CHAPTER-IV

Implementation of the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana in Dhemaji District.

Like the other R.D.Ps, the district administration implemented the SGSY Programme for the socio-economic development of the rural poor. It has already mentioned in the Genesis of SGSY that the programme has been launched with a aim by laying emphasis on the group approach under which the rural poor were organized into “Self Help Group”. The objective of the SGSY is to bring every assisted family above the poverty line in three years by providing them income generation assets through a mix of Bank credit and government subsidy. Till July, 2007 there were 4080 Self Help Group in the district. The district administration spent Rs. 250,99 lakhs during the session 2006-07. To study the implementation of SGSY Scheme, three blocks were selected and out of total SHGs 160 SHG’s were selected randomly for collection of data.

GENESIS OF SGSY (Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana):

The Govt. of India introduced the SGSY with a view to eradicate poverty and gear up economic development of the rural poor on the year 1999.

The SGSY has been launched with a aim by laying emphasis on the group approach under which the rural poor were organized into “Self Help Group”. It is a group of rural poor who have volunteers to organize themselves into a group for the sake of eradication of poverty of themselves.
The objectives of the SGSY are to bring every assisted family above the poverty line in three years by providing them income generation assets through a mix of bank credit and Govt. subsidy.

SGSY lays stress on cluster approach. Instead of funding diverse activities, each block should concentrate on a few key activities and attend to all aspects of there activities so that the Swarozgaries can draw sustainable incomes from their investments. These key activities should be preferably be taken up in clusters so that the backward and towards linkages can be effectively established. This would facilitate not only monitoring but more important provision of various services required by the Swarozgaries.

Starting of SHG among rural poor can be traced back as early as April/1999 with start of a new programme named “Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana” by the Government of India with a view to eradicate poverty from and gear up economic development of the rural poor, the details of which is given in the importance of the study.

**Salient features of SGSY**

The main features of SGSY are:

(i) SGSY aim at establishing a large number of micro enterprises in the rural areas, building upon the potential of the rural poor.

(ii) The assisted families (Swarozgaris) may be individual or groups (SHGs). Emphasis will be on the group approach.

(iii) Towards this end, SGSY is conceived as a holistic programme of micro enterprises covering all aspects of self employment viz- organization of the rural
poor into self groups and their capacity building, planning of activity clusters, infrastructure build up, technology credit and marketing.

(iv) In establishing the micro enterprises the emphasis under SGSY is on the cluster approach. For this 4-5 key activities will be identified for block based on the resources occupational skill of the people and availability of markets, selections of key.

(v) Activities will be with the approval of the panchayat samities at the block level and the DRDA/ZP at the District level. The major share of SGSY assistance will be in activity clusters.

(vi) SGSY will also focus on group approach. This would involve organization of the poor into Self-Help groups (SHGs) and their capacity building. Efforts would be made to involve women members in each SHG. Besides exclusive women groups will be continue to be formed. At the level of the block, at least half of the groups will be exclusively women groups. Group activity will be given preference and progressively, majority of the funding will be for Self-Help groups.

(vii) The Gram Sabha will authenticate the list of families below the poverty line identified in the BPL census. Identification of individual families suitable for each key activity will be made through a participatory process.

(viii) SGSY is a credit cum subsidy programme. However credit will be the critical component of SGSY, subsidy being only a minor and enabling element. Accordingly, SGSY envisages a greater.

(ix) Involvement of the Banks: They will be involved closely in the planning and preparation of projects identification of activity clusters, infrastructure planning’s as well as capacity building and choice of activity of the SHGs,
selections of individual Swarzgaris pre-credit activities and post credit monitoring including loan recovery.

(x) Subsidy under SGSY will be uniform at 30% of the project cost, subject to maximum of Rs. 7500 in respect to SC/STs, however there will be 50% and 1000 respectively for group of Swarozgaris (SHGs), the subsidy would be at 50% of the cost of scheme subject to a ceiling of Rs. 1.25 lakh. There will be no monetary limit on subsidy for irrigation projects. Subsidy will be back ended.

(xi) SGSY will particularly focus on the vulnerable groups among the rural poor. Accordingly the SC/STs will account for at least 50% of the Swarozgaris women for 40% and the disabled for 3%.

