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Flagship programm and gender issues: a case study from Uttrakhand hill

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ABSTRACT

This study conducted to analyse the gender biasness in education and employment sectors, which was carried out in rural area of Uttrakhand during 2000 -2010. The survey revealed that a direct intervention of some Flagship programs including women welfare meets some success in school education and provided sluggish rate of employments outreach. Further the maximum women engaged in agriculture and homestead work and a little percent of women engaged in government sectors. While Flagship satisfies the BPL and marginal groups, but there is further scope to enhance women motivation of women for their development. There is a need to make it more cost effective and pass on the benefits to workers. As for the last benchmark, the program ensures minimum leakages to a great extent by virtue of being self-targeting and non-discretionary.

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Introduction

In the rural area of India, the poverty directly related to the prevalence of large scale gender biasness in education and employment. The Citizenship, right and women empowerment are also great issues in present perspectives (Devika 2007, Vasan 2007, Singh & Vohra 2007, Caulfield 2008, Paik 2009). Even though a large number of rural populations is landless and sustain entirely on wage employment or farm activities of upper section. Infect the rural workforce population continuous to suffer due to excessive seasonality of employment and low wages. Under such circumstances Government of India have been runs under some Flagship and women welfare programs to reduce the gender gaps. The SSA, MDM and MNERGA are national wide employment and education status alleviation programs presently being implemented.

In Uttarakhand hill the outreach of Flagship and women welfare programs has high disincentives for user groups and big gaps in their outreach, especially in case of employment generation. There is much contemporary work has been done so far to access the education (Paik 2009, Jandhyala 2012 and Ramchandran 2012) and employment in Government and public sectors (Naqvi 2011 and Seema and Salgaonkar 2007)

The Study Site- In keeping view the census about 4902 villages have population < 500 and 1878 village of Uttrakhand which has 501-1000 population are more or less common educational, geographical and physical conditions with developed road network and communication resources are assumed developed area have lower chances of out migration. Present studied representative site located between 29^o, 65' to 29^o 78' N and 79^o 42' to 79^o 63' E at elevation of 1200- 1450 m amsl in District Almora Uttrakhand. The Village Barsimi and Pagasa located 16 km and 40 km far respectively from the District head quarter. Further the village has a very strong and complex social institutions and line agencies for dealing community and resource management. In 2010 the village population of Barsimi was 173 (80 male and 93 female) and for Pagasa was 840 (417 male and 423 females), is presented in Table (1). The entire village is surrounded by agriculture and pine forest with small patches of pastures.

Methodology- A survey was conducted at village level with help of various primary and secondary sources- questionnaire survey, interactions observed by Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) with residing people. Data obtained from Aganbari Kendra - Pagasa, District Census Hand Book, Census of India (2001) and information obtained from Tahsildar office Ranikhet and local revenue records. The detail investigation of population dynamics and educational status of inhabitant was carried out by primary survey and available secondary data records in 1995, 2000, 2005 and 2010. A complete inventory was made for major worked performed for different groups (Labour, craft person, Personal occupation and Government servant) to reflect their physical capabilities, nature of work usually they perform and the inherited traditional families responsibilities.

Study Group-

Group –I The people of this group have low income and are land less families, the registered children for schooling in nearest government's school/ Aganbari. Due to very poor economic conditions especially girl child above than 5 years old are highly engaged in household activities, child care and a little bid farm based activities. Obtained data show these are highly capable and humiliated hill human resource have least options for sell their services for agricultural activities, local building constructional activities and different Government employment schemes like MNERGA, JRY, RES and disaster based programs. The women of this age group are much contributed their services for their livestock caring with agriculture activities.

Group-II-This groups related to craft based occupation i.e. iron smith, carpentering, tailoring like traditional jobs for livelihood, practices and daily routine. The women and children of this group's hardest working group engaging in proper functioning of agriculture related work of upper class along with own livestock caring work. The women of this group are much contributed to household, child care and animal care.

Group III- The interaction with rural and data illustrated in this study shows the studied group have a slightly higher land hold size and one or more person working in private institutions and defense services in other town/city or other state but the

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child are residing in the village. Most of young men and women/ girls are engaged in professional course i.e. polytechnic, ITI and other courses but lack of government and industrial units in the surrounding places lying still unemployed. Among them few of unemployed looking for jobs in share taxi driving, local level shops etc. The female of this group is totally engaged in farm based activities and livestock caring, a few exception engaged in self employment i.e. shop keeping, weaving etc.

