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A study on entrepreneurial behaviour of self-help group members under National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) in Lakhimpur Kheri District of Uttar Pradesh

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Abstract

The study was conducted during the year 2022-23 in Lakhimpur Kheri district of Uttar Pradesh state to measure the entrepreneurial behaviour of Self Help Group Members under National Rural Livelihood Mission. The three components of entrepreneurial behaviour were undertaken to evaluate the status of entrepreneurial behaviour such as, innovativeness, leadership ability and self-confidence. In Lakhimpur Kheri district, Nighasan and Pasgawan block was purposefully selected for the present study, since it is dominated with the maximum self-help group members were working under National Rural Livelihood Mission in areas. A sample of 100 Respondents was selected by using proportionate random sampling technique with personnel interview from two selected gram panchayat and 10 SHGs from each gram panchayat. Total 20 SHGs (each block total fifty respondents) were selected randomly. The results showed that majority of SHG members (57.00 percent) had a medium level of innovativeness, majority (55.00 percent) of SHG members had a medium level of leadership ability, large proportion (72.00 percent) of SHG members had a medium level of self-confidence and 64.00 percent of SHG members belonged to medium level of overall entrepreneurial behaviour. The study also revealed that variables i.e., age, caste, education, occupation, land holding and social participation was found highly significant and positively correlated with entrepreneurial behaviour of SHG members.

Keywords: NRLM, entrepreneurial behaviour, self-help group members

Introduction

Entrepreneurial behaviour of SHG Members established under NRLM can be attributed as the change in knowledge, skills and attitude of entrepreneurs in the enterprise they have taken up (Bhati *et al.*, 2014) ^[1]. Chatterjee (1992) ^[18] defined an entrepreneur as one who creates something new, undertakes risk, organizes production and handles the economic uncertainty. He termed entrepreneurship as the mission and entrepreneur as the missionary. Entrepreneurship is the central force driving economic activity and prime catalyst in development. Hence, it forms an essential component in the development (Kolgane *et al.*, 2018) ^[7].

Women have vast entrepreneurial talents and that have transformed them from jobseekers to job givers. Initially women's activities in business were confined to making papad, pickles, jam, masala, squash, weaving embroidery, spinning and handicraft. Now their business has shifted

towards non-traditional activities like engineering, and other technical fields. This is due to spread to technical education among women (Nirmala, 2004) ^[11].

Women entrepreneurship in economic development of any nation has been recognized for its significant contribution. The women folk can easily be considered as backbone of any nation and better half of the men in almost all spheres of community development, of which India is not an exception. Rural women, who constitute about 50 percent of total rural population, play an active role in all spheres of economic life and contribute richly towards national income (Jaiswal and Patel, 2012) ^[6]. Entrepreneurial behaviour of women is an important element for success of any enterprise undertaken by women in self-help groups (Kumar 2009) ^[8].

Research Methodology

The present study was conducted in Lakhimpur Kheri district of Uttar Pradesh. Out of 15 blocks in Lakhimpur

Kheri District, Nighasan and Pasgawan block was selected purposively based on highest number of self-help group members were working under National Rural Livelihood Mission in areas. The respondents were selected through proportionate random sampling technique from two selected gram panchayat and 10 SHGs from each gram panchayat. A Total 20 SHGs (each block total fifty respondents) were selected randomly. A total of 100 respondents who are members of SHGs were selected randomly.

The data were collected with the help of pre- tested structured interview schedule by holding personal interview with self-help group members by the researcher. The three components of entrepreneurial behaviour were undertaken to evaluate the status of entrepreneurial behaviour such as, innovativeness, leadership ability and self-confidence. The component innovativeness were measured with the rating scale developed by Rao (1965) [21] and as followed by Shilpashree (2011) [19] were used with suiTable modifications. Leadership ability were measured with the three-point rating scale developed by Nanadapurkar (1980) and self-confidence were measured with the rating scale developed by Chaudhary (2006) [20] were used with suiTable modifications. Different statistical tools used were frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation and Pearson’s coefficient of correlation. Using mean and standard deviation for the variables (entrepreneurial behaviour and its components), the respondents were grouped into low, medium and high categories.

