

GENDER EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT IN RURAL ANDHRA PRADESH - A CRITICAL ANALYSIS

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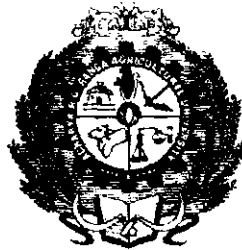
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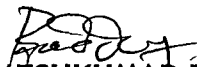
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JANUARY, 2006

CERTIFICATE

Mrs. K. MILKAH has satisfactorily prosecuted the course of research and that the thesis entitled **GENDER EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT IN RURAL ANDHRA PRADESH - A CRITICAL ANALYSIS** submitted is the result of original research work and is of sufficiently high standard to warrant its presentation to the examination. I also certify that the thesis or part thereof has not been previously submitted by her for a degree of any university.

Date: 24 January, 2006
Place: Hyderabad


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This is to certify that the thesis entitled **GENDER EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT IN RURAL ANDHRA PRADESH - A CRITICAL ANALYSIS** submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of **DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY** of the **Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad**, is a record of the bonafide research work carried out by **Mrs.K. MILKAH** under our guidance and supervision. The subject of the thesis has been approved by the Student's Advisory Committee.

No part of the thesis has been submitted for any other degree or diploma. The published part has been fully acknowledged. All assistance and help received during the course of the investigation have been duly acknowledged by the author of the thesis.

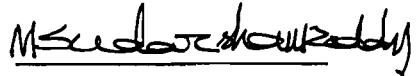

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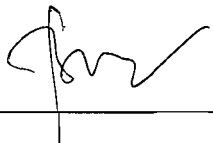
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CONTENTS

Chapter	Title	Page No.
I	Introduction	1-14
II	Review of Literature	15-59.
III	Material and Methods	60-94.
IV	Results	95-373
V	Discussion	374-472.
VI	Summary	478-493
	Literature cited	494-504
	Appendices	504-529

LIST OF TABLES

Table No.	Title	Page No.
1	India's global position on human and gender development	51
2	Relative performance of states of India by composite indices of human development	52
3	HDI and GDI values for the states of Andhra Pradesh	53
4	Selection of respondents	65
5	Variables and their measurement	66
6	Weightages for indicators of Gender Equity	78
7	Weightages for indicators of Gender Empowerment	85
8	Distribution of the respondents based on the profile	96-100
9	Distribution of respondents based on Gender Equity Index	113
10	Distribution of respondents based on indicators of Gender Equity	115-117
11	Difference with regard to Gender Equity Index and indicators of Gender Equity (ANOVA)	122
12	Mean differences of Gender Equity Index and its indicators	125
13	Access to Education of the respondents	126
14	Opinion of the respondents on women's education in Adilabad	128
15	Opinion of the respondents on women's education in West Godavari	131
16	Opinion of the respondents on the women's education	133
17	Access to employment of the respondents	135
18	Opinion of respondents on women's employment in Adilabad	139
19	Opinion of respondents on women's employment in West Godavari	141
20	Opinion of the respondents on women's employment	143
21	Division of Labour	146
22	Average wages of the respondents (Rs. / day)	147
23	Access to health services	148
24	Opinion of the respondents on women availing health services in Adilabad	155
25	Opinion of the respondents on women availing health services in West Godavari	157
26	Opinion of the respondents on women availing health services	159
27	Food consumption pattern of respondents in Adilabad	161

Contd...

List of tables contd...

Table No.	Title	Page No.
28	Food consumption pattern of respondents in West Godavari	169
29	Food consumption pattern of respondents	166
30	Nutritional status of the respondents	169
31	Distribution of respondents based on per cent adequacy	172
32	Mean intake of nutrients (Calorie & Protein) of the respondents	172
33	Average time devoted by respondents in livestock activities (man days/day)	174
34	Time devoted by respondents in Agricultural activity (man days/acre)	177
35	Average time devoted by the respondents in household activities (man days/day)	180
36	Access and control over resources of the respondents in Adilabad	182
37	Access and control over resources of the respondents in West Godavari	184
38	Access and control over resources of the respondents	185
39	Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources in Adilabad	189
40	Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources in West Godavari	191
41	Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources	193
42	Distribution of respondents based on Gender Empowerment Index	195
43	Distribution of respondents based on indicators of Gender Empowerment	197
44	Difference with regard to Gender Empowerment Index and indicators of Gender Empowerment (ANOVA)	202
45	Mean differences of gender empowerment and its indicators	204
46	Decision making pattern of the respondents in Adilabad	205-211
47	Decision making pattern of the respondents in West Godavari	217-224
48	Decision making pattern of respondents	231-232
49	Social Empowerment of women in Adilabad	245-247
50	Social Empowerment of women in West Godavari	249-251
51	Social empowerment of women	255-256
52	Economic empowerment of women in Adilabad	258

Contd...

List of tables contd...

Table No.	Title	Page No.
53	Economic empowerment of women in West Godavari	260
54	Economic empowerment of women	262
55	Political Awareness of the respondents	264
56	Political participation of respondents in Adilabad	266
57	Political participation of the respondents in West Godavari	269
58	Political participation of the respondents	271
59	Opinion of respondents on women politics in Adilabad	274
60	Opinion of respondents on women politics in West Godavari	277
61	Opinion of the respondents on women politics	279
62	Awareness of respondents regarding various legal enactments	281
63	Opinion of the respondents regarding various legal enactments in Adilabad	284-287
64	Opinion of the respondents regarding various legal enactments in West Godavari	291-295
65	Opinion of the respondents regarding various legal enactments	300-303
66	Data requirements for computing GDI	308
67	Gender Development indices of the selected districts	309
68	Simple correlation analysis of indicators of Gender Equity with Gender Equity Index	310
69	Simple correlation analysis of profile with Gender Equity	311
70	Simple correlation analysis of profile with indicators of Gender Equity	312
70	MLR analysis of selected factors with Gender Equity	314
72	Step-down regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Equity Index	316
73	MLR analysis of selected factors with indicators of Gender Equity Index	318
74	Step-down regression analysis of selected factors on indicators of Gender Equity	322
75	Simple correlation analysis of indicators of Gender Empowerment Index with Gender Empowerment	325
76	Simple correlation analysis of profile with Gender Empowerment	327
77	Simple correlation analysis of profile with indicators of Gender Empowerment	329

Contd...

List of tables contd...

Table No.	Title	Page No.
78	MLR analysis of selected factors with Gender Empowerment	331
79	Step-down regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Empowerment	332
80	MLR analysis of selected factors with indicators of Gender Empowerment	334
81	Step-down regression analysis of selected factors on indicators of Gender Empowerment	336
82	Factors affecting Gender Equity	341-343

83. Factor affecting Gender Empowerment. 357-353 .

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Table No.	Title	Page No.
1	Conceptual model for the study	56
2	Map of Andhra Pradesh showing the selected districts	61
3	Map showing selected mandals in West Godavari	63
4	Map showing selected mandals in Adilabad	64
5	Empirical model for the study	339
6	Strategy to strengthen gender equity and gender empowerment in rural community	373
7	Distribution of respondents based on Gender Equity	382
8	Distribution of respondents based on education	384
9	Distribution of respondents based on employment	386
10	Distribution of respondents based on health and nutrition	388
11	Distribution of respondents based on access and control over resources	391
12	Distribution of respondents based on Gender Empowerment	413
13	Distribution of respondents based on decision making	414
14	Distribution of respondents based on social empowerment	416
15	Distribution of respondents based on economic empowerment	417
16	Distribution of respondents based on political empowerment	419
17	Distribution of respondents based on legal empowerment	420

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

GDI	:	Gender Development Index
HDI	:	Human Development Index
GEM	:	Gender Empowerment
GEMI	:	Gender Empowerment Index
GE	:	Gender Equity
GEI	:	Gender Equity Index
HRD	:	Human Resource Development
MHRD	:	Ministry of Human Resource Development
UNDP	:	United Nations Development Project
UNICEF	:	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
NGO	:	Non Governmental Organization
HV	:	Health Visitor
ANC	:	Antenatal Care
RMP	:	Registered Medical Practitioner
PHC	:	Primary Health Centre

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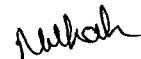
On a personal note, I record my respectful indebtedness and gratitude to my beloved parents Sri K.C. Adellu and Smt.Thilaka whose blessings have made me what I am today. I express my heartfelt thanks to my mother-in-law Dr.M. Kohinoor Kumari. I can not magnitude the love and affection of all my family members, near and dear which shall be remembered throughout my life.

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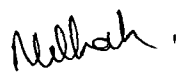
Date: 24 January, 2006

K. MILKAH

DECLARATION

I, **Mrs. K. MILKAH**, hereby declare that the thesis entitled **GENDER EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT IN RURAL ANDHRA PRADESH – A CRITICAL ANALYSIS** submitted to the Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University for the degree of **DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EXTENSION EDUCATION** is a result of original research work done by me. It is further declared that the thesis or any part there of has not been published earlier in any manner.

Date: 24 January, 2006
Place: Hyderabad


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ABSTRACT

Women's empowerment, gender equality, and gender equity are separate but closely related concepts. Empowerment is an active process aimed at changing the nature and direction of focus that marginalize women. Gender equality implies equivalence in life outcomes for women and men, recognizing their different needs and interests and requiring a redistribution of power and resources. Gender equity, recognizes that women and men have different needs, preferences, and interests and that equality of outcomes may necessitate different treatment of men and women. Notwithstanding the similarities in the concepts underlying many of these terms, the factors that contribute to these can be studied by analyzing the gender equity and gender empowerment.

Under this backdrop, the present study was conducted to analyse gender equity and gender empowerment in rural areas of two districts, namely. Adilabad and West Godavari in Andhra Pradesh. Three mandals from each district and two villages from each mandal were randomly selected. Twelve women and men respondents were selected from each village making a total sample of 288 respondents for the study.

Ex-post-facto research design was used for the present study. Gender equity and gender empowerment were measured by developing an index called Gender Equity Index and Gender Empowerment Index respectively. The indicators for Gender Equity were education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources. Decision Making, social empowerment, economic empowerment, political empowerment and legal empowerment constituted Gender Empowerment Index. These were measured using standard inventories. The scores on all the indicators for each respondent were standardized, then multiplied by corresponding weightages and summed to give the Gender Equity Scores and Gender Empowerment Scores for each respondent. Moreover, eighteen independent variables were chosen for the study that influence the dependent variable.

The following findings emerged out of the present investigation.

Distribution of respondents based on profile showed that slightly above half had no schooling, majority got married before the prescribed age and had low choice in selection of their partner. Nearly half were from large families and had medium economic status. Almost one third of them equally had income less than Rs.25,000 and Rs.25,000-50,000. A sizeable number showed medium discrimination against female child and had medium managerial abilities less than half of them had medium income generating capability and social participation. Above one third majority had low and medium social mobilization equally, medium self-orientation, medium extension contacts, and low extension participation, Mass media participation was found to be medium to low. Above half of them perceived drudgery as high and had medium access to basic facilities.

Regarding distribution of respondents on the Gender Equity, a sizeable number were in medium category. Out of the five indicators of gender equity, a sizeable number were in low and medium categories of education respectively, nearly half were in low category of employment, just above one third and almost one third were in the medium and low categories of health and nutrition respectively, majority were in the medium category of time and nearly half in the high category of access and control.

With regard to Gender Empowerment, majority were in the low category. A sizeable number were in the medium category of decision making. Majority were in low category of social, economic, political and legal empowerment.

There was significant variation in the Gender Equity, Gender Empowerment and their indicators at one per cent level of significance. The mean differences were also found to vary significantly for women and men on GEI, GEMI and their indicators.

The simple correlation analysis of Gender Equity, Gender Empowerment with their indicators revealed that all the indicators showed high positive significance with dependent variable. Highest correlation was exhibited by employment in case of Gender Equity. Legal empowerment had shown maximum significance with regard to GEM.

Educational status, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capabilities, social participation, social mobilization, self-orientation, extension contact, extension participation, and mass media exposure and access to basic facilities had shown significant positive relationship with gender equity and gender empowerment.

Correlation analysis revealed that the significant variables positively influencing all the indicators of Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment were educational status, economic status, income, social participation, self-orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities.

Multiple linear regression analysis revealed that the selected personal, familial, social and psychological characteristics, jointly explained 94.50 per cent variation in the dependent variable gender equity.

In step down regression analysis marital status, family size, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability social mobilization, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and

perception of drudgery were found significant and together they accounted to 95.50 per cent variability of gender equity.

With regard to Multiple Linear Regression analysis of selected factors with gender empowerment, the selected factors jointly explained 97.80 per cent variation in the dependent variable.

The significant variables in step-down regression analysis were educational status, marital status, family size, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capabilities, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, perception of drudgery, and access to basic facilities, and together they accounted to 98.00 per cent variation in gender empowerment.

Regression analysis of the indicators of Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment with the selected factors revealed that all the variables put together contributed significantly to the variation in each and every indicator of gender equity and gender empowerment. All the 'F' values were observed to be significant.

In step-down regression analysis of selected factors with indicators of gender equity the significant variables accounted to 50.30 per cent variation with regard to education, 88.40 per cent variation with employment, 50.60 per cent variation with health and nutrition, 87.40 per cent variation with time, and 32.10 per cent variation with access and control over resources.

In step-down regression analysis the significant variables influencing decision-making, social, economic, political and legal empowerment together accounted to 28.30, 17.20, 27.00, 47.40 and 75.00 per cent variability indicators of Gender Empowerment.

The major factor affecting Gender Equity were poverty, performing of domestic chores by women, lack of access to emergency and referral care to health systems, lack of knowledge in predicting the changer in work burden and lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership.

Male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions, lack of socialization, salary / wage differentials between men and women, husbands and elders do not permit and lack of loans that ensure quick justice and punishment were reported by majority as the key factors affecting Gender Empowerment.

Based on the interactions and suggestions with the experts of various units of and official involved in gender studies a strategy was worked out to strengthen gender equity and gender empowerment in rural community. The steps suggested for each indicator can serve as a guide to strengthen equity and empowerment in rural areas.

Introduction

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Women are not only the carriers of human race but civilization and sustainable development rests on them. They are the best upholder of environmental, ecological and social balances, yet a victim of man-dominated patriarchal system, neglected in their day to day life, neither considered equal to man in wage or social status. Their role is silently appreciated without economic recognition, regard and accountability. Women comprise 50 per cent of the population, contribute 75 per cent work hours, receive 10 per cent income and 1 per cent share in property (FAO). They remain "invisible workers" and are not been given an appropriate share in development agendas and programmes. They have been largely treated as beneficiaries rather than partners in development process.

Although, knowledge is the base and human right of every individual, as it creates consciousness and interest that leads to understanding, action and self confidence (a form of empowerment) yet facts reveal wide gender gaps. Women are discriminated on numerous fronts including education and training that are essential, useful weapons in the competitive world of knowledge for productivity, production, equity, sustainability and empowerment.

One of the major movements of the 20th century has been the relentless struggle for gender equality. Various approaches have been adopted to achieve this goal with empowerment being the latest. Equal enjoyment of human rights by women and men is a universally accepted principle. It has many dimensions as equal access to basic social services including education and health, equal participation for political and economic decision-making, equal regard for equal work, elimination of discrimination by gender and violence against women and equal rights to citizen in all areas of life, both public and private including the home.

Everywhere, the starting point is to empower women and men and to ensure their participation in decisions there effect their lives and enable them to build their strengths and assets. The economic assets of both women and men meager, their social, political, environmental and personal assets assume much

importance for them. Building the assets of the poor and empowering them is thus the starting point for eradicating poverty. Among others such a strategy needs.

- Policy reforms and actions that would enable to have access to assets.
- It is also important to ensure education and health care for all.
- Social safety nets should be provided.

Gender equality is essential for empowering women and men for eradicating poverty. This robs women of the power of decision making both in the household and in the community. Gender equity is thus the starting point for the empowerment mentioned earlier.

This implies.

- Removing all discrimination against girls starting from birth, in all aspects of survival, health, education and upbringing.
- Empowering women by giving them equal rights and access to land, credit and job opportunities.
- Taking appropriate action for ending all forms of violence and abuse against women.

Empowering women eventually leads to the empowerment of a society, and to its transformation.

Farm women is the backbone in developing countries including India. The involvement of women is high in various agricultural activities. Besides agriculture, women have major share of work in livestock, animal husbandry and horticulture. The work they do is back breaking, time consuming, arduous, monotonous, repetitive, manual and without economic return. They are over-worked and under paid. Their multiple roles often go unrecognised and unrewarded. Although women are well equipped with determination, strength, motivation, zeal, responsibility and indigenous knowledge, skills and innovations. More over gender biases persist, farmers being perceived as 'male' by delivery systems and women farmers have limited access to training, credit, marketing and extension services. Women's access to extension services is nearly 1/20th that of men. The increased concentration of poverty among rural women can be

attributed to their limited access to education in childhood and limited control over productive resources especially land, labour, capital, inputs and technology, services viz., extension, training and credit, and markets, besides limited participation in decision making. On the basis of above it can be concluded that.

- Women undertake secondly role that are not valued economically.
- Perform traditional tasks and work is full of drudgery.
- Suffer social taboos in task distribution and performance.
- Have subordinate position - to father - husband - son.
- Wide gender gaps exist and persist.

In a home most of the time, power is shared to work together and then to progress. "Power increases when shared". This power becomes creative and enabling. Actually, this is the essence of the individual aspect of empowerment. Also, collectively people feel empowered through being organized and united by a common purpose or common cause or common understanding. This power gives more strength as it involves a sense of the whole being greater than the sum of individuals. The second concept of power could be employed for women, in particular.

Empowerment is a process - not a thing, which cannot be given to women as such. The process of empowerment is both 'individual' and 'collective', since it is through self and then involvement in groups that women begin to develop their awareness and the ability to organize to take action and initiate change. Women empowerment can be considered as continuum of several inter-related, interwoven and interactive mutually reinforcing components.

- Awareness building about women's situation, position, discrimination, rights and opportunities. Collective awareness paves a way for group identity and wider recognition.
- Capacity building about planning, decision making, organizing, managing and carrying out activities to deal with people and institutions.
- Participation and control about affairs in the home, community and society.

- Action about gender equality between men and women for being recognized and respected as equal citizens and human beings with a contribution to make at all levels of society not nearly in the home.

Empowerment of women thus lies in transcending from a lower level to higher level of welfare, access, conscientisation, participation and control with dignity. The care of the women's empowerment framework by UNICEF has been enshrined on the argument that women's development can be viewed in terms of below five levels of equality of which empowerment is an essential element at each level:

Welfare: address only the basic needs of women.

Access: involves equality of access to resources, such as education, opportunities, land and credit.

Conscientisation: for agricultural women, to take appropriate action to close gender gaps on gender inequalities.

Participation: is the point where women are taking decisions alongside men equally. To reach this level mobilization is necessary.

Control: is the ultimate level of equality and empowerment. Here, the balance of power between men and women is equal and neither party has dominance over others. At this stage in the Empowerment framework, women are able to make decisions over their lives and the lives of their children and play an active role in the development process. Further, the contribution of women are fully recognized and rewarded.

Mahatma Gandhi in 1918 said "Today the sole occupation of women is supposed to be, to bear children, to look after her husband otherwise to drudge for the household. Not only is the women, condemns do domestic slavery, but when she goes as labourer to earn wages, though she works harder than man, she is paid less. It is mystery, why even in the most developed society women are undervalued and their concerns are seen as marginal and peripheral.

The situation has not yet changed much since then. No doubt great concern is being expressed now at different fora. Awareness has come through mass media at greater levels as compared to early times. All over the world,

efforts are being made to empower women through many literacy programs on literacy, education and training, health, child care credit availability, entrepreneurship development for economic betterment, greater participation in political level and decision making meetings. Attempts are also being made to measure women empowerment through indicators of life expectancy, literacy rate, school and college environment, contribution to national income etc these indicators provide some picture and direction but still there is a long way to go to measure empowerment in real sense.

Statement of the problem

Gender equity emphasized women's access to equal opportunities and elimination of all barriers in areas of education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over the resources. Equity means that the exercise of the rights should lead to outcomes which are fair and just, and which enable women to have the same power as men to define and pursue the objectives of development and shape societies of the future.

The frequently used gender empowerment measure (GEM) is a composite of gender inequality in three key areas. Political participation and decision making, participation and decision making and power over economic resources (HDR: 2003). This is an aggregate index for a population and does not measure empowerment on an individual basis. It is made up of two dimensions, economic participation and decision-making (measures the percentage of female administrators and managers, and professional and technical employees) and political participation and decision making (measured by the percentage of seats in parliament held by women). For the purpose of the study, GEM is limited and measure the multidimensional view of empowerment. It cannot be assumed that if development intervention promotes women's empowerment along a particular dimension that empowerment in other areas will necessarily follow. Gender empowerment can be measured by factors contributing to each of the following, the familial (decision making), personal, economic, political, and legal empowerment. Household in interfamilial relations are central locus to women's disempowerment in India and therefore this has been included. And by including the political, we posit that women's empowerment measures should include

women's participation in systemic transformation by engaging in political action (Batliwala 1994, Bisnath and Elson 1999 and Kabeer 2001).

The level of changes in personal, familial, social and psychological characteristics such as farm size, educational status, marital status, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social participation, social mobilization, extension contact, extension participation, self orientation, mass media exposure, perception of drudgery and access to basic facilities. Properly analysed, can serve as proxies to indicate gender equity and empowerment of the individuals.

The indicators used to assess gender equity were education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources. Education is an endowment which enables a women to use the skill and knowledge to obtain the entitlements. But due to gender discrimination embodying the 'ideology of seclusion' less attention is paid and less emphasis is placed on the education of girls and females than on that of boys and males. As a result, females in villages in rural towns do not get the opportunity to acquire the same marketable skill and knowledge as the males. Even if they get the same education, it does not necessarily improve their entitlement exchange capacity due to institutional impediments, although it helps reduce the population growth in the long run by making them aware of the beneficial effects of late marriage, Hence, there is a clear distinction between any education and appropriate marketable skills based education. It is unfortunate that in the literature on women in development and on development studies in general such a distinction does not appear to have been made and the importance of skill based education has not been discussed. Thus the failure of girls and women in general and of rural girls and women in particular to acquire the appropriate education they choose, stems from the cultural impediments. Primary school enrolment ratio has been used as a proxy to test the success of governments primary education programs. But in India, in rural areas, the actual enrolment ratio in primary schools is below the official statistics. This is due to lack of work ethics, sense of responsibility and duty on the part of teachers.

In India, slightly over seventy per cent of total population live in rural areas. Slightly less than fifty per cent of total population are females. This would

mean that nearly 700 million out of 1 billion people live in rural areas generally, people in the rural areas are poorer than those in the urban areas because of the absence of non-agricultural employment opportunities. Amongst males and females, females are poor than males because the technological change in agriculture displaces females from many of their traditional jobs, and now agricultural employment opportunities are more limited for females than for males. Also due to gender restriction and illiteracy and ignorance, rural women are unable to go outside the surroundings of their homes in search of employment. Increase in women's income and income earning opportunities improve the family's living standard, enhance the family's social status, raise the age of marriage, reduce the pressure on women's health and time and to have more children.

Women generally are much more disadvantaged in their access to employment than men for the following reasons women's job mobility is limited because they have to take care of their children, they are confined to the surrounding of their homes due to the "ideology of seclusion" and they are vulnerable to class and caste related sexual abuse. Because of their lower literacy levels, lesser access to mass media and lesser interaction with the market place, women have limited access to information on job opportunities. As agricultural labourers the main problems that women face, are lack of year around employment, low wages and discrimination in wages, and lack of social security.

The importance of food and health can never be over-emphasized. To be active, productive and have a reasonable standard of living good health is mandatory. Quality of health is another important determinant of social development. As in the case of all resources, access to health services is a function both of the resources at the disposal of a society or a community, as well as its distribution across social groups and individuals. Thus, wealthier nations and more powerful groups within countries are likely to have greater availability and better access to, health services within a given social setting and a given availability of health services, an individuals access to services may be seen as determined by factors such as distance, availability, affordability and the appropriateness and adequacy of services as perceived by users. While these factors affect both women and men, there are important differences by gender that cut across social groups. Four sets of factors generally tend to inferences

women's access to health care; need, or the extent of the health among women; permission, which is result of social factors determining whether women can seek health care outside the home, the ability, which is determined by economic factors enabling women to meet the costs of health care, and the availability of health services for women. Women's health needs are different from men and also biologically more vulnerable to diseases. These differences in them selves not result in poorer health, outcomes for women if access to appropriate health services was equitably distributed by gender. Unfortunately, gender inequalities in social, educational, economic and political status not only contributes to women's ill health, but also constrain women's access to health services. Lower educational status, limited exposure to outside world, in ability to recognize signs and symptoms of health problems, lack of time, beliefs and practices, availability of female medical and health personnel all these affect women's access to health services. Barriers to women's access to health services exist in situations where there is good coverage of health services and when services for meeting women's specific health needs are integrated into the health system at all levels. Where there is poor coverage by health services in general, and where services for meeting women's specific health needs are sparse, the disadvantages faced by women in seeking care can make the differences between life and death.

Time is an important part of the total pattern of living. The daily and weekly time and activity patterns of individuals reflects their interests, work habits and personal needs. Women's time spent, though vital to the task of meeting the daily needs of the family and farm, goes unrecorded especially in rural India. The time spent and value of various services rendered by farm women are never computed because the various tasks they perform are not recognized, as work at all and thus excluded from official labour force statistics. Women play a significant and crucial role not only in agricultural development and allied fields including crop production, livestock production, horticulture, post-harvest operations, agro-social forestry and fisheries etc, but also in non-farm operations and household activities.

Customary access to land has been largely confined to male household members. Under the old and traditional Hindus law women did not have in heritance rights to land but could enjoy life interest in ancestral property as

widows and daughters in son-less families. However, with respect to agricultural land, in most states, the religious law was superseded by regionally prevailing customary law under which women were usually excluded. Gender is a fundamental variable that determines the access and control over the size and quality of agricultural land, paid and unpaid labour, productive revenues, time for leisure are productive activities, membership in producer organizations, information, subsidies, credit and training. although women's legal rights to land are bring recognized since Indian independence, the nature of these rights seem to vary according to personal laws of different religions communities and regions. As a result, women's legal rights are not applied uniformly throughout, the country and are still not on equal terms with men's every where. Further more, circumstances prevent women from exercising even their limited ownership rights to land and their rights to control and independently farm land to which they do have access. Village exogamy and long distant marriages, restricted mobility, inability to obtain credit, perception money lender that men have greater capacity to repay loans, and inability to self-manage the land restricts women's access to resources and land management. Power it self can be simply described as control over resources (physical, human, intellectual and self) and control over ideology (ability to determine belief, values, attitudes, confidences, ways of thinking and perceiving situations). This means that women in general and poor women in particular are powerless because they do not have any of these controls.

Decision making power constitutes an important component of empowerment. The role models of women and their contribution in agriculture and allied occupations and household activities have, however been underestimated and undervalued and they remain excluded from a host of processes which advance human life, on grounds that they are biologically unsuited to the world of science and technology. Women work along with male members in various agricultural activities. They do this in addition to their normal domestic works as a housewife. But the quantification of these multiple roles and productive inputs in terms of work-hours contributed goes unrecognized. As regards the house work women of all classes have to invariably discharge the unproductive functions (refers to domestic, child-bearing and child rearing functions) alike without much discrimination. Women are generally specialized in child care and home production, men have specialized in market activities. As a

result what has been done so far is to recognize and support the contributions that a women can make as a mother. While, conceding that this is definitely a significant contribution, it has to be admitted that the economic roles of women have been by passed so far. The women's role as an active worker-producer of goods and services has not been duly recognized by this male dominated society. In the sense of power and privilege with certain exceptions, women have always been relegated secondary position. The basic reason for such neglect is dearth of specific data on women's involvement.

The physical mobility of women is often restricted in rural areas. Traditions and customs may forbid women from leaving the family compound or may regulate with whom they travel. Indian society has all been a male-dominated society. Where the women's place has been primarily confined to home, her role is limited to bringing of children and catering to the needs of men folk. Household chores are felt as the first duty of women in the family. A number of social and religious customs, taboos, inhibitions, rituals etc prevail in the society, which come in the way of women's freedom, education and work participation and also other spheres of life. It is acknowledge that women in nearly all the localities are very economically active, sometimes having their own lands that are managed by a male relative and nearly always engaging in processing, livestock activities etc. Seclusions restricts the physical movements and ability to personally participate to a large extent, women's linkage to market economy in through their children despite this restrictions, however some women confined to their husbands compounds are able to get empowered to some extent. There are other acknowledged social restrictions aside from seclusions which is undoubtedly most extreme form of restricting social empowerment. The normative structures that limit women's strategic life choices may also change through processes arising from the individual actions in response to new situations and opportunities. For example, restrictions on women's freedom of movement and interaction with men who are non-relatives may loosen as a result of micro-credit programmes or employment opportunities and women's access to social networks outside the family may increase along with their presence in the public sphere.

Of all the factors of human development, economic independence or economic empowerment occupies an area of utmost significance for a lasting and

sustainable development of society. Women empowerment, is therefore, a process which enables women to have access and control over various factors necessary for their economic empowerment. Women's bargaining power increases as they enhance their economic contribution to the family. The strength of earning an income helps women to establish new roles. Women's dependency on husband will leads to gender inequality. Enhancing women's economic empowerment comes close to being a "magic potion" that boosts both gender equality and the power, women gain more say in household decisions and tend to promote and spend their own money disproportionately on the nutrition, health and education of daughters as well as sons. Enhanced female economic power is proposed as the prime factor in reducing gender inequality thereby leading to empowerment. More over increased income controlled by women gives them self confidence, voice and vote in household decisions, domestic well-being decisions, land use and conservative decisions.

A historic moment arrived for the women of India on 24th April, 1993, when the 73rd Amendment Act came into force. This was considered as a landmark in the democratic history. The Act is extremely important for the political empowerment of women. The idea behind this landmark was to enable women at the grass root level to enter in the political stream and create a 'Critical mass' of women leaders whose voices are heard at various levels. Women's participation in political life is fairly unlimited. Women are not well represented in public sphere - such as membership in Parliament and in the state Legislative Assemblies. Women's participation is generally lower either because they have been socialized, differently (especially as far as marriage, motherhood, employment and property ownership are concerned) or because they have fewer resources. Lower levels of participation of women are mostly the result of a process of socialization that lacks women to think of political activity in a different way than men. In other words, women don't take as active part in political life because they don't think that political participation is important. Many women do not enter politics because of the widespread exploitation and mudslinging involved in it. In addition, the men are not willing to allow women to enter politics because of the power hunger which has always exploited women. A women's entry into politics does not mean that she has real power or is empowered. Rigorous training is required to make them understand the concept of power they wield and learn to assert it effectively.

Unless women get an equal share in political power it is difficult to achieve, equity, equality and empowerment.

Legal protection of women's rights have little effect in the face of prevailing patriarchal traditions. Different laws have been designed to improve and protect the economic, political and social position of women from time to time. However, no amount of legislation would improve the position of women. One of the reasons have been lack of knowledge and unfavourable attitude towards these legislations. The dowry prohibition act passed in 1961 was a 1st attempt in this direction. According to this act, giving or agreeing to give any property or valuable security by parents of either party in a marriage or by any other persons at, before or after marriage, becomes an offence. To eradicate the evil, the joint selection committee of parliament in a report submitted in 1982, suggested several steps. Only government actions are not sufficient to produce desirable effect on the society. Consciousness of judgement must prevail in the society. Despite various legislature measures and voluntary efforts to uproot the system, the menace is gradually increasing. Effective and meaningful functioning of all legislative, protection acts depends on active involvement, contribution and participation of its citizen both males and females. For such activities initiation and action coming from people is better and for such a change there should be positive attitude towards equality. Positive attitude of the individuals may facilitate whereas negative attitude will check the process understanding of such attitudes and factors associated with them would help to suggest practical ways to overcome some of the limitations.

In the light of this, a study was planned to analyse gender equity and gender empowerment by identifying the indicators of gender equity and empowerment, studying the factors affecting equity and empowerment and finally developing a strategy to enhance equity and empowerment.

Keeping this in view the present study entitled, "**Gender Equity and Empowerment in Rural Andhra Pradesh - A Critical Analysis**" was conducted with the following objectives:

General objective: To critically analyse the gender equity and empowerment among rural community, understand the factors affecting gender equity and

empowerment and suggest suitable strategy for strengthening gender equity and gender empowerment in rural community.

Specific objectives

- ✓ To study the profile of selected women and men respondents.
- ✓ To assess gender equity and gender empowerment of women and men respondents.
- ✓ To assess gender development of the selected districts
- ✓ To unearth the relationship of profile of selected respondents on the gender equity and gender empowerment among women and men respondents.
- ✓ To identify the factors affecting gender equity and gender empowerment
- ✓ To develop a suitable strategy for strengthening the gender equity and gender empowerment in rural community.

Scope of the study

The study mainly emphasizes on Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment of the respondents. The indicators of Gender Equity (education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over the resources) and Gender Empowerment (Decision-making, social, economic, political and legal empowerment) were thoroughly studied. The study, therefore, aims to measure the indicators of Gender Equity and Empowerment; to analyse the factors affecting this. Moreover, the study is rare of its kind as it has attempted to develop a strategy to strengthen gender equity and gender empowerment. This, would serve as a practical manual to the planners and policy makers for meaningful planning and evaluation of policies. The lacunae identified in the study can also give feed back to the concerned authority for possible improvements. The identified inter-relationships between the variables can act as catalistic points for promoting action and gender equity and empowerment which might give useful insight on the feasibility of using the networks of equity and empowerment for indications on strengthening the strategy in the rural community.

Limitations of the study

The study being a single student research at the Doctoral Level was not beyond limitations.

- The study covered two districts of Andhra Pradesh, one from the Telangana region and the other from Andhra region, which placed limitation on time, resources and intermittent finance. This obviously led to the purposive selection of the restricted sample size.
- The ex-post facto research design, though is the only suitable design for the study, itself was an irrefutable limitation. Since the study was based on the expressed opinions of the respondents, it may or may not be free from their individual biases and prejudices inspite of objective procedures and measurement techniques designed to get them as objectively as possible.
- The implications of the findings of this study, though are applicable to the present area of investigation, they are also helpful for the succeeding investigations on gender equity and gender empowerment.

Presentation of the study

The thesis is presented in six chapters. The first is devoted to a brief introduction which throws light on the objectives, importance of the study, its scope and limitations on investigation. The second chapter deals with the review of related literature in the light of the objectives and conceptualization of Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment. Third chapter contains the methodology which has a bearing on sampling, operationalisation and measurement of variables, techniques of data collection and statistical tests used in the investigation. The findings and discussion have been presented in the fourth and fifth chapters, respectively. The sixth and final chapter summarises the study with a brief resume and implication of the findings. This is followed by bibliography and appendices.

Review of Literature

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A critical appraisal of previous studies is more useful in any field of investigation. It not only helps to acquire a broad general background of earlier research findings but also aids in building up a theoretical framework for interpretation of the present findings in similar area of work. Hence, review of literature involving documents, research studies and write ups presented in publication of issues relating to the topic were undertaken.

On the other hand, gender equity and gender empowerment being broader concepts several indicators are used to measure these concepts. Studies dealing with profile of rural women and men, concept of empowerment, indicators of Gender Empowerment, indicators of Gender Equity, Gender-related Development Index, and relationship analysis. The studies reviewed are presented in this chapter under the following sub-heads:

- 2.1 Profile of rural women and men
- 2.2 Concept of empowerment
- 2.3 Indicators of Gender Equity
- 2.4 Indicators of Gender Empowerment
- 2.5 Gender-Related Development Index
- 2.6 Relational analysis
- 2.1 **PROFILE OF RURAL WOMEN AND MEN**
- 2.1.1 **Profile**

Punam Kumari (2001) study on rural women at work revealed that majority (59.0%) of the respondents were illiterates. Slightly above half (51%) were from joint families and 49 per cent were from nuclear families. Majority (56%) had family size of more than 5 members and 44 per cent had family size upto 5 members. A vast majority (97%) had no membership (social participation) and only 3 per cent were having membership of any formal organization. Cultivation was the major family occupation for 39 per cent of the respondents. Majority (65.0%) had low socio-economic status. Over half (53.0%) of the respondents were marginal farmers.

Anupama Bishnoi *et al.* (2002) in their study reported that majority (90.00%) of women beneficiaries were illiterate. Almost three quarters (74.50%) hailed from nuclear families and 57.6 per cent had medium family size. Majority (60.00%) of respondents were labourers. Nearly half (48.9%) were falling in the category of very poor family income. Majority (77.8%) were landless. A vast majority (83.4%) had no membership with regard to social participation. Majority (73.3%) had no mass media exposure.

Deepti Aggarwal *et al.* (2002) study on political empowerment of women panchayat members reported that over half (56.55%) of respondents had no outside occupation and 26.66 per cent had cultivation. Majority (63.33%) had cultivation as the major occupation. Just above one fourth majority (26.67%) possessed land of 5 to 10 acres and majority (61.06%) had annual income less than Rs.50,000. An overwhelming majority (95.00%) had low mass media exposure and over half (56.67%) had low extension contacts. A vast majority (85.00%) reported their social participation to be nil.

Updesh Yadav (2002) reported that nearly half (45.98%) of men and majority (68.25%) of women had low mass media exposure. Majority (56.32%) of men and above three quarters (79.37%) of women had low extension contacts. Almost one fourth (24.85%) of men had matric / higher secondary education and 46.03 per cent of women were illiterates. Majority (78.16 and 60.31%) of men and women were from large families.

Urmila and Lali Yadav (2002) indicated that (38%) of respondents were post graduates followed by graduates (36%), technical and vocational education (23%) and only three per cent were matric pass. Nearly half (45.0%) were falling in high family education status followed by medium (33.00%) and low (22.0%) respectively. Family occupation data reveal that 48 per cent of respondents family had business as their main occupation followed by service (40.0%) and only 6.0 per cent had farming as their main occupation. Majority (77.0%) were not the member of any social organization. More than half of respondents (54%) had low mass media exposure, while 27.0 per cent had medium and one-fifth (19.0%) had high mass media exposure. More than half of the respondents (53.5%) had medium socio-economic status followed by low socio-economic status (26.5%) and high socio-economic status (20.0%).

Purnima (2004) reported that 32.08 and 31.67 per cent of women had primary schooling and were functionally literate respectively. Majority (68.33%) had income in the range of Rs.9,000 - 33,000. Nearly (47.50%) were observed to have taken up 'labour subsidiary' occupation of their living. Majority (56.25%) belonged to the nuclear families and 38.75 per cent of them equally had medium and large family size. A sizeable number (42.92%) were in the high category of social participation, medium category in case of extension contact (53.75%), and extension participation (46.25%).

Sarah (2004), in her study on critical analysis of pro-poor initiatives for empowerment of rural women through SAPAP reported that majority (62.22%) of the beneficiaries were farm nuclear families; majority (52.22%) had two children, nearly three fourth (70.0%) were illiterates, a great majority (86.67%) had medium urban contacts, about 72.22 per cent had medium extension contacts, slightly above half (51.11%) had low management orientation, two third majority had medium self orientation, majority (59.44%) of theirs occupation was related to agriculture, nearly half (47.22%) had high socio-political participation.

2.1.2 Education

Studies concluded that a majority of the respondents belonged to the illiterate category followed by primary and high school education (Padma, 1987; Panwar and Gupta, 1996; Bhople and Patki, 1998). 70 per cent of the farm women fall in the illiterate and below primary level of education (Mohanty, 1995).

2.1.3 Income

The annual income level of the majority of the respondents were low income group (Rajini, 1989; Leena, 1993; Khodasker, 2001). The size of the average landholding is 1.3 acres and the family size is 5. Small farmers gets an annual income of Rs.33,000 in Maharashtra. Annual expenditure is about Rs.16,443. Highest percapita income, consumption, expenditure was enjoyed by small farmers than the off farm labourers and farm labourers (Khodasker, 2001).

2.1.4 Family size

The family size in rural set up is decreasing (Reddy, 1990; Padmalatha, 1993; Reddy, 1996). 52% of the families had joint families (Mohanty, 1995).

2.1.5 Age at marriage

The age at marriage was found to be less than 18 years in Orissa state (Mohanty, 1995).

2.1.6 Mass Media participation of the farm women

The wetland farm women were found high adopters of mass media technologies, while the dry land farm women were relatively low adopters. The information seeking behaviour, knowledge about cultivation practices, perception of information and extension contact was found to have a positive, significant correlation with the extent of adoption (Tamilselvi and Sundaram, 2000). Farm women listen to Radio and watch T.V. programmes most often (Sailaja, 1996; Meenambigai and Ravichandran, 1999).

2.1.7 Other related studies

Sumithra (1996) reported that age at marriage 16-20, 8 per cent of men, 23% of women in Hyderabad district, 9 per cent of men, 28 per cent of women in Mahaboobnagar district were married between 21-25 years, 38 per cent of men 47 per cent of women in Hyderabad, 46 per cent of men and 48 per cent of women in Mahaboobnagar district were married. 50 per cent of men were married between 16-25 years while 72 per cent of women got married between 26 - 30 years only 2 per cent of women got married while 6 per cent of men were married at that age.

A survey of UNICEF (1997) showed that 44 per cent of 20 to 24 year old women in Niger were married before they reached the age of 15, because of this concern, invariably all decisions of the family of marriage and the choice of spouse were made by the parents, and the girl had no right to question the decision of parents.

The preference for a male child, apart from according to lower status to the women, also strongly affects the size of the family. It is estimated that if preference for a male child were reduced substantially, the fertility rate in India would fall by around 8 per cent and help lowering population growth (The Sunday Times of India, 1997).

Bhagyalaxmi (1998) reported that farm women perceived greater extent of drudgery in fetching water 46.6 per cent and collection of fuel 45.0 per cent.

Rest of the home activities were perceived as medium drudgery by farm women. Fetching of water was perceived as more drudgery ridden actively by majority 46.7 per cent of the respondents, followed by 35.0% and 18.0% as medium and less drudgery respectively.

Kulkarni (1998) opined that most of the women felt moderate physical strain in harvesting (82.50%), application of fertilizer and manure (77.50%), thinning (75.0%), winnowing (72.50%), sowing, drying and stubble collection (62.50%). In operation of threshing and weeding, women felt moderate fatigue (90.0%). About 87.50 per cent of women expressed moderate fatigue in thinning and harvesting. In operations like stubble collection, sowing and application of manure and fertilizer, moderate fatigue was reported by 75.0 per cent, 72.50 per cent, and 62.50 per cent of women labour respectively. 25.71 per cent of women expressed low, 47.14 per cent medium and high drudgery (27.15%).

Malkit Kaur (1988) reported that majority of respondents (87.5%) got married before 18 yrs of age and 19.5 per cent got married even before 10 years of age much below the age fixed by legislation, and 12.5 per cent of respondents were such who were married after 18 years of age.

Among the women, fetching water and lunch preparation was considered as drudgery prone activities with maximum index scores (63.71 and 62.0) followed by the activities in dairy domain like fetching animals (59.4), collecting water (57.9), household activities like sweeping (56.8) and farm activities like weeding (41.4). WWW.angrau.net.

2.2 CONCEPT OF EMPOWERMENT

The National Policy of Education (1986) enumerated parameters of empowerment as (i) Building a positive self-image and self-confidence, (ii) Developing ability to think critically, (iii) Building up group cohesion and fostering Decision making and action, (iv) Ensuring equal participation in the process of bringing about social-change and (v) Providing the skills for economic independence.

According to Kate Young, (1993) the concept of empowerment, refers mainly to entrepreneurial self-reliance or empowering individuals and also empowering people through participation in policy making and planning process. A

study entitled, "Empowerment of Women in South Asia" identifies two approaches commonly used by development agencies: (1) Empowerment through economic interventions to increase women's economic status through employment, income generation and access to credit, (2) Empowerment through integrated rural development programs, in which strengthening women's economic status is only one component along with education, literacy, provision of basic needs and services and fertility control.

Sen (1993) defines empowerment as altering relations of power which constrain women's options and autonomy and adversely affect health and well-being.

Dimensions of Empowerment

Sl.No.	Name of the Author	Dimension
1	CIDA, (1996)	Legal empowerment Political empowerment Economic empowerment Social empowerment
2	Jejeebhoy (1995)	Knowledge autonomy Decision making autonomy Physical autonomy Emotional autonomy Economic and social autonomy
3	Kishore (2000)	Financial autonomy Participation in the modern sector Lifetime exposure to employment Sharing of roles and decision-making Family structure amenable to empowerment Equality in marriage Devaluation of women Women's emancipation Marital advantage Traditional marriage
4	Hashemi <i>et al.</i> (1996)	Mobility Economic security Ability to make small purchases Ability to make large purchases Involvement in major decisions Relative freedom from domination by the family Political and legal awareness. Participation in public protests and Political campaigning

According to Asia and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT, 1995) empowerment for a women means being able to: (1) Overcome shyness, (2)

To talk and act confidently, (3) To look at herself honestly, (4) To know and accept her capabilities and limitations, (5) To break through barriers, (6) To know her desires and turn them into objectives, (7) To know that she can acquire the abilities needed and (8) To develop a strong will to achieve her objectives

Oxaal and Baden (1997) argued that to the extent that mainstream development discourse views empowerment as an individual rather than collective process, it emphasizes entrepreneurship and self-reliance rather than cooperation to challenge power structures. The discourse on social inclusion also sees the potential for empowerment in a collective form, whether it is through political, economic, or social mobilization of groups.

Jejeebhoy (2000) considers autonomy and empowerment as more or less equal terms, and defines both in terms of women, gaining control of their own lives vis-à-vis family, community, society, markets. He also considers autonomy and empowerment to be fairly similar, while the later is change over time, and not so easily measurable.

Kishore (2000) said that, the variables that have traditionally been used as proxies for empowerment, such as education and employment, might be better described as enabling factors or sources of empowerment. Women's contribution would be more accurately described as form of agency or, again even an achievement. Similarly, assets owned could function as sources of empowerment.

Kritzi *et al.* (2000) developed an index of the gender contexts in four communities using eight indicators, such as mean spousal age difference, percentage of wives in modern work, mean score on wives, physical mobility and percentage of wives who control how to use income.

Empowerment, if defined in terms of discretion over one's choice in life, is desirable but seemingly unachievable for sizeable majority of women in South Asia (Kaushik, 2000).

The recent policy research report by the World Bank (2001a) employs the term gender equity, which it defines in terms of equality under the law, equality of opportunity (including equality of rewards for work and equality in access to human capital and other productive resources that enable opportunity), and equality of voice (the ability to influence and contribute to the development

process). Gender equality implies equivalence in life outcomes for women and men, recognizing their different needs and interests, and requiring a redistribution of power and resources. Gender equality recognizes that women and men have different needs, preferences, and interests and that equality of outcomes may necessitate different treatment of men and women (Reeves and Baden, 2000: 10).

Kabeer (2001) defined empowerment as the expansion in peoples ability to make strategic life choices in a context where this ability was previously derived to them. It helps to distinguish empowerment from other closely related concepts i.e., the idea of process, or change from a condition of disempowerment, and that of human among and choice.

Malhotra *et al.* (2002) reported individual/household level indicators of empowerment as domestic decision making, access to or control over resources, mobility / freedom of movement, less-Frequently used indicators, Economic contribution to household and time use/division of domestic labour, freedom from violence, management/knowledge, political participation, marriage/kin/sc\social support, couple interaction, appreciation in household and sense of self worth.

2.3 INDICATORS OF GENDER EQUITY

2.3.1 Education

Malkit Kaur (1988) revealed that only 2.8 per cent of respondents did not want to educate their daughters, 11 per cent want to educate their daughters up to matric and 52 per cent wanted to educate their daughters up to graduation or post graduation.

World Bank study (1991) found that the following factors impede women's progress towards achieving higher education: (a) Parental and societal attitude towards the education of their daughters are important factors in the non-enrolment and higher drop-out rates of female children in families which have very limited income. Since the level of family income is very low, the children of these families, specially, girls are required to work both within and outside the home. (b) The direct cost of the family also deters families from sending their girls to school. (c) Another important factor is the social perception about the return expected from girls education. (d) Also the way the school systems is run does not seem

to provide an incentive to parents to send their children to school. (e) Particular scarcity of female teachers which affects girls attendance at schools.

National council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in India conducted in-depth interviews in 1992 of 32 girls and 30 boys from Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu in the age group of 10-14 years who were recent drop outs from school. The study observed that the lack of conveniently located and/or adequately equipped schools seemed to play a major role in influencing the village school provided. They were afraid of sending the girls away to other more acutely once girls attained puberty. Because of the high drop-out rate among girls, the lack of female company for those remaining in school beyond class eight was another discouraging factor. Further the phenomenon of dropping out of school was heavily influenced by:

- Low parental interest and support for further schooling, especially for girls;
- Lower educational aspirations among girls as compared to boys;
- Weak public commitment to the promotion of education;
- Indifferent teachers who stifle students' desire to learn.

According to a national sample survey in India (1993-1994), the major reason stated for why children dropped out of schools was "not interested in education". This was true for both boys and girls, in urban as well as rural areas. For girls, having to perform domestic chores was the second most important reason, while for boys it was participation in the household economy.

Women account for only 29 per cent of teachers at the primary level (MHRD, 1993)

Desai (1994) in gender inequalities and demographic behaviour asserts that 'parents ' reluctance to educate daughters has its root in the situation of women. Parents have several incentives for not educating their daughters. Foremost is the view that education of girls brings no returns to parents and that their future roles, bring mainly reproductive and perhaps including agricultural labour, require no formal education.

Roy and Tisdell (1994) reported that a vast majority (92.20%) of the respondents agreed that the institutions close by home was one reason for pursuing

the current study followed by very little expense for parents (90.20%), parents wanted it (65.6%) and 97.8 per cent of them wanted some kind of education. About 98.9 per cent were unable to pursue further studies at a distant institution, because of social customs. About 98.9 per cent opined that derogatory social customs and traditions embodying gender discrimination greatly influence the type and level of education, 88.9 per cent of them preferred late marriage for pursuing higher studies and to acquire greater skills, customary practice of marriage prevents a girl from realizing her full potential.

World Bank (1997) reports reveal that in Uttar Pradesh 54 per cent of the schools did not have a water supply and 80 per cent did not have latrines. Uttar Pradesh needed to build 284,000 additional classrooms to achieve full enrollment of children of age 6-10.

2.3.2 Employment

Sujeeth *et al.* (1984) Study on employment pattern and status reported that 50 per cent of the male and 55 per cent of female respondents of tribal and 50 per cent each of the mixed population villages were working outside their home. Among non-tribals, however 50 per cent of males and 10 per cent of female respondents reported to be working outside their home. Economic necessity was perceived as the major reason by all the respondents for working outside the home. The second main reason given by the majority of the respondents. (68.75% males and 80% females) for working outside their homes was the availability of the job which they could do. Most of females were found to be employed occasionally, while in case of males, (41.87%) were found to be frequently employed. The results also revealed that majority of men (62.50%) were employed for a period of 6 to 9 months per annum, majority of women (70%) were employed for a period of 9 to 12 months per annum. Majority of the respondents (67.50% males and 77.50% females) were working within a distance of 2 km.

Women accounted for 93 per cent of total employment in dairy products (World Bank 1991).

A World Bank study (1992) reveals that female labour force participation rates range from 47 per cent in Maharashtra to 4 per cent in Kashmir. It also concluded that because of relative lack of mobility or marketable skills as 90 per

cent of them are unskilled and 88 per cent are illiterates these women are more vulnerable to seasonal fluctuation in labour demand.

Roy and Tisdell (1993) in their survey undertaken in Shalboni village reported that the affirmative response was 100 per cent for all the questions relating to the impediments to search for employment. All the respondents agreed that (i) ideology of seclusion, prevents women from obtaining information about employment (ii) in rural areas, due to derogatory social customs, women's travel to distant places is prevented. (iii) even if an offer of employment is secured, the offer may not be accepted because of the force of the "ideology of seclusion" (iv) due to gender discrimination, women could not undertake job oriented technical education at places which are considerable distance from homes.

Roy and Tisdell (1993) revealed that 93 per cent of all females interviewed agreed that lack of technical skill and knowledge limited their scope for employment of educated females. Also 79 per cent of them agreed that if guidance and opportunities were given to them, they would have completed technology oriented degrees. Fifty six per cent of the respondents agreed that male members in the family were given such guidance and help. Further more, 97 per cent of them agreed that information about the available of technology, adequate facilities for training, credit to obtain and utilize technology would improve their access to technology in turn would help them become economically independent. More than 97 per cent of respondents agreed that equal opportunities with males is necessary for the employment of females, 88.6 per cent of them preferred late marriage to pressure further studies, 98.9 per cent felt customary practice of marriage prevents a girl from realizing their full potential. Cent per cent of them felt that being females, it prevented them to take job oriented education instead of generalist education. The greatest gender discrimination was enforced by village and family elders (96.8%) and amongst elders, females rather than males, (83.3%).

Uma Rani and Thangamani (1999) study on participation of women in agriculture revealed that of with regard to major operations in agriculture women were frequently participating in harvesting (75.0%), threshing (73.0%), post-harvest activities (63.3%), sowing and transplanting (65.8%), and weeding (62.5%). With regard to horticulture, women participated frequently in harvesting (69.0%),

grading (67.6%), transplanting and gap filling (62.0%), weeding (54.9%), majority of the women were found to supervise transplanting and gap filling (71.8%), harvesting (71.8%), and grading the produce (70.4%). With regard to animal husbandry participation was more in the supervision of activities than actual doing feeding the animal (73.20%), watering (75.00%), marketing (50.00%) were the areas in which supervision of respondents was more.

FAO (2000), IFAD's Gender strengthening Programme reports reveals that in Uganda, Nationwide 72 per cent of all employed women and 90 per cent of all rural women work in agriculture. Only 53 per cent of rural men do so women do 85 per cent of the planting, 85 per cent of the weeding, 55 per cent of land preparation, and 98 per cent of all food processing.

Mahbob-ul-Haq Human Development Center (2000) reported that women in rural areas are paid about 60 per cent of what men are paid, compared to women in urban areas who make almost 80 per cent of what men make.

In livestock management indoor jobs like milking, feeding, cleaning etc are done by women in 90 per cent of families while management of male animals and fodder production were effected by men. In overall farm production, women average contribution is estimated as 55 per cent to 66 per cent of the total labour with percentages much higher in some regions WWW.Fao.Org.

2.3.3 Health and nutrition

Khan's (1986), study on nutrition and Health practices reveal that, in case of majority of the rural women, especially pregnant and lactating mothers, malnutrition was another problem. Due to acute poverty those women were not in a position to take nutritious food which adversely affected their health conditions. Medical facilities like vaccination for these women were very meager and nearly 85 per cent of the deliveries took place at home with assistance of untrained dhais. The time use data of women of 3-8 months of pregnancy revealed that they had to work about 14 hours a day and the activities included strenuous jobs like fetching of water, rearing of animals, grinding, cooking which added to the miseries of rural women. The incidence of sickness was more compared with men but they did not get the necessary medical care from the existing health services provided by Government agencies.

Reddy (1986) in his study on accessibility of women to health, family planning and educational services revealed that women's accessibility to health services has improved. An increase in the ratio and expectation of life at birth for women indicate this aspect. Though the literacy rate of women has increased from 1901 to 1981 their access to education is low as compared with that of men.

Malik Kaur (1988) reported that only 25.7% of the respondents were making use of modern health services either for prenatal care or at the time of delivery. All other (74.3%) were availing the services of village mid wife at the time of delivery and none of them consulted during the prenatal period, unless and until some problem arose and in that case also they consulted village midwife only in whom they had tremendous faith and conviction. Of the 25.7 per cent who were making use of health services, availed modern health services only when some problem was there. Only 17.7 per cent of respondents had high access to modern health facilities.

Bhalla (1995) reported that 37 per cent of pregnant mothers in India received no prenatal care during their pregnancies. The proportion varied directly with education levels and place of residence. Importantly mothers cited the lack of nearby adequate health care facilities as one of the main reasons that they did not seek/ receive care. He also reported that girls are less likely to be brought into hospitals than boys, and are almost always brought in at a later stage in the illness.

Jejeebhoy and Rao (1995) stated that girls are less likely to be brought into hospitals than boys, and are almost always brought in at a later stage in the illness.

Alderman and Garcia (1996) conducted a study in rural Pakistan and revealed that nearly 33 per cent of the households in Dir consumed less than 1,800 calories per person per day, compared with only 13 per cent in Attock and 22 per cent in Faisalabad. In Badin, about 60 per cent of calories come from rice, compared with only 4 per cent in Attock and Faisalabad, provided 60 per cent of calories, there and 51 per cent in Dir.

Thakare *et al.*, (1996) revealed that the consumption of cereals, pulses, fruits and vegetables, fats, and oil, milk, fleshy foods and eggs, sugar and jaggery

was much lower than the needed minimum. Even in common food items like cereals deficiency was 22 per cent. The deficiency in other items were pulses 61 per cent, fruits 31 per cent, vegetables 60 per cent, fats and oil 61 per cent, milk 68 per cent, fleshy foods and eggs, 82 per cent: sugar and jaggery 19 per cent. They also revealed that cereals accounted for major intake of calories i.e., 1001.44 calories (46.34%) while pulses constituted 83.79 calories (3.88%).

Mahajan *et al.*, (1997) revealed that the intake of cereals by adolescent males was more (380 g/day) as compared to females (320 g/day) but was less than RDA in both the cases. The mean intake of milk and milk products and-fats/oils was the same i.e., 350 ml/g and 25 g/day respectively, whereas intake of pulses, vegetables, sugar / jaggery was more in case of females than in males.

Farzana and Manay (1998) reported that except for cereals, the intake of all other foods was below RDA. Intake of pulses was 72 per cent, sugar and jaggery, 60 per cent, and other vegetables 40 per cent. The intake of green leafy vegetables, roots and tubers, fats and oils and milk and milk products was below 30 per cent compared to RDA. Average energy intake per Cu was 2282 Kcal which was 78 per cent of adequacy compared to RDA. Intake of protein was 55 g (92%) of adequacy.

State of the world children, 1997 reported that the mortality rate of pregnant women and nursing mothers is the worst and Nepal is the only country in the world where the average life expectancy at birth of women is less than that of men. The report also stated that pregnant women who have medical examinations before child births are 15 per cent, those who have medical examinations after child births are 10 per cent and those who have medical examinations until right before child birth are only 18 percent. Delivery at home account for 96 per cent of the whole. Deliveries with a health nurse in attendance all the lowest in the world, only 7percent.

Carol (1998) revealed that in Punjab the medical expenditure for boys are 2.3 times higher than for boys. Estimates from the states of Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Maharastra and Gujarat find registration for maternal and child health services to be as low as 5.22 per cent in rural areas and 21-51 per cent in urban areas.

Kawatra and Sehgal (1998) reported that intake of cereals was only 63.8 per cent of the RDA. The pulse intake was only 20.5 per cent of the RDA. Intake of all types of vegetables was much below than RDA. Fruits, eggs, nuts and meat consumption was almost nil. Milk, fats and oils as well as sugar consumption was below the RDA. The mean energy intake was only about 38.4 ± 10.6 g. Calorie was contributed from the cereals and energy from other sources, like pulses, fats and sugar was almost negligible.

Sadana *et al.*, (1998) revealed that per capita energy consumption of cereals in rural population ranged from 222 to 287 g/day. Average per capita energy consumption ranged from 1465 to 2101 Kcal while, the protein from 50 to 67.5 g/day. The cereals contributed to 38.3 to 67.7 per cent of energy and 41.6 to 69.47 per cent of protein and their contribution in the dietetics decreased with increasing income.

Swamy *et al.*, (1998) revealed that cereals and millets (ragi and rice) formed the bulk of the dietetics. The average cereals consumption was found to be 280 to 320 g by the farm women labourers, which is 10-15 per cent lower than RDA. Similarly, the mean intake of pulse was observed to be approximately 25% lower compared to ICMR standards. Intake of green leafy vegetables, roots and tubers was moderate, consumption of fruits, milk and milk products showed a deficit of 40-60 per cent, sugar was below the suggested level. The intake, of fats and oils ranged from 15-20 g, which almost met ICMR recommendations.

Yadav and Singh (1998) in their study revealed that average daily intake of cereals was 542 g per CD, pulses 38 g/Cu. The daily consumption (per CD) of green leafy vegetables was only 18g, roots and tubers 155 g, other vegetables 197 g fruits 18 g, fleshy foods 8 g, milk and milk products 44 ml, fats and oils 13 g, sugar 7 g and. spices 12 g.

Alain Marcoux (2001) reported that on some surveys, data were collected on women only, giving no indication of gender gaps but revealed a serious situation regarding women's undernutrition. This was particular in the case of Bangladesh (1996-97), where 89% of women were affected (36 in urban areas, 54 in rural areas). In India (1994) a greater prevalence of obesity was found among females in Delhi, Himachal Pradesh Meghalaya and Punjab but there was no significant gender bias on over weight (BMI 25-30 and >30 obesity).

Rajuladevi (2001) revealed that majority of the households in wet and dry areas cooked only 1-2 kg of cereals during slack and peak seasons alike. This per capita per day cereals intake of 284.09 g in wet and 262.24 g in dry villages was very low compared to an intake of 460 g per capita day recommended by ICMR (1989). During the slack season, pulses intake was 15.39 g in wet areas; and 14.97 g in dry areas. During the peak season; the per capita per day pulses intake was 19.06 g in day.

UNICEF (2001), reported that 90% of women surveyed in Andhra Pradesh received an antenatal check up, 88 per cent of those in rural areas compared to 94 per cent in Urban.

Galab *et al.* (2003) reported that nearly half of the births took place in a hospital (49%), 46 per cent at home and were 60 per cent of deliveries were attendant some one with medical training. Over double the proportion of mother from urban areas (83%) delivered babies in hospital compared to those in rural areas (87%) and nearly half the mothers (49%) delivered their babies without medically trained assistance.

Nauriyal (2003) results of a research study carried out in Mumbai related to general health consciousness among women further confirm that women are neglected lot. The study reported that out of 271 untreated illness episodes, male episodes accounted for only 17 and female episodes accounted for 254. More women than men used home remedies.

Princy Yesudian (2004) study on impact of women's empowerment, autonomy and attitude on maternal health care utilization in India reveal that:

- Nearly one fifth (19.1%) of the mothers did not utilize antenatal care at all (No ANC check up, no TT injection and no intake of IFA syrup or tablets).
- more than one in every two mothers (54.9%) who were with high school and above level of education had received full ANC, where as among illiterates, less than one in every ten mothers (8.3%) had taken full ANC. With more than three- fourth of the mothers (76.1%) with higher education had delivered in a healthy facility, where as only one- sixth of the illiterate mothers (17.6%) had delivered in a health facility. Nearly three- fourth

(74%) illiterate mothers had delivered at home without any professional assistance.

- just 6.6 per cent for non media exposed mothers achieved full utilization of antenatal care, where as 31.8% of media exposed mothers had full utilization antenatal care. Nearly one-third of the non-media exposed mothers (31.9%) did not utilize any components of the antenatal care. Only in every two media exposed mothers (50.2%) had delivered in a health facility, where as this proportion among non media exposed mothers was 15% only. Media exposed mothers had much better utilization of postnatal care.
- institutional delivery was high among mothers with partial autonomy (40.6%) followed by mothers with no autonomy (35.6%) in cooking decisions.
- proportion of mothers who had autonomy to take the decision to go and stay with parents and sibling was very low (7.6%), their utilization of all the components of maternal health care was much higher than mothers who were not involved in this decision at all.
- full utilization of ANC was found to be higher among mothers with full autonomy on their health care as compared to those who did not have this autonomy at all, 25.1% and 17% respectively. Even institutional delivery and postnatal care were high among mothers with full care autonomy.
- utilization of full ANC was little more than double among the mothers who had control over money. A larger proportion of mothers with high mobility autonomy utilized full ANC (32.7%) and went for institutional delivery (49.7%). A larger proportion of mothers with high mobility autonomy 16.3% and 28.9% respectively.

2.3.4 Time

In the central province of Cameroon, women's working week is longer than 64 hours. Whereas for men it is only about 32 hours. About half of the women's time is spent on domestic tasks, but even then women spend more time on agriculture than men do (26 hr / week compared with only 12 hr / week for men). In Burkina Faso, the average working day for men is 8.5 hours but for

women it is 14 hours. In Gabon, women perform 95 per cent of farm work, usually working around 15 hours a day. Even during peak agricultural periods, males spend only about 2 to 3 hours a day on agriculture (IFAD, 1999).

Palmer (1991), reported that in Burkina Faso, girls at 9 of age contribute up to 4.5 hours per day to household work, farming and family work, such as fetching water and doing laundry, and that at 15 years of age, a girl spends about 10 hours per day in productive tasks.

In a study conducted by Anuradha *et al.* (1993) on hill women found that, women spend 3-9 hours on agricultural operations. A majority of women (66.26%) spent 3-5 hours a day in the fields and the rest even more. Fetching water takes least amount of time; 80 per cent of the women spend up to half an hour in this task, and the rest one hour. For the procurement of fodder and fuel, on an average, most women (62.5%) spend 2-3 hours, though some of them (12.5%) have to allot over 6 hours of their time for this task. Management of cattle required 1-3 hours per day depending on number of animals, 61.5 per cent of the women require only one hour per day for this job. Majority (65%) spent 3-5 hours on house work. While, leisure time for hill women, may range from 7 hours or day, for most of them (76.8%), however it lies between 1 and 3 hours.

Meera Sen *et al.* (1993) in their study conducted in the Coastal Belt of West Bengal found that Farm Women participation in various activities in Purru Village was to the extent of 50 to 100 per cent in terms of time spent per day. Men had no role in activities like food preparation, fuel collection, cleaning the house, childcare, fodder collection, fetching water, rice processing.

According to Saito (1994) in his study on Rural Women and Food Production in Sub-Saharan Africa, reported that in Burkina Faso and in Nigeria, the average working day is 14 hours, 8 or 9 of which are devoted to farm work, and the remainder to non-farm work, the corresponding figure for men was between 8 and 9 hours, seven, of which in farm work, and the remainder is non-farming activities.

IFAD (1995), study found that in China, Nation wide rural women spent some what more time on their reproductive and their productive roles (56.7% as compared with 43.3%). Productive work includes work, travel to work and

marketing shopping. Reproductive work includes cooking, washing other domestic work, reading and leisure activities.

Sheela and Kattappa (1996) reported that on an average, farm women with three enterprises spent maximum time (72.00%) in a day on different farm, household and other activities followed by farm women with single enterprise (71.79%) and two enterprises (69.78%) respectively.

Krishnaveni (1997) concluded that farm women spent 36.20 per cent of their daily time on farm and home activities. The small, medium and large land holding groups of farm women spent 36.90 per cent, 36.30 per cent and 35.30 per cent of their time on farm activities, respectively. Further 62.90 per cent, 63.90 per cent and 64.80 per cent of their time on home activities respectively.

Batish *et al.* (1998) observed that women on an average, spent 14.72 hours on household activities with maximum of time expenditure per day for food preparation and Service (6.06 hours) and minimum on care of children (0.49 hours).

Out of the household activities, cooking consumed 30 per cent of the energy, which included pre-cleaning, cooking and serving. The remaining activities washing clothes, water collection, household maintenance, firewood collection and childcare took 20.7%, 19.8%, 16.5%, 9.5% and 3.3% respectively (Eswaran, Sekar and Parvathi, 1998).

The level of participation of farm women in agriculture is increasing tremendously (Verma *et al.*, 1998). Farm women play major role in fuel collection, cooking, crop selection, intercultural practices, harvest and cold storage. In India, 60 to 80 pc of the work is done by the women (Rama, 1988). The involvement of farm women is in the activities of dropping the seeds behind the plough, sowing, transplanting, weeding, hoeing and scaring of birds (Bhuyan *et al.* 1988, Ghosh *et al.*, 1988; Singh *et al.*, 1988; Singh, Lakshmi and Verma, 1996). The nature of participation in post harvest activities are storage of food grains, harvesting, threshing, winnowing and carrying the produce to home (Singh, Lakshmi and Verma, 1996). 92% of the landless farm women and 70 pc of marginal category of farm women have taken up agriculture as primary activity (Mrunalini, 2001).

Blackden and Bhanu (1999) in their study on gender growth and poverty reduction revealed that, in the Center Province in Cameroon, women's total weekly

labour is over 64 hours, of which 26 are employed in carrying out family labour, while men's weekly labour is 32 hours, four of which are for family labour.

Sheela and Kattepa (1999), study on time utilization revealed that marginal farm women spent more time (38.00%) on farm activities followed by small (33.58%) and large farm women (20.83%).

Sujatha and Nanjaiyan (1999) revealed that 83.67 per cent of farmers and 93.33 per cent of farm women worked more than 8 hours in farming activities during peak season.

Venkateswarlu (1999), study on "Role of Women in Indian Model" reported that cent per cent of child care was taken by women followed by 99 per cent of work execution for cleaning utensils was carried out by women and one per cent by men, cooking food (98% - women and 2% - men), care of aged persons (95% - women 45% - men) and purchasing of household articles (75% by women and 25% men). Moreover 93 per cent of domestic activities were attended by women and remaining 7 per cent by men.

Antwal and Bellurkar (2000) revealed that on an average, rural women spent 4.28 hours in farm activities during peak season, while 2.58 hours in kitchen work during slack season.

Punam kumari (2001) in her study on rural women at work in Bihar reported that 52.86 per cent man days devoted in land preparation was by men and rest by women. In the nursery saving activity, three-fourth men days were devoted by men and one third by women. About 90 per cent mandays devoted in manure and fertilizer application was by men. Women dominated the scene in inter-culturing of rice crop where 54 per cent mandays devoted was by women alone. In the areas of irrigation and plant protection more than 90 per cent mandays were devoted by men only. Mandays devoted in harvesting was about equal for both the sexes. Three-fourth mandays devoted in post-harvest operations was by women and again marketing aspect was dominated by male labour where 85-92 per cent mandays were spend by men. On average 0.739 man days per day were devoted in livestock rearing activities in the families of the respondents of which 0.57 man days (77%) were devoted by men and 0.169 (33%) by women, 50 per cent man days devoted in health care of animals was women only. A little more than two-fifth

man days of women were devoted in cleaning of animal sheds. About 90 per cent and 70.00 per cent man days in milking and offering water was spent by men only. Women's maximum time was spent in the activity of cooking (ie 0.416 man day per day in the households. Household works and child care activity were consuming 0.201 and 0.192 man day of women respectively. Other activities required comparatively less time ranging from 0.146 manday to 0.066 man day.

In Indian Himalayas a pair of bullocks work 1064 hours, a man 1212 hours and a women 3485 hours in a year on a hectare farm (WWW.FAO.Org).

Several gender studies in Indian context found that 75% of the women were engaged in the preparation of land, raising of seedlings and cleaning of seeds. Whereas 25.5 per cent women were engaged in bird watching and only 8 per cent in plant protection measures. Rural women spend about 16 per cent of her time on agricultural activities and rest of all her time was spend in allied activities whole the day (Korat, Dodia and Pathak, 1998). Women spends 640 hours for intercultural operations like weeding, 384 hours for irrigation, 150 hours for transplanting manures and 984 hours for harvesting and threshing for one hectare of land. Her total work of 3485 hours in a year is more than the combined work of man of 1212 hours (Malik, J.S., Narwal, A.S., Dahiya, S. 1998).

During the peak season, an active farm woman spends seven to nine hours per day in the farm (Eswaran, Sekar and Parvathi, 1998; Bhople and Pakti, 1998) and it is ten to twelve hours per full day both at farm and home (Mohanty, 1995; Mamata and Hiremath, 2001). Maximum time was spent in weeding (300 hr/yr) followed by uprooting (189 hr/yr), sowing (185 hr/yr), transplantation (178 hr/yr) activities of farm women in East Godavari district (Mrunalini, 2001).

The farm women spend majority of their time in harvesting followed by planting, weeding, seed collection, nursery raising, planting vegetables, feeding of animals, poultry birds, and preparation of FYM (Sadangi, Mishra and Patel, 1996). Majority of the time was spent in harvesting followed by transplanting, uprooting of seedlings. Less time was spent in threshing, drying of grains and in weeding. Maximum number of respondents in prone to drudgery very often (Borah, 1998). Women labourers were involved mostly in labour intensive and time consuming activities such as transplanting, weeding, harvesting and winnowing (Sobha, 2001).

2.3.5 Access and control over resources

Palmer (1991) reported that in Western and Central Africa daughters tend to receive movable or liquid assets as inheritance, while land tends to remain concentrated in the hands of men.

Mizan (1993), finds that the number of years a women had borrowed loan from the Grameena Bank, and approximate monthly income from the Grameena Bank investment both had a positive significant effect on house hold decision making score. They concluded that Grameena Bank raises women's decision - making power within households because it increases women's income earnings.

Saito (1994), stated that in Nigeria 26 per cent of female headed households have only 2 plots of land each compared with 13 per cent of male headed households and more over women plots are half the size of those of men. He also reported that in Nigeria 40 per cent of female heads of households against 36 per cent male heads of household obtain credit from formal and informal sources, but only 2 per cent of women receive credit from banks (against 15% of men) moreover the average value of loan obtained by women is only 42 per cent of that of men.

World Bank (1995) revealed that in Nigeria households headed by women represent 8 per cent of all households of the 55 per cent are poor against 64 per cent among male headed females.

Goetz and Sen Gupta, (1996) observed a negative image of the effect on women's empowerment. They concluded that most women have a minimal level of control that when comes for loans to be repaid, this lack of control can have a damage on well-being of women. They also reported that the most women have a minimal level of control, that when the time comes for loans to be repaid, this lack of control can have a damage on well-being of women.

Hashemi *et al.* (1996), stated that 70 per cent of women had full or significant control in one BRAC village, where as in one village none of the women had any control. In the Grameena village 27 per cent and 23 per cent had full or significant control.

Pitt and Khandker (1998) find that the flow of expenditure increases 18 taka for every 100 taka borrowed by women, but only 11 taka borrowed by men.

UNDP (1998-99) reported that only about 50 per cent of women surveyed in the provinces of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have had any access to money.

World Bank (1999) reported that women's control over household cash resources doubled, the proportion of food expenditure to total income rose by 2 per cent points, while expenditure for cigarettes and alcohol dropped by 26 per cent and 14 per cent respectively.

IFAD 2000 revealed that 30 per cent of women who had taken loans reported a marked change in gender roles and 70 per cent reported a small change.

Ranjani *et al.* (2001) reported that women members of SAPAP had better access than to family labour non-members, 59 per cent of members and 49 per cent of non-members had access to husbands labour. While all members with saving in their own name, the proportion was lower in the case of non-members (83%). Women's power to dispose off many assets or decide on their use is lower than their legal ownership of the same land (13%), vehicle (18%), house (25%), building (31%), and livestock (43%).

Mark *et al.* (2003) revealed that in case, where wives take loans from any source, 78 per cent of husbands reported that they use their wives loans more in their own income generating projects. Among women who had taken loans for income activities, only 5 per cent reported having total autonomous control over the money 56 per cent had share control over the loan money with their husbands, and 38 per cent reported their husbands control over the proceeds of the loan.

Pitt *et al.* (2004) report on "Does Micro-Credit Empower Women Evidence" from Bangladesh revealed that 62 per cent of men reported that their wives have no independent income. Over 75 per cent of women reported that they do not operate any income - generating activities 78 per cent of women reported not having independent income that they could use at their own (without consulting their husbands). A sizeable number (42%) of women reported that they had own independent savings, and if they did, husbands were aware of these savings 91 per cent wives expressed having a low level of control over these saving,

with 85 per cent saying they are able to decide autonomously how to utilize them. Only around 15 per cent women reported having received money from their parents other blood relatives in past 12 months. Of these, 95 per cent said that their husbands know about the received money. Only 17 per cent reported that they had full control over deciding the money 62 per cent reported partial control and 21 per cent reported having no control at all.

IFAD (2000) revealed that women's access to resources was increased 27.8 per cent, 72.0 per cent, and 71.4 per cent for women with no participation, less than 1 year and more than 1 year in IFAD Projects respectively. Where women's control over household decision making has increased, household food security has gone up in 65.1 per cent of the households.

2.4 INDICATORS OF GENDER EMPOWERMENT

2.4.1 Decision making

Hi Zhongua and Xi Yuhua (1996) in their study on household level decision making among the Miao revealed that decisions regarding larger expenditures were made jointly. Where, small amounts of money are involved, women often decide on their own but for larger expenditures women are like to consult their husbands. Areas where men had more control, were tools and consumer good and for women it was jewellery.

The decision making of farm women in agriculture is found to be increasing. Majority of the farm women took most rational decisions in the event of disaster (Verma *et al.* 1998). Women and men farmers were significantly different with regard to decision-making ability, achievement motivation and value orientation (Sreedevi and Rao, 1997). The extent of participation of women in decision making varied in relation to their status in the family and size of the holding was meagre.

The decisions regarding the purchase of farm equipment and the purchase of the animals were done mostly by the farm women (Mohanty, 1995). Majority of the farm women were active in decisions regarding choosing crop variety, frequency of irrigation, wage payment, time of sale of the crop produce (Raju & Rani, 1990). Involvement of the farm women in decision making is an essential step for national up gradation (Verma, 1998).

Chaudhari *et al.* (1998) reported that 47.10 per cent of women had high level of decision making ability on farm and home aspects. Whereas, 23.20 per cent respondents were found to have low decision making ability.

Michalle Adato *et al.* (2000) in their study reported on women's status and household relation stated that the discussion on medical treatment of children were taken jointly (88.77%), followed by wife only (9.59%) and husband only (9.45%). With regard to children's schooling, joint decisions were taken in case of 80.13 per cent, husband only (10.64%) and wife only (9.05%). Food expenses decisions were taken jointly by majority (65.43%) followed by wife only (19.03%) and husband only (15.29%). Durables purchase, joint decisions (69.59%), husbands only (26.75%) and only 3.20 per cent by women only. Majority (66.10%) of joint decisions were taken for house repairs, husband only (30.09%) and wife only (3.45%).

Punam Kumari (2001) study on rural women at work revealed that:, men took agricultural decisions in 64.51 per cent cases followed by joint decisions in 25.49 per cent cases and women (10.0%). With regard to home-related decisions 48.22, 37.89 and 13.89 per cent women, men and joint decisions were made respectively. Half of men decided independently on money related aspects followed by joint decisions (27.12%) and women (22.90%). Majority (58.4%) of women decided on socio-religious decisions followed by men (35.31%).

Tripta and Sushma Kaushik (2002) study in their impact analysis on decision making power of women related to various aspects of family matters revealed that as regards construction / purchase of property as much as 50 per cent of respondents had medium level decision making power followed by low level (38.4%). High level of participation was seen in case of rearing of children (88.4%), education of children (65.%), marriage of children (73.4%), religious decisions (93.4%), sale and purchase of household items (90.0%), family planning (88.4%) and miscellaneous (61.6%) followed by medium level (10%, 30%, 16.65%, 10%, 11.6%, and 38.4%) respectively.

Mark *et al.* (2003) reported that half of the respondents answered husbands jointly decide on the issue and implemented the action together on livestock sale and purchase (53%), borrowing money (54%) and transaction household equipment (55%).

Suchetha Shukla (2003-04) reported that relatively larger proportion of women in Punjab (83%) and Maharashtra (80%) take decisions on matters related to cooking independently.

2.4.2 Social empowerment

NFHS-II (1999), survey in Maharashtra revealed that 44.5 per cent of women needed permission to visit relative wherever they want, no permission (39.0), cannot visit when wished to visit (14.2%), less than one third majority (29.4%) never go to the market, 14.5 per cent of them go with others and majority (56.1%) reported to go alone. About 21.0 per cent of them never did major shopping, go with others (62.2%) and go alone (16.8%).

IFAD (2000) report showed that 50% of women group members had visited new places and traveled longer distances, 94 per cent had experienced new interactions with staff of institutions such as banks, district and block development organizations, NGOs and the projects itself.

Michalle *et al.* (2000) reported that decisions regarding women's extra income was done by herself (37.25%), given to husband (2.00), both spouse decide (60.74%). Great majority (92.36%) of women seek permission to visit parents, friends, neighbours, no permission (4.77%), no husband (2.19), never left home (0.68%). About 16.23 per cent of women visited her parents alone with children (64.55%), husband (16.73%), other people (1.41%) and never left home (1.08%).

Mark *et al.* (2003), study of Micro-credit revealed that traditions restricts women from leaving the family compound and issues of safety often prevent women from traveling short distances, 83 per cent of husbands reported that their wives never went alone to places like market, bank, health clinic, and so on. Of these, over half (55%) explained that they always accompanied their wives when going outside the home and another 18 per cent explained that wives were accompanied by neighbours or relatives wives responded similarly. 53 per cent of them said that when they travelled outside the village they went with their husbands and or sons, and 22 per cent company of other women. Almost 9 per cent of women reported that they never left the village, 16 per cent women said that they had never visited their parents without their husbands permission.

Sucheta Shukla (2003-2004) revealed that apparently fewer women were involved in making decisions pertaining to visits to the natal family. Only 9 per cent of women in Punjab decides independently. While in Orissa, it was 29 per cent.

Femida Handy and Meenaz Kassam (2004) in their paper on women's empowerment in India cited that the personal autonomy index for supervisor (4.73), Field workers, (4.33) and Recipients (3.02) and all groups (4.17). The personal Autonomy Index includes respondents visit to parental home, hospital, village market, helping relatives with money and setting money asides for own use.

Jeejebhoy *et al.* (2001) reported that majority (57.4%) of women can go to friend, market or community center in the village (35.4%), health center (27.8%), fair (7.9%) neighbouring village (4.51%). The results also reveal that, in Punjab (32.0%) in Uttar Pradesh (32.0 and 35.8%) of Muslims and Hindus respectively and 15.7 per cent Muslims and 18.6 per cent of Hindu women in Tamil Nadu were beaten by their husbands and fear from them. While, 32.0 per cent of women, (41.6 and 47.8%) of Muslims and Hindu respondents in Uttar Pradesh and 35.8 per cent Muslim women and 36.8 per cent of Hindu women were beaten by their husbands. Only 14.9 per cent of them in Punjab were never beaten or fear from their husbands. The figures in Uttar Pradesh were 35.7 and 26.3 per cent for Muslim and Hindu women respectively and 44.3 and 43.3 per cent in Tamil Nadu.

2.4.3 Economic empowerment

NFHS-II (1999) reports indicate that three quarters (75.7%) of women were allowed to spend money for themselves (like purchase of sari or present). Decisions made by others regarding this accounted to 24.8 per cent, jointly (33.4%) and alone (41.8%). Only 18.6 per cent were allowed to spend on jewellery. While, the rest 81.4 per cent were not allowed to spend.

Jeejebhoy *et al.* (2001) reports on women's economic decision making, reveals that in Punjab majority (71.2%) of women participated in discussion on foods followed by jewellery (31.1%) and major goods (16.5%) with regard to Muslim and Hindu women in Uttar Pradesh, major participation was found to be with jewellery. While, a great majority 84.4 and 89.0 per cent Muslim and Hindu women participated in decisions regarding food. Slightly above half (51.1%) of

women in Punjab were involved in taking major decisions on food. In Uttar Pradesh, only 5.7, 5.2 and 1.4 per cent of Muslim women were involved in major decisions on food, jewellery and major goods respectively. Among, Hindu women the per cent was 4.8, 4.5 and 6.9 respectively. Majority (69.6 and 72.4%) of Muslim and Hindu women were found to take major decisions on food.

Majority of women had say in household spending 59.0% in Punjab, 80.0 and 75.0 per cent of Muslim and Hindu and 88.9 and 93.5 per cent of Muslim and Hindu women in Uttar Pradesh and Tamilnadu respectively.

Majority (70.4%) in Punjab, 77.6 and 72.1 per cent Muslim and Hindu women in Uttar Pradesh and 90.9 and 94.7 per cent Muslim and Hindu women in Tamil Nadu got money to spend. The respective figure who were free to purchase jewellery were (16.1, 32.3, 29.1, 29.3 and 28.0 per cent), free to purchase gifts for relatives (23.7, 13.5, 14.5, 19.0 and 17.8%), owns and controls household valuables (61.0, 15.5, 16.0, 26.1 and 22.6%) and plans to use own savings for future support (24.9, 16.6, 24.2, 27.7 and 29.2%) for women in Punjab, Muslim and Hindu women in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Tripta and Sushma Kaushik (2002) conducted study on empowering women through Financial Assistance Schemes and revealed the following results: After starting the enterprises, the economic asset acquired by 41.65 per cent of them was cash. Just above half (51.6%) had medium economic assets on their name. Over half (53.3%) had low freedom to acquire assets. Majority (60.0%) of them respondents receive the income to their own hands. Above three quarters (78.3%) of women beneficiaries had no power to sell any of the assets without permission of the family. While majority (70.0%) of the beneficiaries husbands had the power to sell any of assets without beneficiaries permission. Half of the respondents gave their earned income to their husbands. An overwhelming majority (85.0%) of respondents reported their status to be low within the family and nearly half (48.3%) had medium status outside the family. Majority (63.4%) had medium access to resources while a vast majority (81.6%) had low control over the resources.

Two third majority (66.6%) had medium access to resources while, above three quarters (78.4%) had low control over resources. Overall impact of

selected schemes on economic empowerment of beneficiaries was found to be low by 41.6 per cent followed by medium (40.0%) and high among only 18.3 per cent.

Deepti Aggarwal *et al.* (2002) study revealed that majority (69.99%) of respondents had very low economic empowerment followed by very high (22.52%), high (4.44%), medium (2.77%) and low among only 0.28 per cent.

Mark *et al.* (2003) reported that 62 per cent of men reported that their wives have no independent savings. Over 75% of women reported that they do not operate any income generating activity. Majority (78%) of women reported not having independent income that they could use at their own. A sizeable number (42%) of women reported that they own independent savings and if they had, husbands were aware of these saving (91%). Only around 15% of women reported having received money from their parents and other blood relatives in the past 12 months. Of these, 95% said that their husbands know that they receive this money. Only 17% reported that they had full control over deciding the money received, 62% reported partial control and 21% reported having no control at all.

Suchetha Shukla (2003-04) stated that independent decisions by women on spending money and keeping money aside for themselves was highest in Punjab followed by Kerala and lowest in Orissa, ranking between 54 to 29% and 78 to 66 per cent respectively.

2.4.4 Political empowerment

Malkit Kaur (1988) revealed that majority (44%) of women had low level of political awareness, 36 per cent had medium level and 20 per cent had high level of political awareness. Majority of women were casting their vote according to wishes of male members (74.6%) and 25 per cent of respondents decided themselves about the person to vote.

Madhusudhan Reddy (1990) study on political awareness and participation revealed that majority 69.64 per cent of the respondents were not aware of the nationality, 78.66 the respondents were not aware of the year and date of independence, 65.33 per cent had no knowledge with regard to different elections, 72.33 per cent do not know the name of MLA from their constituency, 85.33 per cent were not aware of the ruling party, only 25 per cent were aware of the atrocities taking place in the village, 91.66 per cent were not in the habit of

voting independently, 80.59 per cent did not bother about attending any party meetings, 97.70 per cent did not take part in electoral contests and, 83.66 per cent did not take part in any form of election campaigning.

United Nation (1990) in "The situation of women's selected indicators revealed that, in Norway and Finland, women constituted 34% and 32% of all elected and appointed members of National legislative bodies. In 1985-87, in sharp contrast to analogous figures for India, Bangladesh and Pakistan ranged between 8 and 10, and even those for the United States and United Kingdom which are 5.3 and 6.3 respectively.

In the words of Peter Wagner (1994) gender in liberal political theory is a silenced issue. Far from literating women and enabling them to full participation in all social reforms, the bourgeois restructuring (of society) introduced more formalized rules and formally. Excluded women from a range of activities, most prominently political participation

Bhatt (1998) study on empowerment and status of rural women reported that 63.1 per cent of women felt that women should take active part in politics, 3.8 per cent of them feel that women should not take active part in politics and a considerable of them i.e., 33.1 per cent had no opinion in this regard. Only 4.9 per cent of the women sample participated as supports and agents while none of them participated as candidates. Over half (56.3 %) of the sample women respondents exercised their franchise in election independently, 39.7 per cent voted according to the direction of others which include male member of the families, village head man, pradhans and other influential persons of the village. The remaining 4.0 per cent of them did not vote in elections due to various reasons.

Pradeep Chibber (1999) revealed that:

- With regard to gender and the influence of elections on the government 23 per cent of women and 39 per cent of men had say in government, 32 per cent of women and 53 per cent of men said elections do influence the government. While (38%) of women and (59%) of men reported that voting had an effect on government action.
- Women's participation was significantly lower than that of men with well over four in five women saying that they had never partake such activities.

Most telling 85 per cent of the women, from years after the adoption of 73rd amendment said they had not participated in any Panchayat meetings, in contrast to 61 per cent men. About 90 per cent of women and 75 per cent had never attended party meetings. While 90 per cent of women and 80 per cent of men were never involved in campaigning. 82 per cent of female had never contacted the bureaucrats in contrast with 66 per cent of men. While, 87 per cent of females and 72 per cent of men were never in the position of party leaders. Overall picture revealed that 36 per cent of women were not interested in local elections at all, in contrast to 21 per cent of men who felt similarly.

- Most women did not know about reservations for them in local elections, only 44 per cent of them knew of the reservations, of these 44 per cent most (almost two-thirds) did not know what the extent of reservation was only a fourth could correctly identify the per cent reserved for them as third. About 72 per cent of women reported that participation of women in election will solve women's problems 97% said participation will raise social status of women, 84% reported that women taking part in election can look after their family and children adequately, 60 per cent said men will never allow equality for women, 56 per cent opined that lack of co-operation of men hinder women's development; 92 per cent were confident of women being capable housewives and cent per cent of them reported that if women were given works, jobs, and education will increase their self-confidence and self reliance.
- Major problem faced by women were economic (19%) and education (66%). While 64 per cent of women said that men can be held responsible (partly) for these problems.

Purnima and Vinod Vyasulu (1999) reported that in Karnataka reservation for women is 1/3rd, as in the rest of the country. At the Gram Panchayat level well over 40% of the elected representatives were women.

Arun Kumar Singh (2000) reported that 79 per cent expressed their awareness about the proper utilization of their vote, without any influence of male members of the family and almost half (49.0%) were in favour of political participation of women.

Ranjani *et al.* (2001) reported that 95% of SAPAP group members exercised their vote during last Panchayat elections. Women members contested between 20-25 % of seats reserved for women in 2001. In Kurnool 54 women contested elections from 6 gram Panchayats. They contested both general seats and seats reserved for women. Of this, only 10% of them won the elections.

Deepti Aggarwal *et al.* (2002) reported that almost half (49.16%) of women had very low political empowerment followed by very high (30.57%), medium (9.72%), high (9.44) and low (1.11%).

Deepti Aggarwal *et al.* (2002) in her study on political empowerment of women panchayat members reveal that half of the respondents had very low social empowerments, followed by medium (20.83%), high (18.05%), very high (10.85%), and only 0.27 per cent were in low empowerment category.

Deepti Aggarwal *et al.* (2002) reported that:

- Thirtieth per cent of the respondents were unfavourable with regard to attitude towards women and governance followed by favourable (26.76%), neutral (16.07%), strongly favourable (15.00%) and 11.66 per cent were strongly unfavourable.
- The participation during meeting was medium (65.00%) and high (35.00%) among the respondents.
- Nearly half (56.67%) reported to be frustrated with regard to empowerment after being elected followed by highly empowered (15.00%), very less empowered (11.67%); moderately empowered (10.00%), and 8.33 per cent equally were partially empowered and somewhat empowered.
- With regard to expectation 45.00 per cent had medium expectations followed by high (36.67%) and low (18.33%).

Updesh Yadav *et al.* (2002) reported that:

- On the basis of mean scores, panchayat members scored maximum of 15.80 followed by mean of 15.16 by males of second generation, 13.12 by males of 1st generation, 12.91 by males of 3rd generation and mean of 11.92, 9.92 and 6.12 for female voters of 3rd, 2nd and 1st generation, respectively.

Panchayat members had maximum awareness and participation and scored cent per cent on casting vote in last election, know about the 3 tiers of Panchayat, gram sabha, reserved seats, minimum age to become members of panchayat member of panchayat members in the village panchayat, election of Sarpanch, 2000 as special significance year, reservation given to women and increased financial resources with panchayats after 73rd election.

- They also reported that cent per cent both male and female voters of 1st and 2nd generation voters had cast vote in last election compared to 86 and 84 per cent male and female voters of third generation.
- With regard to perception towards reservation bill, among group of voters, majority of males and female were in favourable (33.3%) and neutral category (34.92%) followed by equal per cent i.e., 14.28 in highly favourable and unfavourable and 3.17 per cent in highly unfavourable category.
- The results also indicate that women voters and panchayat members had a more positive perception of women as decision maker compared to male counterparts.

Mark *et al* (2003) stated that only 35% if women respondents knew the name of their members of Panchayat , impressive majority (86%) of women reported having voted in the last election and 74% of their husbands had influenced or compelled them to vote for a certain candidate.

2.4.5 Legal empowerment

Audi Narayana and Uma (1991) in "Opinion towards marriage patterns. An Inter Generational study in a Tamilnadu Village" observed that getting employment, economic independence, to be the single most criterion for the timing of marriage for boys and learning of household work as the important criteria as long as attainment of menarche for the timing of marriage for girls.

Audi Narayana and Thenmozhi (1992) in "Raising Age at Mariage of Girls in India: Future Policy Interventions: have studied the causes for early marriage

age for females and the need to raise female age at marriage and strategy for policy intervention.

Sumithra (1996) in her study on awareness, opinion and attitude of educated employees men and women reported that: (1) to be independent financially is considered as the major criteria for a boy to get married, by 79 per cent of the sample, (2) the respondents clearly signaled that the desirable marriage age of men to be between 26-30 years and women 22-25 years, (3) Marriages cannot be delayed as they are timed in heaven statement was agreed by 38 per cent, 21 per cent agreed partially, 34 per cent of them disagreed and 6 per cent of them were undecided, (4) Early marriages help to get rid of adolescent problems statement was disagreed by 51 per cent of the sample, while partially agreed by 30 per cent of them, 13 per cent agreed strongly while 5 per cent were undecided and (5) Over half (52%) of the sample disagreed with the statement, once a boy is employed, he can be married, irrespective of age. While, 4 per cent were undecided, 35 per cent of them agreed partially while 9 per cent of them strongly agreed.

Bhatt (1998) study revealed that:

- Only a negligible percentage (3.7%) of the sample women reported the appropriate age of girls at marriage should be between 13 to 17 age and the rest 96.3 per cent of them are of the view that it should be 18 years and above.
- As many as 77.1 per cent of them disapproved the system of dowry, 21.0 per cent approved the system partially and only 20.0 per cent of them approved the system outrightly.
- An overwhelming (88.4%) did not approve divorce while 11.6 per cent approved it.
- Majority (60.3%) of them disapproved widow marriage and 39.7 per cent of them approved this.
- About 13.4 per cent of them were unaware of the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act and Hindu Succession Act and 88.7 per cent are unaware of the Muslim personal law. On the whole, 88.7 per cent of them were not

aware of the laws (Hindu Marriage Act, Hindu Succession Act, Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, Muslim Personal Law, Child Marriage Act and Dowry Prohibition Act).

Malkit Kaur (1988) study on rural women and technological advancement revealed that:

- Majority were not aware of the law child marriages Restraint Act 10.5 per cent were aware of its existence and 7.2 per cent of them knew about the content also.
- Above three quarters (76.5%) were unaware of widow remarriage law. Majority (81.8%) with 41.9 per cent strongly favouring it. Only 15.9 per cent were unfavourable toward widow remarriage.
- 65.7 per cent of respondents knew about the dowry law. 33.9 per cent were unaware of it and 0.7 per cent knew the content. Maximum (55.2%) of them were in favour of this. Out of this, 17 per cent were strongly in favour of it. Only 39.2 per cent had unfavourable attitude.
- 62.1 per cent were aware of Hindu Special Marriage Act (1955) and 9.7 per cent knew the content also.
- A large majority (93.5%) were aware of this legislation and only 6.5 per cent were not aware of this. Attitude of the respondents towards this legislation was favourable in 56.6 per cent of cases and unfavourable in 43.3 per cent cases.

Arun Kumar (2000) study of empowerment of women in India revealed that 45.0 per cent argued that dowry is unavoidable, 80.0 per cent accepted widow remarriages, 68.0 per cent reported freedom for divorce is necessary, 63.0 per cent agreed with women's right in parental property, 49.0 per cent had opinion on girls education and 73.0 per cent were in favour of women's employment.

Urmila and Lali Yadav (2002) reported that:

- Majority of respondents (45.0%) had medium knowledge followed by high (31.0%) and low (24.0%) knowledge regarding Panchayat Raj Act, respectively.

- An equal percentage of respondents (38.0%) had low and medium knowledge followed by high (24.0%) knowledge regarding child marriage restraint act.
- More than one third of respondents (38.0%) had medium knowledge scores whereas 34.0 per cent of respondents had low while 28.0 per cent had high knowledge regarding divorce act.
- Regarding dowry prohibition act reveal that most of the respondents (91.0%) had medium knowledge followed by high (30.0%) and low (29.0%) knowledge regarding dowry prohibition act.
- Less than 37 per cent of respondents had medium knowledge while an almost equal number of respondents had high (32.0%) and low (31.0%) knowledge, respondents on sex discrimination act.
- About 37.0 per cent of respondents had neutral opinion while 35.0 per cent had favourable and 28 per cent had favourable opinion regarding panchayat raj act.
- With regard to child marriage restraint Act, 40 per cent had neutral opinion followed by unfavourable (32.0%) and favourable (28.0%).
- About half (49.0%) had favourable opinion followed by neutral (30.0%) and unfavourable (21.0%) opinion on dowry prohibition act.
- Nearly half (46.0%) of them had neutral opinion followed by unfavourable (31.0%) and favourable (23.0%) opinion regarding sex discrimination act.

2.5 GENDER RELATED DEVELOPMENT

Presett Roland (1973) stated that, in those countries where mortality was higher and where infant and child mortality in particular was high. The maximum expectation of life was at a more advanced age (4 or sometimes 5 years) and a child of 10 years of age had a expectation of life often closure to that of the new born.

Basu and Kshatriya (1989) reported that average life expectancy at birth based on q5 values for Muria (Males 37.56 yrs, Females 40.07) Maria (Males 40.26 yrs, females 45.30 yrs) and Halb (Males 38.6 yrs and females (41.46 yrs) tribes and 41.1 years for all the four tribal group combines.



In Kerala the life expectancy for the period 1992-96 was 73 years (70 years for Male and 76 years for female) which was the highest at the national level.

India's global position has been presented in Table 1. Norway ranks first in HDI and GDI positions in the world and falls in the human development category. The GDI rank of India 2003 was 103 and tends to fall in medium human development category. Pakistan and Nepal fall in the low human development category.

Table 1: India's global position on human and gender development

Country	HDI rank	GDI rank	HDI		GDI		GEM	
	2000	2003	1992	2000	1992	2000	1992	2000
Norway	1	1	0.932	0.942	0.911	0.941	0.752	0.837
Australia	5	4	0.927	0.939	0.901	0.956	0.568	0.759
Srilanka	89	80	0.704	0.741	0.660	0.737	0.268	0.274
China	96	83	0.594	0.726	0.578	0.724	0.424	0.483#
Indonesia	110	--	0.637	0.684	0.591	0.678	0.362	0.362@
India	124	103	0.439	0.577	0.401	0.560	0.276	0.240@
Pakistan	138	120	0.483	0.449	0.360	0.468	0.153	0.176@
Nepal	142	119	0.343	0.490	0.310	0.470	0.315	--
Bangladesh	145	112	0.364	0.478	0.239	0.468	0.287	0.223
Mozambique	170	--	0.246	0.322	0.229	0.307	0.350	0.428@
Ethiopia	168	--	0.227	0.327	0.21	0.313	0.205	--
Niger	172	--	0.207	0.272	0.196	0.263	--	0.119

Note: # relates to HDR 1998, @ relate to HDR 1999, * relates to HDR 2000

Source: Human Development Report (HDR), 1995, 1999, 2001 and 2002

The composite indices reflect the level of disparity and development among the states. However, it was found that the overall ranking on HDI and GDI remains unchanged. Those state that performed better in HDI also performed better in GDI. The difference of rank in HDI and GDI was zero for many of the states. The difference +1 in Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan which indicates that the relative performance of states of GDI is not good, compared to HDI. It may to noted that for most of the states the composite value of GDI is much below

indicating the disadvantages of females as compared to males. On the other hand the composite value of HPI is also inconsistent with the state of human development. For, example the state of Kerala which ranks 1 in HDI and GDI but ranks last in HPI similar in consistency is observed for all states (Table 2).

Table 2: Relative performance of states of India by composite indices of human development

State	HDI	GDI	HDI - GDI	Rank in HPI
Kerala	1	1	0	16
Punjab	2	3	-1	1
Maharashtra	3	2	1	5
Himachal Pradesh	4	4	0	2
Tamil Nadu	6	5	1	4
Haryana	5	6	-1	7
Gujarat	7	7	0	6
West Bengal	8	8	0	9
Karnakata	9	9	0	8
Assam	10	10	0	10
Andhra Pradesh	11	11	0	14
Rajastan	12	13	-1	11
Orissa	13	12	1	13
Madhya Pradesh	14	14	0	12
Uttar Pradesh	15	15	0	15
Bihar	16	16	0	

Source: www.iips.india.org

HDI and GDI values for the states in India were presented in Table 3. The highest HDI and GDI values were for Kerala and the lowest values were observed for Uttar Pradesh. The HDI value of Andhra Pradesh was 0.400 and GDI was 0.371.

Table 3: HDI and GDI values for the states of Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	State	Life expectancy at birth (year) 1989-93)	Literacy rate (71%) (1991)	State Domestic Product per capita (Rupees) (At current price) (1992-93)	HDI (1991-92)	GDI (1991-92)
1	Kerala	72.0	90	5.768	0.603	0.565
2	Punjab	66.4	59	11.212	0.529	0.424
3	Maharashtra	64.2	65	9.795	0.523	0.492
4	Haryana	62.9	56	9.037	0.489	0.370
5	Gujarat	60.1	61	8.045	0.467	0.437
6	West Bengal	61.5	58	5.633	0.459	0.399
7	Himachal Pradesh	63.6	64	6.39	0.454	0.432
8	Karnataka	61.9	56	6.331	0.448	0.417
9	Tamil Nadu	62.4	63	6.809	0.438	0.402
10	Andhra Pradesh	60.6	44	5.718	0.400	0.371
11	Assam	54.59	53	4.973	0.379	0.347
12	Orissa	55.5	49	4.114	0.373	0.329
13	Rajasthan	55.5	39	5.086	0.356	0.309
14	Bihar	58.0	38	3.053	0.354	0.306
15	Madhya Pradesh	58.5	44	4.558	0.349	0.312
16	Uttar Pradesh	54.0	42	4.345	0.348	0.293
	India	59.4	52	--	0.423	0.388

Source: www.ces.fe.cu.

2.6 RELATIONAL ANALYSIS

Audinarayana and Senthil Nayaki (1990) in their "Socio-economic characteristics influencing age at marriage in a Tamilnadu village" observed that all socio-economic characteristics under consideration. Educational status occupational status and economic status of the children and their fathers exerted a significant positive influence on the age at marriage of the respondents and their husbands.

Nagamani (1991) study on women's education and employment revealed that education was found to have positive relationship between socio-economic status of the respondents and their attitude towards women's education. Educational status of the respondents is associated with their attitudes towards women's education. There was a negative correlation between age of the respondents and their attitudes towards education (lower the age of the respondents more positive are their attitudes towards education). Employment status of the respondents is associated with their attitudes towards education.

Audi Narayana and Rajasree (1995) in their "Cultural Determinants of age at marriage: An urban experience" studied Kavendaripalayam area of coimbatore city in Tamilnadu. The findings established the significant influence of various cultural characteristics on the age at marriage for both males and females. This influence was more pronounced in the case of females than males.

With regard to employment, there was positive correlation between socio-economic status of the respondents and their attitudes towards women's employment. Educational status of the respondents was associated with their attitude towards women's employment. There was a negative correlation between 'Age' of the respondents and their attitudes towards women's employment.

Chaudhari, *et al.* (1998). Reported that education ($r=0.334$), income ($r=0.014$), socio-economic status ($r=0.321$), mass media contact ($r=0.214$), and extension contact ($r=0.352$) were found to be significant with decision making ability.

Farzana *et al.*, (1996) reported that per capita consumption of foods by the households was significantly lower than recommended allowances. Nuclear families consumed higher amount of all foods except protective foods. Joint

families consumed significantly higher amounts of other vegetables (41 g/ day) as compared to only 14.0 g, consumed by nuclear families. Family size had no significant impact on quantity of foods consumed. Higher the land holding higher was the per capita milk consumption. Calcium intake was higher (1432.8 mg) than recommended (400 mg) allowance and Vitamin 'A' intake was lower (479 mg) than recommended (1200 mg/day) intake. Nuclear families consumed higher (66.59 g)

Hashemi *et al.* (1996), finds that membership in Grameena Bank and BRAC had positive effect on empowerment even controlling for women's independent contribution to income. They find that even in cases where credit programme members do not contribute because their husbands appropriate their loan funds, because the loans they have taken for generating income, or for various other reason, just the experience of being a member is beneficial for empowerment.

Kumari and Padmavathi (2000) conducted a study and revealed that the intake of food by the four groups of families were not significantly different, except for milk and milk products and sugar and jaggery. Families of all the four groups failed to meet the RDA for all food items except for cereals.

Rahman and Rao (2000) reported that mean intake of rice, wheat, other cereals and millets and total cereals and millets are significantly lower in families of high per capita monthly income than in those of low income groups. The intake of qualitative foods such as milk and milk products, pulses, and legumes and fruits increased significantly with increase in monthly per capita income. The intake of roots and tubers, other vegetables, meat and poultry products, fish and other sea foods, sugar, fats and edible oils and condiments and spices was more in higher income groups than those of low or middle income groups and differed significantly. The intake of all the nutrients are significantly lower in low income groups families than in those of better income group families. The intake of Vitamin-C is highest in higher income group and lowest in low income group.

Urmila Yadav and Lali Yadav (2002). Study on youth empowerment on legal issues indicate that age and knowledge about panchayat raj act, child marriage restraint act, divorce act, were found to be significantly associated with each other. Significant association was also seen between respondents education and knowledge about panchayat raj act, child marriage restraint act, and divorce

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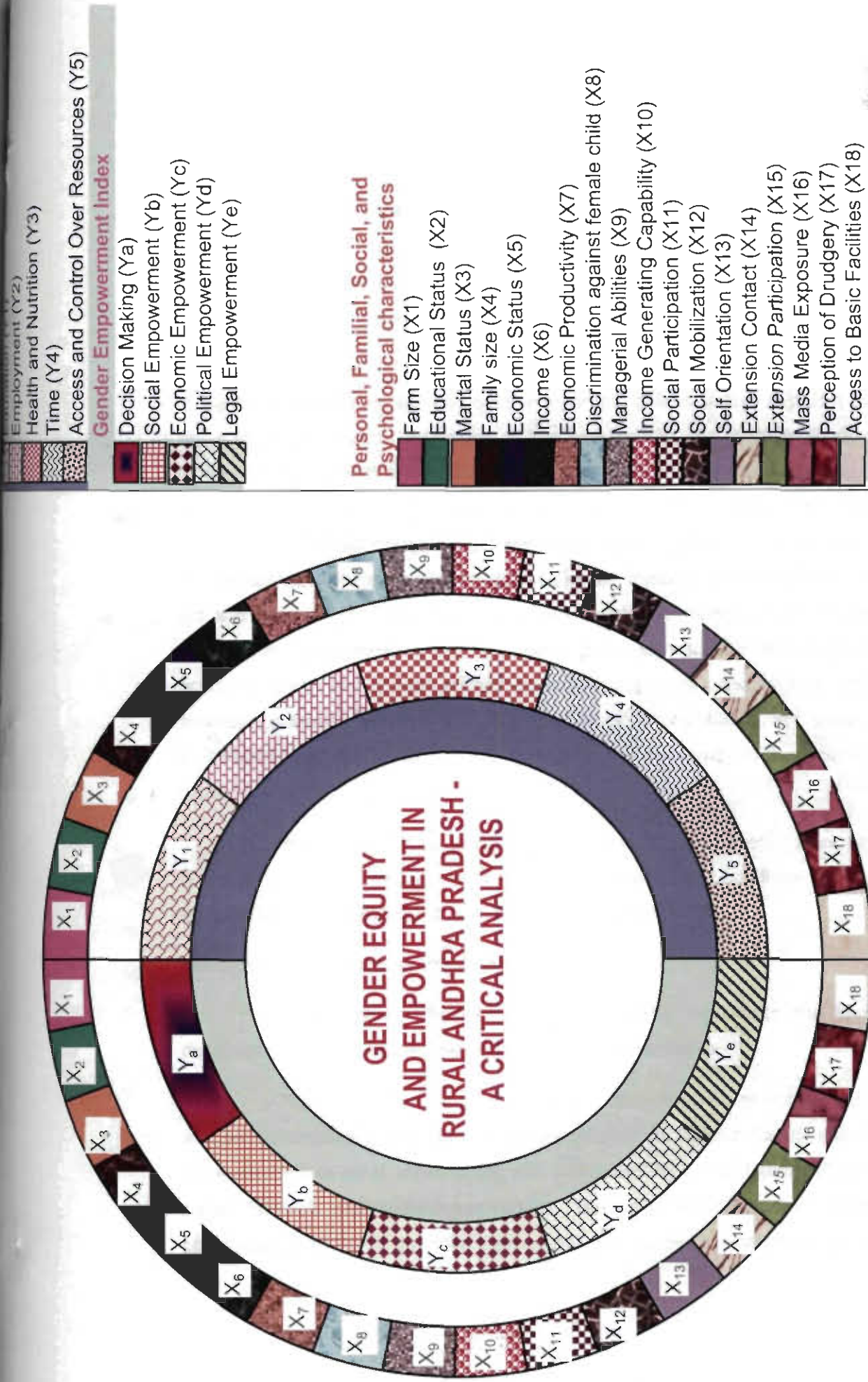


Fig. 1: Conceptual model for the study

act. Family education status and knowledge regarding panchayat raj act, child marriage restraint act, divorce act, dowry prohibition act and sex determination act showed significant association. Social participation and knowledge about panchayat raj act, child marriage restraint act, dowry prohibition act, sex discrimination act indicate significant association with each other. Mass media exposure and knowledge of about sex discrimination act and the social-economic status and knowledge about child marriage restraint act, divorce act were found to be significantly associated at 5 pc level of significance.

Urmila Yadav and Lali Yadav (2002) also reported that there was 5 pc level of significance between age and opinion regarding child marriage restraint act and sex discrimination act. Education of the respondents and opinion about dowry prohibition act, sex discrimination act was also significantly associated with each other. Family education status literacy and opinion towards child marriage restraint act, sex discrimination act was found to be significant at 5 per cent level of significance. Social participation and opinion towards child marriage restraint act and mass media exposure and opinion towards the panchayat raj act, divorce act and sex discrimination act was found to be significantly associated. Socio-economic status and opinion of the respondents regarding panchayat raj act, child marriage restraint act, divorce act, and divorce prohibition act were found significantly associated at 4 d.f and 6 d.f at 5 per cent level of significance respectively.

Pitt *et al.* (2003), using a total approach to parameter identification, find that credit provided women importantly in health and nutrition for boys and girls, while credit provided to men has no significant impact.

Conceptual framework of the study

A conceptual framework diagrammatically represents the important dimensions and postulated relationships among the variables.

The main objective of developing a conceptual framework in this study was to systematically analyse the factors related to Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment in rural areas which was influenced by a multiplicity of personal, social, familials and psychological factors. The model was tested with the help of correlation analysis. It provided a theoretical and empirical analysis of the Gender

Equity and Gender Empowerment of rural community and also a holistic view of all the contributing factors which helped to give a clear picture of interactional implication of the process of Gender Equity and Empowerment (Fig.1).

To have a better understanding of the dependent variable, the conceptual framework was developed for systematically analyzing the Gender Equity, Gender Empowerment and their indicators influenced by personal, psychological factors. All the proposed relationships were represented in the conceptual model, which helped to derive hypothesis for empirical testing.

Statement of hypothesis

The study deals with the factors contributing to the Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment (dependent variables) in the rural community and the relationship of Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment with personal, familial, social and psychological characteristics (independent variables) of the respondents in rural areas.

Theoretical hypothesis

The Gender Equity of selected respondents can be predicted from selected indicators for the study, namely; education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources. The Gender Empowerment of the Selected Respondents can be predicted from selected indicators for the study namely; decision making, social empowerment, economic empowerment, political empowerment, and legal empowerment. Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment will vary with and can, in part, be predicted from the personal, familial psychological and situational characteristics of the respondents.

General hypothesis 1: There will be significant variation in the Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment of the respondents.

General hypothesis 2: There will be significant variation in the indicators of Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment of the respondents.

General hypothesis 3: There will be significant relationship between Gender Equity Index and indicators of Gender Equity, Gender Empowerment Index and indicators of GEM.

General hypothesis 4: There will be significant relationship between Gender Empowerment, GEM of the respondents and their personal, familial, social and psychological characteristics.

General hypothesis 5: Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment can in part, be predicted from the personal, social, familial and psychological characteristics of the respondents and they explain a significant amount of variation of Gender Equity.

General hypothesis 6: There will be a significant relationship between the indicator of Gender Equity, Gender Empowerment and the personal, familial, social and psychological and situational characteristics of the respondents.

General hypothesis 7: The indicator of Gender Equity, Gender Empowerment, can in part, be predicted from the personal, familial, social and psychological and situational characteristics of the respondents and they explain a significant amount of variation in Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment.

Material and Methods

CHAPTER III

MATERIAL AND METHODS

This chapter has been enriched with the detailed description of methods and procedures employed in conducting the research in an organized manner. The various components of this chapter are grouped under the following sub - headings.

- 3.1 Research design
- 3.2 Locale of the study
- 3.3 Sampling procedure
- 3.4 Variables and their empirical measurement
- 3.5 Factors affecting Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment
- 3.6 Strategy to strengthen Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment in rural community
- 3.7 Devices used for collection of data
- 3.8 Statistical analysis

3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

Research designs are developed to enable the researchers to answer research questions as validity, objectively, accurately and as economically as possible. The design used for this study was ex-post-facto, with the main objective to analyse gender equity and empowerment in rural areas.

Ex-post-facto is a systemic empirical enquiry in which the researcher does not have direct control on the independent variables because their manifestation has already occurred or because they are inherently not manipulable (Kerlinger, 1964). In this research study, since the manifestations of the independent variables had already occurred and there was scope for manipulation of any variable, ex-post-facto research design was resorted to.