Group IV- Related person engaged in Government services (mostly men) and have good land hold size but residing outside the agriculture totally depends on lower economic groups. This group has very low percentage among the all groups. The women of this group contributed their services for child caring own shop keeping, and hardly engaged in government private and Government jobs.

Table 1. Gender wise Educational statistics of hill locating villages during 2000-2010

Name of age groups	Sex	Barsimi Total households, N=58			Pagasa Total households N=116		
		2000	2005	2010	2000	2005	2010
General	M	59	58	52	272	280	284
	F	74	65	62	279	282	283
	T	123	123	114	551	564	565
Schedule Cast	M	32	29	28	129	135	135
	F	36	33	31	126	132	140
	T	68	62	59	255	267	275
Total Population	M	91	97	83	400	417	417
	F	110	98	93	406	414	423
	T	191	185	171	806	831	840
Students under schooling	M	29	30	26	139	133	134
	F	23	19	23	129	123	141
	T	52	49	49	268	256	275
Dropout after V th	M	03	02	02	02	03	03
	F	04	02	03	06	04	04
	T	07	04	05	08	07	07
Dropout after X th	M	04	03	04	13	17	20
	F	03	03	02	14	10	11
	T	07	06	06	27	27	31
Number of Graduates	M	11	14	14	11	12	14
	F	07	08	9	04	04	05
	T	18	22	23	15	16	19

Result and discussion

1. Education equity and Gender Imbalance

The observed data in Table (1) and interaction with residents of the villages showed that number of male are quietly higher in number than the female in both the villages. The number of Schedule cast males dominated against to female. Table (2) stated that the number of schooling male were higher in comparing to female in both villages. Similarly the Schooling males are dominated in both of the cast. The percentage of Graduate males marginally higher over the females in both the villages. Whereas the percentage of male and female dropouts are almost in equal in both of the villages. Further Women percent was comparatively higher for Barsismi than the Pagasa. This might be supported by the higher temporary migration of male for seeking the jobs in distance places in both villages. The percentage of child under schooling was recorded gradually increases and further the drop out decrease from one interval to another show good sign of educational out reach in both the villages. A positive trend was recorded for one interval to another. Thus the results obtained from both of the villages show a clear cut educational biasness

in between the male and female, general to schedule cast and between the villages as well.

Table 2 Gender statistics of village Barsimi and Pagasa

Name of age groups	Sex	Barsimi Total households, N=58			Pagasa Total households N=116		
		2000	2005	2010	2000	2005	2010
Percent of pupation	M	42.4	46.9	45.6	49.7	50.2	49.7
	F	57.6	53.1	54.4	50.3	49.8	50.3
	T	100	100	100	100	100	100
Under schooling (%) of total children	M	34.5	37.0	31.3	43.7	43.5	40.4
	F	27.4	23.4	27.7	40.6	40.2	42.5
	T	61.9	60.4	59.0	84.3	83.7	82.9
Drop out (%) of total children	M	8.3	6.2	7.2	4.7	6.5	6.9
	F	8.3	6.2	6.1	6.3	4.6	4.5
	T	16.6	12.2	13.3	11.0	11.1	11.4
Graduate (%) of total children	M	13.1	17.3	16.9	3.4	3.9	4.2
	F	8.4	9.9	10.8	1.3	1.3	1.5
	T	21.5	28.2	27.7	4.7	5.2	5.7
Total (%) of Children under schooling & dropout		100	100	100	100	100	100

Table 3 Gender and Job status

Qualification	Sex	Work performed	Income level per annum
Non metric	M	Personal occupation	<15000
	F	Agriculture/ Homestead	<15000
Up to metric	M	Shop keeping/ Business	<50000
	F	Agriculture/ Homestead	<50000
Above metric	M	Shop keeping/ Business	>50000
	F	Homestead	>50000
Post graduate/Technical	M	Govt./Company job	>100000
	F	Homestead/Govt. job	>100000

Table-4 Responsible Pull and Push factors of Gender biasness, N=174

Factors responsible for gender biasness	Pull factors	Push factors
Personal and local factors		
i. No equity on paternal property	√	
ii. Insecurity in out station schooling		√
iii. Remote location of village	√	
iv. High marriage expenditures	√	
v. Higher household workloads	√	
vi. Poor/marginal back ground		√
vii. Boudation of Traditional heritage/customs/rituals in Community		√
viii. Lower marriage age		√
ix. Lower education status /Illiterate parents	√	
x. Fear for technical/higher education		
Infrastructure and undeveloped factors		
i. Distance location of higher/technical institute	√	
ii. Limited jobs in local area		√
iii. No industrial jobs		√
iv. Limited self employment resources	√	
v. Complex & small community structure		√
vi. Strengthen the community institution		√
vii. Absence of community motivating agencies		√
viii. Gaps in awareness programs	√	
ix. Lake of women awaken	√	
x. Small women welfare cesspool fund	√	

