

CHAPTER-VII

AWARENESS AND PERCEPTIONS
OF SAMPLE RESPONDENTS

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7.0 Introduction

This chapter broadly explains the awareness and perceptions of sample respondents in the study area. The vital function of the Self Help Group (SHG) programme is to make a significant impact on their empowerment both in social and economic aspects. With the aim to meet the millennium development goals and micro-finance programme's role in supporting it, there has been an increasing expectation on their impact on women empowerment. However, the perception and expectations of the members of the SHGs vary from person to person. In this context an attempt is made in this chapter to solicit information on perceptions of the sample respondents, who are engaged in different income generating activities, on the impact of the Self-Help Groups on their livelihood pattern besides their empowerment.

7.1. Awareness on Importance of Family Planning After Joining SHGs

The sample respondents are asked whether they are aware on the importance of family planning after joining SHGs. The distribution of the respondents by their awareness on the importance of family planning after association with SHGs is given in Table 7.1. It is inferred from the statistics that majority 98.98 per cent of the sample respondents reported that they are aware with regarding to importance of family planning after joining SHGs, whereas the rest of the sample respondents 1.02 per cent which is negligible, reported that they are unaware of the importance of family planning even after joining in the SHGs programme. Figure 7.1 shows the graphical results of the data.

Across various categories of the sample respondents, it is noticed that all the sample respondents of Dairy and Poultry, Food Processing, Tailoring and Sari Painting and Trade and Commerce categories of the respondents are aware of family planning after joining SHGs followed by Food Processing and Manufacturing units with slightly less per cent of respondents reported that they are unaware of family

planning after joining SHGs. It may be noticed the awareness on the importance of family planning can certainly influence to lower the rate of growth of reproduction and cause to empower the rural poor socioeconomic spheres.

Table 7.1
Distribution of Sample Respondents by their Awareness on Importance of Family Planning after Joining SHGs

Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Awareness of Importance of Family Planning		Total
		Aware	Not aware	
1	2	3	4	5
1	Food Processing	241 (97.96) (30.73)	5 (2.04) (62.50)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
2	Dairy & Poultry	148 (100.00) (18.87)	–	148 (100.00) (18.68)
3	Tailoring & Sari Painting	169 (100.00) (21.55)	–	169 (100.00) (21.33)
4	Manufacturing	139 (97.88) (17.12)	3 (2.12) (37.55)	142 (100.00) (17.92)
5	Trade And Commerce	87 (100.00) (11.09)	–	87 (100.00) (10.98)
6	Total	783 (98.98) (100.00)	8 (1.02) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data.

Note: Numbers in Parentheses are Percentages.

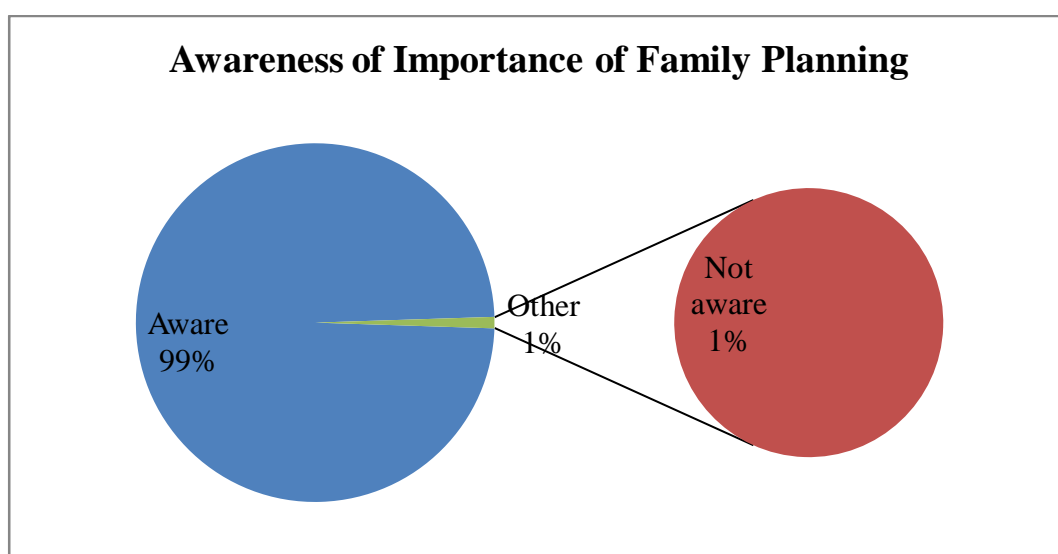
Statistical Inference

P Value of variable	Chi-square value (X^2)	df	Result
Low or High P=.000 or >.05	Pearson Chi-Square value	X^2 (df)	P= <.05 or > .05
P value of Importance of Family Planning is P=.000 which is less than .05	53.405 ^a	With (df) = 12	Hence P=.000 < .05 Null Hypothesis is rejected

Since the computed P value is close to zero among the null hypothesis that ‘there is no significant association between Cleanliness of the Respondents and the type of activity undertaken’ is rejected. It is therefore concluded that the level of Cleanliness of the Respondents significantly influence the type of economic activity undertaken by the sample respondent.

Fig: 7.1

Awareness of Importance of Family Planning



Source: Computed from Primary Data

7.2. Knowledge about Reproductive Health Care after Joining SHGs

An attempt is made to ask the sample respondents whether they attained Knowledge about reproductive health care after joining or not. Majority of the sample respondents reported that they do not have any knowledge on the reproductive health care before joining SHGs. Table 7.2 shows how the distribution of sample respondents on the awareness of reproductive health care after joining SHGs. Out of the sample, the majority 97.09 per cent of sample respondents reported that they are well versed with reproductive health care after getting association with SHGs, while a very little percentage 2.90 of sample respondents which is negligible reported that they still unaware of reproductive healthcare. This is shown in figure 7.2.

With regard to the statistics on various categories of activities it is evident that entire 100.00 per cent of respondents of Dairy and Poultry, Tailoring and Sari Painting and Trade and Commerce units reported that all of them have possessed knowledge of reproductive health care. A few from Food Processing and manufacturing units reported that they have no knowledge of reproductive health care. Hence it is concluded that large chunk of respondents aware about reproductive health care after joining SHGs. Thus SHGs are helping women to this extent by making aware of reproductive health care in order to provide good health to a woman as well as to the child.