3.2 LOCALE OF THE STUDY

The state of Andhra Pradesh was purposively chosen for the study, as the investigator is familiar with the local language, which would help to build quick

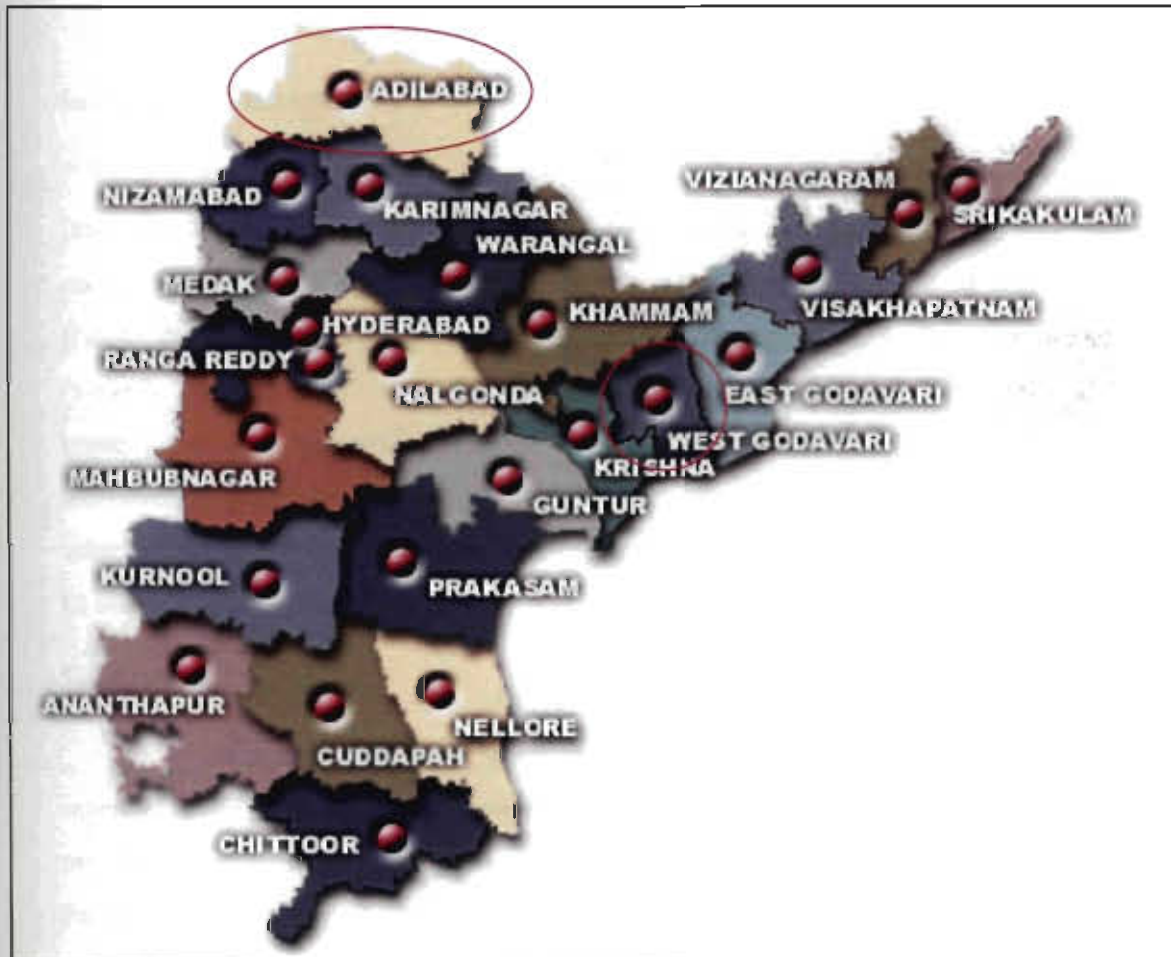


Fig.2: Map of Andhra Pradesh showing the selected districts

support and also enable in depth study and combined with personal observation (Fig.2).

3.3 SAMPLING PROCEDURE

Sampling procedure, followed for the study is presented below:

Selection of districts

Two districts were purposively selected for the purpose of the study. One district from Andhra region and one from Telangana region for better comparison. Based on the literacy levels West Godavari (Fig. 3) and Adilabad (Fig.4) districts were purposively selected. Among the 23 districts in Andhra Pradesh, highest literate district was West Godavari (Female and Male literacy levels were also highest) While, Adilabad being one of lowest literate district and moreover female literacy was found to second lowest among all the districts was selected purposively. (Directorate of Census Operation, A.P, 2001). Data pertaining to literacy rate (Rural) was presented in the Appendix.

Selection of mandals

All the mandals in each selected district were listed out and two mandals from each district were selected randomly, thus making a sample of 6 mandals for the selected two districts. The three mandals namely Undi, Palakoderu and Bhimavaram were selected from West Godavari at random. From Adilabad, the mandal selected randomly were Boath, Nirmal and Utnoor (Fig 2&3).

Selection of villages

Two villages from each mandal were randomly selected. In West Godavari, Kolamuru and Uppuluru villages were selected from Undi, Kumudavalli and Palakoderu from Palakoderu and Yenamaduru and Derusumarru from Bhimavaram. The villages namely Kowtha and Pochera from Boath, Madepalli and Sakera from Nirmal and Birsaiipet and Danthanpalli from Utnoor were selected in Adilabad District. All the villages were selected at random from both the districts. Thus a total of 12 villages were selected for the purpose of study.

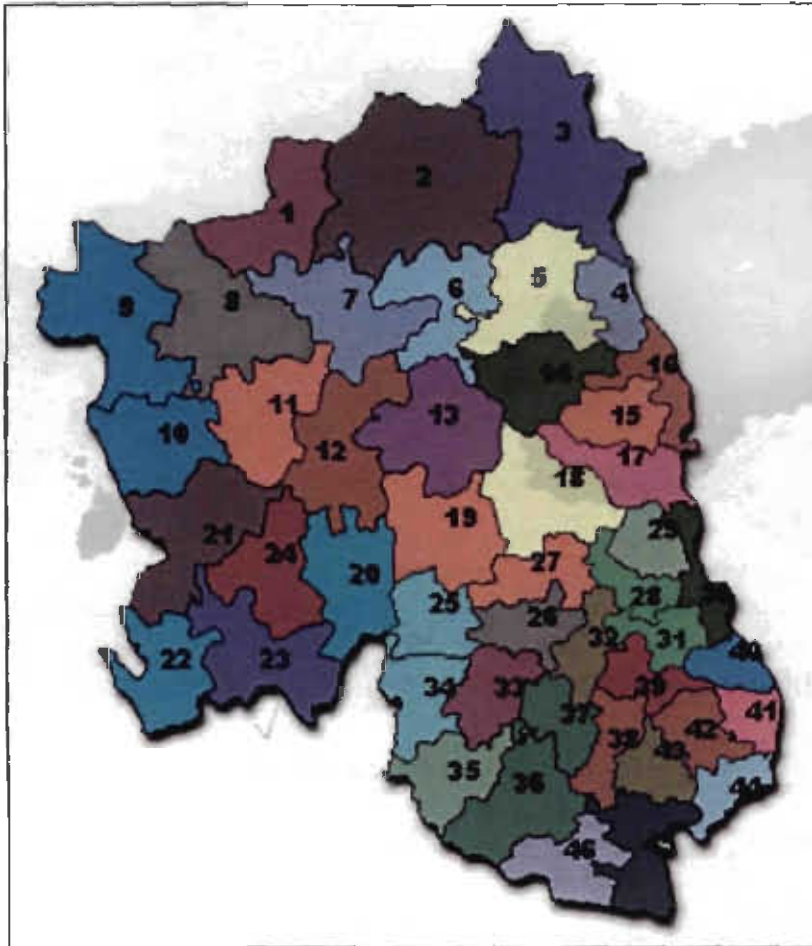


Fig.3: Map showing selected mandals in West Godavari

Details of mandals of West Godavari district

Mandal Code	Mandal Name	Mandal Code	Mandal Name	Mandal Code	Mandal Name
1	Jeelugumilli	17	Nidadavole	33	Undi
2	Buttayagudem	18	Tadepalligudem	34	Akiveedu
3	Polavaram	19	Unguturu	35	Kalla
4	Thallapudi	20	Bhimadole	36	Bheemavaram
5	Gopalapuram	21	Pedavegi	37	Palakoderu
6	Koyyalagudem	22	Pedapadu	38	Veeravasaram
7	Jangareddigudem	23	Eluru	39	Penumantra
8	T.Narasapuram	24	Denduluru	40	Penugonda
9	Chintalapudi	25	Nidamarlu	41	Achanta
10	Lingapalem	26	Ganapavaram	42	Poduru
11	Kamavarapukota	27	Pentapadu	43	Palacole
12	Dwarakaturumala	28	Tanuku	44	Yelamanchili
13	Nallajerla	29	Undrajavaram	45	Narasapuram
14	Devarapalle	30	Peravali	46	Mogalthur
15	Chagallu	31	Iragavaram		
16	Kovvur	32	Attili		

Selection of respondents

The village profile with all the details were collected from the concerned mandal offices. Household surgery was conducted to serene the families having women in reproductive age (15-45 yrs) from all the selected villages. From each village 12 men and 12 women were selected from small, medium and large farm families married women and men were selected. Thus total of 288 respondents were selected. (144 women and 144 men). The details were furnished in Table 4.

Table 4: Selection of respondents

S. No.	District selected	Mandal selected	Villages selected	Number of respondents		
				Males	Females	Total
1	West Godavari	1 Undi	1 Kolamuru	12	12	24
			2 Uppuluru	12	12	24
		2 Palakoderu	1 Palakoderu	12	12	24
			2 Kumudavalli	12	12	24
		3 Bhimavaram	1 Yenamaduru	12	12	24
			2 Derusumarru	12	12	24
2	Adilabad	1 Boath	1 Kowtha	12	12	24
			2 Pochera	12	12	24
		2 Nirmal	1 Madepalli	12	12	24
			2 Sakera	12	12	24
		3 Uttoor	1 Birsai pet	12	12	24
			2 Danthanpalli	12	12	24
Total				144	144	288

3.4 VARIABLES AND THEIR EMPIRICAL MEASUREMENT

The variables for the study were selected based on the review of literature and in consultation with experts, social scientists, officials and administrators in the field of rural development. Different variables selected for the study along with their empirical measurements are presented in Table 5.

Table 5: Variables and their measurement

S. No.	Variable	Experimental measurement
A	Personal, familial, social and psychological characteristics	
1.	Farm size	Schedule developed for the study
2.	Educational status	- do -
3.	Marital status	- do -
4.	Family size	- do -
5.	Economic status	- do -
6.	Family income	- do -
7.	Economic productivity	- do -
8.	Discrimination against female child	- do -
9.	Managerial abilities	- do -
10.	Income generating capability	- do -
11.	Social participation	- do -
12.	Social mobilization	- do -
13.	Self orientation	- do -
14.	Extension contact	- do -
15.	Extension participation	- do -
16.	Mass media exposure	- do -
17.	Perception of drudgery	- do -
18.	Access to basic facilities	- do -
B	Dependent Variables	
1	Gender Equity Index	
	➤ Education ➤ Employment ➤ Health and Nutrition ➤ Time ➤ Access and control over resources	Index developed for the study
2	Gender Empowerment	
	➤ Decision making autonomy ➤ Social / personal autonomy ➤ Economic autonomy ➤ Political autonomy ➤ Legal autonomy	Index developed for the study
C	Gender Development Index	
	➤ Life expectancy ➤ Education ➤ Income	United Nations Development Project Index

A INDEPENDENT VARIABLES

3.4.1 Measurement of personal, familial, social and psychological characteristics of the respondents.

3.4.1.1 Farm size

Farm size was operationalised as the number of standard acres possessed by the respondents at the time of investigation. The irrigated and non-irrigated land was taken into consideration for computing farm size. Score of one was given to each standard acre classified according to the extent of land holding into three categories namely small farmers (up to 5 acres), medium farmers (5-10 acres and big farmers (above 10 acres).

3.4.1.2 Educational status

This variable was operationalized as the formal education on individual respondent received at the time of investigation. The categories of educational status with assigned score were shown below.

S.No	Category	Score
1	Illiterate	1
2	Functionally Literate	2
3	Primary School	3
4	Middle School	4
5	High School	5
6	College Education	6

3.4.1.3 Marital status

Marital status was operationalised in terms of age at marriage and choice or freedom given to the respondent in selection of their spouse.

3.4.1.3.1 Age at marriage

This was operationalised as the actual age at which the respondents got married. Actual age was taken as score of the respondents. Based on the prescribed age categorization of respondents was done. The prescribed age of marriage for girls is 18 years and for boys, 21 years.

S.No.	Men	Women
1.	Below 18 years	Below 21 years
2.	18 years	21 years
3.	Above 18years	Above 21 years

3.4.1.3.2 Choice of partner

Choice / selection was operationalised as the opinion of the respondent in the area of marriage, particularly selection of mate, which included choice of men and women in selection of their partner. This also aimed at collecting data concerning the ways of obtaining a mate whether by personal choice or negotiation or by force of parents. The scheduled consisted of seven questions. A dichotomous response pattern of Yes / No with a scoring of 2 and 1 was adopted. The possible score range was 7-14. Based on exclusive class interval range the respondents were categorized.

S.No.	Category	Class Interval Range
1.	Least choice	7-9
2.	Medium choice	9-11
3.	High choice	11-13

3.4.1.4 Family size

Family size was operationalised as total number of members of the family who reside together sharing the same kitchen. The scoring was done as per the procedure followed by Venkat Ramaiah (1990)

S.No.	Category	Score
1.	Small family (1-3 members)	1
2.	Medium family (4-6 members)	2
3.	Large family (7-9 members)	3
4.	Very large family (9 members and above)	4

3.4.1.5 Economic status

This variable was operationalised as occupation of the family (Presently and before marriage) and occupation of earning members of the family. It also deals with the economic status in comparison to the female. The response categories were Government Services, Agriculture, Agriculture labour, subsidiary, other business and other labour and the scores assigned were 5,4,3,2,1. The comparative economic status was a set of 4 questions with response categories Yes and No, and their respective scores were 1 and 2. The possible score range was 7 to 23. Based on the exclusive class interval range the range the respondents were categorized.

S.No.	Category	Class Interval Range
1.	Low	12-15
2.	Medium	15-18
3.	High	18-21

4.1.6 Family income

This was operationalised as the total earning by the entire family in a year through farm and non-farm sources. The variable comprised of farm sources such as agricultural crops, agricultural labour, dairy and poultry as well as non-farm sources such as casual labour, subsidiary occupation, business and services. A score of one was assigned for each Rs.1000 of annual income when the annual income exceeded Rs.1000 then corresponding functional weightage was given up to two decimals. Exclusive class interval method was used to categorize the respondents as.

S.No.	Category
1.	< 25,000
2.	25,000 - 50,000
3.	50,000 - 75,000
4.	75,000 - 1,00,000
5.	Above 1,00,000

3.4.1.3 Economic productivity

Women have traditionally been engaged in three types of economically productive work like earning a livelihood for the family, engaged in both the production and marketing of products, house hold work activities, and have work for payment out side the home which paves way for her economic development. In this indication how women's contribution was viewed with regard to economic productivity was measured on 4 point continuum of most important, contribution to some extent, does not seem to be important at all and not applicable with scores 4,3,2 and 1. The possible score range was 3 - 12.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low economic productivity	2 - 4
2	Medium economic productivity	4 - 6
3.	High economic productivity	6 - 8

3.4.1.8 Discrimination against female child

This variable was operationalised as positive and negative opinion on having female child. This aimed at collecting data regarding the deeprooted feeling among the people that a girl child is a burden to the family. This also includes differential treatment against female child. Schedule was prepared comprising of 9 statements (5 positive and 4 negative). A dichotomous response pattern of Agree / Disagree with a scoring of 2 and 1 for positive and reverse for the negative questions was adopted. Four options includes in question no 2 were given a score of 1 for each.

The possible score range was 9-22. Based on the exclusive class interval range the respondents were categorized.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Less discrimination	10 - 14
2	Medium discrimination	14 - 18
3.	High discrimination	18 - 22

3.4.1.9 Managerial abilities

According to Koontz and others (1984), perhaps there is no more important area of human activity than managing. The most useful method of classifying managerial functions is to group them around the activities like planning, organizing, staffing, co-ordinating and controlling.

Managerial abilities, for this study was operationalised as the abilities of the respondents to perform functions of management i.e., planning, organizing, supervising, communication, and controlling of household activities.

The manner of managerial abilities was studied under 6 different aspects of management i.e., planning, organizing, supervising, communication co-ordinating and controlling.

The nature of managerial abilities was measured by 21 statements arranged on three-point continuum of always, sometimes and never with a scoring pattern of 3, 2 and 1. The score on each aspect was added to get the total score on nature of influence of a respondent. The possible score range was 21 - 63.

Planning: Planning was operationalised as the process of making decisions about the activities to be done in advance in order to achieve best results.

Organising: Organising was operationalised as the arrangement of work into units, assigning the work based on priorities.

Supervision: Supervision was operationalised as capacity of respondents to oversee the activities for effective and timely completion of work.

Communication: Communication was operationalised as the process of expressing and reserving related messages so that they are properly understood.

Coordinating: Co-ordination was operationalised as smooth and harmonious functioning of activities.

Controlling: Controlling was operationalised as the process of making activities inform to the plans and taking any corrective actions if necessary.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low managerial activities	21 - 34
2	Medium " "	34 - 47
3.	High " "	47 - 60

3.4.1.10 Income generating capability

This was operationally defined as respondents capability of making economically and effective use of available resources to maximize their income. This was measured using 10 statements arranged on a three point continuum of always, sometimes and never with a scoring pattern of 3, 2 and 1. The scores obtained by the respondents on all the statements were added up to give their total score on income generating capability. The possible score range was 10 - 30.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low managerial activities	10 - 16
2	Medium " "	16 - 22
3.	High " "	22 - 28

3.4.1.11 Social participation

Sadamate (1978) defined social participation of the respondent as participation in social institutions as a member or as an office bearer. Hence, it was operationally defined as the extent of involvement of the respondent in any formal organization in their community. The scale used by Subramanian (1986) was followed with some modifications to suit the study. The social participation was measured in terms of membership of the individual in the organization as well as the frequency of participation in organization activities.

Membership or official in organisation

The organization included were panchayat, co-operative societies, school management, youth club, labour organizations, religious organizations,

mahila mandals and others. A score of 2 for the official position and a score of 1 for more membership were given in the case of each organization.

Extent of participation in the activities of the organisation

Extent of participation in activities of the organization was measured under three categories of responses i.e., always, sometimes and never with a score of 3, 2 and 1 respectively.

To obtain the final score of the respondent, the scores given as the member or office bearer were multiplied with scores on extent of participation and it ranged from 5 - 30. Based on the scores obtained the respondents were categorized using exclusive class interval range.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low participation	4 - 10
2	Medium " "	10 - 16
3.	High " "	16 - 22

3.4.1.12 Social mobilization

Nine statements representing social mobilization related to women's empowerment were administered to the respondents on a 3 point continuum of frequency, adherence to the social mobilization ie, 'agree', 'undecided' and 'disagree' with weightages of 3, 2 and 1 respectively and with a reverse order of 1, 2 and 3 for negative statements. The possible score range was 9 - 27.

Based on the exclusive class interval range the respondents were categorized.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low social mobilization	9 - 15
2	Medium " "	16 - 21
3.	High " "	21 - 27

3.4.1.13 Self orientation

This was operationalised as the individuals confidence in developing themselves. The schedule consisted of 10 questions on a there point. Continuum of agree, undecided and disagree with weightage of 3, 2 and 1 for positive questions and 1, 2, 3 for negative questions. The possible score range was 10-30. The obtained scores of respondents were used to categorize by using exclusive class interval range.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low orientation	13 - 18
2	Medium "	16 - 22
3.	High "	22 - 28

3.4.1.14 Extension contact

This variable referred to the degree of respondents contact with extension agents to get relevant information. This was measured by the frequency of respondents contact with various extension agents viz., Village Extension Officers, Agriculture Officer, Agricultural Scientist and any other.

S. No.	Frequency	Score
1	Weekly	4
2	Monthly	3
3.	Occasionally	2
4	Never	1

The possible range of scores was 5-20. categorisation was done based on the total score of the sample using class interval method.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low extension contact	5 - 7
2	Medium " "	7 - 9
3.	High " "	9 - 11

3.4.1.15 Extension participation

This refers to the frequency with which the respondents were involved in extension activities viz. demonstrations, group, meetings, field days, kisan melas, study tour, agricultural exhibitions and any other conducted by the extension agencies in the villages / mandals.

S. No.	Frequency	Score
1	Regularly	3
2	Occasionally	2
3.	Never	1

The possible range of scores was 1-15. Categorisation of sample was done by summing the scores of each respondent in all activities using exclusive class intervals.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low participation	5 - 7
2	Medium "	7 - 9
3.	High "	9 - 11

3.4.1.16 Mass media exposure

Mass Media Exposure was operationalised as the frequency of exposure of the respondents to various mass media and information sought by the respondents on various aspects through different media.

S. No.	Frequency	Score
1	Almost daily	4
2	Twice or thrice a week	3
3.	Once a week	2
4.	Never	1

S. No.	Mass media channels	Score
1	News paper	1
2	Magazine	2
3.	Radio	3
4.	Television	4

The possible score range of scores were 14.56.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low mass media exposure	4 - 13
2	Medium " "	13 - 22
3.	High " "	22 - 31

3.4.1.17 Perception of drudgery

A normal individual works either in the farm or home for a period of 8 hours / days without feeling mental or physical strain (drudgery). The term perception of drudgery in this investigation was operationally defined as perception of feeling mental (or) physical strain of the respondents by either working in the farm and home over and above 8 hours. The extent of drudgery on various farm and home activities was measured on four point continuum of High, Average, Low and Nil with 4, 3, 2 and 1 scores respectively. The possible range of scores was 21-63. Based on the obtained scores the sample was categorized using class intervals.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low perception	38 - 46
2	Medium perception	46- 54
3.	High perception	54 - 62

3.4.1.18 Access to basic facilities

This was operationalised as the respondents access to basic facilities such as transports, housing, drinking water, environmental sanction, electricity facilities and recreation facilities. The possible range of scores was 11-33.

S. No.	Category	Class interval range
1	Low access	15 - 20
2	Medium access	20 - 25
3.	High access	25 - 30

B. DEPENDENT VARIABLES

3.4.2 Gender Equity

Gender equity is the process of being fair to women and men. To ensure fairness, measures must often be available to compensate for historical and social disadvantages that prevent women and men from otherwise operating on a level playing field. Equity leads to equality. Gender equity of respondents was quantified by developing "Gender Equity Index".

The concept of Gender Equity was given by different researchers in different ways. Past studies focused on the need to assess access of men and women to various resources that were relevant to estimate Gender Equity. On the basis of the past review and discussion with experts a list of indicators relevant to Gender Equity was made. The identified indicators were subjected to relevancy rating by a sample of 30 scientists, extension workers and experts in the field. This was done to ascertain whether all the indicators were equally applicable to Gender Equity or not. The relevancy rating revealed that out of all indicators 5 were relevant to measure Gender Equity. The identified relevant indicators were:

- Education
- Employment
- Health and nutrition
- Time
- Access and control over resources

3.4.2.1 Operational definition of Gender Equity

Gender Equity emphasizes women's access to equal opportunities in areas of Education, Employment, Health and Nutrition, Time and Access and Control over resources. This also includes positive and negative opinion of men and

women on education, employment, availing health services and access and control of resources by women. Measurement of all the indicators was done using structured interview schedules.

3.4.2.2 Computation of Gender Equity Index

To measure the Gender Equity, weighted index was used. During the relevancy rating of the indicators, the Judges were further requested to assign weightage for each indicator in the range of 0 to 100 based on its importance in such a manner as to get a total of 100 for all the identified relevant indicators. They were asked to consider the importance of each indicator to measure Gender Equity, while assigning the weightage. The score obtained by all the judges for a particular indicator were added and divided by the number of judges to arrive at the weightage for the indicator. The same procedure was carried out for the 5 indicators, and the weightages were presented in Table 6.

Table 6: Weightages for indicators of Gender Equity

S.No.	Indicator	Weightage
1	Education	2.5
2	Employment	2.3
3	Health and Nutrition	2.2
4	Time	1.2
5	Access and Control over Resources	1.8
Total		10.0

For the computation of Gender Equity Index scale product method was used. The raw scores obtained for each of the indicators were first standardized and then multiplied by the corresponding weightage of that indicator. These scores were then added up to get the Gender Equity score of each respondent. A respondent could get a minimum of a 0 and a maximum of 100 as their Gender Equity score.

3.4.2.3 Operationalisation and measurement of the indicators

3.4.2.3.1 Education

The indicator, education includes respondents access to education and their opinion on women's education.

Access to education was operationalised as respondents access to education which includes enrolment in schools, type of school, distance at which schools are located, transport facilities and preference of girls education in their families. The scoring pattern is as given in Appendix.

Opinion on women's education was operationalised as favourable or unfavourable feeling of the respondents on women's education. This was measured using 10 statements 5 positive, 5 negative, arranged on a three point continuum of agree, undecided and disagree with 3, 2 and 1 scores for positive statements and reverse for negative statements. The scores obtained on each item were added up to get the opinion score of the respondent on women's education. The possible score range was 10-30. The total scores education was obtained by adding up the individual scores on access and opinion. The possible score range 21-52.

3.4.2.3.2 Employment

Employment was defined as access to employment, opinion on women's employment, gender division of labour and wages.

Access to employment includes employment opportunities on the village, migration, type of employment, number of man days generated within and outside the village, mobility, awareness of various employment schemes and interest in setting up enterprises. Number of man days generated within and outside village is quantified by taking the actual number of days available for employed. Rest included 7 questions and were measured on dichotomous pattern with 'Yes' and 'No' responses. The scores obtained on all questions were added up to get the score on access to employment.

Opinion on women's employment was operationalized as positive or negative opinion of the respondents on women's employment. Thus was measured by 14 statements arranged on a three point continuum of Agree, Undecided and Disagree

with scoring pattern of 3,2 and 1 for positive and reverse for negative questions. The score on each statement was added up to get the total score of opinion on women's employment. The possible score range was 14 to 42.

Division of labour was operationalised as allocation of activities on the basis of sex. In all societies, either women or men typically undertake tasks and responsibilities. The major area where gender division of labour was measured were Agriculture, Horticulture and Livestock. Agriculture activities included were land preparation, seeding and planting operations, interculturing, irrigation, manures and fertilizer application, plant protection operation, guarding of crops, harvesting, post harvest operations. Horticulture includes working in vegetables, ploughing and kitchen garden. Livestock includes bringing fodder, care and feeding, grazing animals, healthcare, cleaning animal sheds, offering water and milking. The scoring procedure adopted to measure these activities was as follows:

S. No.	Category	Score
1	Men only	1
2	Mainly men sometimes women	2
3	Both	3
4	Mainly women sometimes men	4
5	Women only	5

Wage was operationalised as average daily wage of the respondents expressed in rupees/day. The actual wage of the individual per day was taken as the wage score of the respondent.

The total score of the indicator 'Employment' was obtained by adding up the individual score on access to employment, opinion on women's employment, division of labour and wage. The exclusive class interval method was adopted to categorize the respondents.

3.4.2.3.3 Health and nutrition

Health and Nutrition was operationalised as respondents access to health facilities, opinion on availing health facilities, food consumption pattern, nutrient intake and nutritional status.

Access to health was operationalised as availability, utility and access to health facilities by the respondents. The scoring pattern of the questions included to measure access to health is given in Appendix. The possible score range was 16 - 40.

Opinion on availing health services was operationalised as positive or negative feeling of the respondents on availing health services by women in comparison to men. This was measured by 6 statements on 3 point continuum of agree, undecided and disagree with scoring pattern of 3, 2 and 1 for positive statements and reverse for negative. The score on each statement was added up to get the total score of the respondent on availing the health services. The possible score range was 6-18.

Food consumption pattern was operationalised as frequency of respondents consumption on various food items like cereals, pulses, eggs, non-vegetarian, vegetables and green leafy vegetables, fruits, milk, tea and coffee and other. The scores on all the food items were added up to obtain the score on food consumption pattern. The possible score range was 17-68.

S.No.	Frequency	Score
1	Daily	4
2	Weekly	3
3	Monthly	2
4	Do not take at all	1

Nutrient intake was referred to as nutrients provided by the foods consumed by the family members. 24 hour recall method was carried out to find the dietary intake of respondents. The nutritive value of each food item was calculated per consumption unit (ACU) for various age groups. Major nutrients i.e., calories and

protein was calculated for each item. The percapita intake of the individuals was calculated from standard food consumption tables (Gopalan *et al.*, 1999).

Nutrient adequacy was calculated to measure the extent of nutrient security with regard to various nutrients. It was calculated by formula.

$$\text{Nutrient Adequacy} = \frac{\text{Actual Nutrient Intake}}{\text{Recommended Dietary allowance}} \times 100$$

Recommended Calorie and Protein allowances are 2425 K Cal and 60 gm respectively. Actual percentage was considered to measure the nutrient adequacy.

Nutritional Status was measured in terms of Body Mass Index. The Body Mass Index (weight in kg / height in m²) is used as an indicator of Nutritional Status of respondents and grouped so as to reject different categories of Chronic Energy Deficiency (CED) and obesity are given below. (James *et al.* 1988)

S.No.	Body Mass Index	Nutritional Status
1.	216.0	III Degree CED
2.	16.0-17.0	II Degree CED
3.	17.0-18.5	I Degree CED
4.	18.5-20.0	Low Normal
5.	20.0-25.0	Normal
6.	25.0-30.0	Over Wright
7.	30.0-Eabove	Obese

The total score of the indicator Health was obtained by adding up the individual scores on. Access to health services, opinion on women availing health by women in comparison to nonfood consumption pattern, nutrient intake and nutritional status.

3.4.2.3.4 Time

Time was operationalised as man days devoted by men and women in farming (major crop), livestock rearing and household activities. The time devoted by the respondents for farming activities was measured in terms of average man

days (8 hour) per acre. Livestock and household activities were measured in terms of man days per day.

Signification of the respondents was done based on their mean and S.D as follows.

S. No.	Category	Score
1	Low	<Mean - SD
2	Medium	Mean + SD
3	High	>Mean + SD

3.4.2.3.5 Access and Control Over Resources

Access and control is important to distinguish between access to and control over them when examining how resources (land, labour, credit, income) etc are allocated between men and women. For the present study access and control are defined as follows.

Access: gives a person use of resource eg - land.

Control: allows a person to make decisions about who use the resource or to dispose of the resources eg - sell the land.

Resources include economic and productive resources and political resources 12 economic and productive resources are measured. Where the individual had access and control a score of 2 and 2 was given and where there was no access and control score of 1 and 1 was assigned respectively.

Opinion on women's access and control over resources was measured as favourable or unfavourable feelings of the respondents regarding women's access and control. The schedule consisted of 10 statements arranged on a three point continuum of agree, undecided disagree with a scoring pattern of 3, 2 and 1 for positive statements and reverse for negative statements. The possible score range was 8 to 24. The possible score range for access and control over resources was 32-72.

The indicators education, employment, health and nutrition and access and control over resources was categorized into three groups low, medium and high

based on exclusive class interval method. Where as, Time was categorized based on mean and S.D.

3.4.3 Gender Empowerment

The frequency used Gender Empowerment measure (GEM) is a composite of gender inequity in three areas- political participation and decision making, participation and power over economic resources (HDR: 2003). This is an aggregate index for a population and does not measure empowerment on an individual basis.

It is made up of two dimensions- Economic Participation and decision making (measures the percentage of female administrators and managers, professional and technical employees and political participation and decision making (measured by per cent seats held in parliament by women). For the purpose of our study GEM is limited and does not include multidimensional view of women's empowerment.

The concept of Gender Empowerment was given by different researchers in different ways. Past studies focused on the need to access the characteristics that were relevant to estimate Gender Empowerment (GEM). The identified indicators were subjected to relevancy rating by a sample of 30 scientists, extension workers & experts in the field. This was done to ascertain whether all the indicators are equally applicable to Gender Empowerment or not.

The relevancy rating revealed that out of all indicators, 5 were relevant to measure Gender Empowerment. The identified relevant indicators were:

- Decision making
- Social empowerment
- Economic empowerment
- Political empowerment
- Legal empowerment

3.4.3.1 Operational definition of GEM

We take the position that Gender Empowerment can be measured by factors contributing to each of the following decision making, personal / social,

economic, political and legal empowerment. We make a point to include household and inter familiar relations as it is believed as central locus of women's disempowerment.

3.4.3.2 Computation of Gender Empowerment Index

To measure the dependent variable, weighted index was used. During the relevancy rating of the indicators, the Judges were further requested to assign weightage for each indicator in the range of 0 to 100 based on its importance in such a manner as to get a total of 100 for all the identified relevant indicators. They were asked to consider the importance of each indicator to measure Gender Empowerment while assigning the weightage. The score obtained by all the Judges for a particular indicator were added and divided by the number of Judges to arrive at the weightage for that indicator. The same procedure was carried out for the 5 indicators and the weightage which are presented in Table 7.

Table 7: Weightage for indicators for Gender Empowerment

S.No.	Indicators	Weightage
1	Decision making	2.0
2	Social empowerment	2.3
3	Economic empowerment	1.9
4	Political empowerment	1.9
5	Legal empowerment	1.9
Total		10.0

For the computation of Gender Empowerment scale product method was used. The raw scores obtained for each of the indicators were first standardized and then multiplied by the corresponding weightage of that indicators. These scores were then added up to get the Gender Empowerment score of each respondent. A respondent could get a minimum of 0 and maximum of 100 as their Gender Empowerment score.

3.4.3.3 Operationalisation and measurement of the indicators

3.4.3.3.1 Decision making

Decision-making is a mental process based on conscious reasoning (Reick, 1960). It was further explained by Rogers (1967) as the process by which an evaluation of the meaning and consequence of alternative one of conduct is made.

In the present study, it refers to the extent of participation by men / women in decision-making process related to all the important aspects of farm and household affairs. Decisions with regard to home activities include home management and child related decisions. The farm activities include agricultural, labour allocation and livestock related decisions. Financial decisions include money management, capital transactions, purchasing of farm inputs, necessary items, Disposal of farm produce, disposal of home produce, entrepreneurial capital transactions and saving and other capital transactions. Socio-religious decision making include Inter household exchange, short distance travels and socio-religious obligations.

Score for the role played by women in decision-making was 3, where she was the sole decision-maker, score of 2 was given in case of joint decision and a score of one was given where men were the decision makers.

On the whole decision making includes 68 items. The possible score range was 68-204.

3.4.3.3.2 Social empowerment

This was operationalised as self-reported autonomy of physical mobility, outside the house, dominance, state of control by men, mental tensions and differences with partner. This was measured using 28 questions arranged in a three point continuum of 'always', 'sometimes' and 'never' with scoring of 3, 2, and 1. The scores of all questions were added to get the total social empowerment score of each respondent. The possible score range was 30-89.

3.4.3.3.3 Economic empowerment

In this study economic empowerment was operationally defined as women's self-reported autonomy in matters of spending money, investments, personal income, discussion of household expenditure with men, custody of ornaments and savings of the family. The measurement was made using 14 questions arranged in a three point continuum of always, sometimes and never with a scoring pattern of 3, 2, and 1. The scores obtained by a respondent on all the questions were added up to get the total score on economic empowerment. The possible score range was 14-42.

3.4.3.3.4 Political empowerment

Political empowerment was measured in terms of political awareness, extent of political participation and opinion of the respondents on women in politics.

Political awareness was operationalised as knowledge / awareness of the respondents with regard to political aspects such as nationality, India's independence, deferent type of elections in the country, name of famous and local leaders names of political parties etc. It was measured using 8 questions arranged on dichotomous response pattern of Yes and No with score 2 and 1.

Political participation was operationalised as the extent to which the respondent were actively participating in politics. The extent of participation was measured on these point continuum of always, sometimes and never for 16 questions with a scoring pattern of 3, 2 and 1. The scores were added up to get the political participation score of the respondent.

Opinion on women politics was operationalised as positive or negatives feeling of the respondent on women's role in politics. This was measured using the statements arranged on a three point continuum of Agree, Undecided and Disagree with a scoring pattern of 3,2,and 1. The scores on all the statements were added to get the score on opinion.

The total score of 'Political Empowerment' was obtained by adding the individuals scores on political awareness, participation and opinion. The possible score range was 33-91.

3.4.3.3.4 Legal empowerment

This was operationalised as awareness and opinion of the respondents regarding legislative protection acts for women.

Awareness on various legal enactments was measured on a dichotomous response pattern of Yes / No with scoring of 2 and 1. The possible score range was 5-10.

Opinion on various legal enactments such as child marriage restraint act, divorce act, dowry prohibition act, widow remarriage act and right to property act was operationalised as positive or negative opinion of the individuals on advantages and disadvantages of various legal issues. Opinion on child marriage restraint act, divorce act, dowry prohibition act, widow remarriage act and right to property act included 8, 13, 6, 10 and 10 statements respectively. All these statements were measured on there point continuum of Agree, Undecided, and Disagree with 3, 2, and 1 for positive statements and reverse for negative statements. The possible score range was 47-141. The scores of awareness and opinion were summed up to obtain the legal empowerment score of the individual. The possible score range was 52-151.

All the five indicators were categorized into three groups low, medium and high based on exclusive class interval method.

3.4.4 Gender Related Development Index (GDI)

The HDI measures average achievement, and the GDI adjusts the inequalities between men and women in the following dimensions:

Long and healthy life as measured by life expectancy at birth.

Knowledge as measured by the adult literacy rate and the combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio.

The decent standard of living, as measured by estimated earned income (PPP US\$).

The calculation of GDI involves three steps. The female and male indicators in each dimension are calculated according to this general formulae.

Dimension Index =
$$\frac{\text{Actual value} - \text{minimum value}}{\text{Maximum value} - \text{Minimum value}}$$

Equally distributed index is calculated according to this formulae:

Equally distributed index =
$$\frac{[\text{Female population share} (\text{female index}^{1-\epsilon})] + [\text{Male population share} (\text{male index}^{1-\epsilon})]^{1/1-\epsilon}}{1}$$

GDI measures the aversions to inequality in the GDI $\epsilon = 2$. Thus, the general equation becomes

Equally distributed index =
$$\frac{[\text{Female population share} (\text{female index}^{-1})] + [\text{Male population share} (\text{male index}^{-1})]}{2}$$

This gives the harmonic mean of the female and male indices.

Third, the GDI is calculated by combining the three equally distributed indices in the weighted average.

Goalpost for calculating the GDI

Indicator	Maximum value	Minimum value
Female life expectancy (in years)	87.5	27.5
Male life expectancy (in years)	82.5	22.5
Adult literacy rate (%)	100.0	0.0
Combined gross enrolment ratio	100.0	0.0
Estimated earned income (PPP US\$)	40000	100

The maximum and minimum values are fixed for calculating GDI of any country.

Life expectancy is 5 years higher for women to take into account their longer life expectancy.

3.5 FACTORS AFFECTING GENDER EQUITY AND GENDER EMPOWERMENT

The factors affecting each indicator of Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment were studied in detail. An open ended questionnaire was used to collect the data. The major factors reported by the respondents were considered to strengthen the strategy.

3.6 STRATEGY TO STRENGTHEN GENDER EQUITY AND GENDER EMPOWERMENT IN RURAL COMMUNITY

Past reviews highlighted the need for a strengthening strategy as a prime requisite for promoting Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment in rural areas. After studying the factors affecting, intensive interaction with subject matter experts, technical officials working under the Gender Development area and involved in collecting gender disaggregated data, the strategy to strengthen each indicator of Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment were given.

Proposals to strengthen each selected indicator of Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment were given to concerned authority. Moreover, the valid comments of all the concerned experts as well as the respondents were carefully considered. The significant inferences and implications drawn from the research findings were incorporated for developing a suitable strategy for strengthening Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment in rural community.

3.7 INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS USED FOR DATA COLLECTION

Data was collected form the selected respondents using a detailed interview schedule containing appropriate items. The schedule was developed in consultation with concerned experts and necessary modifications were made to avoid ambiguity and redundancies in the questions.

3.7.1 Pilot study

A pilot study was undertaken in a non-sample area with thirty respondents selected at random. The data was analysed with appropriate statistical tools. In the light of experience gained in the pre-testing, suitable modifications were made before finalising the actual schedule. On the basis of this empirical analysis and discussion with experts, a restructured interview schedule

was used for data collection which is provided in the Appendix. The measurement device was also ascertained for its content validity by the experts.

3.7.2 Establishing necessary rapport

It was necessary that the Respondents were convinced about the purpose of the study, so that desired cooperation and reliable information could be obtained. Therefore, during first few days of investigation sufficient rapport was established with the women taking the help of village leaders and Extension Officers.

3.7.3 Method of data collection

Each selected respondent was interviewed personally by the researcher and the schedule was directly filled with relevant data. It was made sure that the questions were clearly understood by repeating whenever necessary.

3.7.4 Preparation of the report

The data collected was coded, classified, tabulated and analysed to make the findings more meaningful. These findings were suitably interpreted and necessary conclusions were drawn from them.

3.8 STATISTICAL TOOLS USED TO ANALYSE THE DATA

The following statistical tests and analytical procedures were used for analysing the data.

3.8.1 Class intervals

It is the range between the maximum and minimum scores obtained by the respondent for each and every variable. The respondents were categorised based on class intervals.

$$\text{Length of the class interval} = \frac{\text{Maximum score obtained} - \text{Minimum score obtained}}{\text{Number of classes}}$$

3.8.2 Frequency and percentages

The data was subjected to frequencies and percentages to know the distribution of the sample on different variables and indicators.

3.8.3 Arithmetic Mean (X)

The arithmetic mean is the quotient that results when the sum of all the respondent scores on a variable is divided by the number of items (n).

$$X = \frac{\sum x}{N}$$

Where,

X = Arithmetic mean, $\sum$ = Sum of scores, and n = number of respondents

3.8.4 Standard Derivation (S.D)

It is the positive square root of the mean of the sum of the squares of the deviation taken from the mean of the distribution.

$$\sigma = \sqrt{1/n \sum x^2 - \frac{(\sum x)^2}{N}}$$

where,

- σ : standard deviation
- $\sum x^2$: Summation of squares on each individual
- $(\sum x)^2$: Squares of summation of all items
- n : no. of observations

3.8.5 Correlation analysis

Pearson's correlation coefficient (r) was used to find out the relationship between the scores of variables. In this study, it was worked out to measure the degree of association between Gender Equity and Empowerment and different explanatory variables. Inter correlation analysis was also done to find out the extent of association between various pairs of independent variables and presented in Appendix.

In order to test the statistical significance of the observed correlation coefficient, student's t-test at n-2 degree of freedom was used. To test the significance of correlation coefficient, the table values for different levels of significance were used. Non significant variables were excluded from further analysis.

$$r = \frac{\Sigma xy - \frac{(\Sigma x)(\Sigma y)}{n}}{\sqrt{\Sigma x^2 - \frac{(\Sigma x)^2}{n}} \sqrt{\Sigma y^2 - \frac{(\Sigma y)^2}{n}}}$$

where,

r = Correlation coefficient

Σx = sum of squares of independent variables

Σy = sum of squares of dependent variable

Σx^2 = the squares sum of scores on independent variables

Σy^2 = squares sum of scores on dependent variables

Σxy = sum of the products of scores of independent & dependent variables

n = size of the sample

3.8.6 Analysis of variance (ANOVA)

The ANOVA was used to find out the difference among the male and female respondents as well as between the districts on selected indicators of selected indicators of Gender Equity and Empowerment. The variance due to different sources of variation was analysed and tested with F test. To test the significance of variation in Gender Equity and Empowerment and its indicators, one-way classification of analysis of variance was used with 4 groups and 288 respondents.

3.8.7 Z test

This was used to test the difference of mean scores between respondents on dependent and independent variables. It was also used to see the significant difference between before and after scores of poverty index after the intervention of SAPAP. The formula used to calculate the difference of mean score is:

$$Z = \frac{X_1 - X_2}{\sqrt{\frac{\sigma_1^2}{n_1} + \frac{\sigma_2^2}{n_2}}}$$

Where,

- Z = Standard normal deviate
- X1 = Mean of the first sample
- X2 = Mean of the second sample
- N1 = No. of respondents in first sample
- N2 = No. of respondents in second sample
- σ_1 = Standard deviation of the first sample
- σ_2 = Standard deviation of the second sample

3.8.8 Multiple linear regression analysis (MLR)

This measure was used (1) to find out the relative contribution of each of the significant independent variables on Gender Equity and Empowerment, (2) to find out the relative contribution of each of the significant independent variables on each indicator of Gender Equity and Empowerment.

3.8.9 Step down regression analysis

This measure was adopted to trace the independent variables contributing to maximum variability in Gender Equity and Empowerment.

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Results

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS

Keeping the focused objectives in mind, this empirical evidences obtained in terms of actual data, were subjected to statistical analysis and thus the findings obtained are presented in this chapter under the following sub-heads:

- 4.1 Profile of the Respondents
- 4.2 Gender Equity of the Respondents
- 4.3 Gender Empowerment of the Respondents
- 4.4 Gender Related Development Index
- 4.5 Relationship between Gender Equity, Gender Empowerment and Profile
- 4.6 Factors Affecting Gender Equity and Empowerment
- 4.7 Strategy to Strengthen Gender Equity and Empowerment

4.1 PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

4.1.1 Farm size

An equal number i.e., 24 respondents (men-12 and women-12) from each village, 4 from each category of small, medium and large farm size from each village were selected.

4.1.2 Educational status

The data in Table 8 with regard to educational status clearly indicate that below three quarters i.e., 72.23 per cent of women had no schooling, while 52.78 per cent of men in Adilabad were also from this category. About 15.27 per cent of women were functionally literate and 12.50 per cent had primary school education. While, 25.00 per cent of men were functionally literate followed by primary school (19.44%) and very meagre i.e., 2.78 per cent had high school education. With regard to educational status of the respondents in Adilabad it can be observed that majority (62.50) had no schooling followed by functionally literate (20.14%) and primary school (15.97%) and only 1.39 per cent had high school education.

Half of women in West Godavari had no schooling followed by functionally literate (29.17%) and primary schooling (20.83%). One-third majority

Table 8: Distribution of the respondents based on the profile

S. No.	Characteristics	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total	
		Women	Men	Pooled	Women	Men	Pooled	Women	Men
		(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=288)
2	Educational Status								
	(a) No schooling	52 (72.23)	38 (52.78)	90 (62.50)	36 (50.00)	21 (29.17)	57 (39.58)	88 (61.11)	59 (40.97)
	(b) Functionally literate	11 (15.27)	18 (25.00)	29 (20.14)	21 (29.17)	24 (33.33)	45 (31.25)	32 (22.22)	42 (29.17)
	(c) Primary school	9 (12.50)	14 (19.44)	23 (15.97)	15 (20.83)	22 (30.56)	37 (25.69)	24 (16.67)	36 (25.00)
	(d) High school	-	2 (2.78)	2 (1.39)	-	5 (6.94)	5 (3.48)	-	7 (4.86)
3	Marital Status								
	(a) Age at Marriage								
	Women								
	(1) < 18 yrs	56 (77.78)	41 (56.94)	97 (67.36)	47 (65.28)	36 (50.00)	83 (57.63)	103 (71.53)	77 (53.47)
	(2) 18 yrs	9 (12.50)	15 (20.83)	24 (16.67)	17 (23.67)	18 (25.00)	35 (24.31)	26 (18.06)	33 (22.92)
	(3) >18 yrs	7 (9.72)	16 (22.22)	23 (15.97)	8 (11.11)	18 (25.00)	26 (18.06)	15 (10.41)	34 (23.61)
	(b) Choice in selection								
	(1) Low choice (7-9)	44 (61.11)	19 (26.39)	63 (43.75)	40 (55.56)	14 (19.44)	54 (37.50)	84 (58.33)	33 (22.92)
	(2) Medium choice (9-11)	24 (33.33)	31 (43.05)	55 (38.19)	24 (33.33)	26 (36.11)	50 (34.72)	48 (33.33)	57 (39.58)
	(3) High choice (11-13)	4 (5.56)	22 (30.56)	26 (18.06)	8 (11.11)	32 (44.45)	40 (27.78)	12 (8.34)	54 (37.50)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

contd...

Table 8 contd....

S. No.	Characteristics	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women	Men	Pooled	Women	Men	Pooled	Women	Men	Pooled
		(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=288)
4	Family size									
	1. Small family (1-3 members)	2 (2.78)	7 (9.72)	9 (6.25)	6 (8.33)	7 (9.72)	13 (9.03)	8 (5.56)	14 (9.72)	22 (7.64)
	2. Medium family (4-6 members)	17 (23.61)	15 (20.83)	32 (22.22)	30 (41.67)	38 (52.78)	68 (47.22)	47 (32.64)	53 (36.81)	100 (34.72)
	3. Large family (7-9 members)	43 (59.72)	38 (52.78)	81 (56.25)	30 (41.67)	21 (29.17)	51 (35.42)	73 (50.69)	59 (40.97)	132 (45.83)
	4. Very large family (9 & above)	10 (13.89)	12 (16.67)	22 (15.28)	6 (8.33)	6 (8.33)	12 (8.33)	16 (11.11)	18 (12.50)	34 (11.81)
5	Economic status (12-21)									
	Low (12 - 15)	34 (47.22)	21 (29.17)	55 (38.19)	7 (9.73)	7 (9.72)	14 (9.72)	41 (28.47)	28 (19.44)	69 (23.96)
	Medium (15 - 18)	36 (50.00)	39 (54.17)	75 (52.08)	28 (38.89)	23 (31.94)	51 (35.42)	64 (44.44)	62 (43.06)	126 (43.75)
	High (18 - 21)	2 (2.78)	12 (16.67)	14 (9.73)	37 (51.39)	42 (58.33)	79 (54.86)	39 (27.08)	54 (37.50)	93 (32.29)
6	Income									
	Rs. < 25,000	40 (55.56)	31 (43.06)	71 (49.31)	10 (13.89)	8 (11.11)	18 (12.50)	50 (34.72)	39 (27.08)	89 (30.91)
	Rs. 25,000 - 50,000	22 (30.56)	26 (36.11)	48 (33.33)	25 (34.72)	19 (26.39)	44 (30.56)	47 (32.64)	45 (31.25)	92 (31.94)
	Rs. 50,000 - Rs. 75,000	10 (13.89)	15 (20.83)	25 (17.36)	18 (25.00)	16 (22.22)	34 (23.61)	28 (19.44)	31 (21.53)	59 (20.08)
	Rs. 75,000 - Rs. 1,00,000	-	-	-	15 (20.83)	21 (29.17)	36 (25.00)	15 (10.42)	21 (14.58)	36 (12.50)
	Rs. 1,00,000 & above	-	-	-	4 (5.56)	8 (11.11)	12 (8.33)	4 (2.78)	8 (5.56)	12 (4.17)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

contd...

Table 8 contd....

S. No.	Characteristics	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Pooled (n=288)
7	Economic productivity (2 - 8)									
	Low Productivity (2 - 4)	39 (54.17)	32 (44.45)	71 (49.31)	32 (44.44)	30 (41.67)	62 (43.06)	71 (49.30)	62 (43.06)	133 (46.18)
	Medium productivity (4 - 6)	33 (45.83)	24 (33.33)	57 (39.58)	25 (34.72)	24 (33.33)	49 (34.03)	58 (40.28)	48 (33.33)	106 (36.80)
	High productivity (6 - 8)	-	16 (22.22)	16 (11.11)	15 (20.83)	18 (25.00)	33 (22.91)	15 (10.42)	34 (23.61)	49 (17.02)
8	Discrimination against female child (10 - 22)									
	Low discrimination (2 - 4)	18 (25.00)	13 (18.06)	31 (21.53)	22 (30.56)	24 (33.33)	46 (31.94)	40 (27.78)	37 (25.69)	77 (26.74)
	Medium discrimination (4 - 6)	19 (26.39)	31 (43.06)	50 (34.72)	41 (56.94)	31 (43.06)	72 (50.00)	60 (41.66)	62 (43.06)	122 (42.36)
	High discrimination (6 - 8)	35 (48.61)	28 (38.89)	63 (43.75)	9 (12.50)	17 (23.61)	26 (18.06)	44 (30.56)	45 (31.25)	89 (30.90)
9	Managerial abilities (21 - 60)									
	Low managerial abilities (21 - 34)	68 (94.44)	20 (27.78)	88 (61.11)	22 (30.56)	3 (4.17)	25 (17.36)	90 (62.50)	23 (15.97)	113 (39.24)
	Medium managerial abilities (34 - 47)	4 (5.56)	43 (59.72)	47 (32.64)	34 (47.22)	44 (61.11)	78 (54.17)	38 (26.39)	87 (60.42)	125 (43.40)
	High managerial abilities (47 - 60)	-	9 (12.50)	9 (6.25)	16 (22.22)	25 (34.72)	41 (28.47)	16 (11.11)	34 (23.61)	50 (17.36)
10	Income generating capability (10-28)									
	Low capability (10 - 16)	20 (27.78)	6 (8.34)	26 (18.06)	11 (15.28)	-	11 (17.62)	31 (21.53)	6 (4.17)	37 (12.85)
	Medium capability (16 - 22)	32 (44.44)	33 (45.83)	65 (45.14)	39 (54.17)	31 (43.06)	70 (48.61)	71 (49.30)	64 (44.44)	135 (46.88)
	High capability (22 - 28)	20 (27.78)	33 (45.83)	53 (36.80)	22 (30.56)	41 (56.94)	63 (28.47)	42 (29.17)	74 (51.39)	116 (40.27)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

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Table 8 contd....

S. No.	Characteristics	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Pooled (n=288)
11	Social participation (4 - 22) Low participation (4 - 10)	44 (61.11)	18 (25.00)	62 (43.06)	40 (55.56)	18 (25.00)	58 (40.28)	84 (58.33)	36 (25.00)	120 (41.67)
		21 (29.17)	49 (68.06)	70 (48.61)	22 (30.56)	37 (51.39)	59 (40.97)	43 (29.86)	86 (59.72)	129 (44.79)
		7 (9.72)	5 (6.94)	12 (8.33)	10 (13.89)	17 (23.61)	27 (18.75)	17 (11.81)	22 (15.28)	39 (13.54)
12	Social mobilization (9 - 27) Low mobilization (9 - 15)	46 (63.89)	20 (27.78)	66 (45.83)	20 (27.78)	16 (22.22)	36 (25.00)	66 (45.84)	36 (25.00)	102 (35.42)
		16 (22.22)	31 (43.06)	47 (32.63)	30 (41.67)	25 (34.72)	55 (38.19)	46 (31.94)	56 (38.89)	102 (35.42)
		10 (13.89)	21 (29.16)	31 (21.52)	22 (30.56)	31 (43.06)	53 (36.81)	32 (22.22)	52 (36.11)	84 (29.16)
13	Self orientation (13 - 28) Low self orientation (13 - 18)	47 (65.28)	21 (29.17)	68 (47.2)	28 (38.89)	10 (13.89)	38 (26.39)	75 (52.09)	31 (21.53)	106 (36.81)
		16 (22.22)	35 (48.61)	51 (35.42)	25 (34.72)	35 (48.61)	60 (41.67)	41 (28.47)	70 (48.61)	111 (38.54)
		9 (12.50)	16 (22.22)	25 (17.36)	19 (26.39)	27 (37.50)	46 (31.94)	28 (19.44)	43 (29.86)	71 (24.65)
14	Extension contact (5 - 11) Low extension contact (5 - 7)	37 (51.39)	20 (27.78)	57 (39.58)	29 (40.28)	9 (12.50)	38 (26.39)	66 (45.83)	29 (20.14)	95 (32.99)
		28 (38.89)	35 (48.61)	63 (43.75)	31 (43.06)	27 (37.50)	58 (40.28)	59 (40.97)	62 (43.06)	121 (42.01)
		7 (9.72)	17 (23.61)	24 (16.67)	12 (16.67)	36 (50.00)	48 (33.33)	19 (13.19)	53 (36.80)	72 (25.00)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

contd...

Table 8 contd....

S. No.	Characteristics	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Pooled (n=288)
15	Extension participation (5 - 11) Low Extension Participation (5 - 7)	49 (68.06)	15 (20.83)	64 (44.44)	37 (51.39)	6 (8.33)	43 (29.86)	86 (59.72)	21 (14.58)	107 (37.15)
		19 (26.39)	23 (31.94)	42 (29.17)	15 (20.83)	25 (34.72)	40 (27.78)	34 (23.61)	48 (33.34)	82 (28.47)
		4 (5.56)	34 (47.22)	38 (26.39)	20 (27.78)	41 (56.94)	61 (42.36)	24 (16.67)	75 (52.08)	99 (34.38)
16	Mass Media Exposure (4 - 31) Low mass media exposure (4 - 13)	42 (58.33)	32 (44.44)	74 (51.39)	30 (41.67)	9 (12.50)	39 (27.08)	72 (50.00)	41 (28.47)	113 (39.24)
		30 (41.67)	29 (40.28)	59 (40.97)	26 (36.11)	41 (56.94)	67 (46.53)	56 (38.89)	70 (48.61)	126 (43.75)
		--	11 (15.28)	11 (7.64)	16 (22.22)	22 (30.56)	38 (26.39)	16 (11.11)	33 (22.92)	49 (17.01)
17	Perception of drudgery (38 - 62) Low perception (38 - 46)	-	34 (47.22)	34 (23.61)	0 (0.00)	48 (66.67)	48 (33.33)	-	82 (56.94)	82 (28.47)
		-	22 (30.56)	22 (15.28)	12 (16.67)	24 (33.33)	36 (25.00)	12 (8.33)	46 (31.95)	58 (20.14)
		72 (100.0)	16 (22.22)	88 (61.11)	60 (83.33)	-	60 (41.67)	132 (91.67)	16 (11.11)	148 (51.39)
18	Access to Basic Facilities (15 - 30) Low access (15 - 20)	51 (70.83)	25 (34.72)	76 (52.78)	17 (23.61)	7 (9.72)	24 (16.66)	68 (47.22)	32 (22.22)	100 (34.72)
		21 (29.17)	47 (65.28)	68 (47.22)	41 (56.94)	48 (66.67)	89 (61.81)	62 (43.06)	95 (65.97)	157 (54.52)
		-	-	-	14 (19.44)	17 (23.61)	31 (21.53)	14 (9.72)	17 (11.81)	31 (10.76)

of men was functionally literate followed by primary schooling (30.56%), No schooling (29.17%) and college (6.94%). On the whole 39.58 per cent in this area had no schooling followed by functionally literate (31.25%), primary schooling (25.69%) and high school (3.48%).

The pooled data indicate that majority (61.11%) of women had no schooling, followed by functionally literate (22.22%) and primary schooling (16.67%). While, 40.97 per cent had no schooling followed by functionally literate (29.17%), primary school (25.00%) and high school only 4.86 per cent. On the whole a little above half (51.04%) had no schooling followed by this functionally literate (25.69%), primary school (20.84%) and 2.43 per cent had high school education.

4.1.3 Marital status

The results with regard to marital status are discussed under two aspects i.e., Age at marriage and choice in selection of partner. Prescribed age of marriage for girls and boys was used for categorization of the respondents.

4.1.3.1 Age at marriage

Over three quarters majority (77.78%) of women were married below 18 years and only 12.50 per cent got married at the age of 18 in Adilabad district and 9.72 per cent above 18 years. While for men the prescribed age at marriage was 21 years, over half (46.94%) of men were married below 21 years followed by above 21 years (22.22%) and 21 years (20.83%). On the whole, a little above two quarters (67.36%) were married before the prescribed age at marriage, followed by 16.67 per cent at the prescribed age and 15.97 per cent above the prescribed age.

In West Godavari district nearly two third majority (65.28%) of women got married below 18 years followed by 18 years (23.67%) and above 18 years (11.11%). While half of men were married below 21 years followed by 21 years and one fourth per cent equally at the age of 21 and above 21 years.

On totality nearly three quarters (71.53%) of women and 53.47 per cent of men were married below the prescribed age i.e., 18 and 21 years respectively and 18.06. 22.92 per cent of women and men got married at the prescribed age i.e., 18 and 21 years, respectively. While 10.01 and 23.61 per cent of women of

men got married above the prescribed age i.e., above 18 and 21 years, respectively. Of the total respondents 62.50 per cent got married below prescribed age followed by prescribed age (20.49%) and 17.01 per cent above the prescribed age.

4.1.3.2 Choice in selection of partner

Women respondent in Adilabad reported that majority (61.11%) had least choice in selection of the partner, one third had medium choice and only 5.56 per cent had high choice. A sizeable number (43.05%) of men had medium choice followed by 30.56 per cent having high choice and low choice by 26.39 per cent. Among the sampled respondent in this area 43.75 per cent had low choice followed by medium choice (38.19%) and high choice (18.06%).

Over half (55.56%) of women in West Godavari reported to have low choice followed by medium choice by one third majority and only 11.11 per cent were having high choice in selection of their partner. While 44.45 per cent of men reported to have high choice followed by medium (36.11%) and low choice (19.44%). From West Godavari nearly equal per cent i.e., 37.50 and 34.72 per cent had low and medium choice respectively and 27.78 per cent had high choice.

The pooled data reveal that majority (58.33%) of women had low choice, one third had medium choice and 8.34 per cent had high choice. Medium and high choice was among 39.58 and 37.50 per cent of men respectively and 22.92 per cent had low choice. On the whole it can be said that 40.63 per cent had low choice followed by medium choice (36.46%) and high choice (22.91%).

4.1.4 Family size

A clear observation of the Table 8 reveal that, with regard to family size majority (59.72%) of women from Adilabad hailed from large family size followed by medium family (23.61%), very large family (13.89%), and small family (2.78%). Only meager per cent (2.78%) belonged to small family. With regard to men respondent just over half (52.76%) hailed from large family followed by medium family (20.83%), very large family (16.67%) and 9.72 per cent from small family. Overall data shows that 56.25 per cent of them belonged to large family

followed by medium family (22.22%), very large family (15.28%) and small family (6.25%).

The data of West Godavari shows that an equal per cent i.e., 41.67 per cent of women belonged to medium and large families, and an equal per cent (8.33) from small and large family. Just above half (52.78%) of men were from medium family followed by large family (29.17%), small family (9.72%), and very large family (8.33%). On the whole nearly half (47.22%) were from medium family followed by large family (35.42%), small family (9.03%) and very large family (8.33%).

The pooled data of both the districts reveal that a little above half (50.69%) of women were from large family followed by medium (32.64%), very large family (11.11%) and very few (5.56%) from small family. Where as a sizeable number (40.97%) of men belonged to large family followed by medium family size (36.81%), very large family (12.50%) and 9.72 per cent from small family. About 45.83 per cent of the respondents hailed from large family followed by medium family (34.72%) very large family (11.81%) and small family (7.64%).

4.1.5 Economic status

With regard to economic status in Adilabad, the data in Table 8 reveal that half (50.00%) of women were in the medium economic status category followed by low economic status (47.22%) and only 2.78 per cent in high economic status category. Where as over half (54.17%) of men belonged to medium economic status followed by low economic status (29.17%) and high economic status (16.67%). Just above half (52.08%) of men and women were in the medium economic status category followed by low economic status (38.19%) and high economic status (9.73) in this area.

Results on economic status in West Godavari show that 51.39 per cent of women and 58.34 per cent of men were in the high economic status category followed by medium economic status (38.89 and 31.94%) and an equal per cent (9.72%) in low economic status respectively. Over half (54.86%) of respondents were in high economic status followed by medium economic status (35.42%) and low economic status (9.72%) on the whole.

Data on economic status indicates that a sizeable number (44.44% and 43.06%) of women and men were in the medium economic status. Nearly an equal per cent (28.47% and 27.09%) of women were in low and high economic status groups respectively. About 37.50 per cent of men were in high economic status and 19.44 per cent in low economic status groups. On the whole 43.75 per cent of respondents belonged to medium economic status followed by high economic status (32.29%) and low economic status (23.96%).

4.1.6 Family income

A clear observation of data on income in Adilabad District reveal that half (55.56%) of women had family income less than Rs.25,000 followed by Rs.25,000-30,000 (30.56%) and Rs.50,000-75,000 (13.89%). A sizeable number (43.06%) of men had family income of less than Rs.25,000 followed by Rs.25,000-50,000 (36.11%) and Rs.50,000-75,000 (20.83%). Almost half (49.31%) of them had income less than Rs.25,000 followed by Rs.25,000-50,000 (33.33%) and Rs.50,000-75,000 (17.36%).

A little above one third (34.72%) of women in West Godavari were in the income category of Rs.25,000-50,000 followed by Rs.50,000-75,000 (25.00%), Rs.75,000- 1,00,000 (20.83%), less than Rs.25,000 (13.89%) and very few (5.56%) had income above Rs.1,00,000. Whereas, 29.17 per cent of men had family income of Rs.75,000 - 1,00,000 followed by Rs.25,000 - 50,000 (26.39%), Rs.50,000-75,000 (22.22%) and an equal per cent (11.11%) had income below Rs.25,000 and above Rs.1,00,000. Of the total respondents, 30.56 per cent were in the income category of Rs.25,000 - 50,000, followed by Rs.75,000 - 1,00,000 (25.00%) Rs.50,000-75,000 (23.61%) less than 25,000 (12.50%) and 8.33 per cent had income above Rs.1,00,000.

The pooled data reveal that 34.72 per cent of women had family income of less than Rs.25,000 followed by Rs.25,000-50,000 (32.64%), Rs.50,000-75,000 (19.44%), Rs.75,000 - 1,00,000 (10.42%) and a meager per cent (2.78%) above Rs.1,00,000. Among men a little below one third (31.25%) had family income in the range of Rs.25,000-50,000 followed by less than Rs.25,000 (27.08%), Rs.50,000-75,000 (21.53%), Rs.75,000 - 1,00,000 (14.58%) and above Rs.1,00,000 (5.56%). Nearly equal per cent (31.94% and 30.91%) of them had income of Rs.25,000-50,000

and less than Rs.25,000 respectively. About 20.48 per cent had income of Rs.50,000-75,000 followed by Rs.75,000 - 1,00,000 (12.50%) and above Rs.1,00,000 (4.17%).

4.1.7 Economic productivity

Over half (54.17%) of women were in the low economic productive category and 45.83 per cent in medium economic productive category from Adilabad District. While, men viewed women's economic productivity as low (44.45%) followed by medium by one third and high economic productivity (22.22%). Almost half (49.31%) viewed economic productivity as low followed by medium (39.58%) and high (11.11%).

Among the respondents in West Godavari, a sizeable number (44.44%) of women's were in the category of low economic productivity followed by medium (34.72%) and high economic productivity (20.83%). Where as 41.67 per cent of men viewed economic productivity of women as low followed by medium (33.33%) and low (25.00%). A sizeable number (43.06%) of them viewed economic productivity as low followed by medium economic productivity (34.03%) and low economic productivity (22.91%).

The pooled data on economic productivity in Table 8 indicates that almost half (49.30%) of women were in the category of low economic productivity, followed by medium economic productivity (40.28%) and high economic productivity (10.42%). Among men 43.06 per cent of men viewed economic productivity of women as low followed by medium (33.33%) and high (23.61%). Nearly half (46.18%) of the respondents were in low category of economic productivity followed by medium (36.80%) and high (17.02%) economic productive category.

4.1.8 Discrimination against female child

Data with regard to discrimination against female child indicates that nearly half (48.61%) of women were in high discrimination category and just above one fourth (26.39%) and one fourth (25.00%) in medium and low discrimination categories respectively in Adilabad. A sizeable number (43.06%) of men were found to show medium discrimination followed by high discrimination (38.88%) and

low discrimination (18.06%). High discrimination was shown by 43.75 per cent followed by medium discrimination (34.72%) and low discrimination (21.53%).

In West Godavari district over half (56.94%) and (43.06%) of women and men were found to be in the medium discrimination category followed by low discrimination category (30.56 and 33.33%) and high discrimination category (12.50 & 23.61%) respectively.

With regard to discrimination against female child 41.66 per cent of women were in the medium discrimination category followed by high discrimination (30.56%) and low discrimination (27.78%), While, 43.06 per cent men were in the medium discrimination category followed by high discrimination (31.25%) and low discrimination (25.69%). On the whole a sizeable number (42.36%) were observed to show medium discrimination followed by high discrimination (30.90%) and low discrimination (26.74%).

4.1.9 Managerial abilities

A vast majority (94.44%) of women in Adilabad had low managerial abilities and only 5.56 per cent had medium managerial abilities. Majority (59.72%) of men had medium managerial abilities followed by low managerial abilities (27.78%) and high managerial abilities (12.50%). Just below two third majority (61.11%) had low managerial abilities followed by medium managerial abilities (32.64%) and only 6.25 per cent had high managerial abilities.

Nearly half (47.22%) of women in West Godavari had medium managerial abilities followed low managerial abilities (30.56%) and high managerial abilities (22.22%). While majority (61.11%) of men had medium managerial abilities followed by high managerial abilities (34.72%) only 4.17 per cent had low managerial abilities. Over half (54.17%) of them had medium managerial abilities followed by high managerial abilities (28.47%) and low managerial abilities (17.36%).

On the whole, almost two third majority (62.50%) of women had low managerial abilities followed by medium managerial (26.39%) and high managerial abilities (11.11%). Among men majority (60.42%) had medium managerial abilities followed by high managerial abilities (23.61%) and low managerial abilities

(15.97%). A sizeable number (43.40%) of respondents had medium managerial abilities followed by low managerial abilities (39.24%) and high managerial abilities (17.36%).

4.1.10 Income generating capability

With regard to Income generating capability 44.44 per cent of women in Adilabad had medium income generating capability and an equal per cent (27.78%) were in low and high income generating capability respectively. An equal per cent 45.83 of men were in medium and high category of income generating capability and 8.34 per cent in low income generating capability category. About 45.14 per and 36.80 per cent of them were in medium and high income generating capability category respectively and 18.06 per cent in low income generating capability.

In West Godavari over half (54.17%) of women had medium income generating capability followed by high income generating capability (30.56%) and 15.28 per cent had low income generating capability. Majority (56.94%) of men had high income generating capability and 43.06 per cent had medium income generating capability. Nearly half i.e., 48.61 per cent of them had medium income generating capability followed by high income generating capability (28.47%) and a meager per cent (7.62) had low income generating capability.

An overview of the data in the Table 8 reveals that almost half (49.30%) of women had medium income generating capability followed by high income generating capability (29.17%) and low income generating capability (21.53%). A little above half (51.39%) of men had high income generating capability and 44.44 per cent had medium income generating capability. Only 4.17 per cent were in the low category. Nearly half (46.88%) of women and men had medium income generating capability followed by high income generating capability (40.27%) and low income generating capability (12.85%).

4.1.11 Social participation

Social participation results in the Table 8 indicate that majority (61.11%) of women in Adilabad had low social participation followed by medium social participation (29.17%) and high social participation by only 9.72 per cent. Above two third majority (68.06%) of men had medium social participation followed

by low social participation by one fourth per cent and high social participation (6.94%). Almost half per cent (48.61%) of respondents in Adilabad had medium social participation followed by low social participation (43.06%) and only 8.33 per cent had high social participation.

Among the West Godavari respondents, over half (55.56%) of women had low social participation followed by medium social participation (30.56%) and high social participation (13.89%). Medium social participation was observed among men by 51.39 per cent, low social participation by one fourth majority and high social participation (23.61%). Almost equal per cent (40.97 and 40.28%) of respondents were in medium and low social participation categories respectively and 18.75 per cent in high social participation category.

Overall sample results conclude that, majority (58.33%) of women had low social participation followed by medium social participation (29.86%) and high social participation (11.81%). Majority (59.72%) of men had medium social participation followed by low social participation (25.00%) and high social participation (15.28%). About 44.79 per cent of women and men had medium social participation followed by low social participation (41.67%) and high social participation (13.54%).

4.1.12 Social mobilization

With regard to social mobilization the results in Table 8 indicate that majority (63.89%) of women in Adilabad had low social mobilization followed by medium social mobilization (22.22%) and high social mobilization among 13.89 per cent. A sizeable number (43.06%) of men had medium social mobilization followed by high and low social mobilization among 29.16 and 27.78 per cent respectively. About 45.83 per cent had medium social mobilization followed by low social mobilization (32.63%) and high social mobilization (21.52%).

With regard to women in West Godavari, medium social mobilization was observed among 41.67 per cent followed by high social mobilization (30.56%) and low social mobilization (27.78%). Among men 43.06 per cent had high social mobilization followed by medium social mobilization (34.72%) and low social mobilization (22.22%). Nearly equal per cent i.e., 38.19, and 36.81 per cent were

in the medium and high social mobilization category and low social mobilization among one fourth of the respondents.

It could be summarised from the data in Table 8 that among women 45.84 per cent had low social mobilization followed by medium social mobilization (31.94%) and high social mobilization (22.22%). About 38.89 per cent of men respondents had medium social mobilization followed by high social mobilization (36.11%) and low social mobilization among one fourth of them. On totality, 35.42 per cent of them were equally found to be in low and medium mobilization category and high social mobilization category (29.16%).

4.1.13 Self orientation

In Adilabad, majority (65.28%) of women had low self orientation followed by medium self orientation (22.22%) and high self orientation (12.50%). Where as nearly half (48.61%) of men had medium self orientation followed by low self orientation (29.17%) and high self orientation category (22.22%). About half (47.22%) of the respondents had low self orientation followed by medium and high among 35.42 and 17.36 per cent respectively.

Above one third (38.89%) of women from West Godavari had low self orientation followed by medium (34.72%) and low (26.39%) self orientation. Nearly half (48.61%) of men had medium self orientation followed by high self orientation (37.50%) and low self orientation (13.89%). About 41.67 per cent had medium self orientation followed by high self orientation (31.94%) and low self orientation (26.39%) on the whole.

On totality, it can be viewed that just above half (52.09%) of women had low self orientation followed by medium (28.47%) high (19.44%). About half (48.61%) men had medium self orientation followed by high self orientation (29.86%) and low self orientation (21.53%). On the whole, 38.54, 36.81 and 24.65 per cent of them were in medium, low and high self orientation categories, respectively.

4.1.14 Extension contact

A clear examination of data on extension contact in the Table 8 several just above half (51.39%) of women had low extension contact in Adilabad followed

by medium extension contact (38.89%) and high extension contact (19.72%). Whereas, 48.61 per cent of men had medium extension contact followed by low extension contact (27.78%) and high extension contact (23.61%). A sizeable number (43.75%) of respondents from Adilabad had medium extension contact followed by low extension contact (39.58%) and high extension contact by only 16.67 per cent of them.

With regard to respondents in West Godavari, a sizeable number (43.06%) of women had medium extension contact followed by low extension contact (40.28%) and high extension contact (16.67%). Half of men had high extension contact followed by medium extension contact (37.50%) and low extension contact (12.50%). About 40.28 per cent of them had medium extension contact followed by high extension contact among one third majority and low extension contact (26.39%).

The results of both the sampled districts show that 45.83, 40.97 and 13.19 per cent of women had low medium and high extension contact respectively. Among men 43.06 per cent of them had medium extension contact followed by high extension contact (36.80%) and low extension contact (20.14%). On the whole a sizeable number (42.01%) of them had medium extension contact followed by low extension contact (32.99%) and high extension contact by one fourth majority (25.00%).

4.1.15 Extension participation

The results of extension participation on Table 8 reveal that, above two third majority (68.06%) of women and 47.22 per cent of men in Adilabad had low and high extension participation respectively. Medium extension participation and high extension participation was observed among 26.39 and 5.55 per cent women respectively. While 31.94 per cent of men had medium extension participation and low extension participation among 20.83 per cent of them. Less than half (44.44%) of respondents had low extension participation and nearly equal per cent i.e., 29.17 and 26.39 per cent had medium and high extension participation respectively.

Among the West Godavari respondents slightly above half (51.39%) of women had low extension participation followed by high extension participation (27.78%) and medium extension participation (20.83%). Whereas, majority (56.94%) of men had high extension participation followed by medium extension participation (34.72%) and only 8.33 per cent had low extension participation. A sizeable number (42.36%) of them had high extension participation, 29.86 and 27.78 per cent had low and medium extension participation respectively.

It can be concluded that majority (59.72%) of women had low extension participation followed by medium extension participation (23.61%) and high extension participation (16.67%). Just over half (52.08%) of men had high extension participation followed by medium extension participation by one third and low extension participation (14.58%). Overall results show that 37.15 per cent had low extension participation followed high extension participation (34.38%) and medium extension participation (28.47%).

4.1.16 Mass media exposure

Mass media exposure results in Adilabad reveal that majority (58.33%) of women had low mass media exposure and 41.67 per cent had medium mass media exposure. Among men 44.44 per cent had low mass media exposure followed medium mass media exposure (40.28%) and high mass medium exposure (15.28%). Just over half (51.39%) of them had low mass media exposure followed by medium mass media exposure (40.97%) and high mass media exposure (7.64%).

In West Godavari, about 41.67 per cent of women had low mass media exposure followed by medium mass media exposure (36.11%) and high mass media exposure (22.22%). Majority (56.94%) of men had medium mass media exposure followed by high mass media exposure (30.56%) and low mass media exposure (12.50%). Nearly half (46.53%) of them had medium mass media exposure and almost equal per cent 27.08 and 26.39 per cent had low and high mass media exposure respectively.

Overall data on mass media indicates that half of women had low mass media exposure followed by medium mass media exposure (38.89%) and low mass media exposure (11.11%). Almost half (48.61%) of men had medium mass media

exposure followed by low mass media exposure (28.47%) and high mass media exposure (22.92%). A sizeable number (43.75%) of total respondents had medium mass media exposure followed by low mass media exposure (39.24%) and high mass media exposure (17.01%).

4.1.17 Perception of drudgery

Result furnished in the Table 8, perception of drudgery in Adilabad indicate that cent per cent of women had perceived drudgery as high. Among men 47.22 per cent of them perceived drudgery as low followed by medium (30.56%) and high (22.22%). Nearly two third majority (61.11%) experienced high drudgery followed by low (23.61%) and medium (15.28%).

An overwhelming majority (83.33%) of women in West Godavari perceived high drudgery and 16.67 per cent perceived drudgery as medium. Two third majority (66.67%) of men perceived drudgery as low and one third as medium. A sizeable number (41.67%) perceived drudgery as high followed by one fourth (25.00%) as medium and two-third majority as low.

An overview of data on perception of drudgery on the Table 8 indicate that a vast majority (91.67%) of women perceived drudgery as high and 8.33 per cent as medium. Majority (56.94%) of men perceived drudgery as low followed by medium (31.95%) and high (11.11%). On the whole, just over half (51.39%) of respondents perceived drudgery as high followed by low (28.47%) and medium (20.14%).

4.1.18 Access to basic facilities

It could be vividly observed from the Table 8 that below three quarters (70.83%) of women had less access to basic facilities and 29.17 per cent had medium access to basic facilities. Whereas, almost two third majority (65.28%) of men had medium access and one third (34.72%) had low access to basic facilities. Above half (52.78%) had low access and nearly half (47.22%) had medium access to basic facilities in the study area of Adilabad.

In West Godavari, over half (56.94%) of women and two third majority (66.66%) of men had medium access to basic facilities. About 19.44 per cent and 23.61 per cent of women and men had high access to basic facilities respectively.

Table 9: Distribution of respondents based on Gender Equity Index

S. No.	Characteristics	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Pooled (n=288)
1	GENDER EQUITY (61 - 91) Low equity (61 - 71)	72 (100.0)	-	72 (50.00)	21 (29.17)	-	21 (14.58)	93 (64.58)	-	93 (32.29)
2	Medium equity (71 - 81)	-	71 (98.61)	71 (49.31)	51 (70.83)	5 (6.94)	56 (38.89)	51 (35.42)	76 (52.78)	127 (44.10)
3	High equity (81 - 91)	-	1 (1.39)	1 (0.69)	-	67 (93.06)	67 (46.53)	-	68 (47.22)	68 (23.61)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

While, 23.61 per cent women and 9.72 per cent men had low access to basic facilities respectively. On the whole majority (61.81%) had medium access to basic facilities followed by high access (21.53%) and low access (16.66%).

On totality it can be viewed that nearly half (47.22%) of women had low access followed by medium access (43.06%) and high access (9.72%). While, almost two third majority (65.97%) of men had medium access followed by low access (22.22%) and high access (11.81%). Majority (54.52%) of women and men had medium access to basic facilities followed by low access (34.72%) and high access to basic facilities by only 10.76 per cent of them.

4.2 GENDER EQUITY OF THE RESPONDENTS

4.2.1 Distribution of respondents based on Gender Equity Index

A perusal of Table 9 indicates, the distribution of respondents based on gender equity index.

All the women respondents in Adilabad were found to be in the low category of gender equity. While, an overwhelming (98.61%) of men were in the medium category and only 1.39 per cent in the high category. On the whole half of the respondents were found to be in the low category followed by the rest half i.e. 49.13 per cent in the medium category and only 0.69 per cent in the high category.

Nearly three-quarters (70.83%) of women were found to be in the medium category and 29.17 per cent in the low category. A vast majority (93.06%) of men were in the high category and 6.94 per cent were in low category. It was also evident that, nearly half (46.53%) of the respondents in this area were in the high category of Gender Equity followed by medium category (38.89%) and low category (14.58%).

The pooled data on Gender Equity of both the district indicate that *almost two third majority (64.58%) of women were in the low category and the rest 35.42 per cent were in the medium category. Just above half (52.78%) of men were in the medium category and nearly half (47.22%) in the high category. On the whole, 44.10 per cent of the respondents were in the medium category followed by low category (32.29%) and high category (23.61%).*

Table 10: Distribution of respondents based on indicators of Gender Equity

S. No.	Characteristics	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Pooled (n=288)
1	Education (28 - 49)									
	Low (28 - 35)	48 (66.67)	24 (33.33)	72 (50.00)	30 (41.67)	15 (20.83)	45 (31.25)	78 (54.17)	39 (27.08)	117 (40.63)
	Medium (35 - 42)	22 (30.56)	41 (56.94)	63 (43.75)	26 (36.11)	27 (37.50)	53 (36.81)	48 (33.33)	68 (47.22)	116 (40.28)
	High (42 -49)	2 (2.78)	7 (9.72)	9 (6.25)	16 (22.22)	30 (41.67)	46 (31.94)	18 (12.50)	37 (25.69)	55 (19.09)
2	Employment (123 - 273)									
	Low (123 - 175)	72 (100.0)	12 (16.67)	84 (58.33)	49 (68.06)	-	49 (34.03)	121 (84.03)	12 (8.33)	133 (46.18)
	Medium (172 - 227)	-	44 (61.11)	44 (30.56)	23 (31.94)	15 (20.83)	38 (26.39)	23 (15.97)	59 (40.98)	82 (28.47)
	High (227 - 273)	-	16 (22.22)	16 (11.11)	-	57 (79.17)	57 (39.58)	-	73 (50.69)	73 (25.35)
3	Health and Nutrition (223 - 289)									
	Low (223 - 245)	59 (81.94)	12 (16.66)	71 (49.31)	12 (16.66)	10 (13.89)	22 (15.28)	71 (49.30)	22 (15.28)	93 (32.29)
	Medium (245 - 267)	13 (18.06)	30 (41.67)	43 (29.86)	39 (54.17)	24 (33.33)	63 (43.75)	52 (36.11)	54 (37.50)	106 (36.80)
	High (267 - 289)	-	30 (41.67)	30 (20.83)	21 (29.17)	38 (52.78)	59 (40.97)	21 (14.58)	68 (47.22)	89 (30.91)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

contd...

Table 10 contd...

S. No.	Characteristics	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total	
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)
4	Time* (a) Farming								
	Low	8 (11.11)	10 (13.89)	40 (27.78)	11 (15.28)	13 (18.06)	35 (24.31)	18 (12.50)	25 (17.36)
	Medium	58 (80.56)	55 (76.39)	74 (51.39)	53 (73.61)	49 (68.06)	78 (54.17)	110 (76.39)	93 (64.58)
	High	6 (8.33)	7 (9.72)	30 (20.83)	8 (11.11)	10 (13.89)	31 (21.53)	16 (11.11)	26 (18.06)
	Mean	30.53	38.07	34.3	30.98	39.47	35.22	30.75	38.77
	SD	1.61	0.59	3.97	1.09	0.59	4.35	1.39	0.91
	(b) Livestock								
	Low	8 (11.11)	-	-	-	-	12 (8.33)	-	-
	Medium	57 (79.17)	71 (98.61)	140 (97.22)	70 (97.22)	70 (97.22)	120 (83.34)	140 (97.22)	141 (97.92)
	High	6 (8.33)	1 (1.39)	4 (2.78)	2 (2.78)	2 (2.78)	12 (8.33)	4 (2.78)	3 (2.08)
	Mean	0.18	0.59	0.18	0.19	0.59	0.39	0.18	0.59
	SD	0.02	0.35	0.05	0.06	0.12	0.22	0.05	0.26
	(c) Household								
	Low	7 (9.72)	--	7 (9.72)	4 (5.56)	--	4 (5.56)	6 (4.17)	--
	Medium	58 (80.56)	--	58 (80.56)	66 (91.67)	--	66 (91.67)	136 (94.44)	--
	High	7 (9.72)	--	7 (9.72)	2 (2.78)	--	2 (2.78)	2 (1.39)	--
	Mean	1.13	--	1.13	1.11	--	1.11	1.12	--
	SD	0.02	--	0.02	0.13	--	0.13	0.09	--

contd...

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

Table 10 contd...

S. No.	Characteristics	Adilabad		West Godavari			Total	
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Pooled (n=288)
	(d) Other Activities							
	Low	11 (15.28)	12 (16.67)	23 (15.97)	1 (1.39)	2 (2.78)	4 (2.78)	23 (7.99)
	Medium	50 (69.44)	49 (68.06)	99 (68.75)	69 (95.83)	65 (90.28)	133 (92.36)	247 (85.76)
	High	11 (15.28)	11 (15.28)	22 (15.28)	2 (2.78)	4 (5.56)	7 (4.86)	18 (6.25)
	Mean	1.15	1.24	1.19	1.22	1.25	1.24	1.22
	SD	0.07	0.06	0.08	0.11	0.14	0.13	0.11
5	Access and control over resources (45 - 56)							
	Low (45 - 56)	37 (51.39)	4 (5.56)	41 (28.47)	21 (29.17)	-	21 (14.58)	62 (21.53)
	Medium (56 - 67)	22 (30.56)	17 (23.61)	39 (27.09)	32 (44.44)	18 (25.00)	50 (34.73)	89 (30.90)
	High (67 - 78)	13 (18.06)	51 (70.83)	64 (44.44)	19 (26.39)	54 (75.00)	73 (50.69)	137 (47.57)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

4.2.2 Distribution of respondents based on indicators of Gender Equity

A perusal of Table 10 present results pertaining to distribution of respondents based on indicators of Gender Equity

4.2.2.1 Education

A clear observation of data on education in the Table 10 indicates that majority (66.67%) of women in Adilabad were in low education category followed by medium education category (30.56%) and only 2.78 per cent in high education category. Majority (56.94%) of men were in medium education category followed by low category (33.33%) and 9.72 per cent in high education category. The per cent of respondent in low and medium education category were 50.00 and 43.75 per cent respectively. Only 6.25 per cent were in high education category.

About (41.67%) of women in West Godavari were in low education category followed by medium (36.11%) and high category (22.22%). Among men 41.67 per cent were in high education category followed by a little above one-third (37.50%) in medium category and low category (20.83%). With regard to respondents in West Godavari (36.81%) were in medium education category followed by almost an equal per cent i.e., 31.24 and 31.94 per cent in low and high categories respectively.

On the whole, over half (54.17%) of women were in the low category followed by medium category (33.33%) and high (12.50%). Among men 47.22 were in the medium category. While, 27.08 and 25.69 per cent were in low and high educational categories respectively. Total sample showed that, almost an equal per cent i.e., 40.63 and 40.28 per cent were in low and medium education categories, respectively. Only 19.09 per cent were in high category.

4.2.2.2 Employment

A close look of Table 10 reveals that all the women respondents in Adilabad were in low category of employment. Majority (61.11%) of men were in medium category, while 22.22 and 16.67 per cent were in high and low categories respectively. On the whole, majority (58.33%) of the respondents were in low category of employment followed by medium category (30.56%) and low category (11.11%).

Just above two-third majority (68.06%) of women in West Godavari were in low category and the rest 31.94 per cent well in medium category. Among men above three quarters majority (79.17%) of them were in high employment category and the rest 20.83 per cent were in medium category of employment.

The pooled data indicate that a great majority (84.03%) of women were in low category and the remaining 15.97 per cent were in the medium category. While, among men half (50.69%) were in the high category followed by medium (40.98%) and low (8.33%). It could be summarized with regard to employment that nearly half (46.18%) were in the low category of employment, above one quarter (28.47%) whereas the medium category and one quarter (25.35%) in the high category of employment.

4.2.2.3 Health and nutrition

With regard to results on health and nutrition it could be concluded that a great majority (81.94%) of women in Adilabad were in low category of health and nutrition and only 18.06 per cent in the medium category. While, 41.67 per cent of men were equally in the medium and high category and 16.66 per cent in low category. Almost half (49.31%) of the respondents in Adilabad were in low category, followed by medium category (29.86%) and high (20.83%).

In West Godavari over half (54.17%) of women were in medium category followed by this 29.17 per cent were in the high and 16.66 per cent were in the low categories. Above half (52.78%) of men were in the high category followed by one third in medium and 13.89 per cent in the low category. Nearly equal per cent i.e., 43.75 and 40.97 per cent of the respondents were in the medium and high categories respectively. Only 15.28 per cent were in the low category of health and nutrition.

On totality, it can be concluded from the results that almost half (49.30%) of women in the low category of health and nutrition followed by medium (36.11%) and high (14.58%). Nearly half (47.22%) of men were in the high category followed by medium (37.50%) and low category (15.28%). On the whole, above one third majority (36.80%) were in the medium category. Almost equal per cent i.e., 32.29 and 30.91 per cent were in the low and high categories respectively.

4.2.2.4 Time

4.2.2.4.1 Farming

A perusal of Table 10 indicates that with regard to time spent on farming activities the per cent of women and men in medium category was (80.56 and 76.39), low category (11.11% and 13.89%) and high category (8.33% and 9.72%) respectively in Adilabad. On the whole above half (51.39%) of the respondents were in the medium category followed by low (27.78%) and high (20.83%).

In West Godavari, nearly three quarters (73.61%) of women and just above two third majority (68.06%) of men were in the medium category. In low category 15.28 and 18.06 per cent of women and men were found respectively. While 11.11 per cent of women and 13.89 per cent of men were in the high category. The respective percentages in medium, low and high categories were 54.17, 24.31 and 21.53 on whole in this area.

From the Table 10 it can be concluded that 76.39 per cent of women and 64.58 per cent of men were in the medium category. Almost equal per cent i.e., 12.50 and 11.11% of women were in low and high categories. Whereas, 18.06 per cent of men were in high category and 17.36 per cent were in low category. Above half (54.17%) of the total respondents were found to be in the medium category of time spent on farming and 23.61 and 21.53 per cent in high and low categories respectively.

4.2.2.4.2 Livestock

Majority (79.17%) of women in Adilabad were found to be in medium category with regard to time spent on livestock activities followed by low category (11.11%) and high category (8.33%). Whereas, almost all (98.61%) of men were in medium category and only 1.39 per cent were in high group. A vast majority (97.22%) of the respondents were in medium category only a meager per cent (2.78%) were in high category.

A vast majority (97.22%) of women and men equally were in the medium category in West Godavari and only 2.78 per cent were in high category. A great majority (83.34%) were in medium category and an equal per cent (8.33%) were in low and high categories.

On totality, almost equal per cent (97.22 and 97.92%) of women and men were in the medium category. A meager per cent (2.78%) of women and 2.08 per cent of men were in high category. Nearly cent per cent (98.61%) were in the medium category and only 1.39 per cent were in high group category.

4.2.2.4.3 Household

With regard to time spent on household activities a great majority (80.56%) of women in Adilabad were in medium category and 9.72 per cent of them were equally in low and high categories. Among women, a vast majority (91.67%) were in the medium category followed by low category (5.56%) and high category (2.79%) in West Godavari. On whole, majority (94.44%) were in the medium category followed by low category (4.17%) and only 1.39 per cent in high category (Table 10).

4.2.2.4.4 Other activities

Over two third majority (69.44 and 68.06%) of women and men were in medium category in Adilabad, 15.28 per cent and 16.66 per cent of women and men were in low category respectively and equal per cent (15.28%) of them in high category. Majority (68.75%) were medium category and almost equal per cent 15.97 and 15.28 were in low and high groups respectively with regard to time spent on other activities (Table 10).

A vast majority (95.83 and 90.28%) of women and men in West Godavari were in medium category, 2.78 per cent were in high and 1.39 per cent were in low category among women. Among men 5.56 and 2.78 per cent were in high and low categories respectively. On whole majority (92.36%) were found to be in medium category, 4.86 per cent in high category and 2.78 per cent in low category.

A great majority (83.33%) of women in both sampled region were in medium category. Among women 9.72 and 6.94 were in low and high categories respectively. Whereas a great majority (88.19%) of men were in high category, 6.25 per cent were in low category and 5.56 per cent in high category. On whole, majority (85.76%) were in medium category followed by low category (7.99%) and high category (6.25%).

4.2.2.4.5 Access and control over resources

With regard to access and control results in Table 10 reveal that just above half (51.39%) of women in Adilabad had low access and control followed by medium access and control (30.56%) and high access and control (18.05%). Whereas, nearly three quarters (70.83%) of men had high access and control followed by medium access and control (23.61%) and low access and control (5.56%). A sizeable number (44.44%) had high access and control followed by low access and control (28.47%) and medium access and control (27.09%).

In West Godavari, 44.44 per cent of women had medium access and control followed by low access and control (29.17%) and high access and control (26.39%). Three-quarters of men had high access and control and one-fourth had medium access and control. A little above half (50.69%) of women and men had high access and control followed by medium access and control (34.73%) and low access and control (14.58%).

The data in both districts reveal that 40.28 per cent had low access followed by medium access and control (37.50%) and high access and control (22.22%). Among men nearly three-fourth majority (72.92%) had high access and control (24.30%) and only 2.79 per cent had low access and control. Overall data indicates that nearly half (47.57%) had high access and control over resources followed by 30.90 per cent of them having medium access and control and only 21.53 per cent in low access and control.

4.2.3 Differences in Gender Equity and indicators of Gender Equity of the respondents - ANOVA

4.2.3.1 Gender Equity Index

The perusal of the Table 11 indicates a significant difference ($F=935.69$) at 1 per cent level among the respondents regarding the scores of Gender Equity Index. The CD values further point out that all the respondents differed significant with each other at 1 per cent level. Hence, the null hypothesis framed was rejected.

4.2.3.2 Gender equity indicators

4.2.3.2.1 Education

The mean scores of the women and men respondents from both the districts were tested for their statistical significance difference by computing F-ratio and results were presented in Table 11. The results indicate that there was significant difference ($F=91.46$) at one per cent level indicating that there was difference among the four groups. Further, it was tested with CD values and found that the scores of education differed significantly at 1 per cent level except for females in West Godavari and males in Adilabad. Hence the null hypothesis was rejected.

4.2.3.2.2 Employment

An overview of the Table 11 indicates, there was significant difference ($F=772.35$) at one per cent level. Further the C.D values point and that all respondents differed significantly at 1 per cent level with regard to employment. Hence, the null hypothesis was rejected.

4.2.3.2.3 Health and nutrition

Variations in the mean scores of the respondents with regard to health and nutrition was examined by computing F-ratio and the results were presented in Table 11. An observation of the table indicates significant difference ($F=48.72$) at one per cent level employing a difference among the respondents. Further, it was examined by C.D values and found that, the respondents varied significantly at one per cent level except among the male respondents. Thus, rejecting the null hypothesis.

4.2.3.2.4 Time

An overview of the Table 11 reveals that there was significant difference ($F=1089.78$) at 1 per cent level among respondents of both the districts. Further, it was examined by C.D values and found that the mean scores on time for women respondents from Adilabad differed significantly at 5 per cent level with women of West Godavari and at 1 per cent level with men respondents from both the districts. While the mean scores of females in West Godavari differed

significantly at 1 per cent level with men respondents. Men respondents of both the districts differed significantly at 5 per cent level. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected.

4.2.3.2.5 Access and control over resources

The perusal of Table 11 indicates a significant difference (F=39.50) at one per cent level among the respondents. Further by examining the CD values, it can be observed from mean scores of women respondents from Adilabad varied significant at five per cent level with women respondents of West Godavari and 1 per cent with men respondents of both the district. While the mean scores of men differed significantly at five per cent level. Hence, the null hypothesis was rejected.

4.2.4 Mean differences of Gender Equity Index and its indicators

The findings pertaining to mean differences of Gender Equity Index and its Indicators were presented in Table 12.

Table 12: Mean differences of Gender Equity Index and its indicators

Characteristics	Women (n=144)		Men (n=144)		Z value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Gender Equity Index	68.583	3.4056	81.5824	4.8061	26.4813**
Gender Equity Indicators					
Education	5.648	0.741	6.439	0.585	10.054**
Employment	21.0931	2.1393	30.2290	4.0972	23.7188**
Health and Nutrition	32.9981	1.4048	34.6794	1.2693	10.6567**
Time	2.3640	0.1021	2.8875	0.0675	51.3278**
Access and control over resources	6.4801	0.7281	7.3469	0.6448	10.6950**

** Significant at (P<0.01)

Significant difference was observed with regard to Gender Equity Index as 'Z' calculated value (26.481) was significant at 1 per cent level. The mean scores obtained by women was 68.58 and men was 81.58.

All the indicators of Gender Equity viz., education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources were found to be significant

at 1 per cent level with Z calculated values 10.054, 23.718, 10.656, 51.327 and 10.695 respectively. Thus, indicating significant difference on mean scores of women and men for all the indicators. The mean scores for women (5.65) and men (6.44) on education. Regarding employment the mean scores were 21.09 and 30.23 for women and men respectively. With regard to health and nutrition the mean scores for women and men were 32.99 and 34.68 respectively. The mean values for time scored by women (2.36) and men (2.88). With regard to access and control over resources the mean scores obtained by women and men were 6.48 and 7.35 respectively.

4.2.5 Content analysis of Gender Equity

4.2.5.1 Education

4.2.5.1.1 Access to education of the respondents

The results with regard to access to education of the respondents were furnished in Table 13.

Cent per cent of women in Adilabad reported that they had school in the village. Below one third majority (29.17%) of women reported that they had proper transport to attend the nearby schools. One fourth of them had access to schools in the village.

While, cent per cent of men also reported to have schools in the village followed by majority (58.33%) had access to school in the village, over half (55.56%) were allowed to attend the near by schools and 40.28 per cent had access to adult / non-formal education.

All the respondents in Adilabad reported that they had schools in the villages they reside, followed by a sizeable number (41.67%) had access to school in the village, 36.11 per cent had proper transport to attend near by schools and 29.17 per cent were aware of the adult / non-formal education.

As regard Table 13 cent per cent of women and men had access to school in the village. About 41.67 per cent of women had access for proper transport to attend near by schools followed by above one fourth (29.17%) and above one third majority (36.11%) had access to school in the village.

Table 14: Opinion of the respondents on women’s education in Adilabad

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Score
1	In the present world, it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education	33 (45.83)	28 (38.89)	11 (15.28)	166 I	38 (52.78)	17 (23.61)	17 (23.61)	165 IV	331 III
2	The role of women should not be confined to home	20 (27.78)	11 (15.28)	41 (56.94)	123	6 (8.33)	28 (38.89)	38 (52.78)	112	235
3	Protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school	38 (52.78)	15 (20.83)	19 (26.39)	163 II	28 (38.89)	32 (44.44)	12 (16.67)	160 V	323 IV
4	Investment on girls' education leads to empowerment	13 (18.06)	23 (31.94)	36 (50.00)	121	11 (15.28)	22 (30.56)	39 (54.17)	116	237
5	Woman need not always lead a protected life	25 (34.72)	14 (19.44)	33 (45.83)	136	7 (9.72)	25 (34.72)	40 (55.56)	111	247
6	Women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development	35 (48.61)	15 (20.83)	22 (30.56)	157 IV	43 (59.72)	24 (33.33)	5 (6.94)	182 II	339 II
7	General education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination	33 (45.83)	20 (27.78)	19 (26.39)	158 III	50 (69.44)	20 (27.78)	2 (2.78)	192 I	350 I
8	Higher education of girls is not a hindrance to marriage	23 (31.94)	18 (25.00)	31 (43.06)	136	11 (15.28)	33 (45.83)	28 (38.89)	127	263
9	Educated women can bring up their children more efficiently	20 (27.78)	25 (34.72)	27 (37.50)	137 V	35 (48.61)	27 (37.50)	10 (13.89)	169 III	306 V
10	Investment in girls education is essential even if practice of dowry is inevitable	14 (19.44)	19 (26.39)	39 (54.17)	119	8 (11.11)	25 (34.72)	39 (54.17)	113	232
	Averages	(35.28)	(26.11)	(38.61)		(32.92)	(35.14)	(31.94)		

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and roman numbers indicate rank

Just above three quarters (76.39%) of men had access for proper transport to attend near by schools, below three fourth quarters (73.61%) were allowed to attend near by schools and majority (70.83%) had access to school in the village.

The data on access to education indicate that cent per cent had school in the village, followed by majority (59.03%) had access to proper transport to attend the nearby schools and above half (53.47%) had access to school in the village, and 41.67 per cent were aware of the adult / non-formal education.

Cent per cent of the respondents in the study area reported to have access to school in the village. Slightly above one third majority (35.42%) of women reported that they had proper transport facilities to attend nearby schools followed having access to school (30.56%) and 22.92 per cent of them said that schools in their village were provided with sufficient teaching staff.

Among men, nearly two third majority (64.58%) equally reported to have access to school in the village and attend the nearby schools in majority (59.72%) had proper transport to attend nearby schools.

It can be concluded from the Table 13 that all the respondents had school in the village. An equal per cent i.e., nearly half (47.57%) reported to have access to school in the village and had proper transport to attend the nearby schools and 39.24 per cent were allowed to attend nearby schools. On the whole, only 27.70 per cent of women and sizeable number (44.03%) of men had access to education.

4.2.5.1.2 Opinion on women's education

4.2.5.1.2.1 Opinion of the respondents on women's education in Adilabad

A critical examination of Table 14 reveals results of opinion of the respondents on women's education in Adilabad.

A sizeable number (45.83%) of women agreed that it is difficult for one to lead their life without education followed by undecided (38.89%) and disagree (15.28%). Over half (52.78%) agreed that protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school, disagreed by 26.39 per cent and felt undecided

by 20.83 per cent. General education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination was agreed by 45.83 per cent of women followed by undecided (27.78%) and disagree (26.39%). Nearly half (48.61%) of women reported to agree with the statement, women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development and the same was disagreed by 30.56 per cent. This was felt undecided by 20.83 per cent of them. Just above one fourth (27.78%) of them agreed that educated women can bring up their children more efficiently. The same was disagreed and undecided by 37.50 per cent and 34.72 per cent respectively.

With regard to men over two third majority (69.44%) of them agreed with the statement, general education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination followed by undecided (27.78%) and disagreed (6.94%). Majority (59.72%) reported to agree that, women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development, one third were undecided and only 6.94 per cent disagreed about this. Nearly half (48.61%) of men agreed that, educated women can bring up their children more efficiently followed by undecided (37.50%) and disagree (13.89%). Just above half (52.78%) agreed that, it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education and an equal per cent (23.61%) felt undecided and disagreed about this respectively. Protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school was agreed by 38.89 per cent and felt undecided by (44.44%). The same was disagreed by 16.67 per cent of them.

The overall responses of women and men reveal that majority (57.64%) of the respondents agreed that, general education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination, felt undecided by 27.78 per cent and 14.58 per cent had shown disagreement about this. Over half (54.17%) of them agreed with the statement, women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development followed by undecided (27.08%) and disagree (14.58%). Almost half (49.31%) agreed about the statement, that it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education disagreed by 19.44 per cent and was undecided by 31.25 per cent of them. A sizeable number (45.83%) of them agreed that, protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school followed by undecided (32.64%) and disagree

Table 15: Opinion of the respondents on women's education in West Godavari

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Score
1	In the present world, it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education	49 (68.06)	17 (23.61)	6 (8.33)	187 III	45 (62.50)	20 (27.78)	7 (9.72)	182 III	369 III
2	The role of women should not be confined to home	30 (41.67)	13 (18.06)	29 (40.28)	145	48 (66.67)	3 (4.17)	21 (29.17)	171 V	316
3	Protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school	44 (61.11)	5 (6.94)	23 (31.94)	165 V	41 (56.94)	17 (23.61)	14 (19.44)	171 V	336 V
4	Investment on girls' education leads to empowerment	18 (25.00)	26 (36.11)	28 (38.89)	134	16 (22.22)	23 (31.94)	33 (45.83)	127	261
5	Woman need not always lead a protected life	32 (44.44)	11 (15.28)	29 (40.28)	147	13 (18.06)	24 (33.33)	35 (48.61)	122	269
6	Women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development	57 (79.17)	9 (12.50)	6 (8.33)	195 II	49 (68.06)	23 (31.94)	0 (0.00)	193 II	388 II
7	General education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimi-nation	57 (79.17)	11 (15.28)	4 (5.56)	197 I	50 (69.44)	22 (30.56)	0 (0.00)	194 I	391 I
8	Higher education of girls is not a hindrance to marriage	32 (44.44)	19 (26.39)	21 (29.17)	155	18 (25.00)	32 (44.44)	22 (30.56)	140	295
9	Educated women can bring up their children more efficiently	40 (55.56)	14 (19.44)	18 (25.00)	166 IV	45 (62.50)	20 (27.78)	7 (9.72)	182 III	348 IV
10	Investment in girls education is essential even if practice of dowry is inevitable	16 (22.22)	27 (37.50)	29 (40.28)	131	16 (22.22)	27 (37.50)	29 (40.28)	131	262
	Averages	(52.08)	(21.11)	(26.81)		(47.36)	(29.31)	(23.33)		

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages
Roman numbers indicate rank

(21.53%). Almost an equal per cent i.e., 38.19 and 36.11 per cent agreed and were undecided about the statement educated women can bring up their children more efficiently

4.2.5.1.2.2 Opinion of the respondents on women's education in West Godavari

Table 15 indicates the results with regard to the Opinion of the respondents on women's education in West Godavari.

Above three quarters (79.17%) of women agreed that general education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination and women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality necessary and for social development. These two statements were undecided and disagreed by (15.28 and 12.50%) and (5.56 and 8.33%) of women respectively. Over two third majority (68.06%) of women agreed with the statement that, in the present world it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education, 23.61 per cent felt undecided and 8.33 per cent disagreed about this. Over half (55.56%) agreed that educated women can bring up their children more efficiently and the same was disagreed by one fourth of them. This was felt undecided by 19.44 per cent of them. Protection of girl restricts parents sending their daughters to school was agreed by 61.11 per cent followed by disagreement (31.94%) and undecided by 6.94 per cent only.

Men also responded almost similarly as women. Over two-third majority (69.44%) agreed that general education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination and 30.56 per cent were undecided about this. Majority (68.06%) agreed that women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development and was felt undecided by 30.56 per cent. Nearly two third majority (62.50%) agreed that educated women can bring up their children more efficiently followed by undecided (27.78%) and disagree (9.72%). An equal per cent agreed, undecided and disagreed with the statement, in the present world, it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education. Two third of them agreed with the statement that, the role of women should not be confined to home and disagreed by 29.17 per cent. Only 4.17 felt undecided about this. Majority (56.94%) agreed that

Table 16: Opinion of the respondents on the women's education

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)				Men (n=144)				Pooled (n=288)			
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score
1	In the present world, it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education	82 (56.94)	45 (31.25)	17 (11.81)	353 II	83 (57.64)	37 (25.69)	24 (16.67)	347 IV	165 (57.29)	82 (28.47)	41 (14.24)	700 III
2	The role of women should not be confined to home	50 (34.72)	24 (16.67)	70 (48.61)	268	54 (37.50)	31 (21.53)	59 (40.97)	283	104 (36.11)	55 (19.10)	129 (44.79)	551
3	Protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school	82 (56.94)	20 (13.89)	42 (29.17)	328 IV	69 (47.92)	49 (34.03)	26 (18.05)	331 V	151 (52.43)	69 (23.96)	68 (23.61)	649 V
4	Investment on girls' education leads to empowerment	31 (21.53)	49 (34.03)	64 (44.44)	255	27 (18.75)	45 (31.25)	72 (50.00)	243	58 (20.14)	94 (32.64)	136 (47.22)	498
5	Women need not always lead a protected life	57 (39.58)	25 (17.36)	62 (43.06)	283	20 (13.89)	49 (34.03)	75 (52.08)	233	77 (26.74)	74 (25.69)	137 (47.57)	516
6	Women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development	92 (64.06)	24 (16.67)	28 (19.44)	352 III	92 (63.89)	47 (32.64)	5 (3.47)	375 II	184 (63.89)	71 (24.65)	33 (11.46)	727 II
7	General education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination	90 (62.50)	31 (21.53)	23 (15.97)	355 I	100 (69.44)	42 (29.17)	2 (1.39)	386 I	190 (65.97)	73 (25.35)	25 (8.68)	741 I
8	Higher education of girls is not a hindrance to marriage	55 (38.20)	37 (25.69)	52 (36.11)	291	29 (20.14)	65 (45.14)	50 (34.72)	267	84 (29.16)	102 (35.42)	102 (35.42)	558
9	Educated women can bring-up their children more efficiently	60 (41.67)	39 (27.08)	45 (31.25)	303 V	80 (55.56)	47 (32.63)	17 (11.81)	351 III	140 (48.61)	86 (29.86)	62 (21.53)	654 IV
10	Investment in girls education is essential even if practice of dowry is inevitable	30 (20.84)	46 (31.94)	68 (47.22)	250	24 (16.67)	52 (36.11)	68 (47.22)	244	54 (18.75)	98 (34.03)	136 (47.22)	494
	Averages	43.68	23.61	32.71		40.14	32.22	27.64		41.91	27.92	30.17	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages
Roman numbers indicate rank

Table 16: Opinion of the respondents on the women's education

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)				Men (n=144)				Pooled (n=288)			
		Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score
1	In the present world, it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education	82 (56.94)	45 (31.25)	17 (11.81)	353 II	83 (57.64)	37 (25.69)	24 (16.67)	347 IV	165 (57.29)	82 (28.47)	41 (14.24)	700 III
2	The role of women should not be confined to home	50 (34.72)	24 (16.67)	70 (48.61)	268	54 (37.50)	31 (21.53)	59 (40.97)	283	104 (36.11)	55 (19.10)	129 (44.79)	551
3	Protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school	82 (56.94)	20 (13.89)	42 (29.17)	328 IV	69 (47.92)	49 (34.03)	26 (18.05)	331 V	151 (52.43)	69 (23.96)	68 (23.61)	649 V
4	Investment on girls' education leads to empowerment	31 (21.53)	49 (34.03)	64 (44.44)	255	27 (18.75)	45 (31.25)	72 (50.00)	243	58 (20.14)	94 (32.64)	136 (47.22)	498
5	Women need not always lead a protected life	57 (39.58)	25 (17.36)	62 (43.06)	283	20 (13.89)	49 (34.03)	75 (52.08)	233	77 (26.74)	74 (25.69)	137 (47.57)	516
6	Women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development	92 (43.06)	24 (16.67)	28 (19.44)	352 III	92 (63.89)	47 (32.64)	5 (3.47)	375 II	184 (63.89)	71 (24.65)	33 (11.46)	727 II
7	General education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination	90 (62.50)	31 (21.53)	23 (15.97)	355 I	100 (69.44)	42 (29.17)	2 (1.39)	386 I	190 (65.97)	73 (25.35)	25 (8.68)	741 I
8	Higher education of girls is not a hindrance to marriage	55 (38.20)	37 (25.69)	52 (36.11)	291	29 (20.14)	65 (45.14)	50 (34.72)	267	84 (29.16)	102 (35.42)	102 (35.42)	558
9	Educated women can bring-up their children more efficiently	60 (41.67)	39 (27.08)	45 (31.25)	303 V	80 (55.56)	47 (32.63)	17 (11.81)	351 III	140 (48.61)	86 (29.86)	62 (21.53)	654 IV
10	Investment in girls education is essential even if practice of dowry is inevitable	30 (20.84)	46 (31.94)	68 (47.22)	250	24 (16.67)	52 (36.11)	68 (47.22)	244	54 (18.75)	98 (34.03)	136 (47.22)	494
	Averages	(43.68)	(23.61)	(32.71)		(40.14)	(32.22)	(27.64)		(41.91)	(27.92)	(30.17)	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

Roman numbers indicate rank

protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school followed by undecided (23.61%) and disagreed (19.44%).

A over view of the Table 15 indicates that almost three quarters (74.31 and 73.61%) of them agreed that general education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination and women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development respectively. These statements were felt undecided by 22.92 and 22.22 per cent of them and disagreed among 2.78 and 4.17 per cent respectively. Almost two-third majority (65.28%) agreed that it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education, one fourth (25.69%) felt undecided and 9.03 per cent disagreed about this. Educated women can bring up their children more efficiently by providing right guidance was agreed among majority (59.03%) followed by undecided (23.61%) and disagreed (17.36%). Majority (59.03%) agreed that, protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to schools, and one fourth (25.69%) disagreed about this. Only 15.28 per cent felt undecided about this.

4.2.5.1.2.3 Opinion of the respondents on women's education

The Table 16 indicates results on opinion of the respondents on women's education. Majority (62.50%) agreed with the statement, general education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination followed by undecided (21.53%) and disagree (15.97%). The statement, in the present world it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education was agreed among 56.94 per cent, 31.25 felt undecided and 11.81 disagreed about this. A sizeable number (43.06%) of women agreed that women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development and the same was disagreed by 19.44 per cent and felt undecided by 16.67 per cent of them. Over half (56.94%) agreed that protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school and the same was disagreed by 29.17 per cent. Only 13.89 per cent felt undecided about this. Educated women can bring up their children more efficiently was agreed, undecided and disagreed among 41.67, 27.08 and 31.25 per cent of them, respectively.

Table 17: Access to employment of the respondents

S. No.	Particulars	Adilabad				West Godavari				Pooled			
		Women (n=72)		Men (n=72)		Women (n=72)		Men (n=72)		Pooled (n=144)		Women (n=144)	
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Have enough employment opportunities in village throughout the year	28 (38.89) III	44 (61.11)	42 (58.33) IV	30 (41.67)	56 (77.78) I	16 (22.22)	58 (80.56) III	14 (19.44)	114 (79.17) I	30 (20.83)	84 (58.33) I	44 (30.56) II
2	Migrate to near by place for work	30 (41.67) II	42 (58.33)	47 (65.28) III	25 (34.71)	14 (19.44)	58 (80.56)	52 (72.22) IV	20 (27.78)	66 (45.83) I	78 (54.17)	44 (30.56)	45 (31.25) IV
3	Hired for permanent works such as ploughing, buying inputs, selling products	.	72 (100.0)	50 (69.44) II	22 (30.56)	.	72 (100.0)	35 (48.61)	37 (51.39)	35 (24.31)	109 (75.69)	.	85 (40.97)
4	Mobility not restricted in the family with regard to employment	37 (51.39) I	35 (48.61)	72 (100.0) I	.	21 (29.17)	51 (70.83)	72 (100.0) I	.	93 (64.58) III	51 (35.42)	58 (40.28) IV	.
5	Aware of the various schemes provided by government for self-employment	23 (31.94) IV	49 (68.06)	28 (38.89)	44 (61.11)	40 (55.56) II	32 (44.44)	49 (68.06)	23 (31.94)	89 (61.81) IV	55 (38.19)	63 (43.75) II	67 (46.53)
6	Interested in setting up your own enterprise	16 (22.22)	56 (77.78)	42 (58.33) IV	30 (41.67)	37 (51.39) IV	35 (48.61)	50 (69.44)	22 (30.56)	87 (60.42) I	57 (39.58)	53 (36.81)	52 (36.11)
7	Family support extended in setting any income generating activity	22 (30.56)	50 (69.44)	42 (58.33) IV	30 (41.67)	38 (52.78) III	34 (47.22)	72 (100.0) I	0 (0.00)	110 (76.39) II	34 (23.61)	60 (41.67) III	30 (20.83) II
	Averages	(30.95)	(69.05)	(64.09)	(35.91)	(40.87)	(29.13)	(76.98)	(23.02)	(58.93)	(41.07)	(35.91)	(53.23)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

Roman numbers indicate rank

Majority (69.44%) of men agreed that general education should equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination followed by undecided (29.17%) and only 1.39 per cent disagreed about this. Women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development was agreed by 63.89 per cent and 32.64 per cent felt undecided about this. Only 3.47 per cent disagreed about this. Over half (55.56%) agreed that, educated women can bring up their children more efficiently followed by undecided (32.63%) and disagree (11.81%). Majority (57.64%) agreed that, in the present world it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education, one fourth (25.69%) felt undecided and 16.67 had shown disagreement. Nearly half (47.92%) agreed that protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school and the same was felt undecided among 34.03 per cent. This was disagreed by 18.05 per cent of them.

The responses of the overall sample indicate that almost two third majority (65.97%) agreed with the statement, general education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination, one fourth (25.35%) felt undecided and only 8.68 per cent disagreed about this. Women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development was agreed 63.89 per cent followed by undecided (24.65%) and disagree (11.46%). Majority (57.29%) of the respondents agreed that, in the present world, it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education, felt undecided by 28.47 per cent and 14.24 had shown disagreement about this. Just over half (52.43%) agreed that protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school. Almost an equal per cent i.e., 23.61 and 23.96 per cent felt undecided and disagreed about this respectively.

4.2.5.2 Employment

4.2.5.2.1 Access to employment of the respondents

A critical observation of Table 17 indicates results on access to employment of the respondent.

