CHAPTER – IV

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARATERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

CHAPTER FOUR

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARATERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

The analysis of socio-economic background of the respondents is almost essential for any meaningful understanding. In order to make an evaluation of the role of Indira Gandhi National Open University's Distance Education on women empowerment we will first observe socio-economic backgrounds of the respondents.

Social Characteristics of the Respondents:

In this section we will observe the social characteristics of the respondents i.e., age, marital status, religion, caste category and academic qualification.

Age of the Respondents

Age is the main social character of the respondents, hence it can be studied. The Table no. 4.1 shows the age wise distribution of the respondents.

Table No. 4.1: **Age Wise Distribution of the Respondents**

Year	Frequency	Percentage
26-30	27	54.0
31-35	16	32.0
20-25	7	14.0
Total	**50**	**100.0**

The Table no. 4.1 shows that, majority (27 or 54 %) of respondents belongs to 26-30 years of age, 16 (32 %) respondents belong to 31-35

years of age and remaining 7(14 %) respondents belongs to 20-25 years age group.

Marital Status of the Respondents

For women marital status commends great significance for her position in society and dignity, respect largely rests upon her marital status. Hence marital status has been studied. The Table no. 4.2 shows the marital status wise distribution of the respondents.

Table No. 4.2: **Marital Status Wise Distribution of the Respondents**

Status	Frequency	Percentage
Married	29	58.0
Unmarried	17	34.0
Widow	4	8.0
Total	**50**	**100.0**

The Table no. 4.2 shows that majority (29 or 58 %) of respondents are married, 17 (34 %) respondents are unmarried and 4 (8 %) of them are widow.

Religion of the Respondents

Religion plays a vital role in determining the status, attitude and responses of women in the society. Hence marital status has been studied. The Table no. 4.3 shows the religion wise distribution of the respondents.

Table No. 4.3: **Religion Wise Distribution of the Respondents**

Religion	Frequency	Percentage
Hindu	43	86.0
Muslim	3	6.0
Christian	3	6.0
Other	1	2.0
Total	**50**	**100.0**

The above Table no. 4.3 shows that, majority (43 or 86 %) of respondents are Hindus, 3(6 %) respondents are Muslims as well as Christian.

Caste Category of the Respondents

Caste is the main base of Indian Society. It plays an important role in human life. The Table no. 4.4 shows the caste category wise distribution of the respondents.

Table No. 4.4: **Caste Category Wise Distribution of the Respondents**

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Open	33	66.0
OBC	9	18.0
SC	8	16.0
Total	50	100.0

The above Table no. 4.4 shows that, majority (33 or 66 %) of respondents belong to Open category, 9 (18 %) respondents belong to OBC category and remaining 8 (16 %) of them belong to SC category.

Academic Background of the Respondents

The classification of respondents on the basis of their academic background has been given in Table no. 4.5.

Table No. 4.5: **Academic Background wise Distribution of Respondents**

Academic Level	Frequency	Percentage
Graduate	33	66.0
P.G.	17	34.0
Total	50	100.0

The above Table no. 4.5 shows that, majority (33 or 66 %) of respondents is Graduates and remaining 17 (34 %) respondents are Post-Graduates.

Economic and Family Characteristics of the Respondents:

In this section we will observe the economic and family characteristics of the respondents i.e., occupation, family type, Education of Father, Education of mother, family occupation, annual income, academic qualification.

Occupational Status of the Respondents

The occupational status is an essential determinant of women's role and position in the society. Hence occupational status has been studied. The Table no. 4.6 shows occupational status wise distribution of the respondents.

Table No. 4.6: **Occupational Status Wise Distribution of the Respondents**

Occupational Status	Frequency	Percentage
Employed	35	70.0
Unemployed	13	26.0
Self-employed	2	4.0
Total	**50**	**100.0**

The above Table no. 4.6 shows that, majority (35 or 70 %) of respondents are employed, 2 (4 %) respondents are self-employed and remaining 13 (26 %) of them are unemployed.

Respondents Family Background:

The family type and educational as well as occupational status of parent's play a vital role in molding the carrier of their children's. Highly educated and well placed parent's become an imperative for providing a better future for women.

Family Types of the Respondents

The classification of respondents on the basis of their family types has been given in Table no. 4.7

Table No. 4.7: **Family Type wise Distribution of Respondents**

Family Type	Frequency	Percentage
Nuclear	38	76.0
Joint	12	24.0
Total	**50**	**100.0**

The above Table no. 4.7 shows that, majority (38 or 76 %) of respondents belongs to the Nuclear family and remaining 12 (24 %) respondents belongs to Joint family.

Respondents Father's Education

The classification of respondents on the basis of their father's education has been given in Table no. 4.8

Table No. 4.8: **Respondents Father's Education**

Educational Level	Frequency	Percentage
Graduate	24	48.0
Up to HSC	18	36.0
Primary	8	16.0
Total	**50**	**100.0**

The above Table no. 4.8 shows that, majority (42 or 84 %) of respondents father's were higher educated and remaining 8 (16 %) respondents father's have completed primary education.

Respondents Mother's Education

The classification of respondents on the basis of their mother's education has been given in Table no. 4.9

Table No. 4.9: **Respondents Mother's Education**

Educational Level	Frequency	Percentage
Up to HSC	18	36.0
Primary	17	34.0
Graduate	8	16.0
Illiterate	7	14.0
Total	**50**	**100.0**

The above Table no. 4.9 shows that, majority (26 or 52 %) of respondents mother's were higher educated, 17(34 %) respondents mother's had completed primary education and remaining 7 (14 %) respondents mother's are illiterate.

Occupational Background of the Respondents Family

The classification of respondents on the basis of their family occupation has been given in Table no. 4.10

Table No. 4.10: **Occupational Background of the Respondents Family**

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Service	32	64.0
Business	13	26.0
Agriculture	5	10.0
Total	**50**	**100.0**

The above Table no. 4.10 shows that, majority (32 or 64 %) of respondents family occupation were service, 13 (26 %) respondents family occupation were business and remaining 5 (10 %) respondents family occupation were agriculture.

Annual Income of the Respondents Family

The classification of respondents on the basis of their family annual income has been given in Table no. 4.11

Table No. 4.11: **Annual Income of the Respondents Family**

Income (Rs.)	Frequency	Percentage
25001-50000	21	42.0
50001-100000	24	48.0
100001 and above	5	10.0
Total	**50**	**100.0**

The above Table no. 4.11 reveals that, majority (24 or 48 %) of respondent's family having annual income in between Rs. 50001-10000, 21 (42 %) respondents family having annual income in between Rs. 25001-50000 and remaining 5 (10 %) respondents family having annual income above Rs. 1 lakh.

So far we have discussed the social and economic characteristics such as age, marital status, religion, caste category, academic qualification of parents, occupation of family and annual income of family of about 50 selected respondents. Data for this chapter is drawn from the responses of these respondents with the help of Interview-Schedule.

We will now move to the next chapter regarding satisfaction of respondents about the IGNOU educational services.