(xii) SGSY will seek to lay emphasis on skill development through well designed training courses, those, who have been sanctioned.

(xiii) Loans will be assessed and gives necessary training the design duration of trailing and the training curriculum would be tailored to meet the needs of the identified activities. DRDAs will be allowed to set apart up to 10% of the SGSY allocation on training. This would be maintained as SGSY-training fund.

**Activity Clusters Planning and Selection**

The objective of SGSY is to bring every assisted family above the poverty line within three years, through provision micro enterprise. It must be ensured that the income of the Swarozgaris under SGSY is such that the family income is above the probable poverty line of next plan period. Therefore, the monthly income from the activity to be under taken should not be less then Rs. 2000, net of repayment to the bank loan. This may not always come in the first year itself. The objective is to see that the assisted family comes above the poverty line in three years. Therefore,
the selection of the activities should be such that it would afford the Swarozgaris an opportunity to expand his assets and skill base in three years and at least in the 3rd year, the net income should be more than Rs. 2000 per month.

**Selection of Key Activities**

The success of SGSY will depend, to start with, on the choice of activities; the key element is that the choice of activity should be based on the local resources, the aptitude as well as the skill of the people. It is also necessary that the products have ready market.

The choice of key activities should not be an arbitrary or an ad-hoc decision and should be of carefully thought out process. The Block SGSY committee has a very important role to play. In identifying the key activities that can be taken in the next five year, the committee should ensure that this selection takes place through a participative process.

The Block SGSY committee may also look at the potential link plans prepared by NABARD as also any other survey carried out by different Banks, industrial/technical organization etc. The local Khadi and Village Industry officials as well as the District manager of District Industry centre may also be consulted.

The Block SGSY committee must interact with as many sarpanches as possible and also discus with group of rural people such as the landless labour, the educated unemployed, those rural poor with lands, the artisan groups etc. where SHGs are in position they also be consulted. In their discussion the committee should explore the various opportunities that are available (Provided credit technology, skill up gradation and marketing) are assured to enable the poor to cross the poverty line.
Based on the consultation process the committee may identify about 8-10 activities which they may rank in order of preference. This list should then be placed before the general body of the Panchayat Samity (Block Panchayat). The list of selected Key activities along with the recommendation of the Panchayat Samity should then be forwarded by the BDO to the District SGSY committee for consideration.

The District SGSY committee will receive the block wise proposals and will vet them. The committee will select not more than 4-5 activities per block. In doing so, the district SGSY committee will ensure that the infrastructure already available in the district in terms of production, service, training facilities as well as market are utilized and that the choice of activity does not require a new effort in all directions production as well as markets.

The District SGSY committee should scrutinize the proposals for each key activity separately in consultation with the concerned experts including the line department officials. In fixing the unit costs for the farm sector, the costs fixed by the regional committee of NABARD should be taken into consideration.

**Preparation of Project Report**

For each key activity there should be a Project report indicating the various elements such as training, credit, technology infrastructure and marketing. The Project report should indicate how many people could be covered economically in a block under a key activity.

The Project report should also include the balancing infrastructure that needs to be provided and the costs involved. Care should be taken to avoid an attempt to create infrastructure for line departments without concomitant benefit to
Swarozgaris. The Project report should indicate that whether the key activity selected is for individual or group or both. The economics should also be clearly spelt out for each of these. The economics should indicate the details of investment required the details of return, the repayment schedule and the net income accruable to the Swarozgari.

The line departments have an important role to play in the entire exercise for they will be responsible for planning and creation of the infrastructure required making the key activity successfully. In addition, once the bank has sanctioned the loan the line department must ensure that all facilities including technical guidance is provided to the Swarozgaris. They may also verify whether the Swarozgaris have the necessary skill requirement and take steps to train them. They should also satisfy themselves about the quality of training that is being impaired. The line department must recognize that promotion of self employment in their sector is as much their responsibility as that of DRDA/Panchayati Raj institution/Banks and it should be an integral part of their day to day functioning.

On approval by the District SGSY committee the list on selected key activities as well as the project report of each key activity in respect of each block should be placed before the governing body of the DRDA. Where no DRDA exists, it should be placed before Zila Parishad. On approval it should be circulated to the BDO and all banks in the concerned blocks as well as the concerned department.

