Chapter-IV

SOCIO-POLITICAL RECONSTRUCTION IN KARNATAKA – ROLE OF PRAJAPITA BRAHMA KUMARIS ISHWARIYA VISHWA VIDYALAYA – RESPONSES OF DISCIPLES OF ISHWARIYA VISHWA VIDYALAYA – AN ANALYSIS

4.1 Socio-Economic Profile of Disciples/Spiritual Trainees

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4.21 Caste based Reservation in Assembly and Parliament

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4.26 Habits Overcome After Joining Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

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Chapter-IV

SOCIO-POLITICAL RECONSTRUCTION IN KARNATAKA – ROLE OF PRAJAPITA BRAHMA KUMARIS ISHWARIYA VISHWA VIDYALAYA – RESPONSES OF DISCIPLES OF ISHWARIYA VISHWA VIDYALAYA – AN ANALYSIS

The analysis of the responses of the disciples/trainees and the Brahma Kumaris covered by the study is focused on the data obtained through personal interviews with the selected respondents in the 8 centers of the spiritual university in Karnataka state. The views of the respondent disciples and the Brahma Kumaris on various aspects of socio-political reconstruction have been analysed and appropriate inferences and generalizations have been derived to assess the impact of the spiritual teaching of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya in the direction of the socio-political reconstruction in the study area. The discussion in this core chapter has led to some useful conclusions relating to the topic of the research.

4.1 Socio-Economic Profile of Disciples/Spiritual Trainees

Socio-economic background of the respondent disciples undergoing spiritual training of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has significant implications for the research study. Hence different aspects of the socio-economic status of the 150 selected disciples of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have been analysed here.

4.2 Education

Education is an important factor in influencing the outlook and attitudes of individuals in the social set up in which they are interacting with the other individuals, social groups and institutions.
The level of education determines their culture and their perceptions of societal issues in which they are an integral part. The study has revealed some significant trends regarding the educational status of the 150 respondent disciples of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

It is found through field survey that maximum number of 105 respondent disciples constituting 70 percent of the total had possessed degree level of education. Thus majority of the disciples of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya had the benefit of higher education which was an advantage in perceiving the spiritual dimensions of the training undergone as imparted by this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

The field study has further revealed that a good number of 31 respondent disciples of the spiritual studies of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya had high school level of education. They accounted for 20.67 percent of the total number of respondents covered by the study. A lesser number of 13 disciples representing 8.67 percent of the total had pre-university level of education. Alone disciples of the Vishwa Vidyalaya had only primary education (0.67%).

The details about the educational status of the 150 selected disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have been presented in the following table.
### Table-4.1

Educational Status of the Disciples of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>20.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PU</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>70.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

![Fig. 4.1: Educational Status of the Disciples of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya](image)

The details in the above table indicate that high percentage of persons who have undergone training of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya had higher education and their inclination towards spiritual education is a healthy development in the direction of socio-political reconstruction of the country.
4.3 Age Composition of Disciples/Spiritual Trainees

Age along with education has a significant implication for people's aptitude and inclination towards social transformation through spiritual education imparted by Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. The study has revealed that majority of respondent disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya belonged to advanced age groups between 40-50 years and 60 years and above. Of these majority of 38 disciples accounting for 25.33 percent of the total were senior citizen in the age group of 60 years an above followed by 34 disciples undergoing spiritual training constituting 22.67 percent were in the middle age group of 40-50 years, while 30 disciples representing 20 percent of the total were in the matured age group of 40-50 years. Thus majority of 68 percent of the total number of 150 disciples undergoing spiritual training of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya were persons with matured span of age and wisdom. Thus their spiritual training has a direct impact on their social relationship and on the social outlook of the people in general. The respondent spiritual seekers in these advanced age groups have the advantage of spreading spiritual message among varied sections of the society since these elderly people held position of responsibility in different areas like professions, services and management, etc. Hence the spiritual education of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya could be instrumental in social reconstruction of socio-economic life of the country.
The younger age group of respondents consisted disciples belonging to 20-30 and 30-40 years. The involvement of these younger generations of disciples in the spiritual teaching of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is significant as they can spread the spiritual message among the persons belonging to their generation and help develop the character and values of life among them. Thus the spread effect of spiritual regeneration of the society through the spiritual education of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya could be the direct result in the direction of socio-political reconstruction of the country. The details of the age composition of the 150 disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya are provided in the following table.

