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Study of Scientific awareness of women in daily life; a case study in Roha Taluka Dist- Raigad (M.S) India

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Abstract-

In rural area, with changing social conditions, women are a great human resource and their role in science and technology is important progress of women. Their scientific knowledge, attitude may affect the family and society's progress. Social awareness of women about child marriage, Aids, Desire for male child, water purification system is studied in present investigations. Out of 600 study participants interviewed, larger section of women have studied up to secondary ie-22% and larger section of women are with income below Rs3000/- So reported to have 45 % scientific attitude 25% have chemistry knowledge of day to day life. Women are very much far from the knowledge of water purification system and energy solutions like solar energy. The unawareness is still high so necessary measures should be taken to strengthen women empowerment through scientific knowledge.

Keywords: Education, Scientific attitude, Women empowerment, Raigad district etc

Introduction-

Education is basic human right and is necessary for development. Development of women through women empowerment refers to increasing the spiritual, political, social or economic strength of women. It develops confidence in their women's capacities. women's empowerment has multiplier effects on the well-being of their families, communities and nation (Vijaya C et al 2013). In today's world of industrialization and modernization, With changing social conditions, women are a great human resource and their role in science and technology is vital for its progress. Progress of rural area is backbone of our nation's economy. Women constitute about fifty percent of the population of our country, so involvement of women from rural area in science technology, their scientific approach and their knowledge for science in routine life is studied through the cross-sectional survey of women in Raigad district. Prominent area and the applications are towards improving health services, supply of pure drinking water, improvement in sanitation, supply of low cost balanced diet. Myths about traditional customs like: necessity of son in family, early marriage of girls can be irradiated .

Objective-

The main objective of this study is to assess the scientific knowledge of women about child marriages, Aids, water purification systems, solar energy etc. According to B. Suresh Lal (2015). Most of the girls who are married before 18 year are likely to get pregnancy problems and there were death case reported. Girls younger than 15 are five times more likely to die in childbirth than women in their 20s. The age group below 18 year has high fertility. He also stated that Child brides often show signs symptomatic of sexual abuse and post-traumatic stress such as feelings of hopelessness, helplessness and severe depression. All this consequences can be

avoided by developing scientific approach in women. Present investigations involved following steps -1) Survey 2) Data analysis 3) Data interpretation 4) Suggestions and recommendations.

Material and Methods:

A cross-sectional survey was carried in the rural area of Raigad district, Maharashtra state, India. Simple random sampling method was used for the selection of samples. The study participants were interviewed using a predesigned pretested questionnaire. The observed data was analyzed

Result & Findings-

Education and income status are shown by pie diagrams with figure 1 and 2.

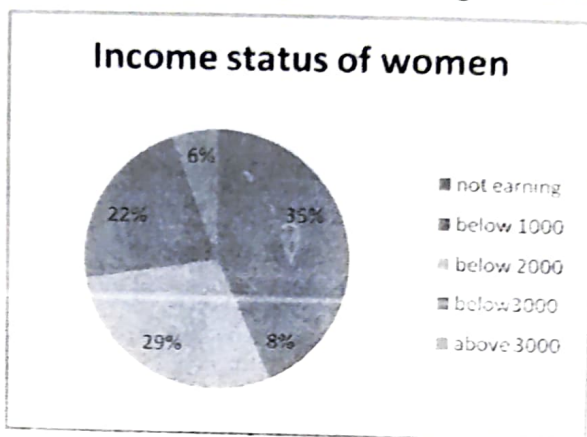
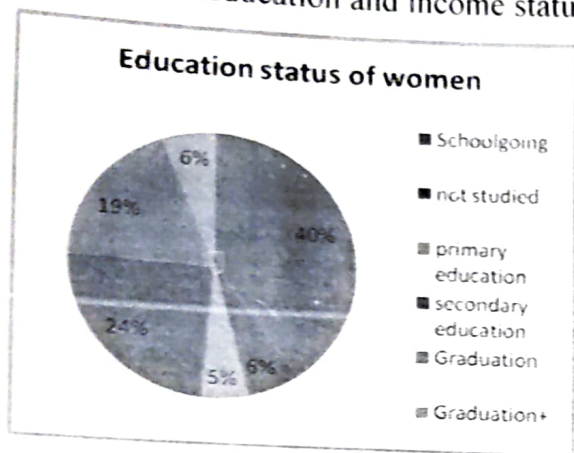


Figure 1- Pie diagram showing education status

Figure 2- Pie diagram showing financial status

In survey it is found that around 52% women are of age group 17-20 years while 40% are between age group 21-30 years. Out of this 39.81% girls are obtaining education 5.33% of women studied up to primary education, 24% studied up to secondary school, 18.66% studied up to Graduation and 6% studied above Graduation it is found that 6.20% women did not studied or were drop outs from school.

