

Economic Condition Of Widows In Solapur City

Ajit Gaikwad

Research Scholar

Shankarrao Mohite Mahavidyalaya, Akluj

Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur university, Solapur

Introduction

Our path to economic status of widows in terms of their participation in economic activities, working status, income, problems in the family and at their work place, problem of debt. On this ground firstly it is need to find out of the socio-economic condition of widows. The same was taken into consideration of this research paper.

Objectives of the study

1. To study the status of family
2. To study the income source

Research methodology

To study the above said objectives slum area of solapur city were selected. Then after from Ramabai Ambedkar Nagar and Basav Nagar were selected on the basic maximum area covered. From each slum area 25 widows were selected. In this way totally 50 widows were interviewed with the per tasted scheduled. At the time of selection of widows from these two slum area the widows selected. Moreover, fieldwork was carried out in these two slum area in august 2019 to collect primary statistical information on the relevant variables.

Profile of the Solapur city

Solapur is southern Maharashtra's one of the major city and solapur districts administrative haeadquarter. The city is famous for cotton mills and power looms in Maharashtra. Solapur had the world's second largest and Asia's largest spinning mill. In bidi manufacturing the city is in among top spot. The city also famous for solapurchadars. Shri siddharameshwar an ancient inhabitant of solapur city they built the solapur lake in solapur city and resulted in resolved the water problem. The city is established on the north-south root and root is most important root in India. Total no solapur city numbers of Population 951558 male 481064 female 470494. Total no of slums in solapur city numbers 34859 in which population of the city 175408 resides. This is around 18.43% of total population of solapur city.

Results and discussion**Age of the respondents**

The age of widows is an important independent variable which affects of social status. It is closely related with the age at marriage and age at widowhood. That is important from the point of view of problems faced by widows.

Table 1.1
Age of the respondents

Age Groups	Frequency	Percentage
15-25	2	4.00%
25-35	17	34.00%
35-45	21	42.00%
45-55	6	12.00%
55-above	4	8.00%
Total	50	100%

Table 1.1 indicates that 2 respondents (4 per cent) are in the agegroup of 15-25 years, and 17 respondents (34 per cent) are belonging tothe age group of 25-35, 21 respondents (42 per cent) to the 35-45 age groups.6 respondents (12 per cent) are in 45-55 age groups, and 4 respondents(8 per cent) are belonging to age group of 55 and above respondents.

The number is higher by age 42

Type of family the respondents

The type of family to which an individual belong has importantbearing on the individuals' behavior and viewpoint. The type of family- Joint,Nuclear, Single- determines the status and role of widows. Hence, informationhas collected about the type of family of respondents.

Table 1.2
Distribution of respondents according to the type of family

Type of family	Frequency	Percentage
Joint family	17	34.00%
Nuclear family	29	58.00%
Single family	04	08.00%
Total	50	100%

Table 1.2 shows that 34.00 per cent of respondents belonged to joint families, and 58.00 per cent of the respondents belonged to nuclear families. 08.00 per cent of the respondents are living in single families.

Educational level of the respondents

This research paper information is collected about the respondents' literacy and educational status. Table 1.3 shows the level of literacy and education status of the respondents.

Table 1.3
Literacy and education status of the respondents

Education	Frequency	Percentage
Illiterates	1	02.00%
Primary	4	08.00%
Secondary	16	32.00%
Higher	23	46.00%
Graduate	06	12.00%
Total	50	100%

According to Table1.3, 02 per cent of the respondents are illiterates, 8.00 per cent have primary education 32 per cent havecompleted secondary education.46 per cent have higher education and 12 per cent graduation completed.

Respondents' size of family

The size of the family varies in accordance with the number of the family members residing at the family. Table 1.4 shows the particulars regarding in the respondents' family size.

Table 1.4
Respondents' size of family

Size of the family	Frequency	Percentage
01	04	08
2-4	17	34
5-7	12	24
8-10	14	28
10 and above	03	06
Total	50	100

Table 1.4 shows that 8.00 per cent of the respondents live alone, 34per cent of the respondents have families with 2-4 members, whereas 24per cent of the respondents have families with 5-7 members. 28 per centof the respondents have families with 8-10 members, and only 6.00 per centof the respondents have families with above 10 and above members.

