Minority Concentration District Project

Bardhaman, West Bengal

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Acknowledgment

Content

Appendix

The Minority Concentrated Districts Project

An Overview

The MCD project aims to provide a baseline survey on the state of minorities in the districts identified by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India. Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, undertakes the project in the following districts: Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur, Malda, Murshidabad, Birbhum, Nadia, South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas, Bardhaman, Koch Behar, Haora, Gajapati, North Sikkim and Nicobar Islands.[1]

The objective of the proposed study has been conducting a baseline survey on religious minority population under the aegis of Indian Council of Social Science Research and funded by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. A total of ninety districts have been selected by the Ministry of Minority Affairs on the basis of three criteria, viz. minority population, religion specific socio economic indicators and basic amenities indicators. The Ministry has classified the districts with substantial minority population on the basis of religion specific socio economic indicators and basic amenities indicators respectively. The four religion specific socio-economic indicators are: (i) literacy rate, (ii) female literacy rate, (iii) work participation rate and (iv) female work participation rate. The four basic amenities are: (i) % of households with *pucca* walls, (ii) % of households with safe drinking water, (iii) % of households with electricity and (iv) % of households with W/C latrines. A total of 53 districts with both sets of indicators below national average were considered more backward and were classified into group 'A' and 37 districts with either of the indicator values below national average were classified into group 'B'. Group B was further classified into two sub-categories – B1 for which religion specific socio-economic indicators are below national average and B2 for which basic amenities indicators are below national average. The minorities are defined on the basis of National Commission of Minorites Act, 1992 and includes Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists and Zorastrians (Parsis).

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta will carry out the survey in 11 districts of West Bengal and one each in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Orissa and Sikkim. Of the 11 districts of West Bengal Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur, Malda, Murshidabad, Birbhum,

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[1] The spellings for the districts and state are in accordance with West Bengal Human Development Report, 2004

Nadia, South 24 Parganas, Brdhaman and Kochbihar are in group A while Haora, North 24 Parganas are in group B (sub-category B1). Nicobars in Andaman and Nicobar Island and North Sikkim in Sikkim are in group B (sub-category B2). Gajapati district in Orissa is in group A. It may also be noted that all the 11 districts of West Bengal are marked for Muslim minority category while Gajapati and Nicobars are marked for Christian minority category and North Sikkim for the Buddhist minority category.

The purpose of this survey is to help the district administration draw action plan for socio economic and infrastructure development of the selected districts for improving the quality of life of the people and reducing the imbalances during the 11 th. Five Year Plan. However, it may be noted that the benefits will accrue all sections of people in the district where intervention is executed (use a better term) and not only the minorities. To give a specific example, if a school is built up then all groups of people should have access to this school and not that only the Muslims in a district marked for a Muslim concentrated district.

Before elaborating on the MCD Project, it would be useful to highlight some of the main objectives of the Sachar Committee Report, upon which the former was envisaged and formulated. The Sachar Committee Report (2006) on the social, economic and educational status of the Muslim community primarily dealt with the question of whether different socio-religious categories in India have had an equal chance to reap the benefits of development with a particular emphasis on Muslims in India. It proposes to identify the key areas of intervention by Government to address relevant issues relating to the socio-economic conditions of the Muslim community (SCR, 3).[2] Besides indicating the developmental deficits, the report illustrates how the perception among Muslims that they are discriminated against and excluded, is widespread (SCR, 237).

Significance of the Project

In the Indian imagination, the term 'minority' is coeval with the Muslim community. The Sachar Report writes of how this particular community imagine themselves and is imagined by other socio-religious communities (SCR, 11) and observes how "the Muslims complained that they are constantly looked upon with a great degree of suspicion not only by certain sections of

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[2] Sachar Committee will be written as 'SCR'.

society but also by public institutions and governance structures. (SCR, 11). While the Sachar Committee specifically addresses the issues relating to Muslim minority community, it makes for provisions to look into other socio-economic aspects common to all poor people and to minorities. (SCR, 4). Thus, the vision of the MCD project is to build on and supplement, wherever necessary, the findings of the Sachar Report to ensure overall growth and development of the districts. Based on the report, the MCD proposes to provide support, fiscal and otherwise, to all communities irrespective of religious affiliations.

Besides addressing the developmental deficits, the MCD project, (by incorporating all socio-religious Communities in its survey research,) in the course of this survey, also attempts to give us a broader understanding of the term 'minority'--that the term 'minority' is not restricted or limited to the Muslim community only, thus reinforcing the need for equity and inclusion as proposed in Sachar Report.

A close reading of the report indicates the committee's concern for issues of discrimination and deprivation the Muslim community encounter in their everyday existence. The report illustrates how the Muslim identity comes in the way of admitting their children to good educational institutions. [3] While the Sachar Committee Report agrees that the widespread perception of discrimination among the Muslim community needs to be addressed, nonetheless it admits that there are hardly any empirical studies that establish discrimination. (SCR, 239). The term, when associated particularly with the Muslim community, is fraught with negative meanings, imageries, and ideas that may trigger further speculation. It is highly nuanced with multi-layered causalities, and therefore any one to one correlation would make a simplistic argument. Needless to say, initiating a dialogue on the subject of discrimination and deprivation is not easy.[4] As one of the drafts rightly points out-- "it is not the absence of physical amenities (only) that are preventing minorities from coming forward, it is also the contextual background." (See ICSSR's Expert Committee Meeting on Baseline Survey of Minority Concentration Districts, p.4). Under the circumstance, the MCD project's baseline survey research, in some way, acts as a tool[5] to perpetuate wider social awareness, among the minority concentrated

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[3] See Sachar Committee Report, p. 3. Also, see footnote 3, p. 3.
[4] During the course of our survey, the discussions on 'discrimination' and 'deprivation' were carefully articulated to the respondent. People ranging from Government officials to the people of the community were careful not to use certain terminologies in the conversation.
[5] It would be useful to look at how survey study itself can be a tool to generate social awareness. This argument calls for further elaboration that is beyond the scope of the present report.

districts thereby constructively sustaining ongoing discussions and dialogues on this delicate issue. In doing so, it urges the larger society to think through issues of discrimination and the like such as casteism, groupism, etc—the social hurdles which seemingly appear to play little to no direct role in addressing and reducing developmental deficits, are nonetheless inextricably linked to the overall growth and advancement of the country.[6]

By focusing on the15 districts, extended over 3 states and 1 union territory such as West Bengal, Orissa, Sikkim and Andaman and Nicobar Islands respectively, the MCD project headed by the Center for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, aims to gain an in-depth and detailed view of the socio-economic conditions of the communities living in these districts and create socio-economic profiles of the districts by identifying the key developmental deficits viz. health, literacy rate, female work participation etc. that have a significant bearing on the overall growth and expansion of a State. The project is a district level plan that doesn't necessarily target the minority community, and therefore although it will identify the minority community, the funds will be allocated across communities irrespective of socio-religious affiliations. (See ICSSR's Expert Committee Meeting on Baseline Survey of Minority Concentration Districts, p.2)

The MCD also looks into issues pertaining to non- implementation of various schemes and programmes offered by the Government. The Sachar Committee quotes of how the 'non-implementation" of several earlier Commissions and Committee has made the Muslim community wary of any new initiative (SCR, 10).

Therefore, while there is a need to describe developmental deficits in terms of figures and numbers, one has to take cognizance of how the 'social' is intertwined with the economic parameters of human conditions and vice versa. This approach towards research would allows us to gain a holistic perspective while at the same time enabling us to stay focused on certain key aspects of development of the minority concentrated districts.

Previous survey research such as the State HDR (West Bengal) did not recognize the Muslim community as a separate socio-religious group. While data for SC/ST and other castes exist, the absence of focus on the Muslim community did not bring to light their specific socio-economic status.   While certain socio-economic conditions would be applicable across communities in terms of literacy, employment, or such like, a specific focus on minorities would

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[6] The Sachar Committee Report notes that the widespread perception of discrimination among the Muslim community needs to be addressed but admits that 'there are hardly any empirical studies that establish discrimination.' (SCR pp.239)

also show the relative position vis-à-vis other disadvantaged groups namely the SC/STs. The advantage of focusing on the conditions of minorities in terms of standard socio-economic indices is to clearly highlight their condition, which would have been glossed over if the research were conducted by focusing on the SC/STs only. For example the SCR mentions how in certain areas the Muslims are more disadvantaged in terms of daily earnings when compared to other SRCs. (SCR, 105).

The Survey

The MCD project undertakes a baseline survey to address the socio-economic issues of the district communities. A baseline survey is significant as it creates a rich database, which allows us to interrogate, and provides us with more research options. Also, it allows us to create a benchmark for future survey on the focused areas that need immediate Government intervention. The new data collected and collated by baseline survey will thus build on and supplement the existing data provided by Census and the Sachar Committee.

Methodology

The survey has been conducted at two stages. The census villages are primary sampling units. Based on the proportion of minority population the development blocks and accordingly the villages are grouped into three strata where first stratum is top 20%, second one is middle 50% and the third is the bottom 30%. If district population is more than 0.5 Million then a total of 30 villages will be chosen which will be distributed in the three strata in proportion to population of the respective strata. The villages are chosen by the method of probability proportional to size given the number of villages to be chosen from each stratum. In the second stage a total of 30 households are chosen from each village randomly in proportion to religious group in the total population of the village. However our population is not the whole village but two hamlet groups if village population exceeds 1200. The hamlet group with highest concentration of minority population is chosen with probability one and another is chosen from the rest hamlet groups randomly. Typical size of a hamlet group is 600.

The methodology employs two types of survey instruments – one a rural household

questionnaire and second, a village schedule. Household schedule would be used to identify socio-economic parameters, as well as, to understand both the individual and the collective experiences of people living in these areas. The village schedule would be instrumental in collecting the village average data. This data will be collected from the various government offices, such as the office of the District Magistrate, the Block Development Officer, the Agricultural Department; the office of the Panchayat Pradhan, ICDS centres etc. It will be useful in understanding the nature of the village in terms of availability of infrastructure, access to basic amenities such as health services, education, land and irrigation and the like.

Besides very few descriptive open-ended questions, the questionnaires primarily consist of short, close-ended questions, with appropriate coding categories. An instruction sheet with comments, wherever necessary, is annexed for further clarification of the questionnaire if and when so required. Pre-testing of the questionnaire was accomplished through various drafts, where members of the faculty and team met and discussed on a weekly basis, to evaluate the comprehensibility, conviviality, (whether the questions are relevant) and competency (whether the respondents will be able to answer reliably) of the questions being asked.

The methodology has required appointing and training supervisors and field investigators in the districts for conducting the survey among the rural householders effectively. The interviews have been carried out with the consent and voluntary participation of the respondents. Confidentiality and their right to privacy have been safeguarded at all times.

Introducing West Bengal

West Bengal is the fourth most populous state in the Eastern Region of India accounting for 2.7 % of India's total area, 7.8 % of the country's population and ranks first in terms of density of population which is 904 per square km. Muslims are the dominant minority and account for 27 % of the total population of the State. With 72% of people living in rural areas, the State of West Bengal is primarily an agrarian state with the main produce being rice and jute. About 31.8% of the total population lives below the poverty line.

