

**AN ANALYSIS ON
“THE STUDY ON EFFECT OF FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN IMPROVING
SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF WOMEN WORKERS”**

Abstract

The present paper concentrates on how financial inclusion helps in achieving the women empowerment thereby improving the socio-economic status of women in the society. An inclusive financial service being affordable to all is one of the basic priorities in India to uplift the lives of women. Women Improvement should be a radical approach concerned with transforming power relations in favour of females and their global progress.

In India it has been observed the weaker section has always been kept away from the banking fold because of their lower income and poor banking awareness. The weaker section is always in dearth of credit facilities at affordable cost and at the time of their need. The current article investigates the dimensions of improving women conditions through financial inclusion. The study also investigated the relationship between the financial inclusion and demographic factors like age, occupation, marital status, education, monthly income and family type. Financial Inclusion is delivery of banking services at an affordable cost to the vast sections of disadvantaged and low income groups. The study reveals that financial inclusion plays a significant role in women empowerment and the policy makers should focus on increasing the women financial inclusion to much greater extent and also measures to be taken by banks to uplift this sector.

Introduction

India is one of the largest and speediest growing economies of the world and comprehensive growth has become the national objective of the Government of India. Financial inclusion is complete bundle for growth and advancement of poor and weaker section of the society as it changes their livelihood opportunities. However, there are challenges like lack of awareness and financial literacy which have to be addressed by the policy makers.

Financial Exclusion can be viewed from two perspectives. One of that is supply of financial services and other one is demand of financial services. In India, various measures taken by banks, GOI and RBI for financial inclusion plan. Women's financial inclusion occurs when women have effective and complete access to a wide range of financial products and services that cater to their multiple needs and that have

direct impact in improving socioeconomic conditions. Women's financial inclusion is necessary for the upliftment of women empowerment.

The UFA 2020 Initiative envisions that adults' worldwide-women and men alike will be able to have access to transaction account or an electronic instrument to store money, send payment and receive payments and deposits as a basic building blocks to manage their financial lives.

Findex 2017 estimates that **77% of Indian women now own a bank account against respective 43% and 26% in 2014 and 2011.** On this basic measure of financial inclusion, females are more financially included than before. The male-female difference, or the gender gap, in **account ownership narrowed to 6.4 percentage points in 2017; it was 19.8 in 2014.**

Women's financial inclusion can make an important contribution to women's economic and broader empowerment. Programs for women's financial inclusion should be developed and gender related barriers that deter women's ability to access financial services and block women empowerment should be considered carefully while preparing these programs.

Review of Literature

- (Madhav, 2019) The researcher has tried to explain that financial education is a key tool in promoting the benefits of financial inclusion among the financially excluded individuals. The benefits of financial inclusion may not be available at the moment but it is beneficial in the long run. The challenges and barriers faced by the underprivileged section should be addressed so that they reap the benefits of financial inclusion.
- (sunil B, 2018) The researchers have suggested that unbanked population can be financial included through digital channels. By motivating the women to avail the products and services specially meant for their upliftment. The researcher gave importance on education women on the benefits of financial inclusion as it results in empowering the individuals and families who live below poverty line.
- (paramjit sujana, 2018) The researchers claim that status of household sectors can be improved only when they have access to financial services and actively participate in the financial system of country. The various initiatives taken by the Government and RBI are progressing in a rapid pace. The researcher has disclosed that private banks are not so supportive when compared to public sector banks. As per Government guidelines all the public and private banks have to comply with three year financial inclusion plan (FIP).

- (mahesh, 2018)The researcher focuses on demographic aspects for comparative analysis with financial literacy and financial inclusion status of Karnataka. It reveals that financial literacy is higher than financial inclusion level. so inclusion policies need to be emphasised more by the Karnataka government as well as government of India and the different financial regulatory bodies.
- (shivangi Bhatia, 2019)The researchers focus on investigating the dimensions of women empowerment. The authors draws upon PMJDY scheme which has been quite successful especially in case of women in slums and has positive influence on social, political and economic dimensions of women empowerment.It also identifies the substantial need for the development of formal financial system to enhance the scale of financial inclusion

Research Gap

All the studies done are conducted in rural and semi-urban areas and urban areas have been excluded. Therefore in this study an attempt has been made to analyse the impact of financial inclusion of women workers with low level income earners on their socio-economic empowerment. The study also makes comparison between financial inclusions of women workers of nuclear family with that of women workers of joint family.

Research Design

Statement of the problem

Financial inclusion plays a vital role in economic and social development of disadvantaged section of the society especially domestic women workers. It is noteworthy that women financial inclusion leads to welfare of the society and economy. The main intention of selecting the topic is to study how financial inclusion improves social condition of women workers.

Objectives of the study

1. To analyse role of financial inclusion and financial literacy as a tool for women empowerment
2. To understand the various financial services availed by women and its impact on their socio-economic status and financial independence.

