

ABSTRACT

EDUCATIONAL AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE SCHEDULED TRIBES POPULATION IN MALDA DISTRICT, WEST BENGAL

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ABSTRACT

The thesis on “Educational and Employment status of the scheduled tribes population in Malda district, West Bengal” is an effort for the detailed analysis of the block level spatial distribution of different levels of education and employment status of the scheduled tribe population in the Malda district from 2012-2016.

The present study is divided into seven chapters. The first chapter is aimed to discuss the introductory part of the research. The second chapter briefly traces the physical, cultural, and socio-economic conditions of the study area. The third chapter is the study of levels of education. Chapter fourth is the factors controlling the education of the tribal people in the Malda district. Chapter five of the thesis is social parameters associated with the employment of the tribal people in the Malda district. Chapter six of the thesis highlights the comparison of the educational and employment profile of the study area. The seventh chapter of the thesis is a summary of conclusions and recommendations to improve education and employment opportunities in the tribal people of the Malda district. Chapter three, five and six are the core chapters of this study.

Most tribal people in the Malda district are very backward than non-tribal people from social, political, economic and cultural perspectives. Especially they are very backward in education and employment. Therefore, an attempt has been made in this investigation to bring out the picture of the educational and employment status of the tribal people in Malda district in detail.

Education is one of the main aspects of human resources development. It is considered an important and powerful instrument of economic development and social transformation. Socio-economic development in any society depends upon the educational facilities it provides (Hussain & Bhat 2010). Education is a crucial social factor that plays a pivotal role in the initiation of the process of social, economic and cultural advancement by opening avenues of employment and job opportunity. Education leads to the overall development of an individual and it influences the development of a whole society. Therefore, education is one of the key factors behind the socio-economic and cultural development of a country or community (Chowdhury 2010).

Tribal communities of Malda district are commonly referred to as Adivasi and are recognized as 'Scheduled Tribes' under the constitution of India. Scheduled Tribes are characterized by a low level of education and economic backwardness (Sahu 2014). Many people of the Scheduled Tribes community are still deprived of education, as well as their economic infrastructure (Seth Kumar 2006). Most of the tribal people of the Malda district are engaged in primary and secondary economic activities. As a result, the economic condition of the tribes of the Malda district did not improve also. The Constitution of India has provided many safeguards for the welfare and development of the tribes. According to Article No. 46 provides special care to the promotion of education and economic interests of the scheduled caste, scheduled tribes and the weaker sections of society (Sindhu 2014). The nature of economic activities (primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary) is a very important indicator for the assessment of the economic status of the population.

Under this backdrop, the present researcher seeks to undertake a detailed investigation related to the educational development vis-à-vis employment status of the tribal population in the Malda district, West Bengal.

The first chapter is aimed to discuss the introductory part of the research. In the Malda district, there were 3988845 persons scheduled tribes as per the 2011 census of India constituting 7.87% of the total population. It has been found that 40.01% of the total tribal population in this district was literate. The district education report for enrolment with the percentage for the years 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14 placed in the thesis Page no. 2 (Table 1.1a, 1.1b & 1.1c) which shows a very low rate of enrolment in lower primary, upper primary, secondary, higher secondary and higher education level in comparison to other caste category or non-tribal people.

Related literature studies as well as few reconnaissance surveys done by the researcher, revealed that there are several factors responsible for determining the educational status of tribal communities in the Malda district.

1. Socio-economic problems,
2. Lack of academic and administrative facilities and
3. Traditional indifference of tribal community towards education.

According to the census of India 2011, the Employed and Non-employed scheduled tribe population in the Malda district are 85368 persons (27.18 percent) and 228616 persons (72.82 percent) respectively, placed in the thesis Page no. 3 (Table 1.2). This basic information indicates that the employed tribal population is not up to the mark since it is considerably below 50% of the total population. Therefore, the Tribal people of the Malda district faced different problems in education and employment.

All these associated with tribal education and employment give ample scope to study the educational and employment status of the tribes in the Malda district.

