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Constraints Faced by Tribal Women Income Generating Activities

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Abstract

The study conducted on constraints faced by tribal women income generating activities. The study was undertaken in district Srikakulam which was randomly selected out of all five districts of Andhra Pradesh having tribal population. From selected district two blocks one village from each I.e. Rajam (plain) Palakonda (hilly) were selected randomly. Among all the constraints it was concluded that marketing and communication constraints with weighted mean score of 2.26 out of 3.0 ranked first, followed by physical (2.23), social (2.03), technical (2.02), personal (2.01) and economic constraints (1.95).

Keywords: Tribal women; Constraints; Income generating activities.

1. Introduction

The tribal's are the poorest social group and weak section of the Indian population. They constitutes 7 per cent of the total population. The women in tribal community, as in other community depends importantly on the status of their women. In country like India, The profile of women in general, particularly tribal women, is a very pathetic picture which depicts the gravity of total situation. But their roles, power and responsibilities are very distinctive census reveal that work participation rate among tribal's are higher than those among schedule caste and general population. Though an overwhelming majority of tribal men (85%) and women (91%) were involved in agriculture, there were more cultivators in men (58.6%), while more women (44.3%) were agriculture labourers. Only less than 10 per cent are involved in activities other than agriculture. The less participation of tribal women was due to various problems/drawbacks which they face solving income generating activities. In order to find out the constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities the present study was taken. As tribal women are concerned, they hold high and prestigious position in tribal, as they play a crucial role in economy of their family.

2. Review of Literature

A study was undertaken in Dhenkanal district of Orissa to analyze the livelihood pattern of tribal farm women in rice based farming system and identify different income generating opportunities. The study highlights the extent of tribal women's empowerment through various income generating activities in rice-based farming system. The livelihood pattern of tribal farmwomen of Dhenkanal district was mainly from rice cultivation, horticultural and animal husbandry activities. The data relating to major income generating activities revealed that most of the respondents had taken up 'integration of other crops viz., oilseeds, pulses and vegetables with rice' which ranked first. The overall gain in empowerment of tribal farm women through income generating activities was 25.6 per cent. The study further revealed that most of the respondents had taken up 'integration of other crops viz., oilseeds, pulses that income generating activities contributed significantly for enhancement in empowerment. Illiteracy was perceived as the top most constraint by 94.17 per cent respondents in empowerment through income generating activities in rice-based farming system, Das., 2008 [1]

A study was conducted in one of the Autonomous Hill districts of Assam where majority of the karbi tribes reside. Various constraints, which were observed in empowerment of tribal women, were social constraints, political constraints, economic constraints, technological

constraints and psychological constraints. The main reason for poor empowerment of tribal women was noted as 'lack of knowledge about new technology and information'. Further, overall constraints of tribal women in the study area revealed that cognitive and infrastructural constraints were considered as major by the respondents, Das sanjay kanti, 2012 [2].

The objectives of the study were to assess the training needs of the tribal people and to find out their constraints in carrying out income generating activities (IGAs). The study was conducted in eight villages of Sherpur district in Bangladesh. Data were collected from a randomly selected sample of 95 tribal household head (25% of target population) through interview schedule. Data revealed that majority (52%) of the tribal people had medium training need compared to 39 per cent of them had high training need in case of homestead vegetable production. In term of training need in nursery establishment, about half (49%) of the tribal people fell under medium training need category while 43 per cent of them fell under high training need category. As regards to their training needs in livestock & poultry rearing, the majority (55%) of the tribal people had high training needs compared to 36 per cent of them having medium training needs. A big share (52%) of the tribal people had high training needs in cottage industry while 42 per cent of them had medium training needs. Farmers' education, farm size, annual income, organizational participation and agricultural knowledge showed negative significant correlation, while fatalism had significant positive association with the training needs. The major problems faced by the tribal people in carrying out their IGAs were: lack of capital/credit, lack of irrigation water, lack of land, lack of knowledge about insect/disease control, marketing & communication facilities and attack of wild elephant, etc., Rokonuzzaman, 2013 [3].

The study entitled "Empowerment of tribal women through livelihood development" aimed to study the profile characteristics of tribal women, to analyse the relationship of socio-personal and sociopsychological characteristics with the level of participation of tribal women, to find out the empowerment level of tribal women to explore the constraints faced by the tribal women in participating in the cultural practices and to get suggestions to overcome the constraints, Nisha and Asokhan, 2015 [4].