A little above half (51.39%) of women reported that their mobility is not restricted in the family with regard to work. A sizeable number (41.67%) of women

said that they migrate to near by place for work. Just above one third (38.89%) reported that, they had enough employment opportunities in the village and 31.94 per cent were aware of various employment schemes provided by Government.

Cent per cent of men stated that their mobility was not restricted by their family members with regard to employment. Majority (69.44%) were hired for permanent works. Almost two third majority (65.28%) of men reported that they migrate to near by places for work. Majority (58.33%) of men said that they had enough employment opportunities in village throughout the year and an equal per cent of them were interested in setting up their own enterprise.

Almost three quarters (75.69%) of the respondents mobility was not restricted by their family members with regard to employment. Over half (53.47%) of the respondents from Adilabad reported that they migrate to near by places for work. Nearly half (48.61%) of them stated they had enough employment opportunities in village throughout the year and 40.28 per cent were interested in setting up their own enterprise.

The cursory view of the Table 17 gives the details of access to employment of respondents.

Just above three quarters (77.78%) of women in West Godavari reported that they had enough employment opportunities in village throughout the year. Over half (55.56%) were aware of the various schemes provided by Government for self employment and 52.78 per cent stated that the family members extended the support for setting up any income generating activity if interested. Slightly above half (51.39%) of them were interested in setting up own enterprise.

Cent per cent of men reported that their family support is extended in setting any income generating activity if interested and mobility is not restricted in the family with regard to employment. A great majority (80.56%) said that they had enough employment opportunities in village throughout the year. Majority (72.22%) migrated to near by places for work.

Total response indicate that more than three quarters majority (79.17%) had enough employment opportunities in the village throughout the year. Majority (76.39%) of them reported that family support was extended in setting any income

generating activity if interested. Nearly two third (64.58%) of the respondents mobility was not restricted in the family with regard to employment and 61.81 per cent of them were aware of the various schemes provided by Government for self employment.

The results with regard to access to employment of the respondents in both the districts were furnished in Table 17.

Majority (58.33%) of women reported that they had enough employment opportunities in their village throughout the year. A sizeable number (43.75%) said that they were aware of the various schemes provided by government for self employment and nearly equal per cent i.e., 41.67 per cent of them stated that their family extended the support in setting up income generating activity, if interested. About 40.28 per cent said that their mobility was not restricted in the family with regard to employment.

Cent per cent of men stated that their mobility was not restricted with regard to employment. More than three quarters (79.17%) of men reported that their family extended the support in setting up income generating activity if interested. Above two third majority (69.44%) said that they had enough employment opportunities in their village throughout the year and almost an equal per cent (68.75%) said that they migrate to near by place for work.

Nearly three-quarters (70.14%) of the respondent's mobility was not restricted in the family with regard to employment. Majority (63.89%) of women and men said that they had enough employment opportunities in their village throughout the year. Family members support was extended for 60.42 per cent of them to set up income generating activity if interested. Almost half (49.65%) said that they migrate to near by place for work.

Table 17a. Average number of man days per year

Sl. No.	Category	Adilabad		West Godavari	
		Women	Men	Women	Men
1	In village	90	120	120	150
2	Outside village	30	60	40	75

Table 18: Opinion of respondents on women's employment in Adilabad

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Score
1	Lower literacy limits opportunities of employment	40 (55.56)	22 (30.56)	10 (13.89)	174	29 (40.28)	29 (40.28)	14 (19.44)	159 V	333
2	Lesser access to mass media limits women's access to employment	41 (56.94)	18 (25.00)	13 (18.06)	172	30 (41.67)	28 (38.89)	14 (19.44)	160 III	332
3	Women's job mobility is limited because they are confined to homes	40 (55.56)	20 (27.78)	12 (16.67)	172	32 (44.44)	26 (36.11)	14 (19.44)	162 II	334 V
4	Men are hired for permanent work, women are socially excluded from such work.	50 (69.44)	14 (19.44)	8 (11.11)	186 IV	36 (50.00)	24 (33.33)	12 (16.67)	168 I	354 I
5	Mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks	51 (70.83)	15 (20.83)	6 (8.33)	189 I	26 (36.11)	28 (38.89)	18 (25.00)	152	341 IV
6	Female-headed households are more effected by gender biases	45 (62.50)	23 (31.94)	4 (5.56)	185	24 (33.33)	25 (34.72)	16 (22.22)	149 V	334 V
7	Social customs prevent women's access to employment	50 (69.44)	14 (19.44)	8 (11.11)	186 IV	31 (43.06)	17 (23.61)	39 (54.17)	121	275
8	Though husbands will support, women need to work	31 (43.06)	20 (27.78)	21 (29.17)	154	16 (22.22)	17 (23.61)	39 (54.17)	121	283
9	Women do need well paid jobs like men to support their families	35 (48.61)	20 (27.78)	17 (23.61)	162	16 (22.22)	19 (26.39)	41 (56.94)	115	301
10	Employed women never neglect their homes and children	48 (66.67)	18 (25.00)	6 (8.33)	186 IV	12 (16.67)	18 (25.00)	49 (68.06)	100	200
11	All women have to get married but need not stay married	4 (5.56)	20 (27.78)	48 (66.67)	100	5 (6.94)	19 (26.39)	42 (58.33)	113	283
12	The men, women marry will never become unemployed or incapacita-ted and will always support their families	36 (50.00)	26 (36.11)	10 (13.89)	170	11 (15.28)	34 (47.22)	21 (29.17)	140	327
13	Married women and mothers are also reliable workers	44 (61.11)	27 (37.50)	1 (1.39)	187 II	17 (23.61)	42 (58.33)	7 (9.72)	160 III	347 II
14	Women can work even after marriage	45 (62.50)	25 (34.72)	2 (2.78)	187 II	23 (31.94)	42 (58.33)	21 (29.17)	160 III	347 II
	Averages	55.56	27.98	16.46	.	30.56	35.22	34.22		

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages
Roman numbers indicate rank

The data in Table 17a shows that average number of man days available in Adilabad for women in the village was 90 days and 120 days for men. While in West Godavari, it was 120 and 150 days for women and men respectively.

Number of man days employed by women outside the villages was 30 days and men were 60 days in the study area of Adilabad. Whereas, in West Godavari it was 40 and 75 days for women and men respectively.

4.2.5.2.2 Opinion of the respondents on women's employment

4.2.5.2.2.1 Opinion of the respondents on women's employment in Adilabad

The results furnished in Table 18 indicate, the opinion of the respondents on women's employment in Adilabad. With regard to opinion on women's employment, majority (70.83%) of women agreed that mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks, 20.83 per cent felt undecided and 8.33 per cent disagreed about this. Almost equal per cent i.e., 62.50 and 61.11 per cent of women agreed with the statements, women can work even after marriage and married women and mothers are also reliable workers, respectively. While 34.72 and 37.50 per cent were undecided and 2.78 and 1.39 per cent disagreed about these statements respectively. More than two third majority (69.44%) of women agreed that, men are hired for permanent and works women are socially excluded from such work followed by undecided (19.44%) and disagreement (11.11%). While, equal percentage of women agreed, undecided and disagreed about the statement, social customs prevents women's travel to distant places for employment. Employed women never neglect their homes and children statement was agreed by two third of them, one fourth were undecided and only 8.33 per cent agreed with this.

With regard to responses of men, half of them agreed that men are hired for permanent works and women are socially excluded from such works, one third felt undecided and 16.67 per cent disagreed about this. Women's job mobility is limited because they are confined to homes statement was agreed among 44.44 per cent followed by undecided (36.11%) and disagree (19.44%). A sizeable number (41.67%) agreed that lesser access to mass media limits women's access to employment and 19.44 per cent disagreed about this. The same was felt

Table 19: Opinion of respondents on women’s employment in West Godavari

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Score
1	Lower literacy limits opportunities of employment	57 (79.17)	12 (16.67)	3 (4.17)	198 II	32 (44.44)	19 (26.39)	21 (29.17)	155	353
2	Lesser access to mass media limits women’s access to employment	53 (73.61)	16 (22.22)	3 (4.17)	194 V	39 (54.17)	30 (41.67)	3 (4.17)	180	374
3	Women’s job mobility is limited because they are confined to homes	53 (73.61)	14 (19.44)	5 (6.94)	192	50 (69.44)	19 (26.39)	3 (4.17)	191 IV	383 IV
4	Men are hired for permanent work women are socially excluded from such work.	55 (76.39)	16 (22.22)	1 (1.39)	198 II	50 (69.44)	22 (30.56)	0 (0.00)	194 II	392 II
5	Mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks	55 (76.39)	16 (22.22)	1 (1.39)	198 II	48 (66.67)	24 (33.33)	0 (0.00)	192 III	390 III
6	Female-headed households are more effected by gender biases	51 (70.83)	19 (26.39)	2 (2.78)	193	58 (80.56)	14 (19.44)	0 (0.00)	202 I	395 I
7	Social customs prevent women’s access to employment	51 (70.83)	18 (25.00)	3 (4.17)	192	45 (62.50)	27 (37.50)	0 (0.00)	189 V	381 V
8	Though husbands will support, women need to work	49 (68.06)	6 (8.33)	17 (23.61)	176	48 (66.67)	5 (6.94)	19 (26.39)	173	349
9	Women do need well paid jobs like men to support their families	49 (68.06)	16 (22.22)	7 (9.72)	186	49 (68.06)	5 (6.94)	18 (25.00)	175	361
10	Employed women never neglect their homes and children	59 (81.94)	10 (13.89)	3 (4.17)	200 I	43 (59.72)	5 (6.94)	24 (33.33)	163	363
11	All women have to get married but need not stay married	12 (16.67)	25 (34.72)	35 (48.61)	121	12 (16.67)	30 (41.67)	30 (41.67)	126	247
12	The men, women marry will never become unemployed or incapacita- ted and will always support their families	46 (63.89)	19 (26.39)	7 (9.72)	183	6 (8.33)	28 (38.89)	38 (52.78)	112	295
13	Married women and mothers are also reliable workers	50 (69.44)	18 (25.00)	4 (5.56)	190	33 (45.83)	28 (38.89)	11 (15.28)	166	356
14	Women can work even after marriage	50 (69.44)	18 (25.00)	4 (5.56)	190	40 (55.56)	28 (38.89)	4 (5.56)	180	370
	Average	68.45	22.12	90.43		54.86	28.17	16.97		

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages
Roman numbers indicate rank

1461

undecided by 38.89 per cent of them. Women can work even after marriage was agreed among 31.94 per cent and the same was felt undecided by majority (58.33%). Only 9.72 per cent disagreed about this. An equal per cent (40.28%) of men agreed and felt undecided about the statement, that, lower literacy limits opportunities of employment and 19.44 per cent had shown disagreement about this. A sizeable number (43.06%) agreed that, social customs prevents women's access to employment followed by undecided (34.72%) and disagreed (22.22%).

The overall responses of women and men indicate that majority (59.72%) of them agreed that, men are hired for permanent works and women are socially excluded from such work, 26.39 felt undecided and 13.89 per cent disagreed about this. Nearly (47.22%) agreed about the statement, women can work even after marriage and almost equal per cent (46.53%) felt undecided only 6.25 per cent disagreed about this. Social customs prevent women's access to employment was agreed among majority (56.25%) followed by undecided (27.08%) and disagreed (16.67%). Over half (53.47%) agreed that, mechanized cultivation had confined women to manual tasks, followed by undecided (29.86%) and disagreement (15.97%). Half of them agreed that, women's job mobility is limited because they are confined to homes, same was felt undecided among 31.94 per cent and disagreed by 18.06 per cent. Nearly half (47.92%) agreed that female headed households are more affected by gender biases, over one third (36.11%) were undecided and 15.97 per cent had shown disagreement about this.

4.2.5.2.2 Opinion of the respondents on women's employment in West Godavari

Table 19 indicates the results on opinion of the respondents on women's employment in West Godavari.

A great majority (81.94%) of women agreed that employed women never neglect their homes and children and felt undecided by 13.89 per cent only 4.17 per cent disagreed about this. Majority (79.17%) reported that lower literacy limits opportunities of employment followed by undecided (16.67%) and only 4.17 per cent disagreed about this. An equal per cent of them agreed (76.39%) undecided (22.22%) and disagreed (1.39%) about the statements. Men are hired for permanent works and women are socially excluded from such works and

Table 20: Opinion of the respondents on women's employment

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)		
		Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Score
1	Lower literacy limits opportunities of employment	97 (67.36)	34 (23.61)	13 (9.03)	372	61 (42.36)	48 (33.34)	35 (24.30)	314	686
2	Lesser access to mass media limits women's access to employment	94 (65.28)	34 (23.61)	16 (11.11)	366	69 (47.90)	58 (40.30)	17 (11.80)	340	706
3	Women's job mobility is limited because they are confined to homes	93 (64.58)	34 (23.61)	17 (11.81)	364	82 (56.94)	45 (31.26)	17 (11.80)	353	717
4	Men are hired for permanent work women are socially excluded from such work.	105 (72.92)	30 (20.83)	9 (6.25)	384	86 (59.72)	46 (31.94)	12 (8.34)	362	746
5	Mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks	106 (73.61)	31 (21.53)	7 (4.86)	387	74 (51.38)	52 (36.11)	18 (12.51)	344	731
6	Female-headed households are more effected by gender biases	96 (66.67)	42 (29.17)	6 (4.16)	378	82 (56.95)	43 (29.86)	19 (13.19)	351	729
7	Social customs prevent women's access to employment	101 (70.14)	32 (22.22)	11 (7.64)	378	76 (52.77)	52 (36.11)	16 (11.12)	348	726
8	Though husbands will support, women need to work	80 (55.55)	26 (18.06)	38 (26.39)	330	64 (44.45)	22 (15.28)	58 (40.27)	294	624
9	Women do need well paid jobs like men to support their families	84 (58.33)	36 (25.00)	24 (16.67)	348	65 (45.14)	22 (15.28)	57 (39.58)	296	644
10	Employed women never neglect their homes and children	107 (74.31)	28 (19.44)	9 (6.25)	386	55 (38.19)	24 (16.67)	65 (45.14)	278	664
11	All women have to get married but need not stay married	16 (11.11)	45 (31.25)	83 (57.64)	221	17 (11.80)	48 (33.33)	79 (54.87)	226	447
12	The men, women marry will never become unemployed or incapacitated and will always support their families	82 (56.95)	45 (31.25)	17 (11.80)	353	17 (11.80)	47 (32.64)	80 (55.56)	225	578
13	Married women and mothers are also reliable workers	94 (65.28)	45 (31.25)	5 (3.47)	377	50 (34.72)	62 (43.06)	32 (22.22)	306	683
14	Women can work even after marriage	95 (65.98)	43 (29.86)	6 (4.16)	377	63 (43.75)	70 (48.62)	11 (7.63)	340	717
	Averages	(12.95)	(25.05)	(62.00)		(25.59)	(31.70)	(42.71)		

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

Roman numbers indicate rank

mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks. Lesser access to mass media limits women's access to employment was agreed among majority (73.61%) of them and 22.22 per cent felt undecided about this. Only 4.17 per cent had shown disagreement.

A great majority of (80.56%) men agreed that, female headed households appear to be more affected by gender biases and felt undecided among 19.44 per cent. Majority (69.44%) of men agreed that, men are hired for permanent works and women are socially excluded from such work and 30.56 per cent were undecided about this. Two-third majority agreed and one third of them felt undecided about the statement, mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks. Just above two-third majority (69.44%) agreed that women's job mobility is limited, because they are confined to homes followed by undecided (26.39%) and disagreed (4.17%). Social customs prevents women's travel to distant places for employment statement was agreed by 62.50 per cent and felt undecided among 37.50 per cent.

On totality, three quarters (75.69%) of them agreed that, female headed households appear to be more adversely affected by gender biases in employment and wages and felt undecided by 22.92 per cent. Only 1.39 per cent agreed with this nearly three-fourth majority (72.92%) agreed that men are hired for permanent works and women are socially excluded from such works and felt undecided among 26.39 per cent. Only a meagre i.e. 0.69 per cent disagreed about this. Majority (71.53%) agreed that women's job mobility is limited because they are confined to homes followed by undecided (22.92%) and disagreed (5.56%). Social customs prevents women's access to employment was agreed among two third of them.

4.2.5.2.2.3. Opinion of the respondents on women's employment

A critical examination of Table 20 reveals results of opinion of respondents on women's employment.

Almost three fourth (74.31%) of them agreed with the statement, employed women never neglect their homes and children, felt undecided by 19.44 per cent and 6.25 per cent disagreed with this. Majority (73.61%) of women agreed that mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks and 21.53 felt

undecided. Only 4.86 per cent disagreed about this. Men are hired for permanent works and women are socially excluded from such work, statement was agreed by 72.92 per cent of women and 20.83 per cent were undecided about this. Only 6.25 per cent disagreed with this. Two thirds majority agreed that, female headed households are more affected by gender biases followed by undecided (29.17%) and 4.17 per cent had shown disagreement. Social customs prevent women's access to employment was agreed among majority (70.14%) followed by undecided (22.22%) and disagreed among only 7.64 per cent.

Majority (59.72%) of men agreed that men are hired for permanent work and women are socially excluded from such work. While, 31.94 per cent felt undecided and 8.34 per cent had shown disagreement. Over half (56.94%) agreed with the statement women's job mobility is limited, because they are confined to homes followed by undecided (31.26%) and disagreed (11.80%). Female headed households are more affected by gender biases in employment, was agreed by majority (56.95%). Whereas, felt undecided among 29.86 per cent and 13.19 per cent had shown disagreement. Just above half (52.77%) agreed that social customs prevents women's access to employment. The same was felt undecided by 36.11 per cent and 11.12 per cent had shown disagreement. Slightly above half (51.38%) agreed that, mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks followed by undecided (36.11%) and disagreed (12.51%).

On totality two third majority (66.32%) agreed that, men are hired for permanent works while women are socially excluded from such works. Majority (62.51%) agreed that, mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks followed by undecided (28.81%) and disagreed (8.68%). The statement, female-headed households are more affected by gender biases in employment was agreed among 61.86 per cent, felt undecided by 29.51 per cent and the same was disagreed among 8.68 per cent. Social customs prevent women's travel to distant places for employment was agreed by 61.46 per cent followed by undecided (29.17%) and disagreed (9.37%). Women's job mobility is limited because they are confined to homes was agreed by majority (60.76%) followed by undecided (27.43%), and disagreed (11.81%). Women can work until they marry was agreed, undecided and disagreed among 54.86, 39.24 and 5.90 per cent, respectively.

Table 21: Division of labour

Sl. No.	Agricultural Activity	Men only	Mainly men. Sometimes women	Both	Mainly women sometimes men	Women only
A	Agriculture					
1	Land preparation		●			
2	Seedling and planting				●	
3	Interculturing					●
4	Irrigation	●				
5	Manure & Fertilizer application	●				
6	Plant protection operations	●				
7	Guarding of crops	●				
8	Harvesting				●	
9	Post-harvesting			●		
B	Horticulture					
1	Working in vegetables				●	
2.	Ploughing	●				
3.	Kitchen gardening					●
C	Livestock					
1	Bringing fodder		●			
2	Care of feeding		●			
3	Grazing animals	●				
4	Health care			●		
5	Cleaning animal sheds			●		
6	Offering water			●		
7	Milking		●			

● Relative involvement

4.2.5.2.3 Division of labour

Table 21 at a glance indicates the findings related to division of labour.

With regard to agricultural activities, the activities that were performed by men only were irrigation, manure and fertilizer application plant protection practices and guarding of crops, land preparation was carried out mainly by men sometimes by women. Post-harvesting was carried out both by women and men. Seedling and planting and harvesting were carried out mainly by women and sometimes by men. Inter-culturing was carried out by women.

In case of horticulture, ploughing is carried exclusively by men. Working in vegetables was mainly carried out by men and sometimes by men. Kitchen gardening was carried out by women only.

The livestock activities that were carried out mainly by men and sometimes by women were bringing fodder, care and feeding, and milking, grazing animals was carried out by men mostly. While health care, cleaning animal sheds and offering water was done by both.

4.2.5.2.4 Wages

Average wages of the respondents were presented in Table 22.

Table 22: Average wages of the respondents (Rs. / day)

Sl. No.	Category	Adilabad		West Godavari	
		Women	Men	Women	Men
1	Wages	30	55	50	75

Average wages of agricultural labour for women was Rs.30/day and Rs.50/day for men in study area of Adilabad. While in West Godavari it was Rs.50 and Rs.75 per day for women and men respectively.

4.2.5.3 Health and nutrition

4.2.5.3.1 Access to health services

Table 23 presents results with regard to access to health services of the respondents.

Table 23: Access to health of the respondents

S. No	Particulars	Adilabad				West Godavari				Total			
		Women (n=72)		Men (n=72)		Women (n=72)		Men (n=72)		Women (n=144)		Men (n=144)	
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Doctor or medical facility in the village	72 (100.0) I	--	72 (100.0) I	--	72 (100.0) I	--	72 (100.0) I	--	144 (100.0) I	--	144 (100.0) I	--
2	Utilize the available health services	31 [43.06] III	41 [56.94]	36 [50.00] III	36 [50.00]	46 [63.89] II	26 [36.11]	44 [61.11] IV	28 [38.89]	77 [53.47] III	67 [46.53] III	80 [55.56] III	64 [44.44]
3	Take proper care of your health	22 [30.56] V	50 [69.44]	31 [43.06] V	41 [56.94]	35 [48.61] V	37 [51.39]	45 [62.50] III	27 [37.50]	80 [55.56] IV	64 [44.44]	76 [52.78] IV	68 [47.22]
4	Start treating yourself when not well	22 [30.56] V	50 [69.44]	33 [45.83] IV	39 [54.17]	28 [38.89]	44 [61.11]	39 [54.17]	33 [45.83]	67 [46.53]	77 [53.47]	72 [50.00] V	72 [50.00]
5	Aware of the health programmes by the government	17 [23.61]	55 [76.39]	20 [27.78]	52 [72.22]	37 [25.69]	107 [74.31]	28 [38.89]	44 [61.11]	59 [40.97]	85 [59.03]	48 [33.33]	96 [66.67]
6	Area you reside is covered with health and nutrition programmes of the government	44 [61.11] II	28 [38.89]	44 [61.11] II	28 [38.89]	56 [77.78] II	16 [22.22]	66 [91.67] II	6 [8.33]	122 [84.72] II	22 [15.28]	110 [76.39] II	34 [23.61]
7	Aware of the immunization programmes of the government	12 [16.67]	60 [83.33]	23 [31.94]	49 [68.06]	35 [24.31]	109 [75.69]	33 [45.83]	39 [54.17]	61 [42.36]	83 [57.64]	55 [38.19]	89 [61.81]
8	Got immunized	5 [6.94]	67 [93.06]	16 [22.22]	56 [77.78]	21 [14.58]	123 [85.42]	27 [37.50]	45 [62.50]	40 [27.78]	104 [72.22]	43 [29.86]	101 [70.14]
9	Aware of the health campaigns of Govt. (NGO's specially conducted for women	6 [8.33]	66 [91.67]	19 [26.39]	53 [73.61]	25 [17.36]	119 [82.64]	39 [54.17]	33 [45.83]	59 [40.97]	85 [59.03]	26 [18.06]	86 [59.72]
10	Ever attended health campaigns	5 [6.94]	67 [93.06]	26 [36.11]	46 [63.89]	31 [21.53]	113 [78.47]	28 [38.89]	44 [61.11]	39 [27.08]	105 [72.92]	54 [37.50]	90 [62.50]
11	Any Govt. (NGO)Health welfare worker visited your household	23 [31.94] IV	49 [68.06]	25 [34.72]	47 [65.28]	48 [33.33]	96 [66.67]	40 [55.56] V	32 [44.44]	62 [43.06] IV	65 [45.14]	65 [45.14]	79 [54.86]
	Averages	(32.71)	(67.29)	(43.57)	(56.43)	(38.14)	(61.86)	(58.21)	(41.79)	(40.28)	(46.97)	(50.89)	(49.11)

Contd...

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages
Roman numbers indicate rank

Table 23 contd...

S. No	Particulars	Adilabad				West Godavari				Total			
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)		Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Pooled (n=288)	
12	Availing of Health services	18	23	41		28	37	65		46	60	106	
		[25.00]	[31.94]	[28.47]		[38.89]	[51.39]	[45.14]		[31.94]	[41.67]	[36.81]	
		39	47	86		61	69	130		100	116	216	
		[54.17]	[65.28]	[59.72]		[84.72]	[95.83]	[90.28]		[69.44]	[80.56]	[75.00]	
(1)	ANMs / HV	5	13	18		13	17	30		18	30	48	
(2)	PHC's	[6.94]	[18.06]	[12.50]		[18.06]	[23.61]	[20.83]		[12.50]	[20.83]	[16.67]	
(3)	Private Clinic	14	21	35		20	29	49		34	50	84	
(4)	RMP Clinic	[19.44]	[29.17]	[24.31]		[27.78]	[40.28]	[34.03]		[23.61]	[34.72]	[29.17]	
(5)	Traditional / Indigenous	20	24	44		15	18	33		35	42	77	
		[27.78]	[33.33]	[30.56]		[20.83]	[25.00]	[22.97]		[24.31]	[29.17]	[26.74]	
13	Type of Medicines prefer when sick	31	51	82		49	65	114		80	116	196	
		[43.06]	[70.83]	[56.94]		[68.06]	[90.28]	[79.17]		[55.56]	[80.56]	[68.06]	
		32	36	68		40	44	84		72	80	152	
		[44.44]	[50.00]	[47.22]		[55.56]	[61.11]	[58.33]		[50.00]	[55.56]	[52.78]	
(1)	Allopathy	4	6	10		8	14	22		12	20	32	
(2)	Home	[5.56]	[8.33]	[6.94]		[11.11]	[19.44]	[15.28]		[8.33]	[13.89]	[11.11]	
(3)	Homeopathy	9	15	24		6	11	17		15	26	41	
(4)	Unani	[12.50]	[20.83]	[16.67]		[8.33]	[15.28]	[11.81]		[10.42]	[18.06]	[14.24]	
(5)	Ayurvedic	16	21	37		19	15	34		35	36	71	
		[22.22]	[29.17]	[25.69]		[26.39]	[20.83]	[23.61]		[24.31]	[25.00]	[24.65]	
14	Type of problems faced in hospital	59	54	113		41	38	79		100	92	192	
		[81.94]	[75.00]	[78.47]		[56.94]	[52.78]	[54.87]		[69.44]	[62.89]	[62.67]	
		56	56	112		42	50	92		98	106	204	
		[77.78]	[78.78]	[77.78]		[58.33]	[69.44]	[63.89]		[68.06]	[73.61]	[70.83]	
(1)	Treatment	69	67	136		63	59	122		132	126	258	
(2)	Food	[95.83]	[93.06]	[94.44]		[87.50]	[81.94]	[84.72]		[91.67]	[87.50]	[89.58]	
(3)	Financial	65	53	118		53	42	95		118	95	213	
(4)	Accommodation	[90.28]	[73.61]	[81.94]		[73.61]	[58.33]	[65.97]		[81.94]	[65.97]	[73.96]	
15	Did you visit PHC for pre-natal and post-natal care	12	--	--		21	--	--		33	--	--	
		(16.67)				(29.17)				(22.92)			
		--	14	58		--	18	54		--	33	111	
			(19.44)	(80.56)			(25.00)	(75.00)			(22.92)	(77.08)	
16	Were you shifted to Hospital at the time of delivery	2	--	--		6	--	--		8	--	--	
		(2.78)				(8.33)				(5.56)			
		--	--	--		--	10	62		--	10	134	
							(13.89)	(86.11)			(6.94)	(93.06)	
17	Was your wife shifted to hospital at the time of delivery if no, who is called at the time of delivery	--	--	--		--	--	--		--	--	--	
		--	--	--		--	--	--		--	--	--	
		--	8	20		15	17	32		--	25	57	
			(14.29)	(28.56)		(22.72)	(27.42)	(42.86)			(18.66)	(26.79)	
	Un trained Dhais	--	--	--		--	--	--		--	--	--	
		--	--	--		--	--	--		--	--	--	
		--	30	42		--	32	62		--	64	94	
			(42.86)	(44.44)			(44.44)	(47.79)			(47.79)	(50.00)	
	Doctors	--	--	--		--	--	--		--	--	--	
		--	--	--		--	--	--		--	--	--	
		--	32	64		--	32	64		--	64	128	
			(42.86)	(44.44)			(44.44)	(47.79)			(47.79)	(50.00)	
	Elderly women	--	--	--		--	--	--		--	--	--	
		--	--	--		--	--	--		--	--	--	
		--	12	24		6	5	11		--	17	29	
			(16.67)	(26.67)		(9.09)	(8.07)	(11.76)			(12.69)	(18.18)	

Cent per cent of women stated that they had access to doctor or medical facility in the village. Majority (61.11%) of them said that the area they reside is covered with health and nutrition programs of the government. A sizeable number (43.06%) reported that, they utilize the available health services. Around 31.94 per cent stated that Govt. / NGO / health welfare workers visited their households. An equal per cent (30.56%) of women stated that they take care of their health and start treating themselves when not well.

With regard to men also, cent per cent of them reported that they had doctor or medical facility in the village. Majority (61.11%) of them said that the area they reside was covered with health and nutrition programs of the government. Half of them utilized the available health services. Nearly equal per cent 45.83 and 43.06 per cent of them reported that they start treating themselves when not well and take proper care of their health respectively.

On the whole all the respondents stated that they had doctor or medical facility in the village. Majority (61.11%) said that the area they reside was covered with health and nutrition programmes of the government. Utilization of the available health services was reported by 46.53 per cent of them and start treating themselves when not well by 38.19 per cent. One third (36.19%) of them said that they took proper care of their health.

More than half (54.17%) of women reported that they avail the health services from PHCS followed by traditional or indigenous practices (27.78%), ANM's/HV's (25.00), RMP clinics (19.44%) and only 6.94 from private clinics.

Whereas, nearly two third majority (65.28%) of men availed the health services from PHC's followed by one third from traditional or indigenous practices, ANM's/HV's (31.94%) RMP clinic (29.17%) and private clinic (18.06%).

On totality, majority (59.72%) availed the health services from PHC's followed by traditional or indigenous practices (30.56%) ANM's/HV's (28.47%), RMP clinics (24.31%) and private clinic (12.50%).

Type of medicines preferred by women respondents in Adilabad were home remedies (44.44%) followed by allopathy (43.06%), ayurvedic (22.22%), unani (12.50%) and homeopathy 5.56 per cent only.

Majority (70.83%) of men preferred allopathy, half of them preferred home remedies ayurvedic (29.17%), unani (20.83%) only 8.33 per cent preferred Homeopathy.

From the results it can be observed that over half (56.94%) of them preferred allopathy followed by home remedies (47.22%), ayurvedic (25.69%), unani (16.67%) and homeopathy (6.94%) in the study area of Adilabad.

The various problems generally faced by women respondents of Adilabad in hospitals were reported as follows financial (95.83%), followed by accommodation (90.28%), treatment (81.94%), food (77.78%). While men respondents stated that financial (93.06%), food (77.78%), treatment (75.00%), and accommodation (73.61%).

On the whole the major problem was with regard to finance (94.44%) followed by accommodation (81.94%), treatment (78.47%) and Food (77.78%).

Only 16.07 of women in Adilabad reported that they visited PHC's for pre-natal and post-natal care. While 19.44 per cent of men stated that their wives visited PHC's for pre-natal and post-natal care.

Only 2.78 per cent of women in Adilabad were shifted to hospital at the time of delivery. Men reported that none of their wives were shifted to hospital at the time of delivery.

A sizeable number (42.86%) of women in Adilabad reported that their delivery was conducted by trained dhais and untrained dhais (28.56%). An equal per cent 14.29 of their deliveries were conducted by ANM's and elderly women. About 44.44 per cent of men stated that trained dhais conducted deliveries of their wives followed by untrained dhais (27.78%), elderly women (16.67%) and ANM's (11.11%).

A critical examination of the Table 23 reveals access to health of the respondents in West Godavari.

Cent per cent of women reported access to doctor or medical facility in the village. Little above three quarters (77.78%) stated that, the area they reside was covered with health and nutrition programmes of the government. Majority

(63.89%) said that they utilized the available health services. Over half (54.17%) reported that Govt./NGO/Health welfare worker visited their household. Nearly half (48.61%) took proper care of their health as reported by women respondents in West Godavari.

Men also reported that all of them had access to doctor or medical facility in the village. A vast majority (91.67%) men said that the area they reside was covered with health and nutrition programmes of the government. Nearly equal per cent i.e. 61.11 and 62.20 per cent said that they took proper care of their health and utilize the available health services respectively. Over half (55.56%) of men reported that Govt./NGO/Health welfare worker visited their household.

Cent per cent of women and men reported access to doctor or medical facility in the village. A great majority (84.72%) said that the area they reside was covered with health and nutrition programmes of the government. Majority (62.50%) of them utilized the available health services. Over half (55.56%) and (54.86%) of them said that they take proper care of their health and Govt./NGO/Health welfare worker visited their households respectively.

A great majority (84.72%) women in West Godavari availed the health services from PHC's followed by AHM's/HV's (38.89%), RMP clinics (27.78%), traditional or indigenous practices (20.83%), and private clinics (18.06%).

While a vast majority (95.83%) of men availed the health services from PHC's followed by ANM's/HV's (51.39%), RMP clinics (40.28%), traditional or indigenous practices (25.00%) and private clinics (23.61%).

On the whole a vast majority (90.28%) of the respondents in West Godavari availed the health services from PHC's followed by ANM's/HV's (45.14%), RMP clinic (34.03%), traditional or indigenous practices (22.92%) and private clinics (20.83%).

Just over two third majority (68.06%) of women in West Godavari preferred allopathy medicines when risk, over half (55.56%) preferred home remedies, ayurvedic (26.39%), homeopathy (11.11%) and unani (8.33%)

Allopathy medicines were preferred by a vast majority (90.28%) of men followed by home remedies (61.11%), ayurvedic (20.83%), homeopathy (19.44%) and unani (15.28%).

The most preferred type of medicines by the respondents of West Godavari were allopathy (79.17%), Home remedies (58.33%), ayurvedic (23.61%), homeopathy (15.28%), and unani (11.81%).

Women in West Godavari reported finance as the major problem by a great majority (87.50%), accommodation (73.61%) followed by food (58.33%) and treatment (56.94%). A great majority (81.94%) stated finance as the major problem followed by food (69.44%), accommodation (58.33%) and treatment (52.78%).

A great majority (84.72%) of women and men reported finance as the major problem followed by accommodation (65.97%), food (63.89%) and treatment (54.86%) on the whole.

With regard to women in West Godavari just above one fourth (29.17%) of them visited PHC's for their pre-and post-natal care. Whereas one fourth of men reported that their wives visited PHC's for pre and post-natal care.

Among women in West Godavari 8.33 per cent of them were shifted to hospitals at the time of delivery. While men reported that 13.89 per cent of their wives were shifted to hospitals at the time of delivery.

Over half (53.04%) of women in West Godavari reported that the deliveries were conducted by trained dhais followed by ANM's (22.72%), untrained dhais (15.15%), and elderly women (9.09%). Men also responded similarly. Just over half (51.61%) of them reported that trained dhais conducted deliveries for their wives followed by ANM's (27.42%), untrained dhais (12.90%) and elderly women (8.07%).

Table 23 represents results with regard to access to health.

Cent per cent of women and men from both the districts said that they had access to doctor or medical facility in the village. Over two third (69.44%) of women and three quarters (76.39%) of men said that the area they reside was

covered with health and nutrition programs of the government. Just above half (53.47%) of women and (55.56%) of men reported that they utilized the available health services. A sizeable number of (43.06%) of women said that Govt/NGO/Health worker visited their household and 39.58 per cent of them took proper care of their health. A little above half (52.78%) of men took proper care of their health and half of them start treating themselves when not well.

Cent per cent of the total respondents said they had doctor or medical facility in the village. There fourth (72.92%) of them said that the area they reside was covered with health and nutrition programs of the government. Over half (54.51%) of them utilized the available health services. Nearly half (46.18%) stated that they start treating themselves when not well and 44.04 per cent reported that Govt./NGO/health welfare worker visited their house.

The pooled sample results indicate that majority (59.72%) of women availed the health services from PHC's followed by ANM's/HV's (31.94%), traditional or indigenous practices (30.56%), RMP clinic (24.31%), and private clinics (8.33%).

A great majority (80.56%) of men availed the health services from PHC's followed by ANM's/HV's (41.67%), RMP clinics (34.72%), traditional or indigenous practices (29.17%) and private clinics (20.83%).

Nearly three-fourth majority (70.14%) of women and men availed the health services from PHC's, 36.81 per cent, availed from ANM's/HV's RMP clinics, and traditional or indigenous practices and RMP clinics were utilized by 29.17 and 26.74 per cent respectively only 16.67 per cent visited private clinics.

On totality, it can be viewed that over half (55.56%) of women preferred allopathy medicines when sick followed by home remedies by half of them, ayurvedic (24.31%) unani (10.42%) and homeopathy (9.72%).

A great majority (80.56%) of men preferred allopathy followed by home remedies (55.56%), ayurvedic (25.00%), unani (18.06%), and homeopathy (13.89%).

The most preferred medicine by majority (68.06%) of the respondents was allopathy followed by Home remedies (52.78%), ayurvedic (24.65%), unani (14.24%) and homeopathy (11.11%).

Table 24: Opinion of the respondents on women availing health services in Adilabad

S. No.	Particulars	Women			Men			Pooled		
		Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Score
1	Men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical/ health services	56 (77.78)	16 (22.22)	--	200 II	47 (65.28)	21 (29.17)	4 (5.56)	187 I	387 I
2	Absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men	59 (81.94)	11 (15.28)	2 (2.78)	201 I	37 (51.39)	24 (33.33)	11 (15.28)	170 II	371 II
3	Women should be given better medical treatment and better attended at home	16 (22.22)	18 (25.00)	38 (52.78)	122	4 (5.56)	16 (22.22)	52 (72.22)	100	194
4	Women are more prone to health risks than men, therefore should get better medical treatment	48 (66.67)	18 (25.00)	6 (8.33)	186 III	26 (36.11)	10 (13.89)	36 (50.00)	134	320 III
5	Women need medical treatment before the condition is severe.	42 (58.33)	13 (18.06)	17 (23.61)	169	10 (13.89)	19 (13.89)	43 (59.72)	111	280
6	More medical benefits should be provided to women by government.	27 (37.50)	18 (25.00)	27 (37.50)	144	25 (34.72)	15 (20.83)	32 (44.44)	137 III	281
	Averages	(57.40)	(21.76)	(20.84)		(34.49)	(24.31)	(41.20)		

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

The major problem faced by women from both the districts were finance and accommodation by a vast majority (91.67%) and (81.94%) respectively. Almost equal per cent i.e. 69.44 and 68.06 per cent said treatment and food as the problems respectively. Whereas, men also reported finance as major problem by a great majority (87.50%) followed by food (73.61%) accommodation (65.97%) and treatment (63.89%).

Finance was stated as major problem faced by the respondents in the hospitals by a vast majority (89.58%), followed by accommodation (73.96%), food (70.83%) and treatment by two third majority.

On the whole, only 22.92 per cent of women reported to visit PHC's for prenatal and post-natal care from both the districts. While among men 22.22 per cent of them said that their wives visited PHC's for pre-natal and post-natal care.

On the whole, only 5.56 per cent of women were shifted to hospitals at time of delivery. Men reported that only 6.94 per cent of them shifted their wives to hospitals at time of delivery.

On the whole, deliveries conducted by trained dhais was reported by nearly half (47.79%) of women followed by ANM's (18.38%), untrained dhais (13.25%), and elderly women (11.76%). Men also reported that, the deliveries conducted for their wives by trained dhais (47.76%) followed by untrained dhais (20.89%), ANM's (18.66%), and elderly women (12.69%).

4.2.5.3.2 Opinion of the respondents on women availing health services

4.2.5.3.2.1 Opinion of the respondents on women availing health services in Adilabad

Table 24 indicates results with regard to opinion of the respondents on women availing health services in Adilabad.

A great majority (81.94%) of women agreed that absence of leisure and time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men and felt undecided by 15.28 per cent. Only 2.78 per cent disagreed about this. Over three quarters (77.78%) of women agreed that men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical or health services and 22.22 per cent felt undecided about it.

Table 25: Opinion of the respondents on women availing health services in West Godavari

S. No.	Particulars	Women			Men			Pooled		
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Score
1	Men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical/ health services	57 (79.17)	15 (20.83)	--	201 II	53 (73.61)	19 (26.39)	--	197 II	398 II
2	Absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men	61 (84.72)	10 (13.89)	1 (1.39)	204 I	55 (76.39)	17 (23.61)	--	199 I	403 I
3	Women should be given better medical treatment and better attended at home	30 (41.67)	25 (34.72)	17 (23.61)	157	22 (30.56)	14 (19.44)	36 (50.00)	130	284
4	Women are more prone to health risks than men, therefore should get better medical treatment	53 (23.61)	17 (23.61)	2 (2.78)	195	29 (40.28)	25 (34.72)	18 (25.00)	155 III	350 III
5	Women need medical treatment before the condition is severe.	55 (76.39)	15 (20.83)	2 (2.78)	197 III	36 (50.00)	9 (12.50)	27 (37.50)	153	350 III
6	More medical benefits should be provided women by government.	28 (38.89)	15 (20.83)	29 (40.28)	143	31 (43.06)	15 (20.83)	26 (36.11)	149	292
	Averages	(65.74)	(22.45)	(11.81)		(52.31)	(22.92)	(24.77)		

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

Women are more prone to health risk than men, therefore should get better medical treatment was agreed among two third majority and undecided by one fourth and only 8.33 per cent disagreed about this.

Men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical or health services was agreed among 65.28 per cent of men followed by undecided (29.17%) and disagreed (5.56%). Just above half (51.39%) agreed that absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men, one third felt undecided and 15.28 per cent showed disagreement about this. More medical benefits should be provided to women by government statement was agreed by 34.72 per cent and same was disagreed by 44.44 per cent. This was felt undecided by 20.83 per cent.

On totality majority (71.53%) of the respondents agreed that men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical or health services followed by undecided (25.68%) and only 2.79 per cent disagreed about this. Absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men was agreed among two-third majority, felt undecided by 24.31 per cent and disagreed among 9.03 per cent. Over half (51.39%) agreed that women are more prone to health risks than men, therefore should get better medical treatment and the same was disagreed by 29.17 per cent. Out of 19.44 per cent felt undecided about this.

4.2.5.3.2.2 Opinion of the respondents on women availing health services in West Godavari

The results with regard to opinion of the respondents on women availing health services in West Godavari are presented in Table 25.

A great majority (84.72%) of women agreed that absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men and 13.89 per cent felt undecided only 1.39 per cent disagreed about this. Above three quarters (79.17%) agreed that men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical health services and 20.83 per cent were undecided about this. Women need medical treatment before the condition is severe, statement was agreed by little above three fourth (76.39%) of them followed by undecided (20.83%) and disagreed by only 2.78 per cent.

Table 26: Opinion of the respondents on women availing health services

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)		
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Score
1	Men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical/ health services	113 (78.47)	31 (21.53)	-	401 II	100 (69.44)	40 (27.78)	4 (2.78)	384 I	213 (73.96) 71 (24.65) 4 (1.39) 785 I
2	Absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men	120 (83.33)	21 (14.58)	3 (2.09)	405 I	92 (63.92)	41 (28.47)	11 (7.64)	369 II	212 (73.61) 62 (21.53) 14 (4.86) 774 II
3	Women should be given better medical treatment and better attended at home	46 (31.95)	43 (29.86)	55 (38.19)	279	26 (18.06)	30 (20.83)	88 (61.11)	226	72 (25.00) 73 (25.35) 143 (49.65) 505
4	Women are more prone to health risks than men, therefore should get better medical treatment	101 (70.14)	35 (24.31)	8 (5.55)	381 III	55 (38.19)	35 (24.31)	54 (37.50)	289 III	156 (54.17) 70 (24.31) 62 (21.52) 670 III
5	Women need medical treatment before the condition is severe.	97 (67.37)	28 (19.44)	19 (13.19)	366	46 (31.95)	28 (19.44)	70 (48.61)	264	143 (49.65) 56 (19.45) 89 (30.90) 630
6	More medical benefits should be provided women by government.	55 (38.19)	33 (22.92)	56 (38.89)	287	56 (38.89)	30 (20.83)	58 (40.28)	286	111 (38.54) 63 (21.88) 114 (39.58) 573
	Averages	(61.57)	(22.10)	(16.33)		(43.40)	(23.61)	(32.99)		(52.48) (22.86) (24.66)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

Whereas, majority (76.39%) of men agreed that absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men and felt undecided by 23.61 per cent. Nearly three quarters (73.61%) agreed with the statement. Men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical or health services and 26.39 felt undecided about this. Women are more prone to health risks than men, therefore should get better medical treatment was agreed among 40.28 per cent and same was disagreed by one fourth of them. This was felt undecided by 34.72 per cent.

The overall findings indicate that a great majority (80.56%) of women agreed that absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to disease than men and felt undecided by 18.75 per cent only 0.69 disagreed with this. Just above three quarters (76.39%) agreed that men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical or health services and 23.61 per cent felt undecided. Over half (56.94%) agreed with the statement women are prone to health risks than men, therefore should get better medical treatment followed by undecided (29.17%) and disagreement (13.89%). Women need medical treatment before the condition is severe, statement was agreed among 63.19 per cent and 20.14 per cent disagreed with the same. This was felt undecided by 16.67 per cent.

4.2.5.3.2.3 Opinion of the respondents on women availing health services

Table 26 indicates results of opinion of the respondents on women availing health services. A great majority of (83.33%) of women agreed that absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men and 14.58 felt undecided. Only 2.09 per cent disagreed about this. Men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical or health services was agreed among more than three-quarter (78.47%) and felt undecided by 21.53 per cent. Majority (70.14%) of the agreed that women are more prone to health risks than men, therefore should get better medical treatment followed by undecided (24.31%) and disagreed (5.55%).

Above two third (69.44%) of men agreed that men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical or health services and felt undecided by 27.78 per cent. Only 2.78 per cent disagreed with this. Majority (63.92%) agreed that absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men

Table 27: Food consumption pattern of respondents in Adilabad

S. No	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Do not take at all	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Do not take at all	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Do not take at all
1	Cereals	-	72 (100.0)	--	--	--	72 (100.0)	--	--	--
	a. Rice	56 (77.78)	--	--	16 (22.22)	50 (69.44)	--	--	22 (30.56)	106 (73.61)
	b. Wheat	--	39 (54.17)	33 (45.83)	--	--	53 (73.61)	19 (26.39)	--	--
	c. Jowar	72 (100.0)	--	--	--	72 (100.0)	--	--	--	144 (100.0)
2	Pulses	--	72 (100.0)	--	--	--	66 (91.67)	6 (8.33)	--	--
	a. Redgram	--	33 (45.83)	39 (54.17)	--	--	25 (34.72)	45 (62.50)	2 (2.78)	84 (58.83)
	b. Greengram	--	--	35 (48.61)	37 (51.39)	--	--	26 (36.11)	46 (63.89)	61 (42.36)
	c. Blackgram	51 (70.83)	--	8 (11.11)	13 (18.06)	43 (59.72)	--	10 (13.89)	19 (26.39)	94 (65.28)
	d. Bengalgram	--	--	22 (30.56)	50 (69.44)	--	--	39 (54.17)	33 (45.83)	--
3	Eggs	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
4	Non-vegetarian	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	a. Meat	11 (15.28)	--	6 (8.33)	55 (76.39)	3 (4.17)	--	36 (50.00)	33 (45.83)	14 (9.72)
	b. Fish	21 (29.17)	--	4 (5.56)	47 (65.25)	14 (19.44)	--	19 (26.39)	39 (54.17)	35 (24.31)
	c. Chicken	6 (8.33)	--	27 (37.50)	39 (54.11)	5 (6.94)	--	38 (52.78)	29 (40.28)	11 (7.64)
5	Vegetables	--	3 (2.08)	20 (27.78)	49 (68.04)	--	6 (8.33)	21 (29.17)	45 (62.50)	--
	Green vegetables	6 (8.33)	--	32 (44.44)	34 (47.22)	--	--	36 (50.00)	36 (50.00)	6 (4.17)
7	Fruits	54 (75.00)	--	--	18 (25.00)	56 (77.78)	--	7 (9.72)	9 (12.50)	110 (76.39)
8	Milk	71 (98.01)	--	1 (1.39)	--	56 (77.78)	7 (9.72)	9 (12.50)	--	127 (88.19)
9	Tea and coffee	4 (5.56)	17 (23.61)	33 (45.83)	18 (25.00)	--	25 (34.72)	47 (65.28)	--	4 (2.78)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

followed by undecided (28.47%) and disagreed (7.64%). Women are more prone to health, risks than men therefore should get better medical treatment was agreed and disagreed by 38.19 and 37.50 per cent respectively. This was felt undecided by 24.31 per cent.

An overview of the Table 26 reveals that almost an equal per cent i.e., 73.96 and 73.61 per cent of them agreed with the statements, men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical or health services and absence of leisure time makes women, more susceptible to diseases than men followed by undecided (24.65 and 21.53%) and disagreed (1.39 and 4.86%) respectively. Women are more prone to health risks than men, therefore should get better medical treatment was agreed among more than half (54.17%) and the same was disagreed by 21.52 per cent. While one fourth (24.31%) felt undecided about this.

4.2.5.3.3 Food consumption pattern

4.2.5.3.3.1 Food consumption pattern of the respondents Adilabad

Food consumption pattern of the respondents in Adilabad was given in Table 27.

Cent per cent of women reported that they consumed rice daily and over half (54.17%) of them consumed jowar daily. More than three quarters (77.78%) did not consume wheat at all and cent per cent of them did not consume ragi at all.

Among men also cent per cent of them consumed rice daily and 73.61 per cent consumed jowar daily. Wheat was not consumed at all by 69.44 per cent. Cent per cent of them never consumed ragi at all.

On whole Rice was consumed by all the respondents daily and jowar by 63.89 per cent. Nearly three fourth (73.61%) never consumed wheat at all and cent per cent of them never consumed ragi.

Among pulses, red gram was consumed by cent per cent of women and green gram (45.837%) daily. Bengal gram was never consumed by majority (70.83%).

A vast majority (91.67%) of men consumed red gram pulse daily and green gram (34.72%). Majority (59.72%) never consumed black gram at all.

A vast majority (95.83%) of women and men consumed red gram pulses daily. The other pulses which were consumed daily were green gram (40.28%) and black gram (42.36%). Nearly two third majority (65.28%) never consumed bengal gram at all.

None of the respondents were found to consume eggs daily. More than two thirds (69.44%) of women consumed eggs monthly. While, men over half (54.17%) consumed eggs weekly. On the whole, majority (57.64%) consumed eggs monthly once.

Among non-vegetarian foods meat was consumed by 76.39 per cent of women, fish (65.25%) and chicken (54.11%) monthly once. Half of men reported that they consume meat weekly, fish monthly (54.17%) and chicken was consumed weekly by 52.78 per cent. On totality majority (61.11%) of them consumed meat monthly, fish (59.72%) and chicken (47.22%).

Vegetables were consumed by only 2.08 per cent of women daily and men only 8.33 per cent. On the whole, only 6.25 per cent of them consumed vegetables daily.

Green leafy vegetables were consumed by 44.44 per cent of women weekly. Half of men reported they consumed green leafy vegetables weekly. On whole, 47.22 and 48.61 per cent of them consumed green leafy vegetables weekly and monthly respectively.

Only one fourth of women consumed fruits monthly and three fourth of them never consumed. While men majority (77.78%) never consumed fruits at all and 12.50 per cent of them consumed monthly once. Just over three quarters (76.39%) did not consume at all and only 18.75 per cent consumed fruits monthly.

A vast majority (98.01%) of women did not consume milk at all while men reported that majority (77.78%) did not consume milk. Only 9.72 per cent of them consumed daily. A great majority (88.19%) of women and men did not consume milk. Only 4.86 per cent of them consumed milk daily.

Table 28: Food consumption pattern of respondents in West Godavari

S. No	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)			
		Do not take at all	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Do not take at all	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Do not take at all	Monthly
1	Cereals										
	a. Rice	-	72 (100.0)	-	-	--	72 (100.0)	--	--	144 (100.0)	--
	b. Wheat	33 (45.83)	--	--	39 (54.17)	32 (44.44)	--	--	40 (55.56)	65 (45.14)	79 (54.86)
	c. Jowar	72 (100.0)	--	--	--	72 (100.0)	--	--	--	144 (100.0)	--
	d. Ragi	55 (76.39)	--	7 (9.72)	10 (13.89)	72 (100.0)	--	--	--	127 (88.19)	10 (6.95)
2	Pulses										
	a. Redgram	--	59 (81.94)	13 (18.06)	--	--	52 (72.22)	20 (27.78)	--	111 (77.08)	33 (22.92)
	b. Greengram	--	29 (40.28)	41 (56.94)	2 (2.78)	--	37 (51.39)	35 (48.61)	--	66 (45.83)	76 (52.78)
	c. Blackgram	--	5 (6.94)	43 (59.72)	24 (33.33)	--	--	60 (83.33)	12 (16.67)	5 (3.47)	103 (71.53)
	d. Bengalgram	--	--	19 (26.39)	53 (73.61)	9 (12.50)	--	15 (20.83)	48 (66.67)	15 (10.42)	34 (23.61)
3	Eggs	8 (11.11)	--	36 (50.00)	28 (38.89)	--	--	51 (70.83)	21 (29.17)	8 (5.56)	49 (34.02)
4	Non-vegetarian										
	a. Meat	6 (8.33)	--	34 (47.22)	32 (44.44)	--	--	41 (56.94)	31 (43.06)	6 (41.67)	75 (52.08)
	b. Fish	3 (4.17)	--	43 (59.72)	26 (36.11)	--	--	55 (76.39)	17 (23.06)	3 (2.08)	98 (68.05)
	c. Chicken	3 (4.17)	--	41 (56.94)	28 (38.89)	--	--	54 (75.00)	18 (25.00)	3 (2.08)	95 (65.97)
5	Vegetables	--	10 (13.89)	54 (75.00)	8 (11.11)	--	23 (31.94)	40 (55.56)	9 (12.50)	--	94 (65.28)
6	Green vegetables	--	--	48 (66.67)	24 (33.33)	--	--	59 (81.94)	13 (18.06)	--	107 (74.31)
7	Fruits	12 (16.67)	--	27 (37.50)	33 (45.83)	17 (23.61)	--	19 (26.39)	36 (50.00)	29 (20.14)	46 (31.94)
8	Milk	--	--	33 (45.83)	27 (37.50)	--	26 (36.11)	25 (24.72)	21 (29.17)	--	58 (40.28)
9	Tea and coffee	--	40 (55.56)	24 (33.33)	8 (11.11)	--	47 (65.28)	25 (34.72)	--	65 (45.14)	71 (49.31)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

164
169

Tea and coffee was consumed by 23.61 per cent of women daily. While men, 34.72 per cent of them consumed daily and weekly (65.28%). On whole, only 29.17 per cent of them consumed tea and coffee daily and over half (55.55%) consumed it weekly.

4.2.5.3.3.2 Food consumption pattern of the respondents West Godavari:

A critical examination of Table 28 reveals Food Consumption Pattern of the respondents in West Godavari.

Cent per cent of women and men consumed rice daily. Wheat was consumed by majority (54.17%) of women monthly once and 45.83 per cent of them did not consume at all. Cent per cent of women and men did not consume jowar at all. Among women ragi was not consumed by 76.39 per cent and none of the men reported to consume ragi. On whole a great majority (88.19%) of the respondents never consumed ragi.

The pulses which were consumed among women daily were red gram (81.94%), green gram (40.28%) and black gram (6.94%). Among men majority (72.22%) of them consumed red gram daily and green gram (51.39%). On the whole the pulses which were consumed daily were red gram (77.08%) and green gram (45.83%). Half of women consumed eggs weekly and 38.89 per cent of them consumed monthly. Nearly three fourth majority (70.83%) of men consumed eggs weekly. Consumption of eggs was found weekly among 60.42 per cent of the respondents.

Meat was consumed weekly among women weekly once by 47.22 per cent, fish (59.72%) and chicken (56.94%). Whereas men reported that majority (56.94%) of them consumed meat weekly, fish (76.39%) and chicken by three fourth of them. Meat, fish and chicken were consumed by 52.08, 68.05 and 65.97 per cent per cent weekly.

Among women only 13.89 per cent of them consumed vegetables daily. While among men nearly one third (31.94%) consumed daily. On totality consumption of vegetables was found to be 22.92 per cent daily.

Two third of women and half of men consumed green leafy vegetables weekly. A great majority (81.94%) of men consumed green leafy vegetables weekly.

Table 29: Food consumption pattern of respondents

S. No	Particulars	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)		
		Do not take at all	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Do not take at all	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Do not take at all
1	Cereals									
	a. Rice	-	144 (100)	-	-	-	144 (100)	-	-	-
	b. Wheat	89 (61.81)	--	--	55 (38.19)	82 (56.94)	--	--	62 (43.06)	171 (59.38)
	c. Jowar	72 (50.00)	39 (27.08)	33 (22.92)	--	72 (50.00)	53 (36.81)	44 (15.28)	8 (2.78)	144 (50.00)
	d. Ragi	127 (88.19)	-	7 (4.87)	10 (6.94)	144 (100)	-	7 (2.43)	11 (3.82)	270 (93.75)
2	Pulses									
	a. Redgram	-	131 (90.97)	13 (9.03)	-	-	118 (81.94)	39 (13.54)	-	-
	b. Greengram	-	62 (43.06)	80 (55.56)	2 (1.38)	-	62 (43.06)	160 (55.56)	2 (1.38)	4
	c. Blackgram	-	5 (3.47)	78 (54.17)	61 (42.36)	-	--	164 (56.94)	58 (40.28)	119
	d. Bengalgram	51 (35.42)	-	27 (40.28)	66 (45.83)	52 (36.11)	-	52 (10.56)	57 (39.58)	133
3	Eggs	8 (5.56)	--	58 (40.28)	78 (54.17)	-	-	148 (51.39)	132 (46.18)	-
	Non-vegetarian									
4	a. Meat	17 (11.81)	-	40 (27.77)	87 (60.42)	9 (6.25)	-	117 (40.63)	151 (52.43)	20 (7.14)
	b. Fish	24 (16.67)	-	30 (20.83)	73 (50.69)	14 (9.72)	-	121 (42.01)	129 (44.80)	38 (13.19)
	c. Chicken	9 (6.25)	-	55 (40.28)	67 (46.53)	5 (3.47)	-	160 (55.56)	114 (39.58)	14 (4.86)
5	Vegetables	-	13 (9.03)	74 (51.39)	57 (39.58)	-	29 (20.14)	135 (46.88)	111 (38.54)	-
	Green vegetables	6 (4.17)	-	80 (55.56)	58 (40.28)	-	--	175 (60.76)	107 (37.16)	6 (2.08)
6	Fruits	66 (45.83)	-	27 (17.36)	51 (35.42)	73 (50.69)	-	53 (18.40)	96 (33.33)	139 (48.26)
	Milk	71 (49.31)	12 (8.33)	34 (23.61)	27 (17.36)	56 (38.89)	33 (22.92)	68 (23.61)	48 (16.67)	127 (44.09)
7	Tea and coffee	4 (2.78)	57 (39.58)	57 (39.58)	26 (18.06)	-	74 (51.39)	127 (44.09)	26 (9.03)	4 (1.39)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

On the whole almost three quarters of (74.31%) of them consumed green leafy vegetables weekly.

Fruits were consumed by just above one third of (37.50%) weekly and men (26.39%) of them. Consumption of fruits was found to be weekly among 31.94 per cent of them on whole.

A sizeable number (45.83%) of women consumed milk weekly and over one third (36.11%) of men were found to consume daily. On whole, 26.39 per cent of them consumed milk daily.

Tea and coffee were found to be consumed by over half (55.56%) of women respondents daily. Among men almost two third (65.28%) consumed tea and coffee daily. Tea and coffee were found to be consumed by 45.14 per cent of the respondent daily on the whole.

4.2.5.3.3.3 Food consumption pattern of the respondents

A perusal of Table 29 indicates food consumption pattern of the sampled respondents from both the districts.

All the respondents were found to consume rice daily. Whereas the other cereals which were consumed daily by women was jowar (27.08%). Half of women never consumed jowar. While wheat was consumed by 38.19 per cent of women monthly and 61.81 per cent of them never consumed. A great majority (88.19%) of women did not consume ragi. A sizeable number (43.06%) of men consumed wheat monthly and over half (56.94%) of them never consumed at all. Half of the men never consumed jowar. While one third (36.81%) of them consumed daily. Ragi was not consumed by men at all.

On whole, majority (59.38%) of them did not consume wheat and 40.62 per cent consumed monthly. Half of them did not consume jowar, and 31.94 per cent of them consumed daily. A vast majority (93.75%) did not consume ragi.

Among women a vast majority (90.97%) of them reported to consume red gram pulse daily and green gram was consumed by sizeable number (43.06%) daily. Bengal gram was not consumed by nearly one third (35.42%) of them.

Among men, red gram pulse was consumed by a great majority (81.94%) and green gram (43.06%) daily. One third (36.11%) of men did not consume Bengal gram.

On totality, the pulses consumed by the respondent daily were red gram (86.46%), and green gram (43.06%). Bengal gram was not consumed by 35.76 per cent of them.

Among women consumption of eggs was found to be weekly by 40.28 per cent of them and men (62.50%). On whole slightly above half (51.39%) of them consumed eggs weekly.

The non-vegetarian foods like meat, fish and chicken were consumed by 27.77, 20.83 and 40.28 per cent of women, weekly and 60.42, 50.69 and 46.53 per cent monthly respectively. Among men meat was consumed weekly (48.61%) and monthly (43.06%) of them. Fish was consumed weekly (51.39%) and monthly (53.47%). While chicken was consumed among 63.89 per cent weekly and 29.86 per cent monthly.

On totality consumption of meat, fish and chicken was found to be weekly among 40.63, 42.01 and 55.56 per cent of them respectively. These were consumed monthly among 52.43, 44.80 and 39.58 per cent of them respectively.

Consumption of vegetables was found to be daily among 9.03 per cent of women only. While among men 20.14 per cent of them consumed daily. On whole only 14.58 per cent of them consumed vegetables daily.

Green leafy vegetables were not consumed daily by women and men. Among women over half (55.56%) of them consumed green leafy vegetables weekly and almost two third (65.97%) of men were found to consume green leafy vegetables weekly. Green leafy vegetables were consumed weekly by majority (60.76%) of them on the whole.

Consumption of fruits was also not found to be daily among the respondents. Among women 17.36 per cent and men 18.06 per cent were found to consume fruits weekly. On the whole, only 18.40 per cent of them consumed fruits weekly.

Table 30: Nutritional status of the respondents

S. No.	Nutritional category	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Pooled (n=288)
1	III degree CED (<16.0)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2	II degree CED (16.0 - 17.0)	8 (11.11)	--	8 (5.56)	2 (2.78)	--	2 (1.39)	10 (6.94)	--	10 (3.47)
3	I degree CED (17.0 - 18.5)	15 (20.83)	4 (5.56)	19 (13.19)	5 (6.94)	2 (2.78)	7 (4.86)	20 (27.78)	6 (4.17)	26 (9.03)
4	Low normal (18.5 - 20.0)	28 (38.89)	20 (27.77)	48 (33.33)	35 (48.61)	14 (19.44)	49 (34.03)	63 (43.76)	34 (23.61)	97 (33.68)
5	Normal (20.0 - 25.0)	21 (29.17)	48 (66.67)	69 (47.92)	30 (41.67)	56 (77.78)	86 (59.72)	51 (35.42)	104 (72.22)	155 (53.82)
6	Over weight (25.0 - 30.0)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
7	Obese (>30.0)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Note: Nutritional status is measured in terms of BMI. Source: James et al. (1988)

Only 8.33 per cent of women were found to consume milk daily and men (22.92%). Among men, little above half (51.39%) of them consumed tea and coffee daily. On the whole a sizeable number (45.49%) of them consumed tea and coffee daily.

4.2.5.3.4 Nutritional status of the respondents

Table 30 shows the distribution of the respondents as per BMI.

Among the women respondents in Adilabad just above one-third majority (38.89%) were in low normal grade (18.5 - 20.0) followed by 29.17 per cent in normal grade (20.0 - 25.0), 20.83 per cent in I degree CED (17.0-18.5) and 11.11 per cent were suffering from II degree CED (16.0 - 17.0). Whereas, two third majority (66.67%) of men were found to be in the normal grade (20.0 - 25.0), followed by 27.77 per cent in low normal grade (18.5 - 20.0) and only 5.56 per cent were found to suffer from I degree CED (16.0 - 17.0). On the whole, nearly half (47.92%) of the respondents were in the normal grade (20.0 - 25.0) followed by one third per cent in normal (18.5 - 20.0), 13.9 per cent in I degree CED (17.0 - 18.5) and 5.56 per cent of them suffering from II degree CED.

Nutritional status of the respondents in West Godavari indicates that nearly half (48.61%) of women were found to be in the low normal grade (18.5-20.0), followed by 41.67 per cent in Normal (20.0-25.0), 6.94 per cent suffering from I degree CED (17.0-18.5) and only 2.78 per cent in II Degree CED (16.0-17.5). Above three quarters (77.78%) of men were found to be in Normal Grade (20.0-25.0) followed by 19.44 per cent in Low Normal Grade (18.5-20.0) and only 2.78 per cent of them were in the I Degree CED (17.0-18.5). On totality, in the Normal Grade (20.0-25.0) majority (66.67%) of them were found followed by 34.03 per cent in Low Normal (18.5-20.0), 4.86 and 1.39 per cent of the suffering from I degree CED (17.0-18.5) and II degree CED (16.0-17.0) respectively.

The overall results of nutritional status from both the districts indicate that a sizeable number (43.76%) of women were in low normal grade (18.5-20.0) followed by 35.42 per cent in Normal (20.0-25.0), 27.78 per cent suffering from I Degree CED (17.0-18.5) and 6.94 per cent from II Degree CED (16.0-17.0). About three quarters (72.22%) of men were found to be in the normal grade (20.0-25.0)

followed by 23.61 per cent in low normal (18.5-20.0) and only 4.17 per cent in I degree CED (17.0-18.5). An overview of the total findings in the Table 30 indicate that majority (53.82%) were in the normal grade (20.0-25.0) followed by low normal grade (18.5-20.0) among 33.68 per cent, 9.03 per cent suffering from I degree CED (17.0-18.5) and 3.47 per cent in I Degree CED (17.0-18.5).

4.2.5.3.5 Distribution of respondents based on per cent adequacy

From Table 31 distribution of respondents based on per cent adequacy can be inferred.

Nearly an equal per cent i.e., 38.89 and 34.72 per cent of women from Adilabad district were in the per cent adequacy category of (70-80) and (60-70) respectively with regard to energy intake. Slightly above one fourth (26.39%) were in the category of (80-90) adequacy. While, nearly three fourth majority (70.83%) of men were in the category of (80-90) and 29.17 per cent were in per cent adequacy of (70-80). On the whole, almost half (48.61%) of the respondent were found to be in the per cent adequacy category and of (80-90) followed by (70-80) among 34.03 per cent 17.36 in the category of (60-70).

Just over half (52.78%) of women were in the per cent adequacy category of (70-80) and 47.22 per cent in the category of (80-90). A great majority (84.72%) of men were found to be (80-90) per cent adequacy and 15.28 per cent in (70-80) per cent adequacy. Almost two third majority (65.97%) of the respondents in West Godavari district were in per cent adequacy of (80-90) and 34.03 per cent in (70-80) respectively.

Of the total respondents, 45.83 per cent of women were in the (70-80) per cent adequacy category followed by 36.80 per cent in (80-90) and 17.36 per cent in (60-70) per cent adequacy categories. Just above three fourth majority (77.78%) of men were in the (80-90) and 22.22 per cent were in (70-80) per cent adequacy categories. Majority (57.29%) of them were found to be in (80-90) per cent adequacy category followed 34.03 per cent and 8.68 per cent in (70-80) and (60-70) of per cent adequacy categories respectively.

With regard to per cent adequacy distribution of protein, a little above half (51.39%) of women in Adilabad were in the per cent adequacy category of (70-

Table 31: Distribution of respondents based on per cent adequacy

S. No.	Category	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Pooled (n=288)
1	Calorie									
	60-70	25 (34.72)	--	25 (17.36)	--	--	--	25 (17.36)	--	25 (8.68)
	70-80	28 (38.89)	21 (29.17)	49 (34.03)	38 (52.78)	11 (15.28)	49 (34.03)	66 (45.83)	32 (22.22)	98 (34.03)
	80-90	19 (26.39)	51 (70.83)	70 (48.61)	34 (47.22)	61 (84.72)	95 (65.97)	53 (36.80)	112 (77.78)	165 (57.29)
2	Protein									
	60-70	11 (15.29)	--	11 (7.64)	--	--	--	11 (7.64)	--	11 (3.82)
	70-80	37 (51.39)	36 (50.00)	73 (50.69)	38 (52.78)	14 (19.43)	52 (36.11)	75 (52.83)	50 (34.72)	125 (43.40)
	80-90	24 (33.33)	36 (50.00)	60 (41.67)	34 (47.22)	58 (80.56)	92 (63.89)	58 (40.28)	94 (65.28)	152 (52.78)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

Table 32: Mean intake of nutrients (Calorie & Protein) of the respondents

S. No.	Nutrients	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Pooled (n=288)
1	Calorie									
	(RDA-2425-KCal)	1761.83	2019.14	1890.49	1921.47	2044.41	1970.31	1841.65	2031.81	1936.72
		(72.65)	(83.26)	(77.96)	(79.24)	(85.30)	(81.25)	(75.94)	(83.79)	(79.86)
2	Protein									
	(RDA-60gms)	45.71	47.90	46.81	47.46	50.42	48.94	46.59	49.16	47.72
		(76.14)	(79.85)	(78.01)	(79.11)	(84.04)	(81.57)	(77.64)	(81.93)	(79.53)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percent adequacy

80) followed by one third in (80-90) per cent adequacy category and 15.29 per cent in (60-70) per cent adequacy category. Half of the men were in (80-90) and (70-80) per cent adequacy categories equally. While on the whole, Slightly above half (50.69%) were in the adequacy category of (70-80), 41.67 and 7.64 per cent in (80-90) and (60-70) categories, respectively.

With regard to women respondents in West Godavari, results indicate that just above half (52.78%) and below half (47.22%) of women belonged to (80-90) and (70-80) per cent adequacy categories respectively. A great majority (80.56%) of men were in the per cent adequacy category of (80-90) and 19.43 per cent were in the (70-80) per cent adequacy category. Majority (63.89%) of them were found to be in the category (80-90) and 36.11 per cent in (70-80) per cent adequacy category.

On the whole, 40.28 per cent of women and 65.28 per cent of men were in the (80-90) per cent adequacy category and 52.83 per cent of women and 34.72 per cent of men belonged to (70-80) per cent adequacy category. While 7.64 per cent of women were in the category of (60-70) per cent adequacy. On totality, just above half (52.78%) of them were in (80-90) per cent adequacy category followed by sizeable number (43.40%) in (70-80) per cent adequacy category and only 3.82 per cent in the per cent adequacy category of (60-70).

4.2.5.3.6 Mean intake of major nutrients (calorie and protein) of the respondent

Close observations of the Table 32 reveals the per capita consumption of calories and proteins of the respondents from both the districts.

Calorie

It was observed from Table 32 that mean calorie intake of women in Adilabad was 1761.83 Kcal which met 72.65 per cent of RDA while for men it was 2019.14 Kcal which met 88.36 per cent of RDA. The mean intake of women and men was found to be 1890.49 Kcal which could meet 77.96 per cent of the RDA.

The women respondents from West Godavari could meet 79.24 per cent of RDA and the mean intake was 1921.47 Kcal. The mean intake for men was

Tables 34: Time devoted by respondents in Agricultural activity (man days/acre)

S. No.	Item	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Overall (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Overall (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Overall (n=288)
1	Land preparation	0.98	5.36	3.17	1.00	5.71	3.36	0.49	5.54	3.26
2	Nursery raising	0.43	1.29	0.86	0.46	1.37	0.92	0.45	1.33	0.89
3	Transplanting	7.01	7.85	7.43	7.20	7.98	7.59	7.11	7.92	7.51
4	Manure application	0.21	2.24	1.23	0.22	2.35	1.29	0.22	2.29	1.26
5	Inter culturing	9.20	9.06	9.13	9.25	9.06	9.16	9.23	9.06	9.14
6	Irrigation	0.13	1.47	0.80	0.15	1.45	0.80	0.14	1.46	0.79
7	Plant protection	0.02	0.98	0.50	0.03	0.95	0.49	0.03	0.97	0.49
8	Harvesting	6.32	6.50	6.41	6.32	6.71	6.52	6.32	6.61	6.46
9	Post harvesting	5.66	2.32	3.99	5.72	2.40	4.06	5.69	2.36	4.03
10	Marketing	0.57	1.01	0.79	0.61	1.48	1.05	0.59	1.23	0.92
All agricultural tasks		30.53	38.08	34.31	30.96	39.46	35.24	30.27	38.77	34.75
Averages		(44.49)	(55.51)	(68.61)	(43.97)	(56.03)	(70.42)	(43.84)	(56.16)	(69.52)

178.

2044.41 Kcal which met an RDA of 85.30 per cent. The average mean intake was 81.25 Kcal meeting an RDA of 81.25 per cent.

The pooled sample indicate that, the mean intake of women was 1841.65 Kcal which met (75.94 per cent of RDA) and for men it was 2031.81 Kcal (83.79 per cent RDA). On the whole, the mean intake of calorie was 1936.72 Kcal which met 79.86 per cent RDA.

Protein

The mean intake was 45.71 g/day (76.14% of RDA) for women and 47.90 g /day (79.85% of RDA) for men in Adilabad district. On an average the mean intake was 46.81 g/day which met an RDA of 78.01 per cent.

Among the women in West Godavari, the mean intake of protein was found to be 47.46 g/day (79.11% of RDA) and for men it was 50.42 g/day (84.04%). The mean intake of protein of the respondents on the whole was 48.94 g/day meeting an RDA of 81.57 per cent.

The mean protein intake of women was 46.59 g/day (77.64% of RDA) and for men it was 49.16 g/day (81.93% of RDA). On totality, the mean protein intake was 47.72 g/day which met 79.53 per cent of RDA and the results were presented in Table 32.

4.2.5.4 Time

4.2.5.4.1 Time devoted by respondents in agricultural activity (man days/acre)

Table 33 shows at a glance the average time devoted by the respondents in agricultural activities. The data was presented in terms of average man days (8 hours) in the area of the study.

The man days devoted by women in Adilabad was maximum for intercultruring (9.2 man days) followed by transplanting (7.01 man days), harvesting (6.32 man days), post harvesting (5.66 man days), land preparation (0.98 man days), marketing (0.57 man days), nursery raising (0.43 man days), manure application (0.21 man days), irrigation (0.13 man days), and plant protection (0.02 man days). While time devoted by men was also maximum for interculturing (9.00 man days) followed by transplanting (7.85 man days),

harvesting (6.5 man days), land preparation (5.36 man days), irrigation (1.47 man days), nursery raising (1.29 man days), marketing (1.01 man days) and plant protection (0.98 man days).

The average time devoted by women and men for interculturing was 9.13 man days followed by transplanting (7.43 man days), harvesting (6.41 man days), post harvesting (3.99 man days), land preparation (3.17 man days), manure application (1.23 man days), nursery raising (0.86 man days), irrigation (0.80 man days), and marketing (0.79 man days). The overall data indicated that average man devoted by women for all the agricultural tasks was 30.53 which accounts to 44.49 per cent of the total, 8.08 man days by men which contributes 55.51 per cent and 34.31 man days on an average.

The time devoted on various agricultural activities by women in West Godavari was 30.96 man days. The time devoted for interculturing was 9.25 man days followed by transplanting (7.20 man days), harvesting (6.32 man days), post harvesting (5.72 man days), land preparation (1.00 man days), marketing (0.61 man days), nursery raising (0.46 man days), manure application (0.22 man days), irrigation (0.15 man days), and plant protection (0.03 man days).

The man days devoted by men for all the agricultural tasks was 39.46. The maximum man days was for interculturing (9.06 man days), followed by transplanting (7.98 man days), harvesting (6.71 man days), land preparation (5.71 man days), post harvesting (2.40 man days), manure application (2.35 man days), marketing (1.48 man days), irrigation (1.45 man days), nursery raising (1.37 man days) and plant protection (0.95 man days).

The time devoted by the respondents in this area was maximum for inter culturing (9.16 man days) followed by transplanting (7.98 man days) by harvesting (6.52 man days), post-harvesting (4.06 man days), land preparation (3.36 man days), manure application (1.29 man days), marketing (1.05 man days), nursery raising (0.92 man days), irrigation (0.80 man days), and plant protection (0.49 man days).

The overall data indicates that 56.03 per cent man days were devoted by men and 43.97 per cent by women i.e., 70.42 man days were reported in the area

39

Table 33: Average time devoted by respondents in livestock activities (man days/day)

S. No.	Item	Adilabad			West Godavari			Total		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Overall (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Overall (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Overall (n=288)
1	Bringing fodder	0.042	0.104	0.073	0.048	0.109	0.079	0.045	0.107	0.076
2	Chaffing & Preparing feed	0.014	0.094	0.054	0.012	0.119	0.065	0.076	0.107	0.059
3	Feeding	0.008	0.119	0.064	0.009	0.115	0.062	0.009	0.117	0.063
4	Grazing	0.028	0.141	0.084	0.048	0.142	0.095	0.038	0.142	0.089
5	Cleaning / Bathing animals	0.009	0.025	0.050	0.011	0.030	0.021	0.029	0.028	0.019
6	Health care	0.023	0.013	0.032	0.012	0.013	0.013	0.018	0.013	0.015
7	Cleaning animal shed	0.021	0.015	0.018	0.033	0.019	0.026	0.018	0.017	0.022
8	Offering water	0.007	0.019	0.013	0.009	0.017	0.013	0.008	0.018	0.013
9	Milking	0.026	0.022	0.024	0.015	0.027	0.021	0.021	0.025	0.022
10	All livestock activities	0.178	0.552	0.365	0.193	0.592	0.393	0.186	0.572	0.379
	Average	(24.39)	(75.61)	(0.73)	(24.59)	(75.41)	(0.78)	(24.54)	(75.46)	(0.758)

12527

of the study of which 39.46 man days were devoted by men and the rest by women.

4.2.5.4.2 Average time devoted by the respondents in livestock activities (man days/day)

A perusal of data presented in Table 34 shows, average time devoted by the respondents in livestock activities. Time is expressed in terms of man days/day.

The data showed that, the time devoted by women in Adilabad for bringing fodder was (0.042 man days) followed by grazing (0.028 man days), milking (0.026 man days), health care (0.023 man days), cleaning animal shed (0.021 man days), chaffing and preparing feed (0.014 man days), cleaning / bathing animals (0.009 man days), feeding (0.008 man days), and offering water (0.007 man days). The average time devoted for all the livestock activities was 0.178 man days

While the time devoted by men was maximum for grazing (0.141 man days) among all the livestock activities followed by feeding (0.119 man days), bringing fodder (0.104 man days), chaffing and preparing feed (0.094 man days), cleaning / bathing (0.025 man days), milking (0.022 man days), offering water (0.019 man days), cleaning animal shed (0.015 man days), and health care (0.013 man days). The time devoted for all the livestock activities by men was 0.552 man days.

On an average the time devoted for grazing was 0.084 man days followed by bringing fodder (0.073 man days), feeding (0.064 man days), cleaning / bathing animals (0.050 man days), chaffing and preparing feed (0.054 man days), health care (0.032 man days), milking (0.024 man days), cleaning animal shed (0.018 man days) and offering water (0.013 man days). The average time devoted for various livestock activities was 0.365 man days by the respondents in Adilabad.

On an average 0.730 man days per day were devoted in livestock rearing activities by the respondents of which 0.178 man days (24.39%) were devoted by women and 0.552 (75.61%) by men.

The time devoted by women in West Godavari for various livestock activities was 0.193 man days of which the maximum time devoted was for bringing fodder and grazing quality i.e., 0.048 man days followed by cleaning animal shed (0.033 man days), milking water (0.015 man days), an equal per cent i.e., 0.012 man days for chaffing and preparing feed and health care, cleaning / bathing animals (0.011 man days), and an equal per cent i.e., 0.009 man days for feeding and offering water.

The time devoted by men for various livestock activities was 0.592 man days. The time devoted for grazing was 0.142 man days, followed by chaffing and preparing feed (0.119 man days), bringing fodder (0.109 man days) feeding (0.115 man days), bringing fodder (0.109 man days), cleaning, bathing animals (0.030 man days), milking (0.027 man days), cleaning animal shed (0.019 man days), and offering water (0.017 man days).

The pooled data of West Godavari shows that on an average the time devoted for various livestock activities was 0.393 man days/day. The time devoted for grazing was 0.095 man days followed by bringing fodder (0.079 man days), chaffing and preparing feed (0.065 man days), feeding (0.062 man days), cleaning animal shed (0.026 man days), milking (0.021 man days), and an equal time was devoted for cleaning / bathing animal and 0.013 man days for health care and offering water.

The time devoted by women and men was 0.785 man days per day for various livestock rearing activities. Of which, 0.193 man days (24.59%) were devoted by women and 0.592 (75.41%) by men.

It could be concluded from the Table 34 that the time devoted by women for various livestock activities was 0.186 man days of which for chaffing and preparing feed the maximum time was devoted i.e., 0.076 man days followed by bringing fodder (0.045 man days), grazing (0.038 man days), cleaning / bathing animals (0.029 man days), milking (0.021 man days), health care and cleaning animal shed (0.018 man days), feeding (0.009 man days) and offering water (0.008).

Table 35: Average time devoted by the respondents fin household activities (man days/day)

S. No.	Item	Women		
		Adilabad (n=72)	West Godavari (n=72)	Overall (n=144)
1	Cooking	0.561	0.531	0.546
2	Fetching water	0.061	0.078	0.069
3	Child care	0.063	0.062	0.062
4	Collection of fuel	0.189	0.189	0.189
5	Washing clothes	0.049	0.046	0.047
6	Personal care	0.010	0.010	0.010
7	Others	0.200	0.197	0.198
	All household activities	1.133	1.111	1.122

The time devoted by men for livestock rearing activities was 0.572 man days. The time devoted for grazing was maximum i.e., 0.142 man days, feeding 0.117 man days, bringing fodder, chaffing and preparing feed (0.107 man days), cleaning / bathing animals (0.028 man days), milking (0.025 man days), offering water (0.018 man days), cleaning animal shed (0.017 man days), and health care (0.013 man days).

The data showed that on an average 0.758 man days per day were devoted in livestock rearing activities. Of the total man days 0.758, 0.186 man days (24.54%) were devoted by women and 0.572 (75.46%) by men.

Table 34 shows at a glance that, on an average shows that, time devoted by the respondents in the study area was 0.379 man days. The time devoted for grazing was 0.089 man days, followed by bringing fodder 0.076 man days, Feeding (0.063 man days), chaffing and preparing feed (0.059 man days), cleaning animal shed and milking (0.022 man days), cleaning / bathing animals (0.019 man days), health care (0.015 man days) and offering water (0.013 man days).

4.2.5.4.3 Time devoted by the respondents in household activities (man days / day)

The involvement of women in terms of average man per day various household activities were presented in Table 35. Table 35 shows at a glance that the maximum time spent by women in both the study area was for cooking i.e., 0.561 and 0.531 in Adilabad and West Godavari respectively. Equal time i.e., 0.189 man days were devoted by their respondents for collection of fuel. Fetching water (0.061 and 0.046 man days) respectively in Adilabad and West Godavari. For personal care, 0.10 man days were devoted equally. Other household activities, the time devoted was 0.200 and 0.197 man days. For the various household activities the time devoted by women in Adilabad was 1.133 man days and 1.111 man days by women in West Godavari.

On the whole, the maximum time was devoted for cooking (0.546 man days), followed by collection of fuel (0.189 man days), fetching water (0.069 man days), child care (0.062 man days), Washing clothes (0.047 man days) and personal

Table 36: Access and control over resources of the respondents in Adilabad

S. No.	Resources	Access						Control					
		Women (n=72)		Men (n=72)		Total (n=144)		Women#		Men#		Total#	
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
(1)	Land	40 (55.56)	32 (44.44)	62 (86.11)	10 (13.89)	102 (70.83)	42 (29.17)	14 (35.00)	26 (65.00)	55 (88.71)	7 (11.29)	69 (67.65)	33 (32.35)
(2)	Credit	45 (62.50)	27 (37.50)	60 (83.33)	12 (16.67)	105 (72.92)	39 (27.08)	16 (35.56)	29 (64.44)	57 (95.00)	3 (5.00)	73 (69.52)	31 (29.52)
(3)	House	56 (77.78)	16 (22.22)	61 (84.72)	11 (15.28)	117 (81.25)	27 (18.75)	18 (32.14)	38 (67.86)	52 (85.25)	9 (14.75)	70 (59.83)	47 (40.17)
(4)	Immovable property	48 (66.67)	24 (33.33)	56 (77.78)	16 (22.22)	104 (72.22)	40 (27.78)	17 (35.42)	31 (64.58)	50 (89.29)	6 (10.71)	67 (64.42)	37 (35.58)
(5)	Consumption of household items	55 (76.39)	17 (23.61)	60 (83.33)	12 (16.67)	115 (79.86)	29 (20.14)	32 (58.18)	23 (41.82)	52 (86.67)	8 (13.33)	84 (73.04)	31 (26.96)
(6)	Improved tools / machinery	38 (52.78)	34 (47.22)	58 (80.56)	14 (19.44)	96 (66.67)	48 (33.33)	13 (34.21)	25 (65.79)	55 (94.83)	3 (5.17)	68 (70.83)	28 (29.17)
(7)	Income	43 (59.72)	29 (40.28)	63 (87.50)	9 (12.50)	106 (73.61)	38 (26.39)	20 (46.51)	23 (53.49)	59 (93.65)	2 (3.17)	79 (74.53)	25 (23.58)
(8)	Employment	55 (76.39)	17 (23.61)	59 (81.94)	13 (18.06)	114 (79.17)	30 (20.83)	21 (38.18)	34 (61.82)	55 (93.22)	4 (6.78)	76 (66.67)	38 (33.33)
(9)	Education	50 (69.44)	22 (30.56)	62 (86.11)	10 (13.89)	117 (81.25)	27 (18.75)	15 (30.00)	35 (70.00)	48 (77.42)	14 (22.58)	63 (53.85)	49 (41.88)
(10)	Transport	49 (68.06)	23 (31.94)	62 (86.11)	10 (13.89)	111 (77.08)	33 (22.92)	17 (34.69)	32 (65.31)	60 (96.77)	2 (3.23)	77 (69.37)	34 (30.63)
(11)	Production inputs	48 (66.67)	24 (33.33)	62 (86.11)	10 (13.89)	110 (76.39)	34 (23.61)	14 (29.17)	34 (70.83)	59 (95.16)	3 (4.84)	73 (66.36)	37 (33.64)
(12)	Production outputs	43 (59.72)	29 (40.28)	59 (81.94)	13 (18.06)	102 (70.83)	42 (29.17)	10 (23.26)	33 (76.74)	56 (94.92)	3 (5.08)	66 (64.71)	36 (35.29)
	Averages	65.97	34.03	83.79	16.21	74.88	25.17	36.31	63.68	91.14	8.86	63.73	36.27

Figures of control are with respect to Access
Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

care (0.010 man days). The time devoted for other miscellaneous household activities was 0.198 man days on average. The time devoted by various household activities on an average by the women respondents in the study area was 1.122 man days / day.

4.2.5.5 Access and control over resources

4.2.5.5.1 Access and control over resources of the respondents in Adilabad

The results with regard to access and control over resources of the respondents in Adilabad were presented in Table 36.

The major access with regard to various resources among women in Adilabad was house (77.78%) followed by employment (76.39%) and an equal per cent for consumption of household items and education (69.44%), transport (68.06%), immovable property and production inputs (66.67%), credit (62.50%), income and production outputs (59.72%), land (55.56%) and improved tools/machinery (52.78%).

Among men a vast majority (87.50%) of men had access to income followed by majority (86.11%) of them equally had access to land, transport, education and production inputs, house (84.72%), credit and consumption of household items (83.33%) employment and production outputs (81.94%). improved tool / machinery (80.56%) and immovable property (77.78%). On an average almost two third majority (65.97%) of women and vast majority (83.79%) of men had access to resource.

The summary of the results on access and control over resources of women and men reveal that a great majority (81.25%) of them had access to house and education equally followed by consumption of household items (79.86%), employment (79.17%), transport (77.08%), production inputs (76.39%), income (73.61%), credit and immovable property (72.92 and 72.22%), land and production output (70.83%) and improved tool / machinery (66.67%). Almost one-fourth (74.88%) of the respondents in Adilabad had access to resources.

With regard to control over various resources majority (58.18%) of women had control on consumption of household items followed by income (46.51%), employment (38.18%), credit, immovable property and land almost equal

Table 37: Access and control over resources of the respondents in West Godavari

S. No.	Resources	ACCESS						CONTROL					
		Women (n=72)		Men (n=72)		Total (n=144)		Women#		Men#		Total#	
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
(1)	Land	50 (69.44)	22 (30.56)	65 (90.28)	7 (9.72)	115 (79.86)	29 (20.14)	32 (64.00)	18 (36.00)	65 (100.00)	0 (0.00)	97 (84.34)	18 (17.14)
(2)	Credit	60 (83.33)	12 (16.67)	65 (90.28)	7 (9.72)	125 (86.81)	19 (13.19)	38 (63.33)	22 (36.67)	62 (95.38)	3 (4.62)	100 (80.00)	25 (20.00)
(3)	House	58 (80.56)	14 (19.44)	62 (86.11)	10 (13.89)	120 (83.33)	24 (16.67)	26 (44.83)	32 (55.17)	57 (91.94)	5 (8.06)	83 (69.17)	37 (30.83)
(4)	Immovable property	54 (75.00)	18 (25.00)	59 (81.94)	13 (18.06)	113 (78.47)	31 (21.53)	25 (46.30)	29 (53.70)	54 (91.53)	5 (8.47)	79 (69.91)	34 (30.09)
(5)	Consumption of household items	62 (86.11)	10 (13.89)	65 (90.28)	7 (9.72)	127 (88.19)	17 (11.81)	46 (74.19)	16 (25.81)	58 (89.23)	7 (10.77)	104 (81.89)	23 (18.11)
(6)	Improved tools / machinery	46 (63.89)	26 (36.11)	63 (87.50)	9 (12.50)	109 (75.69)	35 (24.31)	21 (45.65)	25 (54.35)	61 (96.83)	2 (3.17)	82 (75.23)	27 (24.77)
(7)	Income	50 (69.44)	22 (30.56)	63 (87.50)	9 (12.50)	113 (78.47)	31 (21.53)	28 (56.00)	22 (44.00)	62 (98.41)	1 (1.59)	90 (79.65)	23 (20.35)
(8)	Employment	56 (77.78)	16 (22.22)	62 (86.11)	10 (13.89)	118 (81.94)	26 (18.06)	30 (53.57)	26 (46.43)	62 (100.00)	0 (0.00)	92 (77.97)	26 (22.03)
(9)	Education	60 (83.33)	12 (16.67)	64 (88.89)	8 (11.11)	124 (86.11)	20 (13.89)	30 (50.00)	30 (50.00)	60 (93.75)	4 (6.25)	90 (72.58)	34 (27.42)
(10)	Transport	50 (69.44)	22 (30.56)	62 (86.11)	10 (13.89)	112 (77.78)	32 (22.22)	26 (52.00)	24 (48.00)	62 (100.00)	0 (0.00)	88 (78.57)	24 (21.43)
(11)	Production inputs	56 (77.78)	16 (22.22)	65 (90.28)	7 (9.72)	121 (84.03)	23 (15.97)	18 (32.14)	38 (67.86)	63 (96.92)	2 (3.08)	81 (66.94)	40 (33.06)
(12)	Production outputs	45 (62.50)	27 (37.50)	67 (93.06)	5 (6.94)	112 (77.78)	32 (22.22)	18 (40.00)	27 (60.00)	66 (98.51)	1 (1.49)	84 (75.00)	28 (25.00)
	Averages	74.67 (74.67)	25.63 (25.63)	88.19 (88.19)	11.81 (11.81)	81.54 (81.54)	18.46 (18.46)	52.24 (52.24)	47.76 (47.76)	96.06 (96.06)	3.94 (3.94)	74.15 (74.15)	25.83 (25.83)

Figures of control are with respect to Access
Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

per cent 35.56, 35.42 and 35.00 per cent respectively, transport (34.69%), improved tool and machinery (34.21%), house (32.14%), education (30.00%), production inputs (29.17%) and production outputs (23.26%). Slightly over one third (36.31%) had control over the resources among women.

While among men a vast majority i.e., 96.78, 95.16, 95.00, 94.92, 94.83, 93.65 and 93.22 per cent of them had control on transport, production inputs, credit, production outputs, improved tool / machinery and income respectively followed by immovable property (89.29%), land (88.71%), consumption of household items (86.67%), house (85.25%), and education (77.42%). A vast majority (91.14%) of men were found to have control over resources.

An overview of the results on control over resources indicate that almost that three quarters (74.53%) of them had control on income followed by consumption of household items (73.04%) improved tools or machinery (70.83%), credit (70.19%), transport (69.37%), land (67.64%), employment (66.67%), production inputs (66.63%), production output (64.71%), immovable property (64.42%), house (59.83%) and education (56.25%). About two-third majority (63.73%) of the respondents had control over the resources.

4.2.5.5.1 Access and control over resources of the respondents in West Godavari

The finding in Table 37 indicate access and control over resources of the respondents in West Godavari.

A great majority (86.11%) of women had access to consumption of household items followed by 83.33 per cent equally had access to credit and education, house (80.56%), employment and production inputs was accessed by 77.78 per cent of them equally, immovable property (75.00%), an equal per cent i.e., 69.44 had access to income, land, and transport, improved tools / machinery (63.89%) and production inputs (62.50%). The average indicates that almost three quarters 74.37 per cent had access to resources.

Among men a vast majority (93.06%) of men had access to production outputs followed by an equal per cent i.e., 90.28 towards land, credit, consumption of household items, production outputs, education, (88.89%),

Table 38: Access and control over resources of the respondents

S. No.	Resources	ACCESS								CONTROL							
		Women (n=72)				Men (n=72)				Total (n=144)				Women#			
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
(1)	Land	90 (62.50)	54 (37.50)	127 (88.19)	17 (11.81)	217 (75.35)	71 (24.65)	46 (51.11)	44 (48.89)	120 (94.49)	7 (5.51)	166 (76.50)	51 (23.50)				
(2)	Credit	105 (72.92)	39 (27.08)	125 (86.81)	19 (13.19)	230 (79.86)	58 (20.14)	54 (51.43)	51 (48.57)	119 (95.20)	6 (4.80)	173 (75.22)	57 (24.78)				
(3)	House	114 (79.17)	30 (20.83)	123 (85.42)	21 (14.58)	237 (82.29)	51 (17.71)	44 (38.60)	70 (61.40)	109 (88.62)	14 (11.38)	153 (64.56)	84 (35.44)				
(4)	Immovable property	102 (70.83)	42 (29.17)	115 (79.86)	29 (20.14)	217 (75.35)	71 (24.65)	42 (41.18)	60 (58.82)	104 (90.43)	11 (9.57)	146 (67.28)	71 (32.72)				
(5)	Consumption of household items	117 (81.25)	27 (18.75)	125 (86.81)	19 (13.19)	242 (84.03)	46 (15.97)	78 (66.67)	39 (33.33)	110 (88.00)	15 (12.00)	188 (77.69)	54 (22.31)				
(6)	Improved tools / machinery	84 (58.33)	60 (41.67)	121 (84.03)	23 (15.97)	205 (71.18)	83 (28.82)	34 (40.48)	50 (59.52)	116 (95.87)	5 (4.13)	150 (73.17)	55 (26.83)				
(7)	Income	93 (64.58)	51 (35.42)	126 (87.50)	18 (12.50)	219 (76.04)	69 (23.96)	48 (51.61)	45 (48.39)	121 (96.03)	5 (3.97)	169 (77.17)	48 (21.92)				
(8)	Employment	111 (77.08)	33 (22.92)	121 (84.03)	23 (15.97)	232 (80.56)	56 (19.44)	51 (45.95)	60 (54.05)	117 (96.69)	4 (3.31)	168 (72.41)	64 (27.59)				
(9)	Education	110 (76.39)	34 (23.61)	126 (87.50)	18 (12.50)	236 (81.94)	52 (18.06)	45 (40.91)	65 (59.09)	108 (85.71)	18 (14.29)	153 (64.83)	83 (35.17)				
(10)	Transport	99 (68.75)	45 (31.25)	124 (86.11)	20 (13.89)	223 (77.43)	65 (22.57)	43 (43.43)	56 (56.57)	122 (98.39)	2 (1.61)	165 (73.99)	58 (26.01)				
(11)	Production inputs	104 (72.22)	40 (27.78)	127 (88.19)	17 (11.81)	231 (80.21)	57 (19.79)	32 (30.77)	72 (69.23)	122 (96.06)	5 (3.94)	154 (66.67)	77 (33.33)				
(12)	Production outputs	88 (61.11)	56 (38.89)	126 (87.50)	18 (12.50)	214 (74.31)	74 (25.69)	28 (31.82)	60 (68.18)	122 (96.83)	4 (3.17)	150 (70.09)	64 (29.91)				
	Averages	70.17	29.83	85.99	14.01	78.08	21.92	44.27	55.73	93.60	6.40	68.93	31.07				

Figures of control are with respect to Access

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

improved tool / machinery and income (87.50%), house, employment and transport (86.11%) and immovable property (81.94%). A great majority (88.19%) of had access to the resources.

On totality, it can be viewed that major access by the respondents was towards consumption of house hold items (88.19%) followed by credit (86.81%) education (86.11%) production inputs (84.03%), house (83.33%) employment (81.94%) immovable property and income (78.47%) transport and production outputs (77.78%) and improved tools/ machinery (75.69%) and land (72.92%). On the whole, 81.53 per cent of the respondents in this area had access to resources.

The findings of control over resources indicate that majority (74.19%) of women had control on consumption of household items followed by land (64.00%), credit (63.33%), income (56.00%), Improved tools / machinery (45.65%) employment (53.57%), transport (52.00%), education (50.00%), immovable property (46.30%), house (44.83%), production outputs (40.00%) and production inputs (32.14%). Slightly above half (52.24%) of women had control over resources.

Cent per cent of men had access to land, employment and transport. A vast majority i.e., 98.51, 98.41, 96.92, 96.83, 95.38, 93.75, 91.94, 91.53 and 89.23 per cent of them had control on production outputs, income, improved tools / machinery, credit, education, house, immovable property and consumption of household items. An over whelming majority (96.06%) of men were found to have control over resources.

On the whole, the major control of the respondents was on land (84.34%) followed by consumption of household items (81.89%), credit (80.00%), income (79.64%), transport (78.57%), employment (77.97%), production outputs (75.00%), improved tools / machinery (75.23%), education (72.58%), immovable property (69.91%), house (69.17%) and production inputs (66.94%). Almost three quarters (74.15%) of the respondents in this area were found to have control over the resources.

4.2.5.5.3 Access and control over resources of the respondents

Table 38 indicates results regarding access and control over resources of the respondents from both the study area.

Among women a great majority (81.25%) had access to consumption of household items followed by house (79.17%) employment (77.08%), education (76.39%), credit (72.92%), production inputs (72.22%), immovable property (70.83%), transport (68.75%), income (64.58%), land (62.05%), production outputs (61.11%), improved tools or machinery (58.33%). Among women 70.17 per cent had access to resources.

Among men vast majority i.e., 88.19 per cent equally had access to land and production inputs followed by income, education and production out put (87.50%), credit and consumption of house hold items (86.81%) and equal per cent had access to credit, transport (86.11%), house (85.42%), and 84.03 per cent had access to improved tools or machinery and employment. An overwhelming majority (85.99%) of men had access to resources.

On the whole, majority (84.03%) of women and men had access to consumption of household items, house (82.29%), education (81.94%), employment (80.56%), production inputs (80.21%), credit (79.86%), income (76.04%) transport (77.43%), land and immovable property (75.35%), production outputs (74.31%) and improved tools / machinery (71.18%). Above three quarters (78.08%) had access to resources.

With regard to control of the resources among women two third majority (66.67%) had control of consumption of household items of them who had access followed by almost equal per cent 51.61, 51.43 and 51.11 per cent had, control on income, credit and land respectively. Employment (45.95%), transport (43.43%), immovable property (41.18%), education (40.91%), improved tool / machinery (40.48%), house (38.59%), production output (31.82%) and inputs (30.77%). On the whole 44.27 per cent of women had control on resources on which they had access.

Among men a vast majority had control on the resources for which they had access i.e., 98.39, 96.83, 96.69, 96.06, 96.03, 95.87, 95.20, 94.49 and 90.43 per cent had control on transport, production outputs, house employment, production inputs, income, improved tools / machinery, credit land and immovable property respectively. While, a great majority 88.00, 88.62 and 85.71 per cent had

Table 39: Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources in Adilabad

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)		
		Agree	Under-cited	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Under-cited	Dis-agree	Score	Score
1	Village exogamy and long distant marriages, norms restrict women to exercise control over the land.	35 (48.61)	24 (33.33)	13 (18.06)	166	37 (51.39)	31 (43.06)	4 (5.56)	177 III	343
2	Lesser interaction of females restrict them to obtain information on agriculture.	32 (44.44)	30 (41.67)	10 (13.89)	166	39 (54.17)	25 (34.72)	8 (11.11)	175	341
3	Men's movements are not restricted which enables them to get agriculture related information	50 (69.44)	15 (20.83)	7 (9.72)	187 II	50 (69.44)	17 (23.61)	5 (6.94)	189 I	376 I
4	Women's ability to self-manage land is generally limited	40 (55.56)	29 (40.28)	3 (4.17)	181	45 (62.50)	26 (36.11)	1 (1.39)	188 II	369 II
5	Inputs and taboos women makes dependent on men for cultivation..	47 (65.28)	20 (27.78)	5 (6.94)	186 III	31 (43.06)	31 (43.06)	10 (13.89)	164	350
6	Women's ignorance and illiteracy, restricts them to obtain credit and other agricultural inputs.	46 (63.89)	20 (27.78)	6 (8.33)	184	42 (58.33)	20 (27.78)	10 (13.89)	176	360 III
7	The perception that, men can repay the loans easily, makes difficult for women to get credit.	48 (66.67)	20 (27.78)	4 (5.56)	188 I	32 (44.44)	28 (38.89)	12 (16.67)	164	352
8	Women lack of land ownership prevents their access to formal financial system.	36 (50.00)	32 (44.44)	4 (5.56)	176	38 (52.78)	25 (34.72)	9 (12.50)	173	349
	Averages	(57.99)	(32.99)	(9.02)		(54.51)	(35.24)	(10.25)		(9.67)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and roman numbers indicate Rank

control on consumption of household items, house and education respectively. A vast majority (93.60%) of men had control over the resources.

It can be concluded from Table 38 with regard to control on resources, just above three quarters 77.69, 77.17, 76.49 and 75.22 per cent had control on income, consumption of household items, land and credit respectively. Majority (73.99%) had control on transport followed by improved tools / machinery (73.17%), employment (72.41%), production outputs (70.09%), immovable property (67.28%), production inputs (60.67%), education (64.83%), and house (64.56%).

4.2.5.5.2 Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources

4.2.5.5.2.1 Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources in Adilabad

A close look at the Table 39 reveals the results of opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources in Adilabad.

The perception that men can repay loans easily, makes difficult for women to get credit was agreed among two third majority of women and felt undecided by 27.78 per cent. Only 5.56 per cent agreed with this. Over two third (69.44%) of women agreed with the statement that men's movement are not restricted, which enables them to get agriculture related information followed by undecided (20.83%) and agree (9.72%). Inputs and taboos makes women totally dependent on men for cultivation was agreed among almost by two third majority (65.28%), felt undecided by 27.78 per cent and disagreed by 6.94 per cent.

Over two third majority (69.44%) of men agreed that men's movement are not restricted, which enables them to get agricultural related information and felt undecided by 23.61 per cent. While 6.94 per cent of them disagreed with this. Women's ability to self-manage land is limited was agreed by majority (62.50%) followed by undecided (36.11%) and disagreed among 1.39 per cent only. Just above half (51.39%) of them agreed that village exogamy and long distant marriages restricts women to exercise control over the land and felt undecided by a sizeable number (43.06%). This was disagreed among 5.56 per cent only.

Table 40: Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources in West Godavari

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)				Men (n=144)				Pooled (n=288)			
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score
1	Village exogamy and long distant marriages, norms restrict women to exercise control over the land.	45 (62.50)	23 (31.94)	4 (5.56)	185	46 (63.89)	26 (36.11)	0 (0.00)	190 III	91 (63.19)	49 (34.03)	4 (2.78)	375 III
2	Lesser interaction of females restrict them to obtain information on agriculture.	41 (56.94)	25 (34.72)	6 (8.33)	179	38 (52.78)	24 (33.33)	10 (13.89)	172	79 (54.86)	49 (34.03)	16 (11.11)	351
3	Men's movements are not restricted which enables them to get agriculture related information	56 (77.78)	14 (19.44)	2 (2.78)	198 II	58 (80.56)	10 (13.89)	4 (5.56)	198 I	114 (79.17)	24 (16.67)	6 (4.16)	396 I
4	Women's ability to self-manage land is generally limited	50 (69.44)	12 (16.67)	10 (13.89)	184	51 (70.83)	17 (23.61)	4 (5.56)	191 II	101 (70.14)	29 (20.14)	14 (9.72)	375 III
5	Inputs and taboos women makes dependent on men for cultivation..	47 (65.28)	22 (30.56)	3 (4.17)	188	38 (52.78)	29 (40.28)	5 (6.94)	177	85 (59.03)	51 (35.42)	8 (5.56)	365
6	Women's ignorance and illiteracy, restricts them to obtain credit and other agricultural inputs.	56 (77.78)	9 (12.50)	7 (9.72)	193 III	46 (63.89)	20 (27.78)	6 (8.33)	184	102 (70.83)	29 (20.14)	13 (9.03)	377 II
7	The perception that, men can repay the loans easily, makes difficult for women to get credit.	51 (70.83)	18 (25.00)	3 (4.17)	192	38 (52.78)	25 (34.72)	9 (12.50)	173	89 (61.81)	43 (29.86)	12 (8.33)	365
8	Women lack of land ownership prevents their access to formal financial system.	56 (77.78)	15 (20.83)	1 (1.39)	199 I	40 (55.56)	21 (29.17)	11 (15.28)	173	96 (66.67)	36 (25.00)	12 (8.33)	372
	Average	(69.79)	(23.96)	(6.25)		(61.63)	(29.86)	(8.51)		(61.71)	(26.91)	(7.38)	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and roman numbers indicate rank

On totality, men's movement are not restricted, which enables them to get agriculture related information was agreed among majority (69.44%) of the respondents followed by undecided (22.22%) and disagreed (8.33%). Women's ability to self manage land is limited was agreed among 59.03 per cent followed by undecided (38.19%). Only 2.78 per cent disagreed with this. Majority (61.11%) agreed that women's ignorance and illiteracy restricts them to obtain credit and other agricultural inputs followed by undecided (27.78%) and 11.11 per cent of them had shown disagreement about this.

4.2.5.5.2 Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources in West Godavari

The results furnished in Table 40 indicates results with regard to Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources of in West Godavari. Women's lack of land ownership prevents their access to formal financial system was agreed among more than three quarters (77.78%) and undecided by (20.83%) and only 1.39 per cent disagreed about this. Men's movement are not restricted, which enables them to get agriculture related information was also agreed among majority (77.78%) followed by undecided (19.44%) and disagreed (2.78%). The same percentage of them agreed with the statement, women's ignorance and illiteracy restricts them to obtain credit and other agriculture inputs. This was felt undecided by 12.50 per cent and disagreed by 9.72 per cent of them.

A great majority (80.56%) of men agreed that men's movement are not restricted, which enables them to get agriculture related information, felt undecided by 13.89 per cent and 5.56 per cent of them had shown disagreement with this. Majority (70.83%) of them agreed that women's ability to self manage land is limited followed by undecided (23.61%) and disagree (5.56%). Village exogamy and long distant marriages, restricts women to exercise control over the land was agreed by nearly two third majority (63.89%) and just above one third (36.11%) of them felt undecided with this.

The overall results indicates that over three quarters majority (79.17%) of them agreed that men's movements are not restricted, which enable them to get agriculture related information and felt undecided by 16.67 per cent of them.

Table 41: Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)			Score	Men (n=144)			Score	Pooled (n=288)			Score
		Agree	Under-cited	Dis-agree		Agree	Under-cited	Dis-agree		Agree	Under-cited	Dis-agree	
1	Village exogamy and long distant marriages, norms restrict women to exercise control over the land.	80 (55.56)	47 (32.64)	17 (11.80)	351	83 (57.64)	57 (39.58)	4 (5.56)	367 III	163 (56.60)	104 (36.11)	21 (7.29)	618
2	Lesser interaction of females restrict them to obtain information on agriculture.	73 (50.69)	55 (38.19)	16 (11.12)	345	77 (53.47)	49 (34.03)	18 (12.50)	347	150 (52.08)	104 (36.11)	34 (11.81)	692
3	Men's movements are not restricted which enables them to get agriculture related information	106 (73.61)	29 (20.14)	9 (6.25)	385 I	108 (75.00)	27 (18.75)	9 (6.25)	387 I	214 (74.31)	56 (19.44)	18 (6.25)	772 I
4	Women's ability to self-manage land is generally limited	90 (62.50)	41 (28.47)	13 (9.03)	365	96 (66.67)	43 (29.86)	5 (3.47)	379 II	186 (64.58)	84 (29.17)	18 (6.25)	744 II
5	Inputs and taboos women makes dependent on men for cultivation..	94 (65.28)	42 (29.17)	8 (5.56)	374	69 (47.92)	60 (41.67)	15 (10.41)	341	163 (56.60)	102 (35.42)	23 (7.98)	715
6	Women's ignorance and illiteracy, restricts them to obtain credit and other agricultural inputs.	102 (70.83)	29 (20.14)	13 (9.03)	377 III	88 (61.11)	40 (27.78)	16 (11.11)	360	190 (65.97)	69 (23.96)	29 (10.06)	737 III
7	The perception that, men can repay the loans easily, makes difficult for women to get credit.	99 (68.75)	38 (26.39)	7 (4.80)	380 II	70 (48.61)	53 (36.81)	21 (14.58)	337	169 (58.68)	91 (31.50)	28 (9.72)	717
8	Women lack of land ownership prevents their access to formal financial system.	92 (63.89)	47 (32.64)	5 (3.47)	375	78 (54.17)	50 (31.94)	20 (13.89)	346	170 (59.03)	97 (32.29)	25 (8.69)	721
	Averages	(63.89)	(28.49)	(7.63)		(58.07)	(32.55)	(9.38)		(60.98)	(30.51)	(8.51)	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and roman numbers indicate rank

Only 4.16 per cent had shown disagreement about this. Almost an equal per cent i.e. 70.83 and 70.14 per cent of them agreed with the statements, women's ignorance and illiteracy restricts them to obtain credit and other agriculture inputs and women's ability to self manage land is limited respectively. These were felt undecided among 20.14 per cent of them equally and disagreed by 9.03 and 9.72 per cent respectively. Majority (63.19%) of them agreed that village exogamy and long distant marriages, restricts women to exercise control over the land and same was felt undecided by 34.03 per cent. Only 2.78 per cent of them disagreed about this.

4.2.5.5.2.3 Opinion of the respondents on women's access and control over resources

The results with regard to opinion on access and control over resources of the respondents from Adilabad and West Godavari were presented in Table 41.

Nearly three-quarters (73.61%) agreed that men's movement are not restricted, which enables them to get agriculture related information followed by undecided (20.14%) and disagreed (9.03%). Just over one third majority (68.75%) of women agreed with the statement, the perception that men can repay loans easily, makes difficult for women to get credit followed by undecided (26.39%) and disagreed (4.80%). Women's ignorance and illiteracy restricts them to obtain credit and other agricultural inputs was agreed among majority (70.83%) followed by undecided (20.14%) and disagreed (9.03%).

Among men three fourth majority of them agreed with the statement, men's movement are not restricted, which enables them to get agriculture related information followed by undecided (18.75%) and disagreed (6.25%). Two third majority agreed that women's ability to self manage land is limited and felt undecided by 29.86 per cent. Only 3.47 per cent of them agreed about this. Village exogamy and long distant marriages restricts women to exercise control over the land was agreed among majority (57.64%) followed by undecided (39.58%) and disagreed (5.56%).

On the whole, almost three quarters majority (74.31%) of them agreed that men's movement are not restricted, which enables them to get agriculture

related information. While 19.44 per cent felt undecided and 6.25 disagreed with this. Women's ability to self manage land is limited was agreed among nearly two third majority (64.58%) followed by undecided (29.17%) and disagreed (6.25%). Majority (65.97%) agreed that women's ignorance and illiteracy restricts them to obtain credit. While, 23.96 per cent felt undecided and 10.06 per cent of them had shown disagreement with this.

4.3 GENDER EMPOWERMENT

4.3.1 Distribution of respondents based on Gender Empowerment Index

Table 42 presents the results of respondents distribution based on Gender Empowerment Index.

Majority (61.11%) of women in Adilabad were in the low category of Gender Empowerment and the rest 38.89 per cent in the medium category. Just above half (52.78%) of men were in the low gender empowerment category followed by medium (37.50%) and high (9.72%). Majority (56.94%) were in the low category followed by medium (38.14%) and high among only 4.86 per cent.

With regard to respondents in West Godavari it was observed that almost an equal per cent of women i.e., 44.44 and 43.06 per cent of women were in medium and low categories respectively. While in the high category only 6.25 per cent were present. Among men 38.89 per cent were in the medium category followed by medium (33.33%) and high (27.78%).

The summary of the Table 42 reveal that 41.67 per cent respondents were in the medium category followed by low (38.19%) and high (20.14%). It could be concluded from the pooled data that, 52.08, 41.67 and 6.25 per cent of women were in low, medium and high gender empowerment categories respectively. A sizeable number (43.06%) of men were in the low category followed by medium (38.19%) and high (18.75%). On the whole, 47.57, 39.93 and 25.00 of the respondents were in the low, medium and high categories respectively.

Table 43: Distribution of respondents based on indicators of Gender Empowerment

S. No.	Indicators	Adilabad		West Godavari		Total	
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Pooled (n=144)
1	Decision making (101-137)						
	Low (101-113)	27 (37.50)	29 (40.28)	56 (38.89)	25 (34.72)	24 (33.33)	49 (34.03)
	Medium (113-125)	32 (44.44)	31 (43.06)	63 (43.75)	33 (45.83)	31 (43.06)	64 (44.44)
	High (125-137)	13 (18.06)	12 (16.66)	25 (17.36)	14 (19.44)	17 (23.61)	31 (21.53)
2	Social Empowerment (62-89)						
	Low (63-71)	39 (54.17)	41 (56.94)	80 (55.56)	28 (38.89)	29 (40.28)	57 (39.58)
	Medium (71-80)	31 (43.06)	29 (40.28)	60 (41.67)	31 (43.05)	28 (38.89)	59 (40.97)
	High (80-89)	2 (2.77)	2 (2.77)	4 (2.77)	13 (18.06)	15 (20.83)	29 (20.14)
3	Economic Empowerment (23-41)						
	Low (23-29)	42 (58.33)	39 (54.17)	77 (53.47)	25 (34.72)	26 (36.11)	51 (35.42)
	Medium (29-35)	26 (36.11)	29 (40.28)	55 (38.19)	34 (47.22)	32 (44.44)	66 (45.83)
	High (35-41)	4 (5.56)	4 (5.56)	8 (5.56)	13 (18.06)	14 (19.44)	27 (18.75)
4	Political empowerment (42-72)						
	Low (42-52)	48 (66.67)	28 (38.89)	76 (52.78)	32 (44.44)	22 (30.56)	54 (37.50)
	Medium (52-62)	22 (30.55)	26 (36.11)	48 (33.33)	30 (41.57)	30 (41.67)	60 (41.67)
	High (62-72)	2 (2.78)	18 (25.00)	20 (13.89)	10 (13.89)	20 (27.78)	30 (20.83)
5	Legal Empowerment (72-141)						
	Low (72-95)	45 (62.50)	38 (52.78)	83 (57.64)	30 (41.67)	24 (33.33)	54 (37.50)
	Medium (95-118)	25 (34.72)	31 (43.06)	56 (38.89)	27 (37.50)	30 (41.67)	57 (39.58)
	High (118-141)	2 (2.78)	3 (4.17)	5 (3.47)	15 (20.83)	18 (25.00)	33 (22.92)

Figures in parentheses indicate percentages

4.3.2 Distribution of respondents based on indicators of gender empowerment

A cursory view of the Table 43 indicates results pertaining to gender empowerment distribution.