The study area

The district of Malda is one of the twenty-three districts of West Bengal. It is the situation between 24° 40' 20" N to 25° 32' 08 N" latitude and 87° 45' 50" E to 88° 28' 10" E longitude. English Bazaar situated at the centre of the district is the chief town and administrative headquarters. According to the census of India 2011, the total area of the Malda district is 3733 square km and the total population of the district is 3988845 persons. The population density of the district 1069 persons/per square km. There are Scheduled tribe population in the district are 313984 persons which are 7.87% of the total population of the district. In the Malda District are 15 CD blocks.

Objectives of the study

The present study has been conducted with the following objectives.

1. To identify the factors that play role in the education of tribes in the study area.
2. To identify the social parameters associated with the employment of the tribal people in the Malda district.
3. To compare the educational and employment profile of the ST population of the study area.
4. To propose some measures to improve education in the tribal people of Malda district.
5. To propose some measures to augment employment opportunity in the tribal people of Malda district.

Hypothesis

1. There are significant external and internal factors to influence the education of tribal communities in the Malda district.
2. Employment of the tribal people in the Malda district is associated with some social parameters.
3. Education has significant relationship with the employment opportunity of the tribal communities of Malda.

Materials and Methods

The present work is based on the collection, processing, analysis and presentation of both primary and secondary data.

Primary Sources

The work is based on field investigation. Primary data has been collected by using a Stratified quota sampling method through a household survey (4 percent). The primary data has been collected from the field by interacting with tribal people regarding employment problems through the Questionnaire and interview method.

According to the Census of India 2011, there are 1613 villages in 15 CD blocks of the Malda district. Only 65 villages have been selected for field surveys out of which 1613 villages in Malda district. There is a total of 29575 households out of 65 villages in Malda district and out of which 1183 households are selected for field surveys in rural areas.

Again, there are 43 wards in the 2 municipalities of the Malda district. There are total 5245 households in the 2 wards of Malda district and out of which 210 households are selected for field surveys in urban areas. In the year 2012-16, there has been a total of 1393 household surveys from both rural and urban areas of the Malda district.

Secondary Sources

The Secondary data has been collected from a census of India 2011, Above Poverty Line (APL) & Below Poverty Line (BPL) data collect from Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) of Malda district (2012), Statistical Handbook of Malda 2016, Sarva Shiksha Mission (SSM) in Malda (2012-16), District Information System for Education (DISE), All

India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) and Gour Banga University (GBU) in Malda district (2012-16).

Both primary and secondary data have been processed, analysed and results derived in Percentage (individual male, female and total) have been used to determine different class groups based on the Mean and Standard Deviation (SD) methods (Mandal & Bhattacharya 2019). The quantified data has been presented through suitable Bar, Pie and Line diagrams and the block-wise distribution of scheduled tribe population for education and employment ST population (in %) of the study area have been presented through thematic maps based on GIS platform.

The distribution of ST different levels of education and employment by blocks arranged into three categories of high, medium and low has been worked out by calculating mean (Average) and Standard Deviation (SD) of that variable. The medium levels include all CD blocks of Malda district which are values between mean (average) and add plus & minus (\pm) half standard deviation (Siddiqui & Naseer 2004). Above the medium level is high and below the medium level is low, Page no. 15 – 16 in the thesis.

The second chapter briefly traces the physical, cultural, and socio-economic conditions of the study area. Malda district is famous in West Bengal and India. Because in the medieval period the capital of Bengal was Pandua and Gaur (Lambourn 1819). Not only that, presently pandua and gaur in the Malda district are an important historical tourism centre. Malda district is famous for the mango fruits in India. Also, the Kaliachak region of the Malda district is famous for the cultivation of silk (sericulture). The day of independence of India is 15th August 1947. But the Independence Day of Malda district is 17th August 1947 (Mondal 2016). Because the Malda district was under East Pakistan (Bangladesh) from 15th August 1947 to 17th August 1947 (Gosh 2004). Malda district is an important district in West Bengal. Because Malda district is called the gateway of North Bengal. The Physical, cultural and socio-economic conditions of the Malda district are very diverse.

The third chapter is the study of different levels of education. This part of the chapter discusses the variations in the educational levels of the ST population by blocks of the study area. In order to explore the real situation of the educational status of the tribal communities of the Malda district, a study has been carried out on the basis of secondary data on different education levels of the tribal communities starting from pre-primary to higher education.

