. There is need, to save indigenous variety of seeds which are on the brink of extinction as they were facing stiff competition from hybrid variety of seeds. The traditional seeds also yield crop that have high nutrition content. Moreover, the traditional seeds need less irrigation and fertilizer as compared to the hybrid variety of seeds.

Women’s Collective celebrated the “Seed Festival” in various districts, There are

- (1) CWC, Thiruvannamalai,
- (2) TKWC, GWC & SWC – Thiruvallur
- (3) PCWC – Dharmapuri

- (4) ATWC – Salem
- (5) WWC, NMWC – Vellore
- (6) UPWC, CPWC – Madurai
- (7) UWC – Kanchipuram

This festival is to create awareness among people to know about the traditional seeds and traditional foods. Many people are willing to gain knowledge about healthy food and they welcome it. The feedback from these consumers result in positive way which is guaranteed for healthy life.





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Collective farms:

Almost all the villages in India, there are about 20-30% of women who remain single, either as widows or abandoned by their families and society, who individually shoulder the burden of caring children and elders in their families. These women are either landless or have very small pieces of fragmented rain fed lands. Owing to lack of resources to invest on their own land and lack of capacities to manage their farms, these women end up doing low skilled tasks in agriculture and cattle rearing, mostly as wage laborers. As the focus of collective farming is primarily on meeting family food needs, right now, they are not marketing their produce. The produce from the collective farming provides food for their own family. The collective farming members find it difficult to get land for lease and even if they get, the owners demand the land back within a year, so the members request the district collector to allot the government unused land for collective farming. The collective farming must have the maximum of 10 members

The group should decide on the size of land to be farmed under collective farming and lease the land for three years. One third of the crop yield should be shared with the land owner. The members should agree to grow local food crops of daily use such as grains, vegetables, greens, pulses and oil seeds. The group should maintain a bank account, records and registers bringing transparency in accounting.





Outcome:

Landless woman farmers are being saved through collective farming, they join as a group and cultivate crops in leased land, and through this they even protect their family from starvation. This collective farming help them to run their family and even to be sustainable in their work as farmers.

Biodiversity day: -

Vasudevanallur Women's Collective Organized a Programme on "**Biodiversity day**" dated 24 - May 2018 at Sanganageri, **Vasuthevanallur, Thirunelvel District** Starting with traditional cultural activities. The natural seeds has been collected from five different villages namely 1. Sanganageri, 2. Pacherry, 3. Eamanpatti, 4. Mela Sanganageri and 5. Vellanaikottai through with traditional folk dance and holding banners throughout the rally.

Ms. Ponnuthai made an effort by requesting the Government to provide various allowances for the Welfare of the female farmers for which she formed a Female Farmers Union.





National Millet Year - 2018

Women's Collective Organized a Programme on "National Millet Year - 2018" dated 27 - August 2018 at Stella Maris College Campus. Starting with traditional millet Food Preparation Competition.

Dr. Siva Kumar Siddha physician Dr. Sivaraman said "If we take organic grains and vegetables in our daily food, we would be free from diseases. For example the skin of tomato arrests cancer. Further, if we take millets it will help us to arrest diabetes, obesity etc. Those who are affected by diabetes can take bitter guard in that there is enough strength to stimulate the insulin glands to work well.

Ms. Sheelu, the head of Women's Collective delivered the vote of thanks. Finally, an awareness song has been sung by the Women's Collective Staffs delivering the meaning "Moodikidantha kathavugal", and there comes the end of "National Millet Year day" with cherishing moments.







Outcome:

In this meeting people who took part were encouraged and the woman's who attended the meeting realises that they are the only source to bring back the traditional way of cultivation who can withstand in this field till the end. To prevent them and their family from the deadly diseases which is presently spreading throughout the world. So they decided to plant traditional seeds which is provided for them to live a healthy life.

Parambariya Retail Shop:

Women's Collective has started "PARAMPARIYA MILLETS" canteen for the purpose of creating awareness among people about millets inside our office premises. Here we are providing variety of foods and snacks items, which are prepared by using millets. We are procuring millets from our women farmers from various parts of Tamil Nadu.

We are Preparing Nutrition Powder through millets. Every month we are supplying 75 Kgs Nutrition Powder to National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis, Indian Council of Medical Research, Chennai.

