

ROLE OF AGRICULTURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN WOMEN EMPOWERMENT: A CASE STUDY OF JALAUN DISTRICT, UTTAR PRADESH

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ABSTRACT

India has nearly 48% of the female population in India according to 2020 data from the World Bank. Despite that this huge population is still struggling to find their credit in society. According to research women is about 43 percent of the agricultural labor of the world and in developing countries. In this paper, we would study the impact of Agricultural entrepreneurship development on women's life. We will study how women's life is changed through agricultural entrepreneurship development. In previously studied authors have concentrated on the increase of entrepreneurship as a development tool for the whole of the country but it must be kept in consideration that in India situation for a man and women is not the same. Therefore, there is a need to do research that would show the impact of entrepreneurship development on women. Here Jalaun District of up is chosen as the research area because this place is highly affected by agriculture and women's entrepreneurship can be easily detected here. Here researcher used simple techniques for data collection and normal statistics to analyze the data. We have found in this study that although there prevails some empowerment in this area due to entrepreneurship that empowerment is demanding more support to be significant. There is a good scope for entrepreneurship development for women in the Jalaun District of Uttar Pradesh. This would result in the empowerment of women through agricultural entrepreneurship.

INTRODUCTION

India is very versatile on its own and further, it is diversified by its cast creed. However, as it is versatile its resources agree not that efficiently distributed. It has been a huge problem in society that not everyone gates the same level of opportunities. The government is working well to eradicate the difference but there must be some steps to be some action to be taken by citizens themselves. One such decision is Agricultural entrepreneurship. Agricultural entrepreneurship can be understood as a venture where a business is stated related to the resources related to agriculture. Their business could be providing seeds,

Agriculture machinery, Fertilizer, etc. However, this venture is very helpful to rural women to be self-reliant citizens. They can do various activities like rearing animals, producing milk, growing vegetables, purifying seeds for selling, and many other works. This helps them in earning a bit extra income and brings them into the stage of self-reliance. By this, they do not have to depend upon their husband or in-laws for financial needs and intern help their household also. This study is conducted in the Uttar Pradesh district Jalaun because this is the most agriculture-based area where entrepreneurship could. Jalaun is one of the most farming-centric districts of Uttar Pradesh. Its population in 2022 is 1,906,817. In this study, researchers have tried to

find out the role of agriculture entrepreneurship in women's empowerment through a simple analysis

technique.

Table showing the 2011 census record about Jalaun District Uttar Pradesh

| Demography | Total | Male | Female |
|--------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Population | 1,689,974 | 906,092 | 783,882 |
| Educated | 1,075,196 | 653,430 | 421,766 |
| Laborer | 620,764 | 470,969 | 149,795 |
| Farmer | 167,462 | 152,825 | 14,637 |
| Agri laborer | 125,266 | 101,769 | 23,497 |
| Sex ratio | | 1000 | 865 |

www.india.gov.in/my-government/documents/census-report

LITERATURE REVIEW

In some under-developing nations, there is a strain on the nearby farmers for the commercialization of the operations. Here are some elements that have pushed all these changes. The decline in the measurement of the land: It refers to the wishes of the farmers that they prefer an extra progressive device for manufacturing and helps the fundamental facilities of the family. The second thing is the boom of Urban Areas and a fast enlarge in the population. General Modernization: There is a want to generate extra incomes to assist the requirements of farming households and their expectations to get the scientific facilities, education, higher transport, and interplay and additionally cover the extra price associated with the normal as nicely as cultural functions.

Entrepreneurs play a key position in any economy, the use of their capabilities and initiative is imperative to expect wants and bringing suitable new thoughts to market. Entrepreneurship that proves to be profitable in taking on the dangers of growing a startup is rewarded with profits, fame, and endured increased opportunities. Entrepreneurship that fails outcomes in losses and

much less occurrence in the markets for these involved.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1. Objective of study

This study is conducted to get the answer to the following question

- Understand the impact of practicing entrepreneurship on the Opinion of beneficiaries' women on their empowerment.
- Understand the impact of practicing entrepreneurship on the Opinion of beneficiaries on their involvement in financial decision-making.
- To see whether there is any effect on the participation of women in Gram Sabha.

