

CHAPTER III

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF TRIBAL POPULATION OF THE STUDY AREA

3.1 Introduction

The tribal communities have some distinct physical and diverse cultural traits. Tribes are relatively isolated from larger cultural influences, they also share cultural homogeneity, and most of them live in isolated terrains, the main sources of their livelihood being agriculture or forest produce. They have some common characteristics like illiteracy, economic backwardness, social deprivation, primitive religious belief, distinct language (Naik, 1984). The tribes have been confined to low status and are often physically and socially isolated instead of being absorbed in the main stream population (Dr.HaseenaV.A & Mohammed, 2014). The tribal social – cultural structure is not only fascinating but also unique in respect of certain elements of culture. Over the centuries they have preserved a distinctive style of life and cultural norms. The tribal community always faces difficulties in socio-economic development due to various factors like geographical and cultural isolation.

3.2 Social Condition

3.2.1 Distribution and Concentration of Scheduled Tribe Population

Population size is an important factor of demographic structure. Table 3.1 is showing Block and Gram Panchayat-wise distribution of tribal population, percentage distribution of ST male and female, sex ratio and concentration of tribal population by Location Quotient. In Siliguri Sub-division a large number of areas come under the tea garden sector. According to a report namely “Survey of Tea Gardens” published by Regional Labour Offices under jurisdiction of Joint Labour Commissioner, North Bengal Zone in 2012, out of total 126 tea estates in Darjiling district, 45 tea estates come under this Sub-division. As the tribal are a cheap source of labour, a large number of tribal population is concentrated in these tea garden areas. In the study area the percentage of tribal population is 15.08 percent. Highest percentage of tribal population is found in Phansidewa C.D. Block i.e. 30.61 percent followed by Naxalbari (19.57 percent) and Kharibari (19.46 percent) Blocks. Lowest percentage of ST population is found in Siliguri Municipal Corporation (Part) (1.26 percent). A large number of the tribal population is engaged in primary economic activities and that is why the rural base concentration is high. In Gram

Panchayat level highest concentration is found in Hetmuri GP i.e. 56.27 percent and the lowest concentration is found in Matigara II with 1.92 percent.

3.2.2 Location Quotient

Location Quotient (LQ) is basically a way of quantifying how concentrated a demographic group is in a region as compared to the nation. Here it shows concentration of ST population in different C.D. Blocks, Gram Panchayats and Siliguri MC (Part) in the study area compared to Siliguri Sub-division. LQ value 1 is considered as balanced concentration, more than 1 is showing the higher concentration of ST population and value nearer less than 1 is showing the lower concentration of ST population compared to Siliguri Sub-division (Mahmood, 2013). In study area block-wise highest ST concentration is found in Phansidewa C.D. Block where the LQ is 2.030 and the lowest LQ is found in Matigara C.D. Block (0.890). The LQ of Siliguri MC (Part) under Siliguri Sub-division is 0.083.

For this particular analysis of Gram Panchayats LQ value in the range of 0.8 to 1.3 is to be considered as balanced concentration. Value greater than 1.3 is to be considered as high concentration and less than 0.8 to be dispersed concentration. From table 3.2 it can be seen that in the study area only two Gram Panchayats, Nakshalbari (1.007), Upper Bagdogra (1.134), come under the balanced concentration tag. Hetmuri (3.732) GP of Phansidewa C.D. Block is with highest LQ and Matigara II (0.127) of Matigara C.D. Block is with lowest LQ among the Gram Panchayats in the Sub-division. Out of the total 22 Gram Panchayats in the Sub-division 10 Gram Panchayats come under the tag of high concentration and dispersed concentration each. Champasari (1.844), Patharghata (1.595), Maniram (1.843), Hatighisa (3.491), Bidhan Nagar I (1.552), Bidhan Nagar II (3.241), Ghoshpukur (3.485), Hetmuri (3.732), Binnabari (1.530) and Buraganj (2.442) have been classified as high tribal concentration Gram Panchayats in the Sub-division. And Atharakhai (0.227), Matigara I (0.180), Matigara II (0.127), Lower Bagdogra (0.303), Gossapur (0.279), Phanshidewa (0.514), Jalash Nijam Para (0.324), Chathat Bansgaon (0.733), Kharibari Panishali (0.412), Raniganj Panishali (0.692); these ten Gram Panchayats have been classified as Gram Panchayats with dispersed tribal concentration.

Table 3.1 Gram Panchayat-wise Distribution of Tribal Population in Siliguri Sub-division, 2011

Name of the Block/GP	ST Population			Percentage of ST Population to Total Population			Sex Ratio (ST)	LQ
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female		
Siliguri Sub –division	146432	72153	74279	15.08	49.27	50.73	1029	1.000
Matigara C.D.Block	26484	12942	13542	13.42	48.87	51.13	1046	0.890
Champasari	12351	6067	6284	27.81	49.12	50.88	1036	1.844
Matigara I	606	305	301	2.71	50.33	49.67	987	0.180
Matigara II	657	322	335	1.92	49.01	50.99	1040	0.127
Atharakhai	1704	814	890	3.42	47.77	52.23	1093	0.227
Patharghata	11166	5434	5732	24.04	48.67	51.33	1055	1.595
Naxalbari C.D.Block	32388	15989	16399	19.57	49.37	50.63	1026	1.298
Nakshalbari	5105	2532	2573	15.18	49.60	50.40	1016	1.007
Upper Bagdogra	6718	3264	3454	17.10	48.59	51.41	1058	1.134
Hatighisa	10909	5370	5539	52.64	49.23	50.77	1031	3.491
Gossaiपुर	1001	512	489	4.21	51.15	48.85	955	0.279
Lower Bagdogra	928	477	451	4.57	51.40	48.60	945	0.303
Maniram	7727	3834	3893	27.79	49.62	50.38	1015	1.843
Phansidewa C.D.Block	62595	30744	31851	30.61	49.12	50.88	1036	2.030
Hetmuri	19420	9404	10016	56.27	48.42	51.58	1065	3.732
Bidhan Nagar I	7033	3451	3582	23.40	49.07	50.93	1038	1.552
Bidhan Nagar II	13228	6533	6695	48.88	49.39	50.61	1025	3.241
Chathat Bansaon	3216	1660	1556	11.05	51.62	48.38	937	0.733
Ghoshpukur	16524	8092	8432	52.54	48.97	51.03	1042	3.485
Jalash Nijam Para	1499	761	738	4.88	50.77	49.23	970	0.324
Phanshidewa	1675	843	832	7.75	50.33	49.67	987	0.514
Kharibari C.D.Block	21262	10615	10647	19.46	49.92	50.08	1003	1.291
Binnabari	4152	2039	2113	23.07	49.11	50.89	1036	1.530
Buraganj	11845	5910	5935	36.82	49.89	50.11	1004	2.442
Kharibari Panishali	1329	661	668	6.22	49.74	50.26	1011	0.412
Raniganj Panishali	3936	2005	1931	10.44	50.94	49.06	963	0.692
Siliguri MC (Part)	3703	1863	1840	1.26	50.31	49.69	988	0.083

Source: Census of India 2011

Table 3.2 Concentration of Tribal Population in Gram Panchayats of Siliguri Sub-division

Concentration	LQ Index	Gram Panchayats
High concentration	>1.300	Champasari, Patharghata, Maniram, Hatighisa, Bidhan Nagar I, Bidhan Nagar II, Ghoshpukur, Hetmuri, Binnabari, Buraganj
Balanced concentration	0.800-1.300	Nakshalbari, Upper Bagdogra,
Dispersed concentration	<0.800	Atharakhai, Matigara I, Matigara II, Lower Bagdogra, Gossaipur, Phanshidewa, Jalash Nijam Para, Chathat Bansaon, Kharibari Panishali, Raniganj Panishali

Source: Compiled by the Researcher

3.2.3 Sex Ratio

Sex ratio is defined as the number of female per 1000 male population. It is one of the important social indicators which measure the extent of equality between male and female. It also provides an indication of both the relative survival of female and male.

The sex ratio of India has had been remained unfavorable to female. But for tribal population the scenario is quite different. Where the sex ratio of India is 940, the sex ratio of tribal population in India is 990. The scenario is same for the study area also. Where in Siliguri Sub-division the sex ratio is 954, the sex ratio of tribal population of the same is 1029. The reason behind this is generally the tribal community follows Matriarchal Society where there is no gender inequality. Even, when dowry system is a great concern for the whole society; the tribals follow no dowry culture. Though the sad part is during survey it has been observed that the tribals those who are main streamed into urbanism, sex selection has begun among them.