Table 7.2

Distribution of Sample Respondents by the Knowledge about Reproductive Health Care after Joining SHGs

Sl.No	Activity of the Respondent	Knowledge about Reproductive Health Care		Total
		Obtained	Not Obtained	
1	2	3	4	5
1	Food Processing	228 (92.68) (29.64)	18 (7.31) (78.26)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
2	Dairy and Poultry	148 (100.00) (19.24)	—	148 (100.00) (18.68)
3	Tailoring and Sari Painting	169 (100.00) (21.97)	—	169 (100.00) (21.33)
4	Manufacturing	137 (96.47) (17.81)	5 (3.52) (21.73)	142 (100.00) (17.92)
5	Trade and Commerce	87 (100.00) (11.31)	—	87 (100.00) (10.98)
6	Total	769 (97.09) (100.00)	23 (2.90) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

Note: Numbers in Parentheses are Percentages

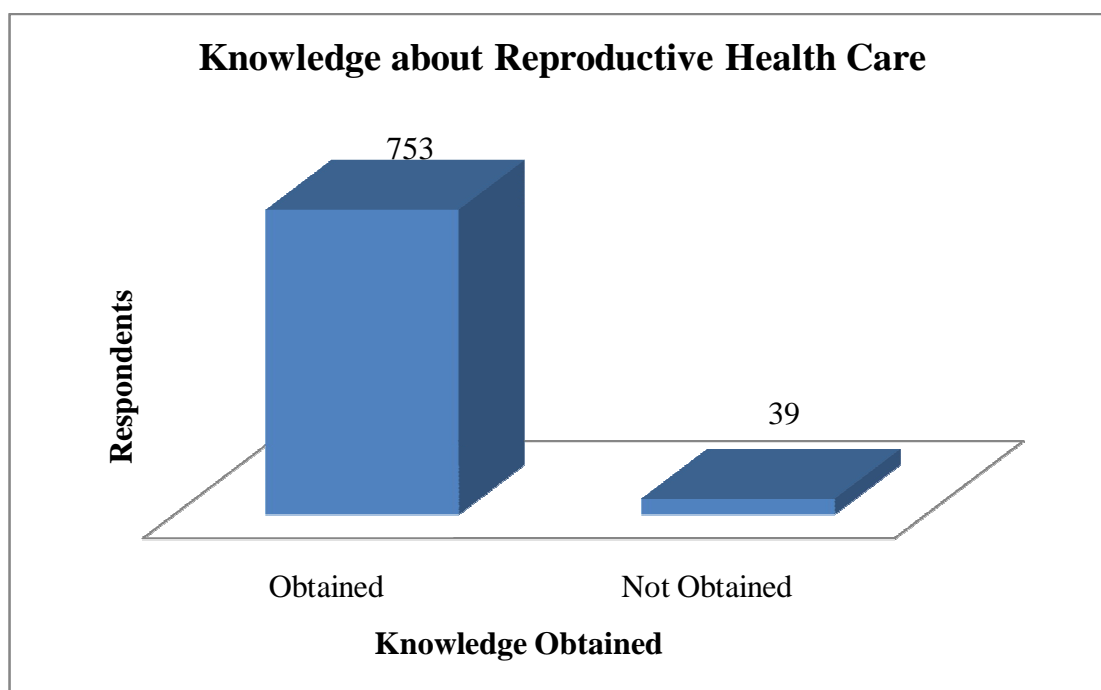
Statistical Inference

P Value of variable	Chi-square value (X^2)	df	Result
Low or High P=.000 or >.05	Pearson Chi-Square value	X^2 (df)	P= <.05 or > .05
P value of Reproductive health Care is P=.000 which is less than .05	49.741 ^a	With (df) = 12	Hence P=.000 < .05 Null Hypothesis is rejected

Since the computed P value is close to zero among the null hypothesis that ‘there is no significant association between Reproductive Health Care of the Respondents and the type of activity undertaken’ is rejected. It is therefore concluded that the level of Reproductive Health Care of the Respondents significantly influence the type of economic activity undertaken by the sample respondent

Fig:7.2

Knowledge about Reproductive Health Care



Source: Computed from Primary Data

7.3. Knowledge and Awareness about HIV/AIDS after Joining SHGs

In continuation of healthcare an attempt is also made to elicit information from the sample respondents whether they acquired knowledge about HIV/AIDS and aware of its implications over health after joining SHGs. It is observed from the study that many NGOs and Government organizations have conducted awareness programmes at village level, mandal level and district level to impart knowledge over the protection and prevention. On the other hand the village level organizations related to SHGs conducted awareness programmes awakening the members of SHGs regarding the evil effects and threat to the health. The distribution of the sample respondents by knowledge awareness about HIV/AIDS after joining the SHGs is furnished in the Table 7.3. It may be observed from the data that significant percentage of sample respondents (95.07 per cent) responded that they have acquired knowledge and awareness about HIV/AIDS after joining SHGs. Only a few sample respondents (5.53 per cent) responded that they have not learned about this component. It is 1.38 per cent have not responded for this question. This analysis is also shown in figure 7.3.

Across the strata, it is observed that more than 90.00 per cent of all sample categories stated that they are aware of this by obtaining the knowledge over HIV/AIDS after joining the SHGs. But a few respondents (4.91 per cent) of the total sample of Food Processing and Manufacturing units found that they are unaware and have no knowledge over this HIV/AIDS.

It is to be noticed that the sample villages are surrounded by good number of Higher Education Institutions which are frequently conducting health awareness campaigns and on prevailing social problems such as HIV/AIDS, prevalence of child care, illiteracy etc. for the social empowerment of rural poor women.

Table 7.3

Distribution of Sample Respondents by the Knowledge and Awareness about HIV/AIDS after Joining SHGs

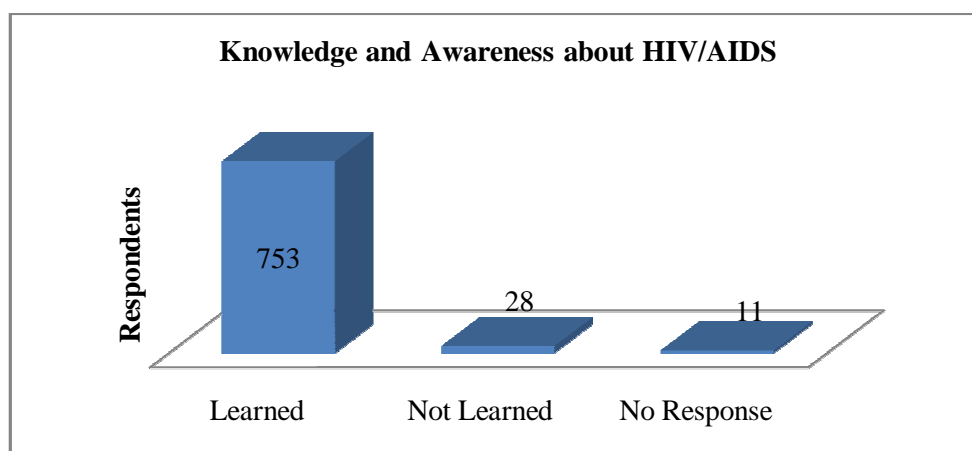
Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Knowledge and Awareness about HIV/AIDS			Total
		Learned	Not Learned	No Response	
1	2	3	4	5	6
2	Food Processing	232 (94.30) (30.81)	9 (3.65) (32.14)	5 (2.03) (45.45)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	145 (97.97) (19.25)	3 (2.02) (10.71)	–	148 (100.00) (18.68)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	162 (95.85) (21.51)	7 (4.14) (25.00)	–	169 (100.00) (21.33)
5	Manufacturing	127 (89.43) (16.86)	9 (6.33) (32.14)	6 (4.22) (54.54)	142 (100.00) (17.92)
6	Trade And Commerce	87 (100.00) (11.55)	–	–	87 (10.98) (100.00)
7	Total	753 (95.07) (100.00)	28 (3.53) (100.00)	11 (1.38) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data.