4.3.2.1 Decision making

As evident from Table 43 as sizeable number (44.44%) of women in Adilabad were in the medium category of decision making followed by low (37.50%) and high (18.06%). While 43.06 per cent of men also viewed women's contribution in decision making as medium followed by low (40.28%) and high (16.66%). On an average 43.75 per cent of the respondents from Adilabad constituted in the medium category followed by low (38.89%) and high (17.36%).

The data pertaining to respondents in West Godavari reveal that 45.83 per cent of women and 43.06 per cent men considered women's contribution to decision making as medium followed by low (34.72 and 33.33%) and high (19.44 and 23.61%) respectively. A sizeable number (44.44%) were in the medium category followed by low (34.03%) and high (21.53%) from this area.

The pooled data of both the districts from Table 43 reveal that less than half (45.14%) of women and men (43.06%) were in the medium category. While, 36.11 per cent of women and 36.81 per cent of men were in the low category and 18.75 and 20.14 per cent of women and men in the high category respectively. On the whole, 44.04 per cent has considered women's contribution to decision making as medium followed by low (35.76%) and high (19.45%).

4.3.2.2 Social empowerment

A close observation of Table 43 shows that with regard to social empowerment the per cent of women in Adilabad were found to range from low (54.17%) to medium (43.06%). The same pattern was observed among men, in low (56.94%) and medium (40.28%). Only 2.77 per cent were in the high category. Over half (55.56%) of the respondents were in the low category followed by medium (41.67%) and high (2.77%).

With regard to respondents in West Godavari, it can be observed from Table 43, that, 43.05 per cent of women were in medium category followed by low (38.89%) and high (18.06%). Men viewed social empowerment of women to be low (40.28%) followed by medium (38.89%) and high (20.83%). On the whole, in the medium category 40.97 per cent of the respondents were found and 39.58 per cent in the low category and 20.14 per cent in the high category.

Overall results from Table 43 indicate that, nearly equal per cent i.e., 46.53 and 48.61 per cent of women and men viewed social empowerment of women as low followed by medium (43.06 and 39.58%) and high (10.42 and 11.81%) respectively. It can be concluded that nearly half (47.57%) were in low category followed by medium (41.32%) and high (11.11%).

4.3.2.3 Economic empowerment

Table 43 indicates that (58.33%) of women in Adilabad viewed their economic empowerment to be low followed by medium 36.11 per cent of them and high by only 5.56 per cent. While, over half (54.17%) of men reported the economic empowerment of women in their families to be low followed by medium (40.28%) and low by only 5.56 per cent. Just above half (53.47%) of them reported economic empowerment of women to be low followed by medium (38.19%) and high by 5.56 per cent only.

With regard to respondents in West Godavari, nearly half (47.22%) of women reported their economic empowerment to be medium and 44.44 per cent of men also viewed the same. Nearly an equal per cent i.e., 34.72 per cent of women and 36.11 per cent men were in the low category. The high category of economic empowerment was reported by 18.06 per cent women and 19.44 per cent men. On an average it can be concluded that 44.44 per cent of them viewed economic empowerment as medium followed by low (36.11%) and high (19.44%).

It can be concluded from Table 43 that 46.53 and 45.14 per cent of the women and men respectively viewed economic empowerment to be low. While, 40.28 per cent of women and 42.36 per cent of men considered economic empowerment as medium and 11.81 and 12.50 per cent of them viewed as high

respectively. On the whole 45.83, 41.32 and 12.15 per cent were in the low, medium, high category of economic empowerment respectively.

4.3.2.4 Political empowerment

A critical examination of the Table 43 explains that majority (66.67%) of women in Adilabad were in the low category followed by medium (30.55%) and high by only 2.78 per cent. While, 38.89 per cent of men were in the low category followed by medium (36.11%) and one-fourth in high category. Just above half (52.78%) of the respondents were in low category followed by one-third in medium category and 13.89 per cent in high category.

With regard to respondents in West Godavari it was found that 44.44 per cent of women were in low category followed by medium (41.57%) and only 13.89 per cent in high category. Among men 30.56 per cent in the medium category of political empowerment, one-third majority had low political empowerment and 27.78 per cent were in the high category. On the whole 41.67 per cent of them were in the medium category followed by low (37.50%) and high (20.83%) in this area.

The summary of the Table 43 indicates that above half (55.56%) of women had low political empowerment followed by medium (36.11%) and high by only 8.33 per cent. Among men 38.89 per cent had medium political empowerment followed by low (34.73%) and high empowerment (26.38%). On totality, 45.14 per cent of them reported to have low political empowerment followed by 37.50 per cent had medium political empowerment and high empowerment by 17.36 per cent only.

4.3.2.5 Legal empowerment

From the Table 43 it was evident that, majority (62.50%) of women from Adilabad were in the category of low legal empowerment followed by medium (34.72%) and high legal empowerment (2.78%). Just above half (52.78%) of men were found to be in the low category of legal empowerment followed by sizeable number (43.06%) in the medium category and 4.17 per cent were in the high category. On the whole, over half (57.64%) of the respondents from this area were

found to be in the low legal empowerment category followed by medium (38.89%) and only 3.47 per cent in the high legal empowerment category.

The data pertaining to respondents in West Godavari reveal that, 41.67 per cent of women and of men equally were in low and medium legal empowerment category respectively. Among women 37.50 per cent were in the medium category and 20.83 per cent were in the high category. While, one-third majority and one-fourth majority of men were in low and high categories respectively. On an average, 39.58 per cent of the respondents were found to fall in the medium category of legal empowerment followed by low legal empowerment (37.50%) and high (22.92%).

From the pooled data of legal empowerment it can be concluded that just above half (52.08%) of women were in the low legal empowerment category followed by medium (36.11%) and high (11.81%). Almost an equal per cent i.e., 43.06 and 42.36 per cent of men were in low and medium legal empowerment categories respectively and high (14.58%). On the whole nearly half (47.57%) of them were in the low category followed by medium (39.24%) and high (13.19%).

4.3.3 Differences with regard to Gender Empowerment Index and indicators of Gender Empowerment - ANOVA

4.3.3.1 Gender Empowerment Index

The perusal of Table 44 indicates a significant difference ($F= 44.88$) at 1 per cent level among the respondents regarding gender empowerment. Further, by examining the CD values, it was observed all the respondents statistically differed except the female and male respondents of West Godavari at 1 per cent level. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected.

4.3.3.2 Indicators of Gender Empowerment

4.3.3.2.1 Decision making

An overview of Table 44 indicates a significant difference ($F= 3.48$) at 5 per cent level among the respondents. Further the CD values point out that, the scores on decision making of women respondents in Adilabad differed significantly

Table 44: Difference with regard to Gender Empowerment Index and indicators of Gender Empowerment (ANOVA)

S. No.	Variable	Source	df	Sum of Squares	Mean sum of squares	F ratio	Means				CD values		
							Adilabad		West Godavari				
							Women	Men	Women	Men	0.05	0.01	
	Gender Empowerment Index	Treatments	3	1634.20	544.74	44.88**	65.19	67.73	70.09	71.45	1.13	1.49	
		Error	284	3446.94	12.13								
1	Decision making	Treatments	3	15.02	5.00	3.48*	19.64	19.69	20.06	20.17	0.39	0.51	
		Error	284	408.07	1.43								
2	Social empowerment	Treatments	3	14.13	4.71	7.01**	14.58	14.29	14.75	14.88	0.26	0.35	
		Error	284	190.63	0.67								
3	Economic empowerment	Treatments	3	19.99	6.66	34.91**	4.90	4.85	5.50	5.23	0.14	0.18	
		Error	284	54.21	0.19								
4	Political empowerment	Treatments	3	127.57	42.52	83.22**	8.30	9.68	8.66	9.88	0.23	0.30	
		Error	284	145.11	0.51								
5	Legal empowerment	Treatments	3	605.99	201.99	39.34**	17.76	19.22	21.12	21.28	0.74	0.97	
		Error	284	1458.17	5.13								

at 5 per cent level with female respondents and 1 per cent level with males respondents of West Godavari. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected.

4.3.3.2.2 Social empowerment

The perusal of Table 44 reveals that there was significant difference ($F=7.01$) at 1 per cent level among the respondent. Female respondents scores on social empowerment differed significantly at 5 per cent level with male respondents of West Godavari. While, female respondents of West Godavari were found to differ significantly with males in that area at 1 per cent level. Whereas, male respondents of both the districts differed with each other significantly at 1 per cent level. Therefore, the null hypothesis was rejected.

4.3.3.2.3 Economic empowerment

An observation of F value ($F=34.91$) reveals significant difference among the respondents on their economic empowerment scores however, the CD values point out that the scores of female and male respondents of Adilabad were found to differ significant with the male and female respondents of West Godavari at 1 per cent level. Therefore, the null hypothesis stated for these were rejected.

4.3.3.2.4 Political empowerment

Mean variation regarding the scores on political empowerment were examined by computing F-ratio and results were presented in Table 44. An observation of the Table 43 indicates significant difference ($F = 83.22$) at 1 per cent level employing a difference among the respondents with reference to political empowerment. Further, it was examined by CD values and found that respondents differed statistically with each other at 1 per cent level except among the male respondents. Hence, the null hypothesis was rejected.

4.3.3.2.5 Legal empowerment

The mean differences on scores of legal empowerment were examined by employing F-ratio (39.34), which turned out that the mean differences were statistically significant Table 44. Further, CD values revealed that mean scores of respondents of Adilabad statistically differed with other respondents West Godavari and among them selves at 1 per cent level. Hence, null hypothesis was rejected.

4.3.4 Mean differences with regard to Gender Empowerment and its indicators

Table 45 represents results pertaining to this aspect.

Table 45: Mean differences of gender empowerment and its indicators

Characteristics	Women (n=144)		Men (n=144)		Z value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Gender Empowerment	67.3696	3.9369	69.5894	4.2295	4.0494**
Gender empowerment indicators					
Decision Making	19.8535	1.1960	19.9326	1.2264	0.5541NS
Social empowerment	14.6638	0.8260	14.5855	0.8584	0.7891NS
Economic empowerment	5.2001	0.4942	5.0425	0.5087	2.6660**
Political empowerment	8.4813	0.7209	9.7807	0.7278	15.2220**
Legal empowerment	19.4410	2.6604	20.2482	2.6329	2.5879**

** Significant at (P<0.01)

::

NS : Not significant

Decision making and social empowerment had not shown significant difference while, economic empowerment, political empowerment and legal empowerment were found to differ significantly at 1 per cent level with Z calculated value of 2.667, 15.222 and 2.588 respectively. The respective mean scores obtained by women and men for economic empowerment were (5.20 and 5.04), political empowerment (8.48 and 9.78) and legal empowerment (19.441 and 20.248).

The 'Z' calculated value (4.40) was found to be significant at 1 per cent level for Gender Empowerment. The scores of women and men were 67.63 and 69.59, respectively.

4.3.5 Content analysis of gender empowerment

4.3.5.1 Decision making pattern

4.3.5.1.1 Decision making pattern of the respondents in Adilabad

4.3.5.1.1.1 Home related decisions

The home related decisions have been categorized under two areas, namely home management and child related decisions. Percentage distribution of women in various aspects of home decisions making process of the respondents in Adilabad are presented in Table 46.

46: Decision making pattern of the respondents in Adilabad

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
Women's contribution in decision making in home activities										
A. Home Management Decisions										
1	To cook a particular food.	60 [83.34]	7 [9.72]	5 [6.94]	62 [86.11]	8 [11.11]	2 [2.78]	122 [84.72]	15 [10.42]	7 [4.86]
2	Construction of new house.	2 [2.78]	22 [30.56]	48 [66.67]	7 [9.72]	16 [22.22]	49 [68.06]	9 [6.25]	38 [26.39]	97 [67.36]
3	Repairing or renovation of existing house	7 [9.72]	31 [43.06]	34 [47.22]	23 [31.94]	27 [37.50]	22 [30.56]	30 [20.83]	58 [40.28]	56 [38.89]
4	Construction of movable parts like Chula, Chakki etc.	60 [83.33]	0 [0.00]	12 [16.67]	66 [91.67]	0 [0.00]	6 [8.33]	126 [87.50]	0 [0.00]	18 [12.50]
5	Interior decoration.	62 [86.11]	0 [0.00]	10 [13.89]	58 [80.56]	0 [0.00]	14 [19.44]	120 [83.33]	0 [0.00]	24 [16.67]
6	Preparation household articles like baskets, mats.	66 [91.67]	0 [0.00]	6 [8.33]	70 [97.22]	0 [0.00]	2 [2.78]	136 [94.44]	0 [0.00]	8 [5.56]
7	Preparing processed food.	58 [80.56]	10 [13.89]	4 [5.56]	57 [79.17]	0 [0.00]	15 [20.83]	115 [79.86]	10 [6.95]	19 [13.19]
8	All Home Management Decisions	(62.40)	(13.89)	(23.61)	(68.05)	(10.12)	(21.83)	(65.28)	(12.01)	(22.71)
B. Child related decision										
1	Setting children's augments and fights	28 [38.89]	18 [25.00]	26 [36.11]	35 [48.61]	19 [26.39]	18 [25.00]	63 [43.75]	37 [25.69]	44 [30.56]
2	Deciding on children's purchases	14 [19.44]	38 [52.78]	20 [27.78]	15 [20.83]	35 [48.61]	22 [30.56]	29 [20.14]	73 [50.69]	42 [29.17]
3	Deciding on medical treatment	6 [8.33]	54 [75.00]	12 [16.67]	2 [2.78]	50 [69.44]	20 [27.78]	8 [5.56]	104 [72.22]	32 [22.22]
4	Deciding on the age of schooling	8 [11.11]	56 [77.78]	8 [11.11]	9 [12.50]	49 [68.06]	14 [19.44]	17 [11.81]	105 [72.92]	22 [15.27]
5	Level of education	1 [1.39]	54 [75.00]	17 [23.61]	0 [0.00]	45 [62.50]	27 [37.50]	1 [0.69]	99 [68.75]	44 [30.56]
6	Type of education	0 [0.00]	54 [75.00]	18 [25.00]	0 [0.00]	45 [62.50]	27 [37.50]	0 [0.00]	99 [68.75]	45 [31.25]

Contd....

205
265

Table 46 contd....

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)				Men (n = 72)				Pooled (n = 144)			
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Female	Male	Joint	Joint
7	Deciding about son/daughter	4 [5.56]	56 [77.78]	12 [16.67]	0 [0.00]	51 [70.83]	21 [29.17]	4 [2.78]	107 [74.31]	4 [2.78]	107 [74.31]	33 [22.91]	33 [22.91]
8	Marriage age of son/daughter	0 [0.00]	38 [52.78]	34 [47.22]	5 [6.95]	44 [61.11]	23 [31.94]	5 [3.47]	82 [56.94]	5 [3.47]	82 [56.94]	57 [39.59]	57 [39.59]
9	Selection of match for son/daughter's occupation	8 [11.11]	46 [63.89]	18 [25.00]	3 [4.17]	57 [79.17]	12 [16.67]	11 [7.64]	103 [71.53]	11 [7.64]	103 [71.53]	30 [20.83]	30 [20.83]
10	Amount of expenses to be done on marriage	4 [5.56]	42 [58.33]	26 [36.11]	0 [0.00]	40 [55.56]	32 [44.44]	4 [2.78]	82 [56.94]	4 [2.78]	82 [56.94]	58 [40.28]	58 [40.28]
11	All child related decisions	(10.14)	(63.33)	(26.53)	(9.58)	(60.42)	(30.00)	(9.86)	(61.88)	(9.86)	(61.88)	(28.26)	(28.26)
12	All Home-related decisions	(31.70)	(42.97)	(25.33)	(33.66)	(39.70)	(26.64)	(32.68)	(41.34)	(32.68)	(41.34)	(25.98)	(25.98)
Women's contribution in farm related decision making													
A. Agricultural Decisions													
1	What crops to plant	8 [11.11]	41 [56.94]	23 [31.94]	9 [12.50]	46 [63.89]	17 [23.61]	17 [11.80]	87 [60.42]	17 [11.80]	87 [60.42]	40 [27.78]	40 [27.78]
2	How many crops and area under each crop to plant	9 [12.50]	43 [59.72]	20 [27.78]	4 [5.56]	53 [73.61]	15 [20.83]	13 [9.03]	96 [66.67]	13 [9.03]	96 [66.67]	35 [24.31]	35 [24.31]
3	Whether to use own or improved seeds	0 [0.00]	50 [69.44]	22 [30.56]	13 [18.06]	42 [58.33]	17 [23.61]	13 [9.03]	92 [63.89]	13 [9.03]	92 [63.89]	39 [27.08]	39 [27.08]
4	Deciding about seed selection	10 [13.89]	38 [52.78]	24 [33.33]	12 [16.67]	47 [65.28]	13 [18.06]	22 [15.28]	85 [59.03]	22 [15.28]	85 [59.03]	37 [25.69]	37 [25.69]
5	Deciding on how much fertilizer to use	3 [4.17]	47 [65.28]	22 [30.56]	10 [13.89]	38 [52.78]	24 [33.33]	13 [9.03]	85 [59.03]	13 [9.03]	85 [59.03]	46 [31.94]	46 [31.94]
6	Who decided on what fertilizer to use	5 [6.94]	60 [83.33]	7 [9.73]	0 [0.00]	66 [91.67]	6 [8.33]	5 [3.46]	126 [87.50]	5 [3.46]	126 [87.50]	13 [9.03]	13 [9.03]
7	How many times the field should be irrigated.	5 [6.94]	49 [68.06]	18 [25.00]	4 [5.56]	60 [83.33]	8 [11.11]	9 [6.25]	109 [75.69]	9 [6.25]	109 [75.69]	26 [18.06]	26 [18.06]
8	Deciding upon construction of irrigation	7 [9.72]	54 [75.00]	11 [15.28]	8 [11.11]	45 [62.50]	19 [26.39]	15 [10.42]	99 [68.75]	15 [10.42]	99 [68.75]	30 [20.83]	30 [20.83]
9	Plant Protection	8 [11.11]	60 [83.33]	4 [5.56]	8 [11.11]	60 [83.33]	4 [5.56]	16 [11.11]	120 [83.33]	16 [11.11]	120 [83.33]	8 [5.56]	8 [5.56]

Contd....

Table 46 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
Women contribution in money related decision making										
A. Money management										
1	Keeping money	12 [16.67]	41 [56.94]	19 [26.39]	15 [20.83]	34 [47.22]	23 [31.94]	27 [18.75]	75 [52.08]	42 [29.17]
2	How much to spend on different items	12 [16.67]	45 [62.50]	15 [20.83]	15 [20.83]	33 [45.83]	24 [33.33]	27 [18.75]	78 [54.17]	39 [27.08]
	All money management	(16.67)	(59.72)	(23.61)	(20.83)	(46.53)	(32.64)	(18.765)	(53.13)	(28.12)
B. Capital transactions										
1	Buying(selling of land	13 [18.06]	46 [63.89]	13 [18.06]	10 [13.89]	37 [51.39]	25 [34.72]	23 [15.97]	83 [57.64]	38 [26.39]
2	Buying selling of livestock.	8 [11.11]	41 [56.94]	23 [31.34]	15 [20.83]	30 [41.67]	27 [37.50]	23 [15.97]	71 [49.31]	50 [34.72]
	All capital transaction decisions	(14.58)	(60.42)	(25.00)	(17.56)	(46.53)	(36.11)	(15.97)	(53.47)	(30.56)
C. Purchasing farm inputs										
1	Buying farm inputs	11 [15.28]	52 [72.22]	9 [12.50]	11 [15.28]	48 [66.67]	13 [18.06]	22 [15.28]	100 [69.44]	22 [15.28]
2	Buying farm implements	7 [9.72]	47 [65.28]	18 [25.00]	7 [9.72]	51 [70.83]	14 [19.44]	14 [9.72]	98 [68.06]	32 [22.22]
	All purchasing farm inputs	(12.50)	(68.75)	(18.75)	(12.50)	(68.7)	(18.75)	(12.50)	(68.75)	(18.75)
D. Purchasing necessary items										
1	Buying food materials(household items	16 [22.22]	36 [50.00]	20 [27.78]	17 [3.61]	28 [38.89]	27 [37.50]	33 [22.92]	64 [44.44]	47 [32.64]
2	Buying clothing and how much to spend	26 [36.11]	23 [31.94]	23 [31.94]	35 [48.61]	26 [36.11]	11 [15.28]	61 [42.36]	49 [34.03]	34 [23.61]

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208

Table 46 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
3	Buying household durable.	42 [58.33]	20 [27.78]	10 [13.89]	45 [62.50]	21 [29.17]	6 [8.33]	87 [60.41]	41 [28.47]	16 [11.12]
	All purchasing necessary items	(38.89)	(36.57)	(24.54)	(44.91)	(34.72)	(20.37)	(41.89)	(35.65)	(22.46)
E. Disposal of farm produce										
1	Selling of food grains	20 [27.78]	26 [36.11]	26 [36.11]	24 [33.32]	25 [34.72]	23 [15.97]	44 [30.56]	51 [35.42]	49 [34.03]
2	Selling of vegetables	49 [68.06]	16 [22.22]	7 [9.72]	38 [52.78]	15 [20.83]	19 [26.39]	87 [60.42]	31 [21.53]	26 [18.05]
3	Selling of small animals	45 [62.50]	19 [26.39]	8 [11.11]	36 [50.00]	15 [20.83]	21 [29.17]	81 [56.25]	34 [23.61]	29 [20.14]
	All disposals of farm produce	(52.78)	(28.24)	(18.98)	(45.37)	(25.46)	(29.17)	(49.07)	(26.86)	(24.07)
F. Disposal of home produce										
		34 (47.22)	29 [40.28]	9 [12.50]	32 (44.44)	26 [36.11]	14 (19.44)	66 (45.83)	55 (38.19)	23 (15.98)
G. Intreneurial capital transactions										
		8 [11.11]	50 [69.44]	14 [19.45]	5 [6.94]	55 [76.39]	12 [16.67]	13 [9.02]	105 [72.92]	26 [18.06]
H. Borrowing loans										
1	Decision of taking loans	11 [15.28]	48 [66.67]	13 [18.05]	8 [11.11]	50 [69.44]	14 [19.45]	19 [13.19]	98 [68.06]	27 [18.75]
2	Decision of repaying.	9 [12.50]	48 [66.67]	15 [20.83]	16 [22.22]	41 [56.94]	15 [20.83]	25 [17.36]	89 [61.81]	30 [20.83]
		(13.89)	(66.67)	(19.44)	(16.67)	(63.19)	(20.14)	(15.28)	(64.93)	(19.79)
I. Saving and other capital transactions										
1	Deciding on manures of saving	8 [11.11]	52 [72.22]	12 [16.67]	10 [13.89]	55 [76.38]	7 [9.73]	18 [12.50]	107 [74.31]	19 [13.19]

Contd....

Table 46 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
2	Buying jewelry and other movable property	9 [12.50]	37 [51.39]	26 [36.11]	12 [16.67]	25 [34.72]	35 [48.61]	21 [14.58]	62 [43.06]	61 [42.36]
3	Selling jewelry and other movable property	3 [4.17]	30 [41.67]	39 [59.17]	10 [13.89]	27 [37.50]	35 [48.61]	13 [9.03]	57 [39.58]	74 [51.39]
4	All savings and Capital transactions All money related decisions	(6.94) (25.07)	(41.32) (51.61)	(26.74) (23.32)	(11.11) (26.39)	(37.15) (46.93)	(26.74) (26.68)	(9.03) (25.73)	(39.24) (49.27)	(26.73) (25.00)
Women contribution socio-religious decision making										
A. Inter household exchange										
1	Giving and taking small non-interest loans	60 [83.33]	9 [12.50]	3 [4.17]	61 [84.72]	11 [15.28]	0 [0.00]	121 [84.03]	20 [13.89]	3 [2.08]
2	Giving and taking small amount of grains(seasonal vegetables	58 [80.56]	10 [13.89]	4 [5.55]	55 (76.39)	12 [16.67]	5 [6.94]	113 [78.47]	22 [15.28]	9 [6.25]
3	Giving small amount in cash or kind to a visiting daughter of neighbour	38 [52.78]	19 [20.83]	15 [20.83]	29 [40.28]	30 [41.67]	13 [18.06]	67 [46.53]	49 [34.03]	28 [19.44]
4	Gifts to be given	18 [25.00]	33 [45.83]	21 [29.17]	19 [26.39]	28 [38.89]	25 [24.72]	37 [25.69]	61 [42.36]	46 [31.94]
	All Inter household exchange	(60.42)	(24.65)	(14.93)	(56.94)	(28.13)	(14.93)	(58.68)	(26.39)	(14.93)
B. Short social travel										
1	Visit to a nearby mela.	18 (25.00)	40 (55.56)	14 (19.44)	15 (20.83)	27 (37.50)	30 (41.67)	33 (22.92)	67 (4652)	44 (30.56)

Contd....

Table 46 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
2	Attending courtesy calls.	46 (63.89)	14 (19.44)	12 (16.67)	36 (50.00)	13 (18.06)	23 (31.94)	82 (56.94)	27 (18.75)	35 (24.31)
	All short social travel decisions	(44.44)	(37.50)	(18.06)	(35.42)	(27.78)	(36.80)	(39.93)	(32.64)	(27.43)
C. Socio religious obligations										
1	When to call and send back daughters to their in-laws.	32 (44.44)	12 (16.67)	28 (38.89)	25 (34.72)	24 (33.33)	23 (31.94)	57 (39.58)	36 (25.00)	51 (35.42)
2	Attending marriage(birth(death ceremonies.	36 (50.00)	20 (27.78)	16 (22.22)	42 (58.33)	22 (30.56)	8 (11.11)	78 (54.17)	42 (8.33)	24 (16.67)
3	Kind and amount of charity to be given.	42 (58.33)	10 (13.89)	20 (27.78)	36 (50.00)	17 (23.61)	19 (26.39)	78 (54.17)	27 (18.75)	39 (27.08)
4	Giving donations to school organizations.	5 (6.94)	48 (66.67)	19 (26.39)	15 (20.83)	36 (50.00)	21 (29.11)	20 (13.89)	84 (58.33)	40 (27.78)
5	Attending religious gatherings.	16 (22.22)	29 (40.28)	27 (37.50)	12 (16.67)	49 (68.06)	11 (15.28)	28 (19.44)	78 (54.17)	38 (26.39)
6	Attending religious functions.	16 (22.22)	30 (41.67)	26 (36.11)	18 (25.00)	42 (58.33)	12 (16.67)	34 (23.61)	72 (50.00)	38 (26.39)
7	All socio Religious obligations	(34.03)	(34.49)	(31.48)	(34.26)	• (43.98)	(21.76)	(34.14)	(39.24)	(26.62)
8	All socio-Religious decisions	(44.56)	(31.71)	(23.73)	(42.01)	(35.99)	(21.99)	(43.29)	(33.85)	(22.86)

Home management decisions: As it appears from Table 46, women substantially participated in decision making pertaining to home management decisions. Decisions regarding cooking a particular food, construction of, chula, chakhi, interior decoration, preparing household articles and preparing processed food was made by almost all the women. Women reported to take major decisions in these areas while men also reported that, the major decisions regarding these aspects were taken by their wives. In case of construction of new house, repairing or renovation of existing house the decision were made by males and jointly. Results indicate 26.39 per cent of men took decisions regarding construction of new house and 67.36 per cent as joint. The decision taken by women accounted to only 6.25 per cent. With regard to construction / renovation/ repairing of existing house 40.28 per cent of men took the decisions followed by joint (38.89%) and women (20.83%).

The overall home management decision making pattern as reported by women shows that 62.50 per cent of the decisions were taken by women followed by joint (23.61%) and men (13.89%). While men also stated the same. Just above two third (68.05%) of the home management decisions were taken by women in their families followed by joint (21.83%) and men (10.12%). On the whole 65.28 per cent of the home management decisions were taken by women and joint decisions by 22.71 per cent. Only 12.01 per cent of the decisions were taken by men.

Child related decisions: Table 46 shows that the major decision making role of women (43.75%) was found only in setting children's arguments and fights. The data reveals that 50.09 per cent of men decided about children's purchases followed by joint 29.17 per cent and women 20.14 per cent. Men were more to decide about medical treatment (72.22%), deciding on the age of schooling (72.92%), deciding on sons/daughters occupation (74.31%), selection of match for son / daughter (71.53%). Joint decisions was favourable in deciding on children's purchases (29.17%), level of education (30.56%), type of education (31.25%), marriage age of son or daughter (39.59%) and amount of expenses to be done on marriage (40.28%). The findings reveal that 61.88 per cent of men were making decisions or all child - related aspects. Joint decisions making were found in 28.26 per cent cases and women (9.86%).

The data of all home - related decisions showed that 41.34, 32.68 and 25.98 per cent, men, women and joint decisions were made respectively in this area.

4.3.5.1.1.2 Farm -related decisions

The areas of decision making in farm activities have been subdivided into three areas, namely, agricultural, labour allocation and live-stock decisions. The percentage distribution of the responses of women and men were presented in Table 46.

Agricultural Decisions: As it appears from Table 46, men took agricultural decisions in 68.40 per cent cases followed by joint decisions in 22.02 per cent cases. Only 9.58 per cent women were making decisions pertaining to agriculture. Women and men responded almost similarly. As reported by women agricultural decisions according to response of women were dominated by men in their families i.e., 67.78 per cent were taken by men followed by joint (23.61%) and women (8.61%). Whereas men also stated that 69.03 per cent of the agricultural decisions were taken by men in their families and joint decisions by 20.41 per cent. Only 10.56 per cent of the decisions were taken by women.

Labour allocation decisions: As regards the labour allocation decisions, Table 46 indicates that 47.92, 34.26 and 17.82 per cent decisions were made by men, joint and women respectively. Women reported that over half (54.63%) of labour allocation decisions were made by men followed by joint (28.24%) and women. (17.13%). According to the responses given by men 41.20 per cent of the decisions were taken by men in their families followed by joint (40.28%) and women (18.52%).

Live-stock related decisions: As it appears from Table 46, 53.57 per cent men made livestock related decisions independently. Joint decisions were made in 31.55 per cent cases followed by independent decisions made by women in 14.88 per cent cases. The responses of women and men revealed that 54.96 and 52.18 per cent of live stock related decisions were made by men independently followed by joint (34.13 and 28.97%) and women (10.91 and 18.85%) respectively.

The findings presented in preceding paragraphs indicated that men dominated women in decisions related to all the three sub-areas of farm related decisions i.e., 60.14 per cent of the decisions were made by men, making joint decisions was also found a favourable practice in little less than one third of the respondents (27.19%). The decision making pattern was almost similar as per the responses of women and men. Women stated that 61.32 per cent of farm related decisions were taken by men followed by joint (27.99%) and women (10.69%). While, in the families of men also majority (58.96%) of the farm related decisions were made independently by men and 26.39 per cent of the decisions were made jointly. Only 14.65 per cent of the decisions were made by women independently.

4.3.5.1.1.3 Money-related decisions

This area of decisions were sub-divided into 9 aspects. The data on each particular aspect were presented in Table 46. With regard to money management, as reported by women 59.72 per cent of the decisions were made by men followed by joint (23.61%) and women (16.67%). While men reported that 46.53 per cent of the money management decisions were taken by men independently in their families. Joint decisions in case of 32.64 per cent and women independently in 20.83 per cent cases. The overall money management decisions were dominated by men (53.13%) followed by joint (28.12%) and women (18.75%).

Decision making for capital transaction was dominated by men (60.42%) as per the responses of women, followed by one fourth joint and 14.58 per cent by women. The responses given by men reveal that 46.53 per cent of the capital transaction decisions were taken by men independently and 36.11 per cent jointly. While 17.36 per cent of the decisions were made by women. The responses of women and men show that capital transaction decisions were made by men (53.47%) was a joint venture in 30.56 per cent cases and 15.97 per cent by women independently.

Decisions in case of purchasing farm inputs was similar for the responses of women and men. Just over one third majority (68.75%) of decisions with regard to purchase of farm inputs was taken by men followed by joint (18.75%) and 12.54 per cent by women independently.

Nearly equal per cent i.e., 38.89 and 36.57 per cent of the decisions regarding purchasing of necessary items like food materials, clothing and other household durables were made by women and men respectively. Joint decisions were taken in nearly one fourth of the cases (24.54%). Men reported that 44.91 per cent of these decisions were taken by women followed by men (34.72%) and joint decisions in case of 20.37 per cent. On the whole 41.89 per cent of the decisions were taken by women, 35.65 per cent of the decisions by men and 22.46 per cent jointly.

Disposal of farm produce were also made by women mostly. Just over half (52.78%) of women reported to make decisions in their families on disposal of farm produce followed by men (28.24%) and joint (18.98%). According to responses given by men 45.37 per cent of the decisions were made by women. While, 29.17 and 25.46 per cent of the decisions on disposal of farm produce were made jointly and by men respectively. On totality almost half (49.07%) of the decisions were made by men, 26.86 per cent by men and 24.07 per cent jointly.

According to the responses given by women 47.22 per cent of the decisions on disposal of home produce were made by women and men (40.28%). Only 12.50 per cent of the decisions were made jointly. While men reported that 44.44 per cent of the decisions were made by women followed by men (36.11%) and joint decisions by 19.44 per cent. On an average, women made independent decisions in 45.83 per cent cases followed by men (38.19%) and jointly in 15.98 cases.

Entrepreneurial capital transactions decisions were made by men mostly. In the families of women respondents, 69.44 per cent of these decisions were made by men independently. While 19.45 per cent and 11.11 per cent decisions were made jointly and by women respectively. More than three quarters (76.39%) of men reported to take independent decision on entrepreneurial capital transactions followed by joint (16.67%) and only 6.94 per cent by women. Entrepreneurial capital transactions were dominated by men (72.92%) followed by joint (18.06%) and women (9.02%).

Two thirds (66.67%) of women reported that men independently take decisions on borrowing loans in their families. While, 19.94 per cent were taken

jointly and women independently (13.89%). Among the families of men 63.19 per cent of the decisions on this were taken by men only followed by joint (20.14%) and women (16.67%). On the whole 64.93 per cent of the decisions were made by men followed by joint decisions (19.79%) and 15.28 per cent by women.

The decisions on savings and other capital transaction were made by men (41.32%) followed by joint (26.74%) and women only (6.94%) as per the responses of women. Above and third (37.15%) of men stated that they decided on manner of saving and other capital transactions and 26.74 per cent were made jointly. Only 11.11 per cent of the decisions were made by women in their families. Decisions on all the savings and capital transactions were made by men in 39.24 per cent of the cases and 26.73 per cent jointly, women made decisions only in 9.03 per cent of the cases.

The overall decision making pattern of money related decisions were made by men in 51.61 per cent of men as reported by women in their families. Women took decisions in 25.07 per cent cases and joint decision were taken in 23.32 cases. In the families of men 46.93 per cent of the decisions were made by men independently, 26.68 per cent jointly and almost an equal per cent i.e., 26.39 by women. On an average almost half i.e., 49.27 per cent of the decisions were made by men independently followed by women and joint decision almost by an equal per cent i.e., 25.73 and 25.00 respectively.

4.3.5.1.1.4 Socio-religious decisions

The socio-religious decisions have been categorized under there sub-areas of inter household exchange, short social travels and social and religious obligations. The data have been presented as under in Table 46.

The data on inter household exchange shows that, women made substantial contribution i.e., 60.42 per cent as reported by women and 56.94 per cent as reported by men. On the whole, 58.68 per cent of the decisions were made by women followed by men (26.39%) and jointly (14.93%).

About 44.44 per cent of decisions on short social travel as reported by women were made by women independently followed by men (37.50%) and joint (18.06%). Men reported that 35.42 per cent of the decisions in their families were

Table 47: Decision making pattern of the respondents in West Godavari

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
Women's contribution in decision making in home activities										
A. Home Management Decisions										
1	To cook a particular food.	72 [100.00]	--	--	68 [94.44]	4 [5.56]	--	140 [97.22]	4 [2.78]	--
2	Construction of new house.	7 [9.72]	15 [20.83]	50 [69.44]	8 [11.11]	14 [19.44]	50 [69.44]	15 [10.42]	29 [20.14]	100 [69.44]
3	Repairing or renovation of existing house	8 [11.11]	26 [36.11]	38 [52.78]	19 [26.39]	28 [38.89]	25 [34.72]	27 [18.75]	54 [37.50]	63 [43.75]
4	Construction of movable parts like Chula, Chakki etc.	72 [100.00]	--	--	72 [100.00]	--	--	144 [100.00]	--	--
5	Interior decoration.	72 [100.00]	--	--	58 [80.56]	--	14 [19.94]	130 [90.28]	--	14 [9.72]
6	Preparation household articles like baskets, mats.	72 [100.00]	--	--	72 [100.00]	--	--	144 [100.00]	--	--
7	Preparing processed food.	63 [87.50]	--	9 [12.50]	62 [86.11]	--	10 [13.89]	125 [86.81]	--	19 [13.19]
8	All Home Management Decisions	(72.62)	(8.13)	(19.25)	(17.23)	(9.13)	(19.64)	(71.92)	(8.63)	(19.45)
B. Child related decision										
1	Setting children's augments and fights	40 [55.56]	8 [11.11]	24 [23.33]	35 [48.61]	18 [25.00]	19 [26.39]	75 [52.08]	26 [18.06]	43 [29.86]
2	Deciding on children's purchases	21 [29.17]	30 [41.67]	21 [29.17]	11 [15.28]	47 [65.28]	14 [19.44]	32 [22.22]	77 [53.47]	35 [24.31]
3	Deciding on medical treatment	5 [6.94]	47 [65.28]	20 [27.78]	--	46 [63.89]	26 [36.11]	5 [3.47]	93 [64.58]	46 [31.94]
4	Deciding on the age of schooling	7 [9.72]	50 [69.44]	15 [20.83]	11 [12.58]	45 [62.50]	16 [22.22]	18 [12.50]	95 [65.97]	31 [21.53]

Contd....

Table 47 contd....

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
5	Level of education	6 [8.33]	45 [62.50]	21 [29.17]	--	57 [79.17]	15 [20.83]	6 [4.17]	102 [70.83]	36 [25.00]
6	Type of education	10 [13.89]	49 [68.06]	13 [18.06]	--	51 [70.83]	21 [29.17]	10 [6.94]	100 [69.44]	34 [23.62]
7	Deciding about son/daughter occupation	8 [11.11]	42 [58.33]	22 [30.56]	--	53 [73.16]	19 [26.39]	8 [5.56]	95 [65.97]	41 [28.47]
8	Marriage age of son/daughter	6 [8.33]	37 [51.39]	29 [40.28]	--	38 [52.78]	34 [47.22]	6 [4.17]	75 [52.08]	63 [43.75]
9	Selection of match for son/daughter	--	42 [58.33]	30 [41.67]	-	47 [65.28]	25 [34.72]	-	89 [61.89]	55 [38.19]
10	Amount of expenses to be done on marriage	--	41 [56.94]	31 [43.06]	5 [6.94]	33 [45.83]	34 [47.22]	5 [3.47]	74 [51.39]	65 [45.14]
11	All child related decisions	(14.31)	(54.31)	(31.39)	(8.61)	(60.42)	(30.97)	(11.46)	(57.36)	(31.78)
12	All Home-related decisions	(38.32)	(35.29)	(26.39)	(34.40)	(39.30)	(26.30)	(36.36)	(37.29)	(26.35)
Contribution of women in farm related decision making										
A. Agricultural Decisions										
1	What crops to plant	10 [13.89]	40 [55.56]	22 [30.56]	14 [19.44]	40 [55.56]	18 [25.03]	24 [16.67]	80 [55.56]	40 [27.77]
2	How many crops and area under each crop to plant	14 [19.44]	39 [54.17]	19 [26.39]	10 [13.89]	40 [55.56]	22 [30.56]	24 [16.67]	79 [54.86]	41 [28.47]
3	Whether to use own or improved seeds	7 [9.72]	40 [55.56]	25 [34.72]	13 [18.06]	38 [52.78]	21 [29.17]	20 [13.89]	78 [54.17]	46 [31.94]

Contd....

Table 47 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
4	Deciding about seed selection	19 [26.39]	33 [45.83]	20 [27.78]	13 [18.06]	40 [55.56]	19 [26.39]	32 [22.22]	73 [50.69]	39 [27.08]
5	Deciding on how much fertilizer to use	4 [5.56]	36 [50.00]	32 [44.44]	7 [9.72]	48 [66.67]	17 [23.61]	11 [7.64]	84 [58.33]	49 [34.03]
6	Who decided on what fertilizer to use	2 [2.78]	62 [86.11]	8 [11.11]	--	70 [97.22]	2 [2.78]	2 [1.39]	132 [91.67]	10 [6.94]
7	How many times the field should be irrigated.	10 [13.89]	50 [69.44]	12 [16.67]	7 [9.73]	55 [76.38]	10 [13.89]	17 [11.81]	105 [72.92]	22 [15.27]
8	Deciding upon construction of irrigation	9 [12.50]	36 [50.00]	27 [37.50]	8 [11.11]	49 [68.06]	15 [20.83]	17 [11.81]	85 [59.03]	42 [29.17]
9	Plant Protection	2 [2.78]	69 [95.83]	1 [1.39]	5 [6.94]	65 [90.28]	2 [2.78]	7 [4.86]	134 [93.06]	3 [2.08]
10	Post-harvest including harvesting decisions	2 [2.78]	43 [59.72]	27 [37.50]	7 [9.72]	39 [54.17]	26 [36.11]	9 [6.25]	82 [56.94]	53 [36.81]
11	All agricultural decisions	(10.97)	(62.20)	(26.81)	(11.67)	(67.22)	(21.11)	(11.32)	(64.72)	(23.96)
B. Labour allocation decisions										
1	Arranging wage labour.	10 [13.89]	38 [52.78]	24 [33.33]	6 [13.89]	34 [47.22]	32 [44.44]	16 [11.11]	72 [50.00]	56 [38.89]
2	Deciding others work outside home	11 [15.28]	40 [55.56]	21 [29.17]	8 [11.11]	40 [55.56]	24 [33.33]	19 [13.19]	80 [55.56]	45 [31.25]
3	Deciding own work outside home.	8 [11.11]	33 [45.83]	31 [43.06]	10 [13.89]	41 [56.94]	21 [29.17]	18 [12.50]	74 [51.38]	52 [36.12]
4	All labour allocation decisions	(13.43)	(51.39)	(35.18)	(11.11)	(53.24)	(35.65)	(12.27)	(52.31)	(35.42)

Contd....

Table 47 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
C. Livestock related decisions										
1	Types of livestock to be kept.	16 [22.22]	31 [43.05]	25 [34.72]	6 [8.33]	37 [51.39]	29 [40.28]	22 [15.28]	68 [47.22]	54 [37.50]
2	Number of livestock to be kept.	7 [9.72]	29 [40.28]	36 [50.00]	12 [16.67]	28 [38.89]	32 [44.44]	19 [13.19]	57 [39.59]	68 [47.22]
3	Feeding of balanced ration.	13 [18.06]	41 [56.94]	18 [25.00]	4 [5.56]	50 [69.44]	18 [25.00]	17 [11.81]	91 [63.19]	36 [25.00]
4	Vaccination of animals.	12 [16.67]	39 [54.17]	21 [29.17]	8 [11.11]	45 [62.50]	19 [26.39]	20 [13.88]	84 [58.35]	40 [21.77]
5	Castration.	10 [13.89]	61 [84.72]	1 [1.39]	12 [16.67]	38 [52.78]	22 [30.56]	22 [15.28]	99 [68.75]	23 [15.97]
6	Artificial insemination.	8 [11.11]	46 [63.89]	18 [25.00]	43 [59.72]	22 [50.56]	7 [9.72]	51 [35.92]	68 [47.22]	25 [17.36]
7	Treatment of sick animals.	15 [20.83]	50 [69.44]	7 [9.72]	9 [12.50]	38 [52.78]	25 [34.72]	24 [16.67]	88 [61.12]	32 [22.23]
8	All livestock decisions	(16.07)	(58.93)	(25.00)	(18.65)	(51.19)	(30.16)	(17.36)	(55.06)	(27.58)
	All farm related decisions	(13.13)	(59.44)	(27.43)	(14.03)	(59.51)	(26.46)	(13.58)	(59.48)	(26.94)
Women contribution in money related decision making										
A. Money management										
1	Keeping money	24 [33.33]	36 [50.00]	12 [16.67]	21 [29.17]	26 [36.11]	25 [34.72]	45 [31.25]	62 [43.06]	37 [25.69]

Contd....

Table 4/ contd...

S.No	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
2	How much to spend on different items	14 [19.44]	31 [43.06]	27 [37.50]	22 [30.56]	28 [38.88]	22 [30.56]	36 [25.00]	59 [40.97]	47 [32.64]
	All money management decisions	(26.39)	(46.53)	(27.08)	(29.86)	(37.50)	(32.64)	(28.13)	(42.01)	(29.16)
B. Capital transactions										
1	Buying(selling) of land	18 [25.00]	43 [59.72]	11 [15.28]	21 [29.17]	26 [36.11]	25 [34.72]	39 [27.08]	69 [47.92]	36 [25.00]
2	Buying selling of livestock.	11 [15.28]	29 [40.28]	32 [44.44]	23 [31.94]	25 [34.72]	24 [33.33]	34 [23.61]	54 [37.50]	56 [38.89]
	All capital transactions	(20.14)	(50.00)	(29.86)	(30.56)	(35.42)	(34.02)	(25.35)	(42.71)	(31.94)
C. Purchasing farm inputs										
1	Buying farm inputs	9 [12.50]	52 [72.22]	11 [15.28]	19 [26.39]	27 [37.50]	26 [36.11]	28 [19.45]	79 [54.86]	37 [25.69]
2	Buying farm implements	21 [29.17]	44 [61.11]	7 [9.72]	9 [12.50]	42 [58.33]	21 [29.17]	30 [20.83]	86 [59.72]	28 [19.45]
	All purchasing farm inputs	(20.83)	(66.67)	(12.50)	(19.44)	(47.92)	(32.64)	(20.14)	(57.29)	(22.57)
D. Purchasing necessary items										
1	Buying food materials(household items	22 [30.56]	34 [47.22]	16 [22.22]	21 [29.17]	39 [54.17]	12 [16.67]	43 [29.86]	73 [50.69]	28 [19.45]
2	Buying clothing and how much to spend	29 [40.28]	25 [34.72]	18 [25.00]	20 [27.78]	42 [58.33]	10 [13.89]	49 [34.03]	67 [46.52]	28 [19.44]
3	Buying household durable.	55	10	7	52	15	5	107	25	12
		[76.39]	[13.89]	[9.72]	[72.22]	[20.83]	[6.95]	[74.31]	[17.36]	[8.33]
	All purchasing necessary items	(49.07)	(31.94)	(18.99)	(43.06)	(44.44)	(12.50)	(46.06)	(38.19)	(15.75)

Contd....

Table 47 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
E. Disposal of farm produce										
1	Selling of food grains	28 [38.88]	12 [16.67]	32 [44.44]	30 [41.66]	11 [15.28]	31 [43.06]	56 [38.89]	23 [15.97]	63 [43.75]
2	Selling of vegetables	35 [48.61]	22 [30.56]	15 [20.83]	32 [44.44]	19 [26.39]	21 [29.17]	67 [46.54]	43 [29.86]	36 [25.00]
3	Selling of small animals	51 [70.83]	15 [20.83]	6 [8.34]	49 [68.06]	21 [29.17]	2 [2.78]	100 [69.44]	36 [25.00]	8 [5.56]
	All disposal of farm produce	(52.78)	(22.69)	(24.53)	(51.39)	(23.61)	(25.00)	(51.62)	(23.61)	(24.77)
F. Disposal of home produce										
		34 (47.22)	22 (30.56)	16 [22.22]	33 (45.83)	21 [29.17]	18 [25.00]	67 (46.53)	43 (29.86)	34 (34.61)
G. Entrepreneurial capital transactions										
		10 [13.89]	54 [75.00]	8 [11.11]	5 [6.94]	60 [83.33]	7 [9.73]	15 [10.42]	114 [79.16]	15 [10.42]
H. Borrowing loans										
1	Decision of taking loans	15 [20.83]	45 [62.50]	12 [16.67]	16 [22.22]	46 [63.89]	10 [13.89]	31 [21.53]	91 [63.19]	22 [15.28]
2	Decision of repaying.	16 [22.22]	41 [56.94]	15 [20.83]	15 [20.83]	50 [69.44]	7 [9.73]	31 [21.53]	91 [63.19]	22 [15.28]
		(21.53)	(59.72)	(18.75)	(21.53)	(66.67)	(11.81)	(21.53)	(63.19)	(15.28)
I. Saving and other capital transactions										
1	Deciding on manures of saving	15 [20.83]	50 [69.44]	7 [9.73]	12 [16.67]	56 [77.78]	4 [5.55]	27 [18.75]	106 [73.61]	11 [7.64]
2	Buying jewelry and other movable property	10 [13.89]	38 [52.78]	24 [33.33]	14 [19.44]	34 [47.22]	24 [33.33]	24 [16.67]	72 [50.00]	48 [33.33]

Contd.....

Table 47 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
3	Selling jewelry and other movable property	15 [20.83]	25 [34.72]	32 [44.44]	16 [22.22]	30 [41.67]	26 [36.11]	31 [21.53]	55 [38.19]	58 [40.28]
4	All savings and Capital transactions	(18.52)	(52.31)	(29.17)	(19.44)	(55.56)	(25.00)	(18.98)	(53.94)	(27.08)
	All money related decisions	(31.58)	(45.91)	(22.51)	(31.43)	(45.17)	(23.39)	(31.51)	(45.54)	(22.95)
Women contribution socio-religious decision making										
A. Inter household exchange										
1	Giving and taking small non-interest loans	65 [90.28]	7 [9.72]	--	64 [88.89]	8 [11.11]	0 [0.00]	129 [89.58]	15 [10.42]	0 [0.00]
2	Giving and taking small amount of grains(seasonal vegetables)	62 [86.11]	7 [9.72]	3 [4.17]	60 [83.33]	12 [16.67]	0 [0.00]	122 [84.72]	19 [13.19]	3 [2.09]
3	Giving small amount in cash or kind to a visiting daughter of neighbour	42 [58.34]	15 [20.83]	15 [20.83]	37 [51.39]	21 [29.17]	14 [19.44]	79 [54.86]	36 [25.00]	29 [20.14]
4	Gifts to be given	45 [62.50]	20 [27.78]	7 [9.72]	15 [20.83]	44 [61.11]	13 [18.06]	60 [41.67]	64 [44.44]	20 [13.89]
		(74.31)	(17.01)	(8.68)	(61.11)	(29.51)	(9.38)	(67.71)	(23.26)	(9.03)
B. Short social travel										
1	Visit to a nearby mela.	19 [26.39]	31 [43.06]	22 [20.56]	20 [27.78]	22 [30.56]	30 [41.67]	39 [27.08]	53 [36.80]	52 [36.12]
2	Attending courtesies calls.	42 [58.33]	13 [18.06]	17 [23.61]	37 [51.39]	17 [23.61]	18 [25.00]	79 [54.86]	30 [20.83]	35 [24.31]
		(42.36)	(30.56)	(27.08)	(39.58)	(27.08)	(33.34)	(40.97)	(28.82)	(30.21)
C. Socio religious obligations										
1	When to call and send back daughters to their in-laws.	23 [31.94]	27 [37.50]	22 [30.56]	34 [47.22]	17 [23.61]	21 [29.17]	57 [39.58]	44 [30.56]	43 [29.86]
2	Attending marriage(birth/death ceremonies.	42 [58.34]	15 [20.83]	15 [20.83]	41 [56.94]	20 [27.78]	11 [15.28]	83 [57.63]	35 [24.31]	26 [18.06]
3	Kind and amount of charity to be given.	36 [50.00]	18 [25.00]	18 [25.00]	44 [61.11]	16 [22.22]	12 [16.67]	80 [55.56]	34 [23.61]	30 [20.83]

Contd....

Table 47 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n = 72)			Men (n = 72)			Pooled (n = 144)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
4	Giving donations to school organizations.	11 [15.28]	48 [66.67]	13 [18.05]	11 [15.28]	50 [69.44]	11 [15.28]	22 [15.27]	98 [68.06]	24 [16.67]
5	Attending religious gatherings.	34 [47.22]	25 [34.72]	13 [18.06]	12 [16.67]	48 [66.66]	12 [16.67]	46 [31.94]	73 [50.69]	25 [17.37]
6	Attending religious functions.	24 [33.33]	36 [50.00]	12 [16.67]	18 [25.00]	45 [62.50]	9 [12.50]	42 [29.17]	81 [56.25]	21 [14.58]
7	All socio Religious obligations	(39.35)	(39.12)	(21.53)	(37.04)	(45.37)	(17.59)	(38.19)	(42.24)	(19.57)
8	All socio Religious decisions	(51.50)	(30.32)	(18.18)	(45.49)	(37.04)	(17.48)	(48.50)	(33.68)	(17.82)

Figures in parentheses are percentages

made by women and 36.80 per cent jointly. While, men took decisions in 27.78 per cent of the cases. On the whole 39.93 per cent of the decisions were made by women followed by men (32.64%) and jointly (27.43%) on short social travels.

The data also reveals that 34.03 per cent of the socio-religious obligation decisions were made by women. The decisions made by men and joint were also almost similar i.e., 34.49 and 31.48 per cent respectively as reported by women. According to the responses given by men 43.98 per cent of the decisions were taken by men independently and 34.26 per cent by women independently. While, joint venture decisions were made in case of 21.76 per cent. On an average 39.24, 34.14 and 26.62 per cent of socio - religious obligations decisions were taken by men, women and joint respectively.

The data on overall decision-making pattern under socio-religious decisions indicated that sizeable number (43.29%) of women participated in decision making independently, one third (33.85%) by men independently and 22.86 per cent jointly.

4.3.5.1.2 Decisions-making pattern of the respondents in West Godavari

4.3.5.1.2.1 Home-related decisions

The two sub-areas namely, home-management and child related decision were included in home related decisions and were presented in Table 47.

Home management decisions: The overall home-management decision making pattern show that all the women were involved in taking decisions on construction of chula, chakki etc and preparation of household articles like baskets, mats etc. The major decision making role was found in cooking a particular food (97.22%) followed by interior decoration (90.28%) and preparing of processed food (86.81%). Construction of new house, 69.44 per cent of the decisions were made jointly and 20.14 per cent by men. While 43.75 per cent of them made joint decision in repairing or renovation of existing house followed by one (37.50%) and women (18.75%). Women over shadow men in case of home management decisions.

Women responses indicate that nearly three quarters (72.62%) of the home management decisions were made by women independently and 19.25 per

cent jointly. Only 8.13 per cent of the decisions were taken by men. Men reported that majority (71.23%) of home management decision were taken by women in their families followed by joint (19.64%) and men (9.13%). Nearly three fourth (71.92%) of the decisions were taken by women followed by joint (19.45%) and men (8.63%).

Child related decisions: As regards Table 47, the findings reveal that over half (52.08%) of decision on settings children's arguments and fights were taken by women independently. The data reveals that 53.47 per cent of the men decided about children's purchases followed by joint (24.31%) and women (22.22%). Men were more prone to decide about medical treatment (64.58%), age of schooling (65.97%) level of education (70.83%), type of education (69.44%) and occupation of son or daughter (65.97%). Joint decisions were found favourable practice in deciding marriage age of son / daughter (43.75%) selection of match for son / daughter (38.19%) and amount of expenses to be done on marriage (45.14%).

Over half (54.13%) of the child-related decision as reported by women were taken by men followed by joint (31.39%). Only 14.31 per cent of the decisions were taken by women independently.

On the whole, men stated that 60.42 per cent of men stated that child related decisions were taken by men independently in their families followed by joint (30.97%) and women (8.61%).

The data shows that 57.36 per cent men were making decisions on all child related aspects. Joint decisions were found in 31.18 per cent cases and women decided independently in 11.46 per cent of the cases. The data of all home-related decisions showed that 38.32, 35.29 and 26.39 per cent women, men and joint decisions were made respectively as reported by women. Men reported that 34.40, 39.30 and 26.30 per cent of decisions were made by women, men and jointly respectively. On an average, 37.29 per cent of the home-related decisions were made by men and almost equal per cent i.e., 36.36 per cent decisions were made by women and 26.35 per cent jointly.

4.3.5.1.2.2 Farm related decisions

Farm-related decisions are being classified into three sub-areas namely agricultural, labour allocation and livestock related decisions.

Agricultural decisions: Table 47 shows that, men took agricultural decisions in 62.20 per cent cases followed by joint decisions in 26.81 per cent cases as reported by women. Only 10.97 per cent women were making decisions pertaining to agriculture in the families of the women respondents. A little above two third majority (67.22%) of men reported to take independent decision on agricultural matters followed by joint decisions (21.11%) and women (11.67%).

On an average, agricultural decisions were dominated by men (64.72%) and joint decisions in case of 23.96 per cent. Only 11.32 per cent of women made independent decisions.

Labour allocation decisions: As it appears from Table 47, women reported that over half (51.39%) of the labour allocation decisions were made by men in their families and 35.18 per cent jointly. Only 13.43 per cent decisions were made by women. The response pattern was similar in the families of men respondents too, men took independent decisions in 53.24 per cent cases followed by joint (35.65%) and women (11.11%). Overall labour allocation decisions show that over half (52.31%) of the decisions were taken by men and 35.42 per cent jointly. While only 12.27 per cent of the decisions were taken by women.

Livestock related decisions: As regards livestock related decisions, in the families of women respondents 58.93 per cent of livestock related decisions were taken by men and joint decisions by one fourth per cent. While in 16.07 per cent cases women took the decisions. Men reported that a little over half i.e., 51.19 per cent of men took decision on livestock related aspects in their families followed by joint (30.16%) and women (18.65%). On the whole (55.06%) per cent of livestock related decisions were taken by men. Joint decisions were taken in case of 27.58 per cent and in 17.36 per cent of the cases women took independent decisions.

The findings with regard to farm-related decisions show that men dominated women in making decisions related to all the three sub areas. Joint decision making was also found to be favourable practice. The per cent distribution

of decision making made by men was also almost similar as reported by women and men i.e., 59.44 and 59.51 per cent respectively. Joint decision as reported by women were made in 27.43 per cent of the cases and 26.46 per cent were reported by men. Women made decisions independently only in 13.13 and 14.03 per cent as reported by women and men respectively.

The overall data shows that 59.48 per cent of the farm related decisions were made by men followed by joint (26.94%) and 13.58 per cent by women.

4.3.5.1.2.3 Money-related decisions

Money-related decisions were sub-divided into nine aspects. The data on each particular aspect are being per cent in Table 47.

Money management decisions were taken by men (46.53%), almost equal per cent of decisions were made by women and jointly i.e., 26.39 and 27.08 per cent respectively as reported by women. Men stated that a little above one third (37.50%) of the decisions were taken by men in their families followed by joint (32.64%) and women (29.86%). On the whole, 42.01 per cent of the decisions related to money management were taken by men, almost an equal per cent i.e., 28.13 and 29.16 per cent decisions were taken women and jointly respectively.

Decision making for capital transactions was made by half of the men in the families of women respondents followed by joint decisions (29.86%) and women (20.17%). Men reported that almost equal per cent i.e., 30.56, 35.42, and 34.02 per cent decisions were made by women, men and joint respectively. On an average, 42.71 per cent of capital transactions were made by men and was a joint venture in 31.94 per cent of the cases. While one fourth (25.35%) of decisions were made by women.

Purchasing of farm inputs was a major decision made by men (66.67%). Women made decisions in 20.83 per cent and jointly in 12.50 per cent of the cases according to the responses given by women. Nearly half (47.92%) of men reported that purchasing of farm inputs was made independently by men in their families and jointly in 32.64 per cent of the cases. While 19.44 per cent decisions were taken by women. On the whole, 57.29, 22.57 and 20.14 per cent of decisions were taken by men, jointly and women respectively.

Almost half (49.07%) of women reported that women took decisions on buying of food material, clothing and household durables in their families. Men took decision in 31.94 per cent of the cases and jointly in 18.99 per cent of the cases. According to the responses given by men the per cent of decision taken regarding this was almost similar i.e., 43.06 and 44.44 per cent respectively. Only 12.50 per cent of the decisions were taken jointly. Overall responses show that 46.06 decisions were taken by women and men (38.19%). While 15.75 per cent decisions were taken jointly.

Women took major decision in case of disposal of farm produce. Joint venture decisions were favourable in case of 24.53 per cent and men (22.69%). A little above half (51.39%) stated that women took decision on disposal of farm produce in their families, one fourth jointly and men (23.61%). On the whole, just over half (51.62%) of the decisions were made by women. Joint and decisions by men were taken in case of 24.77 and 23.61 per cent respectively.

Disposal of home produce decision were taken by nearly half (47.22%) of women independently in the families of women respondents. Men (30.56%) took independent decisions and also joint decisions were taken in 22.22 per cent of the cases. Men reported that 45.83, 29.17 and 25.00 per cent decisions taken by men and joint respectively. Decisions on disposal of home produce (46.53%) of the decisions were made by women independently. Men (29.86%) took independent decisions and joint decisions were made in 23.61 per cent cases.

Three quarters of women and great majority (83.33%) of men reported that men took decisions on entrepreneurial capital transactions in their families. On an average 79.16 per cent of these decisions were made by men and 10.42 per cent equally by women and jointly.

Among the families of the women respondents decisions on borrowing of loans were made by men mostly (59.72%). Women took decisions in 21.53 per cent of the cases and 18.75 per cent decisions were taken jointly. Two third majority (66.66%) of men reported to take decisions independently on borrowing of loans followed by women (21.53%) and joint decisions by 11.81 per cent only. The data indicated that (63.19%) of men dominated in decisions on borrowing loans, 21.53 per cent cases women took decisions and jointly (15.28%).

Slightly above half (52.31%) of men decided independently on the aspect of savings and more than one fourth (29.17%) decided jointly about the savings. Role of women was found to be less (18.52%) in this area of decision as reported by the women respondents. The decision making pattern was similar in the families of men respondents too. Over half (55.56%) of men decided independently on savings and one fourth decided jointly. While, decisions made by women in this area contributed to 19.44 per cent only as reported by men.

The findings on the whole, indicate that a little above half (53.94%) per cent of men took decisions on savings independently. Followed by this joint decisions were made in 27.08 per cent of cases and only 18.98 per cent women were making independent decisions on the aspect of money related decisions.

The data on overall decision making pattern of money related aspects indicate that 45.91 and 45.17 per cent of men took independent decision as reported by women and men respectively in their families. Role of women was found to be (31.58 and 31.45%) and joint decisions (22.51 and 23.39%) as stated by women and men respectively. On an average, men (45.54%) made decisions independently on money related aspect followed by women (31.51%) and joint decisions were made in 22.95 per cent cases.

4.3.5.1.2.4 Socio religious decisions

The three sub-areas namely inter-household exchange, that social travels and social religious obligations were studied under socio-religious decision making.

As the data on inter-household exchange indicates women made substantial contribution (i.e., 74.31% as stated by women and 61.11% as stated by men). While contribution of men was 17.01 and 29.51 per cent as reported women by men respectively. Joint decisions were taken only in 8.68 and 9.38 per cent cases as reported by women and men respectively. On an average, a little above two third majority (67.71%) of women took independent decisions in this area followed by men (23.26%) and joint (9.03%).

A sizeable number (42.36%) of women made decisions on short social travels and 30.56 per cent decisions were made by men in the families of women

Table 48: Decision making pattern of respondents

S.No.	Decision Area	Women (n = 144)			Men (n = 144)			Pooled (n = 288)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
Women's contribution in decision making in home activities										
A. Home Management Decisions										
1	To cook a particular food.	132 (91.6)	7 (4.87)	5 (3.47)	130 (90.28)	12 (8.34)	2 (1.38)	262 (92.97)	19 (6.60)	7 (2.43)
2	Construction of new house.	9 (6.26)	37 (25.69)	98 (68.05)	15 (10.42)	30 (20.83)	99 (68.75)	24 (8.34)	67 (23.26)	197 (68.40)
3	Repairing or renovation of existing house	15 (10.42)	57 (39.58)	72 (50.00)	42 (29.17)	55 (38.19)	47 (32.64)	57 (19.79)	112 (38.89)	119 (41.32)
4	Construction of movable parts like Chula, Chakki etc.	132 (91.66)	-	12 (8.34)	138 (95.84)	-	6 (4.16)	270 (93.75)	-	18 (6.25)
5	Interior decoration.	134 (93.05)	-	10 (6.95)	116 (80.56)	-	28 (19.44)	250 (80.81)	-	38 (13.19)
6	Preparation household articles like baskets, mats.	138 (95.84)	-	6 (4.16)	142 (98.61)	-	2 (1.39)	280 (97.22)	-	8 (2.78)
7	Preparing processed food.	121 (84.03)	10 (6.94)	13 (9.03)	119 (82.64)	-	25 (17.36)	240 (83.33)	10 (3.48)	38 (13.19)
8	All Home Management Decisions	(67.56)	(11.01)	(21.43)	(69.64)	(9.62)	(20.74)	(68.60)	(10.32)	(21.08)
B. Child related decision										
1	Setting children's augments and fights	68 (47.22)	26 (18.06)	50 (34.72)	70 (48.62)	37 (25.69)	37 (25.69)	138 (47.92)	63 (21.87)	87 (30.21)
2	Deciding on children's purchases	35 (24.30)	68 (47.22)	41 (28.47)	26 (18.06)	82 (56.94)	36 (25.00)	61 (21.18)	50 (52.08)	77 (26.74)
3	Deciding on medical treatment	11 (7.63)	101 (70.14)	32 (22.23)	2 (1.39)	96 (66.66)	46 (31.95)	13 (4.52)	197 (68.40)	78 (27.08)
4	Deciding on the age of schooling	15 (10.42)	106 (73.61)	23 (15.97)	20 (13.88)	94 (65.28)	30 (20.84)	35 (12.15)	200 (60.44)	53 (18.41)

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Table 48 contd..

S.No.	Decision Area	Women (n = 144)			Men (n = 144)			Pooled (n = 288)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
5	Level of education	7 (4.87)	99 (68.75)	38 (26.38)	-	102 (70.8)	42 (29.2)	7 (2.43)	201 (60.79)	80 (27.78)
6	Type of education	10 (6.94)	103 (71.53)	31 (21.53)	-	96 (66.66)	48 (33.34)	10 (3.47)	109 (69.10)	79 (27.43)
7	Deciding about son/daughter's occupation	12 (8.33)	98 (68.05)	34 (23.62)	-	104 (72.23)	40 (27.77)	12 (4.17)	202 (70.14)	74 (25.69)
8	Marriage age of son/daughter	6 (4.17)	75 (52.08)	63 (43.75)	5 (3.48)	82 (56.94)	57 (39.58)	11 (3.82)	157 (54.51)	120 (41.67)
9	Selection of match for son/daughter	8 (5.55)	88 (61.12)	48 (33.33)	3 (2.08)	104 (72.23)	37 (25.69)	11 (3.82)	192 (66.67)	85 (29.51)
10	Amount of expenses to be done on marriage	4 (2.77)	83 (57.64)	57 (39.59)	5 (3.48)	73 (50.69)	66 (45.83)	9 (3.13)	156 (54.17)	123 (42.70)
11	All child related decisions	(12.22)	(58.82)	(28.96)	(9.09)	(60.42)	(30.49)	(10.66)	(59.62)	(29.72)
12	All Home-related decisions	(35.01)	(39.13)	(25.86)	(34.03)	(39.50)	(26.47)	(34.52)	(39.32)	(26.16)
Women's contribution in farm related decision making										
A. Agricultural Decisions										
1	What crops to plant	18 (12.50)	81 (56.25)	45 (31.25)	23 (15.97)	86 (59.72)	35 (24.31)	41 (14.24)	167 (57.99)	80 (27.77)
2	How many crops and area under each crop to plant	23 (15.97)	82 (56.94)	39 (27.09)	14 (9.73)	93 (64.58)	37 (25.69)	37 (12.85)	175 (60.76)	76 (26.39)
3	Whether to use own or improved seeds	7 (4.86)	90 (62.50)	47 (32.64)	26 (18.06)	80 (55.56)	38 (26.39)	33 (11.47)	170 (59.02)	85 (29.21)
4	Deciding about seed selection	29 (20.14)	71 (49.31)	44 (30.55)	25 (17.36)	87 (60.42)	32 (22.22)	54 (18.75)	158 (54.86)	76 (26.39)
5	Deciding on how much fertilizer to use	7 (4.86)	83 (57.64)	54 (37.50)	17 (11.81)	86 (59.72)	41 (28.47)	24 (8.33)	169 (58.68)	95 (32.99)

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Table 48 contd..

S.No.	Decision Area	Women (n = 144)			Men (n = 144)			Pooled (n = 288)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
6	Who decided on what fertilizer to use	7 (4.86)	122 (84.72)	15 (10.42)	-	136 (94.44)	8 (5.56)	7 (2.43)	258 (89.58)	23 (7.99)
7	How many times the field should be irrigated.	15 (10.42)	99 (68.75)	30 (20.83)	11 (7.64)	115 (79.86)	18 (12.50)	26 (9.03)	214 (74.31)	48 (16.66)
8	Deciding upon construction of irrigation	16 (11.11)	90 (62.50)	38 (26.39)	16 (11.11)	94 (65.28)	34 (23.61)	32 (11.11)	184 (63.89)	72 (25.00)
9	Plant Protection	10 (6.94)	129 (89.58)	5 (3.48)	13 (9.03)	125 (86.81)	6 (4.16)	23 (7.99)	254 (88.19)	11 (3.82)
10	Post-harvest including harvesting decisions	9 (6.25)	89 (61.81)	46 (31.94)	15 (10.42)	79 (54.86)	50 (34.72)	24 (8.33)	168 (58.33)	96 (33.34)
11	All agricultural decisions	9.79 (9.79)	65.00 (65.00)	25.21 (25.21)	11.11 (11.11)	68.13 (68.13)	20.76 (20.76)	10.45 (10.45)	66.56 (66.56)	22.99 (22.99)
B. Labour allocation decisions										
1	Arranging wage labour.	17 (11.81)	82 (56.94)	45 (31.25)	16 (11.11)	70 (48.61)	58 (40.28)	33 (11.46)	152 (52.78)	103 (35.76)
2	Deciding others work outside home	26 (18.06)	79 (54.86)	39 (27.08)	24 (16.67)	63 (43.75)	57 (39.58)	50 (17.36)	142 (49.31)	96 (33.33)
3	Deciding own work outside home.	23 (15.97)	68 (47.23)	24 (16.67)	71 (49.30)	49 (34.03)	70 (48.61)	47 (16.32)	139 (48.26)	102 (35.42)
4	All labour allocation decisions	15.28 (15.28)	53.01 (53.01)	31.71 (31.71)	14.81 (14.81)	47.22 (47.22)	37.97 (37.97)	15.04 (15.04)	50.12 (50.12)	34.84 (34.84)
C. Livestock related decisions										
1	Types of livestock to be kept.	19 (13.19)	71 (49.30)	54 (37.50)	24 (16.67)	72 (50.00)	48 (33.33)	43 (14.93)	143 (44.65)	102 (35.42)
2	Number of livestock to be kept.	20 913.89	51 (35.42)	73 (50.69)	21 (14.58)	63 (43.75)	60 (41.67)	41 (14.24)	114 (39.58)	133 (46.18)
3	Feeding of balanced ration.	26 (18.06)	72 (50.00)	46 (31.94)	24 (16.67)	82 (56.94)	38 (26.39)	50 (17.36)	154 (53.47)	84 (29.17)

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Table 48 contd..

S.No.	Decision Area	Women (n = 144)			Men (n = 144)			Pooled (n = 288)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
4	Vaccination of animals.	19 (13.19)	84 (58.34)	41 928.47)	19 (13.19)	91 (63.19)	34 (23.62)	38 (13.19)	175 (60.76)	75 (26.04)
5	Castration.	10 (6.94)	118 (81.94)	16 (91.12)	26 (18.05)	69 (47.92)	49 (34.03)	36 (12.50)	187 (64.93)	65 (22.57)
6	Artificial insemination.	8 (5.56)	92 (63.88)	44 (30.56)	54 (37.50)	64 (44.44)	26 (18.06)	62 (21.53)	156 (54.17)	70 (24.30)
7	Treatment of sick animals.	34 (23.61)	86 (59.72)	24 (16.67)	21 (14.58)	80 (55.56)	43 (29.88)	55 (19.10)	166 (57.64)	67 (23.26)
8	All livestock decisions	13.49) (13.49)	56.94) (56.94)	29.57) (29.57)	18.75) (18.75)	51.69) (51.69)	29.56) (29.56)	16.13) (16.13)	54.31) (54.31)	29.56) (29.56)
9	All farm related decisions	11.91) (11.91)	60.38) (60.38)	27.71) (27.71)	14.34) (14.34)	59.24) (59.24)	26.42) (26.42)	13.13) (13.13)	59.81) (59.81)	27.06) (27.06)
Women's contribution in money related decision making										
A. Money management										
1	Keeping money	36 (25.00)	77 (53.47)	31 (21.53)	36 (25.00)	60 (41.67)	48 (33.33)	72 (25.00)	137 (47.57)	79 (27.43)
2	How much to spend on different items	26 (18.06)	76 (52.78)	42 (29.16)	37 (25.69)	61 (42.36)	46 (31.95)	63 (21.88)	137 (47.57)	88 (30.55)
	All money management decisions	21.53) (21.53)	53.12) (53.12)	25.35) (25.35)	25.35) (25.35)	42.04) (42.04)	61.31) (61.31)	23.44) (23.44)	47.57) (47.57)	28.99) (28.99)
B. Capital transactions										
1	Buying/selling of land	31 (21.53)	89 (61.81)	24 (16.66)	31 (21.53)	63 (43.75)	50 (34.72)	62 (21.53)	152 (52.78)	74 (25.69)
2	Buying selling of livestock.	19 (13.19)	70 (48.62)	55 (38.19)	38 (26.39)	55 (38.19)	51 (35.42)	57 (19.79)	125 (43.40)	106 (36.81)
	All Capital transactions	17.36) (17.36)	55.21) (55.21)	27.43) (27.43)	23.96) (23.96)	40.97) (40.97)	35.07) (35.07)	20.66) (20.66)	48.09) (48.09)	31.25) (31.25)

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Table 48 contd..

S. No.	Decision Area	Women (n = 144)			Men (n = 144)			Pooled (n = 288)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
C. Purchasing farm inputs										
1	Buying farm inputs	20 (13.89)	104 (72.22)	20 (13.89)	30 (20.89)	75 (52.08)	39 (27.09)	50 (17.36)	179 (62.15)	59 (20.49)
2	Buying farm implements	28 (19.44)	91 (63.19)	25 (17.37)	16 (11.11)	93 (64.58)	35 (24.31)	44 (15.28)	184 (63.89)	60 (20.83)
	All purchasing farm inputs	(16.67)	(67.71)	(15.62)	(15.97)	(58.34)	(25.69)	(16.32)	(63.02)	(20.66)
D. Purchasing necessary items										
1	Buying food materials/household items	38 (26.39)	70 (48.61)	36 (25.00)	38 (26.39)	67 (46.53)	39 (27.08)	76 (26.39)	137 (47.57)	75 (26.04)
2	Buying clothing and how much to spend	55 (38.19)	48 (33.33)	41 (28.48)	55 (38.19)	68 (47.22)	21 (14.59)	110 (38.19)	116 (40.28)	62 (21.53)
3	Buying household durable.	97 (67.36)	30 (20.83)	17 (11.81)	97 (67.36)	36 (25.00)	11 (7.64)	194 (67.36)	66 (22.91)	28 (9.73)
	All purchasing necessary items	(43.98)	(34.26)	(21.76)	(43.98)	(39.58)	(16.44)	(43.98)	(36.92)	(19.10)
E. Disposal of farm produce										
1	Selling of food grains	48 (33.33)	38 (27.08)	58 (40.29)	54 (37.50)	36 (25.00)	54 (37.50)	102 (35.42)	74 (25.69)	112 (38.89)
2	Selling of vegetables	84 (58.33)	38 (26.39)	22 (15.28)	70 (48.61)	34 (23.61)	40 (27.78)	154 (53.47)	72 (25.00)	62 (21.53)
3	Selling of small animals	96 (66.67)	34 (23.61)	14 (9.72)	85 (59.03)	36 (25.00)	23 (15.97)	181 (62.85)	70 (24.31)	37 (12.84)
	All disposal of farm produce	(52.78)	(25.46)	(21.76)	(48.38)	(24.54)	(27.08)	(50.58)	(25.00)	(24.42)
F. Disposal of home produce										
		68 (47.22)	51 (35.42)	25 (17.36)	65 (45.14)	47 (32.63)	32 (22.23)	133 (46.18)	98 (35.03)	57 (19.79)
G. Entrepreneurial capital transactions										
		18 (12.50)	104 (72.22)	22 (15.28)	10 (6.95)	115 (79.86)	19 (13.19)	28 (9.72)	219 (76.04)	41 (14.24)

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235
235

Table 48 contd..

S.No.	Decision Area	Women (n = 144)			Men (n = 144)			Pooled (n = 288)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
H. Borrowing loans										
1	Decision of taking loans	26 (18.06)	93 (64.58)	25 (17.36)	24 (16.67)	96 (66.67)	24 (16.66)	50 (17.36)	189 (65.63)	49 (17.01)
2	Decision of repaying.	25 (16.67)	89 (61.80)	30 (20.83)	31 (21.54)	91 (63.19)	22 (15.27)	56 (19.44)	180 (62.50)	52 (18.06)
	All borrowing loans	(17.77)	(63.19)	(19.10)	(19.10)	(64.93)	(15.97)	(18.40)	(64.06)	(17.54)
I. Saving and other capital transactions										
1	Deciding on manures of saving	23 (15.97)	102 (70.84)	19 (13.19)	22 (15.28)	111 (77.08)	11 (7.64)	45 (15.63)	213 (73.96)	30 (10.42)
2	Buying jewelry and other movable property	19 (13.19)	75 (52.08)	50 (34.73)	26 (18.06)	59 (40.97)	59 (40.97)	45 (15.63)	134 (46.53)	109 (37.84)
3	Selling jewelry and other movable property	18 (12.50)	55 (38.19)	71 (49.31)	26 (18.06)	57 (39.58)	61 (42.36)	44 (15.28)	112 (38.89)	132 (45.83)
4	All savings and Capital transactions	(13.89)	(53.70)	(32.41)	(17.13)	(52.55)	(30.32)	(15.51)	(53.12)	(31.37)
	All money related decisions	(28.33)	(48.75)	(22.92)	(28.91)	(46.05)	(25.04)	(28.62)	(47.40)	(23.98)
Women contribution in socio-religious decision making										
A. Inter household exchange										
1	Giving and taking small non-interest loans	125 (86.81)	16 (11.11)	3 (2.08)	125 (86.81)	19 (13.19)	-	250 (81.60)	35 (12.15)	3 (1.05)
2	Giving and taking small amount of grains/seasonal vegetables	120 (83.33)	17 (11.80)	7 (4.87)	115 (79.86)	24 (16.67)	5 (3.47)	235 (81.60)	41 (14.24)	12 (4.16)
3	Giving small amount in cash or kind to a visiting daughter of neighbour	80 (55.56)	34 (23.61)	30 (20.83)	66 (45.83)	51 (35.42)	27 (18.75)	146 (50.69)	85 (29.52)	57 (19.79)
4	Gifts to be given	63 (43.75)	53 (36.81)	28 (19.44)	34 (23.61)	72 (50.00)	38 (26.39)	97 (33.68)	125 (43.40)	66 (22.92)
	All inter household exchange	(67.36)	(20.83)	(11.81)	(59.03)	(28.82)	(12.15)	(63.19)	(24.83)	(11.98)

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236
236

Table 48 contd..

S.No.	Decision area	Women (n = 144)			Men (n = 144)			Pooled (n = 288)		
		Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint	Female	Male	Joint
B. Short social travel										
1	Visit to a nearby mela.	37 (25.69)	71 (49.31)	36 (25.00)	35 (24.31)	49 (34.03)	60 (41.66)	72 (25.00)	120 (41.67)	96 (33.33)
2	Attending courtesy calls.	88 (61.11)	27 (18.75)	29 (20.14)	73 (50.69)	30 (20.83)	41 (28.48)	161 (55.90)	57 (19.79)	70 (24.31)
	All short social travel	(43.40)	(34.03)	(22.57)	(37.50)	(27.43)	(35.07)	(40.45)	(30.73)	(28.82)
C. Socio religious obligations										
1	When to call and send back daughters to their in-laws.	55 (38.19)	39 (27.08)	50 (34.73)	59 (40.97)	41 (28.47)	44 (30.56)	144 (39.58)	80 (27.78)	94 (32.64)
2	Attending marriage/birth/death ceremonies.	78 (54.17)	35 (24.31)	31 (21.53)	83 (57.64)	42 (29.17)	19 (13.19)	161 (55.90)	107 (37.15)	50 (13.37)
3	Kind and amount of charity to be given.	78 (54.17)	28 (19.44)	38 (26.39)	80 (55.56)	33 (22.92)	31 (21.52)	158 (54.86)	61 (21.18)	69 (23.96)
4	Giving donations to school organizations.	16 (11.11)	96 (66.67)	32 (22.22)	26 (18.06)	86 (59.72)	32 (22.22)	42 (14.58)	182 (63.19)	64 (22.23)
5	Attending religious gatherings.	50 (34.72)	54 (37.50)	40 (27.78)	24 (16.67)	97 (67.36)	23 (15.97)	74 (25.69)	151 (52.43)	63 (21.88)
6	Attending religious functions.	40 (27.78)	66 (45.83)	38 (26.39)	36 (25.00)	87 (60.42)	21 (14.58)	76 (26.39)	153 (53.13)	59 (20.48)
7	All socio Religious obligations	(36.69)	(36.81)	(26.50)	(35.65)	(44.67)	(19.68)	(36.17)	(40.74)	(23.09)
	All socio Religious decisions	(48.03)	(31.02)	(20.95)	(43.75)	(36.52)	(19.73)	(45.89)	(33.77)	(20.34)

respondents. While 27.08 per cent of them decided jointly. Men reported that 39.58 per cent of women made independent decisions in their families and 27.08 per cent by men. Joint decisions were favourable among one third majority (33.34%). About 40.97 per cent of decisions on short social travels were made by women followed by joint (30.21%) and men (28.82%).

The data on decision-making pattern under socio-religious obligations indicated that, involvement of women and men was almost similar i.e., 39.35 and 39.12 per cent as per the responses of women. Joint decisions were taken in 21.53 per cent of cases. Men reported that 45.37 per cent of the decisions in this area were taken by men independently in their families followed by women (37.04%) and joint (17.59%). On the whole, men's contribution on decision making was seen in 42.24 per cent cases and women took decisions in 38.19 per cent case. Joint decisions were seen only in 19.57 per cent.

The overall decision-making pattern of socio-religious decisions reveals that a little above half (51.50%) of the decisions were taken by women independently in the families of women respondents, 30.32 per cent by men and joint decision making was seen only in 18.18 per cent of the cases. Men reported that 45.49 per cent of women took independent decision in this area and 37.04 per cent were taken by men. Joint decisions were made in 17.48 per cent cases. The responses of women and men on an average indicate that nearly half (48.50%) of women took decisions on socio-religious aspects independently followed by this, 33.68 per cent men were making independent decisions and joint decisions were made in 17.82 per cent cases only.

4.3.5.1.3 Decision-making pattern of the respondents

4.3.5.1.3.1 Home-related decisions

The home-related decisions have been categorized under two sub-areas namely, home management and child related decisions.

Home management decisions:

The overall data on home-management shows that women were more prone to decide on cooking a particular food (92.97%), construction of movable parts like chula, chakki etc, (93.75%) Interior decoration (80.81%), preparation of

household articles like baskets, mats (97.22%) and preparing processed food (83.33%). Joint decisions were taken in construction of new house (68.40%) and repairing or renovation of existing house (41.32%). As it appears from Table 48, women participated substantially in decision-making pertaining to home management decisions.

Women reported that little above two third majority (67.56%) of women took decisions on home-management independently in their families. Joint decisions were made in 21.43 per cent cases and only 11.01 per cent men made home management decisions.

On the whole, as reported by men majority (69.64%) of women were involved in taking home-management decisions independently in their families. Joint decisions were made in 20.74 per cent cases followed by independent decisions made by men in 9.62 per cent cases only.

The home-management decision on the whole were dominated by women (68.60%) followed by joint decisions (21.08%) and independent decisions made by men only in 10.32 per cent cases.

Child related decisions: The overall responses of women and men indicate that women's contribution was seen only in 47.92 per cent in settling children's arguments and fights and the rest of the child related decisions were taken by men mostly (Table 48). Men took decisions on children's purchases (52.08%), medical treatment (68.40%), age of schooling (60.44%), level of education (60.79%), type of education (69.10%) occupation of son or daughter (70.14%), and selection of match for son/daughter (66.67%). Joint decisions was found a favourable practice in deciding on marriage age of son/daughter (41.67%) and amount of expenses to be done on marriage (42.70%).

The findings reveal that 58.82 per cent men were making decisions on all child-related aspects as stated by women in their families. Joint decisions making was found in 28.96 per cent cases and women decided independently on 12.22 per cent cases.

Men (60.42%) dominated in taking decisions on child related aspects in their families followed by joint decisions (30.49%) and women made decisions in 9.09 per cent of the cases.

The findings indicated that 59.62 per cent men were making decisions on all child related aspects. Joint decisions were found in 29.72 per cent cases and women decided independently in 10.66 per cent cases.

The data of all home-related decisions showed that 39.13, 35.01 and 25.86 per cent men, women and joint decisions were made respectively among the families of women respondents. Men also reported similarly i.e., 39.50, 34.03 and 26.47 per cent of men, women and joint decisions were made respectively in the families of men. On an average 39.32 per cent of home-related decisions were made by men independently followed by women (34.52%) and joint (26.16%).

4.3.5.1.3.2 Farm related decisions

The areas of decision-making in farm activities have been sub-divided into three areas, namely agricultural, labour allocation and livestock related decisions. The per cent distribution of the respondents were presented in Table 48.

Agriculture Decisions: As it appeared from Table 48, women reported that 65.00 per cent of agricultural decisions in their families were taken by men. Joint decisions were taken in 25.21 per cent of the cases. Men stated that 68.13 per cent of the decisions in this area were taken by men independently in their families followed by joint (20.76%) and women (11.11%). On the whole, one third (66.56%) of men took decisions on agricultural aspects followed by joint decisions (22.99%). Only 10.45 per cent women were taking decisions pertaining to agriculture.

Labour allocation decisions: Above half (53.01%) of women and 47.22, per cent of men reported that men took independent decisions as regards the labour allocation in their families. Joint decisions were found to be favourable in (31.71 and 37.97%), and women took decisions in 95.28 and 14.81 per cent cases as reported by women and men respectively. Overall data in Table 48 shows the half (50.12%) the men took decisions on labour allocation followed by joint (34.84%) and women (15.04%).

Live-stock related decisions: As it appears from Table 48 majority of (56.94%) men made livestock related decisions independently. Joint decisions were made in 29.57 per cent cases followed by independent decisions made by women in 13.49 per cent cases in the families of women respondents. A little above half (51.69%) of men made decisions in this area independently in the families followed by joint decisions (29.56%) and women (18.75%). The overall live-stock decision making pattern shows that over half (54.31%) of men independent decisions. Joint decisions were made in 29.56 per cent cases and women made independent decisions in 16.13 per cent cases.

The findings presented in preceding paragraphs indicated that men dominated women in decisions related to all the three sub-areas of farm-related decisions. Men took independent decisions in 60.38 and 59.24 per cent of the cases as stated by women and men respectively. Joint decisions were made in 29.57 and 29.56 per cent respectively. On the whole 59.81 per cent of the decisions were taken by men, making joint decisions was also favourable practice in little less than one third of the respondents (27.06%).

4.3.5.1.3.3 Money-related decisions

This area of decisions were sub-divided into nine aspects. The data on each particular aspect were being presented in Table 48.

Money management decisions were taken by 53.13, 25.35 and 21.35 per cent of men, joint and women respectively as reported by women. While 42.04, 25.35 and 16.31 per cent reported that men, women and joint decisions were taken respectively in this area. The average of these responses reveal that 47.57 per cent of money management decisions were taken by men independently followed by joint (28.99%) and women (23.44%).

Decisions making for capital transaction was reported by women was taken by men (55.21%) in this families. Joint decisions were taken in 27.43 per cent case and independent decisions were made by women in 17.36 per cent cases. Men stated that 40.97 per cent of decisions on capital transactions were taken by men independently and 35.05 per cent jointly in their families. Women took independent decisions in 23.96 per cent in this aspect. About half (48.05%) of men

took independent decisions on the whole followed by joint (31.25%) and women (20.66%).

Decisions on purchasing of farm inputs were taken by 67.71, 16.67 and 15.62 per cent of men, women and joint decisions were made respectively in the families of women respondents. While 58.34, 25.69 and 15.97 per cent men, joint and women made decisions respectively in this aspect in the families of men respondents. Men took major decision in purchasing farm inputs (63.02%) followed by joint decisions (20.66%) and women (16.32%).

Purchasing necessary items like buying food material, clothing and household durable were taken mostly by women (43.98%), followed by men (34.26%) and joint decisions by 21.76 per cent. Among the families of men respondents also the decisions taken by women in 43.98 per cent cases, and 39.58 of the decisions were taken by men. Joint decisions were seen only among 16.44 per cent of them. The average of the responses indicate that a sizeable number (43.98%) of women's contribution in this aspect followed by decisions made by men (36.92%) and joint decisions (19.10%).

The decisions regarding disposal of farm produce was also a major contribution by women i.e., 52.78 and 48.38 per cent as reported by women and men respectively. Decisions by men contributed to 25.46 and 24.54 per cent, while joint decisions were taken in 21.76 and 27.08 per cent cases respectively. Half (50.58%) of women were involved in decision making on disposal of farm produce followed by one fourth decisions by men and joint decisions were taken by 24.42 per cent. Women's involvement in decisions on disposal of home produce was 47.22 per cent and men (35.42%). Joint decisions were made in 17.36 per cent cases in the families of women respondent. The decisions on disposal of home produce was made by 45.14, 32.63 and 22.23 per cent of women, men and joint respectively as reported by men in their families. On the whole, women made decisions in 46.18 per cent cases followed by men (34.03%) and joint decisions (19.79%).

Women and men reported that (72.22 and 79.86%) of men were involved in decision making on entrepreneurial capital transactions. Role of women was found to be meagre i.e., 12.50 and 6.95 per cent as stated by women and men

respectively. The average indicates that men (76.04%) made decisions on entrepreneurial capital transactions, 14.24 per cent of the responded decided jointly. Role of women was found to be very less i.e., (9.72%).

Decisions on borrowing loans was dominated by men i.e., 63.19 per cent was reported by women and 64.93 per cent by men respondents. On the whole men (64.06%) decided about borrowing loans. Women decided in 18.40 per cent cases and joint decisions were taken by 17.54 per cent of the respondents.

Women reported that 53.70 per cent of men made decisions on saving and capital transactions in their families followed by this. Joint decisions were made in 32.41 per cent cases and only 13.89 per cent women were making independent decisions on this aspect. Men reported that 52.55, 30.32 and 17.13 per cent men, joint and women took decisions respectively in this area. Overall data shows that over half (53.12%) men took independent decisions on savings and capital transactions followed by joint decisions (31.37%) and women made independent decisions only in 15.51 per cent cases.

The data on money-related decision making clearly shows that nearly half i.e., 48.75 and 46.05 per cent, men took independent decisions in this aspect as reported by women and men in their families respectively. Women stated that 28.33 per cent decisions on this aspect were made independently by women in their families and 22.92 per cent decisions jointly. Men also responded similarly. Women (28.91%) made decisions on money related aspects independently and jointly by 25.69 per cent of them in the families of men.

The overall data on money related decisions reveal that nearly half (47.40%) of men took independent decisions on this aspect followed by women (28.62%) and joint decisions were made among 23.98 per cent.

4.3.5.1.3.4 Socio-religious decisions

The socio- religious decisions have been categorized under three sub areas, inter - household exchange, short social travels, social religious obligations. The data have been presented under the Table 48.

The data on inter-household exchange shows that 67.36 per cent of women took independent decisions followed by men (20.83%) and jointly in 11.81

per cent cases as reported by women. While men also stated that 59.03 per cent of the decision on this were made by women independently in their families. Men (28.82%) made decisions regarding this and jointly by 12.15 per cent only. On the whole, women (63.19%) were more involved in decision making on inter-household exchange followed by men made independent decisions in 24.83 per cent cases and jointly among 11.98 per cent only.

A sizeable number (43.40%) of women made decisions on short social travel followed by men (34.03%) and jointly by 22.57 per cent of them as per the responses of women. Whereas, men reported that 37.50 per cent of the decisions were taken by women 35.07 per cent jointly and 27.43 per cent by men independently in their families. The average of the responses indicate that 40.45 per cent decisions were taken by women independently followed by this 30.73 per cent decisions were taken by men and 28.82 per cent jointly.

Almost an equal per cent i.e., 36.69 and 36.81 per cent of women and men were involved in decision making independently on socio-religious obligations. Joint decisions were taken in 26.50 per cent cases in the families of women respondents. Men reported that 44.67 per cent of decisions were taken by men independently in their families, 35.65 per cent were taken by women and jointly in 19.68 per cent cases. On totality, it can be viewed that 40.24 per cent men took independent decisions followed by women (36.17%) and jointly (23.09%).

Overall findings of decision making on socio-religious aspect indicate that, among the families of women respondent nearly half (48.03%) of women took independent decisions followed by men (31.02%) and 20.95 per cent made decisions jointly. Men reported that a sizeable number i.e., 43.75 per cent women in their families made independent decisions in this aspect. Men (36.52%) made independent decisions and jointly (19.73%). The average of the responses indicate that 45.89 per cent of decisions on socio-religious aspect were made by women followed by men (33.77%) and joint decisions in case of 20.34 per cent.

Table 49: Social Empowerment of women in Adilabad

S.No.	Statements	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Score
1	Allowed / allow your wife to take independent initiatives	13 (18.06)	30 (41.67)	29 (40.27)	128	11 (15.28)	39 (54.17)	22 (30.56)	133	261
2	Mobility / your wife's mobility not restricted to household only	32 (44.46)	25 (34.71)	15 (20.83)	161	27 (37.50)	30 (41.67)	15 (20.83)	156	317
3	Given the right / your wife given the right to mobility and social interaction by your family member	20 (29.78)	23 (31.94)	29 (40.28)	135	23 (31.94)	25 (34.72)	24 (33.34)	143	278
4	Allowed / your wife is allowed to keep contacts with her parents, relatives etc.	50 (69.44)	22 (30.56)	-	194 II	46 (63.89)	26 (36.11)	-	190 II	384
5	Can / allow your wife to visit natal home independently	20 (27.78)	34 (47.22)	18 (25.00)	146	12 (16.67)	35 (48.61)	25 (34.72)	131	277
6	Can / your wife can visit natal home without permission	-	32 (44.44)	40 (55.56)	104	-	27 (37.50)	45 (22.50)	99	203
7	Your activities / your wife's activities lead to social recognition & prestige	8 (11.11)	16 (22.22)	48 (66.67)	104	3 (4.17)	19 (26.39)	50 (69.44)	97	201
8	Feel that your / your wife's activity will never diminish your husbands / yours authority	26 (36.11)	28 (38.89)	18 (25.00)	152	12 (16.67)	43 (59.72)	17 (23.61)	139	291
9	Bound / your wife is ever bond to moral obligations	20 (27.78)	28 (38.89)	24 (33.33)	140	23 (31.94)	28 (38.89)	21 (29.17)	146	286
10	Threat of violence / marital breakup restrict you / your wife to take decisions	13 (18.06)	23 (31.94)	36 (50.00)	121	19 (26.39)	33 (45.83)	20 (27.78)	143	264
11	You / your wife not hesitant to take decisions because of social boycott	11 (15.28)	36 (50.00)	25 (34.72)	130	12 (16.67)	38 (52.78)	22 (30.56)	134	264

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Table 49 contd...

S.No.	Statements	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Always	Some-times	Never	Always	Some-times	Never	Always	Some-times	Never
12	Family members freely attend functions at your parents / inlaws house	30 (41.67)	34 (47.22)	8 (11.11)	166 IV	23 (31.94)	16 (22.23)	63 (43.75)	57 (39.58)	24 (16.67)
13	Control of husband / father / brother is always necessary for you / your wife	5 (6.94)	41 (56.94)	26 (36.11)	123	38 (52.78)	29 (40.28)	10 (6.94)	79 (54.86)	55 (38.19)
14	To be under control is not always a pleasure for you / your wife	11 (15.28)	45 (62.50)	16 (22.22)	139	35 (48.61)	33 (45.83)	15 (10.42)	80 (55.56)	49 (34.03)
15	Think such control or not always secured for you / your wife	-	48 (66.67)	24 (33.33)	120	38 (52.78)	34 (47.22)	-	86 (59.72)	58 (40.28)
16	Given / your wife is given due respect in the family (looking at her age, education etc.)	19 (26.39)	27 (37.50)	26 (36.11)	137	45 (62.50)	10 (13.89)	36 (25.00)	72 (50.00)	36 (25.00)
17	Discuss / your wife discuss any of the subjects (household expenditure, discipline at the house etc.)	14 (19.44)	40 (55.56)	18 (25.00)	140	41 (56.94)	16 (22.22)	29 (20.14)	81 (56.25)	34 (23.61)
18	Occasions where you had never any differences with your husband / wife	8 (11.11)	26 (36.11)	38 (52.78)	114	30 (41.67)	27 (37.50)	23 (15.97)	56 (38.89)	65 (45.14)
19	Made any efforts to settle such differences by you / your wife	33 (45.83)	22 (30.56)	17 (23.61)	160	25 (34.72)	12 (16.67)	68 (47.22)	47 (32.64)	29 (20.14)
20	Given freedom / your wife given freedom to visit places like banks, markets etc., independently	41 (56.94)	31 (43.06)	-	185 III	30 (41.67)	8 (11.11)	75 (52.08)	61 (42.36)	8 (5.56)
21	Involved / your wife involved in domestic decision making	33 (45.83)	26 (36.11)	13 (18.06)	164 VI	29 (40.28)	12 (16.67)	64 (44.44)	55 (38.19)	25 (17.36)

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Table 49 contd...

S.No.	Statements	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Score
22	Given right / your wife given right to child bearing decisions	33 (45.83)	26 (36.11)	13 (18.06)	164 VI	31 (43.06)	29 (40.28)	12 (16.67)	163 V	327 IV
23	Free / your wife is free from domestic violence	32 (44.44)	26 (36.11)	14 (19.44)	162	36 (50.00)	25 (34.72)	11 (15.28)	169 III	331 III
24	Feel / your wife feel more responsible at inlaws place than natal home	59 (81.94)	13 (18.06)	-	203 I	59 (81.94)	13 (18.06)	-	203 I	406 I
25	Can vote / your wife can vote according to her wish	-	27 (37.50)	45 (62.50)	99	-	13 (18.06)	59 (81.94)	85	184
26	Obey your husband / your wife obeys you because of									
26a	a. traditions / conventions	36 (50.00)	22 (30.56)	14 (19.44)	166 IV	28 (38.89)	27 (37.50)	17 (23.61)	155	321
26b	b. Socio-economic security	26 (36.11)	37 (51.39)	9 (12.50)	161	23 (31.94)	25 (34.72)	24 (33.33)	143	304
27	You / your wife obeys you not because fear of marital breakup	-	14 (19.44)	58 (80.56)	86	-	6 (8.33)	66 (91.67)	78	164
	Averages	(29.41)	(39.78)	(30.81)		(28.87)	(40.43)	(30.70)		

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and Roman numbers indicate rank

247
247

4.3.5.2 Social Empowerment of women

4.3.5.2.1 Social Empowerment of women in Adilabad

The results with regard to social empowerment of women in Adilabad were presented in Table 49.

A great majority (81.94%) of women reported that they are more responsible at their in laws place then their natal home always and 18.06 per cent of them stated as sometimes. Over two third majority (69.44%) of women were always allowed to keep contacts with their parents, relatives and 30.56 per cent were allowed sometimes. Majority (56.94%) of women reported that they were given freedom to visit places like banks, markets etc independently always and sometimes (43.06%). A sizeable number (41.67%) of women stated that, their in laws freely attended the functions at their parents house, always, 47.22 per cent stated as sometimes and never (11.11%). Half of women reported they obey their husbands because of traditions or conventions always followed by sometimes (30.56%) and never (19.44%). Among women an equal per cent i.e., 45.83 reported that they are involved in domestic decision making and are given right to child bearing decisions always followed by sometimes (36.11%) and never (18.06%).

Men also responded almost similarly as women for the question that, whether their wives were more responsible at their place than their natal home. A great majority (81.94%) stated as always and 18.06 per cent as sometimes. Just below one third (63.89%) reported that their wives were allowed to keep contacts with their parents relatives always and sometimes (36.11%). Half of them reported that their wives were free from domestic violence always followed by sometimes (34.72%) and never (15.28%). Nearly half (48.61%) said that their wives always made efforts to settle the differences if any followed by sometimes (34.72%) and never (16.67%). A sizeable number (43.06%) reported that their wives were involved in domestic decision making always, nearly equal per cent (40.28%) said as sometimes and never (16.67%) and the responses were similar for the question that their wives were given right to child bearing decisions. Nearly half (47.22%) of men reported that their wives were given freedom to visit places like banks, markets etc., independently followed by sometimes (41.67%) and never (11.11%).

Table 50: Social Empowerment of women in West Godavari

S.No.	Statements	Women (n=72)				Men (n=72)				Pooled (n=144)			
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score
1	Allowed / allow your wife to take independent initiatives	14 (19.44)	31 (43.06)	27 (37.50)	131	14 (19.44)	40 (55.56)	18 (25.00)	140	28 (19.44)	71 (49.31)	45 (31.25)	271
2	Mobility / your wife's mobility not restricted to household only	9 (12.50)	34 (47.22)	29 (40.28)	124	5 (6.94)	44 (61.11)	23 (31.94)	126	14 (9.72)	78 (54.17)	52 (36.11)	250
3	Given the right / your wife given the right to mobility and social interaction by your family member	31 (43.06)	30 (41.67)	11 (15.28)	164	27 (37.50)	34 (47.22)	11 (15.28)	160	58 (40.28)	64 (44.44)	22 (15.28)	324
4	Allowed / your wife is allowed to keep contacts with her parents, relatives etc.	51 (70.83)	21 (29.17)	-	195 III	44 (61.11)	28 (38.89)	-	188 III	95 (65.97)	49 (34.03)	-	383 III
5	Can / allow your wife to visit natal home independently	26 (36.11)	24 (33.33)	22 (30.56)	148	18 (25.00)	32 (44.44)	22 (30.56)	140	44 (30.56)	56 (38.89)	44 (30.56)	288
6	Can / your wife can visit natal home without permission	2 (2.78)	38 (52.78)	32 (44.44)	114	3 (4.17)	29 (40.28)	40 (55.56)	107	5 (3.47)	67 (46.53)	72 (50.00)	221
7	Your activities / your wife's activities lead to social recognition & prestige	16 (22.22)	26 (36.11)	30 (41.67)	130	10 (13.89)	25 (34.72)	37 (51.39)	117	26 (18.06)	51 (35.42)	67 (46.53)	247
8	Feel that your / your wife's activity will never diminish your husband / your authority	28 (38.89)	33 (45.83)	11 (15.28)	161	34 (47.22)	29 (40.28)	9 (12.50)	169	62 (43.06)	62 (43.06)	20 (13.89)	330
9	Bound / your wife is ever bound to moral obligations	26 (36.11)	32 (44.44)	14 (19.44)	156	30 (41.67)	20 (27.78)	22 (30.56)	152	56 (38.89)	52 (36.11)	36 (25.00)	308
10	Threat of violence / marital breakup restrict you / your wife to take decisions	18 (25.00)	30 (41.67)	24 (33.33)	138	24 (33.33)	30 (41.67)	18 (25.00)	150	42 (29.17)	60 (41.67)	42 (29.17)	288
11	You / your wife not hesitant to take decisions because of social boycott	18 (25.00)	34 (47.22)	20 (27.78)	142	18 (25.00)	34 (47.22)	20 (27.78)	142	36 (25.00)	68 (47.22)	40 (27.78)	284

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249

Table 50 contd....

S.No	Statements	Women (n=72)				Men (n=72)				Pooled (n=144)			
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score
12	Family members freely attend functions at your parents / inlaws house	33 (45.83)	34 (47.22)	5 (6.94)	172	39 (54.17)	19 (26.39)	14 (19.44)	169	72 (50.00)	53 (36.81)	19 (13.19)	341
13	Control of husband / father / brother is always necessary for you / your wife	7 (9.72)	36 (50.00)	29 (40.28)	122	6 (8.33)	28 (38.89)	38 (52.78)	112	13 (9.03)	64 (44.44)	67 (46.53)	234
14	To be under control is not always a pleasure for you / your wife	14 (19.44)	40 (55.56)	18 (25.00)	140	6 (8.33)	27 (37.50)	39 (54.17)	111	20 (13.89)	67 (46.53)	57 (39.58)	251
15	Think such control or not always secured for you / your wife	4 (5.56)	39 (54.17)	29 (40.28)	119	5 (6.94)	40 (55.56)	27 (37.50)	122	9 (6.25)	79 (54.86)	56 (38.89)	241
16	Given / your wife is given due respect in the family (looking at her age, education etc.)	31 (43.06)	23 (31.94)	18 (25.00)	157	23 (31.94)	26 (36.11)	23 (31.94)	144	54 (37.50)	49 (34.03)	41 (28.47)	301 IC
17	Discuss / your wife discuss any of the subjects (household expenditure, discipline at the house etc.)	24 (33.33)	36 (50.00)	12 (16.67)	156	29 (40.28)	29 (40.28)	14 (19.44)	159	53 (36.81)	65 (45.14)	26 (18.06)	315
18	Occasions where you had never any differences with your husband / wife	8 (11.11)	30 (41.67)	34 (47.22)	118	9 (12.50)	44 (61.11)	19 (26.39)	134	17 (11.81)	74 (51.39)	53 (36.81)	252
19	Made any efforts to settle such differences by your / your wife	48 (66.67)	12 (16.67)	12 (16.67)	180 IV	47 (65.28)	16 (22.22)	9 (12.50)	182 IV	95 (65.97)	28 (19.44)	21 (14.58)	362 IV
20	Given freedom / your wife given freedom to visit places like banks, markets etc., independently	36 (50.00)	34 (47.22)	2 (2.78)	178 VI	29 (40.28)	36 (50.00)	7 (9.72)	166	65 (45.14)	70 (48.61)	9 (6.25)	344
21	Involved / your wife involved in domestic decision making	39 (54.17)	29 (40.28)	4 (5.56)	179 V	36 (50.00)	28 (38.89)	8 (11.11)	172 VI	75 (52.08)	57 (39.58)	12 (8.33)	351 V
22	Given right / your wife given right to child bearing decisions	38 (52.78)	26 (36.11)	8 (11.11)	174 V	39 (54.17)	23 (31.94)	10 (13.89)	173 VI	77 (53.47)	49 (34.03)	18 (12.50)	347

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Table 50 contd...

S.No.	Statements	Women (n=72)				Men (n=72)				Pooled (n=144)			
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score
23	Free / your wife is free from domestic violence	25 (34.72)	34 (47.22)	13 (18.06)	156	22 (30.56)	41 (56.94)	9 (12.50)	157	47 (32.64)	75 (52.08)	22 (15.28)	313
24	Feel / your wife feel more responsible at inlaws place than natal home	58 (80.56)	14 (19.44)	-	202	66 (91.67)	6 (8.33)	-	210	124 (86.11)	20 (13.89)	-	412
25	Can vote / your wife can vote according to her wish	-	8 (11.11)	64 (88.89)	80	-	5 (6.94)	67 (93.06)	77	-	13 (9.03)	131 (90.97)	157
26	Obey your husband / your wife obeys you because of												
26a	a. traditions / conventions	64 (88.89)	8 (11.11)	-	208	69 (95.83)	3 (4.17)	-	213	133 (92.36)	11 (7.64)	-	421
26b	b. Socio-economic security	45 (62.50)	14 (19.44)	13 (18.06)	176	34 (47.22)	17 (23.61)	21 (29.17)	157	79 (54.86)	31 (21.53)	34 (23.61)	333
27	You / your wife obeys you not because fear of marital breakup	8 (11.11)	26 (36.11)	38 (52.78)	114	10 (13.89)	23 (31.94)	39 (54.17)	115	18 (12.50)	49 (34.03)	77 (53.47)	229
	Averages	(35.76)	(38.49)	(25.75)		(34.62)	(37.50)	(27.88)		(35.19)	(37.99)	(28.82)	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and Roman numbers indicate rank

The overall responses of women and men reveal that, a great majority (81.94%) of them reported, women were more responsible at their in-laws place than their natal home always and 18.06 per cent as sometimes. Two third majority (66.67%) of responses state that women were allowed to keep contacts with their parents, relatives etc., always and one third sometimes. Over half (52.08%) of them stated that women were given freedom to visit places like banks, markets etc independently always, followed by sometimes (42.36%) and never (5.56%). Nearly half (47.22%) response indicates that women were free from domestic violence always, 35.42 per cent as sometimes and never (17.36%). With regard to child bearing decisions 44.44 per cent were given right always followed by sometimes (38.19%) and never (17.36%). Efforts made by women to settle differences with their husbands was reported as always (47.22%) followed by sometimes (32.64%) and never (20.14%). About 44.44 per cent responses indicated that women were involved in domestic decision making always, 38.17 stated as sometimes and 17.36 per cent as never. A sizeable number (43.75%) of them reported that their family members freely attended functions at their in laws.

4.3.5.2.2 Social Empowerment of women in West Godavari

An over view of the Table 50 indicates the results of Social Empowerment of women in West Godavari.

A vast majority (88.89%) of women reported that they obey their husband's because of traditions and conventions always and 11.11 per cent said as sometimes. A great majority (80.56%) of them felt that they were more responsible at in-laws place than natal home always and sometimes (19.44%). About three-fourth majority (70.83%) of women reported that they were allowed to keep contacts with their parents always and 29.17 per cent said as sometimes. Two third majority of women reported that they always made efforts to settle differences with their husbands if any and an equal per cent (16.67%) reported as sometimes and never. Over half (54.17%) of women reported to be involved in domestic decision making always, followed by sometimes (40.28%) and never (5.56%). Half of the women stated that they were always given freedom to visit places like banks, markets etc., independently followed by sometimes (47.22%) and never (2.78%).

With regard to men the results in Table 50 indicate that, an overwhelming majority (95.83%) of men reported that, their wives obey them because of traditions and conventions always and sometimes (4.17%). A vast majority (91.67%) of men felt that their wives were always more responsible at their place than their natal home and 8.33 per cent said as sometimes. Majority (61.11%) of men reported that their wives were allowed to keep contacts with their parents, relatives, etc always and sometimes (38.89%). Almost two third majority (65.28%) of men stated that their wives always made efforts to settled the differences if any followed by sometimes (22.22%) and never (12.50%). Over half (54.17%) said that their wives were given right to child bearing decision always followed by sometimes (31.94%) and never (13.89%). Half of men said that their wives were always involved in domestic decision making, 38.89 per cent as sometimes and 11.11 per cent stated as never.

With regard to social empowerment of women in West Godavari the findings indicate that, a vast majority (92.36%) responses reveal that women obey their husbands because of traditions and conventions always and only 7.64 per cent as sometimes. A great majority (86.11%) responses state that women are more responsible at their in-laws place than natal home always and sometimes (13.89%). Majority (65.97%) the sample responses reveal that women were allowed to keep contacts with their parents, relatives etc always and 34.03 per cent sometimes. Almost two third majority (65.97%) of responses indicate that women always made efforts to settle the differences if any followed by sometimes (19.44%) and never (14.58%). Just above half (52.08%) of the responses state that women were involved in domestic decision making, always followed by sometimes (39.58%) and never (8.33%). Majority (53.47%) of respondents reported that women were given right to child bearing decisions followed by sometimes (34.03%) and never (12.50%).

4.3.5.2.3 Social empowerment of women

The results of Social empowerment of women in both the districts were presented in Table 51.

A great majority (81.25%) of women from both the districts reported that they were more responsible at their in-laws place than natal home always and

Table 51: Social empowerment of women

Sl. No.	Statements	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)		
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Score
1	Allowed / allow your wife to take independent initiatives	27 (18.75)	61 (42.36)	56 (38.89)	259	25 (17.36)	79 (54.86)	40 (27.78)	273	532
2	Mobility / your wife's mobility not restricted to household only	41 (28.47)	59 (40.92)	44 (30.56)	285	32 (22.22)	74 (51.39)	38 (26.39)	282	567
3	Given the right / your wife given the right to mobility and social interaction by your family member	51 (34.42)	53 (36.80)	40 (27.78)	299	50 (34.72)	59 (40.97)	35 (24.31)	303	602
4	Allowed / your wife is allowed to keep contacts with her parents, relatives etc.	101 (70.14)	43 (29.86)	-	389 II	90 (62.50)	54 (37.50)	-	378 II	767 II
5	Can / allow your wife to visit natal home independently	46 (31.94)	58 (40.28)	40 (27.48)	294	30 (20.83)	67 (46.53)	47 (32.64)	271	565
6	Can / your wife can visit natal home without permission	2 (1.39)	70 (48.61)	72 (50.00)	218	3 (2.08)	56 (38.89)	85 (54.03)	206	424
7	Your activities / your wife's activities lead to social recognition & prestige	24 (16.67)	42 (29.17)	78 (54.16)	234	13 (9.03)	44 (30.56)	87 (60.42)	214	448
8	Feel that your / your wife's activity will never diminish your husband / your authority	54 (37.50)	61 (42.36)	29 (20.14)	313 (VII)	46 (31.94)	72 (50.00)	26 (18.06)	308 (VI)	621 (IV)
9	Bound / your wife is ever bond to moral obligations	46 (31.94)	60 (41.67)	38 (26.39)	296	53 (36.81)	48 (33.33)	43 (29.86)	298	594
10	Threat of violence / marital breakup restrict you / your wife to take decisions	31 (21.53)	53 (36.81)	60 (41.67)	259	43 (29.86)	63 (43.75)	38 (26.39)	293	552
11	You / your wife not hesitant to take decisions because of social boycott	29 (20.14)	70 (48.61)	45 (31.25)	272	30 (20.83)	72 (50.00)	42 (29.17)	276	548

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254
254

Table 51 contd...

