

WHY GENDER & ENERGY: LEARNING FROM GOOD PRACTICES

GENDER & ENERGY CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR SOUTH ASIA

**ORGANIZED BY
Rural Electrification Board & World Bank
Dhaka, Bangladesh
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SESSION PRESENTED BY

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION BOARD, Bangladesh

- a. Mrs. Fayeza Haque, Director , REB – Group Leader
- b. Latiful Azam, Deputy Director, REB & Focal Point for Workshop
- c. Shah Zulfiqar Haider, PEng, GM, Narayanganj PBS, Presenter & Resource Person



SESSION OBJECTIVE

- ❖ **Understanding Gender issues**
- ❖ **Relation with Energy**
- ❖ **Role of RE in gender issue**
- ❖ **Gender values in Bangladesh**
- ❖ **Good practices**
- ❖ **What we can learn?**

**For those who doubt Gender equality
Learn equal behavior to all specially to Women**

WHY GENDER AND ENERGY?

- **Poor country women affected by Energy poverty**
- **70% of poor are women**
- **Gender Inequality – Fewer opportunities**
- **Women - collector manager of energy for house**
- **Use large quantities of energy in their daily life**
- **No Energy – Maximum women suffering**
- **Health problem**
- **Lack of education**
- **Loss of entrepreneurial opportunities**
- **Energy access differentiated for Men & Women**

Fourth World Conference on Women, 1995

Beijing Platform for Action

“Throughout their entire life cycle, women’s daily existence and long-term aspirations are restricted by discriminatory attitudes, unjust social and economic structures, and a lack of resources in most countries that prevents their full and equal participation.”

GENDER VALUES

- 1. Men and women are affected differently:**
 - a. Energy policies**
 - b. Access to modern energy services**
- 2. Gender neutral policies may actually reinforce gender inequalities**
- 3. Prevent gender inequality from perpetuating**
- 4. 'Gender mainstreaming' can ensure different impacts of actions/policies for men & women properly evaluated.**

ROLE OF RE IN GENDER VALUES

- **Direct employment generation**
- **RE – 20% or more, Bangladesh – 10%**
- **PBS democratic institution**
- **Previous Lady Advisor – now Lady Directors**
- **Direct participation**
- **Equal rights**
- **Involved in decision making**

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT IN REB/PBS

- **AVERAGE FEMALE STAFF IN A PBS – 22%**
- **OFFICERS ENCOURAGED TO JOIN PBS**
- **NO OF FEMALE OFFICERS -16**
- **IT INCLUDES ENGINEERS -10**
- **FEMALE STAFFS NO RAPIDLY INCREASING**

GENDER WISE MANPOWER STATE OF REB

Category	Total employed	Female	% Female
Officer (Class- 1 & 2)	454	32	7.04
Class III and IV Employee	462	54	11.7
Total	916	86	9.4

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT QOUTA STRICTLY FOLLOWED

OFFICERS – 10% , EMPLOYEES - 15%

EMPLOYMENT AS PER MERIT IS ADDITIONAL

LADY BOARD DIRECTORS TAKING OATH TOGETHER



EQUAL RIGHTS

TAKING PART IN ELECTION



AGM IS INCOMPLETE



WITHOUT GENDER PARTICIPATION

AGM IS INCOMPLETE



WITHOUT GENDER PARTICIPATION

BILLING KEPT RESERVED FOR FEMALE



CASH CONSUMER SERVICE (RESERVED)



WORKING WOMEN DUE TO RE



RESERVED POST IN PBS

ENGINEERS WORKING IN RE PROGRAM



WOMAN MANAGERS IN PBS



NEW CONCEPT IN RURAL AREAS

GENDER VALUES IN BANGLADESH

- **Advancement – Key component of policies**
- **Equal rights guaranteed – Men & Women**
- **Provision to adopt special measures in favor of Women & Children**
- **Separate Ministry**
- **National women council for women development**
- **Gender dimension reflected in PRSP**

GENDER VALUES IN BANGLADESH

- **Budget Gender sensitive enough allocation**
- **Education free up to Class XII**
- **Improved maternal health**
- **Reduced child mortality**
- **Micro credit & Non formal education**
- **12 million+ women self reliant due to micro credit**
- **Suppression of violence against Women and children – Act 2000**

