
**EXTENT AND NATURE OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATION IN
SWARANJAYANTI GRAM SWAROZGAR YOJANA- A
STUDY OF HARYANA STATE**

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Abstract

In the present study, the nature and extent of people participation in Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana an effort has been made to assess the self motivated to join SHG, role played in the formation of SHG, contribution in the meeting of SHG, involvement in the decision making process and role played in strengthening the SHG. The subject chosen for this study were new and applicable for the SHGs operating in the whole of Haryana covered under SGSY. A descriptive research design was adopted and 300 SHGs members, 75 from each administrative division and representing 15 SHGs from four administrative divisions of Haryana were selected as sample. The data was collected with the help of interview schedule along with observation and discussion methods. For analyzing and interpreting the data, the investigator adopted the percentage, mean, standard deviation, chi-square and t-test as statistical techniques. The results of the present study clearly demonstrate that majority of the respondents were not self-motivated to join SHG but after joining they involved themselves in decision making process and they had the opportunity to express their opinions in the SHG meeting which is a positive indicator for success of SHGs.

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INTRODUCTION:

Majority of the developing countries are characterized by lack of adequate employment opportunities, especially in the rural areas and India is no exception (Agarwal-1996). As in most developing countries including India the rate of growth has been higher in the modern industrial and service sectors (both of which are urban based) than in the agricultural sector. There has been much debate about how much India's poor have shared in the country's economic growth. The optimism of many of Indian past independence planners, who believed that the country's (Largely urban based) industrialization would bring lasting long term gains to both the urban and rural poor, has not been shared by many critics. Revallion and Datt (1996) noted that growth in both primary and tertiary sectors was poverty reducing, the tertiary sector generating a larger impact; though the difference between the two sectors is not significant. By contrast secondary sector growth had no significant impact on the rate of poverty reduction in either urban or rural areas. Fostering the conditions in the rural economy in both primary and tertiary sectors must thus be considered central to an effective strategy for development and poverty reduction in India.

M.S. Swaminathan, the celebrated agricultural scientist told in course of a speech on rural poor, "Famines in India are not famines of food, but of work". There are 9 crore jobless in India right now with more than 70 lakh additional people entering into the job market every year. The industries can absorb barely 5 lakh of these new entrants leaving more than 65 lakh which yearly add to the enormous pool of unemployed.' Though the remark was made in 1981, there has been no significant change of situation. What Swaminathan underlined is absolutely true. A substantial percentage of rural poor cannot secure two full meals a day due to lack of purchasing power (Lahiri-2004). This situation can only be reversed if sustainable employment could be created in rural areas. Increase of employment will come only through a change, which requires prevention of natural degradation, rise in productivity and starting of new enterprises, which demands proper planning and organization.

The detailed review on rural development programme shows that the multiplicity of programmes are viewed as separate programmes in themselves and it resulted in a lack of proper social intermediation, absence of desired linkages among these programmes and the implementation

being more concerned with achieving individual programme targets rather than focusing on the substantive issue of sustainable income generation. To rectify the situation, government has decided to restructure the self-employment programmes. A new programme known as "Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana" has been launched on 1st April 1999. The programme replaces the earlier self-employment and allied programme like IRDP, TRYSEM, DWCRA, SITRA, GKY, and MWS, which are no longer in operation.

This scheme aims at establishing a large number of micro-enterprises in the rural areas, building upon the potential of the rural poor.

So keeping in view the importance of rural development programmes in our country and to make these programmes more effective, the present study has been conducted to access the nature and pattern of people participation in SGSY.

REVIEW OF RELATED STUDIES:

Jain, Kushawaha and Srivastava; (2003), undertook a study on, "Socio-Economic Impact Through Self Help Group," in District Kanpur Dehat. The main findings of the study include:-

- Majority of groups (84%) were organizing two meeting per month for effective working.
- Half of the respondents (40.4%) had high level participation in group action followed by 30% and 25.60 % women were having their participation medium and low in group action.

