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RESEARCH STUDIES ON WOMEN AND CHILDREN

CHILD LABOUR

1. Jayaprakash Institute of Social Change, Kolkata. (2005).
KAP study on child domestic work : a study on knowledge, attitude and practices in child domestic work. Kolkata : JISC. 30 p.

Abstract : Child domestic workers (CDWs) are the children working within homes, for wages, in cash or kind, outside their families, in domestic chores and not for commercial purposes. The study was conducted to understand the knowledge, attitude and practices regarding child domestic work in two *gram panchayats* (villages) of East Midnapore District of West Bengal, India where a 'Rights Based Project on CDWs' was implemented. The objective of the study was to understand the existing knowledge level about CDW, attitude towards it, and to evaluate the practices related to CDW. Data was collected from review of literature, discussions with CDWs using semi-structured questionnaires, and from primary and secondary sources. It was found that community people and key opinion leaders gave importance to the issue of CDW as a social problem. Programme staff had multiple skills, level of motivation was high, and they could handle difficult and challenging situations. It was observed that community people lacked knowledge about the health needs of CDWs. After the intervention, knowledge level of the community increased about causes and consequences of CDW, mobility and working environment of CDWs; and knowledge related to different institutional services/programmes available from the Government. On the attitude aspects, there were gaps in relationship building, and coordination was lacking between the various service and development institutions in the community. Parents were considered more as units of development than a tool for development. Among the parents, fathers generally wanted to deploy children as domestic workers. The practice was to engage girls aged 12 to 14 years as CDWs. They were vulnerable, and they often became school dropouts. There was no practice of maintaining an official database or recording process at the *Gram Panchayat* level on CDWs of the locality. Trafficking rackets were found to be active in villages which was a major hidden threat. Any strategic framework for advocating about the issue to local authorities and local decision makers was lagging behind. The negligent attitude towards CDWs decreased in the community, but local authorities did not properly utilize the existing legislation on child protection. Strategy should made for advocating about issues related to child domestic work, strengthening parents'

groups and mothers' groups, and training them in child care practices and livelihood skills development.

Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.DOMESTIC WORKER.

2. Save the Children, New Delhi. (2005).

Child domestic work : a violation of human rights : inhuman lives situation analysis of child domestic workers in Mumbai and Jharkhand. New Delhi : SC. 40 p.

Abstract : Child domestic workers (CDWs) are mostly girls, sometimes boys, who come from villages to work and support their parents, feed their siblings and work in three to four homes. The present study was undertaken by the National Domestic Workers Movement to investigate the growing problem of domestic child labour in Mumbai and Jharkhand. Data was collected through structured questionnaires from 225 CDWs in Mumbai and 416 CDWs in Jharkhand. It was found that all CDWs in the sample were girls. Most belonged to the vulnerable age group of 10-16 years and some were even below 6 years of age. Around 43% CDWs of the sample were illiterate and overall educational qualifications were poor. Majority of CDWs were involved in cleaning and washing in both Mumbai (55.6%) and Jharkhand (53.8%). About 25.3% CDWs had more than 3 family members and only 1.4% had one sibling. Around 87.4% CDWs spent their free time in leisure activities and very little in studies and vocational training. A majority of CDWs (77.2%) received their salary themselves, and the salary of only 23.2% children was given directly to the parents/ guardians. The general trend of the pay structure ranged between Rs.500 to Rs.2000 on an average. However, a majority of CDWs worked as part-time workers, and did not earn more than Rs.500 to Rs.1000. Around 80% of the children used the money as a part of their family income. It was found that 74% CDWs did not have even the basic right to a holiday. It is important that child domestic work is included in the Child Labour Prevention and Regulation Act (CLPRA) as a hazardous form of child labour. It may also be necessary to have awareness campaigns in source (high endemic areas usually rural) areas as well as receiving areas (mainly urban) to highlight the issue of child domestic work and also problems faced by such children.

Key Words : 1.CHILD LABOUR 2.DOMESTIC WORKER 3.EXPLOITATION CHILD LABOUR 4.MUMBAI 5.JHARKHAND.

DESTITUTE CHILD

- 3 Anandraj, Hannah. (1999).
Development of children of female commercial sex workers in Vijayawada.
Hyderabad : Roda Mistry College of Social Work and Research Centre.
14 p.

Abstract : One of the most horrendous violation of child rights is sexual exploitation. While several categories of children are in the grip of physical and social disadvantages, the children of commercial sex workers fall easy prey to those who surround them and abuse them. They are not only marginalized but receive scant attention of society. This study focused on the physical, psychological and social development of children of female sex workers (FSWs) from ten areas in the city of Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. The sample consisted of 312 children, born to or raised by a female sex worker who were in the age group 0-45 years. Data was collected through interviews, observation and case study method, and the tools used were interview schedule, standardized psycho-social scales and Segain Form Board to measure the psycho-social development and the development quotient (DQ). Physical development was based on the 'weight for age' criterion from the standardized chart. The independent variables namely age, education, work, vocational aspiration, behaviour problems, family income, closeness to mother, mother's preference for services, peer influence and media watching were measured using both standardized scales and questions. Findings showed that among the different groups of respondents, under each of these independent variables, there was a tremendous need for action, so as to strengthen the development of children. The results of multiple regression analysis to see the patterns of development showed age to be an important correlate of development. Variables such as education, religion, services preferred by mother, and influence of media were found to contribute positively to the development of children. As the contribution of education to development emerged with unequivocal importance, therefore, growth centres were recommended for strengthening and bolstering the development of the target children.

Key Words : 1.DESTITUTE CHILD 2.CHILDREN OF PROSTITUTES
3.CHILDREN IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES 4.PROSTITUTION 5.CHILDREN
OF SEX WORKER 6.REHABILITATION OF CHILDREN OF PROSTITUTES
7.ANDHRA PRADESH.

4. Gupta, Manisha and Menezes, Nicole. (2006).
Childline night and day : 1098. New Delhi : Childline India Foundation. 72 p.

Abstract : CHILDLINE is the country's first toll free helpline for street children in distress. In 10 years since it was set up, CHILDLINE received 9.6 million calls and worked with three million children in need of care and protection. An analysis of CHILDLINE calls from June 1996 to March 2006 revealed that 80.3% of all calls were to chat, silent, crank and blank calls which represented the emotional need of a child to connect with a friendly voice, 15.8% calls were for information about child related services, 2% of calls were requests for intervention in severe crisis situations relating to repatriation, resources, medical help, death, sponsorship, restoration of missing children, and 1.7% were requests for emotional support and guidance. CHILDLINE intervened directly in 19.6% of all calls. The highest number of children repatriated by CHILDLINE were from families in crisis situations such as poverty, single parent families, poor landless labourers, families affected by alcoholism, political conflicts and disasters. In most repatriation cases, children were rescued from cities and repatriated back to a district, town or village, and the majority of them were child labourers. The Child NET Data (2003-2005) showed that 39% of all calls received for shelter were from children who had left home, 26.9% from children who had been abandoned by their parents (mostly girls), and 21.9% were from poverty stricken parents seeking shelter for their children. Though, in a majority of the calls recorded, the location of the caller was unspecified, but it was found that 7.3% callers were from slums and chawls and 14.1% were from buildings. Also, 29.7% callers were girls as against 64.3% boy callers, and the girls had limited access to education, which further declined if they had disabilities. In two years there had been a 15% increase in calls seeking rescue from physical abuse, while only 6% callers had sought intervention against sexual abuse. About 35% of physical abuse cases took place within the family and neighbourhood, and 30% at the workplace. Hence there is need to develop issue-specific interventions to increase the reporting of sexual abuse. In future, CHILDLINE plans to focus on extending 1098 coverage to rural areas to prevent family break ups and economic migration of children and their families; strengthening a gender focus to reach out to girls, setting up services in high endemic areas affected by child labour and child trafficking; developing strategic alliances with people's movements and community based groups working on livelihood and access issues to develop local child rights volunteer bases that will work as community child protection watch dogs; developing specialized, issue based programmes to reach invisible children (political refugees, mentally challenged children, victims of riots, disasters and sexual abuse); and increasing advocacy with the Government to ensure the full implementation of policy, legislation and child-friendly services for children.

Key Words : 1.DESTITUTE CHILD 2.CHILDLINE 3.HELPLINE STREET CHILDREN 4.STREET CHILDREN.

5. Tulir, Centre for the Prevention and Healing of Child Sexual Abuse, Chennai. (2006).

Prevalence and dynamics of child sexual abuse among school going children in Chennai : research. Chennai : Tulir. 28 p.

Abstract : Child sexual abuse is a well kept secret in India, and in society there is ignorance, denial and silence about the issue. The present study was done with an objective to assess the prevalence and dynamics of child sexual abuse among school going children of 11th Standard in Chennai. 24 schools were taken covering 2211 students, of whom 847 were boys and 1364 were girls. Data was collected from the children using a self-reported anonymous questionnaire. The key indicators used in the study were sex, age, family type, family income, and school type. Results showed that out of a total of 2211 children, 939 (42%) had faced sexual abuse. There was a myth in society that boys were not sexually abused, but data showed that sexual abuse was higher among boys (48%) than girls (39%). Results contradicted various other myths. There was a general perception that sexual abuse was extremely common among poor and illiterate families. But the study found that prevalence of child sexual abuse in upper and middle class was proportionately higher than that in lower and lower middle class. Sexual abuse was found to be higher in joint families (335/413) as compared to nuclear families (589/814). The most prevalent forms of sexual abuse were touching children's private parts, exhibitionism, forcing and/ or tricking children to watch pornography. Prevalence of severe forms of sexual abuse was found to be 21% among boys and 15% among girls. Frequency of abuse was 'do not remember' 43%, once 34%, more than 5 times 7%, and 2-5 times 16%. Those who were abused once were abused mainly by strangers, whereas those who were abused repeatedly were abused by people whom they were familiar with. The age of 11-15 years was the age of onset of abuse for most girls and boys. The most common tactics used by abusers were force, trickery, blackmail, gifts and intimidation. Out of a total of 939 children who reported to have been abused, only 360 had ever sought help. The study showed that most abused children disclosed the abuse to their friends and then their mothers. It was found that a large number of children wanted information on how to protect themselves against sexual abuse. More importantly, prevention, through the concept of Personal Safety Education empowers every child to exercise the right to be safe all the time, and it strengthens the ability of all those morally and socially responsible for the protection of children, that is the State, parents, other significant stakeholders and the larger community.

Key Words : 1.DESTITUTE CHILD 2.CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE 3.SCHOOL GOING CHILDREN 4.ABUSED BOYS.

DOCUMENTATION CENTRES

6. Siwach, Sunita. (2006).

Is Internet harmful ? Perceived influences on personal and social life of Internet users. New Delhi : NIPCCD. 3 p.

Abstract : Use of computers and internet has been widespread in developed countries and is rapidly increasing in developing countries like India. A sample of 94 internet users was taken from 46 Cyber Cafes in different areas of Delhi, and 48 suburban areas of south Rohtak in Haryana. Their age ranged from 15 to 30 years. Data was collected through interviews. Out of the total sample, 45.74% internet users were daily visitors of Cyber Cafes, 28.72% were weekly visitors, and 19.15% used internet once a month. Males were using internet (74.74%) more than females in both groups. About 56.38% internet users were devoting 1-5 hours per week, and only 10.14% participants were using internet for more than 15 hours per week. About 38.3% users used internet for e-mail, whereas 40.42% used it for educational purposes. Chatting (19.15%) and business (2.13%) were also mentioned as other uses. About 40.4% participants mentioned that they felt relaxed while using internet, whereas 9.57% respondents reported that the internet had a negative impact on personal life. Other behaviours associated with internet usage were avoidance of work (32.9%), avoidance of play ground (37.2%), avoiding hobbies (20%), avoiding family (14.8%), avoiding visits to relative's place (27.6%), negative impact on adjustment (20%), friendship with net friends (27.16%), possessiveness about internet (22.3%), did not want to go outside with friends (24.4%), etc. Out of the total sample, 30.8% users reported a preference for pornographic sites. On the internet 22.3% persons wanted to chat with persons of the opposite sex, while 29.77% persons reported that they were wasting their time on the internet. About 25.5% were habitual users and only 14.89% wanted to leave this habit. Majority of people were using the internet for communication and entertainment. So it was suggested that internet should be used properly by users to collect information related to education, knowledge, and latest information in each and every field.

Key Words : 1.DOCUMENTATION CENTRES 2.INTERNET 3.CYBER CAFE 4.IMPACT OF INTERNET 5.SOCIAL LIFE 6.IMPACT OF INTERNET ON SOCIAL LIFE 7.MEDIA

EDUCATION

7. Acharya, Prasanta Kumar and Behera, Manoranjan. (2004).
Functioning of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme in Orissa (quarterly monitoring report). Bhubaneswar : Nabakrushna Choudhary Centre for Development Studies. 39 p.

