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## RESEARCH AND STUDIES CELL

Under Section 10(1) (h) of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990, the Commission is required to undertake promotional and educational research so as to suggest ways of ensuring due representation of women in all spheres and identify factors responsible for impeding their advancement. In this regard, the Commission has promoted several seminars, public hearings, workshops and research studies in order to obtain relevant inputs on subjects considered of highest priority on issues related to gender equality and empowerment.

During the year 2009-10, the National Commission for Women (NCW) approved programmes on various subjects related to awareness generation on women related problems and protection of their rights. Particular emphasis was given to generate awareness on women related issues in the backward and underdeveloped rural areas where most of the people are illiterate and traditional. A total of 29 Awareness Programmes, 280 Legal Awareness Programmes were organized. 3 Public Hearings were also organized at block and district level and 8 Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalat were organized. Apart from this, 52 National level, Regional level, State level Conferences, Seminars and Workshops were organized and 20 Research Studies were also sponsored to increase awareness and sensitize the public on women related issues and problems. List of organizations to whom financial assistance sanctioned for conducting the Awareness Programmes, Public Hearings, Seminars/Workshops

and Research Studies during 2009-10 is given at Annexure VII, Annexure VIII, Annexure IX and Annexure X respectively.

### **Legal Awareness Programmes (LAP) and Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalat (PMLA) sponsored by NCW:**

The Commission has approved 280 Legal Awareness Programmes (LAP) and 8 Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalats (PMLA) during the year 2009 - 2010. State wise number LAP and PMLA approved is given in the table below. List of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to whom financial assistance sanctioned for conducting Legal Awareness Programmes, PMLAs and Awareness Programmes during 2009-2010 is given at Annexure-V, Annexure-VI and Annexure-VII respectively.

S. No.	States	Total No. of LAPs	Total No. of PMLAs
1	Assam	22	-
2	Andhra Pradesh	08	-
3	Arunachal Pradesh	02	-
4	Bihar	12	-
5	Chattisgarh	02	-
6	Delhi	17	-
7	Gujarat	01	-
8	Haryana	45	-
9	Himachal Pradesh	04	-

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>States</b>	<b>Total No. of LAPs</b>	<b>Total No. of PMLAs</b>
10	Jammu & Kashmir	02	-
11	Jharkhand	02	-
12	Karnataka	02	-
13	Madhya Pradesh	10	-
14	Maharashtra	04	-
15	Meghalaya	04	-
16	Manipur	07	-
17	Orissa	12	-
18	Rajasthan	36	-
19	Tamil Nadu	18	-
20	Tripura	01	-
21	Uttar Pradesh	59	08
22	Uttrakhand	03	-
23	West Bengal	08	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>08</b>

### **Save the Home Save the Family Project**

The National Commission for Women has also initiated a Pilot Project with Delhi Police in May, 2008. The Project called 'Save the Home, Save the Family' is intended to sensitize police personnel at the Thana/ Police Station level in order to deal with women issues effectively. Phase II of the Project has been initiated in March, 2009 for setting up three special cells for women and children in Delhi based on Maharashtra model. The major function of the cells would be to handle cases of violence against women (VAW), provision of police assistance on criminal complaints, referral to family service

agencies, counseling, legal aid and generating awareness on VAW. The Project is funded by the National Commission for Women and is functioning in association with Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS). It also emphasizes on adoption.

### **Awareness Programmes sponsored by NCW**

1. Two day Awareness Programme on 'The role of women in panchayats in India creating a new space for leadership with special focus on Haryana State' - by Women Welfare & Educational Development Society, Dist. Sonapat, Haryana.
2. Awareness Programme on the Members of the Mahila Panchayat/Sarpanches to educate them - by Sanmati Social Samiti, North Raj Mohala, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
3. Awareness Programme on 'Effect of female literacy in villages of Rajasthan' - by Masoom Society for Social Services, Kabutro Ka Chowk, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
4. Awareness Programme on 'Status of women education and health in District Sambalpur, Orissa' - by Pulse Welfare Society, Distt. Sambalpur, Orissa.
5. Awareness Programme on 'Women with disability in Warangal District of Andhra Pradesh' - by Vignan Educational Society, Distt. Warangal, Andhra Pradesh.
6. Awareness Programme on 'Role of Women in Panchayat in Tq-Ausa, District Latur, Maharashtra' - by Vyankatesh Bahuud Deshya Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Latur, Maharashtra.

