ABSTRACT
An attempt has been made in the paper to explore to the extent women empowerment affected the conditions of rural women engaged in agriculture and related household activities. Results of the study show that there isn’t much improvement in women’s power in regard to take decisions in agriculture and household activities in the rural agrarian economy. Women headed households occupying houses made up of burnt brick is more in rural (53.65 per cent) in comparison to urban (33.23 per cent). Only 17 percent women are taking final decision regarding selling and purchasing of animals in the present agrarian economy. The formation of policy making regarding women empowerment should be improved and implemented in properly so that they have benefited.

Keywords
Women-Empowerment, Policy-Formulation, Decision-Making Process, Empowered-Women, and Rural Agrarian Economy.

1. INTRODUCTION
Numerous policies have been formulated in the past seventy years especially for India’s rural agrarian structure; initially in rural area’s development and for the growth of women empowerment. In actual the real effect of these policies formulations is not seen to the required impact neither in economic, social, political and nor for the domestic conditions of rural women in agrarian structure regarding their decision making power in different areas. Role they play in rural is significant in agriculture and allied activities in the farm management. Despite their concerned work is completed by themselves, final control on decision resides within male dominant society. Numerous research studies by the policy makers, researchers and academician related to it in the era of women empowerment have mostly the common results on exploitation regarding their decision making power which has not increased even after improvement in background state of women through developed educationally, socially, politically and domestically. In the present era, the decision making participation in agrarian economy in the rural agriculture is although hundred percent for work done by the women in the fields but their decision making participation is very low after a long duration in independent India. The situation and circumstances are questionable?

1.1 Objectives of the Study

- To analyze the present situation of decision making participation of women in agrarian economy related to agriculture and household activities in rural economy.
- To know status up to the extent of rural women in decision making exists regarding with agriculture and house hold activities.
- To study after 70 years of independence and implementation of women empowerment to the extent improvement in their conditions in agrarian economy and living standards.
1.3.4 Hussain and Hussain (2011) regarding socio economic status of women that affect the decision making process at home or farm management explores that their participation in decision making is influenced by various factors such as nature of the household and employment of husband.

1.3.5 IFAD International Fund for Agriculture Fund (2011) the study revealed that after empowerment on socio-economic side they potential to changes in the rural areas, household activities and agriculture production. But as the inequalities exist, on this account their potential hasn’t been utilized.

1.3.6 Tsegaye et. al. (2012) has written that major of the house hold responsibilities and of the maximum women is taking care of seed production. In fact all significant works are done by them but their decision making involvement and final decision is quite lesser. The study recommends for improvement in their condition regarding final decision making.

1.3.7 Behera and Behera (2013) examined that rural women play significant role in agriculture and allied activities like from crop production, livestock production to cottage industries, even then socially, economically, and politically their status is low, however the study recommends that there shouldn’t be exploitation by the landlord.

1.3.8 Sharma et.al. (2013) has written that contribution of women in Indian agriculture is significant. However, majority of management decisions in rural areas are taken by head of the household (Head of HH). The decisions are being taken up by Head of HH for buying-selling of land, machine-agriculture implements, and livestock etc.

1.3.9 Mohanty et. al. (2013) self-help group enhanced their decision making power economically and this reduced their dependency. Also their financial resources capacity greatly influenced decision making process in the rural areas.

1.3.10 Balyan (2014) found that after a significant contribution in economic activities only in domestic matters i.e. decoration of house, purchase of domestic goods, making a chulha choka, marriage of children the women are giving freedom for their own decision but in other matters no importance is given to them in Indian society.

1.3.11 Mahata et. al. (2017) on account of female participation increase presents that picture of male dominant society can be changed like state of Haryana. Number of scheme have been launched by the State and Central Government to achieve the objective i.e. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Abhiyan.

1.4 Discussion and results of Primary data analysis

Table 1: Awareness and Decision making Participation regarding Saving Activities

| To some extent | Yes | No | Total |
|----------------|-----|----|-------|
| 1              | 2   | 3  | 4     |
| 62%            | 21% | 17%| 100   |

Source: Primary Data

Table 1 shows that 62% women in rural areas accept involvement in decision making to some extent whereas 17% responded for no consideration in decision making process despite having perfect knowledge & awareness about saving activities in agriculture. 21% women responded to final decision in agriculture and HH activities in rural agrarian economy.

