CHAPTER-5
CASE STUDY
Women perform multiple roles in the society. The three main roles can be distributed as:

1. Economic activity or the productive level.
2. Home making or house keeping.
3. Child bearing and rearing or the nurturing role.

There is a marked difference in the life-style between working and non-working pregnant women. The working area of non-working women is their home only. On the contrary, the working women have two working areas i.e. their homes as well as job sites. Generally, it has been seen that most of the women are doing jobs due to their financial problem. They work so that they could earn and assist their husbands and families. To sort out financial crisis of their families is not only the reason for doing jobs among working women. In present time to show their skill, to maintain their dignity in the society, for liberty and to be independent are some of the other reasons of doing jobs whether it may be in the form of service or business. On the basis of a study of 200 working pregnant women, the important factors in seeking jobs are pointed out as: insufficient income of husband to meet out the needs, death of husband, illness of husband, non-support by husband and in-laws, desertion by husband, and
preference for work outside the home. Broadly speaking, 89.0 per cent of pregnant working women were found to be working due to economic necessity. A study of 225 working pregnant women in Jaipur (Rajasthan) in 1989 by Deepa Mathur identified six motivational factors in pregnant women's employment: economic necessity or augmenting meager family income (22.7%), security against future contingencies (20%), improvement of living standard (20.4%), escape from boredom or social affiliation (17.3%), personal esteem (12.4%), and self fulfilment (7.2%). Thus 63.0 per cent of pregnant women worked for financial reasons and 37.0 per cent for non-financial reasons. During the present research work, several types of case studies of working and non-working respondents have been observed. Out of which some are as follows:

(i) Mrs. 'A' was born in the middle-class family. She was the youngest daughter amongst three sisters. She was the most loving daughter than the other two. She had no interest in the studies. At the age of 22, she had fallen in love with an intercaste boy. Both the families had an objection for their marriage. At last, with the help of some other family members, they got married. At the age of 23, she had a baby boy. After few months, her husband met with an accident and he became physically unfit to continue his work. The in
laws of Mrs. 'A' were not supportive, so the parents of Mrs. A assisted their daughter to complete the fashion designing course. After completing the course she opened her own boutique. The boutique was running in an extremely good condition. After that she conceived but due to her busy life she was not able to give so much of time on her diet and health. That is why she was suffering from oedema and anaemia.

(ii) Mrs 'B' was born in a family in which parents were much concerned for the studies of their wards. From the very beginning, she was a merit scholarship holder. She had done M.A. and then Ph.D. Fortunately, she got a post of Professor in a renowned Degree College. Meanwhile she got married. The first issue was a female child but was handicapped. Again she conceived during her first pregnancy, she was not having the nutritious diet so this time she taking better nutritional counseling with doctor's treatment without facing the financial problem because she was a working woman.

(iii) Mrs. 'C' was born in a middle-class family. She had a brother and she was the only daughter of her parents. Her parents were very narrow minded. They were not in favour of providing the best educational facilities to their daughter.
She was a hard working girl. In future she wanted to be an independent girl. She joined the coaching for her bright future. Finally she was selected for medical and her hard work gave her a bright result. She became a doctor. She got married and she was pregnant of two months. Unfortunately her husband died in a train accident. But due to her will power, she was fulfilling her job in this critical situation.

(iv) Mrs. 'D' was among the two daughters of a father who was a clerk in a government office. Her parents were very caring and concerned for the studies of both the daughters. Their family was running smoothly. When the younger daughter got admission in graduation, unfortunately their father died. Their mother was illiterate, the elder sister had already been married. So the household responsibilities came on her shoulders. After some time she got a job. But she was not fully satisfied with her career so she decided to continue her studies through correspondence along with the job. At last, her hard work gave the result. She was appointed as a Branch Manager in Government sector. She got married with man who was working in the same office. During her pregnancy, she had an abortion due to uterus problem. The doctor advised her to take rest. Next time when she conceived she took medication of her uterus problem from
the beginning and maintained her health under the supervision of the doctor. She was going to office and decided to take maternity leave as and when required.

(v) Mrs. 'E' was running her own beauty parlour as well as a confectionary shop before marriage. After marriage, she continued her work without any objection by her in-laws. Now she was pregnant of two months. Her in-laws were very supportive. They encouraged and supported her as and when she required and looked after the shop when she needed. The aim of Mrs. 'E' was to be independent lady and to earn money for the better living of her family.

(vi) Mrs. 'F' was born in the middle-class family. She had two sisters and one brother. Out of three, Mrs. F was the youngest child. Her parents were caring and provided good facilities for studies. Before marriage, she was good in studies. She obtained M.A. degree and did N.T.T. course. Fortunately she got a job in an eminent convent school. She was satisfied with her career. Then her marriage was settled on the condition that she has to leave her job. She was against to this decision but due to the pressure of her parents she was ready to leave the job after marriage. Her husband was posted as manager in a private sector and the
earning was also quite good. They were living happily and now she was four months pregnant and was taking good care and nutritious diet.

(vii) Mrs. 'G' was born in a small village. The environmental condition was not good and there was a small school in her village to study. There was a big school which was quite far from her village. Her parents were not in favour of sending her daughter to the other village. This was the only reason of her less education. Her wishes were also not very high, luckily she got married to a highly qualified person who was posted as a lecturer in the city. She had an adjusting nature. There was no financial problem. When she conceived first time, she had an abortion due to her carelessness. After that she had a child of 4 years. At the time of survey she was pregnant of seven months and following the doctor's instructions carefully.

(vii) Mrs. 'H' was born in a joint family where all the children had the facilities for studies. Mrs. 'H' was the youngest daughter of her parents and she was the most loving child. She was a laborious girl. She had passed all the classes with good marks. She had done M.A. in English and then B.Ed. As soon as she completed her B.Ed. she got a job of teaching in a public school. She was getting handsome salary. At the
time of marriage, it was cleared between the parents of both the sides that there will be no problem in the continuity of her job. But after few months of marriage, she was not able to maintain the adjustment between the job and household works. The friction developed among the members. Finally she left the job. But she was suffering through mental stress and had no nutritious diet and was two months pregnant. Her husband was also not very supportive. Her physical condition was also not quite satisfactory.

(ix) Mrs. 'I' was born in a family where parents were not much concerned with the career and she had no interest in studies. She studied up to fifth standard. After that she dropped the studies and devoted her time in the household activities. At the age of 21, she got married to a businessman. After conceiving she had an abortion due to some medical reason. After that she and her husband followed doctor's treatment and advice properly and then after one year she again conceived and during the time of survey she was seven months pregnant.

(x) Mrs 'J' was born in a family whose living conditions were not so good because her father had died when she was thirteen years. Her maternal uncle had taken the responsibility of her study. After completing her studies she got married.
After the marriage, her life was not running smoothly. The relationship between mother-in-law and Mrs. 'J' was not soft. Due to mental and physical stress she had an abortion and the other was a still birth delivery. Then the other family members and husband provided better emotional and nutritional care. Soon after she became healthy and now she conceived again. At the time of survey she was pregnant of four months.