

EMPOWERMENT OF THE RURAL WOMEN THROUGH INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES

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ABSTRACT

The study entitled, "Empowerment of the Rural Women through Income Generating Activities", was carried in the villages of Delhi NCR. The villages visited by me in February 2019 to May 2019 for collection of the data related to study the rural women involved in income generating activities. Thus, 50 respondents were selected from the villages of Delhi NCR. Maximum respondent [20%] were of the 25-30, 46-50, 51-55 year age group while only 10 respondent were of 41- 45 year age group. According to their occupation maximum 40% were in farming while only 10% were self-employed and 10% were having no occupation. 28% were taken income generating activity for their poor economic condition and traditional practical while only 12% respondent taken income generating to busy assets. Non Monetary Benefit Maximum [30%] was respect from the society while only [8%] rural women were change cropping pattern and intensity.

KEYWORDS: *Income Generating Activities, Empowerment, Rural Women, Variables.*

Introduction

Empowerment is a multi-dimensional process, which should enable women or group of women to realize their full identity and power in all spheres of life. It consists of greater access to knowledge and resources, greater autonomy in decision making to enable them to have greater ability to plan their lives, or to have greater control over the circumstances that influence their lives and free from shocks imposed on them by custom, belief and practice. Generally development with justice is expected to generate the forces that lead to empowerment of various sections of population in a country and to raise their status especially in case of women. Women constitute half of the humanity, even contributing two-thirds of world's work hours. She earns only one-third of the total income and owns less than one-tenth of the world's resources. This shows the economic status of women is in pathetic condition and this is more so in a country like India. Among total Indian population of 1027.10 million, women constitute 495.73 million. Therefore "women constitute nearly 50 percent of population, perform two-thirds of the work and produce 50 percent of food commodities consumed by the country. They earn one third of remuneration a down 10 percent of the property or wealth of the country".

Research Methodology

Research Design- The research design of study was kept descriptive & experimental group was selected for study .Questionnaire method was used for collecting the information. Selection of Locality- The site of study was women of the villages of Delhi NCR. The villages visited by me in February 2019 to May 2019 for collection of the data related to study.

Type of Study

Random purposive selection Sample size- 50 Tools of Study- The main tool used in the study is pre-designed & pre- tested questionnaire which consisted of general & specific information required for the study. Collection of Data- The data was collected by filling up the questionnaire by interview method. While collecting the data, best efforts were made to maintain the accuracy, preciseness & relevancy of the answers.

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Observation and Assessment

Table 1: Distribution of Study Population by Age [N=50]

Age	Frequency	Percentage
25-30	10	20
31-35	8	16
36-40	7	14
41-45	5	10
46-50	10	20
51-55	10	20
Total	50	100

Figure 1

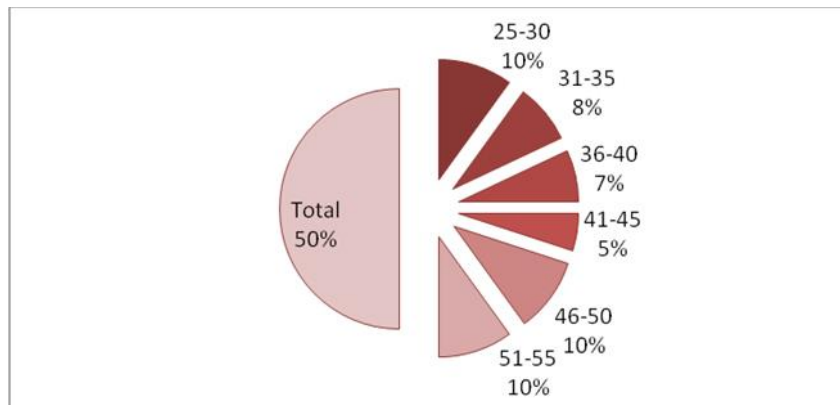


Table shows the distribution of respondent according to their age .Maximum respondent [20%] were of the 25-30, 46-50, 51-55 year age group while only 10 respondent were of 41-45 year age group

Table 2: Distribution of Population is According to their Occupation

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Farming	20	40
Government Job	10	20
Private Job	10	20
Self Employed	5	10
No One	5	10
Total	50	100

