



RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Background profile of S.H.G. members of Jorhat district of Assam

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SUMMARY : A self-help group (SHG) is a voluntarily association of people with common goal. The concept of “self-help groups appears to be a good substitute strategy to involve people in the improvement process. Empowerment of women through self-help groups has benefited not only the individual women but also her family and community as a whole. The study was carried out in the Jorhat district of Assam. Four blocks were selected from national rural livelihood mission (NRLM) initiative blocks. Thus, all total 16 self-help groups were selected from these blocks for the present study. Ten members from 16 SHG’s, total 160 members were selected using simple random sampling for the study. Majority of 54.4 per cent of the members belonged to young aged category *i.e.* 27 – 39 years. A large majority (95.00 %) of the respondents were married and 37.50 per cent of the respondents had education upto high school level. A majority of the respondents (56.30 %) belonged to the OBC category, 68.10 per cent belonged to nuclear family and 62.50 per cent belonged to small family size. Majority of the respondents (48.8 %) were marginal *i.e.* having 3 – 7.5 bigha of land holdings. Majority of the respondent’s family occupation (41.70 %) was cultivation and 56.30 per cent had medium income level and 91.00 per cent were member of one organization. Majority of the respondents (91.25 %) possessed television and 40.00 per cent attended training programme during the year 2017, 91.87 per cent source of information were extension officers, 88.75 per cent had contact with community resource person. A high percentage (62.50 %) of members of self-help group were completely dependent on bank namely Gramin Vikash Bank for their entrepreneurship development.

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