

Gender Practical Concerns

Dr Kanchana Goudar

Presently working as an academic Coordinator - PG at St. Francis De Sales College Hebagothi, Electronic City Bangalore, I have been a Ph.D student of Dr. H. S. Shreeamathi Former Director UGC Centre for Women's Studies Kannada University Hampi Vidyananya. I am an editorial member of a UGC care list journal and other peer-review journals. I published 10 papers in UGC care list publications and presented 28 papers. She published 3 books on women empowerment, health and development. Acted as a resource person at national and international level conferences. Having 14 years of qualitative experience in teaching, research and administration. Known as a gender expert in the areas of Women's Empowerment and Development, Panchayath Raj Systems, Management of Self. Groups and Women's Health issues. Received an award as "Super Women" from state NSS Cell Karnataka.



The skills of competencies have been- teaching, executing research projects, monitoring and evaluation of government-implemented projects, coordinating training programmes, documentation and translating skills, NGO experience along with academic administration knowledge. I worked as a translator on one of UNIFEM and UNDP's Charka research projects in 2006 for the languages Kannada, Hindi and English.

Dr. Shridevi Aloor

Presently working as an Assistant Professor and coordinator Department of studies and research in Women's studies in Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University Ballari. She have been a PhD student of Prof. H.S. Srinait Former Director Ugc centre for women's studies Kannada University Hampi Vidyananya. She is NSS advisory board member of a VSK University NSS. She published 10 papers in UGC care list publications and presented 10 papers. Published 11 books on women studies. Acted as a resource person at various conferences. Having 10 years of research, teaching, and administrative experience. Known as a gender expert in the areas of Women in Public domain. Received an state level award as "Aralu sahitya prashasti" From state sahitya parishat(BMTC) for my first book "Mahila astivada hudukata" and "Best Paper Presenter", 12th State level Sociology Conference, Kannada University, Hampi. The skills of competencies have been- teaching, executing research projects, monitoring and evaluation of government-implemented projects, NGO experience along with academic administration knowledge.

