

## CHAPTER - V

### **5.1 : FIELD DATA ANALYSIS :**

For finding out of the causes of a social problem, data is collected with the help of various methods. Each method of course has its own limitations, but every method is made to ensure that while data is being collected, there should be no bias and that the data is collected in an impartial manner. But mere collection of data does not lead any society anywhere, unless that is properly analyzed and tabulated. Again data can of course be collected from different sources but all that is needed is to classify them properly.

Analysis of data is necessary to study the organized materials in order to discover inherent facts. It refers to breaking the complex factors of the tabulated materials into simpler parts together in a new arrangement in order to determine inherent factors or meaning. Analysis requires an alert, flexible and open mind. Good & Barr suggest some helpful moods to get started on analyzing the gathered data.

1. To think in terms of significant tables that the data permits.
2. To examine carefully the detainment of the problem and earlier analysis and to study the original records of data.
3. To get away from the data and to think about the problem in terms or to actually discuss that problem with others.
4. To test the data by making various statistical calculations.

The exploring modes may prove very helpful in the analysis of data in research study and no similarities, differences, trends and significant factors would go unnoticed by the researcher in the present study.

#### **Meaning of Analysis :**

Data as such is nothing else but a varieties of information and that is the reason that every researcher is required to collect only those data which are needed by him for his research and nothing beyond that. Research findings are very much dependable on the analyzing of data. Analyzing of data sums up the findings and answers of the questions for which research are conducted. It is therefore essential that the data should be carefully

classified and analysed and that too in a manner that the researcher does not allow his bias to enter into that. He should see that whatever comes out of the analysis is properly presented and nothing is concealed of his own.

While doing analysis, the researcher will have to think about sub- headings, proper tabulation and coding. Through coding the categories of data are transformed into symbols which can be tabulated and counted. A good researcher will have enough safeguards against factors which might make the judgment unreliable. Similarly tabulation is a part of analysis. It helps in determining the frequencies of different categories of responses. It enables the researcher to work out central tendencies, deviations, correlations and helps in summarising his findings. It is at the analysis stage that decision on retention or discarding of hypothesis will take place. In some cases it is first possible that hypothesis may survive with some modifications, while in other cases, it may stand fully refuted. It is also at analysis stage that the researcher may develop hypothesis of his own and a small scale research may lead to very important findings, further leading to some more important research.

## **5.2 : INTERPRETATION OF DATA :**

Data collected can become socially useful when it is properly interpreted. Unless that is done there can be no utility of data collected by the researcher. But at the same time, we should be careful that such an interpretation should be objective and unbiased. Otherwise the results are bound to be misleading. Data can be classified in different ways. How best the data can be presented in a readable and presentable form will very much depend on the judgment of the researcher and as such this work can not be left to the interviewer.

## **5.3 : COLLECTION OF DATA AND ANALYSIS :**

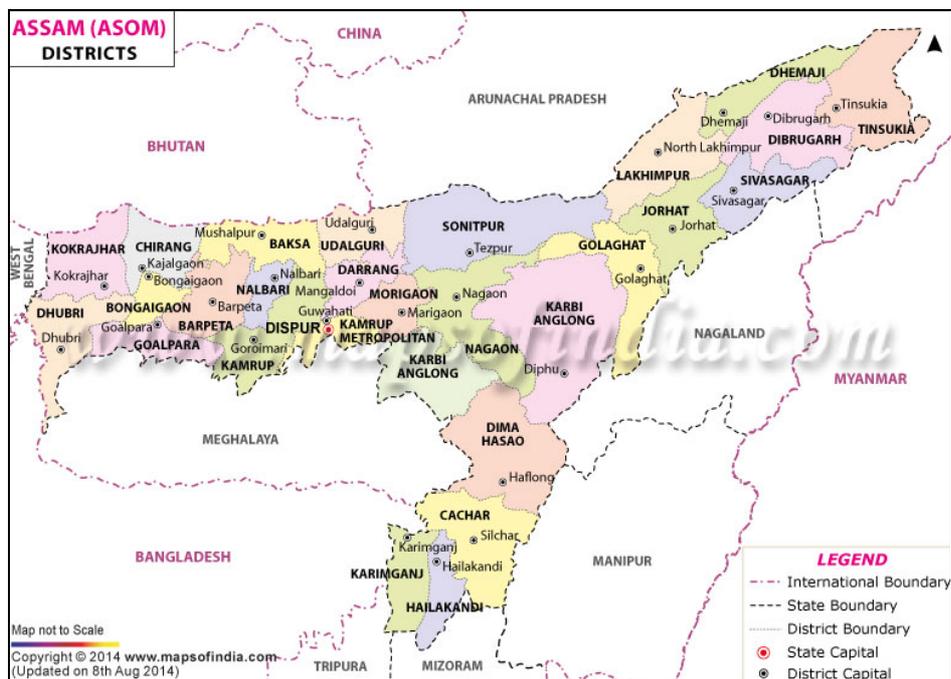
The topic of the present study '**WOMEN EMPOWERMENT: A STUDY ON BONGAIGAON DISTRICT 2002-2012**' needed various type of data collection and hence we did our level best to capture all kinds of relevant data, information and happenings through out our study. During our study period we planned to find out answer of one question and thereby proceed for another, so that clear picture comes in the scenario. Accordingly, we first tried to answer the following question, i.e. what is the historical background of the District and its population pattern? To get proper answer of this question

we studied some manuscript and met some leading persons of the district who led various movements and agitations to create a separate district in the name of Bongaigaon out of the old Goalpara district. After collecting data it is found that there is a long history behind the creation of the Bongaigaon District. Excerpts are as follows:

*Bongaigaon district was earlier a part of Goalpara district which was first created in 1822 AD by David Scott an employee of British East India company who was the first commissioner of newly created North Rongpur district which had its headquarter at Rongpur Twn (now in Bangladesh). Again the newly created Goalpara district was tagged with Rongpur district fo administrative flexibility. Later, Bijni kingdom area and Garo Hills district area were also attached with Goalpara district in 1822 and 1866 respectively and named it as greater Koch Behar district. In 1874 a new province namely Assam valley province was created by British government (successor of British East India Company) and Goalpara district area was withdrawn from Koch Behar and tagged it with Assam province.<sup>27</sup>*

### MAP OF ASSAM

original



Now

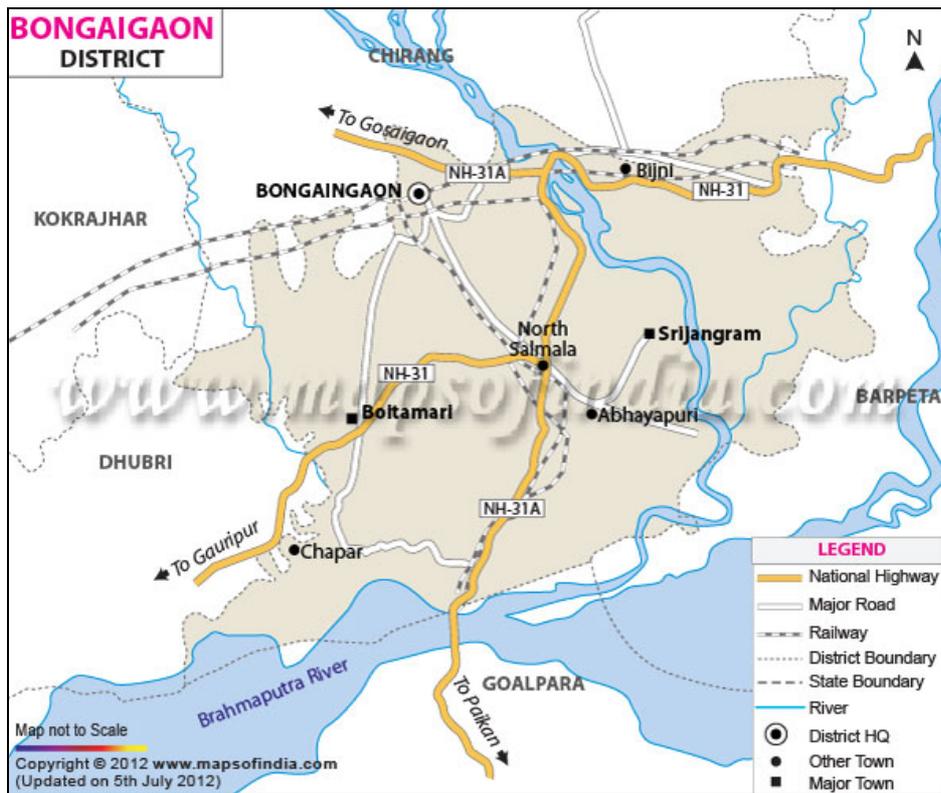
Goalpara district has been divided into five new districts namely- Goalpara, Dhubri, Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon and Chirang district respectively. Our

27. Assam in the Days of Company, by H.K. Barpujari.

study topic namely ‘WOMEN EMPOWERMENT: A STUDY ON BONGAIGAON DISTRICT 2002-2012 needs to know the background of Bongaigaon District.

The decision of government of Assam in 1989 to create a new District of Bongaigaon curving out some areas of the Goalpara and Kokrajhar district with its headquarter located at Bongaigaon was quite challenging.

### **MAP OF BONGAIGAON DISTRICT OF ASSAM**



It was the political and administrative exigencies which had necessitated to create suddenly although the the people of Bongaigaon and the adjoining areas were demanding a new sub-Division with its headquarter to be located at Bongaigaon from the very beginning. The decision to create a new district was challenging because the very idea to create such a district was neither a long standing one nor a tested one. Moreover, the decision to set up a district headquarter at Bongaigaon was more challenging as there was no sub-Divisional infrastructure in the town, whereas the other newly created district headquarter of Assam had sub- Divisional infrastructural facilities, the initiation of the activity of the district headquarter was almost started on the street, which was not only challenging but also noble one.

On 29<sup>th</sup> September 1989, the creation of Bongaigaon district was declared by the Government of Assam with its headquarter at Bongaigaon. The major portion of the areas of erstwhile Bijni and Sidli estates alongwith tracts of eastern Duars was carved out of Goalpara and Kokrajhar District in October 1989 in order to create a newest district of Assam i.e. Bongaigaon. The logic behind the creation of this new district was no doubt an administrative one but the political as well as economic interest were also behind its creation.

