

# **CHAPTER THREE**

## **URBAN AMENITIES AND THEIR DISTRIBUTION**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Man, a social creature, for his living and existing requires some social facilities and scope for cultural activities especially when he is in an urban society. Though the need of amenities for different communities are not uniform, the civic amenities generally express a common style living. In the urban centre municipal authorities try to deliver all types of urban amenities and utility services to the town dwellers but creation of full-fledged urban society is a far cry. Still, the minimum urban amenities which are though essential for the urbanities such as piped water supply, street lights, sanitary and conservancy services are restricted to limited parts of the towns. "Lure of amenities" availability boost the rush of people from smaller towns or semi-urban areas in big cities and towns, where it causes congestion.

The town insufficiency of availability of data and information from disadvantages in bringing out the exact picture of the existing of such service and intensive field survey was carried on at different offices and wards of the municipality to fill up the shortage of information. This chapter deals with housing and living condition of the city dwellers, their family sizes, education and health, and financing agencies. Moreover, other socio-economic facilities like communications and transport, retail services, major industries and other urban amenities have been discussed separately.

### **3.1. INSTITUTIONAL AMENITIES**

#### **3.1.1. Transport**

##### **3.1.1a. Roadways**

Owing to the continuous influx of the people. English Bazar town is very much congested. Construction of foot paths and widening of roads are required all over English Bazar town. As such Rs. 2 crores is immediately required to ease the position. It should be mentioned that N.H.34 crossing through this town is now in a very bad shape. Unless it is widened and land the traffic congestion (Plate -1) and accidents will recur.

English Bazar Municipality is located at the intersection of N.H.34 with S.H.-10 (Plate-2) and the N.H. 34 itself acts as the movement spine within the municipal areas, which is in turn, connected with a number of feeder roads and sub feeder roads, forming the entire road network upto the river Mahananda towards its east and railway tracks on its west (Fig. 3.1). As per available information, the total length of the existing roads of English Bazar Municipality is 196.95 kms. The break up of which is given in Table 3.1.

**Table 3.1:** Length of different types of Roads,

Type	Length in kms	Percentage to total
Black - top	47.90	24.32
Brick - paved	69.83	35.48
Kutchha	79.22	40.20
	<b>196.95</b>	<b>100.00</b>

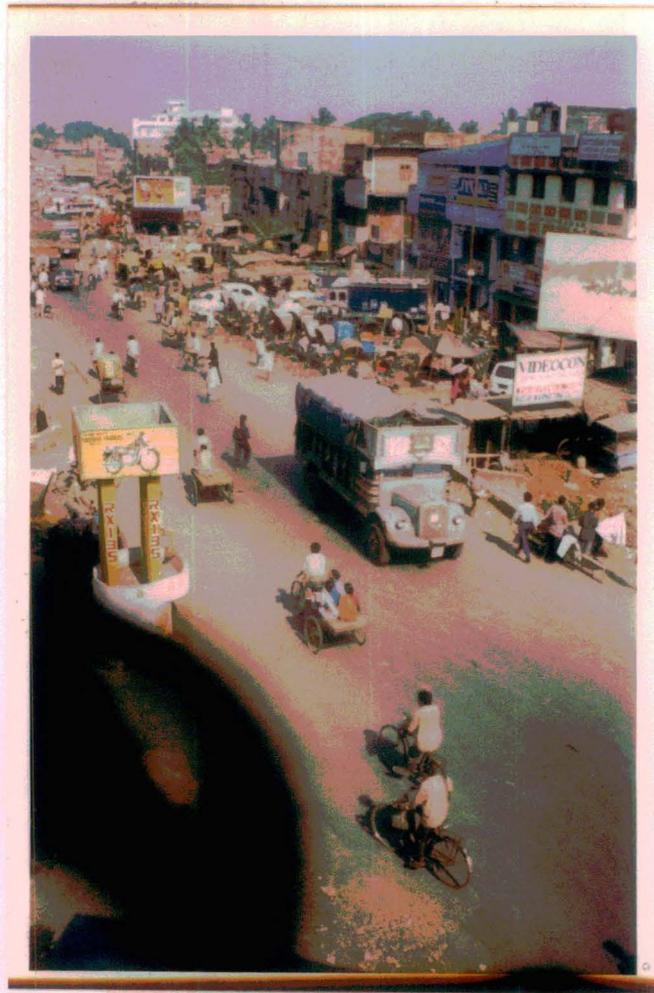
Though the feeder roads and sub-feeder roads with NH-34 form the road network, feeder roads cannot be considered as arterial roads by virtue of width, shape and condition. Road geometrics and geometry of intersections are very poorly designed and are not at all suitable for a healthy and free movement of the traffic. It is also felt that with increasing urbanisation vis-a-vis increasing vehicular traffic, level and volume of these roads are totally inadequate. With NH-34 as the main movement spine within the town, the local traffic are mixed with highway traffic, jeopardizing the traffic network both of the town as well as that of the Highway. The efficient and optimal use of the flyover is restricted due to a lack of planning and the absence of uniform and regulated volume of traffic.

### 3.1.1b. Traffic / Transportation and parking facilities

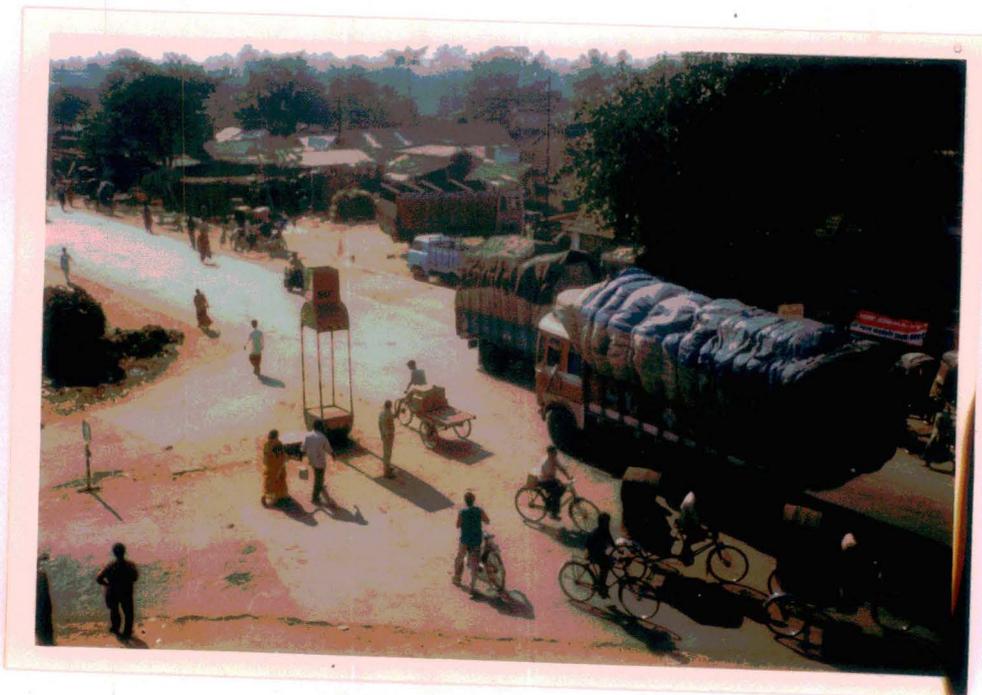
As per available information, the vehicular population of the district registered with RTO, Malda as on 28.2.95 is given below.

