

Assesment of various gender issues in agriculture

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Abstract

Gender mainstreaming involves bringing the contribution, perspectives and priorities of both women and men to the centre of attention in the development arena in order to inform the design, implementation and outcomes of policies and programmes. The present study was conducted in Kanpur Nagar during 2011 -2012. Multistage random sampling technique was adopted for the study. Total 120 respondents were selected from the village namely Laxamanpur and Bhakheriya. The data were analyzed and tabulated according to statistically. Further, after studying their gender issues, it was found that men and women respondents involved in work as agricultural labor in feminization of agriculture with mean score 1.92 male and 2.00 female. Whereas women's were facing problems to lack of education in women education with mean score 2.30 male and 2.53 female. From the study it was concluded that mostly men and women involve in development bias and women education of gender issues in agriculture.

Keyword: Gender issues, mainstreaming

Introduction

Mainstreaming gender perspective is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.

Gender mainstreaming involves bringing the contribution, perspectives and priorities of both women and men to the centre of attention in the development area in order to inform the design, implementation and outcomes of policies and programmes. It is a critical strategy not only in the pursuit of gender equality a development goal in its own right but also in the achievement of other development goals, including economic ones. Indeed, overlooking relevant gender factors in macro-economic policies and institutions can undermine the successful outcome of those very same policies and institutions.

Barriento *et al.*, (2003) Agro-industry tends to label female tasks and skills as feminine qualities that do not warrant skilled wage levels or wages equal to men's. On the other hand, many tasks undertaken by men are considered worthy of higher wages because they involve strength or operating machinery. As a consequence, women are concentrated in what are considered women's (unskilled) work and remunerated

at lower levels than men's work. For example, in Brazil women who graft grape vines are paid at a lower rate than men who operate tilling machinery. While wage rates continue to be biased against women, the wage gap between women and men is often smaller than in other rural activities.

Deere (2005), by looking at national data and local case studies, indicate two different agricultural labour force sectors that have become feminized in many Latin American countries. Women have increased their participation in the agricultural wage labour force, particularly in non-traditional export agriculture. In the smallholder sector, women are assuming more responsibility in agricultural production either as principal farmers or as unremunerated family workers. Case studies in sub-Saharan Africa indicate similar trends in that region.

Objective: To access the variations in gender issues in agriculture.

Research Methodology

To complete the above objective the research methodology employed and the study was conducted in Kanpur Nagar district during 2011-12. Multistage random sampling technique was selected. Kanpur Nagar divided in 10 blocks. Shivrajpur block was selected randomly a two village namely Laxamanpur and Bhakheriya were selected from the selected block. Total 120 respondents were selected for the present study. The collected data were subjected to statistical analysis for which statistical tools, percentage, weighted mean, correlation coefficient and ranks were used.

Results and Discussion

Distribution of respondents according to variations in gender issues in agriculture

(1) Feminization of agriculture

It is evident from the Table 1 that 91.7 per cent of male respondents were working as agriculture labor which hold the I rank with mean score 1.92 while 100.0 per cent of female respondents were belonged to agriculture labor and contribution in agriculture farming both categories have I rank with mean score 2.00 followed by II rank have 81.7 per cent male respondents contribution in agriculture farming with mean score 1.82. Further as 66.7 per cent of male respondents have linkage in agricultural activities with III rank mean score 1.67 and female respondents have 83.3 per cent with mean score 1.83 respectively. While 50.0 per cent of male respondents were belonged to unpaid labor in

by II rank 91.7 per cent of female respondents wake up early in the morning and last one to retire to bed with mean score 1.92. Further as 58.3 per cent of male and 66.7 per cent of female respondents were feeling tiredness every time has III rank with mean score 1.58 and 1.67 respectively. While 66.7 per cent of male and 41.7 per cent of female respondents have monatomic work have I and V rank with mean score 1.67 and 1.42 followed by 41.7 per cent of male respondents have repetitive work which hold the VI rank with mean score 1.42 and 66.7 per cent of female respondents have repetitive work which hold the III rank with mean score 1.67 V rank in minimum 33.3 per cent of male and 50.0 per cent of female respondents were doing work manually or by machinery which hold V rank with mean score 1.33

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to feminization of agriculture

S. No.	Feminization of agriculture		Male				Female			
	Yes	No	Mean score	Rank	Yes	No	Mean score	Rank		
1.	Contribution of agriculture farming	49 (81.7)	11 (18.3)	1.82	II	60 (100.0)	-	2.00	I	
2.	Work as a agriculture labor	55 (91.7)	5 (8.3)	1.92	I	60 (100.0)	-	2.00	I	
3.	Unpaid labor in agriculture	30 (50.0)	30 (50.0)	1.50	IV	45 (75.0)	15 (25.0)	1.75	IV	
4.	Unpaid labor in home	20 (33.3)	40 (66.7)	1.33	V	50 (83.3)	50 (83.3)	1.50	V	
5.	Linkage in agricultural activities	40 (66.7)	20 (33.3)	1.67	III	50 (83.3)	10 (16.7)	1.83	III	

