Chapter – III

OBJECTIVES, METHODOLOGY AND APPROACHES

In modern-day India, the socio-economic status of women in Muslim communities, along with their political participation rates and the need for legal reform, are causes for concern and need attention. The impoverished status of a large number of Muslim women in India underlines the urgency for further inquiry in this area and also the need for active intervention by state agencies to implement policies to redress this imbalance - and ensure Muslim women’s full and equal participation as Indian citizens. Like women from other communities, Muslim women are differentiated across gender, class, caste and community, and are subject to the interface between gender and community within the Indian social, political and economic context. At the same time, Muslim women’s location in modern India also derives from their status as a minority which colours their life experience and self-perception in distinct ways, and in this respect they differ from women belonging to other communities. After five decades of independence the majority of Muslim women are among the most disadvantaged, least literate, economically impoverished and politically marginalized sections of Indian society. The social and economic issues confronting women in Muslim communities mandate attention as does the violation of their rights as citizens of India.

The present study aims to encompass the social, economic, and environmental conditions of the Muslims in the city of Allahabad. The study aims at examining the vulnerability in the living conditions of the people settled in Muslims area in Allahabad city. I have tried to find out the actual living condition and empowerment levels of Muslim
women in various socio-economic aspects. The present study explores the various facts of Muslim women, these facts includes demographic details, education level, health status, work participation rate, socio-economic and political freedom, decision making capacity, and perceptions on various issues, empowerment levels etc.

3.1 Objectives of the Study
The major objectives of the study are given as follows:-

- To evaluate the socio-economic characteristics of Muslim women in Allahabad City.
- To examine the level of decision making and autonomy of female in households.
- To examine the impact of socio-economic variable on empowerment.
- To suggest appropriate policy for empowerment of Muslim women.

3.2 Hypothesis
- Socio-economic profile or characteristics define its level of empowerment.
- Women empowerment and socio-economic characteristics are positively correlated.
- Working women are more empowered than non-working women.
- Education leads to empowerment.

3.3 Methodology
For the study, I have purposely selected the Allahabad city (Nagar Nigam area) from state of Uttar Pradesh on following basis:

- According to census 2001, 12.72% of the Muslim population contributes in the total population of Allahabad district;
Objectives, Methodology and Approaches

- Muslim is well represented in the population of Allahabad City. As assumed that around 30% Muslim population resides in the Allahabad Nagar Nigam area out of total population;
- Easy to access and approach to target group;
- Availability of helpful resources; and
- Saving our time.

The city of Allahabad is a home for population more than 10 lakhs. The municipal administrative body of the city is Allahabad Nagar Nigam (ANN) that has four boundaries by administrative - geographic division; on the east side, it is Jhunsi; in west it is the border of district Kausambi ; in north, Phaphamau and Malaka, and in south - Naini and Mahewa. I covered all types of Muslim dominant Mohallas, who settled in different parts of the city. I have collected both secondary (published and unpublished) and primary data for the study. The secondary data has collected from Nagar Nigam, Allahabad and office of (District Urban Development Agency) DUDA, Allahabad, Government Departments, NSSO, Census, Sarvekshana, National Family Health Survey (NFHS), Various Reports, websites etc. I have collected primary data through structured schedules from sampled Muslim households. Each sample household respondent personally interviewed after development of rapport building and Sample loss compensated by next sample household respondent or additional sample. I have also recorded qualitative information in the form of field diary collected through observations during the interviews with selected Muslim women. The study frame is given as follow:
OBJECTIVES
- Economic Status
- Social Status
- Decision Making and Autonomy

OBJECTIVE
- Impact of Socio-Economic Variable on Empowerment

PRIMARIES
- Role in Earning
- Type of Service and Occupation
- Ownership Regarding Fixed or Other Assets
- Freedom in Expenditure
- Decision Making and Autonomy

SECONDARYS
- Census of U.P.
- NSS organization
- National Family Health Survey
- Nagar Nigam/Election Office/BSA
- Reports from Religious Organizations
- Local NGOs

RIGHT AND AWARENESS
- Property
- Domestic Violence

GENDER DISCRIMINATES
- Attitude
- Education
- Freedom
- Marriage
- Employment
- Facilitation

EDUCATION
- Self
- Aspiration
- Household Members

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL BELIEFS
- Customs
- Tradition
- Religious Value

Health
- Physical Health
- Mental Health
3.3.1 Sampling

For the sample, I have collected secondary data from Nagar Nigam, Allahabad and office of (District Urban Development Agency) DUDA, Allahabad regarding the members of Muslim Mohallas in the city. Those data and information have helped us to classify the city areas into five clusters by direction (east, west, north, south and central). There are 80 Wards in the Allahabad city and 80 wards have been divided into five clusters/zones which covered 56 Mohallas of the city by five directions. With the help of some religious organization/local leader/local people, I identified 21 Muslim dominant Mohallas. Thus, among 56 Mohallas, I have identified 21 main Muslim packets on the negotiation with the local people and distributed in identified clusters by directions. From 21 main Muslim packets, I have taken one Mohallas from each cluster. The population and household of each cluster were calculated on the basis of total average population in that cluster. The Muslim population in each selected mohallas was assumed (ranging 10 to 90%) on the basis of ratio of the addition of all the average population existed in that cluster. I have used Systematic Random Sampling Method for the selection of households.

