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## Decision making pattern of scheduled caste women to take cutting and tailoring as an enterprise

**Kiran Bala and Vinita Jain**

### Abstract

The Scheduled Castes comprise about 16.6 percent of India's population (according to the 2011 census). The total population in Haryana of Schedule caste is 40.91 lakhs consisting 19.35% of the state population about 78% of the schedule caste population live in rural areas. Therefore, the present study was planned with the following objectives: to assess the impact of trainings imparted by KVK, Sadalpur on scheduled caste women, to study the decision-making pattern of scheduled caste women to start cutting and tailoring as an enterprise and to analyze the constraints perceived by scheduled caste women to start cutting and tailoring as an enterprise. Sufficient gain in knowledge regarding cutting and tailoring was recorded for sub-components viz, Designing, cutting, stitching, surface enrichment, machine care and operation, entrepreneurial education and precautions. Computed 't' values were significant at 5 per cent level of significance. Thus, it can be inferred that women succeeded in acquiring knowledge after exposure to training on cutting and tailoring. Sufficient change in attitude cutting and tailoring was recorded in all three training groups which was statistically significant at 5 per cent level of significance. Most of the respondents (68.89%) had acquired high level skill after exposure to training. Most of the respondents (42.50%) had medium symbolic adoption cutting and tailoring. Most of the respondents perceived lack of time in social-personal constraints was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>. In technical constraints, lack of technical know-how was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>. In economic constraints lack of money was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>. In marketing constraints, women were not allowed to go to market was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Keywords:** Enterprise, symbolic adoption, knowledge, attitude, skill and decision-making pattern.

### Introduction

The Scheduled Castes comprise about 16.6 percent of India's population (according to the 2011 census). Haryana stand at fifth position having large schedule caste population. The total population in Haryana of Schedule caste is 40.91 lakhs consisting 19.35% of the state population about 78% of the schedule caste population live in rural areas. Schedule caste constitutes the weakest and poorest section of society. For upliftment of schedule caste both central and state government have taken great interest for capacity building of scheduled caste women in different areas in order to make self-reliant. Clothing construction is a technical accomplishment, which requires knowledge of fabrics, principle of clothing construction and skills involved in it.

KVKs impart trainings and education with a view to raise the level of knowledge, attitudinal changes and testing and transferring of recommended improved farm and home technologies so as to bridge the gap between production and productivity and also to increase self employment opportunities among the farming community especially to rural women. KVK not only motivate them for starting their enterprises but also help them to be empowered. Therefore, the present study has been planned with the following objectives:

1. To assess the impact of trainings imparted by KVK, Sadalpur on scheduled caste women.
2. To study the decision-making pattern of scheduled caste women to start cutting and tailoring as an enterprise.
3. To analyze the constraints perceived by scheduled caste women to start cutting and tailoring as an enterprise.

### Methodology

The study was conducted in Hisar district of Haryana state purposively. Hisar district was selected purposively as KVK Sadalpur is organizing training for scheduled caste women at

regular intervals. Hisar, Adampur and Hansi blocks were selected purposively for the present study. Hisar from Hisar block, Sadaplur from Adampur block and Hansi from Hansi block were selected for imparting training to Scheduled caste women by KVK Sadalpur. Therefore, three trainings imparted by home scientist of KVK, Sadalpur were finally selected for the present study and comprising of 30 scheduled caste women each were selected as respondents for the present study. Thus total sample of respondents was 90 trainees haled from different villages of Hisar district for the cutting and tailoring training was selected. A well structured interview schedule was constructed for data collection on the basis of objectives, independent and dependent variables of the study. The collected data was quantified and interpreted by using suitable statistical tools such as frequency, percentage, weighted mean score, rank and paired 't' test.

### Result and Discussion

Impact of training of respondents was assessed in terms of knowledge, attitude, skill and adoption. Pre-exposure and post exposure mean scores and t-test was computed for cutting and tailoring in all the blocks of Hisar district which are presented as under.

### Gain in knowledge of women respondents on cutting and tailoring in all the blocks of Hisar districts

Pre exposure and post-exposure mean scores and 't' test was computed for all the sub-components of cutting and tailoring in all the blocks of Hisar which are presented in Table 1.

