

ROLE OF EDUCATED RURAL WOMEN IN HOUSEHOLD ACTIVITIES IN DHARMAVARAM BLOCK OF ANANTAPUR DISTRICT IN ANDHRA PRADESH STATE

Devarakonda Hemalatha¹ & Dipak Kumar Bose²

¹*Research Scholar, Department of Agricultural. Extension & Communication SHUATS, Prayagraj, India*

²*Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural. Extension & Communication SHUATS, Prayagraj, India*

ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Anantapur District of Andhra Pradesh to measure the role of educated rural woman in household activities in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh. A total number of 120 respondents were selected randomly from four villages under Dharmavaram block because most of the educated women were involved in house hold activities. The data were collected through personnel interview method by using pre structured interview schedule and later appropriate statistical analysis applied to draw logical findings. The findings revealed that age, occupation, land holding, annual income, farming experience, mass media exposure, risk orientation and extension contact of the respondents belongs to medium level; innovativeness and social participation of the respondents belongs to low level. Most of the respondents belong to graduate level of education. Age, education, occupation, land holding, annual income, farming experience, mass media exposure, innovativeness, social participation, extension contact and risk orientation were positively and significantly correlated with house hold activities of the role of educated rural women in farm operations and house hold activities at 0.01 % of probability.

KEYWORDS: *House Hold Activities, Role of Educated Rural Women*

Article History

Received: 08 Apr 2022 | Revised: 11 Apr 2022 | Accepted: 12 Apr 2022

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is the backbone of our country. It has got a prime role in Indian economy. Indian foreign trade is associated with agriculture sector and its related goods contribute 12 per cent in total exports of the country. Agriculture is not only responsible for food supply to 1.3 billion population, but also contribute around 16.5 per cent of country's GDP with tremendous domestic and export marketing potential. Rural women throughout Asia and the Pacific region make critical contributions to household production and consequently to household and national food security. Although the specific nature of their contribution varies among the various Asian and Pacific countries, clearly the majority of rural women take on an increasing share of household labour and their lives are characterized by mounting drudgery. (agricoop.nic.in)

In India, about 75 per cent of the population lives in rural areas. More than 50 per cent of this population is characterised by extreme poverty, illiteracy, ill health and subservience to anachronistic skills and behaviour. The poverty alleviation programmes of the government have made some impact on the situation, but the position of rural women largely remains static because of two factors: low status in family and society and a discriminatory division of labour which relegated women to unskilled tasks and non-visible work patterns inherent in their subordinate position. Although article 45 of the Indian Constitution promises primary education for all children and equality is assured by the constitution

and several legislative measures, the bulk of rural girls and women have remained illiterate and unaware of fundamental human rights. The overall literacy percentage for women is 24 but that of rural women is barely 18.

This analysis of rural women's situation in household production synthesizes information from diverse sources into a framework portraying the diversity and complexity of rural women's contributions. The framework presents linkages among gender specific contributions, drudgery and resource access constraints within the household and community setting. Rural women's role in household production is considered in terms of farm production, home production, off-farm production and community production. The foundations of rural women's contributions can be seen in terms of labour and managerial inputs, as well as local and traditional knowledge and expertise (Sharma and Badodiya 2016).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Descriptive research design was adopted for the study as it describes the characteristics or phenomena that are being studied. The present study was conducted in Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh. Out of 63 blocks in Anantapur district, Dharmavaram block is selected purposively based on maximum area covered under educated women. From the selected block, four villages were selected purposively based on the maximum area covered under educated women.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To ascertain the socio-economic profile of the respondents.
- To determine the house hold activities performed by the respondents.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Table 1, it shows that 48.33 per cent of the respondents belongs to the middle age group. In the survey we find that the 37.50 per cent of the respondents has graduation and above of their education status. In terms of annual income 52.50 per cent of the respondents have medium level of income in which 59.16 per cent of the respondents has 2- 5 acres of land holding. Find out that 62.50 per cent of the respondents has working both farm operation and house hold activities. Therefore 49.17 per cent of the respondents have small family size. It is also evident that 51.67 per cent of the respondents has medium level of farm experience. It is evident that 63.33 per cent of the respondents has medium level of mass media exposure and 60.00 per cent of the respondents has medium level of innovativeness. It is seen that term of social participation 46.67 per cent of the respondents belong to medium level and 40.83 per cent of the respondents has medium level of risk orientation. Finally 48.33 per cent of the respondents have medium level of extension agent contact. Similar finding is also reported by (Sharma and Badodiya, 2016)

