CHAPTER-VI
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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6.1 Introduction

The present chapter consists of the results and discussions from the analysis. The raw data which has been collected from field survey may not be able to assimilate the real picture and if presented simply then it would be hard to visualise the real scenario of the present situation. So in order to present the data in a more meaningful way that it can convey proper information about the area of concerned there requires necessity of applying some statistical and econometric tools. Descriptive study play an important role in such a circumstances, the descriptive study bears importance to give the preliminary platform before we enter into the core analysis stage. Descriptive statistics are used as one of the simplest tools for presenting, describing and summarising ofthe raw data. But it is not sufficient enough to provide the concrete conclusion which we seek for. Therefore, apart from the descriptive study the analysis refer tofive dimensional Indices namely Health Index, Education Index, Economic Index, Income Index and a Socio-economic Index. The results from the Logistic regression are used to explain the major factors for determining the socio-economic status of both Kuki (Married and Unmarried) and Non-Kuki (Married and Unmarried) women. This chapter is broadly classified into two sections. The first sections contain the essential descriptive statistics of the fifteen selected villages, the selected household and the sample respondents. In the next section we put forward the research objectives wise of data analysis and discussion of finding.

6.2. Descriptive Statistics

6.2.1. Profile of the Villages

There are altogether 540 villages and 10 Tribal Development Blocks in the Churachandpur district of Manipur. For our study, we have randomly selected 15 villages from 3 Tribal Development Blocks. First, we proceed with the description of the Demographic profile of the villages and then we will discuss the basic infrastructure facilities available to the villages. The total number of household in each village, total population in the villages, the number of male population and

number of female population of the 15 villages included in the study are presented in the Table-6.1 below. The Tuibong village has the highest number of male and female among the fifteen villages. The Tuibong village is constituted with 670 household and a population of 3885 individuals.

Table-6.1: Profile of the Fifteen Villages for the Study

Sl. No.	Name of The Villages	Total Number of Household in the Villages	Total Population in The Villages	Number of Male Population	Number of Female Population
1	Henglep	144	766	381	385
2	N.Ningthiching	44	271	131	140
3	Molphei Tampak	45	281	136	145
4	Teijang	47	247	130	117
5	Zolzam	65	387	195	192
6	Teiseng	168	955	477	478
7	Molnom	239	1456	697	759
8	Tuibong	670	3885	1910	1975
9	Chengkonpang	215	1367	691	676
10	Lingsiphai	213	1260	630	630
11	Bungmual	436	2873	1422	1451
12	Mata	318	2444	1552	892
13	Bijang	469	2900	1427	1473
14	Thingkangphai	233	1222	607	615
15	Torbung	61	347	174	173

Source: Census Report 2001, Manipur

For our next discussion the basic amenities available to the villages are put forward in Table-6.2. The table includes the presence of medical facilities in the villages, availability of Tap drinking water and type of formal schooling, the condition of road towards the villages and the distance of villages from the nearest town. This table gives us an idea about the infrastructural facilities available and the glimpse of development of the villages.

Table-6.2: Basic Amenities Available to the Villages

Name of villages	Medical Facilities (Available or Not)	Tap drinking water (Available or Not)	Educational Facilities (Available or Not)	Distance From Nearest Town (Moirang Town)	Paved Road Facilities
Henglep	1	1	1	90	1
N.Ningthiching	0	1	1	7	0
MolpheiTampak	0	1	1	3	0
Teijang	0	1	1	8	0
Zolzam	0	0	1	29	1
Teiseng	0	1	1	20	1
Molnom	0	1	1	20	0
Tuibong	0	0	1	27	1
Chengkonpang	0	1	1	35	1
Lingsiphai	0	0	1	22	0
Bungmual	0	1	1	24	1
Mata	1	0	1	22	0
Bijang	0	0	1	30	1
Thingkangphai	0	0	0	22	0
Torbung	0	1	1	25	0

Source-Census Report 2001, Manipur

From the data available, it is reveal that only two villages that is Henglep and Mata village have Medical Facilities. Altogether nine villages that are Henglep, N.Ningthiching, Molphei Tampak, Teijang, Teiseng, Molnom, Chengkonpang, Bungmual and Torbung village are having Tap water as source of drinking water. All the villages are found to availed Educational facilities except in the village of Thingkangphai. The Churachandpur district is totally a rural area and the nearest town is Moirang. The nearest villages to Moirang town are Molnom and Tuibong villages with a distance of 20 km. The farthest town is the Henglep village with a distance of 90 km from Moirang town.

6.2.2. Demographic Statistics of the Respondents

In this section, we will discuss the Demographic, Health, Education, Household Characteristic such as cooking energy, type of the house, physical assets of the 500sample respondents. The discussions of the each of the features are carried out one by one in the subsequent sections.

6.2.2.1.Age Distribution of the Sample Respondents

For our analysis, we have classified the respondents into three categories of age groups. They are young women (aged 18-29 years), mid-age women (aged 30-59 years) and elderly women (aged 60 years and over).Different stages of life have different effect on the socio-economic status. The need to take account of the different stages of life course in the study of socio-economic status is found mostly in context of health research (e.g. Grundy and Holt, 2001; Galobardes et al., 2006).

The description of the data with the help of the three stages of life course is carried out for all the four sub-groups of the sample respondents that are for married Kuki respondents, married Non-Kuki respondents, unmarried Kuki respondents and unmarried Non-Kuki respondents. The Age distribution of the four sub-groups is described separately for each group below with help of the tables and the bar diagrams.
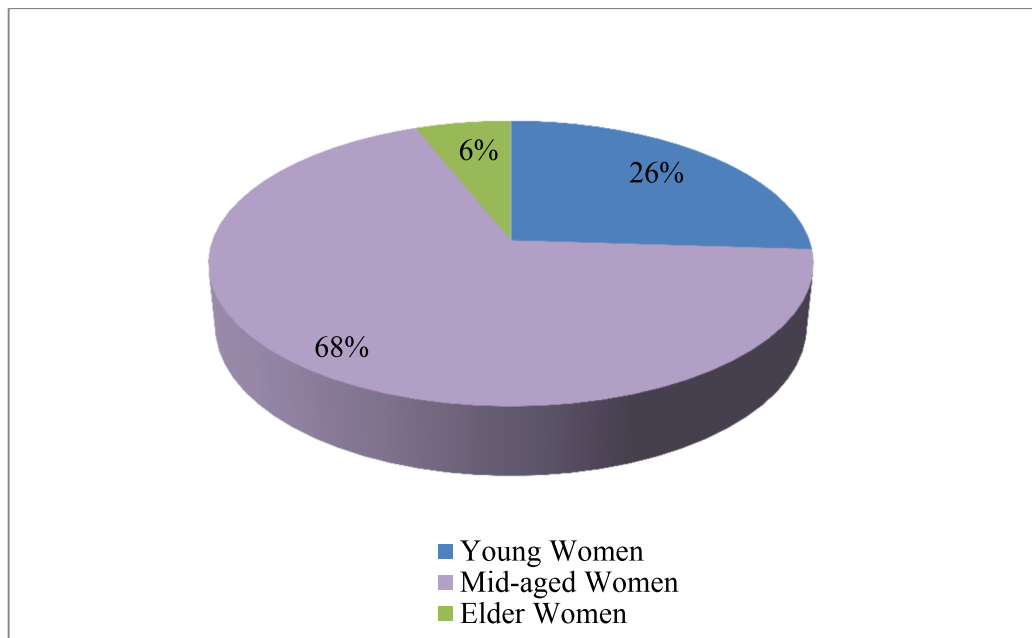
6.2.2.2.Age Distribution of Married Kuki Women

The sample drawn for the married Kuki women consists of 150 respondents, which varies across the three life stages which is mention above. The Table-6.3 shows the age distribution of the sample respondents. The sample respondents comprise of 26 percent from the young women aged group (18-29yrs), maximum number of 102 women belongs from mid-aged group (30-59 yrs) and least number of sample respondents was from elder women.So, the sample respondents of Kuki women are mostly comprise of Mid-aged women.

Table-6.3: Age Distribution of Married Kuki Respondents

Age(in years)	Number	Percentage Distribution
Young women(18-29 yrs)	39	26
Mid-aged women(30-59 yrs)	102	68
Elder women(60 yrs and over)	9	6

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

Figure-6.1: Age Distribution of Married Kuki Respondents

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The average age (mean value) of the sample respondents for Married Kuki women is 39.21 years. The maximum age is 74 years and minimum age is 18 years. The mode age is found to be age 38 years. The Table-6.4 presents the descriptive summary of the Age Distribution of Married Kuki women.

Table-6.4: Descriptive Statistics of Age Distribution of Married Kuki Respondents

Mean Age	Maximum Age	Minimum Age	Mode Age
39.21	74	18	38

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

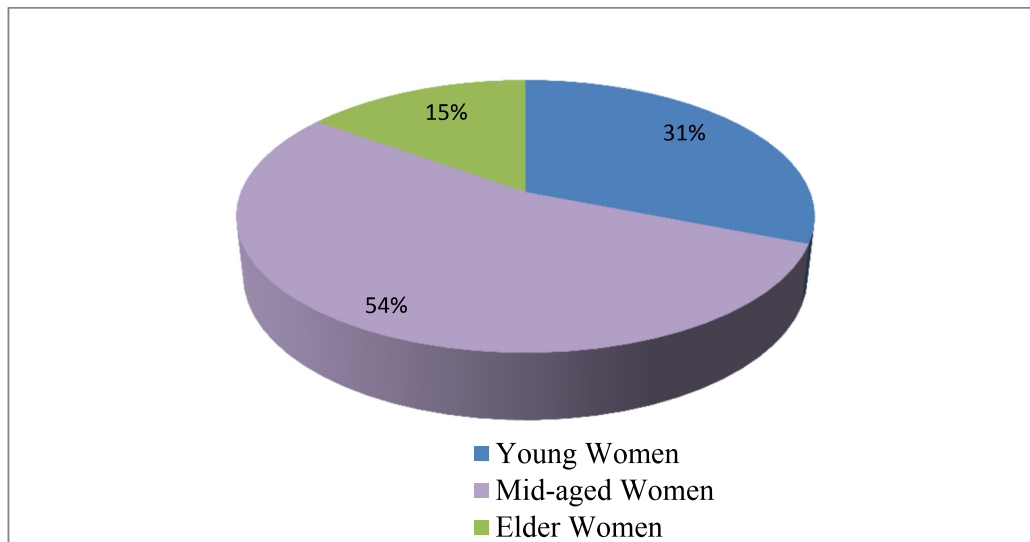**6.2.2.3.Age Distribution of Married Non-Kuki Women**

The sample size of the Married Non-Kuki Women comprises of 100 sample respondents. The respondents are categorised into the three aged group which is presented in the Table-6.5. From the data in the table, we found that out of all 100 respondents 31 percent are young women (aged 18-29 years) and 54 women are from mid-aged group. That means 54 percent of the married Non-Kuki respondents are middle age women. The elder aged women form only 15 percent of the sample respondents of the married Non-Kuki women.

