

## Unit One

### INTRODUCTION

#### **1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY:**

Nepal is a landlocked country situated in South East Asia and is well known to the world mainly for three things, birthplace of Lord Buddha, country of Mount Everest and home land of Gurkhas, the brave. Due to the geographical setting, we can find diversity in this area. Various plants and animals of different species move inside of the boundary of small Himalayan country. The lowest height of Nepal's land is 52m and highest is 8848m from sea level (Nepal Tourism Board 2013). Agriculture is the main crop of Nepal's economy, engaging two thirds of labor force and contributing more than one third (37 percent) to the gross domestic products. (District Agriculture office Ilam, 2011). This is the main base of subsistence, household income and employment for the majority of population, especially in the rural areas. Agriculture is the main source of income for Nepali people but agriculture system is traditional and labor intensive. They are producing food grain rather than cash crop with traditional technology. Nearly 80 percent of people are involved in agriculture. The great majority of population still resides in rural isolation confronted by problems such as poverty, disease, illiteracy in adequate recourses and such others. (Acharya, 2012).

To overcome the above mentioned challenges like poverty, Hunger, cash crop farming is increasing in the eastern hill of Nepal. Among the cash crop such as ginger, tea, coffee and cardamom, popularity of large cardamom has been growing in recent years. The area occupied by large cardamom increased to 14001 hectare in 2009\10 from 100840 h in 2001\2 (Joshi, 2012). Cardamom farming can be a means for social empowerment, reduction of poverty, equal participation of male and female in its production and expenditure in their daily life. According to the journal of Government of Nepal, the main source of livelihood is agriculture and animal husbandry. Farming is considered as

primary profession, where potato, Ginger, maize, millets, wheat are staple crops. As is a known fact, that large cardamom is the important cash crop for the hilly terrain of the eastern Nepal

Cardamom is generally known as Alainchi in Nepal and also known as queen of spices all over the world. Cardamom is very expensive and demanding spices because of its

aroma and flavor. The distribution of cardamom is mainly in Asia and Australia. In Asia, the cardamom was used in savorys and sweets.

Its local name is Alainchi in Nepal and Badaelaichi in Hindi, sthulaila, Bhadraila in Sanskrit, Bara Ilaichi in Bengal, Perelam in Malayam, periyaelam, Kattelam and Perelamin Tamilnadu. Peddayelakaya in telugu and diddayelakki in kannada. (V K Bisht, 2011).

As far as cardamom is concerned, the history says that Cardamom entered to Nepal from North Sikkim consisting of Dzongu region is known for cultivation and production of Dzongugolsey and Ramsey cultivars of large cardamom. Dzongugolsey is very much location/region specific in nature. In Nepal it was first introduced in ilam district in 1865 but its commercial cultivation starts as late as 1950s (Subedi, 1982; FBC 2008). It is currently cultivated in 36 districts, concentrate mostly in eastern hill and mountain areas and gradually expanding to the western parts. Nepal is one of the largest cardamom exporters; its market share is close to 50 percent of the global market (GoN, 2010). Being an agrarian country, the role of cardamom is significant in the national economy. Its share of total export volume was 2.2 percent in 2008 and it has been increasing in the recent years with the increase in its price in the global market. The annual growth rate of export was 16.2 percent between 2004 and 2008 (FBC 2008). The contribution of large cardamom on farmer's livelihood is significant in terms of both employment and as a source of household income (Chapagain, 2011).

In the recent past years, production and productivity of large cardamom in eastern Nepal particularly in Ilam, area is diminishing at an alarming rate. Major reason for the reduction of production and productivity of large cardamom in this area are menace of, *Chirkey*, *foorkey*, pest incidence, cultivation of large cardamom in open area, lack of phytosanitary measures and irrigation during dry periods. Eastern Nepal contribute major portion of large cardamom production from Nepal. Its local name is Alainchi in Nepali and Badaelaichi in Hindi, Sthulaila, and Bhadraila in Sanskrit. (V.K. Bisht, 2011)

Various reports says large cardamom production is decreasing due to various factors such as diseases incidence, methods of agricultural practices, lack of quality planting material, socio-economic conditions of people, and absence of proper shade management, lack of irrigation facilities and lack of scientific methods of cultivation. Now a day's people are interested in its farming due to the increasing price of cardamom. Some farmers have seriously utilized not only their permanently cultivated field but also their marginal land to grow cash crop. Pashupatinagar VDC provides an example in which cash crop are grown in both good as well as marginal land.

Study area Pashupatinagar is 40 km east from Ilambazaar. In this Vdc there are 1717 household and the population is 9872 .the total land coverage is 27.72 sq km. (Vdc Profile 2015). In Pashupatinagar vdc mainly three cash crop are grown; potatoes, tea and big cardamom. Potatoes are grown in permanently cultivated field; similarly, tea growing is done in relatively good land where other staple crop can be easily grown. By contrast, big cardamom is grown on marginal land, where no other crop can be grown.

Large cardamom is main cash crop in this area. It is grown between the altitude of 1000 meters to 2000 meter but the better-suited areas are between 1000 meters to 1500 meter. (The Himalayan review). Although, the study area has an average altitudinal range of 1000 meter to 2000 meter, most areas suitable for large cardamom production.

Big cardamom is a cash crop, and has an international market. Therefore, it is an ideal crop to analyze from the perspective of individual choice and decision making as influenced by population growth and market factors. Big cardamom is not a staple crop; it is a cash crop, which farmers produce exclusively for sale. Large cardamom in recent years has been an important commodity in the international trade. Recent statistics reveal that Nepal seems to be the large cardamom exporter in the world. Nepal occupied the third position in its production in 1994. The major cardamom exporting countries are Nepal, India, Guatemala, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Singapore, Laos, and Dubai (UAE) are also notable in this respect. In the case of import, Islamic countries are the major importers of the large cardamom. Among them Saudi Arabia imports more than one third of the total cardamom in the world (1974), Kuwait is the second largest importer. Nepal has no factories that need large cardamom either as a flavoring agent or as raw material. That is why producers have to depend on foreign dealers. Nepalese markets for large cardamom have been linked with the Indian market. The price situation of the Indian market (especially in Calcutta), directly affects the price of Nepalese large cardamom. The effect is reflected in the fact that if the market price in India increases, the same happens to the Nepalese market. (Himalayan review, 1982)

In the past and present, cardamom farming has enabled women with access to and control over cardamom as a resource; enhanced bargaining power, decreased subordination and mobility that is more social.

At last cardamom farming has been bringing a change in Nepali people and Nepali society. Women became more powerful in every step of life, access to bargaining power, knowledge of the market and many other things changes the women's standing in society. Development of women in rural areas is the major thrust area of many rural development programs implemented by the government as they not only constitute nearly half of its population, but also influence the growth of the remaining half of the population. Despite this, women are

poorer than men are mostly because they are deprived from equal rights and opportunities, denied of the access to financial\economic resources and the status of society. Moreover, women are literate and have little to know about the latest advances in farm production. Women are generally engaged in multiple occupations ranging from unpaid family labor to self-employed in their home or village and outside to generate income for themselves. However, women in rural areas have affinity towards farming and as high as 75 percent of rural women were found participating in different farm and allied work. (Sadangi, et al., 1996)

**1.2 Statement of the problem;** There have been few studies conducted on the subject of cardamom farming. Research worker has made whatever little effort. Now a day's people are bit attract towards cardamom farming because it helps to upgrade the life style of people who lives in eastern rural hilly area. Its price is very expensive which nearly 3000 per kg. It helps people to change their life style.

Nepal is developing country where nearly 72 per cent of people are fully depends on agriculture. (Journal of government) Only by using, the traditional methods in agriculture people cannot upgrade their lifestyle. To uplift the social and educational condition people have to uplift their economic condition. By changing the traditional methods and using the new technology people can upgrade their economic level .Agriculture can be useful for business purpose if they produce cash crop rather than food grain. (Ado, 2012) Large cardamom as a cash crop plays an important role in the economy of hill people of eastern Nepal.Cardamom farmers have devoted about 28 percent of their cultivate land. (Ado, 2012)Most of the areas under large cardamom were economically unproductive previously. As it become one of the important means of cash earning, marginal lands even cultivated lands with low economic return gradually turned over to large cardamom, because of

extensive nature of farm activities, its production and return are not satisfactory. The effectiveness of production depends on the nature (especially climate). During baseline survey, it was observed that there has been decline in the large cardamom due to various factors like disease incidence, methods of agricultural practices, lack of quality planting material, absence of proper shade management, lack of irrigation facilities, lack of scientific methods of cultivation and socio economic condition of people.

Due to these factors, fluctuation in production has been a common phenomenon through production has been increasing; most of the farm size are small, probably because of small holding of land in small subsistence crops, productively appears to decrease within increase in farm mostly because of lack of competition in land use. Price had played the most important role the flow of large cardamom, within the internal market centers.

Market price of cardamom has been increasing with significant fluctuation. Increase and decrease in the market is the result of absence of factories that need large cardamom as a raw material in Nepal. Changeability of price into the Indian demand, overseas countries and control of intermediaries plays the important role in price fluctuation of cardamom.

Though farmer are deprived of actual return increase in production is motivated by an increase in market price.

To sum up whole, cardamom production is uncertain. They are deprived of the real value though they produce more. Establishment of well-organized market to provide real return to the farmers and to promote the quality and quantity of large cardamom by giving incentive to the farmers seems to be of immediate necessity.

Nepali society is male dominated society. Gender status of women is very weak in our society. Representation of women in business, media, society, and parliament is very less rather than agriculture. Lack of education and insufficient income source made women dominate and depresses day by

day. Cardamom can change the status of hilly regional women if they engage themselves in cardamom cultivation. By the cardamom farming, life of agro-base society will change and they will access in media, business, income etc. People's sons and daughter will go to good school. They will have good home and they should not take any tension of food for their family. Due to the increase in income, their life will change and they will come under the main stream of national development.

The study revealed that the role of women was mainly of supportive nature of men. The low level of female participation in the decision-making could be attributed to their literacy, ignorance and less participation in extension programmes, performed the dominant role.

### **1.3. Objective of the study:**

#### **1.3.1 General objective**

The general objective of the study is to find out the role of cardamom farming for the income generation of the society, which helps people for the economic empowerment and social change. It also define present trend of attraction of farmers in cardamom farming in Pashupatinagar V.D.C of Ilam district.

1.3.2 However, the **specific objectives** of the research are as follows:

To find out the role of cardamom for socio-economic empowerment of society.

To examine women's engagement in commercial cardamom farming

To analyzed that if there is any relationship between farming experience of women and their involvement.

To excess the impact of cardamom farming in the livelihoods of women

To identify the relationship between cardamom farming and feminization of poverty.