The major share of SGSY assistance will be for the key activities. A minimum of 75% both by number and funding, will be for the key activities identified in the block for both as group assistance and individual assistance. However assistance is not prohibited for other activities.
**Programme Infrastructure:**

Proper infrastructure is essentials for the source of micro enterprises. The infrastructure may be either for production, processing quality testing, and storage on marketing. The lack of proper attention to this item has been one of the drawbacks of IRDP. Although provision had been made for expenditure on infrastructure, the investment made did not necessarily correspond to the needs of the self employed.

SGSY will seek to ensure that the infrastructure needs for the identified activities are met in full, so as to enable the Swarozgaries to drive the maximum advantage from their investment. It should be noted that the creation of additional infrastructure should be meaningful and should only be in the nature of providing the missing critical links. The proposal for infrastructure development should be drawn up by DRDA in consultation with bankers and form part of the Annual plan for the Block and District.

The provision of infrastructure is essentially the responsibility of the state government. So, the states will strive to provide for necessary investment as part of their plan efforts of the respective department.

The district SGSY committee should review the infrastructure gaps and identify the areas of intervention for financing projects in activity clusters. Infrastructure needs and their fulfillment will be constantly and closely monitored by the DRDA, particularly the governing body of DRDA.

It should be noted that the funds available for providing infrastructure support under SGSY are primarily to bridge small gaps in infrastructure which can make the programme implementation more effective and not for creation of an
altogether non-existent infrastructure in the area. Funds for infrastructure
development should, in no case, be used to augment resources of the state
government for development of general infrastructure.

In order to meet expenditure one such critical infrastructure SGSY will
provide for a fund, which will be known as SGSY infrastructure fund 20% (25% in
case of NE states) of SGSY allocation for each district will be set apart for this
fund. DRDA will maintain this fund in a separate account. The DRDAs are advised
to utilize this fund to generate additional funding whenever feasible.

The following principles may be kept in view while financing the
infrastructure proposals:

a) The infrastructure activities should enable SGSY Swarojgaries full
utilization of their assets. Marketing linkages should be given priority.

b) The proposal should be arranged out of the specific activities being taken up
by the Swarojgaries and the location decision should be made by the Block/DRDAs
in consultation with Bankers.

c) Only the fixed cost and not the recurring expenditure should be met out of
SGSY funds. There should be and undertaking that the state government on the
organization concerned would meet the recurring expenditure on staff and other
items.

d) In the case of assistance for development of infrastructure to co-operative
societies should be ensured that at least 50% of the members are SGSY
Swarozgaries.
Swarozgaries:

Under SGSY the beneficiaries are known as Swarozgaries. The Swarozgaries can be either individual on group approach, under which the rural poor are organized into self-help groups. In either case the list of BPL household identified through BPL census, duly approved by the Gram Sabha will forum the basis for identification for assistance under SGSY. The SHG’s should also be drawn from the BPL list approved by Gram Sabha.

SHG and its Objectives:

SGSY will focus an organization of the poor at grassroots level through a process of social mobilization for poverty eradication SGSY approach to organize the poor stems from the conviction that there is potential can be harnessed by organizing them. Social mobilization enable the poor build their own organization (SHG’s) in which they participate fully and directly and take decision on all issues concerning poverty eradication. Simultaneously SHG’s have the advantage of the assistance, be it in terms of credit or technology or market guidance etc. reaching the poor faster and more effectively.

A SHG is group of people that meets regularly to discuss issues of importance to them and to look at solution of commonly experienced problems. The group may not be promoted by governmental institution.

Self help groups (SHG’s) have emerged as alternative development strategy to promote the common interest of the weak and the vulnerable section of the society. They are counted as informal co-operatives as they possess distinct features of grassroots level co-operatives. The co-operatives and SHG’s can force linkage in
order to see that the poor are effectively served and empowered. Such a linkage
opens up a great deal of opportunities for both the organizations.

However, it posses certain threats especially to SHG’s in the form losing core
values like informality, transparency and participatory management.

SHG’s are considered as out of the most significant tools to adopt
participatory approach for the economic empowerment of women. It is as important
institution for improving the life of poor people on various social components. The
basic objectives of as SHG’s are that it acts a the forum for members to provide
space and support to each other. SHG’s are composed of very poor people who do
not have accord to formal financial institution. It enables its members to learn to co-
operate and work in a group environment.