Sufficient gain in knowledge regarding cutting and stitching training was recorded for sub-components of training viz; designing, cutting, stitching, surface enrichment, machine care and operation, entrepreneurial education and precautions in pooled sample. It may, therefore be concluded that women succeeded in acquiring knowledge after exposure to training on cutting and stitching. It was statistically significant at 5% level of significance. Similar conclusions were arrived at by Jain and Verma (2007) [7] revealed that significant change in knowledge regarding all the selected messages of animal husbandry practices was observed in all the selected districts of Haryana State. The better impact on change in knowledge may be due to the fact that success of training programme depends on adoption of appropriate training methodology and training need of participants by Manju (2009) [9], Yadav (2009) [14] and Yadav (2013) [15].

**Table 1:** Knowledge of women regarding cutting and tailoring

Sr. No.	Components	Pre-Exposure (Mean Score)	Post-Exposure (Mean Score)	Gain in Knowledge (Mean Score)	t value N=90
1.	Designing	02.36	03.13	0.77	09.61*
2.	Cutting	06.62	11.06	04.44	15.02*
3.	Stitching	06.52	10.99	04.47	15.41*
4.	Surface enrichments	04.29	05.89	01.60	10.67*
5.	Machine care and operation	08.33	13.48	05.15	15.74*
6.	Entrepreneurial education	02.07	03.14	01.07	10.70*
7.	Precautions	11.53	18.67	07.14	24.62*

\*Significant at 0.05 level of significance

### Change in attitude of women respondents for cutting and tailoring

Change in attitude of respondents regarding cutting and stitching in Hisar, Hansi and Sadalpur was assessed through pre and post exposure mean score and 't' test. Pre-exposure and post-exposure mean score and 't' test were computed for all the sub component of the cutting and tailoring and have been presented in Table-2.

It is evident from the Table-2 that respondents succeeded in changing their attitude at post exposure level in all three

trainings. It was observed that change in attitude was recorded in Hisar, Hansi and Sadalpur after exposing them to training in cutting and tailoring. It was statistically significant at 5% level of significance.

It can be concluded that respondents had changed their attitude when exposed to training on cutting and tailoring. Finding of Manju (2009) [9], Deepti (2008) [5], Nutan (2009) [11], Gita (2010) [6] and Yadav (2013) [15] are in line with the finding of present study.

**Table 2:** Change in attitude of women related to cutting and tailoring

	Pre-Exposure (Mean Score)	Post-Exposure (Mean Score)	Change in attitude (Mean Score)	t value n=30
Hisar	2.53	2.73	0.20	5.22*
Hansi	2.53	2.57	0.04	4.11*
Sadalpur	2.17	2.50	0.33	3.00

\*Significant at 0.05 level of significance

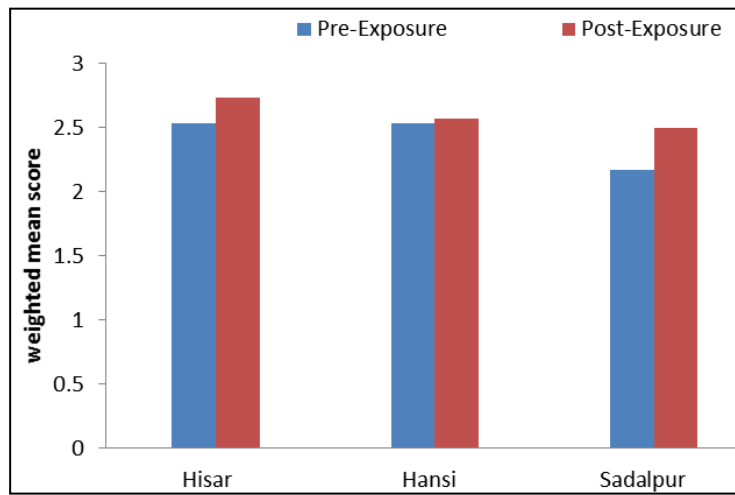


Fig 1: Change in attitude of women related to cutting and tailoring

**Skill acquisition of respondents for cutting and tailoring**

Skill acquisition of respondents for cutting and tailoring in Hisar, Hansi, Sadalpur and pooled sample was assessed through pre and post exposure mean score for cutting and tailoring was calculated in frequency, percentage and have been presented in Table- 3. The data point out that most of the respondents (56.67%) were having medium skill acquisition followed by low (36.67%) and high skill acquisition (6.67%) at pre exposure stage in Hisar. After exposing them to training 73.33 per cent of the respondents acquired high skill followed by medium skill acquisition (26.67%) respectively in Hisar. In Hansi, 70.00 per cent of the respondents were having low skill acquisition followed by medium (30%) at pre exposure

stage. However, at post exposure of training majority of the respondents of Hansi (90%) acquired high level skills followed by medium skill (10%). In Sadalpur 53 per cent of the respondents were having medium skill acquisition followed by low (47%) at pre exposure stage. However, at post exposure of training more than half of respondents (56.67%) acquired medium level skill acquisition followed by high skill acquisition (43.33%).