Block-wise the highest sex ratio of tribal population is found in Matigara C. D. Block that is 1046 followed by Phansidewa C. D. Block (1036) and Naxalbari C. D. Block (1026). The lowest tribal sex ratio is found in Kharibari C.D. Block (1003). It can be seen that in Phansidewa C.D. Block, the percentage of ST population (30.61 percent) as well as the sex ratio (1036) is highest among the four C.D. Blocks in the study area. In most of the Gram Panchayats sex ratio of tribal population is above 1000. Highest tribal sex ratio is found in Atharakhai GP (1093) followed by Hetmuri GP (1065). The lowest tribal sex ratio is found in Chathat Bansaon GP (937) followed by Lower Bagdogra GP (945) and Gossaipur (955). In Siliguri MC (Part) under

Siliguri Sub-division the tribal sex ratio is 988. For this study Gram Panchayats have been classified into three categories according to their tribal sex ratio (Table 3.3). Gram Panchayats with tribal sex ratio between 1000-1030 has been classified as Balanced sex ratio category, Gram Panchayats with tribal sex ratio greater than 1030 are in High sex ratio category and Gram Panchayats with less than 1000 fall in Low sex ratio category. As sex ratio figure 1000 indicates towards an equal male-female number and tribal sex ratio of Siliguri Sub-division is 1029; so here in this study the sex ratio between 1000-1030 has been considered as Balanced tribal sex ratio. According to the above parameters 10 Gram Panchayats in the study area Hatighisa (1031), Champasari (1036), Binnabari (1036), Bidhan Nagar I (1038), Matigara II (1040), Ghoshpukur (1042), Patharghata (1055), Upper Bagdogra (1058), Hetmuri (1065) and Atharakhai (1093) come under the category High tribal sex ratio. 5 Gram Panchayats Buraganj (1004), Kharibari Panishali (1011), Maniram (1015), Nakshalbari (1016) and Bidhan Nagar II (1025) has been classified as with Balanced tribal sex ratio. And the rest 7 Gram Panchayats Chathat Bansaon (937), Lower Bagdogra (945), Gossaipur (955), Raniganj Panishali (963), Jalash Nijam Para (970), Matigara I (987) and Phanshidewa (987) are with Low tribal sex ratio. During survey it has been observed that generally where the tribal concentration is high or the tribals are still living with hard isolation from the mainstream society, the sex ratio is also high there.

Table 3.3 Sex Ratio of Tribal Population in Gram Panchayats of Siliguri Sub-division

Category	Sex Ratio	Gram Panchayats
High	>1030	Hatighisa, Champasari, Binnabari, Bidhan Nagar I, Matigara II, Ghoshpukur, Patharghata, Upper Bagdogra, Hetmuri, Atharakhai
Balanced	1000-1030	Buraganj, Kharibari Panishali, Maniram, Nakshalbari, Bidhan Nagar II
Low	<1000	Chathat Bansaon , Lower Bagdogra, Gossaipur, Raniganj Panishali, Jalash Nijam Para, Matigara I, Phanshidewa,

Source: Compiled by the Researcher

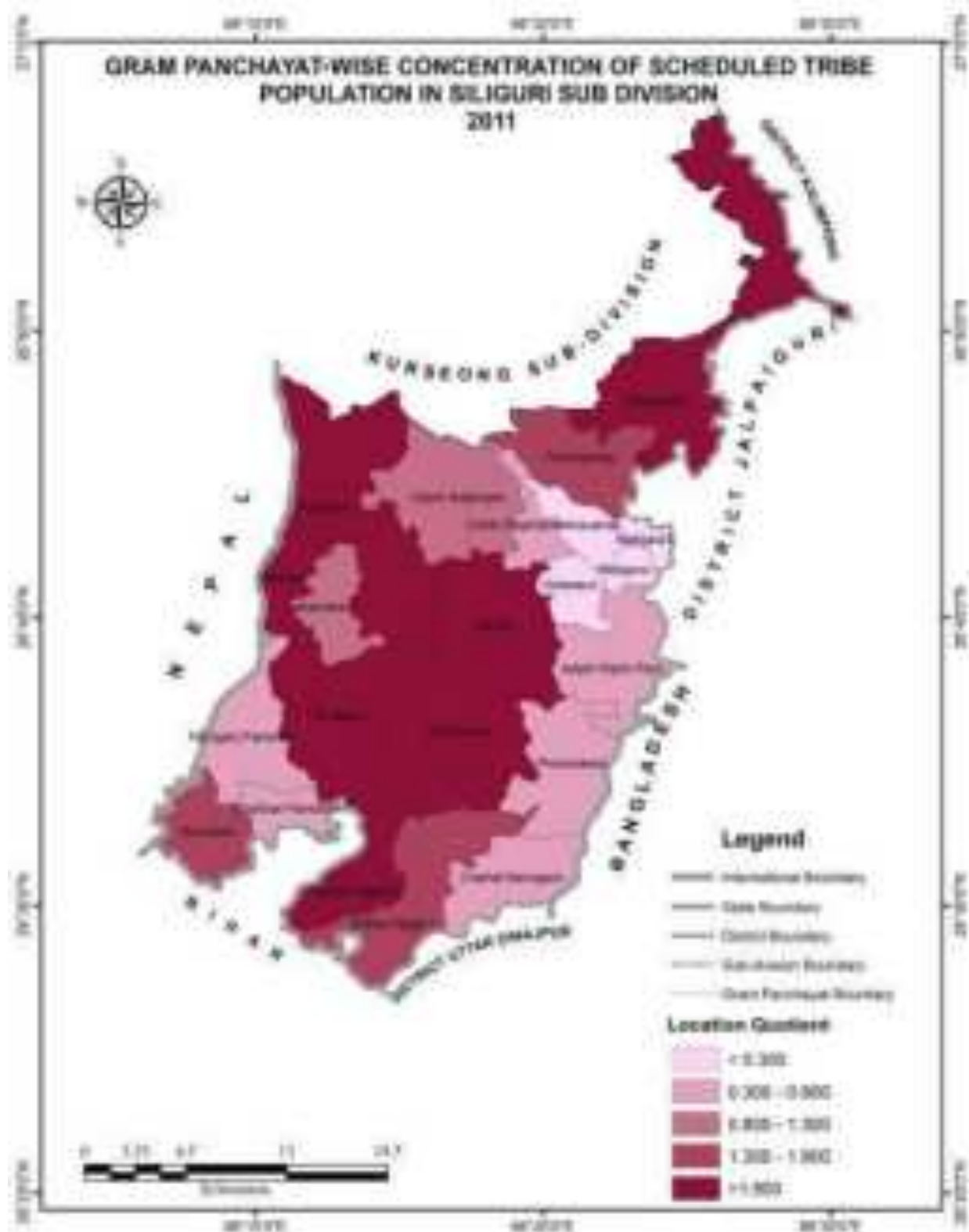


Fig. 3.1



Fig. 3.2

3.2.4 Rural Urban Distribution

In the study area highest concentration of tribal population is found mostly in rural areas. Only 6.36 percent of total ST population of Siliguri Sub-division lives in urban areas, which are well below of the total urban population of the Sub-division (20.88 percent). In the study area the scheduled tribes share 25.62 percent of total rural and 2.14 percent of total urban population. Table 3.4 is showing the block-wise rural urban distribution of tribal population. Among the four C. D. Blocks Phansidewa C.D. Block does not have any urban area. So, all the ST population lives in rural areas. In Matigara C.D Block 92.43 percent of ST population lives in rural areas. In Kharibari and Naxalbari C.D.Blocks the percentage of ST rural population are 99.45 percent and 89.23 percent respectively. Among the four C.D Blocks highest ST urban population is found in Naxalbari C.D Block (10.77 percent). Also Naxalbari C.D Block has the highest percentage of urban ST population (5.14 percent) to total urban population in the block. Culturally tribal people are more connected to the forest, tea garden than the modern mainstream society (Paltasigh & Paliwal, 2014). And there is no exception to the tribal people in the study area too. That is why they are more concentrated in the rural areas than in urban areas in the study area. In case of Matigara and Naxalbari C.D. Block as these are the adjacent to Siliguri MC (Part) and number of urban centers comparatively is also high in these two blocks, the study shows a small number of tribal population has been concentrated in these urban centers in search of better income opportunities.