Hypothesis

Hypothesis 1

H₀: There is no significance difference between income group and financial independence of women workers.

H₁: There is a significance difference between income group and financial independence of women workers.

Hypothesis 2

H₀: There is no association between the income group and type of family of women workers.

H₁: There is an association between the income group and type of family of women workers.

Scope of the study

The study has a basic objective of making a comprehensive analysis of women workers in Bangalore. The women are involved in various occupations such as domestic workers, pourkarmikas (sweepers), maids and construction workers etc. The study covers all aspects relating to socio-economic condition of women workers in Bangalore.

Type of Study

The present study is descriptive in nature because an attempt has been made to collect quantifiable data.

Sources of Data

The primary data for the study is obtained through using interview schedules covering selected women workers in Bangalore (south zone). The secondary data for the study is obtained from the published sources like reference works, research publication, government report or reports from other survey institutions etc., relating to the topic of research.

Sampling size and Sampling Technique

For the study data has been collected from 100 respondents. For the purpose of the study women workers with low level income is been selected. Convenient and Judgement sampling techniques are used for collection of samples for the study.

Data analysis and hypothesis testing

The data will be analysed with the help of Descriptive Statistics that is using charts and graphs. Statistical tests have been done using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). The tools used for hypothesis testing is one-way anova and chi-square test.

Limitations of the Study

1. The study is restricted women residing in Bangalore south zone
2. The study is confined only to women workers belonging to low income group.
3. The main constraint is the time duration.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

1. Cross tabulation of income group and contribution of income towards household expenditure by the respondent

	Never	Occasionally tried	Considerably	Almost Always	Always	Total
Income						
Below 5000	0	0	2	0	0	2
5000-10000	0	0	34	14	10	58
10000-15000	0	0	0	6	22	28
Above 15000	0	0	0	4	8	12
Total	0	0	36	24	40	100

Null hypothesis:

There is no significance difference between monthly income and contribution of income towards household expenditure.

Alternative hypothesis:

There is a significance difference between monthly income and contribution of income towards household expenditure.

One Way Anova Result

	Sum of Squares	Degree of freedom	Mean Square	F value	Sig.
Between Groups	37.382	3	12.461	26.834	.001

Within Groups	44.578	96	.464		
Total	81.960	99			

Conclusion:

On the basis of Anova it has been found that for the F value 26.834 the significant value is 0.001 which is less than 0.05, therefore null hypothesis is rejected. The alternative hypothesis is accepted. Hence there is a significance difference between monthly income and contribution of income towards household expenditure.

2. Cross tabulation of income group and opinion of women workers on how to spend their income

	Never	Occasionally tried	Considerably	Almost Always	Always	Total
Income						
Below 5000	0	0	2	0	0	2
5000-10000	4	18	18	14	4	58
10000-15000	0	0	2	12	14	28
Above 15000	0	0	0	4	8	12
Total	4	18	22	30	26	100

Null hypothesis:

There is no significance difference between monthly income and opinion of women workers on how to spend their income.

Alternative hypothesis:

There is a significance difference between monthly income and opinion of women workers on how to spend their income.

One way anova result

	Sum of Squares	Degrees of freedom	Mean Square	F value	Sig.
Between Groups	51.712	3	17.237	17.746	.0001
Within Groups	93.248	96	.971		
Total	144.960	99			

Conclusion: On the basis of Anova it has been found that for the F value 17.746 the significant value is 0.0001 which is less than 0.05, therefore null hypothesis is rejected. The alternative hypothesis is accepted. Hence there is a significance difference between monthly income opinions of women workers on how to spend their income.

3. Cross tabulation of income group and confidence of women worker while making financial or investment decisions

	Never	Occasionally tried	Considerably	Almost Always	Always	Total
Income						
Below 5000	2	0	0	0	0	2
5000-10000	15	19	20	4	0	58
10000-15000	0	0	2	26	0	28
Above 15000	0	0	2	6	4	12
Total	17	19	24	36	4	100

Null hypothesis:

There is no significance difference between monthly income and confidence of women worker while making financial or investment decisions

Alternative hypothesis:

	Sum of Squares	Degrees of freedom	Mean Square	F value	Sig.
Between Groups	60.051	3	20.017	32.843	.001
Within Groups	58.509	96	.609		
Total	118.560	99			

There is a significance difference between monthly income and confidence of women worker while making financial or investment decisions.

One way anova result

Conclusion:

On the basis of Anova it has been found that for the F value 32.843 the significant value is 0.001 which is less than 0.05, therefore null hypothesis is rejected. The alternative hypothesis is accepted. Hence

there is a significance difference between monthly income and confidence of women worker while making financial or investment decisions.