To find out if there is any relation between the education of women and their involvement.

To analyzed the role of male and female in its production, cultivation and expenditure.

**1.4. Significant of the study:** Agriculture is the base of Nepali economy. Most of the people of Nepal are engage in agriculture. However, Nepali people are producing food grains rather than cash crops so they trapped in vicious circle of poverty. To improve the economic level of the farmer and the country it is essential to start cash crops farming. Among the cash crops in the eastern hill, cardamom is the crop of high prospect.

In fiscal year 2064\65, the export quantity of cardamom was 9304950kg. Similarly, on65\66 Nepal export 8301360kg cardamom. Likewise, on fiscal year 66\67 the export quantity of cardamom was 5465183kg. On fiscal year 2067\68 and 2068\69, the quantity of cardamom was 4785021kg and 5295349kg. The export quantity of cardamom, on fiscal year 2069\70 and 2070\71 was 5113849kg and 4146852kg (C.T.U.2014).

The price of cardamom is very expensive. On fiscal year 2064\65, the price of cardamom was 8000 per 40kg but now it is about 85000 per 40 kg. It is big opportunity for people who live in eastern hilly of Nepal but cardamom has not its own brand and market so farmer of Nepal are bound to sell the product to India. Nepal cannot export this product to the third world countries so the farmers of Nepal are not achieving the global competitive price of the product. There is enough possibility of employment in hill of Nepal due to cardamom but most of the youth of the country are going to the OPEC country for employment.

Now it is essential to find out the possibility of cardamom farming on the hill of Nepal in one hand and women employment, participation their life stander on the other.

### **1.5. Organization of the study**

The study has been presented in the seven chapters. In the first chapter, include general background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study and significant of the study. Literature review and familiarization of cardamom farming process was discussed on chapter 2. Chapter 3 contains



description of the research methodology. It introduces research design, universe and sample size, data collection tools and techniques. Methods employed in the analysis and interpretations of data are discussed.

Chapter 4 intended to give an overview of the study area in term of its location, demography and socio-economic condition.

Chapter 5 deals with the analysis of socioeconomic impact on cardamom farming and demonstrates the present status of women who are involved in cardamom farming.

Chapter 6 discussed with the participation of women in cardamom farming and chapter 7 has included summary findings, conclusion and recommendation.

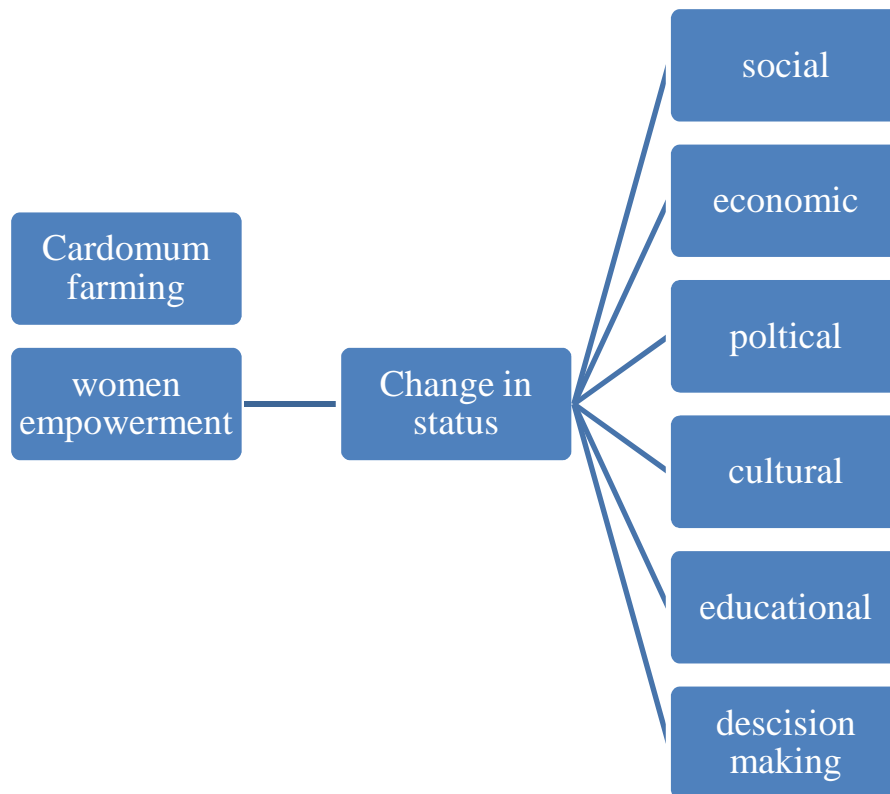
### **1.6 Limitation of the study**

This study attempts to find out some of important socio-economic factors that affect the lifestyle of women farmer. The focus is on the aspect encompassing knowledge, attitude and practice of cardamom farming and observation on involvement of women on cardamom farming.

Pashupatinagar is multi-cultural, multi-religious, and multi-ethnic vdc. These factors have determining role in the way of women empowerment. The study has focused in understanding the knowledge and practice of cardamom farming in study area. Accordingly, the findings of this study represent the data of entire vdc. The finding of study and conclusion drawn of recommendation made can be generalized to the level of extent that these provide good hand sights on the level of knowledge. The study is limited to investigation on empowerment of women by cardamom farming. This is merely an academic exercise and the results, conclusion and findings may not be useful for real planning purpose are should be used with caution,

At last, the limitation of the study is not far than to find out the women empowerment engaging on commercial cardamom farming. Here is a chart that shows the empower of the women through cardamom farming

## Women Empowerment



## Unit Two

### Review of literature

#### 1 Review of related books and literature

In this study, I applied gender theory. Gender in general sense understood as psychological, social, and cultural differences between males and females, it is mostly about masculinity and femininity, it is not directly about biological sex. (Giddens, 2009).

The gender theory in sociology is one of the largest subfields within sociology and features theory and research that critically interrogates the social construction of gender, how gender interacts with other social forces in the

society, and how gender relates to social structure overall. Sociologist within this subfield study a wide range of topics with the variety of research methods, including things like identity, social interaction, power and operation, and the interaction of gender with other things like race, class, culture, religion, and sexuality among others. (Ashley Crossman, April 14 2017)

Many scholars have conducted several research works in this field. Most of the research has studied method of farming, marketing, origin etc. Available research work in this field was analyzed before research.

Panday (2013) have studied about cardamom farming and its purification. He in the book deals with the process of farming and the different types of cardamom in different altitude.

In his book, he also deals with the traditional and the modern technology of purification and the price difference in these two types of product.

D.A.D.O (2015), District Agriculture Development Office Ilam has studied about the diseases and its prevention of cardamom. The report deals with the different types of diseases that are affecting the cardamom farming in Ilam district and they have suggested various prevention for that. They in the book suggested many diseases like Clump rot, diseases from Virus, Stunty Mosaic, Streak Mosaic, Clelea Plimbiola, Aphids, and many more.

R.Poudyal(2013), explains the method of cardamom farming and says that it can be cultivated in the wet land of the altitude 800 to 2000 meter this plant need shade of the other plant. He in the book says that in Nepal about 14 hector land is under cardamom cultivation and the total production is 6000 metrication .Among the total production of the cardamom nearly 2 per cent is consume in Nepal and 98 percent is export to the other countries of the world Roxburgh (1820a) was first to describe this plant in his 'plants of the coast of coromandle' and in (Flora Indica) 1920b)

Many scholars have studied about women's empowerment through commercialization in agriculture. Like, Ester Boserup highlighted women's

visibility in the productive agriculture sector during the 1970s particularly bargaining women's role and economic activities into the limelight (Beserup 1970). She highlighted the notion of women in the development (WID) to show that women are key players in the agriculture sector; however, at that time of her writing their active participation had gone unnoticed by development "experts" to the detriment of development programs and projects. Empirical evidence shows small scale women farmer in Guatemala, Kenya and other African countries have benefited economically through export led production. (See Hamilton et al 2002). Moreover, parts of Africa and parts of America have proved successful in establishing women as active participant of high value crops and commodity production (fao 2012).

However, with the significant need to address the issue of both men and women, inclusive of their social and economic status and roles, the Gender and Development (GAD) perspective emerged in 1980s. Despite better jobs and improved circumstance through a transition from subsistence to cardamom farming.

Evidence from Africa territories shows men benefits more than women when it comes to production and marketing of both traditional and nontraditional crops (Fisher and Qaim 2012; Nijuk 2011; Wbet al 2009).

On the positive side, a study of cocoa production in Ghana shows women are able to attain assets mostly land if they helped their husband in cocoa production (Quisumbing 2004).

In Nepal, 72.8 percent of economically active girls and women (age 10 and over) are engaged in agricultural work compared to the 60.2 percent of boys and men. (Ministry of agriculture and cooperation (moac), 2009). In the rural Nepal, women contribute about 70 percent of labor in agriculture (Bhadra and sha 2007).

Women's engagement in agricultural labor force increased to 48.1 percent in 2001 from 36 percent in 1982 (GoN (2009)). This shows an increase in feminization in agriculture.

While agrarian Nepal is significantly dependent on agriculture for income and food, commercial high value crops have prominently contributed to the Nepalese economy through exports. Increased commercialization of cash crop has assisted small farmers by addressing food security (Gautama 2011; Sharma 1997). This means those small farmers who have much less land, are able to gain high returns by producing very few cash crops. If they produce subsistence crops alone in the small area they own, they would not be able to fulfill their food needs. This is because selling small quantities of subsistence goods would not give them high returns, which they could obtain by division of labor of men.

According to latest data reports, in 2012/2013 Nepal produced 5763 metric tons of large cardamom worth Rs 2528 million, thus becoming the large producer of cardamom across the globe (Ministry of Agriculture Development (MoAD) 2015). Cultivating the large cardamom for export can help alleviate poverty by bolstering the national economy and elevating the livelihoods of the poor and marginalized (Environment Conservation and Development Forum (ECDF) 2008). Cardamom production is effective in the eastern mid-hills creating employment for rural people. Nepal is the top most producer of large cardamom in the world. (Shrestha et al., 2008)

Among various high value crops produced in Nepal, large cardamom (*Amomum subulatum* Roxb) has become a valuable commodity for export since its commercialization in 1953. Cardamom farming first started in Ilam during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the Nepali laborers in Sikkim introduced this crop. This district has been the highest producer of cardamom for centuries, covering almost all VDCs. This district is also prominent for high production of ginger, fruits, chilies, and vegetables due to its favorable climatic conditions. In year

2013, ilam itself produce 45,894 metric tons of ginger with business of 3 billion 410 million; cardamom of 690million; orange of 30 million; orange of 30 million, kiwi of 14.4 million; honey of 13.2 million and chilies of 160.1 million. In recent years, there has been an increase in the demand for cardamom for export across Nepal. (Bhattarai 2014).