Abstract : Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is the first national programme launched in 2001, with an objective to achieve the goal of universal primary education by 2007 and universal elementary education by 2010. It also envisages bringing back all out of school, never enrolled and drop out children to schools by 2003, and providing support to pre-school learning in ICDS and non-ICDS areas. The present report had been prepared to analyse the progress of SSA activities till November 2003 at district and national level. Data was collected from 2 sample districts of which one was a DPEP (District Primary Education Programme) district Mayurbhanj and the other was a non-DPEP district Nayagarh. From socio-economic point of view Mayurbhanj was backward compared to Nayagarh. It was found that by the end of November 2003, the progress on civil works had been very slow especially due to late release of funds, inadequate monitoring and lack of district level convergence of SSA with other allied development schemes. But remarkable progress was made by Orissa Primary Education Programme Authority (OPEPA) in organizing teachers training programmes both at state and district level. Nearly 70% EGS (Education Guarantee Scheme) centres had been made operational by OPEPA which was a remarkable achievement. But progress in the opening of Alternate and Innovative Education Centres (AIE) was very unsatisfactory. Some anomalies were found in the distribution of text books at block and school level because defective data was provided by OPEPA to TBPM (Text Book Production and Marketing) Authority. By November 2003, curriculum for Classes I-VII had been revised by OPEPA and distributed to some teachers, but no plans had been made to include specific vocational topics to increase the attendance of children. OPEPA had covered several activities by November 2003, i.e. identification survey, medical assessment, distribution of aids, formation of DRCs (District Report Cards) and BRG (Block Report Cards), etc., but there was poor progress in selection of IED (Integrated Education for Disabled Children) teachers and training of anganwadi workers. OPEPA had not undertaken any activity related to girls and SC/ST education, but it had conducted a series of activities on distance education. It was also found that some funds had been granted to the DPCs (District Project Co-ordinators), but they had neither been oriented nor given guidelines regarding the use of funds. OPEPA had provided TLM (Total Literacy Mission) grants and organized training of teachers for multi-

grade teaching to improve the quality of teaching at school level. It was suggested that intensive measures need to be planned by OPEPA to speed up civil works, and improve the quality of teachers by organizing effective training programmes and improving resources and infrastructure of training centres.

Key Words : 1.EDUCATION 2.SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN 3.ORISSA.

8. Mehta, Arun C. (2006).

Elementary education in India : analytical report 2004-05 : progress towards UEE. New Delhi : National Institute of Education Planning and Administration. 373 p.

Abstract : The present study represented the analytical report for 2004-05 of elementary education in 581 districts across 29 States and Union Territories (UTs) of India. The school related indicators analyzed were facilities in schools, enrolment based indicators and teacher related indicators. Data was collected from more than 1.04 million schools, with a comprehensive profile of more than 4.17 million teachers and also from District Information System for Education (DISE). It was found that nearly 86.9% schools were located in rural areas. About 84.8% of the total number of 1,037,830 schools were Government run schools. About 73.67% of the total 1.04 million schools were in Government buildings, 11.19% schools were in private buildings, 7% schools were in rented buildings, and about 2.4% Government schools were in rent free buildings. Of the total number of schools, 69.9% had *pucca* (permanent) building, 9.19% had partially *pucca* (semi-permanent), 1.84% had *kuccha* (temporary) building and 10.23% had multiple types of building. Around 2.66% schools had 11-15 classrooms and the rest had not more than 7 classrooms. About 68.4% classrooms were in good condition and the remaining 31.52% needed either major or minor repairs. More than 44% schools had enrolled up to 100 students. Drinking water facility (80.60%) and electricity connection (28%) was found to be higher in 2005 compared to the previous year (77.89% and 25%). 7.86% of the total schools were without blackboards. About 47% schools had common toilets in 2005. Book bank facility was found to be 43% in rural areas and 49.76% in urban areas. More than 93,000 schools imparting elementary education in 2005 had computers in school. About 558,965 schools arranged medical check ups in 2004-05. 61.81% schools had received Teaching Learning Material (TLM) grants in 2005, which was quite high as compared to 2003-04. The Gender Parity Index (GPI), which was 0.76 in rural areas (upper primary classes) in 2003, increased to 0.80 in 2005. In all the Government managed schools, GPI was 0.85 in 2005 in upper primary classes, and in privately managed schools it was 0.70, which was comparatively low. The percentage of girls' enrollment in Government schools was found to be higher than

that in private schools in primary (48% and 44%), upper primary (45.82% and 44.31%) and elementary classes (47.76% and 44%) in 2005. The enrollment of children with disability in rural and urban areas was 842,420 and 127,896 in 2003, which increased to 1,152,451 and 244,756 in 2005. The retention rate at primary level improved from 53% in 2003 to 58% in 2004-05. About 11.83 million students repeated Grades I-VIII, of whom 53.75% were boys and 46% were girls. Teacher related indicators showed that 78% teachers were located in rural areas in 87% of the schools. On an average, there were 4.02 teachers in a school that imparted elementary education, and primary schools had 2.74 teachers per school in 2005. The percentage of female teachers was higher in urban areas (64.75%) than rural areas (33.12%). The highest pupil teacher ratio (PTR) was observed in the case of primary schools (42:1) and lowest in independent upper primary schools (31:1). A majority of the teachers in primary schools were in the age group 26-45 years. It was found that 49% male and 48% female teachers were graduates and above. As many as 379,000 *para* teachers were appointed in 2005, which was 9.09% of the total 4.17 million teachers, and of these 65% were posted in primary schools. There is still need to focus on improving enrolment and retention in schools.

Key Words : 1.EDUCATION 2.PRIMARY EDUCATION 3.ELEMENTARY EDUCATION 4.ANALYTICAL REPORT 2004-05 5.UNIVERSALIZATION OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION 6.INTEGRATED EDUCATION 7.INCLUSIVE EDUCATION 8.PRESCHOOL EDUCATION 9.FAILURE IN SCHOOL 10.REPEATERS SCHOOL 11.EDUCATION STATISTICS 12.PUPIL TEACHER RATIO 13.SCHOOL STATISTICS 14.STATISTICS EDUCATION.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

9. Sharma, Divya. (2004).

Development of values in late childhood : a view from Hindu Rajasthani families. Vadodara : MS Univ., Faculty of Home Science, Deptt. of Human Development and Family Studies. ~200 p.

Abstract : In today's society, many people feel that children are growing up with unhealthy values and unproductive attitudes. The present study examined the perception of parents and teachers in developing values in young children and identified the values held by children. The sample comprised 40 school going children, 9-12 years old, from Hindu urban middle class families of Udaipur city, their parents and five class teachers. Data was collected through random stratified selection technique and the primary tools used were Family Tree Checklist, Values Auction Scale, Questionnaire for Children and Interview Guidelines for parents and

teachers. Results revealed that parents' lives depicted an integration of all the five basic core universal human values namely truth, peace, love, righteous conduct, and non-violence. However, righteous conduct and love were found to be predominant values for them as compared to truth, peace and non-violence. The Values Auction Scale was used to find out the values that parents considered important for their children. Independence in children emerged as the most important value for parents of boys, however, for parents of girls, the child who made them feel proud of their deeds was the most prized value. Also, there were gender related parental expectations related to doing household chores, cooking, managing house and realizing the value for money, especially for girls. Parents of boys gave importance to the child who is respectful towards adults, physically fit and can control his temper besides being self-disciplined. One of the most common strategies used by parents to develop values in children was encouragement, and the most significant sources of values included parents, grandparents and teachers, whereas sources like friends and the media emerged as virtual non-entities for them. Results also revealed that teachers regarded fostering values as a part of their job and considered themselves to be the main source for providing guidance and helping the child to reach his/her potential. The values considered important by teachers in an ideal student included being well disciplined, well mannered, punctual, attentive, considerate and respectful of others. Results showed that all the four values namely tolerance, honesty, sympathy and cleanliness were present in children, however, slight variations in the percentages suggest that their priority varied with reference to gender and family type. On the whole, children were more tolerant (25.9%) than sympathetic (23.1%), with cleanliness (25.48%) and honesty (25.43%) being their second and third priority respectively. Data revealed that boys and children belonging to nuclear families lived more by tolerance, whereas girls and children belonging to joint families lived more by cleanliness. Being sympathetic appeared to be the last preference for both boys and girls. Beside gender, family type, parents, peer group and teachers, there are various other factors that have immense potential for influencing values such as textbooks, curricular content, and process of education. It is very essential to ensure that the values they convey are not against those of the cultures prevailing indigenously and also are in harmony with universal human values.

Key Words : 1.GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT 2.VALUES 3.VALUE SYSTEM
4.ADOLESCENT 5.DISCIPLINE 6.PUNISHMENT 7.PARENTING
8.SOCIALIZATION 9.CHILD REARING 10.MORAL VALUES 11.RAJASTHANI
FAMILY 12.LATE CHILDHOOD 13.RAJASTHAN.

NUTRITION

10. Nutrition Foundation of India, New Delhi. (2006).
Integrated child development services : World Bank review. New Delhi : NFI.
4 p.

Abstract : The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme has expanded over its 30 years of operation to cover almost all development blocks in India and offers a wide range of health, nutrition and education services to preschoolers, women and adolescent girls. Some recent evaluations of ICDS centres were done by the NFHS (National Family Health Survey), and other sources which focused on the quality of infrastructure and inputs, and the execution of activities. An analysis done by NFHS in 1992/93 showed that ICDS centre was associated with a 5% reduction of being underweight in boys but not significant association for girls. Data collected in Kerala, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh between 2000-02 found that children who live in villages with an anganwadi centre (AWC) were not significantly less likely to be underweight or ill than other children. When using data on actual attendance at AWCs in 6 states, only in Kerala was better nutritional status associated with attendance. Information related to mother and child care, feeding practices and supplementary nutrition was found to be poor in Kerala, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, the exception being ICDS centres in Maharashtra. It was found that by December 2000, only one quarter of children aged between 6 months to 6 years benefited from the Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) component of ICDS. Coverage was particularly high in the north-eastern states. World Bank undertook an end line survey of ICDS-II in Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan during 2000-02, which showed that in Kerala and Maharashtra, almost every child aged 4-6 years attended the AWC at least once a month, whereas attendance rates were less than half of that in the other 4 states. According to NFHS-II, only one-third of children in India were offered any semi-solid food between 6 and 9 months, and in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh this figure was 40%. Greater clarity and focus are needed if the ICDS programme is to make a substantial dent on the problem of persistent undernutrition in India. Also bridging the gap between the policy intentions of ICDS and its actual implementation, with large fiscal and institutional implications, and a huge potential long term impact on human development and economic growth, calls for great foresight, flexibility, planning and commitment.

Key Words : 1. NUTRITION 2. RESEARCH NUTRITION 3. ICDS 4. EVALUATION OF ICDS 5. LACUNAE ICDS.

RECREATION

11. Toxics Links, New Delhi. (2006).
Toying with toxics : an investigation of lead and cadmium in soft toys in three cities in India. New Delhi : TL. 6 p.

Abstract : India now produces and imports a wide range of toys namely plastic toys, soft toys, mechanical toys, educational games, etc. The present study was undertaken in the three metropolitan cities of Delhi, Chennai and Mumbai to investigate the total content of lead and cadmium in the sampled toys and the potential risk involved. All the toys samples were brought to a laboratory NABL (National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories) in Delhi. Of 111 toy samples tested, 77 were found to be made of PVC materials and 34 toy samples were non-PVC plastic materials. 43 out of 60 toys samples purchased from Delhi tested positive for PVC, while all 30 toy samples purchased from Mumbai tested positive for PVC, but Chennai sample had only 4 out of 21 toy samples that tested positive. It was found that Pb (Lead) and Cd (Cadmium) was present in all the tested samples in varying concentration. Lead concentration was found to be very high in Mumbai samples (278.73 ppm) as compared other sampled toys of Delhi (27.8 ppm) and Chennai (20.67 ppm), and was also found to be higher than the national average (112.51 ppm). The average range of Cadmium was found to be higher in the toys from Delhi (26.53 ppm) as compared to Mumbai (2.61 ppm) and Chennai (3.10 ppm). Lead and Cadmium were also found in non-PVC plastic toys as well. Lead concentration in non-PVC materials ranged from 22.4 ppm to 56.2 ppm in Delhi toys, while it varied from 11.4 ppm to 32.4 ppm in Chennai toys. Similarly total Cadmium concentration varied from 8.74 to 16.35 ppm in Delhi, and 0.21 ppm to 14.5 ppm in Chennai toys. Presence of such heavy metals like Pb and Cd poses potential risk to children's health and equally damages and is a threat to the environment as such metals ultimately end up being locked in the soil and in the air. India as a state must provide safe environment to children so that they are not exposed to toxic chemicals. It can be achieved by implementing a robust regulatory mechanism and adopting a preventive approach. Also attempts must be made to replace materials having toxic potential by safer materials without heavy metals or other leachable chemicals.

Key Words : 1. RECREATION 2.TOY TOXICITY 3.TOYS.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

12. Bhargava, Pradeep and Sharma, Radheyshyam. (2002).
Countering uncertainties : strategies for sustainable livelihoods : an assessment of impact of poverty reduction programmes on the poor in Rajasthan. Jaipur : Institute of Development Studies. 115 p.