Table-6.5: Age Distribution of Married Non-Kuki Respondents

Age(in years)	Number	Percentage Distribution
Young women(18-29 yrs)	31	31
Mid-aged women(30-59 yrs)	54	54
Elder women(60 yrs and over)	15	15

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The distribution of the married Non-Kuki women on the basis of the three different aged groups is display below

Figure-6.2: Age Distribution of Married Non-Kuki Women

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

Table-6.6: Descriptive Statistics of Age Distribution of Married Non-Kuki Respondents

Mean Age	Maximum Age	Minimum Age	Mode Age
39.6	72	18	25

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The summary of descriptive statistics is presented in the Table-6.6. It shows that the average age of the sample respondent is 39.6 years. The maximum age and the minimum age found among the sample respondents are 72 and 19 respectively

6.2.2.4.Age Distribution of Unmarried Kuki Women

In this section, we will discuss the age distribution of unmarried Kuki women along with the descriptive summary. The Table-6.7 represents the Age Distribution of Unmarried Kuki Respondents. The sample size of the respondents from the unmarried Kuki Women comprises of 150 women. The data reveals that out of total respondents a very largepercentage of 90.67 percent of the respondentsbelongs toyoung women group (age 18-29 years) and a very lessernumber of women (only 9.33 percent)belongto mid-aged group. The sample respondents of the unmarried Kuki women do not have respondents from elder aged group.

Table-6.7: Age Distribution of Unmarried Kuki Respondents

Age(in years)	Number	Percentage Distribution
Young women(18-29 yrs)	136	90.66
Mid-aged women(30-59 yrs)	14	9.33
Elder women(60 yrs and over)	0	0

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data
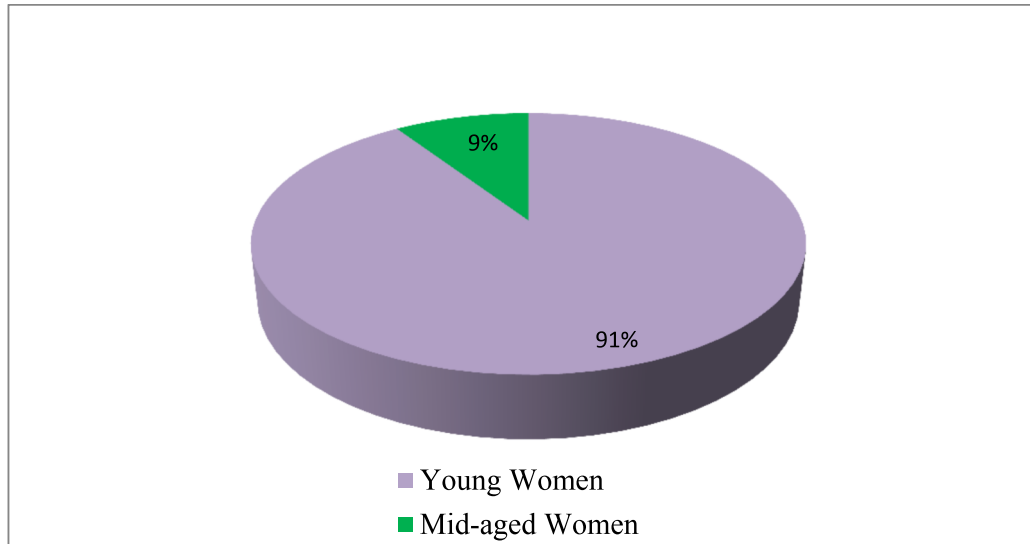
Figure-6.3: Age Distribution of Unmarried Kuki Women

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

Table-6.8: Descriptive Statistics of Age Distribution of Unmarried Kuki Respondents

Mean	Minimum Age	Maximum Age	Mode
22.71	18	49	19

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The descriptive statistics shows that the average age (mean age) of the sample respondent is age 22.71 years. The maximum age and the minimum age found among the sample respondents are 49 years and 18 years respectively.

6.2.2.5.Age Distribution of Unmarried Non-Kuki Women

The distribution of unmarried Non-Kuki Respondents on basis of the aged groups are presented in the Table-6.9. For the unmarried Non-Kuki Women total sample size comprises of 100 respondents. We have found out that a very larger portion of women (97 percent) belong toyoung age group which is defined as 18-29 years and veryfew number of women (3 percent) are found to falls underthe mid-aged group 30-59 years. The sample respondents of the unmarried Kuki women do not have respondents from elder aged group.

Table-6.9: Age Distribution of Unmarried Non-Kuki Respondents

Age (in years)	Number	Percentage Distribution
Young women(18-29 yrs)	97	97
Mid-aged women(30-59 yrs)	3	3
Elder women(60 yrs and over)	0	0

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data
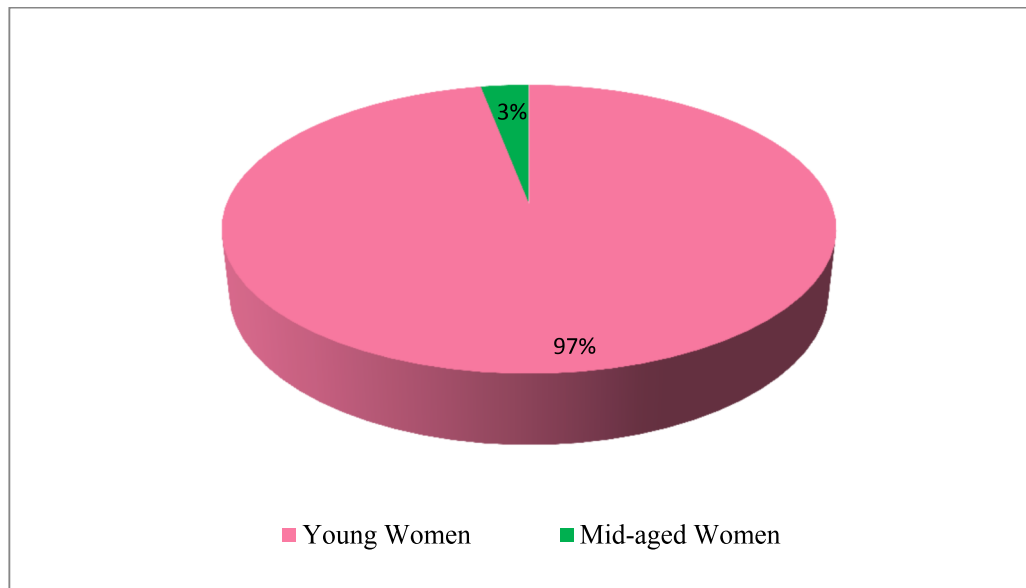

Figure-6.4: Age Distribution of Unmarried Non- Kuki Women

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

Table-6.10: Descriptive Statistics of Age Distribution of Unmarried Non-Kuki Respondents

Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Mode
21.98	18	42	19

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The Table-6.10 shows that the average age of the sample respondents is 21.98. The minimum age and the maximum age are 18 years and 42 years respectively.

6.2.3. Anthropometric Assessment of the Women

The Anthropometrics measurement is a technique of measuring the human body as to height, weight, body mass index, waist, chest and arms. In our study we have used the Body Mass Index to investigate the Nutritional status of the women. Body Mass Index is a prominent indicator in assessment of the nutritional health of a woman. The Table-6.11 represents the average height, average weight and Body Mass Index of theMarried Kuki women. The respondents are classified into three different age groupsthat are Young women, Mid-aged women and Elder women.

Table-6.11: Anthropometric Measurement of Married Kuki Women Respondents

Age (in years)	Average Height (in meters)	Average Weight (in kg)	Average BMI
Young women(18-29 yrs)	1.55	51.10	21.16
Mid-aged women(30-59 yrs)	1.54	52.63	22.16
Elder women(60 yrs and over)	1.53	48.11	20.47

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The analysis of the result reveals that the average height of Young women (aged 18-29 years) is 1.55 meters and the average weight is 51.10 kg. Among the middle age women the average height is found as 1.54 meter and average weight as 52.63 kg. The Average height for the Elder women is found as 1.53 and the average weight is 48.11 kg. The average BMI among the young women is 21.16. The average BMI of the Mid-aged women and Elder women are 22.16 and 20.47 respectively. The tallest height among the young women group is 1.63 meters while in both the case of Mid-aged women and Elder women the tallest height is found to have same height of 1.70 meters.

Table-6.12: Anthropometric Measurement of Unmarried Kuki Women
Respondents

Age (in years)	Average Height (in meters)	Average Weight (in kg)	Average BMI
Young women(18-29 yrs)	1.52	49.82	21.33
Mid-aged women(30-59 yrs)	1.51	51.07	22.16
Elder women(60 yrs and over)	0	0	0

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The body measurement of the Unmarried Kuki women is presented in the Table-6.12.From the table we found that the average height among the young women group of the unmarried Kuki women is1.52 meters. The average weight and average Body Mass Index for the Young women are found as 49.82 kg and 21.33 respectively.In case of the Mid-aged women the average height and average weight is revealed as 1.51 meters and 51.07 kg respectively. And an average Body Mass Index of 22.16 is observed. The tallest height among the young women group is 1.67 meters and 1.6 meters for the Mid-aged women.

Table-6.13: Anthropometric Measurement of Married Non-Kuki Women

Age (in years)	Average Height (in meters)	Average Weight (in kg)	Average BMI
Young women(18-29 yrs)	1.52	47.61	20.44
Mid-aged women(30-59 yrs)	1.53	46.83	19.97
Elder women(60 yrs and over)	1.47	46.4	21.33

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The anthropometric measurement of Married Non-Kuki women and Unmarried Non-Kuki women are shown in the Table-6.13 and Table-6.14 respectively. The first table shows that average height and average weight of Young women of Married Non-Kuki women are 1.52 meters and 47.61 kg respectively. The average Body Mass Index is found as 20.44. For the Mid-aged women the average height is 1.53 meters and average BMI of 19.97.

Table-6.14: Anthropometric Measurement of Unmarried Non-Kuki Women

Age (in years)	Average Height (in meters)	Average Weight (in kg)	Average BMI
Young women(18-29 yrs)	1.46	48.72	22.66
Mid-aged women(30-59 yrs)	1.46	41.33	19.47
Elder women(60 yrs and over)	0	0	0

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The body measurement of the unmarried Non-Kuki women is presented in the Table-6.14. The data reveals that the average height in both cases of Young women and Mid-aged women are same as 1.46 meters. However the average weight of the young women is found as 48.72 kg while the average weight for the Mid-aged women is 41.33 kg.It is also found that the average BMI of Young women is 22.66 and the average BMI for Mid-aged women is only 19.47.

6.2.4. Nutritional Status

Following the classification of Body Mass Index as given by WHO (2000),the sample respondents are grouped into four categories that is Obese (BMI ≥ 30), Overweight (25 ≤ BMI < 30), Normal (18.5 ≤ BMI < 25) and Underweight (BMI < 18.5).The Table-6.15 represents the Nutritional status of the Married women on the basis of body mass index values.The analysis of the result reveals that maximum number of the married women of the sample respondents both in the case of Kuki group and Non-Kuki group are having the BMI values in the normal category. The BMI values of the Kuki women is more in case of overweight (12.66 percent) while it is lesserin case of the Non-Kuki women(3 percent). The percentage of Kuki womenfalling under the category of underweight is 14 percent as against the 23 percent of the Non-Kuki. There was no case of Obese not found among the sample married Kuki women while one case was found in the married Non-Kuki respondents.

Table-6.15: Nutritional Status of the Married Women on the Basis of BMI Values

| BMI VALUE | CATEGORIES | MARRIED WOMEN | | | |
| | | Kuki | | Non-Kuki | |
		Number	Percentage Distribution	Number	Percentage Distribution
(BMI ≥ 30)	Obese	0	0	1	1
(25 ≤ BMI < 30)	Overweight	19	12.66	3	3
(18.5 ≤ BMI < 25)	Normal	117	78	73	73
(BMI < 18.5)	Underweight	14	9.33	23	23

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The distribution of the unmarried women (Kuki and Non-Kuki) on the basis of Body Mass Index values is presented in Table-6.16. From the data, we have found that 92 percent of the unmarried Kuki women are having the BMI values in the normal range and 79 percent in the case of Non-Kuki women. For the case of Overweight category, 3.33 percent respondents are found in case of Kuki women while 16 percent for the Non-Kuki women. Again for both Kuki and Non-Kuki very less percentage of women (4 percent for both groups) are observed to fall under the category of Underweight.