7. Awareness Programme on 'Women Rights' - by Vidya Kala Sansthan, Indira Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
8. Awareness Programme of traditional weavers- by GRASSROOT, Mawkhar Main Raod, Opposite Seng Khasi Hills, Shillong, Meghalaya.
9. Awareness Programme on 'Reproductive and Maternal Health Care System' - by Gnana Sudha Educational Society, Andhra Pradesh.
10. Awareness Programme on 'Child Marriage in Burdwan in West Bengal' -by Kumarsha Rural Development Society, Dist.. Burdwan, West Bengal.
11. Awareness Programme on the 'Role of Women in different field of life at Jodhpur' -by Masoom Society for Social Services, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
12. Awareness Programme on 'The Role of Women in Panchayat in India, creating a New Space for Leadership' - by Women Development & Educational Society, Distt. Sonipat, Haryana.
13. Awareness Programme on the 'Issues and Challenges of Women at Work Place' -by Mahila Shishu Swasthya Evam Uthan Samiti, Village Ahirka, Haryana.
14. Awareness and Counselling to women regarding harassment at Bhagpat -by Vatsalya Samiti, Hathras, U.P.
15. Awareness Programme on 'Molestation of women and girl child in Andhra Pradesh' - by Tarangini Social Service Society, Andhra Pradesh.
16. Workshop on 'Violence Against Women' -by Manav Kalyan Vidhya Peeth Sansthan, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
17. One day Awareness Programme at Moradabad on 'Brassware industry workers' exposure to health hazards' - by Modern Shiksha Vikas Samiti, Muradbad, U.P.
18. Workshop for NGOs, representative of domestic and gender based violence -by Indian Institute of Youth Welfare, Shivaji Nagar, Nagpur.
19. Awareness Programme on 'Harassment of tribal women farmers at Sundargar District' - by Association for Development and Research in Socio Economic Activity (ADARSA), Distt. Sundargarh, Orissa.
20. Awareness Programme on 'Female Foeticide'- by Jagrook Mahila Sansthan "Parcham", Sharanpur, U.P.
21. Awareness Programme on 'Social Evils in Banchhara Community: Discussion and Solution' - by Shri Sagas Maharaja Sikshan Evam Samajik Vikas Samiti, Vikas Nagar, Neemuch, M.P.
22. Awareness Programme on 'Alcoholism and Domestic Violence' - by Laxmi Mahila Avam Samajik Vikas Samiti, Kalyan Bhawan, Distt. Bulandshar, Uttar Pradesh.
23. Awareness Programme on 'Child Marriage and its impact' - by Education and Regional Development Society, 2/77, Medha Koil Street, Sangau, Village Villapura, Tamil Nadu.

24. Awareness Programme on 'Domestic Violence in West Bengal' – by Seba Sangh, Kantalfully, P.O. Kakhana, Block Falta, District 24 Parganas, West Bengal.
25. Seminar on Women Empowerment – by Santhvanam Social Service Educational and Charitable Trust Chembra, Mahe, Pondichery.
26. Awareness Programme on 'Girl Child Foeticide at JJ Slum of New Delhi' - by Living Water for Dying Souls in India, Christian Charitable Trust, Dwarkapuri, New Delhi.
27. Two days Legal Workshop on 'Valuing of Girl Child–Sex Selective Abortion' – by Akhil Manav Seva Parishad, New Delhi.
28. Workshop on 'Women Empowerment – promoting sustainable livelihood to rural women at Barmer, Rajasthan' – by Nav Rajiv Foundation & Research Center Society, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
29. Awareness Programme on 'Technological Empowerment of Women in Agriculture at Kendrapara Dist. Orissa' – by Netaji Memorial Club, Kendrapara, Orissa.

#### **Public Hearings sponsored by NCW**

1. Public Hearing on 'Dalit Women' – conducted by Sanjeevani Society, Udaipur (Rajasthan).
2. Public Hearing on 'Health and livelihood development for rural women' – by Shri Maharana Pratap Shiksha Vikas Samiti (Uttar Pradesh).

3. Public Hearing on 'Atrocities to rural women' – by Aravali Institute of Development Research, Jaipur (Rajasthan).

#### **State Level Seminars, Regional Level Seminars, National Level Seminars/ Workshops sponsored by NCW**

##### **State Level Seminar/Workshop**

1. State Level Seminar on 'Issues of Gender, Peace and Conflict in Northeast India'- by Department of Political Science, Dibrugarh University, (Assam).
2. State Level Seminar on 'Declining Sex Ratio in India (Causes of Female Foeticide)' –by Jagriti Jan Kalyan Samiti, (Bihar).
3. State Level Workshop on 'Problems of Sex Selection/Determination of Sex of the Foetus at District Banswara' –by Sarvodaya Samegra Vikas & Sanchar Sansthan, Banswara, (Rajasthan).
4. State Level Seminar on Maternal Health Services: A challenge in India –by Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant Institute of Studies in Rural Development, Lucknow (U.P).
5. State Level Conference on 'Impact of armed conflict on Women and Children in Manipur' – by Manipur State Commission for Women, (Manipur).
6. State Level Seminar on 'Problem of molestation and sexual harassment of working women in bricks making and construction site' – by Jana Kalyan Yubak Sangha, Distt. Bolangir, (Orissa).

7. State Level seminar on 'Women Empowerment through Self Help Groups' –by Office of the Principal, M.P. Govt. P.G. College, Chittorgarh (Rajasthan).
8. State Level Seminar on 'Abduction of Women and the Girl Child in Assam' –by New Vision Creative Society, (Assam).
9. State Level Seminar on 'Management Development Programme for Capacity Building of Women under SWA-SHAKTI Programme' in South Rajasthan –by Utthan Shoudh Sansthan, Govind Nagar, Udaipur (Rajasthan).
10. State Level Seminar on 'Awareness to Rural Women on Rights and Policies' at Theog, Himachal Pradesh –by Sahara Samaj Sevi Sanstha, District Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.
11. Seminar on 'Human Rights Women: A North East Perspective' –by Centre for Women Studies Dibrugarh University, (Assam).
12. State Level Workshop on 'Role of Women in Politics in Patna' –by Ambapali Hastakargha Evam Hastashilp Vikas Swawlambi Sahyog Samiti Ltd., Patna (Bihar).
13. State Level Seminar on 'Policy for proactive and effective use of Mass Media and different Communication Channels for Gender Equality and Sensitization' –by Draupadi Trust, New Delhi.
14. State Level Seminar on 'Domestic Violence and its Impact on the health and well being of the formed Families' –by MAITRI, J-92 ARD Complex, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.
15. 'Trafficked domestic Women' in Ambala –by New Millennium Information Technology Centre, New Delhi.
16. Seminar on 'Sexual Harassment at Work Place' –by All India Konark Educational and Welfare Society, New Delhi.
17. Seminar on 'Awareness and Prevention from HIV/AIDS' –by Gramin Mahila Vikas Samiti, Jhazzar, (Haryana).
18. Seminar on 'Women's Role in Panchayati Raj Institutions, SHGs & Micro Credit Schemes' – by VAMIT Educational Trust, Shimla, (H.P).
19. State Level Conference on 'Social Economic and Political Empowerment of the ST, SC, OBC and Weaker Section'- by Parikrama Mahila Samiti, Jabalpur, (Madhya Pradesh).
20. Seminar on 'Phenomenon of Maternal Mortality in India – a dialogue on its socio cultural horizon and prognosis in Indian context' –by R.K. HIV AIDS Research & Care Centre, Mumbai.
21. State Level Workshop for Government Polytechnic Teachers on 'Art of Counseling' – by Puducherry Women's Commission, Natesan Nagar, Puducherry.
22. State Level Seminar on 'Review of Policies and Schemes for Female Bidi Workers' at Ajmer, Rajasthan –by Rural Development and Welfare Society, Jaipur (Rajasthan).
23. Seminar on 'Molestation of Women and Laws against Molestation' at Agartala of District West Tripura' –by AKHANDA, P.O. Siddhi Ashram, Agartala (Tripura).

