

CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER – I

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

Household Industries play a vital role in the development of a developing economy like India. These industries not only raise the per capita income and standard of living of the people by providing employment opportunities but also reduce the disparities in the economic structure. Besides, the promotion of household industries provides an opportunity for the optimum utilisation of local resources to serve the local needs. The glorious past of the artisan skills in household based industries, especially in rural areas, which enjoyed the worldwide acclaim once, declined due to step motherly policy of the British rule in India coupled with industrial revolution (Gadgil, 1974). Nevertheless, there was the idea of rural industrialisation which was pursued vigorously by Mahatma Gandhi in the pre-independence period to solve both the economic and political problems.

However, household industries form an integral part of the structure of Indian economy. In a country like ours, with chronic mass poverty, widely prevalent unemployment and under employment, subsistence production, narrow markets and absence of large scale application of scientific and technological advancement, the scope for optimum exploitation of household industries assume great importance. In our setting, with an overcrowded agricultural sector and plenty of man-power, the development of an effective decentralised sector like the household industrial sector, with a close relationship with agriculture is absolutely essential. The importance of this sector lies in the fact that it provides large-scale employment with immediate effect and brings about a more equitable income distribution, and thereby effectively helps in combating the twin problems of poverty and unemployment.

The household industrial activities are specialised skills, which are passed on from one generation to another, and these are means of livelihood of the artisan workers. These industries are interwoven with village life and use traditional technology based on local resources and skills, catering mostly to the local needs (Chadha, 1993). However, in the absence of any organised activity in this sector and the products not being adequately remunerative, there is a possible likelihood of these workers taking up alternate livelihood options which is none other than migrating to urban areas. In such a case, this age-old activity will die its own death. At this stage, it

is very imperative to understand the problems faced by this sector and suggest the strategies for the development of household industries based on which certain policy level interventions need to be taken by the government to sustain the same.

1.1 The Issue

The industrial revolution and subsequent development of the transportation network has brought a radical change in the functional system of the rural society. Modern techniques of development made the village industries vulnerable to decay and gradually the economy of these industries ruined. There is massive poverty in the rural areas due to unemployment and lack of income opportunities. The small landholdings of the farmers are not adequate to support large families. As a result people from rural areas migrate in large numbers to urban areas, and the exodus is ever on increase. Other formal sectors are not capable of absorbing this overspill as they are already burdened with unemployment and under employment.

In this context, for providing gainful and productive avenues of employment to the growing labour force and to reduce un-employment and under employment from the economy, a massive programme may be launched to revitalise the household industries. This assumes added significance in the face of limited opportunities in the agricultural pursuits and for putting a check to the large-scale migration to the urban areas. The dispersed characters of the household industries, which are concentrated mainly in the rural areas, facilitate the utilisation of scattered resources of the rural backward areas.

In the context of the development of rural areas, because of the various inherent limitations to the growth of the organised industries sector in these areas, because of the insufficient potentialities of agricultural development and the migration to urban areas where opportunities are already limited, the importance of the un-organised sector becomes significant. In addition, because of the predominantly rural character, the household industries assume a very significant role. The National Committee on the Development of Backward Areas (1981) has also focused its attention on the development of major household industries and according to the Committee there are some units, which are larger than household enterprises in the un-organised sector that need to be included in this frame.

Earlier, Government of India (1956), in its Industrial Policy Resolution 1956, has stressed on the development of rural industries over all industrial development. The

Karve Committee (1955) has also referred to the dynamism and growth potentiality of rural industries which could facilitate the transmission of traditional industries to modern industries in the small sector. According to this Committee, 'whatever the villagers can undertake by way of improved industry in their own village should be organised on a village basis'. This would, of course, be subject to physical factors such as location of minerals, availability of transport facility etc. In the process of change towards a better technique, larger and more diversified demand, a stage would no doubt be reached when even for the pursuit of village-based industry some specialisation in production and centralised common services would become necessary.

In the Second Five Year Plan (1956-61), Government of India (1956) incorporated all these policy measures and propounded a very elaborate and detailed scheme for the development of small industries in the rural areas. The basic position was reiterated in the later plans. In the Fifth Five Year Plan draft (1974-79) of the Government of India (1974), it has been stated that rural and small industries have an important role to play for the removal of poverty, disparities in income and wealth, and the regional imbalances. The sector has a definite potential for providing increasingly larger employment opportunities with a relatively smaller capital investment. Establishments of these industries also involve a comparatively shorter gestation period. The products of these industries are capable of meeting substantial part of the essential and other requirements of the masses. The emphasis on harnessing the employment potential of the decentralised sector appears to have increased with each successive plan. Massive programmes were organised by the Government of India (1980) during the Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85) to develop existing small and other industries. All the village and small industry development agencies were brought under the Ministry of Industry. District Industrial Centres at the district level and Rural Marketing and Service Centres at the block level were established during this time.

In all Five Year Plans, rural industries have received attention only in the form of preservation of the traditional household and cottage industry because employment has received utmost attention even at the cost of growth, productivity and income, without examining their likely role in the process of overall rural and national development and the changes that may be necessary in these industries before they can play their proper role (Papola, 1982). As a result, in spite of the stated intention of making rural industrial development an integral part of development on the one hand, and on the other, apart from making it an effective instrument for the creation of

productive employment in the rural areas, the rural industrial sector remained stagnant and has made very little impact on the rural scene. Rural industrial structure in India is marked by the predominance of household sector in terms of both number of units and employment (Economic Census, 1980). But the proportion of industries in household industrial sector engaged in activities which might be termed 'mainly modern' is small. In other words, bulk of household industries is traditional one, which does not provide even the subsistence level of income (Papola, 1982).

In our economic situation where there is a scarcity of capital and insufficiency of labour, our choice naturally has to be biased towards techniques especially utilising capital-saving or labour-intensive techniques. The techniques chosen need to take full cognizance of spread effect, need to protect employment, enhance productivity, develop skills and meet the needs of local consumption. However, in any such adoption, economic viability needs to be in the forefront.

In a future strategy of economic development, secondary activity has necessarily to be started close to the primary sector, especially when the raw material is available. The rural population of India possesses latent resources and talents. This may be exploited fully for their own benefit. The family as an economic unit of operation can be viable as an efficient household industry, where all the members of the family work under a common roof irrespective of differences of sex, age and work time etc. (Hagela, 1997). Any instrument or a piece of equipment which can be operated by all the members of the family may be less productive strictly when operated person wise, but can be, with effective supervision, highly productive family wise in the ultimate cost-benefit analysis. Ultimately this pattern could be more productive.

The development of household industries needs constant endeavour to enhance the quality of the product and the productivity per unit of production. Economic viability of the industries should be the guiding principle. Any consideration of social security should be kept aside and dealt separately. Efforts should be directed towards the up-gradation of technology so that the artisan workers move out of their poverty trap at the earliest and their dependants enjoy the increasing living standards.

In the existing set up of this un-organised sector, however, the available technology is not been fully utilised, productivity is quite low and much of the value added is siphoned off by exploitative middleman. The practical course, therefore, is to introduce modernisation of techniques and improve the skills and make the worker capable of enhancing his productivity and his earnings so as to enable him to meet at

least the basic necessities of life and come out the clutches of poverty within a reasonable time.

The basic expectation in the plans is to develop the household industries to provide greater and more remunerative employment to the increasing number of labour participants. As a matter of fact, the employment generating capacity in household and cottage industries is many times greater than large industries. Therefore, it is possible to replace the inequalities in income by providing opportunities in household or village industries. These industries with proper safeguard will result in a large and more widely distributed sharing of the produce of the industry. Further, while development of large industries creates a heavy strain on our limited foreign exchange resources, these industries do not require higher outlays of foreign exchange. Hence, for the creation of greater employment potential, the household industries have to be developed.

Long before the advent of mechanised industry, household industries met the entire needs of rural life and occupations in respect of tools equipment, furniture and other facilities and in spite of modern technological inventions and developments, household industrial workers play a very significant role in the Indian economy. The artisan workers also contribute a substantial portion to the income generated in the country and now household industrial articles continue to meet to some extent the needs of the weaker sections of the population. Further artisan skills are mostly inherited and very little expenditure or effort is devoted to their development. They are mostly self-employed and by promoting self-employment one can hope to provide the growing labour force with opportunities of earning decent incomes. Furthermore, they have the ability to do the required job, if provided with sufficient encouragement. Therefore, the objective of poverty eradication can be also be achieved by providing employment opportunities to the growing labour force (Narasaiah and Naidu, 2006).

New technological inventions led to increase in mechanisation of productive activity and production started getting centralised in urban areas. Besides, more and more sophisticated machinery is increasingly being used for mass production of goods for large markets. This also has resulted in the migration of impoverished artisans from rural to urban areas in search of better opportunities.

However, there is a controversy over how much labour intensity is to be maintained and how much mechanisation is needed to be allowed. In this running controversy, the workers are being forced to continue the traditional labour intensive approach, which involves drudgery sometimes of the entire family, with a small return

in value added for the time employed. If the process is mechanised, the artisan workers and his family can better employ their time in the actual production where value added for time spent is reasonable.

The various issues discussed above form a strong base for the urgency to develop household industries in our country as whole and the study area in particular. The district has a distinct heritage in this sector. Household industries such as Food-processing, Handloom, Rope-making, Bamboo-work, Cane-work, Carpentry, Pottery, Blacksmithy etc. are the important household industries that help the people of the area to sustain their livelihood.

Within the framework of the growing economy, the increasing demand for consumer goods would involve many new articles of consumption. This segment of the demand can safely be siphoned off to the sectors of production using intermediate technology. These new lines of production opportunities will certainly attract the younger generation who may not like to pursue the traditional line but accept the greater mechanisation, which gives them better earnings. The future strategy in the case of household industries should be to raise the productivity and income levels of the artisan workers engaged in these industries rather than get more people employed. New work opportunities also have to be generated. Public policy must take into account regarding the low level of earnings and the exploitation in this sector. Hence, policy must be directed not merely at preserving these industries but at upgrading them in terms of technology so that the living standard of the artisans can be pushed above the poverty line.

1.2 Hypothesis

The present thesis will try to assert the following propositions, which if found to be true can be regarded as true statements.

- (i) In general, most of the household industries of Jalpaiguri district have potentialities for survival and have bright prospect of development. Particularly, with the aid of proper policies they could be the focus for generation of employment in the secondary sector.
- (ii) In specific, development of some of these industries could be the vehicle for the improvement of target groups who specialise in the industry in question and target areas where the industry is highly concentrated.