**Table : 3.2:** Numbers vehicles in different services.

Sl. No.	Category of Vehicle	Number of Vehicles
1	Bus / Mini Bus	201
2	Taxi / Mini Taxi / Pvt. car / Jeep etc.	1485
3	Truck / Mini truck / Tractor / Delivery Van etc.	2157
4	Auto Rickshaw / Motorcycle/ Scooter etc.	9799
5	Other like Tanker, Ambulance etc.	34

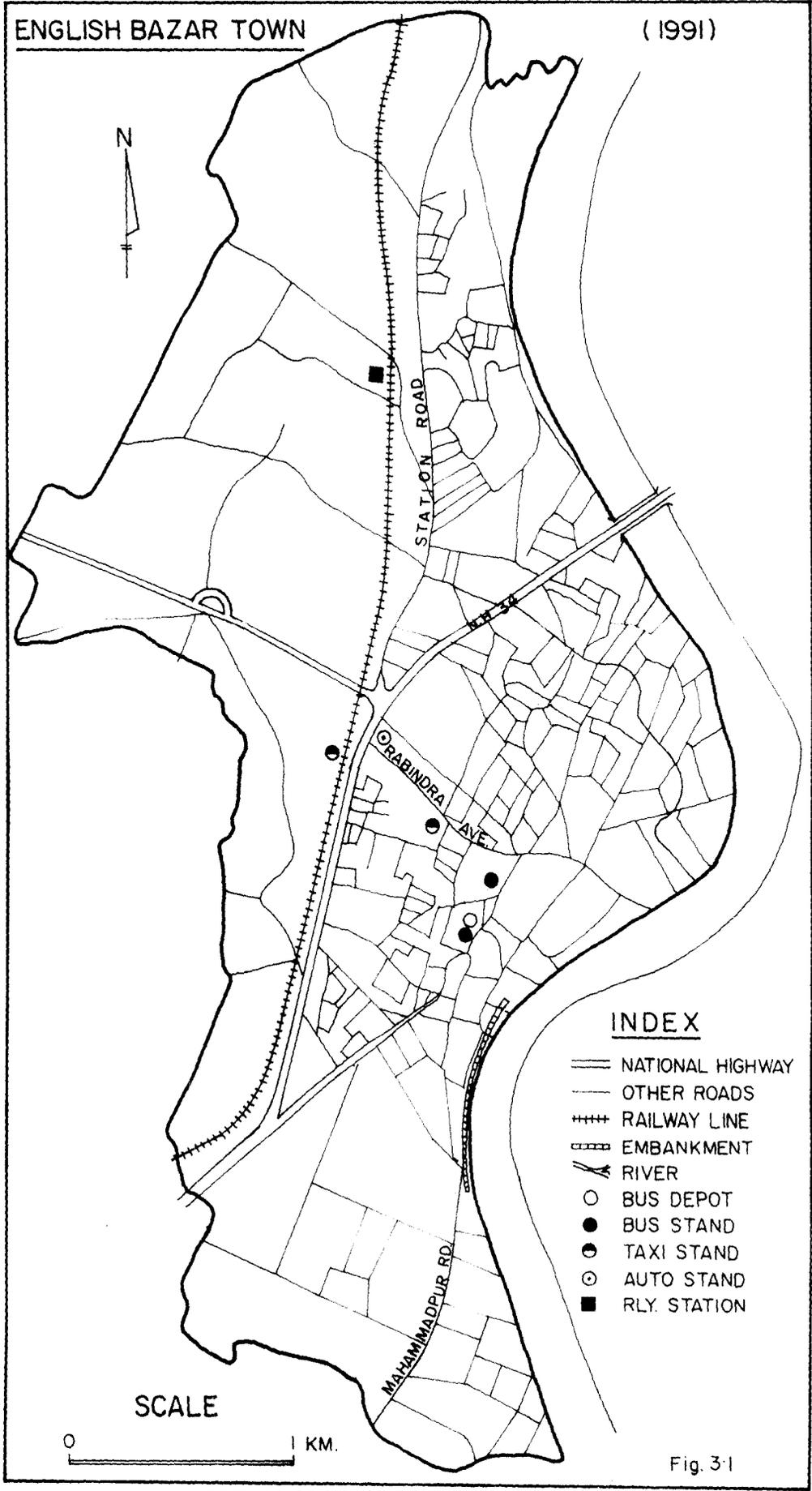


1. Traffic flow on a road at midday



2. A view of road crossing with NH34 & state highway

# ROAD NETWORK AND PARKING LOTS FOR VEHICULAR TRAFFIC



Needless to say, the majority of the above vehicles ply through English Bazar Municipality, it being the nerve centre of the entire district. These apart, there are a huge number of registered and unregistered slow moving vehicles like rickshaws, hand driven carts etc. plying regularly at the heart of the town, constituting a nuisance and menace to the traffic besides compounding the traffic problems. (Plate 3,4).

With the growth of population coupled with the explosion of vehicular population, particularly of the registered and unregistered slow moving vehicles, the traffic problem becomes magnum in town area, which leads to delay and congestion, hapazard and inadequate parking, noise pollution, high operating costs etc. It is worth mentioning that there is a very small air strip adjacent to the town which permits landing and take-off facilities for small planes. There was a Vayodoot service thrice a week. In the perspective of rapid urbanisation of the town coupled with the increasing volume of trade and commerce as well as industrial activities in Malda in general and English Bazar Municipality in particular, necessary modification / augmentation of the airstrip is required.

### 3.1.1c. Bus services from English Bazar Town

One salient feature emerges from the table 3.2 is that the frequency of bus services is not uniform on all the routes radiating from the town. The highest frequency of bus services is observed along English Bazar-Farrakka, English Bazar - Manikchak, English Bazar - Nalagola, English Bazar - Balurghat and English Bazar - Raiganj routes. It is logical to conclude that the area located within the high frequency distance of bus services is under a great pull of the urban agglomeration.

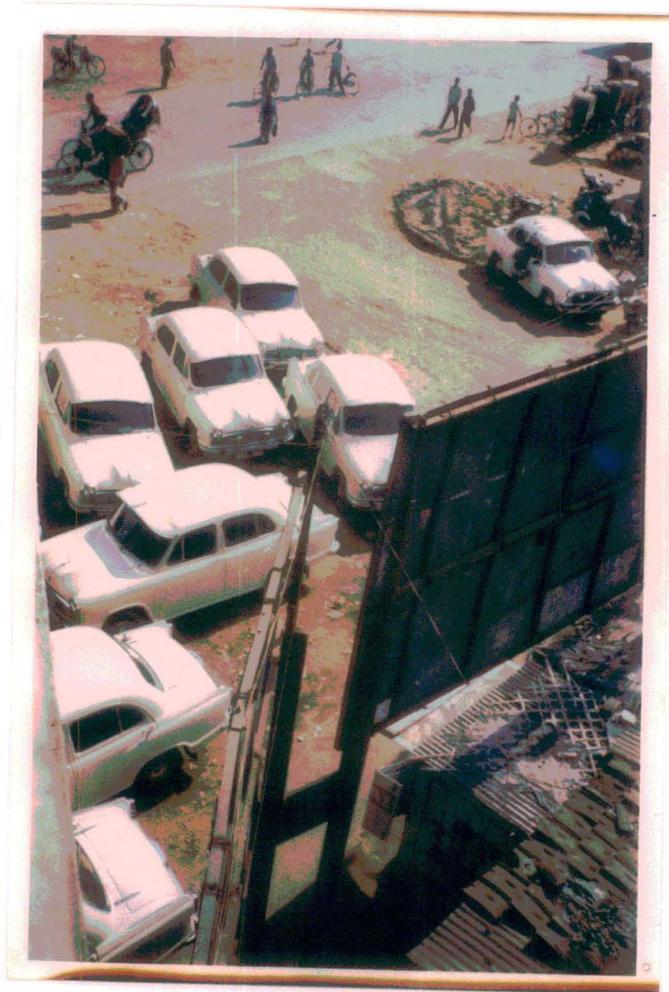
English Bazar is situated almost on the midway between North and South Bengal. As a result a large number of buses, originating from different places, ply via this town, making it generally a compulsory halt for refuelling or services. Apart from a large number of buses, a fleet of private taxies ply regularly on the following routes carrying daily commuters. (Plate -5).

