

**A BRIEF REPORT ON  
THE ONE DAY WORKSHOP ON  
“WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA: ROLE OF SELF HELP GROUPS - INTROSPECTION”  
HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2011  
ORGANISED BY  
P. G. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, TUMKUR UNIVERSITY, TUMKUR**

A one day workshop was organized with the following objectives:

- To understand the formation and functioning of the SHG's and to know various activities of the SHG's.
- To elicit the opinions with regard to the basic functioning of the SHG's i.e. saving and economic activities.
- To find out the constraints faced by the SHG's in relation to expanding of economic activities.
- To bring out the workshop proceeding in the book form.

About 50 SHG's members belonging to various groups sponsored by an NGO with the name Sree Kshetra Dharmasthala Rural Development Program (SKDRDP), Tumkur have participated. Moreover, these members were the target groups for the workshop. Representatives from the NGO's, Government, banks, Research scholar and students have also participated in the workshop. Dr. Jayasheela, Professor & Chairman, Department of Economics welcomed the gathering and introduced the resource persons. Dr. Ravindra Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Economics presented a brief note about the workshop.

The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. Tulsimala, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Mysore; while delivering inaugural speech, she emphasized the need for greater role for women not only in household management, but also in economic development of the country, because women constitute around 50 percent of the population in the country. Further, she stressed on the overall empowerment of women in all spheres of life so as to bring them to the main stream on the economic development.



**Prof Tulsimala inaugurating the Workshop**

Dr. Shreepathi Kalluraya, Faculty, Department of Economics, Mangalore University, Mangalore while making his presidential remarks, urged the university to work with grass root beneficiaries in order to extend the research benefits to all the needy people at the grass root level, so that the fruits of the development will percolate to its bottom rung of the people. The inaugural function was concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Vilas M. Kadrolkar, Associate Professor, Department of Economics.

Four technical sessions were held in the workshop.

The first technical interactive session on 'Organizational issues in SHG's' was chaired by Dr. Shreepathi Kalluraya. He emphasized on benefits of organization, problems involved in organization especially SHGs and suggested measures to overcome the problems in formation and functioning of the organization.

The second technical interactive session focused on 'Women Empowerment' which was chaired by a well known writer on the issues related to women, Smt. Prof. B. K. Tulsimala, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Mysore. She analyzed the

various issues of women empowerment in different dimensions and angles. Further, she stressed that cultural and value system should be adopted in different activities of the women groups.

Dr. D. V. Gopalappa, Faculty, Department of Economics, University of Mysore was the resource person for the third technical interactive session on 'Microfinance'. He pointed out the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of microfinance. He visualized microfinance in different aspects supported by facts and figures.

The final technical interactive session on 'Entrepreneurship' was chaired by Dr. V. B. Hans, Faculty, Department of Economics, St. Aloysius College, Mangalore. He stated SHG members need to learn the abilities to have the concept of entrepreneurship. He expressed his concern over the present situation of SHG's being involved in limited ventures of productive activities.

SHG members and students actively involved in all the interactive sessions. A few participants expressed their feedback about the workshop. The workshop was concluded with the summary report presented by Mr. Umesha S. E., Assistant Professor, Department of Economics.