The similar trend was observed in pooled sample also. Thus it can be inferred that women acquired skill when they were exposed to training. Findings of Preeti (2014) [8] also coincide with the findings of present study.

Table 3: Skill acquisition of women respondents for cutting and tailoring

Categories and scores	Hisar n=30 f (%)		Hansi n=30 f (%)		Sadalpur n=30 f (%)		Overall training N=90 f (%)	
	Pre exposure	Post exposure	Pre exposure	Post exposure	Pre exposure	Post exposure	Pre exposure	Post exposure
Low (16-21)	11(36.67)	-	21(70.00)	-	14(47.00)	-	46(51.11)	-
Medium (22-27)	17(56.66)	08(26.67)	09(30.00)	03(10.00)	16(53.00)	17(56.67)	42(46.67)	28(31.11)
High (28-32)	02(6.67)	22(73.33)	-	27(90.00)	-	13(43.33)	02(2.22)	62(68.89)

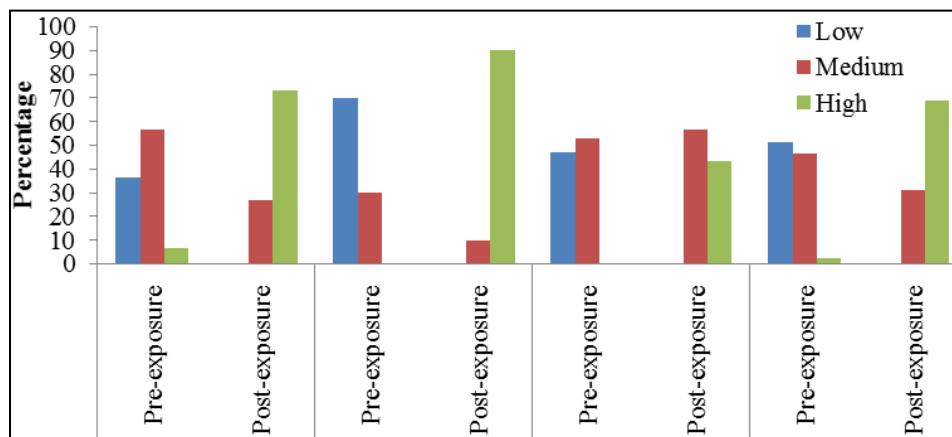


Fig 2: Skill acquisition of women respondents for cutting and tailoring

**Symbolic adoption of women respondents for cutting and tailoring**

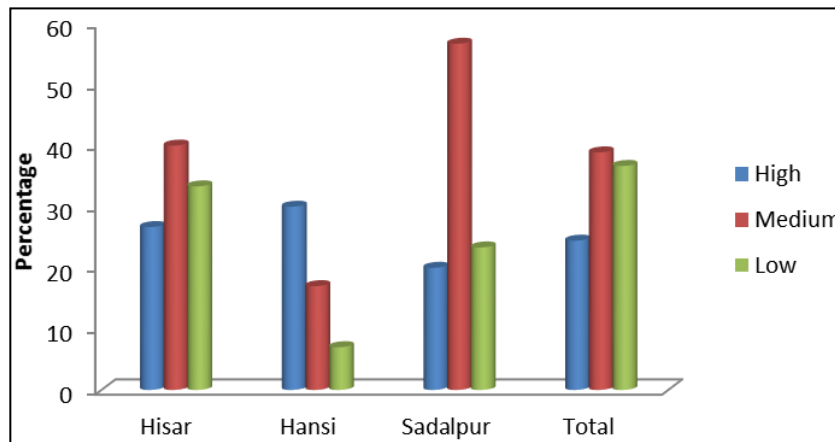
Data were collected developed for measurement of symbolic adoption of cutting and tailoring for income generation. Data presented in Table 15 shows that 40.00 per cent respondents of Hisar had medium symbolic adoption followed by high (26.67%) and low (33.33%) symbolic adoption. In case of Hansi 46.67 per cent of the respondents had medium symbolic adoption followed by high symbolic adoption (30%) and low

(23.33%) symbolic adoption.

In Sadalpur, 56.67 per cent of respondents had medium symbolic adoption followed by low (23.33%) and high (20%) symbolic adoption. In case of pooled sample, 38.89 per cent of respondents had medium symbolic adoption followed by low (36.67%) and high (24.22%) symbolic adoption respectively. It may be stated that respondents had medium symbolic adoption after exposing them to training of cutting and tailoring.

