In the present paper an attempt has been made to analyse the gender discrimination with women entrepreneurs in informal sector. The study has been conducted in Uttar Pradesh. Data has been collected from 935 women entrepreneurs in the informal sector on the basis of well developed questionnaire.

Summary: Majority of the women entrepreneurs (57.5%) working in informal sector are literate. 31.4 percent reported that they face physical violence inside the house, 30.9 percent faced before marriage, 27.8 percent faced violence outside the house and 9.9 percent faced physical violence after marriage. As far as discrimination is concerned, majority of the women entrepreneurs (70.1 %) reported that they do not face discrimination for being a woman.

Introduction:
At the same time in the process of industrial development unorganised sector also played a very important role for the generation of employment and removal of poverty. Entrepreneurial activities are also very important for the industrial development. In society females are lag behind male but they are equally contributing in the process of economic development. Women's participation in economic activity and production of goods and services is far greater than formal statistics might reveal as much of it takes place in the informal sector and households. With the spread and increase in the level of education the compulsion for earning has grown among women and more and more women have started to opt either wage employment or self-employment/entrepreneurship career. In case of woman, however, handicaps to entry into business ownership have been for too many given the traditional, conservative, orthodox Indian society.

Discrimination refers to the process and outcome of keeping a social group outside the power centers and resources. Social exclusion, discrimination and identity formation have become central focus of discourses in India today. Hence, to state that in the modern, liberal society and polity, exclusion and discrimination are reduced or eliminated seem to be not in tune with the reality. Martin Patrick (1998) attempted to study the saleswomen working in the registered shops and establishments by analyzing the aspects of discrimination, time allocation and migration. Using field data from Ernakulam district of Kerala, the author has shown that there is large-scale discrimination against saleswomen compared to salesmen in the labor market in terms of wages. Raja Sekhar (2005) represented socio-economic evils like gender discrimination and poverty the two social banees ruling the community. Discrimination on the basis of gender, ethnicity, race, religion or social status lead to social exclusion and look people in long term poverty traps.

Anjali Prasad and Jyoti Prasad, (2009) pointed out that empowerment is a multidimensional social process that helps people to gain control over their own lives, communities, and their society, by acting on issues that they decline as important. Women in India are being discriminated in the family, society, government and business organisation, in a big way. Intra house-hold discrimination of food and nutrients and allocation of resources makes the position of women worst. The present paper throws light violence and discrimination against women entrepreneurs in Uttar Pradesh.

Results
Total 935 women entrepreneurs, working in informal sector, were interviewed personally on the basis of pre-designed interview schedule in KAVAL cities of Uttar Pradesh for the purpose of the study. Table 2 shows education, entrepreneurial activities and income of women entrepreneurs in Uttar Pradesh. Majority of the women entrepreneurs (57.5%) working in informal sector are literate. 42.5 percent are illiterate, 3.6 percent are below primary, 11.0 percent are primary,11.6 percent are middle, 10.9 percent are high school, 9.2 percent are intermediate,7.4 percent are graduate and only 3.9 percent are higher education and above. As far as entrepreneurial activities performed by women entrepreneurs in informal sector are concerned, out of 935 enterprises 18.9 percent are vegetable/fruit/flower/fish shops, 7.3 percent are beauty parlours, 6.8 percent are boutiques, 3.5 percent are stationary/gift/toy shops, 9.1 percent are general stores, 10.8 percent are cosmetic/bangle shops, 7.4 percent are kirana stores, 16.5 percent are tea/cold drink/egg/pan shops, 7.7 percent are cloth/garments and 11.4 percent are others groups of enterprises. It is really disappointing that of total 935 women entrepreneurs a majority (60.9%) earns 5000 & below Rs. 5000/- per month. 29 percent respondents earn in between Rs.5000 to 10000, 6.4 percent respondents earn in between Rs.10000 to 15000 and 1.1 percent each women entrepreneurs earn in between Rs.15000 to 20000 and Rs.20000-25000. And 1.6 percent women entrepreneurs earn Rs. 25001 and above.

Table: Age, education, entrepreneurial Activities, income of women entrepreneurs and their family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics of Women Entrepreneurs</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illiterate</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>42.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ABSTRACT

In the present paper an attempt has been made to analyse the gender discrimination with women entrepreneurs in informal sector. The study has been conducted in Uttar Pradesh. Data has been collected from 935 women entrepreneurs in the informal sector on the basis of well developed questionnaire.

