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Impact of Microfinance on Women Empowerment through Self-Help Group in Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu, India.

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Abstract

Women's empowerment is an important role in this society. Women's empowerment will lead to wealth, health, and development for this society and enhance prosperity for the coming generation. All over the world several Institutions working for women's empowerment, but women are still not getting the required share in economic, social, and political empowerment when compared with men. For this society, women's contribution is innumerable. For the swift development of women who are very poor in this society, particularly for them, it is necessary to improve their social and economic status. This analysis is mainly on political, social, and economic empowerment, skill enhancement, decision-making capacity, and managerial capacity, which lead to women empowerment. This analysis is undertaken with the objective of how microfinance has impacted women's empowerment through self-help groups. The study analysed six variables, Economic Empowerment, Social Empowerment, Political Empowerment, Decision Making Capacity, Skill enhancement, and Managerial Capacity / Skill. This study followed a Descriptive Research methodology, with the help of a structured questionnaire. Primary data was collected with a sample size of 515 from the Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu, India, keeping in mind the objective of this study, such as demographic factors of the self-help cluster and the six variables. This analysis aims to find out whether microfinance has given them Economic Empowerment, Social Empowerment, and Political Empowerment for the self-help cluster of women or not. Whether the self-help cluster managed, my women enhanced their Decision-making capacity and improved their Managerial Skills or not. The self-help group activity has an impact on Family relationships or not. Finally, the women's self-help group has achieved the ultimate objective of women's empowerment or not.

Keywords: Women Empowerment, Self-help Group, Microfinance, Economic Empowerment, Social Empowerment, Political Empowerment.

1. Introduction

Preamble To Women Empowerment:

Empowerment of women is a very hot issue around the world for the past few decades. The Women Economic Forum and the United Nations report have proved that how women all over the globe were suppressed because of gender discrimination between women and men. The quest for Equality with men is still a nightmare for women. Many institutions also striving their best to give utmost priority for women's equal opportunity and acknowledgement. The demand for egalitarianism in Political, Economic and Social factors emerged in this decade. For many decades women in India spent their life within four walls. They entirely relied on men. Apart from this employment, remuneration, inheritance, marriage, education, and choosing the religion. Their long time wait has yielded finally by women's associations. Their status and position all over the globe has increased unimaginably in 21st century. We found that it was very low in 19th and 20th centuries in India. The women's position has changed dramatically, now they need not wait for equal opportunity here after. These developments all over the world were mostly in urban areas only. Women in rural areas still struggle for their household requirements.

Preface To Microfinance:

Microfinance means mostly women who are unemployed joint together and form a small group between fifteen to twenty members mobilize funds from the group members and these pooled funds are utilized for their small business. Apart from this for their further fund's requirements, they borrow loans from the commercial banks and private banks at a less interest rate than offered to commercial establishments. But most of the commercial banks and private banks are not willing to fund these self-help groups, because of two reasons, one is a recovery of loans from this group is very difficult and the second one is they are not in a position to pay at a lower interest rate.

Origin Of Modern Microfinance:

The modern micro finance was made familiar to the world by Bangladesh Grameen Banking system, and the world today adopts the model of micro finance introduced by them. In this Grameen Banking system, small funds are advanced to small clusters (generally of five women), with each associate of the cluster agreed to take the financial responsibility of others. Their failure to meet their financial commitment would put a full stop for the whole cluster from getting further credit. But as and when the credit redemption is good then the cluster members are allowed to borrow loan again and again. The cluster associates are responsible to monitor each one them regularly by conducting a meeting as scheduled earlier thus their social commitment to repay the loan and the usually collateral security issue is avoided because of this. Prof. Dr.M.Yunus, is the architect of this micro finance banking system is the pioneer in this field. He won the Noble Peace Price in the year 2006 for his contribution of micro finance and the success of “Grameen Credit” to this world.

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Growth Of Microfinance:

Microfinance is growing rapidly all over the world for the past two decades. The Indian microfinance industry is not exempted from this trend. The non-banking finance companies providing credit to several hundred to develop the cluster for self-help by women. Companies that are providing microfinance have operations in Twenty Nine states, Four Union Territories and Five Hundred and Sixty-Three districts in India. Outstanding loan for the year 2017 grew by Twenty Six percent compared to the previous year 2016. The total outstanding loan by these companies which are funding for a cluster of self-help women. is around Rs.47,000crores. On an average each borrower outstanding is Rs.12,500. Women borrowers are put together 96%. The people who are employed in this sector is around 90,000. In this field staff alone 60% of the workforce.

Challenges Of Microfinance:

The Microfinance scheme was initially introduced in India in the year 1970. Nearly Forty Nine years on, the extraordinary progress rate of small finance division in our nation has brought some money for socially stimulated contributors and investors from internal and outside the country. At the same time the cost of fund has gone up considerably, which leads to increase interest percentage by the lenders, moreover a marginal number of credits with small number of loans receivers borrow less fund, because of this the interest rate has gone up throughout the nation. Large quantity of micro credit expects higher interest percentage, and unnaturally reducing the interest percentage can deaden MFIs from broadening their approach to the people who are in BPL family.

Role Of Ngos:

To assist the microfinance self-help clusters Non-Governmental Organisations came as voluntary organisations to elevate the people who are below the poverty line, and struggling to have one square meal per day for themselves and for their family members. These organisations are pledged to uplift the poor, diminished, impoverished, destitute, and they are very close to and easily approachable to their target clusters. Non-Governmental Organisations are malleable in their work, free from any influence in their functions, swift in decision making, clients concern, compelled by social welfare and compassionate in principles. NGOs originated with the ultimate motive of non-profit and ethics as their fundamental principle. They are operating throughout the globe for many decades. These volunteers have contributed played a vital role in reducing discrimination, poverty alleviation and exclusion by creating awareness in service delivery in time, community mobilization, and proper training. They are acting as a bridge between government, banks & financial institutions and self help clusters. Because of their motivation self help cluster is a mass movement throughout the world.