Abstract : Survival in a fragile ecosystem characterized by dryland areas and uncertain rainfall is the major struggle for the poor in Rajasthan. Livelihoods of the poor in Rajasthan depend largely on agricultural output and animal husbandry activities, which mainly due to failure of monsoons result in fluctuations in poor people's household income. The main objective of this study was to see the impact of various Government interventions including poverty reduction programmes and other sectoral programmes. In 1987 survey, 40 households were selected from each village and in all 320 rural households were selected for the study. The present study also covered the same villages, followed the sampling method and covered 320 households. The sex ratio was very low in Jaisalmer district, Badoda Gaon had a sex ratio of 677 and the highest was in Karnuwa (1209) in Udaipur district. Anganwadi centres were found in 9 of the 16 sample villages. In smaller villages, villagers had the services of an ANM. All villages had power connection and only 3 villages did not have a *pucca* (permanent) road. The percentage of economically active population, as measured by the share of main workers in total population, was higher than 40% for the male population in all sample villages except Badoda Gaon of Jaisalmer district. 6 out of 8 sample villages registered increase in population exceeding the percentage growth in the districts as a whole. Significant changes were observed in female literacy rates after the Total Literacy Campaign was launched. Literacy rate of males was 57.0% in 1987 and 56.2% in 1999, and that of females was 16.2% in 1987 and 27.8% in 1999. Incidence of child marriage has also declined in the sample villages. The major impact of increase in population is the sub-division of land holdings during the decade 1987 – 1999. Depletion of small water bodies, including those in the private lands in Udaipur villages, has resulted in decline in area under paddy cultivation from 179 hectares in 1983 to 79 hectares in 1997. In Ajmer villages, the crop residuals amounted to 26% of the value of crop production in the drought year compared to 18% in a normal year. The yield rates are low even in a normal year. The highest milk yield rate of buffaloes among semi-medium operational holdings averages about 9 litres per day during the lactation period. Livestock rearing continues to be an important asset for the poor, though the numbers owned per household have declined in the last two decades. In 1999 survey, it was found that the unemployment rates of adult members of the household in the last 15 days of the date of enquiry were very

high. Rajasthan Government was the first State to launch the Food for Work Programme in the country in 1997 and it is due to its initiative in recent months that the programme has been revived. The largest number of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) beneficiaries are in Jaisalmer (77%), Ajmer (62%), Pali (43%) and Udaipur (33%). Only 47% beneficiaries were found to be making productive use of the asset at the time of survey. The probability of moving above the poverty line is higher for those with education level of primary and above. In the current year, only BPL households were availing their quota of 20 kg of wheat from Fair Price Shops (FPS). The Public Distribution System (PDS) in the state is functioning but needs further push to ensure doorsteps delivery, and probably short term credit facilities to the FPS. The ward/ gram sabhas and eligible beneficiaries need to take a pro-active role in implementing the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY). The amount sanctioned for building dwelling units needs to be increased beyond Rs.17,200 per unit (1996-97), as the actual expenditure incurred exceeded the grant in 98% cases. Area Development Programmes, namely the Desert Development Programme and the Border Area Development Programme in Pali and Jaisalmer districts have helped in meeting some of the basic needs like water. A drought proofing strategy needs to be at the centre of planning in an ecosystem characterized by recurrent droughts. In a drought prone state, programmes for availability of fodder throughout the year are needed. The dairy network has helped in improving the production of milk. These networks need to be strengthened and expanded. While employment programmes need to be dovetailed to the larger planning for rural infrastructure, the panchayats need to work on a five-year plan basis to improve the infrastructure in their villages. The Public Distribution System should continue and include not only the poor, but also the transient poor, in a drought year. The quota from FPS to poor households needs to be increased to 10 kg per person.

Key Words : 1.RURAL DEVELOPMENT 2.POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMME 3.LIVELIHOODS 4.RURAL POOR 5.GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES 6.INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT 7.WAGES 8.INDIRA AWAAS YOJANA 9.RAJASTHAN.

13. Chanakya News and Features, New Delhi. (2000).
Quick evaluation study of information, education, communication (IEC) programmes. New Delhi : CNF. 344 p.

Abstract : The quick evaluation of Information, Education and Communication Programmes (IEC) was conceived by the Union Ministry of Rural Development in October 1999. The study assessed the extent to which individual beneficiaries of six schemes - Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Development of Women and

Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Watershed, Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans (SITRA) and Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM) were empowered through IEC programmes. A survey was conducted in 128 districts, which covered 10,359 beneficiaries and 2,220 non-beneficiaries. The main purpose of the survey was to access the efficacy of existing means and channels of communication in educating BPL families about the various schemes being sponsored by the Ministry of Rural Development. The village panchayats of 95 districts out of a total of 128 were involved by District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) in the awareness campaigns. Out of 10,359 beneficiaries, 54% were male and 46% were female. The JRY (2577) and DWCRA beneficiaries (1598) were aware of the scheme's target groups, special weightages, the role of panchayats in the scheme, the minimum wage norms, the selection procedure and the principal salient features of the programme. The 2,550 beneficiaries who availed of the NSAP, availed benefits under Old Age Pension Scheme (1,056), Family Benefit Scheme (503), and Maternity Benefit Scheme (991). The 247 watershed beneficiaries, 1,641 SITRA beneficiaries and 1490 TRYSEM beneficiaries were very aware of the programme objectives, and benefits to be derived from these schemes. Only 22% beneficiaries were aware of the weekly radio programmes on rural development, viz "Gaon Vikas Ki Ore" and "Chalo Gaon Ki Ore" and 19% had heard the programmes. 16% beneficiaries had seen the television programmes on rural development schemes. The 2,220 non-beneficiaries were 68% male and 32% female. The non-beneficiaries were well informed about NSAP programmes but ill-informed about DWCRA facilities. They were also not aware about TRYSEM and SITRA programmes. The non-beneficiaries had poor awareness about IEC activities. Only 20% non-beneficiaries were aware of the weekly radio programmes on rural development and 16% had heard them, whereas 17% had seen television programmes. Overall, the majority insisted that more information was needed to benefit from rural development programmes. There is an urgent need to review the conventional approach towards IEC as there is considerable divergence between the findings of the survey and the views of officials.

Key Words : 1. RURAL DEVELOPMENT 2.IEC PROGRAMME 3.INFORMATION EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION 4.IEC IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT 5.RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES 6.DWCRA 7.NATIONAL SOCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME 8.TRYSEM.

SOCIAL DEFENCE

14. Akshaynagar Pallisri Sangha, Akshaynagar, West Bengal. (2002).
Prevailing conditions of female commercial sex workers/ women in prostitution : a study report. Akshaynagar, South 24 Parganas : APS. ~75 p.

Abstract : In 1870, a British social worker in India, William conceptualized prostitution terms of economic laws of supply and demand for sex. Today prostitution is a much hated, out caste, outlawed, antisocial profession. But a number of prostitutes suggest that the profession enjoys the patronage of society. There are various ways through which sex trade is operated in India. The most common form is brothel prostitution followed by *devadasi vasavi* system. Other practiced forms of prostitution include massage parlours, cabarets, clubs, bars, guest houses, private meeting places of singing and dancing girls, highway prostitution, pavement prostitution near railway stations, cinema halls, market centres, etc. Other women are used for begging, as mail-order brides, as illegal or bonded labour, as domestic servants and such other treacherous purposes. The main objectives of the study were to assess the life conditions of women involved in sex trade, to provide an understanding of its proliferation, its dynamics and also the incidence of AIDS/HIV/STD prevalent among them. The study was conducted in red light areas of South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas, Howrah and Hooghly Districts of West Bengal. A sample of about 200 women was selected randomly from each red light area. About 314 of the women involved in sex trade were 19-30 years old and 1.6% prostitutes were minors below 18 years. Almost 60% prostitutes belonged to weaker sections of society, that is STs, SCs and OBCs, and 15% belonged to general caste groups. 98.7% believed in their own religion. In this region, 93.1% prostitutes were of Indian origin and the remaining 6.9% were of foreign origin. About 94.7% were illiterate and 3.4% were semi-literate. 98% of the sex workers were married. Sex workers from wage labour family background constituted 95.6% of the population, family classes 2.4%, business class 1.6%, and service class 0.4%. All prostitutes expressed their concern about a secure future. 8% had some land in their possession, and 20.4% had assets in the form of ornaments. Almost all the sex workers were residing under unhealthy housing conditions. The income of prostitutes ranged between Rs.1000 to Rs.6000 per month. Regular intake of alcohol was reported by 67% prostitutes. The most distressing factor for women and girls being treated as commodities in our society is the prevalence of crime against women and children that get manifested in the form of kidnapping, rape, eve teasing, dowry harassment, domestic violence, trafficking, etc. and compel them to join prostitution. A majority, 51.4% of the prostitutes, had experience of 5 years in the flesh trade, and 7% had experience of more than 10 years. Majority of the prostitutes trapped in this profession were 13-

20 years of age when they were inducted. It was evident that 96.7% prostitutes entered this profession unwillingly, 92.6% women were lured by agents/ brokers or introduced by a known person. About 81% prostitutes reported that they were deceived by someone who gave false promises for better employment, glamorous life, etc. About 35% prostitutes entertained their clients for 6 to 10 hours per day, and some younger prostitutes (6%) were engaged for more than 10 hours. Evening hours were the busiest in this profession. Rickshaw pullers, truck drivers, conductors, helpers, labourers, and local youth were the casual customers. About 97% respondents admitted that their level of living improved substantially after joining sex trade, and 99% sex workers said that they lost their good health after joining the trade. About 90% sex workers suffered from sexual diseases, 12% from serious diseases like leucorrhoea, anaemia, TB, etc. Women were less health conscious, but 98% prostitutes were aware of STD/HIV/AIDS. Due to fear of losing customers they had to abide by their whims. Only 12% prostitutes could successfully negotiate condom usage with their customers. About 98% prostitutes admitted that they did not receive proper health care services particularly with regard to STDs. Almost 97% prostitutes did not visualize any better future for themselves and their dependants. About 98% prostitutes intended to disassociate themselves from their profession provided they are assisted by the Government to rehabilitate. About 63% prostitutes felt that prostitution has a negative impact on women. There is need to identify the women who are not brothel based and are not visible in the sex market. This needs an all out effort from Government, NGOs, researchers and social/ political activists with a missionary zeal. The local Self Government should come forward with specific programmes to clean the social and physical environment of red light areas. There is an urgent need to ban alcohol business in and around the red light areas. There is need to organize skills development training for those who intend to take up alternative occupations. Awareness generation camps about general health care, use of condoms/ contraceptives and other measures to protect them from dreaded diseases like STD/ HIV/ AIDS should be organized on regular basis.

Key Words : 1.SOCIAL DEFENCE 2.PROSTITUTION 3.COMMERCIAL SEX WORKER 4.WORLD CHARTER FOR PROSTITUTES RIGHTS 5.HEALTH STATUS PROSTITUTES.

15. Jayaprakash Institute of Social Change, Kolkata. (2004).
Situational analysis of the floating sex workers. Kolkata : JISC. 71 p.

Abstract : From the ancient period, prostitution has existed in all human societies with different ramifications. One of the categories includes women of poverty-stricken families, who are forced to take up the profession to earn a living. They do

not abandon their families while continuing sex trade outside and are called 'floating sex workers'. The present study analysed the physical, social and psychological situations related with their professional life. The sample comprised 45 women labourers of Ultadanga, near Bidhannagar station, Kolkata. The sample was selected through snowball sampling technique, and interview schedule and case studies were used for data collection. Results revealed that most of the respondents (86.66%) were engaged in sex trade as part timers, and only 13.33% worked as full timers, that is they were not engaged in any parallel profession except sex work. Majority of women (48.88%) entered sex trade due to poverty, 26.66% due to demand of employers, 17.77% due to sexual dissatisfaction, and 6.66% to take revenge on their husbands. Out of the total respondents, 11.11% worked at the rate of Rs.100 to Rs.150, 46.66% at the rate of Rs.50 to Rs.100, 22.22% at the rate of Rs.50 or less, and 20% had no fixed income at all, per sitting, per hour. Though most of the respondents were aware about the safety aspects of using condom during intercourse, but only 17.77% always used it and had problem free sexual health, whereas 22.22% never used it and suffered from various sexually transmitted diseases such as genital ulcer (11.11%), curdy vaginal discharge (26.66%), watery vaginal discharge (37.77%), and pain in lower abdomen (6.66%). Majority of the total respondents (40%) totally neglected their sexual health related problems, whereas others went to government hospitals, private hospitals or to DMSC (Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee) clinics for treatment. Results also showed that in 84.44% cases the respondent's family was not aware about their profession, 86.66% did not respect their profession, 91.11% believed in the institution of marriage and wanted to shift to another profession, even if it demanded more time, gave less salary, or extracted harder labour from them. Findings revealed that 44.44% often and 17.77% severely suffered from guilt feelings, and none of them wanted their daughters to take up this profession. 53.33% responded that they would be unhappy if their son got married to a sex worker. Only 8.8% of the respondents were members of a welfare organization working exclusively for sex workers, 17.77% were interested in taking membership, and 46.66% were not interested due to fear of the truth being revealed to their families. The respondents gave suggestions regarding improving their own life conditions such as free of cost supply of condoms (35.55%), establishment of a day care centre for preschool children (6.66%), and 2.22% believed that legalization of their profession might improve their condition. However, 75.55% respondents were totally unaware about the concept of legalization of sex trade, and 44.44% were unaware about the laws related to sex trade. The study revealed that floating sex workers are vulnerable to different types of exploitation and there is great need to evolve some strategies which can help in improving their situation.

Key Words : 1.SOCIAL DEFENCE 2.PROSTITUTION 3.SEX WORKERS
4.FLOATING SEX WORKER 5.HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE SEX WORKER
6.CALL GIRLS 7.WEST BENGAL.

16. Jayaprakash Institute of Social Change, Vidyasagar School of Social Work, Kolkata. (2000).
The Problem of the undertrial women prisoners : a study on Presidency Jail.
Kolkata : JISC. 87 p.

Abstract : Undertrials are those prisoners behind bars who, in the eyes of law, are yet to be convicted by the absolute final judgement, and they pass their days with suspense and expectations like light and shadow in their minds. The present study was conducted in Presidency Jail, West Bengal to analysed the conditions, situations and difficulties faced by undertrials. Data was collected through interviews with 16 women undertrial prisoners who had undergone more than 2 years of imprisonment. Findings showed that 68.7% respondents were Hindu and 31.2% were Muslims. Majority of the respondents (50%) were in the age group 31-40 years, 43.7% respondents were between 25-30 years of age, and only 6.3% were in the age group of 51-60 years. About 43.7% undertrials were from the low income group earning between Rs.900 to Rs.2000 per month. About 62.5% respondents were domiciles of West Bengal. Among the undertrials, 50% were associated with drug peddling, while others were involved in cases related to illegal trafficking, infiltration, murder and robbery. Nearly 75% undertrials were not allowed by their lawyers to give statements before the court. 93.7% undertrials were depressed and disenchanted with procrastinations in the law system. 50% undertrials had direct communication and 43.7% had indirect communication with their lawyers. It was observed that the quality of food and its supply was very poor. 43.7% undertrials had negative response towards health care facilities. 68.7% undertrials had no contact with their relatives. The wards of undertrials were allowed to stay with their mothers up to the age of 6 years. 52.3% respondents were ready to accept any type of work in prison such as cleaning utensils, washing clothes, serving food, etc. 62.5% undertrials had suffered from the anguish of being labelled while on release. The Government should start vocational training and rehabilitation programmes for undertrials, free and compulsory education for their children, and also special guidance and counseling. Police teachers should be made to identify delinquency prone undertrials in prison.

