CHALLENGES & PROSPECTUS OF WOMEN ENTERPRENEURS IN INDIA

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Abstract

Women Entrepreneurship play an important role in an economic growth. In India, though women are playing key role in the society but still their entrepreneurial ability has not been properly tapped due to the lower status of women in the society. In man oriented society, women want to prove him and created equality and democratic approach and also discusses various programs taken by government for women entrepreneurship development. This paper has been made to study about the status of women entrepreneurs and the challenges faced by them when they set up and managed their own businesses of business environment. This study is based on secondary data and primary data which is collected through questionnaire among 100 respondents in Madurai and data were analysed the reasons behind women entrepreneurs’ success and failures with Henry Garret Ranking were used to identify them. Influencing factors on women Entrepreneurs and how to overcome that.

Keywords: Women Entrepreneurship, Challenges and Prospectus

INTRODUCTION

Women entrepreneurship must be moulded properly with entrepreneurial traits and skills to meet the changes in trends, challenges global markets and also be competent enough to sustain and strive for excellence in the entrepreneurial arena. Development has economic, social and political dimensions and is incomplete without the development of women who constitute about 50 percent of total population. so, contribution of women is essential in economic activities for healthy nation building. A person who assumes and bears all types of risk involved in an enterprise, who organises the various inputs or factors of production and who innovates new ideas, concepts, strategies and methodologies in business from time to time is known as Entrepreneur. Now a day, women are also becoming the money earners and creator by women entrepreneurship. Women entrepreneurs are key players in any developing country particularly in terms of their contribution to economic development of the family. by developing the family, the country will be automatically developed. Women want to become an entrepreneur. There are so much of reasons and significant problems possible in India. Due to education, science and technology development, need and demand of money for family development, women have to go for job at present, but they do not want to take such a risk as an entrepreneur.

WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN INDIA

A Women – owned enterprise is defined as “an enterprise owned and controlled by a woman having a minimum financial interest of 51 per cent of the capital and giving at least 51 percent of the employment generated in the enterprise to women”. The educated women do not want to limit their lives in the four walls of the house. They demand equal respect from their partners. However, Indian women have to go long way to achieve equal rights and position because traditions are deep rooted in Indian society.

India being a male-dominated society, very few women is in large entrepreneurial field. Women entrepreneurs in India have the potential to boost the country’s economy and simultaneously enhance the level of gender equality and women’s economic empowerment – essential for sustainable economic development and poverty alleviation.

India’s economic growth is restricted by the current level of women’s economic participation, despite the economy growing at an average rate of more than 7 per cent since 2012 and the country’s share in global GDP being 3 per cent in 2016. The country faces comparatively low level of women entrepreneurship, in a wider context of a declining female labour force participation rate. At the last census of the 26.1 million MSMEs operating in India, only 13.85 per cent of those registered were women – owned. Moreover, while India’s business environment is improving, the overall business environment for women owned business in India is poor.

International economic institutions are calling for greater participation of women in employment and entrepreneurship to grow India’s economy. The McKinsey Global Institute estimates that 68 million more women could be brought into India’s workforce by 2025. In doing so, India could boost its GDP by dollar 0.7 trillion by 2025. The world bank suggests the country’s GDP growth rate would be over 9 per cent if more women participated in the work force.
OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:
- To study the roles of women entrepreneurs in economy
- To study Challenges faced by women entrepreneurs in India

