

## Chapter: 4

### Rights of Women in Baksa district: Case studies and Findings

#### Profile of the study area:

Baksa is one of the four new districts of the state of Assam made after Census, 2001. It became a district in October 2003. Baksa district was carved out of district Nalbari, Barpeta, Kamrup and little segment of Darrang region. Because of noteworthy BTC (Bodoland Territorial Council) accord marked on February 10, 2003, formed BTAD (Bodoland Territorial Autonomous District) with four districts specifically Kokrajhar, Chirang, Baksa and Udalguri. Despite the fact that the original word 'Baksa is not above controversy, most of the populace want to utilize 'Baksa' in lieu of 'Baksa'. The famous presumption that 'Baksa' is the miss pelt type of 'Bangsa'- - a 'Dzonkha' word meaning a ranch house and a hallway as it is well-known that Bhutanese king and subjects utilized this territory for trade and way to the plains. 'Bangsa' (Baksa or Baksa) was in reality one of the most important 'Dooars' of Bhutan.<sup>1</sup>

Another source says that the name "Baksa" is begun from Bhutanese language. As indicated by Bhutanese origin they meant the territory as "Baksa Duar." "Baksa" which means one sort of rice and "Duar" which means entry point. As Bhutanese ruler ruled these regions for quite a while in an around first 50% of the nineteenth century so it may be conceivable that the name "Baksa" or "Baksa had a Bhutanese creation. As per Bodo source the name started from a sort of rice grain which is known as "Baksa". The said rice grain is one sort of broken and unlearned item which is increased subsequent to processing the rice. As the name Baksa is itself derived from different sources and precursors so there exists heaps of controversy over the name. Yet at the same time today no solid proof has been discovered which may decide the final source. Just well known sources and folklores are apparent yet no recorded source has been found. So, genuine exploration has likewise been done in this regard.

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.baksa.gov.in/>

Presently the name Baksa is officially taken and used. (Source: Baksa District profile)<sup>2</sup>

The Baksa district which is a part of B.T.A.D enjoys the status of autonomy under the provision of the sixth schedule to the constitution of India. Bodoland Territorial Autonomous District popularly known B.T.A.D. was officially inaugurated on 2003.

Baksa district is surrounded by Bhutan in the north side, in the east side of the district is Udalguri district, in the south side it is Barpeta, Nalbari and Kamrup districts and in the west side of the district is Chirang district. Geographical area of Baksa district is 2400 km.

### **Administrative Setup:**

The Deputy Commissioner of the District is the in general responsible for the administration of the whole region. He additionally goes about as the Collector if there should arise an occurrence of Revenue matters, as a District Magistrate in the event of support of Law and Order and General Administration, as a District Election Officer if there should arise an occurrence of direct of Election, as a Principal Census Officer while leading Census, etc. Various Officers, similar to Additional Deputy Commissioners, Subdivisional Officers, Extra Assistant Commissioners and others help the Deputy Commissioner is taking care of the administration of the region. At lower level each sub-division is going by one Sub-Divisional Officer while under him there will be Revenue Circle Officers for every revenue circles who are answerable for the whole administration of the zone under their individual revenue circle. For the authoritative purposes, the whole region is partitioned into three sub-divisions: Mushalpur, Salbari and Tamulpur. These sub-divisions containing 687 towns are additionally partitioned into 6 revenue circles: Baska having 85 towns, Barama (Part) having 47 Villages, Tamulpur having 188 Villages, Goreswar (Part) having 96 Villages, Baganpara (Part) having 46 Villages, Jalah (Part) having 225. There are eleven BTC Constituencies and three Vidhan Sabha electorates of this region. The BTC Constituencies are Mathanguri, Salbari, Koklabari, Dihira, Musalpur,

---

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.baksa.gov.in/>

Baganpara, Darrangajuli, Nagrijuli, Goibari, Suklai Serfang and Goreswar. The Vidhan Sabha is Tamulpur, Barama and Chapaguri. These are part of Kokrajhar Lok Sabha constituency. Baksa region covers an area of 2457 Sq.Km. (Rural: 2451.14 Sq.Km and Urban: 5.86 Sq.Km)

The absolute number of population of Baksa locale is 9,50,075 lakhs, out of these the complete male population is 4,81,330 and all out female population is 4,68,745. The total literate people of this region is 5,72,837 lakhs, Sex proportion is 974 female against 1000 male. The primary communities of the District are Bodo, Mainstream Assamese, Adivasi, Nepali, Rabha and Religious minority. Out of these total male literates is 3,22,614 and female literate is 2,50,223. Overall district literacy rate 60.3%, which comprises male literacy rate 67% and female literacy rate 53.4% (Census 2011, Source: Baksa District Profile).

### **The Field Survey:**

The present study is conducted in area of Mushalpur and Tamulpur subdivision of Baksa District of Assam State, cause behind that it is one of the most underdeveloped region in terms of human development related indicators as compared to whole of the State of Assam.

The field Study based on questionnaire format, interview, as well as group discussion. The field survey was conducted by selecting 3 revenue circle representative circles are Barama, Baganpara and Tamulpur. For sample size, we use basically purposive sampling technique, but some data are getting through convenience and voluntary response sampling method. A total 630 women participated in the study representing 210 women from each revenue circle. For data collection self structured questionnaire was distributed to the selected respondents. Along with these, informal interviews were also conducted with the women. The factors affecting rights of women have been examined in this study particularly Education, health, Social, economic, political rights of women, Awareness of Human rights also taken into consideration in the dimension of Human rights status of women.

### **Profile of the Respondents:**

A total 630 women participated in the study .The profile of the respondents distributed in to various categories such as age, marital status, occupation, education, etc.

### **Distribution of Respondents by Age:**

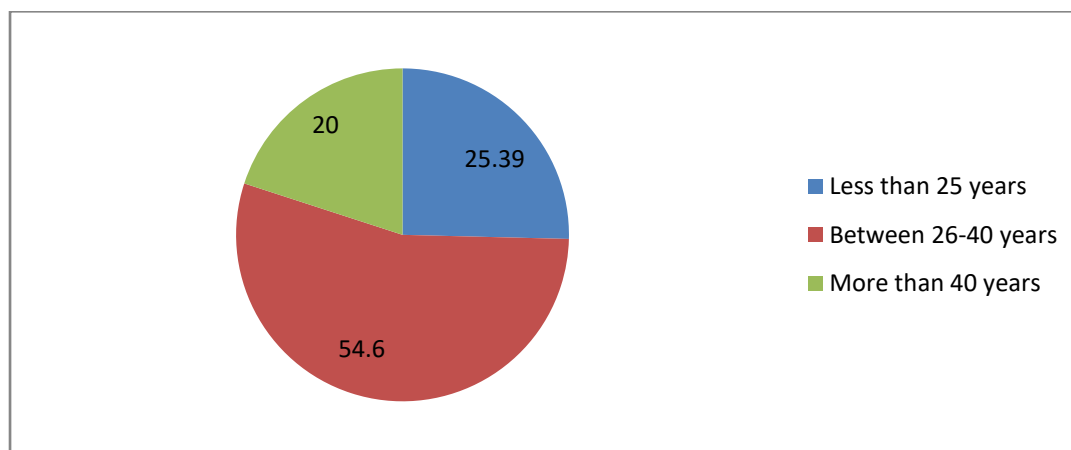
Age is important because it determines the many things about an individual. Age determines the maturity level and life experience of an individual. Age determines the individual's ability to make decisions. It is the age which has its own effects on the thinking pattern of the individuals. The views and the opinions of the individuals are determined to a great extent by their respective ages which in turn contribute to their participation. Indian constitution declares 18 years for acquiring the voting right of a person. So, the women over 18 years of age only have been included in the sample for the purpose of present study.

**Table 4:1: Distribution of age group – Number of Respondents.**

<b>Revenue Circle</b>	<b>Less than 25 years</b>	<b>Between 26-40 years</b>	<b>More than 40 years</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Barama</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Baganpara</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Tamulpur</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>25.39</b>	<b>54.60</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>

**Source: Field Survey**

**Figure4:1: Distribution of age group – Percentage of Respondents**



Source: Field Survey

The above data in the table 4:1 and figure 4:1 shows that Out of total 630 respondents 160 respondents belong to the age group of less than 25 years which constitute 25.39% of total sample, 344 respondents belongs to the age group between 26--40 years which constitute 54.60%, 126 respondents belong to the age group of more than 40 years which constitute 20% of total sample.

The distribution of age of the respondents ascertains that majority of the respondents (54.60) belongs to the age group of 26 to 40 years followed by 25.39% from the age group of less than 25 years and 20% of the respondent belong to more than 40 years. The table reveals that majority of the respondents are youth and lower mid-aged women. Therefore more than half of the respondents have spoken from their own life experience.

### **Distribution of Respondents by Education:**

Education plays a vital role for determining the life style, occupation and behaviour pattern of women to great extent. People gain knowledge of basic norms, convention, regulations and principles of society through education. More over high quality education enables to lead a successful life, enhances intelligence, skills, knowledge, and bring positive changes in life. Education makes people capable of doing new interesting things that can go a long way to improving human living condition and

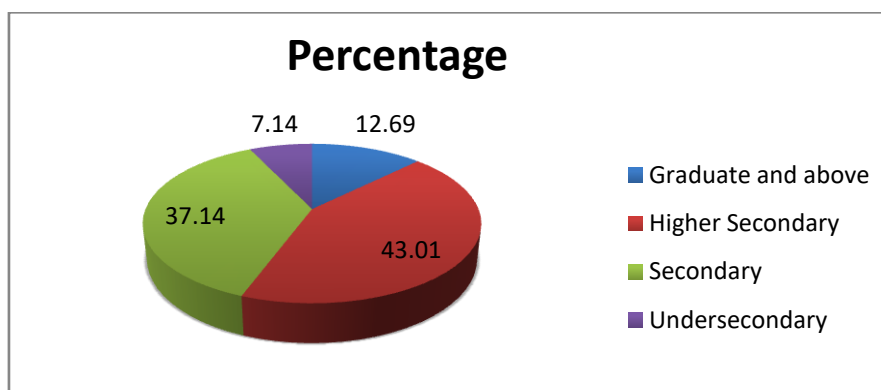
standards. Thus, the level of education is an important indicator for understanding the present and future status of women in particular area.

**Table 4:2: Distribution of Educational Qualification – Number of Respondents.**

Revenue Circle	Graduate and above	Higher Secondary	Secondary	Under Secondary	Total
Barama	35	80	72	23	210
Baganpara	26	91	79	14	210
Tamulpur	19	100	83	08	210
Grand Total	80	271	234	45	630
Percentage	12.69	43.01	37.14	7.14	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure4:2: Distribution of Educational Qualification-Percentage of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

The above data in the table 4:2 and figure 4:2: shows the educational qualification of the respondent. Out of 630 respondent 80 respondents are educated up to graduate level which constitute 12.69% of the total sample,271 respondents are higher secondary level which constitute 43.01 % of total sample, 234 are educated up to secondary level which constitute 37.14 % of total sample, and 45 are educated under secondary level which constitute 7.14 % of total sample. This table shows that majority of women are educated up to higher secondary level.

### Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status:

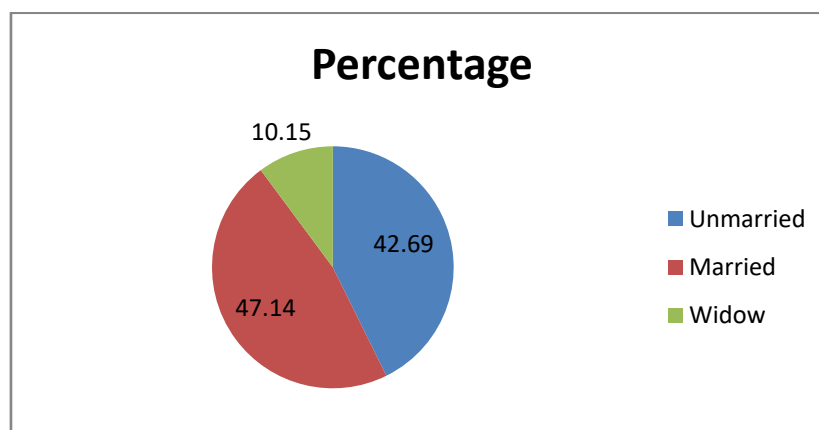
Marriage is another important factor which not only brings behavioural changes among women but also brings significant changes in their social status. In every society the roles, duties and responsibilities that are assigned to women differ from one another on the basis of their marital status.

