

SUCCESS STORY

JINGIATYLLI SELF HELP GROUP:

Unity is Strength

It was in the year 2014, that a team from the National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) visited a village called Mawphanniew under Mairang Civil Sub Division, which changed the life of Littleda Rani. For fifteen days she attended an awareness programme on the importance of Self Help Groups (SHG) and how such groups can help her in setting up her own means of livelihood. The concept triggered the interest of 25 year old Littleda Rani and so she decided to invite other nearby households to form the SHG. She was able to form an SHG called Jingiatylli SHG in November 2014 with 10 members on board, and started their weekly saving at Rs. 10. The group members unanimously chose her as the Secretary of Jingiatylli SHG.

Littleda Rani is a mother of two (2), a son and a daughter but unfortunately lost her son to an illness. Before joining the SHG, Littleda made her living by selling street food such as Chana, while trying to upscale her shop. Without financial support of any

kind, she had to engage in daily wage labour during the day and run her shop in the evening. The NRLM team's visit in November 2014 changed her life.

Littleda Rani was able to avail a loan of Rs. 13, 800 from the SHG and as the SHG did not have sufficient amount to lend, she also availed a bank loan of Rs. 20,000 in the month of February 2016. Having an interest in tailoring, Littleda Rani used the loan from the bank to purchase a sewing machine and some clothes to sell in her shop. Her plan is to expand her shop by also keeping stationeries, books for school children in the near future.

Being an SHG member, Littleda received mushroom cultivation training of 6 days at ICAR in Ri Bhoi District in the year 2015. The training proved to be beneficial to her, wherein she had sold the mushrooms that she cultivated at Rs. 200-300 per kg which led her to be identified as a community caterer from her village. To improve her knowledge on

Self Help Groups, Littleda Rani was sent to Andhra Pradesh to know more on SHGs. After returning from Andhra Pradesh she was selected as a book writer in the Village Organisation. Littleda Rani has helped her SHG in putting up an application for ginger seeds to the KVK Department in the year 2015 which they subsequently received in February 2016.

In the journey of 18 months as a member of an SHG, Littleda Rani understands that the SHG has helped her unleash her potential, empowered her and she hopes that she would be able to uplift herself in various fields of life.

She expressed her gratefulness to the NRLM team for the handholding support they had provided her SHG since its inception and strives hard to mobilise the households that are not under SHGs in her village, by bringing them under the fold of SHG with herself being a good example.

