Original Research Article

QUANTIFICATION OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF RURAL WOMEN IN SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ABSTRACT

Rural women contribute in socioeconomic development and they are good partners to economic development of every society. They are important agents of addressing rural socioeconomic development. The study aimed to quantify the contribution of rural women to socioeconomic development at two villages named Sachibunia and Islamnagar at Batiaghata upazilla under Khulna District of Bangladesh, and to explore the relationship between each of the selected characteristics of the rural women and their extent of contribution in socioeconomic development. Data were collected from randomly selected 120 respondents during the period of January to February, 2019. The selected characteristics of the respondents were age, educational qualification, family size, farm size, annual family income, organizational participation, extension media contact, training exposure, poverty status, number of performed daily activities, time spent in performed daily activities, involved in income generating activities at how many days per month, role in decision making for different activities and problem faced by respondent for participating in income generating activities. The extent of contribution to socioeconomic development was the dependent variable. Data were collected using a structured interview schedule. Spearman's rank order correlation co-efficient (ρ) was computed to ascertain the relationships between the selected characteristics and dependent variable. Rural women have performed different daily activities and their time spent for it converted into money. Quantified contribution to family income based on unemployed respondent was (26%) whereas contribution by other members of the family was (74%) and quantified contribution to family income based on employed respondent was (50%) whereas contribution by other members of the family was (50%). Contribution was also measured according to educational qualification. Quantified contribution to family income based on low educated respondent (paid) was (48%) whereas contribution by other members of the family was (52%) and quantified contribution to family income based on highly educated respondent (paid) was (60%) whereas contribution by other member of the family was (40%). Quantified contribution to family income based on low educated respondent (unpaid) was (29%) whereas contribution by other members of the family was (71%) and quantified contribution to family income based on highly educated respondent (unpaid) was (23%) whereas contribution by other member of the family was (77%). Negative and significant relationship found between the problem faced by respondents and their contributions in terms of money to socioeconomic development. It might be concluded that, contribution of rural women to socioeconomic development is so much essential. For that, adequate support from government and non-government organization should be provided to increase the contribution rate by ensuring barrier free participation of rural women in income generating activities.

Key words: Contribution, Rural women, Income generating activity, Participation, Socioeconomic development.

1. INTRODUCTION

Rural women as half of the rural population have an important role in economic activities which leads to the entire social development of a community; therefore in order to achieve rural development an attention to women that involves in economic and development activities with men is required. Rural

women contribute in socioeconomic development as they involve in different forms of economic activities for their family and societal improvement. Such economic activities involve agriculture, trade transaction, gardening, social forestry, food processing, hairdressing and weaving. In explaining the important role women made, the world conference on the United Nations decades of women was that two-third of the total workforce done by women in the world are rural women who live in rural communities with poor social amenities. But still the value of the economic activities of rural women in the area of sustainable development is not well recognized.

Bangladesh is basically an agricultural country. Agriculture contributes about 14.74% to country's total GDP (BBS, 2017). Concerns about sustainability in agricultural systems center on the need to develop technologies and practices that do not have adverse effects on environmental goods and services, are accessible to and effective for farmers, and lead to improvements in food productivity. Women's participation and their role in economic structures is an indicator of the modernization of the national economy and economic development. Development strategies should be based on a more active participation of rural women in economic activities. Providing the fact that women make the half of the population in rural communities is considered the major manufacturers of food and income for rural households which are the important aspect of agricultural production all over the world. Women in our rural area greatly contribute through their household and agricultural work but their work has hardly been recognized. Considering this fact the researchers persuaded to conduct the present research**.**

In order to proper direction to the research, the following specific objectives were formulated:

i. To determine and describe the personal socioeconomic characteristics of the rural women.
ii. To quantify the contribution of rural women in socioeconomic development.
iii. To explore the relationships between selected characteristics of rural women and extent of women contribution in socioeconomic development.

