



SUGRAMA has been successful in:

- Advocating for increasing the tenure of Grama Panchayat President and Vice President from 30 months to 5 years.
- Advocating for raising the reservation from 33% to 50% to women in local self-government
- Advocating for increasing the rotation of seats upto two terms for the same category
- Constant capacity building programmes of The Hunger Project - Karnataka enabled SUGRAMA members to understand and assert their rights and participation which led to increase the visibility of women's active participation in Grama Panchayat active participant in decision making process.
- Ensuring rights and entitlements to the community selection of proper beneficiaries in a rightful manner 'reaching the unreached'.

- Increasing in expanding the horizons for better accountability, ensuring good governance and decentralization.
- Fighting Corruption in Gram Panchayats and Taluks

"Earlier I found women were very reluctant to talk about the issues that they faced. They felt that it needs to be within the four walls of a house and not to be made public. But, as days passed, my support to them enabled such women to talk about the violence they were facing. I am happy that I could resolve their issues. I had to face many difficulties during my journey but the support of JV and SUGRAMA members helped me in overcoming the difficulties". Bhagyamma, Kaldaveni Grama Panchayat, Gauribidanur Taluk, Chickballapur district

SUGRAMA

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SUGRAMA
GRAMA PANCHAYAT
CHUNAYITHA MAHILA
PRATHINIDIGALA SANGHA
KARNATAKA

*Coming together is a Beginning
Learning together is a process
Working together with unity is
Real transformation and success*



SUGRAMA has provided the onus on Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) to exercise their rights in an effective manner for the betterment of decentralization and good governance in Karnataka.

What is SUGRAMA?

Introduction

SUGRAMA-Grama Panchayat Chunayitha Mahila Prathinidhigala Sangha, Karnataka is a federation representing the rights and interest of Grama Panchayat (GP) elected women leaders in Karnataka. SUGRAMA, registered under Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1961 is a platform where women members can come together in solidarity and support each other to bring about change and advocate for better policies.

Vision of SUGRAMA

Empowered elected Grama Panchayat women representatives in a gender just and equal society.

Mission of SUGRAMA

To empower Grama Panchayat elected women representatives to collectively advocate and practice/promote good governance for the overall development of the Grama Panchayats.

Objectives of SUGRAMA

- Encourage elected women representatives to be active and effective leaders in Grama Panchayats.
- Support elected women representatives in addressing challenges in Grama Panchayats.
- Assess the impact of state policies on Grama Panchayats and undertake advocacy in the interest of the SUGRAMA members

- To disseminate information and advice on Panchayat Raj Institutions to SUGRAMA members

- Help EWRs address issues of social and gender-injustice in Gram Panchayats

Why SUGRAMA?

The need of a caucus of elected women representatives was mooted by the members themselves during their tenure in the wake of lack of cooperation from male colleagues, panchayat secretaries, block level executive officers and faced humiliation and violence, in some cases. They felt the need for their voice to be heard as a collective for a common cause. The capacity building programmes undertaken by The Hunger Project Karnataka since 2007 transformed the idea of the members and consolidated into a collective which resulted in forming of a state federation named SUGRAMA Grama Panchayat Chunayitha Mahila Prathinidhigala Sangha Karnataka in 2010. Until then it was known as FEDEW (Federation of Elected Women). SUGRAMA was official launched on May 27, 2009 in the first 'Samavesha' (akin to an annual general body meeting) in Bangalore.

Who can join SUGRAMA? How can a EWR become a member of SUGRAMA?

- Currently Elected Woman Representative (2015-2020) of a Gram Panchayat in Karnataka.

- Elected Woman Representative in the election term of 2010 2015

- An Elected Woman Representative shall pay Rs. 100/- (renewable on an annual basis) and obtain their membership with SUGRAMA.

How SUGRAMA is formed Structure of SUGRAMA?

SUGRAMA has a two tier structure Taluk and State Level. Every SUGRAMA member from the selected Grama Panchayats shall form the Taluk federation. Every taluk federation selects its 7 office bearers (Executive Committee) and from amongst the Presidents of the taluks, one President shall be nominated for a post at the state level. The state level Steering Committee comprises of a member representing their district (where SUGRAMA has been formed). Presently, SUGRAMA has been formed in 25 taluks of 13 districts of Karnataka.

What have been the achievements?

SUGRAMA has been advocating for bringing in policy changes and ensuring effective implementation of schemes and flagship programmes through monitoring and supervision. In a way, SUGRAMA has been looking at 'bottoms up' approach and has been successful in bringing the issues of the Grama Panchayats to that of the state. In this way,