Table-6.16: Nutritional Status of the Unmarried Women on the Basis of BMI Values

BMI VALUE	CATEGORIES	UNMARRIED WOMEN			
		Kuki		Non-Kuki	
		Number	Percentage Distribution	Number	Percentage Distribution
(BMI ≥ 30)	Obese	1	0.66	1	1
(25 ≤ BMI < 30)	Overweight	5	3.33	16	16
(18.5 ≤ BMI < 25)	Normal	138	92	79	79
(BMI < 18.5)	Underweight	6	4	4	4

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data
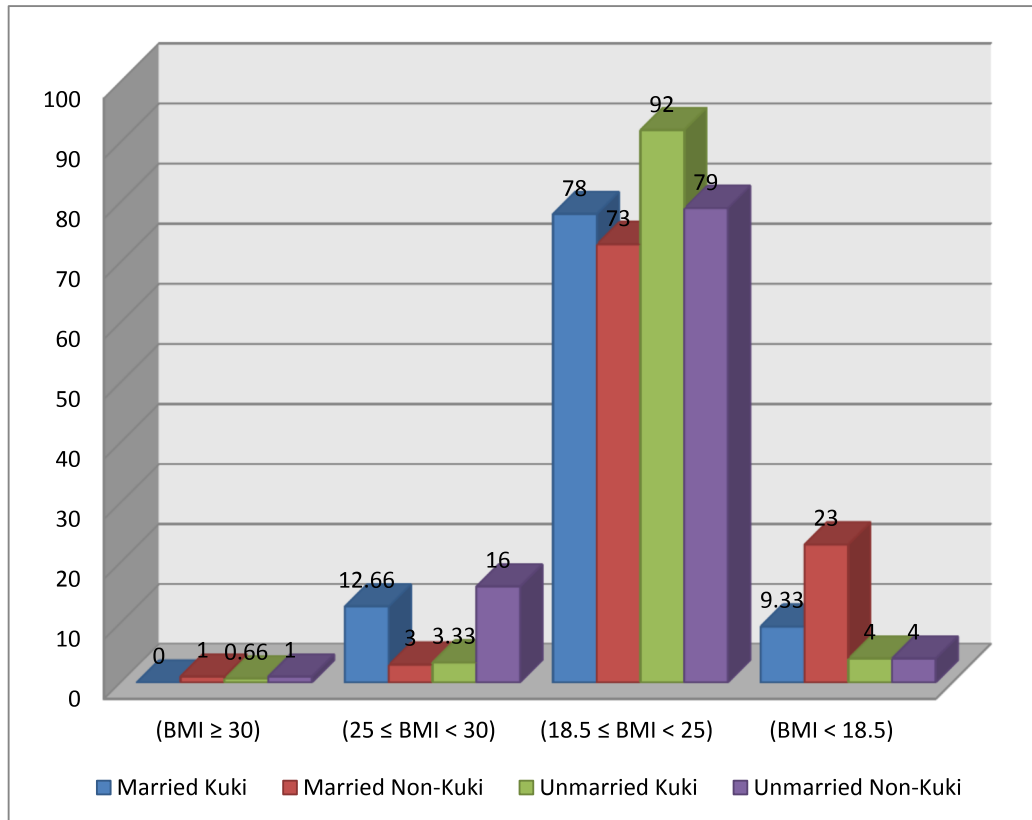
Figure-6.5: Nutritional Status of the Women on the Basis of BMI

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The Figure-6.5 shows the graphical comparison of the nutritional status of the sample women on the basis of the Body Mass Index values. From the bar diagram it is revealed that most of the women of the sample respondents in the study area have a Body mass index under the normal ranges ($18.5 \leq BMI < 25$). This fact holds true for both married and unmarried women. The number of women falling under the Obese categories was very rare among the women in the study area. It also revealed that small percentages of sample respondents fall under the categories of Underweight and Overweight.

6.2.5. Health Assessment of the Married Women

In order to achieve a healthy life for everyone various strategies have been employed by the Government and various Organisations. In this section, the researcher try to assess some attributes which will give a glimpse of the health status of the Married women. For this purpose we have used indicators such as Knowledge about AIDS, Child delivery by trained person, Antenatal and Postnatal care. The analysis of the result of the health of the married women is presented in Table-6.17.The analysis reveals that 72 percent of the married Kuki and 49 percent for married Non-Kuki are found to have Knowledge about AIDS. That means the Kuki women are found more to be aware of cause and consequences of AIDS than the married Non-Kuki.

Further, we have used three indicators to assess the reproductive health of the married women. From the table it is revealthat 76 percent of the married Kuki and 51 percent of the married Non-Kuki women had child delivery by trained personnel. Both the Antenatal care and Postnatal care are very vital stage for reproductive health of a woman. Proper antenatal checkup and postnatal checkup of the women decreases the number of mortality of the women during childbirth. In our study we found that 72 percent of married Kuki and 64 percent of married Non-Kuki respectively have attended antennal care before childbirth. While 74 percent of married Kuki women and 64 percent of married Non-Kuki women respectively have received postnatal care after child delivery. So, from this we can draw a conclusion that significant percentage of Kuki women have received antenatal checkup, child delivery by trained personnel and have received postnatal care. While for the married Non-Kuki, more percentage of women have received antenatal and postnatal care but lesser percentage of women have opted for child delivery by trained personnel. It highlights the outdated methods of child delivery at home is still prevailing in the society.

Table-6.17: Health Scenario of the Married Women

Health Care and Awareness	Married Kuki	Percentage	Married Non-Kuki	Percentage
Knowledge About AIDS	108	72	49	49
Delivery by Trained Person	114	76	51	51
Antenatal Care	108	72	64	64
Postnatal Care	111	74	64	64

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

6.2.6. Educational Assessment of the Sample Women

Education is one of the most important attribute for development of Human capital. Education enriches people's understanding of themselves and the world. It improves the quality of their lives and leads to broad social benefit to individuals and society (Ozturk, 2001).

For the present study we classify the educational level of the women into six categories as Illiterate, up to Primary school, Secondary school, Higher secondary school, Graduates and Post Graduates. During the survey, we found that the highest level of education attained among the sample respondents is the Post Graduates degree. So, we have taken the degree of Post Graduates as highest level of education the women. The educational distribution of the married women (Kuki and Non-Kuki) is presented in the Table-6.18 and the percentage educational distribution among the Unmarried women (Kuki and Non-Kuki)is shown in Table-6.19

Table-6.18: Distribution of Educational Attainment Among the Married Women

Level of education	Married Kuki	Percentage Distribution	Married Non-Kuki	Percentage Distribution
Illiterate	46	30.67	49	49
Upto Primary(Class I-5)	17	11.33	10	10
Secondary(Class 6-10)	49	32.67	34	34
Higher Secondary(11-12)	19	12.67	5	5
Graduate(13-15)	17	11.33	1	1
Post Graduate(17)	2	1.33	1	1

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

From the Table-6.18, it is revealed that a larger number of 46 married Kuki women and 49 married Non-Kuki falls in the categories of illiterate. This means that 30.67 percent and 49 percent of Kuki and Non-Kuki women respectively are found to be illiterate. It is further observe that 32.67 percent of the married Kuki and 34 percent of the married Non-Kuki are found having secondary educational level. That means nearly one-third of the Kuki sample respondent and one-third of Non-Kuki women have educational attainment of secondary level relative to the other women. In case of the highest level of education, we have found only 2 married Kuki women and 1 married Non-Kuki women have completed the Post-Graduation degree.

From the Table-6.19 we can observe that educational qualification of 32 percent and 40 percent of the unmarried Kuki and unmarried Non-Kuki women respectively falls under the categories of secondary education. The same scenario is observed in higher education where 32 percent of unmarriedKuki women and 26 percent of unmarried Non-Kuki women have completed Higher secondary. It is to be noted that the number of illiterate women found in case of unmarried Kuki and unmarried Non-Kuki are 8.67 percent and 15 percent respectively. In case of the highest level of education, we have found only 3 unmarried Kuki women and 2 unmarried Non-Kuki women have completed the Post-Graduation degree.

Table-6.19: Distribution of Educational Attainment among the Unmarried Women

Level of Education	Unmarried Kuki	Percentage Distribution	Unmarried Non-Kuki	Percentage Distribution
Illiterate	13	8.67	15	15
Upto Primary(Class I-5)	7	4.67	7	7
Secondary(Class 6-10)	48	32	40	40
Higher Secondary(11-12)	48	32	26	26
Graduate(13-15)	31	20.67	10	10
Post Graduate(17)	3	2	2	2

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The distribution of the sample respondents on basis of their education qualification is presented in the figure 6.6. The first bar in the diagram shows that illiterate is majorly form by the married women (Kuki and Non-Kuki). The unmarried women (Kuki and Non-Kuki) are seen to be more educated than the married women. However it is not wise to make a comparison of the educational level between different aged of women. Using education to assess the socio-economic status of women of different ages presents challenges, as recent decades have seen marked changes in the educational attainment of women (Baxter and Taylor, 2014). The second bar shows that lesser number of unmarried women is having an educational level of upto primary school and larger numbers of unmarried women are found having better education of upto secondary level. When we come to the higher education level, the performance of the unmarried Kuki is better than all the other sub-group.
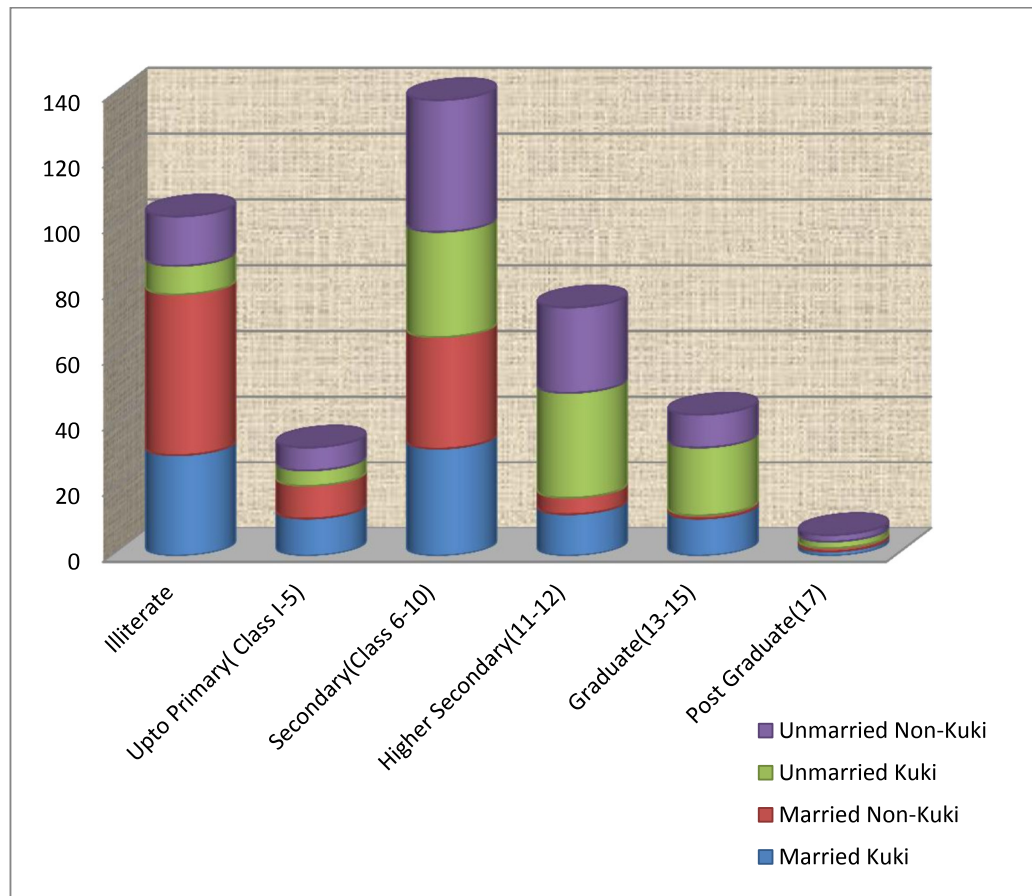

Figure-6.6: Distribution of Educational Attainment of the Women

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The descriptive statistic shows that the average level of education of the married Kuki women is 6.64(≈ Class 7) and for married Non-Kuki women average level of education is found as 4.24(≈Class 4). We also found that the average level of education for unmarried Kuki is 10. 16(≈ Class10) and for unmarried Non-Kuki it is found to be 8.71(≈Class 9). The overall performance of educational level shows that the Kuki women in a better educational attainment relative to the Non-Kuki women.

