

Role of Shg For The Dvelopment of Women Entrepreneur with Special Reference To Madurai District

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ABSTRACT

Self Help Groups are confide that they can stand on their own legs and they need not want to depend on any other for anything. Most of the village women are hard workers but they can't find any improvement because the money earned by them is not used in a planned manner. To change this situation, Self Help Group are rendering their service as organization. The main aim of the women Self Help Group is to get relief from problems faced by them, to enhance their savings ,to create employment opportunities ,to improve their economy etc.

1. INTRODUCTION

In India about three fourth of the total population lives in rural areas. They have for long lagged much behind the overall progress of the economy. To overcome this undesirable trend, special programmes for rural development, especially women development, began to be designed since the seventies as supplement to the provisions of the Five-year plans of the country in the working of the development programmes for the rural India. Utilization of Human Resource plays a pivotal role in the economic development of any country. "Human resource harnesses other resources available in the country, converts them into value added products and services and also contributes to the GNP". India, an emerging major power of the millennium in the world, has to use her Human Resources, particularly women force most efficiently and meticulously to the maximum extent possible. Parent Sarangi is of the opinion that formation of the self-help groups is a viable alternative to achieve the objectives of rural development and to get community participation. Self-help groups are the welcomed and effective tools to handle this problem of involving tradition bound; home attached Indian women to contribute for the country's development. As such the womenfolk could enter into any venture of any nature and of any magnitude. The growth of SHGs in India has created lot of hopes to the planners, politicians and the public, to achieve 8% economic growth.

2. SELF HELP GROUP

Self-Help Group (SHG) is defined as a voluntary group valuing personal interaction and mutual aid as means of altering or ameliorating problems perceived as alterable, processing and personnel by most of its participants, over the last few years; the Self-Help approach has been utilized in a growing number of projects and programmes.

3. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Unemployment is a burring problem for which every citizen should necessarily find a solution. The present economic condition of India does not allow getting the educated and uneducated people therefore is in a position to develop sufficient employment. Women are generally ignored whether they are educated or uneducated. Both the educated and uneducated are in a position to develop their own resource i.e., to seek self-employment. Self-help groups have been organized by the NGOs in the rural areas, in which not less than 10 rural women join together and their savings are circulated among themselves or the savings are deposited with the bank and the bank lends the same to the members to solve their financial problems. They create awareness and self-confidence among the rural women to start their own industrial units with a minimal available investment. The credit needs of the rural poor are determined in a complex social economic milieu, where it is difficult to adopt project lending approach as followed by banks and where the dividing line between credit for consumption and productive purpose is blurred under the circumstances of a non formal agency of credit supply to the formal agency of credit supply to the poor in the form of SHG. The poor could emerge as a promising partner of the formal agencies. In many instances the poor have demonstrated their potential for self help groups to secure greater economic spontaneously or with the active involvement of voluntary agencies or official development agencies. Such SHG have been formed generally around specific issues. Controlling the poor or specific production activities and often have mobilized savings among their members, who would normally not be expected to have any savings and used such resources to meet the emergent credit needs of the members of the group. The democratic functioning of the successful SHGs their adroitness in assessing and appraising the credit needs of members their business like functioning and efficiency in recycling the funds often with repayment rates nearing cent percent additional welcome features that the bankers may like to utilize for serving the credit needs of the poor. Self Help Group is functioning everywhere in the nation. Though it is well established among the people it has not much improved the economy of the people. Although the government and helping organization are giving considerable help and entrepreneurial training through DRDA, the reason for the stagnation of their production and low marketing for their products should be analyzed. Also, the government and helping organizations are giving loans to the members of the Self Help Groups. Sometimes the loans given to them are misused in several ways. As more and more helping organizations are in the nation, least co-operation is prevailing between them.

4. OBJECTIVES

- To find out benefits from SHGs in Madurai district.
- To compare the changes in income, expenditure and savings of members before and after joining self help group.
- To identify the problem and prospects of SHGs in the study area.

5. METHODOLOGY

Present study is empirical in nature based on mainly primary data collected through field survey. Besides, secondary data and pertinent literature have also been compiles from published and

documented sources. The total sample size was fixed at 240. The statistical tools used the present study was percentage, mean score ranking, and t-test.

6. DATA ANALYSIS

SHG AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO WOMEN

The SHG programme provides adequate scope for the rural householders, especially women, to help developing their self-confidence and social behavior through a series of trainings and group meetings organized by the NGOs, Banks and Groups. Hence, the self-confidence of the members improves after joining SHGs.

Table 1
Benefits from SHGs

Sl. No.	Benefits	Mean Score	Rank
1	Increased Financial Condition	67.6	II
2	Easy Credit Facilities	70.4	I
3	Received New Skills / Training	42.7	VI
4	Decision-making Power	46.5	V
5	Participation in Social Service	40.0	VII
6	Better Education for Children	59.5	IV
7	Increasing Self-confidence	36.7	VIII
8	Increased Knowledge	60.3	III
9	Mobility / Meeting officials	32.9	IX

Source: Primary data

The table.1 reveals that perceived benefits from SHG vary among the women entrepreneurs. While some gave higher priority to economic factors, others assigned a greater priority to non-economic factors. It is clear that from the table that the respondents have ranked easy credit facilities as the foremost benefit they have received by joining the SHG. The second most important benefit is increased financial conditions followed by increased knowledge. The involvement of women in SHG has significantly contributed in improving their self-confidence in tackling financial crises at home. From the women's perspective it could be underlined that by entering into the SHGs the women had become decision makers, received new skills, and increased mobility etc, which need to be appreciated.