A SHG is an informal association of 10-15 members who have voluntarily
come together for the business of savings and credit and to enhance the member
financial security as primary focus and other common interests of members such as
area development, awareness, motivation, leadership, training and associating is
other social intermediations programmes for the benefit of the entire community.

The SHGs have the following objectives:

* To inculcate the savings and banking habits among the members.
* To secure them from financial, technical and moral strengths.
* To enable availing of loan for productive purposes.
* To gain economic prosperity through loan/credit.
* To gain from collective wisdom in organization and managing their own
  financial and distributing the benefit among themselves.
SHG go through various stages of evolution:

**Group formation:** The groups are formed, developed and strengthened to evolve into managed people's organization at Grass roots level.

**Capital formation:** The groups form capital through monthly individual contribution, the revolving fund provided by bank, skill development (managerial skill for management of their organization as well as the activity).

**Income generation:** The groups are taking up economic activity for income generation such as activities rearing Poultry, rearing and Pigs, Weaving, providing loan at certain rate on interest etc.

**FORMATION OF SHG:**

SHG is a group of rural poor who have volunteered to organize themselves into a group for eradication of poverty of the members.

They agree to save regularly and convert their saving into a common fund. They agree to used this common fund and such other fund that they may receive as a group through a common management.

The group formation will keep in view the following broad guidelines:

Under SGSY, a SHG may consist of 10-20 persons, in the case of minor and in the case of disable persons, this number may be minimum of five (5).

All members of the group should belong to families below poverty line. The group shall not consist of more than one member from the same family. A person should not be a member of more than one group.

The group should devise a code of conduct (group management norms) to bind itself. This should be in the form of regular meeting (Weekly or fortnightly)
functioning in democratic manner allowing free exchange of views, participation by
the members in the decision making process.

The group should be able to draw up an agenda for each meeting and take
up discussion as per the agenda.

The group corpus fund should be used to advance loans to the members. The
group should develop financial management norms covering the loans section
procedure repayment schedule and intended rate.

The members in the group meetings should take all the loaning decision
through a participatory decision making process.

The group should operate a group account so as to give deposit the balance
amounts left with the groups after disbursing loans to its members.

The group should maintain simple basic records such as minute’s book,
Attendance register, Loan ledger, General ledger, Case book, Bank Passbook and
individual passbook.

**Linkage with the Banks and NGOs:**

During the stage of group formation, the SHG should be brought into
contact with the local banks. The SHG beings to realize the opportunities and also
the mode of dealing with the banks. Likewise, the bankers get to familiarize
themselves with the SHGs. Establishment of these linkage at the early stages will
ensure the formation of strong SHGs which will be mutually beneficial. The BDO
and the banker may visit the SHG as often they can and explain to the members the
opportunities for self employment. They may also explain to them about the process
of graduation into taking up full-fledged self employment activity.
NGOs have emerged as the prominent players in the linkage programme are evident from the fact that they have been involved in the promotion and financing directly or through banks. The credit both for introducing SHGs as financial intermediaries for the poor as well as for the results achieved so far under the linkage programme in major way goes to the NGOs in the country. Effort made by the NABARD in mobilizing a large numbers of NGOs and financial institution through cheaper refinance and capacity building support. NGOs are likely to play a significant role in future it is necessary that legally their role should be clearly recognized and clarified. NABARD is also experimenting with direct refinancing of NGOs. To a great extent, the future success of the SHGs also depends on the evolution of the role of NGOs in the field of microfinance. A large number of NGOs are either trying to promote on even transform them into full-fledged microfinance institution.

**INTEGRATION OF SHG:**

Many NGOs have promoted a large number of SHGs spread over many villages or blocks. Integrating SHGs at level would help them in realizing many benefits collectively. Ideally, NGOs should try linking their SHGs with the nearby financial institutions a more banks are also trying for such linkages. Linking SHGs with the banks would enable them automatically get integrated with the financial system. A large number of NGOs these days are trying to federate their SHGs at block or district level. Many have even formed trying to federate their SHGs at block or district levels. Many have even formed formal federation which is emerging as autonomous microfinance institutions. While formation of federations
is a process of integrating SHGs, NGOs must ensure that any new create in the process should not become a burden on the SHGs. Formation of federations should be attempted only when an NGOs has been able to promote a significant number of SHGs which have reached or attained a certain minimum threshold level of savings and credit business. Only then it would become financially feasible to create such federations. In other words, creation of federation of SHGs should be mainly based on the collective need and ability of the SHGs rather on NGOs discretion.

