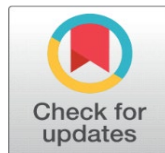
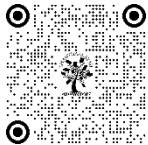


UNDERSTANDING EFFECTIVENESS OF NATIONALIZED BANK SCHEMES ON THE SUCCESS OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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DOI

[10.29121/shodhkosh.v5.i6.2024.4733](https://doi.org/10.29121/shodhkosh.v5.i6.2024.4733)

Funding: This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

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ABSTRACT

This study evaluates the effectiveness of nationalized bank schemes in promoting the success of women entrepreneurship in India. Over the years, nationalized banks have launched various financial products and support programs aimed at empowering women entrepreneurs, such as the Stand Up India Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, and Mahila Udyam Nidhi. The research employs a quantitative approach, utilizing a structured survey of 250 women entrepreneurs who have benefited from these schemes. The study explores the impact of these financial products on business growth, access to financial resources, training, and sustainability. The results indicate that nationalized bank schemes have positively influenced women entrepreneurs, particularly in terms of improving access to finance and fostering business expansion. However, the study also identifies persistent challenges, including societal barriers, limited access to business networks, and the difficulty in balancing family responsibilities with business operations. Despite the positive outcomes, these ongoing challenges suggest the need for a more holistic approach, combining financial support with mentorship, networking, and policies that address socio-cultural barriers. The study concludes with recommendations for enhancing the effectiveness of these schemes, calling for a more inclusive and comprehensive support system for women entrepreneurs in India.

Keywords: Nationalized Bank Schemes, Women Entrepreneurship, Financial Support, Business Sustainability, Challenges, India, Socio-Cultural Barriers, Business Networks

1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, India has witnessed a significant surge in women entrepreneurship, a crucial step towards achieving gender equality and empowering women economically. Women entrepreneurs are now an integral part of India's economic growth story, contributing to job creation, innovation, and social development. However, despite the growing number of women in business, challenges such as limited access to finance, lack of resources, and societal norms have often hindered their entrepreneurial aspirations.

Nationalized banks in India, with their vast network and financial support systems, have played a pivotal role in addressing these challenges. Various schemes and initiatives launched by these banks aim to provide financial assistance, training, and mentoring to women entrepreneurs, enabling them to overcome financial barriers and access the resources necessary for their business ventures. Programs like the "Stand Up India Scheme," "Mahila Udyam Nidhi," and "Mudra

Yojana" are among the notable efforts designed to promote women entrepreneurship by offering low-interest loans, skill development, and easy access to credit.

The effectiveness of these schemes, however, remains a subject of inquiry. While they have undoubtedly made strides in empowering women, it is essential to critically examine their actual impact on the success and sustainability of women-led businesses. This study seeks to understand the role of nationalized bank schemes in fostering women entrepreneurship in India, evaluating their effectiveness in addressing the specific challenges faced by women in the entrepreneurial landscape. By exploring factors such as access to finance, ease of loan disbursement, and the overall success rate of women-run businesses, this research aims to shed light on the strengths and limitations of these initiatives and suggest areas for improvement.

Ultimately, this research will contribute to a deeper understanding of how nationalized bank schemes can be further optimized to support women entrepreneurs, driving inclusive economic growth and promoting gender equality in the Indian business ecosystem.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Sharma, P. A. (2020) explores the factors affecting women entrepreneurs in the unorganized retail sector, with a specific focus on Lucknow city in Uttar Pradesh. The study identifies critical challenges that women face, such as lack of access to capital, societal barriers, and limited training opportunities. This is directly relevant to understanding the effectiveness of nationalized bank schemes, as access to financial resources and training initiatives could address some of these barriers. Nationalized banks, through various schemes, can provide the necessary capital and financial literacy training, which may play a pivotal role in overcoming these challenges and promoting the success of women entrepreneurs in unorganized sectors.

