

WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS: A STUDY ON GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

Dr. Rency Desai, Dr. Jaydip Chaudhari

Assistant Professor
Bhagwan mahavir college of commerce & management studies.
Email.id:-renudesai90@gmail.com
Mo:-9879874878

Dean of Management
Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat
Email.id:- jaydipchaudhari@gmail.com
Mo:-9825046720

Abstract

In today's contemporary landscape, the pivotal role of women entrepreneurs has emerged as a cornerstone in the global business arena, playing a vital part in both economic advancement and societal development. Despite their significant contributions to society, women's entrepreneurial potential remains underutilized, primarily due to their marginalized status in Indian society. This article aims to delve into the current state of women entrepreneurs in India, shedding light on the underlying reasons for women's entrepreneurial pursuits. Additionally, it scrutinizes the effectiveness of Indian government policies pertaining to women entrepreneurship, evaluating their impact on fostering growth in this sector. The study not only explores the primary motivations driving women to embrace entrepreneurship but also examines the various institutions that empower women to translate their ideas into tangible actions. As part of this comprehensive analysis, the paper puts forth suggestions aimed at fostering a conducive environment that encourages and nurtures the entrepreneurial spirit among women, ultimately paving the way for their success in the business realm.

Keywords: Women, Entrepreneurship, Struggle, Success, various government schemes, financial help

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To find out the factors which encourage women to become entrepreneurs
- To study the support given by the Government to women entrepreneurs.
- To examine the obstacles faced by women entrepreneurs.

LITERATURE REVIEW

V Krishnamoorthy and R Balasubramanian (April, 2014) The research examined motivational variables for female entrepreneurs. Its effect on entrepreneurship. In this research, we found driving elements such as creativity and ambition, as well as possibilities for employment and self-sufficiency.

Roshan Lal and Badri Narayan H.S (2011)

The research provided an analytical framework that women entrepreneurs must achieve for the nation's economic development. Obstacles to the nation's development should be avoided. Women should be encouraged to engage in all types of business as entrepreneurs.

Paramjit Kaur Dhillon (2012) in his book entitled, "Women Entrepreneurs: Problems and Prospects" has analyzed the motives of successful women entrepreneurs. She has gone into the many reasons that prompted such women to begin an enterprise, the problems they faced, their attitude towards risks, their independent orientation, need for achievement and future planning and management. Dhillon also provides a list of institutions engaged in entrepreneur development programme and has an exhaustive list of government organizations set up for the purpose.

Prakash, S. and Raghuvanshi, A. (2018). Studied the role of Self Helping Groups' in promoting women entrepreneurs. It was found that the loan shall be provided by Banks only to those Self helping Groups who are trained and supervised by NGOs and also have the involvement of Gram Panchayat and Gram Panchayat's women who are critically analyze the Self Helping Groups' women used bank loan.

Korreck , S. (2019) studied women entrepreneurs in India and reason for what is holding them. Researcher examined the impediments to greater participation of female founders in India's economy by first gathering

available data to describe the situation of women entrepreneurs in the country. It then explores the causes of low female entrepreneurship rates, primary of which are unconscious biases, low confidence in business skills, difficult access to finance and networks, a lack of family support and child-care options, as well as insufficient safety in work and public spaces. Researcher given recommendations that can help push women's entrepreneurial empowerment. The reasons for low rate of women entrepreneurs were unconscious gender bias, confidence in business skills, access to finance, networks and relationship, family support, safety in work place & public and child care.

WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

In the context of any developing nation, the pivotal contribution of women entrepreneurs to economic development cannot be overstated. Recognized as a key driver of economic growth, women entrepreneurs play a crucial role by not only creating employment opportunities for themselves and others but also by offering innovative solutions to management, organizational, and business challenges. Despite the transformative potential they hold, women entrepreneurs, particularly in India, remain a minority. The journey of women entrepreneurs is often hindered by gender-specific barriers, including discriminatory property, matrimonial, and inheritance laws, as well as cultural practices. Challenges such as limited access to formal finance, restricted mobility, and a lack of information and networks further compound their entrepreneurial endeavors. The impact of women's entrepreneurship extends beyond individual success, reaching into the realms of family and community economic well-being, poverty reduction, and women's empowerment. Recognizing this, governments worldwide, along with various developmental organizations, are actively engaged in supporting and promoting women entrepreneurs through diverse schemes, incentives, and promotional measures. In recent decades, women have increasingly stepped beyond the confines of traditional roles within households, showcasing their abilities and competencies in the business world. The contemporary woman's role is expansive, encompassing not only the traditional roles of mother, housewife, and daughter but also extending into various community and social settings simultaneously. Despite strides made in recent decades, ingrained biases persist in Indian culture and traditional customs, impacting the status of Indian businesswomen even after 73 years of independence. Addressing these biases is crucial for fostering an environment where women entrepreneurs can thrive and contribute more substantially to the economic landscape.

REASONS FOR WOMEN TO BECOME ENTREPRENEURS:

Entrepreneurship among women is driven by factors such as self-esteem, recognition, self-determination, and career goals. Some women choose this path to demonstrate their potential and capabilities, seeking self-satisfaction. Additionally, economic challenges stemming from family unemployment or divorce can compel women to explore entrepreneurial activities. Gone are the days when women were confined to household boundaries; today, they are actively involved in diverse business endeavors. The entry of women into the business sphere in India initially extended from their routine home activities. However, as education spread and time progressed, women transitioned from domestic work to entrepreneurial ventures. The main catalysts for women entering business include skills, knowledge, and adaptability. A woman entrepreneur is someone who embraces the challenge of meeting personal needs and achieving economic independence. Entrepreneurial women possess an inherent desire to make positive contributions to both family and social life. With the influence of media, women are increasingly aware of their traits, rights, and work situations. In the digital era, women are presented with a growing array of challenges and opportunities, transforming them from job seekers into job creators. While some women start businesses in response to traumatic events like divorce, discrimination, or economic downturns, a new wave of women entrepreneurs is emerging. Many are choosing to leave the corporate world, exploring various fields such as design, interior decoration, export, publishing, garment manufacturing, and continually venturing into new economic avenues. This shift reflects a dynamic and evolving landscape where women are actively shaping their destinies outside traditional employment structures.

OBSTACLES IN THE PATH OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS IN INDIA

It is imperative to encourage highly educated, talented, and professionally qualified women to venture into entrepreneurship rather than relying solely on wage service jobs. The untapped talents of young women can be harnessed and utilized across various industries to enhance productivity in the business sector. Establishing a conducive environment is essential for women to embrace entrepreneurial values and actively engage in business activities. However, women in India face numerous challenges in pursuing business endeavors. One prominent challenge is a lack of self-confidence among women in India regarding their strength and abilities. Family members and society, at times, are hesitant to support their organizational growth. While there has been some positive change, there is still considerable room for improvement to significantly boost the rate of entrepreneurial growth among Indian women. Sociocultural barriers, including family and personal obligations, often act as significant obstacles to women's success in business careers. Balancing home and business responsibilities efficiently remains a challenge for only a few women, as societal expectations

sometimes limit their ability to manage both aspects. Market-related risks, such as tough competition and limited mobility, make women dependent on intermediaries. Many businesswomen find it challenging to capture market share and promote their products effectively, lacking awareness of changing market conditions and underutilizing the potential of media and the internet. Mobility constraints persist in India due to societal conservatism, restricting women's careers to the confines of their homes. While education awareness has helped alleviate some of these mobility issues, challenges still exist. Enhancing business administration knowledge is crucial for women, requiring continuous education and training to excel in decision-making and develop essential business skills. Financial assistance is often underutilized, especially in rural areas where women may not be aware of the support provided by various institutions. Training programs offered by social and welfare associations can be instrumental in empowering new and young entrepreneurs who aspire to start small and medium-sized businesses. However, cost considerations, including high production and operation costs, can pose a barrier to the expansion of women entrepreneurs. Factors such as the installation of new machinery during capacity expansion can discourage women from entering new business areas. Addressing these challenges through targeted support, awareness campaigns, and educational initiatives is crucial to fostering the growth of women entrepreneurs in India.

