Ignorance, illiteracy, lack of skill, seasonal nature of employment, heavy physical work of different types, long hours of work with limited payment, sex discrimination in wage structures, lack of guarantee of minimum wages and facilities are some of the characteristics of women working in the informal sector. Large majority of the women labour force is dependent on the informal sector for their livelihood. Low level of education and absence of access to vocational education, limits their chances to enter the formal sector and to progress in life. Further, prevailing caste system in the society, forcing lower caste to enter mainly in low paid petty jobs, deteriorate their living standards.

In this chapter, an effort has been made to analyze the living conditions of different categories of female workers\(^1\) engaged in informal sector in Amritsar city. This chapter has been divided into three sections. Section 1 analyses the personal aspect of living conditions of female workers, in terms of age and marital status, caste and religion, domicile, education, food, housing and health conditions.

In section 2, family aspect of female workers engaged in informal sector in terms of family and family size, husband’s employment status, family atmosphere and incidence of domestic violence has been analyzed. The whole discussion has been concluded in section 3.

**Section 1**

**4.1 Personal aspect:**

**4.1.1 Age and Marital Status:**

The age and marital status of different type of female workers is analyzed below:

**a) Female Domestic Workers:**

Distribution of female domestic workers, on the basis of their age, has been shown in table 4.1 as well as with the help of Bar Chart (figure 4.1). It is clear from the table that 36 percent of female domestic workers were in the age group of 15-25

---

\(^1\) The NCEUS has categorized various works in informal sector as:

1. Wage workers in the unorganized sector
2. Self-employed in the unorganized sector
3. Unprotected wage workers in the organized sector
4. Regular unorganized workers
5. Home-workers as a distinct group
years, 16 percent were in the age group of 26-35 years, 29 percent were in the age group of 36-45 years and only 19 percent were in age group of 46 years and above. Thus, 45 percent of these females were young belonging to the age group of 26-45 years, when family responsibilities are maximum.

| Table 4.1: Percentage distribution of female domestic workers according to age |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| **Age**                        | **Percent**       |
| 15-25 YEARS                    | 36.0              |
| 26-35 YEARS                    | 16.0              |
| 36-45 YEARS                    | 29.0              |
| 46 YEARS AND ABOVE             | 19.0              |
| **Total**                      | **100.0**         |

Source: own survey

Further, it is clear from table 4.2, that 28 percent of them were unmarried, 21 percent either widows, separated or divorcees and 51 percent of them were married. Study revealed that most of the full time domestic workers were either unmarried or widows.

| Table 4.2: Percentage distribution of female domestic workers on the basis of marital status |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| **Marital Status**                           | **Percent**       |
| UNMARRIED                                     | 28.0              |
| WIDOW/SEPARATED/DIVORCEE                     | 21.0              |
| MARRIED                                       | 51.0              |
| **Total**                                     | **100.0**         |

Source: own survey

**b) Female Waste Pickers:**

Distribution of female waste pickers, on the basis of their age has been shown in table 4.3, as well with the help of Bar Chart. It is clear from the table that 16 percent of waste pickers were in the age group of 15-25 years, 47 percent were in age group of 26-35 years, 30 percent were in the age group of 36-45 years, whereas
only 7 percent were above 46 years of age. Thus, it was found that 77 percent of these females were young belonging to age group 26-45 years, when the family responsibilities are maximum.

Table 4.3: Percentage distribution of female waste pickers according to age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-25 years</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-35 years</td>
<td>47.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-45 years</td>
<td>30.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 years and above</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Diagram 4.2: Percentage distribution of female waste pickers according to age

Further, it is clear from table 4.4 that 8 percent of female waste pickers were unmarried, 9 percent were either widows, separated or divorcees, who were either living with parents, in-laws or in some cases, with their kids. Majority of these, i.e. 83 percent were married.

Table 4.4: Percentage distribution of female waste pickers on the basis of marital status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNMARRIED</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIDOW/SEPARATED/DIVORCEES</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIED</td>
<td>83.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

c) Female Casual Workers:

Distribution of female casual workers, on the basis of their age, has been shown in table 4.5 as well as with the help of Bar Chart (figure 4.3). It is clear from the table that 21 percent of female casual workers were in the age group of 15-25 years, 33 percent were in the age group of 26-35 years, 31 percent were in the age
group of 36-45 years and only 15 percent were in age group of 46 years and above. 64 percent of these females were young in the age group of 26-45 years and they were doing a tough physical work. These women were doing 10-11 hours of tough work at construction sites or factory premises as well as were looking after their families.

