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Women Empowerment, SHGs and Social Organization's Credo: Looking Lights from the Tribal Villages of East Singhbhum

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Abstract

'Women Empowerment' has been now an important phrase of discussion for the social scientists. The concept of 'Empowerment' was firstly highlighted by the Political Scientists. Undoubtedly, effective utilization of human potentials and realization of knowledge about him/herself are believed to be the most critical capabilities of individuals. Probably this is the root of 'Empowerment'. The term 'Women Empowerment' symbolizes women's realization about their potentials. On the other hand, SHG approach intends to highlight towards unfolding the potentials of women through group approach, enabling them to help themselves by their own capacity. In spite of this, the condition of women SHGs is in doldrums. This might be quite difficult to generalize the whole scenario. The study is a modest endeavor to revisit women SHGs (developed by NGOs) of East Singhbhum districts of Jharkhand. Of the various factors attributed to tribal socio-economic lives of family based farmers, gender role is considered as the important factor. Tribal women in almost all walks of life are sharing responsibilities in domestic as well as economic sector. The study is based on Ex- post facto research design. The methods of data collection were quantitative and qualitative in nature and were aimed to seek answers to certain research questions. Participatory Rural Appraisal and FGD are being the dominant methods. Keeping a foreside to the main objectives, the study emphasizes on socio-economic, political, entrepreneurial aspects of