

CHAPTER – TWO

2.1 RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

The proposed study seeks to answer the following research questions:

1. What was the role of rural women in Panchayati Raj Structures before 73rd amendment?
2. How the women emerged as a political power in the district of Uttar Dinajpur.
3. What is the nature of actual participation?
4. What is the age group of the women who play role in local politics?
5. What are problems of rural women to perform their role independently?
6. What is the level of education of the women activists?
7. What are the major dimensions of the area of operation of the women in the Uttar Dinajpur District.
8. What are the major problems faced by them in their area of operation?

9. What is the level of male domination over the women in active politics?
10. What is the future of women empowerment in the district?
11. What are the role of Political Parties and other organizations for the development of empowerment of women?
12. How far religion and caste factor affects women empowerment?

2.2 Methodology:

Data for the present study have been collected from both Primary and Secondary sources.

Primary data have been collected from face to face interview with women members of the Panchayat in the villages of Uttar Dinajpur with the help of a schedule. The schedule contained both structured questions and unstructured questions. The data collected through structured questions were analysed through Table and the unstructured questions were analysed through content analysis. Apart from this, data have been collected from official records of the Panchayats. For the purpose of collecting data from among eight blocks and out of 98 Gram Panchayats, 28 Gram Panchayats (which

is slightly more than 25%) were selected with the help of random number table. Out of 28 Gram Panchayats interview was conducted taking into account 140 Women Members of Panchayat.

The secondary sources of data have been collected from books, journals, newspapers and other documents.