Living arrangements of the respondents

The type of accommodation in which the widows live is also an indicator of the social status of widows. In the present study the widows live in three types of houses, which are given in Table 1.5

Table 1.5
Living arrangements of the respondents

Living Arrangement	Frequency	Percentage
Own House	19	38
Rented House	08	16
Relatives House	23	46
Total	50	100

Table 1.5 shows that 19 (38.00 per cent) respondents live in their own houses, 08 (16.00 per cent) respondents are living in rented houses and the remaining 23 (46.00 per cent) respondents in their relative's houses.

Occupational status of the deceased husbands

Husband is the main bread winner; occupation determines the family income. Hence an attempt is made to collect the information about the occupational status of deceased husbands. The information is given in Table 1.6.

Table 1.6
Occupational status of the deceased husbands

Occupations	Frequency	Percentage
Private employee	12	24.00%
Gov. employee	02	04.00%
Businessmen	01	02.00%
Daily labourers	29	58.00%
Unemployed	06	12.00%
Total	50	100%

Table 1.6 indicates that a significant proportion of (24.00 per cent) the respondents were engaged in private employee, (04.00 per cent) of husbands were working as Gov. Employee, (02.00 per cent) of husbands were running some petty businesses like shops, tailoring, (58.00 per cent) of husbands were working as daily labourers and engaged in such works like building construction, roads repairs etc and remaining (12.00 per cent) of husbands has not working.

Monthly income of the deceased husbands

Knowledge of the income of the deceased husbands of the respondents is necessary to know the socio-economic condition of the family. An attempt is made to know the income of the family when husband was alive.

Table 1.7
Monthly income of the deceased husbands

Income	Frequency	Percentage
Rs.2000-5000	14	28.00%
Rs.5001-10000	12	24.00%
Rs.10001-15000	17	34.00%
Rs.15001-20000	6	12.00%
Rs.20001 and above	1	02.00%
Total	50	100%

Table 1.7 indicates that 17(34.00 per cent) highest respondents were getting a monthly income Rs 2000-5000, 1 (02.00 per cent) lowest respondents were getting Rs.20001 and above.

Causes of death

An attempt is made to study the causes of the death of the respondent's husbands. The details are provided in Table 1.8.

Table 1.8
Causes of death

Causes	Frequency	Percentage
Heart attack	02	04.00%
Accidents	07	14.00%
Prolonged illness	19	38.00%
Jaundice	22	44.00%
Total	50	100

Table 1.8 indicates that 04.00 per cent of husbands died due to heart attack and 14.00 per cent in accidents of paralysis attack, whereas 36.66 per cent due to cholera, 44.00 per cent died due to causes of jaundice, and the remaining 38.00 per cent due to prolonged illness.

Occupational status of the respondents

In the present study information is collected about the respondents' occupational status.

Table 1.9
Occupational status of the respondents

Occupations	Frequency	Percentage
Private employee	11	22.00%
Gov.employee	06	12.00%
Business	01	02.00%
Daily labourer	28	56.00%
Pension	02	04.00%
Total	50	100%

Table 1.9 indicates that a significant proportion of (22.00 per cent) the respondents were engaged in private employee, (12.00 per cent) of working as Gov. employee, (02.00 per cent) businesses like shops, tailoring, (56.00 per cent) working as daily labourers and engaged in such works like building construction, roads repairs etc and remaining (04.00 per cent) of depend on pension.

Monthly income of the respondents

A respondent's status also depends on her monthly income. The income in this study represents the income of the family. It is very important to determine the economic status of the family of the respondents. Table 1.10 shows the monthly income of the respondents from different sources.

Table 1.10
Monthly income of the respondents

Income	Frequency	Percentage
Rs.2000-5000	19	38.00%
Rs.5001-10000	18	36.00%
Rs.10001-15000	07	14.00%
15001-20000	04	08.00%
20001 and above	02	04.00%
Total	50	100%

Table 1.10 indicates that 19(38.00 per cent) highest respondents were getting a monthly income Rs 2000-5000, 2 (04.00 per cent) lowest respondents were getting Rs.20001 and above.

