

ROLE OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: A MICRO LEVEL STUDY IN MAYILADUTHURAI DISTRICT

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Abstract

In the emerging business era, skill is the key factor to enable the economic growth and development particularly at grassroots level. Moreover, it promotes the livelihood opportunity to the rural youth at large scale. In India, 12 million persons are trained under Skill Training Programmes in every year to fulfill the demand of industries. The Skill Development Programme [SDP] is also increasing the income generational process at grassroots level. The skill development programme has made possibilities to scale up the supply and demand of the labour at industries level and also promote the entrepreneurial thirst among the youngster at village level. In this context, the present study is an attempt to understand the role of Skill Development Programmes for economic development in Mayilatudurai District of Tamil Nadu.

Keywords: *Skill, Economic, Growth, Supply and Demand, Development*

Introduction:

Skill Development Programmes have paved the way to enable the employment opportunity at local level which is a hub for creating an avenue to increase the employable skills among the youths and teenagers to increase the income for economic development. Skill Development Institutions are playing a significant role in transmitting the technical knowledge for promoting the entrepreneurial ideas among the rural youth for maximizing the inclusive growth at grassroots level by utilizing of local resources for livelihood growth and development. The initiation and efforts are made to gainful diversification of the human resources towards an economic growth and development at grassroots. It is understood that the Skill Development Programmes are major source for economic upliftment of youths at grassroots level.

Earlier Studies

Srinivas (2021) study found that the youth population is most valuable asset and it provides India with a unique demographic advantage. According to the report on “Youth in India 2017” the proportion of rural youth population is 68% of the country’s total population. Skill development is an important driver to develop gainful employment opportunities for the rural youth. It addressed the poverty reduction by improving employability, productivity and helps to sustainable enterprise development and inclusive growth.

Government of India has taken several skill development initiatives in the recent past. Among such initiatives, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushal Yojana (DDUGKY) is notable initiative. DDUGKY is a program for training, skill building and job placement intended for rural youth from poor families started in 2014. The study observed that under DDUGKY programme at all India level about 9,96,999 rural youth were trained and about 5,37,335 were placed during 2015-16 to 201-20. Similarly in Andhra Pradesh about 74, 816 rural youth were trained and about 66,726 were placed during 2015-16 to 2019-20.

The study findings revealed that there is a considerable economic impact of the DDUGKY programme on the livelihoods of youth by enhancing their employment opportunities and earning levels which helps to contribute their household income. The increased household earnings has resulted in increase in spending levels and ultimately to increase their standard of living.

Anita (2018) study emphasized that the Skill development is a powerful tool to empower individual and improve their social acceptance. It is complemented by economic growth and employment opportunity to meet the sizing aspirations to youth. Academic and Qualification are not our only important requirement. It is understood that labour market have made skill more important to have in order to generate the best outcome. Further study revealed that there are many opportunities available to learn in India shortage of hard skill and shortage of suitable employabilities including soft skill are some of the key reasons in finding a suitable candidate for available jobs in the country.

Dayal (2016) study indicated that technological advancement, globalization and economic liberalization in the recent years has prompted governments in developed and developing countries to prioritize skills development as a key strategy for economic competitiveness and growth. India has the youngest and one of the largest pools of “demographic dividend” that needs to be nurtured, and through appropriate skill development it

fosters the economic growth, equitable wealth generation to meet the global skill shortages. The large population, majority of which are either unemployed or underemployed in the unorganized sector, need to be given adequate skill training is also encourages entrepreneurial ventures in order to generate future employment opportunities and economic growth.

Objectives of the Study

- To find out which section of people have accessed the Skill Development Programme in the study area
- To study the motivational factors to join in Skill Development Programme

Research Methodology

The study is conducted in Mayiladuthurai District, Tamil Nadu. For the study the researcher used the purposive sampling research methodology to select the 100 samples in the study area.

Socio-Economic Profile

Gender wise classification

Table. 1: Distribution of respondents according to their Gender			
S. No	Particulars	Number	Percent
1	Male	75	75.0
2	Female	25	25.0
Total		100	100.0

Note: $\chi^2 = 1.015$ significant at 0.001

The available data [Table.1] reveals that majority [75%] of the respondents are male and a small portion [25%] is female. The chi-square test result [$\chi^2 = 1.015$ significant at 0.001] indicates that both gender of rural area accessed the Skill Development Programme for enabling their employable skills.

Age wise classification

Table. 2: Distribution of respondents according to their Age			
S. No	Particulars	Number	Percent
1	Below 25 years	59	59.0
2	Between 26-30	27	27.0
4	Above 30	14	14.0
Total		100	100.0