Figure 2

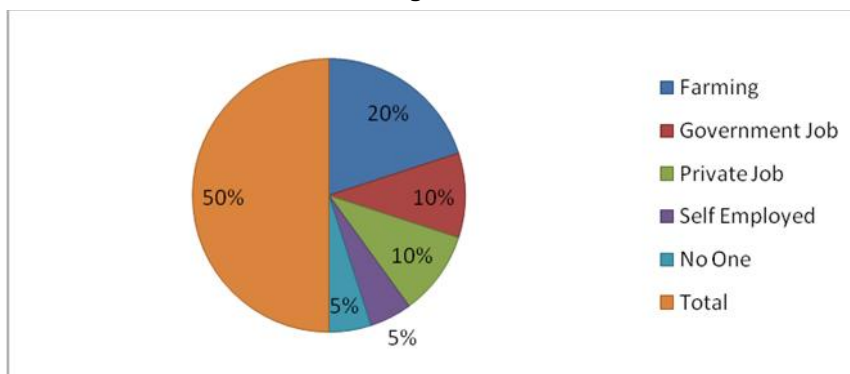


Table show the distribution of the respondent according to their occupation maximum 40% were in farming while only 10% were self-employed and 10% were having no occupation.

Table 3: Why you have taken Income Generating Activity

IGA	Frequency	Percentage
To buy assets	6	12
To pass time	8	16
Traditional Practice	14	28
Poor Economic Conditions	14	28
No Other Source of Income	8	16
Total	50	100

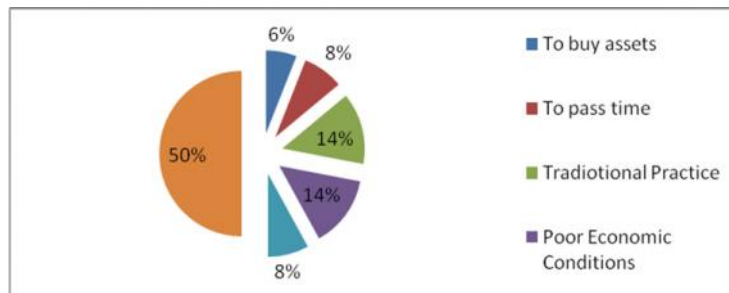
Figure 3

Table show the distribution of why you have taken income generating activity maximum [28%] were taken income generating activity for their poor economic condition and traditional practical while only 12% respondent taken income generating to buy assets.

Table 4: Non Monetary Benefits of the Respondent

Non Monetary Benefits	Yes		No	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Increased Communication Skills	10	20	0	0
Respect from the society	15	30	0	0
Respect from the family members	8	16	0	0
Increased confidence level	10	20	0	0
Cropping pattern & intensity changed	4	8	0	0
Household consumption of products	3	6	0	0
Total	50	100	0	0

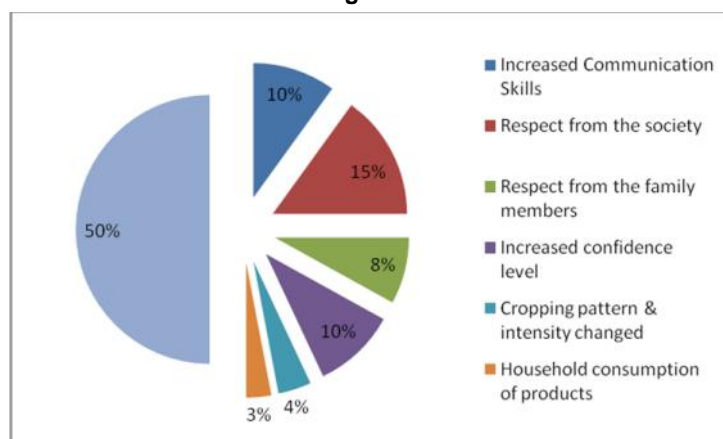
Figure 4

Table show the Distribution of respondent according to their Non Monetary Benefit Maximum [30%] was respect from the society while only [8%] rural women were change cropping pattern and intensity.

Conclusion

Women constitute half of humanity, even contributing two-thirds of world's work hours. Seems only one-third of the total income and owns less than one-tenth of the world's resources. This shows that the economic status of women is in pathetic condition and this is more so in a country like India. Empowerment comes from Women's groups who seek to empower themselves through greater self-reliance. They have right to determine their own choices in life. They also seek to gain control and access to resources. Income generating activities will be considered as those initiatives that affect the economic aspects of people's lives through the use of economic tools such as credit. It is being increasingly realized that women's income in a family is very important in relation to the nutritional, economic and educational upliftment of the family.

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