

Chapter - 6

DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION, TRANSPORT, POWER SUPPLY, EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN THE HILL AREAS OF DARJEELING DISTRICT.

The spectrum of development includes not only the progress of economic activities but also the progress of communication, transport, power supply, education, health and other social services. In this chapter an attempt has been made to examine the prospect of development of communication, transportation, power supply, educational and health services in the hill areas of Darjeeling district.

6.1 Communication:

Means of communication in the hill areas of Darjeeling district and in the district as a whole were very rudimentary before the occupation by the British in 1835. A few narrow rough tracks through forest and occasional cane bridges over torrents were all that existed.¹

The modern means of communication started to develop in this region after the advent of the British. Between 1865 and 1869 Darjeeling Cart Road, i.e., the Hill Cart Road (79.38 km.) was constructed to connect the hill areas with the plain areas of the district. This road connected Darjeeling with Siliguri via Kurseong and replaced the old Military Road, which was built

between 1839 and 1842 being unsuitable for wheeled traffic. To set up a link between Kalimpong and Siliguri a road with length of 72.09 km. was constructed shortly after 1850. Besides these two roads, the hill and the plain areas were connected with the construction of a narrow gauge railway between Darjeeling and Siliguri via Kurseong during 1879 and 1881. The name of this railway is Darjeeling Himalayan Railway and the length of it is 82.62 km. Simultaneously with setting up of modern means of communication between the hill areas and plain areas of the district, impetus had been given to construct a strong communication system within the hill areas itself. A large number of metalled and unmetalled roads were built within the hill areas during the British rule.²

For a distinct understanding about the development of roadway communication within the hill areas during the British rule Table 6.1 is presented.

After independence, the length of railway had not increased and also no other ways besides Hill Cart Road and Kalimpong to Siliguri Road had been constructed to connect Darjeeling with Siliguri via Kurseong and Kalimpong with Siliguri. It was only the communication network, developed during the British rule within the hill areas with the construction of metalled and unmetalled roads, which had increased remarkably. But here too for a long time there was no progress in this field. More speci-

ficantly, the years between 1947 and 1961 did not show any increase in the length of both metalled and unmetalled roads. It was only after 1961 the increase in the length of said communication was noticed. Table 6.2 may help to understand this more clearly. It is exhibited from Table 6.2 that during the years 1961-1981 after independence the total length of roadway (both metalled & unmetalled) increased remarkably.

This increase has created the advantage to all the villages in the hill areas of Darjeeling district to reach under the road communication facility. But Table 6.3 conveys that most of the villages in all the blocks are approached by unmetalled road except Darjeeling - Phulbazar, Shukiapokhri-Jorebunglow and Mirik blocks. The percentage of villages in the total hill areas approached by unmetalled road is 56.19. This is due to the fact that the percentage share of unmetalled road in the total length of road in this areas is much higher than that of metalled road- which is evident from Table 6.2.

The lower share of metalled road along with higher percentage of villages approached with unmetalled roads indicates that most of the roads are not fit for four-wheeled traffic and can not create so much benefits to the farmers in respect of marketing of agricultural produce as the metalled roads fit for four wheeled traffic can do. Therefore, it may be stated that the road communication system so far developed in the hill areas of

Darjeeling district is to a great extent economically inefficient.

6.2 Transportation:

The transport system in the hill areas of Darjeeling district is principally based on railway and roadway. Along with these two means of transport, the method of transporting goods from lower altitude to higher altitude and vice versa through rope ways plays an important role. There does not prevail any system of transportation through river way due to the usual feature of the area except lower reaches of the major rivers where small country boats or dug-outs are used for crossing them. So in this part of the chapter attention is paid to discuss the development of transportation system in the hill areas related with railway, road and ropeway.

6.2.1. Railway:

In the year 1878 the railway line from Calcutta to Siliguri was opened. Since then large number of travellers began to come to Darjeeling. They performed the journey from Siliguri to Darjeeling by tonga. The disadvantages of these means of transport led to a proposal for laying of a steam tramway which was accepted by the then Governor. The construction started in 1879 and by March 1880 the line upto Tindharia had been opened. By the end of 1880 it was completed upto Kurseong and in July 1881 it was opened for traffic to Darjeeling. This system was

owned by the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway Company for which the Managing Agents were Messers, Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co.³

For many years the railway had practically a monopoly of handling of import and export trade in the hill areas of the district. It had also a monopoly in carrying passengers to and from the hill areas of the district. The only competition had to face was bullock cart traffic which was only appreciable in the Tista Valley and in the Terai.⁴

The advent of modern motor vehicles from about 1930 coupled with the improvements in road communication became a competing factor with the railway. And the competition between railway and roadway was so severe that the railway after fifty years of prosperity (from 1881 to 1930) entered into a very depressing condition even after the restrictions imposed by the government on the number of lorries and buses plying for hire. The actual effects of this controlled competition may be understood from Table 6.4 . From the said table it is clear that since 1929-30, the rail-road competition had begun to be more and more severe. The tonnage of goods and number of passengers, carried through this traffic began to diminish year after year since 1929-30 whereas those through traffic by road began to increase since 1929-30. Only the years 1941-42 and 1942-43 showed a sudden increase of the magnitude of tonnage of goods and number of passengers. This was due to the fact that railway had to carry

temporarily increased war time population as well as the essential commodities of the Darjeeling town.⁵

After independence rail-road competition became more acute. The railway having a long period of usefulness in the past came to a disadvantageous position and incurred losses. It may be evident from Table 6.5.

This disadvantageous situation is due to the fact that road transport is comparatively cheap and quick. This adverse competition might have probably imposed restriction for further extension of railways in the hill areas of Darjeeling district during the post independence period.

6.2.2 Road Transport:

The road transport system, i.e., the use of motor vehicles and lorries for carrying passengers and goods started since 1930. Since then it has gained momentum in the hill areas of Darjeeling overtime.

Before independence, there were only two routes namely, Darjeeling to Siliguri (i.e. Hill Cart Road) and Kalimpong to Siliguri, through which this system of transport was observed to run. After independence, especially, during the Third Five-Year Plan period (i.e. 1961-66) investment was directed primarily to improve the quality of roads, bridges and culverts.⁶ Accordingly a number of roads in the hill areas became fit for motor

vehicles during 1967-70. The number of roads through which buses were plying with permanent permit increased by about four time. Table 6.6 shows the name, length and number of trips of bus services to show the importance of the routes. From Table 6.6 it is observed that the hill areas of Darjeeling shows a marked concentration of traffic along the routes namely Darjeeling to Siliguri (i.e., Hill Cart Road) and Kalimpong to Siliguri among the roads except the route namely, Darjeeling local. This is due to the fact that these two routes, besides railway, are the only path of communication between the hill areas and the plain areas not only of Darjeeling district but also of West Bengal.

During 1967-72 bus services were opened with temporary permits through five new routes and one new route with permanent permit. Besides, in 1972 temporary permits had also been granted for plying buses on three 'such' routes through which buses were already plying with permanent permits.

Again Regional Transport Authority, Darjeeling granted permits for stage carriage on the nine routes in that year. In order to make the above statement evident, Table 6.7 is presented.

