

A BASELINE SURVEY OF MINORITY  
CONCENTRATION DISTRICTS OF INDIA

DARBHANGA

(Bihar)

**Sponsored by**  
Ministry of Minority Affairs  
Government of India  
and  
Indian Council of Social Science Research



**INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**  
NIDM Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, IIPA Campus  
I.P Estate, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110 002  
Phones – 2335 8166, 2332 1610 / Fax : 23765410  
Email: [ihd@vsnl.com](mailto:ihd@vsnl.com), website: [ihdindia.org](http://ihdindia.org)

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Email: [ihd@vsnl.com](mailto:ihd@vsnl.com), website: [ihdindia.org](http://ihdindia.org)

## **RESEARCH TEAM**

### **Principal Researchers**

Alakh N. Sharma  
Ashok K. Pankaj

### **Data Processing and Tabulation**

Balwant Singh Mehta  
Sunil Kumar Mishra  
Abhay Kumar

### **Research Associates/Field Supervisors**

Ramashray Singh  
Ashwani Kumar  
Subodh Kumar  
M. Poornima

### **Research Assistant**

P.K. Mishra

### **Secretarial Assistance**

Shri Prakash Sharma  
Nidhi Sharma  
Sindhu Joshi

**DARBHANGA**

*Principal Author of the Report*

**Ashok K. Pankaj**

**Poornima**

Institute for Human Development

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# **A BASELINE SURVEY OF MINORITY CONCENTRATION DISTRICT**

## *Executive Summary of Darbhanga District (Bihar)*

### **Background:**

- The Ministry of Minority Affairs (GOI) has identified 90 minority-concentrated backward districts using eight indicators of socio-economic development and amenities based on 2001 census data, with the purpose of improving all these indicators and bringing them to the All-India level through a Multi-Sector Development Plan (MSDP) under the Eleventh Five Year Plan. Since it is expected that there must be changes in those indicators after 2001; a baseline survey has been conducted to update the multi-sectoral development plan (MSDP) with the latest deficits and priorities.

### **District Profile:**

- As per the 2001 India Census, Darbhanga district had a population of 30 lakhs. Of this 22 per cent is minority population, which consists mainly of Muslims, while nearly 16 per cent of the district population consists of Scheduled Castes..
- Darbhanga has an average literacy rate of 74 per cent, which is higher than the national average; male literacy is 87 per cent and female literacy is 60 per cent.
- In Darbhanga, 15 per cent of the population is under 6 years of age. The population of Hindus is 77.6 per cent and of Muslims, 22.35 per cent. Thus the overall population of Muslims in the district is higher than the state average of 16.17 per cent.
- The population of Muslims is concentrated in a few blocks where they have a substantial population, like Jale (32 per cent), Singhwara (31 per cent), Kiotiranway (34 per cent), Kiratpur and Gora Bauram, 30 per cent each. In other blocks, their population is above 15 per cent, with the lowest being in Purbi (7.4 per cent).
- Agriculture is the mainstay of the population and about 24.42 per cent of them are cultivators, while 54 per cent are agricultural labourers.
- The work participation rate for the district is 31.91 per cent which is slightly less than the state average (34.65 per cent).



## Survey Findings: Socio-economic Conditions and other Amenities in 2008

It has been found that the district lags behind the all India figures in 6 out of 8 indicators, and also lags behind the all India level in two health related indicators. The table below shows the gap between the all India and district figures vis-à-vis ten indicators and prioritizes the development interventions vis-à-vis eight indicators. The two health-related indicators are not part of the development priority rankings, as the Ministry of Minority Affairs has identified Minority Concentration Districts (MCD) only on the basis of eight indicators. However, these are important indicators of human development and, therefore, ought to form part of the multi-sector development plan of the district. The district figures are based on the survey findings (2008), and the all India figures pertain to 2004-05 and 2005-06. The difference with the all India figures may be lower here, as the all India data are a little dated, and must have improved since then.

**Table 1: Development Gaps and Priorities for the Multi-sector Plan**

Sl. No.	Indicators	Darbhanga 2008	All India 2005	Development Gaps Between All India & District	Development Priority of the District
		(1)	(2)	(3=1-2)	(4)
1	Rate of literacy	55.5	67.3	-11.8	5
2	Rate of female literacy	43.9	57.1	-13.2	4
3	Work participation rate	37.9	38.0	-0.1	6
4	Female work participation rate	24.0	21.5	2.50	8
5	% of households with <i>pucca</i> walls	29.4	59.4	-30	3
6	% of households with safe drinking water	89.1	87.9	1.2	7
7	% of households with electricity	9.1	67.9	-58.8	1
8	% of households with water closet latrines	6.1	39.2	-33.1	2
9	% of fully vaccinated children	37.2	43.5	-6.3	-
10	% of child delivery in a health facility	10.1	38.7	-28.6	-

**Electricity (Rank 1):** The condition of electricity is worse if one compares it with the all-India scenario, as only one in ten households are electrified in the district (9.1 per cent).

This is a universal phenomenon, without any community differences, as the survey findings hardly reflect any difference between Hindu (8.6 per cent) and Muslim households (9.6 per cent). Those houses where there is no electricity are 90.78 per cent dependent upon oil lamps. The lack of electricity further reduces the scope for improvement of micro-enterprise activities in the districts. These development gaps need to be addressed first under the MSDP.

**Closet toilets (Rank 2):** The availability of closet toilets is an indicator of the sanitation and health status of the district. The present study indicates that very few households are reported to have latrines within the houses. Specifically, only 6.08 per cent of households have in-house toilet facilities, and the remaining 93.92 per cent defecate in the open. The difference is large once the condition of the district is compared with the all-India level. Various levels of intervention are required, to create awareness about the need to have a toilet facility. Financial support is also required for constructing it.

**Housing (Rank 3):** *Pucca* house is another critical gap in the district. Against 59.4 per cent of the households having *pucca* houses at the All-India level, only 29.4 per cent of the surveyed households live in *pucca* houses. A large proportion of the households (69.52 per cent) live in thatched and *katcha* houses. The MSDP has to earmark some funds to promote housing in the district.

**Education (Rank 4 and 5):** The rate of literacy is low as compared to the all-India level. There is an even bigger gap in the female literacy. About 43 per cent of the household members are illiterate and another 25.4 per cent are having only below primary level education. Nearly 20.25 per cent of the children belonging to the age group of 6-14 are not attending school. It is essential to look at this issue and the gender aspects of enrolment also need to be reviewed critically. It is necessary to develop programmes to ensure the enrolment of all children and to retain them in school with scholarships, mid-day meals, etc.

**Employment (Rank 6 and 8):** The work participation rate (both over all and female) is at par with the all-India rate. However, it is not an acceptable rate and a lot needs to be done in this regard to improve it. Another issue that was noticed was the significant number of people involved in the low income-generating activities. In this regard, the MSDP has to promote employment by developing programmes and schemes that can

provide an extra activity and extra income, and also absorb some people into the work force.

**Safe drinking water (Rank 7):** Though, in general, the status of the safe drinking water in the district is better than the national average, it still requires attention as a significant number i.e., 45.98 per cent households depend on public sources for water. It is essential to improve the distribution of the public sources and ensure the quality of the private sources as well.

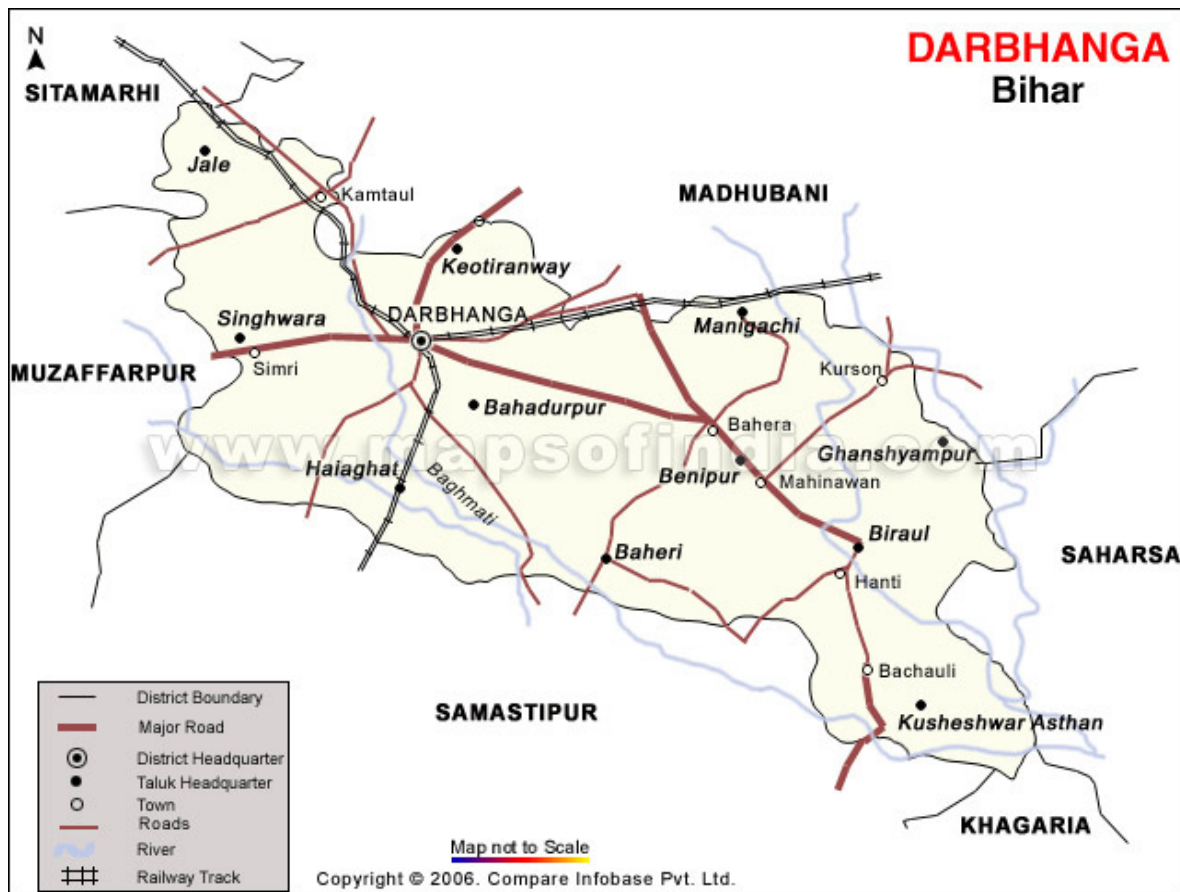
**Other issues:**

**Health:** The situation regarding vaccination of children is not as critical as may be expected. At the all-India level 43.5 per cent of the children below 14 years are fully vaccinated, and for Darbhanga district the figure is 37.2 per cent. However small it might be there is a gap of 6 percentage points. There is a huge difference as far as child delivery health facilities are concerned. At the all-India level, 38.7 per cent of child deliveries are institutional, but for the district the figure is 10.1 per cent. Here there is a big development gap of 28 points. Though government institutions have rapidly penetrated the district, private medical practitioners and quacks are a major source of medical service in the district and are easily available in most of the villages. Hence intervention is needed in this aspect as well.

# Chapter I

## INTRODUCTION

The District of Darbhanga can be divided into four natural divisions. The eastern portion consisting of Ghanshyampur, Biraoul and Kusheshwarsthan blocks contain fresh silt deposited by the Kosi River. This region was under the influence of the Kosi floods till the construction of the Kosi embankment in the Second Five Year Plan. It contains large tracts of sandy land covered with wild marsh. The second division comprised of the *anchals* lying south of the Boorhi Gandak river and is the most fertile area in the district. It is also on a higher level than the other parts of the district and contains very few marshes. It is well-suited to the rabbi crops. The third natural region is the *doab* between the Burhi Gandak and Baghmatai and consists of the low-lying areas dotted over by *chaur* and marshes. It gets flooded every year. The fourth division covers the Sadar sub-division of the district. This tract is watered by numerous streams and contains some up-lands.



Darbhanga was the ancient city of Mithila, which is an ancient cultural region of North India lying between the lower ranges of the Himalayas and the Ganges river. The Nepal border cuts across the top fringe of this region. The Gandak and Kosi Rivers are along the western and eastern boundaries of Mithila.