- (iii) However, not all the household industries of the district have equal potentiality for survival. Some sectors where returns to scale is very low may not be an economically profitable venture and thus may die its natural death.

1.3 Objectives

Keeping in view of revitalisation as well as the development of the household industrial sector, to give impetus to the rural economy in general and to promote the growth of this sector for industrialisation in particular, the main objective of this study will be to evaluate the problems and prospects of development of some of the existing household industries of Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal.

Thus, the study will be carried on with the following objectives:

- (i) To make an inventory of the household industries and examine the involvement of different communities in these industries.
- (ii) To study the existing pattern of procurement of raw materials, marketing of the products and financing mechanism of major household industries.
- (iii) To analyse the general characteristics and economic efficiency of the major household industries.
- (iv) To study the problems of major household industries.
- (v) To formulate a functional model for an empirical investigation of the mechanism of income generation and productivity growth in major household industries.
- (vi) To derive a set of policy measures to achieve the social and economic goals of developing the household industrial sector.

1.4 Methodology

The present work has been done through the following methodology:

- (i) To begin with, an attempt has been made to conceptualise the household industry and emphasise the role of household industry in Indian economy. Besides, a review of the work on similar studies done by various authors has been attempted with a view to understand the importance of this neglected sector in the economy. This has established the importance of household industrial sector in the economy.

- (ii) Further attempt has been made to study the type and occurrence of major household industries of India as well as in the study area. The distribution of household industrial workers in India, West Bengal and in the study area has also been studied using census data.
- (iii) Then efforts have been made to make inventory of the selected eight household industries involving many communities and examine the major aspects like location, articles produced, raw materials, seasonality in production, tools and accessories, marketing of the finished products and so on in order to understand the importance of the operations related to the household industries in the way of living of the workers and to ascertain the level of development as well as the degree of acceptance towards modernisation of the sector. It has also been felt necessary to study the distribution, economic pursuits, living condition, literacy and education, social adaptation to innovations and likewise of the concerned workers.
- (iv) This has been followed by an analysis of the economic characteristics of the selected household industries to identify the problems of growth and understand the ways for removing the inhibitive factors of development.
- (v) Following the analysis of the economic characteristics, various problems are recognised in the development of the household industrial sector.
- (vi) The inferences from the above analysis have led to build models of variables for the mechanism of income generation in the various household industries for directing the path of growth and setting guidelines for a brighter future of the household industrial activities.
- (vii) The model has been applied to different household industrial sectors and tested empirically for finding relationship among different variables and hence identified the contributions of factors responsible for the growth of household industrial economy. Important factors and their contributions, thus found out, are actually indicative of policy variables for plan formulation.
- (viii) Finally a set of policies has been put forward for action programmes for development of different household industries in question based on the value of optimal policy variables so that social and economic goals related to the said sector is achieved.

1.5 Study Area

Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal has been chosen as the study area. The region is abode to large number of the communities of different ethnic groups spread over thirteen blocks and famous for large number of traditional household industrial activities. The products of these activities are sold in the market far beyond the jurisdiction of the district, and the enterprises are established for these household industrial products. The selection of this area was also considered from the point of view of accessibility of the villages.

Out of many existing traditional household industrial activities of the district, eight household industries are commonly known from both consumers' and producers' point of view. Artisan workers depend on these products for their livelihood and it sustain comparatively a larger number of workers in the study area. Information of the Block Development Office and welfare departments has indicated that these household industries, namely Food-processing, Handloom, Rope-making, Bamboo-work, Cane-work, Carpentry, Pottery, Black smithy are still functioning principally in different villages of the Jalpaiguri district.

Household industries of the Jalpaiguri district have been taken for the study considering various issues like it is a neglected sector, dwindling nature of the household industrial products in general, the need for revitalisation the industry at the grass root level and for giving an overview for providing an objective for planning to reduce pressure on the other employment sectors, therefore, has deemed it necessary to concentrate at the sector. Besides, the contemporary culture of the people in the study area has deep root in the traditional past and some of the traditional household industries are an inseparable part of their life.

1.6 Survey Technique

Due to the unavailability of secondary source information like number of units, employment, output and income, investment in both fixed capital and working capital etc. which was needed for the analysis on the household industries; the study had to be depended on a long drawn and rigorous field survey. The random sampling without replacement has been adopted for the present investigation. Several kinds of data were collected from primary sources. Each of the data obtained through primary survey have been processed to analyse the socio-economic condition of the household industrial workers and also to examine the functioning of the household industrial sector. For this,

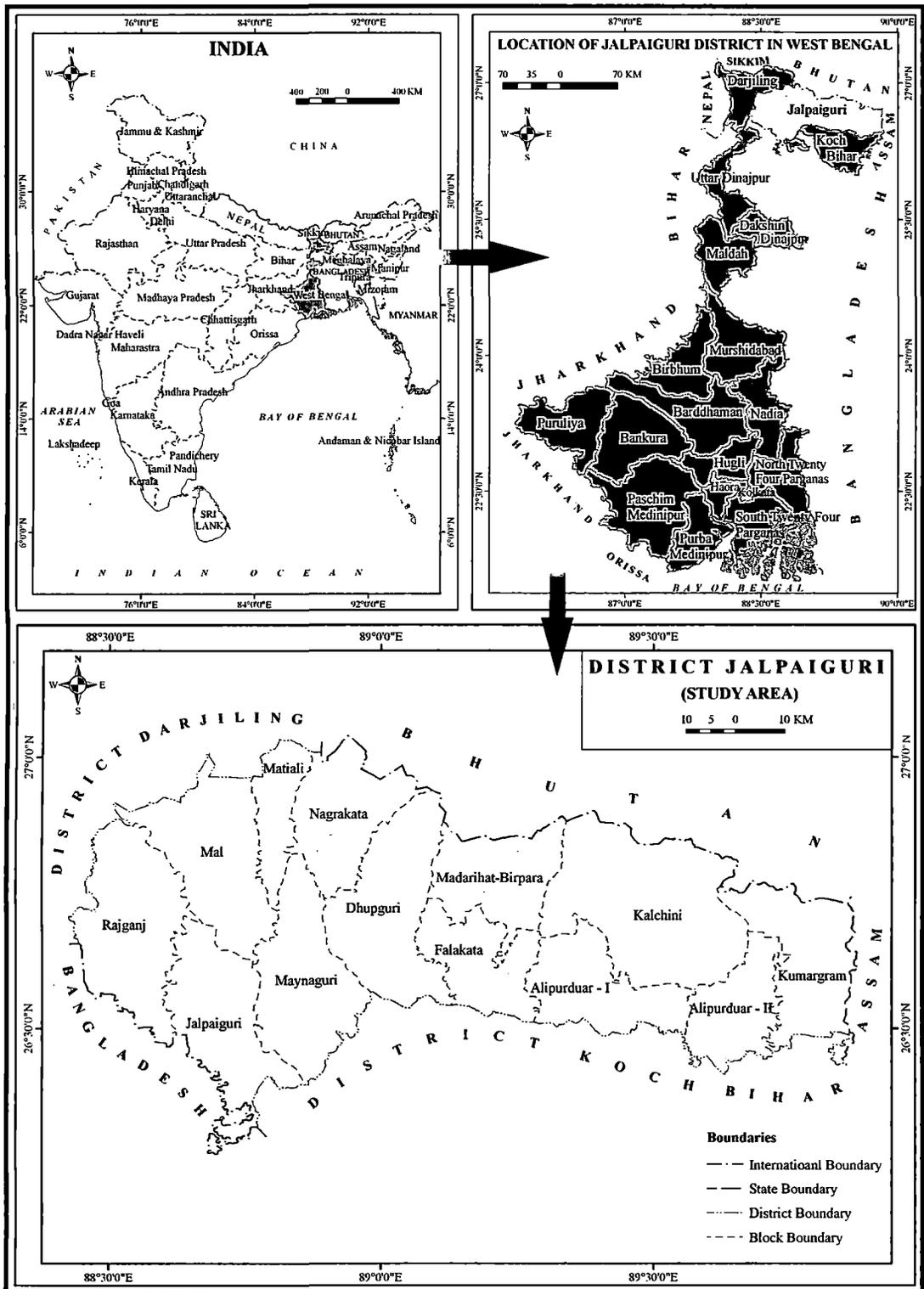


Fig. 1.1 Location of the Study Area

two different types of the primary survey were conducted. First survey conducted was of the different household industries, which is designed to collect the data on general and economic performance of the same, keeping in mind to have a clear understanding of the problems of the workers. Second survey was conducted with the aim to collect information on the socio-economic conditions of the workers. Besides, associated officials and knowledgeable persons have also been consulted regarding the different household industries. The secondary sources of data are used from the these sources: (i) Census of India (ii) District Gazetteer (iii) Statistical Abstract and Bureau of Statistics, Government of West Bengal (iv) Various published books, journals, articles etc.

1.7 Sample Coverage

The research work is designed to study the process of production, analysis of the household industrial units and the household of the workers in order to fulfill the objective stated earlier. Thus, it has been felt necessary to conduct sample survey for sets of information related to households and household industrial activities. For compatibility and convenience, the data on the above three items of information have been collected from the same premises. There are eight major household industries in Jalpaiguri district. It was decided to take 80 sample units form each category of industry (total 640 sample units) covering 11 per cent village (83 villages) of the district. The villages were selected with the help of officials of District Industries Centre, Industry Officers at block level, traders, member of panchayet samity and knowledgeable persons. The basic ideas of identifying villages were principally the specialisation in the household industrial activities and variation in practicing ethnic groups. After selecting the villages, the identification of households practicing particular household industry by the particular community was done with the assistance of the knowledgeable local persons and members of panchayets. Taking it as the population, sample households were drawn by simple random sampling method without replacement (SRSWOR) for interviewing through structural schedule. Ultimately eliminating such interviewees who were neither available at the place at the time of interview, nor agreed to respond, the actual size came down to 557 interviewees from 77 villages representing eight household industries. Even several questions included in the proforma could not be accepted for analysis because of their doubtful reliability.

1.7.1 Sampling Scheme for Food-processing

Samples have been drawn from three blocks of the district which have Food-processing to a significant extent. 64 sample units have been drawn from 6 villages based on proportional size of distribution. Being almost homogenous in character of the

Table 1.1 No. of Units Surveyed for Food-processing

Block / Urban Area	J.L.No	Village / Ward	No. of Units Surveyed
Dhupguri	89	Dhupguri	11
Madarihat-Birpara	44	Madhya Chhekamari	10
	45	Uttor Chhekamari	10
Kumargram	49	Barabisa	5
	16	Madhya Kamakhyaguri	24
	15	Uttor Kamakhyaguri	4
Total Sample		6	64

Source: Field Survey, 2008

units, sampling is done with simple random sampling method without replacement (SRSWOR). The sampling has been done with the help of random table (Random Sampling Number arranged by Tippett). Number of units surveyed in different villages is shown in Table 1.1 and in Figs. 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4.