Working status of the respondents: before and after widowhood

Information is collected about the occupational status of the respondents. It shows the number of widows who are working in various occupations to earn their livelihood. The widows who are not earning are known as dependents.

Table 1.11
Working status of the respondents' : before and after widowhood

Status	Before widowhood		After widowhood	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Working	13	26.00%	34	68.00%
Not working	37	74.00%	16	32.00%
Total	50	100%	50	100%

Table 1.11 shows that among 50 respondents 13 (26.00 per cent) respondents were working before their widowhood, and the rest of them 31(74 per cent) were not working, but the number of working widows increased to 34 (68.00 per cent) after their widowhood, and the number of non-workers decreased to 16 (32.00 per cent). It is evident that some of the respondents who were not working when their husbands were alive were forced to work after the death of their husbands. This is due to the breaking up of joint families which forced the widows to work in order to fulfill the responsibilities.

Causes of their working

After the death of the main bread-winner widows forced to work in order to earn their livelihood. Some major causes that forced the widows to work are given in Table 1.12.

Table -1.12
Causes of their working

Causes	Frequency	Percentage
For children's sake	19	55.88%
Economic purpose	12	35.29%
To be free from loneliness	03	8.82%
Total	34	100%

Table 1.12 indicates that majority of the 19(55.88 per cent) respondents work due to the economic necessity, because after the death of the main breadwinner respondents don't have any good economic sources to meet the family responsibilities and they are compelled to work to earn their livelihood. 12 (35.29 per cent) respondents work for their children's sake who wanted to provide and save something for their children's education, health and marriage. The remaining 03(8.82 per cent) respondents work in order to be free from loneliness after their husbands' death. These respondents are having good family sources.

Share in the husband's property

Table 1.13
Share in the husband's property

Share of property	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	41	82.00%
No	02	04.00%
N .A	07	14.00%
Total	50	100.00

Table 3.32 indicates that 41 (82.00 per cent) respondents have taken the share in the property of their deceased husbands, which is in terms of land, money and jewelers, 02 (04 per cent) respondents did not take any share in the property and 07 (14 per cent) respondents, husbands did not have any property of their own hence there was no question of sharing.

Conclusion

Present study an attempt made to data collect the information about her deceased husband, such as his education, occupational status, monthly income, age at death and causes of death etc, in order to assess changes in the respondents' family status. Majority of widows are age groups i.e. 42.00 per cent of them are found to be less than 45 years of age group. 56.00 per cent working as daily labourers. Majority of widows family status 58.00 per cent of the respondents belonged to nuclear families. 46.00 per cent have higher education and 12 per cent graduation completed. 46.00 per cent respondents in their relatives houses. 46 per cent have higher education and 12 per cent graduation completed. 34.00 per cent highest respondents were getting a monthly income Rs 2000-5000, 44.00 per cent died due to causes of jaundice,

References

1. Anji, A and Velumani, K (2013): Contemporary Social Position Widowhood Among Rural and Urban Area Special Reference to Dindigul District. International Journal of Advancements in Research and Technology. Vol. 2.No. 10. October 2013.
2. Asrani, Shalini and Kaushik, Sushma (2011): Problems Perceived by Scheduled Caste Women in Haryana. Studies of Tribes and Tribals. Vol. 9. No. 1. 2011.
3. Caton, AR and Marielli, E (1930): Home and Marriage in the Key Progress: A Survey of the Status and Conditions of Women in India. London: Oxford University Press, 1930.
4. Darshan Singh (2009): Development of Scheduled Castes in India: A Review. Journal of Rural Development. Vol. 28. No. 4. 2009.
5. Madiwalappa, B (2011): Employment and Widows: Their Changing Role and Status in Urban Setting. PhD Thesis. Gulbarga: Department of Sociology, Gulbarga University, 2011.
6. Meenakshi, JV, et al (2000): Estimates of Poverty for SC, ST and Female-Headed Households. Economic & Political Weekly. July 29, 2000. P. 2748-2754.
7. Misra, Seema and Thukral, Enakshi Ganguly (1998): Widows and Property Rights: A Study of Two Villages in Bihar. IN: Widows in India: Social Neglect and Public Action. Edited by Martha Alter Chen. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 1998.