Journal DOI: 10.36713/epra1013 | SJIF Impact Factor (2025): 8.619 ISSN: 2347-4378
EPRA International Journal of Economics, Business and Management Studies (EBMS)
Volume: 12 | Issue: 9 | September 2025 -Peer-Reviewed Journal

# ENTREPRENEURSHIP: CATALYST FOR SOCIAL MOBILITY AMONG TRIBAL WOMEN IN TELANGANA

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**Article DOI: https://doi.org/10.36713/epra23972**
**DOI No: 10.36713/epra23972**

## ABSTRACT

*Entrepreneurship has emerged as a transformative force for marginalized communities, particularly among tribal women in Telangana, by facilitating social mobility, economic independence, and empowerment. This study examines the impact of entrepreneurship on the social and economic status of indigenous women, identifies barriers to their success, evaluates government initiatives, and analyzes the broader socioeconomic contributions of female entrepreneurs. Employing both qualitative and quantitative techniques, a survey was conducted among 50 tribal women entrepreneurs across various districts. Findings indicate that entrepreneurship significantly enhances decision-making power, economic independence, and social recognition, with 60% of respondents reporting increased autonomy and societal respect. Additionally, 50% acknowledged improved family living standards, while 56% observed a shift in traditional gender roles within their communities. However, key challenges persist. Financial constraints were reported by 40% of respondents, while 30% cited infrastructural limitations as barriers to market expansion. Furthermore, only 50% benefited from government programs, and 44% faced difficulties in securing financial assistance. Although 60% participated in skill development programs, the effectiveness of such initiatives was limited due to their failure to address the specific needs of indigenous women, particularly in technical skills, marketing, and financial management. Despite these obstacles, 56% of participants inspired other women to explore entrepreneurship, demonstrating its potential for wider social transformation. The study concludes that while entrepreneurship plays a crucial role in empowering tribal women, targeted policies, improved government support, specialized skill-building programs, and enhanced financial accessibility are essential for sustainable growth and long-term socioeconomic progress in Telangana.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Entrepreneurship, Social Mobility, Tribal Women, Government Schemes, Skill Development, Empowerment.*

## I.0. INTRODUCTION

Particularly in underrepresented populations, but especially in impoverished ones, entrepreneurship serves as a vital tool for social and economic progress. Due to socio-cultural barriers and scarcity of resources, tribal women in Telangana face limited prospects for financial engagement. On the other hand, entrepreneurship by women has emerged as an important component of social mobility in the context of greater emphasis on empowerment and inclusive growth. With inherent skills and innovation and creating routes to economic self-sufficiency, high social status, and community development, tribal women are liberating themselves from the restrictions of tradition. This shift towards entrepreneurship not only fosters individual growth but also contributes to preserving indigenous culture, establishing sustainable livelihoods, and facilitating broader economic advancement.

## I.1 ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Entrepreneurship is the process of identifying, developing, and realizing a business idea or opportunity with the objective of creating value, generating profit, and meeting societal or market needs. Entrepreneurs, therefore play a crucial role in economic development by introducing innovation, generating employment, and contributing to the socio-economic progress of their communities.

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## I.2 KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

***Innovation:*** At its essence, entrepreneurship frequently involves innovation—whether in the form of new products, services, business models, or processes. Entrepreneurs challenge the existing norms, providing solutions that enhance efficiency or address unfulfilled needs.

***Risk-Taking:*** Entrepreneurs engage in calculated risks to transform their ideas into reality. These risks may entail financial investment, market unpredictability, or personal time and efforts.

***Vision and Leadership:*** Entrepreneurs generally possess a well-defined vision of their objectives and the capability to lead teams, motivate others, and make strategic decisions to accomplish success.

***Opportunity Recognition:*** Accomplished entrepreneurs discern opportunities in markets, often recognizing trends or gaps that others might overlook.