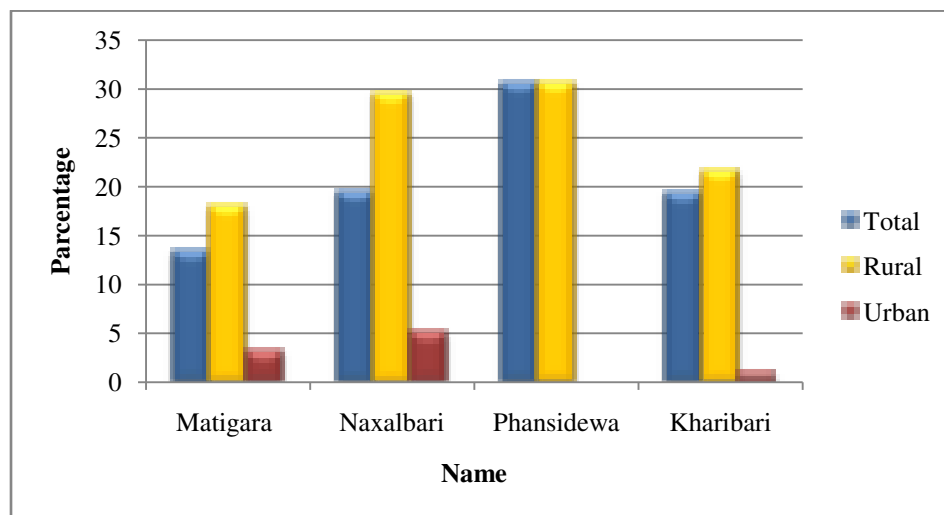


Fig. 3.3: Block-wise Rural Urban Distribution of Scheduled Tribe Population, 2011

Table 3.4 Block-wise Rural Urban Distribution of Tribal Population, 2011

Name of the Blocks	Total ST Population			Percentage Share of ST Population			Percentage of ST Population to Total Population		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Matigara	26484	12942	13542	100.00	100.00	100.00	13.42	48.87	51.13
Rural	24480	11990	12490	92.43	92.64	92.23	18.06	48.98	51.02
Urban	2004	952	1052	7.57	7.36	7.77	3.25	47.50	52.50
Naxalbari	32388	15989	16399	100.00	100.00	100.00	19.57	49.37	50.63
Rural	28901	14257	14644	89.23	89.17	89.30	29.58	49.33	50.67
Urban	3487	1732	1755	10.77	10.83	10.70	5.14	49.67	50.33
Phansidewa	62595	30744	31851	100.00	100.00	100.00	30.61	49.12	50.88
Rural	62595	30744	31851	100.00	100.00	100.00	30.61	49.12	50.88
Urban	00	00	00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kharibari	21262	10615	10647	100.00	100.00	100.00	19.46	49.92	50.08
Rural	21146	10554	10592	99.45	99.43	99.48	21.71	49.91	50.09
Urban	116	61	55	0.55	0.57	0.52	0.98	52.59	47.41
Siliguri sub division	146432	72153	74279	100.00	100.00	100.00	15.08	49.27	50.73
Rural	137122	67545	69577	93.64	93.61	93.67	25.62	49.26	50.74
Urban	9310	4608	4702	6.36	6.39	6.33	2.14	49.50	50.50

Source: Census of India 2011

3.2.5 Age-Sex Composition

In Population studies, age distribution which is also called age composition is the proportionate numbers of persons in successive age categories in a given population. Age-Sex structure is one of the most important characteristic of population studies as most of the studies are based on age-sex structure of the population. A proper analysis of age sex composition of an area can help to understand the demographic dynamics of that area. Also it can help policy making and planning according to the need of the demographic dynamics (Boruah). Here in this study, the total scheduled tribe population has been categorized into six different age groups which are (i) Upto 6 years, (ii) 7 to 14 years, (iii) 15 to 29 years, (iv) 30 to 44 years, (v) 45 to 59 years and (vi) 60 & above (Census, 2011). The analysis of primary data (Table 3.5) regarding age composition clearly shows that the age group of 15 to 29 years is the largest and constitutes 36.18 percent of total scheduled tribe population in the study area. The age group of 60 years and above is the lowest in the study area and constitutes 5.69 percent of the total ST population. The National Youth Policy 2014 has defined the population with age group of 15 to 29 years of age as Youth Population of the country (NYP, 2014). The Govt. of India has been classified the population

with age group of 60 & above as Senior Citizen or Elderly Population of the country. So, it can be said that in the study area the scheduled tribe population is very much young. Primary data shows concentration of this youth age group is higher in urban areas than that in the rural areas. In urban areas out of total ST population 42.51 percent belongs to this youth age group. In rural the percentage is 35.45 percent. The population of 0 to 14 years of age group is also very significant because it is the main supplier of school going population and the upcoming youth. The percentage share for this age group is 21.15 percent. In rural 22.47 percent and in urban 8.71 percent of total ST population belong to this age group. Through field survey it has been revealed that in urban areas concentration of youth male ST population is higher than youth female ST population. It can also be seen that the percentage share of 15-29 years of age group is abnormally increases from the percentage share of 0-14 years of age group in urban areas. The probable reason behind this increased percentage share is migration of ST population, mainly male ST population, in search of better economic opportunities in urban areas. There is significant difference between percentage share of 0 to 6 years of age group population in rural (9.92 percent) and urban (5.26 percent) areas. This is mainly due to better consciousness of urban ST population regarding family planning and economic stability than that of the rural ST population.

Table 3.5 Rural Urban Age-Sex Composition of Scheduled Tribe Population

Age group (In years)	Rural			Urban			Total		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Upto 6	9.92	9.45	10.40	5.26	4.65	5.93	9.44	8.93	9.95
7-14	12.55	13.19	11.91	4.45	5.43	3.39	11.71	12.35	11.05
15-29	35.45	34.33	36.58	42.51	44.19	40.68	36.18	35.39	36.99
30-44	23.27	22.26	24.29	19.84	15.50	24.58	22.91	21.54	24.32
45-59	12.83	13.94	11.72	24.70	27.13	22.03	14.07	15.36	12.76
60 & above	5.97	6.83	5.10	3.24	3.10	3.39	5.69	6.43	4.93

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.6 is showing the Gram Panchayat-wise age-sex composition in different blocks in Siliguri Sub-division. Out of total ST Population in Phansidewa C.D. Block, 12.04 percent belongs to 0 to 6 years of age group, which is highest among the four C.D. Blocks for same age group. Likewise if consider the age group of 0 to 14 years of age, then Kharibari C.D Block (27.12 percent) tops the list, followed by Phansidewa C.D. Block (25.77 percent). The primary

data shows in Matigara C.D. Block out of total ST population the share percentage of youth (36.71 percent) is highest among all the four C.D Blocks; followed by Naxalbari C.D Block (36.49 percent). So, as a whole considering below 30 years of age as the young population, Phansidewa C.D Block has the highest share of young population percentage i.e. 61.06 percent and Karibari C.D. Block (60.14 percent) follows the list. The highest share percentage of 60 years and above age group population can be found in Naxalbari C.D. Block (7.66 percent) and the lowest of the same is in Kharibari C.D. Block (4.72 percent). So, the analysis on age sex composition describes the tribal population in the study area is mainly dominated by the young age population and the main demographic dynamics can be determined by this population only.

Table 3.6 Gram Panchayat-wise Age-Sex Composition of Scheduled Tribe Population

Name of the Block/GP	0-6			7-14			15-29		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Matigara	8.92	8.37	9.50	8.72	9.96	7.44	36.71	35.06	38.43
Champasari	7.66	6.56	8.73	8.47	9.84	7.14	36.69	33.61	39.68
Matigara I	12.50	13.64	11.11	2.50	0.00	5.56	37.50	31.82	44.44
Matigara II	11.11	11.11	11.11	11.11	11.11	11.11	22.22	22.22	22.22
Atharokhai	10.71	11.76	9.09	3.57	0.00	9.09	46.43	58.82	27.27
Patharghata	9.43	8.64	10.26	11.32	14.81	7.69	36.48	34.57	38.46
Naxalbari	6.65	7.17	6.12	11.90	11.95	11.84	36.49	36.25	36.73
Naxalbari	5.95	4.88	6.98	8.33	9.76	6.98	41.67	43.90	39.53
Upper Bagdogra	6.43	6.06	6.76	15.00	16.67	13.51	35.00	30.30	39.19
Hatighisa	8.99	11.11	6.82	12.36	8.89	15.91	30.34	31.11	29.55
Gossaiपुर	1.82	3.45	0.00	20.00	27.59	11.54	40.00	34.48	46.15
Lower Bagdogra	10.53	17.39	0.00	7.89	8.70	6.67	21.05	21.74	20.00
Maniram	6.67	4.26	9.30	6.67	2.13	11.63	44.44	51.06	37.21
Phansidewa	12.04	11.80	12.29	13.73	14.04	13.41	35.29	33.15	37.43
Hetmuri	12.27	9.91	14.68	10.91	11.71	10.09	36.36	34.23	38.53
Bidhan Nagar I	8.85	9.43	8.33	20.35	22.64	18.33	30.97	26.42	35.00
Bidhan Nagar II	12.67	11.84	13.51	12.00	15.79	8.11	34.67	30.26	39.19
Chathat Bansgao	10.29	13.89	6.25	14.71	8.33	21.88	36.76	38.89	34.38
Ghoshpukur	18.42	18.52	18.33	12.28	7.41	16.67	36.84	38.89	35.00
Jalash Nijamtara	4.76	8.33	0.00	14.29	16.67	11.11	38.10	33.33	44.44
Phasidewa	3.57	7.14	0.00	21.43	28.57	14.29	35.71	28.57	42.86
Kharibari	11.32	9.48	13.15	15.80	17.06	14.55	33.02	33.18	32.86
Binnabari	15.96	13.95	17.65	14.89	18.60	11.76	29.79	30.23	29.41
Buraganj	9.38	10.77	7.94	21.88	20.00	23.81	27.34	29.23	25.40
Kharibari Panisali	10.45	6.90	13.16	16.42	17.24	15.79	34.33	31.03	36.84
Raniganj Panisali	10.37	6.76	14.75	10.37	13.51	6.56	40.00	39.19	40.98