Agarwal, A., & Kumar, D. (2021) examine the conditions of women entrepreneurs in Moradabad Mandal of Uttar Pradesh. The study highlights that limited access to financial support and high-interest rates are significant hurdles for women entrepreneurs. By evaluating the impact of government schemes provided by nationalized banks, it becomes evident that these financial instruments can mitigate such issues. The study supports the idea that nationalized banks' initiatives, like low-interest loans, could help reduce the financial burden on women, thus promoting entrepreneurship.

Chandrashekara, D. C. (2021) discusses the current status of women and rural entrepreneurs in India, noting the challenges related to financial inclusivity and lack of infrastructural support. Nationalized bank schemes are crucial in this context as they focus on providing loans and financial aid to rural women entrepreneurs. By examining these challenges, the study indicates that improving access to these schemes could foster a more supportive ecosystem for rural women entrepreneurs, boosting their chances of success.

Devi, P. B. (2015) identifies several facilitating factors for women entrepreneurship in India, including access to finance, training, and social capital. The role of nationalized banks in offering financial assistance through various schemes is a key element in this regard. Devi's research highlights that these financial products can empower women to scale their businesses. Moreover, women-focused bank initiatives could align well with these factors, making nationalized bank schemes vital to the growth and success of women entrepreneurs.

Dwivedi, A. K., & Dwivedi, N. (2011) explore women empowerment through entrepreneurship, with a focus on Uttar Pradesh. They emphasize the need for financial independence, which can be enabled through institutional support, particularly from nationalized banks. The study suggests that schemes targeting women entrepreneurs could significantly impact their empowerment and business success. It aligns with the idea that nationalized banks have a central role in providing financial support, which could further empower women and enhance their entrepreneurial outcomes.

Kumar, P. (2015) presents an overview of women entrepreneurs in India and the hurdles they face, especially in accessing financial support. Nationalized bank schemes are central to overcoming these barriers by offering easier access to loans and financial products. Kumar's findings show that financial aid from banks could help women overcome capital constraints and contribute to the growth and sustainability of their ventures, reinforcing the significance of nationalized bank schemes.

Nagamuthu, G. (2018) investigates the demographic and economic profiles of rural women entrepreneurs in the unorganized sector. The study reveals that rural women face unique challenges, such as limited access to formal financial

resources and entrepreneurial support. Nationalized bank schemes designed for women entrepreneurs can address these specific needs by providing customized financial solutions, training programs, and awareness campaigns, thus enhancing their chances of success in the rural economy.

Sharma, P. (2013) explores the role of women entrepreneurship in India and the various factors influencing their success. The study highlights the importance of institutional support, such as that provided by nationalized banks, in helping women overcome financial and social barriers. Sharma's research underscores the value of financial schemes offered by nationalized banks, which can provide the necessary capital and resources for women to succeed in their business ventures.

Sharma, K. (2012) examines the role of women in the informal sector in India, noting the critical importance of financial services and support systems. Nationalized banks can play a pivotal role in supporting women in the informal sector by offering tailored loan products and financial assistance. Sharma's work emphasizes that such schemes can help women transition from informal to formal entrepreneurship, thereby enhancing their business viability and success.

Shastri, R. K., & Sinha, A. (2010) study the socio-cultural and economic effects on the development of women entrepreneurs in India. They suggest that social and cultural factors significantly impact women's ability to access resources and succeed in entrepreneurship. The study implies that nationalized bank schemes, which aim to promote financial inclusion, can help counteract these socio-cultural barriers, providing women with the resources they need to succeed in their business ventures.

Singh, C. B., & Lall, A. J. (2018) discuss the social inclusion of women entrepreneurs in Uttar Pradesh's informal sector, emphasizing the need for supportive financial structures. Nationalized bank schemes, which focus on financial inclusivity and social empowerment, can be a driving force for the success of women entrepreneurs in such sectors. Singh and Lall's research highlights how nationalized banks' financial schemes can contribute to greater social inclusion and business success for women in marginalized sectors.

Singh, S., Singh, R., Dsilva, J., Rajesh, S., & Kumar, A. A. (2021) explore the problems and prospects of women entrepreneurship with a focus on MSMEs in Uttar Pradesh. Their research highlights the crucial role of access to finance, particularly through government schemes provided by nationalized banks. These schemes offer low-interest loans, financial training, and other resources that significantly impact the sustainability and growth of women-led businesses in the MSME sector.