**Table 3.3. :** Taxi services from English Bazar to important villages.

Name	No.
English Bazar - Kaliachak	42
English Bazar - Gajol	30
English Bazar - Manikchak	30
English Bazar - Bulbulchandi	40



*3. Flyover to avoid traffic congestion at Rathbari More*



*4. Private taxi stand*

It is not possible to calculate the actual volume of the daily movement of passenger on different routes from and to the town as correct data are not maintained by the different organisations. Besides, most of the buses carry double or about triple of their actual seating capacity. Anyway taking the seating capacity of each bus, it is estimated that more than 5,000 passengers travel daily on one-way.

### **3.1.1d. : Railway**

As the English Bazar town serves as the gateway to the North-Eastern region of India, it has good rail connections with different parts of the country. The office of the Divisional Railway Manager of Malda Division of Eastern Railway is located here. The Eastern Railway connects Malda with Calcutta and even with Delhi and Madras. The North Frontier Railway which originates here maintains railway communication with the North-Eastern States of India. The district also has a railway link with the neighbouring Bangladesh.

There is a city Booking Office in the English Bazar town. Double railway lines are available between Mahananda Bridge to English Bazar town station and between Gour Malda to Chamagram Station. Computerised reservation facility with direct link with Calcutta and Siliguri needs to be installed immediately at the City Booking Office and Malda Town Railway Station.

English Bazar is well served by the Eastern railway. A railway station situated at Jhaljhalia, 2 km from English Bazar, connects three lines to Katihar, Barharwa and Sealdah (Plate-6).

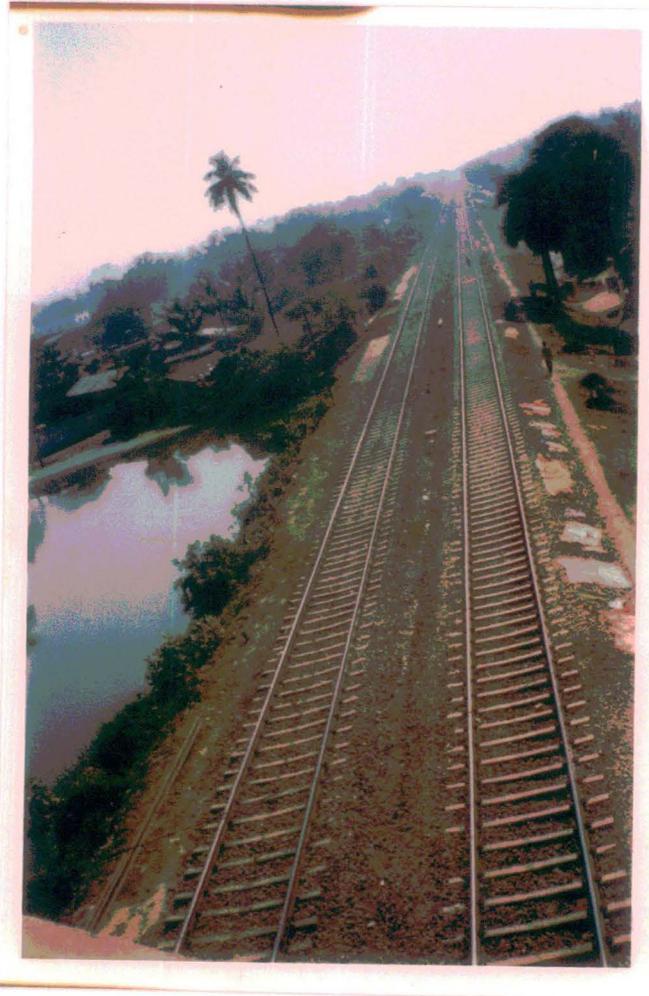
Station : Malda town (1981-82), Daily outward passenger : 1,269, Daily inward passenger 892.

### **3.1.2. Education**

Education has the growing quality of a living organism (Smith, 1962). A complete and generous education fits a man to perform justly. Skilfully and magnanimously all the offices, both private and public, of peace and war. Education gives people a sense of independent judgement and power to distinguish between good and evil. The future growth of society depends on the investment in education at present. Formal schooling is a good index of a population's educational attainment. So, education one of the important needs of life, is a key factor for the rapid development of a town. Knowledge is linked with literacy and formal education system. The spread of value and attitude can most effectively be



5. Rickshaw stand Rathbari More



6. Railway line with connects NJP / Calcutta/ Delhi

achieved through education (Ghosh, 1985). The town has large number of primary and secondary schools, degree colleges, teachers' training college, Polytechnic institute.

The educational facilities available in English Bazar Municipality are shown in Table 3.4.

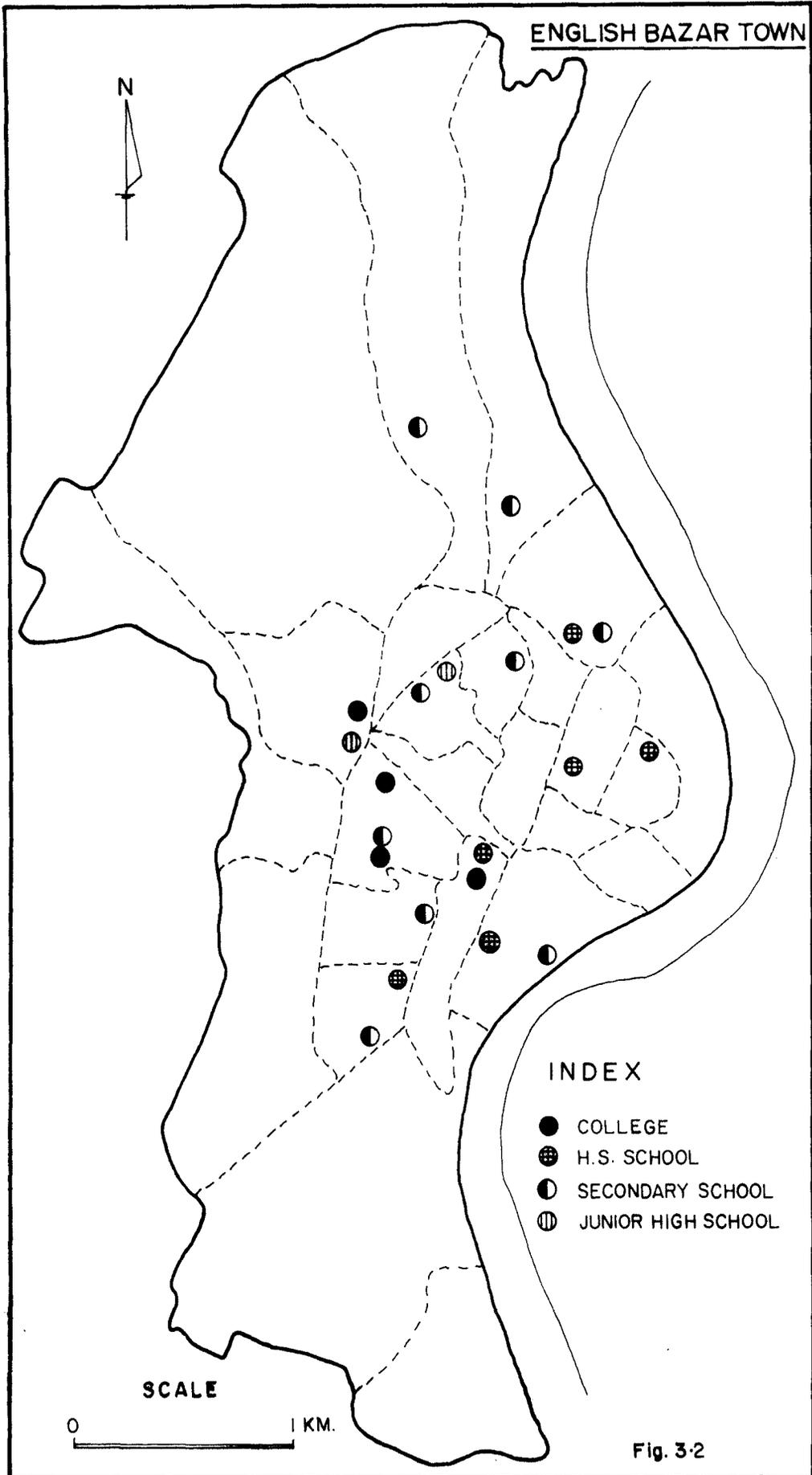
**Table 3.4. :** Educational facilities and their number.

