

Reading Minorities in India

Forms and Perspectives

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Muslim Women Entrepreneurs

*Towards the Changing Pattern of Knowledge, Attitude,
and Practice in Usage of Health Services in Rural Nadia
West Bengal*

Sharmistha Bhattacharjee

Introduction

Women entrepreneurs in the Muslim community add to the development of the economic welfare of countries. There are few studies elaborating their contribution to the economy of the country. A noted study of Turkish women entrepreneurs attempted to recognise both their personal problems and their managerial skills (Welsh et al., 2016). Scholars note that across the globe women entrepreneurs face difficulties in establishing rapport to continue in business in various gender- and culture-specific and male-dominated contexts. This is due to various challenges faced in the social and structural system which change the patterns of women's awareness, attitude, and practice in availing health services. The need for movement towards adopting a tele-medical method instead of conventional indigenous methods has paved the way for women to change their life even when they do not own or have access to a mobile phone especially in the rural regions of the country. Scholars opine that with gender prejudice prevailing everywhere conventional values triumph in the usage of health services. Women especially are restricted from using health services if it is not culturally acceptable and violates cultural or religious sentiments (Chiang et al., 2013). They further argue that often traditional communities facing health issues and thus need health care are disinclined to avail health care, especially restricting women within their community, if the health services and in the manner in which they are