

CHAPTER VI

FINDINGS CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The study of Socio-Economic and Political Status of Women in Jammu and Kashmir with reference to Anantnag District was followed a systematic way of analysis to understand the level of women status, their impediments and solutions. The following are findings of the study.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

Socio-economic conditions determine the status of a person in the society. Households are the primary groups thus playing an important role of socialization which determines the behaviour pattern of individual in a society.

In the study area, the majority (35%) of women belong to the age group of 18-28 years, (57%) of the respondents are married and a considerable number (43.9%) belong to General Community. Further (15%) of women were having secondary school level education and mostly (55.1%) they were house wives. A considerable number (24.7%) of them were doing private jobs within their local areas to supplement their family income. Majority of the respondents (74%) belong to rural locality.

SOCIAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL AWARENESS

In the study area majority of women have social awareness regarding age of marriage, share in husbands property, share in parental property, freedom of choosing husband, widow can marry, family planning, protection of women from domestic violence, right to life, educational right.

As for as economic awareness is concerned majority of respondents are aware about right to work, equal pay for equal work, reasonable hours of work, maternity benefits of women, sexual harassment of women at work place, rural health mission.

As for as political awareness is concerned majority of respondents know the present Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Constituency M.L.A, Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, flag of Jammu Kashmir, voting age, right to vote, reservation for women in local bodies.

SOCIAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ACCESSIBILITY

In the study area majority of respondents agree that they have freedom in social mobility, freedom in autonomy for expenditure, interpersonal decision making.

Majority of respondents disagree that they have accessibility to go outside for work, to follow any trade or profession, to have insurance policy, work in technical institutions, own land on your own name, access to call centres, access to executive job.

In the study area majority of respondents disagree that they have accessibility to contest elections, to join political parties, to attend political meetings, to join political rallies.

FINDINGS BASED ON ANOVA TEST ARE PRESENTED BELOW:**Findings Based On Social Awareness**

1. The social awareness is varying significantly among different age group.
2. The highest level of social awareness is identified with the age group of above 18 years to 28 years among the respondents.
3. The lowest level of social awareness is identified with the age group of above 58 years among the respondents.
4. The social awareness is varying significantly among different education group.
5. The highest level of social awareness is identified with the education group of degree academic/professional among the respondents.
6. The lowest level of social awareness is identified with the education group of illiterate among the respondents.
7. The social awareness is varying significantly among different occupation group.
8. The highest level of social awareness is identified with the occupation group of government job among the respondents.
9. The lowest level of social awareness is identified with the occupation group of house wife among the respondents.
10. The social awareness is varying significantly among different community group.

11. The highest level of social awareness is identified with the community group of General among the respondents.
12. The lowest level of social awareness is identified with the community group of OBC among the respondents.

Findings Based On Social Accessibility

13. The freedom in social mobility is varying significantly among different age group.
14. The highest level of freedom in social mobility is identified with the age group of above 18 years to 28 years among the respondents.
15. The lowest level of social mobility is identified with the age group of above 58 years among the respondents.
16. The freedom in social mobility is varying significantly among different education group.
17. The highest level of freedom in social mobility is identified with the education group of higher secondary among the respondents.
18. The lowest level of freedom in social mobility is identified with the illiterate among the respondents.
19. The freedom in social mobility is varying significantly among different occupation group.
20. The highest level of freedom in social mobility is identified with the occupation group of government job among the respondents.

21. The lowest level of freedom in social mobility is identified with the occupation group of house wife among the respondents.
22. The freedom in social mobility is varying significantly among different community group.
23. The highest level of freedom in social mobility is identified with the community group of General among the respondents.
24. The lowest level of freedom in social mobility is identified with the community group of OBC among the respondents.
25. The freedom in autonomy for expenditure is varying significantly among different age group.
26. The highest level of freedom in autonomy for expenditure is identified with the age group of above 18 years to 28 years and 39 to 48 years in common among the respondents.
27. The lowest level of freedom in autonomy for expenditure is identified with the age group of above 58 years among the respondents.
28. The freedom in autonomy for expenditure is varying significantly among different education group.
29. The highest level of freedom in autonomy for expenditure is identified with the education group of higher secondary, graduate, post graduate in common among the respondents.
30. The lowest level of freedom in autonomy for expenditure is identified with the education group of middle among the respondents.