4. Cross tabulation of income group and women worker being influenced by spouse/in laws while making financial decisions

	Never	Occasionally tried	Considerably	Almost Always	Always	Total
Income						
Below 5000	0	0	0	0	2	2
5000-10000	8	6	2	30	12	58
10000-15000	4	16	8	0	0	28
Above 15000	8	2	2	0	0	12
Total	20	24	12	30	14	100

Null hypothesis:

There is no significance difference between monthly income and women workers being influenced by their spouse/in laws while making financial decision.

Alternative hypothesis:

There is a significance difference between monthly income and women workers being influenced by their spouse/in laws while making financial decision.

One way anova result

	Sum of Squares	Degrees of freedom	Mean Square	F value	Sig.
Between Groups	66.901	3	22.300	16.335	.001
Within Groups	131.059	96	1.365		
Total	197.960	99			

Conclusion:

On the basis of Anova it has been found that for the F value 16.335 the significant value is 0.001 which is less than 0.05, therefore null hypothesis is rejected. The alternative hypothesis is accepted. Hence there is a significance difference between monthly income and women workers being influenced by their spouse/in laws while making financial decision.

5. Cross tabulation of income group and women worker being influenced by family while choosing financial products and services

	Never	Occasionally tried	Considerably	Almost Always	Always	Total
Income						
Below 5000	0	0	0	0	2	2
5000-10000	4	6	6	31	11	58
10000-15000	2	18	8	0	0	28
Above 15000	8	4	0	0	0	12
Total	14	28	14	31	13	100

Null hypothesis:

There is no significance difference between monthly income and women workers being influenced by their family while choosing financial products and services.

Alternative hypothesis:

There is a significance difference between monthly income and women workers being influenced by their family while choosing financial products and services.

	Sum of Squares	Degrees of freedom	Mean Square	F value	Sig.
Between Groups	73.518	3	24.506	23.100	.000
Within Groups	101.842	96	1.061		
Total	175.360	99			

One way anova result

Conclusion:

On the basis of Anova it has been found that for the F value 23.100 the significant value is 0.000 which is less than 0.05, therefore null hypothesis is rejected. The alternative hypothesis is accepted. Hence there is a significance difference between monthly income and women workers being influenced by their family while choosing financial products and services.

Hypothesis 2

Cross tabulation of income group and type of family of women workers

Income Age	Family type		Total
	Nuclear Family	Joint Family	
Below 5000	2	0	2
5000-10000	42	16	58
10000-15000	24	4	28
Above 15000	8	4	12
Total	76	24	100

Null hypothesis:

There is no association between the income group and type of family of women workers.

Alternative hypothesis:

There is an association between the income group and type of family of women workers.

Chi-square testing result

	Value	Degrees of freedom	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	3.062 ^a	3	.382
Likelihood Ratio	3.649	3	.302
Linear-by-Linear Association	.000	1	1.000
N of Valid Cases	100		

Conclusion:

The critical value of chi-square X^2 is 3.062 @ 5% level of significance and degree of freedom is 3. Since the p value is 0.382 which is less than 0.05 therefore null hypotheses is rejected. The alternative hypothesis is accepted. Hence there is an association between the between the income group and type of family of women workers.

Findings

1. On the basis of one way anova it is found that there is a significance difference between monthly income and contribution of income towards household expenditure.
2. On the basis of one way anova it is found that there is a significance difference between monthly income opinions of women workers on how to spend their income.
3. On the basis of one way anova it is found that there is a significance difference between monthly income and confidence of women worker while making financial or investment decisions.
4. On the basis of one way anova it is found that there is a significance difference between monthly income and women workers being influenced by their spouse/in laws while making financial decision.
5. On the basis of the one way anova it is found that there is a significance difference between monthly income and women workers being influenced by their family while choosing financial products and services.
6. On the basis of chi-square test it is found that there is an association between the between the income group and type of family of women workers.

Suggestions

1. Different awareness campaigns have to be conducted so that women are made aware of different financial products and services that are offered by their financial institutions.
2. Many women workers have inadequate knowledge about how to access different financial products and services. Measures have to be taken to improve their knowledge regarding access to financial products and services.
3. By encouraging them to make their own financial or investment decision and considering their opinion helps to boost self-confidence among the women workers.
4. The families of women workers must be less influential so that it improves the decision making ability of women workers.
5. Women must be encouraged to inculcate the habit of financial planning so that she can utilise it effectively and secure her future in the better way.
6. The most important aim of financial inclusion should be to increase women empowerment. Therefore, all the steps of financial inclusion should direct to increase in social status, decision making ability and reduces dependence on others.

Conclusion

From this study, it can be established that financial inclusion has a significant impact in improving socio-economic conditions of the working women. The financial independence and financial literacy have substantial influence in increasing the social status and economic independence of the women workers. It is to be noted that women when given proper financial education and knowledge is able to make sound financial and investment decisions. The noteworthy accomplishment of financial inclusion is that it has encouraged women to be self-reliant by starting own business which leads to economic empowerment and improves financial well-being of the family as a whole. It is notable that findings of the study were affected by demographic profile of women workers.

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