

# Impact of Socio-economic background of the rural Naga women entrepreneurs in Nagaland: with special reference to Dimapur District.

**Santosh Kumar.**

Assistant Professor,  
Research Scholar  
ICFAI University  
Dimapur, Nagaland

E-Mail: [sontoshkumar@gmail.com](mailto:sontoshkumar@gmail.com)

**Dr Horen Goowalla**

Associate Professor  
Research Supervisor  
Mariani College  
Jorhat, Assam

Email: [gowalaharen12@yahoo.com](mailto:gowalaharen12@yahoo.com)

## Abstract:

Women are traditionally not included in the decision-making process of the clan or the village. Although Naga society is patriarchal, women enjoy considerable freedom and play an important role in family and community life. Women have a greater range of responsibilities, from domestic work - within and outside the homestead - to various agricultural activities and bear a greater work burden as well. Gender disparity measures reveal that men's responsibility for household activities is shrinking while women's work frontier is expanding, as they take over work traditionally designated for 'male'. An attempt has been made to highlight the socio-economic background of the Naga women entrepreneurs in the study area.

**Key Words: Educational Qualification, Age structure, Marital Status, : Line of Business Activities and Knowledge of Accounting etc.**

## 1.1.Introduction:

The traditional Naga society was a patriarchal society with a strong warrior tradition values the birth of boys. A Naga woman is traditionally expected to be obedient and humble. Her roles are complex and varied: wife, mother, child bearer and rearer, food producer and household manager. She supplements the household income by weaving and selling colorful shawls, an activity done exclusively by women. Women are traditionally not included in the decision-making process of the clan or the village. Although Naga society is patriarchal, women enjoy considerable freedom and play an important role in family and community life. Women have a greater range of responsibilities, from domestic work - within and outside the homestead - to various agricultural activities and bear a greater work burden as well. Gender disparity measures reveal that men's responsibility for household activities is shrinking while women's work frontier is expanding, as they take over work traditionally designated for 'male'.

## 1.2.Problems of the study:

**Challenges due to traditional customs and practices:** Naga, being a patriarchal society puts man first in everything. Thus women always come second best. Even though our constitution speaks of equality between sexes, Women are not treated equal to men. Over the past few decades the sex role of women has been breaking the barriers of four walls. Today the roles of women are not confined to the tradition as a mother/housewife. The role of modern women is much more than what it was previously. : Gender bias due to customary laws and also the age old domestication of daughters have inbuilt some nature in women that constraints her entrepreneurial development. In most of the cases the women entrepreneurs have overcome the gender barrier and all the doubts and restrictions of the

male member of the family, in laws and husbands and entered into the fray of the business world. Despite of the recent trend of modernization and globalization affecting every nook and corner of the state, the development in terms of market infrastructure, roads, drainage system are not developed to the mark. Women entrepreneurs always suffer from inadequate financial recourses and working capital. They are not able to afford external finance from financial institutions due to absence of tangible security and guarantor. Women have a very less property and bank balance to their name. Male members of the family do not want to invest their capital in the busin.

**1.3.Objectives of the study:**

- 1. To study the socio-economic background of the Naga women entrepreneurs in the study area.**

**1.4.Research methodology:**

The research to be conducted will be an experimental research as the research relies on observation of variables that influence the socio economics conditions of the naga women entrepreneurs in Dimapur district of Nagaland. The research will be totally based on first hand data to be collected from the selected sampled schools from Dimapur district of Nagaland which would be capable of being verified by experiment.

Both the primary and secondary data were collected for analyzing of the objectives. Primary data will be collected mostly by direct contact method and prepared questionnaires to carry out the investigation for the purpose.

Secondary data will be obtained from the News papers, Magazines, Referred Journals, Books, Published and unpublished theses and various other publications of the Government of India and Government of Nagaland.

**1.4.1.Statistical Techniques Used:**

The collected data shall expose to different statistical techniques like Percentage, Tabulation, Classification, Graphical presentation of different aspects of respondents. Thus, the data shall be analyzed and interpreted with the help of these statistical techniques i.e. Chi-square test, T-Test etc and conclusions will be drawn.

**1.4.2.Size of Sample:**

15 numbers of respondents of each village (10 numbers) will be selected on a purposive stratified sample basis. Total sample size for the study will be 150.

**1.4.3.Manner of selecting sample unit:**

Then samples will be selected deliberately keeping in mind the target groups.

**Data analysis and interpretations:**

Table 1.1: Educational Qualification of the Sample Respondents

Sl.No	Educational Level	No. of Respondents	Percentage.
1	Up to V Std.	90	60
2	V-X Std	30	20
3	H.S.L.C	15	10
4	H.S	32	8
5	Graduate	3	2
	Total	150	100.00

Source: Field Study.

It is observed from the table 1.1 that 60 percent of the sampled respondents were educated up to V standard while 20 percent of them did schooling from class V to class X. Again, 15 percent of the women

respondents were High School Leaving Certificate passed and while 8 percent respondents passed only higher Secondary level. Further, it is transparent that 2 percent of the respondents were completed graduation. Therefore, it is analyzed that majority of the entrepreneurs among Naga women were passed up to V standard only.

Table : 1.2: Age structure of the Women Entrepreneurs.

Sl.No	Age Groups/Years	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	15- 25 years	60	40
2	26—35 Years	45	30
3	36-45years	15	10
4	46-55 Years	09	6
5	Above 55 years	06	4
	Total	150	100.00

Source: Field Study.