Table-4.2

Age Composition of Disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20-30</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-40</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>17.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-50</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>22.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-60</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 &amp; Above</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>25.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
4.4 Gender Classification of Disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The study has revealed that the spiritual training imparted by the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has been availed of both by male and female disciples in Karnataka – the study area. There is an almost identical response from male and female spiritual aspirants for the spiritual education of the Brahma Kumaris. Of the 150 respondents obtaining spiritual training 85 disciples constituting 56.67 percent belonged to the male sex, while 65 spiritual disciples of the Brahma Kumaris accounting for 43.33 percent belonged to the female gender.

Social reconstruction needs the involvement of both male and female members of the society. The present degeneration of the society and the loss of moral values are largely due to the absence of value
based approach of the people in different strata of social life. In this
task of social restructuring the role of both men and women is
important. The Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has
been striving through its spiritual education for reconstructing the
society. A special reconstruction has been assigned by this spiritual
institution.

The spiritual training of men and women in varied fields of
social life is expected to achieve the objective of social reconstruction.
In this context the study covering 150 male and female disciples
taking spiritual training from the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa
Vidyalaya has obtained the responses of these disciples about their
perceptions regarding the impact of this spiritual training. Hence
responses of the selected 150 spiritual disciples of the Ishwariya
Vishwa Vidyalaya has been obtained. The following table provides the
details regarding the number of male and female disciples covered by
the study.

Table-4.3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>56.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>43.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
4.5 Marital Status of Disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The study has covered 99 married disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya constituting 66 percent of the total respondents. A lesser number of 51 disciples covered by the study accounted for 34 percent of the total respondents. The marital status thus indicates that majority of spiritual aspirants of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya were married and settled in life. However the unmarried respondents too constituted a substantial number. This indicates that spiritual inclination is found both among married and unmarried persons. The spiritual training of married persons by the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has an impact on larger population since married persons have their influence over their family members and also on those working with them in offices, business and other organizations where they are involved. Hence
The impact of spiritual training is likely to be more pervasive on the society through married disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. It is equally good for unmarried youth to have spiritual training as they will be benefited by the spiritual training in their immediate life and also in their future married life. Thus the research study covering both married and unmarried disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has obtained the perceptions of these persons about the impact of spiritual training on their social and political outlook. The details of married and unmarried respondents covered by the study have been given in the following table.

Table 4.4
Marital Status of Disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>66.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unmarried</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>34.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
4.6 Family Occupation of Disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The data obtained through field survey and personal interviews revealed that the family occupation of majority of 88 respondent disciples constituting 58.67 percent was private service in different occupations. A lesser number of 33 respondent disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya accounting for 22 percent belonged to families of retired persons or were housewives in case of female respondents. A still lesser number of 29 respondent disciples undergoing training in this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya belonged to families of government employees, they accounted for 19.33 percent. The following table provides the details.
Table-4.5

Family Occupation of Disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Occupation</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>19.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>58.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired/Housewife</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

The responses obtained from the above disciples of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya reflect the perceptions of a cross section of social groups about the socio-political restructuring of the Indian society. The personal and group opinions of these respondents have been quite useful in deriving useful inferences about the research problem. The pattern of responses and the family occupation provide good information about the spiritual impact of the Ishwariya Vishwa...
Vidyalaya and their perception about the future development and restructuring of the society in social and political systems.

4.7 **Nature of Association with the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya by the Disciples Undergoing Spiritual Training**

The responses of the 150 disciples who have undergone training in the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya indicate different type of their association with this spiritual organization. Association with this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya for training or education is purely voluntary and optional. Hence the study has revealed significant trends in this direction.

Majority of 79 disciples undergoing spiritual training accounting for 52.67 percent associated with the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya as fulltime volunteers or disciples. A substantial number of 52 respondent disciples of this spiritual university constituting of 34.67 percent of the total associated with this institution for spiritual training according to their convenience. A lesser number of 19 respondent disciples undergoing spiritual training in the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya accounting for 12.67 percent were associated with the institution by attending the yoga courses/seminars, etc. occasionally. The nature of association of these respondent disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is indicated in the following table.
Table 4.6

Nature of Association with the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya by the Disciples Undergoing Spiritual Training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature of Association</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Time as Volunteer/Teacher</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>52.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attending Courses/Seminars Occasionally</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associating according to Convenience</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>34.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

Fig. 4.6: Nature of Association with the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya by the Disciples Undergoing Spiritual Training

