

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the investigation are described and discussed in this chapter. As earlier discussed the entire analysis was done on the basis of size of the land holding of the families. The families were divided into three groups i.e., small land holding group (SLH), medium land holding group (MLH) and large land holding group (LLH).

The findings of the study are introduced through composite summary tables followed by the statistical applications for testing the hypotheses, after which a relevant discussion of the study follows. The results are presented under the following sections.

1. Description of the sample.
2. Respondents' role in decision making and extent of involvement in household, farm, livestock and income generating activities.
3. Involvement of respondents in decision implementation.
4. Role of respondents in money matters related to their own earnings and extent of decision making.
5. Testing of hypotheses.
6. Discussion of findings.

SECTION I

DESCRIPTION OF THE SAMPLE

This includes the family characteristics and personal characteristics of the respondents.

I. Family characteristics.

1. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HEADS OF THE FAMILY

The sample had 86.50 per cent male as well as 13.50 per cent women heads of families.

Age

The mean age of the heads of the families was 51.98 years. The age of the male heads of the families ranged from 22 to 85 years, and that of women heads between 22 to 60 years.

Education level

On the whole, 36.50 per cent head of the family were illiterate. Among them one-third of the male heads of the family were illiterate, one half were educated from primary to metric level, and 6 per cent had college education. Among female heads, most of them were illiterate and only 4.50 per cent were educated from primary to metric level.

Table 4 : Characteristics of Heads of the Families.

I: Family Characteristics	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)	LLH (N=23)	Total (N=200)
I. Age : Years				
22 - 35	15 (13.27)	7 (10.93)	3 (13.04)	25 (12.50)
36 - 45	21 (18.58)	12 (18.75)	8 (34.78)	41 (20.50)
46 - 55	25 (22.12)	26 (40.62)	5 (21.73)	56 (28.00)
56 - 65	28 (24.77)	10 (15.62)	3 (13.04)	41 (20.50)
66 - 75	18 (15.92)	6 (9.37)	4 (17.39)	28 (14.00)
76 - 85	6 (5.30)	3 (4.68)	- -	9 (4.50)
Mean age	53.03	52.75	50.17	51.98
S.D.	14.17	12.60	13.46	13.41

(continued...)

(continued... Table 4)

I. Family Characteristics	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)	LLH (N=23)	Total (N=200)
II. Education level				
Illiterate	42 (37.16)	24 (37.50)	7 (30.43)	73 (36.50)
Primary	23 (20.35)	9 (14.06)	3 (13.04)	35 (17.50)
Middle	23 (20.35)	12 (18.75)	5 (21.73)	40 (20.00)
Matric	11 (9.73)	13 (20.31)	3 (13.04)	27 (13.50)
Intermediate	6 (5.30)	5 (7.81)	2 (8.69)	13 (6.50)
BA/MA	8 (7.07)	1 (1.56)	3 (13.04)	12 (6.00)
III. Employment status				
Farming	62 (54.86)	35 (54.68)	12 (52.17)	109 (54.50)
Government service	39 (34.51)	22 (34.37)	9 (39.13)	70 (35.00)
Private sector	26 (30.00)	33 (51.56)	7 (30.43)	66 (33.00)
Business	12 (10.61)	7 (10.93)	2 (8.69)	21 (10.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages
: Due to multiple responses, total percentage exceeds 100

Employment Status

Out of 200 farm families only 54.50 per cent of the heads of the families were involved in agricultural work as a primary occupation and at the same time 33 per cent of them were also working as daily wage earners. This was their secondary occupation usually taken up when they had no work on their own farms. Less than 40 per cent of them were employed in government service, or had their own business. Most of men heads of the families were employed in government services and had migrated out of the village, they had secured jobs in army, irrigation department, forest department, transportation and department of beekeeping. Those 10.50 per cent who were in business, mostly owned hotels, tea stalls or confectionery shops. Female heads were involved only in farm work.

Family type

The joint family type was predominant in this group. About 56 per cent respondents belonged to the joint families, while 42.50 per cent belonged to the nuclear families (Table 5).

Family size

The mean size of the family was 6.43 members. There was not much difference between the mean family size of the three land holding groups.

Table 5 : Family Type and Size

Family characteristics	SLH (N=113)	MLH (n=64)	LLH (N=23)	TOTAL (N=200)
I. Family Type				
Nuclear	44 (38.93)	32 (50.00)	9 (39.13)	85 (42.50)
Joint	66 (58.40)	30 (46.87)	15 (62.21)	111 (55.50)
Extended	3 (2.65)	1 (1.56)	-	4 (2.00)
II. Family Size (Members)				
Small (2 - 5)	13 (11.50)	4 (6.25)	2 (8.69)	19 (9.50)
Medium (6-9)	72 (63.71)	45 (70.31)	14 (60.86)	131 (65.50)
Large (10-13)	28 (24.77)	15 (23.43)	7 (30.43)	50 (25.00)
Mean Size	6.30	6.65	6.56	6.43
S.D.	2.46	2.51	2.59	2.44

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Table 6 : Family Members Involved in Farming :

Family members	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)	LLH (N=23)	TOTAL (N=200)
Respondent	14 (12.38)	3 (4.68)	3 (13.04)	20 (10.00)
Respondent with husband	30 (26.54)	15 (23.43)	2 (8.69)	47 (23.50)
Respondent with family/servant	69 (61.06)	45 (70.31)	17 (73.91)	131 (65.50)
Servant	-	1 (1.56)	1 (4.34)	2 (1.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Table : 7 Earning Members in the Family :

Earning Members	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)	LLH (N=23)	TOTAL (N=200)
Nil	1 (0.88)	-	1 (4.34)	1 (0.50)
One	13 (11.50)	7 (10.93)	3 (13.04)	23 (11.50)
Two	54 (47.78)	17 (26.56)	7 (30.43)	81 (40.50)
Three or more.	46 (40.70)	39 (60.93)	13 (56.52)	95 (47.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Family members working at farm

From time immemorial women have played a pivotal role in crop production, from sowing and harvesting to storage of food grains. Summarized data (table 6) shows the help rendered by the family members to the respondents in carrying out farm activities. It was found that most of the respondents i.e., 69.50 per cent worked with their family members and/or with servants. The reason was that during sowing and harvesting time, it was difficult for the respondent to work alone. Only one per cent respondents managed the farm totally with the help of servants.

Earning members in the family

In all, 47.50 per cent of households were supported by three or more earning members, while 11.50 per cent families had only a single member earning money. Most of these earners were husbands and sons in the family. Three or more earning members were present in more of the families of SLH group compared to MLH and LLH groups.

Monthly income sources of the family

There were many sources of family's income, besides the income from the farming. These were income from dairy/poultry, service, business and other income generating activities. Respondents' contribution to family income was through, farming, dairy/poultry, gainful employment and through other income generating activities

Table 8 : Monthly Income Sources of Respondents' Family 128

Sources of Income (monthly income)	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)	LLH (N=23)	TOTAL (N=200)
1. Income from Dairy/Poultry.				
Rs. 500 and below	97 (85.84)	40 (62.50)	17 (73.91)	154 (77.00)
Rs. 501 - 800	5 (4.42)	5 (7.81)	1 (4.34)	11 (5.50)
Mean Income	333.26	1112.66	296.66	580.86
S.D.	220.81	819.38	9.0	349.73
2. Farming.				
Rs. 500 and below	13 (11.50)	23 (35.93)	10 (43.47)	46 (23.00)
Rs. 501 - 1000	-	5 (7.81)	13 (56.52)	18 (9.00)
Mean Income	314.64	1259.52	284.28	493.83
S.D.	272.11	987.59	8.4	422.7
3. Service.				
Rs. 500 - 1000	-	7 (10.93)	2 (8.69)	9 (4.50)
Rs. 1001 - 1500	2 (1.76)	3 (4.68)	1 (4.34)	6 (3.00)
Rs. 1501 - 2000	7 (6.19)	3 (4.68)	2 (8.69)	12 (6.00)
Rs. 2001 - 2500	6 (5.30)	1 (1.56)	-	7 (3.50)
Rs. 2501 - 3000	55 (48.67)	27 (42.18)	9 (39.13)	91 (45.50)
Mean Income	1988.93	1229.70	221.76	1146.79
S.D.	1634.70	1360.10	130.00	1041.6
4. Business.				
Rs. 1000 - 2000	2 (1.76)	3 (4.68)	-	5 (2.50)
Rs. 2001 - 3000	-	1 (1.56)	-	1 (0.50)
Rs. 3001 - 4000	4 (3.53)	3 (4.68)	-	7 (3.50)

(continued...)

(continued... Table 8)

Sources of Income (monthly income)	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)	LLH (N=23)	TOTAL (N=200)
Rs. 4001 - 5000	3 (2.65)	9 (14.06)	-	12 (6.00)
Rs. 5001 - 6000	-	2 (3.12)	-	2 (1.00)
Mean Income	1054.54	759.81	825.00	879.79
S.D.	859.49	809.89	492.44	720.60

5. Income Generating Activities

Rs. 100 - 500	81 (71.68)	50 (78.12)	12 (52.17)	143 (71.50)
Rs. 501 - 1000	4 (3.53)	3 (4.68)	6 (26.08)	13 (6.50)
Rs. 1001 - 1500	4 (3.53)	1 (1.56)	2 (8.69)	7 (3.50)
Rs. 1501 - 2000	4 (3.53)	2 (3.12)	-	6 (3.00)
Rs. 2001 - 2500	-	1 (1.56)	-	1 (0.5)
Mean Income	310.11	518.26	477.27	435.21
S.D.	246.52	474.52	398.59	373.21

6. Income from women's gainful employment.

Rs. 200 - 400	2 (1.76)	2 (3.12)	3 (13.04)	5 (2.50)
Rs. 401 - 600	5 (4.42)	9 (14.06)	3 (13.04)	15 (7.50)
Rs. 601 - 800	2 (1.76)	6 (9.37)	-	8 (4.00)
Mean Income	305.69	256.92	138.33	233.64
S.D.	238.05	204.75	53.07	165.29

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Amount of money earned from different sources differ in the three land holding groups. All 200 respondents of three land holding groups, were not earning money from all the sources.

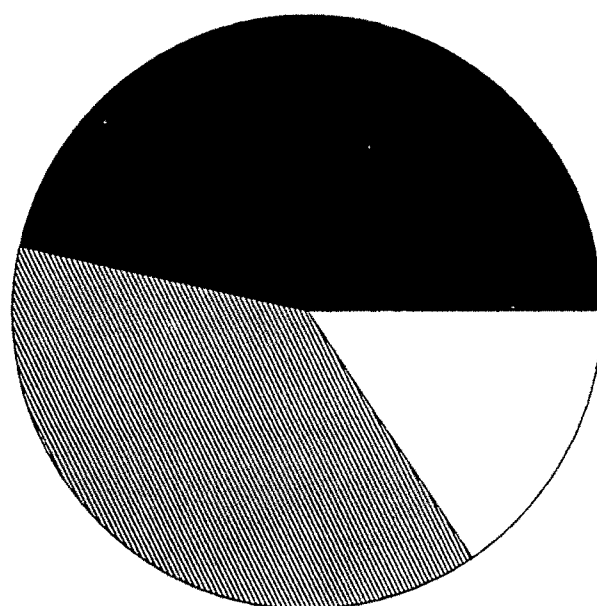
- * The mean money earned from the dairy/poultry was Rs.580.86. In SLH group 85.84 per cent families earned money from the dairy and poultry.
- * The mean amount of Rs. 493.83 was earned from the farming. All families belonged to LLH group earned money from farming.
- * The mean amount of money earned from the service was Rs. 1146.79. Nearly 65 per cent families belonging to MLH group earned money from service.
- * From the business mean amount of Rs. 879.79 was earned by the families. The source of income of 28.12 per cent families of MLH group was business whereas none of the families of LLH group were involved in business.
- * The mean amount of Rs. 435.21 was earned from income generating activities. Respondents' contribution of money to the family income through income generating activities was slightly more in MLH group. Majority of the respondents were involved in income generating activities like growing of vegetables, fruits, processing of cinnamon and bay leaves and bee-keeping. There were 14 per cent respondents gainfully employed.

Table : 9 Income of the Respondents' Family :

Family Income (in Rupees)	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)	LLH (N=23)	TOTAL (N=200)
Low income (upto 1700)	84 (74.33)	6 (9.37)	3 (13.04)	93 (46.50)
Medium income (1701-4200)	25 (22.12)	46 (71.87)	5 (21.73)	76 (38.00)
Medium-high income (4201-8400)	4 (3.54)	12 (18.75)	15 (65.21)	31 (15.50)
Mean income	2362.95	2417.90	2467.91	2416.25
S.D.	1795.62	1741.39	1550.90	1696.00

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Figure 6
The distribution of families by their
income.



Key

- 46.5 % Low income group
- ▨ 38 % Medium income group
- 15.5 % Medium high income group

Out of them very few respondents of SLH group were gainfully employed, whereas 26.56 per cent respondents of MLH group were gainfully employed.

Family income

Family income ranges were made according to the (Taxation Inquiry Committee). From the annual income of the families monthly income was computed. About 46.50 per cent families had income between Rs. 960 and Rs. 1700; 38 per cent families had income between Rs. 1701 and Rs. 4200, and 15.50 per cent families belonged to the income range of Rs. 4201 to Rs. 8200. (Table 9)

II Personal characteristics of the respondents

Age, marital status, caste, education and employment status of the respondents were examined (Table, 8).

Age : Age of the respondents ranged from 18-70 years. Most of the respondents belonged to the younger age group. The mean age of the sample was 37.14 years. There was not much variation in the mean age of the respondents of the three land holding groups.

Woman head of the family

On the whole as earlier mentioned there were 13.50 per cent women heading the families. More respondents heading the families were found in MLH group i.e., 20.31 per cent and only 9.73 per cent were found in SLH group.

Table 10 : Personal Characteristics of the Respondents.

Personal Characteristics	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)	LLH (N=23)	Total (N=200)
1. Age : Years				
18 - 30	47 (41.59)	19 (29.68)	7 (30.43)	73 (36.50)
31 - 40	38 (33.62)	18 (28.12)	11 (47.82)	67 (33.50)
41 - 50	15 (13.27)	22 (34.37)	3 (13.04)	40 (20.00)
51 - 60	13 (11.50)	5 (7.81)	2 (8.69)	20 (10.00)
Mean Age	37.29	38.23	35.91	37.14
S.D.	11.82	11.47	10.06	11.11
2. Women head of the Family				
	11 (9.73)	13 (20.31)	3 (13.04)	27 (13.50)
3. Caste				
Thakur	70 (61.94)	57 (89.06)	10 (43.47)	137 (68.50)
Brahmins	37 (32.74)	5 (7.81)	11 (47.82)	53 (26.50)
Schedule caste	6 (5.30)	2 (3.12)	2 (8.69)	10 (5.00)
4. Education Level				
Illiterate	58 (51.32)	30 (46.87)	9 (39.13)	97 (48.50)
Primary	28 (24.77)	18 (28.12)	5 (21.73)	51 (25.50)

(continued...)

(continued... Table 10)

Personal Characteristics.	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)	LLH (N=23)	Total (N=200)
Middle	24 (21.23)	9 (14.06)	3 (13.04)	36 (18.00)
Matric	2 (1.76)	3 (4.68)	3 (13.04)	8 (4.00)
Graduate	2 (1.76)	1 (1.56)	1 (4.34)	4 (2.00)
BA/MA	1 (0.88)	1 (1.56)	2 (8.69)	4 (2.00)
5. Employment status				
1. Self employed	71 (62.83)	51 (79.68)	8 (34.78)	130 (65.00)
2. Gainfully employed	9 (7.96)	13 (20.31)	6 (26.08)	28 (14.00)
(i) Government service.	2 (1.76)	5 (7.81)	3 (13.04)	10 (5.00)
(ii) Employment in the private sector.	7 (6.19)	6 (9.37)	3 (13.04)	16 (8.00)
(iii) Agricultural labourers.	- -	2 (3.12)	- -	2 (1.00)
3. Non Employed	42 (37.16)	- -	- -	42 (21.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Caste

There were only three castes in the villages. Sixty nine per cent of the respondents were thakurs, 26.50 per cent were Brahmins and 5 per cent were scheduled castes.

Education

Literacy level among rural women was very low. Majority of them were illiterate. But it was encouraging to note that among present sample 46.50 per cent of them were literate, out of which 25.50 per cent of the respondents had completed primary education, and 2 per cent of them were post graduates.

Employment status

Sixty five per cent respondents were found to be self-employed, and 14 per cent were gainfully employed outside the home. Among the gainfully employed majority were working in the HMT factory. They were working as sweepers or on assembly lines, three were clerks in the factory and only two women worked as teachers in the village Balwadi.

III. Assessment of the selected personality traits of the respondents

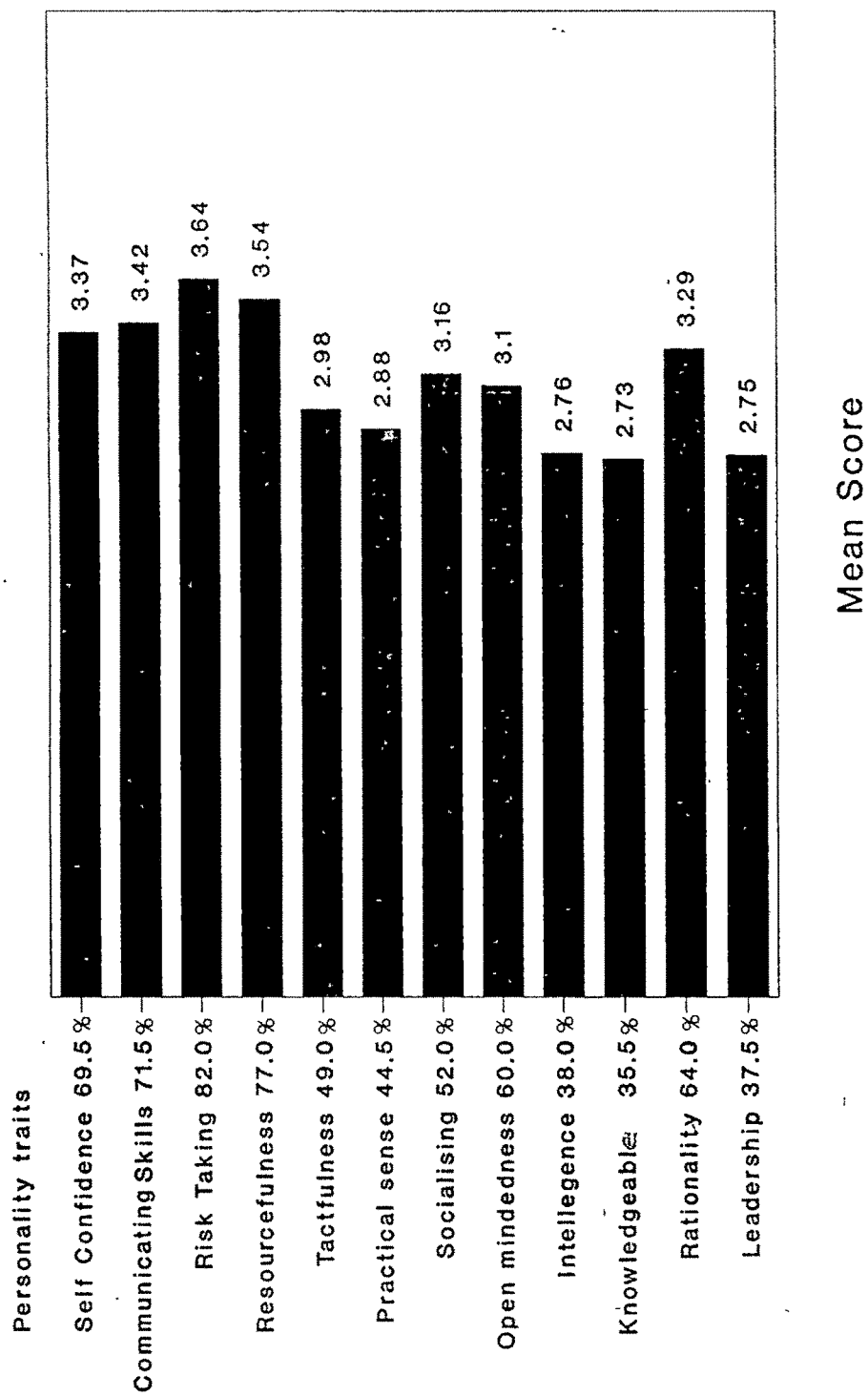
An attempt was made to examine the personality traits of the rural women, which may have influenced the women's extent of involvement in decision making. There were twelve traits which may singly or collectively reflect the

Table 11 : Assessment of Personality Traits Found Among Respondents

Personality Traits	Respondents				Total Score (N=200)	Mean Score
	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)	LLH (N=23)	Total (N=200)		
Self Confidence	74 (65.48)	47 (73.43)	18 (78.26)	139 (69.50)	674	3.37
Communicating Skills	76 (67.25)	48 (75.00)	19 (82.60)	143 (71.50)	684	3.42
Risk Taking	89 (78.76)	56 (87.50)	19 (82.60)	164 (82.00)	728	3.64
Resourcefulness	78 (69.02)	57 (89.06)	19 (82.60)	154 (77.00)	708	3.54
Tactfulness	51 (45.13)	35 (54.68)	12 (52.17)	98 (49.00)	596	2.98
Practical sense	47 (41.59)	32 (50.00)	16 (69.56)	89 (44.50)	576	2.88
Socialising	48 (42.47)	38 (59.37)	18 (78.26)	104 (52.00)	632	3.16
Open mindedness	64 (56.63)	40 (62.50)	16 (69.56)	120 (60.00)	640	3.10
Intelligence	41 (36.28)	26 (40.62)	9 (39.13)	76 (38.00)	552	2.76
Knowledgeability	39 (34.51)	21 (32.81)	11 (47.82)	71 (35.50)	546	2.73
Rationality	69 (61.06)	41 (64.06)	18 (78.26)	128 (64.00)	658	3.29
Leadership	42 (37.16)	23 (35.93)	10 (43.47)	75 (37.50)	550	2.75

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Figure 7
Personality traits profile



assertiveness of women which may help her to have a say in decision making process. (Fig. 7)

The traits were assessed by an instrument and mean scores were computed for each trait. On the whole 82 per cent respondents possessed risk taking trait (mean score= 3.64), 77 per cent respondents were resourceful (mean score=3.54), 71.50 per cent had good communicating skill (mean score=3.42), and 69.50 per cent respondents were confident (mean score=3.37). On the lean side were the traits like knowledge possessed by only 35.50 per cent respondents (mean score=2.73) intelligence by 38 per cent respondents (mean score= 2.76) and leadership quality possessed by only 37.50 per cent respondents (mean score=2.75).

