



## A Study on Collective Farming with Special Reference to Kudumbashree Model

Dr. Ashalatha K.<sup>1</sup>, Shiv Kumar, Soniya<sup>2</sup>, Vachan Shetty<sup>3</sup>, Vishal P. V.<sup>4</sup>, Wenzil Agera<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Professor, JKSHIM, Nitte, [ashalatha@nitte.edu.in](mailto:ashalatha@nitte.edu.in)

<sup>2</sup>Student, JKSHIM, Nitte, <sup>3</sup>Student, JKSHIM, Nitte, Student, <sup>4</sup>JKSHIM, Nitte, <sup>5</sup>Student, JKSHIM, Nitte, <sup>6</sup>Student, JKSHIM, Nitte

### ABSTRACT

**Key Words:**

*Kudumbashree model*

*Women Empowerment*

*Nitte Grama*

*Panchayath*

*Self Help group*

*Collective farming*

Women are the foundation of society. As a long-term solution to a sustainable livelihood, they become even more important. The goal of women's entrepreneurship through empowerment is to develop human resources in the productive sector and to sustain the development process. Kerala is the only state in India that has achieved a remarkable status by meeting all of the criteria for various social well-being in comparison to some of the world's most developed countries, and is called the 'Kerala model of development.' This achievement indicates women's equality with men in terms of literacy, employment salary or compensation structure, and technical and professional services, it means that after implementing this Model in Kerala we can see many developments in the society. The objective of the research paper is to understand the standard of living of farmers in Nitte Gram Panchayath, to check the practical applicability of the Kudumbashree model of women empowerment in Nitte Gram Panchayath, adoption of collective farming in the Panchayath area, to check the need for setting microcredits through self-help groups in the locality, and to check the social and economic status of women. Here, it is tried to study the reasons for low productivity in agricultural activities and low employment of women in agriculture in the Nitte Gram Panchayath area. High labor costs, lack of initial investment, Natural calamities like floods and droughts, Lack of interest, and inability to take back at least the initial investment due to various factors are the common problems faced by the farmers in the locality. It is assumed that proper employment of women in agricultural activities would help the farmers to find solutions to some problems and would increase the profits and productivity. Here it is the very purpose with which this research is held.

### 1.1 Introduction

Agriculture is the primary source of livelihood for most of the population in India. About 58% of India's population is dependent on agriculture. India is among 15 leading exporters of agricultural products in the world and agricultural export from India reached US\$35.09 billion in FY 20. The organic food segment in India is expected to reach Rs. 75,000 crores (US\$10.73 billion) by 2025 from Rs. 2,700 crores (US\$ 386.32 million) in 2015.

But the current trends show that the percentage of

fallow land in India is increasing due to various reasons such as limited resources and labor, decreasing soil fertility, toxic urbanization, climate change, inadequate supply of water, etc.

In the last few decades, Kerala has been experiencing a declining trend in the agriculture sector. The majority of the lands are lying fallow; rice production has been decreasing and the State's dependence on the import of food from other states has been in increasing trend. Some of the reasons for this are outmigration, reduction in paddy lands, and diversification into horticulture.



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However, the women who were engaged in farming have been worst-hit as men who lost the opportunities in farming migrated to other locality or diversified into other areas. Women who faced problems with mobility had to reserve themselves only for household activities and depend upon men for all their needs.

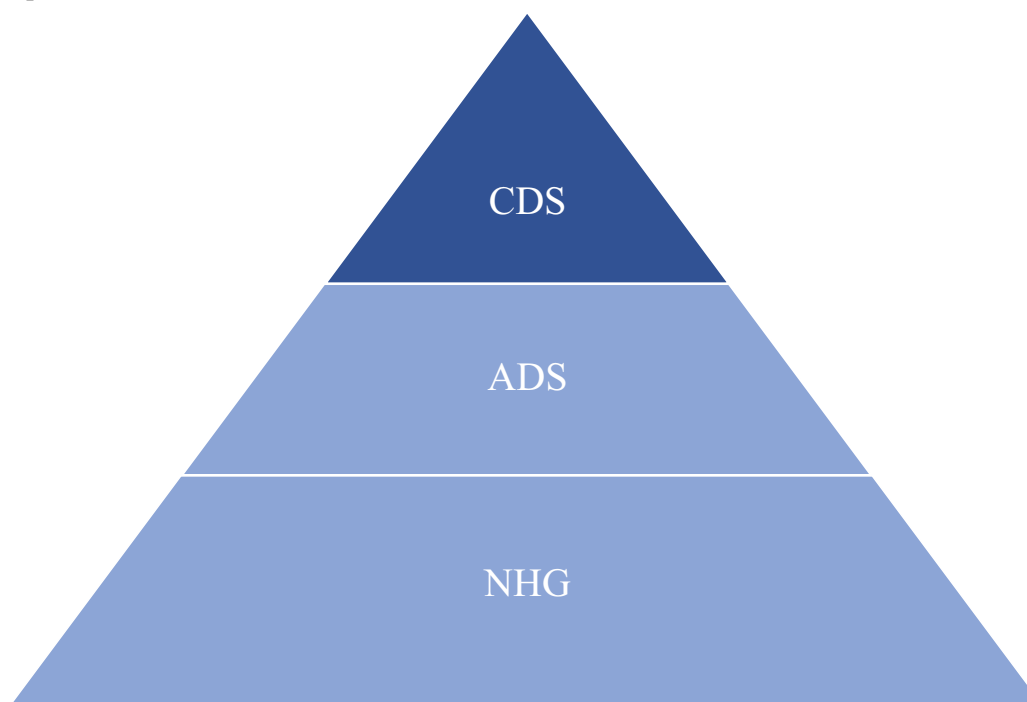
The government tried to improve the situation by collective farming but did not yield any positive results due to various factors like shortage of labor, leasing of land, unavailability of low-interest credit, constraints regarding land titles, and women's poor access to land, credit, skills, and markets. At last, the only solution they found successful is the Kudumbashree model of collective farming and women empowerment.

### 1.1.1 The Kudumbashree Collective Farming Model

Kudumbashree is popular as an effective model for women's empowerment in rural as well as urban

areas, i.e., by bringing together women from all stages of life to fight for their rights or empowerment. It works closely with the Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRI) intending to improve the standard of living of poor women, especially in rural areas by setting up micro-credit and productive enterprises.