Previous research on West Bengal has shown that certain districts such as Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Koch Behar, Malda, Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur in the north, Purulia,

Bankura, Birbhum in the west and the two 24 Parganas (north and south) stretching across the Sunderbans are relatively more backward socio-economically than the rest of the districts in West Bengal. It is equally worth noting that the concentration of Muslim minority in the state of West Bengal is higher than the national average. (SCR, 30)

Bardhaman

The district of Bardhaman is a Muslim minority district for this project and belongs to category 'A' of the MCD districts with 20.36% Muslim population and religion specific average socio-economic indicator value 43.2% and average basic indicator value 35.52%.[7]

Bardhaman district is known as the rice bowl of South Bengal. It is one of those five districts where new technology in agriculture was adopted in the mid '60's leading to the so called green revolution. Bardhaman - its district headquarter, is two and a half hour's journey from Kolkata, the state capital of West Bengal. The land is highly fertile especially in the eastern part of the district, while the Western part of the district is characterized by infertile agricultural land, but rich in coal mines and hub of heavy industry around Durgapur - Asansol belt developed in the Second Plan period.

Demography

Of the 18 districts of West Bengal, Bardhaman ranks 5th in terms of Human Development Index. (Human Development Report, 2004, p. 219). The density of population is 982 per cent per square kilometer. The percentage of urban population is 36.94%(Census 2001). The total population of the district is 6895514 (Census, 2001) of which urban population is approximately 36.94%. Total rural households constitute approximately 876572. The literacy rate of the district is 62% while female literacy rate is 53.9%. Percentage of workers is 35.6%. The district profile can be found in the official website of the district (http://bardhaman.gov.in).

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[7] The corresponding national averages are 45.8% and 41.7% respectively as calculated by the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

Selected Villages in Respective Blocks

Sl.no.	Block	Village
1	Bhatar	Kulchanda
2		Hanrgram
3	Mangolkote	Bamungram
4		Lakshmipur
5		Pilsoan
6	Manteswar	Kulut
7	Purbasthali- II	Sajiara
8		Chupi
9	Burdwan-I	Kanchannagar(P)
10	Galsi- II	Sridharpur
11		Parsura
12	Jamalpur	Faimpur
13	Kalna-II	Madhubati
14		Agradaha
15	Katwa-I	Sudpur
16		Ganfulia
17	Katwa-II	Gaurdanga
18	Ketugram-II	Gurpara
19		Bishnupur
20		Purulia
21		Ketugram
22	Ketugram-II	Charkhi
23	Memari-II	Barwa
24	Raina-I	Rambati
25	Raina- II	Nale
26	Barabani	Domohani
27	Burdwan-II	Shuhari
28	Faridpur Durgapur	Banshgara
29	Jamuria	Topsi
30	Salanpur	Damdaha

Map of Bardhaman with Indicative Location of Sample Villages by Blocks

DISTRICT BARDDHAMAN 2001
DISTRIBUTION OF SAMPLE VILLAGES BY BLOCKS

● Indicative Location of Sample Villages
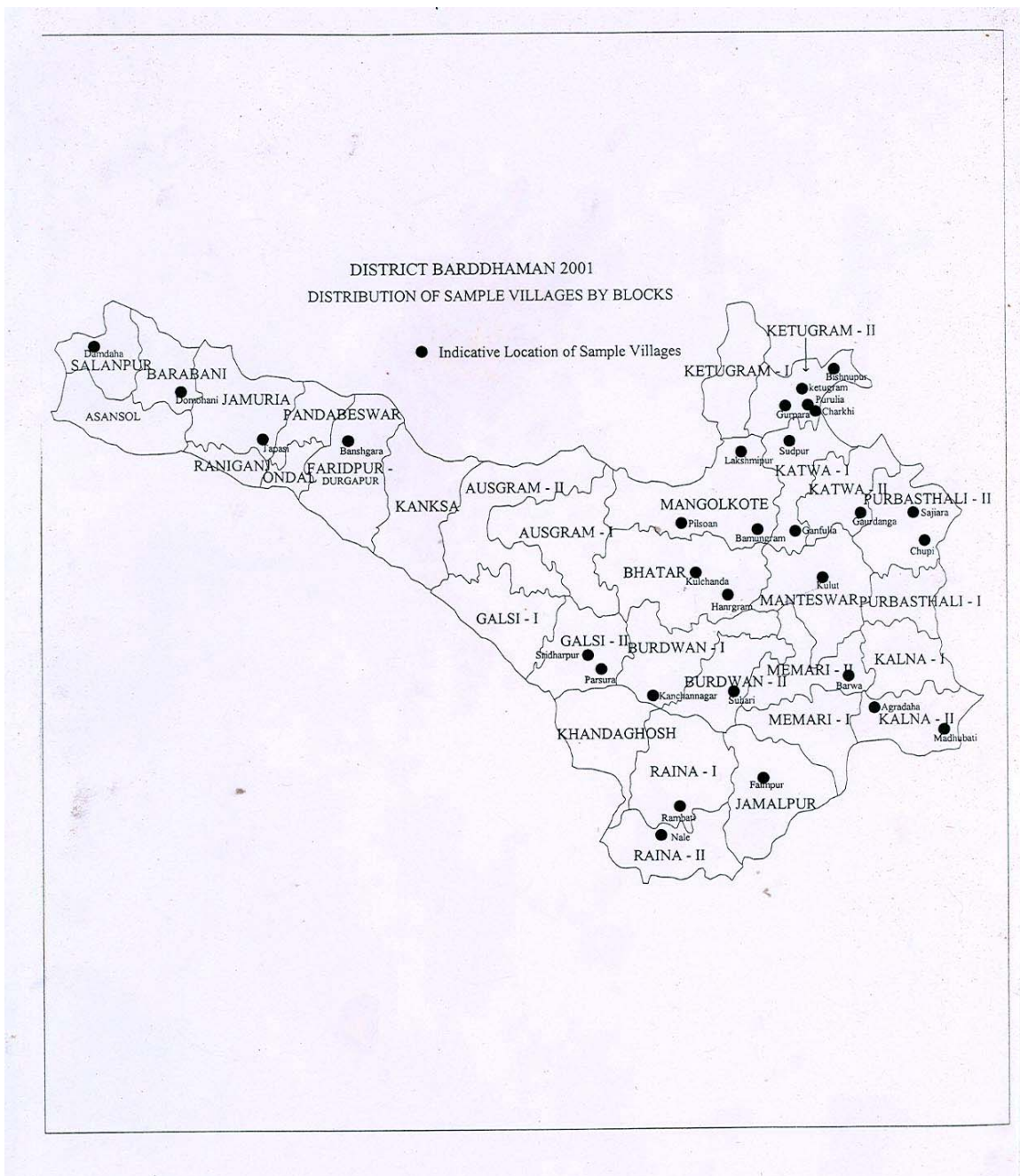
Findingst

In line with the aims and objectives of the Ministry of Minority Affairs, CSSSC has identified the following key areas in the District of Bardhaman. We systematically provide the village level and the district level findings on a variety of aspects including the broad categories of **Basic Amenities; Education; Health; Infrastructure; Occupational conditions; existence and efficacy of Government Schemes and any other issue** that is crucial for a better understanding of the conditions of the minorities as well as general population in the district. **We provide two sets of tables one for the data across villages to capture the locational variation followed by the district averages computed over all the households surveyed in all the sample villages chosen in the district.**

1. Basic Amenities

We begin with a distribution of the Basic Amenities in the district of Bardhaman calculated at the level of villages on the basis of primary survey and it includes the types and percentage of houses under Kutcha/ Pucca constructions, percentage of electrified houses, the average distance of each house within a specific village from its source of drinking water, the percentage of houses in these villages with access to toilet facilities, and the type of fuel used. It shows that across all villages an alarmingly large number of households, sometimes as high as 80% do not have in-house toilet facilities. However there is high variation across villages. The district averages for in house toilet facilities are 47.39% for Muslims and 50.44% for non-Muslims. Those who have toilet facility inside houses, do have hygienic provision for toilets. But around 50% of the population do not have toilet facility inside houses. In this connection it may be noted that in our discussion with government officials and Panchayat functionaries this has been emphasized that though a large fund is available for low cost toilet, but people are reluctant to access such benefits even though their contribution is only 10%. So the problem cannot only be solved by allocating more funds only, other measures, such as campaign is urgently required. Electrification of houses is slightly higher for non-Muslims, 46.82% than the Muslims, 37.67%. However, variations across villages are very high, from 13.33% in Bishnupur in the eastern part to over 80% in Domohani which is in the western part of the district. Households of many villages use LPG, though the district

Table 1: Basic Amenities of Household – District Averages (%)

Amenities		Muslim	Non Muslim
Percentage of houses electrified		37.67	46.82
Primary source of light if house is not electrified (%)	Oil Lamp	76.34	75.35
	Oil Lantern	23.66	24.65
	Petromax	0	0.00
	Others	0.00	0.00
Source of Water (%)	Own Hand Pump/ Tube Well	16.36	29.19
	Public Hand Pump/ Tube Well	57.94	45.48
	Tap	3.74	3.41
	Public Un-protected dug Well	0.00	0.15
	Public Protected dug Well	0.00	3.26
	Pond/River/Stream	0.93	1.93
	Others	21.03	16.59
Average Distance from source of Water(K.M)		0.19	0.15
Position of Toilet (%)	In House	47.39	50.44
	Outside House		
Type of Toilet (%)	Septic Tank Latrine	17.53	27.35
	Water Sealed Latrine in House	4.12	5.29
	Pit Latrine	0.00	0.00
	Covered Dry Latrine	46.39	39.71
	Well Water Sealed	31.96	27.35
	Others	0.00	0.29
Primary Source of Fuel (%)	Wood	39.07	41.69
	Coal	6.05	14.39
	Kerosene Oil	6.98	4.15
	Leaves/ Hay	29.30	16.91
	LPG	1.86	6.97
	Others	16.74	15.88
Drainage Facility (%)	% with drainage facility in house	42.99	34.72

Source: Household survey data.