Reddy, (2002) in his research study on, "Empowering Women through Self Help Groups and Micro-Credit: The Case of NIRD Action Research Projects", explores that:

- Women interacted with external agencies and professionals with confidence, which was an evidence of improved social skills and approachability. They were able to articulate their needs and seek help from various schemes of development. Women themselves were able to access resources and public facilities to a large extent. Such mobilization can be considered as an indicator of empowerment and sustainability.
- Men willingly supported women in fighting for justice on all issues, which were neutral in nature, and those, which did not affect the gender relations directly. They readily accepted issues concerned with girl's education, early marriages, family planning, etc.

also, because these did not affect them directly. However, when it came to issues of decision making, control of family income and assets, men still had an upper hand; and it probably may not change so easily due to cultural blocks and values that are institutionalized over a period of time.

RESEARCH DESIGN:

In the present study, the nature and extent of people participation in Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana was studied in relation to self motivated to join SHG, role played in the formation of SHG, contribution in the meeting of SHG, involvement in the decision making process and role played in strengthening the SHG

Keeping in view the purpose and implication of the study, the researchers have adopted "Survey Studies" based on "Descriptive Research Method". The subject chosen for this study is new and applicable for the SHGs operating in the whole of Haryana covered under SGSY. For the purpose of fulfilling the objectives of study the researcher divided the state of Haryana into four administrative divisions (Hissar, Ambala, Gurgaon and Rohtak). Thus the universe of the study comprises of SHGs members from four administrative divisions and each division representing five districts.

SAMPLING:

In the present descriptive study multi stage sampling method has been adopted. At the first stage one district from each administrative division, was chosen randomly on the basis of simple random sampling technique. The districts were Jind from Hissar division, Kurukshetra from Ambala division, Rewari from Gurgaon division and Karnal from Rohtak division.

At the second stage, the researchers selected one SHG randomly from each selected district for preliminary try out of the schedule. 10 members of each SHG were chosen as respondents for this stage. Thus the total sample was 40.

At the third stage, the researchers selected two SHGs randomly from each selected district for

try-out of the schedule. 10 members of each SHG were chosen as respondents, thus constituting a total sample of 80.

Again for establishment of the reliability and validity of the schedule, the same method as adopted in second stage was adopted and the numbers of total respondent were 40.

At the final administrative stage, 5 respondents from each SHG were chosen randomly using simple random sampling technique. Thus the total number of respondents from each administrative division comes to 75 from 15 self-help groups. The total numbers of the samples drawn from the entire universe works out to be 300, 75 from each administrative division and representing 15 SHGs from four administrative divisions of Haryana.

TOOLS FOR DATA COLLECTION AND DATA ANALYSIS:

In the present study interview schedule has been made as a main toll for data collection along with interview schedule observation and discussion method also used. For analyzing and interpreting the data, the investigator adopted the percentage, mean, standard deviation, chi-square and t-test as statistical techniques.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

The nature and pattern of people participation in SGSY is presented in the following tables along with a description of each table.

Table No. 1

Self motivated to join SHG

		Hissar		Ambala		Gurgaon		Rohtak		Total	Total
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	(%)
1	Yes	05 (6.50)	6.67	08 (6.50)	10.67	09 (6.50)	12.00	04 (6.50)	5.33	26	8.67
2	No	70 (68.50)	93.33	67 (68.50)	89.33	66 (68.50)	88.00	71 (68.50)	94.67	274	91.33
3	Total	75	100	75	100	75	100	75	100	300	100

$\chi^2 = 2.8636$ df = 3 (figures in parentheses shows the expected frequency)

The table 1 shows the self motivated status of the respondents. Out of the 300 respondents surveyed, only 8.67 % are self motivated to join SHG. 91.33 % respondents needed the requisite guidance and counseling to be motivated to join the SHG. Further table revealed that the chi-square value of 2.8636 at df 3 was insignificant at .01 level of significance indicating no significant differences in the self motivation patterns of the respondents to join the SHG. The table further reveals that the motivation of the respondents was highest in Gurgaon division (12.00%) and lowest in Rohtak division (94.67%).