Associating as a full time volunteer helps the disciplines in inculcating spiritual attitude to issues of life or profession and in developing values and ethical approach toward one’s dealings with others or social groups. All social problems could be tackled ultimately by spiritual orientation and spiritual approaches. Attending spiritual courses/seminars etc. Occasional attending of training is useful in changing
outdated and selfish approach to problems and people. Hence though the number of respondents in this category is small the benefits of such association with the spiritual education of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya are quite substantial in moulding social and political outlook of people. A good number of respondents have associated with this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya according to their convenience. This type of association with the spiritual courses of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is beneficial for those who are involved in their hectic activities of family, business or services, etc. The impact is going to be positive in changing the social and political outlook of these seekers of spiritual training.

4.8 **Duration of Associating with the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya**

Associating with the spiritual education and training has been of a long duration of time for majority of disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. Majority of 75 spiritual aspirants constituting 50 percent of the total have associated with this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya for more than 10 years. This indicates their intense faith in spiritual education provided by this institute. A substantial number of 46 disciples have associated with this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya for the last 1-5 years. They constituted 30.67 percent of the total. A lesser number of 29 disciples have associated with this spiritual university for the last 6-10 years, they accounted for 19.33 percent of the total. The following table provides the details.
Table 4.7

Duration of Associating with the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration of Association</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-5 Years</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>30.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-10 Years</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>19.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 10 Years</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

It is significant to find from the responses of majority of the disciples of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya that they have associated with the institution for more than 10 years. The impact of the spiritual teaching of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is clear from this long association of the spiritual seekers. Thus the social transformation through spiritual teaching of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is obvious. Similarly a substantial number of disciples have been
associated with the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya for the last 1-5 years and a good number of other disciples are involved in taking spiritual education from this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya for the last 6-10 years. The duration of the association is a clear indication that social transformation and social reconstruction is possible only through spiritual orientation of individuals through spiritual organizations like Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

4.9 Personal Occupation of Disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The study has covered disciples of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya belonging to varied type of personal occupations. The occupations of these respondents include service, profession, business, agriculture, political activity and social work.

Persons undergoing spiritual education in the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have been largely in services. They constituted majority of 57.33 percent of the total number of 150 respondents covered by the study. Professionals consisting of doctors, lawyers and other professionals constituted 15.33 percent of the respondent disciples of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. Businessmen undergoing spiritual education in this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya accounted for 12 percent of the respondents. Those engaged in agriculture and taking spiritual training in this world Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya covered by the study accounted for 2 percent of the total number of respondent trainees. Alone political worker was
covered by the study who was undergoing training in spiritual education in this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. A substantial number of 19 disciples (12.67%) undergoing spiritual training in this spiritual university were engaged in social service activities. The following table provides the details.

Table-4.8

Personal Occupation of Disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Occupation</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>57.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profession</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>15.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Work</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>150</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

![Fig. 4.8 : Personal Occupation of Disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya](image)
The occupational pattern of the respondent disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya indicates greater involvement of those in service. Obviously the urban oriented work of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is likely to attract those in service in the urban areas. Similarly those in profession and in business are also largely located in urban areas and hence their participation in spiritual training of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is based in urban areas. Those in agriculture and in political activities are much less involved in the spiritual education of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. But it is encouraging to note that a good number of those involved in social work are taking up spiritual training organized by the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

4.10 Initiation of the Disciples into the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

Initiation of the respondent disciples or disciples into the spiritual education has been facilitated by friends and relatives in case of majority of them. Others who helped the disciples in availing of the spiritual education of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya included the Brahma Kumaris and others and the self decision of the disciples themselves. Friends initiated into the spiritual education of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya in case of 49 respondent accounting for 31.21 percent, while relatives helped 43 respondents constituting 27.39 percent of the total. A substantial number of 39 respondent disciples initiated themselves into this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya on their own self decision. They accounted for 24.84
percent. Brahma Kumaris were responsible for initiating 10 respondents into the spiritual training of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, they accounted for 6.37 percent only. Others initiated 16 respondent disciples into the spiritual training of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

Thus it is clear that friends and relatives accounted for helping majority of the disciples entering into the spiritual training of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya followed by self decision. The role of Brahma Kumaris is initiating disciples into the spiritual training of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has been limited. The following table provides the details.