Table 2: Village wise Basic Amenities of Households (in percentages)

Name of the Village	Type of Houses			Avg. distance for source of drinking water (Km.)	Electri-fied houses	Households having Septic Tank /water/Sealed/Well-water Latrine	Type of Fuel used						Toilet outside house
	Kutcha	Kutcha-Pucca	Pucca				Wood	Coal	Kerose ne Oil	Leaves/ Hay	LPG	Others	
DAMDAHA	44.4	33.33	22.22	0.50	48.28	100.00	79.31	20.69	0.00	0	0	0	75.86
DOMOHANI	17.2	41.38	41.38	0.05	83.33	100.00	56.67	33.3	0.00	3.33	0.0	6.67	60.00
TOPSI	45	25.00	30.00	0.50	70.00	52.17	0.00	70.0	0.00	3.33	26.7	0.0	23.33
BANSHGARA	85.2	3.70	11.11	0.01	17.86	0.00	60.71	0.00	0.00	35.7	0.0	3.57	96.43
PILSOAN	76.7	16.67	6.67	0.20	6.67	10.53	30.00	0.00	0.00	23.3	0.0	46.7	36.67
LAKSHMIPUR	89.3	3.57	7.14	0.25	6.67	44.44	13.33	3.33	3.33	76.7	3.3	0.0	68.97
BAMUNGRAM	86.7	10.00	3.33	0.10	13.79	63.64	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.0	63.33
CHARKHI	57.1	17.86	25.00	0.59	53.33	100.00	90.00	6.67	0.00	3.33	0.0	0.0	80.00
GURPARA	68.9	17.24	13.79	0.24	20.00	30.00	73.33	0.00	0.00	16.67	3.3	6.67	66.67
PURULIA	68.9	13.79	17.24	0.03	56.67	0.00	96.30	3.70	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	73.33
KETUGRAM	86.2	3.45	10.34	0.27	56.67	100.00	13.33	6.67	3.33	0.00	10	66.7	63.33
BISHNUPUR	85.2	7.41	7.41	0.06	13.33	5.56	23.33	3.33	6.67	63.3	0.0	3.3	40.00
SUDPUR	40.7	18.52	40.74	0.07	36.67	100.00	0.00	3.33	0.00	10.0	3.3	83.3	50.00
GANFULIA	53.6	21.43	21.43	0.10	56.67	64.29	83.33	3.33	0.00	6.67	3.3	3.3	53.33
GAURDANGA	53.3	16.67	30.00	0.30	20.00	36.36	20.00	16.7	0.00	53.3	0.0	10	26.67
SAJIARA	70	20.00	6.67	0.03	26.67	42.86	30.00	0.00	0.00	30.0	0.0	40	6.67
CHUPI	82.8	6.90	10.34	0.12	16.67	19.23	16.67	10.0	6.67	56.7	0.0	10	13.33
KULUT	27.6	58.62	13.79	0.30	75.86	100.00	75.86	6.90	13.79	0.00	3.5	0.0	60.71
KULCHANDA	46.7	6.67	46.67	0.25	50.00	100.00	40.00	26.67	0.00	6.67	26.7	0.0	51.72
HANRGRAM	50	33.33	16.67	0.43	60.00	69.57	46.67	6.67	0.00	3.33	23.3	20.0	20.00
PARSURA	82.8	3.45	13.79	0.05	30.00	66.67	3.33	10.0	0.00	3.33	3.33	80.0	60.00
SRIDHARPUR	76.7	3.33	20.00	0.25	50.00	50.00	20.00	33.33	0.00	33.33	0.00	13.3	20.00
KANCHANNAGAR	33.3	46.67	20.00	0.00	76.67	4.17	3.33	60.0	0.00	6.67	3.33	26.7	20.00
SHUHARI	55.2	20.69	24.14	0.23	34.48	75.00	27.59	20.69	0.00	34.48	13.8	3.45	44.83
BARWA	6.67	70.00	23.33	0.13	90.00	100.00	66.67	3.33	0.00	3.33	20.0	6.67	16.67
AGRADAHA	34.5	41.38	24.14	0.04	76.67	96.30	73.33	10.0	0.00	0.00	16.7	0.0	10.00
MADHUBATI	79.2	16.67	4.17	0.02	37.93	100.00	41.38	6.90	6.90	20.69	0.00	24.1	58.62
FAIMPUR	66.7	13.33	20.00	0.14	53.33	100.00	53.33	0.00	10.00	13.33	10.0	13.3	85.71
RAMBATI	93.3	6.67	0.00	0.03	56.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	89.66	0.0	10.3	86.67
NALE	46.4	50.00	3.57	0.16	41.38	50.00	0.00	3.45	96.5	0	0	0	80.00

Source: Village survey data.

Note: N.A means *not available*.

Table 3: Housing- Ownership, Type and Value - District Averages

Religion group		Non Muslim	Muslim
Ownership of House (%)	Own	97.66	96.43
	IAY/ Government Provided	1.40	3.27
	Rented	0.93	0.30
Type of House (%)	Kutcha	62.5	59.66
	Kutcha-Pucca	24.52	20.71
	Pucca	12.5	19.47
	Others	0.48	0.15
Land adjoining own residence (%)	Own	95.67	85.74
	Provided By Government	1.92	3.26
	Land Holders Land	1.44	2.79
	Others	0.96	8.22
Average Value of Own House (Rs.)		84743.90	91014.09
Average Rent (Rs.) per month		N.A.	400

Source: Household survey data.

average is very small, 1.86% for Muslims and 6.97% for the non-Muslims. So if the facility is available, many villagers use it, but the facility is not available in many villages. In general dominating alternative sources of fuel are wood (39.07% for Muslims and 41.69% for non-Muslims) and leaves and hay (29.3% for Muslims and 16.91% for non-Muslims). The average distance traversed to procure drinking water ranges from very close (Banshgara) to almost half kilometer (Damdaha). In general the district performs quite well in terms of access to drinking water. The access to safe drinking water is quite good for the district as a whole, though only 16.36% Muslim and 29.19% non-Muslim households have safe drinking water within house. But provisioning of public tube well helps them access safe drinking water, 57.94% for Muslims and 45.48% for non-Muslims.

The household level distribution of distance to sources of drinking water and the distribution of houses by types, however display similarities across minority and non-minority population and any intervention in this regard should be aimed at the village level as a whole. For example, despite the fact that almost 97 per cent of all households, whether by Muslims or non-Muslims, are 'owned' larger percentage of these houses are kutcha – 62.5% for Muslims and 59.66% for non-Muslims. Only 12.5% Muslims and 19.47% non-Muslims own pucca houses. So in terms of ownership of pucca houses non-Muslims perform better. The difference, however is reduced when one looks at houses with pucca walls (sum of pucca and kutcha-pucca houses), 37% for Muslims and 40.18% for non-Muslims. The *pucca houses provided under the IAY, is slightly higher for non-Muslims – 3.27 percent than the Muslims.[8] This we believe should be an area where top up facilities may be extended. It is understood that construction and maintenance of better houses requires large investments from the residents, which if channeled into provision of education and health facilities among the children and women shall serve a better purpose under all possible conditio*ns.

Table 4: Other Amenities of Household - District Averages

Religion group		Non Muslim	Muslim
Percentage of people with	Telephone	4.17	5.99
	Mobile	19.44	26.02
	Scooter/Moped/Motorcycle	N.A.	1.61
Average Price (Rs.)	Telephone	1122.22	1020.73
	Mobile	2217.86	2655.33
	Scooter/Moped/Motorcycle	N.A.	11000.0

Source: Household survey data
Note: N.A means not available.

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[8] This is percentage of the general population. The same as the percentage of BPL families for the district as a whole is 6.07%.

2.   Education

The household survey on educational conditions offer a plethora of data on both Muslim and non-Muslim households. Muslims generally perform poorer than non-Muslims under all categories whether primary education, middle school or secondary levels participation of the Muslims is below the village average and is appallingly low for the women population in this category. However, the difference is less at lower levels of education than at the higher levels. This is true for the general population (Table 5) or for the school going age (Table 6). It may also be noted that performance of the women in education, whether Muslim or non-Muslim, is worse than men. This is specially so after secondary level. Either girls are got married off or when money is a constraint then boys are given preference over them.

Once again, since religious education or the Madrasah is not an option here, one must look deeper into both the demand the supply of education in these villages. In most of the villages of our sample there is at least one primary school and most of the students receive free books. But number of teachers per primary school is extremely low (viz. 3.37 per school); in fact it is not possible to run all the four classes in a school on an average. Also there are very few secondary schools in the sample villages. Thus there are strong supply side constraints for school education. The largest proportion of dropout occurs between post primary and eighth standard – over 75% both for Muslims and non-Muslims independent of gender. It is also revealed by data, the largest percentage of students drop out owing to the high opportunity cost of attending schools. In other words, the village community is still not in a position to simultaneously attend schools and make provisions for daily livelihood, in which case the former must suffer. *This is an area although well known to both academic and policy-making communities need larger attention. What we propose is that the households that choose to send children to school may be provided with additional income support during the school years so that the student does not drop out and transform into child labor. In fact, provisions of such facilities in kind are already in practice, and include the mid-day meal arrangements although with several problems of mismanagement and corruption among the organizers that such a scheme regularly suffers from.* Still it does not take care of the opportunity cost in full, since it is well known that putting children in the work force is essentially a decision taken by one or both parents under the

condition that children's leisure is a luxury good under dire necessity of survival for the household. *Thus, we would like to draw attention to policies that can ensure such in-school support program for the household instead of creating larger supply of such facilities. This will obviously require targeting of households which have shown positive choice towards sending children to school and those who would also be forthright in withdrawing the same in case of drop in household income levels below a critical level.* It is also important to identify if these are also the households which are more vulnerable than others in terms of health facilities, or parental access to regular work and other demographic features different from those which choose (25 per cent) to retain their children in school. The entire communities suffer from almost irreversible psychological slavery to the concepts from early marriages for girls and the general uselessness of higher education among the same group of people. *One reason could perhaps be pushing more and more for awareness against early marriages and need for education, but it can hardly be accomplished as long as the target groups do not observe and believe in the benefits that education can impart not only on them but to the entire community via large scale externalities. The examples from successful peer groups and information about potential careers outside of agriculture need regular emphasis in the public policy dialogues meant for the beneficiaries.* There is no lack of aspiration among the parents, but various constraints, especially monetary constraint and opportunity cost of education drives so poor performance.

Table 5: Level of Education of General Population – District Average (%)

Descriptive	Muslim		Non-Muslim	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Illiterate	25.75	37.20	21.78	34.29
Below Primary	26.54	24.73	21.48	21.06
Primary	24.01	26.88	23.79	24.26
Middle	13.90	7.74	13.32	10.03
Vocational/management	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.07
Secondary	5.69	2.80	8.31	6.35
Higher Secondary	2.37	0.65	5.36	2.61
Technical Diploma	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00
Technical/Professional Degree	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00
Graduate	1.42	0.00	4.46	1.20
Post Graduate	0.16	0.00	1.20	0.13
Others	0.16	0.00	0.10	0.00

Source: Household survey data.

Table 6: State of Education for 5 to 18 age group – District Averages (%)

		Muslim	Non-Muslim
Condition	Not admitted to school	6.62	4.17
Level	Below primary education	48.40	41.43
	Primary education	38.43	38.34
	Class Eight	8.54	12.78
	Vocational	0.00	0.00
	Secondary education	3.20	5.06
	Higher Secondary education	0.36	0.70
Type of school	Government/ Aided School	94.64	93.67
	Private School	1.43	2.67
	Madrasah	0.36	0.28
	Missionary School	0.00	0.56
	Unconventional school	3.57	2.11
	Others	0.00	0.70

Source: Household survey data

Table 7: Village wise State of Education – General Population (%)

Name of the Village	Literacy Rate	
	Male	Female
DAMDAHA	78.30	56.58
DOMOHANI	87.18	74.29
TOPSI	81.44	68.83
BANSHGARA	62.03	58.54
PILSOAN	73.42	55.38
LAKSHMIPUR	63.22	49.09
BAMUNGRAM	68.04	60.00
CHARKHI	72.62	56.94
GURPARA	56.41	44.29
PURULIA	67.33	44.93
KETUGRAM	69.23	47.06
BISHNUPUR	72.73	49.09
SUDPUR	81.90	70.59
GANFULIA	74.07	63.08
GAURDANGA	77.65	75.00
SAJIARA	83.52	86.44
CHUPI	67.57	56.90
KULUT	83.52	74.07
KULCHANDA	78.31	84.44
HANRGRAM	97.06	81.97
PARSURA	76.34	58.02
SRIDHARPUR	82.19	71.01
KANCHANNAGAR	84.21	80.28
SHUHARI	56.34	49.15
BARWA	95.40	93.62
AGRADAHA	96.97	96.15
MADHUBATI	65.22	52.31
FAIMPUR	75.00	67.14
RAMBATI	85.71	57.14
NALE	92.94	81.03

Source: Village survey data.

