

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION  
BAHADUR SHAH ZAFAR MARG  
NEW DELHI – 110 002.**

**PROFORMA FOR SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION AT THE TIME OF SENDING  
THE FINAL REPORT OF THE WOK DONE ON THE PROJECT**

1	Title of the project	<b>Empowering Women Self Help Groups in Rural Areas with ICT Skills</b>
2	Name and address of the principal investigator	Dr. M. Rajeshkumar Centre for Educational Research Madurai Kamaraj University Madurai-625021, Tamil Nadu, India.
3.	Name and address of the institution	Centre for Educational Research Madurai Kamaraj University Madurai-625021, Tamil Nadu, India
4.	UGC approval letter no and date	F.No -5-99/2014 (HRP) dated 18.08.2015 & 22.08.2017 FD Diary No.2261/dated 22.07.2015 FD Diary No.4476/dated 03.08.2017
5	Date of the implementation	21.11.2015
6	Tenure of the project	Three years
7	Total grant allocated	Rs. 10,21,606/-
8	Total grants received	Rs. 9,900,53/-
9	Final expenditure	Rs.10,15,267/-
	Advance Amount Paid by Principal Investigator and to be reimburse from UGC	Rs. 25,214/-
10	Title of the project	Empowering Women Self Help Groups in Rural Areas with ICT Skills

11	<p><b>Objectives of the project</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop a research tool to measure the Attitude of SHG women towards ICT</li> <li>• To develop a research tool to measure the ICT skills among SHG women.</li> <li>• To provide knowledge and skill in operating computers (Ms word, Ms excel etc.).</li> <li>• Train them to send and receive email.</li> <li>• To train them to surf websites and collect information required for them.</li> <li>• To train them to operate bank accounts online.</li> <li>• To motivate women taking up social responsibilities particularly related to women development through ICT.</li> <li>• To suggest measures to rectify the difficulties and to find the sustainability of the implementation of the programme.</li> <li>• To find out the relationship between Attitude of SHG women towards ICT and their performance in ICT skills.</li> </ul>
12	<p><b>Whether objectives were achieved (Give details)</b></p> <p>Yes. Women empowerment can be achieved by challenging the male dominated ideology to transform the structures. There is a need for the organizations that reinforce and perpetuate gender discrimination and social balance. Technological Empowerment of women would enable poor women to use the information resources.</p> <p>After getting the due permission from the university, the Principal Investigator started the project work. In order to identify the SHG women who are under the need and willing to undergo training to develop ICT skills, the Principal Investigator conducted a preliminary survey in Theni district which is the area chosen for the study.</p> <p>Theni district was selected as the area. Theni district covers a rural district in Tamilnadu which accommodates a considerable number of rural people. The SHG group in Theni district has been chosen as the sample. Women self help group members have been identified primarily by using the survey method. A sample of 400 rural women from Theni district was selected for the programme.</p> <p>In the first phase the concepts related to computer and internet were finalized and the</p>

women in the SHG's who are interested in learning have been identified and groups have been formed and the concepts that are finalized were taught to the 400 self help group women.

In the second phase the research tool to collect data was developed to measure the performance of the learner as well as the attitude of the rural women towards ICT.

To collect the data for the final study the researcher administered the tools to 400 self help group women's from Theni districts, selected on the basis of Random Convenient Stratified Sampling Method. To find out the self help group women's attitude towards ICT and their performance of ICT skills the investigator administered the tools namely Attitude towards ICT and The performance skills in ICT of the SHG women to a sample of 400.

The data thus obtained on a sample of 400 self help group women's were consolidated, codified suitably and subjected to statistical treatment in order to test the Hypotheses.

In the final phase the learners performance were evaluated and appropriate recommendations have been made based on the observations during the implementation of the project.

Self help group women have average level of attitude towards ICT irrespective of their age, educational qualification, religion, community, marital status, monthly family income, family type, having smart phone and spouse employed.

Performance of the SHG women in ICT skills irrespective of their age, educational qualification, religion, community, marital status, monthly family income, family type, having smart phone and spouse employed have average level of performance.

