

Moving Towards Equity: Ten Years of Sangini

Sangini started its journey in the year 2003 with an objective to work on gender equality. Initially, it was not easy to work in a patriarchal society without any prior experience but as wheel of time moved on our experiences taught us a lot. These experiences crystallized the basis for constituting a formal gender resource centre in the state from where people working on different aspects of development could access information, resources and assistance. The organisation aims to provide a platform from where the inequalities brought upon women on the basis of gender can be protested and meaningful intervention can be undertaken to create a society based on justice and equality. In order to do so, Centre attempts to enhance the capacities of civil society organisation in mainstreaming gender. Sensitisation of the general masses in the context of gender discrimination is the focal objective of Sangini's interventions.

Vision-

SANGINI works towards bringing women from different sections of the society, especially from the minority and the tribal community as partners in contributing to the creation of a gender just society, where issues of women are identified and resolved as central concerns in all development initiatives.

Mission-

Women are discriminated against and denied their fundamental right to survival, access to resources and control over their produce. The process of gender socialization is such that it attempts to control women's autonomy and their dependence of thought and action. Such a manipulated mindset when enmeshed with other blatant forms of denials, the stage is set whereby the realization of women's rights remain a remote possibility.

Sangini, as a gender resource centre, will work towards bringing women from different sections of society, especially dalit and tribal women and women from the minority community as partners in working toward a gender just society.

Objectives-

- To help women to get justice.
- To promote gender understanding in the society through series of events such as workshop, trainings, campaigns and deliberations amongst concerned stakeholders.

- To facilitate civil society action & Government Program across the state to bring into focus violation of rights of women.
- To work for betterment of women by advocating for pro-women policies and their implementation, such that they benefit women specifically from the SC/ST and minority community.
- To build commitment to address domestic violence at the Regional, National and International level.
- To bridge the critical gap in information on gender issues and concerns through dissemination of relevant material to the society utilizing the most suitable mediums.

Sangini's ten years interventions at a glance

Research- Sangini believes to theorise its field experience. In order to do so, it has conducted so many research projects like-

- In 2003 Sangini has conducted a study on **“Sexual Harassment at the Workplace: A study in three districts of Madhya Pradesh”** in association with The National Human Rights Commission, and Action Aid Delhi, India.
- A study on **“Domestic Violence”** was conducted by Sangini in **2006-07** under **“Tezswini program”** in association with women and child development department.
- A study on **“Status of women representatives in Panchayatiraj Vyvastha”** was conducted by Sangini in **2007**.
- We have also conducted a study on **“NGO's & hospital's profile, working on Women & Health issue”** in Bhopal for Sehat, Mumbai in 2009.
- In 2013 we have conducted a study on **“Sexual harassment during the way or Eve teasing”** in Bhopal.

Workshops & Capacity building programmes- Sangini is feminist in its attitude. So organisation is very concern about developing the same but it is always felt that people dealing with gender issues are not equipped with the legal framework and the laws governing the same. Above all they don't have a critical feminist lens to see all these laws & legal issues. Hence in order to make a better feminist understanding workshops & capacity building programmes for the organizations working on the gender and violence issues are regularly organized. SANGINI gives training as a resource person for other

organizations, Govt. departments for capacity building. We had been organising various workshops & Capacity building programmes on these issues form past ten years -

- Gender Sensitisation
- Women & work
- Women Law
- Women Health
- Domestic Violence
- Female feticide
- Adolescent Orientation Programme & their Gender training
- Domestic Women Worker
- Empowerment of Self-Help Group
- Violence against women
- Panchayati Raj
- Right to Information
- Domestic violence act 2005
- Sexual harassment at the workplace

In different workshops & capacity building programmes Sangini participates as resource center & facilitator. Sangini in its endeavour to build the perspective of the government employee, student, volunteers on violence against women, issues has been organized a number of workshops, training and seminars debates in various districts of Madhya Pradesh from time to time. Besides these need-based trainings were organized on demand from various organizations on issues related to gender. We have also organized a Training of trainers for individuals, organizations staff and head of various organizations from Madhya Pradesh.

Campaign for Generating Large Scale Sensitization-

Sangini, in partnership with other organization as network has so far conducted a wide campaign in 40 districts of MP. Sangini also thought that if we remove violence and Gender Discrimination from the root then we are required to run campaign on the larger level. With these campaigns, Sangini organized cultural activities like Street Play, Poster making, Talk show rally, Public Meetings, Human Chain, and camps on awareness in Madhya Pradesh. Every year we organise these kind of campaign like-

- **“Break the Silence”** (Khamoshi todo abhiyan) A campaign against violence against women started in 2003 on the occasion of “International violence against women day”.



exhibition.