Sl. No.	Description	No.	No. of students	Remarks
1.	Primary School	91	10,212	87 are managed by the Board, Government of West Bengal, While 4 are managed by EBM
2.	Jr. High	7	6,976	—
	High	14	8,163	—
	Higher secondary	27	1,029	—
3.	Degree College	2	5,903	—
4.	Teachers Training College	1	240	—
5.	I.T.I.	1	169	—
6.	Indira Gandhi National Open University	1	130	—
7.	Polytechnic	1	150	Polytechnic is under the proposed extended area of EBM.

In the town, there are 91 primary schools having 10,212 students. These schools are spread-over in all the wards located within the easy reach of children. The Higher Secondary education is also carried on in the colleges. On the whole, the facilities to obtain the secondary education compared to Higher Secondary standard in the town is very meagre. As the average infrastructure of the colleges is not fully satisfactory, students of higher secondary courses prefer to get admission in Higher Secondary Schools than in Colleges. (Fig. 3.2).

In view of the ever increasing growth of population coupled with a high rate of migration / emigration, the existing educational facilities fall for short of requirements and need through upgradation.

# DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (1991)



### 3.1.3. Health

Health facilities as presently available in English Bazar Municipality are from the following source are (Table 3.5).

**Table 3.5. :** Number of beds in different health services.

Sl. No.	Hospital / Health centre	No.	Approximate Bed Capacity
1.	District Hospital	1	629
2.	Primary Health Centre	1	15
3.	Subsidiary Health Centre	1	—
4.	Nursing Homes (Private)	8	N.A.

Although the existing medical facilities are basically adequate for the present population of English Bazar Municipality, the pressure of population from outside is so high that these facilities are grossly inadequate. Moreover, the existing health infrastructure lacks in providing special health care and as a result, cases demanding such care have to be performed or referred to Calcutta. As for as animal treatment is concerned, the existing veterinary services are also inadequate compare to the requirements.

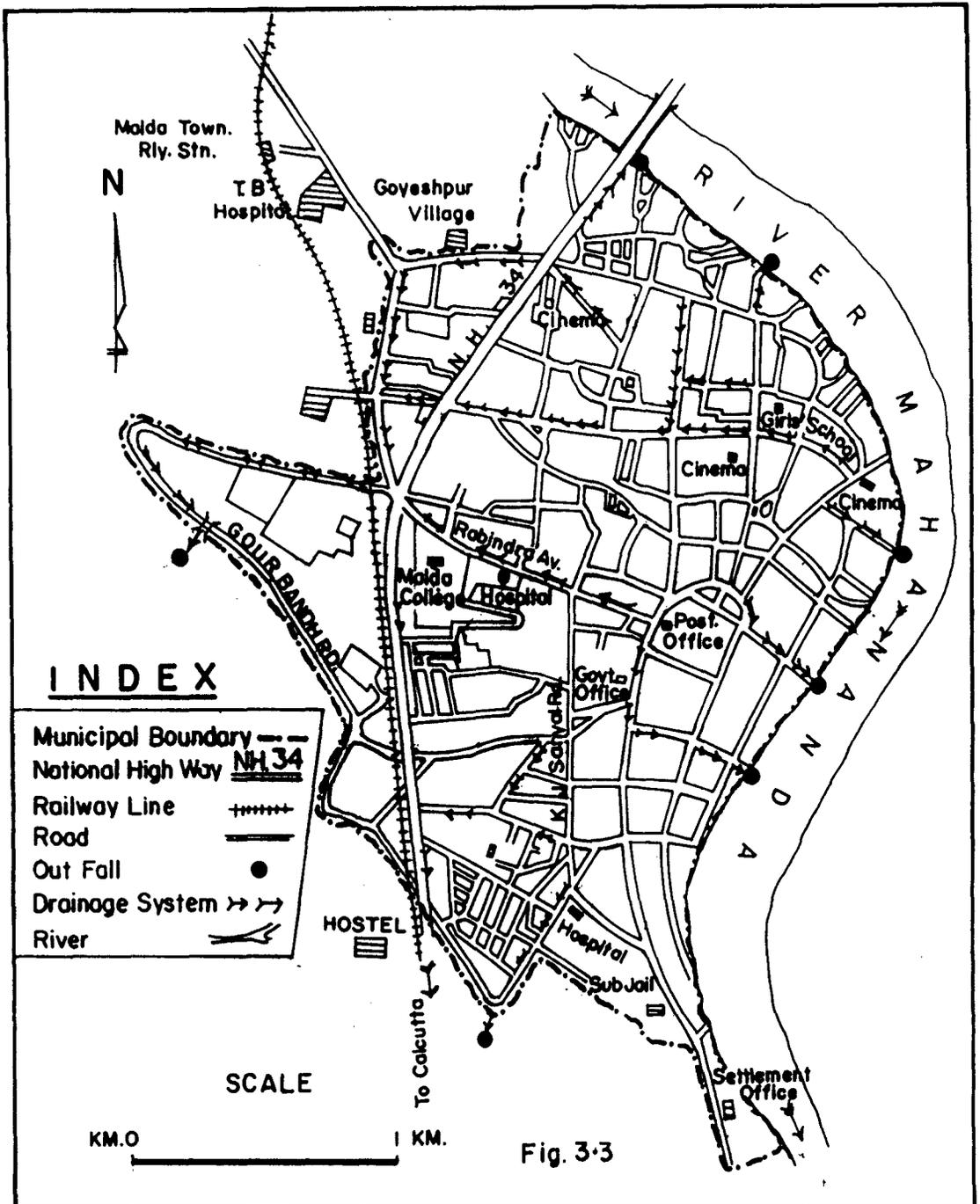
### 3.1.4. Drainage or sweage system

The drainage system of the town is in improvised form, No scientific drainage system has been developed, it is necessary to draw a comprehensive plan after proper survey of the town and outlet of all liquid pollutants should be drained out through Lakshmipur Drainage System. The liquid pollutants mainly lead to seven main outfalls of the town to surface (Fig. 3.3) drains which are pucca or Kuchha. Pucca drains cover a length of 8.50 km. The depth of pucca drains varies from 5.00M to 0.09M and width varies from 3 M to 1 M. The whole drainage system of Malda Town is most unscientific and need to be overhauled throughly. A Master plan for improvement of drainage system is necessary but for maintaining and improvement of the present drainage system, an immediate of Rs. 3.00 crores is to be required.