Kudumbashree in the Malayalam language means 'prosperity of the family'. It is a poverty eradication and women empowerment program implemented by the State Poverty Eradication Mission (SPEM) of the Government of Kerala. Kudumbashree is a community network of Neighborhood Groups that covers the entire State of Kerala. It consists of a three-tier structure with Neighborhood Groups (NHGs) which are the primary level units, Area Development Societies (ADS) which are at the ward level, and Community Development Societies (CDS) at the local government level. A brief note on the structure is provided as under:



Neighborhood Group (NHG) is the lowest tier of the structure and constitutes the neighborhood group with 10 to 20 women who belong to economically backward families. Weekly meetings are in the houses of NHG members where they bring their

savings which will be then collected and used to sanction the loans. In each Neighborhood Group from among the poor women five office-bearers are selected for undertaking various activities they are President, Secretary, Income generation activities



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volunteer, Community Health and Education Volunteer, and Infrastructure Volunteer.

Area Development Society (ADS) is the second level of the tier in the model. The decisions and activities in this society are decided by the representatives of the women elected from the various NHGs. There are two bodies in this society, the general body of ADS which consists of presidents, secretaries, and volunteers of the NHGs, and the other one is governing body of ADS which comprises members elected from the general body including a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and a secretary.

Community Development Society (CDS) is the top-level i.e., at the panchayath/municipal level a community development society. It is formed by all ADSs in the local bodies. The CDS comprises a general and governing body. The general body has all ADS members and ADS governing body members. The governing body comprises five women elected representatives and two experienced ex-official members and ex-CDS representatives.

### 1.2.1 Literature Review

- Dissemination of Kudumbashree model-based Entrepreneurship Among Rural Women Groups in Africa and Asia  
This article was published in the year 2020 in the 'Indian Journal of Extension in Education' and the authors are Mahantesh Shirur, Sharath H.N, Goldi Tewari, and Ravi Nandi. This research is focused on the training conducted for the selected representatives from Africa and Asia for the dissemination of Kudumbashree model-based entrepreneurship among rural women groups in Africa and Asia. It also focused on the entrepreneurial benefits of the Kudumbashree model to rural women in solving problems relating to agriculture and empowering women economically. In this process of training the trainees selected some problems in the implementation of Indian innovations and strategies learned through training.
- **“Kudumbashree”- A keystone for Economic Empowerment of Women**

This article was published in the year 2016 in the 'Intercontinental Journal of Marketing Research Review' and the authors are Saravana Selvi C, KS Pushpa. In this research a group of Kudumbashree members belonging to Devakulam block, Kerala was selected to study their socio-economic profile. The results from the study show that women who were a part of Kudumbashree had acquired a higher level of economic empowerment and the Kudumbashree programme could bring about radical changes in the lives of the poor sections of the society in the years to come.

- **Kudumbashree Mission and Covid-19: A success story from the state of Kerala**

This article was published in the year 2020 in the 'International Journal of Research and Review' and the authors are Jini Thomas and Pramitha Prakash. This study focuses on the activities conducted and initiatives taken up by the Kudumbashree women together with the state government during the times of Covid-19. The result of these initiatives was that there were several programmes introduced and got a good response from the public and helped to get over the pandemic successfully.

- **Kudumbashree: Promoting the Self-Help Group Model of Empowerment through Women Entrepreneurship in Kerala- A Study**

This article was published in the year 2015 and the authors are Dr. Ashutosh Kumar & Jasheena. C.J. According to the findings Kudumbashree is focusing on Economic Development and Social Development. The role and contribution of women in the economy are significant indicators of a well-being society. In Kerala, the Kudumbashree mission is one of the best examples of a self-help group (SHG) model of women's empowerment that supports a wide range of entrepreneurial activities. Women, particularly poor women, are discriminated against by society, not because of their incompetence, but because of society's lack of motivation.



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- **Sustainable Livelihood and Sustainable Development: The Experience of Collective Farming by Kudumbashree in Keralam, India**

This journal article was published in the year 2016 in 'Indonesian Journal of International Law (IJIL) and the author is Rajeev Kumaramkandath, Bindu P. Verghese. This study is a fascinating concept of long-term intervention through livelihood programmes customized to the local geographic, demographic, social, and economic realities. The paper attempts to initiate emerging and sustainable forms of livelihood particularly designed to the growing threats to the environment as part of development. The success of the Kerala model has been influenced by globalisation and increased urbanisation, resulting in Kerala becoming a largely consumer-oriented state. The study has provided an insight into the activities of the Kudumbashree Community organization network.

- **Effectiveness of Collective Farming under Kudumbashree program of Kerala**

This article was published in the year 2013 and the authors are V. K. Sajesh and P. Ramasundaram. The study was conducted among groups involved in the collective farming under the Kerala State Poverty Eradication Mission (Kudumbashree mission) of Kerala to access the perceived effectiveness of Collective farming in terms of resources, technology, extension, marketing, and capacity building.

- **Effects of Kudumbashree JLG farming on women empowerment: A study in Ernakulam district**

This article was published in the year 2018 and the author is Ms. Daya Vijayan. The study has focused on the importance of empowerment in a women's life and the effects of poverty eradication mission (Kudumbashree), Self Help Groups (SHG) on women empowerment in Ernakulam district in Kerala.

- **Farmer Collectives: A Case study on Kudumbashree, VFPC, and FPCs in Kerala**

The article was published in the year 2020 and the authors were Reshma Sara Sabu and Saravanan

Raj. The study was conducted on the importance of a farmer collective strategy that could be adopted where small and marginal farmers voluntarily pool their resources.

- **Socio-economic changes of Women through Kudumbashree- A study from Puthenvelikkara (Gp) of Kerala State, India.**

The article was published in the International Journal of Social Sciences in the year 2012 and the author is Beena C.A. After participating in Kudumbashree, measure their socio-economic growth. Economic development is the foundation for all other development, according to the findings. Women's empowerment is based on collective effort, and women's empowerment leads to long-term societal development.

- **Role of Kudumbashree and Women Empowerment: A study of Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation Areas in Kerala State**

This article was published in the year 2015 and the author is Jose. J. According to the findings, the Kudumbashree model contributes to women's long-term social and economic growth, as well as a favorable impact on the living conditions, and educational, nutritional, and health needs of their children.