IV Relational position and ordinal position of the respondents among other female members in the family

Relational position of the respondents in the family and their ordinal position are the two variables which were likely to influence the decision making involvement of the women specially in the joint families and the freedom a woman had in participating in family decision making. All respondents from the nuclear families were included as wives and respondents from the joint families were included as daughters-in-law. Daughters were those who were earners in the family and were looking after family. It was found that 21.50 per cent wives were eldest in the family (Table, 10).

Table 12 : Ordinal Position of the Respondents Among Other Female Members in the Family

Relational Position	Ordinal Position										Total (N=200)
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		LLH (N=23)		Total (N=200)				
	Eldest	Middle position	Youngest	Eldest	Middle position	Youngest	Eldest	Middle position	Youngest	Eldest	Middle position
Wife	18 (15.92)	7 (6.19)	9 (7.96)	23 (35.93)	13 (20.31)	7 (10.93)	2 (8.69)	1 (4.34)	5 (21.73)	43 (21.50)	21 (10.50)
Daughter	-	-	1 (0.88)	1 (1.56)	-	2 (3.12)	-	-	-	1 (0.5)	3 (1.5)
Daughter-in-law	20 (17.69)	18 (15.92)	23 (20.35)	21 (32.81)	7 (10.93)	8 (12.50)	5 (21.73)	4 (17.39)	5 (21.73)	46 (23.00)	29 (14.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Among daughters-in-law 23 per cent were eldest and 18 per cent were youngest in the family.

Thus the summary of background characteristics of the respondents reflects that the mean age of heads of the family was 51.98 years. There were 86.50 per cent male heads and 13.50 per cent female heads of the families. The mean age of the respondents was found to be 37.14 years. Most of the respondents belonged to young group. The educational level of male head of the family showed an increase with an increase in the size of land holding.

About 54.50 per cent male head of the family were involved in agricultural work as a primary occupation but at the same time some of them were also working as daily wage labourers. This was their secondary occupation. A little less than 40 per cent were in business and government service. Whereas all women heads worked on farms. The joint family type was predominant in the present group, and the mean size of the family was 6.43 members in the family. Sixty five per cent respondents were found to be self-employed and 14 were gainfully employed.

Most of the respondents worked with their family members and/or with servants in the field, but in LLH groups 4.34 per cent respondents took help of the servants, specially during sowing and harvesting time.

Source of income of 85.84 per cent families of SLH group was dairy/poultry, of LLH group farming and of 65 per cent MLH group service. Income from business was earned by 28.12 per cent families of MLH group, from gainful employment by 26.50 per cent and more respondent of MLH group earned money from income generating activities.

. It was found that most prominent traits were risk taking, resourcefulness and communicating skill which were possessed by 82 per cent, 77 per cent and 71.50 per cent respondents respectively.

It was found that 21.50 per cent wives were eldest in the families, 23 per cent daughters-in-law were eldest in the family and 18 per cent were youngest.

SECTION II

ROLE OF WOMEN IN DECISION MAKING

To find out the extent of involvement of women in decision process four key decision making areas were selected as these are basic to all families. Further under these four major areas, other sub areas were selected and studied.

I. Decision making role in management of households

Data regarding extent of participation of women in different areas of decisions related to household are studied.

i. DECISIONS RELATED TO FOOD MANAGEMENT

The extent of respondent's involvement in decisions related to food management of households, farm, livestock and income generating activities were analysed in terms of fully independent, partial involvement and no involvement. Partial involvement in decisions refer to respondents' joint involvement in group decisions.

Data regarding the extent of participation of respondents in major decisions related to food management showed that 41 per cent respondents took fully independent major decisions related to menu for special occasion and 39.00 per cent storage of raw food supplies (Table 13). Only one third respondents independently took decisions related to bulk purchase of food materials. In minor decisions 42 per

Table 13 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Household Decisions : Food Management

Decisions	Extent of Involvement							Total (N=200)		
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		ILH (N=23)					
	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil				
Major Decisions										
Planning of menu for different occasions.	48 (42.48)	53 (46.88)	28 (43.75)	8 (12.50)	11 (47.83)	4 (17.39)	82 (41.00)	94 (47.00)	24 (12.00)	
Bulk purchase of food products.	2 (1.77)	36 (31.85)	15 (23.44)	15 (23.43)	2 (8.69)	6 (26.08)	15 (65.21)	38 (19.00)	57 (28.50)	105 (52.50)
Storage of raw food supplies	52 (46.02)	48 (42.48)	34 (53.12)	12 (18.75)	8 (34.78)	10 (43.48)	5 (21.74)	78 (39.00)	92 (46.00)	30 (15.00)
Minor Decisions										
Planning of routine Menu	48 (42.48)	32 (28.29)	17 (26.56)	19 (29.68)	8 (34.78)	9 (39.13)	6 (26.09)	84 (42.00)	58 (29.00)	58 (29.00)
Preparing of food for sick persons	64 (56.64)	29 (25.56)	44 (68.75)	5 (7.81)	9 (39.13)	12 (52.17)	2 (8.69)	88 (44.00)	85 (42.50)	27 (13.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

cent respondents independently decided the routine menu and 44 per cent decided about what food should be prepared for the sick persons in the family.

Decisions related to bulk purchase of food products where more money was required to spend, the involvement of respondents of MLH group was more than that of respondents of SLH and LLH groups. The participation of respondents of all three group was high in other decisions like planning of menu for routine meals and special occasions, preparing of food for sick persons and storage of food material.

ii. DECISION RELATED TO CLOTHING MANAGEMENT

Role of respondents in decision making related to clothing management was also studied (Table 14). It was found that decision making related to family clothing was male dominated, specially the major decision related to type of clothing and place of purchase or clothes for different occasions. Women had very little say in such decisions. But minor decisions related to care and repairs of clothing, were made by 13.50 per cent respondents independently. The involvement of 36 per cent and above respondents was partial.

Most of the decisions related to clothing for the family i.e. type of fabric to be purchased^{and} place of purchase were mostly taken by man only in all the three land holding groups. The involvement of respondents of MLH group in decision making was quite low, related to clothing for

Table 14 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Household Decisions : Clothing Management.

Decisions	Extent of Involvement								Total (N=200)		
	SLH (N=113)		MH (N=64)		LIH (N=23)		Fully Indep- endent	Fully Indep- endent			
	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil					
Major Decisions											
Types of clothing materials to be purchased for self.	20 (17.69)	33 (29.20)	60 (53.09)	5 (7.81)	54 (84.37)	3 (13.04)	7 (30.43)	13 (56.52)	28 (14.00)	45 (22.50)	127 (63.50)
Types of clothing materials to be purchased for the family	16 (14.16)	28 (61.08)	69 (61.06)	9 (14.06)	46 (71.87)	3 (13.04)	5 (21.74)	15 (65.22)	28 (14.00)	42 (21.00)	130 (65.00)
Place for the purchase of clothing materials for self and the family	19 (16.81)	41 (36.28)	53 (46.90)	5 (7.81)	55 (85.94)	3 (13.04)	5 (21.74)	15 (65.22)	27 (13.50)	50 (25.00)	123 (61.50)
Clothes for different occasions for self	15 (13.27)	26 (23.00)	72 (63.72)	7 (10.94)	46 (71.87)	7 (30.43)	5 (21.74)	11 (47.83)	27 (13.50)	44 (22.00)	129 (64.50)
Clothes for different occasions for the family members	15 (13.27)	44 (38.94)	54 (47.79)	9 (14.06)	52 (81.25)	3 (13.04)	3 (13.04)	17 (73.91)	27 (13.50)	50 (25.00)	123 (61.50)
Minor Decisions											
Detergent to be used for washing clothes	20 (17.69)	50 (44.24)	43 (38.05)	5 (7.81)	49 (76.56)	4 (17.39)	12 (52.17)	7 (30.43)	29 (14.50)	72 (36.00)	99 (49.50)
Seasonal care of clothes.	13 (11.50)	63 (55.75)	37 (32.74)	9 (14.06)	23 (35.94)	5 (21.73)	12 (52.17)	6 (26.07)	27 (13.50)	107 (53.50)	66 (33.00)
Renovation of clothes.	11 (9.73)	93 (82.30)	9 (7.96)	9 (14.06)	44 (68.75)	7 (30.43)	13 (56.52)	3 (13.04)	27 (13.50)	153 (75.50)	23 (11.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

different occasions than the respondents of SLH and LLH groups. But in some decisions related to care and maintenance of clothes, majority of the respondents in all three land holding groups were involved.

iii. DECISION RELATED TO MAINTENANCE OF HOUSE AND HOME
DECORATION OF HOME

The extent of participation of women in decisions related to house maintenance and decoration of home revealed that only 5.50 to 8 per cent respondents took independent decisions (Table 15). Most of the respondents were involved partially in major decisions related to additions to be made in the house, new installations to be made, and minor decisions relating to selection of furnishing materials, use and renovation of furnishings. Twenty two and 26.50 per cent of the respondents were partially involved in decision making regarding changes to be made in the construction of house, white washing and repairs respectively. Involvement in decision making among respondents of all three land holding groups was partial in major decisions like additions to be made in the house, new installation to be made, minor decisions like selection of furnishing materials and renovation of furnishings.

Table : 15 Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Households Decisions : Maintenance of House and Decoration of Home.

Decisions	Extent of Involvement											
	SIH (N=113)			MLH (N=64)			LIH (N=23)			Total (N=200)		
	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil
Maintenance of House												
Major Decisions												
White Washing and Repairs	5 (4.42)	30 (26.54)	78 (69.02)	4 (6.25)	23 (35.93)	37 (57.81)	2 (8.69)	-	21 (91.30)	11 (5.50)	53 (26.50)	136 (68.00)
Changes to be made in the construction of the house	5 (4.42)	7 (6.19)	101 (89.38)	6 (9.37)	29 (45.31)	39 (60.03)	3 (13.04)	7 (30.43)	13 (56.52)	14 (7.00)	43 (21.50)	143 (71.50)
Additions to be made in the house.	2 (1.76)	82 (72.56)	29 (25.66)	7 (10.93)	28 (43.75)	29 (45.31)	2 (8.69)	6 (26.08)	15 (65.21)	11 (5.50)	116 (58.00)	73 (36.50)
New installations and construction of store room etc	3 (2.65)	92 (81.41)	18 (15.92)	11 (17.18)	15 (23.43)	38 (59.37)	2 (8.69)	10 (43.47)	11 (47.82)	16 (8.00)	117 (58.50)	67 (33.50)
Decoration of Home												
Major Decisions												
Selection of furni- shing materials	6 (5.30)	62 (54.86)	45 (39.82)	6 (9.37)	32 (50.00)	26 (40.62)	4 (17.39)	10 (43.47)	9 (39.19)	16 (8.00)	104 (52.00)	80 (40.00)
Use of furnishing materials	4 (3.53)	85 (75.22)	24 (21.23)	9 (14.06)	23 (35.93)	32 (50.00)	3 (13.04)	15 (65.21)	5 (21.73)	16 (8.00)	123 (61.50)	61 (30.50)
Renovations furnishings	6 (5.30)	78 (69.02)	29 (25.66)	7 (10.93)	22 (34.37)	35 (54.62)	3 (13.04)	13 (56.52)	7 (30.43)	16 (8.00)	113 (56.50)	71 (35.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

iv. DECISIONS RELATED TO FAMILY EXPENDITURE

iv.a. Decisions on food expenditure

Decisions related to expenditure on food showed that only 15.50 per cent respondents took independent decisions related to amount of money to be spent monthly on food (Table 16). These respondents were women heads of family. Fifty two per cent respondents were not at all involved in decisions related to monthly expenditure on food.

The extent of involvement of respondents of SLH and MLH group was low in decision making related to spending of money on food. But it was high among the respondents of LLH group. Most of the respondents whose role in spending money was more, were women heads of the family.

iv.b. Decisions related to expenditure on clothing

The major decisions related to amount of money to be spent on clothing was concern of 28.50 per cent of the respondents. Most of these respondents were women heads of family and wives of migrant husbands.

It was observed that from all the land holding groups together, only 16.81 per cent of the respondents belonging to SLH group were in dependent to decide the amount of money to be spent on clothing.

Table 16 Extent Of Respondents' Involvement in Decisions Related to Household Expenditure

Decisions	Extent of Involvement						Total (N=200)					
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		LLH (N=23)							
	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent					
Major Decisions												
Money to be spent on food	9 (7.96)	38 (33.62)	66 (58.40)	13 (20.31)	22 (34.37)	29 (45.31)	9 (39.19)	5 (21.73)	9 (39.19)	31 (15.50)	65 (32.50)	104 (52.00)
Money to be spent on clothing	19 (16.81)	13 (11.50)	81 (71.68)	5 (7.81)	12 (18.75)	47 (73.47)	3 (13.04)	5 (21.73)	15 (65.21)	27 (13.50)	30 (15.00)	143 (71.50)
Money to be spent on extension of the house	6 (5.30)	18 (15.92)	89 (78.76)	5 (7.81)	19 (29.56)	40 (62.50)	4 (17.39)	7 (30.43)	12 (52.17)	15 (7.50)	40 (22.00)	141 (7.50)
Money to be spent on daily maintenance of the house	2 (1.76)	23 (20.35)	88 (77.87)	7 (14.93)	19 (29.68)	39 (60.93)	1 (4.34)	5 (21.73)	17 (73.91)	10 (5.00)	44 (22.00)	146 (73.00)
Money to be spent on furnishing of the house	4 (3.53)	17 (15.04)	92 (81.41)	7 (10.93)	6 (9.37)	51 (79.68)	-	16 (69.56)	7 (30.43)	11 (5.50)	39 (19.50)	156 (75.00)
Money to be spent on education of the children	2 (1.76)	21 (18.58)	90 (79.64)	4 (6.25)	14 (21.87)	46 (71.87)	6 (26.08)	7 (30.43)	10 (43.47)	12 (6.00)	42 (21.00)	146 (73.00)
Money to be spent on marriage	8 (7.07)	83 (73.45)	42 (37.16)	11 (17.18)	21 (32.81)	12 (18.75)	2 (8.69)	8 (34.78)	13 (56.52)	21 (10.50)	112 (56.00)	67 (33.50)

(continued...)

(continued...)

(continued.. Table 16)

	Extent of Involvement						Total (N=200)					
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		LLH (N=23)							
Decisions	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil				
Money to be spent on dowry	4 (3.53)	63 (55.75)	46 (40.70)	8 (12.50)	19 (29.68)	37 (57.81)	3 (13.04)	8 (34.78)	12 (52.17)	15 (7.50)	90 (45.00)	95 (47.5)
Money to be spent on social occasions	7 (6.19)	28 (24.77)	78 (69.02)	6 (9.37)	11 (17.18)	47 (73.43)	8 (34.78)	4 (17.39)	11 (47.82)	21 (10.50)	43 (21.50)	136 (68.00)
Money to be spent on religious ceremonies	8 (7.07)	37 (32.74)	68 (60.17)	6 (9.37)	11 (17.18)	47 (73.43)	1 (4.34)	4 (17.39)	18 (78.26)	15 (7.50)	52 (26.00)	133 (66.50)
Money to be spent for the care of children	7 (6.19)	55 (48.67)	51 (45.13)	3 (4.68)	38 (59.37)	23 (35.93)	2 (8.69)	14 (60.86)	7 (30.43)	12 (6.00)	107 (53.50)	81 (40.50)
Money to be spent on emergency situations	4 (3.53)	48 (42.74)	61 (53.98)	6 (9.37)	37 (57.81)	21 (32.81)	3 (13.04)	8 (34.78)	12 (52.17)	13 (6.50)	93 (46.50)	94 (47.00)
Money to be spent on medicines	3 (2.65)	16 (14.15)	94 (83.18)	11 (17.18)	20 (31.25)	33 (51.56)	6 (26.08)	10 (43.47)	7 (30.43)	20 (10.00)	46 (23.00)	134 (67.00)
Money to be spent on maintaining of hygienic conditions	4 (3.53)	18 (15.92)	91 (80.53)	3 (4.68)	18 (28.12)	43 (67.18)	6 (26.08)	8 (34.78)	9 (39.19)	13 (5.50)	44 (22.00)	143 (66.50)
Money to be spent on recreation	2 (1.76)	16 (14.15)	95 (84.07)	7 (10.93)	29 (45.31)	28 (43.73)	6 (26.08)	6 (26.08)	11 (47.82)	15 (7.50)	51 (25.50)	134 (67.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages.

iv.c. Decisions related to expenditure on maintenance of house and home decoration

Major decisions related to the money to be spent on the extension of the house, daily maintenance of the house and on furnishings of the house were taken by only 7.50 per cent of the respondents independently and 22 per cent partially.

iv.d. Decisions related to Expenditure on education

The table 16 shows that 73 per cent of the respondents had no involvement in the major decisions related to the amount of money spent on education of the children. Twenty one per cent respondents were partially involved. Only 6 per cent of the respondents who were heads of the family decided independently. The trend was almost similar among respondents of all three land holding groups.

iv.e. Decision related to expenditure on marriage

All money centered major decisions related to marriage were taken jointly by respondents of all land holding groups, with other family members. only 10.50 per cent women heads of the families decided independently about expenditure to be made on marriage. Regarding money to be spent on dowry only 7.50 per cent widow respondents took independent decisions, whereas 45 per cent made joint decisions with their family members.

iv.f. Decisions related to expenditure on social and religious activities

The findings disclosed that in money centered decisions related to social obligations, only 10.50 per cent of the respondents took independent decisions. These respondents were heads or elderly women of the family. About 22 per cent respondents participated partially in group decisions on money matters for social activities. The percentage of respondents who had freedom to spend money on different religious ceremonies was only 7.50.

It was observed that among all land holding groups, the extent of respondents involvement in major decisions related to spending of money on social and religious activities was very low.

iv.g. Decisions related to expenditure on care of children

It was found that 53.50 per cent of the respondents partially involved in major decision making about the money to be spent on care and rearing of children with the family members. The above decision making trend was noticed among all three land holding groups.

iv.h. Decisions related to expenditure on health and hygiene

It was the male members of the family in majority of the cases who decided about the money to be spent on the health of the family members, like her money to be spent on medicines and for maintaining hygienic surroundings and only

7 to 10 per cent respondents decided independently. The trend was similar in case of respondents of all land holding groups.

iv.i. Decisions related to expenditure on recreation

The findings revealed that the respondents' involvement in decision making related to money to be spent on recreation was jointly in 25.50 per cent families. Only 7.50 per cent women heads of the family took this decision independently. The above mentioned pattern of decision making was also found in all the three land holding groups.

iv.j. Decisions related to expenditure on farm

The major decisions related to amount of money to be spent on the purchase of machines and small agricultural implements by respondents were totally nil among all land holding groups. It was found that less than 5.50 per cent of the respondents independently involved in major decision making about the money to be spent for purchasing of seeds and 24.50 per cent respondents were partially involved. Only 5.50 per cent women heads of the family independently took the decision. Decision related to wages to be paid to labourers was taken independently by 6.50 per cent respondents and 61.50 per cent took the decision partially. About 82 per cent respondents decided about expenditure of the additional farm income where more respondents of SLH and

Table 17 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Decisions Related to Expenditure on Farm.

Decisions	Extent of Involvement						Total (N=200)	
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		LLH (N=23)			
	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil
Major Decisions								
Money to be spent on purchase of machines	- -	113 (100.00)	- -	- (100.00)	- -	23 (100.00)	- -	- (100.00)
Money to be spent on purchase of implements	- -	113 (100.00)	- -	64 (100.00)	- -	23 (100.00)	- -	- (100.00)
Money to be spent on purchase of seeds	7 (6.19)	24 (21.23)	4 (6.25)	25 (39.06)	35 (54.68)	23 (100.00)	11 (5.50)	49 (24.50)
Spending additional farm income	11 (9.73)	102 (90.25)	7 (10.95)	54 (84.37)	3 (4.68)	7 (30.43)	22 (11.00)	163 (81.50)
Paying wages to labourers	3 (2.56)	69 (61.06)	7 (10.43)	44 (68.75)	13 (20.31)	10 (43.47)	13 (6.50)	123 (61.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

MLH were involved. Taking of farm credit was male dominated decision.

vi.k. Decisions related to expenditure on livestock and accounts keeping

Twenty per cent respondents independently took the major decision related to keeping of accounts of money earned from selling of milk and milk products (Table 18). They were deciding themselves for spending the money. Whereas 76.50 per cent respondents had partial control over the money earned. Respondents jointly decided, where to spend money. Only in this area, respondents had control over money. Thirty one per cent respondents of LLH group took the decision related to keeping of accounts of money earned by them independently, but few respondents were independently involved from SLH and MLH groups.

iv.l. Decisions related to expenditure on income generating activities and accounts keeping

On the whole only 17 per cent respondents took major decisions about keeping of accounts of money earned from the income generating activities. Only 2.50 per cent independently and 14.50 per cent jointly took these decision. Respondents' involvement in decisions related to keeping accounts of money earned and spending on income generating activities was low in all land holding groups.

Table 18 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Decisions Related to Expenditure on Income Generating Activities and Accounts Keeping of Money Earned from Livestock and Income Generating Activities

Decisions	Extent of Involvement						Total (N=200)					
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		LLH (N=23)							
	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent	Partial Nil	Fully inde- pendent					
Decisions												
Money to be spent to run income generating activity	-	-	113 (100.00)	2 (3.12)	15 (23.43)	47 (73.43)	-	11 (47.82)	12 (52.17)	2 (1.00)	26 (13.00)	172 (86.00)
Account Keeping												
Keeping accounts of money earned from milk	16 (14.15)	90 (79.64)	7 (6.19)	17 (26.56)	47 (73.43)	-	7 (30.43)	16 (69.56)	-	40 (20.00)	153 (76.50)	7 (3.50)
Keeping accounts of money earned form income generating activities	3 (1.5)	5 (2.5)	84 (74.33)	2 (3.12)	24 (37.50)	59 (92.18)	-	-	23 (100.00)	5 (2.50)	29 (14.50)	166 (83.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

V. DECISIONS RELATED TO SAVING, INVESTMENT AND CREDIT**v.a. Savings decisions**

The independent decisions taken by respondents related to savings, investment and credit were just 2 to 7 per cent (Table 19). Forty nine per cent respondents were not at all involved in decisions related to the amount of money to be saved. Only 6.50 per cent respondents were able to take few decisions related to savings because they were women heads of family.

