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Awareness on social welfare programmes among women workers of unorganized sector with special reference to khurja pottery works

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Abstract
This study is destined to analyse and discuss the awareness about social protection programmes of the government among the women working in unorganized sector of a town Khurja, district Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh.

Development all alone cannot be a source of peace and prosperity until it is followed by social justice and equity. Both state and central governments have implemented a number of social welfare programmes for the upliftment of the marginalized people. Generally, no information is available on effectiveness of these programmes among the underprivileged class of people.

Efficiency and effectiveness of key welfare programmes in India need to be substantially improved. Particular attention needs to be paid to female participation and their access to these welfare programmes. Altering population demographics have placed various challenges before us, among which increasing pressure of social welfare of citizens is one. Remarkable disparities regarding social security remain among regions, between rural and urban areas, between men and women. On an average country spend 12.8% of their GDP on social security programmes. Currently only 47% of the global population is effectively covered with social security net. Social protection is a tool of social transformation, which creates wide ranging social and economic benefits to the society.

Keywords: Social welfare programmes, marginalized people, unorganized workers

Introduction
In order to nurture inclusive growth, reduction in vulnerability and mitigate poverty investment in social protection is inevitable. Present governments realize the need of improving the design and delivery of social protection to better target disadvantageous and marginalized groups. Social protection system refers to a country's set of social protection related policies and programmes, including administrative infrastructure for delivering them, evaluating performance and adaptation of design and delivery process accordingly. Its core function should be; safeguard of a minimum living standard, preventing deprivations through enlarging resilience to shocks and sustainable livelihood improvements. It's a tool of societal transformation towards greater equity, inclusion and the realization of the human right to social security.

Social protection in Asian Development Report 2001 is a "set of policies and programs designed to reduce poverty and vulnerability by promoting efficient markets, diminishing people's exposure to risks and enhancing their capacity to protect themselves against hazards and interruption or loss of income."

According to ILO "Social Security is the protection that a society provides to individuals and households to ensure access to healthcare and to guarantee income security, particularly in case of old age, unemployment, sickness, invalidity, work injury, maternity or loss of breadwinner."

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights acknowledges the right to social security for everyone. This secures their right to family protection and assistance to maintain an adequate standard of living along with access to healthcare.

India can achieve the status of welfare state by strengthening the foundations of social security network, as it is an umbrella/ buffer against all adverse conditions.

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Increase in industrialization, rising inequality, extending unorganized sector and moreover Covid - 19 pandemic call attention to the issue of social security for all specifically the deprived one.

By strengthening social protection network objective of inclusive growth can be achieved. Social protection framework can be categorized into three categories: social insurance, social assistance, and labour market programmes.

▪ Social insurance schemes enable people to respond common risks, such as illness, old age, unemployment through health insurance, pensions and unemployment insurance.

▪ Social assistance programmes cover such people who cannot qualify for insurance. Its major component are cash or in-kind transfers, child welfare, elderly assistance, health benefit and disaster relief.

▪ Activating labour markets through skill development programmes, training programmes.

Remarkable disparities regarding social security remain among regions, between rural and urban areas, between men and women. On an average country spend 12.8% of their GDP on social security programmes. Currently only 47% of the global population is effectively covered with social security net. Social protection is a tool of social transformation, which creates wide ranging social and economic benefits to the society. "We must recognize that effective and comprehensive social protection is not just essential for social justice and decent work but for creating a sustainable and resilient future too." Guy Ryder (ILO Director General)

Review of Literature
Sidhu. J.K., Rana. K., Khanna. P, Singh. T ((2020) [6], focuses over the utilization of various central government and State government sponsored social welfare schemes by the elderly population of rural Punjab. Total 400 respondents were investigated of which 72% were females. 91% of the total respondents were utilizing at least one social welfare scheme. Lack of knowledge was found to be the main reason of non-utilization of social welfare scheme. Study concludes that utilization of social welfare schemes can be increased by making them more elderly friendly.

Gayatri. J, Shaik. D (2022) [3], in their study focuses over the protection provided through social security against economic and social distress which are undertaken by the government for the welfare of the people. This study has a empirical scientific research frame. Legal facts of the area under study have been tested to find out cause effect relationship. Findings suggest that social security measures play a vital role in minimizing the wastages arising due to industrial disputes. Further results disclose a very close relationship between literacy rate and effectiveness of social welfare programmes.

Kumar. M.J.S. (2020) [5], analyses the consciousness related to social insurance scheme initiated by the government amid the people of Virudhunagar district of Tamilnadu. Results suggest that schemes like Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bema yojana & Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana have created trustworthiness towards insurance sector. Social Insurance schemes don't have reach in the distant rural areas. People only have very narrow information about these schemes, they lack details about their terms and conditions. For increasing awareness among people massive

advertisement should be done through posters, audio and video clippings at public places like ration shops, panchayat Bhavan, schools etc. In this way not only awareness but also enrolment ratio of the people can be increased.