**Table 1.1: Population Distribution in Darbhanga District (%)**

Tehsil	Total Rural population	%SC	%ST	% Hindu population	% Muslim Population	% Minority population
Jale	234407	11.0	0.0	67.2	32.7	32.8
Singhwara	236055	11.4	0.0	68.5	31.3	31.4
Keotiranway	237577	14.2	0.0	65.9	34.0	34.1
Darbhanga	232647	16.0	0.0	73.3	25.1	25.1
Manigachhi	186916	14.1	0.1	74.3	25.6	25.6
Tardih	98344	12.2	0.0	81.6	18.3	18.4
Alinagar	128737	12.9	0.0	59.1	29.2	29.3
Benipur	199749	15.0	0.0	84.2	16.1	16.1
Bahadurpur	214740	21.4	0.0	87.0	14.5	14.5
Hanumannagar	135920	18.7	0.0	84.2	15.7	15.7
Hayaghat	123246	18.4	0.0	71.8	28.1	28.1
Baheri	253147	16.2	0.0	89.8	10.2	10.2
Biraul	233029	17.9	0.0	82.9	17.1	17.1
Ghanshyampur	92348	13.8	0.0	96.3	19.0	19.0
Kiratpur	68985	20.5	0.0	69.2	30.7	30.7
Gora Bauram	122519	14.4	0.0	69.8	30.1	30.1
Kusheshwar Asthan	131075	20.6	0.0	88.1	11.7	11.8
Kusheshwar Asthan Purbi	99000	26.2	0.1	92.6	7.4	7.4
<b>Darbhanga</b>	<b>3028441</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>22.4</b>
<i>Bihar</i>	<i>74316709</i>	<i>16.4</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>83.6</i>	<i>16.17</i>	<i>16.3</i>

Source: Village Level Directory, (Census, 2001).

Table 1.1 gives an over all idea of the population distribution of Darbhanga district. The total population of the district is 30 lakhs, of which 15 per cent are Scheduled Castes (SCs). There is no Scheduled Tribe (ST) population in the district. The population of Hindus is 77.6 per cent and Muslims are 22.35 per cent. Thus, the overall population of Muslims in the district is higher than the state average of 16.17 per cent. The population of Muslims is concentrated in a few blocks where they have a substantial population, like Jale (32 per cent), Singhwara (31 per cent), Kiotiranway (34 per cent), Kiratpur and Gora Bauram, 30 per cent each. In other blocks their population is above 15 per cent, with the lowest being in Purbi (7.4 per cent)

**Table 1.2: School Status in Darbhanga District**

Tahsil	% vil having primary school	%villages having middle school	no. of Secondary school	population per Secondary school	number of industrial school	population per industrial school	number of training school	population per training school
Jale	79.3	25.9	6	39068	0	0	0	0
Singhwara	80.0	24.7	5	47211	0	0	0	0
Keotiranway	85.4	19.8	4	59394	0	0	1	237577
Darbhanga	68.2	16.8	6	38775	0	0	0	0
Manigachhi	91.3	41.3	7	26702	0	0	0	0
Tardih	86.1	33.3	5	19669	0	0	0	0
Alinagar	74.4	23.3	3	42912	0	0	0	0
Benipur	75.4	29.8	8	24969	0	0	0	0
Bahadurpur	67.8	26.4	3	71580	0	0	0	0
Hanumannagar	89.2	27.7	3	45307	0	0	0	0
Hayaghat	86.0	27.9	1	123246	0	0	0	0
Baheri	76.4	26.4	9	28127	0	0	0	0
Biraul	72.6	24.2	4	58257	0	0	0	0
Ghanshyampur	80.8	23.1	1	92348	0	0	3	30783
Kiratpur	82.4	29.4	2	34493	0	0	0	0
Gora Bauram	91.1	20.0	5	24504	1	122519	0	0
Kusheshwar Asthan	76.8	13.0	1	131075	0	0	0	0
Kusheshwar Asthan Purbi	80.0	31.4	3	33000	1	99000	1	99000
<b>Darbhanga</b>	<b>78.6</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>39848</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1514221</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>605688</b>
<i>Bihar</i>	<i>72.6</i>	<i>21.6</i>	<i>2257</i>	<i>32927</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>940718</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>940718</i>

Source: Village Level Directory, (Census, 2001).

In the district, 78.6 per cent of the villages have primary schools, which is higher than the average for Bihar (72 per cent). Again 24.7 per cent of the villages have secondary schools, which is higher than the average figure of 21.6 per cent for Bihar as a whole. The population per secondary school is 40,000. There are two industrial towns in the district and five training schools in Darbhanga district.

**Table 1.3: Distribution of Workers (%)**

NAME	Total Rural Population	Total Worker	WPR	% Cultivators	% Agricultural Labourers	% Hhlds	% Others
Jale	234407	69556	29.67	25.56	51.18	4.33	8.93
Singhwara	236055	66320	28.10	19.92	51.46	5.58	23.04
Keotiranway	237577	70737	29.77	21.99	54.40	3.15	20.45
Darbhangha	229138	70740	30.87	19.72	56.06	3.72	20.50
Manigachhi	186916	56729	30.35	21.42	53.34	3.99	21.24
Tardih	98344	33886	34.46	28.83	56.11	4.31	10.74
Alinagar	113740	37406	32.89	22.64	63.23	3.32	10.81
Benipur	200526	63151	31.49	28.17	50.88	4.52	16.43
Bahadurpur	218249	66751	30.58	20.77	46.65	4.91	27.68
Hanumannagar	135920	45188	33.25	24.15	53.46	4.28	18.11
Hayaghat	123246	34784	28.22	19.83	44.35	6.89	28.93
Baheri	253147	84955	33.56	31.26	53.88	3.20	11.66
Biraul	233029	83811	35.97	24.93	54.13	4.25	16.69
Ghanshyampur	106568	34301	32.19	27.55	56.79	3.31	12.35
Kiratpur	68985	24152	35.01	25.17	66.09	2.70	6.04
Gora Bauram	122519	44868	36.62	28.49	58.42	2.61	10.48
Kusheshwar Asthan	131075	42352	32.31	25.44	58.94	2.74	12.87
Kusheshwar Asthan Purbi	99000	36564	36.93	24.80	63.99	2.56	8.65
<b>Darbhangha</b>	<b>3028441</b>	<b>966251</b>	<b>31.91</b>	<b>24.42</b>	<b>54.31</b>	<b>3.97</b>	<b>17.30</b>
BIHAR	74316709	25752569	34.65	31.36	51.05	3.71	13.89

Source: Village Level Directory, (Census, 2001).

The number of total workers in the district is 9.6 lakhs. Agriculture is the mainstay of the population and about 24.42 per cent of them are cultivators. while 54 per cent are agricultural labourers. The work participation rate for the district is 31.91 per cent, which is slightly less than the state average (34.65 per cent). The work participation seems to be better than the state average in the tehsils of Purbi, Gora Bauram, Biraul, Kiratpur, etc.

**Table 1.4: Health and Drinking Water in Darbhanga District (%)**

Tehsil	% Villages having PHCs within 5 KM	% Villages having MCW Centre within 5 KM	% villages having Allopathic hospital <5KM Range	Allopathic hospital per lakh popn	Tap Per lakh population	Tubewell per lakh population	Handpump per lakh population
Jale	17.2	8.6	24.1	1.3	0.9	10.7	22.2
Singhwara	36.5	4.7	36.5	0.8	3.0	25.0	29.7
Keotiranway	37.5	4.2	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.0
Darbhanga	36.4	9.3	22.4	1.3	1.3	34.8	26.2
Manigachhi	54.3	23.9	50.0	2.1	0.0	3.7	24.6
Tardih	44.4	2.8	36.1	1.0	0.0	16.3	31.5
Alinagar	48.8	16.3	30.2	2.3	0.8	18.6	29.5
Benipur	40.4	28.1	29.8	1.0	2.5	6.5	26.0
Bahadurpur	36.4	25.6	32.2	1.4	3.7	37.3	29.8
Hanumannagar	40.0	16.9	20.0	1.5	0.0	8.8	42.7
Hayaghat	39.5	27.9	18.6	0.0	1.6	14.6	25.2
Baheri	25.0	4.2	9.7	0.0	0.4	8.3	24.9
Biraul	29.0	9.7	32.3	1.3	0.9	2.6	25.3
Ghanshyampur	0.0	0.0	7.7	1.1	0.0	2.2	27.1
Kiratpur	41.2	0.0	23.5	1.4	0.0	5.8	20.3
Gora Bauram	24.4	0.0	24.4	2.4	0.8	24.5	18.0
Kusheshwar Asthan	17.4	2.9	13.0	0.0	2.3	51.1	35.1
Kusheshwar Asthan Purbi	28.6	28.6	37.1	1.0	1.0	3.0	34.3
<b>Darbhanga</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>28.4</b>
<i>Bihar</i>	<i>32.7</i>	<i>20.1</i>	<i>27.5</i>	<i>1.3</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>9.4</i>	<i>48.2</i>

Source: Village Level Directory, (Census, 2001).

About 33 per cent of villages in the district have access to a PHC within a distance of five kilometres. Around 20 per cent of the villages in the district can access Mother and Child Welfare (MCW) centres within a distance of five kilometres. Nearly 24 per cent of the villages have access to an allopathic hospital within a distance of five kilometres. On an average, one lakh population is being served by 1.1 allopathic hospitals. The number of taps per lakh population is 1.2, and the number of tube wells per thousand population is 15.5. The number of hand pumps per lakh population is 28.4.

Thus, in general the district has one Medical College, 2 referral hospitals, 13 Primary Health Centres (PHCs), 37 Additional PHCs and 261 Health Sub-Centres. Darbhanga Medical College, the prized possession of North Bihar, was started as a Temple Medical School in 1925 and was upgraded into a college in 1946. Later it developed into a multi-disciplinary institution, imparting even P.G. degrees in most faculties from 1958. Besides



having CT Scan facilities, construction of a cancer ward is also under way. Under the Internal Policy and Procedures (IPP)-7 programme 27-health sub-centres and 3 operation theatres are under construction.

**Table1.5: Banking and other Facility in Darbhanga District (%)**

Tehsil	% villages having paved road	Percentage of villages having power supply	% Villages having agricultural co-operative societies within 5 KM	% villages having Co-operative bank within 5 KM Range	Co-operative bank per lakh population	% villages having commercial bank within 5 KM Range	Commercial bank per lakh population	Post office per lakh popn	Percentage irrigated land to total land
Jale	60.3	50.0	43.1	13.8	0.4	51.7	3.4	9.4	57.9
Singhwara	51.8	69.4	51.8	30.6	0.4	62.4	3.0	10.6	38.1
Keotiranway	49.0	62.5	97.9	2.1	0.0	94.8	3.8	9.7	55.2
Darbhanga	46.7	53.3	32.7	11.2	0.0	41.1	2.6	7.7	67.1
Manigachhi	82.6	89.1	23.9	32.6	0.5	95.7	4.8	12.3	55.8
Tardih	52.8	69.4	88.9	0.0	0.0	91.7	4.1	15.3	55.8
Alinagar	39.5	34.9	14.0	7.0	0.0	39.5	0.8	14.0	74.3
Benipur	64.9	87.7	49.1	28.1	0.5	52.6	4.0	10.5	64.8
Bahadurpur	24.0	56.2	31.4	33.1	1.9	40.5	2.3	5.6	60.2
Hanumannagar	47.7	26.2	70.8	12.3	1.5	80.0	3.7	10.3	65.0
Hayaghat	58.1	65.1	67.4	11.6	0.0	86.0	3.2	9.7	59.6
Baheri	58.3	6.9	65.3	20.8	1.2	73.6	2.4	11.5	56.0
Biraul	56.5	22.6	33.9	24.2	0.9	61.3	3.4	9.0	75.5
Ghanshyampur	46.2	34.6	19.2	0.0	0.0	46.2	9.7	13.0	41.4
Kiratpur	23.5	5.9	0.0	17.6	0.0	100.0	2.9	8.7	71.6
Gora Bauram	35.6	11.1	15.6	6.7	0.0	46.7	4.9	8.2	56.1
Kusheshwar Asthan	17.4	10.1	81.2	0.0	0.0	36.2	1.5	9.9	34.5
Kusheshwar Asthan Purbi	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.6	0.0	6.1	86.4
<b>Darbhanga</b>	<b>45.6</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>59.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>59.8</b>
<i>Bihar</i>	<i>37.8</i>	<i>36.2</i>	<i>47.0</i>	<i>23.3</i>	<i>0.9</i>	<i>53.4</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>10.9</i>	<i>41.3</i>

Source: Village Level Directory, (Census, 2001).

