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A STUDY ON SUSTAINABILITY OF SHGs THROUGH FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN TELANGANA STATE

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ABSTRACT

The study conducted in districts of Telangana state and data was collected from a statistically selected sample of 1035 Self help group (SHG) members. The study is aimed to finding the facts of members who sustained in the SHGs from a long time. The study was to find the factors responsible for their sustenance and the role of financial inclusion those who are socially, economically and financially excluded. The study is conducted in districts of Telangana state.

KEYWORDS

VOs, SHGs, sustainability.

1. INTRODUCTION

Door and the vulnerable groups viz., especially women should enhance financially support the family and strengthen their institutions through the activity chosen by them with the resources available by combining with the technical experience and skills and in the process of meeting their daily needs independently.

The Self Help Groups (SHG) is playing an important role in empowerment of rural women in social, economical and financial. There are various programmes through which women of homogenous community brought together provided assistance for their development viz., SHGs, DWACRA etc. The groups should meet regularly at least once in a week or month so that they can help each other by understanding their difficulties better. The group members will deposit what they have generated as income in the course of business in the meetings only. They maintain the books of records and mobile technology is also used for their transactions.

The members of SHG are effectively managing a small bank. Members of SHGs can themselves decide who gets loans, when and at what interest cost. They are indirectly remunerated for their management time and effort, in that the spread between their cost of funds and the interest they decide to charge themselves is retained by the micro-bank of which they are the owners.

2. OBJECTIVES

1. To study the functioning of self help groups at base level viz., individual level
2. To study the demographic variable's impact on sustainability of SHG members in financial inclusion.

3. ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

The leadership role has an impact on the sustainability of SHGs. The SHGs are informal groups of 10-20 members of homogenous characteristics. The structure and functioning of these groups vary from community/area, mandal and district level. Leader inspires confidence and support among the people to achieve SHG goals. Leader motivates and coordinates the group members in the accomplishment of its objectives of Inclusion. So the 10-20 member groups will have two leaders, who coordinate, communicate and conduct meetings on regular basis. Depending on the population of the village, the groups are formed. According to John P. Kotter, managers must know how to lead and manage. Leader creates a vision to direct the organization while manager implements that vision. The vision of SHGs is member's empowered to overcome the social, economic, cultural and psychological barriers.

The SHG-Bank linkage programme helps these groups empower financially. The groups function as a small bank by depositing savings in their accounts, maintaining the records. They lend internally depending on the requirement of the member/members. The repayment will be done in 10-24 installments. The members lend at the rate of discretion of members and it's usually range from Rs.1.50-2.00.

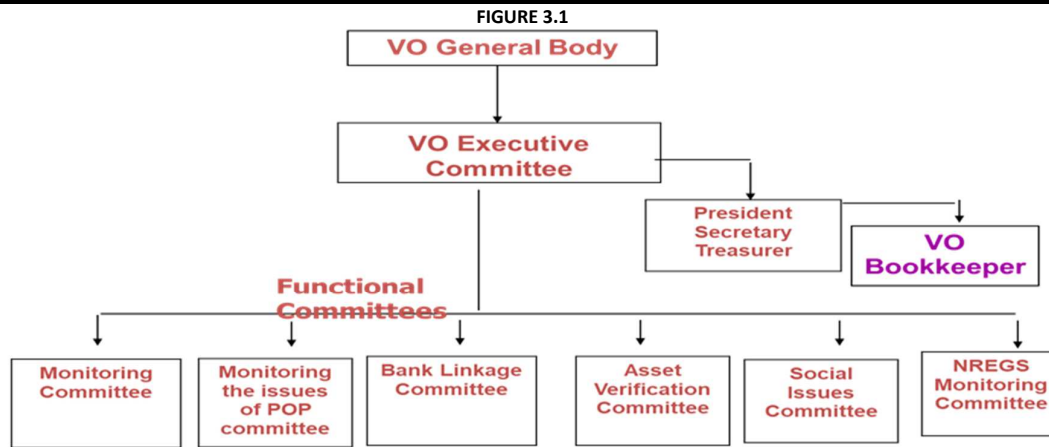
Leader elicits cooperation and teamwork from a group of people and keeping them motivated, using every manner of affiliation (Dubrin, 2002). He specifies the far reaching goal as well as the strategy for goal attainment. The 20 groups form a village organization (VO). Leaders of these 20 groups elect two leaders as VOAs. These VO lend to the members at village level at Rs.1 interest. The members repay to VO in 50-60 installments.

