WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SELF HELP GROUPS

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ABSTRACT:
Women’s empowerment is critical to the socio economic progress of the community and bringing women into the main stream of national development has, therefore, been a major concern of the government. The participation of women in Self Help Groups (SHGs) made a significant impact on their empowerment both in social and economical aspects. Women participation in Self Help Groups have obviously created tremendous impact upon the life pattern and style of poor women and have empowered them at various levels not only as individuals but also as members of the family members of the community and the society as whole. They come together for the purpose of solving their common problems through self-help and mutual help. This study addresses women empowerment through self help groups. In total the study covers 100 SHGs including 50 SHGs each from Sirsa and Kurukshetra district with 1000 members. The results of the study revealed that the socio-psychological empowerment of SHG members of both the districts was of medium level of empowerment in Kurukshetra district (mean 2.94) and Sirsa (mean 2.25). Economic empowerment was recorded high in Kurukshetra (mean 2.6) followed by Sirsa (mean 2.1). The overall mean value in Kurukshetra was found to be of medium level (mean 1.6) followed by low level of political and legal empowerment in Sirsa districts.

KEYWORDS: Empowerment, Self Help Groups (SHGs), poverty.

References