Table No. 2 (a)

Role played in the formation of SHG

		Hissar		Ambala		Gurgaon		Rohtak		Total N	Total (%)
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
1	Yes	52 (57.00)	69.33	59 (57.00)	78.67	53 (57.00)	70.67	64 (57.00)	85.33	228	76.00
2	No	23 (18.00)	30.67	16 (18.00)	21.33	22 (18.00)	29.33	11 (18.00)	14.67	72	24.00
3	Total	75	100	75	100	75	100	75	100	300	100

$\chi^2 = 6.8713$ df = 3 (figures in parentheses shows the expected frequency)

The table indicates that majority (76.00%) of the respondents played some role in the formation of SHG whereas only 24.00 % did not play any role in SHG formation. The chi-square value of 6.8713 at df 3 is less than the table value at .01 level of significance thereby indicating it to be significant at .01 level of significance. This indicates that majority of the respondents played some role or the other for the formation of SHG. Further the table reveals that Rohtak division respondents played a significant role than other divisions for the formation of SHG maximum number 30.67 % of the respondents from Hissar division did not have any role in the formation of SHG.

Table No. 2(b)

Role-played in the formation of SHG

Sr. No	Divisions	Mean	SD	T	Level of significance
1	Hissar vs Ambala	13.00 14.75	10.60 11.32	0.23	**
2	Hissar vs Gurgaon	13.00 13.25	10.60 8.81	0.03	**
3	Hissar vs Rohtak	13.00 16.00	10.60 9.69	0.44	**
4	Ambala vs Gurgaon	14.75 13.25	11.32 8.81	0.22	**
5	Ambala vs vs Rohtak	14.75 16.00	11.32 9.69	0.17	**
6	Gurgaon vs Rohatak	13.25 16.00	8.81 9.69	0.44	**

(** Insignificant at 0.05 level of significance, * significant at 0.05 level of significance,*** significant at 0.01 level of significance.)

The table 2(b) shows the Mean, SD of sample and t value between Hissar-Ambala, Hissar-Gurgaon, Hissar-Rohtak, Ambala-Gurgaon, Ambala-Rohtak and Gurgaon-Rohtak. The Mean scores role playing in the formation of self help group works out to be 13.00 for Hissar division, 14.75 for Ambala division, 13.25 for Gurgaon division and 16.00 for Rothak division. The Standard deviation is 10.60 for Hissar, 11.32 for Ambala, 8.81 for Gurgaon and 9.69 Rohtak. The calculated t-values are 0.23 Hissar-Ambala, 0.03 Hissar-Gurgaon, 0.44 Hissar-Rohtak, 0.22 Ambala-Gurgaon, 0.17 Ambala-Rohtak and 0.44 Gurgaon-Rohtak. The t values at .05 level of significance are found to be insignificant at degree of freedom 6. It signifies that there exist no significant differences from among the respondent's role playing in the formation of self-help group of all the four divisions under the study.

Table No. 3 (a)

Meeting held at regular interval

		Hissar		Ambala		Gurgaon		Rohtak			
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
1	Yes	64 (63.5 0)	85.3 3	67 (63.5 0)	89.3 3	62 (63.50)	82.66	61 (63.50)	81.33	254	84.6 6
2	No	11 (11.5 0)	14.6 7	08 (11.5 0)	10.6 7	13 (11.50)	17.34	14 (11.50)	18.67	46	15.3 4
3	Total	75	100	75	100	75	100	75	100	300	100

$\chi^2 = 2.1568$ $df = 3$ (figures in parentheses shows the expected frequency)

