



Research Article

A CASE STUDY ON STATUS OF TAILORING TRAINED WOMEN IN SHERKHAN GARDEN SLUM AT KODAMBAKKAM THROUGH OUTREACH LOYOLA COLLEGE CHENNAI

Anand E*

Department of Service, Learning (Outreach) Loyola College, Chennai-34

ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 11th May, 2018
Received in revised form 7th June, 2018
Accepted 5th July, 2018
Published online 28th August, 2018

Key words:

Status, women, training, tailoring, students, entrepreneurial and slum.

ABSTRACT

The socio- economic status of Shrekhan Garden slum women has remained very low due to stagnation their development. Women are working as maids at rich people apartments, doing daily chores like sweeping, wiping floors, washing clothes and utensils, cooking, running on errands etc. for this work, they get Rs.3000/- per month. Some women sell flowers, vegetables, fruits etc from which they earn Rs.100 – 150 per day, provided their 'goods' are fully sold. Most of the women borrow money from local money lenders for their family needs, repair their houses, celebrate the some festivals, functions etc. Due to this, they are always in debt. Hence it is a daily struggle for survival. Women are not respected and often looked upon by other men in the slum as potential target for extra-marital sex. Because of such trouble in their lives, women suffer not only economically but also psychologically. Socially they do not possess any rights whatsoever. As most of the women married at the earlier, their health is at the declined status. Such status of their health also led their children decline in health. Life of women in the sub-standard settlement s (slums) is a daily struggle against poverty, disempowerment, illness and suffering, but they are caring on hoping, every day, for a better tomorrow. Every year, with the help of students, we take a survey about women and their living conditions. We have identified more number of women were unemployed in the slums. Therefore, Loyola Outreach to assess their need and empower them with the kind of students and well-wishers. Two times in odd and even semesters, meeting for the women is convened .Generally this meeting takes place in the beginning of academic year, before Christmas, women's day celebration and at the end of the academic year. This helps outreach students and Loyola college to work in and through for their empowerment. Outreach shares not only good ideas, but also provide them welfare activities like giving entrepreneurial activities for their economic development like, mushroom cultivation, leather business, candle making and simple chemical making, embroidering and tailoring by networking with Jana Shiksha Education, Anew, SIFE. Skill building is the regular activities which take place based on their interest and need.

Copyright©2018 Anand E. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

INTRODUCTION

Indian Textile and clothing industry is the second largest manufacturer in the world. The Indian textiles and clothing sector is expected to grow at 10.01 percent in the next 10 years from the current value of INR 3.92 lakh crores in 2012-13 to INR 10.54 lakh crores in 2021-22. The demand for domestic consumption for home textiles and garments is expected to increase rapidly. In fact, the garments sub-sector alone is estimated to increase by seven times INR 51400 crores in 2012-13 to INR 3.70 lakh crores in 2021-22. The Indian textile sub-sector has traditionally been contributing significantly to the economy and manpower as well as to the structural changes in the manufacturing sector.

As of 2012, the sector contributed 4 percent of the GDP, 32 percent of the manufacturing sector and 9 percent of total exports. The sector's output is expected to grow at an annual average rate of 10 percent in the next 10 years, thereby increasing its worth to INR 10.5 lakh crores in 2022.

Indian Textile and clothing Industry Employment Opportunities during the period from 2017 to 2022

Table with 4 columns: S.No, Sub Sector, Employment in Millions- 2017, Employment in Millions- 2022. Rows include Spinning Weaving and Fishing of Textiles, Manufacturing of other Textile, Manufacture of Wearing Apparel, and Overall.

Source: Fig 1.2.1 Sub Sector in Apparel industry

*Corresponding author: Anand E

Department of Service, Learning (Outreach) Loyola College, Chennai-34

Contextual Background

Women empowerment is the empowerment of women which helps them to take their own decisions by breaking all personal limitations of the society and family. It is to bring equality in the society for both male and female in all areas. Women empowerment is very necessary to make the bright future of the family, society and country. Women need fresh and more capable environment so that they can take their own right decisions in every area whether for themselves, family, society or country. In order to make the country fully developed country, women empowerment is an essential tool to get the goal of development. International women's day aim of the programme is "Empowered women living with dignity and contributing as equal partners in development in an environment free from violence and discrimination. The prime goals of all the central and state government schemes for women is to provide them protection, better health facilities, enough education to make them employable and to make them financially strong.