As far as the banking and other facilities is concerned, the district seems to be in a better position than the state average, in terms of availability of certain facilities. About 45.6 per cent of the villages in the district are covered by paved roads, and 42.2 per cent of the villages are having power supply. For both these parameters, the district fares better than the state average. 48.4 per cent of the villages have agricultural cooperative societies. 15.8 per cent of the villages in the district have access to banking facilities within a distance of five kilometres. The number of cooperative banks per two lakh

population is only one. 59.9 per cent of the villages can have access to commercial banks within a distance of five kilometres. The number of post offices per lakh population is 9.9. The proportion of irrigated land to total land is 59.08.

### **Methodology**

The survey was conducted in the rural areas and, hence, all the figures and variables used pertain only to the rural areas and population. The Census 2001 data have been used for sampling. Since the religion-wise population data are available only up to the Tehsil level, stratification has been confined to that level.

First of all, all the tehsils of the districts were arranged in descending order on the basis of minority population. In other words, they were arranged in such a manner that the Tehsils with the highest concentration of minority population was placed at the top position and Tehsils with the lowest concentration of minority population at the bottom. Thereafter all the Tehsils were stratified into three strata: the first one consists of the upper 20 per cent of Tehsils arranged according to population; the second consists of the middle 50 per cent; and the bottom consists of the last 30 per cent. The selection of villages has been done following the PPS (Probability Proportionate to Size) method. A total of 30 villages (25 villages have been chosen in the districts having rural population of less than 5 lakh) have been selected from all the three strata by the method of PPS. The number of villages selected from each stratum depends on the ratio of the total population of Tehsils to that stratum to the total population of the district. For example, if the total population of all the Tehsils under stratum constitutes 20 per cent of the total population, then 6 villages have been selected from that stratum. It has also been ensured that at least 6 villages are selected from each stratum.

In villages with less than 1200 population, all the households were listed first. However, in case of villages having more than 1200 population, three or more hamlet-groups were formed as per the practice followed by NSSO<sup>1</sup> and then a sample of two hamlets was selected. The hamlet with maximum concentration of minority population was selected with probability one. From the remaining hamlets another one was selected randomly. The listing and sampling of households were done separately in each hamlet.

In each selected hamlet, the listed households were grouped into strata as per the minority status of the household. In other words, all Muslim households formed one Second-Stage Stratum (SSS); all Buddhist households another SSS; and so on.

About 30 households were selected in all from each sample village for detailed survey. These 30 households were chosen from 2 selected hamlets (if hg's formed) and from among the respective SSS in proportion to the total number of households listed in the respective frames. A minimum of 2 households were chosen to an ultimate SSS. The required number of sample households from each SSS was selected by stratified random sampling without replacement (SRSWOR). In case of a village having less than 30 households all the households were surveyed.

The rule followed by NSSO for forming hamlet-groups is as per the following:

**Table 1.6: The Criteria for Forming Hamlets**

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	

**Clarification about Data: Weight & Multiplier Procedure**

The district level estimate has been prepared using the technique of multilevel multiplier. In the first stage, the multiplier has been applied at the household level to estimate the number of households of different religious communities in the village.

Formula:

$$\text{Where } R = (D/d) * (d/H) * (H/h)$$

D= Total households in the village

d=Total households listed in the village

H=Total selected sample households in the village

h=Total households selected from different religious groups

n= Number of religious group in the village

In the second stage, the village level multiplier has been applied to estimate population data at stratum level (all tehsils in a district have been grouped into three strata for sample selection).

Formula:

$$Y_j = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^3 Y_i S_j$$

Where  $S = ((SP) / (M * VP))$

SP= Total population of the strata

M=Total number of villages selected in the strata

VP=Population of the sample village

j=Number of stratum

n= Number of religious groups in the village

Finally at the third stage, a stratum level multiplier has been used to estimate data at the district level.

Formula:

$$Y_k = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^3 Y_j D_k$$

Where  $D = (DP / (M * TP))$

DP= Total population of district

M=Total number of selected Tehsil in the strata

TP=Population of selected Tehsil

k=number of stratum

n= number of religious groups in the village

Thus, district level data are estimate based on survey.

**Chapters:** The introductory chapter explains the basic profile of the district. This includes Tehsil-wise concentration of minority population and their demographic and other characteristics, based on the 2001 Census.

Chapter II explains village level gaps in terms of health and educational institutions and basic infrastructure.

Chapter III explains findings of the household survey that analyses demographic, educational, health, economic and other deprivations. This part also explains demands and aspirations of the households, their perception about the state and the nature of civic and community life.

Chapter IV analyses delivery of public services and some important development programmes.

The last chapter sums up the findings.

## Chapter II

### VILLAGE LEVEL DEFICITS

The previous chapter gives an account of the infrastructural facilities and other amenities at the village level as per the census 2001. It shows that a gap exists as far as the availability of these facilities at the macro level is concerned. However, apart from the above, there are some serious gaps in resource and infrastructure facilities at the village level. This chapter deals with various aspects of the population in the district, taking the block as a unit of analysis. The gaps in infrastructure facilities at the village level have been explained on the basis of information collected from the 30 surveyed villages.

#### Educational Facilities

In the surveyed villages, 76.67 per cent of the villages have a primary school within a distance of 1.19 kilometres. Only 10 per cent of the villages have primary schools for girls within a mean distance of 4.20 kilometres. Around 60 per cent of the villages surveyed have a middle school within a distance of 0.80 kilometres. There is dearth of secondary educational institutions in the district and higher secondary schools are located at a distance of 7.25 kilometres for boys and 9.91 kilometres for girls. Inter-colleges are located within a distance of 16.3 kilometres, and ITIs at a distance of 39 kilometres. Polytechnic and other training schools are available at a distance of 38 and 36.9 kilometres respectively. Religious schools are available in nearly 56.7 per cent of the villages within a distance of 1.35 kilometres. Non formal education is also available in 60 per cent of the villages.

**Table 2.1: Access to Educational Facilities in Surveyed Villages in Darbhanga District**

Type of School	% of villages having	Mean distance*
Primary School (Boys/Co-ed)	76.67	1.19
Primary School (Girls)	10.00	4.20
Middle School (Boys/Co-ed)	60.00	0.80
Middle School (Girls)	6.67	6.56
High/Higher Secondary School (Boys)	0.00	7.25
High/Higher Secondary School (Girls)	0.00	9.91
Inter College	3.33	16.03
ITI	0.00	38.52
Polytechnic	0.00	38.14
Other Training School	0.00	36.92
Religious School	56.67	1.35
Non Formal	60.00	0.60
Other Educational Facilities	13.33	1.60

\*For villages not having such educational facilities.

Source: Survey.

The availability of schools in the villages and the distance taken to access the facilities determines the level of utilisation of these facilities. Around 91.3 per cent of the children have access to schooling within a radius of 1 km from their homes. There is a slight difference about the access of such facility among the Hindu and Muslim households; while the location of schools at a distance of 1 km is 93.56 per cent for Hindus, it is 88.9 per cent for the Muslims. Nearly 4.44 per cent of the schools are available at a distance of 1-2 kms, the access of which is 2.44 per cent for the Hindus and 6.55 per cent for the Muslims. Around 4.27 per cent of the schools are available at a distance of 2-4 kms, the distance is almost similar for both the Hindu and Muslim households.

**Table 2.2: Availability of School at Distance (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
within 1 km	93.56	88.90	91.30
1-2 km	2.44	6.55	4.44
2-4 kms	4.00	4.55	4.27
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

*Source: Survey.*

### **Health Facilities**

About 26 per cent of the villages have primary health centres (PHCs) within an average distance of 4.93 kilometres. About 20 per cent of the villages have primary health sub centres within a distance of 3.31 kilometres. Nearly 6.67 per cent of villages have Community Health Centres (CHC) within a distance of 10.31 kilometres. The same percentage of villages have a hospital dispensary within a distance of 14.24 kilometres. 10 per cent of the villages have private qualified doctors within a distance of 10.39 kilometres. 6.67 per cent of the villages have maternity child care centres within a distance of 13 kilometres. Ayurvedic hospitals and doctors are not available in the villages, so people have to travel more than 26 kilometres to avail such services. 13.33 per cent of the villages have family planning clinics within a distance of 9 kilometres. About 83 per cent of the villages have access to quacks within a distance of 300 metres. Chemist shops are available at a distance of 4.55 kilometres for about 43.33 per cent of the villages.

**Table 2.3: Access to Health Facilities in Surveyed Villages (%)**

Type	% of villages having	Mean distance*
PHCs	26.67	4.93
Primary Health Sub Centre	20.00	3.31
CHCs	6.67	10.31
Hospital/Dispensary	6.67	14.24
Private Qualified Allopathic Doctors	10.00	10.39
Maternity Child care Centre	6.67	13.00
Ayurvedic Hospitals	0.00	26.88
Ayurvedic Doctors	0.00	28.73
Homeopathic Hospitals	0.00	33.70
Homeopathic Doctors	6.67	25.57
Quacks	83.33	0.30
Family Planning Clinics	13.33	8.93
Chemists/ Medicine Shops	43.33	4.55

Source: Survey

### Other Infrastructure Facilities

In terms of availability of other infrastructure facilities such as nearest bus stops, market, banking, etc. the situation is quite satisfactory. Nearly 20 per cent of the villages in the district have bus stops and those villages that do not have the bus stop, the households have to travel a mean distance of 4.93 km to reach the nearest bus stop.

**Table 2.4: Percentage of Villages having Other Facilities (%)**

Type	% of villages having facility	Mean distance* Km
Nearest Bus Stop	20.00	4.62
Nearest Regular Market	13.33	10.31
Nearest Rail Station	6.67	18.60
Nearest Post Office	60.00	1.03
Public Telephone Connection	63.33	1.28
Commercial Bank	6.67	8.89
Rural Bank	16.67	5.00
Co-operative Bank	3.33	18.63
Anganwadi Centre	100.00	0.00
GP Office	43.33	1.26
Fair Price Shop	76.67	0.93
Fertilizer shop	23.33	7.11
Seed Storage	6.67	10.41
Pesticide Shop	13.33	12.62
Cold Storage	3.33	33.38
Other General Shops	80.00	0.38
Nearest Mandi	26.67	10.07
Milk Mandi	0.00	19.59
Veterinary (Centre/Sub-Centre)	6.67	6.71

\*For villages not having such facilities

Source: Survey.

About 13.33 per cent villages have regular markets near the village, and those which do not have access, can reach the nearest market by travelling a mean distance of 10.31 kilometres. 6.67 per cent of the villages have nearby railway stations, or can access one within a mean distance of 18.60 kilometres. 60 per cent villages are near a post office and others can access one within a mean distance of 1.03 kilometres. 63 per cent of the villages have telephone facilities and others can access it within 1.28 kilometres. Banking services are available only in very few villages. About 6.67 per cent and 16.67 per cent of the villages, respectively, have access to commercial banks and rural banks. Only 3.3 per cent of the villages have access to rural banks. Almost all the villages have anganwadi centres and 76 per cent have access to fair price shops. Milk Mandi is not available in the villages and people have to travel a distance of 20 kms to reach the milk mandi. Thus, while the district as a whole is well-connected. it is the roads, and availability of banks which are the cause for concern.



## Chapter III

### SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF THE POPULATION/HOUSEHOLDS

#### DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

The sample consists of 900 households in which 53.80 per cent and 46.20 per cent are Hindus and Muslims respectively. The average size of the household is 5.8 members without much significant difference between the Hindus and Muslims. The overall sex ratio is 843 females per thousand males, which is quite low. The sex ratio among the Hindus is 827 and among Muslims it is 861. The dependency ratio for the sample as a whole is 1.07. It is lower among Muslims (1.03) than Hindus (1.12).