2. Bank And Self -Help Cluster Inter-Connection Program:

Model One: Women self help cluster promoted, offered loan money and advised by banks. In this model the female self-help cluster are developed, make it ready, and invested by banks. The Women cluster for self-help have direct connection with banks and there is no intermediary. So, the banks will directly give credit to the cluster and they also supervise directly. Banks recover the credit directly from the female cluster. But the commercial banks badly failed in this exercise, because their focus is on large and middle level organisations and taking care of redemption from those organisations.

Model Two: Women cluster for self-help are developed by Non-Government Organizations and banks fund for the female cluster directly. Model two is the most familiar model for financial institutions and female self help cluster.

Model Three: Women cluster for self-help developed by Non-Governmental Organizations and fund contributed by banks utilizing Non-Government Organizations. In this model Non-Government Organizations act as intermediaries between the bank and the female self help cluster. The commercial Bank's fund for NGOs and in turn NGOs will lend for female self help cluster. The prejudice of this model is NGO draw money from the bank and they may divert these funds to cluster of self help women, but they will not pass these funds sanctioned by the bank to the female self help cluster. That is why the second model is widely welcomed by all and it is a famous model too.

Research Gap: There are abundance studies available on Microfinance activities with the help of women self-help cluster in India and abroad. But whether the self help cluster activities will lead to Social, Economic, Political empowerment and also enhances their Decision making Capacity and Skills, which leads to Women Empowerment or not is a million dollar question in India and Abroad. Hence a research gap was identified based on the research scholar's knowledge and the available literature reviews helps to find out whether microfinance has improved the Social, Economic and Political empowerment has taken place or not. Similarly the self- help cluster members have enhanced their Decision making capacity and other skills or not and all this will leads to Women Empowerment or not is changing from time to time. This research tries to fulfill the gap exists now.

Research Objectives:

1. To analyze the demographic factors of self help cluster by women.
2. To know whether micro finance has provided Economic, Social and Political Empowerment to self – help cluster of women.
3. To analyze whether the self help cluster managed by women, enhanced their Decision Making capacity and Managerial skills
4. To examine whether the cluster for self - help by women members improved their managerial skills or not
5. To know whether the cluster of self - help women activities has any impact in Family relationship
6. To know whether the cluster for self - help by women members achieved women empowerment or not.

There are abundance studies available on Microfinance activities with the help of women self-help cluster in India and abroad. But whether the self help cluster activities will lead to Social, Economic, Political empowerment and also enhances their Decision making Capacity and Skills, which leads to Women Empowerment or not is a million dollar question in India and Abroad. Hence a research gap was identified based on the research scholar's knowledge and the available literature reviews helps to find out whether microfinance has improved the Social, Economic and Political empowerment has taken place or not. Similarly the self- help cluster members have enhanced their Decision making capacity and other skills or not and all this will leads to Women Empowerment or not is changing from time to time. This research tries to fulfill the gap exists now.

3.Research Methodology

Introduction To Research:

The Research is part of educational activity and research encompasses construe and reanalyzing the problems, developing hypothesis or recommends solutions; data mobilizing, and appraising and finding a solutions to the problem; and finally carefully testing and arriving to an end, to deciding either they suitable for the hypothesis or not. A definition on research says that "the skillful management of notions, things and symbols for the purpose of rationalising to confines, proper or verifying experience, whether that experience aids in construction of theory or in the trial of a science"

Research Design:

This study is designed and planned based on descriptive research. The primary data is collected through a structured questionnaire. The sample size of 515 from the self help cluster by women of Chengalpattu district is considered.

Model Of Previous Study:

The previous study by Shanuga Cherayia, Justin P. Joseb (2016) Empowerment and social inclusion of Muslim women: Towards a new conceptual model, Elsevier, Journal of Rural Studies, Volume 45, June 2016, Pages 243-251, was adopted as a model for my research frame work.

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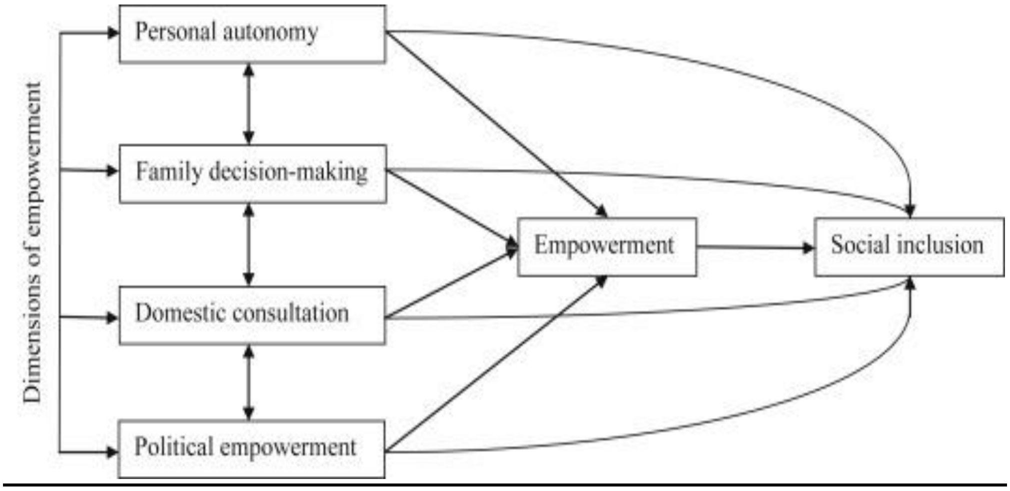

Model of Research Frame work adopted

The above model depicts the dimensions of empowerment like personal autonomy, family decision making, domestic consultation and political empowerment which leads to women empowerment and finally leads to social inclusion.