Table 4.5: Percentage distribution of female casual workers according to age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-25 YEARS</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-35 YEARS</td>
<td>33.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-45 YEARS</td>
<td>31.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 YEARS AND ABOVE</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Diagram 4.3: Percentage distribution of female casual workers according to age

Further, it is clear from table 4.6, that 10 percent of these female casual workers were unmarried, 9 percent were either widows, separated or divorcees, who were either living with parents or with in laws and in some cases, with their kids. Majority of them i.e. 81 percent were married.

Table 4.6: Percentage distribution of female casual workers on the basis of marital status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNMARRIED</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIDOW/SEPARATED/DIVORCEE</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIED</td>
<td>81.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

d) Female Regular Workers:

Distribution of female regular workers, on the basis of their age, has been shown in table 4.7 as well as with the help of Bar Chart diagram 4.4. It is clear from
the table that 41 percent of regular workers were in the age group of 15-25 years, 30 percent were in the age group of 26-35 years, 22 percent were in the age group of 36-45 years and only 7 percent were in age group of 46 years and above. 52 percent of these females were young, belonging to the age group of 26-45 years, when workload is more due to family responsibilities. This indicates the fact that these women were staying for 10-11 hours per day at work as well as were looking after their families.

Table 4.7: Percentage distribution of female regular workers according to age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-25 YEARS</td>
<td>41.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-35 YEARS</td>
<td>30.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-45 YEARS</td>
<td>22.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 YEARS AND ABOVE</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Diagram 4.4: Percentage distribution of female regular workers according to age

Further, it is clear from table 4.8, that 52 percent of them were unmarried, 8 percent were either widows, separated or divorcees and 40 percent were married.

Table 4.8: Percentage distribution of female regular workers on the basis of marital status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNMARRIED</td>
<td>52.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIDOW/SEPARATED/ DIVORCEES</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIED</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

e) Female Home Workers:

Distribution of female home workers, on the basis of their age has been shown in Table 4.9, as well with the help of Bar Chart 4.5. It is clear from the table
that 38 percent of home workers were in the age group of 15-25 years, 17 percent were in age group of 26-35 years, 24 percent were in the age group of 36-45 years, whereas 21 percent were above 46 years of age. Thus, it was found that 41 percent of these females were young in the age group 26-45 years, when load of family responsibilities is more.

Table 4.9: Percentage distribution of female home workers according to age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-25</td>
<td>38.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-35</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-45</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 AND ABOVE</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Diagram 4.5: Percentage distribution of female home workers according to age

Further, it is clear from table 4.10 that 32 percent of them were unmarried, 10 percent were either widows, separated or divorcees, who were either living with parents, in-laws or in some cases, with their kids. Majority of these, i.e. 58 percent were married.

Table 4.10: Percentage distribution of female home workers on the basis of marital status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNMARRIED</td>
<td>32.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIDOW/SEPARATED/DIVORCEES</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIED</td>
<td>58.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey
f) **Total Female Workers:**

Distribution of the total female workers on the basis of age was shown in the table 4.11. It is clear from the table that out of total 500 sampled females workers, 30.4 percent of the females were in the age group of 15-25 years, 28.6 percent were in the age group of 26-35 years, 27.2 percent were in age group of 36-45 years, whereas 13.8 percent were in the age group of 46 years and above. 55.8 percent of them were young in the age group of 26-45 years, when family responsibilities are more.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-25 YEARS</td>
<td>30.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-35 YEARS</td>
<td>28.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-45 YEARS</td>
<td>27.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46 YEARS AND ABOVE</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Further, it is clear from the table 4.12 that out of the total 500 female workers, 26 percent were unmarried, 11.6 percent were either widows, separated or divorcees, whereas majority i.e. 62.6 percent of them were married.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNMARRIED</td>
<td>26.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIDOW/SEPARATED</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIED</td>
<td>62.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

### 4.1.2 Caste and Religion:

The caste and religion of different types of female workers engaged in informal sector is analyzed below:

a) **Female Domestic Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.13, majority of female domestic workers were from scheduled caste (66 percent), 10 percent were from other backward class and 24 percent were from general category. Further, study found that 46 percent of female domestic workers were from Hindu religion, 41 percent were Sikhs and 13 percent were Christian.
Table 4.13: Percentage distribution of the female domestic workers on the basis of caste

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub caste</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>66.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBC NON CREAMY LAYER</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER (GENERAL CATEGORY)</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

b) Female Waste Pickers:

It is clear from table 4.14 that majority of female waste pickers (81 percent) were belonging to scheduled caste category, 16 percent to other backward class (non-creamy layer) and just 3 percent were from general category. Further, study found that majority of female waste pickers (99 percent) were Hindu.

