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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

# KNOWLEDGE REGARDING WOMEN EMPOWERMENT SCHEME AMONG WOMEN AT SELECTED VILLAGE, TRICHY

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### ABSTRACT

Present study main objective is to assess the level of knowledge regarding women empowerment scheme among women's residing in rural area. **Design:** Descriptive research design. **Setting:** women residing rural area in a selected village at Trichy district. **Sample:** 60 women's were selected. **Sampling technique:** Purposive sampling technique. **Tool:** researcher prepared validated questionnaire was given. **Results:** Study results revealed that 25% women having adequate knowledge 33% having moderately adequate knowledge 42% having inadequate knowledge.

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## INTRODUCTION

The level of independence and self-determination that individuals and groups possess is known as empowerment. As a result, they have the authority to behave independently and responsibly on behalf of their interests. It is the process of growing stronger and more self-assured, especially when it comes to taking charge of one's life and demanding one's rights.<sup>1</sup> Closing these gender gaps is important for growth and governance. See Gender Equality and Growth and Development. Increasing gender equality can improve the outcomes of development for the subsequent ones, enhance economic output, and increase the representation of women in institutions and policies.<sup>2</sup> The Hon'ble Prime Minister launched the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme at Panipat, Haryana on January 22, 2015, to address the issue of CSR reduction and related obstacles to girls and women's empowerment underneath a life cycle continuum. The initiative was first introduced in a hundred districts in 2014–15, and in 2015–16 it was expanded to 61 more districts. After the programs initial success, it was extended to all 640 districts in the country (as of the 2011 Census), utilizing targeted intervention, multi- sectoral action in a few districts, and a nationwide mass media campaign.<sup>3</sup> In a few countries, Jensen and Thornton (2005) directed an overview style study with accentuation on the normal marriage age. They recognized ladies between the ages of 15 and 49. They featured that one of the essential troubles to ladies' strengthening is early marriage. It annihilates one's ability to simply decide, an actual turn of events, and future instruction. In light of the examination, the typical period of relationships in South Asia is 16, the normal in South East Asia is

20, the normal in South Asia is 20, the most noteworthy normal in South Asia is 15, and the most elevated typical in Africa is 19. They reach their decision that young ladies who finished their schooling wed subsequently, while early marriage is the consequence of ignorance and an absence of critical thinking skills.<sup>4</sup> Children in a society are taught essential academic information, comprehension abilities, and cultural standards through the social institution of education. All countries have some kind of system of schooling in place, albeit they differ widely from one another.<sup>5</sup> The achievement of the aims of empowerment will depend on women's equality in power sharing and their involvement in decision-making, including. Decision-making in the political process at all levels.

The necessary modifications will be made to ensure that women have equal access to and full participation in all decision-making bodies, including corporate, statutory, legislative, executive, and judicial bodies, as well as advisory commissions, committees, boards of directors, and trusts, among others. When required, affirmative action measures like reservations and quotas-including those in higher legislative bodies—will be taken into consideration on a time-bound basis. Furthermore, women-friendly personnel policies will be established that encourage women's successful engagement in the process of development.<sup>6</sup> The amount of women participating in microfinance is gradually rising. Every microfinance organization shares the same aim of reducing poverty and advancing the economic status of women. Microfinance organizations are useful instruments for offering vital amenities including skill development, cost-effective credit, and saving.<sup>7</sup> It is broadly perceived that contribution locally is worthwhile to the creation, application, and evaluation of wellbeing administrations. In any case, there are a great deal of impediments in the method of fruitful and enduring local area contribution. Vitality, there is sparse information concerning the effect of local area inclusion on results at both local area and individual levels. Our

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orderly review means exploring the information about local area commitment results in high upper-center pay countries.<sup>8</sup> It is widely believed that engagement with the community is beneficial to the development, implementation, and evaluation of health services. Even so, there are a lot of obstacles in the way of effective and long-lasting community involvement. Crucially, scant data is demonstrating the impact of involvement in the community on outcomes at the individual and community levels. Our methodical investigation aims to examine the data about community engagement results in high- and upper-middle-income countries.<sup>9</sup>

### Objectives

1. Assess the knowledge regarding women empowerment scheme among women.
2. Find the relationship between the level of knowledge with their background variables.

### Operational definition

**Assess:** it refers to evaluate the knowledge.

**Knowledge:** It refers to aware of women on empowerment scheme available in the country.

**Women empowerment:** The process by which women increase their ability to recognise, comprehend, and combat gender discrimination on both an individual and group level, so taking charge of their own lives, is known as women's empowerment.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

**Research Approach:** Quantitative evaluative research approach.

**Research Design:** Descriptive research design.

### Description of tools

#### Part - I: Research Tool

It includes Age, education, Religion, Profession, Economic status, yearly income, Residence, family type, marital status, source of information.