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.6 Continued. Gram Panchayat-wise Age-Sex Composition of Scheduled Tribe Population

Name of the Block/GP	30-44			45-59			60 & above		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Matigara	24.95	22.31	27.69	14.20	16.33	11.98	6.49	7.97	4.96
Champasari	24.60	22.13	26.98	15.73	18.85	12.70	6.85	9.02	4.76
Matigara I	22.50	27.27	16.67	17.50	18.18	16.67	7.50	9.09	5.56
Matigara II	38.89	44.44	33.33	11.11	0.00	22.22	5.56	11.11	0.00
Atharokhai	10.71	0.00	27.27	21.43	23.53	18.18	7.14	5.88	9.09
Patharghata	27.04	23.46	30.77	10.06	12.35	7.69	5.66	6.17	5.13
Naxalbari	21.57	20.32	22.86	15.73	17.13	14.29	7.66	7.17	8.16
Naxalbari	15.48	9.76	20.93	22.62	26.83	18.60	5.95	4.88	6.98
Upper Bagdogra	20.00	19.70	20.27	15.71	18.18	13.51	7.86	9.09	6.76
Hatighisa	32.58	33.33	31.82	7.87	8.89	6.82	7.87	6.67	9.09
Gossaipur	16.36	17.24	15.38	14.55	10.34	19.23	7.27	6.90	7.69
Lower Bagdogra	36.84	34.78	40.00	10.53	4.35	20.00	13.16	13.04	13.33
Maniram	15.56	12.77	18.60	20.00	25.53	13.95	6.67	4.26	9.30
Phansidewa	22.69	24.16	21.23	11.06	10.11	12.01	5.18	6.74	3.63
Hetmuri	25.00	27.93	22.02	10.91	10.81	11.01	4.55	5.41	3.67
Bidhan Nagar I	30.09	30.19	30.00	5.31	5.66	5.00	4.42	5.66	3.33
Bidhan Nagar II	20.67	21.05	20.27	15.33	14.47	16.22	4.67	6.58	2.70
Chathat Bansgao	20.59	19.44	21.88	8.82	8.33	9.38	8.82	11.11	6.25
Ghoshpukur	19.30	22.22	16.67	9.65	7.41	11.67	3.51	5.56	1.67
Jalash Nijamtara	14.29	16.67	11.11	19.05	8.33	33.33	9.52	16.67	0.00
Phasidewa	10.71	14.29	7.14	17.86	14.29	21.43	10.71	7.14	14.29
Kharibari	24.29	21.33	27.23	10.85	13.74	7.98	4.72	5.21	4.23
Binnabari	21.28	18.60	23.53	11.70	11.63	11.76	6.38	6.98	5.88
Buraganj	28.13	24.62	31.75	10.16	12.31	7.94	3.13	3.08	3.17
Kharibari Panisali	17.91	13.79	21.05	13.43	20.69	7.89	7.46	10.34	5.26
Raniganj Panisali	25.93	22.97	29.51	9.63	13.51	4.92	3.70	4.05	3.28

Source: Filed Survey 2019-20

3.2.6 Marital status

Marital status describes a person's relationship with significant other. Married, Unmarried, Widow/ Widower and Separated; these are the four categories in this section (Census, 2011). Uniformity has been found in terms of percentage share of married and unmarried ST population in both rural and urban areas. In rural areas 50.31 percent of ST population is married and in urban areas the percentage is 52.23 percent. Share percentage of unmarried in rural areas is 43.30

percent and in urban the percentage is 42.89 percent. The widow and widower share percentage is 4.51 percent and 1.81 percent respectively in the study area. Legal separation is very rare among tribals. In most of the cases the separation is mutual kind of separation. Though mutual separation is also rare among tribals. Only 0.13 percent of total ST population comes under this mutual separation. In rural, the separated tribal population is 0.09 percent and in urban it is 0.40 percent.

Table 3.7 Marital Status of Tribal Population

Marital status	Rural			Urban			Total		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Married	50.31	50.61	50.00	52.23	49.61	55.08	50.51	50.50	50.51
Unmarried	43.30	45.46	41.12	42.89	48.06	38.05	43.05	45.74	40.31
Widow	4.42	NA	8.88	3.26	NA	6.02	4.51	NA	9.10
Widower	1.88	3.74	NA	1.21	2.33	NA	1.81	3.59	NA
Separated	0.09	0.19	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.85	0.13	0.17	0.09

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

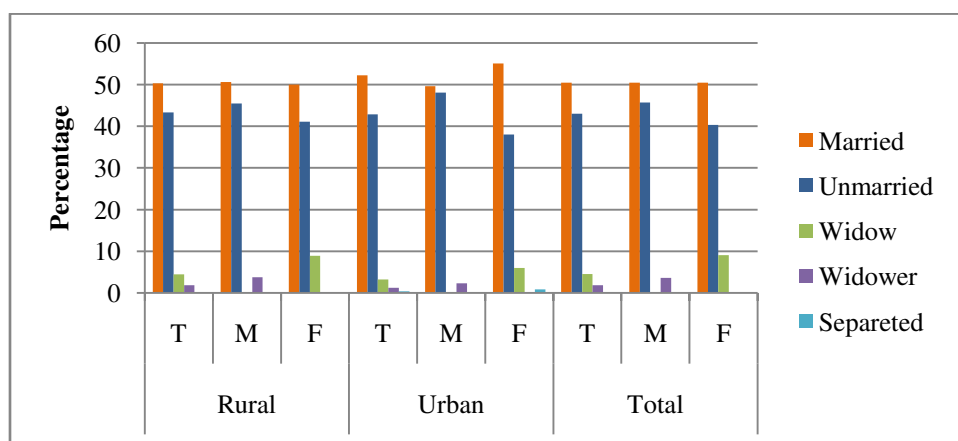


Fig. 3.4: Rural Urban Distribution of Marital Status of Scheduled Tribe Population

In the all four blocks married percentage is higher than the unmarried. Even in most of the Gram Panchayats married population is higher than the unmarried population. It can be seen that among 22 Gram Panchayats in 19 GP female unmarried percentage is lower than the married percentage. In most of the Gram Panchayats percentage of widow is higher than the widower. This is due to the high mortality rate among tribal male compared to tribal female. Even some of the widow is early age widow.

Table 3.8 Block-wise Marital Status of Tribal Population

Name of the Block	Married			Unmarried			Widow/Widower			Separated		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
Matigara	52.54	51.00	54.13	39.96	43.43	36.36	7.3	5.18	9.5	0.2	0.4	0
Naxalbari	50.6	50.6	50.61	43.75	47.81	39.59	5.65	1.59	9.8	0	0	0
Phansidewa	48.46	49.72	47.21	44.68	46.07	43.3	6.72	3.93	9.5	0.14	0.28	0
Kharibari	50.47	51.66	49.3	44.34	44.08	44.6	5.19	4.27	6.1	0	0	0

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

3.2.7 Female Age of Marriage

Female age of marriage is a key indicator of a healthy and sustainable society. For different nations the minimum age bar of marriage is different. In India the minimum age of marriage for female has been set to 18 years. Marriage before 18 years is to be considered as Child Marriage for female. In India, child marriage is a major concern for females. Tribal societies are not exception to that. In the study area the primary data (Table 3.9) reveals 38.22 percent of total married ST female population is a victim of child marriage. This is a big concern for a particular society. In recent time as per report published Supreme Court of India has agreed to examine a transfer petition pending before the Rajasthan High Court regarding fixing of uniform minimum marriage age in India indiscriminately of gender (Dutta, 2021). On the occasion of 74th Independence Day speech, Prime Minister of India announced that a committee had set up by the central government under Ministry for Women and Child Development to examine the matter regarding lowering the maternal mortality ratio and improvement of women nutritional levels and this committee is also considering increment of minimum female marriage age in India (Vishwanath & Roy, 2020). Primary data reveals that girl child marriage is more common in rural areas (39.51 percent) than that of the urban (27.69 percent). A lot more aware and conscious urban society than rural is playing the main role to curtail the child marriage in the urban areas.

