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Problems and Prospects of Agriculture



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PARTICIPATION OF INDIAN WOMEN IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

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Abstract

Agriculture is the prime engine of growth and backbone of developing nations. In a developing economy, nearly 60% of the working population find agriculture as main source of income/livelihood. Women play multiple roles in agriculture activities such as food production, horticulture, harvesting operations, fisheries etc. It is also estimated that in India about 75% of women are working as agricultural labour force and are active agents of the primary sector. The present study focuses on the nature and extent of female participation in Indian agriculture using secondary data for the period 1993-2012.

Keywords: Agriculture, Female Work Participation, Labour Force, Women

INTRODUCTION

In recent times, Women empowerment assume to have a significant role against poverty, hunger and ill-health of the society. The growing recognition that women can become an agent of economic and social transformation has been gaining wide acceptance in the policy and academic circles. The women's participation as workforce plays a major role in determining women's autonomy and dependency. As opined by famous economist Amartya Sen that women's empowerment become a determinant factor to take care of overall development of society. In a country with a high human development index, females are more consistently participating in every sector at par with their male counterparts. In our country, the Female Work Force Participation (FLEP) rate has remained visibly low and the International