
A STUDY ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF MICRO ENTREPRENEURS IN TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT

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Abstract

Entrepreneur plays a key role in the promotion, development, expansion and the sustenance of his business in the complex environment. All such efforts made by an entrepreneur are called entrepreneurship, the emergence of which is directly related to the socio economic development of the society. The present study was based on primary data. Interview schedule was used to collect the primary data from the sample respondents. To elicit the details of Micro entrepreneurs, a well structured interview schedule has been prepared after consulting the experts in the field. Stratified random sampling method was adopted to obtain responses from the micro entrepreneurs. The required data was collected from 612 micro entrepreneurs in Tirunelveli district. The paper presents the socio-economic status of the micro entrepreneurs in Tirunelveli district.

Keywords: Micro Entrepreneurs, Socio-Economic Status and Entrepreneurship

Introduction

Micro entrepreneurs play a vital role in the economic development. All such efforts made by an entrepreneur are called entrepreneurship, the emergence of which is directly related to the socio economic development of the society. Entrepreneurship is the tendency of a person to organise the business of his own and to run it profitably, using all the qualities of leadership, decision making and managerial caliber. It is a process undertaken by an entrepreneur to augment his business interest. It is an exercise involving innovation and creativity that will go towards establishing his enterprise. One of the important qualities of entrepreneurship is the ability to discover an investment opportunity and to organise an enterprise, thereby contributing to real economic growth. Entrepreneurship is a composite skill, the resultant of a mix of many qualities and traits. These include imagination, readiness to take risks, ability to bring together and put to use other factors of production.

Statement of the Problem

A significant feature of the Indian economy since independence is the rapid growth of entrepreneurship in the small-scale industrial sector. There is unlimited scope for the growth of entrepreneurship in this area and with a little initiative and assistance, the underutilized and underemployed agricultural workers can find permanent employment and earn a comparatively larger and stable income. Therefore, the researcher has undertaken a study of the growth of entrepreneurship in the micro enterprises units for research. Many micro enterprises over the years have been successful and they have expanded into large industrial units. This spectacular growth is mainly due to strong and motivated the entrepreneurship. So an indepth study relating to the entrepreneurship provides the basis for understanding the concept of entrepreneurship. Hence the present study is an attempt to analyse socio economic status of micro entrepreneurs in Tirunelveli district.

Objective of the Study

The main objective of the study is to present the socio-economic status of the sample micro entrepreneurs. The study also highlights the significant difference in the socio-economic status among the sample micro entrepreneurs.

Sampling Techniques

Stratified random sampling method was adopted to obtain responses from the micro entrepreneurs. Thus, the researcher has stratified the sample respondents for the study by 245 entrepreneurs from urban area, 214 entrepreneurs from semi-urban area and 153 entrepreneurs from rural area. Hence, the data were collected from 612 micro entrepreneurs in Tirunelveli district.

Collection of Data

The present study was based on primary data. Interview schedule was used to collect the primary data from the sample respondents. To elicit the details of Micro entrepreneurs, a well structured interview schedule has been prepared after consulting the experts in the field. For this, a pilot study was made and with that response, final interview schedule was prepared to collect the information required for the study. Primary data was collected from the micro entrepreneurs from the study area. The relevant secondary data were collected from the records and registers of various departments. The information available in the website was also collected for the study.

Gender-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

Gender is the important factor that affects the management and organization of the enterprises. Micro entrepreneurs involve themselves with commitment and involvement in their business. Hence, the gender-wise classification of the sample respondents was considered. Table 1 presents the details about the gender-wise classification of the micro entrepreneurs in Tirunelveli district.

Table 1
Gender-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

Gender	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Male	190(77.6)	161(75.2)	114(74.5)	465(75.9)
Female	55(22.4)	53(24.8)	39(25.5)	147(24.1)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Table 1 clearly shows that out of 612 respondents in the study area, majority (75.9 per cent) of the respondents is male and the remaining 24.1 per cent of the respondents are female. Thus, it is understood from the above analysis that about one third of micro entrepreneurs in the study area are male. Table 1 also indicates that in urban area, 77.6 per cent are male, in semi-urban, 75.2 per cent are male and in rural area, 74.5 per cent are male.

