

ANALYSIS OF WOMEN'S SELF PROGRESSION THROUGH MICRO CREDIT

Ms. M.Sathiya

Assistant Professor , Department of Commerce (PA), Sri.S.R.N.M College, Sattur

Dr. R.Sorna Priya

Assistant Professor ,Post Graduate and Research Department of Commerce,

Ayya Nadar Janaki Ammal College (Autonomous), Sivakasi

ABSTRACT:

Women are the vital part of the Indian economy, both at the national and the household levels. They make one-third of the national labour force. Compared with their men folk, Indian women contribute a much larger share of their earnings to basic family maintenance with the result that women's earnings positively and immediately affect the incidence and security of poverty. Here the researcher have undertaken a study on analyzing the women's self progression through micro credit in sivakasi region and the data were collected from 200 respondents through interview schedule with the aid of simple random sampling technique. The study gives findings and suggestions for the self progression of women in order to survive in the good position in our society.

INTRODUCTION:

SHG is a group formed by the community women, which has specific number of members like 15 or 20. In such a group the poorest women would come together for emergency, disaster, social reasons, economic support to each other have ease of conversation, social interaction and economic interaction. A SHG is an informal association to enhance the member's financial security as primary focus through offering micro credit and other common interest of members such as area development, awareness, motivation leadership, training and associating in other social inter-mediation programmes for the benefits of the entire community. Microfinance activities revolve around providing very small loans to poor people or nations in order to help, start a business or fund a social project. There are different types of microfinance activities which include grants, low interest micro-loans of \$ 100 or

less to individuals in countries where that much money is enough to start a business and improve the surrounding area.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Before the emergence of SHGs which are offering micro credit, the pupils might not be aware of any social exposure and mute themselves inside the four walls. But now a days, there are enormous change in the gradual growth of women. Even though there is typical enrichment, there is an urge for analyzing to what extent they are actually benefitted through availing this type of finance. Thus the researcher had an interest to analyze the women's self progression through micro credit in sivakasi region.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Shital Prakash Bhusare and Ruby chanda.,(2017) Institutional credit is considered as a powerful tool for alleviating poverty. Microfinance is the supply of loans, savings, and other basic financial services to the poor. As the financial services of microfinance usually involve small amount of money –small loans, small savings etc., the term “Microfinance” helps to differentiate these services from those of commercial banks. Microfinance in India has been through two channels of credit delivery to poor and low-income households – Self Help Group Bank Linkage Programme (SBLP) and the Microfinance institutions lending through groups as well as directly to individuals.

John Agyekum(2015) Microfinance serves both the unbanked and under-banked and reduces poverty. Microfinance is the provision of financial services to low-income clients through micro-credit, compulsory savings, micro-insurance within the reach of millions who are classified as too poor to be financed by the universal banks. Microfinance often teargas women and as such has become a critical tool in empowering women.

Arindam Laha and Pravat Kumar Kuri(2014) An all-inclusive Microfinance system would strengthen the process of financial inclusion in India and thereby would promote women's empowerment. The outreach of microfinance is considered to be a means to enhance the economic opportunities among the women section of the population and thus have its far reaching implications to the empowerment of women.

Ashwin and et al.,(2014) This study sought to analyze the impact of microfinance services in empowering the rural women. The outcomes of multiple regression revealed that four factors i.e. socio-economic status upgradation, autonomy for life choices, women position in the family/society and positive approach towards child development can significantly influence the lives of rural women. Traditionally, rural women's role was to provide support to their

husband and family which show the suppression of women in rural household. The results of this study states that microfinance has improved their economic condition and enhanced their ability to contribute in their family's decision making.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- To know the level of self progression
- To analyse occupation of the respondents after joining SHG
- To investigate women's self progression through micro credit
- To give findings and suggestions based on the study.

HYPOTHESES:

- There is no significant difference in the level of self progression among the occupational status of the respondents.
- There is no association between educational status of the respondents towards their level of self progression.

Table 1.0 Self-Progression

S.No	Self- progression	Strongly Agree	Agree	No opinion	Dis agree	Strongly dis agree
1.	Recognition in the Society	13 (6.50)	175 (87.50)	12 (6.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
2.	Economic position	20 (10.00)	147 (73.50)	33 (16.50)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
3.	Skill and knowledge	12 (6.00)	173 (86.50)	15 (7.50)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
4.	Take better decisions	32 (16.00)	157 (78.50)	11 (5.50)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
5.	Increasing confidence level	37 (18.50)	148 (74.00)	15 (7.50)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
6.	Neighbours Respect	30 (15.00)	140 (70.00)	30 (15.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)

7.	Clear off personal Debts	86 (43.00)	114 (57.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
8.	Improving the quality of life	73 (36.50)	109 (54.50)	18 (9.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
9.	Do better in Business	87 (43.50)	67 (33.50)	46 (23.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
10.	No Difficulties to harmonize the conflicting role of business personality and family business	68 (34.00)	84 (42.00)	48 (24.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)