Table 4.14: Percentage distribution of the female waste pickers on the basis of caste

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub Caste</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>81.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBC NON CREAMY LAYER</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER (GENERAL CATEGORY)</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

c) Female Casual Workers:

It is clear from table 4.15, majority of female casual workers were from scheduled caste (67 percent), 7 percent were from other backward class and 26 percent were from general category. Further, study found that 73 percent of female casual workers were from Hindu religion, 22 percent were Sikhs, 4 percent were Christian and just 1 percent was from Muslim religion.

Table 4.15: Percentage distribution of the female casual workers on the basis of caste

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub Caste</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>67.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBC NON CREAMY LAYER</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER (GENERAL CATEGORY)</td>
<td>26.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

d) Female Regular Workers:

It is clear from table 4.16, 29 percent of female regular workers were from scheduled caste, 3 percent were from other backward class and majority of them (68 percent) were from general category. Further more, study found that 64 percent of female regular workers were Hindu, 33 percent were Sikh and 3 percent were Christian.

Table 4.16: Percentage distribution of the female regular workers on the basis of caste

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub Caste</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>68.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBC NON CREAMY LAYER</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER (GENERAL CATEGORY)</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey
Table 4.16: Percentage distribution of female regular workers on the basis of caste

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub Caste</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBC CREAMY LAYER</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER (GENERAL CATEGORY)</td>
<td>68.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

e) **Female Home Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.17 that 41 percent of female home workers were scheduled caste, 15 percent were from other backward class (non-creamy layer) and 44 percent were from general category. Furthermore, study found that majority of female home workers were from Hindu (66 percent), Sikh (31 percent) religion and Christian (3 percent).

Table 4.17: Percentage distribution of female home workers on the basis of caste

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub Caste</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>41.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBC NON CREAMY LAYER</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER (GENERAL CATEGORY)</td>
<td>44.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

f) **Total Female Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.18 that out of total 500 female workers, 56.8 percent females belonged to scheduled caste category, 10.2 percent belonged to other backward classes and 33.0 percent belonged to general category. Furthermore, study found that majority of female workers were from Hindu (69.6 percent), Sikh (25.6 percent) religion and Christian (4.6 percent) and Muslim (0.2 percent).

Table 4.18: Percentage distribution of total female workers on the basis of caste

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub Caste</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>56.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBC non creamy layer</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (GENERAL CATEGORY)</td>
<td>33.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

4.1.3 **Domicile:**

The domicile status of different categories of female workers engaged in informal sector has been analyzed below:

a) **Female Domestic Workers:**

Efforts were also made to find out, that whether female domestic workers belonged to Punjab state or have migrated from other states. Distribution on the
basis of domicile is presented in table 4.19, which shows that 80 percent of female domestic workers were from Punjab state and rest 20 percent of the these workers had migrated from states like U.P. (11 percent), West Bengal (5 percent), Tamil Nadu (2 percent) H.P. (1 percent) and Jammu and Kashmir (1 percent). Study also found that 53 percent of these female domestic workers migrated from rural areas and 47 percent from urban areas.

Table 4.19: Percentage distribution of female domestic workers on the basis of domicile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J &amp; K</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.P</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>80.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.P</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

b) Female Waste Pickers:

Distribution of female waste pickers, on the basis of their domicile is presented in table 4.20, which shows that only 3 percent of waste pickers were from Punjab State and rest 97 percent had migrated from states like Bihar (50 percent), U.P. (27 percent), Bengal (5 percent), Tamilnadu (5 percent), Maharashtra (4 percent), Haryana and Rajasthan (2 percent each), Assam and Chhattisgarh (1 percent each) etc. Study also found that 70 percent of these waste pickers, migrated from rural areas, whereas 30 percent from urban areas.

Table 4.20: Percentage distribution of female waste pickers on the basis of domicile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengal</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.P</td>
<td>27.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey
c) Female Casual Workers:

Further, efforts were made to find out, that whether female casual workers belonged to Punjab state or have migrated from other states. Distribution on the basis of domicile is presented in table 4.21, which shows that only 38 percent of female casual workers were from Punjab state and rest 62 percent of the female casual workers were migrated from states like U.P. (28 percent), M.P. (15 percent), Bihar (11 percent), Rajasthan (4 percent), Chhattisgarh (3 percent) and H.P. (1 percent) etc. Study has also found that 73 percent of these female casual workers were migrated from rural areas and 27 percent from urban areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.P</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.P</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>38.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.P</td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Table 4.21: Percentage distribution of female casual workers on the basis of domicile

d) Female Regular Workers:

In case of female regular workers, it was found that (table 4.22) majority i.e. 98 percent of female regular workers were from Punjab state, where as just 1 percent each were from Haryana and Tamil Nadu respectively. Study also found that majority of them (85 percent) belonged to urban areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Table 4.22: Percentage distribution of female regular workers on the basis domicile

e) Female Home Workers:

Distribution of female home workers, on the basis of their domicile is presented in table 4.23, which shows that majority of them (91 percent) of home workers were from Punjab State, states like U.P. (5 percent), Rajasthan (2 percent), Haryana and Uttarakhand (1 percent each) etc. Study has also found that 22 percent...
of these home workers migrated from rural areas, whereas 78 percent from urban areas.