Note: Numbers in Parentheses are Percentages

Fig: 7.3

Knowledge and awareness about HIV/AIDS



Source: Compute from Primary Data

7.4. Nutritional and Health Status Improved after Joining SHGs

The sample respondents are asked whether nutritional and health status improve after joining SHGs. Table 7.4 shows the distribution of the sample respondents by nutritional health status and on the improvement after joining SHGs. It is interesting to notice that majority that is 9.93 per cent of sample respondents are responded that there is improvement in the knowledge and awareness on nutritional and health status. Only a few 6.07 per cent of sample respondents replied that they have no knowledge and not aware of it in the study area.

When it is observed among different categories of economic activities it is found that all most all categories are in the range of above 90.00 per cent who replied that they have knowledge and awareness in nutritional and health issues after joining SHGs. However, it is only 6.07 per cent of respondents replied that they have no knowledge and awareness on nutritional and health status.

Based on the above findings it may be concluded that the impact of health care programmes like family planning, food and nutrition and HIV/AIDS are influencing significantly on improving the knowledge and awareness in nutritional and health care status. The working of Ayush workers and village health workers, primary health workers under different schemes also influencing to improve their status.

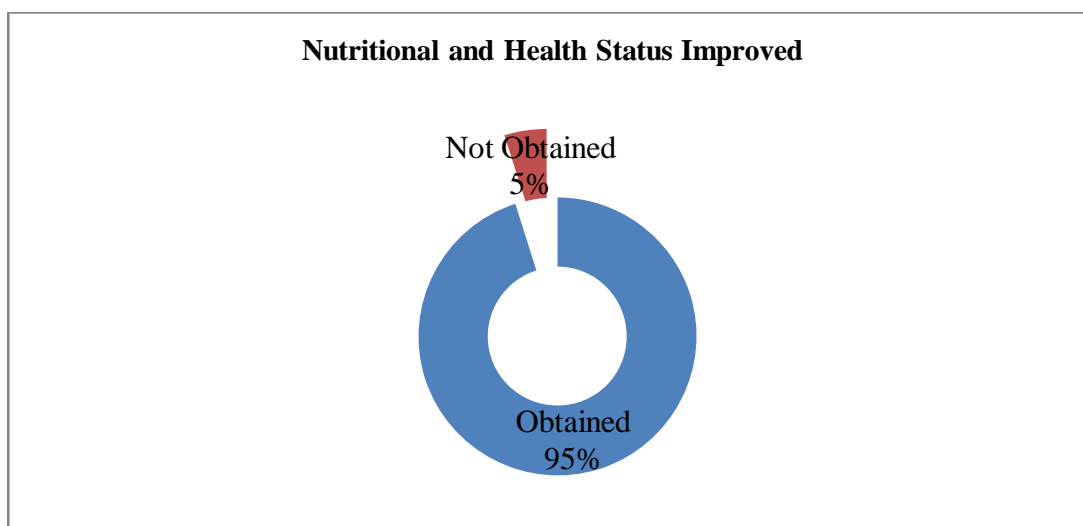
Table 7.4
Distribution of Sample Respondents by Nutritional and Health Status Improved
After Joining SHGs.

Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Nutritional and Health Status Improved		Total
		Obtained	Not Obtained	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	224 (91.05) (30.10)	22 (8.95) (45.83)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	135 (91.21) (19.53)	13 (8.79) (27.08)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	163 (96.45) (18.14)	6 (3.55) (12.50)	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	136 (95.77) (18.27)	6 (4.23) (12.50)	142 (100.00) (17.93)
6	Trade And Commerce	86 (98.85) (11.55)	1 (1.15) (2.08)	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	744 (93.93) (100.00)	48 (6.07) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

Fig: 7.4
Nutritional and Health Status Improved



Source: Computed from Primary Data

7.5. Advice and Guidance to Co-Villagers about Family Planning

The sample respondents are asked whether they advise and guide the co-villagers about the importance of family planning and various methods of family planning after joining SHGs. The distribution of the sample respondents by whether they advise and guide co-villagers about family planning is given in Table 7.5. The data shows that 95.07 per cent of sample respondents stated that they gave advice and guidance to the co-villagers about the importance of family planning and family planning methods. On the other hand a negligible per cent of sample respondents that is 4.92 per cent replied that they did not advise and guide the co-villagers about family planning. The same data is portrayed in the figure 7.5 below.

Among different categories of respondents in different economic activities, it is evident from the table that in Tailoring and Sari Painting unit 100.00 per cent of respondents responded that they have advised and guided the co-villagers in this regard. In the rest of the economic activities unit only less per cent that is below five per cent of respondents are reported that they have guided on their aspects.

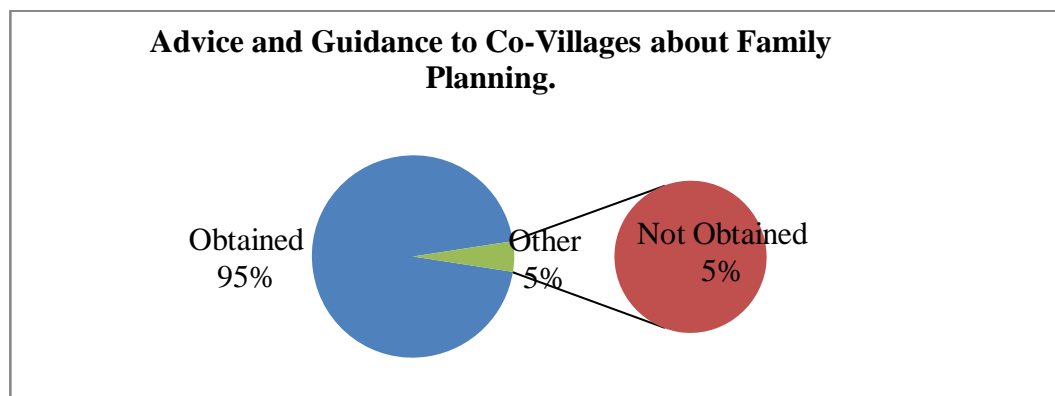
Table 7.5
Distribution of Sample Respondents by their Advice and Guidance to Co-Villagers

Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Advice and Guidance to Co-Villagers about Family Planning.		Total
		Obtained	Not Obtained	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	234 (95.12) (31.07)	12 (4.87) (30.76)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	135 (91.21) (17.92)	13 (8.78) (33.33)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	169 (100.00) (22.44)	–	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	128 (90.14) (16.99)	14 (9.85) (35.89)	142 (100.00) (17.92)
6	Trade And Commerce	87 (100.00) (11.55)	–	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	753 (95.07) (100.00)	39 (4.92) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

Fig: 7.5

Advice and Guidance to Co-Villages about Family Planning



Source: Computed from Primary Data

7.6. Knowing the Importance of Child Education after Joining SHGs

Education plays an important role in moulding an individual as a good citizen with good aims and qualities to provide better, richer, peaceful and purposeful life. Education is a medium of employment and avoids various kinds of exploitations in the society. In this context an attempt is made to examine whether the respondents know the importance of their children education after joining SHGs. The distribution of sample respondents by whether they know the importance of children education is furnished in the Table 7.6. As per this data it is found that about 96.59 per cent of sample respondents are aware of their children education. And only few respondents that is 3.40 per cent of sample respondents which is very meager per cent in contrast to the total, reported that they are unaware of their children education. This is shown in figure 7.6

Across different stratas the table reveals that more than 90 per cent of respondents are aware of their children education. The respondents who reported that they are unaware of their children education even after joining SHGs is less than 5 per cent which is very negligible when compared with total respondents. As such the SHGs are facilitating women to be aware about their children education and its importance. Also it is noticed in this study that group members have frequently discussed about the importance of education for their children. It is also observed in the study that most of the children of the sample respondents are studying in English

medium schools. It is striking to note that sample respondents are willing to pay more fees to impart better education to their children.

Table 7.6

Distribution of Sample Respondents by Knowledge of Child Education after Joining SHGs

Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Knowledge of Child Education		Total
		Known	Not Known	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	273 (96.34) (30.98)	9 (3.66) (33.33)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	140 (94.59) (18.30)	8 (5.41) (29.62)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	165 (97.63) (21.56)	4 (2.37) (14.81)	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	136 (95.77) (17.77)	6 (4.23) (22.23)	142 (100.00) (17.93)
6	Trade And Commerce	87 (100.00) (11.37)	–	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	765 (96.59) (100.00)	27 (3.40) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

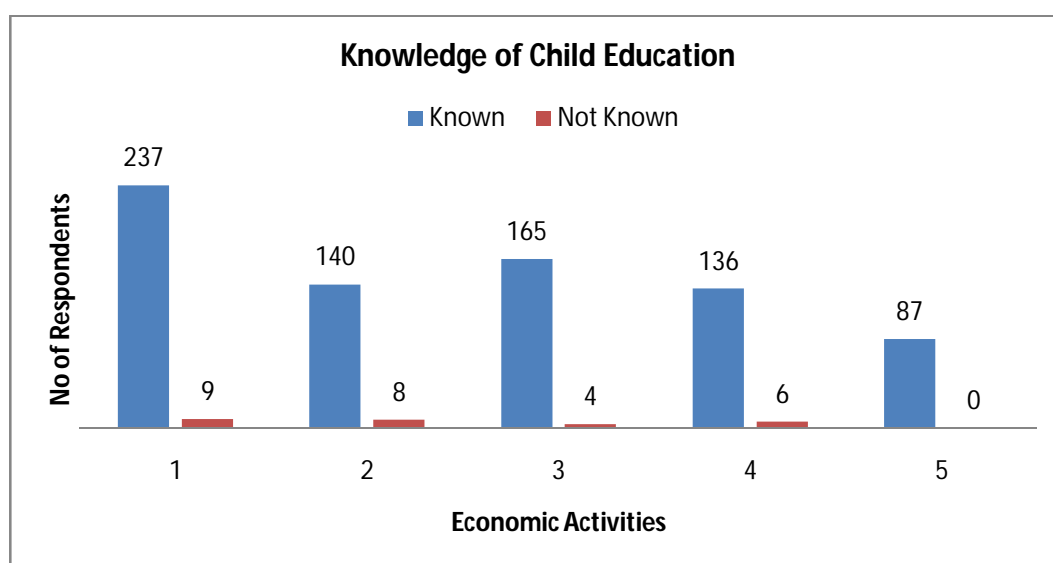
Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

Statistical Inference:

P Value of variable	Chi-square value (X^2)	df	Result
Low or High P=.000 or >.05	Pearson Chi-Square value	X^2 (df)	P= <.05 or > .05
P value of Child Education is P=.000 which is less than .05	99.295 ^a	With (df) = 16	Hence P=.000 < .05 Null Hypothesis is rejected

Since the computed P value is close to zero among the null hypothesis that ‘there is no significant association Child Education of the Respondents and the type of activity undertaken’ is rejected. It is therefore concluded that the level of Child Education of the Respondents significantly influence the type of economic activity undertaken by the sample respondent.

Fig: 7.6
Knowledge of child Education



Source: composed from Primary Data

7.7 Awareness about Government Implemented Programmes after Joining SHGs

The field survey reveals that the Government is giving high priority to the members of SHG, whenever a development programme is launched in the state. Further the Government is directly interacting with members of the SHGs at the inaugural session of the event. Moreover the Government is sanctioning some of the developmental programmes in the state through SHGs only. The sample respondents are asked whether they are aware about Government programmes after joining SHGs. Table 7.7 gives information on the distribution of sample respondents whether they are aware about Government developmental programmes after joining SHGs. It is observed from the table that 87.87 per cent of respondents are aware of this developmental programmes carried by the Government. But 12.13 per cent of sample

respondents are reported that they are unaware of this government programmes. This is shown in bar chat 7.7

Among different categories of activities under study it is observed that all categories of respondents in the range of about 90 per cent except Manufacturing unit with 74 per cent. Tailoring and Sari Painting and Trade and commerce units are in high sensitivity with more than 90 per cent. By contrast, the respondents who denied their awareness in this regard are less when compared with the total respondents. But Manufacturing and Dairy and Poultry units are lagging behind when compare with other units by less per cent. In total the respondents that are poor state of knowledge in this area are only 12.13 per cent.

