

Role of Women Entrepreneurship in Economic Development of Nepal

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Abstract

The study tells that women entrepreneurs play a vital role not only in the development of industrial sector of a country but also in the development of farm and service sector. The role of women entrepreneurship in economic development varies from economy to economy depending upon its material resources, industrial climate and the responsiveness of the political system to the entrepreneurial function. The objective of the study is to find out the role of women entrepreneurship in economic development of our country. The study is based on secondary data and analytical approach. Women entrepreneurs, in the form of new goods & services, result in new employment, which can produce a cascading effect or virtuous circle in the economy. It is necessary that we understand the benefits of women entrepreneurs, a balanced approach to nurturing entrepreneurship will definitely result in a positive impact on economy and society.

Keywords: Women Entrepreneurship, economic development, balanced regional development, unemployment, gender equity

1. Background of the study:-

Entrepreneurs are group or individuals of people, they invest their capital and start business and start industries. They use and assemble different factors of production like land, labor, capital and man power to conduct their business activities. "An entrepreneur initiates ventures, employs, workers, organize production, develop markets and influences the development of managerial thoughts" (Shrestha; 1982).

Entrepreneurs create and collect wealth and provide employment to the public in the community. So, they are given significant importance. They can assume super importance for economic growth both in developed and developing countries. They can promote wealth creation and capital formation in the country. They reduce problems of unemployment, poverty and scarcity in the society. They can lead people to a path way of prosperous life (Bhardawas et.al; 2011).

Entrepreneurship is the exploring the opportunities in the market place. It is necessary to arrange the resources to gain these opportunities in long term. It is a creative and innovative skill. It needs planning and organizing opportunities, assuming risk and adapting to an ever-changing political, social and economic environment (Deshpande and Sethi; 2009).

"A women Entrepreneur is an adult who owns and runs an enterprise, especially commercial one often at a personal financial risks" (Bhuvaneshwori and Annapoorani; 2013).

Women Entrepreneur is a person who accepts challenging role to meet her personal needs and become economically strong and independent. A strong desire to do something positive is an innate

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quality of entrepreneurial women, who is capable of contributing wealth and values in the family and in social life. With the advancement of social media, women are aware of their own traits, right and their work situation (Rao; 2011).

Now women Entrepreneurs are increasing and becoming conscious of their roles, right and work. Women Entrepreneurs represent a group of active women who have broken away from the beaten track and are exploring new way of economic participation. The women have knowledge to run organized enterprises. Their skill, their talent, ability in working and creativity in business are making them successful in business (Tripathi; 2012).

2. Materials and Methods:

The research is based on secondary data. They are collected from especially different national and international research articles. This research is based on descriptive and analytical approach. The necessary materials have been extracted from different electronic data based and scientific sources like research gate, Springer, Google scholar etc.

2. Objectives of the study:

General Objective: To study the role of women entrepreneurship in the economic development of Nepal

Specific Objectives:

1. To study the role of Entrepreneurs in economic development.
2. To determine the economic change of the society from women entrepreneurs.
3. To offer a suggestions for the improvement of women entrepreneurs.

4. Role of women Entrepreneurship in economic development;-

In the various economies, the role of women entrepreneurs is not identical. It can depend on material resources, industry climate and responsiveness of the political situation of the country. It varies from economy to economy. The contributions of women entrepreneurs may be high in favorable conditions of a nation. Most of the people have realized that for achieving economic goal of development, it is necessary to increase male and female entrepreneurship both qualitatively and quantitatively in the country. The active and laborious entrepreneurs explore the country's available resources, labor, technology and capital (Dhaliwal; 2016).

Schumpeter, 1934 visualized the entrepreneurs as the key figure in economic development because of their role in introducing innovations.

Women entrepreneurs can play a significant role in household management of the family. It is one of the important inputs in economic development. The important roles that our women entrepreneurs can play in the economic development are as follows;-

4.1. Women entrepreneurs can promote capital formation;-

The entrepreneurs use their own saving for setting up their enterprise. They can promote their capital formation from the idle saving of public. They can help for the wealth creation which is essential for the economic development of the country.

4.2. Reduces concentration of economic power:-

Most of the industrial development lead to economic power in the hands of few people which can help to grow monopolies. The women entrepreneurs can help to reduce the concentration of economic power from the population.

4.3. Wealth creation and distribution:-

It can help to equitable read distribution of wealth and income to the country to more people and geographic areas which provide large benefit to the large section of the society. So, the entrepreneurial activities generate more activities and can give a multiplier improvement in the economy.

4.4. Create large scale Employment:-

The women entrepreneurs can provide large scale employment to the unemployed people. They can create job opportunities to others. Women entrepreneurs generate employment both directly and indirectly. Directly they get self-employment as an entrepreneur and indirectly they offer jobs to millions. So women entrepreneurship is the best key to fight the evil of the un-employment.