31. The freedom in autonomy for expenditure is varying significantly among different occupation group.
32. The highest level of freedom in autonomy for expenditure is identified with the occupation group of government job and business job in common among the respondents.
33. The lowest level freedom in autonomy for expenditure is identified with the occupation group of house wife among the respondents.
34. The freedom in autonomy for expenditure is varying significantly among different community group.
35. The highest level of freedom in autonomy for expenditure is identified with the community group of ST among the respondents.
36. The lowest level of freedom in autonomy for expenditure is identified with the community group of OBC among the respondents.
37. The interpersonal decision making is varying significantly among different age group.
38. The highest level of interpersonal decision making is identified with the age group of above 18 years to 28 years among the respondents.
39. The lowest level of interpersonal decision making is identified with the age group of above 58 years among the respondents.
40. The interpersonal decision making is varying significantly among different education group.

41. The highest level of interpersonal decision making is identified with the education group of post graduate among the respondents.
42. The lowest level of interpersonal decision making is identified with the illiterate among the respondents.
43. The interpersonal decision making is varying significantly among different occupation group.
44. The highest level of interpersonal decision making is identified with the occupation group of government job among the respondents.
45. The lowest level of interpersonal decision making is identified with the occupation group of house wife among the respondents.
46. The interpersonal decision making is varying significantly among different community group.
47. The highest level of interpersonal decision making is identified with the community group of General among the respondents.
48. The lowest level of interpersonal decision making is identified with the community group of OBC among the respondents.
49. The discrimination in family is varying significantly among different age group.
50. The highest level of discrimination in family is identified with the age group of above 39 years to 48 years among the respondents.
51. The lowest level of discrimination in family is identified with the age group of above 58 years among the respondents.

52. The discrimination in family is varying significantly among different education group.
53. The highest level of discrimination in family is identified with the education group of illiterate among the respondents.
54. The lowest level of discrimination in family is identified with the middle education group among the respondents.
55. The discrimination in family is varying significantly among different occupation group.
56. The highest level of discrimination in family is identified with the occupation group of house wife among the respondents.
57. The lowest level of discrimination in family is identified with the occupation group of business among the respondents.
58. The discrimination in family is varying significantly among different community group.
59. The highest level of discrimination in family is identified with the community group of ST among the respondents.
60. The lowest level of discrimination in family is identified with the community group of OBC among the respondents.

Findings Based On Economic Awareness

61. The economic awareness is varying significantly among different age group.
62. The highest level of economic awareness is identified with the age group of above 29 years to 38 years among the respondents.

63. The lowest level of economic awareness is identified with the age group of above 58 years among the respondents.
64. The economic awareness is varying significantly among different education group.
65. The highest level of economic awareness is identified with the education group of post graduate among the respondents.
66. The lowest level of economic awareness is identified with the education group of illiterate among the respondents.
67. The economic awareness is varying significantly among different occupation group.
68. The highest level of economic awareness is identified with the occupation group of government job among the respondents.
69. The lowest level of economic awareness is identified with the occupation group of house wife among the respondents.
70. The economic awareness is varying significantly among different community group.
71. The highest level of economic awareness is identified with the community group of SC among the respondents.
72. The lowest level of economic awareness is identified with the community group of OBC among the respondents.

Findings Based On Economic Accessibility

73. The economic accessibility is varying significantly among different age group.
74. The highest level of economic accessibility is identified with the age group of above 29 years to 38 years among the respondents.
75. The lowest level of economic accessibility is identified with the age group of 49 years to 58 years among the respondents.
76. The economic accessibility is varying significantly among different education group.
77. The highest level of economic accessibility is identified with the education group of post graduate among the respondents.
78. The lowest level of economic accessibility is identified with the education group of illiterate among the respondents.
79. The economic accessibility is varying significantly among different occupation group.
80. The highest level of economic accessibility is identified with the occupation group of government job among the respondents.
81. The lowest level of economic accessibility is identified with the occupation group of house wife among the respondents.
82. The economic accessibility is varying significantly among different community group.

- 83. The highest level of economic accessibility is identified with the community group of ST among the respondents.
- 84. The lowest level of economic accessibility is identified with the community group of General among the respondents.