6.2.7. Descriptive Summary of Respondent's Household Characteristic

The household environment also acts as an attribute in reflecting the socio-economic condition of the women. The household assets and household infrastructures reflect the economic development of the house of the sample respondents. This section will assess the physical assets of the respondents household namely television, mobile, computer/laptop, vehicles, refrigerator etc. and infrastructure like type of the house, source of drinking water, cooking energy etc.

6.2.7.1.Cooking Energy use in the Respondent's Household

The use of the cooking energy reflects the standard of living of the household. In this study we have group the cooking energy into two groups that Chulla/Firewood and Gas/ Electricity. In the Table-6.20, we present the used of type of cooking energy usedin the respondents households. From the table we can see that higher number of the women used chulla and firewood as a cooking energy. The used of gas and electric facilities was seen used more by the Kuki women that is 62 percent (unmarried Kuki) and 71 percent (married Kuki) as against only 35 percent for unmarried Non-Kuki women and 23 for married Non-Kuki.

Table-6.20: Number of Women on the Basis of Use of Cooking Energy

Types of Cooking Energy	Unmarried Non-Kuki	Unmarried Kuki	Married Non-Kuki	Married Kuki
Chulla /Firewood	65	88	77	79
Gas/Electricity	35	62	23	71

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The Figure-6.7 shows the used of cooking energy used by the women. We can get a clear picture of the use of the use of Chulla and firewood is high among both the Kuki women and Non-Kuki women. Comparatively, the use of Chulla/Firewood is higher

with the Non-Kuki women (71 percent). The consumption of Gas energy is higher among Kuki women (44.33 percent) relative to Non-Kuki women (29 percent).
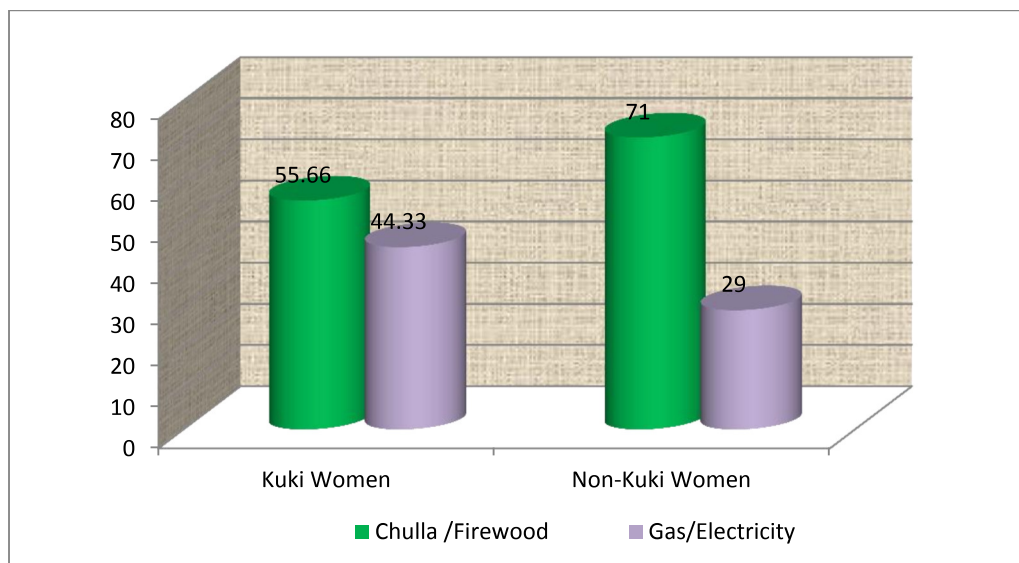

Figure-6.7: Type of Cooking Energy use by the Respondent

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

6.2.7.2. Type of House

The type of the house is an important attribute to study the socio-economic status of the women. For our study, the type of the houses where the women dwell is observed and classified into three categories that are Pucca house, Semi-Pucca house and Mud/wooden house. It can be seen from the table(Table-6.21)that higher proportion of the women stay in a house with mud and wooden wall that is 58.67 percent for married Kuki, 74 percent for married Non-Kuki, 60 percent unmarried Kuki and 77 percent for unmarried Non-Kuki. While26.67 percent of married Kuki, 12 percent of married Non-Kuki, 22 percent of unmarried Kuki and 8 percent of unmarried Non-Kuki belongs from house make of Pucca wall.

Table-6.21: Distribution of Women by the Type of Houses

House Types	Married Kuki	Married Non-Kuki	Unmarried Kuki	Unmarried Non-Kuki
Pucca House	26.67	12	22	8
Semi-Pucca House	14.67	14	18	15
Mud/Wooden House	58.67	74	60	77

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

A relative picture of the three types of houses of the women can be seen from the figure 6.7. The figure shows that the most of the sample respondent reside in the house made of mud.However when we make a comparative study, it is revealed that higher proportion of Kuki women are living in Pucca house while higher proportionof the Non-Kuki women live in house made of mud. So, we can conclude that the Kuki women in the study reside in a better housing condition thatrelative to the Non-Kuki women.
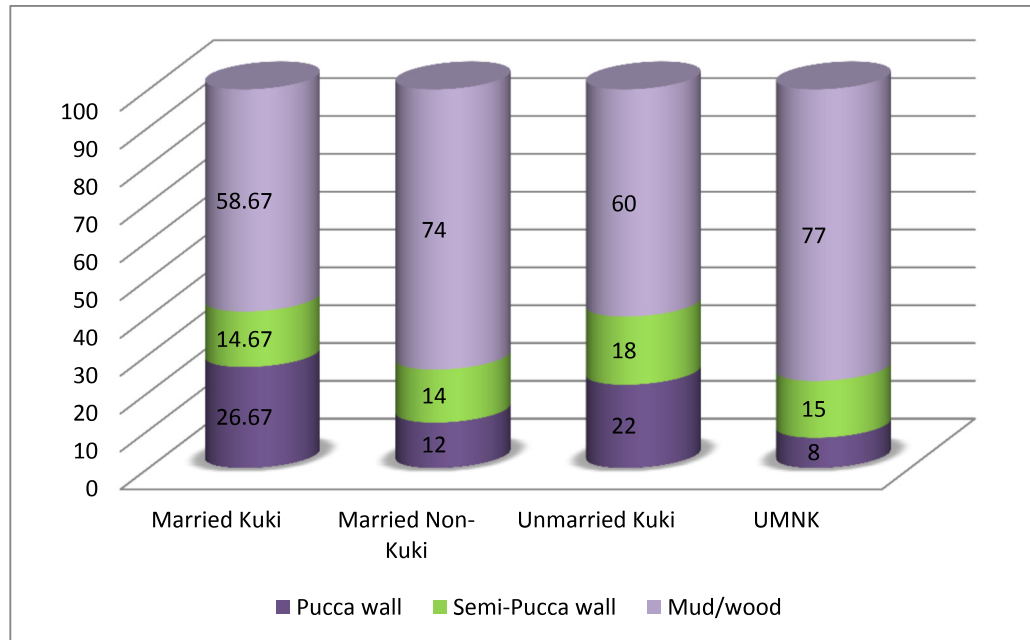

Figure-6.8: Distribution of Women by Types of House

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

6.2.8. Physical Assets of the Respondent's Household

The assets of the household may not necessarily belong to the woman herself but may be shared items with other member of the family. However it reflects the socio-economic condition of the house and also influences the living standard of the respondents. Here, we have taken the presence of items such as television, mobile, four wheeler, two wheeler, refrigerator and computer/laptop.

Table-6.22: Distribution of Assets of the Household

Assets	Married Kuki	Married Non-Kuki	Unmarried Kuki	Unmarried Non-Kuki
Television	74.67	58	78.67	66
Mobile	94	88	98	97
Four Wheeler	16	19	17.33	13
Two Wheeler	38	16	33.33	28
Refrigerator	26	3	20.67	14
Computer/laptop	20.67	2	14.67	8

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

The Table-6.22 shows the distribution of the respondents based on the utility of the items in the households. In all the sub-groups of women the highest proportion is in the utility of the mobile phone in the household which is 94 percent for married Kuki, 88 percent for married Non-Kuki, 98 percent for unmarried Kuki and 97 percent for unmarried Non-Kuki. The second highest utility of the item is television which is owned by 74.67 percent of the Kuki respondent, 58 percent of the married Non-Kuki, 78.67 percent of the unmarried Kuki and 66 percent of unmarried Non-Kuki household. The utility of the items such as refrigerator, four wheelers and Computer/laptop were owned in very few respondent's household. The Figure-6.9 represent aradar showing the utility of the items owned in the respondent's household. All the six items are represented on the axes starting from the same point. It can be seen that of all the items, highest availability is the mobile in almost every household.
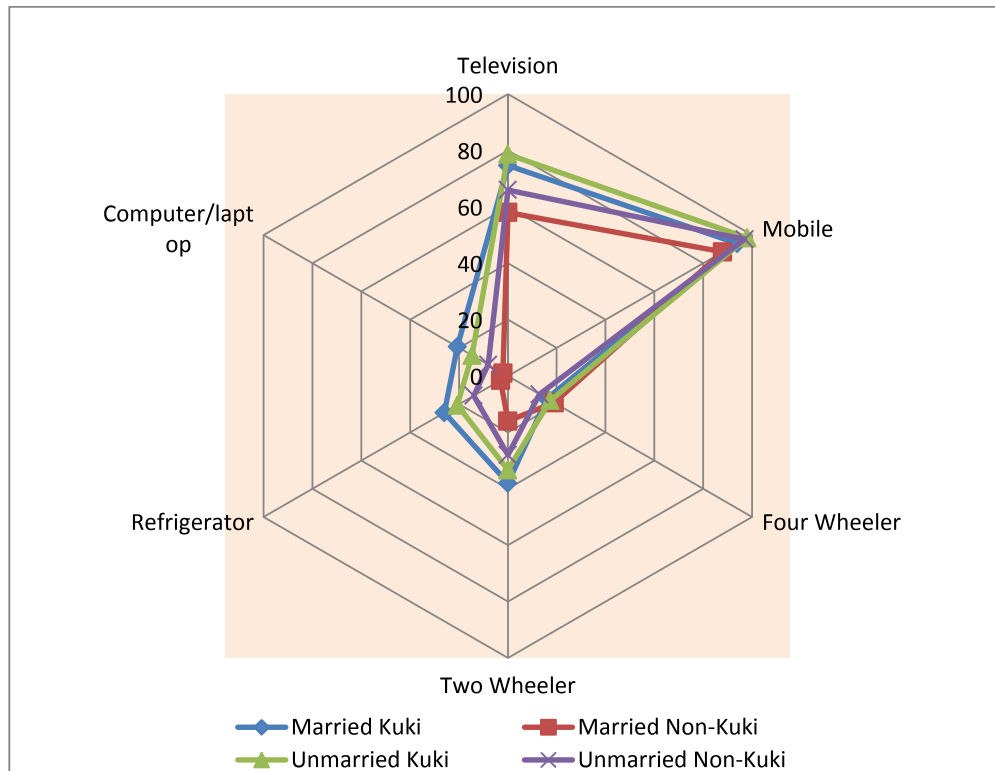
Figure-6.9: Radar Diagram Presenting the Availability of the Assets in the Respondents Household.

