



Rapid Needs Assessment Survey of Criminal Justice Affected Persons and their Families

A Report by

**Prayas, a field action project
of the
Tata Institute of Social Sciences,
Mumbai**

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Little had one thought that a virus would take the entire world by surprise, bringing everything to a standstill and locking up people within their homes for months on end. The Corona Virus or COVID-19 affected people across class, caste, gender, and ethnicity. In terms of the virus affecting people, it has been a leveler. But in terms of their ability to cope with the impact of the virus, their socio-economic status has had a significant impact. Those without a safety net and often found at the margins of society, especially those who struggle to make ends meet, have been pushed further into poverty and destitution. Class differences and privileges have become more pronounced, with different sections having unequal access to healthcare, basic amenities and livelihoods.

During a crisis like this, people who are outliers or those who face stigma because of their contact with the criminal justice system are further distanced from support. Civil society organizations who work with criminal justice affected populations have had to reorient their work as newer needs and challenges have emerged from their clients¹ due to the pandemic. It is in this context that a need for a rapid needs assessment study was felt by Prayas, to assess the immediate impact of COVID-19 and the consequent lockdown on this population, to arrive at possible ways of intervention and support.

The Rapid Needs Assessment Survey was an attempt to capture the experiences, difficulties and needs of Prayas clients that include released prisoners and their families, women discharged from shelter homes and their families (including their children) and children in conflict with law and their families. The study was an attempt to understand the impact of the lockdown on the socio-economic conditions of Prayas clients. It aimed to understand the socio-economic background of the respondents, their family situation, living conditions, difficulties faced by them during the lockdown, accessibility to the schemes and welfare programmes announced by the government due to the lockdown and the challenges faced by them during this period. The study

¹In social work terminology, beneficiaries or participants of intervention by social workers are known as clients.

also throws light on emerging needs of the respondents and their expectations from the government to help them sail through this difficult period. It is a study that has the potential to understand and gauge the circumstances and suggest intervention during and after a crisis.

Objectives

1. To understand the socio-economic situation of criminal justice affected persons and their families in the context of the COVID-19 crisis, especially during and after the lockdown.
2. To explore their needs for basic subsistence.
3. To understand challenges they faced in accessing state and community support.
4. To identify areas requiring state and social work intervention.

Methodology

A quantitative approach was adopted by using the survey method to telephonically interview Prayas clients with the help of a semi-structured interview schedule. Five hundred and three clients of Prayas were interviewed between 1st May 2020 to 28th July 2020. They included released prisoners, families of prisoners, women discharged from shelter homes (including homes for women in distress and protective homes for women rescued from commercial sexual exploitation) children and youth in conflict with law and their families. The data was collected through telephonic interviews because of mobility restrictions due to the lockdown and the risk of catching the virus for the researchers and the respondents.

The data has been collected, analyzed and presented keeping in mind ethical considerations. Informed oral consent was taken from the respondents and they were informed that they could stop the interview at any stage or refuse to answer any of the questions posed to them. Since the data collected contains personal information about the respondents, their anonymity has been maintained throughout the report.

However, as the study was conducted not in person but through telephone, it was not possible to gauge the physical cues of the respondents which often help researchers to guide a conversation. Hence, it was challenging to probe the respondents on certain

questions in detail. This was also because certain questions could make the respondents uncomfortable during a time of such uncertainty. Therefore, the respondents were repeatedly informed that they had the option of not responding to any question that they were not sure of or not comfortable answering. Time constraints for the respondents were also a factor that was kept in mind during the survey. During the course of an interview, if a need emerged that the respondent or their family were in a situation of crisis or distress, immediate support was provided to them by way of dry ration support or cash transfer of amounts ranging from Rs.1000 to 2000/-. Respondents were explained in detail that providing them help had no relation to their willingness to respond to the questions. It may be borne in mind that the respondents were clients or ex-clients of Prayas with whom one had good rapport and a relationship of trust. Respondents knew that they could reach out to Prayas for help irrespective of whether they would be willing to be a respondent for this research.

Chapterisation

The report is divided into the following chapters:

- 1) Background of the Respondents
- 2) Difficulties faced by the Respondents during the Lockdown
- 3) Situation of Children of the Respondents
- 4) Access to Government Schemes
- 5) Information by Respondents
- 6) Observations by the Researchers

Limitations of the study

The data presented in the report may show some discrepancies and sometimes the figures presented may not total to a 100 per cent. This is because of the following reasons:

- a. Researchers were required to be attentive to the comfort of the respondents and did not probe when respondents appeared to be fatigued from the interview process.
- b. Respondents sometimes seemed hesitant to respond.
- c. The telephonic conversations were lengthy making it difficult for researchers to note down all responses. (None of the interviews were recorded, as this was likely to make respondents uncomfortable with the interview process).

However, these statistical discrepancies are not significant, and do not compromise the validity of the data. Further, in order to validate the data, two additional processes were followed. Firstly, qualitative data (in the form of added comments by researchers or respondents) were explored and it was found that it supported the trends offered by the quantitative data. Secondly, to ensure reliability and validity of data, the summary report was shared with the research team.

CHAPTER II

BACKGROUND OF RESPONDENTS

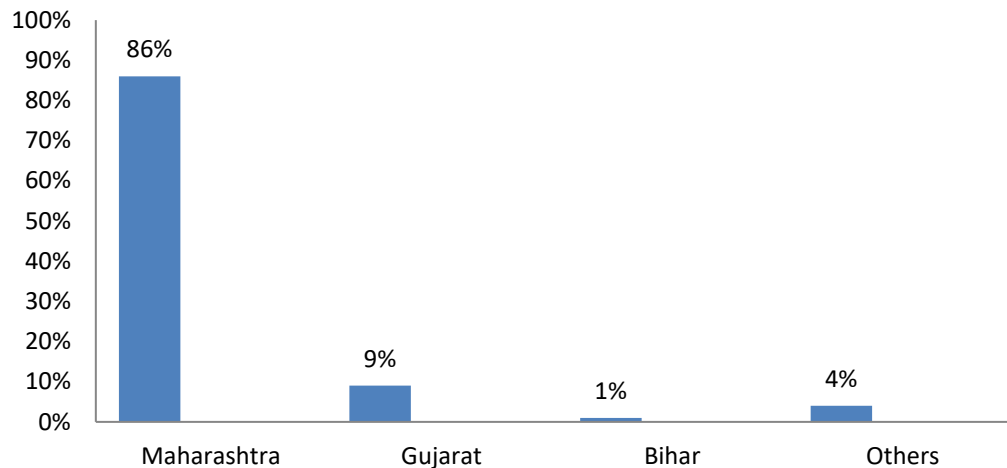
Demographic details of respondents

A total of 503 respondents were interviewed as part of the survey. The percentage of female respondents was 51.9% while the share of male respondents was 48.1%. Hence, the survey had a close to equal representation of both men and women.

The survey covered respondents of age groups 15-75 years. Most number of respondents was seen in the age group of 30-45 years. This group also contained the highest single age respondents in the survey i.e. 35 years and 45 years. The age range of 46-75 years is minimally represented in the survey. With an exception of the age group 46-50 years, this age group has been represented with a decreasing number of respondents with increasing age (except the number of people between 55 years and 60 years).

Most number of respondents was released prisoners, i.e. 49.2% of the total 503 respondents. The families of prisoners who responded to the survey constituted 31.9% of the respondents, thus constituting the second largest share of total respondents. The families of released prisoners constituted 10.6% of the respondents. Children in Conflict with Law constituted 3.4% of the respondents and their families 0.8%. Rescued women constituted 3.4% of the respondents and their families 0.2%. Women in shelter homes constituted 0.8% of the respondents. The rest of the respondents included cases referred by the prison staff and police, old clients of Prayas and prisoners, each of them constituting 0.2% of the total respondents.

State-wise residence of respondents



Graph 2: State-wise residence of respondents

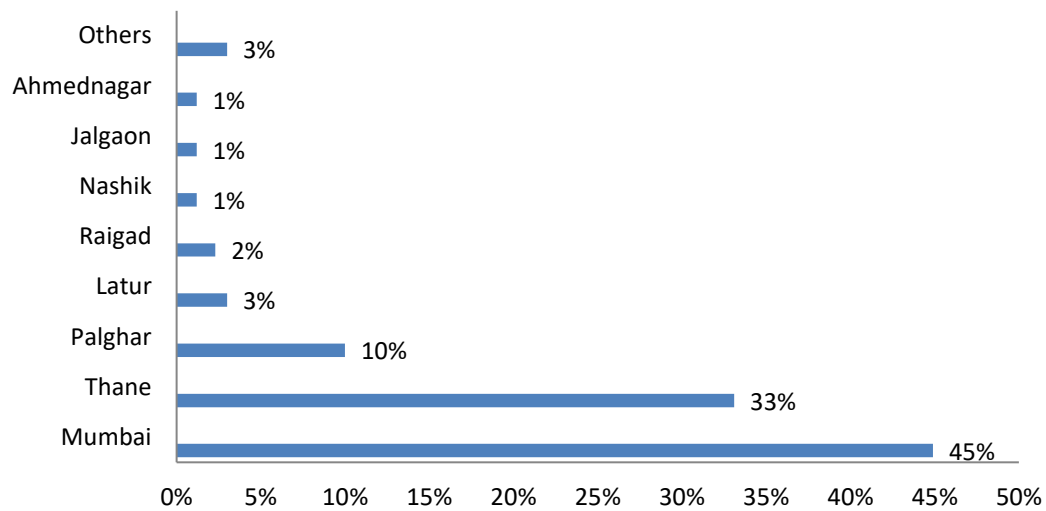
Respondents from various states and UTs were represented in the survey. It emerges that a majority of 86% respondents hailed from Maharashtra while close to 10% hailed from Gujarat. This can be attributed to the fact that most of Prayas work is based in these two states. Respondents from Bihar constituted 1% of the survey responses. Respondents from 8 states/UTs together represented 3% of the survey. These states/UTs include Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

Gender-wise data

It was found that 85% of the total male respondents hailed from Maharashtra, while 87% of the total female respondents hailed from Maharashtra. Respondents of both sexes constituted 10% each from Gujarat. Hence, the gender-wise representation of the place of residence is similar to that of the cumulative information as above.

Residence before lockdown

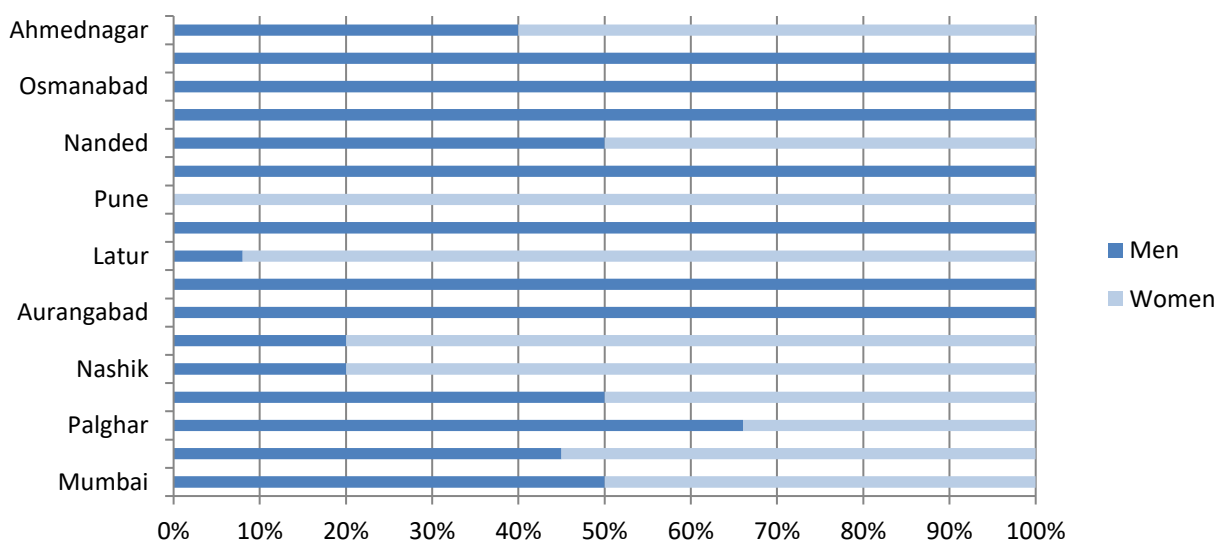
2.1 District-wise residence of respondents before lockdown in Maharashtra



Graph 2.1: District-wise residence of respondents before lockdown in Maharashtra

Within Maharashtra (that is the state most represented in the survey), 45% of the respondents resided in Mumbai before the lockdown, while 33% of the respondents resided in Thane, 10% in Palghar, 3% in Latur and 2% of respondents in Raigad. It emerged that Jalgaon, Nashik and Ahmednagar each had 1% of respondents who lived there before the lockdown. Aurangabad, Chandrapur, Ratnagiri, Pune, Jalna, Nanded, Buldhana, Osmanabad and Solapur with each less than 1% of respondents together constituted a total of 3% of the total respondents from Maharashtra, as their place of residence before the lockdown.

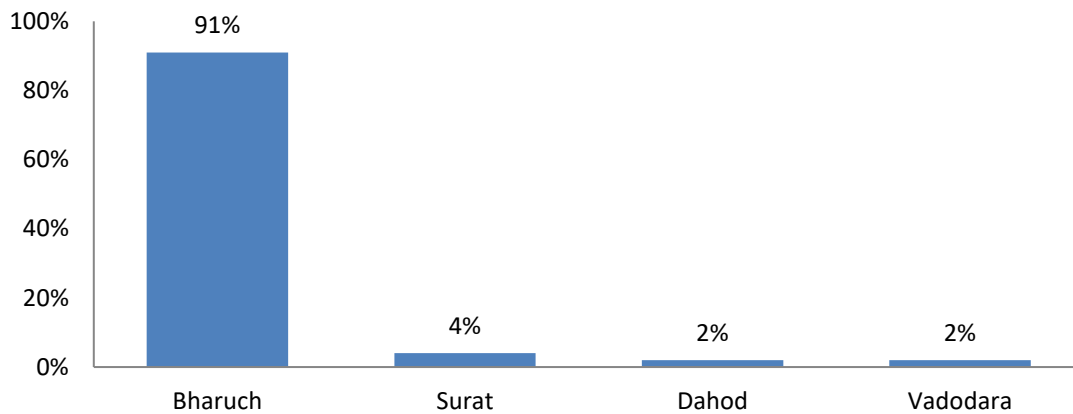
2.2 Gender-wise residence of respondents in Maharashtra pre-lockdown



Graph 2.2: Gender-wise residence of respondents in Maharashtra pre-lockdown

It was found that 50% of the total respondents who lived in Mumbai and Raigad before the lockdown were men and an equal number of women were part of the study. Similarly, 45% of those who lived in Thane before the lockdown were men and 55% were women. All the respondents who lived in Aurangabad, Chandrapur, Ratnagiri, Jalna, Osmanabad and Solapur were men. Only 8% of the respondents who lived in Latur before the lockdown were men and the rest were women. All the respondents who lived in Pune before the lockdown were women. Similarly, 80% of the respondents who lived in Nashik, and Jalgaon before the lockdown were women.

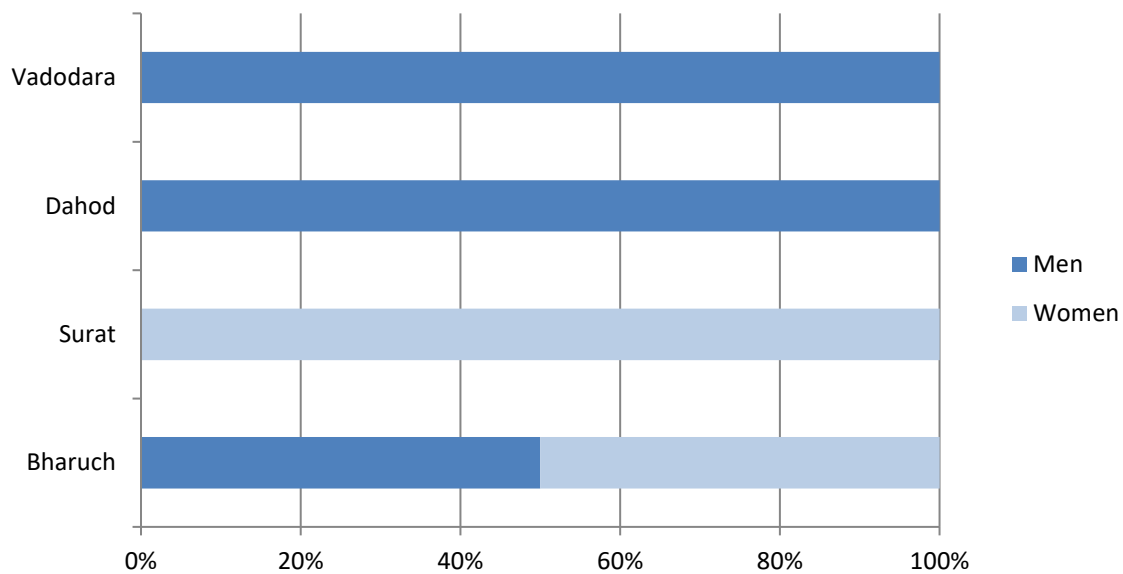
2.3 District-wise residence of respondents in Gujarat pre-lockdown



Graph 2.3: District-wise residence of respondents in Gujarat pre-lockdown

It should be noted here that Bharuch district in Gujarat state is a major location where Prayas works. Hence, 91% of the respondents from Gujarat resided in Bharuch before the lockdown, while 4% resided in Surat and 2% resided in Dahod and Vadodara each before the lockdown.

2.4 Gender-wise residence of respondents in Gujarat pre-lockdown



Graph 2.4: Gender-wise residence of respondents in Gujarat pre-lockdown

There were 50% men and equal percentage of women respondents who lived in Bharuch before the lockdown. All the respondents who lived in Surat before the lockdown were women, while all the respondents from Dahod and Vadodara were men.

Apart from Maharashtra and Gujarat, 50% of the respondents from Bihar resided in Begusarai district before the lockdown. The other 50% resided in Jamalpur and Darbhanga. 75% of the total respondents who lived in Bihar before the lockdown were men.

It may be borne in mind that the geographical location of the respondents is heavily influenced by the geographical locations where Prayas works at the field level.

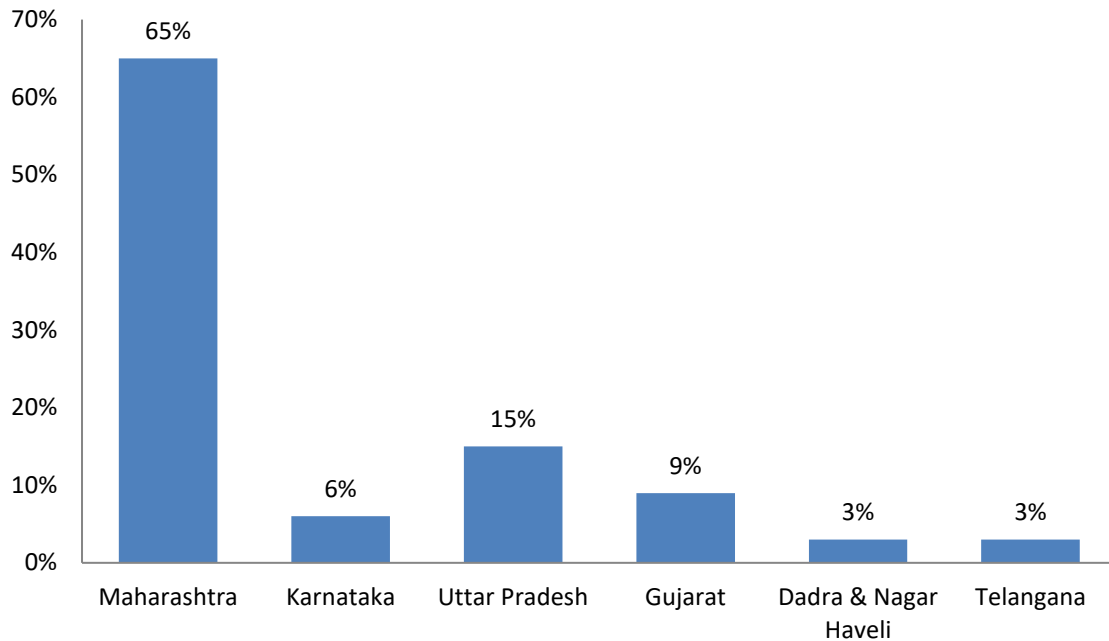
2.5 Change in residence during lockdown

In terms of change of residence during the lockdown, 92% of the respondents reported that there was no change in their residence during the lockdown, while 7% reported a change. The remaining 1% did not report their response.

87% of the total male respondents and 95% of the total female respondents said that there was no change in residence during the lockdown. Thereby, only 11% of the total

male and 4% of the total female respondents said that there was a change in residence during the lockdown.

2.6 State of changed residence during the lockdown



Graph 2.6: State of changed residence during the lockdown

It emerged that 65% of those who changed their residence reported their change of residence within Maharashtra, while 15% of those who changed their residence reported the state of their changed residence as Uttar Pradesh, 9% reported it as Gujarat, 6% reported their state of changed residence to be Karnataka and 3% each reported this as Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Telangana.

Female respondents who changed their residence during the lockdown changed it within/to two states - Maharashtra or Uttar Pradesh only, while male respondents who changed their residence during the lockdown moved within/to 6 different states (including Maharashtra and UP). Female respondents who changed their residence during the lockdown constitute a mere 24% of the total number of respondents who changed their residence during the lockdown.

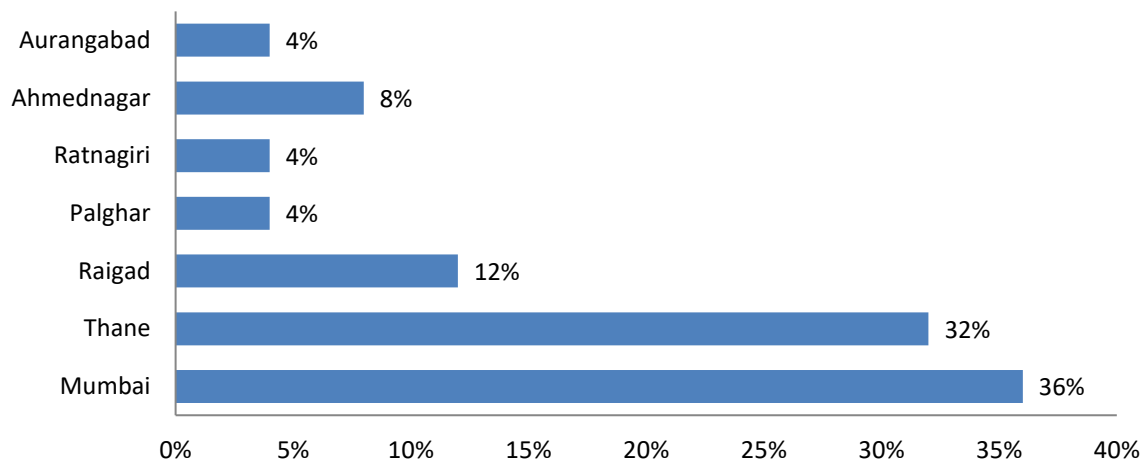
During the period of the lockdown, the survey results show that these respondents migrated within/to 7 districts of Maharashtra - Mumbai, Thane, Raigad, Ahmednagar, Palghar, Ratnagiri and Aurangabad. It may be noted that the respondents who resided in Maharashtra before the lockdown resided in 17 districts of the state. However,

during the lockdown, residential movement was observed in 7 out of these 17 districts. It was found that 68% of the respondents who changed their residence within/to Maharashtra were male, while 32% was female.

The reason given by the respondents for change of residence during lockdown was the lack of livelihood opportunities due to the lockdown forcing them to return to their home town to stay with parents or relatives. Those who were stuck at their workplace were offered shelter by their employers and also employment with some incentives. In one case, due to lack of stable income, the husband moved with his parents while he sent the wife moved to stay with her parents. Some respondents had to stay in shelter homes as they were released during the lockdown period and had no transportation to return back home. Since a respondent was ill and had no family to look after, he was helped by his friend's family who took care of him during the lockdown by keeping him in their house. Due to non-payment of room rent, a few respondents had to vacate their rooms and go to live with his relatives/friends, etc..

A few respondents were stuck during the lockdown in their relatives/friends' homes whom they had gone to meet. One respondent was stuck in an area near a *masjid* (mosque) where he stayed for 3 months until transportation was available. One of the women respondents, the wife of a prisoner, used to live on the pavement outside a suburban railway station. Her children had been admitted to institutions as per their age. During the lockdown, she was not being allowed to stay on the pavement by the authorities and was struggling for food and shelter till she was provided shelter by an NGO.

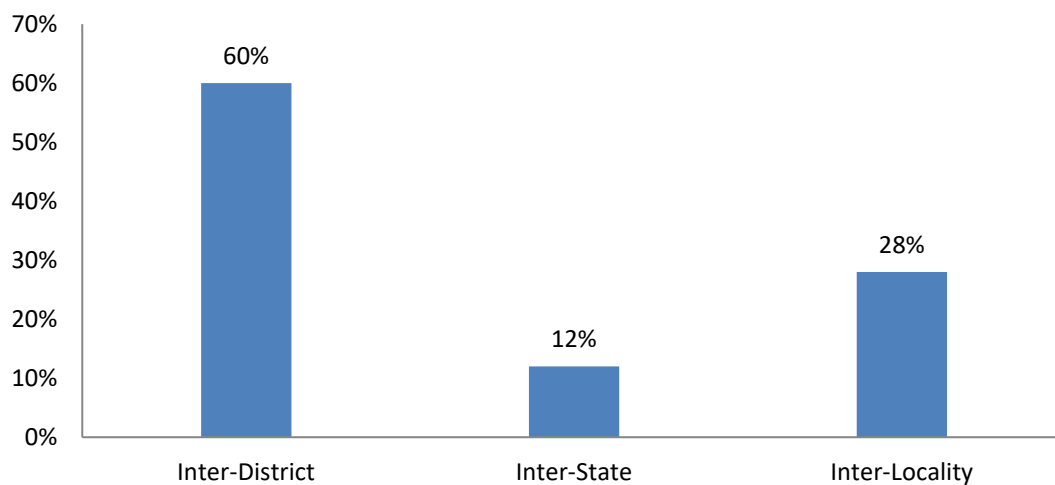
2.7 District-wise shift in residence during the lockdown in Maharashtra



Graph 2.7: District-wise shift in residence during the lockdown in Maharashtra

Looking closely at each of these districts, it is observed that 36% of these respondents reported a change of residence to/within Mumbai, thus becoming the district that saw maximum shifting of residence of the respondents. It also emerged that 32% of the respondents shifted to/within Thane district, becoming the second district within the state to witness maximum change of residence of the respondents. Thane is followed by Raigad witnessing 12% of the movement, Ahmednagar 8%. Palghar, Ratnagiri and Aurangabad each witnessed 4% of these respondents shifting their residence to/within itself during the period of lockdown.

2.8 Type of movement in Maharashtra during lockdown



Graph 2.8: Type of Movement in Maharashtra during Lockdown

Of the total change of residence seen within/to Maharashtra, 60% was inter-district. Also, 28% of those who shifted residence to/within the state were inter-locality, while 12% of the respondents who reported to change of residence moved in from another state during the lockdown.

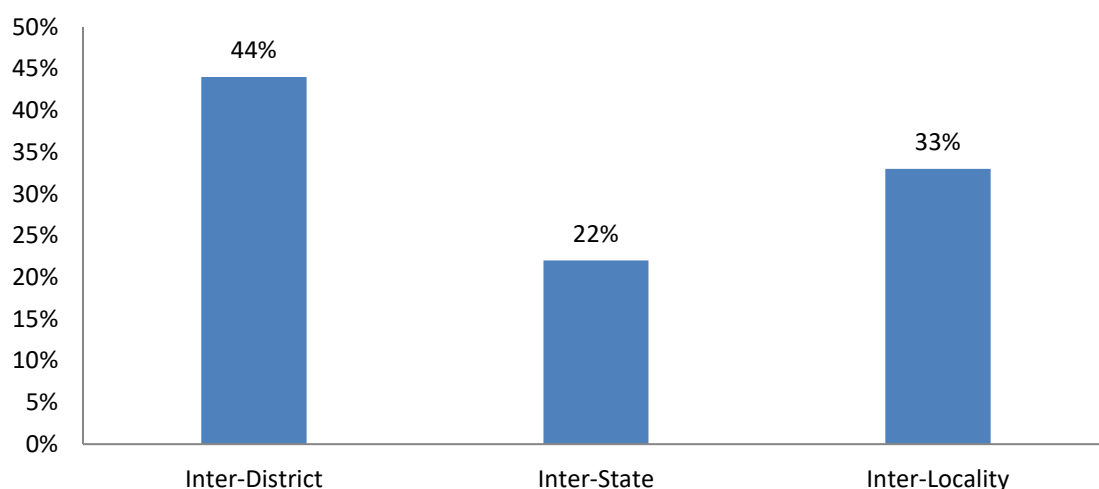
It emerged that 15% of those who changed their residence during the lockdown said that their state of changed residence to be Uttar Pradesh (refer Graph 2.6). These respondents migrated to Uttar Pradesh as an inter-state form of migration. They shifted to 4 districts - Pratapgarh, Azamgarh, Deoria and Ghazipur. In terms of gender, 20% of these respondents who changed their residence to Uttar Pradesh were women while 80% were men.

It was found that 9% of those who changed their residence during the lockdown said their state of changed residence to be Gujarat (refer Graph 2.6). All of them migrated on an inter-locality basis within Bharuch.

Data shows that 6% of those who changed their residence during the lockdown said their state of changed residence to be Karnataka (refer Graph 2.6) moved to Gulbarga. All of them moved as an inter-state basis.

Lastly, 3% of those who changed their residence during the lockdown said their state of changed residence to be Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Telangana each (refer Graph 2.6) and each of them being an inter-state form of migration.

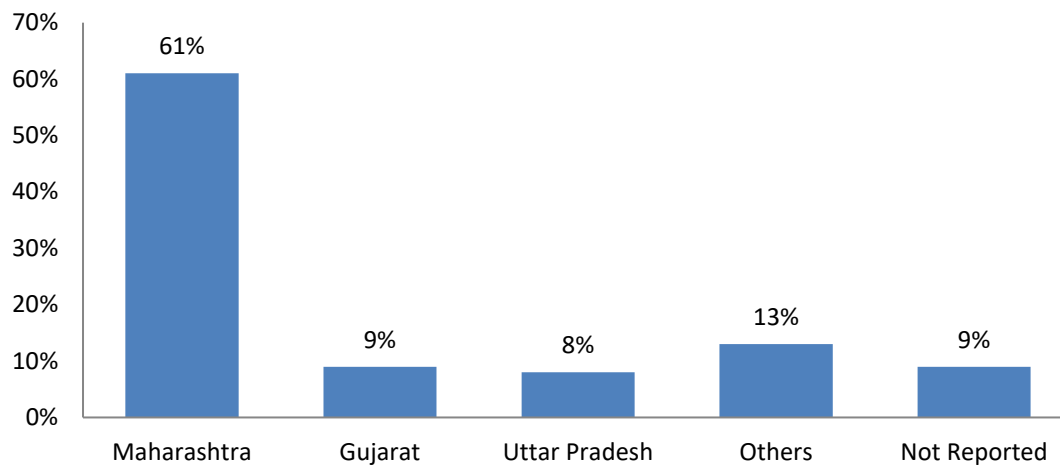
2.9: Residential movement of women during the lockdown



Graph 2.9: Residential movement of women during the Lockdown

It was found that 44% of the total female respondents who changed their residence during lockdown, made an inter-district shift of residence, while 33% made an inter-locality shift. 22% of the female respondents who changed their residence during lockdown shifted states.

2.10 Home state of respondents



Graph 2.10: Home state of respondents

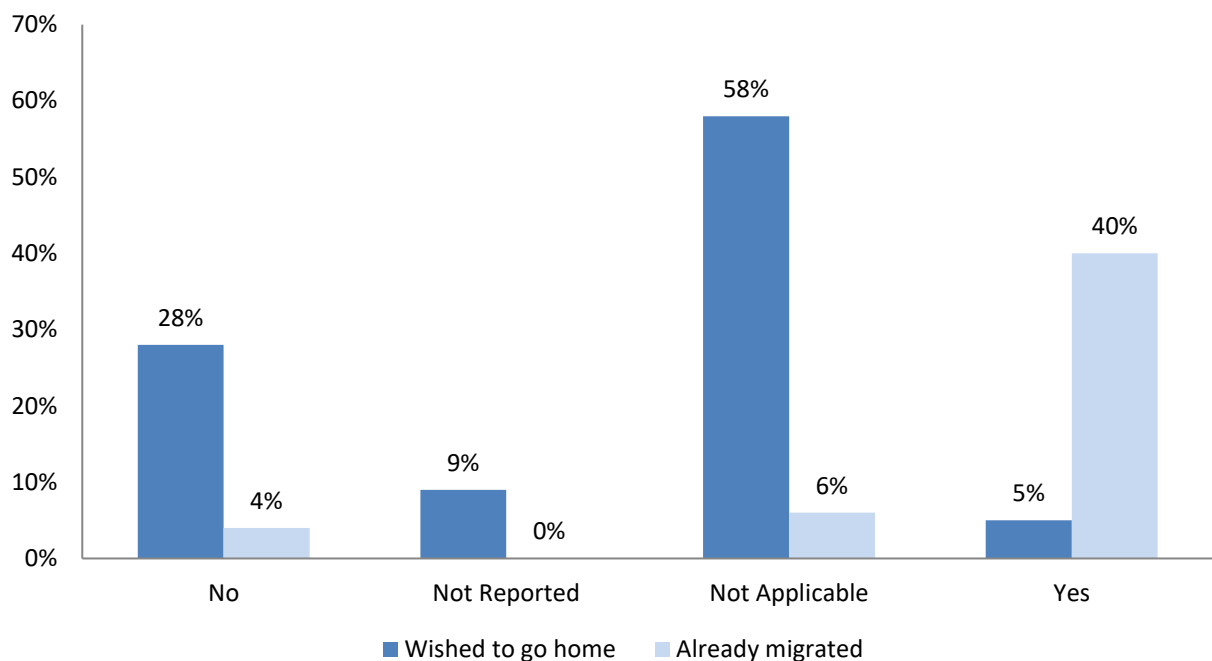
In terms of their home state, 61% of the respondents' home state was Maharashtra. From these, 31% hailed from Mumbai, 26% from Thane, and 7% hailed from Palghar.

