

An Analytical Study of Micro Finance and Women Empowerment

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Article History	Abstract
<p>Received: 06 June 2023 Revised: 05 Sept 2023 Accepted: 18 Nov 2023</p> <p>CC License CC-BY-NC-SA 4.0</p>	<p><i>Self Help Groups enhance the equality of status of women as participants and decision makers in the democratic, economic, social and cultural sphere of life. The basic principles of SHG are group approach, mutual trust, organization of small and manageable groups, group cohesion, Thrift spirit, demand-based lending, collateral free loans, peer group pressure, skill training, capacity building and empowerment. At present, 1.40 lakh groups are functioning with 23.83 lakh members. It was found that Self Help Groups suffer due to lack of management skills, training, marketing, obtaining financial assistance, government support. Keeping this in mind, the present study is conducted to examine the efficacy of Self-Help Groups in the study area. It is found that 85 (34%) respondents have completed only primary education. It is found that 140 (56%) respondents have monthly income between Rs 10,001 to Rs 15,000. Therefore, it is suggested that informal groups can be formed on their own to create a reliable and potential source of income, increasing the earning capacity of SC women in Self Help Groups. It is concluded that formation of Self-Help Groups is part of the empowerment process and a micro-credit project.</i></p> <p>Keywords: Women Empowerment, Financial</p>

1. Introduction

Self-help groups enhance the equality of status of women as participants and decision makers in the democratic, economic, social and cultural spheres of life. The basic principles of self-help groups are group approach, mutual trust, organization of small and manageable groups, group cohesion, spirit of thrift, demand-based lending, collateral free loans, peer group pressure, skill training, capacity building and empowerment. Presently 1.40 lakh groups are functioning with 23.83 lakh members. It is believed that, Self Help Groups acquire management skills, training, marketing, obtaining financial assistance, government assistance etc. Keeping this in mind, the present study is being conducted to study the effectiveness of self-help groups and women empowerment in the study area.

Study of related research

According to Bloomberg (2016) researcher, loan system and group participation affects the society, which affects the participation of women. This is because women face peer group pressure and work under more pressure than men. Women are more dedicated towards fulfilling family responsibilities, the need for credit makes them more hardworking and they work on proportionate expenditure and investment which is favorable.

Chetna B., Dr. Mehta M. (2017) Study shows that SHGs have been promoted with a huge increase in the amount of subsidy given by the government. It also shows the annual repayment and positive trend. The study has shown that with the help of SHGs, debt can be reduced, they help to come out of the poverty trap. It is helpful in making the people of deprived class economically stronger.

Khandekar, Khan B. (2017) The author states that the repayment rate is higher in case of female groups as compared to male groups. Women's groups have a better chance of progressing, and working effectively, than men's groups. Every year from 1996 to 2012, men were more struggling and indebted; the loan rate of women group from Grameen Bank is lower than theirs.

Hang, Muir (2018) Development literature often says that women are more likely to put men's interests ahead of them, because their families come first, they are more likely to re-invest in their business if

credit can be easily obtained. They feel that their children will benefit from the business, hence they remain associated with the family for a long time.

Jakobson (2018) author says that men spend more on unnecessary items than on other products. They are more likely to spend money irrationally. Whether they spend the credit for expenses, spending is higher on entertainment or luxury items, such as cigarettes and radios. This tendency is less in women. Due to which they can easily collect financial resources.

Morch, Nafizgar (2019) The author suggests that micro-entrepreneurial development programs supported by women microfinance can be expanded in the country. Women can be more successful than male micro entrepreneurs. One of the first microfinance programs was with the help of Grameen Bank (GB) Bangladesh, which had more than a million customers repaying loans through group loans in the 1990s, with rates of over 90%.

Khandekar (2019) author says that women have loan default rates which can be said to be less than one third especially compared to men. There were programs related to microcredit in Bangladesh. The benefit was particularly greater for Bangladeshi women, many of whom faced social restrictions and social pressures. For all three microcredit programs studied, the impact on income and household consumption was double when women were borrowers. This study of three projects has been carried out with the assistance of Gramin Bank, Bangladesh Gramin Unnati Samiti.

Nable, Wright (2020) This program was started by Muhammad Yunus, Founder Grameen Bank, on which the problems of rural credit and micro finance could be solved. The author has observed that when women are debtors and beneficiaries, they pay more attention to children and home. But in case of a man the beneficiaries are himself and his friends.

Nedumaren, Sandhya Sharma (2021) This paper shows that the performance and social economic impact of SHGs has been found in Tamil Nadu, where there was an increase of 23 per cent of SHGs, and the net income by SHGs was 10 per cent of pre-SHGs. The situation has improved considerably compared to the previous situation. After joining self-help, the conditions of social members have also improved a lot.

