

COMPARISON OF MALE & FEMALE WORK PARTICIPATION IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE: A MICRO LEVEL STUDY OF PURKAL GRAM PANCHAYAT, SAHASPUR BLOCK, DEHRADUN

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ABSTRACT

Indian economy is highly dominated by agriculture and allied activities. Agriculture has a greater role to play in the economic development of developing countries like India as it provides livelihood to a vast majority of people living in the country. The agricultural sector provides livelihood to about three-fourths of the Indian population, that is, seven out of every ten persons in India depend on agriculture. In India, over 75% of agricultural labour constitutes of women. Besides being engaged in agriculture and allied activities, they are also responsible for raising their children, providing their families with nutritious meals and livestock management. These women are involved only in the manual work, they neither have any say in decision making, nor do they possess any land. Despite their extensive involvement in agriculture, their contributions still goes largely unrecognized and they are not treated at par with male workers.

Female participation in agriculture is significant, and is increasing day by day, especially in hilly regions. They are involved in all agricultural activities except tilling of the land. In addition to working on family-owned land, they also work as agricultural labour. Keeping in view these facts, the present study has been designed to compare the role of women in agriculture with that of male and also to find out the extent of their participation in various activities.

KEY WORDS: Male, Female, Agriculture, Participation, Workforce, Comparison.