

## APPENDIX

### Socio-Economic Profiles of the Six Surveyed Villages

In what follows, we have furnished brief descriptions of six villages, which have selected for the purpose of study. We have divided the villages into the three categories according to their development – villages under highly developed blocks – Delwalpur (V<sub>1</sub>) and Malon (V<sub>2</sub>), villages under moderately developed blocks – Tilna (V<sub>3</sub>) and Nakol (V<sub>4</sub>) and villages under least developed blocks – Jagatagaon (V<sub>5</sub>) and Dharampur (V<sub>6</sub>).

#### **Delwalpur (V<sub>1</sub>)**

The village *Delwalpur* of Kaliyaganj police station falls under Baruna Gram Panchayet of Uttar Dinajpur district. It is located at 10 kms south of Kaliyaganj town. A metalled road passes through the middle part of the village. The Chandail Regulated Agricultural Marketing Committee constructed this metalled road. This village is situated near the Chandail Regulated Agricultural Market, which is not yet functioning. This village is bounded in the north by the village Khanpur, on the east by the river Srimati and the Chandail Regulated Agricultural Market, on the south by the village Kachna and on the west by village Baruna. Two melas (fairs) are held in the same day of every year in the month of Chaitra (April-May) in favour of Basanti Puja (Durga Puja in spring season or Basanta Kal) at this village.

The total area of this village is 732.07 hectares of which 137.57 hectares are not available for cultivation. *Delwalpur* is a multi-caste and multi-community village. In 2001, total population of this village was 4, 255 persons of which 2, 244 were males and 2, 011 were females. About 88.25 percent of the population was schedule castes and 2.49 percent were schedule tribes according to 2001 Census (Table 9.1). Among the schedule castes, the Rajbanshis are pre-dominant and among the schedule tribes, santals are pre-dominant. Literacy rate is very poor in this village. Only 43.12 percent of the populations (excluding 0-6 age Population) were literates in 2001.

The total number of workers in this village is 2320 persons of which male workers were 1385 and female workers were 935 persons. Table 9.2 shows that the

total number of cultivators was 1106 persons (47.67%) and the total number of agricultural labourers was 1007 persons (43.41%) out of the total workers. The total number of households was 830 in this village according to Census 2001. Out of this, 35 households were covered by the survey of which 30 households were agricultural labour households and five households were cultivator households. Out of 30 agricultural labour households, the number of landless agricultural labour households was 16 and the number of agricultural labour households with land or marginal farmer cum agricultural labour households was 14. The number of scheduled caste agricultural labour households was 25 (83.33 percent) and the remaining five households belong to Muslim community (Table 9.3). Literacy rate among agricultural labourer is 39.71 percent in this village. The nominal wage rate was about Rs. 20-25 per day with two meals and breakfast. Some agricultural labourers were also engaged in various types of small business known as kutti business i. e. conversion of paddy into rice or puff rice. They purchase paddy from the market with their small capital and converted into rice or puff rice. They sell into the market and earn some of money. Some agricultural labourers also used to go to the Kaliyaganj town to work in the oil mill for few months in a year when they have no work in the agriculture.

### **Malon (V<sub>2</sub>)**

The village *Malon* of Hemtabad block is a part of Naoda Gram Panchayet of Uttar Dinajpur district. It is situated 10 km north of Hemtabad block office and is bounded in the north and east by the Bangladesh border. A state high way passess through its western boundary and another mettaled road constructed by BSF passes through its eastern and northern part of the village. This village is surrounded in the west by the village Sunair and in the south by the village Rajra. One weekly market (hat) is held twice in this village.

The village *Malon* is a larger multi-caste and multi-community village of Uttar Dinajpur district. But socially it is dominated by schedule castes, the majority of whom are Rajbanshis. Of the total population 2490, the schedule caste population comprises as large as 59.32 percent and the schedule tribe constitutes only 4.46 percent of the total population of this village. There are fairly large numbers of Muslim households in the village. Literacy rate among the people is better as

compared to other villages. Only about 63.48 percent of the total populations are literates (Table 9.1). Of the total 35 households surveyed, 30 households belong to agricultural labourers and 5 households belong to cultivators. The total number of workers in the village was 1577 of which 774 were males and 803 were females. The work force participation rate was only 63.33 percent in this village (Table 9.2). Cultivators constitute 38.36 percent of the total workers and agricultural labourers constitute 55.29 percent. Out of 30 agricultural labour households, the number of landless agricultural labour households was 18 and the number of landed agricultural labour households or marginal farmer-cum-agricultural labour was 12. The percentage of scheduled caste agricultural labour households constitutes 83.33 percent, scheduled tribe households constitute 3.33 percent and Muslim community households constitute 13.33 percent of the total agricultural labour households (Table 9.3). The literacy rate among agricultural labour is 43.88 percent. The wage rate of agricultural labourer was Rs. 25-30 per day with one meal.

