

## **CHAPTER - III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

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**Title:** Sustainable development through Micro-Enterprises among women. (A study of 35 SHGs of Baroda District.)

#### **Objectives of the Study:**

- To study the socio-economic profile of SHG women of rural micro-enterprises.
- To study the financial behavior of SHG women of rural micro-enterprise.
- To find the impact of micro-enterprises in sustainable development and empowerment among women involved in SHG.
- To study the challenges faced by the rural micro-entrepreneurs in running the enterprises.

#### **Need & Significance of the study:**

The aim of the 12<sup>th</sup> Five year plan (2012-2017) is to achieve “faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth”. The overall objective of this Plan has been to formulate both short-term as well as long-term goals and objectives for the development of women and children.

Poverty in India, according to 11<sup>th</sup> National Development plan, has increased. Majority of the population lives in villages. Women & Child Development is one of the fields of social work which talks about social development & empowering of women. In this area lot of efforts were made by Ministry of Women & Child Development. Micro-enterprises through the SHGs, was initiated which could generate income & to improve their quality of life & empower them. Women are very important part of the human resources that constitutes 48.2% of population. Women must be recognized as a source in development, active involvement in productive and developmental process.

SHGs have also played a significant role in achieving Sustainable Development Goals particularly, poverty eradication, Zero hunger, good health, quality education, gender equality and reduced inequalities.

To change the socio-economic development, micro-enterprises & SHGs are playing an important role in the self employment by improving the income & life style of the villagers. SHGs have come out as an effective instrument to promote entrepreneurship & self-confidence among poor village women. Bank-Linkage Programme is significant equipment for the bankers, developmental agencies & corporate houses.

Micro-enterprises through SHGs are the most important mode of self-employment. In 1999, the Indian Government has launched, “Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojna”(SGSY), covering all aspects of self employment under this scheme. This scheme is aimed at setting up a large number of micro enterprises in rural areas.

Promoting of women to engage in productive activities is being recognized in all developing countries. In India, the Government’s commitment is reinforced through “Mission Mangalam”. In 2010, Ministry of Rural Development, the Indian Government replaced the “Swarnajayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojna” by launching “National Rural Livelihood Mission”.

NRLM would be working on a mission mode to organize the poor into Self Help Groups, build capacity in them, nurture them, link them with micro-finance and eventually link them with sustainable livelihoods. Under NRLM, every state is required to form its own State Livelihood Mission, for that Gujarat has adopted the “Mission Mangalam” scheme, implemented by GLPC (Gujarat Livelihood Promotion Company). The purpose behind implementing “Mission Mangalam”, are to empower women from each and every aspects including the improvement of economical status.

Economic participation of women & their presence in workforce is important for lowering poverty, for rising earning and encouraging financial sustainability in a country. Empowerment of women and equal rights has a powerful influence to the contribution of women in economical development. Not only participation but a qualitative participation is important. So effective management and development of women with abilities, interest, skills etc., are important in human resources development.

Fast emerging of the SHGs is a powerful means not only for socio economic empowerment but also for the implementation of social sector programmes in rural areas in India. Besides

participating in the process of development, the SHGs enable the rural women to earn their own livelihoods. SHGs are valuable for capacity building measures.

The coming out of micro enterprises & its activities has made a considerable contribution in overall development of the women as well as of the society. The impact on lives of rural women (people) is not just an economic one; gaining more self-confidence is often a more lasting achievement that forms the basis for social & economic improvements.

The micro-enterprises through SHGs, is a vehicle by which low income women can get relief from poverty. Even though not being skillful and well educated, these women get chances in micro enterprise as business owners and employees. Thus, in countries like India, Micro enterprises play an important role in creation of livelihood option for the poor in the society.

The aim of the present study is to analyze that how far the empowerment of rural women is achieved by adopting various programmes in rural areas under the “Mission Mangalam”.

### **Operational definitions:**

The terms and concepts used in the study are:

#### **Micro-Enterprise:**

In this study, micro-enterprise refers to small business involving sectors with investment and service sectors run by women respondents who have managing & running a business venture that employs a small number of employees & usually started with a small amount of capital.

#### **Group Enterprise:**

A Group enterprise is one where the ownership of the commercial or productive activity is made by number of individuals, with each of them having a contribution in the enterprise. In this study, group operated enterprises as one which has an investment ranging from Rs.3000 to 1, 50,000.

#### **SHG Entrepreneur:**

SHG Entrepreneur is the woman who is a member of the activity group and is active in operating the micro-enterprise.

