

Entrepreneurial uniqueness of self-help group women in Junagadh district of Gujarat

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ABSTRACT

In the present study, attempt has been made to know the entrepreneurial uniqueness self-help groups women in Junagadh district of Gujarat state. The study was conducted in three Taluka like Kodinar, Keshod and Vanthli randomly selected in Junagadh district. The information about personal, socio-economic characteristics and aspect of social change were collected through personal interview. From this study it could be revealed that majority of the SHG women were of middle age, educated up to Primary School level and more, medium size of family, had joint family, low annual income, marginal and small land holding, daily labour in agriculture and allied activities.

INTRODUCTION

Women empowerment is critical to the process of the development of the community. Bringing women into the mainstream of development has been a major concern of the government since independence. Yet, despite of significant steps taken by the government, the participation of women in all walks of life varies in the context of differences in the social, economic, cultural and regional factors. It is being increasingly realized that the goal of poverty alleviation cannot be achieved without the full and active participation of women who constitute a large section of the work force in our country. In order to empower women and bring them into the mainstream, an enabling environment with requisite policies and programmes, institutional mechanisms at various levels and adequate financial resources have been created. There is hardly any study so far conducted and reported on this important aspect. Hence, this study was confined to investigate the entrepreneurial uniqueness of self-help group women.

METHODOLOGY

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.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been summarized under following heads:

Age:

A perusal of the data in Table 1, reveals that 62.00 per cent of the self-help groups women were found in middle age group. The observed findings might be due to the fact that generally in the rural community system, the head of families who in majority cases belonged to middle age and used to take decision in all activities.

Education:

The data presented in Table 1 also reveal that maximum 44.00 per cent self-help groups women had Primary level education,

Key words :

Self help group,
Empowerment,
age, Annual
income, Social
participation

Accepted :
July, 2010