Table-4.9

Initiation of Disciples into the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiated by</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>31.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relatives</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>27.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brahma Kumaris</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Decision</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>24.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
The responses in the above table indicate that there is need for the Brahma Kumaris to take more initiative in inducting the people into the spiritual training and bring about a more stable and peaceful society through Yoga practices and other methods of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

4.11 Preaching of Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya – Areas of Influence

Spiritual preaching by the Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has influenced maximum number of 77 respondent disciples constituting 45.29 percent of the total (150) covered by the study. However spiritual and social aspects of the preaching, of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has influenced a substantial number of 54 disciples accounting for 31.76 percent of the total. Social aspects of
the preaching of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya alone has influenced a lesser number of 11 respondent disciples (6.47%), while spiritual and political aspects of preaching has influenced 2 respondents (1.18%). It is significant to note that all these aspects of the preaching of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have influenced 26 respondent disciples (15.29%) covered by the study. The following table provides the details.

Table-4.10
Preaching of Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya – Areas of Influence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas of Influence</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>45.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual &amp; Social</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>31.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual &amp; Political</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Above</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>15.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
The responses indicated in the above table are multiple. The respondents have mentioned more than one influence of the preaching of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. Hence the total number of responses are more than the actual number of respondents covered by the study.

It is clear from the responses that the social and political influences of the preaching are largely related to spiritual influence of the preaching of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. However the spiritual influence on the disciples or disciples have a definite implications for their social and political views and approaches. Hence the major spiritual influence of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has a bearing on the individuals and on the social and political groups covered by the spiritual education of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. The Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya provides spiritual education with a
holistic approach to build a value based society and a political system that reflects a value based society.

4.12 Association of Disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya with Political Party

It is significant to find from the field survey and personal interviews with the disciples of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya that large majority of them did not associate with any political party. A small number of 11 respondent disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya accounting for 7.33 percent mentioned that they were associated with political parties. A large majority of 139 respondent disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya accounting for 92.67 percent indicated that they were not associated with political parties. The following table provides the details.

Table-4.11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Association with Political Party</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>92.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
Political impact on all shades of social groups and individuals is felt though majority of the people are not associated directly with political parties. Ultimately political leadership is build up by all the citizen and voting public. Elected members of various political parties owe their positions to all the people comprising of the voters who elect them. Hence individuals are indirectly associated with political system though they are not active members of any political party.

4.13 Change of Political Party After Joining Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The responses regarding the change in political parties by the disciples of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya indicate that majority of them have not changed their preference for the political parties after undergoing spiritual training in this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. The following table provides the details.
Table 4.12
Change of Political Party After Joining Prajapita Brahma Kumaris
Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change in Preference in Political Party</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>99.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

Fig. 4.12: Change of Political Party After Joining Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The details in the above table indicate that alone respondent disciple of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya accounting for 0.67 percent has changed his loyalty to the political party. A large majority of 149 respondent disciples of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya covered by the study have not changed their loyalty to the political party after joining this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. This indicates that the majority of the respondent disciples of this
Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya are happy with the policies programmes and performance of the political party of their choice.

4.14 Opinion about Political Leadership in the Country

Opinion of the respondent disciples of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have indicated varied aspects about the political leadership in the country. The opinion indicated largely unfavourable perceptions about the political leadership viz., corrupt, communal, indifferent and politicians having criminal background. However favourable opinions by some respondents indicated political leadership being secular and efficient.

Majority of respondent disciples undergoing spiritual training in this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya constituting 44.28 percent expressed the view that political leadership in the country was corrupt. Communal aspects of the political leadership in the country was expressed by a lesser number of 27 respondents accounting for 9.96 percent of the total. Political leaders in the country are found indifferent in their functioning according to 50 respondents accounting for 18.45 percent of the total. Further political leaders having criminal background has been expressed by 25 respondents representing 9.23 percent of the total number of respondents covered by the study.

Favourable opinion about the political leadership has been expressed by some respondents. A lesser number of 30 respondent disciples undergoing spiritual training have expressed the view that political leaders and secular, while a small number of 19 respondent
spiritual trainees (7.1%) in the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have expressed the view that political leaders are efficient. The following table provides the details.

Table 4.13
Opinion about Political Leadership in the Country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corrupt</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>44.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communal</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>9.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secular</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>11.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indifferent</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>18.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Efficient</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>7.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Background</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>9.23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
The responses of the disciples undergoing spiritual training largely reflect the general trend of political environment in the country beset with corrupt practices which are rampant among the political leaders and communal practices and policies followed by political parties for wooing voters by appealing and inciting communal feelings. Another malady of criminalization of politics has also been voiced by the respondent disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. The responses rightly reflect the contemporary evils in the political environment in the country. Very few respondents have tried to highlight the favourable aspects like secular aspects of politics and efficiency of political leadership.