Age-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

The age of the entrepreneur plays a crucial role. Young entrepreneurs are usually less resistive to change; they are more experimenting than the old ones. The older entrepreneurs do have their hallmarks; their experiences certainly assist them in promoting their career, which of course, the younger entrepreneurs lack. Therefore their age, being an important factor in their endeavour. The attitude, mental make-up and the behavior pattern of a person varies with advancement in age. Hence, the present study included the age of the respondents as one of the variable. The Table 2 presents the age wise classification of the sample respondents in the study area.

Table 2
Age-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

Age	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Up to 20 years	46(18.8)	42(19.6)	36(23.5)	124(20.3)
21-30 years	64(26.1)	55(25.7)	36(23.5)	155(25.3)
31-40 years	76(31)	57(26.6)	43(28.2)	176(28.8)
41-50 years	51(20.8)	53(24.3)	36(23.5)	140(22.9)
51-60 years	5(2)	4(1.9)	2(1.3)	11(1.8)
Above 60 years	3(1.2)	3(1.4)	-	6(0.9)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

It is observed from Table 2 that 28.8 per cent are in the age group of 31-40 years. 25.3 per cent are in the age group of 21-30 years; 22.9 per cent are in the age group of 41-50 years, 20.3 per cent are in the age group up to 20 years, 1.8 per cent are in the age group of 51-60 years and the remaining 0.9 per cent are in the age group of above 60 years.

It is understood from Table 2 that among the respondents of urban area, majority (31 per cent) are in the age group of 31 to 40 years, in semi-urban area, about 26.6 per cent of the respondents are in the age group of 31-40 years while in the case of rural area it was 28.2 per cent.

Educational Status-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

Education does build up the confidence of the person. Education nurtures and develops personality of the person. The level of education is also a contributive factor for entrepreneurship. The knowledge of entrepreneurs about the environment and commitment depend upon their educational level. Table 3 presents the educational status-wise classification of the respondents.

Table 3
Educational Status-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

Educational Status	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
No formal education	4(1.6)	3(1.4)	-	7(1.1)
Up to SSLC	81(33.1)	64(29.9)	51(33.3)	196(32)
Higher secondary	94(38.4)	76(35.5)	62(40.5)	232(37.9)
Diploma/ITI	21(8.6)	31(14.5)	14(9.2)	66(10.8)
Degree	42(17.1)	38(17.8)	26(17)	106(17.3)
Professional	3(1.2)	2(0.9)	-	5(0.9)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

It is inferred from Table 3, that the majority (37.9 per cent) of the micro entrepreneurs are educated up to higher secondary level, followed by up to SSLC (32 per cent). The percentage of entrepreneurs who have degree qualification is 17.3 and Diploma/ITI is 10.8 per cent.

It is evident from the study that among the respondents of urban area, majority 38.4 per cent, in semi-urban area, about 35.5 per cent and in rural area, 40.5 per cent of the respondents have higher secondary educational qualification.

Religion-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

Religion as a social factor does play an important role. The undercurrent of religious affinity can be traced in the clientele network of the micro entrepreneurs. Micro entrepreneurs belong to different religions namely Christian, Hindu and Muslim have been covered in the study. The following Table 4 shows the religion wise classification of sample respondents.

Table 4
Religion-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

Religion	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Christian	87(35.5)	70(32.7)	59(38.6)	216(35.3)
Hindu	95(38.8)	87(40.7)	65(42.5)	247(40.4)
Muslim	63(25.7)	57(26.6)	29(18.9)	149(24.3)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Note: Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Table 4 reveals that the majority (40.4 per cent) of the micro entrepreneurs is Hindus, 35.3 per cent of them are Christians and 24.3 per cent are Muslims. It is understood from the analysis that among the respondents of urban area, semi-urban area and in rural area, majority of respondents belong to Hindus which constitutes 38.8 per cent, 40.7 per cent and 42.5 per cent respectively.

Community-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

The community plays a vital role in the society and in personal life. Till the recent past, entrepreneurs were mostly from the elite group. Micro entrepreneurs belong to different communities namely OC, BC, MBC/DNC and SC/ST have been included in the study. The following Table 5 shows the community-wise classification of sample respondents.

