CHAPTER – I

INTRODUCTION

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The human infant comes into the world as a biological organism with animal needs. He is gradually moulded into a social being through the process of social learning. In other words, through this process people learn the culture of a society and become full participants in that society[1]. Without this process of moulding, which is "Socialization", the society could not have perpetuated itself beyond a single generation, and culture would not have existed. How a child reacts to the socializing process depends on the influence of the past circumstances as well as the present circumstances[2]. Family plays an important role in this process. That is why most children follow the belief systems – such as religion of their parents. Socialization continues into adulthood, with adults taking an even more active role in their own socialization. It is the process whereby the helpless infant gradually becomes a self aware, knowledgeable person, skilled in the ways of culture into which she or he is born[3].

As social beings, we learn from each other the meaning of events in our environment, we learn explicit rules and implicit norms; we form opinions and attitudes about people and events; we learn to judge their rightness or wrongness. The process by which a person learns a repertoire

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[1] John. E. Conklin, *Sociology An Introduction*, Mac Millan Publishing Co., U.S.A., 1984, p.74.

[2] B. Kupuswamy, *An Introduction to Social Psychology*, Asia Publishing House (P) Ltd., Ballard Estate, Bombay, 1980, p.140.

[3] Anthony Giddens, *Sociology*, Polity Press, Butler and Tanner Ltd, Great Britain, 1989, p.60.

of socially important behaviour is known as socialization[4]. This process of learning is not confined only to the early year's of one's life. Man learns throughout his life in the process. It is the socialization which turns the child into a useful member of the society and gives him social maturity.

Political socialization, on the other hand, refers to the learning process by which forms and behaviour to a well running political system are transmitted from one generation to another. Pye and Verba opine, "The political culture of a society consists of the system of empirical beliefs, expressive symbols and values which define the situation in which the political action takes place[5]. In turn, political culture is sustained through the process of political socialization whereby political attitudes and values are inculcated as children become adults and as adults are recruited into new roles[6].

Political socialization transmits a nations political culture. Or, perhaps, it would be more appropriate to say that it maintains, transforms and sometimes creates the political culture of people. These three roles of political socialization, however, depend on a number of factors like a country's historical development, the type of social and international environment, the character of the existing traditional outlook towards the political life and also the goals and means of leaders and citizens.

The nation-building process to a great extent depends upon the maintenance of the political culture. It is through the process of political

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[4] Stephen Worchell & Joel Cooper, *Understanding Social Psychology*, The Dorsey Press, America, 1983, p.32.

[5] Lucian W. Pye and Sidney Verba (edt), *Political Culture and Political Development*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1972, p.15.

[6] See for details, G.A. Almond and B. Powell, *Comparative Politics : A Developmental Approach*, Boston : Little Brown and Co., 1966.

socialization that individual learns political culture and their orientation towards political objects are formed. The aim of the process is to train or develop the individuals in a way that they become well functioning members of a political community. In other words, political socialization is gradual inculcation of values, norms and orientations in the minds of the individuals so that they develop trust in the political system and thereby keep themselves like well functioning citizens and also leave their indelible imprints on the minds of their successors.

As women constitute more than one half of our total population they are expected to play a prominent role in the functioning of the political system. They can play their role eminently and contribute to the functioning of political system if they are politically socialized. Hence is the significance of the study on political socialization of the women. Approaches to the study of political socialization as viewed by various scholars, therefore, requires our attention at this point of our analysis.

APPROACHES TO THE STUDY

The field of political socialization has been anticipated in political theory of almost every era, from Plato through Rousseau to American studies of Civil education in the 1920's and 1930's[7]. However, it had somewhat a delayed entry into the empirically oriented politico-behavioural literature when Lipset and other scholars analyzed the concept with regard to the voting behaviour[8]. Research in this area suddenly began

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[7] See for details, Charles E. Merriam, *The Making of Citizens*, 1931; and Howard E. Wilson, *Education for Citizenship*, New York, 1938.

[8] See for details, S. Martin Lipset, "The Psychology of Voting : An analysis of Political Behaviour" in Gardner Lindzey (ed), *Handbook of Social Psychology*, Wesley, VolII, 1954,

to spurt in the late 1950's and early 1960's. And since then the research output has increased at a geometric rate resulting recently in the publication of several texts and readers[9]. Most of such studies turned the behaviouralists to analyze how political orientations are installed by the society in the individual. Their fundamental political orientations, according to the writers and scholars, help to determine the political personality of the individual in any given society[10]. Since that period, research output and publications on various aspects of political socialization have increased at a steady rate throughout the world[11].