From the pre-primary education level to the higher education level, according to the percentage of education rate, it is shown in sequence that 1st position primary education level (35.50 percent), 2nd secondary (20.35 percent), 3rd pre-primary (18.40 percent), 4th upper primary (14.72 percent), 5th higher secondary (6.53 percent), 6th undergraduate (3.59 percent), 7th professional & technical (1.59 percent) and 8th postgraduate (1.22 percent) education level has occupied.

All Primary (pre-primary, primary & upper primary) education levels of female students are higher in education rate than male students in most of the blocks. This may be due to the male students are engaged in the agricultural and non-agricultural field for family income purpose as compared to female students. This means that the male students are engaged in the agricultural and non-agricultural fields for family income purposes before completing their primary education but female students continue their education until their marriage.

After the secondary education (20.35 percent) level, the rate of education suddenly decreased at higher secondary level (6.53 percent). Because after passing the secondary examination, a large number of tribal students leave their studies. The main reason for this is financial problems, for the lack of money, most tribal students stop studying and go to work in the outside state. There is also a lack of higher educational institutions near the indigenous region and a lack of awareness about higher education etc.

Secondary, Higher secondary and all Higher education (UG, PG and Professional & Technical) levels of male students are higher in education rate than female students in most of the blocks but some of the blocks female students are higher in education rate than male students in Malda district.

From all secondary to higher education levels of male students are higher in education rates than female students in most of the blocks of the study area. This may be due to the female students are the marriage before their completing of secondary and higher education but male students continue their education until their marriage in parallel and also engaged in the works like tuition, agricultural and non-agricultural fields and spend their own earning on their education.

The ST female students of postgraduate education level are not observed in Harishchandrapur-I, Harishchandrapur-II, Chanchal-II, Ratua-II, Habibpur, Bamongola, and Kaliachak-III blocks of the study area. The main reasons are that the lack of awareness about

higher education, child marriage, lack of women higher educational institutions, confined in family life, conservatism and prejudice and lack of social security for women, etc.

The rate of professional and technical (1.59 percent) education is higher than the rate of postgraduate (1.22 percent) education. The main reason is that most tribal students take professional and technical education after passing the examinations at undergraduate and postgraduate educational levels.

All Primary (pre-primary, primary & upper primary) education levels of rural areas are higher education rates than urban areas but secondary, higher secondary and higher education levels of urban areas are higher education rates than rural areas of Malda district.

But the tribal education rates in secondary, higher secondary and higher education levels of urban areas are higher compared to rural areas of Malda district. The main reasons are the establishment of different types of higher educational institutions in urban areas, awareness about higher education, late marriage, improvement communication system and free from social conservatism and freedom.

There is a significant difference in all higher education levels between rural and urban areas. It will be worth mentioning in this context that tribal people live maximum number in rural (86.42 percent) areas, but low level of higher in education rates (UG 3.07 percent, PG 0.99 percent and P&T 1.52 percent) are found in the same areas as compared to urban (UG 7.51 percent, PG 3.02 percent and P&T 2.08 percent) areas where tribal people live in minimum (13.58 percent) number. It means that the maximum number of tribal people live in rural areas but low-level in education rates in the same areas. On the other hand, the minimum number of tribal people live in urban areas but high-level in education rates in the same areas.

From Pre-primary to Upper primary education levels of female students are higher in education rate than male students in most of the blocks but Secondary, Higher secondary and all higher education levels of male students are higher in education rate than female students in most of the blocks of the study area.

Among the indigenous communities of Malda district, the main reasons for decreasing the rate of higher education of women (UG 2.59 percent, PG 0.78 percent and P&T 0.83 percent) in comparison to men (UG 4.60 percent, PG 1.67 percent and P&T 2.36 percent) are that the lack of awareness about women education, child marriage, lack of women educational

institutions, confined in a family life, conservatism, lack of trained female directors and teachers, lack of communication among low educated and highly educated women people and lack of social security for women, etc.