Key Words : 1.SOCIAL DEFENCE 2.WOMEN PRISONERS 3.UNDERTRIALS
4.PRESIDENCY JAIL 5.WEST BENGAL.

17. Jayaprakash Institute of Social Change, Vidyasagar School of Social Work, Kolkata. (2004).
Safer sex practice of sex workers and its relevancy to prevent HIV/AIDS and STD. Kolkata : JISC. 62 p.

Abstract : Sexual behaviour is a very important area of human behaviour and deserves to be objectively studied by social and biological scientists for its own sake. Prostitution is one of the oldest professions in the world and is defined as “promiscuous intercourse for hire whether for money or kind”. Regular use of condoms by clients was reported by 47.22% sex workers. Use of condoms increased considerably during the intervention period as compared to the baseline survey, when only 1.11% clients used condoms. According to NACO, the annual incidence of STDs in India might be as high as 5% or 40 million new cases per year. Differences regarding the source of STD infection between North and South India was between 65% to 92%, and 35% to 65% male patients cited visiting female sex workers (FSWs) to be the cause of infection. Annual HIV sentinel survey was conducted in 320 sites in all States and Union Territories in 2001, and 3.31 million HIV infected persons in the 15 to 49 years age group were found. 30 respondents were taken from Sethbagan (15) and Rabindra Sarani (15) which is a part of Sonagachi. Only 36.67% respondents were of age 31 years and above. 30% respondents were illiterate and 16.62% had studied till primary level. 13 respondents were involved in this profession since 5 years; 5 for 6-10 years and 12 for 11 years and above. 18 respondents were involved per day for more than 8 hours; 7 worked for 8 hours. Around 60% respondents knew clearly about STDs and 40% did not know actually about the disease. In Rabindra Sarani area, sex workers got Rs.110 for half to one hour per customer; and Rs.450 for one night. In Sethbagan area the rate was Rs.20 to Rs.200 per customer. Only 2 respondents were getting Rs.300 and above per customer. 30% respondents thought AIDS was a common disease and 26.67% knew it as a sexual disease. Out of 30 respondents, 17 were affected by AIDS. About 33.33% took treatment from personal doctors; 23.36% from local NGOs; and 6.65% from government hospitals. In 40% cases, the most common symptom of the disease was infection in vagina. 14 respondents said that few customers allowed use of condoms, and only 3 respondents said that everybody allowed use of condoms. 18 sex workers said that customers used condoms after a lot of convincing. Mostly drivers, *khalasi* (helpers), *kuli* (porters) and young people (students from colleges) do not want to use condoms. 16 respondents strictly refused customers with some infection, and 4 respondents convinced clients and brought them to NGOs like Durbar Clinic for treatment. Around 22 respondents did not use condom on their first day, but 8 young respondents used it even on their first day. The main source for getting condoms were educators in the case of 56.67% respondents, and 13.33% got it from their customers. Awareness about AIDS needs to be raised among individual groups of sex workers and clients through other communication channels to

promote use of condoms. Distribution channels for condoms also need to be increased. Targeted intervention programmes for behaviour change in people at risk of getting infected with HIV need to be undertaken.

Key Words : 1.SOCIAL DEFENCE 2.PROSTITUTION 3.SEX WORKERS
4.AIDS 5.AIDS PREVENTION 6.HIGH RISK GROUP 7.SEXUALLY
TRANSMITTED DISEASES (STDS).

18. Noronha, Alice and Pattanaik, Manisa. (1997).
Life behind bars : situational analysis of women prisoners in the jails of
Orissa : a research study report. Bhubaneswar : People's Forum. 114 p.

Abstract : Crime is increasing more and more, and offenders are over-crowding prisons. Increasing crime has created an alarming situation for the future generation. The study aims to focus on the background of women prisoners and the circumstances under which they are committing mistakes. The objective of the study was to know the physical, psychological and environmental situation of women prisoners in the jails of Orissa. A total of 17 jails were surveyed. Jails were segregated in 4 different groups. Questionnaires were given to 150 women and 17 Jailors. Maximum women prisoners (27%) were in 20 – 30 years age group and another large group was from 50 – 60 years. Mostly women offenders were from the general caste (66%), 15.3% were from STs and 18.7% were from SCs respectively. Illiteracy was very high among women prisoners in Orissa. Around 52.2% prisoners had more than 2 children. About 23.4% women prisoners were housewives; 18.7% were daily labourers, and 35% were engaged in farming or other small businesses to earn a living. Types of crime committed by women were murder (51.3%); dowry torture (28%); commercial sex work (6%); drug cases (3.3%); and theft/ robbery or cheating (2%), etc. Maximum prisoners (52.7%) were imprisoned since one year and 24% had come recently to the jail. Most inmates (59.3%) had cordial relationship with their inmates, but 40.7% were facing difficulties with the jail inmates. About 84.6% prisoners were confident that their family members would accept them when they went back, and 12.7% knew that their family members would not accept them. Facilities like sanitation and drinking water were very good in almost all the jails. Around 18% prisoners had minor health problems like cold, cough, fever; 7.3% had blood pressure; 3.3% were mentally depressed and 6.6% were absolutely in fine health. About 14% prisoners were in need of some financial support, and 5.3% required some work or job for their resettlement. Around 52.9% jail authorities never felt or showed any difference while dealing with male and women prisoners in their jails. 52.9% jails officials provided educational facility as well as spiritual outlook for the women prisoners. The observation of 23.5% jailors was that family members of women offenders

accepted them after their release. Awareness meetings should be organized for women offenders in jails to remove their ignorance. Counselling is needed for women prisoners to psychologically prepare them to face society after release. Women should be imprisoned only if found absolutely necessary. If the rights of prisoners as proposed are to be implemented, provisions must be made so that the jail staff do not violate them.

Key Words : 1.SOCIAL DEFENCE 2.WOMEN PRISONERS 3.UNDERTRIAL PRISONERS 4.CASE STUDIES 5.CASE STUDIES WOMEN PRISONERS 6.ORISSA.

19. Sahoo, P. et al. (2001).
Child prostitution and women in trafficking in the states of Orissa and West Bengal. Bhubaneswar : Institute for the Development of Backward Regions. 122 p.

Abstract : The sexual exploitation of children and women does not occur in a vacuum but involves a widespread network of exploitation, sexual or otherwise. The aims of the present study were to find out the common characteristics of sex workers, to assess the income level and standard of living of children in prostitution, to examine the existing legal provisions to save these victims, and to suggest measures to check trafficking within the framework of their rights to survival, protection, development and participation. The study covered 1300 sex workers distributed proportionately between Orissa (350) and West Bengal (950). In depth personal interviews were conducted with female sex workers whose average age was 15 to 18 years. Nearly 100 sporadic migrants, like truck drivers (50) and their helpers (50) plying trucks on the national highways were interviewed. Most of the girls entered sex trade either by kidnapping or false promises of marriage. Also, there were many refugees from Bangladesh and girls in search of employment from Nepal who were coerced into prostitution in India. The *dhabha* (small restaurant) culture on both sides of the National highways in different parts of Orissa has developed sporadic prostitution points to meet the sexual requirements of truck drivers and their helpers. The various categories of customers in Orissa and West Bengal were non-skilled, low skilled workers in manufacturing industries located in different slums of West Bengal and Orissa, living away from their family. The second category of clients included construction workers and manual labourers, and the third category included transport workers – truck drivers, helpers, taxi and autorickshaw drivers. Truck drivers played a prominent role in spreading HIV infection through multiple sexual partners at different points of the national highways, as well as visiting brothels in red light areas of urban areas. 66 truck drivers had never used condoms. Prostitutes

maintained anonymity about their profession, and even families of prostitutes did not know about their trade in some cases. 95% CSWs earned between Rs.2000-Rs.3000 per month, and gave a certain percentage to brothel owners, per client per day. Most CSWs lived in unhygienic conditions and were exposed to different customers and thus to various diseases. Various types of uterine infections indicated STDs. Many did not use condoms, and used abortion as a method of birth control, which was detrimental to their health. Most prostitutes had migrated from Andhra Pradesh to Orissa, and from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Bangladesh to West Bengal. Most respondents were illiterate women already engaged in the profession, and women from the neighbourhood known as *didis* (sisters) lured young girls from poor areas. Poor parents allowed their daughters to go with *didis* for a petty amount of earning per month. Many parents believed their daughters would do manual jobs. However, the promises given were rarely kept. Government and NGOs should monitor and ensure that women in brothels are not exploited. All prostitutes should be registered and provided health services. Policing of brothels should be left to women police. No male policemen should be allowed to exercise control in red light areas. Preventive care for STD/HIV/AIDS and health education needs to be taken up. Women should be provided with housing facilities and income generation activities so that they can move out of this profession.

Key Words : 1.SOCIAL DEFENCE 2.TRAFFICKING 3.TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS 4.PROSTITUTION 5.CHILD PROSTITUTION 6.TRAFFICKING PREVENTION 7.DEVADASIS 8.HIGHWAY PROSTITUTION 9.CALL GIRLS 10.ORISSA 11.WEST BENGAL.

SOCIAL WELFARE

20. Amnesty International, London. (2004).
Clouds of injustice : Bhopal disaster 20 years on : the summary. London :
AI. 8 p.

Abstract : On the night of 2nd December 1984, over 35 tons of toxic gases leaked from a pesticide plant in Bhopal owned by the US-based multinational Union Carbide Corporation (UCC)'s Indian affiliate Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL). An Amnesty International Report highlights that the leak has claimed more than 20,000 lives so far and left more than a 100,000 people chronically ill, who are unable to work due to their illness or injury and have been impoverished. The high cost of treatment and meagre compensation have further aggravated the economic hardships of survivors. The plant site has still not been cleaned up and continues to pollute the environment and contaminate water used by the surrounding

communities. Though the disaster shocked the world and raised fundamental questions about government and corporate responsibility for industrial accidents, yet, over 20 years later, the survivors still await just compensation, adequate medical assistance and treatment, and comprehensive economic and social rehabilitation. The payment of compensation to victims did not begin until 1992 and involved numerous problems like payment of inadequate sums, delayed payments, arbitrary rejection or down grading of claims. Excessive bureaucracy in the claim process led to the exclusion of victims of disaster from shaping the end of the case, entry of middlemen, rampant corruption, and reduction in the amount of compensation money that victims were able to finally get. Having noted the steps taken by Governments in India to assist the victims of the Bhopal tragedy, Amnesty International calls on the Governments of India and Madhya Pradesh to ensure the effective and prompt decontamination and clean up of the Bhopal site by UCC or DOW Chemical Company (which took over UCC in 2001) or to undertake the job if UCC/DOW were either unwilling or unable to do so; conduct a detailed assessment of the nature and extent of damage to health and environment from improper waste disposal and contaminants from the abandoned factory site; to ensure that DOW/UCC provide full reparations, restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for the continuing damage done to health and the environment by the ongoing contamination of the site; ensure regular supply of adequate safe water for the domestic use of affected communities; ensure adequate and accessible health care for all survivors without discrimination, including children born of parents affected by the gas leak; work with survivors' organizations to establish a mechanism for the distribution of all outstanding compensation in a way that guarantees the victims access to justice and due process, ensures transparency and guards against corruption; reassesses the compensation received by victim following the 1989 settlement, and make up any shortfall in line with the Supreme Court's 1991 order; ensure that UCC make available full information regarding reaction products released on the day of the leak and make sure that such information is passed on to survivors in languages they can understand; ensure that any relevant research on the health aspect of gas leak are made public; conduct a thorough and transparent review of the rehabilitation programs in consultation with survivors' groups; address the particular needs of women who face social stigma and those who were orphaned as a result of the disaster; and invite relevant special procedures of the UN Commission on Human Rights to visit India and examine the effect of UCIL/UCC and the Bhopal disaster on contamination of the groundwater and the environment, and consequently on the human rights of affected communities. Amnesty International further calls on the US Government, DOW Chemical Company, UN Commission on Human Rights and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to cooperate with the Government of India to ensure that UCC and or DOW appear before the Chief Magistrate's Court in Bhopal to face trial on criminal charges and provide full reparations, restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for the continuing damage done to people's health and environment. The Bhopal disaster and its aftermath reflects the need for an

international human rights framework that can be applied to companies directly, that could also act as a catalyst for national legal reform and serve as a benchmark for national laws and regulations.

Key Words : 1.SOCIAL WELFARE 2.BHOPAL GAS TRAGEDY 3.DISASTER RELIEF.

- 21 Habitat International Coalition, Housing and Land Rights Network, New Delhi. (2002).

Restructuring New Delhi's urban habitat : building an apartheid city. New Delhi : HIC-HLRN. 55 p.