But the modern motor vehicle service thus developed still 1972 was not adequate. Accordingly during the period 1972-81 a number of other new routes were prepared to be opened for plying bus services to fill up this inadequacy. The name of these routes were as follows:

- (i) Mirik - Simana Busty Road,
- (ii) Gairibus - Phalut Road,
- (iii) Singla bazar bridge upto Sikkim border,
- (iv) Nagrifarm to Dhajia Khasmahal,
- (v) Maneybhanjyang to Rimbick Road,
- (vi) Bagora to upper Marming.

It is, however, observed from Table 6.8 that a significant proportion of villages in the blocks of the three hill sub-divisions are lying at a notable distance from the places where the facility of motor vehicle service is available. Perhaps this implies that there had not developed adequate road transport facilities in the hill areas of Darjeeling district yet after a long period of independence. The unavailability of the road transport facility to a notable percentage of villages, makes it difficult to market the produce of those villages at a lower cost. This perhaps hinders the economic development of those villages to a certain extent. Therefore, roads should be developed and constructed in such a manner that villages in all the blocks get the facilities of the motor vehicle service at a lower cost.

6.2.3 Ropeway:

Ropeway is an efficient and economic form of transport. It helps to transport mainly goods of various kinds at a lower cost from lower altitude to higher altitude and vice versa by replacing bullock cart and coolies. It was the year 1928, when

the first ropeway in the hill areas of Darjeeling district was started to be constructed. In this year Kalimpong Ropeway Co. Ltd. was formed for the purpose of transporting commodities between the town of Kalimpong and Rilli near Riyang station on Darjeeling Himalayan Railway in the Tista valley. This ropeway was opened in September, 1930 by Lady Stephenson, wife of the acting Governor of Bengal. Till 1947 a total length of 20.90 km. including the Ropeway of Kalimpong town and Rilli was constructed by different private companies under Bengal Aerial Ropeways Act 1923 for the use of public. In addition, ropeway with length of 30.78 km. was constructed by the owners of a number of tea gardens for their own use, till the year 1947.⁷

Although ropeway has a remarkable utility to transport goods in the hill areas of Darjeeling district, since the year 1947, i.e. after independence, the length of ropeway has increased only by 0.40 per cent. This is because of the fact that during this period only one ropeway with length 8.29 km. connecting Darjeeling town with Singla bazar was opened.⁸

But the length of ropeway should be increased with the construction of new ropeways connecting new areas, if transportation of goods from the agricultural, tea and forest areas is to be made within shorter time and at a lower cost.

In this context it may be noted that the extension of ropeways is possible in both the north and south. In the north it would provide cheap and reliable transport facilities to Sikkim. In the south it would connect the railway at Sevoke. Likewise, branch ropeways are possible to the Cinchona factory at Mangpu and to adjacent tea gardens for the extraction of timber, charcoal and produce from the surrounding forests.⁹

6.3 Power Supply:

In the era of industrialisation the term power simply refers to the energy generated from hydro-electric and thermal electric power plant projects. In this part of the chapter attempt has been made to analyse the prospect of development of supply of electric power in the hill areas of Darjeeling district. In analysing this the supply of power generated from the hydro-electrical and thermal electric power plants has only been considered, leaving out all other sources, namely, firewood, oil and natural gas.

Supply of electricity in the hill areas of the district has started before independence, i.e., before 1947. In the year 1897 electric power had started to be used in Darjeeling town with the setting up of the Darjeeling Power Plant, at Sidarpong, the first power plant in India. In the years 1933 and 1938 the Kurseong and Kalimpong towns in the hill areas got the supply

of electric power for the first time respectively.¹⁰

In addition to public supplies of electricity in the three hill towns, it is observed that till 1947 few tea villages got the supply of electricity from the power generating plants driven either by water or oil engines in order to use both for lighting and for operating factory machinery. In this context it is worth mentioning that all these supplies were managed mainly by private undertakings except the supply of electricity in the Kurseong town, which was done by the state undertakings till 1947.¹¹

After independence the period from 1947 to 1961 did not show any remarkable change in this regard. Upto 1961 the supply of electricity was not extended beyond the three hill towns and the tea gardens and adjacent tea villages either by private or by state undertakings. Table 6.9 will help us to understand the fact clearly. Public supply of electricity in the three hill towns in fact started since 1961. Supply of electricity mainly for home consumption in the vast rural areas of Darjeeling district under state undertakings had begun since this year. Table 6.10 helps us to have an idea about the progress of power supply in the rural hill areas of Darjeeling district since 1961. From the Table 6.10 it is observed that during the decades 1961-1971 and 1971-1981, the percentage of inhabited villages supplied with electricity has increased from 10.88 to 15.38 and 34.45 respectively. Thus it is evident that within twenty years since 1961, there has been more than 20 per cent increase in the number of

Inhabited villages supplied with electricity.

Therefore, 65.55 per cent of the inhabited villages, has not yet been supplied with electricity. So the development of rural areas in terms of the number of inhabited villages supplied with electricity has not been arrived at a desired level. Again from Table 6.11 it is observed that there exists a notable inter block disparity in development in terms of the number of inhabited villages supplied with electricity. The Sukhiapokhri-Jorebunglow block with 77.78 per cent of inhabited villages supplied with electricity remains at the highest rank in the ladder of the percentage of inhabited villages supplied with electricity, whereas the Garubathan block with 3.23 per cent of the inhabited villages supplied with electricity is at the lowest position.

Moreover Table 6.11 shows that the major percentage of the inhabited villages provided with power supply in all the blocks except Kalimpong and Garubathan are tea villages, whereas in Kalimpong and Garubathan blocks 100.00 per cent of the villages supplied with electricity are not the tea villages. Thus it is clear that till 1981 the development of rural areas of the hill areas of Darjeeling district in terms of the supply of power was not area indifferent.

6.4 Educational Services:

6.4.1. Education in the Pre-Independence Period:

It is stated earlier that Lepchas were the earliest inhabitants of Darjeeling. By the beginning of the 17th century a large group of population from Eastern Tibet settled in the district. At that time, besides the Lepchas, the Limbus (whose lands were later annexed by Nepal and who themselves were Hinduized and integrated in the Nepalese body politic as one of the Nepalese ethnic groups) lived in this area. The Lepchas and the Limbus were pre-literate peoples, professing their own animistic religions. Lahtsum Chhembo, the guru of the first King of Sikkim, Penchoo Namgyal, introduced Lamaist Buddhism into this area and the Lepchas soon accepted the new faith. The script of the Lepcha language too evolved about this time after the roundular variety of the Tibetan script known as Bu-can (pronounced as U-Che). The total bulk of the contemporary literature within the Lepcha script would not be more than a hundred volumes being translations from Tibetan of Lamaist Buddhist scriptures which conveyed knowledge of beliefs and practices of Lamaist Buddhism.¹²

Throughout the 18th and 19th centuries parochial education in Lamaist Buddhist scriptures and rituals was provided by the monasteries. No monastery in Darjeeling was established before the closing decades of the 18th century and this continued to be the only form of education available to the inhabitants. Opportunity to receive even this form of parochial education was reserved to men alone who choose to become monk or Lamas. No

other person, except of royal lineage, could have it. Lamahood was held in such high esteem among the Bhutias and the Lepchas that families having more than one son would release one, usually the second from family ties and duties so that he could become a monk.¹³

This was the state of education in the hill areas of Darjeeling district and also in the district as a whole when the East India Company stepped in. The spread of modern education was pioneered in the region by Christian Missionaries, particularly, those of Church of Scotland Mission. The nature of development of education in the subsequent periods after the access of the East India Company in the region may be demarcated into two types.¹⁴

