

Study On Synchronization Of Educational Status And Empowerment Among Women Micro Entrepreneurs Of Alappuzha District

Latha. P. Research scholar , Department of Business Administration Annamalai university

Dr. Rincy. V. Mathew, Associate professor(research supervisor), , Department of Business Administration Annamalai university.

ABSTRACT

Education plays an important role in the development of the country, especially rural development. As the women got educated, they are much powerful and can do things better and more empowered. Higher the education, more the empowerment. This study evaluates the relationship between educational status of rural women entrepreneurs and their empowerment in various fields especially in Alappuzha district. The study is an evidence that women micro entrepreneurs through get more education, they can make wonders in entrepreneurship.

KEY WORDS :- Educational status; Empowerment; Rural women entrepreneurship.

INTRODUCTION

Education irrespective of who receives it, contributes to development. It raises income, promotes health and increases productivity. When women are the recipients, the benefits are even more apparent. Higher the level of education the women and girls contribute to their greater empowerment. According to Rao and Kellcher(1995) define women empowerment as the capacity of women to be economically self sufficient and self reliant with control over decisions affecting their life options and freedom from violence. In rural areas, minimum facilities are there for the education of women. Even then, Kerala has very high rate of women education compare to other states and Alleppey is also have high rate of literacy. More and more women are attracted to get not only normal education but higher education also. They realized the value of education and make result from it. To bring more girls, especially from marginalized families of below poverty line, in mainstream education, the government is providing a package of concessions in the form of providing free books, uniform, boarding and lodging, clothing for the hostilities, midday meals, scholarships, free cycle and so on. If rural women entrepreneurs have proper education, they are able to create management power and leadership quality which provides more opportunities. Education increases confidence through which there are lot of changes in life. The future of women entrepreneurs is awaiting world wide as they are educated and moderate steps are being taken to improve the condition of their enterprise. Most of the women entrepreneurs are educated except a very few in Alappuzha. Women empowerment and entrepreneurial development depends on educational growth. Gender inequalities are the barrier

in women empowerment. Education is one of the most powerful catalyst for social progress across a wide range of indicators.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The studies of Vasantha Gouri (2017) reveals the fact that educated women can make valuable contributions towards development of family and thereby the society. Kavita Sangolagi and Mallikarjun Alagawadi (2016) says that traditionally women have been on stage, by playing a crucial role in the management of the family as well as in the society. But their job has not been duly recognized. Women are active in family, farm, shop, family and even in politics. Women entrepreneurs are gaining momentum all over the world. According to Poonam Kain and Meenakshi Sharma (2015), there is a greater need to educate women entrepreneur for the nation's development and overall growth of the economy. Baisakhi Bhattacharjee said, a woman with knowledge is a respectable woman. She has the ability to make people listen to her. It is very powerful tool for women to change her position in our society. Inequalities can be reduced through education. According to M. Sekhar, M. Shunmuga Sundaram and A. Subburaj (2015) women have to overcome the hurdles along with the system that requires more strength. This strength comes from the process of empowerment and empowerment will come from the education. Rural development will definitely come from women empowerment. Rouf Ahmed Bhat (2015) opined education is a foundation stone for the empowerment of women. Education brings a reduction in inequalities and functions as a means of improving their status within the family and develops the concept of participation.

The studies related to women empowerment emphasize on the factors affecting empowerment. But there is a gap in the literature that what is the influence of education on women empowerment especially in rural areas like Alleppey.

OBJECTIVES

- *To study the socio demographic profile of women micro entrepreneurs.
- *To analyze the relation between educational status and economic empowerment of women micro entrepreneurs in Alappuzha.
- *To verify the development of social empowerment with respect to educational status of women micro entrepreneurs.
- *To find out the relation between psychological empowerment and educational status for the improvement of micro entrepreneurs.
- * To compare the development of various empowerments with educational status.

METHODOLOGY

The present descriptive study is based on the primary data collected from 100 women respondents and analyzed using percentage and regression analysis. Secondary data collected from various journals.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

To analyze the relation between educational status and economic empowerment of women micro entrepreneurs in Alappuzha, 100 samples were selected from five SHGs. Their opinions were collected using structured questionnaire and analyzed with the statistical tools.