Decisions related to insurance policy, purchase of National Saving Certificates and mode of saving were taken mainly by the male members. Only 7 per cent women who were heads of the family decided independently and 38.50 to 49 per cent were consulted only. Also 39 per cent respondents were consulted about the amount of money to be kept in post office saving, where as only 6.50 per cent respondents decided alone. They were women heads of the family or those women whose husbands migrated out of the village.

v.b. Investment decisions

Major decisions related to investment were taken independently by only 2 per cent of the respondents. Decisions regarding buying of land, buying of house were decided by majority of the male members and in this respondents did not play any role. Only 28.50 to 38 per cent respondents were consulted when the decisions were made. It

Table 19 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Household Decisions : Saving Investment and Credit

Decisions	Extent of Involvement								Total (N=200)		
	SLH (N=113)		MH (N=64)		ILH (N=23)		Fully Indep- endent				
	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil		Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	
Saving Major Decisions											
Amount of money to save for the future	5 (4.42)	60 (53.09)	48 (42.47)	6 (9.37)	26 (40.62)	32 (50.00)	2 (8.69)	3 (13.04)	18 (78.26)	89 (44.50)	98 (49.00)
Purchase of insurance policy	5 (4.42)	53 (46.90)	55 (48.67)	5 (7.81)	20 (31.25)	39 (60.93)	3 (13.04)	4 (17.39)	16 (69.56)	77 (38.50)	110 (55.00)
Purchase of National Saving Certificates	2 (1.76)	72 (63.71)	39 (34.51)	8 (12.50)	23 (35.93)	33 (51.56)	3 (13.04)	4 (17.39)	16 (69.56)	99 (49.50)	88 (44.00)
Investing in Fixed deposits	5 (4.42)	57 (50.44)	51 (45.13)	7 (10.93)	21 (32.81)	36 (56.25)	1 (4.34)	6 (26.08)	16 (69.56)	84 (42.00)	103 (51.50)
Deposits in post offices	2 (1.76)	49 (43.36)	62 (54.86)	8 (12.50)	21 (32.81)	35 (54.68)	3 (13.04)	8 (34.78)	12 (52.17)	78 (39.00)	109 (54.50)
Investment Major Decisions											
Buying of land	2 (1.76)	23 (20.35)	88 (77.87)	2 (3.12)	26 (40.62)	36 (56.25)	-	7 (30.43)	16 (69.56)	56 (28.00)	140 (70.00)
Buying of house	1 (0.88)	27 (23.89)	85 (75.22)	2 (3.12)	34 (53.12)	28 (43.75)	1 (4.34)	9 (39.19)	13 (56.52)	70 (35.00)	126 (63.00)
Buying of durable goods for the family and farm	1 (0.88)	33 (29.20)	79 (69.91)	1 (1.56)	31 (48.43)	32 (50.00)	2 (8.69)	11 (47.82)	10 (43.47)	75 (37.50)	121 (60.50)

(continued....)

(continued.... Table 19)

Decisions	Extent of Involvement							Total (N=200)	
	SLH (N=113)		MH (N=64)		LIH (N=23)		Fully Indep- endent		
	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil			
Credit Major Decisions									
Taking of farm credit	-	-	113 (100)	-	64 (100)	-	23 (100)	-	200 (100)
Amount of credit to be taken	-	3 (2.65)	110 (97.34)	5 (7.81)	28 (43.75)	31 (48.43)	2 (8.69)	13 (56.52)	44 (22.00)
	-							7 (3.50)	149 (74.50)
Purpose for which credit is required	-	5 (4.42)	108 (95.57)	2 (3.12)	35 (54.68)	27 (42.18)	2 (8.69)	8 (34.78)	48 (24.00)
	-							4 (2.00)	148 (74.00)
How to repay the amount	-	7 (6.19)	106 (93.80)	1 (1.56)	12 (18.75)	51 (79.68)	-	7 (30.43)	26 (13.00)
	-							16 (69.56)	173 (86.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

was observed that 61 per cent of the respondents were not at all involved when decisions related to purchase of durable goods for household were taken. Only 37.50 per cent respondents were partially involved.

v.c. Taking credit

Decisions in credit matters comprised of the amount and purpose of borrowed money to be repaid and mode of repayment of the amount borrowed. Involvement of respondents indicated that over 74 per cent respondents were not at all involved in above decisions, only between 13 per cent and 24.50 per cent were just consulted when these decisions were made by the male members of the family, taking of farm credit was fully male dominated decision. Only 2 to 3.50 per cent women heads of the family made independent decisions related to the amount to be borrowed, purpose for borrowing and mode of payment.

Thus the extent of participation of respondents belonging to SLH, MLH and LLH groups was found to be very low as far as decisions related to saving, investment and credit were concerned. Very few who were women heads of the family took some decisions related to saving, investment and credit.

vi. DECISIONS RELATED TO EDUCATION

This part includes such decisions as whether son or both son and daughter should be given education, level of

Table 20 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Household Decisions : Education and Occupation

Decisions	Extent of Involvement										Total (N=200)	
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		LIH (N=23)		Total					
	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent			
Educational Decisions												
Major Decisions												
Education of son.	2 (1.76)	28 (24.77)	83 (73.45)	4 (6.25)	36 (56.25)	24 (37.50)	6 (26.08)	7 (30.43)	10 (43.47)	12 (6.00)	71 (35.50)	117 (58.50)
Education of daughter	2 (1.76)	19 (16.81)	92 (81.41)	4 (6.25)	37 (57.81)	23 (35.93)	6 (26.08)	7 (30.43)	10 (43.47)	12 (6.00)	63 (31.50)	125 (62.50)
Selection of school for children.	2 (1.76)	22 (19.46)	89 (78.76)	4 (6.25)	42 (65.62)	18 (28.12)	6 (26.08)	7 (30.43)	10 (43.47)	12 (6.00)	71 (35.50)	117 (58.50)
Education of female adults through literacy programmes	2 (1.76)	23 (20.35)	88 (77.87)	4 (6.25)	12 (18.75)	48 (75.00)	6 (26.08)	1 (4.34)	16 (69.56)	12 (6.00)	36 (18.00)	152 (76.00)
Education of male adults through literacy programmes	-	19 (16.81)	94 (83.18)	-	9 (14.06)	55 (85.93)	-	2 (8.69)	21 (91.30)	-	30 (15.00)	170 (85.00)

(continued...)

(continued... Table 20)

Decisions	Extent of Involvement							Total (N=200)		
	SLH (N=113)		MH (N=64)		ILH (N=23)					
	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent			
Occupational Decisions										
Major Decisions										
Occupation of son.	2 (1.76)	39 (34.51)	72 (63.71)	5 (7.81)	19 (29.68)	40 (62.50)	5 (21.73)	12 (6.00)	63 (31.50)	125 (62.50)
Occupation of daughter	2 (1.76)	38 (33.62)	73 (64.60)	5 (7.81)	22 (34.37)	37 (57.81)	5 (21.73)	12 (6.00)	65 (32.50)	123 (61.50)
Occupation of the women in the family	5 (4.42)	30 (26.54)	78 (69.02)	5 (7.81)	27 (42.18)	32 (50.00)	3 (13.04)	13 (6.50)	63 (31.50)	124 (62.00)
Place of work for the women.	-	35 (30.97)	78 (69.02)	5 (7.81)	32 (50.00)	27 (42.18)	2 (8.69)	7 (3.50)	73 (36.50)	120 (60.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

education, selection of school and so on (Table 20). The respondents were involved mainly in major decisions regarding educational level of son and daughter. About the school there was hardly any choice as very few schools were found in the villages.

Regarding the extent of participation of respondents in deciding about the educational level of both sexes, it was found that 58.50 to 62.50 per cent had no involvement at all in decision making, followed by about 31.50 to 35.50 per cent who were partially involved. Only 6 per cent respondents completely decided at their own level.

Since some of the respondents were illiterate they had no idea of good schools for their children. Further, very few schools were there in the villages. About fifty nine per cent respondents did not participate in this decision, as they had no choice of schools for their children.

In some of the villages literacy programmes were run by the government agencies, private groups or by extension workers, for both female and male adults. It was found that 76 per cent of the respondents had no say in deciding about joining the literacy programmes, and had to depend on the decisions taken by husbands and elders in the family.

vii. DECISIONS RELATED TO OCCUPATION

The extent of participation of respondents in major decisions about sending their son and daughter for job, their

own job and place of their work revealed that, about 62.50 per cent of them did not participate in such decisions. The decision was taken by the husbands or elderly male members in the family. Only 31.50 to 36.50 per cent respondents were partially involved. Therefore on the whole respondent's involvement in major decisions related to the education and occupation of their children was found to be below 36 per cent.

The extent of involvement of respondents in the education and occupation of the children of the families of different land holding groups was compared. It was found that the extent of involvement of respondents in decisions like education of female and male adults through literacy programs and occupation of son decreased with the increase in size of land holding. But in other decisions the involvement of MLH group was low than SLH and LLH groups.

viii. DECISIONS RELATED TO MARRIAGE OF THE CHILDREN

Decisions in this regard comprised of the respondents involvement in selection of bride and bridegroom arrangement for social and ritualistic occasions and expenditure on it (Table 21). First and foremost major decision which parents had to take was about the selection of bride and bridegroom. It was found that only 11 per cent respondents took independent decisions. About 51.50 per cent families took this decision jointly where both husband and wife were involved.

Table 21 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Household Decisions : Marriage of Children.

Decisions	Extent of Involvement						Total (N=200)					
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		LLH (N=23)							
	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent					
Major Decisions												
Selection of bride/ groom for sons/ daughter	8 (7.07)	58 (51.32)	47 (41.59)	11 (17.18)	37 (57.81)	16 (25.00)	3 (13.04)	8 (34.78)	12 (52.17)	22 (11.00)	103 (51.50)	75 (37.50)
Giving dowry	8 (7.07)	62 (54.86)	43 (38.05)	11 (17.18)	42 (65.62)	11 (17.18)	3 (13.04)	5 (21.73)	15 (65.21)	22 (11.00)	109 (54.50)	69 (34.50)
Taking of dowry.	8 (7.07)	77 (68.14)	28 (24.77)	11 (17.18)	35 (54.68)	18 (28.12)	2 (8.69)	9 (39.13)	12 (52.17)	21 (10.50)	121 (60.50)	58 (29.00)
Place of marriage.	5 (4.42)	62 (54.86)	46 (40.70)	14 (21.87)	17 (26.56)	33 (51.56)	3 (13.04)	8 (34.78)	12 (52.17)	22 (11.00)	87 (43.50)	91 (45.50)
Items to be given as dowry.	7 (6.19)	70 (61.94)	36 (31.85)	12 (18.75)	23 (35.93)	29 (45.31)	3 (13.04)	10 (43.47)	10 (43.47)	22 (11.00)	103 (51.50)	75 (37.50)
Minor Decisions												
Simple marriage or with pomp and show.	8 (7.07)	59 (52.21)	46 (40.70)	13 (20.31)	16 (25.00)	35 (54.68)	2 (8.69)	11 (47.82)	10 (43.47)	23 (11.50)	85 (42.50)	92 (46.00)
Social rituals, related to marriage.	5 (4.42)	104 (92.03)	4 (3.53)	14 (21.87)	43 (67.18)	7 (10.93)	3 (13.04)	8 (34.78)	12 (52.17)	22 (11.00)	155 (77.50)	23 (11.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

In some minor decisions like the type of marriage the family members would like to perform, about 43 per cent of the respondents decided in consultation with their family members, whereas 11.50 per cent respondents who were widows and heads of the family had to decide themselves about the type of marriage to be performed. About selection of place of marriage 45.50 per cent male members of the family generally decided, but 43.50 per cent respondents decided along with family members and 11 per cent decided alone. The decisions made regarding dowry to be given to the daughters at the time of marriage revealed that, 54.50 per cent of the respondents were partially involved and only 11 per cent took final decisions. These respondents were widows or heads of the family. It was observed that participation of middle and youngest daughter-in-law was very low in such decisions in the family.

On the issues of taking of dowry, most of the family members jointly made decisions. About 61 per cent of families jointly decided about taking of dowry, whereas it was decided independently by 10.50 per cent of respondents. The items to be given as dowry was another important decision which to be taken in the family. Eleven per cent respondents who were head of the families took this decision independently, whereas 51.50 per cent decided about it with members of the family.

Table 22 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Household Decisions : Social and Religious.

Decisions	Extent of Involvement						Total (N=200)					
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		LLH (N=23)							
	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent	Partial Nil	Fully Indep- endent					
Social obligations												
Major Decisions												
Type of gifts to be purchased	8 (7.07)	44 (38.93)	61 (53.98)	7 (10.93)	19 (29.68)	38 (59.37)	7 (30.43)	3 (13.04)	13 (56.52)	22 (11.00)	66 (33.00)	112* (56.00)
Minor Decisions												
Arranging social activities at home,	8 (7.07)	76 (67.25)	29 (25.66)	8 (12.50)	28 (43.75)	28 (43.75)	3 (13.04)	8 (34.78)	12 (52.17)	19 (9.5)	112 (56.00)	69 (34.50)
Religious ceremonies												
Major Decisions												
Prayers and worships	7 (6.19)	106 (93.80)	-	7 (10.93)	57 (89.06)	-	8 (34.78)	15 (65.21)	-	22 (11.00)	178 (89.00)	-
Rituals for childrens.	7 (6.19)	106 (93.80)	-	8 (12.50)	56 (87.50)	-	8 (34.78)	15 (65.21)	-	23 (11.50)	177 (88.50)	-
Minor Decisions												
Participation in religious activities outside home.	7 (6.19)	98 (86.72)	8 (7.07)	8 (12.50)	49 (76.56)	7 (10.93)	7 (30.43)	14 (60.86)	2 (8.69)	22 (11.00)	161 (80.50)	17 (8.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Majority of the respondents of LLH group decided jointly on rituals to be performed during the marriage of their sons and daughters compared to SLH and MLH groups. The respondents who were fully responsible for their family had to take independent decisions related to social rituals, in all land holding groups.

ix. DECISIONS RELATED TO SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Arranging of social activities at home was the joint decision in 56 per cent families (Table 22).

In both major and minor decisions on religious matters, respondents played positive role. Fifty six to 90 per cent respondents actively participated in joint family decisions for organising about prayers and worships to be performed in the house, rituals to be carried out for children, and religious places to be visited. This trend was same in all land holding groups.

x. DECISIONS RELATED TO FAMILY SIZE AND CHILD CARE

It was encouraging to note that majority of the respondents had adopted family planning measures (Table 23). Many of them took major decisions themselves of getting themselves sterilized, without consulting their husbands and family members. They reported that they were the most affected persons in the family, if they did not adopt the family planning measures. With large size family, they had to work at home, farm, for the livestock, besides some of the

(continued.. Table 23)

Decisions	SLH (N=113)				Extent Of Involvement MLH (N=64)				ILH (N=23)		Total (N=200)	
	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial Nil
Child rearing Practices												
Major Decisions												
Medical facilities 8 to be provided to children.	63 (55.75)	42 (37.16)	5 (7.81)	48 (75.00)	11 (17.18)	5 (21.73)	13 (56.52)	18 (9.00)	124 (62.00)	58 (29.00)		
Selection of place for delivery.	70 (61.94)	35 (30.97)	2 (3.12)	23 (35.93)	39 (60.93)	5 (21.73)	13 (56.52)	15 (7.50)	98 (49.00)	87 (43.50)		
Minor Decisions												
Consultation during 7 pregnancy.	71 (62.83)	35 (30.97)	4 (6.25)	20 (31.25)	40 (62.50)	3 (13.00)	10 (43.47)	14 (7.00)	101 (50.50)	85 (42.50)		
Birth ceremonies. 7 (6.19)	81 (71.68)	25 (22.12)	4 (6.25)	18 (28.12)	42 (65.62)	4 (17.39)	2 (8.69)	15 (7.50)	101 (50.50)	84 (42.00)		

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

tedious jobs like fetching water, getting fire wood and fodder etc. and looking after the small children. All these conditions forced them to think seriously on this matter because they had no co-operation of their husbands and family members. Therefore, decisions related to number of children, completing family with male and female children were taken up by majority of the respondents. It was only in decisions regarding spacing between children where 43.50 per cent respondents had no say.

Some of the child rearing tasks like feeding the children, bathing and washing clothes were performed by respondents perhaps almost exclusively, but they were not allowed to take all decisions on their own, in matters related to care of the children. Fortynine to 62 per cent of the respondents participated partially in major decisions with the family members about medical facilities to be provided to children, consultation during pregnancy, selection of place for delivery and the arrangement to be made for the birth of the child.

Large number of the respondents of SLH, MLH and LLH groups were involved in decisions related to family size, and took independent decisions. But decisions related to child rearing were taken jointly among all land holding groups.

xi. DECISIONS RELATED TO HEALTH AND HYGIENE PROBLEMS

Participation of respondents in decision making regarding health of the family members, cleaning and

Table 24 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Household Decisions : Health and Hygiene Problems

Decisions	SLH (N=113)			MH (N=64)			LIH (N=23)			Total (N=200)	
	Fully Indepe- ndent	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Fully Indepe- ndent	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Fully Indepe- ndent	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil
Major Decisions											
Seasonal disinfection of house	4 (3.53)	10 (8.84)	99 (87.61)	2 (3.12)	8 (12.50)	54 (84.37)	5 (21.73)	9 (39.13)	9 (39.13)	27 (13.50)	162 (81.00)
Seasonal disinfection of surroundings	3 (2.65)	4 (3.53)	106 (93.80)	5 (7.81)	9 (14.06)	50 (78.12)	7 (30.43)	10 (43.47)	6 (26.08)	23 (11.50)	162 (81.00)
Immunization against diseases	4 (3.53)	16 (14.15)	93 (82.30)	10 (15.62)	18 (28.12)	36 (56.25)	4 (17.39)	9 (39.19)	10 (43.47)	43 (21.50)	139 (69.50)
Kinds of medical services to be provided	4 (3.53)	15 (13.27)	94 (83.18)	9 (14.06)	17 (26.56)	38 (59.37)	4 (17.39)	10 (43.47)	9 (39.13)	42 (21.00)	141 (70.50)
Hospitalization of an ill person.	4 (3.53)	17 (15.04)	92 (81.41)	11 (17.18)	17 (26.56)	36 (56.25)	7 (30.43)	10 (43.47)	6 (26.08)	44 (22.00)	134 (67.00)

(continued..)

(continued. Table 24)

Decisions	SLH (N=113)			MH (N=64)			LH (N=23)			Total (N=200)		
	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil
Minor Decisions												
Regular check up of 3 family members	4 (2.65)	15 (13.27)	95 (84.07)	10 (15.62)	17 (26.56)	37 (57.81)	5 (21.73)	12 (52.17)	6 (26.08)	18 (9.00)	44 (22.00)	138 (69.00)
Disinfection of house.	4 (3.53)	12 (10.61)	97 (85.84)	12 (8.75)	17 (26.56)	35 (54.68)	7 (30.43)	10 (43.47)	6 (26.08)	23 (11.50)	39 (19.50)	138 (69.00)
Weekly disinfection of surroundings	3 (2.65)	16 (14.15)	94 (83.18)	12 (18.75)	15 (23.43)	37 (57.81)	5 (21.73)	9 (39.13)	9 (39.13)	20 (10.00)	40 (20.00)	140 (70.00)
Monthly cleaning of House.	4 (3.53)	15 (13.27)	94 (83.18)	13 (20.31)	15 (23.43)	36 (56.25)	6 (26.08)	9 (39.13)	8 (34.78)	23 (11.50)	39 (19.50)	138 (69.00)
Monthly cleaning of surroundings	3 (2.65)	11 (9.73)	99 (87.61)	4 (6.25)	16 (25.00)	44 (68.75)	5 (21.73)	10 (43.47)	8 (34.76)	12 (6.00)	37 (18.50)	151 (75.50)
Types of disinfectant to be used (DDT, BHC, Flit Bagon etc.)	4 (3.53)	13 (11.50)	96 (84.95)	1 (1.56)	13 (20.31)	50 (78.12)	4 (17.34)	7 (30.43)	12 (52.17)	9 (4.50)	33 (16.50)	158 (79.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

disinfecting of house and surroundings was assessed (Table 24). The findings revealed that majority of the respondents were not involved in major and minor decisions related to health because they were not knowledgeable. It was the male members of the family in majority, who decided about regular check up, 69 per cent and/or hospitalization of family members, 67 per cent about kind of medical facilities to be given to sick and, about immunization of children against diseases by 69.50 per cent.

Regarding the decisions related to maintaining of hygienic conditions inside and outside the house and disinfecting of the house, it was observed that, this sense was badly lacking among rural women therefore no such decisions in majority of the cases were taken in the family. Only 4.50 to 11.50 per cent respondents were involved independently in decisions of cleaning and dusting of the house and smearing of the walls and floor with cowdung.

The extent of independent involvement of respondents of SLH and MLH groups was found to be low in most of the major and minor decisions related to health and hygiene in comparison with LLH group.

xii. DECISIONS RELATED TO RECREATION FOR THE FAMILY

There is not much scope for decision making related to recreational activities, because only few activities, such as visits to temple, and social visits were prevalent (Table 25). Decisions like going for movies, fairs, picnics, sight-

Table 25 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Household Decisions : Recreation for the Family.

Decisions	SLH (N=113)			MH (N=64)			LH (N=23)			Total (N=200)	
	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial Nil
Major Decisions											
Where to go during vacations	1 (0.88)	15 (13.27)	97 (85.84)	6 (9.37)	26 (40.62)	32 (50.00)	4 (17.39)	6 (26.08)	13 (56.52)	11 (5.50)	47 (23.50)
Minor Decisions											
Planning for the picnics.	2 (1.76)	13 (11.50)	98 (86.72)	3 (4.68)	25 (39.06)	36 (56.25)	3 (13.04)	6 (26.08)	14 (60.86)	8 (4.00)	44 (22.00)
Planning for the movies.	2 (1.76)	15 (13.27)	96 (84.95)	2 (3.12)	23 (35.93)	39 (60.93)	4 (17.39)	6 (26.08)	13 (56.52)	7 (3.50)	44 (22.00)
Planning to visit temples.	5 (4.42)	20 (17.69)	88 (77.87)	5 (7.81)	32 (50.00)	27 (42.18)	2 (8.69)	11 (47.82)	10 (43.47)	12 (6.00)	63 (31.50)
Planning for fair	4 (3.53)	19 (16.81)	90 (79.64)	6 (9.37)	31 (48.43)	27 (42.18)	3 (13.04)	11 (47.82)	9 (39.13)	13 (6.50)	61 (30.50)
Planning for sight seeing	7 (6.19)	3 (2.65)	103 (91.15)	2 (3.12)	-	62 (96.87)	10 (43.47)	5 (21.73)	8 (34.78)	19 (9.50)	9 (4.50)
Games for the children.	3 (2.65)	3 (2.65)	107 (94.69)	6 (9.37)	-	58 (90.62)	1 (4.34)	5 (21.73)	17 (73.91)	10 (5.00)	8 (4.00)
Games for the family.	5 (4.42)	3 (2.65)	105 (92.92)	4 (6.25)	-	60 (93.73)	9 (39.13)	5 (21.73)	9 (39.13)	18 (9.00)	8 (4.00)
Visits to relatives.	5 (4.42)	4 (3.53)	104 (92.03)	4 (6.25)	-	60 (93.73)	7 (30.43)	5 (21.73)	11 (47.82)	16 (8.00)	9 (4.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

seeing and going for vacations were not much prevalent. It was seen that 31.50[↓] respondents perⁿ cent participated partially in decisions related to visiting temples, and fairs. Only 4.50 per cent decided jointly about visit to relatives.

Respondents belonging to MLH group were involved more in joint decisions related to some of the selected recreational activities such as visits to temple, going to movies and fairs compared to SLH and LLH group.

