

Analysis of the Female-headed households, situation in India with special reference to Jammu and Kashmir

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ABSTRACT

The existing situation of the female-headed households in India, Jammu and Kashmir and the world is contingent to the number of factors, such as socio-cultural, economic, and private enterprise. Female-headed households are supported by different institutions in Jammu & Kashmir, and social, cultural and economic life has undergone a number of changes during it. A variety of Data foundations mainly include Census of India 2011 and incremented with State Digest of Statistics and additional published work anywhere compulsory. The present article is supported by research data and observation of my research. This study is based on primary and secondary sources and the primary data was collected by using the technique of interview schedule. Sample size of 300 respondents was selected by with the help of simple random sampling method. Female headed households are of the hurtled groups of the Society. From time to time the various factors like the husband's demise or addiction, his disablement, by divorce, being abandoned by emigrant or careless men, make this broad variety of the society more hurtled. As per the reports of census 2011 in India there are about 27 million female headed household which represent nearly 10.9% of all household. In Jammu and Kashmir female headed household constitute 8.2% as per census 2011. As per the results of the factor analysis test which demonstrate that these factors, according to main concern, were of the mainly distressing components and factors on the condition of these females of Jammu and Kashmir Socio-cultural conditions: 39.28%, economic conditions: 26.72% , entrepreneurship conditions: 15.66% and welfare conditions: 08.34%.

Keywords: female-headed households; situation; Socio-cultural; entrepreneurship; India Jammu and Kashmir

INTRODUCTION

This paper presents the analysis of the Female-headed households, situation in India with special reference, to Jammu and Kashmir. According to census 2011 there are about 27 million female headed household in India which constitute nearly 10.9% of all household. In many major States, the proportion of Single Member Female Headed HH is more than (20%): Lakshadweep, (43.70) Chhattisgarh (29.90%), and Madhya Pradesh (24.90%), Tamil Nadu (26.10%), Andhra Pradesh (27.1%), Kerala (23) Maharashtra (22.20%), and Orissa (22.10%). Online at <http://mpr.ub.uni-muenchen.de/64490/> In

Jammu and Kashmir female headed household constitute 8.2% as per census 2011. The results of the factor analysis test show that these factors, according to priority, were of the most affecting components and factors on the condition of these females in Jammu and Kashmir Socio-cultural conditions: 39.28%, economic conditions: 26.72%, entrepreneurship conditions: 15.66% and welfare conditions: 08.34%. One of the main modifications today is the ever-increasing numeral families headed by women. About 33% of households, worldwide, are estimated to be headed by women (Praveen and Singh, 2008). This increasing trend of across the

patriarchal societies is usually explained by rapid industrialization, urbanization and socioeconomic changes that not only affect family system and inter-generational social mobility but also disrupt family relationships and enhance family breakdown such as divorce, separation, desertion, widowhood and so on.

In India a number of factors contribute to increasing incidence of female headship. Due to population explosion, unemployment rate has gone up and the increasing trend of industrialization caused miseries especially to the lower economic groups therefore forcing them to give up the cultural values, family ties, and kinship bondage. Due to economic hardship widows are no longer absorbed either by in-laws or parents. Divorce, separation and desertion are found common among low income groups. Addiction of men to evil practices causes inability to support family. Migration caused many “left behind women”

With the rapid increase in industrialization and urbanization on the one hand, and increase in poverty and unemployment on the other, women’s life style in many countries is undergoing a significant change. All over the world, in terms of family life, women are slowly and steadily shifting away from joint families to a longer duration of “singleness” (Chatterji, 1997). As a part of change in life style different from the traditional role, women are now assuming the role of the prime careers, educators, and even household income-earners. (Lehmann David, 2000)

The occurrence of female headship is increasing both in developed as well as in developing countries. According to Moghadam (2005) the majority of female heads of household in developing countries are widows followed by divorced or separated women and are more deprived in choice of work, salary level, employment benefits, and heavier domestic burdens, especially where they have lower educational achievement. Thus due to economic adversity widows are no longer wrapped up in the in laws or parental

family, separation and abandonment are common among low income groups (Ranjay Vardhan, 1999).