4. Analysis And Interpretation

Data analysis and interpretation is to analyze the data collected with the help of statistical tools to know the reliability, accuracy, summerisation of the data and it can be exceptional in exploration to give opinion to the questions that bring about the research. Inferences is the findings for the wider and clear meaning of conclusion. Examination cannot be completed without explanation: and explanation cannot go ahead without analysis. So, both are reciprocal.

In an affiliate a broad and in depth scrutiny of data mobilized has been undertaken as per the objective of this study mentioned earlier. The Hypotheses were proved based on the

recommendation of the examination, inferences and conclusion was drawn. In this affiliate, the following Statistical approach for scrutiny of the data collected for the current study of Descriptive scrutiny and Probability statistics.

This major contribution of this study is provided based on the data analysis. Data were analyzed by using various statistical tools which are necessary for this analysis such as Frequency analysis, ANOVA Analysis, Standard deviation, Chi – Square-X^2, t-test, Friedman mean rank test, Coefficient of Correlation, Regression Analysis and Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) analysis.

Reliability Analysis

Reliability analysis was carried out for all the nine set of constructs. The result is depicted in the Table 1

Table 1 -Reliability Analysis

Sl. No.	Variables	Cronbach's Alpha Value (α)
1	Social Empowerment (7)	0.868
2	Economic Empowerment (4)	0.738

3	Skill Improved (5)	0.871
4	Political Empowerment (4)	0.723
5	Decision Making Capacity (5)	0.931
6	Managerial Skill (6)	0.900
7	group for self - help by women Nurtured (6)	0.896
8	group for self - help by women impact in family relationship (7)	0.892
9	Women Empowerment (14)	0.901

The criteria of evaluation is, if the

Reliability value is >= 0.5 then acceptable

Reliability value is >= 0.6 then good

Reliability value is >= 0.7 then very good

Reliability value is >= 0.8 then excellent

Reliability value is >= 0.9 then outstanding

As per the findings mentioned in the above table, all the resultant values are between 0.7 and 0.9 and above. Hence, based on the above criteria, the quality of data used in this research can be categorized into very good, excellent and outstanding.

Demographic Analysis

The most familiar analysis is percentage analysis and it is an oldest technique used to elaborate the attribute of the sample or the size of the population in total. This scrutiny include calculating Consistent variables chosen for this study and its findings will give simple understandable inferences. The objective of this analysis is to analyze the demographic profile of self help cluster by women.

Table 2 Democratic Factors

Sl. No.	Factors	Maximum	Minimum
1	Marital Status	Married (66.8%)	Unmarried (33.2%)
2	Age group	31-40 (28.2%)	Above 50 (15.3%)
3	Educational Qualification	Graduate (32.6%)	HSC (18.3%)
4	Religion	Hindu (72.2%)	Christian (27.8%)
5	Occupation	Labourer (35%)	House maid (31.5%)
6	Type of Family	Nuclear (71.1%)	Joint (28.9%)

7	Size of Family	Four (38.4%)	Two (18.4%)
8	Mother Tongue	Tamil (84.1%)	Malayalam (4.5%)
9	Head of the Family	Husband (52.8%)	Father-in-law (4.5%)
10	Number of Children	Three (43.7%)	One (21.9%)
11	Type of House	RC roofing (59%)	Asbestos (7%)
12	Earnings members	One (54.2%)	Three (4.7%)
13	Family Income (p.a)	Above 1.5lac. (30.5%)	1lac to 1.5 (22.1%)
14	Monthly Expenditure	10,000 to15,000 pm (30.3%)	Below 5,000 (21.2%)
15	Monthly Savings	Below Rs.1000 (46.2%)	Above 3,000(11.8%)

Note: Only selected Democratic Factors are taken for analysis and the rest of them are discussed in detail from Table No. 4.2.16 in detail.

T – TEST

In this analysis the 2nd to 6th objective are compared with variables

Hypothesis I

Null Hypothesis: There is an absence of considerable relationship between Married & Unmarried with respect to Factors Women Empowerment of SHG

Table 3 Significance test for T parameter between married and unmarried with respect to Factors of Women Empowerment of SHG

Factors of Women Empowerment	**Marital Status**				**t value**	**P value**
	Married		**Unmarried**			
	M value	**St.Dev**	**M value**	**ST. Dev.**		
Social Empowerment	24.80	2.53	22.60	3.10	8.618	0.001**
Economic Empowerment	15.90	2.62	14.93	2.48	4.028	0.001**
Skill Enhancement	15.23	4.97	12.57	5.36	5.554	0.001**
Political Empowerment	11.29	2.33	9.63	2.32	7.612	0.001**
Decision Making Capacity	17.14	2.86	15.33	2.90	6.730	0.001**
Managerial Capacity/Skill	21.46	2.68	19.74	3.11	6.580	0.001**

SHG Nurtured	20.30	3.50	17.86	3.66	7.334	0.001**
Impact in Family Relationship	25.84	2.98	24.35	3.18	5.230	0.001**
Women Empowerment	46.32	7.56	45.13	8.05	1.651	0.099

As the P value is within the prescribed standard limits, the hypothesis regard to Factors of Social Empowerment, Economic Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Political Empowerment, Decision Making capacity, Managerial Capacity, SHG Nurtured and Impact In Family Relationship. Therefore some significance discrepancy at intervals, unmarried and married SHG women member with reference to Women Empowerment. From inferred value of averages is better than Unmarried.

The standard limits for the values regarding the accepted level of significance is established for to factors of Women Empowerment. Hence there is an absence of considerable relationship between Married and Unmarried SHG women members with respect to Women Empowerment.