Reports of Kerobar news shows that about 2500 household in Ilam, Teplejung and Panchthar are involved in cardamom farming, while the figure is 67000 household across Nepal. (Kerobar news 2014).

Agricultural commercialization leads to the employment opportunities, mainly creating economic spaces for women with improve livelihood, increasing participation and enhanced social standing in the communities (Alam 2012; kabeer 2012; WDR 2008). However, with the significant need to address the issue of both men and women, inclusive of their social and economic status and roles, the Gender and Development (GAD) perspective emerged in 1980s. Despite better jobs and improved economic circumstances through a transition from subsistence to commercial farming, women disadvantage in regards to roles, wage, land, ownership and employment conditions seems to persist across the globe (Razavi 2012; Li 2011; WB, FAO and IFAD 2009).

The debate on feminization of poverty a term coined by pearce in 1978, addressing the issue of the difference in poverty levels between men and women, particularly addressing the develop world, including the United States. Evidence particularly by western countries shows that women are poorer than men do.(Medeiros and Costa2008, Bradshaw et al2003; casper et al 1994). Medeiros and Costa (2008) refers to two main phenomena under which the main feminization of poverty occurs, one is the differences in poverty levels between men and women and another, is the differences in poverty levels between male-headed household and female-headed households.

Likewise, another scholar Chant (2010) finds three main observations from African nations as evidence of the feminization of poverty, where she

compares the income of men and women as the main factors determining poverty. These observations are: 1) increase gender disparities in the roles of men and women when it comes to work outside of home and domestic work, 2) increase disparities between men and women in their ability to make decision in their negotiating power, for example negotiating about income at the household level and 3) increased differences among men and women in term of bargaining for individual needs, investment or even rewards (pp-113-114). However, less often debated are issues surrounding poverty levels among of different groups, and most importantly, issue around gender and social differences, which is typically situation for Nepal.

Commercialization of cardamom farming has no doubt contributed to the nation's economy. However, there is lack of research in the impact of cardamom farming in the lives of farmers. Moreover there is a research gap in gender relations, pertaining to the division of labor of men and women in cardamom farming, as evidence only reflects on women's active engagement in cash crop farming (see chapagain;2011;karki et al 2009) without reflecting their roles. Additionally, the issue of women's engagement in cardamom farming for income and its impact in their livelihoods, particularly in relation to different ethnic groups, is nuanced.

Different scholars have studied about agricultural sources of this area. Some of them have studied about the Tea farming of this area. Others have studied about the Culture and tradition of this area but study on cardamom farming is the new one for this area. Agriculture is the base of economy in this V.D.C. Animal husbandry, goat farming and milk selling is the major source of income. As the cash crops, people are doing Potato, Ginger, and Vegetables farming. Related published and unpublished documents have been studied while reviewing literature.

### **Theoretical Review**

In this study, I applied Marxist feminist theory. Perspective of Marxist feminist theory adapts the principal of Marxism to emphasis how capitalism uses the family oppresses women, and the harmful consequences of the family to women's life.

Marxist feminist look on class and gender inequalities as dual systems of oppression, with both being very powerful and independent systems. "gender theory in sociology is one of the largest subfields within sociology and features theory and research that critically interrogates the social construction of gender, how gender relates to social force in the society, and how gender relates to other social structure overall. Sociologist within this subfield study a wide range of topic with the variety of research methods, including things like identity, social interaction, power and operation and the interaction with gender with other things like race class, culture, religion, and sexuality among others"(Ashley Crossman). Marxist feminist sees that class and gender inequalities both being very powerful and independent systems. Marxist feminist often argues that class and gender inequalities reinforces each other and create groups that are doubly oppressed.

Margaret Benston's (1972) Marxist feminist study "the political economy of women's liberation" emphasis the value of unpaid labor women performs within the family. This labor, which sustains the current labor force and nurtures the next generation, comes at no cost to the owners of production. Additionally, the responsibility of to the male breadwinner to support his wife and children fetters his ability to withdraw his labor power in defense of his class so doing it helps reinforce the inequitable capitalist economist system.

As Rosemarie Tong (1989) notes in her book "Feminist thought": A comprehensive introduction, Marxist feminist identify how work shapes consciousness and women's work shapes her status and self-image. Therefore, Marxist feminist are primary concerned with the division of labor that keeps women in the domestic sphere of the family and men in the workplace.



Marxist feminist respond that they are in complete agreements the family should be preserved but the family as an economic unit should be destroyed along with capitalism.

## **Unit 3**

### **Research methodology.**

The methods and tools formulated, data administration and methods implemented in doing this study has been briefly described. In this study, various methods, tools etc. was used to collect data.

#### **3.1 Research design**

The exploratory and descriptive research design was used for the study. The study was tried to give in depth description of socio economic condition of study area.

#### **3.2 Nature of data collection.**

The nature of collection of data for this study was mainly base upon qualitative data and quantities data was also simultaneously but such quantitative data are interpreted qualitatively.

#### **3.3 Sources of data collection**

The source of data in this research study was mainly basedon the primary sources of data collected from the field study. The secondary sources of data was also in which was administered in which was referred from published and unpublished secondary sources VIZ., official documents, libraries, books, magazines, newspapers, bulletins, former research etc.

#### **3.4 Tools and techniques**

The different tools such as HHS survey, questionnaire, and interview was done for the collection of data for the structured and unstructured questionnaire and check list was developed as a main technique accompanied by the digital devices such as camera, voice recorder, field dairy etc.

#### **3.5 Selection of study Area and Rational for collectionof data**

This study was based on the field study of Pashupatinagar VDC. The household study was done relying on the data collected through the specified sampling methods.The total ward of this VDC was chosen of the researcher herself

purposively. The focus of the study was to find out the condition of women's participations in the commercial cardamom farming and another reason to select this area was to find out the gender status of women in the study area.

### **3.5.1 The universe and sampling**

Simple random sampling was used in selecting the sample for household survey. The purpose is to measure and observe knowledge, attitude and practice of cardamom farming regarding the gender theory. The data based on random sampling was made inclusive in nature evaluating the household and structure of society based on class, cast and literate illiterate etc. The lottery was applied although stratification across ethnicity, income, caste house type, land holding, profession, and cattle holding was very much desirable in order to get the good representative sample.

### **3.5.2 House hold survey**

There are total 1717 households in 9 wards of Pashupatinagar VDC and five households of each ward are taken as sample, so total 45 households of study area are taken as sample of cardamom farmer. As interview schedule was developed that encompasses multiple alternative answers for some issue and open ended for some issues to be interviewed. Some case studies presented if found interesting and deemed effective. The primary data gathered by the study was analyzed manually. Secondary data is utilized as required.

### **3.6 Data Analysis and Interpretation of data**

To back - to home data analysis and interpretation exercise was followed immediately after the completion of field works. Various excellent data processing features of MsExcel spreadsheet and SPSS were employed in the process of data tabulation, validation, and consistency check. Responses from open-ended question were classified into similar group were encoded for tabulation and data presentation for the analysis. Responses from close ended were also enclosed before tabulation.

Following the completion of tabulation, a number of final output tables are generated from the spreadsheet. Before making interpretation of results were decoded for clarity. Different tables are generated in SPSS and Excel spreadsheet. Simple statistical tools like percentage, frequency, mean, max range, minimum range values, which are built in features in Excel spreadsheet are used extensively in data processing and analysis. Results of survey are presented in the form of simple tabulation.

## Unit Four

### Study area and the people

#### 4.1. Introduction of the study area

This chapter deals with geographic location, social demography and natural resources of Pashupatinagar V.D.C.

Geographic location

Ilam district is located between 26 degree 54 minutes 45 seconds from 26 degree 59 minutes North latitude and 80 degree 4 minutes from 80 degree 7 minutes 45 second east longitude. The political boundary of this district is Jhapa on south and Panchthar in north, Terathum in west. Among the different V.D.Cs of Ilam district Pashupatinagar is a V.D.C., which is linked with Darjeeling, West Bengal of India. People of this area are influenced by the cultural, social, and economic factors of Indian people in their daily life.

(Village profile; 2015)

Pashupatinagar vdc is one of beautiful vdc of Ilam district. Pashupatinagar is located in the electoral constituency no 1 of Ilam district. It is surrounded by Gorkhaya vdc in west, Suryodaya municipality to the north. Darjeeling district in east and Shreeantuvdc in south.

#### 4.2 Natural resources

The natural resources of Pashupatinagar vdc have been dealt as in terms of following.

##### 4.2.1. Land

The Pashupatinagar vdc covers an area of 27.72 square km. Agriculture lands come out 52 square km. People living in this vdc are mostly dependent on agriculture except some people are engaged on business, government job, and commercial sector. (Village profile; 2015)

#### **4.2.2. Forest**

Some area of pashupatinagervdc is covers by forest. The forest is very charming and it is source of fuel for people of pashupatinager village and surrounding. People of pashupatinager village are always responsible for this forest and they have well knowledge about the benefit for save and take care of forest.

#### **4.2.3. Water**

PashupatinagerV.D.C is not rich in water sources. The drinking water that is supply from kali khola is not enough for the wholeV.D.C.bhulkaekholsa and runsungkholaare used for irrigation. People use public tap for drinking water.

#### **4.3Social setting;**

The social setting of the study area is quite different from other areas of Ilam district because in this area people of different cast and community lives with a harmony, this is a boarder of India so that we can find mix culture and profession.Other detail social aspects of this area aredefined separately as below.

##### **4.3.1Population size**

The total population of this V.D.C is 8469(v.d.c.2016) out of this 4111are female and 4358 are male. The total number of household in this area comes around 1717. The literacy rate has been stated to be 92.84 percent (source V.D.C. profile 2015). In thisvillage, there is one high school, one lower secondary school, 1primarySchool, andone pre- primary school and three boarding schools.

**Table no one**

Distribution of population of pashupatinager VDC by ward household and sex

Ward no	Total house number	Male	Female	Total population
1	99	251	256	507
2	175	445	419	864
3	253	625	609	1234
4	349	886	864	1750
5	116	333	286	619
6	130	314	298	612
7	98	253	222	475
8	255	644	600	1244
9	242	607	557	1164
Total	1717	4358	4111	8469

(Source Village profile, 2016)

According to above tabulation, the number of household in the pashupatinager VDC is 1717, the male population is 4358(51.46) percent and the female population is 4111(48.54percent) and the total population comes around 8469.

#### **4.3.2 Caste and Ethnicity**

Pashupatinager VDC has very diverse population of various ethnic backgrounds. Pashupatinager VDC is well known for residency of tamang, rai and Lepcha. Marginalized groups, dalit also visible in this VDC. The major cast of this VDC is tamang followed by Brahman, cheetri, rai, lepcha, Sherpa, limbu, gurung, bishokarma, newar, bhujel, lepcha, magar, darjee, thami, and rajbansi.

