

# To Find Out the Socio-Economic Profile of Women Prisoner of Naini Central Jail of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, India

Bishwajit Singh<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Jahanara<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Master in Social Work, Department of Anthropology and Social work, SHUATS, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, India

<sup>2</sup>Professor & Head, Department of Anthropology and Social work, SHUATS, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, India

**Abstract:** *The present study was conducted in Allahabad districts of Naini jail to find out the socio-personal profile of women prisoner. The female respondents were selected in the age group of 18 to 35 including the respondents serving life imprisonment. The numbers of respondents were selected in accordance to the availability of respondents, as it was not possible to undertake survey of entire population of Naini Central Jail. 35 youth prisoners were randomly selected among the entire enumeration. For the collection of data, development of interview schedule, covering various objectives of the present investigations will be made so that the data may be collected from respondents. Secondary data was collected from the Central Jail records and previous researches in the same area which was a benefit in analyzing the primary data status. Based on the study we say that the scarcity of money, resources & illiteracy leads to the crime. The findings showed that lower socioeconomic condition of the prisoners have compelled them to commit crime. Due illiteracy, low family income, family dispute. Majority of the prisoner were young age group.*

**Keywords:** Crime, Income, Prisoner, life imprisonment, investigation

## 1. Introduction

Women continue to constitute a very small proportion of the general prison population worldwide. However, not only are their numbers increasing in tandem with the rise in the overall prison population in many countries, but studies in some countries have shown that the number of female prisoners is increasing at a faster rate than that of male prisoners **Bajpai, A & Bajpai, P.K. (2000)**. Crime - an evil act, an act punishable by law, refers to many types of misconduct forbidden by law. Our society has been facing criminal offences ever since the dawn of civilisation and it has multiplied and branched out taking many forms and shapes. From petty theft to robbery with violence, crime continues to be a migraine to the government of the day. The rise in crime rates over many states is alarming, and testament of the myriad of challenges that face society. The rate of crime has increased tremendously in the contemporary world. There is hardly any sphere of society which is not beset with the problem of crime and criminality.

‘Criminality’ is a title that is associated and at the same time not seen as worth associating with the body of the Indian woman. It is a form of masculine deviation that the docile Indian woman is not considered being capable of. If she deems herself capable of this masculinity she is suppressed and dehumanised. The rate of female crime is gradually rising around the world and it is particularly apparent in developed countries. This is the case of women in Indian prisons that the population of Indian women prisoners have increased by 61% over the past years and has surpassed the male growth rate of 33% but infrastructure within these prison systems refuses to keep up with this rising population, leading to inhuman treatment of female inmates.

The rising female crime rate may be result of rapid socio-economic changes, industrialization and consequently urbanization. One of the most reported aspects of the Maoist ‘people’s war’ in Nepal reveals that the involvement of women has increased. Some observers estimate that up to 40 percent of all combatant and civilian political supporters are women (**Pettigrew and Shneiderman, 2003**).

The rate of female crime is rising throughout the world and particularly in developed countries. The number of crime increases, the proportion of the female offenders has increased from 2% in the 1970s to 3% in the 1980s, to 5% in the 1990s, and to 18-20% now which almost equal to that of Germany and the United States. (**Meixiang, L.I., 2013**). The crime India report compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reveals that the number of women arrested for criminal activities in 2003 were 1, 51,675 which rose up to 1, 54,635 in 2007. The demographic picture reflects that though the numbers of female offenders is low in comparison to men, the nature of crime committed by them is really a matter of deep concern. This reflects an increase in murder from 5.4% to 6%, highlighting the all India Scenario. (**Narayan V., 2010**) The NCRB report 2011 reveals that in 2011, 4,959 women were convicted in their respective cases, and 10,934 women were under trial.

Now a days the females are offending serious crime. The gender approach reflects both man and women are socialized differently. Girls are more supervised and controlled by the social system and norms. Discrimination against women is deeply historically and culturally rooted in the society. Women are always staying under the clutches of man’s grip (**Renzetti & Goodstein, 2000**). The patriarchal society controls the economic power as well as status of women. From economic point of view women are always marginalized from the economic resources. In the present

society women want to stand equally with men, so to get success they are not stepping behind to adopt wrong paths.

The social environment contributes a lot to the making of women criminals. It reflects that female offenders have lost faith in social system. Despite constitutional guarantees of equal rights and privileges, women's fate could not be changed. Discrimination prevails from birth till last breath. Even her education, her involvement in every work equally is not enough to give any credit to her (Bajpai&Bajpai, 2000). The problem becomes manifold when despite her awareness and ability she is to obey orders of man (in form of father, brother, husband etc.) of lesser ability. Her own opinion is brutally crushed, overheard and she is subjected to victimisation because she is a woman. Most of the women commit crimes because they are at some point of time the victim of crime and gradually step in to the arena of crime.