The table 3 (a) reflects the regularity of SHG meetings. It is revealed from the data that 84.66 % of the respondents feel that SHG meetings were held regularly whereas 15.34 % of the respondents felt for more meetings at regular intervals. On analysis of division wise it is revealed that 85.33 % of respondents from Hissar, 89.33 % of respondents from Ambala, 82.66 % of the respondents from Gurgaon and 81.33 % respondents from Rohtak expressed their satisfaction in regularity of meetings whereas 14.67 % from Hissar, 10.67 % from Ambala, 17.34 % from Gurgaon and 18.67 % from Rothak expressed their dissatisfaction in the regularity of the meetings for SHG. The calculated chi-square value of 2.1568 at 3 degree of freedom is insignificant at 0.05 level of significance signifying no significant differences among the respondents regarding the regularity of SHG meetings

Table No.3 (b)

Level of participation in the SHG meeting

Sr. No	Divisions	Mean	SD	T	Level of significance
1	Hissar vs Ambala	21.33 22.33	20.50 12.89	0.07	**
2	Hissar vs Gurgaon	21.33 20.66	20.50 8.62	0.05	**

3	Hissar vs Rohtak	21.33 20.33	20.50 12.09	0.07	**
4	Ambala vs Gurgaon	22.33 20.66	12.89 8.62	0.18	**
5	Ambala vs Rohtak	22.33 20.33	12.89 12.09	0.19	**
6	Gurgaon vs Rohatak	20.66 20.33	8.62 12.09	0.03	**

(** Insignificant at 0.05 level of significance, * significant at 0.05 level of significance,*** significant at 0.01 level of significance.)

The table 3 shows the Mean, SD of sample and t value between Hissar-Ambala, Hissar-Gurgaon, Hissar-Rohtak, Ambala-Gurgaon, Ambala-Rohtak and Gurgaon-Rohtak. The Mean scores level of participation in the SHG meeting works out to be 21.33 for Hissar division, 22.33 for Ambala division, 20.66 for Gurgaon division and 20.33 for Rothak division. The Standard deviation is 20.50 for Hissar, 12.89 for Ambala, 8.62 for Gurgaon and 12.09 Rohtak. The calculated t-values are 0.07 Hissar vs Ambala, 0.05 Hissar vs Gurgaon, 0.07 Hissar vs Rohtak, 0.18 Ambala vs Gurgaon, 0.19 Ambala vs Rohtak and 0.03 Gurgaon vs Rohtak. The t values at .05 level of significance are found to be insignificant at degree of freedom 4. It signifies that there exist no significant differences from among the respondents' level of participation in the SHG meeting of all the four divisions under the study.

Table No. 4
Contribution in the meeting of SHG

		Hissar		Ambala		Gurgaon		Rohtak		Total N	Total %
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
1	Yes	66 (68.00)	88.00	65 (68.00)	86.67	71 (68.00)	94.67	70 (68.00)	93.33	272	90.67

2	No	09 (7.00)	12.00	10 (7.00)	13.33	04 (7.00)	5.33	05 (7.00)	6.67	28	9.33
3	Total	75	100	75	100	75	100	75	100	300	100

$\chi^2 = 4.0966$ $df = 3$ (figures in parentheses shows the expected frequency)

The table shows that a total of 90.67 % of the respondents contributed positively for strengthening the SHG whereas 9.33 % felt that they made no contribution. Analysis on the basis of divisions reveal that 94.67 % respondents from Gurgaon, 93.33 % of the respondents from Rohtak, 88.00 % respondents from Hissar and 86.67 % from Ambala contributed positively for strengthening their individual SHG. Whereas 13.33 % respondents from Ambala, 12.00 % respondents from Hissar, 6.67 % from Rohtak and 5.33 from Gurgaon did not in any way contribute for strengthening the SHG. The calculated chi-square value of 4.0966 is less than the table value of 7.81 at 0.05 level of significance and hence is found to be insignificant. It indicates that no significant difference of opinion exist among the respondents regarding their contribution in SHG meetings for strengthening the individual SHG's.