Different ethnic groups and cast are resident in very harmoniously in this society.

Population distribution by caste and ethnicity

**Table no two**

**Distribution of Population in Habitating in PashupatinagarVDC by Caste and Ethnicity**

<b>S.N</b>	<b>Brahman</b>	<b>chettris</b>	<b>Sudra</b>	<b>Others</b>
1	Ghimire	Karki	Bishowkarma	Tamang
2	Poudel	Thapa	Shiwa	Rai
3	Pokhrel	Basnet	Pariyar	Lepcha
4	Lamichhene	Sodari	Karkidoli	Limbu
5	Timsina	Khadka	Lwagun	Gurung
6	Sapkota			Sharpa
7	Acharya			Bhujel
8	Dahal			Khawas
9	Upadhya			Thami
10	Sharma			Newar
11	Dhungana			Jogi

SourceVDC Profile, 2015

Here is a mixture of different cast and ethnicity in this VDC. According to the village profile, the highest number of population is tamang (27.64percent); it is followed by brahemen and chetteri. In spite of having different cast, ethnicity, culture, norms, and value people stay with harmony



### 4.3.3 Language

Table no two

Ward num	Nepali	Limbu	Rai	Tamang	Gurung	Lepcha	Magar	Sherpa	newar	Hindi	other	total
1	462	0	3	19	0	0	17	6	0	0	0	507
2	846	0	5	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	864
3	1234	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1234
4	1328	52	133	42	42	0	0	113	5	35	0	1750
5	618	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	619
6	605	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	612
7	462	0	0	5	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	475
8	1040	36	86	34	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	1244
9	963	0	48	143	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	1164
total	7558	88	275	257	42	48	17	127	12	35	10	8469

Source: village profile 2016

According to this table people of different cast use different language. Most of people speak According to this table people of different cast use different language. Most of people speak Nepali language. Whereas it is followed byrai,limbu,magar, tamang, Sherpa,newari and Hindi.

### 4.3.4 Religion

Different ethnic background people have different religion. In this VDC, different people have faith in the different religions. Here are a number of people having a different religion.

**Table no Three**

Religion	Population	Percent
Buddhist	3678	43.43
Hindu	2649	31.27
Krait	1952	23.048
Christianity	30	0.35
Others	60	0.70
total	8469	100

Source village profile 2015

According to this table, the majority of people have faith in Buddhist religion. The total population of Buddhist in this vdc is 3678 nearly 43 percent. It is followed by Hindu religion where 2649 people are Hindu and it is 31 percent of total population. Kirat are 1952 people and is 23.048 percent of total population. Other religion have also good majority while a 0.35 percentage adopted Christianity that is number in 30. We can see people of different cast and community in this small piece of land but they are living with harmony. They celebrate each other's religious festival with peace and harmony.

**4.4. Distribution of educational status in PashupatinagerVDC**

While talking about the education condition of PashupatinagerVDC it is comparatively educated than other vdc's of this area, we can see condition of education of this vdc from the following table. There is one high school, one lower secondary, eight primary, one pre- primary and three private boarding schools in Pashupatinagar VDC

**. Literary rate of study area**

**Table no Four**

Ward no	Total population		ill irate		literate	
	female	Male	female	male	female	male
1	253	251	26	19	224	223
2	419	445	17	16	380	405
3	609	625	88	62	494	524
4	864	886	82	41	755	798
5	283	333	35	17	240	295
6	298	314	29	11	262	284
7	222	253	14	7	203	233
8	600	644	51	20	524	597
9	557	607	75	38	458	536
Total	4111	4358	417	231	3540	3895

According to the above mention data, the illiteracy rate of females is higher than males, the literacy rate of male are 95.58 percent and female's literacy rate is 90.84 percent. People were more serious about education and here is no any discrimination between boys and girls to send to the school but some people sent government school to girls and boarding school to the boys.

#### **4.5. Health condition**

Here is one primary health center and two private medicine shop in this vdc. Peoples go to the health center and medicine shop for their basic treatment. Health center provides regular patient check, family planning and emergency treatment and so on. After a basic treatment people goes to the Darjeeling, jhapa, Kathmandu for the further treatment. In this health center, basic medical equipment is available but here is lack of modern equipment.

#### **4.6 communications**

Here is one post office in this vdc. People use dish home and cable line to watch the television. Nepal telecom telephone exchange center has distributed the telephone line. The center distributes 208 telephone lines in this vdc. Pashupatinagar vdc is connected with Nepal telecom mobile network area, and Ncell mobile network.

#### **4.7. Electricity**

Electricity has been distributed in all wards of Pashupatinagar vdc. National transmission line distributed the electricity. Here is 15 cottage industry using electricity. Six cheese factory, one tea factory, two dairy and 6 rice mills are using electricity in Pashupatinagar vdc.

#### **4.8. Transportation**

The means of transportation entered in this vdc at the time of British government, but the construction of pitch road was finished on 2055 B.S. Almost all vdc are included on the Charali, Fickle, and Pashupatinagar highway. Pashupatinagar is the main center to enter in Darjeeling from Nepal. The distance of Fickle bazaar to Pashupatinagar is 12 km. The service of night bus from Pashupatinagar to Kathmandu, Birjung and Pokhara are available here. Daily taxi service from Pashupatinagar to Birtamode, Ilam, Dhahran, and Biratnagar are also available here. The situation of the roads inside this village is very weak. The constructions of raw roads have been ongoing but due to the soil erosion the sustainability of roads are very weak.

#### **4.9. Industry and business**

Most of people are depended on agriculture in Pashupatinagar vdc, but some people are involve in other nonagricultural business like small business, industry and other professions. There are 7 small household industry and two middle industry in Pashupatinagar vdc.

#### **4.10 Description of finance and cooperation**

Financial, non-financial and cooperative agencies give service in this vdc. Financial and non-financial agency are saving and credit cooperation, forest consumer committee, drinking water consumer committee. The cooperation and financial and non-financial agency provides services as their approach and objective. Farmer saves their income in this cooperative and financial agency. In Pashupatinagar vdc, there are 5 youth club, 15 cooperative and 5 agricultural groups.

During the study, women of this vdc reported their economic status and social participation through their engagement in cardamom farming. Women have been able to participate in social group, particularly cardamom cooperatives, and saving groups such as women's saving group, dalit women's saving groups.

The survey indicates that both men and women were involving in various social groups such as cooperatives, agricultural group, community forest user groups. The specific groups such as mother's groups and women's unions, which had only women.

## Involvement of people in various groups in study area

**Table no Five**

Groups	Male	Female
Agricultural groups	60	20
Women's saving groups	-	35
Youth club	15	5
Cooperatives	35	15
Mother's group	-	40
Total	110	115

Source fieldwork survey 2016

The table demonstrates women outnumber men in terms of their engagement in cooperatives, agricultural groups, groups of community forestry and others, such as women's union in overall study area. Women have actively participated in cooperatives involving saving, training and skill provision for women. These trainings are provided by the government funding free of cost. Such activities are the possible indicators of livelihood improvement, women's inclusion in these groups and well-being enhancement.

Being a part of social institutions and organizations, women have been able to practice saving and take loans with low interest. Their savings have made women financially literate, encouraging them to continue to save more for their future security. As some women opined, becoming a part of the cardamom, ginger and tea co-operatives, women can take loans and credit when needed for farming.

Moreover, the importance of being a part of co-operatives has also helped women acquire techniques and knowledge related skills. Through these institutions, women have also acquired agricultural training including techniques on planting crops and using appropriate amounts and mixtures of

organic fertilizers, that cardamom requires. In addition, women have been able to raise their concerns, share ideas and speak freely on being part of the institution.

## **UNIT Five**

### **Data presentation and analysis**

Here, five household are taken from every ward and 45-house hold of Pashupatinagar are selected as respondent. 60percent of people are selecting their profession as cardamom farming. Cardamom is the good farming for nice income. Now a day's cardamom flourish in this area, and the virus also reduce from this plant. The respondent told that there is good profit in this cardamom farming, and they can plant other vegetation on the cardamom field and takes benefits from this.

#### **5.1 SOCIAL CONDITION OF WOMEN;**

Agriculture is the main profession of this vdc. People have different economic stander. Some have high economic stander and some have middle and lower economic stander by this profession.

This vdc is a hilly land structured and houses are built bystone, soil, and some are RCC house.They built their own house by this profession.The structure of family is mix, some have joint family and some have nuclear family. There is no tension of work force to production the vegetation,who has joint family.

Sixty percent of people choose their profession as cardamom farming for main income. Women are participating in all activities while the time of cultivation. Men help them to plow the field. Selected 45 families fulfill their household and others economic needs by this production.Rural women have approach in agriculture and cardamom production so it brings positive change in their life style and social condition. Development of women in rural area is the major thrust area of many rural development programs implemented by the government as they not only constitute nearly half of its population, but also influence growth on their remaining half of the population. Despite women are



poorer than men are mostly because they are deprived of equal rights and opportunities, they denied of the access to the financial and economical resources and the status in the society. Moreover, women are literate and have little time to know about the latest advanced in the farm production. Women are generally engaged in multiple occupations ranging from unpaid family labor to self-employed in their home and their village. However women in rural area are have affinity towards farming and as high as 75 per cent of the rural women are found participating in different farm and allied work (sadangai,et;1996)

### 5.2 Age and sex of respondent

Forty-five household are taken, as respondent. There are 225 family members are in 45 household. In this, number of women is 115 and male is 110 the average member of this household is five.

**Table no Six**

#### Age and sex of respondent

Sn	Age group	Female	Male	total	Pertcent1
1	0-14	25	23	48	22
2	15-30	35	34	69	30
3	31-45	30	30	60	27
4	46-60	15	12	27	12
5	Above 60	10	11	21	9
	Total	115	110	225	100

Source fieldwork survey 2016

According to this table, the large number of population of respondent is 15-30 years age group and 0-14 year's age group follows it. 31-45 year age groups are also in large scale.

15-60 years age groups are active in cardamom cultivation.

### 5.3 Caste and ethnicity of respondent

**Table no Seven**

S.n	Caste and ethnicity	Household	female	Male	Total	percent
1	Tamang	15	41	39	80	35
2	Brahman	12	40	38	78	
3	Chettery	10	19	17	36	16
4	Limbo	5	9	7	16	7
5	Damai	3	6	9	15	5
6	Total	45	115	110	225	100

Source household survey 2016

Following data shows, that tamang population is in large number, and Brahman and chettery follows that. Numbers of dalit are very few in study area so few dalit people are involved in cardamom farming. Number of Tamang, Brahman and chettery are involved in cardamom farming in large scale. Here, tamang are 35 percent, Brahman and chettery are 16 percent. Limbos are 7 percent and damai are 5 percent of respondent household. Marginalized people such as dalit are also involved in cardamom farming. They have few land for farming, they contribute the others cardamom farm as wageworker.