#### **5.4 : THE DISTRICT AT A GLANCE:**

Head Quarter	:	Bongaigaon Town
No. of Sub-Division	:	03 (Bongaigaon,Bijni,North Salmara)
No. of Revenue Circles	:	05 (Bongaigaon, Boitamari, Sidli(part) Bijni, Srijangram)
No. of Blocks	:	07 (Dangtol, Boitamary, Tapattary, Manikpur, Shrijangram, Sidli (Part), Brobazar)
No. of Gaon Panchayat	:	65
No. of VCDC's	:	50
No. of Towns	:	03 (Bongaigaon, Bijni, Abhayapuri)
No. of Police Stations	:	08 (Manikpur, Bijni, Dhaligaon, Sidli, Bongaigaon, Abhayapuri, Jogighopa, Amguri)
No. of Police Out Posts	:	17 (Salbari, Noagaon,Borobazar, Koila-Moila, Ouguri, Kumguri, Gorubhasha, Dangtol, Bidyapur, Rowmari, Boitamari, Jogighopa, Majeralga, North Salmara, North Bongaigaon, Lengtisinga, Mererchar)
Fire Brigade Station	:	02 (Bongaigaon, Abhayapuri)
Area as per 2001 Census	:	2510 sq. km
Location	:	North - Eastern Himalayan Sub Region of India
Longitude Range	:	89 0 East to 90096/East
Latitude Range	:	26028/ North to 26054/ North

Distance from State Capital	:	210 km from state capital
Bordering Districts	:	Kokrajhar, Dhubri, Goalpara, Barpeta, Chirang.
Rainfall	:	2500 mm to 3500mm
Temperature	:	Min. 13O C. Max. 35O C.
Clothing Pattern	:	Light cotton in summer and woolen in winter
Language Spoken	:	Assamese, Bengali. Bodo, Hindi etc.
Reserved Forest Land	:	42868 Bighas
Government Land	:	291075 Bighas.
Net Crop Area	:	93875 hac.
Fallow Land	:	8882 hac.
Land not available for Cultivation	:	76,407 hac.
District Civil Hospital	:	01 ( Bongaigaon)
CHCs	:	04
PHCs	:	Block 06 and Mini 16

### **5.5 : THE PEOPLE:**

From the chequered historical background of this district it can easily be summerised that the entire area was ruled by kings/ Zamindars/ Feudal Lords hailing from the Kochrajbongshies belonging to Indo-Mongoloid ethnic group of people right from 15 th century to the end of Princely states in 1956 A.D. The kings of this area had their hoary past and can be traced back to the “kiratees” of epic age (Mahabharata time) that is pre-Vedic age. These kiratees of dimpast are also mentioned in Kalika Puran and Jogoni Tantra and also in histories written both by native and foreign scholars.

Naturally, Koches alias Koch-Rajbongshies and Kocharies are the original sons of the soil of this new district. Rabhas, Garos, Kalitas, Yogis, Kayasthas, and older Muslims are also indigenous who settled in this part pf land prior to the advent of Britishers in North- East Region. After advent of British Government in this part of land a new term named Bodo/Boro was coined deliberately by European Historians. According to them the term Bodo/Boro is a generic term and its speakers are (i) Kocharies (ii) Koches (iii) Rabhas

(iv) Garos (v) Lalungs (vi)Hajongs and (vii) Chutiyas. The total population pattern of the Bongaigaon District up to 2001 can be shown as under :

**Table : 5.1 TOTAL POPULATION**

<b>Residence</b>	<b>Persons</b>	<b>Hindus</b>	<b>Muslims</b>	<b>Christian</b>
Total	904835	535464	348573	18728
Urban	109782	98783	8861	718
Rural	795053	436681	339712	18010

*Source Census of India, 2001*

Proportionate shares of different religious groups in the rural population of the district are 54.9 percent Hindus, 42.7 percent Muslims, 2.3 percent Christian and 0.1 percent other religious groups. The proportional share of population by religion of minority groups in the rural areas of the District is shown below.

Among the minority groups, Muslims constitute the major religious group. The proportion of Muslim population in the district which was 23.38 percent as per the estimates of 1991 census increased to 24.77 percent as per the estimates of 2001 census data. The share of ST population in the district is 12.23 percent.

**Table : 5.2 DISTRIBUTION OF RURAL POPULATION BY RELIGION :**

<b>TOTAL MNORITY</b>	<b>MUSLIMS</b>	<b>CHRISTIANS</b>	<b>SIKHS</b>	<b>BUDDHISTS</b>	<b>JAIN</b>	<b>OTHERS</b>	<b>NOT STATED</b>
367951	348573	18728	113	147	56	8	326
(45.08)	(42.73)	(2.27)	(0.01)	(0.02)	(0.01)	(0.001)	(0.04)

*Source Census of India, 2001.*

The decadal variation of population in the district indicates that there has been two decades during which the population of the district increased at a high rate. The decade following the independent of India (1951-61) and Indo-Pak war (1971-81) shown high growth of population mainly due to influx of refugees from erstwhile East Pakistan, that is now Bangladesh. This has made a major social problem in Assam.

**TABLE : 5.3 DECADAL VARIATION OF POPULATION IN BONGAIGAON DISTRICT:**

Place	1901-1911	1911-1921	1921-1931	1931-1941	1941-1951	1951-1961	1961-1971	1971-1991	1991-2001
Bongaigaon	29.94	26.94	15.94	14.97	9.31	60.81	40.29	64.64	12.05
Assam	16.99	40.48	19.91	20.40	19.93	34.98	34.95	53.26	18.92

Source: Statistical Handbook, Assam; 1996, 2006

The large number of increase of population particularly in the post 1951 period changed the demographic pattern of Bongaigaon District. The above table shows the high growth of population during 1951 – 61, 1961 – 71 and 1971 – 91. This is mainly due to influx from Bangladesh. However, in the post 1991 period the sharp decline in the population growth is mainly due to the ethnic violence that has ravaged the district and which subsequently led to large scale migration from adjoining areas of the district.

#### **5.6 : THE MALE-FEMALE RATIO BY RELIGION :**

The sex ratio is an important indicator to know the gender equality of females per thousand males. As per 2001 census report the sex ratio in Bongaigaon District goes at 945 females per thousand males. Importantly, the sex ratio of rural areas of the district go to higher than the district total. If we distribute sex ratio on the basis of caste and religious group, it shows that although the Muslims and Hindu (SC) population have low sex ratio in the district, the Muslims have the better position than the SC's. The sex ratio of the Schedule Tribes People comprising mainly the ethnic groups like Bodo, Kacharis etc. show a high sex ratio which is basically because the society is traditionally less gender biased and provides women slightly respectable position.

**TABLE : 5.4 RELIGION WISE MALE-FEMALE RATIO IN RURAL AND TOTAL POPULATION IN THE DISTRICT:**

Total Residence	Total	Hindu	Muslim	Christian	SC	ST
District	944	952	946	983	919	1000
Rural	960	959	945	973	928	1002

Source: census of India, 2001.

## 5.7 : LITERACY RATE IN THE DISTRICT :

The literacy rate in the district as per the census 2001 is lower than the state literacy rate. Though the women literacy rate in the town areas of the district is same as that of the state average for urban women, but in rural areas the female literacy rate is much below than that of the state average which clearly shows that there is poor status of educational attainment of women in the Bongaigaon District of Assam.

**TABLE : 5.5 AREAWISE MALE-FEMALE LITERACY RATE IN BONGAIGAON DISTRICT :**

Place	Population Total			Rural			Urban		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Assam	63.25	71.28	54.61	59.73	68.22	50.70	85.35	89.74	80.24
Bongaigaon	59.33	67.67	50.44	55.31	64.2	46.09	85.86	91.28	79.86

Source: census of India, 2001.

The above literacy rate indicate that Hindus are not only the highest among all other religious groups in the district but also significantly higher than the district average of rural literacy rate. The literacy rate of the Muslims is much below than the average rural literacy rate in the district particularly the Muslim female literacy rate in rural areas is totally below the expectation. This low level of literacy and subsequent educational attainment has its bearing on the employment and livelihood of the Muslims. The basic cause of low level literacy rate of Muslims is economic backwardness due to which children are forced to drop out in the primary stage of schooling. This is true for Muslim girls. Little children are expected to provide for the families by working in various small workshop to provide domestic help or by looking after their siblings while their mothers go to work outside of home (Sachar Committee Report, 2006). The community – specific factor for low educational achievement is that Muslims do not see education as necessarily translating into formal employment (Sachar Committee Report, 2006). Interestingly, the percentage of employment of Muslim people in Assam as well as in the district is very poor. It is negligible to count.

**TABLE : 5.6 LITERACY RATE BY RELIGIOUS GROUPS AREAWISE :**

Religion	Residence	Literacy Rate (2001)		
		Person	Male	Female
Hindus	District Total	69.96	79.18	60.23
Muslims	District Total	40.93	48.08	33.19

Christians	District Total	58.72	66.66	50.62
Hindus	Rural Area	65.84	75.88	55.36
Muslims	Rural Area	40.17	47.32	32.43
Christians	Rural Area	57.27	65.44	48.93

Source: Census of India, 2001.

From the above table, it is seen that gender discrimination in terms of sex ratio and literacy rate is thus more higher in Muslim females in Bongaigaon district which is ensured the findings of Sachar Committee Report.

### **5.8 : WORK FORCE DISTRIBUTION :**

During our study, it is observed that the workforce distribution of the total population in Bongaigaon District is only 32.41 percent. As many as 67.59 percent of the total population of the district is non workers. The urban work force rate 31 percent which is marginally lower than the rural work participation rate that is 32 percent. Farmers are the major rural work force in the Bongaigaon District. However the size of classwise landholding distribution in the district indicates that 68 percent of the total landholding in the district are less than one hectre which means that most of the cultivators have landholding sizes less than marginal sizes. 24 percent of the farmers have marginal land holdings and 14 percent have landholdings of more than two hectares. The phenomena of fragmentation and land alienation are well captured by the fact that while there has been 50.78 percent decrease of farmers in the workforce in the district, at the same time the agricultural workers has increased by almost 26 percent compared to the figures of 1991.