It was found that 9% of the total respondents' home state was Gujarat (refer Graph 2.10) and 78% of these respondents hailed from Bharuch. 8% of the total respondents' home state was Uttar Pradesh.

It emerged that 13% of the total respondents came from 17 other states, each with 3% or less representation. These 17 states are Karnataka, Rajasthan, Haryana, Assam, Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tripura, Goa, Jharkhand and Chandigarh. It may be noted that 9% of the total respondents did not respond to this question.

Below is a graph depicting the percentage of respondents who reported whether they wished to go to their home state or not and what percentage of these respondents in each of these categories (NO/YES/NR/NA) had already migrated (either to their home state or to other places during the lockdown).

2.11 Respondents who wished to go home and those who had already migrated



Graph 2.11 Respondents who wished to go home and those who have already migrated.

It emerged that 58% of the total respondents were already in their home state. From these, 6% had shifted to their respective home states during the lockdown. It emerged that 60% of the total female respondents were already in their home state while 55% of the male respondents were in theirs.

It was found that 28% of the total respondents reported that they did not want to shift to their home state, while 4% of these respondents had already shifted their residence during the lockdown to another place (other than the home state).

When asked if they wished to return to their home state, 5% of the total respondents reported that they were planning to return to their home state. It also emerged that 40% of these respondents who wanted to return had already shifted their residence once to another place (other than the home state) before the lockdown.

Similarly, 3% of the total female respondents wanted to go to their home state, while 7% of the male respondents expressed this want.

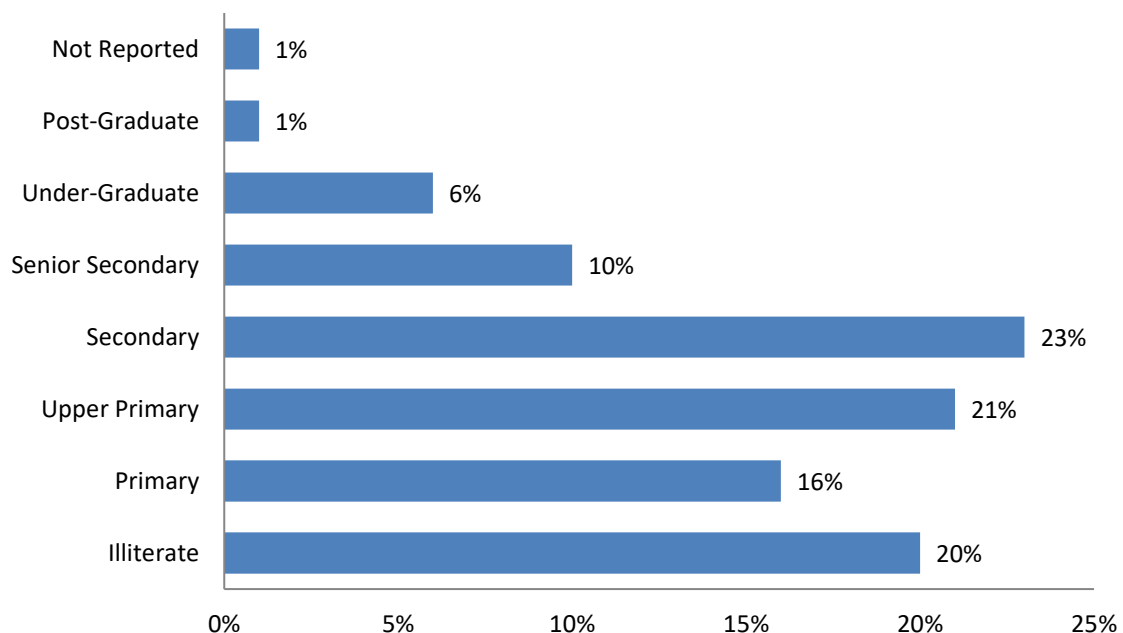
Some of the reasons given by the respondents for not wanting to shift to their home state were lack of employment opportunities or family support in the home state,

continuing employment during lockdown, and relatives being in prison and hence preferring to stay on. A few respondents had left their home state many years back and were well settled in the city whereby there was no need to shift to their home state. Some respondents informed that there were many employment opportunities in Mumbai, and they felt safe in their houses rather than travel to their home state, and were receiving lot of support from the community, CBOs, etc. in the city. One respondent informed that his parental family was not permitting him to return to his home state due to his love marriage. Some women preferred to stay in the city and not return to their home state due to the harassment by their husband or in-laws.

One respondent could not return to his home state due to his police record whereby after release from prison, he had to be provided accommodation in a shelter home. Some of the other reasons included ailing or old family member in the family to look after, on-going education of children, or lack of money to travel.

Educational and occupational details of respondents

2.12 Educational background of respondents

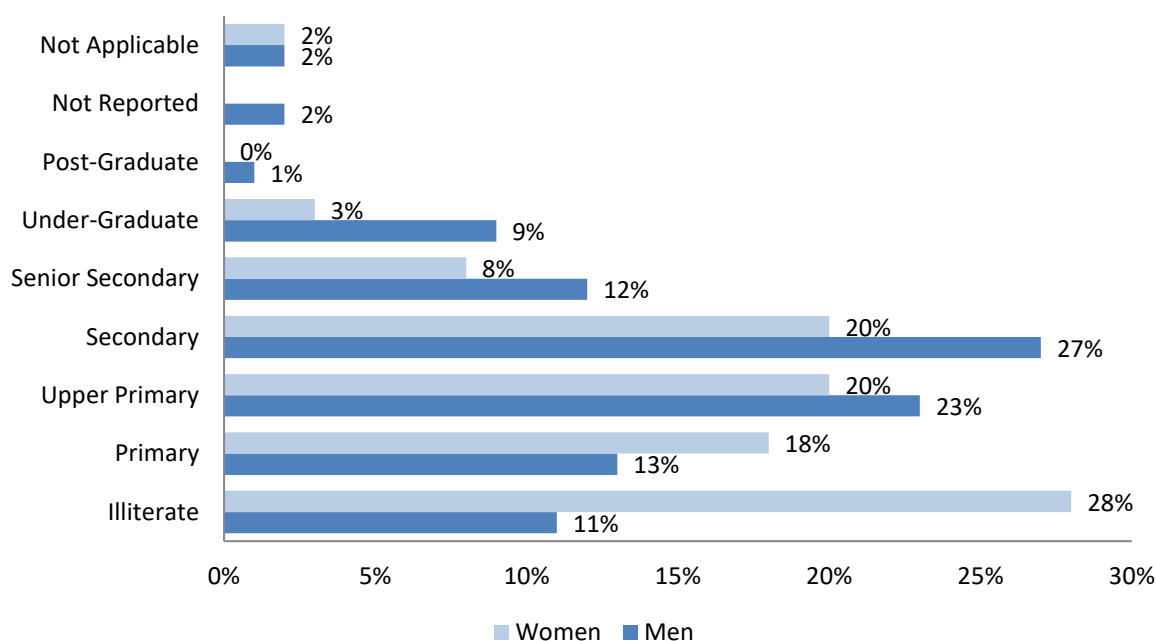


Graph 2.12 Educational background of the Respondents

The educational background of the respondents was recorded in the survey. They were later classified as per the Indian Standard Classification of Education.² As per this classification, Primary level included classes I to V, Upper Primary from VI to VIII, Secondary from IX to X and Senior Secondary from XI to XII.

The largest share of the respondents to the survey had secondary educational background (i.e. upto IX/X). They constituted 23% of the respondents. The number of non-literate respondents in the survey was a prominent number as well, as revealed by the fact that 20% of the total respondents belonged to this category. It also emerged that 21% of the respondents had an educational background of upto upper primary education (i.e. VI to VIII).

2.13 Gender-wise educational classification of respondents



Graph 2.13: Gender-wise educational classification of the Respondents

Maximum number of male respondents was educated up to the secondary level of education, constituting 27% of the male respondents. Among female respondents, the maximum number of female respondents was non-literate constituting 28% of female respondents.

² https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/statistics-new/InSCED2014.pdf

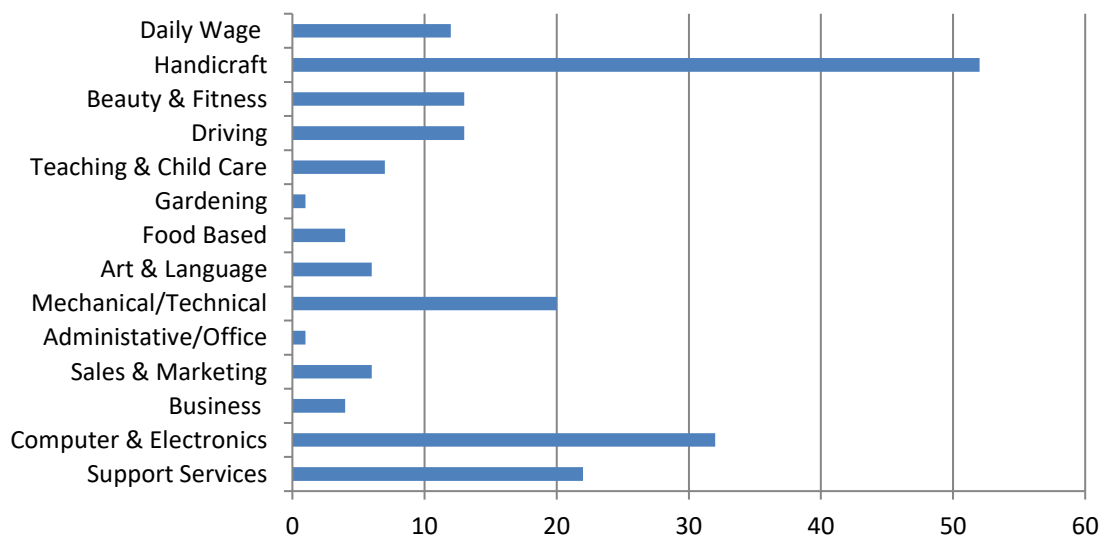
Also, 20% of the women were educated till upper primary and secondary education levels each. There were no female respondents who pursued post graduate courses, while 3% of the women had pursued till under graduate level.

The male respondents were more educated than the female respondents (the margin of difference increasing with increasing educational level) at all educational levels except the primary level. The percentage of female respondents whose educational qualification was till primary level (18%) was more than the percentage of male respondents whose educational qualification was the same (13%). It can thus be noted that more female respondents had dropped off from schools after their primary level education than male respondents.

2.14 Training or skill level

The poor skill level of the respondents is indicated by the finding that 65% of the respondents did not have any formal training or marketable skills. However, 33% of the respondents had undergone formal courses/training or possessed a marketable skill. In terms of gender, 35% of the total male respondents possessed a skill or had undergone skill training while 33% of the total female respondents had undergone formal training.

2.15 Details of skills or training undergone by respondents³

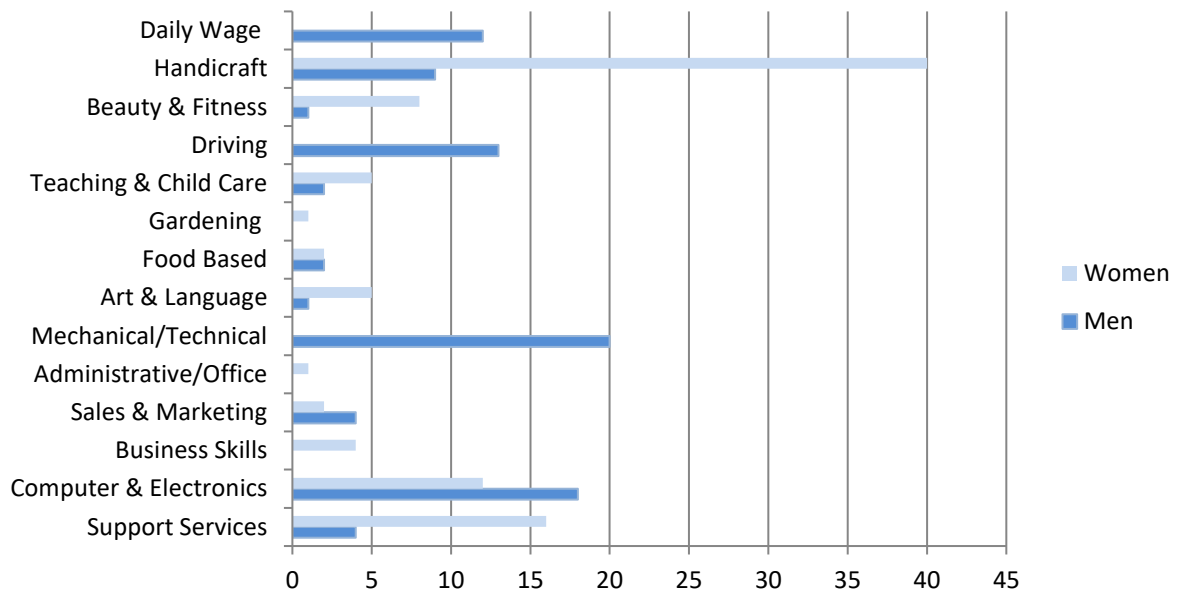


³ Refer to Annexure 3

Graph 2.5: Details of skills or training undergone by respondents

Among respondents who had responded in the affirmative as to possessing a formal skill/ undergone training, many reported possession of more than one skill. Handicraft courses/skills emerged as the one that highest number of respondents possessed. This was mostly concentrated in the tailoring business. Gardening and office administration are the sectors that have the least number of respondents trained in. More than 20 respondents have undergone training in care giving or service sector like para-medical, social work, computer and electronics and mechanical/technical work.

2.16 Gender-wise representation in type of skill/training of respondents

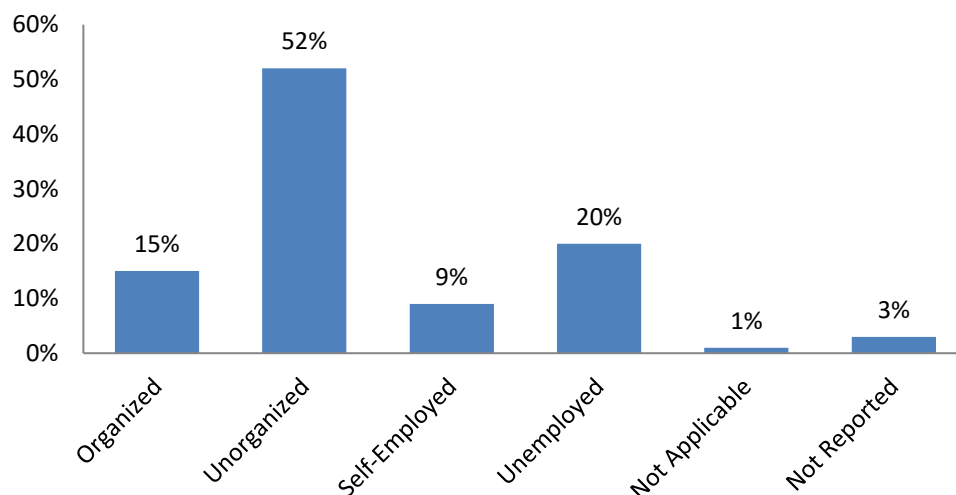


Graph 2.16: Gender-wise representation in type of skill/training of respondents

Women were represented across skills/training, except daily wage skilled work, driving and mechanical/technical skills.

The skills under handicrafts were largely reported by women, while daily wage skilled work, driving and mechanical/technical skills were reported by male respondents. Business related skills, beauty and fitness, office administration, arts and language skills were largely reported by female respondents. The skill background of men and women thus reaffirms the gender divide and stereotypes in terms of skills.

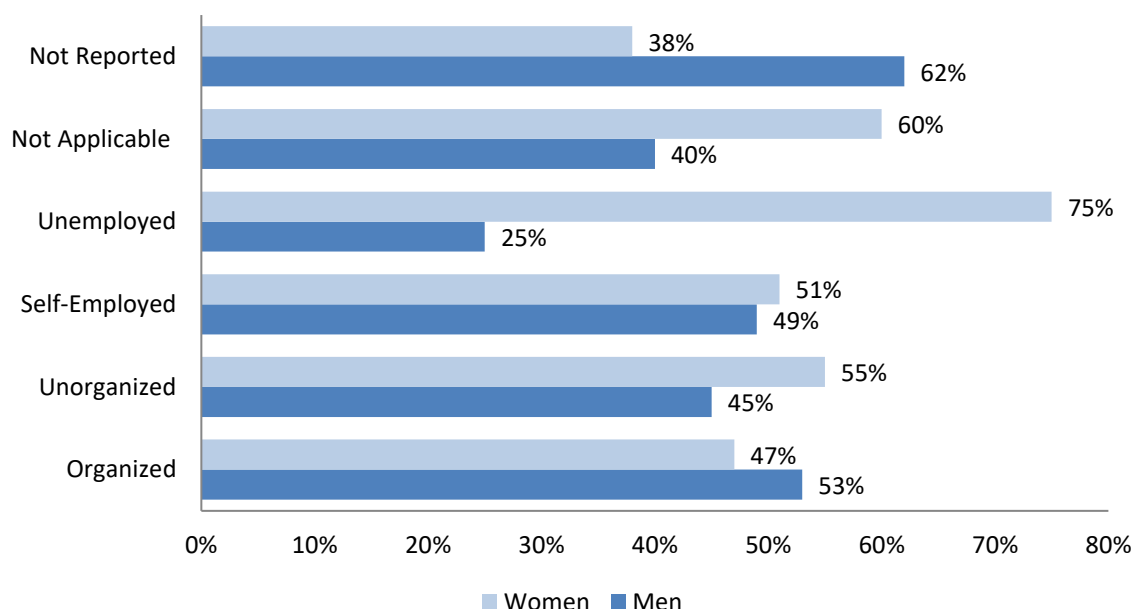
2.17 Employment status of respondents before lockdown



Graph 2.17 Employment status of respondents before lockdown

It emerged that 52% of respondents were employed in the unorganized sector⁴ before the lockdown, while 20% were unemployed. This constituted 72% of the sample population who did not have a safety net. However, 15% was employed in the organized sector and 9% was self-employed.

2.18 Gender-wise employment status of respondents before lockdown



Graph 2.18: Gender-wise Employment Status of Respondents before Lockdown

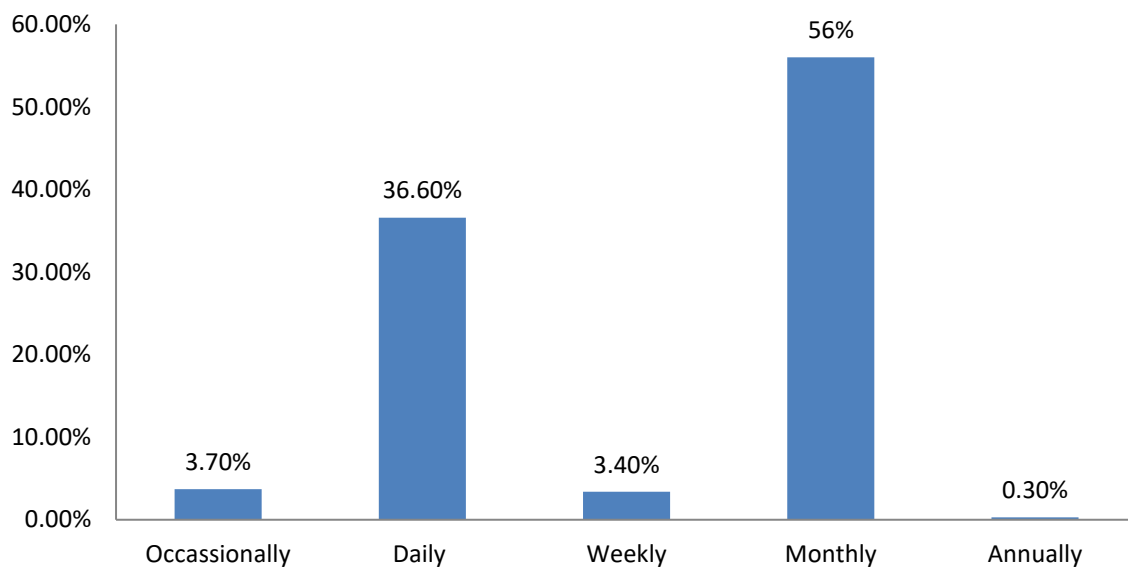
⁴ Refer to Annexure 4

Of the total number of respondents employed in the organized sector before the lockdown, 53% were men, while 47% were women. More women were self-employed or employed in unorganized sector before the lockdown.

Of the total number of respondents who were unemployed before the lockdown, the number of female respondents unemployed was disproportionately higher than the male unemployed respondents.

Also, 20% of the total number of respondents who possessed formal skills or training was unemployed before the lockdown.

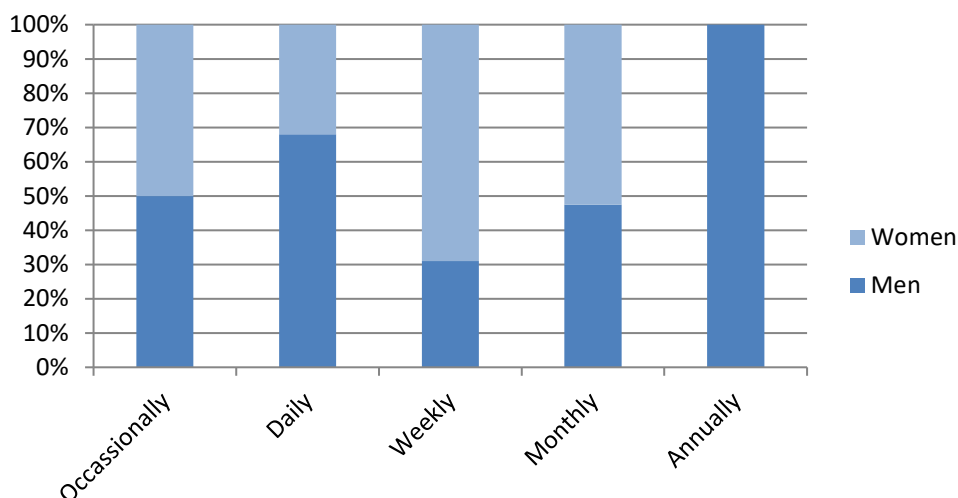
2.19 Frequency of respondents' earnings before lockdown



Graph 2.19: Frequency of respondents' earnings before the lockdown

Of the total number of respondents who were earning before the lockdown (refer Graph 3.6), 56% earned on a monthly basis, while close to 37% earned on a daily basis. Less than 5% of the respondents earned on a weekly, annual and occasional basis. This shows that 42% of the respondents were without a steady monthly income. This along with the fact that nearly 72% were without a safety net, it emerges that the respondent population was extremely vulnerable to unforeseen events or calamities like the lockdown. Sudden stoppage of work could lead them into penury very quickly.

2.20 Gender-wise frequency of respondents' earnings before lockdown



Graph 2.20: Gender-wise frequency of respondents' earnings before lockdown

Of the total number of people earning on an occasional basis before the lockdown, the share of the female and male respondents was equal.

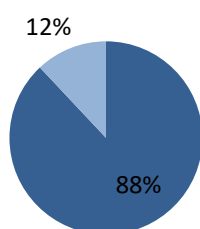
Of the total number of respondents earning on a daily basis, 68% were men and 32% were women.

Of the total number of respondents earning on a weekly basis before the lockdown, close to 70% were women.

Close to equal number of respondents from both the sexes earned on a monthly basis prior to the lockdown. Men constituted 100% of those who earned annually among the respondents.

2.21 Respondents who had continued income during the lockdown

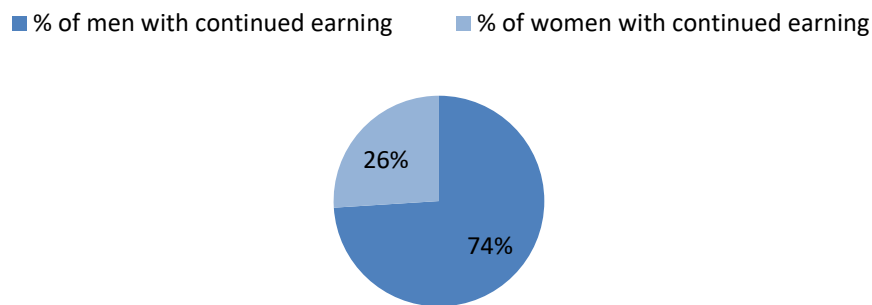
■ No. of respondents earning prior to lockdown
■ No. of respondents earning during the lockdown



Graph 2.21: Respondents who had continued income during the lockdown

Only 12% of the total respondents who had been earning prior to the lockdown had continued earnings during the lockdown (refer Graph 3.6 to know the employment before lockdown). This is a telling comment on the financial situation of the respondents due to the lockdown.

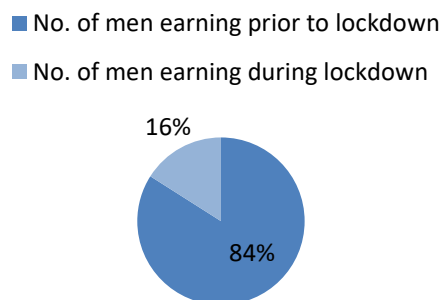
2.22 Gender-wise representation of respondents with continued earnings



Graph 2.22: Gender-wise representation of respondents with continued earnings

Of the 12% of the respondents with continued income (see Graph 3.10), 74% were male respondents who had continued income and 26% constituted the female respondents. This highlights the gender divide and inequality in terms of job security between men and women.

2.23 Percentage of male respondents with continued earnings

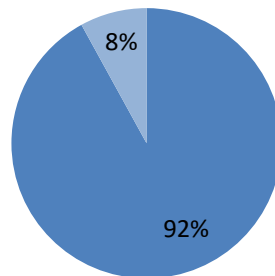


Graph 2.23: Percentage of male respondents with continued earnings

Of the total number of male respondents who were earning prior to the lockdown (refer Graphs 3.7 and 3.9), only 16% had continued earnings during the lockdown. It is most likely that the remaining 84% lost their source of earnings owing to the lockdown.

2.24 Percentage of female respondents with continued earnings

■ No. of women earning prior to lockdown ■ No. of women earning during lockdown

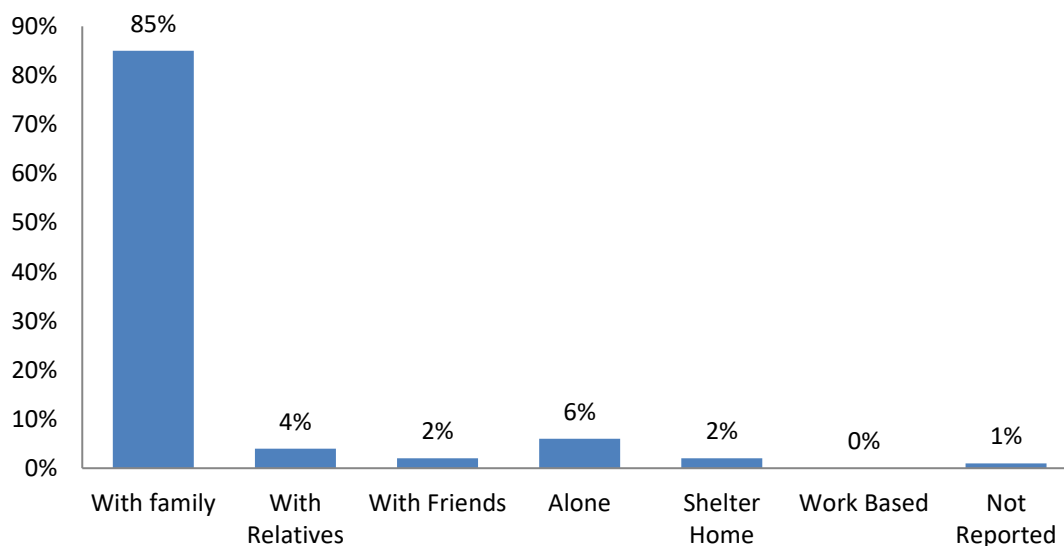


Graph 2.24: Percentage of women with continued earnings

Of the total number of female respondents who were earning prior to the lockdown, a mere 8% had continued earnings during the lockdown. It is highly likely that 92% of the women who were previously earning before the lockdown, lost their source of employment owing to the lockdown.

Housing details of respondents

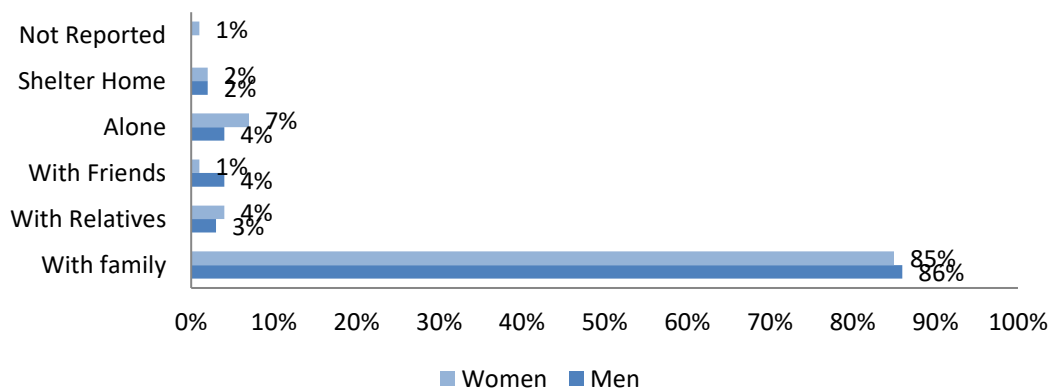
2.25 Details of with whom the respondents were residing at the time of interview



Graph 2.25: Details of with whom the respondents were residing at the time of interview

85% of the total respondents lived with their families during the time of the interview, while 6% lived by themselves. 6% of respondents lived with friends and relatives, with remaining 2% in shelter homes.

2.26 Gender-wise representation of with whom the respondents were residing

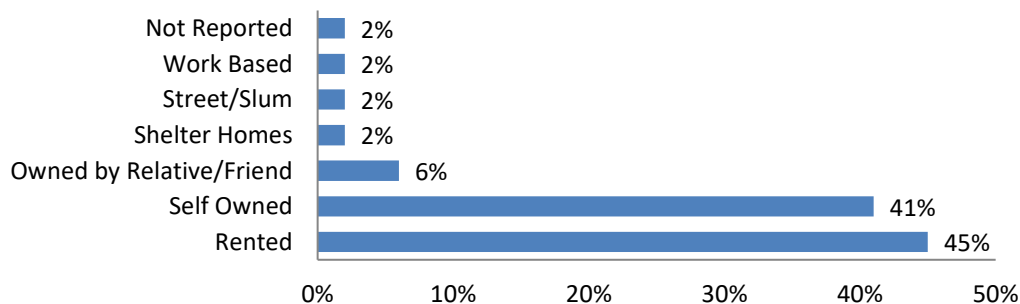


Graph 2.26: Gender-wise representation of with whom the respondents were residing

In terms of gender break-up, an almost equal proportion of the respondents lived with their families (86% of male and 85% of female respondents). However, 7% of the female respondents lived alone while 4% of the male respondents were reported to be living alone. The situation of female respondents is likely to be more vulnerable, especially given the fact that these women come from very marginalized and stigmatized groups.

The gender-wise distribution of the other living conditions was moderately equal between the male and female respondents.