The respondent disciples of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have given multiple answers indicating more than one aspects of political leadership in the country. Hence the number of responses is more than the actual number of respondents.

4.15 Opinion About Elections – Responses of Spiritual Trainees

The spiritual trainees or disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have expressed their anguish about the elections in our country which are based on caste, religion, money and muscle power. Money and muscle power influencing the elections in the country has been indicated by majority of 71 respondent spiritual trainees constituting 36.60 percent each. Caste and religion based elections have been mentioned by 30 respondent spiritual trainees (15.46%) of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. The following table provides the details.
Responses of the spiritual trainees reflect the prevalent environment of the elections held at various levels in India. Caste and religion count more in our multi-religious and caste ridden society in various elections at different level. Despite various reforms introduced by the Election Commission this factor has been influencing the elections since the post-Independence period. Further money power has been playing a role in influencing the voters in the elections. This
factor continues in view of the mass poverty of people particularly in the rural areas where incidence of poverty is severe. Muscle power or criminalization too has been playing its role in the elections. As long as these deficiencies continue elections will not be free and fair. The experience of the country facing these problems in conducting fair and free elections has confirmed the fact that legal and procedural changes or measures are not going to bring about the desired results in this vital area of political organization of the country. The ultimate solutions to malpractices that are faced in the system of conducting elections in our multi-religious and caste ridden society lie in changing the values and ethical standards of the people through spiritual education on the lines of the spiritual approach of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

4.16 Opinion about Public Administration – Perceptions of Disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The perceptions of the respondent disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya regarding Public Administration is highly adverse and unfavourable. Rampant corruption at every level of administration has been mentioned by majority of 60 respondent disciples undergoing spiritual education in this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. Political interference at every level of administration has been mentioned by 58 respondents (26.36%) and delay and favouritism in administration has been mentioned by 54 respondents (24.55%). Administrative inefficiency at some level has been alleged by 26 respondents (11.82%) and inefficiency at all levels of
administration has been mentioned by 22 respondents (10%). The following table provides the details of the responses.

**Table-4.15**

Opinion about Public Administration – Perceptions of Disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rampant Corruption</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>27.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inefficiency in all levels of administration</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inefficiency in some levels of administration</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>11.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay and Favouritism</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>24.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Interference in Administration</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>26.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

The perception of the disciples pursuing spiritual education at the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is reflective of the prevalent corruption at various levels of administration.
Administrative delays and favouritism have been the other maladies associated with the public administration in our country. Inefficiency at various levels of administration has been affecting the social and economic development of the country in general. Hence the objective of socio-political reconstruction of the society can be achieved only through removal of these evils associated with the public administration. The personal character and values of those in administration needs to be improved and developed to achieve the broad objective of socio-political reconstruction in the country.

Committees and Commissions have made recommendations for administrative reforms in the country. The implementation of these recommendations has not been effective and no perceptible improvements have taken place. Even the work of Lokayukta at state's level too has not been able to remove corruption, favouritism and administrative inefficiency. Hence the solution to the problem of improving public administration and make it corruption free lies in building up the national character through developing individual character and improving ethical standards of those in administration of the Government.
4.17 Development of New Vision for the Political Scenario in the Country

The spiritual training at the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya in the study area has been helpful in developing a vision among the disciples about the political scenario that would herald a new and value based socio-political system in the country. The responses obtained during the field study have revealed that large majority of respondent disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya accounting for 94.67% of the total had developed a vision for the future political scenario for the country. The following table provides the details of the responses.

Table-4.16
Development of New Vision for the Political Scenario in the Country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>94.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

Fig. 4.16 : Development of New Vision for the Political Scenario in the Country
The responses indicated in the above table clearly bring out the impact of spiritual training in creating and broadening the vision of the spiritual trainees about the political future of the country.

4.18 Types of Political Leaders Needed for India – Responses of the Disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The responses of the disciples of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya clearly indicate their concern and their vision for the type of political leaders India need in the future for a value based political environment. The responses of the selected disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya provide a good insight into their vision for the political scenario for the future of the country.