Table 2: Knowledge regarding Cash Crops and Decision making

| Only consulted | Opinion considered | Final decision | Total |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------|
| 1              | 2                  | 3              | 4     |
| 50%            | 34%                | 16%            | 100   |

Sources: Primary Data

Table 2 reveals that 50 percent women are only consulted regarding cash crops, opinion of 34 percent women are considered and there are only 16 percent women whose final decision are being taken up in growing cash crops as and they have sufficient knowledge.

Table 3: Final Decision regarding Purchasing or selling of Farm Machinery

| Only consulted | Opinion considered | Final decision |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1              | 2                  | 3              |
| 60%            | 21%                | 19%            |

Sources: Primary Data

In present agrarian economy some tasks are being completed by machines due to the necessity of faster purchasing and selling activity. In this aspect 19 percent women responded about their final decision; another 60 percent are only consulted whereas opinion is considered for 21 percent.

Table 4: Decision and Awareness regarding Purchasing of Agriculture Inputs and Finance

| Banking facilities | Co-operative societies | Others Resources |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 1                  | 2                      | 3                |
| 12%                | 20%                    | 68%              |

Sources: Primary Data

Above table is related to finance decisions through various sources. It is reported that 12 percent women have awareness about banking facilities (being availed by family), 20 percent are utilizing cooperative society for finance and remaining 68 percent women are using other sources for input in agriculture.

Table 5: Final Decision regarding Changing Cropping Pattern in the Farm

| Only consulted | Opinion considered | Final decision |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1              | 2                  | 3              |
| 50%            | 30%                | 20%            |

Sources: Primary Data

Table 5 presents that decisions regarding changing cropping pattern in the farm; only 20 percent women are making their final decision, 50 percent are only consulted and opinion of 30 percent are considered. It is noticeable that the decision making power of women in agriculture also is very low although most of the works have been done by the women regarding this area.

Table 6: Final Decision regarding Purchasing or Selling of Animals

| Only consulted | Opinion considered | Final decision |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1              | 2                  | 3              |
| 52%            | 21%                | 17%            |

Sources: Primary data

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Table 6 depicts that only 17 percent women are taking final decision regarding selling and purchasing of animals in the present agrarian economy in rural areas. However, 52 percent are only consulted and opinion of 21 percent women is considered in agriculture decision making.

1.5 Secondary Data Sources Analysis
After independence rather say in the history Indian Censuses release of data on houses, household amenities and assets exclusively for the women headed households depicts the real living status of women in the society. Haryana is among the states where less than 10 per cent women have been as head of the household. Haryana reported female headed households as 9.5 per cent followed by Gujarat as 9.0 per cent and Capital of the State (Chandigarh) as 8.9 per cent. It is apparent that highly urban area Chandigarh has reported lesser account of women headed households (WHH) in comparison to Haryana.

Table 7: Material of Wall of Census Houses Occupied by Women Headed Households

| Type of Material                        | Material of Wall | Total | Rural | Urban | Per cent | Rural | Urban | Per cent |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|----------|
|                                        |                  | Absolute | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7        |
| All Material                           |                  | 449,366  | 100.00| 275,867| 61.39  | 173,499 | 38.61 |
| Grass/thatch/bamboo etc.               |                  | 2,896   | 0.64  | 1,995  | 0.44  | 901   | 0.20    |
| Plastic/ Polythene etc.                |                  | 767     | 0.17  | 270    | 0.06  | 497   | 0.11    |
| Mud/unburnt brick                      |                  | 20,681  | 4.60  | 13,997 | 3.11  | 6,684 | 1.49    |
| Wood                                   |                  | 355     | 0.08  | 147    | 0.03  | 208   | 0.05    |
| Stone not packed with mortar           |                  | 7,167   | 1.59  | 3,678  | 0.82  | 3,489 | 0.78    |
| Stone packed with mortar               |                  | 18,229  | 4.06  | 11,304 | 2.52  | 6,925 | 1.54    |
| G.I./ metal/asbestos sheets            |                  | 320     | 0.07  | 110    | 0.02  | 210   | 0.05    |
| Burnt brick                            |                  | 390,406 | 86.88 | 241,080| 53.65 | 149,326 | 33.23 |
| Concrete                               |                  | 8,030   | 1.79  | 3,025  | 0.67  | 5,005 | 1.11    |
| Any other                              |                  | 515     | 0.11  | 261    | 0.06  | 254   | 0.06    |

Source: http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_table/hlo_table_Haryana.html

Above table 7 provides details of the material used for walls of the census houses occupied by women. Women have been living in houses having walls made up of mud/unburnt brick of 13,997 households in rural and 6,684 in urban. Women headed households residing in houses having wall made up of material Grass/thatch/bamboo etc. of 2,896 houses and of plastic/polythene of 767 houses. However, women headed households occupying houses made up of burnt brick is more in rural (53.65 per cent) in comparison to urban (33.23 per cent).