**Table 4:** Symbolic adoption of women respondents on cutting and tailoring

Categories and scores	Hisar n=30		Hansi n=30		Sadalpur n=30		Total N=90	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
High (13-16)	8	26.67	9	30.00	6	20.00	22	24.44
Medium (9-12)	12	40.00	14	46.67	17	56.67	35	38.89
Low (5-8)	10	33.33	7	23.33	7	23.33	33	36.67



**Fig 3:** Symbolic adoption of women respondents on cutting and tailoring

Finding of the present study showed that respondents succeeded in acquiring skill with respect to all aspects of cutting and tailoring. This reflects interactive and effective learning situation by providing step by step procedure along with lectures in a friendly environment in simple language for better comprehension. Findings of the present study are in conformity with those of Akansha (2006) [2], Shivakumara (2008) [12], Manju (2009) [9] and Tayal (2012) [13] also reported that 80 per cent of the respondents acquired vermicompost production skills by undergoing the training.

training was measured in term of knowledge, attitude, decision-making, skill and adoption. It is clear from table that overall impact was found medium (55.55%) followed by low (27.78%) and high (16.67%) respectively in all three trainings, similar results were also arrived at by Akansha (2006) [2].

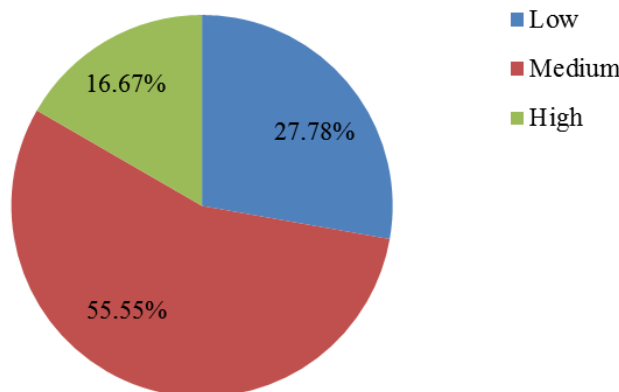
**Table 5:** Overall impact of Cutting and tailoring

Categories and scores	Frequency	Percentage
Low (114-126)	25	27.78
Medium (127-139)	50	55.55
High (140-152)	15	16.67

**Overall impact of training**

Table 6 shows overall impact of training. Overall impact of

**Overall impact of trainings**



**Fig 4:** Overall impact of Cutting and tailoring

**4.3.5 Decision making pattern**

Table 6 shows more than half of the respondents (56.67%) used to take decisions jointly for the purchase of raw material and machinery for enterprise. Whereas almost one fourth respondents (26.66%) male members used to take decisions. Only female (16.67%) used to take decisions independently. Regarding finances, more than half of male members s (55.56%) used to take decisions, whereas almost equal amount of more than 20 per cent decisions were taken either by female (20%) or jointly (24.44%). A similar trend was observed in account keeping and sales of garments. Less than half of

respondents (45.55%) decisions for starting a boutique were taken either jointly and by male members (43.33%). Only few 11.11 per cent women respondents used to take decisions independently for starting a boutique. Less half of respondents (42.22%) either jointly or male members and 44.44 per cent and female (13.33%) decisions were taken regarding repairing and maintenance of machines. In all the components for starting an enterprise most of the decisions were taken either jointly by husbands and wife or husbands also. Very few women used to take decisions independently findings of Akansha (2006) [2] supported the study.

**Table 6:** Decision making pattern in trainees

Components	Hisar block n=30			Hansi block n=30			Sadalpur village n=30			Total N=90		
	M	F	Both	M	F	Both	M	F	Both	M	F	Both
Starting a boutique	12 (40.00)	04 (13.33)	14 (46.67)	06 (20.00)	04 (13.33)	20 (66.67)	21 (70.00)	02 (06.67)	07 (23.33)	39 (43.33)	10 (11.11)	41 (45.56)
Finances	20 (66.66)	05 (16.67)	05 (16.67)	18 (60.00)	06 (20.00)	06 (20.00)	12 (40.00)	07 (23.33)	11 (36.67)	50 (55.56)	18 (20.00)	22 (24.44)
Purchase of raw material and machinery	09 (30.00)	02 (06.67)	19 (63.33)	06 (20.00)	04 (13.33)	20 (66.67)	09 (30.00)	09 (30.00)	12 (40.00)	24 (26.66)	15 (16.67)	51 (56.67)
Sale of garments	10 (33.33)	05 (16.67)	15 (50.00)	20 (66.66)	05 (16.67)	05 (16.67)	18 (60.00)	04 (13.33)	08 (26.67)	48 (53.33)	14 (15.56)	28 (31.11)
Repairing and maintenance of machines	16 (53.33)	07 (23.33)	07 (23.33)	09 (30.00)	02 (06.67)	19 (63.33)	15 (50.00)	03 (10.00)	12 (40.00)	40 (44.44)	12 (13.33)	38 (42.22)
Account keeping	12 (40.00)	03 (10.00)	15 (50.00)	22 (73.33)	03 (10.00)	05 (16.67)	17 (56.67)	06 (20.00)	07 (23.23)	51 (56.67)	12 (13.33)	27 (30.00)