Sl. No.	Statements	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)		
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Score
12	Family members freely attend functions at your parents / inlaws house	63 (43.75)	68 (47.22)	13 (9.03)	338	72 (50.00)	42 (29.17)	30 (21.53)	330	666
13	Control of husband / father / brother is always necessary for you / your wife	12 (8.33)	77 (53.47)	55 (30.56)	245	11 (7.64)	66 (45.83)	67 (46.53)	232	477
14	To be under control is not always a pleasure for you / your wife	25 (17.36)	85 (59.03)	34 (23.61)	279	10 (6.94)	62 (43.06)	72 (50.00)	226	505
15	Think such control or not always secured for you / your wife	4 (2.78)	87 (60.41)	53 (36.81)	239	5 (3.47)	78 (54.17)	61 (42.36)	232	471
16	Given / your wife is given due respect in the family (looking at her age, education etc.)	50 (34.72)	50 (34.72)	44 (30.56)	294	40 (27.76)	71 (49.31)	33 (22.91)	295	607
17	Discuss / your wife discuss any of the subjects (household expenditure, discipline at the house etc.)	38 (26.36)	76 (52.78)	30 (20.83)	296	44 (30.56)	70 (48.61)	30 (20.83)	302	598
18	Occasions where you had never any differences with your husband / wife	16 (11.12)	56 (38.89)	72 (50.00)	232	24 (16.67)	74 (51.39)	46 (31.94)	266	498
19	Made any efforts to settle such differences by your / your wife	81 (56.25)	34 (23.61)	29 (20.14)	340 VI	82 (56.94)	41 (28.47)	21 (14.58)	349 IV	689 V
20	Given freedom / your wife given freedom to visit places like banks, markets etc., independently	77 (53.47)	65 (45.14)	2 (1.39)	363 IV	63 (43.75)	66 (45.83)	15 (10.42)	328	691 IV
21	Involved / your wife involved in domestic decision making	72 (50.00)	55 (38.19)	17 (11.81)	343 V	67 (46.53)	57 (39.58)	20 (13.89)	335 VI	678 VI
22	Given right / your wife given right to child bearing decisions	71 (49.31)	52 (36.11)	21 (14.58)	338	70 (48.61)	52 (36.11)	22 (15.28)	336 V	674

Contd....

Table 51 contd...

Sl. No.	Statements	Women (n=144)				Men (n=144)				Pooled (n=288)			
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score
23	Free / your wife is free from domestic violence	57 (9.58)	60 (41.67)	27 (18.75)	318	58 (40.28)	66 (45.83)	20 (13.89)	326	115 (39.93)	126 (43.75)	47 (16.32)	644
24	Feel / your wife feel more responsible at inlaws place than natal home.	117 (81.25)	27 (18.75)	-	405 I	125 (86.81)	19 (13.91)	-	413 I	242 (84.03)	46 (15.97)	-	818 I
25	Can vote / your wife can vote according to her wish	--	35 (24.31)	109 (75.69)	179	-	18 (12.50)	126 (87.50)	162	-	53 (18.41)	235 (81.59)	341
26	Obey your husband / your wife obeys you because of												
	a. traditions / conventions	100 (69.44)	30 (20.83)	14 (9.73)	374 III	97 (67.36)	30 (20.83)	17 (11.81)	368 III	197 (68.40)	60 (20.83)	31 (10.77)	742 III
	b. Socio-economic security	71 (49.31)	51 (35.42)	22 (15.27)	337	57 (39.58)	42 (29.17)	45 (31.25)	300	128 (44.44)	93 (32.29)	67 (23.27)	637
27	You / your wife obeys you not because fear of marital breakup	8 (5.56)	40 (27.78)	96 (66.66)	200	10 (6.94)	29 (20.14)	105 (72.92)	193	18 (6.25)	69 (23.96)	201 (69.79)	393
	Average	32.58	39.14	28.28		31.75	38.96	29.29		32.17	39.05	28.78	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and Roman numbers indicate rank

sometimes (18.75%). Majority (70.14%) of women were allowed to keep contacts with their parents, relatives etc always and sometimes by 29.86 per cent of them. Just above three-fourth majority (69.44%) of them reported that obey their husbands always because of traditions and contentions followed by sometimes (20.83%) and never (9.73%). Just above half (53.47%) of women said that they were given freedom to visit places like banks, markets etc independently always, 45.14 per cent stated as sometimes and only 1.39 per cent said never. Half of them were always involved in domestic decision making followed by sometimes (38.19%) and never (11.81%). Majority (56.25%) of women reported that they always made efforts to settle the differences with their husbands, 23.61 per cent said as sometimes and never by 20.14 per cent of them.

A great majority (86.81%) of men reported that their wives were always more responsible at their places than their natal home and 13.91 per cent said as sometimes. Majority of (62.50%) of men said that their wives were allowed to keep contacts with their parents always and 37.50 per cent sometimes. Traditions and convention was the priority for women to obey their husbands was reported by 67.36 per cent of men as always followed by sometimes (20.83%) and never (11.81%). Above half (56.94%) of men stated that, their wives always made efforts to settle the difference between them followed by sometimes (28.47%) and never (14.58%). Nearly half (46.53%) of them reported that their wives were always involved in domestic decision making, 39.58 per cent said sometimes and never 13.89 per cent. Nearly half (48.61%) of men said that their wives were given right to child bearing decisions always. While, 36.11 per cent said as some times and 15.28 per cent as never.

The overall responses of women and men with regard to social empowerment of women reveal that a great majority of (84.03%) of women were always more responsible at the in-laws place than their natal home and 15.97 per cent were responsible sometimes. Two-thirds majority (66.32%) of responses indicate that women were always allowed to keep contacts with their parents and one third (33.68%) sometimes. Just above two third majority (68.40%) of the responses reveal that women obey their husbands always because of traditions and conventions, 20.83 per cent sometimes and only 10.77 state as never. Nearly half (48.62%) of women were given freedom to visit places likes banks, markets etc.

Table 52: Economic empowerment of women in Adilabad

S. No.	Statement	Women (n=72)				Men (n=72)				Pooled (n=144)			
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score
1	Doesn't dependent on your husband / your wife not dependent on you for economic needs	2 (2.77)	39 (54.17)	31 (43.00)	115	6 (8.34)	34 (47.22)	32 (44.44)	118	8 (5.56)	73 (50.69)	63 (43.75)	233
2	Allowed / your wife allowed to spend yourself / herself	12 (16.67)	42 (58.33)	18 (25.00)	138	11 (15.28)	35 (48.61)	26 (36.11)	129	23 (15.97)	77 (53.479)	44 (30.56)	267
3	Allowed / your wife allowed to spend without having independent income	36 (50.00)	28 (38.89)	8 (11.11)	172	31 (43.05)	23 (31.94)	18 (25.00)	157	67 (46.52)	51 (35.42)	26 (18.06)	329
4	Consulted / consult your wife before taking decisions on investment	-	22 (30.56)	50 (69.54)	94	3 (4.67)	32 (44.44)	37 (51.39)	110	3 (2.085)	54 (37.50)	87 (60.42)	204
5	Consulted / consult your wife at the time of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc.	31 (43.06)	19 (26.39)	22 (30.55)	153	31 (43.06)	14 (19.44)	27 (37.50)	148	62 (43.06)	33 (22.92)	49 (34.02)	301
6	Spend / your wife can spend personal income without permission	26 (36.11)	7 (9.72)	39 (54.17)	131	26 (36.11)	17 (23.61)	29 (40.285)	141	52 (36.11)	24 (16.67)	68 (47.22)	272
7	Have / Your wife has independent savings	15 (20.83)	14 (19.45)	43 (59.72)	116	16 (22.23)	15 (20.83)	41 (56.94)	119	31 (21.53)	29 (20.14)	84 (58.33)	235
8	Wanted to buy / your wife can buy small item of Jewelry without permission	4 (5.56)	40 (55.55)	28 (38.89)	120	3 (4.17)	45 (62.50)	24 (33.34)	123	7 (4.86)	85 (59.03)	52 (36.11)	243
9	Have / your wife has her own income.	48 (66.67)	16 (22.22)	8 (11.11)	184	40 (55.56)	28 (38.89)	4 (5.55)	180	88 (61.11)	44 (30.56)	12 (8.33)	364
10	Have say / your wife has say in how the Pooled income is spent	6 (8.33)	29 (40.28)	37 (51.39)	113	7 (9.72)	32 (44.44)	33 (45.84)	118	13 (9.03)	61 (42.36)	70 (48.61)	231
11	Use / your wife can use the remittances received without permission	5 (6.93)	44 (61.11)	23 (31.94)	126	6 (8.33)	44 (61.11)	22 (30.56)	128	11 (7.64)	88 (61.11)	45 (31.25)	254
12	Could / your wife would sell or trade the land she owns without permission	6 (8.33)	41 (56.95)	25 (34.72)	125	3 (4.17)	42 (58.33)	27 (37.50)	120	9 (6.25)	83 (57.64)	52 (36.11)	245
13	Could / your wife could use the valuables or properties without permission	15 (20.84)	32 (44.44)	25 (34.72)	134	12 (16.67)	39 (54.17)	21 (29.17)	135	27 (18.75)	71 (49.31)	46 (31.94)	269
14	Able / your wife able to support herself and children	12 (16.66)	21 (29.17)	39 (54.17)	117	7 (9.72)	29 (40.28)	36 (50.00)	115	19 (13.19)	50 (34.72)	75 (52.09)	232
	Averages	(21.63)	(39.09)	(39.28)		(20.04)	(45.56)	(37.40)		(20.84)	(40.82)	(38.34)	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and roman numbers indicate rank

independently always followed by sometimes (45.48%) and never (5.90%) as the responses indicate. Majority (58.33%) of respondents said that women always made efforts to settle the differences, 26.04 per cent indicate as sometimes and never 17.36 per cent. Nearly half (48.26%) of the respondents indicate that women were involved in domestic decision making always and as sometimes (38.89%) and never (12.85%).

4.3.5.3 Economic empowerment of women

4.3.5.3.1 Economic empowerment of women in Adilabad

Table 52 reveals that two third majority (66.67%) of women reported to have their own income followed by sometimes (22.22%) and never (11.11%). Half of them reported that, they were always allowed to spend even without having independent income. While, 38.89 per cent said sometimes and never (11.11%). A sizeable number (43.06%) stated that they were consulted at times of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc. and 30.55 per cent were never consulted and 26.39 per cent were consulted sometimes. Only 16.67 per cent reported that they were allowed to spend for themselves, majority (58.33%) reported as sometimes and one fourth as never. About 20.83 per cent reported that they can use the valuables or properties as their wish followed by sometimes (44.44%) and never (34.73%).

Over half (55.56%) of men reported that their wives had their own income followed by sometimes (38.89%) and never (5.55%). When asked, whether their wives were allowed to spend even without having independent income, 43.05 per cent stated as always, sometimes (31.94%) and one fourth as never. A sizeable number (43.05%) of men reported that they consulted their wives at the time of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc, followed by never (37.50%) and sometimes (19.44%). Above one third majority (36.11%) reported that their wives consulted them before spending personal income, 23.61 per cent stated as sometimes and 40.28 per cent as never. Only 16.67 per cent of men stated that, their wives could use the valuables or properties without their permission. While, majority (54.17%) as sometimes and 29.17 per cent as never.

Table 53: Economic empowerment of women in West Godavari

S. No.	Statement	Women				Men				Pooled			
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score
1	Doesn't dependent on your husband / your wife not dependent on you for economic needs	--	31 (43.06)	41 (56.94)	103	--	36 (50.00)	36 (50.00)	108	--	67 (46.53)	77 (53.47)	211
2	Allowed / your wife allowed to spend yourself / herself	19 (26.39)	41 (56.94)	12 (16.67)	151 IV	15 (20.83)	40 (55.56)	17 (23.61)	142 IV	34 (23.61)	81 (56.25)	29 (20.14)	293 IV
3	Allowed / your wife allowed to spend without having independent income	23 (31.94)	36 (50.00)	13 (18.06)	154 III	35 (48.61)	25 (34.72)	12 (16.67)	167 II	58 (40.28)	61 (42.36)	25 (17.36)	321 III
4	Consulted / consult your wife before taking decisions on investment	5 (6.94)	32 (44.44)	35 (48.62)	114	6 (8.33)	47 (65.28)	9 (26.39)	131	11 (7.64)	79 (54.86)	54 (37.50)	245
5	Consulted / consult your wife at the time of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc.	39 (54.17)	23 (31.94)	10 (13.89)	173 II	34 (47.22)	19 (26.39)	19 (26.39)	159 III	73 (50.69)	42 (29.17)	29 (20.14)	332 II
6	Spend / your wife can spend personal income without permission	20 (27.78)	19 (23.69)	33 (45.84)	131	24 (33.33)	11 (15.28)	37 (51.39)	131	44 (30.56)	30 (20.83)	70 (48.61)	262
7	Have / Your wife has independent savings	20 (27.78)	8 (11.11)	44 (61.11)	120	28 (38.89)	6 (8.33)	38 (52.78)	134	48 (33.33)	14 (9.73)	82 (56.94)	254
8	Wanted to buy / your wife can buy small item of Jewelry without permission	6 (8.33)	30 (41.67)	36 (50.00)	114	7 (9.72)	38 (52.78)	27 (37.50)	124	13 (9.03)	68 (47.22)	63 (43.75)	238
9	Have / your wife has her own income.	42 (58.33)	18 (25.00)	12 (16.67)	174 I	41 (56.94)	22 (30.56)	9 (12.50)	176 I	83 (57.64)	40 (27.78)	21 (14.58)	350 I
10	Have say / your wife has say in how the Pooled income is spent	17 (23.61)	35 (48.61)	20 (27.78)	141 V	13 (18.06)	41 (56.94)	18 (25.00)	139 V	30 (20.83)	76 (52.78)	38 (26.39)	280 V
11	Use / your wife can use the remittances received without permission	9 (12.50)	34 (47.22)	29 (40.28)	124	4 (5.55)	40 (55.56)	28 (38.89)	120	13 (9.03)	74 (51.39)	57 (39.58)	244
12	Could / your wife would sell or trade the land she owns without permission	9 (12.50)	35 (48.61)	28 (38.89)	125	5 (6.93)	41 (56.94)	26 (36.11)	123	14 (9.72)	76 (52.78)	54 (37.50)	248
13	Could / your wife could use the valuables or properties without permission	19 (26.39)	24 (33.33)	29 (40.28)	134	15 (20.83)	29 (40.28)	28 (38.89)	131	34 (23.61)	53 (36.81)	57 (39.58)	265
14	Able / your wife able to support herself and children	17 (23.61)	24 (33.33)	31 (43.06)	130	6 (8.33)	37 (51.39)	29 (40.28)	121	23 (15.97)	61 (42.36)	60 (41.67)	251
	Averages	(24.31)	(38.69)	(37.00)		(24.40)	(42.86)	(32.74)		(24.36)	(40.77)	(34.87)	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and roman numbers indicate rank

An overview of the Table 52 indicates that majority (61.11%) of women had own income followed by sometimes (30.56%) and never (8.33%). Nearly half (46.52%) of women and men reported that women were allowed to spend even without having independent income always, followed by sometimes (35.42%) and never (18.06%). When asked, whether women were consulted at times of important occasions, 43.06 per cent reported as always, followed by never (34.02%) and sometimes (37.50%). The responses indicate that 36.11 per cent of women consult their husbands before spending personal income always, 16.67 per cent said sometimes and 47.22 per cent never consulted their husbands. Only 18.75 per cent responses revealed that women could use the valuables / properties without permissions while 49.31 per cent reported as sometimes and never (31.94%).

4.3.5.3.2 Economic empowerment of women in West Godavari

The data of economic empowerment of women in West Godavari indicate that majority (58.33%) of women reported to have their own income, one fourth has sometimes and only 11.67 per cent never had their own income (Table 53). More than half (54.17%) of women said they were consulted at times of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc followed by sometimes (31.94%) and 13.89 per cent were never consulted. When asked whether they were allowed to spend even without having independent income, 31.94 per cent reported as always, half of them said as some times and 18.06 per cent as never. Just above one fourth (26.39%) of women were allowed to spend for themselves without permission followed by majority (56.94%) as sometimes and never (16.67%). About 23.61 per cent of women reported that they had say in how the overall income was spent followed by sometimes (48.61%) and never (27.78%).

Men also responded similarly over half (56.94%) of men reported that their wives always had their own income, 30.56 per cent had sometimes and never (12.50%). When asked that whether their wives were allowed to spend even without having independent income, nearly half (48.61%) of them reported as always followed by sometimes (34.72%) and never (16.67%). About 47.22 per cent of men said they consulted their wives at times of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions like marriages and an equal per cent (26.39%) said

Table 54: Economic empowerment of women

S. No.	Statement	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)					
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score
1	Doesn't dependent on your husband / your wife not dependent on you for economic needs	2 (1.39)	70 (48.61)	72 (50.00)	218	6 (4.17)	70 (48.61)	68 (47.22)	226	8 (2.78)	140 (48.61)	140 (48.61)	444
2	Allowed / your wife allowed to spend yourself / herself	31 (21.53)	83 (57.64)	30 (20.83)	289	26 (18.06)	75 (52.08)	43 (29.83)	271	57 (19.79)	158 (54.86)	73 (25.35)	560
3	Allowed / your wife allowed to spend without having independent income	59 (40.98)	64 (44.44)	21 (14.58)	326	66 (45.83)	48 (33.33)	30 (20.83)	324	125 (43.40)	112 (38.89)	51 (17.71)	650
4	Consulted / consult your wife before taking decisions on investment	5 (3.47)	54 (37.50)	85 (59.03)	208	9 (6.25)	79 (54.86)	56 (38.89)	241	14 (4.86)	133 (46.18)	141 (48.96)	449
5	Consulted / consult your wife at the time of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc.	70 (48.61)	42 (29.17)	32 (22.22)	326	65 (45.14)	33 (22.92)	46 (31.94)	307	135 (46.88)	75 (26.04)	78 (27.08)	633
6	Spend / your wife can spend personal income without permission	46 (31.94)	26 (18.06)	72 (50.00)	262	50 (34.72)	28 (19.45)	66 (45.83)	272	96 (33.33)	54 (18.75)	138 (47.92)	534
7	Have / Your wife has independent savings	35 (24.31)	22 (15.28)	87 (60.42)	236	44 (30.56)	20 (14.58)	79 (54.86)	253	79 (27.43)	43 (14.93)	166 (57.64)	489
8	Wanted to buy / your wife can buy small item of Jewelry without permission	10 (9.72)	70 (48.61)	64 (44.44)	234	10 (6.94)	83 (57.64)	51 (35.42)	247	20 (6.93)	153 (53.14)	115 (39.93)	481
9	Have / your wife has her own income.	90 (62.50)	34 (23.61)	20 (13.89)	358	81 (56.25)	50 (34.72)	13 (9.03)	356	171 (59.38)	84 (29.17)	33 (11.46)	714
10	Have say / your wife has say in how the Pooled income is spent	23 (15.97)	64 (44.44)	57 (39.58)	254	20 (13.89)	73 (50.69)	51 (35.42)	257	43 (14.93)	137 (47.57)	108 (37.50)	511
11	Use / your wife can use the remittances received without permission	14 (9.72)	78 (54.17)	52 (36.11)	250	10 (6.94)	84 (58.34)	50 (34.72)	248	24 (8.33)	162 (56.25)	102 (35.42)	498
12	Could / your wife would sell or trade the land she owns without permission	15 (10.42)	76 (52.78)	53 (36.81)	250	8 (5.56)	83 (57.64)	53 (36.81)	243	23 (7.98)	159 (55.21)	106 (36.81)	493
13	Could / your wife could use the valuables or properties without permission	34 (23.61)	56 (38.89)	54 (37.50)	268	27 (18.75)	68 (47.22)	49 (34.03)	266	61 (21.18)	124 (4306)	103 (35.76)	534
14	Able / your wife able to support herself and children	29 (20.14)	45 (31.25)	70 (48.61)	247	13 (9.03)	66 (45.83)	65 (45.14)	236	42 (14.58)	111 (38.54)	135 (46.88)	483
	Averages	(22.97)	(38.89)	(38.14)		(22.22)	(42.71)	(35.07)		(22.60)	(40.79)	(36.61)	22

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and roman numbers indicate rank

262

sometimes and never (8.33%). Almost equal per cent (20.83 and 23.61%) of them reported that their wives were allowed to spend for themselves as always and sometimes respectively. Over half (55.56%) reported as sometimes. About 18.06 per cent of them reported that their wives always had say how overall income was spend. While majority (56.94%) said as sometimes and one fourth of them as never.

Overall responses reveals that majority (57.64%) of women had their own income. Half (50.69%) of women were consulted at times of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions like marriages. When asked whether women were allowed to spend even without having independent income, 40.28 per cent reported as always. Only 23.61 per cent of women were allowed to spend for themselves and 20.83 per cent had say in how overall income was spent. There questions ranked 1,2,3,4 and 5 based on their mean scores.

4.3.5.3.3 Economic empowerment of women

Table 54 indicates the results pertaining to economic empowerment of women in the study area.

Majority (62.50%) had their own income followed by sometimes (23.61%) and never (13.89%). About 40.98 per cent reported that they were allowed to spend even without having independent income always. Nearly half (48.61%) of women were consulted at the time of decisions regarding expenditure on important occasions. Such as marriages etc. followed by sometimes (29.17%) and never (22.22%). Nearly one fourth (23.61%) could use the valuables on properties as their wish always and 31.94 per cent were allowed to spend personal income without permission.

Majority (56.25%) of men reported that their wives had their own income always followed by sometimes (34.72%) and never (9.03%). When asked whether their wives were allowed to spend even without having independent income 45.83 per cent said as always, followed by sometimes (33.33%) and never (20.83%). While 45.14 per cent of men reported that they consult their wives at times of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc. followed by never (31.94%) and 22.92 per cent of them were consulted

Table 55 : Political Awareness of the respondents

S. No.	Particulars	Adilabad				West Godavari				Pooled			
		Women (n=72)		Men (n=72)		Women (n=72)		Men (n=72)		Women (n=144)		Men (n=144)	
		Aware	Not aware	Aware	Not aware	Aware	Not aware	Aware	Not aware	Aware	Not aware	Aware	Not aware
1	Aware of the Nationality	72 (100) I	--	72 (100) I	--	72 (100) I	--	72 (100) I	--	144 (100) I	--	144 (100) I	--
2	Aware of India's Independence	24 (33.33) III	48 (66.67)	40 (55.56)	32 (44.44)	41 (56.94) III	31 (43.06)	45 (62.50)	27 (37.50)	65 (45.14) III	58 (40.28)	85 (59.03) I	59 (40.97)
3	Have any understanding about government	24 (33.33) III	48 (66.67)	35 (48.61)	37 (51.39)	30 (41.67)	42 (58.33)	46 (63.89)	26 (36.11)	54 (37.50)	68 (47.22)	81 (56.25) I	63 (43.75)
4	Aware of the political parties	24 (33.33) III	48 (66.67)	50 (69.44) III	22 (30.56)	39 (54.17)	33 (45.83)	65 (90.28) III	7 (9.72)	63 (43.75)	40 (27.78)	115 (79.86) III	29 (20.14)
5	Aware of different elections in the country (Parliament, Assembly, Mandal, Gram panchayat, Others)	12 (16.67)	60 (83.33)	48 (66.67)	24 (33.33)	32 (44.44)	40 (55.56)	62 (86.11)	10 (13.89)	44 (30.56)	50 (34.72)	110 (76.39) I	34 (23.61)
6	Aware about the popular leaders	53 (73.61) II	19 (26.39)	61 (84.72) II	11 (15.28)	59 (81.94) II	13 (18.06)	66 (91.67) II	6 (8.33)	112 (77.78) II	19 (13.19)	127 (88.19) II	17 (11.81)
7	Aware of the various atrocities in the surrounding village	22 (30.56)	50 (69.44)	34 (57.22)	38 (52.78)	34 (47.22)	38 (52.78)	46 (63.89)	26 (36.11)	56 (38.89)	64 (44.44)	80 (55.56)	64 (44.44)
8.	Aware of reservation in politics	12 (16.67)	60 (83.33)	22 (30.56)	50 (69.44)	20 (27.78)	52 (72.22)	28 (38.89)	44 (61.11)	32 (22.22)	96 (66.64)	50 (34.72)	94 (65.28)
	Averages	(42.19)	(57.81)	(62.89)	(37.15)	(56.77)	(43.23)	(74.65)	(25.3)	(49.47)	(34.29)	(68.75)	(31.25)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

Roman numbers indicate rank

sometimes. About 34.72 per cent said that their wives could spend their personal income without permission always. While, 45.83 per cent stated as never. Whether their wives could use the valuables or properties without permission, 18.75 per cent said always, 47.22 per cent stated as sometimes and never (34.03%).

It could be concluded from Table 54 that majority (59.38%) of the responses reveal that women had their own income always followed by sometimes (29.17%) and never (11.46%). A sizeable number (43.40%) of the responses indicate that women were allowed to spend even without having independent income. While 38.89 per cent said as sometimes and 17.71 per cent stated as never. Nearly half (46.88%) of the responses indicate that women were consulted at time of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc. and almost equal per cent 26.04 and 27.08 per cent said as sometimes and never respectively. Only 19.79 per cent responses reveal that women were allowed to spend for themselves. While, majority (54.84%) indicate as sometimes and never by one fourth (25.35%). About 21.18 per cent of the responses reveal that women could use the valuables on properties as their wish.

4.3.5.4 Political Empowerment

4.3.5.4.1 Political awareness of the respondents

The Table 55 shows the data on political awareness of the respondents Adilabad in the study area

Cent per cent of women were aware of the nationality followed by nearly three quarters (73.61%) of aware of the popular leaders and one third of them were equally aware of India's Independence, had an understanding of government and aware of various political parties. Whereas, cent per cent of men were also aware of the Nationality followed by a great majority (84.72%) aware of the popular leaders, awareness of political parties (69.44%) and two third majority were aware of the different elections in the country.

On the whole, cent per cent of them were of nationality. More than three fourth (79.17%) were aware of the popular leaders, 51.39 per cent were

aware of the various political parties and 44.44 per cent were aware of India's Independence.

An overview of the Table 55 reveals Political Awareness of the respondents in West Godavari.

Cent per cent of women were aware of the Nationality. A great majority (81.94%) of women were aware of about the popular readers, 56.94 per cent were aware of India's Independence. Cent per cent of men also reported that they were aware of Nationality. A vast majority (91.67 and 90.28%) of them were aware of the popular leaders and political parties respectively and 86.11 per cent were aware of different elections.

Cent per cent of women and men were aware of the Nationality followed by a great majority (86.81%) aware of the popular leaders, nearly three quarters (72.22%) were aware of political parties and 65.28 per cent were aware of different elections in the country.

The results of political awareness of both the districts were presented in Table 55.

Cent per cent of the women respondents were aware of the nationality followed by popular leaders (77.78%) Cent per cent of men were aware of the Nationality. A vast majority (88.19%) were aware of popular leaders. More than three quarters (79.86%) aware of political parties and 76.39 per cent were aware of different elections in the country. India's Independence (45.14%) and political parties (43.75%).

Cent per cent respondents of the study sample were aware of the Nationality followed by popular leaders (82.99%), political parties (61.81%), and different elections in the country (53.47%).

4.3.5.4.2 Political participation

4.3.5.4.2.1 Political participation of the respondents in Adilabad

The results with regard to political participation of the respondents in Adilabad were presented in Table 56. Nearly three quarters (70.83%) of women said they cast their vote during elections frequently followed by sometimes

Table 56: Political participation of respondents in Adilabad
Particulars

S. No.		Women (n=72)			Score	Men (n=72)			Score	Pooled (n=144)			Score
		Always	Some-times	Never		Always	Some-times	Never		Always	Some-times	Never	
1.	Interested in politics and public affairs	--	14 (19.44)	58 (50.54)	86	12 (16.67)	29 (40.28)	31 (43.05)	125 IV	12 (8.33)	43 (29.86)	89 (61.81)	211 VII
2.	Ever discuss politics and public affairs with others	--	19 (26.39)	53 (73.61)	91 V	6 (8.33)	36 (50.00)	30 (41.67)	120	6 (4.17)	55 (38.19)	83 (57.64)	211 VII
3.	Your family members interested in politics and public affairs	--	8 (11.11)	64 (88.89)	80	--	13 (18.06)	59 (81.94)	85	--	21 (14.58)	123 (65.42)	165
4.	Interested in the election campaign in the local elections	3 (4.16)	16 (22.22)	53 (73.62)	94 VI	11 (15.28)	28 (38.89)	33 (45.83)	122	14 (9.72)	44 (30.56)	86 (59.72)	216 VI
5.	Ever tell other people why to vote for one of the parties or candidate	9 (12.50)	24 (33.33)	39 (54.17)	114 IV	14 (19.45)	31 (43.05)	27 (35.50)	131 V	23 (15.97)	55 (38.19)	66 (45.84)	245 V
6.	Support any candidate contesting based on caste /religion	17 (23.61)	27 (37.50)	28 (38.89)	133 II	31 (43.06)	29 (40.28)	12 (16.66)	163 II	48 (33.33)	56 (38.89)	40 (27.78)	296 II
7.	Interested in participating in elections	4 (5.55)	9 (12.50)	59 (81.95)	89	12 (16.66)	21 (29.17)	39 (54.17)	117	16 (11.11)	30 (20.83)	98 (68.06)	206 II
8.	Participated in election campaigning any time	8 (11.11)	36 (50.00)	28 (38.89)	124 III	19 (26.39)	31 (43.05)	22 (30.56)	141 IV	27 (18.75)	67 (46.53)	50 (34.72)	265 III
9.	Contribute any money in election campaign for any of the party / candidate	-	2 (2.78)	70 (97.22)	74	3 (4.17)	4 (5.55)	65 (90.28)	82	3 (2.08)	6 (4.17)	135 (93.75)	156
10.	Anything else you did to help in the election campaign for the candidate or party	2 (2.78)	3 (4.16)	67 (93.06)	79	7 (9.72)	13 (18.05)	52 (72.23)	99	9 (6.25)	16 (11.11)	119 (82.64)	178
11.	Member of any of the following (i.e., village panchayats, MPTC, ZTPC, Water user's association, Vidya committee)	-	4 (5.56)	68 (94.44)	76	2 (2.78)	8 (11.11)	62 (86.11)	84	2 (1.39)	12 (8.33)	130 (90.28)	160
12.	Attend the meeting of Gram Panchayat	5 (6.95)	32 (44.44)	35 (48.61)	114 IV	16 (22.22)	44 (61.11)	12 (16.67)	148 III	21 (14.58)	76 (52.78)	47 (32.64)	262 IV
13.	Cast the vote during the election	51 (70.83)	16 (22.22)	5 (6.95)	190 I	61 (84.72)	9 (12.50)	2 (2.78)	203 I	112 (77.78)	25 (17.36)	7 (4.86)	393 I
14.	Consulted for any decisions concerned to village politics	2 (2.78)	6 (8.33)	64 (88.89)	82	12 (16.67)	17 (23.61)	43 (59.72)	113	14 (9.72)	23 (15.97)	107 (74.31)	195
15.	Given opportunity to say whatever you wish during political / Gram panchayat meetings	3 (4.17)	7 (9.72)	62 (86.11)	85	11 (15.28)	12 (16.67)	49 (68.05)	106	14 (9.92)	19 (13.19)	111 (77.09)	191
16.	Interested in Contesting elections	-	11 (15.28)	61 (84.72)	83	3 (4.16)	12 (16.67)	57 (79.17)	90	3 (2.08)	23 (15.97)	118 (81.95)	173
	Averages	(9.03)	(20.31)	(70.66)		(19.10)	(29.25)	(51.65)		(14.06)	(24.78)	(61.16)	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages
Roman numbers indicate rank

(22.22%) and never (6.95%). About 23.61 per cent said that they supported the candidate contesting based on caste or religion frequently and almost an equal per cent 37.50 and 38.89 per cent said as sometimes and never respectively. Half of them said that, they participated in election campaigns sometimes followed by never (38.89%) and frequent (11.11%). Only 12.50 per cent of them told other people, why to vote for a particular party candidate, one third said as sometimes, and never (54.17%), Very few (6.95%) of them attended meetings of gram panchayat and 44.44 and 48.61 per cent sometimes and never respectively. Only 4.16 per cent were interested in the election campaigns in local elections frequently, 22.22 per cent were interested sometimes and never (73.62%). Nearly three fourth majority (73.61%) of them never discussed politics and public affairs with others and 26.39 per cent of them discussed sometimes.

An overwhelming majority (84.72) of men, cast their vote frequently during elections followed by sometimes (12.50%) and never (2.28%). A sizeable number (43.06%) said that, they supported candidate contesting based on caste or religion frequently, 40.28 per cent supported sometimes and never (16.66%). About 22.22 per cent attended the meetings of gram panchayat frequently, 16.67 per cent never attended, while 61.11 per cent of them attended sometimes. A sizeable number (43.05%) reported that, they participated in election campaigning sometimes followed by never (30.56%) and frequently (26.39%). About 19.45 per cent of them told other people why to vote for a particular party candidate frequently, 43.05 per cent sometimes and never (35.50%). Only 16.67 of them were interested in politics and public affairs and nearly equal per cent 40.28 and 43.05 per cent sometimes and never respectively. About half (45.83%) of them were never interested in election campaign in the local elections and 38.89 per cent sometimes only 15.28 per cent were interested frequently.

Just above three quarters (77.78%) cast their votes during the elections frequently, followed by sometimes (17.36%) and never (4.86%).

The overall results reveal that one third of them supported the candidate contesting based on caste religion frequently followed by sometimes (38.89%) and never (27.78%). Only 18.75 per cent of them frequently participated in the election campaigning, sometimes (46.53%) and never (34.72%). Only 14.58

Table 57: Political participation of the respondents in West Godavari

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)				Men (n=72)				Pooled (n=144)			
		Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score	Always	Some-times	Never	Score
1.	Interested in politics and public affairs	8 (11.11)	36 (50.00)	28 (38.89)	124 III	26 (36.11)	39 (54.17)	7 (9.72)	163 III	34 (23.61)	75 (52.08)	35 (24.31)	287 V
2.	Ever discuss politics and public affairs with others	4 (5.55)	44 (61.11)	24 (33.34)	124 VI	25 (34.72)	38 (52.78)	9 (12.50)	160 V	29 (20.14)	82 (56.94)	33 (22.92)	284 VI
3.	Your family members interested in politics and public affairs	5 (6.94)	22 (30.56)	45 (62.50)	104	9 (12.50)	27 (37.50)	36 (50.00)	117	14 (9.72)	49 (34.03)	81 (56.25)	221
4.	Interested in the election campaign in the local elections	9 (12.50)	23 (31.94)	40 (55.56)	113 VII	16 (22.22)	45 (62.50)	11 (15.28)	149	25 (17.36)	68 (47.22)	51 (35.42)	262
5.	Ever tell other people why to vote for one of the parties or candidate	23 (31.94)	23 (31.94)	26 (36.12)	141 III	24 (33.34)	29 (40.28)	19 (26.39)	149	47 (32.62)	52 (36.11)	45 (31.25)	290 IV
6.	Support any candidate contesting based on caste /religion	26 (36.11)	24 (33.33)	22 (30.56)	148 II	32 (44.44)	27 (37.50)	13 (18.06)	163 III	58 (40.28)	51 (35.42)	35 (24.30)	311 II
7.	Interested in participating in elections	11 (15.28)	13 (18.05)	48 (66.67)	107	24 (33.33)	21 (29.17)	27 (37.50)	141	35 (24.31)	34 (23.61)	75 (52.08)	248
8.	Participated in election campaigning any time	12 (16.67)	20 (27.78)	40 (55.56)	110	30 (41.67)	23 (31.94)	19 (26.39)	155 V	42 (29.17)	43 (29.86)	59 (40.97)	271 VII
9.	Contribute any money in election campaign for any of the party / candidate	-	2 (2.78)	70 (97.22)	86	7 (9.72)	9 (12.50)	56 (77.78)	95	17 (4.86)	11 (7.67)	126 (87.50)	181
10.	Anything else you did to help in the election campaign for the candidate or party	2 (2.78)	3 (4.16)	67 (93.00)	107	15 (20.83)	21 (29.17)	36 (50.00)	123	17 (11.80)	24 (16.67)	103 (71.53)	230
11.	Member of any of the following (i.e., village panchayats, MPTC, ZPMC, Water user's association, Vidya committee)	-	10 (13.89)	62 (86.11)	82	4 (5.55)	27 (37.50)	41 (56.95)	107	4 (2.78)	37 (25.69)	103 (71.53)	189
12.	Attend the meeting of Gram Panchayat	11 (15.28)	38 (52.78)	23 (31.94)	132 IV	26 (36.12)	31 (43.05)	15 (20.83)	175	37 (25.69)	69 (47.92)	38 (26.39)	307 III
13.	Cast the vote during election	60 (83.33)	7 (9.72)	5 (6.94)	183 I	65 (90.28)	5 (6.94)	2 (2.78)	207 I	125 (86.81)	12 (8.33)	7 (4.86)	370 I
14.	Consulted for any decisions concerned to village politics	4 (5.56)	15 (20.83)	53 (73.61)	95	18 (25.00)	23 (31.99)	31 (43.06)	131	22 (15.28)	38 (26.39)	84 (58.33)	226
15.	Given opportunity to say whatever you wish during political / Gram panchayat meetings	9 (12.50)	21 (29.17)	42 (58.33)	111	15 (20.83)	30 (41.67)	27 (37.50)	132	24 (16.67)	51 (35.42)	69 (47.91)	243
16.	Interested in contesting elections	-	16 (22.22)	56 (77.78)	88	7 (9.73)	23 (31.94)	42 (50.38)	109	7 (4.86)	39 (27.08)	98 (68.06)	197
	Averages	(15.97)	(27.52)	(56.51)		(29.77)	(36.28)	(33.94)		(22.87)	(31.90)	(45.23)	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages
Roman numbers indicate rank

269.
239

per cent of them attended the meetings at Gram panchayat frequently while 52.78 per cent attended sometimes and 32.64 per cent never attended. About 15.97 per cent of them told other people why to vote for a particular party candidate frequently followed by sometimes (38.19%) and never (45.84%). Majority (59.72%) were not interested in election campaign in local election followed by sometimes (30.56%) and frequently (9.72%). Very few i.e. 8.33 and 4.17 per cent were interested in politics and public affairs with other and discussed politics and public affairs respectively, sometimes (29.86 and 38.19%) and never (61.81% and 57.64%).

4.3.5.4.2.2 Political participation of the respondents in West Godavari

Table 57 reveals the results of political participation of the respondents in West Godavari district. A great majority (83.33%) of women reported that they cast their vote during elections frequently followed by sometimes (9.72%) and never (6.94%).

Almost equal per cent (36.11, 33.33 and 30.56 per cent) of women responded as frequent, sometimes and never respectively when asked about their support to any candidate contesting based on caste / religion. An equal per cent i.e., 31.94 per cent of them told other people why to vote for a particular party / candidate frequently and sometimes. Only 15.28 per cent of them frequently attended the meetings of gram panchayat, sometimes (52.78%), and never (31.94%). Very few 11.11 and 5.55 per cent of women had interest and discussed politics and public affairs with others respectively. Half of them were interested in politics and public affairs sometimes and 38.89 per cent were never interested. Nearly two third (61.11%) of them discussed politics and public affairs with others and one third of them never. Only 12.50 of them were interested in election, campaigns, frequently, sometimes (31.94%) and never (5.56%). An overwhelming majority (90.28%) of men, cast their vote frequent during elections, 6.94 per cent of them sometimes and never (2.78%).

Just above one third (36.12%) of men reported that they frequently attended the meeting of gram panchayat. While, a sizeable number (43.05%) said as sometimes and never (20.83%). Around 44.44 per cent of men supported candidates contesting based on caste or religion, followed by sometimes (37.50%) and never (18.06%). Interest in politics and public affairs was reported to be

Table 58: Political participation of the respondents

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)				Men (n=144)				Pooled (n=288)			
		Frequent	Some-times	Never	Score	Frequent	Some-times	Never	Score	Frequent	Some-times	Never	Score
1.	Interested in politics and public affairs	8 (5.56)	50 (34.72)	86 (59.72)	210	38 (26.39)	68 (47.22)	38 (26.39)	288 V	46 (15.97)	118 (40.97)	124 (43.06)	498 VI
2.	Ever discuss politics and public affairs with others	4 (2.78)	63 (43.75)	77 (53.47)	215 VI	31 (21.53)	74 (51.39)	39 (27.08)	280 IV	35 (12.15)	137 (47.57)	116 (40.28)	495 VII
3.	Your family members interested in politics and public affairs	5 (3.47)	30 (20.84)	109 (75.69)	184	9 (6.25)	40 (27.78)	95 (65.97)	202	14 (4.86)	70 (24.31)	204 (70.83)	386
4.	Interested in the election campaign in the local elections	12 (8.33)	39 (27.08)	93 (64.59)	207	27 (18.75)	73 (50.69)	44 (30.56)	271 VII	39 (13.54)	112 (38.89)	137 (47.57)	478
5.	Ever tell other people why to vote for one of the parties or candidate	32 (22.23)	47 (32.64)	65 (45.13)	255 III	38 (26.39)	60 (41.67)	46 (31.94)	280 VI	70 (24.31)	107 (37.14)	111 (38.55)	535 IV
6.	Support any candidate contesting based on caste / religion	43 (29.86)	51 (35.42)	50 (34.72)	281 II	63 (43.75)	56 (38.89)	25 (17.36)	326 II	106 (36.81)	107 (37.15)	75 (26.04)	607 II
7.	Interested in participating in elections	15 (10.42)	22 (15.28)	107 (74.30)	196	36 (25.00)	42 (29.17)	66 (45.83)	258	51 (17.71)	64 (22.22)	173 (60.07)	454
8.	Participated in election campaigning any time	18 (12.50)	56 (38.89)	70 (48.61)	236 V	49 (34.03)	54 (37.50)	41 (28.47)	296 IV	67 (23.26)	110 (38.19)	111 (38.55)	532 V
9.	Contribute any money in election campaign for any of the party / candidate	-	4 (2.78)	140 (97.22)	148	10 (6.94)	13 (9.03)	121 (84.03)	177	15 (5.21)	21 (7.29)	252 (87.50)	339
10.	Anything else you did to help in the election campaign for the candidate or party	4 (2.78)	6 (4.17)	134 (93.05)	158	22 (15.28)	34 (23.61)	88 (61.11)	222	26 (9.03)	40 (13.89)	222 (77.08)	388
11.	Member of any of the following (i.e., village panchayats, MPTC, ZTPC, Water user's association, Vidya committee)	-	14 (9.72)	130 (90.28)	158	6 (4.17)	35 (24.31)	103 (71.53)	191	6 (2.08)	49 (17.01)	233 (80.91)	349
12.	Attend the meeting of Gram Panchayat	16 (11.11)	70 (48.61)	58 (40.28)	246 IV	42 (29.17)	75 (52.08)	27 (18.75)	303 III	58 (20.14)	145 (50.35)	85 (29.51)	549 III
13.	Cast the vote during the election	111 (77.08)	23 (15.97)	10 (6.95)	373 I	126 (89.50)	14 (9.72)	4 (2.78)	410 I	237 (82.29)	37 (12.85)	14 (4.86)	783 I
14.	Consulted for any decisions concerned to village politics	6 (4.17)	21 (14.58)	117 (81.25)	177	30 (20.83)	40 (27.78)	74 (51.39)	244	36 (12.50)	61 (21.18)	191 (66.32)	421
15.	Given opportunity to say whatever you wish during political / Gram panchayat meetings	12 (8.33)	28 (19.45)	104 (72.22)	196	26 (18.06)	42 (29.16)	76 (52.78)	238	38 (13.19)	70 (24.31)	180 (62.50)	434
16.	Interested in contesting elections	-	27 (18.75)	117 (81.25)	171	10 (6.94)	35 (24.31)	99 (68.75)	199	10 (3.47)	62 (21.53)	216 (75.00)	370
	Averages	(12.50)	(23.91)	(63.59)		(24.44)	(32.77)	(42.79)		(18.47)	(28.34)	(53.19)	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

Roman numbers indicate rank

frequent among 36.11 per cent. While, majority (54.17%) said as sometimes and never (9.72%). Just above one-third (34.72%) discussed politics and public affairs with others frequently, sometimes (52.78%) and never (12.50%). Participation in election campaigning was reported by 41.67 per cent of them frequently followed by sometimes (31.94%) and never (26.39%). Less than one fourth (22.22%) of them were interested in the election campaigning in the local election frequently and 15.28 per cent were never interested, while 62.50 per cent were interested sometimes. One third of men told others why to vote for a particular party / candidate frequently, 40.28 per cent said as sometimes and 26.39 per cent never.

The overall results indicate that a great majority (86.81%) of them franchised their vote during elections frequently followed by sometimes (8.33%) and never (4.86%). About 40.28 of the respondents supported candidate contesting based on caste or religion frequently followed by sometimes (35.42%), and never (24.30%). One fourth (25.69%) attended the meeting of gram panchayat frequently and almost equal per cent i.e., (26.39%) of them never attended while nearly half (47.92%) of them attended sometimes. Nearly equal per cent (36.11, 32.62 and 31.25%) of them told other people why to vote for a particular party / candidate sometimes, frequently and never respectively. Interest in politics and public affairs was reported as frequently by 23.61 per cent, never by 24.31 per cent and sometimes by 52.08 per cent. About 20.14 and 22.92 per cent of them discussed politics frequently and public affairs with others frequently and never respectively, While, majority (56.94%) reported as sometimes. Participation in election campaigning any time was reported as frequently by 29.17 per cent, sometimes (29.86%) and never (40.97%).

4.3.5.4.2.3 Political participation of the respondents

A perusal of Table 58 reveals overall political participation of the respondents.

More than three quarters (77.08%) of women reported to franchise their vote during elections frequently followed by sometimes (15.97%) and never (6.95%). Above one fourth (29.86%) of women reported that, they supported candidate contesting based on caste or religion frequently and almost an equal per cent i.e., (35.42 and 34.72%) said as sometimes and never respectively. About

22.23 per cent of women said that they told other people why to vote for a particular party candidate sometimes (32.64%) and never (45.13%). Only 11.11 per cent of women attended the meeting of gram panchayat frequently, sometimes (48.61%) and never (40.28%). Only 12.50 per cent of women participated in election campaigning frequently and 48.61 per cent never participated, while 38.89 participated sometimes. A meagre per cent i.e., (2.78%) of discussed politics and public affairs with other frequently and 43.75 per cent of them discussed sometimes. While, over half (53.47%) reported as never. Very few (5.56%) of women said they were interested in politics and public affairs frequently, 34.72 per cent were interested sometimes and 59.72 per cent were never interested.

With regard to men, a great majority (89.50%) of them reported that they frequently cast their vote during election followed by sometimes (9.72%) and never (2.78%). A sizeable number (43.75%) said that they supported candidate contesting based on caste or religion frequently followed by sometimes (38.89%) and never (17.36%). About 29.17 per cent of them attended the meeting of gram panchayat frequently, sometimes (52.08%) and never (18.75%). Just above one-third (34.03%) of them participated in election campaigning any time, nearly equal per cent i.e., (37.50%) sometimes and never (28.47%). An equal per cent (26.39%) of them reported that they were interested in politics and public affairs frequently and never and, 47.22 said as sometimes. Over half (51.39%) discussed politics and public affairs with other sometimes followed by never (27.08%) and frequently (21.53%). Just above one-fourth i.e., (26.39%) of them told other people why to vote for particular party / candidate frequently, sometimes (41.67%) and never (31.94%).

The overall results reveal that majority (82.29%) of respondents cast their vote frequently during election followed by sometimes (12.85%) and never only 4.86 per cent. Almost equal per cent 36.81 and 37.15 per cent of them supported candidate contesting based on caste / religion frequently and sometimes, while 26.07 per cent said as never. About 20.14 per cent of them reported that they attended the meeting of gram panchayat frequently, half (50.35%) said as sometimes and never (29.51%). Almost one fourth (24.31%) of told other people why to vote for a particular party / candidate frequently, 37.14 per cent of them reported as sometimes and never (38.55%). Participation in election

Table 59: Opinion of respondents on women politics in Adilabad

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)				Men (n=72)				Pooled (n=144)			
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score
1	Politics is a domain where women should and must involve	17 (23.61)	15 (20.83)	40 (55.56)	121	12 (16.67)	28 (38.89)	32 (44.44)	124	29 (20.14)	43 (29.86)	72 (50.00)	245
2	Women should vote according to their wish	33 (45.84)	32 (44.44)	7 (9.72)	170	27 (37.50)	24 (33.33)	21 (29.17)	150	60 (41.67)	56 (38.89)	28 (19.44)	320
3	Women should contest election	18 (25.00)	33 (45.83)	21 (29.17)	141	17 (23.61)	25 (34.72)	30 (41.67)	131	35 (24.31)	58 (40.28)	51 (35.41)	272
4	Women's participation in politics gives status to the family.	21 (29.17)	25 (34.72)	26 (36.11)	139	18 (25.00)	26 (36.11)	28 (38.89)	134	39 (27.08)	51 (35.42)	54 (37.50)	273
5	More women representatives in legislature should be encouraged.	31 (43.06)	26 (36.11)	15 (20.83)	160	29 (40.28)	26 (36.11)	17 (23.61)	156	60 (41.67)	52 (36.11)	32 (22.22)	316
6	Women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities of women	42 (58.33)	26 (36.11)	4 (5.56)	182	29 (40.28)	25 (34.72)	18 (25.00)	155	71 (49.31)	51 (34.72)	22 (15.27)	337
7	Women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, cooperatives etc.	34 (47.22)	24 (33.34)	14 (19.44)	164	27 (37.50)	26 (36.11)	19 (26.39)	152	61 (42.36)	50 (34.72)	33 (22.92)	316
8	Women should be consulted for any programme in bringing about improvement of the village	19 (26.39)	24 (33.34)	29 (40.28)	134	12 (16.67)	34 (47.22)	26 (36.11)	130	31 (21.53)	58 (40.28)	55 (38.19)	264
9.	Women should actively participate in politics, as they are meant only for men	12 (16.67)	26 (36.11)	34 (47.22)	122	26 (36.11)	11 (15.28)	35 (48.62)	135	38 (26.39)	37 (25.69)	69 (47.92)	257
10.	Women need reservations in politics	22 (30.50)	44 (61.11)	6 (8.33)	160	21 (29.16)	20 (27.78)	31 (43.06)	134	43 (29.87)	64 (44.44)	37 (25.69)	294
	Averages	32.36	38.19	29.45		30.28	34.03	35.69		31.13	36.11	32.56	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages
Roman numbers indicate rank

campaigning any time was frequent among 23.26 per cent, sometimes (38.19%) and never by 38.55 per cent of them. Interest on politics and public affairs was reported as never (43.06%), followed by sometimes (40.97%) and frequent by only 15.97 per cent. Nearly half (47.57%) of the respondents discussed politics and public affairs with others and 40.28 per cent said as never. Only 12.15 per cent reported as frequently.

Overall responses of women and men indicate that majority (59.38%) of them agreed that women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities followed by undecided (29.51%) and undecided (11.11%). The statement, more women representatives in legislature should be encouraged was agreed by 54.52 per cent and undecided by 30.55 per cent. Nearly half (48.61%) agreed that women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, co-operatives etc, one-third were undecided and 18.06 per cent disagreed about this. Women should vote according to their wish was agreed, undecided and disagreed among 46.18, 35.07 and 18.75 per cent of them respectively. Women need reservations in politics was agreed among 39.58 per cent followed by undecided (34.03%) and disagreed (26.39%).

4.3.5.4.3 Opinion of the respondents on women politics

4.3.5.4.3.1 Opinion of the respondents on women politics in Adilabad

A critical examination of Table 59 gives details on opinion of respondents on women politics of Adilabad. Majority (58.33%) women agreed that, women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities, followed by undecided (36.11%) and 5.56 per cent disagreed with this. Almost an equal per cent i.e., 45.84 and 44.44 per cent agreed and were undecided about the statement women should vote according to their wish. Only 9.72 per cent agreed about this. Nearly 47.22 per cent agreed that, women should be effective office bearers of panchayat, co-operates and the same was undecided by two third majority and 19.44 per cent disagreed with this. A sizeable number (43.06%) agreed that more women representatives in legislature should be encouraged followed by undecided (36.11%) and disagreement (20.83%). Women need reservation in politics statement was agreed by 30.50 per cent of women and

61.11 per cent were undecided about this. Only 8.33 per cent disagreed with this statement.

The responses of men reveal that 40.28 per cent agreed with the statement, more women representatives in legislature should be encouraged followed by undecided (36.11%) and disagreed (23.61%). Women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities was agreed, undecided and disagreed by 40.28, 34.72 and 25.00 per cent respectively. Just above one third majority i.e., 37.50 and 36.11 per cent agreed and were undecided respectively with the statement, women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, co-operatives etc. and 26.39 per cent of them had shown disagreement with this statement. Women should vote according to their wish was agreed among 37.50 per cent of men, one third were undecided and 29.17 per cent disagreed this. The statement women need reservation in politics was agreed by 29.16 per cent of them, and 27.78 per cent were undecided. A sizeable number (43.06%) agreed with this statement.

The overall results in the study area indicate that almost half (49.31%) agreed that, women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities followed by undecided (34.72%) and disagreed (15.27%). A sizeable number (41.67%) of women and men agreed that women should vote according to their wish and 38.89 per cent were undecided. Only 19.44 per cent disagreed about this. The statement, women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, co-operatives etc. was agreed by 42.36 per cent followed by undecided (34.72%) and disagreed (22.92%). More women representatives in legislature should be encouraged was agreed by 41.67 per cent. Above one third (36.11%) were undecided and 22.22 per cent had shown disagreement. Women need reservations in politics was agreed by 29.87 per cent and 25.69 per cent disagreed about this. While, 44.44 per cent were undecided about this.

4.3.5.4.3.2 Opinion of the respondents on women politics in West Godavari

A perusal of the Table 60 reveals the results on the opinion of the respondents in women politics in West Godavari.

Table 60 : Opinion of respondents on women politics in West Godavari

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=22)			Total		
		Agree	Under-cited	Dis-agree	Agree	Under-cited	Dis-agree	Agree	Under-cited	Dis-agree
1	Politics is a domain where women should and must involve	29 (40.28)	15 (20.83)	28 (38.89)	27 (37.50)	18 (25.00)	27 (37.50)	56 (38.89)	33 (22.92)	55 (38.19)
2	Women should vote according to their wish	44 (61.11)	26 (36.11)	2 (2.78)	29 (40.25)	19 (26.39)	24 (33.33)	73 (50.69)	45 (31.25)	26 (18.06)
3	Women should contest election	32 (44.44)	23 (31.94)	17 (23.61)	23 (31.94)	25 (34.72)	24 (33.34)	55 (38.19)	48 (33.33)	41 (28.48)
4	Women's participation in politics gives status to the family.	34 (47.22)	22 (30.50)	16 (22.22)	27 (37.50)	24 (33.34)	21 (29.16)	61 (42.36)	46 (31.95)	37 (25.69)
5	More women representatives in legislature should be encouraged.	59 (81.94)	13 (18.26)	--	38 (52.78)	23 (31.44)	11 (15.28)	97 (67.36)	36 (25.00)	11 (7.64)
6	Women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities of women	58 (80.55)	12 (16.67)	2 (2.78)	42 (58.33)	22 (30.56)	8 (11.11)	100 (69.44)	34 (23.62)	10 (6.94)
7	Women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, cooperatives etc.	45 (62.50)	21 (29.17)	6 (8.33)	34 (47.22)	25 (34.70)	13 (18.26)	79 (54.86)	46 (31.95)	19 (13.19)
8	Women should be consulted for any programme in bringing about improvement of the village	32 (44.44)	24 (33.34)	16 (22.21)	19 (26.34)	34 (47.22)	19 (26.34)	51 (35.42)	58 (40.28)	35 (24.30)
9	Women should actively participate in politics, as they are meant only for men	23 (31.94)	24 (33.34)	25 (34.72)	30 (41.67)	20 (27.78)	22 (30.56)	53 (36.80)	44 (30.56)	47 (32.64)
10	Women need reservations in politics	42 (58.33)	16 (22.22)	14 (19.45)	29 (40.28)	18 (25.00)	25 (34.72)	71 (49.31)	34 (23.61)	39 (27.08)
	Averages	55.28	27.22	17.50	41.39	31.67	26.94	47.36	30.41	22.23

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages
Roman numbers indicate rank

A great majority (81.94 and 80.55%) agreed with the statements more women representatives in legislature should be encouraged and women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities, respectively. The same were undecided by 18.26 and 16.67 per cent. Majority (61.11%) agreed that women should vote according to their wish followed by undecided (36.11%) and disagreed (2.78%). Nearly two third majority (62.50%) agreed that women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, cooperatives etc, and 29.17 per cent were undecided only 8.33 per cent disagreed about this. Women need reservations in politics was agreed by majority (58.33%), and 22.22 per cent were undecided. The same was disagreed by 19.45 per cent of them.

With regard to the responses of men, majority (58.33%) agreed that women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities followed by undecided (30.56%) and disagreed (11.11%). Over half (52.78%) agreed that more women representatives in legislature should be encouraged and 31.44 per cent were undecided. Only 15.28 per cent disagreed about this. Nearly half (47.22%) agreed with the statement, women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, co-operatives etc. followed by undecided (34.70%) and 18.26 had shown disagreement about this. A sizeable number (41.67%) agreed about the statement, women should actively participate in politics, and the same was disagreed by 30.56 per cent. While 27.78 per cent were undecided about this. Women's participation in politics gives status to the family was agreed, undecided and disagreed by 37.50, 33.34 and 29.16 per cent of them respectively.

An overview of the Table 60 indicate that, the statement which were ranked as 1 and 2 were women's involvement in politics helps to fight against social evils and economic inequalities and more women representatives in legislature should be encouraged were agreed among. 69.44 and 67.36 per cent of them followed by undecided (23.62% and 25.00%) and disagreed by (6.94 and 7.64) of them respectively. Women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, cooperatives etc was agreed by 54.86 per cent and undecided by 31.95 per cent. Only 13.19 per cent disagreed about this. Half (50.69%) agreed that, women should vote according to their wish followed by undecided (31.25%) and disagreed (18.06%). Almost half (49.31%) agreed with the statement, women need

Table 3.1. Opinion of the respondents on women politics

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)		
		Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Score
1	Politics is a domain where women should and must involve	46 (31.94)	30 (20.83)	68 (47.23)	266	39 (27.08)	46 (31.94)	59 (40.97)	268	534
2	Women should vote according to their wish	77 (53.47)	58 (40.28)	9 (6.25)	356 III	56 (38.89)	43 (49.86)	45 (31.25)	299 IV	655 IV
3	Women should contest election	50 (34.72)	56 (38.89)	38 (26.39)	300	40 (27.78)	50 (34.72)	54 (37.50)	274	574
4	Women's participation in politics gives status to the family.	55 (38.190)	47 (32.64)	42 (29.17)	301	45 (31.25)	50 (34.72)	49 (34.03)	284	585
5	More women representatives in legislature should be encouraged.	90 (62.50)	39 (27.08)	15 (10.42)	363 II	67 (46.53)	49 (34.03)	28 (19.44)	327 II	690 II
6	Women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities of women	100 (69.44)	38 (26.39)	6 (4.17)	382 I	71 (49.31)	47 (32.64)	26 (18.06)	333 I	715 I
7	Women should be affective office bearers of panchayats, cooperatives etc.	79 (54.86)	45 (31.25)	20 (13.89)	347 IV	61 (42.36)	51 (35.42)	32 (22.22)	317 III	664 III
8	Women should be consulted for any programme in bringing about improvement of the village	51 (35.42)	48 (33.33)	45 (31.25)	294	31 (21.53)	68 (47.22)	45 (31.25)	274	568
9.	Women should actively participate in politics, as they are meant only for men	35 (24.31)	50 (34.72)	59 (40.97)	264	56 (38.89)	31 (21.53)	57 (39.58)	287 V	551
10.	Women need reservations in politics	64 (44.44)	60 (41.67)	20 (13.89)	332 V	50 (34.72)	38 (26.39)	56 (38.89)	282	614 V
	Averages	(43.82)	(32.70)	(23.38)		(35.83)	(32.85)	(31.33)		

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages

Roman numbers indicate rank

reservations in politics and the same was disagreed and undecided by 27.08 and 23.61 per cent of them respectively.

4.3.5.4.3.3 Opinion of the respondents on women politics

Opinion of the respondents on women politics of both the districts were presented in Table 61.

Over two third majority (69.44%) agreed that women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities and 26.39 per cent were undecided about this. Only 4.17 disagreed with this statement. Majority (62.50%) of women agreed with the statement, more women representatives in legislature should be encouraged followed by undecided (27.08%) and 10.42 per cent had shown disagreement. Women should vote according to their wishes was agreed by 53.47 per cent of women and was undecided by 40.28 per cent of them. Only 6.25 per cent disagreed about this. Over half (54.86%) agreed that women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, co-operatives etc. followed by undecided (31.25%) and disagreed (13.89%). Women need reservations in politics was agreed, undecided and disagreed among 44.44, 41.67 and 13.89 per cent of them respectively.

Men also responded similarly nearly equal per cent i.e., (49.31 and 46.53%) of them agreed with the statements, women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities and more women representatives should be encouraged respectively. The same were undecided by (32.64 and 34.03%) and disagreed among (18.06 and 19.44%) of them respectively. A sizeable member (42.36%) agreed that, women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, co-operatives etc, followed by undecided (35.42%) and disagreed (22.22%). Women should vote according to their wish was agreed and undecided by 38.89 and 49.86 per cent respectively. The same was disagreed by 31.25 per cent. Women should actively participate in politics, for was agreed by 38.89 per cent followed by disagreement (38.89%) and undecided (26.39%).

Table 62: Awareness of respondents regarding various legal enactments

S. No.	Characte- ristics	Adilabad				West Godavari				Total			
		Women		Men		Women		Men		Pooled		Women	
		A	NW	A	NW	A	NW	A	NW	A	NW	A	NW
1	Child marriages restraint Act	12 (16.67)	60 (83.34)	18 (25.00)	54 (75.00)	30 (20.83)	114 (79.17)	20 (27.78)	52 (72.72)	48 (33.33)	96 (66.67)	32 (22.22)	112 (77.28)
2	Divorce Act	17 (23.61)	55 (76.39)	22 (30.56)	50 (69.45)	39 (27.08)	105 (72.92)	23 (31.94)	49 (68.06)	53 (36.81)	91 (63.19)	40 (27.78)	104 (72.22)
3	Dowry Act	23 (31.94)	49 (68.06)	28 (38.89)	44 (61.11)	51 (35.42)	93 (64.58)	32 (44.44)	40 (55.56)	58 (40.28)	86 (59.72)	55 (38.19)	89 (61.81)
4	Widow remarriages Act	21 (29.17)	51 (70.83)	27 (37.50)	45 (62.50)	48 (33.33)	96 (66.67)	30 (41.67)	42 (58.33)	65 (45.14)	79 (54.86)	51 (35.42)	93 (64.58)
5	Right to property Act	24 (33.33)	48 (66.67)	31 (43.06)	41 (56.94)	55 (38.19)	89 (61.81)	28 (38.89)	44 (61.11)	61 (42.36)	83 (57.64)	52 (36.11)	92 (63.89)

Figures in parentheses indicate percentages

A : Aware

.NW: Not aware

4.3.5.5 Legal Empowerment

4.3.5.5.1 Awareness of respondents regarding various legal enactments

Table 62 presents the results on awareness of respondents regarding various legal enactments.

Child Marriage Restraint Act: The results in Table 62 indicate that an overwhelming majority (83.34%) of women in Adilabad were not aware of child marriage restraint Act and only 16.67 per cent were aware of this. Among men three quarters were unaware of this act and one fourth were aware of this. On the whole, only 20.83 per cent were aware and above three quarters (79.17%) were unaware of this.

While, in West Godavari, above one fourth ((27.78%) of women were aware of this act and nearly three fourth majority (72.22%) were unaware. Majority (61.11%) of men and 38.89 per cent of men were unaware and aware of this act respectively. One third majority were aware and two third majority were unaware of this act.

The overall data indicates that majority (77.78%) of women were not aware of this law at all and 22.22 per cent were aware. While, among men 44.44 per cent and over half (55.56%) were aware and unaware of the law respectively. On the whole, one third majority and two third majority were aware and unaware of the law respectively.

Divorce Act: With regard to divorce act, majority (68.06%) women were unaware and 23.61 per cent were aware of this. Among men, above two third majority (69.45%) were unaware of the act and below one third (30.56%) were aware of this. On totality, majority (72.92%) were unaware of the act and 27.08 per cent were aware of this in the study area of Adilabad.

Nearly three quarters (72.22%) of women respondents in West Godavari were unaware of the act and 27.78 per cent were aware of this. A sizeable number (41.67%) and majority (58.33%) of men were aware and unaware of the act. On the whole, majority (63.19%) were unaware of the law and 36.81 per cent were aware of this.

The pooled data on this act indicate that, nearly three quarters (72.22%) of women were unaware of the act and 27.78 per cent were aware of this (Table 62). While, above one third (36.11%) of men reported to be aware of the act and majority (63.89%) not being aware of the act. On the whole, above two third majority (68.06%) and 31.94 per cent respectively were unaware and aware of the act.

Dowry prohibition Act: Regarding Dowry prohibition Act, 31.94 and 38.89 per cent of women and men were aware respectively. Majority (68.06 and 61.11%) of women and men respectively were not aware of this. Thus majority (61.11%) of the respondents were not aware of the act and above one-third majority were aware of the act in the study area of Adilabad.

It could be noted from Table 62, nearly half (44.44%) and over half (55.56%) of women were unaware and aware of the act respectively in West Godavari. Half of men were aware and unaware of the act. About 40.28 per cent of aware of the act and majority (59.72%). On the whole, 38.19 per cent were aware of the law and the rest (61.81%) were unaware of this.

It could be summarized that (38.19 and 44.44%) and (61.81 and 5.56%) of women and men were respectively aware and unaware of this act. Therefore, it can be concluded that majority (58.68%) were unaware of the law and 41.38 per cent were aware of this.

Widow remarriage Act: The results pertaining to widow remarriage act reveal that majority (70.83 and 62.50%) of women and men in Adilabad not being aware of this (Table 62). While 29.17 of women and 37.50 per cent of men were aware of the act. On the whole, one third were not aware and two third majority were aware of the act.

While in West Godavari a sizeable number (41.67%) of women and majority (58.33%) were aware and unaware of the act respectively. Nearly half (48.61%) and slightly above half (51.39%) of men were aware and unaware of the act respectively. Over half (54.86%) were unaware of the act and 45.14 per cent were aware of the act.

Table 63: Opinion of the respondents regarding various legal enactments in Adilabad

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)					
		Agree	Under- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Under- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Under- cided	Dis- agree	Score
Child marriage restraint Act													
1	Marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven	23 (31.94)	17 (23.61)	32 (44.44)	135 II	30 (41.67)	22 (30.55)	20 (27.78)	154 I	53 (36.81)	39 (27.08)	52 (36.11)	289 II
2	Early marriages are not advisable though daughters are supposed to belong to some ones else house	12 (16.67)	21 (29.17)	39 (54.17)	117	10 (13.89)	14 (19.44)	48 (66.62)	106	22 (15.28)	35 (24.31)	87 (60.41)	223
3	Early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige	16 (22.22)	23 (31.94)	33 (45.83)	127 III	28 (38.89)	17 (23.61)	27 (37.50)	145 III	44 (30.55)	40 (27.78)	60 (41.67)	272 III
4	Early marriages does not help to pay less dowry	14 (19.44)	23 (31.94)	35 (48.61)	123	20 (27.78)	12 (16.67)	40 (55.56)	124	34 (23.61)	35 (24.31)	75 (52.08)	247
5	Parents should not feel marriage of girl child as burden	8 (11.11)	21 (29.17)	43 (59.72)	109	13 (18.06)	16 (22.22)	43 (59.72)	114	21 (14.59)	37 (25.69)	86 (59.72)	223
6	Early marriages are not means of social control	13 (8.06)	23 (31.94)	36 (50.00)	121	19 (26.39)	25 (34.72)	28 (38.89)	135	32 (22.22)	48 (33.33)	64 (44.45)	256
7	Men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent	38 (52.78)	32 (44.44)	2 (2.78)	180 I	29 (40.28)	24 (33.33)	19 (26.39)	154 I	67 (46.53)	56 (38.89)	21 (14.58)	334 I
8	Early marriages do not maintain premarital chastity	10 (13.89)	28 (38.89)	34 (47.22)	120	11 (15.28)	12 (16.67)	49 (68.06)	106	21 (14.58)	40 (27.78)	83 (57.64)	226
	Average	23.27 (32.63)	32.63 (44.10)	44.10 (30.55)		27.78 (40.28)	24.05 (33.33)	47.57 (34.72)		25.52 (25.52)	28.61 (28.61)	45.83 (45.83)	
Divorce Act													
1	One must not hesitate to break the bond of marriage, if necessary	25 (34.72)	16 (22.22)	31 (43.06)	138	36 (50.00)	19 (26.39)	17 (23.61)	163	61 (42.36)	35 (34.31)	48 (33.33)	301
2	Instead of leading a life of constant misery, it is better to get divorce	28 (38.89)	18 (25.00)	26 (36.11)	146	42 (58.33)	19 (26.39)	11 (15.28)	175 V	70 (48.62)	37 (25.69)	37 (25.69)	321
3	Divorce bring catastrophe in the lives of children and therefore must be avoided	31 (43.06)	23 (31.94)	18 (25.00)	157	43 (54.72)	16 (22.22)	13 (18.06)	174	74 (51.39)	39 (27.08)	31 (21.53)	331 V

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Table 63 coontd...

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)				Men (n=72)				Pooled (n=144)			
		Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score
4	A women must not tolerate ill-treatment from husband rather seek divorce	2 (2.78)	18 (25.00)	52 (72.22)	94	6 (8.33)	19 (26.39)	47 (65.28)	103	8 (5.56)	37 (25.69)	99 (68.75)	197
5	Social pressure must be extended to compel the mismated couple to readjust and not divorce	30 (41.67)	29 (40.28)	13 (18.06)	161 V	26 (36.11)	24 (33.33)	22 (30.56)	148	56 (38.89)	53 (36.81)	35 (24.36)	309
6	Divorce disintegrates the family, individual and society	34 (47.22)	30 (41.69)	8 (11.11)	170 II	43 (59.72)	26 (36.11)	3 (4.17)	184 II	77 (53.47)	56 (38.89)	11 (7.64)	354 III
7	In case of moral breach divorce is desirable	25 (34.72)	14 (9.72)	33 (45.83)	136	24 (33.33)	-	48 (66.67)	120	49 (34.03)	14 (9.72)	81 (56.25)	256
8	Divorce is the correct solution for marital difficult	12 (16.67)	29 (40.28)	31 (43.06)	125	7 (9.72)	27 (37.5)	38 (52.78)	113	19 (13.19)	56 (38.89)	69 (47.92)	238
9	Divorce is desirable for it permits the correction of mistakes and happy readjustments	24 (33.33)	25 (34.72)	23 (31.94)	145	22 (30.56)	22 (30.56)	28 (38.89)	138	46 (31.94)	47 (35.69)	51 (35.42)	283
10	If marital difficulties are serious enough, divorce may be obtained	34 (47.22)	25 (34.72)	13 (18.06)	165 IV	42 (48.33)	20 (27.78)	10 (13.89)	176 IV	76 (52.78)	45 (31.25)	23 (15.97)	341 IV
11	Divorce is bad, it leads to suffering for the emotionally dependant partner	35 (48.61)	28 (38.89)	9 (12.50)	170 II	47 (65.28)	24 (33.33)	1 (1.39)	190 I	82 (56.94)	52 (36.11)	10 (6.95)	360 II
12	In case where the temperament of the husband and wife do not agree, divorce is inevitable	20 (27.78)	26 (36.11)	26 (36.11)	138	--	25 (34.70)	47 (65.28)	97	20 (13.89)	51 (35.42)	73 (50.69)	235
13	Society shouldn't look down upon a women who has divorced	47 (6528)	22 (34.72)	3 (4.17)	188 I	47 (65.28)	15 (20.83)	10 (13.89)	181 III	94 (65.28)	37 (25.6)	13 (9.03)	369 I
	Averages	(37.07)	(32.37)	(30.56)		(41.13)	(27.35)	(31.50)		(39.10)	(29.86)	(31.04)	
Dowry prohibition Act													
1	Dowry should not be given	30 (41.67)	23 (31.94)	19 (26.39)	155 II	28 (38.89)	32 (44.44)	12 (16.67)	160 II	58 (40.25)	55 (38.19)	31 (21.53)	315 II
2	Dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented	28 (38.89)	26 (36.11)	18 (25.00)	154 III	40 (55.56)	20 (27.77)	12 (16.67)	172 I	68 (47.23)	46 (31.94)	30 (20.83)	326 I

Contd...

Table 63 coontd...

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)					
		Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score
3	Practice of dowry is undesirable	28 (38.89)	25 (34.72)	19 (26.39)	153	26 (36.11)	28 (38.89)	18 (25.50)	152 III	54 (37.50)	53 (36.81)	37 (25.69)	305 III
4	Practice of dowry should be stopped	29 (40.28)	26 (36.11)	17 (23.61)	156 I	23 (31.94)	30 (41.67)	19 (26.39)	148	52 (36.11)	56 (3.89)	36 (25.00)	304
5	Dowry gives status to women	24 (33.33)	29 (40.28)	19 (26.39)	149	28 (38.89)	18 (25.00)	26 (36.11)	146	52 (36.11)	47 (35.64)	45 (31.25)	295
6	Dowry gives security to women	23 (31.94)	25 (34.72)	24 (33.34)	143	25 (34.72)	25 (34.72)	22 (30.56)	147	48 (33.33)	50 (34.72)	46 (31.95)	290
	Averages	(37.50)	(35.65)	(26.85)		(39.35)	(35.42)	(25.23)		(38.43)	(35.53)	(26.04)	
Widow remarriage													
1	Society must strongly support widow remarriage	22 (30.56)	30 (41.67)	20 (27.77)	146 II	30 (41.67)	27 (37.50)	15 (20.83)	159 I	52 (36.11)	57 (39.58)	35 (24.31)	305 I
2	Widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family	25 (34.72)	25 (34.72)	22 (30.56)	147 I	28 (38.89)	28 (38.89)	16 (22.22)	156 II	53 (36.81)	53 (36.81)	38 (26.38)	303 II
3	When widowers can remarry, widows too can do so.	--	27 (37.50)	45 (62.50)	99	12 (16.67)	26 (36.11)	34 (47.22)	122	12 (8.33)	53 (36.81)	79 (54.86)	221
4	Law should enforce that all widows below 30 years should re-marry	8 (11.11)	14 (19.44)	50 (69.44)	102	4 (5.56)	14 (19.44)	54 (75.00)	94	12 (8.33)	28 (19.44)	104 (72.22)	196
5	Widow remarriage is not a curse on ideal womanhood	18 (28.00)	20 (27.78)	34 (47.22)	128	26 (36.11)	10 (13.89)	36 (50.00)	134	44 (30.56)	30 (20.83)	70 (48.61)	262
6	Widow remarriage do not degrades the sacred bond of marriage	2 (2.78)	20 (27.78)	50 (69.44)	96	2 (2.78)	17 (23.61)	53 (73.61)	93	4 (2.78)	37 (25.69)	103 (71.43)	189
7	Objecting to widow-remarriage increases, immorality in society.	29 (40.28)	15 (20.83)	28 (38.89)	145 III	30 (41.67)	16 (22.22)	26 (36.11)	148 III	59 (40.97)	31 (21.53)	54 (37.50)	293 III
8	Widows should not lead a life of self-restrained and can think of getting married	-	12 (16.67)	60 (83.33)	84	2 (2.78)	8 (11.11)	62 (86.11)	84	2 (1.39)	20 (13.89)	122 (84.75)	168

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Table 63 coontd...

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)				Men (n=72)				Pooled (n=144)			
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score
9	The state should install funds to aid Widow marriages.	16 (22.22)	28 (38.89)	28 (38.19)	132	8 (11.11)	14 (19.44)	50 (69.44)	102	24 (16.66)	42 (29.17)	68 (47.22)	234
10	A widower can marry as many times as he likes and a widow too can	21 (29.16)	29 (40.28)	22 (30.56)	143	24 (33.33)	20 (27.78)	28 (38.89)	140	45 (31.25)	49 (34.03)	50 (34.72)	283
	Averages	(19.58)	(38.56)	(49.86)		(23.06)	(25.00)	(51.94)		(21.32)	(27.78)	(50.90)	
Right to property													
1	Women should be given right to demand a share from her parental property	53 (73.61)	17 (23.61)	2 (2.78)	195	24 (33.33)	21 (29.17)	27 (37.50)	141	77 (53.47)	38 (26.39)	29 (20.14)	336
2	A daughter should also have some share along with sons in parental property	54 (75.00)	16 (22.22)	2 (2.78)	196	24 (33.33)	21 (29.17)	27 (37.50)	141	78 (54.17)	37 (25.69)	29 (20.14)	337
3	A daughter should get equal share along with sons in parental property	32 (44.44)	22 (30.58)	18 (25.00)	158	22 (30.56)	23 (31.94)	27 (37.50)	139	54 (37.50)	45 (31.25)	45 (31.25)	297
4	Share in property will not destroy the affection between brother and sister	38 (52.78)	26 (36.11)	8 (11.11)	174	23 (31.94)	31 (43.06)	18 (25.00)	149	61 (42.36)	57 (39.58)	26 (18.06)	323
5	Share of girl should not be restricted to dowry	31 (43.05)	12 (16.67)	29 (40.28)	146	15 (20.83)	13 (18.06)	44 (61.11)	115	46 (31.95)	25 (17.36)	73 (50.69)	261
6	Sharing would not make land holdings per unit family uneconomical	17 (23.61)	27 (37.50)	28 (38.89)	133	31 (43.06)	22 (30.56)	19 (26.38)	156	48 (33.33)	49 (34.03)	47 (32.64)	289
7	Women do not have equal rights, there is a need for it.	29 (40.28)	25 (34.72)	18 (25.00)	155	26 (36.11)	20 (27.78)	26 (36.11)	144	55 (38.19)	45 (31.25)	44 (30.56)	299
8	Women should get three-fourth property rights.	31 (43.06)	26 (36.11)	15 (20.83)	160	16 (22.22)	17 (23.61)	39 (54.17)	121	47 (32.64)	43 (29.86)	54 (37.50)	281
9	Government should propagate the act of equal property right	33 (45.83)	32 (44.45)	7 (9.72)	170	19 (26.39)	16 (22.22)	37 (51.39)	126	52 (36.11)	48 (31.94)	44 (30.56)	296
10	Male domination after all do not allow women to get their shares.	32 (44.44)	28 (38.89)	12 (16.67)	164	32 (44.44)	16 (22.22)	24 (33.34)	152	64 (44.44)	44 (30.56)	36 (25.00)	316
	Averages	(48.61)	(32.08)	(13.31)		(32.22)	(27.78)	(40.00)		(40.42)	(29.93)	(29.65)	

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and Roman numbers indicate rank

Thus, it could be concluded that, (32.42 and 43.00%) of women and men being aware of the act and (64.58 and 56.94%) of women and men were not aware of the act respectively. A sizeable number i.e., 42.01 per cent were aware and majority (57.99%) were unaware of the act on the whole.

Right to property: One third of women respondents in Adilabad were aware of this act and two third majority were unaware. A sizeable number of men were aware of the act and majority (56.94%) were unaware of the act. On the whole, 38.19 and 61.81 per cent were aware and unaware of the act respectively.

Majority (61.81%) of women in West Godavari were unaware of the act and 38.19 per cent were aware of this. Among men 45.83 and 54.17 per cent were aware and unaware of the act respectively. A sizeable number (42.36%) of respondents were aware of the act and majority (57.64%) were unaware of the act in the study region of West Godavari.

The summary of the Table 62 reveals that (36.11 and 44.44%) and (63.89 and 55.56%) of women and men respectively were aware and unaware of the act. On totality, it can concluded that 40.28 per cent of the respondents were aware of the act and majority (59.72%) were unaware of the act.

4.3.5.5.2 Opinion on Legal enactments

4.3.5.5.2.1 Opinion of the respondents on legal enactments in Adilabad

Child marriage restraint act: It was observed from Table 63 that just above half (52.78%) of women in Adilabad agreed that men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent. About 31.94 per cent agreed that marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven and same was disagreed by 44.44 per cent. Around 22.22 per cent agreed and 45.83 per cent disagreed that early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige.

Among men 40.28 per cent agreed that men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent. Marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven was agreed and disagreed by 41.67 and 27.78% of them respectively. About 38.89 per cent agreed that early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige and was agreed by 37.50 per cent of them.

On totality, nearly half (46.53%) of them agreed that men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent. Marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven was agreed and disagreed by almost equal per cent i.e., 36.81 and 36.11 per cent, respectively. About 30.55 per cent agreed that early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige. Based on their total mean score these statements were ranked as 1,2 and 3 respectively.

Divorce act: An overview of Table 63 indicates opinion on divorce act. Almost two-third majority (65.28%) of women agreed that, society shouldn't look down upon a women who is divorced. Nearly half (48.61 and 47.22%) of them agreed with the statements, divorce is bad, as it leads to suffering of emotionally dependent partner and divorce disintegrates family, individual and society respectively. If marital difficulties are serious enough, divorce may be obtained was agreed by 47.22 per cent and 41.67 per cent agreed that social pressure must be extended to compel the mismated couple to readjust and not divorce.

With regard to men, majority (65.28%) of them reported to agree with the statement that divorce is bad as it leads to emotionally dependent partner and one-third were undecided about this. Divorce disintegrates the family, individual and society was agreed by 59.72 per cent. Almost two third majority (65.28) agreed that society shouldn't look down upon a women who is divorced. Nearly half (48.33%) agreed that, if marital difficulties are serious enough divorce may be obtained. Instead of leading a life of constant misery, it is better to get divorced was agreed by 58.33 per cent of them.

An overview of the data in Table 63 shows that, almost two-third majority (65.28%) agreed that society shouldn't look down upon women, who is divorced and 25.69 per cent were undecided about. Only 9.03 per cent disagreed with this statement. Over half (56.94% and 53.47%) agreed that divorce is bad as it leads to suffering of emotionally dependent partner and divorce disintegrates family, individual and society respectively. Above half (52.78%) agreed with the statement, if marital difficulties are serious enough divorce may be obtained followed by undecided (31.25%) and only 15.97 per cent of them disagreed with this statement. Just over half (51.39%) agreed, divorce brings catastrophe in the

lives of children and therefore must be avoided, undecided (27.08%) and disagreement (21.53%) about this.

Dowry prohibition Act: The opinion on Dowry Prohibition act reveals that a sizeable number (40.28%) of women agreed that practice of dowry should be stopped followed by undecided (36.11%) and disagreed (23.61%) about this. About 41.67 per cent agreed that dowry should not be given, 31.94 per cent were undecided and 26.39 per cent disagreed about this. Over one third (38.89%) of them reported to agree that dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented, 36.11 per cent were undecided and one fourth disagreed about this.

Over half (55.56%) of men reported to agree that dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented, 27.77 and 16.67 per cent were undecided and disagreed about this statement respectively. About 38.89 per cent agreed with the statement that dowry should not be given and 44.44 per cent were undecided about this. Practice of dowry is undesirable was agreed by 36.11 per cent, 25.50 per cent had shown disagreement and 38.89 per cent were undecided about this.

On the whole, nearly half (47.23%) agreed that dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented followed by undecided (31.94%) and disagreement (20.83%). About 40.25 per cent agreed that dowry should not be given, 21.53 per cent disagreed and 38.19 per cent were undecided. Just above one third (37.50%) agreed that practice of dowry is undesirable and 25.69 per cent disagreed about this. These statements were ranked 1,2 and 3 based on their mean scores.

Widow remarriage: The responses with regard to opinion on widow remarriage in Adilabad reveal the almost equal per cent i.e., 34.72, 34.72 and 30.56 of women agreed, undecided and disagreed with the statement, Widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family. Society must strongly support widow remarriage was agreed by 30.56 per cent, disagreed by 27.77 per cent, and 41.67 per cent felt undecided about this. The statement, objecting to widow-remarriage increases immorality in the society was agreed by 40.28 per cent followed by 38.89 per cent disagreeing this and undecided (20.83%). A widower can marry as many times as he likes and a widow too can was agreed among 29.16 per cent, undecided by 40.28 per cent and 30.56 per cent disagreed about this.

Among men, 41.67 per cent agreed with the statement, society must strongly support widow remarriage followed by 37.50 felt undecided and 20.83 disagreed about this. An equal per cent i.e., 38.89 per cent agreed and undecided with the statement, widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family and 22.22 per cent disagreed with this. Objecting to widow remarriage increases, immorality in society statement was agreed and disagreed by 41.67 and 36.11 per cent respectively and 22.22 per cent felt undecided. The statement, a widower can marry as many times as and a widow too can was agreed by one third majority followed by disagreement (38.89%) and 27.78 per cent felt undecided about this.

An overlook of the data in Table 63 indicated that, society must strongly support widow remarriage was agreed by 36.11 per cent followed by undecided (39.58%) and disagree (24.31%). An equal per cent i.e., 36.81 per cent of women and men reported to agree and were undecided about the statement, widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family and 26.38 per cent disagreed this., Objecting to widow remarriage increases, immorality in the society was agreed and disagreed by 40.97 and 37.50 per cent respectively and 21.53 per cent were undecided. Nearly equal per cent (31.25 and 34.72) agreed and disagreed about the statement that a widower can marry as many times as he likes and a widow too can and 34.03 per cent felt undecided about this statement. These statements were ranked based on their mean scores.

Right to property: With regard to Right to Property (Table 63), women in Adilabad reported that, three quarters of them agreed with the statement, a daughter should get should also have some share along with sons in parental property, only 2.78 per cent disagreed about this. Nearly three fourth (73.61%) of them agreed that women should be given right to demand a share from her parental property followed by undecided (23.61%) and only 2.78 per cent disagreed about this. Over half (52.78%) agreed with the statement that, share in property will not destroy the affection between brother and sister, 36.11 per cent felt undecided and only 11.11 per cent disagreed about this. Government should propagate the act of equal property right was agreed by 45.83 per cent, followed by undecided (44.45%) and 9.72 per cent disagreed about this. Male domination after all do not allow women to get their shares was agreed, undecided and disagreed among 44.44, 38.89 and 16.67 per cent of women respectively.

Table 64: Opinion of the respondents regarding various legal enactments in West Godavari

Table 64: Opinion of the respondents																			
S.No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Men (n=72)			Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Pooled (n=144)		
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree						Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree					Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree
Child marriage restraint Act																			
1	Marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven	36 (50.00)	21 (29.17)	15 (20.83)	165 IV	47 (65.28)	13 (18.00)	12 (16.67)	179 II	83 (57.64)	34 (23.61)	27 (18.75)	344 II						
2	Early marriages are not advisable though daughters are supposed to belong to some ones else house	31 (43.06)	24 (33.33)	17 (23.61)	158	17 (23.61)	24 (33.33)	31 (43.06)	130	48 (33.33)	48 (33.33)	48 (33.34)	288						
3	Early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige	39 (54.17)	21 (29.17)	12 (16.69)	171 II	27 (37.50)	10 (13.39)	35 (48.61)	136	66 (45.83)	31 (21.53)	47 (32.64)	307 IV						
4	Early marriages does not help to pay less dowry	39 (54.17)	20 (27.78)	13 (18.06)	170 III	7 (9.72)	17 (23.61)	48 (66.67)	103	46 (31.94)	37 (25.69)	61 (42.37)	273						
5	Parents should not feel marriage of girl child as burden	26 (36.11)	23 (31.94)	23 (31.94)	147	23 (31.94)	21 (29.17)	28 (38.89)	139	49 (34.02)	44 (3.56)	51 (35.42)	286						
6	Early marriages are not means of social control	14 (19.44)	26 (36.11)	32 (44.44)	126	23 (31.94)	26 (36.12)	23 (31.94)	144 IV	37 (25.69)	52 (36.12)	55 (38.19)	270						
7	Men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent	41 (56.94)	21 (29.17)	10 (13.89)	175 I	51 (70.83)	16 (22.22)	5 (6.94)	190 I	92 (63.89)	37 (25.69)	15 (10.42)	365 I						
8	Early marriages do not maintain premarital chastity	37 (51.39)	18 (25.00)	17 (23.61)	164	31 (43.06)	21 (29.17)	20 (27.78)	155 III	68 (47.23)	39 (27.08)	37 (25.69)	319 III						
	Averages	(45.66)	(30.21)	(29.13)		(39.24)	(25.69)	(35.07)		(29.60)	(27.95)	(42.45)							
Divorce Act																			
1	One must not hesitate to break the bond of marriage, if necessary	44 (61.11)	15 (20.83)	13 (18.06)	175 IV	49 (68.00)	11 (15.28)	12 (16.67)	181 IV	93 (64.58)	26 (18.06)	25 (17.36)	356 III						
2	Instead of leading a life of constant misery, it is better to get divorce	45 (62.50)	16 (22.22)	11 (15.28)	178 II	51 (70.83)	12 (16.67)	9 (12.50)	186 II	96 (66.67)	28 (19.44)	20 (13.89)	364 II						
3	Divorce bring catastrophe in the lives of children and therefore must be avoided	35 (48.61)	23 (31.94)	14 (19.44)	165 [*]	44 (61.11)	16 (16.67)	12 (22.22)	176	79 (54.86)	39 (27.08)	26 (18.06)	341						
Contd...																			

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Table 64 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Score
4	A women must not tolerate ill-treatment from husband rather seek divorce	10 (13.89)	29 (40.28)	33 (45.83)	121	2 (2.78)	15 (20.83)	55 (76.39)	91	212
5	Social pressure must be extended to compel the mismated couple to readjust and not divorce	43 (59.72)	19 (26.39)	10 (13.89)	177 III	54 (75.00)	17 (23.61)	1 (1.39)	197 I	374 I
6	Divorce disintegrates the family, individual and society	33 (45.83)	26 (36.11)	13 (18.06)	164	48 (66.67)	17 (23.61)	7 (9.72)	185 III	349
7	In case of moral breach divorce is desirable	24 (33.33)	7 (9.72)	41 (56.94)	127	16 (22.22)	2 (2.78)	54 (75.00)	106	233
8	Divorce is the correct solution for marital difficult	11 (15.28)	26 (36.11)	35 (48.61)	120	14 (19.44)	16 (22.22)	42 (58.33)	116	236
9	Divorce is desirable for it permits the correction of mistakes and happy readjustments	16 (22.22)	32 (44.44)	24 (33.34)	136	18 (25.00)	17 (23.61)	37 (51.39)	125	261
10	If marital difficulties are serious enough, divorce may be obtained	37 (51.39)	27 (37.50)	8 (11.11)	173	44 (61.11)	17 (23.61)	11 (15.28)	177	350 IV
11	Divorce is bad, it leads to suffering for the emotionally dependant partner	30 (41.67)	27 (37.50)	15 (20.83)	159	46 (63.89)	18 (25.00)	8 (11.11)	182	341
12	In case where the temperament of the husband and wife do not agree, divorce is inevitable	6 (8.33)	36 (50.00)	30 (41.67)	120	9 (12.50)	17 (23.61)	46 (63.89)	107	227
13	Society shouldn't look down upon a women who has divorced	44 (61.11)	25 (34.72)	3 (4.17)	185 I	30 (41.67)	25 (34.72)	17 (23.61)	157	342
	Averages	(40.39)	(32.90)	(26.71)		(45.29)	(21.37)	(33.34)		
	Dowry prohibition act									
1	Dowry should not be given	41 (56.94)	21 (29.17)	10 (13.89)	175 II	37 (51.38)	27 (37.50)	8 (11.12)	173 II	348 II
2	Dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented	44 (61.11)	20 (27.78)	8 (11.11)	180 I	51 (70.83)	18 (25.00)	3 (4.17)	192 I	372 I

Contd...

Table 64 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Score
3	Practice of dowry is undesirable	30 (41.67)	20 (27.78)	22 (80.56)	152 III	30 (41.67)	26 (36.11)	16 (22.22)	158 III	310 III
4	Practice of dowry should be stopped	33 (45.83)	19 (26.39)	20 (27.78)	157 III	28 (38.89)	21 (29.17)	23 (31.44)	149	306
5	Dowry gives status to women	28 (38.89)	24 (33.33)	20 (27.78)	152	22 (44.45)	34 (33.33)	16 (22.22)	150	302
6	Dowry gives security to women	27 (37.50)	26 (36.11)	19 (26.39)	152	29 (40.28)	20 (27.78)	23 (31.94)	150	302
	Averages	(46.99)	(30.09)	(22.92)		(45.60)	(33.79)	(20.61)		
Widow remarriage Act										
1	Society must strongly support widow remarriage	35 (48.61)	28 (38.89)	9 (12.50)	170 II	45 (62.50)	20 (27.77)	7 (9.73)	182 II	352 II
2	Widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family	40 (55.56)	25 (34.72)	7 (9.72)	177 I	52 (72.22)	10 (13.89)	10 (13.89)	186 I	363 I
3	When widowers can remarry, widows too can do so.	7 (9.73)	30 (41.46)	35 (48.61)	116	17 (23.61)	20 (27.78)	35 (48.61)	126	242
4	Law should enforce that all widows below 30 years should re-marry	10 (13.89)	28 (38.89)	34 (47.22)	120	6 (8.33)	28 (38.89)	38 (52.78)	112	232
5	Widow remarriage is not a curse on ideal womanhood	28 (38.89)	16 (22.22)	28 (38.89)	144	34 (47.22)	8 (11.11)	30 (41.67)	148 IV	292 IV
6	Widow remarriage do not degrades the sacred bond of marriage	6 (8.33)	17 (23.61)	49 (68.06)	101	12 (16.67)	10 (13.89)	50 (69.44)	106	207
7	Objecting to widow-remarriage increases, immorality in society.	38 (52.78)	16 (22.22)	18 (25.00)	164 III	33 (45.83)	18 (25.00)	21 (29.17)	156 III	320 III
8	Widows should not lead a life of self-restrained and can think of getting married	2 (2.78)	14 (19.44)	56 (77.78)	90	2 (2.78)	10 (13.89)	60 (83.33)	86	176

Contd...

Table 64 contd...

S.No.	Particulars	Women (n=72)			Men (n=72)			Pooled (n=144)		
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree
9	The state should install funds to aid Widow marriages.	20 (27.78)	33 (45.83)	19 (26.39)	13 (18.06)	29 (40.28)	30 (41.66)	33 (22.91)	62 (43.06)	29 (34.03)
10	A widower can marry as many times as he likes and a widow too can	20 (27.77)	30 (41.67)	22 (30.56)	15 (20.83)	37 (51.39)	20 (27.78)	35 (24.30)	67 (46.53)	42 (29.17)
	Averages	(28.61)	(32.92)	(38.47)	(37.08)	(26.39)	(36.53)	(32.85)	(29.65)	(37.50)
Right to property Act										
1	Women should be given right to demand a share from her parental property	59 (81.94)	13 (18.06)	--	44 (61.11)	11 (15.28)	17 (28.61)	103 (71.53)	24 (16.67)	17 (11.80)
2	A daughter should also have some share along with sons in parental property	59 (81.94)	13 (18.06)	-	42 (58.33)	13 (18.06)	17 (23.61)	101 (70.14)	26 (18.06)	17 (11.80)
3	A daughter should get equal share along with sons in parental property	53 (73.61)	7 (9.72)	12 (16.67)	43 (59.72)	12 (16.67)	17 (23.61)	96 (66.67)	19 (13.19)	29 (20.14)
4	Share in property will not destroy the affection between brother and sister	41 (56.94)	25 (34.73)	6 (8.33)	25 (34.72)	33 (45.83)	14 (19.45)	66 (45.83)	58 (40.82)	20 (13.89)
5	Share of girl should not be restricted to dowry	38 (52.78)	15 (20.83)	19 (26.39)	29 (40.28)	8 (11.11)	35 (48.61)	67 (46.53)	23 (15.97)	54 (37.50)
6	Sharing would not make land holdings per unit family uneconomical	23 (31.94)	9 (12.50)	40 (55.56)	38 (52.78)	7 (9.72)	27 (37.50)	61 (42.36)	16 (11.11)	67 (46.53)
7	Women do not have equal rights, there is a need for it.	41 (56.94)	16 (22.23)	15 (20.83)	35 (48.61)	16 (22.22)	21 (29.17)	76 (52.78)	32 (22.22)	36 (25.00)
8	Women should get three-fourth property rights.	45 (62.50)	25 (34.72)	2 (2.78)	19 (26.39)	14 (19.44)	39 (54.17)	64 (44.44)	39 (27.08)	41 (28.48)
9	Government should propagate the act of equal property right	53 (73.1)	16 (22.22)	3 (4.17)	40 (55.56)	16 (22.22)	16 (22.22)	93 (64.59)	32 (22.22)	19 (13.19)
10	Male domination after all do not allow women to get their shares.	42 (58.33)	22 (30.56)	8 (11.11)	25 (34.77)	20 (27.78)	27 (37.50)	67 (46.53)	42 (29.17)	35 (24.30)
	Averages	(63.06)	(22.36)	(14.58)	(37.22)	(20.83)	(31.95)	(55.14)	(21.59)	(23.27)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and Roman numbers indicate rank

A sizeable number (43.06%) of men agreed sharing would not make land holdings uneconomical, followed by undecided (30.56%) and disagreed by 26.38 per cent. Male domination after all do not allow women to get their shares was agreed and disagreed by 44.44 and 33.34 per cent respectively. Around 22.22 felt undecided about this. Share in property will not destroy the affection between brother and sister was agreed by 31.94 per cent and 43.06 per cent felt undecided. One fourth (25.00%) disagreed with this statement. An equal per cent (36.11%) agreed and disagreed with the statement, women do not have equal rights there is a need for it. While, 27.78 per cent felt undecided about this.

On the whole, over half (54.17%) of respondents agreed that, a daughter should also have some share along with sons in parental property, 25.69 per cent felt undecided and 20.14 per cent disagreed about this. Women should be given right to demand a share from her parental property was agreed by 53.47 per cent followed by undecided (26.39%) and disagreed (20.14%). A sizeable number (42.36%) agreed with the statement that, share in property will not destroy affection between brother and sister, 39.58 per cent felt undecided and only 18.06 per cent agreed with this. Male domination after all do not allow women to get their share was agreed, disagreed and felt undecided by 44.44, 30.56 and 25.00 per cent of them, respectively. These statements were ranked 1, 2, 3 and 4 based on mean scores.

4.3.5.5.2.2 Opinion of the respondents on Legal enactments in West Godavari

Child marriage restraint act: The results with regard to opinion of respondents regarding various legal enactments in West Godavari were presented in Table 64.

It was observed from the Table 64 majority (56.94%) of women agreed that men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent followed by undecided (29.17%) and disagreed by only 13.89 per cent. Over half (54.17%) agreed with the statement that early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige of the family followed by undecided (29.17%) and disagree (16.69%). Early marriages does not help to pay less dowry was agreed by 54.17 per cent, above one fourth (27.78%) were undecided and 18.06 per cent disagreed with this statement. Half of them agreed that marriages can be delayed as they are not

timed in heaven, 29.17 per cent were undecided and 20.83 per cent agreed about this.

Nearly three quarter (70.83%) of men agreed that men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent followed by undecided (22.22%). Only 6.94 disagreed with this. Marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven was agreed by almost two third majority (65.28%), undecided by 18.00 per cent and 16.67 per cent disagreed with this. An equal per cent i.e., 31.94 per cent of them agreed and disagreed with the statement that early marriages are not a means of social control and 36.12 per cent felt undecided. A sizeable number (43.06%) of men, agreed that early marriages do not maintain premarital chastity. Nearly equal per cent i.e., 29.17 and 27.78 per cent felt undecided and disagreed about this.

Majority (63.89%) of women and men agreed that men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent, undecided (25.69%) and 10.42 per cent disagreed with this. Marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven was agreed by 57.64 per cent followed by undecided (23.61%) and 18.75 per cent disagreed with this. About 45.83 per cent disagreed for with the statement that, early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige of the family and 32.64 per cent disagreed with this. 21.53 per cent felt undecided. Nearly half (47.23%) agreed that early marriages do not maintain premarital chastity. While 27.08 and 25.69 per cent felt undecided and disagreed about this.

Divorce Act: Majority (61.11%) of women agreed that society shouldn't look down upon a women who has been divorced and 14.17 per cent disagreed with this. Instead of leading a life of constant misery, it is better to get divorce was agreed, undecided and disagreed among 65.20, 22.22 and 15.28 per cent respectively. Social pressure must be extended to compel the mismated couple to readjust and not divorce was agreed by 59.72 per cent followed by undecided (26.39%) and disagreed by 13.89 per cent. The statement, one must not hesitate to break the bond of marriage, if necessary was agreed by 61.11 per cent followed by undecided (20.83%) and disagreed (18.06%).

Three fourth majority of men agreed with the statement, social pressure must be extended to compel the mismated couple to readjust and not divorce and

only 1.39 per cent disagreed with this. Majority (70.83%) agreed that, instead of leading a life of constant misery, it is better to get divorce. While 16.67 per cent felt undecided and 12.50 disagreed about this. Divorce disintegrates the family, individual and society was agreed by two-third majority followed by undecided (23.61%) and disagreed by 9.72 per cent. One must not hesitate to break the bond of marriage, if necessary was agreed, disagreed and undecided among 68.00, 15.28 and 16.67 per cent of them respectively.

The statements ranked 1,2,3 and 4 based on their mean scores are discussed here. Just over one third majority (67.36%) of women and men agreed with the statement, social pressure must be extended to compel the mismated couple to readjust and not divorce and only 7.64 per cent disagreed with this. Instead of leading a life of constant misery, it is better to get divorce was agreed by two-third majority and 64.58 agreed that one must not hesitate to break the bond of marriage, if necessary. If marital difficulties are serious enough divorce may be obtained followed by undecided (30.56%) and disagreed by (13.19%).

Dowry prohibition act: The results (Table 64) indicate that dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented was agreed by 61.11 per cent of women followed by undecided (27.78%) and disagreed by 11.11 per cent. Majority (56.94%) of women agreed that dowry should not be given followed by undecided (29.17%) and disagreed (13.89%). A sizeable number (45.83%) stated, practice of dowry should be stopped, the same was disagreed and undecided by 27.78 and 26.39 per cent respectively.

Nearly three quarters (70.83%) of men agreed with the statement, dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented and only 4.17 per cent disagreed about this. Slightly above half (51.38%) agreed that dowry should not be given, followed by undecided (37.50%) and disagreed by 11.12 per cent. Practice of dowry is undesirable statement was agreed by 41.67 per cent same was disagreed by 22.22 per cent and 36.11 felt undecided about this. On totality women and men agreed that dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented (65.97%), dowry should not be given (54.17%) and practice of dowry is undesirable (41.67%) and were ranked 1,2 and 3 respectively.

Widow remarriage: With regard to women in West Godavari, majority (55.56%) of them agreed with the statement, widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family, followed by undecided (34.72%) and disagreed (9.72%). Society must strongly support widow remarriages was agreed by almost half (48.61%), undecided (38.89%) and disagreed (12.50%). Slightly above half (52.78%) agreed and one fourth of them agreed with the statement, objecting to widow remarriage increases, immorality in society. Almost one equal per cent i.e., 27.78 and 26.39 per cent agreed and disagreed that, the state should install funds to aid widow remarriages.

Among men, majority (72.22%) agreed with the statement, widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family and the same was felt undecided and disagreed by 13.89 per cent equally. Society must strongly support widow remarriage was agreed by 62.50 per cent and only 9.73 per cent disagreed about this. Objecting to widow remarriage increases, immorality in society was agreed by 45.83 per cent followed by disagreement (29.17%) and undecided by one fourth. Nearly half (47.22%) disagreed with the statement, widow remarriage is not a curse and the same was disagreed by 41.67 per cent.

On the whole, the statement which ranked 1,2,3 and 4 based on mean scores were, widow remarriage reduces many tensions in the family, society must strongly support widow remarriage, objecting to widow-remarriage, increases immorality in society and widow remarriage is not a curse and were agreed among 63.89, 55.56, 49.31 and 43.06 per cent of them respectively.

Right to property: A great majority (81.94%) of women agreed with the statements, women should be given right to demand share from her parental property and a daughter should also have some share along with sons in parental property and the same were felt undecided by 18.06 per cent of them equally. Nearly three quarters (73.01%) agreed that Government should propagate the act of equal property rights followed by undecided (22.22%) and only 4.17 per cent disagreed with this. Nearly two-third majority (62.50%) agreed that women should get three-fourth property rights and 34.72 per cent felt undecided. Only 2.78 per cent disagreed with this.

Widow remarriage: With regard to women in West Godavari, majority (55.56%) of them agreed with the statement, widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family, followed by undecided (34.72%) and disagreed (9.72%). Society must strongly support widow remarriages was agreed by almost half (48.61%), undecided (38.89%) and disagreed (12.50%). Slightly above half (52.78%) agreed and one fourth of them agreed with the statement, objecting to widow remarriage increases, immorality in society. Almost one equal per cent i.e., 27.78 and 26.39 per cent agreed and disagreed that, the state should install funds to aid widow remarriages.

Among men, majority (72.22%) agreed with the statement, widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family and the same was felt undecided and disagreed by 13.89 per cent equally. Society must strongly support widow remarriage was agreed by 62.50 per cent and only 9.73 per cent disagreed about this. Objecting to widow remarriage increases, immorality in society was agreed by 45.83 per cent followed by disagreement (29.17%) and undecided by one fourth. Nearly half (47.22%) disagreed with the statement, widow remarriage is not a curse and the same was disagreed by 41.67 per cent.

On the whole, the statement which ranked 1,2,3 and 4 based on mean scores were, widow remarriage reduces many tensions in the family, society must strongly support widow remarriage, objecting to widow-remarriage, increases immorality in society and widow remarriage is not a curse and were agreed among 63.89, 55.56, 49.31 and 43.06 per cent of them respectively.

Right to property: A great majority (81.94%) of women agreed with the statements, women should be given right to demand share from her parental property and a daughter should also have some share along with sons in parental property and the same were felt undecided by 18.06 per cent of them equally. Nearly three quarters (73.01%) agreed that Government should propagate the act of equal property rights followed by undecided (22.22%) and only 4.17 per cent disagreed with this. Nearly two-third majority (62.50%) agreed that women should get three-fourth property rights and 34.72 per cent felt undecided. Only 2.78 per cent disagreed with this.

Widow remarriage: With regard to women in West Godavari, majority (55.56%) of them agreed with the statement, widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family, followed by undecided (34.72%) and disagreed (9.72%). Society must strongly support widow remarriages was agreed by almost half (48.61%), undecided (38.89%) and disagreed (12.50%). Slightly above half (52.78%) agreed and one fourth of them agreed with the statement, objecting to widow remarriage increases, immorality in society. Almost one equal per cent i.e., 27.78 and 26.39 per cent agreed and disagreed that, the state should install funds to aid widow remarriages.

Among men, majority (72.22%) agreed with the statement, widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family and the same was felt undecided and disagreed by 13.89 per cent equally. Society must strongly support widow remarriage was agreed by 62.50 per cent and only 9.73 per cent disagreed about this. Objecting to widow remarriage increases, immorality in society was agreed by 45.83 per cent followed by disagreement (29.17%) and undecided by one fourth. Nearly half (47.22%) disagreed with the statement, widow remarriage is not a curse and the same was disagreed by 41.67 per cent.

On the whole, the statement which ranked 1,2,3 and 4 based on mean scores were, widow remarriage reduces many tensions in the family, society must strongly support widow remarriage, objecting to widow-remarriage, increases immorality in society and widow remarriage is not a curse and were agreed among 63.89, 55.56, 49.31 and 43.06 per cent of them respectively.

Right to property: A great majority (81.94%) of women agreed with the statements, women should be given right to demand share from her parental property and a daughter should also have some share along with sons in parental property and the same were felt undecided by 18.06 per cent of them equally. Nearly three quarters (73.01%) agreed that Government should propagate the act of equal property rights followed by undecided (22.22%) and only 4.17 per cent disagreed with this. Nearly two-third majority (62.50%) agreed that women should get three-fourth property rights and 34.72 per cent felt undecided. Only 2.78 per cent disagreed with this.

Table 65: Opinion of the respondents regarding various legal enactments

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)					
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score
Child marriage restraint Act													
1	Marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven	59 (40.97)	38 (26.39)	47 (32.64)	300 II	77 (53.47)	35 (24.31)	32 (22.22)	333 II	136 (47.22)	73 (25.35)	79 (27.43)	633 II
2	Early marriages are not advisable though daughters are supposed to belong to some ones else house	43 (29.86)	45 (31.25)	56 (38.89)	275	27 (18.75)	38 (26.39)	79 (54.86)	236	70 (24.31)	83 (28.82)	135 (40.81)	511
3	Early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige	55 (38.19)	44 (30.56)	45 (31.25)	298 III	55 (38.19)	27 (18.75)	62 (43.06)	281 III	110 (31.20)	71 (24.65)	107 (37.15)	579 III
4	Early marriages does not help to pay less dowry	53 (36.81)	43 (29.86)	48 (33.33)	293 IV	27 (18.75)	29 (20.14)	88 (61.11)	227	80 (27.78)	72 (25.00)	136 (47.22)	520
5	Parents should not feel marriage of girl child as burden	34 (23.61)	44 (30.56)	66 (45.83)	256	36 (25.69)	37 (25.69)	71 (49.31)	253	70 (24.30)	81 (28.13)	137 (47.57)	509
6	Early marriages are not means of social control	27 (18.75)	49 (34.03)	68 (47.22)	247	42 (49.16)	51 (35.42)	51 (35.42)	279 IV	69 (23.96)	100 (34.72)	119 (41.32)	526
7	Men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent	79 (54.86)	53 (36.81)	12 (8.33)	355 I	80 (55.56)	40 (27.78)	24 (16.66)	344 I	159 (55.21)	93 (32.29)	36 (12.50)	699 I
8	Early marriages do not maintain premarital chastity	47 (32.64)	46 (31.94)	51 (35.42)	284	42 (29.16)	33 (22.92)	69 (47.92)	261	89 (30.90)	79 (27.43)	120 (41.67)	545 (IV)
	Average	(34.47)	(31.42)	(34.11)		(33.51)	(25.17)	(41.32)		(33.99)	(28.29)	(37.72)	
Divorce Act													
1	One must not hesitate to break the bond of marriage, if necessary	69 (47.92)	31 (21.53)	44 (30.55)	313	85 (59.03)	30 (20.83)	29 (20.14)	344	154 (53.47)	61 (21.18)	73 (25.35)	657
2	Instead of leading a life of constant misery, it is better to get divorce	73 (50.69)	34 (23.62)	37 (25.69)	324	93 (64.58)	31 (21.53)	20 (13.89)	361 III	166 (57.64)	65 (22.57)	57 (19.79)	685
3	Divorce bring catastrophe in the lives of children and therefore must be avoided	66 (45.83)	46 (31.94)	32 (22.22)	320	87 (60.42)	32 (22.22)	25 (17.37)	350	153 (53.13)	78 (27.08)	57 (19.79)	672 -
Contd...													

Contd...

Table 65 contd...

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)				Men (n=144)				Pooled (n=288)			
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score
4	A women must not tolerate ill-treatment from husband rather seek divorce	12 (6.94)	47 (32.64)	85 (59.02)	215	8 (5.56)	34 (23.61)	102 (70.83)	194	20 (6.95)	81 (28.12)	187 (64.93)	409
5	Social pressure must be extended to compel the mismated couple to readjust and not divorce	73 (50.70)	48 (33.33)	23 (15.97)	338 II	80 (55.55)	41 (28.48)	23 (15.97)	345	153 (33.13)	89 (30.90)	46 (15.97)	638 V
6	Divorce disintegrates the family, individual and society	67 (46.53)	56 (38.89)	21 (14.58)	334 IV	91 (63.19)	43 (29.86)	10 (6.95)	369 II	158 (54.86)	99 (34.38)	31 (10.76)	703 II
7	In case of moral breach divorce is desirable	49 (34.03)	21 (14.58)	74 (51.39)	263	40 (27.78)	2 (1.39)	102 (70.83)	226	89 (30.90)	23 (7.99)	176 (61.11)	489
8	Divorce is the correct solution for marital difficult	23 (15.98)	55 (38.19)	66 (45.83)	245	21 (14.58)	43 (29.86)	80 (55.56)	229	44 (15.28)	98 (34.03)	146 (50.69)	474
9	Divorce is desirable for it permits the correction of mistakes and happy readjustments	40 (27.78)	57 (39.58)	47 (32.64)	281	40 (27.78)	39 (27.08)	65 (45.14)	263	80 (27.78)	96 (33.33)	112 (38.89)	544
10	If marital difficulties are serious enough, divorce may be obtained	71 (49.31)	52 (36.11)	21 (14.58)	338 II	86 (59.72)	37 (25.69)	21 (14.59)	353 IV	157 (54.52)	89 (30.90)	42 (15.48)	691 IV
11	Divorce is bad, it leads to suffering for the emotionally dependant partner	65 (45.14)	55 (38.19)	24 (16.67)	329 V	93 (64.58)	42 (29.17)	9 (6.25)	372 I	158 (54.86)	97 (33.68)	33 (11.46)	701 III
12	In case where the temperament of the husband and wife do not agree, divorce is inevitable	26 (18.05)	62 (43.06)	56 (38.89)	258	9 (6.25)	42 (29.17)	93 (64.58)	204	35 (12.15)	104 (36.11)	149 (51.74)	462
13	Society shouldn't look down upon a women who has divorced	91 (53.19)	47 (32.64)	6 (4.17)	373 I	77 (43.47)	40 (27.78)	27 (18.75)	338	168 (58.34)	87 (30.20)	33 (11.46)	711 I
	Average	38.73	32.64	28.63		43.21	24.36	32.43		40.97	28.49	30.54	
Dowry prohibition Act													
1	Dowry should not be given	71 (49.31)	44 (30.56)	29 (20.13)	330 II	65 (45.14)	59 (40.97)	20 (13.88)	333 II	136 (47.22)	103 (35.76)	49 (17.02)	663 II
2	Dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented	72 (50.00)	46 (31.94)	26 (18.06)	334 I	91 (63.19)	38 (26.39)	15 (10.42)	364 I	163 (56.60)	84 (29.17)	41 (14.23)	694 I

Contd... 2501

Table 65 contd....

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)		
		Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Agree	Unde- cided	Dis- agree	Score	Score
3	Practice of dowry is undesirable	58 (40.28)	45 (31.25)	41 (28.47)	305	56 (38.89)	54 (37.50)	34 (23.61)	310	615 III
4	Practice of dowry should be stopped	62 (43.06)	45 (31.25)	37 (25.69)	313	51 (35.42)	51 (35.42)	42 (29.16)	297	610
5	Dowry gives status to women	52 (36.11)	53 (36.81)	39 (27.08)	301	50 (39.72)	52 (36.11)	42 (29.17)	292	597
6	Dowry gives security to women	50 (34.72)	51 (35.42)	43 (29.86)	295	54 (37.50)	45 (31.25)	45 (31.25)	297	592
	Averages	(42.25)	(32.87)	(24.88)		(42.48)	(34.61)	(22.91)		
Widow remarriage Act										
1	Society must strongly support widow remarriage	57 (39.58)	58 (40.28)	29 (20.14)	316	75 (52.08)	47 (32.64)	22 (15.28)	341	657 II
2	Widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family	65 (45.14)	50 (34.72)	29 (20.14)	324	80 (55.55)	38 (26.39)	26 (18.06)	342	666 I
3	When widowers can remarry, widows too can do so.	7 (4.86)	57 (39.58)	80 (55.56)	215	29 (20.14)	46 (31.94)	69 (47.92)	248	463
4	Law should enforce that all widows below 30 years should re-marry	18 (12.50)	42 (29.17)	84 (58.33)	222	10 (6.94)	42 (29.17)	92 (63.89)	206	428
5	Widow remarriage is not a curse on ideal womanhood	46 (31.94)	36 (25.00)	62 (43.06)	272	60 (41.67)	18 (12.50)	66 (45.83)	282	534
6	Widow remarriage do not degrades the sacred bond of marriage	8 (5.56)	37 (25.69)	99 (68.75)	197	14 (9.72)	27 (18.75)	103 (71.53)	199	396
7	Objecting to widow-remarriage increases, immorality in society.	67 (46.53)	31 (21.53)	46 (31.94)	309	63 (43.75)	34 (23.61)	47 (32.64)	304	613 III
8	Widows should not lead a life of self-restrained and can think of getting married	2 (1.38)	26 (18.06)	116 (80.56)	174	4 (2.78)	18 (12.50)	122 (84.72)	170	344

Contd...

Table 65 contd...