Significance of the study

Self-help groups are a path towards empowerment of rural people and the ultimate goal of improving the social and economic status of rural women. The results of this study may be helpful to NGOs, or the government and other concerned people when deciding on matters that may be of equal importance with respect to their areas of interest. It is also helpful for empowerment of women.

Objectives of the study

1. To analyze the impact of the training program on the respondents.
2. To find out the relationship between characteristics and socio-economic reasons for joining SHGs.
3. To work to make appropriate suggestions based on the findings.
4. To lay emphasis on empowerment of women.

Hypothesis

H01 There is no significant difference between socioeconomic statuses: characteristics of members and reasons for joining SHG (Self Help Group) and empowerment.

Sample Design and Methodology

The study is limited to women of self-help groups in Raipur district belonging to self-help groups. This study is based on primary data collected by the researcher. Interview schedule has been used; data has been collected from sample respondents using random sampling. The study is based on data collected from 150 respondents. To analyze the data for the test, the researcher took advantage of the tool Garatt Ranking, Techniques like chi-square analysis and frequency analysis will be used for effective interpretation. Table 4.1 shows a list of researchers, articles and book chapters for the research. He has directly and indirectly considered the analytical study and development factors of micro finance and women empowerment in Chhattisgarh state of India.

Table 4.1 List of researchers and articles for them Frequency analysis

S.No	Author Name	Title of the Article
1.	Sharma, Malini	Impact of micro credit participation on health status of women in the context of urban areas of Delhi.

2.	Kumari, Lalita	Empowering women through microfinance in India An empirical analysis using evidence from Self Help Groups in Haryana
3	Kannammal A	A study on the issues and challenges of microfinance institutions and their performance with respect to rural women self-help groups in Erode district.
4.	Nagaraji B.	An investigation on the role of Self Help Groups in women empowerment in the context of Vellore district of Tamil Nadu.
5.	Manjhi, Sunil Kumar	Impact of Microfinance on Rural Women through Self Help Group Bank Linkage Program SBLP and Microfinance Institutions MFIs A Comparative Study
6.	Sharma, Khama	Microfinance and rural women empowerment a study of Purulia district of West Bengal
7.	Tiwari Rakesh	Management of Microfinance A Study on SHGs in Ningshen, Pamchuiso, Manipur State
8.	Sharma Janhvi,	Sharma Diksha Case Study of Microfinance and Self Help Groups_Assam Bhuiyan, Sampoorna
9.	K Govinda Reddy	An Analytical Study of Microfinance in India A Comparative Study of Female Self Help Groups with Male Self Help Groups in Meerut District
10	Ishwar Prasad, Purushottam	A study of the financial impact of microfinance on women self-help groups in Nashik Municipal Corporation area during 2000 to 2010.
11.	Shantha P	Economic Analysis of Microfinance Self Help Groups Case Study of Chennai City and its Periphery
12.	Padmalatha	C Function and Impact of Microfinance A Study of Self Help Groups SHGs in Baksa and Udalguri Districts of Assam.
13.	Sambrani, Prakash Ku	A study on the role of women self-help groups in promoting rural development through microfinance in Madurai district
14.	Selvalakshmi N Priya Kumari	Impact of Microfinance on Rural Women Empowerment A Comparative Study of Selected Self Help Groups of Kerala and Karnataka
15.	Gupta Vandana	Impact study of outreach and microfinance of self-help groups in rural Uttar Pradesh
16.	Krishna Murthy,	Optimization of Performance through Self Help Group Bank Linkage Program in Microfinance Space in Bangalore Rural District
17.	Mishra Shiv kumar	Role of microfinance in entrepreneurship development
18.	Kishore Kumar, C.M.	Microfinance and Livelihoods of Urban Poor A Study of Women Self Help Groups in Slums of Visakhapatnam Andhra Pradesh
19.	Agrawal Pooja	Impact of Micro Credit through Self Help Groups in Rural Orissa Jagatsinghpur District Behara, A Study by Alok Ranjan
20.	Krishna Murthy, N.B.	Function and Impact of Microfinance A Study of Self Help Groups SHGs in Baksa and Udalguri Districts of Assam
21.	Mithilesh Kumar Jha	Impact of micro credit participation on health status of women in the context of urban areas of Delhi.
22.	Gavati, S, Bansal, Deepti	Impact of Microfinance on Poverty, Employment and Women Empowerment in Rural Punjab
23.	Sambrani, Diganta Kumar	Microfinance through Self Help Groups SHGS and its impact on socio economic development of tribal communities A case study of Lakhimpur district of Assam
24.	P. Uday Kumar, Danti Kumari	Role of Microfinance Institutions in Promoting Self Help Groups in Haryana Kaur, Amandeep