2. METHODOLOGY

A researcher is responsible for describing clearly what sorts of research design, methods and procedures would be followed. The design of the study was a descriptive and diagnostic survey research. That is, the study was designed to describe the quantification of the contribution of rural women in socioeconomic development. It was also designed to describe the personal socioeconomic characteristics of the rural women and also to draw relationship between those characteristics and extent of women contribution in economic activities for socioeconomic development. Data were collected by means of conducting a face to face interview with respondents using a structured schedule. The study was conducted in two villages named Sachibunia and Islamnagor under Batiaghata upazilla of Khulna district in Bangladesh. A list of women performing different productive activities related to socioeconomic development were collected with the help of field level officer of Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE). The total number of women were considered as population of the respective villages and among them sample were selected randomly. Irrespective of size of population of the selected two villages, the researcher selected 120 women taking 60 from each of the villages. In order to collect relevant information from respondents, an interview schedule was carefully designed focusing the objectives of the study. Both open and close form, simple and direct questions were included in the interview schedule. The questions were systematically arranged to help the respondents to understand the consequence easily. Scales were developed for collecting information required for measuring the selected characteristics. Before finalization, the interview schedule was pre-tested with 10 women of the study area were excluded from the sample. On the basis

of the pre-test experiences, corrections, modifications and alterations were made before finalizing the interview schedule for final data collection. During modification of the schedule, valuable suggestions were received from the research supervisor and relevant experts. The interview schedule was then printed in its final form and multiplied. The researcher himself collected data from the respondents through the personal interview during January to February, 2019. During this time the researchers had to made several visits for collecting valid and reliable data from the respondents. Before starting collection of data, the researcher met the respective Deputy Director (DD), Upazilla Agriculture Officer (UAO) and the concerned Sub Assistant Agriculture Officers (SAAOs). By the help of concerned authority the researcher met with the respondents and interviewed them. The researcher discussed the objectives of the present study with the respondents so that they did not feel hesitate at the time of interview. However, if any respondent failed to understand any question, the researchers explained and clarified the questions and statements as much as possible so that the women could easily understand and answer the questions correctly. After completion of the interview, it was checked and editing was done in case of necessity. All the interview schedules were prepared for data tabulation after completing the field study. Collected data were summarized and inspected thoroughly. A master sheet was prepared to tabulate the data by transferring all the individual variables in order to meet the objectives of the study. During data processing, appropriate scoring technique was followed to convert the data into quantitative form in case of qualitative data. Local units of measurements were converted into standard units. In case of some variables, proper indices and scales were made through the simple accumulation of score assigned to individual or pattern of attributes. Indices and scales were considered the efficient instruments for data reduction and analysis. All personal characteristics were categorized and arranged in simple tables for interpretation and discussion. Number, frequency and percentage were used for statistical description. The independent variables were some of the selected characteristics of the respondents. The selected characteristics of the respondents were age, educational qualification, family size, farm size, annual family income, organizational participation, extension media contact, training exposure, poverty status, number of performed daily activities, time spent in performed daily activities, involved in income generating activities at how many days per month, role in decision making for different activities and problem faced by respondent for participating in income generating activities.

Contribution in terms of money (Time spent for performing different daily activities converted into money) constituted dependent variable of the study. Time spent for performing different daily activities converted into money were quantified by using formula. For example, a woman had performed different types of daily activities. At first, how many times she had spent for those activities was counted. Suppose, time spent was 8 hours. A working day = 8 hours and 8 hours working day equivalent to 500 TK (General payment for worker). For 8 hours per day, earning money = 500 TK. Women perform different types of activities every day. So that, monthly earning money = (500×30) = 15,000 TK. Yearly earning money = (500×365) =1,82,500 TK.

Contribution to family income (%) by respondent was quantified through a formula.

Quantified contribution to family income by respondent = (Annual income by respondent ÷ Total annual family income) × 100 %.

Participation score (PS) and participation index (PI) were calculated by using the following formula:

$PS = (N_1 \times 0) + (N_2 \times 1) + (N_3 \times 2) + (N_4 \times 3)$

Where,

PS = Participation Score

N_1= No. of respondents participated not at all / no role

N_2= No. of respondents participated rarely / rarely role

N_3= No. of respondents participated moderately / passive role

N_4= No. of respondents participated extremely / active role

$$\text{Participation score} = \frac{\text{Observed participation score}}{\text{Possible participation score}} \times 100$$

After completion of field survey, all the data of the interview schedule were compiled. Various statistical measures such as number, mean, standard deviation, minimum, maximum and percentage were used in describing the independent and dependent variables of the study. For clarity of understanding, tables were used to present the data. Spearman's rank order correlation co-efficient (ρ) is a nonparametric measure of the strength and direction of association that exists between two variables measured on at least an ordinal scale. Thus Spearman's rank order correlation co-efficient (ρ) was computed for exploring the relationships between the selected characteristics of the respondents and their contribution in socioeconomic development. Data were analyzed by using the Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Selected characteristics of the rural women

