

SHG for Women's- Contribution to Economic Development

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ABSTRACT- The key to a nation's steady growth is the empowerment of women. In terms of this, the self-help group has a significant influence on how women are empowered in rural areas. SHG works to strengthen the socioeconomic conditions of the community's most vulnerable members, which supports the nation's overall economic development. This review article provides a thorough overview of the SHG's achievements in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh's Chaka Block with regard to women's empowerment.

Nearly all of the research reveals that SHG participants and decision-makers in the democratic, economic, and social realms of life acquire equality of status. This article also offers some suggestions for how to implement SHG successfully. Simple statistical tools were used in this investigation. Based on an analysis of women's empowerment over self-help groups, the primary results of this study are that self-help groups have a constructive impact on women's empowerment in the Chaka Block.

KEYWORDS- Self-Help Groups, Women Empowerment, SHG Movement, Socio-Economic Development.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Self-Help Group (SHG) originated from the awareness of Grameen Bank in Bangladesh founded by Professor Mohammed Yunus in 1975. He tried a new approach to rural finance with Bangladesh. Grameen made the loan without requiring collateral or paperwork from the borrower. In India, NABARD started his SHG in 1986-87, but after 1991-92 the substantial commitment was removed from SHG association with banks. Early civil society and a growing elected values helped to raise these questions, and the "empowerment" of women is now broadly recognized as an essential issue. This has led to the development and application of development empowerment strategies by both administration and non-governmental actors. Self-Help Group (SHG) Program has become the most popular women's empowerment strategy in India, with more than 1 million SHGs operating in 2004. (Chidambaram 2004). Self-help groups founded on the tenet that "for the people, by the people, and of the people these are formed to emphasise this ideal. In 1989, Tamil Nadu adopted a programme called Self-Help Groups. These days, self-help groups (SHGs) are the most widespread women's empowerment approach in India. (Tanya Jakimow and Patrick Kilby 2006). SHGs are typically groups of 10 to 20 women initiated by

development agencies that participate in savings and loan programs or promote the privileges or rights of group members. (Rosemary Thorp, Frances Stewart, and Amrik Heyer 2005).

Indian women have a very powerful vision and can win in any situation, given the right number of skills and resources-an essential prerequisite. There was a time in the past when women faced gender discrimination and had to rely on others for the necessities of life such, as health, safety, hygiene and education. This role of women in self-help groups (SHGs) do more than provide a gathering place for like-minded people. They also support each other in the event of financial hardship, illness, or even death.

The study's objective is to investigate the part SHG plays in rural women's socioeconomic development. To reduce rural poverty and expand job opportunities; to encourage rural household women's participation in income-generating activities. This idea aims to define the function of SHGs in rural poor households' ability to earn an income and save money. (M. Saravanan2016).

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

SHG membership has a powerful impact on income management and decision-making, but not on other forms of empowerment driven by gender standards. Attitudes towards Domestic Violence and Domestic Respect. Empowerment Score It is reassuring that her narrowing of the gap is not due to the disempowerment of men.

India's SHG programs purposely target women not only because of the lower social status of women compared to men but also because SHGs for women have proven successful and sustainable. (Parida & Sinha, 2010). With their reach, these groups now reach over 50 million homes nationwide. (NRLM, 2020). India implemented the Bangladeshi model in a improved form. To alleviate poverty and empower women, microfinance has become a powerful tool in the new economy. With the convenience of microfinance, self-help groups (SHGs) and loan supervision groups have also started in India. Moreover, the SHG movement spread to India (Saravanan 2016). Women's economic demands must be met, but empowering them also contributes to more comprehensive social development. The reduction of poverty and the development of rural areas are greatly aided by microfinance. (M. Saravanan2016). Becoming a member of an SHG is not simply about obtaining credit; instead, it is about a process of empowerment that results in women becoming more independent on the social and economic fronts, findings showed that the SHGs had a more