Chapter forth is the factors controlling the education of the tribal people in the Malda district. Tribal education rates are very low compared to non-tribal people in pre-primary, primary, secondary, higher secondary and higher education (UG, PG & professional and technical education) levels of the Malda district. The main reasons for the low rate of education among tribal communities of Malda district are the poverty of tribal parents, lack of awareness about education, lack of educational institutions in tribal areas, wastage and stagnation, failure to enforce child labour law, lack of adequate number of tribal trained teachers, psychological problems (like motivation, attention, interest and ambition), Indifferent attitude of tribal parents, teachers & students, many tribal students are engaged in various religious and cultural activities, lack of communication among the teachers and tribal parents, many tribal students are engaged in various types of family work, lack of employment, medium of language, lack of required scholarship and problems of research for the development of tribal education.

In most of the blocks of Malda district, tribal male students are less in education rates than tribal female students in the Pre-primary, Primary and Upper primary education levels. The main reasons for the decline in the rate of education of the tribal male students are that the problems of male child laborers, many male tribal students are engaged in hunting and grazing work, responsibility for family work, many male tribal students are engaged in various cultural and religious activities, etc.

In most of the blocks of Malda district, tribal female education rates are very low compared to tribal male students in Secondary, Higher Secondary and Higher Education (UG, PG & professional and technical education) levels. The main reasons for the decline in the rate of tribal women education are that the Child marriage, lack of awareness about women education, lack of women educational institutions, financial problems, lack of communication among the low educated and highly educated women people, conservatism and prejudice, lack of trained female directors and teachers, lack of healthy health, lack of social security, do not give value of women's desire and reluctance, etc.

In the case of secondary, higher secondary and higher education (UG, PG & professional and technical education) levels of Malda district, it is seen that tribal students of rural areas are less in education rates than the tribal students of urban areas. The main reasons for these are that most of the tribal people in rural areas are very poor compared to urban areas, lack of secondary, higher secondary and higher educational institutions near the tribal rural areas, lack of awareness about higher education, child marriage, lack of employment, social conservatism and lack of freedom, etc.

Chapter five of the thesis is social parameters associated with the employment of the tribal people in the Malda district. This chapter highlights the distribution of scheduled tribe workers by sex and residences (block, rural & urban) on the basis of economic activities. In order to explore the real situation of the employment status of the tribal communities of the Malda district, a study has been carried out on the basis of primary data on different employment levels of the tribal communities. Chapter six of the thesis highlights the comparison of the educational and employment profile of the study area. Therefore, different levels of employment and the comparison of educational and employment profile of the study area of the indigenous people of the Malda district are discussed in detail below.

In the present study, workers have been categorized on the basis of economic activities pursued. In the present study, the workers have been classified into five categories include of the farmer (cultivation), labourers (further sub-divided into agricultural labours and non-agricultural labours), business, home-based workers and Regular Salaried Workers (further sub-divided into government and private). Therefore, tribal workers of the Malda district have been classified into seven categories on the basis of field surveys by the researcher. For example - cultivation, agricultural labours, non-agricultural labours, business, Home-Based Workers (HBW), Government Regular Salaried Workers (GRSW) and Private Regular Salaried Workers (PRSW).

Among the tribal communities in the Malda district, 34.95 percent are employed and 65.05 percent are unemployed. In the tribal communities of the Malda district, 21.06 percent are self-employed and 78.94 percent are employed.

According to the percentage of tribal employment and self-employment rates of Malda district, it is found in sequence that 1st position Home Based Workers employment level (27.49 percent), 2nd Non-Agricultural Labours (21.35 percent), 3rd Agricultural Labours

(18.90 percent), 4th Cultivation (12.16 percent), 5th Business (8.90 percent), 6th Government Salaried Workers (7.40 percent) and 7th Private Salaried Workers (3.80 percent) employment level has occupied.

Among the employment levels of the Malda district, the rate of home-based workers (27.49 percent) is highest and the lowest position is Private Salaried Workers (3.80 percent). The main reason for the highest rate of home-based workers in the district as a whole is that there is a tradition of Bidi binding and sericulture. As a result, a large number of tribal people are involved in the Bidi binding and sericulture sector. The lowest position is Private Salaried Workers, because when the tribal people do not have the opportunity to work at any other employment level, then finally they decide to work in the private sectors.

