



A STUDY ABOUT WOMEN ON RURAL FARMING

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Abstract:

This article study about Women on Rural Farming in India. It aims to study the status of women in farming and mentioning various activities is dominantly performed by women. It is the backbone of the economy for developing countries around the world. India is mainly depending on agriculture activities, where the most of its farmer's workforce are dominated by women. Farming process like sowing, transplanting, manure application, weeding, thinning, gap filling, harvesting crop and cutting of grass, picking, winnowing, drying grains, storage, grading, etc. are found mainly performing by women. So, it is unavoidable that women farmers are the backbone of the rural farming.

Keywords: Agriculture, Rural Women, Development

Introduction

Agriculture is the largest sector of our economic activities. Agriculture provides capital for its own development as well as provides necessary surplus capitals for our national economic development. In the initial stage of development of a country, export of agricultural goods earns foreign exchange, which is utilized for importing necessary goods for development of industry in the country. The agricultural scenario in rural India presents a very intricate picture of role of women and activities related to complete farm production. In fact, women and agriculture seems to be synonymous terms. Many experts on evolution opined that it is the woman who is responsible for settled agriculture.

It is found that almost of the people are living in rural areas. Around 2 billion rural people depending on agriculture for their livelihood. While more than 1/3 of the world's population derives their livelihood from agriculture, with the largest concentration of agricultural population in Asia (FAO, 2013) where 1/4 of it comprised of women (ILO, 2016, 2017). In India, where women are the backbone of the agriculture activities (Kaur & Mavi, 2015; National Research Centre for Women in Agriculture, 2004; Singh, Kushwah, Singh, & Daipuria, 2015). more than 60% of women farmers are comprised of the agricultural workforce in many South East Asian and Sub-Saharan African Countries (ILO, 2017).

Participation of Rural Women in Agricultural Sector:

In the process of empowerment and building up the capacity of rural women the critical new experience can be provided through well designed intercultural exchanges and training capsules. With well organized programmes, farm women in groups can be encouraged to visit other's farm in the neighboring villages as well as outside- with in the country or outside so as to enable them to exchange their ideas and see the agriculture practices being followed in their cultures. Rural Women are spending their maximum time in agriculture activities in terms of producing of food in quality and quantity. Of the economically active women population composed of 77 percent against the 64 percent of men who are engaged in agriculture (Jaiswal, Gauraha, & Banafar, 2018; Patra et al., 2018). But involvement and participation of agricultural decision making is absent. In India the constraining factors are more complex in nature owing to economic, educational and allied conditions of women. (Chayal, Dhaka, Poonia, Tyagi, & Verma, 2013; Jaiswal et al., 2018; Kumari, 2003; Patra et al., 2018).

Conclusion:

Women are never motivated to participate in the race of development within their social circle, but their role cannot be ignored due to various reasons. It is self-explanatory that if half of the population does not participate fully, the concept of rural development will remain an unachievable goal. Women has to be encouraged to participate in a much improved way if they remain dubious about their own roles and strength, the process of development will definitely hampered for a long time. On the other, Participation of women's in rural agriculture decision making is a paramount attribute for overall development.

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