- **Micro –Credit and Empowerment: A study of Kudumbashree projects in Kerala, India. Journal of Rural Development**

This article was published in the year 2009 and the author is Raghavan, V.P. According to the findings Kudumbashree has won national and worldwide praise as an ideal and practical participatory development paradigm for poverty eradication, The formation of 1,65,840 NHGs by women from 33, 45, 509 at-risk families in the state's urban, rural, and tribal areas aids in the development of 2, 42, 489 poor women into lively micro-entrepreneurs.

- **Micro Finance and Poverty Alleviation: The case of Kerala's Kudumbashree**

This article was published in the year 2008 M.A the author is M. A Oommen. It was understood from the findings that Kudumbashree is a



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women's empowerment and anti-poverty program in Kerala that benefits not just its members but also the larger society.

- **Study on the changing process of Kerala women through Kudumbashree in Kerala**

This article was published in the International NGO Journal and the author is KB Nidheesh. In rural areas, "Kudumbashree" results in more equitable gender relations and economic advancement. Rural women, who were previously considered mute and powerless, began to see their inner strength, growth potential, and role in creating their destiny. The process of empowerment becomes a signal for their children, families, and society as a whole.

- **Financial inclusion and poverty alleviation: an alternative state-led microfinance model of Kudumbashree in Kerala, India**

This article was published in the year 2014 and the author is Ms.MG Deepika. Kerala's state poverty eradication program and its impact on poverty reduction in the Indian state of Kerala. Differentiating itself from other NABARD-led self-help group programs or the Grameena model of microfinance institutions in the country, Kudumbashree microenterprise-linked microfinance model has established itself as an effective model linking the state, community, and financial organisations. However, the core concept of local economic growth, on which the microenterprise company is based, is not without drawbacks.

- **Lease Land farming by Women Collectives: An Enquiry into Earnings of Kudumbashree Groups**

This article was published in the year 2019 and the author is Dimple Tresa Abraham. Women are regarded as the better half of society since they account for 586.46 million of the overall population of 1210.19 million people and play a significant role in humanity's survival. Women are increasingly recognised as playing a critical role in constructing a nation's economic backbone. Women's biological and social realities have given rise to a variety of roles in society, including daughter, wife, mother, sister,

homemaker, worker, citizen, and so on. She creates a calm environment for the family. Many families rely on her wages for their survival and livelihood. The woman is the home's creative energy and genius.

### 1.3.1 Objectives of the Study

The research was conducted to fulfil the following objectives:

- To study the practical applicability of the Kudumbashree model of women empowerment in Nitte Grama Panchayath
- To understand the need for setting microcredits through self-help groups
- To analyse the social and economic status of women and their confidence and leadership skills

### 1.4 Research design, Methodology, and Timeline

#### 1.4.1 Type of Study

- The study is based on secondary sources of information relating to the collective method of farming in Kerala. Also, the study involves a survey with the purpose of understanding the overall social and economic status of women in the Nitte Gram Panchayath area
- The research would also help to check whether women are productively employed in cultivation and whether all the fertile land is appropriately cultivated. If not, why is it left barren

#### 1.4.2 Sample Design

The Cluster sampling survey is used for the study. A questionnaire will be provided to the farmers in the Nitte Panchayath area. We would consider this research as a blend of both qualitative and quantitative approaches of conducting survey. We are thereby intending to create awareness among these people regarding the benefits of increased production with collective farming technique taking Kerala as a role model. The duration of the research activity is approximately 3 months.

#### 1.4.3 Sample Size

For the survey, 12 farmers are interrogated. Utmost preference is given to women respondents since the



objective is specifically meant to understand the social and economic status of women and women's participation in agricultural activities in the Nitte Gram Panchayath area.

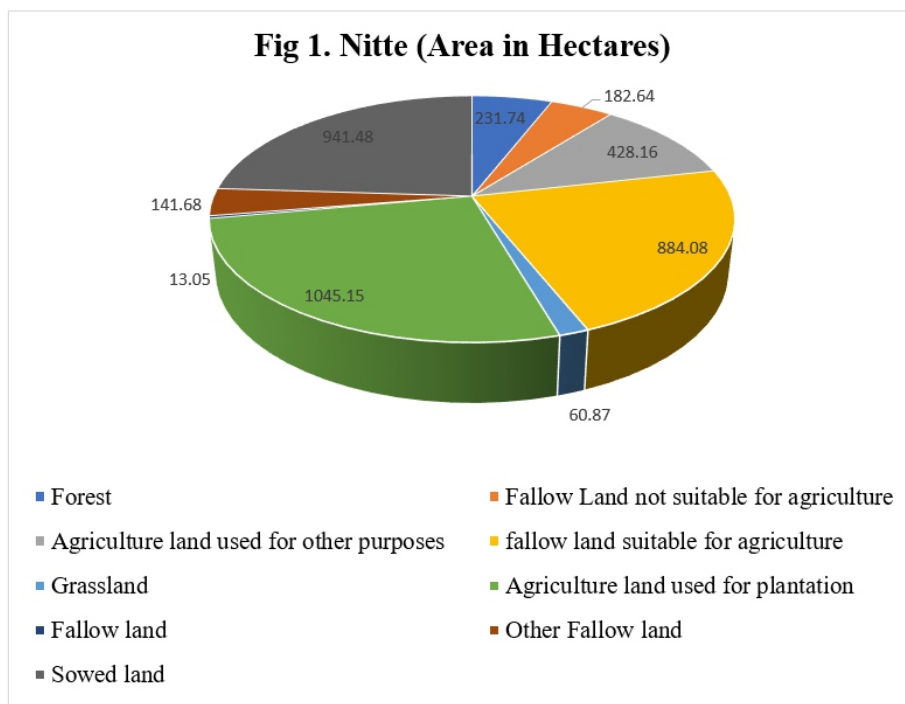
**1.4.4 The uniqueness of the study**

The study attempted to learn the cultivation technique used by the local farmers in Nitte by conducting a survey using a random sampling method. It also tries to establish an idea on this by collecting available information from the local Panchayat office of Nitte. It would also make a deep analysis of collective farming techniques used in Kudumbashree of Kerala. Thus, by considering the difference in the farming techniques used in these localities, the study tries to acknowledge the farmers

in Nitte about the benefits derived by using the Kudumbashree model of collective farming and thereby suggesting these localities employ women in fields making them productive and efficient and reap the benefits of increased profit margins and productivity.

**2.1 Social relevance and contribution of the study**

The study provided a foundation to understand the feasibility of the Kudumbashree model in the Nitte local panchayat area and also will provide a framework as to how this model could be applied in the particular area. This study will also act as a basis for further studies in the areas of collective farming, Self Help Groups, and women empowerment.



