



A STUDY ON HEALTH PROBLEMS OF WOMEN AGRICULTURE LABOUR IN INDIA

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Abstract

Agriculture performs a key function in India's economy. In India, 54.6 percent of the populace is depending on agriculture and allied sports in addition to which contributes 17.8 percentage of the country's Gross Value Added for the 12 months 2019-2020 at modern prices. However, women occupy a deep function withinside the agriculture quarter. According to the World Health Organization report, ladies make up approximately 42 percent of the anticipated worldwide running populace, making them important as participants in country-wide and worldwide economies. The four-fifths of personnel withinside the agricultural quarter are economically energetic ladies and 48 percent of ladies are self-hired farmers. In general, ladies' paintings begin offevolved from sowing, weeding, harvesting, post-harvesting operations, crop manufacturing, and farm animal manufacturing in agriculturist sports. Whereas, ladies are gambling a vital function as homemakers her day began out with cleansing the home, transporting water, accumulating gas and fodder, doing laundry, making ready meals for her own circle of relatives' childcare, and wearing out agricultural responsibilities she works outside and inside of the home. Whereas, In India, ladies agriculture labours are more often than not uneducated, unskilled and hail from depressed communities. In India majority of the rural ladies, people are blind to the pesticide dangers and feature bad know-how of private safety because they're laid low with special kinds of sicknesses, including pores and skin injury, eye injury, headache, stomachache, fever, etc. The goal of the take a look at is to recognize the agriculture ladies people in India and to have a look at the fitness troubles of agriculture ladies people in India. The technique of the take a look at is primarily based totally on solely secondary data. The locating of the take a look at indicates that agricultural ladies employee performs a sizable function withinside the Indian economy. Agriculture affords employment possibilities and complements the same old living. Agriculture people are more often than not confronted with pores and skin-associated sicknesses and respiration sicknesses.

Key words: Health, Women, Disease, Indian Economy.

Introduction

Agriculture performs a key function in India's economy. In India, 54.6 percentage of the populace is trusted with agriculture and allied sports and it contributes 17.8 percentage of the country's Gross Value Added for the 12 months of 2019-2020 at modern prices. However, girls occupy a deep function withinside the agriculture area. According to the World Health Organization report, girls make up approximately 42 percentage of the anticipated worldwide operating populace, making them vital as individuals to country-wide and worldwide economies. The four-fifths of employees' withinside the agricultural area are economically lively girls and 48 percentage of girls are self-hired farmers. Women in India are the main manufacturers of meals in the time period of value, extent and a wide variety of hours worked. Around 63 percentage of all economically lively guys are engaged in agriculture in comparison to 78 percentage of girls. Almost all rural women people are categorized as agricultural employees and 37 percentage as cultivators. About 70 percentage of farm paintings become achieved via way of means of girls. It is discovered that the girls play a great function in agricultural improvement and allied subjects including, withinside the essential crop production, farm animals production, horticulture, post-harvesting operations, agro/social forestry, fishing, etc. that are a quick lengthy taken as a right however additionally lengthy ignored. (Chandrashree, 2018).

Statement of the Problem

The health Problems amongst agrarian girls are a severe issue. Generally, they have got a variety of issues are faced which include low fitness care, restrained dwelling situation, language, and cultural barriers. However, withinside the area of agricultural activities, they may be additionally confronted with numerous different issues of which the pores and skin injury, eye injury, headache, stomachache, fever, and reproductive illnesses are the most important dangers for agriculture girls people. Further, a maximum of agricultural people are uneducated and have bad expertise approximately managing pesticides, fertilizers, and a few different types of equipment. The reproductive sickness ends in again ache fever, heavy bleeding, abnormal menses, miscarriages, and a few different illnesses. Agriculture women employee can grow to be the purpose of hazard thing now no longer most effective for impulsive abortion however additionally for low delivery weight and premature delivery of the infant. The exclusive varieties of human illnesses which include eye infection, asthma, pores, skin allergy, cholera, bronchitis, cough, and diarrhea are confronted through the agriculture ladies labours because of the rural manufacturing activities.

Objective of the Study

The present study is focused on two objectives

1. To know the agriculture women workers in India.
2. To examine the health problems of agriculture women workers in India.

Methodology

The present study is primarily based totally on completely secondary reasserts of statistics. The assets had been gathered from numerous books, journals, authorities' reports, and websites. The secondary reasserts of statistics are specifically together with a literature survey, peer-reviewed articles and studies papers, and authorities posted documents. The statistics had been mainly gathered from the Agricultural Statistics at a Glance 2017 Report, posted with the aid of using Government of India Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare Directorate of Economics & Statistics.