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION GENDER

“The State shall adopt effective measures to remove social and economic inequality between man and woman and to ensure the equitable distribution of wealth among citizens, and of opportunities in order to attain a uniform level of economic development throughout the Republic”

GENDER VALUES IN BANGLADESH

- ❖ **Acid Crimes Control Act & Speedy Trial Tribunal Act**
- ❖ **One stop Crisis Centers**
- ❖ **Safe Custody Homes for Women, Children etc**
- ❖ **Women participation in political empowerment**
- ❖ **13,000 elected women in local Government**
- ❖ **National Parliament have 45 reserved seats.**
- ❖ **Honorable Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition have been women for 16 + years**

GENDER EQUALITY OR MORE



**HONORABLE PRIME MINISTER, DEPUTY LEADER OF HOUSE,
LEADER OF OPPOSITION, HOME, FOREIGN, AGRICULTURE
MINISTER etc - LADIES**

R.E PROGRAM INCOMPLETE WITHOUT GENDER



**VILLAGE ENERGIZATION PROGRAM ATTENDED BY
LADY ADMINISTRATIVE HEAD**

WOMAN AT WORK



EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

RE CREATED JOB OPPURTUNITIEIS



INCOME GENERATION

GARMENT INDUSTRY- GENDER EMPLOYMENT



US \$ 8 BILLION INDUSTRY

TEXTILE – SAMPLE EMPLOYMENT STATE

SINHA GROUP OF INDUSTRIES OPEX GROUP & SUNHA TEXTILE

Total Workers/staffs : 37,000

Female staff : 25,900 (70%)

Male staff : 11,100 (30%)

IMPROVED MEDICARE DUE TO ELECTRICITY



INCOME GENERATION

IMPROVED MEDICARE



INCOME GENERATION

BEAUTY PARLOUR FOR GENDER



IN RURAL AREAS

ENERGY BRINGS COMFORT BETTERLIVING



Previously Ironing was unthinkable

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES USE



**USE OF MICROWAVE, REFRIGERATORS etc
GENDER COMFORT/MORE FREE TIME**

GAS FOR COOKING - COMFORT



BUT DON'T SAVE MATCH STICK AT COST OF GAS

RUNNING WATER THROUGH ELECTRICITY

(Comfort & hygiene)