The contents of political socialization fall into three broad categories, namely, attachment to the political system, partisan attitudes and political participation. It is necessary here to give a brief reference to each of the aforesaid categories. Attachment normally is defined as focusing on institutions, structures and norms of the political system or 'regime'. On the other hand, partisanship focuses on the current incumbent "authorities" and other persons, groups, policy stances and ideologies, competing for power and influences[12]. Political participation involves political behaviour and conduct of citizens.

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[9] S. Akinchan, *Caste Class and Politics : Emerging Horizons of Political Sociology*, Gyan Publishing House, New Delhi, 1995, p.72.

[10] See Herbert. H. Hyman, *Political Socialization*, Glenco : The Free Press, 1959, Wiber Schramm, The Press and effects of Mass Communication, Illinois Press, 1961; Yale University Press, 1965; Robert. D. Hess and J.V. Torney, *The Development of Political Attitudes in Children*, Chicago, 1967; David Easton and Jack Dennis, *Children in the Politicla System : Origins of Political Legitimacy*, New York : MC Graw Hill Book Company, 1969, Kenneth P. Langton, *Political Socialization*, Oxford University Press, 1969.

[11] See Jack Dennis, (ed), "Future work on Political Socialization", *Socilization to Politics : A Reader*, New York, John Wiley, 1973; Dean Jaros, *Socialization to Politics*, New York : Praeger, 1973; Robert Weissberg, *Political Learning, Political Choice and Democratic Citizenship*, New Jersy : Prentice Hall, 1974; David O. Sears, Political Attitude through the life cycle, W.H. Freeman, 1975.

[12] See David Easton, *A Systems Analysis of Political Life*, London, John Willey, 1965.

On the basis of the aforesaid approaches, it has been assumed that the process of political socialization continues throughout the life of an individual. The individual learns political orientations and dispositions through the political socialization process. The forms of their political learning may be manifest or latent. Manifest political socialization refers to the process in which the content of the transmitted information, values or feelings is clearly political. Latent political socialization may take place through interpersonal transference, apprenticeship and generalization. However, it is a continuous process the aim of which is to train or develop the individuals to become well functioning members of a political community. In other words, political socialization is the developmental process by which a child develops into a citizen and acquires political orientation.

The process of political socialization is effected through a variety of agents like family, peer groups, educational institutions, secondary groups, the mass media and work place. Among the aforesaid agents, family occupies a place of paramount importance. It lays down the foundation of political beliefs[13]. The peer groups receive a very high degree of attention from its members that naturally enhances its strength as an agent of political socialization. The educational institutions, on the other hand, make the people aware of certain basic values and help them in imbibing certain qualities like sincerity, discipline, regularity etc. Moreover, participation in the activities and administration of the educational institutions help the students to take up country's administration in future. The secondary groups, such as political parties and political youth groups provide a very good apprenticeship for dealing with relationships in the

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[13] Robert. E. Lane, "Fathers and Sons : The foundations of political beliefs", *American Sociological Review*, 24, 1959, pp.502-11.

political world. Mass media – radio, television, newspapers, magazines and the like provide a good deal of political information and often add their own interpretation of the things they inform and so their role in political socialization can not be ignored. Experience acquired at work place also influences the shaping of political orientations.

These political socializers transmit political orientations explicitly or implicitly intentionally or unintentionally, and thus, contribute immensely toward the formation of the individual's orientations and dispositions.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Research on the problem of political socialization as stated earlier has contributed to a number of publications and texts. Of these, the most important one's deserve our attention. One of such work is Hyman's Political Socialization[14](1959). In the said treaties, he put forth a psychological approach to the concept of political socialization. He expressed that, political socialization is a life long process which is responsible for shaping the political attitudes and behaviour of the individuals.

Lucian W. Pye in his book "Politics, Personality and Nation-Building : Burma's Search for Identity"[15] (1962), asserted that the individual develops his awareness of his political world through the process of political socialization. According to him, the individual gains

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[14] Herbert. H. Hyman, *Political Socialization*, Glenco, 1959.

[15] Penelope Roach, *Political Socialization in the New Nations of Africa*, New York : Teachers College Press, 1967.

his appreciation, judgment and understanding of political events through this process.

Sigel, in his work, "Assumptions About the Learning of Political Values[16]" (1965) explains that it is through the process of political socialization the political norms and behaviour acceptable to an on going political system are transmitted from generation to generation.

Penelope Roach in his book "Political Socialization in the New Nations of Africa"[17] (1967) emphasized on the need for political socialization on the part of the individuals to face the challenges to the states posed by the internal as well as external forces. This is one of the earliest writing on the process of political socialization in the African States.