**Table 4:3: Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status – Number of Respondents.**

Revenue Circle	unmarried	Married	widow	Total
Barama	89	95	26	210
Baganpara	92	100	18	210
Tamulpur	88	102	20	210
Total	269	297	64	630
Percentage	42.69	47.14	10.15	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure4:3: Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status-Percentage of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

The above data in the table 4:3: and figure 4:3: shows that out of 630 respondents 269 are unmarried which constitute 42.69 % of total sample, 297 are married which constitute 47.14 % of total sample, and 64 are widow which constitute 10.15 % of total sample.

### Distribution of Respondents by Occupation:

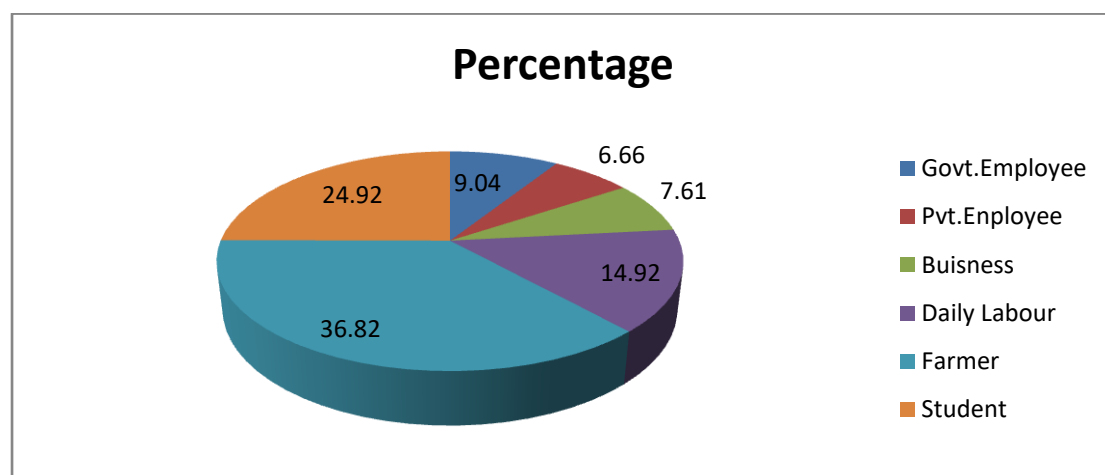
Occupation is another important variable which determines the social status of a person in a society. It helps women to raise their living standard, and it also leads to the empowerment of women. Therefore, the study of occupation of women is very essential for understanding their socio-economic status. In the present study three types of occupation have been included i.e. government servant, businessman, and social activist. The following table presents distribution of respondents by their occupation.

**Table: 4:4 Distribution of Occupation -Number of Respondents.**

Revenue Circle	Govt. Employee	Pvt. Employee	Business	Daily Labour	Farmer	Student	Total
Barama	22	15	11	28	81	53	210
Baganpara	19	16	14	31	73	57	210
Tamulpur	16	11	23	35	88	47	210
<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>9.04</b>	<b>6.66</b>	<b>7.61</b>	<b>14.92</b>	<b>36.82</b>	<b>24.92</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey

**Figure4:4: Distribution of Occupation -Percentage of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey



The above data in the table 4:4 and figure 4:4: shows that out of 630 respondent 57 are government employee which constitute 9.04 % of total sample, 42 are private employee which constitute 6.66 % of total sample, 48 are engaged in business activities which constitute 7.61 % of total sample, 94 are daily labour which constitute 14.92% of total sample, 232 are farmer which constitute 36.82% of total sample and 157 are student which constitute 24.92 % of total sample.

### **Assessment of Human rights status of Women of the study area's in the Context of CEDAW:**

#### **A. Status of Educational rights of women:**

Literacy and educational attainment level are considered as significant factors for development of any society. The quality of a society can be judged through level of educational attainment. Right to Education is the fundamental human right. It is no doubt that Indian Government has taken an initiative role for developing women equal to man but still there has been the lowest female literacy rate in Asia. There is a great disparity between the male and female educational status.

Education is the major mechanism in bringing about changes in the position of women. The educational status of women in Baksa also is not very pleasing. The female literacy rate in Baksa District has significantly increased over the years. It improved from 48.33% in 2001 to 53.4% in 2011. However as compared to the male literacy rate the literacy rate of women is low.

**Table 4:5: Government Educational Institution in the District.**

SL.No	Institutions	No
1.	Degree College	15
2.	Junior College	11
3.	H.S. School	15
4.	High School	234
5.	L.P. School	1462
6.	Sanskrit toll	01
7.	U.P. School	467

**Source: Statistical Handbook of Assam 2018.**

The following table presenting the literacy and gender gap between male-female and the literacy in Baksa District and Assam.

**Table-4:6: Literacy rate of Assam as well as Baksa district.**

Literacy rate 2011	Male (%)	Female(%)	Male-Female gap
Assam	77.85	66.27	11.58
Baksa	67	53.4	13.6

**Census-2011**

The above table representing the male-female literacy rate in Assam as well as Baksa District. The table has surprisingly noted that there is a gap between Female literacy rate of Assam and Baksa district. According to Census of India 2011 the male-female literacy gap of Assam and Baksa district were 11.58 and 13.6 respectively. So it is indicate that the condition of female literacy in Baksa is lagging behind compared to State literacy rate of the female.

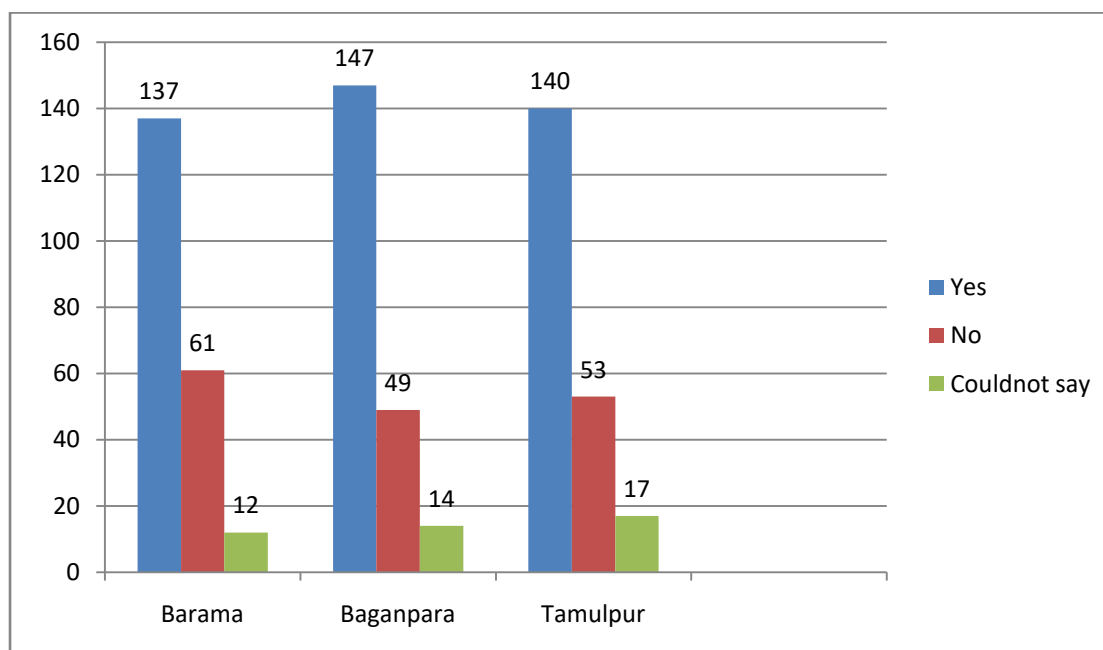
During field survey it was found that the conditions of Education facilities are not appreciable. To examine the Government efforts for Female education, the researcher asked the respondents, various question related to education. “The following tables will show in the reality of the study area.

**Table-4:7: Are you engaging more time in housework than study work?**

Revenue circle	yes	No	Could not say	G.Total
Barama	137	61	12	210
Baganpara	147	49	14	210
Tamulpur	140	53	17	210
G.Total	424	163	43	630
Percentage	67.30	25.87	6.82	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure: 4:5: Numbers of Respondents**



Source: Field Survey

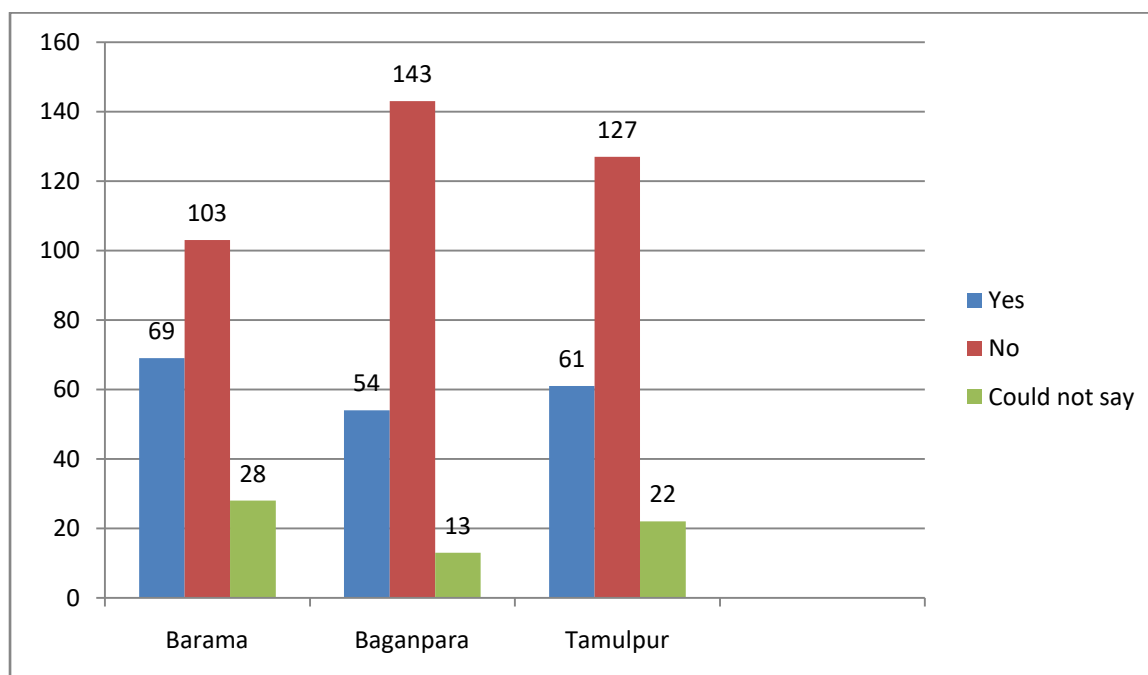
In the above mentioned question, data in the table 4:7 and figure 4:5: shows that out of 630 respondents 424 agree that they are engaging more in house hold work than study which constitute 67.30 % of total sample. Whereas 163 respondents do not think so which constitute 25.87 % of total sample and 43 respondents did not keep their opinion which constitutes 6.82 % of total sample. On the basis of the above analysis it may be concluded that majority of the respondent think that they are engaging more in house hold work than study.

**Table-4:8: Are you satisfied with your school facilities?**

Revenue circle	Yes	No	Could n say	G. Total
Barama	69	103	28	210
Baganpara	54	143	13	210
Tamulpur	61	127	22	210
G.Total	184	373	63	630
Percentage	29.20	59.20	10.00	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:6: Numbers of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

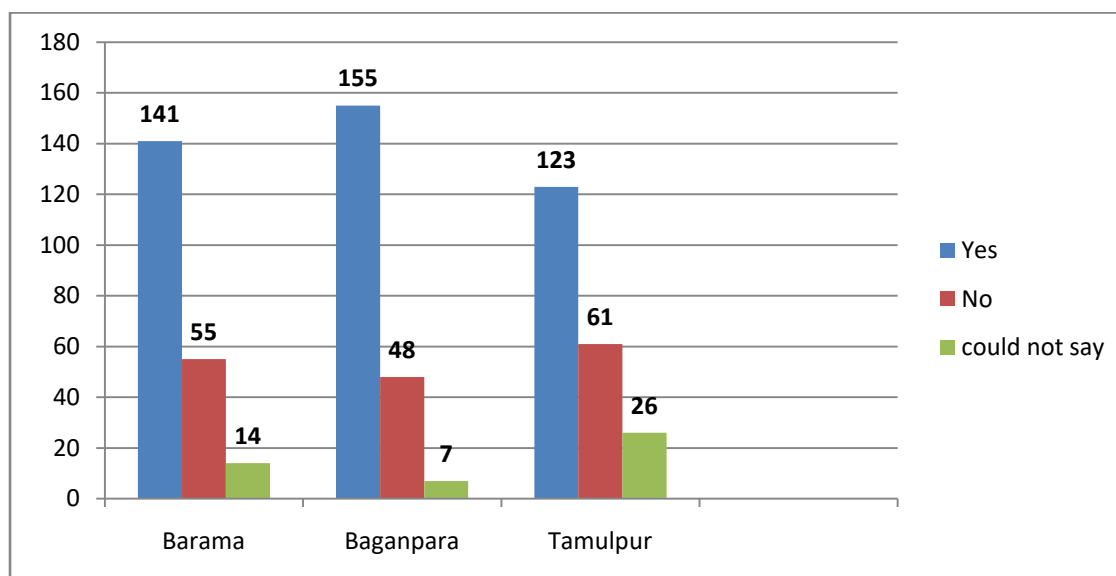
In the above-mentioned question, data in the table 4:8 and figure 4:6: shows that out of 630 respondents 184 are satisfied with their school facilities which constitute 29.20 % of total sample. Whereas 373 respondents are dissatisfied with their school facilities which constitute 59.20 % of total sample and 63 respondents did not keep their opinion which constitutes 10 % of total sample. On the basis of the above analysis it may be concluded that majority of the respondent are not satisfied with their school facilities.

