

Role of Women in Agriculture – A Micro level study of Ganganagar Block, Sriganganagar, Rajasthan

By

Rohan Kataria

Dissertation submitted for the partial fulfilment of the

MBA Rural Management

Academic Year

2019 – 2020



IIHMR University, Jaipur

1, Prabhu Dayal Marg, Near Sanganer Airport, Jaipur – 302029

Phone: 91-141-3924700, 2791431-32

E-mail: iihmr@iihmr.edu.in

Acknowledgements

The preparation of this project has always been made possible through direct and indirect operations of various persons for whom we wish to express our appreciation and gratitude. Before we get into thick of the things, we would like to add few heartfelt words for people who were the part of my project

I express my deepest thanks **to Professor Dr Goutam Sadhu**, IIHMR University, Jaipur for giving me necessary advice and guidance to make this study easier. I Choose this moment to acknowledge their contribution gratefully for this wonderful opportunity

We also own a great deal to our organization “RGAVP”. We would like to thank **Mr Chandrashekhar, District project manager, RGAVP** for his support and assistance throughout the study period. We would also like to thanks to whole team of RGAVP who provided their valuable time and support and made us our study meaningful.

This chance is a turning point in my career for me. I will make every effort to put my newly acquired skills and knowledge to the best possible use, and I will continue to enhance them in order to achieve my career goals. I hope to work with all of you again in the future.

Rohan Kataria

Table of Contents

Role of Women in Agriculture – A Micro level study of Ganganagar Block, Sriganganagar, Rajasthan	1
Introduction	5
Review of literature	8
Research Gap	10
Research aims and objectives	10
Significance of the study	10
Research methodology	12
RESERCH FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS	13
Discussion	24
Conclusion	26
Recommendations and suggestions	27
References	27
Appendices	28

ABSTRACT

Background - “India is a developing country. Agriculture is the most prevalent employment, with 70% of the people employed in the industry. This study looks at the impact of increasing agricultural integration on women. Agriculture, according to this research, offers a variety of job options for women. Higher family earnings are associated with jobs that provide women control over a substantial share of the household's resources. Salary inequalities between men and women still exist in India, despite the fact that more women are employed than ever before. Women are more likely to remain in subsistence agriculture as a result of these circumstances, as well as their lower educational levels.” This study is basically done to find the status of women in agriculture and to analyse the working conditions and recognition of work of women. The study concluded that most of the women face challenges in agriculture, women do a lot of work in agriculture and allied fields but their work is not recognized by the society.

Methodology – This research is done in the Ganganagar block of Sriganganagar, Rajasthan and its duration was 90 days. the data was collected from primary as well as secondary sources. The total no of responses taken were 50 and that forms the basis of the research findings and results in the study.

Result – A total of 50 responses has been recorded for the study described further in details. The outcomes of the study says that most of the families (64%) were joint families and it shows that the concept of joint families is still there in rural areas. the main outcome that the study shows that around 3/4th of the respondents did not get recognition of their work.

Conclusion - Women in rural areas are important contributors to agriculture and related sectors. Her labour encompasses a wide range of activities, including agricultural cultivation, animal rearing, and cottage industry. Despite her significant engagement, her importance and dignity have yet to be recognized. The study concluded that most of the women face challenges in agriculture, women do a lot of work in agriculture and allied fields but their work is not recognized by the society.

Introduction

Women in agriculture: Women have a significant part in agricultural and rural economic activities in all developing country areas. Their functions differ considerably across and within areas, and they are rapidly changing in many parts of the world as economic and societal pressures reshape agriculture. When it comes to contract farming and complex supply networks for high-value agricultural goods, for example, women confront distinct opportunities and challenges than males. These disparities are due to variations in women's roles and obligations, as well as the limitations they face.

Self-employed farmers, unpaid farm employees, and paid and unpaid laborers on other farms and agricultural companies are all examples of women working in agriculture. Both subsistence and commercial agriculture, as well as animal rearing, are of interest to them. They supervise diversified agricultural enterprises that comprise crops, livestock, and fish aquaculture, as well as growing food and cash crops. All of these women are regarded to be part of the agricultural labor (FAO, 2010) With a percentage of women in the agricultural work force that has remained constant at little over 30%, India exceeds the south Asian average. This obscure changes in other countries, such as Pakistan, where female agricultural labor force participation has nearly quadrupled since 1980, to 30%, and Bangladesh, where women now make up more than half of the agricultural workforce.

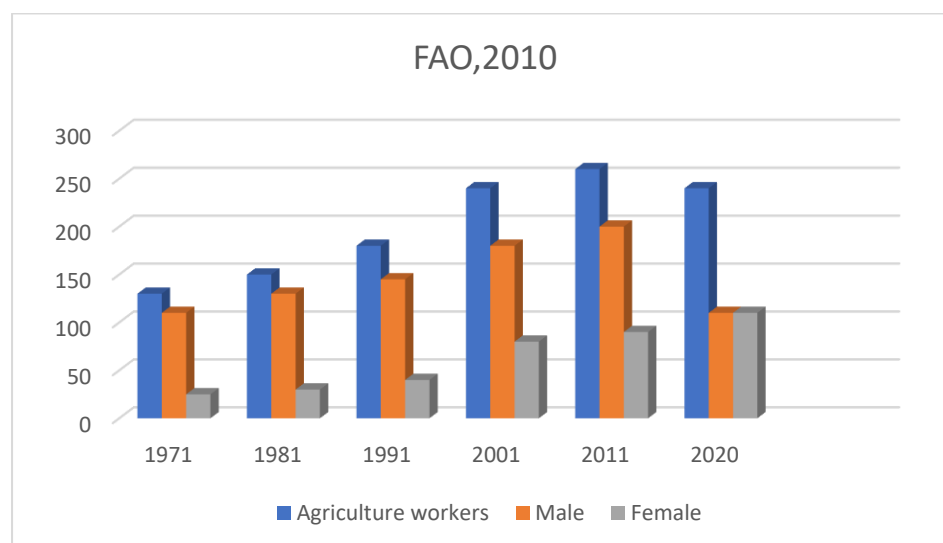


Figure- 1 Year wise Men and women agricultural labourers

Swaminathan, a famous agricultural scientist, argues that females were the ones who tamed crop plants originally and thus triggered art and farming science. Women started to gather seeds from natural flora and to cultivate those that had an interest in food, feed, fodder, fiber, and fuel while they were chasing for their nourishment. Women have played and continue to play a vital role in protecting basic support systems to sustain life, such as land, water, vegetation and animals. They have kept soil healthy by naturally recycling it, and by keeping varietal variety and genetic resistance, have improved crop safety.

Women in India are the main food producers in terms of value, volume and number of hours spent. Rural India accounts for up to 70% of women in agriculture. In 2009, 94% of women were employed by grain farming while 1.4% were employed by vegetable farming, 3.72% by fruits and spice plants. Indian women make up 21% of all fisherman and 24% of all fishermen, respectively, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization. Women in rural regions are a significant player not only in the production of crops, but also in related sectors such as crops, animal husbandry, agriculture and fisheries.

