

## **Role of Female in Agricultural and Sustainable Rural Development Sectors in Balochistan**

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### **Abstract**

*Gender role as the lifeline and key factor in every part of development sectors. In this regard, present research was carried out so as to measure the gender role in agriculture and sustainable rural development prospects. The cross-sectional research design was used. However, Naseerabad district was selected purposively due to all core agricultural and rural development activities were done. One hundred (100) female respondents were selected from the four UCs by using simple random sampling. ANOVA, DMRT test was used so as to detect the perceived perception between groups by using statistical approach with the help of SPSS 22. The finding revealed that majority 77% of the female have 31 to 50 years of age. Majority 52% of the female respondents were illiterate. Majority (88%) of the respondents were married. The result of ANOVA was showed that the non-significant differences between the group's perceptions were observed in three out of four categories. However, majority of female farmers perceived that their role were restricted in development stage. The following suggestion was recommended. Gender indiscrimination were found during research and their role were limited, in entrepreneurship activities in this regard, government should be promoted their role as role model for the communities so as to remove the mishaps and erroneous perceptions that was prevailed in our tribal communities.*

**Keywords:** female, agricultural, sustainable rural development, Balochistan

### **1.1 Introduction**

Pakistan is fundamentally an agrarian nation, and its rural division has been named the lifeline of nation's economy (Hanif et al. 2005). An

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overwhelming part (about 70%) of populace lives in the rustic or the rural zones. Rustic entities are legitimately related to the agriculture and livestock sectors and their livelihood options directly or indirectly related to these sectors (Baig and Khan 2006). Agriculture is an overwhelming main thrust of work for the provincial populace (GoP, 2018) However, in this regard, the agriculture sector spite of the difficulties proceeded an supporting movements towards industrialization is occurring, the agrarian segment keeps on being the biggest division of the economy with profound effect on the financial set up. Further, the agribusiness as the agriculture dynamics as the major sources of livelihood and (44.7%) of the manpower. Likewise, the World Bank (2007) reported that agribusiness as the biggest wellspring of family livelihood source for 38 million Pakistanis, including 13 million of the most ill-starred 40% of family units. Agriculture sector has contributes 21.8%, of the country GDP (GOP, 2009). Sustainable rural development and agriculture sector enterprises are forced by numerous features. However, in this regard, the role of female within term of sustainable rural development and agriculture sectors are limited (GOP, 2018).

## **1.2 Females Status in Sustainable rural and Agriculture sector**

The female farmers or the ranchers in Pakistan, are seen commonly as underprivileged from the multiple points of view, because of early marriage, absence of schooling and business, modest undertakings and social confinements (Mahmood and Malik 2007). Female in poor families of the country who represent the 70% of the female populace are totally faced the anti-women practices, indiscrimination, twofold segregation of destitution and victimization in every sphere of life (Maria, 2001).Female contributes and standout amongst Pakistan's most deprived group. Practically the majority of the ladies in provincial territories take part in rural development and agriculture as the unpaid family members, and their support rate in compensation work is incredibly restricted. Along these lines, ladies laborers obligations in farming have expanded thus. Moreover, the deferral in the modernization of homestead work is additionally one reason for requiring female in the work power (JICA, 1999).

Female make significant commitments to the rural and country economies of all areas of the world. Be that as it may, the definite commitment both as far as greatness and of its temperament is frequently hard to survey and demonstrates a high level of variety crosswise over nations and areas.

Two kinds of information can add to estimating the commitment of female in the horticultural as agricultural manpower: measurements on the offer of

female in the monetarily dynamic populace in agribusiness and time use studies, which record the time spent by people in various exercises.

### **1.3 Problem statement**

Women is considered as the ignoble object in our societies due to the social restrictions, religious norms, tribal system, and dominate feudalism arrangement at province level. The anti-women practices were prevailed specially in green belt of the province. Their role in sustainable rural development and agriculture are very limited. Keeping in the view above mention facts present research was carried out so as to determine the role of gender in sustainable rural development and agriculture sector special reference of Balochistan province.

### **1.4 Objectives**

1. To find out the demographic characteristics of the respondents in study areas.
2. To determine the role of female in agriculture and rural development sectors.
3. To develop the solid recommendations for future strategies.