Table 7.7

Distribution of Sample Respondents by Awareness on Government Implemented Programmes after Joining SHGs

Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Awareness about Government Programmes		Total
		Aware	Not Aware	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	222 (90.24) (31.89)	24 (9.76) (25.00)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	128 (86.48) (18.39)	20 (13.52) (20.83)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	158 (93.49) (22.70)	11 (6.50) (11.45)	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	106 (74.64) (15.22)	36 (25.35) (37.50)	142 (100.00) (17.93)
6	Trade And Commerce	82 (94.25) (11.78)	5 (5.75) (5.20)	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	696 (87.87) (100.00)	96 (12.13) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

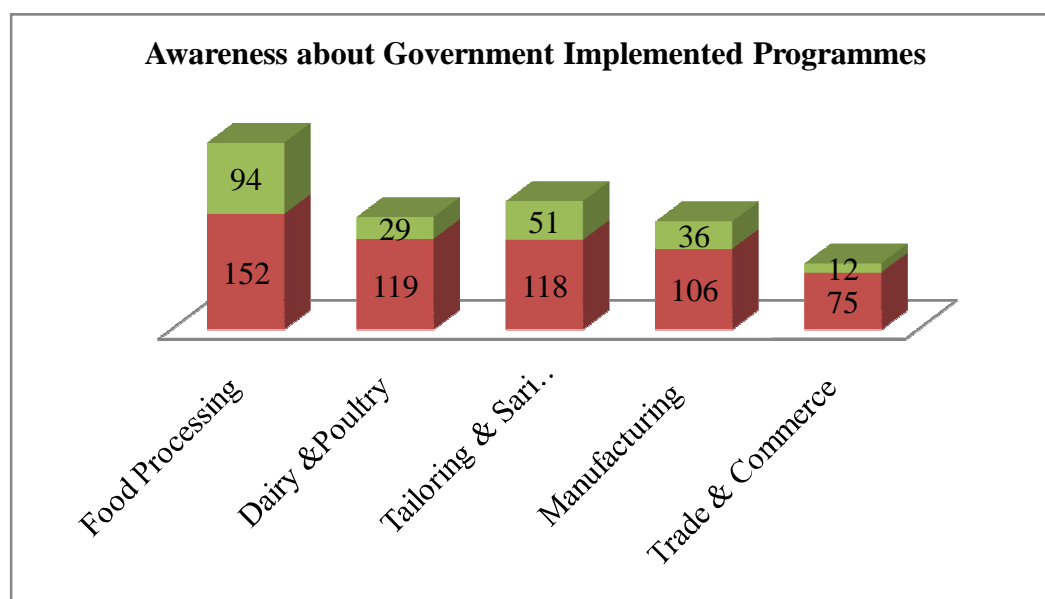
Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

Statistical Inference

P Value of variable	Chi-square value (X^2)	df	Result
Low or High P=.000 or >.05	Pearson Chi-Square value 63.170 ^a	X^2 (df)	P= <.05 or > .05
P value of Government Programms is P=.000 which is less than .05		With (df) = 20.	Hence P=.000 < .05 Null Hypothesis is rejected

Since the computed P value is close to zero among the null hypothesis that ‘there is no significant association between Government Programs of the Respondents and the type of activity undertaken’ is rejected. It is therefore concluded that the level of Government Programs of the Respondents significantly influence the type of economic activity undertaken by the sample respondent

Fig: 7.7
Awareness about Government Implemented Programmes



Source: Computed from Primary Data

7.8 Knowledge about Legal Rights after Joining SHGs

An attempt is also made to obtain information on whether they possessed knowledge about legal rights after joining SHGs. The distribution of the respondents by whether they possessed knowledge about legal rights is given in Table 7.8. It is

interesting to note 97.34 per cent of respondents are aware of the legal rights after joining SHGs except a 2.65 per cent of SHGs sample respondents.

The survey revealed that the role of DRDA and other Government organization and NGOs are playing vital role in creating awareness among the sample respondents towards the knowledge on the legal rights. The motivational camps conducted by the groups, cluster and nodal leaders give them good knowledge on the legal rights of women. This is made clear in this study that the women are acquiring good knowledge regarding their own rights about property, Domestic Violence Act, Women Protection Legal providers etc. This can be seen in figure 7.8.

Table 7.8
Distribution of Sample Respondents by Knowledge about Legal Rights after
Joining SHGs

Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Knowledge about Legal Rights		Total
		Improved	Not Improved	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	237 (96.34) 30.73)	9 (3.66) (34.26)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	144 (97.30) (18.67)	4 (2.70) (19.04)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	169 (100.00) (21.91)	–	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	134 (94.36) (17.38)	8 (5.63) (38.09)	142 (100.00) (17.93)
6	Trade And Commerce	87 (100.00) (11.28)	–	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	771 (97.34) (100.00)	21 (2.65) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

Statistical Inference

P Value of variable	Chi-square value (X^2)	df	Result
Low or High P=.000 or >.05	Pearson Chi-Square value 51.727 ^a	X^2 (df)	P= <.05 or > .05
P value of Knowledge about Legal Rights is P=.000 which is less than .05		With (df) = 16	Hence P=.000 < .05 Null Hypothesis is rejected

Since the computed P value is close to zero among the null hypothesis that ‘there is no significant association Knowledge about Legal Rights of the Respondents and the type of activity undertaken’ is rejected. It is therefore concluded that the level of Knowledge about Legal Rights of the Respondents significantly influence the type of economic activity undertaken by the sample respondent

Fig:7.8

Knowledge about Legal Rights



Source: Computed from Primary Data

7.9. Improvement in Communication Skills after Joining SHGs

The sample respondents are asked whether there is any development in the level of communication after joining SHGs. The distribution of the respondents by improvement in the level communication is furnished in Table 7.9. It is obvious from

the table that 96.46 per cent of the sample respondents have developed their skill in communication after joining SHGs. It is only negligible per cent of 3.53 sample respondents reported that they have not developed their communication skill. This is shown in figure 7.9

Table 7.9
Distribution of Sample Respondents by Level of Importance of Communication Skills after Joining SHGs

Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Communication Skills Developed		Total
		Developed	Not Developed	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	233 (94.71) (30.49)	13 (5.29) (46.42)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	139 (93.91) (18.19)	9 (6.09) (32.14)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	169 (100.00) (22.12)	–	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	136 (95.77) (17.80)	6 (4.23) (21.42)	142 (100.00) (17.93)
6	Trade And Commerce	87 (100.00) (11.38)	–	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	764 (96.46) (100.00)	28 (3.53) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