Abstract : In March 2001, an international team, under the auspices of Habitat International Coalition's Housing and Land Rights Network (HIC-HLRN), undertook a fact finding mission (FFM) in 12 resettlement sites of Delhi namely Bakharwala, Bhalaswa, Hastals, Jahangirpuri, Maddanpur Khader, Molarbund, Nehru Place, Papankala Sector 1, Papankala Sector 16A (Kakrola), Poothkala, Sundernagri and Trilokpuri. The objective of the study was to evaluate the Government's performance in carrying out its human rights obligations to implement the right for adequate housing for its citizens and residents under the Indian Constitution, the (draft) National Slum Policy and Municipal Standards. The Fact Finding Team (FFT) found that individuals and entire communities were harassed by police, Government officials, placed under duress and then forcibly evicted from homes that some had lived in for over 25 years. In all the new sites, the HLRN team found that residents did not have equal access to public goods and services including water, health care, transport, fuel, sanitation, electricity and waste disposal. With regard to medical facilities, Hastals had at least one medical clinic while Maddanpur Khader and Molarbund had none. A mobile dispensary visited Molarbund once a week and the doctors distributed medicines without physically examining the patients. The resettlement site was mostly established on agricultural lands or otherwise uninhabitable low ground subject to inundation and drainage problems which led to hazardous surroundings. The characteristics of the plots themselves necessitated additional costs to the families to prepare the ground for any construction by filling earth which cost around Rs.1000 to Rs.2000 per month. The HLRN team found that the 25 sq.m. plots provided by DDA (Delhi Development Authority) were for Rs 7000 and Rs 5000 was paid for 12.5 sq.m. plots. At Bhakharwala, Maddanpur Khader and Bhalaswa it was found that allottees of the smaller plots paid the same amount as the allottees of larger plots. The FFT found that several villages were not connected to the main road, due to which they had to suffer problems associated with the inaccessibility of schools, employment and health facilities. Toilet facilities and appropriate bathing facilities for women

were also not designed properly. All resettlement sites were located far away from the original work places, due to which people had to pay for transport, and several women also left their jobs due to security reasons. Lack of adequate information about the laws and policies regarding eviction was one of the biggest handicaps of evicted persons. Security level was very poor at all the sites due to which people did not leave their homes especially at night. Government should make the public aware about their legal rights and policies related to land, livelihood, education, all aspects of rehabilitation, and basic civic amenities. More land should be provided to slum dwellers.

Key Words : 1.SOCIAL WELFARE 2.EVICTED PERSONS 3.SLUM DWELLER 4.DEMOLITION DRIVE 5.REHABILITATION SLUM DWELLER 6.HOUSING RIGHTS 7.PROBLEMS OF EVICTED PERSONS 8.DELHI.

WOMEN LABOUR

22. Mathew, Anna. (1999).

Women construction workers and their changing position in the family.
Hyderabad : Roda Mistry College of Social Work and Research Centre. 6 p.

Abstract : This paper is based on a research project sponsored by the University Grants Commission, titled 'Problems of women in the unorganized sector with special reference to women construction workers (WCW) in the city of Hyderabad'. The increasing growth of female participation in the construction industry has major implications for the nature of work and family life. This study ascertained whether the employment of women construction workers had positive bearing on the type of relationship WCWs shared with their husbands. It also examined their level of satisfaction about contribution towards family income and extent of help rendered by their husbands in domestic labour. The sample comprised 690 WCWs from the various construction sites of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. Data was collected using interview schedules. Findings revealed that 56.4% WCWs felt a sense of satisfaction by contributing towards the family income, 30% were indifferent towards their contribution, and 14% felt that they were obliging their relations and family members. Results also showed a higher percentage among both WCWs (83.4%) and their husbands (61.4%) subscribing to an egalitarian relationship than to 'husband dominance' or 'wife dominance' relationships. The percentage of respondents with a relationship of 'wife dominance' was glaringly low as compared to that of 'husband dominance'. However, decisions taken on household chores, child care, money matters and employment plans were found to be made on consensus basis and mutual agreement. It was found that 57% husbands extended

help under coercion, 31% did not help at all, and only 12% willingly helped in domestic work. About 57.7% husbands encouraged their wives to work, 38% were indifferent towards their wives working, and 20% did not want their wives to work because of the continuing influence of traditional gender roles. Though more than 50% husbands approved of their wives working, but only 9.8% willingly extended help to their wives in doing household chores. Therefore, there is an urgent need to create awareness among both, the WCWs and their husbands, regarding advantages of working together as partners within the household. Social workers can play a vital role in creating this awareness by holding group discussions on these aspects among WCWs and their husbands.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN LABOUR 2.CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY 3.WOMEN CONSTRUCTION WORKERS 4.ANDHRA PRADESH.

WOMEN WELFARE

23. Bengal Social Service League, Kolkata. (2001).
Struggling with destiny : the study of the hapless women of Raja Bazar and Narkeldanga. Kolkata : BSSL. 72 p.

Abstract : The origin of slums in Kolkata goes back to the days following the battle of Plassey (1751). Civic facilities were unevenly distributed from the very beginning. The report has been presented in a narrative form so that women and young girls may be viewed within their cultural milieu. The main objectives of the present study were to understand the existing scenario with respect to education and socio-economic conditions of the inhabitants of two slums; to assess the response of the intended beneficiaries and their preferences. Girl children aged 6 to 15 years from each of these 340 households were selected for interview. There were 5 pre-primary schools in the slums with enrolment of 25 preschoolers in each unit. Out of the sample of 340 women, only 27 informants chose their husbands on their own. Only 38.9% women adopted contraceptive measures, while 60.2% did not adopt any such measures. The husbands of 19% women were addicted to alcohol. 158 women responded that their husbands shared nurturing duties. Out of 340 women, 46 women were illiterate; 16 could only read and write; 6 were secondary school dropouts and 2 had higher secondary education. 110 women had acquired skills in some craft, but only 14 women used their skill to generate income. About 82% girls replied in the affirmative that they were interested in music/ drama and 73.5% were interested in joining story telling classes. Registration of a society named Raja Bazar Mahila Bahumukhi Shilpa Samity had been applied for. Public water taps were very few in such crowded settlements; and

there was one toilet for several hutments. The participants referred to many kinds of taboos and restrictions. One related to menstruation and during that time no woman said prayers, and the other related to child birth when women do not say prayers for 40 days. About 12.1% women were ill treated by their husbands. Nearly 50.2% people had per capita monthly income below Rs.388, and 73.6% had monthly income below Rs.556, that is below the poverty line according to the estimates of NCAER. 22 respondents reported shortage of funds for maintenance, 4 cited disruption of domestic harmony as a problem, and as many as 13 respondents complained of physical torture by husbands under the influence of liquor. About 58 informants responded positively on being asked if they would utilize educational opportunities. On being asked whether girls were working, 15% replied in the affirmative. The facilities available in the community were youth clubs, Government free primary schools, health centre, one private hospital and two Government hospitals. A few more skill development programmes need to be undertaken. Computer training may be arranged for those women of the locality who have the requisite qualifications. Play grounds should be developed for children. Hygienic conditions should be maintained and for this more hand pumps and toilets should be constructed.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.SLUM WOMEN 3.POOR WOMEN
4.POVERTY 5.WOMEN IN POVERTY 6.WEST BENGAL.

24. Thara Bhai, L. (2004).
Widows in India. Delhi : B. R. Publishing Corporation. 141 p.

Abstract : Widowhood is a stressful situation which brings about socio-economic, cultural, emotional and psychological deprivation. The objectives of the present study were to study the problems of widows that hinder their personality development, and to understand the status of women in their respective families. A total of 600 widows were selected from the state of Tamil Nadu through snowball sampling technique. An interview schedule was drafted to obtain information from the respondents. Widows reported that none of their families wanted to keep them due to overdependence. About 70.5% of them were not ready to take up life without their husbands and reported feelings of fear and helplessness immediately after their husband's death. Working women and older women were more courageous than their younger counterparts when faced with widowhood. Most of the widows who reported feelings of fear did not have an independent dwelling place. Widows in both rural and urban areas reported that they were treated as unwanted elements by members of their family. They were also isolated from auspicious functions and ceremonies. 83.5% widows reported that they had removed their marriage symbols, such as *kumkum* (vermilion) after the death of

their husband. Majority of them followed these customs because society insisted on it and not out of their own free will. Most widows were not aware of the schemes run for their benefit by the Government and NGOs. Government and NGOs should organize a few courses for widows to generate self-employment. Counselling centres for widows should be set up to help them work through their feelings of fear and helplessness, and to empower them. NGOs should work at the grass roots level in society to root out prejudices against widows, and change the mindsets of people towards them.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.WIDOWS 3.STATUS OF WIDOW
4.PROBLEMS OF WIDOWS 5.WORKING WIDOWS.

25. Bhanot, Deepali. (1996).
The Widows of Vrindavan (District Mathura, UP) : rehabilitation plan. New Delhi : National Commission for Women. 23 p.

Abstract : Widowhood is a curse in India. When there is no respite from the family or society, widows throng to holy places like Varanasi, Haridwar, etc. The present study aimed to identify specific recommendations and rehabilitation plan for widows in Vrindavan. The present study consisted of a sample of over 1000 widows. Data was collected through informal interviews. Widows had been abandoned by their families, and they had no financial, social or emotional support. Many young widows and women had been lured out of their hometowns by unscrupulous people under the pretext of marriage or lucrative jobs, and then sold to people who indulged in flesh trade. Most widows had just one piece of clothing to cover themselves. If any blanket or sari came their way from charity, they promptly sold it off to meet the rent of their rooms. These widows had tiny rooms that stank due to lack of sanitation in surrounding areas. Old and sick widows would just lie around with no one to care for or look after them. Most of the widows were found begging outside temples or river-ghats (steps leading to the river), fighting with each other for small coins or morsels of food. Most widows worked as helping hands in households and *ashrams* as they were illiterate and did not have any particular skills. The main occupation of most of these women was to sing *bhajans* (devotional songs) in *Bhajanashrams* run by rich patrons. However, old and sick widows were turned away from this job as well. *Bhajanashrams* were found to provide food and clothing to widows. However, these *Bhajanashrams* had been commercialized. The staff reflected false figures to hoodwink local authorities and patrons, whereas in reality they deprived these women of their rightful share of rice and clothing. Some widows received financial assistance from their relatives, and saved this money to make their funeral arrangements. However, many of them died without withdrawing the money that lay in their accounts. Younger widows suffered

from sexual harassment, molestation and physical assault. Flesh trade flourished in Vrindavan and Mathura with full knowledge of Police, administrative authorities, holy men and politicians. In many *ashrams*, flesh trade flourished under the garb of religious activities. Many widows suffered from T.B., asthma, and various skin diseases due to their unhygienic living conditions. When these widows got pregnant they had to go to quacks as Government hospitals were uncooperative and good medical doctors inaccessible. Thus, these women ended up with many kind of gynaecological disorders as well. Even though some of them knew a few skills like making mats, *kanthimalas*, embroidery and crochet, etc. no decent jobs were available to them as they were looked down upon. Many widows were not aware of the schemes run for their benefit by the Social Welfare Board. Also, many voluntary organizations received grants and donations to help these widows, but relief did not reach them. Government should make arrangements for night shelters (*rain basera*) for women who have no place to live in. Training-cum-production centres for imparting training in skills like tailoring, embroidery, midwifery, nursing, etc. should be started. Women police officers should be employed to attend to women who wish to lodge complaints. There is need to provide mobile health care units for widows. NGOs should monitor the welfare schemes available for women and widows, and help them in getting their rightful benefits.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.WIDOWS 3.VRINDAVAN
4.REHABILITATION WIDOWS 5.MATHURA 6.UTTAR PRADESH.

26. Centre for Development Research and Services for Human Welfare, New Delhi. (1999).

Widows in pilgrimage centres : reports : an anthropological perspective.
New Delhi : India, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Research Division. 80 p.

Abstract : In India, a pre-dominantly patriarchal society, loss of a husband brings a number of drastic changes in the economic and social status and often in personal self-identity of widows. There are around 260 lakh widows in India. The aims and objectives were to study the way widows actually live, and the measures taken to improve their conditions. The study covered four pilgrimage centres namely Vrindavan, Mathura, Varanasi and Haridwar in Uttar Pradesh. Around 1030 widows were studied and in-depth discussions were held with 40 widows. In Vrindavan and Mathura, widows get around 25 gms of rice, 50 gms of *dal* (lentils) and Rs.200 daily for attending the *bhajan* (hymn) sessions regularly. There were two rehabilitation centres at Amarvadi specifically meant for aged women. For their entertainment in the old age home, a television was installed. In Mathura, most widows did not get any pension. Widows were not paying any rent for their accommodation. In

Haridwar, most of the widows were from Bihar, and they sustained themselves by begging and on alms given by outsiders. In Malgodam, widows sold items like bangles, *bindis*, etc. These women either stayed on the roadside or lived in tenements in the town. In Varanasi, Bengalis dominated the place. Widows from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Rajasthan came to this place. Rama Krishna Hospital provided board and lodging to Bengali widows. Widows used ration cards and they did not avail widow pension. Some widows sustained themselves from their own family resources. They paid Rs.150 approximately for room rent. Mother Teresa Hospital houses both males and females. Most of them were mentally unsound. Here the widows were provided with food, milk, medical attention and a place to live. At Leper Home, 10-11 widows lived. Most of them sold 'raddi' (waste papers) to sustain themselves. Some basic education should be imparted to make widows less vulnerable to exploitation. The Complaint Cell should monitor the trusts/ ashrams for any maltreatment of widows, and widows should be made aware of their rights. They should be paid Rs.500 per month so that they are better off economically.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.WIDOWS 3.PILGRIMAGE CENTRES
4.PROBLEMS OF WIDOWS 5.MATHURA 6.VRINDAVAN 7.VARANASI
8.HARIDWAR 9.UTTAR PRADESH.

27. Dak, T. M. (2001).

Socio-economic problems of old people among Bhils of Udaipur region : with particular reference to ageing widows and their support services needs. Udaipur : Institute of Social Development. 117 p.

Abstract : In India, the population of old people is increasing at a much faster rate as compared to the general population. The objective of the study was to assess the socio-economic and psychological problems and identify the traditional support system available for care of the aged, particularly women. The study was carried out on the Bhils tribals of two tehsils, Dhariwad (high tribal concentration) and Jhadol (low tribal concentration) of Udaipur district, Rajasthan. Data was collected from 300 persons in the working age group, 210 aged males and 233 aged females from 300 sample households through interviews. Around 60% respondents belonged to nuclear families and most of them were small land owners. 58.9% old persons were looked after by their sons, 33.8% by their daughters-in-law, and only 6.7% were looked after by their daughters. Health care emerged as the area where services were most frequently received by old people, whereas sympathy, empathy and respect was the most neglected area. Most of the old persons (52.6%) considered themselves partially able to perform physical work, and most of them were involved more in household activities. Barring a few cases (3.34%), all old

persons received financial as well as material help from their families. Regarding the social contribution of old people, 40% caregivers felt that match-making was the most important social activity, whereas 60% reported helping neighbours in difficulty was an important activity. While assessing the impact of widowhood, increased dependency was ranked as the first problem. Caregivers mentioned that ageing widows were fault finding (79.8%), domineering (79.78%), had behaviour problems, and others problems like obsession (52.8%). It was noted that respect towards elders was positively associated with education, and income level was positively associated with most dimensions of age care. Panchayati raj institutions and NGOs should focus on developing viable and suitable programmes of economic security, income generation, and skills development programmes, which help old persons in reducing their dependence and loneliness, and increase their feelings of usefulness. Also, opportunities should be provided to both rural and tribal populations to preserve their traditional skills, and the health policy for older persons should include provision of proper medical staff and facilities.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.WIDOWS 3.AGED WIDOWS 4.TRIBAL WOMEN 5.BHIL WOMEN 6.TRIBAL WIDOWS 7.RAJASTHAN.

