A STUDY ON PARTICIPATION OF RURAL WOMEN’S IN HIGHER EDUCATION

SHIVAKUMARA M.Com.,
Asst. Professor of Commerce, Govt. First Grade College,
Kadur - 577 548 Chickmagaluru District,
Karnataka, INDIA

ABSTRACT

Education is the key element for the growth and development of a country, and also occupied an honored place in the society. It also help to improve the development of people. Education can help to improve the mentality, body language, thinking capacity etc., of the individuals, hence it place a vital role in each and every field. Education can also help to develop the personality of the individual.

But, today women’s are not getting the higher education in the rural areas. Because their family members are not supporting for their higher education. So most of the women’s in the rural areas will discontinue their education. For that reason rural women’s are hesitated to participate in many fields.

In this paper I will try to delineate the picture of women participation in higher education in rural area and its benefits to women, family, and society as a whole. The study includes 50 women’s (i.e. students) in kadur taluk. The present paper concentrates on the participation of women's in higher education and development of their self confidence. And also recommend some suggestions for betterment of women through higher education.

Key words:- Higher education, women, women education, self confidence.

Introduction

Higher education means the education beyond the level of secondary education. It is often assumed that education imparted by the colleges or universities are higher education. Institutions for training of highly skilled specialists in the field of economics, science, technology and culture of various types of higher schools are treated as higher educational institutions. These institutions can help to develop the intelligence, self development, growth, sharpness of the individuals.

In rural areas women’s will not join for higher education. Because their families are not supported for women’s education. So in rural areas the women’s are discontinuing their education in the middle of the education level. Some courses are not available in the rural areas, hence can’t join the colleges or institutions. This can affect the social wealth of the society. For this reason every one should get the education. In some states the government is giving free education to the girls upto their higher education or at the lower rates. Because in rural areas the peoples are poor, they are not having the capacity to join their children’s for the higher education. So the government can help to give facilities to the women’s education that is scholarship, vidyasiri, refund of admission fees etc. The present study is under taken to analyse the participation of women’s in higher education in rural areas.

Research gap

There are many studies have been done on the participation of women in higher education. There are less work carried out on the growth and development of rural women higher education. To fulfil this gap the present study has been undertaken.

Objectives of the study

The aim of the study is to evaluate the rural women participation in higher education.

➢ To examine the social economic characteristics of rural women higher education of kadur taluk.
➢ To guide or the improvement of rural women higher education in taluk.
➢ To guide for the fostering of rural women’s higher education.
➢ To identify the factors that contributes the growth of rural women higher education.
➢ To identify the factor that motivates rural women higher education.

Scope of the study

The present study concentrates on the growth and development of rural women’s higher education. The study area is only restricted for kadurtaluk, and it only covers rural women's.
Research methodology

- Area of study: By respondents of women’s in kadurtaluk.
- Research instrument: Structured questionnaire.
- Sample size: 50 samples.
- Sampling technique: Random sampling technique.

Research design

Data sources: Data is collected from both primary and secondary data sources.

- Primary data: The primary data has been collected by administering a structured questionnaire. And also data is collected by means of a well-structured questions along with personal interviews from the women’s.
- Secondary data: The secondary data is collected in the books, journals, magazines, websites etc. data analysis has done through the tables.

Results and discussion

This section makes an attempt to understand the analytical study of rural women’s participated in higher education in kadurtaluk.

Table 1: Respondents nature of courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature</th>
<th>No. of respondents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.com</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.sc</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.com</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.sc</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: field survey)

There are many different courses available for the students. In the present study, 40% of the students are M.com students, 22% of the students are M.sc students, 6% and 12% of the students are MA and B.sc students respectively.

Table 2: Respondents family support for their education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>No. of respondents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: field survey)

Family is the backbone for every individual. Family can play a vital role for the success of an individual. In the present study, out of the 50 respondents, 46% (23) respondents are getting support from their family members. But 22(44%) respondents are not getting any support from their family members.

Table 3: Financial benefit from the government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial benefit</th>
<th>No. of respondents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: field survey)

Government provides financial benefits to the rural students in the form of scholarship, loans etc. 76% of the rural students will not get any kind of financial benefits and 24% of the students get the financial benefits.

Table 4: For yes type of financial benefit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>No. of respondents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free education</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study materials</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Source: field survey)

Government can give benefit to the rural students by providing scholarships, loans, free education etc. 16% of the respondents get the scholarship from the government, 8% of the respondents are getting free education facility from the government.

Benefits of higher education:

- Education can help to increase women’s abilities to deal with the problems of her life, her family, her society and nation.
- Education increases confidence in a women.
- An educated women can easily understand the demerits of early marriage and high birth rate.
- Enhancing their confidence.
- Raising their status in the family and society.
- Better upbringing of their children
- Enhancing their mobility.
- Opening career opportunities.
- Increasing their self-confidence.
- Boosting their self-esteem.
- In some cases highly educated women are considered as equivalent to ‘dowry’ of a bride.

**Findings**

- Women participation in higher education amongst schedule caste, schedule tribe and muslim community is much lower in comparison with other communities. This is also a serious matter for our country.
- In rural areas the higher education was restricted only to men.
- Some families are not supporting for higher education to the girls.
- Some families are think about the high expenses for their education.
- Some families are think that women’s don’t need higher education. Because they are not going for jobs.

**Suggestions for promoting women participation in higher education**

- Increase women teachers in co-educational institutions of higher education.
- Government can give advertisement for the development of women education.
- Make skill oriented higher education.
- Establish higher educational institutions in rural and tribal areas.
- Increase women representations in decision making bodies of higher educational institutions.
- Improve transport facilities for women students
- Establish more female educational institutions.
- Introduce attractive scholarships for both financially poor students and meritorious students to encourage women students in higher education.
- Introduce stipends, scholarships and fellowships for women studying in higher educational institutions.
- Government should formulate and implement policies for stopping drop out of girl students in secondary and lower classes.
- In many cases early marriage leads to withdrawal of women from higher studies. This must be stopped.
- Check sexual harassment within and outside institutions.
- In some cases women students get inspiration from the teachers working in higher educational institutions which help them to complete their higher education.
- Increased number of higher educational institutions helped women to complete their higher studies.

**Conclusion**

Education is the fundamental agent for the socio-economic development of a country. In comparison with men, women are more firm in their mission of success. So in education stream also they are strongly motivated to succeed. Education can help to improve the thinking capacity of the women’s and also help to take decisions in critical situations with the help of higher education women’s are independent to work. So this can help to improve the social economic development of the country.

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan(1948) says “there cannot be educated people without educated women. If general education has to be limited to men or women, the opportunity should be given to women. From them it would most surely be passed on to the next generation”.

“educated women = improve their thinking capacity = improve their participation in different fields = improve the social welfare”.

**Reference**

- Dr. Nandkumar laxmankandam, “women in higher education: position and prospects”, wamayug research journal, ISSN-2348-7224.
- Rupalisharma, women empowerment through higher education, international journal of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary studies (IJIMS) : 2014, vol 1, No.5, 18-22, ISSN -2348-0343.