The Department of Service Learning (Outreach) has been rendering valuable services with the concerned people of substandard settlements in Chennai city from 2001 onwards. The unique intervention of the department with women has brought out many changes in their socio economic lives. Women have started small businesses in their living areas and they have been placed for the decent income in the Government and Non- Government sectors. It is also creates a culture building connecting with slum women especially abandoned women, widows, deserted women, unemployed women, women in domestic workers, destitute women, physically and mentally illness women, physically challenged women and directness women for their social change. This Department has developed good rapport with some of the NGOs like Anew (Association for Welfare Board and Jan Shikshan Sansthan. Service learning has supported more than 35 widows by providing them sewing machines. The students of BBA, women empowerment team interacted with the women of Sherkhana Garden and based on their interaction they decided that it would be better if tailoring training is provided for them. After then, they bought two sewing machines for the training and started tailoring training at Sherkhana Garden slum Kodambakkam with help of Jan Shikshan Sansthan. They arranged free trainer from Jan Shikshan Sansthan for 2 months. Ex-councilor Mrs. Chellammal gave free training hall for two months. Mr. Thangavel Director of Jan Shikshan Sansthan gave free sewing machine who has taken continuous training with any one day leave during the training. At the ended Central Government certificate distributed to the all participants. This study has enhanced the lives of slum unemployed women who have given tailoring training with the objective of providing employment opportunities to them.

Rationale of the Study

The students of BBA conducted a study with the women in general and the widows and deserted women in particular, in the age category of 18 to 45. Moreover, the skill training which the targeted women have undertaken with the intervention of the students of the Department of Outreach has made them occupied throughout the day and raised their economic standard to manage their living and it has helped them to educate their wards without begging anyone for tuition

fee or obtaining educational loan from the banks. Therefore, thus study envisaged them to build their capacity and in turned have paved the way for slowly withdrawal themselves from the hands of money lenders and pawn brokers. Finally enhanced of women on their social and economic aspects have ensured as they are going to be respected in the society and also created value addition and value chain approach to the members. Poor women have ensured with their self-confidence and strength fought against all adversities and a positive change in their lives.

Objectives

1. Created employment opportunities for the women who have undergone training in the tailoring training centre.
2. Raised the income of the families and made changes in their economic life.
3. Helped them to educate their wards through their regular earning.

Methods

A qualitative case study methodology was used with the administration of a survey principal investigators and follow-up telephone interviews. Descriptive and content analyses were conducted. A majority of the used individual tailoring strategies regardless of the ethnic background of participants those who have undergone Follow-up are taking through interview and key considerations in the process of intervention tailoring for slum women.

Follow-up Interviews

In addition to analyzing the survey data collected by the trained slum women, outreach students of this study also conducted telephone interviews. The interviews were based on their convenient time.

Formative Research

The intervention tailoring Centre in Sherkhana Garden was taught by formative research including class lecture, focus groups, interviews, theatrical testing, practical testing and pilot testing.

Reasons for conducting the study

Sewing programs for unemployed women, widow and deserted women with a moneymaking skill and a high status certificate of ability that is proof of their ability. The program is a popular one in the urban slums where it is located. The center provides an important supportive environment for the women to meet and when certain skill levels have been achieved the purpose provides a sewing machine which can supply the successful trainee with the vitally important independent source of income. Saving and credit schemes have also been implemented. Many women living in slum communities are illiterate or have limited education. They are often confined to traditional roles in the home, taking care of their families and households. They have limited opportunities to express themselves, learn new skills and contribute financially to the family and enjoy any form of independence.

Strategies

1. Selected the women from the age group of 18 to 45.

2. Provided tailoring training for 4 hours in a day continuously for 2 months.
3. Finding out suitable agencies which can employ these trained women.
4. Taken constructive steps to raise their economic standard.

Methodology in the Training

In this course, the women learned about measurements of a specific garments and the way to measure a person for the same. Guidance on instructions and calculations for drafting and then drafting of the pattern on the paper and then on fabric and the method to cut and stitch the fabric without lining and with lining have taught and also to stitch a single garment like stitching techniques, dress measurements techniques, terms used in tailoring, plain blouse, cut blouse with plain sleeve, cut blouse with puff sleeve, saree blouse with lining and ladies night dress.

Table 1 Category of the Trained Women

S.No	Category of women	Women in trained	Percentage
1	Widows	3	20%
2	Deserted women	2	15%
3	Unemployed women	7	50%
4	Unmarried Girls	2	15%
	Total	14	100%

Source: Data collected from the responded.

The above table analyses the category of the trained women. Most of the (7) women were unemployed because of there is no proper guidance to be getting employment. They were very happy have taken training and followed by that, (3) of the respondents are widows as their husbands have lost their lives due to alcoholism. Another (2) of the respondents are deserted women as their husbands have left them and are living with another women. Another (2) of them are interviewed for the study are unmarried and are left out from school.