Source: Karkala Taluk Statistics Office

**2.2 Graphical representation and interpretation of the interview with farmers in Nitte Gram Panchayath**

The research involves a qualitative approach in conducting the survey. The respondents here are from rural background and many women's life there is confined to 4 walls. The research majorly concentrates on collective farming and women empowerment and the questions here attempt to

understand the social and economic status of women in Nitte Gram Panchayath.

Number 1 untapped resource is women. Women's potential is not properly employed in a society where patriarchy is dominating. In such a scenario, the Kudumbashree model would play a very needful role in enriching the women in social and economic participation.



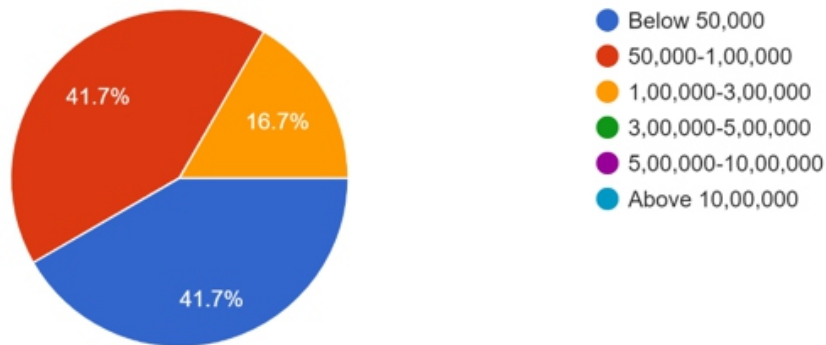
**Table No. 1: Age category and Number of respondents**

Age	Number of respondents
Below 20	0
20-40	3
40-60	5
60-80	2
Above 80	1

The survey is not confined to a particular age category. It involves a wide age group ranging from

23- to 90-year-old respondents.

**Income Range of the respondent family**  
12 responses

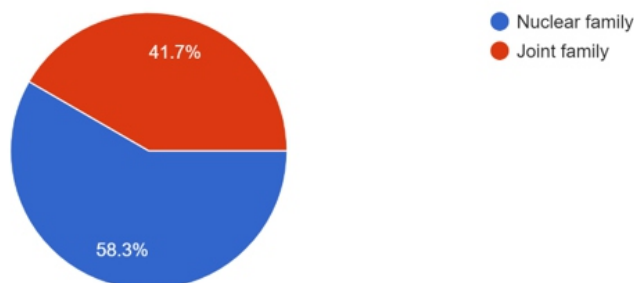


**Analysis:**

None of the respondents reported an annual income of more than Rs 3 lakhs. Most of the respondents fall

in the income category below 50000 to Rs 2 lakhs. Also, the women are not highly educated. Most of the respondents' education is confined to Primary classes.

**Chart No. 2: Family type of the respondent**  
Family type of the respondent:  
12 responses



**Analysis:**

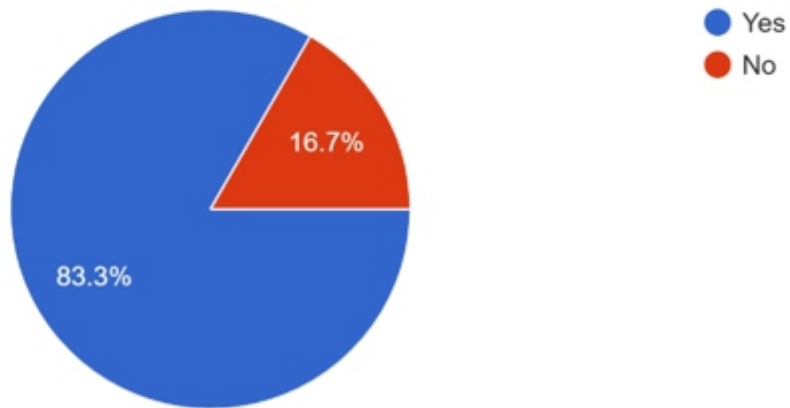
Most of the respondents live in nuclear kind of families. The average number of members in the

family is 6. They informed very good neighborhood relationships in the locality. This shows that there is a good opportunity to set up a self-help group in the locality.



**Chart No. 3: Belief in Community life**

Do you believe in Social/ Community life?  
12 responses



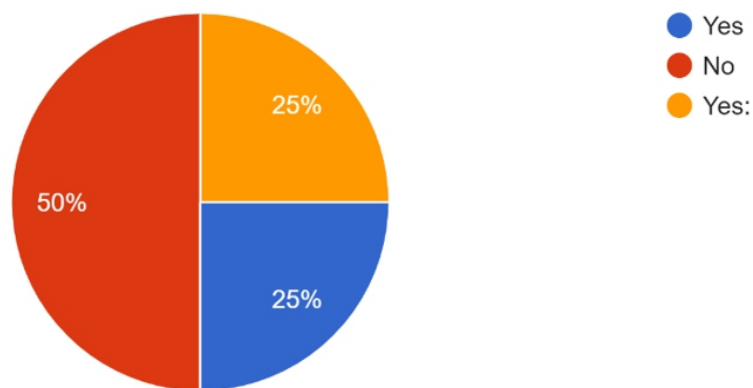
**Analysis:**

It is evident that people are interested in community activities since they responded positively about their

thoughts on self-help groups. Their happiness in attending functions in the locality itself is a good indication that they love community actions.

**Chart No. 4: Memberships in local community schemes**

Are you an active member in any of community schemes in locality?  
12 responses



**Analysis:**

75% of the respondents are not engaged in any of the community groups at present. But few of them were ex-members of some self-help groups like Sthree

Shakti and Dharmasthala Gramabhivradddhi Yojana. Later they left these groups feeling that the interest rate is high. Only 25% of respondents are engaged in regional groups like rotary clubs and community 'Sanghas'.