2.27 Type of residence before lockdown

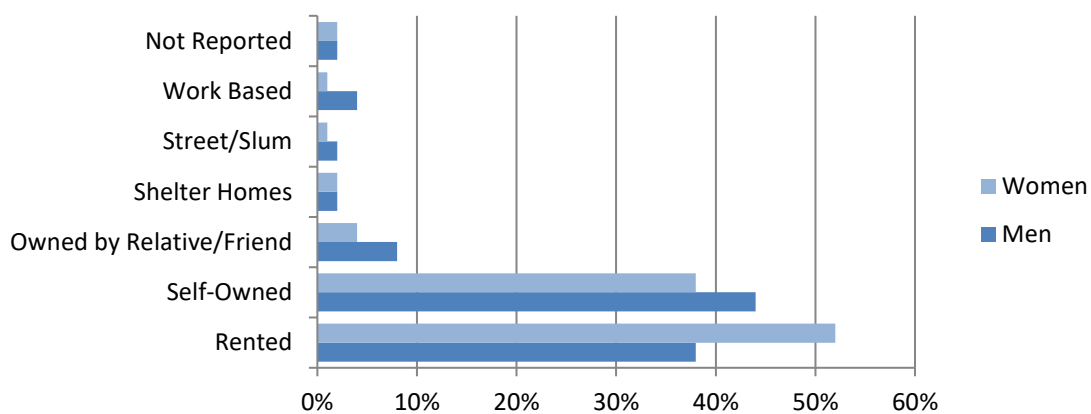


Graph 2.27: Type of residence before the lockdown

It emerged that 45% of the total respondents lived in a rented house while another 41% lived in a house they owned before the lockdown. Also, 6% of the respondents lived in houses owned by a relative or a friend with 2% who lived in the streets or in *zopadpattis* (shanties). Another 2% lived in shelter homes and 2% in a place arranged by their employer. Given the fact that 45% lived in rented housing and 88% did not have continued earnings after the lockdown, housing is likely to emerge as a major crisis for large number of respondents. Lack of income is likely to lead to them being thrown out or at least threatened to be thrown out by their landlords in the coming months, which could in turn impact their safety, health, education of their children, etc.

If one analyses Table 4 and 4.2, one notices that 2% respondents had work-based shelter before lockdown but at the time of the interview, there was one respondent who had work-based shelter. This implies that most respondents who had jobs as caretakers, domestic helps or nurses in people’s houses had lost these jobs post the lockdown.

2.28 Gender-wise distribution of type of residence before lockdown



Graph 2.28: Gender-wise distribution of type of residence before lockdown

It emerged that 52% of the total female respondents lived in rented housing, while 38% of male respondents lived in rented houses. It can be seen that more number of female respondents lived in rented housing than male respondents before the lockdown.

Similarly, while 38% of the total female respondents lived in self-owned houses, around 45% of male respondents lived in self-owned houses before the lockdown.

Of the total female respondents, 1% lived on the streets, 4% lived in houses owned by relatives and 2% in shelter homes.

Of the total male respondents, 8% lived with their relatives, 2% in shelter homes and another 2% on the streets. 4% lived in work-based housing facilities.

Of the total number of respondents who lived on the streets, male respondents were higher than females. This could be because women street dwellers may be more invisible than men. Women are often forced to accept shelter which comes with exploitative relationships rather than continue living on the streets facing daily abuse and/or sexual violence.

It needs to be borne out that women living in rented premises may be in a more vulnerable situation than men.

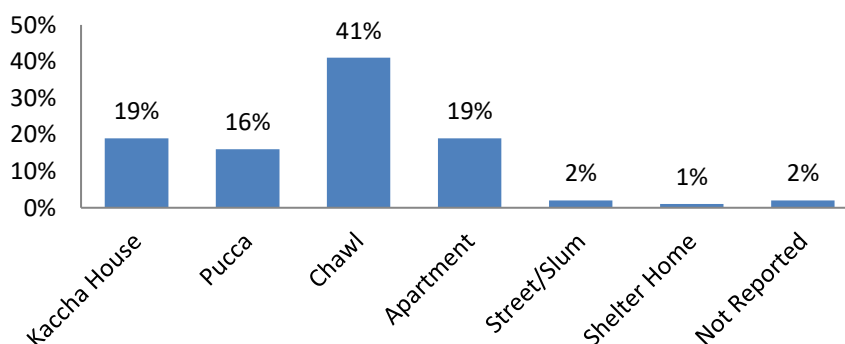
If owned by relative, specify relationship

Most of the respondents who lived with their relatives before lockdown did not respond to this question.

From those who did respond to this question, 40% of those who lived with their relatives before the lockdown lived in houses owned by their parents.

It also emerged that 12% lived in houses that belonged to other relatives, while 4% lived in houses that belonged to their siblings.

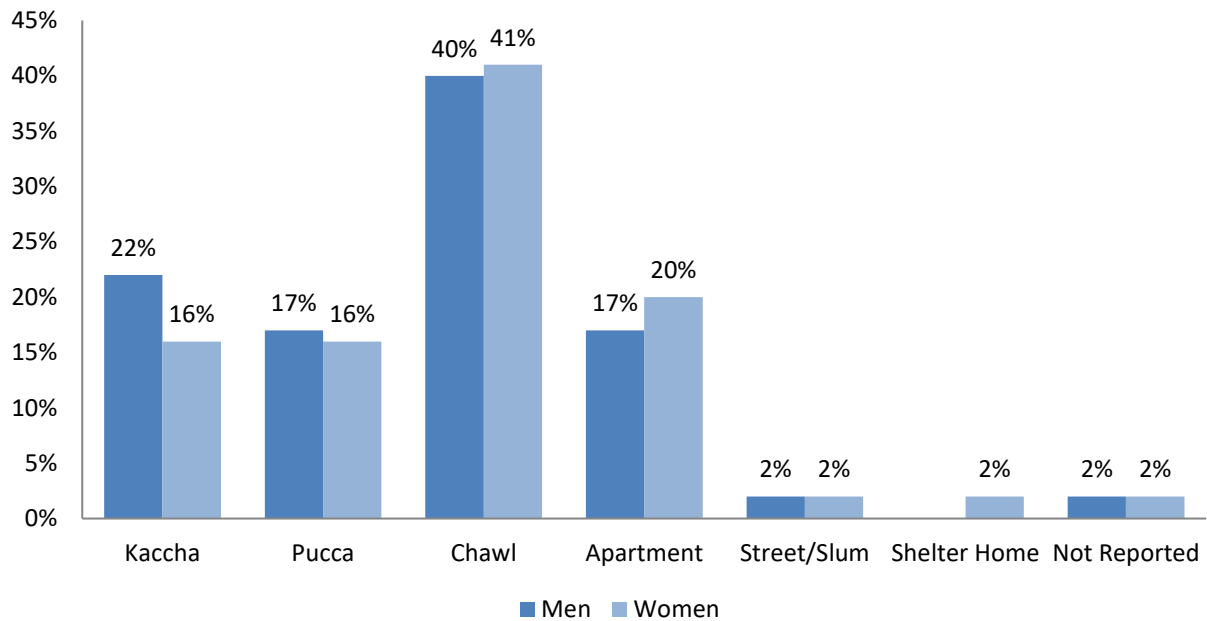
2.29 Housing structure of respondents before lockdown



Graph 2.29: Housing structure of the respondents before lockdown

More than 200 respondents i.e. 41% of the respondents lived in *chawls* (tenements) before the lockdown, while 19% lived in apartments, another 19% lived in *kaccha* houses, 16% lived in *pucca* houses or in buildings, 2% were homeless or lived on the streets and 1% lived in shelter homes.

2.30 Gender-wise distribution of type of housing of respondents before lockdown



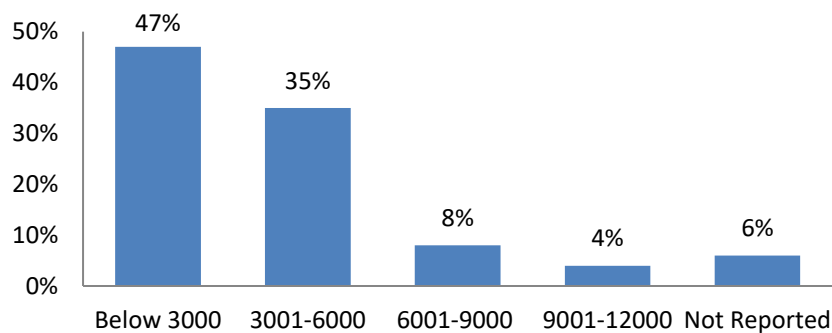
Graph 2.30: Gender-wise distribution of type of housing of respondents before lockdown

Out of the total female respondents, 16% of them lived in *kaccha* houses, another 16% lived in *pucca* houses. Another 41% of the female respondents lived in *chawls*, 20% lived in apartments while 2% in shelter homes.

Out of the total male respondents, 22% lived in *kaccha* houses while 16% lived in *pucca* houses, while 40% of the male respondents lived in *chawls* and 17% lived in apartments.

It may be noted that 2% of both male and female respondents did not respond to this question.

2.31 Rent expenditure of respondents living on rent



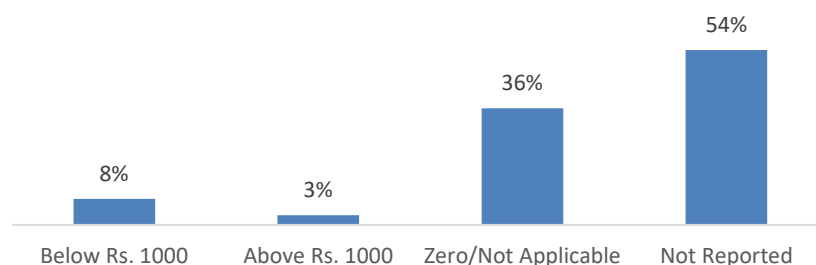
Graph 2.31: Rent expenditure of respondents living on rent

As depicted in *Graph 4.2*, 45% of the total respondents lived on rent. This was the type of residence that the highest share of respondents lived in before the lockdown. Of this, 47% paid a rent below INR 3000 per month.

It also emerged that 35% of the respondents living on rent paid between INR 3000-6000 per month; 8% of the respondents living on rent paid between INR 6000-9000 per month, while another 4% paid between INR 9000-12000 per month.

Hence, the largest share of respondents who lived on rent paid below INR 3000 as rent. This could be indicative of the poor and insecure housing conditions in which the respondents lived, and the chances of being asked to leave in case of prolonged non-payment of rent could be high, given the fact that the landlords' financial situation due to the lockdown may have also been negatively affected.

2.32 Money spent on maintenance by respondents



Graph 2.32: Amount of money spent for maintenance by the respondent

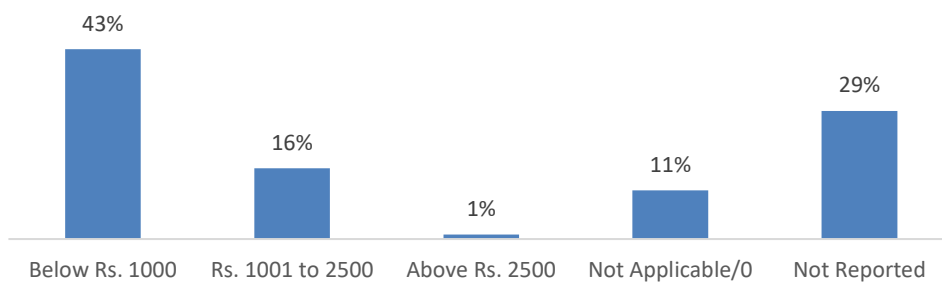
The largest share of total respondents did not respond to this question, constituting 54% of the total respondents.

It was found that 36% of the total respondents reported that they had zero monthly maintenance expenses on housing.⁵ This includes the number of people for whom this question was not applicable.

8% of the total respondents reported their maintenance expenses to be below INR 1000 per month.

3% had expenses above INR 1000 per month.

2.33 Water and electricity related expenses of respondents

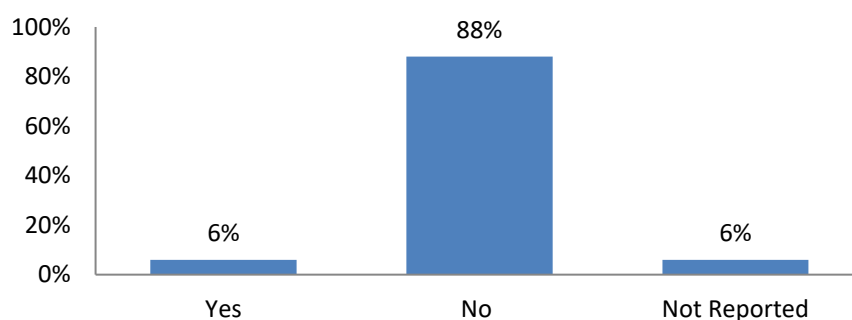


Graph 2.33: Water and electricity expenses of the respondents

43% of the total respondents spent below INR 1000 on water and electricity charges per month, while 16% reported to be spending between INR 1000-2500 per month.

Only 1% of the total respondents spent more than INR 2500 per month on water and electricity. This indicates the poor standard of living of most of the respondents and their families.

2.34 Change of residence of respondents during/after lockdown



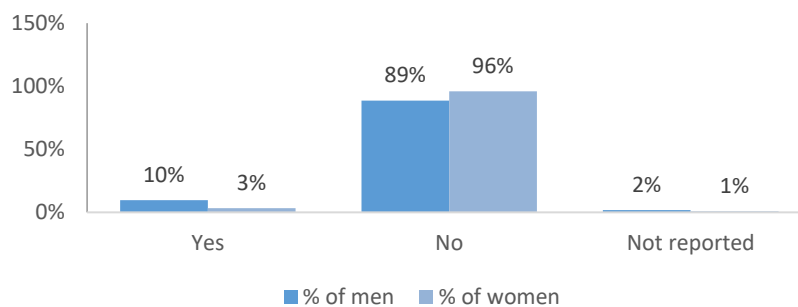
Graph 2.34: Change of residence of the respondents during/after the lockdown

⁵ Maintenance expenses are to be paid by members of cooperative housing societies every month for the upkeep on common facilities like common lighting, lift, security, repairs, painting of the outer side of the building, etc.

In response to this question, it was reported by 88% of the total respondents that there was no change in residence during/after the lockdown [this corresponds with the 92% who reported a no change in residence - Graph 2.5].

Only 6% of the total respondents reported that there was a change in residence during the lockdown.

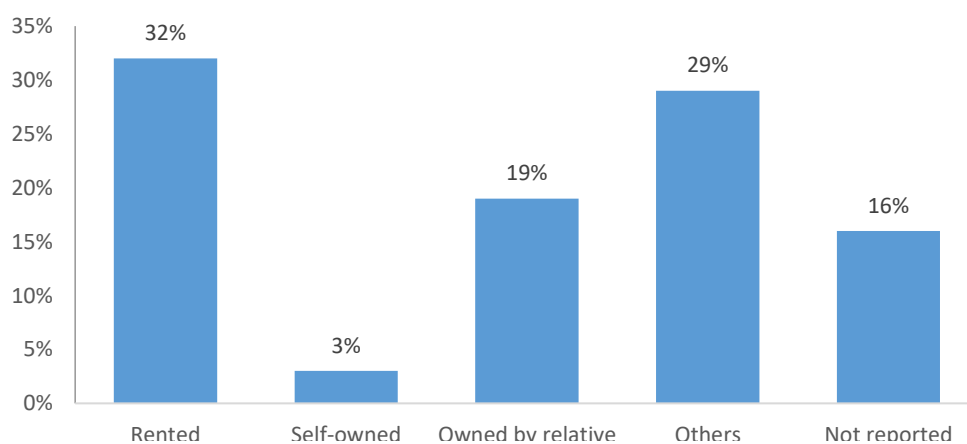
2.35 Gender-wise distribution of change in residence of respondents during/after lockdown



Graph 2.34: Gender-wise distribution of change in residence of the respondents during/after lockdown

It was found that 96% of the total women did not change their residence, while 3% responded that they had to change their residence. Similarly, 89% of the men reported no change in residence, while 10% responded that there was a change.

2.36 Type of changed residence of respondents during lockdown

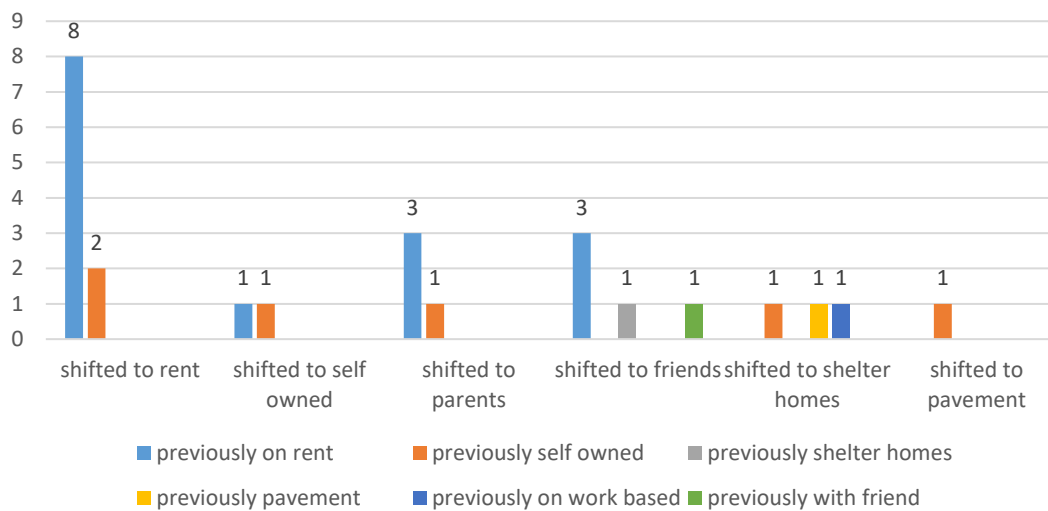


Graph 2.36: Type of changed residence of the respondents during lockdown

Data shows that 32% of the respondents who had changed residence during the lockdown shifted to a rented house while another 19% shifted to houses owned by relatives. It also emerged that 3% shifted to houses that were self-owned, while

another 29% shifted to other types of residences like friends' or housemates, shelter homes or pavements. This largely indicates that respondents who shifted their residence did so not out of positive choice but due to force of circumstances (on account of lack of income source).

2.37 Change in the type of residence of respondents during lockdown



Graph 2.37: Change in the type of residence of the respondents during lockdown

Of the respondents who had changed their residence during the lockdown and who had reported their new type of residence:

Eight respondents who had newly shifted to a rented place of residence were previously in rented house itself. Hence they most likely continued to bear the rent expenditure. 2 people moved from a self-owned house to a rented one.

One respondent who shifted to a self-owned house during the lockdown was previously in a rented house. This could most likely mean that the respondent most probably moved to their family residence on account of not being able to bear the rent expenses during the lockdown period.

Three out of four respondents who had shifted to their parents' houses during the lockdown were previously in rented houses. This again could hint towards measures to reduce the rent expenses previously incurred.

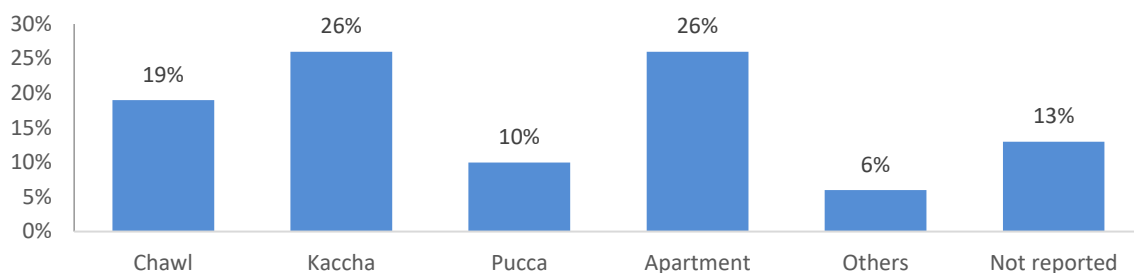
Three out of five respondents who had newly shifted to their friends' houses during the lockdown were previously living in rented homes. 1 respondent who was previously living in a shelter home shifted to the friend's house during the lockdown.

Those who had shifted to shelter homes during the lockdown (3) were previously living either in self-owned houses or work based places or on the pavement.

One respondent was forced to stay on the pavement during the lockdown due to the sudden imposed lockdown whereby he had to face difficulties in meeting his livelihood and contacting his family.

These details further explain the fact that respondents who moved their residence did so due to force of circumstances.

2.38 Structure of changed residence of respondents during lockdown

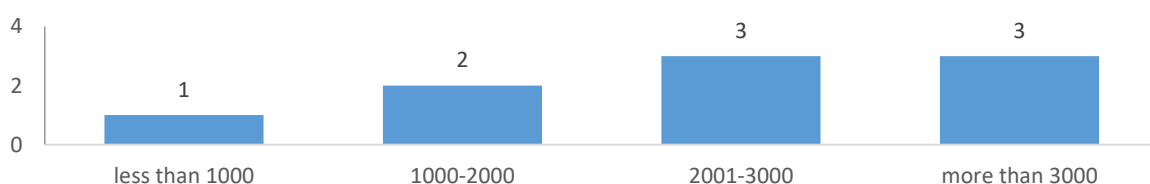


Graph 2.38: Structure of changed residence of respondents during the lockdown

It emerged that 26% of the respondents who had changed their residence during the lockdown reported that their new residence to be *kaccha* houses. However, 26% reported it to be an apartment.

Another 19% of the respondents who had changed residence reported their new residence structure to be *chawls*, while *pucca* houses were occupied by 10% of the respondents who had shifted their residence during the lockdown.

2.39 Rent expenses of respondents after change of residence



Graph 2.39: Rent expenses of the respondents after change of residence

Three respondents had to pay rent of INR 2000-3000 per month and another three respondents paid above INR 3000 per month.

It is interesting to note that 33% of those who paid rent after the lockdown were new rent payees. The rest 67% were lessees before the lockdown as well and were already paying rent. It is not clear whether the rent amounts remained the same for the lessees prior and post the change of residence. It is possible that the rent amount varied with the shift in residence.

Water and electricity expenses of respondents after change in residence

The water and electricity expenses of the respondents who had changed their residence during the lockdown largely remained the same as that prior to the lockdown. Only one respondent who earlier did not incur this expense was incurring it after the lockdown.

Total expenses of respondents' new residences

Most of the respondents who had changed their residence during the lockdown and were willing to share the information responded that their expenses were now between INR 3000- 5000 per month. There were a few respondents who reported paying between INR 15000-20000 per month as well.

Who supported the transition?

Most of the respondents who had changed their residence during the lockdown were supported by their friends or families. Some of them found their new residences on their own while a few respondents were supported by an NGO or the government or their employer.

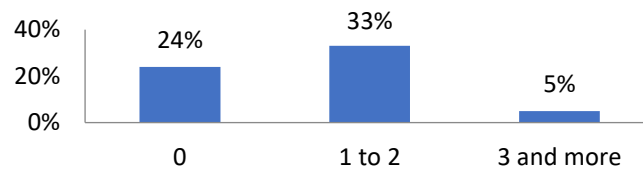
Some of the respondents responded that they had been stuck in their new places by chance as they could not return as the lockdown was imposed suddenly.

Family Background of respondents

It emerged that 87% of the total respondents lived with their families, while 13% did not.

In terms of gender, 85% of the total male respondents and 88% of the female respondents lived with their families.

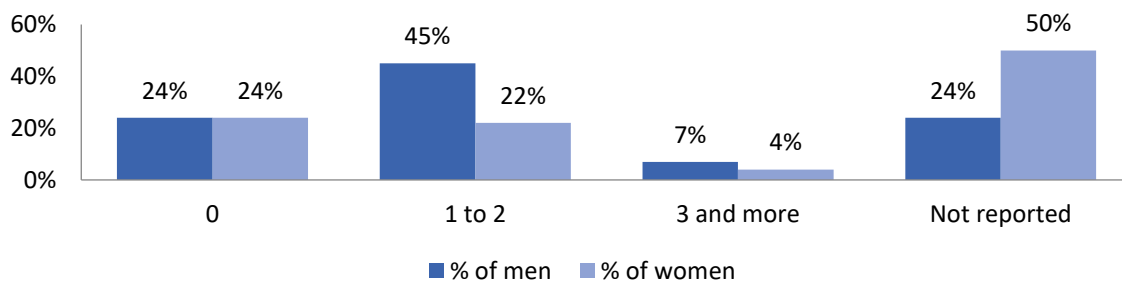
2.40 Number of parents/elders in the respondents' families



Graph 2.40: Number of parents/elders in the respondents' families

Data shows that 33% of the respondents had 1-2 elders/parents living with them while 24% of them had no elders/parent living with them. Only 5% had 3 or more number of elders living with them.

2.41 Gender-wise distribution of parents/elders in the respondents' families

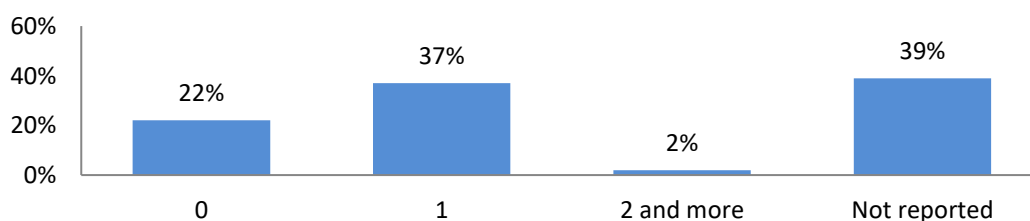


Graph 2.41: Gender-wise distribution of number of parents/elders in the respondents' families

It was found that 45% of the male respondents had 1-2 parents in their families, while 22% of the female respondents had 1-2 parents/elders in their families.

In terms of gender, 4% of the female respondents had 3 or more elders in their families, while 7% of the male respondents had 3 or more elders.

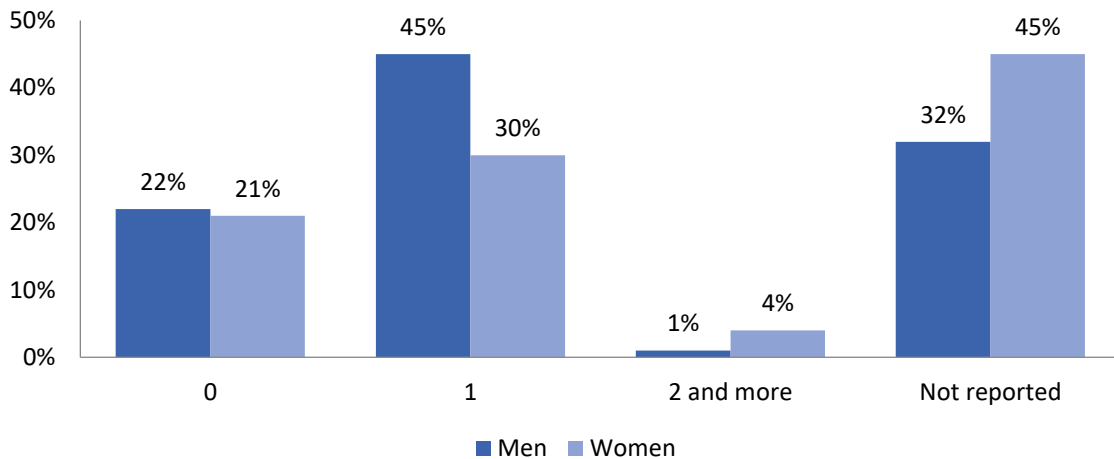
2.42 Spouse living with the respondents



Graph 2.42: Number of spouse living with the respondents

It emerged that 37% of the total respondents were living with a spouse in their family while 22% reported not living with one. Also, 2% reported having more than one spouse and responses were not reported by 39% of the respondents. This could be because of reasons such as respondents choosing not to respond on account of fatigue or privacy concerns, or the researchers missing out this question.

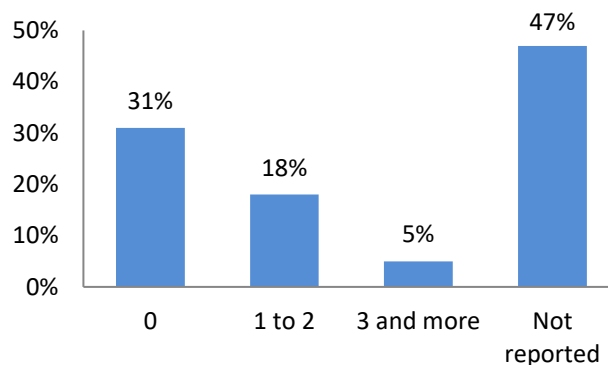
2.43 Gender-wise distribution of spouse living with respondents



Graph 2.43: Gender-wise distribution of number of spouse living with the respondents

While 45% of the male respondents reported having a spouse, 30% of female respondents reported having a spouse. Close to equal number of both male and female respondents reported not having a spouse. This could be an indication that persons with social stigma find it difficult to find life partners.

2.44 Number of siblings living with respondents

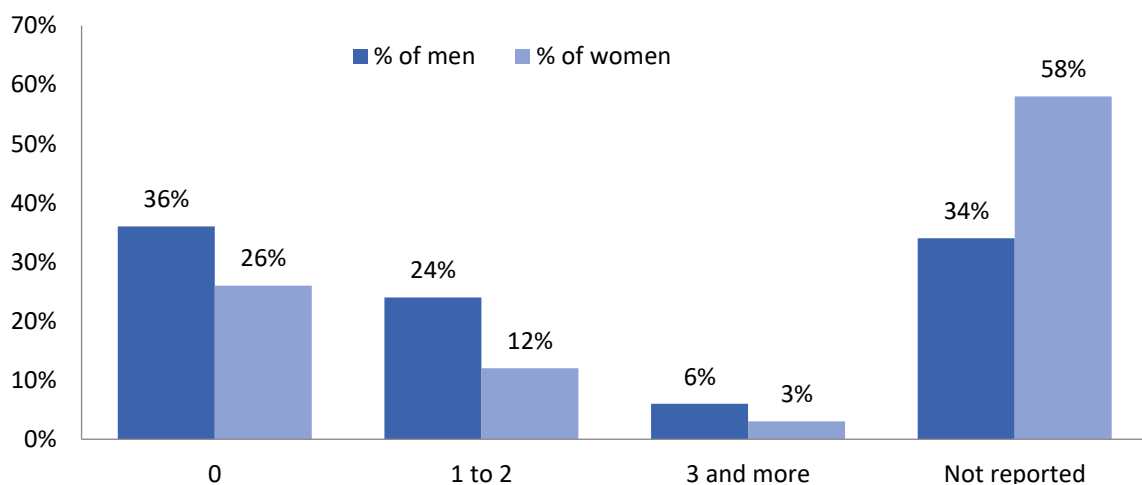


Graph 2.44: Number of siblings living with the respondents

In terms of siblings, 18% of the total respondents had 1-2 siblings in their families, while 31% had none.

It may be noted that 47% of the total respondents did not respond. This could be an indication of a fall-out between siblings or weak sibling relationships on account of the respondents' past.

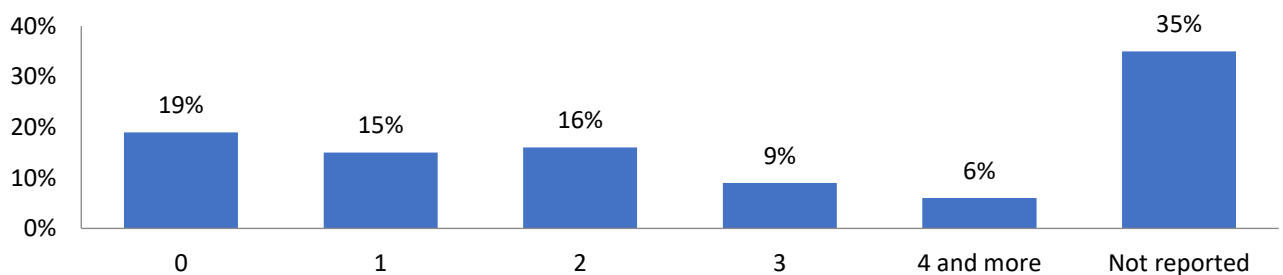
2.45 Gender-wise distribution of siblings living with respondents



Graph 2.45: Gender-wise distribution of number of siblings living with the respondents

Female respondents had fewer siblings living with them than male respondents. 12% of total female respondents had 1-2 siblings while 24% (double of 12%) of total male respondents had 1-2 siblings. While 3% of total female respondents had 3 or more siblings, 6% (double the number of females) of male respondents had 3 or more siblings.

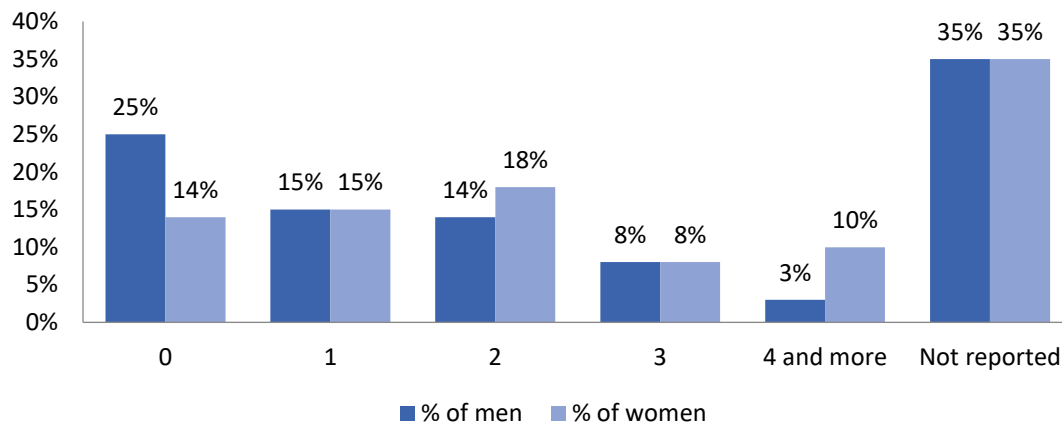
2.46 Minor children living with respondents



Graph 2.46: Number of minor children living with the respondents

It was found that 19% of the respondents did not have minor children, while 16% had up to 2 minor children. Another 15% of the respondents had one minor child, 9% of the respondents had 3 minor children, while 6% had 4 or more minor children.