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

6.2.9. Married Women and Their Spouse

Many attributes influences the status of the married women in the household. We have selected four indicators which play an important role in determining their decision making power relatively to their spouse. The attributes are Age of the women at time of marriage, Age gap between the spouses and education gap between spouses. From the Table-6.23, it revealed that the average age at time of marriage is more among the married Kukiwomen (≈22 years) relatively to the married Non-Kuki women.The average age gap between the husband and wife is 5.58(≈6 years) for married Kuki and 4.84 (≈5 years) for married Non-Kukiwomen. The percentage of literate women of the sample married Kuki having a lower educational attainteement from their relative spouse is found to be 54.67 percent among Kuki women and 42 percent among Non-Kuki women. In our study, we have also come across a number of women having a higher education than their other half .The result shows that the

women having higher education than their spouse is 18.67 percent for married Kuki women and 42 percent for married Non-Kuki women.

Table-6.23: Married Women and their Spouse

Attributes	Married Kuki	Married Non-Kuki
Average Age at time of marriage	21.76	19.05
Average Age gap(husband-wife)	5.58	4.84
Education gap(husband-wife) in percentage	54.67	42
Education gap(wife-husband) in percentage	18.67	13

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

6.2.10. Type of Family

The size of the family is closely associated with the per capita income of the family. Larger the family size the distribution of wealth among the family member is more. For, our study we have categorised the size of the families into three types. They are Single Family, Small Family and Large Family. The Table-6.24 presents the picture of the distribution of women by type of their family size. Based on the table values, we can see that higher percentage of women in both cases of married Kuki women and unmarried Kuki women belongs to Small Family. In case of married Non-Kuki and unmarried Non-Kuki higher percentage of women belongs from the Large Family. A small percentage of married women both in case of Kuki and Non-Kuki are from Single Family. The women who formed the Single Family are either widow, divorcees and separated from the spouses.

Table-6.24: Percentage Distribution of Women by Family Size

Family Size	Married Kuki	Married Non-Kuki	Unmarried Kuki	Unmarried Non-Kuki
Single Family	1.33	1	0	0
Small Family	60.67	49	80	41
Large Family	38	50	70	59

Source: Researcher's own calculation on the basis of the primary data

Note: Single Family:Asingle individual woman

             Small Family: Family constitute upto six members

             Large Family: Family constitutes of more than six members

6.2.11. Custom

In this section, we discuss the customary practices which demoralised the status of women. The custom of Bride price and practice of Awonpot prevail in Manipuri society. Bride price is an amount of money or quantity of goods or any other form of wealth paid by the groom or his family to the bride family. In the Kuki society the practice of Bride price is followed till date. In a similar case, the Non-Kuki follows a similar custom during the marriage ceremony known as 'Awonpot'. It is a Manipuri word which is almost similar to the system of dowry. Despite of this similarity unlike in the case of Kuki women where the grooms give the bride price to the bride family, in the latter case the bride family has to give Awonpot to the groom's family. The Awonpot is generally in the form of goods and kind.

Table-6.25: Customary Practices followed in the Kuki and Non-Kuki Community

Groups	Bride Price	Awonpot
Married Kuki	92	0
Married Non-Kuki	0	94

From the Table-6.25, we can see that 92 percent of the Kuki women followed the customary practice of bride price while 94 percent of the Non-Kuki women have followed the practice of Awonpot. Both of cases are an evil practice in society and it deteriorates the status of women. Such practice need to be discouraged and lift up from the society.

6.3.Analysis of Research Results

This section incorporates the results related to the objectives of the study. To study the socio-economic status of the Kuki women and to identify the factors which influence the socio-economic status of the Kuki women and the Non-Kuki women, the researcher has taken four objectives. The research result of each objective is discussed one after another in subsequent sections. The methodologies for these results have already been discussed in Chapter-IV.

6.3.1. Analysis of the Result of Health Status of the Kuki Women

The first objective of this study is to investigate the Health status of the Kuki women The Health status of the Kuki women is examined with a dimensional index. It is a self-developed Health Index (HI). Some of the variables used are applicable only to the married women. Therefore, the Health Index is calculated separately for the married and unmarried women .The index is calculated using the following formula for i[th] women:

$$\text{Health Index } (HI_i) = \frac{\textit{Actual value obtained by } i^{th}\textit{respondent} - \textit{Minimum value of the variables}}{\textit{Maximum value of the variables} - \textit{Minimum vlaue of the variables}}$$

Using the above formula, the Health index value of 150 married Kuki women is obtained. The estimated Health Index value of the 30 married Kuki women out of the 150 married Kuki women are presented in the Table-6.26. The Health Index value from the table shows that significant numbers of the women have scored an index value of 1.The remaining Health Index value of the 120 women is placed in the later section (Appendix-B).

Table-6.26: Health Index Values of Married Kuki Women

Respondents	Health Index	Respondents	Health Index	Respondents	Health Index
MK-1	0.250	MK-11	0.875	MK-21	0.375
MK-2	0.625	MK-12	0.875	MK-22	0.750
MK-3	0.875	MK-13	0.875	MK-23	0.500
MK-4	0.625	MK-14	1.000	MK-24	0.750
MK-5	0.625	MK-15	0.125	MK-25	0.750
MK-6	0.750	MK-16	0.625	MK-26	0.500
MK-7	0.750	MK-17	0.625	MK-27	0.375
MK-8	0.375	MK-18	0.375	MK-28	0.625
MK-9	1.000	MK-19	0.875	MK-29	0.375
MK-10	0.750	MK-20	0.625	MK-30	0.750

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

Table-6.27: Health Status of Married Kuki Women

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low (HI< 0.5)	26	17.33
Medium (0.5 ≤ HI ≤ 0.799)	70	46.66
High (HI ≥ 0.8)	54	36.00

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

The Table-6.27 represents the overall health scenario of the married Kuki women. After ranking the index valueof all the women into the UNDP recommended range, it is found that 70 respondents (46.67 percent) have an index value lies between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. Further we found that HI value of 54 respondents falls under the high level of health status. That means 36 percent of the married Kuki women are having high level of health status when compare with the rest of the married women. It was also found out that the HI value of 26 married women falls under the low health status, which means that 17.33 percent of the women are having a low health status relative to the remaining married Kuki women.

Table-6.28: Health Index Values of Unmarried Kuki Women

Respondents	Educational Index	Respondents	Educational Index	Respondents	Educational Index
UMK-1	0.500	UMK-11	0.250	UMK-21	1.000
UMK-2	0.500	UMK-12	0.750	UMK-22	0.750
UMK-3	1.000	UMK-13	1.000	UMK-23	0.750
UMK-4	1.000	UMK-14	0.500	UMK-24	1.000
UMK-5	0.250	UMK-15	0.500	UMK-25	1.000
UMK-6	0.500	UMK-16	0.500	UMK-26	0.750
UMK-7	1.000	UMK-17	0.250	UMK-27	0.750
UMK-8	0.750	UMK-18	0.750	UMK-28	1.000
UMK-9	1.000	UMK-19	0.750	UMK-29	0.750
UMK-10	1.000	UMK-20	0.500	UMK-30	1.000

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

Using the self-developed HI formula which we have mentioned earlier, the Health Index value of 150 unmarried Kuki women is obtained. The estimated Health Index value of the 30 unmarried Kuki women out of the 150 unmarried Kuki women is

presented in the Table-6.28. The remaining Health Index value of the 120 women is placed in the later section (Appendix-B).

The overall health scenario of the unmarried Kuki women is presented in the Table-6.29. After ranking the index value of 150 unmarried women into the UNDP recommended ranges, it is found that 70 women (46.67 percent) have an index value fall under the high health status. Further we found that HI value of 61women falls between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. That means 40.67 percent of the unmarried Kuki women are having medium level of health status when compare with the rest of the unmarried women. It is also to be noted that 12.67 percent of the unmarried women have an HI value less than 0.5.

Table-6.29 : Health Status of Unmarried Women

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low(HI< 0.5)	19	12.67
Medium(0.5 ≤ HI ≤ 0.799)	61	40.67
High(HI ≥ 0.8)	70	46.67

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

6.3.2. Analysis of the Result Of Educational Status

In order to identify the educational status of the Kuki women, we have developed an Educational Index (EdI). We consider the individual educational index score and them into the UNDP recommended ranges. The number of years of formal schooling is taken into account to assess the Educational Index. The formula for calculation of educational status is as follows

$$(EdI_i) = \frac{Actual\ year\ of\ schooling\ i^{th}\ respondent - Minimun\ years\ of\ schooling}{Maximum\ years\ of\ schooling - Minimum\ years\ of\ schooling}$$

Using the formula of EdI, the Education Index of 150 married Kuki women is estimated. The estimated index value of the 30 married Kuki women out of the 150 married Kuki women is presented in the Table-6.30. The remaining EdI value of the 120 women is placed in the later section (Appendix-B1).

Table- 6.30: Educational Index Values of Married Kuki women

Respondents	Educational Index	Respondents	Educational Index	Respondents	Educational Index
MK-1	0.471	MK-11	0.882	MK-21	0.000
MK-2	0.000	MK-12	0.588	MK-22	0.059
MK-3	0.706	MK-13	0.882	MK-23	0.118
MK-4	0.588	MK-14	0.235	MK-24	0.353
MK-5	0.000	MK-15	0.000	MK-25	0.118
MK-6	0.882	MK-16	0.059	MK-26	0.529
MK-7	0.882	MK-17	0.000	MK-27	0.000
MK-8	0.588	MK-18	0.529	MK-28	0.000
MK-9	0.882	MK-19	0.294	MK-29	0.118
MK-10	0.000	MK-20	0.353	MK-30	0.471

Table-6.31: Educational Status of Married Kuki Women

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low(EdI< 0.5)	85	56.67
Medium(0.5 ≤ EdI ≤ 0.799)	46	30.67
High(EdI ≥ 0.8)	19	12.67

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

For identifying the educational status of married Kuki women, we have calculated the EdI and the index value are ranked into the three ranges. After ranking the index value of 150 married women into the UNDP recommended ranges, it is found that 85women (56.67 percent) have low educational status. Further we found that EdI value of 46women falls between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. That means 30.67 percent of the married Kuki women are having medium level of educational status when compare with the rest of the married women. It is also to be noted that the EdI value of 19 married women is more than 0.799. That means only 12.67 percent of the married women have attained high educational status.