Middle aged women (44.2%) were highly involved in socioeconomic development followed by young aged (40%) and old aged women (15.8%). About (46.7%) of respondents had secondary level of education followed by (11.7%) respondent were illiterate and (3.3%) of respondent had above higher secondary level of education. Maximum numbers of families in rural areas were medium in size that was about (50.8%) followed by small sized family (35.8%) and large sized family (13.3%). About (45.8%) of the respondents had small farm size and only (3.3%) had large farm size. However, about (7.5%) of the respondents had medium farm size and (30.8%) of the respondents had marginal farm size and only (12.5%) of the respondents were landless. Majority of the respondents had medium family income (45.8%) followed by extremes lower income (11.7%), lower income (31.7%) and higher income number of (10.8%). About (8.3%) of the respondents had no interest to participate in any organization followed by (58.3%) of the respondents had in medium participation, (30%) of the respondent had in low participation and (3.3%) of the respondents had more interest to participate in any organization. Majority of the rural women (49.2%) had low extension contact and (47.5%) had medium extension contact. There were so small amount of women only (3.3%) who had possessed higher extension contact. The respondents (85.8%) had medium training followed by (8.3%) of the respondents had no training as they were not to be interested to receive any training. About (4.2%) of respondents had medium training opportunity followed by (1.7%) of the respondents had high training as they were mostly interested to receive any training from different government and non-government organization. About (52.5%) of the respondents were involved in medium number of daily activities followed by low number of daily activities (5.8%) and higher number of daily activities (15.8%) of the respondent. Most (78.3%) of the respondent spent moderate time in performing different types of daily activities whereas about (1.7%) of respondents spent short time and (20%) of the respondents spent long time. Most (43.8%) of the respondents were in moderate days involved for performing different types of income generating activities whereas about (29.8%) were in short days involved and (25.6%) of the respondents were in long days involved. Majority

of women (47.5%) had medium role in decision making for different activities whereas about (45.8%) of the respondents had low role and (6.7%) of the respondents had high role for decision making for different activities. Majority of the women (54.2%) faced low problem for participating in income generating activities compared to (18.3%) women faced medium problem and only about (27.5%) faced higher problem. (Table 1)

Table 1. Distribution of rural women according to their selected characteristics (N= 120)

Parameter	Category	Score	Respondents (N=120)		Mean	SD	Min	Max
			Number	Percentage				
Age	Young	≤35	48	40				
	Middle	36-50	53	44.2	40.29	10.59	20	62
	Old	>50	19	15.8				
Education (Schooling years)	Illiterate	0	14	11.7				
	Primary	1-5	37	30.8				
	Secondary	6-10	56	46.7				
	Higher Secondary	11-12	9	7.5	6.37	3.97	00	17
	Above higher secondary	Above 12	4	3.3				
Family size (No. of members)	Small	≤4	43	35.8				
	Medium	5-7	61	50.8	5.32	1.66	3	10
	Large	>7	16	13.3				
Farm size (Hectare)	Landless	< 0.02	15	12.5				
	Marginal	0.02-0.20	37	30.8	0.65	0.79	0.01	4
	Small	0.21-1.0	55	45.8				
	Medium	1.01-3.0	9	7.5				
	Large	>3	4	3.3				
Annual income (TK)	Extra low	≤ 1,20,000	14	11.7				
	Low	1,20,001-2,40,000	38	31.7	2,49,475	82151.21	1,12,000	3,90,0000
	Medium	2,40,001-3,60,000	55	45.8				
	High	>3.60,000	13	10.8				
Organizational Participation (Score)	No	0	10	8.3				
	Low	1-8	36	30	9.13	4.8	00	19
	Medium	9-16	70	58.3				
	High	>16	4	3.3				
Extension contact	Low	≤ 20	59	49.2				
	Medium	21-40	57	47.5	22.74	8.62	6	42
	High	> 41	4	3.3				
Training exposure	No	0	10	8.3				
	Low	1-4	103	85.8	2.33	1.21	0	6
	Medium	5-8	5	4.2				
	High	>8	2	1.7				

Table 1. Continue…..

