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CHAPTER - I
INTRODUCTION AND DESIGN OF THE STUDY

1.1. INTRODUCTION
Group activities are considered as a basic concept for the development of Self Help Groups (SHGs) in general, which was started in 1972. This is an organised system and the life of this is very short. Based on the concept, the SHG system was started in India in 1980s. Now this system is growing in arithmetic progress. An SHG is a group consisting of minimum 10 members and or maximum of 20 members formed small in size for sustainable human development. Mostly this group is formed by peer groups. It is reviewed that the need and service of the women SHGs are very much felt in the society for social