

Discuss how SHGs in India have contributed to the economic empowerment of women.

Self help groups use the informal associations of members - working towards increasing in their standard of living.

SHGs in India

India is home to more than 90 lakh SHGs and more than 10 crore women are part of various groups across the country.

The measures such as the DAY-National Rural Inclusive Mission and community investment fund have helped the SHGs to empower the economically.

Economic empowerment by SHGs

① Credit generation - the schemes such as the Day-NRHM has disbursed loans more than ₹5.2 lakh crore

service 2013-14 to the SHGs by empowering them to participate in cases dominated by men.

② Entrepreneurship - Efforts such as the SUEP - Startup Village Entrepreneurship program and Mahila Sashakti Krizan Paripatrana has improved the entrepreneurial roles of women by changing them for job seekers to job givers.

③ Credit discipline the loans disbursed to SHGs have been repaid ~~at~~ promptly. The bank repayment rate stands at 9.5% for the self-help groups.

④ Growth - the credit linkage of the SHGs have grown at 10.8% rate between 2013-2022 which means they strong fundamentals.

Challenges

Though these are aspiratory measures, issues such as lack of awareness and domestic work and care economy by women limits their participation in workforce or entrepreneurship.

Towards National help group

With push from relevant stake holders the focus on SHGs is increasing such as the Lakshmi Devi scheme. States, several bodies along with centre must work in mission mode to franchising it.

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