Examining Some Legal-Governmental Barriers Affecting Rural Women's Entrepreneurship (A Case Study, Ilam, Iran)

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ABSTRACT

In many developing countries including Iran, the presence of women in the labor market has not been increased with regard to their education level. Similarly, there are plenty of obstacles hindering women economic activities outside their homes. The main objective of this study was to analyze some Legal-Governmental barriers of rural women entrepreneurship in Ilam province. The research was of an applied study type and due to the lack of control variables, it was considered as a semi-empirical and a casual–relative kind of research. The population of study consisted of all entrepreneur women located at various rural areas of Ilam. A proportional stratified random sampling method was applied for study. The sample size was chosen up to 310 numbers of the target group to be able to use Cochrane formula. The main tool of the research was a questionnaire developed in three main sections. The analysis and data processing were performed in two steps. The descriptive statistics (central and dispersion parameters) and analysis (Spearman correlation coefficient) were used. The results of this study showed that government intervention in pricing, obstacles in the political and economic relations with other countries, lack of coordination between agencies and organizations involved in entrepreneurship, Lack of encouragement of Entrepreneurs by the government, Lack of appropriate programs of entrepreneurship by the government, paying direct and indirect of governmental subsidies to the producers and existence of some obstacles to the import and export of products were the main Legal-Governmental barriers affecting rural women's entrepreneurship. Correlation analysis between variables indicated that there is a significant relationship between Legal-Governmental variables with the rural women's entrepreneurship.

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INTRODUCTION

The women's creativeness, innovativeness as well as inventiveness, in global arena, have been the source of great developments in industrial, manufacturing and services sectors. Their role is explained as the engine of economic development, national heroes and industrial development, stimulating and encouraging the investment, job creation factor, the main options and the technology transfer agent and removing of bottlenecks from fractured market. [1]. In many developing countries including Iran, the presence of women has not been increased in the labor market, according to their education level. In addition to that, there are many obstacles in the way of women when engaged in economic activities outside the home. The Iranian nation is currently encountering a massive unemployment wave. If this trend continues, the increasing numbers of unemployed educated women will exacerbate unemployment crisis. The existing data also confirm this trend. So, the unemployment has reached college women and girls from 39 percent in 1998 to 54 percent in 2003 and 62.5 percent in 2007. [6].

On the other hand, the women and girls efforts to engage in college education have increased in the recent years. More than 65 percent of university entrance applications are made and submitted by girls and women. However, rising numbers of unemployed educated women lead to increased dissatisfaction to this group of society. [12]. The experiences of different developed and developing countries show that entrepreneurship is the best strategy to combat the unemployment phenomenon. The economic development is one of the cheapest, best and most efficient tools to solve this problem. The fact is that the government has been facing with various
problems in providing jobs to jobless persons especially after the 3rd Plan. A lot of research has been carried out in the field of entrepreneurship in Iran and other countries that mention some efforts made by them.

[4] The barriers to girls entrepreneurship classification structure has two dimensions (barriers to social, cultural and economic) and non-structural (personality characteristics and physiology of women. also has also identified three factors categories in this area: individual, organizational and environmental categories. (Elyasi, 2009) has also detected in seven barriers that are effective on women’s entrepreneurship:

- important role of women in the family
- having negative thoughts about the role of women in business
- Relatively low educational levels than man, due to limited access to job training opportunities
- Limited opportunities to develop skills in public sector
- inadequate access of women entrepreneurs to information technology support services
- Less accessible to women than men due to weak credit issues credit guarantees and low values
- Negative attitude regarding the set back of women entrepreneurs by forming low loan operators.