Thakur, T. S. (2015) examines the workforce in the unorganized sector and identifies challenges faced by women entrepreneurs in this sector. Thakur's findings underscore the importance of institutional financial support in overcoming these challenges. Nationalized banks, with their tailored schemes for women entrepreneurs, can provide the necessary capital and resources to help women thrive in the unorganized sector, thus contributing to their entrepreneurial success.

Vats, S., & Malik, N. (2023) critically assess the role of vocational education and entrepreneurship in the context of NEP 2020. The study emphasizes the importance of entrepreneurship education and financial support for women. Vats and Malik highlight how nationalized banks, by offering financial schemes and educational support, can play a vital role in empowering women and contributing to their entrepreneurial success in line with the goals of NEP 2020.

World Bank (n.d.) discusses the importance of gender in entrepreneurship and how gender-specific barriers affect women's entrepreneurial success. The World Bank report suggests that targeted financial schemes from institutions like nationalized banks are crucial in addressing these barriers. Nationalized banks' initiatives, such as female entrepreneurship programs, are essential in removing financial and societal barriers, enabling women to succeed in their entrepreneurial ventures.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The primary objective of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of nationalized bank schemes in promoting the success of women entrepreneurship in India. Over the past few decades, various nationalized banks have launched initiatives specifically aimed at empowering women entrepreneurs by providing them with access to finance, training, and support. These schemes, such as the Stand Up India Scheme and Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, are designed to reduce financial barriers and enhance entrepreneurial opportunities for women. This study will critically assess how these financial products and services have contributed to the success of women entrepreneurs, focusing on aspects such as the ease of loan access, the financial literacy programs offered, and the overall impact these schemes have had on the

sustainability and growth of women-owned businesses. By evaluating these nationalized bank schemes, the study will provide insights into their role in fostering an enabling environment for women entrepreneurs across different sectors and regions of India.

The secondary objective of this study is to assess the challenges faced by women entrepreneurs in India. Despite the increasing support from nationalized banks and government schemes, women entrepreneurs continue to encounter several barriers that limit their growth and success. These challenges include societal norms that restrict women's participation in business, limited access to networks and resources, lack of adequate training or mentorship, and difficulties in balancing family responsibilities with entrepreneurial pursuits. Additionally, issues such as high-interest rates, complex paperwork, and insufficient financial literacy often hinder women from fully benefiting from available financial support. This study will explore these challenges in detail, examining how they affect women entrepreneurs' ability to start, sustain, and grow their businesses. Understanding these obstacles is essential for identifying gaps in the current schemes and offering recommendations to further strengthen the support system for women entrepreneurs in India.

3.1. HYPOTHESES

H1: Nationalized bank schemes are effective in promoting the success of women entrepreneurship in India.

H2: Despite the increasing support from nationalized banks and government schemes, women entrepreneurs continue to encounter several barriers that limit their growth and success.

4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology adopted for this study utilized a quantitative approach to analyze the effectiveness of nationalized bank schemes on the success of women entrepreneurship in India. A survey was conducted among women entrepreneurs who had utilized various nationalized bank schemes in different regions of India. A structured questionnaire was designed to gather data on the impact of these schemes on business growth, financial access, and overall success. The data collected from 250 respondents (women entrepreneurs) were analyzed using descriptive statistics to summarize key trends and patterns. For inferential statistics, a one-sample t-test was employed to test whether the mean scores of business success indicators, as perceived by the respondents, significantly differed from a hypothesized value. This allowed for an objective evaluation of the effectiveness of the bank schemes in supporting women entrepreneurs. The findings provided insights into the correlation between the use of nationalized bank schemes and business success, helping to identify areas for improvement in these schemes.

