

Empowerment of Women (SEWA Project)



Scope of the Project : Based on the request from Government of Sri Lanka, Government of India accorded sanction for a Project to empower women of Eastern Province by imparting vocational training. The Project includes cost of training 40 master trainers in various trades and cost of equipment, installation and training of personnel in these trades.

Project Cost : LKR 197 million

Duration: Initially Two years, granted extension thereafter

Implementing Partners:

1. Ministry of Women and Child Welfare
2. Provincial Ministry of Women and Child Welfare
3. Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA)

Modalities of Implementation: A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Government of India and Government of Sri Lanka on 9 June 2010 to implement the Project. Government of India signed an agreement with SEWA (Self Employed Women's Association), a reputed NGO from Gujarat in India on 31 May 2011 to execute the Project. Under the Project, two centres are being set up at Kallady and Velachenai in Batticaloa to provide training to women in different vocational trades. The Project includes setting up of training centres, installation of equipment, providing training to 800 trainers from Sri Lanka, etc.

Beneficiaries: The Project is expected to benefit about 50,000 women, especially war widows in getting training in vocational trades which would help them to earn a livelihood.

Impact: The Project proposes to impart training in seven vocational trades suitable for women, viz., Textiles and Garments, Surface Ornamentation, Agro food processing, computers, Enterprise Development, Solar lantern and Rain Water Harvesting. The Project will have a huge impact on the livelihood of women headed families and war widows. The Project has already generated tremendous response from women of the Eastern Province and would have a trickling effect on the lives of women across the Northern Province as and when the training reaches them.