significant impact on the recipients' social and economic spheres. (Perways Alam, Shaikh Nizamuddin 2013). By creating a multidimensional measure of participation rather than using membership as a stand-in for participation, the study considerably adds to the body of information. SHG creates appropriate items to capture the three leading components of women's empowerment—economic, social, and political in a manner that is culturally relevant and comprehensive. (Akhaya Kumar Nayak, Prabin Kumar Panigrahi2020). The study demonstrates that, although at a moderate growth rate, the number of SHGs is rising from the previous year. Haryana's SHG growth is slower than that of other Indian states. It could be because government organisations in India do not view Haryana as a priority state for growing microfinance operations. However, it is not sustainable because Haryana has not yet been able to overcome issues with poverty, unemployment, and the empowerment of deprived, impoverished people. In Haryana, 8% to 10% of the population lives in poverty. (Dr. Surender Ahlawat 2014). Research shows that while the larger frameworks of cooperative and household labour provisions remain mysterious, development schemes undertake that women have agency in producing development consequences and this agency is ingrained in cultural considerations of what development is and how it works. This agency assumes a particular kind of imagined "group"—one in which members associate voluntarily, form networks, and work together cooperatively despite regional differences in the community (Kuntala, Lahiri-Dutt, GopaSamanta2006). Thus, a group in DWCRAs must be hand-selected and artificially formed, making it weak unable to provide real empowerment to women or long-term stability.

The Indian state of West Bengal's district Birbhum aims carefully to expand this ground-breaking program throughout all of the world's developing and underprivileged nations as a sole means of eradicating poverty. The data presented in the paper shows that SHGs have helped their associates in a numerous way through changes in income level and quality of life that are both quantitative and qualitative, respectively. Creating job prospects and lowering reliance on payday lenders, has also led to a substantial increase in their savings and financial safety. (Tanmoyee Banerjee (Chatterjee) and Chandrlekha Ghosh2012). The association between women's empowerment and participation in the SHG-bank linkage initiative. By understanding the present understanding of employing microfinance as an economic intermediary for strengthening and enhancing women's empowerment, the study aims to contribute to the literature on microfinance. (Dr. M.Aruna and Ms. Rema Jyothirmayi). The study sheds light on the importance of yield-oriented loan utilization and continuous succeeding doses of microloans for accomplishing the targeted goals of microfinance programs. Microfinance-related factors are found to have a more important and favourable impact on women's empowerment than the other five domestic factors, assets, marital status, individual factors, and community factors that were also uncovered by factor analysis. (Dr. M.Aruna and Ms. Rema Jyothirmayi). Self-Help organisations' primary activities are more geared toward credit and savings than toward empowering women and making access to healthcare services easier. Although it was anticipated that SHGs would have a significant

impact on women's health and empowerment, it turned out that meeting their basic needs for food, shelter, and employment was crucial to their quality of life. Without meeting these needs, it is impossible to empower women or improve their health and quality of life. The research finds that initiatives like self-help from international policy circles do not adequately address contextual difficulties, resulting in instrumentalised approaches and less-than-ideal outcomes. (Anant Kumar2017)

III. OBJECTIVES

- Examine the growth of SHGs in Uttar Pradesh
- To identify how SHGs have affected the socioeconomic development of poor rural people.
- To research how self-help groups help women become more powerful.
- To research how SHGs affect women & economic empowerment.
- To investigate the part SHG plays in rural women & socioeconomic development.
- To reduce rural poverty and expand job opportunities
- To encourage rural household women & participation in income-generating activities.

A. The Impact of Self-Help Organization

- **Savings and Money Management:** The opportunity to regularly save access is one of the key advantages of joining SHG. Formal entities for saving money and take part in the administration of these investments. They consistently make savings, have possess a bank account and make deposits in it the chance to save their hard-earned money and increase the habit of saving has a positive impact on SHG members.
- **Getting credit:** Participation in the SHG has several benefits, one of which is increased access to finance for women. Due to the possibility that project execution would be premature and won't actually increase women's access to finance. Finance. Some claim that the mobility that comes with SHG membership enhances quality of life. In general, many families are more able than before to meet their fundamental necessities.
- **A family's judgement:** SHG programme boosts decision-making participation and various initiatives and groups to boost participation in these groups, enhance hygiene, and Marriage-related events have transformed male family members' perspectives, and they are now persuaded. Women report that the SHG concept and meetings motivate them to saving on their behalf boosts their self-esteem and confidence. Respect among family members the position of women has changed. Children now receive better schooling. Particularly girls' education is very low, but now SHG members take their girl child to school hygiene, especially the girls. The member's family's health improves as a result of the member's improvement. Obtain a wife now Even if they have to travel to a nearby town, care is given by a licenced doctor. Members are now sufficiently self-assured to raise their social rank.
- **Status:** The SHG programme has an influence on both the economy and society. SHG membership status in terms of amenities available. They do Access to markets, healthcare, education, sanitation, water supplies, transportation, etc.

B. Suggestions

Suggestions for the NRLM's design as 75% of households in the nation fall into one of two categories-poor or vulnerable.

