

FAMILY PLANNING ENQUIRY IN RURAL SHIMOGA

(MYSORE STATE)

A Survey conducted in a region currently
experiencing a high rate of growth in
population

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PREFACE

This report embodies the results of a survey regarding family planning knowledge and attitudes in the rural areas of Shimoga district in Mysore State. The Malenad region of Mysore State, of which Shimoga district forms a part, is presently experiencing an abnormally high rate of natural increase in numbers (more than 3 percent per year). Some of the questions which this survey intended to answer were : whether the people of that region were at least aware of family planning, whether they were willing to know about it, whether they approved of the small family idea and whether their attitudinal framework was in any way different from that observed in other studies conducted elsewhere in India. The findings of this survey are that the family planning movement could be expected to gain good momentum among the rural folk of Shimoga district.

Chapter I explains the objectives of the study, as also the sampling procedure adopted for the survey. Salient features of the sample villages are also outlined therein. The demographic and other socio-economic background of the respondents has been presented in Chapter II. The next Chapter examines their attitude towards family size. Findings in respect of awareness and knowledge of family planning are presented in Chapter IV, which also makes a reference to the few practising respondents. Analysis in respect of the data on willingness to know about family planning is given in Chapter V. In all these

chapters, reference has been made, at all relevant places, to other studies conducted elsewhere. The last (VI) chapter briefly reviews the main findings of the survey.

The Census authorities made available to us the 1961 population figures for all villages in the selected talukas, on the basis of which the sample was drawn. We are grateful to them for their willing help and co-operation in our undertakings.

My friend Shri. M. Shivmurthy of the Karnatak University (Department of Statistics) most willingly and gladly discussed some of the points concerning processing of the data. My most sincere thanks are due to him. My colleague Shri. A.P. Katti assisted me in framing the questionnaire. He also supervised the field work. I must express my deep sense of appreciation for the work done by others also, both in the field and in office. It is not possible to name them all individually at this point.

It is hoped that the report would be found useful by all those who are interested in and actively associated with the family planning movement.

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CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|------|
| Preface | v |
| Contents | vii |
| List of Tables | ix |
| Chapter I | |
| INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| Shimoga - A high population growth rate area (1) Objectives of the Study (3) The Sample (5) The Response (11) | |
| Chapter II | |
| DEMOGRAPHIC AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS | 12 |
| Caste (12) Literacy (14) Occupation (14) Income (15) Household Type (17) Age (18) Effective Marriage Duration (18) Number of Children (19) Age and Number of Children (20) Effective Marriage Duration and Number of Children (20) Caste and Literacy (20) Caste and Occupation (21) Occupation and Literacy (21) General Observations (22) | |
| Chapter III | |
| ATTITUDE TOWARDS FAMILY SIZE | 23 |
| Desire to Have More Issues - Comparison with Other Surveys (23) Reasons for Not Wanting More Children (25) Factors Associated with the Attitude Towards Family Size - Introductory (30) Number of Children and Desire for More (30) The Most Desired Family Size (33) Effective Marriage Duration and Desire for More Children (36) Age and Desire (37) Occupation and Desire (38) Other Factors and Desire (39) Resume (42) | |
| Chapter IV | |
| KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF FAMILY PLANNING | 43 |
| Family Planning Knowledge - Comparison with Other Surveys (43) Factors Associated with Knowledge - Educational Level (47) Occupa- tion (48) Caste (50) Other Factors Studied (52) Methods Known (54) Practice of Family Planning (58) Reasons for Not Practising (59) General Observations (63) | |

Chapter V

| | |
|---|----|
| WILLINGNESS TO LEARN FAMILY PLANNING METHODS .. | 64 |
| .. Willingness to Learn - Comparison with .. Other Surveys (64) Factors Associated .. with Willingness to Learn (65) Number .. of Children and Willingness (65) Desire .. for More Issues and Willingness (67) .. Effective Marriage Duration and Willing- .. ness (67) Age and Willingness (68) Caste .. and Willingness (68) Educational Level .. and Willingness (70) Other Factors .. Studied (70) Reasons for Unwillingness(71) | |

Chapter VI

| | |
|--|-----|
| CONCLUSION | 74 |
| .. The Region (74) Attitude Towards .. Family Size (74) Awareness and .. Knowledge (75) Practice of Family .. Planning (76) Willingness to Learn (77) .. Conclusion (77) | |
| Tables | 81 |
| Questionnaire | 153 |

LIST OF TABLES

Page

INTRODUCTION

| | | |
|-----|--|-------|
| 1.1 | Distribution of all villages in the selected talukas, by taluka and population range (according to 1961 census) | 81 |
| 1.2 | Some particulars of the selected villages | 82-83 |
| 1.3 | Distribution of all currently married women in the selected households for the family planning survey, by age, order of marriage and number of children living | 84-85 |
| 1.4 | Number of households, eligible persons for the survey, and respondents actually covered, by village and taluka | 86 |

