

Mrs Chennupati Vidya

Opening Remarks

Ms Chennupati Vidya was Former MP & and presently holding the position as President, Vasvya Mahila Mandali. Daughter of Gora and Saraswathi Gora, an atheist, rationalist and social change worker on Gandhian lines and President of Vasavya Mahila Mandali (in 1975) is a relentless champion of women and children and Gandhian constructive work. For the last four decades she has been in the forefront of eradication of untouchability and the caste system, for the promotion of secular and humanist values and empowerment of women. Under her valuable guidance, covers a broad spectrum of rural development activities through its major organisations, Vasavya Mahila Mandali, Arthik Samatha Mandali and Andhra Pradesh Harijan Sevak Sangh for comprehensive rural development in more than three hundred villages in various districts of Andhra Pradesh.

She involved in the Sarvodaya and the Bhoodan movement. As a Parliamentarian, she has introduced private Member Resolutions and Bill for the promotion of secularism, casteless ness and criminal reformation. She is involved in Cooperative Movement as President, Milk Suppliers society (1970) and Mahatma Gandhi Agricultural cooperative society, through which marketing, financial and resource availability is extended to farmers. She became a role model in successful functioning of 9 women cooperative for thrift and credit.

She is the founder Director of AP State Women Finance Corporation (in 1975) through which micro credit is available to poor women to start income generating programmes. She is the Director (1970-75) Vijayawada Cooperative Central Store, promoted Vijaya Krishna Super Bazar, serving to the people of Vijayawada with quality; discipline and promptness are the landmarks.

Mrs. Vidya, Chairperson, is the driving force of Arthika Samatha Mandal. It has implemented a comprehensive of rural development in 150 villages of Krishna, Guntur, West, East Godavari, and Nalgonda districts. It helps hundreds of children through child and family sponsorship programme, supported by Save the Children Fund UK and Plan International.