

HOW TO USE THIS TEMPLATE

WHY THE TABLES ARE EMPTY

Findings can only come from field work you did yourself. A sample dissertation with numbers in it teaches copying, and copied data is plagiarism. So every table here is an empty shell and every finding is a sentence frame with blanks.

It continues the study in the companion MRDP-001 sample synopsis, so you can see how an approved proposal becomes a dissertation. Replace it with your own approved study.

RULES THIS TEMPLATE FOLLOWS

At least 100 A-4 pages; typed; hard bound, not loose or spiral; the original supervisor-approved proposal bound in; one copy by registered post to the Registrar, Student Evaluation Division (SED), IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi 110068; your own copy kept, because the submitted dissertation is not returned (IGNOU RC Chandigarh projects table; MRDP-001 handbook, Part I).

Project fee: paid on the Samarth portal by the date in the Registrar (SED) notice for your term-end examination (30 November 2026 for December 2026); enclose the fee receipt with the dissertation.

Show the final draft to your supervisor before binding (MRDP-001 handbook). If your handbook lists a different page order, follow the handbook.

SAMPLE FOR STUDY
NOT FOR SUBMISSION

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN GRAM SABHA MEETINGS IN [BLOCK NAME] BLOCK OF [DISTRICT] DISTRICT

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF ARTS (RURAL DEVELOPMENT)

Course: MRDP-001 Dissertation

Submitted by	[Full name]
Enrolment No.	[Enrolment number]
Programme	MARD
Postal address	[Full address]
Study Centre / Regional Centre	[Code and name] / [Regional Centre]
Supervisor	[Name, designation]

SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI 110068

[Month, Year of submission]

ORIGINAL APPROVED PROPOSAL

[Bind the original project proposal signed and dated by your supervisor here. Not a photocopy: the RC Chandigarh table asks for the approved proposal (original).]

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CERTIFICATE OF THE SUPERVISOR

Certified that the dissertation entitled "[title exactly as approved]" submitted by [student], Enrolment No. [], for the degree of Master of Arts (Rural Development) of the Indira Gandhi National Open University, has been carried out under my guidance and supervision.

Place: []

Date: []

Signature, name and designation of the supervisor: _____

USE YOUR HANDBOOK WORDING

This is a model. Use the certificate wording printed in your MRDP-001 handbook. Only your own supervisor signs it, after reading the final draft.

DECLARATION

I declare that the dissertation entitled "[title]" is my original work and has not been submitted earlier to this University or to any other institution for the fulfilment of the requirement of any course of study.

Place: []

Date: []

Signature of the student: _____

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PAGE COUNT

Plan to reach 100 A-4 pages with your chapters and full-page tables alone. The documents read do not say whether front matter and appendices count, so treat them as extra.

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

[Panchayati raj and the gram sabha; the problem in your block; significance; objectives; scope; chapter plan. Most of this is your approved proposal, expanded and written in the past tense for what was done.]

CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

[Theoretical background, then studies conducted, then the gap. Only studies you have read.]

CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Four gram panchayats were selected by simple random sampling from the [number] gram panchayats of [Block Name] Block. In each, [] women were selected by systematic sampling from the electoral roll, giving a total sample of [] (Table 3.1).

Gram panchayat	Women on roll (N)	Interval (k)	Sample (n)
[GP 1]			
[GP 2]			
[GP 3]			
[GP 4]			
Total			

Table 3.1: Selection of the sample

[Describe the interview schedule, its pre-test and changes; the observation sheet; records consulted; consent and anonymity; dates of field work; number of interviews completed.]

CHAPTER IV

PROFILE OF THE STUDY AREA AND RESPONDENTS

Characteristic	Category	Number	Per cent
Age	18 to 30		
	31 to 45		
	46 and above		
Education	Not literate		
	Up to class 8		
	Above class 8		
SHG member	Yes		
	No		

Table 4.1: Background of respondents (n = [])

[Describe the block and the four gram panchayats from official sources, with the source for each figure; then summarise Table 4.1 in three or four lines.]

CHAPTER V

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Participation in the last [four] meetings	Number	Per cent
Attended none		
Attended, did not speak		
Attended and spoke		
Attended and raised a demand or complaint		
Total		100

Table 5.1: Nature of participation in gram sabha meetings

Table 5.1 shows that [] per cent of the respondents did not attend any of the last [four] meetings, while [] per cent attended and spoke. [Interpret what this means for Objective 2, without going beyond the data.]

Education	Attended	Did not attend	Total
Not literate			
Up to class 8			
Above class 8			
Total			

Table 5.3: Attendance by education (chi-square = [], df = [])

The chi-square value of [] with [] degrees of freedom is [significant / not significant] at the 0.05 level. Hence the association between education and attendance is [established / not established] in the sample.

FOR EVERY OBJECTIVE

One or more tables, then interpretation in plain words, then the link back to the objective. Complex tables go to an appendix.

CHAPTER VI

FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Objective	Finding (from Chapter V only)
1 Attendance	[]
2 Nature of participation	[]
3 Associated factors	[]
4 Reasons	[]

[Conclusion tied to each objective; practical suggestions for the gram panchayats and block office; limitations; suggestions for further research.]

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REFERENCES AND APPENDICES

[References in one consistent style. Appendix A: the interview schedule actually used; Appendix B: observation sheet; Appendix C: permission letters.]

Bind-before-submission check

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