

# II-I. Technology Development and Utilization Programme for Women

## 1. PREAMBLE

The Gender Cell has initiated action as per the guidelines/circulars issued by the Ministry of Finance for promoting gender budgeting. Steps have been taken to enhance the share of women in respect of beneficiary oriented schemes and launched a Technology Development and Utilization Programme for Women (TDUPW). The programme is aimed to meet specific needs of women and to enhance their contribution towards technology capability building. The objectives of the programme are:

- Promoting the adoption of new technologies by women.
- Awareness creation and training of women on technology related issues with regard to women.
- Promoting Technological upgradation of tiny, small and medium enterprises run by women entrepreneurs.
- Showcasing of appropriate technologies and organizing demonstration programmes for the benefit of women.
- Design and development of products, processes beneficial to women.

## 2. ACTIVITIES

Some of the projects taken up under the programme during the year are listed below:

***Rural Women and Technology in Karnataka: A comparative Study of Selected Districts in South and North Karnataka.***

The project of Mahatma Gandhi Memorial College, Udipi, Karnataka aims to identify

linkages between women's roles, responsibilities and use of technology by rural women, to explore the ways in which women use their knowledge and skills to develop, modify and adapt the techniques and technical processes in which they are involved, to examine the links between indigenous and modern technologies in relation to gender considerations and to find out whether locally available indigenous technologies are appropriate to the living conditions of rural women etc. The project can contribute to a greater understanding of the linkages between women's roles, responsibilities and their use of technology. The duration of the project is 2 years.

***Upgrading indigenous technology for preparation of herbal products as home remedies and food supplements by encouraging sustainable cultivation, conservation and propagation of medicinal plants involving rural women of West Bengal.***

The project of Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, West Bengal aims to survey and document a) herbal wealth b) related available indigenous knowledge and c) prevalence of human disease of the targeted localities; Development of suitable technology using principle of organic farming for cultivation, propagation, conservation of some of the locally available as well as newly introduced medicinal plants for use in prevention and cure of human diseases; Upgrading the existing technology for preparation of compost, vermicompost and plant based biopesticides and encouraging the targeted women to adopt those for achieving the organic farming and Encouraging cooperative farming and entrepreneurship basing on plant women partnership for marketing the herbal raw

material/products for additional income generation.

### ***Farm and Non-Farm Sector Employment and Tribal Women- A Socio Economic Analysis.***

The project of the Directorate of Research, Dr. Y. S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan (HP) aims to study the gender wise employment status and pattern in Farm and non-farm sectors.

### ***Training of Women in Computer Aided Drafting Package and Microsoft Office Software***

The project of Bannari Amman Institute of Tehcnology, Sathyamangalam, Tamil Nadu is training of women to increase their participation in technical jobs.

### ***Empowering Women through Entrepreneurship Development***

The project of the MITCON is for empowering the potential of women entrepreneurs through scientifically designed training programmes in 3 districts of Maharashtra. The vocational courses would be conducted in the areas of food processing, bakery, gem and jewellery and herbal cosmetics. The duration of the project is 2 years.

### ***Identification of Gaps in Technology Utilization and Training for the Development of Rural Women - A Study in Andhra Pradesh.***

The proposal from the Council for Social Development, Hyderabad is to identify the industries in which women can easily adopt improved technologies, assess the existing gap in the present state of technology and prepare a training module and conduct training programmes for the benefit of rural women.

### ***Technology transfer for fruit and vegetables processing for women groups for small entrepreneurship development in the villages of border area of Uttranchal hills.***

The proposal received from Society for

Environment & Employment Development (SEED), Uttarkashi, Uttaranchal aims at organizing village women of border area of Uttaranchal in groups for transfer of technology for fruit and vegetable processing, technology modification according to need of the village women, training for technology transfer to village women groups for fruit processing, packaging of product and marketing and small entrepreneurship development for income and employment generation.

### ***Impact of globalization and adoption of new technology on silk industry in Assam: An assessment from gender perspective.***

The proposal received from IIT Kharagpur, aims at studying the impact of globalisation and adoption of new technology on silk industry in Assam. It also proposes to assess the level of technology, wage structure, pattern of income, training, healthcare and other facilities with special reference to women before and after elimination of textile quota restrictions. The research aims to identify the factors crucial for the adoption of technology, and development of women entrepreneurs in the state.

### ***Primary processing and value addition of sweet potato and yams for self employment generation by women.***

The main objectives of the proposal received from Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (ICAR), Thiruvanantha-puram is focused research on three aspects, ultimately leading to the perfecting of technologies that can benefit women to start small agri-business ventures. Two of the unexploited root crops viz., sweet potato and yams have been included in the study, considering the large scale global awareness and utilization of the crops for product development for combating malnutrition and vitamin-A deficiency. The positive attributes of sweet potato like high carotene, calcium etc., and those of yams like high density dietary fibre will be exploited to develop products that can capture the health conscious Indian markets.