CHAPTER - III

METHODOLOGY

This chapter discusses the research methodology of the present study. It covers the Statement of the problems, Objectives of the study, Research Hypotheses, Universe of the study, Pilot study, Tools of data collection, Collection of data, Statistical analysis of data for drawing meaningful conclusions and chapterization.

3.1 Statement of the Problem

The Indian women today are no longer contented to worship their home as their only abode. Nor do they wish to confine themselves to the four walls, rather aspire to go in for never climbs and nurture a zest to prove their worth in varied fields on par with their male counterparts. This paves the way to one important factor namely, women’s employment. The rapid industrialization, the undue importance to material wealth and the economic necessity attracted women to take employment, which in turn has given rise to changes in their roles and status in India. This transition of women’s status, no doubt brings many healthy and positive changes for them. One can not ignore or underestimate
the inherent psychological and sociological problems of working women in general. Working women, especially the sanitary workers have to perform both the domestic (child-rearing, taking care of husband if married and home management) as well as occupational roles simultaneously which needs adequate adjustment within themselves. In addition to the demographic factors, certain psychological and sociological factors influence the behaviour of working women in culture context. Such factors remain unexplored and hence one has to make an attempt to study Indian working women. Moreover, the research studies in the above said areas are inadequate and restricted. Therefore, an attempt has been made in this present study, to study the socio-economic background, standard of living, health, decision making and social attitudes with a view to prepare a profile of women sanitary workers.

3.2 Title of the study

3.3 **Operational Definition**

Women sanitary workers

In this study, Women Sanitary Workers means the female those who are working and involved in Street Cleaning, Waste Carrying, Drainage cleaning, and loading and unloading the waste in Thanjavur Municipality.

3.4 **Objectives**

i) To study the Socio-Economic conditions of Municipal Women Sanitary Workers.

ii) To study the Income and Expenditure and Savings pattern of Municipal Women Sanitary workers.

iii) To study the Life Status of Municipal Women Sanitary Workers.

iv) To analyse the level of Decision-Making in the Family.

v) To analyse the Working condition in the job.

vi) To give suggestion for the improvement of sanitary workers.
3.5 Hypotheses

Based on the extensive review of related literature and personal discussion with experts in the field, following major hypotheses were postulated for the empirical validations.

- There is an association between Employment and Caste of the respondents.
- There is an association between Income and Type of House of the respondents.
- There is an association between Income and Facilities available in house of the respondents.
- There is an association between Type of house and Employment of the respondents.
- There is an association between Employment and Educational Qualification of the respondents.
- There is an association between Income and Ownership of House of the respondents.
- There is an association between Type of house and Decision Making of the respondents.
- There is an association between Type of Family and Decision Making of the respondents.
- There is an association between Educational Qualification and Decision Making of the respondents.
There is an association between Caste and Decision Making of the respondents.

There is an association between Age and Decision Making of the respondents.

There is an association between Body affected by Job and Drinking Habit of the respondents.

There is an association between Income and Drinking Habit of the respondents.

There is an association between Savings Amount and Drinking Habits of the respondents.

There is an association between Marital Status and Purchase of Cloth of the respondents.

There is an association between Income and Purchase of Cloth of the respondents.

3.6 Area of the Study

The research was conducted in Thanjavur Municipality for the purpose of knowing about the study of Municipal Women Sanitary Workers. There are 270 women sanitary workers, working in Thanjavur Municipality. These sanitary workers members were divided into 14 divisions and each division has 19 members. These 14 divisions are situated in
All the Sanitary Workers had worked under the control of Sanitation Supervisor. They work as Street Cleaner, Drainage Cleaner and Wastage Cleaner they put the wastages in Lorry, then transfer the wastages from one place to another places. There is no restriction in this work. Their work is divided daily by the work sanitary supervisor. The working time of the respondents is from morning 5.30 am. to 10.30 am. and in the evening from 2.30 pm. to 5.30 pm. They have two holidays (Wednesday & Sunday) in every week.

