

Role of Women in Decision Making in Agrarian Economy of Himachal Pradesh – An Empirical Investigation

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I. INTRODUCTION

The process of decision making in a family has an important bearing on the intra-household dynamics and welfare of the households. Most of the models of household decision making assume that the family as a whole is the decision making unit and there exists a single household utility function. Each member of the household jointly maximizes the level of utility for given income. These so called unitary models (Becker, 1965) are based on the assumption that the tastes and preferences of all household members are the same. What would be the household welfare function if household members have different preferences? This brings to therefore the questions about the distribution of resources within the household (Behram, 1988). Rural women constitute the invisible work force which keeps the family and the rural economy alive. But they and their labour often go un-rewarded or under-rewarded. Women represent half of the world's population and one-third of the official labour force, but they received only one per cent of the world income and own less than one per cent of the world's property (U.N. Conference, Copenhagen, 1980). Women play a crucial role in food production producing more than half of the world's food (FAO, 1981).

Women's economic and social status within the household determines her ability to effect decision which ensures the health and well-being of the family. Caring capacity however goes beyond physical care. It also involves mental care related to love, respect, psychosocial development including confidence building which all has an effect on physical health. Mental and physical care goes together and cannot be separated. The women's decision making process is influenced by their work patterns, economic and social activities, family structure, traditions, environmental and technological conditions based on resources. Moreover, a woman's decision-making within the household depends on her age and household status. The adult married woman has the power to decide what tasks are to be carried, which is to do them. She usually supervises her daughters or other Younger women in the household. Men usually do not interfere in women's control of day-to-day household decision, unless something that affects the men personally is not done (for example if meal is not cooked). Lot of studies have been conducted (e.g. Gore, 1968, Davis, 1982; Sharma, 1983; Mishra, 1988; Bourquia, 1995 and Seth, 2001, Acharya and Ghimire 2005, Sharma and Sharma 2006, Sharma and Devi 2012), which clearly showed that women had surprisingly large decision making role at the household levels. However, their decision – making is often behind the scenes and therefore socially invisible, women involvement in decision making was greater in traditional subsistence household, whereas, in market-oriented and money matters males made the decision.

Himachal Pradesh is a hilly state. The cropping pattern, the agricultural income and the consumption pattern of the farmers, therefore, vary with the altitude. On the basis of altitude, the cultivated land in the State has been categorized into four zones, viz., (a) low hill zone ranging between 1200 to 3000 feet, (b) mid-hill zone from 3000 to 5000 feet, (c) high-hill zone from 5000 to 14000 feet and (d) cold zone which is almost covered by snow for more than 6 months with altitude of 14000 ft. and above. In the valley area of low hill zone the main agricultural products are food grains, i.e. wheat, maize, paddy, pulses, sugarcane, oilseeds, etc. Whereas, due to suitable topography and climatic conditions the high-hill and mid-hill zone of the State is widely known for horticultural product, viz., apple, seed, potatoes, apricot, grapes, ginger and dry fruits etc. The agricultural activities in the mid-hill zone bear similarity in some areas to that of low-hill zone while in other areas to high hill zone. The agricultural activities in the cold-zone, due to the coverage of snow in most of the time in a year, bears similarity to some areas to that of high hill zone.

The status of Himachali women in society has been viewed differently with regard to her role in different places of the society. The main occupation of the women in the State is agriculture including horticulture. The women labour accounts for 61 per cent of the total farm work, their participation being greater in activities like animal husbandry than in crop production. But there is some tendency towards sexual division of labour in Himachal Pradesh. The hill women work hard with the men folk and robust. Himachal, like every

other society, has latent reserves in its human resources especially in women, who generally work for much longer hours than men. Despite a relatively higher contribution of women in the development of economy, they lack an equal access to opportunities and other resources. Gender equality can be a potent force for initiating acceleration of development and placing it on a sustainable path.

II. OBJECTIVES

The present study has been taken up for detailed empirical verification with a view to achieve the following objectives:

1. To study the socio-economic conditions of the sample households among the different size of holdings; and
2. To study the role of woman in family decision making among the sample households in the different size of holdings.