One of these types was associated with the setting up of schools in Darjeeling, Kurseong and Kalimpong by the Christian Missionaries and was designed to "Provide for European and Anglo-Indian children that type of education and upbringing to which the parents had been accustomed in their native country". On the eve of independence the number of this type of schools was ten.¹⁵ The curriculum resembled those followed by schools in England. To get education through this type of institutions was so expensive that only European civilian and military personnel, businessmen and business executives and lately a handful of rich Indians could afford to send their children there.¹⁶

The other type was the attempt to provide educational service to the hill people. This attempt was made in about 1850 by Rev. W. Start, a private Missionary, who added to his record of good work in Darjeeling by opening a school for Lepchas. After him came a band of German Missionaries, one of whom, Mr. Niebel devoted himself to school work, prepared some Lepcha primers and gathered boys together into schools. It was not however until the advent of the Rev. William Macfarlane in 1869 that any broad scheme of vernacular education was introduced into the district. He realised that it would be essential to train teachers. With this object he collected a band of hill boys. This group of boys was the nucleus of a training school of Kalimpong. Mr. MacFarlane found that he could use Hindi text-books as a means of construction and induced Government to give scholarship to the students attending his courses of instruction. He himself taught in the face of many discouragements and the frequent disappearance of his most promising pupils. But he persevered and overcoming all obstacles was able with the help of Government to start primary schools in many parts of the district.¹⁷

Within a few years Mr. MacFarlane's system became popular in the district and in 1873 there were twenty-five primary schools with 615 boys and girls receiving instruction. The work, of which the foundations were thus laid broad and deep, has steadily grown under his successors and the subsequent works of the Educational

Department of the Church of Scotland Mission in the District in this field became the most important factor in the spread of education among the local people.¹⁸ Therefore, the main educational developments for local people had started since Macfarlane's day. The educational development for the hill people, till independence i.e., upto 1946-47, can be realised from Table 6.12.

6.4.2. Educational Service in the post-Independence Period:

6.4.2.1. Formal Educational Services:

In the post-independence period, notable changes have taken place in the sphere of different levels of educational facilities in the hill areas of Darjeeling district. The progress of facilities having primary, secondary and collegiate education has been quite appreciable during the years between 1946-47 and 1980-81. During the period 1946-47 and 1980-81, there has been an overall expansion in the number of educational institutions of different levels in this region of the district. The statistics presented in Table 6.13 gives a full account of the increase in the number of educational institutions of all levels.

Thus it is evident from Table 6.13 that over time development of educational facilities in the hill areas of Darjeeling district since independence is very much impressive. In this course of development of educational services much emphasis has been given on rural areas of this region. This may be cleared from Table 6.14.

The data presented in Table 6.14 show that rural areas occupy major share in the increase in total number of educational institutions of all levels except college level. But the expansion of educational amenities of various levels which has been materialised through the increase in the number of institutions is not sufficient in relation to the population. Although emphasis has been given to the development of this amenity in rural areas, still the rural people except the primary level do not get this facility as that is enjoyed by the people in the urban areas. This may be evident from Table 6.15.

Unequal distribution of educational facilities exhibited in Table 6.15 is not only confined among the people of rural and urban areas but also different places in the rural and urban areas occupy significantly different positions in terms of their share in the total number of educational institutions of different levels. This may be evident from Table 6.16. The difference in the number of educational institutions among rural and urban areas results in significant difference in the availability of educational facilities among the people inhabiting in different rural and urban areas. This is evident from Table 6.17.

6.4.2.2. Special and Non-formal Educational Facilities in the Post-Independence Period:

Apart from the development of formal educational facilities in the post-independence period there have developed some

kind of special and non-formal educational facilities in the hill areas of Darjeeling district.

6.4.2.2. (a) Teachers' Training:

On the verge of independence there were three teachers' training schools in the district. All of these schools in the district were situated in the hill areas of the district. One was at Kalimpong and run by the Scottish Universities Mission Institute for training the boys. Another was also at Kalimpong for girls and run by the Church of Scotland Mission. The third for girls was at St. Josephs school, Kurseong. Since independence the Government opened a number of Basic Training Schools in this region of the district. In 1950-51, the government-managed Basic Training School (Later College) was opened at Kalimpong for training the teachers of Junior Basic and Primary Schools. In 1957-58 it was upgraded to a teachers' training degree college for preparing students as teachers in Senior Basic and Multi-purpose schools having facilities for basic education. In 1954 the government-managed Peoples' (Janata) Basic Training College was opened at Kalimpong for would-be teachers of basic training schools and for functionaries of the governments' Social Education Programme. The government-aided Sri Ramkrishna B.T. College was established in 1957 in Darjeeling town by Ramkrishna Mission. The Scottish Universities Mission Institute - managed Teachers' Training school at Kalimpong was upgraded to a teachers' training

degree college at some time between 1961 and 1964.¹⁹

The statement presented in Table 6.18 may provide particulars of development of teachers' training institutions since independence in the district as well as in the hill areas of Darjeeling district. It is explicit from the said table that the number of teachers' training institutions increased in the post-independence period to five, while that was three before independence. This can be treated as an encouraging situation in this connection because such development may help it to be practicable to appoint trained teachers in educational institutions, which will upgrade the quality of teaching in the schools.

6.4.2.2. (b) Technical and Vocational Education:

The introduction of technical and vocational education in the hill areas of Darjeeling district has started since 1887 with the setting up of a number of training institutes and opening up of vocational classes in different schools. The number of such training institutes and schools in the hill areas was eight before independence, i.e., before 1947. Four out of these eight schools were only for domiciled European and Anglo-Indian boys and girls. The name of these four schools were : St. Helen's Convent School, Kurseong; Goethal's Memorial Orphanage and School, Kurseong; St. Josephs' School, Darjeeling and Victoria Boys School, Kurseong. Table 6.19 gives particulars of these technical and vocational institutions.

Since independence boys and girls of this areas of the district got increased opportunities for technical and vocational education on different lines. The Goethal's Memorial Orphanage and School has been admitting students other than domiciled European and other Anglo Indian Orphans since 1947. An Industrial Training Centre was established at Tung in 1949-50 as a joint project of the Central Government of India and West Bengal State Government on 60:40 expense-sharing basis, especially for the benefit of the hill people. This centre imparts training in some engineering trades of fitters, electricians, wiremen, moto-mechanics, carpenters, blacksmiths etc. and in some non-engineering trades of printing machine operators, press-compositors, proof-readers, tailors, book-binders, woollen-goods, weavers etc. The period of training varies from one to two years and the successful trainees are awarded national certificates of the National Council for Training in Vocational Trades. In this institution women trainees are also admitted in some branches.²⁰

Besides the Industrial Training Centre at Tung twenty-one other training centres have been set up in the post-independence period at different blocks of the hill areas of Darjeeling district. The names of these centres are (i) Arts and Crafts Industrial Co-operative Society at Kalimpong, (ii) Sericulture Training Centres at Tripai (Kalimpong), Relling (Bijanbari), Kalimpong Nursery (Kalimpong), Mirik, Kurseong and Seventh-mile (Kalimpong), and at Garubathan, (iii) Cane and Bamboo Training Centre at

Kalimpong, (iv) Wool and Cotton Weaving Centre at Darjeeling, (v) Foot-wear Centre at Kurseong, (vi) The Carpentry Training Centres at Bijanbari, Mirik and Pedong, (vii) The Bee-Keeping Centres at Kalimpong, Relling and Bijanbari, (viii) The Bristle Dressing and Brush-ware Training Centre at Bijanbari, (ix) Polytechnic School at Kurseong, (x) Technical School at Kalimpong. All these centres/institutes have been set up within 1949-50 and 1969-70. Since 1970 there has not been established any new training centre. This is due to the issue of government's instruction not to open any new training centre. However, it can be said in this context that the field of technical and vocational education has been widened notably and diversified in many respect in the period after independence.