Effective leaders have to be good managers themselves or be supported by effective managers. The 20-30 VO form MS (mandal samakya), elect two leaders from those VOAs. The members can get credit at mandal level through MS. The repayment of credit will in 100-120 installments. The 20-30 MS form ZS and members will get credit at Rs.0.25p. The members who pay regularly can take the credit with no interest. Leadership is the partnership between leader and group members. According to Peter Block, leader and group members should connect with each other in such a way that the power between them is approximately balanced. Exchange of purpose, a right to say no, joint accountability and absolute honesty are necessary between leader and group members. Leadership deals with change, inspiration, motivation and influence. In practical, the SHGs are becoming the victims of more debt as they are informally formed. At group level the members regularly meet on a day in a week/month and conduct meetings. At the same time, the leaders collect the saving amount along with travelling expenses to deposit in the Banks which are situated at a distance not less than 1km from their meeting place. At group level, members in some cases pay Rs.50-100 for recording their deposits, credits, EMIs in the books. Every month they organize on a day, VO to communicate the schemes, coordinate in getting loans with the members. They also try to know their necessities and startup of small enterprises. Accordingly, they lend to the members. The SERP has provided training in maintaining records at VO level. VOAs maintain records and make entries respectively. As the VOAs are spending valuable personal time in writing them, they collect Rs.100-200 from members for each record. 'Leadership isn't something you do to people. It's something you do with them' (J. Dubrin, 2012). VOAs think they are doing something to the group members by sending the proposal to the MS/ZS. This school of thought led to deviate from the objectives of the SHG. The members requirement and proposal for loan sent to MS and sanctioned to members by VOA and they charge Rs.1500-2000 from each loan observed in M.Venkatayapalem, Eknuru, Pittalagudem in Khammam district; Pasra, govindraopet, tadwai villages in Warangal; Nadargul, turkayamjal, gurranguda, injapur in Rangareddy district; in Mahaboobnagar district; rajapet in nagonda district.

The SHGs will be sustainable when there is a substitute for leadership makes the leadership style unnecessary or redundant. Task-oriented and people oriented leadership substituted by professional education and socialization. As the members are not regularly attending the meetings and are unfamiliar of the government schemes. To maintain the norms, the VOAs started collecting late fee/absence fee of Rs.100. This is observed in M.Venkatayapalem village. When the members asked about the account of late fee, VOA has vexed and suspended members from getting loans from VO/MS. Unlike substitute, a neutralizer counteracts the leadership style and the leader's ability to direct their subordinates greatly reduces. In Pasra, the late fee collected from members is added to the accounts of fine paid members respectively.

Instead of informal procedure, formal process will reduce the cost and the SHGs sustain. Group members expect to have some control over methods used. Formalized rules and procedures substitute for task-leadership orientation because the rules tell the people what to do.

SERP is an autonomous society, set up by government in 2000. Chief Minister is the chairman of general body of SERP. They induce social mobilization, provide facilitation support to institutions of poor, and sensitize all line departments to be inclusive of the needs of the poor, banks, insurance companies and other service providers.



Legal Frame work:

Village Organisations - registered as Primary Cooperatives under APMACs Act-1995

Source taken from SERP website

4. MICROCREDIT PLAN

There are seven steps for providing micro credit to the members of the SHGs:

1. Comprehensive information of the group
2. Comprehensive information of the members of the group
3. Individual income and expenditure statement of the member
4. Estimate of the income generating activities of the members (MCP)
5. Details of the members availing the loan in first priority
6. Details of the members availing the loan in second priority
7. Memorandum of understanding between:
 - a. Members and SHG
 - b. SHG and Village Organization (VO)
 - c. VO and Mandal Samakya (MS)

5. DATA ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

The data and information collected by way of administering the questionnaire are summarized and made further analysis to draw interpretations. The data was collected from a statistically selected sample 1035 SHG members from rural Telangana. The respondents were administered a pre-structured questionnaire personally by the researcher to collect the data. After being collected, the data was analyzed using SPSS version 23 and Microsoft Excel. The results of the analysis and interpretation are presented as follows:

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS

In this section demographic profile of the respondents is presented.

