

EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH SKILL DEVELOPMENT: A CASE STUDY OF WOMEN WEAVERS OF LANGEI PROJECT IN MANIPUR.

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Abstract

The government of India has enacted various rules and regulations within the constitutional framework to improve women's representation in different professions. Currently, a majority of the female workforce in India is unskilled. A skill is a bridge between a job and the workforce. Skill development is key to improving employability and income-earning opportunities for women and enhancing sustainable rural development and livelihoods. Handloom is the largest cottage industry in Manipur and enjoys a special place among the handloom zones in India. It has been flourishing since time immemorial. To study how the skill development project given to the women weavers by the Langei Project is empowering the women of Nongpok Sanjenbam, Imphal East district of Manipur, the researchers adopted the qualitative research method as it facilitates interacting with the respondents while collecting data. A self-made questionnaire was used as a tool for collecting data. It may be concluded that women constitute half of the world's population and the most significant number contributing to the world's economy by engaging in various skill development programmes. This is not an exception in the case of the women weavers of the Langei project of Nongpok Sanjenbam in the Imphal East district of Manipur. With the evolution of the Langei Project, the skilled weavers of Nongpok Sanjenbam village are employed in the handloom weaving unit to generate income and improve their livelihood.

Keywords: Handloom, Skill Development, Women's Empowerment, Rural Income

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