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The main purpose of this chapter is to give a clear picture of the respondents and their family background. In any social science research, it is important to explain the characteristics of the sample or conditions under which the study has been conducted. This would help in arriving at generalization of the studied subject.

AGE

Age is an important factor in determining the response pattern of an individual. As the age increases, one's experience also increases and as a result one develops different attitudes to life situations. This change in attitude would be reflected in one's response pattern and behaviour as well.

The subject of the present study is IRDP beneficiaries. As per the norms of IRDP objectives, any person within the productive age group can receive the benefits. Table 3.1 shows the agewise distribution of the sample selected by the researcher in this study.

TABLE 3.1
AGE OF THE RESPONDENTS

| SR.NO. | AGE GROUP | FREQUENCY PERCENTAGE |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $26-30$ | 22 | 12 |
| 2 | $31-40$ | 35 | 20 |
| 3 | $41-50$ | 52 | 29 |
| 4 | Above 50 | 71 | 39 |

In the sample selected for this study 61 percent of the respondents were found to be in the age group of 25 to 50 years. Whereas, 39 percent of the respondents are in old age group of 51 years and more. This means that a majority (61 percent) of them are in their prime productive age group of 26 to 50 years. This shows that the selection of the IRDP beneficiaries in the villages under study was in accordance with the objectives set for this programme.

Sex is also an important factor to determine the response pattern, attitudes of the individual and responsibility taken in family. Therefore, the researcher has made an attempt to analyse the sexwise distribution of the beneficiaries.

## TABLE 3.2

## SEXWISE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

| SR. NO. | SEX | FREQUENCY PERCENTAGE |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Male | 144 | 80 |
| 2 | Female | 36 | 20 |
|  | TOTAL | 180 | 100 |

Table 3.2 depicts that majority ( 80 percent) of the respondents are males and 20 percent are female beneficiaries.

As per the IRDP plan, at least 30 percent of the total beneficiaries should be women. Further, priority should be given to women heads of households and women members of the household. This aspect has not been taken into consideration while implementing the IRDP in seven villages selected under the present study.

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## PROFILE OF LITERACY

Education is one of the most important factor for the development of any society. It influences the purpose of development of an individual's personality, thinking ability, knowledge and efficiency.

TABLE 3.3

EDUCATION LEVEL OF THE RESPONDENIS

SR. NO. LEVEL OF EDOCATION FREQUENCY PERCENTAGE

| 1 | Illiterate | 126 | 70 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | Primary | 29 | 16 |
| 3 | Secondary | 17 | 9 |
| 4 | Higher Secondary | 8 | 5 |
|  |  | 180 | 100 |

Table 3.3 shows that 70 percent of the sample is illiterate, 16 percent respondents have studied upto primary level, 9 percent secondary and 5 percent upto higher secondary level. In the context of IRDP, it is very important from the point of respondents to be literate so as to understand various schemes. This positively helps in the implementation stage.

## OCCUPATION PROFILE

Occupation is another important determinant eflecting knowledge, experience, skills, etc. The occupational pattern of respondents is tabulated in Table 3.4 below.

## TABLE 3.4

| SR. NO. | OCCUPATION | FREQUENCY | PERCENTAGE |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Labour | 107 | 59 |
| 2 | Small Farmer | 59 | 33 |
| 3 | Traditional |  |  |
|  | Caste Occupation | 11 | 6 |
| 4 | Petty Business | 2 | 1 |
|  | Other Service | 1 | 1 |

It is observed from the above table that majority of them (59 percent) are labourers, followed by small farmers (33 percent). Traditional caste occupation is observed to be 6 percent. Whereas, petty business and other service constitute 1 percent each. As per the IRDP objectives, the selection of the beneficiaries in seven villages under the present study is in accordance with the set objectives.

The economic condition of an individual is reflected through his level of income. It also gives an idea of the status, one enjoys in the society.

## TABLE 3.5

| SR. NO. | INCOME <br> (in Rs.) | FREQUENCY | PERCENTAGE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $801-1000$ | 18 | 10 |
| 2 | $1001-3000$ | 123 | 68 |
| 3 | $3001-4000$ | 35 | 20 |
| 4 | $4001-5000$ | 4 | 2 |

Table 3.5 shows the incomewise distribution of the respondents. It can be noted that majority of them ( 68 percent) get an income in the range of Rs. 1001 to 3000 per annum. Ten percent of the respondents get very less income in the range of Rs, 800 to Rs. 1000. Whereas, 22 percent of the selected sample get more more than Rs. 3001 income per year.