**Table 3.1: Demographic Features of the Households surveyed (%)**

Community	%	Dependency Ratio	Sex Ratio	Average HH Size
Hindu	53.80	1.12	827	5.7
Muslim	46.20	1.03	861	5.9
All	100.00	1.07	843	5.8

*Source: Survey.*

#### EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME

##### Work Participation

The overall work participation rate for the surveyed households is 37.86 per cent. For the males it is 49.53 per cent and for the females it is 24.02 per cent. There is a slight difference among the Hindu and Muslim males as far as the work participation ratio is concerned, which is 50.11 per cent for Hindu males and 48.87 per cent for the Muslim male. However there is huge difference in the work participation rate of Hindu (27.40 per cent) and Muslim women (20.29 per cent). Thus, there are gender differentials in terms of work participation.

**Table 3.2: Work Participation Rate (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	Total
Male	50.11	48.87	49.53
Female	27.40	20.29	24.02
Person	39.83	35.65	37.86

*Source: Survey.*

## Nature of Employment

Of the total work force, 24.6 per cent of the people are self- employed, 10.8 per cent are in regular salaried jobs, and a whopping 64.5 per cent work as casual labour. As females need to work at home, they are more self- employed (30.8 per cent) than the males (22.4 per cent). But in salaried employment, women's participation is quite small (4.1 per cent), when compared to their male counterparts (13.2 per cent). There is not much difference between males and females in the casual labour category, which is around 65 per cent. There is not much difference in the status of employment between the Hindus and Muslims, in all the three categories, which remains almost similar.

**Table 3.3: Status of Employment (%)**

	Hindu			Muslim			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Self Employed	22.9	29.8	24.9	21.9	32.2	24.3	22.4	30.8	24.6
Regular	11.9	3.9	9.5	14.8	4.6	12.4	13.2	4.1	10.8
Casual	65.2	66.4	65.6	63.3	63.2	63.3	64.3	65.1	64.5
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

*Source: Survey.*

The occupational status of households given in the table reveals that casual labour in non-agriculture is the dominant occupation (39 per cent), followed by casual labour in agriculture (25.5 per cent), and self employment in agriculture (16.7 per cent). The proportion of women who work as casual labour in non-agriculture is quite insignificant, when compared to the male counterpart in both the communities. The proportion engaged in casual labour in agriculture seems to be higher among Hindus (31.7 per cent) than Muslims (17.73 per cent). In both the communities, a larger number of women work as casual labour in agriculture than their male counterpart. Only 10.8 per cent of the total households are salaried and the proportion is more among the Hindus (14.8 per cent) than the Muslims (13.2 per cent). The proportion that is self employed in non-agriculture is 7.9 per cent. There exist no gender differentials in this category in the Muslim community. However the proportion of Hindu females who are self employed in non-agriculture is negligible when compared to the Hindu males.

**Table 3.4: Occupational Status (%)**

	Hindu			Muslim			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Self Employed in Agriculture	13.4	26.9	17.3	13.5	24.2	16.0	13.4	25.8	16.7
Self Employed in Non-Agri	9.5	2.9	7.6	8.4	8.1	8.3	9.0	4.9	7.9
Salaried	11.9	3.9	9.5	14.8	4.6	12.4	13.2	4.1	10.8
Casual labour in Agriculture	20.1	60.1	31.7	7.5	50.8	17.7	14.3	56.4	25.5
Casual labour in Non-Agri	45.1	6.3	33.8	55.8	12.4	45.6	50.1	8.7	39.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Survey.

On the whole, the high dependence on agriculture and casual work in agriculture and non-agriculture, force women to work outside their households in difficult conditions and for very low wages. Casual work in non-agricultural activities is also low. NREGA needs to be implemented in a big way, so that these poor households may have an opportunity to get assured employment of 100 person-days per household per annum. Besides, the self-employment scheme of SGSY needs to be implemented more widely in the district.

### **Sector of Employment**

In this table, an industry-wise employment scenario has been given. About 42.7 per cent are working in agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors. As the area consists of plains, only 2.5 per cent are working in the mining and quarrying sector. Next to the agriculture and forestry sector, a significant proportion of 17.7 per cent are working in the manufacturing sector mainly as labourers. Around 16 per cent are working in construction industries. A small proportion of 7.2 per cent work in the hotel, trade and restaurant sector, and 6.2 per cent work in the transport, storage and communication sector. In the sector of agriculture, fishing and forestry, the proportion of females is higher than males, whereas in other sectors the proportion of males is higher. This is due to the fact that the females are less mobile because of domestic responsibilities of looking after the home and children.

**Table 3.5: Industry-wise Employment (%)**

	Hindu			Muslim			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	34.3	87.1	49.7	21.2	74.9	33.9	28.3	82.3	42.7
Mining & Quarrying	4.1	1.5	3.3	1.4	1.7	1.5	2.8	1.6	2.5
Manufacturing	11.2	0.8	8.1	36.2	8.7	29.7	22.8	3.9	17.7
Electricity	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Construction	23.1	3.6	17.4	16.6	3.9	13.6	20.1	3.7	15.7
Trade, Hotels & Restaurants	9.5	2.0	7.3	8.7	1.9	7.1	9.1	2.0	7.2
Transport, Storage & Communication	8.5	0.7	6.2	8.0	0.5	6.2	8.3	0.6	6.2
Finance, Real Est. & Business	2.1	0.1	1.5	0.6	1.3	0.8	1.4	0.6	1.2
Pub	7.3	4.2	6.4	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.1	5.3	6.6
Admn., Edu., Health & Others									
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Survey.

### Income and Expenditure

The per capita income and expenditure of the Muslim household is less than that of the Hindu households. While the expenditure of the Hindu household is Rs.6,387, that of the Muslim household is 5,027. In the same way, while the income of the Hindus is Rs.5,820, that of the Muslims is Rs.5,449. This reveals that though the income of the Hindus is higher than the Muslims, they do not have any savings, while Muslims have the tendency to save.

**Table 3.6: Average Per Capita Income and Expenditure (Rs.)**

	Hindu	Muslim	Total
Expenditure (Rs.)	6,387	5,027	5,747
Income (Rs.)	5,820	5,449	5,645

Source: Survey.

As there is migration, remittances (34.9 per cent) constitute the largest share of income for the people. The second largest contribution to income comes from wage labour (22.71 per cent). The income from agriculture (13.52 per cent) ranks third, followed by salaried jobs and trade. As far as the religious groups are concerned, the share of remittances among Muslim income is higher (39.91 per cent) than Hindus (30.72 per cent). The contribution of wage labour among Hindu households is higher (26.13 per

cent) than Muslims (18.60 per cent). There is no significant difference in other sources of income across religious groups.

**Table 3.7: Item-wise Per Capita Income (%)**

Source	Hindu	Muslim	Total
Agriculture	12.35	14.94	13.52
Animal Husbandry	3.91	3.82	3.87
Wage Labour	26.13	18.60	22.71
Salaried Jobs	7.65	9.16	8.34
Trade	9.13	4.80	7.17
Remittances	30.72	39.91	34.90
Others	10.11	8.77	9.50
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Expenditure on food is the major item wise expenditure in the overall consumption basket. On an average, each household is spending around 50.09 per cent of their income on food; Hindus spend 50.58 per cent and Muslims 49.38 per cent of their income on food. The next major item of expenditure is on social ceremonies, which is around 14.15 per cent for Hindus and 15.53 per cent for the Muslims. Expenditure on health is also a major expenditure, on which Hindus and Muslims are spending 8.9 per cent and 9.4 per cent of their income, respectively. A very small proportion of money has been spent on education (2.99 per cent) by both the communities. This shows that the education of the children is given low priority. Apart from the above mentioned expenditure, interest/loan payment takes 2.31 per cent share of their personal budget.

**Table 3.8: Item-wise Annual Per Capita Expenditure (%)**

Item	Hindu	Muslim	Total
Food	50.58	49.38	50.09
Education	2.91	3.11	2.99
Health	8.92	9.42	9.13
Social Cermonies	14.15	15.53	14.72
Interest/Loan	2.16	2.52	2.31
Others	21.27	20.04	20.77
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey.

## QUALITY OF HUMAN RESOURCE

### Literacy Status

The overall literacy rate of persons aged 7 and above is 55.45 per cent. Literacy among Muslims is slightly higher (57 per cent) than the Hindus (54.09 per cent). Gender differentials exist across both the communities. While the male literacy among the Hindus and Muslims is 65.74 per cent and 64.37 per cent respectively, the corresponding figure for female literacy is 39.9 per cent for Hindus and 48.30 per cent for Muslims. Thus female literacy among the Muslims is higher than that of the Hindus.

**Table 3.9: Literacy Rate in % (7 years and above)**

	Male	Female	Persons
Hindu	65.74	39.93	54.09
Muslim	64.37	48.30	57.00
All	65.11	43.87	55.45

*Source: Survey*

### Educational Status of Household Members

The educational status of the people in the surveyed villages is not that satisfactory. Nearly 43 per cent of the households are illiterate with the rate of illiteracy being more among the Hindus (44.3 per cent) than the Muslims (41.5 per cent). The proportion of illiteracy is more among the women across both the communities. Around 25 per cent of the literate people are educated only up to the below primary level, or are those who have had informal education. Only 15.3 per cent of the surveyed households have education till the primary level. About 8 per cent and 4 per cent of the population have completed their middle and secondary schooling respectively. Less than 3 per cent of the population has completed their higher secondary schooling.

Only 0.4 per cent and 0.2 per cent hold graduate and post graduate degrees respectively. Thus, there is widespread illiteracy prevalent in the sampled population. At all these levels of education, it is the females who are at a disadvantageous position. Their position becomes more pathetic when one compares their position in higher educational achievement where their proportion is negligible.

**Table 3.10: Educational Status of Households members (%)**

	Hindu			Muslim			Total		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Illiterate	33.1	57.9	44.3	34.5	49.7	41.5	33.7	54.1	43.0
Below primary or informal education	24.5	21.4	23.1	29.1	27.0	28.1	26.6	24.0	25.4
Primary	19.4	11.7	16.0	15.9	13.1	14.6	17.8	12.4	15.3
Middle	9.9	4.4	7.4	11.1	6.2	8.8	10.4	5.3	8.1
Management or commercial school course (vocational)	1.9	0.3	1.2	0.6	0.3	0.5	1.3	0.3	0.9
Secondary	5.6	3.1	4.5	4.8	2.4	3.7	5.2	2.8	4.1
Higher Secondary	3.7	1.1	2.5	2.5	1.2	1.9	3.1	1.2	2.2
Technical diploma or certificate below degree	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.2
Technical or professional degree	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Graduate degree	0.9	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.4
Post-graduate degree	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.2
Others	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Survey.

### Educational Status of Children

In terms of current educational status of children aged 5-16, around 20.25 per cent of children were never enrolled in schools, and 4.82 per cent left school after enrolment. The proportion of children who are not enrolled is higher among the Hindus (21.33 per cent) than the Muslims (19.06 per cent). The percentage of children who are enrolled, but do not go to school is 0.61.

**Table 3.11: Current Educational Status of (5-16) children (%)**

Status	Hindu			Muslim			All		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Never Enrolled	17.67	25.62	21.33	18.58	19.66	19.06	18.11	22.86	20.25
Left after enrolment	5.10	1.90	3.63	5.44	7.02	6.14	5.27	4.27	4.82
Enrolled but does not go to school	0.33	0.66	0.48	0.81	0.67	0.75	0.56	0.66	0.61
Goes to informal institution	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.81	9.05	6.68	2.32	4.19	3.16
Enrolled in govt school and is regular	75.12	70.87	73.17	64.12	56.45	60.74	69.82	64.19	67.28
Goes to private school	1.47	0.96	1.23	5.76	6.66	6.16	3.54	3.60	3.57
Others	0.31	0.00	0.17	0.47	0.48	0.48	0.39	0.22	0.31
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey.

