WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

(A case study of Durga Bai Mahila Sisu Vikasa Kendram in North Coastal Districts of Andhra Pradesh)

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CHAPTER – VIII
SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

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8.1 Introduction:

Empowerment of women has been burning issue all over the world including India since last few decades. Many agencies of United Nations in their reports have emphasized that gender issue is to be given utmost priority. It is held that women now cannot be asked to wait for any more for equality. Inequalities between men and women and discrimination against women have also been age-old issues all over the world. Thus, women's quest for equality with man is a universal phenomenon and they have demanded equality with men in matters of education, employment, inheritance, marriage and politics.

Since the position and status of women all over the world has risen incredibly in the 21st century, it has been very low in 18th and 19th centuries in India and elsewhere when they were treated like 'objects' that can be bought and sold. For a long time women in India remained within the four walls of their household. Their dependence on menfolk was total. A long struggle going back over a century has brought women the property rights, equality in civil rights before the law in matters of marriage and employment.

In addition to the above rights, in India, the customs of purdha (veil system), female infanticide, child marriage, sati system (self-immolation by the women with their husbands), dowry system and the state of permanent widowhood were either totally

removed or checked to an appreciable extent after independence through legislative measures.

Today women are playing vital role in economic field: as workers, consumers, entrepreneurs, managers and investors. In fact, almost everywhere more women are employed, though their share is still very low. Manufacturing work, traditionally a male preserve, has declined, while jobs in services have expanded, reducing the demand for manual labour and putting the sexes on equal footing. Women are in almost every field: architecture, lawyers, financial services, engineering, medical and IT jobs. They have also entered service occupations such as a nurse, a beautician, a sales worker, a waitress, etc.

In spite of their increasing number in every field, women still remain perhaps the most underutilized human resource. Many are still excluded from paid work and many do not make best use of their skills due to lack of training and opportunities. The rapid pace of economic development has increased the demand for educated and skilled female labour force almost in all fields. Women are earning and their employment nonetheless adds substantially to family and gives family an economic advantage over the family with only one breadwinner.

More and more women want freedom of work and control their own reproduction, freedom of mobility and freedom to define one's own style of life. It is contended that freedom leads to greater openness, generosity and tolerance. This new pattern of women has affected their status in many ways. In this context women's monetary independence leads them to the way to empowerment.

During the eleventh plan the government aimed to raise the sex ratio for the age group 0-6 to 935 by 2011-12 to 950 by 2016-17. Their plan of action indends to ensure 33 per cent of the direct and indirect beneficiaries of all government schemes are women and girl children.

The status of women and their overall contribution to social and economic development of a nation largely depends upon the availability of employment opportunities. Under these circumstances, government has geared up several programmes to develop the women both at social and economic fronts. Among such programmes training women is one, which imparts training to enhance their skills to their ability to choose and shape their occupations, there by contributing to social and economic development of the society and finally empowering them. Such a training program has been run by the government of Andhra Pradesh in the name of the Telugu Bala Mahila Pragathi Pranganam where most of the women are getting training in different developmental activities to empower them-selves with their individual skills. In this context the present study 'Women empowerment through skills development – A case study of Durga Bai Mahila Sisu Vikasa Kendram in North Coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh' constituted.

In the part of this research the study is established to examine the socio-economic profile of the beneficiaries of DMSVK. The main objective of this study is to assess the potential for employment for different training programmes of DMSVK and to investigate the impact of DMSVK programme on income levels of beneficiaries, to find out the problems of women in the DMSVK is also another objective of the study. While

the rural women are getting training in DMSVK for more empowerment opportunities, it is very important factor to estimate the level of dependency in monthly earnings, social empowerment and economic empowerment of women on socio-economic factors, and also to suggest the measures to enable the DMSVK to achieve its broad objectives

In tis connection Mahila Pranganam under Durgabai Mahila Sisu Vikasa Kendrams in North Costal districts of Andhra Pradesh have been considered as study units and the primary data has been collected from the women respondents who are trained in the respective centrers by personal interview through a pre-designed questioner in selected mandals of study districts. A random sampling method has been adopted for data collection in the present study. While Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, and Visakhapatnam districts are purposively selected fro investigation, from each districts four mandals are selected, where Narasannapeta, Ichapuram, Etcherla and Nandigam mandals in Srikakulam district, S.Kota, Terlam, Kurupam and Komarada mandals in Vizianagaram district and K.Kotapadu, Narsipatnam, Vizag city, and Paderu mandals in Visakhapatnam district. The distribution of the sample is presented in the following table.