#### 3.1.4a. Liquid waste

All sorts of liquid wastes mainly lead to seven outfalls of the town without any treatment through surface drainage, which are either pucca or kucha. Pucca drains cover a total length of 16.87 kms. while kucha drains cover a length of 8.5

# DRAINAGE MAP ( ENGLISH BAZAR MUNICIPALITY )



kms. Seven out falls of English Bazar town through which liquid wastes are being disposed to the river Mahananda which ultimately leads to the river Ganges are as follow:

- (i) at Fulbari to river Mahananda
- (ii) at Baluchar to river Mahananda
- (iii) at Mission Ghat to river Mahananda
- (iv) at Gayeshpur to river Mahananda
- (v) at Sarju Prasad to river Mahananda
- (vi) at D.S.A. to river Mahananda
- (vii) at Nurbahi to Bhatia Lakh and partly to Ganga through a linked canal during rainy season.

As such, no scientific drainage system is existing in the town. (Plate-7) It is necessary to draw a comprehensive plan after proper survey of the town and outlet of all liquid waste shall be drained out through Lakshmipur drainage basin which has already been approved and preliminary work has started. These apart, there are presently 3500 service latrines which need to be demolished and replaced by sanitary latrines.

#### **3.1.4b. Solid waste**

Regarding solid waste, trenching ground has already been located near Malda Aerodrome for dumping purpose. (Plate-8).

#### **3.1.4c. Treatment and Recycling of liquid and sold wastes**

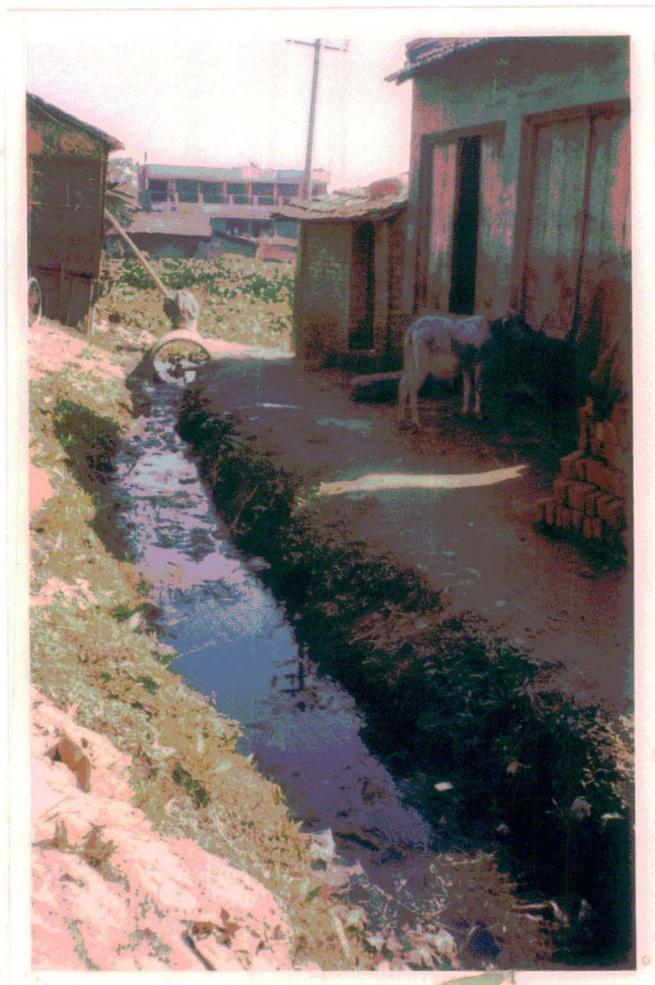
Sewarage treatment plants, power plants with solid waste / recycled waste as a raw material and adoption of other echo-friendly measures are also required to be set up.

#### **3.1.5. Electricity and Street Lighting**

The requirement of electricity of English Bazar Municipality (EBM) area is presently met by Purnea sub-station which is about 140 kms. away from the town. The power available at present is not sufficient to cater to the requirements of the English Bazar Municipality area. The problem of low voltage which is due to the long distance between Purnea sub-station and English Bazar Municipality area is a common menace to the town, involving constant hazards to the commercial / industrial activities etc. Measures for the augmentation of the Purnea sub-station have already been taken up.



*7. Kancha drain and heaps of garbage in a slum*



*8. Outlet of a drain of to a pond*

### **3.1.6. Water Supply**

The present requirement of water supply is met from underground sources. The underground water is in general of good quality at an average depth of 120m. The water thus available is potable and does not require any treatment as such. At present 23 deep tubewells in addition to 657 hand tubewells form the present water supply network of English Bazar Municipality.

The scarcity of potable water is significant compared to the standard requirement of 135 litres per head per day, water is supplied to the extent of only 62.5 liters per head per day. It has been further observed that due to scanty rainfall over the years, the ground water table has received to a considerable depth. It is apprehended that in the near future these tabewells get dried up & water may not be available at all. There is a perennial source of water from the river Mahananda and intake structure may be constructed at about 5 kms. from the town. But it is observed that due to continuous siltation on the eastern bank of the river every year, the course of river is moving more and more away from the town. So it may be necessary to extend section line every year to draw water. This is a difficult task involving cost and constant maintenance and may not be techno-commercially viable.

A water supply project of Rs. 88 crores has been sanctioned to draw water from the river Ganges to combat menace of arsenic pollution in ground water. The pipeline of this project is expected to come upto Bagmari-Ferozpur at a distance of about 6 kms from English Bazar town. It is proposed that water shall be drawn from this source of Ferozpur and supplied to the town.

### **3.1.7. Water connection**

Water connection makes the most basic necessity of a household. More or less water connection provided by the municipality is available all over the town. The maximum number of residential houses are connected with water lines. Besides, they have their own tube well, well, pumpset etc. In three wards viz. XXII, XXII, and XXIV, there is no municipal water connection. In these wards, the residents have their own tubewell, well, pumpset etc. for the supply of water for domestic use.

The supply of drinking water in English Bazar town is made with deep tubewells only. While the requirement of water per capita is 200 liters per person per-day. This municipality is being able to supply only 62.50 liters per person perday. English Bazar Municipality has 23 deep tubewells and 657 hand tubewells,

through which drinking water is supplied to the residents. Owing to the scarcity of rain during the preceding years supply of drinking water was inadequate. If this trend continues, deep tubewells will fail to cater the needs of the peoples. So the pipeline proposed to be drawn from the river Ganga to Sujapur (in the Arsenic Scheme) may be drawn up to English Bazar town so that drinking water as required by the people of the town may be supplied from that source. In the meantime six overhead tanks to push up have to be constructed. The pressure of water so that water may be supplied to the area. Where water supply is not yet done. The newly extended areas which covers 8.50sq.km. should be provided with water. As such five deep tubewells are to be installed and distributing pipelines is to be laid. To implement the programme, in a moderate estimate Rs. 4.00 crores are required for construction of six numbers over head tanks and Rs. 3.00 crores are required for installation of deep tubewells and lying pipe lines.

#### **3.1.8. Fire Services**

The fast growth of population along with rapid pace of urbanisation have resulted in an increase in the potential residential, institutional, assembly, business, mercantile, industrial and storage hazards over a period of time. These factors demand a sound and self-sufficient safety management in English Bazar Municipality is presently totally inadequate.

#### **3.1.9. Parks and Play Grounds**

English Bazar town is acutely in dearth of parks. At the accepted standard of one neighbourhood park for every 10,000 population, the town requires 3 parks spatially distributed over the municipal area. At present, District park on the bank of river Mahananda near court compound is one of the pleasure. The town has another park near the Malda Town station in Jhaljhalia. But these parks owing to their location at the extreme north-western part of the town, the public need is not served adequately.

The town has 18 clubs registered with Malda District Sports Association. Most of these clubs are soccer clubs. The Malda Town club stadium though not yet been completed in structure is the only centre for exhibition matches and sports meet of the town. The stadium is not adequate to meet the need of the town and one more stadium will be required in near future to meet the growing demand of the sports clubs. The town has other two new stadiums one is Hussain sha

Indoor Stadium and other is Lakhansen Outdoor Stadium which is situated near Malda Town Railway station. (Fig. 3.4).