The census data does not capture the bulk of the work done by women, such as collecting firewood, fodder and water, vegetable production and keeping house chickens. Many female workers are not classified as employees on their family farm. 78% of the women working regularly in rural regions make up agricultural women. A third of all land workers is made up of them. Due to the usual division of the sex on the job, the women earn an average of 30 percent less than the men. Women account for 70% of agricultural labor, 60%-80% of domestic food production, 100% of the basic food processing work, 80% of the stock of foodstuffs, and 90% of water and fuel wood collection for households in developing countries, according to a recent study of the FAO's Division of Women and Population. The involvement of women in food production ensures the survival of millions of people worldwide, and the women contribute 60-80 per cent of food production in most impoverished countries. Women's livelihood goals, their support and methods of preserving food security are varied and complex from production of fields via livestock harvesting, home gardening and collection. They generate above-average contributions, despite unequal access to land, resources and expertise.

Weeding, grass cutting, picking, cotton stick collecting, and seed separation are just a few of the labor-intensive tasks that rural women farmers do. Women are also required to go out into

the fields and collect wood. This wood is utilized as a primary source of cooking fuel. Women are having difficulty finding firewood due to rising population pressure, overgrazing, and desertification. Another important issue in rural regions is access to safe drinking water.

Livestock play a significant role in supporting women and improving their financial status in pastoralist and mixed agricultural systems, and women are extensively involved in this sector. Women account for around two-thirds of impoverished livestock caretakers. They share responsibilities for animal care with men, and some species and activities are more associated with women than with males. Women, for example, are frequently involved in the management of poultry and dairy animals, as well as the care of other animals that are kept and fed within the home. When duties are split, males are more likely to be active in home construction, grazing animal herding, and product promotion if women's mobility is limited. The usage of eggs, milk, and chicken meat for household consumption, as well as the revenue generated from these items, is heavily influenced by women. Women also dominate small-scale pig production in several nations. Female-headed families are just as effective as male-headed households in producing money from their animals, despite owning fewer animals, perhaps due to labor restrictions. In civilizations where males have exclusive access to land, women find cattle ownership particularly appealing.

Various factors, such as farm size, cropping pattern, and availability of rangelands, including feed and pasture, all impact cattle strength patterns. Women in rural areas supplement their income by selling milk and animals. Cleaning animals, sheds, watering, and milking the animals are mostly done by women. Her schedule is quite demanding. She gets up before dawn and treks for kilometers in search of water, if any is available. They are also in charge of collecting and making dip cakes, which provides additional money to their family. She works in a field all day, occasionally carrying a baby on her back. Droughts, blight, and pests may not kill her crops if she's lucky, and she raises enough to support her family and maybe sell the rest. However, some remote communities lack access to the nearby market. Despite this, her work is seen as 'ineffective.' Furthermore, her work is not considered "economically active employment" in many economies. Despite the fact that rural women produce half of Pakistan's food, their personal food security is always in jeopardy.

During the harvesting season, women's work is in high demand; carrying a bundle of harvested produce to the threshing station is a strenuous chore that is primarily conducted by women.

Women trudge through the thorny bushes of the harvested fields, generally barefooted, carrying each bundle as a head burden. This was a duty that just a few men took part in.

The majority of women are self-employed and work in hazardous conditions, according to research. The crop farmer sows the seeds, tills the soil, fertilizes it, sprays it, harvests it, and stores it. They assist in field farm tasks such as winnowing, weeding, grading, threshing, and cleaning. Due to severe labor responsibilities, female farmers appear to be under a lot of physical strain in agricultural operations. Women do a variety of tasks in agricultural and related fields, including manually moving loads/material, threshing, transplanting, land preparation, cleaning animal shelters, feeding animals, and cow dung disposal. These behaviours have negative consequences on women's health. Most women suffer from poor health as a result of poverty and a lack of essential protein levels.

Review of literature

Bala. N (2010) ¹ Agriculture remains to be India's most important employer. Women make up the majority of this workforce, which is made up primarily of small and marginal employees. Almost all of agriculture's activities are carried out by women. Despite the fact that women are heavily active in Indian agriculture, their opinions are not taken into account while making agricultural decisions. This is because in India a man thinks it very shameful to act upon the advice of a woman.

Chayal et.al (2013) ² in his study of “Involvement of Farm Women in Decision Making in Agriculture” Women perform a significant and vital role in agriculture. Cleaning of fields, field preparation, sowing, intercultural practises, weeding, harvesting, picking, cleaning of grains, drying of grains, and other agricultural activities are among the tasks they perform. However, it is regrettable that they continue to be unseen employees.

Swarnalatha Arya (1995) ³ It found that there had been a greater engagement of rural women in agriculture through the use of a watershed management program and various crop systems. The research clearly showed that the contribution of women is 150% more than 85% in the case of males. This implies that women's people provided a large proportion of the increasing activities in agriculture.

Jose (1988) ⁴ In his analysis of comparable salary data from 16 Indian states over the period 1970-1971 to 1984-1985, he discovers that the two northwestern states of Punjab and Haryana, as well as the southern state of Kerala, consistently maintained a high average level of money wage. Bihar, Orissa, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh are the states of Bihar, Orissa, Karnataka, and Madhya Pradesh, respectively.

(Jain, 1996). ⁵ Women are actively involved in livestock-related activities, although the actual magnitude of their contribution is difficult to estimate and varies greatly among nations. In India, women devote 32 percent of their time to agricultural operations and account for 69 percent of the workers in the livestock sector (Singh and Sengupta, 2009). (Patel, 2016). This data varies by country, with West Bengal women reporting less than 10% and Rajasthan women reporting more than 40%. (Jain, 1996). In comparison to elder women, younger women devote a greater proportion of their time to agriculture. This proportion was found to be 60% for girls in the 14-19 age range in Rajasthan. India produces the most milk at the moment (176.30 MT)) in the world and per capita availability has been reached to 375 gm/day (BAHS, 2018), this significant change has involved large number of rural women dairy farmer's hard work (Patel, 1998).

Damisa et.al (2007) ⁶ highlighted in their analysis that women have a high degree of involvement in agriculture, considering various social, economic and other constraints, and are very committed to their agricultural activities. Overall, the level of female participation in farm decision-making was found to be very moderate.

Singh and Vinay (2012) ⁷ briefed on the importance of female labour in agriculture and related activities in their working paper They went on to say that the role of women in agriculture, as well as female labour, is under-appreciated in India. Despite their participation in tasks such as sowing, transplanting, and post-harvest procedures, they are regarded as unseen labourers..

Micro studies show that women have a high share of dairy production, accounting for 93% of jobs in milk production. Women spend around 23% of their individual time on manual labour in the field of livestock farming. Bathing and caring for livestock, grazing and gathering fodder, feeding and milking are all examples of their work with animals, according to several reports. Collecting fodder, collecting and processing dung, and transporting it to the fields are all tasks done by women. Ploughing and other mechanized operations, and the selling and purchase of crop, livestock, and other agricultural items, are all done by men. Women do not have any

rights of ownership over either crops or animals, and the income from all the activities are always belongs to men. **(National Commission for Women, 2005)**

Research Gap

Many studies have been done on the role of women in agriculture. But there are various issues that has not been pointed out like, do they have ownership of land, how much rights they have on their earnings. This study tried to analyse these issues

Research aims and objectives

The basic objectives of the study **to access the role of women in agriculture and measuring the contribution of women in agriculture sector**

Specific objectives are to access the following parameters

1. land ownership of women
2. Decision making rights of the women
3. To find out ways to reduce gender inequalities and to improve the role of women in Agriculture

Significance of the study

Women play a key role in the agriculture sector; they are particularly indispensable in rice cultivation. Women have been the backbone of rural society who is shouldering multifarious responsibilities in household chores. The women agricultural laborer's hire out their personal labor on the fields, sweating for lower wages to contribute towards household earnings. The female agricultural laborer's despite contributing to the rural economy on par with men encounter innumerable difficulties in the existing socio-economic framework of the society.