2. Population

A research population is generally a large collection of people that is the primary center of interest of a query. It is for the advantage of the population research conducted. However, due to the giant sizes of the population universe, researchers often regularly can't check each person in the population because it is too high-

priced and time taking. This is the cause behind researchers relying upon sampling techniques.

As we have studied earlier, the population of women in Jalaun is very less as compared to men, which are 783,882 as compared to 906,092 men. Out of them, only 421,766 are educated, 149,795 work as a labourer, and 14,637 work as a farmer. According to the census, 2011 sex ratio of Uttar Pradesh is 865 out of 1000.

3. Sample Size

It is very difficult to study the entire population so, a sample out of the whole of the population is taken which could represent the whole of the population at ought most level. It is often not practical or possible to study the entire population. A sample is a small, more manageable form of a larger population. A subset contains every population's attribute.

4. Sample Size Determination

The sample size of the population in each study area was determined by using Krejcie and Morgan's 1970 formula. This formula was chosen on the basis that it considers three important factors when determining the sample size if one is to come up with a sample that is representative of a given population. These factors are; the level of confidence, degree of accuracy, and precision level (sampling error). Nonetheless, the sample sizes which were used in the research were extracted from the same formula which applies to any defined population. The formula is as follows;

$$\text{Sample Size} = \frac{X^2 NP(1 - P)}{d^2(N - 1) + X^2 P(1 - P)}$$

χ^2 = the table value of chi-square for 1 degree of freedom at the desired confidence level (3.841).

N = the population size.

P = the population proportion (assumed to be .50)

d = the degree of accuracy expressed as a proportion (.05).

5. Hypothesis testing

5.1 Opinion of beneficiaries on their involvement in financial decision making:

Most of the beneficiaries are not granted the opportunity to contribute ideas toward the financial decision-making of households. This is because power is deeply rooted in men in our values as well as in our social system too. Thus, MFIs by granting loans to the women beneficiaries empower them to have a voice in their families regarding financial decision-making also. Here we come to a null hypothesis

H0: There is no difference between the financial decision-making of women before doing entrepreneurship and after it.

H1: There is a difference between the financial decision-making of women before doing entrepreneurship and after it.

Fig. 1

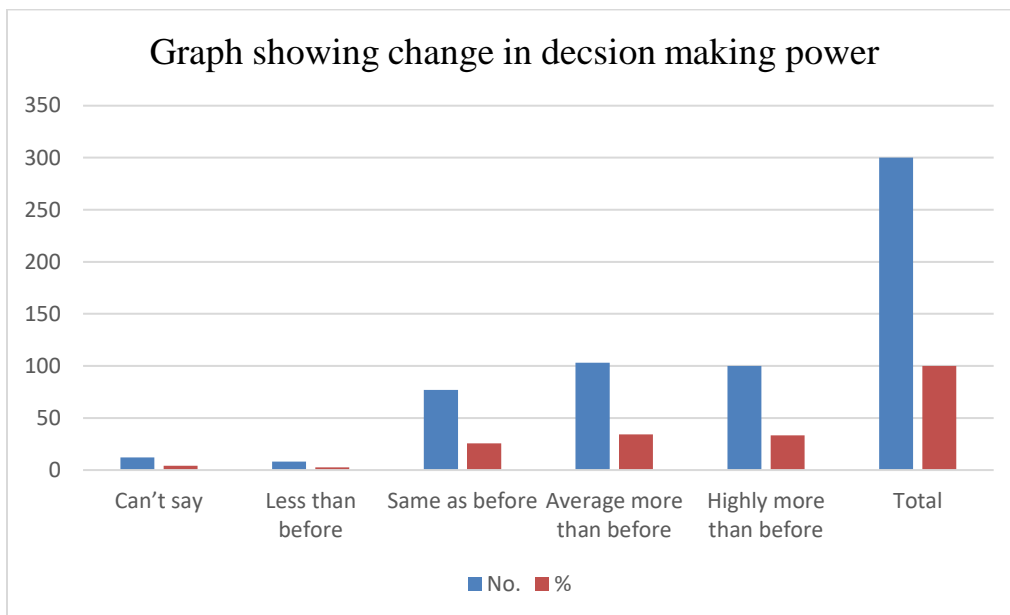


Table 1

Respondent opinion on their involvement in financial decision-making after Starting Entrepreneurship

