



Socio-Economic Status Of Women In Rural Haryana

Parul^{1*}

^{1*}PhD Research Scholar, Department of Geography M D University, Rohtak Email ID: ishwarmalik@gmail.com Contact No. 8199979876

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ABSTRACT

Although they may be in the same geographical location, men and women may not necessarily enjoy equal treatment in every part of the world. Truthfully, women face discrimination in a variety of spheres, including politics, the economy, society, and culture; access to healthcare, education, and financial and material resources; and the cultural and political spheres as a whole. Achieving the welfare-oriented plan's goals is a group of women working together to empower women of all economic backgrounds to reach their full potential. Despite its relative youth, the idea of women's status has quickly developed into a complex, multi-faceted, and dynamic concept. The majority of the time, its relations take the stage. Despite this, there are huge differing opinions on whether or not women's status is a legitimate idea. As stated by the United Nations, "status" is "the extent to which an individual has control over his or her life, derived from the access to knowledge, social and economic resources, political power and autonomy enjoyed in the process of decision making." People are ranked based on factors like education, employment, money, sense of one's standing in the home and society, ability to make decisions, amount of restrictions on one's activities, freedom, and similarly. One way to rank people based on these traits is using the concept of status. By comparing "status" according to these characteristics, it becomes glaringly obvious that women's positions differ over the world. People in affluent countries tend to think women have it bad, but in developing countries it's even worse.

Keywords: Socio-Economic, Status, Women empowerment, Social

INTRODUCTION

As compared to men, women's status is defined by the position they hold in society. Factors such as work type, pay rate, employment status, health, and level of education have been the focus of a great deal of research that aims to characterise women's positions. By contrast, a woman's composite status—which may be measured by how much agency she possesses—can impact her standing in a given society. The extent to which she is able to make decisions at pivotal points in her life, the resources at her disposal, and her level of financial independence are all elements that affect her sense of control (Sipla, 2016; Bhargawa, 2015; Sexena, 2015). Even if they share the same physical location, men and women may not necessarily experience equal treatment in every part of the world.

When it comes to health care, education, physical and financial resources, and chances in the cultural, political, economic, and social spheres, women genuinely face discrimination (Das 2013). Not to mention that women have less access to these opportunities than men do. It is considered the usual for women in Indian society to lead the home, bear the majority of the childrearing burden, and mediate conflicts between family members (Yadava, 2016). Having said that, this specific stereotype has evolved within the past many decades. From prime minister to speaker of the Lok Sabha to president to leader of the opposition, women have occupied several prominent positions in contemporary India. However, women in India still face a lot of socioeconomic issues throughout the country. The results of a global assessment by Thomson Reuters place India at number four on the list of "fourth most dangerous countries" for women.

Individuals are ranked according to criteria such as education, employment, money, sense of one's standing in the home and in society, ability to make decisions, and amount of constraints put on one's activities, freedom, and so on. The concept of status helps in the ranking of individuals according to these characteristics. The evaluation of the "status" in relation to these traits makes it abundantly clear that the

position of women varies from one nation to another. The position of women is often seen as being low in industrialized nations, while it is appallingly low in nations that have not yet developed.

Women and socioeconomic status

There is a direct correlation between the participation of women in all aspects of society, including the economic, political, and social sectors, and the success of any nation. It is impossible for a nation to have seamless operations without this engagement. The modern civilization places a major emphasis on the roles that women play. The majority of people have been ignoring the roles that women play in society throughout the course of the last several decades; however, things are beginning to become more evident to people nowadays. In the past, women were considered to be wives who were responsible for taking care of the home, including cooking and cleaning. The ability to vote was denied to them, and males were responsible for finding work and ensuring that they had enough money to support themselves. Within a short period of time, the concept that women ought to have a more significant role than what other people felt became readily obvious. In order to make their point that they should be granted the same rights as everyone else, women would organize marches and go on strike. Despite the fact that women make up the majority of workers in agriculture, the bulk of the compensation they receive for their job is inadequate on a worldwide scale. The right to live a life that is both independent and dignified is guaranteed to women. Equal treatment of women and men is a badge of honor for those who work to alleviate poverty and advance development. In addition to enhancing the well-being and productivity of their whole family and community, women who are empowered not only create more chances for future generations, but they also enhance the health of their own families.

