

Income generating activities through self-help group women in Junagadh district of Gujarat state

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ABSTRACT

In the present study an attempt was made to find out income generating activities carried out for empowerment of women by self-help groups. Making the detergent powder and soap, dairy cooperative, milk product, petty business, handicraft are the main activities carried out by the self-help groups women. The study was conducted in three Taluka of Junagadh district of Gujarat state. The data were collected through personal interview methods. The study revealed that self-help group women actively participated in dairy cooperative (55.00 per cent), handicraft (45.50 per cent) and milk product (36.50 per cent) and making of detergent, soap and powder (24.50 per cent).

Key words : Self-help group, Empowerment, Income generating activities

Self-Help Group (SHG) is an important source to increase woman's participation in different working activities at village level. These are effective means to broaden their area of interest, work and participation and thereby making them economically sound and self reliant. The income generating activities like making the detergent powder and soap, dairy cooperative, milk product, petty business, handicraft are the main activities carried out by the self-help group women.

The study was conducted in Saurashtra zone of Gujarat state covering, Junagadh district. Among 15 Talukas of Junagadh district, three Talukas were selected randomly from Junagadh district. After selection of three Talukas three villages from each taluka were selected randomly. Total 200 respondents were selected from 20 SHG groups of 10 members from each SHGs purposively.

The data were collected with the help of interview schedule by conducting personal interview. For the measurement of various variables, suitable scales developed by various social scientists were used. Mean and per cent were used to analyze the data.

In the present study, an attempt was made to find out activities performed by women in empowerment of the self-help group. The respondents were asked open-ended questions to enlist the income generative activities

carried out by self-help groups. Results are presented in Table 1.

From Table 1 it is concluded that the majority (55.00 per cent) of the women were engaged in activity of dairy of cooperative and were ranked first followed by of handicraft (45.50 per cent), milk product (36.50 per cent)

Table 1 : Main activities performed by the self-help group women (n = 200)

Sr. No.	Activities	Frequency	Per cent	Rank
1.	Detergent and soap, powder	49.00	24.50	IV
2.	Handicraft	91.00	45.50	II
3.	Dairy cooperative	110.00	55.00	I
4.	Milk product	73.00	36.50	III
5.	Vermicompost	5.00	2.50	V

and making of detergent, soap and powder (24.50 per cent) and women actively participated and were ranked second, third and fourth, respectively. Whereas, less number of women were engaged in making of vermicompost (2.50 per cent) and were ranked fifth. Kumar (2007) and Singh *et al.* (2007) also conducted studies on women activities in self-help group.

From the above discussion, it can be concluded that the women Can start their own independent business to income generating source. They was not dependent in male member and can actively participate in the self-help group activities. With the help of SHG they received training in income generating activities and the social and economical empower achieved.

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