Table 5
Community-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

Community	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
OC	39(15.9)	30(14.1)	28(18.3)	97(15.8)
BC	91(37.1)	72(33.6)	56(36.6)	219(35.8)
MBC/DNC	46(18.8)	57(26.6)	33(21.6)	136(22.2)
SC/ST	69(28.2)	55(25.7)	36(23.5)	160(26.1)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

From Table 5 it is inferred that a majority (35.8 per cent) of the entrepreneurs are from the BC, 26.1 per cent belong to the SC/ST, 22.2 per cent belong to MBC/DNC and 15.8 per cent belong to OC. It is understood from the analysis that among the respondents of urban area, semi-urban area and in rural area, majority of respondents belong to BC community which constitutes 37.1 per cent, 33.6 per cent and 36.6 per cent respectively.

Marital Status-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

This study classifies the entrepreneurs as married, unmarried, widow, separated and divorced. The distribution of sample respondents on the basis of marital status is presented in Table 6.

Table 6
Marital Status-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

Marital Status	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Married	113(46.1)	122(57)	85(55.5)	320(52.3)
Unmarried	103(42)	76(35.5)	58(37.9)	237(38.7)
Widower	10(4.1)	6(2.8)	5(3.3)	21(3.4)
Separated	13(5.3)	8(3.7)	5(3.3)	26(4.2)
Divorced	6(2.4)	2(1)	-	8(1.3)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Table 6 shows that a considerable number of the entrepreneurs are married. They constitute 52.3 per cent of the sample, 38.7 per cent are unmarried, 4.2 per cent are separated and 3.4 per cent are widow and rest, i.e. 1.3 per cent are divorced.

It is noted from the study that among the respondents of respondents of urban, semi-urban and in rural area majority of the respondents are married which constitutes 46.1 per cent, 57 per cent and 55.5 per cent respectively.

Nature of Family-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

It cannot be denied that an entrepreneur anchors himself/herself in the family, be it nuclear or joint. A nuclear family motivates him/her to fulfill the entrepreneurs’ commitments whereas; in a joint family the anxiety of the entrepreneur- financial or social- is shared by the family members. The family structure also plays a vital role in inducing an individual to emerge as an entrepreneur. Initially the family structure was a joint setup, where the financial burden of the family is shouldered by many and each person felt the burden only to a limited extent. But the trend has changed. The sense of freedom and individualism have motivated majority to lead a nuclear family on their own. In such a family setup, the total burden is to be faced by the spouse themselves. The entrepreneurs have more time for themselves if they belong to nuclear family. This encourages them to enter into entrepreneurship. In contrast, the entrepreneurs in a joint family have many limitations. The distribution of respondents on the basis of type of family is presented in Table 7.

Table 7
Nature of Family-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

Nature of Family	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Nuclear family	167(68.2)	149(69.6)	103(67.3)	419(68.5)
Joint family	78(31.8)	65(30.4)	50(32.7)	193(31.5)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Micro entrepreneurs from the nuclear family system form the majority (68.5 per cent), followed by 31.5 per cent from joint families. It is learnt from the study that among the respondents of urban, semi-urban and in rural area majority of the respondents belong to nuclear family which constitutes 68.2, 69.6 and 67.3 per cent respectively.

Size of the Family-wise Classification of Sample Respondents

The size of the family is a significant role to play. The size of the family is often an asset, which may be utilized for promoting the business. Entrepreneurs belong to different size of the family have been involved in the business. The following Table 8 shows the family size of the micro entrepreneurs.

Table 8
Respondent’s Family Size

Size of the Family	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Less than 3 members	99(40.4)	72(33.6)	66(43.1)	237(38.7)
3-5 members	112(45.7)	106(49.5)	56(36.6)	274(44.8)
6-8 members	30(1.2)	26(12.1)	28(18.3)	84(13.7)
Above 8 members	4(1.6)	10(4.7)	3(2)	17(2.8)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

From the above Table 8 it is seen that 44.8 per cent of the micro entrepreneurs are having 3 to 5 members in their family, 38.7 per cent of the respondents are having less than 3 members, 13.7 per cent of the respondents are having 6 to 8 members in their family.

It is clear from Table 8 that among the respondents of urban and semi-urban area majority of the respondents are having 3 to 5 members in their family it constitutes 45.7 and 49.5 per cent respectively. Whereas, among the respondents of the rural area majority (43.1 per cent) of the respondents are having less than 3 members in their family.

