

EFFECT OF MIGRATION HABIT ON CONTRIBUTION OF TRIBAL FARM WOMEN

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ABSTRACT

Agricultural production plays a significant role in the Indian economy. In India, women and agriculture seem synonymous terms. One can not think of agriculture without women. There is hardly any activity in agriculture except ploughing, where women are not involved. The tribal farmwoman shares with her husband the arduous burden of farm work in addition to her major responsibility as home maker, by helping in all other agricultural and animal husbandry activities. Keeping this fact in mind, the present study was carried out to find out Effect of Migration habit on contribution of tribal farm women. The result of the study revealed that nearly half of (52.00 per cent) tribal families were found from which migration took place. It is also observed that the migration habit of tribal farmwomen was negatively and non-significantly correlated with their overall extent of contribution in agricultural operations whereas the migration habit of tribal farmwomen was negatively and non-significantly correlated with their overall extent of contribution in animal husbandry activities.

Keywords: migration habit, tribal farmwomen

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is the largest industry in India contributing to the source of livelihood for over 70 per cent of population. Agricultural production plays a significant role in the Indian economy. Women form the backbone of agriculture comprising the majority of agricultural labourer in India. Gender divisions in agriculture are stark, with all activities involving manual labour assigned to women. There is strong relationship between gender and agriculture in developing countries. Women are twice as likely as men to be involved in agriculture- related activity, according to the 2000 United Nations report on the status of women. National averages of female workers in the agricultural labour force vary, but global women have a principal role in agribusiness, food processing, and consumer-related activities (Mandavkar et al.,2015).

In India, women and agriculture seem synonymous terms. One can not think of agriculture without women. There is hardly any activity in agriculture except ploughing, where women are not involved. In some of the activities, she is relatively more efficient than man. Dahod is one of the Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) areas of Gujarat State, where various administrative measures have been adopted through large number of tribal development

and welfare programmes under Tribal Area Sub Plan (TASP). Since, independence huge fund have been diverted by the Central and State Government through different agencies with a view to uplift their living standard and bringing them into the main stream of nation. Even after lapses of more than 50 years of independence the progress of tribal farmwoman is not yet up to the level of expectation in the field of agriculture and animal husbandry as she is continued to be in a state of neglect. A victim of man made system, she is hardly considered equal to man in wage and social status. Keeping in view the above said facts and information about the tribal farmwoman's situation and her multiple roles in agriculture and animal husbandry a study on "Effect of Migration habit on contribution of tribal farm women" was undertaken.

OBJECTIVE

To study the effect of migration habit on contribution of tribal farm women

METHODOLOGY

The present study was undertaken in Integrated Tribal Development Project areas of Dahod district of Gujarat. Out of seven talukas of the district, five talukas namely (1) Dahod (2) Zalod (3) Limkheda (4) Garbada and (5) Dhanpur were selected purposively for this study. Out

of total villages of each selected taluka, two villages were randomly selected comprising total ten villages from five selected talukas of ITDP Dahod. From each village, 20 respondents were selected randomly, thus, total sample of 200 respondents were selected for the present study.

The interview schedule was prepared keeping in view the objectives of the study. The interview schedule was translated in to Gujarati language and pre-tested in the field on a separate 20 non-sampled respondents. On the basis of pre-testing, necessary modifications were made in the final draft and used as the instrument for data collection.

Migration habit refers to the migration of family member of the tribal farmwomen for getting extra income for their livelihood. This was measured by asking question to the tribal farmwomen that, does anybody migrate from your family? It was categorised in to two groups as under:

Sr. No.	Category	Score
1	Migration of family members	1
2	No migration of family members	0

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Migration habit

Migration habit of tribals has relation with the total annual income of tribal family. Here, an attempt has been made to study the migration habit of the tribal families. Here, the term “Migration” was defined as movement of the members of the tribal family to a place other than the place of their residence for searching any type of labour work and staying there for a time being. The information in this regards was collected and presented in Table 1.

The data presented in Table 1 clearly indicated that out of total 200 respondents, 104 (52.00 per cent) tribal families from which migration took place. Thus percentage of migration from sample families comes to slightly more than half.

Table 1 : Information regarding migration habit of the respondent’s family members n = 200

Sr. No.	Migration habit	Number	Percent
1	Migration of the family members	104	52.00
2	No migration of the family members	96	48.00

The probable reason might be that they were poor,

illiterate and having small size of land holding with more than five members in a family, so to earn more for their family, some members from their family might have migrated in near by towns for labour work, other who were educated and possessed skill might have joined the non-agricultural labour work also. This finding was in conformity with those of Patel (1995), Shah (1997) and Patel (1998).

Migration habit and contribution in agricultural operations

The correlation coefficient value ($r = -0.04859$) was found to be non-significant at 0.05 level. The data indicate that the migration habit of tribal farmwomen was negatively and non-significantly correlated with their overall extent of contribution in agricultural operations. It can be concluded that tribal farmwomen with low migration habit had non-significantly better contribution in agricultural operations as compared to tribal farmwomen with high level of migration habit. Tribal farmwomen with low migration habit have less scope for income generating activities through migration in other area. It is, therefore, their contribution was observed better in agricultural operations within their own area. This finding is in concurrence with the findings of Sangle (1984) and Patel (1998).

Migration habit and contribution in animal husbandry activities

The correlation coefficient value ($r = -0.02094$) was found to be non-significant at 0.05 level of probability. The data indicate that the migration habit of tribal farmwomen was negatively and non-significantly correlated with their overall extent of contribution in animal husbandry activities. It can be concluded that tribal farmwomen with low migration habit had non-significantly better contribution in animal husbandry activities as compared to tribal farmwomen with high level of migration habit. Tribal farmwomen with low migration habit have less scope for income generating activities through migration in other area. It is, therefore, their contribution was observed better in animal husbandry activities within their own area. This finding is in partial concurrence with the findings of Shah (1997).

CONCLUSION

It is concluded from the study that nearly half of (52.00 per cent) tribal families were found from which migration took place. It is also observed that that the migration habit of tribal farmwomen was negatively and non-significantly correlated with their overall extent of contribution in agricultural operations whereas the migration habit of tribal farmwomen was negatively and non-significantly correlated with their overall extent of contribution in animal husbandry activities.

Extension Plus: Expanding the Horizons of Extension for Holistic Agricultural Development

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