Table 2 it shows that a majority of the respondents 49.17 per cent has medium level of house hold activities of the educated rural women. 65.00 per cent of the respondents were under sole activity about the purchase of food items. 51.67 per cent of the respondents were under sole activity about the Purchase of household materials. 46.67 per cent of the respondents were under sole activity about the collecting of water. 60.00 per cent of the respondents were under sole activity about the cleanliness of house. 63.33 per cent of the respondents were under sole activity about the cooking of food. 65.00 per cent of the respondents were under joint activity about the care of children. 55.83 per cent of the respondents were under sole activity about the washing clothes. 53.33 per cent of the respondents were under sole activity about the care of elderly family member. 50.00 per cent of the respondents were under joint activity about the social rituals- marriage etc., 59.17 per cent of the respondents were under joint activity about the rope making. 66.66 per cent of the respondents were not performed about the mushroom cultivation. 46.67 per

cent of the respondents were under sole activity about the Children's education making, 54.16 per cent of the respondents were under joint activity about the housing budget and 40.83 per cent of the respondents were under sole activity about the backyard gardening. Similar findings is also reported by (Subama *et.al.*2021)

Table 3, reveals that 49.17 per cent of the respondents has medium level of house hold activities of the educated rural women. Considerable percentage of the respondents were found having low 15.00 per cent and high level of house hold activities of 35.83 per cent respectively. The similar finding were also reported by Subama *et.al.*(2021)

Table 4 shows concluded that the independent variables i.e. age, education, occupation, land holding, annual income, farming experience, mass media exposure, innovativeness, social participation, risk orientation and extension contact were positively and significantly correlated with house hold activities of the role of educated rural women in farm operations and house hold activities at 0.01 % of probability. Whereas the independent variable of family size was negatively and significantly correlated with the house hold activities of the role of educated rural women in farm operations and house hold activities at 0.05 % of probability. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected for these variables.

Table 1: Socio-Economic Profile of the Respondents

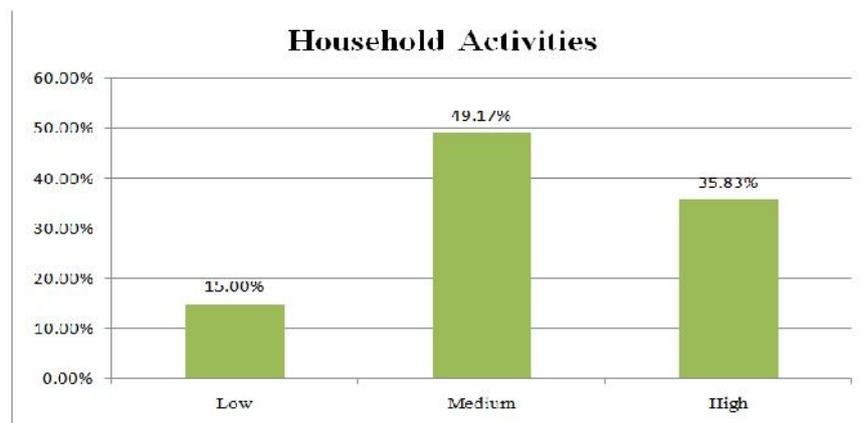
S. No	Independent Variables	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age	Young (Up to 35 years)	32	26.67
		Middle(36-55 years)	58	48.33
		Old (above 55 years)	30	25.00
2.	Education	Literate	19	15.83
		Primary Education	15	12.50
		High Education	18	15.00
		Intermediate	23	19.17
3	Occupation	Graduate & above	45	37.50
		House Hold Activities	33	27.50
		House Hold Activities + Farm Operations	75	62.50
		House Hold Activities + Farm Operations + Business	12	10.00
4	Land holding	Up to 2 acres	35	29.17
		2 to 5 acres	71	59.16
		More than 5 acres	14	11.67
5	Family size	Small (3-4)	59	49.17
		Medium (5-7)	48	40.00
		Large (> 7)	13	10.83
6	Annual income	Rupees < 1,00,000	18	15.00
		Rs. 1,00,001- 2,00,000	63	52.50
		Rs. > 2,00,000	39	32.50
7	Farming Experience	Low (< 5 years)	28	23.33
		Medium (5-10 years)	62	51.67
		High (>10 years)	30	25.00
8	Mass media exposure	Low (7- 9)	29	24.17
		Medium (10 – 11)	76	63.33
		High (12 – 13)	15	12.50
9	Innovativeness	Low (5- 7)	28	23.33
		Medium (8- 9)	72	60.00
		High (10 -11)	20	16.67
10	Social participation	Low (10 – 13)	45	37.50
		Medium (14 – 16)	56	46.67
		High (17- 19)	19	15.83
11	Risk orientation	Low	33	27.50
		Medium	49	40.83
		High	38	31.67
12	Extension agent contact	Low (9 – 12)	42	35.00
		Medium (13 – 15)	58	48.33
		High (16 – 18)	20	16.67