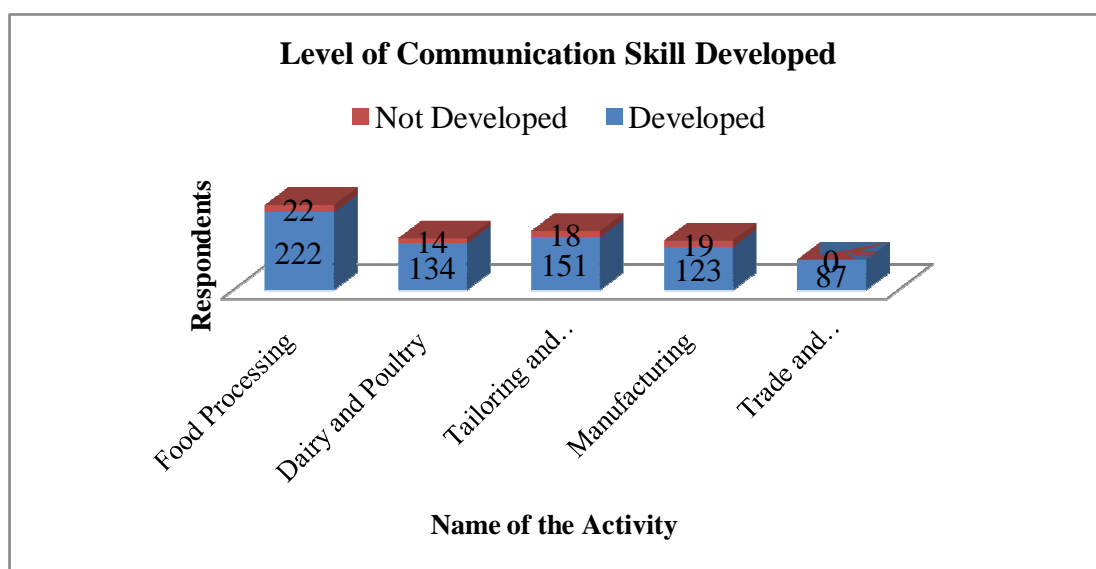
Statistical Inference

P Value of variable	Chi-square value (X^2)	df	Result
Low or High P=.000 or >.05	Pearson Chi-Square	X^2 (df)	P= <.05 or > .05
P value of Communication Skills Developed is P=.000 which is less than .05	value 364.893 ^a	With (df) = 12.	Hence P=.000 < .05 Null Hypothesis is rejected

Since the computed P value is close to zero among the null hypothesis that ‘there is no significant association between Communication Skills Developed of the Respondents and the type of activity undertaken’ is rejected. It is therefore concluded that the level of Communication Skills Developed of the Respondents significantly influence the type of economic activity undertaken by the sample respondent

Fig: 7.9

Level of Communication Skills Developed



Source: Computed from Primary Data

7.10 Development of Leadership Qualities after Joining SHGs

The sample respondents are asked whether they feel that leadership quality is developed among them after joining SHGs. The distribution of sample respondents by whether leadership quality is developed after joining SHGs is given in the Table 7.10. It is evident from the table that 90 per cent of respondents felt that they are able to develop leadership qualities while it is only 10 per cent have not seen tried in that direction for the improvement of leadership qualities.

Among different categories of activities it is evident that all respondents in Trade and Commerce and 90 per cent of Food Processing, Tailoring and Sari Painting activity respondents developed leadership qualities. It is only 10 per cent of sample respondents are not developed with leadership qualities.

Table 7.10

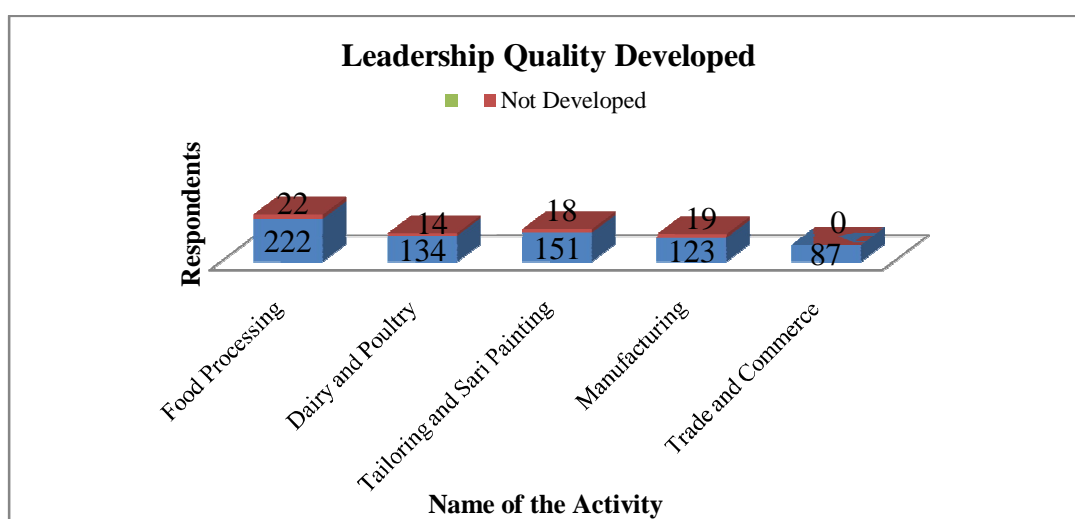
**Distribution of Sample Respondents by Leadership Quality Development after
Joining SHGs**

Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Status of Leadership Quality		Total
		Developed	Not Developed	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	224 (91.05) (31.15)	22 (8.94) (30.13)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	134 (90.54) (18.63)	14 (9.46) (19.17)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	151 (89.34) (21.00)	18 (10.66) (24.65)	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	123 (86.61) (17.10)	19 (13.38) (26.02)	142 (100.00) (17.93)
6	Trade And Commerce	87 (100.00) (12.10)	—	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	719 (90.78) (100.00)	73 (9.22) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

Fig: 7.10
Leadership Quality Developed



Source: Computed from Primary Data

7.11 Decision Making after Joining SHGs

Another important dimension of empowerment is the ability to participate in decision making in the house as well as in their life goals. In this context an attempt is made to ask the sample respondents about the decision taking ability in their household activities. The distribution of the sample respondents by whom decision are taken in their house is furnished in the Table 7.11. It is depicted from the data that only 68.56 per cent of sample respondents are reported that they are able to take decisions in the household events. On contrary to this, 31.44 per cent of sample respondents opinioned that their husbands are dominating in decision making in the household matters.

Regarding this among different occupational structures, it is noticed that in manufacturing units women are given less importance on decision making in the household events when compared with other units of activities in the study area. About 30.00 per cent of respondents are reported that they are not allowed to take decisions in the household activities. Further it is observed that in other economic activity units such as Dairy and Poultry, Tailoring and Sari Painting and Trade and Commerce more than 25 per cent of respondents are reported that they are not allowed to participate in decision making events in the house. This observation reveals the fact that because of implementation of this scheme SHGs women could able to take decisions in the household activities in the male dominant society. To boost up the status of women through women empowerment programmes the role of Government and NGOs are expected more in the years to come.