#### **5.4 Types of family**

**Table no Eight**

Respondent household have following types of family

Sn	Types of family	Brahmen	Chettery	Tamang	Limbu	Damai	Total	percent
1	nuclear	6	4	2	0	3	12	73.33
2	Joint	9	8	8	5	0	33	26.66
		15	12	10	5	3	45	100

Source household survey 2016

According to following data, the number of joint family is more than nuclear family in study area. The total number of joint family is 33 and it is 74 percent of total household respondent. In addition, the total number of nuclear family is 12, and it is 26 percent of total household respondent. There is no nuclear family of limbu and dalit cast. It seems that there no problem of workers for cardamom farming who have joint family and they use few paid labor for cardamom farming.

### **5.5 Educational status**

Education is the most importance things to be aware of everything, only educated person knows about the world's latest technology, awareness of human rights, and much information about the changes in society, country and whole world. In the study area, many farmer women are educated but some are illiterate also but informal education of government for old women and men make the illiterate person also literate

Comparatively women are illiterate then men in study area. Now a day's people are aware of Important of education, and aware of equality between son and daughter, so they send their children to boarding school due to

increasing of income through cardamom farming farmer are able to send their children to boarding school. Educational status of women is as follow

### 5.5.1 Educational status of respondent

**Table no Nine**

Educational status	Women	Percent
Illiterate	25	21.73
Primary, literate	35	30.43
Lower secondary	17	14.78
Secondary	23	20
Higher secondary and above	15	13.64
Total	115	100

Source field survey 2016

Following data shows that 25 women are ill irate in study area and it is 21.73 percent of respondent household.30.43 percent women are literate and got primary education, in number they are 35. 17 women had lower secondary education and it is 14.78 percent. The women who got secondary level of education they are 23 and it is 20 percent of total respondent women.15 womenhad higher secondary and above education, they are in 13.64 percent. Study shows that women who had secondary education they are more active in cardamom farming. They use different techniques for this farming. Some educated farmer women use internet to knows latest techniques and use it on cardamomfarming for better production. Due to cardamom farming, women are able to send their children to boarding school. They invest their income for the better education.

## **5.5 Economic status of women**

While a process of research the main income of study area is agriculture, in which women's participation is very high. Women's are active in vegetable farming and cardamom farming. They have to do household work, take care of children, and have to do field work. They get attractive income by vegetable farming and cardamom farming. In cardamom production, the majority of women in the household have handled the return with support from men. However, this was not the case in the past when the farming practice was limited to subsistence rice farming for household consumption and vegetables and other crops for selling in the local market. Women did not have bargaining power with their male counterparts who brought home their income from work or by selling household production such as vegetables. As household started producing cash crop such as cardamom, there was a paradigm shift in the status of farmers and particularly women. First economic change led to creating space for women including marginalized group to work out side of home. Second, women start earning and contributing their income to household and other expense. Finally, women became a part of the saving institution and cooperatives, thus raising their awareness and ability to invest in savings, further honing their financial literacy skills. In this sense, it seems increase in awareness and positive impact on economic status of women of Pashupatinagarvdc. Women have been able to spend their earnings from cardamom on household food needs, children's education, health care, paying loans or adding assets such as jewelries. Most women revealed that their first priority would be household food needs such as buying rice, oil salt and vegetables. There were opinions priorities changing, sometime depending on their household needs such as investing in the tanks to store water and sprinklers for irrigation. However, after a basic food needs, the majority of women will school age or college going put their children's education as the most important source of investment. There are also cases where women have

been able to influence their husband in making decision on the various issue such as sending their children to school or investing other needs. The impact of cardamom farming has brought positive change for women in Pashupatinagar VDC.

Moreover, another reason for this increase in financial stability may be the institutional encouragement.

### **5.6 Impact of Commercial Cardamom Farming in the Livelihoods of Marginalized Women.**

In Nepal, dalit and janjati have been considered a marginalized group, deprived of services and various rights while the Brahmins and Chhetris have been considered the educated and knowledgeable people with higher standing and jobs in the society. However, with the end of monarchy, ruled by Ranas (1856-1951) and sahas (1951-2008), under the attempt of the Maoists (1996-2008), The issue of untouchability and rights of marginalized people became visible. Moreover, Nepal was no longer under the monarchy but instead of Federal Democratic Republic. Providing equality to the marginalized and disadvantage groups and farming non-discriminatory policies became the major agenda in the political debate, particularly during the insurgency and post- insurgency periods.

Among the women in different ethnic group, were Dalits contributing to cardamom farming. Among respondent five dalit household three household have not land and others two have less land compared to household of other ethnic group. These household produce cardamom in small quantities and worked as seasonal labor with daily wage earning of rs 200-300. Women could work on farms with their husband and produce cardamom and they could work as wage earners in other cardamom-producing household with large land areas, contributing to other household.

Thus engage in dual roles as self-employed by their small Women business as well as waged workers in cardamom sector. In their interviews, the women claim that the cardamom sector was one of the significant income sources for their families.

Dalit women also reflected on the importance of having a small piece of land in their household and cardamom farming. In general, land is considered a valuable asset and an indicator of poverty or lack of it. Even small land holding producing a small quantity of cardamom have helped women fulfill their household needs. The above data implies that the impact of commercial cardamom farming has proved positive for Dalit women since transmission shows their graduation from the poorest situation to an improved one marginalized household that could not fulfill their basic needs in the past having improved their livelihood due to cardamom farming. There is also a noticeable change in caste system as Dalits have been able to enter the field of other castes to work as wage laborers along with workers of other caste. They earn an equal amount of money for the type of labor reporting as Rs 200 per day for separating cardamom fruits from picked flowers. The marginalized groups have been able to gain economic opportunities through their engagement in cash crop farming and have been able to meet their food needs. As studies suggest, commercial farming has helped address food security (Gautam 2011; Sharma 1997) and improve social economic conditions by graduating women from poverty.

**5.7 Occupation of family;** At present, agriculture still is the main occupation of people in Pashupatinagar. The people of Pashupatinagar have been found engaged on agricultural work. They are involved in cardamom farming, vegetable farming, animals' husbandry and other agricultural work with hardworking. Some people have been engaged on governmental work and some are engaged on executive work. Many families choose their profession as producing cash crop.

**5.8 Income through occupation.** Basis on information of respondent women of 45 household, the description of income by cardamom farming in year is given below. The data is based on income by selling cardamom plant and seeds.

**Yearly income of respondent**

**Table no Ten**

Sn	Yearly income	Family number	Percent
1	50000	7	15
2	50000-100000	13	30
3	100000-150000	10	22
4	150000-200000	10	22
5	above200000	5	11
	Total	45	100

Source; fieldwork survey,2016

According to following table the family who earned 50000 as per year are 7 and it is 15 percent of total household as well the number of family earned the money between 50000-100000 are 13, likewise the number of family which income has been between 100000-1500000 are 10 which is 22 percent of total household family. Similarly, the income between 150000-200000 family has been found in number of 10 and the number of family that has the income above 200000 are only five. The study has found that the numbers of family whom income is between 50000-100000 are in high number. To increase the income, it is essential to apply new tools and technology for better production.

**5.9 Monthly expenditure of respondent**



People of study area fulfill their basic needs by income of agricultural work. Cash crop farming such as ginger, tea, off seasonal vegetable cultivation, cardamom cultivation is the main farming in this area. it is easy to fulfill the basic household needs such as daily food, clothes, sanitation, entertainment and other.

**Table no Eleven**

Sn	Description of expenditure	Family num
1	2000	10
2	Above 2000 to 3000	5
3	Above 3000to4000	15
4	Above 4000 to 5000	8
5	Above 5000	7
	Total	45

Source; fieldwork survey,2016

According to mentioned table, the household number of respondent who expenses 2000 rs in one month is in number of ten, similarly the household number of respondent they expanse above 2000 to 3000 is in number of five. Fifteen household expenses above 3000 to 4000 in one month. Above4000 to 5000 money expenses by seven-responded household and 8 respondent households expenses above 5000 per month. The respondent household they expenses above 3000 to 5000 are high in number. The data shows that the class stander of family is upgrade by cardamom farming. The family number they expenses more than 5000 is in number of seven. It is fewer number of total respondent household. As a whole the study are is rural and village area so, expenses of family is also fewer than expanses in town area.

By the income of cardamom farming, women can expense the income as their needs. They are able to buy daily needs foods, invest in health care and other needs.

### **5.10 Agriculture and cardamom farming in study area**

Ilam district is a very pocket area for agricultural work. More than 95 percent of the total populations of this area are engaged in cardamom farming. The main staple crop in this district is maize, rice, millet are still more important. Cash crops like cardamom, ginger, broom grass, tea, chilies, are grown in this area. Another important income for this area is fruits and flower farming. Animal husbandry and milk production is also a strongest ways of income for the farmer of this district.

The pashupatinagarvdc is not also far from whole district. The staple crop in this area is also rice, millet; maize, wheat and the cash crops are also ginger, tea, broom grass, cardamom, chilies. The farmer's strongest income is also an animal's husbandry such as goat, pig, cow and production of milk. Fifty four percent of land in this area can be cultivated in agriculture.

The climate of study area is fit for cardamom farming and the market of cardamom is not weak so people of this area are attractive towards cardamom farming. Marketing is an important element for promoting farm production above substance. The locationarrangement of market centers plays a more vital role in the production as well as price of cash crop. The important market area is fickle which is along with its location in charali – ilam highway seems to be major market center of the study area. Gorkhay and pashupatinagar, although located within study area appears to be the less important.

In spite, of it the shit from cow, goat and pig is beneficial for cardamom farm so people can use the shit in cardamom farm to better production.

Women are attractive towards cardamom farming. Because it has potentiality of good income. Women can use their free time in a cardamom farm. The income of cardamom can make women capable in a every step of the life, enhance of bargaining power, dealing with the stock holder, knowledge about the market price are a very positive change in women by cardamom farming. Demand of cardamom increase in overseas country but its production in not able to produce

the cardamom as its demand. Attractive price of cardamom and high demand of the product is the main cause of farmer's attraction towards it.

### **5.11 Agricultural transmission from subsistence to commercial farming in pashupatinagar**

The agricultural practices of pashupatinagar VDC shows a profound transition from subsistence to commercial farming systems over centuries. Between 1903 and 1950, when Nepal was under the Rana regime, the major subsistence crop cultivated was a local maize and millet. Households cultivated maize and millet in their khet. Very few household produce rice due to lack of irrigation. Rice, cultivated or brought from other households, was store in a bamboo basket and was cooked for guests. Rice farming became a major plantation crop for households only in 1943. However, the harvests were not sold in the market but use for household consumption.