## I.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To assess the role of entrepreneurship in promoting social mobility among tribal women.
2. To identify the key challenges faced by tribal women in Telangana when starting and sustaining entrepreneurial ventures.
3. To evaluate the effectiveness of government schemes and financial support mechanisms in fostering entrepreneurship among tribal women.
4. To explore the role of skill development and capacity-building programs in enhancing the entrepreneurial potential of tribal women.
5. To examine the impact of entrepreneurship on the socio-economic development of tribal communities.

## I.4 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Though India has made great progress in advancing gender equality and economic growth, tribal women in Telangana still meet strong obstacles restricting their social mobility and economic participation. Often living in far-flung and underprivileged areas, these women are handicapped by socioeconomic norms, poor access to education and skills training, insufficient financial resources and lack of market access. Their ability to participate in valuable financial endeavors, including entrepreneurship, therefore is not fully used. Entrepreneurship might be the vehicle for tribal women to affect change in the form of upward mobility because entrepreneurship will provide opportunities for financial freedom, upwardly elevating their socio-economic statuses, and the general development of the community. Nonetheless, some critical challenges hindering the optimal realization of benefits among tribal women include gaining such resources, cultivating relevant capabilities, and fighting the traditional roles placed on their genders. The paper aims to find how entrepreneurship could be a impetus for social mobility among the tribal women in Telangana, identify their problems at the startup and management level of companies, and analyze the impact of various support structures like the government initiatives, micro lending, and skills building programs. Dealing with such problems is the main aim of this study in an attempt to share knowledge regarding the ways entrepreneurship might become a large source of empowerment and social change for the area's tribal women.

## I.5 NEED FOR THE STUDY

Women from tribal districts of Telangana encounter massive socio-economic hardships, such as poverty, illiteracy, limited access to resources and deep-rooted cultural restrictions that impede their access into the economy. Entrepreneurship would turn out to be a silver lining in empowering them to attain economic independence, broaden their livelihoods, and contribute to community development. Against this backdrop, there is a little work that has been carried out in identifying the effects of entrepreneurship on the tribal women of Telangana. The importance of this study lies in the realization of how entrepreneurship can become a catalyst for the betterment of women's well-being in the family unit. It aims at understanding all the challenges they face-for example, accessing the capital market, social factors, and market barriers-by analyzing the effectiveness of government policies and programs that promote knowledge. The research study aims to explore these elements and make recommendations in practical terms to improve female entrepreneurship success rates.