Richard E. Dawson and Kenneth Prewitt in their writing, "Political Socialization[18]" (1969) were of the opinion that political socialization processes operate at both the individual and community level. At the community level it is best understood as cultural transmission. At the individual level it refers to the developmental process through which the citizen realizes political maturity.

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[16] Robert Sigel, *Assumptiosn about the Learnig of Political Values*, Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences, 361, September, 1965.

[17] Penelope Roach, *Political Socialization in the New Nations of Africa*, New York : Teachers College Press, 1967.

[18] Richard E. Dawson and Knneth Prewitt, *Political Socialization*, in Internatioanl Encyclopaedia of the Social Sciences (New York : Mc GrawHill, 1969)

L. Wasby in his work, "Political Science : The Discipline and Dimensions[19]" (1970), emphasized that political socialization operates in quite and smooth manner without people being aware of it. It is the process by which people acquire political values not simply during active political participation but also in the period before they engage in explicitly political activities.

Greenberg in his edited volume, 'Political Socialization[20] (1970) has maintained that an individual acts in congruence with the social norms only when he internalizes these norms. According to him, besides maintenance needs; a politically organized society has an additional function, that is, political socialization of the young. After making a study on the agents of political socialization, he established that the society itself is a formidable agent.

Rajni Kothari in his work, "Politics in India[21]" (1970) has discussed the institutional and behavioural changes in the context of developing societies. He refers to the process of internationalization of the value-system of society which in turn leads to the shaping of the personality of the individual and promoting political socialization in him.

Almond and Verba in their work "The Civic Culture"[22](1972) have discussed on the various aspects of civic culture or political culture. They established that political culture comes into effect under the subtle and

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[19] Stephen L. Wasby, *Political Science : The Discipline and Dimensions*, Calcutta, Scientific Book Agency, 1970.

[20] Edward S. Greenberg, edt., *Political Socialization*, New York, Artherton Press, 1970.

[21] Rajni Kothari, *Politics of India*, Boston : Little Brown, and Co., 1970.

[22] G.A. Almond and Sidney Verba, *The Civic Culture*, Princeton, Princeton University Press, 1972.

imperceptible factors and forces in the political system. In the process, the members of the system inculcate the values and ideas that are relevant to the sustenance of the system.

Michael Rush and Philip Althoff in their book, "An Introduction to Political Sociology[23]"(1972) maintained that political socialization is a process by which an individual becomes acquainted with the political system. It determines his perceptions of politics and his reaction to the political phenomena.

Longton in his book, "Political Socialization[24]" (1972) views that society transmits its political culture from generation to generation through the process of political socialization. He also considers it as encompassing all those process, mediated through various agencies of society by which an individual learns politically relevant attitudinal dispositions and behavioural patterns.

Jaros, in his work, "Socialization to Politics[25](1973) has dealt with the different types of analysis to political socialization research, namely system's theories and micro-level theories. These theories provide explanations for the behaviour of individuals in given political situations. According to him, political behaviour is governed by norms, values and beliefs upheld in society.

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[23] Michael Rush and Philip Althoff, *An Introduction to Political Sociology*, Nelson's University Paperbacks, Norwich, 1972.

[24] Kenneth P. Longton, *Political Socialization*, New York : Oxford University Press, 2nd Printing, 1972.

[25] Dean Jaros, *Socialization to Politics*, New York : Praeger, 1973.

Nimmo in his book, "Political Communication and Public Opinion in America[26]" (1978) has emphasized on the sources, channels and importance of political communication. He also links political communication to political learning. He states that political learning occurs as a result of socializing communication. He holds that how well each citizen develops the political-self and the content of each political-self depend in large measure upon the sources, channels and messages inherent in political communication. According to him, the individual then learns to express his personal identity, to evaluate political objects and to achieve political goals.

S.N. Mishra in his work, "Agencies of Political Socialization : A study in political parties[27]" (1980) has analyzed political socialization as a process of learning the basic orientation necessary for the maintenance of the democratic system. In his opinion, it also provides information about citizenship, role, impetus for participant role and awareness of political values.

Akinchan (1982) in his study "Urban growth and political socialization in India[28]" (1982), has tried to analyze the relationship between the processes of urbanization and political socialization. He establishes that spread of education and the mass media in the urban centers contribute to political socialization immensely.

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[26] Dan Nimmo, *Political Communication and Public Opinion in America*, California : Good Year Publishing Company, Santa Monica, 1978.

[27] S.N. Mishra, Agencies of Political Socialization : Study in Political Parties : A case study of Amarpur Gram Panchayat, in Indian Journal of Political Science, Vol.41, No.1, 1980.