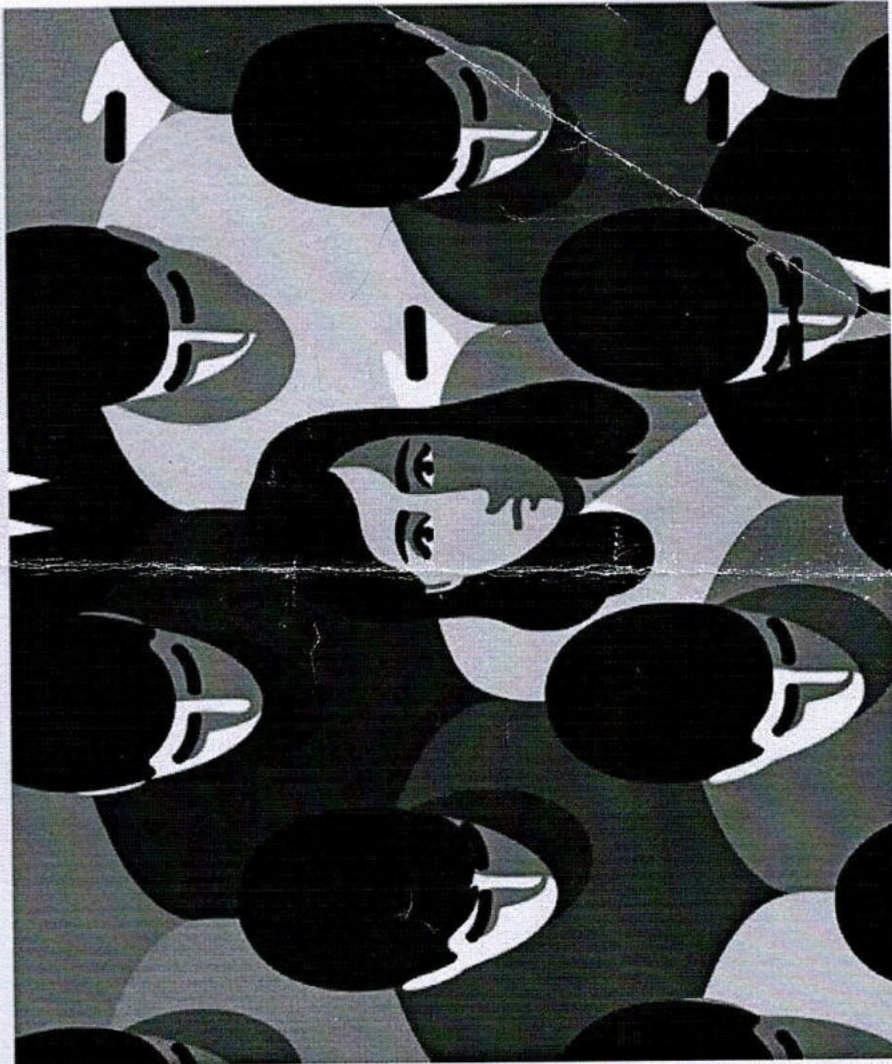


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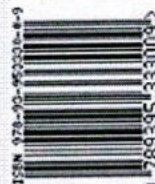
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Prof. Ajith K. V.
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Dr. Anil Reddy



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CONTENTS

Sl.No	Chapter Name Author	P.No.
1	Transcendence of binary opposition between private and public sphere through feminine aesthetics in classical dance form Dr. Kanchana Goudar & Dr. Mangalgowri Manawade	1
2	Women media: science and Technology	14
3	Dr. Shridevi Albor The better opportunities to enshrine women's careers as women politicians in the Indian political system Ajith K.V	31
4	Education and Women during Pandemic-2020 Dr. Lakshmi Devi T.	56
5	Women in Politics in the 21st Century Jeenu Chahal	69
6	"India's Political Status Before and after Analysis of 19th Century Political developments with Women" Dr. Naseer Ahmed S.	80
7	Scenario of Women Education and Women Empowerment in India Prof. Sampath Kumar R	104

8	Gender Budgeting – A Comprehensive Study Dr. A Thanapackiam	114
9	Language, Feminism and Gender Crisis: The Mythical Present Dr. Nikunja Kishore Sa	120
10	IT for Change: A Case Study of NGO in Bengaluru Dr. Mangagowri manawade	130
11	Tailoring and Women Empowerment Prof. Karibasavangowd	139
12	Transgender: Welfare Measures and Legal Rights Mr. Anil & Mr. Pralhad	147

centers to orient woman about available schemes and opportunities. Furthermore, the Hunsur TMK Sakhis were successful in convincing the representatives of the agriculture department to give free seeds to woman even when the land was not registered in their name. At the village level, the NMKS act as community information centers owned and run by woman and working for women's empowerment. They aimed at creating more equitable ways and process for information access and sharing for the community by changing the existing information and communication architecture.

During 2010-2011, the Sakhis had visited village households at least once in a month to ask people about their information needs. As a result, new requests came up and increased the number of people visiting the centres. The process was piloted in the NMK villages, but it has now spread to outreach villages. To maximize the Sakhis visits in outreach villages and publicise the NMK outreach programme, Prakriye initiated a mapping process through which a Sakhi, helped by the local youth, drew a map of the village including information such as common resources, infrastructure and caste break up. A growing number of women, men and adolescent girls and boys as well as an Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM) from the local primary health Centre, visit the centre for their various information needs. Further the Sakhi from Hosavaranchi has started a mobile- based service where outreach community members get a missed call when the sakhi has relevant information for them. "In other radio programmes information is about the world, but in 'Kelu Sakhi', we listen to our own information" – Devamma, Sangha women from Attiguppe Village, Mysore district, India.

Chapter 11

Tailoring and Women Empowerment

Prof: Karibasavangowda G.

M.Phil. Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Kannada & NSS Coordinator SFS
Degree and PG College

Hebbagodi, Electronic City, Bengaluru

Abstract

Women's empowerment has been pointed out as an indispensable condition to reduce poverty in developing countries of the world. Also, it has been closely related to democratization of those countries, in providing women with rights and opportunities equal to those which men have enjoyed so far. Despite its significance, the issue cannot be said to be solved easily, because there are many factors that prevent its progress. Nevertheless, due to gender discrimination, women tend to be granted an inferior status in nearly every aspect of life. The discrimination that they face is greater and more in developing countries than in developed countries. In this regard, this paper aims to study about the Women Empowerment on Tailoring, especially for economic development. For this purpose, the study deals with empowerment of rural women through self-income generating activity. The study was conducted in Naduvaikuruchi village of Puthiamputhur Panchayat of Thoothukudi District, Tamilnadu.