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## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Transformative power has always been acknowledged in entrepreneurship, which supports financial growth, social inclusion, and gender equality. Recent years have seen much interest in how entrepreneurship can help social mobility, especially in underrepresented groups like tribal women in India. Particularly in Telangana, this literature review investigates different research and academic publications on the crossroads of entrepreneurship and tribal women and discusses how it enables societal mobility and empowerment. Particularly among underrepresented groups, entrepreneurship has been long valued as a way of increasing social mobility. Along with surmounting socioeconomic challenges, entrepreneurship enables women to achieve financial independence, according to Sharma and Dhiman (2019). Particularly needful for tribal women, who sometimes have little prospects and institutionalized genderism. Particularly in rural and tribal regions, women's empowerment via business has been much researched, especially its consequences. Per Narayanan et al. Entrepreneurship empowers women in 2021 to take control of their financial situation, increasing self-esteem and decision-making ability. Tribal women entrepreneurs have been shown to make a great financial influence on their surroundings. Emphasizing their help to poverty eradication and community development, Kumar and Reddy (2020) study the financial influence of small businesses started by native women. Success of women entrepreneurs in native areas depends much on training and capacity-encouraging initiatives. According Singh and Ghosh (2018), skill development programs customized to the particular requirements of tribal peoples in Telangana have been vital for fostering entrepreneurship. Encouragement of business among tribal women depends upon policies and actions. Including financial support and training programs, the Telangana government has undertaken several projects to encourage entrepreneurship among tribal tribes (Ministry of Tribal Affairs, 2022). Entrepreneurship helps tribal women to keep and enhance their cultural legacy. Mahadevan and Kannan (2019) found that companies based on traditional crafts and methods not only produce money but also help to protect native culture. For tribal women entrepreneurs, access to microfinance has changed the scene. Das and Sharma's (2020) study shows that microfinance institutions provide vital financial support enabling women to start and run little companies in countryside areas. Tribal women face many challenges in running their own businesses although there are possible benefits. According to Chandra and Mishra (2021), these elements comprise limited market access, gender inequality, and poor education. Entrepreneurship has the power to significantly alter social and cultural standards. Emphasizing that the entrepreneurial successes of indigenous women support greater acceptance of female roles beyond traditional boundaries, Jha and Ramesh (2023) conclude their study. Helping tribal female entrepreneurs, non-governmental organization (NGO) has been vital. NGOs provide indispensable assistance via training, marketing support, and resource availability, as pointed out by Rao and Patel (2021). Environmentally friendly projects following sustainable methods are often taken on by women entrepreneurs from tribes. Sharma et al. (2020) stress the twofold benefits of these companies in encouraging conservation of the environment and underpinning quality of life. Modern entrepreneurship depends significantly on emerging technology. The presence of digital tools and mediums, Prakash and Iyer (2022) note, has opened fresh possibilities for tribal women to market their items and reach bigger customer. Particularly effective in tribal areas, entrepreneurial models based in the community run. Banerjee and Singh (2019) study shows how tribal women of Telangana have been empowered by cooperative businesses and group action. Entrepreneurs need education to be successful. Reddy and Das (2020) note that educational programs aimed at tribal women have substantially improved their ability to run and maintain businesses. The entrepreneurship of tribal women causes a ripple effect benefiting their societies and families. Kulkarni and Verma (2023) say these benefits include improved schooling for youngsters, greater access to medical care, and complete community development.

### II.1 RESEARCH GAP

Studies on the issue of women's entrepreneurship have mainly been on tribal women in Telangana. Good quality data showing financial constraints has not yet been gathered. However, the lack of effectivity is not the biggest issue here but an impact of the cultural resistance and gender norms on the successful establishment of entrepreneurs. Quite rarely do the investigations last that long, indeed! They regularly make an attempt at identifying the weakest or strongest point of them. However, addressing these gaps will help in the development of policies and systems in the empowerment of these women.

## III. METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

***A) Data Collection:***

***Primary Data:*** Gathered through structured questionnaires concentrating on demographics, entrepreneurial endeavors, challenges, government assistance, and skill enhancement. Semi-structured interviews were carried out for comprehensive understanding.

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***Secondary Data:*** Obtained from reports, government publications, research papers, and case studies pertinent to women entrepreneurship and tribal advancement.

***B) Sampling and sample size***

A purposive sampling technique was implemented to choose 50 tribal women entrepreneurs from two districts (i.e., Khammam and Bhadradri Kothagudem) in Telangana. These women were actively participating in entrepreneurial ventures across various sectors.

***C) Statistical tools used***

The data is analyzed with simple mathematical tools, like averages and percentages.

***D) Scope and Limitations:***

The research is confined to Telangana and concentrates on tribal women entrepreneurs, with insights grounded in their unique socio-cultural and economic context.

## IV. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

**TABLE IV.1**
**DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS:**

| Categories | | Frequency | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|
| Age | Below 20 | 5 | 10 |
| | 21-30 | 17 | 34 |
| | 31-40 | 15 | 30 |
| | 41-50 | 7 | 14 |
| | Above 51 | 6 | 12 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Education Qualification | No formal education | 5 | 10 |
| | Primary | 7 | 14 |
| | Secondary | 12 | 24 |
| | Graduate | 20 | 40 |
| | Post-Graduation | 6 | 12 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Marital Status | Single | 7 | 14 |
| | Married | 35 | 70 |
| | Widow | 5 | 10 |
| | Divorced | 3 | 6 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Location | Urban | 12 | 24 |
| | Rural | 28 | 56 |
| | Tribal Area | 10 | 20 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Primary Occupation | Home maker | 18 | 36 |
| | Farmer | 10 | 20 |
| | Artisan | 5 | 10 |
| | Business owner | 12 | 24 |
| | others | 5 | 10 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Family Income | Below 10000 | 20 | 40 |
| | 10000-25000 | 17 | 34 |
| | 25000-50000 | 10 | 20 |
| | Above 50000 | 3 | 6 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| **Source: Primary Data** | | | |