Table-6.32: Educational Index Values of Unmarried Kuki Women

Respondents	Educational Index	Respondents	Educational Index	Respondents	Educational Index
UMK-1	0.765	UMK-11	0.706	UMK-21	0.588
UMK-2	0.471	UMK-12	0.647	UMK-22	0.471
UMK-3	0.647	UMK-13	0.882	UMK-23	0.353
UMK-4	0.706	UMK-14	0.588	UMK-24	0.882
UMK-5	0.882	UMK-15	0.000	UMK-25	0.000
UMK-6	0.706	UMK-16	0.176	UMK-26	0.529
UMK-7	0.706	UMK-17	0.647	UMK-27	0.588
UMK-8	0.647	UMK-18	0.588	UMK-28	0.588
UMK-9	0.882	UMK-19	0.882	UMK-29	0.353
UMK-10	0.588	UMK-20	0.706	UMK-30	0.647

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

Using the formula EdI, the Education Index of 150 unmarried Kuki women is estimated. The estimated index value of the 30 unmarried Kuki women out of the 150 unmarried Kuki women is presented in the Table-6.32. The remaining EdI value of the 120 women is placed in the Appendix section (Appendix-B1).

Table-6.33: Educational Status of Unmarried Kuki Women(Total=150)

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low(EdI< 0.5)	34	22.67
Medium(0.5 ≤ EdI ≤ 0.799)	85	56.67
High(EdI ≥ 0.8)	31	20.67

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

In order to investigate the educational status of unmarried Kuki women, we have calculated the EdI and the index value are ranked into the Low, Medium and High ranges. After ranking the index value of 150 unmarried women into the UNDP recommended ranges, it is found that 34 women (22.67 percent) have low educational status. Further we found that EdI value of 85 women falls between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. That means 56.67 percent of the unmarried Kuki women have attained medium level of educational status when compare with the rest of the unmarried women. It is

also found out that the EdI value of 31 unmarried women is more than 0.799. That means 20.67 percent of the unmarried women have attained high educational status.

6.3.3. Analysis of the Result of Income Status

To investigate the income status of the Kuki women (both for married and unmarried women), we have used a self-developed Income Index (InI_i). The Income Index of the women is calculated using their monthly income. The index used for calculating Income status is as follows

$$\text{Income Index } (InI_i) = \frac{Actual\ Income\ of\ the\ i^{th} respondent - Minimun\ Income}{Maximum\ Income - Minimum\ Income}$$

Using the formula of Income Index, the Index of 150 married Kuki women is estimated. The estimated index value of the 30 married Kuki women out of the 150 married Kuki women is presented in the Table-6.34. The remaining Income Index value of the 120 women is placed in the Appendix section (Appendix-B2).

Table-6.34: Income Index Values of Married Kuki Women

Respondents	Income Index	Respondents	Income Index	Respondents	Income Index
MK1	0.100	MK11	0.771	MK21	0.046
MK2	0.000	MK12	0.571	MK22	0.029
MK3	0.086	MK13	0.457	MK23	0.034
MK4	0.214	MK14	0.000	MK24	0.049
MK5	0.043	MK15	0.000	MK25	0.029
MK6	0.229	MK16	0.100	MK26	0.086
MK7	0.186	MK17	0.057	MK27	0.091
MK8	0.071	MK18	0.066	MK28	0.114
MK9	0.057	MK19	0.029	MK29	0.000
MK10	0.000	MK20	0.129	MK30	0.057

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

For identifying the status of Income level of married Kuki women, we have calculated the Income Index and the index value are ranked into UNDP recommended ranges. After ranking the index value of 150 married women into the three ranges, we have found that 139 women have index value less than 0.5. That means 92.67 percent of the women are in low income level relative to the remaining 11 women. Further we

found that index value of 8 women falls between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. That means only 5.33 percent of the married Kuki women are having medium level of Income status when compare with the rest of the married women. It is also to be noted that the Income Index value of only 3 married women is more than 0.799. That means only 2 percent of the married women are having high income.

Table-6.35: Income Status of Married Kuki

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low(InI< 0.5)	139	92.67
Medium($0.5 \leq$ InI ≤ 0.799)	8	5.33
High(InI ≥ 0.8)	3	2.00

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

By using the formula of Income Index, the Income Index of 150 married Kuki women is calculated. The estimated index value of the 30 married Kuki women out of the 150 married Kuki women is presented in the Table-6.36. The remaining Income Index value of the 120 women is placed in the Appendix section (Appendix-B2).

Table-6.36: Income Index Values of Unmarried Kuki Women

Respondents	Income Index	Respondents	Income Index	Respondents	Income Index
UMK-1	0.000	UMK-11	0.000	UMK-21	0.0000
UMK-2	0.257	UMK-12	0.000	UMK-22	0.1714
UMK-3	0.000	UMK-13	0.100	UMK-23	0.1057
UMK-4	0.000	UMK-14	0.000	UMK-24	0.0000
UMK-5	0.000	UMK-15	0.071	UMK-25	0.1000
UMK-6	0.000	UMK-16	0.057	UMK-26	0.0343
UMK-7	0.000	UMK-17	0.000	UMK-27	0.0000
UMK-8	0.000	UMK-18	0.086	UMK-28	0.0143
UMK-9	0.129	UMK-19	0.086	UMK-29	0.0000
UMK-10	0.000	UMK-20	0.000	UMK-30	0.0000

Table-6.37: Income Status of Unmarried Kuki Women

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low (InI< 0.5)	147	98
Medium (0.5 ≤ InI ≤ 0.799)	2	1.33
High (InI ≥ 0.8)	1	0.66

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

For identifying the status of Income level of unmarried Kuki women, we have calculated the Income Index and the index value are ranked into UNDP recommended ranges. After ranking the index value of 150 unmarried women into the three ranges, we have found that 147 women have index value less than 0.5. That means 98 percent of the women are in low income level relative to the remaining 3 women. Further we found that index value of only 2 women falls between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. That means only 1.33 percent of the unmarried Kuki women are having medium level of Income status when compare with the rest of the married women. It is also found that the Income Index value of only 1 unmarried woman is more than 0.799. That means only 0.66 percent of the unmarried women are having higher income.

6.3.4. Analysis of the Result of Employment Status

The employment status is one of the important attributes of the socio-economic status of any individuals. Inorder to understand the employment status of the Kuki women, it is important to identify the number of women who are economically active. So first we have broadly classified the women as employed and unemployed. Thereafter, the occupation of the employed respondents is classified on the basis ofclassification of economic activities of tribal as given by Chaudhari (1982). The Chaudhari' classification of economic activities is used in this study with some suitable modifications.

Table-6.38: Employment Status of Kuki Women

Categories	Employed	Percentage
Married Kuki Women	99	33.00
Unmarried Kuki Women	64	21.33
Total	163	54.33

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

The number of employed married Kuki women and unmarried Kuki women at the time of survey are presented in Table-6.38. It was found that out of the 300 sample respondents, 163 women are employed in various economic activities. In the survey area, the women were found to be engaged in economic activities like cultivation (Shifting hill cultivation/Settle cultivation), Handicrafts and Handloom, Pity and small self-employed business, depending on forest produce, working as daily labourer, working in private firms and few were observed to be employed as Government official. Out of the 150 married women 99 women were found to be engaged in economic activities. For the unmarried women only 64 women were economically active during the time of survey. That means only 33 percent and 21.33 percent of married women and unmarried women respectively are employed.

Table-6.39: Economic Activities of the Employed Kuki Women

Economic Activities	Frequency	Percentage
Cultivation	24	14.73
Handicrafts/Handloom	46	28.22
Trade and Commerce	26	15.95
Gathering of forest produce	16	9.81
Daily wage labourer	16	9.81
Holding Private enterprise job	21	12.88
Holding Government job	14	8.58
Total	163	100

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

In the Table-6.39, the classification of the Kuki women based on their occupation is presented. From the table we get the present picture of the occupation in the Kuki women depend for livelihood. We observed that the out of the 163 employed respondents 46 Kuki women are employed in Handicrafts/Handloom. The women employed in Handicrafts/Handloom are engaged in weaving of traditional shawls, bamboo basketry. Other than handicraft /handloom 26 women are also engaged in Trade and Commerce. That means 15.95 percent of the women are earning livelihood from trading of cloths, street vendor, selling meat, tea stall. It is to be noted that without much differences, 24 women are engaged in Cultivation and 21 women are

employed in Private Enterprises. This shows that 14.73 percent are employed in Jhum cultivation and terrace cultivation and 12.88 percent of the women are engaged in private enterprises such as private schools, small firms and Non-Governmental Organisations. Forest plays an important part in the life of the tribal people. In the study area, 9.81 percent of women depend on forest. They gathered goods from theforest produces and sell the items inthe market. It is very important to note that 14 womenare employed in Government offices. That means 8.58 percent of the women relative to the remaining women are employed in organised sectors as upper division clerk, lower division clerk, teaching staff in Government school and colleges.

Table-6.40: Economic Activities of the Married Kuki Women

Economic Activities	Frequency	Percentage
Cultivation	21	21.21
Handicrafts/Handloom	15	15.15
Trade and Commerce	19	19.19
Gathering of forest produce	8	8.08
Daily wage labourer	13	13.13
Holding Private enterprise job	14	14.14
Holding Government job	9	9.09
Total Employed	99	100

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

Out of the 163 employed women, 99 women are married Kuki engaged in different types of occupation. The Table-6.40 reveals that out of the total employed women, 21 of them are engaged in Cultivation. This shows that 21.21 percent of the women depend on the traditional source of earning income for livelihood. Secondly, 19.19 percent of the women are employed in the activities related to trade and commerce. They are engaged in retailed shop, tea and rice hotel, street vendor. It is also observed that 15.15 percent and 14.14 percent of the women in the study area are employed in Handicrafts / handloom production and Private enterprises respectively. The married women working in handicraft and handloom earn income by weaving of traditional dresses, shawl, bamboo basket, furniture etc.It is also found that 13.13 percent of the women worked as daily wage labour. They work on daily basis in brick field, agriculture related activities. A less number of only 9 respondentsare working as government employees and 8 percent of the married women depend on forest. They

gather food items, fuel wood/firewood, seeds, spices and roots and earn their marginal income for living.

Table-6.41: Economic Activities Among the Unmarried Kuki Women

Economic Activities	Frequency	Percentage
Cultivation	6	9.38
Handicrafts/Handloom	28	43.75
Trade And Commerce	7	10.94
Gathering Of Forest Produce	8	12.50
Daily Wage Labourer	3	4.69
Holding Private Enterprise Job	7	10.94
Holding Government Job	5	7.81
Total	64	100

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

Out of the 163 employed Kuki women, 64 women are unmarried Kuki women engaged in different types of occupation. The Table-6.41 presents the occupational distribution of the unmarried Kuki women. From the table it is pointed out that only 6 women were found to be engaged in Cultivation. This shows that only 9.38 percent of the women depend on the traditional source of earning income for livelihood. Among the unmarried Kuki the highest number of women employed in Handicrafts / handloom production. That means 43.75 percent of the women are employed in the weaving of traditional dresses, shawl, bamboo basket, furniture etc. It is also observed that 10.94 percent of the women are employed in economic activities related to trade and commerce. They are engaged in retailed shop, tea and rice hotel, street vendor. In the study area 10.94 percent and 7.81 percent of unmarried Kuki women are found working in Private enterprises and different department of Government offices respectively. It is also found that only4.69 percent of the women worked as daily wage labour. They work on daily basis in brick field, agriculture related activities. The numbers of unmarried women depending on forest produce for their monthly income were 8 women. This means 12.50 percent of the unmarried women are involved in gathering of food items, fuel wood/firewood, seeds, spices and roots to earn their marginal income for living.