Apart from the widowhood, separation and abandonment male migration has resulted in households headed by women. In the nonappearance of males, the workload for women is increased, as they have to take over many male precise activities. At the same time migration also has a deep influence on the status of left behind wives in the family. Some studies (Gulati, 1993; Hugo, 1995; Hadi, 1999) show that in the absence of husband overall status of women improves as they have greater right to use to money which they can spend as they wish; they have the freedom of movement; they can take independent decisions regarding the education of their children and type of action to be given to them if they fall sick and all the day to day dealings.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Nidhi Kotwal and Bharti Prabhakar (2009) In their study on “Problems Faced by Single Mothers” aims to study the problems faced by single mothers i.e. social, emotional and economic from a sample of 50 single mothers by snowball sampling technique. The end result reveals that economic problem was the main stressor for preponderance of the single mothers. The emotional life of the single mother was also exaggerated by their single status. Preponderance of the single mothers reported that they felt alone, unable to help, discouraging, lack of individuality and lack of self-confidence. In social area greater part of single mothers tried to keep away from attending social gatherings and had distorted their dressing style, due to gloominess they had developed poor food and eating habits. Majority of the single mothers found it hard to preserve discipline with the children due to nonappearance of male members. The mothers complained about isolation, shock and sadness and found it difficult to knob the responsibility of childcare and to set up a practice for their children.

Shubhashis Gangopadhyay and Wilima Wadhwan (2003) In their study named “Are Indian Female-Headed Households More Vulnerable to Poverty” point out that not presently married Female Headed Households emerge to be more susceptible to poverty. This is not because their heads are females, but for the reason that their heads have not as much of education. In view of the fact that education is the consequence of decisions made in the household, this suggests a sex disadvantage that is perpetrated contained by the household.

Veena Gandotra and Majula Thakur Jha (2003) In their study on “Female-Headed Households: A Database of North Bihar” planned to expand an imminent into problems faced, support structure available and survival strategies adopted by females as they presume household tasks as head of the family. The survey was conducted in Madhubani district of rural north Bihar. The outcome of the study showed that three fourth of respondents belonged to low middle class. The problems faced were mostly economic in nature i.e. scarcity of funds for various purposes. The family problems were generally related to considerate and rearing children. Nonattendance of male member made them reliant on others for conference on social issues such as marriage of children. At personal level also they faced problems such as sexual advances from males, criticism from in laws etc. Purchasing livestock and verdict labor to work in fields were work related problems. The investigation of support structure showed that the respondents sought support from neighbors, friends, employers, moneylenders and shopkeepers. In urgent situation families received support from neighbors. The endurance strategies adopted by respondents were borrowing money from money lender and relatives. They had no right to use to bank loans. Pledging land and personal belongings was also used as survival approach by them.

Various studies undoubtedly established the social and psychological consequences of Asian labor migration (day and liduygn1997; donnan, 1997 and many others accomplished that the lack of the migrant workers is to be expected to have reflective effects (both positive and negative) on the migrant partner, children and other members of the household. Aloneness and uncertainties can obtain their charge on the emotional health of wives who are left behind. Serious emotional problems are left behind; these problems have cropped up in Pakistan and in the gulf pocket of Kerala state in India, particularly among the recently married women. Psychiatrists in one hospital in Pakistan have treated so a lot of women for psychosomatic diseases related to their husband’s nonappearance that they have labeled the symptom as “the Dubai syndrome

METHODOLOGY

Since this study tries to discover data and information by which, variables can be described and explained, so it is unexperiential regarding quality and in regards of methods, called survey method and of the kind of discoveries descriptive researches. The statistical society of this study is analysis of female headed household’s situation in India with special reference to Jammu and Kashmir. The present study is based on both primary and secondary data. The secondary data has been collected from government, NGO reports and by reviewing the already published papers in the relevant area. In order to collect the relevant data, 300 respondents were selected by using the simple random sampling method. The tool of interview schedule has been used while interviewing the respondents.