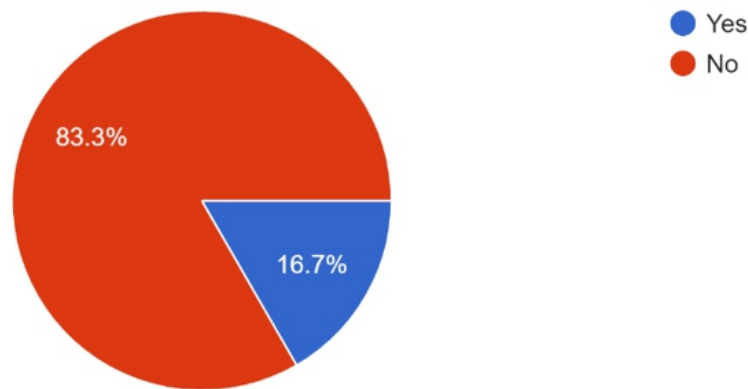




**Chart No. 5: Awareness of Kudumbashree model**

11) Are you aware of concept of Kudumbashree model?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

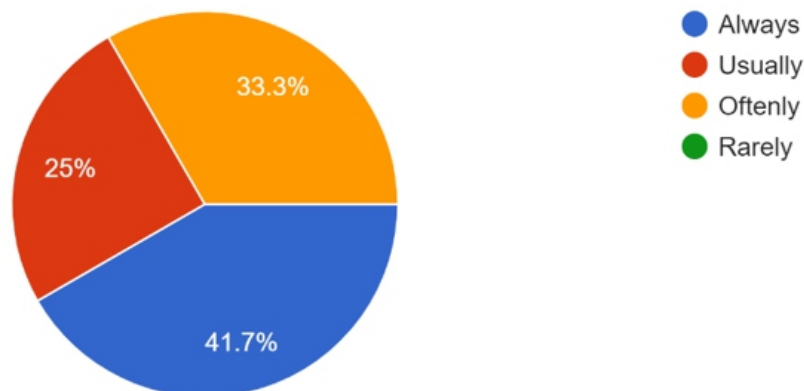
83% of the respondents are unaware of the Kudumbashree model. But some of them responded

that they had heard the name. Only 16.7% are aware of the basic concepts of Kudumbashree that it is meant for women's empowerment.

**Chart No. 6: Consideration in family decision making**

12) How often you feel considered in taking any decision making in the family?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

The respondents opined that they are considered in taking any major decisions of the family. 42% of the respondents opine that they are consulted always in

taking a major decision. Rest 58% of the respondents are also considered usually or at least Oftenly while taking any major decisions. This shows that they have good decision-making powers.



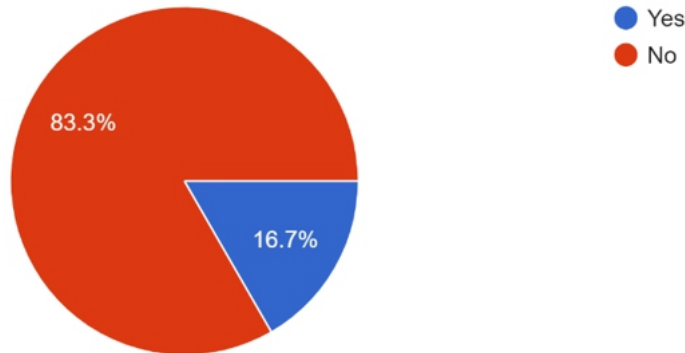
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**Chart No. 7: Gender Discriminations**

13) Do you face any gender discriminations/ gender stereotypic problems? If any what type?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

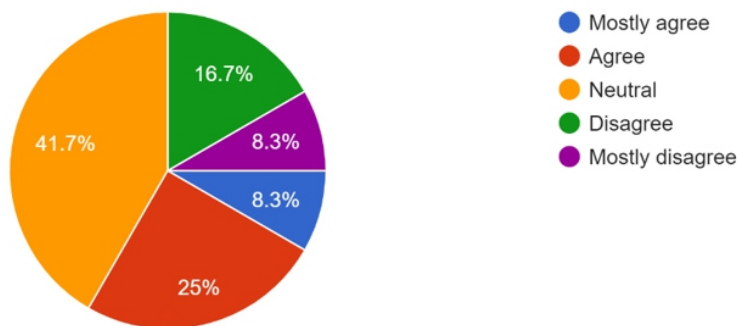
83% of the total respondents responded they don't face any gender discrimination in family. But there are chances that the answers may be biased since the men are present in the scene in some cases while responding to the questionnaire. It is felt that the

men, who seemed to be arrogant are dominating women's speech. Surprisingly, the head of the family in most cases is men. It may either be the husband, father, son, or uncle of the respondent. Rarely it is responded to as self, wife, or a mother.

**Chart No. 8: Capability of women to manage family in the absence of male**

16) Do you feel that you would manage the family wisely even in the absence of male members in the family?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

It was asked whether they are capable of managing the family in the absence of a male member in the family. Only 8% of the respondents are confident in

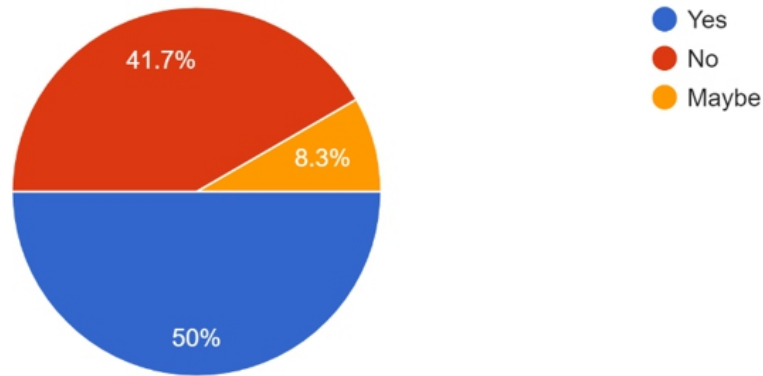
managing the family wisely. This shows their low self-confidence level or there may be chances they are biased.



**Chart No. 9: Capability to meet family expenses**

17) Are you capable of meeting family expenses out of current income of the family?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

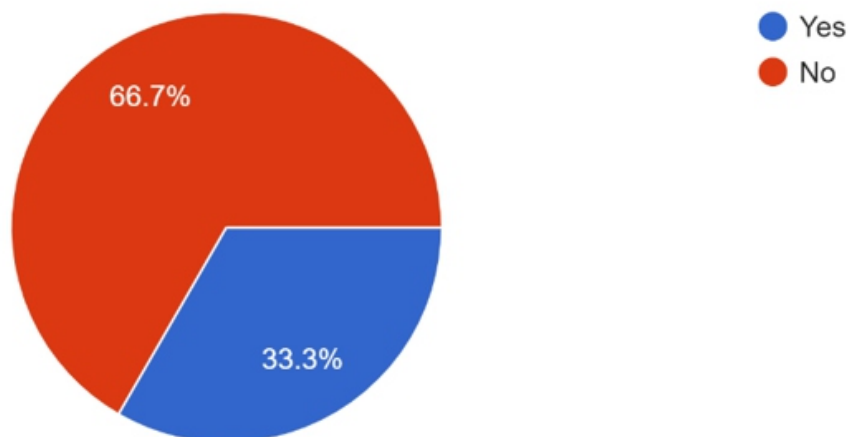
The respondents are economically average. Half of

the respondents said that they would meet their daily expenses out of their current income. This is a positive indication.