In the midst of practicing rice in 1981. Production increased significantly by 30 percent between 1983 and 1993. The value of ginger was high and the export market, India, has huge demand for this crop. During the process of ginger, farming rice cultivation lost its value. Also, households start substituting their vegetable gardens with ginger. Unfortunately, farmers notice a decline in ginger production due to disease due to disease early in 2000 and by 2005 there was no ginger for use. Today, (2016), almost all households plant ginger for commercial purpose.

In 2012 BS, a villager brought cardamom sapling to PashupatinagarVdc from ram yang, India where the Nepalicommunities are large. Before 2016,BS cardamom plant was found on only attwo, four houses but before 2016, the cardamom farm was extent in all villages.During the time, Darjeeling was going through political unrest and Nepalese in Darjeeling migrated back to Nepal. After a few years, locals started planting cardamom sapling. In 1995, the first batch of cardamom frompashupatinagarwas sold in local market. By 2003, cardamom commercialization had taken over pashupatinagar. From this time,

more than sixty percent of farmers had substituted their rice farms and other marginalized farm with cardamom and were growing alder trees as a shed for cardamom.

### 5.12 Respondent household and the area of cultivation

**Table no Twelve**

Cultivated area of cardamom(ropani))	Cultivate cardamom (kg)	Number of family
1-5	40	10
6-10	43	8
11-15	45	6
16-20	50	7
21-25	70	7
26-30	80	2
31-35	100	5

According to this table, the 10 respondent household have 1-5 ropani cardamom farm where they produce 40 kg large cardamom. Eight respondent households have 6-10 ropanicardamom farms where they produce minimum 43 kg large cardamom. Likewise, six respondent household have 11-15 ropani cardamom farm where they produce 45 kg large cardamom. Seven respondent households have 16-20 ropani cardamom farms in which they produce 50kg large cardamom. Similarly, 70 kg large cardamom produces in a 21-25 ropani farm which area is adopted by seven respondent households. Two respondent households cultivate 26-30 ropani cardamom area where they produce 80 kg large cardamom. 100 kg large cardamom is produce by 5 respondent household in area of 31-35 ropani. Due to different disease and virus, the productivity of land is decrease. The table shows the minimum quantities of production.

Households with large areas of land for cardamom used rotating sprinklers set in their farms for irrigation, while households with less and devoted to cardamom also used rotating sprinklers if they only owned one; or they simply used pipe water or manual sprinklers. Households with less than five ropani of land were mostly Dilit, or even migrant of different ethnic group.

Moreover, during the harvest time, men usually pick the fruit using special knives, though the majority reported that men and women performed this role equally. After the harvest, it is mostly women who separate the fruits while men carry the fruits to the dryer. After the cardamom is ready to be sold, it is mostly men who take it to market. There were no women cardamom traders seen in Pashupatinagar VDC. This is because; according to interview to Men and women, “women do not want to take up with these responsibilities”

### **5.13 Condition of animal husbandry**

Ilam district is example for an animal's husbandry. The district is popular for cow husbandry and production of milk and other dairy items. The more specialty of this district is ghee, churpee, and cheese. Lollypop, bombaison by milk are being a popular sweet from Ilam.

Animal husbandry is a profitable business in Ilam district. The plenty of grass within the household is the powerful base for animal husbandry. The profit from animals in short time is the beneficial for farmers and farmers can use the shilt from the animals in their cardamom farm and vegetable farm. Thus, animal husbandry is a means of good income for farmers of Ilam district.

The condition of animal husbandry is shown in a following table

**Table no Thirteen**

Sn	Animals and birds	Num		
1	Cow\ox	2-4	24	45
2	Buffalo\ox	1-2	12	45
3	Duck\hen	5-150	14	45
4	Horse	1-2	10	45
5	Pig	2-7	7	45

Here are forty-five respondent households have different types of animals and birds such as cow, buffalo, duck, hen etc. the respondent households owned cow and ox are 25 and they owned the animals in number of 2-4, likewise, buffalo and calf are owned by 12 household in number of 1-2. Some respondent household owned goat in number of minimum five to maximum 12, and the household's number is 20. Some households are owned duck and hen in number of 5- 150, they open a hatchery farm to produce a meat along with cardamom farming. The household number of having a duck and hen is 14. Horse owner household is in number of ten and they have 1-2 horse in one house, and pig owner household are 7 out of forty five respondent household and they have 2-7 pigs in their home. Animal husbandry is supportive income of cardamom farmer. They directly get money from milk and the shilt of cow, goat and pig is very useful in every farm as fertilizer, so farmer give importance in animals and birds because they get benefit from it. They can use the income by animals and birds in their daily food needs.

#### **5.14 case study**

The research presents the results of a study on the women participation on cardamom farming. The finding reveals that women are empowered through cardamom farming. Devika sodari and kalpanagurung are two examples of

cardamom farmer women whose life is dramatically changed after cardamom farming. In the depth interview Devika sodari expressed her struggling story before cardamom farming.

"My name is Devika sodari. I am 40 years old. There are five members in my family. My occupation is farming. I involve in cardamom farming since 5 years. Before cardamom, our family was in vicious circle of poverty. Our farming was only labor intensive. We produce only crops like maize, rice and these crops are almost consume at home. After cardamom farming I have been able to benefit from the return and expend on household needs. Before cardamom, I am not able to expend for health treatment, good education for my children and household needs. After involving in cardamom farming, I am able to expend for my households needs and save some money in cooperatives."

Kalpanagurung is cardamom farmer her struggling story is also similar todevika sodari.

"My name is Kalpanagurung. I am 45 years old. In involve in cardamom farming since three years. Fortunately, I am selected for training of cardamom farming. After cardamom farming, my economic status has been uplift and in my home I am involve in decision-making.

"My family has a very small piece of land. Once we start cardamom farming in that small area, we can eat better food and wear better clothes. Ever since we start cardamom farming, I have to able to see better days of my family. I told my husband that we send our son to a good school in Kathmandu since we have been getting better income from cardamom.

The above testimonies demonstrate that the impact of cardamom farming has provide positive for women in pashupatinagarvdc.

## Unit Six

### Participation of women in Study Area

#### 6.1 Participation of women in cardamom farming

Nepal is an agricultural country in which involvement of women in agriculture is very high. About 90 percent of women are participating in farming. Nepal is an agro base country but farmers have very low economic status, they depend their whole life in the base of farming. The main cause of having low economic status is because of growing food grain rather than cash crop. Farmers do works only for food to eat not for savings. Therefore, they do not take advantage by farming to spent prosperous life. In spite of all these, lack of high technology, poor situation of irrigation, problem of silt and seeds, and obstacles of market are main reason of not uplifting the economic status of people based on agriculture.

Almost 95 percent of women have been engaged in household work. Along with it, they are involved in producing main food grain, vegetable farming and animal husbandry. It is difficult to find out the actual working time of women, thus the governmental data of 1994 AD shows that women works 12 hour per day where as men works only 8 hours. Whatever data shows the village's women works more than 12 hours per day. They work continuously from 5 am to 9 pm per day. In this duration of time, they are active in kitchen, household work, grass for animals and fieldwork.

Vegetable farming, spices farming is supportive farming of agriculture in Nepal. Agriculture consumes 36 percent of total gdp of Nepal and fruits, vegetable and spices consume 21 percent of total agricultural production.

Cardamom farming is back bond for development of this study area. There are many types of cardamom like varlang, ramsai, golsai, saune, dambarsai, jangu, madhusai and many more others. Different types of cardamom fits on different altitude, farmers should plant the cardamom as basis of types of cardamom and



its altitude. Here is a table of some types of cardamom suits on eastern hilly area.

**Table no Fourtee**

Sn	Types of cardamom	Fit altitude
1	Ramsai	Above 1200m
2	Saune	800-2000m
3	Dambersai	700-1200m
4	Jungagolsai	700-1200m
5	Varlang	Above 1400m
6	Madhusai	Above 1400m

Source: journal of cardamom development office 2015

According to this table, the different types of cardamom are suits in different climate and altitude. The type Ramsaiis fit in above 1200 meter, where Saune is fit in 800 to 2000 meter. A type Dambersai fit between 700 to 1200 altitudes, Gungagolsai also fit between 700 to 1200 meter. The suitable altitude for a type Varlang is above 1400 meter likewise, Madhusai also suits on above 1400 meter.

Except these, there are many more types of cardamom. All these types of cardamoms are fruitful towards production and economy. To produce cardamom in good quantity and quality, farmer most be alert about the shelters of cardamom nursery. Farmers should manage the irrigation for plant. Without shelters and irrigation cardamom farming will be damage. It is better to implant the cardamom in a wet soil but soil must not be clot. Farmer use spring tube where field is dry. Alder tree is very fit for cardamom.

## **6.2 Participation of women in study area**

This study is focuses on participation of women in professional cardamom farming. Admissible to this, from production of cardamom to distribution of it women's participation is studied. In this farming woman's participation

means, making seeds, implantation of seeds to weeding the plant pick the fruit, sell the production, expenditures, and saving income by it. This study is related on Pashupatinagarvdc of ilam district and the study shows the participation of women in cardamom farming. Thus, the participation of women in study area in cardamom farming is very invigorating. Occupational cardamom farming has provided two fold support for women in pashupatinagarvdc. First, household with land have women as active producer of cardamom. These women get benefits of the return shared by their male counterparts. Second households with very little or no land particularly dalit women; have been able to participate as wage laborer in cardamom farming. This practice has made women financially stable to fulfill their basic needs.

Moreover, commercial cardamom farming encourages women to work freely, outside to their home. Women express that being able to work and earn has empowered them since they have been able to spend and invest by being part of saving institution. Cardamom farming is developing as professional farming but quantity cannot meet the demand because of less production. The main cause of production in less quantity is various types of various and other disease. Cardamom farming supports to uplift the economic status of the women. It has been beneficial on education, sanitation, household expenditure and other expenses of home. Cardamom farming is a spices harvest and it is developing as professional farming. Mostly 20-45 years age group is actively participating in professional cardamom farming. The result of research provides insight into the roles and activities of women farmers of Pashupatinagarvdc. It women have provided most of farm labor and make some key decision in cardamom production. Women farmers provide the majority of labor input in planting, hoeing and harvesting activities. Women participate less in other production activities such as spraying, fertilization and irrigation. Although women plays very important role in the production process, their role in decision-making process regarding buying inputs,

schooling the children, planting crops and planning the budget is relatively small

Women are active in cardamom farm from sapling the plant to picking the harvest. In this period, they are busy on cardamom farm to work such as weeding the farm, planting the nursery where men are busy at irrigating the cardamom farm

**6.2.1 Women participation on cardamom farming based on age group**

**Table no Twelve**

sn	Age group	Numbers of women
1	10-20	-
2	21-45	30
3	46-60	15
4	61-75	5
	Total	50

Source; field work survey

According to this table, out of forty-five respondent household 50 women are involved in professional cardamom farming. Total numbers of women in respondent household are 115, out of them 50 women are involved in professional cardamom farming.