Gender Discrimination and Violence Against Women Entrepreneurs

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KEYWORDS: Women Entrepreneurs, Violence, Discrimination
### Characteristics of Women Entrepreneurs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Below primary</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>3.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>11.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>11.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>10.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>7.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher education and above</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>3.85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Entrepreneurial Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable/Fruit/Flower/Fish</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>18.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beauty Parlour</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>7.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boutique</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>6.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationary/Gift/Toy</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>3.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Store</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>9.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cosmetic/Bangle</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirana Store</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>7.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea/Cold Drink/Egg/Pan</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>16.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloths/Garment</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>11.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Income of Entrepreneur

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5000 &amp; below 5000</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>60.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5001_10000</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>28.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10001_15000</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>6.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15001_20000</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20001_25000</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25001 and above</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>935</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Note: Based on survey data

Table 2 represents access of women entrepreneurs to newspaper/magazine, radio and television in KAVAL cities. Out of 935 women entrepreneurs, 44.9 percent informed that they read newspaper/magazine whereas a large number of respondents (55.1%) do not read newspaper/ magazine. 30.9 percent respondents read newspaper or magazine almost every day. 8.5 percent read newspaper or magazine once in a week. 5.6 percent read newspaper or magazine less than once in a week. Of total 935 women entrepreneurs, 31.4 percent informed that they listen to the radio but the majority of the respondents (68.6%) do not listen to the radio. 14.7 percent respondents listen to the radio almost every day. 10.4 percent respondents listen to the radio less than once in a week. Around fifty percent respondents said that they watch television almost every day. 10.2 percent respondents said that they watch television once in a week. 38.9 percent women entrepreneurs never watch television.

### Table 2: Access of women entrepreneur to newspaper/magazine, radio, television, cinema/theatre

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do you read newspaper or magazine?</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>30.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Almost every day</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>8.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Once in a week</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>5.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not at all</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>55.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you listen to the radio?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Note: Based on survey data.

Table 2 also depicts the difference in opinion, violence and discrimination against women entrepreneurs. Women entrepreneurs are asked about difference of opinion. 55.7 percent reported that there is difference of opinion with their husband whereas 44.3 percent reported that there is no difference of opinion with their husbands. Fifty percent respondents reported that family expenses are the major area of discontent. Women entrepreneurs are also asked about physical violence. 31.4 percent reported that they face physical violence inside the house, 30.9 percent...
faced before marriage, 27.8 percent faced violence outside the house and 9.9 percent faced physical violence after marriage. As far as discrimination is concerned, majority of the women entrepreneurs (70.1 %) reported that they do not face discrimination for being a woman. There are also asked whether they faced discrimination in their education life on this majority of them (71.8%) reported that they did not face any discrimination in their education life. A large number of respondents (80.9 %) reported that they do not face discrimination outside their homes. When the respondents are asked whether they hit, slapped or kicked their husbands, 72 percent gave negative answer but 28 percent gave positive answer. As far as drinking alcohol is concerned, majority of the respondents (57.7%) reported that their husbands do not drink alcohol and 42.4 percent reported that their husbands drink alcohol. Of total 935 women entrepreneurs 73.3 percent reported that they are not physically hurt from the time they are 15 years old but 26.7 percent reported that they are physically hurt from the time they are 15 years old. 33.9 percent Women entrepreneurs reported that they are hurt physically during the last twelve months.

Findings of the study
The analysis of various socio economic characteristics reveals that most of the women entrepreneurs working in informal sector in Uttar Pradesh belong to poorer socio-economic background. Women entrepreneurs are found to be engaged in running vegetable/fruit/flower/fish beauty parlour boutique stationery/gift/toy general store cosmetic/bangle, kirana store tea/cold drink/egg/pan, cloths/garment and others. The present chapter made an attempt to raise some of the radical questions i.e. exposure towards newspaper, magazine, violence and discrimination against women entrepreneurs in KAVAL Cities. As far as access towards newspaper/magazine, TV radio is concerned percentage is not found very high. Economic independence has given women entrepreneurs the power to take major decisions but the need is to increase it. Though the women entrepreneurs faced discrimination for being a woman but the percentage is not very high.

REFERENCE