2.47 Gender-wise distribution of minor children living with respondents

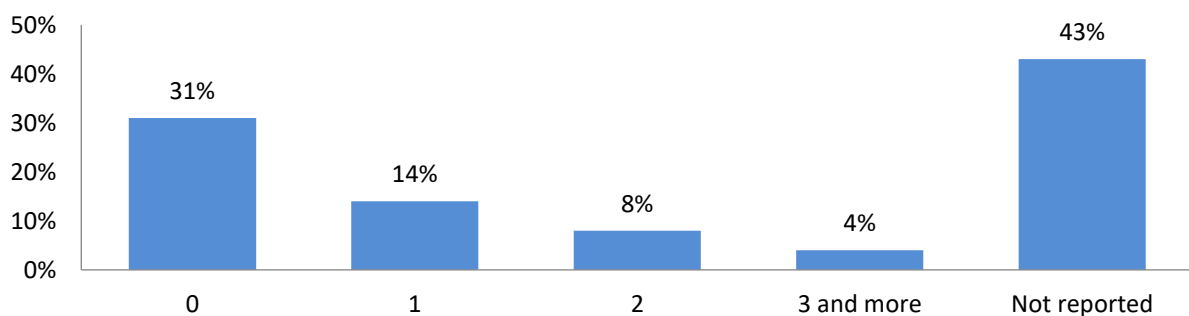


Graph 2.47: Gender-wise distribution of number of minor children living with the respondents

Within the category of respondents with minor children, female respondents were either equal in number to or more than the number of male respondents. It needs to be highlighted that 46% of respondents had minor children to look after.

Female respondents who had 4 or more minor children were more than the number of male respondents with 4 or more minor children.

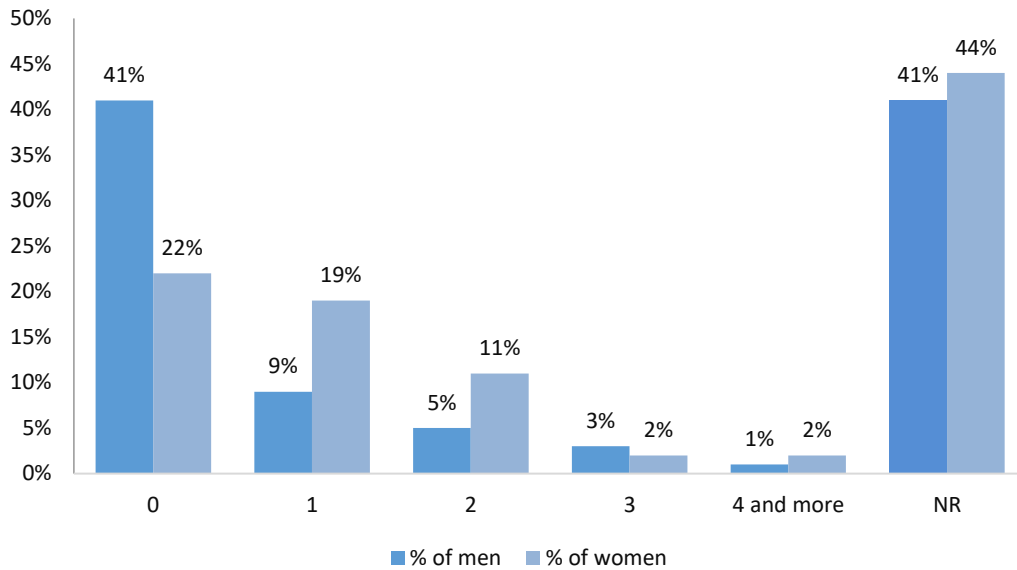
2.48 Adult children living with respondents



Graph 2.48 Number of adult children living with the respondents

Data shows that 31% of the respondents did not have adult children, while 14% of the respondents had 1 adult child and 8% had 2 adult children.

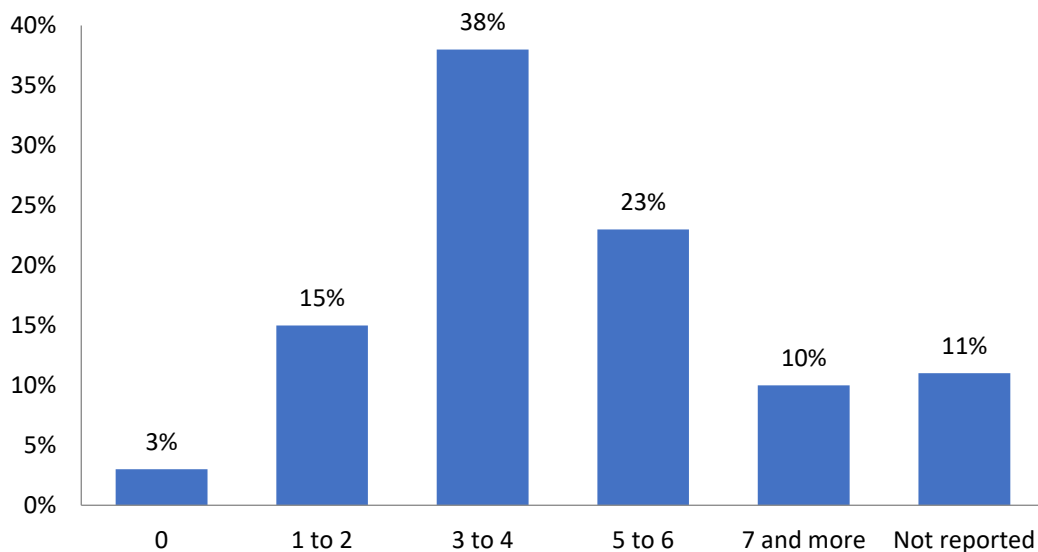
2.49 Gender-wise distribution of adult children living with respondents



Graph 2.49: Gender-wise distribution of number of adult children living with the respondents

There were more female respondents with adult children than male respondents.

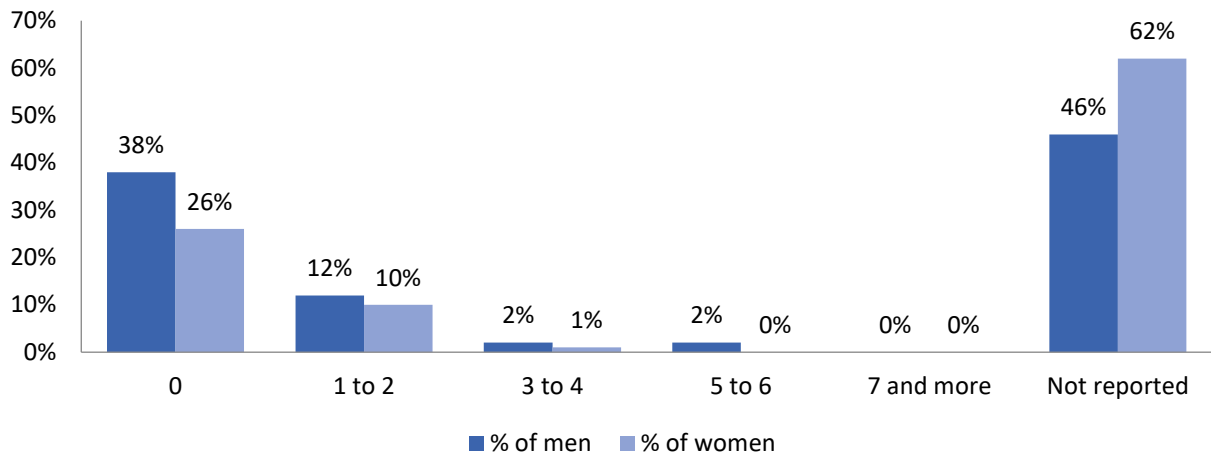
2.50 Members in the respondents' family



Graph 2.50: Total number of members in the respondents' family

The highest share of respondents had 3-4 members in the family. Only 3% respondents lived by themselves. 23% of the respondents had 5-6 family members, while 10% reported having more than 7 family members.

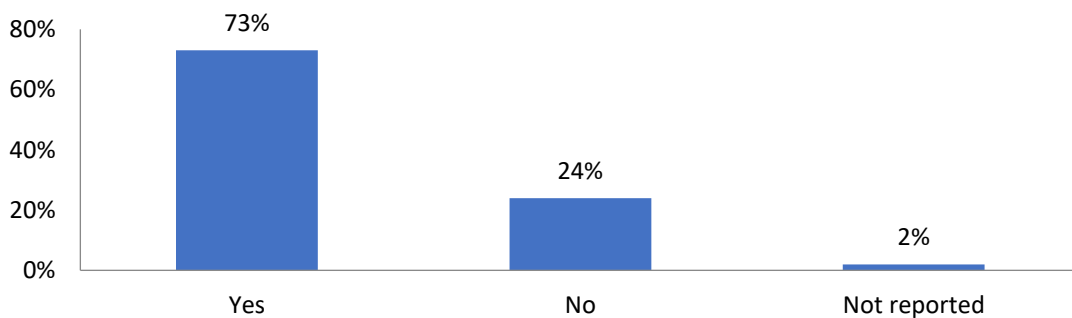
2.51 Gender-wise distribution of members in respondents' family



Graph 2.51 Gender-wise distribution of total number of members in the respondents' family

It was found that 38% of the male respondents and 26% of the female respondents had no members in their family. Thus, the percentage of female respondents having other members in the families (any number) is less than the percentage of male respondents.

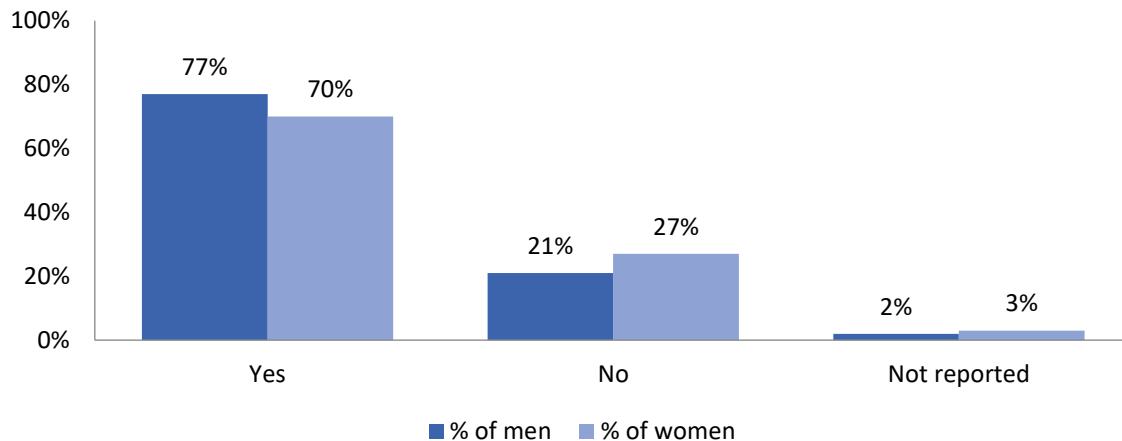
2.52 Respondents supporting their families



Graph 2.52: Respondents supporting their family

It emerged that 73% of the respondents reported that they supported their families, while 24% of the respondents did not have to support the families. Given the fact that 88% of the respondents had lost their source of income due to the lockdown, one can imagine the consequences on families who depended on the 73% respondents who were supporting their families.

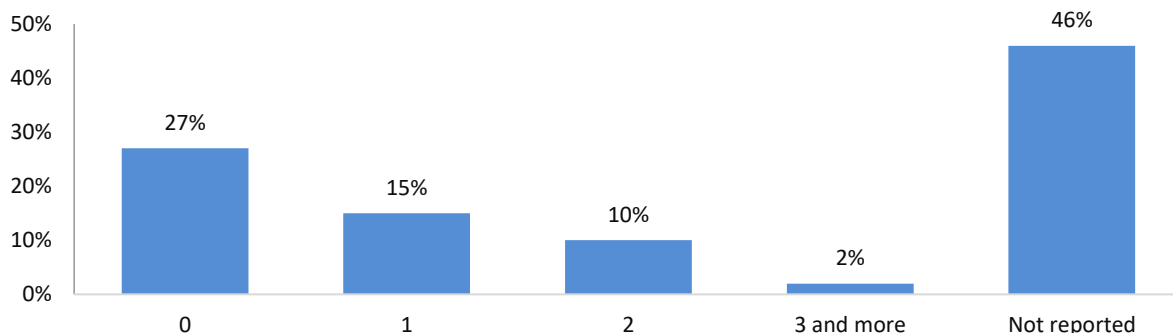
2.53 Gender-wise distribution of respondents supporting their families



Graph 2.53: Gender-wise distribution of respondents supporting their families

The percentage of total female respondents who supported their families was lesser than the percentage of total male respondents.

2.54 Number of parents/elders supported by respondents



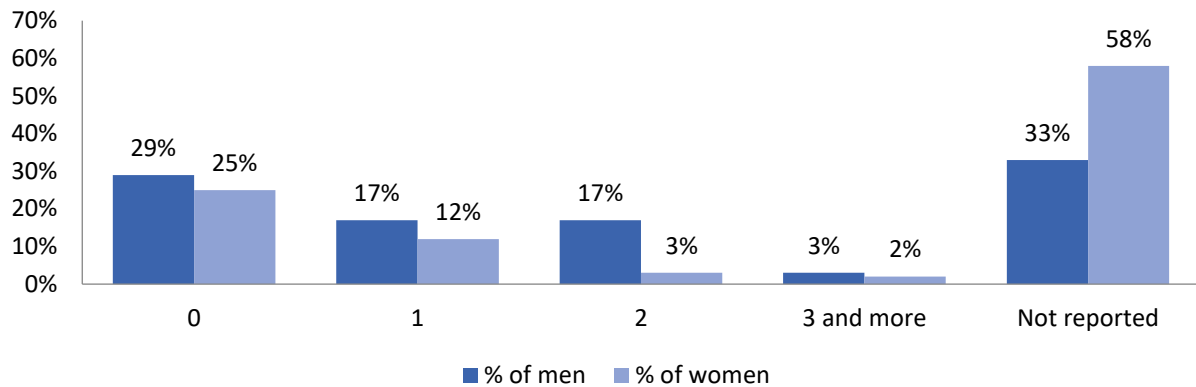
Graph 2.54: Number of parents/elders supported by the respondents

Most of the respondents did not support a parent/elder. This included 27% of the respondents. However, 46% have not responded to this question. This could be on account of various reasons such as breakdown of relations with parents/elders in the family or feeling inadequate or embarrassed to report that they were unable to support their parents/elders.

It emerged that 15% of the respondents supported a parent or an elder, while another 10% of the total respondents had supported two parents or elders.

There were 2% of the total respondents that supported 3 or more elders.

2.55 Gender-wise distribution of parents/elders supported by respondents

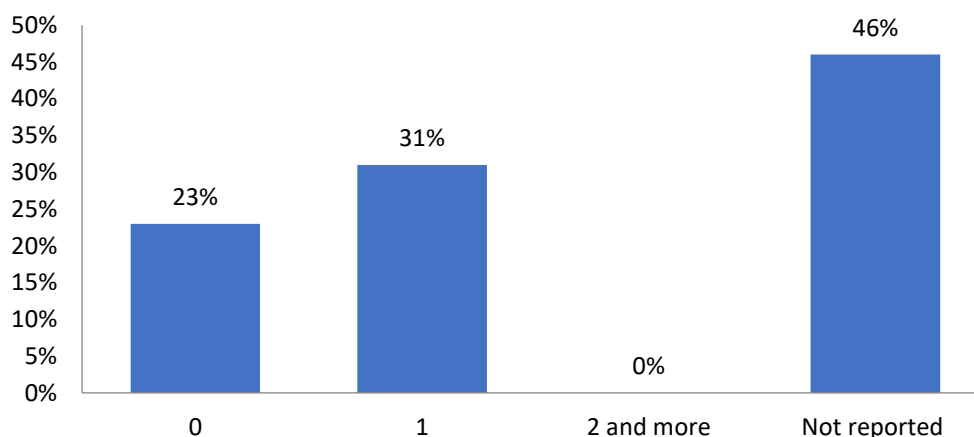


Graph 2.55: Gender-wise distribution of number of parents/elders supported by the respondents

The number of parents or elders supported by male and female respondents was close to equal except in the category of those who supported 2 elders. In this category, the margin of difference between the percentage of male respondents who supported them and the female respondents who supported 2 elders was drastically huge.

It can be said that most of the female respondents supported none or 1 parent/elder while most of the male respondents supported none or 1 or 2 parents/elders in their families.

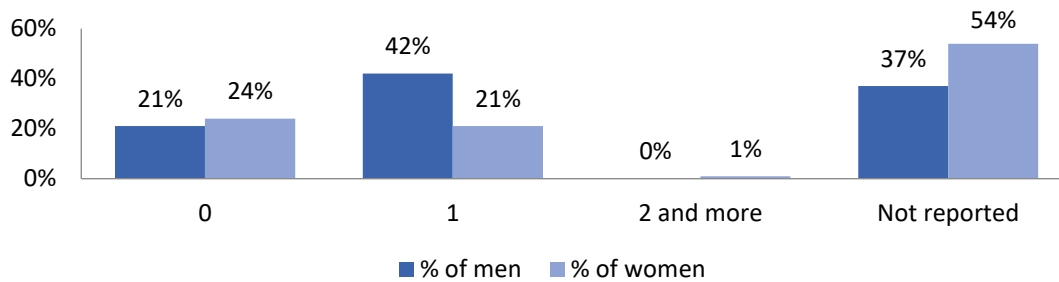
2.56 Spouse/partner supported by respondents



Graph 2.56: Number of spouse/partners supported by the respondents

In terms of spousal support, 31% of the total respondents supported 1 spouse/partner. Another 23% supported none.

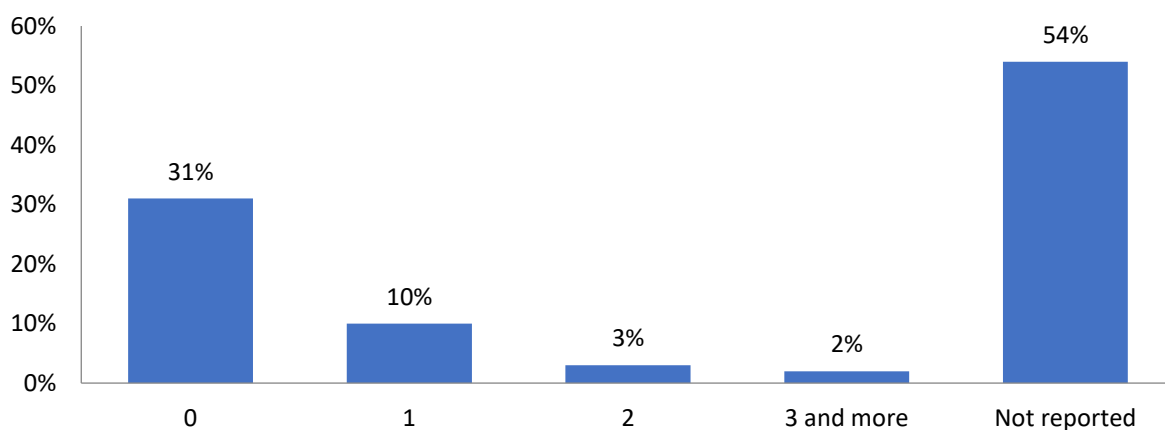
2.57 Gender-wise distribution of spouse/partner supported by respondents



Graph 2.57: Gender-wise distribution of number of spouse/partner supported by the respondents

It emerged that 42% of the male respondents supported a spouse/partner while 21% of female respondents supported their spouse/partner. The percentage of male respondents who supported a spouse/partner was double the percentage of female respondents who supported a spouse/partner. While this fits with the prevailing gender roles in society, it may be noted that the percentage of women supporting their spouses/partners is higher than in the general population. This may be indicative of the fact that women from marginalized sections are often the main bread winners in their families, and in addition have to take care of their dysfunctional partners.

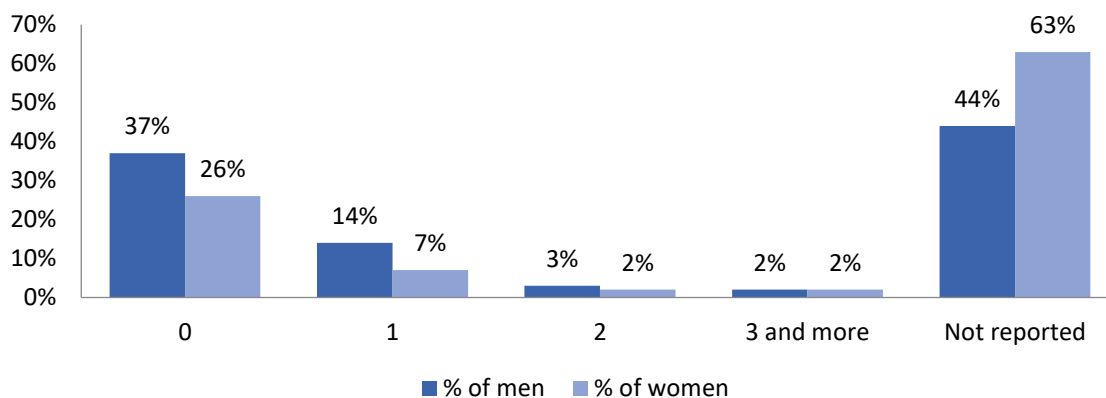
2.58 Siblings supported by respondents



Graph 2.58: Number of siblings supported by the respondents

Of the total number of respondents, 31% did not support a sibling, while 15% of the total respondents supported one or more number of siblings.

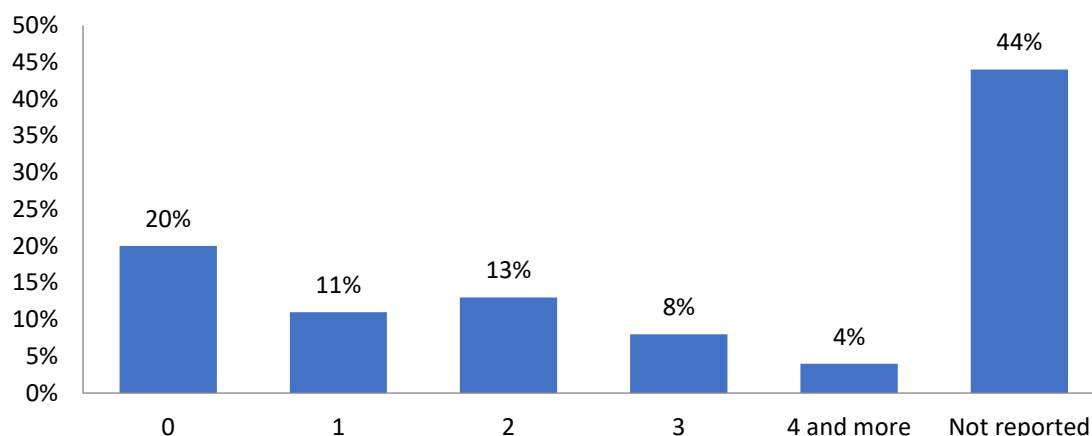
2.59 Gender-wise distribution of siblings supported by respondents



Graph 2.59: Gender-wise distribution of number of siblings supported by the respondents

It was found that 19% of the total male respondents supported one or more number of siblings while 11% of the total female respondents supported one or more siblings. Again, one can see the gender gap closing in, in terms of supporting families or siblings.

2.60 Minor children supported by respondents



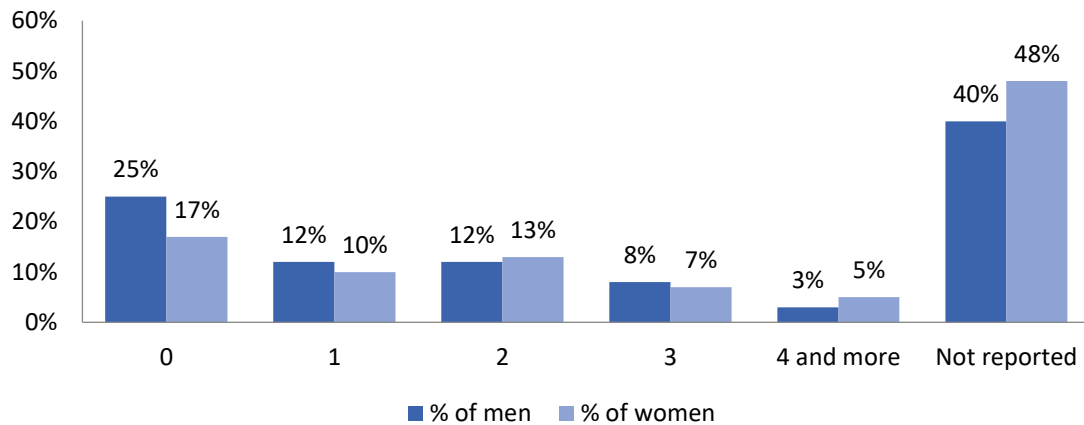
Graph 2.60: Number of minor children supported by the respondents

It emerged that 20% of the respondents did not support minor children whereas 36% of respondents supported minor children.

Another 13% of the respondents supported 2 minor children while another 11% supported 1 minor child.

It also emerged that 8% of the total respondents supported 3 minor children while another 4% supported 4 and more minor children.

2.61 Gender-wise distribution of minor children supported by respondents



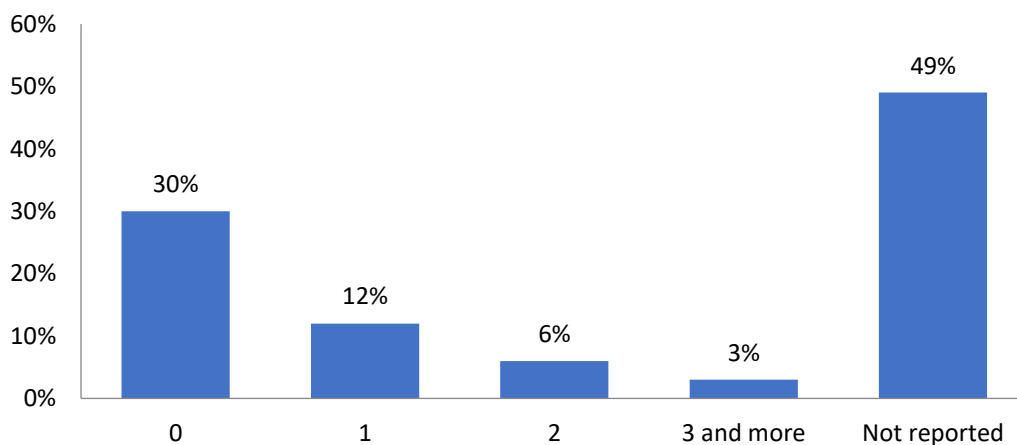
Graph 2.61: Gender-wise distribution of number of minor children supported by the respondents

The number of respondents supporting minor children was roughly equal between the male and female respondents.

While 25% of the male respondents did not support a minor child, 35% supported one or more minor children.

While 17% of the female respondents did not support a minor child, 35% supported one or more minor children.

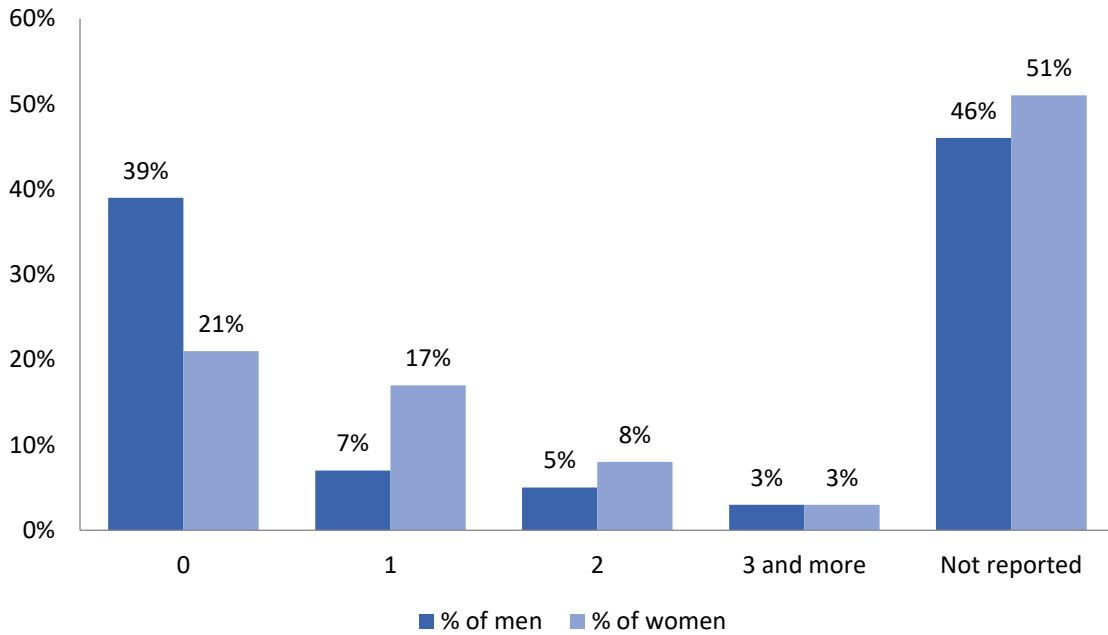
2.62 Adult children supported by respondents



Graph 2.62: Number of adult children supported by the respondents

Data shows that 30% of the respondents did not support any adult children, while 21% supported one or more adult children.

2.63 Gender-wise distribution of adult children supported by respondents

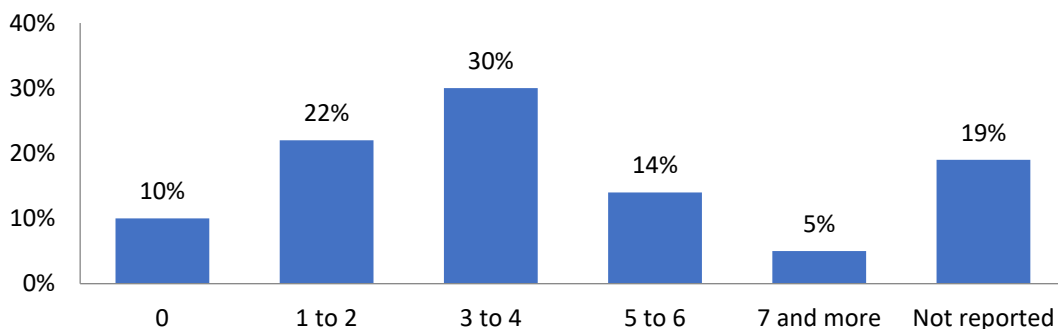


Graph 2.63: Gender-wise distribution of number of adult children supported by the respondents

Female respondents who supported adult child(ren) were more than the percentage of male respondents who supported adult child(ren).

From the above graph, it is clear that 15% of male respondents were supporting adult children while 28% of female respondents were supporting adult children. This shows that female respondents bore the burden of their adult children disproportionately higher than male respondents.

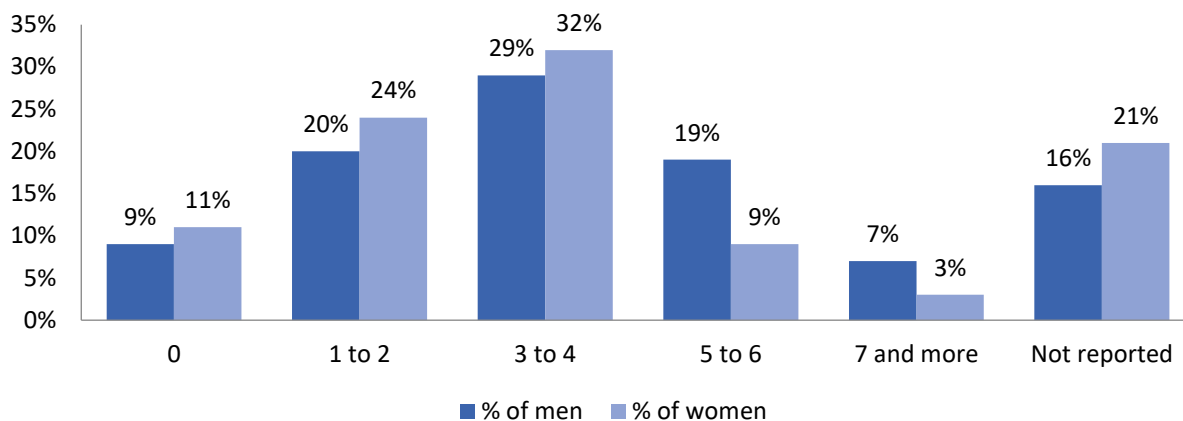
2.64 Dependents in the respondents' families



Graph 2.64: Total number of dependents in the respondents' families

It emerged that 30% of the respondents had 3-4 dependents to support. Another 22% had 1-2 dependents, while a 14% of the total respondents had 5-6 dependents.