The village has a total area of 397.50 hectares of which 36.63 hectares are not available for cultivation. The percentage of irrigated area is only 4.21 percent of total cultivable land.

### **Tilna (V<sub>3</sub>)**

The village *Tilna* belongs to Itahar C. D. block and is a part of Patirajpur Gram Panchayet of Uttar Dinajpur district. The nearest town Itahar is at a distance of five kms from it. This village is surrounded in the north by the village Mohagachi, in the south by the village Kulator, in the east by the village Dhamdol and in the west by the village Chalna. In 2001, the village had a population of 1, 482 persons of which 730 were males and 752 were females. The village is multi-caste and multi-community village of Uttar Dinajpur. Of the total population, the schedule tribe population comprises as large as 54.59 percent and schedule caste population constitutes 38.87 percent of the total population (Table 9.1). Majority of the tribal population belongs to santal tribes and majority schedule caste population belongs to Rajbanshis. There are no Muslim households in this village. Literacy rate among the people is very poor. Only 23.26 percent of the population (excluding population in the age group 0-6) is literate. The total workers of this village were 930 persons of which 467 were males and 463 were females. The work force participation rate of this

village was 62.75 percent (Table 9.2). Out of the total workers, cultivators constitute 28.17 percent and agricultural labourers constitute 70.86 percent. Of the total 35 households surveyed in this village, 30 belonged to agricultural labourers households and five belonged to cultivators. Out of 30 agricultural labour households surveyed, 20 agricultural labour households are landed households or marginal farmer cum agricultural labour households and 10 agricultural labour households are landless. Eighty percent of the total agricultural labour households belong to the scheduled caste category and twenty percent of the total agricultural labour households belong to the scheduled tribe category (Table 9.3). There is no general caste agricultural labourer in this village. The literacy rate among agricultural labourers is 36.25 percent. The wage rate of agricultural labourers was Rs. 20-25 per day with two meals. Seasonal variation of wage rate was found in this village. Wage rate also varies within the same village. The village is formed by some hamlets (paras). Wage rate is high in those paras where the number of employers was higher as compared to agricultural labourers. Due to excess supply of labourers in each para, the circulation of labour among paras was low within the village. In the southern and eastern part of the block, the area is khiar anchal (black soil area) and the demand for labour is very high during plantation and harvesting of paddy. Labourer of this village went to work in khiar anchal when they got marginally higher wage rate. Some tribal labourers usually migrate to Burdwan district in the month of November and stay four to five months for harvesting of paddy and potato cultivation. After that period, they come back to their original village.

The total area of this village is 304.22 hectares of which 27.01 hectares are not available for cultivation and 277.21 hectares are available for cultivation. Out of the total cultivable land, only 26.95 hectares were irrigated by tubewells and other private sources.

#### **Nakol (V4)**

The village *Nakol* belongs to Karandighi block and a part of Altapur Gram Panchayet of Uttar Dinajpur district. It is located at a distance of 12 km from Raiganj district town and 10 km from Karandighi Town. NH 34 High Road has divided the village into two parts – southern and northern part of the village. The northern part of the village is surrounded by the village Altapur and southern part of the village is

bounded by the border of the Bihar State. The eastern part of the village is surrounded by the village Bilaspur and in the western part by the village Machhali. In 2001, the village had a population of 2688 persons of which 1358 persons were males and 1330 persons were females. This village is inhabited by peoples of different castes and community. According to 2001 census, 35.38 percent of the population belonged to schedule caste and 3.65 percent were schedule tribes (Table 9.1). Among the schedule castes, Rajbanshis are predominant and among the schedule tribes, the Oraons are predominant in this village. There are large numbers of Muslim households in this village. The literacy rate is very poor in this village. Only 33.96 percent of the populations were literate in 2001.

According to 2001 Census, the total number of main workers of this village was 1102 persons of which 657 were males and only 445 were females. The worker population ratio of this village was 41 percent (Table 9.2). Among the total workers, the cultivators constitute 24.86 percent and agricultural labourers constitute 52.18 percent of the total workers. Out of 30 agricultural labour households surveyed, 14 are landed agricultural labour households or marginal farmers cum agricultural labourers and 16 are landless agricultural labourer households. The percentage of scheduled agricultural labour households is 76.67 percent, the percentage of scheduled tribe agricultural labour households is 10.00 percent and the percentage of Muslim community agricultural labour households is 13.33 percent (Table 9.3). Literacy rate among agricultural labour households is 25.85 percent. Gender differential and seasonal variation of wage rates are found. Intra-village variations of wage rates are found. The wage rate of agricultural labourers was Rs. 20-25 per day and one breakfast. The economic conditions of agricultural labourers are not good due to low wage rate and unemployment. Muslim (Badiya) employers pay higher wage rates compared to Hindu employers because the former is engaged in other business activities besides agriculture.