SCHEMES FOR PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

According to the Third All India Census of Small Scale Industries conducted in 2001-02, and subsequent estimates made, only 10.11% of the Micro and Small Enterprises in India are owned by women, while 9.46% of the MSE enterprises are managed by women. In order to promote progressively women enterprises in the MSE sector, various schemes have been formulated by this Ministry and some more are in the process of being finalized, aims only at the development of women enterprises in India. Significant schemes in India those specifically introduced for women for providing special benefits to women.

STREE SHAKTHI PACKAGE:

Any woman who owns more than half of a company is eligible for this programme. While every major bank offers this option, SBI has the largest share of the lending market using this programme. If the loan amount is more than Rs. 2 lakhs, female applicants are eligible for a discount of up to 0.50percent. The plan requires the woman to have participated in the Entrepreneurship Development Programmes in order to qualify. This plan is open to any and all small businesses run by women. If the woman is educated and skilled in the field she plans to enter, she will receive further breaks. To encourage more women to pursue business opportunities, SBI Bank has organised a number of training programmes. Awards and acknowledgements are given out as well. These are some of the many notable features of the plan:

- The minimum required stake in the business for a woman to qualify as an applicant is 51percent.
- If the loan amount is more than Rs. 2 lakhs, a 50percent discount is applied to the scheme.
- Women should absolutely have taken part in Entrepreneurship Development Programmes.
- This programme is mostly provided by the State Bank of India.
- Other institutions, such as the State Finance Corporation and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), offer a similar programme.
- Programs like TREAD (Trade Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development) and Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) are available to participants as part of this scheme in order to receive training and rewards.

ORIENT MAHILA VIKAS YOJANA SCHEME

This program is open to any woman who owns more than half of a business. Despite this option being offered at all central banks, SBI has the highest percentage of the loan market that utilizes this program. Women who apply for loans of more than Rs. 2 lakhs can receive a discount of up to 0.50percent. The lady must enroll in the Entrepreneurship Development Program to make the strategy work. This method applies to any small business owned by a woman. She is willing to go in if the woman is well-educated and understands what she is doing. She will have more opportunities to do things. SBI Bank has established training programs to encourage more women to start their own enterprises. There are also recognition and awards. Here are some of the plan's most critical components: A woman must control 51percent of the company to be considered. If the loan amount exceeds Rs. 2 lakhs, the plan is reduced by 50percent. In addition, women should have been included in programs that assisted people in starting their businesses. The State Bank of India is the principal organization in charge of this program. The State Finance Corporation and the Small Industries Development Bank of India also run similar programs (SIDBI). TREAD (Trade Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development) and Entrepreneurship Development Programme participants can get training and rewards (EDPs).

UDYOGINI SCHEME

The Women Development Corporation has launched the Udyogini Scheme. This initiative helps financially disadvantaged women become entrepreneurs. This effort mainly helps uneducated rural women. The country wants to help women become self-sufficient by launching businesses and micro-enterprises and preventing