PROSPECTUS OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN INDIA

The emergence of women entrepreneurs and their contribution to the national economy is quite visible in India. Women’s entrepreneurship has been recognized during the last decade as an important untapped source of economic growth. According to the NSS Survey Round 73 based on data from 2015-16, proportion of female main workers to total population in percentage is 20.9 in rural areas and 41.4 in urban areas this shows overall contribution of women in work but less percentage of women workers in rural areas. Women in entrepreneurship has been largely neglected both in society in general and in the social sciences. Not only have women lower participation rates in entrepreneurship than men but also generally choose to start and manage firms in different industries than men tend to do. Entrepreneurship development among rural women helps to enhance their personal capabilities and increase decision making status in the family and society as a whole. They were engaged in starting individual or collective income generation programme with the help of self-help group. This will not only generate income for them but also improve these decision making capabilities that led to overalmpowerment. Today the role of women entrepreneurs in economic development inevitable because women are entering not only in selected fields but also in fields like trade, industry and engineering. Nationally, businessownership provides women has great importance for future economic prosperity. Significant schemes in India trade related entrepreneurship assistance and development scheme for women (TREAD), Micro & small enterprises cluster development programme (MSE-CDP), Credit guarantee fund scheme, help for entrepreneurial and managerial development and scheme for women entrepreneurs to encourage small & micro manufacturing units.Trends in women entrepreneurship involves many programmes, policiesand support due to such major initiatives taken by Government of India through National Skill Development Corporation, women eco system have gained strength. As a result, India has become one of the most active countries for successful female entrepreneurs with 49% as compared to Taiwan and Singapore.

CHALLENGES OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

The women entrepreneur is not free from problems. In order to find out the problems 100 women entrepreneurs have been identified from handiwork, fancy store, flower shop, hotel and textile located in Madurai on convenient basis and enquired with a well-structured questionnaire. The following is the result of the enquiry made with the respondents. An attempt here is made to analyse the problems faced by the women entrepreneurs while starting a business. Problems such as Women want to be in a comfortable zone (F1), Family burden is giving stress to women entrepreneurs (F2), Male domination society does not want to become women entrepreneurs (F3), Lack of finance is the important problem to the women entrepreneurs (F4), Low need of achievement and interest for women (F5), Due to low awareness of entrepreneurship, women do not want to become entrepreneurs (F6), Society will not recognize women entrepreneurs (F7), Women do not want to become entrepreneurs (F8), Life partner will not support you (F9), and Do not want to face risk and problems (F10) are found common while adopting the women entrepreneurs and these are analysed with the help of Garret Ranking Analysis. By referring the Garret’s Table, the per cent position estimated is converted in to scores. Accordingly, score value as per Garrett Ranking Analysis for first rank to tenth rank is as 82, 70, 63, 58, 52, 48, 42, 36, 29 and 18 respectively. Then for each factor, the scores of each entrepreneur are added and then mean value is calculated. The factors which was the highest mean value is considered to be the first. Table 1 depicts the problems faced by the women entrepreneurs while starting a business.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors</th>
<th>1*82</th>
<th>2*70</th>
<th>3*63</th>
<th>4*58</th>
<th>5*52</th>
<th>6*48</th>
<th>7*42</th>
<th>8*36</th>
<th>9*29</th>
<th>10*18</th>
<th>Garret table Total</th>
<th>Average score (Gt/100)</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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<td>252</td>
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</table>

Source: Primary Data
From the above Table 1 it is clearly stated that women want to be in a comfortable zone has been identified as the most important problem faced by women entrepreneurs while starting a business with the highest mean score of 64.25 as they have experienced with this problem often. Society will not recognize women entrepreneurs and Lack of finance are identified as the second and third major problems of entrepreneurs with the mean scores of 57.80 and 55.67 respectively. The problems such as life partner will not support, due to low awareness, women do not want to become entrepreneurs, do not want to face risk and problems and Family burden is giving stress to women entrepreneurs are ranked fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth problems respectively. Low need of achievement and interest for women and male domination society does not want to become entrepreneurs are considered as the least problem faced by the women entrepreneurs.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT**

It is observed that women entrepreneurs have proved to be a strong driving force in today’s corporate world. In future, women entrepreneurs have a bright scope in India. Furthermore increasing the number of business needs and innovation in the field of business motivate the woman to become an entrepreneur. From the study, it found that some important issues faced by women entrepreneurs in their practical life. Women are very good entrepreneurs, and prefer to choose the same as they can maintain work life balance. Even though we have many successful women entrepreneurs, but we have a male dominated culture there are many challenges which women entrepreneurs face from family and society. Financial institutions and banks have also set up special cell to assist women entrepreneurs. Even the government has laid special emphasis on the need for conducting special entrepreneurial training programs for women to enable them to start their own ventures. Findings of the study would help to improve the possibility to make women entrepreneurs successfully more in number. It is also suggested that some family responsibilities in terms of economic way help the women entrepreneurs.

**REFERENCES**

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