Table 8: Education – Infrastructure facilities
(District Averages in %)

	Religion	Muslim		Non-Muslim	
Distance	Below 1 K.M.	72.69		63.29	
	1-2 K.M.	18.08		15.86	
	2-4 K.M.	4.43		12.43	
	Above 4 K.M.	4.80		8.43	
Instruction	Bengali	97.86		97.46	
	English	1.43		0.85	
	Bengali & English	0.71		1.41	
	Hindi	0.00		0.28	
	Local Language	0.00		0.00	
Government Help	Books	97.46		89.69	
	School dress	0.00		0.00	
	Stipend	0.00		1.20	
	Mid-day meal	2.54		8.39	
	Others	0.00		0.72	
Reasons for drop-out		Male	Female	Male	Female
	Distance	2.86	5.88	8.89	6.45
	Not proper teaching	0.0	6.25	0.0	0.0
	Unavailability of water, classroom and toilet	0.0	12.5	0.0	3.33
	Unable to attend because of work	21.88	22.22	31.82	35.48
	It is expensive	67.65	60.0	63.04	53.12

Source: Household survey data.

Table 9: Education - Infrastructure and Aspirations (%)
(Community wise District Averages)

		Muslim		Non-Muslim	
Mid-day meal	Regularity	82.18		85.66	
	Taste	64.36		83.20	
	Cleanliness	65.35		77.05	
Book	Availability	83.06		69.14	
Teachers	Regularity	97.10		92.29	
	Discipline	94.93		91.73	
	Teaching	68.84		66.49	
Aspiration of parents		Male	Female	Male	Female
	Vocational	10.24	1.96	14.05	1.05
	Madhyamik	39.37	65.69	22.87	46.85
	H.S	18.11	9.80	15.43	18.53
	Graduate	18.90	8.82	20.94	20.63
	Post-Graduate	5.51	4.90	12.67	5.24
	Others	7.87	8.82	14.05	7.69

Source: Household survey data.

Table 10: Rate of Dropout from School – Community and Gender wise(%)
(District Averages)

	Muslim		Non-Muslim	
Dropout	Male	Female	Male	Female
< Primary	36.67	33.33	38.46	31.03
<Class Eight	76.67	83.33	76.92	68.97

Source: Household Survey Data

Table 11: Reason For Drop Out – Village wise (%)

Name of the Village	Male					Female				
	Distance	Absence of any teaching in school	No Drinking water	Labour	Expenditure	Distance	Absence of any teaching in school	No Drinking water	Labour	Expenditure
DAMDAHA	0	N.A.	N.A.	0	100	33.33	N.A.	0.00	66.67	66.67
DOMOHANI	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	0	N.A.	100	100	100
TOPSI	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
BANSHGARA	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	0	N.A.	0	50	0
PILSOAN	0	N.A.	N.A.	0	50	0	N.A.	0	0	50
LAKSHMIPUR	0	N.A.	N.A.	25	80	0	N.A.	0	0	66.67
BAMUNGRAM	0	N.A.	N.A.	50	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
CHARKHI	0	N.A.	N.A.	0	80	0	N.A.	0	0	0
GURPARA	0	N.A.	N.A.	0	60	0	N.A.	0	0	33.33
PURULIA	0	N.A.	N.A.	33.33	20	0	N.A.	0	20	0
KETUGRAM	0	N.A.	N.A.	0	83.33	0.00	N.A.	0.00	0.00	100.00
BISHNUPUR	0	N.A.	N.A.	100	50	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
SUDPUR	0	N.A.	N.A.	0	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
GANFULIA	33.33	N.A.	N.A.	0.00	66.67	0.00	N.A.	0.00	0.00	100.00
GAURDANGA	16.67	N.A.	N.A.	0.00	20	0	N.A.	0	0	50
SAJIARA	0	N.A.	N.A.	0	66.67	0.00	N.A.	0.00	0.00	66.67
CHUPI	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
KULUT	0	N.A.	N.A.	80	100	0	N.A.	0	0	0
KULCHANDA	25	N.A.	N.A.	100	100	0	N.A.	0	100	100
HANRGRAM	0	N.A.	N.A.	75	75	0	N.A.	0	100	100
PARSURA	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
SRIDHARPUR	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
KANCHANNAGAR	0	N.A.	N.A.	0	66.67	0.00	N.A.	0.00	0.00	100.00
SHUHARI	0	N.A.	N.A.	0	100.0	0.00	N.A.	0.00	100.00	50.00
BARWA	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
AGRADAHA	0	N.A.	N.A.	0	0	33.33	N.A.	66.67	33.33	66.67
MADHUBATI	0	N.A.	N.A.	50	50	0	N.A.	0	50	50
FAIMPUR	100	N.A.	N.A.	0	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
RAMBATI	0	N.A.	N.A.	100	0	0	N.A.	0	100	0
NALE	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

Source: Village survey data.
Note: N.A means *not available.*

Table 12: Vocational Education (%)
(Community wise District Averages)

		Muslim	Non-Muslim
Courses offered	Tailoring	0.00	6.25
	Computer Trained	14.29	18.75
	Electronic & Electrical	14.29	12.50
	Driving Training	14.29	0.00
	Handicraft	42.86	31.25
	Apprentices	0.00	0.00
	Family Education	0.00	6.25
	Other	14.29	25.00
Institution	Government Institution.	14.29	20.00
	Expert Worker	57.14	60.00
	Apprentices Training	0.00	0.00
Diploma Certificate	Number of people who hold	0.00	16.67
	Useful (whether)	57.14	54.55
Vocational Institution (%)			
Average. Duration of training (in days)		10.86	17.71
Average Expenditure for training (Rs.)		17600.00	2941.67

Source: Household survey data.

Table 13: Demand for Vocational Education (%)
(District Averages)

Religion		Muslim	Non-Muslim
People Interested in Training		51.90	50.67
Technical Education	Tailoring	11.01	5.67
	Sericulture	0.92	1.49
	Automobile Labour	13.76	11.34
	Computer	19.27	29.25
	Electronics & Electrical	16.51	6.27
	Motor Driving Training	6.42	6.87
	Handicraft	32.11	35.52
	Apprentice	0.00	1.19
	Family Education	0.00	0.30
	Others	0.00	2.09
Cost (Rs.)	Willing to bear the cost	63.89	49.26

Source: Household survey data.

Table 14: Village wise Demand for Technical/Vocational Education (in %)

Name of the Village	People interested in training	People willing to bear the cost	Tailoring	Sericulture	Automobile Labour	Computer Training	Electronics & Electrical	Motor Driving	Handicraft	Apprentice	Family Education	Others
DAMDAHA	58.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.50	56.25	6.25	0.00	18.75	0	6.25	0
DOMOHANI	17.24	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	40.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
TOPSI	72.41	42.86	4.76	0.00	19.05	23.81	19.05	0.00	19.05	0	0	14.29
BANSHGARA	96.43	22.22	0.00	0.00	18.52	11.11	0.00	7.41	48.15	14.81	0	0
PILSOAN	50.00	46.67	6.67	0.00	20.00	26.67	13.33	0.00	33.33	0	0	0
LAKSHMIPUR	73.33	95.45	4.55	0.00	22.73	18.18	31.82	4.55	18.18	0	0	0
BAMUNGRAM	86.67	92.31	11.54	0.00	23.08	11.54	7.69	7.69	38.46	0	0	0
CHARKHI	75.86	54.55	4.55	0.00	31.82	13.64	13.64	27.27	9.09	0	0	0
GURPARA	46.67	57.14	28.57	7.14	14.29	21.43	0.00	0.00	28.57	0	0	0
PURULIA	30.00	77.78	0.00	11.11	22.22	0.00	11.11	22.22	22.22	0	0	11.11
KETUGRAM	93.10	40.74	3.70	0.00	14.81	18.52	11.11	7.41	44.44	0	0	0
BISHNUPUR	25.93	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0
SUDPUR	72.41	14.29	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	70.00	0	0	15
GANFULIA	3.33	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100	0	0	0
GAURDANGA	51.72	13.33	0.00	0.00	13.33	46.67	0.00	0.00	40.00	0	0	0
SAJIARA	86.67	84.62	0.00	3.85	0.00	23.08	0.00	0.00	73.08	0	0	0
CHUPI	34.48	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0
KULUT	53.33	100	31.25	6.25	12.50	12.50	31.25	6.25	0.00	0	0	0
KULCHANDA	60.00	66.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	44.44	0.00	0.00	55.56	0	0	0
HANRGRAM	96.67	51.72	3.45	0.00	10.34	37.93	3.45	3.45	41.38	0	0	0
PARSURA	34.62	33.33	0.00	0.00	11.11	22.22	11.11	0.00	55.56	0	0	0
SRIDHARPUR	60.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	22.22	16.67	5.56	55.56	0	0	0
KANCHANNAGAR	56.67	23.53	47.06	5.88	17.65	5.88	11.76	0.00	11.76	0	0	0
SHUHARI	3.33	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0
BARWA	50.00	66.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	53.33	13.33	33.33	0.00	0	0	0
AGRADAHA	32.14	77.78	0.00	0.00	11.11	44.44	0.00	33.33	11.11	0	0	0
MADHUBATI	20.69	33.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0	0	0
FAIMPUR	20.69	100	0.00	16.67	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	33.33	0	0	0
RAMBATI	60.00	33.33	22.22	0.00	5.56	0.00	0.00	16.67	55.56	0	0	0
NALE	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

Source: Village survey data
Note: N.A means *not available*

The demand for technical and vocational training also reflects the significant gap that exists between agricultural and non-agricultural work participation in the villages surveyed. The predominance of casual workforce in agriculture and allied occupations among the working population clearly displays the lack of skill in both religious groups. Given the findings on educational choices and preferences it is undoubtedly related that the population strongly prefers the supply of such training facilities (around 50% for both the communities) to replace or add on to the general educational trainings. In fact, the overwhelming demand for handicrafts (a little above 30% for both the communities) and computer and electronics (together accounting for around 35%) epitomizes the awareness, even if incomplete, of the beckoning possibilities in this new era of electronics and information technologies. While a higher literacy rate is a definite precursor for even partial awareness in this regard, the need for technical education is a certain emphasis among the potential workforce that should not be downplayed under any circumstances. The public funds must be allocated towards provision of such facilities in the areas covered in this study. Upgrading the existing ITIs with new trades will be useful in this direction. With limited allocation of funds in this programme it may not be possible to provide for such facilities in many places, but a few may be started on experimental basis.