[28] Sita Ram Akinchan, *Urban Growth and Political Socialization in India*, Patna, Janaki Prakashan, 1982

Allan. R. Ball in his work, "<u>Modern Politics and Government</u>[29]" (1985), has focused on political socialization not as a process confined to the impressionable years of childhood but one that continues throughout adult life. To him, it is the establishment and development of attitudes to and beliefs about the political system.

G.B.J. Atkinson, B. Mc. Earthy and K.M. Philips, in their book "<u>Studying Society : An Introduction to Social Sciences</u>[30]" (1987) discussed on political socialization as a process by which cultures are maintained, modified or changed. They considered it as the immediate source of a culture or sub-culture.

Snehalata Panda in his book, "<u>Determinants of Political Participation : Women and Public Activity</u>[31]" (1990), regarded family as the primary unit of socialization of a child. The attitude and behaviour of the parents have immense influence on the behaviour and psyche of a child.

S. Akinchan in his work, "<u>Caste, Class and Politics : Emerging Horizons of Political Sociology</u>[32]" (1995) described political socialization as a process through which individuals are inducted into the political culture so that their orientation towards political objects are formed. The

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[29] Allan. R. Ball, *Modern Politics and Government*, English language, Book society, Mac Millan, 1985

[30] G.B.J. Atkinson, B.Mc Carthy and K.M. Phillips, *Studying Society : An Intorduction to Social Science*, Oxford University Press, 1987.

[31] Snehalata Panda, *Determinants of Political Participation : Women and Public Activity*, Ajanta Publications, 1990, New Delhi.

[32] S. Akinchan, *Caste, Class and Politicis : Emerging Horizons of Political Sociology*, Gyan Publishing House, New Delhi, 1995.

aim of the process is to train or develop the individuals in a way that they become well functioning members of a political community.

Amal Ray and Mohit Bhattacharya, in their work, "Political Theory : Ideas and Institutions[33]" (1996), considered the socialization process as a continuous one. From childhood onward, the individual is exposed to various life experiences and learning situations that steadily mould his ideas about politics.

Shanti Jayasuriya and D.C. Jayasuriya in their book "Women and Development – The Road from Beijing" (1999), focused on the aspect of women empowerment in social, economic and health sectors. They also emphasized upon International Women Conference like Beijing Platform.[34]

Sakuntala Narasimhan in her book "Empowering Women : An Alternative Strategy from Rural India" (1999) emphasized on the strategy for empowering women. She had analysed the concept of Women Empowerment and its sphere of activity.[35]

Jaya Indiresan in his book "Education for Women's Empowerment" (2002) analysed women empowerment on grounds of education. The author also focused on women higher education, women development,

[33] Amal Ray and Mohit Bhattachary, *Political Theory : Ideas and Institutions*, the World Press Pvt. Ltd., 1996, Calcutta.

[34] S. Jayasuriya and D.C. Jayasuriya, *Women and Development – The Road from Beizing*, Har-Ananda Publishing, New Delhi, 1999.

[35] Sakuntala Narasimhan, *Empowering Women : An Alternative Strategy from Rural India*, Sage Publication, New Delhi, 1999.

justification for a women's course and its agenda and teacher's perception on Gender-Positive initiatives. [36]

Manjula Batra in her book "Women and Law" (2001), has given the idea of rights and law pertaining to the women's development. In that context, she has mentioned on the status of women, women's constitutional and human rights, women's matrimonial rights and remedies, women's maintenance rights and remedies, women's adoption rights, women's property and succession rights and women's protection rights and remedies under criminal law. [37]

Rajani K. Murty in his edited book "Building Women's Capacities" (2001), focused on the issue specific gender training, empowering women in Gram Panchayat through training, empowerment of women at grassroot level. [38]

Neeta Tapan in her book "Need for Women's Empowerment", (2000), emphasized on point of women and health, women and education, women and population dynamics and gender dissimilarities. [39]

Besides the above mentioned studies, we have also included a few following articles which are relevant to our present study. These are :

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[36] Jaya Indiresan, *Education for Women's Empowerment*, Konark Publ. New Delhi, 2002.

[37] Manjula Batra, *Women and Law*, Allabhad Law Agency, Haryana, 2001.

[38] Rajani K. Murty, *Building Women's Capacities*, Sage Publ., New Delhi, 2001.

[39] Neeta Tapan, *Need for Women's Empowerment*, Rawat Pulication, New Delhi, 2000.