Parameter	Category	Score	Respondents (N=120)		Mean	SD	Min	Max
			Number	Percentage				
Poverty status (Score)	No	0	9	7.5	6.19	4.91	00	25
	Low	1-10	98	81.7				
	Medium	11-20	9	7.5				
	High	21-30	4	3.3				
Number of performed daily activity	Low	<4	7	5.8	6.67	1.93	3	10
	Medium	4-7	63	52.5				
	High	>7	50	41.7				
Time spent in performed daily activities (Hours)	Short	< 6	2	1.7	7.25	1.31	5	11
	Moderate	6-8	94	78.3				
	Long time	> 8	24	20				
Involved in income-earning activity (Days per month)	Short	<15	36	29.8	17.67	4.24	12	30
	Moderate	15-20	53	43.8				
	Long	>20	31	25.6				
Role in decision making (Score)	Low	1-10	55	45.8	11.35	6.08	1	30
	Medium	11-20	57	47.5				
	High	21-30	8	6.7				
Problem faced (Score)	Low	0-28	65	54.2	28.48	11.67	4	50
	Medium	29-39	22	18.3				
	High	40-50	33	27.5				

*SD- Standard deviation, Min.- Minimum, Max.- Maximum Source: Field survey, 2019

3.2 Relative position (Rank order) of the selected 15- issues of rural women in case of role in decision making related to socioeconomic development.

Role in decision making by women is an important factors which is directly or indirectly responsible for upgrading any socioeconomic improvement of a nation. Data represents that among all roles in decision

making by women, a nature of decision like rearing of poultry, goat and cattle had been ranked first simultaneously and marriage of sons / daughter had been ranked second simultaneously. (Table 2)

3.3 Relative position (Rank order) of the selected 15-issues about problem faced by rural women during participation in income generating activities

There are different types of problems which are faced by rural women during participation of income generating activities. Despite being a developing country, Bangladesh always faces the problem of poverty and illiteracy. The main victim of this problem is women, especially the rural women. Data represents that among all problems, lack of education had ranked first simultaneously. (Table 3)

Table 2. Relative position (Rank order) of the selected 15- issues of rural women in case of role in decision making related to socioeconomic development based on participation score (PS) and participation index (PI) (N=120)

Nature of decision	Extent of role in decision making						
	Active role (3)	Passive role (2)	Rare role (1)	No role (0)	PS	PI	Rank (15-issues)
1. Buying or selling lands	5×(3)	6×(2)	9×(1)	100×(0)	36	10	14 th
2. Taking or giving lands on lease	7×(3)	5×(2)	10×(1)	98×(0)	43	11.94	13 th
3. Receiving credit	20×(3)	30×(2)	10×(1)	60×(0)	130	36.12	6th
4. House construction	5×(3)	20×(2)	10×(1)	94×(0)	55	15.27	10th
5. Vaccinations of children	40×(3)	40×(2)	20×(1)	20×(0)	220	61.11	3rd
6. Education of children	50×(3)	20×(2)	20×(1)	30×(0)	210	58.33	4th
7. Participation in ceremonies	20×(3)	20×(2)	10×(1)	70×(0)	110	30.55	8th
8. Cultivation of crops	8×(3)	12×(2)	20×(1)	80×(0)	68	18.88	9th
9. Rearing of poultry, goat and cattle	80×(3)	20×(2)	15×(1)	5×(0)	295	45	1st
10. Marriage of sons / daughter	70×(3)	30×(2)	15×(1)	5×(0)	285	79.16	2nd
11. Adoption of high yielding varieties	10×(3)	5×(2)	5×(1)	100×(0)	45	12.5	12th
12. Agricultural farm activities	20×(3)	30×(2)	10×(1)	60×(0)	130	36.11	5th
13. Buying of agricultural inputs	10×(3)	5×(2)	5×(1)	100×(0)	50	13.88	11th
14. Processing of farm products	30×(3)	20×(2)	10×(1)	60×(0)	120	33.33	7th
15. Marketing of farm products	5×(3)	5×(2)	8×(1)	102×(0)	33	9.1	15th

Source: Field survey, 2019

Table 3. Relative position (Rank order) of the selected 15-issues about problem faced by rural women during participation in income generating activities based on participation score (PS) and participation index (PI) (N=120)

Problem	Extent of problem				PS	PI	Rank (15-issues)
	Extreme (3)	Moderate (2)	Rarely (1)	Not at all (0)			
1. Lack of education	106×(3)	10×(2)	0×(1)	4×(0)	338	93.88	1st
2. Lack of awareness	39×(3)	68×(2)	3×(1)	10×(0)	256	70.48	4th
3. Lack of family support	15×(3)	24×(2)	8×(1)	73×(0)	101	28.05	12th
4. Lack of training	65×(3)	20×(2)	4×(1)	31×(0)	249	66.38	5th
5. Gender discrimination	34×(3)	44×(2)	20×(1)	22×(0)	210	58.38	6th
6. Shortage of knowledge	79×(3)	15×(2)	4×(1)	22×(0)	271	75.27	3th
7. Lack of extension contact	20×(3)	48×(2)	17×(1)	35×(0)	173	48.05	8th
8. Low wage	10×(3)	74×(2)	27×(1)	11×(0)	205	54	7th
9. Low efficiency	10×(3)	50×(2)	32×(1)	28×(0)	162	45	10th
10. Physical weakness	45×(3)	13×(2)	10×(1)	52×(0)	171	47.5	9th
11. Lack of capital	101×(3)	4×(2)	0×(1)	15×(0)	311	86.38	2nd
12. Social problem	4×(3)	27×(2)	17×(1)	72×(0)	83	23.05	13th
13. Political problem	13×(3)	18×(2)	35×(1)	54×(0)	110	30.55	11th
14. Superstition	3×(3)	11×(2)	15×(1)	91×(0)	46	12.77	14th
15. Religious	0×(3)	3×(2)	22×(1)	95×(0)	28	7.77	15th