#### Part-II: Researcher prepared validated questionnaire

It consists of 20 questions was used level of knowledge on women empowerment scheme. Each correct response carried 1 mark, wrong answer carried zero mark. Total score allotted for this section was 20 marks.

### Score interpretation

S.NO	DESCRIPTION	SCORE
1	Adequate knowledge	11-20
2	Moderately adequate knowledge	6-10
3	Inadequate knowledge	0-5

### Data collection

**Data collection procedure:** After self-introduction regarding the study concert was elicited from the study participants and data was collected.

**Plan for data analysis:** Data was analyzed with the help of descriptive and inferential statistics.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Table 1. Distribution of the demographic variables of women dwelling at rural area**

Demographic variables	NO	%
Age in years		
A.20-30	20	33.3%
B.30-40	25	42%
C.40-50	15	25%
Education		
A. Primary education	20	33.3%
B. Intermediate Education	30	50%
C. Graduation	10	17%
Religion		
A. Hindu	15	25%
B. Muslim	15	25%
C. Christian	30	50%
Profession		
A. Self Employed	5	8%
B. Wages	30	50%
C. House wife	25	42%
Economic status		
A. Down to the economy	40	67%
B. Middleclass	10	17%
C. Above the economy	10	17%
Yearly income		
A. Below 85,000	45	75%
B. 1 Lakh	10	17%
C. Above 1 Lakhs	5	8.3%
Residence		
A. Rural areas	60	100%
B. Urban area	0	0
C. Semi urban area	0	0
Family type		
A. single family	10	16%
B. Small family	25	42%
C. Big family	25	42%
Marital Status		
A. Married	25	42%
B. Unmarried	20	33.3%
C. Widow	15	25%
Source of information		
A. Social media	25	42%
B. Friends and relatives	25	42%
C. Newspaper	10	16%

This table shows that the majority of the women were in the age group of above 30-40, 25(42%) with regard to gender the majority of the women's were in the education group of intermediate education, 30(50%). According to religion the majority of the women's are Christian 30(50%) while discussing profession the majority of the women's are in daily wages 30(50%). According to economic status the majority were in down to the economy 40(67%). With regards of annual income the majority of the women's belong to below Rs 85000, 45(75%). With regard of residence all the samples were belong to rural area 60(100%), while discussing the family type the majority of the women's were 25(42%), according to the information obtained from the source the majority of the women's were obtained from social media and friends 25(42%).

### PART – II: Assess the level of knowledge regarding women Empowerment schemes

N = 60

Level of knowledge	Frequency		
	score	F	P
Adequate knowledge	11-20	15	25%
Moderately adequate knowledge	6-10	20	33%
Inadequate knowledge	0-5	25	42%

Above the tabular column shows that, the 25% (15) had adequate knowledge, 33% (20) moderately adequate knowledge and 42% (25) had Inadequate knowledge regarding women scheme.

## PART – III

**Table 3. Association of level knowledge with their selected demographic variables**

Demographic variables	Chi square	Table value	DF	Level of significance
Age in years A. 20-30 B. 30-40 C. 40-50	18.52	3	28.87	S**
Education A. Primary education B. Intermediate Education C. Graduation	30	3	43.77	S***
Religion A. Hindu B. Muslim C. Christian	1.488	12.59	6	NS
Profession A. Self Employed B. Wages C. House wife	7.1655	21.03	12	NS
Economic status A. Down to the economy B. Middleclass C. Above the economy	1.732	16.92	9	NS
Yearly income A. Below 85,000 B. 1 Lakh C. Above 1 Lakhs	4.189	16.92	9	NS
Residence A. Rural areas B. Urban area C. Semi urban area	60	3	43.77	S***
Family type A. single family B. Small family C. Big family	2.199	12.59	6	NS
Marital Status A. Married B. Unmarried C. Widow	19.568	3	30.14	S*
Source of information A. Social media B. Friends and relatives C. Newspaper	28.28	3	41.34	S**

## DISCUSSION

**Findings based on the objectives:** Present study objective 1 showed the knowledge regarding women empowerment schemes among women. In this study the majority of women's are residing in rural area had moderate level of knowledge and they belong to intermediate education level 30(50%). Majority of the women's were daily wages 30(50%). This findings supported with the study conducted by Shekokar, V, & Pande et al (2023).

**Objective 2:** In this study there is a significant difference in the chi square value with their selected demographic variables like age, education, resident, marital status & source of information. This is in align with Richa & Bawa (2022)

## Recommendations

- A comparative study can be conducted to assess the level of knowledge regarding women empowerment scheme in rural Vs urban residing area.
- This study can be conducted at large group scale

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