Table 2: The Role of Educated Rural Women in Household Activities

S. No.	Activities	Sole Activity		Joint Activity		Not Performed	
		f	%	f	%	f	%
1	Purchase of food items	78	65	29	24.16	13	10.83
2	Purchase of household materials	62	51.67	40	33.33	18	15.00
3	Collecting water	56	46.67	53	44.16	11	9.16
4	Cleanliness of house	72	60.00	48	40.00	-	-
5	Cooking of food	76	63.33	36	30.00	8	6.67
6	Care of children	42	35.00	78	65.00	-	-
7	Washing clothes	67	55.83	46	38.33	7	5.84
8	Care of elderly family member	64	53.33	52	43.33	4	3.34
9	Social rituals – marriage etc	48	40.00	60	50.00	12	10.00
10	Rope making	39	32.50	71	59.17	10	8.33
11	Preparation of fuel by cow dung	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Mushroom cultivation	12	10.00	28	23.33	80	66.66
13	Children's education	56	46.67	36	30.00	28	23.33
14	Housing budget	39	32.5	65	54.16	16	13.33
15	Backyard gardening	49	40.83	35	29.16	36	30.00

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents According To Their Overall Household Activities

S. No.	Category	Number	Percentage
1.	Low (19-27)	18	15.00
2.	Medium (28-35)	59	49.17
3.	High (36-43)	43	35.83
	Total	120	100.00

**Figure 1: Distribution of Respondents Based on Their Household Activities.****Table 4: Association between Selected Independent Variables with Household Activities**

Sl. No.	Variables	Correlation Coefficient ®
1	Age	0.756*
2	Education	0.994*
3	Occupation	0.554*
4	Land holding	0.521*
5	Family size	-0.349*
6	Annual income	0.986*
7	Farming experience	0.827*
8	Mass media exposure	0.644*
9	Innovativeness	0.701*
10	Social participation	0.166*
11	Risk orientation	0.943*
12	Extension contact	0.301*

*= Significant

CONCLUSIONS

It is concluded that the age of the majority of the respondents was young and their educational status is high. Majority of the respondents possessed medium level of risk orientation. Most of the respondent were under medium level in social participation. Majority of the occupation of the respondent was both farm operations and house hold activities. Most of the annual income of the respondents was medium level and most of the extension agent contact of the respondents was under medium level. The overall house holds activities of the respondents were found under medium level. The independent variables are age, education, occupation, land holding, annual income, faming experience, mass media exposure, innovativeness, social participation, risk orientation and extension contact were positively and significantly correlated with house hold activities of the role of educated rural women in farm operations and house hold activities at 0.01 % of probability. The rural women facing lack of scientific knowledge. It is suggested that the government should provide demonstrations and evening schools regarding their problems.

REFERENCES

1. **Chauhan (2011)**.Role performance of tribal farm women in agriculture and animal husbandry in Gujarat state.*Journal of Agriculture Science*, 24(5).
2. **Devi, Urmila and Verma, S.K. (2009)**. Women in agriculture: a profile. *Asian J. Home Sci.* 4 (1):
3. **Hiremath, U.S. and Balasubramanya, A.S. (2009)**.Relationship between socio-personal characteristics and type of television programmes watched by rural women. *Karnataka Journal. Agril. Sci.* 22 (2).
4. **Michal, daly (2019)** Sustainability: Socio-Economic Determinants of small Family Farms' Resilience in Selected Central and Eastern European Countries, p18 of 30.
5. **Sharma, Prashant and Badodiya, S.K. (2016)**.Impact of participation of rural women in agriculture activities. *Indian Res. J. Ext. Edu.*16(2).
6. **Subamaet al(2021)** f The role of rural women in household food security and nutrition management in Bangladesh: Voices from Asian Feminist Activism Volume 27, 2021 – issue 3.
7. **Warkade, P. (2010)**.A study on role of tribal farm women in decision making towards agricultural operations in Bichhia block of Mandal district (M.P) M.Sc. (Ag.) Thesis (unpublished), JNKVV, Jabalpur.