**Table-4:9: Do you have faced any kind of discrimination by your family for choice of the stream or course in school?**

Revenue circle	Yes	No	Could not say	G.Total
Barama	141	55	14	210
Baganpara	155	48	07	210
Tamulpur	123	61	26	210
G.Total	419	164	47	630
Percentage	66.50	26.03	7.46	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure4:7: Numbers of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

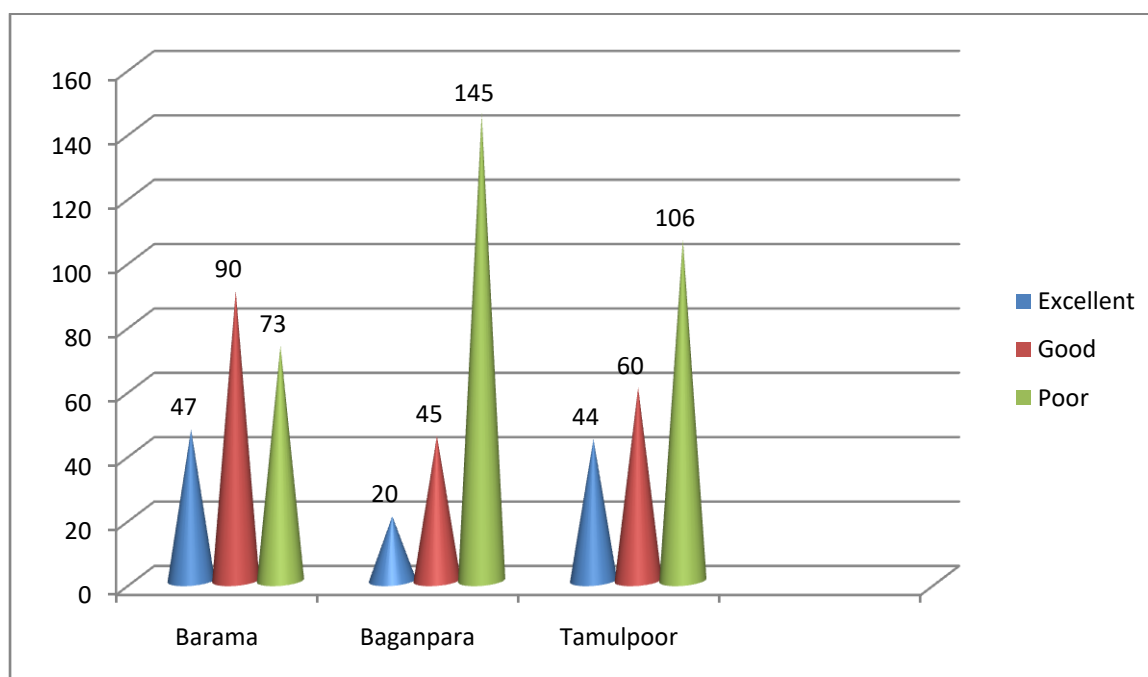
In the above-mentioned question, data in the table 4:9 and figure 4:7: shows that out of 630 respondents 419 agree that they are discriminated by their family for choice of the stream or course in school which constitute 66.50 % of total sample. There are 164 respondents who do not agree that they are discriminated by their family member regarding the above question which constitutes 26.03 % of total sample and 47 respondent keep silences regarding this issue which constitute 7.46 % of total sample. On the basis of the above analysis it may be concluded that majority of the respondent think that they are discriminated by their family for choice of the stream or course.

**Table-4:10: How do you evaluate government’s performance on women education in Baksa district?**

Revenue Circle	Excellent	Good	Poor	Total
Barama	47	90	73	210
Baganpara	20	45	145	210
Tamulpur	44	60	106	210
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>17.61</b>	<b>30.95</b>	<b>51.42</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey

**Figure4:8: Numbers of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

The above data in the table 4:10 and figure 4:8: shows that out of 630 respondents 111 said that government performance about the women education is excellent which constitute 17.61 % of total sample. 195 respondents says that; government performance on women education is good which constitute 30.95 % of total sample and 324 respondents were not satisfied with government performance on women education which constitute 51.42 % of total sample.

On the basis of the above analysis it can be concluded that, the educational status of women in Baksa also is not very satisfactory. The female literacy rate in Baksa During field survey it was found that the conditions of Education facilities are not appreciable. Majority of the women were not satisfied of government performance on education.

### **B. Status of right to health:**

Each and every woman has the human rights to the maximum possible standard of physical and mental health. Enjoyment of the human right to health is very important to all aspects of an individual's life and well-being. Many women and girls face serious obstacles to understanding of their human right to health, including disparity of access to health care, food and nutrition. All disparities relating to health are destructive to women.

Health is regarded as a fundamental component in the growth and development of any country. In the level of health and in measures for health improvement the developing countries lag far behind from the rest of world. There is a serious shortage of hospitals, doctors, nurses and medicines in the developing countries. As compared to many developing countries, health status of women is very low. Health malnutrition, under nourishment and lack of proper pre-natal and antenatal care characterize Indian women. The Indian government started many programmes to provide healthcare facility to all poor and rural people such as National Rural Health Mission. The National Rural Health Mission (NHRM) was approved by India in 2005. Its main objectives were to decrease infant mortality and also the maternal mortality ratio as well as, to create universal access to public health services and also steadiness the gender ratio. In spite of these efforts women are still neglected for whom they are not being able to live a healthy life. Even though India was able to get better some measures of maternal health since the ratification of the NHRM in 2005, the country was still far behind most promising economies.

Poor health infrastructure is one of the major problems which the women of the Baksa District have been facing since long time. Poor quality of drinking water and inadequate care, lack of high-quality health institution lead to the serious diseases now days in this area. Although the BTC government is doing its best to improve the quality of health centre in the area but it is not adequate.

**Table: 4:11: Male Female sex ratios in Baksa:**

<b>Total population</b>	<b>9500075</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>481330</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>468745</b>
<b>Sex Ratio</b>	<b>974</b>

Source: District Profile, Census 2011

The achievement of Baksa District in the field of health care is not satisfactory rather disappointing.

**Table-4:12: Government Health Institution in the district.**

<b>SL. No</b>	<b>Name of Health Institution</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Number of bed</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Civil Hospital</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Primary Health Centre</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>164</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Community Health Centre</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>State dispensaries</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>---</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Sub- Centre</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>----</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>464</b>

Source: Statistical Handbook of Assam 2018



**Table-4:13: Medical and Paramedical personal under government sector**

Doctors	Pharmacist	ANM nurse	GNM Nurse
180	65	271	194

Source: Statistical Handbook of Assam 2018

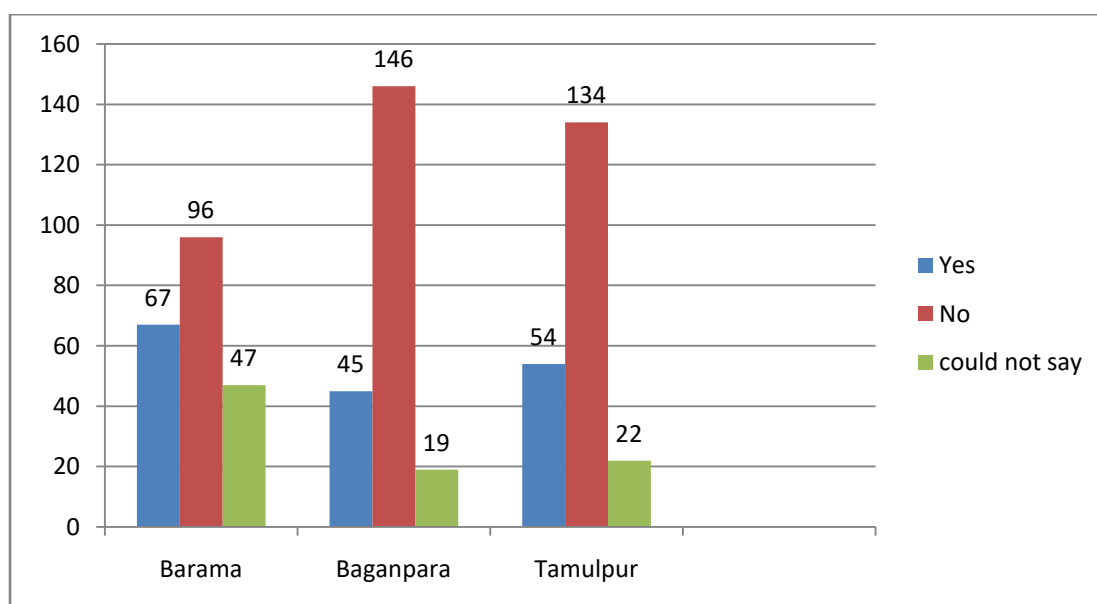
To examine the Government efforts for women health care facilities, the researcher asked the respondents, “ How do you calculate government’s performance on women Health care facilities in Baksa?” The following table will depict the reality.

**Table-4:14: Are you satisfied with health care facilities specially in family planning and maternity service?**

Revenue circle	Yes	No	Could not say	G.Total
Barama	67	96	47	210
Baganpara	45	146	19	210
Tamulpur	54	134	22	210
G.Total	166	376	88	630
Percentage	26.34	59.68	13.96	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure 4:9: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

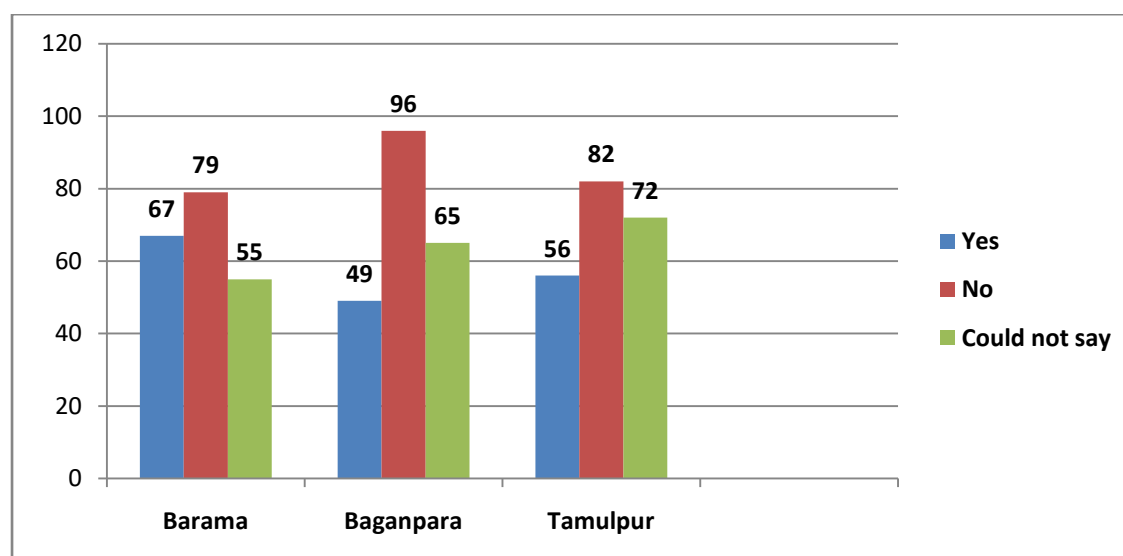
In the above-mentioned question, data in the table 4:14 and figure 4:9: shows out of 630 respondents 166 are satisfied with health care facilities specially in family planning and maternity service which constitute 26.34 % of total sample. But 376 respondents are not satisfied with health care facilities specially in family planning and maternity service which constitute 59.68 % of total sample and 88 respondent did not keep their opinion which constitute 13.96 % of total sample. On the basis of the above analysis, it may conclude that majority of the respondent are dissatisfied with health care facilities specially in family planning and maternity service.