According to mentioned table, 20-45 age group are very active in cardamom farming. 46-60 years age group are also involve in cardamom farming but they are less than 20-45 years age group. Here few numbers of women of 60-75 years age group comparatively do light work. They are physically weak and cannot able to do heavy work at field. Therefore, their participation is very little. They are active in work like unfold the bunch of cardamom, firing the traditional dryer to dry cardamom, cutting tail of dried cardamom

According to the study of ministry of agriculture at 1998, women participate more than men in fieldwork do do.

## 6.2.2 Table no Thirteen

### Gender participation in various activities of vegetable cultivation

Sn	Agricultural work	Male\per day hour	contribution percent	Female \per day hour	Contribution percentage
1	Preparation of field	3.19	46.57	3.66	53.43
2	After planting to before produce	3.79	48.16	4.08	51.84
3	Picking fruits and consume	4.02	37.67	6.65	62.32

Source; Source: ministry of agriculture

The table illustrate that the women works more than men do in every activities at field. Men contribute 46.57 percent in preparation of field where women contribute 53.43 percent. Women participation in seeding to before production in field is 51.48 percent where men participate 48.16 percent per day. The table shows women participation in picking the harvest to consuming it, is 62.32 percent where men only contribute 37.67 percent. The difference between men and women in picking harvest to consume is very far, women active very much in this work.

### **6.3 Cardamom selling and income**

In recent years, there has been an increasing in the demand for cardamom for export across Nepal. Commercialization of cardamom has no doubt contributed to the national's economy. People of pashupatinagervdc are in constraint to sell the produced cardamom in local bazaar. Cultivated cardamom sold on local bazaar of gorkhay, Pashupatinagar and fikkel. Pashupatinagar bazaar situate on 5 km far from village. Farmers take the spices harvest to bazaar by horses and sometimes they used pick-up for transportation. Women of study area grown cash crop only on their own land. Some marginalized women have only few land and they cannot produce big amount of large cardamom so their income also been less. No one take the land in lease for cardamom farming. The women have good income who is hard laborer, have plenty of land and had their own work force.

Thus, Women have experience the economic change caused by cardamom farming practice.

### **6.4 Participation of women in decisions making process**

In cardamom farming decision making always remind associated with female labor utilization relating to various aspect in the study area. Yet their involvement in this progress has not recognized. In the process of decision making relating to the various aspect of cardamom cultivation, the joint decision by male and female partners of household are important. The joint decision varied from one activity to the other with the maximum response for the decision regarding on farm sale of vegetable followed by custom hiring in educated families took more joint decision. In study area, the joint decision was found positively associated with the size of the farm probably because resource poor farmers needed very careful decision by the mutual understanding of both male and female members for the efficient utilization of limited resources.

### **6.5 Role and livelihoods of women engaged in cardamom farming.**

The field survey shows that a majority of both men and women of Pashupatinagar were self-employed in the agricultural sector. The number of women or men engaged in casual labor on farm or off farm is negligible. Moreover, within the self-employed agriculture sector, cardamom farming is the major source of income for livelihoods. Here the table shows the economic activities of men and women of the respondent household.

Economic activities of men and women of the respondent household

**Table no Fourteen**

Occupation	Male	Female	Total
Self –employed (farming)	23	28	51
Trade	7	10	17
Handicraft	1	3	4
Construction	8	1	9
Casual labor(farm)	9	15	24
Casual labor(off farm)	10	4	14
Formal job	10	6	16
Student	31	35	96
Family labor	11	15	26
Total	110	115	225

The majority of household members engage in self –employment (farming) for livelihoods. Both men and women equally engage in cardamom farming. In Pashupatinagar VDC, The table shows a small number of men and women are engaged in such as teaching or local organizations. A significant number of

household members are students. According to the qualitative data, women who contribute to the cash crop farming performed value addition task. For example, in large cardamom chain there are various steps of work such as preparing the farms; planting the sapling and weeding the farm; harvesting, watering and irrigating the farm; harvesting-picking the flower, bearing cardamom fruits and separating the fruits from the flowers; drying the cardamom by putting the separate flowers into the traditional dryer; cutting the tail of the dried cardamom when required and marketing of the product with traders. Women were seen in a value additional task, which includes cleaning cutting and grading of large cardamom. This date coincides with previous findings, which show that it is mostly women who work in processing centers who carry out the value addition work of the commodity (seeGoN and MOICS2010a; MercycorpsNepal 2010)

However, there are variation in roles of men and women in addition to processing work. It was observed that both men and women prepare the land for cardamom and plant the saplings. Men mostly engaged in irrigation work if they have large area of land, whereas men and women water the fields of smaller plots.

### **6.6Role of women in cardamom farming**

The result of research providesinsight into the roles and activities of women in cardamom farming. It was found that women provide most of the farm labor and make some key decision in cardamom production. Women farmer provide some majority of labor input in planting and harvesting activities. Women participate less in other production activities such as spraying and irrigation. Although women play very important role in process of production. Their role in decision-making process regarding buying inputs, schooling of children, planting crops and planning a budget is relatively small.

Cash crop such as cardamom farming has improved the livelihood situation of farmers in Pashupatinagar, particularly women from different ethnic background. Women in general have experienced the economic change caused by the transition in their farming practices. For instance, subsistence rice farming was labor intensive compared to commercial farming which is considered easier farming. Moreover, commercial farming provides high returns, which is one of the reasons for women being a part of such change since they can make their own income. In addition, marginalized women in particular, have experienced some changes in their social standing along with economic changes. For example, Dalit women who faced discrimination both for being women and a Dalit in the past have been welcomed to participate freely in the household labor of higher cast such as Brahman and Chhettries. This may be due to requirement of seasonal labor in cash crop farming where household labor is not enough to participate in harvest.

Moreover it was reported that higher cast household cultivating subsistence product such as rice, maize or millet, would not allow Dalits, considering the latter as untouchable, to harvest their crop because these harvest are consumed in the households. But cash crop which are sold instantly, without consuming in the households, do not hold cultural barriers. This automatically welcomes the Dalit or marginalized groups to participate in labor, further creating economic space for them. Another reason for Dalit women being able to participate freely could be due to the anti-discriminatory policies initiated by the Maoist during their insurgency period between 1996 to 2006, though the impact of such policies still needs to be measured across Nepal. Since the decade long war, significant progress has been made to address the issue of social exclusion. The government of Nepal has declared any form of discrimination to be illegal to be dealt with by the state. (Constitution of Nepal 2016) Nevertheless, from the social perspectives, much needs to be explored on whether the Dalits are allowed to enter the households of other



ethnic groups and share food in the same kitchen along with the economic opportunities they have in commercial farming.

In the interviews of the women, they reveal that they are satisfied in the income of cardamom farming. Women are able to spend their earning from cardamom on household food needs, children's education, paying loans or adding assets. Most women revealed that their first priority would be household food needs, such as buying rice, oil, salt and vegetables. Evidence suggests that women have been able to benefit from the returns, expand in household needs, their children's education, and accumulate savings.

Women farmer are facing with serious constraints in carrying out agricultural production activities. They have less access to information technology, inputs and credit than men do. The research identifies major characteristics of women farmers such as age, educational level etc. the study also provide the concerns and expectations from government. It is consulted that women's farmer of cardamom farming need a more effective and better-targeted agricultural extension service. The study conclude that there is a need to integrate women farmers into the extension service system and proposed that one approach could be the recruitment of women extension agents to help reach women farmer.

### **6.6 Gender participation in cardamom cultivation**

The magnitude of gender participation in different activities relating to cardamom cultivation varied from one activity to another. While male and others perform activities by female, yet both male and female partners of family perform some activities jointly.

In cardamom cultivation, field preparation, irrigating field, spadework during irrigation, fertilization and chemical application and market sell are done by male partner and intercultural operations, carrying head loads, supervision of farm, picking, harvesting and on farm sale of cardamom small plant were performed predominantly by women. Uprooting, transplant of seeding and

preparation of produce for sale were performed almost by both men and women.

Such significant gender role transformations for women reveals that women status has change due to cash as cash crop farming thus complying with Chant's(2010) observation that income (rather than other productive resources) is what determines poverty among men and women. As aforementioned, Chant's (2010) observation that women are discriminated against the term of roles, power to negotiate and ability to bargain for investment, leads to feminization of poverty. So when women's participation in the labor market increases through economic development, as in the case in the cardamom in the context their poverty level change. The effect of income is much more positive among women from marginalized group whose access to land and resources have been limited in the past. Hence, their poverty levels have declined, rendering them capable of fulfill their needs. Moreover, the phenomena of shifting poverty level.

## Unit Seven

### **Summary, findings, conclusion, recommendation**

This conclusive chapter summarizes the findings of the study. The study findings are summarized in the first section. Then follow conclusions. Recommendations are included in the end.

#### **7.1 summaries**

The main purpose of the study is to find out the participation of women in cardamom farming at Pashupatinagar VDC of ilam district. The research work examines the changes of life stander of women of this vdc due to cardamom farming.

In this research work, 45 households are taken as respondent household. Five households of cardamom farmers of each wards is taken as respondent of ward. The study binds of women above who is participate in cardamom farming above 20 years.

Now a day's women are attractive towards cardamom farming and this research work wants to find out the positive changes in women's lifestyle, social stander, and changes in social, and economic status by cardamom farming. To collect the data primary and secondary data collection techniques is used. Interview, questionnaire, observation tools is used to collect primary data and different publications of governmental rules and priorities of agriculture. Different publication of description about ilam district and pashupatinagarVDC, various publication of stockholders institute are taken as secondary data. This study is alluding by statistics, percentage and proportion to understand this research work easily.

Almost all families in pasupatinagervdc are involved in agricultural work as occupation. Almost ninety-five percent of families adopt farming as occupation. People are engaged in different staple farming and cashcrop farming. Mainly three cash cropsare grown in Pashupatinagarvdc such as ginger, potatoes, tea, and cardamom. Along with this, people are engage in animal husbandry such as

pig, goat, cow, duck and hen. Milk selling is also a good means for nice income so people are attractive towards cow husbandry. The shilt of cow, pig and goat are useful as fertilizer in agricultural farm.