Source: Primary data

Table 1.0 shows that among 200 respondents, 87.50 per cent (175) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘your recognition in the society is increased greatly after availing credit’, 86.50 per cent (173) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘you have acquired great skill and knowledge after availing credit’, 78.50 per cent (157) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘after availing credit you could take better decisions for the family problems, 74.00 per cent (148) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘your confidence level is increased greatly after availing credit’, 73.50 per cent(147) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘your economic position is improved after availing credit’, 70.00 per cent (140) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘your neighbours respect and listen to your advice’, 57.00 per cent of the respondents agree to the statement ‘you could clear off your personal debts after availing credit’, 54.50 per cent (109) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘you have motivated more women to avail credit in order to improve their quality of life, 43.50 per cent (87) of the respondents strongly agree to the statement ‘do you think but for being woman you could have done better in your business’, 42.00 per cent of the respondents agree to the statement ‘it is difficult to harmonize the conflicting role of business personality and family personality as a wife or as a mother’.

ANOVA

There is no significant difference in the level of self-progression among the occupational status of the respondents.

RESPONDENTS' OCCUPATION AFTER JOINING SHG**Table 1.1****Respondents' Occupation after Joining Shg**

S.No	Occupation after Joining SHG	Respondents	Per cent
1.	Employed	42	21.00
2.	Unemployed	31	15.50
3.	Self-employed	105	52.50
4.	Wage earner	22	11.00
	Total	200	100.00

Source: Primary data

From the above Table 1.1 it is apparent that out of 200 respondents, 52.50 per cent (105) of the respondents are self-employed, 21.00 per cent (42) of the respondents are employed, 15.50 per cent (31) of the respondents are unemployed and 11.00 per cent (22) of the respondents are wage earners after joining SHG.

It is inferred that majority 52.50 per cent of the respondents are self-employed after joining SHG.

Level of self-progression

Five levels of self-progression (Strongly agree, Agree, No opinion, Disagree and Strongly disagree) are converted into three levels of satisfaction: -High (Strongly agree and Agree), Low (Strongly Disagree and Disagree) and Medium (No opinion).

Identification of level of Self- progression

Mean +Standard Deviation =High

Mean-Standard Deviation =Low

(Mean+ Standard Deviation) -

(Mean-Standard Deviation) =Medium

Mean = 41.15

Standard deviation = 4.12

=45.27 -----

41.15+4.12 - High

41.15-4.12=37.03 ----- Low

(37.03 to 45.27) -----Median

Table 1.2
Level of Self –Progression

S.No	Particulars	Respondents	Percent
1	LOW	45	22.50
2	MEDIUM	118	59.00
3	HIGH	37	18.50
	Total	200	100.00

Source: Computed data

It is inferred from the above Table 1.2 that 118 respondents (59.00%) stated that their self-progression is at medium level, 45 respondents (22.05%) stated that their self-progression is at low level and remaining 37 respondents(18.50%) stated their self-progression is at high level.

In order to test the significant difference in the level of self-progression among the occupational status of the respondent, the researcher has applied the **Anova test with the help of SPSS**. The researcher has framed the hypothesis that there is “**No significant difference in the level of self-progression among the occupational status of the respondents**”. The result is presented in the following table.

Table 1.3
Calculated Value of Occupational status

S.No	Occupational Status	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error
1.	Employed	42	2.0714	0.89423	0.13798
2.	Unemployed	31	1.8065	0.98045	0.17609
3.	Self-employed	105	1.9619	0.41426	0.04043
4.	Wage earner	22	1.9545	0.21320	0.04545
	Total	200	1.9600	0.64067	0.04530

Source: Computed data

It is apparent from the above schedule 1.3 that out of 200 members, 105 respondents are self-employed and their standard mean value is 1.9619, 42 respondents are employed under some other employment and their mean value is 2.0714, 31 respondent are unemployed and

their mean value is 1.8065 and 22 respondents are wage earners and their mean value is 1.9545.

1.4 SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IN THE LEVEL OF SELF-PROGRESSION AMONG THE OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS

Table 1.4
ANOVA

S.No	Particulars	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Between Groups	1.253	3	0.418	1.018	0.386
2	Within Groups	80.427	196	0.410		
	Total	81.680	199			

Source: Computed data

Table 1.4 depicts that the calculated value is greater than the table value ($0.386 > 0.05$). The hypothesis is accepted. Hence “**There is no significant difference in the level of self-progression among the occupational status of the respondents**”.