1.7.2 Sampling Scheme for Handloom

Six blocks in the study area have Handloom industry to a considerable extent. 75 sample units have been drawn from 8 villages of 6 blocks based on proportional size of distribution. The handloom workers are almost homogenous in character; therefore, sampling is done with simple random sampling method without replacement (SRSWOR). The sampling has been done with the help of random table (Random Sampling Number arranged by Tippett). Distribution of sample in Handloom is given below in Table 1.2 and Figs. 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 and 1.9.

Table 1.2 No. of Units Surveyed for Handloom

Block / Urban Area	J.L. No	Village / Ward	No. of Units Surveyed
Dhupguri	89	Dhupguri	6
Falakata	21	Falakata	7
	2	Narsingpur	4
Madarihat-Birpara	44	Madhya-Chhekamari	8
Kalchini	5	Madhya Satali	8
	9	Uttor Mendabari	26
Alipurduar -II	24	Kumarpara	12
Kumargram	23	Narathali	4
Total Sample		8	75

Source: Field Survey, 2008

1.7.3 Sampling Scheme for Rope-making

Rope-making is noteworthy in two blocks of Jalpaiguri district. 67 sample units have been taken from four villages based on proportional size of distribution. The workers of Rope-making industry are almost homogenous in character; therefore, sampling is done with simple random sampling method without replacement (SRSWOR). The sampling has been done with the help of random table (Random Sampling Number arranged by Tippett). Distribution of sample Rope-making units is given below in Table 1.3 and Figs. 1.3 and 1.5.

Table 1.3 No. of Units Surveyed for Rope-making

Block / Urban Area	J.L. No	Village / Ward	No. of Units Surveyed
Falakata	28	Jateswar	15
Madarihat-Birpara	22	Dakshin Khairbari	13
	20	Dakshin Sisubari	12
	42	Islamabad	27
Total Sample		4	67

Source: Field Survey, 2008

1.7.4 Sampling Scheme for Bamboo-work

Bamboo-work is popular and common in many blocks of the study area due to its utilitarian value. Thus, 74 sample units have been drawn from 12 villages of 5 blocks based on proportional size of distribution. The bamboo workers, being almost homogenous in character, sampling is done with simple random sampling method without replacement (SRSWOR). The sampling has been done with the help of random table (Random Sampling Number arranged by Tippett). Distribution of sample Bamboo-work units is given below in Table 1.4 and Figs. 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 1.8 and 1.9.

Table 1.4 No. of Units Surveyed for Bamboo-work

Block / Urban Area	J.L. No	Village / Ward	No. of Units Surveyed
Dhupguri	96	Purba Mallickpara	5
Malbazar	105	Dakshin Matiali	4
Falakata	25	Dalimpur	3
	28	Jateswar	13
	63	Raichenga	4
Madarihat-Birpara	9	Birpara Tea Garden	7
	44	Madhya Chhekamari	3
	41	Paschim Khairbari	9
	45	Uttor chhekamari	12
	10	Uttar Sishubari	10
Alipurduar-I	7	Salkumarhat	2
	19	Silbarihat	2
Total Sample		12	74

Source: Field Survey, 2008

1.7.5 Sampling Scheme for Cane-work

Cane-work is an important household industry and is mostly found in 7 blocks of the district. 54 sample units have been surveyed from 10 villages of seven blocks based on proportional size of distribution. As the industry is almost homogenous in character, sampling is, therefore, done with simple random sampling method without replacement (SRSWOR). The sampling has been done with the help of random table (Random Sampling Number arranged by Tippett). Number of units surveyed in

