

CASE STORY- ELURU DISTRICT

1. Case story of women wage worker



Name : **Gudugolanu Sathyavathi**
Village : **Simhadri puram**
Panchayath : **Korlakunta**
Mandal : **Musunuru**
District : **Eluru**
State : **Andhra Pradesh**

I am Sathyavathi my husband is Rangarao. We have two children, first one is daughter and she has completed tenth standard and stopped her studies because the college is far away and we cannot bear her college expenditure. Our son is studying tenth standard. My husband was working as a missionary (construction work), two years back he got paralysis stroke and now he cannot do any work.

My husband's father and mother are living with us; they are old and cannot go for any work. Their daughter, my husband's younger sister is also living with us, she is 30 years old and unmarried. She is polio patient and cannot walk on her own.

All together we are nine members in our family. I am only the earning member in our family. My father-in-law is getting a pension of Rs.2, 500/- every month and the disable woman is also getting pension Rs.2, 500/- every month. I am going for daily wage work and getting Rs.250/- per day. I can get work 15-20 days in a month and that too January to March and June to September in the year. I am going for agriculture work and also company seed farms, but the wages are same at both places. I am also getting work in MGNREGA for a maximum 60 days in a year.

I am 52 years old and I have to go for daily wage work. But I cannot bear the heat in summer, it is being increased in every year. So in summer I suffer with fever and head ache. The cold climate in winter, I get cold and head ache. So, I am not able to go for work regularly.

We, all nine members are getting hardly two meals a day. All the prices of provisions and vegetables are hiking very much. We have only one ration card and getting 25 Kg rice in every month. We tried to get one more ration card, but living under one roof is not eligible to get second card.

We are living in a tin sheet covered house. We could not get government housing program. All nine members are living in the small shed, cooking food, eating and sleeping is at the same place.

I and my husband are members of union. Our union has been fighting for increase wages. We have submitted a memorandum to our Chief minister through our Thahasildar incorporate our demands that pensions should be not less than Rs.5,000/- and daily wages should be not less than Rs.700/- per day. I hope the pension will be increased and daily wage will be as living wage.

2. Case story of women MGNREGA worker



Name : **Ranimekala Dhanalakshmi**
Village : **Pothureddy palli**
Panchayath : **Pothureddy palli**
Mandal : **Nuziveedu**
District : **Eluru**
State : **Andhra Pradesh**

I am Dhanalakshmi and my husband is Suryanarayana. We have one son and he is married. They have two children, one son and one daughter and they are going to primary school. All together there are six members in our family we don't have own land and so cultivating two acres of land on lease. We have to pay Rs.20, 000/- per acre per year as lease amount to the land owner. We, all four members are going for daily wage work whenever there is no work in our field.

My husband is getting loans from money lenders @ 36% interest to invest on agriculture and paying back after harvesting. But two years continuously crop was failed and the debts are increased with high interest. With this pressure one year back my husband met suicide by taking pesticide. My family is thrown in more difficult. Government did not give us any compensation because my husband's name is not registered as tenant farmer. However we have to back the loans. I am getting widow pension Rs 2,500/- per month. Myself my son and his wife are going for wage work in agriculture and NREGA works.

No facilities are provided at NREGS works and we have to work in high temperature in summer, so we go early morning and coming back before noon. We are not getting full wages. We are getting fever for sun strokes. Even in we fell ill because of high cold weather and get fever. Unexpected rains giving troubles to our earnings. So we cannot get the expected income.

Children are going to primary school and I am getting Rs.14, 000/ per year under Amma Odi scheme. We get Rs.250/- per person per day in agriculture work and Rs.150/- from NREGS work. We get work 150 days in agriculture and company seed farms. We get 20 days 60 working days in NREGS. Now we are five members in the family and it is very difficult to survive with less income. All prices are hiked up to 4 times to last year. Gas cylinder price is increased from 600 to 1100. All edible oils prices are increased from Rs.70/- to Rs.200/- and above. We three members are earning but cannot meet at least food needs.

We are union members and we applied for agriculture land and for housing. We are also demanding for pension to be at least Rs.5, 000/- per month.

3. Case story of women MGNREGA worker



Name : **Bayagani kumara**
Village : **Parvathapuram**
Mandal : **Chatrayi**
District : **Eluru**
State : **Andhra Pradesh**

My name is Bayagani Kumari. We are six members in our family, my husband, his parents and our two children. We don't have agriculture land. We are depending only on daily wage work. I and my husband are going for agriculture work and for NREGS work. We also go for seed farm work. We get only 100 days (200 work days) in a year. I am getting Rs.250/- and my husband is getting Rs.400/- per day. He gets Rs.500/- when he goes for spraying pesticides. We, both of us go for NREGS a maximum 30 days (60 work days) in a year. The wages in NREGS is very low, hardly we get Rs.150/- and the payments are not giving regularly. My father-in-law gets old age pension Rs.250/- per month. It is very difficult to run a family with this income.

There are many problems we are facing at work places. There no facilities at NREGS works place; we have to take drinking water, tools, and urinal facilities. We are facing many problems to go for work in all three seasons. There is high temperature in summer and very cold in winter. Heavy rains are there in rainy season. We are losing many work days in all the three seasons because of health problems like fever and sun strokes in summer and cold, cough and fever in winter. Rainy season there are no works available and we don't have earnings for months together.

We are members of agriculture workers' union and we participate in all activities including union meetings. We have been demanding the Government to increase wages in NREGS and to provide facilities. We got pending payment through our union struggle. We have also demanding for land to landless, housing to all, all pension should be not less than Rs.5,000/- per month and equal wages to men and women. We will be fight until acceptance of our demands.