Table 7.11

**Distribution of Sample Respondents by whom Decisions are taken in the House
after Joining SHGs**

Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Decisions taken in the House		Total
		Improved	Not Improved	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	168 (68.29) (30.94)	78 (31.71) (31.34)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	111 (75.00) (20.44)	37 (25.00) (14.86)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	120 (71.00) (22.10)	49 (29.00) (19.68)	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	80 (56.34) (14.73)	62 (43.66) (24.90)	142 (100.00) (17.93)
6	Trade And Commerce	64 (73.56) (11.79)	23 (26.44) (9.24)	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	543 (68.56) (100.00)	249 (31.44) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

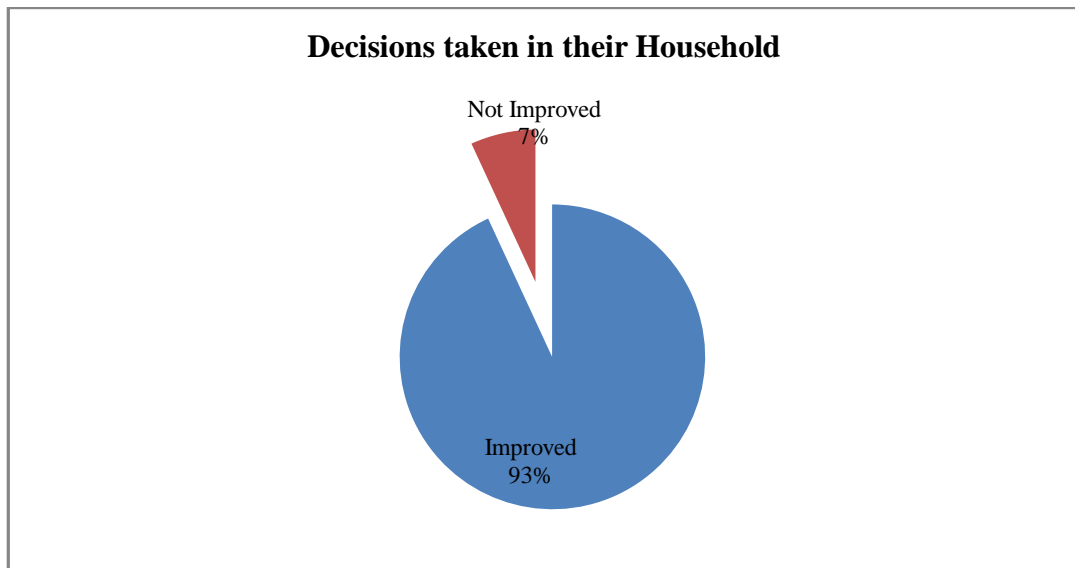
Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

Statistical Inference

P Value of variable	Chi-square value (X^2)	df	Result
Low or High P=.000 or >.05	Pearson Chi-Square value	X^2 (df)	P= <.05 or > .05
P value of Decisions taken in their Household is P=.000 which is less than .05	43.343 ^a	With (df) = 16	Hence P=.000 < .05 Null Hypothesis is rejected

Since the computed P value is close to zero among the null hypothesis that ‘there is no significant association between Decisions taken in their Household of the Respondents and the type of activity undertaken’ is rejected. It is therefore concluded that the level of Decisions taken in their Household of the Respondents significantly influence the type of economic activity undertaken by the sample respondent

Fig7.11
Decision taken in their Household



Source: Computed from Primary Data

7.12 Improvement in Confidence levels after Joining SHGs

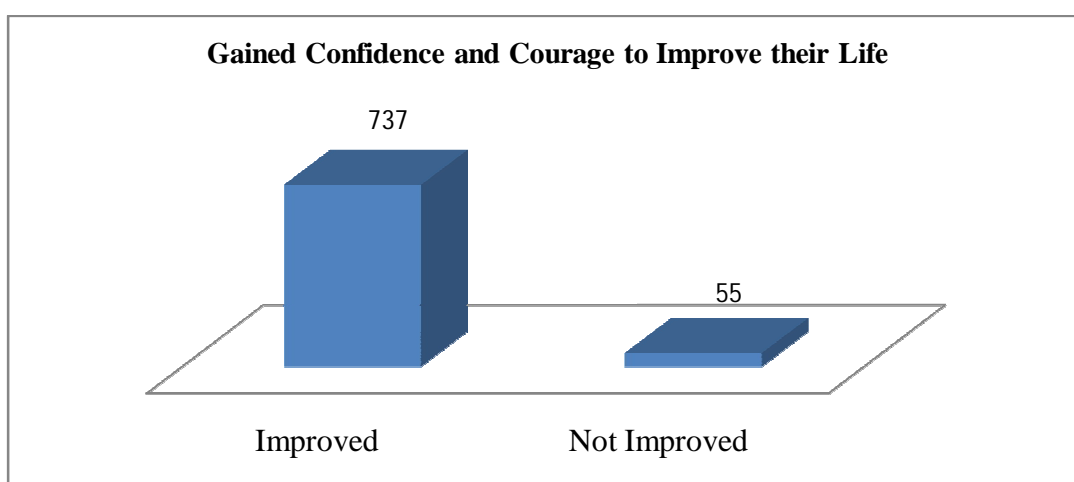
The sample respondents are asked whether they have gained confidence and courage for further improvement of life after association with SHGs. The results are presented in the table 7.12. It is observed from the table that largest chunk of the sample respondents revealed that they gained confidence and courage for further improvement of their life after joining SHGs. The majority 92.17 per cent of sample respondents replied that there have improved their confidence and courage levels regarding their life. Only few respondents that are 7.82 per cent of sample respondents are reported that they their confidence and courage levels are not improved.

Table 7.12**Distribution of Sample Respondents by Confidence Gained after Joining SHGs**

Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Gained Confidence and Courage to Improve their Life		Total
		Improved	Not Improved	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	228 (92.68) (31.23)	18 (7.31) (29.03)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	131 (88.51) (17.94)	17 (11.49) (27.41)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	155 (91.71) (21.23)	14 (8.29) (22.58)	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	129 (90.84) (17.67)	13 (9.16) (20.96)	142 (100.00) (17.93)
6	Trade And Commerce	87 (100.00) (11.91)	–	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	730 (92.17) (100.00)	62 (7.82) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

Fig:7.12**Gained confidence and Courage to Improve their Life**

Source: Computed from Primary Data.

7.13 Participating in the Social Activities after Joining SHGs

Every SHG is expected to participate in the rural development activities of their village particularly in social welfare programmes designed by the government for the upliftment of low income groups. Participation in the social activities will help in opening new vistas of expressing and will help in shaping their identity and thereby making the women empowerment socially. Sample respondents are asked whether they are participating in the social activities after joining the SHGs. The distribution of the sample respondents by their participation in social activities after their association with SHGs is presented in Table 7.13. It is indicated from the table that majority of (93.05 per cent) sample respondents are responded that they are participating in social activities after joining SHGs, whereas around 7 per cent of sample respondents are reported as they are not participating in social activities. This is given in the figure 7.13. The similar situation can be noticed in case of all activities in the study area with marginal differences.