4.5. Promotes Balanced Regional development:-

The entrepreneurs set up different industries and business in the less developed and back war back warded areas. They can help the large number of public benefits like road construction. Transportation, health, education, entertainment etc. the competitions of enterprise can help in the development of backward regions.

4. 6. Improvement in the standard of living:-

The entrepreneurs can increase the standard of living of the people and it is the features of economic development of a country. They can produce wide variety of goods and services at a lower cost on large scale. This enables the people of the country quality goods in lower prices which result them improvement of their living.

4.7. Increasing Gross National Product and Per capita income:-

The women entrepreneurs are always on the lookout for opportunities. They Explore new opportunities, encourage effective resource, mobilization of capital and skill, bring new product in the market for the growth of economy. They can sell the product in national and international market. In this way, the entrepreneurs can grow the Gross national product as well as per-capita income of the country. So, for national development, an increasing number of women entrepreneurs are required to meet this increasing demand for goods and services. They can increase the national income for economic development.

4.8. Creating Innovation:-

The entrepreneurs are persons who always seek for changes. They introduce new ideas and new combination of factors. They always work for new ideas for new techniques of production. They can bring economic development through innovation. So, they play an important role in national development.

4.9. Create New Business:-

Women entrepreneurs always work very hard and seek for new goods and services which result in new employment. Thus they can create new business opportunity in the society.

4.10. Induces Back ward and Forward Linkage:-

Most of the entrepreneurs like to work in an environment of change and they try to get maximum profits from innovation. When they established in with the change technology, it induces backward and forward linkage. It can stimulate the progress of economic development in the country.

4.11. Increase Country's Export Trade:-

The entrepreneurs produce large scale of goods and services for the purpose of earning foreign exchange. So import subtraction and export promotion ensure the economic independence and development in the country. The women and men entrepreneurs uplift the country's export trade.

4.12. Create Social Change:-

Women entrepreneurs offer unique qualities of goods and services in the societies. They can break away from traditional boundary from the society. They gain an improved quality of life, greater social moral value and economic freedom. So the society can be changed.

4.13. Puts new business ideas into practice:-

Women entrepreneurs can create jobs that facilitates personal development. They can find out social problems too. So, they can tackle new ideas for their new generation.

4. 14. Personal Growth:-

Women entrepreneurs work very hard for hours, they have created millions of good jobs. They improve higher confidence and greater independence. They have good economic condition, creative solution of problems solve. They have freedom.

5. Discussions

In Nepal, women make up more than half of the population. Hence, it is important to achieve gender goals not only at the household level, but in a way they can positively contributes to an economic and sustainable growth of the country. In 2010, the participation of women in the Nepali labor force was 23.6%. In 2022 it rose up to 286%. Additionally, a key indicator of progress in women's economic empowerment is active in labor force participation. The total waged and salaried women increased from a mere 8.31% in 2010 to 12.1% in 2019. (Tuladhar; 2023)

There are different literature and research related to the present study. The related literatures can help to find out the purpose and finding of the study. Different knowledge and information are available from the various sources discussions. Different books, journal and related dissertations are studied for this purpose. Some related discussions are;-

Agarwal; July 2018 has explained about different factors which affects on involvement of women entrepreneurs in developing their self-enterprises. The personal, and social factors which affect the entrepreneurial intentions of women to initiate their venture. In the 21st century, entrepreneurship is emerging as a distinct field in the competitive business world.

Yadav and Unni; 2016 has studied on women entrepreneurship have witnessed a rapid growth over the past 30 years. This field is in an adolescence stage with a considerable number of journal articles, literature reviews and books being published on women entrepreneurs. The objective of this study is twofold. First is to examine the number of papers published on women entrepreneurship in 12 established entrepreneurship journals from 1900 to 2016. Second is to assess the growth of the field by specifically reviewing literature reviews published from 1980s till 2016 and put forward future research directions.

Bhatta; 2022 has explained that entrepreneurship plays very important role in social and economic development of our country. It can grow the creation of capital and generate social benefit. The women entrepreneurship can grow employment opportunity and national economy of the society. He has explained different problems of women entrepreneurs and given different suggestions for future prospects for the development of women entrepreneurs in Nepal. The researcher has commended that the government have to establish different institutions for advocating the right of women entrepreneurs that provides social awareness and discrimination of women.

Wajih and Imtiaz; 2012 explains the sociocultural values on the entrepreneurial performance of Indian middle-class women entrepreneur. The sociocultural factors include the information about their age, marital status, education and training level, financial and business skills, family background and type of organization. These factors play an important role in entrepreneurship development.

Ambepitiya; 2016 attempts to explain the significant role of women in entrepreneurship in the economic development of any country. On any developing scenario, this is a considerable factor. Women can contribute and support to the family by involving in many sectors. They can help to their family, society as well as the nation from their entrepreneurship. Women entrepreneurship is key to the developing world in promoting sustainable practices in business, socially, economically and ecologically.