Sampling

The present empirical investigation is confined to Mandi District of Himachal Pradesh. For the present empirical investigation this district has been selected purposely because this district has got peculiar vagaries not only in terms of terrain but also in terms of socio-economic demographic structure. This district has a mixture of most progressive and most backward areas of Himachal Pradesh. Administratively the Mandi district has been divided into ten development blocks, viz. Mandi Sadar, Rewalsar, Drang, Chauntra, Chachyot, Siraj, Dharampur, Gopalpur, Sunder Nagar and Karsog. At the first stage all the development blocks have been arranged in an ascending order on the basis of their respective population and two blocks have been selected randomly. At the second stage all the panchayats in each selected development block have been arranged in an ascending order on the basis of their respective population and two panchayats have been selected randomly from each selected block. Thus total four panchayats have been selected randomly in the study area. At the third stage a list of villages have been obtained from the office of each selected panchayats and all the villages in each selected panchayats have been arranged in an ascending order on the basis of their respective population and three villages have been selected randomly from each selected panchayat of each selected development block. Thus total twelve (12) villages have been selected randomly in the study area. At the fourth stage a list of the households have been prepared in each of the selected village and all the households in all the selected villages have been arranged in an ascending order on the basis of their respective size of holdings viz. marginal (0 – 1 hectare), small (1 – 2 hectare), medium (2- 4 hectare) and large size of holdings (4 hectare and above) and about 300 households proportion to the total number of household falling in each category have been selected randomly for collecting the required first hand information, out of which 150 households falls in the category of the marginal, 90 on the small, 45 on the medium and remaining 15 households on the category of large size of holdings groups.

Data Collection

The required primary data have been collected with the help of pre-tested scheduled from 300 sample households and the information pertaining to age, sex, family composition, occupation (main and subsidiary), educational status, value of household assets (i.e. both productive and household durables) have been recorded as existed at the time of survey. The schedule had both open ended and close ended questions. In addition to interview schedules, non-participant observation methods have also been followed in order to understand the way in which they share the household responsibilities with other members of the family.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Socio-economic Characteristics of the Sample Households:

Out of the total 300 sample households, 150 households fall in the category of marginal farmers having land less than one hectare, 90 households fall in the category of small farmers, having 1-2 hectares of land, 45 households are the medium size of holdings (2-4 hectares) and remaining 15 households fall in the category of large farmers (4 hectare and above). Out of the total population of 1941, 983 are males and 958 are females. The average size of family is the highest on the medium size of holdings as compared to the other class of holdings, followed by large, marginal and small size of holdings group respectively. The average size of family among all the sample household came out 6.47, which is larger as compared with average size of family at the state level as a whole, i.e. 4.97 (According to Census, 2011). The percentage of labour force has been worked out 72.35, 72.30, 73.65 and 60.40 per cent on the marginal, small, medium and large size of holdings group respectively. Among all the land holdings together this percentage came out 72.49. The percentage of dependants is the highest on the large size of holdings group (i.e. 39.60 per cent) as compared to the other class of holdings, followed by marginal size of holdings group (i.e. 27.65 per cent) and medium size of holdings group (i.e. 26.35 per cent). The lowest percentage of dependants is on the small size of holdings group (i.e. 25.70 per cent). Among all the holding groups together the percentage of dependants came out 27.51. The literacy level of

sample households has been shows that illiteracy was more among women (i.e. 18.27 per cent) as compared to men (i.e. 12.72 per cent). In the sample as a whole 84.54 per cent of the population is literate, out of which 87.28 per cent are males and 81.73 per cent are females. The literacy percentage is the highest on the large size of holdings i.e. 88.11 per cent and it decreases to 86.52, 84.99 and 83.24 per cent on the medium, small and marginal size of holdings respectively. About 16.07 per cent women had education up to primary level and about 24.84 per cent could go up to Matric level only. At post graduation level the percentage is very low (i.e. 4.27 per cent). This shows that education level of women in the study area is not so satisfactory yet. On the other hand about 32.15 per cent male had education up to Matric level and 10.98 per cent up to primary level. The percentage of higher education among females is very low because females often fear that education will make a girl less attentive to household chores and less willing to obey both her parents and household. This is why they discontinue their education at an earlier stage as compared to men. Therefore, they have virtually no choice than to accept life as it is made up of combination of household and agricultural tasks. The per household total area operated has been worked out 0.57 hectares on the marginal, 1.78 hectares on the small, 2.67 hectares on the medium and 7.41 hectares on the large size class of holdings. Among all the sample households, together per household total area operated has been worked out 1.59 hectares. (Appendix-I).