[5] has considered the most important entrepreneurship barriers in his study, included: Labor Law, high rates of insurance, taxes and legal duties, import and export laws, banking and monetary regulations, economic insecurity and investment, government intervention in all economic affairs of the country, foreign relations of severe bureaucracy with other countries. In this research [13] the familial obstacles, inefficiencies and training systems, coordination role expectations, beliefs, stereotypes and prevailing relations of labor organizations were diagnosed as the most important barriers to Iranian women's entrepreneurship. In this research [7] the barriers affecting women's entrepreneurship are classified in seven categories called family, academic or educational, cultural, personality, financial, cultural - social and legal barriers. Study results [14] on 29 female entrepreneurs of United States, show that 34% of them have problem in attracting the investment and financial management. In a study carried out by [10], the most important barriers to women entrepreneurship included these points: failure fear, lack of courage, lack of support, moral support and lack of suitable model. [15] described that the barriers to women's entrepreneurship are classified into four formats of physical, financial, social and human capitals. [9,11] in the UK, have considered the most important barriers to students and students in entrepreneurial activities include lack of financial resources, lack of stress tolerance, inability to work hard and difficult time commitment for them. Based on the model presented by [8] the external environment structure, internal environment and the strategy chosen by the entrepreneur can influence on a business entrepreneur as a catalyst or prevent them.

Basic question of present research is what are the most significant barriers to new businesses and the Human rights of Women entrepreneurship in Ilam Province?

The most important specific objectives of this study include:

1. Investigating the relationship between Legal-Governmental variables and Women entrepreneurship.
2. Prioritize the most important obstacles of rural women's entrepreneurship in terms of Legal-Governmental barriers

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The type of research is an applied and semi empirical type of research due to the lack of control variables. The research methodology is casual –relative type of methodology. The study population of this study was women entrepreneur in Ilam province. 120 of them were selected through stratified random sampling. The questionnaire was the main tools for information collection. The Cronbach's alpha (α =. 95) has been used to determine the reliability of the questionnaire. The Validity of the questionnaire was confirmed the surveys related experts to the subject. Analysis and data processing was performed at two levels of descriptive statistics (central and dispersion parameters) and analysis (Spearman correlation coefficient, factor analysis and multiple regression analysis, stepwise method). The data processing is accomplished in the environment of spss software.

Finding and Discussion:
Prioritizing the Legal - governmental barriers affecting rural women's entrepreneurship:

In the field of Prioritizing the Legal - governmental barriers affecting rural women's entrepreneurship, According to the table (1) is considered that government intervention in pricing is located in the first Priority. obstacles in the political and economic relations with other countries, Lack of coordination between agencies and organizations involved in entrepreneurship, Lack of encouragement of Entrepreneurs by the government, Lack of appropriate programs of entrepreneurship by the government, paying direct and indirect of governmental subsidies to the producers and existence of some obstacles to the import and export of products are located in the second to nine priority.
Table 1: Prioritizing the Legal - governmental barriers affecting rural women's entrepreneurship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legal- Governmental Barriers</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard deviation</th>
<th>Coefficient of variation</th>
<th>rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>government intervention in pricing</td>
<td>3.24</td>
<td>1.21</td>
<td>.37</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of encouragement of Entrepreneurs by the government</td>
<td>3.26</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>.39</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of appropriate programs of entrepreneurship by the government</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>1.33</td>
<td>.41</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of coordination between agencies and organizations involved in</td>
<td>2.94</td>
<td>1.21</td>
<td>.41</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>entrepreneurship</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>existence of some obstacles to the import and export of products</td>
<td>3.13</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>.41</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paying direct and indirect of governmental subsidies to the producers</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>1.24</td>
<td>.44</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>obstacles in the political and economic relations with other countries</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>1.32</td>
<td>.48</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2. Correlation studies:
In the present study, the Spearman correlation coefficient was used for assessing the relationship between the research variables in accordance with the employed scales (Table 2).

Table 2: Relationship between the research variables (Spearman correlation coefficient)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>p</th>
<th>ρ</th>
<th>Second variable</th>
<th>First variable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0/000</td>
<td>*.77</td>
<td>rural women's entrepreneurship</td>
<td>Legal-Governmental barriers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Correlation analysis between variables indicated that there is a significant relationship between legal - governmental variables with the rural women's entrepreneurship.

Conclusion:
Correlation analysis between variables indicated that there is a significant relationship between legal - governmental variables with the rural women's entrepreneurship. The result of present study confirm studies: [4,3,7,14,9]. In this research to assess the collective role of independent variables on the dependent variable is used multiple regression method of stepwise. Multivariate regression analysis in 8 step showed that variables such as financial, socio - cultural, marketing, personality, scientific - educational, governmental - and family law should have been able to explain 99 percent of the variance in entrepreneurship women entrepreneur.

REFERENCES