If we analyse the workforce on religious group wise, then participation rate reveal that although Hindus comprise 56 percent of the total rural population in the district, 59 percent of the total rural workers in the district are Hindus. On the other hand, although 44 percent of the total rural population in the district belong to Muslims, the percentage of the community in the work force is only 35 percent which indicates that 65 percent of the Muslims are without any work.

**TABLE : 5.7 PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS BY RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN TOTAL RURAL WORK FORCE :**

Religion	Cultivators	Agricultural worker	Household industry workers	Other workers	Total
Hindu	26	10	2	21	59
Muslim	16	9	1	9	37

Christians	3	1	0.1	1	4
Total Rural	45	20	3	31	100

Source: Census of India, 2001.

The above table shows a panic picture in terms of work force among minority groups. Again, if we classify desegregated figures on gender based work participation shows indicate that female work participation rate is one third in comparison to the male in the district. The differences are more in the urban areas where the female work participation rate is only 8 percent compared to 51 percent for males. The following table gives a clear picture on the issue.

**TABLE : 5.8 PERCENTAGE OF MALE WORKERS BY RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN TOTAL RURAL AREA IN BONGAIGAON DISTRICT :**

Religion	Cultivators	Agricultural workers	Household industry workers	Other workers	Total
Hindu	18.5	5.0	1.0	18.0	42.5
Muslim	15.0	7.0	0.4	09.0	31.4
Christians	1.5	0.3	0.02	1.0	2.82
Total Rural	35	12.3	1	28	76.7

Source: Census of India, 2001

The above table shows that the Hindu cultivators occupy more advantageous position than the other religious groups in the district.

**TABLE : 5.9 PERCENTAGE OF FEMALE WORKERS BY RELIGIOUS GROUPS IN TOTAL RURAL WORKERS IN BONGAIGAON DISTRICT :**

Religion	Cultivators	Agricultural worker	Household industry workers	Other workers	Total
Hindu	8.5	4.5	1.2	2.8	17
Muslim	2.7	2.3	0.1	1.2	6.3
Christians	1	0.3	0.03	0.2	1.53
Total Rural	12.2	7.1	1.33	4.2	24.83

Source: Census of India 2001

The above table brings the fact to know that there are almost 80 percent literates among urban women, there but limited work opportunities for them. Religious and gender comparative data indicates that Muslim women's work participation is only one fifth of their male counterparts. The share of female workers in the total rural female population in Bongaigaon is 21 percent while the same for Muslims is only 10 percent. The gender

discrimination in terms of sex ratio, literacy rate and work participation is therefore more eye catching for rural Muslim women in Bongaigaon District.

### **5.9 : Education and Health Scenario in the District :**

The education level of the population of the district is very low quality. Class wise enrolment figures of the district reveals that pre-elementary enrolment in the district is 14 percent while the same for primary level is 54 percent. The enrolment rate in the middle school is merely 21 percent while at the high school and higher secondary level the figures stand 11 percent and 5 percent only. The low percentage of educational attainment in the district also reflects the poor quality of employable human resource and low work capacity for the vast majority of the workforce. The educational attainment of the total literate people in the district as per census 2001 shows that 2 percent are just literate without any attainment level. The educational attainment for pre-primary is 32 percent and primary is 24 percent. The educational attainment of the district in respect of middle and high school/higher secondary and diploma is 19 percent each. The corresponding figure for graduates is only 4 percent. This educational scenario has influenced in the employment field and also in the economic development matter.

We have analysed an important indicator of health status in the sex ratio especially of between age group of 0-6 year. The child sex ratio as per the estimate of census 2001 is higher than the state average. Although the rural child sex ratio in the district stands higher than the state average, the urban child sex ratio in the district is much lower than the state average. A comparative figure across religious groups indicates that child sex ratio among the Muslims in the district is the highest among all religious groups. The high child sex ratio of the Muslims may be attributed to high birth rates. Although the rural child sex ratio for Muslims is significantly higher than the states and the district average, the urban sex ratio is the lowest across all religious groups and is significantly less than the state averages. The infant mortality rate in the district which stands at 122 per thousand live births is the second highest among the districts of Assam as per the estimate of the Assam Human Development Resource (AHDR) 2003. The health index (0.129) of the district as per the AHDR (2003) ranks second from bottom. This clearly indicates that there needs more efforts to improve the health scenario of the District.

**TABLE : 5.10 RELIGION WISE CHILD SEX RATIO :**

<b>Religion</b>	<b>District Total</b>	<b>Rural</b>	<b>Urban</b>
All Religion	973	974	937
Hindu	967	973	937
Muslim	976	979	927
Christian	948	946	999
Assam	966	968	942

Source : Census of India, 2001.

The above figure indicates that child sex ration is a matter of thought, because if the trends as shown in table No. 5.10 is going on, then there will be a great injustice towards our girls.

### **5.10 : Human Development Index in the District :**

Regarding Human development Index (HDI), Bongaigaon District is one of the most backward district of Assam. It ranks 21 in respect of HDI with an index of 0.262 which is much lower than the state index at 0.408. The Human Poverty Index (24.03) as per the AHDR (2003) indicates that almost a quarter of the people of the district is under poverty line. The Gender related Development Index (GDI) of Bongaigaon as on 2001 is estimated to be 0.377, which is far less than the State average of 0.537. The GDI rank of Bongaigaon which stands at 16 is higher than the HDI rank of 21. The high GDI rank compared to HDI indicates that there is low gender disparity in the district. Besides, the above index indicates that there is every possibility of social unrest, as the society is backward in every respect of daily life.

### **5.11 : INFRASTRUCTURE:**

#### **ROADS AND CONNECTIVITY :**

Good infrastructure is one of the major element for economic and social development communications. The transport connectivity of the district comprises of roads and railway. The road density in the district per one lakh population is at 79.4 km. in 1991 which was increased to 109 km. in 2005. The total road length in the district is 990 km, of which only 40 percent is surfaced. More significantly the total road length added during the period 1993-94 to 2005-10 is 89 km. The district has a total of 100.80 km. of national highway and 81 km. of state highways besides 603 km. of rural roads. This indicates that access and availability to good road connectivity in the district is not up to the expectation. As per the estimates of 2001 census although 70 percent of the villages have paved

approach road only 62 percent of villages have bus connectivity which indicates that 38 percent of the villages have no availability or access to faster modes of transportation in the district. The district has three national highways viz- NH-31, NH-31(B) AND NH- 31(C) passing through it. At present another state Highway construction is going in full swing. After completion of this Highway road and transport system will slightly develop. This is a good sign of development.

#### **RAILWAYS AND WATER TRANSPORT :**

There is well connected railways in the district. The nearest railway station to the district headquarter of Bongaigaon is New Bongaigaon. Besides New Bongaigaon Junction, the other railway stations are Bongaigaon station, Abhayapuri, Jogighopa, Bijni Chapaguri, Patiladoha, Majgaon etc. Moreover, one new railway is going to be complete soon which will connect Nitya Bazar, Talguri, Boitamari, etc. People are eagerly waiting to see this development pace. The total railway route length in the district is 100 km. of which BG route length is 69 km and meter gauge route is 31 km. The district has no steamer service as there is no demand for the same.

#### **POST and TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE :**

In Bongaigaon District, the posts and telecommunication coverage facilities is low. Only 15 percent of villages have Posts and Telecommunications facilities. At present mobile phone, internet facilities and other modern means of communications have covered almost all part of the district. Even illiterate people of the remote areas of the district have the access to these facilities and they also understand the services of these devices.

#### **5.12 : POWER AND ENERGY FACILITY :**

Besides transport and communication, power and energy is the other basic infrastructure which is necessary for economic development. Of the total villages in the district 92 percent are reported to have electricity supply with domestic connection for lighting available in all the villages. The district has a total demand of 15mw of power while supply is only of 13mw, which show a slight improvement is needed in the said field. However, power supply gets interruption regularly. This is one of the setback for the department concern.

### **5.13 : FINANCIAL SERVICE :**

Another important indicator for socio-economic development is the access to good financial services. The total number of financial offices in the district stands at 39 which comprises of SBI, SCB and OBCBs. The population coverage by banking services is estimated to be 29,005 persons per bank office as per the number of offices in 2009. The credit deposit ratio in the district which stands at 49.30 percent is lower than the stipulated norms of 60 percent. Although the rural Credit Deposit ratio is 84 percent, the share of rural deposit in the total deposits of the district stood at 45 percent which shows poor savings capacity of the rural population. Our study reveals that of the total deposits of the district rural areas contribute 63 percent. But, in respect of credit development, 70 percent of the total credit of the district is employed in village areas, while only 30 percent of total district credit is employed in semi-urban areas. The average credit size per loan account of the district is Rs. 81438. The sectoral credit employment indicates that personal loans have the highest credit share in the banks. The share of agriculture is 12 percent and the total investment credit in agriculture was 10 percent. The financial services is said to be the pivotal service for economic development. But what we found during our study period is that the authority concern is not friendly with the customer of the Banks. They do not help and co-operate people to get solve of people's problem. Instead, the bank authority harassed people un-necessarily in minor and negligible matters.

### **5.14 : HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES :**

During our study period and collection of data from office records etc. it is observed that there are 32 Public Health Center's, 109 Sub-Center's and 12 Dispensaries. There are one 200 bedded Hospital in the district head quarter, while there are three 30 bedded hospitals in the district. The district has a total of 27 Registration Offices for birth and death cases. In every hospital, there is the maternity care centre as well as the Baby Care units. Although there is a large number of Public Health Center's in the district but due to lack of sufficient doctor and support staff, people move to private hospitals. This has become a heavy burden for people.

**TABLE : 5.11 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS :**

There are a sizeable number of educational institution in the district. These includes primary, Middle, High, Higher Secondary, Colleges and Vocational institutions. The following table gives a clear picture in this regard.

<b>Educational Institutions</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	<b>Teacher's</b>
L.P. School	1172	2975
Middle school	317	1902
High school	192	1822
H.S. School	21	523
College	32	237
ITI	1	23

Source: Records from Deputy Commissioner's Office, Bongaigaon.

