

6.1 Conclusions

On the basis of the findings, analysis and interpretations as shown in the previous chapter the following conclusion are drawn as under: -

1. It is concluded that the SHG functioning in Durg and Rajnandgaon district are formulated as per the rules and regulations of the NABARD. Even though, the size of the group is varying in both the districts. The working procedure is almost same to borrow the funds but, the objectives of these groups are different. SHG in Durg district mainly focus on economic development like income generating activities, taking loan for inter-lending within groups and using loan amount for personal use etc. whereas SHGs in Rajnandgaon district focus both on economic as well as social development like social security, social respect, domestic violence, etc.
2. With the help of literature review and MYRADA manuals, the indicators of SHG i.e. Individual Economic Indicators, Community Economic Indicators, Individual Social Indicators and Community Social Indicators as independent variables and Economic Development and Social Development as dependent variables are determined, thereafter to testing the hypothesis and indicators it is concluded that in Durg district Individual Economic Indicators, Community Economic Indicators are actively involved in socio-economic development of rural women. Whereas, in Rajnandgaon Individual Social Indicators and Community Social Indicators are actively involved in socio-economic development of rural women.
3. It is also analyzed that before the introduction of SHGs in Durg and Rajnandgaon district the individual, community and social aspect of rural women are mainly ignored in district Durg and Rajnandgaon. Whereas, the implication of indicators of socio-economic development as highlighted in previous chapter for individual, community and social aspects of rural women is quite change. Thereafter, around 8754 registered SHG in Durg district, whereas around 31326 registered SHGs in Rajnandgaon district were functioning to enhance the socio-economic condition of the rural women. In Durg district this phenomenon put them up-

liftment in society, family, decision making and various issues, but in comparison to Rajnandgaon district the positions of the SHG members is inferior. In district Rajnandgaon socio-economic aspect of rural women regarding income, asset resources, decision making, social respect communication and mental ability has positive impact on rural women

4. As defined earlier point, it is found that the socio-economic condition of rural women of Rajnandgaon is better in comparison to the rural women in Durg district area. It is also found that the two ladies particularly, Shamshad Begum and Phoolbasan Yadav have change the socio-economic condition of rural women of both the district and they are honored and awarded as 'Padamshri' by the earlier government. This award has encouraged many of the rural women in both the district.
5. For the socio-economic development of rural women through SHGs both Central as well as State government are supporting directly and indirectly. For direct support the government has established different branches of different banks through NABARD to provide finance to the SHGs. They are also supporting SHG for their objectives not only to motivate them but also encourage to avail the government supported subsidies in terms of reducing the amount of interest from principal amount in case of full payment of loan amount by SHGs for financial help in the government schemes. Government also indirectly help SHG in developing and creating SHGs through NGOs.

Overall it is concluded that SHG proves to be a powerful tool for the socio-economic development of women, it provides a platform to the women to discuss their problem enhance their skills level of the women, their assets and resources to be increased. It also brings changes in the socio-economic status of SHG members and to improve their living standard. This study analyses that there is a positive impact on income decision making power of the women. This enhance their positions within the family and outside the family have become stronger. The communication skills among the women involved in SHGs also developed, they can communicate freely with outsiders without any hesitations. SHG women are getting themselves both socially and economically developed, their living standard have been improving. The only thing they require the need and support from their family members, society and government.

Even though government is providing timely training to the rural women, but delay in process and due to low literacy among rural women, they are not in a position to utilize the funds properly particularly, in district Durg.

The results show that there is positive economic impact of SHG on economic development in Durg district of Chhattisgarh in terms of increased income, increased savings and increase in assets resources. The results show the SHG also developed women socially in terms of social respect and also communication skills of SHG members have developed under SHG. SHG plays an important role in rural areas on women empowerment by making them self-dependent, which is not only boosting their self-confidence, also enables them to play role in the society.

Study shows that there is positive social impact of SHG on economic and social development in Rajnandgaon district of Chhattisgarh in terms of increase in communication skills, social respect and mental ability of SHG members. The results show that there is increased in income and assets resources of SHG members under SHG. SHG members became economically as well as socially developed under SHG. Women's of Rajnandgaon district are socially empowered, they are socially aware about social injustice, domestic violence and their rights and duties.

The results of this study suggests that a program that not only facilitates group formation but also enlighten the provisions for more mature groups through association and one-to-one support, moreover credit access can have significant economic benefits in the long term. It is suggested that efforts should be made in creating awareness regarding SHG, its functions and benefits. The success of SHG depends upon the involvement and co-operations of its member.

Therefore, on the basis of above conclusion this researcher is suggesting the following suggestions improvement of socio-economic development of rural women through SHG, which are playing a very important role to improve not only condition of rural women but also develop women empowerment in these areas.

6.2 Suggestions

The socio-economic development of rural women of district Durg and Rajnandgaon of Chhattisgarh can be enhanced through focusing on the significant social and economic indicators proved in this study. The objective of SHG can only be fulfilled if those indicators are implemented and achieved.

- 1) There are many financial institutions and government and NGO institutions are working in the State which provides micro credit to the people with minimum interest rates, though people are not aware about it because of lack of ignorance and illiteracy.
- 2) It is important to create awareness about the various schemes of government to the people of remote area so that they can get benefit of it. Government should take initiatives to start some income generating activities for self-employment, provide training to the members.
- 3) Government and NGOs should motivate the SHG member for self-employment. Government should provide proper training so that women become employable and self-dependent.
- 4) Women's are keen to work but there is lack of vision, guidance and lack of directions, which hamper their growth; there is need of effective leadership who provide all the knowledge and information timely to them.
- 5) To enhance their communication skill among member, have to take active participations in group meetings. All the members should get equal opportunity to express their ideas and views in group.
- 6) Loan that women are getting through SHG, they utilize it all, and they don't save money for their future. Members should save more amount, which will help them to start their own venture and also they can reinvest them in their existing business.
- 7) There is a need to create more SHG groups especially in remote areas, where the basic amenities are not available in abundant.
- 8) SHG members have to keep and maintain all their records for getting loans and also to get benefits of government schemes.
- 9) More emphasis should be given on self-governance and self-regulation by individual SHG, with minimum interference from the regulator or intermediary.

- 10) SHG members need to be trained for efficient functioning on credit issues. As they are not that aware about function of banking system proper training is also required for the same.
- 11) Banks should maintain transparency on the issues related to rate of interest, loan amount and duration of repayment of loan. This would help the SHG member as, when they should pay the instalments and get subsidy on interest from the government.
- 12) SHG members should work independently, rather depending on Block Development Officers for the effective functioning of group.
- 13) SHG members should not only concentrate on the development of the group and group members, but they should take active participation on social issues and other important issues related to health, sanitation etc. to develop their locality.

6.3 Directions for Future Research

The concept of SHG while started from Bangladesh and gradually it has taken the form of revolution in many other countries. This study is based only on Durg and Rajnandgaon district of Chhattisgarh. At present there are 27 districts in Chhattisgarh, but this study focuses on only two districts. The limitations of this study put the scope for the further studies. The indicators selected for this study are also limited, whereas the other indicators may also be selected for other studies. As a single researcher this study is confined to only limited respondents like 250 SHG members from each districts, whereas number of SHGs are also functioning to improve the socio-economic conditions of not only the rural women but also for the whole blocks, village etc. the scope for further study is very wide including this one, which also needs enlargement of this study with more number of sample size and more indicators.