28. Giri, Mohini and Khanna, Meera. (2002).
Status of widows of Vrindavan and Varanasi : a comparative study. New Delhi : The Guild of Service. 108 p.

Abstract : Widowhood is a great calamity in a patriarchal and traditional society like India. The present study aimed to assess the extent of economic, social, psychological and cultural deprivation faced by widows. Incidental sampling was used to obtain a total sample of 324 widows from Vrindavan (240 widows) and Varanasi (84 widows). An interview schedule was designed to obtain information from respondents. Varanasi had more widows living on the streets than in rehabilitation centres or boarding homes, than Vrindavan. Most widows had been abandoned by their relatives and children. In Varanasi, even widows with children were left to fend for themselves, contradicting the belief that family takes care of widows. Most of the widows were married at the age of 15 years to men who were much older than them, knowing fully well that in the eventuality of the husband's death she would live in the status accorded to widows. 81% of the widows in rehabilitation homes of Vrindavan were widowed before the age of 19 years but were not given the option of remarriage by society. They were uneducated thus could not support themselves financially. 42% of the widows, despite being literate, were found begging on the streets. A large number of women were also engaged in exploitative professions to support themselves. Widows were considered inauspicious, thus were discouraged from attending social functions. They were encouraged to attend religious functions and most of them gave religion as the

reason for their migration to Vrindavan and Varanasi. Most widows wore simple clothes because of economic deprivation and not because they had no worldly desires left subsequent to widowhood. They also cut their hair so that they could obtain support from *ashrams* (monasteries), which advocated age-old patriarchal norms. Widows should be provided with adequate pension benefits, access to fair price shops and vocational training. Efforts should be made to provide sound education to women to empower them. Child marriages need to be prevented. NGOs should advocate the practice of widow remarriage.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.WIDOWS 3.VRINDAVAN 4.VARANASI
5.UTTAR PRADESH.

29. Gupta, Namrata. (2005).

Gender in the making of a scientist : a study of the academic environment and aspirations of men and women doctoral students at the premier institutes of science and technology in India. Kanpur : Indian Institute of Technology. 130 p.

Abstract : Participation of women in higher education in science, including engineering, is very low. The present study was done to compare the socio-economic background and the role of family in the lives of men and women students pursuing doctoral education and engineering; differences in the perceptions of students regarding environment in the institute; to compare the nature of problems faced by them; and to compare the career aspirations and ambitions of students. Two prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) of North India were selected for the study and data was collected through questionnaires/ interviews. Of the total 81 men and 78 women, about 30% boys were born in a village and only one female respondent was born in a village. Parents of a majority of female doctoral students (40%) were better educated than those of male students (19%). Mothers of 11% boys were illiterate and 62% had never gone beyond the school level. More girls (64%) had a relative in science than boys (48%). More than 70% respondents were unmarried. Both male and female students agreed that stereotypes against women in science exist in society. About 33% boys believed that men were better teachers while only 10% girls thought so. Majority of students rejected the idea that faculty members were partial in grading. Around 60% female students interacted with their advisors for thesis work in the office only, while only 33% male students did so. It was found that competition among students of the same laboratory and hierarchy among junior and senior scholars affected women adversely. One of the most important problems faced by girls was a diminutive in-group, that was a tiny circle of friends, seniors and juniors to depend on or to ask for help. Majority (58%) of male respondents interacted with

scholars of their entire department, only 44% women did so. About 50% females and 55% male students agreed or partly agreed that boys found it difficult to ask women for help in assignments. Data showed that male scholars perceived the academic environment as being biased in favour of women, on the other hand, women research scholars perceived discrimination against themselves. More boys than girls agreed that professors treated girls differently in class, that professors had lower expectations from girls, and women faculty members gave special attention or were partial to girls. Only 30% girls were confident of producing good results, while the corresponding figure for boys was 53%. Findings showed that 48.5% boys opted for 'professional success' as their long term goal, while only 15% girls opted for it. 70.5% girls reported 'balancing career with home' as their long term goal. There is a need to recognize the problem of isolation of girls and also an open research environment in terms of avoiding groupism among students, and avoidance of spill over of rivalry between supervisors and faculty members to the detriment of students, which would help in making the academic environment healthier for all.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.WOMEN SCIENTISTS 3.SCIENTISTS 4.GENDER DIFFERENCES 5.SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION 6.ENVIRONMENT SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS 7.INDIAN INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY.

30. Jabbi, M.K. (2005).
A Diagnostic study of wives deserted by NRIs Punjab. New Delhi : Council for Social Development. 42 p.

Abstract : Many Indian women who enter into arranged marriages with non-resident Indians (NRIs) are led up the garden path by the husband's family who project rosy and misleading pictures about their income and status. The present study was undertaken to identify the motivating factors and social causes driving NRI boys and Indian girls to enter such marriages, find out the coping mechanisms of deserted women, and suggest strategies to protect deserted wives. Data was collected from 26 deserted women in 2 cities of Punjab namely Jalandhar and Hoshiarpur, through interviews and discussions. Out of the total sample of 26, most girls got married around 20 years of age. The age difference between boys and girls was 3-5 years and some times it was even 15 years. Out of the total sample, 37% girls and 35% boys were graduates, whereas only 11% girls were post graduates. Of the total 26 girls, 7 were working and the rest depended on their parents. Only one girl stayed with her in-laws, one had remarried, 2 were staying alone and the rest were staying with their parents. Out of 26 girls, 9 of them had one child, and 3 had 2 children. Most of the children were living with their mothers and only 2 children were with their fathers and living abroad. There were many

reasons why NRI grooms preferred such marriages. They got dowry, a holiday wife for the period they stayed in India, an unpaid maid to take care of his parents, and if sometimes the girl went abroad she worked as a maid for the groom and his foreigner wife and children. Girls wanted to marry NRIs because they felt that life would become glamorous with lots of money in a foreign country. According to parents/ relatives of girls, dowry was the main reason for break up of the marriage. The girl suffered physical violence, mental torture and unreasonable demands made by the groom's family. Boys and their relatives mentioned loose character of the girl, and the girl not being adjustable as the main reasons for the break up. Social awareness programmes to inform people of the different laws in foreign countries, and laws regarding marriage, divorce, custody of children, maintenance, etc. should be organized. People should also be made aware of the consequences of such marriages by highlighting the plight of these girls using all means of communication, particularly media.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.DESERTED WOMEN 3.DESERTED WIVES 4.NRI MARRIAGES 5.PUNJAB.

31. Jayaprakash Institute of Social Change, Kolkata. (2004).
Mapping of NGOs of Kolkata engaged in vocational training. Kolkata : JISC.
99 p.

Abstract : There are several government organizations who run vocational training courses for women. The present study was undertaken to list out the prominent NGOs of Kolkata, with the primary focus on vocational training in terms of infrastructure, faculty, training curriculum, information about trainees and post training linkages. Data was collected by interviewing key persons of the NGO, beneficiaries and from other secondary sources. A total of 20 NGOs were visited which were operated by the Kolkata Municipal Development Authority (KMDA). Most of them worked for destitute women in slums, in slum-like areas, and for the lower middle class. Majority of NGOs had their own syllabi, however a few ran courses affiliated/ modelled along the lines of technical institutions like George Telegraph and also West Bengal State Council for Technical Education. Most NGOs complained about severe financial crunch impeding the implementation of their programme. Very few organizations imparted need-based training. Most NGOs offered cutting, tailoring, batik/ tie and dye, preparation of jam/ sauces/ pickles, machine knitting, wool knitting, embroidery, computer, doll making, typing, etc. courses, which were based on traditional trades. Don Bosco Self Employment Research Institute was found to be one of the most reputed and well equipped NGOs for women and youth which worked on viable issues for income generation/self independence training programmes such as refrigeration and air

conditioning, electric wiring, welding, all types of gadgets repairing, draftsmanship, tailoring and physiotherapy. Most NGOs do not offer post-training linkages, due to which trainees, after passing out, do not get a chance to be linked to industries/institutions. Marketing of products was a major problem that plagued NGOs. Trainees faced many problems like lack of motivation, lack of formal education, inability to learn, and lack of family support. Almost all NGOs did not organize Self Help Groups (SHGs) of the beneficiaries, due to which they missed out on an important form of linkage offered by the Government through schemes like SJSRY (Swarn Jayanti Swa Rozgar Yojana). Physically handicapped women, who form one of the most vulnerable sections of society, do not attract sufficient attention of NGOs. Most NGOs do not have proper documentation of their programmes, placement records of their trainees, and overall activities. Some of them could not even furnish a copy of their annual report. The study recommended that Government should invigilate all the NGOs and activities performed by them, assess their infrastructure, and provide assistance to NGOs who are engaged in the important task of financially rehabilitating the vulnerable urban poor.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.VOCATIONAL TRAINING 3.DIRECTORY VOCATIONAL TRAINING NGOS 4.WOMEN IN DISTRESS 5.INCOME GENERATION 6.REHABILITATION WOMEN IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES 7.REHABILITATION WOMEN 8.VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS KOLKATA 9.DIRECTORY WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION 10.KOLKATA 11.WEST BENGAL.

32. Jayaprakash Institute of Social Change, Vidyasagar School of Social Work, Kolkata. (2000).

Conflicts in marital relationship : a study from family counselling centre, Birati. Kolkata : JISC. 46 p.

Abstract : Today, in modern society, there is increase in the disturbance in marital relations leading to a state of conflict, sometimes leading to marital violence and also sometimes ending up in divorce. The objectives of the study were to identify the various factors behind marital conflict; check effect of socio-cultural variables like education and employment in maintaining marital bonds; and recognize the extended form of problems faced by a person in case of marital conflict. About 60% respondents got married between the age of 18-26 years and 20% were married before 18 years. Almost 73.3% respondents negotiated at the time of marriage and 26.7% got married by mutual consent, but they also faced problems or conflicting situations. Most of the respondents were literate (93.3%) and had studied till school level. 93.3% respondents were still in their married status and dealt with their conflicts after wedlock in their bond of marriage. Only 6.7% acquired divorce status to gain respite from the major conflicting situation in their life. In 93.3% cases, the

relation worsened from initial stages itself. The reason for straining of relationship were interference from in-laws; personality and cultural differences; extra marital relations and alcoholism, etc. The main way of adjustment was making husbands understand that they should work towards their relationship. Some could not bear the pressure of the conflict and left the matrimonial home. Respondents tried to save the relationship as marriage is regarded as a sacrament. Many women were worried about their children. Others made adjustments due to lack of economic activity and security. To cope with their problem, 33.3% respondents tried for some kind of legal help, 13.3% engaged themselves in economic activity, and 6.7% reconciled with the marital disharmony. Some suggestions which could help reduce atrocities and conflicts were education must be ensured, family should be educated about inter-personal relationship between couples and other members of family, change in attitude of police is needed, and awareness programmes should be organized by Family Counselling Centres (FCC), panchayats, Government, State Social Welfare Boards (SSWB) and Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) jointly. Seeking professional help in cases of marital conflict should be popularized and more counselling facilities should be available to help couples in distress.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRES
3.MARITAL PROBLEMS 4.MARITAL CONFLICT 5.MARRIAGE 6.FAMILY
RELATIONSHIP 7.HUSBAND WIFE RELATIONSHIP 8.DIVORCE 9.WEST
BENGAL.

- 33 Jayaprakash Institute of Social Change, Vidyasagar School
of Social Work, Kolkata. (2003)
Harassment of women at workplace with sexual overtures. Kolkata : JISC-
VSSW. 90 p.

Abstract : Gender specific violence, especially violence against women is a common universal phenomena. Harassment of women is found in every society and at all stages of the development of human civilization. This study attempted to find out whether after passing the judgment in 1997, and placing the Sexual Harassment at Work Place (Prevention) Bill on statute in 2002, whether working women have become aware of the law and how they have utilised it. The objective of the study was to investigate the occurrence of sexual harassment at work place on female workers; and assess working women's awareness about the concerned legislation. From all the working women of Jadavpur University, Government Working Women's Hostel, Gariahat and a private hostel Swastika, who were working in the organized sector, 50 respondents were selected. From the study it emerged that a staggering 30% women have experienced sexual harassment at work places. Out of 50 respondents, only 2 cases were found to be known to the

victim's husband. The family members, instead of instigating the victims to take the incidents before the concerned authority, advised them to become cautious. Of the women who shared their experiences of harassment in private, public and government sectors, only 28% lodged official complaints with the management and tried to avail redressal from the state judiciary system. Only 3 victims received justice from the judiciary. Around 34% felt that the concerned authority should be responsible for not providing harassment free working environment. About 60% women mentioned physical contact or advances, and 66% regarded display of pornography at work place as one of the modes of sexual harassment. Around 70% respondents had little knowledge of Sexual Harassment (Prevention) Bill of 2000, but 38% had knowledge of the penal provisions of the Bill. About sufficiency of the legislation and penalties prescribed, 80% felt that only making laws and giving penalties would not solve the problem. There must be one grievance cell particularly dealing with sexual harassment at work place, and a proper way to proceed for getting judicial support. People need to lobby for an organizational policy on sexual harassment at work place in the absence of one.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORK PLACE 3.WORKING WOMEN.