Hypothesis Ii

Null Hypothesis: There is an absence of considerable relationship between Nuclear and Joint Family with respect to factors of Women Empowerment of SHG

Table - 4 Significance test for T parameter between joint and nuclear family with Reference to Factors of Women Empowerment of SHG

Factors of Female Empowerment	Type of Family				t value	P value
	Nuclear		Joint			
	M value	ST. Dev.	M value	ST. Dev.		
Social Empowerment	23.49	2.81	25.47	2.70	7.317	0.001**
Economic Empowerment	15.26	2.53	16.36	2.67	4.417	0.001**
Skill Enhancement	13.31	5.31	16.89	4.13	7.356	0.001**
Political Empowerment	10.46	2.37	11.42	2.51	4.109	0.001**
Decision Making Capacity	16.22	2.93	17.33	3.01	3.858	0.001**
Managerial Capacity/Skill	20.30	2.92	22.33	2.48	7.442	0.001**
SHG Nurtured	19.11	3.67	20.42	3.75	3.664	0.001**
Impact in Family Relationship	24.63	3.00	27.09	2.71	8.683	0.001**
Women Empowerment	45.11	8.11	47.94	6.32	3.816	0.001**

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As the P value is within the prescribed standard limits, the hypothesis regard to Factors of Social Empowerment, Economic Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Political Empowerment, Decision Making capacity, Managerial Capacity, SHG Nurtured and Impact In Family Relationship which leads to Women Empowerment. Therefore there is a significance variation between joint and nuclear family in women SHG members with respect to Women empowerment. Located on the measurement points Joint family is better than nuclear family.

Hypothesis: Iii

Null Hypothesis: There is an absence of considerable relationship between Hindu and Christian religion with reference to factors of Women Empowerment of SHG.

Table – 5- Significance test for T parameter between Hindu and Christian Religion with reference to elements of Women Empowerment of SHG.

Factors of Women Empowerment	Religion				t value	P value
	Hindu		Christian			
	M value	ST.DEV.	M value	ST.DEV.		
Social Empowerment	24.14	2.98	23.87	2.75	0.959	0.338
Economic Empowerment	15.58	2.70	15.57	2.38	0.066	0.948
Skill Enhancement	14.18	5.22	14.78	5.33	1.173	0.241
Political Empowerment	10.90	2.45	10.33	2.42	2.359	0.019*
Decision Making Capacity	16.41	2.96	16.90	3.07	1.663	0.097
Managerial Capacity/Skill	20.85	2.88	20.99	3.11	0.462	0.645
SHG Nurtured	19.71	3.69	18.92	3.79	2.141	0.033*
Impact in Family Relationship	25.54	3.10	24.83	3.16	2.335	0.020*
Women Empowerment	46.10	7.44	45.48	8.48	0.819	0.413

The p value parameter for the test is within the standard level of significance for to factors of Political Empowerment, SHG Nurtured and Impact in Family Relationship Therefore there is an important difference between Hindu & Christian religion with regard to SHG members Women Empowerment. Based on Mean score, Hindu's are better in women empowerment than Christian's because Hindu women members' participation in SHG activities are more.

There is an absence of considerable relationship between Hindu and Christian religion with regard to SHG women members with regard to Social Empowerment, Economic Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Decision making capacity, Managerial Capacity, since value of P is greater than 0.05, Therefore the null hypothesis is confirmed at 5 percent aligned with reference to women empowerment in Social Empowerment, Economic Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Decision making capacity and Managerial Capacity.

Anova

From the following tables Variance Analysis is made.

Hypothesis: Iv

Null Hypothesis: The absence of considerable relationship among Age cluster of members with respect to Women Empowerment of members of SHG,

Table 6- Variance analysis test for the difference in parameters among Age cluster in years to elements of Women Empowerment members of SHG.

Factors of Women Empowerment	Age cluster in years				F value	P value
	Less than 30	31to 40	41to 50	Above 50		
Social Empowerment	21.82[a] (3.41)	23.84[b] (2.43)	24.72[c] (2.27)	25.11[c] (3.39)	27.217	0.001**
Economics Empowerment	14.43[a] (2.47)	14.74[a] (2.51)	16.23[b] (2.37)	16.59[b] (2.69)	20.622	0.001**
Skill Enhancement	11.52[a] (5.82)	13.42[b] (4.89)	15.68[c] (4.30)	15.51[c] (6.07)	16.660	0.001**
Political Empowerment	9.13[a] (2.22)	10.37[b] (2.28)	11.33[c] (2.36)	11.54[c] (2.35)	22.392	0.001**
Decision Making Capacity	15.08[a] (3.42)	15.88[b] (2.46)	17.22[c] (2.69)	17.51[c] (3.33)	16.641	0.001**
Managerial Capacity / skill	18.84[a] (2.99)	20.26[b] (2.80)	21.93[c] (2.24)	21.46[c] (3.41)	29.288	0.001**
SHG Nurtured	16.73[a] (3.67)	18.52[b] (3.73)	20.92[c] (2.77)	20.93[c] (3.94)	36.302	0.001**
Impact in Family Relationship	22.58[a] (2.98)	24.62[b] (2.87)	26.42[c] (2.39)	26.72[c] (3.24)	47.908	0.001**
Women Empowerment	43.95[a] (7.44)	44.57[a] (8.94)	47.97[b] (5.43)	45.11[a] (9.57)	8.765	0.001**

The standard value for the parameters for the p parameter is within the standard limits for The Factors of Social Empowerment, Economic Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Political Empowerment, Decision making capacity, Managerial Capacity, SHG Nurtured, Impact in Family Relationship and Women Empowerment. Therefore there is a significant difference among Age group of SHG women associates on the basis of test for multiple ranges by duncan The age group of less than 30 is significantly differ with age group of 31-40, 41-50 at 5% level and above 50 and above the age group of 31-40 is significantly different with 41-50 and above 50 with respect to Social Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Political Empowerment, Decision Making Capacity, Managerial Capacity, SHG Nurtured and Impact in Family Relationship. In case of Economic Environment the age group of less than 30 and 31-40 significantly different with age group of 41-50 and above 50. Similarly in the Women Empowerment the age group of less than 30 and 31-40 and above 50 at 5% level significantly different with the age group of 41-50.