**Table-4:15: Does the health worker visit your village?**

Revenue circle	Yes	No	Could not say	G.Total
<b>Barama</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Baganpara</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Tamulpur</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>G.Total</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>27.30</b>	<b>40.79</b>	<b>30.47</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:10: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

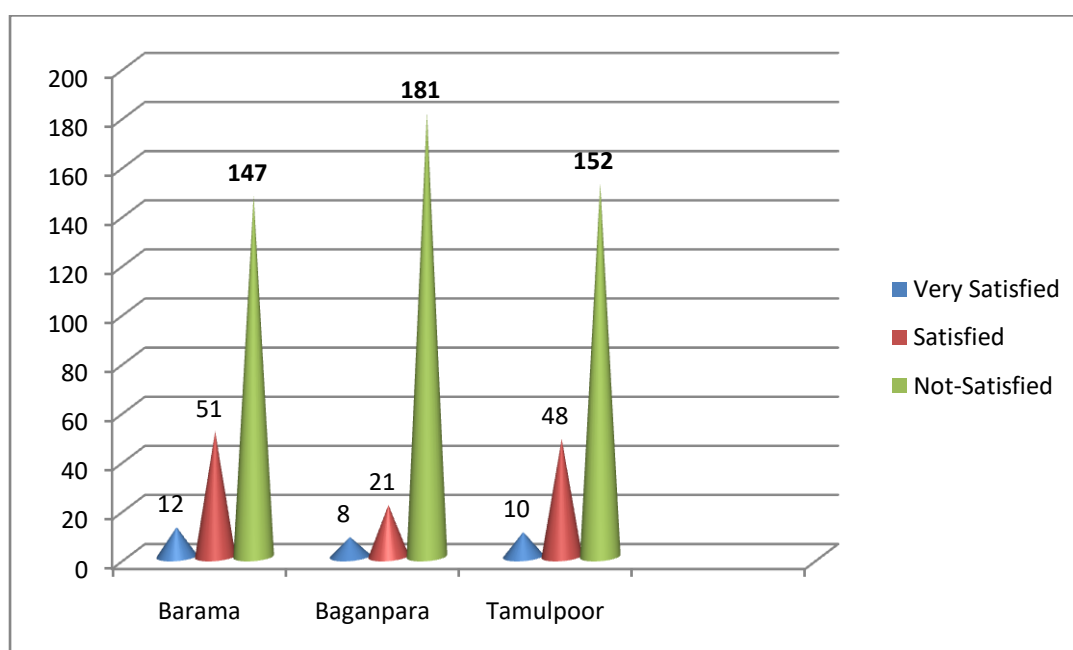
In the above-mentioned question, data in the table 4:15 and figure 4:10: shows out of 630 respondents 172 said that they have been visited by health worker which constitutes 27.30 % of total sample. But 257 respondents said that health worker never visited them which constitute 40.79 % of total sample and 192 respondents did not keep their opinion which constitutes 30.47 % of total sample. On the basis of the above analysis it is concluded that majority of the respondent responded that the health worker did not visit them.

**Table-4:16: How do you calculate government’s performance on women Health care facilities in Baksa?**

Revenue Circle	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Not-Satisfied	Total
Barama	12	51	147	210
Baganpara	8	21	181	210
Tanulpur	10	48	152	210
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>4.76</b>	<b>19.04</b>	<b>76.19</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:11: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

Data in the table 4:16 and figure 4:11: reveal that out of 630 respondents 30 were highly satisfied with government performance about the women Health care facilities which constitute 4.76 % of total sample. 120 respondents opined that, government performance on women Health care facilities is satisfactory which constitute 19.04 % of total sample and 480 respondent were not satisfied which constitute 76.19 % of total sample. On the basis of the above analysis, It may be concluded that majority of the women were not satisfied of government performance on Health care facilities.

Regarding government's performance on women health care facilities in Baksa, the researcher again ask a question-What are the causes for not-satisfaction?

**Table- 4:17: What are the causes for non satisfaction?**

<b>Causes for Non Satisfaction</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Absence of Doctors	252(52.50%)	228 (47.50%)
Shortage of Medicine	340(70.83%)	140 (29.16%)
Lack of maternity facilities in emergency situation.	422(87.91%)	58 (12.08%)

Source: Field Survey

The above data in table 4:17: reveal that that main cause behind the non satisfaction with the medical facilities as identified by the respondents is lack of maternity facilities in emergency situation (87.91%) followed by shortage of medicine (70.83%), absence of doctors (52.50%) .

The field survey reveals to a great extent negative picture regarding health Condition of women specially in maternity facilities. Poor health is one of the main problems which the women of the Baksa District have been facing since long period. Majority of the women were not satisfied of government performance on Health care facilities.

### C. Societal discrimination on the basis of sex:

Regarding the social condition of women in India there is a tradition to neglect the girl child. A girl child is regarded as a liability to the family. It is well known that in our society preference is always given to the male child. However, it is fact that women in Assam enjoy a higher status as compared to the greater Indian society. But still there is social neglect and discrimination between the male and female in this society as well.

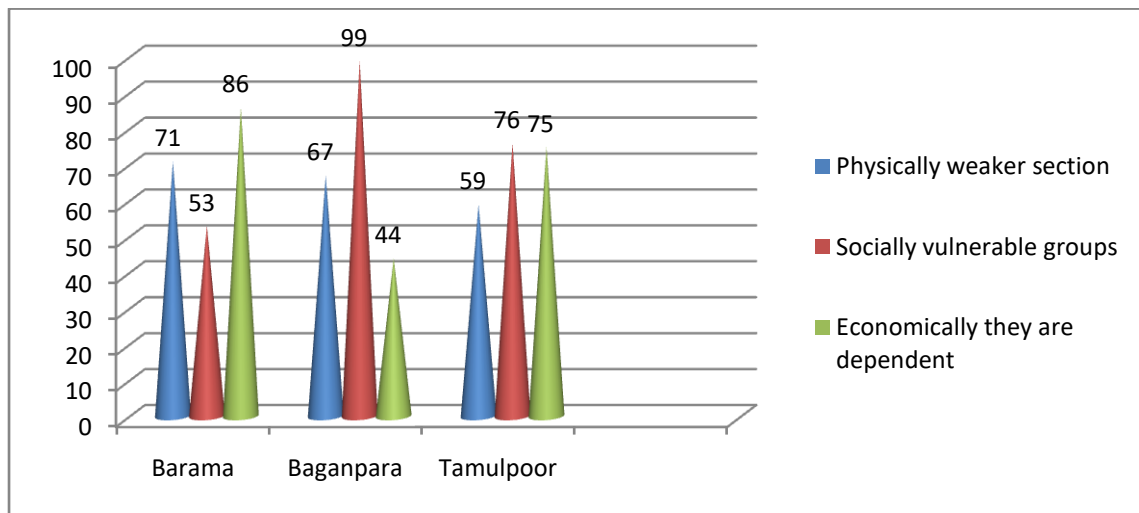
For the discrimination on the basis of sex three questions were asked to know the opinion of people regarding the position and rights of women in the society.

**Table-4:18: In your opinion why society shows the different approach about women compare to men?**

Revenue Circle	Physically weaker section	Socially vulnerable groups	Economically they are dependent	Total
Barama	71	53	86	210
Baganpara	67	99	44	210
Tanulpur	59	76	75	210
Total	197	228	205	630
Percentage	31.26	36.19	32.53	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:12: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

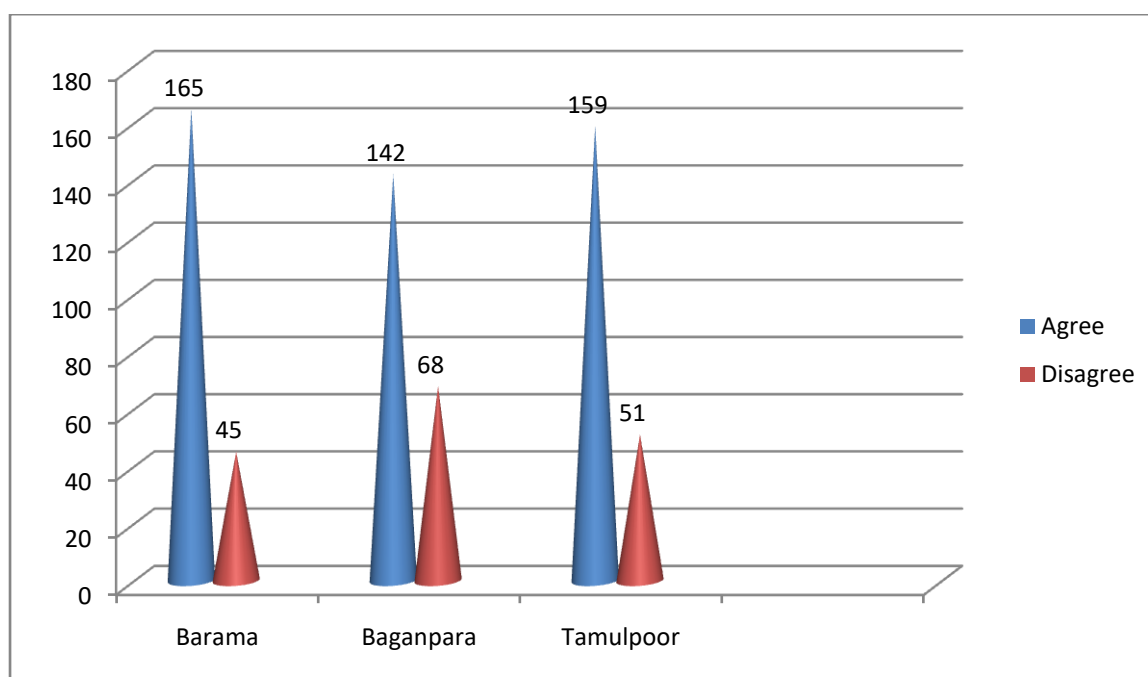
The above data in the table 4:18 and figure 4:12: shows that out of 630 respondents, 197 think that society shows the different approach about women, because they are physically weaker section which constitutes 31.26 % of total sample. Similarly, 228 respondents opined that women are socially vulnerable groups which constitute 36.19 % of total sample. On the other hand 205 respondents think that women are economically dependent that is why society differentiates between women and men which constitute 32.53 % of total sample.

**Table-4:19: Was discrimination against women due to tradition and custom?**

Revenue Circle	Agree	Disagree	Total
Barama	165	45	210
Baganpara	142	68	210
Tanulpur	159	51	210
<b>Total</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>73.96</b>	<b>26.03</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:13: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

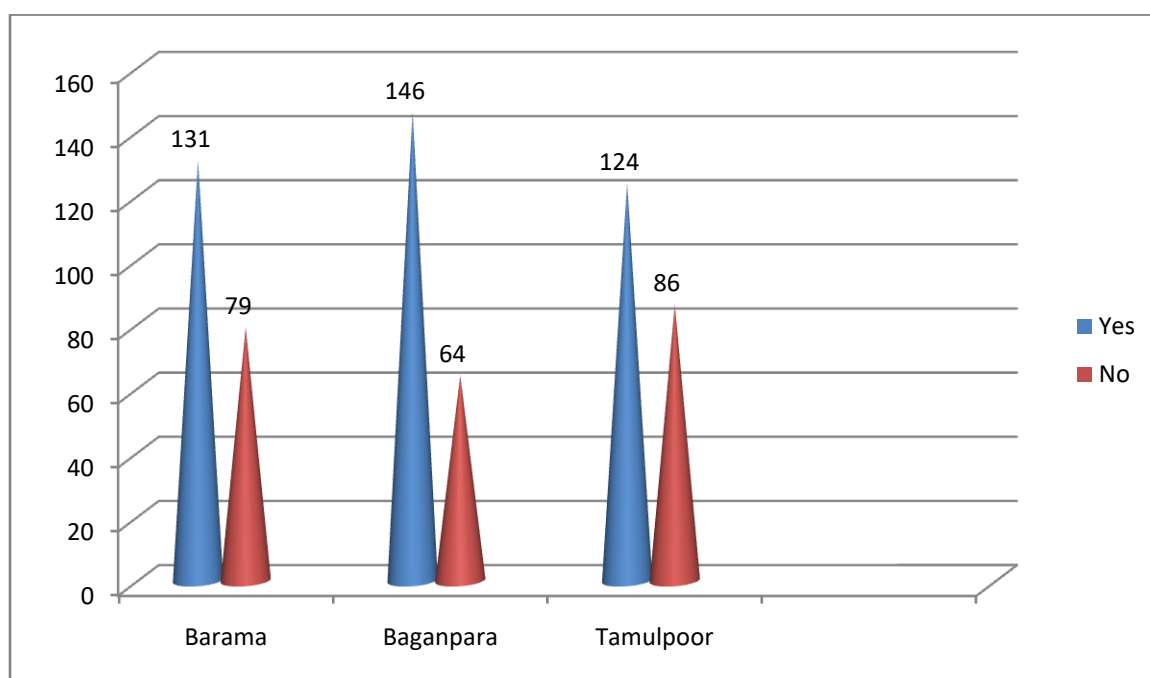
In the above-mentioned question, data in the table 4:19 and figure 4:13: shows out of 630 respondents 466 are in favour of the option that there is a strong discrimination against women mainly in the tradition and customary practices which constitute 73.96 % of total sample. But 164 respondents do not think so which constitute 26.03 % of total sample. On the basis of the above analysis it is m concluded that majority of the women think that tradition and custom are the main hindrances of women rights.