them from borrowing at high-interest rates from moneylenders. In addition to aid, it will offer skill-building classes. Bajaj MARKETS offers women entrepreneurs low-interest loans. The loan money can be used for company expansion, acquisitions, high-value equipment, etc. Bajaj Finserv Company Loans are collateral-free, so you don't need to put up assets. Bajaj MARKETS offers online business loans with no collateral and pre-approved applications. This program, called Udyogini, helps Indian women entrepreneurs. India's Women Development Corporation implements Udyogini Yojana. This initiative helps impoverished women start businesses by providing financial assistance. Udyogini Scheme increases individual and family income, boosting the country's economy. Udyogini means female entrepreneur. The Indian government's Udyogini Scheme promotes impoverished women entrepreneurs to start a business. Women between the ages of 18 and 45 with an annual household income of Rs. 45,000 or less are eligible for up to Rs. 1 lakh under the scheme. However, there is no such limit for women who are disabled, impoverished, or widowed. Women from the SC/ST category will also receive an allowance of 30percent of the advance payment or Rs.10,000, whichever is less. On the other hand, women in the general category can receive Rs. 7,500 or 20percent of the credit total, whichever is less. Several banks are offering the Udyogini Yojana to ambitious female entrepreneurs around the country. This program was created specifically to encourage women's entrepreneurship and financial empowerment. Subsidized loans are made available to rural women entrepreneurs under this programme.

CENT KALYANI SCHEME

Despite the inherent dangers of doing so, the number of people willing to go into business for themselves continues to rise. In India, 80 percent of the working population is self-employed and participates in the informal economy. As a result, the share of GDP contributed by the service industry has increased from 37percent in 1991 to 54percent in 2021. As a result, the public and private sectors are initiating new programs to assist business owners who contribute to the nation's economy. One program that assists women in obtaining ownership of their own businesses is the Cent Kalyani Scheme. One of how women are given more power and assistance is through the Cent Kalyani scheme. It is operated by the Reserve Bank of India and provides financial assistance to female business owners striving to succeed in today's competitive global market. The Cent Kalyani Scheme helps women who want to start their businesses overcome all the financial hurdles they face. All female business owners, regardless of the size of their organization, have the opportunity to receive the financial assistance they require to launch their company successfully. The main goal of the Cent Kalyani scheme is to help small and medium-sized businesses run by women entrepreneurs by giving them money. It motivates women to launch their enterprises or to expand the ones they already own and operate. The Cent Kalyani scheme is meant for women who run micro, small, or medium businesses. The MSME Act of 2006 describes these businesses, which may be new or already in business. Women who work in the service and manufacturing industries can benefit. It includes women who work in daycare, salons, boutiques, tailoring, handloom weaving, food processing, the clothing industry, and other jobs. It can also help doctors, chartered accountants, teachers, engineers, and people learning an art or craft.

MUDRA YOJANA SCHEME FOR WOMEN

Within 33 months of Mudra's 2015 launch, 68.92 lakh women had landed jobs. These Mudra or Micro Units Development Refinance Agency loans are offered under the aegis of the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMYY). For helping women finance their business ventures, the scheme provides loan principal ranging from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 10 lakhs. The loan is offered under three different categories: · Shishu – loan amount up to Rs. 50,000 for businesses setting up operations · Kishore – loan amount from Rs. 50,001 to Rs. 5 lakhs for established enterprises seeking extra funds · Tarun – loan amount from Rs. 5,00,001 to Rs. 10 lakhs for well-established businesses fulfilling loan eligibility conditions Features of the scheme Here are the key features of a Mudra business loan – · The Shishu, Kishore, and Tarun loans can meet working capital needs or financing assets like furniture, equipment, tools, and machinery. · There is no limit on the minimum principal amount; however, you can borrow a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs. · The repayment tenure usually extends from 3 to 5 years. · It is a collateral-free loan. · There are no processing charges involved for Shishu loans. The loans under the Mudra scheme (for both men and women) are provided by various banks, financial institutions, and micro-finance institutions, which get funding from a particular public sector bank called Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency Bank. Govt has informed all banks, and NBFC, MFIs to reduce interest by 25 basis points while allocating Mudra loans for women. Hence, women entrepreneurs can pay less interest and avail of other benefits under this scheme.

