

## Case Study 2

### LIVELIHOOD THROUGH BUFFALO REARING .....

For a poor and landless labourers family daily wage work is the only option among millions of people in India and around in the world. One such person is Durgamma N Barki, who had no happy childhood as her parents too could not fulfil her dream education. Physical labour and domestic work was part of day-to-day life. Durgamma had to work as a young girl/woman to support her parents and give away in marriage at a very young age. Then on shoulder her responsibility as a house wife and now as a



mother of a girl child.

Durgamma and her husband Nomradappa Barki had to start life humble living and fight for hand to mouth survival. Both of them had no option than to work in others fields and houses to make their living. Later on when Durgamma gave birth to a girl child, the life became even harder and the entire family had to depend on only Nomradappa's earning of Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000 in a month.

VRDS staff gathered 15 women who are of the same standard like that of Durgamma from Hale Honnatti and motivated them to be organised and form a SHG. Inspired and motivated by the VRDS staff 15 women agreed to start a SHG in the name of Sri Nagadevate Mahila Swa Sahaya Sangha on 01.01.2013. Though in was hard for the SHG women to save monthly in the initial days in the later days managed to save about Rs. 50/- in a month in their SHG. Presently they have a total savings of Rs. 18,000/- in their SHG A/C. It was indeed a good move to save a bit from their hard earned money, which otherwise would have been spent in vain.

Over last 2 years of forming SHG the women went through various trainings. All these trainings instilled in them the self confidence and gave them the courage to take up income generating activities. With the motivation of improving her living, Durgamma applied for a loan amount of Rs. 20,000/-.

As Durgamma was not able to go far daily wage work, she invested Rs. 20,000/- loan amount in purchasing a buffalo. Presently the buffalo is giving about 5 litres of milk a day. She sells the morning milk around 2.5 litres and prepares curd in the milk that Durgamma gets in the evening. She sells the curd/butter milk and whatever butter she gets from the curd is also used for selling. With this activity Durgamma is able to make an income of over Rs. 9,000/- per month from home itself.

Durgamma says, "I never thought I could really make so much of earning just with one buffalo... Now I am very happy... Our financial situation getting much better... I tried to borrow loan from many sources but no one came forward to support us... But VRDS trusted me and invested in me... All my life I will remain grateful and make sure I set an example to many more women like me... i sincerely thank CIF for helping me through VRDS."

