CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Water is a basic need of life. Yet, about 80.0 per cent of people inhabiting the rural regions of the developing world in general and India in particular have no access to safe drinking water. The non-availability of safe drinking water has a direct bearing on the level of health of the people and their capacity for doing work. With ever-increasing population throughout the world, existing sources of drinking water have become extremely inadequate. There has been a growing awareness all over the world in regard to the importance of augmenting the supplies of wholesome drinking water for the people.

The present study entitled, 'Impact of Safe Drinking Water Supply in Rural Haryana—A Sociological Study' was carried out in 1969-90 with the following objectives.

(i) To study the availability of drinking water facility.
(ii) To find the pattern of water use in household and underlying social factor.
(iii) To study the effect of water on their health and hygiene.

For this study, two villages were selected purposively, one having tap water facility for more than one year and other without tap water facility. The villages thus selected were Dabra and Mirka which are situated in Hisar district. From each village 50 respondents were randomly selected. One women from each household was interviewed personally. The data thus collected was transferred on master tables from which frequency tables were prepared.
for drawing inferences on various aspects of the problem.

The analysis of socio-economic and personal profile indicates that in Mirka village majority of the respondents (64.0%) were in the age group of above 30 years whereas in Dabra village majority were from below 30 years of age (54.0%). Majority of the respondents in both the villages were illiterate, i.e. 60.0 per cent in Mirka and 56.0 per cent in Dabra. But literacy rate was still found higher as compared to the Haryana state with 22.3 per cent.

A larger proportion of the respondents in Mirka village were having mixed type of houses (44.00%) while in Dabra village majority were having pucca houses (42.00%). More than two-third of the respondents (80.0%) in Mirka village were from joint family where as 66.0 per cent were having joint family in Dabra village. Along with the type, the size of family was also analysed and the conclusion was that 72.0 per cent of Mirka and 54.0 per cent of Dabra respondents had 5-10 members with in their family.

The analysis of social variable of the respondents indicates that Majority of respondents in Dabra village belonged to higher caste (64.0%) whereas in Mirka village 36.0 per cent of respondents were from lower caste and 32.0 per cent each from middle and higher caste. Majority of respondents in both the villages were married (96.0%).

It was found that farming was the main occupation of majority of respondent's family in Dabra village (46.0%) whereas it was agricultural labour in Mirka village (54.0%). 84.0 per cent of the Mirka respondents and 52.0 per cent of Dabra respondents do not have their own land. So the economic status was better in Dabra then in Mirka village. In Mirka 54.0 per cent of respondents had their annual income upto Rs. 5000 whereas in Dabra it was only 30.0 per cent. 36.0 per cent of the respondents in Dabra
had income above Rs. 15,000 where as it was only 12.0 per cent in Mirka village.

There was no major difference in number of milch animals in both the villages. 42.0 per cent of Mirka and 44.0 per cent Dabra respondents had no milch animals while 40.0 per cent of Mirka and 34.0 per cent of Dabra respondents had one to two milch animals. 58.0 per cent of Mirka and 50.0 per cent of Dabra respondents had no drought animals.

In the present study, the sources of drinking water was mainly well (88.0%) in Mirka village while it was Handpump (56.0%) in Dabra village. The sources of water were same in both the seasons i.e. summer and winter. In Dabra 24.0 per cent of the respondents use tap water for drinking purposes. It was due to the taste which had not yet developed for tap water by other respondents. 12.0 per cent of Mirka and 72.0 per cent of Dabra respondents cover less than 4 km. to fetch water. It was due to the fact that Mirka respondents go to well to fetch water while in Dabra the source was with in their home or in the lane.

Amount of water brought daily is more in summer than in winter season. Also the amount of water brought in Dabra is more from that brought in Mirka. In summer season 14.0 per cent of Mirka and 40.0 per cent of Dabra respondents brought upto 10 pots of water daily. Above 20 pots of water was brought by 12.0 per cent of Mirka and 32.0 per cent of Dabra respondents, which is decreased in winter season in Dabra upto 18.0 per cent.

Furthermore regarding the method of cleaning utensils, it was observed that 44.0 per cent of respondents in Mirka used mud and water to clean utensils followed by ash (34.0%) and ash and water (22.0%). In Dabra village 82.0 per cent of the respondents used ash and water to clean utensils followed by ash (10.0%) and mud and water (8.0%).
Frequency of taking bath in summer was more than in winter. In summer season in Mirka village 60.0 per cent of respondents take bath daily which was 70.0 per cent in Dabra. In winter season it is decreased to 4.0 per cent in Mirka and 10.0 per cent in Dabra village. In Mirka village in 84.0 per cent households latrine were not applicable which was 76.0 per cent in Dabra village. They go to fields for defecation mainly because of disliking for sanitary latrines.