Women's Decision Making in Household Activities

In the present empirical investigation it was found that out of the total sample households, 65.13 per cent were having joint family system, which was higher on the large holding groups as compared to smaller farmers. Only 0.43 per cent women of the sample households held lucrative employment and vested with authority had a greater and effective say in a family decision making. An analysis of the ownership pattern of land showed that women had titles to land only in 3.42 per cent (i.e. 1.72 per cent on the large and 1.12 per cent on the medium holdings, 0.58 per cent on the small holdings), while men had titles of 96.58 per cent of the households. The ownership of land by women was negligible on the marginal size of holdings. Out of the total sample households women's were acting as the head of the families only in 12.60 per cent sample households. It was observed that women had usually control over the income they earned; decision making authority in financial matter was vested in the hand of male members in the family among all the size of holdings. About 57.35 per cent women of marginal holdings were of the opinion that a women who did not bear a son might be divorced on the grounds that the man would like a woman who could bear a son to bequeath him his property and look after him in old age. Women also played discriminatory roles with their girl child compared to boys in the upbringing of children. This type of role play emphasized that girls should concentrate in learning matters pertaining to the kitchen, and to accept without question that men were superior in all respects. Thus, women had been psychologically prepared to accept an inferior social position because of the elaborate traditional systems which made women enforces of their own subjugation practices. The perpetuations of these practices maintain the customary inferior position of women with regard to decision making, control of resources and their social position. Even women in large size of holdings hardly celebrate the birthday of girl child. Only 6.72 per cent women from large holding groups found to be in favour of giving equal opportunities to male or female child for their upbringing.

Decision making in food related activities have facets like, purchase of food items, cooking and cleanliness, household maintenance, management and shopping of own household durables, care of children, the sick elderly and disables, social, cultural and religious works. Appendix-II indicates that the percentage of household decision making about purchase of food-items taken by males was the highest (i.e. 81.11 per cent) among the small size of holdings followed by medium and large size of holdings i.e. 71.11 and 66.67 per cent. While, it was lowest i.e. 53.33 per cent among marginal size of holdings group. Women were just consulted but did not act as major decision-maker. The men were the main decision makers. They visited markets frequently for their day to day requirements. While coming back home they purchased food-items of their choice. Moreover, it was found that there was higher valuation of men's choice. The decision making in cooking and cleanliness activities was the main concern of females. Almost all size class of holdings females were the main decision makers. It is clear that habitually women have derived skill in cooking food-items and have proven to be more efficient in all affairs of this category.

In household maintenance, management and shopping of durable activities decision making was done by males and females jointly (i.e. 74.00 per cent) in consultation with each other in all sizes of holding together. In these activities very less percentage of male and females were found taking independent decisions among the sample households. The decision regarding care of children, sick, elderly and disabled was taken by both male and female jointly. The percentage of sample household where male and female took joint decision in these activities came out 76.66, 66.67, 77.78 and 40.00 percent on the marginal, small, medium and large size of holdings respectively; among all size of holdings together this percentage came out 72.00 per cent. The possibility of independent decisions by males and females were very rare. It is further added that children need scruples and constant care for their upbringing. Their neglect entails impoverishment and deprivation for them.

Parents want higher places for their sons and daughters in society. The sick, elderly and handicapped persons also need loving care of the family members. Joint (male and female) and right decisions prove to be palliatives for them have embalming and soothing effects on their lives.

The majority of households' decisions regarding social cultural and religious work were taken jointly by males and females in all size of holding together. Although among the sample households, decisions were taken independently also by males and females. The percentage of independent female decision makers was on the higher side (i.e. 26.93 per cent) among marginal size of holdings, whereas, males were found to be having upper hand on small, medium and large sizes of holdings. However, it is found that the population of area under study predominately belongs to Hindu religion. People believe in old customs, traditions and belief. The Society is orthodox and believes in ghosts and spirits. Any transgression of old dogmas is viewed adversely. Willy-nilly they have to observe rites and rituals of the past. May be because of pressure of society or fear of trespassing of religious bonds, they take joint decisions for social, cultural and religious activities.

On an average maximum decisions regarding household activities were jointly taken by males and females. The percentage of sample household who took joint decision regarding household activities were found 52.39 percent on the marginal, 48.88 percent on the small, 20.61 percent on the medium and 31.99 percent on the large size of holdings. The percentage of female independent decision makers is the higher (i.e.26.93 percent) as compared to male decision makers (i.e. 20.66 percent) on the marginal size of holdings and 25.77 per cent, among medium size of holdings as compared to male decision maker i.e. 24.88 per cent, due to the reason that most of the women were employed as daily wage earners and male members were found to be alcoholic, drug addicts sluggish and lethargic. Among small and large sizes of the holdings the trend got reversed. Herein the percentage of independent male decision makers was on the higher side than that of females.