Table - 8.1
Distribution of the sample respondents

Name of the region	Name of the district	Name of the mandal				Number of selected programme	Sample Respon dents
North coastal Andhra	Srikakulam	Narasanna peta (25)	Ichapuram (25)	Ecthrla (25)	Nandigama (25)	4	100
	Vizianagaram	S.Kota (25)	Terlam (25)	Kurupam (25)	Komarada (25)	4	100
	Visakhapatnam	K.kotapadu (25)	Narsipatnam (25)	Vizag city (25)	Paderu (25)	4	100
	Total	75	75	75	75	12	300

While the study is confined to three districts, from each district 4 mandals and from each mandal 25 women trainees were randomly selected. In this way from each mandal 25 women were selected and a total of 100 from each district and a total of 300 samples from the study area have been considered for the present investigation. The researcher personally met with each and every person of the sample and enquired about the training, training institute and schemes of the programme, etc. and also asked some questions to get information about duration of training period, and other benefits available to the beneficiaries at those respective institutions. It is observed that in all the study DMSVKs the important courses like Tailoring and Embroidering, Computer Courses, Fashion Technology and Dress making garments training is given to the rural poor women. After collecting the necessary information the data was processed by SPSS software to analyse the data and test the results.

8.2 Major findings:

8.2.1 Findings based on secondary data:

It is observed from the data of functioning and performance of DMSVK centre in study districts. The number of courses and number of trainees in each year during 1995 to 2014 years in study three districts. It is observed that during 1995 there are 13 courses introduced in DMSVKs, where in Srikakulam 59 women beneficiaries, in Vizianagaram 65 women beneficiaries and in Visakhapatnam 100 women beneficiaries took training. Out of which 20 women were dropped out. From that year onwards in each year some new courses introduced and the strength of the trainees also increased year by year. In Srikakulam district 2008 is the significant year in which 396 women were trained. Like

that in Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam 2006 year is the notable year in which 408 and 414 women trained in those districts respectively. At present 19 courses were running in these centres in which 102 women in Srikakulam, 82 women in Vizianagaram and 150 women in Visakhapatnam were training.

It is observed from the data of functioning and performance of DMSVK centre in Srikakulam district, in 1995, 6 courses were introduced whereas 59 women were enrolled, out of which 15 STs, 20 SCs, 15 BCs and 9 OCs, and from then 8 women dropped out. During the period of 1995 to 2014 there is difference in course structure, enrolment and the caste-wise distribution of the women beneficiaries. Only in 2008 a big storm of admissions were took place in which 396 women enrolled in only 5 courses and the dropedouts also only 5. In this particular year the SCs and BCs are dominating the other groups. At present (2014) only 7 courses are running where 102 women are getting training, out of which 25 STs, 30 SCs, 35 BCs and 12 OCs.

It is observed from the data of functioning performance of DMSVK in Vizianagaram district. In 1995, 3 courses were introduced whereas 65 women trainees were enrolled out of which 20 STs, 10 SCs, 15 BCs, 20 OCs and from then 10 women dropedout. During the period 1995 to 2014 there is difference in course structure enrollments and the caste wise distribution of the women trainees. Only in 2006 a big storm of admissions were took place in which 408 women enrolled in only 18 courses and dropedouts also 11. In this particular year STs and BCs are dominating the other groups. At present 2014 only 8 courses are running whereas 82 women are getting training, out of which 25 STs, 15 SCs, 30 BCs and 12 OCs and from the 5 dropedout.