This small percentage is a significant achievement as very few enrolled children are not going to school. About 3.16 per cent children go to informal schools. In this category it is only the Muslim children who are getting non formal education. Around 67.28 per cent children are enrolled in government schools, which they are attending schools regularly. Here the percentage of Hindu children is higher (73.17 per cent) than Muslim children (60.74 per cent). Only 3.57 per cent of the children go to private schools. The number of Muslim children (6.16 per cent) going to private schools is higher than that of Hindu children (1.23 per cent).

Government schools cater to the needs of the majority of the children. About 85.74 per cent of the children go to government schools. Here the proportion of Hindu children is higher (96.53 per cent) than Muslim children (74.10 per cent). Only 3.44 per cent children go to private schools, in which the share of Muslim children (4.25 per cent) is higher than Hindu children (2.69 per cent). Nearly 10.06 per cent children go to a madarsa; as expected, basically the Muslim children (20.78 per cent) go to Madarsas. Very few students go to missionary and other non-formal schools.

**Table 3.12: Type of schools Attended (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Govt	96.53	74.10	85.74
Private	2.69	4.25	3.44
Madarasa	0.11	20.78	10.06
Non formal	0.00	0.25	0.12
Govt & Madarsa	0.00	0.53	0.26
Other	0.67	0.09	0.39
All	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey.

### **Reason for Drop Outs**

There are different reasons for children leaving school before the completion of their courses. Nearly 2.25 per cent leave school as they need to work at home. Only Muslim children have stated it as a reason for dropping out of schools. But 38.26 per cent leave school since they need to earn a living for the family. This proportion is more among the Hindus (41.71 per cent) than the Muslims (35.98 per cent). About 1.93 per cent leave school as the school they are studying in lacks proper facilities. 1.77 per cent leave since they cannot afford the fee or expenditure of the school. About 7.29 per cent leave the school as they are not interested in studying.



**Table 3.13: Reasons for Dropouts (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Work at home	0.00	3.74	2.25
Need to earn	41.71	35.98	38.26
Lack of facility in school	0.00	3.22	1.93
Fee or expenditure not afford	4.44	0.00	1.77
Not interesting in reading	6.78	7.63	7.29
Others	47.07	49.44	48.50
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey.

### Educational Levels of Youth

The educational status of youth has been presented in table 3.14, which reveals that around 37.73 per cent of them are illiterate, Of these 36.86 per cent are Hindus, while 38.54 per cent are Muslims. Around 14.59 per cent of them are educated below the primary level or educated informally, with more or less the same proportion across both the communities. The primary level of education among the Hindus is 12.95 per cent, while the corresponding figure for the Muslims is 21.04 per cent. The educational attainments at the middle school level is around 14.93 per cent, which is more for Hindus (15.41 per cent), when compared to their Muslim counterparts (14.48 per cent). With regard to secondary education, educational attainments are higher among Hindus (9.31 per cent) than Muslims (7.46 per cent). The educational attainment in management courses and vocational education among the youth is negligible across both the communities. Very few of them show interest in higher studies and technical education. Thus, youth from both communities have less prospects in the labour market. Due to low levels of education and skill training among the Muslim and Hindu youth, their employability in the non-agriculture sector has been negligible.

**Table 3.14: Educational Levels of Youth in the Age group of 15-25 Years (%)**

Education	Hindu	Muslim	Total
Illiterate	36.86	38.54	37.73
Below primary or informal education	14.18	14.97	14.59
Primary	12.95	21.04	17.16
Middle	15.41	14.48	14.93
Management or commercial school course (vocational)	0.78	1.81	1.32
Secondary	9.31	7.46	8.35
Higher Secondary	8.28	1.66	4.84
Technical diploma or certificate below degree	1.49	0.05	0.74
Technical or professional degree	0.05	0.00	0.02
Graduate degree	0.69	0.00	0.33
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey.

## Government Assistance

The government provides assistance to school children in the form of books, school uniforms, mid day meals etc. for universal enrolment and retention in the education system. Nearly 39.86 per cent of the school children are receiving assistance in the form of books. A small proportion of the children receive assistance in the form of school uniforms and scholarships. Around 58.53 per cent of the children are provided mid day meals. In order to increase enrolment and retention of students, there is a need to enhance the quantum of educational assistance in the district. Poor and deserving students must be provided with scholarships and uniform assistance. There is a need for free elementary education for the rural poor of the district, in order to ease the economic burden on parents.

**Table 3.15: Government Assistance (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	Total
Books	38.65	41.77	39.86
School Uniform	0.55	0.75	0.62
Scholarship	0.93	0.00	0.57
Midday meal	59.19	57.48	58.53
Cycle	0.68	0.00	0.42
All	100.00	100.00	100.00
%	41.00	28.88	35.26

Source: Survey.

## LAND AND ASSET BASE OF THE HOUSEHOLDS

### Land Category

Table 3.16 shows the land distribution among the surveyed households. Land constitutes the main source of asset-holding as well as the source of income for the majority of people in the district, so its distribution influences the economic development of the social groups. Around 67 per cent households are landless. Another 28.12 per cent of households are marginal farmers. Thus around 95 per cent of the households do not have control over the source of production in the district. The proportion of small farmers is 3.19 per cent of the population, medium farmers are 1.04 per cent and large farmers are only 0.87 per cent. As far as the religious groups are concerned, while there is hardly any difference between Hindus and Muslims in terms of landless and marginal categories, there seems to be some difference in the land holdings in other categories. While large land holdings are more among the Muslims, Hindus seems to be in a better position in terms of small and medium land holdings.

**Table 3.16: Land Distribution (%)**

Land Category	Hindu	Muslim	All
Landless	65.83	67.88	66.78
Marginal	28.66	27.49	28.12
Small	3.40	2.94	3.19
Medium	1.32	0.72	1.04
Large	0.79	0.96	0.87
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00
Avg Land	2.17	1.96	2.08

Source: Survey.

### Average Land Category

The average land size for marginal farmers is 0.88 acre, for small farmers it is 3.77 acres, for medium farmers it is 7.51 acres and for the large farmers it is 28.07 acres. The only significant difference between Hindu and Muslim households lies in the large category where the average land for Hindu households is 33.69 acres and for the Muslims households it is 22.69 acres.

**Table 3.17: Average Land category (acres)**

Land Category	Hindu	Muslim	Total
Marginal	0.86	0.91	0.88
Small	3.70	3.85	3.77
Medium	7.77	6.97	7.51
Large	33.69	22.69	28.07

Source: Survey.

### Homestead Land

Overall 88.28 per cent of the households have houses on their own land. Here the condition of Muslims is slightly better as 90.06 per cent have houses on their land compared to Hindus (86.76 per cent). 1.04 per cent has been provided houses by the government. Here the number of Hindus is more (1.71 per cent) than Muslims (0.25 per cent). 3.58 per cent of the households have constructed houses on government land without any papers. There is not much difference between Hindus and Muslims in this category. About 2.43 per cent have constructed houses on government land and have papers to support this. Here the percentage of Hindus is higher (3.90 per cent) than Muslims (1.69 per cent). Overall 3.55 per cent houses are on rented land. Here 4.90 per cent Hindus have constructed houses on rented land as against a figure of 1.97 per cent for Muslims.

**Table 3.18: Homestead Land (%)**

	Own	Provided by govt	Govt land without paper	Govt land with paper	Landlord land	Others
Hindu	86.76	1.71	3.85	2.77	4.90	0.00
Muslim	90.06	0.25	3.25	2.03	1.97	2.44
All	88.28	1.04	3.58	2.43	3.55	1.13

Source: Survey.

### Other Assets

The asset base of both the Hindu and Muslim households has only a slight variation. Except for livestock and agricultural assets, Muslim households showed a better position than Hindu households in all other respects. The livestock asset of the Hindu household is 27.52 per cent, while that of the Muslim household is 21.85 per cent. The agricultural asset and transportation asset of the Hindus is 8.37 per cent and 6.46 per cent, while the corresponding figure for the Muslim household is 7.76 per cent and 8.08 per cent respectively. In case of non-agricultural asset, the position of Muslims is better than the Hindu households. The consumer asset of the Hindus is 16.47 per cent, while the corresponding figure for the Muslim household is reported to be 17.88 per cent. Financial assets are 40.10 per cent for Hindus and 41.94 per cent for Muslims. Thus the major components of both the Hindu and Muslim assets are financial, livestock and consumer assets.

**Table 3.19: Distribution of Other Assets (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	Total
Livestock	27.52	21.85	24.83
Agri Asset	8.37	7.76	8.08
Transp Asset	6.46	8.08	7.23
Non Agri Asset	1.07	2.50	1.75
Consumer Asset	16.47	17.88	17.14
Financial Asset	40.10	41.94	40.97
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey.

## HOUSING AND OTHER BASIC AMENITIES

### Housing Status

About 84.59 per cent of the households have their own houses, 15.29 per cent have been provided houses by the government and through the Indira Awas Yojana. Only 0.12 per cent households live in rented houses. A larger proportion of Muslims possess own houses (92.91 per cent), when compared to Hindus (78.22 per cent). There is a

huge difference among the Hindus and Muslims as far as government housing is concerned. While only 7.73 per cent households have been provided accommodation among the Muslims, for Hindus the ratio goes up to 21.78 per cent.

**Table 3.20: Housing Status of the Households (%)**

	Own HH	IAY/Govt provided	Rented	Type Of House					No Of Rooms		
				Thatched	Katcha	Semi Pucca	Pucca	Others	1	2	2+
Hindu	78.22	21.78	0.00	42.29	27.28	19.31	9.49	1.64	37.02	46.45	16.53
Muslim	92.01	7.73	0.26	40.21	29.26	20.60	9.59	0.35	34.37	50.58	15.05
All	84.59	15.29	0.12	41.32	28.20	19.90	9.54	1.04	35.80	48.36	15.84

Source: Survey.

About 10 per cent houses are *pucca*, 19.90 per cent semi-*pucca*, 28.20 per cent houses are *katcha* and 41.32 per cent houses are thatched. There is not much difference between Hindus and Muslims as far as possession of *pucca* houses are concerned. The Muslims have more semi *pucca* and *kaccha* houses than Hindus. But the Hindus have more thatched houses (42.29 per cent) than Muslims (40.21 per cent). Among the sample households, 35.80 per cent live in single room houses, 48.36 per cent have two rooms and 15.84 per cent have more than two rooms in their houses. There are slight variations between Hindus and Muslims.

### Other Amenities

As far as electrification of the household is concerned, only 9.07 per cent of the houses are electrified. There is not much difference between Hindus and Muslim households; 8.6 per cent of Hindu houses and 9.6 per cent of Muslim houses are electrified. Of those houses where there is no electricity, 90.78 per cent are dependent upon oil lamps. About 75.58 per cent of the houses use lanterns as a source of light.

**Table 3.21: Basic Amenities of the Household (%)**

	Electrified	Non Electrified Sources				Drinking Water			Toilet		Drainage
		Oil lamp	Lantern	Petromax	Others	Public	Private	Others	In house	Outside	
Hindu	8.61	91.39	71.45	0.53	1.00	53.93	34.59	11.48	2.60	97.40	8.06
Muslim	9.60	90.07	80.38	0.38	0.35	36.74	53.04	10.22	10.13	89.87	14.83
All	9.07	90.78	75.58	0.46	0.70	45.98	43.12	10.90	6.08	93.92	11.19

Source: Survey

About 45.98 per cent of the households get drinking water from public sources, 43.12 per cent from private sources, and 10.9 per cent from other sources. While more Hindu households are dependent upon public facilities for water than Muslims, more Muslims households are dependent upon private sources for water than Hindus. A majority of the households practice open defecation (93.92 per cent). Practice of open defecation is more among the Hindus (97.4 per cent), when compared to the Muslims (89.87 per cent). While only 2.6 per cent of the Hindu households have in-house toilets, 10.13 per cent of the Muslim households have toilet facilities at home. The condition of drainage is also unsatisfactory, as only 11.19 per cent of the households reported to have drainage facility.