Findings Based On Political Awareness

- 85. The political awareness is varying significantly among different age group.
- 86. The highest level of political awareness is identified with the age group of above 18 years to 28 years among the respondents.
- 87. The lowest level of political awareness is identified with the age group of above 58 years among the respondents.
- 88. The political awareness is varying significantly among different education group.
- 89. The highest level of political awareness is identified with the education group of post graduate among the respondents.
- 90. The lowest level of political awareness is identified with the education group of illiterate among the respondents.
- 91. The political awareness is varying significantly among different occupation group.
- 92. The highest level of political awareness is identified with the occupation group of government job among the respondents.
- 93. The lowest level of political awareness is identified with the occupation group of house wife among the respondents.

- 94. The political awareness is varying significantly among different community group.
- 95. The highest level of political awareness is identified with the community group of SC among the respondents.
- 96. The lowest level of political awareness is identified with the community group of OBC among the respondents.

Findings Based On Political Accessibility

- 97. The political accessibility is varying significantly among different age group.
- 98. The highest level of political accessibility is identified with the age group of above 49 years to 58 years among the respondents.
- 99. The lowest level of political accessibility is identified with the age group of 39 years to 48 years among the respondents.
- 100. The political accessibility is varying significantly among different occupation group.
- 101. The highest level of political accessibility is identified with the occupation group of house wife among the respondents.
- 102. The lowest level of political accessibility is identified with the occupation group of business among the respondents.
- 103. The political accessibility is varying significantly among different community group.

104. The highest level of political accessibility is identified with the community group of OBC among the respondents.
105. The lowest level of political accessibility is identified with the community group of General among the respondents.

FINDINGS BASED ON T-TEST ARE PRESENTED BELOW

Findings Based On Social Awareness

1. The social awareness is varying significantly with marital status of the respondents.
2. The social awareness is significantly higher for the marital status married than that of unmarried among the respondents.
3. The social awareness is varying significantly with family type of the respondents.
4. The social Awareness is significantly higher for the joint family type than that of nuclear among the respondents.
5. The social awareness is varying significantly with locality of the respondents.
6. The social awareness is significantly higher for the urban locality than that of rural among the respondents.

Findings Based On Social Accessibility

7. The freedom in social mobility is varying significantly with marital status of the respondents.
8. The freedom in social mobility is significantly higher for the unmarried respondents than that of married among the respondents.

9. The freedom in social mobility is varying significantly with family type of the respondents.
10. The freedom in social mobility is significantly higher for the joint family type than that of nuclear among the respondents.
11. The freedom in social mobility is not found to be varying significantly with different locality among respondents.
12. The freedom in autonomy for expenditure is varying significantly with marital status of the respondents.
13. The freedom in autonomy for expenditure is significantly higher for the unmarried than that of married among the respondents.
14. The freedom in autonomy for expenditure is not found to be varying significantly with different family type among respondents.
15. The freedom in autonomy for expenditure is varying significantly with locality of the respondents.
16. The freedom in autonomy for expenditure is significantly higher for the rural than that of urban locality among the respondents.
17. The interpersonal decision making is varying significantly with marital status of the respondents.
18. The interpersonal decision making is significantly higher for the unmarried than that of married among the respondents.
19. The interpersonal decision making is not found to be varying significantly with different family type among respondents.

20. The interpersonal decision making is varying significantly with locality of the respondents.
21. The interpersonal decision making is significantly higher for the rural than that of urban locality among the respondents.
22. The discrimination in family is varying significantly with marital status of the respondents.
23. The discrimination in family is significantly higher for the married than that of unmarried among the respondents.
24. The discrimination in family is varying significantly with family type of the respondents.
25. The discrimination in family is significantly higher for the joint family type than that of nuclear among the respondents.
26. The discrimination in family is not found to be varying significantly with different locality among respondents.

Findings Based On Economic Awareness

27. The economic awareness is varying significantly with marital status of the respondents.
28. The economic awareness is significantly higher for the married than that of unmarried among the respondents.
29. The economic awareness is varying significantly with family type of the respondents.

30. The economic awareness is significantly higher for the joint family type than that of nuclear among the respondents.
31. The economic awareness is varying significantly with locality of the respondents.
32. The economic awareness is significantly higher for the urban than that of rural locality among the respondents.

Findings Based On Economic Accessibility

33. The economic accessibility is varying significantly with marital status of the respondents.
34. The economic accessibility is significantly higher for the married than that of unmarried among the respondents.
35. The economic accessibility is varying significantly with family type of the respondents.
36. The economic accessibility is significantly higher for the nuclear family type than that of joint among the respondents.
37. The economic accessibility is varying significantly with locality of the respondents.
38. The economic accessibility is significantly higher for the urban than that of rural locality among the respondents.