**Self Help Group:**

For the purpose of this study, SHG is micro entrepreneurs, having identical, social and economical background, to meet together to save regularly, to contribute a fund and to meet the group member's emergency needs and to be active in group activity.

**Revolving Fund (RF):**

Revolving Fund is an economical help to SHGs to supplement their group fund and credit - access by increasing their financial management skills. After passing of Grade I, the SHGs are given the revolving fund to make them creditworthy and to access bank loans.

**Women Empowerment:**

For the purpose of this study, women empowerment implies whether the women involved in SHGs are empowered to take control and possession of their living standard their own.

**Economic Empowerment:**

For this study, Economic empowerment of women is assessed by studying the approach of women towards savings habit before and after joining the SHGs.

**Social Empowerment:**

For this study, Social empowerment is assessed from whether they can take the decision regarding when to or how many children to have, decisions regarding food habits, medical care, family planning, education of the children etc.

**Political Empowerment:**

Political empowerment in this study means women's participation in different committees and formal discussions concerning to village and village panchayat, contest in village elections, perform responsibilities and solving the conflict within the SHG level and the successful management of the SHG.

**Best performing groups:**

In this study, Best performing groups means those SHGs where there is a yearly rotation of office bearers, groups meet regularly at fixed time duration that is once in a month, active participation of all members in the meetings, for the Revolving fund the group should get 'A' grade, take cash credit for productive activity, the group & its members regularly repay the loan.

**Financial Behaviour:**

In this study, financial behavior means money or bank related transactions done by the group such as open the bank account, maintenance of account books/documents, taking loan or cash credit from the bank, repayment of loan, internal loan lending & recovering etc.

**Sustainable development:**

Sustainable development means to empower the women in the terms of food safety, increased income, educational services, health care, sanitation, water supply, cash -holding etc.

**Formulation of Problem:**

In Sustainable Development of rural women it must be centralized on empowering of women from the aspects of economical, social, participating and decision making abilities. This can be achieved through SHGs.

It can be seen that, after the formulation of the SHGs the poor rural women have succeeded in changing their living standard, in increasing their income and their self - confidence. The increasing of SHGs in the state is an evident of such success. Development enriches the living standard and freedom by minimizing the rural women's sense of isolation.

The SHG development model is a community owned and managed development scheme designed to get rid from poverty in general and the miserable life condition of the poor.

The SHG approach has proved successful in advancing the economic status and in bringing awareness about importance of education & a positive response for development schemes.

The need for women's economic independence is highly stressed by many renowned scholars because from various studies, it is found women spends most of her income on her family and very less for herself in compare to men means if a woman controls the household income the quality of life of family members improves.

## Research questions

This study addressed the following research questions.

1. Has participation in the SHG enhanced the economic capacity of the poor women?
2. Has involvement in the SHG improved the social acceptance of poor women at the family and community level?

## Universe:

The universe of the study is women involved in SHG groups of Vadodara District registered at DRDA under Mission Mangalam project.

## Number of SHGs in Vadodara District under Mission Mangalam project

Sr.No.	Name of the Taluka	Total No. of the SHGs having SB A/C			No. of Graded SHGs		
		Up to previous month	During current month	Total	Up to previous month	During current month	Total
1.	Dabhoi	1184	12	1196	1190	9	1199
2.	Karjan	715	3	718	678	7	685
3.	Padra	1071	0	1071	1017	0	1017
4.	Savli	1224	4	1228	1232	0	1232
5.	Sinor	484	1	485	371	0	371
6.	Vadodara	2028	5	2033	2007	16	2023
7.	Waghodiya	1255	7	1262	1227	20	1247
<b>Total</b>		<b>7961</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>7993</b>	<b>7722</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>7774</b>

Source: DRDA Vadodara (Financial year 2014)

## **Sample & Sampling Methodology:**

The sampling process is multi-staged which involves the following stages:

**Stage 1:** All 7 Talukas of Vadodara District have been included for the study that is Sinor, Dabhoi, Karjan, Padra, Savali, Waghodia and Vadodara rural. A total of 7774 SHGs, making it census sample.

**Stage 2:** SHGs which are engaged in group activity & that are functioning successfully since last three years and are best performing SHGs as informed by block co-coordinators of each block were selected. 35 SHGs given by DRDA were selected for the study thus, the criteria for selection was purposive.

**Stage 3:** Five respondents from each SHG that is 2 leaders- (president and secretary) and 3 members (who were available and volunteered to participate) were selected for the study, making it 175 respondents as sample for the study. Thus, the criteria for selection in stage 3 was quota sampling.