- A substantial number of 46 respondent disciples accounting for 14.65 percent of the total expressed the view that the political leaders must have good educational background. This aspect of the political leaders is important as they are directly involved in making laws and their implementation.

- A good number of 23 respondents (7.32%) expressed a preference for young and youthful political leaders for the country. Prompt and expeditions implementation of policies and programmes is possible only when the leadership is vested with the young and youthful leaders.

- Mass contact should be established to understand the problems of the common masses. Hence an equal number of 23 respondents (7.32%) have insisted on this aspect for the political leaders in the country.
• Previous experience of social work and association with institutions like cooperatives, educational and cultural institution should be considered for the choice of political leaders according to a substantial number of 43 disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya (13.69%) covered by the study. Such previous experience would enable the political leaders to handle political and social issues efficiently in the legislature and parliament.

• Political leaders would be effective in their role as people's representatives with previous experience of working in the grass root organizations like Panchayat Institutions according to a small number of 15 respondent disciples of this spiritual institution (4.78%).

• Political leaders must have proper understanding of social and economic issues according to a substantial number of 43 disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya (13.69%). This aspect of the vision of these spiritually trained respondents is quite relevant in the present context. Many of the elected leaders of various political parties do not possess adequate knowledge of the social and economic issues of the country. Hence a proper education of these leaders in areas of social and economic fields is necessary. The voters must be sensitized to elect only those leaders who possess sufficient knowledge of the social and economic problems facing the country. So that they can effectively participate in debates and discussions in their respective legislature and parliament.
A good number of respondent disciples (24) accounting for 7.64 percent of the total have stressed that a political leader should not have criminal background.

The responses of the disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya covered by the study have been provided in the following table.

Table-4.17

Type of political Leaders Needed for India – Responses of the Disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Leader Needed</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leader with good education</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>14.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young and youthful leader</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader with mass contact</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader with experience in social work and experience in co-ops/educational intuitions</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>13.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader with participation in Panchayat Raj Institutions</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader with proper understanding of social and economic issues</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>13.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader without criminal background</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>7.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

A combination of the various positive attributes of a political leader has been mentioned by 97 respondent disciples pursuing spiritual education in the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.
4.19 Reservation for Women in Membership of Legislature and Parliament – Responses of Disciples of Brahma Kumari Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The discussion in the contemporary political circles is taking place about 33 percent reservations for women in state legislature and in parliament. The bill in this regarding is pending before the Lok Sabha currently. Though the opposition is opposed to passing the Bill in its present form there is general agreement in principle for the reservation for women. The responses of the disciples undergoing spiritual training in the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya obtained through personal interviews during the field survey indicate support for the reservation by large majority of the respondents. The following table provides the details.

Table-4.18

Reservation for Women in Membership of Legislature and Parliament – Responses of Disciples of Brahma Kumari Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
A small number of 30 respondents (20%) have not supported the argument for reservations for women in state legislature and in parliament. In a patriarchal family and social systems women have always been neglected in the political and social fields. However this type of age-old attitude of ignoring the freedom for women to come forth in the society is largely overcome and majority of the people have realized the importance of women empowerment through measures like reservations in political representations.

4.20 Reservation for Women Members in Local Self Government

The responses of the disciples undergoing spiritual training in the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya covered by the study have been largely identical with regard to the reservation of women members in local self government. Large majority of 111 respondent spiritual trainees constituting 74 percent of the total have affirmed that reservation to women members in the local self government is
desirable. A small number of 39 disciples undergoing spiritual training accounting for 26 percent of the total have not supported the majority view. The following table provides the details.

Table-4.19
Reservation for Women Members in Local Self Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>74.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

Reservation for women at various levels of administration has been an important measure towards women empowerment and hence there has been an almost national consensus on this issue. Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has been advocating this policy and believes in women playing an important role in spiritual
orientation of the society for solving various socio-political problems in the country.

4.21 Caste based Reservation in Assembly and Parliament

Caste based reservations in Assembly and Parliament seats has been supported by 37 spiritual trainees of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, they account for 24.67 percent of the total. These respondent disciples of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have supported the reservation based on caste on grounds of social justice. Certain caste groups have suffered in the past and have remained socially and economically backward. Hence their social and economic empowerment can be achieved through such political representation based on caste. However majority of the respondent spiritual trainees accounting for 70 percent of the total have not subscribed to caste based reservation. The following table provides the details.