3.   Occupation

While we have briefly discussed the major occupational characteristics of the village communities across religious sub groups, here we present a more graphic elaboration of the prevalent occupational patterns. *Most residents are either cultivators themselves or landless labourers, the largest employment is generated in the villages, as seen from the district average, as cultivators and then land less agricultural labourer. There is not much difference in this respect across communities. Overpopulated agriculture for livelihood as a result leads to fragmentation of land and various kinds inefficiencies in the production process. It hardly needs to be mentioned that these jobs are very much seasonal in nature and low paying.*

Table 15: Work participation – Community wise District Averages (%)

	Muslim		Non-Muslim	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Agriculture	23.54	1.93	23.27	0.33
Agricultural Labour	16.27	0.64	18.62	6.09
Family Business	4.74	1.72	3.35	0.27
Salaried Employee (Government)	0.79	0.00	4.30	0.54
Salaried Employee (Private)	3.00	0.00	1.70	0.20
Casual Labour	2.69	0.86	3.15	1.14
Only domestic Work	0.95	50.64	1.10	49.23
Retirees, Pensioners, Remittance Recipient	0.63	0.43	1.30	0.33
Unable to work (Child/ Elderly)	8.37	9.87	8.31	11.44
Unorganized Employee	8.69	1.07	9.21	0.54
Others	24.01	30.90	22.12	29.36
Unemployed	6.32	1.93	3.55	0.54

Source: Household survey data

However, there is large variation in the occupational pattern across villages as well as across gender categories. However, on an average the female population of the district is mostly engaged in household work.

Though salaried employees in government job is very low for the district as a whole the Muslims are clearly in a worse position than the non-Muslims.

Over 60 percent presence of long-term migrant workforce is also an evidence of the fact that the workforce typically self-select themselves to serve in occupations that are missing or insufficiently labor absorbing in the locality (and regional townships). *That 62.07% of Muslims migrants chose to work in other provinces, and that about 10.71% percent of them are in professional activities and 28.75% in transport and other activities as labourers imply that a better provision of training facilities and occupations that can sustain the migrants at home is probably the first best from the point of view of the regional economy.* Among the Muslims about 25% migrate to work in clerical jobs, which is much higher than the non-Muslims, is in indication of better job opportunities.

Table 16: Migration for Work – Community wise District Averages (%)

		Muslim	Non-Muslim
Duration	Short Term	34.48	29.41
	Long Term	65.52	70.59
Place of work	Within District (Village)	3.45	5.88
	Within District (Town)	3.45	9.80
	Within State (Village)	0.00	1.96
	Within State (Town)	31.03	43.14
	Outside State (Village)	0.00	1.96
	Outside State (Town)	62.07	37.25
	Abroad	0.00	0.00
Reasons for migration	Professional Work	10.71	15.69
	Administrative Work	7.14	7.84
	Clerical Work	25.00	9.80
	Sales Work	0.00	1.96
	Farmer	7.14	3.92
	Transport and labourers	28.57	35.29
	Student	3.57	5.88
	Others	17.86	19.61
Repatriation	Household	75.86	74.51

Source: Household survey data

Table 17: Occupational pattern among the Male - Village wise (in percentage)

Name of the Village	Male					
	Cultivator	Agricultural Labour	Business	Salaried Employee (Govt.)	Salaried Employee (Pvt.)	Casual Labour (Non-Agriculture)
DAMDAHA	15.09	17.92	2.83	5.66	0.94	3.77
DOMOHANI	32.05	6.41	7.69	11.54	3.85	0.00
TOPSI	1.03	0.00	5.15	17.53	3.09	21.65
BANSHGARA	8.86	6.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.13
PILSOAN	32.91	15.19	2.53	0.00	0.00	10.13
LAKSHMIPUR	13.79	25.29	0.00	1.15	0.00	1.15
BAMUNGRAM	41.24	16.49	3.09	0.00	2.06	5.15
CHARKHI	28.57	10.71	5.95	0.00	5.95	0.00
GURPARA	22.78	40.51	0.00	3.80	0.00	0.00
PURULIA	18.18	30.30	6.06	0.00	0.00	1.01
KETUGRAM	5.49	9.89	8.79	1.10	9.89	3.30
BISHNUPUR	3.90	3.90	0.00	0.00	2.60	1.30
SUDPUR	20.00	24.76	4.76	0.00	8.57	0.95
GANFULIA	27.16	7.41	8.64	0.00	0.00	1.23
GAURDANGA	22.09	20.93	0.00	1.16	2.33	5.81
SAJIARA	34.07	21.98	0.00	0.00	2.20	0.00
CHUPI	21.62	17.57	2.70	1.35	0.00	1.35
KULUT	58.24	3.30	3.30	1.10	2.20	0.00
KULCHANDA	3.61	28.92	8.43	28.92	0.00	0.00
HANRGRAM	14.71	20.59	6.86	7.84	1.96	1.96
PARSURA	36.56	20.43	3.23	3.23	0.00	0.00
SRIDHARPUR	26.03	27.40	0.00	1.37	0.00	0.00
KANCHANNAGAR	6.25	1.04	10.42	0.00	1.04	6.25
SHUHARI	29.58	29.58	0.00	1.41	0.00	2.82
BARWA	40.23	12.64	2.30	3.45	3.45	0.00
AGRADAHA	36.36	12.12	0.00	8.08	4.04	0.00
MADHUBATI	30.43	30.43	0.00	0.00	3.26	0.00
FAIMPUR	22.83	35.87	1.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
RAMBATI	15.58	37.66	5.19	2.60	0.00	5.19
NALE	31.76	9.41	9.41	1.18	0.00	7.06

Source: Village survey data

Table 18: Occupational pattern among the Female - Village wise (in percentage)

Name of the Village	Female					
	Cultivator	Agricultural Labour	Business	Salaried Employee (Govt.)	Salaried Employee (Pvt.)	Casual Labour (Non-Agriculture)
DAMDAHA	0.00	2.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.32
DOMOHANI	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.43	0.00	1.43
TOPSI	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.30	0.00	7.79
BANSHGARA	0.00	1.22	0.00	0.00	1.22	2.44
PILSOAN	3.08	6.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.62
LAKSHMIPUR	0.00	3.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.79
BAMUNGRAM	3.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CHARKHI	0.00	2.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
GURPARA	0.00	17.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PURULIA	0.00	7.25	0.00	1.45	0.00	0.00
KETUGRAM	0.00	0.00	11.76	1.47	0.00	0.00
BISHNUPUR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SUDPUR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.47
GANFULIA	1.54	0.00	1.54	0.00	0.00	0.00
GAURDANGA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SAJIARA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.69
CHUPI	0.00	0.00	1.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
KULUT	11.11	1.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
KULCHANDA	0.00	2.22	0.00	2.22	0.00	0.00
HANRGRAM	0.00	20.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.72
PARSURA	0.00	24.39	0.00	1.22	0.00	0.00
SRIDHARPUR	0.00	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
KANCHANNAGAR	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.41	1.41	0.00
SHUHARI	0.00	23.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BARWA	0.00	6.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
AGRADAHA	1.28	3.85	0.00	0.00	1.28	0.00
MADHUBATI	0.00	13.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FAIMPUR	1.43	2.86	2.86	0.00	0.00	0.00
RAMBATI	1.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NALE	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.72	0.00	6.90

Source: Village survey data

4.   Health

The gaps that exist in basic amenities and educational categories, however, appear small when compared to the conditions of health facilities available in these villages within the district of Bardhaman. In terms of infrastructure facilities survey results show that there is hardly any government hospital in the villages, something not unexpected, but the situation with PHC or sub-PHC is not very encouraging. Out of the 30 villages only in 5 villages there are PHCs, considering PHCs and sub-PHCs together around 40% villages are covered, while the average distance from government or private hospital or clinic is over ten Kms. Apparently population across communities visit government doctors. But this more so as compelling reason than an option. People also go to quacks.

The data reveals that there exists suitable access to government health centers and the recent drives to implement the vaccination among the children have been quite pervading across communities if one compares the same with national average. *However, the health centers, and it is perhaps well-known, are inadequate in handling cases such as child birth and this is clearly reflected in the high percentage of child-birth at home (on an average, 50 % for Muslims and about 30% for non-Muslims). Most of the government hospitals are not located in close proximities, and hardly any is located in the neighborhood of the village or even within the Panchayat. The survey reports that the most dominating reason, accounting up to 24.32 percent, for not visiting a government hospital is the absence of female doctors for Muslims while it is around 15 % for the non-Muslims. Regarding vaccination of children under the age of five, about 80 per cent of all communities have been covered, while those who did not participate in the program, is mainly owing to lack of awareness.* Ambulance is hardly available for taking pregnant women to hospitals and rented car is the most important mode of transport for both the communities.

Table 19: Health – Expenditure and Facilities
(Community wise averages for the District)

		Muslim	**Non-Muslim**
Annual Average Expenditure for Health per family (Rs)		9689.71	6998.17
Access to health facilities (%) @	Government	84.58	84.10
	Private	19.62	16.79
	Quack	17.70	19.67

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Source: Household survey data.
Note: @ % values may exceed 100 as families access more than one facility.

Table 20: Health – Village-wise Averages

Name of the Village	Average expenditure on health (Rs.)	Access to health centers (%)			Vaccination (%)				Problem of Vaccination (%)		
		Government	Private	Quack	Polio	BCG	DPT	Measles	Unaware of the program	Problem of distance	Others
DAMDAHA	12363.64	89.66	23.08	8	100	66.67	91.7	58.33	100.0	0.00	0
DOMOHANI	5000	96.67	3.70	3.57	100	100	91.7	91.67	100.0	0.00	0.00
TOPSI	6272.73	50.00	16.67	0	100	0.00	0.0	77.78	50.00	0.00	50
BANSHGARA	883.33	96.43	8.00	89.29	100	100	100	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
PILSOAN	6144.44	68.97	3.45	10	100.0	90.9	100	90.91	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
LAKSHMIPUR	9958.33	72.41	10.34	0	100	60.0	50	50	100.0	0.00	0
BAMUNGRAM	3490	93.10	10.34	3.45	91.67	91.67	91.7	41.67	0.00	0.00	100
CHARKHI	12909.09	74.07	28.57	0	100	55.56	77.8	77.78	100.0	0.00	0
GURPARA	5435.71	100	6.67	83.33	100	88.89	94.4	27.78	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
PURULIA	2881.82	96.67	13.33	0	100	100	100	25	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
KETUGRAM	10166.67	93.33	23.33	23.33	100	80.0	100	90	100.00	0.00	0.00
BISHNUPUR	5391.67	93.33	0.00	0	100	100	100	0.0	0.00	0.00	100
SUDPUR	18623.08	89.66	0.00	0	100	100	100	88.24	0.00	0.00	100
GANFULIA	5973.68	100	6.67	96.67	100	90.0	90	100	0.00	0.00	100
GAURDANGA	9000	56.67	10.00	76.67	100	100	100	85.71	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
SAJIARA	10352.94	100	86.67	10	90.00	90.0	100	100	50.00	0.00	50
CHUPI	19307.69	76.67	20.00	0	100	100	100	0.0	0.00	0.00	100
KULUT	3388.89	100	62.07	0	100	100	85.7	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
KULCHANDA	6355	100	56.67	46.67	100	68.42	84.2	68.42	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
HANRGRAM	2955	100	34.48	20.69	100	100	27.27	100	44.44	0.00	55.6
PARSURA	8160	62.07	31.03	3.57	100	50.0	41.7	75	50.00	0.00	50
SRIDHARPUR	5000	96.67	0.00	0	100	100.0	66.7	100	80.00	0.00	20
KANCHANNAGAR	10857.14	86.67	6.67	0	100	92.86	71.4	14.29	33.33	0.00	66.7
SHUHARI	7750.00	70.00	20.00	33.33	100	90.0	90	80	0.00	0.00	100
BARWA	760	80	3.33	0	100	57.14	57.1	85.71	100	0.00	0
AGRADAHA	1384.62	100	17.86	0	100	0.00	33.3	66.67	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
MADHUBATI	20100	79.31	0.00	0	100	57.14	42.9	14.29	0.00	0.00	100
FAIMPUR	10075	56.67	6.67	0	100.0	20.0	100	0.0	100.0	0.00	0
RAMBATI	12200	72.41	3.70	60.71	100	100	100	94.12	0.00	0.00	100
NALE	12421.05	73.33	6.67	0	100	100	100	90.91	0.00	0.00	100