Table 2 Category of Employment

S.No	Details of employment	Trained women in Number	Monthly income
1	Own Shop	4	10,000 to 12,000
2	Readymade Garments	6	12,000 to 15,500
3	Tailoring Shop	2	8,000 to 9,000
4	Helping their husband	2	3000 to 4000
	Total	14	-----

Source: Data collected from the respondents.

The above table analyses the profession of employment of the trained women. Most (6) of the trained women are working in readymade garments and getting Rs.12,000 to Rs. 15,000 per month and followed by that, (2) of the respondents are working in tailoring shop and getting Rs.8,000 to Rs.9,000 per month. Another (2) women are helping their husband in the tailoring unit and taking care of their children. At most of (4) of the respondents are own shop and getting Rs.10, 000 to Rs.12, 000 per month.

Table 3 Living Conditions of Trained Women

S.No	Satisfaction with living conditions	Level of Satisfaction
1	Occupational life	Satisfied
2	Economic life	Satisfied
3	Housing Conditions	Dissatisfied
4	Family life	Satisfied
5	Health life	Dissatisfied
6	Social and Community life	Dissatisfied
7	Children Education	Satisfied

Source: Data collected from the respondents.

Social and community life of trained women gave a native response their community life because of insecurity in the slums. This is negative indicator of poor housing conditions. Above table mentioned that positive response of occupational life of the respondents because of no problem for their family daily bread and butter. Most of the respondents gave a negative response about their satisfaction level of their political involvement. At most of the respondents gave positive response for their children higher education.

Findings

The students of BBA conducted a study with the women in general and the widows and deserted women in particular, in the age category of 18 to 45. These women were already engaged in household works in one or two houses and earned up to 2,000 rupees per month. Through the study they found that it is difficult for them to manage their family expenses with the meager amount that they earn every month.

Their socio-economic standards are also poor. They are finding it extremely difficult to provide education for their children in reputed institutions. Some women who work in one only one house is simply sitting at home in the remaining time. When we go to the areas for outreach work, they are continuously approaching us to train them in skill-based employments. Nearly 40 % of the women expressed their desire to learn tailoring skills and set up their own unit in their houses.

Totally 14 women were trained in the sub-standard settlement of Sherkhana Graden at Kodambakkam and they become tailors within a short span of 2 months.14 women were engaged in one batch because of availability of machinery and equipments. The women who were given tailoring training were in the age group of 18 to 45.The women who were trained have now got the capacity to manage themselves and they are able to take care of the basic needs and expenses of their families. Most of the women who were trained are now getting a decent income. The skill training has gradually made them improve their economic status. Overall, the skill training which was provided has improved the living standards of these women.

Recommendations

1. All Educational institutions come forward to motivate women for their livelihood as like Loyola College, Department of service learning.
2. Educating women on entrepreneurial skill for the country economic growth.
3. Government should be arranging training programme on legal awareness, right for vote, stand for corruption, marketing and self employment, educational awareness and health.

4. Government should established doing counseling services, guidance and referral work for them frequently through welfare of women and children.
5. Establish community resource centers in slums through Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board.
6. Government should concentrate alternatively livelihood programs for the slums women for their daily bread.
7. The Government will be given special attention those who are in self help groups.

CONCLUSION

The department of BBA outreach students started tailoring training as per the women needs and requirements in the SherkhanGraden slum Kodambakkam. The women empowerment team members contributed their packet money to bought two sewing machines for the training. At most of 14 women's were trained through this training. All trained women are earning and educating for their children and fulfills their daily requirements.

Today, dozens of young women have trained in sewing program with a moneymaking skill and a high status certificate of ability that is proof of their ability. The program is a popular one in the urban slums. The tailoring training provides an important supportive environment for the women to meet and when certain skill levels have been achieved and a sewing machine which can supply the successful trainee with the vitally important independent source of income. Saving and credit schemes have also been implemented.

References

1. Report on one day work shop on entrepreneurship training for the revolving fund beneficiaries- 2012.
2. Annual report of outreach 2014-15.
3. Annual report of outreach 2015-16
4. Report on widow's empowerment in sub-standard settlement in Chennai slums March-- 2013.
5. Report on Revisiting Empowerment Models of in Sub-Standard Settlements in Chennai- A way forward.

How to cite this article:

Anand E (2018) 'A Case Study on Status of Tailoring Trained Women In Sherkhan Garden Slum At Kodambakkam Through Outreach Loyola College Chennai', *International Journal of Current Advanced Research*, 07(8), pp. 15157-15160.
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.24327/ijcar.2018.15160.2766>