One of the most vulnerable segments of our society is rural female workers. Although the involvement of women in the labor market is considerably lower than that of men, rural women have much higher employment levels than urban families, and rural women work much more rapidly.

Several studies conducted on female labour in agriculture have stopped short of a systematic attempt to look into socio-economic dimensions of the problem. The present exercise is confined to the economic and social conditions and problems relating to the female agriculture

labourers in Ganganagar block of Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan. However, detailed study of the agricultural labourers with respect to their conditions and problems will be attempted with the help of primary data collected from taluks of Ganganagar district, of the state. Thus, it is hoped that it would help in working out measures for reducing the magnitude of the problem faced by female agricultural labourers.

Agriculture is strongly linked with women because it has taken root in human evolution. Some historians think it was the women who started the art and science of farming initially and first tamed agricultural plants there. The fundamental system of conservation, including land, water, flora and wildlife, has been and still is a vital responsibility for women.

Women account for 495.73 million people in the 2001 census, out of a total population of 1027.05 million. Women make up approximately half of the population, and agriculture employs 78 percent of all economically active women compared to 63 percent of males. 2

Women labor in agricultural activities on the farm and also take care of their families. Women, in their many responsibilities as a housewife, child care provider, and farmer, have a significant impact on the family's progress and well-being. Rural women, on the other hand, have a lower degree of education than men.

Women have always had an important part in agriculture, dating back to prehistoric times. It was in "gentling, caring, and breeding," according to Mum Ford (1961). It was her compassion and love that gave the early agricultural settlements of man a sense of security, receptivity, enclosure, and nurture, and it was she who made civilization possible. 4

"It is important to acknowledge women's position as primary earners of the family, not as marginal and additional contributors," according to the National Perspective Plan for Women (1998). At least one-third of the households are self-sufficient, while another one-third rely on women for at least half of their income. 5

In the realm of agricultural production, women undertake a range of duties. They assist in field preparation, cleaning debris and leftovers from previous crops, hauling manures and fertilizer application (either by themselves or by bullock pulled coulters), sowing, planting, or transplanting. Following that, gap filling, thinning, assisting in irrigation and water management, plant protection, nearly entirely self-weeding, and equal participation with men

in harvesting activities such as cutting, threshing, winnowing, and so on. The majority of these procedures are carried out exclusively by women, who also help males in a variety of tasks.

In India, cattle husbandry is the most common and important allied agricultural activity, and milk production is dominated by women. They are in charge of, among other things, harvesting fodder, feeding, milking, processing milk products, and cleaning the cow shed.

Women's participation in agriculture varies a lot from place to place, and even within a region, it varies a lot between ecological sub-zones, agricultural practises, castes, classes, and stages in the family cycle. With the exception of ploughing, there is essentially no agricultural activity in which women do not actively participate, notwithstanding these inequalities.

Research methodology

- The study is conducted in Ganganagar block of Ganganagar District, Rajasthan
- Random sampling is done in the block for the study.
- The duration of the study is be 3 months
- Research Design- The descriptive research design is used for this study, includes quantitative and qualitative data.
- Data Collection- the data is collected through secondary and primary sources.
- Primary data is collected during the study in the block and it forms the basis of the research findings and results in the study.

A questionnaire was prepared for collecting the following data

- 1) Personal information
- 2) Access to land
- 3) Control of land
- 4) Economic independence
- 5) Decision making rights

In case of illiterate respondents, clarification was given to them about the study. The questionnaire has saved the time of the respondent as well as the researcher and also the data can be easily analyzed

The primary data is collected through interviews on phone as well as on site. We tried to analyze and understand the feelings, attitudes and beliefs of the participants to understand them in a proper way.

Secondary data is collected through different texts, books, journals and social media

Target groups

The target groups of the study are mainly men and the women farmers of the block.

Plan of analysis – the data is analyzed by the help of statistical tools such as MS Excel. Based on the statistical result, we came to the results and conclusion.

RESERCH FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

This chapter deals with the finding the discussion part of the study finding reported it based on the information collected with the help of schedules and questionnaires depicted in appendix. for the purpose of convenience this chapter provides following IV parts as sub chapter.

- I. Socio Economic Profile of the respondent.
- II. Attitude of women towards participation in socio economics activities.
- III. Participation of women in different socio-economic activities.
- IV. Suggestive measures for improving participation of women in different socio-economic activities.
- V. Barriers of social participation perceived by the respondent.

Socio economic profile of the respondents

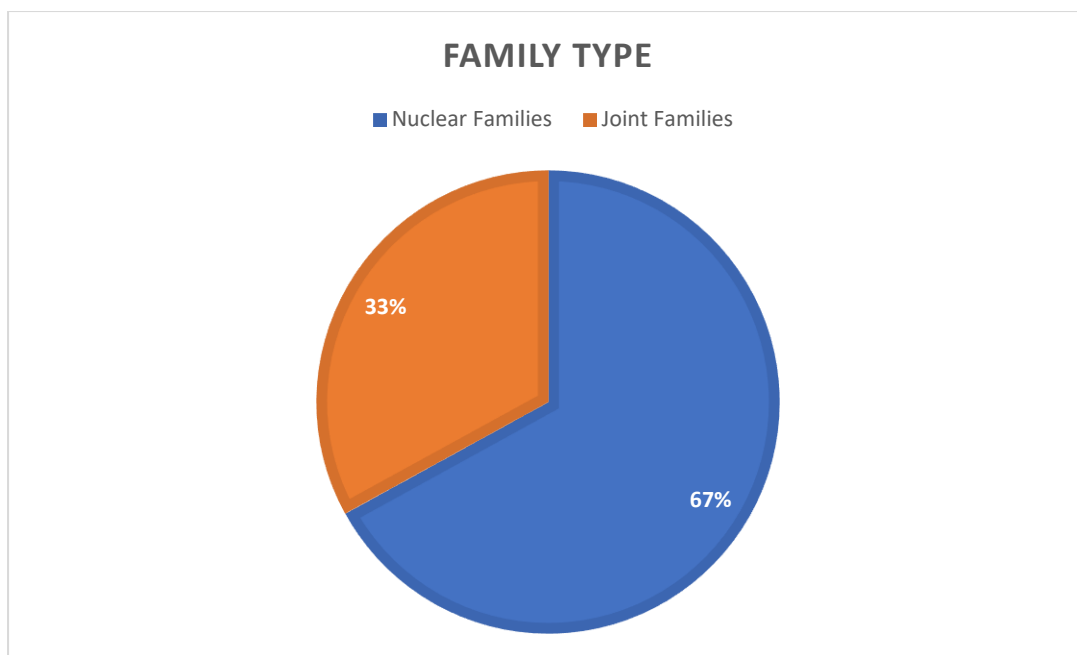


Figure – 2 Type of Family

N= 50

Interpretation: The Figure projects that 67 percent respondents were observed to be belonging Joint families while 33 percent to under nuclear families. It meant that the joint families were more in number than single families. Hence, it may be concluded that in our rural family system Joint family system still sustains.

How much land do you have?