Hypothesis V:

Null Hypothesis: There is an absence of considerable relationship among Educational Qualification of members with reference to Factors of Women Empowerment.

Table 7- Variance analysis test for the difference in parameters among Educational Qualification with reference to elements of Women Empowerment of SHG

Elements of Women Empowerment	Educational Qualification				F value	P value
	Less than SSLC	SSLC	HSC	Graduate		
Social Empowerment	21.71^{a} (2.69)	24.00^{b} (2.60)	24.35^{b} (1.99)	25.77^{c} (2.48)	65.454	0.001**
Economic Empowerment	13.88^{a} (2.19)	15.67^{b} (2.12)	15.68^{b} (2.16)	16.76^{c} (2.80)	35.846	0.001**
Skill Enhancement	10.67^{a} (4.53)	14.40^{b} (5.27)	13.97^{b} (4.06)	17.34^{c} (4.47)	50.816	0.001**
Political Empowerment	9.35^{a} (1.82)	10.17^{b} (2.33)	10.64^{b} (2.42)	12.28^{c} (2.14)	48.957	0.001**
Decision Making Capacity	14.30^{a} (2.40)	16.60^{b} (2.91)	16.39^{b} (2.26)	18.30^{c} (2.67)	57.800	0.001**
Managerial Capacity/ Skill	18.94^{a} (2.75)	20.31^{b} (2.87)	21.65^{c} (2.50)	22.39^{d} (2.36)	46.935	0.001**
SHG Nurtured	17.23^{a} (3.55)	19.45^{b} (3.49)	19.89^{b} (3.06)	21.02^{c} (3.56)	29.842	0.001**
Impact in Family Relationship	22.91^{a} (2.49)	25.20^{b} (2.99)	25.44^{b} (2.63)	27.26^{c} (2.58)	64.426	0.001**
Women Empowerment	42.53^{a} (7.77)	44.18^{a} (8.52)	48.28^{b} (6.70)	48.52^{b} (6.21)	21.925	0.001**

The standard value for the parameters for the p parameter is within the standard limits for the Factors of Social Empowerment, Economic Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Political Empowerment, Decision making capacity, Managerial Capacity, SHG Nurtured, Impact in Family Relationship and Women Empowerment. Hence there is a significant difference among Educational qualification of SHG women members. Based on Duncan

Multiple Range Test (DMRT), the educational qualification of less than SSLC is significantly different with educational qualification of SSLC and HSC

Hypothesis Vi

Null Hypothesis: There is an absence of considerable relationship among occupation of members reference to Factors of SHG members Women Empowerment.

Table – 8- Variance analysis test for the difference in parameters among occupation with respect to elements of SHG members Women Empowerment.

Factors of Women Empowerment	Occupation			F value	P value
	Labourer	House maid	Business		
Social Empowerment	24.78[b] (2.29)	22.60[a] (3.17)	24.69[b] (2.75)	33.773	0.001**
Economic Empowerment	16. 46[c] (2.52)	14.56[a] (2.36)	15.62[b] (2.61)	24.758	0.001**
Skill Enhancement	15.40[b] (4.62)	12.12[a] (5.21)	15.34[b] (5.29)	23.110	0.001**
Political Empowerment	11.46[b] (2.54)	9.45[a] (2.05)	11.20[b] (2.23)	37.832	0.001**
Decision Making Capacity	17.24[b] (2.36)	14.73[a] (2.80)	17.50[b] (3.02)	51.986	0.001**
Managerial Capacity / Skill	21.85[c] (2.27)	19.65[a] (2.98)	21.05[b] (3.13)	26.445	0.001**
SHG Nurtured	20.87[c] (3.07)	17.90[a] (3.82)	19.54[b] (3.71)	30.074	0.001**
Impact in Family Relationship	25.82[b] (2.58)	23.64[a] (2.87)	26.44[c] (3.22)	42.925	0.001**
Women Empowerment	47.67[c] (6.63)	44.25[a] (8.11)	45.68[a] (8.12)	8.707	0.001**

The standard value for the parameters for the p parameter is within the standard limits for the Factors of Social Empowerment, Economic Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Political Empowerment, Decision making capacity, Managerial Capacity, SHG Nurtured, Impact in Family Relationship which leads to Women

Empowerment. Hence there is a significant difference among occupation of SHG women members on the basis of test for multiple ranges by Duncan.

Hypothesis Vii

Null Hypothesis: There is an absence of considerable relationship among size of the family withrespect to Factors of Women Empowerment.

Table – 9- ANOVA for significant difference among size of family with respect to Factors of SHG members Women Empowerment.

Factors of Women Empowerment	Size of the Family				F value	P value
	Up to Two	Three	Four	Five and above		
Social Empowerment	24.33^{b} (2.86)	24.86^{b} (3.71)	23.22^{a} (2.58)	24.54^{b} (2.08)	10.215	0.001**
Economic Empowerment	16.00^{a} (2.45)	15.71^{a} (3.16)	15.29^{a} (2.29)	15.60^{a} (2.64)	1.745	0.157
Skill Enhancement	14.75^{b} (5.22)	15.59^{b} (5.63)	12.42^{a} (4.96)	16.23^{c} (4.15)	17.245	0.001**
Political Empowerment	10.76^{ab} (2.65)	11.33^{b} (2.65)	10.21^{a} (2.28)	11.06^{b} (2.17)	6.175	0.001**
Decision Making Capacity	16.61^{b} (2.69)	17.06^{c} (3.57)	15.60^{a} (2.67)	17.68^{c} (2.60)	13.665	0.001**
Managerial Capacity / Skill	21.40^{b} (3.07)	21.49^{b} (3.25)	20.08^{a} (2.76)	21.29^{b} (2.47)	8.525	0.001**
SHG Nurtured	20.35^{b} (3.69)	19.58^{b} (4.76)	18.89^{a} (3.36)	19.74^{b} (2.91)	3.619	0.013*
Impact in Family Relationship	25.79^{b} (3.27)	25.44^{b} (3.86)	24.65^{a} (2.67)	26.13^{b} (2.59)	6.337	0.001**
Women Empowerment	45.97^{a} (8.32)	47.03^{b} (7.11)	44.17^{a} (8.32)	47.98^{b} (5.88)	6.894	0.001**