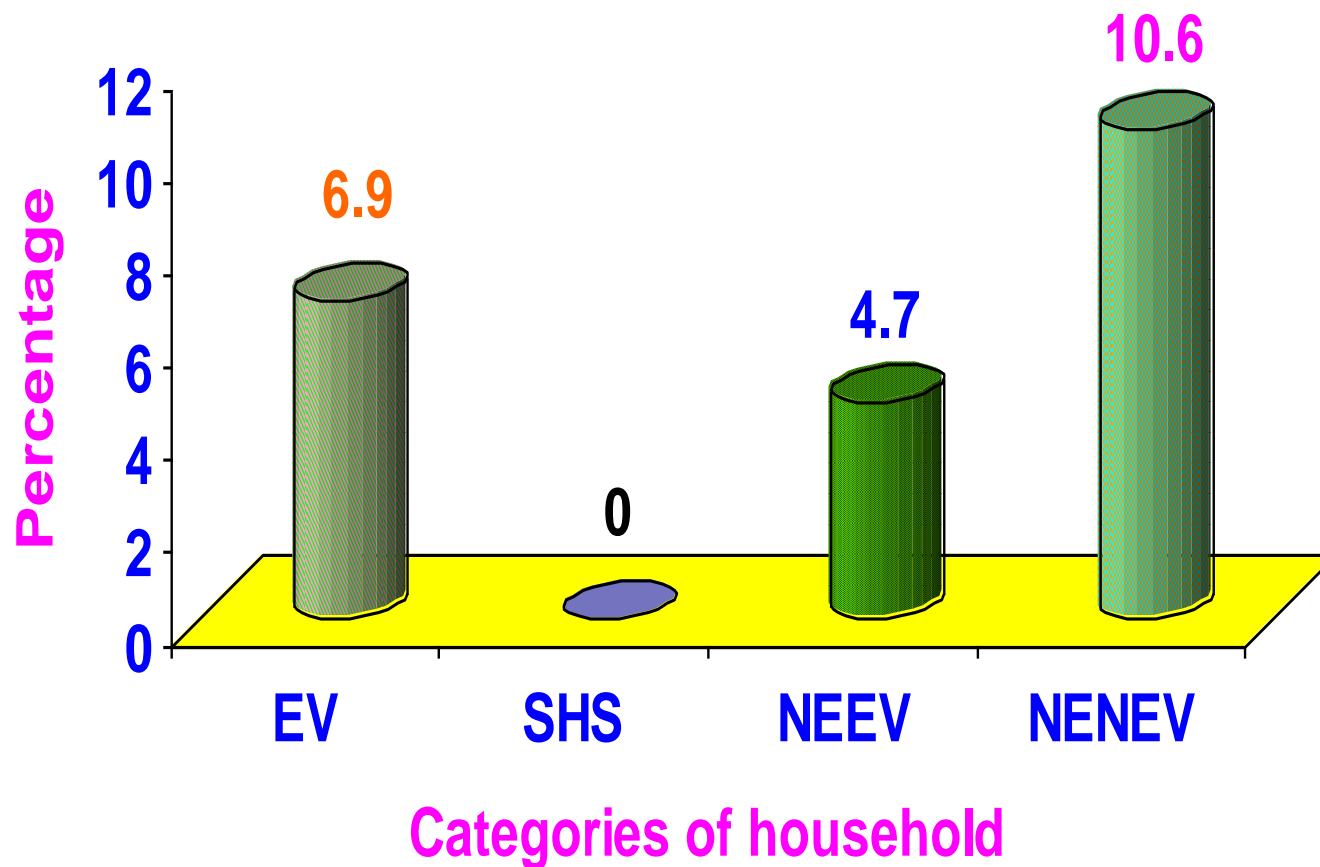
PLEASE DON'T MISUSE WATER

SOLAR HOME SYSTEM

