CHAPTER - II

METHODOLOGY

METHODS AND TECHNIQUES :

POPULATION:
The total population of Hyderabad district according to 1991 census is 31,45,939 which is cent percent urban. The growth rate of population between 1971 and 1981 is 33.81 percent against the growth rate of 23.19 percent of the state during the same period. The density of population in the district is 15,761 per sq.km. The sex-ratio in the district is 920 females per 1000 males. Among the total population 27.75 percent are workers which is less than the State average of 42 percent. Of these workers, 1.6 percent belongs to other categories of workers. It will thus be seen that a large percentage people are living by non-agricultural occupations covering mostly urban trades, construction and industrial employments.

MUSLIM POPULATION:
The total population of Andhra Pradesh is 6,65,08,008 according to 1991 census. The total Muslim population of Andhra Pradesh is 59,23,954. The total Muslim population of Hyderabad is 12,38,074.
MUSLIM WOMEN POPULATION:

The total Women population in Andhra Pradesh is 3,27,83,427 according to 1991 census. The total Muslim Women population of Andhra Pradesh is 28,98,849. The total Muslim Women population of Hyderabad according to 1991 census is 6,02,919.

SAMPLE SIZE:

Although the Muslim population constitutes about half of the population of Hyderabad, the concentration of Muslims vary from ward to ward. For the purpose of this study the samples have been selected from the most densely populated Muslim wards. These wards come under both the old city of Hyderabad or popularly known as the walled city as well as from the so called new city of Hyderabad, north to the river Musi. A total sample of 250 women had been selected for the study belonging to middle class both Shia's the Sunnis sects among the Muslims.

Although 250 women in the Sample out of 602919 Muslim women population in Hyderabad constitute only 0.04 percent, care has been taken to choose the sample from among the educated and uneducated, married and unmarried, employed and unemployed, young and old etc., so that the sample is nearly representative of the universe. Therefore, emphasis has been laid on the quality of the sample rather that the quantitative.
**SAMPLING PROCEDURE:**

The sample of respondents were chosen at two different stages. The first stage comprised of selection of the zone or the ward, and the second stage was the selection of the respondents.

For the purpose of the selection of the zone, three major indicators were taken into consideration, such as, concentration of Muslim population, literacy among women and women's occupation. Accordingly, Ward Numbers 20, 21, 22 and 23 under the circle number I and II, from the old city were identified for drawing the sample of respondents. Similarly, the ward number 10 and 12 under the circle number IV and V in the new city of Hyderabad were identified for drawing the sample. Therefore, a total of six wards out of thirtyfive were identified from both the old and new city, which comprised the universe for the present study.

The second stage consisted of drawing the samples from these six wards as identified earlier. For this purpose, a simple random selection procedure was followed.

A list of occupied residential house holds for these identified six wards was collected from the Municipal corporation of Hyderabad. A proportionate sample of 250 households was first drawn from the above list. As the total number of occupied residential households in respect of these six wards was 66113, every 265th household was identified as the source of the prospective respondents for the present study. The following list presents the number of households selected from the identified six wards: and the map presents the ward wise population.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No.</th>
<th>Ward No.</th>
<th>No. of occupied Residential households</th>
<th>No. of Households chosen for this study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>9127</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10562</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11707</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7072</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14119</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13526</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong> 66113</td>
<td><strong>250</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Although every 265th household from the list of the Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad was envisaged to be selected for the final selection of women respondents, the following difficulties were faced:

1. The identified household in all cases was not a Muslim household.

2. The identified household in all cases did not have a woman.

3. The identified household did not have a female respondent above the age of 18 years.

4. The identified household had unwilling woman to cooperate with researcher.

The following remedies were undertaken to solve the above problems. If the 265th household was not a Muslim one, the households next to the number was checked up. In case of failure, the next household was asked about their religion. However, as the samples were drawn from the Muslim dominated wards, there was no occasion to extend the 265th household beyond 268th. In
case the 265th household either did not have a female member or girls below 18 years of age or unwilling women to respond, a similar procedure was followed, which did not necessitate to extend the list beyond 268th household.

After selection of household, attempt was made to ascertain the educational background of the women inmates of the concerned household for the final selection of the sample. Not much difficulty was experienced for this exercise and 150 educated and 100 uneducated women were selected from the identified households for the purpose of the present study.

PILOT STUDY:

Before the administration of the schedule prepared for the purpose, a pilot study was undertaken. The schedule was shown to a cross section of the Muslim population in the city of Hyderabad and also to some selected academics and social workers. On the basis of the suggestions received from them, necessary changes were made in the schedule. The revised schedule was tested again among some selected respondents and was found satisfactory. Then it was used for the collection of required data.

Besides the use of a schedule, the following additional techniques were used for the collection of the data.

INTERVIEW:

Unstructured interview was found to be necessary before the actual filling in of the schedule. The informants were duly informed about the purpose of the work and were reassure of their anonymity. Where rapport could not be established in a single visit, a number of visits were paid to the household for opening
a meaningful dialogue between the researcher and the informant. The interview was mostly very general and personal so as to create a sense of confidence in the mind of the respondents. In other words, the interview helped in creating a congenial atmosphere for the use of the prepared schedule. Since the interviews were mostly conducted during the afternoons and evening, so that the women had some free time from their household works or had returned from their respective work places.

**OBSERVATION:**

Insight into many problems of Muslim Women could be gained by both participant and non-participant observation. Observations were made both in the household and outside it. The general working condition of the Muslim Women, their process of social intercourse in the neighbourhood etc., could be observed during interview or while filling in the schedule. Participant observation was made during socio-religious congregations for understanding the problems faced by Muslim Women, the religious doctrines on their status and behaviour etc. All efforts had been made to attend the **Millat** which is a religious get together for the Sunni Muslim Women and **Majlis** for the Shias. Usually on first Thursday of every month, the Muslim Women of the given locality meet at one of the household and discuss about the socio-religious problem. Similarly during Moharram and Milad-un-Nabi there used to be large religious gathering for discussing many issues including those pertaining to the Women. Every opportunity was taken to observe these occasions very closely, and to note the reaction of the women to many social and religious issues.
CASE STUDY:

Case study was found to be very helpful in situating and events in their right perspective. Many case studies were collect during the collection of the data, whenever it was felt that the case was typical in some respect. For example, deviations from the set activities, radical reaction to the norms etc., were recorded and presented for the substantiation of the hypotheses formulated for the study.

GENEALOGY:

Genealogy method was extensively employed and kins and affines were recorded for four generations. In cases where the informant's memories failed, help of the family Shizra was taken. Shizra is a genealogical chart kept by almost all Muslim families. In Shizra only the male descendants are recorded. It usually kept up-to-date and the names of the new born added to it. During the field work Shizra was a great help to minimize the chances of errors while recording marriages.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY:

Although utmost care was taken to present the findings of the study in a scientific manner, the following limitations were unavoidable.

1. The universe of the study and the samples drawn from the universe determine the objectivity and reliability of the study. For the present study the universe was unusually large and the
sample was very small, precisely because of the problem of manageability. Due to shortage of time and manpower, the sample size was deliberately made smaller.

2. The study is presented in a descriptive fashion with very little amount of quantification devoid of complex statistical calculations.

3. Generalisations have been made from the unusually small sample, so as to present the findings of the study as a consensus opinion of the Muslim women in the city of Hyderabad.