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Impact On Self-Help Groups Under Rural Development In India

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Abstract
Self-help Group development for the rural poor and marginalized It is recognized by the government and utilized for programmes, loans, subsidies, small and micro business, formal registration The purpose of the SHGs is to build the functional capacity of the poor and the marginalized in the field of employment and income generating activities People are Decision is based on the principles of consensus The belief and commitment by an individual that through the group their standard of living improve Savings the foundation on which to build the group for collective action. the remains a fact that barring certain location limitations, rural areas do throw ample opportunities for installation of micro enterprises by making use of untapped manpower resources, available raw material of various forms, and existing market channels. Given the financial support, together with appropriate knowledge and skill input, the poor people, in general, have the propensity to make better use of labour and capital SHGs are novel and innovative organizational setup in India for the women upliftment and welfare. All women in India are given chance to join any one of SHGs for training and development, and prospective entrepreneur and skilled worker. The SHGs are promoted by the Government as if women in India may not be resourceful enough to be entrepreneurs. When the SHGs arrange training facilities to carry out certain kind of work which are suitable for women in India, bank must arrange financial assistance to carry out manufacturing and trading activities, arranging marketing facilities while the Governments will procure the product of SHGs, team works arrange for enhancing the capacity of women in terms of leadership quality and arranging for the management of SHGs by themselves so as to have administrative capacity. As a social movement with government support.

Introduction
A self help group defined as a group consisting of people who have personal experience of a similar issue or life situation, either directly or through their family and friends. Self help groups are formed voluntarily by the rural and urban poor to save and contribute to a common fund to be lent to its members as per group decision and for working together for social and economic uplift of their families It was first necessary to be clear what we and our intended respondents meant by the terms we were using, and to set the limits of our study. We chose for our purposes to define SHGs as groups of women whose primary purpose is to save and then to take loans, initially from their own funds but eventually from a bank. We excluded SHGs whose members are mixed or all male, not because such groups do not exist, but because 90% of all SHGs which have borrowed from banks in India only have women members. In India SHGs are formed for a variety of purposes and by a variety of people.
Self-help group is a method of organising the poor people and the marginalized to come together to solve their individual problem. The SHG method is used by the government, NGOs and others worldwide. The poor collect their savings and save it in banks. In return they receive easy access to loans with a small rate of interest to start their micro unit enterprise. Thousands of the poor and the marginalized population in India are building their lives, their families and their society through Self help groups. The 9th five year plan of the government of India had given due recognition on the importance and the relevance of the

ISSN:0971-1260
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Self-help group method to implement developmental schemes at the grassroots level. This paper focuses on SHGs formed by rural people (mostly women) with the objective of improving their livelihoods through collective savings and investments in income-generating activities. NABARD (1997) captures this by defining SHGs as "small, economically homogenous affinity groups of rural poor, voluntarily 9formed to save and mutually contribute to a common fund to be lent to its members as per the group members' decision".

Methodology

Present study is based on secondary data was collected from various census reports, books, journals and articles periodicals and reports of the Government and other used in websites in self help group in India.

Objectives

1. Self-help group of organizing the poor people and the marginalized to come together to solve their individual problem.
2. To discuss the issues arising from the practice and concept of the self-help group
3. To develop research on women empowerment works and savings for SHGs in India
4. To assess how can women promote India's economic development through SHG's.

SHGs in Women Empowerment

Self-help groups (SHGs) are a widely practiced model for social and economic mobility by NGOs and the government. SHGs provide women with the opportunity to manage loans and savings that can be used by members for varying needs. SHGs also are used to promote social change among the members and the community at large. Members of SHGs have used their experiences as leverage to enter other local institutions such as the Rural, low caste, and tribal women also make up 70% of domestic workers in India, a sector which is largely unregulated and unorganized. India's growing economy has allowed for many upper and middle-class women to enter the workforce, and while poor rural women have little access to education and training, there is a high demand for domestic workers in urban hubs. , power with and power within. Some define empowerment as a process of awareness and conscientization,