Source: Village survey data

Table 21: Types of Medical Facilities – Village wise

Name of the Villages	Government Hospitals		PHC		Sub-PHC	
	Within village	Within Panchayat	Within village	Within Panchayat	Within village	Within Panchayat
DAMDAHA	N	N	N	Y	N	Y
DOMOHANI	N	N	N	Y	N	N
TOPSI	N	N	N	N	Y	-
BANSHGARA	N	N	N	N	N	Y
PILSOAN	N	N	N	Y	N	Y
LAKSHMIPUR	N	N	N	N	N	Y
BAMUNGRAM	N	N	N	Y	N	Y
CHARKHI	N	N	N	N	N	Y
GURPARA	N	N	N	N	N	Y
PURULIA	N	N	N	N	Y	-
KETUGRAM	N	N	Y	-	Y	-
BISHNUPUR	N	N	N	N	N	Y
SUDPUR	N	N	N	N	Y	-
GANFULIA	N	N	Y	-	N	Y
GAURDANGA	N	Y	N	N	Y	-
SAJIARA	N	Y	N	N	N	Y
CHUPI	N	N	Y	-	Y	-
KULUT	N	N	Y	-	N	Y
KULCHANDA	N	N	N	N	N	N
HANRGRAM	N	N	N	Y	N	N
PARSURA	N	N	N	N	N	Y
SRIDHARPUR	N	N	N	N	Y	-
KANCHANNAGAR	N	N	N	N	N	Y
SHUHARI	N	N	N	Y	N	Y
BARWA	N	N	Y	-	Y	-
AGRADAHA	N	N	N	N	Y	-
MADHUBATI	N	N	N	N	N	Y
FAIMPUR	N	N	N	N	N	N
RAMBATI	N	N	N	N	N	Y
NALE	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y

Source: Village survey data.
Note: N = Absent, Y = Present and N.A means data *not available*.

Table 22: Information on Child Birth – Village-wise (%)

Name of villages	Place of birth				Reasons for not visiting Government places				
	At home	Government Hospital	Private Hospital	Others	Problem of distance	Un-cleanliness	Inefficient services by	No female doctors	Others
DAMDAHA	12.50	75.00	12.50	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DOMOHANI	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
TOPSI	0.00	28.57	71.43	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BANSHGARA	69.23	23.08	7.69	0.00	90.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PILSOAN	36.36	63.64	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LAKSHMIPUR	60.00	10.00	30.00	0.00	0.00	66.67	33.33	0.00	0.00
BAMUNGRAM	42.86	57.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.33	66.67
CHARKHI	37.50	50.00	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
GURPARA	47.37	52.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.67	33.33
PURULIA	47.37	42.11	10.53	0.00	0.00	27.27	0.00	18.18	54.55
KETUGRAM	50.00	40.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	33.33	0.00	66.67
BISHNUPUR	60.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.67	0.00	0.00	33.33
SUDPUR	50.00	38.89	11.11	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	80.00	10.00
GANFULIA	90.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.11	0.00	88.89
GAURDANGA	37.50	62.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
SAJIARA	30.00	60.00	10.00	0.00	75.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
CHUPI	20.00	80.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
KULUT	71.43	28.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	40.00
KULCHANDA	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
HANRGRAM	33.33	55.56	11.11	0.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
PARSURA	45.45	54.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
SRIDHARPUR	16.67	55.56	27.78	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
KANCHANNAGAR	25.00	66.67	8.33	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	75.00
SHUHARI	30.00	50.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	60.00
BARWA	0.00	87.50	12.50	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
AGRADAHA	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
MADHUBATI	14.29	71.43	14.29	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
FAIMPUR	25.00	75.00	0.00	0.00	33.33	0.00	0.00	33.33	33.33
RAMBATI	46.67	40.00	13.33	0.00	37.50	12.50	50.00	0.00	0.00
NALE	10.00	80.00	10.00	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

Source: Village survey data

Table 23: Vaccination of Under Five-Year Children (%)
(Community wise District Averages)

Vaccination	Muslim		Non-Muslim	
Polio (pulse)	98.65		99.62	
DTP	87.84		80.68	
BCG	89.19		80.30	
Measles	82.43		64.02	
Organization	Government	Private	Government	Private
	100.0	0.0	95.40	4.60
Reasons for non participation	Unaware	Distance	Others	Unaware	Distance	Others
	66.67	0.0	33.33	45.10	0.0	54.90

Source: Household survey data.

Table 24: Information on Childbirth – Household Response (%)
(Community wise District Averages)

		Muslim	Non-Muslim
Place of birth	In house	50.68	30.04
	Hospital	41.10	59.67
	Private hospital	8.22	10.29
	Others	0.00	0.00
Help during child birth	Doctor	32.88	62.14
	Nurse	15.07	7.41
	Trained midwife	19.18	11.93
	Non trained midwife	32.88	16.87
	Others/Don't know	0.00	1.65
Transport	Own car	0.00	2.86
	Rented car	87.50	86.86
	No vehicle	12.50	5.14
	Ambulance	0.00	5.14
Reason for not availing Government. Hospital facilities	Long distance	5.41	23.81
	Unhygienic condition	5.41	25.00
	Poor service quality	16.22	5.95
	No female doctor	24.32	15.48
	Others	48.65	29.76

Source: Household survey data.

5. Infrastructure

Almost all the villages have at least one primary school within the village. But only a

few villages have secondary schools, in fact the district average of number of secondary schools

per village is 0.43. Around 50% villages are connected through bus routes within 5 Kms. of the villages while only 7% villages are connected through train routes in the sense that rail stations are within 5 Kms from the villages. Around 50% of the villages have commercial banks or agricultural credit societies within 5 Kms. while 60% villages have post offices within 5 Kms.

6. Awareness about Government Programmes

It is easily understood that success of government sponsored development schemes strongly depend on the level of awareness and hence participation in using such facilities. *The interesting thing about the government programmes is that most of the people across communities, over 90% are aware about the NREGS though of them only around 50% have benefited, next comes IAY (over 80% people are aware), then comes SSA followed by SGSY. But other programmes such as AWRP, TSC or Swajaldhara are not very popular.* It is understandable that popularity of programmes depends upon the campaign. It is interesting that non-Muslims are both more aware and more benefited out of these schemes compared to their religious counterpart. The major source of information in cases of profitable job opportunities have come from the Panchayat Pradhan himself/herself or from the GP office, and there is no report of the fact that NGOs have been of significant help in this connection.

Table 25: Awareness and Efficacy of the Government Sponsored Development Programmes – District Average for Muslims (%)

Programme	Aware ness of people	Benefic iary	Help received from					% of cases where Commission paid
			Pra dhan	GP Office	NGO	Self	Others	
SGSY	16.83	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
NREGS	98.61	61.50	54.03	25.81	0.0	18.55	1.61	0.89
IAY	90.28	5.21	80.0	10.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0
Old age pension	52.24	2.91	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Swajal dhara	24.00	35.42	82.35	17.65	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Irrigation	34.00	12.12	60.0	20.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0
ARWSP	10.00	45.00	83.33	0.0	0.0	16.67	0.0	0.0
SSA	71.29	25.52	51.51	3.03	0.0	42.42	3.03	0.0
TSS/SSUP	6.15	10.00	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	0.0	N.A.

Source: Household survey data.

Table 26: Awareness and Efficacy of the Government Sponsored Development Programmes – District Average for non-Muslims (%)

| Programme | Aware ness of people | Benefici ary | Help received from | | | | | % of cases where Commission paid |
			Pra dhan	GP Office	NGO	Self	Others	
SGSY	43.26	15.36	43.90	19.51	0.0	31.71	4.88	0.0
NREGS	98.09	52.42	51.19	38.1	0.0	8.93	1.79	1.98
IAY	80.82	9.94	72.0	18.0	0.0	4.0	6.0	4.35
Old age pension	61.26	2.85	50.0	40.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	11.11
Swajal dhara	26.68	24.07	47.22	41.67	0.0	5.56	5.56	2.63
Irrigation	41.04	35.51	44.30	21.52	0.0	25.32	8.86	2.86
ARWSP	17.27	25.00	79.17	4.17	0.0	16.67	4.17	16.67
SSA	69.02	24.40	42.05	4.55	0.0	50.0	3.4	1.20
TSS /SSUP	11.29	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A	N.A.

Source: Household Survey Data

Note: NA means *not available*

Table 27: Awareness and Efficacy of Government Schemes – Village-wise

Name of the Villages	Percentage of people aware (all programmes)	Percentage of people benefited (all programmes)	Number of people who have job cards (NREGS)	Number of people who have got job (NREGS)
DAMDAHA	43.80	10.98	158	158
DOMOHANI	68.60	24.63	254	230
TOPSI	34.61	19.41	531	487
BANSHGARA	45.72	33.35	107	107
PILSOAN	43.33	18.45	260	219
LAKSHMIPUR	29.69	50.00	650	650
BAMUNGRAM	69.05	24.17	141	141
CHARKHI	57.14	23.54	350	350
GURPARA	55.15	20.83	160	160
PURULIA	66.19	44.74	344	320
KETUGRAM	54.29	6.84	2300	1700
BISHNUPUR	41.90	91.38	140	72
SUDPUR	48.10	10.48	768	768
GANFULIA	40.57	7.86	450	400
GAURDANGA	41.90	48.28	376	376
SAJIARA	76.67	26.43	1200	1200
CHUPI	25.71	28.41	2600	2421
KULUT	40.90	8.37	1026	1026
KULCHANDA	95.24	0.00	345	0
HANRGRAM	89.52	15.98	350	350
PARSURA	38.85	19.05	228	200
SRIDHARPUR	14.76	93.10	187	170
KANCHANNAGAR	26.67	7.82	250	110
SHUHARI	25.27	20.24	160	130
BARWA	40.49	25.66	812	810
AGRADAHA	97.60	7.69	61	47
MADHUBATI	45.46	33.33	30	8
FAIMPUR	41.43	9.17	80	80
RAMBATI	44.79	23.72	430	330
NALE	58.57	2.07	198	198

Source: Village survey data & Household survey data
Note: N.A means *not available*

8. Other Issues

About 2.3 % of the Muslim respondents have life insurance whereas only 1.4% of the non-Muslim respondents are having life insurance while 1.4 percent of Muslim and about 2 percent non-Muslim households have health insurance. About 34% of Muslim and 29% non-Muslim households have bank deposits. Incidence of indebtedness is quite high, 62.15 percent of Muslim and 47.63 percent of non-Muslim households are indebted and main sources of availing loans are moneylenders (about 30%) and relatives (24.68% for Muslims and 18.76% for non-Muslims). Loan is mainly taken for medical expenditure not for capital expenditure as a few percentage of the respondent reported to have taken loans for capital expenditure.

