

Improved Life Style of Members through Self-Help Groups

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Abstract

A Self-Help Group (SHG) is a village-based financial intermediary committee usually composed of 10–20 local women or men. A mixed group is generally not preferred. Most self-help groups are located in India, though SHGs can be found in other countries, especially in South Asia and Southeast Asia. Members make small regular savings contributions over a few months until there is enough capital in the group to begin lending. Funds may then be lent back to the members or to others in the village for any purpose. In India, many SHGs are 'linked' to banks for the delivery of micro-credit.

Keywords: Self-help; Capital; Self-employed; Self-earning; Socio-economic; Micro-credit

Introduction

A self-help group may be registered or unregistered. It typically comprises a group of micro entrepreneurs having homogeneous social and economic backgrounds; all voluntarily coming together to save regular small sums of money, mutually agreeing to contribute to a common fund and to meet their emergency needs on the basis of mutual help. They pool their resources to become financially stable, taking loans from the money collected by that group and by making everybody in that group self-employed. The group members use collective wisdom and peer pressure to ensure proper end-use of credit and timely repayment. This system eliminates the need for collateral and is closely related to that of solidarity lending, widely used by micro finance institutions. To make the book keeping simple, flat interest rates are used for most loan calculations.

Review of Literature

In the year 2012 the study states SHG are younger than other firms. SHG group enterprises are larger than other and they are successful in their business. Their profit, net worth and sales value more progressive than non-SHG entrepreneurs. SHG women entrepreneurs are the aware of opportunities available to them economic status, self-worth, self-confidence and social status of women entrepreneurs are the variable that define empowerment of women. Women entrepreneur in SHG are more empowered than non-SGH. Self-discipline is maintained in the groups [1].

The study states that in Tirunelveli district middle age (30-45) group women are entrepreneurs. They are doing business with less investment and at low risk. Mostly married women are doing business because supplement their family income, providing good life for their children and self-earning independent. More entrepreneurs are belonging to backward caste.

In the year 2012 in the study states that more respondents are occupying agricultural activity most of women are 40-50 age group are the members. Half of the respondents engaged in various income generating activities belongs to SC/ST. Reasons of women joining SHG is giving financial support to their family. According to availability of resources and opportunities they are doing the income generating activities like tailoring, nursing and dairy [2].

The Study states that member of SHG has no primary education but they are able to read and write. Members of the group are married, unmarried and widows. To raise status in society is the prime reason for joining SHG to promote income generating activities, to get loan, to promote savings, to maintain household expenditure they are joining

in SHG. Majority of respondents are belongs to the groups which were established 5 yr. ago. After joining SHG the women are economically and socially empowered [3].

The study states that rural women had a very low level of education. Women respondents earned an amount of Rs.20, 000 on an average annually from the various sources. By doing small income generating activities they can help the family for financially, through the help of self-help groups.

The study has revealed that different agro processing SHGs, classified under four groups of fish processing, copra processing, powder makes and ready-to-eat items making, behave differently in their socio-economic and group characters. The article says that performance of SHGs is influenced more by the experience indirectly by the age rather than the education level. It is revealed that group stability is influenced. Analysis has revealed that significant socio-economic characters that contribute towards group performance in general, are management-orientation [4].

Research Methodology

Topic of the research study” A studies on life style of women members through self-help groups”. The research design in this study will incorporate the following steps, which the researcher has to deal with:

- A brief study done with reference to microfinance
- The researcher had to have a critical analysis of similar studies, formulate research questions. These research questions will lead to the problem statements.

Objectives of the study

To study improved life style of women members in self-help groups.

Hypotheses formulation with reference to the objectives

H1: Self-help group shows positive impact on improved life style of women members.

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The methodology that would be adopted to address the earlier objectives and test the hypotheses formulated is as follows:

Data requirement and sources: Data is collected from the Micro finance office at Bibinagar village and SHG member in Bibinagar village. While preparing the questionnaire, the objectives are the hypotheses to test will be taken into account. The data will relate to the demographic variables [5,6].

Identification of a sampling design in case of a survey: The population in this study could be city, an area segment. Therefore, the size of the representative sample will be decided and proper sampling process will be worked out. Specification of statistical techniques Univariate tools such as tables, charts could be used to introduce the sample characteristics to the reader. Bivariate tool such as anova could be used to highlight the relationship between the variable in the sample (Table 1).

Above Table 1 shows that out of 6 variables 5 variables are greater

- From the study it has been observed that 98 percent of members are above poverty line not after joining Microfinance. As per ANOVA Table 1 shows that there is no effect of joining Microfinance to improve their empowerment.
- 75 percent of the members are from the Nuclear family there itself shows that they are empowered.
- From the study 95 percent of the member are attending social gatherings these shows there is improved life style.
- The member have control over the loan is 45 percent remaining loan control is done by spouse.
- It has been observed from the study the members are not expose to the violence i.e. 97 percent.
- 100 percent of the members repaying the loans.

Observed that most of the member the loan allotted to them is given for his spouse helping their business.

S. No			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig
1.	Do you have gas at home	Between Groups	0.088	2	0.044	0.914	0.404
		Within Groups	4.662	97	0.048		
		Total	4.750	99			
2.	Do you have TV at home	Between Groups	0.004	2	0.002	0.173	0.842
		Within Groups	0.986	97	0.010		
		Total	0.990	99			
3.	Do you have minimum gold at home	Between Groups	0.100	2	0.050	0.368	0.693
		Within Groups	13.210	97	0.136		
		Total	13.310	99			
4.	Do you have fan at home	Between Groups	0.000	2	0.000	.	.
		Within Groups	0.000	97	0.000		
		Total	0.000	99			
5.	Do you have two wheeler at home	Between Groups	2.558	2	1.279	1.674	.193
		Within Groups	74.082	97	0.764		
		Total	76.640	99			
6.	Do you have cell phone	Between Groups	0.887	2	0.444	0.581	0.561
		Within Groups	74.023	97	0.763		
		Total	74.910	99			

Table 1: Impact of life style of women members in SHG ANOVA.

than P variable i.e. 0.05 have null hypothesis rejected alternative hypothesis accepted. This shows that there is significance difference between groups [7,8].

Findings and Conclusion

The study was conducted for Microfinance members in the area of Bibinagar. For the study 100 member are taken randomly. Distributed the questionnaire and personal interviews have been carried with observational study. As per the study the object is formed “to study the economic empowerment of women in Microfinance” and the hypothesis this was tested with the help of frequency table mean median and anova and the following finding have been revealed from the study proving hypothesis rejection”. Microfinance shows positive impact on the women empowerment”-rejected.

- 58 percent of Microfinance member are between the age group of 25-40.
- Majority of the women in this group have completed their secondary education this shows that the members are considerable educated.

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