It is observed from the data of functioning performance of DMSVK in Visakhapatnam district. In 1995, 4 courses were introduced in DMSVK of Visakhapatnam district. Whereas, 100 women were enrolled out of which 40 STs, 5 SCs, 25 BCs, 30 OCs and from the 2 women dropedout. In 2006, 414 women were enrolled in only 3 courses. In this year particularly 309 SCs dominating than the other groups. It is a big storm of admissions in DMSVK centres. At present 2014 only 4 courses are running. Whereas 150 women are getting training out of which 70 STs, 25 SCs, 30 BCs and 25 OCs and from the 4 women dropedout.

8.2.2 Findings based on primary data:

1. The data reveals that as many as above fifty per cent of the women respondents are in the age group of below 20 years and one-third of the respondents are in the age group of 20-30 years. While the education of a dominated group of respondents in all the selected three districts shows intermediate followed by secondary and higher education, the marital status indicates half of the women are un-married and above thirty per cent are married. Since a significant number of women represented from all castes where SCs and BCs are dominating. On the other hand a dominated group of women are from Hindu religion followed by Christians and least representation by Muslims found in DMSVK centres in study districts.

2. The living status of the women respondents in the study area shows that while more than eighty per cent of the respondents are living in their own houses. 14.7 per cent are living in rental houses. A dominated group of households are living in pucca and semi-pucca houses, where most of the families constituted with 3 to 4 members. It is

interesting to note that more than ninety per cent of the women respondents are living in nuclear families and very few are living in joint families.

3. While above sixty per cent of the households depend on bore well for drinking water, more than twenty per cent depend on wells and below ten per cent depend on tanks and pipes. More than ninety per cent of the respondents' houses are electrified, and the remaining are still using kerosene for lighting purpose.

4. According to the economical status it found that most of the women coming to DMSVK centres are living in below poverty line. So more than three-fourth of the respondents do not have operational land holdings. Because of their poor economical conditions a dominated group of women engaged in labour works, tailoring and reaming are housewives. But after they have been trained in DMSVK more than forty per cent settled as tailors, nearly thirty per cent selected self-employment and above twenty per cent got jobs in private ogranisations or establishments.

5. While the main objective of this study is to measure the empowerment of women through skill development programme of DMSVK where equal sampling method has been observed who are trained in Embroidery & tailoring, Fashion technology, Computer fundamentals and Dress making garments.

6. If is observed that more than forty per cent of the women were unemployed and above fifty per cent are having work for 10 days in a month before training at DMSVK. Whereas, after training it is found that above fifty per cent of the women have got work for more than 20 days and more than one-third of the women have got 10-20 days of work in a month. With this change the earning levels of women have

been increased which is evidence to say more than fifty per cent of the women earn average Rs.100/- and above in a day.

7. Since some of the women joined by seeing paper advertisement by the government of Andhra Pradesh or encouraged by family or friends, most of the women joined in DMSVK through Anganwadi workers who are playing a significant role to bring rural poor women to these skill development training centres. These centres are conducting some important courses with duration of 30, 45, 90 and 180 days. Hence, more than fifty per cent of the women joined for 90 days training course, nearly ninety per cent of the women are busy with some type of economic activity and they felt that the DMSVK brought a significant change in their family's economic condition.

8. Even though a dominated group of women adopted modern technology in production, still thirty per cent of women adopted both traditional and modern technology in production. Therefore, average time of production for a good is half day or one day depending on the item. On the whole it is observed that most of the women are having total experience in the field of present activity is more than one year. Since, above one-third of the women are working as salaried employees in their respective skilled activity, more than sixty per cent are working on piece rate.

9. Generally the sale of the products produces by the women depends on the nature of establishment where they are working. It is observed that above sixty per cent of the respondents said that their products are sale at local markets. For the sale of their products a significant number of respondents depends on some type of advertisements.

10. It is observed from the data that average monthly income of the woman has been

increased after training at DMSVK. Along with the income of women the total family income and other source of income also increased. With the income change the average monthly expenditure of households of women respondents on food, non-food and other items found a drastic change between before and after their empowerment through DMSVK.

11. Regarding consumer durables like television, refrigerator, gold, silver, motor vehicle, etc, are also purchased by more respondents compared to before training at DMSVK. Whereas, in possessing of land and live stock there is no big change among the women before and after they have been trained, but some changes have been found in the data.