Self help group women differ in their attitude towards ICT skills based on their age, Educational qualification, Possession of smart phone Marital status, Employment of Spouse and age plays a significant role among the self help group women attitude towards ICT.

Self-help group women differ in their performance of the in ICT skills based on their age, Educational qualification and owing to the possession of Smart phone.

There is significant relationship between Attitude towards ICT and Performance in ICT Skills among the Self-help group women.

At the outset the members feel that the training was useful for money transfer, payment of bills through online they stated that it saves their time, their hardship in standing in the queue in the

	<p>banks and also they could explore the use of internet as well as the word files. They further requested to provide training on Mobile Banking, BEAM, to make corrections in Aadhar card. They also need reinforcement to check their skills acquired.</p> <p>ICTs can provide spaces for diverse, bottom-up and low-cost communication. They can amplify women’s voices, help publicize women’s experiences and perspectives and integrate their specific concerns with the mainstream policymaking and development process. Engendering ICTs is not merely about greater use of ICTs by women. It is about transforming both gender politics and the ICT system.</p>
13	<p><b>Achievements from the project</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 400 Self Help Group womens have been trained during the training programme and they are able to operate the computer independently and surf websites and push their products through online.</li> <li>2. Publications : 2</li> </ol>
14	<p><b>Summary of the findings</b></p> <p>Self help group women irrespective of their age, educational qualification, religion, community, marital status, monthly family income, family type, having smart phone and spouse employed have average level attitude towards ICT.</p> <p>Performance of the SHG women irrespective of their age, educational qualification, religion, community, marital status, monthly family income, family type, having smart phone and spouse employed have average level in ICT skills.</p> <p>There is a significant difference in self help group women attitude towards ICT based on age group. Particularly Self help group women below 25 years age group differ significantly with respect to attitude towards ICT.</p> <p>There is significant difference in the self help group women attitude towards ICT based on Educational qualification. illiterate, primary and secondary are differ significantly with higher secondary.</p> <p>There is no significant difference in the self help group women attitude towards ICT based on their Religion.</p> <p>There is no significant difference in the self help group women attitude towards ICT based</p>

on their community.

The married self help group women have more favourable attitude towards ICT than the unmarried self help group women.

There is no significant difference in attitude towards ICT of self help group women based on family monthly income.

There is no significant difference among self help group women in the attitude towards ICT based on their family type.

There is a significant difference among the self help group women having and not having smart phone in their attitude towards ICT.

There is a significant difference in self help group women based on whose employed and unemployed spouse in the attitude towards ICT.

Performance in the ICT skills of the self help group women below 25 years age group differ significantly with the remaining two categories.

Self help group women educational qualification higher secondary differ significantly with the remaining three categories of educational qualification namely, illiterate, primary and secondary with respect to performance in ICT skills.

There is a significant difference among the self help group women having and not having smart phone in their performance in ICT skills.

There is no significant difference in the self help group women performance in ICT skills based on their religion.

There is no significant difference in the self help group women performance in ICT based on their community.

There is no significance mean difference between married and unmarried self help group women performance in ICT skills.

There is no significant difference in performance in ICT skills of self help group women based on their family monthly income.

There is no significant difference between self help group women in the performance in ICT skills based on their family type.

There is no significant difference in self help group women based on whose employed and

	unemployed spouse in the performance in ICT skills.  There is significant relationship between Attitude towards ICT and Performance in ICT Skills.		
15	<p><b>Contribution to the society</b></p> <p>The project created the Computer skills among the rural SHG women which facilitates them to operate the computer and to do online activities like sending e mail and surfing related websites. Which made them independent in doing their routine online transactions and also will help them to promote their products online. They can independently use technology for their day-to-day activities. They have become digitally strong to communicate. Which in turn will make the other members of the society to create an awareness and motivate them to learn and use technology in their daily affairs which is the need of the hour. The self help group women can build a technology enabled lifestyle and rational thinking which can eliminate the isolation from the outside world and make women more self-confident and self-reliant. The trained SHG women have realised the value of ICT in their day to day life.</p>		
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**Signature of the  
Principal investigator**

**Registrar  
(Seal)**