S. No.	Particulars	Women (n=144)			Men (n=144)			Pooled (n=288)		
		Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Agree	Unde-cided	Dis-agree	Score	Score
9	The state should install funds to aid Widow marriages.	36 (25.00)	61 (42.36)	47 (32.64)	277	21 (14.58)	43 (29.86)	80 (55.56)	229	506
10	A widower can marry as many times as he likes and a widow too can	41 (28.47)	59 (40.97)	44 (30.56)	285 IV	39 (27.08)	57 (39.58)	48 (31.94)	279	564 IV
	Average	(24.10)	(31.74)	(44.16)		(30.07)	(25.70)	(44.23)		
Right to property Act										
1	Women should be given right to demand a share from her parental property	112 (77.78)	30 (20.83)	2 (1.39)	398 II	68 (47.22)	32 (22.22)	44 (30.56)	312 I	710 I
2	A daughter should also have some share along with sons in parental property	113 (78.47)	29 (20.14)	2 (1.39)	399 I	66 (45.83)	34 (23.61)	44 (30.56)	310 II	709 II
3	A daughter should get equal share along with sons in parental property	85 (50.03)	29 (20.14)	30 (20.83)	343	65 (45.13)	35 (24.31)	44 (30.56)	309 III	652
4	Share in property will not destroy the affection between brother and sister	79 (54.86)	51 (35.42)	14 (9.72)	353 IV	48 (33.33)	64 (44.44)	32 (22.23)	304 IV	657 IV
5	Share of girl should not be restricted dowry	69 (47.92)	27 (18.75)	48 (33.33)	309	44 (30.56)	21 (14.58)	79 (54.86)	253	562
6	Sharing would not make land holdings per unit family uneconomical	40 (27.78)	36 (25.00)	68 (47.22)	260	69 (47.92)	29 (20.14)	46 (31.94)	265	581
7	Women do not have equal rights, there is a need for it.	70 (48.61)	41 (28.47)	33 (22.92)	325	61 (42.36)	36 (25.00)	47 (32.64)	302 IV	627 IV
8	Women should get three-fourth property rights.	76 (52.78)	51 (35.42)	17 (11.80)	347	35 (24.30)	31 (21.53)	78 (54.17)	245	592
9	Government should propagate the act of equal property right	86 (59.72)	48 (33.33)	10 (6.95)	364 III	59 (40.97)	32 (22.22)	53 (36.81)	294	658 III
10	Male domination after all do not allow women to get their shares.	74 (51.39)	50 (34.72)	20 (13.89)	342	57 (39.58)	36 (25.00)	51 (35.42)	294	636
	Averages	(55.83)	(27.22)	(16.95)		(39.72)	(24.31)	(35.97)		

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentages and Roman numbers indicate rank

Women should be given right to demand a share from her parental property and a daughter should get equal share along with sons, statements were agreed by 61.11 and 59.72 per cent of men respectively and the same were disagreed by 28.61 and 23.61 per cent respectively. Majority (58.33%) agreed with the statement, a daughter should also have some share along with sons in parental property and disagreed by 23.61 per cent. Government should propagate the act of equal property rights was agreed by 55.56 per cent and an equal percents 22.22 felt undecided and disagreed about this.

On the whole, the statement which were ranked 1,2,3 and 4 were, women should be given right to demand a share from her parental property was agreed by 71.53 per cent followed by a daughter should also have some share along with sons (70.14%), government should propagate the act of equal property rights (64.59%) and daughter should get equal share along with sons in parental property (66.67%).

4.3.5.5.2.3 Opinion of the respondents Legal enactments

Child marriage restraint act: Table 65 at a glance indicates, over half (54.86%) of women agreed with the statement, men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent, and 8.33 per cent disagreed with this. While, 36.81 per cent felt undecided. Marriages cannot be delayed as they are not timed in heaven was agreed and disagreed by 40.97 and 32.64 per cent respectively. Early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige of the family was agreed, disagreed and undecided by 38.19, 31.25 and 30.56 per cent respectively.

Over half (55.56%) of men agreed with statement, men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent and 16.66 per cent disagreed about this. While 27.78 per cent felt undecided. Majority (53.47%) disagreed that, marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven and almost equal per cent (24.31 and 22.22) felt undecided and disagreed with the same. Above one-third majority (38.19%) agreed that, early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige of the family and the same was disagreed by 43.06 per cent of them.

The statement which was ranked 1st was, men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent and was agreed by 55.21 per cent.

Marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven was agreed by 47.22 per cent and was ranked second. The statement, early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige of the family was ranked third and agreed by 31.20 per cent, the same was disagreed by 37.15 per cent.

Divorce Act: Majority (63.19%) of women agreed that, society shouldn't look down upon a women who was been divorced and only 4.17 per cent disagreed this. Almost half (49.31%) stated to agree that, if marital difficulties are serious enough, divorce may be obtained followed by undecided (36.11%) and disagree (14.58%). Social pressure must be extended to compel the mismated couple to readjust and not divorce was agreed by over half (50.70%), one third felt undecided and 15.97 disagreed this. Divorce disintegrates the family, individual and society was agreed, undecided and disagreed by 46.53, 38.89 and 14.59 per cent, respectively.

Nearly two third majority (64.58 and 63.19%) of men agreed with statements, divorce is bad, it leads to suffering of emotionally dependent partner and divorce disintegrates the family, individual and society respectively. Majority (64.58%) agreed that, instead of leading a life of constant misery, it is better to get divorce. If marital difficulties are serious enough divorce may be obtained was agreed by 59.72 per cent followed by undecided (25.69%) and disagree (14.59%).

Majority (58.34%) of women and men was society shouldn't look down upon a women who has been divorced, divorce disintegrates the family, individual and society. Divorce is bad, it leads to suffering of emotionally dependent partner (54.86%) and if marital difficulties are serious enough divorce may be obtained (54.52%) (Table 65).

Dowry prohibition act: With regard to dowry prohibition act half of women agreed that dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented, undecided (31.94%) and disagree (18.06%). Almost half (49.31%) agreed and 20.13 per cent disagreed with the statement, dowry should not be given. Practice of dowry should be stopped was agreed among 43.06 per cent and was disagreed by 25.69 per cent.

Majority (63.19%) of men agreed that, dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented and 10.42 per cent disagreed about this. Dowry should not be given was agreed and undecided by 45.17 and 40.97 per cent respectively. Only

13.88 per cent disagreed with this. Practice of dowry is undesirable was agreed by (38.89%) followed by undecided (37.50%) and disagreed (23.61%).

On the whole majority (56.60%) agreed that dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented, Dowry should not be given (47.22%), and practice of dowry is undesirable (34.58%) and were ranked 1,2 and 3 respectively based on the mean scores.

Widow remarriage: As regards Table 65, among women 45.17 per cent agreed that, widow remarriage reduces many tensions in the family followed by undecided (34.72%) and disagree (20.14%). Almost equal per cent i.e., 39.58 and 40.28 agreed and felt undecided with the statement, society must strongly support widow remarriage and 20.14 per cent disagreed with this. Objecting to widow remarriage increases, immorality in society was agreed by 46.53 per cent and the same was disagreed by 31.94 per cent. Nearly equal per cent i.e., 28.47 and 30.56 per cent agreed and disagreed with the statement, a widower can marry as many times as he likes and a widow too can and was felt undecided by 40.97 per cent of them.

Over half (55.55%) men agreed, widow remarriage reduces many tensions in the families followed by undecided (26.39%), and disagreed (18.06%). Society must strongly support widow remarriage was agreed by 52.08 per cent and disagreed by 15.28 per cent. Objecting to widow remarriage increases immorality in society was agreed and disagreed by 43.75 and 32.64 per cent respectively. Nearly equal per cent i.e., 41.67 and 45.83 per cent agreed and disagreed respectively with the statement, widow remarriage is not a curse.

Overall view of the data indicates, widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family, society must strongly support widow remarriage, objecting to widow remarriage increases immorality in society and a widower can marry as many time as he likes and widow too can were agreed by 50.35, 45.83, 45.14 and 27.78 per cent respectively.

Right to property: Above three quarters (78.47% and 77.78%) of women agreed with the statements, a daughter should also have some share along with sons and, women should be given right to demand a share from parental property

respectively. Only 1.39 per cent disagreed about these statements equally. Majority (59.72%) agreed that, government should propagate the act of equal property rights followed by undecided (33.33%) and disagreed (6.95%). Over half (54.86%) agreed with the statement, share in property will not destroy affection between brother and sister and 35.42 felt undecided. Only 9.72 disagreed about this.

Almost equal per cent i.e., (47.22 and 45.83%) of men agreed with the statements. Women should be given right to demand a share from her parental property and a daughter should also have some share along with sons in parental property. The same were disagreed by 30.56 per cent of them equally. A daughter should get equal share along with sons in parental property was agreed among 45.13 per cent followed by disagreed (30.56%) and undecided (24.31%). Share in property will not destroy the affection between brother and sister was agreed among one-third majority.

The respondents of the selected area reveal that almost an equal per cent i.e., 62.40 and 62.15 agreed with the statements women should be given right to demand a share from her parental property, and a daughter should also have some share along with sons respectively. The same were felt undecided (21.88 and 21.53%) respectively, and 15.97 disagreed equally with these statements. Government should propagate the act of equal property right was agreed among 50.35 per cent followed by undecided (27.78%) and disagreed (21.87%). Based on their mean scores these statements were ranked 1,2,3 and 4. About 44.10 per cent agreed that share in property will not destroy the affection between brother and sister and 15.97 per cent disagreed with this. While 39.93 per cent felt undecided. Table 65 represents results on this.

4.4 GENDER RELATED DEVELOPMENT INDEX (GDI)

GOI uses the same variables as the Human Development Index (HDI). The difference is that the GDI adjusts the average achievements each country in by expectancy, educational attainment and income in accordance with the disparity in achievement between women on men. For the gender sensitive adjustment, a weighing formula that expenses a moderate diversion to inequality is used (with $t=2$ the weighing parameters). Since women tend to live longer than

men, the maximum life expectancy for women is taken to be 87.5 years and the minimum value 27.5 years. Correspondingly for men these values are 82.5 years and 22.5 years. Female and male share of earnest income are derived from data on the ratio of the economically active population aged 15 and above. Where the data on wage ratio are not available, 75 per cent value is used. Also, before income is indexed, the average adjusted real GDP percapita of each country is discounted on the basis of the disparity on the female and male population shares. For the purpose of the study per capita net state domestic product (2002-2003) has been taken to calculate the equality distributed income index. Due to unavailability of the accurate data on life expectancy at the district level, the life expectancy data of Andhra Pradesh has been taken to calculate that life expectancy index. The indices for life expectancy, educational attainment and income are added together with equal weights to derive the final GDI value.

Table 66: Data requirements for computing GDI

S. No.	Particulars	Adilabad		West Godavari	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
1.	Per cent share of total population#	50.06	49.94	50.37	49.63
2.	Life expectancy at birth (years)@	62.80	64.00	62.80	64.00
3.	Adult literacy rate (per cent)\$	59.60	33.00	76.30	67.30
4.	Combined primary, secondary and literacy gross enrolment ratio (per cent)*	102.86	97.25	67.53	69.08

Final population totals (2001). Directorate of Census Operation, A.P.
@ Human Development Report, (2003).
\$ Commissionerate and Directorate of School Education(2001)
* Commissionerate and Directorate of School Education, A.P.(2004-05)

Percapita income of Andhra Pradesh at current prices (2002-2003) for the districts of Andhra Pradesh (Rs.). West Godavari - 22042, Adilabad --16036 (Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, 2002-03).

It may be noted that in estimation of GDI one needs to obtain the percapita income by sex. Till to-day there is no direct or indirect estimate of income by sex for the states of India. In such cases an attempt is made to estimate the income of sex an attempt to provide a crude measure on estimation of income by sex to be mentioned that this method is just an illustrative and further modification on methodology to be made.

Table 67: Gender Development indices of the selected districts

District	GDI value	EDLEI	EDEAI	EDII
Adilabad	0.605	0.622	0.981	0.213
West Godavari	0.676	0.622	0.701	0.704
Andhra Pradesh*	0.599	--	--	--

EDLEI: Equally distributed life expectancy index

EDEAI: Equally distributed Educational attainment index

EDII: Equally distributed income index

* Source: HRD, 2001.

Formula developed by UNDP was used for calculation of GDI value.

The GDI calculated value for Adilabad was 0.605 and 0.675 for West Godavari. According to HDR 2001, GDI value for Andhra Pradesh was 0.599. The detailed calculations were presented in Appendix.

Table 68: Simple correlation analysis of indicators of Gender Equity with Gender Equity Index

Sl. No.	Characteristic	Correlation coefficient 'r'
1	Education	0.683**
2	Employment	0.969**
3	Health and nutrition	0.628**
4	Time	0.618**
5	Access and control over resources	0.414**

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

4.5 RELATIONSHIP WITH GENDER EQUITY, GENDER EMPOWERMENT AND PROFILE

After assessing Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment of the respondents it was further decided to study the relationship that exists between each selected independent variable and Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment. To assess the relationship between dependent and independent variables zero correlation coefficient was computed. The data were also subjected to multiple linear regression analysis and step down regression analysis to find out specifically the contribution of independent variables towards dependent variables and are presented in following Tables.

4.5.1 Relationship analysis of Gender Equity with profile

4.5.1.1 Influence of the indicators of gender equity with Gender Equity Index (GEI)

Simple Correlation analysis of indicators of Gender Equity with Gender Equity Index are presented in Table 68.

NH There is no significant relationship between the indicators of Gender Equity and Gender Equity Index.

EH There is significant relationship between the indicators of Gender Equity and Gender Equity Index.

A perusal of Table 68 revealed that all the five indicators of Gender Equity were positively and significantly related to Gender Equity Index at one per cent level of significant.

The degree of relationship, expressed by correlation coefficient r , was maximum in ease of employment ($r=0.969$) followed by education ($r=0.683$), health and nutrition ($r=0.628$), time ($r=0.618$) and access and control over resources ($r=0.414$).

4.5.1.2 Influence of profile with Gender Equity of the respondents

Simple correlation analysis of profile with Gender Equity was presented in Table 69.

Table 69: Simple correlation analysis of profile with Gender Equity

Sl. No.	Characteristic	Correlation coefficient 'r'
1	Farm size	0.002
2	Educational status	0.753**
3	Marital status	0.373**
4	Family size	-0.395**
5	Economic status	0.410**
6	Income	0.688**
7	Economic productivity	0.197**
8	Discrimination against female child	0.106
9	Managerial Abilities	0.564**
10	Income generating capability	0.505**
11	Social participation	0.245**
12	Social mobilisation	0.144*
13	Self orientation	0.504**
14	Extension contact	0.480**
15	Extension participation	0.457**
16	Mass media exposure	0.636**
17	Perception of drudgery	-0.581**
18	Access to basic facilities	0.716**

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

NH: There is no significant relationship between the Gender Equity of the respondents and their profile.

EH: There is significant relationship between the Gender Equity of the respondents and their profile.

The data indicated that educational status ($r=0.753$), marital status ($r=0.373$), economic status ($r=0.410$), income ($r=0.688$), economic productivity ($r=0.245$), managerial abilities ($r=0.564$), managerial abilities ($r=0.564$), social participation ($r=0.245$), social mobilization ($r=0.144$), self orientation ($r=0.504$), extension contact ($r=0.480$), extension participation ($r=0.457$), mass media exposure ($r=0.636$) and access to basic facilities ($r=0.716$) were found to be positively and significantly correlated with Gender Equity.

Where as only two variables namely family size and perception of drudgery were found be negatively significant with correlation coefficient and the 'r', values were 0.395 and 0.581 respectively.

4.5.1.3 Influence of profile with indicators of gender equity

The results regarding this aspect are shown in Table 69 and are presented here indicator wise.

NH: There is no significant relationship of profile with the indicators of Gender Equity.

EH: There is significant relationship of profile with the indicators of Gender Equity.

Education: A perusal of Table 69 revealed that out of eighteen variables. educational status, marital status, economic status, income, economic productivity, managerial abilities, income generating abilities, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure, and access to basic facilities were positively and significantly related to education at 1.00 per cent level of significant. While family size and perception of drudgery had negative and significant relation at 1.00 per cent level of significant.

Employment: Regarding the indicator, positive and significant relationship was observed with educational status, marital status, economic status, income, economic productivity, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social

Table 70: Simple correlation analysis of profile with indicators of Gender Equity

Sl. No.	Characteristic	Correlation coefficient 'r'				
		Education	Employment	Health and Nutrition	Time	Access and control over resources
1	Farm size	0.039	-0.004	-0.010	0.048	-0.010
2	Educational status	0.405**	0.718**	0.626**	0.228**	0.282**
3	Marital status	0.395**	0.343**	0.122*	0.574**	0.247**
4	Family size	-0.230**	-0.436**	-0.221**	0.069	0.010
5	Economic status	0.171**	0.351**	0.502**	0.018	0.202**
6	Income	0.366**	0.649**	0.598**	0.182**	0.267**
7	Economic productivity	0.184**	0.174**	0.067	0.337**	0.185**
8	Discrimination against female child	0.088	0.110	0.024	0.113	0.041
9	Managerial Abilities	0.460**	0.535**	0.340**	0.444**	0.241**
10	Income generating capability	0.222**	0.472**	0.541**	-0.056	0.134*
11	Social participation	0.036	0.225**	0.348**	-0.205**	0.053
12	Social mobilisation	-0.064	0.151*	0.271**	-0.355**	-0.063
13	Self Orientation	0.301**	0.425**	0.483**	0.333**	0.357**
14	Extension contact	0.267**	0.412**	0.488**	0.234**	0.285**
15	Extension participation	0.234**	0.397**	0.455**	0.197**	0.286**
16	Mass media exposure	0.343**	0.580**	0.594**	0.200**	0.287**
17	Perception of drudgery	-0.549**	-0.507**	-0.263**	-0.900**	-0.502**
18	Access to basic facilities	0.429**	0.657**	0.641**	0.236**	0.306**

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

participation, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure, and access to basic facilities a one per cent level of significant and social mobilization at five per cent level. While family size and perception of drudgery were negatively significant at one per cent level of significant.

Health and nutrition: The findings indicated that educational status, economic status income, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social participation, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities were having positive and significant relationship at 1.00 per cent level of significant. While marital status had positive and significant relationship at 5.00 per cent level of significant. With health and nutrition. Whereas, family size and perception of drudgery had negative and significant relationship at one per cent level.

Time: With regard to time, variables like educational status, marital status, income, economic status, income, economic productivity, managerial abilities, social participation, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact extension participation, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities were found to exhibit positive and significant relation at 1 per cent level of significance. While only one variable namely perception of drudgery was found to be negatively significant at 1 per cent level of significant.

Access and control over resources: In case of access and control over resources Educational status, Marital status, Economic status, Income, Economic Productivity, Managerial abilities, Self Orientation, Extension Contact, Extension Participation, Mass Media Exposure and Access to basic facilities have shown significant positive relationship at 1 per cent level of significant. While Income Generating Capability had shown positive significant at 5 per cent level. Perception of drudgery was found to negatively significant at one per cent level.

4.5.1.4 Regression analysis

Multiple linear regression analysis was carried out to find out the contribution of independent variables in predicting the gender equity, indicators of gender equity-education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resource, gender empowerment index and indicators of gender

Table 71: MLR analysis of selected factors with Gender Equity (n=288)

Sl. No.	Characteristics	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.
1	Farm size	0.008	0.268
2	Educational status	1.947	6.121 **
3	Marital status	-0.107	1.779
4	Family size	-0.150	2.551 **
5	Economic status	-0.731	7.176 **
6	Income	0.232	10.622 **
7	Economic productivity	-0.006	0.050
8	Discrimination against female child	-0.045	0.799
9	Managerial abilities	0.080	4.184 **
10	Income generating capability	0.895	7.891 **
11	Social participation	-0.115	0.979
12	Social mobilisation	-0.407	3.377 **
13	Self orientation	0.092	0.649
14	Extension contact	-1.071	4.524 **
15	Extension participation	-1.306	6.968 **
16	Mass media exposure	-0.184	2.311 *
17	Perception of drudgery	-0.496	14.145 **
18	Access to basic facilities	0.300	1.778

R² 0.945
F value 256.937

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

empowerment-decision making, social empowerment, economic empowerment, political empowerment and legal empowerment and partial regression coefficients positive values were presented.

Null Hypothesis: The contribution made by the set of independent variables to the prediction of dependent variable included in the mold is not significant.

Empirical Hypothesis: Gender Equity, (indicators of gender equity education, employment, health& nutrition, time and access and control over resources, gender empowerment, indicators of gender empowerment-decision making, social empowerment, economic empowerment, political empowerment and legal empowerment.) can in part be predicted by all independent variables.

4.5.1.4.1 Multiple linear regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Equity

The finding in Table 71 revealed that the value (256.937) obtained was significant indicating that all the variables together contributed significantly to the variation of Gender Equity Index among the respondents. The coefficient of determination revealed that 94.50 per cent of the variation in the Gender Equity was explained by variables.

Out of all the variables, the 't' values of eleven variables were found to be significant. These variables were educational status (t=6.121), family size (t=2.55), economic status (t=7.176), income (t=10.622), managerial abilities (t=4.184), income generating capability (t=7.891), social mobilization (t=3.377), extension contact (t=4.524), extension participation (t=6.968) and mass media exposure (t=2.311) and perception of drudgery (14.145). These variables alone were selected for attempting step down regression analysis and the non-significant variables were eliminated.

4.5.1.4.2 Step down regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Equity

This analysis was used to get the joint influence of the best subset of predictors of Gender Equity though the multiple regression analysis gave the influence of all the selected independent variables jointly on Gender Equity (Table 72). It was felt better to have a simpler model in which there would be less number of predictor in explaining the relationship.

Table 72: Step-down regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Equity Index (n=288)

Sl. No.	Characteristics	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.
1	Educational status	1.969	6.306 **
2	Marital status	-0.128	2.658 *
3	Family size	-0.146	2.553 *
4	Economic status	-0.743	7.961 **
5	Income	0.231	11.126 **
6	Managerial abilities	0.075	4.436 **
7	Income generating capability	0.963	9.838 **
8	Social mobilization	-0.492	6.389 **
9	Extension contact	-0.998	4.988 **
10	Extension participation	-1.367	9.172 **
11	Mass media exposure	-0.194	2.593 **
12	Perception of drudgery	-0.519	17.811 **
13	Access to basic facilities	0.270	1.848

R² 0.955

F value 359.030

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

The step down regression was carried out after eliminating the variables with high probability values. Eleven variables namely educational status, marital status, family size, economic status, income, income generating capacity, social mobilization, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and perception of drudgery contributed significantly to the variation in Gender Equity ($F=359.030$). The coefficient of determination (R^2) was found to be 0.955 which indicated 95.50 per cent variation in Gender Equity could be explained by these eleven variables alone.

In this analysis, the 't' values of the variables educational status ($t=6.306$), marital status ($t=7.961$), family size ($t=2.553$), economic status ($t=7.961$), managerial abilities ($t=4.436$), income ($t=11.126$), income generating capability ($t=9.838$), social mobilization ($t=6.888$), extension contact ($t=4.988$), extension participation ($t=9.172$), mass media exposure ($t=2.593$) and perception of drudgery ($t=17.811$) were found to be significant.

4.5.1.4.3 Multiple linear regression analysis of selected factors with indicators of Gender Equity

Multiple linear regression was carried out for finding out the contribution of independent variables in predicting indicators of gender equity-education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources. Regression Coefficient and 't' values were presented in Table 73.

Null Hypothesis: The contribution made by the set of independent variables to the prediction of dependent variable included in the model is not significant.

Empirical Hypothesis: Education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources can in part be predicted by all independent variables.

Education: Table 73 presented that out of 18 variables fitted in regression analysis namely income generating capacity ($t=2.126$) has contributed positively and significantly to education. Economic status ($t=2.436$) and extension participation ($t=2.158$) were negatively significant. These variables contributed significantly to the variation in participation.

Table 73: MLR analysis of selected factors with indicators of Gender Equity in

Sl. No.	Characteristics	Education		Employment		Health and nutrition		Time		Access and control over resources	
		Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.
1	Farm size	0.005	0.574	-0.023	0.686	0.024	1.275	0.000	0.255	0.001	0.074
2	Educational status	-0.024	0.241	1.864	5.409 **	0.105	0.529	0.018	1.053	-0.017	0.138
3	Marital status	0.027	1.447	-0.085	1.300	-0.028	0.753	0.007	1.954 *	-0.027	1.200
4	Family size	-0.026	1.443	-0.161	2.538 *	0.034	0.926	0.004	1.152	0.000	0.008
5	Economic status	-0.076	2.436 *	-0.706	6.394 **	0.071	1.121	-0.020	3.487 **	0.000	0.005
6	Income	0.005	0.792	0.219	9.257 **	0.008	0.556	0.001	0.487	-0.001	0.066
7	Economic productivity	-0.061	1.649	0.026	0.204	0.003	0.043	-0.008	1.290	0.034	0.742
8	Discrimination against female child	-0.021	1.186	-0.008	0.132	-0.020	0.568	-0.002	0.581	0.005	0.249
9	Managerial abilities	0.011	1.883	0.054	2.608 **	0.016	1.301	0.001	0.528	-0.001	0.159
10	Income generating capability	0.074	2.126 *	0.562	4.574 **	0.210	2.973 *	0.017	2.784 **	0.032	0.733
11	Social participation	0.038	1.056	-0.070	0.548	-0.030	0.414	-0.017	2.644 **	-0.036	0.811
12	Social mobilisation	-0.062	1.671	-0.116	0.888	-0.148	1.977 *	-0.026	3.900 **	-0.055	1.200
13	Self orientation	-0.002	0.050	-0.033	0.215	-0.020	0.231	0.040	5.158 **	0.107	1.995 *
14	Extension contact	0.010	0.142	-1.114	4.346 **	0.060	0.406	0.021	1.612	-0.047	0.527
15	Extension participation	-0.125	2.158 *	-0.929	4.576 **	-0.285	2.446 *	0.004	0.380	0.029	0.412
16	Mass media exposure	0.012	0.511	-0.324	3.764 **	0.080	1.617	0.009	2.130 *	0.039	1.282
17	Perception of drudgery	-0.047	4.317	-0.373	9.815 **	-0.017	0.785	-0.022	11.580 **	-0.037	2.780 **
18	Access to basic facilities	0.080	1.537	0.138	0.759	0.116	1.105	-0.021	2.238 *	-0.014	0.215
		R ²	0.517	0.886		0.524		0.877		0.333	
		F value	15.985	115.839		16.478		106.524		7.471	

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

The F value (15.985) obtained was significant indicating that all the variables contributed significantly to the variation in education. The coefficient of determination (R^2) revealed that 15.98 per cent of variation in education was explained jointly by all the variables jointly. Thus the null hypothesis was rejected.

Employment: In case of employment, out of 18 variables, three variables were found positively significant at 0.01 level of probability with 't' values educational status ($t=5.409$), managerial abilities ($t=2.608$), income generating capability ($t=4.574$), family size ($t=2.538$), economic status ($t=6.394$), extension contact ($t=4.346$), extension participation ($t=4.576$), mass media exposure ($t=3.764$) and perception of drudgery ($t=9.815$) were negatively significant. The computed (R^2) value is 0.88 indicating that all the independent variables could explain variation in the dependent variable to the extent of 88.00 per cent. The calculated F value (115.839) shows that the variation is significant at 0.01 level of probability.

Health and nutrition: With regard to health and nutrition, income generating capability was found to be positively significant at 0.05 level of probability with 't' value ($t=2.973$). While, social mobilization ($t=1.977$) and extension participation ($t=2.446$) were contributing negatively at 0.05 level of probability. The calculated (R^2) value was 0.52 indicating the variation in the dependent variable caused by all independent variables is to the extent of 52.00 per cent. The calculation F value (16.478) shows that the variation is significant at 0.01 level of probability.

Time: While in case of time variables namely marital status, income generating capability, self orientation and mass media exposure has contributed positively and significantly with 't' value 1.954, 2.784, 5.158 and 2.130 respectively. The variables economic status ($t=3.487$), social participation ($t=2.644$), social mobilization ($t=3.900$), perception of drudgery ($t=11.580$) and access to basic facilities ($t=2.238$) which had shown 0.05 per cent level of probability. All the variables could explain 88.00 per cent variation in dependent variable as (R^2) was 0.877 and it was found to be significant as indicated by 'F' value (106.524).

Access and control over resources: In respect of access and control variable, social mobilization was found to be positively significant at 0.05 per cent level of probability with positive value ($t=1.995$). While perception of drudgery has

Table 74: Step-down regression analysis of selected factors on indicators of Gender Equity (n=288)

Sl. No.	Components / Indicators of Gender Equity Index	Influencing characteristics	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.
1	Education	Family size	-0.033	2.056 *
		Economic status	-0.098	3.819 **
		Economic productivity	-0.054	1.825
		Managerial abilities	0.012	2.473 *
		Income generating capability	0.067	2.394 *
		Social mobilization	-0.040	2.087 *
		Perception of drugery	-0.047	6.256 **
		Access to basic facilities	0.130	4.187 **
		R ²	0.503	
		F value	35.337	
2	Employment	Educational status	1.902	5.667 **
		Family size	-0.167	2.696 *
		Economic status	-0.691	7.352 **
		Income	0.223	11.368 **
		Managerial abilities	0.038	2.430 *
		Income generating capability	0.638	6.596 **
		Social mobilization	-0.202	2.619 **
		Extension contact	-1.122	5.178 **
		Extension participation	-1.021	6.367 **
		Mass media exposure	-0.309	3.822 **
		Perception of drugery	-0.357	11.934 **
		R ²	0.884	
		F value	191.573	
3	Health and nutrition	Income generating capability	0.251	4.535 **
		Social mobilization	-0.199	5.920 **
		Extension participation	-0.213	2.896 **
		Mass media exposure	0.105	3.392 **
		Access to basic facilities	0.187	2.743 **
		R ²	0.506	
		F value	57.724	
4	Time	Marital status	0.007	2.474 *
		Economic status	-0.018	3.343 **
		Economic productivity	-0.011	1.866
		Income generating capability	0.017	3.068 **
		Social participation	-0.016	2.933 **
		Social mobilization	-0.026	4.791 **
		Self orientation	0.046	7.870 **
		Mass media exposure	0.016	6.005 **
		Perception of drugery	-0.023	12.380 **
		Access to basic facilities	-0.019	2.616 **
		R ²	0.874	
		F value	191.855	
5	Access and control over resources	Social mobilization	-0.055	2.603 **
		Self orientation	0.078	2.426 *
		Mass media exposure	0.030	2.414 *
		Perception of drugery	-0.036	3.245 **
		R ²	0.321	
		F value	33.416	

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

contributed negatively and significantly at 1.00 per cent level of significance. The computed R^2 value 0.33 indicating that all variables could explain 33.00 per cent of variation in dependent variable which was found to be significant about 0.01 level of probability. The calculated F value (7.471) was found to be significant at 1.00 per cent level of significance.

4.5.1.4.4 Predicting the influence of selected factors on indicators of Gender Equity

Step down regression analysis predicting the influence of selected factors on gender equity indicators was presented in Table 74.

The step down regression analysis was carried out between 18 selected variables and indicators of gender equity-education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources. Analysis was carried out separately for each component of gender equity.

In this method, one independent variable was dropped at each step based on its least contribution to R^2 . Finally few variables which contributed maximum variation independent variable were delineated at a particular step in step down regression analysis. The final resulting variables with their partial regression coefficient 't' and R^2 and F values are presented in Table 74.

Education: It is very much vivid from Table 73 that managerial abilities ($t=2.473$), income generating capability ($t=2.394$), access to basic facilities ($t=4.187$) positively and family size ($t=2.050$), economic status ($t=3.819$), economic productivity ($t=1.825$), social mobilization ($t=2.087$), perception of drudgery ($t=6.256$) negatively explained about 50.30 per cent of variation in education and F value (35.337) was found significant at 0.01 per cent level of probability.

Employment: With regard to employment variables like educational status, income, managerial abilities and income generating capacity found contributing significantly and were positive and significant with t values 5.667, 11.368, 2.430, 6.596 respectively at 1.00 per cent level of significant. Except for managerial abilities which was at 0.05 level of probability. Family size, economic status, social mobilization, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and perception of drudgery were found contributing negatively at 1.00

per cent level of significance except family size which was significant at 5 per cent level. All these variables contributed significantly to the variation in employment ($F=191.573$). The coefficient of determination (R^2) was found to be 0.884, which indicated 88.40 per cent variation in employment which could be explained by these eleven variables alone.

Health and nutrition: It was apparent from the Table 74 that income generating capability, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities were found to contribute variation in health and nutrition positively and significantly and social mobilization and extension participation were found to contribute negatively to the dependent variable. These five variables could explain 50.60 per cent of variation and F value (57.724) was found to be significant at 0.01 level of probability. The 't' values of these variable are income generating capability ($t=4.535$), social mobilization ($t=5.920$), extension participation ($t=2.896$), mass media exposure ($t=3.392$) and access to basic facilities ($t=2.743$).

Time: It was very much vivid from the Table 74 that marital status, income generating capability, self orientation, mass media exposure were found contributing positively and social participation, social mobilization, perception of drudgery and access to basic facilities negatively explained about 87.40 per cent of variation in time. 'F' value (191.855) was found significant at 0.01 level of probability. In this analysis 't' values of variables marital status ($t=2.474$), economic status ($t=3.343$), income generating capability ($t=3.068$), social participation ($t=2.933$), social mobilization ($t=4.791$), self orientation ($t=7.870$), mass media exposure ($t=6.005$), perception of drudgery ($t=12.380$) and access to basic facilities ($t=2.616$) were found significant.

Access and control over resources: Whereas two variables namely self orientation ($t=2.426$), mass media exposure ($t=2.414$) found contributing variation positively and social mobilization ($t=2.603$) and perception of drudgery ($t=3.245$) found contributing negatively and significantly in access and control over resources and could explain 32.10 per cent variation and 'F' value (33.416) was found significant at 0.01 level of probability

Table 75: Simple correlation analysis of indicators of Gender Empowerment Index with Gender Empowerment

Sl. No.	Characteristic	Correlation coefficient 'r'
1	Decision making	0.252**
2	Social empowerment	0.340**
3	Economic empowerment	0.403**
4	Political empowerment	0.564**
5	Legal empowerment	0.866**

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

4.5.2 Relationship of Gender Empowerment with profile

4.5.2.1 Influence of indicators of gender empowerment with GEMI

The results of simple correlation analysis of indicators of gender empowerment with Gender Empowerment Index were presented in Table 75.

NH: There is significant relationship between the indicators of Gender Empowerment and Gender Empowerment Index.

EH: There is significant relationship between the indicators of Gender Empowerment and Gender Empowerment Index.

It could be analysed from Table 75 all the five indicators had shown positive and significant relation at 1.00 per cent level of significance with Gender Empowerment Index.

Maximum degree of correlation co-efficient was explained by legal empowerment ($r=0.866$) followed by political empowerment ($r=-.564$), economic empowerment ($r=0.043$), social empowerment ($r=0.340$) and decision making ($r=0.252$).

4.5.2.2 Influence of profile with Gender Empowerment of the respondents

NH: There is no significant relationship between the gender Empowerment of the respondents and their profile.

EH: There is significant relationship between the gender Empowerment of the respondents and their profile.

Results presented in Table 76 indicates that educational status ($r=0.917$), economic status ($r=0.844$), income ($r=0.945$), managerial abilities ($r=0.222$), income generating capability ($r=0.911$), social participation ($r=0.815$), social mobilization ($r=0.765$), self orientation ($r=0.791$), extension contact ($r=0.805$), extension participation ($r=0.764$), mass media exposure ($r=0.903$) and access to basic facilities ($r=0.925$) had shown positive and significant relationship with gender empowerment.

While, farm size ($r=0.136$) and family size ($r=-0.349$) were negatively and significantly correlated.

Table 76: Simple correlation analysis of profile with Gender Empowerment

Sl. No.	Characteristic	Correlation coefficient 'r'
1	Farm size	-0.136*
2	Educational status	0.917**
3	Marital status	-0.039
4	Family size	-0.349**
5	Economic status	0.844**
6	Income	0.945**
7	Economic productivity	-0.066
8	Discrimination against female child	0.080
9	Managerial Abilities	0.222**
10	Income generating capability	0.911**
11	Social participation	0.815**
12	Social mobilisation	0.765**
13	Self orientation	0.791**
14	Extension contact	0.805**
15	Extension participation	0.764**
16	Mass media exposure	0.903**
17	Perception of drudgery	-0.044
18	Access to basic facilities	0.925**

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

4.5.2.3 Influence of profile with indicators of Gender Empowerment

The findings showing this relationship are presented in the Table 77.

NH: There is no significant relationship of profile with the indicators of Gender Empowerment.

EH: There is significant relationship of profile with the indicators of Gender Empowerment.

Decision making: With regard to decision making variables like economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social participation, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities were found to be positive and significant at one per cent level of significance while educational status was found to be positively significant at 5.00 per cent level of significance. Farm size had shown negative and significant relation at one per cent level.

Social empowerment: The results presented in Table 77 indicate the relationship of variables educational status, economic status, income, income generating capability, social participation, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities as positive and significant at one per cent level.

Economic empowerment: It could be noted from Table 77 that educational status, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capacity, social participation, social mobilization, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities have shown significant positive relationship at 5 per cent level of significance. Whereas, social mobilization was found to be positive and significant at 5 per cent level of significance. Only one variable namely family size had shown negative significance at one per cent level.

Political empowerment: A close look at Table 77 revealed that educational status, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social participation, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities have exhibited positive significant relationship at one per cent level of

Table 77: Simple correlation analysis of profile with indicators of Gender Empowerment

Sl. No.	Characteristic	Correlation coefficient 'r'				
		Decision making	Social empowerment	Economic empowerment	Political empowerment	Legal empowerment
1	Farm size	-0.155**	-0.078	-0.009	-0.010	-0.085
2	Educational status	0.150*	0.314**	0.374**	0.527**	0.827**
3	Marital status	-0.113	-0.017	-0.044	-0.002	0.013
4	Family size	0.063	-0.052	-0.258**	-0.457**	-0.275**
5	Economic status	0.298**	0.247**	0.288**	0.353**	0.760**
6	Income	0.243**	0.317**	0.331**	0.493**	0.841**
7	Economic productivity	-0.088	-0.013	-0.081	-0.046	-0.014
8	Discrimination against female child	-0.009	0.067	0.020	0.037	0.076
9	Managerial abilities	-0.152**	0.014	0.237**	0.226**	0.242**
10	Income generating capability	0.292**	0.367**	0.347**	0.467**	0.763**
11	Social participation	0.348**	0.314**	0.244**	0.334**	0.691**
12	Social mobilisation	0.340**	0.362**	0.240**	0.336**	0.611**
13	Self orientation	0.383**	0.293**	0.139*	0.225**	0.710**
14	Extension contact	0.380**	0.327**	0.160**	0.245**	0.707**
15	Extension participation	0.299**	0.240**	0.190**	0.269**	0.701**
16	Mass media exposure	0.282**	0.312**	0.286**	0.427**	0.800**
17	Perception of drudgery	0.059	0.060	0.072	0.045	-0.137*
18	Access to basic facilities	0.277**	0.274**	0.344**	0.474**	0.817**

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

significance. Whereas, Family size had shown negatively significant relation at 1.00 per cent level of significance.

Legal empowerment: With regard to legal empowerment educational status, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social participation, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities were found to have positive significant relationship at 1.00 per cent level of significance. While Family size was found to be negatively significant at 1.00 per cent level.

4.5.2.4 Regression analysis

Null hypothesis: The method of multiple linear regression was used for predicting the relative contribution of independent variables to influence the dependent variable is Gender Empowerment. All the variables were subjected to multiple linear regression analysis and the results are presented in Table 78.

4.5.2.4.1 Multiple linear regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Empowerment

NH: There is no significant contribution of the personal, social, psychological and situational variables to the variation in gender empowerment of the respondents.

EH: There is significant contribution of the independent variables to the variation in gender empowerment of the respondents.

The results in Table 78 indicate that F value (701.299) obtained was significant indicating that all the variables together contributed significantly to the variation in Gender Empowerment among the respondents. The coefficient of determination revealed that 97.90 per cent of the variation in the Gender Empowerment was explained by the variables.

The 't' values of 12 variables viz., educational status ($t=4.751$), marital status ($t=3.064$), family size ($t=3.828$), economic status ($t=4.101$), income ($t=11.807$), income generating capability ($t=5.659$), social mobilization ($t=3.285$), self orientation ($t=5.674$), extension contact ($t=4.629$), extension participation ($t=13.498$), perception of drudgery ($t=2.779$) and access to basic facilities ($t=3.679$) were found to be significant at one per cent level. While, managerial abilities

Table 77: MLR analysis of selected factors with Gender Empowerment (n=288)

Sl. No.	Characteristics	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.
1	Farm size	-0.009	0.987
2	Educational status	0.452	4.751 **
3	Marital status	-0.055	3.064 **
4	Family size	-0.067	3.828 **
5	Economic status	0.125	4.101 **
6	Income	0.077	11.807 **
7	Economic productivity	0.014	0.383
8	Discrimination against female child	0.023	1.372
9	Managerial abilities	0.014	2.447 *
10	Income generating capability	0.192	5.659 **
11	Social participation	0.056	1.598
12	Social mobilisation	0.118	3.285 **
13	Self orientation	0.239	5.674 **
14	Extension contact	-0.327	4.624 **
15	Extension participation	-0.756	13.498 **
16	Mass media exposure	-0.037	1.562
17	Perception of drudgery	-0.029	2.779 **
18	Access to basic facilities	0.185	3.679 **

R² 0.979
F value 701.299

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

Table 78: Step-down regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Empowerment (n=288)

Sl. No.	Characteristics	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.
1	Educational status	0.396	4.412 **
2	Marital status	-0.041	2.770 **
3	Family size	-0.068	3.879 **
4	Economic status	0.133	4.491 **
5	Income	0.074	11.890 **
6	Managerial abilities	0.018	3.516 **
7	Income generating capability	0.179	5.537 **
8	Social participation	0.068	1.953
9	Social mobilization	0.120	3.458 **
10	Self orientation	0.250	6.092 **
11	Extension contact	-0.358	5.645 **
12	Extension participation	-0.785	14.509 **
13	Perception of drudgery	-0.026	2.542 *
14	Access to basic facilities	0.171	3.429 **

R² 0.980
F value 897.838

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

($t=2.447$) was found to significant at five per cent level. Only the variables which were significant were selected for carrying out step-down regression and the non-significant variables were eliminated. Based on these findings the null hypothesis was accepted.

4.5.2.4.2 Step down regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Empowerment

The joint influence of the best subset predictors of Gender Empowerment Index can be obtained by carrying out step down regression analysis. This analysis provides simpler model which shows lesser number of predictors in explaining the relationship (Table 79).

The variables with high probability values were eliminated before carrying out the step down regression analysis. The calculated F value (897.888). had contributed significantly to the variation in Gender Empowerment. The fourteen variables which contributed significantly were educational status ($t=4.412$), marital status ($t=2.770$), family size ($t=3.879$), economic status ($t=4.491$), income ($t=11.890$), managerial abilities ($t=3.516$), income generating capability ($t=5.537$), social mobilization ($t=3.458$), self orientation ($t=6.092$), extension contact ($t=5.645$), extension participation ($t=14.509$), perception of drudgery ($t=2.542$) and access to basic facilities ($t=3.429$). The coefficient of determination (R^2) was found to be 0.980 which indicated 98.00 per cent variation in Gender Empowerment could be explained by these fourteen variables.

4.5.2.4.3 Multiple linear regression analysis of selected factors with indicators of Gender Empowerment

Multiple linear regression was carried out for finding out the contribution of independent variables in predicting the indicators of Gender Empowerment - Decision Making, Social Empowerment. The 't' values and the regression coefficients are presented in Table 80.

Null Hypothesis: There is no significant contribution of the independent variables to the variation in the indicators of Gender Empowerment.

Empirical Hypothesis: There is significant contribution of the independent variables to the variation in the indicators of Gender Empowerment.

Table 79) MLR analysis of selected factors with indicators of Gender Empowerment (n=288)

Sl. No.	Characteristics	Decision making		Social personal		Economic		Political		Legal	
		Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.
1	Farm size	-0.019	1.073	0.009	0.376	0.005	0.394	-0.002	0.148	-0.001	0.182
2	Educational status	-0.534	2.898**	0.432	1.839	0.150	1.180	0.275	2.015*	0.129	1.653
3	Marital status	0.008	0.234	-0.066	1.473	-0.006	0.235	0.020	0.755	-0.012	0.787
4	Family size	-0.026	0.754	-0.012	0.282	-0.065	2.778**	0.037	1.484	-0.001	0.098
5	Economic status	-0.025	0.416	0.220	2.921**	-0.011	0.271	-0.078	1.775	0.018	0.734
6	Income	-0.027	2.161*	0.063	3.880**	0.032	3.656**	0.008	0.876	0.002	0.321
7	Economic productivity	-0.036	0.519	0.088	0.997	-0.023	0.489	0.017	0.336	-0.032	1.097
8	Discrimination against female child	0.006	0.179	0.005	0.119	0.005	0.203	0.010	0.424	-0.003	0.182
9	Managerial abilities	-0.010	0.935	0.011	0.756	0.005	0.595	-0.004	0.541	0.014	2.889**
10	Income generating capability	-0.052	0.790	0.079	0.940	0.062	1.362	0.092	1.895	0.011	0.398
11	Social participation	-0.062	0.908	0.058	0.664	0.040	0.841	0.011	0.214	0.010	0.348
12	Social mobilisation	0.080	1.148	0.030	0.341	-0.009	0.183	0.003	0.054	0.014	0.466
13	Self orientation	0.146	1.785	0.100	0.964	-0.009	0.153	0.055	0.912	-0.054	1.550
14	Extension contact	0.255	1.860	-0.323	1.849	-0.332	3.509**	0.136	1.343	-0.063	1.092
15	Extension participation	0.033	0.306	-0.431	3.118**	-0.191	2.550*	-0.124	1.543	-0.043	0.927
16	Mass media exposure	0.052	1.133	-0.016	0.268	-0.021	0.664	-0.045	1.322	-0.007	0.382
17	Perception of drudgery	0.027	1.342	-0.063	2.431*	-0.006	0.448	0.014	0.905	-0.001	0.093
18	Access to basic facilities	0.313	3.204**	-0.082	0.656	-0.010	0.145	-0.080	1.102	0.043	1.045
		R ²	0.298	0.759		0.481		0.206		0.278	
		F value	6.332	46.954		13.876		3.867		5.754	

* : Significant at 5 per cent level

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

Decision making: With regard to the decision making in the Table 80, of the 18 variables fitted into the regression analysis educational status ($t=2.898$) and Income ($t=1.161$), had contributed significantly and access to basic facilities ($t=3.204$) was negatively significant. The F value (6.332) obtained was significant indicating that all the variables together contributed significantly to the variation in decision making. The coefficient of determination ($R^2=0.29$) revealed that 29.80 per cent of variation in decision making was explained jointly by all the variables jointly. Thus, the null hypothesis was rejected.

Social empowerment: In case of social empowerment, out of 18 variables the variables which were found to be positively significant at per cent level were economic status ($t=2.921$), income ($t=3.880$). While, extension participation ($t=3.118$) was negatively significant at one per cent level and perception of drudgery ($t=2.431$) was found to be negatively significant at five per cent level. The computed (R^2) value is 0.76 indicating that all the independent variables could explain variation in the dependent variable to the extent of 76.00 per cent. The calculated F-value (46.954) shows that the variation is significant at 0.01 level of probability.

Economic empowerment: With regard to economic empowerment, the variables which were found positively significant at 0.01 level of probability out of 18 variables was income ($t=3.655$). Family size ($t=2.778$), extension contact ($t=3.509$) were negatively significant at 0.01 level of probability. Extension participation ($t=2.550$) was found to be negatively significant at 0.05 level of probability. The F calculated value (13.876) was found to be significant indicating that all the variables together contributed to the variation in economic empowerment. The coefficient of determination (R^2) recorded 13.57 per cent of variation in economic empowerment was jointly explained by all the variables. Thus, the null hypothesis was rejected.

Political empowerment: In respect of political empowerment, educational status ($t=2.015$) has contributed significantly and positively ;at 0.05 level of probability. The calculated (R^2) value was 0.21 indicating variation in dependent variables to the extent of 21.00 per cent. The calculated F value (3.867) shows that the variation is significant at 0.01 level of probability.

Table 79: Step-down regression analysis of selected factors on indicators of Gender Empowerment (n=288)

Sl. No.	Components / Indicators of Gender Equity Index	Influencing characteristics	Regression coefficient 'b'	t calc.
1	Decision making	Educational status	-0.463	2.859**
		Income	-0.020	1.932
		Managerial abilities	-0.014	1.699
		Self orientation	0.108	1.780
		Extension contact	0.358	3.046**
		Perception of drudgery	0.028	2.278*
		Access to basic facilities	0.258	3.443**
		R ²	0.283	
		F value	15.758	
2	Political empowerment	Family size	-0.067	3.089**
		Income	0.036	8.094**
		Income generating capability	0.061	2.777**
		Extension contact	-0.374	5.845**
		Extension participation	-0.171	3.191**
		R ²	0.474	
		F value	50.864	
3	Legal empowerment	Educational status	0.440	2.146*
		Economic status	0.251	4.137**
		Income	0.049	4.508**
		Income generating capability	0.108	2.206*
		Extension participation	-0.407	4.086**
		Perception of drudgery	-0.038	2.601**
		R ²	0.750	
		F value	140.301	
4	Economic empowerment	Educational status	0.130	2.409*
		Economic productivity	-0.053	2.256*
		Managerial abilities	0.012	3.388**
		Social mobilization	0.030	3.192**
		Self orientation	-0.055	2.334*
		Extension contact	-0.092	2.096*
		Access to basic facilities	0.061	2.302*
		R ²	0.27	
		F value	14.778	
5	Social personal empowerment	Educational status	0.164	1.741
		Income generating capability	0.085	3.496**
		Extension contact	0.179	2.782**
		Extension participation	-0.116	2.151*
		Access to basic facilities	-0.087	1.939
		R ²	0.172	
		F value	11.692	

** : Significant at 1 per cent level

Legal empowerment: While in case of legal empowerment, variable viz., managerial abilities ($t=2.889$) was the only positive and significant variable at 0.01 level of probability of the 18 variables. All the variables could explain 28 per cent variation in dependent value as (R^2) was 0.278 and it was found to be significant as indicated by 'F' value (5.754).

4.5.2.4.4 Predicting the influence of selected factors on indicators of Gender Empowerment

Step down regression analysis of selected factors on indicators of gender empowerment was presented in Table 81.

For the indicators of Gender Empowerment i.e., decision making, social empowerment, economic empowerment, political empowerment and legal empowerment and independent variables step-down regression analysis was carried out. Analysis was carried out separately for each indicator of gender empowerment.

At every stage one independent variable was dropped in this method, based on its least contribution to R^2 . The variables which has shown maximum variation in dependent variable were finally delineated at a particular step in step-down regression analysis. The final resulting variables with their partial regression coefficients 't' and R^2 and F values were presented in Table 81.

Decision making: A perusal of the Table 81 reveals that self orientation ($t=1.780$) extension contact ($t=8.046$), perception of drudgery($t=2.278$), and positively and educational status ($t=2.859$), Income ($t=1.932$) and managerial abilities ($t=1.699$), negatively explained about 28.30 per cent of variation in decision making and F value (15.756) was found significant at 0.01 level of probability.

Social empowerment: With regard to social empowerment, income generating capability and extension contact were found to be contribute variation positively and significantly and extension participation was found to contribute negatively to the dependent variable. These variables could explain 17.20 per cent of variation and F value (11.69) was found to be significant at 0.01 level of probability.

Economic empowerment: It was very much vivid from the Table 81 that educational status, managerial abilities, social mobilization and access to basic

facilities found contributing positively and economic productivity, self orientation, and extension contact negatively, explained about 27.00 per cent of variation in economic empowerment. 'F' value (14.77) was found significant at 0.01 level of probability. In this analysis 't' values of variables educational status ($t=2.409$), economic productivity ($t=2.256$), managerial abilities ($t=3.388$), social mobilization ($t=3.192$) self orientation ($t=2.334$), extension contact ($t=2.096$) and access to basic facilities ($t=2.302$) were found significant.

Political empowerment: It was apparent from the Table 81 that income and income generating capability were found to contribute variation in political empowerment positively and significantly and family size, extension contact and extension participation were found to contribute negatively to the dependent variable. Thus five variables could explain 47.40 per cent of variation and F value (50.864) was found to be significant at 0.01 level of probability. The 't' values of these variable, family size ($t=3.089$) income ($t=8.094$), income generating capability ($t=2.777$), extension contact ($t=5.845$) and extension participation ($t=3.191$).

Legal empowerment: With regard to legal empowerment variables, like Educational status, economic status, income and income generating capability were found to be contributing significantly and were found to be positive with t-value 2.148, 4.137, 4.508 and 2.206 respectively. Economic status and income were significant at 1.00 per cent and educational status and income generating capability were significant at 5.00 per cent level of probability. Extension participation and perception of drudgery were found to be negatively significant at 1.00 per cent level of probability with 't' values for extension participation ($t=4.086$) and perception of drudgery ($t=2.601$). F value (140.301) was found significant at 0.01 level of probability. The coefficient of determination (R^2) was found to be 0.750 which indicated 75.00 per cent variation in legal empowerment which could be explained by these six variables.

Empirical model for the study: An empirical model provides a framework as a perspective reference to understand the Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment and factors intricately associated with it. It could thus be understood from the study that Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment are multivariate phenomena and should not be viewed as a separate entity. Hence, give a clear picture of the findings an empirical model (Fig.5) as been presented. The figure indicates analysis of the dependent variables showing the significant and non-significant relationship of the influencing variables. An analysis of the all the indicators, of GE and GEM what indicated in the model to provide a holistic view of Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment for the drawing suitable implications.

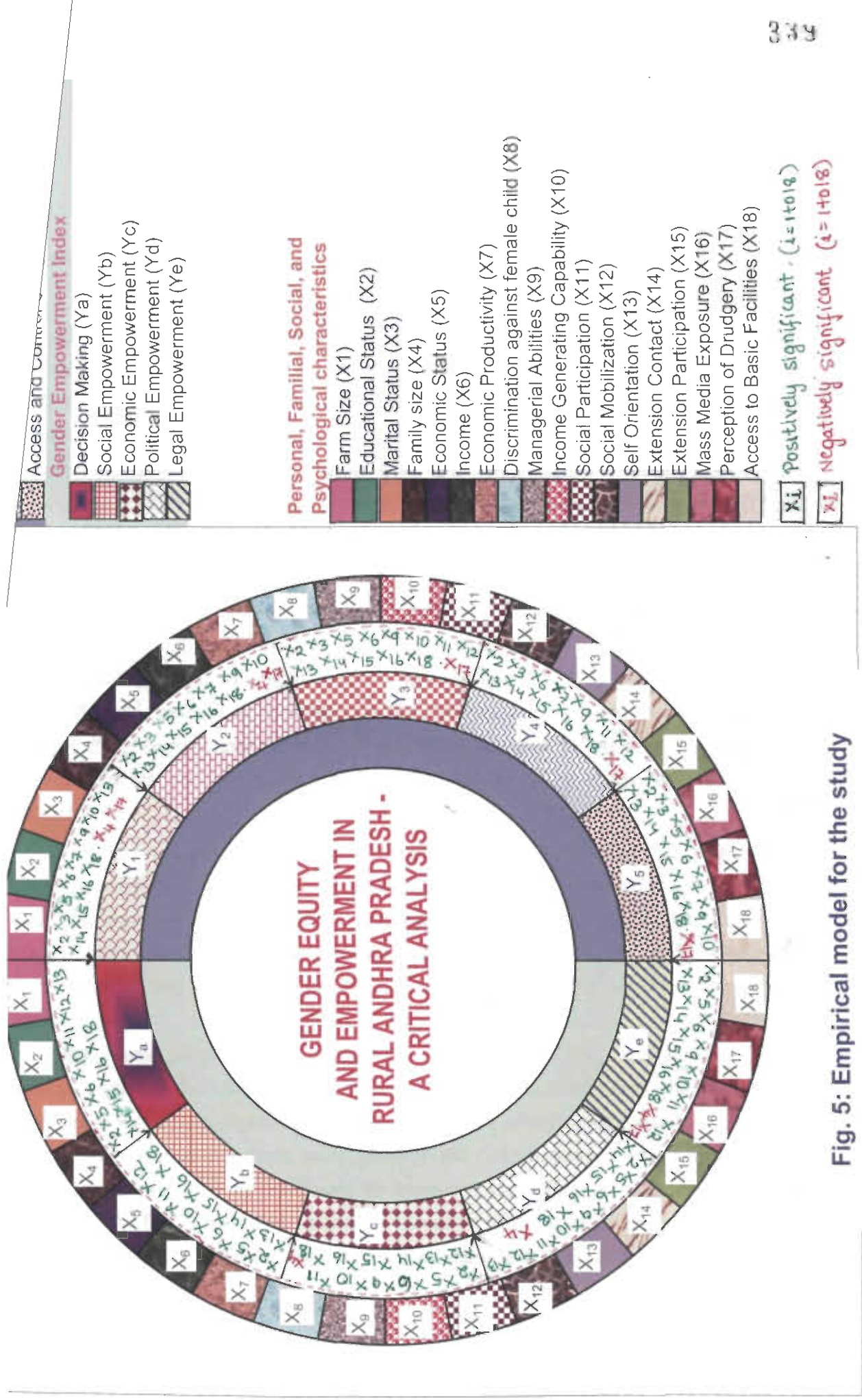


Fig. 5: Empirical model for the study

4.6 FACTORS AFFECTING GENDER EQUITY AND GENDER EMPOWERMENT

4.6.1 Factors affecting gender equity

Table 82 Indicates results with regard to factors affecting gender equity.

4.6.1.1 Education related factors

A vast majority (97.22%) of women in Adilabad reported that lower educational aspiration among girls as compared to boys followed by poverty (95.83%), participation of the girls in the household economy (94.44%), skeptical attitudes towards the benefits and outcomes from educating girls (90.28%) and low parental interest and support for further schooling, especially girls (86.11%) were the factors affecting education. While men stated that, the major factors affecting education as poverty (90.28%) followed by participation of girls in the household economy (87.50%), lower educational aspiration among girls as compared to boys (84.72%), low parental interest and support for further schooling especially girls (83.33%), and skeptical attitudes towards the benefits and outcomes from educating girls (80.56%).

The findings in this area indicates that poverty (93.06%), followed by lower educational aspirations among girls as compared to boys (90.97%) and an equal per cent reported participation of the girls in the household economy, skeptical attitudes towards the benefits and outcomes from educating girls (85.42%) and low parental interest and support for further schooling (84.72%) were the major factors related to education.

The women respondents in West Godavari stated that the main factors affecting education were poverty (88.89%) followed by participation of girls in household economy. (81.94%), lower educational aspiration among girls as compared to boys (77.78%), skeptical attitudes towards the benefits and outcomes from educating girls (73.61%), and lower parental interest and support for further schooling (72.22%) Poverty (80.56%), lower educational aspiration among girls as compared to boys (76.39%), participation of girls in household economy (72.22%), low parental interest and support for further schooling especially girls (66.67%) were the main factor affecting education as reported by men. The factors affecting education as reported by women and men respondents were poverty (84.72%) followed by lower educational aspiration among girls as compared to boys and participation of girls in household economy (77.08%), skeptical attitudes towards the benefits and outcomes from educating girls (72.22%) and low parental interest and support for further schooling (69.44%).

Table 82: Factors affecting Gender Equity

S. No.	Factors	Adilabad			West Godavari			Overall		
		Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
		(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=288)
(a)	Education									
(1)	Low parental interest and support for further schooling, especially girls	62 (86.11)	60 (83.33)	122 (84.72)	52 (72.22)	48 (66.67)	100 (69.44)	114 (79.17)	108 (75.00)	222 (77.08)
(2)	Skeptical attitudes towards the benefits and outcomes from educating girls	65 (90.28)	58 (80.56)	123 (85.42)	53 (73.61)	51 (70.83)	104 (72.22)	118 (81.94)	109 (75.69)	227 (78.82)
(3)	Participation of the girls in the household economy	68 (94.44)	63 (87.50)	131 (90.97)	59 (81.94)	52 (72.22)	111 (77.08)	127 (88.19)	115 (79.86)	242 (84.03)
(4)	Lower educational aspirations among girls as compared to boys	70 (97.22)	61 (84.72)	131 (90.97)	56 (77.78)	55 (76.39)	111 (77.08)	126 (87.50)	116 (80.56)	242 (84.03)
(5)	Poverty	69 (95.83)	65 (90.28)	134 (93.06)	64 (88.89)	58 (80.56)	122 (84.72)	133 (92.36)	123 (85.42)	256 (88.89)
(b)	Employment									
(1)	Stereotypical, gender based attitudes and behaviour	65 (90.28)	62 (86.11)	127 (88.19)	63 (87.50)	54 (75.00)	117 (81.25)	128 (88.89)	116 (80.56)	244 (84.72)
(2)	Differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions	72 (100.00)	62 (86.11)	134 (93.06)	65 (90.28)	61 (84.72)	126 (87.50)	137 (95.14)	123 (85.42)	260 (90.28)
(3)	Performing domestic chores by women	69 (95.83)	65 (90.28)	134 (93.06)	68 (94.44)	60 (83.33)	128 (88.89)	137 (95.14)	125 (86.81)	262 (90.97)
(4)	Low educational and illiteracy rates	66 (91.67)	62 (86.11)	128 (88.89)	61 (84.72)	58 (80.56)	119 (82.64)	127 (88.19)	120 (83.33)	247 (85.76)
(5)	Women confined to less productive sector of the economy	70 (97.22)	63 (87.50)	133 (92.36)	68 (94.44)	60 (83.33)	128 (88.89)	138 (95.83)	123 (85.42)	261 (90.63)

Contd...

Table 82 contd....

S. No.	Factors	Adilabad			West Godavari			Overall		
		Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
		(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=288)
(c) (1)	Health and Nutrition Lack of access to emergency care and referral systems	72 (100.00)	68 (94.44)	140 (97.22)	65 (90.28)	63 (87.50)	128 (88.89)	137 (95.14)	131 (90.97)	268 (93.06)
(2)	Traditional taboos and food allocation biases	66 (91.67)	61 (84.72)	127 (88.19)	60 (83.33)	61 (84.72)	121 (84.03)	126 (87.50)	122 (84.72)	248 (86.11)
(3)	Lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet	69 (95.83)	68 (94.44)	137 (95.14)	63 (87.50)	62 (86.11)	125 (86.81)	132 (91.67)	130 (90.28)	262 (90.97)
(4)	Limited resources restricting their access to health services	70 (97.22)	66 (91.67)	136 (94.44)	62 (86.11)	58 (80.56)	120 (83.33)	132 (91.67)	124 (86.11)	256 (88.89)
(5)	Inability to pay for medical services	66 (91.67)	61 (84.72)	127 (88.19)	54 (75.00)	51 (70.83)	105 (72.92)	120 (83.33)	112 (77.78)	232 (80.56)
(d) (1)	Time Lack of knowledge on task organisation	68 (94.44)	66 (91.67)	134 (93.06)	58 (80.56)	60 (83.33)	118 (81.94)	126 (87.50)	126 (87.50)	252 (87.50)
(2)	Lack of ability to assess the time required for given task	70 (97.22)	63 (87.50)	133 (92.36)	60 (83.33)	56 (77.78)	116 (80.56)	130 (90.28)	119 (82.64)	249 (86.46)
(3)	Lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden	69 (95.83)	62 (86.11)	131 (90.97)	63 (87.50)	58 (80.56)	121 (84.03)	132 (91.67)	120 (83.33)	252 (87.50)
(4)	Lack of knowledge about time saving technologies related to farm and home	67 (93.06)	64 (88.89)	131 (90.97)	56 (77.78)	52 (72.22)	108 (75.00)	123 (85.42)	116 (80.56)	239 (82.99)

Contd...

3342

Table 82 contd...

S. No.	Factors	Adilabad			West Godavari			Overall		
		Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
		(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=288)
(e)	Access and Control over Resources									
(1)	Lack of control over loans savings use and income.	68 (94.44)	63 (87.50)	131 (90.97)	55 (76.39)	52 (72.22)	107 (74.31)	123 (85.42)	115 (79.86)	238 (82.64)
(2)	Lack of control over income from other household productive activities.	67 (93.06)	61 (84.72)	128 (88.89)	53 (73.61)	51 (70.83)	104 (72.22)	120 (83.33)	112 (77.78)	232 (80.56)
(3)	Lack of access to resources and market.	65 (90.28)	61 (84.72)	126 (87.50)	52 (72.22)	48 (66.67)	100 (69.44)	117 (81.25)	109 (75.69)	226 (78.47)
(4)	Lack of knowledge about how access is obtained	70 (97.22)	65 (90.28)	135 (93.75)	52 (72.22)	58 (80.56)	110 (76.39)	122 (84.72)	123 (85.42)	245 (85.07)
(5)	Lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership.	68 (94.44)	63 (87.50)	131 (90.97)	59 (81.94)	53 (73.61)	112 (77.78)	127 (88.19)	116 (80.56)	243 (84.38)

Figures in parentheses indicate percentages

The overall data on factors affecting education reveal that a vast majority (92.36%) reported, poverty as the affecting factor for education followed by participation of girls in household economy (88.19%), lower educational aspiration among girls as compared to boys (87.50%), skeptical attitude towards the benefits and outcomes from educating girls (81.94%) and low parental interest and support for further schooling especially girls (79.17%). Men reported that poverty (85.42%), lower education aspiration among girls as compared to boys (80.56%), participation of the girls in the household economy (79.86%), skeptical attitudes towards the benefits and outcomes from educating girls (75.69%) and low parental interest and support for further schooling especially girls (75.00%) were the factors affecting education.

The pooled data of both the districts indicate the affecting factors education as poverty (88.89%) followed by participation of girls in the household economy low educational aspiration among girls as compared to boys (84.03%), skeptical attitudes towards the benefits and outcomes from educating girls (78.82%) and low parental interest and support for further schooling especially girls (77.08%).

4.6.1.2 Employment related factors

The factors pertaining to employment that affect Gender Equity were presented in Table 82.

According to the women respondents in Adilabad cent per cent of women reported that differential remuneration rooted from gendered perception, followed by women confined to less productive sector of the economy (97.22%), performing domestic chores by women (95.83%), low education and illiteracy rates (91.67%) and stereotypical gender based attitudes and behaviour (90.28%) as the factors affecting gender equity. Performing domestic chores by women (90.28%), women confined to less productive sector of economy (87.50%) and an equal per cent i.e. 86.11 per cent of them reported stereotypical, gender based attitudes and behaviour, differential remuneration rooted from gendered perception and low education and illiteracy rates are related factors affecting employment as reported by men.

On the whole differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions and performing domestic chores by women (93.06%) followed by women confined to less productive sector of the economy (92.36%), low educational and illiteracy rates (88.89%), and stereotypical, gender based attitudes and behaviour (88.19%) were reported to be main factors affecting employment by the respondents in Adilabad.

The finding in West Godavari reveal that performing of domestic chores by women (94.44%) and an equal per cent reported women confined to less productive sector of the economy followed by differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions (90.28%), stereotypical, gender based attitudes and behaviour (87.50%) and low educational and illiteracy rates (84.72%) were reported by women as factors affecting the employment aspect. Men reported that differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions (84.72%), performing domestic chores by women and women confined to less productive sector of the economy (83.33%), low educational and illiteracy rates (80.56%) and stereotypical gender based attitudes and behaviour (75.00%) were the affecting factors with regard to employment.

On totality the overview of the finding in West Godavari indicate that performing of domestic chores by women and women confined to less productive sector of the economy by equal per cent i.e., 88.89 per cent, followed by differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions (87.50%), low educational and illiteracy rates (82.64%) and stereotypical, gender based attitudes and behaviour (81.25%) were the employment affecting factors in that area.

The overall picture shows that women confined to less productive sector of the economy (95.83%), differential remuneration rooted from gendered perception (95.14%) and all equal per cent reported performing domestic chores by women, stereotypical gender based attitudes and behaviour (88.89%) and Low Educational and illiteracy rates (88.19%) were is the factors affecting employment as reported by women. While as stated by men, a great majority (86.81%) of men, reported performing domestic chores women, followed by women confined to less productive sector of the economy (85.42%) and an equal per cent said differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions, low educational and illiteracy

On the whole differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions and performing domestic chores by women (93.06%) followed by women confined to less productive sector of the economy (92.36%), low educational and illiteracy rates (88.89%), and stereotypical, gender based attitudes and behaviour (88.19%) were reported to be main factors affecting employment by the respondents in Adilabad.

The finding in West Godavari reveal that performing of domestic chores by women (94.44%) and an equal per cent reported women confined to less productive sector of the economy followed by differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions (90.28%), stereotypical, gender based attitudes and behaviour (87.50%) and low educational and illiteracy rates (84.72%) were reported by women as factors affecting the employment aspect. Men reported that differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions (84.72%), performing domestic chores by women and women confined to less productive sector of the economy (83.33%), low educational and illiteracy rates (80.56%) and stereotypical gender based attitudes and behaviour (75.00%) were the affecting factors with regard to employment.

On totality the overview of the finding in West Godavari indicate that performing of domestic chores by women and women confined to less productive sector of the economy by equal per cent i.e., 88.89 per cent, followed by differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions (87.50%), low educational and illiteracy rates (82.64%) and stereotypical, gender based attitudes and behaviour (81.25%) were the employment affecting factors in that area.

The overall picture shows that women confined to less productive sector of the economy (95.83%), differential remuneration rooted from gendered perception (95.14%) and all equal per cent reported performing domestic chores by women, stereotypical gender based attitudes and behaviour (88.89%) and Low Educational and illiteracy rates (88.19%) were is the factors affecting employment as reported by women. While as stated by men, a great majority (86.81%) of men, reported performing domestic chores women, followed by women confined to less productive sector of the economy (85.42%) and an equal per cent said differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions, low educational and illiteracy

rates (83.33%) and stereotypical, gender based attitudes and behaviour (80.56%) were the factors affecting employment.

The responses of the respondents from both the districts indicate that, major factors affecting employment were performing domestic chores by women (90.97%) followed by women confined to less productive sector of the economy (90.63%), differential remuneration rooted from gendered perception (90.28%), low educational and illiteracy rates (85.76%) and stereotypical, gender based attitudes and behaviour (84.72%).

4.6.1.3 Health and nutrition related factors

A close observation of the Table 82 gives findings on factors affecting health and nutrition

Cent per cent of women as regards to Table 82 in Adilabad reported that lack of access to emergency care and referral systems was one of the major cause affecting the Health and Nutrition aspect followed by limited resources restricting their access to health services (97.22%), lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet (95.83%) and an equal per cent i.e., (91.67%) reported traditional taboos and food allocation biases and inability to pay for medical services. Lack of access to emergency care and referral systems (94.4%) and an equal per cent reported, lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet followed by limited resources restricting the access to health services (91.67%), and equal per cent i.e., 84.72 reported traditional taboos and food allocation biases and inability to pay for medical services were the factors affecting health and nutrition according to men.

Lack of access to emergency care and referral systems (97.22%) lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet (95.14%), limited resources restricting the access to health services (94.44%), and 88.19 per cent of them equally reported traditional taboos and food allocation biases and inability to pay for medical services were the factors affecting Health and Nutrition as stated by the respondents in Adilabad.

According to women in West Godavari, lack of access to emergency care and referral system (90.28%), lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet (87.50%) limited resources restricting the access to health services.

taboos and food allocation biases (83.33%) and inability to pay for medical services were the factors affecting health and nutrition. While men reported the major factors as lack of access to emergency care and referral system (87.50%), followed by lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet (86.11%), lack of traditional taboos and food allocation biases (84.72%), limited resources restricting the access to health services, (80.56%) and inability to pay for medical services (70.83%). On the whole, great majority (88.89%) of the respondents reported lack of access to emergency care and referral system followed by lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet (86.11%) traditional taboos and food allocation biases (84.03%), limited resources restricting the access to health services (83.33%) and inability to pay for medical services (72.92%) were the affecting factors related to health and nutrition.

The overall findings on this aspect indicate that a vast majority (95.14%) of women on the whole reported. lack of access to emergency care and referral systems, 91.67 per cent of them equally said lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet and limited resources restricting the access to health services, traditional taboos and food allocation biases (87.50%), and inability to pay for medical services (83.33%) are the related factors affecting health and nutrition. As regards to men respondents, 90.97, 90.28, 86.11, 84.72 and 77.77 per cent of them reported lack of access to emergency care and referral system, lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet, limited resources restricting the access to health services, traditional taboos and food allocation biases and inability to pay for the medical services respectively were the factors related to health and nutrition.

A close observation of the Table 82 on the whole indicated that lack of access to emergency care and referral systems (93.06%), followed by lack of knowledge on balanced diet (90.94%), limited resources restricting the access to health services (88.89%), traditional taboos and food allocation biases (86.11%) and inability to pay for medical services (80.56%) were affecting factors of health and nutrition.

4.6.1.4 Time related factors

The factor affecting time aspect of Gender Equity were presented in Table 82.

As reported by women in Adilabad lack of ability to assess the time required for given task (97.22%), followed by lack of knowledge on task organization (94.44%), lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden (95.83%) and lack of knowledge about time saving technologies related to farm and home (93.06%) were the factors that affect the time aspect. Lack of knowledge on task organization (91.67%), lack of knowledge about time saving technologies related to farm and home (88.89%), lack of ability to assess the time required for given task (87.50%), and lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden (86.11%) were the affecting factors in this aspect.

On the whole, lack of knowledge on task organization (93.06%), lack of ability to assess the time required for given task (92.36%) and 90.97 per cent equally reported lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden and lack of knowledge on time saving technologies related to farm and home were the factors pertaining to time aspect.

In West Godavari, women reported that lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden (87.50%) lack of ability to assess the time required for given task (88.33%), lack of knowledge on task organization (80.56%), and lack of knowledge about time saving technologies related to farm and home (77.77%) were the factors affecting the time aspect of gender equity. Lack of knowledge on task organization (83.33%) followed by lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden (80.56%), lack of ability to assess the time required for given task (77.78%), lack of knowledge about time saving technologies related to farm and home (77.22%) were reported by men as affecting factors on time.

On totality, the factors affecting time aspect in this area as reported by the women and men respondents were lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden (84.03%), followed by lack of knowledge on task organization (81.94%) lack of ability to assess the time required for given task (80.56%), and lack of knowledge about time saving technologies related to farm and home (75.00%).

The summary of the Table 82 reveals the finding as reported by women as lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden (91.67%), lack of ability to assess the time required for given task (90.28%), lack of knowledge on task organization (87.50%), and lack of knowledge about time saving technologies

related to farm and home (85.42%). According to men, lack of knowledge on task organization (87.50%) followed by lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden (83.33%), lack of ability to assess the time required for given task (82.64%) and lack of knowledge about time saving technologies related to farm and home (80.56%) were the factors affecting the time aspect.

The overall conclusion of the Table 82 reveals that lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden (87.50%) and an equal per cent of them reported lack of knowledge on task organization followed by lack of ability to assess the time required for given task (86.46%) lack of knowledge about time saving technologies related to farm and home (82.99%) were the affecting factors of time.

4.6.1.5 Access and control over resources related factors

The finding representing the area of access and control over resources were presented in Table 82.

The following were the factors reported by women in Adilabad, lack of knowledge about how access is obtained (97.22%) lack of control over loans, saving use and income and lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership (94.44%), and lack of control over income from other household productive activities (93.06%) and lack of access to resources and market (90.28%) related to access and control over resources. Lack of knowledge about how access is obtained (90.28%), lack of control over loans, saving use and income and lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership (87.50%), lack of control over income from other household productive activities and lack of access to resources and market (84.72%) were the factors stated by men related to access and control over resources.

In this area of study, the respondents on the whole reported that lack of knowledge on how access is obtained (93.75%) followed by 90.97 per cent of them equally reporting as lack of control over loans savings use and income, lack of control over income from other household productive activities (88.89%) and lack of access to resources and market (87.50%) were affecting factors of access and control over resources.

Women in West Godavari, reported that lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership (81.94%) followed by lack of control over loans savings use and income (76.39%), lack of control over income from other household productive activities, lack of access to resources and market (72.22%) and an equal per cent stated lack of knowledge on how access is obtained were affecting factors of access and control over resources. The related factors as reported by men were lack of knowledge on how access is obtained (80.56%), lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership (73.61%), lack of control over loans, savings use, and income (72.22%), lack of control over income from other household productive activities (70.83%) and lack of access to resources and market (66.67%).

Lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership (77.77%) followed by lack of control over loans, lack of knowledge on how access is obtained (76.39%) savings use and income (74.31%), lack of control over income from other household productive activities (72.22%) and lack of access to resources and market and lack of knowledge on how access is obtained (69.44%) were the factors affecting access and control over resources as stated by the respondents in West Godavari.

The pooled data of the sample reveal that a great majority (88.19%) of women reported lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership followed by lack of control over loans, savings use and income (85.42%), lack of knowledge about how access is obtained (84.72%), lack of control over income from other household productive activities (83.33%) and lack of access to resources and market (81.25%) as the factors affecting access and control over resources. Lack of knowledge about how access is obtained (85.42%) followed by lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership (80.56%), lack of control over loans savings use and income (79.86%), lack of control over income from other household productive activities (77.77%) and lack of access to resources and market (75.69%) were reported by men as the affecting factors related to access and control over resources.

The responses of women and men indicate that lack of knowledge about how access is obtained (85.07%) followed by lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership (84.38%) lack of control over loans, savings use and income

Table 83: Factors affecting Gender Empowerment

S. No.	Factors	Adilabad			West Godavari			Overall		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Total (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Total (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Total (n=288)
(a) (1)	Decision making Existing socio-economic status of women	65 (90.28)	62 (86.11)	127 (88.19)	53 (73.61)	55 (76.39)	108 (75.00)	118 (81.94)	117 (81.25)	235 (81.60)
(2)	Male domination doesn't allow women to make decisions.	70 (97.22)	69 (95.83)	139 (96.53)	63 (87.50)	58 (80.56)	121 (84.03)	133 (92.36)	127 (88.19)	260 (90.28)
(3)	Women generally not consulted for major decisions.	65 (90.28)	61 (84.72)	126 (87.50)	53 (73.61)	56 (77.78)	109 (75.69)	118 (81.94)	117 (81.25)	235 (81.60)
(4)	Fear of marital break-up and social boycott etc.	70 (97.22)	58 (80.56)	128 (88.89)	56 (77.78)	54 (75.00)	110 (76.39)	126 (87.50)	112 (77.78)	238 (82.64)
(5)	Less exposure to social environment.	68 (94.44)	65 (90.28)	133 (92.36)	55 (76.39)	58 (80.56)	113 (78.47)	123 (85.42)	123 (85.42)	246 (85.42)
(b) (1)	Social Empowerment Lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality, as compared to men.	70 (97.22)	64 (88.89)	134 (93.06)	60 (83.33)	53 (73.61)	113 (78.47)	130 (90.28)	117 (81.25)	247 (85.76)
(2)	Non-permissive attitude towards women's freedom.	68 (94.44)	62 (86.11)	130 (90.28)	59 (81.94)	52 (72.22)	111 (77.08)	127 (88.19)	114 (79.17)	241 (83.68)
(3)	Lack of knowledge on women involved in local institutions.	69 (95.83)	63 (87.50)	132 (91.67)	58 (80.56)	51 (70.83)	109 (75.69)	127 (88.19)	114 (79.17)	241 (83.68)
(4)	Lack of socialization.	72 (100.00)	68 (94.44)	140 (97.22)	65 (90.28)	63 (87.50)	128 (88.89)	137 (95.14)	131 (90.97)	268 (93.06)
(5)	Illiteracy, poverty and ignorance.	62 (86.11)	55 (76.39)	117 (81.25)	51 (70.83)	56 (77.78)	107 (74.31)	113 (78.47)	111 (77.08)	224 (77.78)

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Table 83 contd..

S. No.	Factors	Adilabad			West Godavari			Overall		
		Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total
		(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=72)	(n=72)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=144)	(n=288)
(c) (1)	Economic Empowerment Salary / wage differentials between men and women.	72 (100.00)	65 (90.28)	137 (95.14)	72 (100.00)	61 (84.72)	133 (92.36)	144 (100.00)	126 (87.50)	270 (93.75)
(2)	Low average household expenditure on education and health of women.	66 (91.67)	58 (80.56)	124 (86.11)	62 (86.11)	59 (81.94)	121 (84.03)	128 (88.89)	117 (81.25)	245 (85.07)
(3)	Inability to make small and large purchases independently by women.	63 (87.50)	56 (77.78)	119 (82.64)	52 (72.22)	49 (68.06)	101 (70.14)	115 (79.86)	105 (72.92)	220 (76.39)
(4)	Male dominance on income and expenditure.	70 (97.22)	63 (87.50)	133 (92.36)	68 (94.44)	56 (77.78)	124 (86.11)	138 (95.83)	119 (82.64)	257 (89.24)
(5)	Inability to recognise women's contribution to socio-economic development as produces and workers.	68 (94.44)	61 (84.72)	129 (89.58)	54 (75.00)	50 (69.44)	104 (72.22)	122 (84.72)	111 (77.08)	233 (80.90)
(d) (1)	Political Empowerment Lack of equal opportunities in politics.	52 (72.22)	48 (66.67)	100 (69.44)	63 (87.50)	55 (76.39)	118 (81.94)	115 (79.86)	103 (71.53)	218 (75.69)
(2)	Lack of time.	51 (70.83)	53 (73.61)	104 (72.22)	66 (91.67)	58 (80.56)	124 (86.11)	117 (81.25)	111 (77.08)	228 (79.17)
(3)	Illiteracy, ignorance and poverty.	66 (91.67)	69 (95.83)	135 (93.75)	56 (77.78)	52 (72.22)	108 (75.00)	122 (84.72)	121 (84.03)	243 (84.38)
(4)	Husbands and elders do not permit.	70 (97.22)	68 (94.44)	138 (95.83)	65 (90.28)	67 (93.06)	132 (91.67)	135 (93.75)	135 (93.75)	270 (93.75)
(5)	Lack of knowledge on reservations.	72 (100.00)	65 (90.28)	137 (95.14)	63 (87.50)	66 (91.67)	129 (89.58)	135 (93.75)	131 (90.97)	266 (92.36)

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Table 83 contd..

S. No.	Factors	Adilabad			West Godavari			Overall		
		Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Total (n=144)	Women (n=72)	Men (n=72)	Total (n=144)	Women (n=144)	Men (n=144)	Total (n=288)
(e)	Legal empowerment									
(1)	Lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems which address women/s needs.	72 (100.00)	65 (90.28)	137 (95.14)	68 (94.44)	55 (76.39)	123 (85.42)	140 (97.22)	120 (83.33)	260 (90.28)
(2)	Lack of laws that ensure quick justice and punishment.	70 (97.22)	65 (90.28)	135 (93.75)	70 (97.22)	68 (94.44)	138 (95.83)	140 (97.22)	133 (92.36)	273 (94.79)
(3)	Lack of proper policies that aims to encourage changes in personal laws.	65 (90.28)	53 (73.61)	118 (81.94)	70 (97.22)	68 (94.44)	138 (95.83)	135 (93.75)	121 (84.03)	256 (88.89)
(4)	Inability to enforce legal rights.	62 (86.11)	54 (75.00)	116 (80.56)	69 (95.83)	55 (76.39)	124 (86.11)	131 (90.97)	109 (75.69)	240 (83.33)
(5)	Traditional socio-cultural attitude towards women.	63 (87.50)	56 (77.78)	119 (82.64)	66 (91.67)	58 (80.56)	124 (86.11)	129 (89.58)	114 (79.17)	243 (84.38)

(82.64%), lack of control over income from other household productive activities (80.56%) and lack of access to resources and market (78.47%) were the affecting factors on access and control over resources.

4.6.2 Factors affecting Gender Empowerment

4.6.2.1 Decision making related factors

Factors affecting decision making are presented in Table 83.

The factors that affect decision making of the respondents as stated by women were male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions and fear of marital break up and social boycott etc by equal per cent of them i.e., 97.22, followed by less exposure to social environment (94.44%) and an equal per cent i.e., 90.27 as existing socio-economic status of women and women generally not consulted for major decisions. Male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions (95.83%), followed by less exposure to social environment (90.28%), existing socio-economic status of women (86.11%), women generally not consulted for major decisions (84.72%), and fear of marital break up and social boycott etc (80.56%) were the factors affecting this area of gender empowerment.

On the whole, an overwhelming majority (96.53%) of women and men reported that male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions followed by less exposure to social environment (92.36%), fear of marital break up and social boycott etc. (88.89%), existing socio-economic status of women (88.19%), and women generally not consulted for major decisions (87.50%) were the factors affecting decision making pattern.

The factors reported by women in West Godavari were as follows, male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions (87.50%) followed by fear of marital break up and social boycott (77.78%), less exposure to social environment (76.39%) and existing socio-economic status of women and women generally not consulted for major decisions were reported by equal per cent of them i.e., 73.61 per cent. Less exposure to social environment and male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions (80.56%) followed by women generally not consulted for major decisions (77.78%) existing socio-economic status of women (76.39%) and fear of marital break up and social boycott etc (75.00%) were the factors related to

decisions making pattern as reported by men. The overall finding on decision making pattern reveal that male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions (84.03%), less exposure to social environment (78.47%), fear of marital break up and social boycott etc (76.89%), women generally not consulted for major decisions (75.69%) and existing socio-economic status of women (75.00%).

The responses on pooled data of women indicate the factors affecting decision making pattern as male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions (92.36%), women generally not consulted for major decisions (88.89%), fear of marital break up and social boycott etc (87.50%), less exposure to social environment (85.42%) and existing socio-economic status of women (81.94%). Men reported that male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions (88.19%), less exposure to social environment (85.42%), 81.25 per cent equally said existing socio-economic status of women and women generally not consulted for major decisions and fear of marital break up and social boycott (77.77%) were factors affecting decision making pattern.

An overview of the Table 83 indicates the factors in this particular aspect as male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions (90.28%), less exposure to social environment (85.42%), women generally not consulted for major decisions (81.60%), fear of marital break up and social boycott etc (82.63%) and existing socio economic status of women (81.60%).

4.6.2.2 Social empowerment related factors

A perusal of the Table 83 reveals factors pertaining to social empowerment.

The factors affecting social empowerment as reported by women in Adilabad were lack of socialization by cent per cent followed by lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality, as compared to men (97.22%) lack of knowledge on women involved in local institutions (95.83%), non-permissive attitude towards women's freedom (94.44%) and illiteracy, poverty and ignorance ((86.11%). Lack of socialization (94.44%), lack of knowledge on women involved in local institutions (87.50%), non-permissive attitude towards women's freedom (86.11%), lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality as compared

to men (84.72%) and illiteracy, poverty and ignorance (76.39%) were the factors affecting social empowerment.

On totality, the factors affecting social empowerment as reported by the respondents in this area were lack of socialization (97.22%), followed by lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality, as compared to men (93.06%), lack of knowledge on women involved in local institutions (91.67%) non-permissive attitude towards women's freedom (90.28%), and illiteracy, poverty and ignorance (81.25%).

In West Godavari, women respondents reported that lack of socialization (90.28%), followed by lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality, as compared to men (83.33%), non-permissive attitude towards women's freedom, (81.94%), lack of knowledge on women involved in local institution (80.56%) and illiteracy, poverty and ignorance were the factors affecting social empowerment. Lack of socialization (87.50%) illiteracy, poverty and ignorance (77.78%), lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality, as compared to men (73.61%), non-permissive attitude towards women's freedom (72.22%) and lack of knowledge on women involved in local institutions (70.83%) were reported by men as the factors affecting social empowerment.

On the whole, the factors affecting social empowerment as stated by the respondents in this area were lack of socialization (88.88%), lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality, as compared to men (78.47%) non-permissive attitude towards women's freedom (77.08%), lack of knowledge on women involved in local institutions (75.69%), and illiteracy, poverty and ignorance (74.30%).

It can be concluded from Table 83 that, lack of socialization (95.14%) followed by lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality as compared to men (90.28%) followed by non-permissive attitude towards women's freedom and lack of knowledge on women involved in local institutions by equal per cent i.e., 88.19 and illiteracy, poverty and ignorance (78.47%) were reported by women as factors affecting social empowerment. Men reported that lack of socialization (90.97%) followed by lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality as compared to men (81.25%), non-permissive attitude towards

women's freedom (79.17%) and an equal per cent reported lack of knowledge on women involved in local institutions and illiteracy, poverty and ignorance (77.08%) as the factors affecting social empowerment.

It could be summarised from the Table 83 that lack of socialization (93.05%), lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality, as compared to men (85.76%) lack of knowledge on women involved in local institutions (83.68%) and an equal per cent of them reported non-permissive attitude towards women's freedom and illiteracy, poverty and ignorance (77.78%) were the factors affecting social empowerment.

4.6.2.3 Economic empowerment related factors

Factor's affecting economic empowerment were presented in Table 83.

Salary / wage differentials between men and women was reported by cent per cent of them followed by this male dominance on income and expenditure (97.22%), inability to recognizes women's contribution to socio-economic development as produces and workers (94.44%), low average household expenditure on education and health of women (91.67%) and inability to make small and large purchases independently by women (87.50%) were reported by women in Adilabad as factors affecting economic empowerment. Men reported that salary / wage differentials between men and women (90.28%) followed by male dominance on income and expenditure (87.50%) inability to recognize women's contribution to socio-economic development as producers and workers (84.72%), low average household expenditure on education and health of women (80.56%) and inability to make small and large purchases independently by women (77.78%).

Salary / wage differentials between men and women (95.14%) followed by male dominance on income and expenditure (92.36%), inability to recognize women's contribution to socio-economic development as producers and workers (89.56%), low average household expenditure on education and health of women (86.11%) and inability to make small and large purchases independently by women (82.64%), were the factors affecting economic empowerment.

The data of the respondents in West Godavari pertaining to factors affecting economic empowerment, as reported by women were salary / wage differentials between men and women by cent per cent of them followed by male dominance on income and expenditure (94.44%) low average household expenditure on education and health of women (86.11%), inability to recognize women's contribution to socio-economic development as producers and workers (75.00%) and inability to make small and large purchases independently by women (72.22%). Men reported that salary / wage differentials between men and women (84.72%), followed by low average household expenditure on education and health of women (81.94%), male dominance on income and expenditure (77.78%), inability to recognize women's contribution to socio-economic development as producers and workers (69.44%) and inability to make small and large purchases independently by women (68.05%) were the factors effecting economic empowerment.

On the whole, salary / wage differentials between men and women (92.36%) followed by male dominance on income and expenditure (86.11%), low average household expenditure on education and health of women (84.03%) inability to recognize women's contribution to socio-economic development as producers and workers (69.44%), and inability to make small and large purchases independently by women (68.05%) were the factors affecting economic empowerment in the area of West Godavari.

The factors affecting economic empowerment according to women were salary / wage differentials between men and women by cent per cent followed by male dominance on income and expenditure (95.83%) low average household expenditure on education and health of women (88.89%) inability to recognize women's contribution to social economic development as producers and workers (84.72%), and inability to make small and large purchases independently by women (79.86%). While men reported salary / wage differentials between men and women (87.50%) followed by male dominance on income and expenditure (82.64%) low average household expenditure on education and health of women (81.25%), inability to recognize women's contribution to socio-economic development as producers and workers (77.08%) and inability to make small and large purchases independently by women (72.92%) as the factors.

The summary of the Table 83 reveals that salary / wage differentials between men and women (93.75%), male dominance on income and expenditure (89.24%), low average household expenditure on education and health of women (85.07%), inability to recognize women's contributions to socio-economic development as producers and workers (80.90%) and inability to make small and large purchases independently by women (76.39%) were the factors related to economic empowerment.

4.6.2.4 Political empowerment related factors

The findings in Table 83 indicates the results on factors affecting political empowerment.

Cent per cent of women in Adilabad reported lack of knowledge on reservations as the factor affecting political empowerment followed by husbands and elders do not permit (97.22%), illiteracy, ignorance and poverty (91.67%), lack of equal opportunities in politics (72.22%) and lack of time (70.83%). Illiteracy ignorance and poverty (95.83%), husbands and elders do not permit (94.44%), lack of knowledge on reservations (90.28%) followed by lack of time (73.61%) and lack of equal opportunities in politics (66.67%) were reported by men as the affecting factors on political empowerment.

On the whole, husbands and elders do not permit (95.83%), lack of knowledge on reservations (95.14%) illiteracy, ignorance and poverty (93.75%), lack of time (72.22%) and lack of equal opportunities in politics (69.44%) were reported by respondents in Adilabad as the factors affecting political empowerment.

The factors reported by women in West Godavari were lack of time (91.67%) followed by husbands and elders do not permit (90.28%), 87.50 per cent stated equally, lack of equal opportunities in politics and lack of knowledge on reservations and illiteracy, ignorance and poverty (77.78%). While, men reported the major factors affecting political empowerment were husbands and elders do not permit and lack of knowledge on reservations (91.67%), lack of time (80.56%), lack of equal opportunities in politics (76.39%) and illiteracy, ignorance and poverty (72.22%).

The affecting factors on political empowerment as reported by the respondents in West Godavari on the whole were husbands and elders do not permit (91.67%) followed by lack of knowledge on reservations (89.58%), lack of time (86.11%) lack of equal opportunities in politics (81.94%) and illiteracy, ignorance and poverty (75.00%).

Overall data indicates that 93.75 per cent of women equally reported husbands and elders do not permit and lack of knowledge on reservations as factors affecting political empowerment followed by illiteracy, ignorance and poverty (84.72%) lack of time (81.25%) and lack of equal opportunities in politics (79.86%). Husbands and elders do not permit (93.75%) followed by illiteracy, lack of knowledge on reservations (90.97%), illiteracy, ignorance and poverty (84.03%), lack of time (77.08%) and lack of equal opportunities in politics (71.53%) by men as the factors affecting political empowerment.

An overview, of the Table 83 indicates husbands and elders do not permit (93.75%) followed by lack of knowledge on reservations (92.36%), illiteracy poverty and ignorance (84.38%), lack of time (79.17%) and lack of equal opportunities in politics (75.69%) were reported by the respondent on the whole as the factors affecting political empowerment.

4.6.2.5 Legal empowerment related factors

A summary of the Table 83 represents the finding on factors affecting legal empowerment.

Cent per cent of women in Adilabad reported lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems which address women's needs followed by lack of laws that ensure which justice and punishment (97.22%), lack of proper policies that aims to encourage changes in personal laws (90.28%), traditional socio-cultural attitude towards women (87.50%) and inability to enforce legal rights (86.11%) as the factors affecting legal empowerment reported by women. While men stated the following factors, 90.28 per cent equally as lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems which address women's needs, traditional socio-cultural attitude towards women (77.78%), inability to enforce legal rights (75.00%) and lack of proper policies that aims to encourage changes in personal laws (73.61%).

Lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems which address women's needs (95.14%) followed by lack of laws that ensure quick justice and punishment (93.75%), traditional socio-cultural attitude towards women (82.64%), lack of proper policies that aims to encourage changes in personal laws (81.94%) and inability to enforce legal rights (80.56%) were the factors affecting legal empowerment.

The results in West Godavari with regard to women state that lack of laws that ensure quick justice and punishment and lack of proper policies that aims to encourage changes in personal laws by an equal per cent i.e., 97.22 followed by inability to enforce legal rights (95.83%), lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems which address women's needs (94.44%) and traditional socio-cultural attitudes towards women (91.67%) were the factors affecting legal empowerment. While, men reported that lack of laws that enforce quick justice and punishment (94.44%) and an equal per cent reported lack of proper policies that aims to encourage changes in personal laws, followed by traditional socio-cultural attitude towards women (80.56%) and 76.39 per cent of them equally said lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems which address women's needs and inability to enforce legal rights were the factors affecting legal empowerment.

According to the respondents in West Godavari the factors affecting legal empowerment were lack of proper policies that aims to encourage changes in personal laws (95.83%) and an equal per cent reported lack of laws that ensure quick justice and punishment, 86.11 per cent of them equally reported inability to enforce legal rights and traditional socio-cultural attitude towards women and lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems which address women's needs (85.42%).

An overview of the Table 83 reveals the major factors stated by women were lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems which address women's needs and lack of laws that ensure quick justice and punishment (97.22%) followed by lack of policies that aims to encourage changes in personal laws (93.75%), inability to enforce legal rights (90.97%), and traditional socio-cultural attitude towards women (89.58%) that affect legal empowerment. Lack of laws that ensure quick justice and punishment (92.36%), lack of proper policies that aims to encourage changes in personal laws (84.03%), lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems

which address women's needs (83.33%), traditional socio-cultural attitude towards women (79.17%) and inability to enforce legal rights (75.69%) were the factors affecting legal empowerment as reported by men.

The overall data indicates lack of laws that ensure quick justice and punishment (94.79%) followed by lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems which address women's needs (90.28%), lack of proper policies that aims to encourage changes in personal laws (88.89%), traditional socio-cultural attitude towards women (84.38%) and inability to enforce legal rights (83.33%) were the factors affecting legal empowerment on the whole.

4.7 STRATEGY TO STRENGTHEN GENDER EQUITY AND GENDER EMPOWERMENT

4.7.1 Strategy to strengthen indicators of Gender Equity

4.7.1.1 Education

Universalisation of education: The programmes for universalization of elementary education were specially directed towards higher enrolment and retention of girls in schools.

Non-formal education: Non-formal education is an alternate to the formal system which has the potentiality of becoming the major programme of education for girls who cannot attend school during normal school hours due to various reasons. This programme should be strengthened and extended to all the states where education of girls is lagging behind.

Reprioritising educational expenditure: Improving overall educational provision with increased allocation to basic education and spending at higher levels should be earmarked for encouraging greater female enrolment. Public expenditure review should include a review of educational spending from a gender perspective and outcomes can be monitored using gender disaggregated benefit incident analysis.

Investment in female education: The World Bank has stressed investment in female education as an important development strategy for promoting higher enrolment of girls.

Flexible school timings: More flexible community based forms of education provision with greater community participation, flexible hours, adopted curricula and other innovations can have considerable success in increasing female enrolment and reducing drop out rates. Therefore school timings should be flexible and fixed to suit local conditions and needs of the working girls.

Providing incentives: Incentives such as free uniforms, scholarships, schemes with free clothing provided will meet the problem of misappropriation. Incentives to invest in girls education need to be tackled not just by direct subsidies, but also by improving educational performance, the quality of schooling and the returns to educational investment on the labour market.

Concern for girls safety: Greater distances to schools for poor households are likely to be greater constraints to girls. The recommended distance of 3 km for locating a middle school is a handicap for many girls. It is necessary to establish schools within walking distance and provide hostel facilities wherever necessary.

4.7.1.2 Employment

Equal remuneration: The equal remuneration act was passed in the year 1976. According to this act equal remuneration should be paid for equal work for both men and women. Despite of this women labour are paid less. Therefore Government should take necessary to strictly implement the labour laws. Especially minimum wages Act, bond labour (system) abolition Act, contract labour Act, Inter state migrant Act and equal remuneration Act.

Employment guarantee schemes: Employment guarantee schemes should be implemented in all states with a preference to women workers.

Self Help Groups: Establishment of women self-help groups is a vehicle for female empowerment is necessary in the rural areas. It provides rural women a platform to come together, to act as a pressure group, at the same time providing the members economic (Eg. Credit), and social support (Eg. Legal support and counseling).

Credit: Credit should be made easily available. In all credit schemes, a certain percentage of quota should be earmarked for the women.

Women's Cooperatives: Women's cooperatives should be formed to manage rural economic programmes such as poultry, dairy, food processing, marketing storage etc.

Awareness programmes: Frequent awareness programmes should be conducted to create awareness about developmental programmes operating for their benefit and also the objectives and procedural aspects.

Training and Institutional support: Special measures should be taken up to enable the women to have access to skills and technology. Specific training programmes should be conducted in the areas of agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry, water land development, horticulture, sericulture, small-scale industries etc.

Group Insurance schemes: A group insurance scheme should be considered for the health insurance of women's particularly those employed in hazardous or difficult occupations. Group Insurance can also be considered in the context of natural calamities, atrocities and other similar factors.

4.7.1.3 Health and nutrition

Realistic health plans: Formulation of realistic health plans based on needs as felt by women of the specific groups.

Family planning: Statutes that restrict women's access to family planning services should be repealed. Policies must enhance that all couples and individuals have access to good quality, voluntary, client-oriented, and confidential family planning information.

Adolescents and children: Policies and programmes should encourage later marriage and child bearing and an expansion of the economic and educational opportunities for girls and women. Promotion of good nutrition in childhood and adolescence as well as supplementation if necessary during pregnancy, provides protection for both women and their future children.

Barriers to access: Assigning health workers trained in mid-wifery to village based health facilities can help overcome problems of distance and transport. Policies should support the provision of services at minimum cost, at the same time, health workers should have job security, be paid adequate wages and be provided with

sufficient supplied to do their jobs. More sub-centres should be established, preferably with female health workers. Policies that will increase women's decision making power, particularly in regard to their own health are also essential.

Regulation of practice: Protocols and statutes aimed at providing both health care and referral facilities at each level of the health system need to be developed. Responsibilities at each level of supervision, deployment of health care personnel, remuneration, and reporting procedures must be defined nationally. Training Programmes should be conducted for rural health workers.

Delegation of authority: Services should be decentralized so that facilities are available as close to people's home as possible. Adequate supplies and equipment and trained staff should be available in all health facilities, particularly in rural and remote areas, together with written policies and protocols to guide service provision and to allow certain functions to be delegated to personnel at lower levels.

Nutrition supplements and immunisation: Special nutrition supplements should be provided. Medicines such as calcium, iron, anti-amoebic tablets, anti-diarrhoeal tablets and life saving medicines should be made easily available where the general health of women and children is very poor. The immunization programmes should be carried out extensively in rural areas through immunization teams.

Voluntary organizations: Voluntary organizations should be encouraged to take up health, hygiene, anti-alcohol, antismoking and anti-drug campaigns and programmes in an effective manner using local situations and appropriate communication media.

4.7.1.4 Time

Appropriate technologies: Efficient household and agricultural tools should be evolved and popularized. Appropriate technologies should be evolved for female dominated tasks in agriculture as transplanting, weeding, harvesting, carrying load, winnowing, cleaning and drying. In the area of household technology, simple and low cost improved household technologies should be evolved and popularized on massive scale.

Mass media: Mass media approach should be used for creating awareness, motivation, interest, desire and conviction among the ural community to adopt the recommended practices and technologies with other approaches.

Training: Local artisans should be trained in preparing or modifying the technologies and should be educated in the right direction about technologies that are simple and low cost and time saving. Teachers of Mahila Mandals, craft centers, gram sevikas, mahila mandal members, women voluntary leaders etc. must be trained / given refresher courses on use and propagation or recommended time saving technologies while they in turn educate other women.

Changes in domestic labour: Sharing of the domestic chores among women and men would enable women's access to more leisure. This in turn will help women to participate to other economic activities which would increase their income.

Planning: Rural women should be motivated to make effective planning and make out more leisure time. Higher number of exhibitions, melas etc. should be organized by developmental agencies at district and lower levels to encourage rural women to make effective utilization of the available time.

4.7.1.5 Access and control over the resources

Ownership of rights: Land and other property should be registered wherever necessary in joint names of wife and husband, invariably. Tree pattas should be issued on the names of women.

Economic intervention programmes: Women should be introduced to economic intervention programmes. They should also be taught to have the control over their income, autonomy and self-confidence that allows them to access to skill, leadership, decision making and economic independence.

Loans and Savings: Incorporating of clear strategies for women to obtain larger loans by government. Range of savings which include higher interests deposits with more restricted access should be made available.

Enhancing access to financial resources: Facilitating womrn's access to independent income and financial services, providing cohesive structures of

support through solidarity groups and promoting self employment all enhance women's status in the family and their control over family resources.

Promoting rural non-farm employment: Self employment schemes will enable women to acquire income generating assets by providing access to credit, marketing, and other inputs.

Civil code: Uniform civil code should be enforced to guarantee the control of women over land and other family resources.

4.7.2 Strategy to strengthen gender empowerment

4.7.2.1 Decision Making

Empowering women: Massive educational programmes should be launched for women and men. The male heads of the family should be given proper opportunities to participate in such programmes which bring about changes in their attitudes in enabling women to enhance their decision making power in farm, home and economic sectors.

Small family / nuclear family: Rural community should be encouraged to adopt small family norms, government should make necessary action in this area. There is greater possibility for equal decision making power for both the sexes in the nuclear families.

Occupation: Occupation is an important factor in influencing the status of women in making family decisions. It is supposed that non domestic women have more say than the domestic women. Therefore efforts need to be directed towards women's occupation. Government policies and programmes should be strengthened in encouraging and creating awareness about the occupations that can be taken up by women easily.

Increased mobility: Women should be given right to mobility within and the household by the family. This will enhance women's mobilization and make them more confident in taking the decisions. This will also enable women to negotiate improvements in their well being within the household.

4.7.2.2 Social Empowerment

Education: Equal access to education of women and girls should be ensured special measures should be taken to eliminate discrimination, universalize education, eradicate literacy, create a gender sensitive educational system and increase enrolment, retention rates of girls and improve the quality of education.

Health: A holistic approach to women's health which includes both nutrition and health services should be adopted and special attention should be given to the needs of women and the girls at all stages of the life cycle. Women's traditional knowledge about health care and nutrition should be recognized through proper documentation and its use should be encouraged.

Nutrition: Special efforts should be made to tackle the problem of macro and micro nutrient deficiencies especially amongst pregnant and lactating women as it leads to avoid diseases and disabilities. Widespread use of nutrition education should be made to address the issues of intra-household imbalances in nutrition.

Drinking Water and Sanitation: Special attention should be given to the needs of women in the provision of safe drinking water, sewage disposal, toilet facilities and sanitation within accessible reach of households, especially in rural areas.

Housing and Shelters: Women's perspectives should be included in housing policies, special attention should be given including single women, heads of households and working women.

Environment: The policies should aim at promoting the programmes of non-conventional energy resources. Women should be involved in spreading the use of solar energy, biogas, smokeless chulas and other usual application so as to have a visible impact of these measures in influencing eco system and in changing the life styles of rural women.

Science and Technology: Programme should be strengthened to bring about a greater involvement of women in science and technology. Efforts to develop appropriate technologies suited to women's need as well as to reduce these drudgery should be given a special focus.

Women in Difficult Circumstances: Needs of specially disadvantaged groups (women in extreme poverty, distinctive women, women heading households, migrants, victims of marital violence, and deserted women etc.) should be recognized. Measures and programmes should be undertaken to provide them with special assistance.

4.7.2.3 Economic Empowerment

Poverty Eradication: Macro economic policies and poverty eradication programmes should specifically address the needs and problems of women in poverty. Steps should be taken for mobilization of poor women and convergence of services, by offering them a range of economic and social options, along with necessary support measures to enhance their capabilities.

Micro credit: The establishment of new, and strengthening of existing micro-credit mechanisms and micro-finance institutions should be undertaken so that the outreach of credit is enhanced. Supportive measures should be taken to ensure adequate flow of credit through extent financial institutions and banks, so that all women can have easy access to credit.

Women and economy: Women's perspectives should be included in designing and implementing macro-economic and social policies by institutionalizing their participation in such processes. Their contribution to socio-economic development as producers and workers should be recognized in the formal and informal sector. Develop appropriate methodologies for reinterpretation and redefinition of conventional concept of work. Whenever necessary and preparation of satellite and national accounts.

Globalisation: Strategies should be designed to enhance capacity of women and empower them to meet the negative social and economic impacts, which flows from the globalization process.

Women and Agriculture: Concentrated efforts should be made to ensure that benefits of training, extension and various programmes should reach women. The programmes for training women in various occupations allied to agriculture and should be expanded to benefit women workers in the agricultural sector.

Support Services: The provision to support services for women, like child care facilities, and enabling environment to ensure their full cooperation is social, political and economic life. Women-friendly personnel policies should be drawn up to encourage women to participate effectively in the developmental processes.

4.7.2.4 Political empowerment

Education: Educating women is the most effective means of promoting awareness among women as well as changing the traditional bias against involvement in politics with and increased role in public life. Education of women themselves would encourage women to participate in community activities and take up leadership role.

Mass media: Mass media can play a major role in throwing light on the advantage of women's participation in politics and also educating the public at large regarding the necessity and advantages of inducting the women in the Panchayat Raj Institutions.

Political organizations: In all states and National and Political Organisations, boards and corporations, women should be encouraged and nominated by the Government. Women must be represented at Panchayats in the village, block and district level.

Gender awareness: Gender awareness programmes should be organized. Such programmes should address the issue of women balancing personal and professional lives in order to generate time for public roles and men ready to accept women in new roles. In addition, there is a need for awareness building so that both men and women participate in public and political life. While, husbands, sons and other male members are discouraged to participate on behalf of women.

Legal literacy: Spreading legal literacy among the community and elected representatives particularly can accelerate women's political participation. Providing legal education and panchayat training is also essential. Organise campaigns in the village to educate women on role in politics and development.

Attitudinal change: The constraints need to be identified and removed in a planned and systematic manner. Some of these constraints can be overcome through attitudinal change as both men and women accept new roles, other

through education, motivation of the family members and willingness on the part of women to take part in political issues and governance support from the family members and trainings would facilitate women to accept new leadership role in befitting manner.

Equal treatment: Not many male panchayat members work in close collaboration and association with their female partners though women occupy their positions in the Panchayats. To change this situation the panchayat members need to treat the elected women members on an equal basis while the women should participate actively in their new leadership roles.

4.7.2.5 Legal empowerment

Review of legislative structures: The existing legislative structure should be reviewed and additional measures taken by identified departments to implement the policy. This should involve review of all existing laws, including personal, customary and tribal laws, subordinate legislations, related rules as well as executive and administrative regulations to eliminate all gender discriminatory references.

Implementation of legislation: Effective implementation of legislation would be promoted by involving civil society and community. Appropriate changes should be taken in legislation if necessary.

Strict Enforcement: Strict enforcement of all legal provisions and speed redressal of grievances should be ensured, with a special focus on gender related atrocities.

Awareness: Awareness creation among the women and children is important for combating exploitation and crimes against them. In the villages it is very necessary to create awareness of legal laws and channels of redressal or grievances through audio visual means. With the expansion of the television network, TV programmes may be devised to aim at creating awareness of legal rights and other developmental issues. Mass media campaigns should be taken up at block and village levels.

Women's cells: Women's cells in police stations, women police stations, family courts, mahila courts, counseling centers, legal aid centers and Nyaya Panchayats should be strengthened and expanded to eliminate violence and atrocities against

women. Women police should be actively involved along with voluntary agencies and panchayats in disseminating information on protection of rights among the rural populations.

Voluntary organizations: Voluntary organizations should be encouraged to organize legal awareness programmes for rural women. Through voluntary organisations, para-legal volunteers should be trained to help the village people, particularly women.

Orientation programmes: Orientation programmes for police, justice department, labour law, implementing officials and development field functionaries should be conducted to sensitize them on specific problems of women and their adverse social situation.

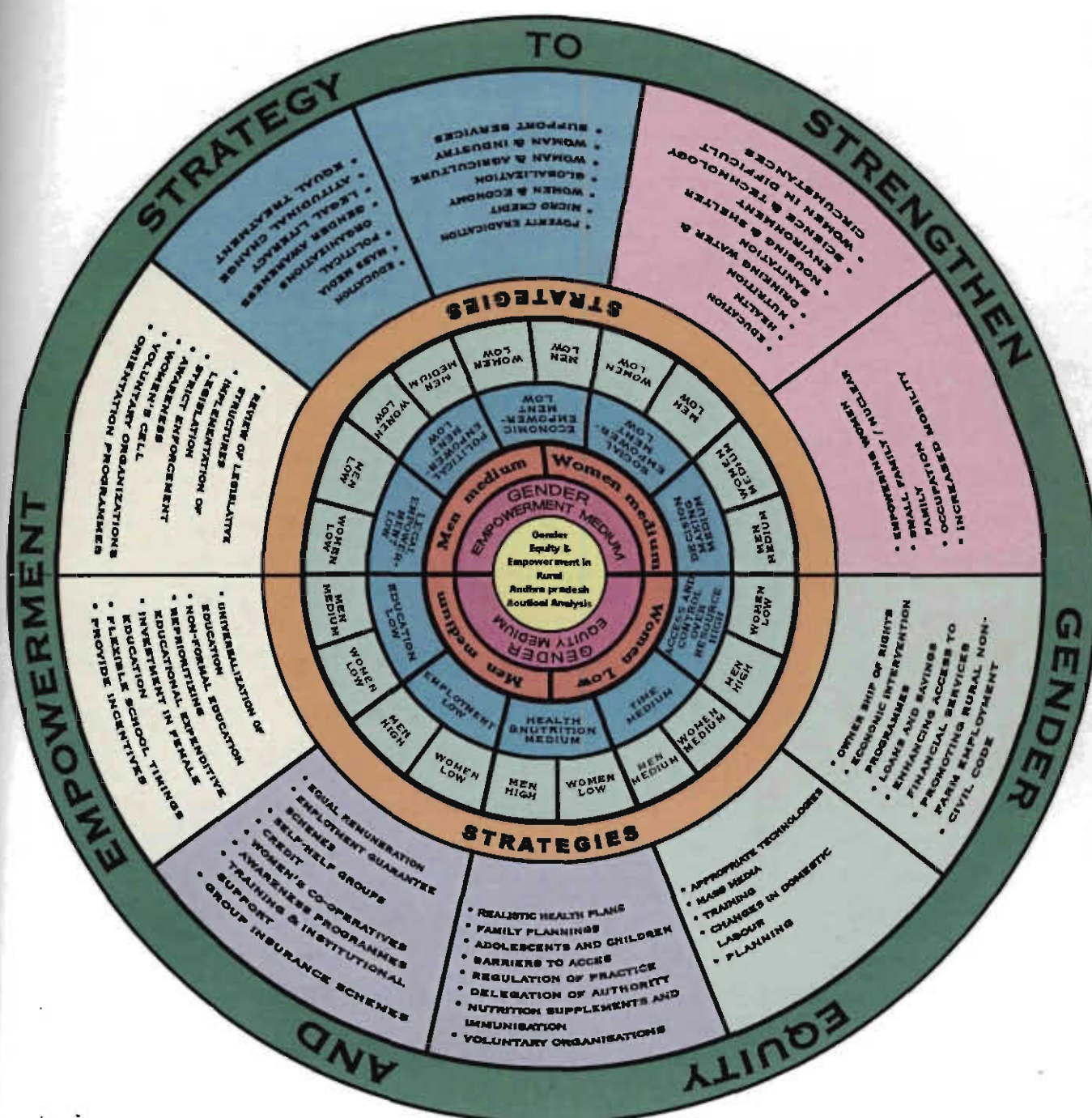


Fig.6 : Strategy to strengthen gender equity and gender empowerment in rural community.

Discussion

Chapter V

DISCUSSION

The study was designed primarily to analyse the Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment of the respondents in the rural areas. Keeping the objectives and the conceptual framework the study in view the obtained was analysed and the results were discussed thoroughly and presented under the following sections:

- 5.1 Profile of the Respondents
- 5.2 Gender Equity of the Respondents
- 5.3 Gender Empowerment of the Respondents
- 5.4 Gender Related Development Index
- 5.5 Relationship between Gender Equity, Gender Empowerment and Profile
- 5.6 Factors Affecting Gender Equity and Empowerment
- 5.7 Strategy to Strengthen Gender Equity and Empowerment

5.1 PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

5.1.1 Farm size

An equal number of women and men respondents were selected from small, medium and large landholding categories for the purpose of the study.

5.1.2 Education

It was evident from Table 8 that majority of women and men had no schooling Deepthi Aggarwal *et al.* (2002), and Updesh Yadav (2002) reported the same. However, the per cent of women in the no schooling category was more than men. Education is the key that opens vistas door in life. Which is essentially social in character. The level of education of women is an important indicator for the understanding of the present and the future. The other plausible reason for low education are generally associated with occupation. The predominantly agrarian economy of the region does not offer much incentives for the increase in education. Education in rural areas is generally low when compared to the urban areas. In the rural areas parents generally desists sending their daughters to schools, because they are required by their mothers to look after their younger

brothers and sisters and to do domestic work. Poverty is also one of the many reasons for low educational status. The indication of higher percentage illiteracy of women is so on account of the fact that there existed less facility for education. Traditionally, the girls were mostly involved in household working at an early age, giving priority to education of boys. Thus ultimately having more uneducated women respondents.