24. Seminar on 'Women Rights'- by Sant Ram Verma Swatantrata Sangram Senani Smarak Sewa Samiti, (Uttar Pradesh).
25. Seminar on 'Domestic Violence Act –Protection of Women' at Village Mandal - by Ch. Charan Singh Gramodyog Sansthan, Hathras, (Uttar Pradesh).
26. State Level Seminar on 'Killing of Female Foeticide' –by Mahila Jagriti Samiti, Sultanpur, (Uttar Pradesh).
27. State Level Workshop on 'Child Marriage and Women Protection Act' –by Collector Office, Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan.
28. State Level Seminar on 'Legal Rights' –by North Eastern Hill University, Meghalaya.
29. State Level Workshop for Welfare Officers of various Government Departments in Puducherry on 'Art of Counselling' –by Puducherry Women's Commission, Puducherry.
30. State Level Awareness Workshop on 'Declining sex ratio (Causes of Female Foeticide) in NCR, Delhi' –by Manav Jagriti Samiti, C8/293, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi.
31. State Level Seminar on 'Crime against women, eve-teasing, molestation, sexual abuse and Law' –by Human Rights Association of India, New Delhi.
32. Seminar on 'Securing Women from Harassment of NRI Marriages' –by SBS Foundation, New Delhi.
33. State Seminar on 'Role of Media Combating Domestic Violence Against Women in India', at Avinabl Theater, Jammu –by Pooja Welfare Society, Jammu, J&K.
34. Seminar on 'Rights of Tribal Women vis-a-vis forest land MFP CPR' at district Jamshedpur, Jharkhand –by SPEES, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.
35. State Level Seminar on 'Tribal Women and Political Participation'- conducted by Parikarma Mahila Samiti, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.
36. Seminar on 'NGOs and Police Officials counselling' at Bhandara Dist, Maharashtra – by Pankaj Bahu-Uddeshiya Shikshan Sanstha, Bhandardara, Maharashtra.
37. State Level Seminar on 'Prohibition of Child Marriage' –by Shri Rokedeshwar Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Nanded-Waghala, Maharashtra.
38. Seminar on 'Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place' –by Jijamata Bahuudheshiya Mahila Mandal Sawri, Latur, .Maharashtra.
39. Seminar on 'Rights of Tribal Women on forest land in the Tribal Districts' –by PRIYA, Bhubaneswar, Orissa.
40. State Level Seminar at Bolangir Dist, Orissa – by Pushpanjali Cultural Association, Balangir, Orissa.
41. State Level Workshop on 'Elected Women Sarpanch's Vision of Gender Equity and Development' –by Shivcharan Mathur, Udaipur, Rajasthan.

42. Seminar on 'Awareness and Prevention from HIV/AIDS' at district Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh – by Public Welfare Society, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh.
43. Seminar on 'Declining Sex ratio-female foeticide' at Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh –by Shri Mata Prasad Smarak Sewa Sansthan, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh.
44. Seminar on 'Women Rights and Empowerment' during Maha Shakti Mahila Sammelan –by Mahila Prabodhini Foundation, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh.
45. Seminar on 'Declining Sex Ratio, Status of Muslim Women, Child Marriage and its impact, condition of women in handicraft, embroidery, women in handloom weaving sector' –by Samaj Sewa Samiti Raibareilly, Uttar Pradesh.

#### **Regional Level Seminars**

1. Regional Seminar on 'Implementation and Working of PC & PNDT Act 1994' in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala – conducted by Noble Social and Educational Society, (Andhra Pradesh).
2. Two Days National Seminar on 'Domestic Violence and Atrocities against Women' - by Department of Political Science, Magadh Mahila College, Patna University, Patna (Bihar).

#### **National Level Seminars/Conferences**

1. One day National Seminar on 'Women Rights' during the Silver Jubilee Celebrations –by Akhil Bharat Rachnatmak Samaj, Gandhi Ashram, Delhi.

2. National Colloquium on 'Grassroots level Planning and Local Government Institution in India: Policy Initiatives and People's Participation since 1992'- by Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India (AGRASRI), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh).
3. Three days All India Criminology Conference – by Faculty of Law, University of Kashmir, Hazaratbal, (J&K).
4. National Conference on 'Women, Environmental Education and Climate Change' - by All India Foundation for Peace and Disaster Management, New Delhi
5. Conference on 'Gender and the changing world of work and health' –by UGC, Center for Women Studies, Udaipur, Rajasthan.