6.4.2.2. (c) Physical Education:

Before independence for a large number of years no particular attention was paid to provide physical education in the hill areas of Darjeeling district. This state has changed since the year 1938, before independence. In this year a District Organiser of Physical Education was appointed. The District Organiser of Physical Education would hold each year short courses of training for teachers of Primary and Middle Schools at different centres and also visit the schools to inspect their physical training work. The Indian School Sports Association was observed to organise competitions and tournaments and this had done much to improve the standard of games in High, Middle and Primary schools. The three

Scout's Associations at Darjeeling, Kurseong and Kalimpong were noticed to make the scout movement very popular in most of the schools in urban areas and a few in rural areas.²¹

After the achievement of independence in the year 1947, both the Central and State Governments realised that education was not complete without harmonious development of body and mind and they recognised the importance of physical education in the country.²² In the case of the hill areas of Darjeeling district the following developmental activities relating to physical education have been undertaken by the Government since independence.²³:

(i) Construction of stadium-cum-playground in the three sub-divisional headquarters in the hill areas of the district.

(ii) Construction of gymnasium in the three sub-divisional headquarters in the hill areas of Darjeeling district.

(iii) Sanction of yearly grants-in-aid to the District Sports Association @ Rs. 10,000.00 per annum, Sub-divisional Sports Association @ Rs. 5000.00 per annum, District School Sports Association @ Rs. 6000.00 and Sub-divisional School Sports Association @ Rs. 3000.00 per annum.

(iv) Sanction of grants-in-aid to the clubs recognised by the Government through the District Sports Association for purchasing equipments, improving playgrounds, constructing club houses etc. @ Rs. 2000.00 per annum.

(v) Sanction of grants-in-aid @ Rs. 5000.00 per annum to as many schools as possible in the hills as well as in the plain areas of the district for encouraging to take part in all popular games and sports.

(vi) Sanction of grants @ Rs. 13,000.00 per annum to other district sports associations namely, (a) Darjeeling District Table Tennis Association, (b) Darjeeling District Badminton Association, (c) Darjeeling District Volleyball Association, (d) Darjeeling District Byamsala (Body Building) and (e) Darjeeling District Judo Association.

(vii) Appointment of Coaches: one for football, one for hockey, one for cricket, one for athletics, one for basket ball, one for volley ball and one for gymnastics, for imparting instruction both theoretical and practical.

The activities stated above have developed the state of physical education only in the urban areas of the hill region remarkably. In order to develop the condition of sports and games particularly in the rural areas following few programmes though meagre in relation to the quantum of necessity were implemented under the accelerated hill development programmes by the supervision of the Hill Development Council during 1974-1980. These were as follows:

- (i) Grants to Block Sports Association,
- (ii) Construction of Playgrounds at Parmaguri, Pokhribong and Sukhiapokhri,
- (iii) Construction and Improvement of Playgrounds for High Schools and Selected Junior High Schools.
- (iv) Provision of Grants for Holding Rural Sports Tournaments.
- (v) Development of Play-fields in Rural Areas.

6.4.2.2. (d) Social Education:

In a broad sense all types of education have social content. But the aim of 'Social Education' is to make education available to socially handicapped persons in particular. Adult education, moral instructions, dissemination of family planning, knowledge or training in improved agriculture are the illustrations in point. Social education programme may also involve reaching educative materials to people through libraries, film centres, etc.

Before independence the first step in this field was taken by various Roman Catholic and Protestant Missions in the Sadar (Darjeeling) and Kurseong sub-divisions and only by Protestant Mission in Kalimpong sub-division by the third quarter of the nineteenth century. The adult literacy centres started by these missions were specially in rural areas and in Kalimpong sub-divisional town. But they did not live long. The Sunday Schools for providing moral and parochial instructions lasted longer but did not attract the local populace, except the Lepchas specially in Kalimpong sub-division.²⁵

By the late twenties of the present century, social workers of the Nepalese Association, the Bhutia Association, the Lepcha Association and the Gorkha Dukh Nivarak Sammelan went round organising libraries and literacy centres. The earliest of these libraries and literacy centres were at Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Bijanbari centres were later converted into regular schools receiving financial aid from the Government of the District Board, later called the Zilla Parisad. Among the pioneers in this field of social work, mention may be made of Motichand Pradhan and Chhumbay Tshiring of Kalimpong and J.B. Thapa, H.D. Lama and T.B. Subba of Darjeeling.²⁶

But a notable drive for the spread of social education materialised in the hill areas of Darjeeling district only after independence. In the said period social education programme began to be implemented in this area through various institutions, namely,

- (i) Adult Education Centres and Night Schools,
- (ii) Social Education Centres,
- (iii) Community Centres,
- (iv) Folk Entertainment Units,
- (v) Library Services.

These institutions, for the spread of social education, were managed either by public bodies or by private organisations receiving aid from the Government of West Bengal through the Social

Education Wing of the Department of Education of the Government of West Bengal.²⁷ Table 6.20 may give an idea about the growth of these institutions in the Darjeeling hills between 1950-51 and 1980-81. From Table 6.20 it is evident that in the post-independence period there was a remarkable initiative from the part of the Government to spread social education especially among the rural people. This implies that as a result of such initiative taken from the part of the Government the spread of social education had there taken place in a remarkably wider scale.

6.5. Health Services;

In order to maintain the normal health of the people, provision of appropriate medical services and supply of meticulously refined drinking water are the fundamental requirements. So in this part of the chapter an evaluation of the development of these two fields since independence in the hill areas of Darjeeling district is made.

6.5.1. Medical Services:

Prior to independence, medical services of the Western type was begun to be provided regularly in the hill areas and in the district as a whole towards the end of the nineteenth century. Since then medical institutions of various types started functioning. The provision of regular medical services through various medical institutions was done by the Government on the one hand and by the Church of Scotland Mission on the other. Table 6.21

gives an account of the medical services in different rural and urban areas in the hill region of the district before independence. After independence the medical service for the general people is observed to be provided entirely by the State Government of West Bengal and the Central Government of India.

In the beginning of this period the Government of West Bengal has taken strong initiative to develop the position of medical service throughout the state. In spite of the paucity of fund, the Government of West Bengal started to set up Health Centres with 4 to 10 indoor beds for serving an area covered by a Union Board (Approximately the same area now covered by a Panchayet Samitee) since 1948. Such Union Health Centres within each police station were to be affiliated to the thana Health Centres having a minimum of 20 beds and a maximum of 50 beds. All the health centres in a sub-division were again to be affiliated to the sub-divisional hospital having 68 indoor beds each.