6.3.5. Analysis of the Results of Socio-economic Status

One of the objectives of the study is to investigate the socio-economic status of the Kuki women. In this section, we will discuss the socio-economic status of the Kuki women. In order to make the study more concrete, the researcher further investigate the socio-economic status of the Kuki women relative to Non-Kuki women. The socio-economic status of the women is calculated using a self-developed Socio-economic Index (SEI_i). The SEI_i is a weighted average of the three dimensional indices. They are Health Index (HI_i), Education Index (EdI_i) and Economic Index (EI_i).Thus we can define SEI of ith as,

$$SEI_i = \frac{1}{3}(HI_i) + \frac{1}{3}(EdI_i) + \frac{1}{3}(EI_i)$$

The calculation of the Health Index, Educational Index and Economic Index are discussed thoroughly in the Chapter IV.

6.3.5.1.Analysis of the Results of Socio-economic Status of Kuki Women

The result of estimated SEI_i of the 300 Kuki women are presented in Table-6.42. The SEI_iscore of all the 300 respondents were calculated then ranked into the three categories which are Low socio-economic status, Medium socio-economic status and High socio-economic status. After ranking them in the UNDP recommended ranges we get 112 numbers of women have index value less than 0.5. That means more than 37.33 percentof the Kuki women have a low socio-economic status relative to the other Kuki women in the study area. More than 47 percent of the Kuki women have medium level of socio-economic status as 143 women SEI_i score lies between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. It is also observed from the data that only 45 number of Kuki women have SEI_i score is higher than 0.799. It shows that only 15 percent of the Kuki women have a high socio-economic status. So, we can say that the socio-economic status of the Kuki women is not in its best position and intensive initiatives are required to uplift their socio-economic status.

Table-6.42: Socio-economic Status For Total Kuki Women

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low (SEI< 0.5)	112	**37.33**
Medium (0.5 ≤ SEI ≤ 0.799)	143	**47.67**
High (SEI ≥ 0.8)	45	**15**

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

After discussing the socio-economic status of the Kuki women, next we proceed to investigate the socio-economic status of the women base on their marital status. First we will discuss the socio-economic status of the married Kuki women than the discussion the unmarried will be followed. Using the formula of Socio-economic Index which we have discussed earlier, the SEI of the 150 married women is obtained. The SEI values of first 15 married Kuki women are presented in the Table-6.43. The index values of the remaining women are attached in the Appendix (Appendix-B4)

Table-6.43: Socio-economic Index Values For Total Married Kuki Women

Respondents	SEI	Respondents	SEI	Respondents	SEI
MK-1	0.479	MK-6	0.734	MK-11	0.906
MK-2	0.426	MK-7	0.716	MK-12	0.725
MK-3	0.736	MK-8	0.493	MK-13	0.814
MK-4	0.656	MK-9	0.899	MK-14	0.588
MK-5	0.398	MK-10	0.516	MK-15	0.082

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

The result of estimated SEI_i of the 150 married Kuki women are presented in Table-6.44. The SEI_i score of all the 150 respondents were calculated then ranked into the three categories which are Low socio-economic status, Medium socio-economic status and High socio-economic status. After ranking them in the UNDP recommended ranges we get 70 numbers of women have index value less than 0.5. That means more than 46.67 percent of the married Kuki women have a low socio-economic status relative to the other married Kuki women in the study area. The data from table also reveal that 40 percent of the married Kuki women have medium level of socio-economic status as SEI_i values lies between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. It is also observed from the data that only 20 number of married Kuki women have SEI_i values are higher than 0.799. It shows that only 13.33 percent of the married Kuki

women have a high socio-economic status. So, we can say that the socio-economic status of the married Kuki women is far from its best position and intensive initiatives are required to uplift their socio-economic status.

Table.-6.44: Socio-economic Status of Married Kuki Women

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low (SEI< 0.5)	70	**46.67**
Medium (0.5 ≤ SEI ≤ 0.799)	60	**40**
High (SEI ≥ 0.8)	20	**13.33**

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

Using the formula of Socio-economic Index which we have discussed earlier, the SEI of the 150 unmarried women is obtained. The SEI values of first 15 unmarried Kuki women are presented in the Table-6.45. The remaining index values of the 135 unmarried women are attached in the Appendix (Appendix-B4)

Table.-6.45: Socio-economic Index Values of Unmarried Kuki Women

Respondents	SEI	Respondents	SEI	Respondents	SEI
UMK-1	0.621369	UMK-6	0.668378	UMK-11	0.35882
UMK-2	0.52333	UMK-7	0.888828	UMK-12	0.616393
UMK-3	0.766343	UMK-8	0.785886	UMK-13	0.880484
UMK-4	0.82023	UMK-9	0.862297	UMK-14	0.440633
UMK-5	0.643868	UMK-10	0.758055	UMK-15	0.263591

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

The result of estimated SEI_i of the 150 unmarried Kuki women are presented in Table-6.46. The SEI_i score of all the 150 respondents were calculated then ranked into the three categories which are Low socio-economic status, Medium socio-economic status and High socio-economic status. After ranking them in the UNDP recommended ranges we get 42 numbers of women have index value less than 0.5. That means more than 28 percent of the unmarried Kuki women have a low socio-economic status relative to the other unmarried Kuki women in the study area. The data from table also reveal that 55.33 percent of the unmarried Kuki women have medium level of socio-economic status. This means more than half of the unmarried women have SEI_i values lies between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. It is also observed from the data that only 25 number of unmarried Kuki women have SEI_i values are

higher than 0.799. It shows that only 16.67 percent of the married Kuki women have a high socio-economic status. So, we can say that the socio-economic status of the unmarried Kuki women is far from its best position and intensive initiatives are required to uplift their socio-economic status.

Table-6.46: Socio-economic Status of Unmarried Kuki Women

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low (SEI< 0.5)	42	**28**
Medium (0.5 ≤ SEI ≤ 0.799)	83	**55.33**
High (SEI ≥ 0.8)	25	**16.67**

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

6.3.5.2.Analysis of the Results of Socio-economic Status of Non-Kuki women

The socio-economic status of the Non-Kuki women is calculated using a self-developed Socio-economic Index (SEI_i). The SEI_i is a weighted average of the three dimensional indices. They are Health Index (HI_i), Education Index (EdI_i) and Economic Index (EI_i).Thus we can define SEI of ith as,

$$SEI_i = \frac{1}{3}(HI_i) + \frac{1}{3}(EdI_i) + \frac{1}{3}(EI_i)$$

The result of estimated SEI_i of the 200 Kuki women are presented in Table-6.47. The SEI_ivalues of all the 200 respondents were calculated then ranked into the three ranges which are Low socio-economic status, Medium socio-economic status and High socio-economic status. After ranking the SEI_i in the UNDP recommended ranges we get that 115 numbers of women have index value less than 0.5. That means more than 57.5 percent of the Non-Kuki women have a low socio-economic status relative to the other Non-Kuki women in the study area. Moreover, 36.5 percent of the Non-Kuki women have medium level of socio-economic status as 73 women haveSEI_ivalues lies between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. It is also observed from the data that only 10 Non-Kuki women have SEI_i score is higher than 0.799. It shows that only 5 percent of the Non-Kuki women have a high socio-economic status. So, we can say that the socio-economic status of the Non-Kuki women is in worst position and intensive initiatives are required to uplift their socio-economic status.

Table-6.47: Socio-economic Status of Non-Kuki Women

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low (SEI< 0.5)	115	**57.5**
Medium (0.5 ≤ SEI ≤ 0.799)	73	**36.5**
High (SEI ≥ 0.8)	10	**5**

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

Using the Socio-economic Index we have obtained the SEI values of the 100 married women. The SEI values of first 15 married Non-Kuki women are presented in the Table-6.48. The index values of the remaining women are attached in the Appendix (Appendix-B4)

Table-6.48: Socio-economic Index Values of Married Non-Kuki Women

MNK-1	0.430	MNK-6	0.277	MNK-11	0.270
MNK-2	0.552	MNK-7	0.513	MNK-12	0.641
MNK-3	0.489	MNK-8	0.376	MNK-13	0.323
MNK-4	0.647	MNK-9	0.381	MNK-14	0.836
MNK-5	0.667	MNK-10	0.405	MNK-15	0.304

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

The result of estimated SEI_i of the 100 married Non-Kuki women are presented in Table-6.49. The SEI_i values of all the 150 respondents were calculated then ranked into the three categories. After ranking them in the UNDP recommended ranges we get 66 women have index value less than 0.5. That means more than 66 percent of the married Non-Kuki women have a low socio-economic status relative to the other married Non-Kuki women in the study area. The data from table also reveal that 31 percent of the married Non-Kuki women have medium level of socio-economic status as their SEI_i values lies between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. It is also observed that only 3 number of married Non-Kuki women have SEI_i values are higher than 0.799. It shows that only 3 percent of the married Non-Kuki women have a high socio-economic status. So, we can say that the socio-economic status of the married Non-Kuki women is in a very worst position and intensive initiatives are required to uplift their socio-economic status.

Table.-6.49: Socio-economic Status of Married Non-Kuki Women

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low (SEI< 0.5)	66	**66**
Medium (0.5 ≤ SEI ≤ 0.799)	31	**31**
High (SEI ≥ 0.8)	3	**3**

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

Using the formula of Socio-economic Index which we have discussed earlier, the SEI of the 100 unmarried women is obtained. The SEI values of first 15 unmarried Non-Kuki women are presented in the Table-6.50. The remaining index values of the 85 unmarried women are attached in the Appendix (Appendix-B4)

Table-6.50: Socio-economic Index Values of the Unmarried Non-Kuki Women

Respondents	SEI	Respondents	SEI	Respondents	SEI
UMNK-1	0.406	UMNK-6	0.406	UMNK-11	0.434
UMNK-2	0.587	UMNK-7	0.685	UMNK-12	0.666
UMNK-3	0.406	UMNK-8	0.329	UMNK-13	0.544
UMNK-4	0.592	UMNK-9	0.443	UMNK-14	0.734
UMNK-5	0.659	UMNK-10	0.639	UMNK-15	0.692

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

The result of estimated SEI_i of the 100 unmarried Non-Kuki women are presented in Table-6.51. The SEI_i score of all the 100 respondents were calculated then ranked into the three categories. After ranking them in the UNDP recommended ranges we get 49 numbers of women have index value less than 0.5. That means more than 49 percent of the unmarried Non-Kuki women have a low socio-economic status relative to the other unmarried Non-Kuki women in the study area. The data from table also reveal that 44 percent of the unmarried Non-Kuki women have medium level of socio-economic status. This means 44 percent of the unmarried women have SEI_i values lies between the ranges of 0.5 to 0.799. It is also to be noted that only 7 unmarried Non-Kuki women have SEI_i values higher than 0.799. It shows that only 7 percent of the married Non-Kuki women have a high socio-economic status. So, we can say that the socio-economic status of the unmarried Non-Kuki women is in worst position and intensive initiatives are required to uplift their socio-economic status.

Table-6.51: Socio-economic Status of Unmarried Non-Kuki Women

Level	Frequency	Percentage
Low (SEI< 0.5)	49	**49**
Medium (0.5 ≤ SEI ≤ 0.799)	44	**44**
High (SEI ≥ 0.8)	7	**7**

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

6.3.6 Discussion on Factors Influencing the Socio-economic Status of the Women

It is very important to identify the factors which influence the socio-economic status of the women in the study area. Identifying the factors will provide map to initiate any plans and strategies for uplifting the socio-economic status of the women. So, the researcher has included an objective to investigate the factors which influences the socio-economic status of the married Kuki women, married Non-Kuki women, unmarried Kuki women and unmarried Non-Kuki women. We have considered seven variables for the married women and five variables for the unmarried women. The variables for married women are:

1. Family size

2. Income of the respondents

3. Body Mass Index

4. Literacy

5. Age gap between the spouses

6. Educational differences between the spouses

7. Age at time of first marriage

The variables for unmarried women are as follows:

1. Family size

2. Income of the respondent(INC)

3. Age of the respondent

4. Body Mass Index

5. Literacy

Inorder to find out the factors influencing the socio-economic status of the women, the following results are obtained by using the Logistic regression which we had already discussed in the Chapter-IV. The estimated results of the regression for married Kuki women and married Non-Kuki are presented in tables below. The results are estimate by using the data analysis and statistical software STATA 12.