**Table 3.22: Types of Fuel Used by the Households (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Wood	35.20	40.84	37.86
Hay/leaves	38.89	45.48	42.00
Cowdung cake	22.34	9.32	16.20
Agriculture waste	2.87	4.11	3.46
Liquid petroleum gas	0.69	0.26	0.49
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

*Source: Survey.*

With regard to the use of fuel, almost all households are dependent on organic wastes including wood, hay, leaves and cow dung (see table 3.22). As no single source of fuel is sufficient to meet their requirements, a majority of households use various sources of fuel to meet their needs. For the poor it is not possible to buy wood or coal, so they collect fuel wood from the open space as well as from the village common property. The most important sources are hay/leaves (42 per cent) followed by wood (37.86 per cent), cow-dung (16.2 per cent) and agriculture waste (3.46 per cent). The share of coal, kerosene oil and LPG is miniscule as poor people cannot afford to buy commercial fuel. There is no significant difference between Hindus and Muslims though the share of wood and leaves is slightly more among Muslim households and that of cow-dung more in Hindu households.

## HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

### Place of Child Birth

Around 89 per cent of the childbirths take place at home. Child birth at home is more prominent among the Hindus (91.81 per cent) than the Muslims (88.02 per cent). Only 5.39 per cent go to government hospitals and another 4.67 per cent go to private hospitals for the delivery of the children. Thus, the percentage of institutional delivery is quite low.

**Table 3.23: Institutional and Non-Institutional Deliveries of Children and Assistance Received (%)**

		Hindu	Muslim	All
Where last child born	Govt hospital	3.93	6.89	5.39
	Private hospital	4.26	5.09	4.67
	Home	91.81	88.02	89.94
Who assisted in the deliver	Govt hospital	6.40	9.34	7.86
	Trained midwife/ASHA	1.39	4.26	2.81
	Untrained Dai	83.21	84.91	84.05
	Others	9.00	1.48	5.27
Pre and Post natal care	Yes	38.45	32.35	35.43
	No	61.55	67.65	64.57
	Total	100	100	100

Source: Survey.

### Assistance in Child Birth

As a majority of the childbirths takes place at home, untrained *dais* help in the delivery of children. The dependence on untrained *dais*/midwife for child delivery assistance is quite high (84.05 per cent), which is around 83.21 per cent and 84.91 per cent for both the Hindus and Muslims respectively. Around 2.81 per cent of child deliveries in the sample households were attended by trained midwives/Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA). Nearly 7.86 per cent of the child births were at government hospitals. Around 35.43 per cent of children born in institutional care receive pre and post natal care. However, there are about 64.57 per cent of the children who do not receive such care. Keeping the above in view, there is an urgent need to extend the coverage of institutional delivery of the children.

## Immunisation

The immunisation status of the children in the sample households is not that satisfactory. Nearly 99.5 per cent of the children below 5 years in both the Hindu and Muslim communities are immunised against at least one type of disease. However, the proportion of children fully immunised is far from satisfactory. In both Hindu and Muslim households, the proportion of children fully immunised is 34.64 per cent and 39.76 per cent respectively. Thus, child immunisation programme needs to be strengthened in the district and the reserves and facilities made available under the National Rural Health Mission can be suitably utilised to achieve the objective.

**Table 3.24: Immunisation of Children below 5 years (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Any Type	99.45	99.86	99.65
Fully Immunised	34.64	39.76	37.20

*Source: Survey.*

Government agencies are the main sources providing immunisation to children. Of those who have availed the immunisation facilities, 99.29 per cent got it from government agencies, and only 0.71 per cent has availed services of private agencies. There is not much difference between Hindus and Muslims on this count.

**Table 3.25: Immunisation Agencies (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Govt. Agency	99.63	98.94	99.29
Private Agency	0.37	1.06	0.71
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

*Source: Survey.*

## ICDS Benefits

Only about 21.08 per cent of the households reported of availing anganwadi facilities, since a majority of the households (78.92 per cent) do not get the facility. The main reasons for not availing the services are ineligibility (61.4 per cent), inaccessible location (21.89 per cent) and discrimination (16.72 per cent). There is not much difference in the response of Hindus and Muslims on this count.



**Table 3.26: Benefits from ICDS (%)**

		Hindu	Muslim	All
Children/women from any family benefit from Aganwadi/ICDS	Yes	21.53	20.57	21.08
	No	78.47	79.43	78.92
Reasons for not availing ICDS	No eligible member in family	60.94	61.91	61.40
	Location of the centre is inaccessible	22.34	21.38	21.89
	Discrimination	16.72	16.71	16.72
	Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey.

### **Morbidity**

Different types of diseases are prevalent in the sampled population. Some diseases are related to poor nutritional conditions and others due to unhygienic conditions in which the poor are placed. Around 21.09 per cent complain that fever is the main illness they suffer from. This figure is more or less same across both the communities. Pneumonia ranks second with 10.34 per cent of the respondents complaining about it; 8.93 per cent of Hindus and 11.81 per cent of Muslims suffer from pneumonia. This is followed by diarrhoea (7.55 per cent), malaria (4.79 per cent), and pregnancy and child birth related problems (4.87 per cent). As illnesses are related to poverty and unhygienic conditions in which people are placed, there is not much difference between the Hindus and Muslims as their socio-economic conditions are similar.

**Table 3.27: Types of Diseases Prevalent in the Household (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	Christian
Diarrhea	7.62	7.47	7.55
Dysentery	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cough and Cold	3.40	5.91	4.63
Fever	22.10	20.04	21.09
Malaria	4.00	5.61	4.79
Typhoid	3.05	1.03	2.06
Kalazar	4.11	3.56	3.84
Pneumonia	8.93	11.81	10.34
Vomiting	0.62	0.11	0.37
Ear discharge	0.10	0.48	0.29
Night blindness	0.09	0.56	0.32
Conjunctivitis	1.29	2.04	1.66
Skin Disease	0.66	0.11	0.39
Chicken pox	0.10	0.00	0.05
Worms	0.10	0.00	0.05
Problem in teeth	0.20	0.66	0.43
Pain in stomach	5.80	1.48	3.68
Fracture	2.20	2.40	2.29
Women related disease	4.72	4.14	4.44
complication in Pregnancy and child birth	5.59	4.11	4.87
New Born Baby problem	1.39	2.33	1.85
TB	2.73	2.93	2.83
Filaria	0.74	1.63	1.17
Leprosy	0.20	0.29	0.24
Jaundice	0.73	0.62	0.67
Arthritis	2.99	3.09	3.04
Polio	0.09	0.55	0.31
Other	16.45	17.03	16.73
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey.

Only 5.47 per cent households are solely dependent upon government hospitals for treatment. The proportion of Muslims (4.04 per cent) taking treatment from government hospitals is lower than Hindus (6.83 per cent). Nearly 54.31 per cent households take the help of private medical practitioners. There is a marginal difference between Hindus and Muslims on this count. About 5.35 per cent households take treatment from both government and private practitioners. 1.45 per cent use unani medicine and 0.71 per cent go to homeopaths. Quacks continue to rule the roost in the area as 32.44 per cent households are dependent on them for medical treatment. There is no significant difference between Hindus and Muslims on this count.

**Table 3.28: Sources of Medical Treatment (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Govt Hospital	6.83	4.04	5.47
Pvt medical practitioner	54.26	54.35	54.31
Govt and pvt both	4.15	6.60	5.35
Traditional	1.17	1.74	1.45
Homeopath	1.00	0.40	0.71
Local govt health workers	0.00	0.00	0.00
NGO Health worker	0.35	0.00	0.18
Home treatment	0.10	0.00	0.05
Quacks	32.03	32.87	32.44
Others	0.10	0.00	0.05
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

*Source: Survey.*

## **INDEBTEDNESS**

### **Incidence of Indebtedness**

Indebtedness in the district is high due to the low level of economic and social development. Around 48.52 per cent of the sample households are reported to be indebted. The incidence of indebtedness is more among Hindu households than the Muslim households; 50.82 per cent of the Hindu and 45.85 per cent of the Muslim households are indebted. The average amount raised as loan is also higher among Hindus (Rs.9,778) than Muslims (Rs.9,023). Thus, the repayment of interest/loan would just be an extra burden for the Hindus households, taking into consideration their per capita income, which is quite low.

**Table 3.29: Incidence of Indebtedness (%)**

Community	% of HH Indebted	Avg amount
Hindu	50.82	9778
Muslim	45.85	9023
All	48.52	9448

Source: Survey.

### Source of Borrowing

In order to cope with exigencies, people take institutional as well as non-institutional loans. However, dependence on the institutional sources of loans is very low among both the Hindu and Muslim households. Only 2.48 per cent of the households borrow from the government. The proportion of households receiving credit from the Gramin bank is 0.97 per cent, commercial bank is 2.10 per cent and cooperative bank is 0.49 per cent. Institutional borrowings are slightly higher among the Hindus than the Muslims.

**Table 3.30: Source of Debt (%)**

Community	Source										
	Govt.	Commercial banks	Gramin bank (RRB)	Cooperative banks/Societies	SHG/NGO	Traders	Professional money lenders	Agriculturist money lender	Landlord/employer	Friends/relatives	Others (specify)
Hindu	2.92	3.14	1.42	0.86	0.72	52.36	12.11	14.64	2.58	8.86	0.38
Muslim	1.91	0.76	0.38	0.00	0.59	54.99	14.72	8.51	2.38	15.77	0.00
All	2.48	2.10	0.97	0.49	0.67	53.51	13.25	11.96	2.49	11.88	0.21

Source: Survey.

There is a very high dependence on non-institutional sources of finance, by both the communities, to meet their productive and non-productive needs. Traders are the major source of institutional credit and about 53.51 per cent of the surveyed households depend on them for financial assistance. Around 52.36 per cent of the Hindus and 55 per cent of the Muslims borrow from the traders. The other major source of non-institutional credit is the professional money lenders on whom 12.11 per cent of Hindus

and 14.72 per cent of Muslims are dependent. A closer examination of this component shows that these traditional money lenders charge exorbitantly high interest rates, which reflects on the fact that there is always a crisis in meeting current consumption. The other non-institutional sources are landlords, friends/relatives, SHGs, NGOs etc. Keeping in view the prevalence of non-institutional sources of credit, it is necessary to open more branches of rural banks in the district, so that the dependence on money lenders and traders can be minimized.

### Purpose of Loan

**Table 3.31: Main Purpose of Loan (%)**

Purpose	Hindu	Muslim	All
Capital expenditure in farm business	6.95	5.47	6.30
Capital expenditure in nonfarm business	2.07	1.69	1.90
Purchase of land/house	4.00	8.10	5.79
Renovation of house	1.12	1.35	1.22
Marriage and other social ceremonies	31.60	32.87	32.16
Festivals	0.00	0.18	0.08
For education	0.52	0.49	0.51
Medical treatment	39.83	36.16	38.22
Repayment of Old debt	0.34	0.64	0.47
Other household expenditure	3.28	6.19	4.56
Purchase of consumer durables	4.26	3.13	3.77
Purchase of animal	2.54	1.13	1.92
Financial investment	0.65	0.00	0.36
Other	2.84	2.61	2.74
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

People take loans for various purposes. The biggest reason for taking a loan is medical treatment (38.22 per cent). Nearly 39.8 per cent of the Hindus and 36.16 per cent of the Muslims take loan for medical purpose. The second reason for taking a loan is for social ceremonies and marriages (32.16 per cent). A very negligible proportion is spent for the education of children. About 6.3 per cent of loans are taken for capital expenditure on the farm business, and 5.79 per cent for purchase of land/ houses. There is no difference among the Hindus and Muslims as far as the expenditure pattern is concerned.

## DETAILS OF MIGRATION

### Trends in Migration

The district as a whole is economically backward, so people have migrated in search of livelihood. Nearly 64.6 per cent of the Hindu household and 67.58 per cent of the Muslim household migrate in search of livelihood. Thus migration is higher among Muslims than the Hindus. About 47.72 per cent of the households reported of at least one migrant member from their family.

