Chapter - III
3.0 METHODOLOGY:

A research investigation was undertaken with a view to study the levels of marital adjustment of women in Assamese Hindu Society.

3.1 OBJECTIVES:

1. To examine the extent of marital adjustment in case of Hindu women in Assamese society, in relation to some variables such as type of marriage, employment status and length of marriage life.

2. To examine and draw out inferences regarding the opinions about mutual love, attraction, jealousy, quarrels & submission, acceptance of working wives and overall marital happiness as felt by the women.

3.11 HYPOTHESES:

In accordance with the objectives specified above, the following hypotheses were formulated.

(1) REGARDING THE EFFECT OF TYPE OF MARRIAGE IN MARITAL ADJUSTMENT:

a) NULL HYPOTHESIS:

There is no significant difference between marital adjustment of Assamese Hindu women whether it is a love marriage or arranged marriage.

b) ALTERNATE HYPOTHESIS:

There is significant difference in the extent of marital adjustment between the two categories of women viz those having love marriage and those having an arranged marriage.

(2) REGARDING THE ROLE OF EMPLOYMENT STATUS IN MARRIED LIFE.

a) NULL HYPOTHESIS:

There is no significant difference in marital adjustment whether the married Assamese Hindu women are employed or unemployed.
b) ALTERNATE HYPOTHESIS :
There is significant difference in the extent of marital adjustment between the employed and unemployed women in Assamese Hindu culture.

(3) REGARDING THE INFLUENCE OF SPAN OF MARRIED LIFE :
   a) NULL HYPOTHESIS :
Length of married life does not make any significant difference in the extent of marital adjustment of Assamese Hindu women.
   b) ALTERNATE HYPOTHESIS :
Significant difference exist between the three stages of marriage span (Early years, middle years and later years) in the extent of marital adjustment.

3.1.2 VARIABLES :

A) INDEPENDENT VARIABLES :
1. Type of marriage
   a) Love marriage
   b) Arranged marriage
2. Employment status
   a) Employed
   b) Unemployed
3. Length of married life
   a) One year or less (<1)
   b) Between four and nine years (4–9 years)
   c) Fourteen years or more of married life (14 – >)

B) DEPENDENT VARIABLE :
Marital adjustment score obtained from the test "Marital Adjustment Questionnaire" by P. Kumar & K. Rohtagi.
C) CONTROLLED VARIABLES :
   a) Socio-economic status.
   b) Age of the married person.
   c) Educational level of the women.

3.1.3 DESIGN :
   A $(2 \times 2 \times 3)$ factorial design was used to study the main as well as interaction effect of the three (3) main variables representing two (2) types of marriage (A), Love marriage $(A_1)$ and Arranged marriage $(A_2)$, two (2) levels of employment status (B), employed $(B_1)$ and unemployed $(B_2)$ and three (3) categories of span of married life (C)–Less than 1 year $(C_1)$, 4 years – 9 years $(C_2)$ and 14 years and above $(C_3)$. 570 subjects were classified under the different categories shown as under.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Love marriage</th>
<th>Arranged Marriage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Employed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0–1 year</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 yrs–9 years</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 yrs–&gt; above</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.1.4 SAMPLE :
   Initially 700 married women of different areas of Guwahati were given marital adjustment questionnaire. Only 574 respondents gave responses to all the items while four (4) subjects did not give responses to all the questions and hence they were discarded. So 570 respondents were taken for the study. They were classified according to factorial design. Another questionnaire eliciting the opinions of married women regarding love, attraction and jealousy etc. towards their husbands and their perceived love, attraction and jealousy of the husbands towards them, quarrels in the family, submission and overall happiness were administered on the 570 respondents. (Details are Given in Appendix -A)
3.1.5. TOOLS:

The following tools were used in the study -

a) The marital adjustment questionnaire constructed and standardized by Dr. Promod Kumar and Kanchana Rohatgi (Chandigarh 1976). The test consists of 27 items followed by two alternative answers YES & NO. The test has been standardized on the sample of 200 individuals. Its validity and reliability coefficient have been 0.71 and 0.70 (SPLIT HALF) and 0.84 (test-retest).

b) A general questionnaire was prepared by the investigator for taking the opinions of the respondents regarding love, attraction, jealousy, quarrel and submission, acceptance of working wife and overall happiness. The aim of this questionnaire was only to supplement the information obtained from the standardized test of marital adjustment questionnaire.

3.1.6. PROCEDURE:

570 married women were given the two above mentioned tools individually. The data was collected during the early hours of the day. The instructions mentioned in the manual of the MAQ were followed for the administration and scoring of the MAQ. The subjects were fully assured that their replies would be kept strictly confidential and used only for research purpose. At the same time they were made to understand that the success of the study depended on their giving free and frank replies to the test items. The scores obtained were subjected to statistical analysis.

3.1.7. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS:

The scores obtained were subjected to adequate techniques of analysis of variance (ANOVA-F-Test) to find out the main and interaction effects. The main effects and interaction effects are as follows:
MAIN EFFECTS

Sources

Marriage Type (2)    (A)
Employment Status (2) (B)
Span of Marriage (3)  (C)

INTERACTION EFFECTS

Marriage Type x Employment Status    (2-1) (2-1) = 1
(A x B)
Marriage Type x Marriage Span        (2-1) (3-1) = 2
(A x C)
Employment Status x Marriage Span    (2-1) (3-1) = 2
(B x C)
Marriage Type x Employment Status x Marriage Span (2-1)(2-1)(3-1) = 2
(A x B x C)

Subsequent to the analysis of variance (ANOVA), Tukey Gap Test (W) as well as Least Significant Difference (LSD or CD) test were applied to the means of each subgroup of the 3 main variables inorder to find out the simple effects of any one level of one variable interacting with any one level of any other variable.

Again the frequency data on responses of the second questionnaire i.e on informations relevant to marital adjustment were analysed by the non-parametric statistical technique called Chi-Square ($\chi^2$)

The main body of the thesis shows some prefix sheets on contents, list of tables and figures, and ends with a list of references. Appendices showing A), samples (Appendix A) and tools (Appendix B & C).