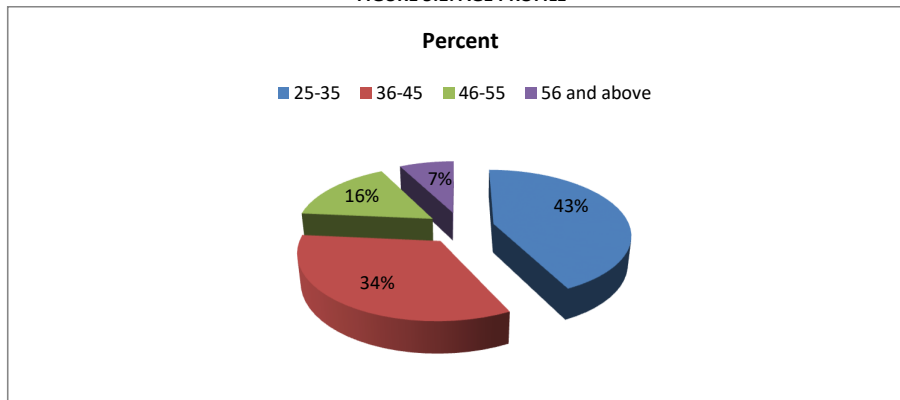
5.1 AGE PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

The table 5.1 and figure 5.1 shows the age profile of the respondents.

TABLE 5.1: AGE PROFILE

	Frequency	Percent
Valid 25-35	441	42.6
36-45	350	33.6
46-55	165	15.9
56 and above	79	7.6
Total	1035	100

FIGURE 5.1: AGE PROFILE



Interpretation: The table 5.1 and figure 5.1 shows the age wise distribution of the sample. The sample consists of 43% respondents between age 25 and 35, 34% respondents belong to age group between 36 and 45, 16% respondents belong to age group 46-55 and 8% belong to age group of above 55 years.

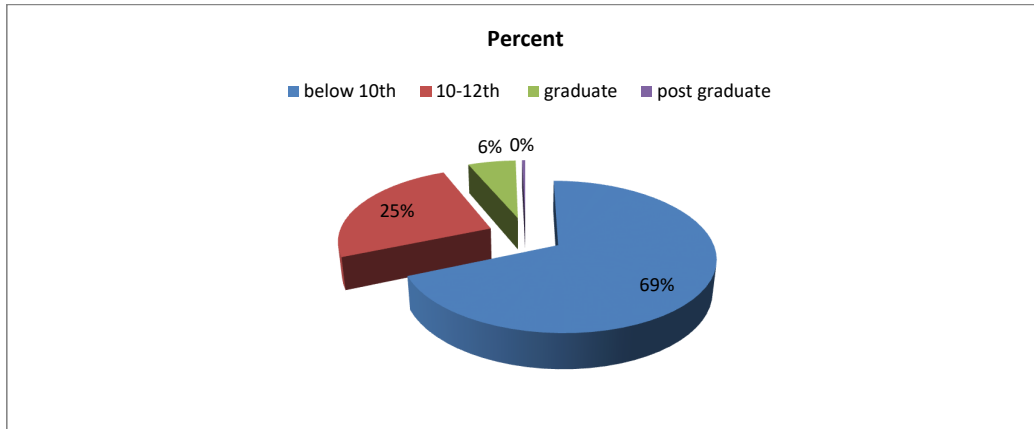
5.2 EDUCATION PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

Table 5.2 and Figure 5.2 explains the education profile of the respondents.