Harishchandrapur-I (19.64 percent), Ratua-I (18.44 percent) and Chanchal-I (16.24 percent) blocks have the highest rate of cultivation compared to other blocks of Malda district. The main reasons for the highest rate of cultivation in these blocks are fertile soils, improved irrigation systems and availability of agricultural labours (Lamburn 1918, Sengupta 1969). There is the availability of agricultural labours in these blocks because there are most tribal people are very poor (almost 72-79 percent BPL, as per field survey by the researcher, 2012-16). As a result, most tribal people in these blocks are interested to work as agricultural labours. So many tribal people of these blocks are educated in pre-primary, primary, upper primary and secondary education and they are working in the cultivation sector.

Manikchak (7.29 percent), English Bazar (8.97 percent) and Old Malda (9.03 percent) blocks have the lowest rate of cultivation compared to other blocks of Malda district. Manikchak block has the lowest cultivation rate compared to other blocks of the Malda district. The main reason is that every year river bank erosion and flood (Bhutni region) by the Ganga river. Also, the rate of cultivation in the English Bazar and Old Malda blocks is very low compared to the other blocks of Malda district, the main reason for the decline in the rate of cultivation is flood and urban-centric. This means that most tribal people in these blocks to work as home-based workers and non-agricultural labours. Therefore, very few tribal people of these blocks are educated in pre-primary, primary, upper primary and secondary education and they are working in the farming sector.

Harishchandrapur-II (35.06 percent), Chanchal-II (30.73 percent), Harishchandrapur-I (30.29 percent), Ratua-I (29.92 percent) and Chanchal-I (28.01 percent) blocks have the highest rate

of agricultural laborers compared to other blocks in Malda district. The main reason for the high rate of agricultural laborers among these blocks is good cultivation. Due to good cultivation, most poor tribal people of these blocks are interested to work as agricultural laborers. Also, the other reasons for the increase in the number (total, male & female) of agricultural laborers in these blocks are the high density of population (1001-1223 persons per square km, as per census of India, 2011), most tribal people are very poor (73-79 percent BPL, as per field survey by the researcher, 2012-16), fewer opportunities for non-agricultural jobs and more distance from Malda town (almost 39-61 km, as per field survey by the researcher, 2012-16). As a result, most poor tribal people in these blocks are more interested to work as agricultural labours. Therefore, most tribal people of Harishchandrapur-II, Chanchal-II, Harishchandrapur-I and Ratua-I blocks are usually educated in pre-primary, primary, upper primary and secondary education and they are work as agricultural labours.

The rate of non-agricultural laborers (30.34 percent) in the Old Malda block is the highest compared to the other blocks of the Malda district. The main reason for the highest rate of non-agricultural laborers in this block is that, due to the establishment of different types of factories in the Narayanpur region. As a result, many tribal people get the opportunity to work as non-agricultural laborers. Apart from this, they are interested to work as a non-agricultural labourer because they get the opportunity to work on railway lines, roads and building construction. Therefore, most poor tribal people of Old Malda block are usually educated in pre-primary, primary, upper primary and secondary education and they are work as non-agricultural labours.

The rates of home-based workers in the Kaliachak-I (45.41 percent), Kaliachak-II (42.47 percent) and Kaliachak-III (41.93 percent) blocks of the Malda district are the highest than other employment sectors. Not only that, the rate of home-based workers in the Kaliachak region (Kaliachak-I, II & III blocks) is the highest compared to other blocks of Malda district. The main reason for the highest rate of home-based workers in this region is that there is a tradition of Bidi binding and sericulture. As a result, a large number of tribal people are involved in the Bidi binding and sericulture sector. Also, the other reason for the increase in the rate of home-based workers in this region is that many tribal people do not get the opportunity to work in the cultivation, agricultural labours and non-agricultural labours sectors. As a result, they are forced to work in the home-based worker sector. Therefore, most tribal people in the Kaliachak region do not work in the agricultural labour and non-

agricultural labour employment sector, rather they are more interested to work in the home-based work-employment sectors. So, most tribal people in the Kaliachak region of Malda district are generally educated in pre-primary, primary, upper primary and secondary education and they are working as home-based workers.