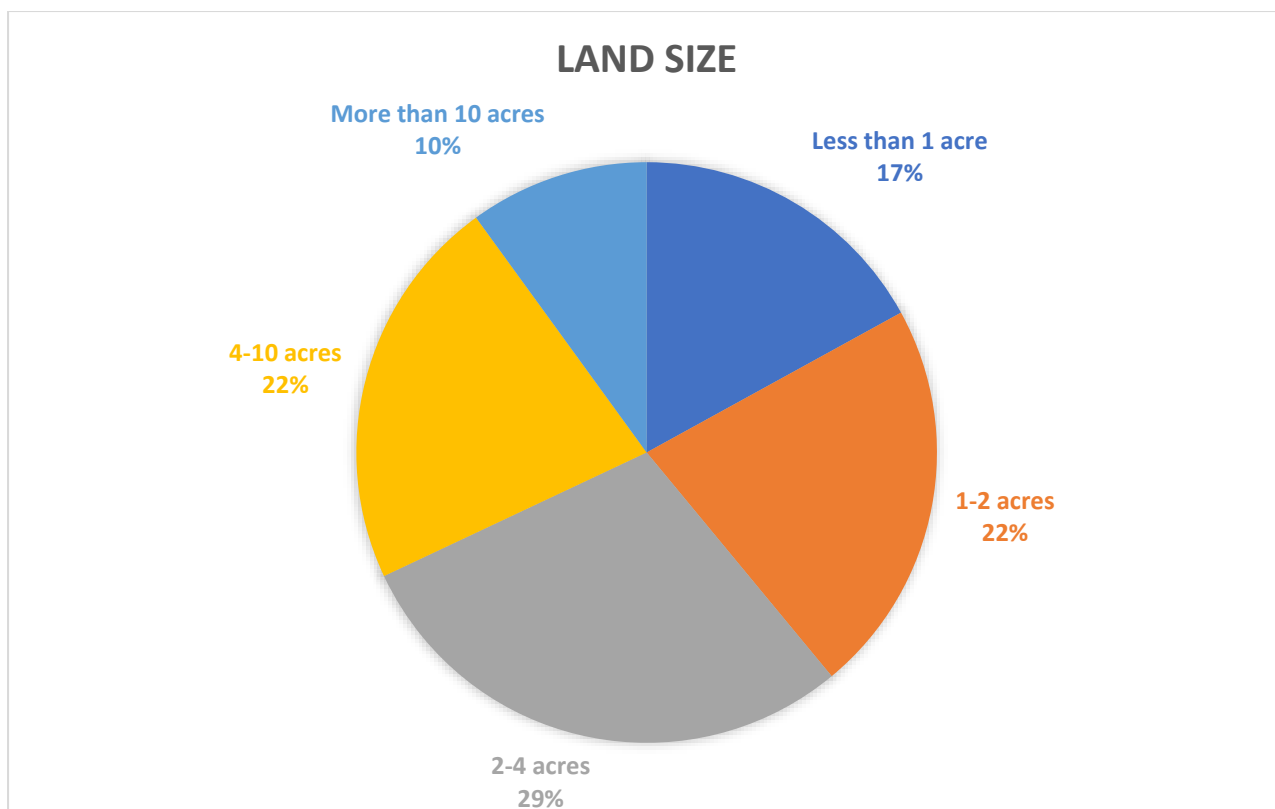


Figure - 3 Size of Landholdings of the respondents

N= 50

Interpretation: The above figure depicts that around half of the population has a land size between 1 – 4 acres (49%). And 17% of the farmers have a landholding size of less than 1 acres. Only 10 % farmers have more than 10 acres of land.

From this we can conclude that, most of the farmers are small and marginal farmers and only few are large farmers.

Do you have bank account?

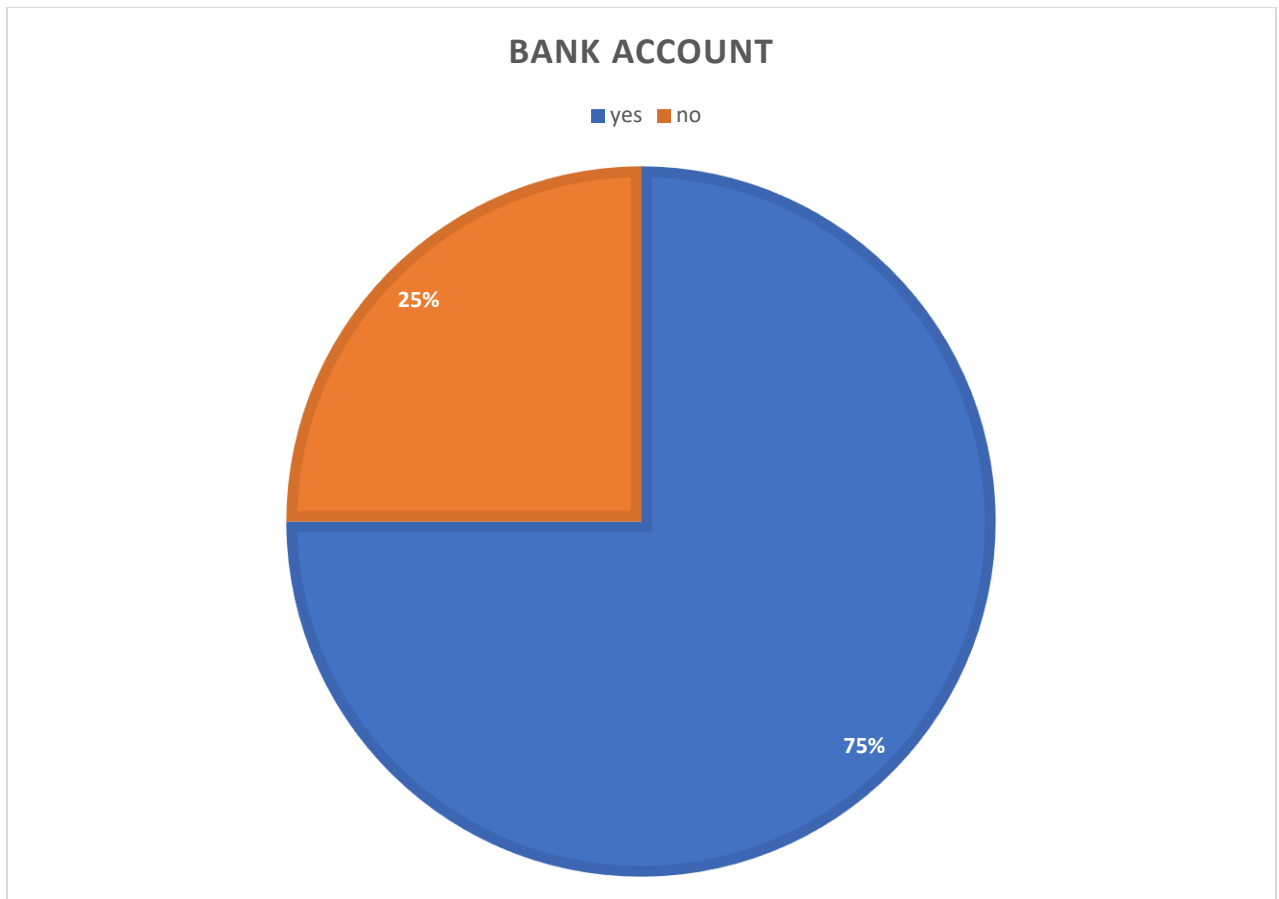


Figure – 4 Bank account details

N= 50

Interpretation – The above figure depicts that 3/4th of the respondents has their bank accounts but the main think was they do not know how to credit or debit the money in their bank account, this work is done by their other family members

This shows that dependency of the women on their husband or other family members for the tasks related to money or the tasks which are out of their homes.