Review of Literature

Srinivasan and Ilango (2013) study shows that Majority of the respondents (56 percent) appears to be laid low with all sorts of pores and skin diseases. Skin-associated troubles arise due to heavy disposal of solar rays while the people paintings withinside the quarry. The majority of the respondents (59 percent) say that no availability of fencing or bodily obstacles isn't always to be had to save you unauthorized entry. Most of the respondents say (ninety percent) that warmth strain, noise, dust-associated trouble, vibration, and strain trouble are customary withinside the place of work, and the majority of the respondents say that the troubles of lighting, radiation, renal, liver and occupational cancers are much less because of paintings. Migrant girls, people aren't having any primary facilities. They are disadvantaged in their primary rights and are exploited via way of means of the contractors. So there's a pressing want for the safety of migrant girls people to triumph over those troubles.

Kaur, and Mavi. (2015) study examines that the Participation of women's labour becomes determined to be greater withinside the sports consisting of storage, guide harvesting, choosing of greens animal dung series and its disposal, drying and cleansing of grains and weeding. The different sports wherein girl labour is employed are winnowing, transplanting, threshing and elevating nursery for seedlings. Low wages, drudgery inclined labour, the twin burden of labor and own circle of relatives, musculoskeletal troubles are the essential troubles confronted with the aid of using ladies labourers. Awareness stage of ladies concerning the drudgery discount implements become determined to be very low and use of those gear become determined to be negligible. It become determined that point management, shyness from male trainers, issues in accomplishing schooling centers, illiteracy, regulations from domestic and own circle of relatives have been the essential boundaries perceived with the aid of using the ladies for his or her participation withinside the pieces of training on new technology The training stage of ladies and the own circle of relatives earnings become determined to be definitely related to their focus stage concerning the brand new technology.

Muhammad Ali et al (2016) study brings out that the Farm operating girls in addition to the fitness troubles confronted via way of means of them at some stage in on-going farm sports in conjunction with the elements which boost up terrible fitness of farm operating girls. A top-notch majority (90.6Percent)

confronted fitness troubles closing season. A big majority (95.6 Percent) of the respondents confronted the hassle of workload; (socio-monetary pressure) bodily injuries/sickness (60.0Percent); intellectual diseases (95.7Percent); pesticide-associated fitness troubles (93.8Percent), and asthma (78.8Percent). A fantastically large affiliation turned into observed among the usage of insecticides vs fitness troubles. Although maximum of the women have been young, illiterate, and operating as tenants dwelling hand to mouth. They have been operating for the monetary guide in their own circle of relatives so have been below socio-monetary and intellectual pressure and have been additionally going through bodily and reproductive fitness troubles. There is a want for complete recognition approximately taking of healthful eating regimen for higher fitness and to lower intellectual pressure amongst rural lady farm workers.

Amodu et al (2017) study observe that 662 (82.8Percent) of the woman farmers interviewed complained of returned pains. Six hundred and twenty-4 or (78.0Percent) of the respondents suffered lacerations from using farm implements along with hoes, axes, sickles, cutlass, and additionally from grasses and thorns. Insect stings have been the 1/3 maximum well-known ailment and represent 59.5Per cent of the respondents. Other ailments incidence changed into sunburns, snake bites, fractures, and accidents from falling timber and branches, which represent 20.6Per cent of the farmers. The respondents were given remedies at homes, conventional healers, and hospitals. The use of chemical substances changed into now no longer famous for most of the respondents, herbicides, (9.8Percent), pesticides, (13.1Percent), and insecticides (21.4Percent). Accordingly, the attention to the damaging results of those chemical substances changed to low. Farming sports of the girl farmers in northeastern, Nigeria have been observed to be their manner of livelihood. There is a want to growth agricultural mechanization with the purpose to lessen accidents and pains related to crude farm tools.

Memon (2019) study explains that the health issues from pesticide publicity at some point of cotton harvest and using non-public defensive measures amongst 260 girl cotton-choosing people. Skin injury, eye injury, headache, stomachache, and fever have been the maximum not unusual place fitness issues at some point of cotton-choosing mentioned with the aid of using ladies people of this study. The mentioned fitness troubles at some point of cotton-choosing have been primarily based totally on respondents' enjoyment and have been perceived with the aid of using respondents to be not unusual place end result of occupational publicity to insecticides at some point of cotton choosing. Laboratory analyses to decide the capability of organ failure has been now no longer conducted, for the reason that an in-depth scientific exam of women employees changed past the scope of the study. Blood trying out is certainly extra suitable for figuring out fitness consequences due to the fact self-mentioned signs and symptoms are most effective indicative of fitness impacts.

Results and Discussion

Agriculture is a significant engine of economic boom and poverty discount of country. India's monetary safety is deeply dependent on agriculture. In phrases of employment, it's miles the maximum critical

supply of profits, especially for rural women. Women are actively and drastically take part withinside the manufacturing of fundamental plants and different farming operations. They make a contribution to family profits thru farm and nonfarm activities. India's overall geographical vicinity of the country is 328.7 million hectares, of which pronounced internet sowed vicinity is 140.1 million hectares and the gross cropped vicinity is 198.4 million hectares with a cropping depth of 142 percent. The internet vicinity sowed labored out to be 43 percentage of the whole geographical vicinity. The internet irrigated vicinity become 68.4 million hectares (Annual Report, 2017-18).