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Table1 highlights that diverse demographic profile of tribal women entrepreneurs in Telangana. More than half of the subjects 64% are in the age bracket of 21-40, meaning active involvements during their productive years. Though 40% are graduates, a fair percentage (24%) has only primary or no formal education, clearly showing the requirement for educational support. A majority (70%) is married and balancing family and business, while 30% include single, divorced, or widowed women, who often face more formidable challenges. Geographically, most entrepreneurs are from rural (56%) and tribal areas (20%), showcasing entrepreneurship's role in underserved regions. Occupations vary, with 36% transitioning from homemaking, 24% as full-time business owners, and others integrating traditional roles like farming (20%) and artisan work (10%). Income levels reveal 40% earning below ₹10,000, highlighting entrepreneurship's potential to uplift economically disadvantaged groups, while higher-income participants (26%) show its capacity for financial growth.

**TABLE IV.2**
**ROLE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN PROMOTING SOCIAL MOBILITY**

| Statement | Opinion | Frequency | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|
| Impact on Social Status and Economic Independence | Significant Improvement | 30 | 60 |
| | Moderate Improvement. | 12 | 24 |
| | No change | 8 | 16 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Improved Decision-Making Power | Yes | 30 | 60 |
| | No | 10 | 20 |
| | Partially | 8 | 16 |
| | Not applicable | 2 | 4 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Challenging Gender Roles | Yes | 28 | 56 |
| | No | 7 | 14 |
| | Not sure | 15 | 30 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Social Recognition | Yes | 25 | 50 |
| | No | 5 | 10 |
| | Not sure | 20 | 40 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| **Source: Primary Data** | | | |

The above table reveals that Entrepreneurship has positively influenced tribal women in Telangana, with 60% reporting significant improvement in social and economic independence and decision-making power. Well over half, that is, 56% were successful in transcending reactionary gendered stereotypes; and accordingly, one can argue entrepreneurship possesses transformative capabilities. However, still 30% were unsure, which renders socio-cultural resistance to be still present at a certain level. Half of them, or 50%, indeed experienced enhanced social recognition; nevertheless, 40% felt they did not.

**TABLE IV.3**
**CHALLENGES FACED IN STARTING AND SUSTAINING BUSINESSES**

| Statement | Opinion | Frequency | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|
| Challenges in Starting a Business | Lack of capital | 20 | 40 |
| | Lack of skills | 12 | 24 |
| | Social resistance | 10 | 20 |
| | Lack of market access | 5 | 10 |
| | Other challenges | 3 | 6 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Impact of Cultural Norms and Gender Biases | Significantly | 32 | 64 |
| | Moderately | 10 | 20 |
| | Slightly | 5 | 10 |
| | Not at all | 3 | 6 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Difficulties in accessing markets | Yes | 25 | 50 |

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | No | 10 | 20 |
| | Some times | 15 | 30 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Experience with Financial Support | Difficult | 22 | 44 |
| | moderate | 20 | 40 |
| | easy | 8 | 16 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| **Source: Primary Data** | | | |

The above table depicts that Entrepreneurial challenges for tribal women in Telangana are rooted in systemic issues like lack of capital (40%) and skills (24%), compounded by cultural norms and gender biases that significantly impact 64% of respondents. Market access remains a significant hurdle for half of the participants, and financial support is perceived as difficult to access by 44%.

