PREFACE

Consequent to rapid industrialisation and modernisation there is seen to be marked changes in the Indian women's role today. According to the census of India (1991) out of a population of forty crores and two lakhs women, eight crore fourteen lakhs are working women. During last three years the increasing opportunities for women to have education and exposure to the various fields have brought a significant change in the position and status of women in our societies. There is a great uncertainty regarding the specific roles of husbands and wives and rising trend in matrimonial disputes in Indian women due to change in their economic position. In developing country like ours problem like conflicting situation and adjustment are prevalent to a great extend as both husband and wife expect more and more from each other. Thus, the roles in patriarchal society are assigned on the basis of position and status, in which women's roles are confined to domestic sphere.

Indian women who wish to get recognition and satisfaction in her career outside the home may often find it difficult to get mental peace due to overburden of work, but may presume themselves as self fulfilled.
In a changing process of world, it is quite evident that a lot of changes have taken place specially in the role of women and values play an important role in this direction. This kind of transition in the role played by women has influenced her total personality and behaviour. Thus the present study is an attempt to know whether the mental health, values and status of working women differs significantly from that of housewives or not with reference to role-stress.

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