Table 8: Material of Roof of Census Houses Occupied by Women Headed Households

| Type of Material     | Material of Roof | Total | Rural | Urban | Per cent | Rural | Urban | Per cent |
|----------------------|------------------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|-------|----------|
|                      |                  | Absolute | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7        |
| All Material         |                  | 449,366  | 100.00| 275,867| 61.39  | 173,499 | 38.61 |
| Grass/thatch/bamboo  |                  | 98,013   | 21.81 | 79,179 | 17.62  | 18,834 | 4.19    |
| Plastic/ Polythene   |                  | 1,516    | 0.34  | 565    | 0.13  | 951   | 0.21    |
| Handmade tiles       |                  | 18,915   | 4.21  | 15,953 | 3.55  | 2,962 | 0.66    |
| Machine made tiles   |                  | 6,004    | 1.34  | 3,687  | 0.82  | 2,317 | 0.52    |
| Burnt brick          |                  | 67,567   | 15.04 | 51,549 | 11.47 | 16,018 | 3.56    |
| Stone/ Slate         |                  | 106,647  | 23.73 | 75,023 | 16.70 | 31,624 | 7.04    |
| G.I./metal/asbestos  |                  | 8,318    | 1.85  | 3,995  | 0.89  | 4,323 | 0.96    |
| Concrete             |                  | 140,789  | 31.33 | 45,001 | 10.01 | 95,788 | 21.32   |
| Any other            |                  | 1,597    | 0.36  | 915    | 0.20  | 682   | 0.15    |

Source: http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_table/hlo_table_Haryana.html

The best place ever to survive is considered with kind of shelter available for the household. It is observed that from the above table that 17.62 per cent of the rural population is living in a type of census house with the roof made up of grass/thatch/bamboo etc. Besides this houses in possession of the households (women headed) having roof of stone/slate (16.70 per cent) and burnt brick (11.47 per cent) is higher as compared to urban. Households...
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(140,789) occupying house roof made of concrete material is higher in urban (21.32 per cent). Table- 8. Table 9 presents that houses flooring condition is better as out of the total houses in possession of the households (women headed) is 23.70 per cent in rural and 20.93 per cent in urban. On the other side 23.38 per cent households are having floor made up of mud in rural.

Table 9: Material of Floor of Census Houses Occupied by Women Headed Households

| Type of Material | Material of Floor | Total | Rural | Urban |
|------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|-------|
|                  | Absolute | Per cent | Absolute | Per cent | Absolute | Per cent |
| 1                | 2        | 3       | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     |
| All Material     | 449,366  | 100.00  | 275,867 | 61.39  | 173,499 | 38.61 |
| Mud              | 122,026  | 27.16   | 105,056 | 23.38  | 17,970  | 3.78  |
| Wood/ Bamboo     | 418      | 0.09    | 250    | 0.06   | 168     | 0.04  |
| Burnt Brick      | 52,967   | 11.79   | 39,792 | 8.86   | 13,175  | 2.93  |
| Stone            | 47,940   | 10.67   | 14,490 | 3.22   | 33,450  | 7.44  |
| Cement           | 200,537  | 44.63   | 106,498 | 23.70  | 94,039  | 20.93 |
| Mosaic/ Floor tiles | 23,857   | 5.31    | 9,228  | 2.05   | 14,629  | 3.26  |
| Any other material | 1,621    | 0.36    | 553    | 0.12   | 1,068 | 0.24  |

Source: http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_table/hlo_table_Haryana.html