The total sample size have been (100) distributed among five clusters. The total sample size has been proportionally distributed in each cluster on the basis of population resided in the cluster and then randomly sampled one Mohalla from each cluster. I have covered all colonies fallen under the selected Mohallas. Thus, I have covered five Mohallas from 21 main Muslim packets of the whole city. The cluster-wise Mohallas, main Muslim packets and selected Mohallas is given in the table 3.1.
I have selected a total of 100 Muslim women households from all the five clusters of the city, which have been identified during the pilot visit. The total sample size has been proportionally distributed in each cluster on the basis of population resided in the cluster and then randomly sampled one Mohalla from each cluster. I have covered all colonies fallen under the selected Mohallas. It was observed that there was no authentic current data available regarding Muslim population of Allahabad city therefore; I depend on the data available in Allahabad Municipal Corporation which was collected in years 2004. Followed the stratified Random Sampling Method, I have selected 5

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### Table 3.1: Selection of Mohallas & Distribution of Sample Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Mohallas/Colony</th>
<th>Main Muslim Packets</th>
<th>Selected Mohalla for Study</th>
<th>No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>South</strong></td>
<td>Maheba, Nainy Colony, Chackbhatai, PAC Chauraha, Gandhinagar, Manasnagar, Chak Imamali, ADA Colony, Kasai Mohalla, Arail, Saji Kaa Purwa</td>
<td>1. Saji Kaa Purwa 2. Kasai Mohalla 3. Arail</td>
<td>- Kasai Mohalla  (It is located in Cha Dondi in Naini Area)</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>East</strong></td>
<td>Rambagh, Daraganj, Sohbatiyabagh, Hathipark, Alopibagh, Allahpur, Mutthiganj, Hatiya, Bahadurganj, Kydganj, Dayra Shah Ajmal, Katghar</td>
<td>1. Hatiya 2. Dayrashah Ajamal</td>
<td>- Hatiya (Located in Bahadurganj area)</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>56</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


*Note:* The all 80 wards have divided into five clusters, which covered 56 Mohallas of the city.
Mohallas in the city by direction. All five sampled Mohallas represent from the direction like East, West, North, South and Central part of the city. The details can be seen in Table 3.2.

**Table 3.2: Selection of Mohallas & Sample Size Households for Study**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Name Of Main Muslim Packets</th>
<th>Name Selected Mohalla for Study</th>
<th>Total Population in the Area</th>
<th>Assumed Muslim Population &amp; Households</th>
<th>Sample Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>1. Saji Kaa Purwa 2. Kasai Mohalla 3. Arail</td>
<td>Kasai Mohalla (It is located in Cha Dondi in Naini Area)</td>
<td>11498</td>
<td>2300</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>1. Hatiya 2. Dayrashah Ajamil</td>
<td>Hatiya (Located in Bahadurganj area)</td>
<td>10961</td>
<td>2192</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>59492</strong></td>
<td><strong>11889</strong></td>
<td><strong>-</strong></td>
<td><strong>18630</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Allahabad Municipal Corporation and based on year 2001.

* For the population, assuming that 5 members have been existed in each household.

**Note:** The selected Mohalla and sample size are proportionally distributed on the basis of assumed Muslim population of 2004.

For the selection of Muslim households from the selected Mohalla/colony, I have visited the selected Mohalla in advance and identified that from where and which household I can start may survey. After this identification, I have selected target number of households on interval number of households from where the survey was started. I have used following formula for getting the interval numbers for selection of household:

\[
\text{Interval Number of Household} = \frac{\text{Total Assumed HHs. in the colony}}{\text{Target Size of Sample}}
\]
3.4 Study Tools
The structured schedule has been developed and used in the study consisted open and closed ended questions of several items related to socio-economic background. The background information included information about respondents age, type of family, education, technical education, Occupation, types of service, nature of service, income, general information about family, assets ownership, freedom, decision making capacity of women, revolting capacity of women against social evils, reasons for backwardness, perception on important issues etc. For qualitative information, I have recorded personal observations which were observed during interview with respondents and narrations/ comments of the respondents and local religious organization were also recorded during field survey. I have collected media coverage which has been related to Muslim women of the city.

3.5 Data Collection
The personal interview has been organized with each sample household respondents. Before conducting the interview, one or two day advance I have met to respondents and developed rapport building with them. During this meeting, I have informed them about our research objectives and fixed the time and date for the interview inconvenient for them. I have approached only those respondents who have shown their interest for giving the interview. Thus, I have conducted personal interview with each sampled household women respondents. If any household respondents have not shown their interest for the interview, I have replaced this household from next sampled households or additional sampled households.
3.6 Data Analysis

After primary data collection, I have checked and cleaned the collected data and then responses of open ended questions have been coded. All coded schedules have been processed in Special programming for Social Science (SPSS) software in the computer and processed data again cleaned for final analysis. For the analyzing the data, I have developed an ‘Empowerment Index’ (EI) based on fourteen (14) variables which are related to issue of decision making. All the variables have been examined on the Empowerment Index. In case of empowerment of women, I have followed the definition given as below:

“We define autonomy here as the control women have over their own lives-the extent to which they have an equal voice with their husbands in matters affecting themselves and their families, control over material and other resources, access to knowledge and information, the authority to make independent decisions, freedom from constraints on physical mobility, and the ability to forge equitable power relationship within families”

- S.J. Jejeebhoy & Z.A. Sathar, 2001

3.7 Limitations

The present study is limited in the sense that it is covers only a small area viz. Allahabad city (Nagar Nigam), it would have been better to cover a big area for such types of study. I feel that similar studies on this issue should be carried out for various other districts in the country. Due to non-availability of sufficient information about the respondents themselves and their families few important variables could not be discussed in the present study. Under the heading of decision making role of female in family, I have taken only few important issues, therefore, further studies are required which highlight other aspect of decision making role of women in the family.