**GRADING OF THE SELF-HELP GROUPS:**

The formation stage generally lasts six months. At the end of six months, it is necessary to subject each self-help group to a test whether it has evolved into a good group and is ready to go in to the next stage of evolution. This is done through a grading exercise.

The DRDA will have to play an effective role in grading exercise. The capacity of the DRDAs will have to be enhanced to undertake this exercise professionally. Grading of the SHGs can be done by the same agency that is involved in the promotion and development of the SHGs or an independent agency contracted to undertake the grading exercise.

A number of Government and Non-Government Organizations, working with SHGs across the country have evolved very effective strategies for grading the SHGs. The grading criteria should be consistent with the characteristics that are agreed to be essential for strong, self-managed and vibrant SHGs.
Various processes that are involved in the grading:

Development of exhaustive list of characteristics of a good group by DRDA in consultation with its partners if any, involved in promotion and development of SHG.

* Development of criteria for grading of the group with appropriate weight age for various parameters.

* Identification of suitable agency to undertake grading exercise.

* Intensive training to the investigators who will interact with the members of the group to assess the group of various parameters. This training can either be conducted by the agency identified for grading or by DRDA.

* Facilitate the agency to visit the group for assessing the status of the groups.

* Obtain SHG-wise reports with rating awarded and the reasons.

* Develop an appropriate SHG-wise action plan for strengthening the group identified as “weak” or average.

* Pursue with bankers for securing SHG linkage with such SHGs that are rated as good.

Grading exercise should not be a questionnaire-oriented exercise where the members become passive participants. It should provide an opportunity for the members to assess their own performance to a participatory approach and the investigator assumes the role of the facilitator to the process.

DRDAs should ensure active participation of the bankers in the grading exercise. In this context, NABARD and local banks will have to be involved very closely right from the development of criteria for grading the groups. The criteria, the
FINANCING THE INVESTMENTS - BANKS CREDIT AND SUBSIDY

Financial assistance to Swarozgaries under SGSY comprises of two components viz. loan and subsidy. SGSY is a credit-linked scheme and credit is the key element. Subsidy is only a minor and enabling component. The major part of investment consists of bank credit from financial institutions comprising commercial banks co-operative banks and regional rural banks.

Norms of Lending:

The size of loan for project depends on the nature of projects. The loan should however be a composite loan comprising both fixed and working capital. SGSY has no investment ceiling other than the unit cost (i.e. investment requirement) worked out for the project. The loan amount would be equal to the total project cost including the amount of subsidy admissible to the Swarozgari. Interest rates for SGSY loans will be as notified by RBI/NABARD from time to time.

Security Norms: The security norms will be as prescribed by Reserve Bank of India from time to time.

From the date the applications are received in the bank, the bank shall not take more than fifteen days to sanction the loan. The bank will thereupon communicate this list to the Gram Panchayat, which shall place it before the Gram Sabha in its next meeting. The bank shall also communicate this list to the BDO as well as the concerned line department.
The banks will also consider the groups for a given activity. In such case too the banks shall communicate the name of the selected group to the Gram Panchayat and other for action as above.

While sanctioning projects, the Bank Managers should ensure that the unit costs, terms of the loan and repayment schedule are as indicated in the Project profiles for the concerned key activity. Part-financing and under financing should not be resorted to under any circumstances.

However,

Where the nature of the activity is such that the loan is to be released in stages, the disbursal may be made accordingly.

As soon as the Swarozgari completes the Basic orientation or the skill training programme, the Bank shall proceed to disburse the loan and subsidy amount to the Swarozgari. This shall invariably be done immediately, so that the money is available to him/her for purchase or creation of the asset. The entire amount sanctioned shall be disbursed unless of the amount is to be disbursed in designated installments. The bank shall disbursed the subsidy amount also as per the guidelines governing the back ended subsidy.