- NRLM may include all willing rural households, regardless of BPL or APL status, in the SHG programme for efficient financial inclusion.
- It can be broken down into the financial inclusion and livelihood promotion sub-programs.
- It is possible to implement two programmes in succession.
- The establishment of small and medium-sized businesses under SHG federations may be the main priority after the first five years of purely promoting and building SHG institution

IV. METHODOLOGY

A set of questions has been developed in google form. As the women are not good in technological knowledge so the survey team has carried their own electronic gadgets. The went to the women and explained the question in their native language and collect the sample accordingly. All the tables have been created on the basis of responses of the respondents and then accessed in form of graph for better understanding.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Respondent's Age

Age	Percentage
Less than 40	30
Less than 50	72
Less than 60	100

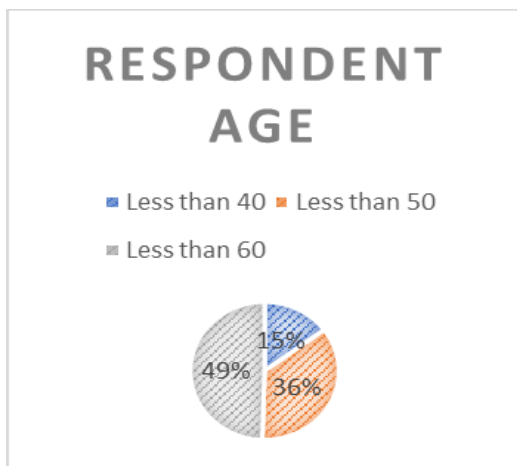


Figure 1: Dispersal of sample responses by age

Table 1 and its graphical representation in figure 1 displays the dispersal of sample responses by age. It was found that 49% of respondents were between the ages of 40 and 50, and 15% were under the age of 40. 36% of respondents are in the 50–60 age range. The majority of women in SHG are institute to be between the ages of 30 and 50.

Table 2: Social Category

Category	No.
SC	40
OBC	8
Others	12
Total	60

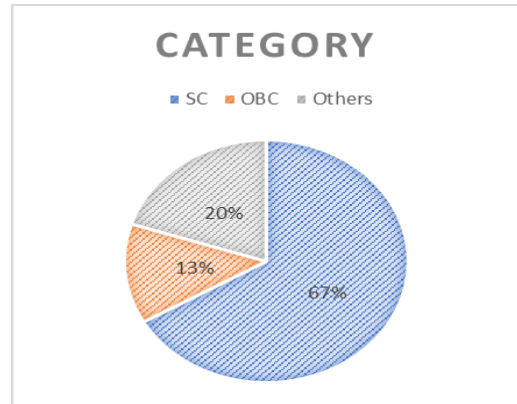


Figure 2: Social category of the respondents

Table 2 and its graphical representation in Figure 2 shows the social category of the respondents it was found that around 67% of the respondents belongs to SC, 13% of the respondents belongs to OBC and rest 20% of the people belongs to the others category. The majority of the people belongs to the SC category.

Table 3: Region

Panchayat	Total SHGs
Chaka	17
CHAKMOINUDEEN	3

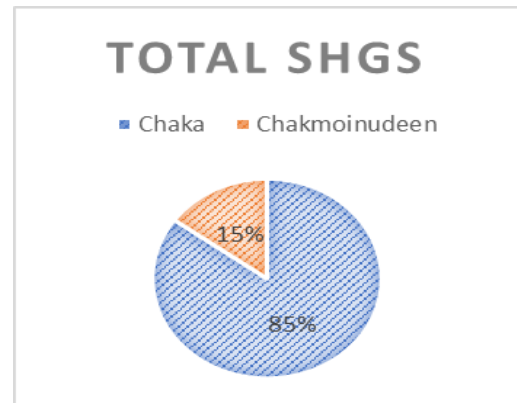


Figure 3: Total 17 SHGs group in Chaka panchayat, Chaka village, and Prayagraj

Table 3 and its graphical representation in Figure 3 shows there were total 17 SHGs group in Chaka panchayat, Chaka village, Prayagraj with total 157 members & total 3 SHGs Chakmoinudeen village with total 32 members.