The rate of business in the Kaliachak-II, (11.93 percent) Manikchak (10.76 percent) and English Bazar (9.26 percent) blocks is the highest compared to the other blocks of Malda district. The main reasons for the higher rate of business in the Manikchak and Kaliachak-II blocks are that the Ganga river erosion and floods. This means that the amount of agricultural land decreased due to the Ganga river erosion in Manikchak and Kaliachak-II blocks. Also, these blocks are not cultivated due to flooding every year. Therefore, due to the riverbank erosion and the flood of every year, many tribal people of these blocks are forced to work in the business sector. The rate of business in English Bazar block is higher compared to another block of Malda district. Because this block is urban-centered, there is a necessary improved communication system, capital, demand and market for doing business here. Therefore, many tribal people of Manikchak, Kaliachak-II and English Bazar blocks are educated in the primary, upper primary, secondary, higher secondary and higher education and they are employed in the business sector.

The rate of business in Harishchandrapur-II (3.88 percent), Harishchandrapur-I (4.21 percent), Habibpur (5.00 percent) and Bamongola (5.88 percent) blocks are the lowest compared to other blocks of the Malda district. The main reasons for the decline in the rate of business in these blocks are the lack of necessary opportunities and facilities for doing business. For example, there is a lack of capital (almost 73-79 percent BPL, as per field survey by the researcher, 2012-16), improved communication system, demand and market in these blocks. Because these blocks are situated far away from Malda town (almost 41-61 km, as per field survey by the researcher, 2012-16). Therefore, very few tribal people of these blocks are educated in pre-primary, primary, upper primary and secondary education and they are engaged in the business sector.

English Bazar block has the highest rate of government (11.48 percent) jobs compared to other blocks of the Malda district. Not only that, this block has the highest number of private (5.27 percent) jobs in comparison to other blocks of Malda district except Manikchak block. Therefore, the rate of both government and non-government jobs in this block is higher than the other blocks of Malda district. The main reason for the highest rate of government and

private jobs in this block is that different types of government and private offices have been established here, which is much more than the other blocks of Malda district because of this block being near the urban-centric. As a result, many tribal people get the opportunity to work in the government and private sectors. Also, the other reason for the high rate of government and private jobs in this block is that tribal secondary, higher secondary and higher education rates are higher compared to other blocks of Malda district. Therefore, many tribal people of this block are educated in upper primary, secondary, higher secondary and higher education and they work in the government and private employment sectors.

The rate of private employment in the Harishchandrapur-I (0.60 percent) and Habibpur (0.43 percent) blocks is the lowest compared to other blocks of the Malda district. Not only that, the rate of private employment is not available in the Harishchandrapur-II (0.00 percent) block of Malda district. The main reason is that there is no private employment sector established in these blocks due to the non-improved communication system and far away from Malda urban centre (almost 42-61 km, as per field survey by the researcher, 2012-16). Also, another reason is that tribal secondary, higher secondary and higher education rates in these blocks are very low compared to other blocks of Malda district. As a result, tribal people of these blocks did not get the opportunity to work in the private employment sector. Although tribal people of these blocks get less opportunity to work in the private employment sector, which are fewer than the requirement. Therefore, very few tribal people of Harishchandrapur-I and Habibpur blocks are educated in the upper primary, secondary, higher secondary and higher education and they are employed in the private employment sector.

The rate of non-agricultural labours in urban areas (28.95 percent) is higher compared to the rural areas (20.34 percent) of Malda district. The main reason for the high rate of non-agricultural laborers in the urban area of Malda district is that, due to the establishment of different types of factories in the Narayanpur and English Bazar region. As a result, many tribal people get the opportunity to work as non-agricultural laborers. Also, they are interested to work as a non-agricultural labourer because they get the opportunity to work on the railway line, road and building construction, etc. Moreover, population density in urban areas (12627 persons per square km) is higher compared to rural areas (1069 persons per square km, as per the census of India, 2011) of the Malda district. So, most of the tribal

people of Malda district are educated in pre-primary, primary, upper primary and secondary education and they are working as non-agricultural laborers.