### 3.1.10. Recreations

The scope of recreation is limited to a few cinema halls, drama houses, parks and a stadium. There is 1 public auditorium and the total number of cinema halls are only 4. As per the accepted standard the town needs a few more cinema halls and auditoriums without delay (Plate-9). In English Bazar town is rich in public Libraries. There are at present 15 Government sponsored and 8 non sponsored public Libraries in the town.

### 3.1.11. Crematorium

In English Bazar town, there is one crematorium which is located on the bank of Ganga river at Sodullapur and it is equipped with two burning pyres. The muslim burial ground is situated close to Aerodrum which is very poorly maintained.

### 3.1.12. Communication

#### 3.1.12a. Postal Services and Tele Communications

At present there is a head post office supplemented by 10 sub-post offices in the existing English Bazar Municipality. So far as telecommunication service is concerned, the exchange are old and obsolete and all the telephone lines are auto-manual (Plate-10). Upgradation and extension of postal & communication services is required considering the level of urbanisation English Bazar Municipality area in future years.

**Table 3.6 :** Wardwise distribution of Post Office in different wards.

No. of Post Office	Location of Ward No.	Total No.
One	II, V, VI, IX, XI, XIV, XVI, XX, XXI.	9
Two	VIII, XVIII,	2
Post office cum Telephone Exchange	VIII,	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>12</b>

Head post office is located in ward VIII. The postal delivery is made 2 time daily and the clearance from head post office is hourly but from sub-post offices 2 times only. At present command population per post office is 10,000 approximately. So the postal service is not satisfactory in the town.



9. Modern auditorium



10. Front view of Central Telephone Exchange.

IMPORTANT SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTIONS (1991)

ENGLISH BAZAR TOWN

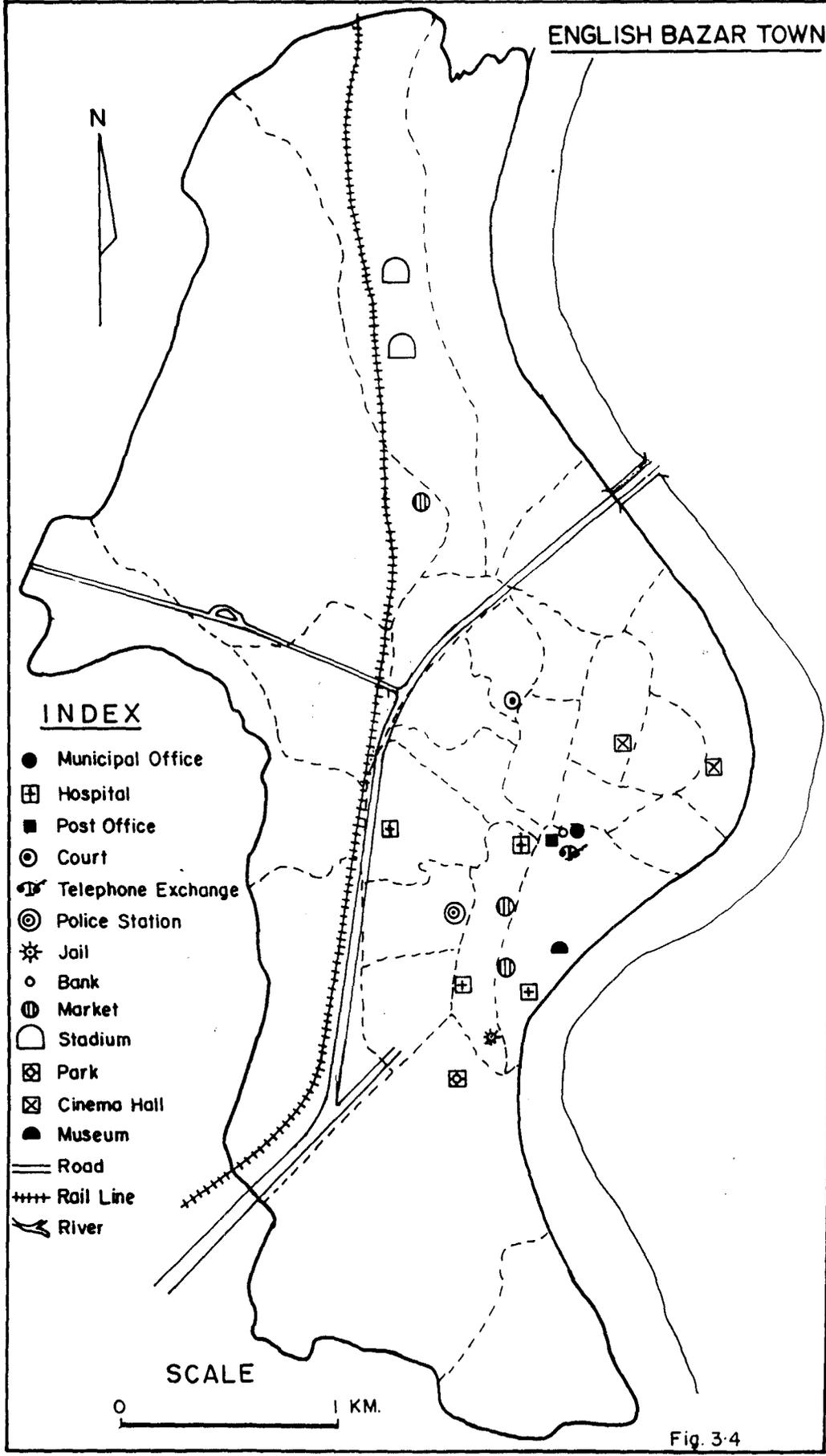


Fig. 3-4

The number of telephones has been increased from 3200 to 6000 during 1981-1991 and at present this number has become 10,000. So, 30 lines are available for 2000 persons.

### 3.1.12b. Finance

The financial agency is one of the most important to determine the level of economic development. The economic development of any town is closely linked with the banking activity carried on within in and the banking is an important index of economic development. The financial agencies available in English Bazar town are shown in Table 3.7.

**Table 3.7 :** Banks and the account holders nos.

No. of Bank	No. of Accounts/ offices	Annual Financial Transaction (in crore)
14	1,74,237	2,476.06
L.I.C. of India office	2	
Any other source : Peerless saving	1	
Private saving co.	10	
Post office sub	12	
Post office head	1	

In English Bazar, out of 14 banks 9 are Nationalized. Among these, State Bank of India is the largest having 2 branches and total 130 employees followed by United Commercial Bank with 76 employees. The 6 non-nationalised banks are Indian Overseas Bank, Gour Gramin Bank with 2 branches, Co-operative Bank with 2 branches, and U.B.I. Altogether 500 employees are working in these banks. Central Bank of India is also the lead bank. The command population per bank is about 4000 persons. All the banks are concentrated in CBD. The Regional office of State Bank of India which is lying was N.H.34 (ward XXI). The main office of State Bank of India which is situated in ward VIII near head post office. There is no bank in the western part of the town. The wards I, II, XXIII, are not getting the easy accessibility of banks.

## **3.2. DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

### **3.2.1. Housing**

Plot size as well as housing forms very important as well as largest component in a city structure. These not only have significant impact on the social and economic life of the city, but also make the total city image and its social and cultural life. The studies of plot sizes in a town reveal the land-man ratio, land values as well as stage of development of the urban centre. Living conditions in the residential areas are inter-related with the houses, plot sizes and environment. In order to understand and identify the problems, it is essential to examine the living conditions. The qualitative aspect the living environment covers study of living areas in terms of structural conditions, standards of services, relationship of housing areas and work centres, availability of amenities like education, health and recreation, availability of services like water supply, drainage and transport facilities, while quantitative aspects covers tenure status, housing shortage etc.