Regarding the reuse of water after rinsing clothes it was found that only in Mirka village 24.0 per cent of respondents reuse water mainly for making dung cake purposes. In both the villages topic of talking done on place of fetching water is social i.e. 100.0 per cent in Mirka and 90.0 per cent in Dabra. 48.0 per cent of Mirka and 12.0 per cent of Dabra respondents always specially dress up to bring water. Specially dressing up is done for show off i.e. 16.0 per cent each in both villages. Mainly daughter-in-law specially dress up to fetch water i.e. 40.0 per cent in Mirka and 38.0 per cent in Dabra village.

Above three-fourth of the respondents (76.0%) in Dabra village wanted to fetch water herself which was 62.0 per cent in Mirka village, mainly to talk with the people and to know about the village. Respondents who were not interested to fetch water was mainly due to over work i.e. 28.0 per cent in Mirka and 12.0 per cent in Dabra.

It was noticed that 90.0 per cent of Mirka and 100.0 per cent of Dabra respondents perceived contaminated water as disease carrier. 8.0 per cent of Mirka and 18.0 per cent of Dabra respondents know that contaminated water can be made safe. They mainly used filtrari to make water safe. It was also seen that 84.0 per cent of Mirka and 96.0 per cent of Dabra respondents:
drain waste water outside there home. The way of drainage was kaccha nali by 70.0 per cent of Mirka and 52.0 per cent of Dabra respondents. Only 12.0 per cent of Mirka and 26.0 per cent of Dabra respondents knew contamination through foul smell while 6.0 per cent of Mirka and 10.0 per cent of Dabra respondents recognized it by bad taste. Rest 82.0 per cent of Mirka and 64.0 per cent of Dabra respondents gave no response.

It was seen that 44.0 per cent of Mirka and 74.0 per cent of Dabra respondents wash hands before and after taking meals while 66.0 per cent of Mirka and 86.0 per cent of Dabra respondents keep their water covered. 4.0 per cent of Mirka and 10.0 per cent of Dabra respondents spray on collected water near their houses.

Information regarding spray on water showed that mainly all the respondents use smoke to prevent mosquitoes. Place of disposal of house refuse was outside the home of 86.0 per cent of Mirka and 74.0 per cent of Dabra respondents.

Changes perceived by the respondents with the arrival of safe drinking water supply were that the road gets spoiled (86.0%), more cleanliness of family members (92.0%), more cleanliness of house (64.0%), disturbed social group (84.0%), quarrel for taking water (74.0%), groupings (72.0%), less interaction (16.0%), water collected near tap (92.0%) and the save of time (100.0%). Saved time was used in religious activities (4.0%), income generating activities (8.0%) and ideally sitting and taking (88.0%).

Majority of respondents in both the villages think the responsibility of government to spray medicine in well i.e. 64.0 per cent in Mirka and 68.0 per cent in Dabra village.
The association between the independent variables (age, education, caste occupation and income) and sources of drinking water were also examined. It was found that higher income group people which were mainly from higher caste and had main occupation as farming had handpump within their houses. So the main sources of these people was handpump water. Tap water was mainly used by lower caste and lower income group people which were mainly agricultural labourers.

Association between income and type of latrine was also ascertained. In lower income groups latrines was not applicable. Higher income group respondents had Kaccha and flush latrines. So income had direct effect on type of latrines.

The association of caste and method of cleaning utensils revealed that higher caste people used only ash or ash with water to clean utensils, where as lower caste people mainly used mud and water to clean utensils.

The association of size of family and number of pots brought daily reveals that in summer season amount of water brought daily was more than in winter season. Also due to safe drinking water supply in Dabra village the amount of water brought daily in Dabra village was more than in Mirka village. The association points out direct relationship between amount of water brought daily and size of family because as the size of family increases, amount of water brought daily also increases.
CONCLUSION

In the last it is concluded that in Dabra village where there is tap water facility, the wastage of water is more as the tap keeps on running all the time when water is supplied. Though the personal hygiene is increased with arrival of safe water supply, the environmental sanitation is decreased as there is no proper drainage system and water gets collected near the taps. So the rural people should be educated about the environmental sanitation in general and water pollution in particular, by disseminating messages through mass media, demonstrations, informal meetings, official agencies and panchayats. The social group of the rural women formed at wells has also been disturbed due to the tap water facility. The tap water is used by all of the respondents for various activities like cleaning, washing etc. but most of them do not use it for cooking and drinking purposes as they could not develop the taste for the tap water. The sources of drinking water is not checked up regularly and a periodic check up by local government is needed. All the women do not know how to make the contaminated water safe. As women is the lynch pin in the process of bringing and using drinking water, she must be educated and told about the various aspects of health and hygiene related with the water. Time saved with tap water facility should be properly used and managed.