Shrestha, Maharjan and Rajbhandari; 2015 explains the economic and social status of Jyapu women and examines their productive and economic roles, their social and community engagement and their decision-making process. Their study has given particular focus on water use and the conservation of stone spouts and traditional wells. The study shows that Jyapu women are not sufficiently empowered to play a major role in wider decision. Their participation in community-based activities (water conservation) and economic entrepreneurship is not good at the domestic and community level.

Feminism theory-(Ahl; 2006), has assumed that men and women are seen to be same or have become different. Social feminism emphasizes that there are differences between male and female in experiences through the deliberate socialization methods from the earliest moments of life that results in fundamentally different ways of viewing the world. Female's socialization creates different perspectives, goals, and choices for women and they choose their business field accordingly. The relationship between family and work has been stronger for women, rather than seeing their business as a separate economic unit in a social work.

The liberal feminist theory according to Fischer et al., 1993, asserted that the liberal feminist tradition goes back to feminisms earliest days (the first wave of feminism) and argues for the necessity of social reform in order to give women the same status and opportunities as men. The fundamental basis of the liberal theory assumes that men and women are equal, not sex is the basis for individual rights. It emphasizes the existence of discriminatory barriers and systematic biases

facing women (for example restricted access to resources, education, business experience), which must be eliminated.

Deshpande and Sethi; 2009 in their research paper exhibits the encouraging and discouraging factors in an enterprise and to provide solutions to the various problems faced by the women entrepreneur group. For the betterment of women entrepreneur emphasize should be given on educating women strata of population, spreading awareness and consciousness amongst women to combine in the enterprise field, making them realize their strengths, and important position in the society and the great contribution they can make for their industry as well as the entire economy.

Sigdel; 2015 has explained about women entrepreneurship development in Kathmandu valley. Women entrepreneurs can grow business ownership and business creation that empowers women economically. It can increase their economic strength as well as position in the society. Women entrepreneurs face number of problems to start and sustain business enterprises. They are facing different problems as, lack access to capital, training, technical and financial knowledge. This research looks at the personnel characteristics of women entrepreneur in Kathmandu valley and their motivational factor to start a business.

6. Suggestions to develop women entrepreneurs in Nepal;

Different efforts from all areas are required for the development of women entrepreneurs. Their greater participation is needed in the entrepreneurial activities. Following efforts can be taken for effective development of women entrepreneurs in Nepal (Fazolbhoy; 2014):

- 6.1.** The women have to consider as specific target group for all developmental programs.
- 6. 2.** From the government part better educational facilities and schemes should be extended to women.
- 6.3.** To grow management skills adequate training program should be provided to women in all community.
- 6.4.** Community women need vocational training to understand about their productions process and management in market.
- 6.5.** In women polytechnics and industries skill development should be done.
- 6.6.** Women entrepreneurs need training on professional competence and leadership skill to extend their business.
- 6.7.** Training and counseling on women entrepreneurs can remove psychological causes like lack of self-confidence and fear of success.
- 6.8.** The women training program can encourage to more passive women that taught to recognize their own psychological needs and express them in their work.
- 6.9.** The financing institutions should provide trade related finance to women entrepreneurs.
- 6.10.** Women entrepreneurs are starting small and large scale business. So the financial institutions should provide them more working capital assistance both for small scale venture and large scale ventures.

6.11. There should be provision of micro credit system and enterprise credit system to the women entrepreneurs at local level of each community.

6.12. Different gender sensitization programs should be held to train financiers to treat women as citizens with dignity and respect as persons in their own right.

6.13. Women produce different products in their industries, industrial estate could provide them marketing outlets for the sale of their products.

6.14. Different Programs for encouraging entrepreneurship among women are to be extended at local level of the community.

6.15. Different training in entrepreneurial attitudes should start at the high school level through well-designed courses, which can build confidence through behavioral games.

6.16. There should be Involvement of Nongovernmental Organizations in women entrepreneurial training programs and counseling. Which make them skilful in their working field.

7. Conclusion

The concept of women entrepreneurship development is an innovative and novel concept for the economic and social transformation in Nepal. Nepalese women are hardworking and laborious. They can start up different micro-business and micro- enterprises in the different parts of the country. They can create new knowledge in the area of economic and social development. Women entrepreneurship puts new business ideas into practice. In doing so, it creates jobs that facilitate personal development of women. With their innovative and creative ideas, women entrepreneurs can tackle social problems too. It's a worthy pursuit to consider and think how to pass down its principles to the next generation and enroll in How to encourage and teach our children. So, it is clear that women entrepreneurship serves as a catalyst of economic development. The role of women entrepreneurship in economic development of country can be the best one. Thus, the paper could be a time relevant guideline for the cost effective and multidimensional development journey of Nepal. It is a view to create new and innovative knowledge, skills and practice in the field of livelihood improvement and positive social change of women.

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