12. The outstanding loans of sample women respondents shows that some of the women acquired loans from friends, relatives, money lenders and banks before they undergone training. But after training almost every woman economically strong and having income sources. With this economical empowerment most of them cleared their debts and very few are with outstanding loans. Therefore, the overall debt per cent has been decreased in different sources where the women procured before and after training.

13. The social empowerment on women after training at DMSVK indicates that the decision making power in their family has been increased. In addition to this the status of women in their family, in the society, and social equality of women in the society has been increased. The awareness on domestic violence act, sanitation and health conditions, personal hygiene, women on Arogyasri, cleanliness in home, adaption of small family norms and children education has been increased.

14. The economic empowerment on women after training at DMSVK shows that control over resources and increment of credit worthiness has been increased among women through which they have got freedom from money lenders. The banking habits, self employment potentiality, mobility, productive skills, marketing skills, communication skills, bargaining power and awareness of property rights among women has been increased. This makes them self confidence and interaction capabilities in the society.

15. The log linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of women's monthly income dependency on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVKs in the study districts. In this model of regression out of 11 explanatory variables, 8 variables before training and 7 variables after training found to be significant. Before training the variable like Type of family and landholdings are indicating significant at 5% level, and variables like age, education, ration card, duration of training, wage rate and occupation of the women are significant at 1% level, while after training the variable like age, education, family size, Type of family, landholdings, duration of training and wage rate are significant at 1% level. Since marital status and caste of women respondents did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK.

16. The log linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of women's monthly income dependency on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVK in Srikakulam district. In this model out of 11 explanatory variables, 4 variables before training and 5 variables after training are found to be significant. Before training the variable like age, education, marital status and duration of training are indicating significant at 1% level, while after training the

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variable like education, Type of family, duration of training, wage rate and occupation are significant at 1% level. Since caste, family size, Ration card and landholdings of households did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK, Srikakulam.

17. The log linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of women's monthly income dependency on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVK in Vizianagaram district. In this model out of 11 explanatory variables, 4 variables before training and 4 variables after training are found to be significant. While the variable duration of training is indicating significant at 5% level and variables like age, education and wage rate of the women are significant at 1% level before training, the variable like type of family and duration of training are indicating significant at 5% level and variables like age and education are significant at 1% level after training. Since martial status, caste, family size, Ration card and landholdings of households did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK, Vizianagaram.

18. The log linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of women's monthly income dependency on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVK in Visakhapatnam district. In this model out of 11 explanatory variables, 6 variables before training and 3 variables after training are found to be significant. Before training the variables like age, education, duration of training, wage rate and occupation are significant at 1% level and landholdings is significant at 5% level, while after training the variable like education, type of family and duration of training are significant at 1% level. Since martial status, caste, family

size and ration card did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK, Visakhapatnam.

19. The linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of social empowerment on women depends on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVKs in the study districts. In this model out of 11 explanatory variables, 5 variables before training and 6 variables after training are found to be significant. Before training the variables like Age, education and wage rate are significant at 1% level and the variables like type of ration card and occupation are significant at 5% level, while after training the variable like education, Type of family, duration of training, wage rate and occupation are significant at 1% level and family size is significant at 5% level. Since marital status, caste and landholdings did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK.

20. The linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of social empowerment on women depends on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVK in Srikakulam district. In this model out of 11 explanatory variables, 5 variables before training and 4 variables after training found significant. Before training the variable like ration card and duration of training are indicating significant at 5% level, and variables like age, education and wage rate of the women are significant at 1% level, while after training the variable like education, Type of family, duration of training and occupation are significant at 1% level. Since marital status, caste, family size and landholdings did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK, Srikakulam.

21. The linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of social empowerment on women depends on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVK in Vizianagaram district. In this model out of 11 explanatory variables, 3 variables before training and 3 variables after training are found to be significant. Before training the variable age is indicating significant at 5% level, and the other variables like education and wage rate of the women are significant at 1% level, while after training the variable like education, duration of training and wage rate are significant at 1% level. Since marital status, caste, family size, Type of family, ration card and land holdings of households did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK, Vizianagaram.

