



Research Article

Socio-economic status of the self-help groups under West Bengal Comprehensive Area Development Corporation

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SUMMARY : This study was carried out in Haringhata Block, comprising rural areas and villages in the district of Nadia under West Bengal Comprehensive Area Development Corporation (WBCADC). This study was conducted to assess the socio-economic status and to find out the extend of success in generation of the income of the member of SHGs maintained or supervised under West Bengal Comprehensive area Development Corporation. 10 SHGs were randomly selected out of 350 SHGs, by using the cluster sampling approach or technique. The data were processed into frequency and percentage, mean and method of paired comparisons. From this study, it can be inferred that a sporadic attempt had been made by the Corporation for successful implementation with their proper planning at the local level for their overall development. Also, they offered the proper care and nourishment of the group members and their activities in those certain areas. This study proved that their average monthly income had been enhanced. The members had tremendous energy and efforts to start their own enterprises provided the appropriate opportunities.

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Key Words :

Socio-economic status, Omprehensive, Self help group

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Of late there is a paradigm shift in development process by incorporating programmes for self-employment for the poor in rural areas. This is one of the important components of anti-poverty and rural development strategy adopted by West Bengal Comprehensive Area Development Corporation (WBCADC), State Government of West Bengal. ogramme was launched by the corporation in 2003. Other different development programmes like IRDP, TRYSEM, SITKA, GKY and MWS, were implemented by central Govt. all over the rural areas in India.

The objective of the programme under WBCADC was to bring the assisted poor family members above the poverty line by ensuring appreciably sustained level of income. This objective was to be achieved by inter alia, organizing the rural poor into SHGs through the process of social mobilization, their training and

capacity building and provision of income generating assets. The group approach helps the poor to build their self-confidence through community action.

West Bengal Comprehensive Area Development Corporation at a glance:

The West Bengal Comprehensive Area Development Corporation popularly known as CADC, is a statutory autonomous body formed in 1974, with a view to bring about all round development of rural economy through an integrated approach towards diverse activities viz., irrigation, agriculture, animal husbandry, fishery, literary, preventive health, women and children development, rural industries, farmers co-operatives etc., for putting this model approach to test. Being an unique concept that had not been tried earlier, many practical difficulties surfaced during the initial stages of its implementation. Accordingly original model had to be revised and modified from time to time.

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