Methodology and study area
The current study attempts to find out the awareness of social protection schemes among female workers engaged in unorganized sector. The study was conducted between December-January 2021. Before collection of data objectives of the study were made clear to the respondents and after their consent data was collected with the help of structured and pre-tested interview schedule and observation method.

Present research study is based on descriptive design. Non-randomized convenience sampling technique is used. 120 women respondents working in unorganized sector of Khurja town, district Bulandshahr of Uttar Pradesh have been investigated with structured interview schedule along with observation method. Pertinent data have been classified and tabulated under different heads as per necessity. Percentage and charts have been used to display the results.

Objective of the Study
This study is destined to analyse and discuss the awareness about social protection programmes of the government among the women working in unorganized sector of a town Khurja, district Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh.

Result and Discussion

Table 1: Age Composition of Respondents

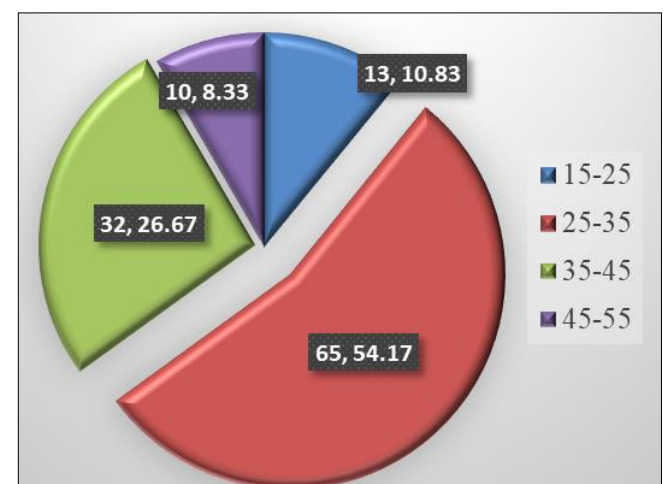| Age	No. of Respondents	Percentage
15-25	13	10.83
25-35	65	54.17
35-45	32	26.67
45-55	10	8.33
Total	120	100

Source: Field Survey

Fig 1: Age Composition of Respondents

Table 1 discloses the age structure of the respondents. Majority of the respondents are in the 25-35 age group. Only 10.83% are in the age group 15-25, 26.67% fall in the 35-45 age group, only 8.33% are of 45-55 age.

Table 2: Religious Composition of Respondents

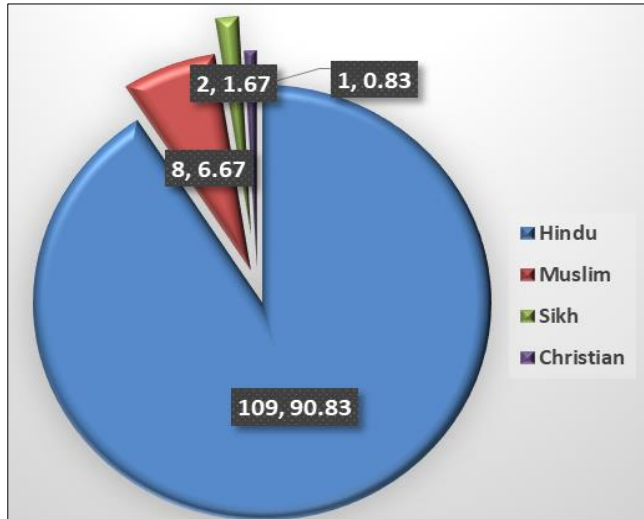| Religion	NO. of Respondents	Percentage
Hindu	109	90.83
Muslim	8	6.67
Sikh	2	1.67
Christian	1	0.83
Total	120	100

*Source***:** Field Survey

Fig 2: Religious Composition of Respondents

Table 2 exhibits the religious composition of the women workers. Hindus comprise 90.83% of the respondents while 6.67% are Muslims, rest 1.67% are Sikh and .83% are Christians.

