

AGRICULTURE AND HOUSEHOLD ACTIVITIES OF RURAL WOMEN AND CHALLENGES IN MOKOKCHUNG DISTRICT, NAGALAND

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ABSTRACT

Women play a significant and crucial role for sustaining their livelihood in rural areas where agriculture is considered to be the main source of survival. Here, women need to perform multi-dimensional role like agriculture, household/domestic, social and other allied activities. Rural Women play a major role in agriculture activities both directly and indirectly, along with their household responsibilities and socio-cultural obligations and they are the key figure in the socioeconomics sets up (Khan et al 2013). Many of their contributions are not taken into account but they are essential for the survival of rural households. There are many challenges faced by women in rural areas which are lack of finance, Lack of time, social problems, health problems, climate change, extension services, pest and disease, good marketing services, access to education, unequal wage etc (Fabiya et al, 2007). To meet their ends meet majority of women take agriculture as their main source of survival and the participation of women in agricultural activities is indispensable and on the increase in rural areas are without proper education but the increasing constraints limit their performance. On the other hand, Men have a full understanding of the rights but women often are not fully able to voice their concerns and ideas in local councils etc because their participation is restricted to large extent by means of traditions and laws and their role in decision making is negligible. The present study has been undertaken to assess the socio economic characteristics of the respondents, examine various activities performed by women in agriculture and household sector and also to assess the challenges being faced by them in doing these activities.

KEYWORDS: Women, agriculture, household sector, rural women, Women labour.