(i)   "Mass Communication and Political Socialization" S.H. Chaffee, L.S. Ward and L.P. Tipton[40];

(ii)   "Socialization on", Irwin L.Child[41];

(iii)   "A Functional Approach to Comparative Politics" Gabriel A. Almond[42];

(iv)   "Children's Concepts of Nationality : A Critical Study of Piaget's Stages", Gustav Johada[43];

(v)   "The growth of political ideas in Adolescence : The sense of community" Joseph Adelson and Robert Neill[44];

(vi)   "Political Socialization and Culture Change" Robert Levine[45];

(vii)   "Mass Communication and Politics", Dan Nimmo [46];

(viii) "Mass Media and Political Socialization", Herbert. H. Hyman [47];

(ix)   The relation of the social situation of contact to the media in mass communication" Eliot Friedson[48];

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[40] See S.H. Chaffee, L.S. Ward and L.P. Tipton, Mass Communication and Political Socialization in Journalism Quarterly, Vol : 47, 1970.

[41] Irwin L. Child, 'Socialization' in G. Lindzey, ed., *Handbook of Social Psychology*, Cambridge, Massachusetts: Havard University Press, 1954.

[42] Gabriel A. Almond, 'A Functional Approach to Comparative Politics', in Gabriel A. Almond and James S Coleman (Eds), *The Politics of the Developing Areas*, Princeton, N:J Princeton University Press, paperback edition, 1970.

[43] Gustav Jahada, "Childrens Concept of Nationality : A Critical Study of Piaget's Stages", in *Child Development* No.35, Nov. 1964.

[44] Joseph Adelson & Robert Neil, "The growth of political ideas in Adolescence : The sense of community", in *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, July, 1966.

[45] Robert Levine, "Political Socialization and Culture Change", in Clifford Gertz (ed.), *Old Societies and New States : The Quest for Modernity in Asia and Africa*, New Delhi, Amerend Publishing Company, India Edition, 1971, p.299, originally published by the Free Press of Glence, New York in 1963.

[46] Dan Nimmo, "Mass Communication and Politics", in Samuel L. Long (ed), *The Handbook of Political Behavour*, New York, Vol-IV, pp.321-322.

[47] Herbert H. Hyman, "Mass Media and Political Socialization" in Lucian Pye (ed), Communication and Political Development, Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1963.

[48] Eliot Priedson, "The Relation of the Social Situation, of contact to the media in Mass Communication", Public Opinion Quarterly, 17 (1973), pp.230-238

(x)   "Role of agents in political socialization" Paul Allen Beck[49].

The aforesaid brief review of literature clearly establishes that till today no scholar has attempted any major research project on the problem presently undertaken by us.

SCOPE OF STUDY

The present study, in the context of general process of socialization, deals with the concept of political socialization and the role of various agents in promoting the same among the rural women. By agents we mean the family, friends, peer groups, educational institutions, mass media and work place. The present study deals with the political socialization of rural women in Orissa with special reference to the Dhenkanal District. The district is a centrally landlocked district of Orissa. For our micro study we chose the Hindol Sub-Division of the said district. Among all other subdivisions of Dhenkanal, Hindol has the highest population. Again, here the female population is more than the male population. As our study is women oriented we chose this area for our research.

OBJECTIVE OF STUDY

The chief objective of the present study is to attempt a close and systematic analysis of the political socialization of the rural women. In Dhenkanal district of Orissa.

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[49] Paul Allen Beck, "Role of agents in political socialization", in S.A. Renshon (ed), *Handbook of Political Socialization : Theory and Research*, New York : The Free Press 1977, p.117

In the process, we have analyzed the concept of political socialization and the agents that promote such socialization. At the micro level the emphasis is given on political awareness, political interest and political involvement of rural women in Hindol Sub-Divisions of Dhenkanal district. For that purpose we have also studied the status of women in India with particular reference to Orissa and more categorically in Dhenkanal district.

The study analyses the contribution of various agencies like family, friends, television, political parties, educational institutions etc. in achieving awareness, orientation, interests, faith and political involvement among the rural women. These issues are studied and analyzed in the context of the socio-economic and political background of women along with their interaction with various agencies of political socialization. Therefore, the chief objective of the study is to evaluate the political awareness, political orientations, political interests, political faith and political involvement among the women.

HYPOTHESES

The major hypothesis which has been formulated for our study is, "Most of the rural women are politically socialized".

Under the aforesaid hypothesis the following sub-hypotheses have been constructed to guide us in our study :

(i)   Rural women have political awareness to a large extent;

(ii)   Rural women, in vast number, have political orientation and interest; and

(iii)   Rural women largely participate in political activities.