**Table-4:20: Do you think that, in the society, a woman is considered as inferior to man?**

Revenue Circle	Yes	No	Total
Barama	131	79	210
Baganpara	146	64	210
Tanulpur	124	86	210
<b>Total</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>63.65</b>	<b>36.34</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:14: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

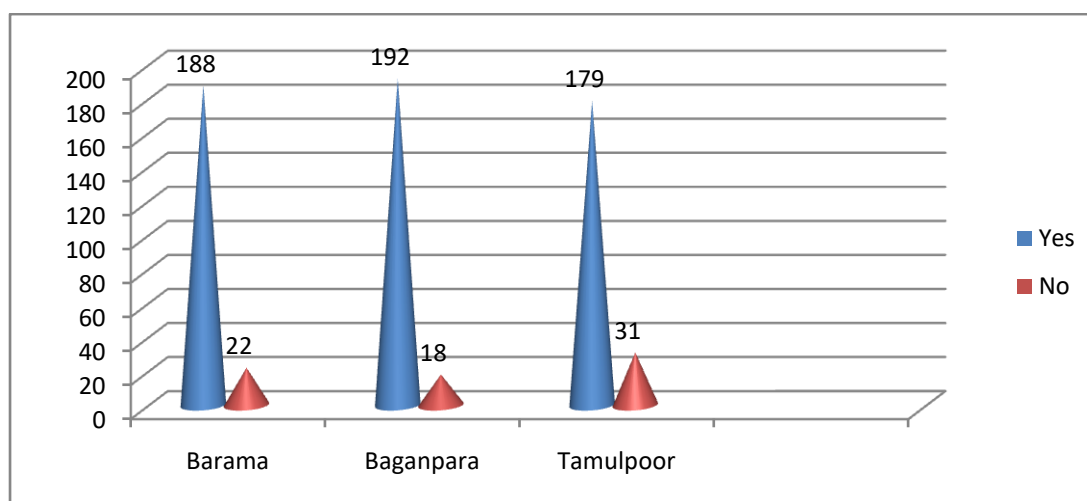
As shown in table 4:20 and figure 4:14: out of 630 respondents, 401 think that the status of women in the Society is inferior to men who constitute 63.65% of total sample. Another 229 respondents do not think so which constitute 36.34% of total sample. Therefore it is a fact that, inequality on the basis of sex has become part of a male dominated society.

**Table-4:21 Do you think that house hold work is not getting recognized because it is Non-Salaried in character?**

Revenue Circle	Yes	No	Total
Barama	188	22	155
Baganpara	192	18	155
Tanulpur	179	31	310
<b>Total</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>88.73</b>	<b>11.26</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey

**Figure4:15: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

Data in table 4:21 and figure 4:15: reveal that out of 630 respondents most of the women 559 think that their household work is not recognized by the family because of its non-economic character which constitute 88.73 % of total sample. Only 71



respondents agree that their household works get recognized by the family which constitute 11.26 % of total sample.

On the basis of the above analysis it is concluded that majority of the women were not satisfied for this discriminatory attitude by their family. So, the works of women in every respect whether paid or unpaid should be given due respect and consideration for building a better society. Most of the women play the role of the housewife. Though they work from morning to night for the family, their work is noneconomic in character. As a result of it, women have to remain dependent upon their male guardians. The economic value of the activities of women at home is never taken into account. That is why, they are considered to be dependent on the earnings of others.

After analyzing these four tables it is found that women suffer from gender discrimination because of societal structure. Tradition is firmly rooted in the society. This tradition has given a framework to think and treat a woman within a boundary. So there is urgent need to root out traditional belief system, superstition and societal restriction and form a liberal society where both men and women will get equal respect, equal right and privileges.

#### **D. Gender discrimination on the basis of political participation:**

Women's participation in politics and government decision-making process are essential factors for nation building and democratic system. Democracy without the complete participation of women is a contradiction in terms. Equal political participation in the decision making process is another important way of women empowerment. Articles 325 and 326 of the constitution of India promised political equality, equal right to participate in political activities and right to vote respectively. Although there are talks about women empowerment but how much are they concern about their political participation. Political parties have not given proper interest to engage them in active politics; still there is neglect and discrimination between the male and female.

Participation of women in politics is one of the major areas of women empowerment. Active participation of women in the political activities, political process, decision

making and policy formulation certainly has a strong posture on the government structure, nation building and growth of a country. Participation in decision making levels enhances the social political and economic status of women. These types of activity are strengthening the democratic institutions and making them more inclusive and meaningful. Political participation does not only concern the right to vote, but also about power sharing, decision-making and policy formulation at every level of governance. Around the world most of the country become more democratic and the people's participatory level in the politics increased day by day but the percentage of women in political participation is very low.

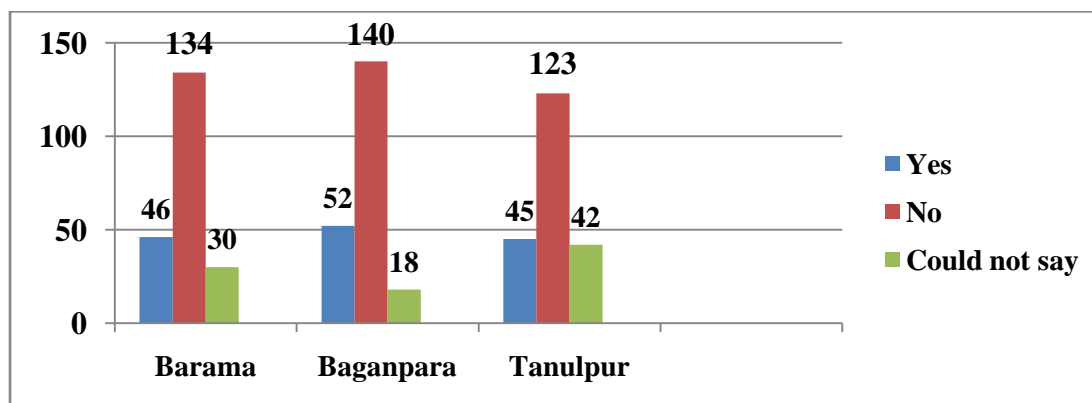
Political participation of women in Baksa district occupied a lower position in the whole electoral process. The political pitch is dominated by males at all level. Although the percentage of women voter increased significantly over the time, still they are lagging behind the decision-making power. In Baksa district, so far there is no record of women candidate participating for parliament election basically from major political parties. After formation of Baksa district, so far three terms Legislative Assembly election have been held but astonishingly not a single women has been elected. On the other hand, In Bodoland territorial council Assembly, there is 46 members and so far three term election have been held but surprisingly not a single woman has been elected from Baksa district. The following table will show in the reality of the study area.

**Table-4.22: Are you interested in Active Politics?**

<b>Revenue Circle</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Could not Say</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Barama</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Baganpara</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Tanulpur</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>630</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>22.69</b>	<b>63.01</b>	<b>14.28</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field survey

**Figure: 4.16: Numbers of Respondents**



Source: Field survey

In the above-mentioned question, data in the table 4:22 and figure 4:16: shows that out of 630 respondents 143 are interested in active participation in politics which constitute 22.69% of total sample. Whereas 397 respondents are not interested in active politics which constitutes 63.01% and 90 respondents did not keep their opinion which constitute 14.28% of total sample. On the basis of the above analysis it may be concluded that majority of the respondent are not interested in active participation in politics.

Regarding the causes for not being interested in active Politics, the investigator again asks a question-What are the causes for not- being interested in active politics?

**Table-4.23: What are the causes for not interesting in active Politics?**

<b>Causes for Not-Interested</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Male domination in Politics</b>	<b>211(53.14%)</b>	<b>186(46.85%)</b>
<b>Burden of household works</b>	<b>289(72.79%)</b>	<b>108(27.20%)</b>
<b>Negative attitude of the society</b>	<b>231(58.18%)</b>	<b>166(41.81%)</b>

Source: Field survey

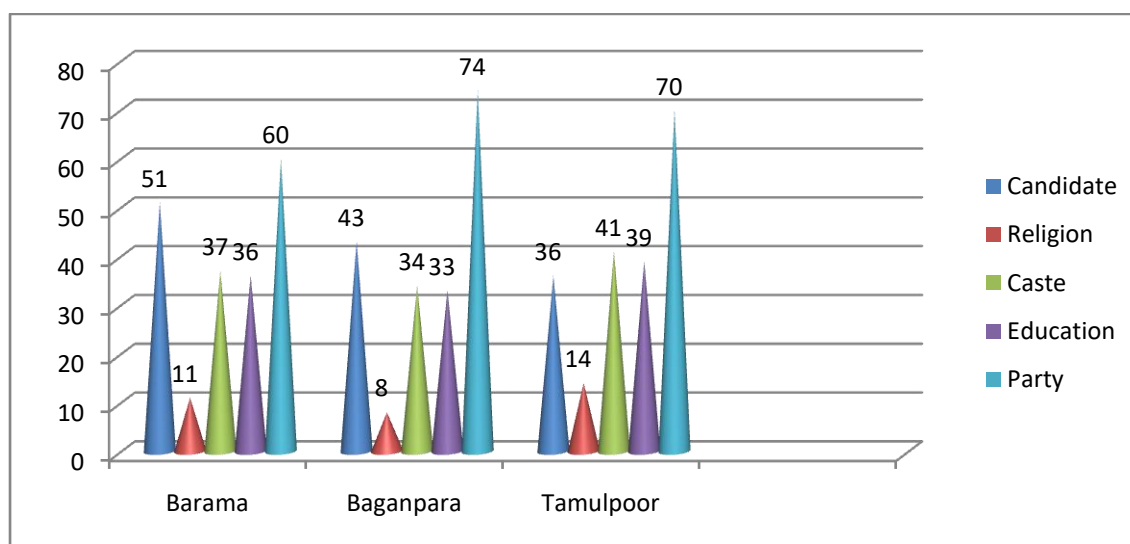
Data in table 4: 23 reveals that that main cause behind the not interested in politics as identified by the respondents is burden of household works (72.79%) followed by Negative attitude of the society (58.18%), Male domination in politics (53.14%) .