TABLE 5.2: EDUCATION PROFILE

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	below 10th	709	68.7
	10-12	260	25.0
	graduate	62	6.0
	post graduate	4	.4
	Total	1035	100

FIGURE 5.2: EDUCATION PROFILE



Interpretation: The table 5.2 and figure 5.2 shows that sample consists of 68% illiterates or high school education, 25% respondents who completed their Intermediate education, 6% respondents who completed graduates and 0.4% who finished their post graduation.

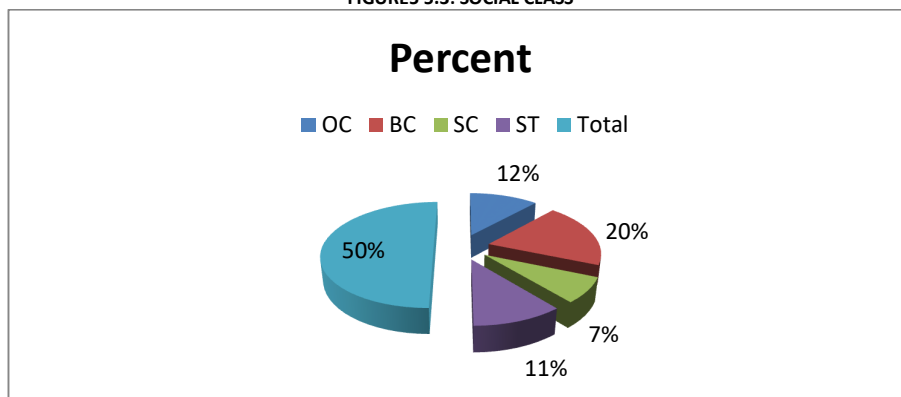
5.3 SOCIAL CLASS OF THE RESPONDENTS

Table 5.3 and figure 5.3 shows the social class of the respondents to which they belong to:

TABLE 5.3: SOCIAL CLASS

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	OC	241	23.3
	BC	403	38.9
	SC	157	15.1
	ST	226	21.8
Missing system		8	0.8
Total		1035	100.0

FIGURES 5.3: SOCIAL CLASS



Interpretation: Table 5.3 and figure 5.3 shows that the sample consists of 39% of respondents who belong to Upper Class (OC), 23% of Other Backward Class (OBC), 22% of Scheduled Social Class, and 15% respondents who belong to Scheduled Tribes. The other 1% may belong to Muslim category.

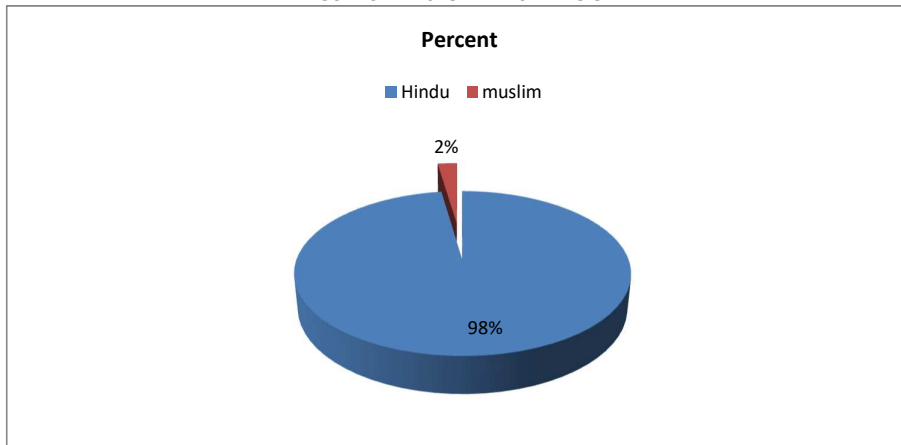
5.4 RELIGION PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

Table 5.4 & Figure 5.4 shows the religion of the respondents

TABLE 5.4: RESPONDENTS' RELIGION

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Hindu	1011	97.2
	muslim	24	2.3
Total		1035	99.5

FIGURE 5.4: RESPONDENTS' RELIGION



Interpretation: About 98% of sample belongs to Hindu religion and the remaining 2% members constitute 2% were Muslims.