Table 4.23: Percentage distribution of female home workers on the basis of domicile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>91.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.P</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttarakhand</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

f) **Total Female Workers:**

It is clear from the table 4.24 that out of 500 female workers, majority belonged to Punjab, (62 percent), followed by U.P. (14.2 percent), Bihar (12.2 percent), Madhya Pradesh (3 percent), West Bengal (2 percent), Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu (1.6 percent each), Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Maharashtra (0.8 percent each), H.P. (0.4 percent), Assam and Uttarakhand (0.2 percent each). Study has also found that 46.6 percent of these female workers migrated from rural areas, whereas 53.4 percent from urban areas. Study also found that mainly waste pickers and casual workers had migrated more from different states in comparison to other three categories.

Table 4.24: Percentage distribution of total female workers on the basis of domicile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>12.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haryana</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.P.</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J &amp; K</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.P.</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>62.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.P</td>
<td>14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttarakhand</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bengal</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey
4.1.4 Education:

The education level of different categories of female workers engaged in informal sector has been analyzed below:

a) Female Domestic Workers:

Study found that 54 percent female domestic workers were illiterate where as 46 percent were literate. Maximum education level amongst them was found to be up to middle class.

b) Female Waste Pickers:

Furthermore, study found that 92 percent of the female waste pickers were illiterate, whereas remaining 8 percent were able to write their names only. This illiteracy factor makes them more prone to exploitation, while dealing with others.

c) Female Casual Workers:

Study found that just 63 percent female casual workers were illiterate, whereas 37 percent were literate. However, maximum education level among them was found to be up to middle class.

d) Female Regular Workers:

Study found that just 2 percent female regular workers were illiterate, whereas majority of them i.e. 98 percent were literate. 30 percent were also having vocational training. Thus, it was found that on the one hand, in 70 cases, skilled jobs are filled by semi-skilled workers (like teaching without B. Ed) and on the other hand, in just 30 percent cases, by skilled workers also.

e) Female Home Workers:

Furthermore, study found that 24 percent of the female home workers were illiterate, whereas remaining 76 percent were literate. Majority of these literates had passed up to medium or matric standard.

f) Total Female Workers:

The study found that out of total 500 female workers, 47 percent of the total female workers were illiterate, whereas remaining 53 percent were literate. Majority of these literates had passed up to medium or matric standard. Only 6 percent of the total sampled females were having vocational training.

4.1.5 Food Aspect:

Food aspect of female workers engaged in informal sector has been analyzed below:
a) Female Domestic Workers:

It is clear from table 4.25 that 18 percent of female domestic workers were having calorie intake, which made them highly malnourished, whereas 82 percent were malnourished.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highly Malnourished (Up to 1124 Calories per day)</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malnourished (1124-2249 Calories per day)</td>
<td>82.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.25: Food aspect of female domestic workers

Source: own survey

b) Female Waste Pickers:

It is clear from table 4.26 that 55 percent of female waste pickers were highly malnourished, so far as their calorie intake was concerned, whereas 45 percent were malnourished.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highly Malnourished (Up to 1124 Calories per day)</td>
<td>55.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malnourished (1124-2249 Calories per day)</td>
<td>45.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.26: Food aspect of female waste pickers

Source: own survey

c) Female Casual Workers:

It is clear from table 4.27 that 12 percent of female casual workers were highly malnourished, so far as their calorie intake was concerned, whereas 88 percent were malnourished.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highly Malnourished (Up to 1124 Calories per day)</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malnourished (1124-2249 Calories per day)</td>
<td>88.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.27: Food aspect of female casual workers

Source: own survey

d) Female Regular Workers:

It is clear from table 4.28 that 57 percent of female regular workers were malnourished, whereas 43 percent were having average diet. So, food aspect of female regular workers was somehow, better.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malnourished (1124-2249 Calories per day)</td>
<td>57.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average diet (2250 and above Calories per day)</td>
<td>43.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.28: Food aspect of female regular workers

Source: own survey
e) **Female Home Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.29 that 20 percent of female home workers were highly malnourished, whereas 80 percent of them were malnourished, as far as their calorie intake was concerned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highly Malnourished (Upto 1124 Calories per day)</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malnourished (1124-2249 Calories per day)</td>
<td>80.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

f) **Total Female Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.30 that 20 percent of total female workers were highly malnourished, 71 percent were malnourished and just 9 percent were having average diet, so far as their calorie intake is concerned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highly Malnourished (Upto 1124 Calories per day)</td>
<td>21.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malnourished (1124-2249 Calories per day)</td>
<td>70.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average diet (2250 and above Calories per day)</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