Table 3: Caste wise Distribution of Respondents

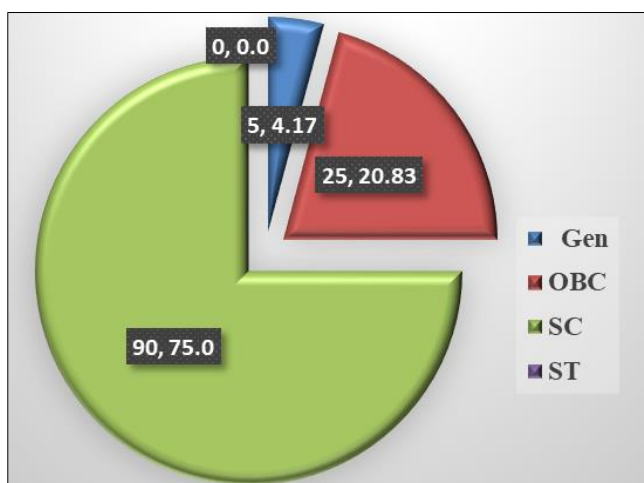| Caste	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Gen	5	4.17
OBC	25	20.83
SC	90	75.0
ST	0	0.0
Total	120	100

*Source***:** Field Survey

Fig 3: Caste wise Distribution of Respondents

Table 3 shows the caste structure of the respondents. Majority of the respondents belong to the SC category i.e., 75%, 4.17% are Gen category respondents, 20.83% fall in OBC category.

Table 4: Educational Status of Respondents

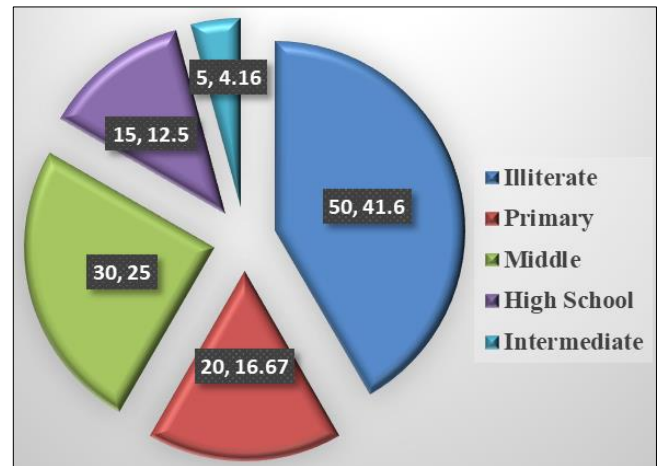| Education Level	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Illiterate	50	41.6
Primary	20	16.67
Middle	30	25
High School	15	12.5
Intermediate	5	4.16
Total	120	100

*Source***:** Field Survey

Fig 4: Educational Status of Respondents

Table 4 reveals the educational status of the respondents, out of total respondents' majority is of illiterate (41.67%), 25% have attained middle education, 16.67% have passed primary level, 12.50% have studied up to high school, while the rest left 4.16% are educated up to Intermediate.

Table 5: Awareness on Social Security schemes among the Respondents

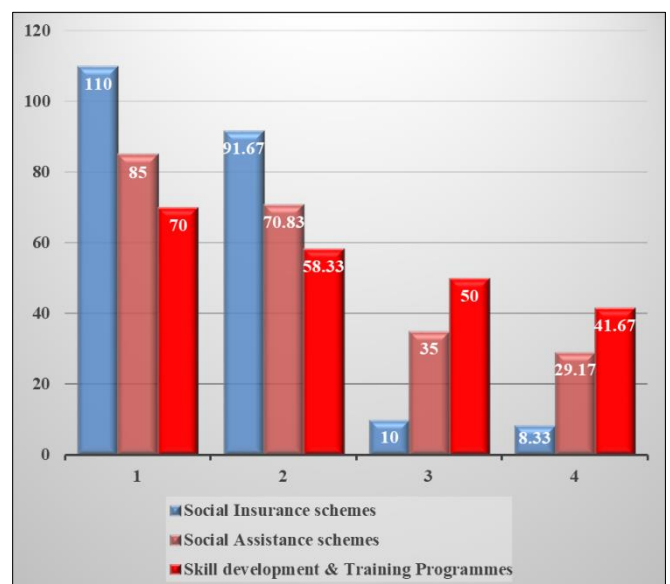| Awareness about the social Security Schemes	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage	Total
Social Insurance schemes	110	91.67	10	8.33	120
Social Assistance schemes	85	70.83	35	29.17	120
Skill development & Training Programmes	70	58.33	50	41.67	120

*Source***:** Field Survey

Fig 5: Awareness about the social Security Schemes

Table no 5 shows the awareness of social security schemes among the respondents. 91.67% are aware about the benefits of social insurance schemes, 70.83 respondents are aware about social assistance schemes and lowest awareness is found about the skill development and training programmes.

Conclusion

Development all alone cannot be a source of peace and prosperity until it is followed by social justice and equity. Both state and central governments have implemented a number of social welfare programmes for the upliftment of the marginalized people. Generally, no information is available on effectiveness of these programmes among the underprivileged class of people.

Efficiency and effectiveness of key welfare programmes in India need to be substantially improved. Particular attention needs to be paid to female participation and their access to these welfare programmes. Altering population demographics have placed various challenges before us, among which increasing pressure of social welfare of citizens is one.

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