Figure:1 Rural entrepreneurs based on Age and marital status

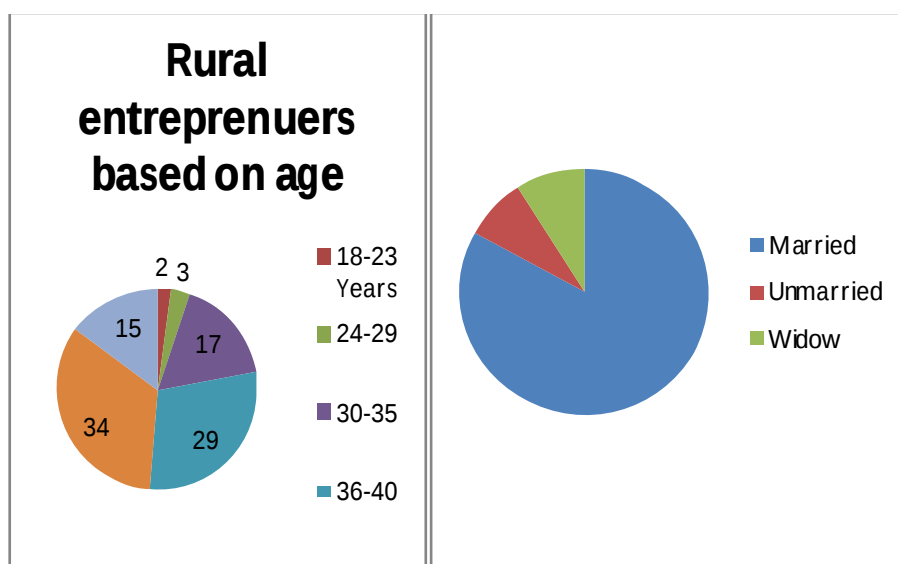
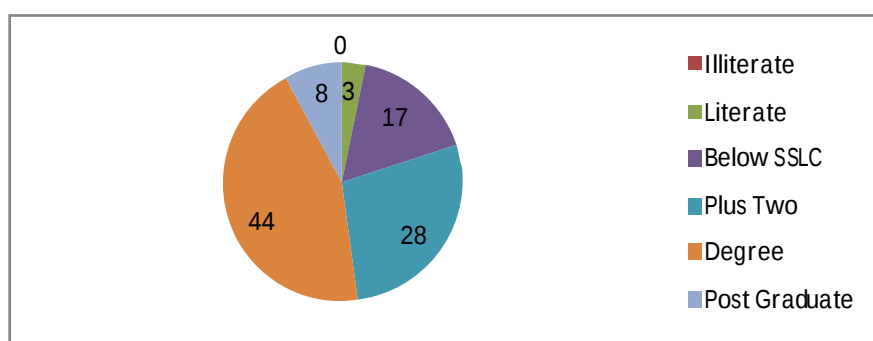


Figure:2 Rural entrepreneurs based on Education



The sample consists of 100 respondents of five different enterprises. They belong to the age group 18 to 50. Eighty percentage of the respondents are having better education (fig2&table.1). Moreover, 53% of them are having higher education. 83% of them are married and belong to nuclear family (table.1).

Table. I Profile Of Selected Respondents

SI	SOCIO DEMOGRAHIC FACTORS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
I	AGE		
1	18-23 Years	2	2
2	24-29	3	3
3	30-35	17	17
4	36-40	29	29
5	41-45	34	34
6	46-50	15	15
	Total	100	100
	MARITAL STATUS		
1	Married	83	83
2	Unmarried	8	8
3	Widow	9	9
	Total	100	100
	Educational Qualification		
	Illiterate	0	0
	Literate	3	3
	Below SSLC	17	17
	Plus Two	28	28
	Degree	44	44
	Post Graduate	8	8
	Total	100	100
	Type of family		
	Nuclear Family	79	79
	Extended Family	8	8
	Joint Family	13	13
	Total	100	100
	Monthly Income		
	Below 15000	5	5
	Between 15000-20000	58	58
	Between 20000-25000	32	32