The standard value for the parameters for the p parameter is within the standard limits for the Factors of Social Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Political Empowerment, Decision making capacity, Managerial Capacity, Impact in Family Relationship which leads to Women Empowerment. Therefore there is an important variation among occupation of SHG women members on the ground of test for multiple ranges by duncan

The standard parameters for the specified test are within the limits regard to the factors of SHG Nurtured which leads to women empowerment. Therefore there is an important variation among occupation of SHG women members on the ground of test for multiple ranges by Duncan.

There is an absence of considerable relationship among size of the family with regard to factor of Economic Empowerment which leads to women empowerment. Since value of p is greater than 0.05, Therefore the null hypothesis is accepted at 5% base with reference to factors of Economic Empowerment.

Hypothesis Viii

Null Hypothesis: In the absence of considerable relationship among annual family income with reference to elements of SHG members Women Empowerment.

Table – 10 - ANOVA for important differences with the annual income of family members with reference to elements of SHG members Women Empowerment.

Factors of Women Empowerment	Annual Family Income (in rupees)				F value	P value
	Less than 50,000	50,000 – 1,00,000	1,00,000 1,50,000	Above 1,50,000		
Social Empowerment	22.26^{a} (3.71)	23.83^{b} (1.65)	24.83^{c} (2.71)	25.04^{c} (2.53)	27.192	0.001**
Economic Empowerment	14.52^{a} (2.79)	14.99^{a} (2.31)	16.17^{b} (2.78)	16.41^{b} (2.17)	17.260	0.001**
Skill Enhancement	10.16^{a} (5.03)	14.69^{b} (4.60)	15.98^{c} (4.27)	16.00^{c} (4.89)	41.863	0.001**
Political Empowerment	9.95^{a} (2.67)	10.45^{a} (1.91)	11.42^{b} (2.57)	11.06^{b} (2.40)	8.902	0.001**
Decision Making Capacity	15.35^{a} (3.30)	15.62^{a} (2.34)	16.83^{b} (2.52)	17.96^{c} (2.93)	25.488	0.001**
Managerial Capacity /Skill	19.18^{a} (3.22)	20.70^{b} (2.55)	21.41^{c} (2.39)	21.94^{c} (2.81)	23.960	0.001**
SHG Nurtured	17.47^{a} (4.29)	19.13^{b} (2.71)	19.81^{b} (3.98)	21.06^{c} (3.02)	24.165	0.001**
Impact in Family Relationship	23.46^{a}	25.35^{b}	25.43^{b}	26.67^{c}	27.165	0.001**

	(3.27)	(2.81)	(2.59)	(2.93)		
Women Empowerment	43.01[a] (8.59)	46.02[b] (7.95)	46.38[b] (6.47)	47.69[b] (7.18)	8.789	0.001**

The standard value for the parameters for the p parameter is within the standard limits for the Factors of Social Empowerment, Economic Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Political Empowerment, and Decision making capacity, Managerial Capacity, SHG Nurtured, and Impact in Family Relationship, which leads to Women Empowerment. Hence there is a significant difference among occupation of SHG women members on the basis of test for multiple ranges by Duncan.

Hypothesis Ix

Null Hypothesis: There is an absence of considerable relationship between monthly family expenditure with respect to Factors of SHG members Women Empowerment.

Table – 11- ANOVA for significant difference among monthly family expenditure with reference to elements of SHG members Women Empowerment.

Factors of Women Empowerment	**Monthly Family Expenditure**				**F value**	**P value**
	Less than 5000	**5000 – 10,000**	**10,000-15,000**	**Above 15,000**		
Social Empowerment	23.95 (2.81)	24.63 (3.33)	23.87 (2.78)	23.90 (2.75)	1.862	0.135
Economics Empowerment	15.40[ab] (2.50)	16.25[c] (2.62)	15.74[bc] (2.74)	14.97[a] (2.43)	5.481	0.001**
Skill Enhancement	13.12[a] (5.34)	14.53[bc] (5.84)	13.92[ab] (4.81)	15.66[c] (4.89)	5.341	0.001**
Political Empowerment	10.35[a] (2.42)	11.44[b] (2.54)	10.85[ab] (2.51)	10.33[a] (2.19)	5.529	0.001**
Decision Making Capacity	16.39[ab] (2.87)	17.05[c] (3.25)	15.98[a] (2.68)	16.88[b] (3.12)	3.674	0.012*
Managerial Capacity / Skill	20.90 (3.15)	21.07 (3.11)	20.88 (2.69)	20.74 (2.93)	0.267	0.849
SHG Nurtured	18.96[a] (3.72)	20.33[b] (3.99)	18.97[a] (3.86)	19.80[ab] (3.22)	4.066	0.007*

Impact in Family Relationship	24.89^a (2.94)	26.38^b (3.41)	24.62^a (2.86)	25.67^b (3.06)	8.596	0.001**
Women Empowerment	44.86^a (9.60)	46.88^a (6.94)	45.87^a (7.35)	46.05^a (7.11)	1.277	0.282

The standard value for the parameters for the p parameter is within the standard limits for the Factors of Economic Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Impact in Family Relationship which leads to Women Empowerment. Therefore there is a important difference between occupation of SHG women members on the base of test for multiple ranges by Duncan. The standard parameters for the specified test are within the limits regard to the factors of Decision Making and SHG Nurtured which leads to women empowerment. Hence there is a significant difference among occupation of SHG women members on the base of test for multiple ranges by Duncan. There is an absence of considerable relationship among size of the family with regard to factor of Social Empowerment and Managerial Capacity / skill which leads to women empowerment. Since value of p is >0.05, Hence the null hypothesis is confirmed at 5% level with reference to factors of Economic Empowerment.