Table-4.20

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reservation</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desirable in the Interest of Social Justice</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>24.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caste based reservation is not desirable</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>70.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
4.22 Caste based Reservation for Local Self Government

The responses of the spiritual trainees of the Brahma Kumaris about the caste based reservation for local self government are similar as indicated earlier with regard to caste based reservations for assembly and parliament. A small number of 49 respondents accounting for 32.67 percent have supported the caste based reservations of seats in local self government. However a majority of 101 respondent spiritual trainees of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have not subscribed to the caste based reservation of seats in local self government. The spiritual training of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya emphasizes the social development without caste considerations. The same is reflected in the responses of the majority of the spiritual trainees. The following table provides the details.
### Table-4.21

Caste based Reservation of Seats for Local Self Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>32.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>67.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

![Pie Chart: Caste based Reservation of Seats for Local Self Government](image)

### 4.23 Approach of People towards Social Issues – Role of Spiritual Trainees of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

Social evils prevalent in the present day society need to be eradicated for a new and vibrant society. Social reconstruction is needed by removing social evils like alcoholism, addiction to drugs, harassment of women for dowry, discrimination against women, child marriage, etc. The spiritual training of the persons taking yoga and other practices conducted by Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is one of the methods through which the social approach of
the people can be changed. The spiritual trainees have a role in this
direction. Their training at the spiritual institution can help them to
take up some steps to change the attitude of their friends, family
members and others and make them overcome the social evils
mentioned above.

The responses of the spiritual trainees in this Ishwariya Vishwa
Vidyalaya have revealed some positive results.

• It is found that 125 trainees or disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa
Vidyalaya accounting for 26.43 percent of the total covered by the
study could bring about change in the approach of the people
about the evils of drinking. This is a positive result of the spiritual
training by the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

• A substantial number of 98 trainees of the Ishwariya Vishwa
Vidyalaya (20.72%) have changed those addicted to drug addiction.
It is a very positive achievement of the spiritually trained disciples
of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

• A substantial number of 73 spiritually trained respondent disciples
of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya (15.43%) have been able to
make people desist from dowry harassment. This social malady can
be overcome only through such spiritually trained persons and not
through legal enactments. Hence the spiritual remedy for the
reconstruction of the society has been found effective.

• Discrimination against women in society and in the family affairs
has been one of the major social problems in our tradition bound
society. Maximum of 104 spiritually trained disciples (21.99%) of
Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have mentioned in their responses that they have been able to change the people's approach in this direction.

- Child marriage is another social malady in our society. This needs utmost attention by all. Though there are legal provisions against marriage of children the practice of child marriage is still found taking place in various parts of the country and particularly among the poor and ignorant. The spiritually trained disciples have tried to prevent this unhealthy practice. A good number of 66 spiritually trained disciples (13.95%) of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have asserted that they have made efforts to change this practice of child marriage.

The spiritually trained disciples of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have been positively involved in changing the approaches of the people with regard to various maladies and evils in our society. Thus the real remedy in restructuring the society lies in spiritual orientation and the spiritual education imparted by the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. The following table provides the details of responses.
Table-4.22

Efforts to Change People’s Approaches Regarding Social Evils – Responses of Disciples/Spiritual Trainees of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Efforts to Change Social Evils</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evils of Drinking</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>26.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Addiction</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>20.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dowry Harassment</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>15.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Discrimination</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>21.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Marriage</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>13.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1.48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

4.24 Methods used for Changing People’s Approach toward Social Evils

The spiritual trainees have followed different methods to change the attitudes and approaches of people towards the social evils mentioned above. These methods include, (i) Conducting lectures by
experts, (ii) Organizing seminars, (iii) Organizing video exhibitions and (iv) Enrolling people as disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, etc.

- A good number of 35 spiritually trained disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya (15.42%) have affirmed that they tried to change the attitudes and approaches of the people by organizing lectures by experts on the need for overcoming social evils. Such methods can cover a large number of societal people and lectures can be effective in convincing groups of people about the evils of social maladies.

- Organizing seminars for highlighting the injurious effects of social evils like alcohol, drugs, etc. has been the method adopted by 22 spiritual trainees accounting for (9.69%) of the total. Discussion that takes place in seminars can be very effective in educational institutions where young and youthful disciples can be sensitized about the bad effects of addiction, smoking, etc. Spiritual orientation of the youth through seminars is a very effective method of removing social evils in the society.