### 3.7 Pilot Study

The researcher made few visits to the Thanjavur town Municipality to test the possibility of conducting the study. The visit was made to the field by the researcher with the intention of
collecting the general information and the present conditions of Municipal Sanitary Workers. The researcher met some Sanitary Workers in Thanjavur Town.

Researcher also had gone through the various literatures pertaining to the socio-economic and educational conditions of the Municipal Sanitary Workers. Moreover the researcher held discussions with the experts of that particular field regarding the problem and selected appropriate inventory to measure the various aspects of the problem.

### 3.8 Research Design

The study explained the status of municipal sanitary workers. Further the researcher wanted to find out the relationship between the significant variables. Hence to carry out the research problem with more seriousness the present study has adopted the Descriptive cum Diagnostic Design.

### 3.9 Universe

This study focused on the socio-economic status of municipal women sanitary workers in Thanjavur. As Thanjavur is one of the biggest districts in Tamilnadu and Central part of
Tamilnadu, the study was conducted in Thanjavur District. In the Thanjavur District the Thanjavur Town was chosen for the area of the research, since Thanjavur town is the capital city of the district.

### 3.10 Sampling

By following Census Sampling method all (270) the women sanitary workers working in Thanjavur Municipality have been selected as respondents. Male sanitary workers were not included in the present study, since the research focussed only on the women sanitary workers.

### 3.11 Tools of Data Collection

Apart from pilot study, a survey of existing literature on working women also helped the researcher to finalise the relevant tools of data collection. The Interview schedule which was used in the field consisted of 44 questions.

The first part of the Interview Schedule covered the questions pertaining to personal and socio-economic background of the respondents. Added to this the preliminary data, family background, educational and occupational status and decision making etc., were also covered for the present study.
3.12 Pre Test

To test the suitability of the questions the researcher conducted pre test with five respondents. It helped the researcher to make some modifications in the Interview Schedule which are more relevant. Few questions were added in the Interview Schedule after the pre test conducted.

3.13 Collection of data

The primary data was collected from the 270 municipal sanitary workers during the period from September to December 2002.

The secondary data were collected from available literature in books journals, research reports, and other published materials pertaining to the working women in India, particularly meant for the sanitary workers.

3.14 Frame work of Analysis

Completed Interview Schedule was checked for consistency. Responses to the Interview schedule were transferred to master charts. Subsequently frequency and mean tables were
developed. In these tables, distribution and statistical values were examined and a number of cross tables were taken out with a view to ascertain inter-linkage between variables.

3.15 Problems of field work

The major strain in relation to the field work was its limited timing. Due to time constraint and distance, the researcher interviewed the respondents in the work spots. If they have been interviewed in their homes, some more information about the working condition might be collected.

3.16 Test of Analysis

The Chi-square test is an important test amongst the several tests of significance developed by statisticians. Chi-square is used in the context of sampling analysis for comparing a variance to a theoretical variance. As a non- paramedic text, it can be used to determine if categorical data shows dependency or the two classifications are independency or the two classifications are independent.

\[ x^2 = \sum \frac{(O_{ij} - E_{ij})^2}{E_{ij}} \]
where,

\[ O_{ij} = \text{Observed frequency of the cell in } i^{th} \text{ row and } j^{th} \text{ column.} \]

\[ E_{ij} = \text{Expected frequency of the cell in } i^{th} \text{ row and } j^{th} \text{ column.} \]

d.f = (c-1) (r-1).

Where,

‘c’ means the number of columns

‘r’ means the number of row

3.17 Limitation of the Study

In the present study male sanitary workers have been excluded since the study focussed only women sanitary workers.

3.18 Chapter scheme

The study consists of five chapters which are as under:

1. The First chapter with the position of women in general and the Municipal Sanitary Workers in particular.

2. The Second chapter gives Review of Literatures on Sanitary workers.

3. The Third chapter explains the Research Methodology adopted.
4. The Fourth chapter discusses the Analysis of the Data.

5. The Fifth chapter describes the Findings, Conclusion and Suggestions.