Table 10: Ownership /Dwelling Rooms in the Census Houses Occupied by Women Headed Households

| Number of Dwelling Rooms | Ownership of the House | Rented | Any Other |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------|----------|
|                          | Total | Rural | Urban | Total | Rural | Urban | Total | Rural | Urban |
| 1                        |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| No exclusive room        | 1,20  | 1.30  | 1.06  | 0.17  | 0.06  | 0.35  | 0.10  | 0.08  | 0.14  |
| One room                 | 18.88 | 21.41 | 18.86 | 2.75  | 0.64  | 6.11  | 0.69  | 0.53  | 0.94  |
| Two rooms                | 31.58 | 34.06 | 27.63 | 1.98  | 0.50  | 4.33  | 0.48  | 0.32  | 0.74  |
| Three rooms              | 20.13 | 20.06 | 20.26 | 0.79  | 0.16  | 1.78  | 0.20  | 0.12  | 0.32  |
| Four rooms               | 11.89 | 11.75 | 12.11 | 0.33  | 0.06  | 0.76  | 0.07  | 0.06  | 0.10  |
| Five rooms               | 4.52  | 4.67  | 4.26  | 0.08  | 0.02  | 0.19  | 0.03  | 0.02  | 0.04  |
| Six rooms & above        | 4.06  | 4.17  | 3.89  | 0.05  | 0.02  | 0.12  | 0.02  | 0.01  | 0.02  |
| Total                    | 92.26 | 97.42 | 84.06 | 6.15  | 1.45  | 13.63 | 1.59  | 1.13  | 2.30  |

Source: http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_table/hlo_table_Haryana.html

This table 10 reflects ownership status of the women headed households with availability of dwelling units. It is reported that 97.42 per cent in rural and 84.06 per cent households are having houses of their own.

Table 11: Availability of Drinking Water for Women Headed Households

| Total/ Rural/ Urban | Number of Households | Within premises | Near premises | Away |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|------|
|                     |                      | Absolute | Per cent | Absolute | Per cent | Absolute | Per cent |
| 1                   | 2                    | 3       | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     | 8     |
| Total               | 449,366              | 296,478 | 65.98 | 96,527 | 21.48 | 56,361 | 12.54 |
| Rural               | 275,867              | 151,225 | 54.82 | 77,177 | 27.98 | 47,465 | 17.21 |
| Urban               | 173,499              | 145,253 | 83.72 | 19,350 | 11.15 | 8,896  | 5.13  |

Source: http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_table/hlo_table_Haryana.html

Household amenities data as per Census 2011 on women headed households presents the status for availability of basic amenity i.e. water under three parameters. First is ‘within premises’, second ‘near premises’ (for urban it is considered within a range of 100 meters in Urban areas and within a distance of 500 meters in the case of Rural areas from the premises) and lastly ‘away’ (if source is 100 meters or more in urban areas and 500 meters or more in rural areas from the premises). 65.98 per cent households are having the water facility with the premises. In rural, 27.98 per cent & 17.21 per cent households having facility as near the premises and away.
Table 12: Type of Fuel used by Women Headed Households

| Household by Type of Fuel | Absolute Total | Rural  | Urban | Percentage Total | Rural  | Urban |
|---------------------------|----------------|--------|-------|------------------|--------|-------|
|                           | 1              | 2      | 3     | 4                | 5      | 6     | 7     |
| Number of households      | 449,366        | 275,867| 173,499| 100.00          | 100.00 | 100.00|
| Fire-wood                 | 115,887        | 93,749 | 22,138| 25.79           | 33.98  | 12.76 |
| Crop residue              | 63,455         | 59,809 | 3,646 | 14.12           | 21.68  | 2.10  |
| Cowdung cake              | 64,182         | 54,428 | 9,754 | 14.28           | 19.73  | 5.62  |
| Coal, Lignite, Charcoal   | 432            | 216    | 216   | 0.10            | 0.08   | 0.12  |
| Kerosene                  | 3,932          | 957    | 2,975 | 0.88            | 0.35   | 1.71  |
| LPG/PNG                   | 199,312        | 65,474 | 133,838| 44.35           | 77.14  |       |
| Electricity               | 115            | 74     | 41    | 0.03            | 0.03   | 0.02  |
| Biogas                    | 894            | 571    | 323   | 0.20            | 0.21   | 0.19  |
| Any other                 | 204            | 70     | 134   | 0.05            | 0.03   | 0.08  |
| No cooking                | 953            | 519    | 434   | 0.21            | 0.19   | 0.25  |

Source: http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_table/hlo_table_Haryana.html

Data on type of fuel used for cooking presents that out of 449,366 households, 44.35 per cent are making use of LPG/PNG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas/Piped Natural Gas) in total; 23.73 per cent in rural and 77.14 per cent in urban. (Table -12)