Introduction

Women constitute almost 50% of the world's population but India has shown Disproportionate sex ratio whereby female's population has been comparatively lower than males. As far as their social status is concerned, they are not treated as equal to men in all the places. In the Western societies, the women have got equal right and status with men in all walks of life. But gender disabilities and discriminations are found in India even today. The paradoxical situation has such that she was sometimes concerned as Goddess and at other times merely as slave. Women have the potential to change their own economic status, as well as that of the communities and countries in which they live. Yet more often than not, women's economic contributions go unrecognized, their work undervalued and their promise unnourished. Unequal opportunities between women and men continue to hamper women's ability to lift them from poverty and gain more options to improve their lives.

Research shows that inequalities persist in the way paid and unpaid work is divided between women and men; in the fact that women remain the sole caregivers at home, and in their limited access to resources. What's more, these imbalances slow economic growth. Women's economic empowerment – that is, their capacity to bring about economic change for themselves – is increasingly viewed as the most important contributing factor to achieving equality between women and men. But economically strengthening women – who are half the world's workforce – is not only a means by which to spur economic growth, but also a matter of advancing women's

human rights. When governments, businesses and communities invest in women, and when they work to eliminate inequalities, developing countries are less likely to be plagued by poverty.

Women in Tailoring

Tailoring is an unorganized sector, plenty of people involved in tailoring.

There are many different kinds of process involved in tailoring. In this sector the work participation of women were found more. Particularly the people from rural area were engaged themselves in tailoring. Naduvaikuruchi village of Puthiamputhur is a separate panchayat. It is located at Ootapidaram Taluk in Thoothukudi district. The Puthiamputhur is called as Kutty Japan, Thennagathin Tirupur and Readymade City. It second largest place in production of dresses in Tamilnadu. First place is for Thirupur. Now in this sector, plenty of women involves in tailoring in Puthiamputhur.

Problem and Method

In order to analyses the Empowerment of Women through Tailoring in Naduvaikuruchi village of Puthiamputhur Panchayat of Thoothukudi District, Tamilnadu. This study was carried out in Naduvaikuruchi village of Puthiamputhur panchayat of Thoothukudi District, Tamilnadu. The total population of this village is 518. Majority of them are involved in Tailoring. For the sake of feasibility, the researcher has decided to select 10% of the population. Simple random sampling technique has been adopted to select the sample respondents. A well-structured interview schedule was used to elicit data with regard to problem.

Result and Discussion

Table-1 Characteristics of the Respondents (N=50)

S.No	Characteristics	No. of Respondents	Percentage %
1	Age Group 16 to 21 22-27 years Above 28	13 25 12	26 50 24
2	Caste BC MBC SC	35 10 5	70 20 10
3	Education Illiterates Primary Secondary	19 25 6	38 50 12
4	Marital Status Married Unmarried	36 14	72 28
5	Housing Status Own Rented	39 11	78 22
6	Occupation in Tailoring Stitching Embroidery Other Works in Tailoring	25 15 10	50 30 20
7	Income (per week) Below 1000 1000-1300 Above 1300	19 26 5	38 52 10

The above table reveals that all the 50 respondents are women. In Age wise, the majority 50% of them belongs to 22-27 years age category. (26%) of the respondents were belongs to 16-21 years age category. (24%) of them were above 28 years age category. Regarding the educational level of the respondents, Majority of them (50%) had their primary education. (38%) of them were illiterates. (12%) of them had their secondary education.

In the Community Level, the majority 70 per cent of them were belongs to BC, followed by MBC with 20 per cent and finally 10 per cent of them were belongs to SC. In the Marital Status, Majority 72 per cent of them are married, and 28 per cent of them were Unmarried.

Regarding the Housing Status of the respondents, the majority 78 per cent of the respondent were living in their own house. 22 per cent of the respondents were living in rented house.

With respect to the Occupational Status, Tailoring has various processes. 50 per cent of the respondents were doing Stitching. 30 per cent of them were working in Embroidery section. Finally 20 per cent of them were doing other works in tailoring

Finally, the wages were paid on piece rate only. So that they can get wages according to their capacity. So there is difference in the income level. The wages were paid weekly. Half of the respondents (52%) of the respondents were earning 1000-1300, Followed by 38 per cent of the respondents were earning below 1000. Finally 10.42 per cent of them were earning above 1300 per week.