CREDIT GUARANTEE FUND SCHEME

The Government of India (GoI) established the Loans Guarantee Fund Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises to provide collateral-free credit to the micro and small business sector. The scheme provides coverage to both existing and new enterprises. The Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) was established by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises of the Government of India and the Small Industries Development Bank of India to implement the Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for MSME. A credit guarantee scheme provides third-party credit risk mitigation to lenders by absorbing a portion of the lender's

losses on the loans made to SMEs in case of default, typically in return for a fee. The Government of India has formulated a Credit Guarantee Scheme for Startups (CGSS) with a contribution of Rs. 2000 Crore. It enables startups to avail of loans without any collateral for their business. The Prime Minister first proposed the scheme as a part of the Startup India action plan. The Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGMSE) was launched by the Government of India to make available collateral-free credit to the micro and small enterprise sector. Existing and new enterprises are eligible to be covered under the scheme. The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), established a Trust named Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) to implement the Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises. The scheme was formally launched on August 30, 2000, and has been operational since January 1, 2000. The credit facilities eligible under the scheme are both term loans and working capital facilities up to Rs.100 lakh per borrowing unit, extended without any collateral security or third-party guarantee, to a new or existing micro and small enterprise. In addition, for those units covered under the guarantee scheme, which may become sick owing to factors beyond the control of management, rehabilitation assistance extended by the lender could also be covered under the guarantee scheme. The benefits of the Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs are as follows: The guarantee scheme covers credit facilities up to Rs 200 lakh per qualified borrower, both fund and non-fund-based (Bank Guarantee, Letters of Credit, etc.), provided they are given on the project viability without collateral security or third-party guarantee. The guarantee cover available under the scheme is 50 percent, 75 percent, 80 percent, and 85 percent of the credit facility's sanctioned amount. For micro firms with financing up to INR five lakh, the guarantee cover is 85 percent. Guarantee coverage is 50 percent of the credit facility's sanctioned amount for retail trade loans ranging from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 100 lakh per MSE borrower. • The guarantee covers (i) all credit/loans in the North East Region (NER) for credit facilities up to Rs 50 lakh; and (ii) all Micro and Small Enterprises operated and owned by women. In the event of a default, the Trust pays up to 75percent of the amount due under the credit facility issued by the lending institution for credit facilities up to Rs 200 lakh. According to the CGTMSE rules, a credit guarantee is considered to back a borrower with collateral and a third-party guarantee-free advance. Under the scheme, member lending institutions, which can also be NBFCs, lend to MSME and SME businesses. Borrowers - All the MSME and SME businesses are considered under Borrowers Eligibility Criteria and Lending Institution - Below is the list of the Lending Institutions.

THE STAND -UP INDIA SCHEME

The Standup India scheme promotes entrepreneurship among women and scheduled castes and tribes. The scheme is anchored by the Department of Financial Services (DFS), Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Stand-Up India Scheme facilitates bank loans between Rs 10 lakh and Rs 1 Crore to at least one Scheduled Caste (SC) or Scheduled Tribe (ST) borrower and at least one woman borrower per bank branch for setting up a greenfield enterprise. This enterprise may be in manufacturing, services, or the trading sector. In the case of non-individual enterprises, at least 51percent of the shareholding and controlling stake should be held by either an SC/ST or a woman entrepreneur. Stand Up India Scheme, which aims to promote entrepreneurship at the grassroots level, has, to date, benefitted close to 1.34 lakh entrepreneurs by providing them loans of over Rs 30,160 crore. Giving a significant push to women who wish to start their own business, the scheme has provided the maximum amount of loans, amounting to nearly Rs 21,000 crore, to women - 81 percent. The ambitious plan was extended for the entire period coinciding with the 15th Finance Commission period of 2020-25 in 2019-20. As the scheme turned six on Tuesday, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said it has benefitted over 1 lakh female promoters. Further, the scheme envisages facilitating the dreams of aspiring SC, ST, and women entrepreneurs to reality by supporting their energy and enthusiasm and removing many hurdles from their path. The scheme has provided Rs 1,373 crore worth of loans to ST, Rs 3,976 crore worth of loans to SC, and Rs 24,809 crore worth of loans to women entrepreneurs.