To conclude decisions related to daily menu of food materials respondents' involvement was high independently but it was low in taking major decision on bulk purchase of food products.

Respondents' independent participation in major decisions related to types of clothing materials, place of purchase and clothes for different occasions was low. But the decisions related to care and renovation of clothes were more taken independently^{by} the respondents.

On the whole in major decisions related to, additions to be made in the house, new construction to be done, selections, use and renovation of furnishing above 52 per cent respondents participated partially.

To sum up it was found that above 50 per cent of the respondents of all three land holding groups were not involved in major decisions related to be money to^{be} spent on

clothing, house maintenance, savings, investment, taking of loans, marriage, social and religious activities.

The independent decision taken by the respondents related to expenditure on food, furnishing materials, education, care of children, on medicines^{and}, to maintain hygienic conditions inside the house and on recreation was low.

Involvement of respondents of all land holding in major decisions related to expenditure on purchase of farm machines/ implements was nil and only 5.50 per cent were involved in purchase of seeds. Decisions related to paying of wages to labourers was low among all land holding groups.

About 10 per cent respondents of LLH group could take the major decisions of spending additional farm income by themselves, but it was low among MLH and SLH group. Thirty one per cent respondents of LLH group kept the account independently of money earned by them, but few respondents were involved from SLH and MLH group. Respondents involvement in major decisions related to keeping account of money earned and spending of it to run the income generating activities was low in all land holding groups.

In major decisions related to saving for future and purchase of N.S.C., only 7 to 12 per cent respondents made independent decisions and 42 to 59 per cent partially participated. But their participation in decisions related to purchase of insurance policy, fixed deposits in banks and

post offices, purchase of land, house, durable goods, amount of credit to be taken and purpose of taking credit and its payment was low independently.

Only six per cent women heads of the family independently decided about level of education, selection of school and the occupation for their children. They could not decide by themselves about joining of the adult education programmes. About 15 to 18 per cent partially participated on the above mentioned decisions. Otherwise mostly men took the above discussed decisions.

On the whole almost all decisions related to marriage of children like selection of bride/groom, type of marriage to have and social rituals to be followed in the wedding were taken jointly with family members by the respondents. Only 10 to 11 per cent respondents took independent decisions being heads of the family. Almost all decisions related to social and religious activities were taken in group by the respondents.

Most of the respondents took independent decisions related to family size and jointly related to child care. Most of the respondents, were not involved in decisions related to health and hygiene problems. These decisions were mostly taken by men only.

As the recreational activities were not much prevalent in rural areas of hill region not more than 31.50 per cent respondents jointly took decisions in activities like going

for movies, fairs, temples, visits to relatives and sightseeing. In most cases it was male dominated decisions.

II. Decision making role in management of farm

Farm related activities were performed almost equally by men and women folk hence contribution of women in decisions related to this area was assessed.

The findings displayed that on the whole women had a positive role in decision making. However, men play the leading role in all major decisions related to farming (Table 26).

i. PURCHASE AND SALE OF LAND

Decisions regarding purchase and sale of land during their life time was made by farm families. The majority of the respondents were not involved when major decisions were taken related to purchase of land, purpose of purchase, size of land and buying and selling of surplus land. Those respondents who were involved independently or in group were either female heads of the family or eldest women of the family. (Table 26) The involvement of women in purchase and sale of land was very low. More than 80 per cent of the respondents women of all land holding groups had no say in decision.

Table 26 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Farm Decisions : Buying and Selling Activities.

Decisions	Extent of Involvement										TOTAL (N=200) Partial Nil
	SIH (N=113) Fully Indepe- ndent			MLH (N=64) Fully Indepe- ndent			LIH (N=23) Fully Indepe- ndent				
	3 (2.65)	10 (8.84)	100 (88.49)	1 (1.56)	11 (17.18)	52 (81.25)	4 (17.34)	11 (47.82)	8 (34.78)	32 (16.00)	
Purchase of land											160 (80.00)
Purpose for which land is to be purchased.	5 (4.42)	20 (17.69)	88 (77.87)	2 (3.12)	8 (12.50)	54 (84.37)	2 (8.69)	5 (21.75)	16 (69.56)	33 (16.50)	158 (78.00)
How much land to be purchased.	4 (3.53)	10 (8.84)	99 (87.61)	3 (4.68)	12 (18.75)	49 (76.56)	2 (8.69)	8 (34.78)	13 (56.52)	30 (15.00)	161 (80.50)
Purchase of machines	2 (1.76)	8 (7.07)	103 (91.15)	3 (4.68)	10 (15.62)	51 (79.68)	3 (13.04)	11 (47.82)	9 (39.19)	29 (14.50)	163 (81.50)
Types of machines to be purchased	-	-	113 (100.00)	-	-	64 (100.00)	-	-	23 (100.00)	-	200 (100.00)
Purchase of small agricultural implements.	3 (2.65)	38 (33.62)	72 (63.71)	3 (4.68)	23 (35.93)	38 (59.37)	-	7 (30.43)	16 (69.56)	68 (34.00)	126 (63.00)
Types of imple- ments to be purchased	5 (4.42)	-	108 (95.57)	2 (3.12)	3 (4.68)	59 (92.18)	2 (8.69)	2 (8.69)	19 (82.60)	5 (2.50)	186 (93.00)
Types of insecti- cides to be pur- chased	-	-	113 (100.00)	-	-	64 (100.00)	-	-	23 (100.00)	-	200 (100.00)

continued...

ii. PURCHASE OF FARM MACHINERY

Due to rapid development in the field of agriculture, farm families of other developed states are exposed to new areas in which decisions have to be made. But farmers of the selected hill region of Uttar Pradesh still used the same traditional methods of farming and therefore, the role of respondents in major decisions related to the purchase of machines was almost nil. About 19 per cent who were involved partially or independently were headof the farm families.

iii. PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

The respondents were given no importance specially when decisions were made regarding buying of agricultural implements and type of agricultural implements. Only 34 per cent respondents were partially involved in the decision making.

iv. PURCHASE OF FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES

None of the respondents were involved, when the major decisions regarding the type of insecticide to be purchased were made. In the decisions related to purchase of fertilizer 53 per cent respondents were involved partially.

v. SEEDS FOR SOWING

Generally farmers kept the seeds of their own crops for sowing, but sometimes they went to G.B. Pant University of

Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar to get the best quality of seeds. This decision was male dominated.

vi. MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

Increased production and transformed economy forced the farmers to decide about marketing of agricultural produce. The quantity of produce to be sold and the place for selling of the products were the two major decisions. It was found that above two decisions were male dominated. Only 25.50 per cent respondents were consulted and 11 per cent took independent decisions on above issues. Decisions regarding quantity and market where to sell the surplus farm products, were made jointly. In some families respondents took decisions independently also, where head of the family was a woman. Decisions in which investment of money was involved or technical knowledge was required like buying of implements, machines, seeds and pesticides respondents were excluded in all the three land holding groups. In majority of other decisions like selling of farm products, selection of market to sell the products, purchase of seeds and fertilizers, the respondents had no say when decisions were made. The percentage of respondents who took independent decisions was very small and these were women heads of the family.

Hiring of labourers on the farm was male dominated decisions. Only 11.50 per cent respondents made these decisions independently.

vii. DECISIONS RELATED TO INCREASE OF PRODUCTION AND
HARVESTING

Women's role in production of crops and harvesting is very important. In Haryana and Punjab they were equal partners with men in harvesting operations. As far as decisions to increase production, harvesting of crops and the yearly requirement of farm credit were concerned of women. They also play an active role. In nuclear families their role becomes specially important.

Analysis of the decision making pattern revealed that major decisions related to storage of farm produce and also to a certain extent, decisions related to type of grains to be retained for the household consumption, minor decisions related to diversification of agriculture and storing of animal fodder were female dominated (Table 27). Fifty eight per cent of respondents also actively participated in the group decisions of the family, related to the cropping pattern to be followed, 65 per cent about type of fertilizers to be used, 55 per cent about irrigation facilities to be provided in the fields, and 91 per cent related to threshing of crops manually. As discussed earlier, there were some major decisions related to measures to increase production and harvesting, Which required money and more technical knowhow. The involvement of respondents was observed to be nil in decisions such as level of crop production, frequency of spraying of pesticides. Installation of tubewell and hand pump were male dominated.

Table 27 : Extent of Respondents' involvement in Decisions related to farm : measures to Increase Production, Harvesting.

Decisions	Extent of Involvement								TOTAL (N=200)
	SLH (N=113)	MLH (N=64)		ILH (N=23)		Fully Indepe- ndent			
	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil
Major Decisions: Measures to increase production									
Level of crop production	-	-	113 (100.00)	-	-	64 (100.00)	-	23 (100.00)	200 (100.00)
Cropping pattern to be followed	24 (21.23)	64 (56.63)	25 (22.12)	-	43 (67.18)	21 (32.81)	5 (21.75)	9 (39.19)	29 (14.50)
Methods to be used for sowing	-	24 (21.23)	89 (78.76)	2 (3.12)	20 (31.25)	42 (65.52)	-	23 (100.00)	2 (1.00)
Using plant protection measures	5 (4.42)	35 (30.97)	73 (64.60)	9 (14.06)	34 (53.12)	21 (32.81)	2 (8.69)	9 (39.19)	16 (8.00)
Types of fertilizers to be used.	-	63 (55.75)	50 (44.54)	14 (21.87)	50 (78.12)	-	-	17 (73.91)	6 (26.08)
Irrigation facilities to be provided	21 (18.58)	76 (67.25)	16 (14.15)	7 (10.93)	24 (37.50)	33 (51.56)	-	11 (47.82)	12 (52.17)
Installation of hand pump.	-	-	113 (100.00)	-	-	64 (100.00)	-	-	23 (100.00)
Installation of tube well.	-	-	113 (100.00)	-	-	64 (100.00)	-	-	23 (100.00)
New implements to be used for production.	7 (6.19)	23 (20.35)	83 (73.45)	1 (1.56)	15 (23.43)	48 (75.00)	3 (13.04)	5 (21.75)	15 (65.21)

continued...

(continued... Table 27)

Decisions	Extent of Involvement								TOTAL (N=200)
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		LIH (N=23)		Fully Indepe- ndent		
	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial Nil		Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial Nil
Minor Decisions									
Frequency of spraying	-	113 (100.00)	-	64 (100.00)	-	23 (100.00)	-	200 (100.00)	
Diversification of Agriculture.	48 (42.47)	65 (57.52)	11 (17.18)	53 (82.81)	-	7 (30.43)	59 (29.50)	134 (67.00)	7 (3.50)
Major Decisions									
Harvesting									
Methods to be followed to harvest the crops.	11 (9.73)	12 (10.61)	7 (10.93)	6 (9.37)	51 (79.68)	23 (100.00)	18 (9.00)	18 (9.00)	164 (82.00)
Threshing of crops (Manually)	7 (6.19)	106 (93.80)	5 (7.81)	59 (92.18)	-	6 (26.08)	12 (6.00)	182 (91.00)	6 (3.00)
Storage of products	113 (100.00)	-	64 (100.00)	-	23 (100.00)	-	200 (100.00)	-	-
Type of grains to be retained for household consumption	58 (51.32)	55 (48.67)	17 (26.56)	47 (73.43)	-	23 (100.00)	75 (37.50)	125 (62.50)	-
Hiring of labourers	11 (9.73)	46 (40.70)	5 (7.81)	33 (51.56)	7 (30.43)	11 (47.12)	23 (11.50)	84 (42.00)	93 (46.50)
Minor Decisions									
Storing animal fodder	113 (100.00)	-	64 (100.00)	-	23 (100.00)	-	200 (100.00)	-	-

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Further, there were some decisions like methods to be used for sowing, plant protection measures to be used, new implements to be used for production and decisions related to the methods to follow in harvesting. In above decisions 21.50 to 39 per cent respondents were either independently or partially involved. Those who made such decisions independently were women heads of the family.

Participation of respondents in some of the above decisions was low because it required knowledge about each particular aspect which was lacking among rural women due to their lack of exposure to new knowledge and techniques. In areas such as use of plant protection measures and application of chemical fertilizers were requiring newer techniques. Thus more complex the farm operations, less was the participation of women in decision making due to their poor knowledge about new developments in agricultural technology.

Extent of independent decision making related to farm management on the whole was found to below 37 per cent among respondents of all the three land holding groups. In spite of the respondents working for long hours on the farm, when the question of decision making comes, they were excluded. Some of the decisions which were observed to have been taken by the respondents were on storage of farm produce and fodder, diversification of crops, threshing of crops manually and grains to be retained for household consumption.

The respondents of all three groups were partially involved in some joint decisions related to cropping pattern, use of fertilizers, irrigation facilities to be provided and threshing of crops. But in decisions like storing of farm products, animal fodder and type of food grains retained for the family's consumption they were fully involved. In those decisions in which money had to be invested respondents' involvement decreased.

The important inference that can be drawn from the foregoing analysis is that the respondent's involvement in decisions for buying and selling and other related farm activities was very low. It was specially low in the decisions like purchase of land, machines, agricultural implements, seeds, insecticides, pesticides, and fertilizers. Respondents' involvement in decisions related to marketing of farm products was also low. But decisions related to selling of surplus products was decided by 57.50 per cent respondents partially.

The respondents' participation in decisions related to cropping pattern, type of fertilizers to be used, irrigation facilities to be provided, diversification of agriculture, threshing of crops manually, and spending of additional farm income was partial. But decisions related to type of grain to be retained for household consumption, storage of products and storing of animal fodder were totally female dominated. None of the respondents were involved in decisions related to level of crop production, frequency of

spraying and taking of farm credits due to lack of confidence and knowledge. Men also decided on the installation of hand-pump and tubewells among all land holding groups.

III. Decision making role in management of livestock

Farm women play a significant role in animal husbandry. The area of dairy management has traditionally been the responsibility predominantly of females, which includes decisions like buying and selling of livestock, milk and milk products (Table 28).

i. DECISIONS RELATED TO PURCHASE AND SALE OF LIVESTOCK

The findings divulged that women of hill region had to cover long distances to fetch the fodder. They were dependent on forest as a source of fodder and never bought the fodder for the livestock. Therefore the question of decision making was not there. The families with large farm, cultivated fodder at their farms. About 30 per cent respondents were involved making regarding decision the area to be covered for cultivation of fodder and crop.

Regarding purchase and sale of livestock, the major decisions made were male dominated. The decisions for the purchase of livestock were made jointly in which 61 per cent respondents were involved, although the final say used to be of men only. Regarding decisions about number of livestock to be kept, 11 per cent respondents heading the family took independent decision and 32 per cent were involved in

Table 28 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Decisions Related to Livestock Management.

Decisions	Extent of Involvement								TOTAL (N=200)	
	SLH (N=113)	MH (N=64)			LIH (N=23)			Fully Indepe- ndent		Partial Nil
	Fully Indepe- ndent	Fully Indepe- ndent	Nil	Partial	Fully Indepe- ndent	Nil	Partial	Fully Indepe- ndent	Nil	Partial Nil
Buying and Selling Decisions										
Major Decisions										
Buying of livestock	5 (4.42)	92 (81.41)	16 (14.16)	3 (4.68)	20 (31.25)	41 (64.06)	3 (13.04)	10 (43.47)	10 (43.47)	11 (5.50)
										67 (33.50)
Number of livestock to be kept	5 (4.42)	32 (28.31)	76 (67.25)	17 (26.56)	18 (28.12)	29 (45.31)	-	14 (60.86)	9 (39.19)	22 (11.00)
										64 (32.00)
Selling of live- stock	7 (6.19)	20 (17.69)	86 (76.10)	11 (17.18)	16 (25.00)	37 (57.81)	4 (17.39)	7 (30.43)	12 (52.17)	22 (11.00)
										43 (21.50)
Care of livestock										
Major Decisions										
Cultivation of Fodder for livestock	-	30 (26.54)	83 (73.45)	2 (3.12)	18 (28.12)	44 (68.75)	-	11 (47.82)	12 (52.17)	2 (1.00)
										59 (29.50)
Medicines for the livestock	2 (1.76)	47 (41.59)	64 (56.63)	3 (4.68)	26 (40.62)	35 (54.68)	2 (8.69)	3 (13.04)	18 (78.26)	7 (3.50)
										76 (38.00)
Buying of fodder	-	-	113 (100.00)	-	-	64 (100.00)	-	-	23 (100.00)	-
										200 (100.00)

continued...

(continued... Table 28)

Decisions	Extent of Involvement										TOTAL (N=200)
	SLH (N=113)		MH (N=64)		LIH (N=23)		Fully Independent				
	Fully Independent	Partial	Nil	Fully Independent	Partial	Nil	Fully Independent	Partial	Nil	Fully Independent	
Minor Decisions											
Arranging of Special Food for livestock	75 (66.37)	38 (33.62)	-	-	30 (46.87)	34 (53.12)	-	8 (34.78)	15 (65.21)	76 (38.00)	49 (24.50)
Arrangement for feeding, bathing areas	-	30 (26.54)	83 (73.45)	-	7 (10.93)	57 (59.06)	-	2 (8.69)	21 (91.30)	39 (19.50)	161 (80.50)
Major Decisions											
Disposal of milk and milk products											
Selling of milk and milk products	8 (7.07)	20 (17.69)	85 (75.22)	10 (15.62)	19 (29.68)	35 (54.68)	5 (21.73)	4 (17.39)	14 (60.86)	43 (21.50)	134 (67.00)
Amount of milk for the consumption	56 (49.55)	57 (50.44)	-	32 (50.00)	32 (50.00)	-	4 (17.39)	18 (78.26)	1 (4.34)	107 (53.50)	1 (0.5)
Selection of place for selling milk	15 (13.27)	66 (58.40)	32 (28.31)	7 (10.93)	24 (37.50)	33 (51.56)	3 (13.04)	9 (39.19)	11 (47.82)	99 (49.50)	76 (38.00)
Deciding rate of selling milk and milk products	36 (31.85)	77 (68.14)	-	14 (21.87)	50 (78.12)	-	3 (13.04)	14 (60.86)	6 (26.08)	141 (70.50)	6 (3.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

partially decisions. But in decisions related to selling of livestock male members took decisions in majority of the families.

ii. CARE OF LIVESTOCK

Livestock play a vital role as a means of agricultural production, and as an important source of income in the rural households of Hill regions.

About 37.50 per cent respondents took decisions on what special feed to be given to livestock, and 38 per cent partially participated in joint decisions on this matter. Giving of medicines to livestock required knowledge in the area, therefore respondents' participation in this decision was low.

iii. DISPOSAL OF MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS

The findings revealed that the respondents involvement in decisions for disposal of milk and milk products was high. About 26.50 per cent respondents in the family decided about the rate of selling the milk independently and 49.50 per cent about the place of selling of milk. Decisions regarding the amount of milk to keep for the family's consumption was taken by 46 per cent respondents independently and 53.50 per cent partially with the family members.

Decisions related to the rate of selling the milk products was taken by all the respondents of SLH and MLH

groups, whereas it was low in case of LLH group. It was noted that majority of the respondents of SLH group were consulted when livestock were purchased, whereas the extent of consultation was low among MLH group.

To conclude the role of respondents in decisions related to livestock management. The findings revealed that the role played by respondents in decisions related to purchase of livestock was more but their role decreased in decisions related to selling of livestock. Their participation in decisions about care of livestock was high. The respondents' involvement in decisions such as amount of milk to be kept for consumption, place and rate of selling the milk was also high.

IV. Decision making role in management of income generating activities

Most of the respondents were involved in decisions concerning the income generating activities like beekeeping, sericulture, food preservation, stitching, ^{and} producing woollen articles. The women were expected to have held on these activities and were more expected to be involved in decisions too.

Women's involvement in income generating activities is much more significant than is widely acknowledged. Women of hills play an important role in growing of vegetables, fruits and flowers, in activities like applying of fertilizers, hoeing and watering the plants. But when the decisions were

Table 29 : Extent of Respondents' Involvement in Decisions Related to Income Generating Activities.

Decisions	Extent of Involvement										TOTAL (N=200)
	SLH (N=113)			MH (N=64)			LIH (N=23)				
	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	Partial	Nil	Fully Indepe- ndent	
To start the activity											
Major Decisions											
Starting of sub- diary occupation	3 (2.65)	27 (23.89)	83 (73.45)	4 (6.25)	25 (39.06)	35 (54.68)	-	11 (47.82)	12 (52.17)	8 (4.00)	62 (31.00)
Size of production	-	2 (1.76)	111 (98.23)	-	29 (45.31)	35 (54.68)	-	11 (47.82)	12 (52.17)	-	42 (21.00)
Acquisition of inputs.	-	2 (1.76)	11 (98.23)	-	29 (45.31)	35 (54.68)	-	11 (47.82)	12 (52.17)	-	42 (21.00)
Type of sub- diary occupation	3 (2.65)	-	110 (97.34)	7 (10.73)	-	57 (89.06)	-	7 (30.43)	16 (69.56)	10 (5.00)	7 (3.50)
Control of Inputs :											
Purchase of equip- ments required	-	2 (1.76)	111 (98.23)	-	29 (45.31)	35 (54.68)	-	7 (30.43)	16 (69.56)	-	38 (19.00)
Purchase of raw materials	-	30 (26.54)	83 (73.45)	-	18 (28.12)	46 (71.87)	-	11 (47.82)	12 (52.17)	-	48 (24.00)
quality of raw material required	-	2 (1.76)	111 (98.23)	-	13 (20.31)	51 (79.68)	-	11 (47.82)	12 (52.17)	-	26 (13.00)
Storing of raw materials	21 (18.58)	31 (27.43)	61 (53.98)	2 (3.12)	7 (10.93)	55 (85.93)	1 (4.34)	4 (17.39)	18 (78.20)	24 (12.00)	42 (21.00)
Storing of ready products.	-	55 (48.67)	58 (51.32)	-	29 (45.31)	35 (54.68)	-	11 (47.82)	12 (52.17)	-	95 (47.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

to be made, their involvement decreased, specially in growing of fruits, flowers and vegetables. But their involvement in decisions related to other activities like beekeeping, sericulture, food preservation, stitching and making of wool articles was partial..

i) TO START THE ACTIVITY

Only 4 per cent of the respondents decided the activities they should begin and 31 per cent decided in consultation with the group (Table 9). Decisions regarding what should be the size of production and ways and means to acquire the inputs were partially decided by 21 per cent respondents.

ii) CONTROL OF INPUTS

Decisions regarding control of inputs, purchase of equipment, purchase of raw materials, quality of raw materials required, were taken by 13 to 24 per cent of the respondents. Twelve per cent of the respondents independently decided about the method to store the raw material and 21 per cent decided jointly. In major decisions related to storing of ready products about 47.50 per cent respondents were involved.

It was observed that with the increase in size of the land holding more number of respondents were involved in group decisions. Respondents of MLH and LLH groups were more

involved in group decisions compared to SLH group except in decisions related to storage of raw materials.