**Table 3.32: Trends in Migration (%)**

Community	Atleast one migrant HH	More than one migrant HH	Migrated HH	Short term	Long term
Hindu	47.79	16.82	64.61	65.59	34.41
Muslim	47.65	19.94	67.58	48.03	51.97
All	47.72	18.26	65.98	57.18	42.82

*Source: Survey.*

This is almost similar in both the Hindu and Muslim households, with about 18.26 per cent of the households reporting of more than one migrant member from their fold. Nearly 57.18 per cent of the migrations are short term in nature. Short term migration is more among Hindus (65.59 per cent) than Muslims (48.03 per cent). About 42.82 per cent of the migration is long term, which is more among the Muslims (51.97 per cent) than Hindus (34.41 per cent).

### Destination of Migration

As stated earlier, there are not many sources of employment in the district and state, so most of the migration (92.72 per cent) has taken place outside the state. The proportion that migrates outside the state is more among the Muslims (96.33 per cent), when compared to their Hindu counterpart (89.41 per cent).

**Table 3.33: Destination of Migration (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Within district	1.69	0.66	1.19
Within state	8.02	2.34	5.30
Outside state	89.41	96.33	92.72
Outside country	0.89	0.67	0.78
Total	100.00	0.00	100.00

*Source: Survey.*

Only 5.30 per cent migration is within the state and a miniscule 1.19 per cent of migration is within the district. Within the state migration is more among the Hindus (8.02 per cent) than the Muslims (2.34 per cent). The proportion that migrates outside the country is quite negligible.

### **Local Conflicts**

Conflict is an inbuilt part of any society. Overall 0.80 per cent households say that their family members have suffered due to conflict. This conflict is more among Hindus (1.37 per cent) than Muslims (0.13 per cent). Only 23.30 per cent households say that they have suffered due to caste-related problems, and this is entirely in the case of the Hindus. About 60.05 per cent claim that they suffered due to communal tensions. The percentage of Hindus is lower (43.45 per cent) than Muslims (91.35 per cent) in this case. Nearly 8.6 per cent of Muslims said that they suffered due to land and property-related disputes.

**Table 3.34: Local Conflicts/Clashes and Loss of Life and Property (%)**

		Hindu	Muslim	All
Suffered family member because of conflict	%	1.37	0.13	0.80
Type	Caste	35.66	0.00	23.30
	Communal	43.45	91.35	60.05
	Land and property related	0.00	8.65	3.00
	Others	20.89	0.00	13.65
	All	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey.

### **Access to Media and Communication**

People use multiple sources of media and communication to relate themselves with the world and get information about it. On the whole the access of media and communication is less among both the households. About 9.48 per cent say that they read newspapers, around 29 per cent get news from the radio and only 4.62 per cent watch television.

**Table 3.35: Access to Media and Communication (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Newspaper	10.00	8.87	9.48
Radio	23.90	33.44	28.30
Television	4.48	4.79	4.62

Source: Survey.

## Chapter IV

### DELIVERY OF PUBLIC SERVICES/DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

#### Public Distribution System

Among the surveyed households, 79.89 per cent households are from BPL (Below Poverty Line) category, but only 13.42 per cent avail facilities from the PDS. The proportion of households who are in the BPL category is more among the Hindus (82.22 per cent) than the Muslims (77.17 per cent).

**Table 4.1: Public Distribution System (%)**

		Hindu	Muslim	All
BPL Category	Yes	82.22	77.17	79.89
	No	17.78	22.83	20.11
Avail from PDS	Yes	18.29	7.70	13.42
	No	81.71	92.30	86.58
BPL Ration card	Yes	22.44	10.02	16.77
	No	77.56	89.98	83.23
	All	100	100	100

*Source: Survey.*

Among the households, only 16.77 per cent have BPL ration cards. There are some variations among the Hindus and Muslims in this regard. While 18.29 per cent Hindus avail facilities from the PDS, only 7.70 per cent Muslims avail the facilities from PDS. Again 22.44 per cent of Hindus and only 10.02 per cent of Muslims have BPL ration cards.

**Table 4.2: Difficulties Regarding PDS (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Insufficient quantity	55.20	54.25	54.92
Bad quality	27.50	18.66	24.82
Dishonesty in measurement	47.49	56.77	50.30
Non Availability of time	55.14	57.59	55.88
Irregular supply	58.41	65.62	60.59
Others	5.02	1.66	4.01
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

*Source: Survey.*



Various reasons are cited by the respondents regarding difficulty in accessing the PDS. Irregular supply of PDS is the major reason cited by nearly 60.59 per cent of the households, the proportion being more among the Muslims (65.62 per cent) than the Hindus (58.41 per cent). The other major reasons cited for not availing facilities from PDS are non availability of time (55.88 per cent) and insufficient quantity of food grains (54.92 per cent). Around 47.49 per cent of Hindus and 56.77 per cent of Muslims reported of the dishonesty in measurement as a reason. About 24.82 per cent reported of the bad quality of the PDS supplied.

### **Access, Use and Quality of Health Service**

Health facilities in the district are poor. Most of the indicators of health facilities are below the state average. Only 26 per cent of the villages have primary health centres and 20 per cent villages have a Primary Health Sub Centre. Only 3.3 per cent of the villages have PHCs. More than 80 per cent of the villages have quacks. Government health facilities are available to a very small proportion of the households. On the other hand, private medical facilities are also not easily accessible. Only 10 per cent of the villages have private qualified doctors within a distance of 10.39 kilometres. About 83 per cent of the villages have access to quacks within a distance of 300 metres. Chemist shops are available at a distance of 4.55 kilometres for about 43.33 per cent of the villages.

### **Awareness of Government Programmes**

The level of awareness among the households about various programmes and schemes of the government is quite poor. About 60.2 per cent of the households were aware of the flagship programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the awareness is about 61.8 per cent and 58.3 per cent in case of Hindus and Muslims respectively. Next to SSA, an average level of awareness was found for the NREGA. Awareness of NREGA is more among the Hindus (34.2 per cent), than the Muslims (23.9 per cent). About 20-25 per cent awareness is reported for the programmes of ARWSP (Drinking Water), anganwadi and Indira Awas Yojana. Only around 7-8 per cent of the households are aware of the pension schemes, SGSY and maternity benefit scheme. The awareness of the total sanitation campaign is quite poor.

**Table 4.3: Awareness about Government Programmes/Schemes (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	Total
SGSY	6.0	10.6	7.8
NREGA	34.2	23.9	29.4
Indira Awas Yojana	25.3	15.1	20.6
TSC Swajaldhara	3.0	8.4	5.4
ARWSP (Drinking Water)	25.9	23.0	24.7
Sarvasikhsa	61.8	58.3	60.2
ICDS or Anganwadi	20.2	26.4	23.1
Old Age or Widow Pension	4.3	11.8	7.7
Maternity Benefit scheme	3.3	12.9	7.5

Source: Survey.

### Activities Preferred by the Households

Around 66.15 per cent of the people prefer self-employment in various sectors of the economy; 19.52 per cent prefer employment in cultivation, 19.20 per cent in business, 14.61 per cent in poultry, and a mere 6 per cent in fisheries and piggyery. About 16.37 per cent want to engage in manual labour, and 13.19 per cent in salaried jobs, 1.17 per cent in repair service, 0.58 per cent in maintenance, etc. While a larger proportion of Hindus prefer manual labour, the Muslims' preference is high for salaried jobs.

**Table 4.4: Type of Activities Preferred (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
1. Self employed in:	67.36	64.86	66.15
Cultivation	21.71	17.18	19.52
Dairy	0.15	0.00	0.08
Poultry	17.77	11.22	14.61
Piggyery	1.66	10.86	6.10
Sheep/Goat	0.34	0.27	0.31
Fisheries	7.41	5.18	6.34
Business	18.33	20.14	19.20
2. Manual Labour	17.18	15.49	16.37
3. Salaried Jobs	11.06	15.47	13.19
4. Services	4.40	4.17	4.29
Repair service	0.94	1.41	1.17
Maintenance service	1.42	1.75	1.58
Caste based occupation	0.40	0.49	0.45
Others	1.64	0.52	1.10
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Survey.

### Parents' Aspiration about Education of Children

There are not very high aspirations among parents for higher education for their male children. Overall, 49.12 per cent think that boys should study till the high school level. About 23.78 per cent aspire for intermediate education for their male children, and 4.04 per cent aspire for pre-graduation diploma for them. About 17.04 per cent aspire for

bachelors' degree, and 1 per cent for post-graduate degree. Muslims show higher aspiration for higher education than Hindus.

**Table 4.5: Parents' Aspiration about Male Child Education (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
High School	55.62	42.21	49.12
Intermediate	23.24	24.36	23.78
Pre graduation	4.83	3.19	4.04
Bachelors degree	10.91	23.55	17.04
Post graduate degree	1.18	0.80	1.00
Technical degree	4.21	5.89	5.02
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

*Source: Survey.*

As far as aspirations for the female child are concerned, 72.25 per cent parents think that the female child should study till high school. Nearly 19.28 per cent think that the female child should study till intermediate, 5.25 per cent think that she should go for graduate study, and 0.71 per cent for post-graduate study. 1.54 per cent aspire for technical degrees for their female children. There is not much difference among the Hindu and Muslim parents regarding their aspirations about the education of their female children.

**Table 4.6: Parents' Aspiration about Female Child Education (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
High School	72.33	72.17	72.25
Intermediate	18.60	19.98	19.28
Pre graduation	0.63	0.51	0.58
Bachelors degree	5.78	4.70	5.25
Post graduate degree	0.75	0.67	0.71
Technical degree	1.12	1.97	1.54
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

*Source: Survey.*

## Perception about Deprivations

Deprivation is contextual and different types of deprivations affect the life of the people. In the sampled households, the non-availability or unsuitability of housing remains the top source of deprivation. About 65.48 per cent of the households consider it as the top priority. While for the Muslims the number goes up to 68.84 per cent, for the Hindus housing-related deprivations top the chart for the 62.62 per cent of the population. For the 64.10 per cent of the households, employment constitutes the second source of deprivation. A larger number of Hindu households (67.37 per cent) reported of such deprivation than the Muslim households (60.29 per cent). The third source of deprivation is land (41.82 per cent). It is more for Hindus (44.44 per cent) than the Muslims (38.76 per cent). This is followed by education, toilet facilities, drinking water, health facilities, etc. Other deprivations are minor in nature.

**Table 4.7: Household Perception about Deprivations (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Housing	62.60	68.84	65.48
Employment	67.37	60.29	64.10
Land	44.44	38.76	41.82
Education	40.59	32.22	36.73
Toilet	19.74	24.82	22.09
Other facilities	16.31	23.15	19.47
Drinking Water	13.94	13.75	13.86
Health Centre	13.76	13.61	13.69
Ration Card	4.16	5.40	4.73
Loan	2.59	4.99	3.70
Social Respect	3.42	2.53	3.01
Electricity	2.16	3.08	2.58
PDS Ration	2.31	1.21	1.81
Drainage	0.92	1.43	1.16
Pitch Road	1.48	0.18	0.88
Irrigation	0.36	0.68	0.51
Bridge	0.72	0.26	0.51
Business	0.30	0.64	0.46
Awareness Prg (Govt)	0.00	0.72	0.33
Public transport	0.00	0.39	0.18
Industries	0.23	0.12	0.18
School	0.20	0.00	0.11
Welfare facilities	0.12	0.00	0.06

Source: Survey.

## Expectations from the Government

Provision for employment tops the list of expectations from the government, as 46.37 per cent households think that they should be provided with employment opportunities.

There is slight difference between the Hindus and Muslims in this regard. While 49.37 per cent of Hindus expect employment opportunities, the corresponding figure for the Muslims is 42.95 per cent. The next major expectation from the government is provision of other facilities in the village and nearly 44.83 per cent expect the same. Expectation for the facilities is more among the Muslims (50.31 per cent) than the Hindus (40.03 per cent).