The history of cardamom farming is not very old. Some people of this vdc brought cardamom from Rangvang, India as they went there to work as labor in tea garden. The starting of commercial farming of cardamom was done only some decades ago, the production of cardamom is very fruitful in starting but only few farmers are involved in commercial cardamom farming. As the trend of commercial farming diffuse, different various and disease in cardamom make the cardamom about to abolish.

Now a days, various and disease are continuously remove by the plant and new hope comes towards farmers to involve in commercial cardamom farming. Therefore, people of this study area are attractive towards commercial cardamom farming and women are involved in it.

Thus, the women of study area are very invigorant about cardamom farming. This is the beginning of cardamom farming by women in study area. Cardamom farming is become an occupation but the quantity of production is not increase due to lack of uses of advance technology. The possibility of upgrade the production of cardamom will be very high if access of latest technology reached in farmer's cardamom farm. The chances of increase in quantity of product will be success if farmers get sufficient water for irrigation and training about cardamom farming in the gaps of time. If the farmers get this kind of opportunity in farming, the vdc must be the model vdc in women empowerment of ilam district. For it, all stockholders should seriously concern about the cardamom farming.

The proportions of household are 5.17. Here, small family of three members to big family of 15 members isin respondent households. Twenty years young girls to seventy years elder women are also involved in cardamom farming.

## **7.2 Major findings**

Here, 115 women and 110 men are in respondent households and among them 63 women are participating in cardamom farming.

Cardamom farming does not give monthly income but women get self-respect by the cardamom farming. Farmer can get multiple profits by cardamom farming. One is by its fruits and another is by its saplings. Selling the sapling of cardamom is also a beneficial for cardamom farmer. Hard working and wise women are successful in cardamom farming.

Women can take advantage by planting vegetables such as chilies, tomato, peas in cardamom farm. Alder tree, shade for cardamom is also beneficial for farmer. They can earn money from the alder tree after some years from its planting. It seems cardamom farming brings positive change in lifestyle of women of Pashupatinagarvdc. Women of study area have cow, buffalo duck and hen in their home; they can get extra income by animals and birds husbandry and use their shilt in cardamom farm as fertilizer. It supportive fertilizer in cardamom far and removes the problem of fertilizer.

None of the women of this study area has get training about cardamom farming among respondent households. Any of them do not take credit for cardamom farming.

Women are able to invest the income to their basic needs, household's needs and essential work. Their children can get balanced diet, qualitative education and health care. Increase in social, economic status and self-respect of women is the positive change by cardamom farming.

### **7.3 Conclusion**

Ninety five percent of people are involved in cardamom farming in pashupatinagarvdc. Now a day, people are attractive towards spices farming such as ginger, cardamom.

Women get so much self confident as they involve in cardamom farming. Women are access in marketing, enhance in bargaining power.

Cardamom market is very high. Women get double benefits by cardamom farming and get profit by the vegetables in cardamom farm.

If latest tools and techniques reached to local farmer then, cardamom will be the base for upgrade the economy of this whole vdc. Developing the cardamom farming can stop the younger to go to the gulf country for their good income.

#### **7.4 Recommendation**

Nepal is an agro base country. The big parts of population in Nepal depend on agriculture. It is impossible of development of country without developing the agriculture. Women plays very important role in agricultural work. The presence of women in agro production is very high.

In the study area, women are attractive towards cardamom farming but they are deprived from essential knowledge and techniques for cardamom farming. If women will get furnish by agro techniques and if they get access of latest tools for cardamom farming, the production of cardamom will be stride.

The main problem of sedulous women of pashupatinagar is a lack of tools and techniques for cardamom farming. The management of irrigation is essential for enforce of cardamom farming in study area.

Here are some points out for development of cardamom farming.

##### **7.4.1 Arrangement of irrigation**

Some farmers have seriously utilized not only their permanently cultivated field but also their marginal land to grow cash crop. Big cardamom is grown on marginal land, where no other crop can be grown. The main problem of cardamom farming is lack of irrigation. The water by nearer canal is not enough for cardamom farm. Some time people of this vdc are suffering from drinking water also. The study area carries high possibility in cardamom farming so it is necessary to conducting appropriate planning for irrigation for cardamom farming.

#### **7.4.2 Management of training**

Cardamom farmer are deprived from the training of cardamom farming, many farmers have not knowledge about the fit able altitude for different species of cardamom farming. Therefore, it is necessary to give training to farmers about the basic knowledge of cardamom like spices, altitude, and other techniques of cardamom farming. It is essential to know the disease, virus of cardamom. Refreshment training also needed in duration of time.

#### **7.4.3 Technical support**

In any farming, technical support is very crucial. Latest tools and techniques make easier for high production. If women get these kinds of support from related a.d.o and c.d.o office. Farmer will enthusiasts towards cardamom farming and it plays supportive role for high production.

#### **7.4.4 Observation visit**

Observation tour for cardamom farmer women in model place of cardamom farming can bring self-confidence towards them and make cardamom farming as their base for livelihood. Visiting the successful agriculture farm and meeting to successful farmer, they will get encouragement to be a successful farmer.

#### **7.4.5 Beneficial planning**

State government and local government should give subsidies and credit program in local level to increase the encouragement of women towards cardamom farming. It is necessary to announce attractive prize and refreshment training for rested women farmer. By announcing this kind of beneficial planning for cardamom farming, women farmer can

#### **7.4.6 Management of market**

Marketing is an importing element for promoting farm products above subsistence. The location arrangement of market centers plays a more pivotal role in the as well as price of the cash crops. In order of magnitude of flow of

the cash crop there are five centers working as market centers for the large cardamom in the study area.

All agro base production tolerates the problem of market because the market price depends upon an external price influences. Market price of large cardamom has played a very important role in increasing its production. Therefore, it is essential to assign the price of cardamom in local level. It can support farmer to get attractive price.

Nepal has no factories that need large cardamom both as flavoring agent and as raw material. That is why producer have depend on foreign dealers.

Nepalese market for large cardamom has been linked with Indian market. The price situation of Indian market is directly effects the price of Nepalese large cardamom. Nepal does not have well-organized large cardamom marketing. The farmer must sell their products to the intermediaries. In many case farmers are bound to the particular mediators long before they go the market with their production.

Market price of large cardamom has been increasing with significant fluctuation. Increase and decrease in market price is the result of absence of factories as a raw material in Nepal. To production in large quantity it also necessary of essential tools for farming in local market.

This paper analyzed the impact of commercial cardamom farming on the livelihoods of women in Pashupatinagarvdc of eastern Nepal, Both quantities and qualitative approaches have been used. A quantitative survey was conducted in 45 households in Pashupatinagarvdc of ilam district followed by qualitative data collection. A literature review of women participation in farming and cash crop farming has also been included. A descriptive data analysishas been conducted from the perspective of women involvement. The paper concludes that women of different economic and ethnic backgrounds engaged in commercial cardamom farming have been able to improve their livelihoods, spend on their children education, their family's health and invest



in savings. For marginalized community, such as dalit, the impact is even more pronounced, as women have been able to step out of poverty. The high return from cardamom farming has changed the livelihood trajectories of these women. Engagement in cash crop farming has empowered women financially and socially through their visible participation in saving and community groups. This study also opens up pathways for further studies on issue of sustainable cardamom farming and its impact on women's livelihoods, particularly focusing on women.

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ANNEX-1:

Household survey Questionnaire for commercial cardamom farming  
Sir\madam

I am doing the thesis as a part of my study in MA Sociology. The objective of this study is to analyze the participation of women in cardamom farming. I would like to assure you that all of your answer was helpful and all the personal idea\sentiments\feeling was used for academic purpose only. I hope you will cooperate.

Personal Information of respondent

- a) Name.....
- b) Age\gender.....
- c) Education.....
- d) Profession.....

Family Members information of Respondent

SN	Name of Family member	Age\Gender	Education	Profession	Types of family	Remarks

Information related to commercial cardamom farming

1 Do you have cultivated field?

A) Yes ( )

b) No ( )

if yes than how much

a) Ropani  ( b) aana  ( c)other

2 Which vegetation do you plant in your farm as a main crop?

a) Seasonal  (b) as a market demand  (c) others

3) Where did you get the seeds\sapling of cardamom?

4) Do you have irrigation facilities in your cardamom field?

A) Yes  b) no

5) How did you manage the irrigation problem if there is no facility of irrigation?

a) Depends upon rainfall  b) depends upon drinking water

c) others

6) Do you have any training related on cardamom farming?

A) Yes  b) No

7) If yes, then what are the benefits of cardamom training?

.....  
.....

8) What are the changes in your economic condition before and after you engaged in cardamom farming?

a) Same as before

b) Increasing

C) good

9) Do you get any field after you involved in cardamom farming?

a) Yes  b) no

10) Do you have domestic animals?

a) Yes  b) no

11)

Types of animals and birds	Before starting cardamom farming	After starting cardamom farming
Cow\ox		
Buffalo\calf		
Goat		
Duck\hen		
Horse		
Pig		
Other		

12) There are any changes in your house after you engaged in cardamom farming?

a) Yes  b) no

13) if yes, then what are they

A).....

B) .....

c).....

14) Do you brought any material goods to your home after you engage in cardamom farming?

a) Yes  b) No

15) If yes then what are they?

a) Television  b) Radio  c) Rice cooker

D) Vehicles  e) other

16) Where do you sell your cardamom?

A) Local market  b) others

17) Who goes to sell your product?

A) Women  b) men  c) both

18) Do you save your profit through cardamom farming?

A) Yes  b) no

19) In which field you invest your saving?

A) To buy land  b) to buy animals

c) use in cardamom farm  d) invest in children's education

20) How much is your monthly income by cardamom farming?

A) About 2000  b) 2000 to 3000

c) 3000 to 4000  d) 4000 to 5000  e) above 5000

21) How much is your monthly expenditure?

a) 2000  b) 2000 to 3000  c) 3000 to 4000

d) 4000 to 5000  e) above 5000

22) Where do you go for health treatment?

a) Hospital  b) health post  c) local clinic

d) traditional treatment

23) Do you use toilet at your house?



A) Yes  b) no

24) Did you get support through income of cardamom to your children's education?

A) Yes  b) no  c) it helps little

25) What is the cause that you attract towards cardamom farming?

A) It have good benefits  b) it's my hobby  c) Others

26) Does your children went to school before you start cardamom farming?

A) yes  b) no

27) If your children were went to school before you start cardamom farming then where did they went?

a) Boarding school  b) government school

c) other

28) Where did your children go to school after you start cardamom farming?

a) Boarding school  b) government school  c) other

29) How is your social condition after you involve in cardamom farming

A) Respectable  b) alright  c) as usual



**Cardamom Farm**



**Farmers are Working in Cardamom Farm**



**Taking Interview with  
Respondent woman Farmer**



**Cemented House and Toilet of Respondent Family**

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