Table 3.9 Female Age of Marriage

Age of Marriage	Rural	Urban	Total
<less than 18	39.51	27.69	38.22
18-21	37.43	41.54	37.88
22-25	16.07	21.54	16.67
26-29	4.91	6.15	5.05
>29	2.08	3.08	2.19

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

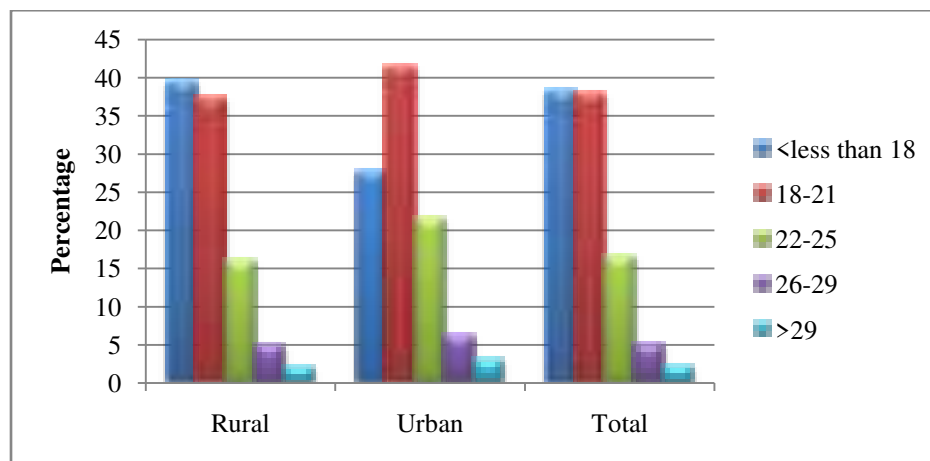


Fig. 3.5: Rural Urban Distribution of Female Age of Marriage

Table 3.10 shows highest girl child marriage percentage is found in Kharibari C.D Block (44.76 percent) and followed by Phansidewa C.D. Block (43.79 percent). The lowest of the same can be found in Matigara C.D. Block (33.59 percent) which is very high in itself. More than half of married ST women in Binnabari GP (59.26 percent) under Kharibari block and Ghoshpukur GP (52.00 percent) under Pansidewa block is a victim of girl child marriage. This is a major concern for those Gram Panchayats. Among all these negativities Pansidewa GP shows some ray of hope of a better society. There percentage of girl child marriage has been recorded nil during field survey.

Table 3.10 Gram Panchayat-wise Female Age of Marriage

Name of the Block/GP	Age of Marriage				
	<less than 18	18-21	22-25	26-29	>29
Matigara	33.59	38.93	18.32	5.34	3.82
Champasari	29.41	47.06	14.71	5.88	2.94
Matigara I	16.67	41.67	25.00	8.33	8.33
Matigara II	47.00	19.67	33.33	0.00	0.00
Atharokhai	0.00	66.67	16.67	0.00	16.67
Patharghata	38.46	33.33	20.51	5.13	2.56
Naxalbari	35.48	37.90	16.94	6.45	3.23
Naxalbari	26.09	65.22	4.35	4.35	0.00
Upper Bagdogra	22.58	51.61	16.13	3.23	6.45
Hatighisa	34.78	39.13	17.39	8.70	0.00
Gossaiपुर	27.27	18.18	27.27	27.27	0.00
Lower Bagdogra	18.18	45.45	27.27	0.00	9.09
Maniram	36.00	36.00	20.00	4.00	4.00

Name of the Block/GP	Age of Marriage				
	<less than 18	18-21	22-25	26-29	>29
Phansidewa	43.79	37.28	14.20	4.14	0.59
Hetmuri	42.86	38.78	14.29	2.04	2.04
Bidhan Nagar I	46.43	35.71	17.86	0.00	0.00
Bidhan Nagar II	44.74	39.47	15.79	0.00	0.00
Chathat Banskao	43.75	25.00	18.75	12.50	0.00
Ghoshpukur	52.00	48.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jalash Nijamtara	42.86	28.57	14.29	14.29	0.00
Phasidewa	0.00	33.33	33.33	33.33	0.00
Kharibari	44.76	35.24	15.24	3.81	0.95
Binnabari	59.26	29.63	7.41	0.00	3.70
Buraganj	33.33	50.00	16.67	0.00	0.00
Kharibari Panisali	38.89	16.67	27.78	16.67	0.00
Raniganj Panisali	46.67	36.67	13.33	3.33	0.00

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

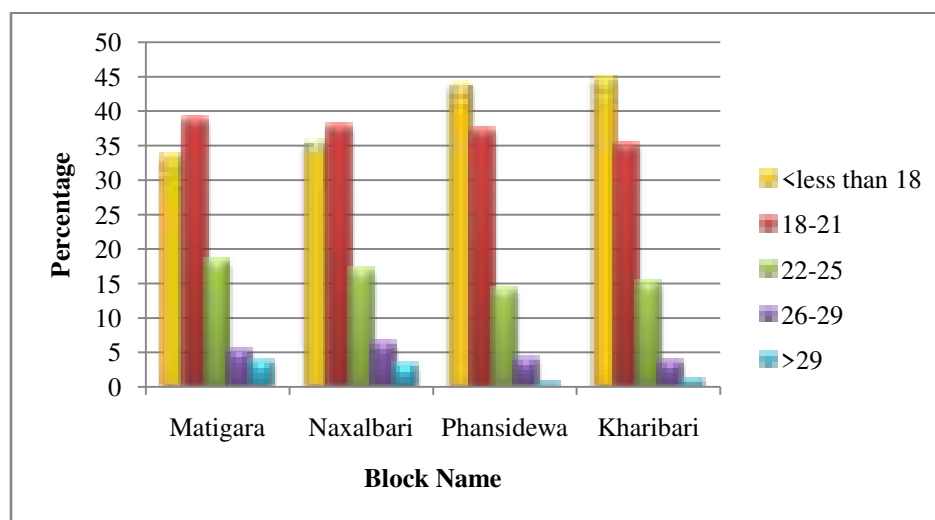


Fig 3.6: Block-wise Distribution of Female Age of Marriage

3.2.8 Literacy Rate

Literacy rate is a key indicator of socio-economic progression of a society. A society with high literacy rate is a better respondent to social, cultural, political and economic events. It has direct impact on per capita income, level of living and ultimately life expectancy (Khan 2004 Literacy plays the most valuable role to remove ignorance and increase awareness among the tribal people for their rights (Raja & Krishnaveni, 2019) Historically despite of different government programs initiated time to time, the literacy percentage of scheduled tribes in India is far below

than the national average. In study area the tribal literacy rate is 60.09 percent in which literacy rate for tribal male is 65.17 percent and tribal female is 54.86 percent (Table 3.11). Clearly this shows female tribals are more neglected than the male tribals in terms of literacy. In study area, the primary data also reveals that the tribal literacy rate in rural areas (58.56 percent) is far below than that of the urban areas (72.65 percent). Both the cases follow the national trend. Tribal male literacy rate in rural is 63.53 percent and in urban it is 78.05 percent. The tribal female literacy rate in rural is 53.48 percent and in urban it is 66.67 percent. The poor economic condition, transportation barrier, early age household work, lack of awareness of the parents and health issues are the main reasons behind this disparity between rural-urban literacy rate among tribals in the study area

Table 3.11 Rural Urban Distribution of Tribal Literacy Rate

Literacy Rate	Rural	Urban	Total
Male	63.53	78.05	65.17
Female	53.48	66.67	54.86
Total	58.56	72.65	60.09

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

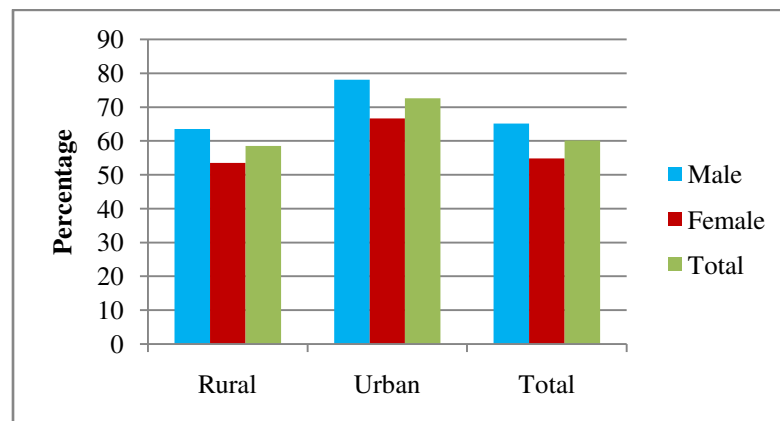


Fig. 3.7: Rural Urban Distribution of Tribal Literacy Rate

Table 3.12 shows block and Gram Panchayat-wise rural tribal literacy rate in study area. This shows block-wise highest literacy rate is found in Naxalbari C.D. Block (63.07 percent), followed by Kharibari C.D. Block 59.04 percent and the lowest literacy rate is in Phansidewa C.D. Block i.e 54.78 percent. Block-wise highest rural tribal male literacy rate is also in Naxalbari C.D. Block (67.81 percent) and followed by Matigara C.D. Block (66.09 percent). Likewise the Sub-division, the rural tribal female literacy rate is lower than that of the male literacy rate in every block. Naxalbari C.D. Block has the highest female literacy percentage (58.26 percent) with Kharibari C.D. Block (55.68 percent) in second position. The lowest both male and female rural

tribal literacy rate is found in Phansidewa C.D. Block i.e 59.24 percent and 50.32 percent respectively. Gram Panchayat-wise highest tribal literacy rate can be found in Matigara I GP (74.29 percent) and for male the same can be found also in Matigara I GP, 84.21 percent. The primary data shows Chathat Bansgao GP under Phansidewa C.D. Block is the most fallen behind GP among all the Gram Panchayats in study area in terms of literacy rate. Here all the parameters i.e tribal literacy rate (45.90 percent), male (51.61 percent) and female (40.00 percent) tribal literacy rate, are lowest among all the GPs’.