Gender equity and Professional Imbalance

Table (3), Fig. (1) and (2) observation revealed that, a wide professional gap between male and female job, and further in between the villages. In case of Barsimi the number of employed were higher in compare village Pagasa, whereas the

number of agriculture based workers were quite higher in compare to village Barsimi, this might be due to self handed agriculture and local locating agriculture encourage to women for the aforesaid. Further the male respondents were less engaged in agriculture activity in case of village Barsimi in comparing to Pagsa, whereas the almost female of both the villages are engaged in homestead activities.

Table 5: Outcomes of priority fixed by women groups

S No	Strategies
i.	Enhance technical & education hubs
ii.	Encourage self employment resources
iii.	Job promotion on PPP mode in local area
iv.	Encourage sports facilities
v.	Organize local level women welfare programs
vi.	Financial support to weaker/marginal families
vii.	Encourage marriage halls/Banquet halls
viii.	Minimize School dropout
ix.	To eradicate the fear for technical /higher education
x.	To mitigate gaps for gender imbalance

This might be due to the upper cast people dominated village Barsimi, the agriculture field related work done by the lower cast people and equal homestead work done by female showed the male respondent have slightly higher incomes. The lower percentage of employed females in both villages showed remote options and limited educational facilities in nearest places.

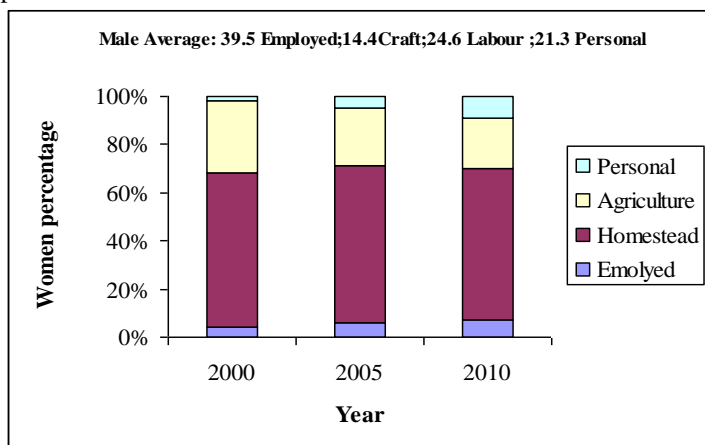


Fig 1. Women Job percentage for village Barsimi

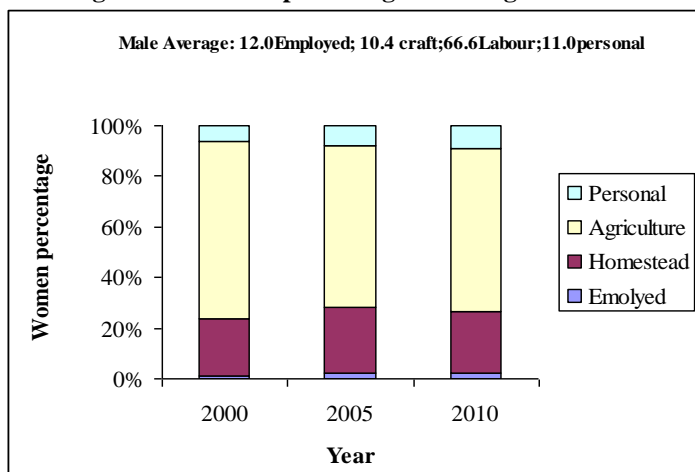


Fig 2 Women Job percentage for village Pagsa Services and their outreach

The existing women livelihood status and implemented betterment services show big gaps in terms of education and employment in both the villages. There are some basic local

factors which effected to inequity in paternal property, teen age marriage and high expenditures in marriage and traditional conflicts are the 'pull' factors. The complex & small community structure, limited self employment in local area and distance location of higher education institutions are the major 'push' factors to enhance the gender biasness in these villages. These create serious threat especially for women community residing in the rural area of Himalayan hills.

Strategy

The results from the study indicated that the Gender, education, professional position and Monthly Income are some main factors have to need to promote the educational institutions, job motivating institution and to run the community welfare programs in the area. Further the community and local institution strengthen might be fill the gender and existing gaps. These results are consistent with a number of previous studies that found that a master plan for community development.

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