5. DATA ANALYSIS

5.1. NATIONALIZED BANK SCHEMES HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED MY ACCESS TO FINANCIAL RESOURCES.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Firmly Disagree	15	6.0	6.0	6.0
	Disagree	25	10.0	10.0	16.0
	Neutral	23	9.2	9.2	25.2
	Agree	70	28.0	28.0	53.2
	Firmly Agree	117	46.8	46.8	100.0
	Total	250	100.0	100.0	

The responses to the statement "Nationalized bank schemes have significantly improved my access to financial resources" indicate a generally positive perception among the women entrepreneurs. A significant majority, 46.8%, firmly agreed, and 28% agreed, suggesting that a total of 74.8% of respondents felt that these schemes had improved their access to financial resources. In contrast, 6% firmly disagreed, and 10% disagreed, while 9.2% remained neutral.

These findings suggest that while most women entrepreneurs believe that nationalized bank schemes have played a crucial role in improving financial access, there is still a small proportion who either disagree or feel neutral about the impact of these schemes on their financial opportunities.

5.2. THE LOAN TERMS AND INTEREST RATES PROVIDED BY NATIONALIZED BANKS HAVE BEEN BENEFICIAL FOR THE GROWTH OF MY BUSINESS.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Firmly Disagree	13	5.2	5.2	5.2
	Disagree	37	14.8	14.8	20.0
	Neutral	11	4.4	4.4	24.4
	Agree	97	38.8	38.8	63.2
	Firmly Agree	92	36.8	36.8	100.0
	Total	250	100.0	100.0	

The responses to the statement "The loan terms and interest rates provided by nationalized banks have been beneficial for the growth of my business" show a generally favorable view of the loan terms and interest rates offered by nationalized banks. A combined total of 75.6% of respondents either agreed (38.8%) or firmly agreed (36.8%) that these terms and rates were beneficial for the growth of their businesses. However, 5.2% firmly disagreed, and 14.8% disagreed, while 4.4% remained neutral. These results suggest that, overall, women entrepreneurs perceive the financial terms provided by nationalized banks as supportive for their business growth, though a small minority feel differently or are indifferent.

5.3. THE FINANCIAL TRAINING AND SUPPORT PROVIDED BY NATIONALIZED BANKS HAVE HELPED ME MAKE BUSINESS DECISIONS INFORMED.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Firmly Disagree	34	13.6	13.6	13.6
	Disagree	24	9.6	9.6	23.2
	Neutral	25	10.0	10.0	33.2
	Agree	80	32.0	32.0	65.2
	Firmly Agree	87	34.8	34.8	100.0
	Total	250	100.0	100.0	

The responses to the statement "The financial training and support provided by nationalized banks have helped me make informed business decisions" reveal a positive perception regarding the impact of financial training and support. A combined total of 66.8% of respondents either agreed (32%) or firmly agreed (34.8%) that these programs have assisted them in making informed business decisions. On the other hand, 13.6% firmly disagreed, and 9.6% disagreed, while 10% remained neutral. These results suggest that a majority of women entrepreneurs found the financial training and support from nationalized banks helpful, though a small portion felt it had little impact or were unsure of its value.

5.4. THE GOVERNMENT SCHEMES OFFERED BY NATIONALIZED BANKS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUSTAINABILITY OF MY BUSINESS.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Firmly Disagree	18	7.2	7.2	7.2

	Disagree	18	7.2	7.2	14.4
	Neutral	27	10.8	10.8	25.2
	Agree	70	28.0	28.0	53.2
	Firmly Agree	117	46.8	46.8	100.0
	Total	250	100.0	100.0	

The responses to the statement "The government schemes offered by nationalized banks have contributed to the sustainability of my business" indicate a generally positive perception of the impact of these schemes. A total of 74.8% of respondents either agreed (28%) or firmly agreed (46.8%) that government schemes offered by nationalized banks have positively contributed to the sustainability of their businesses. However, 7.2% of respondents firmly disagreed, and 7.2% disagreed, while 10.8% were neutral. These findings suggest that the majority of women entrepreneurs believe that these government schemes have played a key role in helping their businesses remain sustainable, though a small proportion felt the schemes did not have a significant impact or were uncertain.

