

Research Paper :

## Skill development in rural women through stencil printing

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### ABSTRACT

Stencil printing is one of the primitive arts which is easiest amongst all printing techniques and also is comparatively cheaper. Thus, an attempt was made to train rural women in stencil printing technique so that they could start their own entrepreneurial unit. Training on stencil printing was imparted to thirty women of Kaimari village of Hisar district. The existing knowledge level of respondents regarding stencil printing technique was judged using self-structured knowledge inventory and after training, the post-exposure knowledge level was judged using the same inventory. The pre and post scores were obtained and gain in knowledge was calculated. Implementation of acquired knowledge was also studied. Results highlighted that training in the stencil printing technique was found to be very effective as there was significant gain in knowledge on various aspects of stencil printing technique at 5 per cent level of significance. Results also indicated that one third of the respondents were willing to start their entrepreneurial unit after acquiring knowledge in stencil printing technique. Hence, it can be concluded that economic status of rural women can be improved, if they adopt skilled based activity like stencil printing for earning money.

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A well known psychologist David Maclelland proclaimed “entrepreneurship could be developed through planned and structured motivational training”. In a country like India cultivation of spirit of entrepreneurship amongst rural women is absolutely imperative. This is because rural women are mostly engaged in performing labour intensive task, which continue to consume most of the time, causing a lot of drudgery and also lack of job opportunities in rural market. Hence, need of the hour is to promote such an environment in which majority of women are willing to take up income generating activities which can be achieved by providing them skill based training that will not only make them economically sound but also will be a step forward in the economic and social development of our country.

Womenfolk, who possess skill in many arts and crafts if given adequate training, can effectively earn for family or be a self-earner (Dikshit and Chek, 1985).

Newport (1999) emphasized that in rural communities, entrepreneurial quality is a felt need for the development of the society. Clearly the vigour of entrepreneurship happens to be one of the best ways towards self-sufficiency and poverty alleviation for women in a country where employment is not guaranteed.

However, to become an entrepreneur in a rural area or elsewhere, there should be adequate financial resources along with proper technical know how.

Empowerment enables rural women to overcome the most difficult barriers in life. Rural women need support, counselling and training to become empowered. This training in empowerment is the most significant component of the entire development programme for entrepreneurship of rural women (Neelima and Swaroop, 2000).

Stencil printing is one of the primitive arts which is easiest amongst all the printing techniques and also is comparatively cheaper. Thus, an attempt was made to train rural women in the technique of stencil printing so that they could start their own entrepreneurial unit

Hence, looking into the above facts, the present research work was formulated to impart technical training to rural women and to study knowledge acquisition and its implementation regarding stencil printing.

### EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

The present study was conducted to develop stencil printing designs for skill development in rural women for entrepreneurship. The methodological approach followed