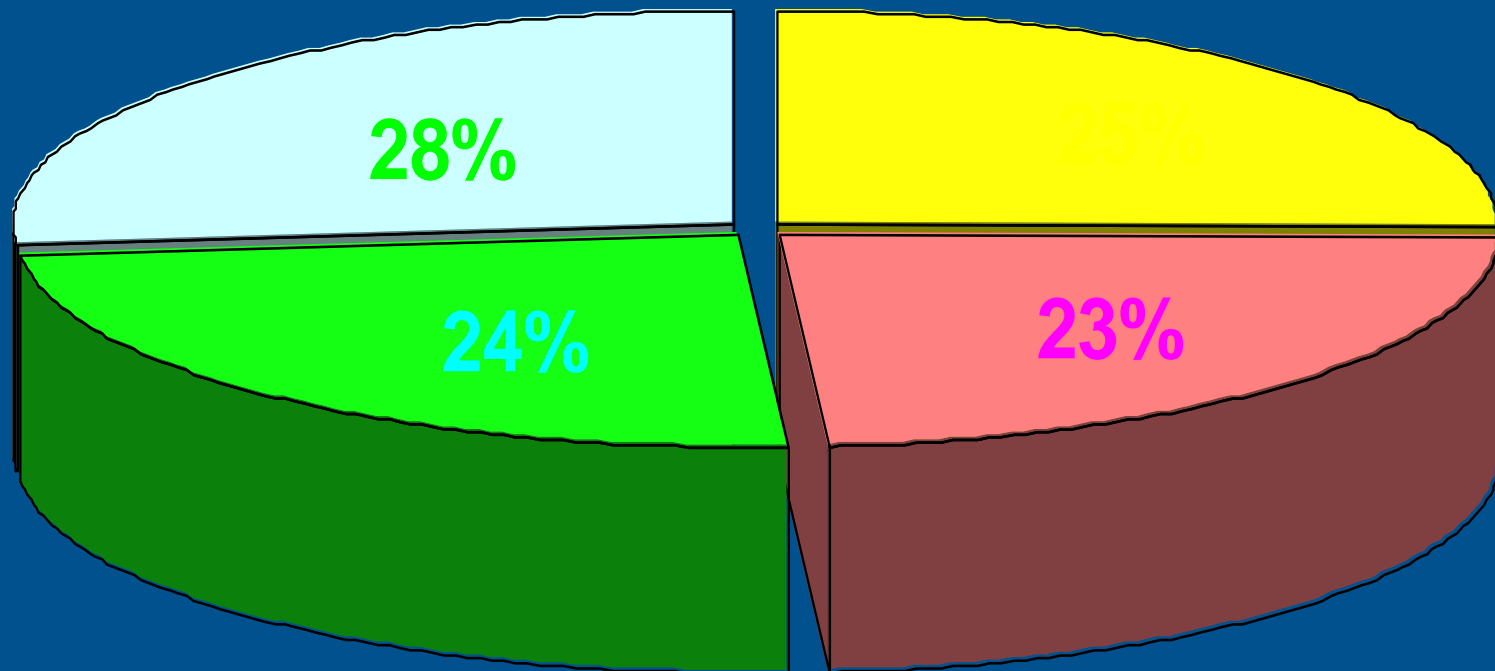
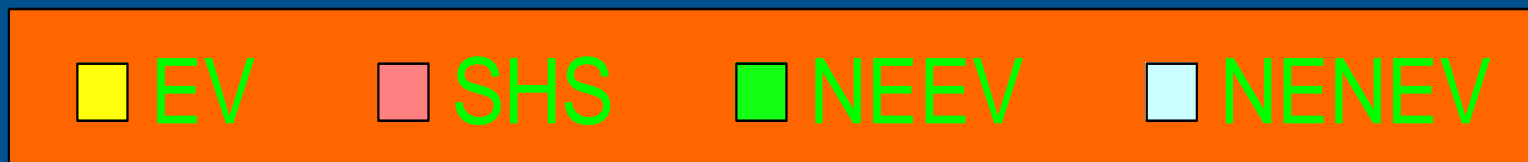


