Findings

'Police' in Indian context, depicts a poor picture of the guardian of law and order. They are considered to be ill-equipped, inefficient and looked with awful eyes. Public has no trust in them. Not one, but so many factors are responsible for the low esteem the profession possess.

In such a situation, an Indian woman, who is supposed to maintain "a distance" from the general public and to give importance to moral values, taking up police profession was not easily approved by the society. However, the recent past has observed the entrance of a large number of women in this job. So, whether their entrance was due to their fascination towards the job or because of any other reasons? Have they taken up this job owing to any compulsions? What are the nature of work they have to perform and the type of problems they have to face? With an aim to explore answer to such questions, the research question framed for this thesis was, "whether a woman would prefer to take up police profession if she has an alternative?, and, why?". While analyzing the correlation between different variables, findings that have come up are as mentioned below

1. Presence of a sizable number of high caste respondents in the police (table 2.13) does not establish the hypothesis that there is a positive correlation between caste status and occupational status. This finding has been again supported by another table (2.14) wherein it has been found that high caste respondents have more number of relatives with the police. This also shows that there is a lineage of high caste in this profession. Hence it can be safely mentioned that there is no correlation between caste status and occupational status.

2. The hypothesis that women belonging to lower caste and with relatively low education are more interested in the police has also been proved to be untrue, as a sizable number of respondents are belonging to high caste (table 2.13). Similarly, majority of the well educated respondents are belonging to high caste, OBC and Christianity. This shows that women belonging to high caste as well as well educated women are also very much interested to take up this profession. Above hypothesis again does not hold value when
we observe that there has been a growth, though slow, in the rate of entrance of well educated women in the police in the recent past (table 3.39).

3. Women take up police job principally due to their low level education and shrinking job opportunities (table 3.36) owing to which they are not in a position to secure job in any other field. Another factor which attracts women towards this profession is the job security.

4. About one third of the respondents were discouraged by their relatives from entering in the police (table 3.37) proves the hypothesis that policewomen have low esteem in the society. This hypothesis has been again established from the fact that as the education goes on increasing there has been a steady rise in the percentage of respondents who faced discouragement from their relatives when they entered in the police (table 3.38). The relatives thought that they (policewomen) could have attempted for a job in any other field than the police with their higher education.

5. The hypothesis that acculturation of workplace has a direct impact on moulding the behaviour pattern of individual has been proved true in the present context, when it is observed that though majority of the respondents did not have the custom of using abusive language amongst their caste people, they practised the same at their workplace. It can also be seen that as the education of an individual goes high, more is the attempt to abstain from practising such custom. This shows that education is instrumental in cultivating positive qualities in one’s life (table 3.40). Similarly, above hypothesis has been established in the table 3.41, too.

6. Majority of the respondents are not satisfied with the promotional avenues available to them show that opportunities of vertical mobility for policewomen are very less.

7. Table 2.15 proves the hypothesis that education plays a positive role in keeping the size of the family small, which subsequently enable them to lead a life with better standard. Table shows that as the education of the respondents rise there is an increase in the number of respondents who kept the size of their family small.

8. The religion/caste to which an individual belonging has no relation with her status or participation in decision making in a family (table 3.43). However, their role in
economic activity (here all are earning members) has a say in empowering them to make decisions in their family affairs. Opinion of respondents is also taken by their husbands while making decisions in important family affairs, itself shows that they are also being given importance.

9. Table 3.44 shows that as the respondents' education level goes high, there is an increase in their participation in taking important decisions in household affairs. Thus, the hypothesis that education of an individual has got a positive role in enjoying better status and decision making in the family has been established here.

10. The hypothesis that when husband and wife both are in the same profession, more would be the co-operation and sharing of household work by the husband has been proved to be false in this context (table 3.45) because here it is observed that husbands those who are engaged in any profession other than the police turned out to be more co-operative and shared household work, whereas husbands who are in the police itself did not share household work.

11. Low salary and acculturation of workplace motivate policewomen to accept bribe (table 4.11). Table also explicts that as the family annual income is high, there is a decrease in the number of respondents who accept bribe.

12. Regular/systematic refresher training is not imparted to the policewomen (table 5.6). This enables us to realize how much they are ill equipped, lacking in motivation and aspiration, and thus dissatisfied.

13. Policewomen do not prefer police person as life partner to their kid (table 6.16). It is the hardships the respondents have experienced and the low esteem the profession holds that are responsible for such aversion towards this profession.

14. Policewomen get 'good' and 'medium' respect from their relatives (table 6.17). However, when it comes to the respect they get from their male counterparts it has been observed that relatively they get 'low' respect from them (table 6.18).

When the level of education of respondents was correlated with the respect they command, it was observed that as the education rose, there was an increase in the percentage of respondents who got 'good' respect from their relatives (table 6.19).
However, such positive correlation has not been observed between the education level and respect from male counterparts (6.20).

Thus, the hypothesis that higher the level of education higher would be the respect policewomen command from their relatives is established here. However, no concrete correlation could be drawn between the level of education and the respect policewomen command from their male counterparts.

With all these explanations (and those given in the main thesis), it can be mentioned that a woman would not prefer to enter in the police if she has a chance for another job.