2.65 Gender-wise distribution of dependents in respondents' families



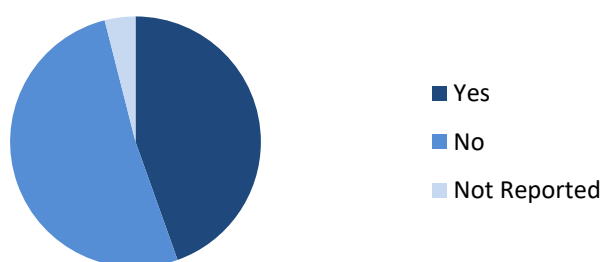
Graph 2.65: Gender-wise distribution of number of dependents in the respondents' families

The percentage of female respondents who had 1-4 dependents were more than the percentage of male respondents with 1-4 dependents, thus going with the trend of higher percentage of women having to take care of the dependents in the family.

However, the percentage of male respondents having 5 and more dependents was higher than the percentage of female respondents having 5 or more dependents.

Also, a higher percentage of female respondents did not have anyone dependent on them than male respondents who did not have any dependents. This could be indicative of women being more socially excluded than men, in terms of family relationships.

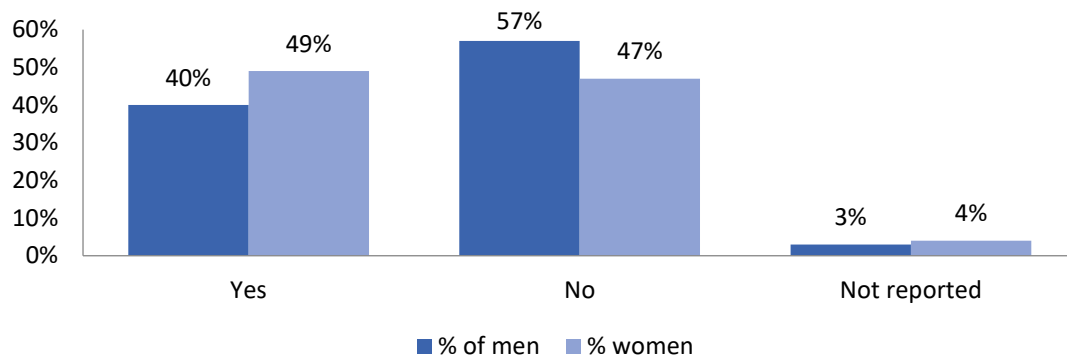
2.66 Other earning members in respondents' families



Graph 2.66 Other earning members in the respondents' families

More than 50% of the respondents did not have another earning member in their family. Another 45% of the total respondents had an earning member. This again highlights that a significant number of respondents were the only bread winners in the family.

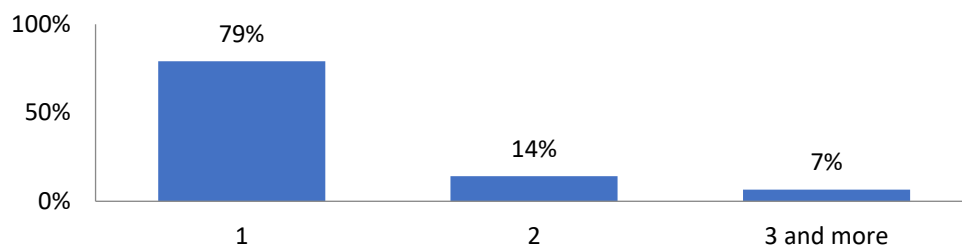
2.67 Gender-wise distribution of other earning members in respondents' families



Graph 2.67: Gender-wise distribution of other earning members in the respondents' families

Higher percentage of female respondents had another earning member in their families than the male respondents.

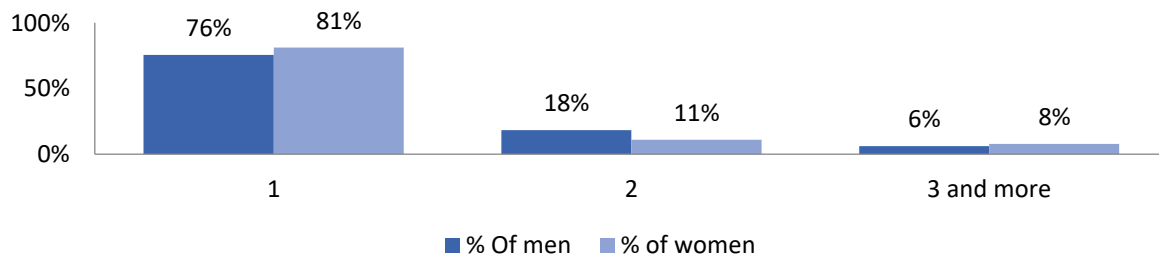
2.68 Other earning members in respondents' families



Graph 2.68: Number of other earning members in the respondents' families

Of the total number of respondents who had other earning members, close to 80% had 1 other earning member. Another 14% had 2 earning members while 7% had 3 and more other earning members.

2.69 Gender-wise distribution of other earning members in respondents' families



Graph 2.69: Gender-wise distribution of number of other earning members in the respondents' families

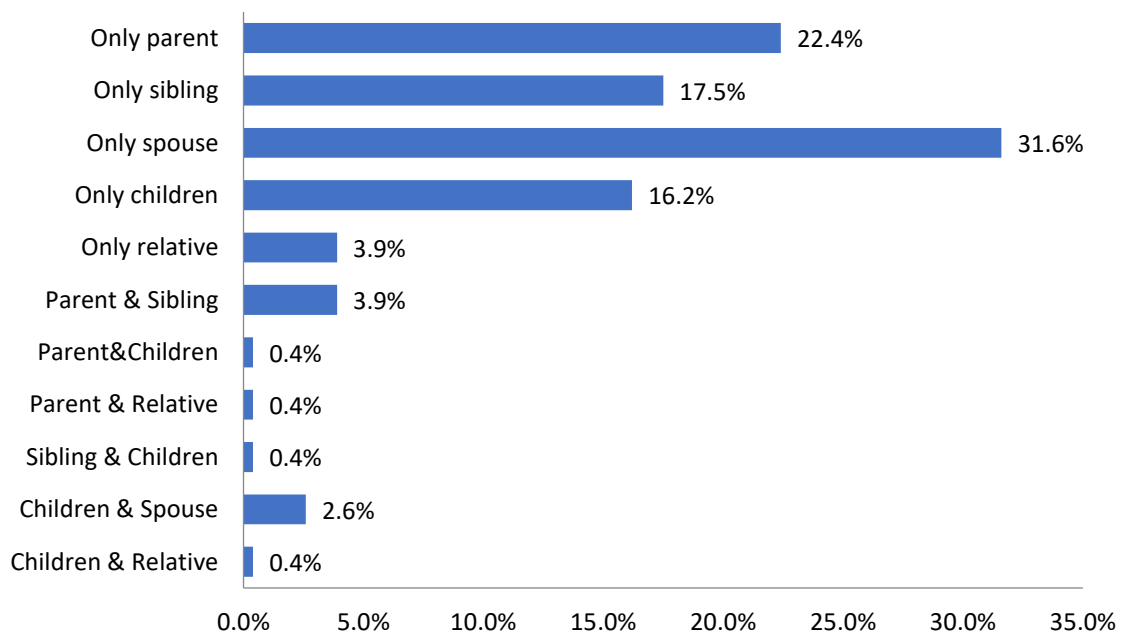
As observed from Graph 5.27, higher percentage of female respondents had other earning members than male respondents.

Among the male respondents who had other earning members (40% of male respondents), close to 80% had 1 other earning member while 18% had two other earning members. 6% of these male respondents had 3 and more other earning members.

Among the female respondents who had other earning members (49% of the female respondents), more than 80% had 1 other earning member while 11% had 2 other earning members.

Higher percentage of female respondents had 1, 3 and more other earning members than the male respondents in those categories. The percentage of male respondents having 2 other earning members was more than the percentage of female respondents in that category.

2.70 Relation of other earning members with respondents



Graph 2.70: Relation of other earning members with the respondents

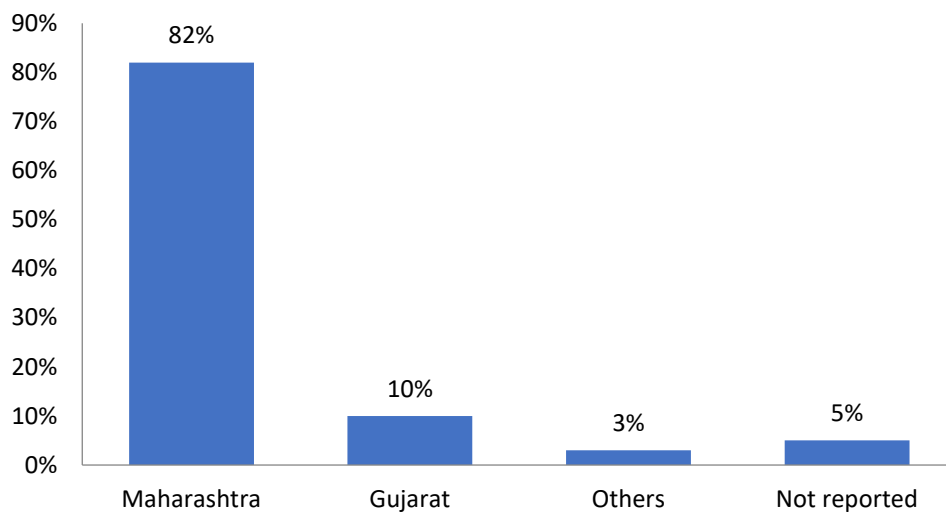
Graph 5.26 shows that 45% of the total respondents had another earning member. Of them, we know that 80% was supported by one earning member (Graph 5.28).

Graph 5.30 shows that the other earning member of 32% of the respondents was their spouse. Spouse being the other earning member constituted the largest share among the varying groups of relations.

The other earning member of 22% of the respondents was their parents. 17% of the respondents had their siblings as their other earning member, while 16% of the respondents had their children earning.

Overall, more female respondents having one or more earning members in the family may indicate their vulnerable family situation thereby requiring more members to bring money home. It could also indicate that the income earned by female respondents was not sufficient to run the household, as compared to the male respondents.

2.71 Place of residence of other earning members



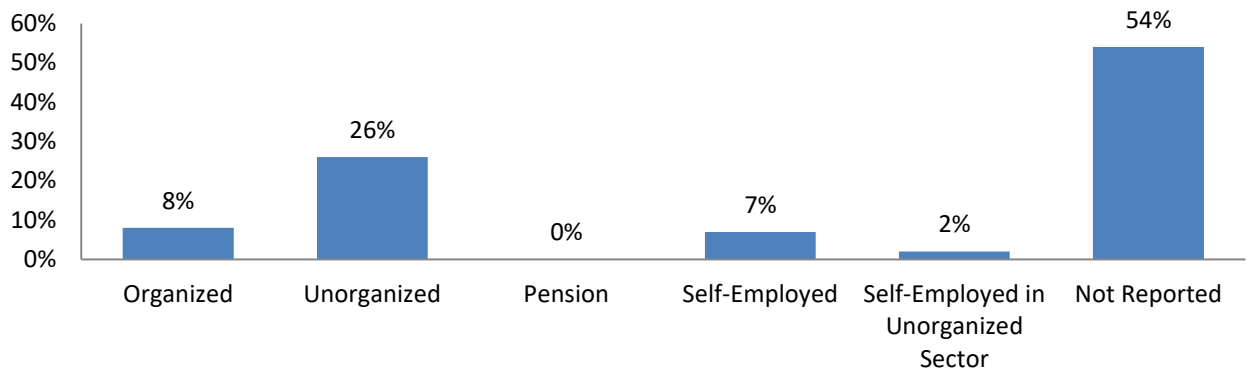
Graph 2.71: Place of residence of other earning members

It emerged that 82% of the respondents who had another earning member in the family (refer Graph 5.26), had their earning member/s' place of residence in Maharashtra. Since majority of the respondents interviewed were from Maharashtra, it indicates that many of the earning member/s of the respondents belonged to the same state. Another 10% of the respondents reported that their earning member/s resided in Gujarat which also is the second place from where most number of respondents were interviewed.

2.72 Other earning members possess vocational training skills or not

It emerged that 90% of the earning members did not have vocational skills or training, thus indicating that they were probably engaged in unskilled daily wage work.

2.73 Occupation of other earning members before lockdown

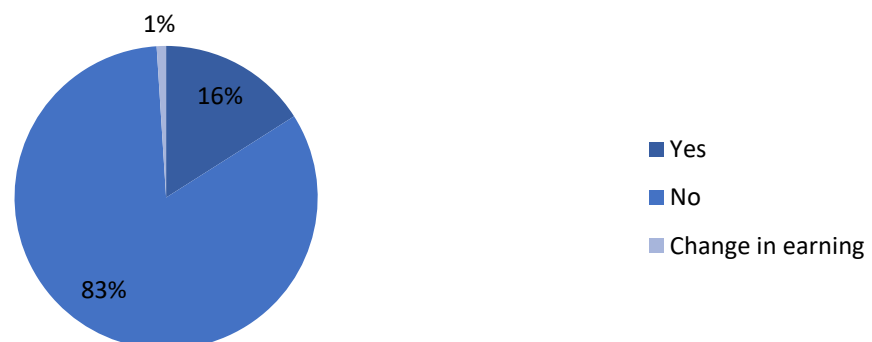


Graph 2.73: Occupation of the other earning members before lockdown

Data shows that 26% of the total respondents' earning members were in the unorganized sector before the lockdown. 8% was employed in the organized sector.

The earning members who were in business before the lockdown were in diverse businesses. These included food stalls/bakery, salons, real estate, textiles, electronics, fruit/vegetable stall and handicrafts.

2.74 Continuation of income during lockdown for the other earning members

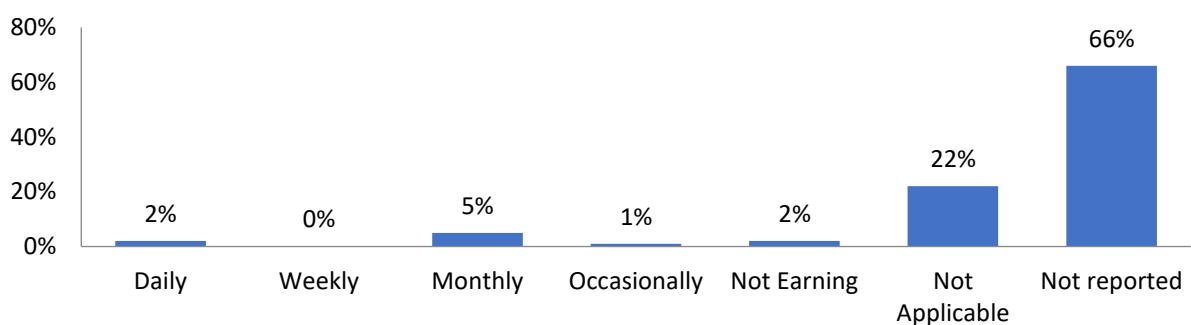


Graph 2.274: Continuation of income of the other earning members during the lockdown

It emerged that 83% of the respondents who had an earning member reported that the earnings of the other earning members discontinued during the lockdown, thus again highlighting the vulnerable family situation post lockdown.

Thus the majority of the respondents' earning members did not have a continued income during the lockdown and thereby the income of the respondents and the family as a whole, would have seen a decline during the lockdown.

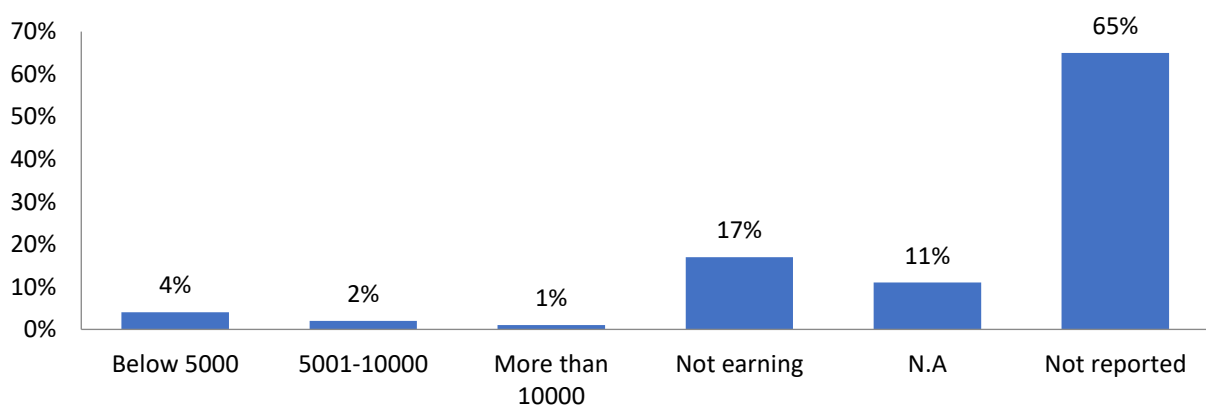
2.75 Frequency of continued income of other earning members during the lockdown



Graph 2.75: Frequency of continued income of the other earning members during the lockdown

Data shows that 5 % of the total respondents (503) reported that the earnings during the lockdown continued on a monthly basis for the earning members while 2% received on a daily basis.

2.76 Money earned by other earning members during lockdown

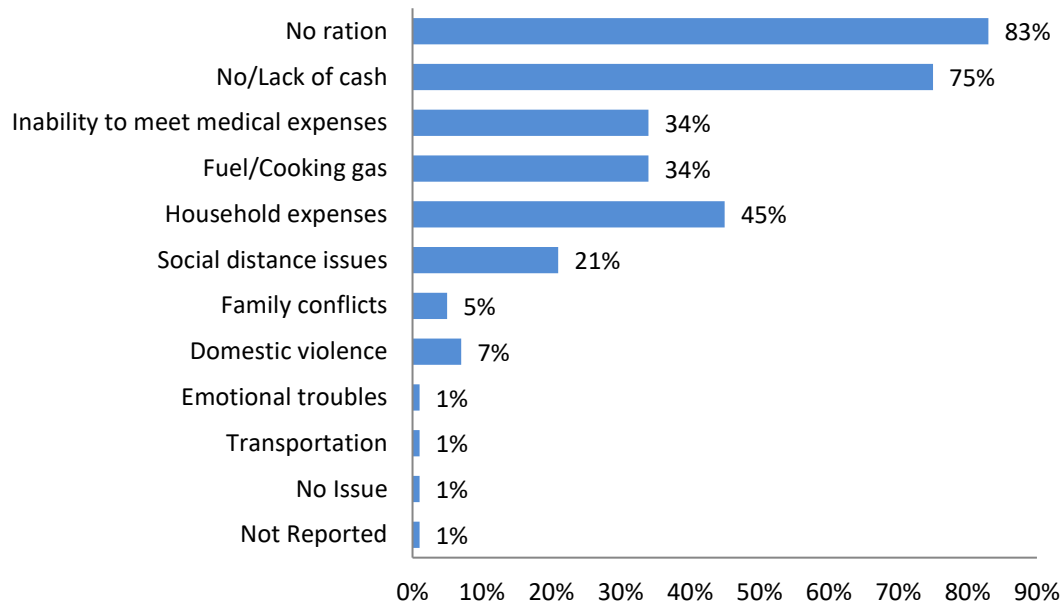


Graph 2.76: Amount of money earned by the other earning members during the lockdown

It emerged that 4% of the total respondents earned below INR 5000 per month during the lockdown, while 2% earned between INR 5000-10000 per month and 17% of the other earning members reported no income earned during the lockdown.

CHAPTER III

DIFFICULTIES FACED BY THE RESPONDENTS DURING THE LOCKDOWN



Graph 3: Difficulties faced by the respondents during the lockdown

The respondents faced multiple difficulties during the lockdown. 83% of them reported lack of rations, while 75% faced issues with availability of cash in hand or with employment issues. From Graph 3.10, it can be seen that only 12% of the respondents had continued earnings during the lockdown. We also know that only 16% of the other earning members (of the 45% of the respondents who had an earning member in the family other than themselves – refer to Graph 5.26) had continued income during the lockdown.

Data shows that 45% of respondents faced difficulties with regard to meeting their household expenses like recharging of phones, buying sanitation products, etc.

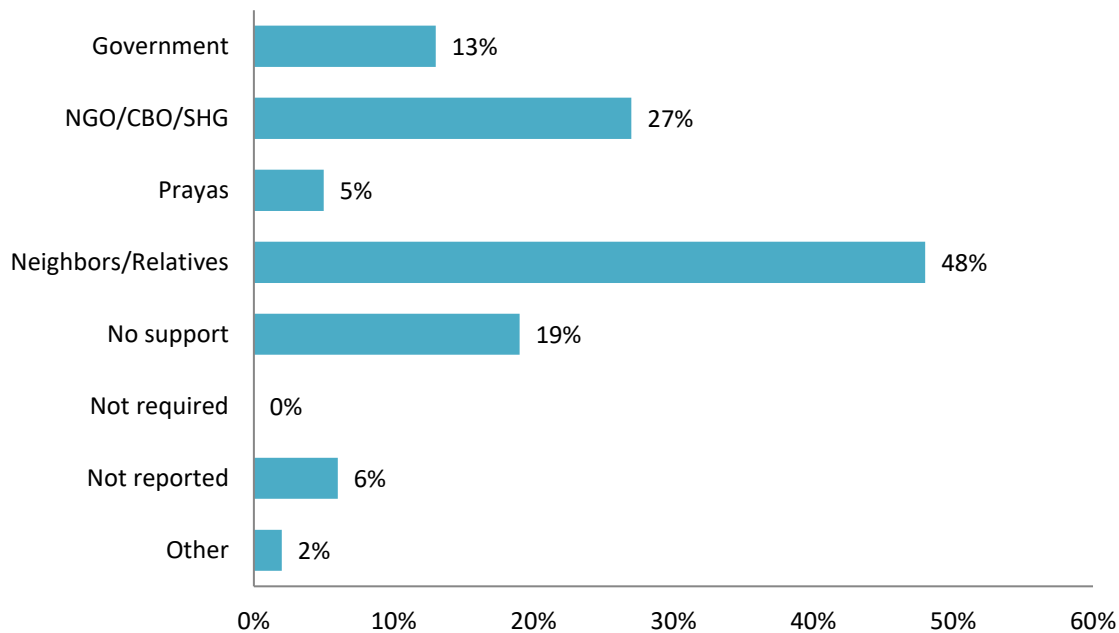
It emerged that 35% faced difficulties in accessing medical facilities. Access to cooking gas/fuel was difficult for 34% respondents.

Many respondents had reported difficulties in maintaining social distancing norms in their houses, and frequent occurrence of family conflicts. It may be noted from Graph 5.24 that 30% of the respondents had 3 to 4 family members dependent on them and 5% had 7 and more family members dependent on their income.

Significantly, 12% respondents had reported incidents of domestic violence and family conflicts during the pandemic.

It is in this background that we must look at the 7% of the respondents who had changed their residence during the lockdown.

3.1 Sources of support for respondents during lockdown



Graph 3.1: Sources of support for the respondents during the lockdown

Respondents received support during the pandemic from multiple sources.

Close to 50% reported that their neighbours or relatives supported them, while 27% reported being supported by NGOs/CBO/SHGs. Government support was received by 13% of the respondents.

Other sources of support included political parties and employers constituting 2% of the respondents.

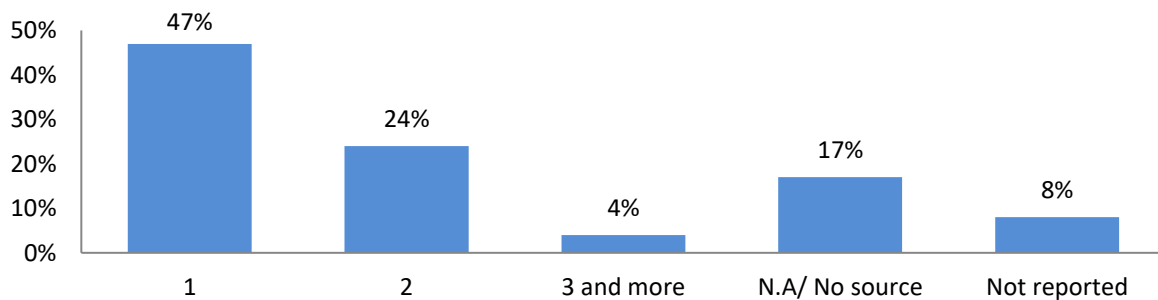
It is important to note that 19% of the respondents who required support did not receive support from any source during the pandemic.

The table shows that only 5% respondents received support from Prayas. However, the actual number of respondents who received support in terms of dry rations or cash transfers was 80 to 90 percent of the respondents. The reason for this discrepancy is that the respondents were asked who else other than Prayas had helped them,

therefore implying that we did not want to highlight the help provided by Prayas. Despite this, few of the respondents mentioned Prayas support specifically and therefore it is showing in the graph.

It needs to be mentioned here that many respondents have received support from multiple sources.

3.2 Sources of assistance received by respondents

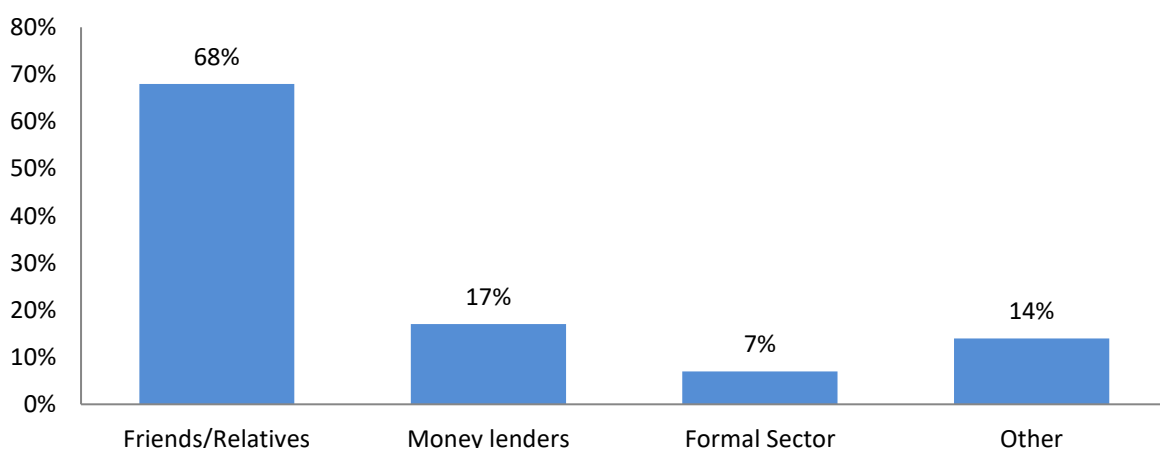


Graph 3.2: Total number of sources of assistance received by the respondents

Close to 50% of the respondents received assistance from only one source. From the graph above, we can conclude that this source could very likely have been the neighbours or relatives. Again, it is important to note that 17% did not receive any support.

There is a discrepancy in the figure under no support in Graph 6.1 and 6.2 of 2%. This may be on account of respondents not reporting to the question on sources of assistance.

3.3 Source of loans taken by respondents

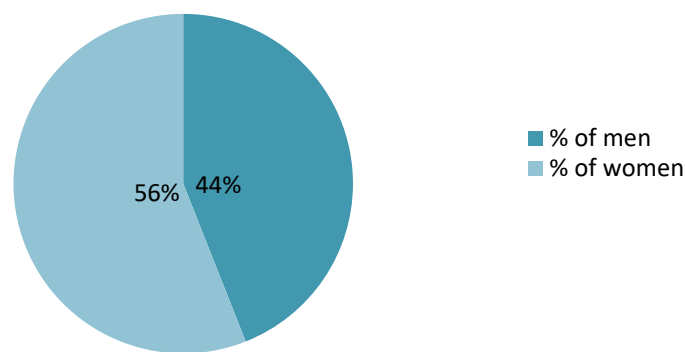


Graph 3.3: Sources of loans taken by the respondents

It emerged that 152 respondents (30.2%) had taken loans from multiple sources during the pandemic. From these, 68% had taken loans from their relatives/friends, 17% from money lenders and 7% from formal sector like banks and micro-finance companies.

Also, 14% had taken loans from others. These loans were from ration shops, work colleagues, by mortgaging jewellery and from house owners.

3.4 Gender-wise distribution of loans taken by respondents

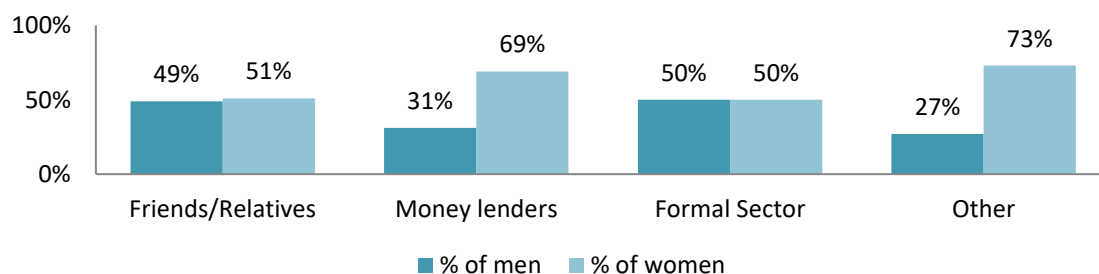


Graph 3.4: Gender-wise distribution of loans taken by the respondents

Of the 152 respondents, the share of female respondents (56%) who had taken loans during the pandemic was higher than the share of male respondents (44%).

Hence, it can be said that female respondents lacked income sources more than male respondents and had to depend on loans for survival during the pandemic.

3.5 Gender-wise distribution of sources of loans taken by respondents

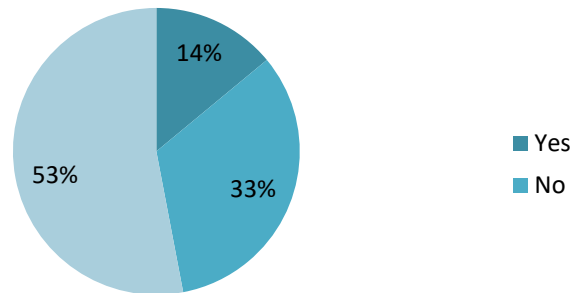


Graph 3.5: Gender-wise distribution of each source of loan taken by the respondents

It may be observed that relatives/friends and the formal sources of loans have been approached by close to same number of both male and female respondents.

It can also be observed that 69% of women had approached money lenders and 73% of women had approached other sources. This again points to greater vulnerability of women to the pandemic.

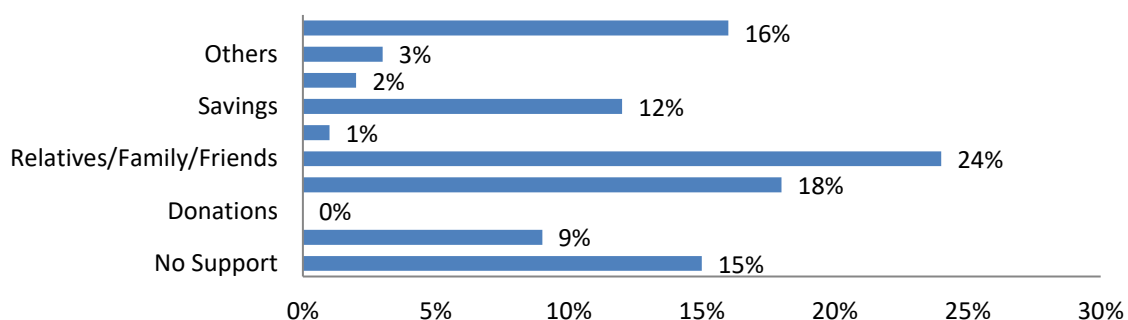
3.6 Pressure to repay debts faced by respondents



Graph 3.6: Pressure to repay the debt faced by the respondents

Of the total 503 respondents, 33% did not face pressure to pay back the debt while 14% faced pressure. We have to understand this response in the light of the fact that 53% did not respond to the question. It could be that many respondents who faced pressure to pay back were not willing to talk about it.

3.7 Source of finance for respondents during lockdown



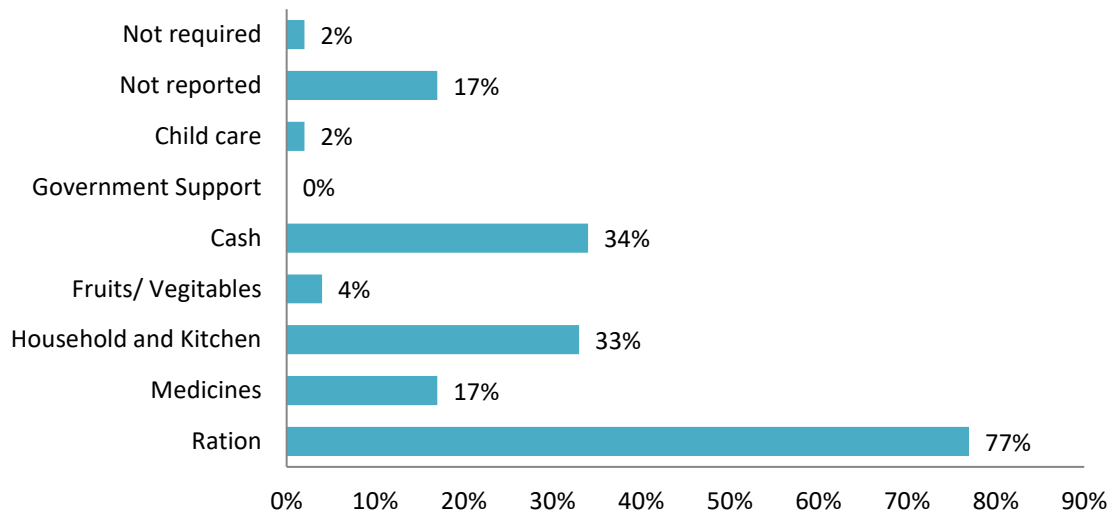
Graph 3.7: Sources of finance for the respondents during the lockdown

With only 12% of the respondents with continued earnings during the lockdown (refer Graph 3.10), it was observed that respondents had approached different sources of finance during the lockdown. 24% of the respondents were supported by their relatives, family or friends. Prayas or other NGOs had supported 18% of the respondents financially. Only 12% could manage themselves with their savings.