22. The linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of social empowerment on women depends on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVK in Visakhapatnam district. In this model out of 11 explanatory variables, 5 variables before training and 6 variables after training are found significant. Before training the variable like age, education, caste, duration of training and wage rate of the women are significant at 1% level, while after training the variable like age, education, Type of family, duration of training, wage rate and occupation are significant at 1% level. Since marital status, family size, ration card and land holdings of women respondents did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK Visakhapatnam.

23. The linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of economic empowerment on women depends on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVKs in the study districts. In this model out of 11

explanatory variables, 3 variables before training and 7 variables after training are found to be significant. Before training the variables like age, education and wage rate are significant at 1% level, while after training the variable like age, education, duration of training, wage rate and occupation are significant at 1% level and variables like family size, Type of family are significant at 5% level. Since marital status, caste, ration card and landholdings did not indicate any significance before and after training.

24. The linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of economic empowerment on women depends on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVK in Srikakulam district. In this model out of 11 explanatory variables, 4 variables before training and 4 variables after training are found to be significant. Before training the variable like age, education, duration of training and wage rate of the women are significant at 1% level, while after training the variable like education, Type of family, duration of training and occupation are significant at 1% level. Since marital status, caste, family size, Ration card and land holdings of women respondents did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK, Srikakulam.

25. The linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of economic empowerment on women depends on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVK in Vizianagaram district. In this model out of 11 explanatory variables, 3 variables before training and 3 variables after training are found to be significant. Before training the variable like age of the women are significant at 5% level, variables like education and wage rate of the women are

significant at 1% level, while after training the variable like education, duration of training and wage rate are significant at 1% level. Since marital status, caste, family size, Type of family, ration card, land holdings and occupation of women respondents did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK, Vizianagaram.

26. The linear multiple regression model has been applied to estimate the level of economic empowerment on women depends on various socio-economic factors before and after training at DMSVK in Visakhapatnam district. In this model out of 11 explanatory variables, 5 variables before training and 7 variables after training found to be significant. Before training the variables like caste and wage rate of the women are significant at 5% level, variables like age, education and duration of training of the women are significant at 1% level, while after training the variables like family size and duration of training are significant at 5% level and variables like age, education, type of family, wage rate and occupation are significant at 1% level. Since marital status, ration card and land holdings of women respondents did not indicate any significance before and after training at DMSVK, Visakhapatnam.

27. It has been evident from the empirical regression analysis clearly brings out that the programme carries out DMSVK has got for reaching impact on the livelihoods of the women after receiving training. In the whole programme duration of training seems to be the critical variables effort from the education. Influence of social and economic empowerment interesting influences by three demographic variables of age, type of family and family size, which are found to be statistical significant in all most all models and in all the districts. This shows the influence of family welfare programmes seems to be important on livelihoods of poor women.

28. It has been evident from the common variables on regression analysis clearly on the whole of respective districts. Education, type of family and duration of training variables are determining significance at 1% and 5% level on monthly earnings of the women respondents after training at DMSVK centres in the respective districts.

29. It has been evident from the combined regression model has been estimated taking the same variables as in the place of same districts. The results show that in the regression model relating to monthly earning the following variables are significant at 1% level Age, Education, Family size, Type of family, Land holdings, Duration of training and wage rate. Similarly in the case of the regression model pertaining to social empowerment the following variables are significant at 1% level. Education, Type of family, Duration of training, Wage rate and Occupation. Model III Relating to Economic Empowerment the following variables are significant at 1% level Age, Education, Duration of training, wage rate and Occupation. All the regression models three variables are found to highly significant, they are education, duration of training and wage rate.

30. It is observed from the chi-square analysis that there is no significant relation of social empowerment and economic empowerment with the variables of caste, duration of training, type of training, income before and income after training. This infers that the caste, duration of training, type of training, income before and after training are not the factors to determine the social empowerment and economic empowerment of poor women, where all are getting equal social and economical empowerment irrespective of their caste, duration of training, type of training and income levels.