METHOD OF STUDY

We have adopted both empirical and evaluative methods for the purpose of our study. In course of our analysis, reference has been made to the available published and unpublished literature which are relevant to the study. Use of survey method, circulation of questionnaires and conduct of personal interviews have been adopted for collection of data and verification of hypotheses.

SAMPLE AND COVERAGE

The survey was undertaken among the women of Hindol Sub-Division of Dhenkanal District in Orissa. We have selected 200 women as our sample respondents from the Nizigada Gram Panchayat, particularly, from two revenue villages – Radhanathpur and Nizigarh. The Nizigada Gram Panchayat was selected because it comprises the highest number of population as well as greater number of women in comparison to other Gram Panchayats of Hindol. It may be pointed out that random sampling method was adopted to select our universe.

RESPONDENT STRUCTURE

The respondent structure is presented in Table No.I.1 showing the composition of the women respondents in terms of their age, caste, religion, educational qualifications, profession, monthly income, marital status and length of habitation in the locality. As social, economic, ethnic

and cultural factors have been widely recognized as significant elements in deciding the manner in which individuals behave and react, we have taken the aforesaid variables for the purpose of our study.

TABLE I.1
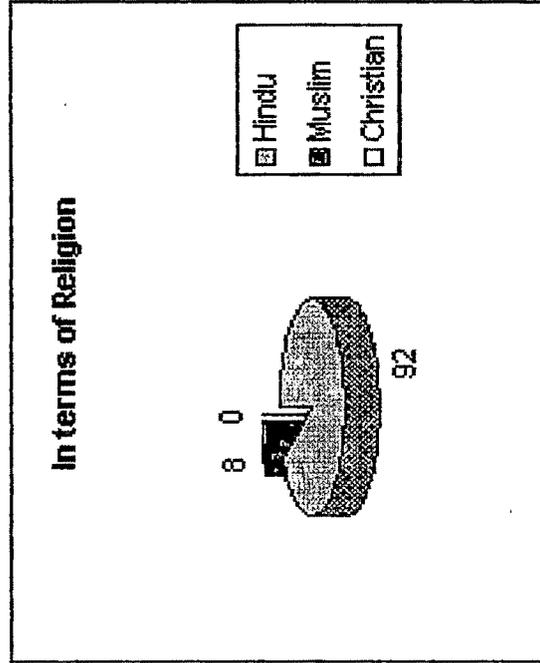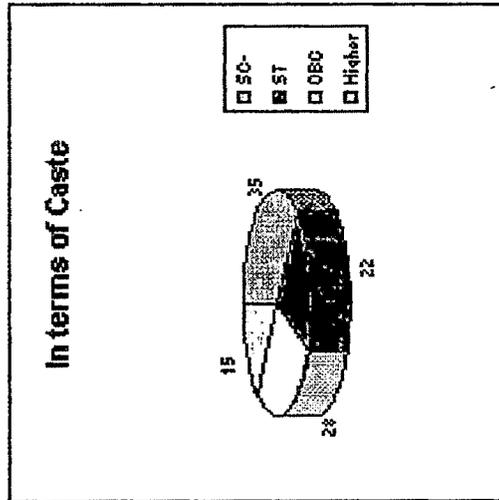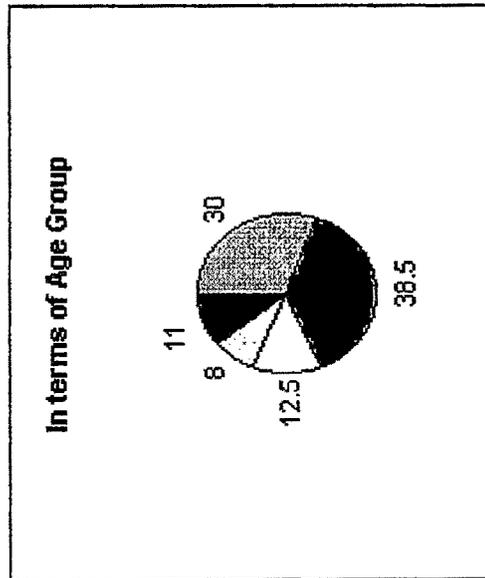**Socio-economic Profile of the Respondents**