4.1.6 **Housing Conditions:**

The housing conditions of different categories of sampled females have been analyzed below:

a) **Female Domestic Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.31 that 29 percent of female domestic workers were having bad housing facilities, 32 percent were having average housing facilities and 39 percent were having good housing facilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of house</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

---

2 Type of house: Bad (slum or bad conditioned room with bamboo wall, kucha floor and plastic roof), Average (single room, mud wall, cemented floor and baale wali roof), Good (more than one room, bricks wall, tiles floor and concrete roof)
b) **Female Waste Pickers:**

It is clear from table 4.32 that 69 percent of female waste pickers were having bad housing facilities and 31 percent were having average housing facilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of house</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

---

c) **Female Casual Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.33 that 21 percent of female casual workers were having bad housing facilities, 52 percent were having average housing facilities and 27 percent were having good housing facilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of house</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

---

d) **Female Regular Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.34 that 20 percent of female regular workers were having average housing facilities and 80 percent were having good housing facilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of house</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

---

e) **Female Home Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.35 that 30 percent of female home workers were having bad housing facilities, 38 percent were having average housing facilities and 32 percent were having good housing facilities.
Table 4.35: Housing aspect of female home workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of house</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

f) **Total Female Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.36 that out of 500 sampled females, 29.8 percent of females workers were living in very poor shelters, 34.6 percent were having average housing facilities and total 35.6 percent were having good housing facilities.

Table 4.36: Housing aspect of total female workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of house</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>29.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>34.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>35.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

4.1.7 **Health Status:**

The health status of different categories of female workers engaged in informal sector has been analyzed below:

a) **Female Domestic Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.37 that 26 percent of female domestic workers were having bad health, 59 percent were having average health and 15 percent were having good health. Study further found that they were suffering mainly from health problems like backache, headache, B.P., Fever etc.

Table 4.37: Health aspect of female domestic workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

b) **Female Waste Pickers:**

It is clear from table 4.38 that 22 percent of female waste pickers were having bad health, 39 percent were having average health and 39 percent were having good health. Study further found that they were suffering mainly from health problems like body ache, insects bites, respiratory problems, B.P., Fever etc.
Table 4.38: Health aspect of female waste pickers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

c) Female Casual Workers:

It is clear from table 4.39 that 20 percent of female casual workers were having bad health, 38 percent were having average health and 42 percent were having good health. Study further found that they were suffering mainly from health problems like backache, headache, respiratory problems, B.P., Fever etc.

Table 4.39: Health aspect of female casual workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

d) Female Regular Workers:

It is clear from table 4.40 that 28 percent of female regular workers were having bad health, 38 percent were having average health and 34 percent were having good health. Study further found that they were suffering mainly from health problems, like backache, headache, B.P., Fever etc.

Table 4.40: Health aspect of female regular workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

e) Female Home Workers:

It is clear from table 4.41 that 18 percent of female home workers were having bad health, 45 percent were having average health and 37 percent were having good health. Study further found that they were suffering mainly from health problems, like backache, headache, B.P., Fever etc.
Table 4.41: Health aspect of female home workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

f) Total Female Workers:

It is clear from table 4.42 that out of total 500 females, 17.2 percent of female workers were having bad health, 41.8 percent were having average health, 34.2 percent were having good health and 6.8 percent were having very good health.

Table 4.42: Health aspect of total female workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>17.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>41.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>34.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Section 2

4.2 Family Aspect:

4.2.1 Type of Family and Family Size:

The type of family and family size of sampled females has been discussed below:

a) Female Domestic Workers:

Study found that 66 percent of female domestic workers were living in nuclear families, whereas just 30 percent were living in joint families and 4 percent in extended families. It is clear from table 4.43 and bar diagram 4.6 that there were up to 4 members in 15 percent of female domestic worker’s family, between 5-8 members in 78 percent of families and 9 and above members in remaining 7 percent families.

Table 4.43: Percentage distribution of female domestic workers on the basis of family size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family size</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4 members</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8 members</td>
<td>78.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 members and above</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
b) Female Waste Pickers:

Study found that 77 percent of female waste pickers were living in nuclear families, 22 percent in joint families and one percent in extended family. It is clear from table 4.44 and bar chart diagram 4.7, that there were up to 4 members in 14 percent of waste picker’s families, between 5-8 members in 80 percent families, and 9 and above members in remaining 6 percent families. Study further found that only 14 percent female waste pickers were living with their in laws. Majority of them were living in illegal slums and they were usually getting notices to vacate them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family size</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4 MEMBERS</td>
<td>14.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8 MEMBERS</td>
<td>80.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 AND ABOVE MEMBERS</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Diagram 4.6: Percentage distribution of female domestic workers on the basis of family size

Diagram 4.7: Percentage distribution of female waste pickers on the basis of family size

Source: own survey

c) Female Casual Workers:

Study found that 84 percent of female casual workers were living in nuclear families whereas just 16 percent lived in joint families. It is clear from table 4.45 and bar chart diagram 4.8 that there were up to 4 members in 27 percent of female
casual worker’s families, between 5-8 members in 70 percent of families, 9 and above members in remaining 3 percent families.

