

A STUDY ON THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN SLUM DWELLERS IN PUNE THROUGH SHGS

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Introduction

Urbanization rate is growing rapidly in the last 50 years with slum population in the last 10 years. Need for a right- based community development approach to empower marginalized women living in slum in Pune city. This project aimed in Pune city of different NGOs by providing sewing and tailoring skill development training to make them self reliant. The project will enable 300 women's deprived, poverty stricken working as domestic servant single parent and widows are being given opportunity.

Empowerment

Empowerment is process of "exposing the oppressive power of existing gender relation critically challenging them and creatively trying to shape different social relation". Empowerment can be discussed at three levels: "power to," "power with" and "power within". Power to refer to power of individuals to firstly survive, and then control their labor (family's resources), body (including freedom from violence), and fertility, and have a say in decision-making process within the household and in the broader public, gender is one variable that has a bearing on "power to" dimensions of women's empowerment, the other being caste, class, age, headship, marital status, sex of children and so on.

"Power with "refers to power that derives from people organizing together with a common purpose and understanding to achieve collective goals. in the context of women and dalit empowerment, "power with "can be seen as the extent to which the collective of women are able to negotiate their gender, caste, class and other interests initiation of the market (labor market, commodity, market, financial market,) .it also refers to the extent to which collective are able to influence processes in favor of women and dalit in the wider society.

“power within” refers to power derived at both individual and collective level, but involving dimensions of a higher order like self-awareness, confidence and assertiveness of strategic gender, caste and class intervals.

Problem

Women’s slum dwellers in Pune city are migrated from different district of Maharashtra in search of livelihood and struggled hard to maintain their family.

Area of Action Research:

The researcher has planned to conduct this action research is selected five NGOs on different community in Pune city.

Objectives of the Project:

- a) To understand the socio-economic status of women.
- b) To study the interest of women for self development.
- c) To study the level of women participation in self-help group activities.
- d) To conduct organize income generation activities for these women.

Methodology:

To conduct the action research project of the above captioned subject the methodology is very important. It can help to understand the real and scientific information about the society.

- a) **Universe:** The universe of our project is limited only to the Pune city.
- b) **Sample Size:** The researcher will select five communities from Pune city and 300 women respondent from each community.

Sources of Data Collection

The information has been obtained from both primary and secondary sources.

Primary Data: Primary data which include first hand information has been collected by using interview schedule for women.

Secondary Data: The secondary but main data was drawn from the Pune Municipal Corporation. Beside this the researcher has used observation method for collection of data.

Tools of Data Collection

The interview schedule and observation method was used for data collection.

Interview Schedule: The interview schedule covered personal information, vocational training programme, working condition and other aspects relating to SHGs women's.

Observation Method: Observation is a basic method of attaining information about social phenomena under investigation. Researcher is observing the real conditions of women.

Focused Group Discussion: Discussion plays a vital role in the data collection in this study, the researcher discussion with SHGs women's in house wife, working women and collected the relevant information.

Data Analysis

Data Analysis and interpretation is the process of assigning meaning to the collected information and determining the conclusion, significance and implementations of the findings. It is the important and exciting process in research.

Statement showing the Area

Table 1

Area	Frequency	Percentage
Karve Nagar	18	30%
Rajguru Nagar	15	25%
Warje	22	36%
Parvati	5	9%
Total	60	100%

The above given table shows that 30% of the respondents are from Karve Nagar, 25% are from Rajguru Nagar, 36.6% are from Warje and only 8% from Parvati. It shows that most of the respondents in this survey are from Warje. And the least are from Parvati area.

Statement showing the types of the family

Table .2

Family type	Frequency	Percentage
Joint	6	10%
Nuclear	45	75%
Single parent	9	15%
Total	60	100%

In the above given table it can be seen that most of the respondents live in nuclear families. Joint families are rarely seen in the areas the survey was done (10%). Single parent families are also rare.

Statement showing the Education Status

Table .3

Education	Frequency	Percentage
SSC	19	32%
HSC	28	47%
Graduation	9	15%
Post-Graduation	4	6%
Total	60	100%

In the above table it can be seen that 31.6% of respondents have only done SSC, about 46.6% have completed their HSC. Only 15.2% have done their Graduation and only 6.6% have done their post-Graduation in different fields. The majority of the respondents have thus only done their HSC.

Statement showing the age

Table .4

Age	Frequency	Percentage
18-35	33	55%
35-45	15	25%
45- above	12	20%
Total	60	100%

The above given table shows that 55% of the respondents are in the age group of 18 to 35 and the least are in the age group of 45 and above which is only 20%. It can be seen that most of the members are young.

Statement showing the Duration of joining a SHG

Table .5

Duration	Frequency	Percentage
0-4	18	30%
4-8	26	43
8- above	16	27%
Total	60	100%

The above given table shows the time period a respondent has been part of a SHG. It was observed from the survey that most of the respondents have joined the SHG for about 4-8 years. A good percent of them were also new to the group (0-4 years), few have been in the group over 8 years too. The survey thus consisted of members who were both old and new to SHG

Stamen showing the Name of bank linked by SHG

Table .6

Bank name	Frequency	Percentage
Cosmos Cop. Bank	60	100%
Others	0	0
Total	60	100%

As the survey was conducted especially among the SHGs under Unique education Foundation, all the members had their SHG linked to COSMOS Cop. Ltd. Bank.

Type of saving done by the respondent

Table. 7

Type of saving	Frequency	Percentage
Bank	29	48%
SHG	26	43%
Other	05	8%
Total	60	100%

From the survey taken for the study, it can be noticed that most of the respondents have done their savings in Banks accounts, while others have done in SHG (43.3%) and other methods (8.33%). It is thus seen that many of the members have switched to formal way of savings, while a few are still carrying on with informal methods.

Benefits after joining SHG

Table 8

Benefits	Frequency	Percentage
Self- confidence	50	83%
Problem- solving skill	48	80%
Decision- making skill	52	86%
Leadership	40	66%
Banking knowledge	58	96%

In the survey done for the study, it was seen that all the respondents had positive experience from joining SHG. There was mental development seen in them. There was increase in the level of self- confidence, problem- solving skill, decision making capacity, leadership qualities and banking knowledge among the members.

Training given through SHG

Table 8

Answer	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	53	88.33%
No	7	11.66%

The above given table depicts whether the respondents have attended any training given through SHG. Around 88.33% of respondents seemed to have attended those trainings, only 11.66% of the respondents have not yet attend any of them.

Kind of training provided

Table 9

Training	Frequency	Percentage
Fast- food Cooking	34	64.15%
Fashion Designing	19	35.84%

The above given table mentions the list of trainings given to the members of SHG. It can be seen that 64.15% of respondents attended the Fast- food cooking training, while the rest have attended the training for Fashion designing. As you can see there is limitation to the availability of areas of training provided.

Conclusion

The training given to the members in fast food cooking and fashion designing has encouraged the members to start own business set- up either on their own or along with other members. But others who are interested in other fields of work are not able to receive any sort of guidance. The Bank thus needs to expand their training programs to other fields considering the interest of the members.

Women are highly capable of raising themselves when given the right direction. Despite their economic and social conditions, the members of self- help groups show the confidence to change their own life through their efforts. Women are highly capable of raising themselves when given the right direction. Despite their economic and social conditions, the members of self- help groups show the confidence to change their own life through their efforts.

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