Source: Field survey, 2019

3.4 Quantification of contribution to socioeconomic development in terms of earning money (yearly) as the money gained by converting the time spent for performing different daily activities.

Contribution to socioeconomic development in terms of earning money (yearly) as the money gained by converting the time spent for performing different daily activities ranged from 1,00000 TK to 2,60,000 TK with a mean of 1,33,033 TK and standard deviation of 36730.10. On the basis of contribution to socioeconomic development in terms of earning money (yearly) as the money gained by converting the

time spent for performing different daily activities, the respondents were classified into three groups. Majority of the women (66.7%) would be low earning money followed by (25.5%) of the women would be medium earning money and (7.5%) of the women would be higher earning money to contribution in socioeconomic development (Table 4). Unemployed women had performed so many daily activities. Their contribution to family income was measured directly in terms of money as their passing time to different activities not only household activities but also another income generating activities converted into money. Annual quantified contribution of women to family income was 1,05,000 TK. whereas annual family income was 2,94,475 TK and total income would be 3,99,475 TK (Figure 1). Quantified contribution to family income based on unemployed respondent was (26%) whereas contribution by other members of the family was (74%) (Figure 2).

Employed women had performed their activities and earned money to contribute in family income. Annual quantified contribution of women to family income was 2,50,000 TK. whereas annual family income was 5,00,000 TK and total income would be also 500000 TK because as they had earned money directly, for that their income was previously added with annual family income (Figure 3). Quantified contribution to family income based on employed respondent was (50%) whereas contribution by other members of the family was (50%) (Figure 4).

Low educated respondent (paid) had performed their activities and had earned money to contribute in family income. Annual quantified contribution of women to family income was 1,20,000 TK. whereas annual family income was 2,50,000 TK and total income would be also 2,50,000 TK because as they had earned money directly, for that their income was previously added with annual family income (Figure 5). Quantified contribution to family income based on low educated respondent (paid) was (48%) whereas contribution by other members of the family was (52%) (Figure 6).

Highly educated respondent (paid) had performed their activities and had earned money to contribute in family income. Annual quantified contribution of women to family income was 3,00,000 TK. whereas annual family income was 5,00,000 TK and total income would be also 5,00,000 TK because as they had earned money directly, for that their income was previously added with annual family income (Figure 7). Quantified contribution to family income based on highly educated respondent (paid) was (60%) as contribution by other members of the family was (40%) (Figure 8).

Low educated respondents (unpaid) women had performed so many daily activities. Their contribution to family income was measured directly in terms of money as their passing time to different activities not only household activities but also another income generating activities converted into money. Quantified contribution of women to family income was 1,00,000 TK. whereas annual family income was 2,50,000 TK and total income would be 3,50,000 TK (Figure 9). Quantified contribution to family income based on low educated respondent was (29%) whereas contribution by other member of the family was (71%). (Figure 10).

Highly educated respondents (unpaid) women had performed so many daily activities. Their contribution to family income was measured directly in terms of money as their passing time to different activities not only household activities but also another income generating activities converted into money. Annual quantified contribution of women to family income was 1,50,000 TK. whereas annual family income was 5,00000 TK and total income would be 6,50,000 TK (Figure 11). Quantified contribution to family income based on highly educated respondent (unpaid) was (23%) whereas contribution by other members of the family was (77%) (Figure 12).

Table 4. Distribution of respondents according to quantification of contribution to socioeconomic development in terms of earning money (yearly) as the money gained by converting the time spent for performing different daily activities.