Table 1**Total Workers in India***(In Millions)*

Year	Total Workers
1951	139.5
1961	188.7
1971	180.4
1981	244.6
1991	314.1
2001	402.2
2011	481.9

Source: Agricultural Statistics at a Glance 2020, p.12.

Table 1 reveals that the total workers in India during the study period from 1951 to 2011. It is observed that the overall total worker's population has increased.

Table 2**Agriculture Workers in India***(In Millions)*

Year	Agriculture workers
1951	97.2
1961	131.1
1971	125.7
1981	148.0
1991	185.3
2001	234.1
2011	263.1

Source: Agricultural Statistics at a Glance 2020, p.12.

Table 2 explains the trend of Agriculture workers in India from 1951 to 2011. It is revealed that the overall agriculture workers population has increased.

Health Problems of Agriculture Women Workers in India

Women are a key driving force for manufacturers and vendors of meals. Most of the ladies are rural dwellers and play multifaceted roles within the rural area including small-scale farmers, profits earners, and own circle of relatives caretakers. They are concerned unique varieties of sports within the discipline of agriculture in regards to land-associated sports with a prime stake in crop and farm animals husbandry, crop preservation, processing and marketing, and meals coaching for each home intake and sale. In fact, great deals of the rural sports are achieved via way of means of ladies. As a result, ladies play an outstanding position in Indian agriculture. Indeed ladies are a risky hyperlink in reaching family meals security. These essential duties frequently disclose ladies to fitness problems. In fact, the farming surroundings and the situations below which ladies perform render ladies susceptible to occupational fitness hazards. (Kakwagh.2019).

Further, Agriculture ladies are typically doing discipline sports including sowing, transplanting, weeding, harvesting, intercultural, and threshing. While appearing those agricultural duties in a discipline they undertake one-of-a-kind postures like sitting, squatting, bending, status, and sitting cum status. Many of the farming sports are named for mobility in squatting and are very demanding purpose early tiredness of lower back muscle mass. If the sports are continued, ligaments and the bony architect stability the stresses. Such actions stress step by step causing “put on and tear” at the muscle mass and tendons within the forearms, wrists and have an effect on the lower back and neck. People who do repetitive paintings with their bodies in constant and static positions are even extra at risk of getting painting-associated fitness troubles. Such troubles remain one of the main reasons for preventable accidents within the workplace. (Chandra.2016).

Modern processing strategies have now no longer been delivered to ladies who're nevertheless engaged in the usage of the conventional technique for agriculture sports along with seeding, weeding, pesticide, etc. It results in creates fitness issues in agriculture ladies workers. In addition backache, itching/scratching, cuts, pores and skin irritation, dermatitis, pigmentation, and fungal contamination at the pores and skin, pains, tiredness, headache, cough, and swelling of the eyes because of smoke characterizes occupational dangers of ladies agriculture sports in rural communities. Besides, the warmness-associated diseases are warmness exhaustion and heatstroke became results in series of heavy masses of firewood and uncooked farm produce can reason critical muscle and skeletal sickness along with persistent again pain, chest pain, and miscarriages. Others occupational dangers of rural ladies are muscular fatigue, sunburn, migraines, and respiration illnesses and in some instances stillbirth. Increased publicity to air pollution, natural dirt from meals processing, activity overload and chemical dangers also are important chance elements in growing countries. (Odeleye.2015).

Women complained commonly of being tormented by the acute warmness of the solar which manifested in muscular fatigue or frame aches and pains withinside the waist, backs, and joints—as a result, those ladies needed to live off the farm for some days to get better at the same time as a number of the vegetation be afflicted by insufficient upkeep practices. Some of the ladies pronounced that if the fever or contamination persevered for longer periods. The effects discovered that fitness troubles skilled via way of means of ladies covered muscular fatigues, fever, dermatitis, migraines, respiration diseases, impaired imaginative and prescient and listening to because of publicity to excessive temperature, use of chemicals, fertilizers, dust, and bug bites. (Egharevba.2004).

Conclusion

Women play a significant role in agriculture improvement and the monetary increase of the country. They have frequently worried about all works with reference to agricultural sports which include crop production, farm animal's production, horticulture, post-harvest operations, agro/ social forestry, fisheries, etc. Besides, from the family and own circle of relatives maintenance sports to transport water, firewood and food. The observation concluded that the general overall people's populace and agriculture people populace become improved in the course of the observation duration from 1951 to 2011. Women agriculture people in India are frequently uneducated, unskilled, that's why they're unaware approximately dealing with the usage of pesticides, fertilizer, and equipment. Further, they're terrible expertise in retaining their health. Therefore, their popularity may be very low with the aid of using all social, monetary, and political signs in India.

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