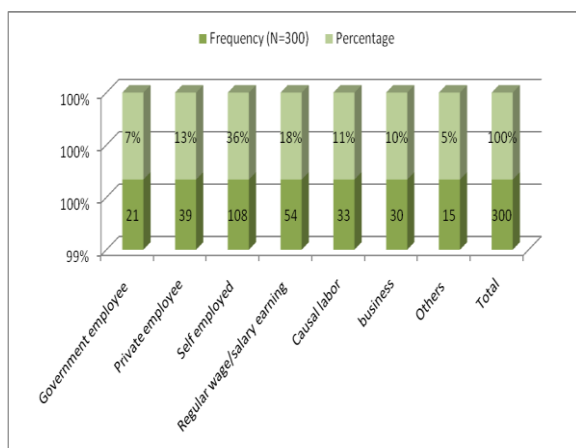
Summary

Female headed households (FHHs) have restricted admittance to assets to improve their lives. Even with the few resources accessed, resources such as physical, natural and financial capitals, their

livelihoods were still underprivileged and they lived in risky conditions. The respondents lacked basic services such as clean piped water. Formal education, which is important for human capital, was not accessed by most of the respondents. This hindered their admittance to proper service that could lead to betterment in their livelihoods. In addition, children in FHHs are subjects of the situations in their households in such a way that instead of enjoying their childhood, and earning an education, some stay home and others are involved in child labor. This in the long run leads to a vicious cycle of poverty among these households; because without an education, the children may end up taking the same unemployment pathways just as their mothers or guardians. The key areas of analysis in the alternative measures of livelihood strategies include housing, sources of drinking water, income sources, monthly income and their present social situation. The tables below presents a comparison of the different characteristics of the female household heads and their relative percentage distribution based on the working conditions, socio-economic, cultural and demographic variables.

Table 1.1 Percentage distributions of respondents on the basis of occupation:

Occupation:	Frequency (N=300)	Percentage
Government employee	21	07%
Private employee	39	13%
Self employed	108	36%
Regular wage/salary earning	54	18%
Causal labor	33	11%
business	30	10%
Others	15	05%
Total	300	100%



In the study area respondents were asked about their occupation. The occupational structures of the respondents in this study are classified into different categories like government employee; Private employee; self employed; regular wage/salary earning; causal labor; business and others. The people of district Budgam are involved in different kinds of occupational activities. The respondents in the study are the heads of the households and while examining about their occupation it was revealed in the above table 1.1 that (36%) respondent shows their occupation as self employed followed by (18%) regular wage/salary earning (13%) Private employee (11%) causal labor (10%) were doing their own business (07%) government employee and only (05%) shows other occupational activities like farmers shopkeepers etc. So here the highest percentages of respondents are found self employed and lowest number of respondents was found as government employee. The cause of the lowest number of respondents as government employee is that the educational status of the females is considerably very low.

Table 1.2: Percentage distribution of respondents to their monthly income from all sources:

Monthly income	Frequency (N=300)	percentage
500-5500	140	46.70%
5500-10500	60	20%
10500-15500	40	13.30%
15500-20500	30	10%
20500-25500	20	6.70%
25500 above	10	3.30%
Total	300	100%