The conditions for the establishment of a Union Health Centre were that the local people should donate six bighas (240 decimal) of land and an adequate amount of cash while for a Thana Health Centre 20 bighas (800 decimal) of land plus a cash amount. The scheme continued till the year 1955 when at the instance of the Government of India, it was decided to have Primary Health Centres with 10 beds at the headquarters of every community Development Block along with 2 or 3 Subsidiary Health Centres,

i.e., Primary Health Sub-Centre at suitable places within each block area with only 2 non-dieted emergency beds.²⁸

Table 6.22 shows the development of medical service in conformity with the aforesaid policies of State and Central Government, in the hill areas of Darjeeling district after independence. The statistics given in Table 6.22 show that in the post-independence period there has notable increase in the number of medical institutions, managed by the government in the rural areas of the hill region of Darjeeling district while such change in the context of urban areas is not observed. For more specification Table 6.23 is displayed here. Thus it is evident that in the post-independence period full attention has been paid to outweigh the deficiency of the medical service in the rural areas of the hill region of Darjeeling district. The unaltered position of the number of medical institutions in the urban areas of the hill region of Darjeeling district towards a higher number is not due to the negligency of the Government about the maintenance of normal health of urban people; but it is probably due to the fact that the existing quantum of medical facilities developed upto 1946-47 is till today more than its sufficiency in terms of its necessity.

6.5.2. Water Supply:

The supply of potable water from various hill springs through pipelines at different areas of the hill region of

Darjeeling district has been started long before independence. The Darjeeling and Kurseong municipalities have begun to supply tap water since the completion of their works in 1912 and 1913 respectively. The water-works supplying tap water within Kalimpong Municipality has been erected in 1922 as is operated by the Public Health Engineering Directorate of the state government.²⁹

After a severe epidemic of dysentery at Bidubling, Kalimpong sub-division in 1937 efforts were made to protect rural supply springs in the hills from contamination by leading water therefrom in pipes. Improved water supplied on the above lines have been provided by various authorities at different villages of different blocks.³⁰ Table 6.24 presents the number of villages in each block supplied with potable water before independence. It shows that before independence the number of villages supplied with potable water was not remarkable. But after independence a marked change has taken place in the field of supplying potable water in the hill areas of Darjeeling district. Tables 6.25 and 6.26 make the fact more clear.

From Table 6.25 it is evident that after independence there has been a spectacular increase in the number of villages supplied with potable water in this region. Moreover from Table 6.26 it is noticed that the increase in the number of villages in all the blocks is such that the percentage of villages supplied with potable water in all the blocks has become more than ninety. It may be expected that in the near future 100 per cent of the villages in each block will be supplied with potable water.

Table : 6.1

Development of Roadway Communication in the
Hill Areas of Darjeeling District Under the
British Rule

Means of Communication	Length (in km.)
Roadway:	
Metalled	141.20 (22.29)
Unmetalled	492.31 (77.71)
Total	633.51 (100.00)

Note: Figures in parentheses are the respective percentages.

Source : Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling
(Alipore : Bengal Government House, 1947).

Table : 6.2

Development of Roadway Communication in the Hill Areas
of Darjeeling District since Independence

(Length in km.)

Means of Communication	Years				
	1947	1951	1961	1971	1981
Roadway :					
Metalled	141.20 (22.29)	141.20 (22.29)	146.06 (22.88)	361.94 (15.74)	527.2 (19.27)
Unmetalled	492.31 (77.71)	492.31 (77.71)	492.31 (77.12)	1937.11 (84.26)	2208.86 (80.73)
Total	633.51 (100.00)	633.51 (100.00)	638.37 (100.00)	2299.05 (100.00)	2736.06 (100.00)

Note: Figures in parentheses are the respective percentages.

Sources: (i) Government of West Bengal, West Bengal District Gazetteers: Darjeeling, 1980.

(ii) District Census Hand-book : Darjeeling District, 1981.

Table : 6.3

Number of Villages in Absolute and Percentage terms Approached by Pucca Rasta (Metalled Road) and Kutcha Rasta (Unmetalled Road) in Different Blocks of the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District in 1981

Name of the Blocks	Total Number of Inhabited Villages	Number of Villages Approached By PR	Number of Villages Approached By KR	Total Number of Villages Approached By Road Communication
1. Darjeeling-Phulbazar	48	28 (58.33)	20 (41.67)	48 (100.00)
2. Sukhiapokhri-Jorebunglow	45	36 (80.00)	9 (20.00)	45 (100.00)
3. Rangli-Rangliot	29	4 (13.80)	25 (86.21)	29 (100.00)
4. Kalimpong	73	27 (37.00)	46 (63.00)	73 (100.00)
5. Garubathan	31	8 (25.81)	23 (74.19)	31 (100.00)
6. Kurseong	60	18 (30.00)	42 (70.00)	60 (100.00)
7. Mirik	13	10 (76.92)	3 (23.08)	13 (100.00)
Total	299	131 (43.81)	168 (56.19)	299 (100.00)

Note : Figures in parentheses are the respective percentages

Source : District Census Hand-book: Darjeeling District, 1981.

Table : 6.4

Relative Weights of Rail Transport and Road Transport Systems From the Plain Areas to the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District before Independence

Years	Number ('000) of Passengers			Tonnage ('000) of Goods Carried		
	By Rail	By Road	Total	By Rail	By Road	Total
1909-10	174 (100.00)	-	174 (100.00)	47 (100.00)	-	47 (100.00)
1919-20	263 (100.00)	-	263 (100.00)	62 (100.00)	-	62 (100.00)
1929-30	258 (84.31)	48 (15.69)	306 (100.00)	80 (98.91)	.88 (1.09)	80.88* (100.00)
1934-35	240 (81.08)	56 (18.92)	296 (100.00)	76 (90.20)	7.6 (9.90)	83.6 (100.00)
1939-40	213 (74.48)	73 (25.52)	286 (100.00)	65 (80.75)	15.5 (19.25)	80.5 (100.00)
1940-41	206 (71.78)	81 (28.22)	287 (100.00)	57 (77.55)	16.5 (22.45)	73.5 (100.00)
1941-42	240 (79.21)	63 (20.79)	303 (100.00)	63 (78.95)	16.8 (21.05)	79.8 (100.00)
1942-43	309 (91.96)	27 (8.04)	336 (100.00)	63 (91.44)	5.9 (8.56)	68.9 (100.00)
1943-44	311 (90.14)	34 (9.86)	345 (100.00)	76 (88.79)	9.6 (11.21)	85.6 (100.00)

Notes: Figures in parentheses are the respective percentages

* These Figure relate to the year 1931-32

Source: Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling
(Alipore : Bengal Government House, 1947).

Table : 6.5

Earnings and Expenditures of Railway Transport From the Plain Areas to the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District after Independence

Year	Earnings (Rs. in Lakhs)	Expenditures (Rs. in Lakhs)
1959-60	13.33	53.01
1960-61	14.23	41.86
1961-62	16.33	41.99
1962-63	15.87	58.53
1963-64	19.55	60.32
1964-65	15.25	84.72
1965-66	16.47	71.94
1966-67	14.72	57.18

Source: Government of West Bengal, West Bengal District Gazetteers: Darjeeling, 1980.