| Involvement in financial decision making | No. | % |
|--|------------|--------------|
| Can't say | 12 | 4.0 |
| Less than before | 08 | 2.7 |
| Same as before | 77 | 25.7 |
| Average more than before | 103 | 34.3 |
| Highly more than before | 100 | 33.3 |
| Total | 300 | 100.0 |

The above table shows the improvements in beneficiaries' opinions on their involvement in financial decision-making after starting agricultural entrepreneurship. More than two-thirds (67.6%) of beneficiaries reported having high involvement in

financial decision making whereas 25.7% reported having the same involvement as before. Only 2.7% of beneficiaries opined to be involved less than before and 4.0% reported that they can't say anything about their involvement in financial decision-making.

Table 2

Opinion of beneficiaries on their involvement in financial decision-making: before and after Starting agricultural entrepreneurship according to age, caste, and educational status.

| Women entrepreneurs in financial decision making | | | | | | |
|--|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|
| Age | Number | Before | | After | | Z=-0.60 P<0.05 |
| | | No. | % | No. | % | |
| ≤30 | 70 | 17 | 24.28 | 23 | 32.85 | |
| 30-45 | 170 | 39 | 22.90 | 59 | 34.70 | |
| >45 | 60 | 20 | 33.33 | 21 | 35.00 | |
| Total | 300 | 76 | 25.33 | 103 | 34.33 | |
| $\chi^2 = 0.62, P<0.05$ | | | | | | |
| Caste | | | | | | Z= 0.34 P>0.05 |
| SC/ST | 119 | 21 | 17.64 | 23 | 20.83 | |
| OBC | 123 | 50 | 40.65 | 50 | 40.65 | |
| General | 58 | 11 | 18.96 | 22 | 37.93 | |
| $\chi^2 = 0.24 P<0.05$ | | | | | | |
| Educational Status | | | | | | Z=-2.26 p>0.05 |
| Illiterate | 140 | 29 | 20.71 | 33 | 21.42 | |
| Primary-Middle | 87 | 23 | 26.43 | 30 | 34.48 | |
| High School and more | 73 | 17 | 23.28 | 30 | 41.09 | |
| $\chi^2 = 0.53 P<0.05$ | | | | | | |

The first part of the table shows the effect of age on membership in Panchayat Sabha. It is clear from the table that before Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, 22.90% of Women entrepreneurs belonging to the age group of 30-45 years followed by 24.28% belonging to the age group of less than equal to 30 years and 33.00% of more than 45 years of age had financial decision-making power. However, after starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, there is an increase in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs and an almost similar trend is observed i.e. 34.70% in (31-45 years) followed by 32.85% and 35% in the age group of (less than equal to 30 years and more than 45 years) of age group. The proportional Z test shows that there is no significant improvement in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs belonging to

different age groups before and after Starting agricultural entrepreneurship regarding financial decision-making power. Statistical Chi-square test shows that there is no significant difference in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs among the different age groups regarding financial decision-making power before as well as after Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship.

The second part of the table shows the effect of caste on financial decision-making power. It is evident from the table that before becoming the Starting Agricultural entrepreneur, only 40.65% (OBC caste) followed by 18.96% (General caste) and the remaining 17.64% (SC/ST caste) category had financial decision-making power. But after starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, there is an increase in

the proportion of Women entrepreneurs according to different caste categories with 40.65 % (OBC) category followed by 37.93% (General) category and the rest 20.83% (SC/ST) category regarding financial decision-making power. The proportional Z test shows that there is an increase in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs in different caste category between before and after Starting agricultural entrepreneurship but that increase is found to be insignificant. The chi-Square test states that there is no significant difference among the proportion of Women entrepreneurs, who accepted having financial decision-making power before Starting agricultural entrepreneurship but after Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, the difference among the proportion of Women entrepreneurs is found to be significant. The null hypotheses are accepted at a 5% level of significance.