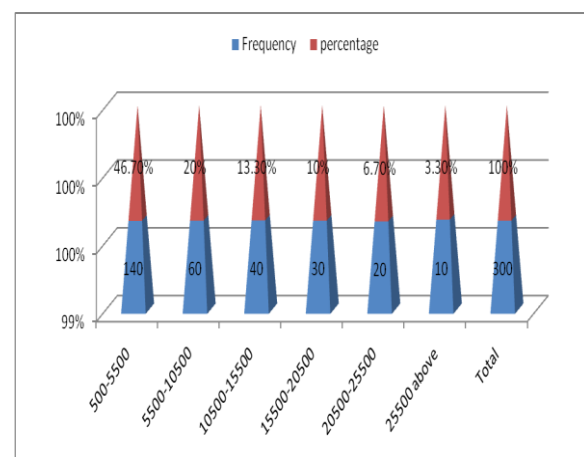
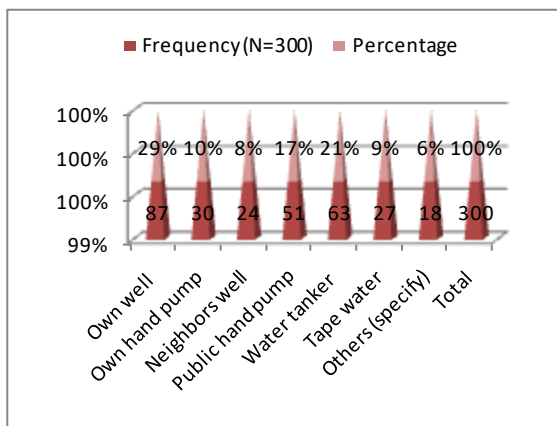


Table 1.2 reveals the monthly income of the respondents which is classified into different categories like 500-5500, 5500-10500, 10500-15500, 1500-20500, 20500-25500 and above 25500. It was found that majority of respondent (46.70%) shows that their monthly income from all sources have 500-5500, which is not sufficient for their livelihood as per the respondents response, (20%) shows monthly income 5500-10500 which is to some extent sufficient for their livelihood as per respondents response, (13.30%) shows 10500-15500, (10%) shows 15500-20500, 6.66% shows 20500-25500 which is sufficient for their livelihood as per respondents response and only (3.30%) shows 25500 above monthly income from all sources as per respondents response are satisfied with their monthly income.

Table 1.3: Percentage distribution of respondents with respect to sources of drinking water:

Sources of drinking water:	Frequency (N=300)	Percentage
Own well	87	29%
Own hand pump	30	10%
Neighbors well	24	08%
Public hand pump	51	17%
Water tanker	63	21%
Tape water	27	09%
Others (specify)	18	06%
Total	300	100%

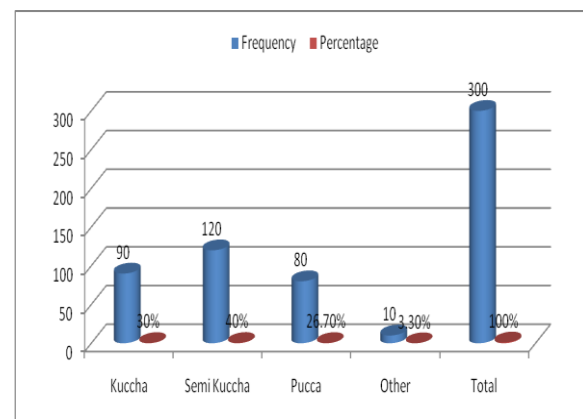


The above table 1.3 reveals that the sources of drinking water of the respondents. The way in which the respondents get water are classified into different categories like own wells, own hand pump, neighbors wells, public hand pump, water tanker, tape water and other sources. The maximum number of

respondent (29%) shows the main sources of drinking water is their own well followed by (21%) respondent shows their main source of water as water tanker respondents says that day after day one water tanker remains available they also added we are the pleasant of Public Health Engineering Department (PHED) for providing the water, (17%) shows the main sources of their water as public hand pump, (10%) shows that they have their own hand pump, (09%) says that their main source of water is tape water, (08%) shows that they are still using their neighbors well as their source of water and only (06%) respondent shows the other sources of water like canal, spring and river.