Monthly Family Income of the Respondents

The family income is the key factor. When the income of the family is more it gives impetus to the micro entrepreneur to take more initiative as regards his business. It is also an indicator of their socio-economic standard of living. The following Table 9 shows the monthly family income of the respondents.

Table 9
Monthly Family Income of the Respondents

Monthly Family Income of the Respondents	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Up to Rs.10,000	25(10.2)	35(16.4)	40(26.1)	100(16.3)
Rs.10,001-15,000	60(24.5)	53(24.8)	47(30.7)	160(26.1)
Rs.15,001-20,000	75(30.6)	68(31.8)	30(19.6)	173(28.3)
Rs.20,001-25,000	40(16.3)	37(17.3)	20(13.1)	97(15.8)
Rs.25,001-30,000	30(12.2)	13(6.1)	10(6.5)	53(8.7)
Above Rs.30,000	15(6.1)	8(3.7)	6(3.9)	29(4.7)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Table 9 shows that a 28.3 per cent of the micro entrepreneur’s family are earning the family income of Rs.15,001 to 20,000. 26.1 per cent of the entrepreneur’s family earns Rs.10,001 to 15,000.

It is clear from the Table 9 that among the respondents of urban and semi-urban area majority of the respondents are having family income of Rs.15,001 to 20,000. Whereas, among the respondents of the rural area majority (30.7 per cent) of the respondents are having family income of Rs.10,001 to 15,000.

Monthly Family Expenditure of the Respondents

The family expenditure gives information about the economic status of the family. The families which can manage the family expenditure within the family income show the status of the family. The following Table 10 shows the monthly family expenditure of the respondents.

Table 10
Monthly Family Expenditure of the Respondents

Monthly Family Expenditure of the Respondents	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Less than Rs.5,000	45(18.4)	39(18.2)	35(22.9)	119(19.4)
Rs.5000-10000	80(32.7)	69(32.2)	66(43.1)	215(35.1)
Rs.10001-15000	90(36.7)	81(37.9)	42(27.5)	213(34.8)
Above Rs.15000	30(12.2)	25(11.7)	10(6.5)	65(10.6)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Table 10 shows that majority (35.1 per cent) of the micro entrepreneur’s family expenditure ranges between Rs.5,000 to 10,000. 34.8 per cent of the micro entrepreneur’s family expenditure ranges between Rs.10,001 to 15,000. Only 19.4 per cent of the micro entrepreneur’s family expenditure is less than Rs.5,000.

It is clear from the Table 10 that among the respondents of urban and semi-urban area majority of the respondents are having family expenditure of Rs.10,001 to 15,000. Whereas, among the respondents of the rural area majority (43.1 per cent) of the respondents are having family expenditure of Rs.5,000 to 10,000.

Monthly Savings of the Respondents

Monthly savings represents the surplus in the hands of the respondents. The surplus amount could be used for the productive purpose otherwise it will remain as idle. As an entrepreneur the surplus amount could be used in the business. The following Table 11 shows the monthly savings of the respondents.

Table 11
Monthly Savings of the Respondents

Monthly Savings of the Respondents	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Negative	33(13.5)	25(11.7)	19(12.4)	77(12.6)
Nil	42(17.1)	36(16.8)	27(17.6)	105(17.2)
Less than Rs.2000	35(14.3)	45(21)	44(28.8)	124(20.3)
Rs.2000-5000	67(27.3)	58(27.1)	35(22.9)	160(26.1)
Rs.5001-10000	52(21.2)	39(18.2)	23(15)	114(18.6)
Above Rs.10000	16(6.5)	11(5.1)	5(3.3)	32(5.2)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Table 11 shows that majority (26.1 per cent) of the micro entrepreneurs savings ranging between Rs.2,000 to 5,000. 20.3 per cent of the entrepreneurs are having savings less than Rs.2,000, 18.6 per cent of the entrepreneurs are having savings between Rs.5,001-10,000.

It is clear from Table 11 that among the respondents of urban and semi-urban area majority of the respondents are having savings of Rs.2,000 to 5,000. Whereas, among the respondents of the rural area majority (28.8 per cent) of the respondents are having savings of less than Rs.2,000.