5.1.3 Marital status

The results on Marital Status in the Table 8 indicate that nearly three quarters of women and just above half of the men respondents were married before the prescribed age. The results were in conformity with Malkit Kaur (1988). A 1976 amendment to the child Marriage Restraint Act raised the minimum legal age for marriage from 15 to 18 years for young women and from 18 to 21 years for young men. In rural areas most of them get married before the prescribed age. And more over there is pressure on women to prove their fertility by conceiving as soon as possible after marriage, adolescent marriage is synonymous with adolescent child bearing. In rural community marriage is an informal process and mostly done at an early age. The perception among the rural people is that getting married at early age will maintain pre-marital chastity. The other plausible reasons might be that many parents feel burden if children are not married early, and fear of gossiping among the people and dowry.

Majority of women expressed to have least choice in selection of the partner. While among men it was medium to high. The overall results range from low to medium. This indicates that, the decision with regard to children's marriages were mostly taken by the elders in the family leaving less freedom for children to select their partners. The restrictions are more for a girl when compared to boys. Moreover in the south, a daughter traditionally marries her brother or her mother's brother's son (her first cousin). This is most common in the rural areas. Mostly men are likely to marry women whom they are related. Women are likely to be married into the family households near their natal homes, and are likely to retain close relationships with their natal kin. It is almost decided for women or men in the early age to whom they are to be married, thus leaving very less freedom for them to select their partners.

5.1.4 Family size

Majority of women and men respondents in Adilabad were from the large families (Table 8). This might be because of the joint family system still prevailing in the rural areas. Punam Kumari, 2001 also reported the same. Lack of implementation of family planning in these areas also might have led to large family size. While in West Godavari, almost equal per cent of women and men had medium to large family size. The joint family system previously was more prevalent in the rural dwellings. But it appeared that because of the changing rural situations, most of them preferred to have medium sized families to improve their standard of living. The overall finding thus indicates the majority of the respondents were from large families.

5.1.5 Economic status

As regards the Table 8, the sample showed homogeneous distribution according to the regions. The economic status was measured in terms of present occupation and occupation before the marriage and also the occupation of the earning members in the family. Agriculture and agricultural labour being the dominant occupation among the respondents in Adilabad, majority were in the medium economic status group. While, majority of the respondent in West Godavari were in the high economic status. This indicates that apart from agriculture and agricultural labour the respondents had other subsidiary occupation and business. The other reason might be because of more number of earning members in the family. On the whole a sizeable number of the respondents had medium economic status. Thus clearly indicating agriculture as the prominent occupation before and after the marriage in the study area.

5.1.6 Family income

The findings in the Table 8 indicate the majority of the respondents had income less than Rs.25,000. The possession of less cultivable land, lack of proper irrigation facilities, proper cropping pattern and low cropping intensity in the study area, thereby the agriculture sources might have not provided the sufficient income to these families. Moreover the agricultural wages are also low in this region. While in West Godavari it was observed that, the respondents income

ranged from Rs.25,000 to 50,000. Because Andhra coastal region has fertile soil with good irrigation facilities, having more cultivable land the range of income was high in this area. Moreover, the cropping intensity is high, since the crops are grown almost throughout the year. Apart from agriculture, subsidiary occupation also might have contributed to higher income level. More number of earning members in the family and high agricultural wages comparatively also effects the income levels. On the whole, it can almost an equal percent of them had income less than Rs. 25,000 to 50,000 in Adilabad and West Godavari respectively . Low income levels are generally result of low education and employment opportunities.

5.1.7 Economic productivity

The findings indicate majority of the respondents in both the regions views economic productivity i.e., women's contribution to economic development of the family. (Table 8). Women are undoubtedly engaged in several activities which add to household incomes but are totally outside the sphere of economy. There are numerous activities like free collection of fodder and fuel, maintaining of dairy and poultry animals, vegetable growing etc. where women are engaged and increase the households command over the necessities. The households would have to spend lot of money in procuring these services, if they were not rendered by women. As the results indicate it can be concluded that all this goes unrecognised thus viewing economic productively to be low. Further if can be concluded that women's employment in family, farms or business is rarely recognised as economically productive either by men on women.

5.1.8 Discrimination against female child

As regards Table 8 the discrimination against female child ranged from medium to low. The findings thus indicate that preference of sons among the respondents. Son's preference is more because, it is common perceptions that son's will contribute to family income provide all the necessary care and support to their parents when they are old and carry the family name. On the other hand daughters are considered as an economic liability because of dowry based marriage system.

5.1.9 Managerial abilities

Majority of women were in the low category and men in the medium category of managerial abilities as regards Table 8. It was very much evident that women had low managerial abilities compared to men. Low managerial abilities is resulting of poor planning, unorganized activities, lack of command on supervision the activities, poor communication, co-ordination and controlling. Low managerial abilities among women can be said is result of this and also men tend to have edge over all these aspects thus indicating better managerial abilities comparatively.

5.1.10 Income generating capability

The results pertaining to this indicate that majority of women were in the medium category. While, men were found to be in high to medium category. Income generating capability is the ability of the individual to generate more income of the given opportunities. The finding thus indicate that, the respondents had the desire to take up new income generating activities, if provided with sufficient resource so as to increase their income levels.

5.1.11 Social participation

A perusal of Table 8 revealed that majority of women respondents in both the regions had low social participation (Anupama, Bishnoi, 2000 etal 2002, Urmila and Lali Yadav 2002, Deepti Aggarwal etal 2002 and Puanm Kumari 2000 etal). While, men had medium social participation. The overall results indicate medium to low social participation among the respondents. The better participation might be result of respondents motivation to participate in social programmes, campaigns and other meetings aimed at rural upliftment. The better performance of the respondents may be attributed to the leadership qualities, managerial ability and communicative skills acquired through socialization, awareness creation, constant support by the officials and capacity building technologies.

Low participation might be due to their reluctance to approach to the local political institutions like gram panchayats and mandal parishads, because of the past, bad and bitter experiences. Many of them also feel that it men dominate from centuries in these areas, thus resulting in low social participation of women.

5.1.12 Social mobilization

As the Table 8 indicates nearly half of the women respondents had low social mobilization. While, among men it was almost equal per cent were in the medium and high category. Majority of women respondent in Adilabad low social mobilization and in West Godavari medium.

Social mobilization refers to planned action and process to reach, influence and involve all relevant segments of society access all sectors from the national to the community level, create an enabling environment and effective positive behaviour change. An equal per cent of the respondents i.e., 35.42 had low and medium social mobilization. When compared to men, the majority of women had low social mobilization.

It could be observed from the results that there is a need for further support and strength given to rural poor to exercise their right to equality, information protection, in times of crisis or need. It requires further reinforcement from several sources and also the rebellion from the poor majority to access their privilege. Discrimination in the name of caste, gender, poverty, helplessness need a collective strong fight and revolution.

Social mobilization component addresses the issues by empowering, them to acquire knowledge and understanding a gender relations, self worth and the right to control one's own life developing the ability to organize and influence the direction of social change to create a more just, social and economic order.

5.1.13 Self orientation

The self orientation findings in the Table 8 indicate that majority of women had low self orientation and among men it was medium. Nearly equal per cent of the respondents had medium to low self orientation on the whole. The low self orientation, expresses that the respondents had low self confidence and realization, leading to low empowerment. This also indicates respondents negative impact on their abilities, which reflects largely on the personality development that helps to live a better life and improve their standard of living.

5.1.14 Extension contact

Majority of women in Adilabad had low extension contact while nearly half of the men had medium extension contact. In West Godavari nearly equal per cent had medium and low extension. While half of the men had high extension contact. On the whole the extension contact of women ranged from low to medium and men medium to high. (Table 8). The results are in conformity with Updesh Yadav 2002, Deepti Aggarwal 2002 and Purnima 2004.

Low extension may be due to some of the officials may not be available to them, when they are in need. This may also be due to non-availability of the respondents, when the officials visit the household when they have gone out for their livelihood work. High extension contact of the respondents might be due to their frequent participation in training and meeting and thus ensuring their access to various services and contacts with different official machinery connected to them. Information is power. Better social mobilization might also have helped the respondents to have more extension contacts and there by enriching their knowledge to address various social, economic and legal issues.

5.1.15 Extension participation

Regarding this variable, it was observed majority of women in both the regions had low extension participation. While men in both the study areas had high extension participation. The overall results indicate low participation of the respondents. Most of the women could not establish good contacts with various kinds of extension agencies because of irregular monitoring of programme coordinators and NGO's activities. Most of extension workers being male members women do not interact with them because of restricted mobility. The high extension participation of men is result of their frequent contacts with village extension officer, Agriculture officer, NGO's and programmes official. Because of their regular contacts with the official they are better informed of the activities, enhancing high participation.

5.1.16 Mass media exposure

The figures representing the mass media exposure indicate, half of women in the low category and almost half of men in the medium category.

Similar results were reported by Urmila and Lali Yadav (2002), Updesh Yadav (2002) and Anupama Bishnoi *et al.* (2002). On the whole the respondent had medium to low mass media exposure (Table 8). Most of the respondents were over illiterates, few were functionally literate and very few of them had primary and high school education. Because of the low literacy levels, their exposure to the social environment was also low. As very few could read the newspaper and were not aware of the media that were reaching the rural areas might often resulted in low mass media exposure. The results also indicate that mass media such as radio and television were not able create awareness about issues affecting daily life, family planning programmes, poverty alleviation programmes, gender issues, human right etc.

5.1.17 Perception of drudgery

The results in Table 8 with regard to this variable indicate that a vast majority of women perceived drudgery as high whereas majority of men perceived it as low. On the whole, slightly above half were in the high category.

The reasons why women perceived drudgery as high compared to men is that, women in agricultural communities work for longer hours compared to men and also due to their heavy work. It is difficult for women to reduce time from these heavy work loads. Moreover the interventions that reduce the work of women both at home and farm are not in reach to them. Women spend a considerable amount of time fetching water and collecting fuel wood and fodder (www.angrau.net). They have to go long way for fetching water because of the absence of wells, community taps in the centre, lack of manual transport aid, improved cooking stoves, and plantation of fast growing fodder near by, all these resulting in women's high drudgery.

5.1.18 Access to basic facilities

Majority of women in Adilabad had low access to basic facilities and men had medium access. In West Godavari both women and men had medium access. Overall results indicate that women had low access compared to men as regards Table 8. Men are more exposed to social environment and their contacts with the outside world are better comparatively. Whereas, mostly confined and their



Fig.7: Distribution of respondents based on Gender Equity

exposure to the environment is low. As such, their interaction with the society is less because of the strong traditions and customs prevailing in the rural society. Thus all these aspects makes difficult for women even to access the minimum basic facilities.

5.2 GENDER EQUITY OF THE RESPONDENTS

5.2.1 Distribution of respondents based on Gender Equity Index

Table 9 at a glance indicates the results on distribution of respondents based on Gender Equity Index.

All the women were in the low category of gender equity and nearly cent per cent of men were in the medium category in Adilabad. Nearly three quarters of women (70.83%) an a vast majority (93.06%) of men were in the medium and high category of Gender Equity respectively. On totality, it was observed that nearly two third majority (64.58%) of women were in the low category and the rest in medium while, men ranged to be in medium (52.78%) and high (47.22%). For the purpose of the study, Gender Equity was operationalized as women's access to equal opportunities in education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources. Equity means that the exercise of the rights should lead to outcomes, which are fair and just, and which enable women to have the same power as men. In the Table 10 it was clear that women tend to fall in the low category of education, employment and health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources compared to men. Thus, indicating the denial of access towards these resources. Therefore, resulting majority of women in the low category of gender equity while, it can also be noticed that women in West Godavari tend to show better equity compared to women in Adilabad. This can be attributed to better access of the respondents to education, employment, health and nutrition, access and control over resources in this area leading to better equity.

5.2.2 Distribution of respondents based on indicators of Gender Equity

A perusal of Table 10 indicates the results on distribution of respondents based on indicators of Gender Equity.



Fig.8: Distribution of respondents based on education

5.2.2.1 Education

With regard to education it was observed, majority (66.67%) and 47.67 per cent of women in Adilabad and West Godavari respectively were in low category of education. While, 56.94 per cent of men in Adilabad and a sizeable number of men (41.67%) in West Godavari were in medium and high categories respectively. On the whole it can be concluded that more than half (56.94%) were in the low category and nearly half (47.22%) of men were in the medium category. The overall findings indicated the respondent to be in the low to medium range of education. Only 19.09 constituted in the high category.

It was evident from these findings that women scored low in both the regions compared to men. It could also be observed that women in West Godavari comparatively recorded better than those in Adilabad. This might be due to their better access to education and West Godavari being the higher literacy district of Andhra Pradesh. Women's unequal participation in education, might be due to lack of time, girls begin helping out at an early age with the households chores that burden women (fetching fuels, water, preparing food, childcare and working in the fields) and these responsibilities increase as they grow older, resulting in decline in participation in education with increasing age. Customs, traditions and attitudes also affects women's education, a combination of mutually reinforcing customs traditions and attitudes place greater value on females than males in many societies. Preference within families are often for boys to advance their education, since social and cultural perceptions, confine girls to roles that are thought to little if any education. Poverty is the major cause that affects education, poorer the family less likely is a girl send to school because their labour is required at home and in the fields. Extreme poverty tend to lock illiterate women into a cycle of early marriage and bringing up illiterate girls who continue the cycle of early marriages and illiterate children.

5.2.2.2 Employment

The findings with regard to employment indicate that all the women in Adilabad were in the low category of employment. While 61.11 per cent were in medium category. In West Godavari majority (68.06%) of women and more than three quarters (79.17%) of men were in the medium and high categories

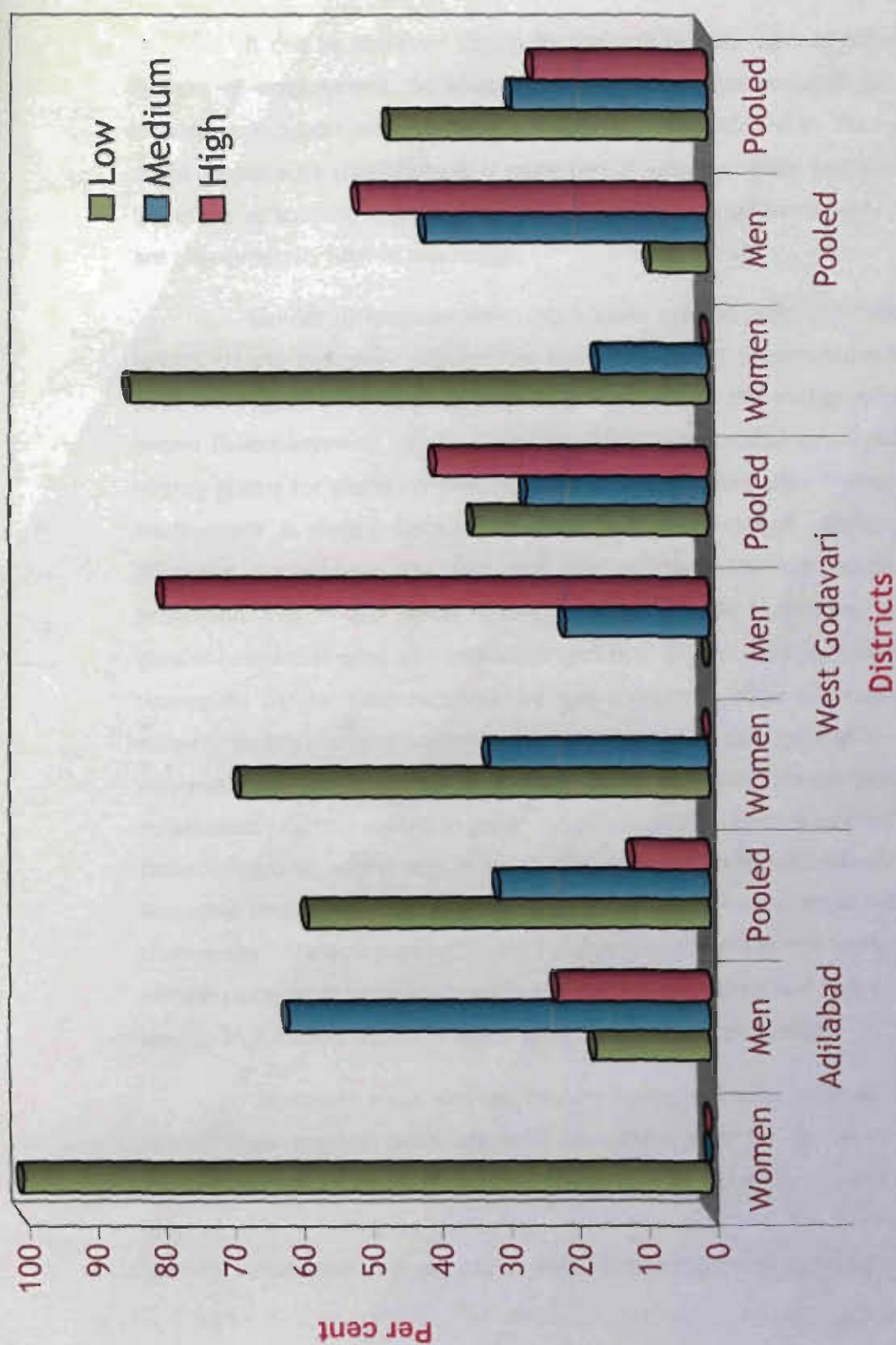


Fig.9: Distribution of respondents based on employment

respectively. It could be summarized that an overwhelming majority (84.03%) were in low category and half (50.69%) of men were in the high category of employment (Table 10).

It can be observed that from the results that regional disparities exists in case of employment. In Andhra coastal region, the respondents had better employment opportunities when compared to respondents in Telangana. This might be because that the soil is more fertile with sufficient irrigation facilities, therefore agriculture work is provided for a longer period in the year. The wages are also generally high in this region.

Gender differences were much more evident from the Table 10. The results clearly indicates, women had low employment opportunities than men in both the regions. Number of man days available in the village effect women's access to employment. Since their mobility is restricted they cannot migrate to nearby places for works. While, for men this is not the case. Women's access to employment is denied because of class, caste, creed and ethnicity. Multiple pressures arising from the fact that the male remains the norms within the profession and in the wider society, negative social attitudes, stereotypical, gender-based attitudes and behaviour and lack of institutional support to enable women to handle their reproductive and productive roles without prejudice to either, which forces women out of full-time employment. Differential remuneration which, where it exists, results not from stated policy but from established practice rooted in gendered perceptions regarding women's career and financial needs, which are in turn, strengthened by gender-based socialization processes that leave many women unable or unwilling to negotiate better deals for themselves. Stereotypical attitude, that certain aspects of the work environment, certain patterns in work assignment and certain conditions and conventions of work lead to high rate of attrition which affect women's employment.

Moreover rural women, besides being typically, employed on a casual rather than regular basis are paid less than men for performing the same agricultural work though their productivity may be equal to or even superior than that of men. This is in conformity with the results of Pal (1996). However, cultural values and their greater household responsibilities systematically constrain

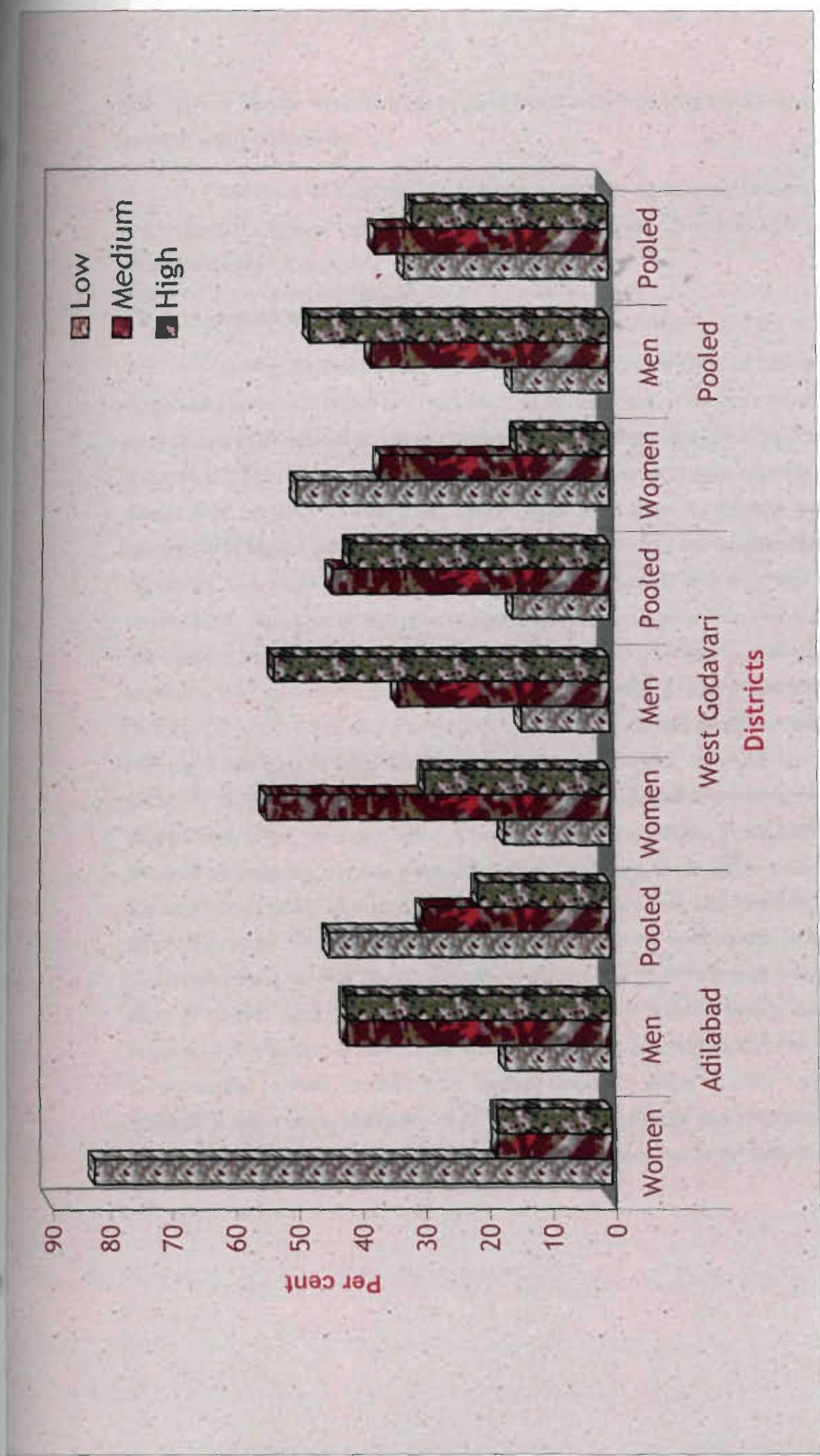


Fig.10: Distribution of respondents based on health and nutrition

the ability of women to participate in agricultural activities both in their own farms and the wider community.

The issue of whether the ongoing process of agriculture modernization and related changes in labour arrangements have collectively impacted adversely on the employment prospects of rural women.

5.2.2.3 Health and nutrition

As regards Table 10 an overwhelming majority (81.94%) of women were in low category. An equal per cent i.e., 41.67 per cent of women were in the medium and high categories respectively in Adilabad. Over half (54.17%) of women and men (52.78%) were in medium and high categories respectively. On the whole, almost half (49.30%) of nearly half (47.22%) of men were in the low and high categories of Health and Nutrition respectively. The figures again indicate gender disparities and regional differences with regard to health and nutrition of the respondents. Because of better educational status and higher income levels, the respondents in West Godavari might had better awareness on health aspects. Thus improving their nutritional status. It was also obvious that gender disparities exists throughout. Nutritional and health status are always marked by gender disparity. Both boys and girls in India are nutritionally disadvantaged, as nearly half of the country's households fail to provide even the minimum daily requirements. But malnutrition is far more prevalent among females than males. From birth, male children consistently receive more and better food than their sisters even though the nutritional needs of prepubescent boys and girls are virtually identical. Boys, given the same level of illness, are taken to doctors more often than girls. Discrimination in feeding and health care produces one of India's most provocative signs of gender bias. As such women and girls get a lesser share in the intra-household distribution of health goods and services, compared to men or boys. The lesser access to food coupled with neglect invariably leads to poor nutritional status and state of ill health for most women. Lack of time and unwillingness to invest in women's health also affect health and nutritional status of women.

5.2.2.4 Time

With regard to time, respondents tend to fall in medium category for agriculture, livestock, household and other activities (Table 10). This indicates that the time spend on various activities almost similar inspite of the regional disparities. Time is an important part of the total pattern of living. This also implies that rural women participates with men in day to day routine as well as in seasonal operations pertaining to agriculture, livestock raising along with domestic work. Women's time spent, though vital to the tasks of meeting, the daily needs of the family and farm, goes unrecognized especially in rural areas. Therefore, can be said that women play multiple roles in the development process.

5.2.2.5 Access and control over resources

Over half (51.39%) of women in Adilabad and majority (70.83%) of men were in low and high categories of access and control over resources. With regard to respondents in West Godavari a sizeable number (44.44%) and three quarters of men were in medium and high categories respectively. It can be concluded that 40.28 per cent of women were in low category (Tripta and Sushma Kaushik, 2002) and nearly three quarters (72.92%) of men were in the high category of access and control. In both the regions women were found to have access and control over resources compared to men. This might be due to the fact that the customary access to the resources, (land, credit, house etc.) has been largely confined to male household members. Although women's legal rights to land are being recognized since Indias independence, the nature of these rights seem to vary according to the personal laws of different religious communities and regions. As a result, women's legal rights are not applied uniformly through out the country and are still not on equal terms with men anywhere. Furthermore, circumstances prevent women from exercising even their limited ownership rights to land and their rights to control and independently from land to which they do have access.

* Lack of awareness on ownership rights, control over labour, reproductive resources, capital etc. by women are the reasons why women tend to be in the low category of access and control over resources.

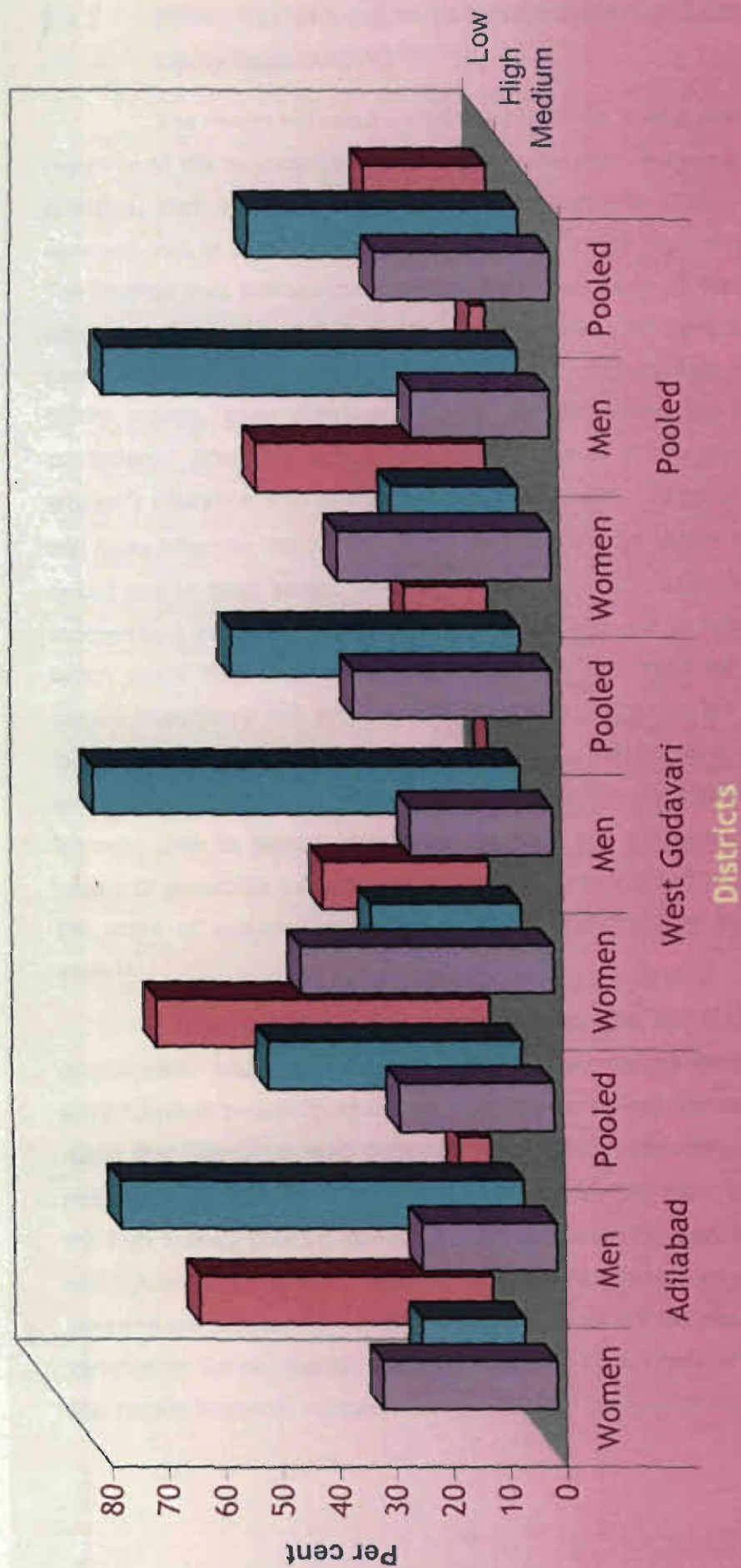


Fig.11: Distribution of respondents based on access and control over resources

5.2.3 Differences with regard to Gender Equity and indicators of Gender Equity Index (ANOVA)

The results indicated a significant difference among women and men with regard to all the indicators of Gender Equity (education, empowerment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources (Table 11)). It can be observed that in both regions of the study men scored high on all the indicators. The findings thus indicate clear gender discrimination in all the areas. Access to education and lower literacy levels resulting women to score low on education. Low enrolment is due to performing of domestic chores, help in augmenting the family income, early marriages of girls, social customs and lack of relevance curriculum. Education is supposed to help one to attend gainful employment. Women's education also directly impacts their health. Educated women can plan and make effective use of time which can provide more leisure time. This in turn would enable them to get involved in other economic activities providing them independent income. Higher education would also enable one to recognize their rights which would help them to exercise control on the resources. Education is of pivotal importance not only because it enables women to become economically independent but also increases self confidence. This not only helps to seek paid employment but also in bringing about a revolutionary change in the place of women. Due to gender restriction, illiteracy and ignorance, rural women are unable to go outside the surroundings of their home in search of employment. The low score of women respondents might be the result of the above discussed aspects.

From the Table 11, it was evident that the scores on education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources were found to be low compared to that of men in both the regions. It could be noted that, women in West Godavari scored better when compared to the women respondents in Adilabad. This was same in case of men also. This might be due to the high literacy levels in this area. Less access of girls towards education, lower employment opportunities, inability to access the health services, less access to time and low access and control over the resources are the plausible causes for the variation in Gender Equity. Unequal access to land, credit and job opportunities also results in gender inequity. Low investment on women's education and health

hinders their access to those services. Investment in women is necessary not only for gender equality and equity but also for the effects it has on their families. Because women's health and education has an impact on child bearing decisions, education helps to increase their own income-earning capacity and employment opportunities. It is utmost important to remove all discriminations in survival, health, education and upbringing of the girl child. Thus, it can be concluded that education is the most significant factor effecting all the areas of equity.

5.2.4 Mean differences of gender equity index and its indicators (Z - Test)

The calculated Z value was found to be significant for all the indicators of Gender Equity i.e., education, employment, health and nutrition, time, and access and control over resources at one per cent level and also with Gender Equity Index (Table 12). The mean scores of women with regard to all the indicators of Gender Equity were found to be low for women compared to that of men. This signifies gender discrimination clearly regarding the basic amenities. The findings thus conclude that women had less access to education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control of resources. Women's low literacy rates and lack of access to education are among the several causes of social status and dependence on men prevailing in that rural area. Because of their lower literacy levels, lesser access to mass media and lesser interaction with other members of the society limits women's access to employment. Physical mobility also restricts women's access to education and employment. Among the various factors that determine women's health care are poverty and economic inequalities, women's position in family and society, son's preference and its consequence, and restrictions on physical mobility. Women do generally have less access to time when compared to men. This is because women after working in fields they have to perform domestic chores, thereby leaving less leisure time compared to men. Weak property rights, lack of independent income and savings and lack of proper access to credit might have resulted in low access and control over resources when compared to men. Gender Equity index is composite of all these indicators therefore women tend to score low compared to men.

5.2.5 Content analysis of gender equity

5.2.5.1 Education

5.2.5.1.1 Access to Education of the respondents

It was very much evident that only 23.06 per cent of women reported to have access with regard to various aspects of education. Above one third majority (37.50%) of men had access in Adilabad (Table 13).

While in West Godavari almost one third (32.36%) of women and half (50.56%) of men had access to education on an average (Table 14). On the whole, it can be concluded that above one fourth (27.71%) and a sizeable number (44.03%) of women and men respectively had access to education on an average (Table 15).

The findings indicate that all the respondents reported that, they had schools in the village. Universalization of Elementary Education is one of the National strategy to improve the educational status of the rural community. This being the prime cause for establishment of primary schools in almost all the villages. This was specially directed towards higher enrolment and retention of girls in school. But the results indicate that, the enrolment of the respondents was found to be very low i.e., 16.67 per cent of women and 29.86 per cent of men reported that, they were enrolled in the schools. The possible reasons for low enrolment might be due to problem of access, dysfunctional schools, poverty / powerlessness, cost of family, child labour / domestic chores, farm / non-farm work, caught up in survival battles, and child marriages. Though all these factors appear to be gender-neutral but they affect girls, in a special way. Gender biases appear to be more prominent in rural areas. The perception that girls are meant to perform domestic chores, look after the younger ones at home, get married and stay married strongly in rural areas. Many of them feel that investing in girls education is not worth while, as they expect daughters to leave the household after marriage. Where tradition favours female seclusion, or women remaining within the home, the future economic return's to girls schooling are less. All the respondents stated school hours were not flexible to labour demands. Agriculture being the predominant occupation in the rural areas, and majority of the respondents were involved in farm activities throughout the day from their early

age, therefore restricting their access to schools. Night schools and non-formal / adult education do not function regularly thus restricting the access of the respondents.

A scheme in Prime, Maharastra, India hold classes in the evenings, between 7 and 9 pm. When evening meals and domestic chores were completed, for greater accessibility of girls (Baden and Green, 1944).

5.2.5.1.2 Opinion of the respondents on women's education

Results pertaining to opinion of the respondents on women's education in Adilabad reveal that above one-third majority (35.28%) of women and almost one third majority (32.92%) of men had favourable opinion (Table 16).

Just above half (52.08%) of women in West Godavari reported to have favourable opinion and nearly half (47.36%) of men had favourable opinion on women's education. Results were presented in Table 17.

On the whole, the summary of the results in Table 18 indicate that a sizeable number (43.68%) and 40.14 per cent of men had favourable opinion on women's education. While at the same time, it was also observed that 32.71 and 27.64 per cent of women and men respectively had unfavourable opinion.

General education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination was ranked first by women and men. This indicates a positive attitude even among men supporting women's education. Majority of women felt that, it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education was ranked second by women. This clearly shows that, the importance of education being recognized by rural women. Women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development was ranked second by men and third by women. Educated women can bring up their children more efficiently was ranked third by men.

These results depict that the many ways in which education affects women's status have been widely recognized. Importance of education is being recognized as it is well known that education influences access to knowledge and increases opportunities to employment and through this, affords greater access to benefits and resources. This is true for both women and men. Moreover education

also contributes to better health for women through its influence on improved child survival.

The respondents favouring women's education might have recognized that education enhances women's capabilities in a social setting. It contributes to an increase in confidence, exposure to the outside world, and decision making within the households, and others. Together all this would have an important impact on health status, by affording better access to resources and information to avoid health risks.

5.2.5.2 Employment

5.2.5.2.1 Access to employment of the respondents

Among the women respondents in Adilabad 30.95 per cent of women had access to employment. Nearly two third majority (64.09%) of men had access. While in West Godavari, 40.87 per cent of women and just above three quarters (76.98%) of men reported to have access to employment. On the whole 70.54 per cent of men had access to employment and half of this i.e., 35.91 per cent of women had the access. Results pertaining to this were presented in (Table 17).

It was obvious from the results that women's access to employment was very low when compared to men. This is because that men's mobility is not restricted. While, women are mostly confined to homes Agricultural labour being seasonal, work is available only at certain times, while the rest of the time there are no earning. People in rural areas migrate to other places for work, while it is difficult to women to go far away places in search of work because of the house hold responsibilities. Thus, limiting their access to employment opportunities. The other reason is that there are no form of social security and they have to take children to their fields or leave them slightly with older ones. The coastal region of Andhra being more economically forward and irrigated, the agricultural work is available almost throughout the year and therefore the respondents in West Godavari were found to have better access to employment when to compared to the respondent in Adilabad. Women generally are much more disadvantaged in their access to employment than men for the following reasons. Women's job mobility is limited because they have to take care of their children, they are

confined to the surrounding of their homes and are vulnerable to class and caste related abuse. Because of their lower literacy levels, lesser access to mass media and lesser interaction with the market places women have limited access to information on job opportunities. Men are hired for permanent and night works while women all are not hired for those works anywhere. Introduction of mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks.

The number of man days available for women were comparatively lower than men either in the village or outside the village in both the regions (Table 17a). This clearly indicates women has less employment opportunities. Physical mobility of women is often restricted and it's not easy for them to go far away from the home for employment, as they have to take care of their children and their households. Lack of year round employment i.e. agricultural being seasonal, and work is available only at certain times. There is need to go migrate to other places for work, which is not always possible.

5.2.5.2.2 Opinion on the respondents on the women's employment

As regards Table 18 over half (55.56%) of women and 30.56 per cent of men had favourable opinion on women's employment in Adilabad. Above two third majority (68.45%) and over half (54.86%) of women and men respectively had favourable opinion on women's employment in West Godavari (Table 19). The comparative results on this aspect were presented in (Table 20). It was evident that majority (62.50%) of women and a sizeable number (42.71%) of men had favourable opinion on women's employment.

It could be concluded from these results that the percent women having favourable opinion on employment was higher when compared to the responses of men. It was encouraging to find that women who had hitherto kept themselves confined to the four walls of their houses are now coming forward to accept the changes and to participate actively in various programmes in the wake of modernisation process leading to their integration in the wide society. The constitution provided equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women. In most cases there is specific reservation for women, which is bound to make them more confident and useful in the society.

Table 20 at glance, reveals that, employed women never neglect their homes and children was ranked first by women. This indicates self confidence and their determination to work this also shows recognition for the dual role to be performed by women. Almost three quarter (74.31%) agreeing with this statements indicates women's aspiration to go for employment even when they have to take care of their children and are confined to homes. Mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks was ranked second by women. This is very much true because the operations in agriculture, which incur the use of machinery and drought animals have been performed by men. Preparation of fields, harrowing, post-harvest operations, transplanting, sowing etc., which require manual tasks are performed by women. Moreover the operation performed by women has not been replaced by machinery in the modern sector of agriculture. Men are hired for permanent and night works was ranked by women as third and first by men. Permanent works like ploughing, buying inputs and selling products and night works like irrigation, and guarding of crops are generally under taken by men. Therefore majority were found to agree with this. Women's job mobility is limited because they are confined to homes was ranked second by men. This shows that men strongly feel that, the prime responsibility of women is to take care of children and their household. This inturn leaves very less time for women to participate in the other economic activities. Moreover society, tradition, customs and norms restricts women's mobility in general. The third ranked statement by men was the, female headed households appear to be more affected by gender biases. This is more often true in case of employment and wages. Since Indian society is a male dominated one and this is more prominent in rural areas, for this reason majority of men might have agreed with this.

5.2.5.2.3 Division of labour

The data reveals (Table 21) all operations in agriculture, which incur the use of machinery and drought animals have been performed by men like ploughing, irrigation etc. While operations like putting the mud from the canals on the bunds, removing stones from the field, sowing, preparation and cleaning of the seed beds, etc. Moreover transplantations, the most arduous and labour intensive task is carried over by women without the help of any tools. Weeding is also exclusively

carried out by women, while harvesting is both men's and women's work (Umadevi, 2000).

There is qualitative differences between men's and women's work. Women's work involves hardly any tools or work implements, whereas practically, all men's work is performed with the help of agricultural implements and draught animals. This fact has thus led to the conclusion that women's work is unskilled and men's work is skilled and hence, men's work is considered to be more productive than women's work. Agricultural process as the "whole", it can be understood that women's manual labour is after the precondition for men's work, which otherwise not be productive. For the commercial purpose women's labour is cheap in agriculture. Because they are available for low wages and their labour does not necessitate investment in other means of production. This seems to be one reason why women's labour has not been replaced by machinery in the modern sector of agriculture.

Not only women do perform more tasks, their work is also more arduous than that undertaken by men. Both transplanting and weeding require women to spend the whole day and work in muddy soil with their hands. Moreover, they work the entire day under the intensely hot sun while men's work such as ploughing and watering the fields, is invariably carried out early in the morning before the sun gets too hot.

5.2.5.2.4 Wages

There exist a clear discrimination among men and women with regard to wages in both the regions (Table 22). It can be observed that, mode of payment widely varies. Wages are paid / wholly in kind, partly in cash or partly in kind. Payments were made on the day, week, month or on price rate, with or without supplements. The findings show that there was wide disparity in wage levels between regions, seasons and groups. Umadevi (2000) reported the same. Wage levels are also influenced by peak and slack seasons. Among the factors that cause regional variation in wages are the size of land holdings, size of the labour force, quality of level, irrigation facilities, cropping pattern, quality of management. These factors occur in different combinations in different parts of the country causing variation in wage payments. In Andhra coastal regions, where soil is more

fertile with sufficient irrigation facilities, wages are generally higher than the regions, where cultivation depends upon rains only and so also with seasons.

Another characteristics of agricultural wages is prevalence of gender disparities in payment of wages. Virtually no where we find equal wages being paid to men and women for the same work. It is often described as a customary practice of all agrarian economics arising out of gender biased specialties of specific farm operations. Ploughing and post-harvest operations carry higher wages, and generally male dominated. Even though women can equally perform those operations with men. On the other hand operations like sowing, transplanting, weeding etc carry relatively lower wages, were entrusted to women. The most unfortunate thing is that even for the operations which can be performed by both men and women equally, women are paid less than men. Thus male-female labour differences in actual wage rate varies. The equal remuneration act was passed in the year 1976. According to this act equal remuneration should be paid for equal work for both men and women. Despite the act having been on the statute book for more than a decade is seen that, the practice of paying lower rates of wages for women for the same or similar work still persists. Even after efforts are made to avoid such illegalities women are paid less than men. It is notion that women could not perform difficult work or skilled work. The activities which can be exclusively performed by women are paid less than wages that are paid to men. Therefore, it is not only a great violation of statutory laws i.e., minimum wages act and equal remuneration act, but also a helinus exploitation against women workers in agriculture.

5.2.5.3 Health and nutrition

5.2.5.3.1 Access of the respondents to the health services

A cursory view of the Table 23 presents results pertaining to access of the respondents to the health services.

Almost one third of majority i.e. 32.71 per cent of women and a sizeable number (43.57%) of men in Adilabad reported their access to health. While, nearly half (47.85%) of women and majority (58.21%) of men had access to

health. On the whole, 40.28 per cent and half (50.89%) of men had access to health from the study area.

Availability of doctor / medical facility in the village was reported by all the respondents. This indicates that the referral facilities are present at the village. More than half of women and men utilized the available health services. Majority (59.44%) of women and 76.89 per cent of men reported that the area they reside was covered with health and nutrition programmes of the government. In spite of availability of the medical facilities and areas being covered with health and nutrition programmes of the government, the utilization of the services was not found to be satisfactory as per the findings. The immunization rate was found to be very low. Access to health was low among women with regard to all the aspects. The percentage of women's having access to health was found to be low compared to men. This section focuses on women's access to health services and gender differentials in access. The discussion is limited by the uneven nature of information available. An individual's access to services may be seen as determined by factors such as distance, availability, affordability, and the appropriateness and adequacy of services as perceived by users. While, these factors affect both women and men, there are important differences by gender that cut across social group.

The various factors that affect women's access to health care, are need, or the extent of ill health among women; permission, which is the result of social factors, determining whether women can seek health care outside the home; the ability, which is determined by economic factors earmarking women to meet the costs of health care, and the health services for women.

Women's health need differ from men because of their biological differences and moreover they are more vulnerable to a number of reproductive health problems. The gender disparities in social, educational, economic and political status not only contributes to women's ill health, but also constrain women's access to health services. Beliefs and practices, and norms concerning appropriate behaviour in matters related to fertility of women's and reproduction at times hinder women's access to care. The availability of female medical and health personnel would also make a crucial differences to women's access to reproductive health care, because women may be reluctant to be examined by a

male physician. Barriers to women's access to health services exist even in situations where there is good coverage of health services, and when services, and when services for meeting women's specific health needs are integrated into the health system at all levels. Where there is poor coverage by health services in general, and where services for meeting women's specific health needs are sparse, the disadvantages faced by women in seeking care can make the difference between life and death. Restriction in physical mobility outside of the home is another factor that affects women's access to health services.

Majority of the respondents reported to avail the health services from PHCs. This indicates that primary health centers are in reach to the rural people. These rural health centers need to function as rural health educational centers. The health centers have to 'reach out' to the rural population and educate them on holistic perceptions of health, hygiene, sanitation and environmental protection. Rural people availing the health services for PHCs is a healthy sign for the nation and which in the long run will definitely result in improving the health status of the rural poor.

The most preferred medicine by the respondents when sick were allopathy. Home remedies also taken by majority of them. As the Table 23 indicates that majority of the respondents were availing the health services from PHCs. Existence of these centers within the reach to the rural people might be one of the reasons for majority of them preferring allopathy medicines. The free supply of medicines in the rural health centers might also be one of the other reasons. The persons not receiving allopathic treatment might be, treatment not felt necessary, belief in supernatural forces, home remedy sufficient and financial constraints.

More than three quarters (77.08) of women did not visit PHCs for pre and post natal care. The same per cent of men also reported that their wives didn't visit PHCs for pre-natal and post-natal care. An overwhelming majority (94.44%) of women and 93.06 per cent of men reported their wives were not shifted to hospital at the time of hospital.

The figures also indicate that most of the deliveries were conducted by trained dais. This indicates that traditional birth attendant (Dhai) has been the most dominant figure in rural India who is responsible for pre-natal guidance,

delivery, post-natal care and care of children during illness. Marked by ignorance, illiteracy and lack of knowledge about modern medicines women do not avail the services at the hospitals.

Decreased access of women to modern health services may be due to the prejudice towards modern medical measures or apathy towards medical needs of women.

The medical interventions related to birth; have not reached, the majority of the respondents, who had very low level of access to these services. Various factors, that affect the access of women to modern medical services are education, level of exposure, income, caste and age.

Moreover the findings reveal that, the traditional birth attendants (Dhais) are still dominating the village scene, reflecting the backward and traditional health care system for the rural women especially at the time of child birth which is a crucial time for the mother and is responsible for a higher maternal mortality, thus reflecting the poor health status of rural women.

5.2.5.3.2 Opinion on the respondents on women availing health services

Majority (57.40%) of women and 84.49 per cent of men had positive opinion on women availing health services in Adilabad (Table 24). While, almost two third majority (65.74%) of women and slightly above half (52.31%) of women agreed with the statements on women availing the health services in West Godavari (Table 25). On the whole, majority (61.57%) of women and a sizeable number (43.04%) of men had favourable opinion on availing health services (Table 26).

This shows that women and men realizing the importance of health of women. Since women's health has an impact on their child bearing decisions. It leads to improvement on their children's health and survival, declines child mortality. To improve women's health status, it is necessary to afford better access to resources and information to avoid health rises, to recognize their health care, and to seek health services when necessary. This might be one of the reason why the respondents had favourable opinion on women availing health services.

An overwhelming majority (83.33%) of women agreed with the statement that absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men and was ranked first, while men ranked second for this. One reason is that women's access to health information is likely to be limited by their educational status as well as their limited exposure to the world outside their homes. Moreover their double workday may leave women with little time to *actively seek medical assistance unless such help is close at hand*. Men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical health services was ranked second by women and first by men. Women's health needs are not only different, but in some instances, greater than that of men. Identifying that women have different and unequal access to and use of basic health resources, including primary health services. Women's health is also affected by gender biases in the health system and by the provision of inadequate and inappropriate health services to women. Therefore the sample respondents might have agreed with this statement recognizing the importance of health of women. Women are more prone to health risks than men, therefore should get better medical treatment was ranked third by the respondents. Though women are more prone to health risks, they tend to neglect their health. Unless and until they feel it necessary, they do not seek the health service. Men are always better treated and better attended, because it is always felt that men's recovery from illness was deemed more urgent because it affects the family's income. Thus, leaving women go untreated. Women's health as an impact on the family and children, therefore majority of women respondent might be in favour of this. Disease and ill health affect women and men differently because of biological and social factors. Women have a biological advantage over men in that they have a longer life expectancy and better survival change. This *biological advantage is often negated by the social injustice that are indeed the determinants of a women's health in society*. The fact that women live longer does not mean they are healthier, it simply means they are sicker for longer time.

5.2.5.3.3 Food consumption pattern

5.2.5.3.3.1 Food consumption pattern of the respondents in Adilabad

As regard Table 27 it was observed that among the cereals, rice was the only cereal which was consumed daily by the respondent. Rice being the staple

food in the South and major source of energy might be one of the reason for consumption. Jowar grown adequately in the region of Adilabad, therefore was consumed by majority of them.

Among the pulses, red gram pulse was the major consumed once. While, the consumption of other pulses was found very low comparatively.

Of the various non-vegetarian items, consumption of eggs was found to be better than other items. Availability of eggs at cheaper rates might be one of the reason. The consumption of fleshy foods was found to be lower.

Consumption of green leafy vegetables are also found to be low. In spite of obtaining green leafy vegetables at a cheaper price, the consumption was found to be low. This is mainly because of lack of awareness on the importance of green leafy vegetables and their contribution to nutrient intake. While, vegetables was also not consumed daily. High cost of the vegetables and non-availability of the vegetables in the local area was also one of the reason for low consumption of vegetables.

Majority of them never consumed fruits. Lack of fruit intake may be attributed to poor economic conditions followed by ignorance about the importance and nutritive contribution of fruits in human diet and non-availability of the fruits in the village. Almost all the women respondents and over three quarters (77.78%) of men never consumed milk tea and coffee were consumed by few of them in this area.

5.2.5.3.3.2 Food consumption pattern of the respondents in West Godavari

The figures in Table 28 reveal that rice was consumed by all the respondents. While, jowar was not consumed at all among the respondents.

Of the various pulses red gram was consumed mostly and the next consumed pulse was green gram. Consumption of vegetables was also not found to be satisfactory. Though milk was not consumed daily, tea and coffee were consumed daily by majority of them.

The comparative picture of the food consumption pattern shows great variation (Table 27 & 28). On the whole, the respondents in West Godavari had

better consumption when compared to those in Adilabad. The better socio-economic conditions, awareness and knowledge about the nutritive values of various food items, healthy food habits, availability of quality food items within the village might be the reasons for better consumption of various foods. This in turn resulting in better nutritional status of the respondents in this region.

5.2.5.3.3 Food Consumption pattern of respondents

Rice was consumed by the respondents daily. While, wheat, jowar and ragi was not consumed by majority of them. (Table 29)

Among the pulses, red gram was consumed daily followed by green gram. Among the non-vegetarian foods consumption of eggs was found to be better compared to meat, fish and chicken.

Consumption of green leafy vegetables, vegetables, fruits, milk, tea and coffee was also found to be low.

With regard to consumption of cereals and pulses, the consumption pattern was almost similar among women and men. While, the consumption of fleshy foods, green leafy vegetables, fruits, milk, tea and coffee was found to be better among men when compared women. This clearly shows food allocation biases in the family. This is more prominent in rural areas. This discrimination exists throughout women life. The reason why women suffer mostly from dietary deficits and are referred to as vulnerable groups. This in turn might result in poor nutritional status among women

Lack of time and poor health are often closely related. It is often because of over working and taking in too many tasks that women have time constraints and exerts themselves physically to the point that they become ill.

5.2.5.3.4 Nutrition status of the respondents

As regards Table 30 it is obvious that nearly one-third majority (29.17%) of women were in the normal grade while two third majority of men were in this category from Adilabad. Over half (55.56%) of women and above three quarters (77.78%) of men were in the normal grade. The data clearly shows that nutritional status of men was far better than women. Regional disparity was also observed.

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While the respondents in West Godavari had better nutritional status than Adilabad. This variation might be due to variation in health awareness and nutritional care of self in collaboration with other factors such as occupation, family income, land holding and literacy level. The percapita income will be better utilized for health and nutrition by those having better literacy status and good awareness about health and nutrition. The better nutritional status is attributed to the lesser physical strain and stress. The poor nutritional status might be due to reasons such as ignorance, poverty, non availability of foods, wrong beliefs and food taboos determined the dietary practices affecting the nutritional status.

The existing gender disparity in the nutritional status is due to the reason that, the health of women is intrically related to the socio-economic status of the households they belong. Ours is a patriarchal setup, as such women and girls get a lesser share in the intra-household distribution of labour, women get major share of responsibilities. Due to the competing demands on their time and energy, women tend to neglect their health and energy, the lesser access to food coupled with neglect invariably leads to poor nutritional status and state of ill health for most women. There are many factors that affect women's health. Social structure gives a secondary status to women which results in low-self esteem, socio-cultural, economic, religious and political factors further influence the social and health status.

5.2.5.3.5 Distribution of respondents based on per cent adequacy

The results in Table 31 shows distribution of respondents based on per cent adequacy. The figures show that nearly half (45.83%) of women were in the category of 70-80 per cent adequacy. Whereas, more than three fourth majority (77.78%) of men were in the category of 80-90 with regard to calorie intake. Further it also shows that women respondent in West Godavari are better than the women in Adilabad. The literacy levels being better in this region, better awareness on various nutritive rich foods, and availability of such food might have contributed to this. At the same time women in the category of 80-90 per cent adequacy were less compared to men.

With regard to protein intake, the pattern of distribution of the respondents was almost similar. Calories are derived generally from cereals, fats and oils, sugar and jaggery. While, proteins are generally derived from pulses, milk and fleshy foods. The lower consumption of calorie and protein rich foods might have resulted in showing low figures in the category of 80-90 by women.

5.2.5.3.6 Mean intake of nutrients (calorie and protein) of the respondents

The comparative picture in the Table 32 reveal that the mean intake of calorie among women was 1841.65 Kcal and 2031.81 Kcal for men. The mean protein intake was 77.64 gm for women and 81.93 gm for men. The finding show that though the respondent could not meet cent per cent adequacy, the mean intake among men was better among men than women. Thus, it was clear from these results that women received less nutrient when compared to men. Women suffer from poor health partly because of the life long discrimination within their parental families and their families by marriages. Throughout childhood, in their parental homes, girls considered less valuable than boys. Girls are deprived of nutrient and calorie rich foods. Discrimination, continues in a women's new family. She is undervalued and viewed as labourer in her new home. She eats last and least. This cumulative effect of family discrimination, effects women's life long health status. Moreover when the family resources are scarce the discrimination is strong. Women get inferior food and health care.

5.2.5.4 Time

5.2.5.4.1 Time devoted by respondents in Agricultural activity (man days / area)

In the study area of Adilabad 68.61 man days were devoted for agriculture of this, 55.51 per cent were devoted by men and 44.49 per cent by women. In the West Godavari region 56.03 per cent man days were devoted by men and 43.97 per cent by women on an average. The man days devoted by men were 56.16 per cent and 43.84 per cent by women. The results were presented in (Table 33). Similar finding were given by Punam Kumari (2001). The data shows that women respondents provided substantial contribution to agricultural production. From the figures it appears that men spend more hours in strenuous

operations like land preparation, manure application and sowing etc, but it is women who take care of the crops and all the intercultural operations, harvesting and post harvesting operations. Women dominate in field operations like harvesting and post-harvesting. An over view of work load depicts a picture of women taking almost equal work as that of men and their share of work being intensive and involving drudgery.

5.2.5.4.2 Average time devoted by respondents in livestock activities (man days / day)

As the Table 34 indicates three-quarter of man days were devoted by men in both the regions with regard to various live stock activities. While one fourth per cent were devoted by women. The pooled data thus indicates that men dominated women in all the activities of live stock rearing in terms of man days devoted to this activity.

5.2.5.4.3 Average time devoted by respondents in household activities (man days / day)

The time devoted by the women respondents for various household activities was almost similar in both the study areas. Of the various activities the maximum time was devoted for cooking and the next activity was collection of fuel (Table 35). Thus, it can be concluded that women tend to spent considerable amount of time on household activities and daily needs of the family apart from agricultural activities which almost goes unrecognized Punam Kumari (2001) reported the same in her study.

5.2.5.5 Access and control over resources

5.2.5.5.1 Access and control over resources of the respondents

Majority (70.17 %) of women and a great majority (85.99%) of men had access to the resources. Of this nearly half (44.27%) of women and an overwhelming majority (93.60%) had control over the resources in Adilabad as regards (Table 36).

As regards Table 37 almost three fourth (74.37%) of women and a great majority (88.19%) of men had access to resource. With regard to control over

these resources which they had access slightly above half (52.29%) of women and a vast majority (96.06%) had control in the West Godavari region.

On the whole, the finding indicate that almost two third majority (54.97%) of women had access, of which only 36.31 per cent had control. An overwhelming majority (83.79%) of men had access to resources. A vast majority (91.14%) had control over their resources (Table 38).

The data clearly shows that though women were found to have access their control over the resources was found to be low when compared to men in both the regions.

The major access of the respondents was on consumption of household items.

Lack of control over reproduction resources is due to the various reasons. Sen (1981) presented the capabilities / entitlements approach in which poverty conditions are often the results of the absence of some basic relative deprivations and social inequalities also referring to the denial of opportunities and choices. A major way in which this affects rural women is in their lack of control over productive resources necessary for their livelihood activities. Tsikata *et al.* stated that in numerous studies, it has been shown that gender is a fundamental variable that determines the access and control over the size and quality of agricultural land, paid and unpaid labour, production revenues, time for leisure or producer organizations, information, subsidies, credit and training.

Lack of control over land is also related to decision making. Decision making in the context of land and production refers to discussion regarding the transfer including inheritance on sale of land and its use as an agricultural resource. Allocation of resources means the right loan, pledge or sell tract of land, control over improvements to land and control over products harvested from the land including processing, distribution and income generated. In most cases, rural women have uncertain, access to land and have witnessed a history losing land rights. This has become understandably become a disincentive to women to put in long-term investments in the land (Chitepo, 1991). Women's right to land are

often dependent upon her relationship to husband or other male relative. For a single women even temporary access to land maybe very difficult to obtain.

Lack of control over labour in rural areas is a common problem, but it is even more critical for women who may not be able to determine the use of even their own or their children's labour. In addition to the problem of the manner of the allocation of labour that is often disadvantageous to women, it has also been found that most of the improved farming methods prepared by researchers would increase demand for women's labour. For example, applying fertilizer makes extra weeding necessary, and women do most of the weeding. In contrast, traditionally male tasks, such as land cleaning and preparation are being mechanized.

Lack of capital or credit is a major limitations for the majority of rural population both male and female. To enhance productivity, there is need to use improved inputs, hire labourers or use improved equipment and to expand the area used for production.

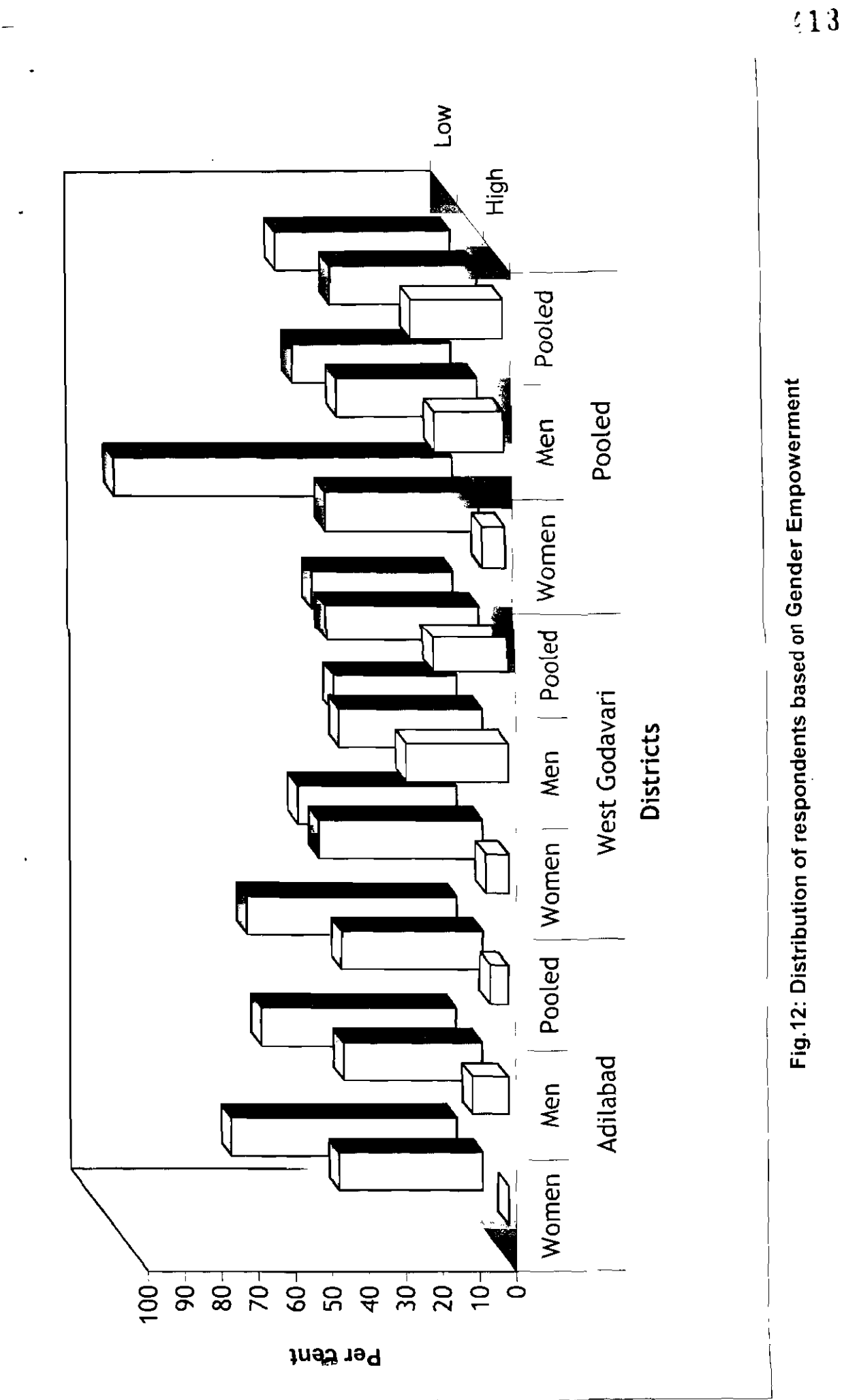
In the case of rural women, fear of borrowing has sometimes been a problem. Many times, women are found to be afraid of being in debt and even when they did borrow, they did not ask for an amount that reflected their needs. Consequently, they would take a loan that was too small, to make or their enterprise profitable (Dameh *et al.*, 1992). At the same time, however, many credit programmes are finding women to be at good credit risks, with a much lower default rate than men. For the poorest rural dwellers, credit alone may not meet the needs of the borrower. Holt and Ribe (1991) noted the need for adequate incentives, markets and infrastructure to compliment credit. Otherwise credit is likely to remain debt.

5.2.5.5.2 Opinion on Women's access and control over resources

A close observation of Table 39 over half (57.99%) and (54.51%) of women and men respectively had positive opinion on women's access and control over resources in Adilabad. While, majority i.e., 69.79 and 61.63 per cent of women and men respectively had favourable opinion on women's access and control over resources in West Godavari Table 40. On the whole nearly two third

majority (63.89%) women and majority (58.07%) of men were favour of women's access and control over resources (Table 41).

Though women inherent land, it is difficult for them to exercise control over the land. For example, in villages where village exogamy and long distant marriages are the norm, women who inherent land as daughters may find it very difficult to cultivate the land from their husband's homes which are located at considerable distance from their natal villages. Moreover, women's interaction with male strangers makes it difficult for them to obtain information on agricultural practices, purchasing inputs, hiring labour and machinery to plough the fields and selling the produce etc. On the other hand, since men's moments are not restricted, their contact socially with other men enables them to obtain labour and other inputs in time or to seek help from other cultivators. Also because, women cultivators cannot provide reciprocal labour as men cultivators, they cannot easily obtain labour of their relatives. Women's ability to obtain credit and other agricultural inputs is severely restricted because of their inability, due to the "ideology of seclusion", their ignorance and illiteracy, to travel to towns where most credit institutions, input co-operatives and development block officers are located. At the same time it is difficult for women to get loans from the village money lenders due to their perception that men have greater capacity to repay the loan as they can get wage work to repay the debt. Women's ability to self manage land is also generally limited due to their lack of financial capacity to purchase agricultural technology, other inputs and taboos against women ploughing which almost totally makes them dependent on men for cultivating the land and thereby reduces significantly their ability to become independent farmers. Land has been the main source of collateral, women's lack of land ownership has prevented them from having access to the formal financial system, thus limiting their ability to acquire other productive resources such as cattle, poultry, looms are working capital. All these sound to be true therefore majority of women and men showing their agreement with regard to the statements, opinion on women's access and control over resources.



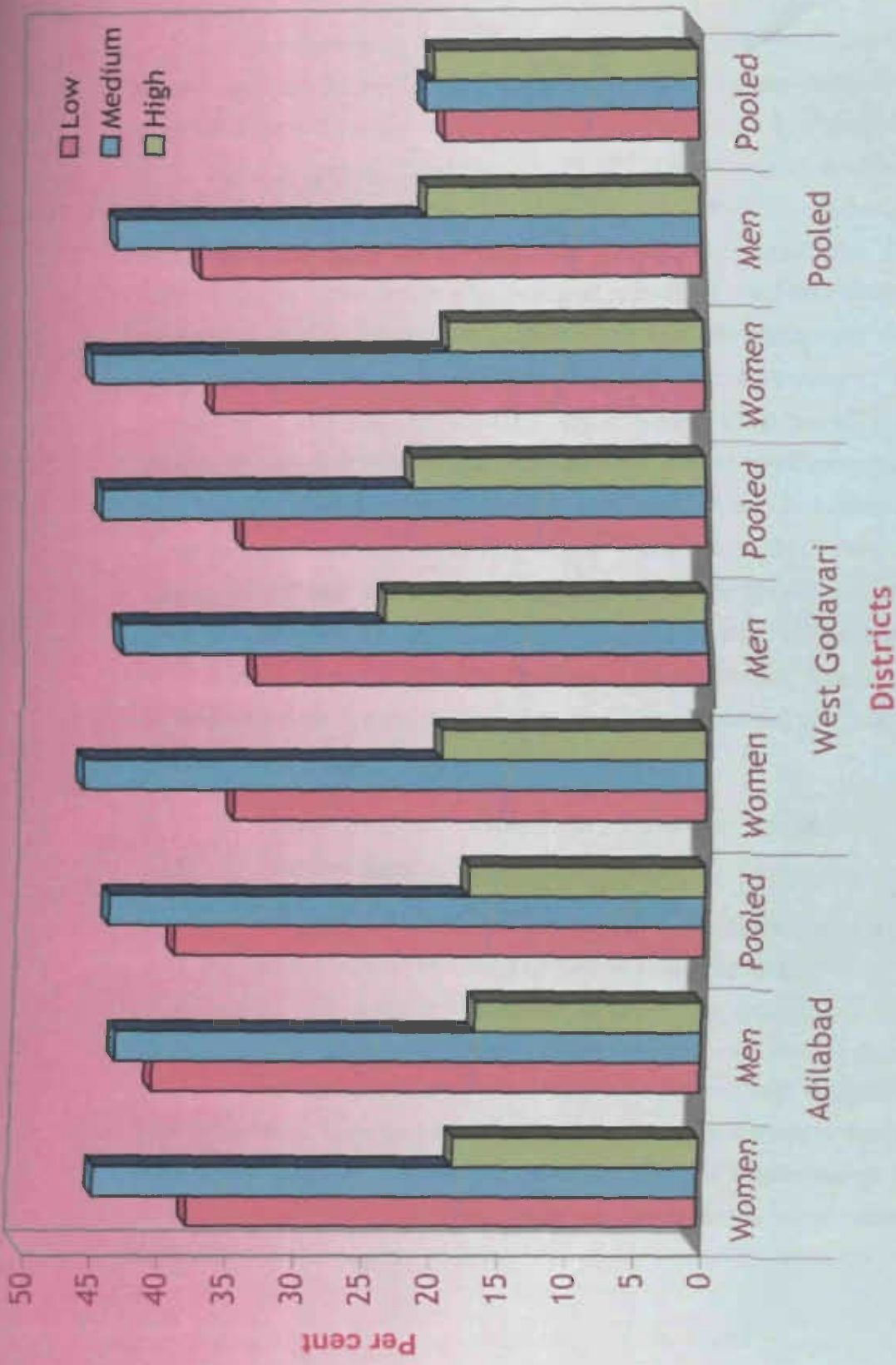


Fig.13: Distribution of respondents based on decision making

5.3 GENDER EMPOWERMENT

5.3.1 Distribution of respondents based on Gender Empowerment Index

The findings in Table 42 reveal that nearly two third majority (61.11%) women and just above half (52.78%) of men were in low category of gender empowerment in Adilabad. Almost equal percent of women in West Godavari were in the low and medium categories and 38.89% of men were in medium category. On the whole, above half (52.08%) of women and a sizeable number (43.06%) of men were falling in the low category. The findings are in accordance with Shahnaj Praveen (2004). Low gender empowerment is result of inequality existing in terms of economically well being, social cohesion, political vibrancy gender sensitization, rights, freedom or expression, opportunities and clean environment. Low female literacy rates and wage differentials exploit women at all levels. Power is the essence of empowerment. Power increase when shared and it gives more strength as it involves a sense of whole being greater than the sum of individuals. Lack of participation of women, in politics, through electoral politics, public life, NGO's, lack of control over resources and lack of participation in decisions making in the home and community affect gender empowerment at large. Independent sources of income and savings also affect the process of empowerment. Due to the low level of empowerment women acutely feel their powerlessness and insecurity, their vulnerably and a lack of dignity within the household.

5.3.2 Distribution of respondents based on indicators of Gender Empowerment

A cursory view of Table 43 indicates results pertaining to distribution of the respondents based on indicators of Gender Empowerment.

5.3.2.1 Decision making

The sample was by and large homogenous with respect to decision making pattern. Almost an equal per cent i.e., 45.14 and 43.06 of women and men respectively were in the medium category. Women's contribution to decision making were studied in four broad areas viz., farm related, home-related, money-related and socio-religion. In spite of the gender disparities and regional variations

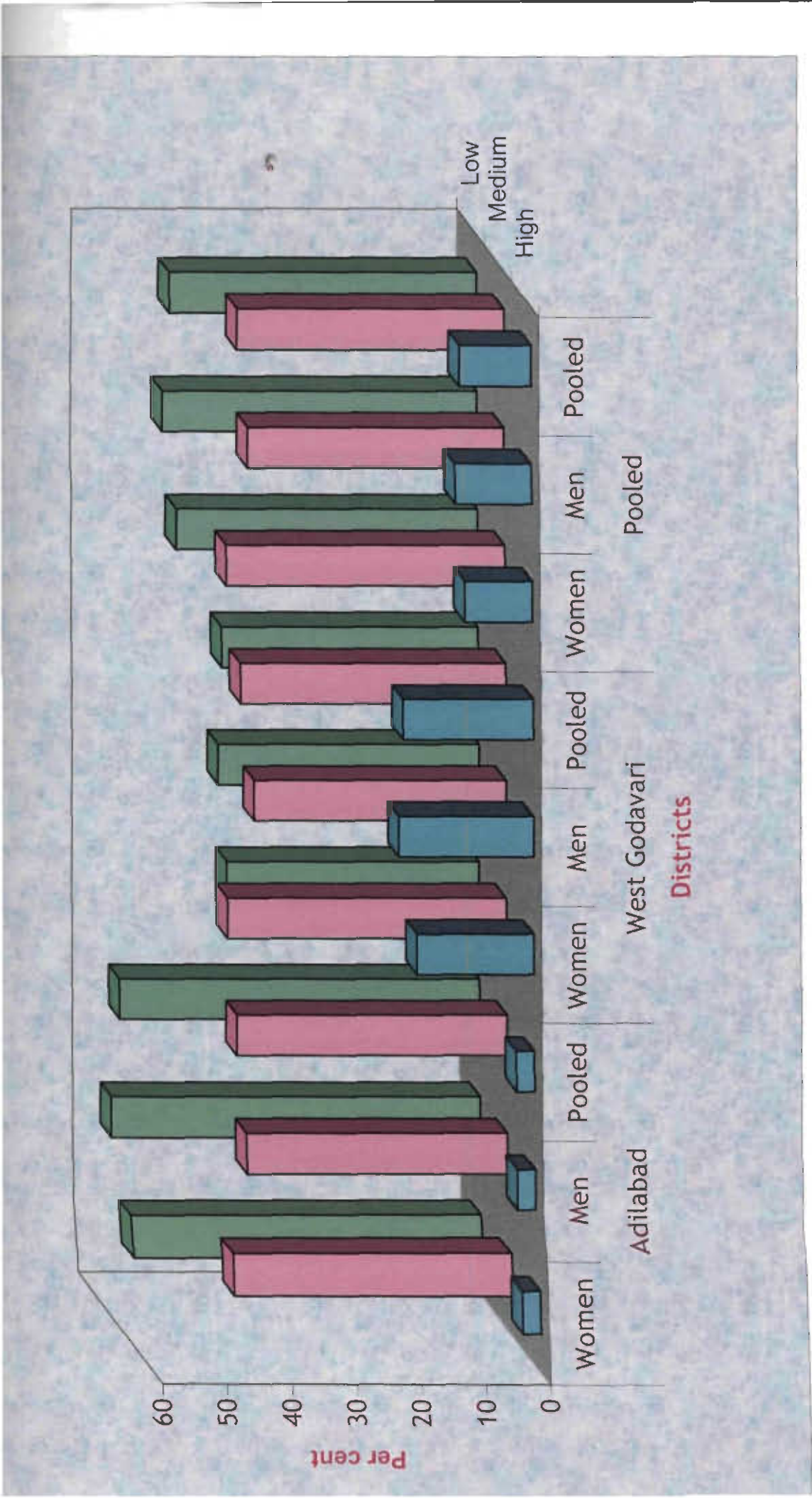


Fig.14: Distribution of respondents based on social empowerment



Fig.15: Distribution of respondents based on economic empowerment

the results indicate that contribution of women was viewed similarly by women and men and thus resulting in homogenous distribution.

5.3.2.2 Social empowerment

Social empowerment results in Table 43 over half i.e., 54.17 and 56.94 of women and men in Adilabad were respectively in low category. Whereas, a sizeable number (43.05%) of women in West Godavari were in medium category and nearly equal per cent i.e., 40.28 per cent were in low category. On the whole nearly half (47.57%) of them reported social empowerment of women to be low (Deepti Aggarwal *et al.*, 2002). Social empowerment is often linked to personal independence. The lesser the restrictions laid on women's mobility the more empowered they are. Seclusions restricts the physical movements and ability to personally participate. To a large extent, women's linkage to the market economy is through their children. Most of the women are confined to their husbands compound. Women do not interact with men other than their direct close family members and as a result they have only limited access to development personal. The lack of women's physical mobility deprived them of getting better livelihood opportunities. Spatial mobility is another important factor in women's social empowerment. Thus all these being common in rural areas resulting majority of respondents viewing women's social empowerment as low.

5.3.2.3 Economic empowerment

As regards Table 43 majority (58.33%) of women and men (54.17%) of men were in low economic empowerment category in Adilabad. Among the respondents in West Godavari, 47.22 per cent of women were in the medium category and 44.44 per cent of men viewed economic empowerment of women as medium. On the whole almost equal per cent i.e., 46.53 and 45.14 per cent of women and men respectively were in the low categories. The findings are in conformity with Tripta and Sushma Kaushik, 2002 and Deepti Aggarwal, etal 2002. Thus figures indicate that women in West Godavari are better empowered economically compared to women in Adilabad. This again is due to their better literacy levels. This, in turn increases women's awareness on various developmental progress enabling high rates of participation. Thereby, increasing their independent income resulting in satisfactory economic empowerment in this

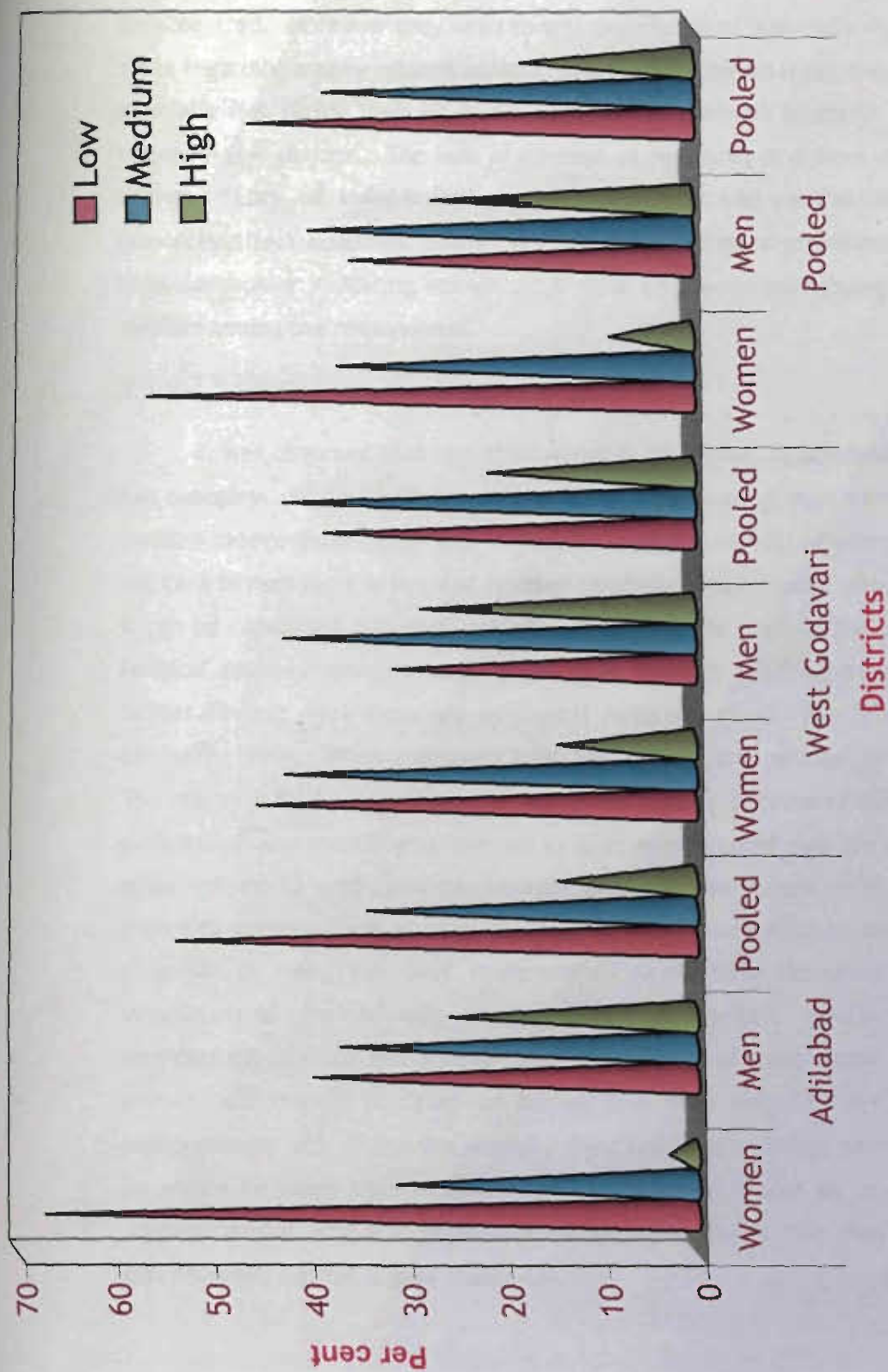


Fig.16: Distribution of respondents based on political empowerment

region. In the rural areas in general do have independent income because they work in the field and get their own wages. At the same time, their control on their income is low. Most of their income goes to household expenditure which goes unrecognized. Moreover they need to seek permission of husband / elders in many cases regarding money related aspects. Even on the remittances they receive are generally not under their control. Lack of involvement in credit programmes results in low savings. The lack of concept of regularity and time restricts their savings. Lack of independent sources of income and control over material resources effect economic power. All these factors more prominent among the rural community indicating women's economic empowerment ranging from low to medium among the respondents.

5.3.2.4 Political empowerment

It was observed that two third majority of women in Adilabad were in the low category. While 38.89 per cent and 36.11 per cent of men were in low and medium categories respectively. A sizeable number (44.44%) of women and 41.67 per cent of men were in low and medium categories respectively. From the results it can be concluded that over half (55.56%) of women were in the low category. Political empowerment of men ranged from medium (38.89%) to low (34.73%). Similar finding were reported by Deepti Aggarwal *et al.* (2002) and Pradeep Chibber, (1999). When compared men, women had low political empowerment. The reason is that many women do not enter politics because of the widespread exploitation and mudslinging involved in it. In addition, the men are not willing to allow women to enter politics, because of the power hunger which had always exploited women. Further more, women are still considered to be an object to be possessed by men. Moreover, many women do not have the necessary support, infrastructural backup and enough money to contest election. Political participation politics has always being the sphere of male dominance. Since women are mostly confined to homes and they do not have an identity independently out of the households, their levels of political participation will necessary be lower than those of men because they cannot be in public space. Another reason why women are not politically active is that they are actively discriminated against-legally (Table 43).

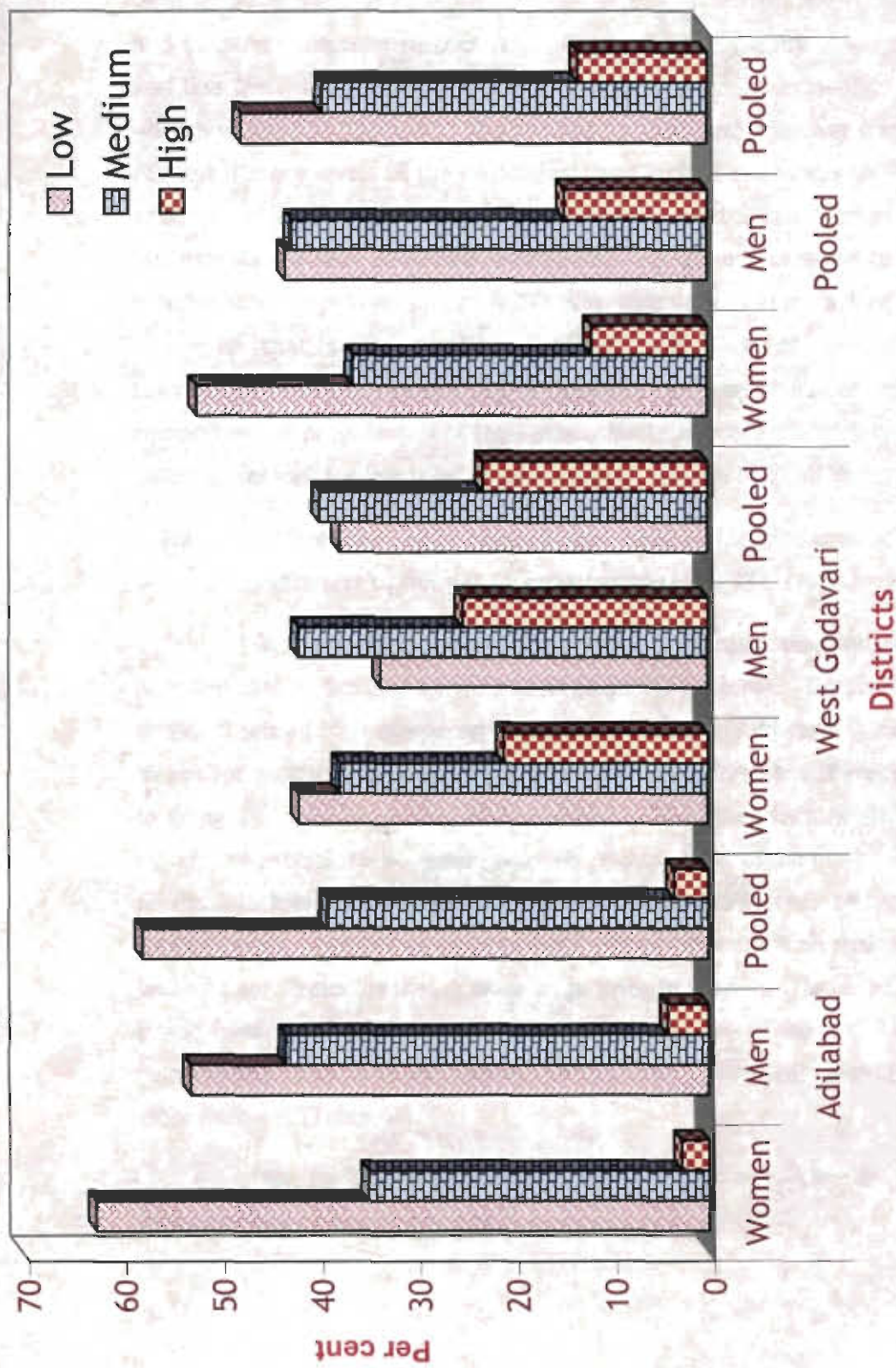


Fig.17: Distribution of respondents based on legal empowerment

It could be noted that women in Adilabad scored low on decision making than others while women and men in West Godavari scored higher compared to respondents in Adilabad. Higher educational levels might be one of the reason in observing such results. Higher education opens avenues of knowledge and develop a courage to take more decisions. Moreover better contacts outside their social system, more mass media exposure and extension contacts also influence the decision making ability. Though F calculated value was significant for social empowerment the scores of the respondents were found to be almost similar. Though education serves as a proxy for women's autonomy, in rural areas it is unrelated. The more commonly related factors are the head of the households with compromised autonomy seen where the women is not married to the head of the household. Lack of strong marital support, from mother-in-law, sister-in-law and husband including the provision of good food, heavy households duties, lack of kindness and attention also effect physical autonomy. Joint family systems impairs autonomy and access to resources which is more prominent in rural dwellings. All these factors tend to be more predominant in rural areas irrespective of the regions, might the reason for the similar variation of social empowerment.

With regard to economic empowerment it was observed that, both women and men tend to show low scores in Adilabad than the respondents in West Godavari with significant variation. Although women are universally involved in unpaid household work, economic independence is usually measured in terms of wage earnings economic activity. Lower wage of women in Adilabad therefore might have resulted in low scores of economic empowerment in that region. Women generally have limited economic decision making authority, large numbers are excluded even from the most routine decisions and very few have major say in decisions. Women are far more likely to be involved in decisions that are perceived as routine than in decision that involve major purchase. Lack of independent sources of income and savings also hinders economic empowerment.

It could be noted that 'F' value was found to be significant, indicating variation in political empowerment. Women scored low compared to men in both the regions of the study area. This significantly low political empowerment among women. Politics being male dominated, the presence of women in local bodies is not considered, important. In the traditional rural society politics is regarded as

unwomanly, and the traditional attitude prevents a women from taking an active role in politics. This might have resulted in low political empowerment of women.

With regard to legal empowerment, the 'F' calculated value was found to be significant. Significant difference was observed among the respondents in both the regions. The scores indicate that, respondents in West Godavari had better legal empowerment than the respondents in Adilabad. Low literacy levels, lack of awareness on legal enactments, and low exposure to mass media might be reasons resulting in low empowerment.

5.3.4 Mean differences with regard to Gender Empowerment and its indicators (Z - Test)

The 'Z' calculated value was not found to be significant with regard to Decision making and social empowerment. While the values of 'Z' were found to be significant for economic, political and legal empowerment and also with Gender Empowerment Index at 1 per cent level. The results with regard to this were furnished in Table 45.

With regard to decision making, the areas of decision making in farm and home activities have been classified into four broad areas viz., home-related decisions, farm related decisions, money management decisions and socio-religious rituals related decisions. The findings indicated that women took independent decisions in the area of home management and was reverse in case of child-related decisions where men over shadowed women in taking decisions. Men dominated women in making independent decisions in the area of farm-related decisions and money related decisions. Joint decisions were also found to be favourable in money related decisions. Role of women was found substantial in making socio-religious decisions. Similar pattern of decision making was observed in the areas of the study. Women and men tend to report the same regarding women's contribution in decision making. Therefore, significant difference was not observed in the means of women and men.

Social Empowerment is extent of freedom or mobility, due respect of women in the family. The views expressed by women and men were almost similar inspite of the regional differences. Women were allowed to keep contacts with

their relatives, parents and visiting of places like markets, banks restrictions were not laid. Moreover the sample of women selected for the study were agricultural / paid labourers, their mobility in the public domain was not severely restricted. Where control over resources and labours takes a less unified and more segment form, the discrimination is evident. Mobility of women as perceived by women and men was found to same. This indicates that status of women has been changed to considerable extent but their condition in practice is not yet satisfactory.

Regarding economic empowerment, the 'Z' calculated value was found to be significant. The mean scores for women were found to be slightly more compared to that of men. This indicates men viewed economic empowerment of women to be low. The high scores of women on economic empowerment might be the result of women having independent income and say in major economic decision in their families compared to the females in the families of men respondents. Lack of supports from male members and attitudinal rigidities also result in low economic empowerment.

The 'Z' calculated value for political empowerment had shown significance at one per cent level. The mean score of political empowerment of men were found to high compared to women. This clearly indicates that men had better awareness and high participation compared to women and on all scores, women participation was significantly lower than that of men (Pradeep Chibber, 1999). The lower level participation of women in political life can also be accounted for by their role in the household. Women can exercise autonomy in and from the household are more likely to be active participants in political life.

With little or no formal education and little or no political participation in political life.

Political activity takes place in the public space. Political participation is a public act for men and for women. However, the public space is still inhibited and dominated by men. Political demonstrations in many parts of the world are still the domain of men as legislatures. Women do not have place in public space. As long as women are confined to home and they do not have an identity independent

of the household their levels of participation will necessarily be lower than men because they cannot be in the public space.

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With regard to legal empowerment, the 'Z' calculated value was found to be significant at 1 per cent level. Legal empowerment was measured based on the awareness and opinion of the respondents on various legislative and protective acts. Though many of the acts aim at women's emancipation and empowerment, majority of women are not in favour of this. Tradition, societal customs and norms play a major role, on women to accept their laws. Low literacy levels does not give a clear picture on the advantages of these laws. Lack of awareness on laws that address women needs, lack of information on legal rights and other decisions of public institutions which effect their lives, inability to enforce legal rights and lack of choices regarding marriages result in low legal empowerment.

The affect of all the above discussed factors, result in showing significant difference with regard to the scores of Gender Empowerment. The 'Z' calculated value was found to be significant at 1 per cent level.

5.3.5 Content analysis of Gender Empowerment

5.3.5.1 Decision making pattern of the respondents

5.3.5.1.1 Home management decision

The Tables representing women's contribution in decision making in home activities of Adilabad, West Godavari and overall are 46,47,48.

With regard to home management decision (Table 48) indicate that women's contribution was found to be more in home management decision as reported men and women of both the districts. While, child related decisions were dominated by men. All together, it can be concluded that contribution of women and men was nearly equal though was slightly higher for men. With regard to all home management decisions except in case of responses by women in West Godavari it was found to be slightly more by women.

Table 48 which gives overall picture of home management decisions also shows the pattern i.e., women tend to demand home management decisions and men child related decision. On the whole men dominate slightly more than women in all the home management decisions (Punam Kumari, 2001).

The overall home management decisions making pattern shows that women overshadow men in this area of decision making. This area of decision making was dominated by them irrespective of gender and regional biases. The child centered decision making areas such as schooling of children, occupation of children, marriages of children etc. are equally important since these areas provide major family function. The data on child-related decisions was however dominated by men in the study areas. This occurred due to men's greater involvement in decision making on a few specific items of this sub-area like deciding on medical treatment and education and occupation of their son/daughter. This may be due to low level of literacy of women and their limited exposure to outside world. The findings are in conformity with Michale Adato *et al.* (2000), Punam Kumari, (2001) and Tripta and Sushma Kaushik, (2002).

5.3.5.1.2 Farm related decision making

The data with regard to farm related decision making of the respondents from both the districts were presented in Table 48.

Farm related decision making includes, Agricultural, Labour allocation and livestock related decisions. It was evident from these three tables (46, 47, 48) that all the farm related decisions were dominated by men followed by this joint decisions were taken in 27.08 per cent cases and only 13.13 per cent of the decisions were taken by women (Table 48). Male dominance with regard to decision making is the most common phenomenon in the agricultural society leaving far behind independent decision taken by women. Punam Kumari (2001) in her study reported the same findings.

5.3.5.1.3 Money related decision making

It was evident that most of the money related decision making like money management, capital transactions, purchasing farm inputs, entrepreneurial capital transactions, borrowing loans, savings and capital transactions were tend to be dominated by men. Women's major contribution was found to be more in case of purchasing necessary items, disposal of farm produce and home produce. The decision making pattern related to money matters was found to be the same in both the districts.

The summary of the Table 48 reveal that nearly half (47.40%) of the money related decisions were taken by men. While joint decisions and independent decisions that taken by women were nearly equal i.e., 28.62 and 23.98 per cent respectively. (Punam Kumari, 2001)

The money centered decision making areas the most important in assessing the status of women in the family, but the results indicate that men fully dominated this. Since, traditionally it is the male who takes decisions in the economic spheres of the family, like family budgeting, purchasing and selling etc. Women having less access to financial resources is also one of the reason for taking independent decisions.

5.3.5.1.4 Socio-religious decision making

Socio-religious decision making includes inter household exchanges short-social travel and socio-religious obligations.

The major contribution with regard to inter household exchange was by men from both the districts which, show social travel decisions were dominated by women in both the study area. The per cent of women and men involved in socio-religious decision making did not vary much. It can also be observed from these two Tables (46,47) that women's contributed was slightly more than men on all the socio-religious decision making.

The consolidated data (Table 48) of both the districts it can concluded that 45.89 per cent of the socio-religious decisions were taken by women followed by men (33.77%) and joint decision in case of 20.34 per cent. (Punam Kumari, 2001)

It is generally seen that due credit was given to the decisions made by women in the area of socio-religious activities of the study. The reason behind is that men folk remain engaged in the activities of money management and farm management etc and bother less for the decisions to be made in this area, ultimately, this area of decision making is left to the women folk.

- From the results it can be concluded that traditional pattern of male-dominated decisions making process in the family still exists in the rural areas except for the home-management and socio-religious all the other areas of

decision making were dominated by men. This indicates that sharing the responsibility of decision making is not quite common and the power remains within the male counterparts. This indicates that traditional inferior position of women is not being replaced by "Equal Positions" in majority of the cases inspite of many socio-economic changes in the rural India. Education is considered another factor contributing to the decision making power. Low educational status of women thus resulting in low decision making ability.

Another factor influencing the decision making power is the type of family. It is assumed that there is a greater possibility for equal decision making power for both the sexes in the nuclear families than in the joint families, because the nuclear families (limited in number of members) provided a more mutual understanding between the two sexes than the joint families, dominated by the heads of the family. Even in nuclear families when it is assumed that there is a mutual understanding between the two sexes, the male members dominate their female counterparts in family decision making. It may be due to the fact that in many nuclear families females may be more submissive to their husbands or heads of the family counterparts. Males in joint families dominate the decision making in almost all the family matters. Occupation is also no less an important factor in influencing the status of women in making family decisions. It is supposed that non-domestic women have more say than the domestic women. Since the rural society is dominated by domestic women, they tend to have less say in making family decisions.

5.3.5.2 Social empowerment of women

Less than one third majority (29.41%) of women in Adilabad reported as always on their social empowerment, while 39.78 per cent said as sometimes and 30.81 per cent as never. (Table 49). While 28.87 per cent of men reported as always, 40.43 per cent as sometimes and never (30.70%). Almost an equal per cent of (35.76 and 34.62%) of women and men respectively reported as always on the questions related to social empowerment in West Godavari. (Table 50) On the whole 32.58 and 31.15 of women and men respondents reported as always questions of social empowerment of women.(Table 51).

As the findings indicate, the social empowerment of women was found to be low in both the regions of study area. Less freedom and freedom of movement are the key factors associated with social empowerment. The ability of women to involve in decision making also affects personal independence, loss freedom and mobility and low decision making ability of women might be the reason for low social empowerment of women.

Majority of women and men ranked first for the question, that women are more responsible at their in laws place than natal. After marriage women is expected to remain largely invisible to outsiders and are under the authority of her husbands family. The atmosphere in conjugal homes can be lukewarm is different or to a women's needs. Most of the women feel that household chores are the first priority prime duty. Therefore this might have being ranked first by the respondents. Women were allowed to keep contact with their parents and relatives etc. was ranked second. The reasons for this might be strong marital support from mother-in-laws, sister-in-laws and husband. Household structures might have also contributed to this.

Because of traditions and customs women obey their husbands was ranked third. This indicates that traditional norms and values largely regulate a rural women's life. The results are in accordance with IIPS and Macro International Sciences, NFHS. and www.popcouncil.org./shreen. Jeejebhoy and Zeba A.S. Athar).

Norms imprinted by social systems, exposure to the outside world, more voice in the family life, provide, more freedom in the family life. Little autonomy of freedom of movement, limited inheritance rights in practical and limited opportunities for control over economic resources hinders social empowerment of women. Moreover it can be assumed that enhancing women's educational attainment and economic activity status and raising their marriage age can directly increase women freedom/mobility and also the extent to which they have a say in matters concerning their own life.

One tradition that continues to influence women's life is the gender division of labour. While, a man typically generates income for the family outside the household, a women is expected to take place in the extended family compound. Since these tasks do no directly generate income, a women must

depend on a man, whether it is father, husband, or son, throughout her entire life for economic support. Social customs also limits women's mobility outside the household.

Freedom of movement is a contest area because it is linked to the issue of honour and shame. Males are constantly worried that their honour will be soiled if the female members of their family behave in a manner that is not socially acceptable. The norm of shame and honour is only one inhibition of female freedom and mobility. Another equally forceful depressant is the notion of obedience of wives.

Women are not supposed to leave their matrimonial home without their husbands permission generally. However leaving the home for lawful work does not constitute disobedience so long as the women does not abuse their right. If a women leaves her house without her husbands permission, she is considered as disobedient. Nevertheless the concept of honour and shame, as well as obedience effects social empowerment. It can be noticed that women who go for work necessarily have freedom of movement to go places as they wish. When women have to or want to go to places than the work place, they sill ask permission from their husbands, women who go for work gain freedom because it is prerequisite for working. Joint family system impairs autonomy and access to resources. Social Empowerment can also be linked to increase in earned income. This increases the time schedules in the production of public good, reduces the amount of time devoted to earning income and increases consumption of leisure. The creation of new construct such as family emboidness or centrality may be useful in terms of describing women's actual power. Freedom of movement is another common indicator in empirical research at the individual/household level, especially in studies where women's presence in the public sphere is often severely constrained. In some circumstances, freedom of movement could be public sphere is often severely constrained. In some circumstances, freedom of movement could be seen as empowerment resource, an enabling factor for women's agency in other areas of life. On the other hand, taking the initiative to work outside the home or bring a sick child to a health center could be seen as form of agency in a setting where female claustration is the norm, Few studies have made qualitative efforts to tease

out precisely how increased freedom of movement either facilitates or reflects the process of empowerment.

5.3.5.5 Economic empowerment of women

Women having their own income was ranked first by all the respondents from both the districts. The second ranked statement by women and men in Adilabad, women were allowed to spend even if they do not had independent income. While, the same was ranked third by women and second by men in West Godavari. Women being consulted at the time of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc was ranked third by the respondents of Adilabad, second and third by women and men respectively from West Godavari. The results pertaining to this aspect were presented in Table 52 and 53.

The comparative Table 54 showing the responses of women and men from both the districts reveal that, women having, independent income was ranked 1st by women and 2nd by men and on the whole as first. Nearly half (48.61%) of women reported to be consulted at the time decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc and 45.14 per cent of men also reported this and were ranked second and third respectively and first on the whole. The third ranked statement by women was, they were allowed to spend for themselves. Men (45.83%) reported their wives were allowed to spend even without having independent income.

Table 52 indicates that only 21.63 per cent of women had economic independence and 20.04 of men reported that wives had economic independence always in the study area of Adilabad. While in West Godavari economic empowerment was viewed to be almost same i.e., 24.31 and 24.40 per cent as always by women and men respectively Table 53. (NFHS-2 and www.popcouncil.org)

The summary of the Table 54 reveal that 22.97 per cent of women reported always with regard to questions on economic empowerment of women and men (22.22%).

It was observed from these finding that in general the economic empowerment of women was found to be very low though majority of women had

independent income, their savings were found to be very low. In the agrarian community most of the women work in the fields and therefore this might be one of the reason why most of them had independent income. Selling / Trading of the land which women own was reported to be done only with permission of their husband and also use of remittances they receive. This indicates the powerlessness of women. The change which has been observed was that women were consulted for major decisions in the family. Women generally have limited economic decision making authority large numbers are excluded even from the most routine decisions and few have a major say in any decision. Women are far more likely to be involved in decisions that are perceived as routine in the family economy, such as those relating to food, purchases, than in decisions that involve major purchases.

Of all the facets of human development, women economic independence or economic empowerment occupies an area of utmost significance for a lasting and sustainable development of society. Though the economic status of women has been changed to considerable extent but their condition is not yet satisfactory. Indian society has all been a male dominated society, where the women's place has been primarily confined to home, her role is limited to upbringing of children and catering to the needs of men folks by way of creative comforts.

Low economic participation of women is also due to the reason that household chores are felt as the first duty of women in the family. A number of social customs, taboos, inhibitions, rituals etc prevail in the society, which come in the way of women freedom, education and work participation and also other spheres of life.

The other reason might be that, women are mostly required to live with in the premises of their houses to cook food, feed and take care of their children and other members of the family. Thus, the structure of society is such that does not allow them to join the economic activities freely. Most of the women feel that household chores are the first priority / prime duty. Further women working in field have to perform dual responsibility of looking household matters, taking care of children and doing gainful job outside home. In fact the pre-occupation with

specific patterns of economic development often results in the relative neglect of women's need and the process of development itself.

The various constraints that can be attributed to economic empowerment might be lack of support from male members, large magnitude of the target group of poor people, attitudinal rigidities, lack of awareness and limited resources with the NGO's and large requirements of training and sensitization. Lack of involvement in credit programmes among the respondents might be one of the reason for low saving. Providing independent sources of income outside home, micro credits tend to reduce economy dependency of the women on husband and these help enhance autonomy. Independent sources of income together with their exposure to new sets of ideas, values and social support make women more assertive of their rights.

The women's bargaining power increases as they enhance their economic contribution to the family. The strength of earning an income helps women to establish new roles. However, there may be threats, such as if the women hand over the money to their husbands they may be more dependent on their husbands, and gender inequality will be reinforced. Enhanced female economic power is proposed as the prime factor in reducing gender inequality.

5.3.5.4 Political empowerment

5.3.5.4.1 Political awareness of the respondents

Cent per cent of the respondents from both the districts were aware of the nationality. Awareness about the popular leaders was ranked second by the respondents of both the districts. One third of women in Adilabad said that they were aware of the political parties and also had understanding about the government and were ranked third. *The former was ranked third by men also from the same district and third by men from West Godavari. Awareness of India's Independence was ranked third by women in West Godavari. A vast majority (90.28%) of men from West Godavari reported to be aware of the political parties.*

A close observation of overall results in Table 55 reveal that awareness of the Nationality and popular leaders were ranked first and second by women and men respectively and on the whole also. Less the half (45.14%) of women were

aware of India's Independence and a vast majority (90.28%) of men were aware of political parties and were ranked third. The third ranked aspect on the whole was awareness of the political parties.

Political awareness is closely linked to political competence, efficacy and political participation. People who are politically more aware are also said to be politically more effective and participate more in political activities. A knowledgeable person becomes aware of what is going around him / her and in the political system. This awareness in turn reduces him / her to participate in the political process. Awareness is a by-product of information. It is of course a well-known fact that better informed persons would be more aware and will participate more in politics.

In order to judge the political awareness of the respondents, 8 questions were asked. All were aware of the Nationality. This being a common issue, might have known by all the respondents in general. Thus Table 55 also indicates that a sizeable number of women had awareness on the given issues and 62.85 per cent of men were aware of these in Adilabad. While in West Godavari majority (56.77%) of women and nearly three quarters (74.65%) of men had awareness on the listed issues. While, on whole almost half (49.47%) of women and above two third majority (68.75%) of men were aware of the given political issues.

5.3.5.4.2 Political participation of the respondents

Political participation of the respondents from the study area were presented in Tables 56, 57 and 58.

Participation in politics is a pre-requisite and minimal requirement for a successful democratic system. Political participation is a broader and complex term, express it self in various kinds of overt and manifest political activities. Norman D.Palmer defined political participation as the involvement of citizens in such political activities which directly or indirectly influence the behaviour and actions of decision makers.

Table 56 indicates that, frequent participation of women respondents in Adilabad was reported by only 9.03 per cent. Nearly three quarters (70.66%) of women were never interested in politics. While among men 19.10 per cent

participated frequently and half (51.65%) of them never participated. In the West Godavari region Table 57 reveal that 15.97 per cent of women stated frequent participation in politics and majority (56.51%) never participated. Below one third (29.77%) of men were found to participate frequently and one third were never interested in participation. On the whole only 12.50 per cent of women and almost one fourth majority (24.44%) of men reported participation in politics as frequent. These results clearly indicate lower participation of the respondents and in particular among the women. The findings also indicate that majority of women and men franchise their vote during elections.

The mean scores of women from both the districts were ranked second for supporting the candidate contesting based on caste or religion. Among men in Adilabad this was ranked second and third by men West Godavari. Participation in election campaigning was ranked second and telling people why to vote for particular party a candidate were ranked third by women in Adilabad and West Godavari respectively. Attending the gram panchayat meeting was ranked third by men in Adilabad and second among men in West Godavari.

The cursory view of the Table 58 indicated that supporting candidate contesting based / religion was ranked second by women and men. Telling people why to vote for a particular party / candidate was ranked third by women and attending gram panchayat meetings as third by men.

In more clear terms, the concept of political participation includes activities like voting, campaigning in elections, convincing other persons to vote in a particular way, attending public meetings, distributing party literature, joining an organization or a party, contributing money to a party, contesting elections and holding public or party office, etc. These are also called conventional political activities. The proposed study was concerned not with political participation in general, but it is a micro-level study concerned with political participation of women and men. The participation of women in the aspects which were ranked as 1, 2 and 3 (Table 58) was very low. Table 58 indicated that the per cent of men in political participation was for better than men. M.C.Goel finds that as compared to men, women are less involved in Indian politics. They are less likely to take interest in politics, to discuss politics, to attend public meetings and to influences

decisions. The present results of the study are in conformity with these results. The various reason for low participation is because that, women in general remain in the periphery of the spheres of power and influence. Their lower availability for politics is the result of a deeper isolation from concerns and activities outside the family, lack of time, at their disposal only in the home. Traditionalism on and the conservative out look of women confined them to the domestic sphere. Lack of female participation in politics stems from three factors, namely, children at home, fear of sex determination and perceptions of women that certain things are not proper to do. Due to social conditions and the double work, women can seldom make the time to participate in politics even if those who do manage to do politically active often hesitate to join politics because it is considered as a 'dirty game'. The cost of elections is another hindrance as very few women have control over income.

Thus the bulk of the research indicates that women as compared to men participate less in politics and have less political interest and less feelings in political efficacy. Psychological, situational, structural, socio-economic and political variables account for the low participation and involvement of women in politics. Lack of interest that women generally show in political matters is not the result of a single moment but the result of the learning process. Girls are associated with the immediate environment family and boys with wider environment i.e., other than familial, hence political also. Women are socialized into the wife and mother role and politics is considered incompatible to them. They are taught that politics is a man's games. Most women are still apolitical. Women are still reluctant to join politics because of lack of political interest and political education, unfavourable family as well as societal attitudes and atmosphere, and because of their pre-occupation with domestic responsibilities. Men like to retain their monopoly of power and do not want to encourage women to join politics.

5.3.5.4.3 Opinion of the respondents on women politics

A close observation of the Tables 59 and 60 reveals the results on opinion on women's involvement in politics from Adilabad and West Godavari Districts. While Overall results were presented in Table 61.

The statement ranked first by women and second by men in Adilabad and the reverse of this from West Godavari was women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities. Women should vote according their wish was agreed among 45.84 per cent of women in Adilabad and 61.11 per cent in West Godavari and were ranked second and third respectively. Women should be effective office bearers of panchayats, co-operatives etc was ranked third by respondents of Adilabad and also by men in West Godavari. More women representatives in legislature should be encouraged was ranked first by women in West Godavari and second by men. While, the same was ranked first by men from Adilabad.

The overall results indicate that, the highest mean score by women and men was obtained for statement; women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities and second for, more women representatives in legislature should be encouraged. The third highest score by women was for, women should vote according to their wish by men, women should be affective office bears of panchayats, co-operatives etc, and this ranked third on the whole.

Table 59 indicates that almost one third majority (32.36%) of women in Adilabad agreed with the given statement and men (30.28%) indicating favourable opinion on women's involvement in politics. While, in West Godavari over half (55.28%) of women and 41.39 per cent of men agreed with the statements. Thus showing positive sign with regard to women's involvement in politics (Table 60).

As regards Table 61 on pooled data, it was observed that a sizeable number (43.82%) and just above one third majority (34.72%) of men had favourable opinion on women politics.

The results in Table 61 show that both women and men tend to have a favourable opinion on women's involvements in politics. Though the respondents had a positive feeling with the statements that ranked as first, it's not easy to bring change in the deep rooted traditions. Moreover it can be seen that position of Indian women in the field of politics is characterized by a positive orientation rooted within the social structure itself. So, only a substantial upheaval that undermines the structural basis for traditional views of male and female roles

would modify the existing asymmetry in political status of men and women. Political culture and political structure of a particular political system also determines the women's participation in political affairs. However to some extent, the responses indicate the scenario to be changing now. Women are becoming politically more conscious and aware about their political rights and privilege. There is a need for qualitative changes in political processes and socio-political structure of the society. It may be suggested that more women will come into politics only if a significant 'role - redefinition' takes place. Less than half of women were favourable towards women's involvement in politics. Women in themselves do not develop a favourable attitude towards politics. This might be because lack of time, and are mostly confined to homes which restricts their part in political activities. Co-operation and encouragement might also be one of the plausible reason. The revitalization in the context of politics of rural women is evident from the Tables 59, 60 and 61 and that the development psyche can be noticed in them. Men's attitudes towards women's entry into politics and leadership positions have also changed. The situation has moved from one of total rejection to limited objection. The revitalization trend should be strengthened and women who have ability should come to the forefront immediately. Government action for women's emancipation or equality can be neither effective nor adequate unless women themselves become more aware of their rights and responsibilities. Contesting elections is still a male preserve. Though with course of time, a change has taken place in society and women's status, their involvement in political affairs still remains marginal. They are no where near men in political matters.

5.3.5.5 Legal empowerment

5.3.5.5.1 Awareness of the respondents regarding various legal enactments

Majority is 66.67, 68.06, 58.68, 57.99 and 59.72 percent of the respondents were unaware of the child marriage restraint Act, divorce Act, dowry prohibition Act, Right to property Act and widow remarriage Act respectively. (Table 62). Lower literacy levels limits individuals exposure and their awareness on various social, economic, political and legal aspects. One of the reasons have been lack of knowledge and unfavourable attitude towards these legislations. Thus,

resulting in low awareness. Similar findings were reported by Bhatt, (1998) and Malkit Kaur (1988).

5.3.5.5.2 Opinion of the respondents regarding various legal enactments

Child marriage restraint act: With regard to opinion of child marriage restraint act the findings in Table 63,64,65 reveal that, the statement men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent was ranked first by all the respondents. Marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven was ranked second by the respondents Early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige was ranked third by the respondents in Adilabad second by West Godavari women. On the whole this was ranked third (Sreedhara Swamy, 1996). As the findings indicate, it was observed that majority of men agreed that, men should delay their marriages till they are economically independent. This is one strong, dominant feeling among elders that once a boy is employed and starts earning money, he can be settled down in marriage. As the decisions were taken by parents or grand parents in the family and children are left with no options. As times many youngsters are also carried away by such feeling of elders. The traditional society was bounded by theories as the honour and prestige of a family depends on marrying off daughters as early as possible. These notions go strong in the minds of people and they practice the same social approval.

It was observed that only 23.27 per cent and 27.78 per cent of women and men respondents in Adilabad had shown agreement with the statements thus indicating favourable opinion of the respondents while 44.10 of women and 47.57 of men disagreed. (Table 63) While from Table 64 it was evident that nearly half (45.66%) of women 39.24 per cent of men had favourable opinion. On the whole, Table 65 it can be noted that a little above one third majority (34.47%) of women and one third majority (33.51%) of men had favourable opinion regarding child marriage restraint act. Bhatt (1998) also came out with similar findings.

The findings clearly indicates that, the respondents in West Godavari had more favourable opinion than the respondents in Adilabad. This might be due the reason that the respondents in this region had better education. Thus increasing their awareness on various legal issues. The results also indicate that only one third majority had favourable opinion. This might be due to the reason

that traditions and customs strongly prevailing in the rural areas. Most of them believe that daughters are someone's one's also property, therefore must get married early. Most of them feel that, the role of parents is to deliver a chaste daughter to her husbands family and girls are generally brought up to believe that her own wishes and interests are subordinate to those of her husband and his family.

In the rural society, girls are generally married at a very early age, when they are immature and unaware of the responsibilities, of a married life and motherhood. Early marriage, below the prescribed age limit i.e. 18, is the major cause of ill health of most of the housewives , for they are often burdened with motherhood even before they are physically mature and mentally prepared to shoulder such responsibility. The early marriage syndrome, decapacitates he women physically and also often deprives them of a conservative role in the society to raise their status, as most of their time is spent in upbringing their children. The law forbids marriage of girls below the age of 18, but the law is violated, more often than not, and in some cases the custom of child marriage still prevails. It is very necessary, in the interest of women's health, prosperity and social status that such evil practices are stopped and that marriages of girls should be permitted only when they attain the age of 18. In the rural society most of them view that early marriages protect the chastity of girls and will also confirm to their religious beliefs and traditions. Despite the modern times and contemporary changes taking place due to advancement in number of directions certain ideas remain unchanged which in turn effect the attitude of person. In our society marriages are nearly universal and unmarried persons are looked socially the parents always feel that to perform the marriages of the children as a sacred duty of theirs and it should be performed as quickly as possible.

Divorce Act: The results pertaining to opinion of the respondents on Divorce Act were presented in Tables 63,64 and 65.

As regard (Table 63), 38.73 per cent of women and 43.21 per cent of men had had favourable opinion on Divorce Act. While 28.63 and 32.43 per cent of women and men unfavourable opinion respectively in the study area of Adilabad. Among the respondents of West Godavari Table 64, indicate that 40.39 per cent

and 26.71 per cent of women had favourable and unfavourable opinion respectively. A sizeable number (43.21%) of men had favourable opinion and almost one third majority had unfavourable opinion.

The summary of Table 65 shows that 37.02 and 41.13 per cent of women and men had favourable opinion respectively. Almost equal per cent i.e., 30.56 per cent of women and 31.52 per cent of men had unfavourable opinion on divorce act. (Urmila and Lali Yadav, 2002). The findings are contradictory with Bhatt 1998, and Malkit Kaur 1988. The findings also indicate that society shouldn't look down upon women who has divorced were ranked 1 and 3 by women and men respectively. Divorce is bad, as it leads to suffering of the emotionally dependent partner was ranked second by women and first by men. Divorce disintegrates the family, individual and society was also ranked second by women and men.