**Chart No. 10: Liability for Loans**

18) Are you liable for any loan instalments?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

33% of the respondents are liable for monthly loan installments. Also, many of the other respondents

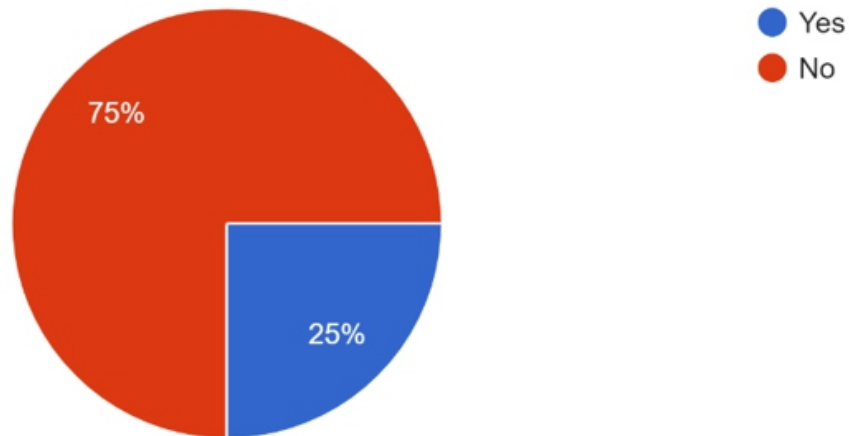
(67%), informed their liability for borrowings from friends and relatives for which no separate classification is shown in the graph.



**Chart No. 11: Interest in Entrepreneurship**

19) Are you interested to start an entrepreneurship?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

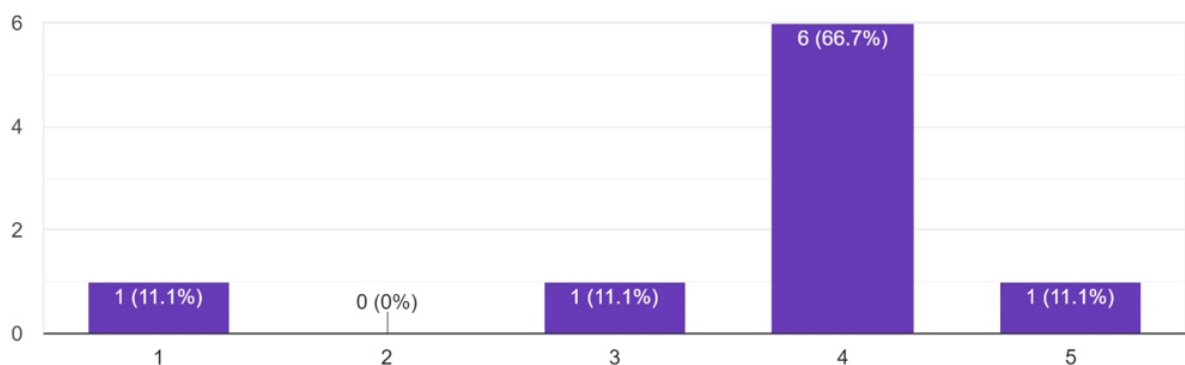
To answer their entrepreneurship interests, 75% of the respondents said that they are least interested. These people are satisfied with their current status. 25% of the respondents who reacted positively are interested in starting a grocery station, textile

business, or restaurant. 1 respondent is interested to secure a job in a company. They blamed their financial insecurity for the hurdle in becoming entrepreneurs. They are currently facing financial problems and hence couldn't find any way for the initial investment to start this business.

**Chart No. 12: Belief in availing family support**

(If yes) How strongly you believe that you would back family support?

9 responses



**Analysis:**

66.67% of the respondents believe that they would get good family support. 1 respondent is sure of

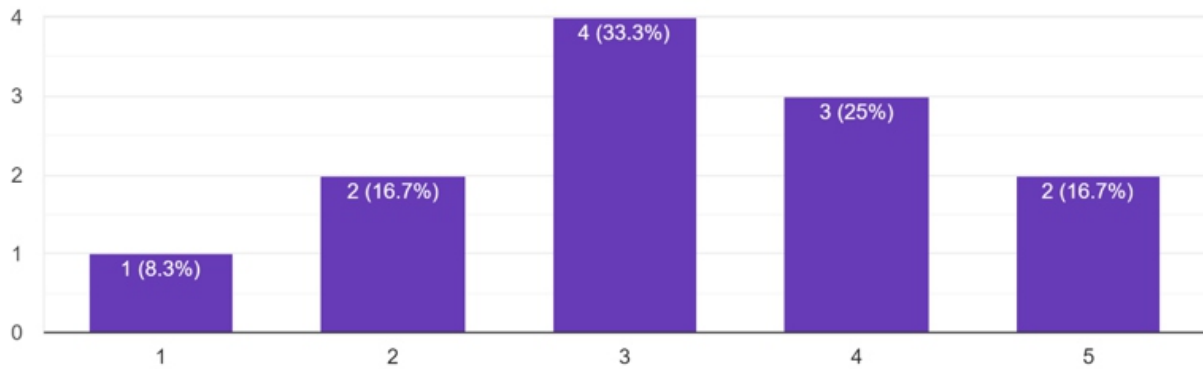
availing of family support. 22% of the respondents exhibited low support from their families.



