



Women Entrepreneurship Trends in India

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Abstract - In India, women entrepreneurship has become a very important factor in ensuring inclusive economic growth by creating employment, innovation, reducing poverty and social empowerment. Trends of the last 20 years show that India has seen a consistent number of women-owned businesses in micro, small, and medium businesses with the help of policy effort, financial inclusion programs, online platforms, and shifted socio-cultural norms. Although this has progressed, women entrepreneurs still experience structural inequalities and constraints like lack of access to finance, social norms, skill disparity, and market barriers and unequal care responsibilities. The paper presents the extensive overview of the trends of women entrepreneurship in India, summarizing the findings of the government reports, international agencies, and peer-reviewed books. The research question underpins the study on the basis of descriptive and analytical research design by secondary data to investigate trends in growth, concentration of sector, locality and differences and facilitating ecosystems and restraints of women entrepreneurs. A conceptual framework that includes the connection of policy support, financial access, the inclusion of digital to human capital, and the impact of entrepreneurship is also included in the paper. The result of the research suggests that institutional assistance based on policy has increased still with some irregularities in the distribution of results across regions and social classes. The paper does end by stating policy implications and future research directions in reinforcing women entrepreneurial ecosystems in India.

Keywords - Women entrepreneurship, MSMEs, India, financial inclusion, gender, policy, startups

I. Introduction

Entrepreneurship is commonly accepted as a pillar of economic growth, innovation as well as job creation. Entrepreneurship also plays another developmental role in the emerging economies including India where it helps in increasing social inclusion, alleviating poverty and curbing regional and gender disparities. Against this extended background, the study and interest in the entrepreneurship of women have gapingly increased with the accessibility of such entrepreneurship to raise the welfare of the household, community resilience, and gender equalities. Not only do women entrepreneurs earn themselves income but also provide jobs to other people, especially in micro, small, and informal businesses, which constitute the basis of the Indian economy (Ahl and Nelson 2015; Minniti and Naudé 2010).

Although women make up close to fifty percent of the Indian population, they are still underrepresented in the entrepreneurial activity. The Sixth Economic Census data state



that women form about 14% of all the entrepreneurs in the country with a significant number of them being engaged in micro-scale and informal sector ventures (Government of India, 2016). The reason behind this underrepresentation is structural constraints that have existed largely, such as the reduction of access to education, financing, productive resources, formal business networks, and largely of sociocultural norms that are deeply ingrained that influence the economic participation of women (Kabeer, 2012; Niti Aayog, 2018).

However, in the past ten years, the situation with women entrepreneurship in India has started changing. A series of government efforts, including Startup India, Stand-Up India, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana and the Women Entrepreneurship Platform have attempted to mitigate the old-fashioned disparities by focusing on finance and mentoring, skills, and networks to markets. Empirical data have indicated that agent-intensive credit programmes and institutional assistance have boosted the participation of women in self-employment and participation in microenterprise, especially that of first-generation businesses and those that do not belong to the marginalized segment of the population (Banerjee and Duflo, 2019; Ghosh, 2020).

At the same time, the high rate of spreading digital-based technologies has created new opportunities to businesses owned by women. The barriers connected with mobility, information asymmetry, and geographic isolation have decreased due to the e-commerce platforms, digital payment systems, fintech innovation, and social media marketing. Their involvement in self-help groups (SHGs) and digital groups has also helped women to share resources, access formal finance, and become a part of larger value chains (Suri & Jack, 2016; World Bank, 2020). This has seen a tremendous growth in the rural and semi-rural regions where historical market accessibility has always been limited.

However, significant difficulties still remain. Women are still influencing the results of entrepreneurship and firm growth pathways due to gender bias in credit markets, few collateralizable assets, care-giving responsibilities, and constraining social norms (Agarwal, 2018; OECD, 2021). The large number of women owned enterprises is mostly necessity based as opposed to opportunity based, at low productivity levels and informality.

It is in this background that the current research paper would be conducted to systematically analyze the trends of entrepreneurship by women in India. Particularly, it aims to examine growth tendency and distribution between sectors, revisit the factors and obstacles defining women entrepreneurship, evaluate the place of policy, money, and the digital ecosystem, and determine the essential gaps and research and policy intervention opportunities. This kind of analysis is necessary in the development of the framework of inclusive entrepreneurship that creates a translation of the participation of the women into the sustainable economic and social change.