Table No. 5(a)

Involvement in the decision making process

		Hissar		Ambala		Gurgaon		Rohtak		Total N	Total %
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
1	Yes	60 (63.00)	80.00	62 (63.00)	82.66	64 (63.00)	85.33	66 (63.00)	88.00	252	84.00
2	No	15 (12.00)	20.00	13 (12.00)	17.34	11 (12.00)	14.67	09 (12.00)	12.00	48	16.00
3	Total	75	100	75	100	75	100	75	100	300	100

$\chi^2 = 1.9841$ $df = 3$ (figures in parentheses shows the expected frequency)

The above table indicates that 84.00 % of the respondents involved themselves in decision-making process thus strengthening the concept of participations. 16.00 % of the respondents felt that they could not involve themselves in the decision making process. On analysis division wise, it is revealed that 88.00 % from Rohtak, 85.33 % from Gurgaon, 82.66 %

respondents from Ambala and 80.00 % respondents from Hissar involved themselves in the decision making process of the SHG. On the other side 20.00 % of the respondents from Hissar, 17.34 % respondents from Ambala, 14.67 % from Gurgaon and 12.00 % from Rohtak have not involved themselves in decision-making process of SHG. The calculated chi-square value of 1.9841 is insignificant at 0.05 level of significance there by indicating no significant differences in the opinion of the respondents regarding their participation in the decision making process of SHG.

Table No.5 (b)

Involvement of different persons in the decision making process of SHG

Sr. No	Divisions	Mean	SD	T	Level of significance
1	Hissar vs Ambala	3.00 2.60	3.08 3.28	0.19	**
2	Hissar vs Gurgaon	3.00 2.20	3.08 3.03	0.41	**
3	Hissar vs Rohtak	3.00 1.80	3.08 1.92	0.73	**
4	Ambala vs Gurgaon	2.60 2.20	3.28 3.03	0.20	**
5	Ambala vs Rohtak	2.60 1.80	3.28 1.92	0.46	**
6	Gurgaon vs Rohatak	2.20 1.80	3.03 1.92	0.24	**

(** Insignificant at 0.05 level of significance, * significant at 0.05 level of significance,*** significant at 0.01 level of significance.)

The table 5 (b) shows the Mean, SD of sample and t value between Hissar-Ambala, Hissar-Gurgaon, Hissar-Rohtak, Ambala-Gurgaon, Ambala-Rohtak and Gurgaon-Rohtak. The Mean scores involvement of different persons in the decision making process of SHG works out

to be 3.00 for Hissar division, 2.60 for Ambala division, 2.20 for Gurgaon division and 1.80 for Rohtak division. The Standard deviation is 3.08 for Hissar, 3.28 for Ambala, 3.03 for Gurgaon and 1.92 for Rohtak. The calculated t-values are 0.19 Hissar vs Ambala, 0.41 Hissar vs Gurgaon, 0.73 Hissar vs Rohtak, 0.20 Ambala vs Gurgaon, 0.46 Ambala vs Rohtak and 0.24 Gurgaon vs Rohtak. The t values at .05 level of significance are found to be insignificant at degree of freedom 8. It signifies that there exist no significant differences from among the respondents involvement of different persons in the decision making process of SHG of all the four divisions under the study.

Table No. 6 (a)

Role played in strengthening the SHG

		Hissar		Ambala		Gurgaon		Rohtak		Total N	Total %
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
1	Yes	52 (57.00)	69.33	59 (57.00)	78.67	53 (57.00)	70.67	64 (57.00)	85.33	228	76.00
2	No	23 (18.00)	30.67	16 (18.00)	21.33	22 (18.00)	29.33	11 (18.00)	14.67	72	24.00
3	Total	75	100	75	100	75	100	75	100	300	100

$\chi^2 = 6.871345$ df = 3 (figures in parentheses shows the expected frequency)