**Chart No. 13: Satisfaction in Government support**

22) How strongly are you satisfied in Government support?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

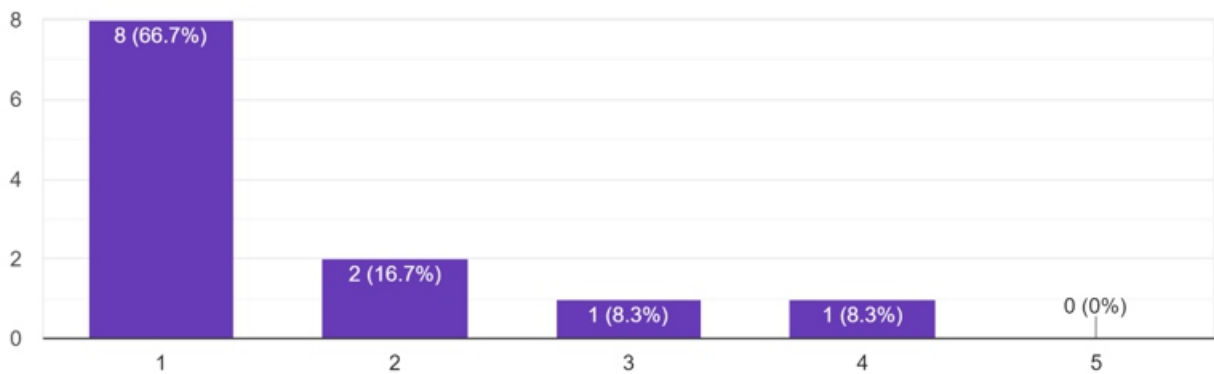
33.33% of people opined that the government is providing sufficient facilities to start the business but it is the self-interest lacking to start a business.

However, they opined that the procedures to avail these services should be simplified because currently, the commons need to run office doors to office doors even to get the smallest benefits from the government.

**Chart No. 14: Interest in Politics**

24) How strongly are you interested in Politics?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

It is observed that the respondents in the locality are least interested in politics. On a Likert scale ranging from 1 to 5, 66.67% of the respondents chose 1

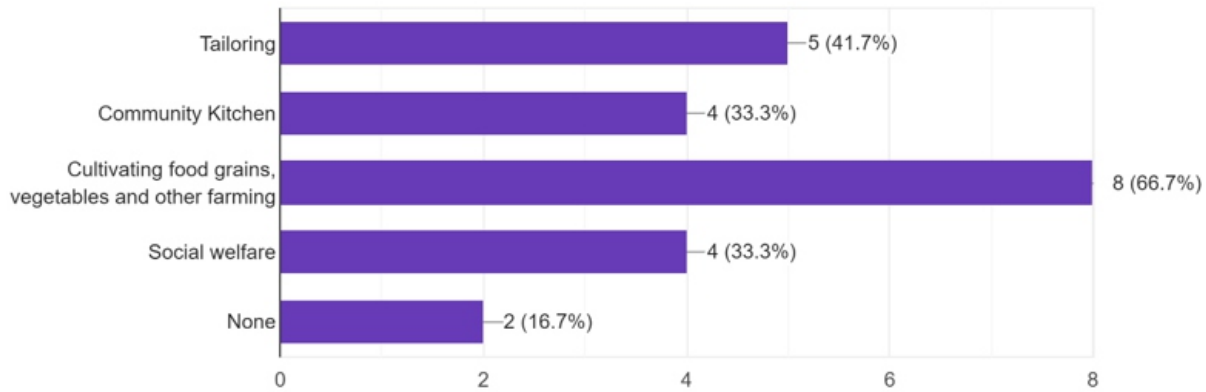
which indicates their lowest interest in politics. None of the respondents rated their interest at 5. A proper awareness should be created among them to check their active participation in regional politics at least.



**Chart No. 15: Interest in several Job profiles**

25) Are you interested in any of the below profiles? If 'Yes', which?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

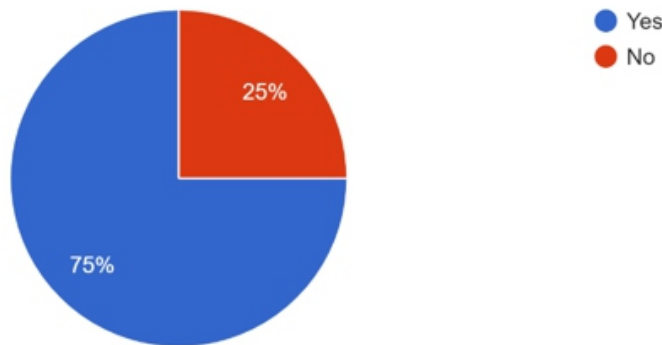
The respondents are provided with a list of areas of interest from which they could select multiple options, the majority of the respondents (66.67%) chose agriculture as their primary interest. Tailoring

stands at the 2nd position where 41.7% of respondents showed their interest. They are equally interested in social work and community kitchens where 33.33% chose their interests. 16.7% of the respondents are least interested in any of the provided areas of interest.

**Chart No. 16: Ownership of cultivable land**

28) Are you using your own land for cultivation?

12 responses



**Analysis:**

It is found that many of the respondents don't own any piece of land in respect of registration. 25% of the respondents said that they cultivate in the land patriarchally owned. Also, a serious inequality is seen in the ownership of land. While we have people with no own land, on the other hand, there are owners of huge land areas. The land occupation ranges from no land to 22 acres. The average land

occupation weighs 5.58 acres of land. However, the land under cultivation lies at 2.15 acres. The rest is the fallow land and forest-covered.

Paddy, coconut, arecanut, pepper, and banana are the major crops grown in this locality. Only a few farmers are growing vegetables. The other source of revenue for these households is cattle farming. But the yield from all these sources is said to be a no profit no loss game. They are able to meet the



day-to-day household expenses but are not capable of saving anything for the future. They spend an average of 4 months in paddy cultivation. Only a few of them are engaged in Rabi crop cultivation.

Only 16.67% of farmers are utilizing the facility to the fullest extent at present. However, there is a huge potential if all the farmers employ their land both in Kharif and Rabi crop seasons. The land is otherwise left barren for the rest of 8 months. During this period, the cattle are left free to graze on this land.

During the survey, it is implied that the farmers are not cultivating solely for money-making purposes. It is done as a tradition. They are traditionally bound with the soil (agricultural activities). While seeing the fertile land barren, they feel uneasy they say. Some farmers who had not cultivated for the past several years now began to recultivate the fertile land. This is positive growth. They say a great potential yield is on the way if the cultivation is done using modern methods.

Some farmers reported loss but, they are unwilling to give up cultivating. They say they are satisfied, provided the yield is sufficient for self-consumption throughout the year.