#### **Research Studies sponsored by NCW**

1. Research Study on "Women Prisoners and their Children in Jails in Eastern Uttar Pradesh"- by Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith, Varanasi, UP.
2. Research Study on "Status of Single Women present in Himachal Pradesh" by - Ms. Priyanka Bharadwaj, 1-3/100, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi.
3. Research Study on "Farmers Suicides and its Impact of Women and Families in Andhra Pradesh" - by Noble Social and Educational Society, 303, Akhil Apartments, I.S. Mahal Theatre, Tirupati, AP.
4. Research Study on "Honour Killing in Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh" - by Shakti Vahini, H-11, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Hudson lines, Kingsway Camp, New Delhi

5. Research Study on "Impact of Displacement on Women: with Special Reference to Natural and Development Induced Displacement: A study of Dibrugarh district of Assam" - by Dr. Daisy Bora Talukdar, Director, Center for Women Studies, Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh. Assam.
6. Research Study on "Socio-psychological aspects of Gender Discrimination of Udaipur and Chittorgarh Division" –by Prof. Vijaylaxmi Chauhan, Director, UGC Center for Women Studies, M. L. Sukhadiya University, Udaipur, Rajasthan.
7. Research Study on "Role of Women in Disaster Preparedness through Geographical Information System (GIS) in the National capital region of Delhi" –by All India Foundation for Peace and Disaster Management, 2, Shivam Apartment, Delhi.
8. Research Study on "Crime Against Women in Meghalaya" - by Smt. S. K. Marak, Chairperson, Meghalaya State Commission for Women, Lower Lachumiere, Shillong.
9. Research Study on "Declining Sex Ratio in Jaipur district of Rajasthan State" - by Mrs. Poonam, Secretary, Nav Rajiv Gandhi Foundation & Research Center Society, 25 Shyam Vihar, Behind Chourdia Petrol Pump, Sanganer 302029, Rajasthan.
10. Research Study on "Female Foeticide (declining sex ratio) to be conducted in Thiruvannamalai district of Tamilnadu" - by Fr. A. Pathrose, President, Rural Education Working Society (REWS), No.1128. A, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Thendral Nagar, Vengikkal, Thiruvannamalai-606604, Tamilnadu.
11. Research study on "National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and its implications on Rural Women in the State of Rajasthan" - by Aravali Institute of Development Research, 297 Tagore Nagar, Yashoda Path, Ajmer Road, Jaipur-302024, Rajasthan.
12. Research Study on "Surrogate motherhood-Ethical or Commercial" - by Center for Social Research, 2, Nelson Mandela Marg, New Delhi
13. Research Study on "Gender Data Gaps in Application of Equality in Resources" - by Ms Shivani Bharadwaj Programme Director, Sathi All for Partnerships, Mayur Vihar Phase-I, New Delhi.
14. Research Study on "The Status and Working Conditions of Women Working in Handicraft Sector Specially Embroidery, Textile, Tie and Dye in Rajasthan" –by Ehsaas Foundation, New Delhi.
15. Research Study on "Suicide among Indian Farmers: A profile of Distress, Destitution, Widowhood & Impact of Government Relief and Packages on Rural Women"– by Association for Development Initiatives, New Delhi.
16. Research Study on "Women in Panchayats in Rohtak District of Haryana State" - by The Rural Organization for Awareness & Development, Rohtak, Haryana.



17. Research Study on "Operations for Socio Economic Empowerment of Tribal Women in Southern Rajasthan" –by Dr. L.N. Dadheech, Udaipur, Rajasthan.
18. Research Study on "Empowerment of Tribal Women through SHGs formed by Women Department in Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh" –by Lok Sewa Sansthan, Uttar Pradesh.
19. Research Study on "Implementation in Equal Access to Participation and Decision Making within (social, political, economic) of Rural Women at Sawai Madhopur" - by Rural Education and Welfare Society, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
20. Research Study on "Role and Status of Women Cultivators in Rajasthan" - by Shiv Charan Mathur University, Udaipur, Rajasthan.

The following Research Studies were completed during the year 2009-2010. The summary of these Research Studies are given as below :

**1. Research study on Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) and Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) in selected villages in five districts of Bihar- Patna, Nalanda, Khagaria, Saharsa and Rohtas - conducted by Ambpali Hastkargha Evom Hastshilp Vikas Swavlambi Sahkari Samiti, Patna**

**Objectives of the study:**

The objectives of the study were to understand and analyze the phenomenon of maternal mortality and infant mortality in the context of awareness, availability and utilization of the facilities along with

the societal attitudinal factors in three villages each of the five selected districts total fifteen villages and five urban areas. The major objectives were :

- To gather primary information about antenatal care, child delivery characteristics, nutrition, contraception and other prenatal indicators of MMR in the selected villages and urban areas of the five districts of Bihar.
- To collect primary data about feeding, immunization, treatment of childhood diseases, knowledge and use of ORS packages and care of critically ill children and other indicators of IMR.
- To identify the existing gaps in the social infrastructure and delivery system of health care, provision of manpower, equipments and drugs, inter-sectoral coordination, monitoring and evaluation, of sample villages in the five districts as far as maternal and child health are concerned.
- Based on the findings, recommendations for initiatives for action towards better health of common people was suggested.