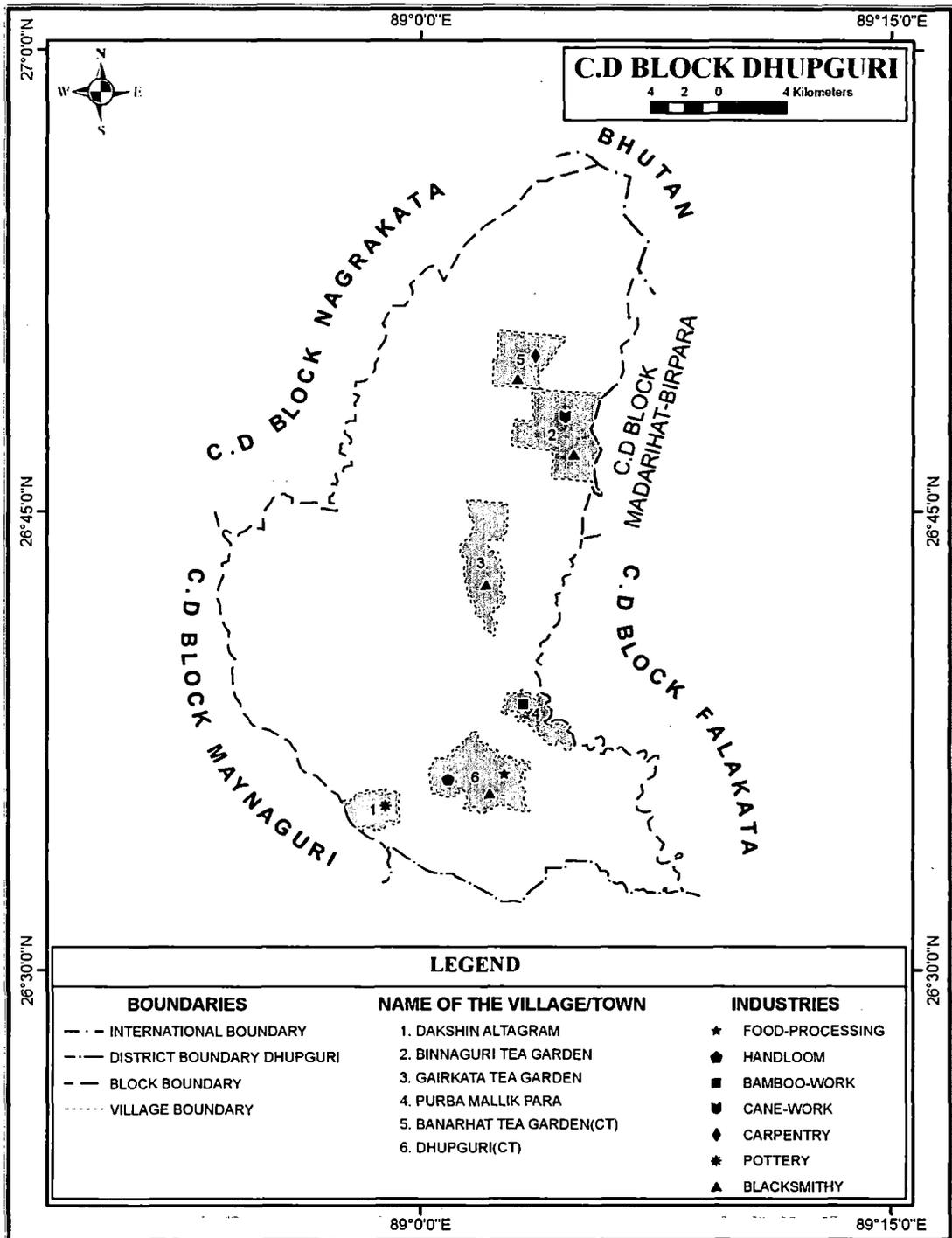


Fig. 1.2 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Dhupguri

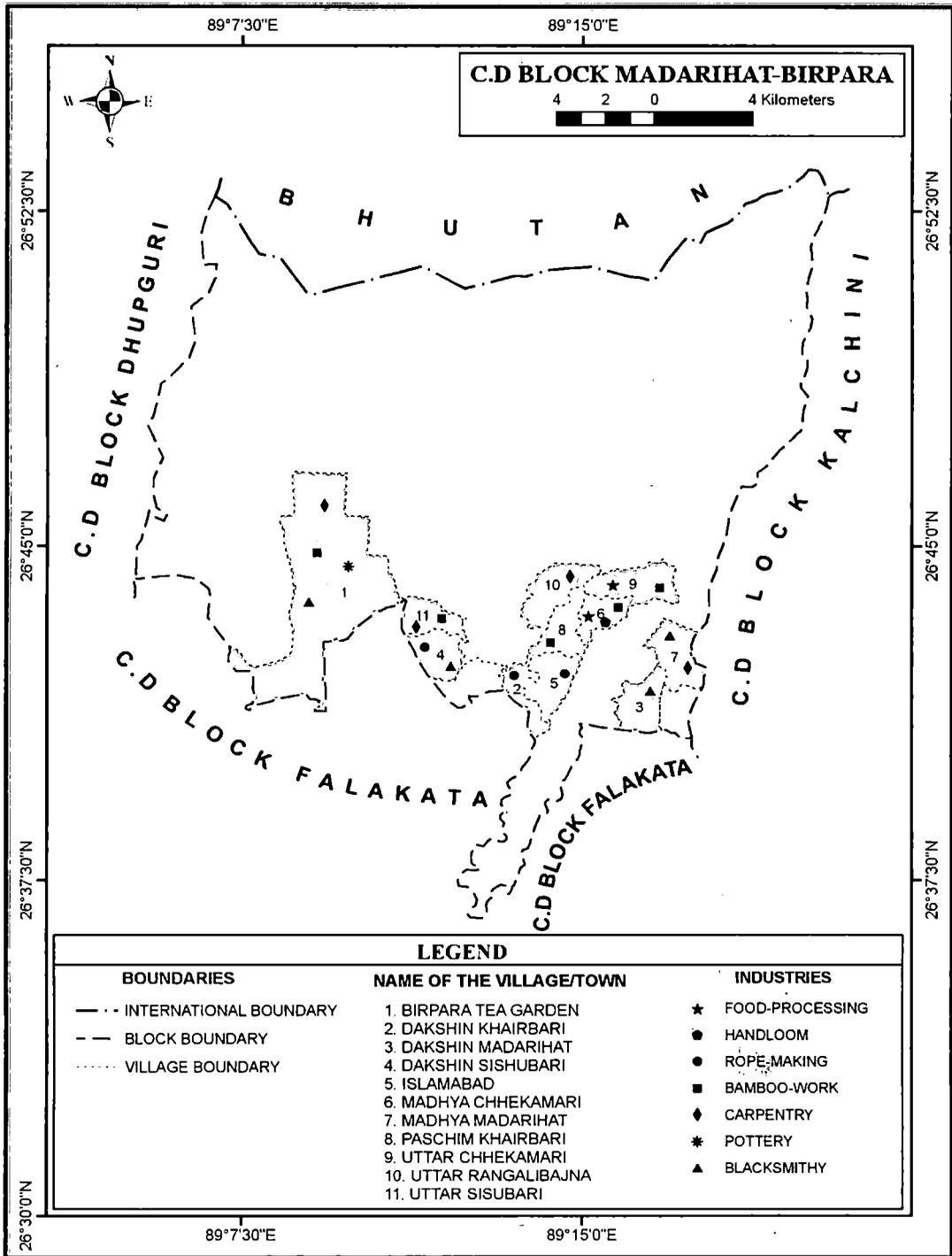


Fig. 1.3 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Madarihat-Birpara



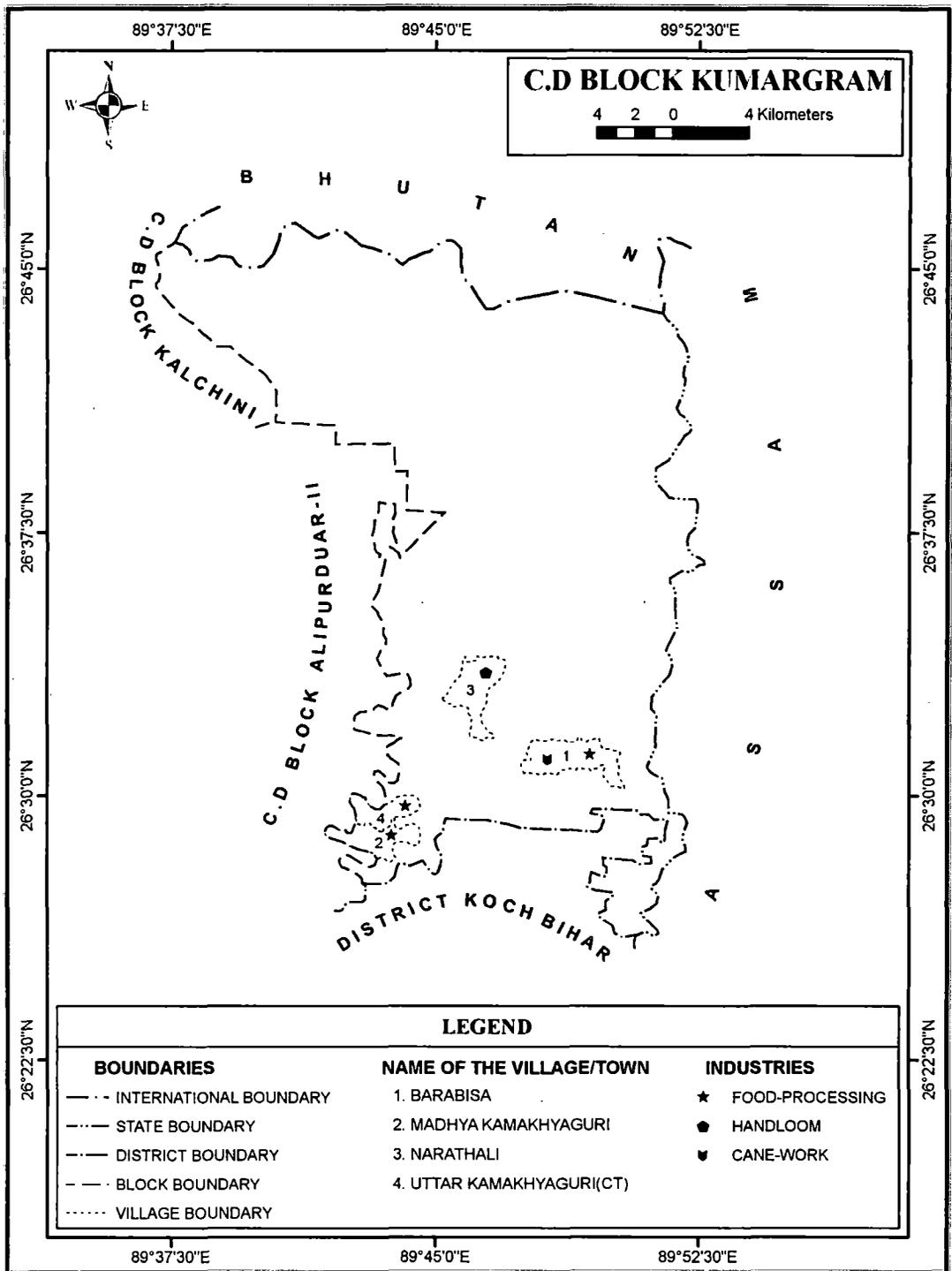


Fig. 1.4 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Kumargram

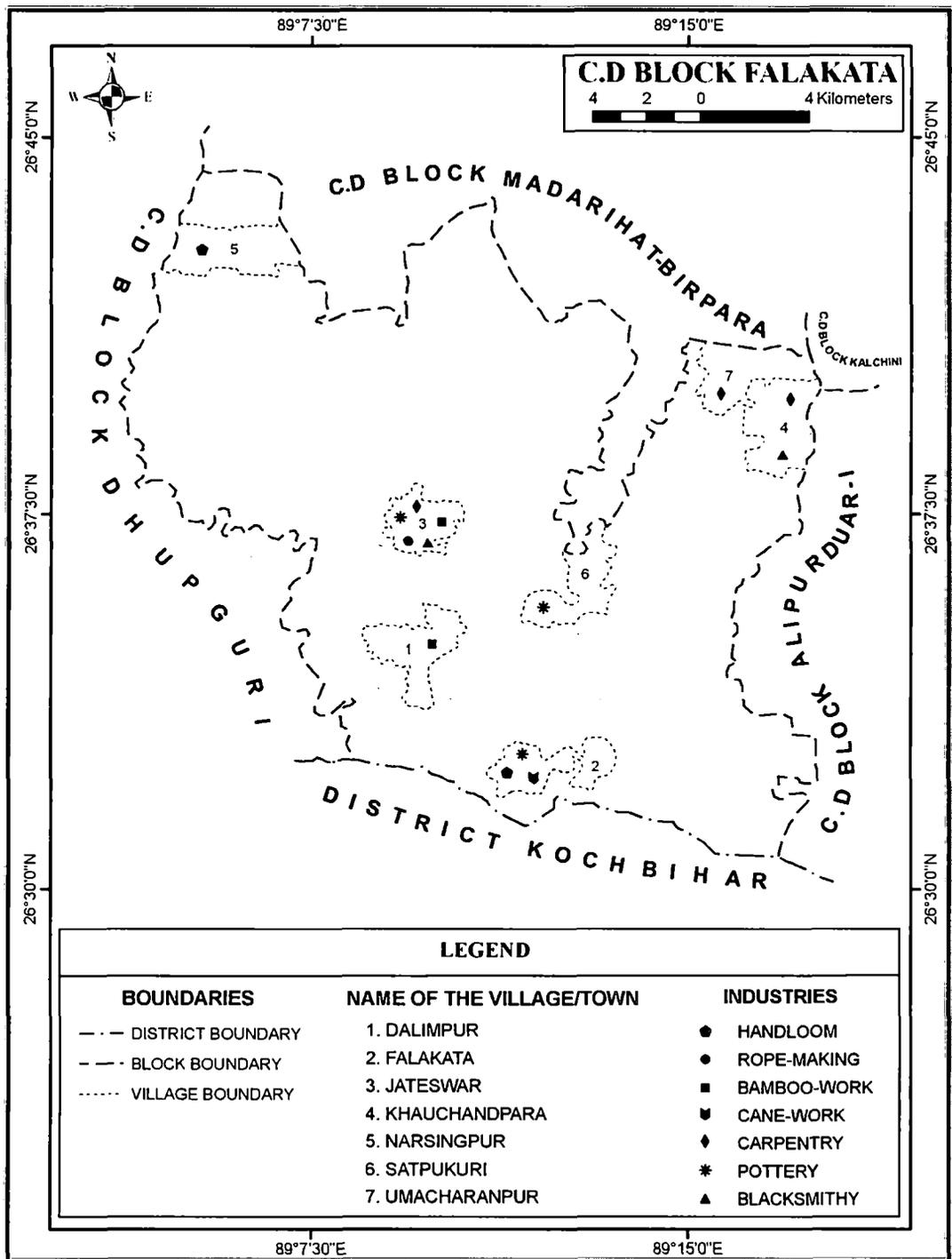


Fig. 1.5 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Falakata

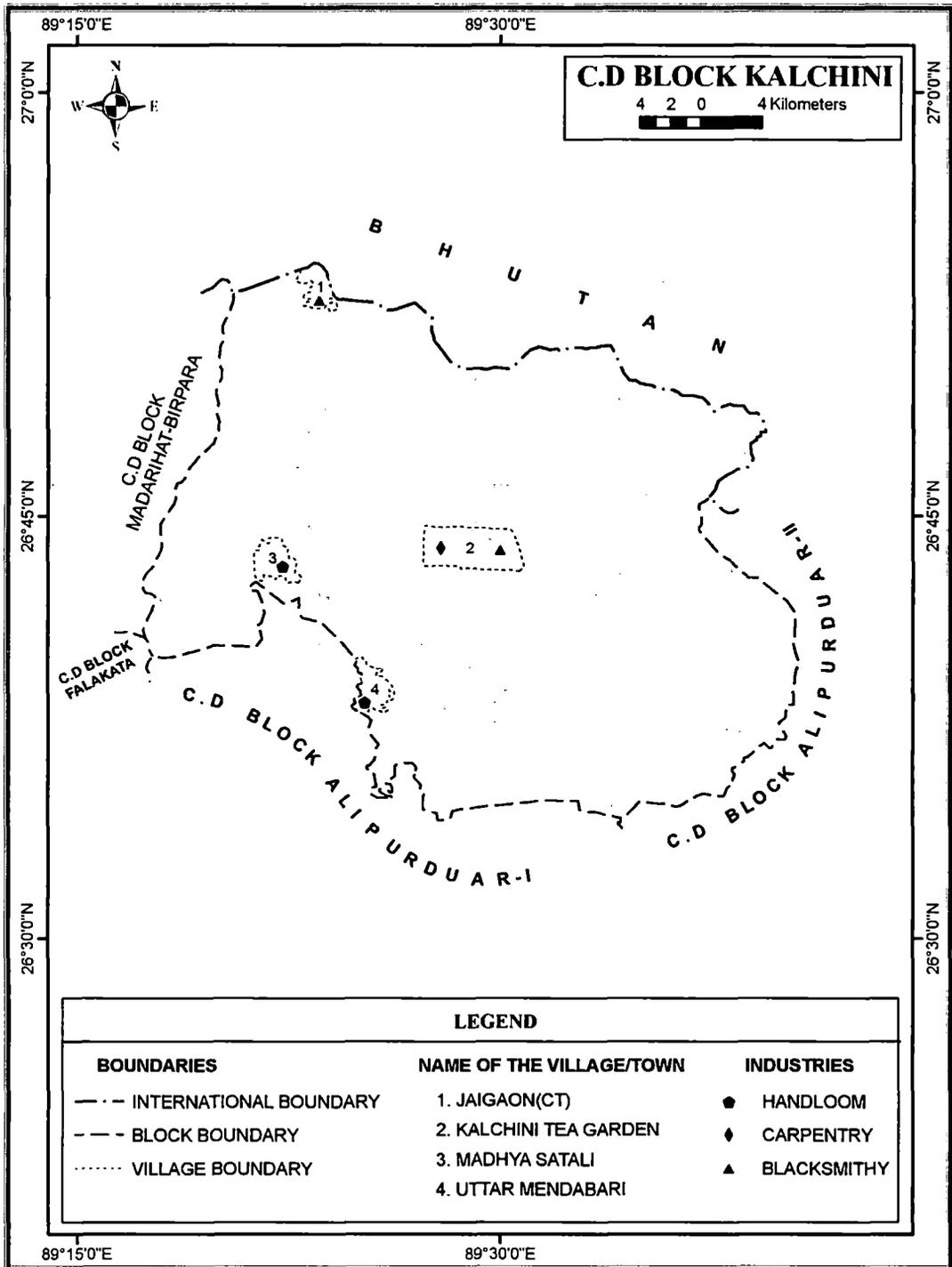


Fig. 1.6 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Kalchini

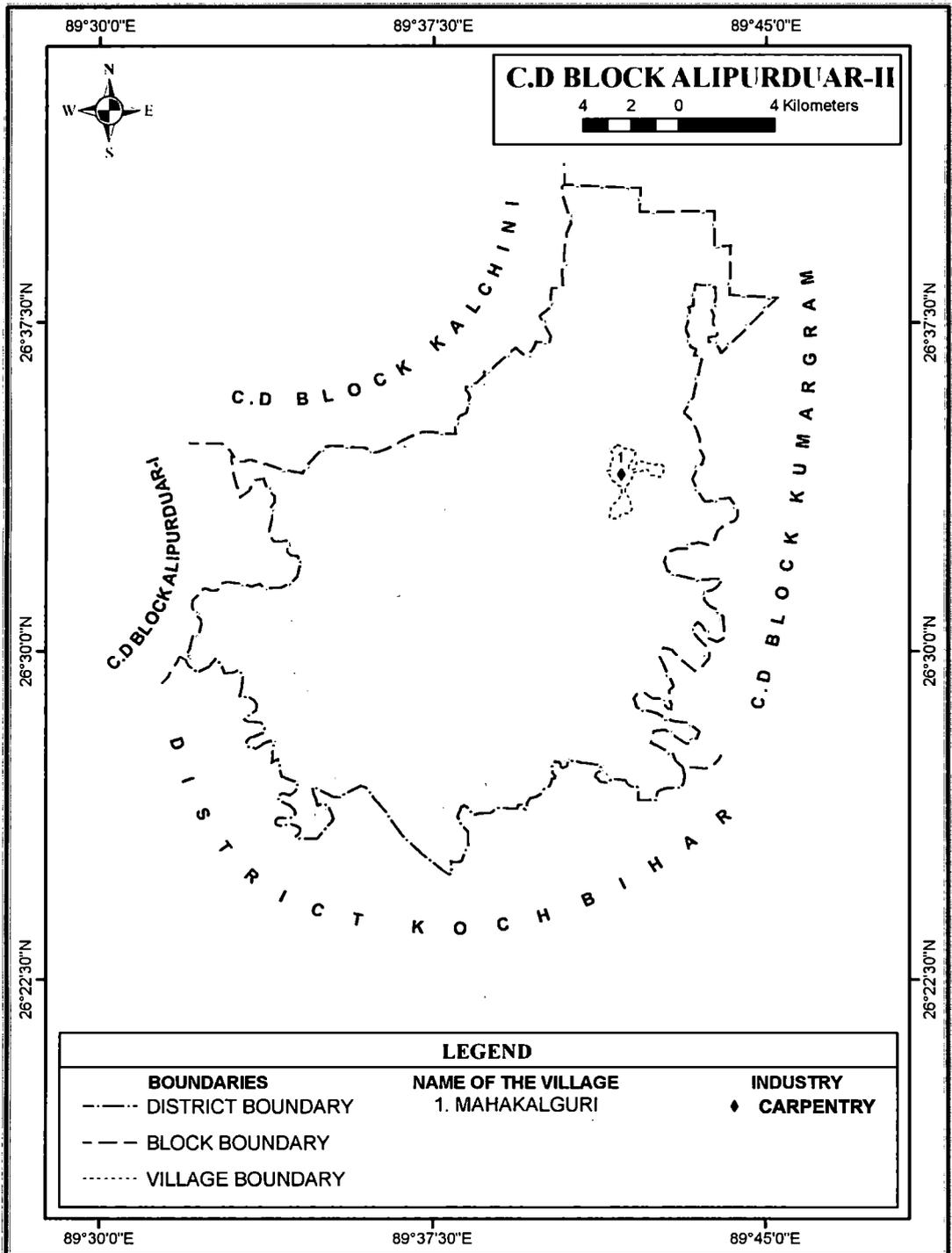


Fig. 1.7 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Alipurduar-II

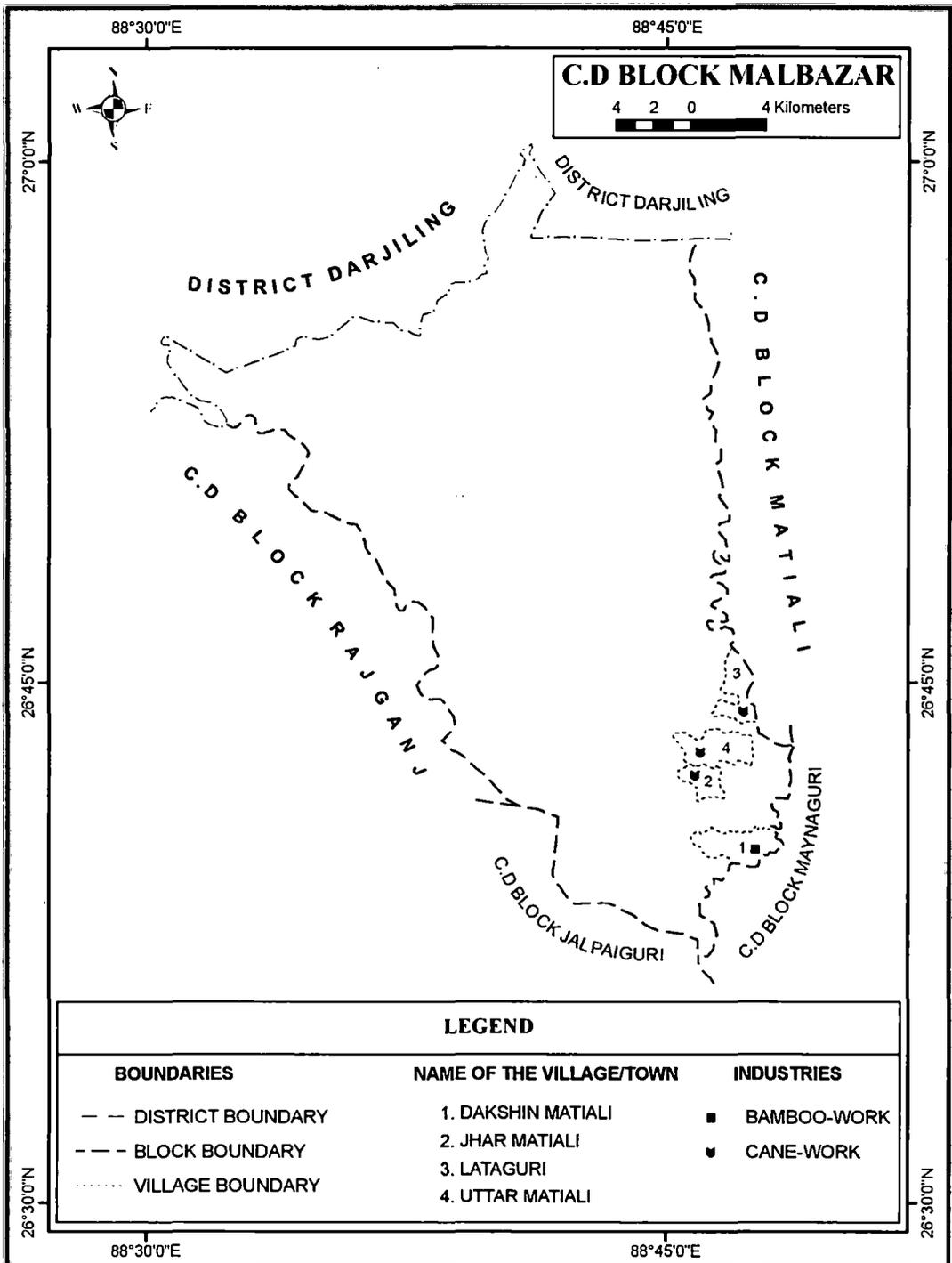


Fig. 1.8 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Malbazar

different villages for Cane-work units are given below in Table 1.5 and Figs. 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.8, 1.9, 1.10 and 1.11.

Table 1.5 No. of Units Surveyed for Cane-work

Block / Urban Area	J.L. No	Village / Ward	No. of Units Surveyed
Jalpaiguri	7	Kharia	4
	6	Paharpur	3
Dhupguri	19	Binnaguri Tea Garden	3
Mal	92	Jhar Matiali	3
	8	Lataguri	10
	91	Uttar Matiali	9
Matiali	13	Chalsa Tea garden	5
Kumargram	49	Barabisa	3
Falakata	21	Falakata	4
Alipurduar – I	50	Alipurduar Rly. Jn.	10
Total Sample		10	54

Source: Field Survey, 2008

1.7.6 Sampling Scheme for Carpentry

Carpentry is a popular household industry and is found in almost all the blocks. However, considering its large frequency of occurrence, 11 villages of 6 blocks have selected for survey. Based on proportional size of distribution 76 sample units have been drawn. Sampling is done with simple random sampling method without replacement (SRSWOR). The sampling has been done with the help of random table (Random Sampling Number arranged by Tippett). Distribution of sample units of Carpentry is given in Table 1.6 and Figs. 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7 and 1.12.