The total area of this village is 397.81 hectares of which 97.13 hectares are not available for cultivation. Of the total agricultural land of 300.68 hectares, only 39.20 hectares were found to be irrigated by tube wells.

## **Jagatagaon (V<sub>5</sub>)**

The village Jagatagaon belongs to Islampur C. D. block and a part of Moti Kunda – 2 Gram Panchayet of Uttar Dinajpur district. The nearest town Islampur is at a distance of 12 km north - east from it. The village is surrounded in the north by villages like Durgapur and Motikunda, in the south by villages Satbhita, Bhelagachi, in the east by the village Birnakundi and the Banladesh border and in the west by the river Dolancha and the village Khabargaon. The village Jagatagaon is a larger multi-caste and multi-community village of Uttar Dinajpur District. But socially it is dominated by schedule castes, the majority of whom are Rajbanshis. Of the total population of 4693, the schedule caste population comprises as large as 67.08 percent of the total population (Table 9.1). There is no schedule tribe population in this village. Literacy rate among the people was not so high. 50.53 percent of the population (excluding the population below age 0-6) was literate in 2001. Out of total 1854 literate persons, only 605 were females.

According to 1991 census, the village had total number of workers of 1651 persons of which 1202 were males and 449 were females. The worker population ratio of this village was 35.18 percent (Table 9.2). Out of the total workers, cultivators constitute 44.09 percent and agricultural labourers constitute 29.32 percent of the total workers of this village. Out of 30 agricultural labour households surveyed, only 2 are landed agricultural labour households or marginal farmers cum agricultural labour households and 28 are landless agricultural labour households. All agricultural labour households belong to the scheduled caste category (Table 9.3). The literacy rate among agricultural labourers is 36.83 percent. The wage rate of agricultural labourer was Rs. 25-30 with one meal and one kg. rice. The gender differential and seasonal variation of wage rate were found. Some labourers of this village were also engaged in the work of tea garden for few months. The wage rate of paras located near the tea garden was high as compared to other paras of this village.

The total area of this village is 825.15 hectare out of which 130.15 hectares are not available for cultivation. The percentage of irrigated area was 37.99 percent of the total cultivable land in 1991.

## **Dharampur (V<sub>6</sub>)**

The village *Dharampur* of Goalpukhar – I C. D. block is a part of Dharampur – 1 Gram Panchayet of Uttar Dinajpur district. It is situated at 9 km east of Kishanganj town (Bihar State) and 10 km North of Goal Pukhar – I block. A metalled road passes through the middle of the village which originates from Kishanganj town (Bihar State) and leads towards Goal Pukhar – 1 block. This village is surrounded in the north by the village Pariharpur, in the south by the village Sahapur, in the east by the village Jinatpur and in the west by the village Ghoramara.

The total area of the village is 284.08 hectares of which 21.08 hectares are not available for cultivation. Only 18% of the net cultivable area was irrigated. Cultivation is carried on in the traditional method.

According to 2001 census, the village *Dharampur* had a population of 3798 persons of which 1926 were males and 1872 were females. Schedule caste and schedule tribe population constituted 15.93 percent and 6.77 percent of the total population (Table 1). Compared to all other sample villages, this village has a large number of Muslim households. Literacy rate among people was not so high. Nearly 36.60 percent of the populations were literate in 2001. Out of total 1063 literates, 681 were males and only 382 were females.

According to 2001 census, the workforce participation rate in this village is only 45.18 percent (table 9.2). The total work force of this village was 1716 persons of which 1033 were males and 683 were females. The total number of cultivators was 358 and the total number of agricultural labourers was 644 persons of which 427 were males and 217 were females. Agricultural labourers constitute 37.53 percent of total work force and cultivators constitute 20.86 percent of the total workforce. Out of 30 surveyed agricultural labour households, 23 agricultural labour households are landless and only 7 agricultural labour households have some land. The scheduled caste agricultural labour households constitute 16.67 percent, the scheduled tribe households constitute 23.33 percent, Hindu general caste households constitute only 3.33 percent and Muslim community constitute 56.67 percent of the total agricultural labour households (table 9.3). The literacy rate among agricultural labour households is 26.03 percent. The wage rate of agricultural labourers was Rs. 20-25 with 1.25 kg rice and breakfast. Agricultural labourers did not get employment throughout the

years. They are also engaged in different types of non-farm activities outside village, some labourers went outside the state for employment. They went mainly in Punjab, Haryana and Delhi for employment. They stay there mainly for four to five months and engage in different factory work. After that period they return home. They live in very unhygienic conditions outside the state and often fall ill and return home. Sometimes they are bound to take loan for medical purposes from non-institutional source.