**Methodology:**

- Quantitative Method - Questionnaire schedule was the main tool of data collection.
- Matri-Shishu Kalyan Survekhshan (Mother Child Welfare questionnaire/interview schedule) was prepared to address the research issues. It included the different aspects and indicators of the IMR and MMR identified on the basis of literature review and pilot fieldwork.

- Discussion was also held with community people, health professionals and NGO workers before finalizing the questionnaire.

**Findings:**

- Sub-optimal functioning of the delivery services, lack of ambulances and poor referral services at rural PHCs and government hospitals make the primary health care of maternal, newborn unavailable to most vulnerable women and children of the sample areas.
- There is no proper hospital or nursing home for care of critically ill newborn.
- Ante Natal Care (ANC), Iron and Folic Acid intake, breast feeding, measuring the height and weight of the newborn, ORS use etc. are very poor among the sample. There is a large difference between the rural and the urban sample in terms of their use of essential prenatal requirements.
- Community based skilled birth attendant for maternal and child health care as a cutting edge factor in reducing Maternal Mortality are not available for our sample community. The traditional Dais (attendants) can not cope-up with delivery time complications.
- Heavy work load of women in agrarian life style is an important factor for poor maternal and newborn health.
- Socio-economic and cultural practices of discouraging pregnant or young girls to go for health centers.
- Pervasive gender inequality is rampant making the women unaware of the need to take care of their own health.
- There is lack of conviction on necessity of antenatal check-up, lack of knowledge of services of antenatal care services especially among the elder generation who control the younger couples.
- There is need to aware the community about the advantages of breastfeeding and disadvantages of outside feed.
- There is need to educate the community about the entire contraceptive scenario. The various factors and their implications for larger health issues of the women. Even the details and the implications of new emergency contraceptive pill have to be informed to them. The implications of the operation at a very young age should also be told to them. The contraceptive awareness programs should have adequate privacy as the young girls are shy to participate in the beginning.
- There are substantial gaps in health sector infrastructure and essential health requirements in terms of ambulance, equipment, emergency drugs and consumables in primary health care institutions
- There is lack of intersect oral synergy at the rural level; means the different facilities available at the Panchayat level are not coordinated. ICDS and Aanganwadi Worker, sanitation campaigns, drinking water; school health programme should be coordinated to

create a positive atmosphere in the rural areas for attitudinal change and utilization of ANC facilities.

- There is poor level of women's empowerment and literacy programs which would also go a long way in influencing the attitudes of the people themselves towards lowering maternal and infant neglect.

Recommendations of the study may be seen under the Recommendation Chapter.

## **2. Research Study on Assessment of socio-economic and health status of tribal women in Orissa - conducted by Sadjyotika, Aparnanagar, Chauliaganj, P.O. Nayabazar, Cuttack (Orissa).**

### **Objectives of the Study:**

- To develop a socio-economic, occupational and health profile of the tribal women in the State of Orissa, with reference to their social and ethnic composition, age, marital status, family structure, education, skill, occupation, employment, income, possession of assets etc.
- To identify the problem faced by the tribal women in Orissa in accessing and availing the Public Health Services.
- To review the ongoing programmes of tribal development with special thrust on social and economic development of women.
- To assess the level of participation of tribal women in various on going poverty alleviation, income generation, community development and allied tribal development programmes.

- To assess the level of participation of tribal women in political, social and PRI institutions.
- To study the employment pattern of the tribal women in various jobs in both organized and unorganized sector.
- To study the earning structure of the tribal women work-force by broad occupation and their educational level and training.
- To study accessibility of the tribal women to micro-credit assistance delivered by credit institutions through SHGs in Orissa.
- To study the health status and fertility rate of tribal women in Orissa.
- To assess the extent of availability, accessibility of family welfare services and utilization of the same by the tribal women.
- To assess the level of awareness of the tribal women about different development schemes (including ICDS) in health and family welfare.
- To assess the level of utilization of health facilities by the tribal women and identify factors responsible for low utilization if any.
- To create baseline data with reference to above mentioned parameters and evolve important socio-economic indicators with reference to tribal women.
- To suggest appropriate strategies and measures to enhance the socio-economic health status of tribal women in Orissa.

### **Methodology:**

- Keeping the diversity of the scheduled tribe communities and socio economic background

in view of the region of Orissa the sample were collected from four districts-i.e. Mayurbhanja, Sundergarh, Kondhamal district of Orissa, represent distinctly different geographical position, types of tribes and literacy status.

- Pertinent Secondary data were collected from different government organizations, viz. ITDA, MADA, ICDS etc.
- Apart from this secondary data a structured stratified multi-stage random sample survey was designed and installed on the adult women to get information on their social, economic, educational, health related issues.
- Representative sample tribal households were visited for detailed interview and investigation through a detail discussion with a structured questionnaire.
- The total sample size of the primary household survey was 400 tribal women of 400 sample tribal households representing different tribes and land holding size, covering four sample districts of Orissa. Sample blocks were twenty.