	Above 25000	5	5
	Total	100	100
	Type Of Enterprise		
	Café Kudumbasree	20	20
	Organic Farming	20	20
	Fish Farming	20	20
	Construction	20	20
	Stitching Unit	20	20
	Total	100	100

Primary data computed

Table .2 Economic Empowerment Through Education

Educational Status	No. of Entrepreneurs	Income	No.	Percentage
Below SSLC	20	Below 15000	12	60
		Between 15000-20000	8	40
		Between 20000-25000		
		Above 25000		
SSLC	28	Below 15000	9	32
		Between 15000-20000	11	39
		Between 20000-25000	8	28.5
		Above 25000		
UG	44	Below 15000	0	
		Between 15000-20000	4	9.09
		Between 20000-25000	28	63.6
		Above 25000	12	27.27
PG	8	Below 15000	0	
		Between 15000-20000	0	
		Between 20000-25000	3	37.5
		Above 25000	5	62.5

Primary data computed

Degree and Post Graduate degree holders get above Rs.20000 per month as the income. As the educational status increases the monthly income also increases (table2) .

Table 3 Social Empowerment Through Education

SPECIFICATION	Before getting guidance	After getting guidance
Trust in Co-ordinators	Poor	High
Good personal relationship	Moderate	High
Health & Safety standards	Poor	Moderate
Good work life Balance	Poor	High
Less stress at work	Stressful	Less stress
Participatory Management	Poor	High
Good leadership	Poor	High
Training & Development	Nil	High
Social responsibility to all stakeholders	Poor	High
Business advancement	Poor	Moderate

Primary data computed

Women micro entrepreneurs with degree and post graduate degree have very good standard in society. They have participation in all societal activities. They have good interpersonal relationships and responsibility with all stakeholders. They have good leadership and initiative qualities compared to low educated women micro entrepreneurs (table No. 3).

TABLE.4 Mean and S.D for Psychological Empowerment Through Education

Dimensions										
	Illiterate		Below SSLC				Plus Two		Degree	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Social	1.000	0.000	3.039	1.508	3.916	1.165	3.670	1.467	2.564	1.24
Economic	1.000	0.000	3.062	1.307	3.575	1.236	3.588	1.589	2.431	1.54
Political	1.500	0.273	3.078	1.185	3.522	1.142	3.665	1.642	2.367	1.42
Personal	1.000	0.00	3.128	1.057	3.560	1.120	3.648	1.476	2.373	1.46
Overall W.E	1.000	0.00	3.071	1.306	3.651	1.043	3.635	1.579	2.421	1.38

Primary data computed

Table.4 Anova Test For Psychological Empowerment Through Education

Dimensions	F-value 7.037	p-value .000
Social	7.532	.000
Economic	6.711	.000
Political	9.575	.000
Personal	9.540	.000
Overall W.E	9.45	.000

Primary data computed

Table.No.5.Impact of education on psychological empowerment

Fats of psychological empowerment	BELOW DEGREE	DEGREE & PG
Marital satisfaction	Moderate	High
Recognition in family	Moderate	High
Decision making at home	Moderate	High
Mingling with family	Moderate	High
High Quality of life	Moderate	High

Primary data computed

It is found that educated women micro entrepreneurs have high. Marital satisfaction Recognition in family, decision making at home, mingling with family high quality of life are highly satisfied in the case of degree and p.g holders.(table .No.)So they have high confidence in taking risks for their enterprise as they believe that their husbands will definitely support them. Educated women have good recognition in family.They have high quality of life compared to less educated women entrepreneurs (Table n.5).

CONCLUSION

Most of the educated women feel that,they are able to achieve more than when they were not educated The lack of education becomes the obstacle in getting empowerment. Hence,if women empowerment is to be effected,it can be through the medium of education .So,it is very important to raise the level of education among women.With more education women have greater access to take enterprise opportunities and increase the ability to secure their own economic resources.We have to make some educational programme on gender equality and women empowerment for cementing our commitment to support women and girls.

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