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THE CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF ROLE PLAYED BY SELF HELP GROUP IN FINANCIAL STABILITY AMONG RURAL WOMEN

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ABSTRACT:

Today, the self-help group movement is increasingly accepted as an innovation in the field of rural credit in many developing countries including India to help the rural poor considered a vehicle to reach the disadvantaged and marginalized section. There is rapid acknowledgement about SHG. This paper tries to explain the role of SHG in financial status of women.



KEYWORDS: SHG, Financial Stability.

INTRODUCTION :

The self help groups are the one who has taken prime responsibility of social development through women empowerment. It is now almost two-decade old. It is reported that the SHGs have a role in hastening country's economic development. SHGs have now evolved as movement. Self Help Groups are groups of 10 to 20 women or men who want to improve their living conditions by setting up their own savings and loan fund. The fund is owned by the group and consists of the savings of the members. The fund is used to make short-term loans with interest to members.

A SHG is an informal

association to enhance the member's financial security as primary focus and other common interest of members such as area development, awareness, motivation, leadership, training and associating in other social inter-mediation programmes for the benefit of the entire community.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

(Kanerla) in his research paper make an effort to analyze that empowering women entrepreneurs. He found that it is essential for achieving the goals of sustainable development and the bottlenecks hindering women progress must be eradicated to entitle full participation in the business. Tools like training programs, Newsletters, mentoring, trade fairs and exhibitions are be a source for entrepreneurial

development.

(Gurumoorthy) explained the Self Help Group (SHG) as a crucial alternative to achieve the success of rural development and to get participation in all rural development programmes. It must be an well established set which provide micro-credit to the rural women on the basis of the group savings without any conspiracy.

(Manimekalai and Rajeswari) analyses the socio-economic role of self-help group women empowerment in Tamil Nadu and examined the factors which had inspired the women to become SHG members and ultimately as entrepreneurs. The researchers analysed the nature of economic activities and the Performance in terms of growth indicators such as investment turnover, employment, sources of

finance, product marketing and other related aspects and identified the problems faced by SHG women in running the enterprises. The study found that women SHGs earned the highest profit from agriculture, followed by trade related activities and catering services. They conclude that SHG has developed a sense of leadership, organisational skill, management of various activities of a business among its participants.

(Chaudhari) studied role played by SHG in women empowerment. Researcher found that SHG has played vital role in women empowerment. He stated that SHG's in Nagpur region are only concern with financial supremacy. According to him SHG must try to motivate members to create asset he also stated that education level of respondents must be increased.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

For the purpose of current research data will be collected from primary as well as secondary data. For primary data collection structured questionnaire was distributed among the respondents. For the aforesaid research 150 questionnaire were distributed out of these 120 were found valid. Secondary data was collected from books, journals, magazines etc.

OBJECTIVES

- 1) To study the sense of awareness among respondents towards self help group.
- 2) To compare the financial stability of respondents before and after joining SHG
- 3) To suggest some valid measures to improve financial stability of women respondents.

HYPOTHESES

H1:- "There is no significant change in the economic empowerment of women members before and after joining the SHG.

H2:- The respondent feels because of SHG that there is improvement in their financial status.

Particulars	Number of Respondents		Percentage
Age	Below 25	18	15
	25-35	85	71
	35-45	10	09
	Above 45	07	05
Marital Status	Married	107	91
	Unmarried	13	09
Educational Qualification	Up to 10 th	61	51
	Intermediate	32	27
	Graduate	24	20
	Post Graduate and other	03	2.5
Occupation	Housewife	63	52.5
	Business partner	03	2.5
	Service	10	8.33
	Maid	37	31
	Others	07	5.67
Monthly income	Below 5,000	51	41.67
	5,000-10,000	59	50
	10,000-15,000	10	8.33

Source :- Primary data collection

Hypothesis testing :-

H1:- "There is no significant change in the economic empowerment of women members before and after joining the SHG

Economic parameters	Pre SHG joining		Post SHG joining	
	No.	Mean	No.	Mean
Loan	71	0.60	59	0.50
Rise in income	12	0.10	47	0.39
Saving	28	0.23	10	0.08
Asset creation	05	0.04	06	0.05
Cash Holding	04	0.03	04	0.04

The calculation of t test at a significant level of 0.05 % is 0.472769. This value is less than table value of 0.5. Hence a null hypothesis is accepted. Thus it is concluded that there is no significant change in social empowerment of women after joining Self help group.

H2:- The respondents feels because of SHG that there is improvement in their financial status.

Particular	Strongly agree	agree	Neutral	disagree	Strongly disagree
	15	44	21	20	20

From the above table it is clear that the value of D comes 0.4157 which is greater than critical value. Hence we reject the null hypotheses the respondents feels because of SHG that there is improvement in their financial status.

FINDINGS

There is a constant perusal of the leader of SHG who has prompted others to join SHG. Their main intention is to have their voice at least in their daily proceedings at home. Many of the respondents have their own doubt whether their financial position will improve or not. Many feels their poverty is in their destiny and there are remote chances of it being change. Majority of respondents have their confusion about the working of SHG.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

There must be special campaign to promote the awareness about SHG. The working of SHG should not only be transparent but also the rules like attendance must be followed. SHG must spread awareness about others government schemes so that financial stability is improved. SHG must work according to long and short term plan.

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