II. Literature Review



Empirical research on female entrepreneurship in India is very numerous and interdisciplinary, touching upon such areas as economics, sociology, gender studies, management and development policy. The involvement in cottage, home-based and informal industries was viewed as a survival strategy; and this accounts for the reason why early scholarship mainly explored the issue of the involvement of women in the industry. Such studies have emphasized that women occupy marginal role in markets, less capital intensive and have to work extensively using house holds (Boserup, 1970; Mayoux, 2001). Gradually, the scope of research was extended to cover the role of women in micro, small-size and medium size businesses (MSMEs), startups and technology-based ventures due to the structural shift in the Indian economy and beginning of policy priorities (Ghosh, 2020; Minniti and Naudé, 2010).

Women Entrepreneurship Conceptualisation.

However, the nature of women's entrepreneurship is usually determined by a sequence of events in which women start, plan and operate businesses at risks and gains (OECD, 2017). Nevertheless, feministic and gendered scholarship criticizes gender-neutralized definitions of entrepreneurship suggesting that there is a strong link between women entrepreneurial decisions and performance within the context of social systems, family dynamics and institutions (Ahl and Nelson, 2015). In this sense, the entrepreneurship is not a personal choice in the selected economic realm, but rather a socially context-specific action that is framed by power dynamics, norms, and expectations.

The human capital theory focuses on education, skills, training, and the previous work experience as the primary factors of entrepreneurial entry and performance. The empirical research in India demonstrates that increased degrees of education and administrative exposure are positively related to greater chances of women entering the entrepreneurship based on opportunities (Sharma and Varma, 2021). Conversely, the institutional theory points out to the influence of formal rules (laws, credit systems, property rights) and informal institutions (norms, gender roles, networks) in facilitating or limiting the women entrepreneurs (North, 1990). The combination of weak owner rights to property, low inheritance, and gendered mobility and risk-taking norms in the Indian context create the entrepreneurial paths of women (Agarwal, 2018).

Trends and Growth Patterns

Based on government agencies like Economic Census and MSME Annual Reports, there is some evidence to suggest that the number of women-owned enterprises in India is increasing at a slow pace but unequally. Micro enterprises are the most susceptible place of businesses owned by women, and they are highly represented in services, trade, food processing, textiles, and the personal service sector (Government of India, 2016). The involvement in manufacturing is still relatively low in its nature and is characterized by the necessity to have a lot more capital and prove greater entry hurdles. According to the research based on Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) data, it is estimated that India has rather high rates of early-stage female entrepreneurship activity over many emerging markets, though high firm survival, growth, and innovation rates are low (GEM, 2022).

One of the themes present in the literature is regional disparities. The outliers were the southern and western state, i.e. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, included,



which are considered to perform better in women entrepreneurship than the northern and eastern states. Researchers explain this disparity by the differences in female literacy, financial inclusion, infrastructure, and the concentration of support institutions like self-help groups (SHGs) and business networks (Klasen and Pieters, 2015). These results support the fact that subnational institutional settings are significant contributors to entrepreneurial performance.

Access to Finance

One of the most researched challenges facing women entrepreneurship is access to finance. It has been empirically established that women have a greater loan rejection rate, lower loans and tougher collateral conditions than men (Ghosh and Vinod, 2017). Such inequalities have been associated with the fact that women have less assets to own, have fewer credit histories and bias in the formal financial institutions due to their gender. Policy efforts like, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, and Stand-Up India have considerably widened the credit outreach to women; however, research indicates that limiting progress in terms of credit has focused mainly on credit and risk-taking loans that enhance subsistence but not long-term developmental ventures (Banerjee and Duflo, 2019).

World experience along with Indian experience indicate that complementary interventions, including providing financial literacy, digital banking, and alternative credit assessment models, can more or less alleviate financing constraints (World Bank, 2020). The lending and SHG-bank relationships are proven to lower the transaction costs and information asymmetries especially among rural female entrepreneurs facilitated through fintech.

