

Skill development in rural women through value added jute products

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■ **ABSTRACT** : The natural golden fibre is strongest, cheap and ecofriendly in nature. Thus, an attempt was made to trained rural women in value added jute products so that they could start their own entrepreneurial unit. Training on value added jute products was imparted to 30 women of Griva Tehsil of village Badgoan from Udaipur district. The existing knowledge level of respondents regarding value added jute products was judged using interview schedule and after training the post-exposure knowledge level was judged using the same schedule. The result obtained from skill assessment of rural women was 100 per cent in training session. The feedback of the whole training was found to be very fruitful and had applicability for the future purpose.

■ **KEY WORDS** : Rural women, Skill development, Jute products

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Empowerment enables rural women to overcome the most difficult barriers in life. Rural women need support, counselling and training to become empowered. This training in empowerment is the most significant component of the entire development programme for entrepreneurship of rural women (Neelima and Swaroop, 2000).

Jute is a natural fibre popularly known as the golden fibre. It is one of the cheapest and the strongest of all natural fibres and considered as fibre of the future. Jute is second natural fibre after cotton in world's production of textile. India, Bangladesh, China, and Thailand are the leading producers of jute. It is also produced in South-west Asia and Brazil. The jute fibre is also known as Pat, Kosta, Nabita, Bimli, or Mesta (Kenaf).

Jute is not only a major textile fibre but also a raw material for non traditional and value added non textile products. Jute is used extensively in the manufacture of different type of traditional packaging fabrics, manufacturing, sacking, carpet backing, mats, bags, ropes and twine. As we know, that jute is a golden fibre and it has multiple use by its value addition and is boon for the rural people who have limited resources. By adopting jute as an enterprise rural women can empower themselves.

Skill development for rural women is a process whereby rural women are able to organize themselves to increase their own self reliance, to assist their independent right to make choices and to control resource which will assist in challenging and eliminating their own subordinate and it is widely recognized that women paid work and economic capabilities can facilitate them to achieve their own control over resource and grow self confidence and self esteem.

Hence, looking the above facts, the present research work was formulated to impart women and to study knowledge acquisition and its implementation regarding value added Jute products.

■ RESEARCH METHODS

The present study was conducted to develop value added products for skill development in rural women for entrepreneurship. The methodological approach followed to carry out this study has been explained as follows :

Selection of respondents :

The present study was conducted in Girva tehsil of village badgaon of Udaipur district, purposively, owing to the imp panel members were also selected for evaluating of