**SOME COMFORT TO GENDER & ALL
LESS POLLUTION**

Percentage distribution of income generating activities undertaken by livestock rearing women working outside homestead

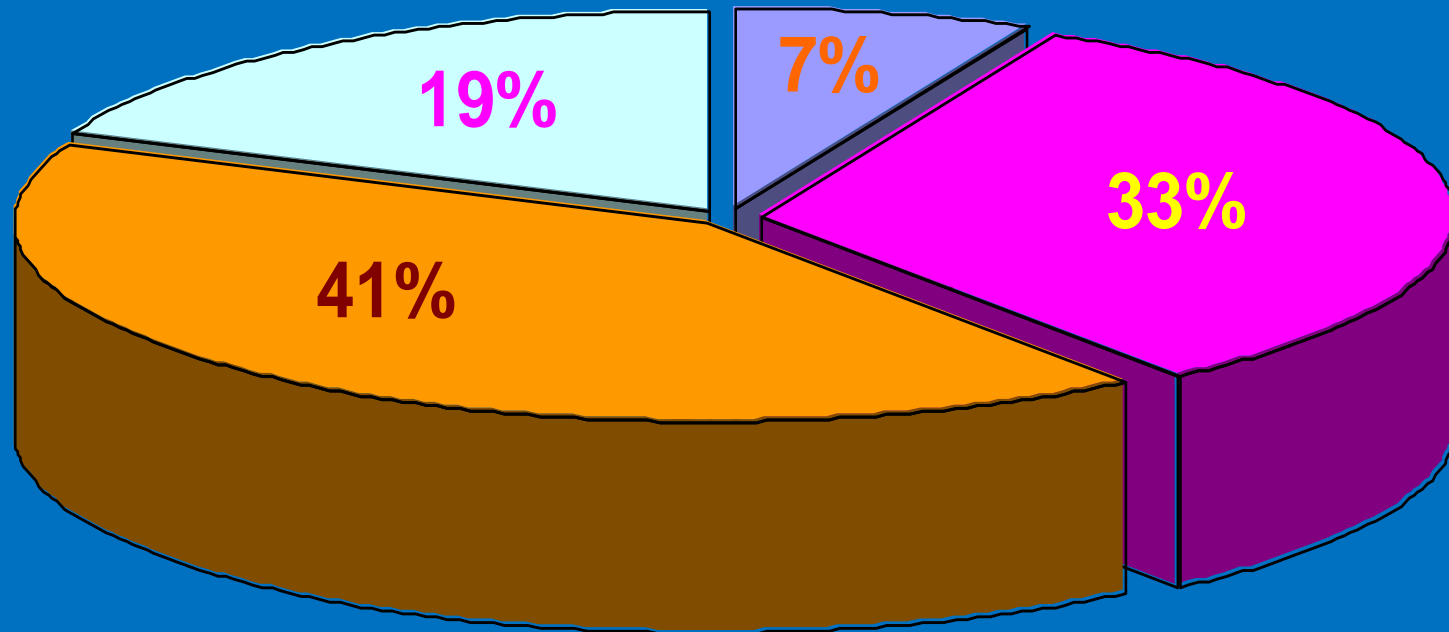


Percentage distribution of poultry rearing women working inside homestead



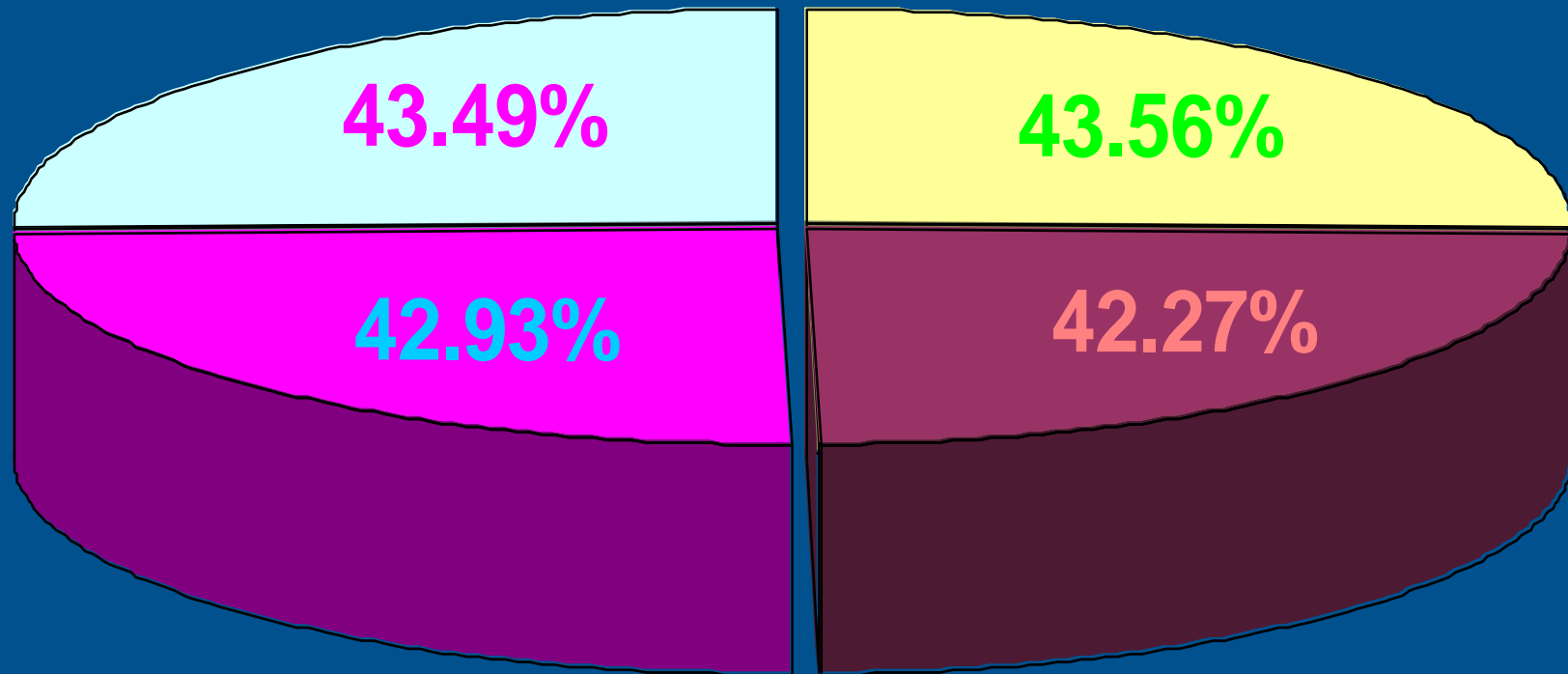
Percentage distribution of poultry rearing women working outside homestead