**SUBSIDY:**

Subsidy under SGSY will be uniform at 30% of the project cost. Subject to a maximum of Rs. 7500. In respect of SC/STs, however, these will be 50% and Rs. 10000 respectively for Groups of Swarozgaris (SHGs) the subsidy would be at 50% of the cost of the scheme subject to ceiling of Rs. 1.25 Lakhs. There will be no monetary limit on subsidy for irrigation projects.
Bank-end subsidy:

Subsidy will be back ended. Banks would disburse the full project cost including subsidy to the Swarozgaris as loan. The benefit of subsidy will also be available to Swarozzgaris who prefer to avail themselves of required working capital in the form of cash credit. The operation of subsidy amount by the bank will be as follows.

The subsidy admissible to the Swarozgaris under SGSY should be kept in the Reserve Fund Account Swarozgarie wise instead of in term deposit in the name of the Swarozgari. Banks should apply no interest on the Subsidy Reserve Funds Account.

In the case of working capital advance also subsidy may be kept in the Reserve Fund Account stated above without any interest being offered. However, the amount standing to the credit of the account should be withdrawn and credited to a Cash Credit Account of the SGSY Swarozgari after a period of 5 years.

The repayment schedule of loan would be drawn in such a way that the subsidy kept under subsidy Reserve Fund would be sufficient for adjustment towards the last few installments Swarozgaris will not be entitled for any benefit or subsidy. If the loan is fully repaid before a certain fixed periods specified by NABARD depending upon the activity, the availability of the benefit of subsidy to Swarozgaris would be contingent on their proper utilization of loan as also its prompt repayment and maintaining the asset in good condition.

Banks will issue loan passbooks to Swarozgaris. These pass books should contain details such as the date of sanction of loan, amount of loan sanctioned, subsidy to be adjusted in the final installment of repayment rate of interest, amount
due under each installment, due date of installments etc, etc. The Banks may issue loan books to Swarojgaris in regional languages. Banks should ensure that the branch managers fill in all the columns in passbooks, as otherwise the purpose of issuing the passbooks will be defeated.

**Funding pattern and financial procedure:**

Swarnojayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana is centrally sponsored scheme and the financing of the programme will be shared between the centre and the states in the ratio of 75:25. Devolution of funds to the districts will be indicated by the states and approval by the Government of India. Government of India will release the funds directly to the DRDAs. Devolution to the Blocks may be decided by the Governing Body of the DRDA within a district. This and other local factor, Reallocation may be made by the remainder of the financial year.

**Eligible Items of Expenditure:**

Each DRDA may incur-expenditure on the following items only from the funds provided for SGSY:

- SGSY Training Funds (10% of the allocation)
- SGSY Infrastructure Fund (20% of the allocation; 25% in case of NE States)
- Provision for Revolving fund to SHGs (10% of the allocation)
- Subsidy for economic activities.²
ANALYSIS INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION OF DATA

After thorough investigation of the SGSY Programme implemented in the district the following data's were achieved.

1) Regarding number of members of the SHG's 86.25% said their total members in between 10-15 members and 13.75% have more than 15 members while no SHG was found formed by 5-10 members.

   \[
   \begin{array}{|c|c|c|}
   \hline
   \text{Total Members} & \text{Frequency} & \text{Percentage} \\
   \hline
   5-10 & -- & -- \\
   10-15 & 138 & 86.25\% \\
   15- Onwards & 22 & 13.75\% \\
   \hline
   \text{Total} & 160 & 100\% \\
   \hline
   \end{array}
   \]

2) In the present study it has been seen that out of total sample respondent 25.63% members of the SHG’s fall under the age group of 20-30 years, while 41.25% were 30-40 years age group 25% were 40-50 years age group and 8.12% were fall under the age group of 50 onwards. Table – 4.2 shows the number and percentage of Respondents of different age groups.

   \[
   \begin{array}{|c|c|c|}
   \hline
   \text{Age Between} & \text{No. of SHG} & \text{Percentage} \\
   \hline
   20 – 30 & 41 & 25.63\% \\
   30 – 40 & 66 & 41.25\% \\
   40 – 50 & 40 & 25\% \\
   50 onwards & 13 & 8.12\% \\
   \hline
   \text{Total} & 160 & 100\% \\
   \hline
   \end{array}
   \]
3) Out of total respondent 65.63% were married, while 34.37% members of SHG’s were unmarried. Table 4.3 shows the marital status of the Respondents.