On the whole the respondents extent of involvement in decision making related to income generating activities was low. Those decisions which were related to fruit, flower, and vegetable cultivation were taken by men only. The decisions regarding income generating activities in which respondents of all three groups were involved were mainly food preservation processing of cinnamon and bay leaf, beekeeping, sericulture, stitching and making of wool articles.

iii) SELLING OF PRODUCTS

In the foregoing pages it was reported that little less than one third of the respondents were involved in decisions related to activities like selling of products in the local market. Their involvement was nil in activities like selling of products at retail shops, distant markets, and deciding about selling price of products which was taken by men. With the increase in the size of the land holding more number of respondents were involved in group decisions.

V. Decision making profile of respondents in various areas

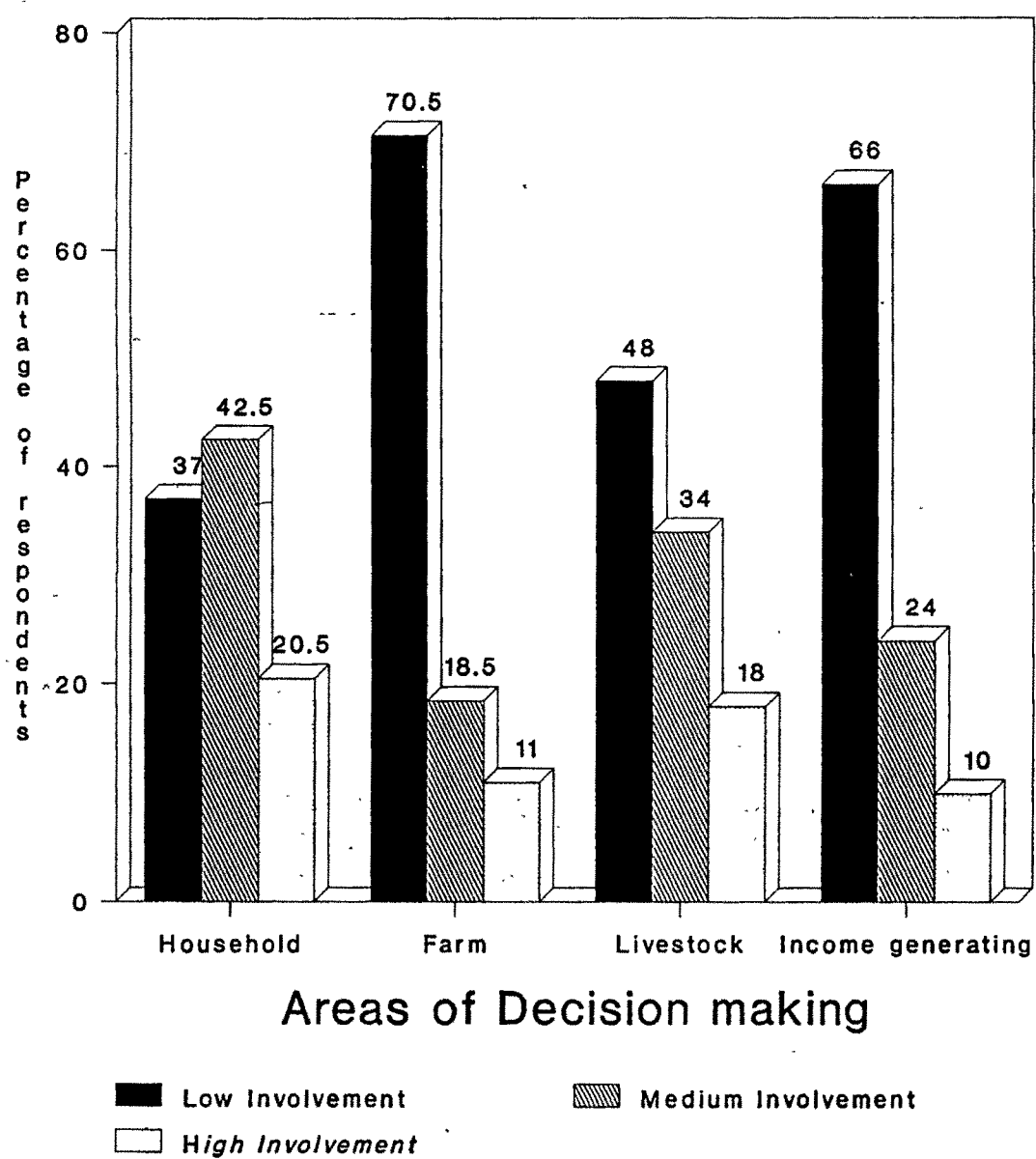
The decision making profile reflected that percentage involvement of respondents was moderate in household decisions. Percentage involvement of the respondents was low in farm, livestock decisions and decisions related to income

Table 31 : Decision Making Profile of Respondents Related to Various Aspects

Percentage Involvement	Household			Farm			Livestock			Income generating work			Total 200		
	SIH 113	MLH 64	LIH 23	Total 200	SIH 113	MLH 64	LIH 23	Total 200	SIH 113	MLH 64	LIH 23	Total 200			
Low	36 (31.85)	31 (48.43)	7 (30.43)	74 (37.00)	85 (75.22)	44 (68.75)	12 (52.17)	141 (70.50)	55 (48.67)	27 (42.18)	14 (60.86)	96 (48.00)	44 (68.75)	14 (60.86)	132 (66.00)
Medium	58 (51.32)	20 (31.25)	7 (30.43)	85 (42.50)	19 (16.81)	16 (25.00)	2 (8.69)	37 (18.50)	40 (35.39)	26 (40.62)	2 (8.69)	68 (34.00)	14 (21.87)	2 (8.69)	48 (24.00)
High	19 (16.81)	13 (20.31)	9 (39.13)	41 (20.50)	9 (7.96)	4 (6.25)	9 (39.13)	22 (11.00)	18 (15.92)	11 (17.18)	7 (30.43)	36 (18.00)	6 (9.37)	7 (30.43)	20 (10.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Figure 8
Decision making profile of the
Respondents



generating activities (Figure 8'). Moderate involvement of respondents of SLH group was found to be more in household decisions than the other two groups. But their percentage involvement was low in other three areas (Table 31). High involvement in all four areas was found more among respondents who were heads of the family or wives of migrant husbands.

SECTION - III

ROLE OF WOMEN IN DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

Women play a significant role in implementing decisions by carrying out various activities and this leads to the involvement of women at all stages of the decision process, (Majumdar 1975). Women's involvement in implementing decisions includes the extent of their carrying out of the activities, controlling and supervising in all four areas.

Sometimes activities are not properly undertaken if the decisions were made by others. The person who supervises the work may find it difficult to evaluate the work according to plan if he/she is not involved when decision was taken.

Decision implementation is also very important as decision making. If decisions are made properly but not implemented well, the outcome may not be good. Therefore while implementing the decisions one had to be very careful at all steps like initiating of activities, controlling and supervising of activities. Decision implementation requires mental activity but gets decidedly interlaced with non manual activity. If the decisions are implemented by others they must at least be communicated, as to what actions has to be taken.

I. Household activities

Recognition of the role played by the women in the home is essential for making development plans for the rural

women. It is therefore, necessary to know the type of activities women are engaged in, and/or participation of other females, males and servants in household activities.

I.a. INITIATION OF ACTIVITIES

1) **Buying activities :** This was a male dominated activity where very few respondents participated.

i. Buying of food materials

In hill areas due to location of markets at long distances majority of the purchases were done by men. Only 15.50 per cent of the respondents went for buying of food materials alone and 34.50 per cent respondents partially were not responsible for this task. In 50 per cent families, other members of the family brought the food materials.

ii. Buying of clothing

In the rural areas of hill regions under study, generally people did not go specially for shopping as reported by respondents but any time while returning from town they brought things required by the family. The task of buying clothes was equally shared by 36 per cent of men and women. Only 17.50 per cent respondents reported that they went for marketing themselves.

iii. Buying of durable goods

Women's participation in tasks of major expenses was found to be low. The activities related to money matters

Table : 32 . Extent of Respondents' Participation in Decision Implementation : Buying Activities

Activities	Participation											
	Wholly	SIH (N=113) Parti- ally	Nil	Wholly	MH (N=64) Parti- ally	Nil	Wholly	IIH (N=23) Parti- ally	Nil	Wholly	Total (N=200) Parti- ally	Nil
Initiation of Activities												
Buying of food materials	21 (18.58)	34 (30.08)	58 (51.32)	4 (6.25)	27 (42.15)	33 (51.56)	6 (26.08)	8 (34.78)	9 (39.13)	31 (15.50)	69 (34.50)	100 (50.00)
Buying of clothing for the family	16 (14.15)	39 (34.51)	58 (51.32)	14 (21.87)	24 (37.50)	26 (40.62)	5 (21.73)	9 (39.13)	9 (39.13)	35 (17.50)	72 (36.00)	93 (46.50)
Buying of gifts for different social and religious occasions	11 (9.73)	91 (80.53)	11 (9.73)	7 (10.93)	47 (73.43)	10 (15.62)	6 (26.08)	13 (56.52)	4 (17.39)	24 (12.00)	151 (75.50)	25 (12.50)
Buying of durable goods in the family	5 (4.42)	41 (36.28)	62 (54.86)	7 (10.93)	16 (25.00)	36 (56.25)	3 (13.04)	7 (30.43)	13 (56.52)	15 (7.50)	64 (32.00)	121 (60.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

involving more money were done by husbands alone or other male members. In some cases husband and wife jointly went for the purchasing of durable goods. Only 7.50 per cent of the respondents used to go to the city to buy durable goods like furniture and furnishings alone. Such women were either the eldest female members in the family or women heads of the family.

iv. Buying of gifts on social and religious occasions

In this study the findings disclosed that families brought gifts mainly on two occasions i.e., the naming ceremony (NaamKaran) of the child and at the marriage of the child. The gifts were bought with the mutual consent of husband, wife and other family members. In rural areas generally menfolk purchased the gifts. It was revealed that 75.50 per cent of respondents went with their husbands or other family members to buy the gifts like toys, clothes, bangles, jewelry to be presented on social and religious occasions.

2) **Performance of household chores**

Women were the prime initiators and performers of the household chores. Many household chores were independently performed by the women or with the help of other family members. (Plate, 1)



PLATE 1. WOMAN ENGAGED IN HOUSEHOLD
CHORES.



PLATE 2. WOMAN FETCHING WATER.

Table 33 : Extent of Respondents' Participation in Decision Implementation : Household Chores, Social and Religious Activities

Activities	Participation									
	Wholly	SLH (N=113) Parti- ally	Wholly	MH (N=64) Parti- ally	Nil	Wholly	LIH (N=23) Parti- ally	Wholly	TOTAL (N=200) Parti- ally	Nil
Initiation of Activities										
Household Chores										
Fetching of water	3 (2.65)	91 (80.53)	24 (37.50)	39 (60.93)	1 (1.56)	3 (13.04)	17 (73.91)	30 (15.00)	147 (73.50)	23 (11.50)
Collection of fire wood	68 (60.17)	45 (39.82)	53 (82.81)	11 (17.18)	-	16 (69.56)	7 (30.43)	137 (68.50)	63 (31.50)	-
Collection of fodder	76 (67.25)	37 (32.74)	44 (68.75)	20 (31.25)	-	20 (86.95)	3 (13.04)	140 (70.00)	60 (30.00)	-
Washing utensils and clothes	43 (38.05)	70 (61.14)	37 (57.81)	27 (42.18)	-	10 (43.47)	13 (56.52)	90 (45.00)	11 (55.00)	-
Keeping surroundings clean and hygienic	79 (69.91)	31 (27.43)	43 (67.18)	20 (31.25)	1 (1.56)	16 (69.56)	3 (13.04)	141 (70.50)	54 (27.00)	5 (2.5)
Cleaning of house and kitchen	91 (80.53)	22 (19.16)	47 (73.43)	17 (25.56)	-	13 (56.52)	10 (43.47)	151 (75.50)	49 (24.50)	-
Home decoration	64 (56.63)	34 (30.08)	40 (62.50)	16 (25.00)	8 (12.50)	14 (60.86)	7 (30.43)	118 (59.00)	57 (28.50)	25 (12.50)

(continued..)

(continued, Table 33)

Activities	Participation									
	Wholly	SIH (N=113) Parti- ally	Nil	Wholly	MIH (N=64) Parti- ally	Nil	Wholly	LIH (N=23) Parti- ally	Nil	TOTAL (N=200) Parti- ally
Stitching clothes	89 (78.76)	24 (21.23)	-	51 (79.68)	13 (20.31)	-	16 (69.56)	7 (30.43)	-	156 (78.00)
Care of children	76 (67.25)	37 (32.74)	-	57 (89.06)	7 (10.93)	-	20 (86.95)	3 (13.04)	-	153 (76.50)
Care of sick person	78 (69.02)	26 (23.00)	9 (7.96)	55 (85.93)	7 (10.93)	2 (3.12)	20 (86.95)	3 (13.04)	-	153 (76.50)
										36 (18.00)
										11 (55.00)
Social Activities										
Visit to relatives	18 (15.92)	41 (36.28)	54 (47.78)	22 (34.37)	12 (18.75)	30 (46.87)	2 (8.69)	4 (17.39)	17 (73.91)	42 (21.00)
										57 (28.50)
										101 (50.50)
Religious Activities										
Arranging religious activities at home	31 (27.43)	71 (62.83)	11 (9.73)	11 (17.18)	46 (71.87)	7 (10.93)	2 (8.69)	17 (73.91)	4 (17.39)	44 (22.00)
										134 (67.00)
										22 (11.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages



PLATE 3. WOMAN INVOLVED IN FETCHING FIREWOOD.



PLATE 4. FETCHING OF FODDER BY WOMAN.

i. Fetching of water

Water was the main problem in the rural areas of hill region under study. Water was fetched from the springs or streams. In any analysis of time disposition pattern of rural women, time devoted to fetch water forms an important component. Women had to walk long distance up and down the steep slopes of hills with the bucket of water on their heads (Plate,2). In many places it was observed that even the old women had to go two three times in a day to fetch water. About 88.50 per cent of the respondents were involved in this activity of which 15 per cent went alone and 73.50 per cent went with other family members to fetch the water from the distant places.

ii. Collection of wood for fuel

All the respondents were participated in collecting wood for cooking (Plate, 3). They had to go to forests of the hills to collect firewood. They spent lots of time and energy carrying heavy bundles of fire wood on their heads.

iii. Collection of fodder

This was again female dominated activity, 70 per cent respondents had to go alone twice a day to bring fodder from the forests after walking long distance on hilly tracks without any security (Plate, 4).

iv. Washing of utensils and clothes

Another important domestic commitment of women is washing utensils and clothes in which men were rarely involved, because traditionally it is considered to be the women's work. All the respondents were involved in this work. In 45 per cent cases, they had to do the task alone; in other cases female members of the family helped them in carrying out of these activities.

v. Keeping surroundings clean and hygienic

It was female dominated household chore where 70.40 per cent of the respondents single handed performed the activity and 27 per cent were getting help from other female members of the family.

vi. Cleaning of house and kitchen

Sweeping and mopping being the female dominated activities. It was observed that women spent lots of time in daily sweeping of their house and surroundings. In most of the rural families smearing of floor with cowdung is generally done once in a week. It was found that all the respondents performed above task and 75.50 per cent had to do it all alone.

vii. Home decoration

This is a female dominated activity where a large number of women are involved. In rural homes, this activity

is generally performed on some special occasions, like festivals or some ceremonies when women decorate walls and floors with different materials. On the whole this was the activity where 59 per cent of the respondents wholly performed and only 28.50 per cent were helped by female members of the family.

viii. Stitching of clothes

It was found that 78 per cent of the respondents stitched clothes for themselves and for their children where as the clothes for the menfolk were given to tailor for stitching.

ix. Care of children

Child care is one of the most important duties of the mothers in particular and women in general. It is worth highlighting here the role of women in bringing up their children, who would be important members of the society. They play an active role in providing material needs in bringing up their children. All the respondents were found to share some responsibility in bringing up the children, in the family but around 77 per cent were totally responsible for looking after the children.

x. Care of the sick person in the family

Women were found to be more associated with the family members than the men. The men folk most of the time stayed out reported by respondents. If they were without work then

they indulge in drinking, gossiping and sitting with village groups. Therefore, women only had to look after the family members along with their heavy pressure of household and farm work. Seventy six per cent of the respondents were found to be directly involved in taking care of the sick persons in the family and some times taking children to the hospital when ill.

3) Social activities

Paying visits to relatives and visiting temples were two main social activities found. Respondents' participation in social activities was found to be very low. Fifty per cent of the respondents never went out of the house to pay visit to their relatives. The rest 49.50 per cent, visited temples and rarely went to their relatives.

4) Religious activities

Women's participation in religious activities was found to be high. Specially the old women and men liked to attend religious activities. Villagers of the region kept 'puja' very frequently in their house. Sixty seven per cent respondents participated in religious activities with their family members and 22 per cent were performing it alone. Eleven per cent were not involved as they belonged to joint families and therefore other elder/old females participated more in the activities.

5) Money centered activities

I.b. CONTROLLING OF RESOURCES

This deals with the controlling of resources specially the money as a family resource (Table, 33).

i. Making of budget

Majority of the respondents being illiterate found it difficult to make the plan of their monthly expenditure and the adjustment of the income with the expenditure by cutting down the expenditure. Ten per cent respondents who were educated made the budget independently and adjusted their income with the expenditure respectively. Expenditure on various items was mostly made by men only.

ii. Saving and investment plans

On the whole, participation of respondents in financial activities was found to be very low. Only 11 per cent respondents were making saving plans alone and 30.50 per cent were partially participated in making of saving plans. Investment plans were made by only 9 per cent. About 33 per cent respondents made investment plans with the help of other family members. Majority of respondent making saving and investment plans were women heads of the family and the women whose husbands migrated elsewhere.

Table 34 : Extent of Respondents' Participation in Decision Implementation : Money Centered Activities :

Activities	Participation									
	Wholly	SIH (N=113) Parti- ally	Nil	Wholly	MH (N=64) Parti- ally	Nil	Wholly	LIH (N=23) Parti- ally	Nil	Total (N=200) Parti- ally
Controlling of Activities										
Making of family budget	4 (3.53)	31 (27.43)	78 (69.02)	10 (15.62)	3 (4.68)	51 (79.68)	6 (26.08)	10 (43.47)	7 (30.43)	44 (22.00)
										136 (68.00)
Making of saving plans.	8 (7.07)	33 (29.20)	72 (63.71)	8 (12.50)	24 (37.50)	32 (50.00)	6 (26.08)	4 (17.39)	13 (56.52)	61 (30.50)
										117 (58.50)
Making Investment plans	7 (6.19)	31 (27.43)	75 (66.37)	6 (9.37)	30 (46.87)	28 (43.75)	5 (21.73)	4 (17.39)	14 (60.86)	65 (32.50)
										117 (58.50)
Taking loans for the family	5 (4.42)	16 (14.15)	92 (81.41)	5 (7.81)	25 (39.06)	34 (53.12)	4 (17.39)	6 (26.08)	13 (56.52)	47 (23.50)
										139 (69.50)
Cutting down Expenditure	7 (6.19)	47 (41.59)	59 (52.21)	10 (15.62)	25 (39.06)	29 (45.31)	6 (26.08)	7 (30.43)	10 (43.47)	79 (39.50)
										98 (49.00)
Supervision of of household	74 (65.48)	39 (34.51)	-	38 (59.37)	26 (40.62)	-	16 (69.56)	7 (30.43)	-	72 (36.00)
										-

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

iii. Taking loans for the family

Respondent's participation in taking loan and repaying of credits was found to be very low. Only 7 per cent participated fully and 23.50 per cent partially in the task.

I.c. SUPERVISION OF ACTIVITIES

The household activities were very frequently supervised by 64 per cent respondents and yet 36 per cent supervised occasionally.

To sum up, it was observed that buying of food materials, clothes of the family and buying of durable goods was mostly done by male members in the families of all three land holding groups, and few respondents went out for shopping. Respondents' participation in money centered activities was low. But their participation was very high in household, social and religious activities. Respondents participation was high in initiating and supervising of household activities but it was low in controlling of money resource in the family.

II. Farm Activities

In agricultural production women performed a variety of tasks in rural areas. Respondents' role in initiating of farm activities is shown in Tables (35 and 36).

II.a INITIATION OF ACTIVITIES

i. Ploughing

It was found that 52 per cent of the respondents were partially participating in ploughing of the farm land for cultivation. Among them, 8.50 per cent of them who helped partially in ploughing used small ploughing implements to plough with hand specially in those families where terrace (Nalees) were narrow and it was difficult to use bullock (Plate, 5). (Plate 5). This work was mainly performed by respondents of SLH group.

ii. Presowing activities

This activity includes the leveling of land, spreading of cowdung manure etc. Presowing^{and} sowing activities were performed by all the respondents with other family members.

iii. Paddy transplantation

Paddy is the main crop of Kharif season in most parts of the hill region of Nainital district. Carrying of farm products was dominated by female and male participation was very little. About 65 per cent of the respondents were wholly participated and 30 per cent were partially participated in this activity.

iv. Maintenance of plant population

It is another female dominated task, in which 64 per cent of the respondents wholly and 36 per cent participated



PLATE 5. TERRACE FARMING.



PLATE 6. WOMEN WEEDING THE FIELD.

TABLE 30 : LEVEL OF RESPONDENTS' PARTICIPATION IN DECISION IMPLEMENTATION : PRE-SOWING ACTIVITIES :

Activities	SIH (N=113)			MH (N=64)			LIH (N=23)			Total (N=200)	
	Wholly	Parti-ally	Nil	Wholly	Parti-ally	Nil	Wholly	Parti-ally	Nil	Wholly	Parti-ally
Initiation of Activities											
Ploughing	-	94 (83.18)	19 (16.81)	-	7 (10.93)	57 (89.06)	-	3 (13.04)	20 (86.95)	-	104 (52.00)
Pre-sowing activities	-	113 (100.00)	-	-	64 (100.00)	-	-	23 (100.00)	-	-	200 (100.00)
Paddy transplan- tation	84 (74.33)	24 (21.23)	-	42 (65.62)	22 (34.37)	-	3 (13.04)	9 (39.13)	11 (47.82)	129 (64.50)	60 (30.00)
Maintaining plants' population	86 (76.10)	25 (22.12)	2 (1.76)	33 (51.56)	28 (43.75)	3 (4.68)	9 (39.13)	7 (30.43)	7 (30.43)	128 (64.00)	60 (30.00)
Selection of crop variety	56 (49.55)	21 (18.58)	36 (31.85)	11 (17.18)	18 (28.12)	35 (54.68)	3 (13.04)	6 (26.08)	14 (60.86)	70 (35.00)	45 (22.50)
Irrigation	7 (6.19)	56 (49.55)	50 (44.24)	5 (7.81)	23 (35.93)	36 (56.25)	-	11 (47.82)	12 (52.17)	12 (6.00)	90 (45.00)
Weeding	94 (83.18)	19 (16.81)	-	40 (62.50)	22 (34.37)	2 (3.12)	-	18 (78.26)	5 (21.73)	134 (67.00)	59 (29.50)
Hoing	84 (74.33)	29 (25.66)	-	47 (43.43)	17 (26.56)	-	-	23 (100.00)	-	131 (65.50)	69 (34.50)
Applying of fertilizers	51 (45.13)	54 (47.78)	8 (7.07)	23 (35.95)	38 (59.37)	3 (4.68)	-	20 (86.95)	3 (13.04)	74 (42.00)	112 (56.00)
Spraying of Pesticides etc.	3 (2.65)	86 (76.10)	24 (21.23)	-	57 (89.06)	7 (10.93)	-	11 (47.82)	13 (56.51)	3 (1.50)	154 (77.60)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages



PLATE 7. HOEING BY WOMEN.