Categories	Score	Respondents (N=120)		Mean	SD	Min.	Max.
		Number	Percentage				
Low earning money.	<1,20,000	80	66.7				
Medium earning money.	1,20,000-2,40,000	31	25.8	1,33,033	36730.10	1,00000	2,60,000
Higher earning money.	>2,40,000	9	7.5				
Total		120	100				

Source: Field survey, 2019

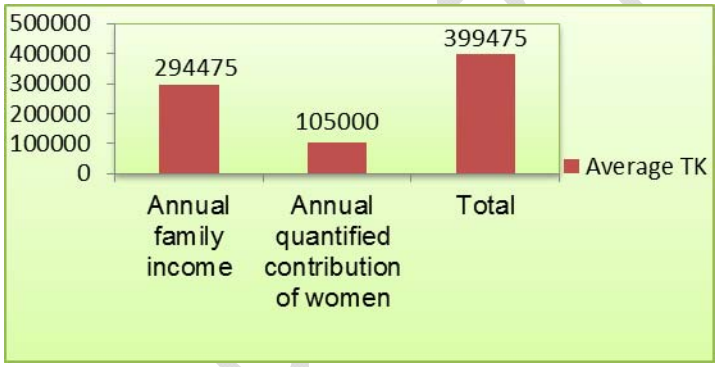

Figure 1: Quantification of contribution to family income in terms of money based on unemployed respondent.

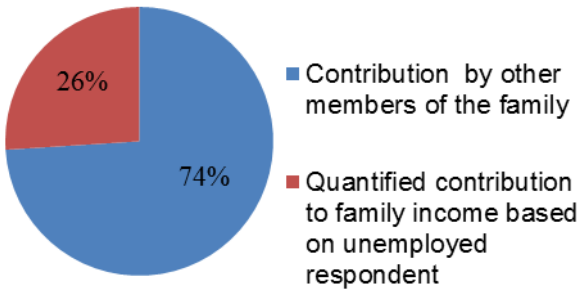

Figure 2: Quantification of contribution to family income in terms of money based on unemployed respondent as (%).

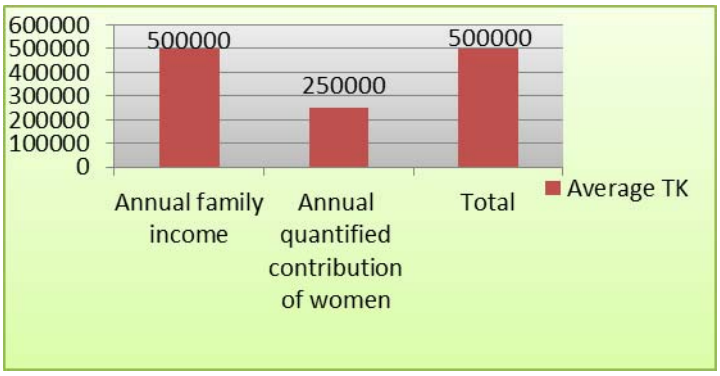

Figure 3: Quantification of contribution in terms of money based on employed respondents.

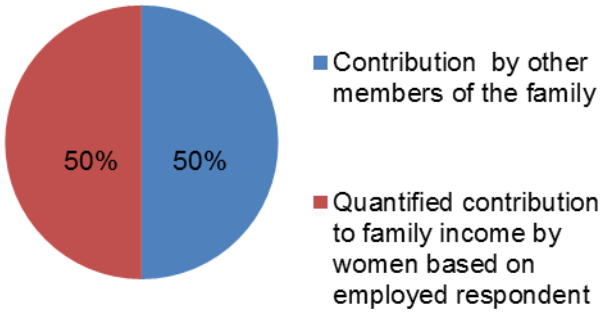

Figure 4: Quantification of contribution in terms of money based on employed respondents as (%).

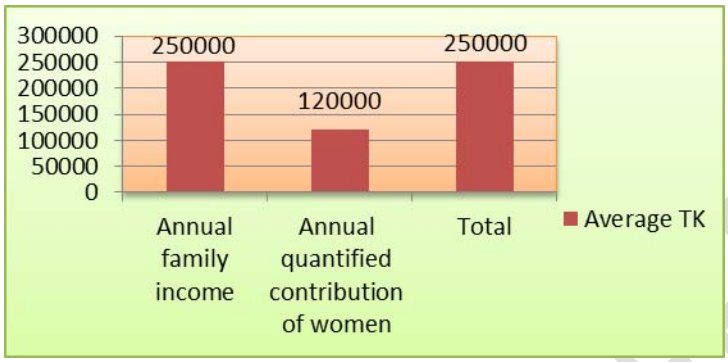

Figure 5: Quantification of contribution based on low educated respondent (paid).