CHI-SQUARE TEST

Chi-Square test is one of the simplest and mostly widely used non-parametric tests in statistical work. The χ^2 symbol is Greek letter Chi. The χ^2 was first used by Karl Pearson in the year 1900. The quantity χ^2 describes the magnitude of the discrepancy between theory and observation. The test statistics of χ^2 has been computed as follows.

$$\text{Chi-Square test} = \sum \frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$$

$$E = \frac{\text{Row total} \times \text{Column total}}{\text{Grand Total}}$$

$$\text{Df} = (r-1)(c-1)$$

$$\text{Where } O = \text{Observed Frequency}$$

$$E = \text{Expected Frequency}$$

Df = Degrees of freedom

R = Row

C = Column

1.5 ASSOCIATION BETWEEN EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS TOWARDS LEVEL OF SELF-PROGRESSION

Hypothesis

There is no significant association between educational status of the respondents towards their level of self-progression.

To test the above hypothesis Pearson's chi-square test is applied and the results are presented in the following table.

TABLE 1.5

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS TOWARDS LEVEL OF SELF-PROGRESSION

S. No	Educational status	Particulars	Opinion towards level of work life			
			Balance	Low	Medium	High
1.	Literate	Count	26	82	6	114
		Expected	25.6	67.3	21.1	114.0
		Count				
		% within	57.8%	69.5%	16.2%	57.0%
		LOSP				
2.	Illiterate	Count	19	36	31	86
		Expected	19.4	50.7	15.9	86.0
		Count				
		% within	42.2%	30.5%	83.8%	43.0%
		LOSP				
	Total	Count	45	118	37	200
		Expected	45.0	118.0	37.0	200.0
		Count				
		% within	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
		LOSP				

Source: Primary data

From the above table 1.5 it is found that out of 200 respondents, 114 respondents are literate and remaining 31 respondents are illiterate. Out of these 114 respondents, 82 respondents have opined that their self-progression is at medium level, 26 respondents have opined that their self-progression is at low level and 6 respondents have opined that their self-progression is at high level. The result of the chi-square test is presents in the following table.

TABLE 1.6
CHI-SQUARE TEST

Sl.No	Particulars	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2- sided)
1	Pearson Chi- Square	32.633 ^a	2	.000
2	Likelihood Ratio	34.070	2	.000
3	Linear-by- Linear Association	11.848	1	.001
4	N of Valid Cases	200		

From the above schedule 1.6, the significance value of 0.000 is less than the 0.05. Hence **the hypothesis is rejected** and it is concluded that there is significant association between the educational status of the respondents towards their level of self-progression.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- 15.50 per cent (31) of the respondents are unemployed and 11.00 per cent (22) of the respondents are wage earners after joining SHG.
- out of 200 respondents, 114 respondents are literate and remaining 86 respondents are illiterate. Out of these 114 respondents, 82 respondents have opined that their self-progression is at medium level, 26 respondents have opined that their self-progression is at low level and 6 respondents have opined that their self-progression is at high level.
- 87.50 per cent (175) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘your recognition in the society is increased greatly after availing credit’.
- 86.50 per cent (173) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘you have acquired great skill and knowledge after availing credit’.
- 78.50 per cent (157) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘after availing credit you could take better decisions for the family problems’.
- 74.00 per cent (148) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘your confidence level is increased greatly after availing credit’.

- 73.50 per cent (147) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘your economic position is improved after availing credit’.
- 70.00 per cent (140) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘your neighbours respect and listen to your advice’.
- 57.00 per cent of the respondents agree to the statement ‘you could clear off your personal debts after availing credit’.
- 54.50 per cent (109) of the respondents agree to the statement ‘you have motivated more women to avail credit in order to improve their quality of life’.
- 43.50 per cent (87) of the respondents strongly agree to the statement ‘do you think but for being woman you could have done better in your business’.
- 42.00 per cent of the respondents agree to the statement ‘it is difficult to harmonize the conflicting role of business personality and family personality as a wife or as a mother’.
- One way ANOVA depicts that the calculated value is greater than the table value ($0.386 > 0.05$). The hypothesis is accepted. Hence there is no significance difference in the level of self-progression among the occupational status of the respondents”.
- Chi-square test is applied to find out the association between the educational status of the respondents towards their level of self progression and it is concluded that ‘there is significant association between the educational status of the respondents towards their level of self-progression’.

SUGGESTIONS

43.50 per cent (87) of the respondents only strongly agree to the statement ‘do you think but for being woman you could have done better in your business’. 43.50 per cent (87) of the respondents only strongly agree to the statement ‘do you think but for being woman you could have done better in your business’. 42.00 per cent of the respondents only agree to the statement ‘it is difficult to harmonize the conflicting role of business personality and family personality as a wife or as a mother’. In spite of majority of the respondents are empowered through availing micro credit and having part in SHGs, there is a reasonable amount of respondents who are not enjoying the same due to some inconvenience. Hence the researcher suggests from her study to establish conducive environment for women in order to involve themselves with that much enthusiasm and also they are need of sufficient subsidies from the government, good work culture, building cordial relationship through conducting awareness programmes, keeping motivation among themselves and honouring the target achiever.

CONCLUSION

Micro credit plays eminent role in upgrading the living status of women and transmit home keeper to women entrepreneur. Through in taking the suggestions of the researcher, women's self progression will be reached the peak of success.

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