Women's empowerment in India is heavily dependent on many different variables that include geographical location (urban/rural), educational status, social status (caste and class), and age. Policies on women's empowerment exist at the national, state, and local (Panchayat) levels in many sectors, including health, education, economic opportunities, gender-based violence, and political participation. However, there are significant gaps between policy advancements and actual practice at the community level. The impact of the patriarchal structure can be seen in rural and urban India, although women's empowerment in rural India is much less visible than in urban areas. This is of particular concern, since much of India is rural despite the high rate of urbanization and expansion of cities. Rural women, as opposed to women in urban settings, face inequality at much higher rates, and in all spheres of life. Urban women and, in particular, urban educated women enjoy relatively higher access to economic opportunities, health and education, and experience less domestic violence. Women (both urban and rural) who have some level of education have higher decision-making power in the household and the community. Furthermore, the level of women's education also has a direct implication on maternal mortality rates, and nutrition and health indicators among children.

ISSN:0971-1260
Vol-22- Issue-14-December-2019

Characteristics of SHGs

The important characteristics of self help groups are as follows :
They usually create a common fund by contributing their small savings on a regular basis. The SHG method is used by the government, NGOs and others worldwide. The poor collect their savings and save it in banks. In return they receive easy access to loans with a small rate of interest to start their micro unit enterprise. A life of dignity is the right of every citizen. Poverty is an obstruction to a dignified life. Self employment is a significant step to have sustained incomes and remove the shackles of poverty. Programme for self-employment of the poor has been an important component of the antipoverty rogrammes implemented through government initiatives in the rural areas of India. Governments have introduced an effective Self-Employment programme ‘Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar’, or SGSY This new programme has been launched from April 1999. This is a holistic programme covering all aspects of self employment such as organisation of the poorin to self help groups, training, credit, technology, infrastructure and marketing. SGSY will be funded by the centre and the states.

Self Help Groups (SHGs)

Villages are faced with problems related to poverty illiteracy, lack of skills health care etc. These are problems that cannot be tackled individually but can be better solved through group efforts. Today these groups known as Self help groups have become the vehicle of change for the poor and marginalized. Self-help group is a method of organising the poor people and the marginalized to come together to solve their individual problem. The SHG method is used by the government, NGOs and others worldwide. The poor collect their savings and save it in banks. In return they receive easy access to loans with a small rate of interest to start their micro unit enterprise. Thousands of the poor and the marginalized population in India are building their lives, their families and their society through Self help groups. The 9th five year plan of the government of India had given due recognition on the importance and the relevance of the Self-help group method to implement developmental schemes at the grassroots level.

Need and Importance of Self Help Group

Self help groups are necessary to overcome exploitation, create confidence for the economic self-reliance of rural people, particularly among women who are mostly invisible in the social structure. These groups enable them to come together for common objective and gain strength from each other to deal with exploitation, which they are facing in several forms. A group become the basis for action and change. It also helps buildings of relationship for mutual trust between the promoting organization and the rural poor through constant contact and genuine efforts. Self help groups plays an important role in differentiating between consumer credit and production credit, analyzing the credit system for its implication and changes in economy, culture and social position of the target groups, providing easy access to credit and facilitating group/organization for effective control, ensuring repayments and continuity through group dynamics; setting visible norms for interest rates, repayment schedules, gestation period, extension, writing of bad debts; and assisting group members in getting access to the formal credit institutions. Thus, self help group disburses microcredit to the rural women for the purpose of making them enterprising women and encouraging them to enter into entrepreneurial activities.

Concept of Self Help Group

The concept of self help groups had its origin in the co-operative philosophy and the co-operators by and large, including the National Federations in the credit sector, could not think

ISSN:0971-1260
Vol-22- Issue-14-December-2019

of any better SHG than a primary co-operative credit society itself.2 As SHG are small and economically homogenous affinity groups of rural poor, they are voluntarily coming together for achieving the following.

- To save small amount of money regularly.
- To mutually agree to contribute a common fund.
- To meet their emergency needs.
- To have collective decision making.
- To solve conflicts through collective leadership mutual discussion.
- To provide collateral free loan with terms decided by the group at the market driven rates.

Today, the self help group movement is increasingly accepted as an innovation in the field of rural credit in many developing countries including India to help the rural poor considered a vehicle to reach the disadvantaged and marginalized section, which in the normal course cannot avail of credit facility from the bank.