### 3.1 Problems faced by farmers in the locality in their cultivation

With the help of the field study, it gave an opportunity to study various difficulties faced by farmers in the locality of Nitte Gram Panchayath. The notable problems faced by the respondents are:

- High labor costs
- Lack of initial investment
- Natural calamities like floods and droughts
- The land is not owned
- Problems caused by animals like monkeys, peacocks, pigs, and cattle in the neighborhood
- Insufficient daily labors
- Lack of interest
- Very low return from farm products
- Crop diseases which result in low yield
- Many times it would not even be possible to recover the costs incurred

### 4.1 Findings

With the help of the survey conducted, many

problems have been encountered. These are listed as under:

- The Standard of living of the respondents is not high
- Only a countable number of respondents are employed, but a large segment is either unemployed or self-employed
- The educational qualification of the respondents is low
- The villagers have adopted technology for cultivation
- Collective farming would very rarely be seen in the locality
- The women's potential is not properly utilized and whose knowledge area is confined to the locality
- Only the Kharif crop is cultivated. The land is left barren for a long period
- Many landless farmers are losing interest in the cultivation
- Government facility for agriculture is not properly reached and utilized by the poor households

### 5.1 Suggestions

- Social and economic empowerment of women could be achieved by adopting the 3-tier structure of the Kudumbashree model with necessary changes:
  - Neighbourhood Groups (NHG) with 10 to 20 women who belong to economically backward families of the locality could be created. Weekly meetings shall be conducted in the houses of NHG members where they pool their savings and utilize them by lending for interest
  - Area Development Society (ADS) could be set at the ward levels of the Nitte Panchayath. Representatives of the women shall be elected from the various NHGs who would be capable to take decisions and conduct necessary empowerment activities
  - Community Development Society could be constructed at the panchayath level of Nitte. A governing body shall be elected from the members of ADS so that the entire



structure would be democratically associated

- The problems faced by farmers in cultivation could be reduced by educating them with benefits that would be derived from adopting the Kudumbashree model of collective farming. These problems could be curbed by:
  - Resolving the ownership titles of the land. Currently, there are a number of families who have lost interest in the plantation of commercial crops feeling that the benefits would not be enjoyed by themselves
  - Labor problems could be reduced by collective farming and by inducing the farmers with the required skills. Active engagement of women in fields reduces labor costs with increased profit margin and increased productivity
  - Lack of initial investments could be curbed by facilitating them with microcredits through self-help groups

## Conclusion

The most untapped powerful resource in the world is 'Women'. The standard of living of a country could never be improved without the proper empowerment of women. The women's potential should be properly utilized by employing them productively in agricultural fields of the locality by adopting the collective farming technique. Thus, Kerala's Kudumbashree model should be tried to implement in the Nitte Gram Panchayath area so that more yield could be taken from the fertile soil of the land. For this purpose, proper social, economic, and political empowerment should be done along with an improvement in their leadership skills, instilling confidence in them and establishing decision-making capacity in them. Short-term credits should be arranged through the establishment of local self-help groups. This helps them to bring their ideas into entrepreneurship. Thus, the Kudumbashree model could be implemented as a powerful tool for the overall empowerment of women and thereby lessening the poverty of the Nitte Gram Panchayath area

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## Annexure

[20] Survey of farmers in Nitte Gram Panchayath area with special preference for women respondents to understand the social and economic status of women and also to check the practical applicability of the Kudumbashree model in the locality: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfADWF0rExSdu9JimKHAxK33LZ4ESofmvUntZRkZtrsSRVksA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfADWF0rExSdu9JimKHAxK33LZ4ESofmvUntZRkZtrsSRVksA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Questionnaire used while conducting survey in Nitte Gram Panchayath area to make a analysis of implementation of Kudumbashree model of Collective farming in locality:

- 1) Name of respondent: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Age of the respondent: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Income range of the respondent family (per year):
  - a) Below 50,000
  - b) 50,000-1,00,000
  - c) 1,00,000-3,00,000
  - d) 3,00,000-5,00,000
  - e) 5,00,000-10,00,000
  - f) Above 10,00,000
- 4) Current occupation of the respondent:
  - a) Employed
  - b) Unemployed
- 5) Family type of the respondent:
  - a) Nuclear family
  - b) Joint family
- 6) Number of members in the family: (specify)
- 7) Do you believe in Social/ Community life?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
- 8) How good is your relationship in the community?
  - a) Very good
  - b) Moderately good
  - c) Not that good
- 9) Are you an active member in any of community schemes in locality? If yes, Which? (specify):
  - a) Yes: \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) No \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) Are you aware of concept of Kudumbashree model?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
- 11) How often you feel considered in taking any decision making in the family?
  - a) Always
  - b) Usually
  - c) Oftenly
  - d) Rarely
- 12) Do you face any gender discriminations/ gender stereotypic problems? If any what type?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
 If 'Yes': \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) What are your areas of interests, you feel you must be engaged in? \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) Who is often treated as the head of your family? \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) Do you feel that you would manage the family wisely even in the absence of male members in the family?
  - a) Mostly agree
  - b) Agree
  - c) Neutral
  - d) Disagree
  - e) Mostly disagree
- 16) Are you capable of meeting family expenses out of current income of the family?
  - a) Yes



- b) No
- 17) Are you liable for any loan instalments?  
a) Yes  
b) No
- 18) Are you interested to start an entrepreneurship?  
a) Yes  
b) No
- 19) (If yes) What type of business? (specify)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 20) (If yes) What are hinderances preventing you from starting the business? (specify)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 21) (If yes) How strongly you believe that you would back family support?  
a) Strongly  
b) Neutral  
c) No family supports
- 22) How strongly are you satisfied in Government support?  
a) Strongly satisfied  
b) Satisfied  
c) Neutral  
d) Dissatisfied  
e) Strongly dissatisfied
- 23) What more benefits do you expect? (specify)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 24) How strongly are you interested in Politics?  
a) Highly interested  
b) Interested  
c) Least interested
- 25) Are you interested in any of the below profiles? If 'Yes', which?  
a) Yes  
i) Tailoring  
ii) Community Kitchen  
iii) Cultivating food grains, vegetables and other farming  
iv) Social welfare  
b) No
- 26) How many acres of land do you possess/own?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 27) How many acres of land do you use for agriculture?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 28) Are you using your own land for cultivation?  
a) Yes  
b) No
- 29) Which crops do you grow in your land?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 30) Time or duration involved in Farming?
- 31) which are the problems you face while doing agriculture?
- 32) Why are you involved in agriculture?