Status of the Family Occupation

Micro entrepreneurs family belong to different occupations namely agriculture, business, government employment, private employment and other occupations. The following Table 12 shows the status of the family occupation of micro entrepreneurs.

Table 12
Status of the Family Occupation

Status of the Family Occupation	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Agriculture	-	19(8.9)	55(35.9)	74(12.1)
Business	92(37.5)	70(32.7)	19(12.4)	181(29.6)
Govt. employment	56(22.9)	42(19.6)	30(19.6)	128(20.9)
Private employment	65(26.5)	68(31.8)	47(30.7)	180(29.4)
Others	32(13.1)	15(7)	2(1.3)	49(8)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Table 12 clearly shows that majority (29.6 per cent) of the respondent’s family occupation is business, 29.4 per cent of the respondent’s family occupation is private employment, 20.9 per cent of the respondent’s family occupation is government employment, 12.1 per cent of the respondents family occupation is agriculture.

It is clear from Table 12 that among the respondents of urban and semi-urban area majority of the respondent’s occupation is business whereas among the rural respondents majority (35.9 per cent) of them is engaged in agriculture.

Primary Occupation of the Respondents

Micro entrepreneurs are involved in different occupations namely agriculture, business, government employment, private employment and other occupations. The following Table 13 shows the primary occupation of the respondents.

Table 13
Primary Occupation of the Respondents

Primary Occupation of the Respondents	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Agriculture	-	42(19.6)	70(45.9)	112(18.4)
Business	167(68.2)	132(61.7)	62(40.5)	361(58.9)
Govt employment	11(4.5)	5(2.3)	3(1.9)	19(3.1)
Private employment	47(19.2)	30(14)	15(9.8)	92(15)
Others	20(8.1)	5(2.3)	3(1.9)	28(4.6)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Table 13 clearly shows that majority of 58.9 per cent of the respondent’s primary occupation is business, 18.4 per cent of the respondent’s primary occupation is agriculture and 15 per cent of the respondent’s primary occupation is private employment.

Table 13 reveals that among the respondents of urban and semi-urban area majority of the respondent’s occupation is business which constitutes 68.2 and 61.7 per cent whereas among the rural respondents majority (45.9 per cent) of them is engaged in agriculture.

Secondary Occupation of the Respondents

Micro entrepreneurs are involved in different secondary occupations namely agriculture, business, government employment, private employment and other occupations. The following Table 14 shows the secondary occupation of the respondents.

Table 14
Secondary Occupation of the Respondents

Secondary Occupation of the Respondents	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Agriculture	-	-	62(40.5)	62(10.1)
Business	58(23.7)	45(21)	27(17.6)	130(21.2)
Govt employment	5(2)	11(5.1)	4(2.6)	20(3.3)
Private employment	160(65.3)	89(41.6)	40(26.1)	289(47.2)
Others	22(8.9)	69(32.3)	20(13.1)	111(18.2)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Table 14 clearly shows that majority (47.2 per cent) of the respondents secondary occupation is private employment, 21.2 per cent of the respondents secondary occupation is business, 18.2 per cent of the respondents secondary occupation is coolie, 10.1 per cent of the respondents secondary occupation is agriculture and 3.3 per cent of the respondents secondary occupation is government employment.

It is clear from Table 14 that among the respondents of urban and semi-urban area majority of the respondent's secondary occupation is private employment which constitutes 65.3 and 41.6 per cent whereas among the rural respondents majority (40.5 per cent) of them is engaged in agriculture.

First generation entrepreneur

The entrepreneur may be a first generation entrepreneur or from an entrepreneur family. The entrepreneurs from the business family will have sufficient knowledge in business which will help them to perform the business activities efficiently. Among the sample respondents some of the respondents are first generation entrepreneurs. Table 15 presents the information regarding the same.

Table 4.10
First generation entrepreneur

First generation entrepreneur	Region			Total
	Urban	Semi-Urban	Rural	
Yes	185(75.5)	168(78.5)	119(77.8)	472(77.1)
No	60(24.5)	46(21.5)	34(22.2)	140(22.9)
Total	245(100)	214(100)	153(100)	612(100)

Source: Primary data Figures within the brackets indicate percentage

Table 15 clearly shows that majority (77.1 per cent) of the respondents is first generation entrepreneur and 22.9 per cent of the sample respondents are not first generation entrepreneur. It is clear from Table 15 that among the respondents of urban, semi-urban and rural area majority of the respondent are first generation entrepreneurs which constitutes 77.5, 78.5 and 77.8 per cent respectively.