1.7.7 Sampling Scheme for Pottery

Pottery is also a popular and common household industry in all the blocks of the study area due to its utilitarian value. However, based on its major concentration 10 villages of seven blocks have selected for study. Thus, 81 sample units have been

Table 1.6 No. of Units Surveyed for Carpentry

Block / Urban Area	J.L. No	Village / Ward	No. of Units Surveyed
Dhupguri	17	Banarhat Tea Garden	4
Nagrakata	7	Nagrakata	7
Falakata	28	Jateswar	10
	54	Khauchad Para	6
	53	Umacharanpur	4
Madarihat-Birpara	9	Birpara Tea Garden	9
	46	Madhya Madarihat	14
	40	Uttar Rangalibazna	3
	23	Uttar Sishubari	2
Kalchini	37	Kalchini Tea Garden	11
Alipurduar-II	121	Mahakalguri	6
Total Sample		11	76

Source: Field Survey, 2008

Table 1.7 No. of Units Surveyed for Pottery

Block / Urban Area	J.L. No	Village / Ward	No. of Units Surveyed
Rajganj	13	Araji Bhelakoba – II	2
Maynaguri	50	Kumarpara	9
	73	Tekatuli	3
Dhupguri	78	Dakshin Altagram	8
Nagrakata	31	Angrabhasa	6
Falakata	21	Falakata	3
	28	Jateswar	3
	48	Satpukuri	15
Madarihat – Birpara	9	Birpara Tea Garden	3
Alipurduar – I	7	Salkumarhat	29
Total Sample		10	81

Source: Field Survey, 2008

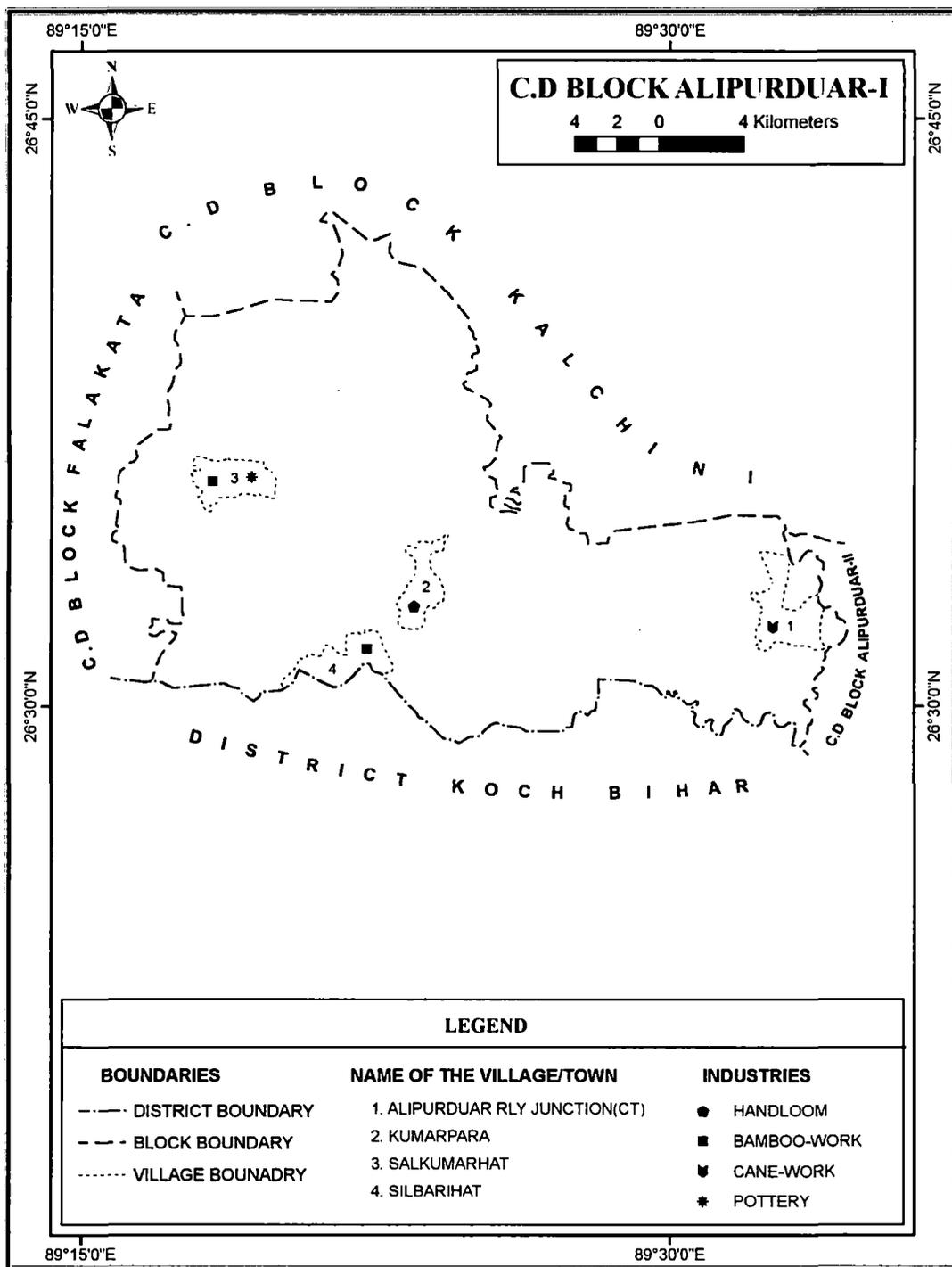


Fig. 1.9 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Alipurduar-I

drawn from these village of these blocks based on proportional size of distribution. As the potters are almost homogenous in character, sampling is done with simple random sampling method without replacement (SRSWOR). The sampling has been done with the help of random table (Random Sampling Number arranged by Tippett). Distribution of sample in Pottery units is given in Table 1.7 and Figs. 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 1.9, 1.12, 1.13 and 1.14.

1.7.8 Sampling Scheme for Blacksmithy

Blacksmithy is important in the study area as it is widely spread household industry of the district. 66 sample units have been taken from the 16 villages of 6

Table 1.8 No. of Units Surveyed for Blacksmithy

Block / Urban Area	J.L. No	Village / Ward	No. of Units Surveyed
Maynaguri	37	Mainaguri	12
	31	Barnes	5
Dhupguri	17	Banarhat Tea Garden	3
	19	Binnaguri Tea Garden	4
	89	Dhupguri	5
	26	Gairkata	4
Nagrakata	7	Nagrakata	4
	6	Nagrakata Tea Garden	2
Falakata	28	Jateswar	2
	54	Khauchadpara	2
Madarihat-Birpara	9	Birpara Tea Garden	3
	46	Dakshin Madarihat	3
	49	Dakshin Sishubari	4
	46	Madhya Madarihat	2
Kalchini	27	Jaigaon	3
	37	Kalchini Tea Garden	8
Total Sample		16	66