WEDS (WOMEN ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME)

The scheme provides financial assistance to women entrepreneurs for taking up business ventures. Existing businesses will also be eligible for expansion, modernization, and diversification: term loan assistance, a maximum of 75percent of the project cost. Project cost should not exceed Rs.15 lakhs, including working capital. The promoter's contribution will be 25percent of the project cost. Skilled woman entrepreneurs in the age group of 18-50 years; the applicant has to be engaged in any viable income-generating activity, including small business trade, etc. The government of India, through NITI Aayog, has started an initiative called the Women Entrepreneurship platform that brings together women entrepreneurs and sponsors willing to support them, all in one place. These are just a handful of the best schemes to help ambitious female entrepreneurs take the first step toward financial empowerment.

STEP (SUPPORT TO TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM FOR WOMEN)

The Ministry has been administering the 'Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) Scheme' since 1986-87 as a 'Central Sector Scheme.' The STEP Scheme aims to provide skills that give women

employability and competencies and skills that enable women to become self-employed/ entrepreneurs. The Scheme is intended to benefit women in the age group of 16 years and above across the country, including rural women. Under the STEP scheme, the Government of India will grant the maximum financial assistance of 90percent of the project cost. The remaining 10percent will have to be provided by the implementing agency. STEP Scheme aims to provide skills that give employability to women and to provide competencies and skills that enable women to become self-employed/entrepreneurs. The Scheme is intended to benefit women aged 16 years and above across the country. The objectives of the STEP scheme are as given below: To provide training in skill development that employs women. To enable women to become self-employed or entrepreneurs through quality training. The Scheme seeks to provide these benefits to women aged 16 and above.

RGMVP (RAJIV GANDHI MAHILA VIKAS PARIYOJANA)

The Rajiv Gandhi Mahila Vikas Pariyojana (RGMVP) is the flagship programme of Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust, a registered non-profit institution, working for poverty reduction, women empowerment and rural development in Uttar Pradesh, India since 2002. RGMVP believes that "the poor have a strong desire and innate ability to overcome poverty". RGMVP has developed a community-driven, inclusive and scalable model for poverty reduction and women's empowerment, which has grown out of a strong network of Self-Help Groups and created a chain reaction across the most populous state in India. RGMVP (www.rgmvp.org) is a women's empowerment organization in Uttar Pradesh (UP), that primarily mobilises women from the poorest and most backward districts of UP into Women's Self Help Groups and their federations. Through these social platforms, we run programmes around financial inclusion, livelihoods, health, education, sanitation, local governance and leadership development. RGMVP currently works with over 1 million rural women, spread across 42 districts of UP. RGMVP also mobilizes adolescent girls into Young Women's Self Help Groups, that helps them save money for their education and other purposes, but more importantly, acts as a platform for them to discuss and share their aspirations, seek more information about health, menstrual hygiene, education, and undergo several skill-development and leadership training's.

IFCI (INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA SCHEME OF INTEREST SUBSIDY FOR WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS):

IFCI Ltd (IFCI) was set up as a Statutory Corporation ("The Industrial Finance Corporation of India") in 1948 for providing medium and long term finance to industry.. In 1993, after repeal of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, IFCI became a Public Limited Company, registered under the Companies Act, 1956. The main objective of IFCI is to provide medium and long-term financial assistance to large-scale industrial undertakings, particularly in those circumstances in which banking accommodation is inappropriate or a resource to the capital market is impracticable i.e. finance could not be raised by the concerned issue. IFCI, previously Industrial Finance Corporation of India, is a development finance institution under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Established in 1948 as a statutory corporation, IFCI is currently a company listed on BSE and NSE. IFCI has seven subsidiaries and one associate. Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) is actually the first financial institute the government established after independence. The main aim of the incorporation of IFCI was to provide long-term finance to the manufacturing and industrial sector of the country.