Table 13: Availability of Latrine Facility in the Houses headed by Women Households

| Total/ Rural/ Urban | Number of Households | Having latrine facility within the premises | Not having latrine facility within the premises |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
|                     | Absolute | Per cent | Absolute | Per cent |
|                     | 1        | 2        | 3        | 4        | 5        | 6        |
| Total               | 449,366  | 310,343  | 69.06    | 139,023  | 30.94    |
| Rural               | 275,867  | 154,566  | 56.03    | 121,301  | 43.97    |
| Urban               | 173,499  | 155,777  | 89.79    | 17,722   | 10.21    |

Source: http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_table/hlo_table_Haryana.html

The status of sanitation, health and hygiene condition can very well be assumed from the available data on households having availability of latrine facility. Out of houses occupied and headed by women, in 69.06 per cent of the households are having latrine facility within the premises. The facility exists for 56.03 per cent of the households in rural and 89.79 per cent in urban. (Table 13)

Table 14: Women Headed Households utilizing Banking Facilities

| Total Number of …… | Total | Rural | Urban |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|
|                     | 1     | 2     | 3     | 4     |
| Female Headed Households | 449,366 | 275,867 | 173,499|
| Availing Banking Facilities | 295,347 (65.73) | 175,173 (63.50) | 120,174 (69.26) |

Source: http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_table/hlo_table_Haryana.html

Above table is confirmation to the fact that there is awareness about banking services among the women headed households. However, in total this service is availed by 65.73 per cent of the households.
Luxuries need has become a routine affair for the households able to afford on date. The data on Assets as per Census 2011 provides the availability of specified assets in possession of the households. Possession of television is noticed in 65.65 per cent of the households followed by mobile with 61.90 per cent. Second last row provides information about the households which do not possess any of these specified assets and last row gives handfull information about households having television, computer/laptop, telephone/mobile and scooter/car in their possession. [Table 15 (a) and (b)]

### Table 15 (a): Women Headed Households in Possession of Specified Assets

| Households in Possession of Assets | Absolute | Percentage |
|------------------------------------|----------|------------|
|                                    | Total    | Rural | Urban | Total | Rural | Urban |
| Number of households               | 449,366  | 275,867 | 173,499 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Radio/Transistor                    | 63,299   | 36,697 | 26,602 | 14.09  | 13.30  | 15.33  |
| Television                         | 295,010  | 154,190 | 140,820 | 65.65  | 55.89  | 81.16  |
| Computer/Laptop (With Internet)    | 18,431   | 2,889 | 15,542 | 4.10   | 1.05   | 8.96   |
| Computer/Laptop (Without Internet) | 32,431   | 13,164 | 19,267 | 7.22   | 4.77   | 11.10  |
| Mobile                             | 278,154  | 169,613 | 108,541 | 61.90  | 61.48  | 62.56  |
| Motorcycle/Bicycle                  | 162,133  | 92,599 | 69,534 | 36.08  | 33.57  | 40.08  |
| Scooter/Motorcycle/Moped           | 124,129  | 61,479 | 62,650 | 27.62  | 22.29  | 36.11  |
| Car/Jeep/Van                       | 34,988   | 11,506 | 23,482 | 7.79   | 4.17   | 13.53  |

Source: http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_table/hlo_table_Haryana.html

### Table 15 (b): Women Headed Households in not in Possession of Specified Assets & having collectively certain Assets

| Households in Possession of Assets | Absolute | Percentage |
|------------------------------------|----------|------------|
|                                    | Total    | Rural | Urban | Total | Rural | Urban |
| None of the Specified Assets       | 65,964   | 52,007 | 13,957 | 14.68  | 18.85 | 8.04   |
| Households with TV, Computer/Laptop, Telephone/Mobile phone and Scooter/Car | 30,612   | 5,632 | 24,980 | 6.81   | 2.04  | 14.40  |

Source: http://www.censusindia.gov.in/2011census/hlo/hlo_table/hlo_table_Haryana.html

### 2. CONCLUSION

The study reveals that there are no much better conditions of women household headed in the present rural agrarian economy. After women empowerment implementation or liberalized economic system of Indian economy the women household head have lacking the basic facilities and not using in proper way of banking facilities regarding their economic conditions. There is need to further improvement in the policies which are run by the govt. and other institutions regarding women empowerment and their welfare. Women headed households occupying houses made up of burnt brick is more in rural (53.65 per cent) in comparison to urban (33.23 per cent). Only 17 percent women are taking final decision regarding selling and purchasing of animals in the present agrarian economy in rural areas. In the last it can be said that after a long time had been spent there is better improvement in conditions of women in Indian agrarian economy concerned.

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