Table 3.12 Gram Panchayat-wise Tribal Literacy Rate

Name of the Block/GP	Literacy Rate		
	Total	Male	Female
Matigara	58.80	66.09	51.14
Champasari	57.21	62.28	52.17
Matigara I	74.29	84.21	62.50
Matigara II	68.75	75.00	62.50
Atharokhai	64.00	73.33	50.00
Patharghata	55.56	64.86	45.71
Naxalbari	63.07	67.81	58.26
Naxalbari	65.82	71.79	60.00
Upper Bagdogra	66.41	67.74	65.22
Hatighisa	61.73	67.50	56.10
Gossaiपुर	51.85	57.14	46.15
Lower Bagdogra	58.82	63.16	53.33
Maniram	65.48	73.33	56.41
Phansidewa	54.78	59.24	50.32
Hetmuri	55.96	57.00	54.84
Bidhan Nagar I	57.28	66.67	49.09
Bidhan Nagar II	51.15	53.73	48.44
Chathat Bansgao	45.90	51.61	40.00
Ghoshpukur	60.22	68.18	53.06
Jalash Nijamtara	50.00	54.55	44.44
Phansidewa	59.26	69.23	50.00
Kharibari	59.04	62.30	55.68
Binnabari	58.23	64.86	52.38
Buraganj	59.48	63.79	55.17
Kharibari Panisali	66.67	70.37	63.64
Raniganj Panisali	55.37	56.52	53.85

