

**F-02: Role of NGOs in rehabilitation and empowerment of the female head in female headed households in affected areas in the Trincomalee District**

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Trincomalee was affected by the ethnic strife during the years 1983-1991. As a result many young men between the ages of 18-40 had lost their lives or had disappeared. This has led to an increase in the number of Female headed households and one parent families. As this situation is of concern to the community there are a number of NGOs working with the young widows in the Trincomalee District.

This study attempts to find out the effects of rehabilitation and empowerment programmes carried out by NGOs with young widows.

The sample consisted of a general study of the rehabilitation and empowerment programmes carried out by the NGOs in the Trincomalee District and an indepth study of 45 families in 3 locations in the Trincomalee District where the chief occupant was a young female head.

As far as rehabilitation is concerned the Government machinery has acknowledged the role of NGOs in the Trincomalee District. Regarding empowerment the study showed that around 70% of the affected young female occupants felt that they were capable individuals who can provide for the family and also help other affected women.