Women entrepreneurs risks and overcome obstacles.

The household responsibilities that women perform are highly valued in every community, and they are strongly urged to remain confined to the bounds of the home. Both taking care of the house and raising their children were their major duties; however, things are beginning to shift in a different direction. According to Narayan (1999), women were frequently portrayed as "homemakers," the primary caregivers of their families, and the individuals who were responsible for maintaining the well-being of their husbands and children. This definition was applied across all countries. There are a lot of pull reasons that drive women to seek entrepreneurship. Some of these draw factors include high unemployment rates, severe financial situations, social recognition, and others. Clearly, there is a growing number of women who are entering the workforce. There is a wide range of reasons why women are encouraged to find employment. Beginning, gathering resources, taking risks, overcoming hurdles, and launching their own enterprises are all parts of the entrepreneurial process for women. A company is considered to be women-owned and managed by the Indian government if at least 51% of the capital is owned by women and at least 51% of the jobs produced are held by women. This definition applies to businesses that are located in India. As a consequence of this, the term "women entrepreneurship" refers to the establishment of a business or organization by a woman or collection of women.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. Researching women's socioeconomic position
2. Women Entrepreneurship: Overcoming Obstacles and Risks

RESEARCH METHOD

Researchers use the term "research architecture" to describe the overall plan they have for conducting their investigation. This design allows researchers to focus on the most effective study methods for the topic and organise their investigations in a way that maximises the likelihood of success. Whether or whether women have experienced discrimination determines their status in society, which in turn is a product of their past and present social circumstances. The status of women cannot be ascertained by means of a solitary statistic. Given this, it has been proven by multiple authors in this study through the use of indirect indications. We can broadly group these measures into three categories: the sex ratio, female literacy, and female labour force participation. These groups are derived from societal economics.

The state of Haryana is rapidly urbanizing and places a high importance on individual liberty and cultural diversity. Girls' education is being prioritized in order to increase the likelihood that they will marry into houses of higher social status and obtain employment, which is causing the age of marriage to be pushed earlier. It is becoming increasingly common for women to participate in political processes and to have the power to make their own choices. A variety of programs are being carried out by the government with the intention of enhancing the position of women. Therefore, this study aims to investigate women's status in terms of their economic standing, political influence, and level of education. This study aims to examine the economic, social, political, and educational status of women in Haryana.

Sampling:

As a means of conducting this research, we have utilized the family unit as a unit to investigate the situation of women living in rural Haryana districts. We decided to conduct our presence research in the districts of Gurugram and Nuh because of the gender ratio as well as the greater and lower percentages of female literacy in those geographic areas. The selection of two villages from each block and one village from each district was accomplished through the use of a lottery. After going through this process, the villages of Khandsa and Silokhra, which are located in the Gurgaon block, as well as Hassanpur Tarou and Mohmmadpur Ahir, which are located in the Tarou block, were selected. Through the use of quota sampling, we were able to get the primary data since each hamlet included a diverse range of castes in its total number of dwellings. As an additional measure, we employed quota sampling in order to carry out an exhaustive investigation of the respondents. For the purpose of this study, the quota sample groups consisted of a total of ten respondents from each hamlet, and they were restricted to only married women. A total of ninety individuals participated in the study, which was conducted in four different villages..

Method of data collecting:

We gathered primary and secondary data for this investigation. The interview schedule was used to assist collect the primary data. Three sections made up the interview schedule. We posed the first section of the schedule with basic questions on the respondents. In this section, we gathered data on the respondents' age, occupation, marital age, and level of education, among other things, as well as the makeup of their households. There were both structured and open-ended questions in the second and third sections of the schedule. We gathered information on the status of women in health care, education, and employment across caste, class, and religious boundaries, as well as domestic violence. We also looked at the effects of government policies and initiatives to improve the status of women.