Table : 6.6

Bus Services Run By Private Agencies along Different Routes of Darjeeling District During 1967-70

Name of the Routes	Distance (in km.)	Nature of Service (Nationalised Day or Private)	Number of Trips Per
1. Darjeeling to Siliguri	84	Private	14
2. Darjeeling Local	16	Private	14
3. Darjeeling to Kurseong	32	"	3
4. Takdah to Darjeeling	27	"	1
5. Darjeeling to Manbhanjan	24	"	2
6. Kalimpong to Siliguri	68	"	9
7. Darjeeling to Pokhribong	26	"	1
8. Siliguri to Rungpoo	81	"	1
9. Kalimpong to Rungpoo & Garubathan	89	"	3
10. Kalimpong to Pedong	21	"	3

Source: Government of West Bengal, West Bengal District Gazetteers: Darjeeling, 1980.

Table : 6.7

Name of the Routes and Number of Permits (Temporary/
Permanent) Opened in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling
District during 1967-1972

Name of the Routes	Number of permits
a) Name of the Routes Opened for Buses (with Temporary Permits)	
i) Kalimpong-Rhenock	2
ii) Siliguri-Mirik	1
iii) Kalimpong-Rangpo Via Musug	1
iv) Siliguri-Garubathan	1
v) Darjeeling Bijanbari	1
b) Name of the Routes Opened Newly for Buses with Permanent Permits	
i) Siliguri-Garubathan	1
c) Name of the Routes already opened for Buses with Permanent Permits but Again Opened for Buses with Temporary Permits	
i) Darjeeling-Siliguri	2
ii) Darjeeling Local Area	1
iii) Kalimpong-Siliguri	2
d) Name of the Routes for Stage Carriage	
i) Siliguri-Mirik	2
ii) Kalimpong-Siliguri	3
iii) Kalimpong-Garubathan	2
iv) Siliguri-Garubathan	2
v) Darjeeling-Bijanbari	1
vi) Darjeeling Town Area	2
vii) Siliguri - Gangtok	2
viii) Kalimpong-Rhenock	1
ix) Darjeeling Local Area	4

Source: Government of West Bengal, Integrated Annual Plan 1972
For Darjeeling Hill Areas (Development and Planning
Department : Hill Affairs Branch Secretariat, Darjeeling).

Table : 6.8

Number of Villages in Absolute and Percentage Terms, Lying at Different Ranges of Distance From the Place at which Bus Service, Available in Different Blocks in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District, in 1981

Range of Distance (in km.)	Name of the Blocks						Total Hill Areas	
	Darjeeling-Phulbazar	Sukhiapokhri-Jorebunglow	Rangli-Rangliot	Kalim-pong	Garu-bathan	Kurseong Mirik		
≤ 5	24 (50.00)	28 (63.64)	15 (51.72)	37 (50.68)	19 (61.29)	35 (58.33)	10 (76.92)	168 (56.38)
5-10	15 (31.25)	12 (27.27)	7 (24.14)	16 (21.92)	12 (38.71)	12 (20.00)	3 (23.00)	77 (25.84)
10 &	9 (18.75)	4 (9.09)	7 (24.14)	20 (27.40)	-	13 (21.67)	-	53 (17.78)
Total Number of Inhabited Villages	48 (100.00)	44 (100.00)	29 (100.00)	73 (100.00)	31 (100.00)	60 (100.00)	13 (100.00)	298 (100.00)

Note : Figures in parentheses are the respective percentages.

Source: Government of West Bengal, Census 1981, West Bengal District Census Hand-book: Darjeeling.

Table : 6.9

Number of Villages and Towns Supplied with Electricity
By Private and State Undertakings in the Hill Areas of
Darjeeling District during 1947 to 1961

Nature of Management	<u>Places Supplied with Electricity</u>	
	Tea Villages	Towns
i) Private Undertakings	24 (92.39)	2 (66.67)
ii) State Undertakings	2 (7.61)	1 (33.33)
Total	26 (100.00)	3 (100.00)

Note: Figures in parentheses are the respective percentages

Source: Government of West Bengal, Census 1961, West Bengal
District Census Hand-book: Darjeeling.

Table : 6.10

Development of the Supply of Electricity in
the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District, Since 1961

Years	Number of Inhabited Villages	Number of Villages Supplied with Electricity	Percentage of Villages Supplied with Electricity
1961	239	26	10.88
1971	221	34	15.38
1981	299	103	34.45

Sources: (i) Government of West Bengal, Census 1961, West Bengal District Census Hand book : Darjeeling.

(ii) Government of West Bengal, Census 1971, West Bengal District Census Hand-book : Darjeeling.

(iii) Government of West Bengal, Census 1981, West Bengal District Census Hand-book : Darjeeling.

Table : 6.11

Number of Villages under Different Categories Supplied with Electricity (in Absolute and Percentage Terms) in Different Blocks of the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District in 1981

Name of the Blocks	Total number of Inhabited Villages	Total Number of Inhabited Villages Supplied with Electricity	Percentage of Inhabited Villages Supplied with Electricity	Number and percentage of the Tea Villages Supplied with Electricity	Number and percentage of the Villages other than Tea Villages Supplied with Electricity	Total Number of Inhabited Villages Supplied with Electricity
1. Dharjeeling-Phulbazar	48	13	27.08	11 (84.62)	2 (15.38)	13 (100.00)
1. Shukhiapokhri-Jorebunglow	45	35	77.78	28 (80.00)	7 (20.00)	35 (100.00)
3. Rangli-Rangliot	29	12	41.38	7 (58.33)	5 (41.67)	12 (100.00)
4. Kalimpong	73	11	15.07	-	11 (100.00)	11 (100.00)
5. Garubathan	31	1	3.23	-	1 (100.00)	1 (100.00)
6. Kurseong	60	23	38.33	18 (78.26)	5 (21.74)	23 (100.00)
7. Mirik	13	8	61.54	6 (75.00)	2 (25.00)	8 (100.00)

Note: Figures in parentheses are the respective percentages

Source: Government of West Bengal, Census 1981, West Bengal District Census Hand-Book: Darjeeling

Table : 6.12
and Colleges
Number of Different Types of Schools/in the
Hill Areas of Darjeeling District in 1946-47

Types of Schools & Colleges	Number of Schools and Colleges
1. Primary Schools	252
2. Middle English School	12
3. Indian High Schools	9
4. Intermediate College	3
5. Degree College	1

Source : Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteers, Darjeeling
(Alipore : Bengal Government House, 1947).

Table : 6.13

Number of Educational Institutions in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District

Educational Institutions of Different Levels	Years		Increase in Absolute & Percentage Term
	1946-47	1980-81	
1. Primary Schools	252	515	263 (104.37)
2. Middle/Junior Secondary Schools or Junior High Schools	12	74	62 (516.67)
3. High Schools	9	41	32 (355.56)
4. Intermediate College/PUC/Higher Secondary Schools	3	16	12 (433.30)
5. Degree Colleges	1	5	4 (400.00)

Note: Figures in parentheses are the respective percentages

Sources: (i) Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer; Darjeeling (Alipore; Bengal Government House, 1947).

(ii) Census of India, 1981 : Series-23, West Bengal, District Census Hand Book, Darjeeling District.