Table 28: Non-agricultural Assets – District Averages

		Muslim	Non-Muslim
Oxcart	Percentage of household who own	6.48	8.77
	Average Price(Rs)	6107.14	5461.67
Car	Percentage of households who own	N.A.	N.A.
	Average Price (Rs)	N.A.	N.A.

Source: Household survey data
Note: NA means not available.

Table 29: Insurance and Financial Assets – Community wise District Averages

		Muslim	Non-Muslim
Health Insurance	Percentage of households who have	1.4	2.05
	Average Value (Rs)	3333.33	4142.86
Life Insurance	Percentage of households who have	3.7	3.22
	Average Value (Rs)	23625.0	32953.41
Crop Insurance	Percentage of households who have	2.3	1.4
	Average Value(Rs)	18200.0	7040.0
Bank Deposit	Percentage of households who have	34.72	29.82
	Average Value(Rs)	21668.0	37741.91
Fixed Deposit	Percentage of households who have	12.04	8.77
	Average Value (Rs)	14250.0	17533.33

Source: Household survey data.

Table 30: Indebtedness - Sources and Conditions of Loan
(Community wise District Averages)

		Muslim	Non-Muslim
Percentage of households indebted		62.15	47.63
Average Interest Rate		34.96	25.94
Sources of availing loans (%)	Government	2.53	3.67
	Commercial Bank	8.86	6.30
	Rural Bank	11.39	5.77
	Co-operative Bank	13.29	19.69
	Self Help Group/Non Governmental Organization	0.63	0.26
	Moneylender	29.75	26.77
	Big landowner/Jotedar	8.23	15.75
	Relative	24.68	18.37
	Others	0.63	3.41
Conditions & Terms of Loan (%)	Only Interest	71.52	70.62
	Physical labour	3.97	15.63
	Land mortgage	12.58	2.96
	Ornament mortgage	3.97	3.77

Source: Household survey data

Table 31: Indebtedness - Reasons and Nature of Loan
(Community wise District Averages)

		Muslim	Non-Muslim
Nature of loan	Capital related expenditure	12.03	6.35
	Purchase of agricultural equipment	15.19	24.60
Reasons of Loan	Purchase of land/home	3.16	2.65
	Repairing of house	12.03	11.90
	Marriage/other social function	15.19	10.32
	Medical expenditure	19.62	16.67
	Purchase of cattle	1.27	1.32
	Investment	6.96	5.82
	Others	14.56	20.37
Terms – Cash only		91.77	93.92

Source: Household survey data

Table 32: Common Property Resources – Household Response
of Uses and Interference (District Averages)

		Percentage of User		Percentage of Interference	
		Muslim	Non-Muslim	Muslim	Non-Muslim
Uses and Interference	Forest	17.72	50.22	0.00	1.90
	Pond	57.73	71.00	1.10	0.84
	Field	74.13	67.09	2.13	0.80
	Cattle-pen	1.96	8.70	0.00	4.23
	School ground	12.28	21.41	0.00	0.71
	Other Government Buildings	22.11	14.15	0.00	0.55
	Others	24.39	25.29	0.00	1.89
		Muslim		Non-Muslim	
Categories of people who interfere	Powerful people	NA		60.00	
	Big landlords	NA		0.00	
	Each household	NA		40.00	

Source: Household survey data

Table 33: Public Distribution System – Community wise District Averages

		Muslim	Non-Muslim
APL Card	% of families with APL ration cards	67.34	58.44
BPL Card	% of families with BPL/ Antodaya/ Annapurna card.	31.14	38.30
Sufficiency	% of families with sufficient product	33.80	41.78
Quantity	Rice: kg per family per month	8.01	8.45
	Wheat: kg per family per month	6.07	5.84
Problem (%)	Inadequate	29.77	30.77
	Inferior quality	12.09	9.76
	Less in amount	20.47	7.84
	Not available in time	12.09	5.18
	Irregular	4.65	4.14
	Others	0.00	1.04
	No problem	20.93	41.27
Purchase	% of families who can purchase all goods	10.19	21.48
Reason of purchase problem (%)	Monetary constraint	27.27	26.94
	Insufficiency of ration	35.86	40.77
	Unwillingness to sell off by the dealers	27.27	20.66
	Others	9.60	11.62

Source: Household survey data.

Recommendations

We have discussed the conditions of the district in terms of the major indicators; we have provided the current status of the most important eight indicators identified by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, viz. the four religion specific indicators and the four basic amenities indicators. In addition we have also provided the status of the many other indicators that we thought to be of relevance. Some of these are calculated at a more disaggregated level for a particular indicator.. For example we have gone into a detailed account of status of education, at different levels as we thought that only literacy is inadequate. We also provided the status of training in vocational trades and the demand for such training. This is important, in our opinion, as we tried to relate the same with job market situation for the general populace.

The above analysis is very broad in nature and requires intervention at a very larger scale and change in the attitude of the process of policy planning. Since the approach of the Multi-sector Development Plan funded by the Ministry of Minority Affairs is supplementary in nature and does not intend to change the very nature of the plan process, it is suggested that the district administration may start working on priority basis with the additional fund in the areas where the deficit can very easily be identified at the district level or at the village or in the pockets of the district. Hence we provide the deficit of the district for the religion specific socio-economic indicators and the basic amenities indicators where the deficit has been calculated as the deviation of the survey averages from the corresponding values based on NSSO, 2005 and NFHS - 3 in Table 34 below. In addition to these indicators we have also discussed about some of the indicators, which in our opinion are extremely important for the development of the district.

<div align="center">

Table 34: Priority Ranking of Facilities Based on Deficits of District Averages and National Averages

</div>

Sl. No.	Indicator	District Average	National Average	Deficit	Priority Rank
I. Socio-economic Indicators					
1	Literacy (%)	71.89	67.3	-4.59	6
2	Female Literacy (%)	64.87	57.1	-7.77	8
3	Work Participation (%)	40.64	38.0	-2.64	5
4	Female Work Participation (%)	8.79	21.5	12.71	3
II. Basic Amenities Indicators					
5	Houses with Pucca Walls	40.41	59.4	18.99	2
6	Safe Drinking Water (%)	93.78	87.9	-5.88	7
7	Electricity in Houses (%)	44.44	67.9	23.46	1
8	W/C Toilet (%)	31.44	39.2	7.76	4
III. Health Indicators					
9	Full Vaccination of Children (%)	55.26	43.5	-11.76	-
10	Institutional Delivery (%)	65.19	38.7	-26.49	-

Note: District averages are based on the sample data on rural areas only, and national averages for Sl. No. (5) to (8) are based on NFHS-3 and the rest are based on NSSO, 2005.

It is clear from the above table that the district averages perform very poorly compared to the corresponding national averages in the cases of electricity in houses, houses with pucca wall, female work participation, and marginally lower for W/C toilet. Accordingly the district administration is expected to draw up their development plan funded by the Ministry of Minority Affairs based on the priority ranking of the facilities. However, it may also be noted that the district averages and the deficits are not uniform across the district, there are large variations across the villages. A comparison may be made consulting the relevant tables for the village level averages. In this way one can find out the priority ranking for the villages separately. Given the representative character of the sample one can treat those villages or the blocks where they are situated as the pockets of relative backwardness in terms of the above indicators. We draw the attention of the district administration to be cautious when drawing plan for the district.

In addition to the above priority ranking of facilities we also like to point out that there are some findings that the study team of the CSSSC thinks very important from the standpoint of the development of the district. These are given below.

- The pucca house receives a rank of 2 and the percentage of BPL families covered under IAY is extremely poor, 6.07%. So we think it is an important area where the district administration should top up.

- The district average of the number of primary teachers per school (3.37) is above the national average based on Census 2001 (2.84), the national average itself is very poor. It means on an average, all the four classes in a primary school cannot be held. So though the district average is not so poor in this case the district administration should pay attention to this.

- So far secondary schools are concerned, the performance of the district is very poor, viz. 0.43 secondary and higher secondary schools per village. This also needs intervention.

- Apparently the district performs reasonably good for health related indicators, on closer scrutiny one is not satisfied just by any absolute standard. For example, no villages have government hospitals in its vicinity, 40 % of villages have primary health centers or sub-centres situated within the village, average distance of primary health center or sub-centres is 3.45 Km., average distance of government hospital is 11.91 Km., average distance of private hospital or nursing home is 12.79 Km.

- Performance of the facilities related to ICDS centers is, however, quite good. A very high percentage of 83.33% are housed in government building while 56.67% have good quality building and average number of visits of ICDS employees is, however, only 8.71 days in a year.

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APPENDICES

Table A1: General information

	District average	Average of the sample villages
Area of the village	246.57 hectares	324.44 hectares
Household size	4.81 persons	5.02 persons
Area of irrigated land out of total cultivable area (%)	70.01 %	72.43 %
Number of post offices	0.22	0.50
Number of phone connection	5.66	9.60

Source: Village Directory, Census 2001

Table A 2: Approach Roads to the villages

Nature of Approach Roads	Paved Road		Mud Road		Footpath	
	Available	Not Available	Available	Not Available	Available	Not Available
Average for the district	66.72%	33.28 %	90.23 %	9.77 %	23.51 %	76.49 %
Average for sample villages	80.00 %	20.00 %	86.67 %	13.33 %	16.67 %	83.33 %