At the time of our study and analysis of data, it is seen that there are almost 67 teacher pupil ratio in the district Primary School where there is single teacher while in Middle School the number of students is only 21 per teacher. It is also observed that there is no sufficient teachers and other staff in many educational institution. Once a teacher or any member of the staff is retired, that post is not fulfilled. There is no sufficient science teachers for the students up to higher secondary level. The students are suffering a lot due to vacant post in various schools. This led to the able guardians to send their children to the private institution.

**5.15 : AMENITIES IN THE DISTRICT :**

It is found from the Government data and records that 26 percent people live in live in permanent houses, 43 percent live in semi-permanent and 31 percent occupy temporary houses, which includes kachcha house, tent house, bamboo made house etc.

On amenities in rural areas, there are some variations. The total number of census villages in Bongaigaon district is 917 as per 2001 census while the total number of inhabited villages in the district stands at 881. The total population of the villages as per census 2001 is 795053 persons. The caste wise distribution of the villages population shows that 10 percent of the village population belongs to SC while 13 percent belong to ST. Muslim's belong to 38% and the rest are Hindu's.

**TABLE : 5.12 DISTRIBUTION OF AMENITIES IN INHABITED VILLAGES IN BONGAIGAON DISTRICT:**

Amenities	Numbers (Percentage)
Number of Inhabited village	881
Nos. of Households	168556
Drinking water facilities	574
Power Supply	839
Primary school	1172
Middle schools	317
Secondary / Sr Secondary school	192
College	32
Medical facility	153
Bus services, Magic, Tempo etc.	Available

Source: Govt. Records Collected from D.C. Office, Bongaigaon.

The above record of the district shows that access to safe drinking water is not available in 65 percent of villages in the district. The communication system of the villages shows that almost all villages have transportation facility. The record also shows that conditions of there are hospital facilities schooling facilities and other amenities in the district. Besides these, there are some recreation center's, park's, Garden's, Picnic spots etc. in the district.

Although the above table show a medium level progress in amenity sector, but in actual practice, everything is running and happening by the private efforts of the district. The administration needs to do better to realize the amenities to the people in proper way.

#### **5.16 : DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF SELECTED VILLAGES :**

During our study of the subject, we have surveyed 29 villages. The total population of the villages is 44210 persons. The people of the sample villages were fixed in such a way that all caste-community people and religious groups should include in this study. After a thorough classification, we have arranged our study on following manner.

**TABLE : 5.13 TOTAL POPULATION IN SELECTED VILLAGES :**

Population	Male	Female	S.C. Population	S.C. Male
44210	22771	21439	6309	3304

Source: Population Census Report, 2001

### **5.17 : SEX RATIO OF SELECTED VILLAGES :**

According to, Population Census report, 2001, the sex ratio of the sample villages is estimated to be 942 females per thousand males which is less than the rural sex ratio of the district which stands at 950 females per thousand males. Compared to the rural sex ratio of the Scheduled Caste population in the district which stands at 923 per thousand males, the sex ratio of the Scheduled Caste population in the sample villages is much lower. But, the sex ratio of the Scheduled Tribes population in the sample villages is higher at 1037 females per thousand males compared to the sex ratio of the rural Scheduled Tribes population of the district which stands at 1005. This shows that there is high respect for women in the scheduled Tribes Society in the district.

### **5.18 : LITERACY RATE OF SELECTED VILLAGES :**

Literacy rate is an important indicator of human development. The number and percentage of educated people on gender wise has significant bearing on the socio-economic development of any country. While education in general has direct positive impact on social and economic development, the female literacy rate is more linked to health and social development of the child because it is said that when a man is educated only one person is educated. But when a women is educated, the whole family is educated. This lines indicates the utmost importance of women education. Keeping in mind we tried to know the women education scenario in comparison to male education scenario during our study time.

**TABLE : 5.14 LITERACY RATE IN SELECTED VILLAGES IN BONGAIGAON DISTRICT:**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Male Literacy</b>	<b>Female Literacy</b>
District wish Literacy Rate	67.00	50.00
Rural Literacy Rate	64.00	46.00
Sample Village	52.00	37.00

Source: Deputy Commissioner's Office Record, Bongaigaon District.

### **Health Facilities :**

It is seen that private sector has been playing a crucial role in curative health care in urban India. But in rural areas government facilities are the only source for health care. The surveys reveal that in 29 villages some kind of medical facilities are available within the villages. Availability of the type of medical facility shows that out of 29 sample

villages only six villages have sub centre while ICDS is available in 10 villages. Of the 21 villages reporting accessing services from the nearest sub-centre, the total number of ANMs posted in these centres is 14, which shows that some of the sub centres have no trained nurses. There are few doctors in sub-centres as reported during the survey. Of the six sample villages reported to have sub-centres, one trained nurse is available in each while medicines are available in four of these sub-centres and no other facilities are available.

**TABLE : 5.15 MEDICAL FACILITIES IN SELECTED VILLAGES :**

Type	Within Village	Outside Village but within Panchayat	Outside Panchayat but within block	Outside Block but in the District
Sub-centre	6	8	4	3
Public Health Centre	- 2	6	18	7
Community Health Centre	- 2	+ 2	- 3	6
Hospital/Dispensary Facility	2	+ 3	10	11
Maternity/Child Care Unit	10	-	- 1	5
Family Planning System	2	- 1	-	3
Chemist/Medicine Facility	4	7	+ 5	15
Total	28	27	41	50

Source : Selected Village Survey, 2008

**OTHER FACILITIES IN SELECTED VILLAGES:**

At the time of our study, it is found that the villages are located at a distance of more than 8 km. from the nearest town. But the average distance of the block headquarters from the sample villages is either 16 km. or beyond 16 km. It is also found that the nearest bank office is located at a distance of more than 15 km. from the sample villages. But due to modern technology, it is seen that the villages has got communication services by their own. These services are mainly by light vehicles like Magic, Tempo, E-Rickshaw etc.

**TABLE : 5.16 NUMBER OF SELECTED VILLAGES REPORTING OTHER FACILITIES WITHIN VILLAGES :**

Facilities in the Villages	No. of Villages
Bus Stop	7
Regular Market	11
Post Office	3
G.P. Office	9

Fair Price Shop	23
Mobile Tower	4
Veterinary Hospital	3

Source : Selected Village Survey, 2012

The communication system and other infrastructure of the sample villages show that in most of the sample villages the average road condition connecting them to other area is non-gravelled. Due to unavailable banking services in the sample villages, the savings habits is not grown up. The average distance to the nearest bank office also indicates remoteness of service coverage and financial exclusion pervasive in the district.

**TABLE : 5.17 NO. OF SELECTED VILLAGES HAVING OTHER FACILITIES OUTSIDE VILLAGE :**

Facilities	< 5Km.	5 – 10 Km.	> 10 Km.
Block Office	2	10	17
Nearest Town	7	12	10
Bus Stop	17	7	2
Regular Market	10	12	7
Railway Station	1	3	25
Bank	5	8	16
G.P.	21	-	-
Fair Price Shop	5	6	-
Mobile Tower	4	7	-
Veterinary	9	14	6

Source : Selected Village Survey, 2013

**Rural Development Programmes :**

Our survey of the villages showed that in 21 villages, government sponsored educational programmes are being implemented. In six villages government programmes on providing drinking water facilities have been taken up. The implementation of scheme based Government programmes shows that in three sample village only SGRY is in progress While NREGA now renamed as MGNREGA is being implemented in 22 villages. The male female ratio of works and wage rates as per the two schemes are as shown in the table given below.

**TABLE : 5.18 SCHEME BASED WORKS UNDER SGRY AND MGNREGA :**

Schemes	No. of Workers		Average Wage Rate Per Day	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
SGRY	480	70	90	90

MGNREGA	3450	1520	100	100
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Source : Selected Village Survey, 2013

During our study period, it is seen that though the fixed wage rate norm for NREGA in the State was fixed at Rs 100/-, the actual wage received was Rs. 90/- in the sample villages. The number of persons assisted through old age pension scheme is 845. It is also observed that the old age pension are not regular and it is given six monthly or yearly basis for which illiterate old people faces severe difficulties.

At the time of our field study, we tried our best to find out the total Government employees in the surveyed villages. We found that out of the total 29 surveyed villages, there are community wise Government job holders in 28 villages. Again we tried to classify the religion basis Government employees and in this field we found that 67 percent Hindu people got Government job while the same percentage in Muslim community is just 17 and in Christians, it is just 3 percent. This led us to think that there prevails injustice to some community in Government allotted opportunity.

**TABLE : 5.19. NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT JOB HOLDERS BY RELIGION :**

Religion/Community	Community wise Percentage
Hindu	67%
Muslim	17%
Christian	3%
S.C.	12%
Others	1%
Total	100%

Source : Selected Village Survey, 2008

**TABLE : 5.20 PERCENTAGE OF BENEFICIARIES BY RELIGIOUS GROUPS BY VARIOUS GOVERNMENT SCHEMES :**

Religion	SGSY	IAY	NREGA/ MGNREGA
Hindu	27	20	25
Muslim	38	34	57
Christians	2	3	1
S.C.	16	32	15
S.T.	17	11	2
Total	100	100	100

Source : District Development Authority Office Data, 2012

While we were studying our topic related issues and collecting data on various matters, we went to District Development Authority (DDA) Office in Bongaigaon.

We collected a list of beneficiaries of three schemes namely SGSY, IAY and MGNREGA. What we found from the office is given in the following table.

The study reveals that in the field of implementation of beneficiary oriented programmes in the last three years, the consequences of the villages surveyed show that majority of the beneficiaries were assisted under MGNREGA. The religion wise break-up of beneficiary status across various programmes reveals that majority of the beneficiaries is Muslims. It means that Muslim's are poor people in the district in comparison to others. However, Scheduled Caste people have been living below poverty line.

Our study showed on the performance of MGNREGA scheme in the 29 selected villages show that in six villages works taken up under the scheme have been completed while in 23 villages the works are yet to be completed. The distribution of job card holders shows that in respect of S.C. and S.T. all the job card holders are beneficiaries under SGSY and MGNREGA. Of the total job card holders among the Muslims 85 percent are beneficiaries under MGNREGA while in respect of Hindus, the corresponding figure is 42 percent.

