

A Study on Women Empowerment through Mahalir Thittam in Tirunelveli District

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Abstract: Empowerment is a process that helps people gain control over their own lives, communities and society. It is also a process, which enables one to realize his or her identify and power in all aspects of life. Empowerment occurs within, the factors-social, economic, political, personal, familial, and cultural at various spheres. Empowerment women puts the spotlight on equality in education, employment which is an essential element to sustainable development. This paper looks at the literature around the various studies done on women empowerment through Self Help Group (SHG). It will be useful to follow researchers who are undertaking studies in this area. This paper reviews literature on empowerment process through SHG as well as other related literature such as on the ongoing approaches, existing demission, and various levels of empowerment.

Keywords: Women Empowerment, Self Help Group, Self Employment

I. INTRODUCTION

“Woman is the companion of man, gifted with equal mental capacities. She has the right to participate in minute details of the activities of man and she has the same right of freedom and liberty as he; she is entitled to a supreme place in her own place, in her own sphere of activity as man is in his “

Women’s empowerment can be defined to promoting women’s sense of self-worth, their ability to determine their own choices, and their right to influence social change for themselves and others. Women’s empowerment and promoting women’s right have emerged as part of major global movement and is continuing to break new ground in recent years. Days like International Women’s Empowerment Day are also gaining momentum.

II. ORIGIN OF MAHALIR THITTAM

The Self Help Group approach was started in a small way in **Dharmapuri district** in the year **1989** with the assistance of International Fund for Agriculture Development. Mahalir Thittam is a socio-economic empowerment programme for women being implemented by Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd.

2.1 Objectives of the Study

- To study the demographic profile of the respondent.
- To study the reason to join in MahalirKulu.
- To analyse the problem faced by the women empowerment.

Demographic Profile of the Respondents

S.NO	AGE	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	21-30	43	43
2	31-40	27	27
3	41-50	18	18
4	50 above	12	12
	TOTAL	100	100

Source: Primary data



The above table reveals that out of 100 respondents, 43 percentage of the respondents belong to the age group of 31-40 years, 27 percentage of the respondents belong to the age group of 31-40 years, 18 percentage of respondents belong to the age group of 41-50 years, 12 percentage of respondents belong to the age of above 50years. Hence, it can be concluded that the majority of the respondents are belong to the age group 21-30.

S.NO	OCCUPATION	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Self-Employer	18	18
2	Private Employer	19	19
3	House Wife	53	53
4	others	10	10
	TOTAL	100	100

Source: Primary data

The above table reveals that out of 100 respondents, 18 percentage of respondents belong to self employer, 19 percentage of respondents belong to Private Employer, 53 percentage of respondents belong to House Wife, 10 percentage of respondents belong to other occupations. Hence, it can be concluded that the majority of the respondents are belong to the occupation of House Wife.

S.NO	INCOME PER MONTH	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Below 10,000	40	40
2	10,001 – 20,000	17	17
3	20,001 – 30,000	16	16
4	Above 30,000	27	27
	TOTAL	100	100

Source: Primary data

The above table reveals that out of 100 respondents, 40 percentage of the respondents belong to below 10,000 income, 17 percentage of the respondents belong to 10,001 – 20,000 income, 16 percentage of the respondents belong to 20,001 – 30,000 income, 27 percentage of the respondents belong to above 30,000 income. Hence, it can be concluded that the majority of the respondents are belong to the income of below 10,000.

Reason To Join In Mahalir Thittam

S.NO	REASONS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	To increase women respect	30	30
2	To help financial status for women	55	55
3	To increase employment	15	15
	TOTAL	100	100

Source: Primary data

The above table reveals that out of 100 respondents, 30 percentage of the respondents belong to increase women respect, 55 percentage of the respondents belong to help financial status for women, 15 percentage of the respondents belong to increase employment. Hence, it can be concluded that the majority of the respondents are belong to help financial status for women.

Problem Faced by the Women Empowerment

S.NO	PROBLEMS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Develop a business	26	26
2	No support on loss	24	24
3	Can't able to run smoothly	30	30
4	Financial Assistant	20	20
	TOTAL	100	100

Source: Primary data

The above table reveals that out of 100 respondents, 26 percentage of the respondents belong to the problem of develop a business, 24 percentage of the respondents belong to the problem of no support on loss, 30 percentage of the respondents belong to the problem of can't able to run smoothly, 20 percentage of the respondents belong to the



problem of financial assistant. Hence, it can be concluded that the majority of the respondents are belong to the problem of can't able to run smoothly.

III. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Anjugam (2007): “Determinants of Women’s participation in Self-Help Group led micro finance programme in Tamil Nadu “said that socially backward, landless and marginal farm house holds participate more in the Self-Help Group programme. Possession of livestock and consumer goods by the member households has been found to deter the joining of group.

Chilumuri Srinivasa Rao (2013): “Impact of SHG Bank Linkage Programme on Women SHGs Empowerment ; with reference to RASS MahilaPragathi Help Group” have proved the way for economic independence to women. Self-Help Group have been playing considerable role in empowerment of women in different aspects. The study was concluded that through SHG Bank Linkage Programme the Government and RBI should concentrate to empower women by giving more financial help to SHGs.

IV. CONCLUSION

Now a days womens are caring their professions as they like, but still the society oppose it. So they need some help, for that the government implies some of the schemes like Mahalir Thittam. We should know that how many schemes are provided and what is the benefit sand how many peoples are make use of it. This is the reason that I have chosen this particular topic I.e. women empowerment through Mahalir Thittam in Tirunelveli District.

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