Policy and Institutional Support

The policy-based literature suggests the significance of integrated entrepreneurial ecosystems comprising of finance, skills developing, mentoring, access to technologies, and market connections. Regarding national programs, like Startup India and the Women Entrepreneurship Platform, the positive results indicate an increase in awareness, participation of women in training, and chances to find partners among women entrepreneurs (Niti Aayog, 2018). Nevertheless, data about long-term effects, e.g. firm growth, innovation and creation of employment, are conflicting.

According to academics, the central government and state governments have inadequate coordination and fragmentation in their implementation, which diminishes the effectiveness of policies (OECD, 2021). Furthermore, current studies suggest that more emphasis should be put on intersectionality, and women who are disadvantaged by caste, minority groups, and are based in rural regions experience double faced disadvantages, which are not sufficiently taken care of by generic approaches towards entrepreneurship (Kabeer, 2012).

Social and Cultural Constrains.

As sociological works, there is always an accent on the impact of patriarchal rules, family duties, and mobility in the experience of female entrepreneurs. Unpaid care and household business significantly contributes to the phenomenon known as time poverty that hinders the ability of women to grow businesses or do businesses in markets outside their local geographical areas (Ferrant et al., 2014). This risk-aversion and external



networking not encouraged by family expectations and social pressures is likely to reinforce the small scale of women-owned entrepreneurs.

The most recent literature has discussed how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted women entrepreneurs, discovering that women-owned businesses were unequally impacted by lockdowns, the demand, and those related to care (ILO, 2021). Simultaneously, the crisis increased the urges to go digital, and some researchers reported the growth of digital payment and e-commerce use by women entrepreneurs. This two-fold influence demonstrates the fragility and flexibility of women based businesses in dynamic economic environments.

Generally, the literature demonstrates that the entrepreneurship of the Indian women is affected by complicated interactions of their own abilities and the institutional frameworks, policy contexts, and sociocultural values and practices. As encouraging as the increase is, it is important to highlight that structural limitations continue to be in place, which reveals the implications of even more inclusive, coordinated, and gender-responsive entrepreneurship policies.

Table 2 Key Government Initiatives Supporting Women Entrepreneurship in India

Scheme / Initiative	Launch Year	Implementing Agency	Key Objective	Target Beneficiaries
Startup India	2016	DPIIT, Govt. of India	Promote innovation-driven startups through funding and incubation	Women-led startups
Stand-Up India	2016	Ministry of Finance	Provide bank loans for greenfield enterprises	SC/ST and women entrepreneurs
Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana	2015	Ministry of Finance	Collateral-free credit for micro enterprises	Women-owned micro units



Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP)	2018	NITI Aayog	Mentorship, networking, and ecosystem support	Aspiring and existing women entrepreneurs
Mahila Coir Yojana	2014	Ministry of MSME	Skill development and subsidized equipment	Rural women entrepreneurs

III. Methodology

The research design in this study is a qualitative-descriptive research design on the basis of a systematic secondary data analysis. The methodology adopted is suitable in integrating various strands of already existing evidence, find macro-level patterns, and form an integrative view of the trends of the entrepreneurship of women in India. Qualitative-descriptive designs are common to policy-based research in entrepreneurship where causal estimates are not of interest, but rather a contextual explanation, to compare and synthesize with other results using theories (Creswell and Poth, 2018). As the currently available data on women entrepreneurs in sectors and different areas can be considered as the broadest possible, secondary analysis will help to combine the information given by many official sources.

Data Sources

The study used a variety of national and international secondary data to gain breadth, credibility as well as triangulation. The primary sources of government-related information were reports and data on NITI Aayog, the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), and policy publications and statements of the Press Information Bureau (PIB). These sources gave official information about the ownership of enterprises, its distribution by sector, employment patterns and policy environment that surrounds women owned enterprises.

Besides that, the reports by international organizations were also employed to put the experience of India in the context of a comparative global experience, including the World Bank, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), UN Women, and the International Labour Organization (ILO) reports. These provided analytical insights into the gender disparity in entrepreneurship, finance accessibility, labor market, and care economies.

