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# ORIGINAL ARTICLE

36% houses were poorly ventilated & 80% had dampness. Regarding kitchens. 16% had open kitchen & in 10% of' cases cookine was done inside bedrooms. Majority used natural gas hut 39% used wood or coal & 14% used biomass as fuel. The use of mosquitoes repellent was 85%, use of' talcum powder was 71% & air fresheners/sprays were used in 30% cases.

It was seen that 31% had carpet in their bed rooms. Smoking in family was prevalent in 55% cases & in certain ethnic groups females even mothers were regular smokers. They used to smoke while feeding & handling their babies so exposing them to passive smoking.

The family history of respiratory illness showed no respiratory illness in 48% and 52% had respiratory illnesses in family like asthma, tuberculosis & chronic obstructive airway diseases (COPD).

## DISCUSSION

The survival of human being depends on various factors hut food, water & air are the three necessary key factors for their survival. We cannot survive without any of them. The pollution of these necessary factors has very devastating effects on health, The magnitude of problem of unsafe food & water can he assessed from the 1.5 million epi-

## TABLE-1: DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

| Variables           | n  | %   |
|---------------------|----|-----|
| Mother's Education  |    |     |
| Nil                 | 59 | 59% |
| Primary             | 25 | 25% |
| Metric              | 13 | 13% |
| Graduate            | 3  | 3%  |
| Monthly income      |    |     |
| Rupees <6000/ month | 49 | 49% |
| 6000-10000          | 35 | 35% |
| >10000              | 16 | 16% |

#### TABLE-2: DETAILS OF AIR POLLUTANTS

| 1   | Type of house  |          |             |  |  |
|-----|--|----------|-------------|--|--|
|     | Hut  | 30       | 30%         |  |  |
|     | Rcc  | 70       | 70%         |  |  |
| 2   | Location of house  |          |             |  |  |
|     | Road side  | 58       | 58%         |  |  |
|     | In the galli   | 25       | 25%         |  |  |
|     | NEAR gardage   | 17       | 17%         |  |  |
| 3   | Ventilation  |          |             |  |  |
|     | Well ventilated  | 15       | 15%         |  |  |
|     | Poorly ventilatec  | 25       | 25%         |  |  |
|     | Dampness pres  | 20       | 20%         |  |  |
| 4   | Type of kitchen  |          |             |  |  |
|     | Open   | 41       | 41%         |  |  |
|     | Separate   | 39       | 39%         |  |  |
|     | In the bedroom   | 20       | 20%         |  |  |
| 5   | Type of fuel used  |          |             |  |  |
|     | Natural gas  | 52       | 52%         |  |  |
|     | Wood   | 15       | 15%         |  |  |
|     | Kerosene oil   | 20       | 20%         |  |  |
|     | Bio fuel   | 13       | 13%         |  |  |
| 6   | Use of carpet in bedrooms  |          |             |  |  |
|     |  |          |             |  |  |
|     | Yes  | 32       | 32%         |  |  |
| _   | No   | 68       | 68%         |  |  |
| 7   |  |          | 500/        |  |  |
|     | Yes  | 52       | 52%         |  |  |
| •   | No   | 48       | 48%         |  |  |
| 8   | Ventilation  | 00       | 000/        |  |  |
|     | Yes  | 28       | 28%         |  |  |
| •   | No<br>Turno of kitchor   | 72       | 72%         |  |  |
| 9   | Type of kitchen  | 50       | E 20/       |  |  |
|     | Yes<br>No  | 52<br>48 | 52%         |  |  |
| 10  |  |          | 48%         |  |  |
| 10  | <b>0</b> Family history of respiratory illnesses (TB, Asthama, COPD) |          |             |  |  |
|     |  |          | 52%         |  |  |
|     | Yes<br>No  | 52<br>48 | 52 %<br>48% |  |  |
| 11  |  |          |             |  |  |
| • • | Nil  | 26       | 26%         |  |  |
|     | 1-3 times  | 20<br>54 | 20 %<br>54% |  |  |
|     | 4 times  | 20       | 20%         |  |  |
|     | T ((1103   | 20       | 2070        |  |  |

sodes of diarrhoea and millions of child deaths world over. Similarly the air pollution is an important health hazard. The magnitude of the health problem due to air pollution can be estimated by the fact that more than 80.000 chemicals have been added to our air supply in last century. As we have discussed before that indoor air pollution is responsible