#### **Findings:**

- Socio economic profile of tribal women reflects that majority (72.7%) of tribal belong to medium sized families i.e. 4-7members.
- About 58.9 percent of married tribal reported that they were married at the age between the age group 19-25 years.
- Around half of the tribal women surveyed belong to small and marginal farming households.
- As a whole, one third of tribal women (33%) are only literate, as against the tribal male literacy (53.3%).
- Nearly 24.4 percent are reported being unemployed, whereas 37.7percent of the adult tribal women of the surveyed households pursue agriculture as their main occupation. About 25.5 percent of working tribal women were reported agricultural wage labour as their main occupation.
- Tribal women contribute to nearly 9.9 percent of the annual family income.
- Majority of the families (i.e. 61.3%) surveyed having family income falling below ₹ 11,000/-. About one third of the families suffer from acute poverty where income ranging from ₹ 4, 800-6, 400/- only.
- None of the female members of the tribal families surveyed are reported having education beyond matriculation level.
- Majority of the surveyed tribal women (i.e.72.7%) do not possess any vocational skill. Only 23.8 percent of the tribal women have received some kind of vocational training.
- Majority (54.2%) of tribal women living in thatched house, but one fifth of the surveyed tribal families were living in one room house. Among them one third of tribal reported living in houses with electric connections.
- Majority (73.5%) of the tribal women reported facing problem in fetching safe drinking water. One third of the tribal depend on tube-well/

hand pump for drinking water, as most of the time in a year hand pumps remain defunct. Still majority collect water from their own community dug well.

- Around 91 percent tribal families do not have toilets of their own; hence they mostly defecate in the open field.
- Nearly 56.7 percent of tribal women are aware about individual and family oriented schemes. Around 57.7 percent of tribal women reported being aware of land reform activities supported through community schemes. Majority (84.3%) of the surveyed tribal women were found being aware of road construction and allied communication infrastructure activities going on in their areas.
- Only 23.4 percent of the adult tribal women have joined local SHGs. Nearly 81.2 percent of the women borrower reported have partly or fully repaid the loans. Out of the total tribal women involved in the SHGs, only 23 percent of the women beneficiaries have received training, while majority of them have received no training at all.
- Among surveyed tribal women, 14.2 percent reported having interest in PRI and 10 percent have some kind of interest in political activities. About one third (30.3%) of the tribal women have strong desire to eliminate poverty and reduce economic backwardness among the tribal community.
- Out of the total surveyed tribal women only one third (33.3%) could avail some kind of

loan. Among the entire credit source SHG is the principal one, providing credit support to nearly 39.5 percent of women. Commercial and Cooperative banks have provided loans to 34.6 percent of tribal women out of them majority (55.5%) of the tribal women avail loan to support various small income generating schemes activities and small business/ trade in their areas. Regarding the income generation programme, nearly 56.7 percent of the tribal women reported the programme to be satisfactory, while 43.3 percent of them expressed their dissatisfaction.

- Nearly 35 percent of surveyed tribal women reported that Government Health Center is located within 1-3 km from their respective communities. About 80 percent of tribal women reported preferring traditional healers and local *Vaidyas* for treatment of minor diseases. Nearly 85 percent of women prefer Government health centers and hospitals for treatment of chronic diseases. The dependence and preference for Government health center is higher compared to private health institutions. Overall incidence of sickness is highest in Kandhamala district, followed by Koraput district. The incidence of sickness is relatively higher among the younger population in the surveyed four districts.
- In the surveyed district majority (66.8%) of the reported deliveries occurred at the age between 18-25 years.

- The numbers of female infant deaths per 1000 live births in the four districts were found to be varying in nature. In Sundergarh it is 94, whereas it is 115 in Kandhamal. As a whole majority 54.8 percent of the reported infant deaths were of female child. About 56.1 percent of the women respondents of the tribal households reported having anti-natal check up 2-4 times prior to their delivery. More than half (59.5%) of surveyed women reported having deliveries conducted at the residence of the tribal women. Nearly 34.3 percent of the reported deliveries were conducted in Government health centers. While majority of (76.4%) of the respondents reported that they were having normal deliveries. But they did not use *Tetanus Toxide* during their delivery. Almost 67.7 percent of surveyed women have not used Iron Folic tablets.
- The awareness about the use of condoms as method of family planning was reported varying from 48 percent in Kandhamala district to 62 percent in Sundargarh among surveyed tribal women.
- ANM and AWW and other health staffs of Government health Centers, and ICDS centers were reported to be the nearest source of information in vasectomy, tubectomy, IUD and MTP among tribal women. In case of oral contraceptives, condoms; private drug shops, general shops friends and relatives were reported as the major source.

Recommendations of the study may be seen under the Recommendation Chapter.

### **3. Research Study on Women in Panchayats in District –Almora, Uttarakhand State (Based on Block-wise Survey) - conducted by Jalagam Samiti Sajgouri, Dist- Almora, Uttarakhand.**

#### **Objectives of the Study:**

- To map the socio-economic profile of elected women representatives in Almora District of Uttarakhand.
- To gauge the quality of participation of elected women representatives in Panchayati Raj Institution in Almora District of Uttarakhand.
- To assess the empowerment of elected women representatives within the household and at the community level in Almora District of Uttarakhand.
- To ascertain the developmental outcome of women panchayat leaders, and whether their leadership has had any impact on the implementation and performance of development activities
- To assess the impact of self help groups, women's organizations and other civil society forum on the participation of elected women representatives.
- To obtain a better understanding of ground realities of conditions of women in Panchayats
- To prepare a profile of the Panchayats led by women in the State of Uttarakhand.
- To identify and study the nature and magnitude of the problems of the rural women in Panchayats.

- To study assistance for implementation of various income generating and economic activities/schemes given by Panchayats led by women.
- To study the problems experienced by women in Panchayats from the concerned Government Department.

### **Methodology**

- Target group for the study were women panchayat members, at all the three levels i.e. Zila Parishad, block and village level.
- Quantitative and qualitative surveys were done for data collection. Quantitative data were collected from Pradhans (female as well as male), Ward members (both sexes), ex-elected women representative, panchayat secretaries and members of the community.