PLATE 8. PREPARING OF MANURE FOR THE FARM.

in the tasks.

v. Selection of crop variety

It is worth highlighting that 57.50 per cent of the respondents participated in selection of the crop variety to be sown, among these, 35 per cent wholly participated in selection of the crop.

vi. Irrigation

This activity was the male dominated activity in which female participation was only 6 per cent. Forty five per cent respondents partially worked with the male members of the family.

vii. Weeding and hoeing

Sixty seven per cent respondents wholly participated in this activity. In hoeing operation also all the respondents were involved. About 66 per cent worked alone and 34.50 per cent received the help of other family members (Plate, 6 and 7).

viii. Application of fertilizers and pesticides

Forty two per cent respondents performed the activity of applying of fertilizer alone, but the technical work i.e., application of pesticides was done jointly by 77.60 per cent respondents. Majority of the respondents participated in these two activities with the help of male members in the



PLATE 9. CARRYING MANURE TO THE FARM.



PLATE 10. CUTTING OF FODDER BY WOMAN.

family. Therefore their participation was mostly partial (Plate, 9).

ix. Harvesting, threshing and marketing of farm products

Activity wise, extent of participation of respondents in harvesting, threshing and marketing are summarised (Table 36).

x. Harvesting

Under this activity, cutting of crops, tying of sheaves bundles and transporting were included. Women were found to be equal partners in harvesting operations. All the respondents participated in harvesting the crops with their husbands and other family members. Similarly tying of sheaves and transporting crops were some of the activities in which 75 per cent of respondents were involved.

xi. Threshing

Threshing in most developed districts of Punjab and Haryana is done by machines but in less developed areas this work is done manually. In the hill region of Uttar Pradesh although machines are installed at a few places, where people of 2 to 3 villages gathered for threshing of their crops, it was found that this practice was only possible at the places where villages were not situated on high hills. It was observed that in majority of the villages of Betalghat and Dhari block, this work was done manually. It was found that 85.50 per cent of the respondents performed cold

Table 36 : Extent of Respondents' Participation in Decision Implementation : Harvesting Threshing and Marketing Activities

Activities	Participation						Total (N=200)	
	Wholly	SLH (N=113) Parti- ally	Nil	Wholly	MLH (N=64) Parti- ally	Nil	Wholly	Parti- ally
Initiation of Activities								
Harvesting	-	113 (100.00)	-	-	64 (100.00)	-	23 (100.00)	200 (100.00)
Tying of Crop bundles	35 (30.97)	78 (69.02)	-	11 (17.18)	52 (81.25)	-	3 (13.04)	49 (24.50)
Transportation of crops	35 (30.97)	78 (69.02)	-	11 (17.18)	52 (81.25)	-	3 (13.04)	49 (24.50)
Cold crushing	15 (13.27)	98 (86.72)	-	12 (18.75)	52 (81.25)	-	2 (8.69)	29 (14.50)
Harrowing	9 (7.96)	52 (46.01)	52 (46.01)	3 (4.68)	31 (48.43)	30 (46.87)	2 (8.69)	14 (7.00)
Threshing	11 (9.73)	68 (60.17)	34 (30.08)	-	19 (29.68)	45 (70.31)	-	11 (5.50)
Collecting	35 (30.97)	78 (69.02)	-	11 (17.18)	52 (81.25)	-	3 (13.04)	49 (24.50)
Storing of grains	62 (54.86)	51 (45.13)	-	52 (81.25)	12 (18.75)	-	11 (47.82)	125 (62.50)
Marketing	18 (15.92)	17 (15.04)	78 (69.02)	5 (7.81)	8 (12.50)	51 (79.68)	4 (17.39)	27 (13.50)
Storing of animal fodder	83 (73.71)	23 (20.35)	7 (6.19)	50 (78.12)	9 (14.06)	5 (7.81)	11 (47.82)	144 (72.00)
Taking of crop loan.	5 (4.42)	13 (11.50)	95 (84.07)	1 (1.56)	4 (6.25)	59 (92.18)	2 (8.69)	8 (4.00)
Supervising farm activities	-	41 (36.28)	72 (63.71)	12 (18.75)	21 (32.81)	31 (48.43)	2 (8.69)	14 (7.00)
								66 (33.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

crushing activity with the help of family members. Harrowing of crops was done wholly by 47 per cent of the respondents and 47 per cent performed along with other members. Similarly winnowing of grains was done by 48.50 per cent of the respondents.

xii. Post harvest activities

Post harvest activities in which women were engaged included collecting and storing of products. It was found that 75 per cent respondents performed this activity along with other members of the family. Whereas storage of produce was wholly done by 62.50 per cent of the respondents .

xiii. Marketing

The results indicated that 72.50 per cent of the respondents had no role in the marketing of the field crops. About 28 per cent respondents heading the families, were selling the field crops in the village only.

xiv. Storing of fodder

Fodder was fetched and stored by 72 per cent of the respondents.

II.b. CONTROLLING OF RESOURCES

Taking of crop loans

This was the activity which was male dominated. It was found that majority of the respondents i.e., 87 per cent had

nothing to do with the job of taking the loan for the agricultural purpose. Male members in the family took the loan and spent the money.

II.c. SUPERVISION OF ACTIVITIES

Seven per cent respondents very frequently supervised the farm work alone and 33 per cent along with other family members. Most of the respondents who supervised alone were women heads of the family and they had to instruct the labourers working at farm.

To conclude, large number of respondents of all land holding groups wholly/partially performed different task, like presowing, paddy transplanting, maintaining of plants, weeding, hoeing, harvesting, transporting crops, crushing, collecting grains, storing grains and fodder. Respondents' participation was found low in tasks like irrigation, spraying of pesticides, marketing of farm produce and taking of loans. Seven per cent respondents mostly heads of the family, had to supervise the work and had to instruct the labourers working at farm. Thirty three per cent supervised the work partially.

III. Livestock Activities

From time immemorial women have played a pivotal role in cattle rearing, starting from feeding to milking and disposing of milk. Their role in preparation of milk products, cleaning of cattle shed, collection of cow-dung for



PLATE 11. FEEDING OF LIVESTOCK.



PLATE 12. WOMAN BATHING ANIMALS.

the manure pits, preparation of cowdung cakes and their storage is remarkable. In the present study out of the total sample of 200 families, there was domestic livestock in 197 families.

III.a. INITIATION OF ACTIVITIES

i. Buying and selling of livestock

Data revealed that men were involved in purchasing and selling of livestock. Of the total sample, 69 per cent and 70 per cent of the respondents were not involved in purchasing and selling of livestock respectively (Table 38). It was noted that those respondents who were wholly involved in buying and selling of livestock were the women heads of the family.

ii. Care of livestock

The care of livestock included activities such as building shelter for livestock, fetching fodder, preparing and giving of feed and medicines (Plate, 11). It was found that 55 per cent respondents had to carry the fodder from the forest for the livestock alone. About 44 per cent had to take care of livestock single handed. This work included giving drinking water, bathing, making cowdung manure and cake (Plate, 12). About 59 per cent of the respondents gave medicine to sick livestock alone or with the help of others. It was found that in activities like making of shelter for the livestock, cleaning of cattle shed, sowing of fodder seeds were also

Table 37 : Extent of Respondents' Participation in Decision Implementation : Buying And Selling of Livestock.

Activities	Participation									
	Wholly	SIH (N=113) Parti- ally	Wholly	M.H (N=64) Parti- ally	Wholly	LIH (N=23) Parti- ally	Wholly	Parti- ally	Total (N=200) Parti- ally	Nil
Initiation of Activities										
Buying of live- stock	10 (8.84)	21 (18.58)	82 (72.56)	6 (9.37)	11 (17.18)	47 (73.43)	3 (13.04)	11 (47.82)	9 (39.13)	138 (69.00)
Selling of live- stock	12 (10.61)	19 (16.81)	82 (72.56)	10 (15.62)	13 (20.31)	41 (64.06)	3 (13.04)	3 (13.04)	17 (73.91)	140 (70.00)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Table 38 : Extent of Respondents' Participation in Decision Implementation : Care of Livestock.

Activities	Participation										Total (N=200) Parti- ally	
	Wholly	SLH (N=113) Parti- ally	Wholly	MLH (N=64) Parti- ally	Wholly	LIH (N=23) Parti- ally	Wholly	Wholly	Parti- ally	Nil		
Initiation of Activities												
Making shelter for livestock	15 (13.27)	29 (25.66)	69 (61.06)	8 (12.50)	9 (14.06)	47 (73.43)	4 (17.39)	11 (47.82)	8 (34.78)	27 (13.50)	49 (24.50)	124 (62.00)
Sowing of fodder	27 (23.89)	32 (28.31)	54 (47.78)	10 (15.62)	17 (25.56)	37 (57.81)	5 (21.73)	10 (43.47)	8 (34.78)	42 (21.00)	59 (29.50)	99 (49.50)
Cutting of fodder	57 (50.44)	35 (30.97)	21 (18.58)	32 (50.00)	25 (39.06)	7 (10.93)	12 (52.17)	9 (39.13)	2 (8.69)	101 (50.50)	69 (34.50)	30 (15.00)
Buying of livestock	42 (37.16)	37 (32.74)	34 (30.08)	22 (34.37)	18 (28.12)	24 (37.50)	5 (21.73)	11 (47.82)	7 (30.43)	69 (34.50)	66 (33.00)	65 (32.50)
Care of livestock	49 (43.36)	45 (39.82)	19 (16.81)	27 (42.18)	24 (37.50)	13 (20.31)	11 (47.82)	7 (30.43)	5 (21.73)	87 (43.50)	76 (38.00)	37 (18.50)
Giving medicines to livestock if required	57 (50.44)	19 (16.81)	37 (32.74)	47 (73.43)	12 (18.75)	5 (7.81)	13 (56.52)	7 (30.43)	3 (13.04)	117 (58.50)	38 (19.00)	45 (22.50)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

involved. Therefore, in such activities participation of respondents was partial, (Table, 39).

iii. Milking

Milking was also found to be female dominated activity where 42 per cent respondents were wholly involved. Thirty nine per cent were partially involved as sometimes this work was shared by other female members of the family.

III.b CONTROLLING OF RESOURCES

i. Selling of milk and milk products and keeping for family's consumption

It was noted that 56 per cent respondents sold milk themselves (Table, 40). It was observed that majority of the farm women of Betalghat block carried milk and milk products (Ghee) to sell in early morning to hotels and tea stall owners. Respondents of Bhemental village supplied the milk to the dairy center and HMT colony. About 56.50 per cent respondents were keeping the required amount of milk for the family consumption, of whom 28.50 per cent were wholly responsible and 28 per cent were, partially responsible.

ii. Keeping of accounts

It was found that 41.50 per cent of the respondents had full control over the money earned from the dairy products, i.e. selling of milk and milk products. It was only the animal husbandry activity where the money earned by the women

Table 39 : Extent of Respondents' Participation in Decision Implementation : Disposal of Milk and Milk Products.

Activities	Participation									
	SLH (N=113)		MLH (N=64)		ILH (N=23)		Total (N=200)			
	Wholly	Parti- ally	Wholly	Parti- ally	Wholly	Parti- ally	Wholly	Parti- ally	Wholly	Parti- ally
Milking	57 (50.44)	43 (38.05)	18 (28.12)	28 (43.75)	9 (39.13)	7 (30.43)	84 (42.00)	78 (39.00)	38 (19.00)	
Controlling of Activities										
Selling of milk and milk products	57 (50.44)	26 (23.00)	42 (65.62)	13 (20.31)	9 (14.06)	5 (21.73)	112 (56.00)	44 (22.00)	44 (22.00)	
Keeping milk for household consumption	29 (25.66)	36 (31.85)	19 (29.68)	13 (20.31)	32 (50.00)	7 (30.43)	57 (28.50)	56 (28.00)	87 (43.50)	
Keeping of accounts	47 (41.59)	45 (39.82)	26 (40.62)	22 (34.37)	16 (25.00)	7 (30.42)	83 (41.50)	74 (37.00)	43 (21.50)	
Supervision of livestock activities	26 (23.00)	86 (76.10)	28 (43.75)	36 (56.25)	-	10 (43.47)	61 (30.50)	132 (66.00)	7 (3.50)	

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

was spent by them only for meeting the expenditure of the family.

III.c. SUPERVISION

The livestock work was supervised occasionally by 66 per cent of the respondents. But 30.50 per cent respondents supervised the work wholly in the light of plans, made ahead of time.

Summing up the findings it can be concluded that the respondents' participation in buying and selling of livestock was low in all land holding groups. The respondents' participation in various tasks related to care of livestock was fairly high. Similarly 56 per cent respondents performed tasks related to disposal of milk. The notable finding here was that respondents played an important role in controlling of money. In supervision 66 per cent respondents were involved occasionally.

IV. Income Generating Activities

Horticulture, Kitchen gardening, floriculture, poultry keeping and beekeeping were some of the common income generating activities found among households of hill regions in which mostly women were involved (Plate 13 to 18). Involvement in income generating activities like horticulture and floriculture, was partial where respondents were working with other members of the family (Table 42). Mostly males were involved in the main tasks of horticulture and



PLATE 13. WOMAN ENGAGED IN KITCHEN GARDENING.



PLATE 14. WOMAN ENGAGED IN HORTICULTURE.

Table 40: Extent of respondents' participation in business activities

Activities	Wholly	SLH (N=113)		Wholly	MH (N=64)		Participation		Wholly	LIH (N=23)		Total (N=200)	
		Parti- ally	Nil		Parti- ally	Nil	Parti- ally	Nil		Parti- ally	Nil		
Initiation of Activities													
Production	22 (19.46)	46 (40.70)	45 (39.82)	7 (10.93)	33 (51.56)	24 (37.50)	6 (26.08)	16 (69.56)	1 (4.34)	35 (17.50)	95 (47.50)	70 (35.00)	
Purchase of Equip- ment if required	14 (12.38)	60 (53.09)	39 (34.51)	4 (6.25)	40 (62.50)	20 (31.25)	4 (17.39)	12 (52.17)	7 (30.43)	22 (11.00)	112 (56.00)	66 (33.00)	
Purchase of raw materials	11 (9.73)	55 (48.67)	47 (41.59)	4 (6.25)	29 (45.31)	31 (48.43)	4 (17.39)	12 (52.17)	7 (30.43)	19 (9.50)	96 (48.00)	85 (42.50)	
Storing of raw material	19 (16.81)	41 (36.28)	53 (46.90)	6 (9.37)	14 (21.87)	44 (68.75)	4 (17.39)	12 (52.17)	7 (30.43)	29 (14.50)	67 (33.50)	104 (52.00)	
Storing of Products	17 (15.04)	51 (45.13)	45 (39.82)	7 (10.93)	25 (39.06)	32 (50.00)	6 (26.08)	8 (34.78)	9 (39.13)	30 (15.00)	84 (42.00)	86 (43.00)	
Storing of ready products	16 (14.15)	36 (31.85)	61 (53.98)	8 (12.50)	9 (14.06)	47 (73.43)	3 (13.04)	13 (56.52)	7 (30.43)	27 (13.50)	58 (29.00)	115 (57.50)	
Marketing	13 (11.50)	33 (29.20)	67 (59.29)	9 (14.06)	11 (17.18)	44 (68.75)	6 (26.08)	10 (43.47)	7 (30.43)	28 (14.00)	54 (27.00)	118 (59.00)	
Controlling of Activities													
Estimation of future production	13 (11.50)	19 (16.81)	81 (71.68)	5 (7.81)	13 (20.31)	46 (71.87)	4 (17.39)	3 (13.04)	16 (69.56)	22 (11.00)	35 (17.50)	143 (71.50)	
Fixing selling price	7 (6.19)	31 (27.43)	75 (66.37)	5 (7.81)	7 (10.93)	52 (81.25)	14 (60.86)	5 (21.73)	4 (17.39)	26 (13.00)	43 (21.50)	131 (65.50)	
Keeping of Accounts	7 (6.19)	47 (41.59)	59 (52.21)	12 (18.75)	21 (32.81)	31 (48.43)	4 (17.39)	10 (43.47)	9 (39.13)	23 (11.50)	78 (39.00)	99 (49.50)	
Supervision of Income generating activities	35 (30.97)	6 (5.30)	72 (63.71)	12 (18.75)	25 (39.06)	27 (42.18)	4 (17.39)	10 (43.47)	9 (39.13)	51 (25.50)	41 (20.50)	108 (54.00)	

Note: Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages



PLATE 15. WOMAN ENGAGED IN FLORICULTURE.



PLATE 16. WOMAN ENGAGED IN SERICULTURE FEEDING ERI WORMS.

floriculture. Respondents performed tasks like hoeing, applying of fertilizers, watering the plants and packing. The respondents' were wholly participated in the activities such as vegetable growing, beekeeping, poultry keeping, stitching, sericulture, preserving, food, making of wool articles and processing of cinnamon and bay leaves.

IV.a. INITIATION OF ACTIVITIES

Among 47.50 per cent households the activity was started with the joint efforts of respondents with other family members. In 56 per cent respondents went with other members to purchase equipment required for the activity. Wherever need arised to buy raw materials required for the task, 48 per cent respondents did it with the help of other family members. The activities in which a low percentage of respondents participated were marketing of products, storing of products and storing of ready products.

IV.b. CONTROLLING OF RESOURCES

The participation of respondents in controlling and making adjustment with expenditure was found to be low. About 72 per cent respondents were not involved in decisions related to estimation of future production and 65.50 per cent related to fixing of selling price. The responsibility of keeping the accounts of the money earned from income generating activities was taken by 11.50 per cent respondent wholly and 39 per cent partially.



PLATE 17. WOMAN INVOLVED IN POULTRY.



PLATE 18. WOMEN INVOLVED IN BEEKEEPING.

IV.c. SUPERVISION OF ACTIVITIES

Income generating work was the one in which 20.50 per cent of the respondents supervised the work occasionally and no supervision was done by 54 per cent of them. Mostly supervision is women's responsibility. Respondents were involved more at the stage of initiation of work. About 25.50 per cent respondents who supervised the work frequently were involved in income generating activities like, beekeeping, making of wool articles, stitching and processing of cinnamon and bay leaves.

The conclusion drawn was that participation of respondents of all land holding groups in some of the tasks related to income generating activities like growing of fruits, flowers and vegetables was low. The participation of respondents was also low in tasks like purchasing of equipment, storing of raw materials and finished goods/ materials, estimating the production, marketing, and keeping of accounts. Their participation was low mostly in controlling and supervision of activities. But in other activities like beekeeping, poultry keeping, stitching, their participation was high in initiating, controlling and in supervision.

V. Participation profile of respondents in various activities

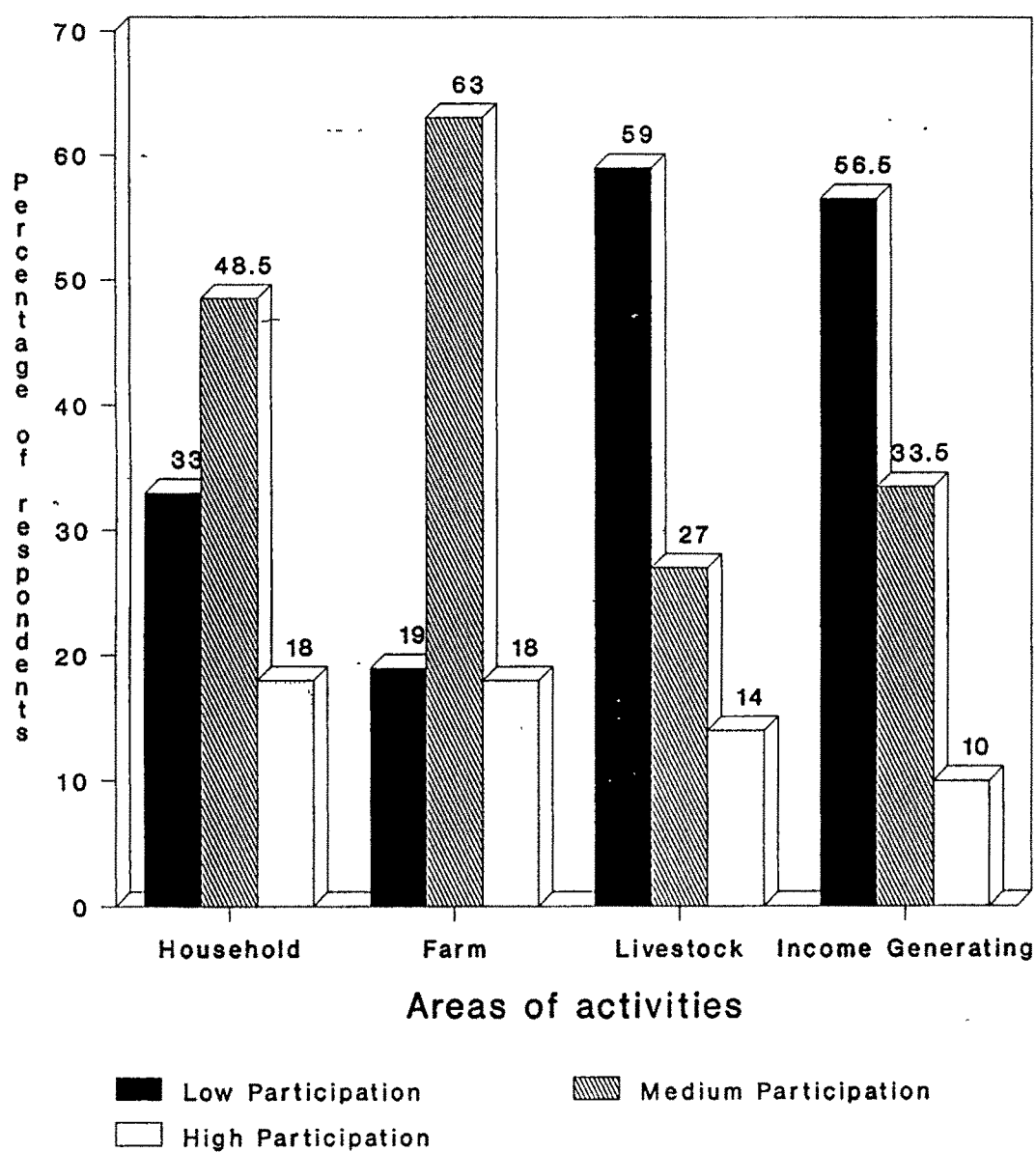
The profile participation of in various activities showed that on the whole percentage participation of

Table 41 : Participation Profile of Respondents in Various Activities

Percentage Participation	Household			Farm			Livestock			Income generating work			Total	
	SIH	MH	LIH	Total	SIH	MH	Total	SIH	MH	LIH	Total	SIH		MH
	113	64	23	200	113	23	200	113	64	23	200	113	64	23
Low	34 (30.08)	25 (39.06)	8 (34.78)	67 (33.50)	20 (17.69)	13 (20.31)	38 (19.00)	70 (61.94)	31 (48.43)	17 (73.91)	118 (59.00)	68 (60.17)	37 (57.81)	8 (34.78)
Medium	64 (56.63)	24 (37.50)	9 (39.13)	97 (48.50)	70 (61.94)	43 (67.18)	126 (63.00)	26 (23.00)	25 (39.06)	3 (13.04)	54 (27.00)	341 (30.08)	23 (35.93)	10 (43.47)
High	15 (13.27)	15 (23.43)	6 (26.08)	36 (18.00)	23 (20.35)	8 (12.50)	36 (18.00)	17 (15.04)	8 (12.50)	3 (13.04)	28 (14.00)	11 (9.7)	4 (6.25)	5 (21.73)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Figure 9
Participation profile in various areas
of activities.



respondents in implementation of decisions related to household and farm activities was moderate but their percentage involvement was found low in livestock and income generating activities (Figure 10).