DATA ANALYSIS

Reasons for entering a Self-Help Group In order to carry out this analysis, the members of SHGs were asked to rank the precise reasons for joining the groups in order of importance. In order to conduct an analysis of the reasons why a member of the household joined the group, all of the potential reasons were communicated to the individuals who became members of the Self-Help groups. In order to determine the order of relevance for the reasons, they were asked to evaluate them.

Table 1: Rural Haryana Distribution of the respondents on the basis of economic variables

S. No.	Economic variables	F	%
1.	Land holding		
	No land	18	3
	1.0 to 2.5 acres	528	88.00
	2.6 to 5.0 acres	54	9.00
2.	Housing		
	Kutch house	0	0
	Mixed house (Partially kutch + pucca house)	152	25.33
	Pucca house	448	74.66
3.	Livestock ownership Small herd size	398	66.33
	Medium herd size	150	33.33
	Large herd size	52	25.00
4.	Dwelling for livestock		
	Open/Nil	100	16.66
	Thatched / Kutch	300	50.00
	Pucca	200	33.33

Table 1 (a): Motives for Participating in SHG

Sr. No.	Reasons	Score	Mean	Rank
		Total		
1	To pay off previous obligations	21883.33	36.5	5
2	In order to keep the dwelling expenses stable	19316.67	32.2	6
3	For the purpose of encouraging savings	28683.33	47.8	4
4	In order to improve one's standing in society	43016.67	71.7	1
5	To encourage actions that generate revenue	38383.33	64.4	2
6	In order to obtain a loan	28783.33	48.0	3

Source: Primary data

Based on the data in table 1, it is clear that "to enhance status in society" is the main reason people join SHGs, followed by "to encourage activities that create cash." I then moved on to "To get loan" as my second reason. As for the fourth reason, "To repay old obligations," the next one on the list. The fourth justification was "to encourage saving." Joining the SHG was a final resort for keeping up with housing-related costs.

Table 2: SHG respondents on the basis of age of the group

Age of the Group	No of Respondents	Percentage
Below 3 years	150	25.0
3 to 5 years	168	28.0
Above 5 years	282	47.0
Total	600	100

Source: Primary data

The majority of the responders, representing 47% of the total, were members of the groups that had been created five years prior. There are 28 percent of respondents that belong to the age groups of three to five years old. Only twenty-five percent of the organizations that were surveyed had been created for less than three years.

The next table presents the distribution of respondents according to the age at which they joined the group:

Table 3: Presentation of the Distribution of Respondents According to the Age of Membership in the Group

No of Years in the Group	No of Respondents	Percentage
Below 2 years	72	12.0
2-3 years	189	31.5
3-5 years	189	31.5
5-7 Years	112	18.7
Above 7 years	38	6.3
Total	600	100

Source: Primary data

The majority of respondents — 31.5% — had been members of the group for two to three years, and for three to five years. 18% of the participants have been a part of the club for between 5 and 7 years. Twelve percent of the people who responded had been a part of the organization for a period of time that is shorter than two years. Six point three percent of the members have been a part of the club for more than seven years.

Table 4: The total number of loans that the respondents obtained through the SHG

Number of Loan Taken	No of Respondents	Percentage
One	48	8.0
2 to 4	416	69.3
4 to 6	68	11.3
More than 6	68	11.3
Total	600	100

Source: Primary data

The vast majority of respondents, 69.3%, had taken out two to three loans. 11.3% of respondents have taken out loans between four and six times, while 11.3% of respondents have taken out loans more than six times. Only one loan was taken out by eight percent of the respondents.

Table 5: Respondents' total amount of loans that they have paid back

Number of Loan Repaid	No of Respondents	Percentage
One	131	21.83
2 to 4	365	60.83
4 to 6	50	8.33
More than 6	54	9.0
Total	600	100

Source: Primary data

The percentage of borrowers who had paid back their debts twice or more was 60.83 percent. Only 21.83 percent of people who took out the loan have paid it back. Contrarily, 9.0 percent of respondents have paid off six loans or more, and 8.33 percent have paid off four to six loans.