Table 1.4: Percentage distribution of respondents on the basis of kind of house:

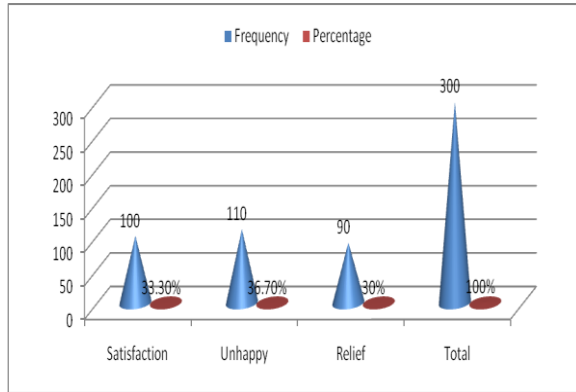
Kind of house:	Frequency (N=300)	Percentage
Kuccha	90	30%
Semi Kuccha	120	40%
Pucca	80	26.70%
Other	10	3.30%
Total	300	100%



The above table 1.4 shows the type of house of respondents which is classified into different categories like Kuccha, semi Kuccha, Pucca and other. It is found that (30%) respondents were living in Kuccha houses, (40%) of respondents were residing in semi Kuccha houses, (26%) shows that they were living in Pucca houses and only (3.33%) respondent shows that they are living in other type of houses like painting houses double story buildings on rent basis. Here it is observed that majority of female headed households lack good type of house.

Table 1.5: Percentage distribution of respondents to perceive present social situation

Perceive present social situation	Frequency (N=300)	Percentage
Satisfaction	100	33.30%
Unhappy	110	36.70%
Relief	90	30%
Total	300	100%



The table 1.5 shows how to perceive present social situation of respondents which is classified into, different categories, like satisfaction, unhappy and relief. It was found that majority of respondent (36.70%) shows that they were unhappy to perceive their present social situation, (33.30%) respondent shows that they were satisfied with their present social situation and (30%) respondent shows that they were in relief to perceive present social situation.

Table 1.6: Percentage distribution of respondents on the basis of source of income:

What is your major source of income?	Frequency (N=300)	Percentage
Government job	30	10%
Private job	63	21%
Agricultural land	110	36.70%
Business	10	03.30%
Poultry farm	34	11.30%
Cattle	39	13%
Other	07	04.70%
Total	300	100%

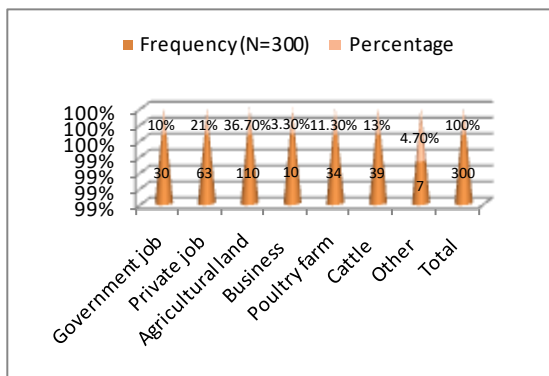
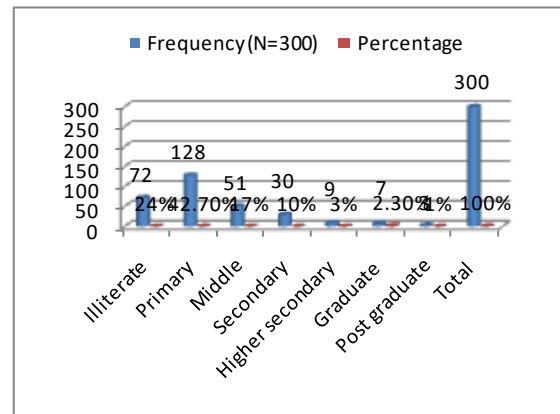


Table 1.7 Percentage distributions of respondents with respect to educational qualification:

Educational qualification:	Frequency (N=300)	Percentage
Illiterate	72	24%
Primary	128	42.70%
Middle	51	17%
Secondary	30	10%
Higher secondary	09	03%
Graduate	07	02.30%
Post graduate	03	01%
Total	300	100%



The above table 1.7 shows the educational level of respondents classified into different categories like illiterate, primary, middle, secondary, higher secondary, graduate, post graduate level. It was found that (24%) respondent were illiterate who never enrolled in school, majority of respondent (42.70%) shows their education level up to primary, (17%) up to elementary, (10%) up to secondary, (03%) up to higher secondary level, and only (02.30%) up to graduation and (01%) up to post graduation level. Here it is found that girls were given less educational importance as we found lesser women are receiving higher levels of education.