Who owns the land?

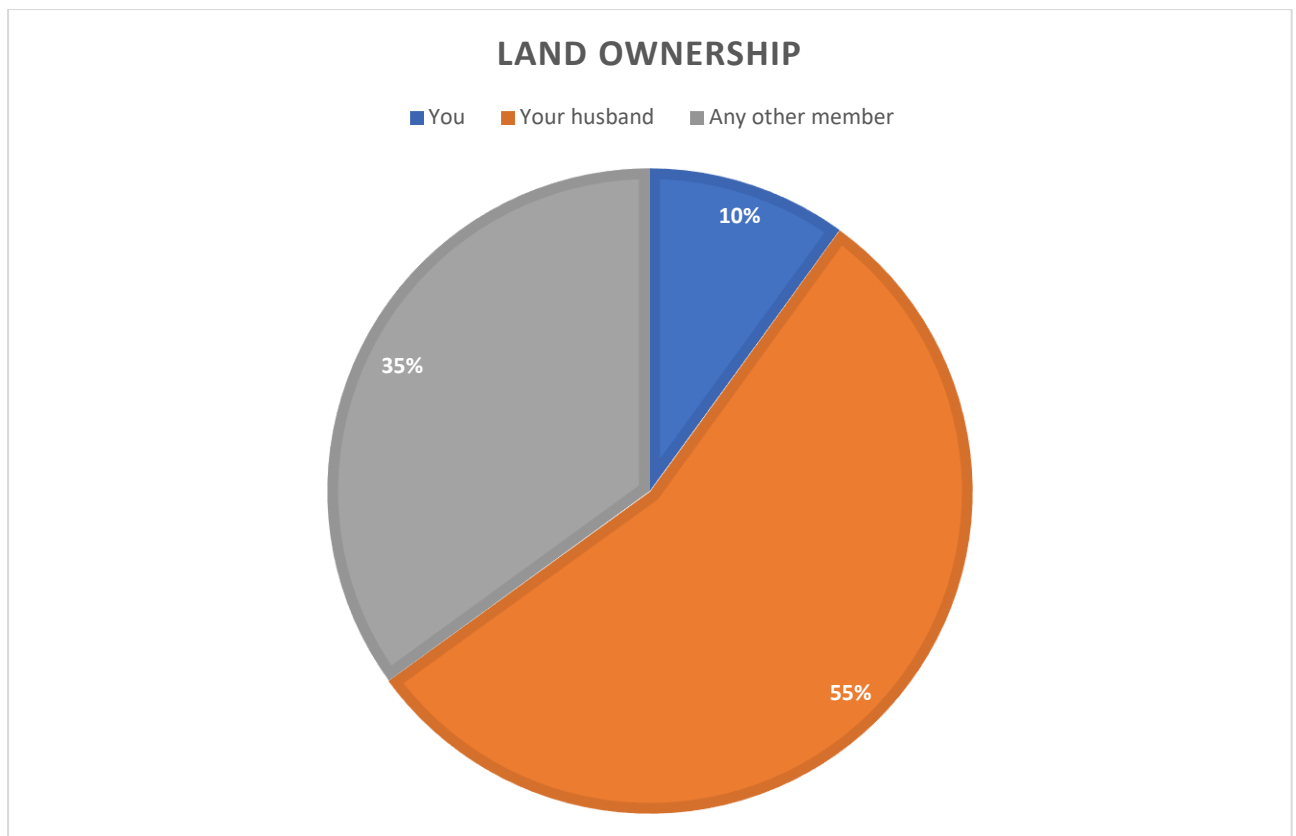


Figure – 5 Land ownership details of the respondents

N= 50

Interpretation: the above figure depicts that most of the land (55%) is in the name of the male family members, the other 35% is also in the name of other family members which are mostly men. A very low percentage of women (10%) have the land in their name

From this pie chart, we can conclude that the society is still male dominant and there are very less cases where women have the land ownership

If you work in someone's farm, do you get less wages than men?



Figure – 6 Work wage gap between men and women

N=50

Interpretation: More than half of the women (65%) said that they get less wages than men in various works. From this figure, we can conclude that there is a huge gender wage gap in rural areas of India. The literature reviews also shows that there are differences in the wage of men and women in various agricultural works and this issue needs to be solved.

How much time do you spend doing these tasks?

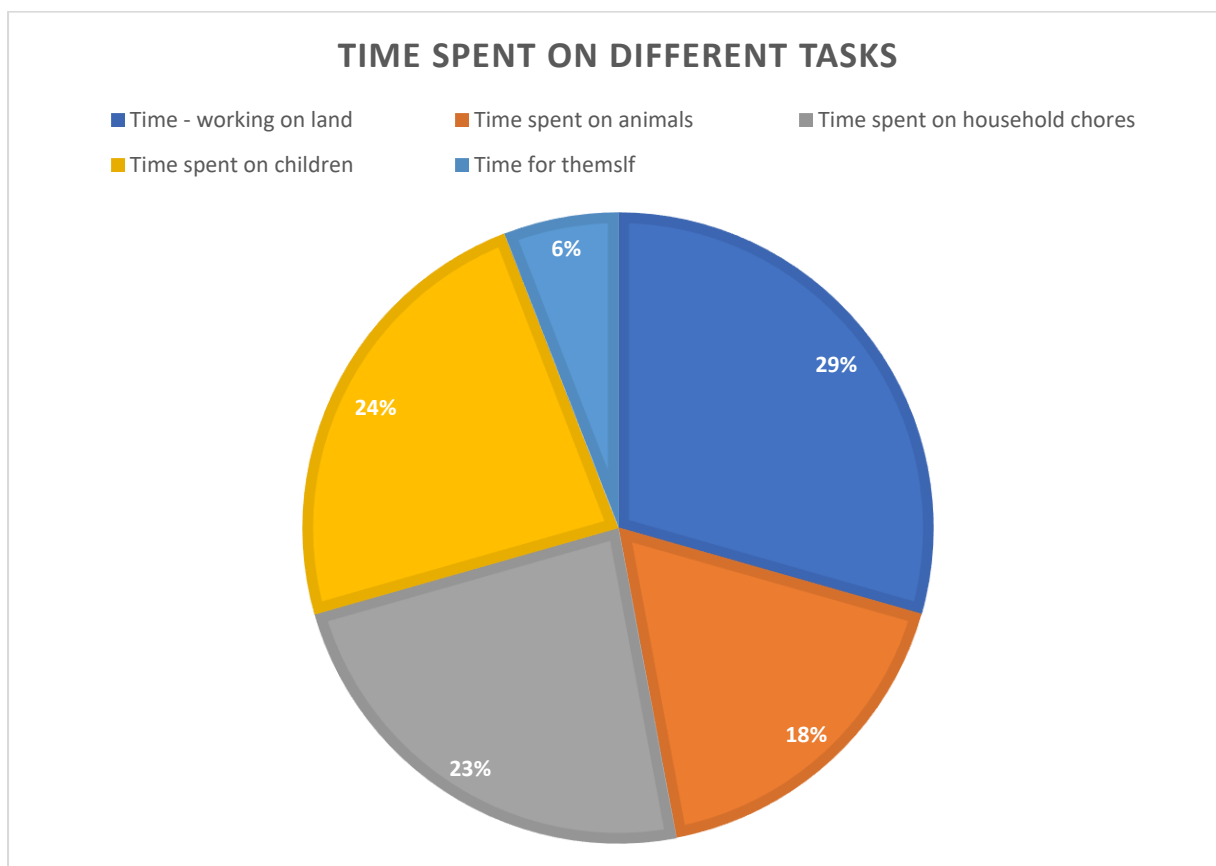


Figure - 7 Time spent on different tasks

N= 50

Interpretation: The above figure shows that most of the time of a day, they spent on doing agriculture or allied works such as animal husbandry. They get only 1 – 2 hrs time for their self and despite these facts, they do not get any recognition of their work

Does your spouse/ society respect you?