DEMOGRAPHIC AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS

| | | |
|------|--|----|
| 2.1 | Distribution of respondents by village, taluka and caste | 87 |
| 2.2 | Distribution of respondents by village, taluka and educational level | 88 |
| 2.3 | Distribution of respondents by village, taluka and occupation | 89 |
| 2.4 | Distribution of respondents by village, taluka and per capita income of their households | 90 |
| 2.5 | Distribution of respondents by village, taluka and household type | 91 |
| 2.6 | Distribution of respondents by village, taluka and age | 92 |
| 2.7 | Distribution of respondents by village, taluka and effective marriage duration | 93 |
| 2.8 | Distribution of respondents by village, taluka and number of living children | 94 |
| 2.9 | Distribution of respondents by age and number of children | 95 |
| 2.10 | Distribution of respondents by effective marriage duration and number of children | 96 |
| 2.11 | Distribution of respondents by caste and literacy | 97 |
| 2.12 | Distribution of respondents by caste and occupation | 98 |
| 2.13 | Distribution of respondents by occupation and educational level | 99 |

| | Page | |
|------------------------------|--|---------|
| ATTITUDE TOWARDS FAMILY SIZE | | |
| 3.1 | A comparative statement of findings from different surveys in respect of the question whether the male respondents desired to have more children | 100-102 |
| 3.2 | Distribution of respondents not desiring more children by reasons | 103 |
| 3.3 | Distribution of respondents by number of living children and desire to have more children. | 104 |
| 3.4 | Distribution of respondents by number of living male children, number of all living children and desire to have more children | 105 |
| 3.5 | Distribution of respondents by duration of effective married life and desire to have more children | 106 |
| 3.6 | Distribution of respondents by duration of effective married life, number of children and desire to have more children | 107 |
| 3.7 | Distribution of respondents by age and desire to have more children | 108 |
| 3.8 | Distribution of respondents by age groups, number of children and desire to have more children | 109 |
| 3.9 | Distribution of respondents by occupation, number of children and desire to have more children | 110 |
| 3.10 | Distribution of respondents by caste and desire to have more children | 111 |
| 3.11 | Distribution of respondents by educational level and desire to have more children | 112 |
| 3.12 | Distribution of respondents by per capita income in the household and desire to have more children | 113 |
| 3.13 | Distribution of respondents by household type and desire to have more children | 114 |
| 3.14 | Distribution of respondents by village, taluka and desire to have more children | 115 |
| 3.15 | Distribution of respondents by taluka, number of children and desire to have more children | 116 |
| 3.16 | χ^2 test results regarding desire to have more children | 117-119 |

| | Page |
|---|---------|
| KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF FAMILY PLANNING | |
| 4.1 | 120-122 |
| 4.2 | 123 |
| 4.3 | 124 |
| 4.4 | 125 |
| 4.5 | 126 |
| 4.6 | 127 |
| 4.7 | 128 |
| 4.8 | 129 |
| 4.9 | 130 |
| 4.10 | 131 |
| 4.11 | 132 |
| 4.12 | 133-134 |
| 4.13 | 135 |
| 4.14 | 136 |
| 4.15 | 137 |

| | Page |
|--|------|
| WILLINGNESS TO LEARN FAMILY PLANNING METHODS | |
| 5.1 A comparative statement of figures from different surveys regarding willingness of male respondents to learn family planning methods | 138 |
| 5.2 Distribution of respondents not aware but willing to learn family planning methods by number of children | 139 |
| 5.3 Distribution of respondents not aware but willing to know family planning methods, by their response to the question on desire to have more children | 140 |
| 5.4 Distribution of respondents not aware but willing to know about family planning, by effective marriage duration | 141 |
| 5.5 Distribution of respondents not aware but willing to know about family planning, by age | 142 |
| 5.6 Distribution of respondents not aware but willing to know about family planning, by caste | 143 |
| 5.7 Distribution of respondents not aware but willing to know about family planning, by educational level | 144 |
| 5.8 Distribution of respondents not aware but willing to know about family planning, by occupation | 145 |
| 5.9 Distribution of respondents not aware but willing to know about family planning, by income groups | 146 |
| 5.10 Distribution of respondents not aware but willing to know about family planning, by household type | 147 |
| 5.11 Distribution of respondents not aware but willing to know about family planning, by village and taluka | 148 |
| 5.12 χ^2 test results regarding willingness to learn family planning methods | 149 |
| 5.13 Distribution of respondents not aware about family planning methods and not willing to learn, by desire for more children and reasons for unwillingness | 150 |