This, again goes to support the fact that the beneficiaries under this study are selected in accordance with IRDP objectives.

## MARITAL STATUS

Marital status indicates the level of responsibilty that the individual shoulders in his family. Therefore, it was intended to know the marital status of the respondents under the present study.

TABLE 3.6

MARITAL STATUE OF THE RESPONDENTS

| SR. NO. | MARITAL | STATUS | FREQUENCY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PERCENTAGE |  |  |  |
| 1 | Married | 174 | 97 |
| 2 | Single | 4 | 2 |
| 3 | Widowed | 2 | 1 |
|  |  | 180 | 100 |

Table 3.6 displays the marital status of the respondents. It is clear from the table that most of the respondents are married and well settled in their family life. The composition of the married individuals comes up to 97 percent, whereas, 2 percent are single and 1 percent is widowed. As such, there is no specific mention of marital status while selecting an IRDP beneficiary, in the objectives and purpose of IRDP.

The cast composition throws light how the beneficiaries have adopted different types of schemes according to their caste. The caste composition of the respondents is shown in Table 3.7.

TABLE 3.7

CASTE COMPOSITION OF THE RESPONDENTS

| SR. NO. | CASTE | FREQUENCY | PERCENTAGE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Reddy | 14 | 8 |
| 2 | Lingayat | 4 | 2 |
| 3 | Dharmaraj <br> (Vakkaliga) | 5 | 3 |
| 4 | Vakkaliga | 33 | 18 |
| 5 | Achari | 13 | 7 |
| 6 | Barbar | 1 | 1 |
| 7 | Modaliyar | 5 | 3 |
| 8 | Dhobi | 3 | 2 |
| 9 | Scheduled Tribe | 1 | 0.5 |
| 10 | Scheduled Class | 100 | 55 |
| 11 | Muslim | 1 | 0.5 |
|  | TOTAL | 180 | 100 |

It is noted from the above table that majority of the beneficiaries selected from these seven villages ( 55 percent) belong to the scheduled Caste. Whereas, out the rest 31 percent respondents come from the upper castes namely, Reddy (8), Lingayat (2), Dharmaraj (3), and Vakkallga (18). On the other hand, there is representation of 13 percent from the backward communities comprising of Achari (7), Barbar (1), Modaliyar (3), and Dhobi (2). There is only one respondent each from scheduled tribe and Muslim respectively.

Our sample also shows that a majority of the share of benefit has gone to the schedule caste and other backward communitities. The percentage of these SC and ST groups in the population is also high (30 percent of the total population in Anekal taluk belongs to $S C$ and $S T$ ). This is very much in line with the objectives and it has been keenly taken care of while implementing the Integrated Rural Development Programme in the villages selected for this study.

## RELIGION

Religion of the respondents assumes a significant importance to be discussed here as it may influence one's philosophy of life, morale, codes or even attitudes in life style. Therefore, the researcher has made an attempt to analyse the religion-wise distribution of the respondents.

## TABLE 3.8

| RELIGIONWISE DISTRIBUTION | OF THE | RESPONDENIS |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SR. NO. | REIIGION | FREQUENCY | PERCENTAGE |
| 1 | Hindu | 179 | 99 |
| 2 | MUslim | 1 | 1 |

Table 3.8 depicts that 99 percent of the IRDP beneficiaries selected in the seven villages, under the present study, are Hindus and the proportion of Muslims is negligible (about 1 percent). The reason for this being, the area and villages selected by the researcher is dominated by the Hindu population and the other religions proportion is marginal.

The size of the family, like the marital status shows the extent of responsibilty on the householder. According to IRDP modalities, the IRDP benefits should go to those having large family size. Table 3.9 below depicts the family size of the respondents.