## **Vadodara District Profile**

For the study, all the seven Talukas of Vadodara District were selected. The socio-economic profile of the Vadodara District and Vadodara Taluka is given below.

### **About Vadodara District**

Vadodara is situated on the banks of the river Vishwamitri (derived from name of saint Rishi Vishwamitra). Vadodara District is in the east of Gujarat that is in the west of India. In population, this District is the third most out of 26 in Gujarat that is after Ahmedabad and Surat District.

### **Basic Information Regarding Vadodara.**

<b>Actual Population</b>	4,165,626
<b>Male</b>	2,153,736
<b>Female</b>	2,011,890
<b>Population Growth</b>	14.38%
<b>Area Sq. Km</b>	7,546
<b>Density/km<sup>2</sup></b>	552
<b>Proportion to Gujarat Population</b>	6.89%
<b>Sex Ratio (Per 1000)</b>	934
<b>Child Sex Ratio (0-6 Age)</b>	897
<b>Literacy Rate</b>	81.21%
<b>No. of Talukas</b>	7
<b>No. of Villages</b>	1,548
<b>Area</b>	7512 Km (2,900 sq mi)
<b>Languages</b>	Official: Gujarati, Marathi, Hindi, English

**(Population census 2011)**



Vadodara is divided into 7 talukas which are Dabhoi, Sinor, Savli, Padra, Karjan, Waghodia and Vadodara rural.

(As per census 2011)

Literacy rate of 7 Talukas Under Study in percentage (%)							
	Dabhoi	Sinor	Savli	Padra	Karjan	Waghodia	Vadodara rural
Male	88.27	86.57	88.86	81	91.08	92.52	77.14
Female	77.26	69.35	74.85	72	80.61	83.19	58.07
Total	82.94	78.18	82.01	77	85.99	88.07	67.84

Sex Ratio of 7 Talukas (1000 males)							
	Dabhoi	Sinor	Savli	Padra	Karjan	Waghodia	Vadodara rural
Female	939	945	946	923	941	909	945

**(As per Census 2011)**

General Information							
Talukas of vadodara district	Dabhoi	Sinor	Savli	Padra	Karjan	Waghodia	Vadodara Rural
Population	54930	69094	18467	35922	30405	16604	2097797
Males	28564	36039	9488	18680	15668	8696	1078609
Females	26366	33055	8979	17242	14737	7908	1019182
Educational Facilities							
Primary & Secondary schools	8	4	4	8	8	5	82
Collages	1	1	2	1	Not available	4	16
Banking Facilities							
Bank of Baroda	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
State Bank of India	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
Dena Bank	Available	Available	Not available	Available	Not available	Available	Not available
Central bank of India	Available	Not available	Not available	Available	Available	Available	Available
Corporation bank	Available	Not available	Not available	Available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Axis bank	Available	Not available	Available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
HDFC bank	Available	Not available	Not available	Available	Available	Available	Not available
ICICI Bank	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Not available	Not available
Bank of India bank	Available	Not available	Not available	Available	Available	Not available	Not available
Punjab National Bank	Available	Not available	Available	Available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Prime coop bank	Available	Not available	Not available	Available	Available	Not available	Not available
Yes bank	Not available	Not available	Not available	Available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Ratnakar Bank	Not available	Not available	Not available	Available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Canara bank	Not available	Not available	Not available	Available	Not available	Not available	Not available
BhartiyaMahila Bank	Not available	Not available	Available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Available
Gujarat Cooperative bank	Not available	Not available	Available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Surat District Cooperative bank	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Available	Not available	Not available
Federal Bank	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Available	Not available
Indian overseas bank	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Available	Not available
Indusland bank	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Available	Not available
Health Facilities							

<b>Primary/community health centre</b>	2	2	2	5	4	4	114
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Transport Facilities							
<b>Bus Station</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
<b>Railway station</b>	Available	Nearby Malsar	Not Available	Nearby Ranupipri	Available	Not Available	Available
Post office, Pin codes and Telephone Facilities							
<b>Post offices</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Not Available	Available
<b>Pin codes</b>	391110	391115	391150	391440	391240	391760	391745
<b>Telephone facilities</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
<b>Telephone/STD codes</b>	02663	02640	02667	02662	02666	02668	0265
Water Facilities							
<b>Tap Water</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
<b>Hand Pumps</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
<b>Well water</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
<b>Tank water</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
<b>Tube well water</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
<b>Canals</b>	Available	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Available	Not Available	Available
Power Supply							
<b>Electricity for Domestic Use</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
<b>Electricity for Agriculture Use</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
<b>Electricity for other purpose</b>	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
Agricultural Crops							
<b>Paddy</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Tabacco</b>	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Bajara</b>	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Banana</b>	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No
<b>Wheat</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Vegatables</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

## Socio-Economic Condition of the Women:

India is a country of villages as the majority of its population lives in villages. The interesting aspect is that all rural areas though connected with the cities now, however still have its own tradition. Yet now, most of the villages lack of facilities like education, electricity, pure drinking water, health centers, transportation, etc. Lack of such facilities is proving fatal and the breeding grounds for various problems.