34. Jayaprakash Institute of Social Change, Vidyasagar School of Social Work, Kolkata. (2001).

A Study on socio-economic security of divorced and separated Muslim women. Kolkata : JISC. 66 p.

Abstract : Different religious communities are governed by different personal laws. Thus, Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Parsis are governed by different marriage and divorce laws. Muslim law is basically uncodified. The main objectives of the study were to know the family background and socio-economic condition of divorced/ separated muslim women; and explore the causes and situations which compel them for divorce or separation. The total population of divorced or separated women in rural and urban areas of Midnapore district was 6,552 in 1995 – 1996. 10 respondents each from four districts namely Panskuta, Keshpur, Midnapore Sadar and Kharagpur were chosen. About 49% respondents were illiterate to just literate; and only 4% female members from upper class Muslim families were studying. Many of the divorced and separated women were not able to earn anything (16%). Other women's earnings ranged from Rs.500 to Rs.2500. Around 10% male members got married once; 57% respondents' male partners married twice; 31% married three times and 2% married 4 times. In 78% cases, respondents were forced by their male partners to get divorce. 22% respondents willingly took separation from their former husbands. Reasons for divorce were

extra marital affairs (20%); economic crisis (22%); maladjustment with spouse (20%); and other reasons (12%). 78% deserted or divorced women had not received any money or assets from their husbands. In most cases, respondents got help from their parents (49%); 20% from nearest friends; 25% from brothers and only 6% from neighbours. Children faced many problems relating to the divorce and separation of their parents. The study recommended postponement of the age of marriage through legal reformation, compulsory education for muslim girl children, and preparing a situation based, realistic, basic education system. Court marriage should be made compulsory under the observation of any officer, and quota for vulnerable sections of women should be sanctioned, to increase their political participation and for the betterment of their life.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.MUSLIM WOMEN 3.DIVORCED MUSLIM WOMEN 4.SEPARATED MUSLIM WOMEN 5.DIVORCED WOMEN 6.SEPARATED WOMEN 7.WEST BENGAL.

35. Kumar, Pramod, Dagar, Rainuka and Neerja. (2001).
Victims of militancy Punjab. Institute for Development and Communication,
Chandigarh : IDC. 121 p.

Abstract : The ruthless violence of the 1980s fractured the social fabric of Punjabi society. The present study aimed to understand the impact of violence on victims in terms of somatic effects like psychological disturbances, physical disabilities, withdrawal symptoms, revenge addiction, reliving experience, and also effects like break in education, dropouts, loss of jobs and incomes, and disintegration of family. The study also attempted to identify response of the community towards victims, especially vis-à-vis gender, whereby male victims were glorified and female victims were stigmatized. A representative sample of 200 women and 200 children was taken from 3 cultural zones of Punjab, namely Malwa, Majha and Doaba. Data was collected through interview schedules, group discussion and case study method. The sample was divided into 2 classification systems based on victimization (victim survivors, victim-dependents, handicap survivors, and witnesses), and affiliation (militant-affiliates, state affiliates, and other affected survivors or OAS). Most victims were from militant affiliate category (30%). Most respondents in this category were financially affected as they were given no compensation from the State and had no personal assets to fall back on. Most women were affected through the loss of spouse, with 59% becoming widows. 37% women suffered as mothers of victims. In the militant affiliate category, 75% women had been harassed, beaten, and taken to police *thanas* (stations) in the capacity of mothers and wives of militants. Some women were half-widows as they were not sure whether their husbands were dead or alive. The militant affiliate group was not

eligible for Government pension or compensation. Militant affiliate category was constantly harassed by the police and remained socially isolated in the community. Till the time of the study, these families continued to be harassed by police. Thus, continued harassment and fear of recurring torture or humiliation existed. Nearly 97.5% victims lost their family members, underwent torture and lived in conditions of fear, insecurity, and financial deprivation. Episodes of violence left them psychologically disturbed and socially isolated from their support structures. Police would take away and abuse young girls from militant affiliate category, and pass foul remarks with sexual connotations at them. During the post-militancy phase, women victims were neglected socially, were vulnerable to sexual abuse, and were without material sustenance. They had to find employment avenues for survival, but these roles were alien to the socio-cultural psyche of women who were integrated in typed role functions. High suicidal impulses were found among militant affiliate group. Many had psychosomatic problems. 14% girls had to drop out of schools due to financial and security concerns. A re-integration cell should be created in each district to help with health, education and recreation needs of victims. Victims should be provided with medical allowance and employment. Efforts should be made to mobilize the community to re-integrate the victims of violence. *Panchayats* (village elders) and *mahila mandals* (women's groups) should be given training and sensitized about victimization.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.TERRORIST VIOLENCE VICTIMS
3.VICTIMS 4.MILITANCY 5. VIOLENCE AFFECTED WOMEN 6.PUNJAB.

36. Madhiwalla, Neha and Gopal, Meena. (2006).

Uprooted homes and uprooted lives : A study of the impact of involuntary resettlement of a slum community in Mumbai. Mumbai : CEHAT, Centre for Enquiry into Health and Allied Themes. 268 p.

Abstract : Involuntary resettlement refers to the movement of populations when the choice to remain in a place is not granted. The existing debates on resettlement of slums in Mumbai have a long history. CEHAT conducted a research study on the impact of economic change on the work, health and living environment of women in this area in 1999-2000. The objective of the study was to assess whether any displacement took place which resulted in the violation of human rights of the population and was unacceptable, and to assess the extent to which a community is empowered to make improvements in its standard of living. The specific focus of the study was the households which were relocated from Rafique Nagar in Jari Mari, Kurla (West) to Shantiniketan, Goregaon. Respondents from a total of 474

households were interviewed. Women and children (10-14 years old) were selected from the households; adolescents (16-18 year olds), girls from a school run by an NGO Sahyog, and adolescent boys who were siblings of the Sahyog students were selected. Around 76.8% were Muslims; 20.7% were Hindus and rest were from other communities. Majority of the respondents (59.9%) were in the age group 25-45 years. Nearly 47.7% did not have any education and 6.1% had studied till college. Marital status of respondents was married (87.3%); unmarried (5.3%); and separated (1.5%). During the shifting from Rafique Nagar to Shantiniketan colony, each household was asked to break down their own homes within three days. During the shifting 12% families got separated. As their places of work were near their previous location, most faced a drop in income. Women took up several forms of home-based production to add to the household income. Apart from mental stress, the minute work took a toll on their eyesight, and their girls' health. Around 97% women and 1.5% men were engaged in home-based piece work. Nearly 16.1% women were employed as domestic workers out of whom 57.6% travelled to Jari Mari for work. 27.3% people had no fixed area of work; and 23.6% worked in big factories, Government offices, construction companies, etc. Many children were forced to work after the resettlement. Only 26.5% had done birth registration of their children, but there was no registration for antenatal care. Nearly 41% women reported some health problem for themselves or their babies following delivery or abortion. 50.4% households were found to have at least one member suffering from a chronic illness. Nearly 65% children of Rafique Nagar from the pre-school to the high school category had been enrolled in some form of educational institution in Jari Mari, and of these nearly 75% - 82% were in the age group of 5-14 years. Data indicated that girls are at a greater disadvantage in seeking admission to schools in the new place. The problem was mainly with the administration of the school system (42.6%), and 35.2% were admission related factors. Nearly 79% children who dropped out were in Classes 7 to 10. The reason for dropping out from school for boys (29.4%) and girls (21.2%) was financial problems. It can be concluded from the study that resettlement is associated with economic hardship, disturbance of social fabric and psychological trauma. There is need for a wider debate on development based displacement that includes involuntary resettlement in the urban context. Transparency in dealings and information regarding entitlements and rights also need to be made available to communities so that they can negotiate effectively and safeguard their interests.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.DISPLACED WOMEN 3.EVICTED WOMEN 4.REHABILITATION SLUM WOMEN 5.MUMBAI 6.MAHARASHTRA.

37. Mathew, Anna. (1998).

Problems in women-headed households resulting from desertion.
Hyderabad : Roda Mistry College of Social Work and Research Centre. 8 p.

Abstract : According to NSSO (National Sample Survey Organisation) and Sarvekshana reports, the percentage of women headed households in the country has increased from 8.68% to 9.92% in urban areas and from 9.65% to 10.36% in rural areas, in the period 1984 to 1988. This study was undertaken to examine the socio-economic characteristics of deserted women, explore the reasons for desertion, find out the problems faced by them, and the social support available to them. The study was exploratory in nature and was conducted on 56 women headed households in the cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. Data was collected through interviews and home visits, which were made to study the home environment. Findings indicated that the reasons for desertion varied and overlapped, 16 women expressed their husband's inability to financially support the family, 14 women stated alcoholism as the cause, 13 women were not able to satisfy dowry demands, 10 women suspected their husbands had illicit relations, and 3 women were branded by their husbands as mentally disturbed. Some of the emotional problems noticed in the deserted women were feelings of trauma (39%), feelings of emptiness and loneliness (24%), feelings of fear, uncertainty and insecurity (24%), and intense suicidal tendencies (7%). Almost all of them felt that the deep scar would remain for ever, and held themselves solely responsible for their condition. A large number of women respondents (87%) were the sole earners in their households and their monthly income was below Rs.800, whereas the income of those with another family member working ranged from Rs.800 to Rs.1000 per month. Though they were forced to borrow small amounts from their employers during emergencies, resulting in small debts, the need to borrow large amounts had not yet arisen. Difficulties in bringing up children single handedly was expressed by almost all the respondents. The sponsorship programme for a single child was the only redeeming factor for them. With regard to children going to school, 64% were boys and 36% were girls. Most of the children who were not being sponsored for education did not attend school due to lack of financial resources (43%), particularly girls (57%) who helped the mother in the houses where they worked, and some were employed in petty jobs. Though almost 75% respondents received some help and protection from their parents, in-laws and neighbours at the time desertion, they however had to manage single handedly after moving into their own households. They felt that they were overloaded in their multiple roles, and the absence of a father figure had resulted in an atmosphere lacking in discipline, authority and undermining of their status as a mother. Hence, programmes should be initiated for the enhancement of living standards of deserted women. Also, counselling centres with trained social workers need to be

established so that family breakdowns can be averted by timely action, and more short stay centres and homes should be established for women who need shelter during such crisis situations.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.DESERTED WOMEN 3.FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLD 4.PROBLEMS OF FEMALE HEADED HOUSEHOLD 5.ABANDONED WOMEN 6.REHABILITATION.

38. Moinuddin, S.A.H. (2000).
Divorce and muslim women. New Delhi : Rawat. 188 p.

Abstract : Divorced Muslim women are those whose *talaq* or release from marriage has occurred in the presence of legal authorities (*maulana, maulvi, imam* and court of law). Separated Muslim women are those who at present are living with their parents and do not have any connection with their husbands. The aim of the present study was to depict the present position of divorced and separated Muslim women belonging to gram panchayats in Bardhaman and Murshidabad districts of West Bengal, and thus trace out the system of divorce in operation and other factors responsible for such practices. In all, 67 divorced and 61 separated women were interviewed. In mate selection, parents preferred the working capacity or rather the good physique of the bridegroom, and the amount of property he had. Educational qualification was not a consideration. Age at marriage was extremely low - 41.83% in Murshidabad and 54.28% in Bardhaman got married in the age group of 10-15 years. Also, the practice of dowry was widely prevalent whatever be their socio-economic status. 78.13% respondents paid dowry in the *gram panchayats (village level meetings)* of both the districts. Land, along with cash was an important mode of payment of dowry. Muslim women had to face the practice of arbitrary divorce. No husband waited for 3 menstrual cycles for the final pronouncement of *talaq* as specified in the *Quran*. The reasons for divorce were extra marital affair of husband, poor economic conditions of both parties and family quarrel. Other reasons were dowry, no issue, second marriage, and re-establishment of husband's relations with estranged first wife. Only in 6.25% cases were the *Quranic* prescriptions regarding divorce followed. Local people were not aware of *Quranic* principles of *talaq*, 51% had taken divorce due to dowry. In some cases, divorce was taken against the will of the respondents. Some husbands moved the court and then informed the respondents that they had been divorced. Divorce was prevalent among low income groups (monthly income of Rs.600/- or less) and low status groups (rickshaw pullers, labourers, gardeners, etc.) 45% in Murshidabad and 54% in Bardhaman belonged to low social status. Also, only 2 women in the study got *mehr* (a lump sum of money to be given to the bride in case of divorce). Local people should be made aware of the tenets of *Quran* regarding

talaq, mehr, etc. Women should be informed about their rights, so that they can be aware of legal options available to them, in case of arbitrating in divorce cases.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.DIVORCE 3.MUSLIM WOMEN.

39. Mukherjee, Tuhin. (2006).
Impact assessment study of SGSY programme on empowerment of women at Babpur village. Kolkata :Vidyasagar School of Social Work. 83 p.

