

Ab mujhe bheekh maangne ki zaroorat nahi hain

Ever since her husband died in an accident, Sukuvathy and her family used to live with the generous help from her neighbours. She had no money to do agriculture on a small piece of land. When Manav Vikas started a programme for supporting income generation activities in Pattari village of Banda, Sukuvathy also joined the self-help group which Manav Vikas had started for credit mobilisation. Since she belonged to backward economic bracket, Sukuvathy also received loan assistance from Manav Vikas. With the loan, she purchased seeds and other agriculture inputs and started agriculture in small way. She also started a petty grocery shop which started giving her small but regular income. Now Sukuvathy sells vegetables along with grocery from her own shop.

Sukuvathy is self-dependent now and does not seek financial support from neighbours. “The income from my agriculture and petty shop is sufficient for me to meet the needs of my family”, Sukuvathy said proudly about her livelihood activities. While recounting the drastic turnaround in her life Sukuvathy said, “*Ab mujhe bheekh maangne ki zaroorat nahi hain*” (I am not compelled to beg now).