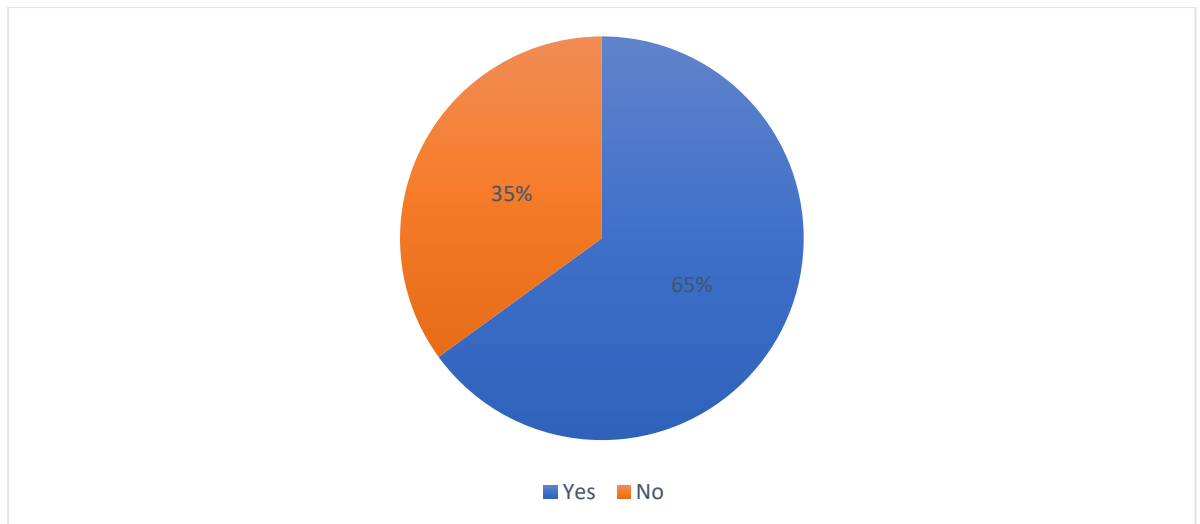


Figure – 8 Does women get respect from society

N= 50

Interpretation: The above chart depicts that most of the women get respect from their husband and society. This shows that people have respect for women, even if they work or not

If you spend more time in farming, does it affect your household chores?

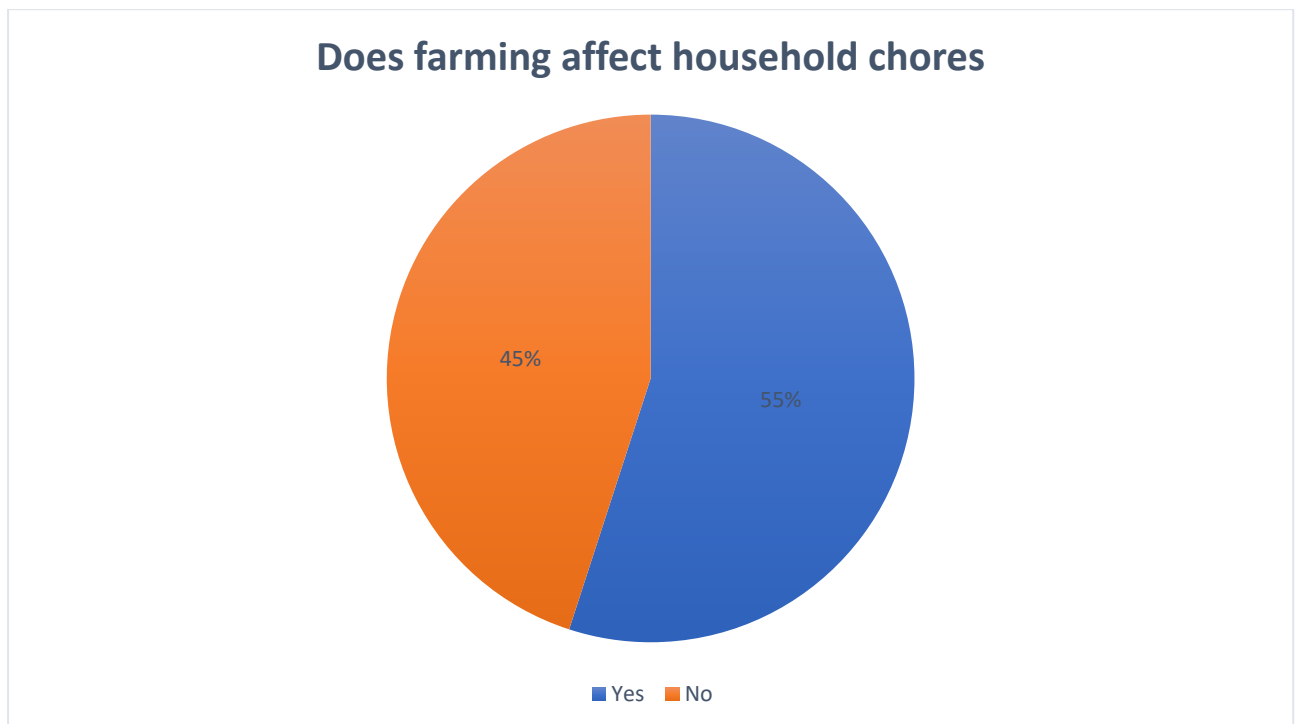


Figure – 9 Effect of spending more time on agriculture on household chores

N= 50

Interpretation - This chart depicts that if women spend long hours on agricultural and allied activities then it affects their household chores like cleaning, cooking, etc. Also, if they spend more time on agriculture then they do not have time for their children or for themselves. Despite these facts, their work is not being recognized, so this issue needs to be solved

Are you a member of any SHG?

1. Yes
2. No



Figure - 10 SHG Membership

N= 50

Interpretation: The above figure depicts that More than half of the women participants are not a member of any SHG. This was mainly due to two reasons that are, women are not allowed to join SHG's and some do not have time for that.

Would you like to leave the village and do a job in the city?