In addition, reports of Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) have also been employed to analyze the level of early-stage entrepreneurial activities, gender

discrepancy, and opportunity, capacity, and fear of failure perceptions. The official reports were supplemented by peer-reviewed journal articles and working papers listed in some of the established academic information sources, which included theoretical concepts and empirical evidence to investigate the determinants, barriers, and policy effectiveness regarding women entrepreneurship in India and similar economies (Minniti and Naudé, 2010; Ahl and Nelson, 2015).

Analytical Framework

The thematic analysis strategy was used, which is suited to a qualitative secondary research with rowdy data sources (Braun and Clarke, 2006). The results of the reviewed literature and reports were systematically arranged to around five analytical dimensions, which included: (i) growth trends and level of participation, (ii) the sectoral location of women-led businesses, (iii) access to financial, and credit arrangements, (iv) policy, institutional support systems, and (v) social, cultural, and structural constraints.

It was on the basis of this thematic arrangement that a conceptual model was generated to demonstrate how enabling variables, including education, finance, digital access, and policy support, and entrepreneurial performance, including enterprise entry and sustainability and growth are linked. Mediating constraints, i.e. unpaid work of care and gender norms, that influence the effectiveness of enabling interventions are also pointed out in this framework. The framework is therefore an interpretive instrument as opposed to a causation model, which is in line with the descriptive possibilities of the study (North, 1990; Kabeer, 2012).

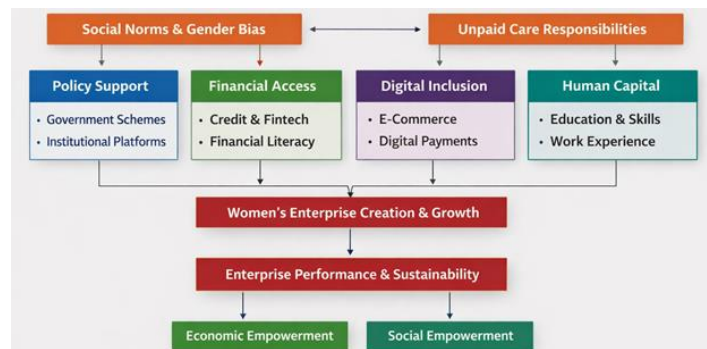


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework of Women Entrepreneurship in India

Limitations

Since the research is entirely a secondary one, the results are to some extent reliant upon the quality, coverage and comparability of available sources. The difference in definitions of women entrepreneurship, time frame, and sectoral divisions in datasets inhibit similar comparisons. Additionally, the absence of recent and disaggregated micro-data does not permit one to make a causal inference or to evaluate the heterogeneity across caste, class, and geographical boundaries. In spite of these shortcomings, methodology approach gives a sound policy-applicable synthesis of existing information on women entrepreneurship in India.

Results



Growth of Women-Owned Enterprises

In the process of analyzing the secondary data, it is possible to notice that the number of women-owned companies in India has been on a steady rise, especially after 2015. According to government statistics of subsequent rounds of Economic Censuses, as well as government reports on MSME, women have increased their involvement in entrepreneurial activity, both in absolute terms and as a proportion of the entire business, though with a rather low base (Government of India, 2016). This has been accompanied by the implementation of specific policies of entrepreneurship as well as financial inclusion and expansion of digital and financial infrastructure more generally.

Although there is a positive trend it is still the case that women entrepreneurship is highly skewed towards micro enterprises. Most women owned businesses have a few employees (less than five) and are not highly capitals intensive. They are mainly family-owned enterprises, and these businesses are mainly sole proprietorships, and with a high likelihood of operating in the informal sector. Available literature implies that although this type of business is very important in the processes of income smoothing at the household level, as well as offering employment opportunity locally, their effect on productivity growth and innovation is limited (Minniti and Naudé, 2010). The continuance of the micro-scale operations implies that entrance barriers have been lessened, yet structural limitations to the scale remain to influence the results of female entrepreneurs.