From the results it was evident that not even half of the respondents were in favour of the Divorce Act from the study area. Through the women and men respondents in West Godavari tend to show better opinion, it was not found to be satisfactory. This might be due to fact that, marriage is a pious relationship between on man and women and a union of two minds with a perfect understanding between the two and to meet their physiological needs in the process of procreation. It requires certain amount of tolerance and sacrifice and a spirit of adjustment and trust between each other. It is also felt that men and women are a part of our society, they have to follow well established traditions and heritage values and moral norms set forth by the society.

The other plausible reason is that, most of them feel that, it effects decent standard of living in the society, children's lives, and difficult for one to lead independent life through out. For the various reasons one might feel that divorce was not a viable option. Divorce in generally, here, it is considered shameful admission of a women's failure as a wife and daughter in-law. In 1990, divorced women made up a miniscule 0.08 per cent of the total female population.

Maintenance rights of women in case of divorce are weak. Although both Hindu and Muslim laws recognize the rights of women and children to maintenance, in practice, maintenance is rarely set at a sufficient amount and frequently violated. Both Hindu and Muslim

matrimonial property. Upon divorce, women have no rights to their home or to other property accumulated during marriage in effect, their contribution to the maintenance of the family and accumulation of family assets go unrecognized and unrewarded.

Dowry prohibition Act: Nearly half of the respondents were in favour of dowry prohibition act and the rest of them were not in favour of this act.

Above one third majority i.e., 37.50 and 39.35 per cent of women and men respectively were in not in favour of giving dowry. At the same time slightly above one fourth (26.85%) and the fourth (23.75%) of women and of men in Adilabad were in favour of giving dowry. (Table 63) Among the respondents in West Godavari nearly half i.e., 46.99 per cent of women and 45.60 per cent of men were not in favour of giving dowry. While 22.92 per cent of women and 20.61 per cent of men were in favour of this. (Table 64). The summary of the results, (Table 65) reveal that almost an equal percent i.e. 42.25 and 42.28 percent of women and men respectively had favourable act and dowry prohibition act. Whereas, 24.83% of women and 22.91% men were not in favour of this. Similar findings were reported by Urmila and Lali Yadav, 2002, Bhatt 1998 and Malkit Kaur 1988.

The statements ranked 1 and 2 by women and men were dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented, and dowry should not be given. Practice of dowry should be stopped was ranked third by women. Practice of dowry is undesirable was ranked third by men. Results pertaining to this were presented in Table 65.

This is because that, it is well recognized now that dowry system is a social evil. This system had prevailed in the Indian society since ages. It was not considered as an evil, because it was voluntary. Parents gift certain items to the daughters at the time of her wedding according to their capacity. The purpose was to help the couple to start their married life with all the domestic items. It might also been felt as an obligation as girls are given less share in the property of their parents and the dowry was presumed to be their share. But of late, the system has presumed the shape of compulsion, rather extortion and the parents of the girls are virtually coerced into giving dowry even if it is beyond their capacity. The practice has gone from bad to worse as indicated by the increase in dowry deaths.

This has a very serious psychological pressure on girls who often commit suicide with a sense of guilty that they are burden on the family. Even the Dowry Prohibition Act, has not deterred these unscrupulous dowry seekers, contrary on this, the evil has, more or less, become a status symbol. By and large the sample respondents do not have a favourable attitude towards dowry.

Those who approve of the system, partially take dowry system as part of the social customs, but they are against the system being misused to the extent of an evil. Their attitude in this regard is that, the system of dowry is a part of Indian culture and hence it should continue but not to the extent of being a social evil. But those who outright approve the system of dowry are of the view that dowry system is not bad. This is because, that some of them take the dowry system as a status symbol and they appear it on 'give and take basis', that is, they support it because they would get in the marriage of their sons. Moreover, dowry has become necessary consideration in performing the marriage of son / daughter. Most of them feel that it is kind of help to newly wedded couple to establish their houses and a sign of social status and prestige of both the families. It is also thought as compensation for the lack of beauty of girl and expenditure incurred on boy's education in many cases. The respondents disapprove of the system of dowry meaning there by, that a major portion of them are against this social evil and want this system to be completely eradicated, since it is against the respectable position of women.

Widow remarriage: With regard to the widow remarriages, only 19.58 per cent of women and 23.06 per cent of men were in favour of widow remarriages in Adilabad (Table 63). Below one third (28.61%) and above one third (37.08%) of women and men respectively had favourable opinion on widow remarriages in West Godavari (Table 64).

The overall results in Table 65 reveal that almost one fourth majority (24.10%) women and 30.03 per cent of men were in the favour of widow remarriage. While nearly half i.e., 44.16 and 44.23 of women and men were respectively not in favour of widow remarriage. The findings are in conformity with Bhatt (1998) and contradictory with Malkit Kaur (1988). As far as the results

indicate, it was very much obvious that nearly half of the respondents were not in favour of widow remarriages.

The 1,2 and 3 ranked statements by women and men respondents were widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family, society must strongly support widow remarriages and objecting to widow remarriage increases immorality in society respectively. Less than half of them were found to agree with this statement. For many reasons that respondents couldn't favour widow remarriage is because, in India, widowhood is perhaps the greatest sin in the life of a woman. It is considered as stigma which haunts her throughout her life. In social gatherings or weddings, or celebrations of a festival or a child's birth she is generally forbidden, for her presence is considered inauspicious. It is more rigid in the tradition ridden society in the villages where superstitions have deep roots. As a result, poor widow feels isolated and forced to resign to her fate and to curb her inherent human desire to enjoy a normal life which is her legitimate right. She fears to defy the tradition for that might invite the wrath of her family and samaj for violating the man made rules imposed on widows and divorces.

Traditions and customs bind women, which makes them difficult to come out of this. Society doesn't favour widow remarriages. The respondents, who had favourable opinion was because that, they have started shunning the old superstition and dogmatic approach due to spread of education, forbidding health trends towards active participation of all women in various activities.

Right to property: The results pertaining to opinion of the respondents on right to property were presented in Tables 62, 63 and 64.

As regards Table 62, nearly half (48.61%) of women were favouring right to property law and among men almost one-third majority (32.22%) of men were in favour of this. The women respondents in West Godavari, majority (63.06%) were in favour of the right to property law and above one third majority (37.22%) of men were favouring this (Table 63).

The overall results indicate that above half (55.83%) of women and 37.22 per cent of men had favourable opinion with regard to right to property law

(Table 64) The results are in conformity with the findings of Arun kumar Singh (2000).

The comparative picture of the responses of women and men reveal that, women were in more favour than men. This clearly indicates men's reluctance in having share with women with regard to property. Women favouring this law are of the view that women's right to inheritance are limited and frequently violated. Despite legal provisions for equal status for men and women and their right to parental property, the discrimination persists and more than often, the daughter is deprived of her right after her marriage, as per long standing traditions. This again is due to lack of education. In most cases even where the persons are aware of the daughters rights, she is persuaded to surrender some in favour of her brothers to avoid unpleasantness. While, under Hindu law, sons have an independent share in the ancestral property. However, daughters shares are based on the share received by their fathers. Hence, a father can effectively disinherit his daughters by renouncing his share of the ancestral property, but the son will continue to have a share in his own, right. Accordingly, married daughters, even after facing marital harassment, have no residential rights in the ancestral home. What is all needed is awareness among the rural women and also men that law provides equal status to them in all spheres irrespective of caste, creed and religion.

The respondents who are not in favour of the equal right to property are of the view that it is not improper for males to inherit family property, since the females are disassociated from their families after marriage. On the other hand, who approve of equal rights to property might be of the view that women cannot be deprived of equal right to property simply because they leave the family of their parents after marriage.

5.4 GENDER RELATED DEVELOPMENT INDEX

GDI values of the selected districts for the study were presented in Table 67.

The results revealed that the GDI values for both the selected districts was found to be greater than the GDI value of Andhra Pradesh (HDR, 2001). The GDI value of West Godavari was found to be higher when compared to that of Adilabad. Thus, indicating better equity in that area. This indicates experienced improvement in the district in gender development.

The district have achieved higher economic growth, improved balance of payments, position, and achieved stability. Lower GDI value in Adilabad indicates that the development has not been accompanied by a growth in employment. This implication is that with rising population. The greatest challenge in the coming years will be to provide employment opportunities for a growing labour force.

The districts which are economically better off will also perform well in human development and are the top of the economic progress.

A positive difference between HDI and GDI ranks indicate that it performs relatively better on gender equality than on average achievement alone. Further, refinements have also been tried in terms of rural urban disparity, regional disparity, ethnic disparity etc. The denial of power can also be looked as a denial of fundamental human rights.

To promote social progress and raise the standard of living within the wider concept of freedom - International Human Rights Law as enshrined in the UN chapter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other treaties and declarations - recognised economic and social rights with the aim of equality between the sexes in terms of social, economic, political, psychological, environmental and educational aspects.

The object of achieving equal rights, responsibilities, opportunities and participation for men and women in political, civic, economic, social and cultural life with the full enjoyment by women and the girl child of the human rights and fundamental freedoms was the platform of action adopted at the 4th World Conference on women at Beijing.

5.5 RELATIONSHIP WITH GENDER EQUITY, GENDER EMPOWERMENT AND PROFILE

5.5.1 Relationship analysis of Gender Equity with profile

5.5.1.1 Influence of the indicators of Gender Equity with Gender Equity Index

The correlation analysis presented in Table 68 revealed that all the five indicators were positively and significantly related to Gender Equity Index at one per cent level of significance. The degree of relationship was maximum in the case of employment, education, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources.

Employment was observed as the most important indicator of Gender Empowerment with highest correlation coefficient value ($r=0.969$). Better employment opportunities tend to make an individual more economically independent. This is crucial in achieving women's empowerment, which is central for achieving sustainable development. Access to employment results in increasing the income levels. Increased income and income earning capacity improves family living standard, enhance the family's social status, raise the age of marriage, reduce the pressure on women's health and time, thus leading to high equity. Higher income levels will also enable one to have more control on income and also to negotiate improvements in their well-being. Therefore, the GEI was largely influenced by employment.

The next was "Education", which has shown significant relationship. Access to education is the most powerful tool to equip women for effective interaction with the social service and productive dimensions of the outside world. Education is of pivotal importance not only because it enables one to become economically independent but through it, one can acquire the self confidence necessary to affirm their dignity and human rights. This not only helps to seek paid employment, but also in bringing about a revolutionary change in the place of work. *This always emphasized as the most significant instrument for changing subjugated position of the individual in the society. With higher levels of educational qualifications, an individual will have more chances of obtaining wider*

55 *RELATIONSHIP WITH GENDER EQUITY, GENDER EMPOWERMENT AND PROFILE*

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knowledge and awareness, and well thus have higher levels of confidence in all way of life. Hence, an individuals empowerment level will tend to increase. Education is an important factor for achieving gender equity and thus it significantly influence Gender Equity Index.

Health and nutrition also significantly influenced Gender Equity Index. Access to health services is a function of both of the resources at the overall disposal of a society or community, as well as its distribution across social groups and individuals. Importance of good health can never be over-emphasized. To be active, productive and have a reasonable standard of living good health is mandatory. Quality of health is an important determinant of social development. An investment in health is an investment in human resource development on which depends the national development. Women's health and education has an impact on their child bearing decisions. It leads to improvement in their children's health and services, increases their own income earning capacity and employment opportunities, eventually reducing inequality. Thus thjs, indicator showed significant positive effect on Gender Equity Index.

Similarly, time contributed significantly with GEI. Rural women play an important role in rural economy of the country. They participate with men in day-to-day routine as well as in seasonal operations pertaining to agriculture and livestock raising along with domestic work. Time is an important part of the total pattern of living. Higher is the time spent doing the household with, lesser is the time available for women to take rest. Thus the burden of the household reduces, the time of the disposal of women to use according to their choice. The more they are provided with leisure time higher is their ability to participate in economic activities. Thus, time is one other major determinant of GEI.

Another significant indicator of Gender Empowerment was access and control over resources. Power itself can be simply described as control over resources (Physical, human, intellectual and self) and control over ideology (ability to determine, belief, values, attitudes, confidence and ways of thinking and perceiving situations. Powerlessness is because on not having control over any of these resources. This in turn is result of economic position. Higher access and control over resources tends to reduce inequity among women and men.

Therefore, access and control over resources was found to contribute significantly to GEI.

5.5.1.2 Influence of profile with gender equity of the respondents

The findings indicated that except for farm size and discrimination against the female child all the fifteen variables were found to be significant. While family size and perception of drudgery were found to be negatively significant at one per cent level. Social mobilization was the only variable which was significant at five per cent level (Table 69).

The most important variable was found to be educational status owing to its highest significant correlation coefficient ($r=0.753$). Education is an important pre-requisite for attainment of gender equity. There is a general consensus that gender equity in education will result in higher female labour participation rates, greater output and productivity a gradual drop in the fertility rate, an increase in income opportunities, and drop in the proportion of people living in poverty. Thus it can be concluded that the educational status has direct impact on Gender Equity. Thereby, better educational status leading to better equity.

The next most important variable that showed positive significant relationship was access to basic facilities. There is every chance that for an individual's access to basic facilities will enhance utilization of the resources to the maximum extent. The individuals ability to make use of the available resources will improve knowledge. This in turn may improve the educational status, employment opportunities, utilization of health services thus leading to higher equity.

The next important variable was income. Income directly contributes to gender equity. The individuals with higher income can possess better education. Thereby increasing the employment opportunities. On the other hand higher literacy will lead to better utilization of the health services and also have control on access and control over the resources. Higher income therefore will increase the access to education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources which are most important in achieving gender equity.

The next most important variable was mass media exposure. Communication media and development are major domains of human pursuits which are intimately interrelated. Communication prompted development is long lasting, more meaningful and is readily acceptable. Media in the modern world are a force to reckon with. Electronic media namely radio and television are most effective means of communication and people love to hear and watch them. Electronic media carries more immediate weights on focusing attention on various issues, it is the print media are assuming an increasingly important role in various spheres of human life. This media of communication possess the potential to convey information quickly and promptly with high fidelity. Exposure to various media thereby increases individuals awareness on various issues and keeps them informed.

The next important significant variable was managerial abilities. Management is defined as art of things done by people. Good managerial abilities are result of good planning, organizing, communicating, controlling, coordinating and supervising of the activities. Therefore, with increase in the management skills and individual tend to have planned schedule which in turn will provide more leisure time. Thus, enabling them to participate in other developmental and income general activities. This would help them to increase their income levels which is one of the means of achieving equity.

The variables, income generating capability, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation followed in their positive significance with the dependent variable. Income generating capability reflects individuals ability to make use of the resources to maximize their income. The income generating capability thereby shows individuals interest in taking up income generating activities to increase their income. High income paves way for attaining good education, which in the prime factor of obtaining gender equity. Therefore, it can be said that individuals with high income generating capability might have lead to better equity. Self orientation is individuals confidence in developing themselves. The ability of the individual to realize their own capabilities will provide confidence and makes them feel superior over others. Therefore higher the self orientation better the equity among the respondents was observed.

The respondents who had better extension contacts were those who were mentally mobilized by extension agencies to act upon their needs and achieve them. The need for exposition includes in education and every individual the tendency to demonstrate the available information and skills in front of others. These needs are matured by participation in extension activities such as meetings, melas, exhibitions and fairs which might result in increased gender equity.

The next most significant variables were economic status and marital status. Economic status indicates the respondents occupation before and after marriage and the additional occupations the family posses. It is quite obvious the higher the economic status high is the income. Individuals with high income always have better access to education, health, employment, time and control over resources which, in turn paves the way to gender equity.

The results reveal that, the respondents who were not married young and who had greater freedom in selecting their partner had better gender equity. This might be due to the reason that those with higher marital status scores had more personal autonomy compared with others and also better understanding among the couples. Thereby, possessing high gender equity.

Perception of drudgery and family size were found to be negatively significant at one per cent level. This indicates that with increase in drudgery the decrease in gender equity was observed. The possible reason might be that, with increased work load, the individuals often find it difficult to attend other activities. Thereby reducing their participation in other income generating activities. This in turn resulting in lower income restricting their access even to the basic facilities. It was also clear that with increase in family size there was decrease in Gender Equity. The attain gender Equity, it is essential to have access to education. With increase in number of individuals in the family it is difficult to provide education to everyone. In such cases generally girls are neglected in the family and they are more involved in domestic chores. Moreover, many a times, to support the family economically boys are also made to work thereby reducing their access to schools. Therefore, larger the family size lower was the gender equity observed.

5.5.1.3 Influence of profile with indicators of Gender Equity

This relation analysis was presented in Table 70 and discussed indicator wise:

It could be noted from the Table 70 that the most significant variables influencing 'Education' were managerial abilities, access to basic facilities, educational status, marital status, income, mass media exposure, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, income generating capability, economic productivity and economic status. Perception of drudgery and family size were found to be negatively significant at one per cent level. The respondents who had better managerial skills could plan and organize the things in an effective manner and utilize the time for the other activities. Access to basic facilities is the minimum requirement for an individual to use the available services in the villages. It is always assumed that educated individual always enjoys higher status in the society. Individual getting married late are always more matured and have better understanding than those getting married young. Income is solely responsible for providing good education. Higher income groups in the society will always tend to possess higher education, mass media exposure is the most important in educating the people reaching them quicker and makes them more conscious of the recent issues. Individuals who have confidence in themselves will always aim higher and attain respectable positions. Extension contacts and participation are the tools which make people aware, increase their participation and improve the knowledge necessary for their livelihood. Income generating capability, economic productivity and economic status are linked to the economic aspects. The higher scores on these variables indicate that the individuals possess higher income. Thus it can be concluded all these variables contribute directly to increase in education.

Regarding employment, the most significant variable was educational status, followed by income, access to basic facilities and mass media exposure. It is very much true that increase in educational status, will enable the individuals to utilize the qualification to attain employment. Which in turn will lead to economic independence. Higher income is nothing but result of gainful employment. Therefore the results indicate that, the higher the income better were their employment opportunities. Both are interlinked. Increase in one will definitely

tend to increase in the other aspect. Access to basic facilities is again linked to high income. The individuals with high income groups will have better access to the major resources. Access to the basic facilities cannot be denied for the higher income groups. Since, it is quite natural for them to have better access to all the basic facilities compared to the lower income groups. Mass media exposure is one of the most important variables influencing the individuals. The individuals with better exposure will gain knowledge on the various developmental programmes and income generating activities. All these encourage the individual in gainful employment.

Health and nutrition also had maximum significant relationship with access to basic facilities, followed by educational status, income and mass media exposure. This was justifiable because access to basic facilities includes individuals' access to health centers, affordable transport, drinking water facilities, sanitation, electricity etc. The more their access is to these basic facilities the better is the health and nutritional status of the individual. Education directly impacts health through its influence on demographic variables. Education also equips women to better resist pressures from the patriarchal family. Together these capabilities would have an important impact on health status by affording better access to resources and information to avoid health risks, to recognize health needs and seek health services.

Income is determined by economic factors which enables the individuals to meet the costs of health care. In general with increase in income the literacy levels also improve and thus in turn will enable the individual to have better understanding of the importance of adequate nutrition and purchase more foods, irrespective of their costs. The other thing is that the families with high income levels have better purchasing power, accessibility and availability to variety of foods. And can buy good quality foods, which the poor families cannot afford due to limited resources. The results in Table 70 reveal that high mass media exposure of the individuals lead to better health and nutrition. This indicates that the individuals who had better exposure to various media like news paper, radio and television might have gained knowledge on importance of availing of health services, health campaigns and immunization etc. Mass media also helps promoting nutrition education and creates awareness about cheap and best sources of

nutrient rich foods and ways to conserve and preserve the foods. It also educates the individual on nutrition activities including growth and monitoring of the children and thus help in preventing malnutrition among children. Therefore, good health and nutritional status of the individual can be attributed to better exposure to mass media.

With regard to time, the most significant variables were marital status, followed by managerial abilities, economic productivity and self orientation. Marital status had shown positive significant relationship with time, due to the fact that respondents getting married early are generally immatured and may not be easy for them to manage the things. Thereby restricting their access to time. Managerial abilities has direct influence on time. This might be due to the reason that, the individual can plan and organize, their routine activities in a proper way can have ample leisure time from their routine work. This will in turn enable the individual to participate in other activities especially income generating activities to increase their income levels. Higher income is the gateway to attain access to various gainful resources. With more access to time, individuals ability to make use of the available resources tend to increase. This helps to increase self confidence and self orientation. Economic productivity had shown positive significant positive relationship women perform the dual role of productive and reproductive most of the contribution goes unrecognized. Where the families have recognized the contribution of women, their access to time was found to be better.

Access and control over resources was influenced by self orientation followed by access to basic facilities, mass media exposure and extension participation. Developing confidence among themselves is one way of gaining power. Where there is increased confidence among the individuals will increase their power to have control over the resources. The results reveal that the individuals who had increased access to basic facilities had more access and control over resources. Their improved access and control might be due to their ability to avail the services of the basic facilities that are near by. Mass media exposure serves as an important vehicle for the individuals to recognize and exercise control over the resources. Therefore, who had better exposure will tend to have improved access and control over the resources.

5.5.1.4 Regression analysis

5.5.1.4.1 Multiple linear regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Equity

The evidence provided by Table 71 was that all the variables under study put together explained about 94.50 variation in Gender Equity among the members. The unexplained variation (5.50%) might be contributed by the variables which were not included in the study.

Educational status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability and self orientation were the most important factor in explaining the variation in gender equity as they showed high positive significance. The indicators of gender equity were education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources. All these indicators constitute gender equity index. Educational status can be a direct factor influencing these indicators directly. i.e., better education status implies better access of the respondents toward education, employment, health and nutrition. While it can be said that respondents with better income will definitely have better access towards these indicators. They can afford for better education which in turn will help to attain gainful employment. Whereas, respondents with better income can definitely afford for better health services when compared to the low income groups. Better managerial abilities, high income generating capability all these show individuals motivation to acquire the best once and aim higher. Therefore, these five variables significantly influenced the variation in gender equity.

The variables that showed negative but significant relationship with the dependent variable were family size, economic status, social participation, social mobilization, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure, and perception of drudgery. While, the rest of the variables showed no significant values. All these variables indicate that individuals participation, mobilization, extension contacts and exposure to mass media enable them to attain gender equity.

5.5.1.4.2 Step-down regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Equity

In order to have a simpler model in which there are lesser number of predictors in explaining the relationship of the independent variables jointly on gender equity, the step down regression analysis was done.

This analysis was done in three steps. Initially all the eighteen variables were included in the analysis. All the variables were found to contribute significantly in the first stage. Variables having high probability values were eliminated and finally step down regression analysis was done with the thirteen significant variables namely educational status, marital status, family size, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social mobilization, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure, perception of drudgery and access basic facilities.

The co-efficient of determination (R^2) was found to be (0.955) which indicated (95.50) per cent variation in the gender equity could be explained significantly by these 13 variables. This was justifying because all the thirteen variables showed high significance in their relationship with gender equity index. The results of this analysis is presented in Table 72.

5.5.1.4.3 Multiple regression analysis of selected factors with indicators of Gender Equity

The joint influence of all the selected independent variables on each indicator of gender equity index was established by regression analysis and the findings were furnished separately in Table 73. The discussion pertaining to this aspect are presented here indicator wise, in the same pattern as the results.

Education: All the selected variables together explained the variation in education of the respondents to the extent of 51.70 per cent. While all the variables together contributed significantly to the variation in education of the respondents ($F=15.985$), the variables that significantly influenced the variation were economic status, income generating capability and extension participation (Table 73).

The regression coefficients of these variables indicated that one unit change in economic status, income generating capability and extension

participation would effect -0.076, 0.074 and -0.0125 unit change respectively in the education of the respondent.

Employment: The explained variation in employment together by all the variables was to 88.60 as indicated in Table 73. About 12 per cent unexplained variation might have been due to the variables not included in the study. Significant F value (115.839) indicated that all the variables together contributed significantly to the variation in employment.

Educational status, family size, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and perception of drudgery were the most important factors in explaining variation indicating that one unit change in these variables would effect 1.864, -0.0161, -0.0706, 0.054, 0.562, 1.114, -0.929, -0.324, -and -0.373 unit change respectively in employment.

Health and nutrition: The significant F value (16.978) envisaged that all the variables put together significantly contributed to the variation in Health and Nutrition. The explained variation was to the extent of 52.40 per cent (Table 73).

The most significant variables in explaining the variation were income generating capability, social mobilization and extension participation. Unit change in these variable would effect 0.210, -0.148, and -0.285 unit change in the Health and Nutrition among the respondents.

Time: The eighteen selected variables together explained the variation in time among the respondents to the extent 87.70 per cent. The F value (106.524) was significant indicating that all the variables together contributed to the variation in time among the members.

The most significant variables explaining the variation were marital status, economic status, income generating capacity, social participation, social mobilization and self orientation. Mass media exposure, perception of drudgery and access to basic facilities, a unit change in which would effect 0.007, -0.020, 0.017, -0.017, -0.026, 0.040, 0.009, 0.022 and -0.021 unit change respectively in the time among the respondents (Table 73).

Access and control over resources: The explained variation in the indicator by all the selected variables together was to the extent of 74.71 per cent as indicated in Table 73. Nearly twenty six per cent of the unexplained variation might have been due to the variables not included in the study. Significant 'F' (74.71) indicated that all the variables together contributed significantly to the variation in access and control over resources.

Extension contact and perception of drudgery were the most important factors with regression coefficient indicating that one unit change in them would effect 0.107 and -0.037 unit in the variation in access and control over resources.

5.5.1.4.4 Predicting the influence of selected factors on indicators of Gender Equity

Step-down regression analysis explains the lesser number of predictors in explaining the relationship of the independent variables jointly on gender equity. Step-sown regression for each indicator of gender equity was carried out separately and the findings were furnished in Table 74.

Education: After eliminating the variables with high probability, the variables namely family size, economic status, economic productivity, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social mobilization, perception of drudgery and access to basic facilities were the significantly contributing variables in the step down regression analysis.

The coefficient of determination (R^2) was found to be 0.503 which indicated that 50.30 per cent variation in the education could be significantly explained by these eight variables. All the variables except economic productivity thus justifying this. Table 74 indicates the results on this.

Employment: Educational status, family size, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability social mobilization, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure, and perception of drudgery were the variables which contributed significantly in step down regression. All these variables justified thus showing significant relations. The variation explained by all these variables was 88.40 per cent and the coefficient of determination (R^2) was 0.884.

Health and nutrition: The variables which contributed significantly in the step-down regression analysis of Health and Nutrition were income generating capability, social mobilization, extension participation, mass media exposure, access to basic facilities. The coefficient of determination (R^2) was 0.506 explaining 50.60 per cent variation. This could be explained by these five significantly contributing variables.

Time: Ten variables namely marital status, economic status, economic productivity, income generating capability, social participation, social mobilization, self orientation, mass media exposure, perception of drudgery and access to basic facilities were found to contribute significantly. All the variables except economic productivity were significant justifying 87.40 per cent variation in time with coefficient of determination (R^2) value of 0.874.

Access and control over resources: Social mobilization, self orientation, mass media exposure and perception of drudgery were the significantly contributing variables in the step down regression analysis. The coefficient of determination (R^2) value was found to be 0.321. Which indicates 32.10 per cent variation in the access and control over resources could be significantly explained by these variables. This was justified because all the four variables contributed significantly.

5.5.2 Relationship analysis of Gender Empowerment with profile

5.5.2.1 Influence of indicators of Gender Empowerment with Gender Empowerment Index

The degree of relationship was maximum in case of legal empowerment followed by political empowerment, economic empowerment, social empowerment and decision making (Table 78).

The most important indicator with highest correlation coefficient was legal empowerment ($r=0.866$). Different laws have been designed to improve and protect the economic, political and social positions of women from time to time. However, no amount of legislation would improve the position of women. One of the reasons lack of knowledge and unfavourable attitude towards these legislations. Only government efforts are not sufficient to produce desirable effect

on the society. Effective and meaningful functioning of all legislative, protection acts depends on active involvement, contribution and participation of its citizens both males and females. Positive attitude towards equality is essential to attain empowerment and in turn checks the process too. Therefore legal empowerment was found to contribute significantly to GEMI.

Political empowerment was observed as the next most important indicator of GEMI with correlation coefficient value ($r=0.564$). Though major changes have occurred in the status of women, norms still restrict women and they exclude political life, which by its very nature, takes place in a public forum. Women's participation in political life is fairly limited. Low participation is also a result of socialization process. Moreover women do not think political participation is necessary. Higher participation indicates involvement in local bodies for better utilization of local resources. For their balanced and rational utilization, plan and implement the need based programmes and manage or generate additional resources according to their needs and priorities. This act is extremely important for political empowerment. Political empowerment, helps in realizing the developmental goals which in turn would lead to high gender empowerment.

The next important indicator was economic empowerment. Wealth and well being of the nation can be achieved by enhancing, women's economic empowerment. With greater economic power women can gain more equality and control over their lives, contribute directly to children's capital (nutrition, health and education and indirectly to the nations income growth), directly to the wealth and well being of the nation and also can have more say in household decision making. Therefore, enhanced female economic power is proposed as the prime factor in reducing gender inequity thereby leading to high empowerment. Thus, economic empowerment is one of the major determinant of GEMI.

The next indicator that followed economic empowerment was social empowerment. Social empowerment is generally linked to mobility and relative freedom from domination within the family. Traditional norms and values largely regulate a rural women's life. Freedom of movement is linked to the issue of honour and shame of males. The norm of shame and honour is only one inhibition of female freedom and mobility. Another equally forceful depressant is the notion

of obedience of wife. Exposure to the outside world, more voice in the family life tend to provide more freedom of movement and high social empowerment. Higher social empowerment provides women's access to independent income, and increases the consumption of leisure. Social empowerment has high influence on Gender Empowerment. Thus, this was found to contribute significantly to GEMI

The last dimension in the order of its importance to contribute to GEMI was decision making. Women do generally have limited authority in taking economic area. They are more involved in routine decisions, than those in major purchases. Decision making is more oftenly linked to education, type of family and occupation. Educated women enjoy higher status in the family than uneducated women. Type of family also influences, decision making power. In joint / extended families there is greater possibilities of decisions to be taken by the older people on the family. Besides this, income is usually shared among individuals along with day to day restrictions in the day to day. But on the other hand, a joint family eases the work pursue on women, that enables them to devote time for enhancing the skills, leading to more empowerment. It directly indicates the women who have major say in decision making in the home farm aspects are empowered in many ways. Thus, decision making is another major determinant of GEMI.

5.5.2.2 Influence of profile with Gender Empowerment of the respondents

As per the findings, all the variables except marital status, discrimination against female child, economic productivity, and perception of drudgery were found to be significant. While family size was the only negatively significant variable. The results were presented in Table 75.

The most important variable was found to be income with highest correlation coefficient ($r=0.945$). Higher income increases the exposure of the individual to new sets of ideas, values and social support and make them more assertive of their right. Moreover individuals with high income levels can avail higher education leading to empowerment.

The next important variable influencing gender empowerment was access to basic facilities. This indicates that with increase in access to basic

facilities there was increase in gender empowerment. Improved access to the individuals towards basic facilities shows how effectively the resources have been utilized by the individuals. Making effective use of the available resources improves educational and income levels leading to high empowerment.

Educational status was the most important significant variable. Empowerment includes cognitive and psychological elements, such as understanding of one's own condition of subordinate and the causes of such conditions. This requires an understanding the self and the social expectations, which may be enabled by education. Hence education was found to be positively linked to empowerment.

The next important variable was income generating capability showing positive significance. The individuals with higher income generating capability do generally have high motivation and will have a desire to do things rapidly and or as well as possible. This leads to do one's best, to be successful and to strive for a particular goal. People with high income generating capability were known to seek high degree of responsibility, set challenging and realistic goals, work with concrete feedback, search for opportunities and expertise their work.

Mass media exposure was the next most significantly contributing variable. This shows that the individuals who had good exposure had high empowerment. This was only because of exposure to various literatures, TV, radio, news paper etc. which helps in creating awareness on social, economic, political and legal issues. The more the people are aware of those, the better they are empowerment. Thus, mass media exposure serve as an important vehicle in empowering the individuals.

The next most significantly influencing variables were income generating capability and economic status. Income generating capability is the ability of the individual to take up income generating activities. This shows interest in itself to improve their income level. With increased income levels one can have more control over income and the family, increases self-confidences, voice and vote in household decisions in domestic well-being decisions. All these will in turn empower the individual in various, social, economic, political and legal planes. Individuals with high economic status tend to have good income levels



which would in turn provide higher education. Education is the basis for empowerment. Thus the findings indicate that individuals with high economic status were highly empowered.

Social participation, extension contact, self orientation were the next most significantly contributing variables. Higher the social participation high was the empowerment among the respondents as the results indicate. This can be attributed to high involvement of the individuals in the village organization like Panchayats, school organizations, mahila mandals etc. and also their increased participation in their organization. Thus providing greater exposure to the social environment might have resulted in high empowerment. High extension contact of the individual with village extension officers, agriculture officials, scientists and voluntary organizations resulted in high empowerment. Self orientation is having faith in their abilities. Higher the self orientation high was the empowerment.

The other significantly contributing variables were social mobilization, extension participation, managerial abilities and farm size. Social mobilization, activities issues of gender equality, empowerment, upliftment of the rural women, importance of economic independence. Individuals positive opinion on these aspects indicate high social mobilization. Empowerment is a process that helps and assists one to realize their identity, capacity, capability, strengths and power and its application in day to day life in various spheres. Thus, individuals with high social mobilization tend to show high empowerment. The frequent participation of the respondents in various activities enables individuals awareness on issues of equality and empowerment. Therefore individuals whose participation was found to be high showed high empowerment levels. The significant relationship of managerial abilities with regard to empowerment is result of good planning, organizing, supervising, communication, co-ordination and controlling the activities either farm or home more effectively. Farm size had shown, significant relationship. This is because farm size has its direct impact on having high income levels which enables one to have better education. Education enables one to use the skill and knowledge to obtain entitlements and this is one of the means of gender empowerment.

Family size was the only negatively significant variable. This indicates that with increase in family size, there was decrease in gender empowerment with increase in the family size, the decision-making ability for women and men decreases and does not provide equal power. Decision making ability being one of the important indicator of empowerment, thus, with increase in family size, gender empowerment was found to be diminish.

5.5.2.3 Influence of profile with indicators of Gender Empowerment

Table 77 represents, relation analysis of profile with indicators of Gender Empowerment.

It could be observed from the Table 77 that, the most significant variable with regard to decision making were self orientation followed by extension contact, social participation and social mobilization. Self confidence is nothing but individuals confidence in developing themselves. One who has confidence in their abilities will try to possess better education. Higher educated women can therefore enjoy higher status in the family and thus open's avenues of knowledge and develop a courage to take more decisions. Higher extension contacts inculcates more decision making abilities. Kotecha (1985) also found significant association between extension contact and decision making. Social participation enables individuals contacts outside the system, have more mass media exposure and better extension contacts thus influencing the decision making. Social mobilization represents issues addressing women's empowerment thus the individuals having a favourable opinion on women's empowerment had high decision making ability.

Regarding social empowerment, the most significant variable was income generating capability followed by social mobilization, extension contact, and educational status. High income generating capability indicates high interest of the individual to have independent income. Independent income enhances to have more say in household decisions and thereby they can spend on the children for their education and health. This is a positive sign of empowerment with increased social mobilization individuals tend to show high empowerment. Mobility of women within and outside the household has major effect on social empowerment. The more is the mobilization, high was the empowerment

observed. Higher extension contacts indicates high exposure to the social environment. Thereby indicating less restrictions on women's mobility. High extension contact therefore resulted in high empowerment. One of the main means for gender empowerment is education to women so that they can utilize their qualification to gain employment which in turn will lead to social independence. High educational status therefore shows high social empowerment.

Economic empowerment had shown positive and high significance with the following variables, educational status and access to basic facilities. All these are interlinked. Education enables an individual to take up gainful employment. Which in turn provides good income, enhances income generating capability and all these would in turn will provide the individuals to have better access to basic facilities. With greater economic power, women gain more say in household decisions and tend to promote and spend their own money disproportionately on the nutrition, health and education of children. Therefore, with increase in these variables economic empowerment was found to be high.

Political empowerment had shown maximum significant relationship with educational status, income, access to basic facilities and income generating capability educated persons can better participate in various decision making bodies and policies. Higher the educational status, high was the political empowerment. Higher income levels could help individual to invest in political campaigns and various other aspects. Thereby, individual with high income levels showed high political empowerment. Access to basic facilities is one way of improving the standard of living. With good access to basic facilities respondents tend to have high empowerment. Recognition of one's own ability to have their own income will thereby increase decision making ability within and outside the household. This might be one of the reason for increase in political empowerment with increase in income generating capability.

The maximum positive significant relationship was observed with income, educational status, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities. Income and educational status has direct impact on political empowerment. Better education always leads to have high income. The educated individuals can be better aware of the various legal issues when compared to the uneducated people.

This in turn would also help them to have fairly enough knowledge and positive opinions on the benefits and outcomes of the legal acts. Therefore with increase in educational status and income the respondents tend to show high legal empowerments. Mass media plays an important role in educating the people at large, regarding necessity and advantage of indicating one into politics. Moreover it is also helpful in creating awareness on the legal issues and atrocities against women and reaches the people in quick time. Therefore with increased mass media exposure respondents tend to show high political empowerment with increase for access to basic facilities respondents had shown.

Regarding legal empowerment income, educational status, access to basic facilities and mass media exposure had shown significant and positive relationship. Higher education status, income and mass media exposure are the basic means which would create awareness on various legal enactments. Higher income level and result of better literacy levels because education enables an individual to obtain better opportunities in employment which in turn leads to high income. Literate people can be better aware of the media networks and thus can have better exposure towards various media which will therefore improve their knowledge and help to have favourable opinion of the legislative acts. Therefore, with increase in income, educational status and mass media exposure increased legal empowerment was observed.

5.5.2.4 Regression analysis

5.5.2.4.1 Multiple linear regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Empowerment

The variables selected for the present study put together explained about 97.90 per cent variation in Gender Empowerment as presented in the Table 79 indicates. The unexplained variation 2.10 might be due to the variable which didn't contribute.

Educational status, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social mobilization, self orientation and access to basic facilities were the most important factor in explaining the variation in Gender Empowerment as they showed high positive significance. The respondents

who had better economic status do generally have better income. Efficient managerial abilities of the individual has direct effect on how an individual organizes the activities, make use of the available resource and makes time to participate in various activities other than the routine. Generally, the rural women and men get very little time to participate in developmental / entrepreneurial activities. Effective management definitely gives scope for participation. Individuals attitude to have their own income in other area which empowers them economically. Mobilization creates awareness which in turns makes one to empower themselves. It is very important for one to be self oriented to get empowered either socially or economically. All these factors contribute directly to Gender Empowerment therefore, the respondents having better economic status, high income, efficient managerial abilities, good income generating capability high social mobilization and self orientation were tend be highly empowerment there by showing high positive significance. One of the main means for gender empowerment is education, so that one can utilize their qualifications to gain employment, which in turn will lead to economic independence.

The variables that showed negative but significant relationship with the dependent variable were marital status, family size, extension content, extension participation, mass media exposure and perception of drudgery while the rest of the variables showed no significant 't' values.

More over the persons getting married at elder age and hailing from nuclear and small sized families will have good decision making ability which leads to high empowerment. The need for exposition induces in each and every individual the tendency to demonstrate the available information and skills in front of others. These needs are matured by participation in extension activities such as meetings melas, exhibitions and fairs which might result in increased gender empowerment.

5.5.2.4.1 Step-down regression analysis of selected factors with Gender Empowerment

Step-sown regression is carried in order to have a simpler model in which there would be lesser number of predictor in explaining the relationship.

The analysis was done initially with all the eighteen variables and were included in the analysis. In the next stage the five significant variables viz., farm size, economic productivity, discrimination against female child, and mass media exposure were excluded based on their probability values and the analysis was repeated. Again in the next step, variables having high probability values were eliminated and finally step down regression was done with the 14 significant variables namely educational status, marital status, family size, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social participation, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contract, extension participation, perception of drudgery and access to basic facilities.

The coefficient of determination (R^2) was found to be 0.980, which indicated that 98.00 per cent variation in gender empowerment could be explained by these 14 variables. Except marital status, family size, extension contact, extension participation and perception of drudgery and social participation all the other variables showed high positive significance in these relationship with gender empowerment index. Table 78 indicates the results pertaining to this.

5.5.2.4.3 Multiple linear regression analysis of selected factors with indicators of Gender Empowerment

Regression analysis was done to assess the joint influence of all the selected independent variables on each indicator of gender empowerment and the findings were furnished separately in Table 79. Indicator wise, the discussion was presented.

Decision making: With regard to decision making, the significant 'F' value (6.332) indicated that all the variables put together significantly contributed to variation in decision making among the respondents. This explained variation was to the extent of 29.80 per cent (Table 79).

The significant variables in explaining the variation were educational status, economic productivity, and access to basic facilities. Unit change in these three variables would effect -0.534, -0.027 and 0.313 unit change in decision making among the respondents.

Social empowerment: All the selected independent variables together explained the variation in social empowerment among the members to the extent of 75.90 per cent while all the variables jointly contributed significantly to the variation in social empowerment ($F=46.954$). The variables that were most important and significant were economic status, income, extension participation and perception of drudgery as seen in the Table 79.

The regression coefficients indicated that one unit change in these variables would bring about 0.220, 0.063, -0.0431 and -0.003 unit change in the indicator social empowerment.

Economic empowerment: The explained variation in this indicator by the variables jointly was to the extent of 48.10 per cent as shown in Table 79. Significant 'F' value (13.876) indicated that all the variables together contributed significantly to the variation in economic empowerment.

Family size, income and extension contact and extension participation were the most important factor with regression coefficients indicating that unit change in these variables would effect -0.005, 0.032, -0.332 and -0.191 unit change respectively in the economic empowerment.

Political empowerment: Regarding this indicator, the significant 'F' calculated value (3.867) indicated all the variables together contributed significantly to the variation in political empowerment among the respondents. The explained variation was 20.60 per cent as indicated in Table 79. Educational status was the only significant variable in explaining the variation. One unit change of this would effect 0.275 unit change in political empowerment.

Legal empowerment: The significant 'F' value (5.754) envisaged that all the variables put together contributed significantly in variation to the extent of 27.80 per cent. The only significant 't' value was observed for managerial abilities. Unit change of this variable would effect 0.014 unit change in legal empowerment among the respondents.

5.5.2.4.4 Predicting the influence of selected factors on indicators of Gender Empowerment

Step down regression analysis was carried out to find the most significantly contributing variables thus eliminating the least contributing ones. The results were presented in Table 80.

Decision making: The variables which were found to contribute significantly after elimination of the variables with high probability were educational status, income, managerial abilities, self orientation, extension contact, perception of drudgery and access to basic facilities. These seven variables could explain variation of 28.30 per cent with decision making.

Social empowerment: The step down regression analysis carried out with regard to social empowerment revealed that the variation was 17.20 per cent by the significantly contributing variables. Educational status, income generating capability, extension contact, extension participation, and access to basic facilities were significant justifying this variation. The coefficient of determination (R^2) value was 0.172.

Economic empowerment: Variables namely educational status, economic productivity, managerial abilities, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact and access to basic facilities were the most significantly contributing variables in the step down regression analysis.

The coefficient of determination (R^2) value was 0.27 which indicates 27.00 per cent variation in economic empowerment. This was justified since all the seven variables were found to be significant.

Political empowerment: The variation shown by the significantly contributing variables viz., family size, income, income generating capability, extension contact and extension participation was 47.40 per cent. After elimination of the variables of high probability these were the five variables which had significant contribution. All the variables were found to be significant justifying their contribution.

Legal empowerment: Educational status, economic status, income, income generating capability, extension participation and perception of drudgery all could

explain variation in legal empowerment to the extent of 75.00 per cent. This was justified because all the six variables were significant.

5.6 FACTORS AFFECTING GENDER EQUITY AND GENDER EMPOWERMENT

5.6.1 Factors affecting Gender Equity indicators

5.6.1.1 Education related factors

Poverty, participation of the girls in the household economy, low educational aspiration among girls, skeptical attitudes towards the benefits and outcomes from educating girls and low parental interest and support for further schooling especially girls, were the factors affecting education. The poor the family is, the less likely are girls sent to school because their labour is required at home and in the fields. Extreme poverty in many countries tends to lock illiterate women into a cycle of early marriages and beginning up illiterates girls who continue the cycle of early marriages and illiterate children. Girls begin helping out at an early age with the household chores that burden them and these responsibilities increase as they grow older, resulting in decline in participation in education with increasing age.

5.6.1.2 Employment related factors

With regard to employment, performing domestic chores by women, differential remuneration rooted from gendered perceptions, women confined to less production sector of economy, low educational and illiteracy levels and stereotypical gender based attitudes and behaviours were the affecting factors. The general assumption is that household chores are the prime responsibility of women. Therefore, performing of domestic chores restricts women in taking up employment away from their homes. Further, it is difficult to perform dual responsibilities of looking household matters, taking care of their children and doing gainful job outside home. Differential remuneration which, where it exists, results not from stated policy but from established practice rooted on gendered perceptions regarding women's career and financial needs which are, in turn strengthened by gender-based socialization processes that leave many women unable or unwilling to negotiate better deals for themselves. Lack of institutional support to enable women to handle their reproductive and productive roles without

prejudice either, which also forces many women out of full-time employment. Stereotypical certain aspects of the work environment and certain conditions and conventions of work load to high rate of attention as many women opt out of full-time employment. Lack of year round employment and low wages and discrimination in wages also hinder women's access to employment.

5.6.1.3 Health and nutrition related factors

Lack of access to emergency care and referral system followed by lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet, limited resources restricting their access to health services and inability to pay for medical services were related factors affecting health and nutrition. In most of the villages, referral systems and transportation are the major problems. There is no physical access to services in rural areas, particularly during certain seasons, due to poor road condition, and lack of proper transport facilities. Rural women lack proper knowledge on nutrient rich foods because of their low literacy levels. Poverty and economic inequalities women's position in family and society, restrictions in physical mobility and social structures all these effect women's access to health services. The high costs not only of treatments, which may in fact be low or non-existent, but also of transport, drugs and other expenses such as lodging and food are the causes that are related to payment towards medical services. Cost and belief that women were not ill enough, cultural norms and preferences which may conflict with formal health services of requirements for privacy, modesty and attendance are also the main reasons for not seeking hospital care.

5.6.1.4 Time related factors

Regarding time, lack of knowledge on task organisation, lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden, lack of ability to assess the time required for given tasks and lack of knowledge about time saving techniques related to farm and home were the related factors. All the factors are outcome of unorganized planning which is due to poor literacy levels. The daily, periodic and seasonal time and activity patterns of rural women reflect the time management aspect and the interests, work habits and personal needs of the family. The time constraints rendered by rural women often results in their being unable to take advantage of other-income generating opportunities or expanding

the scale of their present activities. Such scaling up would entail increased time commitment which the women simply cannot afford.

5.6.1.5 Access and resource over control related factors

Lack of knowledge about how access is obtaining lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership, lack of control over loans, saving use and income, lack of control over income from other household productive activities and lack of access to resourced and market were reported as the factors affecting access and control over resources. Women do generally lack ownership of land. Moreover circumstances also prevents in exercising their control, even if they possess land. The major way which affects rural women's access is due to lack of control over productive resources necessary for their livelihood. Women's access to loans is limited, because of fear of borrowing and afraid of being in debt. Moreover it is difficult for women to obtain loans from the village money lenders due to their perception that men have greater capacity to repay the loans as they get wage work to repay the debt.

5.6.2 Factors affecting Gender Empowerment

The results pertaining to factors affecting indicators of Gender Empowerment were furnished in Table 83:-

5.6.2.1 Decision making related factors

The factors affecting decision making were male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions, less exposure to social environments, existing socio-economic status of women, women generally not consulted for major decisions and fear of marital break-up and social boycott etc. Though women contribute substantial amount of women labour in farm sector their participation in farm-related and economic aspects of family decisions making is still lower than the male heads of the family. Even in the area of important child-related decisions, the decision of women is not given due recognition (Punam Kumari, 2001). Traditional pattern of male dominated decisions making process still dominant in rural society. Till to-day the inferior positions of women is not replaced by equal positions due to the existing socio-economic status of women in

the society. Lower educational levels, type of family, occupation, less exposure to the outer environment all tend to affect decision making pattern of women.

5.6.2.2 Social empowerment related factors

Lack of socialization, lack of mobility of women within and outside their locality, as compared to men, non-permissive attitude towards women's freedom, lack of knowledge on women involved in local institutions and illiteracy, poverty and ignorance are the factors affecting social empowerment. Women are mostly required to live within the premises of their houses. Women do not interact with men other than their direct close family members, and as a result they have only limited access to development personnel. Lack of physical mobility, deprives women of getting better livelihood opportunities. Women's freedom and mobility considered as honour and shame by male members in the society. Therefore men folk do not want to provide complete freedom in majority of the cases.

5.6.2.3 Economic empowerment related factors

Regarding economic empowerment salary / wage differentials between men and women, male dominance on income and expenditure, low average household expenditure on education and health of women, inability to recognize women's contribution to socio-economic development as producers and workers. Although each state has fixed a minimum wage in agriculture, this is rarely implemented. Except during a few days of planting and harvesting, workers earn below the minimum wage. Secondly, through the Equal Remuneration Act was passed in 1976, even today women labour are paid less than men. Virtually nowhere we find equal wages being paid to men and women even for the same work. Many maintain that women's economic dependence on men impacts their power within the family. With increased participation in income-earning activities, not only will there be more income for the family, but gender inequity should be reduced. Women's employment in family farms on business is rarely recognized as economically productive, either by men or women. And, only income generated from this work is generally controlled by the man. Such work is unlikely to increase women's participation in allocating family finances. One of the most peculiar in India, that females do not contribute to family income. Throughout the world, women bear the 'invisible' burdens of unpaid work.

work and child bearing, the economic value of which is rarely reflected by official statistics. The poorer the family, the more vital the economic contribution that women and girls make, especially in the growing number of female headed households.

5.6.2.4 Political empowerment related factors

Husbands and elders do not permit, lack of knowledge on reservations, illiteracy, ignorance and poverty, lack of time and lack of equal opportunities in politics were the factors affecting political empowerment. Norms restrict women to participate in politics. Women do not think that entering political life would necessarily be advantageous for if they did, as autonomous actors they would participate. The lower level of participation is not only a consequence of resources that women possess but also a result of the place of women in the family. Women who can negotiate independent space for themselves within the household are more likely participants in political life. Many of them were not even aware of their new entitlements. Whether women know of the amendment or not was largely determined in their level of education, family income, whether they belonged to a "political family" i.e., someone in their family had partaken in electoral. Politics is still the domain of men. Women are not aware of their rights and buy into the dominant male social and political discourse and accept the dominant male ideology. Lack of cooperation of men hinders women's development (Pradeep Chhiber, 1999). All these in turn result in above discussed factors affecting political empowerment.

5.6.2.5 Legal empowerment related factors

With regard to legal empowerment lack of laws that ensure quick justice and punishment, lack of proper policies that aim to encourage changes in personal laws, mobility to enforce legal tradition and rights socio-cultural attitude towards women were the related factors affecting legal empowerment. Women in all the societies are not legally empowered to large extent. Various laws have been formulated to protect rights of women but women are not even aware of these laws and enactments. Even if they are aware majority do not favour. Social norms and values bind women in accepting these laws. Among the various laws, dowry prohibition act - despite every stigma, dowry continues to be the signature of

marriage. In case of divorce law, maintenance rights of women are very weak, and the laws protecting women's rights are not been adequately enforced. As a result the following factors found to affect legal empowerment.

The results furnished in Table 83 indicates, factors pertaining to gender empowerment.

5.7 STRATEGY TO STRENGTHEN GENDER EQUITY AND GENDER EMPOWERMENT IN THE RURAL COMMUNITY

Based on the findings, a strategy was developed as an action plan to be undertaken to strengthen each indicator of Gender Equity (education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources) and Gender Empowerment (decision making, social empowerment, economic empowerment, political empowerment and legal empowerment). Steps were proposed for strengthening each indicator to provide more equity and empowerment in the rural community and presented in results chapter.

Summary

Chapter VI

S U M M A R Y

Women rights are human rights and women have the right to fully utilize them in the society. Gender equality, empowerment and elimination of violence against women are cornerstones of development. Gender equality and empowerment are recognized as an end in themselves, and also an essential elements of sustainable development women's autonomy making roles must be enhanced, women should receive necessary support to meet their basic needs and exercise their basic rights and their economic development should be promoted. Women's autonomy includes several interdependent components such as knowledge or exposure to the outside world, autonomy making authority, or the extent to which the women have the autonomy concerning their own lives and well-being, they are free from the threat or abuse, and economic and social women's autonomy and self reliance, namely that women have access to and control over their own and their household's economy.

Rural women face not only poverty as measured by income, but also gender-based disparities in relation to their capability and well being as increased by social development indicators such as level of nutritional intake, educational attainment, health, infant and maternal mortality, life expectancy and fertility levels.

Women constitute the majority among the poor and the illiterates as gender biases reduce women's opportunities in education, skill-development, employment, asset ownership and participation in community affairs.

Every where the starting point is to empower women and men and to ensure their participation in decisions that affect their lives and enable them to build their strengths and assets. The economic assets of both women and men are meager, their social, political, environmental and personal assets as much importance for them.

Gender equality is essential for empowering women and for eradicating poverty. This robs women of the power of decision making both in the household and in the community. Gender equity is thus the starting point for the

empowerment. This implies removing all discrimination against girls starting from birth, in all aspects of survival, health, education and upbringing, empowering women by giving them equal rights and access to land, credit and job opportunities and taking appropriate action for ending all forms of violence and abuse against women. Empowering women eventually leads to the empowerment of a society, and to its transformation.

In the light of this, a study was planned to analyse gender equity and gender empowerment by identifying the indicators of gender equity and empowerment, studying the factors affecting equity and empowerment and finally developing a strategy to enhance equity and empowerment.

Keeping this in view the present study entitled, "Gender Equity and Empowerment in Rural Andhra Pradesh - A Critical Analysis" was conducted with the following objectives:

General Objective: To critically analyse the gender equity and empowerment among rural community, understand the factors affecting gender equity and empowerment and suggest suitable strategy for strengthening gender equity and gender empowerment in rural community.

Specific objectives

- ✓ To study the profile of selected women and men respondents.
- ✓ To assess gender equity and gender empowerment of women and men respondents.
- ✓ To assess gender development of the selected districts
- ✓ To unearth the relationship of profile of selected respondents on the gender equity and gender empowerment among women and men respondents.
- ✓ To identify the factors affecting gender equity and gender empowerment
- ✓ To develop a suitable strategy for strengthening the gender equity and gender empowerment in rural community.

Ex-post facto research design was used for conducting the study. Two districts viz., Adilabad and West Godavari, one from Telangana and Andhra regions

respectively based on the literacy levels were purposively chosen for the study. Three mandals namely Boath, Nirmal and Utnoor were selected from Adilabad district randomly. From West Godavari, Undi, Bhimavaram and Palakoderu were randomly selected. Two villages from each mandal were selected randomly from both the districts. The general information of the villages was collected. Women in the reproductive age (15-45 yr). were selected, and men respondents who were married selected for the purpose of the study. Twelve women and men from each village were randomly selected ($24 \times 12 = 288$). Thus a total of 288 respondents were selected (144 women and 144 men respondents) for the study.

Keeping in view the objectives set for the study, available literature was reviewed, experts were consulted and a draft schedule was prepared and pre-tested with 30 respondents outside the sample area. Suitable modifications were made and a final structured interview schedule was used to collect the required information. The independent variables selected for the study were measured by already developed inventions and developed schedules. The dependent variable 'Gender Equity' and "Gender Empowerment" were measured by developing a weighted index (Gender Equity Index and Gender Empowerment Index). To measure Gender Equity, five indicators were identified viz., education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources. The identified indicators of Gender Empowerment were decision making, social empowerment, economic empowerment, political empowerment and legal empowerment. The above indicators were measured using developed schedules. The score obtained by each respondent for each indicator were first made uniform and then multiplied by the corresponding weightages assigned to the indicators. These scores on all indicators were summated to give the Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment score of each respondent. The required information was collected from the respondents by personal interview method and the data were analysed using suitable statistical tools such as class intervals, frequencies, percentages, arithmetic mean, standard deviation, correlation coefficient, multiple regression analysis and step down regression analysis.

Findings of the study

Profile

Nearly, two third majority (61.11%) of women had no schooling and 40.97 per cent of men also fell in this category. Slightly above half (51.04%) of them had no schooling. Nearly three quarters (71.53%) of women and over half (53.47%) of men were married before the prescribed age. On the whole, majority (62.50%) got married before the prescribed age. Majority (58.33%) of women and men (39.58%) expressed low and medium choice in men (39.58%) expressed low and medium choice in selection of their partner. About 40.63 per cent low choice.

Women (50.49%) and men (40.97%) hailed from large families. While, below half (45.83%) of them were from large families.

A sizeable number i.e., 44.44 and 43.06 per cent of women and men respectively had medium economic status. On an average, of 43.75 per cent had medium economic status. The family income was less than the 25,000 among 34.72 per cent of women respondents. While 31.25 per cent of men had family income of Rs.25,000-50,000. Almost an equal per cent were in the income groups of less than Rs.25,000 and Rs.25,000 to 50,000. Among women (49.30%) and men (43.06%) reported women's economic productivity to be low. Nearly half (46.18%) of the respondents were in the low category.

A sizeable number i.e., 41.66 and 43.06 per cent of women and men fell in the medium category of discrimination against the female child. On the whole, 42.36 per cent of the respondents were in this category. Majority (62.50 and 60.42%) of women and men had low and medium managerial abilities respectively. While, 43.40 per cent of the respondents had medium managerial abilities. Almost half (49.30%) of women and slightly above half (51.39%) had medium and high income generating capability respectively. Less than half (46.88%) on the whole had medium income generating capability. Majority (58.33%) of women and men (59.72%) had low and medium social participation respectively. While, 44.79 per cent on an average had medium participation.

Nearly half (45.84%) of women had low social mobilization and above one third majority (38.89%) of men had medium social mobilization category. On the whole, an equal per cent i.e., 35.42 per cent were in low and medium.

Above half (52.09%) of women and nearly half (48.61%) of men fell in the low and medium self orientation categories respectively. Above one third majority (38.54%) had medium self orientation. Less than half (45.83%) of women had low extension contact and a sizeable (43.06%) of men had medium extension contact. Almost equal per cent i.e., 42.01 per cent of the respondents had medium extension contact.

Majority (59.72%) of women and just above half (52.08%) of men had low and high extension participation respectively. Above one third (37.15%) of respondents reported to have low extension participation. Half of women respondents had low mass media exposure and nearly half (48.61%) of men had medium exposure. While, a sizeable number (43.75%) had medium exposure to mass media. A vast majority (91.67%) of women perceived drudgery as high and majority (56.94%) of men as low and on the whole slightly above half (51.39%) of them perceived drudgery as high. Nearly half (47.22%) of women reported low access to basic facilities and majority (65.97%) of man had medium access. Whereas, over half (54.52%) of the respondents had medium access:

Gender Equity of the respondents

Nearly two third majority (64.58%) of women and just above half (52.78%) of men fell in low and medium categories of gender equity respectively. On an average a sizeable number i.e., 44.10 per cent were in the medium category. Over half (54.17%) of women were in low category of education and nearly half (47.22%) of men fell in the medium category. Almost equal per cent i.e., 40.63 and 40.28 per cent of the respondents were in low and medium categories respectively. An overwhelming majority (84.03%) of women and half (50.69%) of men were in low and high categories of employment respectively.

On the whole nearly half (46.18%) of the respondents fell in the low category of employment. Almost half (49.30%) of women and nearly half (47.22%) of men were low and high categories of health and nutrition, respectively. Among women 40.28 per cent had low access and control over the resources and nearly three quarters majority (72.92%) had high access. On the whole, nearly half (45.57%) of the respondents had high access and control over resources.

Mean difference regarding Gender Equity

The F-calculated value differed significantly at 1 per cent level with all the indicators of gender equity i.e., education, unemployment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources and also with gender equity index.

Content analysis of indicators of Gender Equity

Education: Just above one-fourth majority (27.71%) of women and a sizeable number (44.03%) of men reported to have access to education. While slightly above one third (35.87%) of the respondents had access to education on the whole. Overall data reveals the 43.68 and 40.14 per cent of women and men respectively had favourable opinion of women's education.

Employment: Above one-third majority (35.91%) of women and nearly three quarters (70.54%) of men, had access to employment on the whole. Overall results indicate that majority (62.00%) of women and 42.71 per cent of men had favourable opinion on women's employment.

Health and nutrition: On the whole, nearly half (46.97%) of women and half (50.89%) of men reported their access to health. Majority (69.44%) of women and a great majority of men availed the health services from PHC's. Over half (55.56%) of women and a vast majority (80.56%) of men preferred allopathy treatment when sick. Below one-fourth majority (22.92%) of women visited PHC for pre-natal and post-natal care. Almost same per cent, i.e., 22.22 of men reported that their wives visited PHCs for pre-natal and post natal care. Meagre per cent i.e., 5.56 per cent of women were shifted to hospital at the time of delivery. Only 6.94 per cent of men reported that their wives shifted to hospital at the time of delivery. Nearly half (47.79%) of women said that, deliveries were conducted by trained dais and almost equal per cent i.e., 47.76 per cent of men reported that trained dais conducted the deliveries of their wives.

On totality, it can be viewed that majority (61.57%) and a sizeable number (43.40%) of women and men respectively had positive opinion on women availing the health services. Food consumption pattern results indicate that, rice was consumed by women and men daily. The other foods which were consumed daily were jowar (27.0 & 36.81%), red gram dhal (90.97 & 81.94%), green gram dhal

(43.06 & 43.06%), black gram dhal (3.47%), vegetables (9.03 & 20.14%), milk (8.33 & 23.61%), and tea and coffee (39.58 & 48.61%) by women and men respectively.

A sizeable number (42.37%) of women and nearly three fourth majority (72.22%) of men were in the normal grade. Nearly half (45.83%) and majority (77.78%) of women and men, the per cent adequacy of calorie range was 70-80 and 90-90 respectively. On an average, above half (52.83%) of women, the range was 70-80, and men (65.28%) ranged between 80-90.

The mean calorie intake of women was 1841.65 K cal which met 75.94 per cent RDA and men (2031.81 Kcal) which met 83.79 per cent RDA. While the mean protein intake for women was 46.59 g and men (49.16 g) which met 77.64 and 81.93 per cent RDA respectively.

Time: On an average in both the study area 69.04 mandays were devoted, of which 38.77 mandays were devoted by men and the rest by women. On an average, 0.758 mandays were devoted in livestock activities of which 0.186 man days (24.54%) and 0.572 mandays (75.46%) were devoted by women and men respectively. The time devoted by women in household activities was 1.183 and 1.111 mandays in the study area of Adilabad and West Godavari respectively.

Access and control over resources: Over half (52.24%) of women and a vast majority (96.06%) reported to have control over the resources. On the whole, nearly three quarters (70.17%) of women and an overwhelming majority (85.99%) of men had access to the various resource. Of which, 44.27 per cent of women and a vast majority (93.00%) of men had control over these resources.

On the whole, nearly two third majority (63.89%) and 58.07 per cent of men had positive opinion on women having access and control over the resources.

Gender empowerment

Above half (52.08%) of women and a sizeable number (43.05%) of men were in the category of low gender empowerment. Below half (47.57%) of the respondents were in this category on the whole. A sizeable number i.e., 45.14 and 43.00 of women and men respectively were in medium category of decision making While, 44.09 per cent on the whole were in this category. Nearly half (46.53) of women and men (48.61%) fell in the low category of social empowerment. On an

average, less than half (45.57%) of the respondents were in the low category of social empowerment. Less than half (46.53 and 45.14%) of women and men respectively were in the low category of economic empowerment. On the whole, 45.03 per cent of the respondents fell in this category.

Over half (55.56%) of women and above one third majority (38.89%) of men were in low and medium categories of political empowerment respectively. Whereas, 45.14 per cent on the whole had low political empowerment. Just above half (52.08%) of women and a sizeable number (43.06%) of men had low legal empowerment. Nearly half (47.57%) of respondents were in the category of low legal empowerment.

Mean differences with regard to Gender Empowerment

F calculated value was found significant at 1 per cent level with all the indicators of gender empowerment (social, economic, political and legal empowerment) except for decision making which was significant at 5 per cent level. The significant difference was observed at 1 per cent level with Gender Empowerment Index.

Content Analysis of Indicators of Gender Empowerment

Decision making: Overall results indicate that nearly equal per cent i.e., 39.32 and 34.52 per cent of women and men respectively took decisions on all home-related aspects. While 26.16 per cent decisions were taken jointly. Majority (59.81%) of all farm related decisions were taken by followed by joint (27.06%) and women (13.13%). Nearly half (47.40%) of men took decisions related to money aspects followed by women (28.62%) and joint (23.98%) while women dominated in taking socio-religious decisions (45.89%). One third were taken by men and 20.34 per cent jointly.

Social empowerment: Almost one third majority (32.58%) of women were always socially empowered and 39.14 per cent sometimes and 28.78 per cent never. While, 31.75 per cent men reported that their wives were socially empowered always, sometimes (38.96%) and never (29.29%).

Economic empowerment: On an average only 22.97 and 22.22 per cent of women and men responses indicate women's economic empowerment as always. While,

sometimes (38.89 and 42.71%) and never (38.14 and 354.07%) by women and men respectively.

Political empowerment: On the whole, cent percent women and men were aware of the nationality. Majority were aware of popular leaders and political parties. Only 12.50 per cent of women and almost one fourth of men reported frequent participation in politics. A sizeable number (43.82% of women and 35.83% men had favourable opinion on women politics

Legal empowerment: Overall results indicate that 34.47 and 33.51 had favourable opinion on child marriage restraint act. Among women (38.73%) and men (43.21%) were in favour of divorce act. Almost an equal per cent i.e., 42.25 and 42.48 per cent of women and men favoured dowry prohibition act. Widow remarriage act was favoured by 24.10 and 30.07 per cent of women and men respectively. Majority (55.83%) of women had favourable opinion on right to property act and 39.72 per cent of men were also in favour of this.

Relationship between Gender Equity, Gender Empowerment and Profile

All the indicators of Gender Equity namely education, employment, health and nutrition, time and access and control over resources were found positively significant at 1 per cent level.

The most significantly influencing variables with gender equity were educational status, marital status, economic status, income, economic productivity, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social participation, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation mass media exposure and access to basic facilities.

The variables which had shown significant relationship with all the variables of gender equity were status, marital status, economic status, income, managerial abilities, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities.

The Multiple Linear Regression analysis revealed that the selected factors jointly explained 94.50 per cent variation in Gender Equity.

In step-down regression analysis the significantly contributing variables accounted 95.50 per cent variability in Gender Empowerment.

The multiple linear regression analysis of selected factors with indicators of gender equity reveal that, the selected factors jointly explained 51.70 per cent variation with education, employment (88.60 per cent variation), health and nutrition (52.40 per cent variation), time (87.70 per cent variation) and 33.30 per cent variation with access and control over resources.

Step down regression analysis of the indicators of Gender Equity with selected factors conclude that the significant contribution of variables with regard to education was (50.30%), employment (88.40%), health and nutrition (50.60%), time (87.40) and access and control over resources (32.10%). The F calculated value was significant at 1 per cent level.

The correlation analysis of Gender Equity with its indicators reveal that all the indicators were significant at 1 per cent level.

Educational status, economic status, income, managerial abilities, income generating capability, social participation, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure, and access to basic facilities were found to be significant in the correlation analysis of profile and GEM.

The correlation analysis of profile with indicators of Gender Empowerment indicate that educational status, economic status, income, income generating capability, social mobilization, self orientation, extension contact, extension participation, mass media exposure and access to basic facilities were the most significantly influencing variables.

The selected factors jointly explained 97.90 per cent variation in Gender Empowerment in the multiple linear regression analysis.

In the step-down regression analysis the R^2 value of the significantly contributing variables was 0.980 accounting to 98.80 per cent variability.

The multiple linear regression analysis of selected factors with indicators of gender empowerment level that, the R^2 value with regard to decision making was 0.298, social empowerment ($R^2=0.759$), economic empowerment ($R^2=0.481$), political empowerment ($R^2=0.206$) and legal empowerment ($R^2=0.278$). The 'F' value was found to be significant for the indicators.

In step down regression analysis, R^2 values for decision making, social, economic, political and legal empowerment were 0.283, 0.172, 0.270, 0.474 and 0.750 respectively indicating variation of 28.30, 17.20, 27.00, 47.40 and 75.00 per cent change. The F calculated value was significant for all the indicators at 1 per cent level.

Factors affecting gender equity and empowerment

Factors affecting gender equity

Education: The factors affecting education as reported by vast majority (88.89%) of the respondents was poverty, participation of girls in household economy (84.72%) and lower aspiration among girls compared to boys (84.03%).

Employment: Performing domestic chores by women (90.97%), women confined to less productive section of economy (90.62%) and differential remuneration (90.28%) were reported by the respondents as factors affecting employment.

Health and Nutrition: A vast majority is 93.06 and 90.97 per cent of the respondent expressed. Lack of access to emergency and referral care to health systems and lack of knowledge regarding balanced diet.

Time: Lack of knowledge in predicting the changes in the work burden (87.50%) and lack of ability to assess the time required for given taste (86.46%) were factors related to.

Access and control over resources: The factors affecting access and control over resources were lack of ability to distinguish use rights from ownership (84.37%), lack of knowledge how access is obtained (85.07%) and lack of control over loans, savings, use and income (82.64%).

Factors affecting the indicators of gender empowerment

Decision making pattern: The factors affecting were male domination doesn't allow women to take decisions (90.28%), less exposure to social environment (85.42%) and women not consulted for major decisions (85.07%).

Social empowerment: An overwhelming majority (93.05%) of the respondents reported lack of socialization and lack of mobility (85.75%) as the major affecting factors of social empowerment.

Economic empowerment: Salary / wage differentials between men and women (93.75%), male dominance on income and expenditure (89.24%) and low average household expenditure on education and health of women.

Political empowerment: Factors related to political empowerment as reported by the respondents were husbands and elders do not permit (93.75%) lack of knowledge on reservations (92.36%) and Illiteracy, ignorance and poverty (84.37%).

Legal empowerment: Lack of laws that ensure quick justice and punishment (94.79%) lack of knowledge on legal judicial systems which address women's need (90.28%) and lack of proper policies that aims to encourage changes in personal Laws (88.89%) were reported as the factors affecting legal empowerment.

Implications

- ❖ Majority of women were in the low category of education. Awareness need to be generated among the masses regarding the necessity of educating girls so as to prepare them to effectively contribute to the socio-economic development of the country, to strengthen their role in society and realize their own capacities. The media and various forms of communication have to be geared to this end. School timings should be flexible to suit local conditions and multi-entry system should be adopted.
- ❖ The study revealed that an overwhelming majority of women were in the low category of employment. It is important that women themselves should organize into self aware groups with economic focus so as to be able to recognize greater benefits for themselves. Labour laws especially, minimum wages and equal remuneration act should be strictly implemented in all states with a preference to women workers. Self-employment schemes, those promoted by micro-finance programmes should be encouraged and credit should be made easily available.
- ❖ Almost half of women were in the low category of health and nutrition. Since, rural health centres are the more accessible health services they should serve as both preventive and curative. Rural health centers need to function as rural health educational centers. The health centers have to 'reach out' to the rural population and educate them on holistic

perceptions of health, hygiene, sanitation and environmental protection. More sub-centres should be established in rural areas.

- ❖ The variety of foods consumed was limited to cereals and pulses. Increased productivity of protective foods such as vegetables, milk, fruit and fleshy foods and creating awareness about the importance of green leafy vegetables and other locally available foods will ensure better consumption. Nutrition education should be emphasized so as to create awareness about cheap and best sources of nutrient rich foods. This would elevate the rural community to major extent and improve their access to health and nutrition.
- ❖ For effective management of time, introduce low cost, farm and home technologies which would in turn save time and provide an opportunity for better participation in other income generating activities.
- ❖ The results indicate that, though women to some extent had access to resources their control over these resources was found to be limited. It is necessary to enhance the capacity building of women so as to exercise their rights in decision making power at all levels and in various spheres both within and outside the households. Moreover facilitating women's access to independent income and financial services, providing cohesive structures of support through solidarity groups, and promoting self-employment, all enhance women's status in the family and their control over family resources. A uniform civil code should be enforced to guarantee the control of women over land and other family resources.
- ❖ Substantial amount of women were engaged in farm sector but the decision making was found to be low in farm and home related aspects. Therefore, for enhancing their participation in decision making massive educational programmes should be launched for both the sexes. The male heads of families should also be given proper opportunities to participate in such educational programmes so that they could bring about changes in their attitudes in enabling women to enhance their decision-making power in farm, power and economic sectors.

- ❖ Social empowerment of women was viewed to be low among the respondents. Access to freedom and freedom of movement are the key factors associated with social empowerment. The rural women should be made aware of their local resources, various development and welfare programmes being carried out for them. This calls for sensitizing and conscientizing both the parties i.e., the policy makes, planners, administrators and change agents as well as the rural women through well planned educational programmes and mass media.
- ❖ The results reveal economic empowerment of women to be low. This in general indicates powerlessness because they do not have control over many of the economic resources. Their low status, seems to stem from their low economic position. Hence, if permanent changes are to take place in the economic status of women, they must not only be introduced with economic intervention programmes, but should be taught how to have control over their income, autonomy and say confidence that allows them to access, skill, leadership, decision making and economic independence.
- ❖ Political awareness and participation of women was found to low thus resulting in low political empowerment. A number of steps need to be taken, both long term and short term which would ensure that rural women occupy and enjoy their participatory role in the system and feel empowered. Mass media can play a major role in educating the public at large regarding the necessity and advantages of inducting the women into the Panchayat Raj institutions.
- ❖ Low legal empowerment of the respondents is a result of low knowledge and unfavourable opinion on various legal issues. Thus there is need to increase the knowledge while opinion improvement require educational efforts on the part of the respondents. Youth clubs at village level should promote education on such enactments in non-formal ways. Attitude of society rather than the community care-givers should be made favourable opinion towards child marriage restraint act, divorce act, dowry prohibition act. Every women should be made aware of their rights. This task thus require especially oriented, scientifically based comprehensive programmes of legal education educate the society.

- ❖ In order to support better planning and programme formulation and adequate allocation of resources, gender development indices (GDI) should be developed by networking with specialized agencies. This should be analysed and studied in depth. Gender auditing and development of evaluation mechanisms should also be undertaken along side.
- ❖ Collection of gender disaggregated data by all primary data collecting agencies should be undertaken. Data and information gaps in vital areas reflecting the status of women will sought to be filled by these immediately. All ministers / corporations / Banks and financial institutions etc. should be advised to collect, collate, disseminate and maintain / publish data related to programmes and benefits on a gender disaggregated basis. This will help in meaningful planning and evaluation of politics.

Suggestions for future research

- The study was focused only in two districts of Andhra Pradesh. Hence, a full length study can be initiated.
- Greater interdisciplinary engagement is necessary to develop indicators and approaches that capture the key elements of, equity and empowerment have scientific merit; and have acceptability among important stakeholders.
- Better, more coordinated efforts at data collection are needed. At the aggregate level, a broader range of more sophisticated, gender-disaggregated data is needed with regard to the labour force, market conditions, legal and political rights, political and social processes.
- At the household-level, data need to be more frequently collected for important but relatively - underutilized indicators such as time use, decision making and violence against women.
- Further analysis of benefit incidence with regard to public expenditure on education, across different income groups, and of gender differences in expenditure patterns on education, using data from household surveys. Analysis should suggest, at both micro and macro-levels, factors which lead to increased investment in female education.

- Specific local research on constraints to women's access to education and employment should be analysed.
- Future research on gender equity and empowerment may be taken up by qualitative approaches such as in-depth case histories, investigating reports and participant observations.
- Development of Gender Related Development Indices for all the districts would help to know the achievement of women and men in areas of health, education and income.

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Appendix

ACHARYA N.G. RANGA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

Dr.P.Rameshkumar Reddy
Associate Professor

Extension Education Institute
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-30

This is to inform you that Ms.K. Milkah, Ph.D. scholar of this institute has undertaken a research study entitled "Gender Equity and Empowerment in rural Andhra Pradesh - A Critical Analysis" under my guidance and supervision. She is attempting to develop an index to measure Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment of the respondents. For this purpose, she has identified certain indicators of GE, and GEM from the literature available.

Keeping in view of your vast experience and expertise, we have selected you as one of the experts to judge the relevancy of this indicators to measure Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment. You are, therefore, requested to go through the judgement sheet endorsed and give your valued assessment on the indicators with regard to their relevancy under a three-point continuum viz., relevant, most relevant and not relevant.

The same is requested to be done for the selected independent variables that influence the Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment.

I appeal to you, to kind spare some time of your busy schedule and complete the items enclosed by recording your response without leaving any items. I also request you to feel free to add to the list or modify it, if you feel necessary. Please return the duly filled-in format at your earliest.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,
(Dr.P. Rameshkumar Reddy)

To

Relevancy test for selection of the indicators for
Gender Equity and Gender Empowerment

Gender Equity

Sl. No.	Dimensions	Degree of relevance		
		Most relevant	Relevant	Not relevant
1	Education			
2	Health and nutrition			
3	Time or division of domestic labour			
4	Employment			
5	Access and control over resources			
6	Gender wage differences			
7	Marriage or kinship system			
8	Women's emancipation			
9	Any other, specify.			

Gender Empowerment

1	Decision making			
2	Ability to interact effectively			
3	Sharing of roles and decision making			
4	Physical empowerment			
5	Economic empowerment			
6	Legal empowerment			
7	Social empowerment			
8	Household work and decision making			
9	Property ownership			
10	Any other, specify			

Independent Variables

1	Farm size			
2	Educational status			
3	Marital status			
4	Family composition			
5	Economic status			
6	Income			
7	Economic productivity			
8	Social features			
9	Discrimination against female child			
10	Managerial abilities			
11	Income generating capability			
12	Self reliance			
13	Social participation			
14	Social mobilization			
15	Self-orientation			
16	Extension contact			
17	Extension participation			
18	Mass media exposure			
19	Perception of drudgery			
20	Access to basic facilities			
21	Urban and outside contacts			
22	Change proneness			
23	Any other. Specify			

ACHARYA N.G. RANGA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION EDUCATION INSTITUTE
RAJENDRANAGAR, HYDERABAD - 500 030.

An interview schedule on
Gender equity and Empowerment in rural Andhra Pradesh - A critical analysis

Respondent No : Name of the Respondent :
District : Mandal :
Name of the Village :

PART-A

1. Educational status _____

a. No schooling, b. Functionally literate c. Primary school,
b. d. Middle school; e. High school, f. College

2. Martial status

1. Age at marriage (years) _____

2. Did you select your life partner yourself? Yes/No

3. Did you have a chance to see your husband before marriage? Yes/No

4. Were you consulted before settling the marriage? Yes/No

5. Did you refuse any of the proposal other than the present? Yes/No

6. Do you think you are married against your wish? Yes/No

7. Did you have your own ideas about your partner? Yes/No

8. Were you required to set your ideas on marriage? Yes/No

3. Economic status

1. Occupation of the family (presently) _____

a. Agriculture b. Agricultural labour c. Other labour d. Small business e. Govt. service
e. Any other

2. Occupation of earning member in the family (main) _____

a. Agriculture b. Agricultural labour c. Other labour d. Small business e. Govt. service
e. Any other

3. Occupation of the family (before marriage) _____

a. Agriculture b. Agricultural labour c. Other labour d. Small business e. Govt. service
e. Any other

4. Do you have a subsidiary occupation? Yes/No

5. Do your family members have subsidiary occupation? Yes/No

6. Does the family own a land? Yes/No

7. Does the family own a house? Yes/No

4. Discrimination against female child

1. Do you prefer that a female child or male child? Male/Female

2. a). Do you feel that a female child as a burden to her parents? Yes/No

b). If yes, is it due to the following reasons?

i). It is expensive to bring her up.; ii). It is required to spend on her marriage as well as on her education; iii). It is risk to take care of girls; iv). Girl is considered ill luck

3. Do you think that daughters should always be helpful in the household duties? Yes/No

4. Have you yourself received a differential treatment from your parents? Yes/No

5. Do your family members gladly accept the birth of a girl child? Yes/No
6. Are you ever worried about having a female child? Yes/No
7. Do you give preferential treatments to your sons? Yes/No
8. Will you be upset, if you give birth to a female child? Yes/No
9. Do you give preferential treatment to your daughter, if she is neglected by her father/other members of the family? Yes/No

6. Economic productivity

1. Have you personally ever worked for pay? Yes/No
2. How is your contribution viewed with regard to the money that you bring to household?
1. Most important 2. Contribution to some extent 3. Does not seem to be important at all 4. Not applicable.
3. How is your contribution viewed for all the unpaid work you do to support the household (like cooking, cleaning, fetching water)?
1. Most important 2. Contribution to some extent 3. Does not seem to be important at all 4. Not applicable.

8. Social participation

SNo	Type of organization	Nature of participation			Extent of participation		
		Office bearer	Member	Both	Always	Some times	Never
1	NGOs						
2	Mahila mandals						
3	Cooperative society						
4	Youth club						
5	Religious organizations						
6	ANTWA						
7	Self help groups						
8	Any other (specify)						

9. Extension contact

Please indicate the frequency with which you meet the following personnel

S. No	Extension agency	Frequency		
		Weekly	Occasionally	Never
1	VEOs			
2	Agricultural Officers			
3	YCM			
4	NGOs			
5	Programme officials			
6	Any others			

10. Extension participation

Please indicate how frequently you participate in Extension activities

S. No	Activities	Frequency		
		Weekly	Occasionally	Never
1	Meeting/Seminars/Workshops			
2	Study tours/field days			

S. No	Activities	Frequency		
		Weekly	Occasionally	Never
3	Farm tours/kisan melas			
4	Demonstrations			
5	Group discussions			
6	Any other (specify)			

11. Mass media exposure

a). How often do you read/listen/watch the following?

Frequency	News paper	Magazine	Radio	T.V.
Never				
Once a week				
Twice a week				
Almost daily				
Kind of information sought, related to:				
Home management				
Child development				
Family planning				
Clothing				
Food and Nutrition				
Education				
Health				
Agriculture				
Social problems				
Women's problems				

12. Perception of extent of Drudgery

Activity	Perception of extent of drudgery			
	High	Average	Low	Nil
I. Farm activities (please mention)				
II Livestock (Please mention)				
III. Home activities (please mention)				

13) Income Generating Capability

S.No.	Statement	Always	Some-times	Never
1.	Suppose if there is a possibility of taking up a new income generating activities do you wish to take up			
2.	If the Government provides for you to establish a new income generating activity other than your family traditional occupations would you like to come forward			
3.	Do you think it is wise to borrow money from private lenders to start a income generating activity			
4.	Would you like to earn money by venturing into new economic activity			
5.	Do you wish to try new income generating activities			

6.	Are the traditional ways of income generating activities more reliable than the new methods			
7.	Are you cautious about new income generating activities.			
8.	Do you like to make effective use of the available resources to maximize your income			
9.	Do you like to try an entirely new income generating activity though it involves risk.			
10.	Do you like to take more of a change in making a big profit than to be content with a small but less risky profit.			

14) Managerial abilities

S.No.		Always	Sometimes	Never
Planning				
1.	Take adequate care in planning the day to day activities with your spouse			
2.	Plan in advance the daily activities independently			
3.	Consider past experience while planning the daily activities			
4.	Thoroughly discuss the things during planning			
Organizing				
1.	Prioritize the work before hand			
2.	Assign the work to others based on priorities			
3.	Organize the things for timely use			
Supervising				
1.	Supervise other members regularly to get good results			
2.	Supervise personally for timely completion of work			
Communication				
1.	Give clear instruction about the job to be done			
2.	Interact with each other to get new ideas			
3.	Participate in the discussion with friends, neighbours and family members			
4.	Listen to grievance of others and patiently clarify their doubts			
5.	Gather information on new farm and home technologies from different sources			
Coordination				
1.	Arrange all the things at right time and right place for carrying out the activities			
2.	Maintain good relations with others for timely progress of the work			
3.	Seek neighbours cooperation for smooth running of the work			
Controlling				
1.	Take remedial action when anything goes wrong			
2.	Ensure alternative arrangements to meet exigencies			
3.	Maintain inventories for making decisions			
4.	Assess the expenditure to avoid over spending			

15) Social mobilization

S.No.		Agree	Undecided	Disagree
1.	Gender equality and empowerment will lead to a better society			
2.	The status of rural women in our society is satisfactory and there is no need for their upliftment			
3.	Rural women have a equal access to different sources of information as men			
4.	Mobilization of women is not necessary, as they can't organize themselves, passive and less capable than men			
5.	Economic independence increases the decision making power of rural women			
6.	Women have right to social protection in times of need			
7.	Gender discrimination is the root cause for feminization			

	of poverty			
8.	Women's empowerment is precondition for poverty eradication			
9.	Lack of land rights deprive women from obtaining equal status in the society			

16) Self orientation

1.	Do you think of yourself as successful individual in bringing the economic well being of the family ?	Yes / No
2.	Are you always ready to decide what your next step would be regarding income generation	Yes / No
3.	When things go wrong do you pit or blame yourself /	Yes / No
4.	Do you always feel that you can achieve the things you wish ?	Yes / No
5.	Don't you care much for what others think of yours ?	Yes / No
6.	Do your feelings are easily hurt ?	Yes / No
7.	Can you face a difficult situation without worry ?	Yes / No
8.	Do you hesitant about forming decisions ?	Yes / No
9.	Are you usually discouraged when the opinions of others differ from your own ?	Yes / No
10.	Do you frequently feel yourself unworthy ?	Yes / No

17) Access to basic facilities

- i) Affordable transport
(a) Bullock cart (b) Public Transport (c) Jeep/Autos (d) Own vehicle
- ii) Housing - Own / Rented
- iii) Type of housing - Kutcha / Pucca / Tiles House / Building
- iv) Drinking water facilities
 - a) Source of drinking water : (1) Own well / Public Well (2) River / Tank (3) Own Tap or Community Tap
 - b) Distance of nearest source - kms
 - c) Are you getting drinking water regularly? Yes/No
 - d) Frequency of getting drinking water
(1) Daily (2) Once in 2 days (3) Once in 3 days (4) Once in 4 days
- v) Environmental sanitation
 - a) Drainage : Open / Closed / Stagnant ponds
 - b) Garbage disposal
 - c) Toilet facility - Yes/No
- vi) Electricity facility - Yes / No
- vii) Recreation facilities - Owns Radio / Transistor / TV

215
511

PART-B

GENDER EQUITY INDEX

EDUCATION

Access to education

1	Have school in the village	Yes	No
2	Got enrolled in the school		
3	Have access to school in the village		
4	Allowed to attend near by schools		
5	Have proper transport to attend near by schools		
6	Aware of the adult / non-formal education		
7	Have access to adult / non-formal education		
8	Are school hours fixable to labour demands		
9	Are schools equipped with proper physical facilities in the village		
10	Are schools provided with sufficient teaching staff in the village		

(B) Opinion on women's education

Please state the degree of your agreement to disagreement with each statement on the following three point continuum

S.No.	Statement	A	UD	DA
1	In the present world, it is difficult for one to lead their lives without education			
2	The role of women should not be confined to home			
3	Protection of girls restricts parents sending their daughters to school			
4	Investment on girls' education leads to empowerment			
5	Woman need not always lead a protected life			
6	Women should go for education and in turn for employment to attain economic equality and social development			
7	General education should be equal in value and status for men and women to avoid social discrimination			
8	Higher education of girls is not a hindrance to marriage			
9	Educated women can bring up their children more efficiently			
10	Investment in girls education is essential even if practice of dowry is inevitable			

EMPLOYMENT

A. Access to employment

1	Have enough employ-ment opportunities in village throughout the year	Yes/No
2	Migrate to near by place for work	Yes/No
3	Hired for permanent works such as ploughing, buying inputs, selling products	Yes/No

4	Mobility not restricted in the family with regard to employment	Yes/No
5	Aware of the various schemes provided by government for self-employment	Yes/No
6	Interested in setting up your own enterprise	Yes/No
7	Family support extended in setting any income generating activity	Yes/No
8	No. of mandays available In village Outside village	

(B) Opinion on women's employment

(a). Please state the degree of your agreement to disagreement with each statement on the following three point continuum

S. No.	Particulars	Always	Undecided	Disagree
1	Lower literacy limits opportunities of employment			
2	Lesser access to mass media limits women's access to employment			
3	Women's job mobility is limited because they are confined to homes			
4	Men are hired for permanent work, women are socially excluded from such work.			
5	Mechanized cultivation has confined women to manual tasks			
6	Female-headed households are more effected by gender biases			
7	Social customs prevent women's access to employment			
8	Though husbands will support, women need to work			
9	Women do need well paid jobs like men to support their families			
10	Employed women never neglect their homes and children			
11	All women have to get married but need not stay married			
12	The men, women marry will never become unemployed or incapacitated and will always support their families			
13	Married women and mothers are also reliable workers			
14	Women can work even after marriage			

C. Division of labour between men and women

S.No.	Activity	Men only	Mainly men sometimes women	Both	Mainly women sometimes men	Women only
A	Agriculture					
1	Land preparation					
2	Seeding and planting operations					
3	Interculturing					

S.No.	Activity	Men only	Mainly men sometimes women	Both	Mainly women sometimes men	Women only
4	Irrigation					
5	Manures and fertilizer application					
6	Plant protection operation					
7	Guarding of crops					
8	Harvesting					
9	Post harvest operation					
B	Horticulture					
1	Working in vegetables					
2	Ploughing					
3	Kitchen gardening					
C	Live stock					
1	Bringing fodder					
2	Care and feeding					
3	Grazing animals					
4	Health care					
5	Cleaning animal shed					
6	Offering water					
7	Milking					

E. Wage

(1). Average daily wages of male and female casual labourers (Rs/day) _____

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

I. Health

A. Access to health

S. No	Particulars	
1	Doctor or medical facility in the village	Yes / No
2	Utilize the available health services	Yes / No
3	Take proper care of your health	Yes / No
4	Start treating yourself when not well	Yes / No
5	Aware of the health programmes by the government	Yes / No
6	Area you reside is covered with health and nutrition programmes of the government	Yes / No
7	Aware of the immunization programmes of the government	Yes / No
8	Got immunized	Yes / No
9		

	Aware of the health campaigns of Govt. (NGO's specially conducted for women)	
10	Ever attended health campaigns	Yes / No
11	Any Govt. (NGO) Health welfare worker visited your household	Yes / No
12	Availing of Health services	
(1)	ANM's / HV	Yes / No
(2)	PHC's	Yes / No
(3)	Private Clinic	Yes / No
(4)	RMP Clinic	Yes / No
(5)	Traditional / Indigenous	Yes / No
13	Type of Medicines prefer when sick	
(1)	Allopathy	Yes / No
(2)	Home	Yes / No
(3)	Homeopathy	Yes / No
(4)	Unani	Yes / No
(5)	Ayurvedic	Yes / No
14	Type of problems faced in hospital	Yes / No
(1)	Treatment	Yes / No
(2)	Food	Yes / No
(3)	Financial	Yes / No
(4)	Accommodation	Yes / No
15	Did you visit PHC for pre-natal and post-natal care	Yes / No
	Did your wife visit PHC for pre-natal and post-natal care	Yes / No
16	Were you shifted to Hospital at the time of delivery	Yes / No
	Was your wife shifted to hospital at the time of delivery	Yes / No
17	If no, who is called at the time of delivery	Yes / No
	ANMs	Yes / No
	Un trained Dhais	
	Doctors	
	Trained Dhais	
	Elderly women	

B. Opinion on women availing health services

Please state the degree of your agreement to disagreement with each statement on the following three point continuum

S.No.	Statement	A	UN	DA
1	Men and women should get equal opportunities to seek medical/health services			
2	Absence of leisure time makes women more susceptible to diseases than men			
3	Women should be given better medical treatment and better attended at home			
4	Women are more prone to health risks than men, therefore should get better medical treatment			
5	Women need medical treatment before the condition is severe.			
6	More medical benefits should be provided to women by government.			

C. Food Consumption pattern

SNo	Food items	Frequency of consumption			
		Do not take at all	Daily	Weekly	Monthly
1	Cereals				
	a. Rice				
	b. Wheat				
	c. Jowar				
	d. Ragi				

SNo	Food items	Frequency of consumption			
		Do not take at all	Daily	Weekly	Monthly
2	Pulses				
	a. Redgram				
	b. Greengram				
	c. Blackgram				
	d. Bengalgram				
3	Eggs				
4	Non-vegetarian				
	a. Meat				
	b. Fish				
	c. Chicken				
5	Vegetables				
6	Green leafy vegetables				
7	Fruits				
8	Milk				
9	Tea and coffee				
10	Tobacco				
11	Alcohol				
1.	Do you take food along with your family member daily? Yes / No				
	If no, why/ Give reasons				
(i)	Due to heavy work load or eats food only after completing household work				
(ii)	Customary to eat only after men eat				

d. Nutrient intake : 1. Calorie intake 2. Protein intake

e. Nutritional status : 1. Height 2. Weight 3. BMI

TIME

S. No.	Item
1	Bringing fodder
2	Chaffing & Preparing feed
3	Feeding
4	Grazing
5	Cleaning / Bathing animals
6	Health care
7	Cleaning animal shed
8	Offering water
9	Milking
10	All livestock activities

S. No.	Item
1	Bringing fodder
2	Chaffing & Preparing feed
3	Feeding
4	Grazing
5	Cleaning / Bathing animals
6	Health care
7	Cleaning animal shed
8	Offering water
9	Milking
10	All livestock activities

S. No.	Item
1	Land preparation
2	Nursery raising
3	Transplanting
4	Manure application
5	Inter culturing
6	Irrigation
7	Plant protection
8	Harvesting
9	Post harvesting
10	Marketing

ACCESS AND CONTROL OVER RESOURCES

SNo	Resources	Access		Control	
		Men	Women	Men	Women
1	Land				
2	Credit				
3	House				
4	Immovable property				

SNo	Resources	Access		Control	
		Men	Women	Men	Women
5	Consumption of household items				
6	Improved tools / machinery				
7	Income				
8	Employment				
9	Education				
10	Transport				
11	Production inputs				
12	Production outputs				

B. Opinion on women’s access and control over resources
Please state the degree of your agreement to disagreement with each statement on the following three point continuum

S. No.	Statement (a/ud/d)
1	Village exogamy and long distant marriages, norms restrict women to exercise control over the land.
2	Lesser interaction of females restrict them to obtain information on agriculture.
3	Men’s movements are not restricted which enables them to get agriculture related information
4	Women’s ability to self-manage land is generally limited
5	Inputs and taboos women makes dependent on men for cultivation
6	Women’s ignorance and illiteracy, restricts them to obtain credit and other agricultural inputs.
7	The perception that, men can repay the loans easily, makes difficult for women to get credit.
8	Women lack of land ownership prevents their access to formal financial system.

Gender Empowerment Index
Decision making

POLITICAL AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION
A. Political awareness

1	Are you aware of the Nationality?	Yes/No
2	Are you aware of India’s independence?	Yes/No
3	Do you have any understanding about government? (a). Know it (b). did not know	
4	What do you think is the nature of government? (a). A govt is that works for all. (b). Works only for rich	

5	Are you aware of the political parties?	Yes/No
	a). If yes, what are they?	
6	Are you aware of different elections in the country?	Yes/No
	1. Parliament, 2. Assembly, 3. Mandal, 4. Gram panchayat, 5. Others	
7	Are you aware about the popular leaders?	Yes/No
	If yes, who are they?	
8	Are you aware of the various atrocities on the surrounding village?	Yes/No

B. Political participation

- Leaving a aside the period of elections, how much interest would you say you have in politics and public affairs
(a). Great deal (b). Some interest (c). Not interested at all.
- How often do you discuss politics and public affairs with others?
(a). Never (b). Sometimes (c). Frequently
- Are your family members interested in politics and public affairs?
(a). Not interested (b). Interested
- How interested were you in the election campaign in the local elections?
(a). Good deal (b). Some what (c). Not at all
- During the campaign did you tell other people why they should vote for one of the parties or candidates
(a). Yes (b). No (c). Do not know.
- Do you support any candidate contesting based on caste/religion Yes/No
- Are you interested in participating in elections? Yes/No
- Have you participated in election campaigns? Yes/No
- Did you contribute any money in election campaigns of any party or candidates Yes/No
- Is there is anything else you did to help in the election campaign of a candidate or for the party? Yes/No
- Are you member of any of the following?
(a). Village panchayts (b) MPTC (c) ZTPC (d) Water user's association (e) Vidya committee
- How often do you attend the meeting of Gram panchayat?
(a). Always (b) Sometimes (c) Never
- Do the members in your family oppose/object your participation in the Gram panchayat/political parties Yes/No
- Are you consulted for any decisions concurring village politics Yes/No
- Are you given any opportunity to say whatever you wish during political/Gram panchayat meetings Yes/No
- Are you interested in contesting elections? Yes/No
If yes, does your husband/other family members will support you? Yes/No

C. Opinion

Please state the degree of your agreement to disagreement with each statement on the following three point continuum

S.No	Statement	A	UD	DA
1	Politics is a domain where women should and must involve			
2	Women should vote according to the wishes of male members of the family			
3	Women should not contest election			
4	Women's participation in politics gives status to the family.			
5	More women representatives in legislature should be encouraged.			
6	Women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities of women			
7	Women should be affective office bearers of panchayats, cooperatives etc.			
8	Women should be consulted for any programme in bringing about improvement of the village			
9.	Women should not actively participate in politics, as they are meant only for men			

GENDER EMPOWERMENT INDEX

I. DECISION MAKING

Home related decisions

S.No	Decision Area	Female	Male	Both
A. Home Management Decision				
1	To cook a particular food. ✓			
2	Construction of new house. ✓			
3	Repairing or renovation of existing house ✓			
4	Construction of movable parts like Chula, Chakki etc.			
5	Interior decoration.			
6	Preparation household articles like baskets, mats. ✓			
7	Preparing processed food. ✓			
8	All home management decisions.			

B. Child-Related Decision		Female	Male	Both
1	Setting children's arguments and fights ✓			
2	Deciding on children's purchases ✓			
3	Deciding on medical treatment ✓			
4	Deciding on the age of schooling ✓			
5	^{and type} Level of education ✓			
6	Type of education			
7	Deciding about son/daughter ✓			
8	Marriage age of son/daughter ✓			
9	Selection of match for son/daughter ✓			
10	Amount of expenses to be done on marriage			

2. Farm related decisions

SNo	Decision area	Female	Male	Both
A. Agricultural Decision				
1	What crops to plant ✓			
2	How many crops and area under each crop to plant ✓			
3	Whether to use own or improved seeds ✗			
4	Deciding about seed selection ✓			
5	Deciding on how much fertilizer to use ✓			
6	Who decided on what fertilizer to use ✓			
7	How many times the field should be irrigated: ✓			
8	Deciding upon construction of irrigation			
9	Plant Protection ✓			
10	Post-harvest including harvesting decisions ✓			
B. Labour allocation decisions				
1	Arranging wage labour. ✓			
2	Deciding others work outside home ✓			
3	Deciding own work outside home. ✓			

C. Livestock related decisions		Female	Male	Both
1	Types of livestock to be kept. ✓			
2	Number of livestock to be kept. ✓			
3	Feeding of balanced ration. ✓			
4	Vaccination of animals. ✓			
5	Castration. ✓			
6	Artificial insemination. ✓			
7	Treatment of sick animals. ✓			

3. Financial related decisions

SNo	Decision area	Female	Male	Both
A. Money management				
1	Keeping money			
2	How much to spend on different items ✓ (F)			
B. Capital transactions				
3	Buying/selling of land (A.D)			
4	Buying/selling of livestock. ✓ (L)			
C. Purchasing farm inputs				
5	Buying farm inputs ✓ A.D			
6	Buying farm implements ✓ Dm			
D. Purchasing necessary items				
1	Buying food materials/household items (A.D)			
2	Buying clothing and how much to spend			
3	Buying household durable.			
E. Disposal of farm produce				
1	Selling of food grains A.D			
2	Selling of vegetables A.D			
3	Selling of small animals			
4	Selling of large animals			

F. Disposal of home produce				
G. Intreprenurial capital transactions				
H. Borrowing loans				
1	Decision of taking loans ✓			
2	Decision of repaying. ✓			
I. Saving and other capital transactions				
1	Decision of repaying.			
2	Deciding on manures of saving			
3	Buying jewelry and other movable property ✓			
4	Selling jewelry and other movable property			

4. Socio-religious decision making

SNo	Decision area	Female	Male	Both
A. Inter household exchange				
1	Giving and taking small non-interst loans			
2	Giving and taking small amount of grains/seasonal vegetables			
3	Giving small amount in cash or kind to a visiting daughter of neighbour			
4	Gifts to be given (5)			
B. Short social travel				
1	Visit to a nearby mela. 5			
2	Attending courtesy calls. 5			
C. Socio religious obligations				
1	When to call and send back daughters to their in-laws. (5)			
2	Attending marriage/birth/death ceremonies. 5			
3	Kind and amount of charity to be given.			
4	Giving donations to school organizations.			
5	Attending religious gatherings. 5			
6	Attending religious functions.			

II. SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT

S.No.	Statements	Fre-quent	Some-times	Never
1	Allowed / allow your wife to take independent initiativeness			
2	Mobility / your wife's mobility not restricted to household only			
3	Given the right / your wife given the right to mobility and social interaction by your family member			
4	Allowed / your wife is allowed to keep contacts with her parents, relatives etc.			
5	Can / allow your wife to visit natal home independently			
6	Can / your wife can visit natal home without permission			
7	Your activities / your wife's activities lead to social recognition & prestige			
8	Feel that your / your wife's activity will never diminish your husbands / yours authority			
9	Bound / your wife is ever bond to moral obligations			
10	Threat of violence / marital breakup restrict you / your wife to take decisions			
11	You / your wife not hesitant to take decisions because of social boycott			
12	Family members freely attend functions at your parents / inlaws house			
13	Control of husband / father / brother is always necessary for you / your wife			
14	To be under control is not always a pleasure for you / your wife			
15	Think such control or not always secured for you / your wife			
16	Given / your wife is given due respect in the family (looking at her age, education etc.)			
17	Discuss / your wife discuss any of the subjects (household expenditure, discipline at the house etc.)			
18	Occassions where you had never any differences with your husband / wife			
19	Made any efforts to settle such differences by you / your wife			
20	Given freedom / your wife given freedom to visit places like banks, markets etc., independently			
21	Involved / your wife involved in domestic decision making			
22	Given right / your wife given right to child bearing decisions			
23	Free / your wife is free from domestic violence			
24	Feel / your wife feel more responsible at inlaws place than natal home			
25	Can vote / your wife can vote according to her wish			
26	Obeys your husband / your wife obeys you because of			
26a	a. traditions / conventions			
26b	b. Socio-economic security			
27	You / your wife obeys you not because fear of marital breakup			

III. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

S. No.	Statement	Always	Someti mes	Never
1	Doesn't dependent on your husband / your wife not dependent on you for economic needs			
2	Allowed / your wife allowed to spend yourself / herself			
3	Allowed / your wife allowed to spend without having independent income			
4	Consulted / consult your wife before taking decisions on investment			
5	Consulted / consult your wife at the time of decisions regarding expenditure for important occasions such as marriages etc.			
6	Spend / your wife can spend personal income without permission			
7	Have / Your wife has independent savings			
8	Wanted to buy / your wife can buy small item of Jewelry without permission			
9	Have / your wife has her own income.			
10	Have say / your wife has say in how the Pooled income is spent			
11	Use / your wife can use the remittances received without permission			
12	Could / your wife would sell or trade the land she owns without permission			
13	Could / your wife could use the valuables or properties without permission			
14	Able / your wife able to support herself and children			

POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT

A) Political Awareness (aware / not aware)

S. No	Particulars	Aware / Not aware
1	Aware of the Nationality	Aware / Not aware
2	Aware of India's independence	Aware / Not aware
3	Have any understanding about government	Aware / Not aware
4	Aware of the political parties	Aware / Not aware
5	Aware of different elections in the country (Parliament, Assembly, Mandal, Gram panchayt, Others)	Aware / Not aware
6	Aware about the popular leaders	Aware / Not aware
7	Aware of the various atrocities in the surrounding village	Aware / Not aware
8.	Aware of reservation in politics	Aware / Not aware

b) Political Participation

S. No.	Particulars	Always	Someti mes	Never
1.	Interested in politics and public affairs			
2.	Ever discuss politics and public affairs with others			
3.	Your family members interested in politics and public affairs			
4.	Interested in the election campaign in the local elections			
5.	Ever tell other people why to vote for one of the parties or candidate			
6.	Support any candidate contesting based on caste / religion			
7.	Interested in participating in elections			
8.	Participated in election campaigning any time			
9.	Contribute any money in election campaign for any of the party / candidate			

10.	Anything else you did to help in the election campaign for the candidate or party			
11.	Member of any of the following (i.e., village panchayats, MPTC, ZTPC, Water user's association, Vidya committee)			
12.	Attend the meeting of Gram Panchayat			
13.	Cast the vote during the election			
14.	Consulted for any decisions concerned to village politics			
15.	Given opportunity to say whatever you wish during political / Gram panchayat meetings			
16.	Interested in contesting elections			

c) Opinion on Women Politics

S. No.	Particulars	Always	Sometimes	Never
1	Politics is a domain where women should and must involve			
2	Women should vote according to their wish			
3	Women should contest election			
4	Women's participation in politics gives status to the family.			
5	More women representatives in legislature should be encouraged.			
6	Women's involvement in politics can help to fight against social evils and economic inequalities of women			
7	Women should be affective office bearers of panchayats, cooperatives etc.			
8	Women should be consulted for any programme in bringing about improvement of the village			
9.	Women should actively participate in politics, as they are meant only for men			
10.	Women need reservations in politics			

LEGAL EMPOWERMENT

A) Awareness of various legal enactments

Sl.No.	Legal enactment particulars	Aware / Not aware
1	Child marriage restraint act	
2	Divorce act	
3	Dowry prohibition act	
4	Widow remarriage act	
5	Right to property act	

B) Opinion of the respondents on various legal enactments

S. No	Particulars	Agree	Un-decided	Dis-agree
	Child marriage restraint Act			
1	Marriages can be delayed as they are not timed in heaven			
2	Early marriages are not advisable though daughters are supposed to belong to some ones else house			
3	Early marriages do not always preserve honour and prestige			
4	Early marriages does not help to pay less dowry			

S. No	Particulars	Agree	Un-decided	Dis-agree
5	Parents should not feel marriage of girl child as burden			
6	Early marriages are not means of social control			
7	Men should delay their marriage till they are economically independent			
8	Early marriages do not maintain premarital chastity			
	Divorce Act			
1	One must not hesitate to break the bond of marriage, if necessary			
2	Instead of leading a life of constant misery, it is better to get divorce			
3	Divorce bring catastrophe in the lives of children and therefore must be avoided			
4	A women must not tolerate ill-treatment from husband rather seek divorce			
5	Social pressure must be extended to compel the mismated couple to readjust and not divorce			
6	Divorce disintegrates the family, individual and society			
7	In case of moral breach divorce is desirable			
8	Divorce is the correct solution for marital difficult			
9	Divorce is desirable for it permits the correction of mistakes and happy readjustments			
10	If marital difficulties are serious enough, divorce may be obtained			
11	Divorce is bad, it leads to suffering for the emotionally dependant partner			
12	In case where the temperament of the husband and wife do not agree, divorce is inevitable			
13	Society shouldn't look down upon a women who has divorced			
	Dowry prohibition Act			
1	Dowry should not be given			
2	Dowry prohibition act should be strictly implemented			
3	Practice of dowry is undesirable			
4	Practice of dowry should be stopped			
5	Dowry gives status to women			
6	Dowry gives security to women			
	Widow remarriage Act			
1	Society must strongly support widow remarriage			
2	Widow remarriages reduces many tensions in the family			
3	When widowers can remarry, widows too can do so.			
4	Law should enforce that all widows below 30 years should re-marry			
5	Widow remarriage is not a curse on ideal womanhood			
6	Widow remarriage do not degrades the sacred bond of marriage			
7	Objecting to widow-remarriage increases, immorality in society.			
8	Widows should not lead a life of self-restrained and can think of getting married			
9	The state should install funds to aid Widow marriages.			
10	A widower can marry as many times as he likes and a widow too can			

S. No	Particulars	Agree	Un-decided	Dis-agree
	Right to Property Act			
1	Women should be given right to demand a share from her parental property			
2	A daughter should also have some share along with sons in parental property			
3	A daughter should get equal share along with sons in parental property			
4	Share in property will not destroy the affection between brother and sister			
5	Share of girl should not be restricted to dowry			
6	Sharing would not make land holdings per unit family uneconomical			
7	Women do not have equal rights, there is a need for it.			
8	Women should get three-fourth property rights.			
9	Government should propagate the act of equal property right			
10	Male domination after all do not allow women to get their shares.			

Factor affecting gender equity (open ended)

- 1) Education
- 2) Employment
- 3) Health and nutrition
- 4) Time
- 5) Access and control over resources

Factor affecting gender empowerment (open ended)

- 1) Decision making
- 2) Social empowerment
- 3) Economic empowerment
- 4) Political empowerment
- 5) Legal empowerment

Appendix - B

Adilabad

A. Computing the equally distributed life expectancy index (EDLEI)

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Females } (64.0 - 27.5) / 60 &= 0.608 \\ \text{Males } (60.8 - 22.5) / 60 &= 0.636\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Therefore, EDLEI} &= (0.494 (0.608)^{-1} + 0.506 (0.638)^{-1}) \\ &= 0.622 (0.499(0.608)^{-1} + 0.501 (0.635)^{-1}) = 0.304 + 0.319 = 0.622\end{aligned}$$

B. Computing the equally distributed education attainment Index (EDEAI)

1) Adult literacy index:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Females : } (33-0)/(100) &= 0.330 \\ \text{Males : } (59.6 - 0) / 100 &= 0.596\end{aligned}$$

2) Combined gross enrollment index:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Females : } (97.25 - 0) / (100) &= 0.975 \\ \text{Males : } (102.86 - 0) / (100) &= 1.028\end{aligned}$$

3) Educational Attainment Index

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Female} &= 2/3 (0.330) + 1/3 (0.975) = 0.221 + 0.653 = 0.874 \\ \text{Males} &= 2/3 (0.596) + 1/3(1.028) = 0.399 + 0.689 = 1.088\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{EDEAI} = [0.499 (0.874)^{-1} + 0.501 (1.088)^{-1}] = 0.436 + 0.545 = 0.981$$

C. Computing the equally distributed income index (EDII)

(i) Percentage share of economically active population

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Female} &= 41.94 \\ \text{Males} &= 58.06\end{aligned}$$

(ii) Ratio of female non-agricultural wage to male = 75%

(iii) Per capita income of the district as per current prices = Rs. 16,036

(iv) Ratio of female wage to average wage (w) and of male wage to average wage (w)

$$w = 0.419 (0.75) + 0.581 = 0.895$$

$$\text{Female wage to average wage (w)} = 0.75 / 0.895 = 0.8379$$

$$\text{Male wage to average wage (w)} = 1/0.895 = 1.1173$$

(v) Share of earned income

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Females} &= 0.8379 \times 0.419 = 0.3510 \\ \text{Males} &= 1.1173 \times 0.581 = 0.6491\end{aligned}$$

Female and male proportional income shares

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Females} &= 0.3510 / 0.494 = 0.7105 \\ \text{Males} &= 0.6491 / 0.506 = 1.2828\end{aligned}$$

Computing the equally distributed income index (EDII)

$$\begin{aligned}[0.499 (0.7105)^{-1} + 0.501 (1.2828)^{-1}] &= 0.354 + 0.642 = 0.996 \\ \text{Also} &= 0.996 \times 16036 = 15971\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{EDII} = 15971 - 13448 / 25239 - 13448 = 2523 / 11791 = 0.213$$

$$1/3 (0.621 + 0.981 + 0.213) = 1/3 (1.821) = 0.605$$

West Godavari

A. Computing the equally distributed life expectancy index (EDLEI)

$$\text{Females } (64.0 - 27.5) / 60 = 0.608$$

$$\text{Males } (60.8 - 22.5) / 60 = 0.636$$

$$\text{Therefore, EDLEI} = (0.497 (0.608)^{-1} + 0.503 (0.638)^{-1}) = 0.302 + 0.320 = 0.622$$

B. Computing the equally distributed education attainment Index (EDEAI)

1) Adult literacy index:

$$\text{Females : } (67.3 - 0) / 100 = 0.673$$

$$\text{Males : } (76.30 - 0) / 100 = 0.763$$

2) Combined gross enrollment index:

$$\text{Females : } (69.08 - 0) / 100 = 0.640$$

$$\text{Males : } (67.53 - 0) / 100 = 0.675$$

3) Educational Attainment Index

$$\text{Female} = 2/3 (0.673) + 1/3 (0.640) = 0.674$$

$$\text{Males} = 2/3 (0.763) + 1/3 (0.675) = 0.728$$

$$\text{EDEAI} = (0.497 (0.674)^{-1} + 0.503 (0.728)^{-1}) = (0.335 + 0.366) = 0.701$$

C. Computing the equally distributed income index (EDII)

(i) Percentage share of economically active population

$$\text{Female} = 31.77$$

$$\text{Males} = 68.33$$

(ii) Ratio of female non-agricultural wage to male = 75%

(iii) Percapita income of the district as per current prices = Rs.22042

(iv) Ratio of female wage to average wage (w) and of male wage to average wage (w)

$$w = 0.317 (0.75) + 0.683 (1) = 0.237 + 0.683 = 0.92$$

$$\text{Female wage to average wage (w)} = 0.75 / 0.920 = 0.815$$

$$\text{Male wage to average wage (w)} = 1 / 0.92 = 1.086$$

(v) Share of earned income

$$\text{Females} = 0.815 \times 0.317 = 0.258$$

$$\text{Males} = 1.086 \times 0.683 = 0.742$$

Female and male proportional income shares

$$\text{Females} = 0.258 / 0.991 = 0.519$$

$$\text{Males} = 0.742 / 0.503 = 1.473$$

Computing the equally distributed income index (EDII)

$$[0.497 (0.519)^{-1} + 0.495 (1.473)^{-1}] = 0.258 + 0.729 = 0.987$$

$$\text{Also} = 0.987 \times 22042 = 21755$$

$$\text{EDII} = 21755 - 13448 / 25239 - 13448 = 8307 / 11791 = 0.704$$

$$1/3 (0.622 + 0.701 + 0.704) = 0.676$$

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Similar results were reported by Urmila and Lali Yadav (2002), Updesh Yadav (2002) and Anupama Bishnoi *et al.* (2002). On the whole the respondent had medium to low mass media exposure (Table 8). Most of the respondents were over illiterates, few were functionally literate and very few of them had primary and high school education. Because of the low literacy levels, their exposure to the social environment was also low. As very few could read the newspaper and were not aware of the media that were reaching the rural areas might often resulted in low mass media exposure. The results also indicate that mass media such as radio and television were not able create awareness about issues affecting daily life, family planning programmes, poverty alleviation programmes, gender issues, human right etc.

5.1.17 Perception of drudgery

The results in Table 8 with regard to this variable indicate that a vast majority of women perceived drudgery as high whereas majority of men perceived it as low. On the whole, slightly above half were in the high category.

The reasons why women perceived drudgery as high compared to men is that, women in agricultural communities work for longer hours compared to men and also due to their heavy work. It is difficult for women to reduce time from these heavy work loads. Moreover the interventions that reduce the work of women both at home and farm are not in reach to them. Women spend a considerable amount of time fetching water and collecting fuel wood and fodder (www.angrau.net). They have to go long way for fetching water because of the absence of wells, community taps in the centre, lack of manual transport aid, improved cooking stoves, and plantation of fast growing fodder near by, all these resulting in women's high drudgery.

5.1.18 Access to basic facilities

Majority of women in Adilabad had low access to basic facilities and men had medium access. In West Godavari both women and men had medium access. Overall results indicate that women had low access compared to men as regards Table 8. Men are more exposed to social environment and their contacts with the outside world are better comparatively. Whereas, mostly confined and their