Table 6: The most recent loan amount

Size of of latest Loan Taken	No of Respondents	Percentage
< Rs. 5000	34	5.7
Rs. 5000 to 10000	188	31.3
Rs. 10000 to 15000	98	16.3
Rs. 15000 to 20000	54	9.0
>Rs. 20000	226	37.7
Total	600	100

Source: Primary data

When it comes to the most recent loan that the respondents have taken out, 37.7% of them have taken out loans exceeding Rs. 20,000. A loan ranging from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000 has been taken out by 31.3% of the respondents. A loan ranging from 10,000 to 15,000 rupees has been taken out by 16.3 percent of the respondents. The respondents have taken out loans ranging from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000. Only 5.7% of the members have taken out loans which are lower than 5.7%.

Participation in the Self-Help Group Has Resulted in Empowerment:

The degree to which someone feels empowered is hard to pin down, and no single method has been found to do so. It is characterised by means of indicators. The scope of empowerment indicators must encompass individual, societal, and economic development. Each survey taker was given one or more of the following empowerment indicators. For the purpose of calculating an average weight, we use a five-point scale: 1 for very disgrace, 2 for disgrace, 3 for neutrality, 4 for agreement, and 5 for strong agreement. The tables that follow offer the findings from this analysis. Finding and comparing the average levels of satisfaction with each component among the respondents is the goal of this study.

Table 7: Empowerment after joining SHG is outlined

S. No.	Indicators of Empowerment	Weighted Average
1	Financial autonomy	3.840
2	The level of living has gone up	3.783
3	Have a firm grasp of credit management and an understanding of how banks work	4.293
4	Positive public relations and active engagement in society	3.360
5	At the individual, community, village, and home levels, decision-making is an expression of self.	3.273
6	Removing obstacles based on religion, social status, and culture	2.762
7	Leadership attributes	3.955
8	Improvements in technology and skill sets	3.853

Source: Primary data

According to the data presented in the table, the average empowerment scores after participating in SHGs range from 2.762 to 4.293. The statement "Breaking social, religious, and cultural boundaries" had the lowest mean score and was ranked last, whereas the statement "Understand the banking operation and expertise on credit management" had the highest mean score and was ranked first.

Based on the average scores of the participants, we can determine the null hypothesis, and the results are shown in the table below.

After joining the group, there was no statistically significant difference in the mean ratings of the empowerment factors among the respondents, as stated in the null hypothesis.

Table 8: Anova Table

Source	DF	SS	MS	F
Between groups	7	969.867	107.763	108.62**
Within groups	4792	4754.055	.992	

**- significant at 1% level.

Since F is statistically significant, we may reject the null hypothesis that the participants' mean empowerment scores did not change after they joined the group. Consequently, it may be concluded that the mean scores of the respondents vary significantly.

Analysing Factors: Compressing and reducing a collection of numerous variables into a smaller set of variables called factors is the goal of factor analysis, a multivariate statistical method. This approach is helpful for getting to the bottom of what makes the connection between the observed variables. On top of that, it provides an empirical classification scheme that classifies claims into component categories. The

following tables display the results of the factor analysis. Using the eight empowerment indicator statements (S1, S2,..., S8), the analysis is carried out.

Table 9: The Rotated Factor Loading

	I	II	Communality
Financial autonomy While I	0.732	0.067	0.541
Living conditions have improved - S2	0.740	0.286	0.629
Familiarity with credit management-S3 and understanding of banking operations	0.048	0.664	0.443
Effective social engagement and public relations - S4	0.631	0.237	0.455
Expression of self-determination in community, village, and family settings (S5)	0.798	0.210	0.680
Descending the boundaries of social, religious, and cultural norms S6	0.798	-0.037	0.638
Competencies for leadership - S7	0.193	0.805	0.685
Improvements in technology and skill sets	0.156	0.689	0.499
Eigen. value	2.818	1.750	4.568
% of varimax	35.226	21.879	57.105
Cum % of varimax	35.226	57.105	