Hypothesis X

Null Hypothesis: In the absence of considerable relationship among monthly savings of clan with respect to elements of Women Empowerment.

Table – 12- Test for Variance Analysis among monthly savings of Family with reference to elements of SHG members Women Empowerment

Factors of Women Empowerment	Monthly Savings of family				F Value	P Value
	Less than Rs. 1000	1000 – 2000	2000 - 3000	Above 3000		
Social Empowerment	23.74^a (2.30)	24.62^b (3.20)	24.37^a (3.78)	23.85^a (2.59)	2.818	0.039*
Economic Empowerment	15.26^a (2.41)	15.90^a (2.65)	15.72^a (3.09)	16.00^a (2.28)	2.311	0.075*
Skill Enhancement	14.72 (4.88)	13.80 (5.24)	13.94 (6.12)	14.57 (4.98)	1.040	0.374
Political Empowerment	10.52 (2.22)	10.78 (2.59)	10.90 (2.84)	11.21 (2.27)	1.565	0.197
Decision Making Capacity	16.31^a (2.50)	16.29^a (3.25)	16.19^a (3.44)	18.52^b (2.73)	10.735	0.001**
Managerial Capacity / Skill	20.75^a (2.63)	21.11^a (3.12)	20.82^a (3.45)	21.18^a (2.83)	0.605	0.612

SHG Nurtured	19.53[ab] (3.23)	19.71[ab] (4.06)	18.69[a] (4.65)	20.39[b] (2.80)	3.045	0.028*
Impact of Family Relationship	25.50[a] (2.79)	24.79[a] (2.88)	24.86[a] (3.99)	26.57[b] (2.61)	5.471	0.001**
Women Empowerment	46.03[a] (7.23)	44.15[a] (8.94)	45.35[a] (8.62)	49.61[b] (3.47)	6.882	0.001**

As the P value is within the prescribed standard limits, the hypothesis regard to the factors of Decision Making Capacity, Impact of Family Relationship which leads to Women Empowerment. Hence there exists a reasonable relationship among Monthly Savings of Family with regard to the dimension of decision making capacity, impact of family relationship. Located on the DMRT.

Correlation Analysis

In the following tables Pearsons Correlation Co-efficient is followed.

Table 13- Correlation Coefficient between factors of Women Empowerment

Factors of Women Empowerment	**Social Empowerment**	**Economic Empowerment**	**Skill Enhancement**	**Political Empowerment**	**Decision Making Capacity**	**Managerial Capacity/ Skill**
Social Empowerment	1.000	0.756**	0.740**	0.808**	0.699**	0.774**
Economic Empowerment	-	1.000	0.583**	0.724**	0.583**	0.611**
Skill Enhancement	_	_	1.000	.587**	0.668**	0.834**
Political Empowerment	_	_	_	1.000	0.644**	0.590**
Decision Making Capacity	_	_	_	_	1.000	0.653**
Managerial Capacity/Skill	_	_	_	_	_	1.000

The correlation coefficient between Empowerment on women on Economic Empowerment and Social Empowerment is 0.756, which shows 75.6 % conclusive relationship between Social Empowerment and Economic Empowerment and hypothesis sustained. The correlation coefficient between Social Empowerment and Skill enhancement is 0.740, which shows 74 percentage conclusive relationship between Social Empowerment and Skill enhancement hypothesis sustained. The correlation between Social Empowerment and Political

Empowerment 0.808, which shows 80.8 percentage positive relationship between Social Empowerment and Political Empowerment and similarly other factors are positively correlated with each other.

Table: 14- Correlation Coefficient between elements of women empowerment And SHG Nurtured & Impact in Family Relationship.

Factors of Women Empowerment	SHG Nurtured	Impact in Family Relationship	Women Empowerment
SHG Nurtured	1	0.690**	0.634**
Impact in Family Relationship	_	1	0.611**
Women Empowerment		_	1

The correlation coefficient between women empowerment on SHG Nurtured and impact in family relationship is 0.690, which depicts 69% conclusive association between SHG Nurtured and approach on Impact in family relationship and hypothesis sustained. The Correlation coefficient between SHG Nurtured and women empowerment is 0.634,which indicates 6.34 % positive relationship between SHG Nurtured and women empowerment and it hypothesis sustained. Similarly, the other factors are positively correlated with each other.

Table 15- Correlation between women empowerment and Social, Economic, Political Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Decision making capacity, Managerial Capacity / Skill.

Factors of Women Empowerment	SHG Nurtured	Impact in Family Relationship	Women Empowerment
Social Empowerment	0.825**	0.658**	0.558**
Economic Empowerment	0.790**	0.569**	0.480**
Skill Enhancement	0.699**	0.742**	0.738**
Political Empowerment	0.756**	0.607**	0.470**
Decision Making Capacity	0.743**	0.688**	0.607**
Managerial Capacity/Skill	0.689**	0.654**	0.750**

The Correlation Coefficient between women empowerment and Social, Economic, Political Empowerment, Skill Enhancement, Decision making capacity, Managerial Capacity / Skill all the above factors are positive. Similarly, SHG Nurtured and Impact in family relationship and other factors are positive.

5. Findings, Suggestions & Conclusion

Findings:

The major outcomes of a research work; what the analysis found, indicated or revealed. This normally refers to the whole of inference, rather than the recommendation or conclusion drawn from them.

