

Role of Kalanjiam in my family growth

My name is Selvi, my husband's name is Aandi. We reside in a small village named Melnilavur. We have two girl children and one boy child. Our family belongs to a below poverty line category and struggle to feed children regularly. From the third week of January till last week of May month, every year, we used to migrate to Neriguda and Kuduku at Karnataka pepper plantation fields for occupation. We leave our children in government hostels and during holidays, we request our relatives to take care of the children. I always get worried about the safety of my girl children, but due to family situation, I had to continue working in host areas. Two years earlier, staff of the Kalanjiam programme which placed in Vellimalai came to our village on creating awareness about savings and credit programme. They explained about the concept and benefits of SHG of Kalanjiam and requested me to join in group as a member. I joined the White Rose Kalanjiam group formed by the Kalvarayan SHG federation.

I have started to save small amounts in groups and took loan from Kalanjiam groups to strengthen my agricultural field activities. One day I came to know that through the Kalvarayan federation, skill training program on stitching has initiated and offer the quality sewing training with free of cost and offer certificate. In general, I have to spend INR 1000 to learn sewing training outside places. But now I have learnt new skills in nearby my village and received a certificate for the training. This certificate will help us to get support from government. Through the certificate, our group received bank loan and through the loan I bought two tailoring machines for my business.



Now I am stitching all types of fabrics as salwars, shirts, pants, and blouse with good designs. This has enabled me to receive regular orders, even from towns nearby villagers also supported by offer orders. I even received an offer to stitch clothes in the Kalarakurichi tailor shop through the help of Kalanjiam SHG federation. This has enhanced my income and it is more sufficient for my family needs. This has changed my life and I had stopped migrating now for work. I am now happy with my children and family.

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