பொருள்கள்	அளவு (gms)	Nutrients	Quantity
சர்க்கரை	40 கிராம்	Energy	1650 Kcal
தேயிலை	40 கிராம்	Carbohydrates	258 g
சாப்பா	40 கிராம்	Protein	35 g
உளுந்தல்	40 கிராம்	Fat	45 g
பீன்	30 கிராம்	Fiber	30 g
காய்க்காய்	30 கிராம்	Calcium	480 mg
பீன்	20 கிராம்	Phosphorus	650 mg
பீன்	25 கிராம்	Iron	30 mg
பீன்	50 கிராம்	Potassium	1050 mg
பீன்	30 கிராம்		
பீன்	10 கிராம்		
பீன்	20 கிராம்		
பீன்	30 கிராம்		
பீன்	30 கிராம்		

சக்திமீது
ஒகர எடை 500 கிராம்
விலை ரூபாய் 150/-

“சக்திமீது”
தொலைபேசி: 244 423 1650

எண்.10, சிதம்பரம் பிளா, பனாசாத்தூர், வேலூர் - 601 099
தொலைபேசி: 044 - 2550 1257, 2550 5382
எக்ஸ்சி: 9444231650, 94440 15931

நாடு உலக வரலாற்று மாற்றியமைப்பு, நாம் ஆதிக்கம் வாய்வு வாய்மை உயிர், நம் நம் அமைப்பு சித்திக்க உயிர்?

“சக்திமீது”
தொலைபேசி: 244 423 1650

எண்.10, சிதம்பரம் பிளா, பனாசாத்தூர், வேலூர் - 601 099
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ஆரோக்கியத்தை உறுதி செய்யும் **சிறு உயிர் உணவு**

உணவு மருந்து, மருத்து உணவு, உடல் நலம் காப்பியம்

தமிழர் உணவு திட்டம்

Outcome:

WC’s main motive is to make people live a healthy life by bringing millet food into their food basket. To reach people, in one way Women’s Collective have started a millet canteen at school mainly to address the health of future generation. Students like to eat millet food daily at school canteen.

Bima yojana:

Bima Yojana is a special scheme for women SHG members. It helps provide insurance coverage to women SHG members. In addition, a scholarship of Rs.300/-per quarter per child for the education of two children from 9th to 12th standard is also provided under the Shiksha sahyog yojana. In the event of death other than accident an amount of Rs. 30,000/- is payable. If death occurs due to an accident, and amount of Rs. 75,000/- is payable. Permanent partial disability, due to an accident, an amount of Rs. 37,500/-payable. So Women’s Collective joined as an agent in 2010. Nearly 120 members under the schemes.

Outcome:

Many people were gained by this scheme, Women’s Collective helped the students of various districts for their education and to achieve their dream come true by providing scholarship through this schemes.

Kitchen gardening and terrace gardening:

To create an awareness among children by bringing Parambariya seeds inside, to avoid defects of seedless brinjal and other hybrid vegetables. Intake of such food habits which leads to various health hazards like lung disorders, diabetes and cancer etc. Kitchen gardening and terrace gardening came into existence by bringing it to the knowledge of Children panchayat and school children by making them to plant at home and at School premises.





Outcome:

Students came to know about the hybrid seeds, so to avoid these kind of vegetables which causes diseases like cancer, diabetes etc, and are concerned about their health, they started to plant vegetables and millets of traditional seeds. They are encouraged to plant kitchen gardening at home and are eager to watch these plants grow and water them daily.

Farmer's exchange visit :

Farmer's Exchange meet in May 23, 24 - 2018, a group of women farmers from Women's Collective under the leadership of Ms. Palaniyammal, went for a visit to ICAR, NEH, Shillong, Meghalaya. Where they experienced a new way of cultivating multi crop millet, were in a small amount of land nearly twenty four to twenty five types of millet is been cultivated. This the farmers who went for the visit got motivated and were very much impressed by the way of cultivation. As a result even they started growing multi crop millet in their field after the exchange visit and sharing of experience.







Outcome:

As a result to this visit, our women farmers got motivated, and they started planting multi crop cultivation in their own land for about 18 acres, which brought a very good result and made their heart filled with happiness.

Bio Sand Water Filter :

Bio Sand Water Filter is a low cost drinking water filter which removes 99% of the virus, ameiba, patha fans and worms from the contaminated water. It is chemical free, no need for electricity easy to handle, works for more than 30 years without repairs, more over it is made of traditional method of filtering. It removes iron, metal salt calcium and even some arsenic minerals. This is an American technology. It was invented by David Manes a Canadian College Professor.







Outcome:

It has helped the HIV patients to live long, it removes tooth stain and so on, due to these outcomes from other countries made our people to go with traditional way of filtering and started preparing to use it. As a result of this filtering method one of our partner said while cooking rice used to be in yellow colour with normal water, but now after using the filtered water the colour of rice is white. This water filter brings big changes in their daily use.