TABLE 3.9

SIZE OF RESPONDENTS FAMILY

| SR. NO. | FAMILY SIZE | FREQUENCY | PERCENTAGE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $1-2$ | 9 | 5 |
| 2 | $3-4$ | 63 | 35 |
| 3 | $5-6$ | 75 | 42 |
| 4 | $7-10$ | 29 | 16 |
| 5 | 11 and above | 4 | 100 |

It is noted from the Table that 60 percent of the respondents have five or more members in their family and 40 percent have less than five members. The families with large size are basically poor and have to bear more burden than their counterparts. Hence, the selection of IRDP beneficiaries in these villages has been justified.

LEVEL OF EDUCATION \& SEX OF THE RESPONDENTS

The level of education of the respondents was further analysed according to the sex distribution in Table 3.10 below.

## TABLE 3.10

EDUCATION AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESPONDENTS

| SR. NO. LEVEL OF EDUCATION | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Illiterate | 103 | 23 | 126 |
| 2 | Primary | 22 | 7 | 29 |
| 3 | Secondary | 11 | 6 | 17 |
| 4 | Higher Secondary | 8 | - | 8 |

Above table depicts that the majority (103) of the male respondents are illiterates, 22 percent have studied upto primary, 11 percent upto secondary and only 8 percent upto higher secondary level.

The literacy level in Anekal taluk is 36.77 percent and the female literacy is still low. This trend is clearly reflected in the sample selected by the researcher for his study as well. There is not a single female respondent who has studied upto higher secondary level.

The age and sex distribution of the selected respondents is shown in the following table.

## TABLE 3.11

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESPONDENTS

| SR. NO. | AGE GROUP (Yrs.) | FEMALE | MALE | TOTAL |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $26-30$ | 7 | 15 | 22 |
| 2 | $31-40$ | 15 | 20 | 35 |
| 3 | $41-50$ | 11 | 41 | 52 |
| 4 | $51 \&$ above | 3 | 68 | 71 |
|  | TOTAL | 36 | 144 | 180 |

It is noted that 11 are females out of 52 in the age group of 41 to 50 years; 15 females out of 35 in 31 to 40 years; 7 females out of 22 in the age group of 26 to 30 and only 3 females out of 71 in the age group above 51 years. This shows that the percentage of females is far less in the former group than the latter.

As per the 1981 census, the population ratio of male to female is 50 : 45. Thus, as per the IRDP norms, the female beneficiaries proportion is not kept strictly in these villages ( 30 percent females). Though, the female proportion is maintained in the productive age groups, it is far below in the age group above 51 years.
SEX AND OCCUPATION PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

The cross tabulation of sex and occupation of the respondents under present study is shown in Table 3.12 .

TABLE $\quad 3.12$

SEXWISE OCCUPATION PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENTS

| SR. NO. | OCCUPATION | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Labour | 85 | 22 | 107 |
| 2 | Small Farmers | 50 | 9 | 59 |
| 3 | Traditional caste occupation | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| 4 | Petty business | 2 | - | 2 |
| 5 | Other service | 1 | 184 | 180 |

It is observed from above table that 22 females are labourers, 9 are small farmers and 5 follow traditional caste occuption. However, there is not a single female member either doing petty business or other service. It is interesting to observe that the majority of the male respondents also are labourers like their female counterparts, followed by small farmers. Whereas, two male respondents carry out some kind of petty business and one respondent is in the service job.

## LAND HOLDING PATTERN

It was intended to understand the land holding of the respondents in the present study. Table 3.13 below shows the frequency distribution of the landholding of the respondents.

## TABLE 3.13

| SR. NO. | LAND HOLDING <br> (in acres) | FREQUENCY | PERCENTAGE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | NO land | 130 | 72 |
| 2 | $1-2$ | 41 | 23 |
| 3 | $3-4$ | 7 | 4 |
| 4 | $5-6$ | 2 | 1 |

It is very clear from the table that majority of the respondents did not have any land of their own, prior to becoming the IRDP benificiaries. Out of the rest, 23 percent are marginal farmers with upto 2 acres of land, 4 percent with 3 to 4 acres and only 1 percent with 5 to 6 acres land under their custody.

It can thus, be concluded that the majority of these IRDP beneficiaries are landless labourers and as per the IRDP norms, the concerned authorities have taken care to include the poorest of the poor while implementing this scheme in these villages.