Table 4: Occupation

Agriculture	24
Handicraft	19
Other	17
Total	60

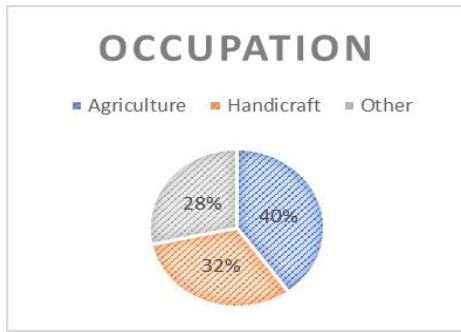


Figure 4: Occupation of the respondents

Table 4 and its graphical representation in Figure 4 shows the occupation of the respondents, it was found that around 40% of the respondents' occupation is agriculture, around 32% of the respondents are doing handicraft work, around 28% are doing some other work like Asha work, Angadwadi worker, construction work, pickle making, security service, rag picking shop keeping, rickshaw pulling.

Table 5: Education Status

Illiterate	18
Primary	20
Secondary	11
Graduation	6
Post-Graduation	5
Total	60

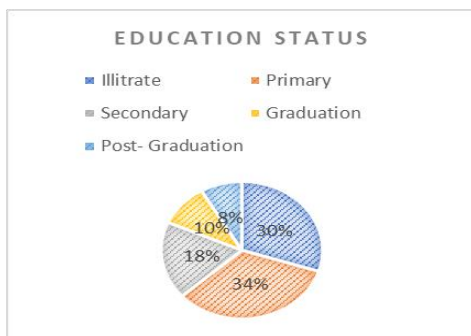


Figure 5: Education status of the respondents

Table 5 and its supporting representation in Figure 5 shows the education status of the respondents, it was found that 30% of the respondents are illiterate, around 34% of the respondents have received primary education, around 18% have received secondary education, around 10% were graduate and around 8% were post graduate.

Table 6: Purpose of joining SHGs

Statement	No. of members	Members in percent
To maintain household expenditure	24	40%
For borrowing loans in low interest rate	10	17%
For self-development and empowerment	11	18%
For savings	10	17%
For other reasons	5	8%
Total	60	100%

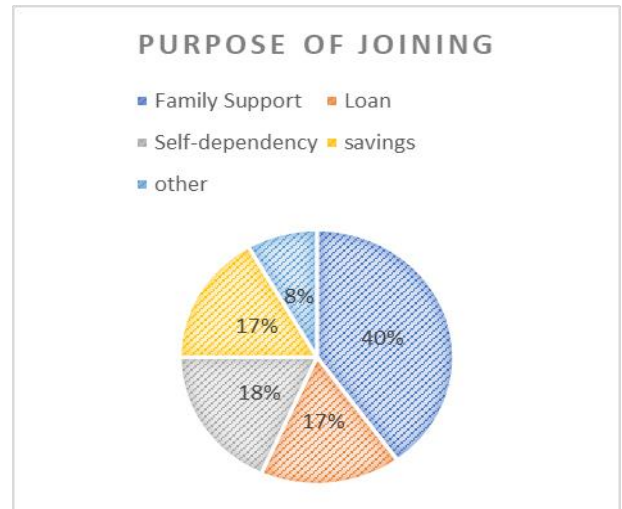


Figure 6: Purpose of joining SHG

Table 6 and its Figure 6. shows the purpose of joining SHG, it was found that 40% of the respondent joined to support their family, around 17% joined for loan purpose, around 18% joined for self-dependency, for savings it was 17% and around 8% of the respondents joined for some other reason.

Table 7: Income before joining SHG

Less than or equal to ₹2,000	21
₹2,001-₹4,000	19
₹4,001-₹6,000	17
₹6,001-above	3
Total	60

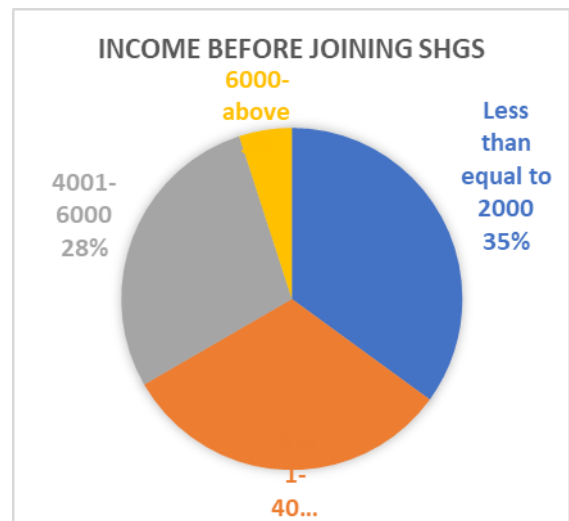


Figure 7: Income of respondents before joining SHG

Table No. 7 and its pictorial representation in Figure 7 shows the income of respondents before joining SHG, 35% of the respondents are earning either 2000 or less than 2000, around 32% are earning between 2,001 to 4,000, around 28% are earning between 4,001 to 6,000 and 5% are earning more than 6,000.