Table 4.45: Percentage distribution of female casual worker on the basis of family size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family size</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4 Members</td>
<td>27.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8 Members</td>
<td>70.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Members and above</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Diagram 4.8: Percentage distribution of female casual worker on the basis of family size

d) Female Regular Workers:

Study found that 69 percent of female regular workers living in nuclear families, where as 31 percent of them were living in joint families. It is clear from table 4.46 and bar chart 4.9 that there were up to 4 members in 23 percent of female regular worker’s families, between 5-8 members in 74 percent of families and 9 and above members in remaining 3 percent families.

Table 4.46: Percentage distribution of female regular workers on the basis of family size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family size</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4 MEMBERS</td>
<td>23.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8 MEMBERS</td>
<td>74.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 AND ABOVE MEMBERS</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

Diagram 4.9: Percentage distribution of female regular workers on the basis of family size
e) Female Home Workers:

Study found that 58 percent of female home workers were living in nuclear families, where as 32 percent in joint families and 10 percent in extended families. It is clear from table 4.47 and bar chart diagram 4.10, that there were up to 4 members in 19 percent of home worker’s families, between 5-8 members in 78 percent families and 9 members and above in remaining 3 percent families. Study further found that 20 percent female home workers were living with their in laws.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family size</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4 Members</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8 Members</td>
<td>78.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Members and above</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.47: Percentage distribution of female home workers on the basis of family size

Source: own survey

f) Total Female Workers:

Out of 500 families of female workers, 70.8 percent were living in nuclear families, 26.2 percent were living in joint families and 3 percent were living in extended families. It is clear from table 4.48, 19.6 percent were having up to 4 members in the family, 76.0 percent were having 5-8 members in the family and 4.4 percent were having 9 members and above in the family.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family size</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-4 Members</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-8 Members</td>
<td>76.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Members and above</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4.48: Percentage distribution of total female workers on the basis of family size

Source: own survey
4.2.2 Husband’s Employment Status:

Husband’s employment status of different categories of female workers engaged in informal sector is discussed below:

a) Female Domestic Workers:

It is clear from table 4.49 that husbands of 34 percent female domestic workers were employed in petty jobs, 1 percent were unemployed, that of 16 percent were self-employed (like street vendors or rickshaw pullers) and for 49 percent, no information was available, because 28 percent of female domestic workers were unmarried and 21 percent were either widow or separated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Husband’s Employment Status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMPLOYED</td>
<td>34.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEMPLOYED</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF EMPLOYED</td>
<td>16.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>49.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

b) Female Waste Pickers:

It is clear from table 4.50 that in case of female waste pickers, husbands of majority of them (76 percent) were also earning their living via waste picking whereas husband of 4 percent of female waste pickers were employed in petty jobs like shop attendants, reda pullers and that of 3 percent were not doing any job either due to health problem or drug abuse. For remaining 17 percent, no information was available because 8 percent of female waste pickers were unmarried and 9 percent were either widow or divorcee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Husband’s Employment Status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMPLOYED</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEMPLOYED</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF EMPLOYED (WASTE PICKERS)</td>
<td>76.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

c) Female Casual Workers:

It is clear from table 4.51 that husbands of majority (75 percent) of female casual workers were employed either in construction work or in factory, and only 5 percent were self employed, 1 percent were unemployed. For remaining 19 percent, no information regarding husband’s employment was available because 10 percent
of female casual workers were unmarried and 9 percent were either widow or separated.

Table 4.51: Husband’s employment status of female casual workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Husband’s Employment Status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMPLOYED</td>
<td>75.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEMPLOYED</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF EMPLOYED</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

d) Female Regular Workers:

It is clear from table 4.52 that husbands of 19 percent female regular workers were employed mostly as regular organized workers, husbands of 1 percent were unemployed, husbands of 20 percent were self employed i.e. doing some petty business. In case of 60 percent female regular workers no information regarding husband’s employment was available because 52 percent of them were unmarried and 8 percent were either widow or separated.