Table (41) shows that the percentage participation of respondents in implementation of decisions related to household activities was moderate in SLH and LLH groups but in MLH group percentage participation of respondents was low. Participation of respondents in farm activities was moderate among respondents of LLH and MLH groups, but high participation was found among SLH group. Percentage participation of respondents in livestock activities was observed low among respondents of SLH and LLH groups. In income generating activities moderate participation was among respondents of MLH and LLH groups.

Role of respondents in Decision making and Decision implementing

Here the most important aspect to be seen was, who were the decision makers and who were the decision implementers. Respondents role in decision making is sure to affect their role in implementation. It was noted that those respondents who were involved in decision making found it easy to initiate, control and supervise the work. Supervision of work became difficult for the respondents who were not involved when decisions were taken, in the family. The overall degree of respondents' involvement in both decision

making and implementing depended on, how well the activity was managed by her.

The overview of the figures (8 and 9) regarding decision making and decision implementing of various activities revealed that respondents were involved more in household and livestock decisions than in the decisions related to farm and income generation work. Therefore they were aware of how to initiate, control and supervise the work well in household and livestock areas.

Respondents could very well initiate the tasks in the area of farm and income generating activities like growing of fruits, flowers and vegetables but in supervision their participation decreased. Those tasks in which they knew how the work was planned they were able to put the plan in action. Since, the role played by respondents in decision making related to money matters was low, their participation in activities related to money matters was also low. Therefore because of low participation of respondents in controlling of resources many families had to face crises of money. The data showed that since money was mainly in men's custody, they spent it mostly on alcohols and tobacco, etc. Under such circumstance the family had to face financial crisis.

Respondents' involvement in farm decisions related to cropping pattern, sowing, protecting of plants, applying of fertilizers and storing of crops was wholly managed

by the respondents. But in decisions which required technical know how, respondents who were not involved, could not initiate the tasks like spraying of pesticides and purchasing of equipment.

In managing of farm, decision makers were mainly men and decision implementers were women. Their role was found to be very insignificant in controlling of resources and supervising activities. Respondents were fully responsible for the manual tasks on the farm. But they were excluded from many decisions taken related to farm.

In management of livestock some respondents played active role in decision making and decision implementing. They had controlled and supervised the work.

Respondents' involvement in management of income generating activities such as growing of flowers, fruits and vegetables showed disparity between decision making and decision implementing.

One of the major findings revealed that 79 per cent respondents who were either involved in income generating activities or were gainfully employed, therefore contributing money to the family income. It was assumed that if women

were involved in some productive work and contributed money to the family, this will certainly influence their say in making decisions in the family.

Hence further analysis of data was done to find out the decision making role of these respondents in money matters related to management of their own earnings.

1. Types of income generating activities performed

An attempt was made to find out the type of income generating activities in which respondents were involved.

It was found that large number of women of hill region had indulged in a variety of income generating activities and contributed a substantial amount of additional money to their family income. Sixty five per cent were involved in income generating activities and 14 per cent were gainfully employed. (Table 42)

The two major activities in which majority of the respondents were involved were the horticulture and vegetable growing. Majority of the families of Betalghat block cultivate mangoes, and apricots, whereas the favorite fruits of Bhemtal block were plums, pears, straw-berries and Leeches. In Dhari block the common fruits grown were peaches and apples. About 51.50 per cent respondents of Betalghat block were involved in large scale production of vegetables like peas, capsicum and tomatoes which were sold outside state. Around 54.50 per cent respondents of Dhari block

Table : 42 Types of Income Generating Activities Performed
by the Respondents

Activities	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)
1. No Participation	47 (58.75)	23 (37.70)	- -	70 (44.30)
2. Participation in Agricultural Activities				
Growing of vegetables	71 (88.75)	51 (83.60)	8 (47.05)	130 (82.27)
Horticulture	73 (91.25)	56 (91.80)	20 (11.76)	109 (68.98)
Growing of flowers	- -	2 (3.27)	7 (41.17)	9 (5.69)
3. Participation in Non Agricultural Activities				
Beekeeping	- -	7 (11.47)	11 (64.70)	18 (11.39)
Sericulture	- -	2 (3.27)	- -	2 (1.26)
Preserving food	- -	2 (3.27)	- -	2 (1.26)
Processing of cinnamon and bay leaves	2 (2.50)	13 (21.31)	7 (41.17)	22 (13.92)
Wool Work	- -	5 (8.91)	- -	5 (3.16)
Stitching of clothes	- -	3 (4.91)	- -	3 (1.89)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages
: Due to multiple responses, total percentage exceeds 100.

Table 43 : Types of Income Generating Activities Performed by Respondents by their Relational Position in the Family.

Activities	Wife (N=83)	Daughter- in-Law(N=71)	Daughter (N=4)	Total (N=158)
1. No Participation	20 (24.09)	46 (64.78)	4 (100.00)	70 (46.66)
2. Participation in Agricultural Activities				
Vegetables Growing	83 (100.00)	71 (100.00)	4 (100.00)	158 (100.00)
Horticulture	46 (55.42)	63 (88.73)	-	109 (54.50)
Growing of flowers	4 (4.81)	2 (2.81)	-	6 (3.78)
3. Participation in Non-Agricultural Activities				
Beekeeping	11 (13.25)	7 (9.85)	-	18 (11.39)
Sericulture	2 (2.40)	-	-	2 (1.26)
Food preser- vation	2 (2.40)	-	-	2 (1.26)
Processing of cinnamon and bay leaves	8 (9.63)	14 (19.71)	-	22 (13.92)
Wool work	-	2 (2.80)	-	2 (1.26)
Stitching of clothes	-	3 (4.22)	-	3 (1.89)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages
: Due to multiple responses, total percentage exceeds 100.

cultivated peas and potatoes, and 64 per cent of Bhemtāl block cultivated ginger, reddish and brinjal which was sent outside the state for sale. The strawberries, produced by the respondents in villages of Bhemtāl were supplied to Barielly district for processing at commercial level. Very few respondents were involved in activities like food preservation, knitting, stitching and sericulture.

The activities like growing of flowers and beekeeping were mostly carried out by wives, whereas producing wool articles, stitching and processing of cinnamon and bay leaves was done by daughters-in-law. Daughters were involved only in vegetables and flowers' cultivation (Table 43).

2. Investment of money to start income generating activities

An attempt was made to find out to what extent respondents had a say in decision making, who had the freedom to invest the money to run the income generating work. The mean amount of Rs. 445.55 was invested to start the beekeeping. About 6.14 per cent respondents invested Rs.128.33 to start floriculture (Table 44). These families grew Marigold, Gladiolus, and Chrysanthemum flowers which were supplied to hotels in Nainital. Least money was spent by the families to start the work of producing wool articles (Table 45). Women got knitted sweaters from place of production and did the stitching work. They made small woolen carpets for wall decoration and supplied to Khadi

Table 44 : Initial Investment Made by the Respondents to Start Income Generating Activities :
Agricultural

Investment (In Rupees)	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)	Mean Expenditure in Rupees	SD
Vegetable Growing						
0 - 100	74 (92.50)	50 (81.96)	17 (100.00)	141 (8.86)2	103.08	44.22
101 - 200	4 (5.00)	7 (11.47)	6 (35.20)	17 (10.75)		
201 - 300	-	-	3 (17.64)	3 (1.89)		
Horticulture						
0 - 100	40 (50.00)	43 (70.49)	13 (76.47)	96 (60.75)	107.20	58.90
101 - 200	3 (3.75)	9 (14.75)	7 (41.17)	19 (12.02)		
201 - 300	-	2 (3.27)	3 (17.64)	5 (3.16)		
301 - 400	-	2 (3.27)	-	2 (1.26)		
Growing of Flowers						
0 - 100	-	-	5 (29.41)	5 (3.61)	128.33	48.47
101 - 200	-	2 (1.27)	2 (11.76)	4 (2.53)		

Ashram. No investment was made by 35 per cent respondents, since they were not involved in income generating activities. Some respondent of MLH and LLH groups spent money i.e. Rs. 300 and above on income generating activities.

Table 45 : Initial Investment made by the Respondents to start Income Generating Activities :
Non-agricultural

Investment (In Rupees)	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)	Mean Expenditure in Rupees	SD
Beekeeping						
301 - 400	-	7 (11.47)	11 (64.70)	17 (10.75)	445.55	161.64
Sericulture						
0 - 100	-	2 (3.27)	-	2 (1.26)	90.00	14.14
Food Preservation						
0 - 100	-	2 (3.27)	-	2 (1.26)	90.00	14.14
Producing Wool Articles						
0 - 100	-	5 (8.19)	-	5 (3.61)	36.00	9.00
Stitching of Clothes						
0 - 100	-	3 (4.91)	-	3 (1.89)	40.00	10.13

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Most of the respondents who invested money were women heads of family belonging to the nuclear families or the eldest daughters-in-law of the joint families.

3. Monthly expenditure to run income generating activities

The mean monthly expenditure Rs. 46.11 were on beekeeping, Rs. 57 on producing of woolen articles and mean

Table 46 : Monthly Expenditure Made by the Respondents¹ to Run Income Generating Activities.

Investment in Rupees	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)	Mean Expenditure in Rupees	SD
Beekeeping						
0 - 20	-	2 (3.27)	-	2 (1.26)	46.11	14.50
21 - 40	-	2 (3.27)	4 (23.52)	6 (3.79)		
41 - 65	-	3 (4.91)	7 (41.17)	10 (6.32)		
Sericulture						
41 - 65	-	2 (3.27)	-	2 (1.26)	(40.50)	(6.70)
Producing Wool Articles						
0 - 20	-	-	-	-	57.00	9.13
21 - 40	-	-	-	5 3.16		
41 - 65	-	5 (8.19)	-	-		
Stitching clothes						
0 - 20	-	1 (1.63)	-	1 (0.63)	30.00	10.00
21 - 40	-	2 (3.27)	-	2 (1.26)		

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

Rs. 30 on stitching of clothes i.e. for buying threads, needles and other materials required for stitching. More expenditure was incurred by the respondents of LLH group. Mostly this expenditure was made by the daughters-in-law.

4. Disbursement of money

Money disbursement of respondents was studied to see if women were given chance to save money, to pay debt and make

Table 47 : Disbursement of Money Earned by the Respondents' Gainful-Employment and Income Generating Activities.

Disbursement of money	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)
Food for the family	80 (100.00)	61 (100.00)	17 (100.00)	158 (100.00)
Clothing for the family	80 (100.00)	61 (100.00)	17 (100.00)	158 (100.00)
Education of children	80 (100.00)	61 (100.00)	17 (100.00)	158 (100.00)
Health of the family	55 (68.75)	32 (52.45)	3 (17.64)	90 (56.96)
Religious ceremonies	31 (38.75)	13 (21.31)	2 (11.76)	46 (29.11)
Marriage of children	21 (26.25)	16 (26.22)	4 (23.52)	41 (25.94)
Saving	13 (16.25)	11 (18.33)	3 (17.64)	27 (17.08)
Paying debt	14 (17.50)	13 (21.31)	-	27 (17.08)
Maintenance of house	9 (11.25)	7 (11.47)	2 (11.76)	18 (11.39)
Management of livestock	9 (11.25)	5 (8.19)	-	14 (8.86)
Management of farm	7 (8.75)	5 (8.19)	-	12 (7.59)
Investment	3 (3.75)	3 (4.91)	2 (11.70)	8 (5.06)
Management of income Generating activities	1 (1.25)	2 (3.21)	-	3 (1.89)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

: Due to multiple responses, total percentage exceeds 100.

investment. If they did perform such activities, it was important to know the extent of respondents involvement in decisions.

Table 48 : Money Disbursement According to the Relational Position of Respondents in the Family.

Disbursement of money	Wife (N=83)	Daughter in low (N=71)	Daugh- ter (N=4)	Total (N=158)
Food for the family	83 (100.00)	71 (100.00)	4 (100.00)	158 (100.00)
Clothing for the family	83 (100.00)	71 (100.00)	4 (100.00)	158 (100.00)
Education of children	83 (100.00)	71 (100.00)	4 (100.00)	158 (100.00)
Health of the family	57 (68.67)	33 (46.47)	4 (100.00)	96 (60.75)
Religious ceremonies	28 (33.73)	18 (25.35)	-	46 (29.11)
Marriage of children	32 (38.55)	9 (12.67)	4 (100.00)	41 (25.94)
Saving	27 (32.53)	-	-	27 (17.08)
Paying debt	27 (32.53)	-	-	27 (17.08)
Maintenance of house	16 (19.27)	2 (2.83)	-	18 (11.39)
Management of livestock	12 (14.45)	2 (2.83)	-	14 (8.86)
Management of farm	12 (14.45)	-	-	12 (7.59)
Investment	8 (9.63)	-	-	8 (5.06)
Management of Income Generating activities	3 (3.61)	-	-	3 (1.89)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages
: Due to multiple responses, total percentage exceeds 100.

On the whole most of the respondents of all three groups spent money on food, clothing, education and health of the family members and children (Table 47). Only 17.08 per cent saved some money, or paid the debt. Just 5.05 per cent could use the money for investment, where 1.89 per cent invested on productive work. Besides this very low percentage of respondents i.e. 11.39 per cent could spend money on the maintenance of the house, 8.80 per cent for the management of livestock and 7.59 per cent for the management of farm. Therefore it reflected that their say in spending money on savings and any type of investment was very low. Those who could save and invest the money were wives, who were heading the family or whose husbands migrated out of the district/state. None of the daughters-in-law were involved in any type of savings and investment (Table 48). Respondents of all land holding, groups spent money mostly on food, clothing education of children.

5. Management of money earned by the respondents

Findings of some of the researchers have shown that those women who have better status in the family took

Table 49 Management of Money Earned by the Respondents.

Members	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)
By Respondent	39 (48.75)	17 (27.86)	5 (29.41)	61 (38.60)
By Respondents with help of others	41 (51.25)	33 (54.09)	11 (54.70)	85 (53.79)
By others	-	11 (18.03)	1 (5.88)	12 (7.59)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

part in management of money, and hence have voice in decision making process. The money management practices of the respondents showed that 38.60 per cent respondents managed the money earned by themselves alone and 53.79 per cent with the help of other family members. Those respondents who managed money themselves were mostly female heads of the families, and their source of earning was mostly through dairy. The money earned from selling of milk was kept by respondents and later they spent it on daily needs of the family (Table 49).

A noteworthy finding was, that majority of the respondents of small land holding group were managing money by themselves. The reason was the low economic status of these small land holding groups. Majority of the men did not work regularly, when worked more amount was spent on drinking whatever they earned. The wives in such households of SLH group had to work on the farm as well as in the home. Whatever money they earned, they kept with them to be spent for the family. But there were about 7.59 per cent respondents whose money was taken away by their spouses inspite of their hardwork and contribution to family income.

Majority of the wives managed money, but only 10.50 per cent eldest daughters-in-law participated in this work. Daughters managed money jointly with their family members.

6. Control over their earnings

About 25 per cent had no control over money earned by them from income generating work, 49.36 per cent had partial

Table 50 : Extent of Control of Respondents Over their Earnings

Extent of Control	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)
Full control	21 (26.25)	11 (18.03)	7 (41.17)	39 (24.68)
Partial control	38 (47.50)	32 (52.45)	8 (47.05)	78 (49.36)
No control	21 (26.25)	18 (29.50)	2 (11.76)	41 (25.94)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

control and 25.94 per cent had full control (Table 50). All the women headed families and most of the respondents whose husbands were employed in other districts/states, had full control over their earnings. Majority of them were from nuclear families. About 48 per cent respondents of LLH group and 52.45 per cent respondents of MLH group had partial control over their earnings, ^{and} 26.25 per cent of SLH group had no control.

Among these respondents, 25.30 per cent were wives who had full control over their earnings, whereas 23.94 per cent daughters-in-law had full control. Majority of these

Table 51 : Control Over Earnings of the Respondents
by their Relational Position in the Family.

Extent of control	wife (N=83)	daugh- ter (N=4)	daugh- ter-in law (N=71)	Total (N=158)
Full control	21 (25.30)	1 (25.00)	17 (23.94)	39 (24.68)
Partial control	32 (38.55)	1 (25.00)	45 (63.38)	78 (49.36)
No control	30 (36.14)	2 (50.00)	9 (12.67)	41 (25.94)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

respondents were those who had dependent in-laws staying with their family (Table 51).

7. Extent of freedom in spending the money

Mere earning of money and its contribution to the family income, however, may not increase a woman's say in decision making unless this is backed by her power in administering the family resources i.e., freedom to spend family income.

Table 52 : Extent of Freedom in Spending the Money Income.

Freedom to spend	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)
Always	12 (15.00)	21 (34.42)	6 (35.29)	39 (24.68)
Sometimes	51 (63.75)	31 (50.81)	9 (52.94)	91 (57.59)
No freedom	17 (21.25)	9 (14.75)	2 (11.76)	28 (17.72)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

It was found that only 24.68 per cent respondents were free to use the money earned from income generating work. Whereas 57.59 per cent respondents could not spend the money freely, and in these families joint spending was observed. About 18 per cent respondents had no freedom to use the money. Those respondents who had full freedom to use money were either female heads or women whose husbands had to move to other places for jobs (Table 52). More respondents of MLH group were free to use their earnings. It was observed that wives were more free to spend money according to their wish compared to the daughters-in-law. Those who had freedom to use the money were eldest daughters-in-law and families in which both the parents-in-law or any one of them were

Table : 53 Extent of Freedom to Spend Money by Relational Position in the Family.

Freedom to Spend money	wife (N=83)	daugh- ter (N=4)	daugh- ter-in law (N=71)	Total (N=158)
Always	24 (28.91)	3 (75.00)	11 (15.49)	38 (24.05)
Sometimes	50 (60.24)	1 (25.00)	40 (56.33)	91 (57.59)
No freedom	9 (10.84)	-	20 (28.16)	29 (18.35)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

dependent on their family. Daughters always had the freedom to use money (Table 53).

8. Recognition given to women as important contributor to the family

To assess that if women were recognized as contributors to family income whether they were given more chance to share in family decisions. Rural women were considered non workers or the supplementary workers inspite of the fact that they contribute more at home and farm, their work was taken for granted as their duty and not recognized in the family, inspite of the fact that they contribute more at home and farm. They spend more than 10-12 hrs. in productive work.

Table 54 : Importance Given to Respondent by Family Members and herself as a Contributor to the Family.

Persons	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)
I. Self Perception of Respondents				
Not Important	73 (91.25)	51 (83.60)	14 (82.35)	138 (87.34)
Important	7 (8.75)	10 (16.39)	3 (17.64)	20 (12.65)
II. By Family Members				
Husband	16 (20.00)	18 (29.50)	6 (35.29)	40 (25.31)
Children	21 (26.25)	20 (32.78)	6 (35.29)	47 (29.74)
In laws	2 (2.50)	2 (3.27)	2 (11.76)	6 (3.79)
Other family Members	1 (1.25)	3 (4.91)	-	4 (2.53)
Not important	40 (50.00)	18 (29.50)	3 (17.64)	61 (38.60)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

It was distinctly revealed that on the whole 87.34 per cent respondents reported that they were not considered as resourceful members in the family contributing a certain amount (Table 54). Their work was invisible and unrecognized by the family members. About 30 per cent respondents were given recognition as an important contributor by children. Recognition given by family members to the respondents was very low. More respondents of MLH group were given

importance by the family members as important contributor in the family compared to SLH - LLH groups.

Twenty per cent wives were given recognition as contributors by their husbands and children. Very few daughters-in-law got such recognition from their children and in laws.

9. Extent of acceptance of advice given by respondents

It was postulated that those women who were contributing money to the family were frequently asked for advice and their advice was more accepted.

Table 55 : Acceptance of Respondent's Advice by Family Members

Degree of Acceptance	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)
Consulted and fully accepted	17 (21.25)	11 (18.03)	6 (35.29)	34 (21.51)
Consulted and partially accepted	21 (26.25)	24 (39.34)	5 (29.41)	50 (31.64)
Consulted but not accepted	14 (17.50)	7 (11.47)	3 (17.64)	24 (15.18)
Not Consulted	28 (35.00)	19 (31.14)	3 (17.64)	50 (31.64)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages

An attempt was made to find out, the extent of respondent's advice that was accepted when they were consulted for any problem. The data clearly revealed that 31.64 per cent respondents were consulted and their advice

was sought partially (Table 55). About 21.51 per cent respondents were consulted and their advice was fully accepted. These were mostly aged women and women of nuclear families who were the only female members in the family. About 15.18 per cent respondents were consulted but their advice was not accepted and 31.64 per cent were not consulted at all. Advice of 35.29 per cent respondents of LLH group was fully accepted, but advice of only 18.03 per cent respondents of MLH was fully accepted.

10. Reasons of acceptance of respondents' advice

Frequency of women's acceptance of advice depends on various factors.

On the whole advice of 80.37 per cent respondents were accepted because they had good communicating skill and gave good advice. About 77.21 per cent were consulted and their advice was accepted as they were confident in any situation.