Abstract : In April 1999, Government of India launched a new self employment programme known as Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) which is a holistic programme covering all aspects of self employment like Self Help Groups (SHGs) training, credit, technology, infrastructure and marketing. The study was done to assess the impact of SGSY programme on empowerment of women at Babpur village under Purbakhilkapur Gram Panchayat, Kolkata. Out of the total sample of 50, 25 women were taken from SHGs which constituted the control group, and 25 women who were not associated with SHGs constituted the experimental group. Data was collected using a questionnaire containing open and close ended questions. Indicators used in the study were economic indicator, political indicator, household decision-making scale and awareness level of the respondents with respect to social and health issues. About 64% women of the control group and 92% of the experimental group were found to be economically independent, 40% respondents of the control group and only 4% of the experimental group had saving habit, and it was found that 8% respondents of the control group had created assets after taking loans from SHGs. Political indicators showed that 72% respondents of the control group had access to the panchayat, 80% of them attended *gram sansad* (village) meetings regularly, and 72% of them cast their vote in favour of the candidate of their own choice. On the other hand, only 4% respondents of the experimental group had access to the panchayat, 28% of them only attend *gram sansad* meetings regularly, and 56% respondents cast their vote freely. On decision making parameters it was found that 50% to 75% respondents of the control group took decisions about various important aspects of household management like expenditure on education of child, marriage of child, medical care, etc. But in case of the experimental group, decision making power was exercised by only 24% women, and 52% women took decisions with respect to the daily meal and dress. All respondents from both the groups were aware about breastfeeding and immunization (100%). On an average, 80% respondents of the control group were aware of social and health issues, but the percentage of respondents from experimental group who were aware about social and health issues was below 40%, which was quite poor. Awareness generation campaigns regarding the importance of Self Help Groups should be launched on a war footing,

and attention should be given to formation and sustenance of more Self Help Groups, as the impact of empowerment of women members of SHGs was evident.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.EMPOWERMENT WOMEN 3.ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT 4.SWARNJAYANTI GRAM SWAROZGAR YOJANA 5.SELF HELP GROUPS 6.EMPLOYMENT WOMEN 7.WEST BENGAL.

40. Padman, M.S. Razeena. (2003).
Destitute women in Kerala : psychological resources. Thiruvananthapuram :
Centre for Development Studies. 42 p.

Abstract : In India, there are a large number of after care homes and institutions for the care and protection of destitute women. Also, the Social Welfare Departments of all States and Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) run *mahila mandirs* (women temples) under the government's direct control. The objectives of the present study were to understand the psychological resources and psycho-social needs of destitute women living in *mahila mandirs*, personality profiles, levels of emotional maturity, adjustment capability and problems faced by the inmates of *mahila mandirs*, and examine the implementation of various rehabilitation programmes. Data was collected through field survey from 121 inmates living in 11 *mahila mandirs*, and in addition from 50 slum dwellers who were deserted. The age of inmates ranged from 26-56 years and nearly 90% of them belonged to low socio-economic status. Many inmates suffered from various psycho-somatic illnesses. Average allowance for an inmate of the *mahila mandir* was only Rs 300/- per month. Authorities of *mahila mandirs* reported that destitute women were extroverted, easily suggestible, irresponsible, unskilled, highly emotional, maladjusted and their coping skills were extremely poor. Many destitute women who were rehabilitated in the form of marriage or job placement, found their way back to institutions or streets again. Authorities had punitive attitude and behaviour towards inmates which increased the distress of these women and led to mutual antagonism, which led to failure of effective implementation of programmes of Social Welfare Department. Institutions and care homes had not given any importance to the rehabilitation of these women, specially in the areas of health, education and self-employment, or made any attempt in the area of distress management and legal aid for abandoned and deserted women. Homes had poor living conditions, lack of security and inadequate staff. No counselling services were available for inmates and mentally ill patients. There were regular quarrels among inmates. Nearly 18% to 28% inmates were dissatisfied with the freedom allowed by institutions. Reasons for seeking shelter were alcoholic father, family problems, failure in love, problems with husband, sexual abuse, being discarded due to illness, and so on. There is requirement for skills training and short term

personality development courses for destitute women. Also, job reservation for divorced women and unwed mothers would be a good measure to make them economically independent. Medical care should also be provided to mentally ill patients.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.DESTITUTE WOMEN 3.NEEDS OF DESTITUTE WOMEN 4.INSTITUTIONAL CARE WOMEN 5.MAHILA MANDIR 6.WOMEN IN DISTRESS 7.KERALA.

41. Panda, Pradeep Kumar. (2003).
Right-based strategies in the prevention of domestic violence.
Thiruvananthapuram : Centre for Development Studies. 89 p.

Abstract : Domestic violence against women is increasingly viewed as a serious violation of human rights subject to legal intervention. The study was an attempt to provide a framework for the prevention of domestic violence adopting an informed rights-based strategy in Kerala. A sample of 500 ever married women from 300 rural and 200 urban households were selected from Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala and data was collected through surveys and interviews. Variables used in the study were demographic variables, socio-economic variables, social support received by the family and neighbours, women's childhood experiences of family violence, and substance abuse by husband. The average age of women was 33 years and the average duration of marriage was 12 years. More than 95% of the men and women were literates in both rural and urban areas. In the total sample, 32% women and 93% husbands were employed. It was found that women in rural areas were more likely to report dowry demand compared to women in urban areas (57% and 33%). Overall 36% women reported experiencing at least one of the forms of physical violence at least once in their married life, and 64% women reported psychological violence. Reasons given for subjecting women to violence were that they did not look after children properly (78%), did not cook properly (54%), did not attend to the household properly (72%), etc. Nearly 21% women attributed the violence to infidelity. Lower the age of the woman (15-24 years) and lower the duration of marriage (less than 7 years), higher was the lifetime experience of physical and psychological violence among women. Around 45.6% women reported no social support from any source, and the greater social support a woman received, the less likely was she to be subjected to any kind of violence. A majority of the women (66%) did not have the title deed to either land or house in their name. Most of the women (51.6%) reported that their husbands drank at least occasionally over the past one year, whereas 48.4% reported that their husbands were teetotallers. Harsh childhood punishment experienced by women was found to be high in rural areas compared to urban areas (64.6% and 44%). The strongest

predictor that reduces domestic violence was found to be ownership of property by a woman. No significant association was found between women's education and their experience of violence. Prevention of domestic violence at the national level depends on the level of public and government commitment to make prevention a long term priority, and to establish a consistent, coordinated and integrated approach for each community. Given the pervasiveness and harms of domestic violence, a national policy of zero tolerance for domestic violence is necessary.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 3.WOMEN RIGHTS 4.PROPERTY RIGHTS 5.DOWRY HARASSMENT 6.KERALA.

42. Sethuraman, Kavita, Lansdown, Richard and Keith, Sullivan. (2006).
Women's empowerment and domestic violence : the role of socio-cultural determinants in maternal and child undernutrition in tribal and rural communities in South India. *Food and Nutrition Bulletin*, 27(2) : 128-143 p.

Abstract : Women's lack of empowerment is believed to be an important factor in the persistent prevalence of malnutrition. The objective of the study was to explore the relationship between women's empowerment, maternal nutritional status and the nutritional status of their children aged 6 to 24 months in rural Karnataka. Structured interviews with mothers were used to collect data and anthropometric measurements were obtained for 820 mother-child pairs. Results showed that malnutrition was significantly more prevalent in the tribal community. Some degree of malnutrition was seen in 83.5% children and 72.4% mothers. Tribal families had less access to electricity, education, and health care than rural families. Child feeding practices were similar across the sample, and more than 80% of the children were still being breastfed at the time of the study. Tribal women had greater decision making capabilities and freedom of movement than rural women. The prevalence of domestic violence did not differ significantly between tribal and rural women, and it was experienced by 34% mothers in the sample. Biological variables explain the greatest variance (15.1%) in the sample. Women's empowerment variables were significantly associated with child nutrition and 5.6% of the variance in the sample could be attributed to women's empowerment. Maternal experience of psychological abuse and sexual coercion increased the risk of malnutrition in mothers and children. The study findings suggest that better community based nutrition programmes should be designed which help in reducing malnutrition.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT 3.DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 4.CHILD NUTRITION 5.MATERNAL NUTRITION 6.NUTRITIONAL STATUS 7.SOCIO-CULTURAL DETERMINANTS 8.TRIBAL COMMUNITIES 9.RURAL COMMUNITIES 10.SOUTH INDIA 11.KARNATAKA.

43. Thara Bhai, L. (1999).
Status of widows in contemporary Tamil Society : summary. Madurai :
Madurai Kamaraj Univ., Dept. of Sociology. 206 p.

Abstract : Widowhood brings about several kinds of social, economic, cultural, emotional and psychological deprivation. In Tamil Nadu, both in urban and rural areas, widows have to undergo all the customs of yester years, which are very unpleasant. The objectives of the present study were to find out the socio-economic background of widows before and after widowhood, and to study the problems of widows that hinder their personality development. Snowball sampling was used to select 600 widows in different age groups from both, rural and urban areas of districts of Tamil Nadu. Interview schedule was used to collect data. A significant finding was that the number of widows among scheduled castes was considerably lower than forward castes. Rigid beliefs were not present among scheduled castes, thus the tendency to remain a widow was more among upper class than scheduled castes. 14.8% of the widows were in the age group of 26-35 years, which was considered marriageable. 75% of the girls got married at a very early age in villages of Tamil Nadu. When informed that it was punishable if the girls were married before the age of 18 years parents of the girls strongly opposed the law. Most widows were not happy with their present stage of life, but did not want to openly say that they would like to marry again. Illiterate widows did not take any steps to enhance their qualification. However, those who had higher secondary education before the death of their husbands attained graduate or post graduate degree. Irrespective of the economic background, most widows had taken up jobs after becoming widows. Working women were happy that they were able to make both ends meet in an efficient manner, unlike their husbands, who gave very little money for household expenses. However, most widows were afraid to face life alone and many did not have an independent dwelling place or were not confident of the support of their kin. Counselling was an alien concept and only 3.5% widows went for counselling. In Tamil Nadu, counselling centres were only available in cities and were not functioning properly. After the husband's death, working women were negatively differentiated against due to the fact that they were earning and were more independent. 27% widows were ill-treated in their own houses, either by negligence or indifference of the family. Widows were isolated from auspicious functions and ceremonies. 6.5% said that they were looked at with suspicion for want of money, companionship or sex. 18.5% widows were aware of concessions available for them as widows, and these included even rural and illiterate women. However, very few knew that they were entitled to their husband's savings, and official processes were also a hurdle to overcome. 27% widows found it difficult to collect assets due to difficulties experienced in various formalities such as getting death certificate, etc. Working women faced more problems than non-working

women, and rural non-working women had more problems than urban non-working women. However, 81.5% respondents had become more empowered after their husband's demise. There should be strict implementation of laws regarding appropriate age of marriage. Efforts should be made to generate self-employment among widows. Counselling centres for women should be opened. Media should spread awareness, and help in removing prejudices against widows.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.WIDOWS 3.STATUS OF WIDOWS
4.PROBLEMS OF WIDOWS 5.TAMIL NADU.

44. Vasudeva Rao, D. (2002).

Emancipation through participation : study of women's groups in Andhra Pradesh. Hyderabad : Council for Social Development. 110 p.

Abstract : The study tries to capture the qualitative changes that SHG and DWCRA groups have brought in the lives of the once passive women recipients of services in rural areas. The twin objectives of the study were to improve the status and quality of life of poor women and children in rural areas, and assess involvement of the community in planning and implementing several other development programmes. Out of the total 1.15 lakh DWCRA groups and 2.19 lakh SHG groups in Andhra Pradesh, a sample of 1.5% groups was taken. A specially designed, pre-tested, partly precoded questionnaire was used. Illiterates formed only 11% of the population while 60% had gone to schools and studied upto secondary level. 150 groups were contacted in Khammam district covering three *mahila mandals* (women's groups), while 209 groups were covered in Kurnool district covering 3 *mahila mandals*, and six *mahila mandals* were covered in East Godavari district covering 660 groups. About 90% of the sample were hindus, while 7.7% were christians and 2% were muslims. The average annual income per household was around Rs.9000. In Khammam, formal education seemed to be more popular (34%), while primary educated respondents were in a large number in East Godavari district (42%). The overall family size of respondents was observed to be 4.06, while Kurnool recorded the highest family size of 4.86. The average number of literates per family was observed to be 2.9 in each district, which was fairly high. Nearly 70% members in Kurnool district were illiterates, while in Khammam district illiterates were only 10%. In 70% households, all men were reported to be working, while in only 50% houses all women were working. About 98% respondents in Khammam and 95% in Kurnool were agricultural labourers. No elections took place for Leader I and Leader II in 99% groups in East Godavari, 82% groups in Kurnool and 86% groups in Khammam. In 95% of the groups in each district, monthly contributions were being collected by group leaders, and in a few cases by the members. On an average, each member had borrowed

Rs.11,375 to meet their household or business needs. For girl's education nearly Rs.10,000 were borrowed, while to meet the health needs Rs.8000 were borrowed. About 63% respondents felt that only 25% households sent their girls to school, and 41% respondents felt that all the girls in a household were going to school. On the aspect of self management, 83% women had a little confidence that the group could manage on their own, whereas now there was a five fold increase in their confidence. Nearly 50% women reported to have been actively involved in development activities, while their husband's role was more prominent in 63% cases. In Khammam district, nearly 80% women groups could solve their water problem, while 13% could get a school building in their villages. In Kurnool and East Godavari districts also, women's groups achieved many community related activities with varying degrees of participation. About 80% of land in the well developed regions was wet land, followed by 70% in tribal areas, and 60% in developed regions. In 28% of the tribal groups, considerable amount was locked up leading to non-availability of funds to other genuine members who needed money to meet their emergency expenditure. On important matters like marriage of the child, in tribal areas 44% women took an active role, while it was 87% in well developed areas, and 60% in developed areas. More economically and socially disadvantaged women should be encouraged to form groups. Akshara Sahkranthi Programme should be made more effective and reoriented to suit the needs of learners. All members of women's groups should be enrolled compulsorily so that they could acquire functional literacy. The small family size norm does not seem to be in operation in *mahila mandals*. Members should be trained to rotate the money for the benefit of meeting emergencies rather than sharing it equally among themselves. There should be uniform procedure for granting loans from Government assistance or bank loans to all the groups. To minimize irregular repayment or defaulters in a group, peer group pressure should be adopted, rather than going out of the group and involving outsiders.

Key Words : 1.WOMEN WELFARE 2.SELF HELP GROUPS 3.DWCRA GROUPS 4.GROUP DYNAMICS 5.EMPOWERMENT WOMEN 6.IMPACT OF SELF HELP GROUPS 7.ANDHRA PRADESH.

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