**TABLE 4.3 MARITAL STATUS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>65.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>34.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4) In case of formation of SHG’s, Table 4.4 shows that 73.13% SHG’s formed by female members, while there were only 26.86% SHG’s formed by male.

**TABLE 4.4 GENDER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>female</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>73.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>26.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5) Table No-4.5 clearly indicated that 36.87% members were below HSLC; while 32.50% HSLC passed, 24.38% B.A. and only 6.25% industrial trainees were there in the SHG’s as a member.

**TABLE 4.5 EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Qualification</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HSLC below</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>36.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSLC Passed</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>32.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.A.</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>24.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Trainee</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6) Out of total members 48.75% SHG members were housewives while 30% cultivators and 21.25% unemployed. Table-4.6 shows the occupational status of the members of the SHG’s.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housewives</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>48.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultivators</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>30.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>21.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>160</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7) Table – 4.7 shows that the objectives of 36.25% SHG’s were micro savings, while 45.63% SHG’s Self employment and 18.12% SHG’s future need.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives of the SHG’s</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Micro Savings</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>36.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Employment</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>45.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future Need</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>18.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>160</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8) According to 31.87% SHG’s, their main activity was Agriculture, while 10% involved in piggery, 15.62% Goattery, 24.38% in weaving and 18.13% involved in fishery.
TABLE – 4.8 ACTIVITIES OF THE SHG’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities of the SHG’s</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>31.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piggery</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goattery</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weaving</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>24.83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishery</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>18.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9) According to 15.63% SHG’s, they received the revolving fund, while 84.37% did not received revolving fund. Out of total SHG’s who received the revolving fund 44% had to pay something, while 56% did not pay any thing to any one. Table-4.9 shows the Receipt of Revolving Fund by the SHG’s.

TABLE – 4.9 RECEIPT OF REVOLVING FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipt of Revolving Fund</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>84.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If yes, Did you pay any amount to any one for receiving revolving fund.

| Yes | 44% |
| No. | 56% |
| Total | 100% |
10) According to 67.5% SHG’s, they received the loan from Bank, while 32.5% did not take any loan from the Bank. Out of total SHG, who received the loan and revolving fund 71.30% faced the problems, while 28.70% did not faced any problems. Table – 4.10 shows the SHG’s who received loans from the Bank and problems they faced during the time of receiving the loan and revolving fund.

**TABLE – 4.10 RECEIPT OF BANK LOAN AND PROBLEMS THEY FACED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipt of Bank Loan and Problems they faced</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>67.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>32.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>160</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If yes, whether you faced any problem during the time of receiving loan and revolving fund.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>77</th>
<th>71.30%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>28.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>108</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11) Out of total SHG’s who received loan from the Banks 93.75% aware about the Bank Loan Repayment, while 6.25% did not aware about it. Table-4.11 shows the awareness of the SHG’s on Bank Loan Repayment.
TABLE – 4.11 AWARENESS OF THE SHG’S ON BANK LOAN REPAYMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awareness of the SHG’s on Bank Loan Repayment.</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>93.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12) All the members of the SHG’s satisfied with this scheme. Table -4.12 shows the numbers of percentage of SHG’s who satisfied the scheme.

TABLE – 4.12 SATISFACTION OF THE SHG’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Satisfaction of the SHG’s</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13) According to 100% SHG’s members, the programme was helpful for the Socio-Economic development of the rural poor. Table-4.13 shows the comments of beneficiaries regarding whether the programme was helpful or not.
14) Table - 4.14 shows that 70% SHG's has the problem, while 30% did not faced any problem. Out of total SHG's who faced the problems, 33.93% faced the problem of organization, while 42.86% communication and 23.21% faced the problem of demand for the product produced by the SHG.

TABLE – 4.13 COMMENTS ON HELPFULNESS OF THE PROGRAMME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comments on Helpfulness of the Programme</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>160</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If yes, types of problem

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problems</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organizational</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>33.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicational</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>42.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand of the product</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>23.21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>112</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
15) Out of total SHG’s 36.25% opined that there were irregularities during the time of implementing the scheme, while 63.75% opined did not. Table-4.15 shows the comments of the respondent regarding whether there were irregularities or not.