Findings of Socio Economic Status of Micro Entrepreneurs

- 75.9 per cent of the respondents are male and the remaining 24.1 per cent of the respondents are female. It is observed that in urban area, 77.6 per cent are male, in semi-urban, 75.2 per cent are male and in rural area, 74.5 per cent are male.
- 28.8 per cent of the sample respondents are in the age group of 31-40 years, 25.3 per cent are in the age group of 21-30 years. Among the respondents of urban area, majority (31 per cent) are in the age group of 31 to 40 years, in semi-urban area, about 26.6 per cent of the respondents are in the age group of 31-40 years while in the case of rural area it was 28.2 per cent.
- 37.9 per cent of the sample respondents are educated up to higher secondary level. In the urban area, semi-urban area and in rural area majority of the sample respondents have higher secondary educational qualification which constitutes 38.4, 35.5 and 40.5 per cent respectively.
- 40.4 per cent of the micro entrepreneurs are Hindus, 35.3 per cent of them are Christians and 24.3 per cent are Muslims. In the urban area, semi-urban area and in rural area majority of the sample respondents belong to Hindu religion which constitutes 38.8, 40.7 and 42.5 per cent respectively.
- 35.8 per cent of the entrepreneurs belong to BC, 26.1 per cent belong to the SC/ST, 22.2 per cent belong to MBC/DNC and 15.8 per cent belong to OC. In the urban area, semi-urban area and in rural area majority of the sample respondents belong to BC community which constitutes 37.1, 33.6 and 36.6 per cent respectively.

- 52.3 per cent of the sample respondents are married and 38.7 per cent are unmarried. In the urban area, semi-urban area and in rural area majority of the sample respondents are married which constitutes 46.1, 57 and 55.5 per cent respectively.
- 68.5 per cent of the respondents are from the nuclear family system 31.5 per cent from joint families. In the urban area, semi-urban area and in rural area majority of the sample respondents are from nuclear family system which constitutes 68.2, 69.6 and 67.3 per cent respectively.
- 44.8 per cent of the sample respondents are having 3 to 5 members and 38.7 per cent have less than 3 members. In the urban area and semi-urban area majority of the sample respondents are having 3 to 5 members which constitutes 47.5 and 49.5 per cent respectively. In the rural area, 43.1 per cent of the respondents belong to the family size of less than 3 members.
- 28.3 per cent of the sample respondents earn Rs.15,001 to 20,000 and 26.1 per cent of the sample respondents earn Rs.10,001 to 15,000. In the urban area and semi-urban area majority of the sample respondents are having income Rs.15,001 to 20,000 which constitutes 30.6 and 31.8 per cent respectively. In the rural area, 30.7 per cent of the respondents earn Rs.10,001 to 15,000.
- 35.1 per cent of the sample respondents are having family expenditure ranging between Rs.5,000 to 10,000 and 34.8 per cent of the sample respondents are having family expenditure between Rs.10,001 to 15,000. In the urban area and semi-urban area majority of the sample respondents are having family expenditure of Rs.10,001 to 15,000 which constitutes 36.7 and 37.9 per cent respectively. In the rural area, 43.1 per cent of the respondents are having family expenditure ranging between Rs.5,000 to 10,000.
- 26.1 per cent of the sample respondent's savings ranging between Rs.2,000 to 5,000 and 20.3 per cent of the sample respondent's savings is less than Rs.2,000. In the urban area and semi-urban area majority of the sample respondents are having savings between Rs.2,000 to 5,000 which constitute 27.3 and 27.1 per cent respectively. In the rural area, 28.8 per cent of the respondents are having savings less than Rs.2,000.

Conclusion

The study reveals the socio economic status of the micro entrepreneurs. The analysis also helps to understand the social status of the micro entrepreneurs in relation to urban, semi-urban and rural area. The analysis high lights that the rural micro entrepreneurs are behind the urban and semi-urban area micro entrepreneurs. This gives an alert to the government to pay attention to the rural micro entrepreneurs.

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