Table 1 Distribution of Women-Owned Enterprises by Sector in India

Sector	Share of Women-Owned Enterprises (%)
Trade	34.0
Manufacturing	29.0
Services	37.0
Total	100.0

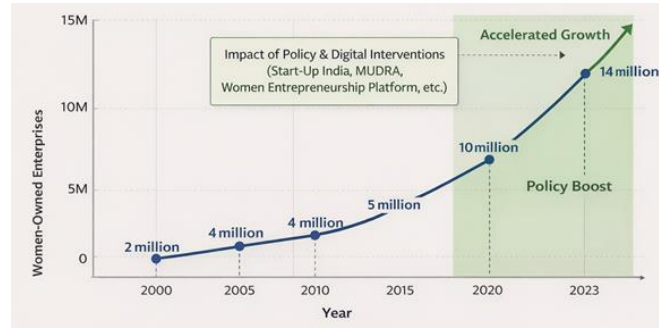


Figure 2. Growth Trend of Women-Owned Enterprises in India

Regional Patterns

The findings demonstrate that there exist strong regional differences in the distribution of female entrepreneurs in India. The states of the south and western India such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Karnataka are continually recording higher proportions of women-owned enterprises than the northern and eastern states. This trend is consistent with the previous empirical literature and with regional variations in the rate of female literacy, access to financial resources and education, urbanization, and institutional access (Klasen and Pieters, 2015).

The density and efficacy of self-help groups (SHGs) and women collectives have been cited as one of the explanatory factors in the literature, and specifically, in southern India, these groups are transpiring well. SHGs have helped women to access credit, skills training, and networks between women to empower them to leave subsistence operations behind and embark on more enduring entrepreneurial endeavors (World Bank, 2020). Conversely, in the regions characterized by weaker institutional ecology and lower the rate of involvement in the workforce participation by the female labor force, the effect on women entrepreneurship is slower.

The interest in the policy at the state level seems to be relevant as well. States providing local programs in addition to national initiatives (which they tend to have by means of such agencies as NITI Aayog and state MSME departments) tended to show more positive results. These insights highlight the fact that the entrepreneurship of women in India is more aligned to the national policy frameworks but also to the sub-national institutional actabilities and the socio-economic set-ups.

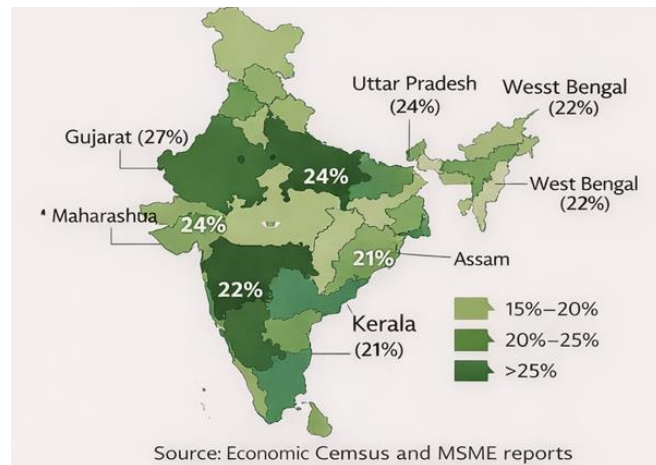


Figure 3. Regional Distribution of Women Entrepreneurs in India

Role of Digital Platforms

Online technologies can be seen as a powerful facilitating factor in the recent development of women-owned businesses. The growth of the digital payment systems, e-commerce market, and the social media marketing has lowered the traditional barriers in terms of mobility, access to the market, and information asymmetry. Policy reports and studies carried out through surveys suggest that women businesspeople are gradually adopting online tools to access larger audiences outside local markets, process transactions, and create a brand presence at comparatively low expenses (OECD, 2021).

E-commerce and social commerce platforms have proven to be quite transformative to the home-based and small scale woman entrepreneurs in that they were able to skip the intermediaries and communicate directly to the consumer. Digital payments also improve transparency and creditworthiness, which means that it is easier to access formal finance and government support schemes. According to the reports of Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM), business women, using digital technology, are more likely to express confidence in the continuity of business and growth of the market despite working on micro levels (GEM, 2022).

The results however also reveal unequal digital adoption which is influenced by digital literacy differences, device access and connectivity to the internet. Females in rural areas and disadvantaged socio-economic groups will continue to lack the capacity to maximize the digital platforms, which indicates the importance of having complementary investments in digital capacity and infrastructure. In general, the results indicate that there is an increasing number of women-owned business in India, yet, their viability and expansion are more dependent on the existence of regional ecosystems and digital connectivity.