EV SHS NEEV NENEV



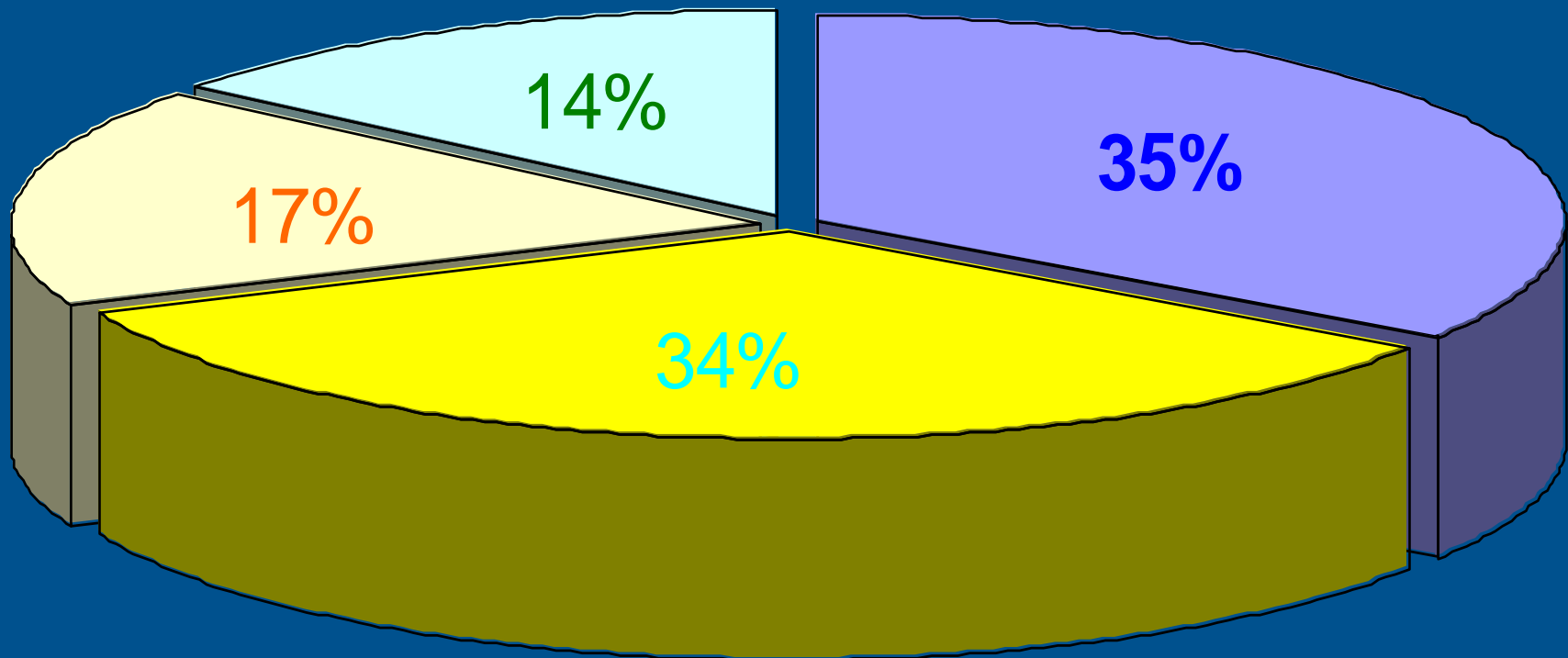
Percentage (average) distribution of awareness about care of pregnant women

■ EV ■ SHS ■ NEEV ■ NENEV



Percentage distribution of knowledge about safe motherhood from TV

■ EV ■ SHS ■ NEEV ■ NENEV



GENDER ADVANCEMENT

- **No written approval of husband required for jobs**
- **Mother's name included with all documents.**
- **Female education free up to Class XII**
- **Women entrepreneurship increased**
- **Gender participation in SME increased.**

CONCLUSION

- ❖ **Gender values highly emphasized in RE**
- ❖ **RE - Model of independence of Gender**
- ❖ **Rural employment generation**
- ❖ **RE source of income generation**
- ❖ **Access to better energy service**
- ❖ **Time is money and is saved**
- ❖ **Women & children well protected**

CONCLUSION

- **Today's Bangladesh Rural women have come out of conservative orthodox culture, learned to be Independent, Participate in family and socio-economic development utilizing all sort of energy means keeping religious values.**

THANK YOU
FOR ATTENDING THE SESSION



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Q&A

We welcome your feedback . . .