Findings Based On Political Awareness

39. The political awareness is varying significantly with marital status of the respondents.

- 40. The political awareness is significantly higher for the married than that of unmarried among the respondents.
- 41. The political awareness is varying significantly with family type of the respondents.
- 42. The political awareness is significantly higher for the joint family type than that of nuclear among the respondents.
- 43. The political awareness is varying significantly with locality of the respondents.
- 44. The political awareness is significantly higher for the rural than that of urban locality among the respondents.

Findings Based On Political Accessibility

- 45. The political accessibility is varying significantly with marital status of the respondents.
- 46. The political accessibility is significantly higher for the married than that of unmarried among the respondents.
- 47. The political accessibility is varying significantly with family type of the respondents.
- 48. The political accessibility is significantly higher for the nuclear family type than that of joint among the respondents.
- 49. The political accessibility is not found to be varying significantly with different locality among respondents.

CONCLUSION

From the discussion of the above chapters, it can be concluded that during early Vedic periods women in Kashmir have been held in high esteem and enjoy comparatively a better position than their counterparts in the rest of the Indian sub-continent. Culturally, they have had a dignified status and politically they exercised their powers being the Queens and sometimes as the rulers of the society. But since the dawn of foreign rule, the position of women began to deteriorate to such an extent that when Jammu and Kashmir came under Dogra rule, they had accepted their secondary/ degraded position as their destiny. But with the British influence both in India and Jammu and Kashmir, they began to think about their degraded status and some consciousness came in to their minds and tried to reform their position. However, freedom struggle both in India and Kashmir became the cause also for freedom struggle for women. It gave them platforms to come out of darkness and raise voice against foreign rulers as well as against their position as second class citizens. As a result, with the independence in India and Jammu and Kashmir measures for reforming the conditions of women were started by local governments. In Jammu and Kashmir National Conference became the first government headed by Shiekh Mohammad Abdullah provided many opportunities for development of women. But, as the Kashmir history witnessed a change during 1980's because of Militancy, the position of women came to a very low level. Regardless of their rich contribution in every field, the women of the State have failed to get their due place in the society. They don't enjoy equal rights as the men-folk enjoy. Since the beginning of Kashmir conflict, in late 1980's people of Kashmir in general and women in particular have been the victims in the ongoing

cycle of violence and abuse. Even women in Kashmir are attacked and sometimes killed for what they wear or don't wear thus striking fear in their hearts. In Kashmir one female noted, "both sides have guns, they shoot each other, they both die. But the problem remains.

After analysing the fourth and fifth chapter and on the basis of the results of the study arrived above, it is concluded that on perusal of educational level, housing, access to communication tools, land holdings, freedom in social mobility, and freedom in autonomy for expenditure, interpersonal decision making and other social backgrounds, generally the status of the women in the study area seemed to be high. However, they are having access to modern life style, denial to avail modern employment opportunities, non utilization of higher education and their dependence on males persist. Also political accessibility like to contest elections, join political parties is very low (see table 5.12) as compared to males.

Awareness is one of the fundamental tenets of women empowerment, shows the sign of positive change. The number of rural women lack sufficient amount of knowledge because of social restriction to access education, participation in public life and exposure to knowledge resources. Further, due to the traditional male hegemony and insufficient governmental efforts to organise awareness campaigns for promoting women participation in these women empowerment programmes, women in the study area are not conscious in the spirit of utilizing their power and responsibilities towards these empowerment programmes.

Social freedom, balanced power and their exposure to various sources of knowledge are fundamental aspects of social life of women, because women need a free space to move in order to express and access the knowledge resources. Women have freedom of interaction with friends, relatives, and are freely visiting marriage parties, free to visit hospitals and market places (see table 5.8) but they are facing considerable levels of restrictions in the matters of moving outside for studies or employment purposes which force them to confine their roles in domestic domain. Though they are having exposure to television, radio and internet to some extent, they are not given sufficient support to enhance empowerment level.

Decision making power plays an active role in the process of women status but women in the study area had low level of ability to influence in decision making, (see table 5.10) as they are chained into the structure of patriarchy and this system has snatched their personal freedom, positive attitude in health and family planning. Women have been suppressed by not giving authority to use economic resources, a basic reason for their extreme dependence. Women are unable to perform active part in self help group, which is considered as most beneficial strategy for the upliftment of women.