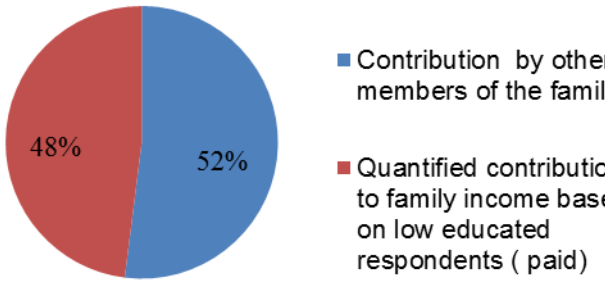

Figure 6: Quantification of contribution based on low educated respondent (paid) as (%).

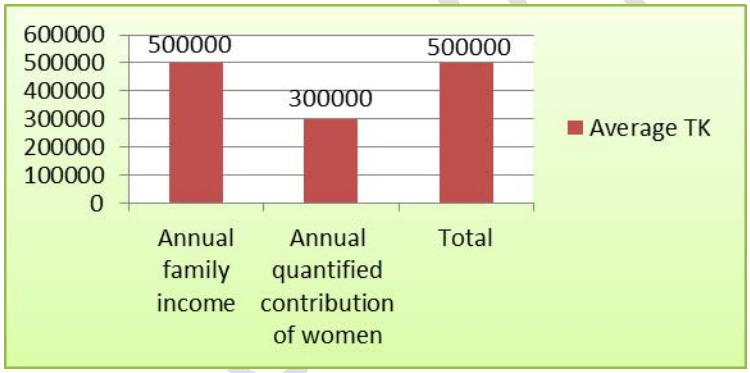

Figure 7: Quantification of contribution in terms of money based on highly educated respondents (paid).

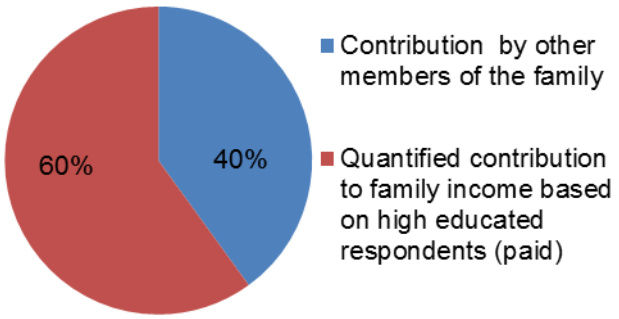

Figure 8: Quantified contribution to family income based on highly educated respondent (paid) as (%).

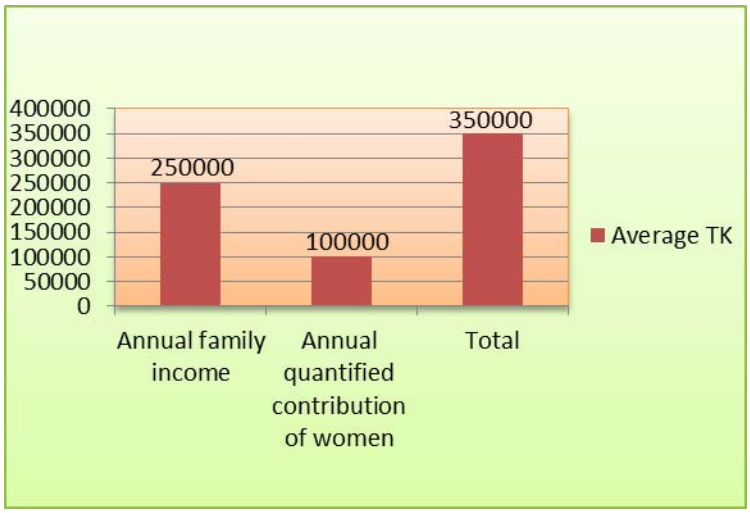

Figure 9: Quantification of contribution in terms of money based on low educated respondents (unpaid).

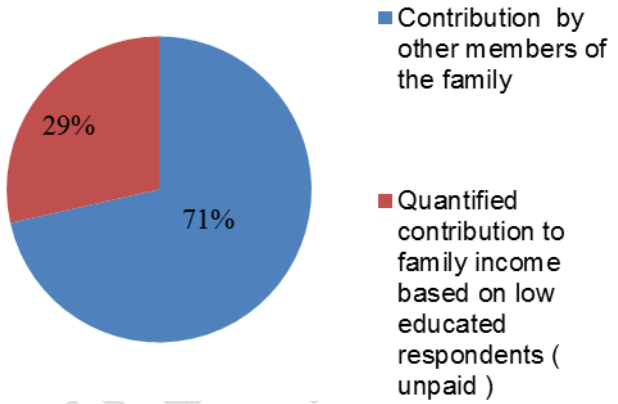

Figure10: Quantified contribution to family income based on low educated respondent (unpaid) as (%).