**TABLE : 5.21. DISTRIBUTION OF JOB CARD HOLDERA BY RELIGION AND CASTE IN SELECTED VILLAGES :**

Scheme	Hindu Community	Muslim Community	S.C. Community	S.T. Community
Job Card	982	2406	715	30
MGNREGA	907	2281	715	30
Beneficiary	1889	4687	1430	60

Source : Record, Collected form Zilla Parishad Office, Bongaigaon.

#### **Poverty and Public Distribution System :**

When we selected our topic “Women Empowerment : A Study on Bongaigaon District, 2002 – 2012, we decided to go every pros & cons of the topic. Accordingly, we the data on Public Distribution System (PDS) and the means to fight poverty by Geoernment. It is found that 37 percent Hindus are BPL, while 39 percent of Muslim households belong to BPL category in the sample villages. Caste wise distribution show that 19 percent SCs and 5 percent STs belong to BPL category. In so far as the PDS facility is concerned 28 villages are reported to have PDS shops and the total number of number of PDS shops available in the sample villages are 39. Among the Antyodaya card

holders, 48 percent are Muslims while Hindus comprise 33 percent and SC and ST are 14 percent and 5 percent respectively. Only 32 families have Annapurna cards and of these 24 are Hindus with 20 households belonging to ST. It gives us a clear picture of poverty and public distribution system of Bongaigaon district of Assam.

**TABLE : 5.22 VILLAGES WITH PDS SHOPS :**

Functioning in Terms of	Good	Satisfactory	Average
Availability of Goods	19	6	3
Get Full Quota	15	11	2
Regularity	12	13	2
Honesty in Measurement	6	20	2
Honest in Price	17	8	3
Quality of Grains	14	11	3
Behaviour of the Dealer	15	5	8

Source : Data collected from people and owner of Fair price shop through district interaction.

#### **Religion and Caste Composition in the District :**

Our survey contacted a total of 320 Hindu households, 288 Muslim households and 23 Christian households. Among the Hindu households, SCs and OBCs each comprised of 38 percent of the households while STs comprised 14 percent. All the households from the Muslims belonged to general category. It provided us a direct and first hand information from the field.

#### **Mother Tongue of the People of the District :**

Assamese is found as the mother tongue of 65.7 percent, Bengali is reported as the mother tongue of 32 percent while rests speaks Hindi and other languages. Of the total Bengali speaking households 81 percent are Muslims, Hindus comprise 18 percent and Christians account for only 1 percent. But the Bengali speaking Muslims write Assamese as their mother tongue in all kinds of official and academic documents.

#### **Age and Sex Ration in the District :**

It is observed that the sex ratio of the people (934 females per 1000 males) is found to be much lower than the district rural sex ratio (950) and the sex ratio in the selected villages (942) in the district. Religion wise sex ratio of people reveals that while the sex ratio of Muslims (936) equal to sex ratio for rural population of the district, in respect of Hindus (943) and Christians (737), the sample sex ratio is much lower than the rural sex

ratio in the district. Age group and sex wise distribution of the sample population are shown early. It is also seen that age composition of sample household's show that 32 percent Hindus, 23 percent Muslims and 30 percent Christian are in the age group of 0-14 years. The share of sample population of age group of over 60 years is higher among the Hindus compared to Muslims and Christians. However, the Muslim child (0- <6 years) population in the sample villages, which stands at 16 percent, indicates Muslims have higher fertility rates than other caste community people. This has happened due to lack of proper education and awareness among Muslim people.

#### **Marital Status in the Selected Village :**

In our study time, we have tried to know the number of married households in various religious groups which shows that 48 percent of Hindu sample population is unmarried against 43 percent and 36 percent of Muslims and Christians respectively. The married population in the Muslims is 48.6 percent while the same figures for Hindus and Christians is 42 percent and 51 percent respectively. This show that marital status among caste Hindu society is low than other religious groups.

#### **Educational Status in Selected Village :**

While we discussing about women empowerment scenario-problems and prospects, we tried our best to bring to light all facts and figures in this matter. Accordingly we surveyed educational status in the sample villages. This revealed that 25 percent of Hindus were illiterate while the same for Muslims and Christians was 42 percent and 24 percent respectively. Percentages of female illiterates were high across all religious groups compared to the male members, with the highest female illiteracy (19.6) is recorded in Muslim females. Our survey revealed approximately 10 percent of the population across all religious groups obtained education below elementary level. Importantly, the consequences of the sample village survey showed that 18.7 percent of the Muslim population completed their primary education. At the same time, the corresponding attainment level for Hindus and Christians were lower at 22.3 percent and 21 percent respectively. But the literacy level for middle and high school level for Hindus and Christians was higher than the Muslims. In connection to females the percentages of matriculates among Hindus was 8.3 percent, 9.3 percent for Christians and only 4.4 percent for Muslims. The low female literacy and educational attainment among the Muslim Women can be correlated with the village level survey results which revealed that middle level and high schools for girls are either absent

in the villages or they are given marriage. This showed a very very upset result of educational attainment among Muslim community in the District.

### **Occupation and Industry Scenario in the District:**

During our study period, it is seen that the work participation rate of the villages in Bongaigaon district stands at 37 percent which is comparatively higher than the Census 2001 estimate for the rural population in the Bongaigaon District. The male work participation share of the sample villages is estimated to be higher than the Census 2001 estimate which stands at 52 percent in the rural areas of the district. But the female work participation share among the sample population is lower than the Census 2001 estimate 19 percent for the rural areas of the district. This reveals that economic freedom of females in the selected villages is significantly lower. Further comprehensive analysis across religious groups reveals that the Christians have the highest work participation ratio in the selected villages in contrast to the Hindus and the Muslim.

It is also seen that the work participation share among the Hindu population in the sample villages is higher than the Muslim population. Out of the total Hindu Workers in the sample population, 16 percent is females whilst in case of the Muslims the share of female workers is only 10 percent. One of the reason for lower participation of Muslim women may be higher dependency to their male counterpart. While 45 percent of the total Muslim population is below 16 years of 34 percent of the sample Hindu household population falls in this range. This is an important matter so far better life style is concern.

The classification of workers in the selected people reveals that daily wage labour in various activities is the major category of workers. But among the religious groups, 33 percent Hindus in the main workers category are engaged as wage labour whilst the corresponding share for Muslims is 47 percent. Cultivation, production and related Works and business are the other three important work categories among the main workers across the sample households. The share of farmers among the Muslims is higher than the Hindus. In respect of subsidiary occupation, wage labour of any kind is the major workers category. About 65 percent Hindus engaged in subsidiary occupation are engaged as wage labours. At the same time the corresponding figures for Muslims is 48 percent. Though Hindu female workers With subsidiary occupation are 15 percent, female workers in subsidiary occupations among the Muslims are only 7 percent. The proportion of Muslim female marginal workers is higher than the main Workers among Hindu females which is

perhaps due to comparatively high fertility rate of child population ratio among the Muslims which restricts women's work participation share. Primary subsidiary occupation is wage labour among all the religious categories followed by cultivation and household works.

On the matter of employment by industry sector it is seen that agriculture is the main means of production which employs large number of people trade is the other means which employs more than 15 percent of the worker among both Hindus and Muslims. Our collected information reveals that the other main industries by which the Muslim workers are engaged are construction, transport and storage. Industry wise classification of Hindu workers reflects that apart from cultivation and trade, the other main industries engaging total work force are Community and Social Service and transport storage and communication in the district. Large number of people irrespective of caste, community and religion is still remained as unemployed. There is no constructive industrial policy of the Government to help the unemployed youths as self-employed..

Our study showed that the employment status among male workers across the religious groups are 87 percent of the Hindus remain engaged for six months or more while comparatively lower proportion of the Muslim which is 76 percent and the Christian remains in 56 percent males are employed for more than six months in a year. Moreover, the employment scenario among the females reflects that to percent Christian female is engaged in gainful activities for major part of the year compared to the Hindu which is just 7 percent. However, 5.3 percent of the Muslim female workers engaged for six months or more. This clearly show a panic picture of female employment and engagement in the district.

In this context, we can also say the that only 39 percent of the households are looking for more employment and more so in respect of self employment. Religion wise distribution of households looking for more employment indicates 48 percent Hindus, 35 percent Muslims and 36 percent Christians. 22 percent are looking for salaried jobs, in Government run institutions or in public sector. It is also observed that 25 percent Hindus were looking for Government jobs vis-a-vis the Muslims 21 percent and the Christians 20 percent in the sample village.

Significantly safe drinking water in the selected villages reflect variation across religious groups. It is observed that 63 percent Muslim households reported safe drinking water sources, but at the same time corresponding access for Hindus and Christians

is only 60 percent and 58 percent respectively. Private hand pump is the major drinking water source among the communities. It is seen that 39 percent of Hindu households and 36 percent of Christian households are dependent on their private hand pump while 59 percent of Muslim households have their private hand pumps as the major source of drinking water. Among the unsafe sources, un-protected dug well is the most commonly used source. Our survey showed that 73 percent of the Hindu and 67 percent of Muslim households fetch drinking water from a distance of less than 50 meters. 75 percent of Christian households fetch their drinking water from sources at a distance of 10-40 meters. So, drinking water is not a major problem in the district. But at the same time we should keep in mind that this drinking water are not filtered and hence it become health related problem for the people.

During our study period, it is seen that the sanitation and drainage facilities in the selected village is unhygienic for living condition. It is also observed that only 1.6 percent of sample households reported proper drainage facilities in their houses and 98.4 percent of the sample houses have no drainage facilities. Besides the sanitation habits reveal that 29 percent of Hindu households, 18 percent of Muslim households and 15 percent of Christian households use open fields for defecation. This is a major problem observed in the selected villages during our study period. Unsanitary practices among the people are fairly high. Pit latrine is the major type of latrine used by majority of the households. To make the study more systematic we tried to make a comparative study on the issue. Across religious groups in respect of water sources and sanitation facilities. This study show that Muslims fare better than Hindus. This can be attributed to the fact that privacy of females among the Muslims is of primary importance and has significant impact on the household provisions for sanitation facilities and sources of water. Besides, the religious provisions also played a pivotal role in Muslim households in this regard.

