



ISSN (E): 2277- 7695

ISSN (P): 2349-8242

NAAS Rating: 5.23

TPI 2020; 9(1): 484-486

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Received: 23-10-2019

Accepted: 16-12-2019

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## Time consumption by farm women in house holds activities, Agricultural operations and Allied sectors of Raipur District

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### Abstract

Since time immemorial, women have played and continue to play an important role in conservation of basic life support system, such as, land, water, flora and fauna. Rural women play a crucial role in agricultural development and allied fields, including crop production, livestock production, Horticulture, post-harvest operations, fisheries, etc. Without total intellectual and physical participation of women, it is not possible to achieve the goals of rural upliftment (Goel, 2011; Psr, 2012 and Jat *et al.*, (2011) Time plays a major role in every one's life. Each member of the family also has their individual tasks or activities as well as urban and rural family. In rural area time consumption pattern is different. Farm women spend lots of time in household & agriculture activities both. Farm woman who has the multicast of the tasks to be performed both at home and on farm. She works for longer hours in kitchen and on farm compared to her counterpart at home. The energy spent by them in performing these tasks is more than it is physically feasible, particularly in a below subsistence level of living (Shrivastava, 1985).

Therefore, it was obvious that to find out time utilization pattern of rural women in rural Raipur District. In order to quantify the amount of time spent on different farm and house hold activities. The study was conducted in 4 villages of rural Raipur district. These were 120 respondents selected randomly 30 farm women from each selected villages were selected i.e. Tarra, Chataud, Barbanda and Saragaon villages from Dharsiwa block.

The main findings revealed that time utilization pattern is correlated with family size. Small household family have more work as compare to big family. Small family spent the highest amount of time in farm activities (31.65%) and household activities (31.25%) compared to medium family (27.71%) in household and farm activities (28.13%) and large (26.88%) in household activities and farming (26.88%). Study also indicated that farm women spent more time in household work as compare to agricultural operation. They were engaged 7.50 hrs/day in house hold activities as compare to 7.40 hrs in paddy cultivation.

**Keywords:** women, house hold, agriculture and paddy

### Introduction

Time is the one resource we all share throughout our life. Time used in such a manner that it will mean most in the attainment of individual and family goals is the real objective of time management. India is basically an agricultural country. Here farm women play a major role in agriculture as well as household activities. She manages, organizes and assures responsibility for running her family. It is well established that farm women share maximum time in farming, farm management and household work.

According to sheela *et al.*, (1995) <sup>[3]</sup> women constitute half the work force in agriculture specially in developing countries. International federation for women in agriculture (1988) reported that "Technology generally passes them and they continue to spend long hrs. in fulfilling their daily chores. (Rice *et al.*, 1967) reported that home making is a profession that calls for various kinds of responsibilities. Time spent in activities chosen by the individuals rewarding for its own sake.

In farm family women consume their time in preparation of food, collection of fodder, look after their children and in spite of that different agricultural operation as an additional work. Today the whole scenario has changed, women are becoming entrepreneurs and handle farm production and other new activities also. So it is essential to frame out their time use pattern with effective and efficient manner. Very few studies are conducted in this regard of farm women tasks and their time utilization pattern.

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**The present study was therefore designed with specific objective to find out the: -**

- Time spent by farm women in household work, agriculture and cattle management.
- Compare the time utilization pattern of farm women with household, agricultural and dairy activities.

**Materials and Methods**

The study was conducted in Raipur district of Chhattisgarh. A list of rural women was prepared from the selected villages. Proportionate random sampling technique was employed to select the respondents from selected villages. An interview schedule was developed consisting of schedule items for measuring the variables included in the study. Independent variables, namely age, caste, education, annual income, occupation, family size, family type and dependent variables, time utilization, participation etc. were used.

The study was conducted in Dharsiwa block of Raipur district of Chhattisgarh. Four villages were randomly selected for the present study. Thirty farm women from each village were selected. (10 each of Large, small and marginal farm women). Thus, the 120 respondents were chosen through random

sampling technique. Data were collected through prestructured interview schedule by personal interview method.

**Result and Discussion**

Age group plays an important role for participation of rural women in various activities. The results based on distribution of work load of rural women according to their size of families. Respondents revealed that the majority of time consumed in small family followed by medium family than large family (Table 1). The results on distribution of rural women according to education revealed that (22%) of rural women was illiterate, whereas, 54.0 per cent of rural women were educated up to primary level. The 20 per cent of respondents were educated up to high school & intermediate and 4 per cent were educated up to graduation and above level. In the present study the participation of rural women in various agricultural activities and time spent was higher in small families followed by medium and large families.