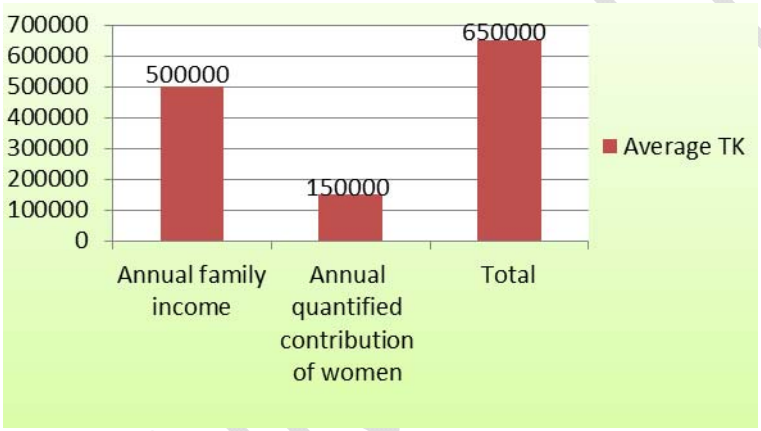

Figure 11: Quantification of contribution in terms of money based on highly educated respondents (unpaid).

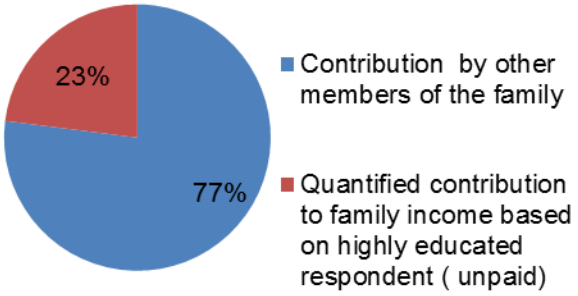

Figure 12: Quantified contribution to family income based on highly educated respondent (unpaid) as (%)

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3.5 Relationship between the selected characteristics of rural women and extent of women contribution in socioeconomic development.

This correlation had been done by using Spearman's rank order correlation coefficient (ρ). The computed value of coefficient of correlation ρ (-0.066) showed a negative and non- significant relationship between the age of the respondents and their contributions in terms of money to socioeconomic development. The observed value of co-efficient of correlation ρ (0.166) displayed a positive and non-significant relationship between the family size of the respondents and their contributions in terms of money to socioeconomic development. The calculated value of co-efficient of correlation ρ (0.358**) showed a positive and significant relationship between the annual family income of the respondents and their contributions in terms of money to socioeconomic development. The calculated value of co-efficient of correlation ρ (0.451**) showed a positive and significant relationship between involved in income generating activities at how many days per month of the respondents and their contributions in terms of money to socioeconomic development. The calculated value of co-efficient of correlation ρ (-0.268**) showed a negative and significant relationship between the problem faced by respondents and their contributions in terms of money to socioeconomic development.

Table 5. Relationship between the contributions in terms of money to socioeconomic development (Time spent for performing different daily activities converted into money) by women and their selected characteristics

Dependent variable	Independent variable	Co-efficient of correlation "ρ"
Contribution in terms of money to socioeconomic development. (Time spent for performing different daily activities converted into money)	Age	-0.066^{NS}
	Educational qualification	0.214*
	Family size	0.166^{NS}
	Farm size	0.438**
	Annual family income	0.358**
	Organizational participation	0.364**
	Extension media contact	0.400**
	Training exposure	0.258**
	Poverty status	0.245**
	Number of performed daily activities	0.419**
	Time spent in performed daily activities	0.463**
	Involved in income generating activity at how many days per month	0.451**
	Role in decision making for different activities	0.453**
	Problem faced	-0.268**

** Significant at the 0.01 level * Significant at the 0.05 level ^{NS} Non-significant

4. CONCLUSION

Women have played a key role in the conservation of basic support system. In the site of socioeconomic development, their involvement is considerable. In general, women become important agents of addressing rural communities and their socioeconomic development and they carried productive roles and contributors to development through participation in economic activities. It might be concluded from the gist of findings mentioned above that, contribution of rural women to socioeconomic development is so much essential. For that, necessary steps concerning extension approach as well as adequate support from government and non-government organization should be provided to increase the contribution rate by ensuring barrier free participation of rural women in income generating activities.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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