

AMFI-WB WE-LEAD Project

Individual Case Study

SARASWATI SARKAR - EMPOWERED BY WE LEAD PROJECT

Background:

Beneficiary Name – Saraswati Sarkar
Age - 28
ID Number – 000333
Address – Detal Barahara village,
Allahabad Gram Panchayat, Banshihari
Block
District Name – Dakhin Dinajpur



Introduction:

This case study highlights the positive impact of the WE LEAD project on the life of Saraswati Sarkar, a 28-year-old woman from Detal Barahara village, South Dinajpur, West Bengal. Saraswati, belonging to a lower-middle-class family, faced financial constraints after having two daughters. The WE LEAD project provided her with the opportunity to gain skills and contribute to her family's income.

Challenges:

Saraswati Sarkar was married at a young age and has two daughters, Jayashree (13 years old, studying in class seven) and Parineeti (5 years old, studying in L-KG). Her husband, Jhantu Sarkar, works to support the family. They had previously taken a loan from Bandhan, and it was through this connection that Saraswati came into contact with the WE LEAD project.

WE LEAD Project Intervention:

Representatives from the WE LEAD project met with Saraswati Sarkar and explained their mission. Saraswati expressed a strong interest in learning a skill and earning money. She participated in a four to five-day EDP Awareness Program, where various training opportunities were discussed. Saraswati chose to pursue Salte Making Training.

The WE LEAD project facilitated Saraswati's training with a skilled trainer. After completing the training, they connected her with a moneylender who provided her with work. Saraswati currently earns approximately ₹1,000 to ₹1,200 per month from Salte making.

Furthermore, Saraswati purchased a sewing machine and now also undertakes bag sewing work when there is no work from the moneylender. This additional income contributes another ₹1,000 to ₹1,500 per month.

Impact:

Saraswati Sarkar's combined income from Salte making and bag sewing has significantly improved her family's financial situation. She is now able to contribute substantially towards the education expenses of her two daughters. Saraswati expresses immense gratitude to the WE LEAD project, recognizing that without their intervention, she wouldn't have considered these income-generating opportunities.

Conclusion:

Saraswati Sarkar's case exemplifies the transformative power of the WE LEAD project. By providing skill training and connecting women with income opportunities, the project empowers them to become financially independent and improve their quality of life. Saraswati's story is an inspiration and a testament to the project's success in empowering women in rural communities.