Table-6.52: Factor Influencing Socio-economic Status of Married Kuki Women

Variables	Coefficients	t-values
Family Size	.001	.035
Income of Respondents	5.48E-005***	7.157
Body Mass Index	.519***	4.900
Literacy levels as binary (literate=1, otherwise=0)	1.325***	11.646
Age gap between the spouses	-.004	-.632
Educational gap between the spouses	-.029***	-2.337
Age at the first marriage	.024*	1.876
(Constant)	-1.861***	-5.502
N=150 $R^2 = 0.711$ Adjusted $R^2 = 0.696$		

Note *** indicates significant at the 1 percent level

** indicates significant at the 5 percent level

* indicates significant at the 10 percent level

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

The estimated result of the factors influencing the socio-economic status of the married Kuki women obtained by using a logistic regression is presented in the Table-6.52. The result have reveals the following facts. The results are as expected, showed that variables like the Income of the respondent, Body mass index, Literacy level of the respondent are statistically significant at 1 percent level and show a positive influence the socio-economic status of the married Kuki women.

The variable Age at the first marriage is significant at 10 percent level and it shows a positive influence on the socio-economic status of married Kuki women.The socio-demographic variables Age gap between the spouses and Educational gap between the

spouses as we have assumed, are affecting the socio-economic status of the Kuki women negatively. The variable Educational gap between the spouses is highly significant at 1 percent level.

However, the demographic variable Family size as it should affect the socio-economic status negatively; our result shows that it has a positive relationship with socio-economic status but unfortunately this variable turn out to be statistically insignificant.This positive association with socio-economic status may be explained that in forest area most of the people depend on the free resources of forest for their livelihoods, so, more number of family member results in more income earner in the family.

The above analysis ultimately reveals that Literacy, Body mass index and Educational gap between the spouses strongly influences their social status. The former two variables affect positively while the later affect the socio-economic status of the married Kuki women negatively. The Income of the respondents strongly influences economic status of the respondents positively. The demographic variables Family size turns out be positively influencing their economic status. The Age gap between the spouses and Educational gap between the spouses have negative influences on the socio-economic status. This is because with the increase in the gap, the decision making power of the women in the household tends to decrease.

Table-6.53: Factor Influencing Socio-economic Status of Married Non-Kuki Women

Variables	Coefficients	t-values
Family Size	.059***	2.990
Income of the Respondents	9.26E-005***	4.623
Body Mass Index	.404***	3.681
Literacy levels as binary (literate=1, otherwise=0)	1.296***	12.373
Age gap between the spouses	-.001	-.228
Educational gap between the spouses	-.014*	-1.198
Age at the first marriage	.039***	2.871
(Constant)	-2.549***	-8.182
N=100 R^2 = 0.722 Adjusted R^2 = 0.700		

Note *** indicates significant at the 1 percent level

** indicates significant at the 5 percent level

* indicates significant at the 10 percent level

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

The result of analysis for finding out the factors influencing the socio-economic status of the married Non-Kuki women obtained by using logistic regression is presented in the Table-6.53. The results are as expected, showed that variables like the Income of the respondent, Body mass index, Literacy level of the respondent are statistically significant at 1 percent level and show a positive influence the socio-economic status of the married Non-Kuki women. The variable Age at the first marriage is significant at 1 percent level and it shows a positive influence on the socio-economic status of married Kuki women. The socio-demographic variables Age gap between the spouses and Educational gap between the spouses as we have assumed, are affecting the socio-economic status of the Kuki women negatively. The variable Educational gap between the spouses is highly significant at 10 percent level.

However, the demographic variable Family size as it should affect the socio-economic status negatively; our result shows that it has a positive relationship with socio-economic status and turn out to be statistically significant at 1 percent level. This

positive influence of the family size with socio-economic status is because in the forest area most of the people depend on the free resources available from the forest for their livelihoods, so, more number of family member results in more income earner in the family.

The above analysis ultimately reveals that Literacy, Body mass index and Educational gap between the spouses strongly influences their social status. The variables Literacy and Body mass index influences the socio-economic status positively while the later influences the socio-economic status of the married Non-Kuki women negatively. The Income of the respondents and the demographic variables Family size are positively influencing economic status of the women. The Age gap between the spouses and Educational gap between the spouses have negative influences on the socio-economic status. This is because with the increase in the gap, the decision making power of the women in the household tends to decrease.

This validate that Family size, Income of the respondents, Body Mass Index, literacy level of the respondent, Age at time of first marriage and educational gap between the spouses are important factors which influences the socio-economic status of married Non-Kuki women

Table-6.54: Factor influencing Socio-economic Status of Unmarried Kuki Women

Variables	Coefficients	t-values
Family Size	.025*	.898
Income of the respondents	3.03E-005**	1.614
Age of the respondents	.019	1.116
Body Mass Index	.380*	1.804
Literacy level as binary (literate=1, otherwise=0)	1.645***	8.182
(Constant)	-1.936***	-3.605
N=150 R^2=0.6481 Adjusted R^2=0.6290		

Note *** indicates significant at the 1 percent level

** indicates significant at the 5 percent level

* indicates significant at the 10 percent level

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

The analysis of the result of factors influencing the socio-economic status of the unmarried Kuki women is presented in Table-6.54. Against our expectation, the variable Family size is having positive influences on the socio-economic status of the unmarried Kuki women and statistically significant at 10 percent level. The variable Income of the respondents and Age of the respondents are positively influencing the socio-economic status of the unmarried Kuki women. The variable Income of the respondents is statistically significant at 5 percent level however Age of the respondents turn out to be insignificant. The Body mass index and literacy level of the respondents are found to have positive influences on the socio-economic status of the unmarried Kuki women. The former is significant at 10 percent level while the latter is highly significant at 1 percent level. So, ultimately it can be revealed Literacy level, Income of the respondents and Body mass index have a strong influences on the socio-economic status. The Family size is also found to have a positive association with the socio-economic status of the unmarried Kuki. This is because in rural area which is largely forest belted, more number of people in the family means more number of helping hand and income earners.

Table-6.55: Factor Influencing Socio-economic Status of Unmarried Non-Kuki Women

Variables	Coefficients	t-values
Family Size	.26*	.861
Income of the respondents	4.68E-005*	1.281
Age of the respondents	.014	.592
Body Mass Index	.619***	3.249
Literacy level as binary (literate=1, otherwise=0)	1.313***	6.039
(Constant)	-2.066***	-3.118
N=100 $R^2=0.687$ Adjusted $R^2=0.617$		

Note *** indicates significant at the 1 percent level

** indicates significant at the 5 percent level

* indicates significant at the 10 percent level

Source: Researcher's own calculation based on primary data

The analysis of the result of factors influencing the socio-economic status of the unmarried Non-Kuki women is presented in Table-6.55. In contradiction to our expectation, the variable Family size is having positive influences on the socio-economic status of the unmarried Non-Kuki women and statistically significant at 10 percent level. The variable Income of the respondents and Age of the respondents are positively influencing the socio-economic status of the unmarried Kuki women. The variable Income of the respondents is statistically significant at 10 percent level however Age of the respondents turn out to be insignificant. The Body mass index and literacy level of the respondents are found to have positive influences on the socio-economic status of the unmarried Kuki women. The variables Body mass index and the literacy level of the respondentsare highly significant at 1 percent level. So, ultimately it can be revealed Literacy level, Income of the respondents Body mass index have a strong influences on the socio-economic status. The Family size is also found to have a positive association with the socio-economic status of the unmarried Kuki. This is because in rural area which is largely forest belted, more number of people in the family means more number of helping hand and income earners.

6.4. Discussion

In order to carry out the study, we have randomly selected 500 women. Out of they are group into Kuki and Non-Kuki women on basis of their community. Further we have also classified the women into two groups on the basis of their marital status. They are the Married women and Unmarried women. Most of the married women are from the aged group of Mid-aged women (30-59 yrs) and unmarried women are from the aged group of Young women (18-29 yrs).From the analysis of the results we have found that the socio-economic status of the women is not in a sound condition. The different dimensions of socio-economic status have also shown a deprived situation. The overall scenario of the health status of the Kuki women is low health status as a large number of married Kuki women and unmarried Kuki women have low health status. It is because of the lack of access, lack of awareness, poverty and lack of health status.The educational level of the married Kuki and unmarried Kuki women is found to be below the satisfactory level. The married women have a very low educational attainment in the study area. However in case of unmarried women, a good number of women have attained medium level of education. It happens because

ofbetter educational awareness and better educational facilities available in the recent time. The married women in the study are mostlyfrom a period where access to educational facilities was limited and education was not considered to be important. Now the unmarried women are in more advantage stage relative to the married women. Most of the Kuki women are homemaker. They are engaged in different types of household chores and looking after the family. That why only few number of the women are having a very low earning. In our study, out of the total 300 women only 163 women were found to be earning income. Both in the case of the married Kuki and unmarried Kuki, most of the women are engaged in unorganised sector which result in low income. In the unorganised sector very often the work of the women are undervalued. They suffer from biasness in the workplace.

When we consider the workforce of the Kuki women engaged in different types of occupation. It is found that more number of women is engaged in the unorganised sector and very few are concentrated in the organized sector. This is so because of less educational qualification and less job opportunities available to suits the skilled of the women.By taking the case separately for the married and unmarried women we can have a better observation of the result. So, when we consider the occupational distribution of the married, it is found that more number of women is engaged in cultivation and agricultural allied activities. But among the unmarried women most of the employed women are concentrated in production of handloom products.

The socio-economic status of the married Kuki women and the unmarried Kuki women are low. But the socio-economic status of the unmarried women is more in better position relative to the married Kuki women. It is because the unmarried have better health and education the married women Thus there is no doubt that the Kuki women in the study area are having low socio-economic status. In all the four dimensions which are health, education, income and employment the women are at their worst condition. But unstill we made a comparative analysis, we cannot conclude to the core of any study. So, when we made the comparison of socio-economic status of the Kuki women with the non-Kuki women it is found the Kuki are in a better socio-economic status relatives to the Non-Kuki women. It is very important to identify factors which influence the socio-economic status of the women. Using a logistic regression we found out that education level of the respondents, BMI, Family size, Income of the respondents and Age at time of marriage shows positive

influences on the socio-economic status of married women. For unmarried women factors like Family size, Income of the respondents, Body mass index, literacy level of education was revealed to have strong influences. So, overall analysis bears the result that when we compare the socio-economic status of Kuki women with Non-Kuki women, the Kuki women are in a better condition. When comparison is made on basis on their marital status, the same result is obtained. The married Kuki women are in more sound socio-economic status even if Kuki women's socio-economic status is not fully satisfactory. The same result is found in case of unmarried women of both the groups.

6.5. Conclusion

From the discussion made in the earlier section we get a clear picture that the Kuki women in Churachandpur district are not having a good socio-economic status. They have poor health and education status. It is partly due to ignorance and partly due to lack of infrastructure facilities. Not only socio-economic condition of the Kuki women is in worse condition but even the Non-Kuki women are having a low socio-economic status. It is also revealed that the Kuki women are having a better socio-economic status relative the Non-Kuki women. In the next Chapter-VII based on our study, we will incorporate policy prescriptions to help in future strategies for uplifting the status of women.