**Table-4:24: Which factors you keep in mind while casting your vote?**

Revenue circle	Candidate	Religion	Caste	Education	Party	Other	G.Total
Barama	51	11	37	36	60	15	210
Baganpara	43	08	34	33	74	18	210
Tamulpur	36	14	41	39	70	10	210
G.Total	130	33	112	108	204	43	630
Percentage	20.63	5.23	17.77	17.14	32.38	6.82	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:17: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

The data in the table 4:24 and figure 4:17: shows that out of 630 respondents, 130 respondents cast their votes in election based on merit of the candidate, which constitute 20.63% of the total sample. Whereas 33 respondents cast their vote on the basis of caste which constitutes 5.23% of the total sample, other hand 112 respondents cast their vote on the basis of religion which constitutes 17.77 % of the sample. There were 108 respondents kept in mind the educational status of the candidate, which constitute 17.14 % of the sample. While 204 respondents gave importance to political party affiliation of the candidate, which constitute 32.38% of the sample, however 43

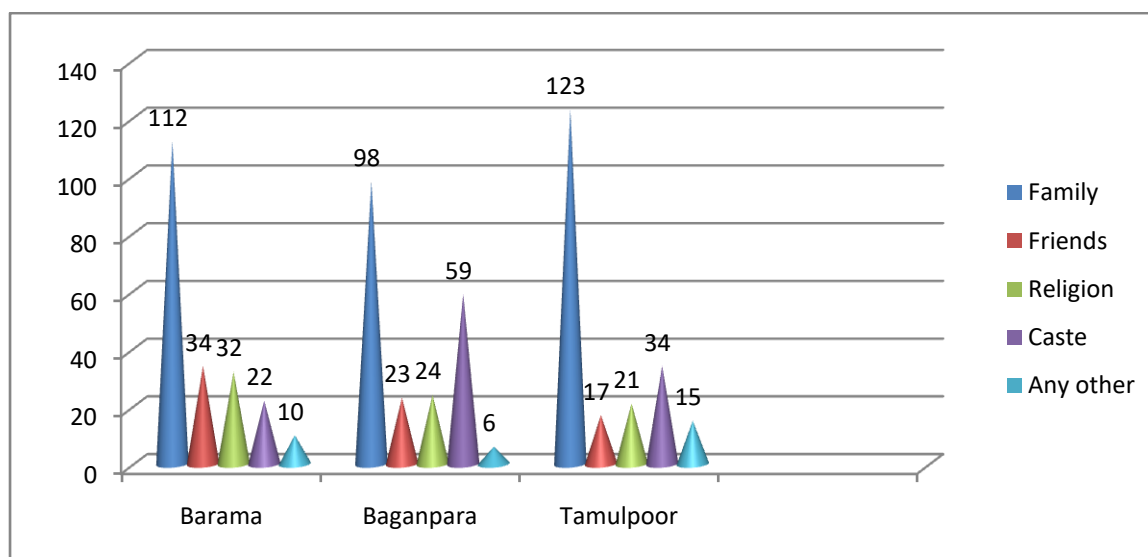
respondents casting their vote based on other sources which constitute 6.82 % of total sample.

**Table-4:25: Who influence your voting behaviour?**

\Revenue circle	Family	Friends	Religion	Caste	Any other	G.total
Barama	112	34	32	22	10	210
Baganpara	98	23	24	59	06	210
Tamulpur	123	17	21	34	15	210
G.Total	333	74	77	115	31	630
Percentage	52.85	11.74	12.22	18.25	4.92	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure4:18: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

The data in the table 4:25 and figure 4:18: indicate that out of 630 respondents 333 respondents believed that their voting behaviour were influenced by their family members, which constitutes 52.85 % of the total sample. Whereas 74 respondents believed that friends influenced their voting behaviour which constitutes 11.74% of the sample. The 77 respondents believed that religion influenced their voting behaviours which constitute 12.22% of the total sample. There were 115 respondent believed that caste influenced their voting behaviour which constitute 18.25 % of total

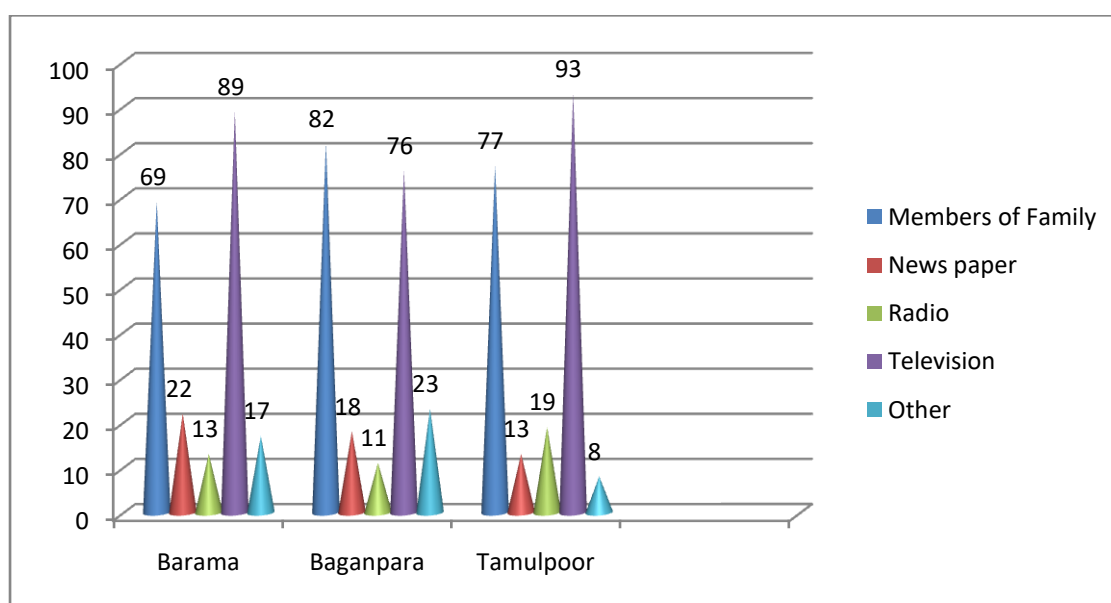
sample and 31 respondent believed other factor influenced them which constitutes 4.92 % of total sample.

**Table-4:26: What are the sources of your political information?**

Revenue Circle	Members of the Family	News paper	Radio	Television	Other	G.total
Barama	69	22	13	89	17	210
Baganpara	82	18	11	76	23	210
Tamulpur	77	13	19	93	08	210
G.Total	228	53	43	258	48	630
Percentage	36.19	8.41	6.82	40.95	7.61	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure4:19: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

It is evident from the data in the table 4:26 and figure 4:19: that out of 630 respondents, 228 respondents provided political information through their family members which constitute 36.19% of the total sample. Whereas 53 respondents, the main source of their political information was reading news papers which constitutes 8.41% of the total sample, There were 43 respondents that seek political information from radio, which constitute 6.82 % of the sample. The 258 respondents want political

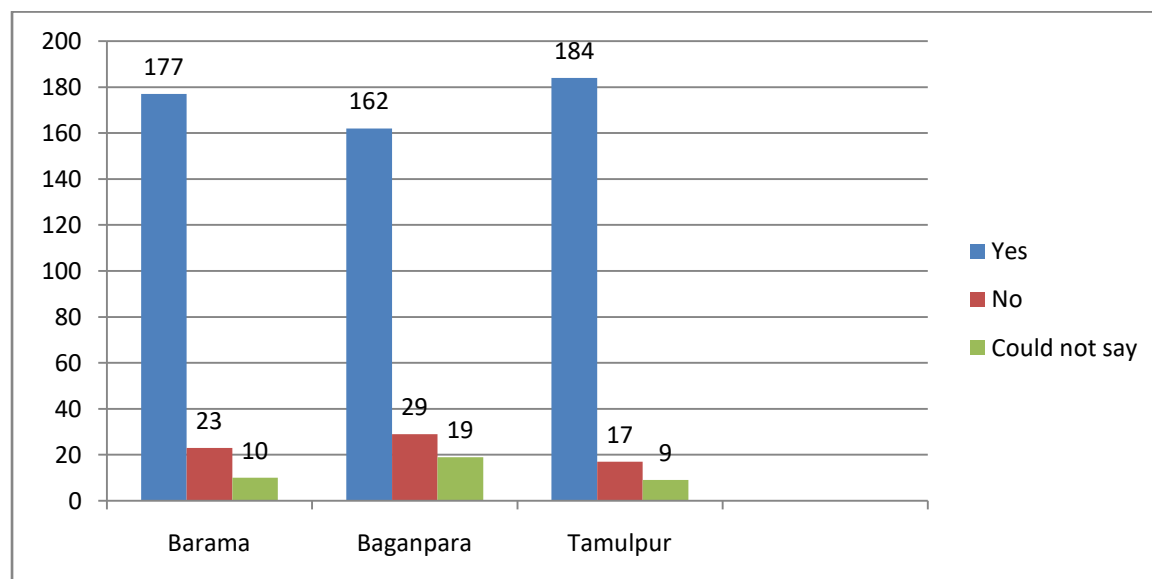
information from television which constitute 40.95 % of the sample. However, 48 respondents got political information from other sources, which constitute 7.61% of the sample.

**Table-4:27: Do you think the male dominate the women in decision making process?**

Revenue circle	yes	No	Could not say	G.Total
Barama	177	23	10	210
Baganpara	162	29	19	210
Tamulpur	184	17	09	210
G.Total	523	69	38	630
Percentage	83.01	10.95	6.03	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:20: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

The data in the table 4:27 and figure 4:20: shows that out of 630 respondent 523 respondents agreed with this view that the male dominated the women in decision making process, which constitutes 83.01% of the sample. Whereas 69 respondents disagreed with this view that the male dominate the women in decision making

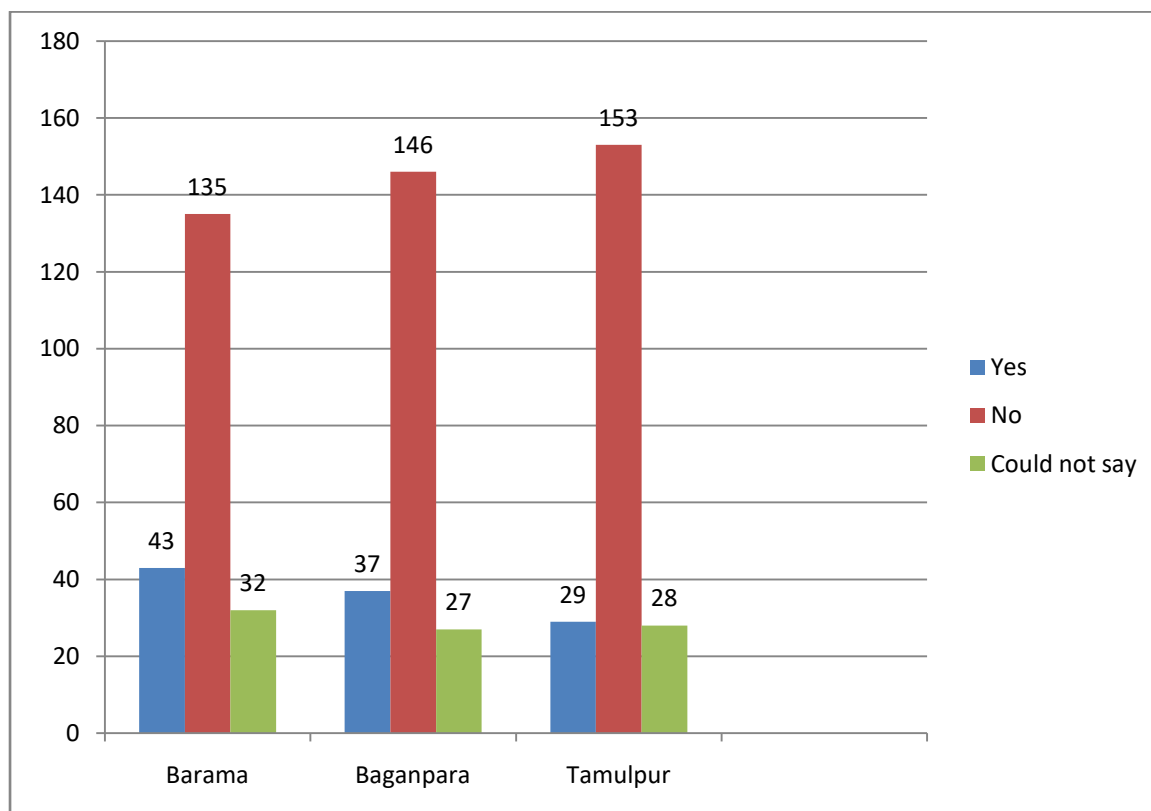
process which constitute 10.95% of the total sample, There were 38 respondents who did not express their opinion which constitutes 6.03% of the total sample.