To make things easier for you, Table 9 shows the communalities, eigenvalues, rotational factor loadings, and the percentage of variation that can be explained by the factors. We can now isolate two variables from the set of eight indicators; when combined, they account for 57.105% more of the variation in these problems than the other two aspects. To make the results more understandable and reduce the overall number of elements, the components are rotated. The enhanced factor interpretation is a direct result of the rotation. Numerous applications of the initial factor matrix exist for the purpose of providing a simple framework for the data. The results of one of these methods, the varimax rotation, are displayed in section 4.2, and they are used to gain a more favourable interpretation.

The clustering of indicators of empowerment into factors will be presented in Table 11.

Factor	Indicators	Rotated Factor Loadings
1. (35.226%)	Economic independence S1	0.732
	Standard of living has improved S2	0.740
	Good public relation & social participation S4	0.631
	Self expression-decision making in community, village and households S5	0.798
	Breaking social, religious and cultural barriers-S6	0.798
II. (21.879%)	Understand the banking operation & knowledge on credit management –S3	0.664
	Leadership qualities S7	0.805
	Skill up gradation and better technology	0.689

After much analysis, four factors were identified as responsible for the majority of the observed variance. Component I, which includes the five indicators S1, S2, S4, S5, and S6, accounts for 35,226% of the total variation. Factor II was formed by the three statements S3, S7, and S8, which accounted for 21.879% of the total variance.

The eight claims were streamlined and decreased using factor analysis, which led to the identification of two components that accounted for 57.105% of the total variability.

Results and Discussion:

- According to the findings, the primary motivation for respondents to join the SHG is said to be "to raise status in society," followed by "to promote activities that generate income."

- The vast majority of those who responded had previous experience. 47% of the population was a member of the groupings that had been created five years prior.
- As a result of this, it can be deduced that 31.5% of the respondents had been members of the group for three to five years. Along the same lines, 31.5% of respondents had been members of the group for a period of two to three years.
- The majority of respondents, 68.3%, had taken out between two and four loans. There are 11.3% of respondents who have taken out the greatest number of loans, which is defined as more than six times.
- The majority of respondents, 60.83 percent, had returned their loans for two to four times. The respondents are timely in returning their debts, as seen by the comparison between the loans they have taken out and the ones they have paid back.
- With regard to the most recent loan that all of the respondents have obtained, 37.7% of them have obtained loans that are greater than Rs. 20,000.
- A null hypothesis is constructed based on the mean scores of the respondents, and the outcome demonstrates that there is no significant difference in the mean scores of the respondents on the components of empowerment after they joined the group.
- Following the completion of the factor analysis, the eight statements concerning signs of empowerment were reduced and simplified, and they were classified into factors that explained 57.105% of the variability of all eight claims.

CONCLUSION

Without first gaining a grasp of the gendered basis of inequality, it is hard to comprehend the position that women have in India. When attempting to determine the sorts of obstacles and constraints that women experience in the process of performing their varied responsibilities in society, the socioeconomic element is an essential component to consider. The purpose of the current research project, which is titled "Status of women in rural Haryana: A Sociological study," is to analyze the manner in which women are treated in rural communities located in the communities of Gurugram and Nuh states. Education is one of the primary components that has been essential in gaining an awareness of the purpose for education in terms of resolving the imbalance that exists between men and women in a variety of socioeconomic areas of life. Nevertheless, it received support from individuals who advocated for social reform, professionals, professors, and educationists from a wide range of social scientific backgrounds. She is now able to fully participate in society and engage in economic activities that are in accordance with the shifting requirements of individuals from different social classes as a result of the education that she has received. There are now more employment opportunities available to women as a result of their increasing degrees (educational attainment). Women with lesser levels of education and those from lower social classes are more likely to be employed in the unorganized sector, whereas the majority of younger women are employed in organized sectors such as banking, nursing, and teaching. The ladies are carrying out the welfare-oriented plan for women in an effective way, which is allowing for the long-term development of women who come from a variety of socioeconomic levels.

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