FINDINGS

Usually, in social and economic researches because of the work's quality and the scale of the evaluated variables, the researcher tries to decrease data and on the other hand, make a new structure for his / her data. These are done for better and more accurate analysis of the data and to reach more scientific results and meanwhile more applied. Households, that we would provide bases, principles and conditions of work and entrepreneurship. So, the basis of all

economic discussions & problems of the female-headed households related to their lack of self-confidence and the primary teachings (whether formal or informal). It is in a way that they are of the low education group, of the society meanwhile; a factor called entrepreneurship has been emerged from the factor analysis structure. In this way the results showed that low self-confidence and lack of self believing among the female-headed households has led to the fact that their economic dependence to their husbands make very improper economic conditions after self-heading and thus they do not have relations with any kind of department and organization, do not have the primary power & capital for entrepreneurship and even they do not have the necessary power and spirit for entrepreneurship.

According to, what is said in sum some of the most important factors for emerging of the problems of the female headed households in Jammu and Kashmir province of India are in this way?

- The lack of positive attitude for the second marriage among the female-headed households.
- The marginal conflict with the husband's family and the family of the married children and being abandoned with many problems.
- The lack of power to provide the children's financial and material needs.
- The lack of emotional-spiritual patron for the life course and thus emerging many kinds of depression, illnesses for these female.
- Unsafely of the society an increasing growth o the concerns and problems specific to the female-headed households.
- The problem of access to a proper job with regards to not having enough skill and problems of specific social relations.
- Not having enough skill for cooperation between provision of the family's livelihood and education of the children. This makes to emerge some decreases in moral and social education of the

children and these female cannot support their children in the problems and as a result, the continuous relations with children decreases.

- The lack of the necessary, continuous supportive mechanisms by the state government and the central government.

CONCLUSION

Overall, as we note in the results and findings of the research, the socio-cultural and economic problems of the female-headed households, according to the importance, were in the 1st place among all the problems of the female-headed households. So we can conclude that we will never see a healthy and intact society unless we construct a proper cultural and social ground in the society on the other hand, the element and item of education of different dimensions (theoretical and skilled) has been ignored among the female headed households and the measures by the related foundations & organizations have been low and periodical. When we can think to the employment of the female-headed In general, to solve the problems of the female-headed households in Jammu and Kashmir province of India, we can refer to the below strategies:

- 1) To define the share of the female-headed households in executive laws in supportive cases and priorities.
- 2) To make culture and to give education to the families for supporting the female-headed households and give responsibility to these female with supports of father-in-law, head, etc.
- 3) To provide job equipment and to find some jobs in accordance with different ages of the female, in regards to the specific conditions of having no head in families, to find the talent, of these female in order to provide employment and to decrease their social and cultural problems.
- 4) Amusement and filling spare times increase of self-confidence, to provide life expenses and to increase the family's financial stores and finally member by

the social consultants in the Jammu and Kashmir province of India.

- 5) To give the necessary teaching to the female-headed households in the grounds of entrepreneurship skills regarding courses and workshop instructional methods in applies and executive from in the localities.
- 6) Education and support of high income home jobs like making different kinds of local foods and other skills specific to cooking as well as sewing and handicrafts in the form of home workshops and also early output foundations and so selling these products in entrepreneurship markets in different areas of the cities as a factor for taking tourist, and even exporting these products with proper packaging to the other cities of the India and the countries that have a good market for selling these home products.

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