**TABLE IV.4**
**GOVERNMENT SCHEMES AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

| Statement | Opinion | Frequency | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|
| Awareness of Government Schemes | Yes | 35 | 70 |
| | No | 15 | 30 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Benefits from Government Schemes | Yes | 25 | 50 |
| | No | 25 | 50 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Sufficiency of Support Mechanisms | Yes | 20 | 40 |
| | No | 12 | 24 |
| | Partially | 16 | 32 |
| | Not sure | 2 | 4 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Accessibility of Financial Resources | Difficult | 22 | 44 |
| | Moderate | 15 | 30 |
| | Easy | 13 | 26 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| **Source: Primary Data** | | | |

Table-4 reveals a high level of awareness (70%) among tribal women regarding government schemes. Of these, only 50% have benefited from the initiatives, showing that there might be gaps in the implementation or accessibility. With regards to the support mechanisms, 40% of the students think they are adequate, while 32% feel that it is not enough, but partially sufficient; 24% stated that the support mechanisms available are inadequate. The challenge facing financial accessibility was a difficult because 44% could not access resources easily, 30% found it moderately easy, and only 26% found accessing the support mechanisms very easy.

**TABLE IV.5**
**SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMS**

| Statement | Opinion | Frequency | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|
| Participation in Skill Development Programs | Yes | 30 | 60 |
| | No | 20 | 40 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Skills Acquired | Business management | 12 | 24 |
| | Marketing | 13 | 26 |
| | Technical skills | 10 | 20 |
| | Financial management | 15 | 30 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Contribution to Business Growth | Significant Contribution | 28 | 56 |
| | Moderate Contribution | 15 | 30 |
| | No Contribution | 7 | 14 |

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Training Needs | Marketing and Sales | 25 | 50 |
| | Financial Management | 20 | 40 |
| | Technical Skills | 5 | 10 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| **Source: Primary Data** | | | |

From the above table 60% of tribal women entrepreneurs have participated in skill development programs, which have helped them acquire skills in financial management (30%), marketing (26%), business management (24%), and technical skills (20%). These skills have contributed much to business growth for 56% of the participants, while 30% report moderate contributions. Despite these advancements, training needs remain pronounced, with 50% expressing a need for marketing and sales training, 40% for financial management, and 10% for technical skills.

**TABLE IV.6**
**IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

| Statement | Opinion | Frequency | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|
| Improvement in Family Living Standards | Yes | 25 | 50 |
| | No | 10 | 20 |
| | Partially | 15 | 30 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Inspiration to Other Women | Yes | 28 | 56 |
| | No | 12 | 24 |
| | Not sure | 10 | 20 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Contribution to Socio-Economic Development | Improved Health | 12 | 24 |
| | Improved Education | 13 | 26 |
| | Employment Generation | 15 | 30 |
| | Enhanced social status | 10 | 20 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| Employment Opportunities | Significant Impact | 22 | 44 |
| | Moderate Impact | 15 | 30 |
| | No impact | 13 | 26 |
| | **Total** | **50** | **100** |
| **Source: Primary Data** | | | |

Table-6 explains that 50% of tribal women entrepreneurs have experienced improvements in family living standards through their entrepreneurial ventures, while 30% report partial improvement. Moreover, 56% said efforts inspire other women to be more entrepreneurial, whereas 24% do not believe they are inspirational role models to others. In terms of its contribution to the socio-economic level, it provided employment (30%), education opportunities (26%), health services improved (24%) and social status advancement (20%). Employment opportunity factors are affected such that 44% reported that an impact is observed, 30% see an average impact while 26% report no effects.

## V.1 FINDINGS

***Impact on Social Status and Economic Independence:*** Altogether, 60% of the tribal women entrepreneurs reported an improvement in social and economic status due to entrepreneurship, while 24% reported modest improvement. Only 16% said that there was no change. This means that the impact of entrepreneurship in their lives is predominantly positive.

***Improved Decision-Making Ability:*** Sixty percent of the respondents felt they had the power to decide, which indicates more autonomy. However, 20% of women reported that their decision-making power was still the same, and

16% reported some improvement, which means that although entrepreneurship gives empowerment, cultural and family constraints may limit its full effectiveness.