- Coordinate **“We Can”** Campaign in 4 region of M.P that are Bhopal, Chambal, Malwa, Mahakausal. This campaign was run in six countries of Asia in 2004 by Oxfam International. It was also launched on the occasion of “International violence against women day” in Delhi. Sangini participated in it with above than 100 youth volunteers & organised various programme like poster making, play, road show, post card writing &

- Representative of **“Common India Campaign”** or **“Sixteen days of Activism”** in Bhopal run by several feminist organisation of India.

- “Campaign on the rights of domestic workers”** in which minimum wages, weekly leave and other benefits are issues coming in front of the public.

- Presently Sangini is running **“Responsible Fatherhood Campaign”** in Bhopal region of MP. It’s step of Men’s Action for Equity to sensitise men.



Networking with allied system & common stakeholders-

Violence against women is question of sensitivity. So it’s necessary to work in network. It gives strength and support to work & it also shows combined sensitivity towards equity. Being together means being stronger. So we have establish our network with different allied system & common stakeholders and formed number of strong network group like-

- “Mahila Adhikaar Manch”**- In which some of the women network of Madhya Pradesh supports issue on crime against woman. This *network* in association with different non-government

organizations has been formed which keeps an eye on the happenings in their concerned area of work and create awareness about the rights of the women.

- **“Domestic Worker Union”**- It’s a platform for the Domestic workers to express their feelings & to share their problems related to their work & family as well. They are fighting for their rights & now above than 1000 in
- **“Kishori Yuva Manch”** – It’s initiative of Sangini to raise issue of security, education, freedom. Now we are working than 250 girls in slums of
- **“Forum for Justice”**- It’s a 700 people of different organisation of Bhopal. We together for equality, justice & Security.



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Advocacy for right

To create the enabling environment for women, Advocacy is one of the prime tools. So we are advocating in favour of women’s rights and against violence against woman. It is one of the major parts of our



organization. This enable us to work against the programme and the policy which are critically analysed in order to bring about changes in feminist approach. For this propose we work with government and civil society organizations. We are also focused on effective implementation of PWDVA, effective implementation of state women policy & advocacy to protect human rights of domestic workers.

Library & Publications-

There is strong relation between theory & practical because for sharing experiences theorisation or documentation is must. Believing on the fact Sangini maintain a library with books & video dvds/cds. We also publish our small booklets, pamphlets, papers, stickers & research reports time to time. These are-

- “Hamare Adhikar va Hamare Kanoon” , A booklet on Women rights.



- “Gharelu Hinsa: Chup na rahe, gharelu hinsa par rok lagaye, awaz uthaye...” A booklet on Domestic Violence Act 2005.
- “Karyasthal par yaun utpidan”, A booklet on Vishakha guidelines.
- “Doorbhash Nirdeshika”, A telephone directory for women facing violence. It contains all the numbers of police station, hospitals, news papers, channels, family court and organisation etc.
- Pamphlets on other women safety, security & awareness related issues.
- “A booklet on counselling”, It’s a booklet on feminist counselling for the women facing violence.
- “A manual on domestic women worker”.

We are member of-

- We are member of NAWO, “National alliance of women Organisation” from 2003. Sangini is also Ex member of its executive committee.
- State focal point & member of Women Power Connect.
- Member of World March of Women & Ex member of its executive Committee.
- Sangini is member of Aman Network.
- Sate focal POINT member of Men’s Action for Equity.
- EXTERNAL Member “Anti sexual hereeshment cell STEBLISH BY academy of administarion BHOPAL”.

Community Work- Sangini is working closely with communities. Now we are working with three types of communities-

- **Women Groups-** Sangini has 29 women groups with 700 women in our communities. We provide them social & legal awareness through regular meetings & awareness programmes. We work to empower them & during this we are focused on marginalised section of society like SC/ST, minority & other back ward caste.
- **Adolescent Groups-** Simone Said “One is not born, but rather one becomes a woman”, & that’s why we concerned about adolescent’s socialisation. Now our 10 groups of 300 adolescent are active in community. We are frequently doing gender training & capacity building workshops with these girls.
- **Men Groups-** Usually when we talk about “Gender sensitisation or training” we only mean to work about women, to work with women & to work for women. As a great educationist Krishn kumar has said “Not only women but men also made through socialisation”. Keeping this in mind, Sangini has just started working with men.

Crisis Center-

Our Gender resource center is also working as Crisis center for women facing violence. Here we are also doing counselling of these women who are facing domestic violence, rape and human rights violation. There is no shelter provided for women by Govt. and Non-Govt. authorities in Bhopal. We provide emergency shelter and legal help for the betterment of the woman. We also help them to get register their case & other medical and referral services.

Cultural Group- Sangini believes to disseminate information culturally because cultural activities are most effective tool to communicate anything. We have a strong cultural group with 20 girls. They had been expressing themselves through play, posters, song, dance & other cultural activities on different gender issues like sexual harassment, sex selective abortion, domestic violence & violence at workplace.