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

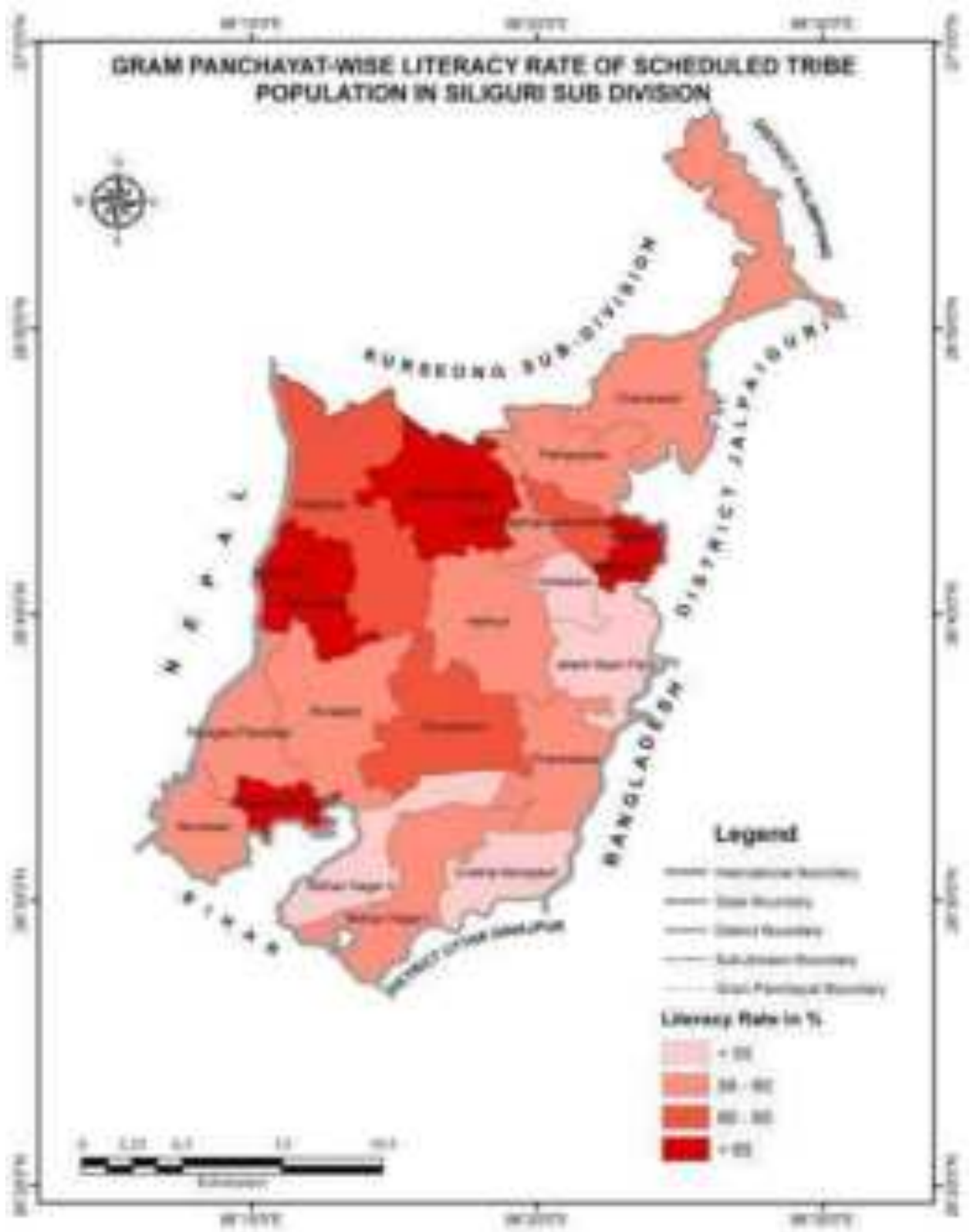


Fig 3.8

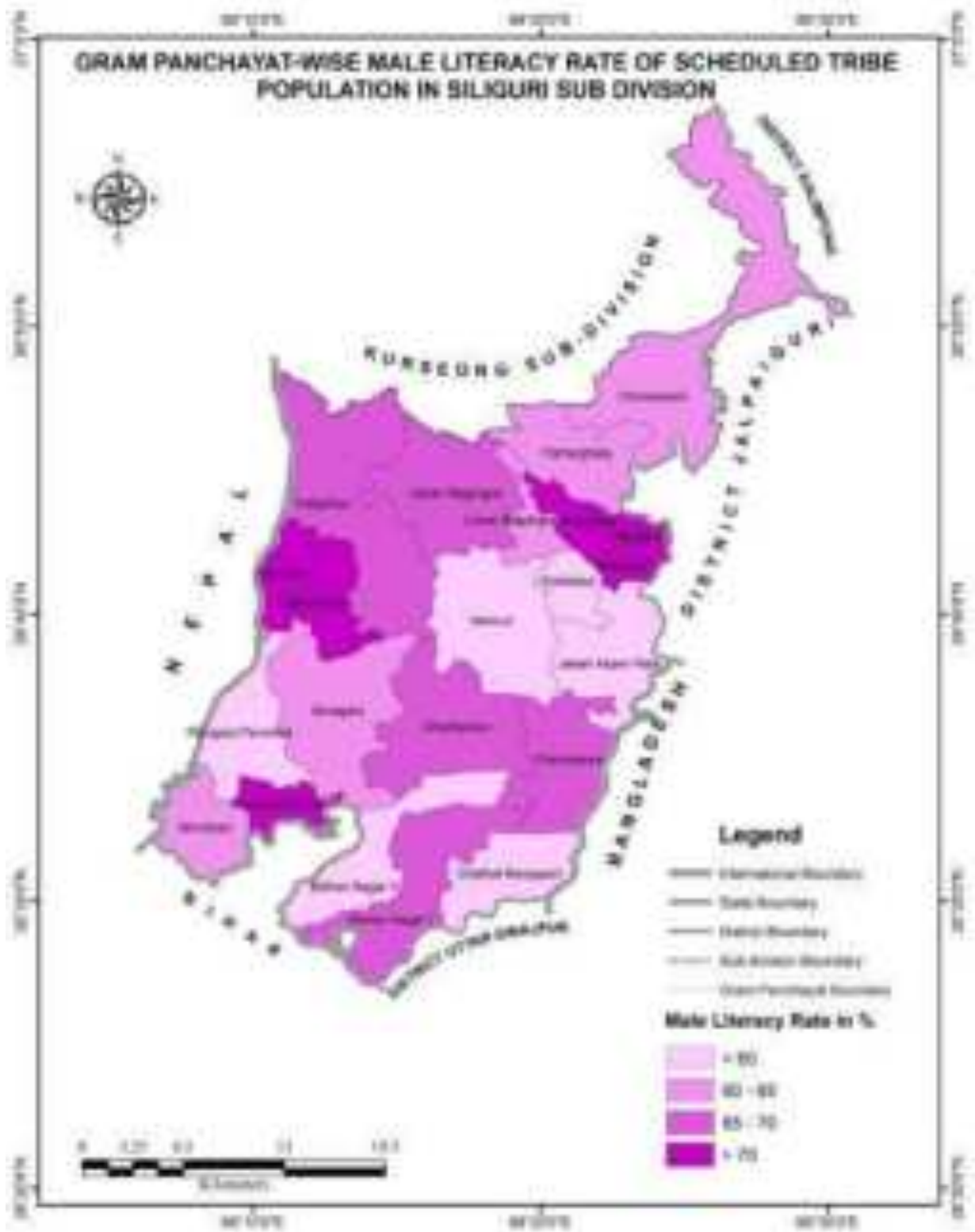


Fig 3.9

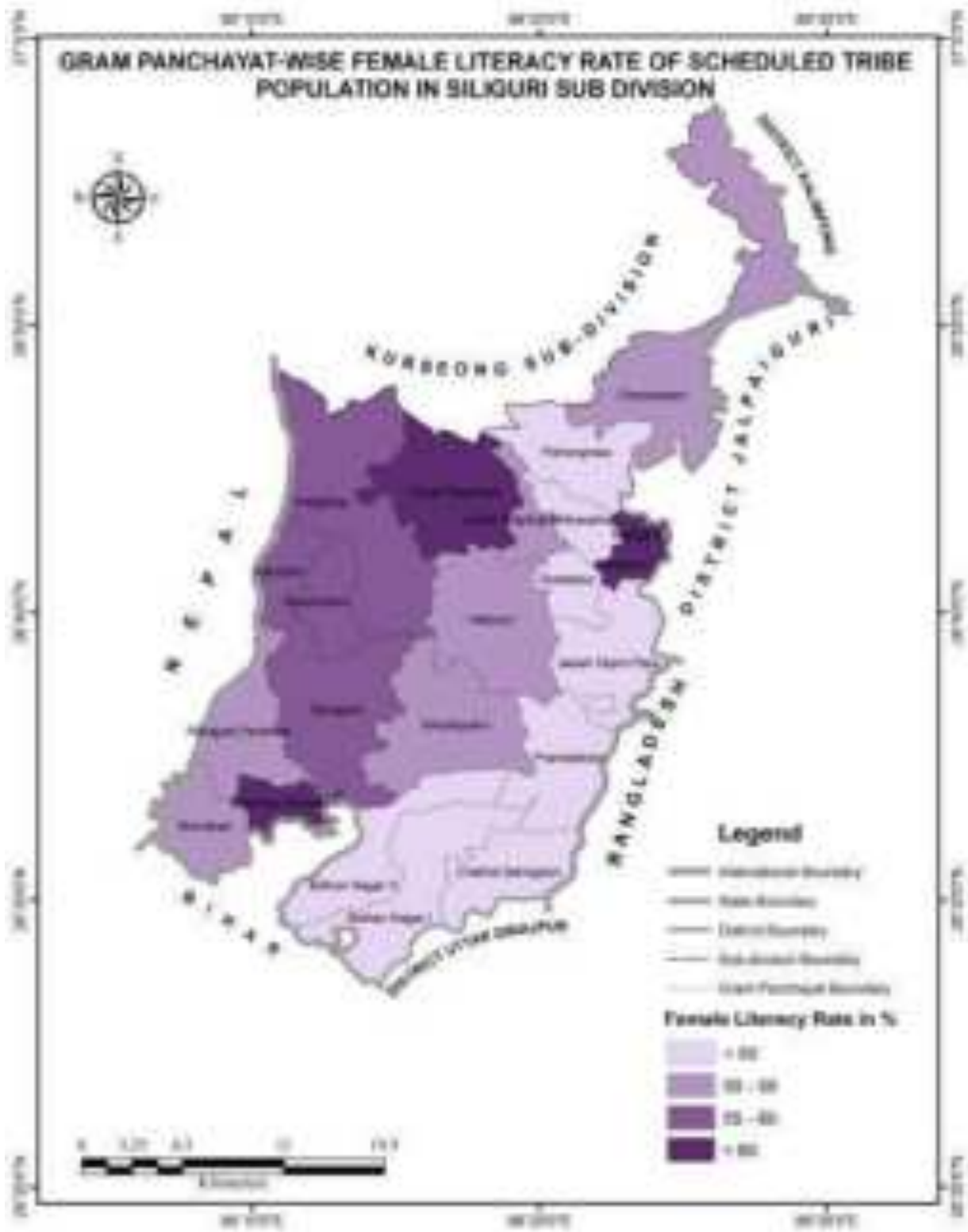


Fig 3.10

In the above two points (3.2.7 and 3.2.8) status of age of marriage and literacy rate of tribal women has been discussed. And it is very obvious that there is a relationship among age of marriage and literacy of tribal women in the study area. To find out the relation the hypothesis as mentioned in the introduction chapter “*Age of marriage is related to the literacy of tribal woman*” is tested here.

Hypothesis: *Age of marriage is related to the literacy of tribal woman.*

Statistical Test:

In present case the variable in question (age of marriage of tribal woman) is a metric variable while the independent variable (educational level) is a categorical variable with two categories – illiterate and literate and data has been collected independently i.e., same person does not appear twice within or between two the groups. So, to verify the present hypothesis the most powerful statistical test is the Two Sample Independent t-Test but here Mann-Whitney U test, the non-parametric counter part of the two samples t-test, has been used since the sample data violets the assumption of normality which is required for application of t-Test.

Mann-Whitney U test is the rank based non-parametric test which is used to determine whether two independent samples have been drawn from the same population. The Null and Alternative Hypothesis for this test, in present context, is defined as follows:

$$H_0: \mu_1 = \mu_2$$

$$H_a: \mu_1 \neq \mu_2$$

Where, μ is the mean age of marriage of tribal woman and subscript 1 and 2 refer to the educational category i.e., one is illiterate while other is literate.

The test statistic is calculated using following formula:

$$U = n_1 \cdot n_2 + \frac{n_1(n_1+1)}{2} - R_1,$$

Where n_1 and n_2 are the sample size and R_1 is the sum of rank assigned to the values of the first sample. The first sample, here, refers to that sample for which the sum of rank is greater. If the null hypothesis becomes true, the U statistic follows the sampling distribution with following mean and standard deviation (standard error):

$$Mean(\mu_U) = \frac{n_1 \cdot n_2}{2}, \text{ Standard Deviation } (\sigma_U) = \sqrt{\frac{n_1 \cdot n_2 (n_1 + n_2 + 1)}{12}}$$

When the sample size for each group is more than eight, the sampling distribution of U approximately follows the normal distribution and the limit of acceptance or rejection region is determined accordingly at a given significance level.

The Result of Mann-Whitney U Test

For verifying the research hypothesis, the Mann-Whitney U Test was applied with 5 percent significance level ($\alpha = 0.05$) using z approximation of Sampling Distribution of Mann-Whitney U statistic since the sample size of each group (number of literate women = 291 and that of illiterate one = 303) is more than 8 in the present case. It is observed that sum of rank of literate women ($R_1 = 97198$) is more than that of illiterate women ($R_2 = 79517$) in the tribal community which provides evidence that mean age of marriage of tribal woman for literate group (Observed mean for literate group = 19.90) is more than that of illiterate group (Observed mean for illiterate group = 18.44) and the difference between these two is found significant at 5 percent significance level ($p < 0.05$). So, it can be concluded that there are enough evidences to say that the mean age of marriage of literate woman of tribal community is different from the mean age of marriage of illiterate tribal woman.

Table 3.13 Descriptive Statistics of the Variable Age of Marriage of Tribal Women

	Education Level		Statistic
	Age of marriage of tribal woman	Illiterate	
Std. Deviation			3.878
Literate		Mean	19.90
		Std. Deviation	3.744

Source: Computed by the researcher using SPSS v. 23 based on primary data.

Table 3.14 The Ranks Assigned to the Data Point for Performing Mann-Whitney U Test

Ranks				
	Education Level	N	Mean Rank	Sum of Ranks
Age of Marriage of Tribal Woman	Illiterate	303	262.43	79517.00
	Literate	291	334.01	97198.00
	Total	594		

Source Computed by the researcher using SPSS v. 23 based on primary data.