Table 4.52: Husband’s employment status of female regular workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Husband’s Employment Status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMPLOYED</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEMPLOYED</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF EMPLOYED</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>60.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

e) Female Home Workers:

Study found that husbands of 30 percent female home workers were employed in petty jobs like shop attendants, factory workers, whereas that of 4 percent were unemployed and that of 24 percent were self-employed like street vendors, petty shopkeepers. For remaining 42 percent, no information was available because 32 percent of female home workers were unmarried and 10 percent were either widow or divorcee.

Table 4.53: Husband’s employment status of female home workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Husband’s Employment Status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMPLOYED</td>
<td>30.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEMPLOYED</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF EMPLOYED (HOME WORKERS)</td>
<td>24.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>42.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey
f) **Total Female Workers:**

It is clear from the table 4.54 that husbands of average 32.6 percent were employed, 2.0 percent were unemployed, 28.0 percent were self-employed and that of 37.4 percent, no information was available because 26 percent were unmarried and 11.4 percent were either widow or divorcee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Husband's Employment Status</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed</td>
<td>32.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Employed (Home Workers)</td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>37.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

4.2.3 **Head of Family:**

Status of head of family of different categories of sampled females has been discussed below:

a) **Female Domestic Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.55 that in majority of cases either husband (34 percent), father (27 percent) or in laws (17 percent) were head of the families of female domestic workers. It was only in 2 percent cases that mother, and in 20 percent cases, the respondent, herself, was the head of family. These were generally those female domestic workers, who were either fatherless or widows/divorces.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of family</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Husband</td>
<td>34.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self</td>
<td>20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father</td>
<td>27.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Laws</td>
<td>17.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

However, when they were asked, whether they get enough support from male members of the family for performing domestic duties, majority of them answered in negative.

b) **Female Waste Pickers:**

It is clear from table 4.56 that in majority of families, husband (71 percent) or father/in-laws (14 percent) were heading the family. It is only in 15 percent cases
that respondent was the head of the family and these were generally those waste pickers, who were either widows or divorcees. Thus, it can be concluded that male dominance was prevalent in case of head of family of waste pickers. When they were asked whether they get enough support from male members of their family for performing domestic chores, majority of them answered in negative.

**Table 4.56: Head of female waste picker’s family**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of family</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HUSBAND</td>
<td>71.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FATHER</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INLAWS</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

c) Female Casual Workers:

It is clear from table 4.57 that in majority of families, either husband (73 percent), father (6 percent) or in laws (9 percent) were head of the families of female casual workers. It is only in 6 percent cases that mother, and in 6 percent cases, the respondent, herself, was the head of family. These were generally those female casual workers, who were either fatherless or widows/divorcees.

**Table 4.57: Head of female casual worker’s family**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of family</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HUSBAND</td>
<td>73.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FATHER</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOTHER</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN LAWS</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

However, when they were asked whether they get enough support from male members of the family for performing domestic duties, majority of them answered in negative.

d) Female Regular Workers:

It is clear from table 4.58 that in majority of cases husband (26 percent), father (43 percent) and in laws (13 percent) were head of the families of female regular workers. It is only in 9 percent cases, mother, in 9 percent cases, the respondent, herself, was the head of family. Thus, it can be concluded that male dominance was prevalent in case of head of family of female regular workers.
When they were asked whether they get enough support from male members of the family for performing domestic duties, majority of them answered in negative.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of family</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HUSBAND</td>
<td>26.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELF</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FATHER</td>
<td>43.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOTHER</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN LAWS</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

**Table 4.58: Head of female regular worker’s family**

**e) Female Home Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.59 that in majority of families of female home workers, husband (39 percent) or father (28 percent) or in laws (18 percent) were heading the family. It is only in 11 percent cases that respondent, herself, and in 4 percent cases, her mother was the head of the family. Thus, it can be concluded that male dominance was prevalent in case of head of family of female home workers. When they were asked whether they get enough support from male members of their family for performing domestic chores, majority of them answered in negative.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head of family</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Husband</td>
<td>39.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Father</td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mother</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In laws</td>
<td>18.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

**Table 4.59: Head of female home worker’s family**

**f) Total Female Workers:**

It is clear from table 4.60 that out of 500 sampled households of different categories of females, in 48.6 percent cases, husband was the head of the family, in 12.2 percent cases, she herself was head of family, in 21.4 percent cases, father was head of the family, in 4.2 percent cases, mother was head of the family and in 13.6 cases, in laws were head of the family.
4.2.4 Family Atmosphere:

Family atmosphere of different categories of female workers engaged in informal sector has been discussed below:

a) Female Domestic Workers:

Study found that 51 percent of female domestic workers were satisfied in their families, 10 percent were indifferent due to non-cooperative atmosphere at home, 28 percent were burdened due to more number of dependents in the family and 11 percent were not happy in their families, due to widow or divorcee status.