In the study area, women had free access to domestic based activities, but they are facing considerable degree of restriction in sharing equal opportunities for jobs in professional and technical institutions, (see table 5.11) where the working culture demands frequent meetings with opposite gender. A few educated women are having access to both domestic based as well as other modern jobs, which

shows that the dawn of women folk towards overall empowerment is on par with their counterpart. It is not shocking to know that most of them are executing their traditional familial roles of sub-ordination yielding to patriarchy in all economic aspects of life.

Political empowerment can improve the status and equality of women. Political accessibility for women in the study area is very low (see table 5.12) because of male dominated politics. Women are lacking in access to political institutions like local self government, membership in political parties and women organisations which are the means of mobilization and transformation to participate in political life. It is pathetic to know that, they have to get permission from males of the family to cast their vote which is highly condemnable. The lacunae between readiness to political participation and organised activities and the denial of right to politics need immediate government intervention. Women are showing positive signs to execute their talent and break their silence in organised actions and politics.

Women in Jammu and Kashmir are marginalized and the wave of change has not influenced much, as the findings of this study shows that women in the study area have low level of socio-economic and political status. The major cause behind this backwardness is patriarchy which constrains them from getting higher education, employment and active part in politics, which are the essential factors for women empowerment.

Thus participation in organised activities is the immediate need to mobilize their capacities, role and responsibilities in order to achieve the goal to improve the status of women. Therefore, the situation demands the collective efforts of community, women activists and government to actively involved in removing the major obstacles of women empowerment, by giving them free access and control over social, economic and political resources through awareness, education and employment opportunities.

SUGGESTIONS

It is a recognized fact that for development of a true democratic society, human resources development is a must. Human resources development implies that women also need to be developed right from the grass-root level especially in the areas of education, health, employment, economic welfare and attainment of social and psychological security. Besides they need to be involved in the total decision-making process right from the home up to the Parliament. Women in decision-making and national levels are major change factors which are leading towards greater participation democracy, social equality and gender justice.

Empowerment of women is a need of hour. It will enhance both the quality and quantity of human resources with which development is possible. Thus, if any nation has to develop women empowerment is must. But empowerment of women and their equal status etc are not so easy to put in to practice. Any improvement in the status of women is almost impossible without cooperation and change of hearts from the part of the men. Men must be involved in this process. Otherwise it would become like clap with one hand which is impossible. On the other hand, it is also

necessary to arise self-consciousness and awareness in each individual woman. For achieving this objective awareness of gender discrimination challenging the sense of inferiority, recognizing the value of their labour and their contribution to the society is much important. The role of women should not be underestimated. They can work wonders if given a chance. They have constructed bridges and not walls during conflicts in the family or outside. However, attaining of education is pre-requisite priority for their overall development. Teaching/ learning material must be designed in such a way that would render gender gap and foster and prepare women for equal partnership and shared roles for a common future. However, mere education will not empower them unless it is integrated with economic activities and skill-development to ensure their employability, income generation, self-help. Thus, the skill based job-oriented income generating vocational courses in various crafts/trade as per their need would certainly empower women in distress and despair and bring her out from pauperizing state of affairs. There is no need for much intervention and innovations to empower women. What is need is orientation, mobilization and realization of women friendly environment. Only the women living in the cities and one or two towns have benefited by the reform movement so far. Same is the case in Jammu and Kashmir. Only the women belonging to elite class have been benefited by government schemes/programmes particularly in political fields. The new spirit must travel to the farthest corners and arouse the humblest and poorest in the land. It is the peasant women who constitute the backbone of the community and who have to be awakened and led on the path of progress if nation is to grow and prosper.

The State has a fundamental role to play in the implementation of all human rights instruments, especially the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and ensuring that State Human Rights Commission pay adequate attention to violation of women's rights. State policy can promote and ensure the equal participation of women in decision making in all forums. A gender inclusive policy and the integration of a gender perspective into training programmes of bodies addressing gender issues would ensure greater effective of prosecutors, judges and other officials addressing and handling issues of violence against women in the disputed State of Jammu and Kashmir.

SCOPE FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The present study focused on the Kashmir Province of the State there is a large scope for the further study in the State.

A study could be conducted by increasing the sample size.

A study could be conducted on other district of Jammu and Kashmir.

A study could be conducted on status of Gujjar and Bakerwal women in Jammu and Kashmir.