

# *Economic Contribution of Women in Self Help Groups in India*

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## **ABSTRACT**

Women in Self Help Groups (SHGs) have made their mark in the rural economy in a quite non traditional way. This paper examines the economic contribution of women SHG. In India, here the economy has been growing rapidly over the past 30 years women's workforce participation rates (already low by international standards) has declined. There has been a need to increase the contribution of women workforce. Rural women play a vital role in farm and home and contribute a lot economically. The importance of women to the economic development of India was first recognized during the country's struggle for independence. There is adequate evidence from various studies undertaken so far that the role of women in building a new society is inevitable. Self Help groups have contributed a lot in providing employment to rural women and making them self-sufficient and independent. NABARD has played a pivotal role in providing finance to these organizations. A reorientation in policy is suggested for generating awareness, upgrading skills and expanding markets in order to augment their contribution and raise their empowerment level for the benefit of the households as well as for transforming the rural economy in a big way.