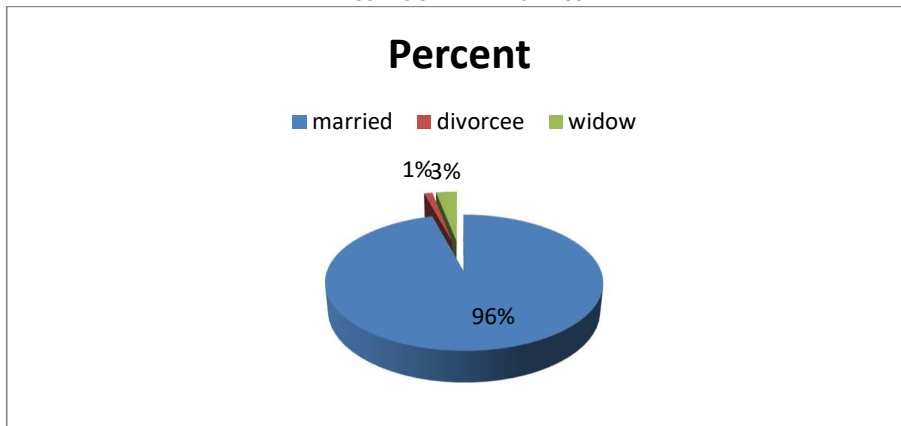
5.5 MARITAL STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS

The following table 5.5 and Figure 5.5 shows the marital status of the respondents.

TABLE 5.5: MARITAL STATUS

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	married	992	95.4
	divorcee	12	1.2
	widow	31	3.0
	Total	1035	100

FIGURE 5.5: MARITAL STATUS



Interpretation: The table 5.5 and figure 5.5 shows that the sample consists of 95.4% of respondents married, 3% who are widowed and 1.2% respondents who are divorced.

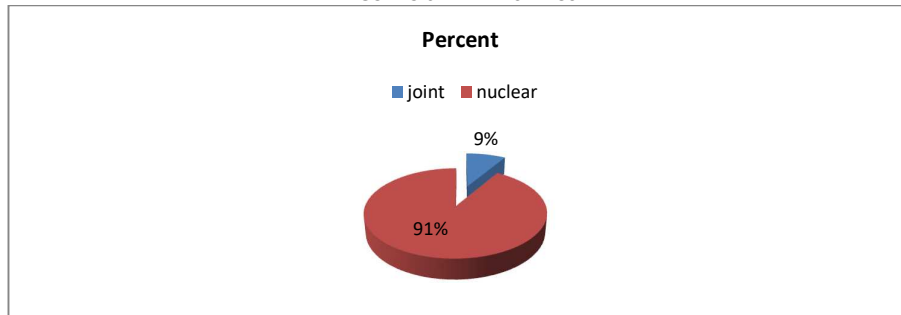
5.6 FAMILY TYPE OF THE RESPONDENTS

The following table 5.6 and figure 5.6 shows the family type of the respondents

TABLE 5.6: FAMILY STATUS

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	joint	89	8.6
	nuclear	946	91.4
	Total	1035	100

FIGURE 5.6: FAMILY STATUS



Interpretation: The table 5.6 and figure 5.6 shows that the sample consists of 91% of respondent's nuclear, 9% Joint family.