n=200

Sl. No.	Components	Variables	No. attributed to variables	% to total number
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
1	AGE GROUP	18 to 25 years	60	30
		26 to 36 years	77	38.5
		37 to 47 years	25	12.5
		48 to 58	16	8
		59 years and above	22	11
2	CASTE	SC	70	35
		ST	44	22
		OBC	56	28
		Higher	30	15
3	RELIGION	Hindu	184	92
		Muslim	16	8
		Christian	Nil	-
4	EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION	Illiterate	114	57
		Primary	30	15
		Minor	18	9
		Matric	21	10.5
		I.A.	12	6
		B.A.	3	1.5
		M.A.	2	1
5	PROFESSION	Housewife	105	52.5
		Agricultural Labourer	51	25.5
		Labourer	9	4.5
		Private Sectors	35	17.5
6	MONTHLY INCOME OF FAMILY	Less than Rs.1000	122	61
		Rs.1001-3000	42	21
		Rs.3001-5000	25	12.5
		Rs.5001-7000	9	4.5
		Rs.7001 & above	2	1
7	Marital status	Married	155	77.5
		Unmarried	31	15.5
		Widow	14	7
8	LENGTH OF HABITATION	Less than 5 years	24	12
		5 to 10 years	37	18.5
		11 to 15 years	27	13.5
		16 years & above	112	56

Source : Collected through field studies and survey.

Diagram No. I-1

Socio-economic Profile of the Respondents

18-25 Yrs	30	SC-	35	Hindu 92
26-36 Yrs	38.5	ST	22	Muslim 8
37-47 Yrs	12.5	OBC	28	Christian 0
48-58 Yrs	8	Higher	15	
59 yrs and Above	11			

In terms of Age Group

In terms of Caste

In terms of Religion

19

Illiterate	57
Primary	15
Minor	9
Matric	10.5
I.A.	6
B.A.	1.5
M.A.	1
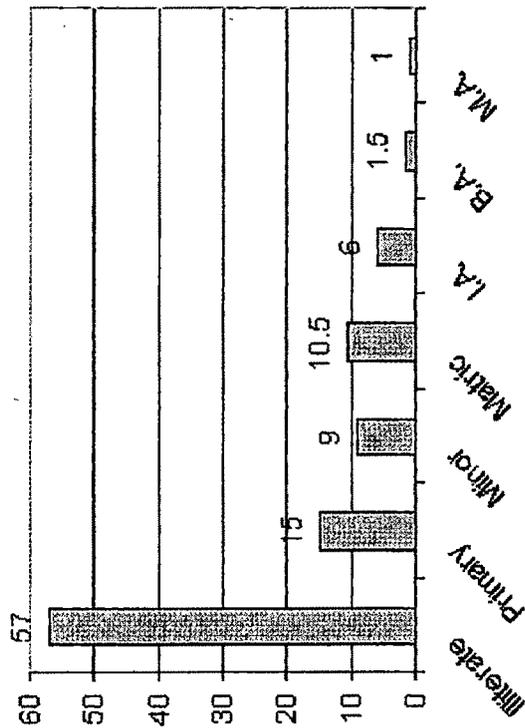
Housewife	52.5
Agricultural Labourer	25.5
Labourer	4.5
Private Sectors	17.5

In terms of profession
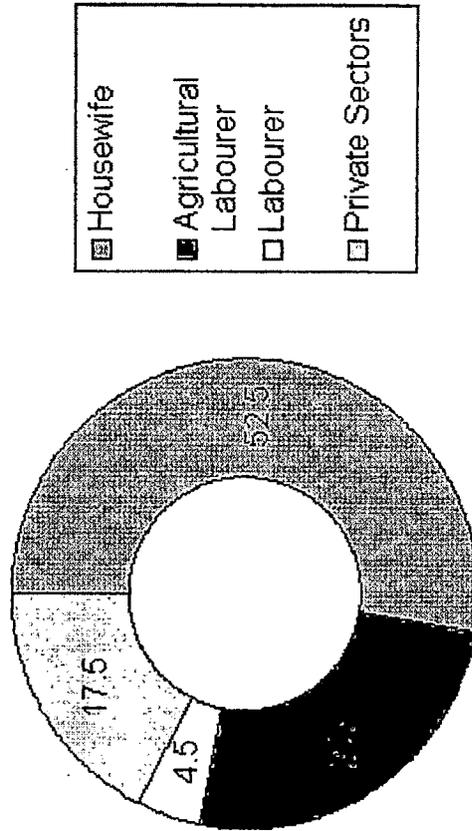
In terms of education