By income status only 35% women are not working, among working women 22% women are earning below Rs 3000/- . Women Government employees at schools hospitals etc are 6%. Maximum 29% women are earning below 2000/- by doing small business, domestic works etc in private sectors. Many Graduate girls prefer coaching classes or private tuitions classes. House wives are in search of opportunities.

According to Kankana De (2017) HIV and AIDS has become the fourth largest killer worldwide. This shows importance of its awareness. For assessment of scientific awareness about the social issues like child marriages, HIV Aids, Desire for male child questionnaire was used. Data showed 70% women have shown much awareness about these social issues but they don't know science behind it (i.e. 44%). Information about marriageable age, Aids is spread by media. Government and NGOs are making women aware, but scientific approach is yet to be developed. 65% women know about HIV Aids and 70% Ladies accept 18 years as marriageable age for their daughters. Still 54% women have desire for male child. In similar studies by Sachin Solat et al (2012), he interviewed total 724 individuals [202 (27.9%) males and 522 (72.1%) females] in Raigad district and found that overall awareness about symptoms of HIV

AIDS, its transmission routes and preventive measures was very poor in Raigad district . 383(52.9%) individual knew correct routes of transmission while only 289 (39.9%) individuals knew how to prevent HIV infection transmission. Data obtained in present case is shown in table 3-

Bioinfo Publications 88

LITERACY IN MAHARASHTRA (INDIA)

Bioinfo Publications 88

LITERACY IN MAHARASHTRA (INDIA) The data observed in present investigations is shown in table -3

Awareness about social issues	Y- 70% N-30%	Y- 65% N- 35%	Y- 45% N-55%	Y- 54% N-46%
Awareness about science behind above points	Y- 56% N-44%	Y- 55% N-45%	Y- 40% N-60%	Y- 60% N-40%
Awareness about chemistry behind above points	Y- 40% N-60%	Y- 35% N-65%	Y- 25% N-75%	Y- 50% N-50%

Discussion-

According to census 2011, literacy rate in Raigad in Maharashtra is 83.89% (Sule, A.M .et al 2012). In present investigations, large group of women, studied up to secondary level and earning below 2000/- is target group ,which should be empowered with finance, scientific attitude and latest trends of technology like, Banking, post services for savings . As this area is attached to Mumbai, impact of urbanization has made them aware of AIDs, marriageable age 18 years, and Gender equality. But to improve their scientific knowledge, they should be given formal education i.e. adult education. Another bigger group is of Graduated women who can adopt themselves for science and technology of computers, internet and mobiles. This group is hope for tomorrow. Colleges, Social institutions should educate , communicate this group through activities like NSS , Women development cell, Carrier guidance cell .The possible reasons for lacking behind may be 1) difference in pays of women & Men 2) Culture and Gender inequality 3) lack of participation of women in decision policymaking.

Conclusions & Recommendations

For development of scientific awareness in women, we need to create support structures and positive attitude towards science as a career for them .Active participation of Women in science and technology may result in constructive use of science and technology. Such Female education should be priority for society's progress. Self help groups i.e. Bachat Gat, Mahila mandal , Panchayats should be empowered with extra financial help to get trainings for new technologies, self employment trainings .Self Help Groups provide women with the opportunity to manage loans and savings that can be used by members for varying needs. Self Help Groups also are used to promote social change among the members and the community.

Social activists like Government NGOs. Community leaders should work for village problems like male dominance, alcoholisms. Village politics should be avoided and combined

efforts should strengthen the voice of women . The voice of women in governance is required to create the political will essential to bring about changes that will benefit all of society.

Following suggestions are important for development of scientific awareness among women.-

- 1) University and college students can definitely help women in society through activities like N.S.S, Women development Cell, Life Long Learning activity etc . General programs like presentations, Poster Presentations, Street play, Dramas can be included in awareness campaign of women.
- 2) Role of Women like Teachers, NGOs, Bank Officers, and Medical Staffs should consider their duty towards women in society. Combined efforts will lead to women knowledge empowerment
- 3) Orientation programs for development of scientific attitude should be carried out for Self help groups, Mahila Mandal, Sevabhavi Sanstha .
- 4) Money gives strength and confidence to women, so self employment skill development programs should be arranged for girl students in colleges and for women in society through which financial positions can be upgraded.

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