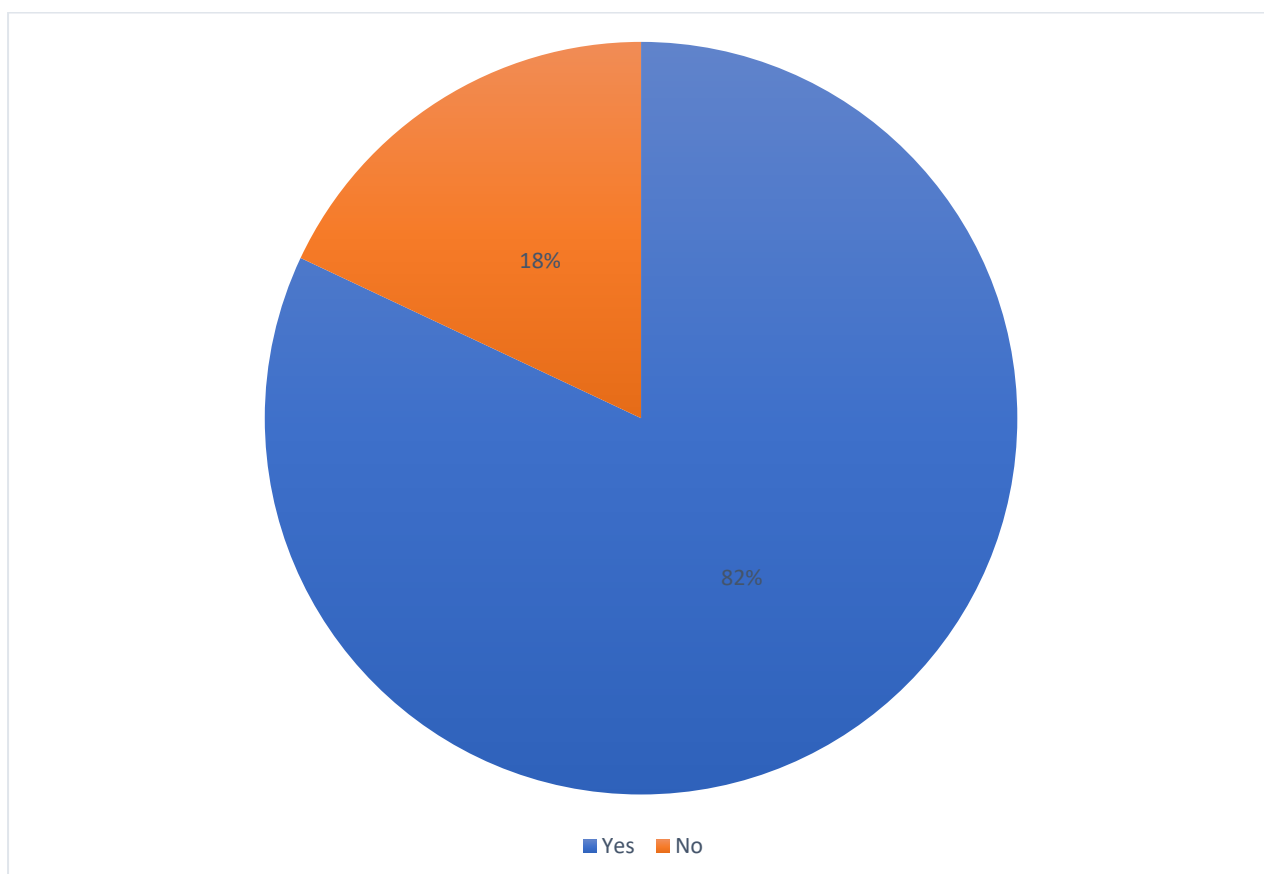


Figure – 11 Migration to cities for work

N= 50

Interpretation: The above chart depicts that more than 3/4th of the women wants to go to cities for work. From detailed interviews we also got to know that even if they want to go to cities for work, they are not allowed to do so. This shows the mentality of their husbands or their family members that women are just for household chores.

Do you get recognition of the work you have been doing?

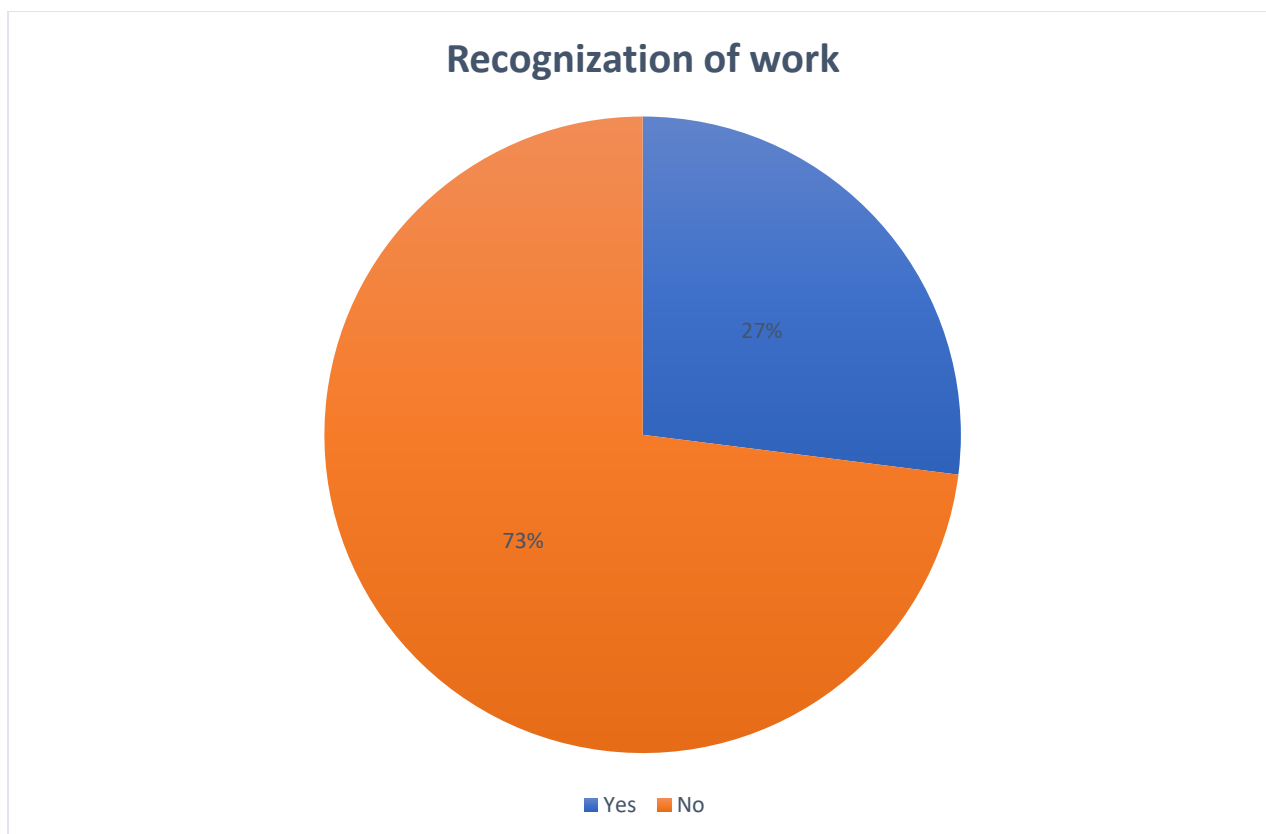


Figure – 12 Recognition of the work

N= 50

Interpretation: This was the main objective of the research study that whether the women farmers get recognition of their work or not. And the results show that around 3/4th of the women farmers does not get recognition of their work, even after spending more than half of their day hours working for others.