15% of the respondents did not have any source of financial support during the lockdown.

Government schemes/officials could reach hardly 2% of the respondents.

3.8 Requirements in the subsistence kit cited by respondents



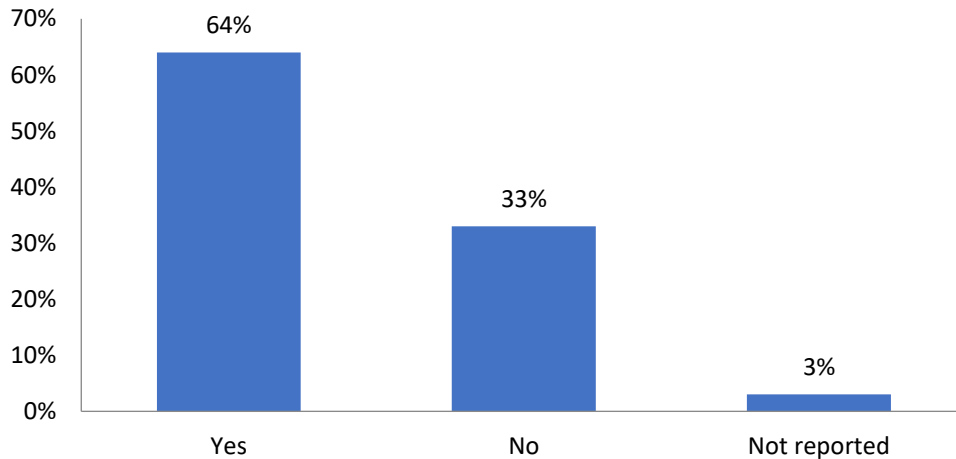
Graph 3.8: Requirements in the subsistence kit cited by the respondents

Respondents cited many responses for this section. Majority of them (77%) said they wanted rations in the subsistence kit while 34% wanted cash and household items. Another 33% reported a requirement for household and kitchen needs including items like cooking gas. Medical needs were also prominently mentioned in the survey as a requirement.

CHAPTER IV

CHILDREN OF RESPONDENTS

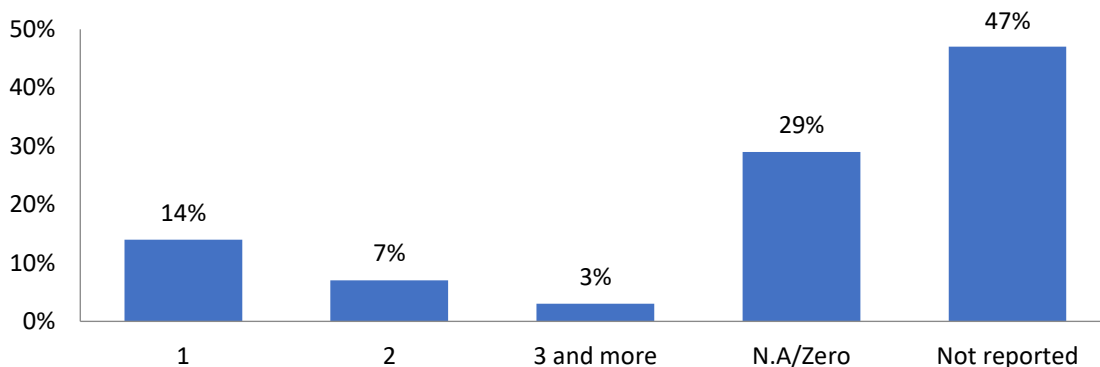
4.1 Respondents as key guardian of children



Graph 4.1: Number of respondents as key guardian of children

It emerged that 64% of the respondents were key guardians of children, while 33% were not. This is significant when one looks at the fact that 88% did not have a continued source of income after the lockdown.

4.2 Respondents as key guardians to children aged upto 6 years

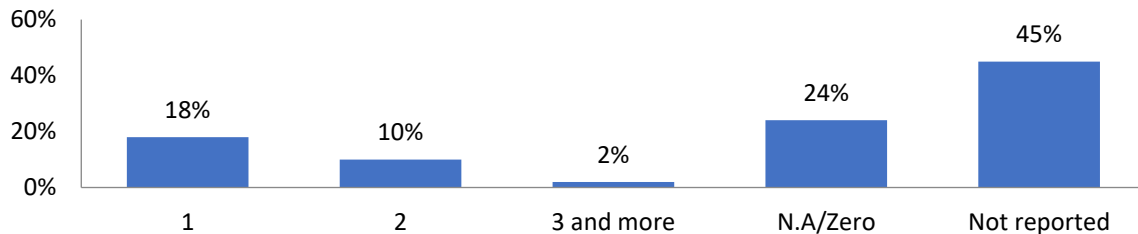


Graph 4.2: Number of respondents as key guardians to children aged up to 6 years

Close to 30% of the respondents did not have children aged below 6 years. While 14% of the total respondents had 1 child aged below 6 years, 7% had 2 children of

the same age group. It emerged that 3% of the total respondents had 3 and more children aged below 6 years.

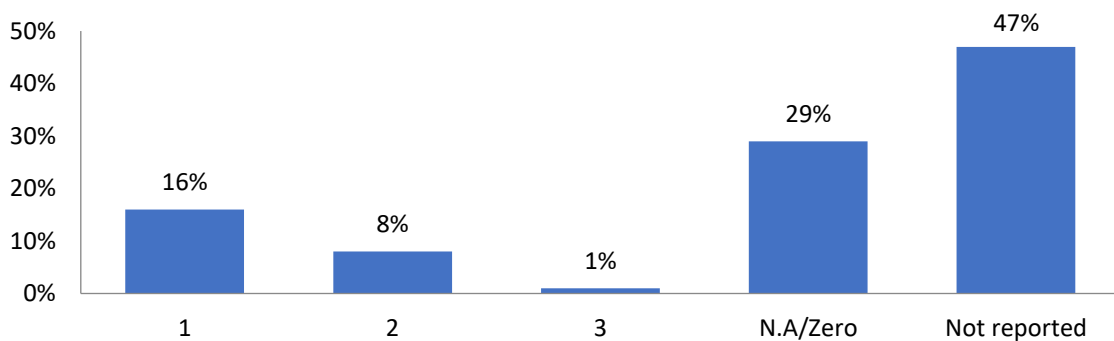
4.3 Respondents as key guardians to children aged between 7-12 years



Graph 4.3: Number of respondents as key guardian to children aged between 7-12 years

It emerged that 24% of the respondents had no children between the age group of 7-12 years, while 18% had 1 child and 10% had 2 children from that age group. Only 2% of the respondents had 3 and more children aged between 7-12 years.

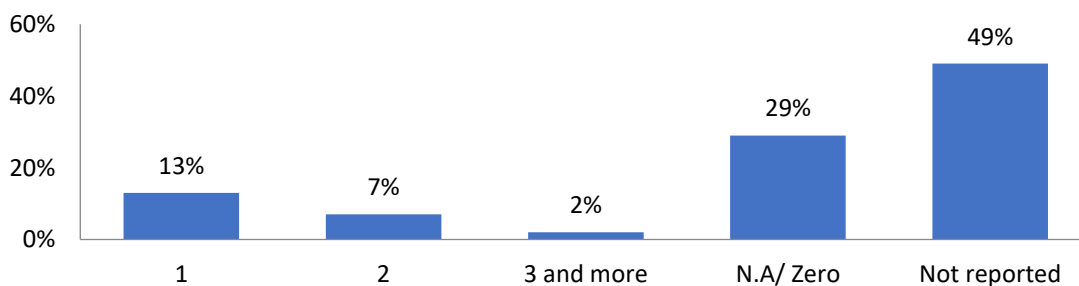
4.4 Respondents as key guardian to children aged between 13-17 years



Graph 4.4: Number of respondents as key guardian to children aged between 13-17 years

Close to 30% of the respondents did not have children between 13 years to 17 years, while 16% of the total respondents had 1 child between the age group and 8% had 2 children in the age group.

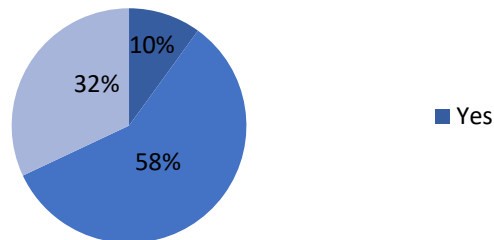
4.5 Respondents as key guardians to children above 18 years



Graph 4.5: Number of respondents as key guardian to children above 18 years

The graph shows 13% of the total respondents had 1 child above 18 years while 7% had 2 children above 18 years.

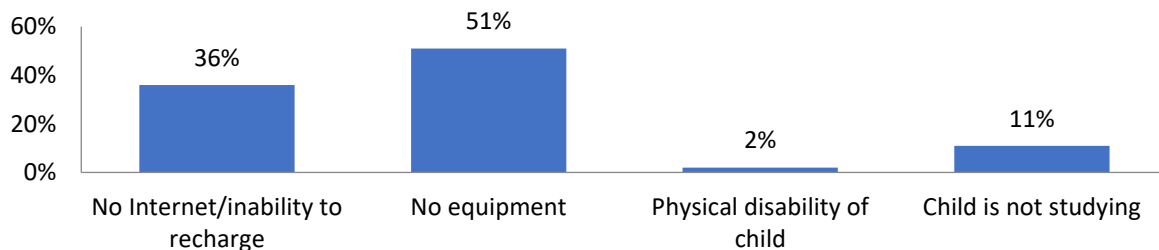
4.6 Respondents' children attending online classes



Graph 4.6: Number of respondents' children attending online classes

Close to 60% of the respondents' children were not attending online classes. Only 10% of the respondents reported that their children were attending online classes. One of the reasons for this response could be that vacations had started at the time when the respondents were interviewed. Another reasons could be lack of access to smart phone and internet facility.

4.7 Difficulties faced by respondents' children with regard to their education



Graph 4.7: Difficulties faced by the respondents' children with regard to their education

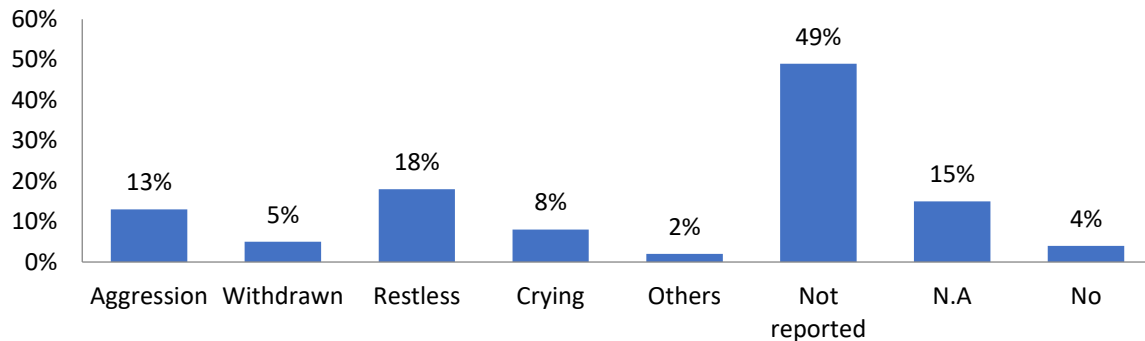
Of the total number of respondents who shared their experiences about online learning and those who could not attend such classes, multiple responses were received.

More than 50% reported that they did not have a laptop or a smartphone for the same.

Another 36% reported that they did not have internet access and that they did not have the money to recharge their mobiles.

The pandemic has been highly detrimental for the education of the children due to lack of access to digital sources for the poor and the marginalized.

4.8 Psychological disturbances faced by children of respondents



Graph 4.8: Psychological disturbances faced by children of the respondents

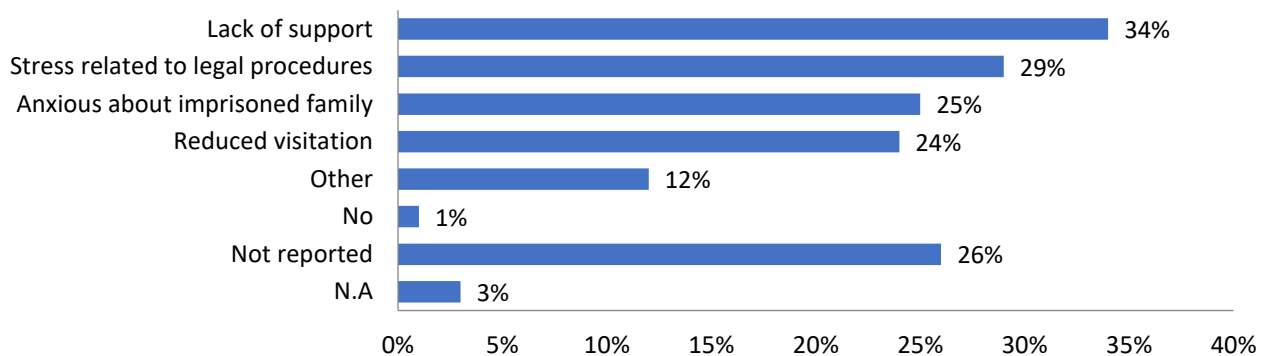
There were multiple responses for this question.

Close to 50% of the respondents did not respond to this question, which could be on account of their unwillingness to speak about this (as there is stigma attached to mental health issues). Signs of psychological/emotional disturbance are indicated by the fact that 18% reported their children being restless, 13% reported aggressive behavior by their children, 5% reported their children being withdrawn and 8% reported constant crying.

4.9 Psychological challenges faced by respondents

Most of the respondents reported that they were worried and anxious. Unemployment had resulted in lack of cash in hand and this had caused immense pressure on the respondents. They were anxious about contracting the virus and stressed due to loneliness.

4.10 Difficulties faced by respondents related to the criminal justice system (CJS)



Graph 4.10: Difficulties faced by the respondents related to Criminal Justice System (CJS)

The respondents who reported to this question gave multiple responses. They cited the difficulties that they faced in relation to their legal matters in court. Except for 1% of the respondents, others who had responded have reported difficulties.

It emerged that 35% reported that they did not have support from their families or community with regard to their legal matters. Many were anxious about their legal matters and were stressed about payment of fees to their advocates. They were anxious about their cases getting prolonged.

Respondents were worried about the well-being of the imprisoned family member/s. Significantly, 24% also reported the difficulties faced due to stoppage of prison visits (*mulakat*). They reported not being able to transfer money or personal items to their imprisoned family member/s. Inability to stay in touch with their imprisoned family member/s created stress among the respondents.

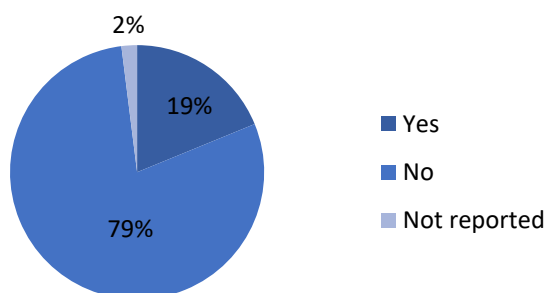
Respondents were also stressed about their children's education and the inability to pay school fees. They said that they felt lonely and that there were increased chances that their children might get into illegal activities.

Most of the respondents faced 4-6 of these challenges.

CHAPTER V

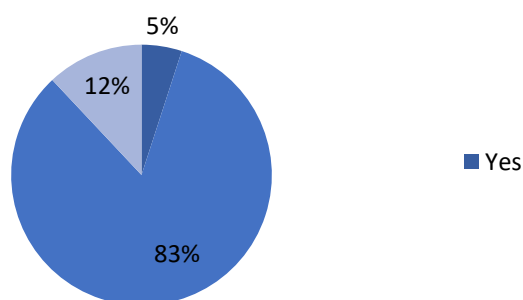
ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

5.1 Awareness about the Ujjwala Scheme Among the Respondents



Graph 5.1: Awareness about the Ujjwala Scheme among the respondents

5.2 Number of Respondents who Applied for the Ujjwala Scheme



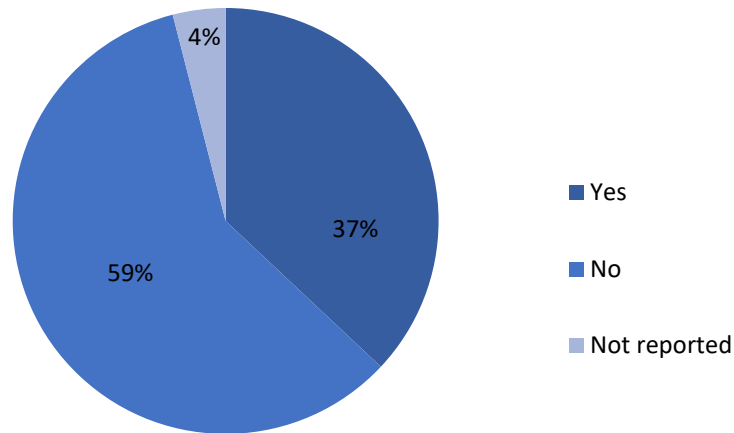
Graph 5.2 Number of respondents who applied for the Ujjwala Scheme

In response to the question 'is the respondent aware of Ujjwala scheme',⁶ only 19% of the respondents replied in affirmative. Out of the rest, 1% respondent did not answer while the rest 80% of them reported not being aware of the scheme.

On being asked a follow-up question about applying for the Ujjwala Scheme 27 respondents i.e. only 5% confirmed about applying for the scheme.

⁶ Ujjwala scheme is a scheme of the Government of India whereby one gets subsidized gas connection and bills

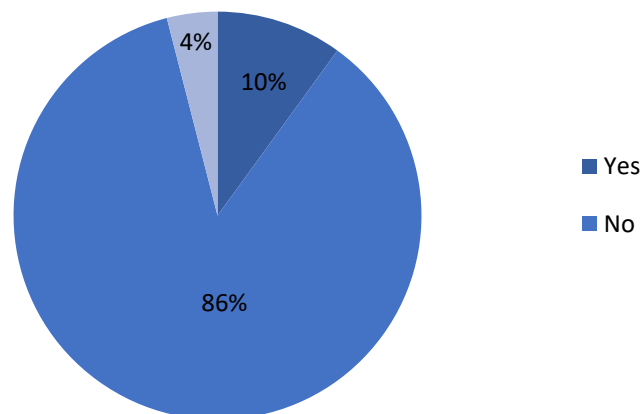
5.3 Awareness about relief scheme among respondents



Graph 5.3: Awareness about the Government Relief Scheme among the respondents

It was found that 37% of the respondents were aware about the government relief scheme while 59% were not aware. 22 respondents i.e. 4% of the respondents did not respond. Out of the 186 people who were aware about the government relief scheme, 43% reported having applied for it, 32% reported that they had not applied, while the rest did not respond.

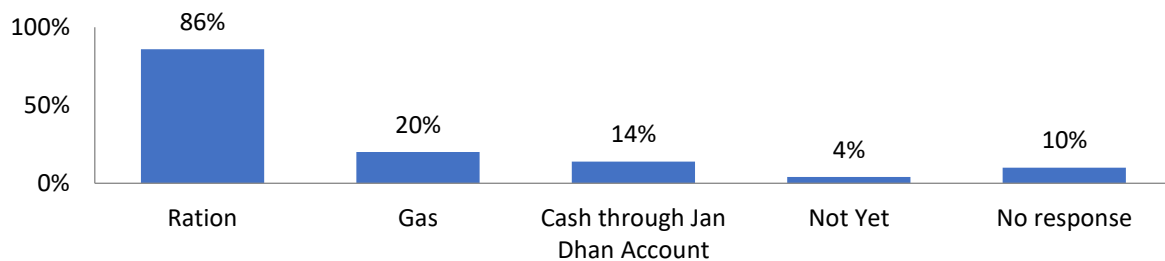
5.4 Respondents who applied for any scheme following the lockdown



Graph 5.4: Number of respondents who has applied for any special scheme following the lockdown

The respondents were asked a question about being benefited from a special scheme following lockdown, to which 10% responded in affirmative while the rest 86% replied in the negative. 4% of the respondents did not respond.

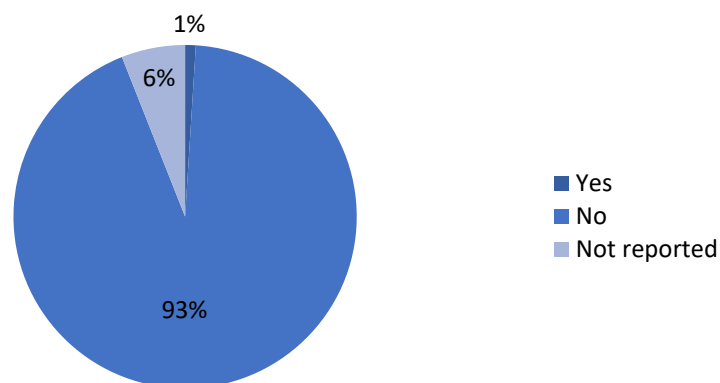
5.5 Respondents who received benefits through schemes after the lockdown



Graph 5.5: Number of respondents who received benefits through schemes after the lockdown

It was reported by 49 respondents that they received benefits from schemes post the lockdown. Of them, 86% received rations and 20% received gas fuel. 14% women received INR 500 through Jan Dhan Account.

5.6 Respondents who applied for Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana



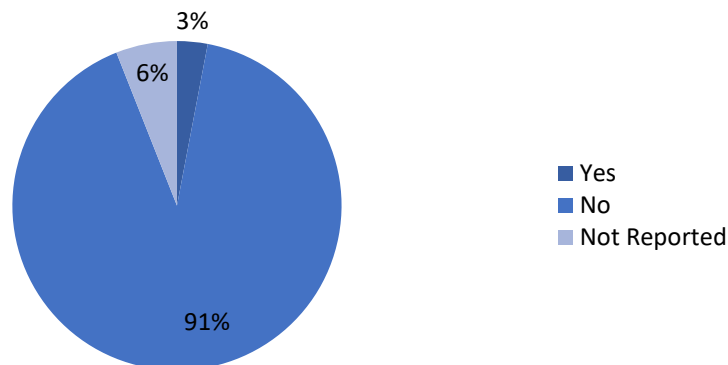
Graph 5.6: Number of respondents who applied for the Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana

It was reported by 6 respondents i.e. less than 1% of the respondents that they had applied for the Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana (SGNY).⁷ Also, 6% of the respondents did not respond to this question while more than 93% respondents responded in the negative.

Out of those who had applied to SGNY, none of them reported having received any benefit.

⁷ Monthly pension scheme for destitute persons

5.7 Respondents who applied for the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

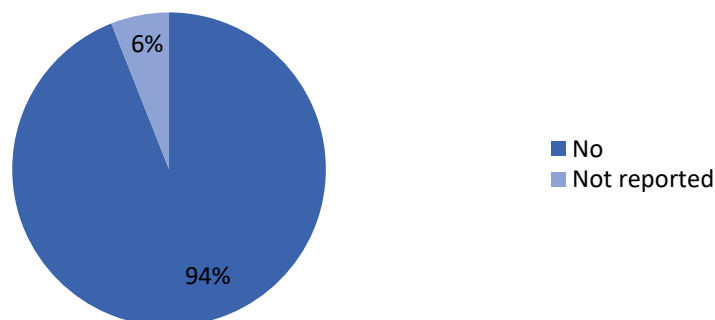


Graph 5.7: Number of respondents who applied for the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

On being asked about Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana,⁸ 91% of the replies were negative. A minor 3% replied in the affirmative when asked about applying for the scheme, while 6% did not respond.

From the small number of 13 respondents who had applied for Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, 2 of them had received benefit in the form of a constructed home, 3 reported cash support, 5 reported as 'no benefits received'. Rest of the responses went unreported.

5.8 Indira Gandhi Pension Scheme



Graph 5.8: Number of respondents who applied for the Indira Gandhi Pension Scheme

Only one respondent had applied under the Indira Gandhi Pension Scheme for widows.

⁸ Prime Minister's Housing scheme is a financial assistance scheme for the housing of the poor

5.9 Respondents who applied for the Gharkul Yojana



Graph 5.9: Number of respondents who applied for the Gharkul Yojana

A small 1% of the respondents had applied for the Gharkul Yojana⁹ while 93% replied in the negative. 6% of the respondents did not respond. No benefits were received by the respondents who applied for the scheme.

5.10 Respondents who applied for other schemes¹⁰

Some of the other schemes applied for by the respondents include:

1. Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana
2. Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)
3. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi
4. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana
5. Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY)
6. Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers (RGNCS – a day care scheme for children of working women)
7. Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana
8. Manav Kalyan Yojana
9. Gujarat Vidhva Sahay Yojana

⁹ Housing assistance scheme for members of the SC community

¹⁰ Refer to Annexure 6

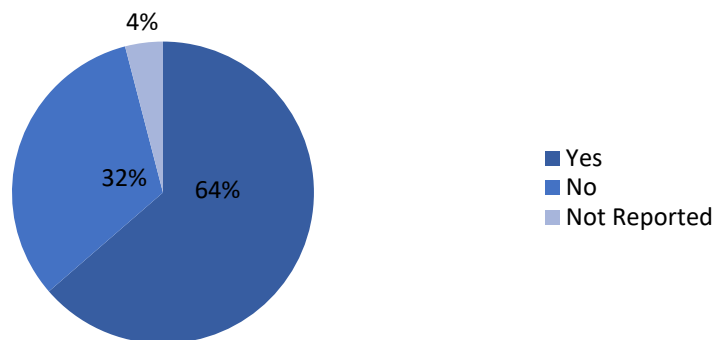
10. Sponsorship Scheme for Children: Financial support to families to meet needs of children
11. Bal Sangopan Yojana
12. Maher Yojana
13. Maher Ghar Yojana
14. Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Jan Arogya Yojana
15. Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana

5.11 Benefits received by respondents as part of other schemes

Some of the beneficiaries of other schemes responded that they received tailoring machines, while others received ration or gas. Many respondents received cash on a monthly or annual basis. This supported them to meet medical and other expenses.

Overall, it emerged from the findings that access to government schemes and facilities including what was offered during the pandemic was very poor. Most respondents either were not aware of these schemes, or lacked the documents to access the schemes or did not get any benefit from the schemes despite having applied for the same (at the time of the interviews).

5.12 Number of Respondents who had a Ration Card

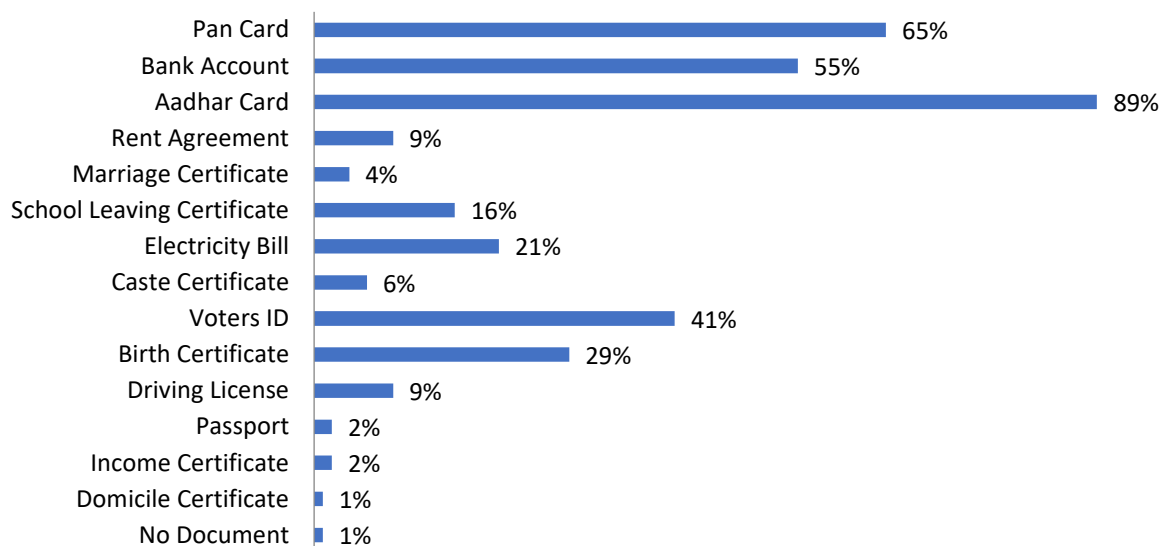


Graph 5.12: Number of respondents who had a Ration Card

Data shows that 63% of the respondents had a Ration Card while 32% of the respondents were without a Ration Card. Few of them (4%) did not respond.

Out of those who had a Ration Card, 15% had a BPL Ration Card, 5% had an APL Ration Card, 55% had an Orange Ration Card and 2% had White Ration Card. For the rest of respondents, the details about the category of Ration Card went unreported.

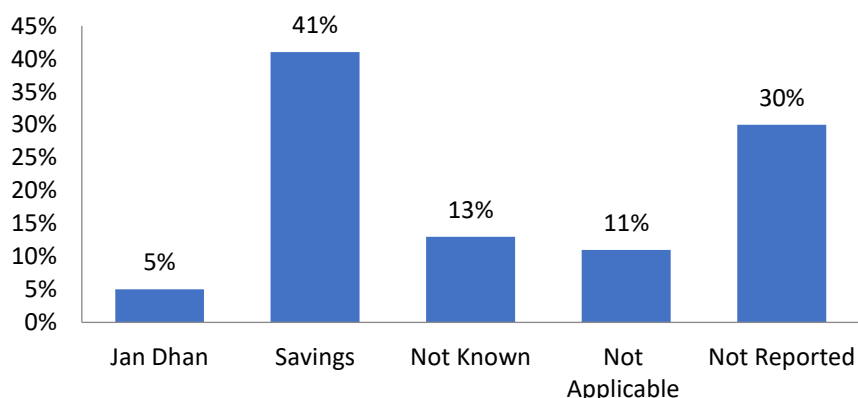
5.13 Respondents with other documents



Graph 5.13: Number of respondents with other documents in hand

Close to 90% of the respondents had Aadhar Card, while 65% possessed PAN Card, 55% had bank passbook and 40% had Voter ID Card. Though respondents possessed documents like Aadhar Card, PAN Card, and Ration Card, very few possessed other important documents like rent agreement, marriage certificate, birth certificate, etc.

5.14 Type of respondents' bank account

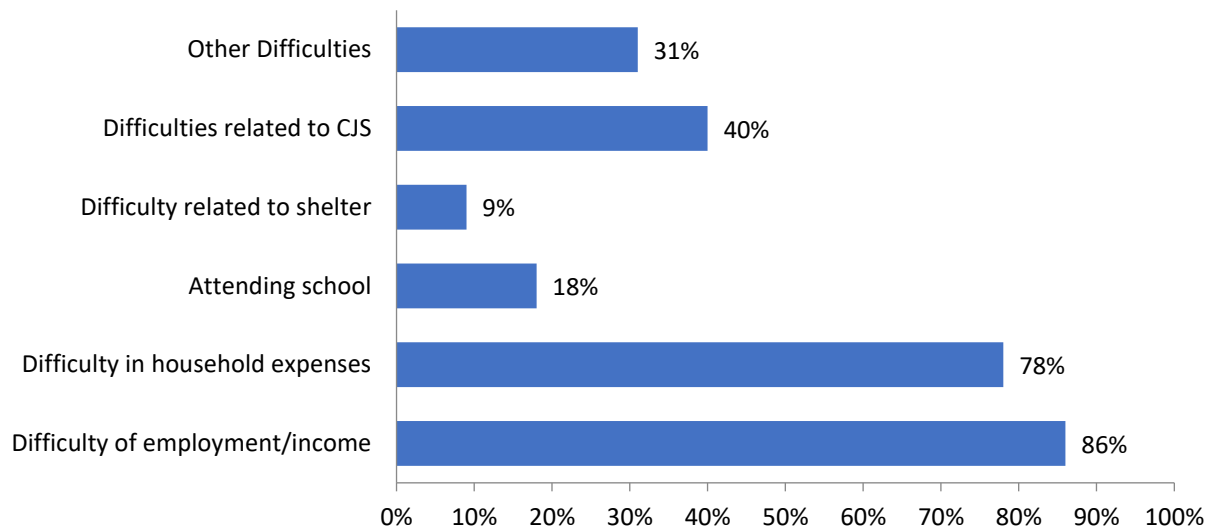


Graph 5.14: Type of respondents' bank account

It emerged that 41% of the respondents had a Savings Bank Account. While 5% had a Jan Dhan Bank Account, the type of bank account for 13% of the respondents was

not known. Response from 30% of the respondents about this question went unreported. This shows the very low financial inclusion level of the respondents. Lack of bank account meant lack of savings and ability to get credit at low interest rates.