Our study revealed that 45 percent of the sample households have a monthly per capita income of less than Rs. 500. Religion wise break up shows that while 49 percent of the Hindu and Muslim households fall within this group, more than 55 percent of the Christian households have monthly per capita income of less than Rs. 600. An estimated 22 percent of the households are reported to earn a monthly per capita income of Rs. 700-1000. But religion wise estimates show that while 22 percent of Hindu households fall in the border income of Rs. 500-1000, a lower percentage of Muslim households say 20 percent fall within this income group. Consequently the proportion of Muslim households with per

capita monthly income of Rs. 1200 and above is estimated at 45 percent while the same for Hindus is 42 percent. The per capita income of the people is not satisfactory. Most of the people are living in a poor condition.

On the matter of average consumer expenditure per capita on cereals and pulses for Assam is estimated to be Rs. 135 while the national average is Rs. 106 during 2005-2006 as per NSS 62 round. The expenditure data of sample households for one year before the survey indicate that 13 percent of the selected villages households spend Rs. 96 or less, monthly capita, on cereals and pulses. Comparatively a higher proportion of Hindus who spend Rs. 98 or less, per capita, monthly on cereals and pulses compared to Muslims. The data reveals that 65 percent of the sample households have monthly per capita expenditure of more than Rs. 145 in pulses and cereals which is higher than the State average figure. The per capita expenditure on vegetables; meat, egg and fish is Rs. 140 for an estimated 85 percent of the households. Therefore major consumption expenditure of the sample households is for cereals, pulses, vegetables and protein foods. The average per capita consumption expenditure of majority households for clothes and footwear is Rs. 80 and above which is marginally less than the all-India average of Rs. 65 for rural households as per the NSS 62 Round. Accordingly, per capita expenditure on education among the sample households indicates that 32 percent of the sample households do not spend anything for education while an estimated 45 percent of the households spend Rs. 14 and above which is less than the estimated all-India average of Rs. 30 as per NSS 62 Round data. Among the religious groups, 55 percent of the Hindus and 44 percent of Muslims spend Rs. 30 or more for education of their children on a monthly per capita basis. On the other hand, expenditure on health shows that 22 percent of the sample households did not incur any expense on health. Out of the total households who incurred expenses on health, the per capita monthly expenditure on health was estimated to be Rs. 36 and above for 32 percent of the households, while for 28 percent of the households, monthly per capita expenditure on health was Rs. 14-24. The social ceremonies accounted for a monthly per capita expenditure of Rs. 40 for 45 percent of the sample households. It is seen that the highest per capita expenditure for the sample households was on electricity, gas and fuel. As indicated by the survey findings, although 26 percent of the households spent no money on electricity, gas and fuel, however an estimated 70 percent of the households incurring expenses on these items were reported to have a monthly per capita expenditure of Rs. 95-190 which is significantly higher than the NSS 62 Round estimates for rural households in

India. In respect of expenditure on telephone the survey indicated that 90 percent of the households had no expenditure for telephone, however the percentage of Hindu households' spending on telephone was higher than the Muslims. Average per capita investment expenditure on household repairing and construction was estimated to be Rs. 100 for 45 percent of sample households. So, the study reveals that there is a gap on religious group wise on the above matters.

Educational attainment among sample population between age group of 06-20 Years :

Our study found that educational attainment of the population having age group between 06-20 years show that 2 percent of the sample population is illiterate and they belong to Muslim community. Children completing primary education is highest among the Muslims which is about 60 percent, followed by Hindus 40 percent and Christians 30 percent respectively. The data reveals that majority of Muslim children drop out after their primary level and 25 percent complete their middle level and only 15 percent complete their matriculation. However the corresponding percentages for Hindus and Christians are higher. Gender segregated data shows that although drop out among males is higher nevertheless educational attainment for males is higher than females across all religious groups. Although 40 percent of the sample households are Muslims, however percentage of children going to Madrasa is only 2 percent among the Muslims. The percentage of children attending government schools across religious groups show that 80 percent Hindu children go to Government schools while the same for Muslims is 90 and Christians is 75 percent. The rest goes to private schools as per data shown.

**Enrolment and drop out among sample population of between the age group of 06-20 years :**

Findings of the study of enrolment data for sample population in the age group 06-20 years shows that there is marginal difference among males and females in respect of never enrolled category among the religious groups. Although the percentage of never enrolled is 10 percent of the sample population in the age group 06-20 years, 20 percent left after enrolment while 10 percent are enrolled but do not go to school. 70 percent of the enrolled and regular students attend government schools. The drop out rate by religious groups show that Hindus have comparative high drop out rate than the Muslims. The drop out rate among the Christians is the lowest among the sample population. Gender segregated data shows that male drop out rate is higher than the females across all religious

groups. The primary reason for drop out is the need to earn for family and 46 percent of the drop outs among the Muslims attributed this to be the main reason while the corresponding figures for Hindus and Christians is 30 percent and 20 percent respectively. The drop out rate due to necessity of earning is more pronounced among the male children than the females. The second most important reason for drop out is the expenditure and cost of fees and 22 percent of Hindu children and 15 percent of Muslim children dropped out due to the cost/fee structure. Although failing in the examination has very small impact among Muslim children to drop out from their education, however 18 percent of Hindu children are reported to have dropped out because of failing in the examination. Significant to note that 20 percent of Muslim children and 15 percent of Hindu children dropped as they were not interested in studying. While failing in the examination is the primary reason for Muslim females' drop out from school.

#### **Awareness and Participation in the selected Villages :**

While we were conducting our study, we collected data and information on the awareness level of the sample households on various government programmes as indicated by the survey results is found to be fairly high particularly in respect of programmes which bring direct cash benefits like the MGNREGA, Maternity benefit scheme, Old Age/ Widow pension and the housing scheme like IAY etc. It is found that more than 60 percent of the sample households are aware of these schemes. Programmes like ICDS and SSA are also fairly well known as more than 75 percent of the households are found aware of these programmes. But rural people's awareness on good sanitation practices and use of safe drinking water continues to be low and this is well captured by the survey which shows that 81 percent of the households are not aware of ARWSP and 60 percent of the households are not aware of TSC Sajaldhara, scheme running in the District.

One important fact which has come to light during our study period that Government authority specially the Block Development Office, Gaon Panchayat etc. do not arrange for much publicity of these schemes. Many schemes are running inside the pen and papers. The corrupt officials and some public representatives make beneficiaries list of their own and do all works by maintaining secrecy. They do not bother for public welfare. They only think about their own interest. Many village people were expressing their views in such a way that they have lot of questions to get answer. But when we provided our identity

and noble cause behind our interaction, they become peaceful and expressed their views by citing some examples.

During that interaction, they expressed that only a few number of people get Government benefits. The labour class people are not paid due labour charge of MGNREGA scheme in due time. They are deprived of their share in many time.

### **Socio-Political Affairs and People's Participation :**

The world is moving fast in all respect. The contemporary development debates advocates a pro-active role of the people at the grassroots for successful democratic decentralization, which in turn accelerates the process of development. The 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> amendments of the Constitution further paved the jurisdiction of democratic decentralization in our country by making local governance Institutions at the centre-stage. The process of democratic decentralization can be most vulnerable source of ushering development, particularly in rural areas, with their active support, help and co-operation. Our study traced that the participation of the selected households in political and social affairs has been indicated by their voting behaviour and membership in local Panchayat. Our survey indicated that Muslims have a higher participation rate of voting in any election. But the participation of Hindus are less than that of Muslims and the Christians in the electioneering process. This indicates in a way the significant role played by the Muslim votes in local level political process in the district. It has been observed that 18 percent of the selected households have membership of either Panchayat office bearer, or SHG or religious social organization. The most common social organizational membership is SHG. Among the religious groups 20 percent of the selected households have membership of any kind and the corresponding proportions for Muslims and Christians is 15 percent and 10 percent respectively in the district. It is also observed that during election time, both male and female section of people come out of their home specially during Gaon Panchayat election time. For some people particularly for rural Muslims, election time become festive time. They whole heartedly participate in it.

### **Conflict, Insecurity and Access to Media and Communication :**

The survey shows that only 3 percent of the selected households have suffered from caste conflict. Out of this majority of the households are Muslims who have lost assets in the conflict. Access to media is also taken as a measure of the level of

awareness on various issues. It indicates that 35 percent of the selected households had access to some media-either listened to a radio, or read a news paper or watched TV. Now-a-day, Android Mobile has become important means of magic and communication. However proportion of sample households reading news paper was only 5 percent while 5 percent listened to radio and 25 percent watched T.V. of the total households who had access to some media the proportion of Muslims is slightly higher 58 the percent an the Hindus 52 percent and Christians 50 percent.

#### **Issue of deprivation in the families :**

Dyuring our investigation and interaction with the people of selected villages, they repeatedly told us to highlight the major issues of deprivation which includes lack of proper education, un-employment, lack of electricity, pure drinking water etc.

#### **Welfare of minority communities :**

It is observed that the district administration has given some facilities to the people. But the minority community like Muslims, Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribes are legging behind development. So, they tried to convince us that they need some priority basis development programmes like construction of village roads, establishment of school, college, ITI centre's and health centre's. Besides, we have seen that there is no electricity connection in some villages.

#### **DEVELOPMENT DEFICIENCY :**

In 2003, the Government of Assam prepared a Assam Human Development Report which revealed that in respect of human Development Index (HDI) of various district in Assam. Bongaigaon is one of the lowest ranked District. It ranks 21 in respect of HDI having an index value of 0.263 which is much lower than the Assam state index at 0.407. Secondly, the Human Poverty Index (24.03) shows that almost a quarter of the population in the district is under poverty. Thirdly, the Gender related Development index (GDI) for Bongaigaon in 2001 is 0.376, which is far less than the state average of 0.537. All the three index as mentioned above, are like the parameter to measure development of an area. But unfortunately, Bongaigaon District has much deficiency in those index. The index also show a poor utilization of Human resources and upgradation of the lifestyle of women in the District.