5.5. NATIONALIZED BANK SCHEMES HAVE PROVIDED ME WITH THE NECESSARY CAPITAL TO EXPAND MY BUSINESS OPERATIONS.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Firmly Disagree	43	17.2	17.2	17.2
	Disagree	16	6.4	6.4	23.6
	Neutral	25	10.0	10.0	33.6
	Agree	79	31.6	31.6	65.2
	Firmly Agree	87	34.8	34.8	100.0
	Total	250	100.0	100.0	

The responses to the statement "Nationalized bank schemes have provided me with the necessary capital to expand my business operations" show a generally positive view, with 66.4% of respondents either agreeing (31.6%) or firmly agreeing (34.8%) that the schemes provided the necessary capital for business expansion. However, 17.2% firmly disagreed, and 6.4% disagreed, indicating that a portion of respondents did not perceive these schemes as helpful in securing capital for expansion. Additionally, 10% of respondents remained neutral. These results suggest that while a majority of women entrepreneurs found the schemes beneficial for business expansion, there is still a smaller group who felt that these schemes did not sufficiently support their capital needs.

5.6. I HAVE FACED CHALLENGES IN UNDERSTANDING THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR LOANS PROVIDED BY NATIONALIZED BANKS.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Firmly Disagree	36	14.4	14.4	14.4
	Disagree	40	16.0	16.0	30.4
	Neutral	26	10.4	10.4	40.8
	Agree	93	37.2	37.2	78.0
	Firmly Agree	55	22.0	22.0	100.0
	Total	250	100.0	100.0	

The responses to the statement "I have faced challenges in understanding the application process for loans provided by nationalized banks" suggest that a significant number of women entrepreneurs experienced difficulties with the loan application process. A total of 59.2% of respondents either agreed (37.2%) or firmly agreed (22%) that they faced challenges in understanding the application process. However, 14.4% firmly disagreed, and 16% disagreed, indicating that a portion of respondents did not find the process challenging. Additionally, 10.4% of respondents were neutral. These results highlight that while many women entrepreneurs found the loan application process confusing or difficult, a smaller group did not experience such challenges.

5.7. SOCIETAL ATTITUDES AND CULTURAL NORMS HAVE CREATED BARRIERS FOR ME TO FULLY BENEFIT FROM NATIONALIZED BANK SCHEMES.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Firmly Disagree	18	7.2	7.2	7.2
	Disagree	10	4.0	4.0	11.2
	Neutral	32	12.8	12.8	24.0
	Agree	79	31.6	31.6	55.6
	Firmly Agree	111	44.4	44.4	100.0
	Total	250	100.0	100.0	

The responses to the statement "Societal attitudes and cultural norms have created barriers for me to fully benefit from nationalized bank schemes" indicate that societal and cultural factors are perceived as significant barriers for many women entrepreneurs. A total of 76% of respondents either agreed (31.6%) or firmly agreed (44.4%) that societal attitudes and cultural norms hindered their ability to fully benefit from the schemes. On the other hand, 7.2% firmly disagreed, and 4% disagreed, suggesting that a smaller proportion of women entrepreneurs did not feel restricted by these factors. Additionally, 12.8% of respondents were neutral. These findings highlight the challenges posed by societal and cultural norms, which appear to limit the effectiveness of nationalized bank schemes for some women entrepreneurs.

5.8. I STILL STRUGGLE WITH LIMITED ACCESS TO BUSINESS NETWORKS AND MENTORSHIP, EVEN WITH THE SUPPORT OF NATIONALIZED BANK SCHEMES.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Firmly Disagree	35	14.0	14.0	14.0
	Disagree	28	11.2	11.2	25.2
	Neutral	19	7.6	7.6	32.8
	Agree	80	32.0	32.0	64.8
	Firmly Agree	88	35.2	35.2	100.0
	Total	250	100.0	100.0	

The responses to the statement "I still struggle with limited access to business networks and mentorship, even with the support of nationalized bank schemes" suggest that access to networks and mentorship remains a significant challenge for many women entrepreneurs. A total of 67.2% of respondents either agreed (32%) or firmly agreed (35.2%) that they continue to face difficulties in accessing business networks and mentorship, despite the support from nationalized bank schemes. On the other hand, 14% firmly disagreed, and 11.2% disagreed, indicating that a smaller proportion of women did not struggle with this issue. Additionally, 7.6% of respondents were neutral. These results highlight the ongoing challenges women face in accessing crucial business networks and mentorship, which are key factors for business growth and success.