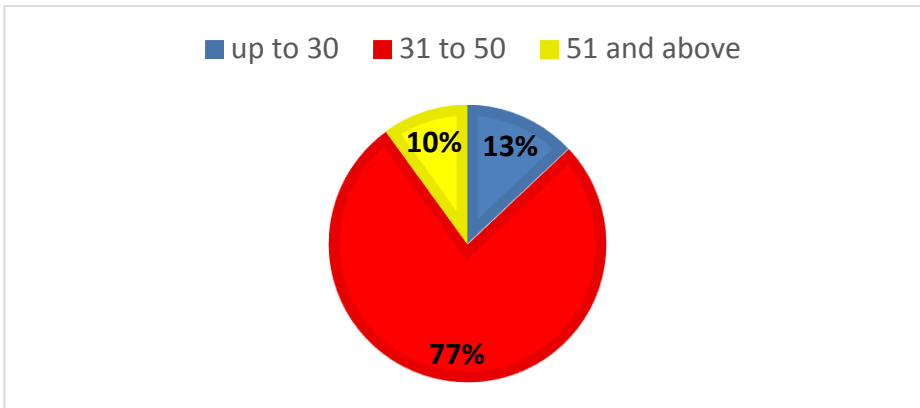
### **1.5 Methodology**

Cross-sectional research design was used in the present research. Naseerabad district was selected as purposively due to all core agricultural and rural development activities were done as effective manner beside, that this zone was considered as the green belt of the province. One hundred (100) respondents were selected from the four Union Council such as Baba Kot, Chattar, Dera Murad Jamal and Tamboo (GoB, 2005) by using simple random sampling. Nevertheless, in this connection, the comprehensive questionnaire was developed so as to record the perceived responses of the female (respondents) as well as measured the gender role in rural development and agriculture, the data was collected at field level, hence the information as the shape of data was coded, entered and tabulated a computer software. By the way, the demographic information were comprised age composition, education status, marital status as the independent variables. ANOVA, DMRT test was used so as to detect the perceived perception between groups by using statistical approach with the help of SPSS 22. However, the confidence interval was set on 95% significance level.

## 1.6 Results

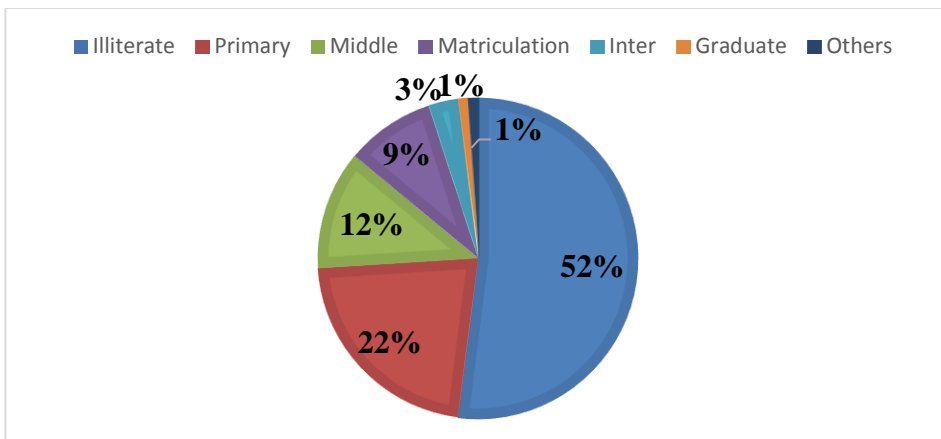
The results were split into two portion that were demographic information's and general information. In this regard, the data were gathered at field level.

**Figure:1, Sample distribution of age composition of the respondents**



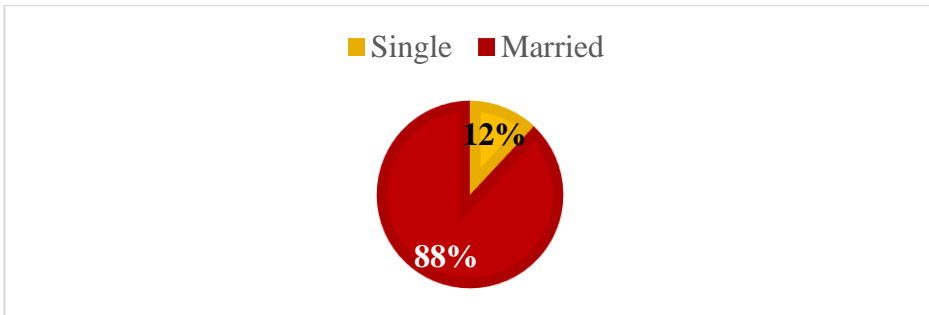
The imperative aspect of the present research was to explore the age composition. In this regard, the data was collected as shown in figure-1. Majority 77% of the female have 31 to 50 Years of age followed by 13% of the female fall into age category (up to 30 years).

**Figure:2, Sample distribution of educational status of the respondents**



The vital feature of the current investigation was to determine the educational level. In this connection, the data was collected at field level as shown in figure-2. Majority 52% of the female respondents were illiterate, however, only 22% of the female holding primary level of education.

**Figure:3, Sample distribution of age marital status**



Majority (88%) of the respondents were married and remaining 12% of the female did not married and preferred the single family system.

**Table-1: Comparison between perceived perceptions regarding various categories**

Categories	MS	f-value	Significant*
Agriculture Activities	1.000	4.195	.043NA
Livestock Activities	.160	.648	423NA
Entrepreneurship Activities	1.000	1.12	.000**
Rural development Activities	.160	4.261	.042NA

Scale: Not at all = 1 To some extent = 2 To a greater extent = 3 SD = Standard: MS = Mean square: M = Mean \* Significant

Female farmers were inquired about the various activities as done by themselves as shown in table-1. However, in this regard, result of ANOVA was showed that the non-significant differences between the group's perceptions were observed in three out of four categories. However, majority of female farmers perceived that their role were restricted in development stage.

**Conclusion and recommendations**

Female make significant commitments to the rural and country economies of all areas of the world. Be that as it may, the definite commitment both as far as greatness and of its temperament is frequently hard to survey and

demonstrates a high level of variety crosswise over nations and areas. The following recommendation was put forward. Gender indiscriminations were found during research and their roles were limited, in entrepreneurship activities in this regard, government should be promoted their role as role model for the communities so as to remove the mishaps and erroneous perceptions that prevailed in our tribal communities.

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