As per 1991 census there were about 26,000 buildings (23,000 residential and 3,000 office buildings). About 35% of the urban population in this town live in slums without access to basic infrastructure facilities.

Infact, the growth in housing facilities has failed to keep pace with population increase (The population increased by 28 times during 1869-1994, where as English Bazar Municipality area increased by about 2.6 times during the same period), resulting in a rise of "Privacy Index" as also proliferation of urban slums and squatters. As indicated earlier, the average density of population is 12,694 persons per km<sup>2</sup>, which itself is very high compared to any standard norm. It may be worth mentioning that towards the western and southern parts of the town, population density is low, where as the same is much higher than the average density as indicated in the heart of the town. This is the vital parameter for designing / planning housing facilities for the town as a whole.

### **3.2.2. House types**

From the sample survey made in English Bazar Municipality mainly three type of residential houses are found one storied, two storied and three storied building. These three types of houses are very unevenly distributed over the English Bazar Municipality. On the whole 53.1% of the total number of residential houses are English Bazar Town. Thus, there is a sharp difference between one storied and two and three storied buildings. About 40.2% are being two storied buildings

and only 6.7% of the total residential buildings of are three storied buildings. The Table 3.8 gives a clear picture of house type in the town.

**Table : 3.8.** Number of storied in different types of houses

Type	Number	Percentage of total
One storied	255	53.0
Two storied	193	40.3
Three storied	32	6.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### 3.2.3. Floor of the Houses

In the town there is a wide variation in the types of floors. Most of the cases the floors are cemented. But kuncha floor is also observed in the houses built in the peripheral areas of the town and the extreme corner of the southern boundary. According to the data available, in English Bazar the highest proportion of the residential houses are made of cemented floors which is 72.5% of the total and the lowest percentage of houses has the kuncha floors which represents 1.67% of the total. The table 3.9 represents actual percentage of floor type.

**Table 3.9 :** Nature of floor in houses.

Type	Number	Percentage to total
Cemented	348	72.5
Kuncha	8	1.6
Mosaic	84	17.5
Partly mosaic and cemented	40	8.4
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.0</b>

These, however, highly interesting to note that 17.5% of the residential houses floors which definitely a sign of affluence. In most of the cases the new buildings those are constructed have mosaic floors comparatively in the older buildings that constructed earlier have red and black cemented floors. Besides about 8.33% of the houses are partly mosaic and partly cemented floors. This type of

floors are generally found in two storied and three storied buildings where the ground floor is constructed with cement and remaining two floors are mosaic.

### 3.2.4. Floor Space

One of the most important indications of living standard of people is the actual floor space available in the houses they live in English Bazar. The actual size varies widely of the total number of houses surveyed. Nearly 0.83% has floor space ranging between 501-700sq.m. It means that a very small number of houses in under this category.

Table 3.10 shows that the majority houses surveyed have a floor space ranging between 701 and 1500m<sup>2</sup>. Out of them again the largest number has a floor space from 1001 to 1500. Thus, almost 65% of the total houses surveyed belong to the medium group and the number of houses decrease with increasing area of floor space.

This further necessary to note in this connection that there is only one house with a floor space of 501-700m<sup>2</sup> and this happens to be the smallest while the largest floors found in the case of two houses exceed 400sq.m which is any consideration is very large. Of course in the case of large floor space, the houses are invariably more than one storied, and used by more than one occupants that is inhabited by a number of families.

**Table : 3.10:** Size of floor space in m<sup>2</sup>.

Size of Floor space in m <sup>2</sup>	Number	Percentage to total
<500	4	0.83
501-1000	128	26.67
1001-1500	184	38.33
2001-2500	52	12.83
2501-3000	48	14.70
3001-3500	12	2.50
3501-4000	12	2.50
>4000	8	1.64
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

### 3.2.5. Wall of the Houses

In house types, the walls make an important feature where materials used for its construction vary. In English Bazar two types of walls are found in the town.

These are brick walls and walls made of mud and brick. Most of the houses are constructed with brick using cement and sand while the second category used mud as a building. We get an idea that brick wall accounts for 91.67% of the residential houses in the urban sector which is much higher than the other type of walls. The later is representing 8.33% to the total.

### 3.2.6. Roof of the Houses

In English Bazar Table 3.11 shows various types of roofs are found in the residential houses. Different types of materials are used for the construction of the roofs (Plate-11). Such as concert roof, tile roof, corrugated sheet roof and roofs constructed using concrete and wooden beams across are observed in the town. However the highest percentage of roofs that is 87.5% of total are found to be made of concrete spread all over the town. This type of roof called R.C.C. roofs represents over 87% of the total. In comparison, other types taken an unimportant place, being much less popular than the concrete roofs.

**Table 3.11.** : Types of Roof in the houses

<b>Types of roof</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage to total</b>
R.C.C.	420	87.50
Tile	12	2.50
Corrugated sheet	8	1.67
Concrete and wooden Beams	40	8.33
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Roofs belonging to other types generally associated with the poor income group are found in the extreme south of the town besides occurring in scattered fashion in many other parts.

### 3.2.7. Family Size

In the study area, number of the person living in a family is widely at variance. For instance starting from 1002 heads in a family. The size goes, upto above ten heads. The family consisting of 3 to 4 persons is a common rule immediately followed by the families consisting or 5 to 6 heads. These two groups together represents nearly 73% of the total families.



11. A view of common place roof of a modern building

**Table 3.12 :** Family size and their percentage.

Persons / family	No. of families	Percentage to total
1-2	12	2.50
3-4	178	36.67
5-6	170	35.82
7-8	68	14.17
9-10	8	1.67
> 10	44	9.17
<b>Total</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The lowest percentage is 1.67 where the number of persons in the family is 9 to 10. The percentage decreases with increase, in the number of persons in a family. Thus 14.17% of the families have 7-8 persons and 9.17% of the families have more than 10 heads. It may thus be observed that, on an average, the size of the family is large and in many cases the size is very large for an urban area.

### 3.2.8. House Ownerships

In English Bazar Municipality three types of ownership of houses are observed.

1. Houses lived in by the owner.
2. Houses partly used by the owner and partly rented.
3. Rented houses.

In the first category that of owned houses, the land lord lives in his or her own house. In the second type both the land lord and the person rented to live in the same house. The third type indicates that the house is for only renting purpose. According to data available through sample survey, the Table 3.13 gives an idea about the distribution pattern of owners of houses in English Bazar town.

**Table 3.13 :** House system in English Bazar Municipality.

Type of house	Number	Percentage to total
House used by owner	376	78.33
Owner and rented houses	88	18.34
Rented	16	3.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It thus reveals that the largest percentage of the residential houses are used by the owners for living purpose. In 78.33% of the residential houses, people live in

his or her own house. This is the quite natural where people have settled in the town. The majority of the people seen to be permanent settlers having built their own houses. It is also a trade centre. In comparison, houses used by the owners for his living and partly rented have taken second place representing 18.33% of the total residential houses. of the town. It is really surprising to note that rented houses comprise a very small section representing only 3.33% of the total residential houses. People who are mainly Govt. service holders or engaged in such activities staying for a short time stay in the rented houses.

### 3.2.9. Occupations

A study of the occupational character of each of the family head reveals that they can be grouped into five broad categories on the basis of data collected. This is given in the following Table 3.14.

**Table 3.14** : Occupational patterns and their percentages.

Type of occupation	Number	Percentage to total
Service	276	57.50
Business	152	31.67
Retired servicemen	44	9.17
Service & Business	4	0.83
Professional service	4	0.83
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It may be observed that the largest number of people is engaged in services which amount to 57.5% of the total, followed by businessmen and retired persons. As a matter of fact, the first two groups together represents almost 89% of the total employed people. The occupational character of the urban residents is clearly revealed by the data shows that it consists of two basic types, namely service and business. The greater importance of the first further reveals the fact that as the administrative head quarters of the district, a large number of public as-well-as offices have spring up have giving employment to the largest section of earning people. At the same time the importance of trade and commerce is brought out by the high percentage of people involved in such activities.