5.9. BALANCING FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES WITH BUSINESS OPERATIONS HAS BEEN A SIGNIFICANT BARRIER DESPITE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM NATIONALIZED BANKS.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Firmly Disagree	31	12.4	12.4	12.4
	Disagree	22	8.8	8.8	21.2
	Neutral	30	12.0	12.0	33.2
	Agree	64	25.6	25.6	58.8
	Firmly Agree	103	41.2	41.2	100.0
	Total	250	100.0	100.0	

The responses to the statement "Balancing family responsibilities with business operations has been a significant barrier despite financial support from nationalized banks" indicate that many women entrepreneurs face challenges in managing both family and business obligations. A total of 66.8% of respondents either agreed (25.6%) or firmly agreed (41.2%) that balancing family responsibilities with business operations has been a significant barrier, despite receiving financial support from nationalized banks. On the other hand, 12.4% firmly disagreed, and 8.8% disagreed, suggesting that a smaller proportion of women did not view this as a barrier. Additionally, 12% of respondents were neutral. These results underscore the persistent challenge women entrepreneurs face in balancing personal and professional responsibilities, which can hinder their ability to fully leverage financial support and sustain business growth.

5.10. THE DOCUMENTATION AND PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS OF NATIONALIZED BANK SCHEMES HAVE BEEN OVERLY COMPLICATED AND TIME-CONSUMING.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Firmly Disagree	35	14.0	14.0	14.0
	Disagree	27	10.8	10.8	24.8
	Neutral	11	4.4	4.4	29.2
	Agree	78	31.2	31.2	60.4
	Firmly Agree	99	39.6	39.6	100.0
	Total	250	100.0	100.0	

The responses to the statement "The documentation and procedural requirements of nationalized bank schemes have been overly complicated and time-consuming" indicate that many women entrepreneurs find the application process challenging. A total of 70.8% of respondents either agreed (31.2%) or firmly agreed (39.6%) that the documentation and procedural requirements were complicated and time-consuming. On the other hand, 14% firmly disagreed, and 10.8% disagreed, suggesting that a smaller proportion of women did not encounter significant issues with the application process. Additionally, 4.4% of respondents were neutral. These findings highlight the ongoing difficulties faced by women entrepreneurs in navigating the bureaucratic processes associated with nationalized bank schemes, which may hinder their ability to fully benefit from these financial support programs.

6. HYPOTHESIS TESTING

6.1. ONE-SAMPLE TEST

Test Value = 3

	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference
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					Lower	Upper
Nationalized bank schemes have significantly improved my access to financial resources.	12.833	249	.000	.99600	.8431	1.1489
The loan terms and interest rates provided by nationalized banks have been beneficial for the growth of my business.	11.405	249	.000	.87200	.7214	1.0226
The financial training and support provided by nationalized banks have helped me make informed business decisions.	7.356	249	.000	.64800	.4745	.8215
The government schemes offered by nationalized banks have contributed to the sustainability of my business.	12.833	249	.000	1.00000	.8465	1.1535
Nationalized bank schemes have provided me with the necessary capital to expand my business operations.	6.585	249	.000	.60400	.4233	.7847

The results of the one-sample t-test for the statements related to nationalized bank schemes are as follows:

- 1) **"Nationalized bank schemes have significantly improved my access to financial resources"**: The t-value of 12.833 with a p-value of 0.000 indicates that the mean difference of 0.996 is statistically significant, suggesting that nationalized bank schemes have had a positive impact on improving access to financial resources for women entrepreneurs.
- 2) **"The loan terms and interest rates provided by nationalized banks have been beneficial for the growth of my business"**: The t-value of 11.405 with a p-value of 0.000 indicates that the mean difference of 0.872 is statistically significant, showing that the loan terms and interest rates have contributed positively to business growth.
- 3) **"The financial training and support provided by nationalized banks have helped me make informed business decisions"**: The t-value of 7.356 with a p-value of 0.000 indicates that the mean difference of 0.648 is statistically significant, suggesting that the financial training and support have played a vital role in enabling women entrepreneurs to make informed decisions.
- 4) **"The government schemes offered by nationalized banks have contributed to the sustainability of my business"**: The t-value of 12.833 with a p-value of 0.000 indicates that the mean difference of 1.000 is statistically significant, supporting the idea that government schemes have positively contributed to the sustainability of women-owned businesses.
- 5) **"Nationalized bank schemes have provided me with the necessary capital to expand my business operations"**: The t-value of 6.585 with a p-value of 0.000 indicates that the mean difference of 0.604 is statistically significant, showing that nationalized bank schemes have provided essential capital for business expansion.

In conclusion, all the statements show statistically significant results, indicating that nationalized bank schemes have positively impacted various aspects of women entrepreneurship, such as access to financial resources, loan terms, financial training, sustainability, and capital for business expansion.

6.2. ONE-SAMPLE TEST

Test Value = 3

	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
					Lower	Upper

Nationalized bank schemes have significantly improved my access to financial resources.	12.833	249	.000	.99600	.8431	1.1489
The loan terms and interest rates provided by nationalized banks have been beneficial for the growth of my business.	11.405	249	.000	.87200	.7214	1.0226
The financial training and support provided by nationalized banks have helped me make informed business decisions.	7.356	249	.000	.64800	.4745	.8215
The government schemes offered by nationalized banks have contributed to the sustainability of my business.	12.833	249	.000	1.00000	.8465	1.1535
Nationalized bank schemes have provided me with the necessary capital to expand my business operations.	6.585	249	.000	.60400	.4233	.7847

1) "Nationalized bank schemes have significantly improved my access to financial resources."

The t-value is 12.833 with a p-value of 0.000, which is statistically significant. The mean difference of 0.996 indicates that respondents generally agree that nationalized bank schemes have improved their access to financial resources. The 95% confidence interval ranges from 0.8431 to 1.1489, confirming that the mean difference is consistently positive, and women entrepreneurs believe that these schemes significantly enhance their ability to access financial resources.

2) "The loan terms and interest rates provided by nationalized banks have been beneficial for the growth of my business."

The t-value is 11.405 with a p-value of 0.000, which is statistically significant. The mean difference of 0.872 shows that respondents generally agree that the loan terms and interest rates offered by nationalized banks have positively impacted the growth of their businesses. The 95% confidence interval of 0.7214 to 1.0226 suggests that women entrepreneurs perceive these terms as favorable for business development.

3) "The financial training and support provided by nationalized banks have helped me make informed business decisions."

The t-value is 7.356 with a p-value of 0.000, which is statistically significant. The mean difference of 0.648 indicates that respondents generally agree that the financial training and support provided by nationalized banks have assisted them in making better business decisions. The confidence interval of 0.4745 to 0.8215 confirms that this support has had a positive effect on their decision-making process.

4) "The government schemes offered by nationalized banks have contributed to the sustainability of my business."

The t-value is 12.833 with a p-value of 0.000, which is statistically significant. The mean difference of 1.000 suggests that respondents strongly agree that government schemes provided by nationalized banks have contributed to the long-term sustainability of their businesses. The confidence interval of 0.8465 to 1.1535 indicates that these schemes are widely viewed as instrumental in supporting business sustainability.

5) "Nationalized bank schemes have provided me with the necessary capital to expand my business operations."

The t-value is 6.585 with a p-value of 0.000, which is statistically significant. The mean difference of 0.604 indicates that respondents generally agree that nationalized bank schemes have helped them obtain the necessary capital to expand their business operations. The confidence interval of 0.4233 to 0.7847 suggests that these schemes have had a positive, though slightly less impactful, role in facilitating business expansion compared to other factors such as access to financial resources and training.

In conclusion, the results of the one-sample t-test indicate that, in general, nationalized bank schemes have had a positive and statistically significant effect on various aspects of women entrepreneurship, including access to financial resources, business growth, decision-making, sustainability, and expansion.