Table 4.2 Frequency Table for Frequency-Analysis

S.No	Aspect of Development	Article Number	Frequency
1.	Business strategy	1,2,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24	23
2.	Changing Buying Behavior	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,	21
3.	Cost Effectiveness	9,10,12,15,16,20,23	7
4.	Customer Care Help	4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,	12
5.	Customer Satisfaction	2,4,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,20,22	14
6.	Demographic Issues	6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,20,22,23,24	12
7.	Economic Empowerment	1,2,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24	21
8.	Education Promotion	10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20	11

9.	Firm Type and Market Values	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16, 19,20,21	21
10.	Access to Resources	11,12,13,14,15,16,17,20,20	9
11.	Government Rules and Regulations	10,11,12,13,14,15,20	7
12.	Internet Growth	2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,	18
13.	Family Environments	5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20	19
14.	Product Range and Availability	,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,20,22	9
15.	Quality and Product Limit	1,2,4,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,20,22,	15
16.	Security	5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17, 18,19,20,21,22,23,24	20
17.	Social Cultural Effect	10,11,12,13,14,15	6
18.	Social Media	7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,20	10
19.	Technical Development	1,2,4,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,20,22, 24	16
20.	Increase in Trust and Confidence	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24	24
21.	Supply Management Chain	11,12,13,14	4
22.	Employment Solution	2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21, 24	21
23.	Loan Facility	3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17, 20,21,22,23,24	20
24.	Information of Employment and Industry	3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17, 18,19,20,21,22,23,24	22

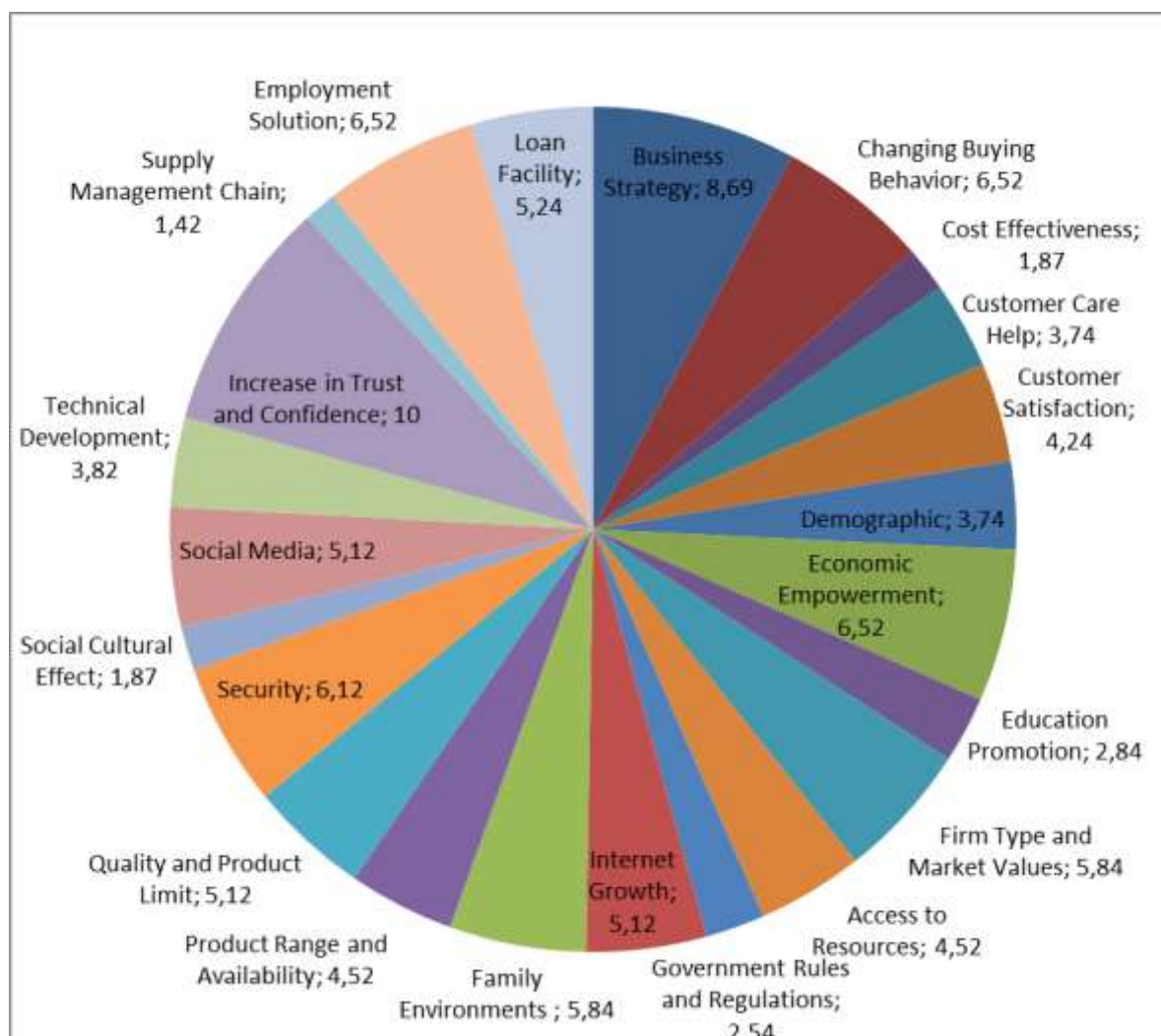
Explanation:

The purpose of Frequency Analysis is to count the given fact. Business strategy is 1.5 times as important a factor as the next listed item. This means that business strategy was cited 23 times in the 24 articles examined and cost effective was attributed to 7 situations. Business strategy covers a wide range of sub-disciplines, which includes business idea, financial features (advertising details and refund mechanism), advertising, distribution, distribution. Most authors consider these elements fundamental to the success of microfinance and women's empowerment. In contrast growth factor items such as demographics, tax benefits and so on are seen as unimportant in the system.

Table 4.3 Growth Indicators (Through Secondary Data)

S.No.	Growth Impact Factor	Frequency (F)	Percent (%)
1.	Business Strategy	23	8.69
2.	Changing Buying Behavior	21	6.52
3.	Cost Effectiveness	6	1.87
4.	Customer Care Help	12	3.74
5.	Customer Satisfaction	14	4.24
6.	Demographic Issues	12	3.74
7.	Economic Empowerment	21	6.52
8.	Education Promotion	11	2.84
9.	Firm Type and Market Values	19	5.84
10.	Access to Resources	9	4.52
11.	Government Rules and Regulations	7	2.54
12.	Internet Growth	18	5.12
13.	Family Environments	19	5.84
14.	Product Range and Availability	9	4.52
15.	Quality and Product Limit	15	5.12
16.	Security	20	6.12
17.	Social Cultural Effect	6	1.87
18.	Social Media	10	5.12
19.	Technical Development	16	3.82
20.	Increase in Trust and Confidence	24	10
21.	Supply Management Chain	4	1.42

22.	Employment Solution	21	6.52
23.	Loan Facility	20	5.24
24.	Information of Employment and Industry	22	6.82

Chart 4.1 Growth factor (through secondary data)

Explanations

The data listed in Table 4.2 refers to citations to published articles in the same order in which the Topics were mentioned and Table 4.3 lists the same topics in the same order. Because the list below restates those lists in approximately descending order of importance and clearly shows the growth factors observed in secondary sources.

So, business strategy is 1.5 times as major a factor as the next listed item. This means that business strategy was cited 23 times in the 24 articles examined and website interaction was attributed to 33 situations. Business strategy covers a wide range of sub-topics, including business ideas, financial characteristics (advertising statements and refund mechanisms), advertising, distribution, etc. Most authors consider these elements to be fundamental to the success of a site related to women empowerment under the Gram Vikas Yojana. Adverse growth factors such as demographics, tax benefits and other systems are seen as unimportant.

Finding

1. Impact of training program on women SHG members are in the order of marketing linkage, linkage with government. Officers, Bank Linkage, Skill Development, Knowledge on Rights, Entitlements and Development Programmes, Confidence Building, Increased Income and Earnings, Managerial Efficiency for Micro Enterprise Development, Active Participation in Decision Making within the family, Active Participation in Development Program and outside the family Increases active participation in decision making.
2. There is a significant relationship between monthly income and empowerment due to joining SHGs.

3. There is an important relationship between business and reason for joining SHG.
4. There is no significant relationship between marital status and work as a reason for joining SHG.
5. There is a significant relationship between educational qualification and the reason for joining SHGs.

Suggestions'

It was found that only 85 (34%) respondents have completed primary education. Therefore, it is suggested that NGOs can do the work of encouraging SC women to take up self-help groups, if possible, secondary education and higher education should be increased.

It was found that 24 (8.69%) respondents have monthly income between Rs 10,001 to Rs 15,000. Therefore, it is suggested that informal groups can be formed on their own to form self-help groups, the capacity of women in SHGs can be developed by providing them reliable and potential source of income to increase earnings.

4. Conclusion

Formation of Self-Help Groups "is not after all micro credit, it is a project to enhance the process of women empowerment". Its main objective is to empower women, women and others thus raising their families above the poverty line. It is a gradual process resulting from interaction with members of a group. Can lead to development through awareness and capacity building.

Within the SHG approach, empowerment is embodied at multiple levels. Its impact on various dimensions of women empowerment depends on the backwardness of SHGs, prevalent cultural practices and demographic problem of the area.

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