TDUPW (TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT & UTILIZATION PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN)

It is common knowledge that women significantly impact society as a whole as well as the economy. If they are provided with the necessary opportunity and support, women are capable of achieving success in any area. However, there is still a lot of work to be done in order to gain a better understanding of the requirements that women have and to develop goods that fulfil those requirements. The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research created the Technology Development and Utilization Programme for Women (TDUPW) to cater to women's specific requirements and make it simpler for women to contribute to the development of technological expertise. The mission of the DSIR is to support, further develop, apply, and share indigenous forms of technology. The "Technology Development and Utilization Programme for Women" (TDUPW) is an initiative run by DSIR that provides financial assistance to programmes that assist women in the creation and application of technology, with a particular emphasis on technologies developed by scientific institutes. The programme aims to cater to the specific requirements of women and bolster the contributions that women already make to the development of technological expertise. One of the program's objectives is to increase the number of women who use modern technologies. Educating women on the technological challenges that are relevant to them and helping them develop strategies for coping with those difficulties increasing the adoption of digital tools in very tiny, small, and medium enterprises that are owned and operated by female company owners, Putting on shows of relevant technology and setting up demonstration programmes are both ways to help women and make sure that products and processes are thought up and made in a way that is friendly to women.

RMK (RASHTRIYA MAHILA KOSH)

The Rashtriya MahilaKosh (RMK), or National Credit Fund for Women (NCFW), is an Indian government program that provides for the credit requirements of low-income, non-asset-holding women working in the informal economy. The autonomous body formed under the aegis of the Ministry of Women and Child Development provides micro-credit through Micro Financing Institutions (MFIs) for various activities, including the setting up of micro-enterprises. RMK provides micro-credit facilities to women in these sectors in a client-friendly, non-collateralized, and hassle-free manner to encourage the pursuit of income-generating activities. So far, RMK has launched various initiatives to spread awareness of microfinancing, enterprise development, thrift and credit, and the formation and strengthening of women's SHGs through third-party organizations. Through Intermediary Micro Finance Organizations (IMOs) and Women Self-Help Groups (WSHGs), RashtriyaMahilaKosh is established as a single-window facilitator for financial services with backward and forward linkages for women in the unorganized sector. To provide socio-economic development through a multi-pronged effort and to promote and support schemes for enhancing the scope of credit facilities for women; sustaining their existing employment; generating further employment; asset creation; asset redemption; and tiding over consumption, social, and contingent needs.

CWEI (CONSORTIUM OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS OF INDIA)

Through its global information transformation system and website, CWEI aids in the deployment of E-commerce (Electronic Commerce). E-commerce, or electronic commerce, refers to the buying and selling products and services over the Internet. A civil society NGO with a mandate to serve the entire subcontinent, the Consortium of Women Entrepreneurs of India was established in 1996 in New Delhi. CWEI serves BPL families in India, is a member of the National Board of the Ministry of MSME, and works closely with the Ministry of Rural Development in a PPP structure. Long-term economic empowerment for women and their families through income-generating activities and business development is one of our main goals as the State Government of Andhra Pradesh's Knowledge Partner. Cwei claims that she has persuaded many women that being an entrepreneur is the best way to fight unemployment. Several states around the country offer outreach Entrepreneurship & Skill Development Training (ESDP), financial inclusion, and support services to empower women, members of the SC, and indigenous people to launch and grow their micro-enterprises. CWEI launched SAWE in 1996 with support from UN Women, focusing on expanding its sphere of influence throughout the country, SAARC, the Asia-Pacific region, and developing nations. Better manufacturing, more affordable prices, and stringent quality control result from our catalytic role in bringing cutting-edge technology, innovative design methods, talent development, and training.