**Table-4:28: Are you satisfied with the present level of participation of women in politics?**

Revenue circle	yes	No	Could not say	G.Total
Barama	43	135	32	210
Baganpara	37	146	27	210
Tamulpur	29	153	28	210
G.Total	109	434	87	630
Percentage	17.30	68.88	13.80	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:21: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey



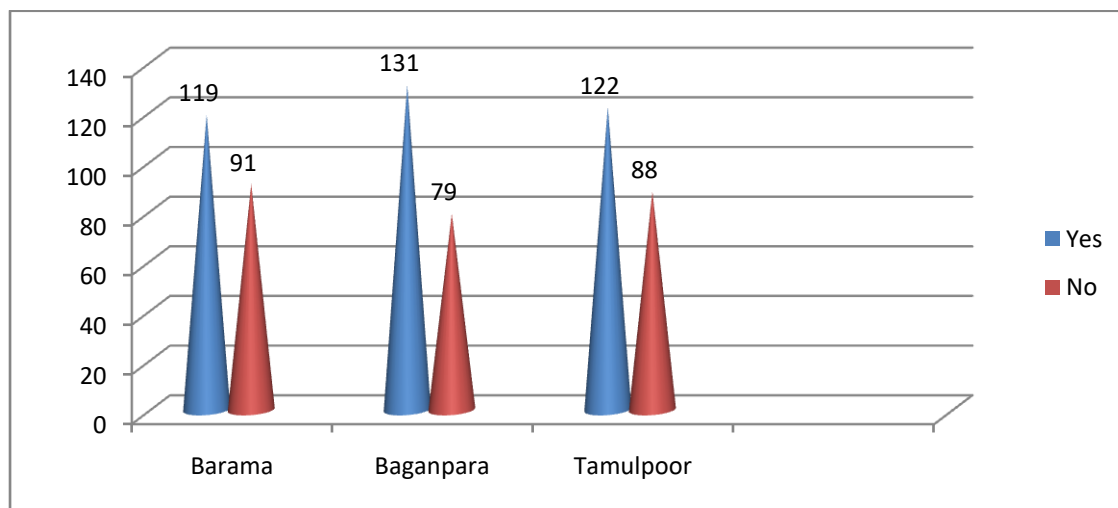
The data in the table 4:28 and figure 4:21: shows that out of 630 respondent 109 respondents were satisfied with the present level of participation of women in politics, which constitute 17.30% of the sample. Whereas 434 respondents were dissatisfied with the present level of participation of women in politics, which constitute 68.88% of the sample, there were 87 respondents who did not express their opinion which constitutes 13.80% of the total sample.

**Table-4:29: Do you think that the Male dominated Society is the main reason of low participation rate of women in politics?**

Revenue Circle	Yes	No	Total
Barama	119	91	210
Baganpara	131	79	210
Tanulpur	122	88	210
Total	372	258	630
Percentage	59.04	40.95	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:22: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

In the above-mentioned question, data in the table 4:29 and figure 4:22: shows out of 630 respondent 372 respondents are in favour of the option that patriarchal society is

the main reason of low participation rate of women in politics and decision making process which constitute 59.04% of the sample. But 258 respondents do not think so, which constitute 40.95% of total sample.

On the basis of the above analysis it may be concluded that majority of the women think that, they have been completely ignored by male dominated society and political parties in case of power politics and decision making process.

### **E. Awareness about Human right:**

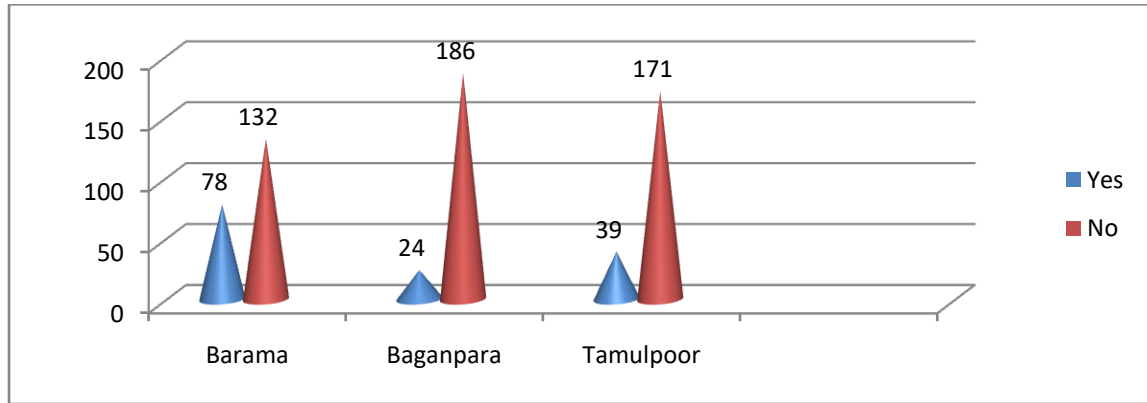
Human rights consciousness is a growing concept all over the world. Along with United Nations, different International organizations like Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch are trying their level best to achievement the mission of spreading Human Rights atmosphere universal. There are still millions of people in the globe who are seemed to be unable to grasp the true importance of human rights. Human rights awareness in our country also has yet to arise as a movement. It seems that the level of awareness among the women's regarding Human Rights in the present situation is not satisfactory one. Though some women possess the knowledge of Human Rights, yet they seem to be reluctant in most of the time. Women from the study area are in a pitiable condition. The following table shows the ground reality.

**Table-4:30: Have you heard about the National Commission for women?**

<b>Revenue Circle</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Total</b>
Barama	78	132	210
Baganpara	24	186	210
Tanulpur	39	171	210
Total	141	489	630
Percentage	22.38	77.61	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure4:23: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

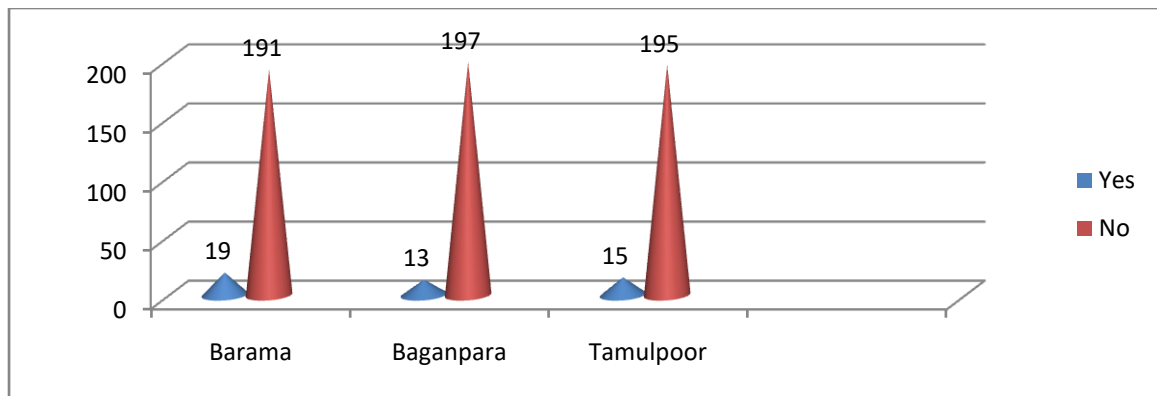
The National Commission for women is a statutory body established in January 1992. But data in the table 4:30 and figure 4:23: shows out of 630 respondents 489 have not so far heard about it and not to speak of getting help from it which constitutes 77.61% of total sample. Only 141 respondents have heard about National Commission for Women which constitutes 22.38% of total sample.

**Table-4:31: Have you heard about CEDAW.**

Revenue Circle	Yes	No	Grand-Total
Barama	19	191	210
Baganpara	13	197	210
Tamulpur	15	195	210
G.Total	47	583	630
Percentage	7.46	92.53	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:24: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

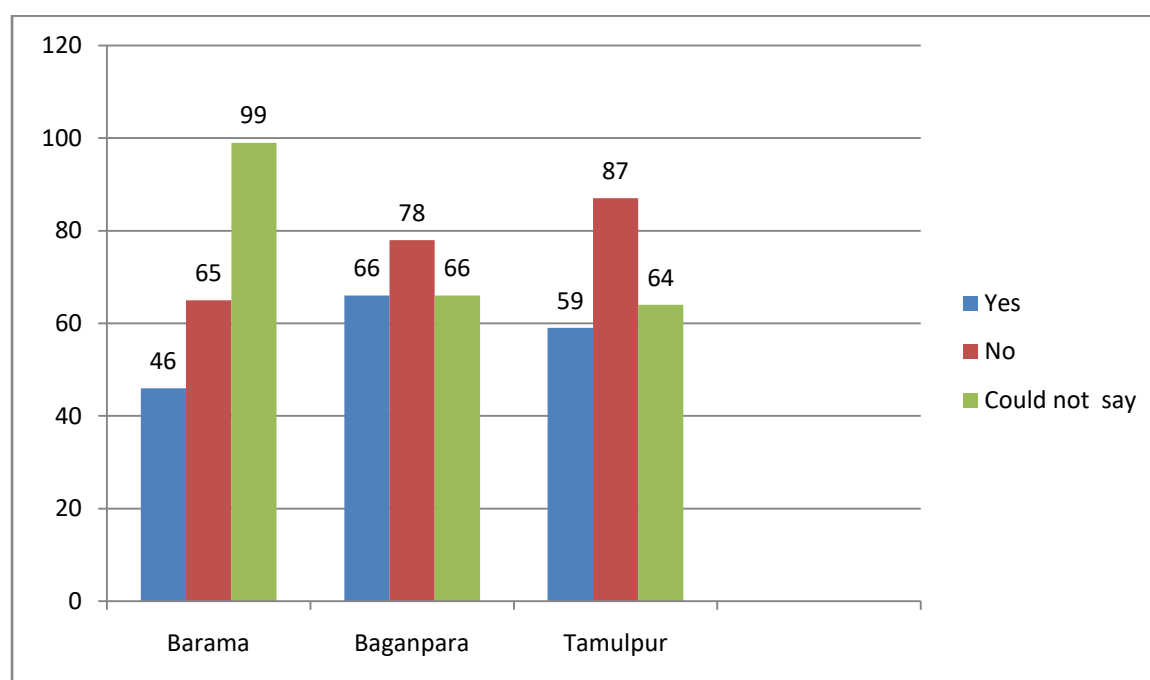
The Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 18<sup>th</sup> December 1979.<sup>3</sup>This agreement supports the principles of fundamental human rights and equality for women around the world. But data in the table 4:31 and figure 4:24: shows out of 630 respondents 583 have not so far heard about it which constitutes 92.53% of total sample. Only 47 respondents have heard about CEDAW which constitute 7.46% of total sample.

**Table-4:32: Do you think the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women is properly implemented by the government?**

Revenue Circle	Yes	No	Could not say	G. total
Barama	46	65	99	210
Baganpara	66	78	66	210
Tamulpur	59	87	64	210
G.Total	171	252	229	630
Percentage	27.14	40.00	36.34	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure-4:25: Number of Respondents.**



<sup>3</sup> <http://www.un.org.womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>

Source: Field Survey

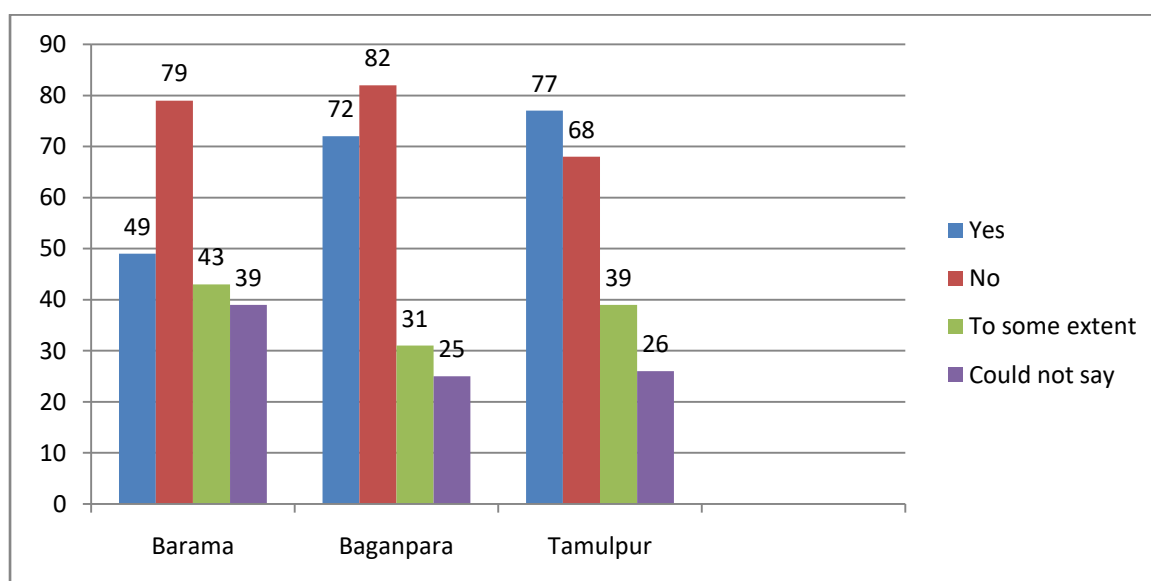
The above data in the table 4:32 and figure 4:25: shows that out of 630 respondent 171 respondents agreed with this view that the National Policy for Women empowerment is properly implemented by the government, which constitutes 27.14% of the sample, Whereas 252 respondents were disagreed with this view which constitute 40% of the total sample, There were 229 respondents who did not express their opinion which constitutes 36.34% of the total sample.

