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Indrani Sah

Ph.D. Scholar, Department of
Fishery Extension, Faculty of
Fisheries Science, West Bengal
University of Animal & Fishery
Sciences, Chakgaria, Kolkata,
India

Training exposure of fisheries based women SHGs members in Jashpur district of Chhattisgarh

Indrani Sah

Abstract

Constant inputs of training are required to sustain SHGs. The paper is based on a study conducted on different type of training being provided and participation of women SHGs members. The sample size consisted of eighty women SHG members representing thirteen bank linked fishery based women SHGs in Jashpur district of Chhattisgarh. The finding revealed that 61.25 per cent of the respondents received training by on their current fishery based vocation with respect to different type of training activities, pre-stocking management per cent, fish breeding and grow out management of aquaculture 61.22 per cent, post-stocking management 14.29 per cent, harvesting 16.33 per cent as well as post-harvest management 4.08 per cent.

Keywords: Women SHGs, training, fisheries activities, Chhattisgarh

Introduction

Fisheries sector has already been recognized as one of the powerful income and employment generators for the poor people of rural area. It plays multi-faceted roles in providing nutritional security, generating employment, alleviating poverty and uplifting the socio-economic status of those who are directly or indirectly connected with exploitation, production and processing of fish. Currently, many women led SHGs are being observed across the country to have become engaged in the livelihood domains centring on fisheries and aquaculture.

Self Help Group (SHG) is a small group of people ranging from 10 to 20, who come together with the intension of solving their common socioeconomic problem through regular savings and having access to credit, which in turn leads to the generation of livelihood and assurance of certain degree of self- sufficiency among the members (Panda, 2009) ^[5].

Private as well as government SHGs should promote training related to entrepreneurship skill, managerial skills, marketing skills etc. And the present scenario paves a way for the overall upliftment of women in India (Banerjee and Borhade, 2016) ^[2]. There is need to provide intensive training to them about proper functioning of Self-help groups which includes topics viz. social and economic importance of Self-help groups, financial literacy and economic empowerment, bank linkages, income generating activities and entrepreneurship development, linkages with other institutions like the Panchayati Raj, Review of Schemes and Laws, and health and nutrition for women and children (Jain, 2015) ^[4].

In Chhattisgarh state, SHGs are fast emerging as a promising tool for promotion of micro enterprise based income activities. And quite naturally, those have gained popularity in the countryside too, especially among the women. The state has strong base of water resources in the forms of rivers and canals, reservoirs, tanks and ponds, etc. In 2015, area under total water bodies in the state was 1.47 lakh ha, out of which the share of area under tanks and ponds happened to be to the tune of 42.86 per cent. The document pertaining to 'Basic Animal Husbandry & Fisheries Statistics 2015' was reflective of the fact that the Chhattisgarh state occupied 6th position in the country in terms of both inland fish production (314164 tonnes) as well as fish seed production (1351.42 million fry) during 2014-15 (Government of India, 2015). Jashpur is in the North-East of Chhattisgarh State and its total water resources are 1931.4 ha and Fish culture area is 1925.230 ha. The district produces 3824 mt. of fish. There is 62 SHGs are involved in fisheries out of which 23 exclusively women led SHGs are involved in fisheries (Anonymous, 2016) ^[1].

Research Methodology

The study was conducted in Jashpur district of Chhattisgarh state, where sixty two SHGs were

Corresponding Author:

Indrani Sah

Ph.D. Scholar, Department of
Fishery Extension, Faculty of
Fisheries Science, West Bengal
University of Animal & Fishery
Sciences, Chakgaria, Kolkata,
India

found being involved in fisheries out of which twenty three were exclusively women led ones (Anonymous, 2016) [1]. Moreover, out of the total female population of the state, this district was the top ranked one in terms of female work participation rate (52.4%). The top three blocks in that district according to existence of fisheries based women SHGs viz. Jashpur, Manora and Duldula were purposively selected. Then, all 13 actively operating and bank-linked fishery based women SHGs of those blocks till March, 2014 were identified. So, by default, all the nine villages, wherein those 13 bank linked active women SHGs were located, became to be the micro level site for primary data collection. And those villages were Sitonga, Chhotakaronja and Ichkela from Jashpur block; Sogra, Kesra and Bartoli from Manora block; and Patratoli, Churidar and Ranibundh from Duldula block. As there existed variable number of women members for the identified SHGs, at the next stage, probability proportionate to size sampling technique was adopted to finally select a total number of 80 women members from those identified 13 SHGs. Primary data was collected through personal interview from the sample respondents (i.e. members of fishery based women SHGs) by employing structured interview schedule,

which was initially prepared in congruity with the *ex post facto* research design and then finalized after due pre-testing. It was operationally defined as to the manner of capacity development and/or capability up-gradation of the respondents in different areas of fisheries. Training exposure was quantified in two stages. Firstly, to determine as to whether or not they were pertained with any training, while '1' score value was assigned against affirmative response, '0' score value was assigned against the negative ones. Then, for each affirmative cases duration of training and the areas of training were summarized using percentage analyses.

Results and Discussion

Table 1 was revealing of the fact that not only a good proportion (61.25%) of the respondents received training by on their current fishery based vocation but they had also got the benefit of exposure on fairly varied areas of such fisheries related courses encompassing pre-stocking management (4.08%), fish breeding and grow out management of aquaculture (61.22%), post-stocking management (14.29%), harvesting (16.33%) as well as post-harvest management (4.08%).

Table 1: Categorization of the women SHG members based on training programme exposure

Sl. No.	Training exposure	Frequency (n=80)	Percentage	
1.	Attended training programme	49	61.25	
2.	Not attended any training programme	31	38.75	
	Areas of Training	Duration		
i.	Pre stocking management	10 Days	2	4.08
ii.	Fish Breeding and grow out management of aquaculture	40 Days	30	61.22
iii.	Post stocking management	10 Days	7	14.29
iv.	Harvesting	3 Days	8	16.33
v.	Post Harvesting management	3 Days	2	4.08

Another notable revelation from the table 1 was in terms of the duration of the courses. It is well accepted a fact that skill development for bettering vocational performance cannot be effectively done through holding mere 2-3 days' training. But it was heartening to note that the women SHG members were very rightly exposed with 10 days and even 40 days training along with 3 days training for few cases.

Conclusion

Present study focus on that training and capacity building is fundamental requirement for all SHGs to functionally operate in field. It is quite appreciable that, SHGs member were given the scope to undergo a score of various fisheries related skill driven training. So, for greater acceleration of rate of empowerment training of SHGs member play important role.

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