

## Project Guidelines

Points to be kept in mind while preparing the Economics Project for Grade - 12

1. Always try to choose the interesting Economics project topics
2. Always keep your project short and precise. Add topics only related to your project topic.
3. Try to Add Diagrammatic/Graphic Presentation. Add Diagrams, Pie-Charts, Bar Charts, and Graphs (If Possible)
4. If you have any doubts ask with your project guide for project guidelines
5. Submit your project report on time.

Important points that should be included in the project.

1. Title of the project
2. Problem being discussed in the project
3. The main reason for selecting this project topic
4. Literature Review
5. The objective of the project
6. Scope of the project
7. Limitations of the project
8. Working methodology of project
9. Acknowledgement
10. Preface
11. Contents of the project
12. Observations and findings
13. Conclusion
14. References (reference books, journals, magazines, websites, etc.)

Steps to be kept in mind while writing the project

1. Identifying the Project Statement
2. Setting the Project Objective and Scope of the Project
3. Defining the Project Tasks and Responsibilities (Creating the Work Flow Structure)
4. Monitoring the Project and Finding the Important Resources Required

# **Economics Project - Class 12**

## **(Name of the Project)**

Submitted by:

Name:

Roll no:

School Name:

## **Acknowledgement**

I would like to convey my sincere thanks to ..... (Teachers name), my Economics teacher who always gave me valuable suggestions and guidance during the project. She/he has a source of inspiration and helped me understand and remember important details of the project. She/he gave me an amazing opportunity to do this wonderful project '(name of the project)'.

I also thank my parents and friends for their help and support in finalizing this project within the limited time frame.

..... (Name of the student)

# Certificate

This is to certify that ..... (Name of the student) of class 12 has successfully completed the Economics Project on ..... (Name of the project) as per the guidelines of class 12 Board examination conducted by CBSE.

Teacher's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

An Example is given below the topic being discussed here is  
"Self Help Group"

## List of Content

S. No.	Topic	Page No.
1	Meaning of Self Help Groups	X
2	Explanation of Self Help Groups	X
3	Evolution of Self Help Groups In India	X
4	The emergence of Self Help Groups – Origin and Development in India	X
5	Functions of Self Help Group	X
6	Need for Self Help Group	X
7	Advantages of Self Help Groups	X
8	Problems faced by Self Help Groups	X
9	Self Help Groups in India	X
10	Bibliography	X

## Meaning of Self Help Groups

SHG is a holistic programme of micro-enterprises covering all aspects of self-employment, organization of the rural poor into self help groups and their capacity building, planning of activity clusters, infrastructure build up, technology, credit and marketing.

It lays emphasis on activity clusters based on the resources and the occupational skills of the people and availability of markets.



## Explanation of Self Help Groups

Self-Help Group refers to a self-governed, peer controlled, informal group of people with the same socio-economic background and having a desire to collectively perform common purposes. Here poor people voluntarily come together to save whatever amount they can save conveniently out of their earnings, to mutually agree to contribute to a common fund and to lend to the members for meeting their productive and emergent needs.

SHGs have been able to mobilize small savings either on a weekly or monthly basis from persons who were not expected to have any savings. They have been able to effectively recycle the resources generated among the members for meeting the emergent credit needs of members of the group.

SHG is a group formed by the community of women, which has a specific number of members like 15 or 20. In such a group the poorest women would come together for emergency, disaster, social reasons, economic support to each other, have ease of conversation, social interaction and economic interaction.

A SHG is an informal association to enhance the member's financial security as primary focus and other common interest of members such as area development, awareness, motivation, leadership, training and associating in other social inter-mediation programmes for the benefit of the entire community.

## Evolution of Self Help Groups In India

Every Self-help group usually goes through 3 stages of evolution stated below:

1. Formation of group
2. Funding or Formation of Capital
3. Development of required skills to boost income generation for the group

Many self-help groups are formed with the assistance of Self- help to promote agencies.