Results and Discussion

1. Innovativeness

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their innovativeness, N=100

S. No.	Categories	Respondents	
		F	%
1.	Low (up to 11)	12	12.00
2.	Medium (12 to 13)	57	57.00
3.	High (above 14)	31	31.00
	Total	100	100.00

F = Frequency, % = Percentage

From Table 1, it can be described that majority (57.00 percent) of SHG members had a medium level of innovativeness; while 31.00 percent of members had a high level of innovativeness and 12.00 percent of members had a low level of innovativeness. As such most of the SHG members (57.00 percent) had a medium level of innovativeness the probable reason for this may be that most of members were educated and had medium to a high level of social participation.

2. Leadership ability

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their leadership ability, N=100

S. No.	Categories	Respondents	
		F	%
1.	Low (up to 8)	17	17.00
2.	Medium (9 to 10)	55	55.00
3.	High (above 11)	28	28.00
	Total	100	100.00

F = Frequency, % = Percentage

Table 2, it can be evident that majority (55.00 percent) of SHG members had a medium level of leadership ability; while 28.00 percent of members had a high level of leadership ability and 17.00 percent of members had a low level of leadership ability. The possible reason behind medium to the high level of leadership ability might be training and exposure of SHG members at various institutes under NRLM programme as well as their contact with various institutions.

3. Self-confidence

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their self-confidence, N=100

S. No.	Categories	Respondents	
		F	%
1.	Low (up to 7)	12	12.00
2.	Medium (8 to 9)	72	72.00
3.	High (above 10)	16	16.00
	Total	100	100.00

F = Frequency, % = Percentage

Table 3, it can be shown that large proportion (72.00 percent) of SHG members had a medium level of self-confidence, while 16.00 percent of members had a high level of self-confidence and 12.00 percent members had a low level of self-confidence. The medium self-confidence level of SHG members maybe because of education, income and social participation of the members.

4. Overall entrepreneurial behaviour

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to their overall entrepreneurial behaviour, N=100

S. No.	Categories	Respondents	
		F	%
1.	Low (up to 27)	21	21.00
2.	Medium (28 to 31)	64	64.00
3.	High (above 32)	15	15.00
	Total	100	100.00

F = Frequency, % = Percentage

It could be seen from Table 4. That 64.00 percent of SHG members belonged to medium level of entrepreneurial behaviour category followed by (21.00 percent) as low and (15.00 percent) high level of entrepreneurial behaviour. The majority of the SHG members were having a medium level of entrepreneurial behaviour. The middle age group and most of them where literate might be one of the reasons for this phenomenon. However, it is the reflection of all the major components of entrepreneurial behaviour. As the SHG members possess a medium level of innovativeness, leadership ability and self-confidence, which might have contributed to medium level of entrepreneurial behaviour.

5. Relationship between entrepreneurial behaviour and personal and socio-economic variables

The Table 5. Focuses that out of twelve variables i.e., age, caste, education, occupation land holding and social participation was found highly significant and positively correlated with entrepreneurial behaviour of SHG members. Only single variable like family size were found significant

and positive correlated with entrepreneurial behaviour of SHG members. Marital status and risk orientation were found non-significant and positive correlated with entrepreneurial behaviour of SHG members. Extension contact were found highly significant and negatively correlated with entrepreneurial behaviour of SHG members. The last two variables annual income and scientific orientation was found non- significant and negatively correlated with entrepreneurial behaviour of SHG members.

Table 5: Correlation coefficient between independent variables and overall entrepreneurial behaviour

S. No.	Variables	Correlation coefficient (r)
1.	Age	0.113**
2.	Caste	0.092**
3.	Education	0.310**
4.	Family size	0.060*
5.	Occupation	0.186**
6.	Land Holding	0.105**
7.	Marital Status	0.008 ^{NS}
8.	Annual income	-0.024 ^{NS}
9.	Social Participation	0.095**
10.	Risk orientation	0.036 ^{NS}
11.	Scientific Orientation	-0.039 ^{NS}
12.	Extension contact	-0.145**

*Significant at 0.05 % level

NS- non-significant

Conclusion

According to the studies findings Majority (57.00 percent) of SHG members had a medium level of innovativeness and 55.00 percent of SHG members had a medium level of leadership ability, large proportion (72.00 percent) of SHG members had a medium level of self-confidence. The study also revealed that the majority of the SHG members (64.00 percent) were belonged to medium entrepreneurial behaviour category followed by (21.00 percent) as low and (15.00 percent) high level of entrepreneurial behaviour. This study indicates all self-help Group Members have medium level of entrepreneurial behaviour.

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