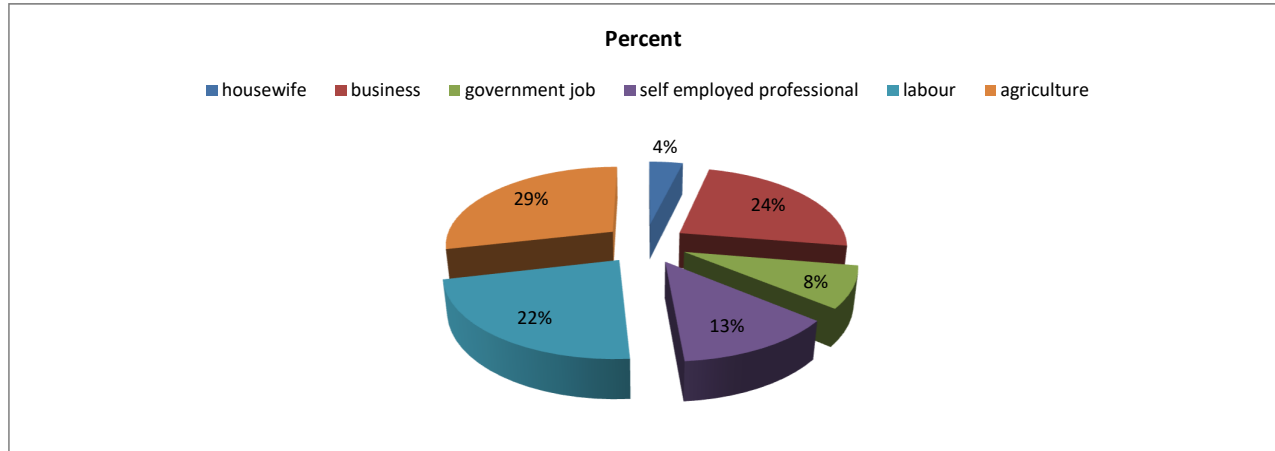
5.7 OCCUPATION PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

Table 5.7 and Figure 5.7 shows the occupation profile of the respondents

TABLE 5.7: OCCUPATION

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	housewife	40	3.8
	business	246	23.7
	government job	86	8.3
	self employed professional	133	12.8
	labour	234	22.5
	agriculture	296	28.5
	Total	1035	99.5

FIGURE 5.7: OCCUPATION STATUS



Interpretation: The table 5.7 and figure 5.7 shows that the sample consists of 29% of respondent’s agriculture, 24% who were business, 22% respondents who were labour, 13% respondents were self-employed professional, 8% respondents were government jobs and 4% respondents are house wives.

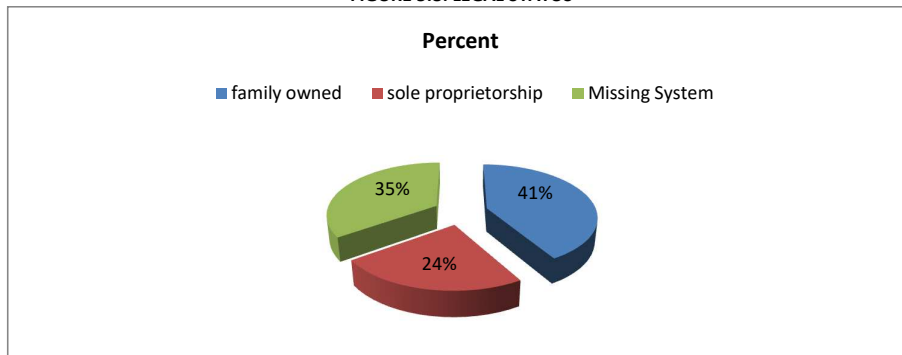
5.8 LEGAL STATUS OF THE RESPONDENTS

Table 5.8 and Figure 5.8 shows the Legal status of the respondents

TABLE 5.8: LEGAL STATUS

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Family owned	431	41.4
	sole proprietorship	244	23.5
	Missing System	360	34.7

FIGURE 5.8: LEGAL STATUS



Interpretation: The table 5.8 and figure 5.8 shows that the sample consists of 41% of respondents invest in family owned, 35% who were sole proprietors and 24% respondents belong to labour/Housewives.

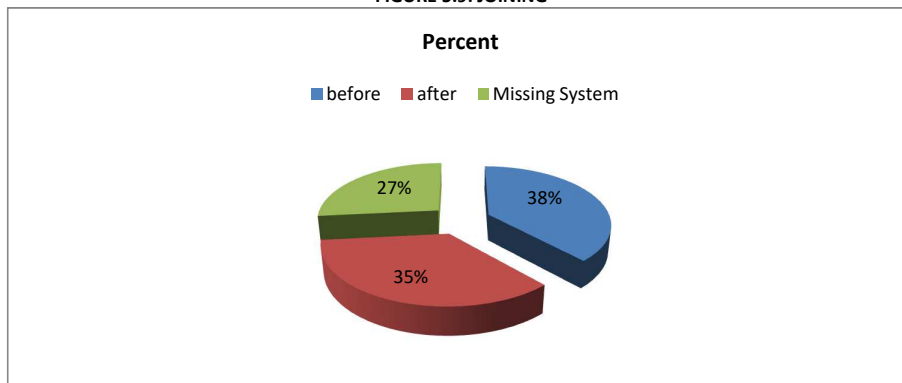
5.9 ENTERPRISE ESTABLISHED BEFORE JOINING THE SHG OR AFTER JOINING THE SHG

Table 5.9 and Figure 5.9 shows the respondents established enterprises before joining the SHG or after joining the SHG