The various types of Self-help promoting agencies are stated below:

1. Non-governmental agencies
2. Government
3. Poverty management programmes
4. State & commercial banks
5. Microfinance institutions
6. SHG Federations
7. SHG leaders/Entrepreneurs

## The emergence of Self Help Groups – Origin and Development in India

1. The origin of SHGs in India can be traced back to the establishment of the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in 1972.
2. Even before, there were small efforts at self-organising. For example, in 1954, the Textile Labour Association (TLA) of Ahmedabad formed its women's wing in order to train the women belonging to families of mill workers in skills such as sewing, knitting, etc.
3. Ela Bhatt, who formed SEWA, organised poor and self-employed women workers such as weavers, potters, hawkers, and others in the unorganised sector, with the objective of enhancing their incomes.
4. NABARD, in 1992, formed the SHG Bank Linkage Project, which is today the world's largest microfinance project.
5. From 1993 onwards, NABARD, along with the Reserve Bank of India, allowed SHGs to open savings bank accounts in banks.
6. The Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana was introduced in 1999 by GOI with the intention of promoting self-employment in rural areas through formation and skilling of such groups. This evolved into the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) in 2011.

### Functions of Self Help Groups

1. They try to build the functional capacity of poor and marginalised sections of society in the domain of employment and income-generating activities.
2. They offer collateral-free loans to sections of people that generally find it hard to get loans from banks.
3. They also resolve conflicts via mutual discussions and collective leadership.
4. They are an important source of microfinance services to the poor.
5. They act as a go-through for formal banking services to reach the poor, especially in rural areas.
6. They also encourage the habit of saving among the poor.



## SHGs Fighting COVID-19 Pandemic



Over **10000** kitchens  
setup to feed the poor



**Delivering food** to  
the bed ridden and quarantined



**Helping administrations**  
identify pockets of hunger

## Need for Self Help Groups

1. One of the chief reasons for rural poverty is the lack of access or limited access to credit and financial services.
2. The Rangarajan Committee Report highlighted four major reasons for lack of financial inclusion in India. They are:
  - a. Inability to give collateral security
  - b. Weak credit absorption capacity
  - c. The insufficient reach of institutions
  - d. Weak community network
3. It is being recognised that one of the most important elements of credit linkage in rural areas is the prevalence of sound community networks in Indian villages.
4. SHGs play a vital role in giving credit access to the poor and this is extremely crucial in poverty alleviation.
5. They also play a great role in empowering women because SHGs help women from economically weaker sections build social capital.
6. Financial independence through self-employment opportunities also helps improve other development factors such as literacy levels, improved healthcare and better family planning.

## Advantages of Self Help Groups

1. Financial Inclusion – SHGs incentivise banks to lend to poor and marginalised sections of society because of the assurance of returns.
2. Voice to marginalised – SHGs have given a voice to the otherwise underrepresented and voiceless sections of society.

3. Social Integrity – SHGs help eradicate many social ills such as dowry, alcoholism, early marriage, etc.
4. Gender Equality – By empowering women SHGs help steer the nation towards true gender equality.
5. Pressure Groups – SHGs act as pressure groups through which pressure can be mounted on the government to act on important issues.
6. Enhancing the efficiency of government schemes – SHGs help implement and improve the efficiency of government schemes. They also help reduce corruption through social audits.
7. Alternate source of livelihood/employment – SHGs help people earn their livelihood by providing vocational training, and also help improve their existing source of livelihood by offering tools, etc. They also help ease the dependency on agriculture.
8. Impact on healthcare and housing – Financial inclusion due to SHGs has led to better family planning, reduced rates of child mortality, enhanced maternal health and also helped people fight diseases better by way of better nutrition, healthcare facilities and housing.
9. Banking literacy – SHGs encourage people to save and promote banking literacy among the rural segment.

### **Problems of Self Help Groups (SHGs)**

1. Need for extending this idea into the poorest families, which is not necessarily the case at present.
2. Patriarchal mindset prevailing which prevents many women from coming forward.
3. There are about 1.2 lakh branches of banks in rural areas as opposed to 6 lakh villages in the country. There is a need to expand banking amenities further.
4. Sustainability and the quality of operations of such groups have been questionable.
5. There is a need for monitoring cells to be established for SHGs across the country.
6. The SHGs work on mutual trust. The deposits are not safe or secure.





## Self Help Groups in India

### 1. Kudumbashree in Kerala

The Kudumbashree project was started in Kerala in 1999, as a community action to eradicate poverty. It has become the largest women-empowering project in India. There are 3 components namely, microcredit, entrepreneurship and empowerment. Kudumbashree is a government agency.



## 2. Mahila Aarthik Vikas Mahamandal (MAVIM) in Maharashtra

SHGs in Maharashtra were unable to cope with the growing volume and financial transactions and needed professional help. Community managed resource centre (CMRC) under MAVIM was launched to provide financial and livelihood services to SHGs. CMRC is self-sustaining and provides need-based services.

## Bibliography

Government and other websites  
Online links  
News paper, magazines.