20

Less than 5 years 12

5 to 10 years 18.5

11 to 15 years 13.5

16 years & above 56

In terms of habitation

Married 77.5

Unmarried 15.5

Widow 7

In terms of marital status

Legend: Married, Unmarried, Widow

Less than Rs.1000 61

Rs.1001-3000 21

Rs.3001-5000 12.5

Rs.5001-7000 4.5

Rs.7001 & above 1

In terms of monthly income

20-A
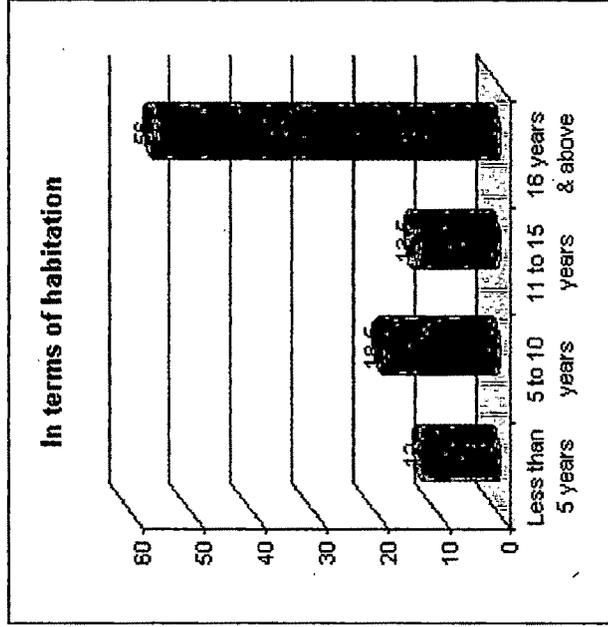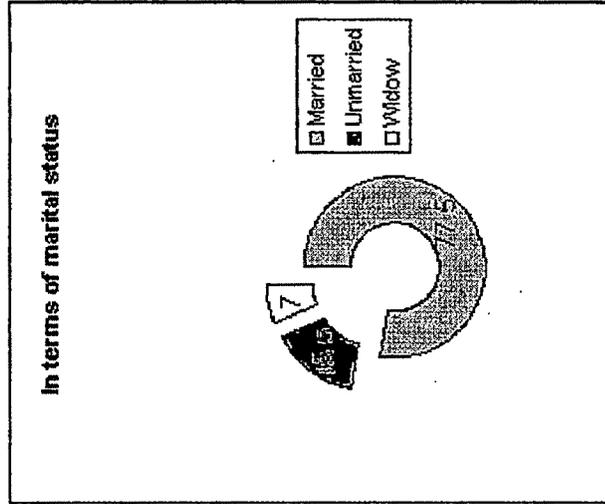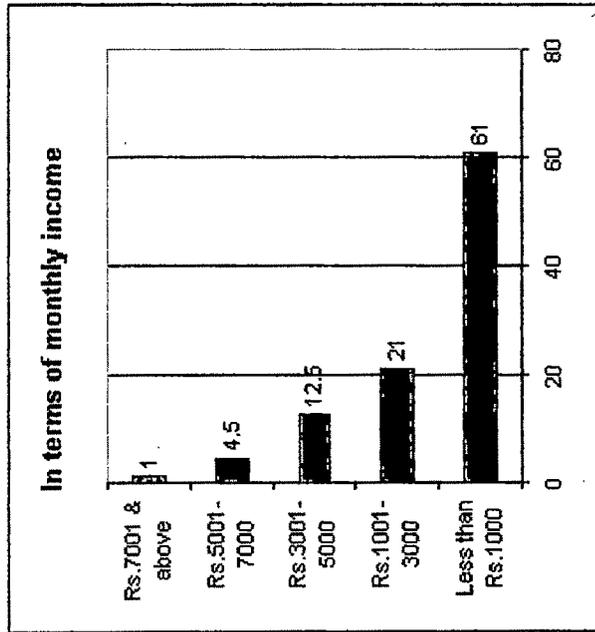
The said table indicates that majority of our respondents are illiterate and married. None of them is found to be in government service. Again the majority are Hindus and had more than a decade of habitation within the locality. The economic condition of the respondents shows that majority of them are under the poverty line.

TECHNIQUES OF DATA COLLECTION

In order to collect the data, we personally met every sample respondent, filled up the questionnaire with the answers given by the respondent; and also interviewed her to know the responses to the open ended questions. With one respondent, we had to give at least half an hour for the questionnaire and interview as a whole. So no questionnaire was destroyed as incomplete. The schedule consisted of both structured and open-ended questions. Before finalizing the schedule, we had made a pilot study and also pre-coded the responses.

DATA ANALYSIS

When the data were collected an elaborate code book was prepared and the data was pasted in the coded sheet. Then the data were tabulated and analyzed. Because of the heterogeneity of the answer pattern to the open ended questions, only those respondents whose answers could be coded in a particular category were used as the basis for computing percentages. We have not tested the findings with the test of statistical significance, nor we have found out correlation coefficients, but we only deduced the percentage distributions in interpreting the findings.

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