**Table A 1**  
**Demographic Features of the Six Surveyed Villages of Uttar Dinajpur District**

Villages	Total Population	Total SC Population	Total ST	Literacy Rate (Excluding 0-6 Age Population)		
				Total	Male	Female
<i>Delwalpur</i> (V <sub>1</sub> )	4255	3755 (88.25)	106 (2.49)	1447 (43.12)	968 (55.00)	479 (30.01)
<i>Malon</i> (V <sub>2</sub> )	2490	1477 (59.32)	111 (4.46)	1267 (63.48)	769 (78.63)	498 (48.92)
<i>Tilna</i> (V <sub>3</sub> )	1482	576 (38.87)	809 (54.59)	281 (23.26)	201 (33.78)	80 (13.05)
<i>Nakol</i> (V <sub>4</sub> )	2688	951 (35.38)	98 (3.65)	672 (33.96)	474 (48.27)	198 (19.86)
<i>Jagatagaon</i> (V <sub>5</sub> )	4693	3148 (67.08)	-----	1854 (50.53)	1249 (65.09)	605 (34.57)
<i>Dharampur</i> (V <sub>6</sub> )	3798	605 (15.93)	257 (6.77)	1063 (36.60)	681 (45.77)	382 (26.98)
<b>All Villages</b>	<b>19406</b>	<b>10512 (54.17)</b>	<b>1381 (7.12)</b>	<b>6584(41.66)</b>	<b>4342(54.42)</b>	<b>2242(28.90)</b>

**Data Source:** District Census Reports 2001: Uttar Dinajpur

**Table A 2**  
**Occupational Structure of the Six Surveyed Villages of Uttar Dinajpur District**

Villages	Total Workers	Worker Population Ratio	Total Cultivator	Total Agricultural Labourers	Total Non-Agriculturist
<i>Delwalpur</i> (V <sub>1</sub> )	2320 (100.00)	54.52	1106 (47.67)	1007 (43.41)	207 (8.92)
<i>Malon</i> (V <sub>2</sub> )	1577 (100.00)	63.33	605 (38.36)	872 (55.29)	100 (6.34)
<i>Tilna</i> (V <sub>3</sub> )	930 (100.00)	62.75	262 (28.17)	659 (70.86)	9 (.97)
<i>Nakol</i> (V <sub>4</sub> )	1102 (100.00)	41.00	274 (24.86)	575 (52.18)	253 (22.96)
<i>Jagatagaon</i> (V <sub>5</sub> )	1651 (100.00)	35.18	728 (44.09)	484 (29.32)	439 (26.59)
<i>Dharampur</i> (V <sub>6</sub> )	1716 (100.00)	45.18	358 (20.86)	644 (37.53)	714 (41.61)
<b>All Villages</b>	<b>9296</b>	<b>47.90</b>	<b>3333 (35.85)</b>	<b>4241 (45.62)</b>	<b>1722 (18.52)</b>

**Data Source:** District Census Reports 2001: Uttar Dinajpur

**Table A 3**  
**Ethnic Composition of Agricultural Labourers Across Surveyed Villages of**  
**Uttar Dinajpur District**

Villages	Scheduled Caste (SC)	Scheduled Tribe (ST)	General Caste (GC)		Literacy Rate Among Agricultural Labourers (Percentage)
			Hindu	Muslim	
<i>Dehwalpur (V<sub>1</sub>)</i>	25 (83.33)	-----	-----	5 (16.67)	39.71
<i>Malon (V<sub>2</sub>)</i>	25 (83.33)	1 (3.33)	-----	4 (13.33)	43.88
<i>Tilna (V<sub>3</sub>)</i>	24 (80.00)	6 (20.00)	-----	-----	36.25
<i>Nakol (V<sub>4</sub>)</i>	23 (76.67)	3 (10.00)	-----	4 (13.33)	25.85
<i>Jagatagaon (V<sub>5</sub>)</i>	30(100.00)	-----	-----	-----	36.83
<i>Dharampur (V<sub>6</sub>)</i>	5 (16.67)	7 (23.33)	1 (3.33)	17 (56.67)	26.03
<b>All Villages</b>	132 (73.33)	17 (9.44)	1 (.56)	30 (16.67)	34.76

**Data Source:** Own Field Survey