Table : 6.14

Development in the Number of Educational Institutions in the Rural and Urban Areas of the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District since 1946-47 to 1980-81

Types of Educational Institutions	Number of Different Types of Educational Institutions in Rural Areas		Number of Different Types of Educational Institutions in Urban Areas		Change in the Number of Different Educational Institutions in the Rural Areas Between 1946-47 and 1980-81	Change in the Number of Different Educational Institutions in the Urban Areas Between 1946-47 and 1980-81	Change in the Total Number of Different Educational Institution in Both Rural & Urban Areas Between 1946-47 and 1980-81
	Years		Years				
	1946-47	1980-81	1946-47	1980-81			
1. Primary Schools	N.A.	426	N.A.	89	-	-	-
2. Middle Schools	3	48	9	26	45 (72.58)	17 (27.42)	62 (100.00)
3. High Schools	-	20	9	21	20 (62.50)	12 (37.5)	32 (100.00)
4. Higher Secondary Schools	-	10	3	6	10 (76.92)	3 (23.08)	13 (100.00)
5. Colleges	-	-	1	5	-	4 (100.00)	4 (100.00)

Note : Figures in parentheses are the respective percentages

Sources: (i) Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer : Darjeeling (Alipore: Bengal Government House, 1947)

(ii) Census of India, 1981 : Series -23, West Bengal District.

Table : 6.15

Number of Educational Institution Per 10,000 people
in the Rural & Urban Areas of the Hill Areas of
Darjeeling District in 1981

Types of Institutions	Number of Institutions (Per 10,000 Population)		
	Rural Area	Urban Areas	Total Hill Areas
1. Primary Schools	9.85	7.48	9.34
2. Middle Schools	1.11	2.18	1.34
3. High Schools	0.46	1.76	0.74
4. Higher Secondary Schools	0.23	0.50	0.27
5. Colleges	Nil	0.42	0.09

Source: Census of India, 1981 : Series-23, West Bengal,
District Census Hand Book, Darjeeling District

Table : 6.16

Different Types of Educational Institutions in Absolute and Percentage Terms in Different Rural and Urban Areas in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District in 1981

Name of Different Rural & Urban Areas	Types of Institutions				
	Primary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	Higher Secondary Schools	Colleges
1. Darjeeling-Phulbazar Block	99 (23.24)	8 (16.66)	3 (15.00)	1 (10.00)	Nil
2. Shukhiapokhri-Jorebunglow Block	87 (20.42)	5 (10.42)	5 (25.00)	3 (30.00)	Nil
3. Rangli-Rangliot Block	39 (9.15)	14 (29.19)	2 (10.00)	1 (10.00)	Nil
4. Kalimpong Block (I & II)	107 (25.12)	10 (20.83)	5 (25.00)	3 (30.00)	Nil
5. Garubathan Block	15 (3.52)	3 (6.25)	1 (5.00)	Nil	Nil
6. Kurseong Block	48 (11.27)	5 (10.42)	1 (5.00)	Nil	Nil
7. Mirik Block	31 (7.28)	3 (6.25)	3 (15.00)	2 (20.00)	Nil
Total Rural Areas	426 (100.00)	48 (100.00)	20 (100.00)	10 (100.00)	Nil

Contd..

Table : 6.16 (Contd..)

Name of Different Rural & Urban Areas	Types of Institutions				
	Primary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	Higher Secondary Schools	Colleges
8. Darjeeling Urban Area	49 (55.06)	16 (61.54)	12 (57.14)	1 (16.67)	3 (60.00)
9. Kurseong Urban Area	14 (15.73)	4 (15.39)	4 (19.05)	3 (50.00)	1 (20.00)
10. Kalimpong Urban Area	26 (29.21)	6 (23.07)	5 (23.81)	2 (33.33)	1 (20.00)
Total Urban Areas	89 (100.00)	26 (100.00)	21 (100.00)	6 (100.00)	5 (100.00)

Note : Figures in parentheses are the respective percentages

Source: Census of India, 1981 : Series-23, West Bengal, District Census Hand Book, Darjeeling District.

Types of Table : 6.17

Number of Different Educational Institutions per 10,000 Population in Different Rural and Urban Areas of the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District in 1981.

Name of Different Rural & Urban Areas	Number of Educational Institutions per 10,000 People				
	Primary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools	Higher Secondary Schools	Colleges
1. Darjeeling-Phulbazar Block	10.82	0.87	0.33	0.11	Nil
2. Sukhiapokhri-Jorebunglow Block	10.74	0.62	0.62	0.37	Nil
3. Rangli-Rangliot Block	7.61	2.73	0.39	0.20	Nil
4. Kalimpong Block (I & II)	11.93	1.12	0.56	0.33	Nil
5. Garubathan Block	4.09	0.82	0.27	Nil	Nil
6. Kurseong Block	9.08	0.95	0.19	Nil	Nil
7. Mirik Block	10.52	1.02	1.02	0.68	Nil
8. Darjeeling Urban Areas	8.51	2.78	2.08	0.17	0.52
9. Kalimpong Urban Areas	4.32	1.23	1.23	0.93	0.31
10. Kurseong Urban Areas	8.26	2.05	1.72	0.69	0.34

Source: Census of India, 1981 : Series-23, West Bengal, District Census Hand-book, Darjeeling district.

Table : 6.18

Teachers' Training Institutions in the Hill Areas
of Darjeeling District in 1946-47 and 1980-81

Year	Number of Teachers' Training Institutions
1946-47	3
1980-81	5

Sources:

- (i) Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling
(Alipore : Bengal Government House, 1947)
- (ii) Census of India, 1981 : Series-23, West Bengal,
District Census Hand Book, Darjeeling District

Table : 6.19

Name and the year of Establishment, the year of Closing down/Discontinuation and the Subjects Taught at Technical and Vocational Institutions in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District.

Name of the Institute	Year of Establishment/ Year of Opening Vocational Classes	Year of Closing down/Discontinuation	Subjects Taught
1. Teaching-cum-Training Institute for Hill Girls (Lately Lace School), Kalimpong	1887	-	Lace-making
2. Industrial School for Girls, Kalimpong	1887	-	Embroidary, Lace & Carpet making, wool dying, Weaving
3. Industrial School for Boys	1900	-	Carpentary, Tracing, Dying, Tailoring, Gardening etc.
4. General Industrial School for Girls	N.A.	-	Tailoring, knitting, etc.
5. St. Helen's Convent School, Kurseong	1899	N.A.	Gardening, Needle work, Nursing and House management
6. Goethal's Memorial Orphanage and School, Kurseong	1907	-	Sub-Overseer course on Civil & Mechanical Engineering and 3 years courses in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering
7. St. Joseph's School, Darjeeling	1890	1910	Sub-Overseer Course on Different Engineering Branches
8. Victoria Boys' School	1904	1918	Sub-Overseer courses on Different Engineering Branches

Source: West Bengal District Gazetteers: Darjeeling, Government of West Bengal, 1980.

Table : 6.20

Number of Social Educational Institutions in the Rural and Urban Areas in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District in 1950-51 & 1980-81

Types of the Institutions	Years					
	1950-51			1980-81		
	Rural Area	Urban Area	Total	Rural Area	Urban Area	Total
1. AEC & NightSchool	8	-	8	128	7	134
2. Social Education Centres	-	-	-	78	-	78
3. Community Centres	-	-	-	5	-	5
4. Folk Entertainment Units	-	-	-	1	-	1
5. Libraries	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	77	15	92

Source: Census of India, 1981 : Series - 23, West Bengal, District Census Hand Book, Darjeeling District.

Table - 6.21

Number of Different Medical Institutions in the Rural & Urban Areas in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District in 1946-47.