8.3 Policy suggestions and implications:

The following policy changes are suggested for effective implementation of DMSVK. According to present situation DMSVK should implement new technological schemes.

1. The duration of training period is 30 days, 45 days, 60 days and 90 days for various courses offered, at DMSVK centres, this period is not sufficient for skill development among women for training. So there is a need to increase duration more than six months for each course at DMSVK centres.

2. Many women came to DMSVK training centres with milk fed babies. So, there is a need to establish crèche in each center to take care of their babies when their mothers are undergone training and DMSVK should maintain child care section separately.

3. Most of the women came from far away distances to get training at DMSVKs, so there is a need to provide bus pass facility to these trainees to travel with less cost. These DMSVK institutions should be located in the city premises, so that the trainer can go and come easily without facing any kind of harassments.

4. Even though the hostels serve food to the women trainees, there is a need to provide nutrition food for their health point of view.

5. Many of women came to these training centers with their small babies, there should be a female nurse at the centers to give medical assistant to babies, mothers and trainees at necessity. Every DMSVK should maintain First Aid Box and basic emergency medical products.

6. Among the total trainees in the DMSVK some of them are getting jobs accommodation and the remaining are not getting any placements. So the government should take necessary steps to accommodate each and every trainee with a suitable job to improve their economical growth condition. A trained and skilled person should give training to the trainees.

7. In addition, of giving training to women in various self empowerment courses, there is a need to conduct some awareness programmes for developing of their self sustainability.

8. The government should provide latest sewing machines with modern technology of multiple purposes for tailoring and embroidery work trained women, computers should provide for computer trainees on subsidiary basis.

9. There is a need to modern technology of infrastructure facilities at training institutions for better training to women beneficiaries. DMSVK should maintain proper infrastructure like chairs, tables, training rooms, computer systems and other necessary goods in institutions.

10. Develop leadership skills among the women to involve in better implementation of DMSVK. It has been decided to remove the intermediary Agency between the Government and training institutions at DMSVK.

11. One placement cell for each study districts should maintain separately to provide jobs for those who were trained at DMSVK. Private organizations should it also provide jobs to DMSVK trainees.

12. DMSVK is not only the training centre, but also a motivating institution. Due to lack of awareness so many rural area women does not know about this training

institutions. So Government should give proper awareness about these programmes in rural areas.

13. Government should come forward and adobe these DMSVKs and should provide funds for maintain properly by giving support.

14. In this DMSVK training centres every year a few of them are droping out from training period, because of due to early marriages and migrating to in-laws house. So to reduce droupouts, the training centres should maintain proper details of trainees to give training any other DMSVK centre in any time.

8.3.1. Respondents opinion:

DMSVK programme was very useful in generating the income and upliftment of women by improving economic conditions in the rural area. Some of them are getting good income and full filing their day-to-day family needs. Some of them learned computer courses from these organization and they are able to get computer teacher post to teach different courses in private schools also. They are getting sufficient income to maintain their families. Some of them don't know, about awareness programmes like domestic violence and decision making power, etc before training but they came to know about domotic violence and other basic awareness programmes in training period. In the present scenario there is more demand for the courses like tailoring, embroidery, and fashion technology which is very suitable for women through which they can generate and high income. They felt very happy with these training programmes.

8.4 Applicability of the research to the developing country:

Women's problems are more less common in all the developing countries particulary in South Asian region. The modern governments have been given importance to women's education but not so much to women's employment. Providing general education to women is not yielding the results in terms of the women employment. Realising this Government of India started the programmes all skill development (DMSVK) our research study has clearly pointed out that in edition to general education, skill development is needed for women employment.

8.5 Conclusion:

In order to realize the potential of demographic divided, women empowerment is playing a crucial role. Unless women are brought into the main stream of development, inclusive growth strategic may not become a reality. Skill development is most important activity for women empowerment. The present study brings out clearly the importance of skill development among women and its impact on the livelihoods of their families is quite significant. Hence government should take steps to introduce skill development training for women in poorer households, in order to achieve rapid and faster women empowerment.