5.15 Expected challenges faced by respondents post lockdown



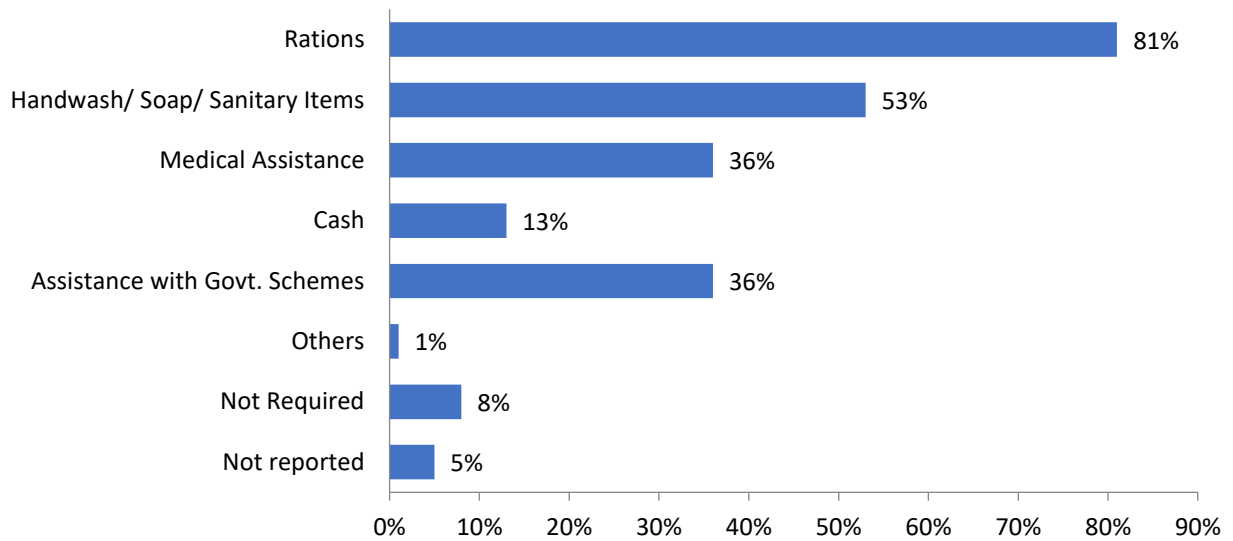
Graph 5.15: Expected challenges faced by the respondents post lockdown

Respondents expected multiple challenges post the lockdown.

Most of them were anxious about the employment and income opportunities. Difficulties with regard to household needs were also a challenge for 78% of the respondents. A significant 40% expected challenges with regard to their legal matters such as *mulakats* and meeting legal expenses.

Also, 31% of the respondents raised other difficulties like lack of support from the family, inability to pay for medical expenses, challenges related to use of a common toilet, etc. as the expected challenges post the lockdown. 18% of the respondents raised the challenge about the decreased possibility of their children attending school and meeting the school fee expenses.

5.16 Support required by respondents from government during the lockdown

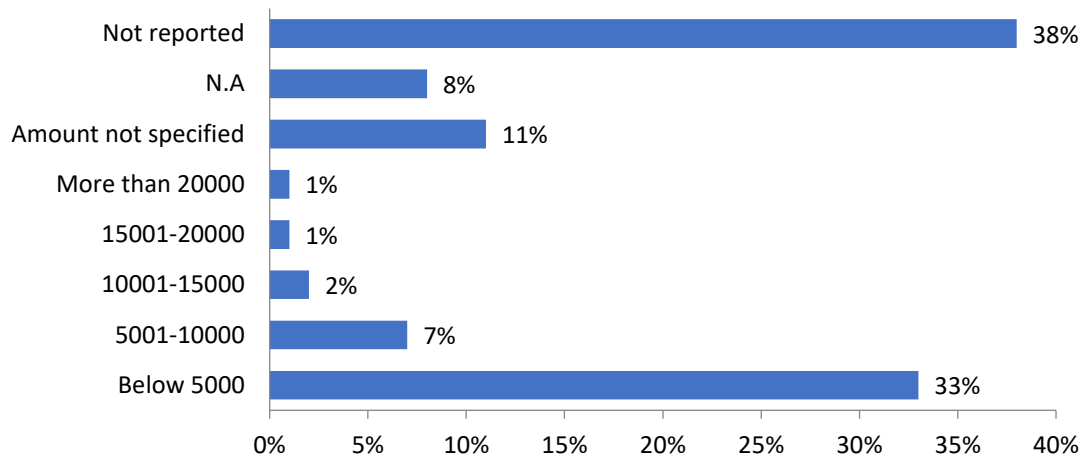


Graph 5.16: Support required by the respondents from government during the lockdown

The respondents were asked about what kind of support they would require during the lockdown due to the global pandemic. The responses were categorized to understand the same.

- 81% of the respondents said they would require support in the form of ration supplies.
- 53% of the respondents required support with handwash/soap or other sanitary items.
- 36% of the respondents stressed the need for medical assistance and the equal number of respondents required assistance with government schemes.
- 8% of the respondents did not register for any particular support required from the government during the lockdown while 13% expected support in the form of cash. A small 1% of the respondents listed out various other types of support they would require during this period.
- 5% of the responses went unreported.

5.17 Cash support required by respondents from government

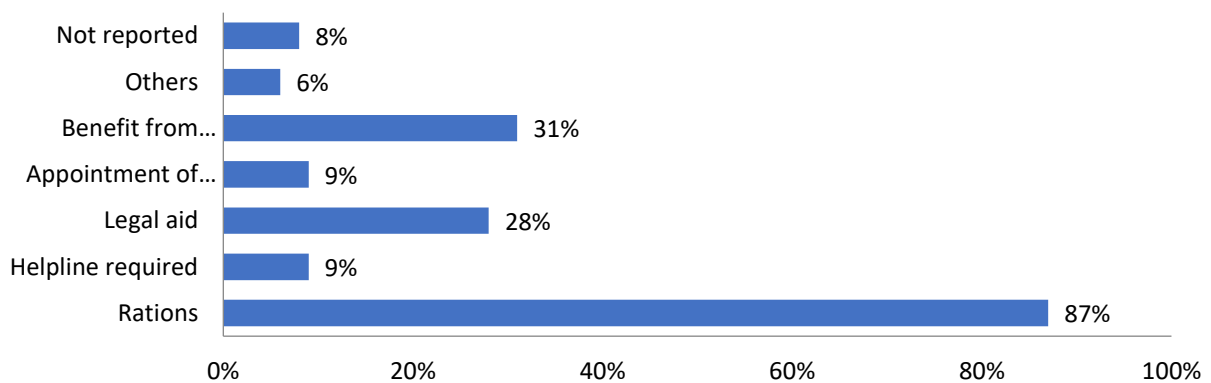


Graph 5.17: Cash support required by the respondents from the government

On being asked about the cash support required from the government, 33% of the respondents reported requiring cash support of less than INR 5000. Another 7% of the respondents reported requiring cash support between INR 5000-10000, 2% reported requiring cash support between INR 10000-15000 and 1% each of the respondents were in the category seeking cash support between INR 15000-20000 and more than INR 20000. However, 11% of the respondents did not specify the required amount of cash support. The rest of the respondents did not respond.

Overall, it can be said that most respondents were in need of cash support from the government of at least INR 5000 per month during the lockdown period.

5.18 Support required by respondents from the government after lockdown

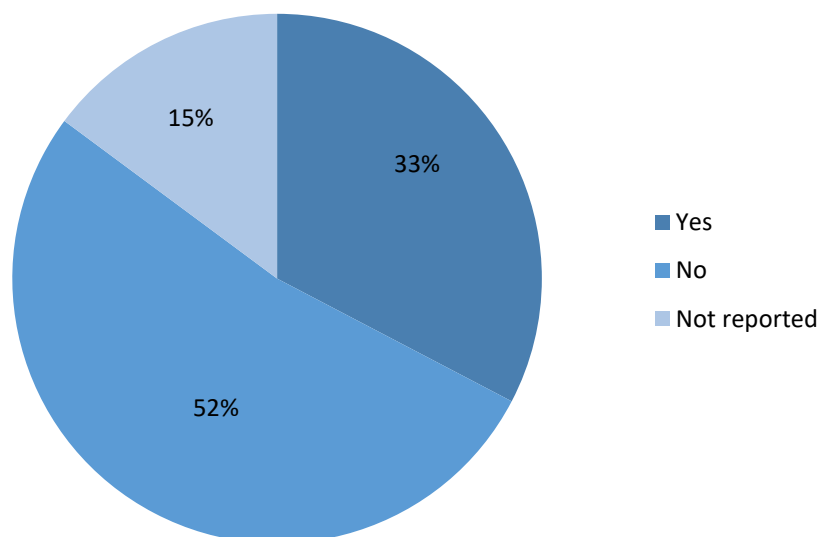


Graph 5.18: Support required by the respondents from the government after the lockdown

Responding to a question about the support required from the government after the lockdown:

- 87% of the respondents said they required rations.
- 31% sought support to get the benefit of schemes.
- 28% of the respondents required legal aid while 9% reported requirement of a helpline.
- 9% of the respondents wanted the appointment of a Nodal Officer after the lockdown to help them access government schemes and benefits.
- 6% of the respondents said they would require various other kinds of support.
- 8% of the responses went unreported.

5.19 Respondents requiring capital for self-employment



Graph 5.19: Number of respondents requiring capital for self-employment

Respondents were asked if they require capital for self-employment. To this question, 33% of the respondents replied affirmatively while a 52% replied in the negative. Response from 14% of the total respondents remained unreported.

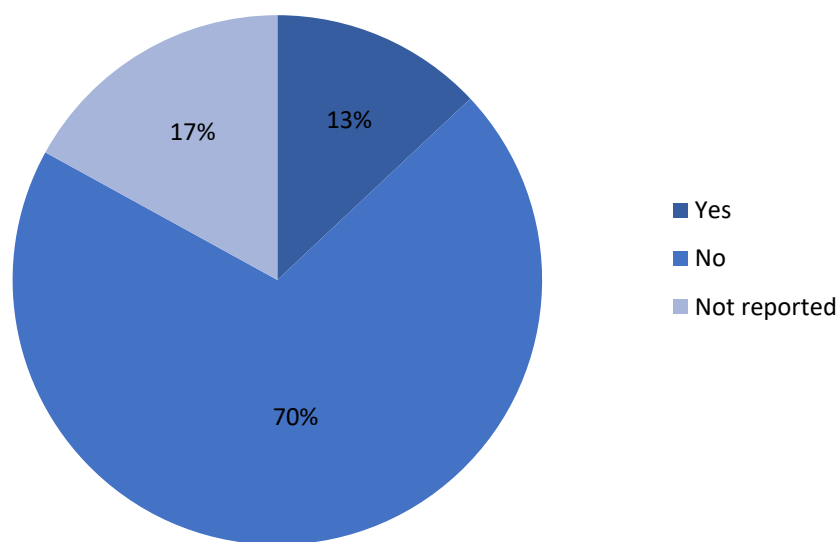
Among those who said they require capital for self-employment, 25% sought an amount less than INR 5000 for support, and 26% requested for between INR 5000-10000. Around 9% of the respondents asked an amount between INR 10000-15000

and between INR 15000-20000. Another 20% of the respondents requested an amount of more than INR 20000 for self-employment.

However, 7% of these respondents did not specify the required amount. Rest of the responses went unreported.

It emerges that more than 50% requested for support of an amount less than INR 10000 for self-employment.

5.20 Respondents requiring support for skill training



Graph 5.20: Number of respondents requiring support for skill training

Data shows that 13% of the total respondents said they would require support for skill training while 70% said they do not need support for skill training. Responses from the rest of the respondents went unreported.

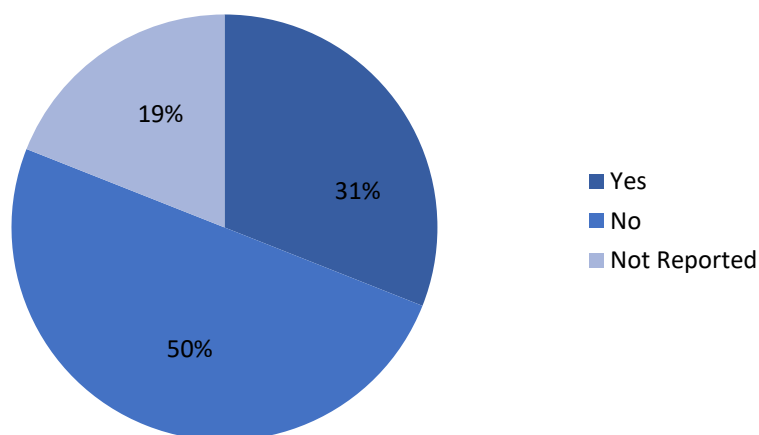
Given the fact that 53% of the respondents did not request for any support with regard to self-employment and 70% did not require support for further training, it is possible that most respondents were more worried about basic survival and immediate employment options. They probably wanted to go back to their previous employment and could not think about skill development at this point of time. This is an issue that needs further discussion as such opportunities may not be available in the current scenario, on account of a contraction of the economy.

5.21 Training support required by respondents from government after lockdown

The different types of training that were sought by the respondents include:

1. Teacher training
2. Nursing and care related training
3. Business and customer management training
4. Beautician courses
5. Graphic designing courses
6. Para professional training
7. Electronic training
8. Tally, accounting courses
9. Driving
10. Handicrafts training
11. Vocational training
12. Livelihood related training

5.22 Respondents requiring support for children’s education

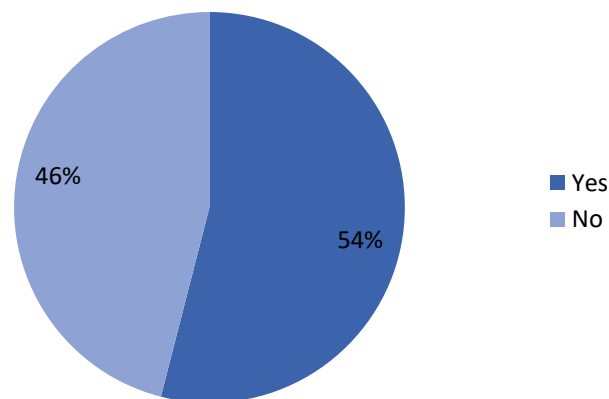


Graph 5.22: Number of respondents requiring support for children’s education

Respondents were asked if they require support for children’s education to which 31% of the respondents replied in the affirmative while a 50% responded in the negative. This finding must be seen from the point of view of the period during which data collection was done. Issues relating to payment of fees or purchase of books, uniforms, etc. had not come up during that period. However, this is now a major concern for most parents, especially those with lack of livelihood options.

Among those who required support for the education of their children from the government after the lockdown, 29 respondents required support of less than or equal to INR 5000. 15 respondents required a support of less than or equal to INR 10000 but more than INR 5000. 11 respondents said they required support of more than INR 10000 but less than or equal to INR 15000. Another 20 respondents reported the requirement as more than INR 15000 for the education of their children.

5.23 Respondents who were referred for social work intervention



Graph 5.23: Number of respondents who were referred for social work intervention

The researchers suggested social work intervention for 54% of the total respondents. Many of the respondents were referred for financial assistance, ration support and shelter related assistance.

Some cases were referred for institutionalization of the children, educational support for children and *mulakat* requirements once the process would be initiated after the lockdown.

A few respondents were referred for assistance with regard to documents, support for small businesses, income generation, training and aftercare.

CHAPTER VI

SOME ISSUES REPORTED BY RESPONDENTS

Respondents shared some other information regarding their experiences during the lockdown.

Many respondents were anxious about contracting virus, and about how to handle the circumstances as they did not have employment options. The expenses were high for them to handle. The bills and the loans increased during this period.

Education of the children was also a recurring concern of the respondents. Online classes meant that they needed internet and a smart phone for the child which was difficult to arrange for many.

Many respondents were worried about the well-being of the imprisoned family member. They were also concerned about the expenses within the prison. They could not send money to the prison and had no contact with them since the lockdown.

There was a case where the respondent was stuck at a place during the lockdown and could not return back home. For many, transportation posed a big concern.

Many respondents required financial support to meet medical expenses, shelter and clothing needs.

Many respondents have reported cases of domestic violence, harassment and family conflict. Respondents have also reported about being cheated into exploitative activities.

Respondents have said that the social worker needs to develop good rapport with the client and keep sufficient time for counselling.

Many have enquired about vocational training courses under Prayas and Prayas NGO Placement Program.

Shelter requirement of many respondents especially the migrants who were released during the lockdown on PR Bond or interim bail were also a concern.

Legal assistance was also required by many.

Children and their daily needs were difficult to be met with the lockdown being imposed and the reduced income in the family.

CHAPTER VII

INTERVENTIONS BY PRAYAS WITH RESPONDENTS DURING THE LOCKDOWN

Legal support

- In the case of an inmate housed in Kalyan District Prison, one of the Prayas Legal Fellows appeared before the magisterial court requesting her release on bail. Thereafter, another Legal Fellow filed an online bail application in the same case before the Bombay High Court. Her family was quite supportive in getting the respective documents required by visiting the prison, etc. as the Fellow was unable to move out during the lockdown norms.
- Prayas maintained a follow-up with the private advocate and thus the inmate was released on bail.
- Many male and female clients who were released on bail during the lockdown were helped with shelter, helped in reaching back home and provided ration kits.

Support with regard to reaching home

Thank you! Prayas ke wajhse mai apne bacchon ke paas aa saki....(Thank you Prayas, I am with my children because of you.....)

Prayas facilitated the travel of a female client from Pune to Mumbai as she was stuck in Pune since the announcement of the lockdown in March 2020. Sunita (name changed) aged 33 years, had been released from Thane Central Prison and was residing with her husband, two children (studying in 4th Std. and 6th Std. respectively), and old parents in the suburbs of Mumbai.

A day prior to the lockdown being announced, Sunita had visited her ailing sister in Pune. Hence, she was stuck in Pune since then. As the lockdown extended, her stay prolonged at her sister's house. Her sister hails from a poor background; hence Sunita's stay increased the financial burden on their family, which often led to small fights and arguments in the family. Also, living away from her children made her

emotionally weak and some days she would sleep empty stomach. Sunita longed to see her children as her husband too was stuck up in the village due to the lockdown. So her children were under the care of her old parents. Her mother worked as a helper in a private hospital due to which the responsibility fell on Sunita's father to look after her children. Sunita's father had health issues whereby it was difficult for him to take care of the grandchildren. The children too cried and longed to meet their mother and thus Sunita was desperate to return to Mumbai to be with her children.

In May 2020, Sunita called Prayas for assistance to facilitate her return to Mumbai. Sunita had tried exploring transportation options, got her medical check-up done, tried to get an e-pass, and had even contacted the State Transport buses to find out if she could travel back to Mumbai.

However, as Mumbai was declared a Red Zone (due to the high number of positive cases), buses did not run between the two cities. Finally, Sunita came across a private vehicle that escorted travelers from Pune to Mumbai charging Rs.5000/- per head. The travel agency had the required e-pass for escorting passengers. Prayas spoke to the travel agency so as to ensure the safe return of Sunita after which Prayas made an online payment for Sunita's travel and received a receipt for the payment. Finally, after almost 2 months, Sunita reached back home and is presently with her children and parents. She thanked Prayas for uniting her with her children and parents.

Shelter support

A long Journey from prison to home

Jeevan (name changed) was a driver who was addicted to drugs. His wife had left him and he was challenged to deal with this break-up along with his own addictions. One day, when he was required to make an important phone call, he requested people for a mobile phone. Given his troubled past, no one was willing to lend him their phone for this one phone call. In desperation, Jeevan grabbed a person's mobile phone to make a call. This led to a fight and Jeevan was accused of mobile theft and imprisoned. Social workers of Prayas met him when he was in prison. During the lockdown period, after the state decided to release prisoners to

decongest prisons, Jeevan was released from prison and now had to find his way back home which was in a different district as the prison. Jeevan travelled for two days till he reached his village at midnight. However, the villagers were unwilling to let him enter the village, as they feared that he could have been carrying the virus. Further, they also knew that he had been in prison and feared that he held an added risk of contracting the virus there too. He therefore borrowed Rs. 400/- from his mother who resided in that village and left from there. Jeevan did not know what his destination was to be, as he had no idea about where he could stay. He managed to get a lift in a tempo and called a friend in Navi Mumbai to request for shelter.

While the friend earlier agreed to accommodate him in his home, he later changed his mind as he was afraid that Jeevan would bring the risk of exposure to corona virus. He therefore asked him to find another place. Not knowing what to do, Jeevan called the Prayas social worker. Along with a former staff in Prayas and a local Ward Officer, Prayas arranged to help Jeevan reach a shelter for homeless persons and also conducted his medical tests before admission (as shelter homes requested for COVID-19 free certificate). Thereafter, Prayas will be partnering with the client to help him address the challenges he faced before imprisonment, assist him to re-build his life and find a place for himself in society.

Non-availability of transportation to travel back to his state of origin

Santosh (name changed) aged 20 years was being released on bail and needed shelter, as he has no family based in Mumbai. He hailed from Bihar and used to work in an industrial township in Gujarat. According to the bail release memo, Santosh had to be released on the same day itself. As it was late in the evening, Prayas got in touch with an ex-client who drives an auto rickshaw and requested him if he could escort Santosh to the shelter home in Thane district. In the meanwhile, Prayas also approached the shelter home and requested them to accommodate Santosh in their shelter home. The shelter home staff asked for a fit Medical Certificate (to rule out the chances of COVID-19). Based upon Prayas request, prison officials arranged for the Medical Certificate through the Medical Officer in the prison. The Prayas ex-client

escorted Santosh to the shelter home by 10 p.m. in the night. Initially, Santosh was reluctant to speak to the Prayas, but gradually, he shared his ordeal. Another ex-client of Prayas, who lived in the same shelter home explained about Prayas interventions to him which cleared his inhibitions.

Prayas worker kept in regular touch telephonically with Santosh and gradually Santosh expressed his desire to go back to Gujarat to be with his brother who works there. As Santosh did not have a mobile phone and is illiterate, he also could not remember the contact number of his brother. Thereafter, Prayas planned to trace out his brother in Gujarat with the little information that he provided and advised him to stay in the shelter home until then.

Support with regard to self-employment

- With the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, Prayas ventured into the production of three-layer masks. Affected persons who engaged in the production of these masks received wages on piece-rate basis.
- Prayas prepared and distributed 200 masks each to the inmates and prison staff of Latur District Prison and Kalyan District Prison each, 300 masks to Byculla and 150 masks to Taloja prison. These masks were made by released women prisoners (Prayas clients) at their respective homes. Each client was given 100 masks to make (paid on piece rate basis). Prayas trained the clients through online medium and sent all the required raw material to each one of them via courier including sanitizers and hand written note explaining the precautionary measures to be adopted while opening and packing the courier boxes and while making the masks to maintain hygiene especially given the current COVID-19 pandemic.
- Guidance related to self-employment was also provided to the clients once the lockdown was relaxed. They were guided as to from where they could get the raw material, how to travel due to lack of proper transportation facilities, where and how to sell their finished products, etc.
- Discussions and online meetings were conducted with the women clients related to initiating some self-employment and the financial support required

as Prayas was planning to provide Rs.5000/- for self-employment. But a few clients wanted more money and due to the delay in the process of the money in TISS and some clients who needed the financial support urgently were referred to Save the Children NGO to reduce the burden on Prayas and to avail the financial help in time.

- A released male client was given a sewing machine in August 2019 on which he was sharpening his tailoring skills. After lockdown, he motivated his wife to join the SHG where the women were motivated to prepare items like phenol, papad, etc. Later, an NGO named Dimple Foundation took over the SHGs and gave them an order of stitching masks. And thus, the client prepared 600 masks and sold them.
- Another client was helped in 2019 for buying materials to keep in his shop. He had purchased a cabin to be used as a shop. During the lockdown, he added some more required items demanded by the public which proved helpful and now his business has got well set and he earns Rs.5000-10000/- per month.

Selling eggs

Salma (name changed), a Prayas client (beneficiary) 28 years old who lived with her 3 years old daughter at her mother's place. She has recently started a small scale business of selling eggs with the help of the cash transfer made by Prayas of Rs.2000/- (as financial assistance during the lockdown period). Initially, she planned to sell vegetables but due to the lockdown, she postponed the idea. However, one day she called up the Prayas social worker and shared that her neighbours are in need of onions and potatoes; and hence she wanted to explore the idea of selling these. To start off the business, her brother planned to help her buy onions and potatoes from Thane district but due to the police *bandobast* he could not move out of the locality. She gave a thought that since vegetables were expensive in her area, the neighbours would not buy from her.

After much brainstorming, she came up with the idea of selling eggs. She approached a wholesale dealer selling eggs that came near her building and initially bought 3 trays of eggs (1 tray has 30 eggs) on a daily basis. On days

when the vehicle did not come, she would walk half an hour to an hour to the wholesaler's shop to buy eggs from him. Initially, she started selling eggs in her building and then moved to selling in the market between 12.00 noon to 4.00 p.m. As her sale increased, she started buying 5 trays per day (which means 150 eggs). Gradually, she was able to sell all the eggs that she purchased and made a profit of around Rs.150/- per day. Later, Salma planned to sell eggs in the special markets held on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays. She also told the Prayas workers that post lockdown, she planned to sell vegetables, onions, and potatoes. She was happy that she was able to make a profit with her hard work.

Fish selling

Shweta (name changed), a Prayas client (a released prisoner) 32 years old used to live (before the lockdown) in the central suburbs of Thane district along with her husband and 3 children (son aged 15 years, daughter aged 10 years, and the youngest daughter of 3 years). Her son had completed his SSC this year securing 84% marks while her daughter has passed Class VI.

Prayas has designed a social reintegration programme called the NGO Placement Programme, whereby affected persons are placed in NGOs to develop employable and social skills. They receive a stipend from Prayas during the placement period ranging from 6 months to 3 years. While Shweta was in prison, she was an active participant of training sessions organised by Prayas. Post-release from prison, she showed interest and was part of the NGO Placement Programme. She completed a 4 months tailoring course and received a stipend as well. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NGO Placement Programme had come to a standstill affecting the placement of all the beneficiaries including Shweta.

The lockdown had impacted her earnings and household income. Her husband too lost his employment due to the lockdown. He used to work as a delivery man on a bicycle. She did not have rations at home to feed her family. In order to manage the household expenses, Shweta thought of selling fish as her grandfather and father were involved in the fishing business. In the past one and half months, she along with her family, shifted to her mother's house in Mumbai to start her fishing business.

Prayas supported her with dry rations and financial support to start her fishing business. She also used some of her savings to start the business.

Daily, she had to leave her house at 3.00 a.m. in the morning to buy fish at a wharf on the eastern seafront of Mumbai after which she would sell the fish from 8.00a.m. to 8.00p.m. in the evening while her husband sold fish near their residence. Thus, both husband and wife jointly worked to earn for the family. Gradually, she was able to get a place (space) to sell the fish and has understood the nuances of the business. She was happy that she was able to make a profit of Rs.500-600/- per day.

Medical support

- The minor son of a released women prisoner (a Prayas client) whose treatment was going on prior to the lockdown had to get an MRI done. But due to lack of funds with Prayas, some staff helped the social worker in finding donors to help in this case. So the client was helped with Rs. 8500/- for the MRI and travel expenses of auto rickshaw and private cab from her residence to the private hospital and later from her residence to KEM Hospital.
- Prayas arranged a commode chair for a client's ailing mother (a senior citizen) with severe health issues, provided petrol charges to visit the hospital and financial support for medical expenses.
- Prayas facilitated the medical needs of a youth who suffered a muscle injury in his right leg. The doctor advised large compression stockings to treat his leg. Prayas approached a donor for medical expenses, who bore his medical expenses.

Counselling support

- During the initial months of the lockdown, the social worker conducted meetings through the WhatsApp video calls with the clients who were in placement and due to the lockdown had forgo the placement. She used to talk to the clients once in 15 days in groups of 5-6 clients. Due to these calls, the clients who were mentally idle were happy to have someone to talk with, share their problems, get to know others problems, etc. Later, she then conducted

online meetings with the clients through which she provided counselling, patiently heard the clients vent out their feelings, helped them gain back their confidence, etc. These meetings discontinued once the clients were engaged in some production activity or online classes or trainings or self-employment.

- A client's son was stuck up in his workplace in Mangalore and was quite disturbed during the initial days of the lockdown and wanted to return back to his mother. But due to lack of transportation, this was not possible. He was not getting food due to lack of rations. So the social worker spoke to the employer who informed that the client's son along with many other workers who were his relatives also were permitted to stay on the construction site and he promised to provide them rations until the construction work resumed. So the client and her son both were counselled that they were safe in their respective places and that there was no need to travel anywhere but rather patiently face the situation.
- A client was stuck up in her workplace due the lockdown and was unable to return home due to no transportation. Prayas also could not help her due to lack of funds. But since her job was continuing, she was counseled from time-to-time by the social worker that she is lucky that her income source is continuing during the lockdown as compared to other clients who have no income source. And that she was safe in the workplace and less chances of contracting the virus.
- Prayas reached out to minor girl with mental disturbance in times of COVID-19 and facilitated her admission to a mental health care hospital, as the hospital authorities were reluctant to admit the patient due to Corona scare.
- Prayas networked with the government hospital and the medical officer to provide online medical counselling support to a released prisoner's 5-year-old child who could not be taken to the doctor for medical treatment.

Conducting online sessions during the lockdown

- The Income Generation and Production Unit of Prayas conducted online sessions for Prayas clients teaching them embroidery, bag making, laptop bag, fruit basket, spectacle cover, etc. All the items are made out of cloth. Prayas

created a WhatsApp group of the clients and trainers for smooth coordination and follow-up regarding the training and to discuss any hurdles encountered in sessions. The clients were encouraged to make videos so that they could turn into mentors for other clients.

- Prayas conducted a workshop with the youth to discuss online vocational training classes related to AC repairing, 2-wheeler servicing, electrical and mobile phone repairing, etc. and discussed about the possibility of face-to-face classes with necessary precautions after the lockdown.
- Prayas had initiated a meeting with the Times of India CSR Wing focusing upon online English-speaking courses and Career Guidance for the 10th and 12th standard students. The course was for 4 months covering topics on spoken English, personality development, grooming at workplace, and mock interviews which would help them build self-confidence, open more avenues for employment, and prepare them for employment (post lockdown).
- Prayas networked with Vidya Vikas Education Trust for providing training and income generation work to the women clients. Vidya Vikas Education Trust conducted online informative sessions with our clients about their online courses on embroidering, tailoring, computers, mehndi, NIOS- education admission etc. As an outcome of the collaboration, Prayas clients enrolled for the online programs.
- Helped a client in reaching Pune to visit her ailing maternal aunt who had looked after her and her siblings as their parents had expired in their childhood. Also helped with regard to hospital arrangements of the aunt separate from the Corona Ward.

Support with regard to citizenship rights documents

- After the survey, a list of respondents without a Ration Card was prepared and the respective Rationing Officers of the area were informed and the Municipal Corporation was also approached by the social worker whereby based on their Aadhar Cards, the respondents were able to get rations.
- Informed about the portability of the Ration Cards to clients who had changed residence during the lockdown and were unable to access rations from the

ration shops. Thus, they were able to get rations from the ration shops of their changed residences also.

Issuing of ration card amidst lockdown

Vikas (name changed), aged 48 is a released prisoner and lives with his family in Bharuch, Gujarat. His family comprises of 7 members. He did not have a Ration Card before lockdown. Two days before the announcement of lockdown, the staff of Prayas, Bharuch Unit, Gujarat had submitted an application to the Rationing Office to make the client's Ration Card. According to normal procedures, the Ration Card is acquired in 15 days post applying. However, due to lockdown, the Ration Card was not issued. During this period, the local Corporator and Prayas assisted the client with dry rations. Throughout the lockdown period, Prayas continuously followed up with the Rationing Office staff in person and via telephone besides conducting meetings with the officer. Based on Prayas continuous follow-up, APL 1 Ration Card was issued for Vikas. The social worker was informed by the Rationing Office staff that they do not issue BPL Card anymore, hence have issued APL 1 Card. Ration facility under the BPL Card is more in comparison to the APL 1 Card. However, Vikas is happy that the Ration Card was issued to him and he received rations. He is extremely thankful to Prayas for assisting him in getting a Ration Card.

Women's struggles in finding rations, fuel and supplies

During the lockdown, while the state had announced special provisions of cash transfers to persons from economically weak backgrounds, people (especially women) discharged from custody and shelters faced challenges in accessing such support. Women in custody and institutional shelters are generally those who have weak family support, have distanced themselves from families that have been oppressive, or have been rejected by families. The first obstacle they face in accessing state support is lack of documentation, as they are unable to obtain documents like Rations Cards, Caste Certificates, etc. from their families. These women often are required to live in rental accommodation. They face their second obstacle when landlords/licensors express objection to the use of the rented accommodation as the address on the Ration Card.