3. Methodology

The study was undertaken in district Srikakulam which was randomly selected out of all five districts of Andhra Pradesh having tribal population. Form selected randomly and from the two blocks one village from each I.e. Rajam (plain) Palakonda (hilly) were selected randomly. 100 tribal women respondents who were already involved in income generating activities were selected randomly. Personal, social, economic, psychological and communication variables were taken as independent variables, whereas communication pattern women was taken as dependent variable.

Further constraints are divided into seven categories as health, social, marketing, technical, economic, personal and communication constraints. In order to study these constraints, a detailed list of constraints was prepared in categories and score of 3, 2 and 1 were given for always, seldom and never. The weighted mean score were calculated and ranks were given.

4. Results and Discussion

The results are presented in the following headings given below

4.1 Physical Health constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

From Table 1, Maximum respondents (60%) suffered from abortion (2, 46 mean score and rank 1), followed by skin irritation (2.45 mean score and 2nd rank). Among aches head ache was most faced by women and stomach ache was the least to suffer. Heat stroke was also that of the highly faced constraint by women with 2.31 mean score.

Table 1: Health constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities.

Health Constraint	Rank	Mean score
Abortion	I	2.46
Skin irritation	II	2.45
Head stroke	III	2.31
Animal attack	IV	2.26
headache	V	2.23

4.2 Social constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

Social constraints (Table 2) ranked fourth with overall mean score of 2.03. It was evident that most of the women faced abuses while grazing animals (mean score 2.15 rank first) followed by not being allowed for training and lack of time for attending village functions with 1.9 mean score.

Table 2: Social constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

Social Constraints	Rank	Mean score
Abuses while grazing animals	i	2.15
Not being allowed for training	II	1.9
Lack of time for attending village functions	III	1.9

4.3 Marketing constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

From Table 3, the most complained constraints of the responding as marketing constraints ranking 1st with 2.26 mean score. Among these marketing constraints, lack of consumer service was top ranking and main constraints (2.38 mean score), followed by difficulty in getting money from buyers (2.27 mean score). Expenditure in transportation (2.13 mean score) of produce.

Table 3: Marketing constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

Marketing Constraints	Rank	Mean score
Lack of consumer service	i	2.38
Difficulty in getting money from buyer	II	2.27
No equal value for labour	III	2.23
More expenditure in transportation	iv	2.13
Delayed disposal of produce	V	2.10
Inability to complete with market produce	Vi	2.50

4.4 Technical constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

From Table 4, Distant and location from the headquarters with score of 2.26 ranking first. Other major problem was of preservation of produce with mean score of 2.16. Lack of skill attainment and ignorance of maintenance of machinery were other constraints with mean score and insects.

Table 4: Technical constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

Technical Constraints	Rank	Mean score
Distant and location from the head quarters	i	2.26
preservation of produce	ii	2.16
Lack of knowledge regarding the preservation of produce	iii	1.87
Precautions to be taken to prevent from pests and insects.	iv	1.64

The distance of location from the headquarters for which they have to spend more money on transportation was the major constraint. Moreover the tribal women lacked knowledge regarding the preservation of produce and Precautions to be taken to prevent from pests and insects.

4.5 Economic constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

The foremost problem in economic constraints (Table 5) faced by respondents was batter system with mean score of 2.28 and ranked 1st, followed by delay in receiving of money from buyer. (Mean score 1.85 and 2nd) Frequently faced constraint (mean score of 1.78 and rank third as they need money for purchase of pesticides, manures etc.

Table 5: Economic constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

Economic Constraints	Rank	Mean score
Battery system	i	2.28
Delay in receiving of money and buyer	II	1.85
Need money for purchase of pesticides, manures	III	1.78

4.6 Personal constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

Regarding personal constraints the (Table 6) maximum respondents suffered from constraints of neglecting children (2.13 mean score and 1st ranks) followed by lack of motivation from family. Lack of the knowledge about procurement of loans for equipment and buying for other activates.

Table 6: Personal constraints faced by tribal women in income generating activities

Personal Constraints	Rank	Mean score
Neglecting children	i	2.13
Lack of motivation from family	II	1.9
Lack of knowledge about procurement of loans for equipment and buying for other activities	III	1.9

5. Conclusion

Among all the constraints it was concluded that marketing and communication constraints with weighted mean score of 2.26 out of 3.0 ranked first, followed by physical (2.23), social (2.03), technical (2.02), personal (2.01) and economic constraints (1.95).

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