The third part of the table shows the effect of education on membership in Panchayat Sabha. It is evident from the table that before becoming a Starting Agricultural entrepreneur, 23.28 high school followed by 20.71% (illiterate), and the rest 26.43% (primary-middle) had financial decision-making power. But after starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, an increase in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs holding financial decision-making power or Government committee is observed among various educational statuses i. e 41.06% (high school and more) followed by 21.42 % (illiterate) and 34.48% (primary-middle) had financial decision making power. The proportional Z test

shows that the differences in proportions of Women entrepreneurs before and after starting agricultural entrepreneurship significant only in high school and more status that is educational. Further, the Chi-square test also states insignificant differences among the different educational statuses of Women entrepreneur is observed before starting agricultural entrepreneurship whereas highly significant differences are found among the different educational status of Women entrepreneur after Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship.

5.2 Membership and participation in Panchayat Sabha committee:

The Panchayat Sabha committee is equipped to make sure that female issues are addressed. Various problems such as the availability of water, fitness, etc. want greater interest in the case of girls and girls must increase such troubles in the committee. Women participants are elected to the committee however; their participation properly in selection making is very low. Agricultural entrepreneurship assists the Women entrepreneur in growing attention about membership as properly as the advantages of participation in such committees.

H0: There is no difference in the participation of women in Gram Sabha before doing entrepreneurship and after it.

H1: There is a difference in the participation of women in Gram Sabha before doing entrepreneurship and after it.

Table 3

Women entrepreneurs in Panchayat Sabha before and after Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship.

| Membership in Panchayat Sabha | Before | | After | |
|-------------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | No. | % | No. | % |
| Yes | 77 | 25.67 | 110 | 36.7 |
| No | 223 | 74.33 | 190 | 63.3 |
| Total | 300 | 100.0 | 300 | 100.0 |

Table 5.4 describes the distribution of Women entrepreneurs based on membership in Panchayat

Sabha before and after starting Agricultural entrepreneurship. The table indicates that only

25.67% of the Women entrepreneur answered in the affirmative to the question while the remaining 74.33% the Women entrepreneur returned the opinion that they have not had membership in Panchayat Sabha before Starting agricultural entrepreneurship after Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, 36.7% answered in the affirmative to the question on membership with Panchayat

Sabha and 63.3% Women entrepreneur returning the opinion that they have not had membership in Panchayat Sabha. The proportional Z test also proves the fact that there is no significant increase in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs before and after Starting agricultural entrepreneurship on membership in Panchayat Sabha.

Table 3

Distribution of Women entrepreneurs based on membership in Panchayat Sabha before and after Starting agricultural entrepreneurship according to age, caste, and educational status.

| Women entrepreneur in Panchayat Sabha | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| Age | Number | Before | | After | | |
| | | No. | % | No. | % | |
| ≤30 | 75 | 15 | 20.00 | 24 | 32.00 | Z= -0.14 P<0.05 |
| 30-45 | 175 | 44 | 25.58 | 57 | 32.57 | |
| >45 | 50 | 18 | 36.00 | 11 | 22.00 | |
| Total | 300 | 77 | 24.00 | 92 | 30.70 | |
| $\chi^2 = 0.12, P<0.05$ | | | | | | |
| Caste | | | | | | Z= 1.13 α level= 10% P>0.05 |
| SC/ST | 120 | 21 | 17.50 | 25 | 20.83 | |
| OBC | 134 | 45 | 33.58 | 54 | 40.29 | |
| General | 46 | 09 | 19.56 | 11 | 23.91 | |
| $\chi^2 = 6.89 P>0.05$ | | | | | | |
| Educational Status | | | | | | Z=-1.22 p>0.001 |
| Illiterate | 138 | 31 | 22.46 | 35 | 25.36 | |
| Primary-Middle | 100 | 24 | 24.00 | 27 | 27.00 | |
| High School and more | 62 | 16 | 25.80 | 28 | 45.16 | |
| $\chi^2 = 0.006 P<0.001$ | | | | | | |

Table 3 illustrates the distribution of entrepreneur women based on membership in panchayat Sabha before and after Starting agricultural entrepreneurship according to age, caste, and educational status. It is evident from the above table that out of the total selected Women entrepreneur, only 25.67% were holding membership in Panchayat Sabha before Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship,

but membership in Panchayat Sabha increased to 36.7% after starting Agricultural entrepreneurship.