**TABLE : 5.23 DEVELOPMENT DEFICIENCY :**

Sl. No.	Name of the Indicators	Survey Findings	All India Estimate	Deficiency	Priority Ranking added to indicators
<b>Socio-economic indicators</b>					
1	Literacy Rate	70.5	67.30	3.2	7
2	Female Literacy Rate	64.2	57.10	7.1	8
3	Rate of Work Participation	35.4	38.00	- 2.6	6
4	Work Participation Rate of Female	8.75	21.50	- 12.75	4
<b>Health indicators</b>					
5	Percentage of fully vaccinated children	76.5	65.5	11	9
6	Percentage of institutional delivery	12.50	38.70	- 26.20	3
<b>Basic amenities indicators</b>					
7	Percentage of pucca houses	12.75	59.40	- 46.65	2
8	Percentage of households having safe drinking water	77.11	87.90	-10.79	5
9	Percentage of households with sanitation facilities	59.40	39.20	20.20	10
10	Percentage of electrified households	65.35	67.90	- 2.55	1

The findings of the survey may be summarised as under :

First, Our survey revealed that 87.25 percent of the people of selected villages live in kutchha houses. The poor awareness and beneficiaries among the households on the cleanliness issues are major hindrance for the deficiency of health matter of the people of the district. There is no hygienic living condition of the people. Also the poor coverage of households under IAY is a major deficit in the implementation of developmental programmes for the poor in the district. Government should adopt fair policy to provide house facility under Pradhanmantri Gramin Awas Yojana (PMGAY).

Second, Our survey revealed that the major development drawbacks in Bongaigaon district includes, low infrastructure-roads, communication and power,

education and health, productivity, increasing landlessness and casualisation of labour. People belonging to all caste community are facing problems due to lack of these facilities.

Third, According to the official records of the State Electricity Board of Bongaigaon District, almost 90 percent of the villages in the district have domestic power connection. But our survey found that only 65.35 percent of sample villages have power supply and 15.6 percent of the people of selected villages have domestic connection. Poor electrification of rural households continues to be major problem in the district, for which many works are disrupted. Industrialists do not show interest to establish any venture in the District.

Forth, it is found that the health infrastructure of the villages and health status of the population in the district reveals that the district has major deficiency in delivering health care services. It is found that the number of hospital beds in the district per one lakh population is 15. Moreover, only 10 percent of the inhabited villages in the district have medical facility. The institutional delivery among the Muslims was low and consequently, health problems among the Muslim children are higher than other community. The immunization status of the surveyed population shows that 76.5 percent of the children in the age group of 0-6 years have been immunized which needs to be acquired hundred percent.

Fifth, According to the District Rural Development Authority (DRDA) statistics 64 percent of the rural families in the district are below poverty line. The survey indicates that 35 percent of the families are reported to be BPL but only 30 percent have BPL card. Although the Public Distribution System (PDS) has good coverage in the district, however 20 percent of the rural population who usually purchase from PDS cannot regularly avail PDS ration due to shortage supply.

Sixth, The road connectivity status indicated by the fact that 32 percent of the villages in the district do not have access to bus connectivity and only 47 percent of the total district roads being gravelled shows that roads infrastructure in the district is still weak. Further as revealed from the survey of villages, the average road condition is not up to the mark. Again, during flood roads are damaged and erosion take place in some area. This is a major problem of road connectivity in the char area of the District.

Seventh, there is almost 30 percent households without cultivable land which leads to increase of casual labour. The issue of landlessness was higher among the Hindus compared to Muslims and Christians. About 29 percent of the households with cultivable land are marginal cultivators. Hybrid seeds were used by 65 percent of the cultivators in the sample villages. Mechanized farm practices in the sample villages are low which shows that agricultural practices in the district are still traditional with low farm productivity. But, at present, farmers are doing well with much production with the use of heavy pesticides and fertilizers. This has an adverse affect on the mass people's health matters.

Eight, During our survey period, it is found that education continues to be an area of major concern in the developmental efforts of the district. Although 98 percent of the sample villages have a primary school, but 60 percent of them are one room schools and black board desk are available for only 80 percent of the schools. The survey indicated poor literacy status among the Muslims particularly females of selected villages. The high drop out ratio of male students particularly the Muslims due to poverty needs serious attention, from the Government and from the NGO's.

Ninth, our survey revealed that the population coverage of banking services is estimated to be 29,860 persons per bank office as per the number of offices in 2010. The coverage of banking services indicated by number of savings account against total households is only 35 percent. This clearly shows a higher rate of financial exclusion and the percentage is higher among the Muslim households. The share of agriculture credit is 15 percent and the total investment credit in agriculture was 10 percent. This dismal situation needs to be eradicated and banking service should be provided with simple method of transaction.

Implementation of statistics is a central function of every research work, because it is a mathematical technique or process for gathering, organizing, analyzing and interpretation of numerical data. In the present study the data have been analysed statistically or quantitatively.

Data collected through questionnaire, observation, schedule, interview and other sources in the district of Bongaigaon can be interpret through following ways:

During the study work, the researcher adopted both primary and secondary sources for gathering data, so that more and more information with accuracy be achieved. In

this process, the researcher has adopted questionnaire method and the collected data and information through this method may be extracted in the following manner.

**5.19 : Questionnaire for the People :**

Questionnaire as explained in the earlier chapter is an important method of collection of data and information. The investigator prepared the questions to be answered by the respondents in the study area comprising almost all section of people irrespective of caste, community, religion, sex language etc.

**The sample of Questionnaire :**

1. Name of the person : .....
2. Address :..... Name of Vill.: ..... Name of G.P.: .....
3. Community :..... Caste : ..... Religion : .....
4. Sex :.....
5. Age : .....

**(Questions and Analysis of Responses)**

☞ Question : Do you believe in Male/Female equal status in society ?

Ans. Responses :

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

The investigator met 180 people (110 male and 70 Female. Out of this respondents, 166 choose ‘Yes’ option while 14 respondents provided ‘No’ option i.e. they do not think that male and Female should be given equal status. Interestingly, out of these 14 respondents, there are 6 Female respondents and 8 male respondents. Again, these 14 respondents are belonged to Muslim community who are conservative in their traditional thinking.

**Table – 5.24 : Male – Female Equal status Issue.**

Sl. No.	Name of G.P.	No. of people covered	Response		Percentage	
			Yes	No	Yes	No
1.	Rangapani G.P.	18	18	Nil	100%	-
2.	Mererchar G.P.	20	18	02	90%	10%

3.	Pachonia–Khoragaon G.P.	28	28	Nil	100%	-
4.	Kalbari G.P.	35	35	Nil	100%	-
5.	Barjana G.P.	35	30	05	86%	14%
6.	Piradhara G.P.	44	37	07	84%	16%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>93.33%</b>	<b>6.67%</b>

From Table – 5.24, it is found that there are still some orthodox value running in the society. Some people still do not accept male–female equal status in the society. Interestingly, all the respondents of Assamese Hindu community comprising Brahmin, Kalita, Rajbongshi etc. responded positively in the matter of Men/Women equal status in the society. Only illiterate or minimum educated (having alphabetical knowledge only) in the Muslim society responded negatively and opted to choose ‘No’ option. The matter is remarkable.

☞ Question : Do you support Empowerment of Women ?

Ans. Responses :

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.25 : Women Empowerment Issue.**

Name of G.P.	No. of People met	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Rangapani G.P.	18	18	Nil	100%	--
Mererchar G.P.	20	18	02	90%	10%
Pachonia-Khoragaon G.P.	28	28	Nil	100%	--
Kolbari G.P.	35	35	Nil	100%	--
Barjana G.P.	35	35	Nil	100%	--
Piradhara G.P.	44	44	Nil	100%	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>98.33%</b>	<b>1.67%</b>

From Table 5.25, the investigator met 180 people (100 women and 80 male). Out of these respondents, 178 respondents positively responded while 2 male respondent opposed empowerment issue for women. Investigator also found that there was sufficient ground and healthy environment for women empowerment issue.

☞ Question : Do you favour more women representatives in politics as well as 33% reservation for women ?

Ans. : Responses :

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.26 : Issue on women representative in politics as well as 33% reservation for women.**

Category of People	No. of people met	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No.	Yes	No
Male	80	62	18	77.5%	22.5%
Female	100	88	12	88%	12%

From Table – 5.26, in this issue, the investigator found positive response from 150 people while 30 people responded in negative. Investigator found that there is a little conservation of thanking on the issue of women representation in politics as well as on the issue of 33% reservation for women in political representation matter. Here some women also opposed (12 in number out of 100 respondents) because of the fate of religious conservativeness.

☞ Question : Female education is eminent for all round development of society. Do you agree ?

Ans. : Responses :

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.27 : Women Education Issue.**

Category of People	No. of People	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Male	80	80	--	100%	--
Female	100	100	--	100%	--

From Table – 5.27 : In the matter of women Education issue, the investigator analyzed the views of 180 people comprising 80 Male and 100 Female and it is found that there is no any opposition on the issue of women education for all round development of society. Everyone is eager to enhance the women education programme.

☞ Question : Is there ‘Dowry’ problem in your society ?

Ans. : Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.28 : On the issue of Dowry problem.**

	Category of people responded positively		Category of people responded negatively		Total percentage of responses	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Yes	No
		50	67	30	33	117
PC (%)	62.5%	67%	37.25%	33%	65%	35%

From Table – 5.28, regarding the ‘Dowry’ issue, the investigator collected data from 180 people in the Bongaigaon District area. A cross section of people irrespective of caste, creed religion etc. were requested to send their responses in the form of Yes/No option whom they like it is found that there is high Dowry problem in the study area. The percentage of respondents views clearly indicate the same.

☞ Question : Is there any religious conservativeness in regard to the women participation in social and political activities ?

Ans. Responses :

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.39 : On the issue of religious conservativeness on women participation in social and political activities.**

	Category of people reacted positively		Category of people reacted negatively		Overall percentage of responses	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Yes	No
		67	91	13	09	158
PC (%)	83.75%	91%	16.25%	09%	87.78%	12.22%

From Table – 5.29, the investigator found that there is a high religious bindings in regard to women participation in social and political activities in the study area. All total 87.78% of respondents opined in favour of the issue. This is a major hindrances to women empowerment process.

☞ Questions : Are you satisfy with the performance of female representatives in Panchayat bodies of Bongaigaon District ?