Women's Decision Relating Farm Activities

Rural women are intensively involved in agricultural activities. Normally men dominate in decision making regarding allocating of land for cultivation for growing different crops, money to spend for purchase of agricultural implements, labour employment, application to fertilizer, insecticides, sale of farm produce and raising of loans. However, decisions on farm activities like planting, weaving, harvesting, and food preservation are shared by both males and females.

The farm related work has been divided into seven important activities (i.e. choice of subsistence crops to be grown, choice of cash crops to be grown, planting trees, livestock keeping, labour hiring, purchases of agro-chemicals and quantity of food produce to be sold). It is clear from the Appendix-III that in case of choice of subsistence crop to be grown 43.33, 66.67, 71.11 and 80 percent of the men and 46.67, 22.22, 13.33 and 13.33 percent of the women were the decision makers on the marginal, small, medium and large size of holdings respectively among the sample households. Among all the sizes of holdings taken together the percentage of households where males were making decisions came out 50.67 percent and found to be in majority, followed by females (26.33 per cent) and by both males and females (23.00 per cent) regarding choice of cash crops to be grown. It is clear from the Appendix that in this particular activity males are more skillful in deciding which crop is to be grown for better returns in production.

In planting of trees activities the percentage of household decision making by males came out highest (i.e. 84.44 per cent) in medium size of holdings followed by small size of holdings (i.e. 77.78 per cent), marginal size of holdings (i.e. 73.33 per cent) and large size of holdings (i.e. 66.67 per cent) respectively. Among all sizes of holdings taken together dominant part of decision making was done by males (i.e. 76.00 per cent) followed females (i.e. 14.00 per cent) and jointly by males and females (i.e. 10.00 per cent).The plantation of trees is an outside work and require physical labour, knowledge about the climatic condition of the area, fast growth rate of trees and comparative monetary value of the tress. The men have deeper knowledge of the above facts. Therefore, in maximum sample households men were the main decision makers.

In livestock keeping activity Appendix III clearly reveals that females were found to be main decision makers in most of the sample households of the marginal, small and large size of holdings, but on the medium size of holdings men were found to be decision makers in 88.89 per cent of the households. Among all sizes of holdings taken together decision were taken by females i.e. 65.00 per cent followed by jointly males and females both, i.e. 21.33 per cent and 13.67 per cent jointly by males. The obvious reason why women were largely involved in decision making in this category can be ascribed to the fact that the work of livestock keeping is mainly done within home peripherals. However, in large size of holding women thought beyond their dignity to do the menial jobs like tending to livestock's. In labour hiring and purchase of agro-chemicals activities the percentage of household decisions making was highest by males i.e. 82.33 per cent in all size of holdings together, because both the activities are related to market observations, knowledge about the latest brands of agro-chemicals products, rate differentiation in the market and males are more conversant with them. The percentage of households about decision making in the above activities was nominal by females.

The percentage of male decision makers about quantity of food produced to be sold came out 56.67, 70.00, 55.56 and 80.00 per cent on the marginal, small, medium and large size of holdings respectively. This shows an increasing trend with an increase in the size of holdings except medium size of holdings. It happened due to fact that men appeared to be good bargainers and planners. The decision regarding quantity of food was to kept in reserve for sustaining family till the next crop came and how much was to be sold involved judicious decisions which the men kept in their mind better than women. Hence, in farm decision making activities the percentage of household decision making by males was highest (i.e. 58.38 per cent) followed by females (i.e. 27.67 per cent) and by both jointly (i.e. 13.95 per cent). It may be noted that in the study area the patriarchal system of society is prevalent where normally decisions are made by male heads.

From the above discussion it can be concluded that irrespective of the familial composition that is, nuclear or joint, the authority remains under the domain of elders who may be husband/parent-in-law in the family. Women's are generally playing traditional role of child bearing and rearing and managing the household chores. The results of the present study do not support the generally held contention that when women become economically independent, their status is elevated. The lack of support to such explanation may be attributed to the fact majority of our respondents were engaged in family affairs and hence had no independent economic status. Secondly, they have taken up economic role not to become economically independent but to take it as a part and parcel of their life. It is perhaps for these reasons that other family members extend the helping hands to women in performing the role in various household activities. Thus, it can be concluded that irrespective of the familial composition decision making authority regarding financial matters, education of children's, health care for female child etc. is still vested in the hands of male members in the family. On an average maximum decision regarding household activities were jointly taken by males and females, whereas, in farm decision making activities the decision taken by males was highest as compared to females.