An attempt was made to rank and time utilization pattern of the major activities. The ranking of time utilization by the farm women in household and agricultural activities and cattle management are presented in Table –1.

**Table 1:** Comparison of three family groups with regard to their time utilization pattern in different farm, dairy and house hold activities

Activities		Average time spent (hrs. /day)					
		Size of family					
		Small		Medium		Large	
		Hrs.	%	Hrs.	%	Hrs.	%
A	Household Activities						
	Cooking	2.95	12.29	2.35	9.79	2.30	9.58
	Washing utensils	1.30	5.42	1.25	5.21	1.15	4.79
	Washing clothes	1.15	4.79	1.05	4.38	1.00	4.17
	Fetching water	1.10	4.58	1.00	4.17	1.00	4.17
	Child care	1.00	4.17	1.00	4.17	1.00	4.17
	Sub Total	7.50	31.25	6.65	27.71	6.45	26.88
B	Farming						
	Different Agricultural Operation	6.10	25.42	5.50	22.92	5.30	22.08
	Collection of fodder	1.30	5.42	1.25	5.21	1.15	4.79
	Sub Total	7.40	30.83	6.75	28.13	6.45	26.88
C	Cattle Management						
	Cleaning of cattle shed	1.05	4.38	0.55	2.29	0.45	1.88
	Chaffing of fodder	0.55	2.29	0.45	1.88	0.40	1.67
	Preparation of cow dung cake	0.45	1.88	0.40	1.67	0.35	1.46
	Sub Total	2.05	8.54	1.40	5.83	1.20	5.00
D	Other activities						
	T.V./Radio/ Others	1.30	5.42	2.40	10.00	2.45	10.21
	Total Time spent	18.25	76.04	17.20	71.67	16.55	68.96
	Sleeping hrs.	5.75	23.96	6.80	28.33	7.45	31.04
	Grand Total	24.00	100.00	24.00	100.00	24.00	100.00

It is obvious that among the household activities, preparation of food ranked first followed by cleaning of utensils and care of children. The preparation of food involved more time to small family as compared to large family because. Farm women could get help of other family member. Child care was not affected by time. All three group of family consume same time in child care that was 4.17%.

In cattle management small family farm women devoted more time 8.54% as compare to medium farm family 5.85% and large family 5.00%.

It was noted that cleaning and washing of cattle shed was the time consuming process and women consume more time as compare to other dairy activities. Table 1 also revealed that although the three group with different family size did differ

much in terms of the total time spent, they differ in terms of the time they allocate on their household activities in new of this farm women of large family spent total time 68.67% and small group 76.04%.

It was observed that greater work load caused by No of less family members as compared to more. The table indicates that farm women from small family got least time 23.96% for resting and other leisure time activities with compared to medium family 28.33% and large 31.04%. Who got adequate amount of time for resting and other leisure time activities.

In farm women could get help of other family member for doing a household work.

Among the various agricultural activities transplanting ranked first followed by harvesting and post harvest operation. It was

the fact that in all agricultural operation transplanting was the time consuming process and women were devoting maximum time as compared to other field operation.

An attempt was also made to rank the time utilization on the basis of percentage. It was observed the farm women spent more time in agricultural operations followed by household work. The reality that farming required more time than household activities because most of the activities under farming were done by the farm women than farmers. As the involvement of farmers in agriculture related work was comparatively lower except ploughing, field preparation and marketing.

Therefore, on an average farm women with small family spent max time in agriculture and has hold activities and small family.

### Conclusion

The findings of the study indicated that the farm women with small family consumed their max. time in household, agriculture and cattle management activities followed by medium and large family group due to less helping member. Farm women of medium and large family got enough time for resting and other leisure activities. Therefore, in the study gives out an implication of the need to find out ways and means of helping farm women particularly of small group. In this regard strong attention relation to in venison and popularization of low cost time and labor saving devices applicable to crop production, dairy reaping and for household activities for reducing drudgery of farm women. Among the different sectors of the Indian economy the rural women contribute significantly in agriculture sector as well as house hold chores. Besides the work in the field, they also take part in all aspects of cattle rearing such as grazing, feeding, cutting fodder, cleaning livestock sheds etc. There is a strong need to impart training in the field of work simplification and time utilization in a smart manner to them. Women in order to strengthen the knowledge about farm activities. In order to improve women's work efficiency, Govt. and Extension worker should plan and execute need based training programme.

There is also a need to orient other family member about a rational allocation of the activities considering the women Physical capabilities in order to minimize the burden of work load and time of farm women.

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