**Constraint faced by respondents during training:**

The perceived constraints of the respondents for cutting and tailoring were computed by frequency, mean score and rank has been presented Table 7.

It is clear from Table 18 that constraints related to training have been divided into two classes that is social-personal and technical constraints. In social-personal constraints, lack of time was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> followed by lack of family support (rank II). In technical constraints, lack of technical know-how was

ranked 1<sup>st</sup> followed by more theoretical oriented training (rank II). Constraints related to enterprise have been divided in to two i.e. economic constraints and marketing constraints. In economic constraints, lack of money was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> followed by unprofitable proportion due to limited income (rank II). In marketing constraints, women were not allowed to go to market was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> followed by more expenditure in transportation (rank II). The findings of Preeti (2014) [8] also support the findings of the present study.

**Table 7:** Perceived constraints of women respondents for cutting and tailoring

Constraints	Hisar n=30	Hansi n=30	Sadalpur n=30	Total W.M.S.	Rank
<b>Related to training</b>					
<b>Social- Personal</b>					
Lack of family support	2.33	2.20	2.36	2.30	II
Lack of time	2.46	2.36	2.30	2.37	I
Lack of awareness	2.33	2.36	2.16	2.28	III
Health problem	2.10	2.36	1.90	2.12	V
Lack of self confidence	2.30	2.35	1.96	2.17	IV
<b>Technical</b>					
Lack of technical know-how	2.53	2.06	2.40	2.33	I
Difficulty in maintaining and repairing machines	2.13	2.10	2.132	2.12	III
More theoretical oriented training	2.30	2.06	2.13	2.15	II
Lack of technical knowhow to start an enterprise	1.90	2.06	2.20	2.05	IV
<b>Related to enterprise</b>					
<b>Economic</b>					
Lack of money	2.46	2.26	2.30	2.34	I
Insufficient financial help provided by government	2.20	2.23	2.16	2.20	III
Unprofitable proportion due to limited income	2.16	2.33	2.20	2.23	II
<b>Marketing</b>					
Women not allowed to go to market	2.80	2.50	2.36	2.55	I
More expenditure in transportation	2.53	2.53	2.16	2.41	II
Inability to compete with readymade products	2.36	2.50	2.23	2.36	III
No help by Govt. in marketing the products	2.30	2.50	2.20	2.32	IV

Sufficient gain in knowledge regarding cutting and tailoring was recorded for sub-components viz, Designing, cutting, stitching, surface enrichment, machine care and operation, entrepreneurial education and precautions. Computed 't' values were significant at 5 per cent level of significance. Thus, it can be inferred that women succeeded in acquiring knowledge after exposure to training on cutting and tailoring. Sufficient change in attitude cutting and tailoring was recorded in all three training groups which was statistically significant at 5 per cent level of significance. In all the components for starting an enterprise most of the decisions were taken either jointly by husbands and wife or husbands also. Very few women used to take decisions independently. Most of the respondents (68.89%) had acquired high level skill after

exposure to training. Most of the respondents (42.50%) had medium symbolic adoption cutting and tailoring. Overall impact of training in term of gain in knowledge, change in attitude, skill acquisition, symbolic adoption and decision making pattern was found of medium level. Most of the respondents perceived lack of time in social-personal constraints was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>. In technical constraints, lack of technical know-how was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>. In economic constraints lack of money was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>. In marketing constraints, women were not allowed to go to market was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Suggestions**

- Minimum participation in decision making of trainees was shown in Opening of boutique and repairing and

maintenance of machines, therefore more emphasis must be given in imparting skills to women during training programme.

- Continuous planned efforts and follow up action should be organized for reinforcement of learnt behavior. Whereas women may be encouraged more and more for adoption of cutting and tailoring training as an enterprise.
- Most of the respondents perceived lack of economic and marketing facilities for sale of cutting and tailoring so it is suggested to establish such cooperative units/societies of goods from one village to another etc.

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