GAJA CYCLONE RELIEF AND REHABILITATION PROJECT:

The project aims to cover the minimum relief needs of the 250 families in dalith settlement of Mettupalayam village of Thiruthuraipoondi taluk of Thiruvarur district which was affected very badly by the Gaja cyclone which hit this area in the early hours of 16th November, 2018.





Counseling:

Women's Collective family counseling centre facilitates free confidential a peace and good environment for women children's Elders and men improve their day to day family life.

The family counseling centre work with collaboration with the local police. All women police station and free legal aid with the support of advocate Ms. Ajitha.

We are done the following counseling

- Domestic Violence
- Economic problem
- Child Abuse

- Properties Issues
- Dowry problem
- Child trafficking issues

Domestic Violence counseling aims to empower women so that they can regain control to live happy healthy lives.

Children's Panchayat State Camp: -

In the past 9 local election Women's Collective focused on gaining power to local panchayaths. The impact of globalization on rural communities and resource were significant. The only way to combat the impact of globalization is through ensuing conservation of natural resource through gaining power in local panchayath. Our membership **did not get automatically get converted to** votes and the elected leaders values were not different from main stream values. This lead to decision of focusing on children's Panchayath as future leader and to develop right values from children.

Each village considered as a panchayath and each street as ward. The ward representatives together elected the local panchayath leaders. Our units federated the regional and district federation. Every year Women's Collective organized a state children's Panchayath conference. In this state conference 2 representatives from each units will participated every year.

The state level children's Panchayath camp was organized from 2018 May 4th to 2018 May 7th May 2018 at Women's Collective Hall, Chennai. The aim of the conference was to develop the leadership qualities of these future assets who are going to head, lead and govern this vast democratic nation.

In the State Conference, Children's panchayath leaders from 15 districts of Tamil Nadu participated. The children shared the problems that exist in their areas, the way they handled various problems, issues and their success stories, the constraints, etc.



Seed Bank:

Women's Collective is involved in setting up farmer's seed banks in villages in different parts of Tamil Nadu. 10 – 25 varieties of millets, pulses and vegetables are being conserved in farmer's fields and experimental farms. This work is currently spread in 15 districts covering 336 villages with a network of 5632 farmers saving traditional seeds.

School Awareness Campaign:

A school program was organized in our working area. A seminar was conducted among those school children to create awareness about the millets. The students from 6th to 10th class attended the seminar. We have conducted seminars for 700 students participated. Ms. Sheelu and our president of women's collective and our area coordinators spoke to them. First, they gave an introduction to the students on Junk Food, our traditions, food habits and millets etc. Students were very interactive with the speakers. They raised questions, clarified their doubts and also answered the questions which were raised by the speakers. Teachers also attended the seminar. In the end of the programme, we distributed Kodo Millet Veg Rice and Little Millet Payaasam to the students.

SMCDrive Awareness Campaign:



Violence Against women Day:

The United Nations declared November 25th as the International Day against Violence on women. A fortnight campaign from 25th November to 10th December is launched for highlighting the issues of Violence against women across the global.

Domestic violence can destroy the abuser, the victim, their children and other family members repeatedly on various levels. The destructive effect of this from of abuses takes its toll on human health and productivity in terms of economic, social and psychological wellbeing. Violence can also travel from generation to generation in the form of stress, anxiety and personality disorders. It is the onerous responsibility of each individual to work on community level to recognize and counter this menace in his/her own and other families.

Women's Collective has taken this issue seriously on hand and educate the society to fight against all kinds of violence on women and children. Seminars on this were conducted in colleges to give awareness about the impacts of Violence.

Conclusion:

We hereby conclude that focus was on food safety and security at the household level, and capacity building, awareness creation and group building at the community level. The decision of focusing on children as future leaders and to develop right values during their childhoods is gaining momentum in all the units. We assure that food grains are available without poison in our working areas. Farmers are using only natural manures in their fields and cultivate millet grains in huge quantity. Younger generation are in the process of changing their food habit and consuming more of millet foods in their daily life. More and more women farmers are shifting to millet cultivation. The women are increasingly purchasing land in their own name even if it is only 2-3 cents. More and more women are giving land instead of jewels as property share to girls.

WC member's active participation in networks has strengthened the women farmers and empowered them. WC member is the joint secretary of the All India Kisan Coordination Committee, Active member of the National Millet Sisters movement, Tamil Nadu committee member of the Millet Network of India, Part of the National Women farmers Network "MAKKAM", Committee member of the National alliance of women and so on and so forth.