Even when women do have Ration Cards, Prayas' social worker is required to continuously follow-up with the Rationing Officer or the Deputy Controller for securing rations on that card. During the lockdown, the social worker was reaching out to women who had BPL Cards but were unable to access the Ujjwala scheme. With much follow-up, the social worker was able to ensure that these women received kerosene from the ration shop. It was learnt that the reason why they were unable to access the Ujjwala scheme was because their names got 'missed out' in the list of persons eligible for the scheme.

As the social worker continued to follow-up with the departments concerned for obtaining documents and schemes, many of the women Prayas works with are missed out – not out of intentional processes of the state but perhaps because of the circumstances of these women. Women released from custody and institutions – stigmatized as they are for not fitting into traditional roles of women, going against families to escape violence and oppressive practices, being held accountable for their own victimization, or having past exploitative engagements – are required to ensure that they are not visible so that they do not fuel more stigma. Often, these women themselves believe that they have no right to ask for support and have lost claim over rights in society. In the process, these women remain hidden, get missed out of supporting services, and continue to live in marginal circumstances for extended periods of time – that may even stretch right across their lifespan.

Availed ration support after 10 years- Major relief at time of COVID-19

Kalpana (name changed), a Prayas client (beneficiary) is 44 years old and lives with 6 family members in a far-off suburb of Mumbai. As lockdown was announced, Prayas transferred cash (as financial assistance) to their clients. However, it was a challenge to transfer money to Kalpana's bank account, as her bank branch was in a Mumbai western suburb, and hence provided ration assistance to her. However, the quantity of rations provided could not last for longer days due to her large family. When Prayas enquired with her about availing any rations under PDS,

Kalpna informed that she does not get anything from the ration shop for the past 10 years, as they claim her annual income is high and so she is not eligible to get rations. In the meanwhile, Prayas came across contact details (on WhatsApp) about a member of an organization providing ration assistance and contacted him for any ration assistance. Prayas contacted the organization, introduced Prayas work and approached him for seeking ration assistance for Kalpna. All the formalities prescribed by the organization were completed by Kalpna and when she visited her ration shop, she received 18 kgs of wheat and 12 kgs of rice, approximately after a span of 10 years. Henceforth, she will get rations every month.

Other supports

- Prayas helped a client who was being harassed by the housing society people because a neighbor suspected that the client was having an affair with her husband. This harassment resulted in filing of a police complaint by the client with the help of a local NGO. There was a mediation of the local Corporator who had been approached by the housing society members. Finally, the client had to move out of the housing society and Prayas helped in finding her another house on rent, helped in preparing the agreement deed and financial expenses of deposit and rent. All this help was extended in the midst of the heavy lockdown mostly through telephone calls, and later visiting the client to help her find a house on rent and getting the agreement deed done.
- Case of an old client who was into prostitution since many years and was not willing to leave the profession. Gradually her son got married, family was settling so she decided to work with an NGO working with sex workers on medical issues, conducting their medical tests, distributing condoms, etc. So the client was doing this work and earning Rs.5000/- p.m. Then she lost the job whereby she again went into prostitution but when she realized the bad effects of her profession on her daughter-in-law, she requested the help of Prayas for self-employment. Prayas provided her Rs.10000/- with which she set up a vegetable business. In the meantime, she was called back to work by the

NGO but was being paid a lesser salary, so she continued her vegetable business and also the job. She would be in constant touch with Prayas whereby during the lockdown period when she was delivered a ration kit she realized the need of the same for the clients of the NGO where she was working. So, she put forth the idea before the NGO authorities who immediately accepted it and started providing ration kits to all their clients every month.

- Prayas, in coordination with Latur police, resolved a family dispute of a prisoner released on bail (person with addiction problem). Prayas provided counselling support to the released prisoner and his family member to resolve their family differences. Prayas has now explored de-addiction services for the released prisoner.
- Prayas arranged a new gas connection for a needy client sponsored by a donor.

CHAPTER VIII

OBSERVATIONS BY RESEARCHERS

This chapter captures the experiences of researchers while conducting the interviews. Many of them have highlighted the mental pressure that the respondents were undergoing during the pandemic. Many of the cases were referred for immediate relief by Prayas because of the financial pressures due to the lockdown. Financial assistance needed to be provided to large number of the respondents.

The researchers emphasized the need to strengthen the income generation efforts by Prayas. They have reiterated the role of NGOs during the pandemic. Many respondents shared their gratitude towards Prayas during the pandemic. Researchers shared that many respondents were relieved to talk to a person after a long time and hence the interviews extended beyond an hour. The respondents took the opportunity to vent out their problems. Many respondents had volunteered to join the rehabilitation efforts of Prayas.

It came to light that the respondents were undergoing harassment and perhaps violence at home. The researchers highlighted the need to include respondents in the rehabilitation programme of Prayas. It was highlighted that respondents required medical assistance as well. Respondents suggested that Prayas should focus more on livelihood related activities.

Upon reflection, a few of the researchers said that some interviews were not clear due to differences in pronunciations and telephonic disturbances. Few respondents did not have the cognitive ability to respond to the interviews, as per the researchers. Researchers also observed that few respondents thought that they were government officials conducting the interviews and hence did not respond positively.

CHAPTER IX

CONCLUSION

Some key trends in the study shows that considering the sample population which consists of mainly individuals who have been processed by the Criminal Justice System, they are at risk of falling back into the cycle of crime or victimization. As Graphs 3.10 and 3.11 show, a considerable proportion of the respondents was previously employed before the lockdown or COVID-19.

But during the lockdown, a staggering 88% lost their source of income with only 12% who continued earning even during the lockdown. This has to be looked at with Graph 3.6 which shows that among the respondents, 55% were those who were employed in the unorganized sector before the lockdown and Graph 3.8 which points to 36% who were daily waged workers. This reiterates the understanding that informal workforce is more vulnerable during a time of crisis like COVID-19 with the absence of safety net and welfare benefits. The new Labour Codes of 2020 hence should be reviewed keeping in mind the vulnerabilities of the unorganized sector during a time of crisis.

An interesting point to note here is that within this 12% who continued earning during the lockdown, only 26% were women while 74% were men who continued earning which matches with the finding that among 17% of respondents who borrowed money during the lockdown from money lenders, 69% constituted women (refer Graphs 6.3 and 6.5). This clearly indicates the risks involved for the women respondents who might be driven to destitution, sexual exploitation or illegal activities due to economic pressures. Civil Society Organizations and social workers who work for the rehabilitation of such individuals processed by the CJS will have to double up their efforts to support their clients and/or their families.

A considerable proportion i.e. 73% of the respondents supported other members in their family, with 46% who reported supporting 1 or more minor children (refer Graphs 5.7 and 5.12). With the loss of income for a significant number of respondents, the

challenges were manifold. Many struggled to meet even the basic needs of their family with 87% who reported requiring support for their ration needs. During COVID-19, following standard safety guidelines have been challenging for respondents because of the use of public/community toilets and lack of sanitation facilities. Online education which is the new medium of instruction in most schools was not accessible to many of these children, with 58% reporting their child/ren not attending online classes (Graph 7.6). This should be looked at with Graph 7.7 where 36% did not have access to internet and 51% who did not own laptops or smartphones.

With regard to challenges related to legal matters, many reported increased stress and anxiety with stoppage of *mulakat* in prisons/special homes and impending delays in trials. Many reported difficulties in meeting legal expenses with the changes in their earning. It can be assumed that loans from the informal sector would also see a rise with the need to meet legal expenses and to furnish bail bonds during a time of financial crisis. This is also because many do not own identity documents or even collaterals to take loans from banks.

The report has not only brought out the challenges that individuals face at the time of adversity but has also attempted to draw out where support is required. This includes support that many require in terms of skill training, monetary assistance for self-employment opportunities and subsistence kits. While 19% of the respondents had no source of support during the lockdown, a sizable proportion was supported by the community and by CSOs/NGOs.

Prayas has been at the frontline in reaching out to clients who have found themselves in a state of financial and psychological crisis. Some of these interventions included direct cash transfer, distribution of ration kits, supply of masks, sanitary and hygiene kits to prisons, shelter homes and aftercare hostels.

Collaborative efforts between government agencies and civil society can go a long way in meeting the challenges that a crisis creates while ensuring that people are not forced into destitution, exploitation or crime. With many community workers and social workers directly engaged with people at the grassroots, government agencies can benefit in identifying gaps in implementation of schemes and policies while identifying potential beneficiaries. The report has attempted to highlight the socio-economic

vulnerabilities which have accentuated because of COVID-19 and the assistance that many of the respondents require to achieve their livelihood needs.

Annexure 1

Tools used for data collection

Telephonic Interview Guide

Rapid Assessment of Situation of Prayas Clients¹¹ and their Families

by

Prayas, a field action project of the Centre for Criminology and Justice, School of Social Work, TISS

Objectives

1. To understand the socio-economic situation of Prayas' clients and their families in the context of the COVID 19 crisis, especially due to the lockdown.
2. To understand their immediate needs for basic subsistence.
3. To understand the gaps in their access to welfare schemes and programmes announced by the central and state governments due to the lockdown.
4. To understand their livelihood pathways once the lockdown is lifted/ pandemic is under control and supports required to achieve the same.

Instructions to researcher:

- **Researcher must be familiar with the form before the interview.**
- Please take oral consent of respondent to participate in the study. Explain the objectives of the study and inform the respondent that we want to use the findings to improve our work strategies and for policy advocacy. Please explain to the respondent that they may refuse to answer any of the questions and may exit from the interview at any point they wish.
- **As far as possible, do not ask questions in a structured way, have an open discussion in the course of conversation, get information (without asking pointed questions)**
- After finishing the interview, please check if all questions answered according to guide, and call the respondent for clarifications, if required.
- Where instructed, please refer to Guide.
- Tick mark where possible.
- If you identify a client/ family in need of immediate assistance, please provide necessary intervention or inform research co-ordinator immediately.
- Research co-ordinators are then to refer the case to the social worker immediately.

Abbreviations:

L: Lockdown

C: Covid 19 pandemic

1. Basic details of respondent

¹¹Released prisoners, women discharged from shelter homes, women vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation, children in conflict with law, clients referred to Prayas from other sources.

Profile of client (Not to be asked, but to be filled by researcher based on own information)	Child in conflict with law/ Family of child in conflict with law Family of prisoner Released prisoner/ Family of released prisoner Rescued woman/ Family of rescued woman Woman in shelter home Woman discharged from shelter home Any other:
Contact number	
Residential address during L/C	
Residential address before L/C	
Home state/district	
Does the respondent wish to return home state/district	

2. Basic details of respondent and family

a. Details of respondent

Nam (Opti	Relati onshi p with client (if the client is not the respo ndent)	A g e	Ge nd er	Edu cati on	Any trai nin g or cou rse don e (for mal) or pos ses s a skil l	Occu patio n befor e L/C (Plea se see point 1 in Guid e)	Ear nin g bef ore L/C (Pl eas e see poi nt 2 in Gui de)	<i>Did ear nin g con tinu e afte r L/C</i>	<i>If res p. wa s not ear nin g, wh at wa s the sou rce of sup por t</i>	Ear nin g dur ing L/C	Expe cted occu pation after L/C (Plea se see point 1 in Guid e)	Exp ecte d ear ning afte r L/C (Ple ase see poin t 2 in Gui de)
								Yes				
								No				

								Change in earning				
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b. Is the respondent living with family: Yes/No
If Yes, list family members (no need of names):

c. Is the respondent supporting family: Yes/No
If Yes, list family members (no need of names):

d. Please fill Table 2.d. only if respondent living with/supporting family AND there is another earning member (beside the respondent) in the family.
Or else, go to question 3.

2.d. Details about other earning members in family (if the respondent has been living with/ supporting family)

Name (Optional)	Relation	District/state	Age	Gender	Education (In case of children, ask if children were going to school before L/C)	V.T	Occupation before L/C (Please see point 1 in Guide)	Earning before L/C (Please see point 2 in Guide)	Did earning continue after L/C (Please see point 1 in Guide)	If family was the source of support	Earning during L/C	Expected occupation after L/C (Please see point 1 in Guide)	Expected earning after L/C (Please see point 2 in Guide)

3. Residence of respondent

3.a. Is the respondent living with: Family/relatives/friends/others (specify)

3.c. Details of residence

i. Residence details before L/C				ii. Fill this section only if residence has changed after L/C					
Address (Optional)	Type of residence before L/C	Residence structure	Expenses (specify monthly amount)	Address (Optional)	Reasons for change in address	Type of residence before L/C	Residence structure	Expenses (specify monthly amount)	How the respondent found new place to stay after L/C? Who supported?
	Self-owned Owned by relative (e.g. Mother/father, etc.). Please specify. Rented	Apartment in building Chawl Pucca house Kachcha	Rent: Maintenance: Water and electricity: Hostel fees: Any other:			Self-owned Owned by relative (e.g. Mother/father, etc.). Please specify. Rented	Apartment in building Chawl Pucca house in slum	Rent: Maintenance: Water and electricity: Hostel fees: Any other:	Friends Family Employer NGO Government Other (Please

	Shelter home	house				Shelter home	Kachcha house		Specify).
	Paying guest accommodation	Other (Please specify):				Paying guest accommodation	Other (Please specify):		Researcher can note down here, if client is taking support from any exploitative element.
	With friend/housemate					With friend/housemate			
	Other (Please specify)					Other (Please specify)			

4. Difficulties and assistance during L/C

4.a. Difficulties in cash/kind

Difficulties faced during L/C (Please refer to point 3 in Guide)	Sources of assistance received by responded after L/C (other than Prayas)	Assistance received during L/C	Loans taken from (whom) and interest, if applicable	If loans taken, is there pressure to pay debts	If not earning during L/C, source of finance	Suggestion on what a subsistence kit should include
	Neighbours Relative Community members NGO/CBO/S HG Police Government welfare scheme post lock down	Ration Cooked food Shelter Cash Any other (Specify) <i>If possible,</i>	Friends Relatives Money lenders Ration shop Others (Specify):	Yes No		

	Any other (specify)	<i>specify what kind of assistance was more beneficial to respondent</i>				
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4.b. Children (ask only if children presently living with, or supported by the respondent)

Is the respondent the parent/ key guardian of children: Yes/No

If yes, how many children and their age:

4.c. If the respondent is the parent/key guardian of children, please table below

Have children started online classes in school	Psychological disturbances, if any	Other challenges faced by children
Yes/No <i>If yes, challenges faced:</i> Mobile not available Internet not available Mobile refilling not possible TV not available Children not sitting at home and studying	Restlessness / overactive / running out Aggression / violence Withdrawn / silent or does not talk much Crying a lot Any other (Specify)	

4.d. Psychological status/Concerns

- Worry about family in crisis due to lack of money
- Worry about family in native place?
- Challenges faced by the family?
- Worries, anxiety, depression, stress, loneliness, fear of catching virus,
- Any other feeling

4.d. Challenges vis-à-vis CJS (If applicable)

- Lack of support from community/family, even during this difficult time
- Anxiety/worry about family member in custody
- Not been able to visit family member inside prison (due to lock down, lack of fund for travelling)

- Not been able to provide soap, toothpaste, snacks to family member in prison
- Stress about legal case getting prolonged because of lockdown
- May not be able to pay advocate's fees
- Chances of again getting engaged in exploitative/negative situations
- Children from shelter, back to home – adding to responsibility
- Inability to pay school fees of children
- Inability to pay boarding/hostel fees of children
- Feeling of loneliness / or of being without support as husband/son/mother/relative in prison
- Any other (Specify)

5. Schemes and documents

Is the respondent aware	Has respondent/family applied for benefits under special schemes following L/C.	Has the respondent/family applied for any other government scheme in the past. <i>If applied, specify if benefits being received.</i>	Documents available (Please see point 4 in Guide)
<p>Ujjawala Scheme</p> <p>Government ration relief</p>	<p>Yes/No</p> <p>If applied, specify scheme:</p> <p>What benefit have you received so far:</p> <p>If no (not applied for scheme), specify reasons:</p> <p>Not aware of scheme/procedures</p> <p>Lack of documents</p> <p>No bank account</p> <p>Lack of awareness on where /whom to approach</p> <p>Implementing agency not helping /supporting as respondent is involved in CJS</p> <p>Any other (Specify)</p>	<p>Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar: Applied/Received benefit</p> <p>Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana: Applied/Received benefit</p> <p>Indira Gandhi Pension Scheme: Applied/Received benefit</p> <p>Gharkul: Applied/Received benefit</p> <p>Other (Specify and state if applied/received benefit):</p>	

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6. Anticipated challenges

- Difficulty in finding employment / income
- Difficulty in sustaining household
- Difficulty in finding shelter
- Family support
- Difficulty to return to school / course due to inability to pay fees, buying books, etc.
- Managing advocate's fee
- Managing travel expenses for mulakat,
- Arranging to deliver basic toiletries items to the family member in prison
- Any other (specify)

7. Support required

7.a. From Government

During L/C

- Rations
- Hand wash / soap / sanitary items
- Medical bills / hospitalization support
- Shelter
- Cash support (how much?)
- Guidelines on how to take benefit of special schemes
- Any other (Specify):

Once lock down is lifted/Covid pandemic is controlled

- Rations
- Capital for self-employment (How much)
- Training (Specify)
- Support for children's education (How much)
- Helpline for issues like harassment for rent, pressure by money lender/ration shop owner
- Legal assistance/ legal aid
- Appointment of nodal officer for help required
- Scheme for benefit for persons without documents
- Any other (Specify)

8. Additional Information

8.a. Alternative contacts

Alternative contact number (if any)	In rural area, name and contact details of sarpanch, talati, Asha sevika (if available)

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8.b. Other information

- Anything else the respondent would like to share
- Comments/observations by researcher

8.c. Need for immediate social work intervention

- **Did researcher refer the case for social work intervention: Yes/No**
 - If yes, name of social worker the case was referred to
 - Date of referral

Name of researcher:

Date:

Annexure 2

Guide for some questions of the survey tool Guide for Rapid Assessment

1. Occupation

- a) Business (specify)
- b) Domestic work
- c) Factory worker
- d) Daily wage worker
- e) Agricultural labour
- f) Construction worker
- g) Plumber
- h) Electrician
- i) Auto mechanic
- j) AC repairs
- k) Caretaker
- l) Nurse
- m) Home-based care
- n) Driver
- o) Tailor
- p) Other (Please specify)

2. **Earning:** If employed, specify the frequency and amount

- a) Daily
- b) Weekly
- c) Monthly
- d) Occasionally
- e) Other (Give details)

3. Difficulties faced during lockdown

- a) No ration/ lack of ration
- b) No fuel/gas
- c) No cooked food
- d) No cash in hand
- e) No / lack of money to buy medicines
- f) Not able to get treatment due to lockdown
- g) Too many people living in the house so social distancing not possible
- h) Lack of drinking / bathing / washing water
- i) No shelter
- j) No employment
- k) Mobile refilling
- l) Not able to Buy LPG Gas cylinder/kerosene
- m) Not able to Purchase sanitary items (toothpaste, soap, washing soap, sanitary pads etc.)
- n) Bulb/tube light/electric fittings not working
- o) Difficult to manage children / fights between children/difficulty in convincing children to follow social distance

- p) Domestic violence / family conflicts
- q) Other (Specify)

4. Documents available

- a) Ration card:
 - i. Orange Card (Annual income Rs. 16000 to Rs. 100000)
 - ii. Orange (Pradhanya gat) Card (Annual income less than Rs. 59000)
 - iii. Orange (Pradhanya Rural) Card (Annual income less than Rs. 44000)
 - iv. BPL Card (Annual Income upto Rs. 15000)

- b) Adhar card
- c) Pan card
- d) Voter's ID
- e) Driver's License
- f) Passport
- g) Income Certificate
- h) Caste certificate
- i) Domicile certificate
- j) Birth certificates of respondent/client
- k) Leaving certificate
- l) Age certificate (if there are children at home)
- m) Electricity Bill
- n) Agreement paper
- o) Marriage certificate
- p) Death certificate
- q) Bank account - Saving A/C/ Jan Dhan / Recurring A/c
- r) Insurance policy (self / provided by employer)
- s) Birth certificates of children
- t) Other documents (Specify)

Annexure 3

Details of the skills/training undergone by the respondents as depicted in Graph 3.4

Training that fetched *daily wages* was in sectors including construction work, masonry manufacturing wooden moulds, carpentry and plumbing.

Training in *handicraft* includes diamond cutting and design, embroidery, jewellery-making, quilt making, saree fall bidding, tailoring and fashion design, stitching, basic and advanced tailoring.

Beauty and fitness includes training as beauticians and in salon treatment, and gymnasium training.

Teaching and child care includes training for anganwadi teacher, balwadi teacher, pre-PTC Montessori, secondary school Teacher, and personality development training.

Training in the *food-based* sector includes cooking, baking.

Art and language includes English-speaking, theatre, craft, paper bags, pottery and mud work.

Mechanical and technical training includes AC and refrigerator repair, welding, mobile repair, motor mechanic.

Training in *computer and electronics* included computer training, computer hardware and networking, diploma and electrical works, manufacturing electrical parts, ITI – Chemical, ITI – Alteration, MS-CIT, Photoshop, Videography and typing.

Support services training were in sectors including community outreach social work, para counselling, para social work, para medical work.

Annexure 4

Types of jobs involved in by the respondents working in the unorganized sector

1. Driver
2. Domestic worker
3. Watchman
4. Daily wage worker
5. Housekeeping
6. Plumber
7. Tailor
8. Delivery boy
9. Office assistant
10. Clerk
11. Construction worker
12. Caretaker
13. Home based care
14. Cutlery seller
15. Wadapav stall
16. Auto mechanic
17. Sweeper
18. Factory worker
19. Metal industry worker
20. Agricultural worker
21. Goat farming
22. Mason
23. Zari work
24. Beautician
25. Welder
26. Bouncer
27. Rag picker
28. Laundry (ironing clothes)

Annexure 5

Details of the central and state government schemes

Central government schemes

1) Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana

The welfare of the tribal areas has always been neglected. The central government has designed the scheme not only for developing the situation and living standards of the tribal people, living in the forest and the backward areas but also to assist in preserving the overall condition of the native area and conserve the forest as well.

It has been mentioned in the scheme that the scheme will be implemented, step by step, in 10 states. All these states have a sizeable amount of tribal population. These ten states are Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Gujarat.

The scheme includes development of tribal areas all over the country, providing sustainable job opportunities, opportunities of higher education, health and housing, providing clean drinking water, providing irrigational facilities, construction of proper roads, providing electricity, promoting sports in the area, promoting tribal culture.

2) Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)

Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) was a sub-scheme of the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP). The programme was the housing program of the Ministry of Rural Development. The main motive was to work towards constructing houses for the below poverty line population in rural India.

In the financial year 1995-96, the program extended to widows and close relatives of defence personnel killed in action as well, and from 1997-98 the program extended to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, Free bonded labourers in Rural areas. The beneficiary list was selected by the Gram Sabha.

Homes constructed under IAY are under the joint ownership of wife and husband, except unmarried, widowed, and divorced. If the house constructed on the eligibility of disability, then they maintained sole ownership. The construction is carried out by the beneficiary only. Any external involvement was not permissible like contractors or agencies. If the government found such things, it withholds or confiscates the funding. Beneficiaries can acquire support from NGOs, youth clubs, and others for monitoring and assisting during construction.

Under the scheme, residents have to design their houses according to their requirements. Aim is to use the locally sourced materials for construction which lasts at least for 30 years. IAY is promoting eco-friendly and environmentally sustainable construction techniques and generating employment. IAY encourages the village Panchayat to spearhead change in their constituency, so the program is effectively implemented across the Nation. The scheme supports the construction of houses with required provisions like workplaces.

3) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi

With a view to augment the income of the Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs), the Government has launched a new Central Sector Scheme, namely, "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)". The PM-KISAN scheme aims to supplement the financial needs of the SMFs in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income at the end of the each crop cycle. This would also protect them from falling in the clutches of moneylenders for meeting such expenses and ensure their continuance in the farming activities.

In the database, the land owner's name, gender, Social Classification (Scheduled Tribes / Scheduled Tribes), Aadhaar number, bank account number and mobile number etc has to be there. Land record details, Jan Dhan Bank Account Number, Aadhaar and Mobile Number will help in identifying eligible beneficiaries and incompetent claimants. The scheme is sponsored by the Central Government. Therefore, the farmers have to be citizens of the country. Land holding size should not be greater than 2 hectares.

4) Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana

The accounts under PMJDY will be zero balance accounts which mean account holders do not need to maintain any bank balance. Most regular bank accounts require that a minimum balance which might vary from Rs 500 to Rs 5000 will have to be maintained in the bank account failing which a penalty will have to be the customer.

All account holders will receive a Rupay Debit Card so that they can withdraw money from any ATM and also use it to make payments at merchant establishments. Each Rupay Card will also ensure the Card Holder with accident insurance of up to Rs 1 Lakh from HDFC Ergo and Medical Insurance of up to Rs 30,000 for sick account holders. This money could be used for treatment and paying medical bills when the need arises.

Some banks are issuing additional passbooks and cheque books to some users if they make an additional payment of Rs 100 to Rs 500. This is an additional feature and can be availed by account holders only if they feel the need for it.

Another valuable feature of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana is that bank accounts which are linked to Aadhaar ID's can avail government subsidies by electronic transfer directly into their accounts. For e.g., the government might transfer food subsidies it provides to ration card holders directly into their bank account.

Overdraft of Rs 5000 will be provided to account holders who transact regularly using their Rupay cards and maintain a good balance in their bank accounts.

5) Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY)

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY) is a scheme as part of Atmanirbhar Bharat to supply free food grains to migrants and poor.

More than 80 crore people will be provided 5 kg free wheat/rice per person / month along with 1 kg free whole chana to each family per month. Wheat has been allocated to 6 States/UTs, - Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Chandigarh, Delhi and Gujarat and rice has been provided to the remaining States/UTs.

Families belonging to the Below Poverty Line - Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Priority Households (PHH) categories will be eligible for the scheme. PHH are to be identified by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations as per criteria evolved by them.

6) Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the Children of Working Mothers (RGNCS – a day care scheme for children of working women)

The Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the children of working mothers is the scheme launched by central government (Ministry of Woman and Child Development). The main objective of this scheme is to provide a nursery where babies and young children are cared for during the working day. Employment of women has resulted in increased opportunities for their employment, and more and more women are now in gainful employment, working within or outside their homes. Thus the children of these women, who were earlier getting support from relatives and friends while their mothers were at work, are now in need of day care services which provide quality care and protection for the children. Therefore women need a safe place for their children in their absence. It has become necessary to provide support to the young children in terms of quality, substitute care, and other services while the mothers are at work. Effective day care for young children is essential and a cost-effective investment as it provides support to both mothers and young children.

Rajiv Gandhi National Creche scheme provides day-care facilities for children (6 months to 6 years) of working mothers in the community. Improved nutrition, sleeping facility for the children and health status of children, physical, mental, emotional and social development of children will be there. Parents/caregivers will be educated and empowered for better childcare. Health check-up and immunization facility which will take care of the health of the child will also be provided. Supplementary nutrition and food which contains rich nutrients will be provided for the better growth of the babies. Early stimulation for children below 3 years and pre-school education for 3 to 6 years old children will be provided.

The child should belong 6 months to 6 years age group. Working women in rural and urban areas who are employed for a minimum period of 15 days in a month, or six months in a year

The child's Birth Certificate is required. Identity card of particular organization where child's mother is working or such any document which will show that the woman is working into particular organization since last 6 months needs to be submitted. BPL families would be charged Rs 20/- per child per month, while families with income (of both parents) of up to Rs. 12,000/- per month would be charged Rs 100/- per child per month. And families with income (of both parents) of above Rs. 12,000/- per month would have to pay Rs 200/- per child per month.

Schemes of the Gujarat State Government

1) Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana

An average Indian woman is considered under-nourished owing to limited access to food due to poverty. The government has always tried to introduce lucrative health schemes with an aim to provide at least basic nutrition to women and children. The PMMVY comes under the Women and Child Development Ministry of India.

The objective of the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is to give partial compensation to pregnant women and lactating mothers who were working and had to experience a wage-loss due to the pregnancy. The period of pregnancy requires a woman to take additional nutrition to sustain the pregnancy and deliver a healthy child. The cash incentive provided with the help of three installments can be used to meet at least the daily requirement of nourishment solely for the use of pregnant women.

The PMMVY scheme is designed to provide cash incentives for lactating women and pregnant women who have lost their job due to the ongoing pregnancy. Apart from the three installments to be claimed within 150 days, 180 days, and at childbirth, the scheme does not offer additional coverages.

2) Manav Kalyan Yojana

This Manav Kalyan Yojana Gujarat is the financial assistance scheme for the SC communities.

The ministry of tribal affairs has launched this scheme to provide financial help to Scheduled Caste communities so that they can get employment opportunities with this help. This step will encourage them to start their own business and earn money from being in backward situations.

This Yojana is the financial assistance or help to the schedule caste persons to start their business without getting any kind of bank loans.

The Gujarat state government will give a little financial help to support the business levels of the state individuals. To get the benefit of this Manav Kalyan Yojana, the total income of a person in the rural areas must lie below Rs. 47,000 yearly. And the income of a person in the urban areas must lie below Rs. 60,000 per annum.

The department will give money of Rs. 4000 to help the recipients. In addition to this, later a few devices to them for more assistance will be given. The tool kits will be given to those individuals who are normally captivating in vegetable sellers, carpentry, and planting. The main purpose of this scheme is to uplift the SC people by giving them business opportunities with the help of some money. People can visit the nearest scheduled caste welfare office to know more about the scheme.

3) Gujarat Vidhva Sahay Yojana

Gujarat Women and Child Development Department have launched several schemes for women and child safety. In this sequence, the department has started Vidhva Sahay Yojana under the social security scheme. Widows in our country lose confidence

and better livelihood opportunities after the death of their husbands, which makes them perceived as a burden in the family. Keeping this in mind, a decision has been taken to provide financial assistance to widowed women under the Social Security Pension.

In Gujarat Vidhwa Sahay Yojana, the beneficiary woman is provided direct financial assistance every month under the Direct Benefit Transfer. This scheme has been given a new name Ganga Swaroop Yojana. The scheme will provide a benefit of Rs 1250 per month as a pension to the beneficiary women. The pension amount will be deposited directly into the bank account of the beneficiary.

This scheme will benefit about 3.70 lakh widows in 33 districts of the state. This pension amount will be deposited in the beneficiary's account in the first week of every month. The Chief Minister of Gujarat has started a new web portal called the National Social Assistance Program Portal to facilitate direct bank transfer of pension to the beneficiary account. The Government of Gujarat has doubled the annual income in both rural and urban areas for eligibility criteria. Now the annual income eligibility criteria is Rs 120000 for rural areas and Rs 150000 for the same urban areas. The number of beneficiaries availing this scheme has also been increased from 1.64 lakh to 3.70 lakh.

4) Sponsorship Scheme for Children: Financial support to families to meet needs of children

As per the Sponsorship Scheme for children (under the ICPS Scheme of Gujarat), financial support of Rs. 2000/- per month per child is provided to families, to meet the educational, medical and other needs of children, Priority is given to institutionalized children i.e., family-based sponsorship in order to facilitate their reunification with their biological family to help an overall wholesome growth of their personality within a family environment rather than in the institutional environment.

Schemes of the Maharashtra State Government

1) Bal Sangopan Yojana

The Maharashtra government has started a scheme called Bal Sangopan Yojana. This project has been running since the year 2008 in collaboration with the Department of Women and Child Development. The objective of the Children's Compounding Scheme is to assist single parent, family in distress, death of parents, students with divorced parents, hospitalized parents and help them continue their education.

The main objective of the scheme is to give students the confidence to continue their education. About 100 families are benefiting under this child support scheme. Each beneficiary child gets a monthly benefit of Rs 425 under this scheme.

The objective of implementing Maharashtra Bal Sangopan Yojana is to provide care for orphans, homeless, and other vulnerable children in the age group of 0 to 18 years in a family environment. Under this scheme, children whose parents are unable to take care of them due to various reasons will temporarily take them to another Family support will be provided.

Under this Bal Sangopan Scheme 2020, the government provides a monthly grant of Rs 425 per child to their foster parents through a charitable organization. And the same, a monthly grant of Rs 75 per child is given to a charitable organization implementing it for family and other administrative functions.

2) Maher Yojana

Maher Yojana is for the residents of Women's State Homes for Destitute Women, women in distress, victims rescued from prostitution, teenage mothers, women who are victims of atrocities, etc. and who fall within the age group of 16 to 60 years.

Besides safe and protected environment and basic facilities provided to the residing women inmates in these institutions, rehabilitation of the victims is ensured through marriage and employment. And a financial aid of Rs.1000/- per beneficiary, Rs.500/- per month for her first child and Rs.400/- per month for her second child is provided after her first month of stay in the State homes.

To avail this benefit, a bank account of the beneficiary needs to be opened where the beneficiary amount gets credited every month.

Prayas is a social work demonstration project of the Centre for Criminology and Justice, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, established in 1990. Prayas's focus is on service delivery, networking, training, research and documentation, and policy change with respect to the custodial/institutional rights and rehabilitation of socio-economically vulnerable individuals and groups. Their mission is to contribute knowledge and insight to the current understanding of aspects of the criminal justice system policy and process, with specific reference to socio-economically vulnerable and excluded communities, groups and individuals who are at greater risk of being criminalized or exposed to trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation.



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