Source: Field Survey, 2008

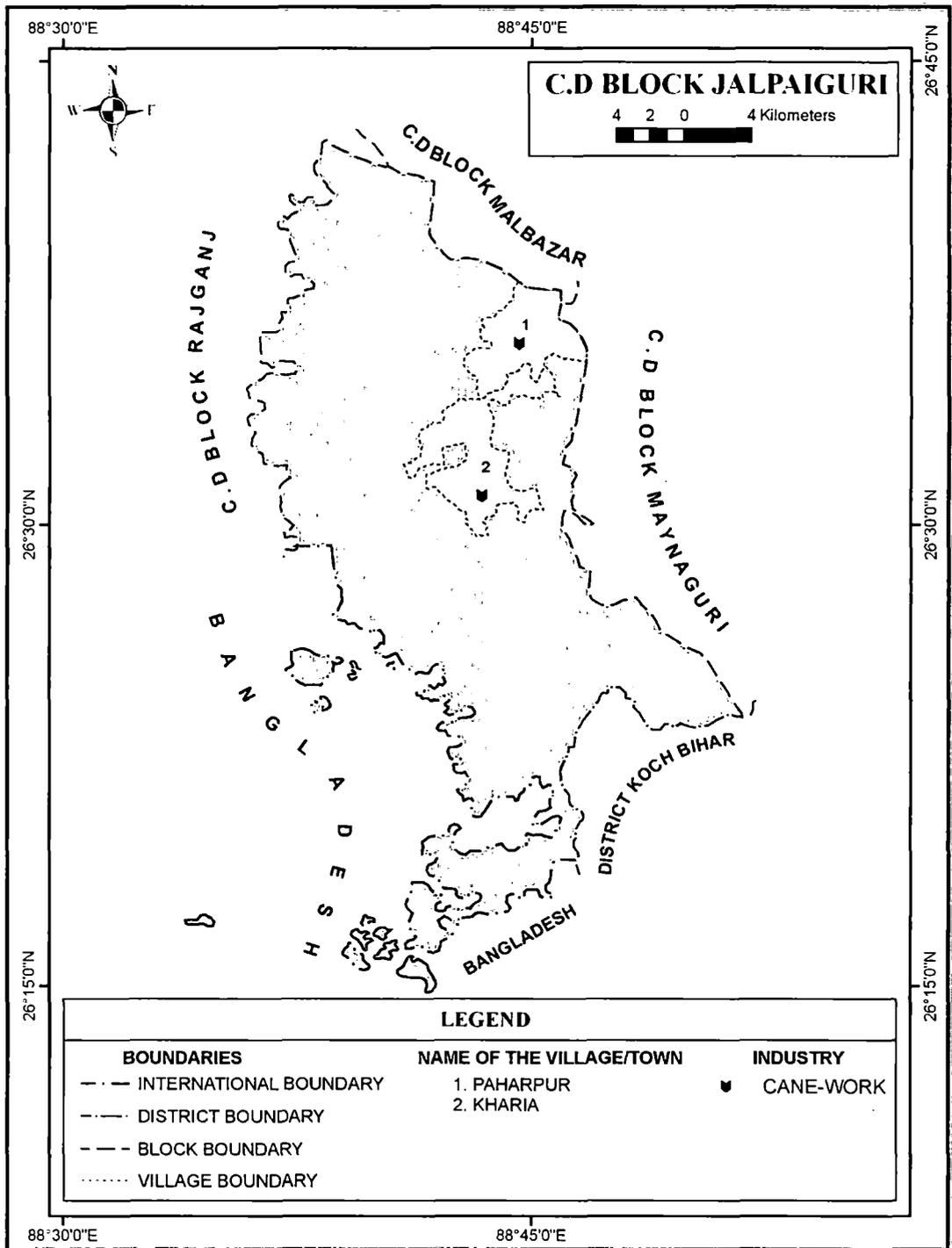


Fig. 1.10 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Jalpaiguri

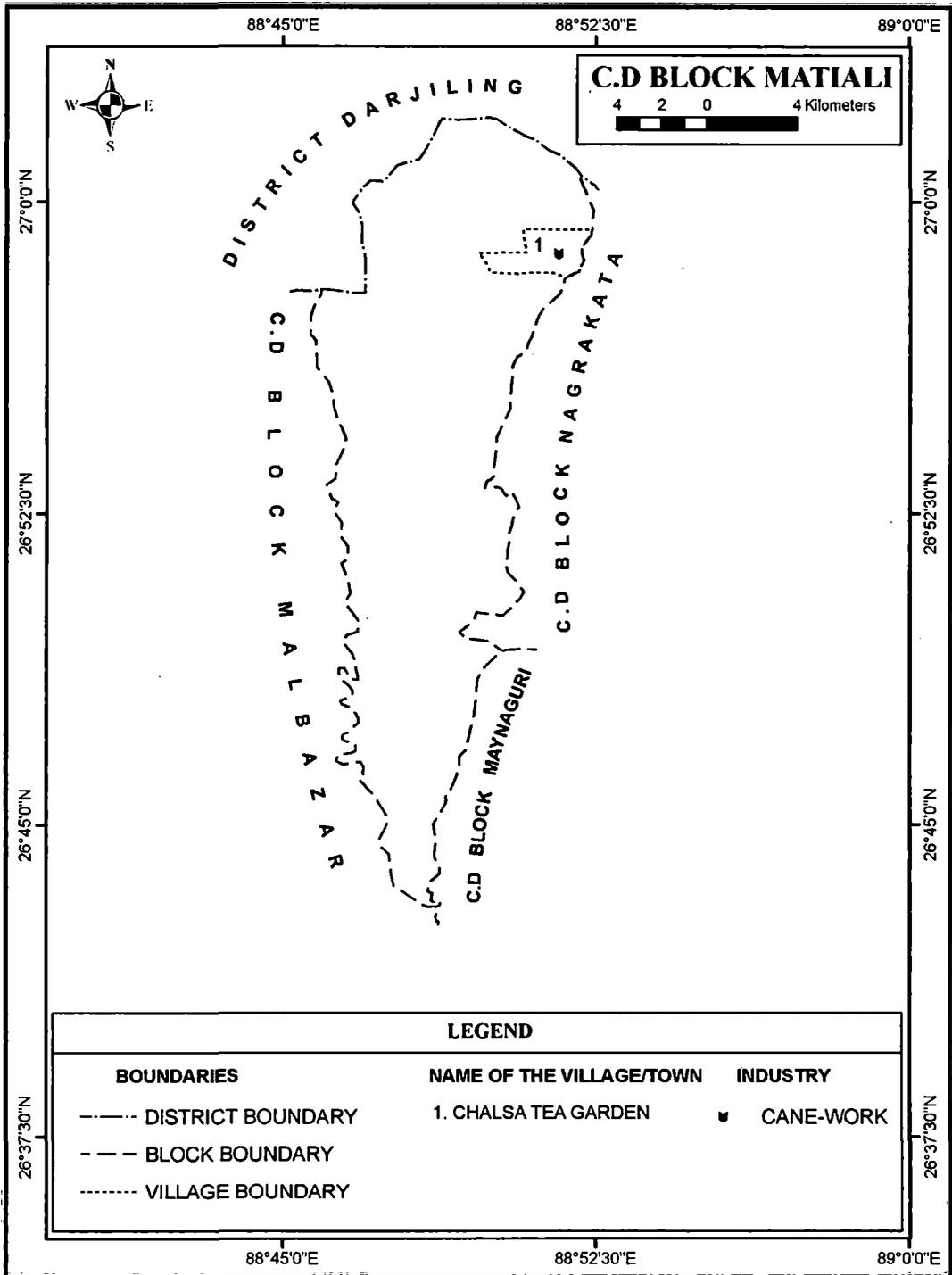


Fig. 1.11 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Matiali

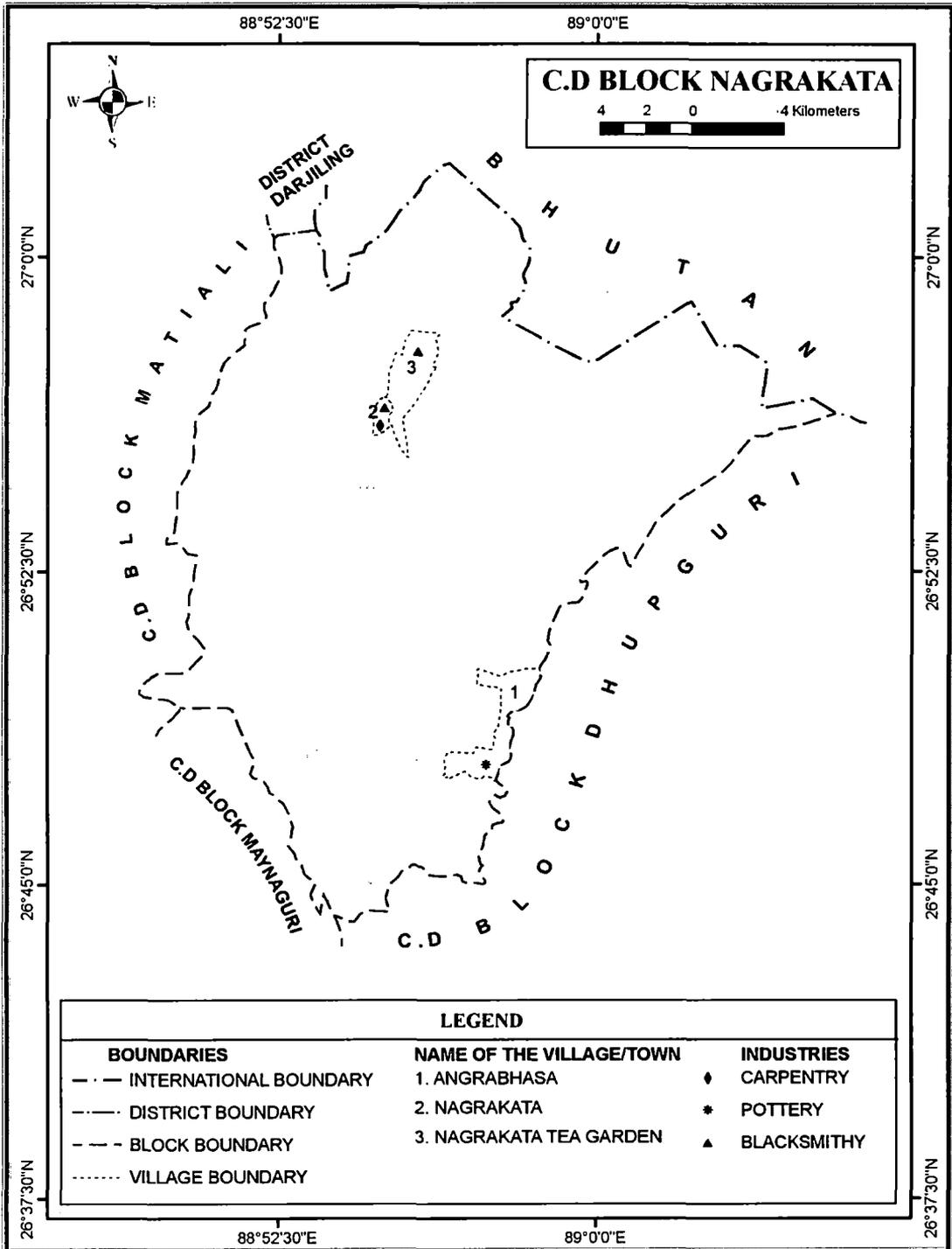


Fig. 1.12 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Nagrakata

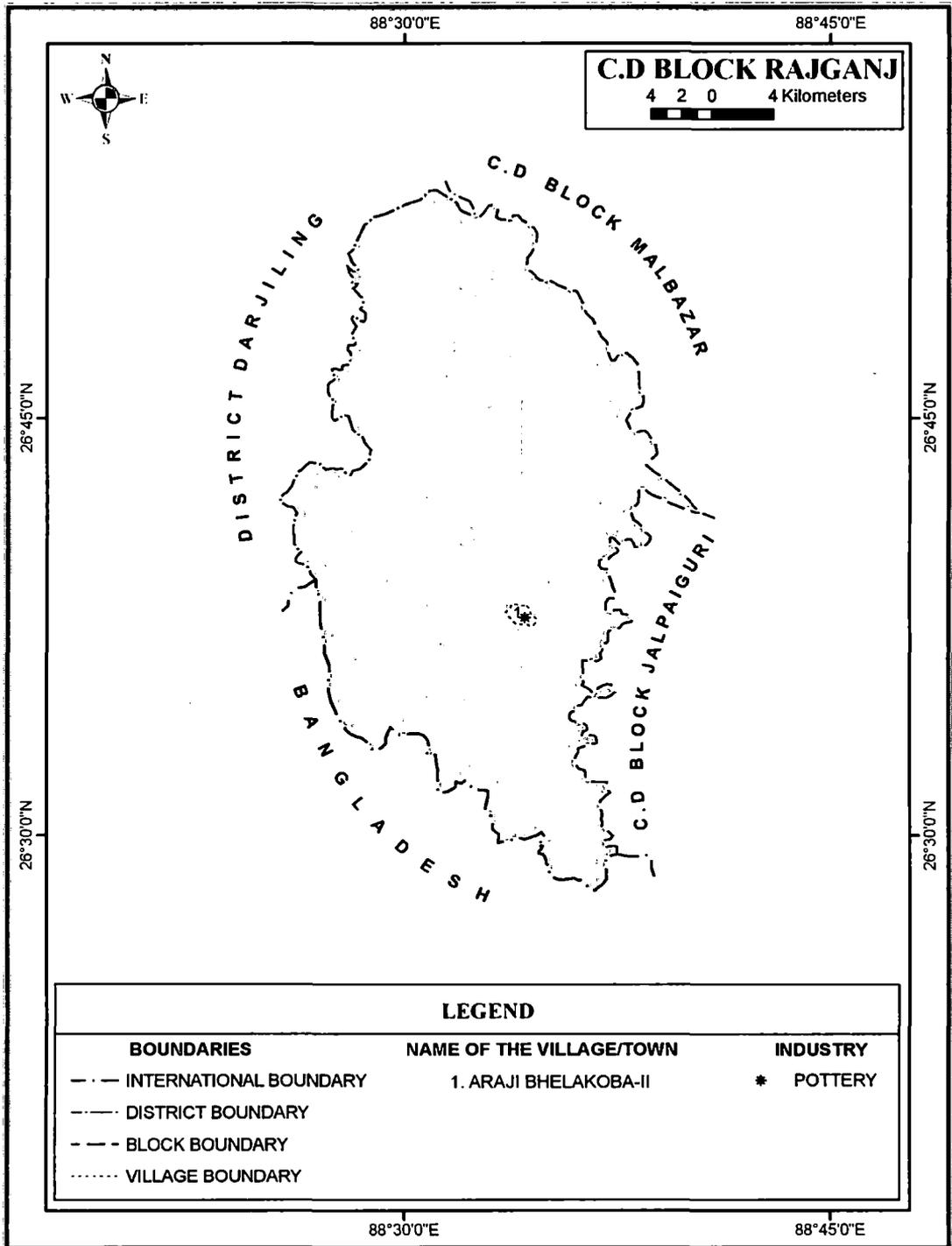


Fig. 1.13 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Rajganj

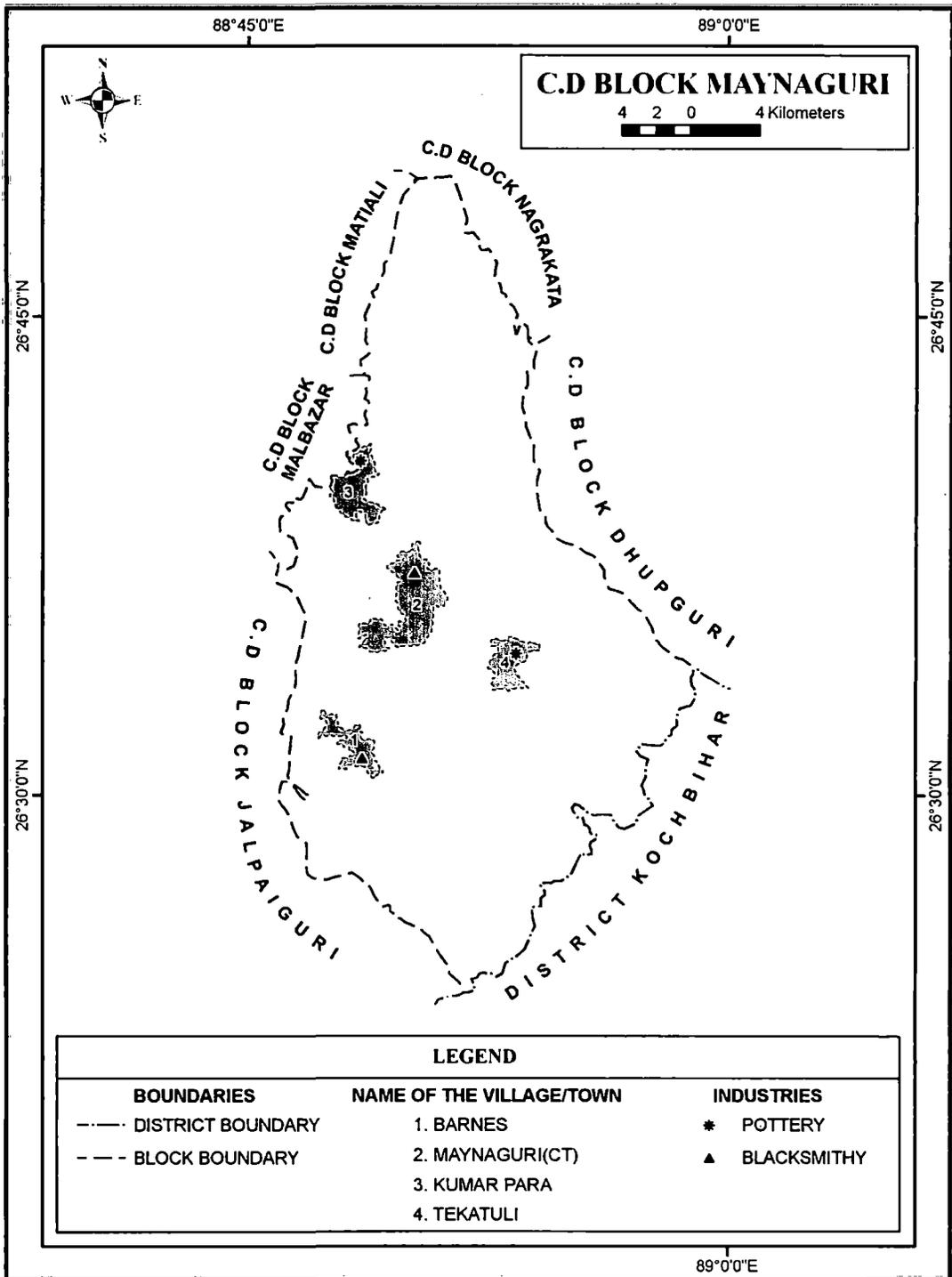


Fig. 1.14 Location of the Villages Surveyed in C.D. Block Maynaguri

blocks based on proportional size of distribution. Like other household industries Blacksmithy is also almost homogenous in character, therefore, sampling is done with simple random sampling method without replacement (SRSWOR). The sampling has been done with the help of random table (Random Sampling Number arranged by Tippett). Number of units surveyed from different village is shown in Table 1.8 and Figs. 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.12 and 1.14.

1.8 Limitations

The study suffers from the limitation of too much generalisation of the theme. Though the general issues of development of household industries may be a subject worthy of investigation, the desegregation of the variable and attributes in terms of micro regions and location, ethnic variation, socio-political institution, degree of assimilation and awareness would give clearly different results which may call for separate recommendations for further development of the household industries.

Much of the information collected corresponds only to single recent year and no data over time for temporal comparison could be obtained either from the household industrial units or from the individuals. Even census data on ethnic groups, their occupation and level of educational attainment etc. for recent year was not available. Besides, the data available over census years are not always comparable.

The household industrial units do not maintain any formalised accounts due to extremely low levels of operation and near absence of formal education among the workers. Further, the survey schedules pursued during the field survey included several perspective questions on the aspects like income, expenditure, investment etc., where some probabilities of exaggeration and concealment cannot be denied.

Much of the information obtained through primary survey suffers from the sense of subjectivity and many of the socio-cultural attributes cannot be expressed in the quantitative terms. In fact, they are qualitative statements only. These limitations have rendered restriction on the application of sophisticated analytical technique and use of traditionally proven econometric and other models.

Lastly, the study suffers from the limitation of not excluding from its scope, the institutional provision for implementation of policies, financial implication and organisational set up. Neither there is any attempt to provide detail treatment on household industry specific and workers specific financial and technological prescription for improvement of performances.

1.9 Outline of the Work

The study has dependent largely on the primary survey and the data collected have been analysed and reported. The study's basis, background and findings are presented under the ten chapters.

The first chapter introduces the problems and states the hypothesis, objectives, methodology and sampling schemes of the survey of the study.

The second chapter deals with the definitional aspects of the household industries. It also explains the role of household industries in the economy. Further, a review of the works has been done on the similar studies.

In the third chapter, attempt has been made to study the types and occurrence of major household industries in India, West Bengal as well as in the study area. The role of various institutions for the promotion and development of household industries have been discussed in this chapter.

