



CONSTRAINTS FACED BY WOMEN IN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES IN VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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Abstract:

Women are the builder and moulder of nation's destiny. Though delicate and soft as lily, she has a heart, far stronger and bolder than of man. She is supreme inspiration of man's onward march. 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. The present study was conducted to find out the "Constraints Faced by Women in Empowerment through Income Generating Activities in Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh." In Vishakhapatnam District Anakapalli Mandal was selected for data collection. Data was collected from 120 respondents randomly from 6 villages using pre-tested structured interview schedule and analyzed using frequency, percentage, scoring and coefficient of correlation. From this present study the major constraints faced by the respondents are Family restriction, Lack of education, Proper marketing facilities, Lack of proper guidance and financial limitations, Lack of resources, Lack of training and Lack of knowledge, skills and Mismanagement. It was suggested that Family should support to women for participating in different type of income generating activities followed by Women farmers should focus on increasing their education, Govt. should focus on increasing the Proper marketing facilities, Women empowerment organization should focus on proper guidance and different training programmes and Govt. & private organizations should provide funds for financial supports.

Keywords: Women Farmers, Women Empowerment, Constraints and Suggestions.



INTRODUCTION

Empowerment of rural women through income generating activities are 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. Economic independence or access to an inherited or self-generated income is considered as the major means of empowerment of women, to a great extent this is true as economic dependence is the worst form of dependence. To enable women to stand on their own legs, this strategy is attempted and advocated by many governments in this third world. Women's income in a family is very important in relation to their full identity and powers in all spheres of life. The self-help group provides an appropriate platform for initiating and sustaining income generating activities.

Income generating activities will be considered those initiatives that affect the economic aspects of people's lives through use of Economic tools such as credit. Other type of support affecting women's production is considered complementary to income generating activities. For e.g. these might include childcare or basic services provision And Labour saving Technologies. The limits of welfare- oriented response to this growing crisis are now well recognized. Alternatively, many development Agencies are increasing their emphasis on assisting woman to secure income through their own efforts. Such approaches are often categorized as income generating activities and cover initiatives as diverse are the small business promotion, Cooperative undertaking job creation scheme, sewing circle, credit and saving groups and youth training programmes.

Objectives:-

1. To find out the constraints faced by women in empowerment through income generating activities.



RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This section describes the approaches and methods employed for data collection and analysis. The first sub-section of this chapter presents the description of the study area. Then the details of methodology used to conduct the overall study were discussed in subsequent and sub-sections. Descriptive research design was used for the present study. Descriptive research design is used to describe the characteristics of a population or phenomenon being studies. Vishakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh state was selected purposively based on the involvement of maximum women farmers' income generating activities. There were 46 mandals in out of which Anakapalli mandal was selected purposively based on the involvement of maximum women farmers' income generating activities through the help of agricultural officer. There are 25 villages in Anakapalli mandal out of those which six villages were selected purposively based on the involvement of maximum women farmers' income generating activities. 120 numbers of respondents were selected for the present study. Randomly 20 number of farmers were selected from 6 villages with the help of village Sarpanch and agriculture supervisor of respective village (VLW) involvement in agriculture and respondents. The Primary data was collected with the help of personal interview technique, pre-tested structured interview schedule designed especially in the light of objectives setup for the study. The Secondary data was collected from library, journals, books, papers and the documents related to the study. For analyzing data frequency, percentage, scoring and coefficient of correlation were used as statistical tools. They were summarized while qualitative responses were tailed and finally prioritized in order to determine trends and patterns in the data and draw conclusions. It was analyzed on the spot during data collection to avoid missing of relevant information.



RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

Table-1: Socio-economic profile of the respondents

Sl.no	Socio-economic profile of the respondents		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age	Low (35 years)	33	27.50
		Medium (36-55 years)	56	46.67
		High (Above 55 years)	31	25.83
2.	Marital status	Married	71	59.17
		Un-married	26	21.67
		Divorced	23	19.16
3.	Religion	Hindu	73	60.83
		Muslim	26x	21.67
		Christian	21	17.5
4.	Caste	General	31	25.83
		OBC	36	30.00
		SC& ST	53	44.17
5.	Types of House	Mud house	41	34.16
		Semi-cemented	32	26.67
		Cemented	47	39.17
6.	Family Type	Nuclear	79	65.83
		Joint	41	34.17
7.	Family Size	Small (1-4)	79	65.83
		Medium(5-8)	29	24.17
		Large (8above)	12	10.00
8.	Occupation of Family	Agriculture	27	22.50
		Agriculture + labour	32	26.67
		Agriculture + business	41	34.16
		Agriculture + services	20	16.66
9.	Annual Income	Low (below 50,000)	29	24.17
		Medium (50,000-90,000)	51	42.5
		High (Above 90,000)	40	33.33
10.	Education Status	Illiterate	13	10.83
		Primary	25	20.83
		Upper Primary	26	21.67
		Secondary	17	14.17
		Higher Secondary	22	18.33
		Graduate & Above	17	14.17
11.	Land Holding	Low (0-5 acre)	60	50.00