In the existing social set up, females especially in rural areas, play a significant role in reproducing the rural household economy by their involvement in household production system. But their role is rather underplayed by the conventional statistics and the ambiguity in classifying women's work. Even when women are the owners of the means of production, their labour is being exploited, and that their role in decision making is rather limited. In addition to this most of the women in study area are less mobile, this keeps them away from educational institutions, health care centres, market and financial institutions. Sometimes various household and farm activities kept the majority of women so busy that they could not find time to visit the medical centres. Even women's own time which is an important resource is controlled by the forces of production, reproduction and care of households. This widens the gender disparities in basic human capabilities. The planning strategy for women development should be judicious mix of beneficiary oriented programmes National Statistics should fully reflect the invisible contribution of women, then it will become impossible for policy makers to ignore them in national decisions, nor will women continue to be regarded as economic non-entities in market transactions.

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Appendix-I
Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Sample Household

| Sr. No. | Particulars | Marginal Holdings | Small Holdings | Medium Holdings | Large Holdings | All Holdings |
|---------|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| | | | | | | |
| 1. | Total Number of Sample Household | 150 | 90 | 45 | 15 | 300 |
| 2. | Total number of family members | 973 | 533 | 334 | 101 | 1941 |
| 3. | Average Size of Family | 6.48 | 5.92 | 7.42 | 6.73 | 6.47 |
| 4. | Percentage of Family work force | | | | | |
| | (a) Male | 69.35 | 75.27 | 73.68 | 62.22 | 71.41 |
| | (b) Female | 75.47 | 73.28 | 73.61 | 58.92 | 73.59 |
| | (c) Total | 72.35 | 72.30 | 73.65 | 60.40 | 72.49 |
| 5. | Percentage of Dependants | 27.65 | 25.70 | 26.35 | 39.60 | 27.51 |
| 6. | Literacy Percentage | | | | | |
| | a) Male | 85.88 | 87.82 | 89.47 | 91.11 | 87.28 |
| | b) Female | 80.50 | 82.06 | 83.43 | 85.71 | 81.73 |
| | c) Total | 83.24 | 84.99 | 86.52 | 88.11 | 84.54 |

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Appendix-II
Women's Decision Making Related Household Activities

| Sr. No. | Farm Activities | Marginal Holdings | | | Small Holdings | | | Medium Holdings | | | Large Holdings | | | All Holdings | | |
|---------|--|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | | Male | Female | Both | Male | Female | Both | Male | Female | Both | Male | Female | Both | Male | Female | Both |
| 1. | Purchase of Food Items | 80 (53.33) | 35 (23.33) | 35 (23.33) | 73 (81.11) | 7 (7.77) | 10 (11.11) | 32 (71.11) | 6 (13.33) | 7 (15.56) | 10 (66.67) | 2 (13.33) | 3 (20.00) | 195 (65.00) | 50 (16.67) | 55 (18.33) |
| 2. | Cooking & Cleaning | 17 (11.33) | 120 (80.00) | 13 (8.66) | 6 (6.66) | 76 (84.44) | 8 (8.89) | 1 (2.22) | 38 (84.44) | 6 (13.33) | 2 (3.33) | 12 (80.00) | 1 (6.66) | 26 (8.66) | 246 (82.00) | 28 (9.33) |
| 3. | Household Maintenance, Management & Shopping of Durables | 23 (15.33) | 17 (11.33) | 110 (73.33) | 10 (11.11) | 6 (6.66) | 74 (82.22) | 8 (17.77) | 4 (8.89) | 33 (73.33) | 6 (40.00) | 4 (26.66) | 5 (33.33) | 47 (15.67) | 31 (10.33) | 222 (74.00) |
| 4. | Care of Sick, Children, Elderly & Disabled | 15 (10.00) | 20 (13.33) | 115 (76.66) | 19 (21.11) | 11 (12.22) | 60 (66.67) | 6 (13.33) | 4 (8.89) | 35 (77.78) | 5 (33.33) | 4 (26.66) | 6 (40.00) | 45 (15.00) | 39 (13.00) | 216 (72.00) |
| 5. | Social, Cultural & Religious Work | 20 (13.33) | 10 (6.67) | 120 (80.00) | 13 (14.44) | 9 (20.00) | 68 (75.55) | 9 (20.00) | 6 (13.33) | 30 (66.67) | 3 (20.00) | 3 (20.00) | 9 (60.00) | 45 (15.00) | 28 (9.33) | 227 (75.67) |
| Mean | | 31.00 (20.66) | 40.40 (26.93) | 78.60 (52.39) | 24.20 (26.88) | 21.80 (24.21) | 44.00 (48.88) | 11.20 (24.88) | 11.60 (25.77) | 22.20 (20.61) | 5.20 (34.66) | 5.00 (33.33) | 4.80 (31.99) | 71.60 (23.86) | 78.80 (26.26) | 149.60 (49.86) |

Note: Figure in Parentheses denote the percentage of the sample households from the each respective holdings group.