Source: Village Directory, Census 2001

Fig. A 1 Sources of Water

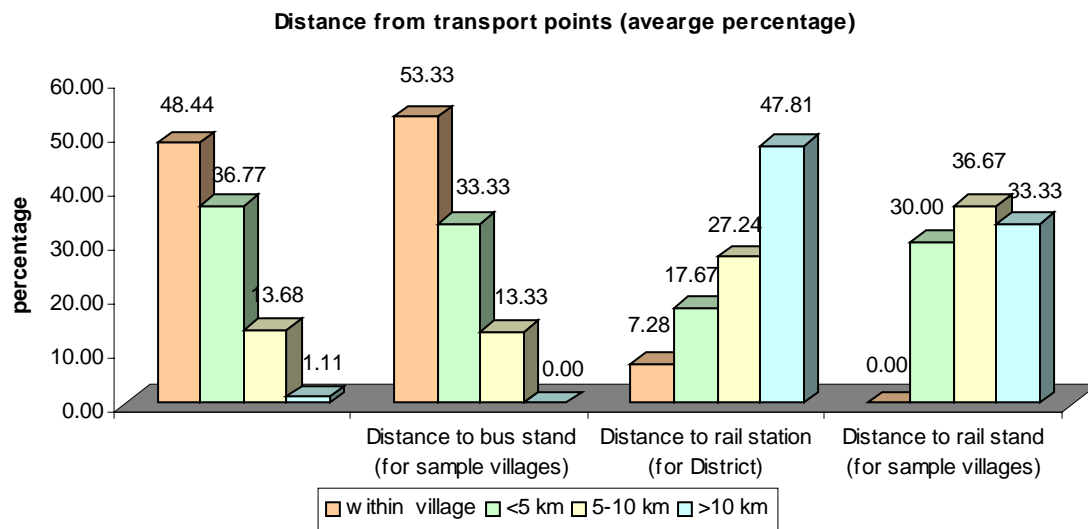**Average availability of sources of drinking water (%)**
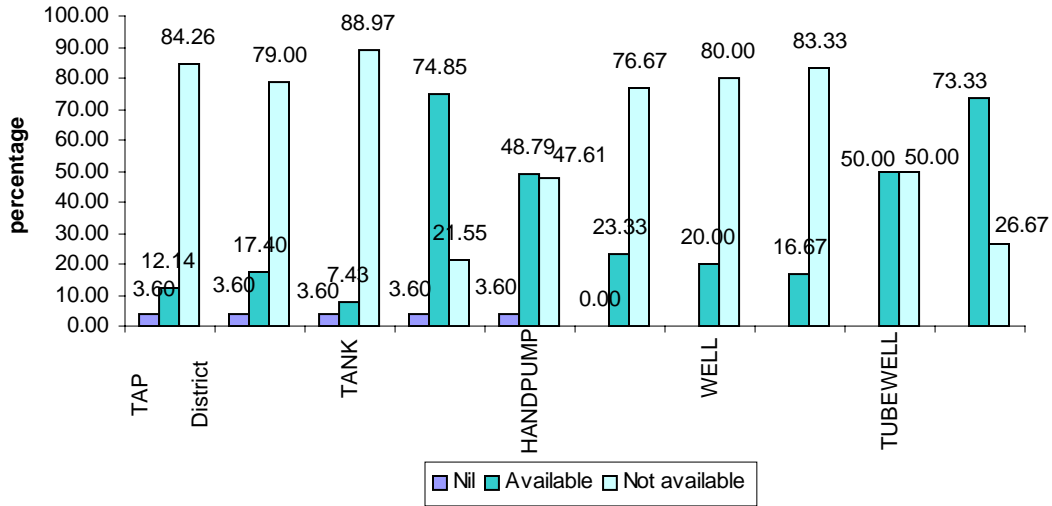
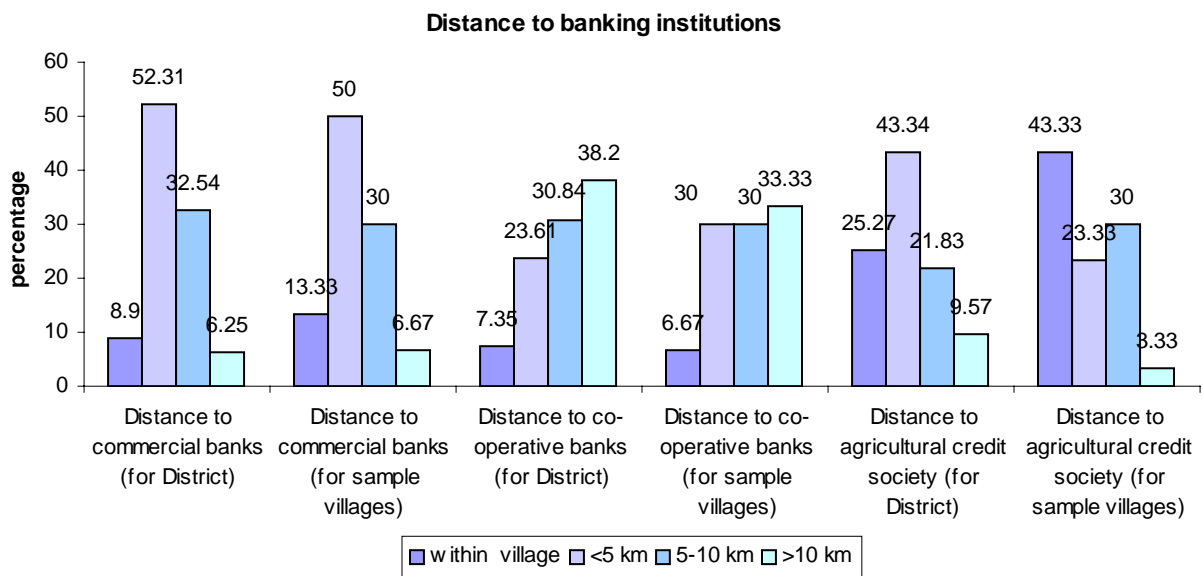Source: Village Directory, Census 2001

Fig. A2: Distance to post-office
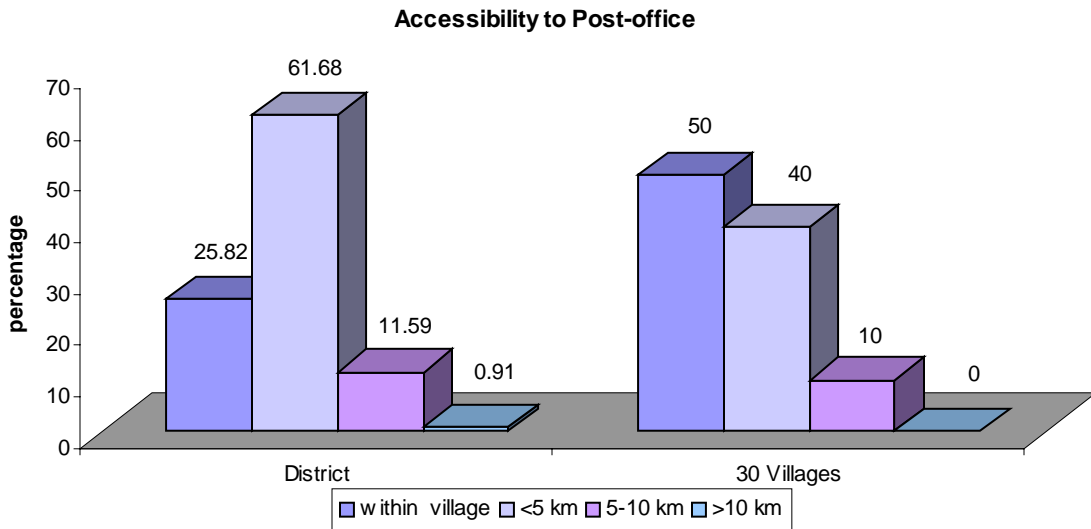
Source: Village Directory, Census 2001
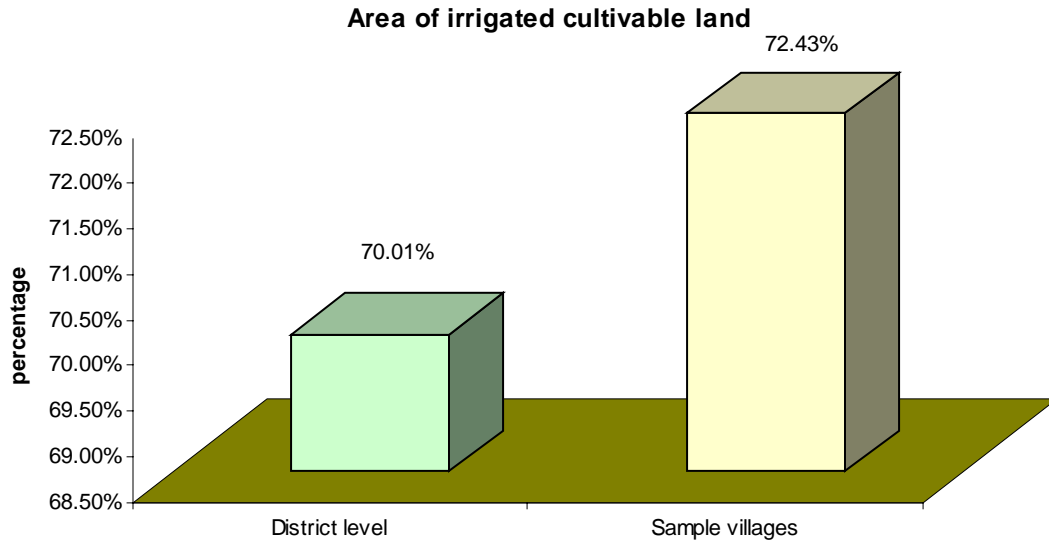
Fig. A3: Distance to Public Transport

Distance from transport points (avearge percentage)

Source: Village Directory, Census 2001

Fig. A4: Distance of Bank and Other Financial Institutions

Distance to banking institutions

Source: Village Directory, Census 2001

Fig. A5: Irrigation

Area of irrigated cultivable land

Source: Village Directory, Census 2001

A4: Sampling Methodology

The primary unit for survey is census village. A sample of villages will be selected for each district. If the population of the district is greater than 0.5 million then a total of 30 villages will be chosen for the district and if the population is less than or equal to 0.5 million then 25 villages will be chosen for the district. For the purpose of sampling the district is classified into three strata S_i (i=1,2,3). For stratification of villages in the district percentage of minority population will be used as the criteria. But since there is no published data on minority population at the village level, one has to work with percentage of minority population at the level of CD block. Let N be the no. of CD blocks in a district and p_j (j=1,…..,N) be the percentage of minority population of the j th. block. These N blocks are then arranged in descending order (one can also use ascending order) by p_j. The top 20%, middle 50% and the bottom 30% constitutes S_1, S_2 and S_3 respectively. Each S_i contains the villages belonging to the respective blocks. Let P_i (i =1,2,3) be the proportion of rural population in S_i to district rural population. No. of villages from each strata will be chosen by the proportion of population of that strata in the total. Then denoting the no. of villages to be drawn from S_i by n_i one obtains

$n_i = (P_i)$ 25,   if the district population is less than equal to 0.5 million

$= (P_i)$ 30,   if the district population is greater than 0.5 million,

subject to a minimum of 6 villages in each stratum.

The villages are chosen by the method of PPS (probability proportional to population) with replacement from each of S_i where aggregate population of villages are the size criteria (as per census 2001).

After the sample villages are chosen by the method described above the next task is to choose the sample of households for each village. If population of the sample village is less than or equal to 1200 all households will be listed. If population of the village is more than 1200, 3 or more hamlet groups will be chosen. For this purpose one may exactly follow the methodology of NSSO for hamlet group formation. A total of two hamlet groups will be chosen from these hamlet groups. Out of these two, one hamlet group will be the one with highest minority

population (for the district). Another hamlet group will be chosen randomly from the remaining hamlet groups. The households of chosen hamlet groups will be listed. While listing the households their minority status will also be collected as auxiliary information.

Given the auxiliary information on minority status of the households they will be classified into five strata – Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Buddhist and Parsi. A total of 30 households will be chosen from each sample village (or the two hamlet groups if hamlet groups have been formed) in proportion to number of households in each stratum subject to a minimum of 2 households in each stratum. The sampling methodology will be simple random sampling without replacement. If there is no listing in any stratum then the corresponding group will be ignored for that village.

The rule followed by NSSO for forming hamlet-groups is given below.

Approximate present population of the village	no. of hamlet-groups to be formed
1200 to 1799	3
1800 to 2399	4
2400 to 2999	5
3000 to 3599	6
…………..and so on	