TABLE 5.9: JOINING

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	before	396	38.1
	after	365	35.1
Missing	System	274	26.5
Total		1035	100.0

FIGURE 5.9: JOINING



Interpretation: The table 5.9 and figure 5.9 shows that the sample consists of 38% of respondents started their occupation before joining the SHG, 35% respondents started their occupation after joining the SHG and 27% respondents belong to labour/Housewives.

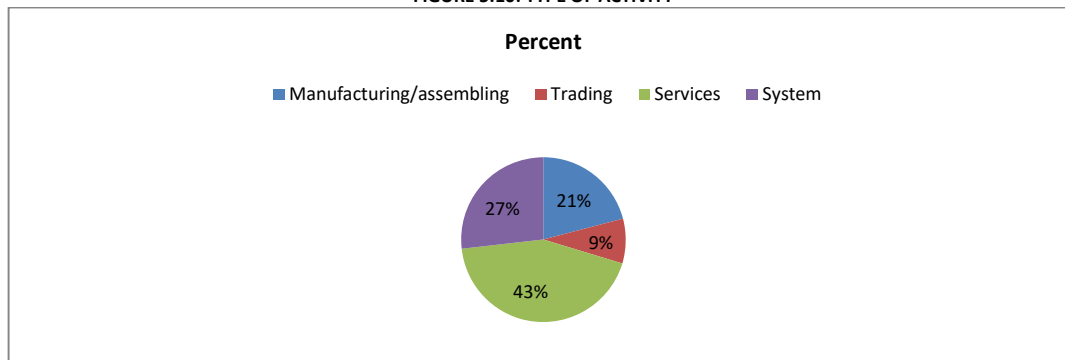
5.10 TYPE OF ACTIVITY OF THE RESPONDENTS

Table 5.10 and figure 5.10 shows the type of activity of the respondents of SHG.

TABLE 5.10: TYPE OF ACTIVITY

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Manufacturing/assembling	217	20.9
	Trading	92	8.8
	Services	452	43.5
	Missing System	274	26.5
Total		1035	100.0

FIGURE 5.10: TYPE OF ACTIVITY



Interpretation: The table 5.10 and figure 5.10 shows that the sample consists of 43% respondent's service oriented activity, 21% respondents involved in Manufacturing/assembling activity, 9% respondents involved in trade related activity and 27% respondents belong to labour/Housewives.

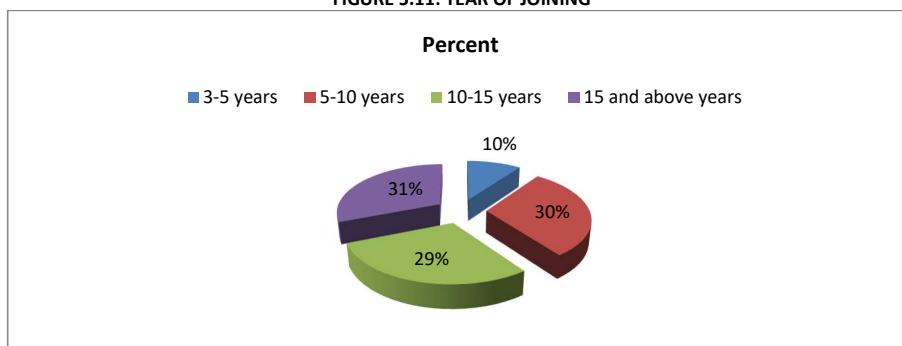
5.11 YEAR OF JOINING OF THE RESPONDENTS IN SHGs

