

POWER ANGEL 'THE COURAGE WITHIN'



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Roopa Yadav lives in Barampura village in Tahrauli Block of Jhansi district. During an exposure visit to the Police station, the station in-charge was so inspired with Roopa's involvement in the group activities that he conferred upon her the title 'Power Angel', in recognition of her spirit of volunteering. A unique identification card was also issued to Roopa in 2018, whereby she was given the authority to report to the Police any untoward incident in her village.

Emboldened by this recognition, Roopa averted a potential threat to the life and dignity of her classmate, Sunita. Sunita was being harassed by an unrecognized caller, who would call her up and threaten to keep silent about it all, lest she faces the consequences. This continued over several days, disturbing Sunita to the core, affecting her studies and mental peace, living under constant fear. She was forced to keep quiet about it, and hence couldn't muster up courage to talk about it to anyone. Upon much persistence, Roopa learned about the issue and she called up the Women's Helpline - 1090,

identifying herself as Power Angel. The caller's phone number was also reported by her to the Helpline, which was subsequently tracked. While tracing the call, the bewildered caller denied the charges and threatened Sunita again, but this time her call was tapped. This eventually led to the identification of the caller, who was later apprehended. Such a courageous move of Roopa saved Sunita and set an example of real courage.

It was their eloquence and promptness about issues of women empowerment, domestic violence, communal tensions and filing of first information report, gained through interface with lady constables in early January 2018 under the UKSVK initiatives that encouraged the Gursarai Station Officer, to confer upon the adolescent girls of Jhansi the title of 'POWER ANGELS'. With special identification cards issued, these change agents from the villages have been given direct access to the police stations to bring untoward incidents to the notice of the Police and have the first information reports registered.