CHAPTER - VI

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

In this chapter, the summary of the major findings of the analysis is given. This chapter is divided into two sections. The finding of the study are given in section one and suggestions and conclusion are given in section two.

Women constitute half of the population of the country and to maintain the expected economic boom, the country needs to fully mobilize and utilize all its resources including human resources. The participation of women in economic activities is necessary not only from a human resource point of view, but is essential for raising the status of women in society.

SHG plays a significant role in improving the standard of living of the rural/urban people by providing employment opportunities; training facilities and credit facilities. The SHG also aims at providing awareness among the poor about the on-going development programmes. SHGs have different income generating activities and thus improve their earning capacity substantially.

The present study is a micro level study covering four blocks in Tirunelveli District of Tamil Nadu. This study analyzes the SHG trained women entrepreneur’s socio-economic condition, evaluates the entrepreneurship development training programme of SHG women entrepreneurs and SHG trained
women entrepreneur’s entrepreneurial activity. Development of women entrepreneurship is one way of ensuring women empowerment.

6.1 Major Findings

6.1.1 Socio-Economic Profile of SHG Women Entrepreneurs

- In the study area, most of the respondents of the sample SHGs belong to the age group of 35-45. Only 8.38 per cent of the respondents are above the age of 55 years.
- The present study reveals that 59.73 per cent of the respondents are Hindus and only 10.81 per cent are Muslims.
- Most of the respondents of the sample SHGs belong to BC i.e. 50.27 per cent of the total population. Next, 21.08 per cent of the respondents belong to MBC.
- In the study area, 27.30 per cent of the respondents are totally illiterates. 33.51 per cent of the respondents are educated up to primary level only.
- The analysis of data discloses that the classification of the respondents on the basis of marital status reveals that a majority of them are married. Only 13.78 per cent of the respondents are unmarried.
- Most of the respondents of SHGs in the study area are in a nuclear family setup. It creates more responsibilities.
- It is observed that majority (60%) of the respondents have reported that the size of their family is 4-6 members.
In the study area, the majority of the respondents are living in rural area.

Majority of the households are concentrated in monthly income size between ₹3,000 - ₹6,000. Only 4.86 per cent households have monthly income above ₹15,000. The variation in the income level is due to the differences in the sources of income.

In order to find out the correct estimation Gini concentration ratio is applied. It is a mathematical method. The Gini concentration is 0.2436. This reveals that the degree of inequality is high.

The study discloses that the assets owned by the members are house, land, vessels, furniture, domestic animals, jewels, two wheeler and consumer durable. Majority of the respondents have assets of value above ₹2.5 lakhs.

6.1.2 Gains from Entrepreneurship Development Training Programme of SHG Trained Women Entrepreneurs

In the study area, most of the respondents feel that SHG entrepreneurship development training programme create optimistic outlook.

Majority of the respondents in the study area, gain need based innovation production skill as the major entrepreneurial skill from the women entrepreneurship development training programme.

The present study reveals that majority of the respondents gain knowledge about the product formation from the women entrepreneurship development training programme.
6.1.3 SHG Trained Women Entrepreneurs’ Entrepreneurial Activity

- Majority of the respondents 73.51 per cent of the respondents do their entrepreneurial activities in an individual manner.

- In the study area, majority 46.49 per cent of the respondents attends the skill training and 30 per cent of the respondents attend the skill upgrading trainings.

- In the study area, majority of the respondents 44.05 per cent of respondents have attended training for 15 days.

- The study reveals that most of the SHG respondents select the particular product based on training given by Mahalir Thittam and NGOs etc. Another major reason is on consumer needs.

- In the study area, majority of the respondents have support from their family.

- Majority of the respondents opinioned that they have got opportunity to develop the entrepreneurial activities.

- The present study reveals that majority of the respondents opinioned that they have got opportunity in the way of extending market.

- Majority of the respondents in the study area, follow both whole sale and retail sale for their product.

- In the study area, 46.76 per cent respondents select nearby area as market avenues for their products.
Majority 50 percent of the respondents desire to sale their product in local area.

6.1.4 Economic factors of the SHG trained women entrepreneurs

- Most of the respondents of SHG women entrepreneurs in the study area pay interest rate less than 12 per cent.
- Majority, 52.97 per cent of the respondents repay their loan, with 70-90 per cent.
- Majority of the respondents have the opinion that the loan amount is not sufficient. Only 35.68 per cent of the respondents feel that the loan amount is sufficient.
- Majority of the entrepreneurs are concentrated in monthly income size between `500-`1000. Only 6.76 per cent entrepreneurs have monthly income above `2,500.
- In order to find out the correct estimation, Gini concentration ratio is applied. The Gini concentration is 0.2216. This reveals that the degree of inequality is high.
- In the study area, bank is the main source of credit. 54.32 per cent respondents have got credit by banks.
- Majority of the respondents (41.35%) in the study area, have followed cost plus profit method for price fixation of their product.
• It is found that the majority 78.92 per cent of the respondents do not give any advertisement for their products.