Name of the Rural and Urban Areas	Number of R.H. U.	Number of Sanatorium		Number of T.B.C.		Number of Dispensaries	Number of M.C.W. Units
		Number	Beds	Number	Beds		
1. Darjeeling-Phulbazar Block	3	-	-	-	-	1	-
2. Jorebunglow-Sukhiapokhri Block	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
3. Rangli-Rangliot Block	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Kalimpong Block	1	-	-	-	-	3	-
5. Garubathan Block	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
6. Kurseong Block	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Mirik Block	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Darjeeling Urban Area	-	5	394	1	26	1	2
9. Kalimpong Urban Area	-	2	242	-	-	5	-
10. Kurseong Urban Area	-	1	49	1	44	1	-
Total Hill Area	10	8	685	2	70	13	2
Total Rural Area	10	-	-	-	-	6	-
Total Urban Area	-	8	685	2	70	7	2

Note: R.H.U : Rural Health Unit; T.B.C. : Tuberculosis Clinic; M.C.W. : Maternity & Child Welfare unit.

Source: Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling (Alipore: Bengal Government House, 1947).

Table : 6.22

Number of Different Medical Institutions in Rural and Urban Areas in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District in 1980-81

Name of the Rural and Urban Areas	Number of Health Centres		Number of Hospitals & Sanatorium		Number of Tuberculosis Clinics		Number of Dispensaries	Number of Maternity Child Welfare Centres	Number of Primary Health Centres		Number of Primary Health Sub-Centres	
	No.	Beds	No.	Beds	No.	Beds			No.	Beds	No.	Beds
1. Darjeeling-Phulbazar	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	1	2
2. Jorebunglow-Sukhiapokhri	1	20	-	-	-	-	15	1	1	10	3	6
3. Rangli-Rangliot	5	100	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	10	3	5
4. Kalimpong	1	20	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	10	-	-
5. Garubathan	1	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
6. Kurseong	1	20	-	-	-	-	17	-	1	10	-	-
7. Mirik	2	40	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-
8. Darjeeling(U)	-	-	4	294	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
9. Kalimpong(U)	-	-	2	350	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-
10. Kurseong(U)	-	-	2	46	1	301	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Urban Areas	-	-	8	690	1	301	10	-	-	-	-	-
Total Rural Areas	11	204	-	-	-	-	60	1	4	40	8	16
Total Hill Areas	11	204	8	690	1	301	70	1	4	40	8	16

Note : U- Urban areas

Source: Census of India, 1981: Series-23, West Bengal, District Census Hand Book, Darjeeling District

Table : 6.23

Change in the Total Number of Medical Institutions in Absolute and Percentage Term, in Rural and Urban Areas of the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District Between 1946-47 and 1980-81

Name of the Area	Total Number of Medical Institution in		Change in Absolute term	Change in Percentage term
	1946-47	1980-81		
1. Rural Areas	16	84	68	425
2. Urban Areas	19	19	No change	0
Total Hill Areas	35	103	68	194.29

Source : Compiled on the basis of data presented in Table 6.21 & 6.22

Table : 6.24

Number of Villages Supplied with Potable Water
in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District in 1946-47

Name of the Blocks	Number of Villages Supplied with Potable Water
1. Darjeeling-Phulbazar	5
2. Shukhiapokhri-Jorebunglow	3
3. Rangli-Rangliot	5
4. Kalimpong	7
5. Garubathan	-
6. Kurseong	2
7. Mirik	1

Source: Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling
(Alipore ; Bengal Government House, 1947).

Table : 6.25

Change in the Number of Villages Supplied with Potable Water in the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District between 1946-47 & 1980-81

Name of the Blocks	Number of Villages Supplied with Potable Water		Change in the Number between 1946-47 & 1980-81 in Absolute Terms	Change in the Number of Villages between 1946-47 and 1980-81 in Percentage Terms
	Years			
	1946-47	1980-81		
1. Darjeeling-Phulbazar	5	47	+42	840.00
2. Shukhiapokhri-Jorebunglow	3	44	+41	1366.67
3. Rangli-Rangliot	5	29	+24	480.00
4. Kalimpong	7	73	+66	942.86
5. Garubathan	-	31	+31	-
6. Kurseong	2	59	+57	2850.00
7. Mirik	1	13	+12	1200.00
Total Rural Areas in the Hills	23	296	+273	1186.96

Compiled from (i) Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling (Alipore: Bengal Government House, 1947).

(ii) Census of India, 1981 : Series - 23, West Bengal, District Census Hand Book, Darjeeling District.

Table : 6.26

Number of Villages Supplied with Potable Water in Absolute & Percentage Term in Different Rural Areas of the Hill Areas of Darjeeling District , in 1981

Name of the Blocks	Total Number of Villages Inhabited	Number of Villages in Each Block Supplied with Potable Water	Percentage of Villages in Each Block Supplied with Potable Water
1. Darjeeling - Phulbazar	49	47	95.92
2. Jorebunglow-Shukhiapokhri	47	44	93.62
3. Rangli-Rangliot	30	29	96.67
4. Kalimpong (I & II Block)	74	73	98.65
5. Garubathan	31	31	100.00
6. Kurseong	62	59	95.16
7. Mirik	13	13	100.00

Compiled from : Census of India, 1981: Series-23, West Bengal,
the source District Census Hand Book, Darjeeling District.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

NOTES :

Tea Village : Defined in Chapter I earlier.

REFERENCES :

1. Government of West Bengal, West Bengal District Gazetteer : Darjeeling, 1980, p. 288
2. Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling (Alipore: Bengal Government House, 1947), pp. 180-181.
3. Ibid., p. 102
4. Ibid., p. 193
5. Ibid., p. 194
6. Government of West Bengal, West Bengal District Gazetteer : Darjeeling, 1980, p. 306.
7. Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer : Darjeeling (Alipore: Bengal Government House, 1947), p. 196.
8. Government of West Bengal, West Bengal District Gazetteer : Darjeeling, 1980, p. 327.
9. Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer : Darjeeling (Alipore: Bengal Government House, 1947), p. 197.
10. Ibid., p. 151
11. Census 1961 : West Bengal District Census Hand Book, Darjeeling (Government of West Bengal, 1961), p. 368
12. Government of West Bengal, West Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling, 1980, p. 472.
13. Ibid., p. 472
14. Ibid., p. 475
15. Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer : Darjeeling (Alipore: Bengal Government House, 1947), p. 271
16. Government of West Bengal, West Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling, 1980, p. 474.

17. Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer : Darjeeling (Alipore: Bengal Government House, 1947), p. 265
18. O' Malley, L.S.S., Gazetteer of Darjeeling District (Alipore : Bengal Government House, 1907), p. 172.
19. Government of West Bengal, West Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling, 1980, pp. 518-519.
20. Ibid., p. 255
21. Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer : Darjeeling (Alipore : Bengal Government House, 1947), p. 269.
22. Census 1961 : West Bengal District Census Hand Book, Darjeeling (Government of West Bengal, 1961), p. 59.
23. Government of West Bengal, Annual Plan for Darjeeling Hill Areas : 1972-73, pp. 51-55.
24. Government of West Bengal, Annual Plan For Darjeeling Hill Areas, 1973-74, p. 94.
25. Government of West Bengal, West Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling, 1980, p. 523.
26. Ibid., p. 523
27. Ibid., p. 524
28. Ibid., p. 557
29. Ibid., p. 565
30. Dash, A.J., Bengal District Gazetteer: Darjeeling (Alipore: Bengal Government House, 1947), pp. 92, 93.