Demographic Factors:

- When we see the demographic factors, Married women Married women are more in self help cluster, that is 66.8% and their participation is high.
- The age group of members, between 31-40 are more in the group.
- The educational qualification of members 32.6% i.e. majority of them are Graduates
- When we see the Religion, Hindu's are 72.2% are in this cluster, next is Christians.
- The Occupation of members are 35% of them are Labourers, House maid are 31.5%, and 33.5% of them are in Business.
- When we see the family 71.1% of them are nuclear family and 28.9% of them are in joint family.
- The size of the family of members of four is 38.4% then 22.7% of them having a family size of three, 20.4% of them having a family size of five and above and 18.4% of them having a family size up to two.
- The mother tongue of the members, 84.1 % of them mother tongue is Tamil, 11.5% of them Telugu and 4.5 % of them mother tongue is Malayalam.
- The head of the family, 52.8 % member's family is headed by husband, 25.4% of them family is headed by themselves, this shows that male domination is still prevailing in many families.
- The analysis of children's for members is 43.7% of them having three children, still family planning is not up to the expectation of Government.
- About 59% of them living in concrete houses, so, living standard has improved.
- The analysis shows that 54.2 % of member's house, single person is earning.
- The analysis shows that more than 30.5% of members annual family income has gone up above INR Rs.1,50,000 per annum.
- The majority members (30.3%) monthly expenditure is (INR) 10,000 -15,000.
- The majority members (46.2%) monthly savings is below (INR) Rs.1000
- The majority members (51.5%) of them save their savings in Bank.
- About 40.8% of members saving account is operated by husbands.
- About 57.7% of them having a regular saving pattern, 42.3 % of them save occasionally.
- The size of self help cluster of 15-20 members cluster is 50.7%.
- About 42.7% of members joined in self help cluster on their own interest.
- Their position in the cluster is 58.8% are members and balance rest of them.
- After joining the cluster shows that 45.2% of them learned planning,
- Most of the members (56.5%) attend meeting monthly.
- "Who taken decision in the meeting" shows that 68.7% of members. Healthy.
- About 55% of them said that no officials has visited their cluster.
- About 69.7% of members said SHG maintain account with Nationalised Bank.
- About 39.8% of them attended training program for confidence building.
- The majority (42.9%) of them where trained by Expert out sourced.
- "Why members borrow loan from SHG" (42.1%) because of Low interest rate.
- Majority of (37.1%) them have taken loan between Rs.20,0001 to 30,000.
- The majority of them (37.9%) has repaid the loan amount of below Rs.5,000.
- About 86.4% of them repay the loan once in a month.
- About 34% of the members still have to repay between 5,001 – 10,000.
- About 44.5% of member's reason for irregular payment is "lack of Income".
- The majority of members (51.1%) said that their income level increased, but not up to the expectation.

T-Test

Microfinance impact on women empowerment is analyzed with six variables namely Economic Empowerment, Social Empowerment, Political Empowerment, Decision Making Capacity, Skill enhancement and Managerial Capacity / Skill. After thoroughly analyzing data, the test of marital status of group for self-help by women members in the t-test P value is below 0.01. So, the hypothesis supporting the non-association among the variables is eliminated with regards to constructs of Political Empowerment, Decision making capacity and Managerial

Capacity of cluster of self-help women**.**

ANOVA Analysis:

While analyzing the educational qualification by using ANOVA since value of P is within the specified standard limits, hypothesis supporting the non-association among the variables is eliminated with regard to Political Empowerment, Decision Making Capacity, and Managerial Capacity / skill which leads to Women Empowerment. Similarly ANOVA analysis is done with all the factors and Women Empowerment. And all over satisfactory.

Friedman Test:

Differential test of Friedman among mean ranks towards Factors of women Empowerment and Women empowerment are matched.

Correlation Analysis:

The correlation analysis between political empowerment and decision is 73.7 percentage positive relationships between women empowerment. The coefficient of correlation between political empowerment and managerial capacity / skill is 57.2 percentages positive. The coefficient of correlation between political empowerment and women empowerment is 53.9 percentage positive relationships between political empowerment and women empowerment. So, the correlation analysis between all two variables is positive.

Multiple Regression Analysis:

In Multiple Regression analysis, in Model 1 the connection between women empowerment and the six independent variables is very strong and positive in nature. In Model 2 also the connection between women empowerment and the seven independent variables is very strong and positive in nature. Similarly in Model 3 also connection between women empowerment and the eight variables is very strong and positive in nature.

Structural Equation Model:

The Structural Equation Model (SEM) shows that except the Social Empower and Managerial skill all other models are fit and parameters were satisfied with the standard acceptable limit and has obtained and it is validated and justified for Women Empowerment.

Suggestions:

Based on the mean score joint family members have better in achieving the factors of Women empowerment than nuclear family. So, Nuclear families are more in this modern days. So, Nuclear family members should perform well in achieving the objective of women empowerment. The analysis shows that annual income has improved but it is not up to the expectation, so, they should raise their income level further, for that self help cluster must follow strategies in business and they should also engage themselves in profit maximization activities in their business. Decision making capacity and Managerial skill has increased marginally, to improve that they must be trained by Management Faculty or consultant. NABARD is taking lot of initiative in improving the standard of living of SHG women members, but they should initiate training programs in frequent interval, so that these groups activities must be effective in achieving the Women Empowerment objective to the next level.

Conclusion:

The outcome of the result is that Social Empowerment has taken place, Economics Empowerment is marginally improved, Political empowerment has not taken up to the mark, Decision making capacity has marginally improved, Managerial skill has considerably improved and finally that leads to a considerable improvement in women empowerment. The findings of this study reveals that microfinance through Self Help Cluster is a powerful tool in enhancing women empowerment.

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