TABLE – 4.15 COMMENTS OF SHG MEMBERS REGARDING IRREGULARITIES OF IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comments of the SHG Members</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>36.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>63.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16) 83.13% Respondents opined that they satisfied with the functions of the SHG, while 16.87% opined, they did not satisfied with the functions of the SHG. Table-4.16 shows the satisfaction of the SHG members regarding their functions.

TABLE – 4.16 SATISFACTION OF THE SHG’s MEMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comments of the SHG’s Members on Satisfaction</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>83.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>16.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17) Out of total SHG 20% suggested to Organize of Awareness Programme on Bank Transaction and other Official procedures, while 25.63% suggested to timely and regular supervision should be made by the implementing agency, 14.37% Govt. should provide market for selling products produced by the SHG, 13.75% Banks should act promptly to provide loan to the deserving SHG’s and 26.25% suggested to take steps by the Govt. to motivate and educate the people regarding the benefit of formation of the SHG’s.
TABLE 4.17 SUGGESTIONS FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE SCHEME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suggestions For The Success Of The Scheme</th>
<th>No. of SHG</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organize of Awareness Programme on Bank Transaction and other Official procedures</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timely and regular supervision should be made by the implementing agency</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>25.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Govt. should provide market for selling products</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>14.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banks should act promptly to provide loan to the deserving SHG’s</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To take steps by the Govt. to motivate and educate the people regarding the benefit of formation of the SHG’s.</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>26.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>160</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISCUSSION ON DATA’S RECEIVED

After analysis of different collected data’s from the respondents on the SGSY Programme the following discussions are made.

Discussion on SGSY Data:

⇒ Though each and every adult people having different age group have the right to form SHG. There is no age limit for the formation of SHG’s under SGSY, but the study reveals that out of total members of the SHG’s majority member’s fall under age group 30-40 years. Greater responsibilities towards family and no alternative way of earning money may be the causes of the same.

⇒ Almost all the SHG’s formed by 10-15 members. It may be helpful for proper maintenance of SHG’s.
Majority of the SHG's formed by female. There may be no other ways for women for earning money and self employment for which they formed the SHG's.

Majority of the members of SHG were HSLC passed. There was only a small percentage of beneficiaries were graduate and industrial training. Lack of higher education of the masses may be the causes for the same.

 Majority of the total beneficiaries of the scheme were married. Lack of other income sources, the married beneficiaries may be involved in SHG's.

Out of total members of the SHG, majority of the members were housewives no alternative sources of income of the housewives may be the causes for the same.

The objectives of large number of SHG's were to self employment. It may be the cause for the same that there was no other ways of self employment for which they wanted to create self employment.

Activities of large number of beneficiaries were Agricultural and a minimum percentage of beneficiaries engaged themselves in piggery, goattery, weaving, fishery etc. It may be because of Agricultural based society, the SHG's selected Agriculture as the main activity of the SHG.

Most of the SHG did not receive the revolving fund from the implementing agency, but a minimum percentage of beneficiaries received the revolving fund. A good numbers of the SHG's who receive the revolving fund, paid something to somebody relating to revolving fund in advance for receiving the revolving fund. Shortage of allotted fund or due to corruption of implementing agency may be the causes for deprivation of revolving fund.

Almost all the beneficiaries aware about bank loan repayment. It is a good sign for the proper implementation of the programme. Awareness of the
people or strict rule of the bank regarding loan repayment may be the causes for the same.

⇒ All the SHG's members opined that they satisfied with this scheme and all the members agreed that it was helpful for the Socio-economic development of the rural people. Socio-economic changes of the rural people by engaging themselves in SHG works may be the causes for the same.

⇒ A large number of the SHG opined that there were irregularities in implementation of the SGSY Programme. Intension to corruption or negligence of duty of the implementing agency may be the causes for the same.

⇒ Almost all the members of the SHG are satisfied with the functions of their SHG. It may be the cause for the same that the members of the SHG's changed their socio-economic conditions by the help of SHG.

References:

1. Guidelines of SGSY, Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India, New Delhi.