Qualitative data were collected through Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and in-depth interviews with Government officials and reviews of the Minutes of Meetings of Gram Sabhas.

- The following schedules were devices for the Quantitative Survey:
  1. Schedule for Pradhans/Ward Members.
  2. Schedule for ex-elected women representatives.
  3. Schedule for Panchayat Secretary.
  4. Schedule for community/household.
- The Guidelines/Semi-structure schedules devised for the Qualitative Survey were:

1. FGD with community.
2. In-depth discussions with government officials.
3. Review of MoMS.

- Study covered following blocks for the study:-

1. Bhikiyasai
2. Chaukhutiya
3. Takula
4. Dwarikhal
5. Syaldey, Sult
6. Tarikhet
7. Dhauladevi
8. Hawalbag
9. Lamgara
10. Bhasialkhana.

- 1363 representatives were selected for the study. Out of 1363 selected PRIs 330 Pradhans and 1033 Ward Members were selected for the study.

### **Findings:**

- Profile of Elected Representatives in their Current Team:
  - The age-wise analysis of elected representatives shows that 45% were between 36 and 50 years. While two-fifths were in the younger (21-25) age group only 17 percent of elected representatives were above 50 years of age.

- Female representatives were found to be generally younger than their male elected PRI.
  - The educational attainment shows that male representatives were more educated than female representatives. 48 % of women representatives were middle pass while 19 % were illiterate.
  - **Primary Occupation on the Basis of Time Spent**
    - High proportion of male Pradhans (47%), reported spending most of their time in panchayat work, followed by farming (36%). Female Pradhans spend their time primarily in household tasks (51%). Only 32 percent activities involved in Panchayat work.
  - **Social Background of Elected Representatives.**
    - A large proportion of the respondents were from the more disadvantaged sections of society (SC-26%). Only 28 percent were from the general category.
    - Religious distribution of Elected Representatives:  
  
The majority of the elected representatives were Hindu (86%). No difference was observed by gender or position as far as the religious background of elected representatives is concerned.
  - **Economic Profile of Elected Representative:**
    - The economic status of more than half (54%) of the elected representatives was above the poverty line.
    - 12 percent PRIs reported inadequate food in some months of the year and the proportion of such cases was higher in the case of Ward Members (14%) than Pradhans (5%).
    - Among elected representatives, 54 percent reported increase in incomes over the past 10 years. This was significantly higher among Pradhans (68%) than the Ward Member (51%).
  - **Role of Parallel bodies**
    - 26 percent of all elected representatives were involved with some local body / CBO before being elected. Majority of the elected members were Pradhans (29%), then Ward members (24%).
  - **Impact of participation of women and community development**
    - 72 percent reported were actively involved in providing civic amenities, while 62 percent said they made efforts in increasing enrolment and mitigating domestic violence.
- Recommendations of the study may be seen under the Recommendation Chapter.



#### **4. Research Study on Present Status of Single Women in Shimla, District Himachal Pradesh: Numeral Indexing and Highlighting Major Issues - conducted by - Priyanka Bhardwaj.**

##### **Objectives:**

- Examining the concept of Single Women from the perspective of its end-users.
- Identification of Single Women in Shimla district of Himachal Pradesh.
- Identification of the problems of the Single Women under legal, economical and social category.
- Recommending such steps, policies or laws which will help and benefit the Single Women in the society.

##### **Methodology:**

- Non-experimental, exploratory formulative research methodology were used in this study.
- Numeral Indexing was based upon the total population size of single women from ten development blocks.
- The population size of single women counted after conducting survey with help of gram Pradhans and field investigators in ten development blocks was 5017.
- Study covered ten development blocks of Shimla district of Himachal Pradesh.
- The population size of single women with government benefits came to be 4781 women.
- The total number of single women present in the district was 9798.

##### **Findings:**

- The present study conducted in the ten blocks of Shimla district were aimed at finding out count of single women and highlighting of issues under the area of legal, economic and social aspect. Below given are conclusions of the present study:
- These single women are demanding governmental help and re-recognition.
- Widowed women receiving pensions are counted out to be 4781 by the official records.
- Total Number of single women present in Shimla district at present i.e. 9798.
- Around 90 percent of single women are unaware of the legal rights of women provided in India.
- Legal help are not promptly and easily available to these women. They have to face extra difficulties.
- Around 80 percent of single women is facing economic harassment and are dependent upon others or struggling for survival.
- Under the social arena, around 85-90 percent of single women feel loss of individual identity.
- Sexually and mentally are more likely to face harassment due to their single status.
- Out of 10 development blocks, single women in Chirgoan block are found to be least legally aware and Mashobra block's single women are found out to be most economically independent. Chirgoan and Chopal appears to be facing most cases of social harassment.

- Around 95 percent of women feel their progressive growth has been hampered due to single women stigma.
- 100 percent single women demand a separate unit under reservation index.
- When answered in group surrounded by peers, single women answers show significant change. Only 20-30 percent of women answered and not even freely. Rest of them was quiet.
- Ninety percent of single women are more likely to suffer from inferiority complex and live under pressure.
- Social fear is the main root cause of not seeking help from any NGOs or administrative setup.
- Eighty to ninety percent of single women are economically and socially struggling without family support.
- "Single women" concept should not be ignored any more. This is a fast growing present phenomenon which needs immediate attention by state and central government.

Recommendations of the study may be seen under the Recommendation Chapter.