**2. Research Methodology**

The present investigation was carried inUttar Pradesh ,there are five Central Jails. Out of these jails Naini Central Jail, Allahabad has been selected.The female respondents were selected in the age group of 18 to 35 including the respondents serving life imprisonment. The numbers of respondents were selected in accordance to the availability of respondents, as it was not possible to undertake survey of entire population of Naini Central Jail.30 youth prisoners were randomly selected among the entire enumeration.

The data was collected from the respondents by directpersonal interview with the help of a well prepared interview schedule. Secondary data was collected from the Central Jail records and previous researches in the same area which was a benefit in analyzing the primary data status. After the collecting of data, the information was tabulated and clarified to find out the information and conclusion. Descriptive Research design has been used for this study. Suitable statistical tools were also used like mean, arithmetic mean etc.

**3. Results and Discussion**

**Socio-economic profile of the women respondents**

Understanding the socio-economic back grounds like caste, class, land holding size, occupation, income and demographic details of a prisoner will help in understanding the reasons of a crime.

**1) Age wise distribution of Respondents**

**Table 1**

Sr. No.	Age Group	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	20 to25 years	19	54.28
2.	26 to 30 years	11	31.44

3.	31 to 35 years	05	14.28
	Total	35	100

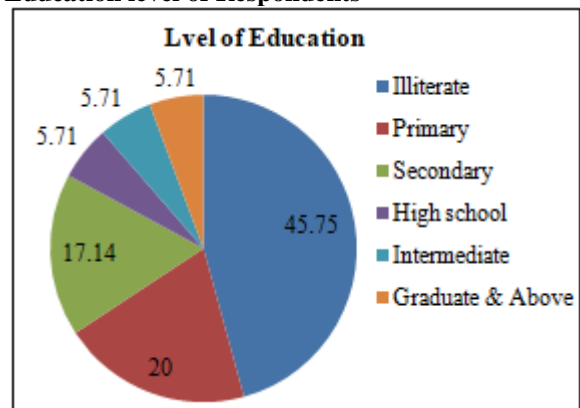
The above table shows that majority 50.28 per cent of come under 20-25 years age group, followed by 31.44 per cent come under 26-30 year age group, whereas remaining come under 31-35 year age group.

**2) Cast wise distribution of Respondents**

Sr. No.	Caste of Respondents	Number of female Offenders	Percentage
1.	General	11	31.44
2.	OBC	20	57.14
3.	ST	3	08.57
4.	SC	1	02.85
	Total	35	100

The above table shows that majority 57.14 per cent of respondents belong to other backward class, whereas 31.44 per cent belong to general caste, and remaining belong to Sc / St category.

**3) Education level of Respondents**



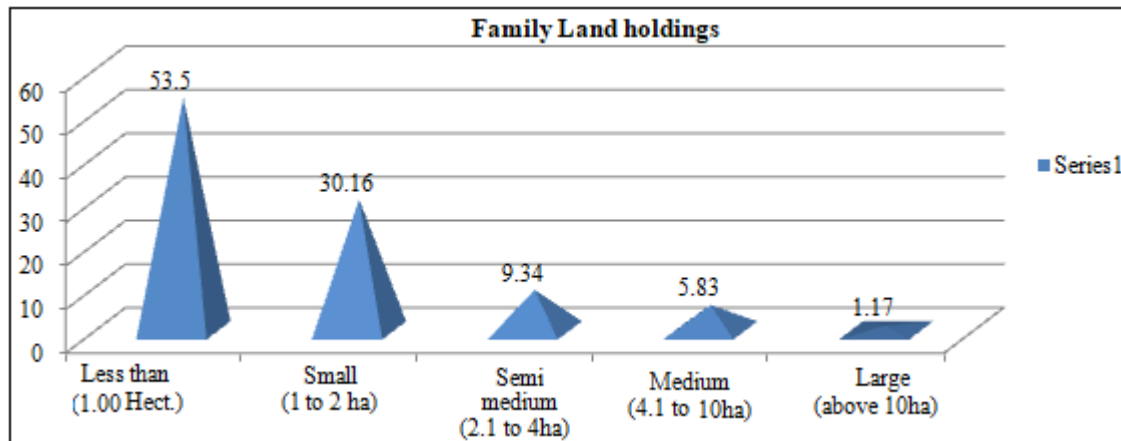
The above graph shows that 45.75 per cent of responds were illiterate, whereas 20 per cent respondents education level were primary level and 17.14 per cent responds education level were secondary and followed by high school , intermediate and graduation.