It is seen from the table 1.2 that 40 percent respondents belonged to the age group between 15 years to 25 years while 30 percent women entrepreneurs were in between 26 years to 35 years of age. Again, 10 percent respondents were belonged to age group between 36 years to 45 years. It is analyzed from the table that majority of the SHGs members were in the age group of 15 years to 25 years.

Table: 1.3: Marital Status of the Entrepreneurs

Sl.No	Factors	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Married	90	60
2	Unmarried	45	30
3	Widow	15	10
	Total	150	100.00

Source: Field Study.

The marital status has become another significant factor in the empowerment process among Naga population in the study area. The above table 1.3 shows the marital status of the sample women in the study area. From the table it can be observed that 60 percent of the entrepreneurs were married while 30 percent of them were unmarried and 10 percent of the entrepreneurs were widow. During the study, it was found that the income and expenditure pattern between married and unmarried, and widow are quite different. The married women required more money for maintaining their family. It was also observed that married women are relatively more attached to the Self-Help Groups

### 1.5.Line of activity:

Line of activity in this study is classified into five categories as Agricultures, Piggeries, Goattery, Poultry, Weaving, Dairy, and Tailoring etc. The researcher has made an attempt to explain the relation between line of activity and type of business and the same is presented in the following table no 7.12:

Table: 1.4: Line of Business Activities

Sl.NO	Factors	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Agricultures	15	10
2	Piggeries	75	50
3	Goattery	30	20
4	Poultres	15	10
5	Weaving	12	8
6	Dairy	03	2

7	Tailoring	150	2.44
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Source: Field Study.

It is observed from the table 1.6 that 50 percent women respondents were engaged in piggeries while 20 percent of them were engaged in goattery farming in the study area of Dimapur district of Nagaland. Again, 10 percent, 08 percent and 2 percent of them were engaged in Agriculture, poultries, and weaving respectively. It is analyzed that majority of the women entrepreneurs among Naga Women were involved in piggeries and followed by goattery farming etc.

**1.6.Knowledge of accounting:**

Attempts have been made to highlights the knowledge of accounting of entrepreneurs among the tea population in the study areas.

Table: 1.5: Knowledge of Accounting among the entrepreneurs

Sl. No	Knowledge of Accounting	No. of Respondents	Percentage.
1	Yes	30	20
2	No	105	70
3	No reply	15	10
	Total	150	100

Source: field Study.

It is revealed from the table 1.5 that 70 percent of the respondents were ignorant about the process of accounting while only 20 percent of the were a little aware of how to keep and records the cash book and rest 10 percent had not given any comments because they were a little literate and did not know how to maintained the accounts. Hence, it analyzed that majority of the entrepreneurs or the members were unaware about the knowledge of accounting.

Table : 1.6: Sources of Fund:

Sl.No	Sources of Fund	No of Respondents	Percentage
1	Own Contribution	30	20
2	Bank Loans	30	20
3	Local Money lenders	75	50
4	DRDA	15	10
	Total	150	100

Source: Field Study.

It is revealed from the table & figure 1.6 that 20 percent of the respondents created funds from own sources while 50 percent of them borrowed loan from local money lender and another 20 percent of the respondents were borrowing loan from local banks and the rest 10 percent got financial support from Government agency, like DRDA etc. Hence, it is concluded that majority of the respondents of the women entrepreneurs in the villages were taking funds from their local money lenders.

**1.7.Major findings of the study:**

1. 60 percent of the sampled respondents were educated up to V standard while 20 percent of them did schooling from class V to class X. Again, 15 percent of the women respondents were High School Leaving Certificate passed and while 8 percent respondents passed only higher Secondary level.
2. 40 percent respondents belonged to the age group between 15 years to 25 years while 30 percent women entrepreneurs were in between 26 years to 35 years of age. Again, 10 percent respondents were belonged to age group between 36 years to 45 years
3. that 60 percent of the entrepreneurs were married while 30 percent of them were unmarried and 10 percent of the entrepreneurs were widow.

4. 50 percent women respondents were engaged in piggeries while 20 percent of them were engaged in goattery farming in the study area of Dimapur district of Nagaland. Again, 10 percent, 08 percent and 2 percent of them were engaged in Agriculture, poultries, and weaving respectively.
5. 70 percent of the respondents were ignorant about the process of accounting while only 20 percent of the were a little aware of how to keep and records the cash book and rest 10 percent had not given any comments because they were a little literate and did not know how to maintained the accounts.
6. 20 percent of the respondents created funds from own sources while 50 percent of them borrowed loan from local money lender and another 20 percent of the respondents were borrowing loan from local banks and the rest 10 percent got financial support from Government agency, like DRDA etc.

### 1.8.Conclusion:

Naga, being a patriarchal society puts man first in everything. Thus women always come second best. Even though our constitution speaks of equality between sexes, Women are not treated equal to men. Their entry to business requires the approval of the head of the family. All these put a break in the growth of women entrepreneurs. The traditions and customs prevailed in our society towards women sometimes stand as an obstacle before them to grow and prosper. The practice in the society is such that the children take after the name of the father and also all the property is inherited through the father to the sons. This puts women in a disadvantaged state as well. Gender bias due to customary laws and also the age old domestication of daughters have inbuilt some nature in women that constraints her entrepreneurial development. In most of the cases the women entrepreneurs have overcome the gender barrier and all the doubts and restrictions of the male member of the family, in laws and husbands and entered into the fray of the business world

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