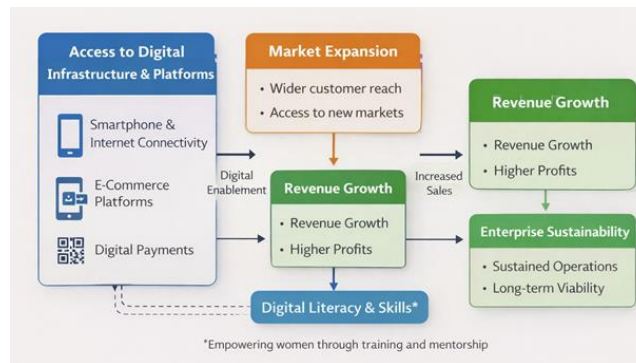


Figure 4. Pathways of Digital Enablement for Women Entrepreneurs

Discussion

The results of this analysis show that entrepreneurship of India women is a condition of intricate policy efforts, market forces and entrenched socio-cultural restrictions. In line with the previous studies, increases in the financial inclusion systems and digital technologies have reduced the entry costs of women and consequently women can become more involved in the entrepreneurial activity (Ahl and Nelson, 2015; World Bank, 2020). Nevertheless, structural inequalities tend to persist, which implies that more extensive involvement has not been consistent in terms of growth in enterprise, innovation, and sustainability in the long term.

Among the most prominent trends that the generated results reveal is the prevalence of micro enterprises in the category of women-owned business. Although the increase in micro entrepreneurship is an indication of the better access to credit, training, and digitalization, it also indicates how many entrepreneurships are driven by necessity. Thousands of women persist in entrepreneurship because of the low formal work places, instead of remaining strategic decision-makers who can employ innovation or scale-based-venture (Minniti and Naudé, 2010). This trend supports fears expressed in the literature about women business people being overly clustered in low productivity industries that do not offer opportunities of growth (Kabeer, 2012).

Special policies like Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Stand-Up India and ecosystem activities under Startup India have been widely used in enhancing women to enter entrepreneurship. However, the results corroborate the current criticism according to which such schemes are more appropriate to stimulate the creation of businesses than the scaling of businesses and innovation (Banerjee and Duflo, 2019). The inadequate access to a greater amount of growth capital, risk capital, sophisticated mentoring, and market connections restricts the transition of women between micro entrepreneurships and small and medium sized enterprises. This implies the policy gap between low-level support and development-level support.

These limitations can also be further illuminated using comparative evidence on international experience. Research in the OECD economies focuses on structuring entrepreneurial environments, where finance, skills development, childcare facilities, and gender-appropriate institutionalization are brought together (OECD, 2021). Conversely, the Indian policy frameworks have been pathetic since there has been poor



interdependence between the policies of entrepreneurship promotion, social protection, and care. Lack of affordable childcare and unequal allocation of unpaid care work still define women by time limitations and mobility, as well as the ability to take risks, which further increases the gaps of gender performance in enterprises (Ferrant et al., 2014).

Another valuable implication of the findings, which is also significant, is the need to apply an intersectional lens when examining the field of women entrepreneurship. The general gains conceal major inequalities on caste, classes, geographical regions and rural-urban lines. The compounded barriers which may be encountered by women belonging to the marginalized groups of society are weaker ownership of assets, low digital literacy, and lesser access to institutional networks. Current policy measures are more than likely to treat women as entrepreneurs in the same way, inadequately taking into consideration these compounding inequalities (Agarwal, 2018). This has led to uneven distribution of benefits and advantages to women who are relatively better off in the urban and semi-urban settings.

All in all, it can be concluded that in spite of India recording significant gains in making women more active in the entrepreneurship, there is still structural change that is scarce. Meaningful empowerment requires both financial inclusion and digitalization, which are not sufficient conditions to achieve empowerment. The future policy should be on the basis of shifts beyond entry-based interventions to holistic, gender-responsive ecosystems leading to enterprise growth, innovation and resilience. Targeting the problem of unpaid care loads, gender-specific financial products development, and the adaptation of interventions to various socio-economic settings is important to transforming the issue of women entrepreneurship to long-term economic and social benefits.