Table-2 Distribution of Respondents by Total Years of Work in Tailoring

S.No	Total Years of Work	Frequency	Percentage %
1	Up to 2 years	15	30
2	2-3 years	19	38
3	Above 3 years	16	32
	Total	50	100

The above table shows the work experience of the respondents. The majority (38%) of the respondents were involved in tailoring for 2-3 years. 30 per cent of them involved in tailoring for two years. 32 per cent of them were involved in tailoring process for more than 3 years.

Table-3 Distribution of Respondents by Working Time

S.No	Working Time	Frequency	Percentage %
1	8 Hrs	16	32
2	10 Hrs	19	38
3	More than 10 Hrs	15	30
	Total	50	100

The above table shows the working Time of the respondents. In this sector, the wages were paid on the basis of piece rate. So there are no restrictions on working time. The owners never force the workers to work for more time. 32 per cent of the respondents were working 8 Hours per day. 38 per cent of the respondents were working 10 hours per day. 32 per cent of the respondents were working more than 10 Hours.

Table-4 Distribution of Respondents by Annual Income

S.No	Income Group (Rs)	Frequency	Percentage %
1	35000-40000	12	24
2	40000-45000	29	58
3	Above 45000	9	18
	Total	50	100

Annual income is one of the important economic factors in the family. In tailoring also many women contributed to financial assistance to their family. 58 per cent of the respondents had earned 40000-45000 per year. 24 per cent of the respondents had earned 35000-40000 per year. Finally 18% of the respondents had earned above 45000 per year.

Table-5 Distribution of Respondents by Savings

S.No	Savings	Having	Not Having
1	Bank	11 (22%)	39 (78%)
2	Post Office	14 (28%)	36 (72%)
3	Chit funds	27 (54%)	23 (46%)
4	Personal funds	21 (42%)	29 (58%)

Savings plays an important role in meeting the needs of family. Similarly here also the respondents have their savings on Bank, Post Office, Chit funds, and personal funds. 22 per cent of the respondents were having savings in Bank. 28 per cent of them having saving in Post office. (54%) of them were having saving in chit funds. 42 per cent of them were having saving in personal funds.

Table-6 Distribution of Respondents by Contribution of Income to Standard of Living

S.No	Contribution of Income	Frequency	Percentage %
1	Children Education	8	16
2	Repayment of Loans	17	34
3	Marriage	12	24
4	Daily Expenditure	13	26
	Total	50	100

The above data clearly shows that the respondents are properly utilizing their income that contributes to their standard of living. The majority of the respondents (34%) utilizing their income for Repayment of Loans. Majority of them were involved in SHG, there they get loan for their needs and then they are repaying it. 24 per cent of the respondents were utilizing their income for their marriage. 26 per cent of them utilizing their money for daily house expenses. Finally

16 per cent of the respondents were utilizing their income for their children education.

Conclusion

Empowerment refers to the process of enhancing the capacity of individuals or groups to make choices and to transform those choices into desired actions and outcomes. The empowerment of rural women is about expanding women's assets and capabilities to participate in, negotiate with, influence, control and hold accountable the institutions that affect their lives. The Socio-Economic Empowerment of women is also reflected in the development programme of the country. There is an emerging need to improve women status which should start with economic empowerment. Empowerment is a concept that is of equal importance to both men and women. It is an idea of sharing power, of truly giving it away. Empowerment is the process through which individual gain efficiency, defined as the degree to which an individual perceives that they control their environment.

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Chapter 12

Transgender: Welfare Measures and Legal Rights

Mr. Anil Writer

Student Union leader &
Civic and transgender activist and S
Bangalore Karnataka
anilreddy@gmail.com

&

Mr. Pralhad

Coordinator/ Master Trainer
Child save India Trust
Bangalore Karnataka
pralhad\$.a@gmail.com

Abstract

India has approximately 700,000 transgender persons. Sexuality is an issue that has created social divides. Sexual minorities have been cruel in our society on the ground of them being different from others. Their existence has been listed as unnatural. Therefore, the issues related to the rights of genders, their welfare problems and also do not find place in the governments and human rights movements. Trans people worldwide experience health disparities and barriers that keep them from achieving the highest possible health status. Among other disparities, Trans people are more targeted for violence and harassment, to contact HIV and mental health concerns such as depression and attempted suicide than the other