COMPARATIVE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF BEFORE AND AFTER JOINING SHG MEMBERS:

Paired 't' test

SGSY assisted SHG members income, expenditure, savings, borrowings are compared before and after joining the SHG using paired't' test.

Table 2
Income, Savings and Borrowings of the respondents before and after joining SHG (in Rs)

Variable	Mean Score			t	df	sig.
	Before	After	Difference			
Income	853.12	2724.47	1871.35	30.751	190	0.000 (P < 0.001)
Expenditure	1670.93	2261.04	590.10	23.14	238	0.000 (P < 0.001)
Savings	82.35	179.41	97.05	5.416	32	0.000 (P < 0.001)
Borrowings	8336.36	33924.27	25587.91	17.187	108	0.000 (P < 0.001)

Source: Computed data, Significant at 1%

It is observed from the table.2 that the respondent’s income, expenditure, savings and borrowings have significantly increased after joining the SHG. Participation of households in the SGSY – SHG linkage programme significantly contributed to the increase in income and thereby, their level of living. The consumption expenditure per month per household was Rs. 1670 before joining SHG and registered significant increase to reach Rs. 2261 after joining SHG.

Hence from the analysis of the socio economic profile, factors, performance, problems, impact etc, it is understood that the SGSY has contributed to the women to start and own micro enterprise which has improved their status in terms of net income, increase in consumption and investment expenditure. However, women were not able to completely put in their effort expanding their scale of operation, nor relived from the double burden. Hence ultimately status of women tends to increase through these interventions but at the same time the women are not able to get the support from family, state etc. In future years both men and women engage in all possible activities equally, Hence women need to be providing with sufficient to participate. From the analysis it is understood that there is changing role of women by assuming entrepreneurship activities.

PROBLEM FACED BY THE SHGS

Table.3
Shows problem faced by the Self Help Group

Sl.No	Particular	No.of. Respondents	Percentage
1	Lack of strong leadership	80	33.33
2	Financial deficit	48	20.00
3	Leaders misuse the group money	24	10.00
4	Lack of education in member side	24	10.00
5	Non awareness of government scheme	40	16.67
6	Members don’t repay the loan amount	24	10.00
	Total	240	100

Source: Primary data

The table.3 shows that problem faced by Self Help Groups in the study area.33.33 per cent of respondents pointed out that lack of strong leader ship, 20.00 per cent are financial deficit, 10.00 per cent are Leaders misuse the group money, 10.00 per cent are Lack of education in member side, 16.67 members are Non awareness of government scheme and the remaining 10.00 per cent of the member pointed out Members don't repay the loan amount.

7. FINDINGS

- The study reveals that the respondents have ranked easy credit facilities as the foremost benefit they have received by joining the SHG. The second most important benefit is increased financial conditions followed by increased knowledge. The involvement of women in SHG has significantly contributed in improving their self-confidence in tackling financial crises at home.
- The study express that the respondent's income, expenditure, savings and borrowings have significantly increased after joining the SHG. Participation of households in the SGSY – SHG linkage programme significantly contributed to the increase in income and thereby, their level of living.
- The study shows that problem faced by Self Help Groups in the study area.33.33 per cent of respondents pointed out that lack of strong leader ship, 20.00 per cent are financial deficit and 16.67 members are Non awareness of government scheme.

8. SUGGESTIONS

- The government should provide liberal loan for the growth of the SHGs.
- Prizes should be given to best groups at district level, state level and National level by the government.
- To guide these groups' intellectuals should be assisted.
- Frequent check by government officials is essential to ascertain whether the SHGs are functioning well.
- Training should be given to the office bearers of the groups.
- Leader ship training should be given group members.
- The terms and conditions to join the SHGs should be relaxed so that more members can join as members.
- Proper training should be given to the members of the group by experts.

9. CONCLUSION

This study has given a clear picture about the income and employment pattern SHG member's households, impact of SHGs in the study area, Growth of SHGs in the study area and problem faced by the SHGs at Madurai district. The SHG is definitely the backbone of the village people and "Self-Help is the Best Help". So these kinds of self help groups supported the isolated people and developed the villages in economical and atmospheric level. The village people also

welcomed these groups. These kinds of SHGs will definitely raise the national economic level. From the above study we came to understand that the performance of the SHGs are functioning well. We realize that among the self help group, this group is spear heading towards glorious growth. The members in these groups are prompt in their financial dealings and turned become various entrepreneurs. The net result is enhancement of income to the members and they attained an economic development. Because of the individual income growth the SHG is also enlarging.

The study concluded that now a day's SHG are rapid emerging not only as a dominant tool of socio-economic empowerment but also significant tool for the implementation of social sector programme of the poor in our rural and urban areas in Madurai district. SHGs enable the rural and urban poor to earn their own livelihood besides participating in the process of development.

10. REFERENCES

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