b) Female Waste Pickers:

Study further found that 53 percent of female waste pickers were happy with their family, 17 percent were indifferent due to non cooperative atmosphere at home, 27 were burdened due to more dependents in the family, where as 3 percent were not happy at all due to widow/divorcee status.

c) Female Casual Workers:

Study found that 65 percent of female casual workers were satisfied in their families, 7 percent were indifferent due to non-cooperative atmosphere at home, 20 percent were burdened due to more number of dependents in the family and 8 percent were not happy in their families, due to widow or divorcee status.

d) Female Regular Workers:

Study found that 75 percent of female regular workers were happy and satisfied in their families, 6 percent were indifferent, 14 percent were burdened. However, 5 percent were not happy in their families, due to widow or divorcee status.

e) Female Home Workers:

Study further found that 52 percent of female home workers were happy with their family, 2 percent were indifferent due to non cooperative atmosphere at home,
31 were burdened due to more dependents in the family, where as 15 percent were not happy at all due to widow/divorcee status.

f) Total Female Workers:

Study further found that 59.2 percent of total female workers were happy with their family, 8.4 percent were indifferent due to non cooperative atmosphere at home, 24 were burdened due to more dependents in the family, where as 8.4 percent were not happy at all due to widow/divorcee status.

4.2.5 Incidence of Domestic Violence:

Details of domestic violence being faced by different categories of sampled females has been discussed below:

a) Female Domestic Workers:

It is clear from table 4.61 that 26 percent of female domestic workers were facing domestic violence, where as 74 percent were not facing it. Major reason for domestic violence was found to be alcohol intake by the male members of the family.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you fall prey to domestic violence from husband or in laws</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YES</td>
<td>26.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>74.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

b) Female Waste Pickers:

It is clear from table 4.62, that 56 percent of female waste pickers were tolerating domestic violence (physical and mental abuse) where as 44 were not facing it. Major reason for domestic violence was alcohol addiction by the male members of the family.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you fall prey to domestic violence from husband or in laws</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YES</td>
<td>56.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>44.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

c) Female Casual Workers:

It is clear from table 4.63 that 28 percent of female casual workers were tolerating domestic violence (physical and mental abuse) where as 72 percent were not facing it.
Table 4.63: Do female casual workers fall prey to domestic violence from husband or in laws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you fall prey to domestic violence from husband or in laws</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YES</td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>72.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

d) Female Regular Workers:

It is clear from table 4.64 that 15 percent of female regular workers were facing domestic violence (physical and mental abuse) where as 85 percent were not facing it.

Table 4.64: Do female regular workers fall prey to domestic violence from husband or in laws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you fall prey to domestic violence from husband or in laws</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YES</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>85.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

e) Female home workers:

It is clear from table 4.65, that 41 percent of female home workers were tolerating domestic violence (physical and mental abuse), where as 59 were not facing it.

Table 4.65: Do female home workers fall prey to domestic violence from your husband or in laws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you fall prey to domestic violence from your husband or in laws</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>41.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>59.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey

f) Total Female Workers:

It is clear from table 4.66, that 33.2 percent of total female workers were tolerating domestic violence (physical and mental abuse), where as 66.8 were not facing it. Major reason for domestic violence was alcohol addiction by the male members of the family.

Table 4.66: Do total female workers fall prey to domestic violence from your husband or in laws

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Do you fall prey to domestic violence from your husband or in laws</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>33.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>66.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: own survey
Section 3

4.3 Conclusion:

From above analysis, it can be concluded that majority of female workers engaged in informal sector, were living in poor conditions. Majority of them were young, in the age group of 26-45 years. They were working more as well as looking after their families. The living conditions of widows and divorcees were even worse. Ignorance due to illiteracy, specifically, in case of waste pickers, casual workers and domestic workers, further increased the sufferings of these poor females. Even, home workers and regular workers, who were literate, were suffering due to lack of proper education. Majority of the females, who belonged to lower castes, were doing odd jobs, those required lesser skills. Further, the study brings forth the fact that females who migrated from other states were in to waste picking or were doing casual jobs due to lack of proper job opportunities. As a result, they were having meager earnings and were forced to live in slums or poor shelters. Study also found that majority of the female workers engaged in informal sector were malnourished and this factor resulted in various health problems in them. Further, it was found that nuclear family system was more prevalent, due to which kids of these females were forced to live insecure life. Male members, in most of the cases, were heading the families and so were having decision-making power with them, no matter whether they were earning more or less. They, on the other hand, were not supporting these females in domestic chores. Rather, many of the females were facing domestic violence due to alcohol intake by the male members of the family. As a result, study found that more than 50 percent of total respondents either were burdened, indifferent or were not happy in their families. In nutshell, these females were forced to live in miserable conditions.