The first part of the table shows the effect of age on membership in Panchayat Sabha. It is clear from the table that before Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, 25.58% of Women entrepreneurs belonging to the age group of 30-45 years followed

by 20.00% belonging to the age group of less than equal to 30 years and 36.00% of more than 45 years of age had membership in Panchayat Sabha. But after starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, there is an increase in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs and an almost similar trend is observed i.e., 32.57% in (31-45 years) followed by 32.00% and 22% in the age group of (less than equal to 30 years and more than 45 years) of age group. The proportional Z test shows that there is no significant improvement in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs belonging to different age groups before and after Starting agricultural entrepreneurship regarding membership in Panchayat Sabha. Statistical Chi-square test shows that there is no significant difference in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs among the different age groups regarding membership in Panchayat Sabha before as well as after Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship.

The second part of the table shows the effect of caste on membership in the Panchayat Sabha. It is evident from the table that before becoming the Starting Agricultural entrepreneur, only 33.58% (OBC caste) followed by 19.56% (General caste) and the remaining 17.5% (SC/ST caste) category had membership in Panchayat Sabha. But after starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, there is an increase in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs according to different caste categories with 40.29 % (OBC) category followed by 23.91% (General) category and the rest 20.83% (SC/ST) category regarding membership in Panchayat Sabha. The proportional Z test shows that there is an increase in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs in different caste category between before and after Starting agricultural entrepreneurship but that increase is found to be insignificant. The chi-Square test states that there is a significant difference among the proportion of Women entrepreneurs who accepted having membership in Panchayat Sabha before Starting agricultural entrepreneurship but after Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, the difference among the proportion of Women entrepreneurs is found to

be significant. The research hypotheses are accepted at a 5% level of significance.

The third part of the table shows the effect of education on membership in Panchayat Sabha. It is evident from the table that before becoming a Starting Agricultural entrepreneur, 25.80 high schools followed by 24.00% (illiterate), and the rest 22.46% (primary-middle) had membership in Panchayat Sabha. But after starting Agricultural entrepreneurship, an increase in the proportion of Women entrepreneurs holding membership in Panchayat Sabha or Government committees is observed among various educational statuses i.e. 45.16% (high school and more) followed by 27.00 % (illiterate) and 25.36% (primary-middle) had membership in Panchayat Sabha. The proportional Z test shows that differences in proportions of Women entrepreneurs before and after Starting agricultural entrepreneurship significant only in high school and more educational status. Further, the Chi-square test also states insignificant differences among the different educational status of Women entrepreneur is observed before Starting agricultural entrepreneurship whereas highly significant differences are found among the different educational status of Women entrepreneur after Starting Agricultural entrepreneurship. The research hypothesis is accepted at a 0.1% level of significance

CONCLUSION

Agricultural Entrepreneurship has been a tool for the development of the rural and farm-dependent population. It has also given a new cope of business for non-agricultural needy people. As we have discussed in the paper it has a significant effect on the life of people. In this paper, we tried to find out the role of agricultural entrepreneurship on women, especially rural women. We found that there is a significant change in the life of women as we can see that more than 60 percent of the respondent answered that after starting entrepreneurship, they got a role in the financial decision-making process of the household which they were not getting earlier.

We show in our study that when we discussed financial decision-making power concerning age, Caste, and educational status there are no significant changes but we can see in the study that there is significant scope for different results if the research would have been done on a larger scale. We have also discussed the participation of women in gram Sabha after entrepreneurship development and we found that there is also a significant change in women's status. We show that there is no significant change in the women's participation in gram panchayat according to their age and educational status however there is a significant change according to their cast. this is a clear indicator of the empowerment of women in the Jalaun district however there is a need for other support by which entrepreneurship could result in more significant empowerment.

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