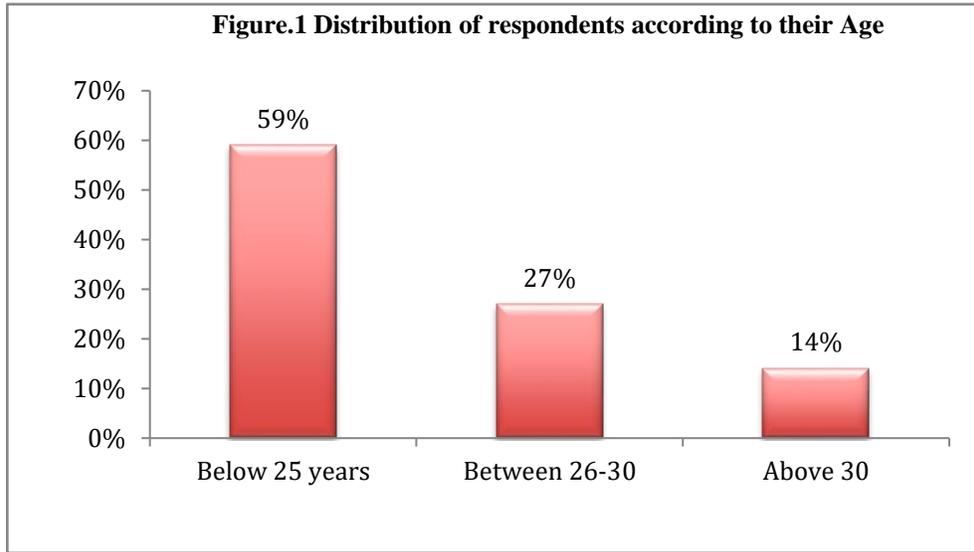


Table.2 shows that a majority [59%] of respondents is belonged to the age group of below 25 years, followed by [27%] between 25-30 years age group and a small amount [14%] of the respondents are belonged to the age group of above 30 years category. Therefore, it is implied that most of the youths and teenagers have utilized the Skill Training as a source to increase their income.

Community wise distribution

S. No	Particulars	Number	Percent
1	BC	23	23.0
2	SC	59	59.0
3	MBC	08	08.0
Total		30	100.0

A close look at data [Table.3] reveals that a majority [59%] of the respondents are belonged to the category of Scheduled Caste [SC], followed by [23%] Backward Community [BC] and [08%] Most Backward Community. Hence, the study is concluded that most of the disadvantaged group of people has accessed the Skill Development Programme for their economic development.

Educational Status

Table. 4: Distribution of respondents according to Education Status			
S. No	Particulars	Number	Percent
1	High School	71	71.0
2	Higher Secondary	26	26.0
3	Undergraduate	03	03.0
Total		100	100.0

Table.4 shows that a large spectrum [71%] of the respondents has 10th standard, followed by [26%] 12th standard and only 3 per cent of the respondents had degree qualification. The study is concluded that most of the respondents are minimum educational qualification for getting Skill Training.

Monthly Income Status

Table. 5: Distribution of respondents according to Monthly Income Status			
S. No	Particulars	Number	Percent
1	Below Rs. 25,000	33	33.0
2	Above Rs. 25,000	67	67.0
Total		30	100.0

Table.5 reveals that a majority [67%] of the respondents are earned their monthly income above Rs.25,000 due to they have got training in Skill Training Institution which has promoted their skill capacity to become employable in an industry and only 33 per cent of the respondents are earned the monthly income below Rs. 25,000. Hence, the study is concluded that most of the beneficiaries of the Skill Training which has made institutional arrangements to remoulding the training employable skills so as beneficiaries are posted in good positions in an industry after training.

Motivational Factors to join the Skill Development Programme

Table. 6: Distribution of respondents according to their motivational factors to join in the SDP			
S. No	Particulars	Number	Percent
1	Family members and friends, relatives other industry owners	43	43.0
2	Media [Newspaper, T.V, Radio and Social Media]	37	37.0
3	Skill Camp	20	20.0
Total		100	100.0

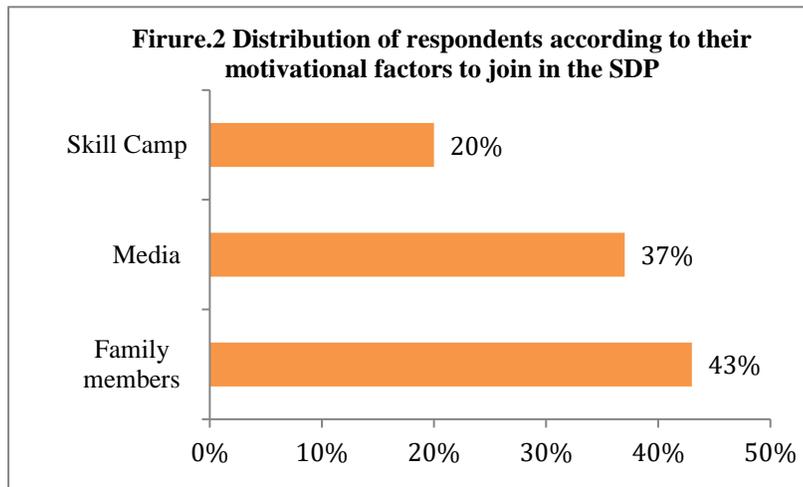


Table.6 emphasized that a significant proportion [43%] of the respondents stated their family members have motivated them to join in Skill Development Programmes, followed by Media influences [37%] and Skill Camp [20%] have provided adequate information on Skill Training to increase their employment opportunity for enhancing their family economic stability. Hence, the

study is concluded that most of the respondents have motivated by various sources which has made them to joining in the Skill Development Programmes [SDP] for earning regular revenue as per the direction of their family members, relatives and friends. It is interesting to note that Skill camps and Media have guided the respondents to join in the Skill Development Programmes for the economic growth and development by enabling their employability skills.

Conclusion

In the contemporary business settings, Skill is essential requirement for enabling the employability so as the study is concluded that Skill Development Programme is a crucial factor to build the employable skills to the youths at grassroots level. Moreover, it trains the rural youths towards become an entrepreneurs for generating self-employment which is also significant to enable the economic growth and livelihood opportunity for regular flow income at grassroots level.

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