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to overburden of work

S. No.	Overbuden of work		Male				Female			
	Yes	No	Mean score	Rank	Yes	No	Mean score	Rank		
1.	Farming and household work	40 (66.7)	20 (33.3)	1.67	I	60 (100.0)	-	2.00	I	
2.	Wakeup early in the morning last one to retire to bed	35 (58.3)	25 (41.7)	1.58	II	55 (91.7)	5 (8.3)	1.92	II	
3.	Feel tiredness every time	30 (50.0)	30 (50.0)	1.50	III	40 (66.7)	20 (33.3)	1.67	III	
4.	Dual work both at the field and at the home effect on your family	35 (58.3)	25 (41.7)	1.58	II	30 (50.0)	30 (50.0)	1.50	IV	
5.	Monatomic work	40 (66.7)	20 (33.3)	1.67	I	25 (41.7)	35 (58.3)	1.42	V	
6.	Repetitive work	25 (41.3)	35 (58.3)	1.42	IV	40 (66.7)	20 (33.3)	1.67	III	
7.	Work manually or by machinery	20 (33.3)	40 (66.7)	1.33	VII	30 (50.0)	30 (50.0)	1.50	V	

agriculture have IV rank with mean score 1.50 and 75.0 per cent of female respondents have IV rank with mean score 1.75. V rank is minimum 33.3 per cent of male and 30.0 per cent of female respondents were belonged to unpaid laborers in home with mean score 1.33 and 1.50 respectively.

(2) Overburden of work

Table 2 shows that 66.7 per cent of male respondents were belonged to farming and household work and monatomic work both category and have I rank with mean score 1.67 while 100.0 per cent of female respondents were doing farming and household work category with I rank mean score 2.00 followed

and 1.50 respectively.

(3) Impact of technology

Table 3 shows that 83.3 per cent of male and 60.0 per cent of female respondents have technical knowledge related to farming. 71.7 per cent of male and 46.7 per cent of female respondents have technical knowledge related to farming with multiple cropping. While 38.3 per cent of male and 30.0 per cent of female respondents were doing seed treatment, whereas 6.7 per cent of female respondents were doing storage. Further as 1.7 per cent of male and 3.3 per cent of female respondents have knowledge about insecticide and fungicides and soil testing followed by 75.0 per

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to impact of technology

S. No.	Impact of Technology	Male		Female	
		Frequencies	Per cent	Frequencies	Per cent
1.	Technical knowledge related to farming	Yes 50	83.3	Yes 36	60.0
		No 10	16.7	No 24	40.0
2.	If yes				
	(a) Multiple cropping	43	71.7	28	46.7
	(b) Soil testing	2	3.3	1	1.7
	(c) Seed treatment	23	38.3	18	30.0
	(d) Insecticides & fungicides	1	1.7	-	-
	(e) Storage	-	-	4	6.7
	(f) Other	-	-	2	3.3
3.	Effect on your field crops if you have technical knowledge	Yes 45	75.0	Yes 36	60.0
		No 15	25.0	No 24	40.0
4.	Technical knowledge				
	(a) Trainings	50	83.3	24	40.0
	(b) Mass media	4	6.7	2	3.3
	(c) Social participation	22	36.7	12	20.0
	(d) Others	-	-	2	3.3
5.	Type of farming method				
	(a) Traditional based	54	90.0	60	100.0
	(b) Technology based	3	5.0	-	-
	(c) Both of above	3	5.0	-	-

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to women's education

Sl. No.	Women's education	Male				Female			
		Always	Some times	Never	Mean Rank score	Always	Some times	Never	Mean Rank score
1.	Aware about the education	2 (3.3)	39	19	1.72 IV	-	20	40	1.33 III
2.	Illiteracy is the reason that technical knowledge	15 (25.0)	32	13	2.03 II	19 (31.7)	41	-	2.32 II
3.	Facing problems to lack of education	19 (31.7)	40	1	2.30 I	32 (53.3)	28	-	2.53 I

cent of male and 60.0 per cent of female respondents have any effect on your crops if you have technical knowledge, whereas, 83.3 per cent of male and 40.0 per cent of female respondents have technical knowledge through trainings respectively. While 36.7 per cent of male and 20.0 per cent of female respondents were getting technical knowledge through social participation, whereas, 6.7 per cent of male and 3.3 per cent of female respondents were taking technical knowledge through mass media. Whereas 90.0 per cent of male and 100.0 per cent of female respondents were doing farming on traditional based followed by 5.0 per cent of male respondents who were doing farming on technology and traditional both of above.

(4) Women's education

The Table 4 shows that 31.7 per cent of male and 53.3 per cent of female respondents were facing problems to lack of education hold rank I with mean

score value of 2.30 and 2.53 respectively. Whereas 25.0 per cent of male and 31.7 per cent of female respondents shows that illiteracy is the reason for the less technical knowledge hold ranks II with mean score value of 2.03 and 2.32 respectively. While 3.3 per cent of male respondents aware about the education hold rank II with mean score value of 1.72 and 1.33 respectively.

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