Further 39 per cent respondents were consulted and advice was sought because they were the only persons in the family and had to solve problems by themselves. These respondents were either the women heads of the family or the respondents whose husbands had migrated outside the village. In 25.31 per cent families the advice of respondents were accepted as they were mature and could give reliable solutions to the problem (Table 56). Main reason of

Table 56 : Reasons for Acceptance of Respondents' Advice

Reasons	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	Total (N=158)
Respondent is				
Educated	1 (1.25)	2 (3.27)	3 (17.64)	6 (3.79)
Mature (age)	31 (38.75)	23 (37.70)	11 (64.70)	65 (41.13)
Gainfully employed	11 (13.75)	2 (3.27)	9 (52.94)	22 (13.92)
Self employed	13 (16.25)	11 (18.03)	6 (35.29)	30 (18.98)
Daughter of the family	1 (1.25)	3 (4.91)	2 (11.76)	4 (2.53)
Contributor of money to the family	3 (3.75)	11 (18.03)	2 (11.76)	16 (10.12)
Only person in the family	44 (38.93)	26 (40.62)	8 (34.78)	78 (39.00)
Widow	1 (1.25)	1 (1.63)	5 (29.41)	7 (4.43)
Confident	64 (80.00)	47 (77.04)	11 (64.70)	122 (77.21)
Good communicator	66 (82.50)	48 (78.68)	13 (76.47)	127 (80.37)
Knowledgeable	29 (36.25)	21 (34.42)	10 (58.42)	65 (41.13)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages
: Due to multiple responses, total percentage exceeds 100.

accepting advice of respondents, given by households of all land holding groups was because they had good communicating skill.

Table 57 : Reasons for not Accepting Respondents' Advice

Reasons	SLH (N=80)	MLH (N=61)	LLH (N=17)	TOTAL (N=158)
Illiterate	33 (41.25)	17 (27.86)	2 (11.75)	52 (32.91)
Not matured (age)	9 (11.25)	18 (29.50)	13 (16.47)	40 (25.31)
Not gainfully employed	20 (25.00)	6 (9.83)	9 (52.94)	35 (22.15)
Not self employed	40 (50.00)	2 (3.27)	-	42 (24.58)
Daughter in law of the family	38 (47.50)	32 (52.45)	7 (41.17)	77 (48.73)
Does not contribute money in the family	17 (21.25)	9 (14.75)	5 (29.41)	31 (19.62)
Divorced	-	-	-	-
Widow	-	2 (3.27)	-	2 (1.26)
Has no confident	31 (38.75)	33 (54.09)	4 (23.52)	68 (43.03)
Has no good communicating skills	35 (43.75)	28 (45.90)	5 (29.41)	68 (43.03)
Has no knowledge	59 (73.75)	28 (45.90)	3 (17.64)	90 (56.96)

Note : Figures in parenthesis indicate the percentages
: Due to multiple responses, total percentage exceeds 100.

Thirty three per cent respondents reported that their advice was not sought because they were illiterate and could not give fruitful solutions to problem. About forty four per cent of them were not confident, 43.03 per cent had no good communicating skills, and were not mature enough to give

solutions to the problem. Advice of 48.73 per cent respondents was not accepted because they were daughter-in-law of the families (Table 57).

To conclude, it was observed that 55 per cent respondents were not involved in any type of income generating activity, whereas 65 per cent respondents were involved in income generating activities. While studying the respondents' freedom to invest money and the amount of investment in any income generating activities, it was found that the mean amount of Rs.128.33 on growing of flowers, Rs. 107.20 on fruits and Rs. 103.08 on starting kitchen garden was spent to start activities. Most of the respondents who invested money were wives and the eldest daughters-in-law in the family. Monthly expenditure was made on income generating activities like beekeeping, producing of wool articles, stitching of clothes in which mostly daughters-in-law were involved.

An effort was made to find out if women were given a chance to save money, pay debt and make investment. It was found that most of the respondents of all three groups disbursed money on food, clothing, education and health of the family members. It was found that those respondents who were heads of the family could save and invest some amount of money.

More of the respondents managed the money earned by them with the joint decision of family members. Therefore they had no right to spend on their own. About 49 per cent

had partial control over money earned by them. It was found that wives had more control than the daughters-in-law and daughters over money. Regarding extent of freedom in spending the income 57.59 per cent respondent sometimes spent money freely. In most of the cases the daughter-in-law had partial freedom to spend money. The wives were more free to spend money.

Regarding the question of importance of respondents as earning persons was concerned, it was found that 87.34 per cent respondents were considered as important members in the family, contributing certain amount of money. Mostly the respondents of nuclear families got recognition as important contributors by their children and husbands. The wives were recognized as important persons in the family.

It was found that 31.64 per cent respondents were consulted and their advice was sought partially, 21.51 per cent were consulted more and their advice was fully accepted. The advice of aged women and women of nuclear families was more accepted. About 15.18 per cent respondents were consulted but their advice was not accepted and 31.64 per cent were not consulted at all.

The reasons given for accepting respondent's advice in major decisions were because they were confident, had good communicating skill, could express very well, were mature and were the only female members in the family, who could give reliable solutions to the problems.

Many respondents' advice was not accepted in decisions because they were illiterate, had no confidence, had no communicating skill and were not mature. Some were not consulted being the daughters-in-law of the family.

TESTING OF HYPOTHESES

To test the hypotheses statistically, Step-wise Regression analysis, Chi-square, and Pearson Product Movement Correlation were computed.

Hypothesis 1 : Respondent's extent of involvement in decision making is the function of selected personality traits, age, education, employment status, women as head of the family, family's size of land holding, family type, family's socio-economic status, relational position in family, ordinal position in family and exposure to developmental programmes (Table 58). The dependent variable extent of involvement in decision making was regressed on above factors.

The results indicated that the Beta coefficient (T) were not significant in case of variables like status, age, ordinal position, education and occupation of head of the family, family type, size of the land holding and socio economic status of the family at 70 per cent, having a negative influence over extent of involvement in decision making. The variables education, had 'T' value (T=2.90, sig at .004, df=5,194), heads' of the family (T=8.94, sig at .001, df=2,197); relational position (T=2.64; sig at .01, df=3,196), selected personality traits (T=5.45; sig. at .001, df=3,198), developmental programmes (T=2.05, sig. 01, df=4,195) having a positive influence on the extent of decision making. Since variables like education, head of the

Table 58 : Multiple Regression Analysis Showing the Influence of Selected Personal, Family and Situational Variables on the Extent of Involvement in Decision Making by Respondents.

Independent Variables	Beta coeffi- cient	Std Error	t-value
Age	-.014	-.018	-.26
Education	16.200	5.567	2.90*
Marital status	-36.139	56.433	-0.64
Head of household	147.218	16.451	8.94***
Ordinal position	.025	.033	.40
Relational position	22.440	8.501	2.64**
Work status	-30.957	23.186	-1.33
Personality traits	0.394	1.171	5.45***
Education of head of the family	3.264	21.470	0.15
Occupation of head of the family	0.415	1.307	0.31
Family type	-.061	-.071	-1.00
Size of land holding	5.273	7.621	0.69
Socio-economic status	2.903	2.542	1.14
Exposure to developmental programmes	33.024	16.082	2.05*

* Significant 0.05 level

*** Significant at 0.001 level

household, relational position, selected personality traits and exposure to developmental programmes revealed a significant T value, these were put through the stepwise regression. It was found that among these personality

traits, and respondents as head of the family were the variables highly significant compared to remaining variables.

Table 59 : Stepwise Regression Analysis Showing the Influence of Selected Personal, Family, and Situational Variables on the Extent of Involvement in Decision Making by Respondents.

Variables listed by order of entry	Step	d.f	F.value
Personality traits	1	1	256.41 ^{***} (df = 1,198)
Whether head of the household	2	2	220.30 ^{***} (df = 2,197)
Relational position	3	3	157.34 ^{***} (df = 3,196)
Exposure to developmental programmes	4	4	157.34 [*] (df = 4,195)
Education of the respondent	5	5	157.36 [*] (df = 5,194)

* Significant at 0.05 level

*** Significant at 0.001 level

It further revealed that 'f' values for all the variables were significant in case of selected personality traits (F=256.41; sig at .001, df=1,198), head of the household (F=220.30; sig at .001, df=2,197), relational position (F=157.34; sig at .001, df=3,196), exposure to developmental programmes (F=157.342; sig. at 0.04, df=4,195), and education of the respondents (F=157.363; sig. at .09, df=5,194) at 70 per cent (Table 59). Hence, it may be

inferred that these five variables had a somewhat significant influence on the extent of involvement of respondents in decision making. R value was 56 per cent in case of selected personality trait but when the variable of women as heads of the family was put into step two the adjusted R increased to 68 per cent which showed that respondent as head of the family was found to be the most significantly related variable. When in the step three variable relational position was taken into account, the adjusted R increased to only 70 per cent and further increased to 71 per cent in other two steps.

The hypothesis was accepted for the variables selected personality traits, respondents as head of the family, relational position, exposure to developmental programmes and education, five of which emerged significant in influencing the involvement in decision making. However, other variables were rejected, since none of these above variables met even the 56 per cent level of significance.

Hypothesis 2 : There is a significant association between the respondents' selected personality traits and extent of involvement in decision making.

It was assumed that some personality traits will be more associated with respondents' involvement in decision making. Therefore further analysis was done to find out the traits having more association with extent of involvement in decision making.

Table 60 : Personality Traits Influencing Extent of Involvement in Decision Making.

Percentage involvement	Self Confidence		Communicating skills		Resourcefulness		Risk taking		Tactfulness		Practical sense		Socialising		Open mindedness		Intelligence		Knowledgeability		Ratio-nality		Leadership	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
No/Low involvement	65	39	57	47	75	29	59	45	42	59	55	49	84	20	71	34	62	42	57	47	61	42	47	57
Partial involvement	69	11	70	10	73	7	80	-	44	39	26	54	22	58	41	39	8	72	13	67	57	23	23	57
High involvement	15	1	16	-	16	-	15	1	12	4	8	8	8	8	7	8	6	10	4	12	11	5	5	11
Chi-square	13.20 (df=2)	**	21.51 (df=2)	**	14.99 (df=2)	**	33.91 (df=2)	**	4.77 (df=2)	4.77 (df=2)	7.47 (df=2)	7.47 (df=2)	11.21 (df=2)	**	12.34 (df=2)	**	3.92 (df=2)	7.33 (df=2)	7.33 (df=2)	3.71 (df=2)	3.71 (df=2)	5.64 (df=2)	5.64 (df=2)	

Note : Yes :- Indicates trait possessed by respondent
 No :- Indicates trait not possessed by respondent
 ** :- Significant at 0.01 level

The percentage involvement of respondents who possessed the traits and did not possess the traits was worked out. It was found that those respondents who possessed the traits, self confidence, risk taking, communicating skills and resourcefulness were more involved in decision making than those who did not possess these four traits.

The chi-square test was applied and a significant association was found between respondents' extent of involvement in decision making and risk taking (Chi-square=33.913, sig. .01); communicating skills (Chi-square=21.511, sig. .01); resourcefulness (Chi-square=14.997, sig.01), self confidence (Chi-square=13.202, sig.001) and open mindedness (Chi-square=12.344, sig.01).

The degree of association between extent of involvement in decision making and the significant variables was found to be 89 per cent with risk taking; 81 per cent with communicating skills; 67 per cent with resourcefulness, 63 per cent with self confidence , 57 per cent with sociability and 62 per cent with open mindedness.

Hence only these six traits influenced decision making. Out of these traits found significant, the chi-square values of the traits risk taking, communicating skill, resourcefulness and self confidence were high, hence they were more influential, (Table 60). Among these risk taking was found to be the most influential trait, therefore further analysis was done to study the combined influence of risk

Table 61 : Combined Influence of Significant Personality Traits on Involvement of Decision Making

Extent of Participation in decision making	Risk taking and self confidence	Risk taking and communicating skills	Risk taking and resourcefulness
	Risk taking and self confidence	Risk taking and communicating skills	Risk taking and resourcefulness
No/low involvement	51	42	55
Partial involvement	62	68	71
High involvement	14	12	15

taking with other traits found statistically significant on involvement in decision making. Combinations of the traits possessed by the respondents' revealed that respondents who could take risk and had communicating skills were highly involved in decision making. The next combination was risk taking and self confidence which was possessed by respondents who showed more involvement in decision making (Table 61).

Therefore the hypothesis was accepted for above six traits and it was inferred that respondents' extent of involvement in decision making is affected by selected personality traits possessed by the respondents.

Hypothesis 3 : There is a significant association between decision implementation of respondents by participation in household, farm, livestock and income generating activities by age of the respondents, education, employment status, women as head of the family, caste, size of the land holding, family size, type of the family, income of the family, socio-economic status, rational position of women in the family, ordinal position in the family and exposure to rural development programmes (Table, 62).

The chi-square test results showed a significant association between the extent of respondents' participation in household activities and the variables education of respondents (Chi-square=14.334, Sig. at 0.1, df=4), their employment status (Chi-square=16.672, Sig. at 0.1, df=2) and size of the family (Chi-square=13.572, sig. at 0.1, df=4).

Table 62 : Chi-square Values Showing Association Between Participation in Various Activities and Personal, Family and Situational Variables.

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Independent Variables	Dependent Variables Participation in			
	Household Activities	Farm Activities	Livestock Activities	Income generating Activities
	Chi-square	Chi-square	Chi-square	Chi-square
Personal Variables				
Age	1.18 (df=4)	15.57** (df=4)	3.59 (df=4)	15.50** (df=4)
Education	14.33** (df=4)	7.90 (df=4)	4.75 (df=4)	13.17** (df=4)
Employment status	16.07** (df=2)	16.01** (df=2)	13.31** (df=2)	18.97** (df=2)
Woman as head of the family	0.72 (df=4)	2.29 (df=4)	4.43 (df=4)	2.00 (df=4)
Caste	5.72 (df=4)	6.44 (df=4)	5.40 (df=4)	7.67 (df=4)
Family Variables				
Socio-economic status	7.23 (df=4)	18.84** (df=4)	3.38 (df=4)	1.54 (df=4)
Land holding	1.46 (df=4)	8.76* (df=4)	18.30* (df=4)	22.33** (df=4)
Family size	13.57** (df=4)	1.38 (df=4)	16.53** (df=4)	0.05 (df=4)
Family type	5.18 (df=2)	3.87 (df=2)	12.56** (df=2)	0.13 (df=2)
Family income	7.22 (df=4)	6.16 (df=4)	15.36** (df=4)	20.64** (df=4)
Situational variables				
Relational position	2.71 (df=4)	15.82** (df=4)	3.16 (df=4)	3.49 (df=4)
Ordinal position	2.66 (df=4)	0.51 (df=4)	0.16 (df=4)	0.51 (df=4)
Exposure to developmental programmes	1.62 (df=2)	2.21 (df=2)	2.81 (df=2)	3.12 (df=2)

** Significant at 0.01

* Significant at 0.05

The degree of association between the participation in household activities and the variables were, education 54 per cent, employment status 62 per cent and family size 41 per cent respectively.

The data revealed that there was no significant association between the extent of respondents' participation in household activities and age, women as heads of the family, caste of respondents, size of land holding, family type and income, socio-economic status, relational and ordinal position of the respondents, and their exposure to rural development programmes.

A significant association existed between the extent of respondents' participation in farm activities and variables i.e., age of the respondents (Chi-square=15.576, sig at 0.1, df=10), employment status (Chi-square=16.017, sig at 0.1, df=2), their relational position (Chi-square=15.825, sig at 0.1, df=4), family's size of the land holding (Chi-square=8.762, sig at 0.5, df=4) and socio-economic status (Chi-square=18.841, sig at 0.1, df=4). The degree of association between participation in farm activities and age was found to be 53 per cent, employment status 64 per cent, land holding size 42 per cent, relational position of respondent 56 per cent, and socio economic status of the family 72 per cent.

The hypothesis was rejected for the variables education, women as head of the family, family type, family

income and ordinal position of respondents as they showed no association with extent of participation in farm activities.

Data revealed a significant association between the extent of participation of respondents in activities related to livestock management and variables employment status of respondents (Chi-square=13.319, sig at 0.1, df=2), size of the land holding of family (Chi-square=18.307, sig at 0.5 df=4), family size (Chi-square=16.539 sig at 0.1, df=4), type of the family (Chi-square=12.564, sig at 0.1, df=2) and income of the family (Chi-square=15.360, sig at 0.1, df=4). The degree of association between participation in livestock activities and employment status was 43 per cent, land size 70 per cent, family type 39 per cent, family size 64 per cent and family income 72 per cent.

There was no association found between the extent of respondents' participation in livestock activities and their age, education, relational position and ordinal position in the family, as the chi-square values were not-significant.

The chi-square value was found significant between extent of respondents' participation in income generating activities and age of the respondents (Chi-square=15.504, sig. at 0.1, df=4), education (Chi-square=13.76, sig at 0.1, df=4), respondents' employment status (Chi-square=22.335, sig at 0.1, df=4), size of the land holding of the family (Chi-square=20.642, sig at 0.1, df=4) and income of the family. The degree of association between participation in income

generating activities and age was 53 per cent, education 51 per cent, employment status 73 per cent, land size 83 per cent, family income 79 per cent and relational position 51 per cent.

There was no significant association found between the extent of respondents' participation in income generating activities and variables, women as head of the family, caste, their family size and type, relational position and ordinal position in the family.

The hypothesis was accepted for the variable i.e., education, employment of respondents and family size which showed an association with participation in various household activities. It is inferred that those respondents who were highly educated and were gainfully employed performed less household work. With large family size the duties were distributed. The hypothesis was rejected for the variables age, women as head of the family, caste, size of land holding, family type, income of the family, socio economic status, relational and ordinal position of the respondents and exposure to rural development programmes. These variables found to have no association with their extent of participation in various household activities.

The hypothesis was accepted for the variables, age, employment status, relational position of the respondents, family size, land holding size, and socio-economic status when their association was found with participation in farm

decisions. It was reported that young respondents, unemployed and wives in the nuclear families performed more farm activities. Respondents with small family size and small land holding and low socio-economic status were more involved in farms activities. The hypothesis was rejected for variables education, women as heads of the family, family type, family income and ordinal position of the respondents showing no association with extent of participation in farm activities.

The hypothesis was accepted for the variables, employment status of respondents, size of land holding, family size, type, and income with participation in decisions related to livestock. It is inferred that high income group families had more livestock, therefore they got help from other members in the family, hence less involvement of respondent. Those respondents who were employed outside could not give much time for care of animals, therefore in large size families respondents could get the help in livestock care. Generally families with large land size had more livestock therefore more members were involved in activities related to livestock. The hypothesis was rejected for variables age, education, relational and ordinal position of the respondent in the family as chi-square values were non significant. It inferred that all age group educated, uneducated, wives, daughters-in-law, had to take care of animals.

Since the variables age, education, employment status, size of land holding and income of the families showed significant association with involvement in decisions related to income generating activities, therefore hypothesis was accepted for above variables. It was revealed ^{that} young respondents, illiterate, employed out, with small land holding and low income group participated less in income generating activities.

The hypothesis was rejected for variables caste, family size, type, women as head of the family, respondents' relational and ordinal position in the family as the chi-square values were non significant.

Hypothesis 4 : There exists a significant relationship between the extent of respondents' involvement in decision making and involvement in decision implementing in the area of household, farm, livestock and income generating activities in the family.

To test this hypothesis, product moment correlation coefficient was computed. A significant positive relationship resulted between the extent of decision making and decision implementing in the area of household ($r=.6380$, sig. 0.01, $df=198$) and livestock management ($r=.4571$, sig. 0.01, $df=198$) but no correlation existed between extent of involvement in decision making and decision implementing in the area of farm management and income generating work (Table 63).

Table 63 : Correlation Coefficient Values Showing Relationships Between the Extent of Respondents Involvement in Decision Making and Decision Implementing.

Variables	Extent of involvement in Decision making (r values)
Extent of involvement in Decision implementing in	
Household	.6380** (df=198)
Farm	0.087 (df=198)
Livestock	.4571** (df=198)
Income generating activities	0.046 (df=198)

** Significant at 0.01

The hypothesis was accepted for household and livestock management but it was rejected for farm management and income generating work.

Thus, it is concluded that respondents were playing a significant role in initiation, control and supervision of activities at farm and in income generating activities. But when the decisions related to farm management and income generation work were taken, respondents were bypassed and their role in decision making decreased. Therefore their role was more of workers than of decision makers.

Further statistical analysis was done to see whether respondents' extent of decision making is influenced by their role in money matters.

The dependent variable extent of involvement in decision making was regressed on factors such as the extent to which respondent managed the money earned by her, control over money earned by her, free to use money earned by her, family member's views about her as an important earning hand and how frequently she was consulted when major problems were to be solved.

Table 64 : Multiple Regression Analysis Showing the Influence of the Role Played in Money Matters by the Respondents Contributing Income to the Family and Extent of Involvement in Decision Making.

Independent Variables	Beta coeffi- cient	Std Error	t-value
Management of Money earned by respondent	4.68833	1.10595	4.23***
Control over her earning	6.85067	1.19984	5.71***
Freedom to use earning	2.24926	.72383	3.10***
Recognition given as a important earning person	3.19308	.83069	3.84***
Extent of acceptance of advice	.03367	.04252	.59
Significant at 0.001 level			

The results indicated that the Beta coefficient were not significant in case of variable extent of acceptance of advice of the respondent at 64 per cent, having a negative influence over extent in decision making. The variable

management of money had a 'T' value (T 4.239, sig. at .00001, df=2,197), control over her earning (T=4.239, sig. at 00001, df=2,198), freedom to use earning (T=3.107, sig at .0022, df=5,194) and women as important earner (T=3.844, sig. at 0002, df=4,195) had a positive influence on the right of decision making (Table 64). Since these above mentioned five variables, which revealed a significant 't' value, were put through the stepwise regression. It was found that among these five variables, management of money was the variable highly influencing the decision making power of the respondents, compared to rest of the variables. The freedom to use money was the least influential variable in role of decision making.

Table 65 : Stepwise Regression Analysis Showing the Influence of the Role Played in Money Matters by the Respondents Contributing Income to the Family and Extent of Involvement in Decision Making.

Variables listed by order of entry	Step	d.f	F.value
Control over her earning	1	1	233.52 ***
Management of money earned by the respondents	2	2	145.73 **
Recognition given as a important earning person	3	4	86.95 **
Freedom to use earnings	4	5	74.57 **

** Significant at 0.01 level
 *** Significant at 0.001 level

It further revealed that 'F' values for all the variables significant were, control over her earning ($F=233.52471$, sig. at 00001, $df=5,194$), management of money ($F=145.73406$, sig. at 0.01, $df=2,197$) respondent as an important earning person ($F=86.95026$, sig. at 0.01, $df=4,195$) and freedom to use earnings ($F=74.57930$, sig. at 0.01, $df=5,194$) at 64 per cent (Table 65). Hence, it may be inferred that these five variables had a somewhat significant influence on the extent of involvement of respondents in decision making. Adjusted R was 53 per cent in the step one in case of control over money. But when the variable management of her earning was put into step two the adjusted R increased to 59 per cent which showed that management of money was found to be most influencing factor in decision making. In step three it increased to 61 per cent.

In step four the adjusted R increased to 64 per cent showing that variable freedom to use money in step four was the least influential variable.