The rate of home-based workers in urban areas (30.84 percent) is higher compared to the rural areas (26.98 percent) of Malda district. The main reason for the high rate of home-based workers in the urban areas of Malda district is that there are various types of cottage industries established here. Various types of cottage industries such as bamboo work, cane work, woodwork, clay work, cloth sewing work, etc. have been established. As a result, many tribal people get the opportunity to work as home-based workers. Also, another reason is that compared to both men & women people in rural areas, most men & women people in urban areas are working as a servant in any household. In particular, compared to women people in rural areas, most urban women people working as auntie (slaves) in any household. Moreover, population density in urban areas (12627 persons per square km) is higher compared to rural areas (1069 persons per square km, as per the census of India, 2011) of the Malda district. Therefore, most of the tribal people of Malda district are educated in pre-primary, primary, upper primary and secondary education and they are working as home-based workers.

The rate of business in urban areas (16.68 percent) is higher compared to the rural areas (7.87 percent) of Malda district. The main reason for the high rate of business in the urban areas of Malda district is that there are available of advanced communication systems, high-density of the population (both English Bazar & Old Malda Municipality, 12094 persons per square km, as per the census of India, 2011) capital (79.12 percent APL, as per RSBY of Malda district, 2012), demand and markets. Therefore, most tribal people in urban areas of Malda district are educated in primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary education and they are involved in the business sector.

The rates of both government and private jobs in urban areas (government 11.00 percent & private 8.48 percent) are higher compared to the rural areas (government 6.96 percent & private 3.17 percent) of the Malda district. The main reason for this is that the rates of secondary, higher secondary and higher education in urban areas are higher in comparison to rural areas of Malda district. Also, another reason for the high rate of government and private jobs in urban areas compared to the rural areas of Malda district is that there are more job opportunities and facilities in government and private employment sectors in the urban areas compared to rural areas. Because the number of different types of government and private

offices in the urban areas is higher compared to the rural areas of Malda district. As a result, many tribal people in the urban areas get more opportunities to work in the government and private employment sectors compared to rural areas of Malda district. This means that most educated tribal people in the urban areas are working in government and non-government employment sectors compared to the rural areas. In addition, another reason for the high rate of government and private jobs in urban areas compared to the rural areas of Malda district is that the population density in urban areas (12627 persons per square km) is higher compared to rural areas (1069 persons per square km, as per the census of India, 2011) of Malda district. Therefore, many tribal people in the urban areas of Malda district are educated in upper primary, secondary, higher secondary and higher education and they are working in the government and non-government employment sectors.

It is understood from the above discussion that the rates of pre-primary (18.40 percent), primary (35.15 percent), upper primary (14.72 percent) and secondary (19.15 percent) education in Malda district are higher than other education levels. On the other hand, the rates of cultivation (12.16 percent), agricultural laborers (18.90 percent), non-agricultural laborers (21.35 percent) and home-based workers (27.49 percent) in this district are higher compared to other employment sectors. Therefore, most tribal people of Malda district are generally educated in pre-primary, primary, upper primary and secondary education and they work as farmers, home-based workers, agricultural laborers and non-agricultural laborers. Again, in this district such as higher secondary (6.23 percent), undergraduate (3.54 percent), post-graduate (1.22 percent), professional and technical (1.59 percent) education rates are lower than other education levels, in the same way, in this district, the rates of business (8.90 percent), government (7.40 percent) and non-government (3.80 percent) jobs are also lower compared to other employment sectors. So, there is a low rate of higher secondary, graduate, postgraduate, professional and technical education in this district, as well as lower rates of business, government and non-government jobs. It means that very few tribal people in the Malda district are usually educated in higher secondary and higher education and they do business, government and non-government jobs. But some tribal people educated in upper primary and secondary education and they are engaged in the business, government and non-government employment sectors.

The seventh chapter of the thesis is a summary of conclusions and recommendations to improve the education and employment opportunities of the tribal people in the Malda

district. From the findings of the education and employment scenario and their comparison is done in the earlier chapter, it is very clear that tribal people in the difference block of Malda district are significantly backward in all respect. Therefore, the following measures can be recommended to improve the Pre-primary, Primary, Secondary, Higher Secondary, Higher Education and Women education status as well as employment status of Scheduled Tribe population in the Malda district. The following measures can be recommended to improve the different levels of education and women's education status as well as the employment status of Scheduled Tribe population in the Malda district.

