

Constraints faced by rural women in availing benefits from different women development programmes

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ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted in Parbhani, Gangakhed, Manvat and Selu Talukas of Parbhani district of Maharashtra state. The two villages from each Taluka were selected purposively, where maximum number of beneficiaries of women development programmes were observed. Thus, total eight villages were selected. From each village, fifteen respondents were selected randomly. Thus, 120 respondents were selected for study purpose and from the study it was found that the majority of the rural women were found in young age, illiterate, had medium economic empowerment, belonged to higher caste, married, agriculture + labouring occupation, medium size of family, medium social participation, medium annual income and medium sources of information. It was observed that majority of the rural women faced the constraints viz., lack of knowledge about various women development programmes, requires more time for sanctioning, constant follow up was required, delay in disbursement of benefits, harassment by the official, lack of knowledge about documentary requirement. The collection of documents was the time consuming, lack of knowledge about filling the application etc.

KEY WORDS : Personal, Socio-economic, Profile, Characteristics, Rural women, Constraints

Sakore, L.R. and Deshmukh, P.R. (2010). Constraints faced by rural women in availing benefits from different women development programmes, *Adv. Res. J. Soc. Sci.*, 1 (2) : 182-184.

INTRODUCTION

Rural development is a complex and challenging process in which women can play a significant and crucial role. In rural India, the high rate of illiteracy and low economic status of women underline the need for increasing their earning power by providing them income generating assets provision of employment opportunities and income to rural women is one way to improve their nutrition, health, education and social status. In most developing countries, greater emphasis is laid on the need for development of rural women and their active involvement in the mainstream of development. In India, the government, to improve the status of rural women is making too sincere efforts, especially those below the poverty line through different schemes of rural women development. Since independence, sincere attempts have been made by the Government to rationalize the status of women through the execution of various plans and programmes. Efforts had been started by the setting up of the Central Social Welfare Board in 1953. Hence, the study was undertaken

with the following specific objectives to study the personal and socio-economic characteristics of rural women and constraints faced by the rural women in availing benefits from different women development programmes

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Parbhani, Gangakhed, Selu and, Manvat Talukas of Parbhani district of Maharashtra state. Two villages from each Talukas were selected purposively, where maximum number of beneficiaries of women development programmes were observed. Thus, total eight villages were selected. From each village, fifteen respondents were selected randomly. Thus, 120 respondents were selected for study purpose. The dependent variables taken for study were knowledge and benefits, independent variables studies were age, education, women empowerment, caste, marital status, occupation, size of family, social participation, annual income and sources of information. The data were collected with the help of specially designed structured

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