The table reveals that 76.00 % of the respondents played some type of role in strengthening the SHG whereas 24.00 % of the respondents were passive members. Analysis on the basis of divisions reveal that 85.33 % of the respondents from Rohtak, 78.67 % of the respondents from Ambala, 70.67 % of the respondents from Gurgaon and 69.33 % of the respondents from Hissar played some role or the other in strengthening their SHG whereas 30.67 % from Hissar, 29.33 % of the respondents from Gurgaon, 21.33 % from Ambala and 14.67 % of the respondents from Rohtak had no role. The calculated chi-square value 6.871345 at degree of freedom 3 is significant at 0.05 level of significance indicating significant differences of opinion with regard to the different roles played for strengthening the SHG.

MAIN FINDINGS:

- ❖ As regards to the respondent's self-motivation status to join SHG, it was found that 91% were not self-motivated. They needed proper guidance and counseling.
- ❖ The self motivation to join SHG was found highest in Gurgaon division and lowest in Rohtak division.
- ❖ As regards to the role played by the respondents in the formation of SHG the study reveals that almost 76% played some roles like leader, facilitator, motivator and as an enabler.
- ❖ The study reveals that the respondents from Rohtak division played a significant role than other divisions for the formation of SHG, maximum number of the respondents from Hissar division did not have any role in the formation of SHG.
- ❖ The participation of the group members in the decision making process is equally an important aspect towards the successful implementation of SGSY. As regards to the respondent's opinion about their involvement in the decision making process, it was found that 84% involved themselves in decision making process and hence strengthening the concept of participation.
- ❖ Contribution in the meeting of SHG by the beneficiaries is a positive indicator towards the implementation of the SGSY programme,
- ❖ As regards to the respondent's opinion about the freedom of expression in the meeting of SHG, it was observed from the study that majority of the respondents had the opportunity to express their opinions in the SHG meeting which is a positive indicator for success of SHGs.
- ❖ As regards to the feelings of the respondents with respect to their suggestion being accepted by other members of the group, it was observed from the data that nearly 67% of respondents' suggestions were accepted.
- ❖ As regards to role played by the members of the group in strengthening the self-help group, it was observed from the data that 76% of the respondents played some positive roles in strengthening the self-help group

RECOMMENDATIONS

On the basis of the findings the study has the following recommendations:

People Mobilization through Education:

It is clear from the study that people were not much aware about the SHG that's way their motivation level was not much high. The field functionaries of the promoting agencies confirmed that the formation of SHG in the initial stages created lots of problem. Such resistance raised mainly due to their lack of knowledge and education. The social mobilization process should be initiated by the promoting agency through demonstration which would help in formation of SHGs among the poor.

Capacity Development Programme:

Lack of appropriate capacities and skills were another key problem faced by the beneficiaries. Lacks of capacities were mainly due to inadequate education and their low socio-economic background. In most of the cases they don't know what to say and how to contribute in decision making process. The same president and secretary continued for most of the years because others members are not capable. Therefore it is suggested that capacity development programme should be initiated by the promoting agency before SHG formation.

Awareness campaign:

An extensive awareness campaign should be launched at the grass root level with video equipments showing the participation of beneficiaries at various levels.

Involvement of NGOs:

NGOs are needed to develop partnership with SHGs and should play the active role in SHG formulation and to ensure the active and effective people participation in the decision making process.

Follow up Activities for Sustainability:

After forming the group, training should be imparted to the beneficiaries about how to work more effectively and motivate them in such a way that help them to promote sustainable. There is a need for constant monitoring by the promoting agency starting from group building process.

CONCLUSION:

The Lack of participatory approach in planning of execution of rural development programmes result in complete failure to improve socio-economic condition of the poor masses for which these were evolved. The merit of the study rests in the objective of studying extent and nature of people participation in SGSY. The findings reveal that there is a positive relationship between people participation and socio-economic development of the beneficiaries. This means that highest the people participation in SHG formulation and decision making process, better is the quality of life in general. This leads towards the development of self confidence and active participation in community life.

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