### 3.2.10. Bed Rooms in the Family

The living amenities in the residential houses make an interesting study in regard to the standard of living of the urban residents. For the purpose the number of

the bed rooms available in the residential houses has been taken for consideration Table 3.15.

**Table 3.15 :** Number of bed rooms in different ranges.

Range of Bed Rooms	Number	Percentage to total
1-2	152	31.66
3-4	212	44.17
5-6	68	14.17
7-8	44	9.17
9-10	4	0.83
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The number of bedrooms in a house depends on the total floor space and the number of persons in a family. It is evident from table 3.15 that the largest number of houses has 3-4 bed rooms. Which in terms of percentage it works out 44.17% of total inhabited residential houses. The range is however, every wide beginning from 1-2 rooms and inversion to 9-10 in certain instance. Houses having 1-2 rooms take the second place in percentage (31-67%) of the total and houses consisting at 5 to 6 bed rooms came next to it. It is worth mentioning that more than 9% of the houses have 7-8 bed rooms, which is really a very high figure though in such cases one has to consider the fact that more than one family live in such houses. The number of bedrooms rises to 9 to 10 in only one of the houses surveyed for this purpose.

### 3.2.11. Drawing rooms

In the town there is a sharp difference between the number of drawing rooms Table 3.16.

**Table 3.16 :** Numbers of house with drawing rooms.

No. of Drawing room	Number of houses with drawing room	Percentage to total
Nil	88	18.83
One	304	63.34
Two	84	17.00
Three	12	0.83
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 3.16 presents data on the number of drawing rooms available in a residential

house in English Bazar. It is seen that the highest number of houses representing 63.39% of the total have one drawing room. Nearly 17.50% of the houses have two drawing rooms while more than 18% of the residential houses do not have any drawing room. But residential houses with three drawing rooms are very rare which again shows the cases where the house is divided into a number of portions for renting out.

### 3.2.12. Houses with Dining room

The English Bazar the majority of the residential houses comprising 56.67% have one dining rooms. Table 3.17 presents the actual data on the availability of dining rooms.

**Table 3.17** : No. of houses with Dining room.

No. of Dining room	Number	Percentage to total
Nil	116	24.17
One	272	56.67
Two	92	19.16
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 3.17 furnishes data in respect of dining rooms and it shows that about a quarter of the total houses surveyed do not have this facility Residential houses having two dining rooms represents 19.17 percentage of the total number. The houses having no dining rooms or space for that purpose usually use the kitchen for dining.

### 3.2.13. Houses with Store Room facility

Among the other facilities making living comfortable is a store room for keeping study materials of the family. It is observed that store room is not present in many of the houses, comprising about 32.50% of the residential houses.

**Table 3.18** : Number of houses with store room.

Type of occupation	Number	Percentage to total
Nil	156	32.50
One	280	58.33
Two	40	8.34
Three	4	0.83
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 3.18 gives information about 58.33% of the houses have only one store room and less than 9% has more than two store rooms. Three store rooms make a rare case, representing only 0.83%. Normally, where the building is two storied or three storied, the number of store rooms increases.

### 3.2.14. Houses with Kitchen facility

One of the most important basic facilities of a residential house is kitchen which if not separated from the bed rooms will give rise to many problems including that of health. However, the majority of the houses (63.33%) are equipped with one kitchen and almost 32% of the houses have more than one kitchen.

**Table 3.19 :** Number of houses with kitchen.

No. of Kitchen	No. of Houses with Kitchen	Percentage to total
Nil	20	4.17
One	304	63.33
Two	152	31.67
above two	4	0.83
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

But there is no kitchen in over 4% houses which indicates the low standard of living for the people occupying those houses.

### 3.2.15. Houses with Bathroom

Bathroom makes another basic necessity. In English Bazar, five categories of houses are found in terms of availability of bathroom. The most important fact regarding this is that there is no house without a bathroom though the number varies widely from 1 to 5.

**Table 3.20:** Number of houses with bathroom

No. of Bathroom	No. of houses	Percentage to total
1	192	40.80
2	212	44.17
3	32	6.67
4	36	7.53
5	4	0.83
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>

According to table 3.20 about 40% of the houses surveyed has one bathroom and the number increases to two for each house (44.17% of the surveyed houses.) The number of houses is decreasing with number of bathroms and there is at least one house among the 120 surveyed which has 5 bathrooms. It may, however be mentioned in this connection that houses having more bathrooms generally consist of more than one flats. On the whole, the living condition, as revealed in the survey, is not very poor except in the case of those having no separate kitchen or dining room.

### 3.2.16. Houses with Latrine services

Latrine problem is one of the most important problems in the town. The sample study was made for finding at distribution of latrines Table 3.21.

**Table 3.21:** Number of latrine per residential house.

No. of Latrines	No. of houses with latrines	Percentage to total	Number of wards
1	144	40.00	20
2	272	56.67	3
3	20	4.17	1
4	40	8.33	0
5	4	0.83	0
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>24</b>

Table 3.21 shows the position of latrine in the residential houses in English Bazar. There is a great variation in availability of latrine in the houses of each ward. The largest number of houses comprising 56.67% of them have 2 each. It increases to 3 and 4 for another 4.17% and 8.33% of the houses respectively. About 30% of the houses however have one latrine each where as at least 0.83% of the houses have 5 latrines. This heartening to note that there is not house without a latrine (Plate-12). The type of latrine a clear picture emerges from the following table 3.22.

**Table 3.22 :** Type of the latrine and their percentage.

Percentage	No.	Percentage to total	Total ward
Sanitary	416	86.67	17
Comod system	40	8.33	2
Service Previes	26	5.00	5
	<b>480</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>24</b>



12. A view of toilet



13. Siltation on the river Mahananda

From Table 3.21 it is visualised that about the type of latrines in the town. More or less sanitary latrines are more common than the other types existing in almost 86.67% of the total residential houses. It is well built and of Indian type. Next to this type is the comode which is of English type. This represents 8.33% of the total 120 sample residential houses of the town. Mainly this type of latrine is observed where the number of latrine in a house is more than one. The number of service privies are still found in about 5% of the total residential houses.

## **CONCLUSION**

The foregoing discussion reveals that the socio-economic functions of the town under study are not satisfactory and can not arise much hope. The development of English Bazar town though has its start with the beginning of the present century. the socio-economic e.g. education, health, finance, transport and other urban amenities have limited growth and those somehow feed the inhabitants of the town and adjacent areas. But its march late and population growth rates in the town during the last few decades were so high that the amenities in the town became insufficient for the dwellers of the town. The town suffers from problems of transport and communication, health services, drinking water supply etc. Some of these problems have become acute as the town has to feed its adjoining areas as well as neighbouring districts. In the town sewerage system is unsatisfactory as well as unhealthy. no proper garbage clearance is done and proper garbage pits on the roadsides are absent.

In English Bazar Municipality 9240 number of holdings are occupied with building. Where as 5110 holdings are with water connection 937 holdings are with service privies 1180 holdings are with vacant land and ponds. In English Bazar, houses are mainly one storied with cemented floor, brick walls and concrete roofs maximum houses are constructed with 1000 to 1500sq. ft. where people live in their own houses with three to four and five to six family member. Head of the family is mainly service holder and businessman. Mainly houses are furnished with three to four bed rooms, one drawing room one kitchen, two bathrooms and latrine (Sanitary type). It is noticed that each and every house has connected with electricity Maximum number of residential houses are connected with water lines.