**4) Family Type of Respondents**

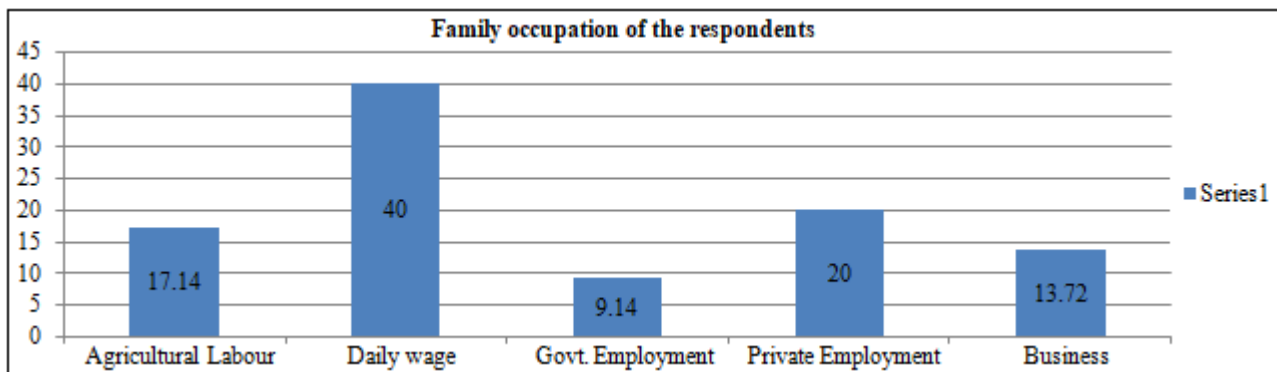
Sr. No.	Family Type of Respondents	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Joint	25	71.42
2	Nuclear	10	28.58
	Total	35	100

The above table shows the majority 71.42 per cent of the respondents come under joint family and followed by 8.58per cent of nuclear family.

**5) Family Land holding**



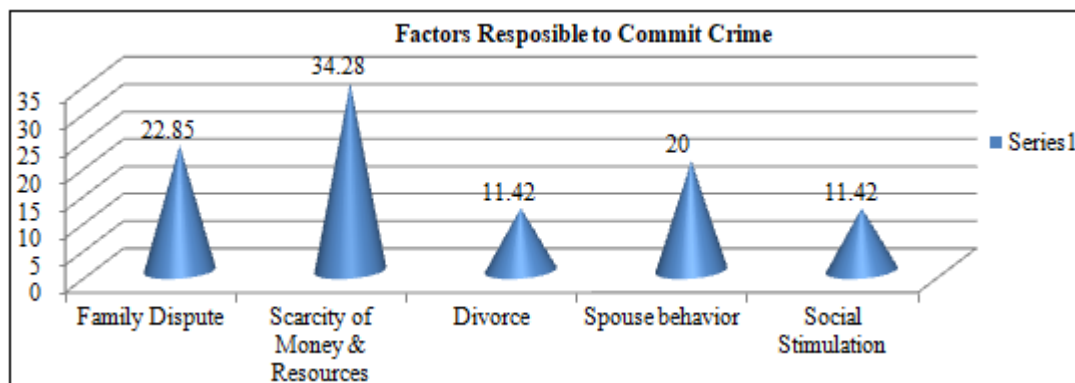
6) Family occupation of respondents



The above graph revealed that 40.00 per cent of respondents occupation were daily wage followed by 20.00 per cent private jobs , whereas 17.14 per cent respondents occupation

were agricultural labour and 13.72 per cent were involved in business and 9.14 per cent occupation were government employee.

7) Factors responsible to Commit Crime



The above graph shows that 34.28 per cent of crime occurs due to scarcity of money and resources, followed by 22.85 per cent family dispute, and 20.00 per cent crime happened due to spouse behavior, 11.42 per cent divorce and 11.42 per cent social stimulation.

prisoners land holding were below less than one hectare. 40 per cent prisoners occupation were daily wage labour. Most of the women prisoners commit crime due to the scarcity of money and resources. Government and any NGO should take initiative to educate and provide training for betterment of women prisoners. If women were educated than the crime of graph will fall down in both sex.

4. Conclusion

The study conducted among 35 women prisoners in Nain Jailli ,Central Jail of Allahabad.Majority of prisoners comes under 20-25 year age group. Most of the prisoners belongs to other back ward class. 40 .75 per cent prisoners were illiterate. Most of them belongs to joint family. 40 percent of

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