The following recommendations have been made to resolve the problems of primary, secondary, higher secondary, higher education (UG, PG, Professional & Technical) and women education in tribal areas of Malda district.

Recommendations for the improvement of all Primary Education Levels (Nursery to VIII) among the tribal communities of the Malda district are requirement of tribal teachers, teaching on tribal language or mother tongue, increase the amount of government funding, increasing responsibilities and awareness of the private educational institutions, the increase of awareness of the tribal parents about education, increase in the number of schools in tribal rural areas, establishment of primary education development centre, teaching in a healthy environment, providing necessary teaching and learning materials (TLM), research on pre-primary education, regular school visits by the school inspector, repair of school house and construction of a new school house, establishment of new schools in indigenous areas, emphasis on co-curriculum activities, recruitment of an adequate number of trained teachers, resistance of wastage or dropout, regular health check-ups and mid-day-meal arrangements, applying of child labour Act, the timetable of school will be made according to the workload of tribal communities in the Malda district, the holidays of school should be arranged according to the tribal culture of the Malda district, the motivation program will be launched in the tribal communities of the Malda district.

Recommendations for the improvement of Secondary (Class IX– X) and Higher Secondary (XI-XII) Education levels among the tribal communities of the Malda district are availability of infrastructural facility for the educational institution, supply of teaching aids (Teaching & Learning Materials), establishment of school libraries and laboratory, provision of student scholarships or stipend, school renovations and construction of the new school house, regular school visits by the school inspector, give more emphasis on evaluation than examinations,

prevention of wastage and stagnation, establishment of new secondary schools, development of co-curriculum activities, social security of ST students (especially of adolescent girls), development of transport or communication system, increase in the amount of government financial allocation, up-gradation of secondary school to higher secondary school, update of curriculum, establishment of the residential educational institution, establishment of suitable laboratory, establishment of library, good management system.

Recommendations for the improvement of all Higher Education levels (UG, PG and Professional and Technical) among the tribal communities of the Malda district are increase in the amount of government allocation for tribal education, establishment of higher educational institutions in tribal areas, improvement of the communication system, establishment of high-quality libraries and laboratories, awareness about higher education, provision of part-time education for tribal people, provision of scholarship for tribal students, providing special opportunities and facilities for research work of the tribal students.

Recommendations for the improvement of tribal women education in Secondary, Higher Secondary and Higher Education levels of Malda district are prevention of child marriage, awareness of about women education, establishment of women education institutions, establish a suitable infrastructure for women's education, provision of necessary scholarship, increased communication among less educated and highly educated women students, free from social conservatism and superstition, recruitment of trained female director and teacher, social security, free from family work, free from different types of cultural and religious activities, employment opportunity, provision of open and distance education, cooperation of women association, provision of government financial aid.

The following recommendations have been made to resolve the problems of Home-Based Workers (HBW), Cultivation, Business, Agricultural labours, Non-Agricultural labours, Government Regular Salaried Workers (GRSW) and Private Regular Salaried Workers (PRSW) in tribal areas of Malda district.

Recommendations for the improvement of tribal Home-Based Workers (HBW) in Malda district are the provision of financial loans for home-based workers, selling at a fair price on manufactured products and provision of training for home-based work purposes.

Recommendations for the improvement of Cultivation among the tribal communities of Malda district are providing financial loans for agriculture purpose, fair prices on agricultural crops, conservation of

perishable agricultural crops, training for agriculture purpose, the supply of high-quality seeds, chemical fertilizers, pesticides and improved irrigation systems.

Recommendations for the improvement of business among the tribal communities of Malda district are providing financial loans for business purposes, give the license for business purpose, improvement communication system, provision of insurance to tribal traders and business material.

Recommendations for the improvement of Agricultural labours and Non-Agricultural labours among the tribal communities of Malda district are fixed wages for agricultural and non-agricultural work, formation of an association, provision of employment by the government.

Recommendations for the improvement of Government Regular Salaried Workers (GRSW) and Private Regular Salaried Workers (PRSW) among the tribal communities of Malda district are development of tribal education rate, provision of the reservation system for job purpose, increase of awareness about employment, formation of an association or union, provision to make contractual and casual workers permanent.