Table 5.11 and Figure 5.11 shows the type of activity of the respondents

TABLE 5.11: YEAR OF JOINING

		Frequency	Percent
Valid	3-5 years	104	10.0
	5-10 years	310	30.0
	10-15 years	300	29.0
	15 and above years	321	31.0
	Total	1035	100.0

FIGURE 5.11: YEAR OF JOINING



Interpretation: The table 5.11 and figure 5.11 shows that the sample joined the SHG 31% respondent's fall into category of 15 and above years, 29% respondents fall into 10-15 years, 30% respondents fall into 5-10years, 10% respondents fall into 3-5years.

TESTING THE HYPOTHESIS1

Null Hypothesis (Ho): There is no significant correlation between demographic variables and year of joining the SHG.

Alternative Hypothesis (H₁): There is a significant correlation between demographic variables and Year of joining the SHG.

TABLE 5.12: CORRELATIONS

		Year of joining	age	education	class	religion	marital	family	occupation	status	joining	activity
Year of joining	Pearson Correlation	1	.091**	-.144**	.105**	0.049	.063*	0.039	-0.061	0.068	.085*	-0.047
	Sig. (2-tailed)		0.003	0.000	0.001	0.114	0.044	0.215	0.051	0.077	0.019	0.197
	N	1035	1035	1035	1028	1035	1035	1035	1035	675	761	761

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

* . Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

- The table 5.12 shows that at the 0.01 level of significance, there is a sufficient evidence to conclude that there is a significant correlation between Age and sustainability of members in SHG. (P-value is greater than 0.003). **The null hypothesis is rejected.**
- The table 5.12 shows that at the 0.01 level of significance, there is a sufficient evidence to conclude that there is a significant correlation between Education and Sustainability of members in SHG. (P-value is less than 0.00001). **The null hypothesis is rejected.**
- The table 5.12 shows that at the 0.01 level of significance, there is a sufficient evidence to conclude that there is a significant correlation between Social Class and Sustainability of members in SHG. (P-value is greater than 0.001). **The null hypothesis is rejected.**
- The table 5.12 shows that at the 0.01 level of significance, there is a sufficient evidence to conclude that there is no significant correlation between Religion and Sustainability of members in SHG. (P-value is less than 0.114). **The null hypothesis is accepted.**
- The table 5.12 shows that at the 0.01 level of significance, there is a sufficient evidence to conclude that there is a significant correlation between Marital Status and Sustainability of members in SHG. (P-value is greater than 0.044). **The null hypothesis is rejected.**
- The table 5.12 shows that at the 0.01 level of significance, there is a sufficient evidence to conclude that there is no significant correlation between type of Family and Sustainability of members in SHG. (P-value is less than 0.215). **The null hypothesis is accepted.**
- The table 5.12 shows that at the 0.01 level of significance, there is a sufficient evidence to conclude that there is no significant correlation between Occupation and Sustainability of members in SHG. (P-value is less than 0.051). **The null hypothesis is accepted.**
- The table 5.12 shows that at the 0.01 level of significance, there is a sufficient evidence to conclude that there is no significant correlation between legal status of the occupation and Sustainability of members in SHG. (P-value is less than 0.077). **The null hypothesis is accepted.**
- The table 5.12 shows that at the 0.01 level of significance, there is a sufficient evidence to conclude that there is a significant correlation between starting of activities before and after joining the SHG and Sustainability of members in SHG. (P-value is greater than 0.019). **The null hypothesis is rejected.**
- The table 5.12 shows that at the 0.01 level of significance, there is a sufficient evidence to conclude that there is no significant correlation between type of activity and Sustainability of members in SHG. (P-value is less than 0.197). **The null hypothesis is accepted.**

FINDINGS

The SHGs are informally associated with formal institution to include those who are financially, economically, socially and politically excluded. The informal way of association charging high cost due to which some groups could not cope up. The others whose age is more than 55 years are again excluded from the groups, which make them insecure.

Age, education, social class, marital status and starting of microenterprises before and after joining the SHGs had an impact on the sustainability of SHG members.

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