VMVY (VIKLANG MAHILA VIKAS YOJANA)

It has been observed that everyone looks with sympathetic eyes at the disabled individual. Nevertheless, times have changed, and people's attitudes have shifted because the Indian government currently implements numerous initiatives for the disabled and crippled. The Pradhan Mantri Viklang Loan Yojana is one among them. This loan is sometimes referred to as the handicapped self-employment loan program. Loans are made available by the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation through select nationalised banks. The plan determines the eligibility requirements for these loans. So, friends, in this essay, we will discuss the Prime Minister's Disabled Loan Scheme 2021 from the bed so that women can quickly obtain this loan. We will also explain how disabled people can obtain loans and how to obtain disability work loans. The federal government has launched government programmes for the physically challenged. Disabled people can also live a prosperous life with the help of this scheme. Today, we will learn about business loans for the disabled through the central government's initiatives. The following schemes provide financial assistance to the disabled: DivyangjanSwavalamban Scheme, Vishesh Microfinance Scheme (VMY), and NHFDC Swavalamban Kendra (NSK).

PRIYADARSHINI SCHEME

Women are more stable and organized than men; thus their projects and enterprises have greater discipline and stability. Despite their potential, few women establish enterprises due to a lack of financial backing, collateral, and moral encouragement. Finances are half the battle when starting a business. Women can benefit from Priyadarshini Yojana. This Bank of India scheme enables women entrepreneurs no-collateral loans for small amounts. Subsidized loan interest rates help women become self-sufficient and successful. On 08-06-013, the State Govt. established a new inexpensive rural housing scheme, "Priyadarshini Awaas Yojana," on the model of the "Indira Awaas Yojana" to help the poor have a house. A poor rural household would receive Rs. 93,000 for a house and toilets. 2 lakh rural low-income families will be served for Rs. 135,000 crores. The State Government has donated Rs. 67,000 lakhs since the scheme's start (up to 2015-16). Ten lakhs are budgeted for 2016-17. 164971 beneficiaries (including 83098 under IAY) have been identified and enrolled under the financial assistance scheme, and 143045 qualified recipients have received the first installment, 124134 the second, and 99521 the third. 166248 beneficiaries (including 84371 under IAY) have been identified and enrolled under the financial assistance scheme, and 146480 qualified recipients have received the first

installment, 130210 the second, and 103460 the third. The Priyadarshini Yojana, founded by the Bank of India in 1989, has been helping women stand on their own by giving them low-interest loans. This program was named after then-Indian Prime Minister Indira Priyadarshini Gandhi. The Priyadarshini Yojana Scheme promotes women entrepreneurs. Small-scale business ventures like home-based libraries, ironing and laundry, beauty and spa centers, and other home-based businesses; retail business opportunities like fair price stores or provision stores; all expenses incurred in obtaining training and licenses, as well as acquiring vehicles like auto-rickshaws for their daily source of income; high-level business venture term loans have a maximum loan value of 2 lakh INR.

SCHEME FOR PROFESSIONAL AND THE SELF-EMPLOYED

The Indian government created the Department of National Handicapped Finance and Development (NHFD) to help persons with disabilities. A self-employment program for disabled people provides access to commercial funding. This page discusses the self-employment program application. The Self Employment Scheme helps economically disadvantaged disabled people start a business. The Self-Employment Scheme requires applicants to be disabled or members of a cooperative for disabled people with at least a 40 percent disability.

CONCLUSION

Facilitating the empowerment of women entrepreneurs is pivotal for realizing sustainable development goals, necessitating the mitigation of obstacles that impede their growth to ensure their comprehensive engagement in the business realm. Beyond training programs, entrepreneurial development can also be fostered through avenues such as newsletters, mentoring, trade fairs, and exhibitions. These initiatives contribute to the realization of desired business outcomes and pave the way for the initiation of more lucrative business opportunities. Therefore, actively promoting entrepreneurship among women in India represents an effective shortcut to achieving rapid economic growth and development. It is imperative to eliminate all forms of gender bias, ensuring that women stand as formidable entrepreneurs on par with their male counterparts.

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