***Defy the Gender Norm:*** 56% of female entrepreneurs think that the involvement of business allows them to challenge conventional gender roles while 14% seem to concur that their participation in business does not make a difference. While an impressive 30% could not say whether or not this were true, they pointed out that many women still face resistance in changing traditional perceptions of conventional gender roles within their communities.

***Social Acknowledgment:*** Half of the participants indicated that their entrepreneurial endeavors led to greater social acknowledgment, while 40% were uncertain about the recognition they obtained. Merely 10% reported no enhancement in social recognition, indicating a varied influence of entrepreneurship on societal views.

***Obstacles in Launching a Business****:* The primary challenges encountered by tribal women entrepreneurs are insufficient capital (40%), limited skills (24%), and social opposition (20%). Only 10% encountered issues with market access, and 6% mentioned various difficulties, emphasizing financial and social barriers as major hindrances to entrepreneurship.

***Influence of Social Norms and Gender Prejudices:*** 64% of those surveyed indicated that cultural norms and gender biases greatly influenced their entrepreneurial experience. Just 20% observed a moderate impact, while 10% felt minor effects and 6% stated no effect, highlighting the critical influence of societal norms and prejudices in restricting business opportunities for women.

***Market access:*** Markets access problems arise in half of women entrepreneurs, 30% have intermittent hiccups, and 20% don not have this issue. This suggests that although market obstacles are a major hinder, some women have managed to bypass them.

***Experience of Financial Support:*** Forty-four percent of those surveyed report struggling to get money, so financial resources are a big concern. With 40% reporting moderate difficulty and only 16% finding financial support simple to obtain, access to financial means remains a significant obstacle to the development of women-led companies.

***Recognition of State Programmes:*** While only 50% of women said they benefited from these programs, 70% were aware of government initiatives designed to help business owners. This points to a disparity between knowledge and practical use, so improved deployment or availability of these programs seems advisable.

***Skill improvement:*** Sixty percent of those surveyed had taken part in skill development courses; 30% had learned financial management, 26% marketing, and 24% business management. Their businesses grew much in part due to these qualities; 56% report a great contribution and 30% fairly high impact.

***Better conditions of family life:*** Half of female entrepreneurs noted better family living levels, with 30 percent seeing only some improvement. This emphasizes the good effects business can have on families' economic well-being.

***Inspiration for Other Women:*** While 24 percent disagreed, 56 percent of women thought their entrepreneurial projects motivated other women in their area. Successful tribal women entrepreneurs therefore have the ability to start a ripple effect in their communities whereby others follow them into small enterprises.

***Socio-economic growth contribution:*** Respondents said their companies helped to raise social standing (20%), health (26%), and education (24%), and employment opportunities (30%). These results point to entrepreneurship as a significant driver of socioeconomic improvement in tribal areas.

***Business chances:*** Thirty percent of the participants said they saw a bit of influence, with forty-four percent noting a notable effect on job creation. However, 26% did not feel any effect, showing that while some businessmen are helping to create employment, others might be having trouble growing their ventures.

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## V.2 DISCUSSION

***Inadequate Availability of Finance:*** One of the key challenges that tribal women entrepreneurs face is the availability of suitable and affordable finance. Several individuals face barriers in accessing loan and grant provisions mainly because they do not possess any collateral, while the processes of acquiring loans and grants are quite complex.

***Inaccessibility to Expanded Markets:*** Limited infrastructure, unawareness of the web-based platform, and low participation in exhibitions or trade fairs result in tribal women being unable to expand their market.

***Cultural Norms and Traditional Gender Bias:*** Strictly rooted social traditions and gender discrimination do not allow the tribal women to become mobile and self-dependent, which often restricts their business initiatives because families and society may refuse to support such activities.

***Lack of Skills****:* Women do not possess sufficient skills in business management, marketing, and financial planning, which are the key skills needed to run and expand a business.

***Knowledge and Utilization of Government Programs:*** Many women know about government programs, but a significant number cannot access or take advantage of them because of red tape, inadequate information, or poor implementation.

