METHODOLOGY

This chapter contains relevant information pertaining to the research design and other methodological steps followed in the present study.

STUDY UNIVERSE

This present study was conducted in Uttar Pradesh. State Uttar Pradesh is in the eastern side of Delhi. It has a common border with China, Tibet and Nepal in North. Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar are its neighbour. The population of the state as per census 2011 is 199,581,477 persons (1835,740 males and 1,628,488 females).

The sex ratio of the population in the state is, 908 females per one thousand males. There are total 71 districts in Uttar Pradesh. The universe of study consists of Saharanpur which is a famous district of Uttar Pradesh.

Geographic features of Saharanpur: Saharanpur was founded during the reign of Muhammed Bin Tughlaq. It was named after Shah Harun Chishti, a celebrated saint, whose shrine still venerated in the town. Saharanpur is located at 29.97 degree north, 77.55 degree east. The Shivalik hills rise above it on the northern frontier. The river Yamuna
forms its boundary in the west which separates it from Karnal and Yamuna Nagar districts of Haryana. In east lies the district of Haridwar.

Map of Uttar Pradesh
Demographic and administrative characteristics: Saharanpur is a city and a municipal corporation in the state of Uttar Pradesh northern India. It is the administrative headquarters of Saharanpur district as well as Saharanpur division. The population of district Saharanpur as per census 2011 is 3,464,228. The district has a population density of 939 inhabitants per square kilometer (2,430/sqms) its population growth rate over the decade 2001-2011 was 19.59 percent. Saharanpur district has a sex ratio of 887 females on every 1000 males and a literacy rate of 72.03%. There are five Tehsils and 11 development blocks. Urban area of Saharanpur city was selected purposely as it is the need of the study. The total population of Saharanpur city is 703,345 (371,858 males and 331,487 females). City Saharanpur is divided into five zones i.e. East, West, South, North and Central Zone.

SAMPLING: The procedure of sampling selecting a representative part of population for deducting generalization has been accepted as an important and necessary research procedure. In the present study multistage stratified sampling technique was used for the selection of sample. Out of 71 districts of Saharanpur one district namely Saharanpur was selected in the first stage. Urban areas of town were divided into five zones namely north, south, east, west and central each
zone consisted of 10-12 mohallas and 2 mohallas from each zone were selected at random in second stage. From the selected mohallas in Saharanpur which are Garhimulook, Madho Nagar, Patel Nagar, Sharda Nagar, Parasipuram, L.R Garden, Naveen Nagar, Chandra Nagar, Pathanpura and Kishanpura. Forty families having married woman aged 30 to 41 were chosen purposively from each of the selected mohallas in third stage. Thus 400 married women aged 30 to 41, constituted the unit of information, were selected.

**Method:** The methodology used to collect information for the present study consists of interview, based on with the help of structured schedule. The schedule was based on available authentic literature. It was further modified by subject experts and was prepared in Hindi as the sample was drawn from Hindi speaking belt (appendix II). Schedule consisted of 5 parts; A, B, C, D and E. Part A consisted of the socio-economic and demographic profile of the selected sample. Information regarding economic independence of selected sample were collected in part B. Information about Decision making was recorded in part C. Information about educational empowerment were collected from the selected sample under the part D of the schedule. Part E describes opinion of respondents on different aspects of empowerment.
All the socioeconomic demographic and other information from each subject (women) were collected by the investigator herself.

**Pre-testing of schedule:** To know the operational defects in the scale and to test that whether the scale can serve the purpose, a pretest is necessary in data collection. The interview schedule prepared for data collection from women was pre-tested to test the reliability and validity of questions formed. A pilot study was conducted on 20 married women. Essential care was also taken to include all the possible sections of respondents. Some information, from the selected women, was obtained after a gap of ten days.

The test retest correlation coefficient was found to be highly positive i.e. \( r=0.89 \), which indicates that the validity of the schedule was sensitive in eliciting the expected information as the sensitive index was found to be 0.91 which indicate that the schedule is valid. The sample of the pilot study was excluded from the actual sample.

**Process of data collection:** A plan for collection of the data was formulated, to get more reliable information and answers of questions the researcher went to every selected house and established rapport with them. The purpose of the study was also explained to them in order to gain their confidence. Respondents were requested to give
unbiased and frank answers. Subjects were interviewed as far as possible at their convenient time, which was mostly afternoon.

**Actual study:** Researcher herself went to the residences of the selected subjects to collect the information based on structured interview schedule. Sometimes researcher had to visit one respondent twice or thrice as the respondents were not available at that time. The respondents were recorded by the researcher. Total time spent with each respondent, was 30-45 minutes on an average for the collection of complete information. It took six months to collect data from the sample drawn from Saharanpur.

**SELECTION OF VARIABLES:** For any research work undertaken, it is mandatory to indicate the variables considered. There are two types of variables in the study independent and dependent variables along with general information of the profile.

**Independent variable:** In this study education of the respondents was taken as independent variable and it was studied through questionnaires prepared with the help of experts.

**Dependent variables:** Empowerment, economic independence and decision making were taken as dependent variables and studied through questionnaires prepared.
STATISTICS USED FOR DATA COLLECTION

To fulfill the objectives of the study, the obtained data was processed and analyzed by applying following statistical measures-

**Frequency distribution:** Frequency was calculated to know the distribution of respondents on various general background variables and to find out the opinions, perceptions and preferences of the respondents.

**Mean:** Mean was calculated to final out the scores of the variables used in this study.

**Standard deviation:** It was calculated to find out the deviation from mean scores.

**Karl Pearson’s coefficient of correlation:** This was calculated to study the relationship between two variables.