• Majority 50.34 per cent respondents give the main reason to be insufficient money for not giving any advertisement.

• Most of the respondents (46) of SHG women entrepreneurs in the study area face Lack of literacy problem.

6.1.5 Result of Hypotheses

• Regression analysis results shows that the entire three explanatory variables jointly explained 52 per cent (R²) variation in the activities of the women entrepreneur, except for four variables (age, education, experience in the field and family background) all other variables included in the model like family support, bank credit, type of ownerships and entrepreneurial training are identified to have significant influence on the assessment index of women entrepreneurs. The coefficient values are 2.710, 0.757, 0.387 and 4.405 respectively. The relative importance of the significant predictors can be determined by looking at the standardized co-efficient. Entrepreneurial training is found to have the highest value (4.405). Even though entrepreneurial training has smaller co-efficient compared to the experience in the field, entrepreneurial training actually contributes more to the model because it has a larger absolute standardized co-efficient. Therefore, the
hypothesis namely “There is a relationship between the assessment index of women entrepreneurs and the influencing factors such as age, education, experience in the field, family background, family support, bank credit, type of ownership and entrepreneurial training” is proved in the case of family support, bank credit, type of ownership and entrepreneurial training. The other factors like age, education, experience in the field and family background are not proved.

- In this study, an attempt is made to find out the profit. For this purpose a regression, considering profit as dependent variable, production, investment and loan amount as independent variables has been applied. The result indicates production (‘t’ value 13.952) is positively related to the profit of the entrepreneurs. It implies that one per cent increase in production variable may lead to increase in profit by 0.420 units. High significant variables investment and loan amount (‘t’ value 4.945 and 4.852) are also positively related to the profit of the women entrepreneurs. It implies that one unit increase in these variables may lead to an increase in profit by 0.221 and 0.176 units respectively. Therefore, the second hypothesis is “profit is determined by the financial factors like production, investment and loan amount” is proved and accepted.

- Another simple regression result shows that the independent variable like women entrepreneur’s income has significant relationship with the
household’s total income. Women entrepreneurs’ income (t value 73.151) is positively related to the total household’s income. The estimated multiple regression model is found with high \( R^2 \) value explaining nearly 64 per cent of the variations in household’s income. According to the estimated model, an additional unit of total household income may lead to the contribution of women entrepreneurs’ income by 0.311 units. Therefore, the third hypothesis that “the income of the women entrepreneurs does not have any significant influence on household income” is disproved. Hence, it clearly implies that the women entrepreneurs’ income influence the total household’s income.

6.2 Suggestions

- Government, NGOs and banks must provide proper training for skill and entrepreneurship development. The group members would be able to diversify into income generating activities, thus improving their credit absorption capacity.
- Exposure visits to successful units during the EDP training would motivate the new entrepreneurs.
- Successful entrepreneurs must be invited to address the forthcoming entrepreneurs so that the emerging young entrepreneurs get the right orientation.
• Most of the SHG members get low level education only. So trainings should be given in an easily understandable manner.

• Since there is lack of co-operation in SHG members to attend the training programs, the researcher suggests that, trainings should be given in each block. It will reduce the distance between training centre and their residence. So many SHG members will attend the training programme.

• Government, through the panchayat could provide training of the group members in producing consumable goods. The products of the group could be marketed in the town area by providing rent-free government buildings.

• To create awareness about SHGs and SHG products, media can play an important role. Visual materials such as newspapers, posters, and wallpapers may be used.

• Periodical exhibitions at block-level may be organized, where the products of SHGs can be displayed.

• Most of the members felt that the success of the scheme depends very much on the marketing of the products produced. Hence, it is suggested that the government should buy the products from the SHGs and should market them through the fair price shops.
• The successful entrepreneurs may be rewarded with felicitation, citations or incentives which would not only encourage them to expand further but also motivate the emerging entrepreneurs to work like them.

• Government also should encourage NGOs by instituting like “China pillai” awards for micro credit.

6.3 Conclusion

Self Help Group plays an important role in developing the women in self employment. Women community develops through the Self Help Groups entrepreneurial skills and to get Self-Employment. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said, “To awaken the people, it is women who must be awakened; once she is on the move, the family moves, the village moves and the nation moves.” Now the women are awakened by the self help groups.

The women who were earlier confined to four walls and was completely disempowered, whose work was unaccounted in home, society and nation at large, may be promoted for economic independence through self-development and greater environmental support. Especially, women in rural areas are needed to be encouraged for self employment. The entrepreneurship among women will help them in earning money and becoming economically independent. Due to social networking, women will develop self-confidence and awareness. This will lead to an improvement in not only the women, but also from the point of view of better health, education and skill etc. This will also result in more efficiency and
productivity in entrepreneurs. As an outcome of this, women will be able to earn more profit which may be utilized for furtherance of entrepreneurial growth, leading to a continuous cycle of success and happiness.