***Poor Support Structures:*** The lack of support systems, including mentorship, training, and networking, often limits tribal women from learning from others and expanding their businesses.
***Social Resistance and Stereotyping:*** Most women experience resistance from families or communities, which do not consider entrepreneurship an appropriate occupation for women, particularly in tribal areas.

***Lack of Infrastructure and Technology****:* Especially in the rural and tribal areas, the poor infrastructure restricted access to digital technology, scarcity of electricity, and lack of proper transport mechanism hampers business operations.

***Managing domestic and professional obligations:*** Many of the tribal women entrepreneurs would face challenges in juggling their domestic duties and managing an enterprise simultaneously and, thus suffer from stress and lack of concentration on the venture.

***Less exposure and networking:*** Tribal women hardly learn best practices or get in touch with successful entrepreneurs, which lower their chances for collaboration.
***Language and communication obstacles:*** Limited knowledge of main corporate languages or communication styles may hinder women from successfully advertising their goods or negotiating agreements.

***Incoherent Policy Support:*** Many women entrepreneurs do not have the desired advantages nor needed support as a result of sometimes unevenly applied policies intended to help them

## VI.1 CONCLUSION

The research focuses on the vital role entrepreneurship plays in empowering tribal women in Telangana, improving their socio-economic conditions, and developing the community further. While several women have reported improvements in living standards, decision-making influence, and social recognition, poor economic resources, socio-cultural resistance, and limited access to markets are still significant obstacles. Tribal women may better be able to overcome these hurdles with greater availability of capital and skill building as well as focused government support. Also, by shifting cultural perceptions of the role of gender as well as having inspirational female examples might help build an environment for entrepreneurs. The results presented here are evidence that with the proper support, the tribal women entrepreneurs have the potential not only to achieve their personal entrepreneurial goals but also contribute extensively toward the development of their communities in terms of socio-economic development, and better conditions can bring ahead tribal women's capacities for business entrepreneurship that can help them act as change makers in the right direction.

## VI.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

***Enhance Availability of Financial Assistance:*** Economic obstacles continue to pose a major difficulty for women entrepreneurs in tribal communities. It is essential to improve access to affordable financial resources, grants, and micro-loans via government programs, financial entities, and NGOs. Streamlined application procedures and financial education programs can assist women in effectively managing the financial environment.

***Programs for Skill Enhancement:*** Although numerous women have taken part in skill development initiatives, there is a demand for more focused and reachable training in essential fields like business management, marketing, and financial literacy. These initiatives must be tailored to address the unique requirements of tribal women, considering their cultural barriers and local contexts.

***Address Cultural Norms and Gender Biases****:* The influence of cultural standards and gender prejudices on the entrepreneurial endeavors of tribal women is considerable. Launching awareness campaigns and community-level initiatives address the conventional gender roles, which is an important step to fight against and transform. Involving men and the community leaders makes the atmosphere encouraging for women entrepreneurs as well.

***Improving Access to Markets:*** The government and NGOs should collaborate in improving the access of women entrepreneurs to the market, mainly from the rural and tribal sectors. The projects involved include digital platforms, trade exhibitions, and community-oriented networks, all of which help expand markets, ensuring women can reach more consumers.

***Improving the implementation of government programs:*** Though there is awareness about government programs, much disparity still exists between information and actual benefits. Local officials have to ensure better implementation and monitoring of these programs. More personalized counseling and advisory services to women entrepreneurs will improve the effective use of these programs.

***Encourage Networking and Mentoring:*** Building networks for women entrepreneurs and providing mentorship support will further help young entrepreneurs. These networks can be turned into a resource or space for knowledge sharing and mutual support among similar entrepreneurs as well as finding guidelines from experienced entrepreneurs to ensure sustainable business development.

***Encourage Role Models:*** Successful tribal women entrepreneurs can be encouraged as role models. Local and regional media, along with community leaders, can significantly highlight successful entrepreneurs and their impact on socio-economic progress.

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