**Table 4:33: Do you think that the State government plays an effective role in ensuring rights of the women?**

Revenue Circle	Yes	No	To some extent	Could not Say	G.Total
Barama	49	79	43	39	210
Baganpara	72	82	31	25	210
Tamulpur	77	68	39	26	210
G.Total	198	229	113	90	630
Percentage	31.42	36.34	17.93	14.28	100

Source: Field Survey

**Figure4:26: Number of Respondents.**



Source: Field Survey

Above data in the table 4:33 and figure 4:26: shows that out of 630 respondent 198 respondents agreed with that the state government plays an effective role in ensuring rights of the women , which constitutes 31.42% of the total sample, Whereas 229 respondents disagreed with this view which constitutes 36.34% of the total sample, and 113 respondent agreed some extent that state government plays an effective role in ensuring rights of the women, which constitutes 17.93% of the total sample There were 90 respondents who did not express their opinion which constitute 14.28% of the total sample.

### **Case Studies:**

Some case studies are elaborate to understand the actual status of the “Rights of Women in Baksa district.”The names of the participants are changed to maintain the confidentiality.

#### **Rima Das, 18year, student:**

Rima Das is a student of B.A. first year. She is about 18 years of old. Her father Mohan Das is a vendor. His monthly income about 5000 to 6000 Rs. Rimas mother is a house wife. Rima’s mother and father both are illiterate. They have five children with Rima. Rima is only girl child of their family. In 2016 H.S.L.C result Rima got distinction with 89 percent marks. Though her father is a vendor and mother is an illiterate house wife, they always encourage their children to study well. But they could not guide Rima in her studies. She was a hardworking girl. So, she got good result. When she was asked about her ambition, Rima replied that; she wanted to be an engineer. Again she was asked about, why she enroll in Arts stream? She replied that there is no science college in her area, and because their poor economic condition her parents are not able to send her to a science college which is situated about 25 K.M. away from their home.

#### **Purnima Deka, 45years, Teacher:**

Purnima Deka is a upper primary school teacher. She is about 45 year of age, and she got married to a person who is also a teacher of her school. Her father is a cultivator and mother is a house wife. Purnima recalls that during her school days her hands

used to be full with house hold works. She was the older of the two sisters and one brother. Her mother suffers from chronic illness that is why she used to look after her younger sisters and brother. She could not attend school regularly because she had to do lots of house hold works. She remembers the pathetic economic condition faced during the school days. However, she managed to overcome all problems, and she passed the H.S. examination with 2<sup>nd</sup> division. During her school days that result was not bad for anybody. After some time, she got a job in a venture school (non-provincialised school) in her village and got married with one of her colleague in school. In 2013, her school was provincialised by the government of Assam. After that both she and her husband faced another problem, because they are undergraduate. They are deprived from graduate scale of payment. So, they decided to enroll in Krishna Kanta Handique State Open University for graduation. In her graduation periods also, she faced lots of problems because she used to look after her joint family. No one is interested to encourage her to further study. However, again she managed to overcome to all problems and completed the graduation.

**Sangita Barman, 28 years, Bank employee:**

Sangita Barman aged 28 years. She is a master degree holder in commerce and work as a L.D.A. in State Bank of India. Her father is a teacher and mother is a house wife. She borns and brought up a well established family. She doesn't have the burden of house hold works. But she recalls her school days when the parents were not interested of her studies. After matriculation she wanted to take admission in Commerce stream, but her parents did not want so. Though her father had M. Com degree, she did not get encouragement from him also. But she was adamant and took admission in Commerce stream. After completion of M.Com, she got the job of a L.D.A in State Bank of India. At the age of 24 she got married and gave birth to two children. According to her education may help to eradicate gender discrimination from the society. So, she equally encourages of her daughter and son. She wants to give equal access to education to all her children.

**Pranita Boro, 33 years, House wife:**

Pranita Boro is a 33 years old house wife. She studied up to 12<sup>th</sup> class. Her husband is a well established businessman. She studied up to 12<sup>th</sup> class. Her husband is a well established businessman. He has studied up to 12<sup>th</sup> class. Pranita had a love marriage after 12<sup>th</sup> passed and left studies. After few years of her marriage, she got a job in social welfare department as an Anganwadi worker. Pranita was interested further studies but her husband did not encourage her to study as he did not want his wife employed in any government or private sector. But today when she looks back and meets her schoolmates, she regrets her own decision. She says that, since she was at a very young age, she did not realize the importance of education.

**Namita Nath, 29 years, House wife:**

Namita Nath is a 29 year old woman. She got married at the age of 17. Her husband is a grade IV employee in a senior secondary school. She got pregnant 7 years after her marriage. It was midnight, when started her labour pain. Her husband called a private car. The family members and her husband took her to the nearest health centre. But there is no Doctor on duty, on duty nurses said that they are not able to deliver her baby because this is not normal case and to refer Nalbari Civil Hospital. It is 25 K.M. distance from their home and road condition was not good. After one hour they arrived Nalbari civil hospital and she delivered a baby boy. But after two days the baby died. While sharing her experienced, she was not able to keep her emotion. This incident highlights the importance of a good hospital which has all facilities and also the need of Doctors in rural areas.

**Gita Nath, 46 years, self employed:**

Gita Nath is a 46 year old widow. She is a self established woman. She has a small weaving industry. Her late husband was a small farmer. When asked about her weaving industry, she told everything. She recalls that during her school days, she look after the all house hold works, because her mother died, when she was three years of age. So, she did not develop her study. She studied up to class ten only. From her early days, she was interested in weaving. She got married when she was 25 year of age and gave birth to two children. After five years of her marriage her husband



was passed away. At that time she faced lots of problems and difficulties. The family and the society had neglected her. After one month of her husband's death, she started weaving for her and her kid's survival. She sells her weaving products in Dhamdhama weakly market. After few months she brought a weaving machine and her production is gradually increased. At present she has fifteen weaving machine and six helper. Now she maintains the industry and her son sells the production. Now her reputation in the society is good enough. She thinks that financial dependency is the major obstacle for women and believed that the societal behavior towards women will be change through women empowerment.

**Nilima Brahma, 25 years, Police constable:**

Nilima is a 25 year old women police. Her father is a Bank employee and mother is a teacher. She belongs to a middle class family. She has two brothers, one is in business and other one is pursuing M.A. in English. She shares her experiences and said that, during her school days she had the ambition to become a police. So she always plays football with boys. But her parents did not like it and always discourage her. They always advised her to not play football with boys and said this is not your job. At that time, she was frustrated. But she keeps her confidence high and become a police constable. Now she is established women and doing duty for motherland. She is not blaming her parents for their thinking, she think that this is societal attitude towards women.

**Nitu Sarania, 35 years, House wife:**

Nitu is a 35 years old house wife. She studied up to graduation level. Her husband is a government employee. Now she is a party worker of B.J.P. She joined the party politics in 2016. Now she is an active member of the party. She recalls that during her college days, she was a member of college union. She interested in politics from her college days. When she asked about her experienced in politics, she said frankly that there is lots of space in politics for women, but unfortunately the participation level of politics is very low. The researcher asked about the causes of low participation .She replied that there is various cause behind this for example, absence of Gram-Panchayat in B.T.A.D. which provide 50 % reservation for women, lack of

political awareness etc is also a hindrances. She think that politics is one of the major ways for women empowerment ; So every woman should join in politics.

## **Findings:**

### **A. Status of educational rights of women:**

The field survey conducted in some selected areas of Baksa district reveals the position of women in society and the women's human rights scenario in the study area. Regarding the educational status of women in Baksa district surprisingly noted that, that there is a gap between Female literacy rate of Assam and Baksa district. According to Census of India 2011 the male-female literacy gap of Assam and Baksa district were 11.58 and 13.6 respectively. So it indicates that the condition of female literacy in Baksa is lagging behind compared to State literacy rate of the female. As per as government performance is concern, in the field of education majority of women (51.42%) were not satisfied of government performance about the women education.

The majority of the respondents think that they are engaging more time in housework than study work. 424 respondents out of 630, which constitute 67.30% of total sample, agree that they are spending more time in house hold work than study.

Majority of the respondent are not satisfied with their school facilities. Out of 630 respondents, 373 are not satisfied with their school facilities which constitute 59.20% of total sample.

The majority of the respondents think that they are discriminated by their family for choice of the stream. Out of 630 respondents; 419 are thinking that that they are discriminated by their family for choice of the stream in school which constitutes 66.50 % of total sample.

### **B. Status of right to health:**

Regarding the women health status, most of the women (76.19%) were not satisfied of government performance about the women Health care facilities. Main cause

behind the non satisfaction with the medical facilities as identified by the respondents is lack of maternity facilities in emergency situation (87.91%) followed by shortage of medicine (70.83%), absence of doctors (52.50%) etc. Most of the respondent said that the health worker does not visit them.

The field survey reveals to a great extent negative picture regarding health condition of women specially in maternity facilities. Poor health is one of the main problems which the women of the Baksa District have been facing since long period. Majority of the women were not satisfied of government performance on Health care facilities.

### **C. Societal discrimination on the basis of sex:**

Regarding the position of women in society, 73.96% respondents are in favour of the option that there is a strong discrimination against women mainly in the tradition and customary practices. 63.65 % respondents think that the status of women in the Society is inferior to man. So it is a fact that, inequality on the basis of sex has become part of a male dominated society. The study reveals that society shows the different approach about women, because of their vulnerable position and economic dependency.

On the basis of the above analysis it may be concluded that majority of the women were not satisfied for this discriminatory attitude by their family. So, the works of women in every respect whether paid or unpaid should be given due respect and consideration for building a better society.

Maximum numbers of respondents think that there is a strong discrimination against women because of tradition and customary practices believes that these are main hindrances of women rights. Maximum numbers of respondents think that the status of women in the society is inferior to man which constitutes 63.65% of total sample. Therefore, it is a fact that, inequality on the basis of sex has become part of a male dominated society.

After analyzing these studies it is found that women suffer from gender discrimination because of the societal structure. Tradition is firmly rooted in the society. Tradition has given a framework to think and treat a woman within a boundary. So it is time to root out the traditional belief system, superstition and societal restriction and form a liberal society where both men and women will get equal respect, equal right and privileges.

#### **D. Gender discrimination on the basis of political participation:**

In the field of political participation, 59.04% respondents are in favour of the option that patriarchal society is the main reason of low participation rate of women in politics and decision making process.

The finding clearly shows that most of the respondents cast their vote in election based on political party affiliation of the candidate which constitutes 32.38% of the total sample. Only 17.14% respondents kept in mind the educational qualification of the candidate.

Most of the respondents believed that their voting behaviour was influenced by their family members, which constitute 52.85% of the total sample.

The finding clearly shows that maximum numbers of respondents agreed with this view that the male dominate the women in decision making process, which constitute 83.01% of the sample. Most of the respondents were dissatisfied with the low-level participation of women in politics and think that patriarchal society is one of the main reasons of low participation rate of women in politics and decision making process.

The majority of the women think that, they have been completely ignored by male dominated society and political parties in case of power politics and decision making process.

### **E. Awareness about Human right:**

Majority of the respondents have not heard about the National Commission for Women and maximum numbers of women were not aware about CEDAW, even after 28 years of the rectification by India.

As per as Human rights awareness is concern 77.61% respondents have not so far heard about National Human Rights Commission and 92.53% respondent have not heard about CEDAW.

### **Conclusion:**

After the assessment of the overall condition of the women's human rights in Baksa district, it can be concluded with proved certainty that violation of women's human rights has become a matter of grave concern. It is clear from the above evidence that women education is a very important point to develop a nation. Unless and until women come out from their home to recognize themselves it would not be possible to eliminate the gender inequality between men and women. The Constitution of India no doubt provides to women and several provisions are inserted in the Constitution to defend the rights of women. But in reality there is a huge gap between men women in terms of literacy, health and decision making. Thus, there is an urgent need to eliminate the gap between men and women. To develop the status of the women in the society laws should be not only enacted but also they should be backed by strong public willingness and public opinion because so long as conservative social thinking remains deep rooted in the society laws will not be able to change the society and try to make awareness among others also so that they can give respect and rights to others. It is time to generate awareness in the minds of the people that women are not separate from the society but part of the society.