**Table 4.8: Expectations from the Government (%)**

	Hindu	Muslim	All
Employment	49.37	42.95	46.37
Other facilities	40.03	50.31	44.83
Education	31.07	33.01	31.98
Industries	25.24	32.00	28.40
Madarasa	10.12	26.65	17.85
Family Planning	25.44	2.20	14.59
Housing	13.99	14.94	14.44
Loan	11.07	17.55	14.10
Health Centre	11.48	14.95	13.10
Toilet	8.67	5.07	6.99
School	8.00	4.52	6.38
Reservation in Education	4.40	5.81	5.06
Drinking Water	5.38	3.68	4.59
Reservation in Employment	3.11	6.21	4.56
Ration Card	4.58	4.25	4.43
Community Centre	4.08	4.54	4.30
Pitch Road	4.56	2.95	3.81
PDS Ration	4.56	1.83	3.28
Electricity	3.71	2.22	3.01
Awareness Programme (Govt)	3.30	2.44	2.90
Drainage	2.80	2.79	2.80
Irrigation	1.84	2.27	2.04

Source: Survey.

Education of children is the third major expectation (31.98 per cent) followed by establishment of industries (28.4 per cent). While there is not much difference between Hindus and Muslims regarding the need for education, there is some difference between the two communities for establishment of industries. About 32 per cent of the Muslim households wish for industries as against 25.24 per cent of Hindus for the same. About 13-15 per cent expects family planning, housing, loan, health centres etc, from the government. Other expectations from the government in terms of requirements and facilities is quite negligible.

## Chapter V

### Findings and Conclusions

#### **District Profile: 2001 Census Based**

- As per the 2001 India Census, Darbhanga district had a population of 30 lakhs. Males constitute 53 per cent of the population and females 47 per cent. The population of Hindus is 77.6 per cent and Muslims are 22.35 per cent.
- Darbhanga has an average literacy rate of 74 per cent, which is higher than the national average. Male literacy is 87 per cent and female literacy is 60 per cent.
- The population of Muslims is concentrated in a few blocks where they have a substantial population, like Jale (32 per cent), Singhwara (31 per cent), Kiotiranway (34 per cent), Kiratpur and Gora Bauram, 30 per cent each. In other blocks their population is above 15 per cent, with the lowest being in Purbi (7.4 per cent).
- In the district, 78.6 per cent of the villages have primary schools, which is higher than the average for Bihar (72 per cent). Again 24.7 per cent of the villages have secondary schools, which is higher than the average figure of 21.6 per cent for Bihar as a whole. The population per secondary school is 40,000. The number of industrial towns in the district is two and the number of training schools in the district is five.
- The number of total workers in the district is 9.6 lakhs. Agriculture is the mainstay of the population and about 24.42 per cent of them are cultivators and 54 per cent are agricultural labourers. The work participation rate for the district is 31.91 per cent which is slightly less than the state average (34.65 per cent).
- About 33 per cent of villages in the district have access to a PHC within a distance of five kilometres. Around 20 per cent of the villages in the district can access Mother and Child Welfare (MCW) centres within a distance of five kilometres.
- In general the district has one Medical College, 2 referral hospitals, 13 Primary Health Centres (PHCs), 37 Additional PHCs and 261 Health Sub-Centres.
- About 45.6 per cent of the villages in the district are covered by paved roads, and 42.2 per cent of the villages are having power supply. For both these parameters, the district fares better than the state average.

- Around 15.8 per cent of the villages in the district have access to banking facilities within a distance of five kilometres. The number of cooperative banks per two lakh population is only one. 59.9 per cent of the villages can have access to commercial banks within a distance of five kilometres.

### **Micro Level Deprivations**

- The sample consists of 900 households in which 53.80 per cent and 46.20 per cent are Hindus and Muslims respectively. The average size of the household is 5.8 members without much significant difference between the Hindus and Muslims. The overall sex ratio is 843 females per thousand males, which is quite low.
- The overall literacy rate of persons aged 7 and above is 55.45 per cent. Literacy among Muslims is slightly higher (57 per cent) than the Hindus (54.09 per cent). Gender differentials exist across both the communities.
- The overall work participation rate for the surveyed households is 37.86 per cent. For the males it is 49.53 per cent and for the females it is 24.02 per cent. There is slight difference among the Hindu and Muslim males as far as the work participation ratio is concerned, which is 50.11 per cent for Hindu males and 48.87 per cent for the Muslim male.
- Of the total work force, 24.6 per cent of the people are self- employed, 10.8 per cent are in regular salaried jobs, and a whopping 64.5 per cent work as casual labour.
- The occupational status of households given in the table reveals that casual labour in non-agriculture is the dominant occupation (39 per cent), followed by casual labour in agriculture (25.5 per cent), and self employment in agriculture (16.7 per cent). The proportion of women who work as casual labour in non-agriculture is quite insignificant, when compared to the male counterpart in both the communities.
- Nearly 43 per cent of the households are illiterate with the rate of illiteracy being more among the Hindus (44.3 per cent) than the Muslims (41.5 per cent). Around 25 per cent of the literate people are educated only up to the below primary level, or are those who have had informal education. Only 15.3 per cent of the surveyed households have education till the primary level.

- In terms of current educational status of children aged 5-16, around 20.25 per cent of children were never enrolled in schools, and 4.82 per cent left school after enrolment. The proportion of children who are not enrolled is higher among the Hindus (21.33 per cent) than the Muslims (19.06 per cent).
- About 85.74 per cent of the children go to government schools. Only 3.44 per cent children go to private schools, in which the share of Muslim children (4.25 per cent) is higher than Hindu children (2.69 per cent).
- Nearly 39.86 per cent of the school children are receiving assistance in the form of books. A small proportion of the children receive assistance in the form of school uniforms and scholarships. Around 58.53 per cent of the children are provided mid day meals.
- Around 67 per cent households are landless. Another 28.12 per cent of households are marginal farmers. Thus around 95 per cent of the households do not have control over the source of production in the district. The proportion of small farmers is 3.19 per cent of the population, medium farmers are 1.04 per cent and large farmers are only 0.87 per cent.
- Overall 88.28 per cent of the households have houses on their own land. 1.04 per cent has been provided houses by the government. About 3.58 per cent of the households have constructed houses on government land without any papers. About 2.43 per cent have constructed houses on government land and have papers to support this.
- About 84.59 per cent of the households have their own houses, 15.29 per cent have been provided houses by the government and through the Indira Awas Yojana. Only 0.12 per cent households live in rented houses. About 10 per cent houses are *pucca*, 19.90 per cent semi-*pucca*, 28.20 per cent houses are *katcha* and 41.32 per cent houses are thatched.
- As far as electrification of the household is concerned only 9.07 per cent of the houses are electrified. There is not much difference between Hindu and Muslim households; 8.6 per cent of Hindu houses and 9.6 per cent of Muslim houses are electrified.
- About 45.98 per cent of the households get drinking water from public sources, 43.12 per cent from private sources, and 10.9 per cent from other sources. A majority of the households practice open defecation (93.92 per cent). The



- practice of open defecation is more among the Hindus (97.4 per cent), when compared to the Muslims (89.87 per cent).
- Child birth at home is more prominent among the Hindus (91.81 per cent) than the Muslims (88.02 per cent). Only 5.39 per cent go to government hospitals and another 4.67 per cent go to private hospitals for the delivery of the children.
  - Nearly 99.5 per cent of the children below 5 years in both the Hindu and Muslim communities are immunized against at least one type of disease. However, the proportion of children fully immunized is far from satisfactory. In both Hindu and Muslim households, the proportion of children fully immunized is 34.64 per cent and 39.76 per cent respectively.
  - Different types of diseases and illnesses are prevalent in the sampled population. Some illnesses are related to poor nutrition conditions and others due to unhygienic conditions in which the poor are placed. The major diseases suffered by the people are fever, pneumonia, diarrhoea, malaria, complications in child birth, etc.
  - Only 5.47 per cent households are solely dependent upon government hospitals for treatment. The proportion of Muslims (4.04 per cent) taking treatment from government hospitals is lower than Hindus (6.83 per cent). Nearly 54.31 per cent households take the help of private medical practitioners. Quacks continue to rule the roost in the area as 32.44 per cent households are dependent on them for medical treatment.
  - 48.52 per cent of the sample households are reported to be indebted. The incidence of indebtedness is more among Hindu households than the Muslim households; 50.82 per cent of the Hindu and 45.85 per cent of the Muslim households are indebted.
  - The dependence on the institutional sources of loans is very low among both the Hindu and Muslim households. Only 2.48 per cent of the households borrow from the government. The proportion of households receiving credit from the Gramin bank is 0.97 per cent, commercial bank is 2.10 per cent and cooperative bank is 0.49 per cent.
  - There is a very high dependence on non-institutional sources of finance, by both the communities, to meet their productive and non-productive needs. Traders are the major source of institutional credit and about 53.51 per cent of the surveyed households depend on them for financial assistance.

- Nearly 64.6 per cent of the Hindu household and 67.58 per cent of the Muslim household migrate in search of livelihood. Thus migration is higher among Muslims than the Hindus. Short term migration is more among Hindus (65.59 per cent) than Muslims (48.03 per cent). About 42.82 per cent of the migration is long term, which is more among the Muslims (51.97 per cent) than Hindus (34.41 per cent).
- Among the surveyed households, 79.89 per cent households are from BPL (Below Poverty Line) category, but only 13.42 per cent avail facilities from the PDS. The proportion of households who are in the BPL category is more among the Hindus (82.22 per cent) than the Muslims (77.17 per cent).
- The level of awareness among the households about various programmes and schemes of the government is quite poor among the households. About 60.2 per cent of the households were aware of the flagship programme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. There is also a medium level of awareness about NREGA, pension schemes, SGSY, TSC, etc.
- The non-availability or unsuitability of housing remains the top source of deprivation. About 65.48 per cent of the households consider it as the top priority. For the 64.10 per cent of the households, employment constitutes the second source of deprivation. The third source of deprivation is land (41.82 per cent). It is more for Hindus (44.44 per cent) than the Muslims (38.76 per cent). This is followed by education, toilet facilities, drinking water, health facilities, etc. Other deprivations are minor in nature.

**Annexure – I: List of Sample Selected Villages in Darbhanga District**

State	Dist	Block	GP	Village
Bihar	Darbhangha	Biraul	Biraul	Nanri
Bihar	Darbhangha	Biraul	Patria	Bhasni
Bihar	Darbhangha	Biraul	Saha	Saha
Bihar	Darbhangha	Hayaghat	Srniya East	Sirniya
Bihar	Darbhangha	Hayaghat	Mallhi Patti	Mallhi Patti
Bihar	Darbhangha	Gora Bauram	Kasraur Basanli	Mungra
Bihar	Darbhangha	Gora Bauram	Nari	Nari
Bihar	Darbhangha	kusheshwar Astham	Varna	Varna
Bihar	Darbhangha	kusheshwar Astham	Chigri	Churdaur
Bihar	Darbhangha	Manigachi	Raje	Raje
Bihar	Darbhangha	Manigachi	Chandur	Chandur
Bihar	Darbhangha	Singhwara	Sarwara	Sarwara
Bihar	Darbhangha	Singhwara	Hariharpur	Bahuara Bingura
Bihar	Darbhangha	Jale	Katraul	Katraul
Bihar	Darbhangha	Jale	Massa	Massa
Bihar	Darbhangha	Darbhangha	Kabirchak	Kabirchak
Bihar	Darbhangha	Darbhangha Sadar	Basdeo pur	Basdeopur
Bihar	Darbhangha	Darbhangha Sadar	Kharua	Kharua
Bihar	Darbhangha	Darbhangha	Bhaslpatti	Bhalpatti
Bihar	Darbhangha	Alinagar	Mahinddinpur Pakari	Mohiuddin pur
Bihar	Darbhangha	Alinagar	Hanuman Nagar	Lilpur
Bihar	Darbhangha	Alinagar	Motipur	Motipur
Bihar	Darbhangha	Alinagar	Harith	Harith
Bihar	Darbhangha	Chansyampur	Jaidupatti	Jaidupatti
Bihar	Darbhangha	Hanuman Nagar	Rupali	Bishanpur
Bihar	Darbhangha	Bahadur Pur	Tkapatti Dekuli	Dagar Sam
Bihar	Darbhangha	Bahadur Pur	Harpatti	Pokhar Bhinda
Bihar	Darbhangha	Kusheshwar Asthan	Ujhar Sioner toka	Kola Toka
Bihar	Darbhangha	Kusheshwar	Reola	Reola
Bihar	Darbhangha	Kusheshwar	Kusheshwar	Bhalula