- To create a habit of savings, utilization of local resources.
- To mobilize individual skills for group's interest.
- To create awareness about right.
- To assist the members financial at the rime of need.
- To development.
- To identify problems, analyzing and finding solutions in the groups.
- To act as a media for socio-economic development of village.
- To develop linkage with institution of NGOs.
- To organize training for skill development.
- To help in recovery of loans.
- To gain mutual understanding, develop trust and self-confidence.
- To build up teamwork.

The self help group disburses microcredit to the rural women for the purpose of making them enterprising women and encouraging them to fulfilled totally through the SHGs.

SHGs enhance equality of status of women as participation, decision-makers and beneficiaries in the democratic, economic, social and cultural spheres of life. The rural poor are in-capacitated due to various reasons such as; most of them are socially backward, illiterate, with low motivation and poor economic base. Individually, a poor is not weak in socio-economic term but also lacks access to the knowledge and information, which are the most important components of today's development process.

Functions of SHGs

Functions of SHG are the following :-

Enabling members to become self-reliant and self-dependent. Providing a forum for members for discussing their social and economic problems. Enhancing the social status of members by virtue of their being members of the group. Providing a platform for members for exchange of idea. Developing and encouraging the decision making capacity of members. Fostering a spirit of mutual help and cooperation among members. Instilling in members a sense of strength and confidence which they need for solving their problems. Providing organizational strength to members. Providing literacy and increasing general awareness among members, and Promoting numerically and equipping the poor with basic skills required for understanding monetary transactions.

- They usually create a common fund by contributing their small savings on a regular basis.
- The groups evolve a flexible system of operations often with the help of the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and manage their common pooled resource in a democratic manner.

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Vol-22- Issue-14-December-2019

- Groups consider loan requests in periodical meetings, with competing claims on limited resources being settled by consensus regarding greater needs.
- Loaning is mainly on the basis of mutual need and trust with minimum documentation and without any tangible security.
- The amounts loaned are small, frequent and for short duration.
- Rates of interest vary from group to group depending upon the purpose of loans and are often higher than those of banks but lower than those of moneylenders.
- At periodical meetings, besides collecting money, emerging rural, social and economic issues are discussed.
- Defaulters are rare due to group pressure and intimate knowledge of the end use of the credit as also the borrower's economic resources.4

Pattern of leadership
Each group shall have leaders, who represent the group matters in various platforms. The nomenclature of leaders varies from region to region and state to state. The leaders are elected from the members on rotation. Leaders aid to democratic function of the group. The purpose of rotation is to see that the leadership qualities are developed among the members of the group. However, the experience in Andhra Pradesh indicates that the rotation of leadership apparently take place on the prescribed manner. The same leaders continue to hold the office and or influence the leadership.

Awareness of group
The group will create a awareness among the members and empowerment of members take place. The members will have to know the purpose of group formation, activities and operations, savings, credits etc. The members are expected to participate actively in the group discussion and decision making process. SHG helps to work as a cohesive group and will have transparency in the transactions.

Group activities
Savings and credit are the two important dimensions of SHG movement. Regularity in savings and method of dealing with defaulters are the important features of savings. The credit function of SHGs is judged by decision making process adopted credit requirement and quantum of loans sanctioned, system of monitoring credit repayment pattern etc. The group has to monitor their performance regularly Agriculture, Animal husbandry, Hosiery, Candle preparation, Cane items. Carpets, Khadi, leather items, Chicken shops, Mess, Mid day meals, Embroidery, School uniform stitching units, Brick making, Pot making, Spinning and weaving, Basket weaving, Saree business Candle making Woolen blankets weaving, Agarbatti making, Sale of fruits and pongamia seeds, Vegetable vending, Fenile making.

Conclusion
Rural Self Help Groups has a huge potential for future corporate development. Various initiatives are being started by government like promotion and development of Self Help Groups towards undertaking various activities for employment and Income generation. The approach of addressing issues related to empowerment of women from a holistic of view acknowledging the cross cutting linkages between economic, social and political identity of woman presents a new hope. There is increasing recognition that these factors are deeply intertwined and if efforts in any one dimension remains absent or weak, the outcome and momentum generated by the other components cannot be sustained, and that it is only when

ISSN:0971-1260
Vol-22- Issue-14-December-2019

all these three factors are addressed simultaneously and made compatible with each other can women be truly empowered.

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