Ans. : Responses :

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.30 : Performance of Female Representative in TAP**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Male	80	59	21	73.75%	26.25%
Female	100	86	14	86%	14%
Total	180	145	35	80.56%	19.44%

From Table 5.30, in the matter of religious conservativeness on women data and information are collected from all total 180 people and it is observed that the performance of women in Panchayat bodies in TAP area is vary satisfactory and people have confidence on their capabilities.

☞ Question : Do you favor female leadership in society ?

Ans. : Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.31 : Female leadership issue.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Male	80	20	60	25%	75%
Female	100	73	27	73%	27%
Total	180	93	87	51.67%	48.33%

From Table – 5.31, investigator found that there is mix type of responses in the society on the female leadership issue. While the male respondents opposed the issue, the female respondents supported the issue. The response show the egoism of both the section of people, which is very interesting and need to be reformed such type of thinking by creating awareness in the society.

☞ Questions : Is there male domination problem in implementation of Panchayat Programmes ?

Ans. : Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.32 : Male domination in implementing Panchayat Programmes**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Male	62	34	28	54.84%	45.16%
Female	85	47	38	55.29%	44.71%
Total	147	81	66	55.1%	44.9%

From Table – 5.32, in the matter of male domination in implementing Panchayat Programmes the investigator communicated with 147 persons of the study area and found that 81 respondents offered positive views. This is an healthy un practice of male domination tendency over women representative in implementing various Panchayat programmes.

☞ Question : Is there sufficient facilities of co-education institution in your Panchayat area?

Ans. Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.33 : Facilities of Co-education institutions.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Male	62	34	28	54.84%	45.16%
Female	85	41	44	48.24%	51.76%
Total	147	75	72	51.54%	48.46%

From Table – 5.33, investigator found that there is co-education facilities in the District, but female respondents views are found negative. The percentage clearly indicates the same which is show above.

☞ Question : Are the women representatives more corrupt than male representatives ?

Ans. : Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.34 : Issue of corruption in women Representatives.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Male	62	02	60	3.23%	96.77%
Female	85	01	84	1.18%	98.82%
Total	147	03	144	2.2%	97.8%

From Table – 5.34, investigator found that the corruption charges against women a representative is vary low; negligible.

☞ Question : Are the women of the District interested with self employment scheme like self-help group (SHG) ?

Ans. : Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.35 : Issue of Self Employment.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Male	62	40	22	64.51%	35.48%
Female	85	59	26	69.41%	30.59%
Total	147	99	48	67.34%	32.66%

From Table – 5.35, the investigator found that the women of TAP area are by and large interested in Self employment scheme like SHG.

☞ Question : Is there any women NGO in your area and are their performance satisfactory ?

Ans. : Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.36 : Women NGO in BZP area.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Male	62	Nil	Nil	--	--
Female	85	Nil	Nil	--	--
Total	147	Nil	Nil	--	--

From Table – 5.36, investigator found that there is no any women NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) in Bongaigaon District area.

☞ Question : Is there any case of female torture or harassment in your area ?

Ans. : Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table - 5.37 : Issue of Female Torture.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Teacher	15	9	6	60%	40%
Ganobhurah (Village Headman)	9	5	4	55.56%	44.44%
Panchayat Representatives)	8	5	3	62.5%	37.5%
Farmers	20	14	6	70%	30%
Fisherman	20	15	5	75%	25%
Educated youth (Boys + Girls)	20	12	8	60%	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>65.22%</b>	<b>34.78%</b>

From Table – 5.37, investigator found that there is torture or harassment problem on female in Bongaigaon District area.

☞ Question : Is there widow remarriage system in your society ?

Ans. : Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.38 : Widow Remarriage System.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Teacher	15	15	--	100%	--
Ganobhurah (Village Headman)	9	9	--	100%	--
Panchayat Representatives)	8	8	--	100%	--
Farmers	20	20	--	100%	--
Fisherman	20	19	01	95%	5%
Educated youth (Boys + Girls)	20	20	--	100%	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>98.91%</b>	<b>1.08%</b>

From Table – 5.38, investigator found that widow remarriage system is an accepted factor in the Bongaigaon District area. The only respondent who viewed negatively expressed his feelings on religious tradition basis.

☞ Question : Is the status of women in your society O.K. ?

Ans. : Responses.

Yes : No :

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.39 : Status of Women.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Teacher	15	05	10	33.33%	66.67%
Ganobhurah (Village Headman)	9	06	03	66.67%	33.33%
Panchayat Representatives)	8	06	02	75%	25%
Farmers	20	11	09	55%	45%
Fisherman	20	10	10	50%	50%
Educated youth (Boys + Girls)	20	8	12	40%	60%
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>50%</b>

From Table – 5.39, investigator found that the status of women in TAP area is not positive or negative. It is between the both. However, It may be said that there are some problems in the matter of status of women, because, there prevails high religious conservativeness in the society of TAP area.

☞ Question : Is the women of your society take primary role in the education sector ?

Ans. Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table - 5.40 : Role of Women in Education Sector.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Teacher	15	04	11	26.67%	73.33%
Ganobhurah (Village Headman)	9	02	07	22.22%	77.78%
Panchayat Representatives)	8	02	06	25%	75%
Farmers	20	05	15	25%	75%
Fisherman	20	06	14	30%	70%
Educated youth (Boys + Girls)	20	04	16	20%	80%
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>75%</b>

From Table – 5.40, investigator found that the role of women in education sector is not as expected.

☞ Question : Do you think that Bongaigaon District Administration is implementing all Development works in proper way in regard to women empowerment programmes ?

Ans. : Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.41 : Development Block’s role on Women Empowerment Programme.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Teacher	15	06	09	40%	60%
Ganobhurah (Village Headman)	9	03	04	33.33%	66.67%
Panchayat Representatives)	8	06	02	75%	25%
Farmers	20	12	08	60%	40%
Fisherman	20	10	10	50%	50%
Educated youth (Boys + Girls)	20	09	11	45%	55%
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>52.17%</b>	<b>47.83%</b>

From Table – 5.41, investigator found that the role of District administration in implementing development works in regard to women empowerment programme is more or less positive.

☞ Question : Do you think that lack of infrastructure development is a major problem in the way of women development cum empowerment process ?

Ans.: Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.42 : Lack of Infra-Structure Development as a problem of Women Empowerment.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Teacher	15	14	01	93.33%	6.67%
Ganobhurah (Village Headman)	9	9	--	100%	--
Panchayat Representatives)	8	8	--	100%	--
Farmers	20	19	01	95%	5%
Fisherman	20	19	01	95%	5%
Educated youth (Boys + Girls)	20	20	--	100%	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>96.74%</b>	<b>3.26%</b>

From Table – 5.42, investigator found that lack of infra-structural development in the District area is a major problem in the way of women development cum empowerment process.

☞ Question : What is the role of women in social development affairs ?

Ans.: Responses.

Satisfactory :  Not Satisfactory :

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.43 : Role of Women in Social Development Affairs.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Teacher	15	3	12	20%	80%
Ganobhurah (Village Headman)	9	3	6	33.33%	66.67%
Panchayat Representatives)	8	3	5	37.5%	62.5%
Farmers	20	4	16	20%	80%
Fisherman	20	3	17	15%	85%
Educated youth (Boys + Girls)	20	5	15	25%	75%
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>22.83%</b>	<b>77.17%</b>

From Table – 5.43, investigator found that the role of women in social development affairs are not satisfactory.

☞ Question : What is the role of women in political affairs ?

Ans.: Responses.

Satisfactory :  Not Satisfactory :

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.44 : Role of Women in Political Affairs.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Teacher	15	2	13	13.33%	86.67%
Ganobhurah (Village Headman)	9	1	8	11.11%	88.89%
Panchayat Representatives)	8	3	5	37.5%	62.5%
Farmers	20	5	15	25%	75%
Fisherman	20	5	15	25%	75%
Educated youth (Boys + Girls)	20	6	14	30%	70%
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>23.91%</b>	<b>76.09%</b>

From Table – 5.44, investigator found that the role of women in political affairs are not satisfactory in the District area.

☞ Question : Are you hopeful with the women of Bongaigaon District area in near future ?

Ans. Responses.

Yes  No

(Give tick  mark in the above box according to your own thinking)

**Table – 5.45 : Peoples Hope on Women in near Future.**

Category of People	No. of Respondent	Response		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
Teacher	15	15	--	100%	--
Ganobhurah (Village Headman)	9	9	--	100%	--
Panchayat Representatives)	8	8	--	100%	--
Farmers	20	15	5	75%	25%
Fisherman	20	17	3	85%	15%
Educated youth (Boys + Girls)	20	20	--	100%	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>91.3%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>

From Table – 5.45, investigator found that people of Bongaigaon District area are vary much enthusiast and optimistic with the women of Bongaigaon District area who will succeed in every sphere of life in near future.

The above analyses of various tables and figures show that there are acute problems in the Bongaigaigaon district in the civic life of the people. But women are the

worst sufferers in this respect because they have to face the shortage of materials in dealing with house hold needs. In the political matters , women performs better than those of male representatives. They have earn political consciousness also. The study reveals that women can do much better for the society in respect to development in social affairs, economic matters, cultural issues and so on. Hence we can say that empowerment of women should not be confined only in theory, rather it should be practical to the letter and sprit of the term. If so happens, our society will surely become a rich and progressive society.

**5.46 : LIST OF SURVEYED VILLAGES OF BONGAIGAON DISTRICT DURING STUDY PERIOD :**

SI. No.	VILLAGE
1	Kolbari
2	Mulagaon
3	Dholagaon
4	Fulkumari
5	Panchagaon
6	Panchapur
7	Majer Alga
8	Bhashanipara
9	Khorchimari
10	Pallirtal
11	Oudubi
12	Soto Barjana
13	Ambari
14	Mererchar
15	Kakoijana
16	Khogarpur
17	Boitamari
18	Deohati
19	Chokapara
20	Kirtanpara
21	Oxiguri
22	Malegarh
23	Khorigaon

SI. No.	VILLAGE
24	Balapara
25	Dhontola
26	Bamungaon
27	Kayetpara
28	Shontoshpur
29	Lengtisinga