

# Chapter 3

## Composition of the Family

In order to study the present composition of the sampled families the factors such as, size, sex, marital status and the children population were taken into consideration.

### 1. THE FAMILY SIZE

It is clear from table No. 3.1 that-

1. The average size of the family of the total 1064 households was six. The Ghongade Wasti, Bagale Wasti and Thorala Rajwada showed the average size of seven members. It was observed that the areas which were occupied by Nav-Bhuddhas and other backward community families have rather large size of the household. The three Zopadpattis, Viz, Shahir Wasti, Hanuman Nagar and Maratha Wasti were occupied by middle caste and higher caste people.

2. At the total sample households, every family had two male and two female members.

3. The children population constitutes the major part of the family. The average number of the children of the total sample households was two out of which one child was of the age of below five years at the time of investigation. It is rememberable that three Zopadpattis, viz, Ghongade Wasti, Bagle Wasti and the cluster of three small Wastis defined as other slums recorded three children per households, while all other Zopadpattis had children population of two each at the time of investigation.

## **2. THE CHILDREN POPULATION**

Table No. III.2 gives information about the children population which constituted 37.37 % of the total population of all the sample households under study. Out of the 2555 children, 1127 children were below five years of their age and it constituted 44.11 % of the total children population. The fact that every sample household in all the Zopadpattis except three i.e. Maddipatil Wasti, Hanuman Nagar and Maratha Wasti had one child of below five years, explains the need for starting Anganwadis and Mother-child care centres in the study area (See Table 3.1). Moreover, hardly 5 % of the children below five were going to Anganwadi at the time investigation. Although 14.34 % of the children population was school dropouts at the aggregate level, this percentage was rather high in respect of the Zopadpattis viz, Shahir Wasti, Thorala Rajwada, MJBB and MMFHW.

## **3. THE MARRITAL STATUS OF THE FEMALE POPULATION**

As explained in the Table No. 3.1, the female population of 1999 constituted nearly 29 % of the total population of the households. It was observed that out of 1999 female members, 763 female members were below the age of 15 years in the category of children. Table No. 3.3 explains the age-wise marital status of 763 adult female members of the total

sample households. It needs to be made clear here that marital status in each Zopadpatti was not found to be that much necessary .

Table No. III.3- The age-wise marital status of the female members ( adults only) (Total 763)

Age group	M	UM	DWS
15 to 25	233	23	08
26 to 45	258	03	18
46 to 60	164	01	15
Above 60	022	-	23

M = Married, UM = Unmarried, DWS = Divorced, Widow, Separated.

#### 4. THE MOTHER TONGUE

As Marathi is the language of the religion, all the households population knows Marathi very well. The other languages are Kannada and Telagu as the mother tongue of the respective communities. A majority of the families in Maratha Wasti, Shahir Wasti speak both Marathi and Kannada languages which provide a mixture of both in regular use. The households in Ghongade Wasti speak three languages viz, Marathi, Telgu and Kannada.

### 5. PERIOD OF STAY AT SOLAPUR

The enquiry revealed the fact that more than 50% of the total sample households were settled in Solapur long ago before 40 to 45 years. The households in Thorala Rajwada and Bagale Wasti are not rural migrants. The two Wasties namely Shahir Wasti and Hanuman Nagar, have rural migrants families (25 to 30%) who had settled recently within a 5 year period. Comparatively, the Ghongade Wasti and Hanuman Nagar were settled since last 10 to 20 years. The households in Mukund Nagar, Jamma Wasti, Baswanti Plot and Basav Nagar were settled in Solapur before 10 to 15 years (Table No. III.5).

### 6. RELIGION / CASTE

The information about the religion of the sample households is given in Table No. III.4. The caste status was defined as Higher Caste which includes Maratha and Brahmin and Middle caste which includes Muslims, Jain, Lingayats, etc. The Backward Class and Other Backward Class include Nav Buddhas, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes, Matangs, etc.

It is clear from the Table No. 3.4 that a majority of the sample households belong to low caste which consists of Backward Class, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Class communities. Particularly the slums such as Thorala Rajwada, Bagale Wasti, MMPW are dominated by the Backward Class community. More than 26% of the total sample

households belong to Middle Caste. The percentage of high caste households is hardly 11.47. It was observed that these families were mainly migrated from Marathwada and Karnataka regions.

#### **7. THE MIGRATORY CHARACTER**

The question regarding their original native place was asked and it was found that more than 56% of the total households belonged to the rural part of the Solapur District only. Nearly 30 % of the total households were migrated from the areas within a radius of 50 Km. from Solapur. This included Marathwada region, Vijapur District of Karnataka State and some part of the old Nizam State. Particularly the Zopadpattis such as Maddi Patil Wasti, Shahir Wasti, Mukund Nagar, Jamma Wasti and Baswanti Flot belong to the region which is more than 50 Km. away from Solapur. The 3 Wasties namely, Ghongade, Maddi Patil and Shahir Wasti have the mixed regional culture (Table No. III.6).