Table 7.13
Distribution of Sample Respondents by Participating in the Social Activities after Joining SHGs

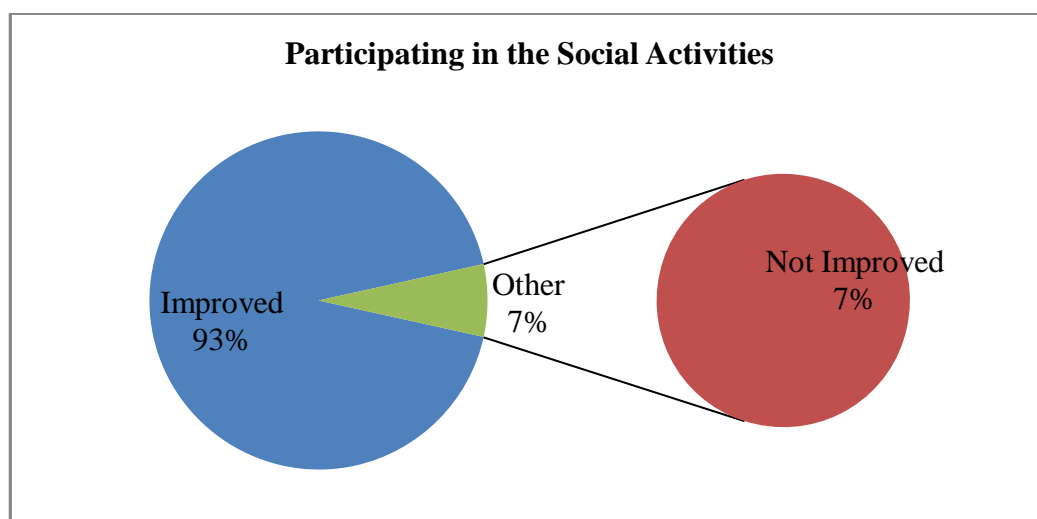
Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Participating in the Social Activities		Total
		Improved	Not Improved	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	231 (93.90) (31.34)	15 (6.09) (27.27)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	137 (92.56) (18.58)	11 (7.43) (20.00)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	152 (89.94) (20.62)	17 (10.06) (30.90)	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	133 (93.66) (18.04)	9 (6.34) (16.36)	142 (100.00) (17.93)
6	Trade And Commerce	84 (96.55) (11.39)	3 (3.44) (5.45)	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	737 (93.05) (100.00)	55 (6.95) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

Fig:7.13

Participating in the Social Activities



Source: Computed from Primary Data

7.14 Participation in the Gramasbha and other Panchayat Activities after joining SHGs

It is observed from the literature that SHGs are actively participating in village panchayat activities. People participation is very much important for the success of democratic government. The sample respondents are asked whether they are participating or attending Gramasabha after joining SHGs. Most of the respondents responded positively reporting that they are participating in most of the Gramasabha and panchayat meeting. Information is solicited from the sample respondents on their participation in Panchayat activities after joining as a member of a group. It is furnished in the Table 7.14. 92.04 per cent of sample respondents are reported that they are attending all meetings in Gram panchayats. Only 7.95 per cent of respondents reported that they are not attending any meetings. The same is shown in figure 7.14.

Across different category of respondents, the similar observations are noticed. Hence it may be concluded that women participation in the panchayats and Gramasabhas is gradually increasing due to Government support for SHGs and providing opportunities in every sphere of developmental activity. This is a positive sign for the empowerment of women in villages.

Table 7.14

Distribution of Sample Respondents by Participation in Gramasbha and Panchayat Activities after joining SHGs

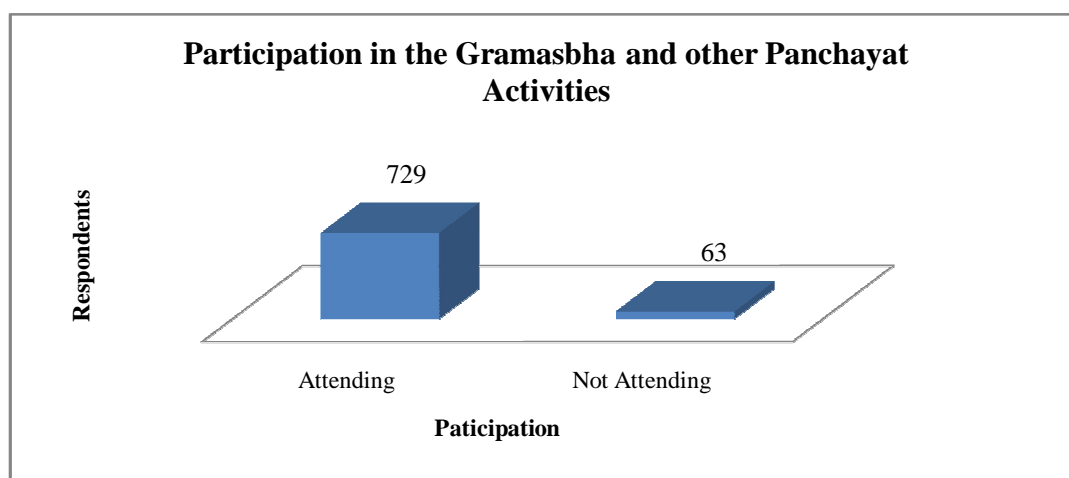
Sl. No	Activity of the Respondent	Participation in the Gramasbha and other Panchayat Activities		Total
		Attending	Not Attending	
1	2	3	4	5
2	Food Processing	235 (95.52) (32.23)	11 (4.47) (17.46)	246 (100.00) (31.06)
3	Dairy & Poultry	131 (88.51) (17.96)	17 (11.48) (26.98)	148 (100.00) (18.69)
4	Tailoring & Sari Painting	156 (92.30) (21.39)	13 (7.69) (20.63)	169 (100.00) (21.34)
5	Manufacturing	128 (90.14) (17.55)	14 (9.86) (22.22)	142 (100.00) (17.93)
6	Trade And Commerce	79 (90.81) (10.83)	8 (9.19) (12.69)	87 (100.00) (10.98)
7	Total	729 (92.04) (100.00)	63 (7.95) (100.00)	792 (100.00) (100.00)

Source: Computed from Primary Data

Note: Numbers in Parentheses are percentages

Fig:7.14

Participation in the Gramasabha and other Panchayat Activities



Source: Computed from Primary Data

Summary

To sum up it can be concluded that the huge number of sample respondents are aware of family planning, reproductive health care and HIV/AIDS. Significant number of sample respondents reported that they are aware of importance of education for themselves and for their children. Regard to social activities their participation has increased in different activities. They also improved their relations within group and with other group members and also with other members of the villages on various developmental activities.

Leadership qualities are developed, improvement in confidence and courage levels also noticed. The habit of attending the meetings of gramasabha, grama panchayat and Rachabanda and other improved along with confident to meet politicians and Government officials to convey their grievances from time to time after joining SHGs.