**5. Research Study on Impact of Suicides on Families and Women in Handloom and Power loom Sectors in Andhra Pradesh- conducted by Noble Social and Educational Society, Tirupati, A.P.**

**Objectives:**

- To study the socio-economic profile of the weavers families which have become victims of suicide.
- To study the reasons for committing suicide by the weavers.
- To assess the nature of assistance (relief measures) extended to the affected families by the government and other sources.
- To examine the nature of immediate distress as well as difficulties being faced by the women and children in suicide affected weavers' families.
- To examine the changing role of women in victims families and its impact on the family in general and children in particular.
- To suggest appropriate steps to avoid such malaises / tragedies and for development of handloom and power-loom sector in India in general and Andhra Pradesh in particular.

**Methodology:**

- The study was carried out in the state of Andhra Pradesh.
- In the first stage total suicide cases of handloom and power-loom weavers in Andhra Pradesh was collected from the office of Director and Commissioner of Handloom and Textiles, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
- In the second stage, out of the total suicide cases, 200 victim families (both ex-gratia awarded and not awarded cases) were selected randomly. From all the selected 200 sample victim families, one women from each of the family i.e., wife of the deceased was selected.

- Out of the total selected victims district wise distribution of total sample of the study was as under:-
  1. Karim Nagar (105 respondent)
  2. Warangal (37 respondent)
  3. Nalgonda (11 respondent)
  4. Prakasam (22 respondent)
  5. Anantapur (25 respondent)
- Primary and secondary data were collected for the study. Primary data were collected through interview schedule, interview guide from the selected sample. While secondary data were collected from published books, journals, documents and other relevant offices etc., for the study.
- Collected data were analyzed by using different socio-economic and demographical variables.
- Simple statistical method like 'Percentage' was used in the analysis of data.
- All the families were indebt and money lenders acted as an important source of credit.
- Most of the suicide cases occurred between the years 2003 and 2008 indicating the acute crisis faced by the weaving industry in Andhra Pradesh during this period. The reasons for suicide were under-employment, unemployment and indebtedness.
- 42.50 percent of the total who committed suicide were illiterate and were working in Power-loom (51%) and Pit-loom(48%).
- Overwhelming majority of the widow respondents took charge of their families immediately after the death of their husbands.
- All the 200 widow respondents were engaged in one or the other occupation for their livelihood. Beedi rolling is the major source of income for the majority of the respondent widows followed by handloom weaving.
- While majority of the deceased husbands worked in power looms but only 0.50 percent of the total widows are working in power looms at present.

**Finding:**

- Majority of the families in the sample belonged to 'Padmashali Caste'.
- Though the total population of the sample families was distributed over many occupations but one-fourth were engaged in handloom weaving and less than 10 percent were engaged in power-loom sector.
- All the 200 families are found below poverty line.
- Majority of the widow respondents engaged in weaving (pit-looms) are working with master weavers.
- Widows who are self employed (pit looms) in weaving, accessed working capital from ex-gratia, banks and relatives, and all the self employed widow weavers (pit loom) not only accessed raw material but also marketed the finished products by their own efforts.

- Majority of the widow respondents were engaged in handloom weaving (both powerloom and pit loom) spend six hours a day in this work and the rest of them spend between seven to eleven hours.
- Nearly 50 percent of the total sample widows received ex-gratia payment while the other 50 percent did not receive because their cases were rejected by the committee. Among those who had received ex-gratia, more than 60 percent were satisfied with it, the rest were not satisfied.
- In one-fourth of the total 200 sample families, children dropped out from the school after the suicide of their fathers.
- Majority of the widows quickly learned to manage the financial, occupational, educational, health and children's marriages in their respective families.

Recommendations of the study may be seen under the Recommendation Chapter.

**6. Research Study on Status of Women in Uttarakhand: A Comparative Study of Dhari Development Block - conducted by Activist of Voluntary Action for Development of Humanity, Lucknow, U.P.**

**Objectives:**

- To evaluate social, economic and political status of women in the society.
- To find out factors which affect the status of women.
- To know about the status of women age wise.
- To understand positive and negative changes among women due to the modern development in the society.
- To find out the health and nutrition status of women.
- To evaluate the impact of various programmes implemented by the Government on women.
- To understand the effect of gambling, violence against women and alcoholism issue of members on women.
- To find out the status of women in different caste.

**Methodology**

- Both Primary and secondary data were used for the study.
- Total sample size was 529 house hold families from Bodhiban (122), Dhanachuli (211), Aksoda (160) and Kokilbana (36).
- 1031 women and girls were selected for the study.

**Findings:**

- The main occupation of selected house holds (96%) was agriculture.
- Most of the selected women were illiterate (471). Only 26 women had bachelor degree.
- Almost all the women spent most of their time in collection of fuel, fodder and drinking water.
- Though women play important role in the economic activities even then their role in the decision making is negligible.

- Most of the women do not have right to spend their family income as well as earned income by themselves. Most of the time, decisions were taken by their husbands.
  - All most all the women were aware about the existing problems in the society. Unemployment, poverty, girls' safety, illiteracy and addiction were reported as major problem of the society which affects them adversely.
  - Study also indicates that most of the women work for 10 to 14 hours daily even then they have no rights in the family property. Almost 90 percent women have no account in the bank.
  - Average age of marriage varies from 18 to 21 years.
  - Most of the women were involved in agriculture.
  - Study also shows that health status of women was not good. It is found that early marriage and non availability of nutritious food are responsible for gynecological problems and low health status.
  - Study also found that violence against women is increasing gradually over period of time.
  - Study data also revealed that most of the women were not aware about their rights and government's schemes. As a result of this they are unable to take benefits of the Government schemes.
- Recommendations of the study may be seen under the Recommendation Chapter.