Table 3 Major Barriers Faced by Women Entrepreneurs in India

Category	Specific Barriers	Evidence from Literature
Financial	Limited access to credit, lack of collateral, gender bias in lending	World Bank (2017); OECD (2015)
Social	Patriarchal norms, mobility restrictions, unpaid care work	UN Women (2021); ILO (2006)
Institutional	Limited awareness of schemes, bureaucratic hurdles	NITI Aayog (2023)

Market-related	Limited market access, weak networks, digital divide	GEM (2023); IFMR LEAD (2021)
Skill-related	Gaps in financial literacy, digital and managerial skills	OECD (2025)

IV. Conclusion

The entrepreneurship of women in India has seen significant improvement over the last decade which is facilitated by a growing policy base, the growth of financial inclusion, and a fast-paced digitalization process. The efforts of government programs and ecosystem development have helped in raising the level of entrepreneurship among the female population especially in the micro and home based businesses. The rise in allowing digital payment and e-commerce as well as social media marketing has also made women to rise beyond traditional barriers associated with mobility, information asymmetry, and market access (World Bank, 2020; OECD, 2021). These trends raise the prospects of women-owned business in promoting inclusive growth and development, creating job opportunities, and resiliency of the community.

Although these gains are made, the results of this paper indicate that the women entrepreneurship ecosystem in India is lopsided and structural in nature. Gender norms are ingrained, inequalities of access to productive resources and imbalanced work overload of unpaid care remain and affect the results of entrepreneurship. Consequently, most of the business women are still found in low-growth, informal, and necessity-based businesses. This trend restricts the wider economic implications of female entrepreneurship and supports gender inequalities in earning, performance, and business survival (Kabeer, 2012; Agarwal, 2018).

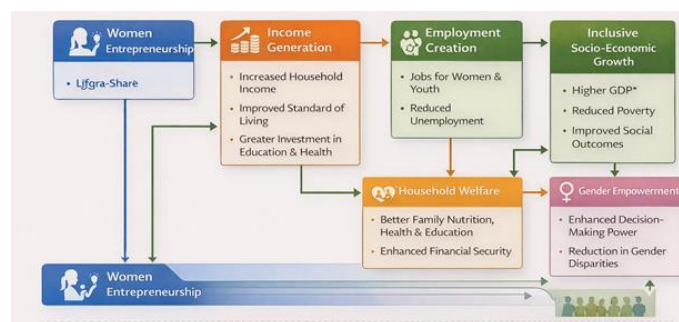


Figure 5. Impact Pathway of Women Entrepreneurship on Socio-Economic Development

The analysis indicates that policy interventions that have been implemented have been more effective in enhancing access leads to provision of credit among other factors as



well as training rather than enabling future scaling of enterprises, innovation as well as, resilience in the long-term. Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana and Startup India are programs that have helped increase the reach but have not been complemented with support at growth stage like patient capital, high level mentoring, upgrading of technology and integration in the market. It has been shown internationally that most the benefits of integrated ecosystems, which incorporate entrepreneurship promotion with social infrastructure, such as childcare services and gender-sensitive financial products, apply to women entrepreneurs (OECD, 2021; Minniti and Naudé, 2010).

Empowering women entrepreneurship in India thus aims at replacing the access-based-centered intervention strategies with gender responsive support systems. Policy frameworks need to manage structural limitations by acknowledging the unpaid care work, encouraging ownership of assets as well as customized financial instruments to the risk profile and growth ambitions of women. In addition, intersectional approach is needed so that the policies reach the women not only with marginalized castes and rural, but also those with economically disadvantaged backgrounds as the problems they face in entrepreneurship are significantly different than those faced by urban and educated women.

The next generation of the research ought to be guided by the current study through the application of longitudinal research designs and mixed-method to enhance the evaluation of the long-term effects of entrepreneurship policies and digital interventions. Case studies, region-specific analysis, and panel data would allow a better insight into the enterprise behaviors in terms of trajectories, survival, and scale. The detection of best practices in states and sectors would improve the policy making more inclusive and effective, and women entrepreneurship would be a sustainable force of economic and social change in India.

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