The socio economic condition of women in this study area is pointed out as below.

The rural women of the Baroda District are of different religions and caste categories. They have various views on education, faith and social customs and on different social problems.

Majority of the women are having only primary education. In villages, 50% of women felt helplessness due to lack of awareness and education which can help them to improve their livelihood. Many of them gave other reasons and said that the schools being far away from their native village, their children were deprived of education. It can be sure that rural women can reach to development and can change their destiny through education.

Lack of sanitation and education can make the life of women miserable. Majority of the women are not the property holders and if they are, they do not manage or handle it. Some of them still depend on men for fulfillment of all their basic needs.

Thus, in analyzing the questions related to making critical decisions in the family, it is clear that the authority of the husband decreased constantly, and the husband and wife increasingly make decisions jointly. Thus, making positive change in the status of women in the family.

### **Research Design:**

As the objective of the study is to assess and understand the socio-economic impact of SHGs in mitigating the effect of poverty at the individual and household levels, the study is **Descriptive** because, it describes sustainable development through improvement in the areas of increased food, real income, educational services, health care, sanitation and water supply, emergency stock of food and cash etc. which improves the quality of life of rural women.

### **Variables:**

#### **Independent variable:**

Independent variables include age, caste, religion, educational qualification, marital status, type of family, residence, occupation etc.

#### **Dependent variables:**

Dimensions of empowerment (To estimate the level of empowerment of women certain parameters like increase in income, share of the respondents to household income, changes in

decision making, political participation and awareness towards social evils have been taken into consideration) and Financial Behavior.

### **Tools of data collection:**

#### **Quantitative Method:**

##### **Primary Source:**

Interview Schedule: An Interview schedule of questions was prepared by referring the available literature on SHGs and after discussions with the block coordinators of the Baroda District of Mission Mangalam.

##### **Secondary Source:**

Available literature and data from District Rural Development Agency (DRDA). Besides that, books, journals and internet were used for the purpose of gathering secondary data.

#### **Qualitative Method:**

Case studies of 3 best performing groups from Aangarth village, Nandesari village and Waghodiya of Vadodara District is presented.

### **Data Processing & Analysis:**

After the data was collected, it was carefully scrutinized and the results were tabulated using MS Excel programme. Statistical analysis was done with SPSS to find out significance and correlation between variables. Case studies of best performing SHGs are studied and presented.

### **Ethical Consideration:**

In the process of the study, the following ethical issues were considered. In order to obtain an informed consent from the respondents, the purpose of the study was explained clearly. Members and leaders of the self help group were asked to give their informed consent orally before filling out the interview schedule or participating in any discussion. Information obtained from the respondents was promised to be kept confidential. The interview schedule was translated in Gujarati so that respondents are aware of what is recorded as response.

### **Reference period:**

The data collected between August 2015 to May 2016.

**Limitations of the study:**

The study covered only best performing SHGs of Vadodara District selected purposively by the research student due to convenience. These SHG's are success stories thus limiting learning from failures.

# **OUTLINE OF RESEARCH REPORT**

## **CHAPTER - I**

**Introduction:** The first chapter contains the introduction regarding the topic of the study and information about the definition, concept of Self Help Groups, micro-enterprise, sustainable development and empowerment of women and about SHG Bank-Linkage Programme.

## **CHAPTER - II**

**Review of Literature:** In this chapter, literature related to the present study is reviewed and research gaps identified.

## **CHAPTER - III**

**Research Methodology:** This chapter contains the title, significance of the study, objectives, research design, universe, sample, sampling procedure, tool of data collection, limitations of the study and operational definitions.

## **CHAPTER - IV**

**Data Analysis & Interpretation:** In this chapter, the researcher pens down the analysis of the data collected & also interpret the same with a view to provide a better understanding of the respondents view about the topic of inquiry. Case studies are also presented.

## **CHAPTER - V**

**Findings, Conclusion, Suggestions & Plan of Action:** This chapter contains the findings of the study and the conclusion derived based on findings. A section is also devoted to a few suggestions for further action is given in this chapter.

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