		Medium (5-10 acre)	41	34.17
		High (Above 10 acre)	19	15.83
12.	Mass Media Exposure	Low (4-6)	27	22.50
		Medium (7-9)	49	40.83
		High (10-12)	44	36.67
13.	Social Participation	Low (7-11)	40	33.33
		Medium (12-15)	47	39.17
		High (16-19)	33	27.5

From the table-1. The results described as followed:

From the above table-1 The data present reveals that majority of the respondents belonged to the medium age group this group alone constitutes 46.67per cent followed by 59.17per cent of respondents belonged to married in marital status followed by maximum number of respondents belonged to the Hindu religion i.e. 60.83per cent, Majority of the respondents are from Sc & St caste of 44.17per cent, 39.17per cent of respondents are from cemented type of house followed by 65.83per cent of respondents are from small family size, 65.83per cent of respondents are from nuclear family followed by 34.16per cent of respondents family occupation is (Agriculture + Business), 42.5per cent of respondents possess medium level of annual income, Majority of the respondents belonged to upper primary level education it constitutes 21.67per cent, 50.00per cent of respondents possess low amount of land holding, 40.83per cent of respondents are from medium level of mass media exposure, 39.17per cent of respondents are from medium level of social participation.



Table -2: Constraints faced by women in empowerment through income generating activities

Sl. No.	Constraints	Response		
		Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1.	Lack of education	77	64.17	II
2.	Lack of training	62	51.67	VII
3.	Lack of decision making	59	49.17	X
4.	Lack of resources	63	52.5	VI
5.	Proper marketing facilities	72	60	III
6.	Lack of proper guidance	70	58.33	IV
7.	Lack of knowledge and skills	62	51.66	VIII
8.	Lack of self confidence	50	41.67	XV
9.	Family restriction	90	75	I
10.	Mismanagement	60	50	IX
11.	Incapable of taking risks	51	42.5	XIV
12.	Poor leadership	58	49.17	XI
13.	Roles are not sufficient	41	34.17	XVII
14.	Lack of family support	42	35	XVI
15.	Non-availability of loans	53	44.17	XIII



16.	Lack of social mobilization	57	47.5	XII
17.	Financial limitations	69	57.5	V

From the table-2. The results described as followed:

From this above table-2 represents the constraints faced by the respondents. The **top-ranking** constraints is Family restriction **75%** of farmers (1st Rank), 64.17 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Lack of education (IInd Rank), 60 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Proper marketing facilities (IIIrd rank), 52.5 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Lack of proper guidance (IVth rank), 57.5 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Financial limitations (Vth rank), 52.5 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Lack of resources (VIth rank), 51.67 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Lack of training (VIIth rank), 51.66 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Lack of knowledge and skills (VIIIth rank), 50 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Mismanagement (IXth rank), 49.17 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Lack of decision making (Xth rank), 49.17 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Poor leadership (XIth rank), 47.5 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Lack of social mobilization (XIIth rank), 44.17 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Non-availability of loans (XIIIth rank), 42.5 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Incapable of taking risks (XIVth rank), 42.5 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Lack of self-confidence (XVth rank), 35 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Lack of family support (XVIth rank) and 34.17 per cent of farmers are facing constraints on Roles are not sufficient (XVIIth rank).



Suggestion:

1. Family should support to women for participating in different type of income generating activities.
2. Women farmers should focus on increasing their education,
3. Govt. should focus on increasing the Proper marketing facilities.
4. Women empowerment organization should focus on proper guidance and different training programmes.
5. Govt. & private organizations should provide funds for financial supports.

CONCLUSION

It was concluded that the major constraints faced by the respondents are Family restriction, Lack of education, Proper marketing facilities, Lack of proper guidance and financial limitations, Lack of resources, Lack of training and Lack of knowledge, skills and Mismanagement. It was suggested that Family should support to women for participating in different type of income generating activities followed by Women farmers should focus on increasing their education, Govt. should focus on increasing the Proper marketing facilities, Women empowerment organization should focus on proper guidance and different training programmes and Govt.& private organizations should provide funds for financial supports.

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