The fourth chapter presents the pattern of distribution of household industrial working force across the states of India as well as across the districts of West Bengal and finally in the study area using census data.

The fifth chapter portrays a comprehensive picture of household industries in the study area. It explains sectoral and sectional distribution aspect of household industries. It represents the ethnicity, educational attainment of the workers. Attempt has been made in this chapter to focus on the major raw materials used by the workers, major articles produced, seasonal variation in the production and the tools used by the artisans discussed. The chapter ends with the various market mechanism followed by the artisan workers in the study area.

The sixth chapter describes economic characteristics of the selected household industries which pinpoints the inhibitive factors of their development.

Analysis done in the previous section has been instrumental in revealing the problems and identifying the factors inhibiting the growth of various household industries and this has been presented in chapter seven.

In chapter eight, an attempt has been made to conceptualise the process of production and income generation and output growth. It tries to identify the factors regulating the above mentioned process and hence find out interrelationship among the responsible variables in annual term for each of the household industries. To determine the specific role of policy variable principle variables for different household industries,

structural equation explaining relevant policy variables are obtained from regression analysis using least squares method.

In the light of findings derived in earlier chapter, a set of policy for the development of household industries in district have been put forward, which will ensure effective, comprehensive and balance development of the said economic activity. These have been presented in chapter nine.

The study report ends with a conclusion which is presented in chapter ten highlighting the urgencies of development of the household industries for the larger interest of the society. It also indicates future research areas for promoting household industries.

References

Chadha, G.K. (1993): Policy Support for Non-farm Development in Rural India – Some Issues; paper presented at the National Seminar on Policy and Environment for Rural Non-farm Sector in India, Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur, September 10-11, p. 2

Economic Census (1980): Economic Census; Central Statistical Organisation, Government of India, New Delhi, p. 1

Gadgil, D.R. (1974): The Industrial Evolution of India in Recent Times, 1860-1839; Oxford University Press, New Delhi, p. 31

Government of India (1956): Industrial Policy Resolution; Government of India Press, New Delhi, p. 6

Government of India (1956): The Second Five Year Plan (1956-1961); Planning Commission, Government of India Press, New Delhi, p. 429

Government of India (1974): The Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-80); Planning Commission, Government of India Press, New Delhi, pp. 188-190

Government of India (1980): The Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85); Planning Commission, Government of India Press, New Delhi, pp. 76-82

Hagela, J.K. (1997): Village Worker and Technology Diffusion – The Indian Experience; Manpower Journal, Vol. XXXII, No. 14, January-March, p. 59

Karve, D.G. (1955): Village and Small Scale Industries Committee Report; Manager Publications, New Delhi, pp. 1-5

Narasaiah, M.L. and Naidu, P. Sreenivasa (2006): Artisan Industry and Rural Development; Discovery Publishing House, New Delhi, p. 72

National Committee on the Development of Backward Areas (1981): Report on Village and Cottage Industries; Government of India Press, Coimbatore, p. 3

Papola, T.S. (1982): Rural Industrialisation – Approaches and Potential; Himalaya Publishing House, Bombay, p. 93

Ibid: p. 97