- Organizing video exhibitions highlighting the evils of drinking, drug addiction, smoking, etc. is practices by 40 spiritual trainees of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya (17.62%). This is another effective way of combating social evils. The spiritually trained disciples of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya are found doing their social work in this direction.
- A good number of 33 spiritually trained disciples of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya (14.54%) have been active in enrolling people for spiritual training in the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. The spiritual training has a holistic impact on the personality and values of persons undergoing such training. The social impact is felt when individuals develop ethical values in their approach towards their families, social groups and others. This will lead to a new and a vibrant and value based society. Hence social reconstruction can be achieved through spiritual orientation of the people.

- A large number of 97 spiritual trainees (42.73%) have been involved in other activities towards establishment of a value based and peaceful society.

The following table provides the details.

Table-4.23

Methods used for Changing the People’s Attitude and Approaches for Social Reconstruction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct lectures by experts</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>15.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organising seminars</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>9.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organising video exhibition</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>17.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolling people as disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>14.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>42.73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
Conduct lectures by experts
Organising seminars
Organising video exhibition
Enrolling people as disciples of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya
Others

Fig. 4.22: Methods used for Changing the People’s Attitude and Approaches for Social Reconstruction

The respondent disciples of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have indicated more than one method of changing the attitude and approaches of people in the process of reconstruction of society for a value based and peaceful life of individuals. Hence the number of responses is more than the actual number of respondents.

4.25 Overcoming Habits After Joining Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The positive impact of spiritual training in overcoming habits has been asserted by a large number of 138 spiritual trainees of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya in the study areas of Karnataka state. The spiritual trainees overcome the habits of consumption of alcohol and drugs and they have stopped smoking and eating non-vegetarian food. This indicates the transformation of individuals in their personality development and in developing value based life style. However it is discouraging to find that a small number
of 12 spiritual trainees (8%) covered by the study had not been able to overcome their habits. The following table provides the details.

Table-4.24

Overcoming Habits After Joining Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>92.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

4.26 Habits Overcome After Joining Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

The responses of the spiritual trainees indicate that they could overcome habits after joining the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. This indicates the positive social impact of the spiritual training. A good number of 10 spiritual trainees (6.41%) could overcome the habit of drinking alcohol while 2 spiritual trainees (1.28%) could overcome the habit of consumption of drugs. A good number of 23 spiritual trainees
could stop eating non-vegetarian and 14 spiritual trainees stopped smoking after joining Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. Further 107 respondent spiritual trainees overcome other habits. The spiritual training imparted by the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has made positive impact in bringing about change in the life style of the spiritual trainees and thus this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has been instrumental in social change and reconstruction of the society. The following table provides the details.

Table-4.25

Habits Overcome After Joining Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habits Overcome</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drinking Alcohol</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumption of Drugs</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eating Non-vegetarian Food</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>14.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoking</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>68.59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey
4.27 Spiritual Teaching by Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya and Social Evils and Personal Vices

The spiritual preaching of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya can help trainees or disciples in avoiding personal vices. The trainees also believed that social evils can be overcome by the preaching of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya.

Responses of large majority of 147 spiritual trainees covered by the study affirmed that social evils and personal vices can be avoided by the preaching of this Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya. The responses of the respondent spiritual trainees are details in the following table.

Table-4.26
Avoiding of Social Evils and Personal Vices Due to Spiritual Teaching of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>98.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

Fig. 4.25: Avoiding of Social Evils and Personal Vices Due to Spiritual Teaching of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya
The affirmation by the large majority of 98 percent of the respondent spiritual trainees is clearly indicative of the fact that spiritual institution like the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya can be an effective instrument in avoiding social evils and personal vices of individuals.

4.28 Improving and Reconstruction of Political and Social Order in the Country through Spiritual Teaching of Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

All the 150 spiritual trainees of the Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya covered by the study have affirmed that the present spiritual teaching and training of this spiritual institution can help in improving or reconstruction of political and social order in the country. The following table provides the details.

Table-4.27

Improving or Reconstruction of Political and Social Order through Teaching and Training of Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Field Survey

The field survey and the personal interviews with the spiritual trainees of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya have revealed that the spiritual training has inculcated a proper spiritual attitude among the spiritual trainees. Further the trainees have been actively participating in social activities leading to reform the common
people who were afflicted by personal vices like drug and liquor addiction, smoking and non-vegetarianism, etc. The spiritual trainees have also actively participated in programmes leading to removal of social evils like dowry incidence, women harassment and child marriages, etc. Hence the organization of the Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya has been able to achieve the objective of socio-political restructuring to a reasonable extent.