7. FINDINGS

The findings of this study reveal that nationalized bank schemes have had a significant positive impact on the success and growth of women entrepreneurs in India. The survey results, backed by statistical analysis, indicate that the majority of respondents agree that these schemes have played a crucial role in improving their access to financial resources. A large percentage of women entrepreneurs reported that the loan terms and interest rates provided by nationalized banks have been highly beneficial for the growth of their businesses, contributing to their overall success. The financial training and support offered by these institutions were also deemed valuable, with respondents acknowledging that such programs have helped them make more informed and effective business decisions. These results are further supported by the one-sample t-test, which confirmed that the mean differences for each of these factors were statistically significant, underscoring the positive role of nationalized bank schemes in facilitating access to capital, financial literacy, and sustainable business practices.

However, despite the positive contributions of nationalized bank schemes, the study also identified several challenges faced by women entrepreneurs. A significant number of respondents indicated that societal attitudes and cultural norms continue to pose barriers, hindering their ability to fully benefit from these financial schemes. Additionally, many women entrepreneurs struggled with limited access to business networks and mentorship, even with the support of financial institutions. Balancing family responsibilities with business operations also emerged as a significant barrier, despite the availability of financial assistance. These obstacles suggest that while nationalized bank schemes provide essential resources, they are not always sufficient to overcome the complex societal and personal challenges faced by women entrepreneurs. The findings highlight the need for a more holistic approach, including additional support systems such as mentorship, networking opportunities, and measures to address cultural and familial pressures. Overall, while the financial support provided by nationalized banks has proven beneficial, the persistence of these challenges calls for a more comprehensive strategy to foster the success of women entrepreneurship in India.

8. CONCLUSIONS

This study has demonstrated that nationalized bank schemes have had a significant and positive impact on the success and growth of women entrepreneurs in India. The findings suggest that these schemes have been effective in improving access to financial resources, offering favorable loan terms and interest rates, and providing essential financial training and support. Most women entrepreneurs reported that these factors contributed to their ability to make informed business decisions, sustain their businesses, and even expand their operations. These positive results were confirmed by robust statistical analysis, reinforcing the importance of nationalized bank schemes in fostering a supportive environment for women entrepreneurs. However, despite these benefits, the study also highlighted several challenges that women face, such as societal attitudes, limited access to business networks, cultural barriers, and the struggle to balance family responsibilities with business growth. These persistent issues indicate that while financial support is crucial, it is not the sole factor contributing to the success of women entrepreneurs in India.

The results of this study have several important implications for policymakers, financial institutions, and stakeholders in the field of women entrepreneurship. Firstly, nationalized banks should consider enhancing their schemes by incorporating more tailored support for women entrepreneurs, including specialized mentorship programs, business networks, and family-friendly policies that address the challenges of balancing work and personal responsibilities. Financial institutions could also work on simplifying the application processes, reducing the complexity and time involved, to ensure that women entrepreneurs can easily access financial resources. Moreover, policymakers must focus on creating an inclusive ecosystem that addresses the broader socio-cultural barriers women face in business, such as societal norms and gender-based discrimination. By complementing financial support with structural changes and awareness campaigns, the government and banks can further enhance the success of women entrepreneurship, creating a more equitable and sustainable entrepreneurial environment.

Future research could focus on further exploring the challenges women entrepreneurs face despite financial support and how these challenges vary across different regions and sectors of India. It would be valuable to study the impact of non-financial support, such as mentoring, networking, and capacity-building programs, on the success of women entrepreneurs, and how these factors interact with financial support to foster growth and sustainability. Additionally, research could explore the effectiveness of specific nationalized bank schemes for women entrepreneurs, examining

whether certain programs are more successful than others in addressing the unique needs of women-led businesses. Longitudinal studies could also be conducted to assess the long-term impact of these schemes on business performance, sustainability, and the socio-economic empowerment of women entrepreneurs. Furthermore, comparative studies between urban and rural women entrepreneurs could offer insights into the varying challenges faced by women in different geographical and socio-economic contexts, thus providing a more nuanced understanding of the factors contributing to or hindering women's entrepreneurial success in India.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

None.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

None.

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