Appendix-III
Decisions Relating to Farm Activities of the Sample Households

| Sr. No. | Farm Activities | Marginal Holdings | | | Small Holdings | | | Medium Holdings | | | Large Holdings | | | All Holdings | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Male | Female | Both | Male | Female | Both | Male | Female | Both | Male | Female | Both | Male | Female | Both |
| 1. | Choice of Subsistence Crops | 65 (43.33) | 70 (46.67) | 15 (10.00) | 60 (66.67) | 20 (22.22) | 10 (11.12) | 32 (71.11) | 6 (13.33) | 7 (15.56) | 12 (80.00) | 2 (13.33) | 1 (6.67) | 169 (56.33) | 98 (32.67) | 33 (11.00) |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | to be Grow n | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. | Choic e of Cash Crops to be Grow n | 40 (26. 66) | 60 (40. 00) | 50 (33. 33) | 65 (72. 23) | 12 (13. 33) | 13 (14. 44) | 34 (75. 56) | 6 (13. 33) | 5 (11. 11) | 13 (86. 67) | 1 (6.6 7) | 1 (6.6 7) | 152 (50. 67) | 79 (26. 33) | 69 (23. 00) |
| 3. | Plant ing Trees | 110 (73. 33) | 30 (20. 00) | 10 (6.6 7) | 70 (77. 78) | 8 (8.8 9) | 12 (13. 33) | 38 (84. 44) | 2 (4.4 4) | 5 (11. 11) | 10 (66. 67) | 2 (13. 33) | 3 (20. 00) | 228 (76. 00) | 42 (14. 00) | 30 (10. 00) |
| 4. | Livest ock Keep ing | 20 (13. 33) | 90 (60. 00) | 40 (26. 67) | 15 (16. 67) | 55 (36. 67) | 20 (22. 22) | 3 (6.6 7) | 40 (88. 89) | 2 (4.4 4) | 3 (20. 00) | 10 (66. 67) | 2 (13. 33) | 41 (13. 67) | 195 (65. 00) | 64 (21. 33) |
| 5. | Labou r Hirin g | 100 (66. 67) | 30 (20. 00) | 20 (13. 33) | 63 (70. 00) | 17 (18. 89) | 10 (11. 12) | 30 (66. 67) | 8 (17. 78) | 7 (15. 56) | 11 (73. 33) | 3 (20. 00) | 1 (6.6 7) | 204 (68. 00) | 58 (19. 33) | 38 (12. 67) |
| 6. | Purch ase of Agro Chem icals | 130 (86. 67) | 15 (10. 00) | 5 (3.3 3) | 72 (80. 00) | 13 (14. 44) | 5 (5.5 6) | 32 (71. 11) | 5 (11. 11) | 8 (17. 78) | 13 (86. 67) | 1 (6.6 7) | 1 (6.6 7) | 247 (82. 33) | 34 (11. 33) | 19 (6.3 4) |
| 7. | Quant ity of Food Produ ce to be sold | 85 (56. 67) | 50 (33. 33) | 15 (10. 00) | 63 (70. 00) | 14 (15. 56) | 13 (14. 44) | 25 (55. 56) | 10 (22. 22) | 10 (22. 22) | 12 (80. 00) | 1 (6.6 7) | 2 (13. 33) | 185 (61. 67) | 75 (25. 00) | 40 (13. 33) |
| Mean | | 78. 57 (52. 37) | 49. 28 (32. 85) | 22. 14 (14. 75) | 58. 28 (64. 76) | 19. 85 (18. 56) | 11. 85 (13. 17) | 27. 71 (61. 58) | 11. 00 (24. 44) | 6.2 8 (13. 96) | 10. 57 (70. 47) | 2.8 5 (19. 04) | 1.5 7 (10. 47) | 175 .14 (58. 38) | 83. 00 (27. 67) | 41. 85 (13. 95) |

Note: Figure in Parentheses denote the percentage of the sample households from the each respective holdings group.

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