Table 8: Income after joining SHG

Less than or equal to 2,000	2
2001-4000	5
4001-6,001	10
6,001-8,000	20
8,001-above	23
Total	60



Figure 8: Income of respondents after joining SHG

Table 8 and its Figure 8 shows the income of respondents after joining SHG, it was found that around 6% are earning either 4,000 or less than 4,000, 23% are earning between 4001 to 6,000, around 33% are earning between 6,001 to 8,000 and 38% are earning more than 8,000.

Table 9: Effectiveness of SHGs (out of scale-5)

Very low (1)	5
Low (2)	7
Medium (3)	10
High (4)	18
Very high (5)	20
Total	60

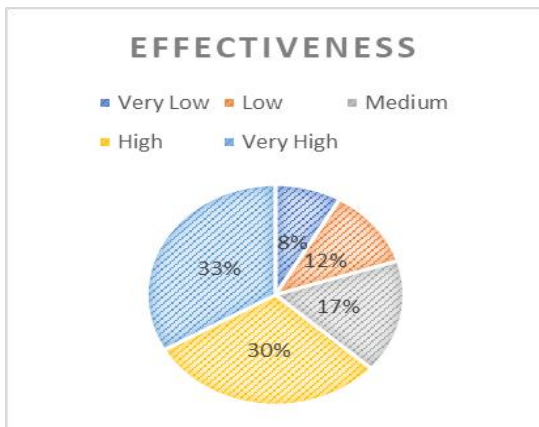


Figure 9: Effectiveness of the SHG on respondents

Table 9 and its representation in Figure 9 shows the effectiveness of the SHG on respondents, 33% of the respondents say that it is very effective, 30% say that it is effective, 17% say that it is medium, around 11% say that it is less effective and around 9% say that is very less effective.

Table 10: How independent you feel

Very low (1)	0
Low (2)	2
Medium (3)	9
High (4)	18
Very high (5)	31
Total	60

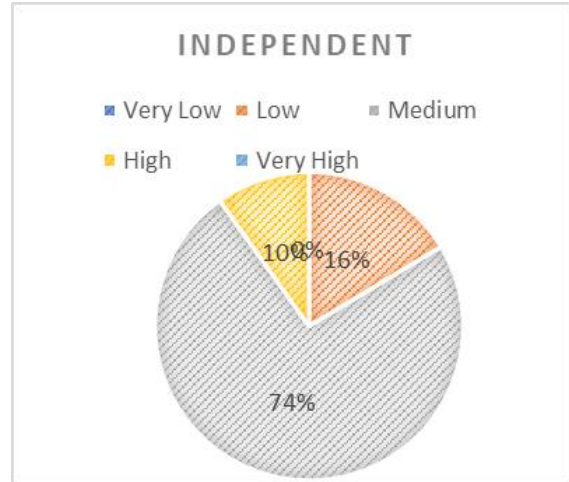


Figure 10: How independent respondents feel

Table 10 and Figure 10 shows how independent respondents feel, it was found that around 51% of the respondents feel very independent, 30% feel independent, 15% feel normal and around 3% does not feel independent.

VI. FINDINGS

following are findings of this study

- It has been discovered that the majority of women in self-help groups are rather middle-aged.
- The majority of respondents (67%) come from socially underdeveloped communities.
- The majority of respondents 34% have a primary education.
- The majority of responders work in agriculture, and 40% of them are aiming to get into handicrafts.
- Before joining SHGs, 35% of respondents had incomes of less than Rs. 2000; after joining SHGs, the number fell to 6%, and other respondents' incomes improved as well.
- The majority of respondents stated that they joined SHGs to assist their families.
- Approximately 33% of the respondents said they now even feel autonomous and that the SHGS are highly beneficial.

VII. CONCLUSION

Members of the SHG who have learned from their past experiences traverse the present and advance toward a prosperous future. As a result of women's empowerment through SHGs in Chaka, women there now feel more confident and autonomous. The research substantiates the significant role played by SHGs in enhancing women's empowerment by making them financially independent

and allowing them to save money for future growth. In addition, it was discovered that the SHGs fostered social and financial self-reliance amongst the members. It grows responsiveness programmes and loan policies, among others. However, Self Help Groups have a good consequence on women's empowerment in Chaka, Uttar Pradesh.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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