Discussion - Chayal et.al (2013) ² in his study of “Involvement of Farm Women in Decision Making in Agriculture” Women perform a significant and vital role in agriculture. Despite they do not have recognition of work and they do not have decision making rights. The current research also finds that 82 % of the women wants to migrate to cities but they are not allowed to do so. Also, when we interviewed, some women’s does not want to give interviews as their family members does not allow them to do so. which shows that they are not allowed to take their own decisions.

Briones, Roehlano M in his study of gender gap in agriculture shows that there is a huge wage gap between men and women in agriculture sector. The current study also finds the same, as 645% of the women farmers have faced the same issue as they get less wage for work as compare to men.

In his study of “Participation of women in agriculture production” **Nishi Salathia** says that Women plays a major role in agriculture sector. They do different works such as weeding, cleaning, care of livestock and many more works. It is observed that women play a significant role in agricultural development and allied activities including main crop production, live-stock production, horticulture, post-harvesting operations etc. About 70% of farm work is performed by women. But they do not get that respect that they must be given.

The current study also finds that women spent almost 75% of their work in agriculture, livestock and other activities and they just have only 1 – 2 hrs of time for themselves, still they do not get recognition of their work. They are considered as labourers or sometimes known as Farmer’s wife. But they are not known as women farmers.

International Organization for Migration published an article on land ownership of women in Nepal, the results of that study says that less than 50 per cent of women have ownership of land. The most common sources of land ownership for women in all the districts are through husband’s earnings or dowry from parents. 16 per cent of women have acquired land through dowry; only 7 per cent of omen have acquired land through their own earnings

The results of the current study are also very shocking, about 90% of the women said that the land is in the name of their husbands or other family members, only 10% women has land ownership

A report by world bank shows that the women involvement in bank is increasing and now there are more accounts of women in banks as compare to early 2000. The current study also finds the same thing, around 75% of the women farmers have their bank accounts but the problem is they are not involved in banking services, they just have a bank account but they do not go to banks and all the banking works are done by the male members of the family.

The main aim of this study was to aware people that women are the backbone of Indian agriculture and they should be rewarded for their work. Their work should be recognized and we hope that this will happen soon in the upcoming years.

Conclusion

As the main objective of the study was to find out the role of women in agriculture and allied sector. The study concluded women in rural areas are important contributors to agriculture and related sectors. Her labour encompasses a wide range of activities, including agricultural cultivation, animal rearing, and cottage industry. From housing and family upkeep to water, fuel, and feed transportation. Despite her significant engagement, her importance and dignity have yet to be recognized.

Form the results of the current study, we also conclude that Land ownership is a major issue for a women. Most of the women farmers does not have control over landholdings. Which shows the dominant patriarchal society in rural areas of India

If we talk about the decision-making rights of the women, The study concluded that women have very fewer decision-making rights, they cannot do even some simple tasks without permission. They cannot migrate to cities for their work, cannot go to banks and there are many more tasks which are not allowed to them.

All social, economic, and political indices show that women's position is low. Wage employment for women is seen as a danger to the male ego, and women's participation in various home-based economic activities results in underpayment of their labour. Long hours are spent collecting water, doing washing, preparing food, and performing agricultural tasks by women. Sociocultural and economic variables heavily influence the type and scope of women's labour market productivity. When compared to males, women do not have equal access to the labour market. Due to social and cultural limitations, as well as a lack of enabling services such as transportation and housing in the formal sector, their occupational options are similarly constrained.

Because of employers' preconceived notions about women's primary function as homemakers, women's labour power is regarded as inferior. Women are concentrated in the secondary sector of the labour market as a result of discrimination against female labour. Their employment is low-paying, low-status, informal, and offers no opportunity for advancement. In the urban sector, the majority of women labour in low-wage occupations. Finally, it is stated that agriculture is critical to economic progress since it allows women to acquire the finest methods for growing and cultivating nutritious food to sell at marketplaces. So, if we want to increase production and assure food security, we must close the gender gap in agriculture.

Recommendations and suggestions

- The value of working women's labour in the rural economy can be measured in monetary terms.
- There should be equal wages for women and men in every aspect
- Women should be allowed to go to cities in search of work
- Women should not be considered as farmer's wife, they should be considered as women farmers
- More land, agricultural, and livestock extension services should be made available to poor rural women.
- Women shall be given priority in obtaining financing from banks and other financial organisations on favourable conditions for the establishment of their businesses, the purchase of real estate, and the construction of homes.
- Women must be represented in decision-making bodies with the ability to affect structural change. This action will result in certain modifications in society's gender relations.
- Women must be aware of their legal rights, including access to judicial relief and redress, the elimination of discrimination through legal reforms, and the provision of legal aid, assistance, and counselling.
- Every woman should be recognized and proper respect should be given to women farmers.

References

1. Bala. N (2010), "Selective discrimination against women in Indian Agriculture - A Review" *Agricultural Reviews*. 31 (3): 224 – 228.
2. Chayal et.al (2013) "Involvement of Farm Women in Decision Making in Agriculture" *Stud. Home Com. Sci.* Vol. 7 Issue 1. PP.35-37.
3. Arya SL. Women and Watershed Development in India: Issues and Strategies. *Indian Journal of Gender Studies*. 2007;14(2):199-230.
4. Jose, A. (1988). Agricultural Wages in India. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 23(26), A46-A58. Retrieved July 7, 2021, from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4378664>

5. Jain, D. (1996). Valuing work: Time as a measure. Economic and Political Weekly 31(43): 48-49
6. Damisa, R. Samndi and M. Yohana (2007). "Women Participation in Agricultural Production- A probit Analysis" Journal of Applied Sciences. 7(3): 412-416.
7. Singh and Vinay (2013). "Gender participation in Indian agriculture: An ergonomic evaluation of occupational hazard of farm and allied activities" International Journal of Agriculture, Environment & Biotechnology. 6(1): 157-168

Appendices

Questionnaire used for the study

District _____ Block _____ Village _____

Name _____ Age _____ Educational Qualification _____

Husband's Name _____ Husband's occupation _____ Caste _____

Family type (1) Nuclear (2) Joint ☐

Head of the family (1) Male (2) Female ☐

1. Who Takes Decisions at home
(1) You (2) Your Husband (3) Any other member ☐

2. Monthly Income of Household _____

3. Total agriculture land of the household
(1) Less than 1 acre
(2) 1-2 acres
(3) 2-4 acres
(4) 4- 10 acres ☐
(5) More than 10 acres

4. Who owns the land?
1. You
2. Your Husband ☐
3. Any other member

5. Do You have a bank account?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

☐

6. If yes, then in whose name is the bank account

- 1. You
- 2. Husband
- 3. Joint account

☐

7. Do women get loans easily as compare to men?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

☐

If No then what are the reason_____

8. Will your husband allow the land to be in your name?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

☐

Reason for your answer

9. If you work in someone's farm, do you get less wages than men?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

☐

If yes, then why?

10. How much time do you spend doing these tasks?

Works	Time
How long do you work on your land?	

How much time do you take to care for animals?	
Time for Household Chores	
Time for Children	
How much free time you have for yourself?	

11. If you spend more time in farming, does it affect your household chores?

1. Yes
2. No

☐

If yes, Then how?

12. Does your spouse/ society respect you?

1. Yes
2. No

☐

13. Are you a member of any SHG?

3. Yes
4. No

☐

14. Would you like to leave the village and do a job in the city?

1. Yes
2. No

☐

15. Do you get recognition of the work you have been doing?

1. Yes
2. No

☐

Investigator_____

Signature _____

Date _____

