

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SELF-HELP GROUPS IN VIDISHA DISTRICT OF MADHYA PRADESH

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Abstract: Self-help Groups (SHGs) are pioneer for success of community development. It's not exaggeration if we say that they are the milestone for covering up the status and position of women which was lacking since independence. It is one of the important platforms for addressing the gender issues of economic development in its best possible way. The SHGs are not only providing access to financial services but also develop the sense of understanding about the market workings and informing the women members about the numerous welfare programmes. Therefore, Self-help Groups are the important key for women empowerment. Keeping these things in view the study was conducted to determine the extent of empowerment of rural women members through SHGs in Vidisha block of Vidisha District of Madhya Pradesh in 2016 by interviewing 60 rural women from 10 Self Help Groups. Maximum number of respondents belongs to medium category of overall empowerment. The main purpose of joining Self help group is to get loans and to promote their savings. Lack of encouragement, Lack of social mobility and income derived was too low were the major personal problem, social problem and economic problem observed by the respondents.

Keywords: Self help groups, Women empowerment

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