Table: 3.15 The Result of Mann-Whitney U Test

Test Statistics^a	
	Age of Marriage
Mann-Whitney U	33461.000
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.000
a. Grouping Variable: Education Level	

Source: Computed by the researcher using SPSS v. 23 based on primary data.

One of the greatest boons of education is that an educated person is always a better respondent to social problems. With higher level of education a person achieves higher level of capabilities to response the problems. In that way it is obvious that a literate person will be a better respondent to social problems than an illiterate person. In our country 18 years is the legal age of marriage for females. Marriage before the legal age is responsible for the negative impact on overall development of females; whether it is related to their health, education or emotion. So it is a great social decease and a curse towards the social status development of women as well the whole society. Being the most primitive community in the study area it is inevitable that the child marriage will play a great hindrance towards the development of tribal women. Only through proper education awareness can be developed against the child marriage. In the study area the statistics shows (Table 3.16) 48.51 percent illiterate tribal woman is a victim of child marriage. And with literate tribal woman this percentage comes down to 27.12 percent. This shows literacy is delaying the age of marriage of tribal females. Engagement in schools refrains the parents to get the girl married at early age. Free education and govt. initiatives like mid day meal in schools up to a certain level has a strong negative impact on child marriage.

Table 3.16 Relationship between Literacy and Female Age of Marriage

Literacy Status	Age of Marriage	
	Less than 18 Years	18 Years and Above
Illiterate	48.51	51.49
Literate	27.12	72.88

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

3.2.9 Head of the Family

Most of the ST households in study area are headed by male heads. Almost 82.08 percent (Table 3.17) of total ST households are under male headship. In both the rural and urban areas the scenario is almost same. Both the areas are dominated by male headship. Only in Binnabari GP

(35.29 percent) under Kharibari C.D. Block and Ghoshpukur GP (31.82 percent) under Phansidewa C.D. Block female headship households can be found at a handsome rate. In other cases maximum female headship households are those where the female head is widow or separated.

Table 3.17 Rural-Urban Head of the Family Distribution

Headship	Rural	Urban	Total
Male Head	81.78	84.48	82.08
Female Head	18.22	15.52	17.92

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.18 Block-wise Head of the Family Distribution

Name of the Block	Male Head	Female Head
Matigara	82.17	17.83
Naxalbari	84.76	15.24
Phansidewa	77.7	22.3
Kharibari	84.44	15.56

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

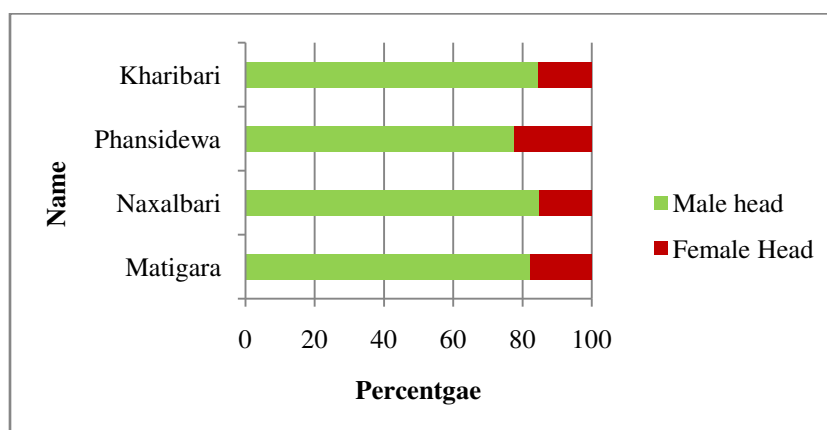


Fig. 3.11: Block-wise Head of the Family Distribution

3.2.10 Ownership of House

A large number of portions of the study area come under tea garden sector and a huge portion of tribal population concentrates in these tea garden areas. In tea garden areas ownership of land is a very complicated issue. That's why only the 46.79 percent of total ST households have their own houses in Siliguri Sub-division (Table 3.19). In rural areas the percentage is 45.76 percent and in urban it is 55.17 percent. A minor 6.04 percent ST households live in rented houses and 47.17 percent of total ST households live in houses where the status of ownership of the houses

are neither own nor rented. Reason behind this is in tea gardens the houses are provided by the employer to the labours. As almost all the tea gardens are comes under rural area, the percentage of ownership status ‘Neither Own nor Rented’ is very high in rural areas (49.36 percent).

Block-wise highest own ownership of households can be found in Naxalbari C.D. Block (62.86 percent) and lowest is in Phansidewa C.D. Block (39.86 percent) (Table 3.20). The scenario turns exactly opposite when it comes about the percentage of Neither Own nor Rented ownership category. Phansidewa C.D. Block (58.11 percent) tops the list in this category and Naxalbari C.D. Block (28.57 percent) stands last.

Table 3.19 Rural Urban Distribution of Ownership of Houses of Scheduled Tribe Population

Ownership	Rural	Urban	Total
Own	45.76	55.17	46.79
Rented	4.87	15.52	6.04
Neither Own nor Rented	49.36	29.31	47.17

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.20 Block-wise Ownership of Houses

Name of the Block	Own	Rented	Neither own nor rented
Matigara	41.09	3.10	55.81
Naxalbari	62.86	8.57	28.57
Phansidewa	39.86	2.03	58.11
Kharibari	41.11	7.78	50.00

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

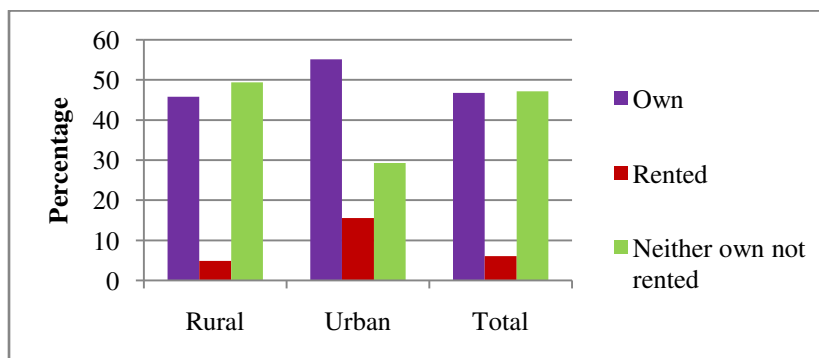


Fig. 3.12: Rural Urban Distribution of Ownership Status of Houses Scheduled Tribe Population

3.2.11 Social Development Index

To find out the Gram Panchayat-wise social development status of the study area Social Development Index has been derived by using Dimension Index (DI) formula. For this study, five important social variables have been selected. In two steps the Social Development Index has been prepared. In step one, individual Dimension Indices of these five selected variables have been constructed. In step two, Social Development Index for each Gram Panchayat has been prepared by finding the Mean of those five DI values.

The five social variables are,

1. Total Literacy Rate (X1)
2. Male Literacy Rate(X2)
3. Female Literacy Rate(X3)
4. Married below 18 Years(X4)
5. Sex Ratio(X5)

Among these five social variables all are positive variables except Married below 18 years (X4). This particular variable is a negative variable.

Formula used to prepare the Dimension Index is as follows:

$$\textit{Dimension Index} = (\textit{Actual Value} - \textit{Minimum Value}) / (\textit{Maximum Value} - \textit{Minimum Value})$$

Actual value means original value of the variable for a particular Gram Panchayat.

Maximum and Minimum values indicate the highest and lowest values of the same variable among the 22 Gram Panchayats.

The values of five dimension indices vary between ranges of 0 to 1. For positive variables, DI value 1 represents the best condition and 0 represents the worst condition. For negative variable the same DI value represents the exactly opposite status. That is, DI value of 1 represents the worst condition for the variable and 0 represents the best condition. The values of the negative indicators have been again subtracted from 1 to equalize the figures with the positive indicators. After this subtraction, for negative variables the DI value of 1 represents the best condition and 0 represents the worst condition.

Formula used to prepare Composite Index is as follows:

$$\textit{Social Development Index} = (\Sigma \textit{DI}) / N$$

Where,

$\Sigma \textit{DI}$ is summation of all the dimension indices.

N indicates the total number of dimension indices.

The values of the Social Development Index vary between ranges of 0 to 1. The Index value 1 represents the best condition and 0 represents the worst condition.

Table 3.21 Gram Panchayat-wise Social Development Index

Name of the Block/GP	X1	X2	X3	X4	X5	Social Index
Matigara	0.48	0.8	0.10	1.00	1.00	0.68
Champasari	0.4	0.33	0.48	0.5	0.63	0.47
Matigara I	1.00	1.00	0.89	0.72	0.32	0.79
Matigara II	0.80	0.72	0.89	0.16	0.66	0.65
Atharokhai	0.64	0.67	0.4	1.00	1.00	0.74
Patharghata	0.34	0.41	0.23	0.35	0.76	0.42
Naxalbari	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.83	0.52	0.87
Naxalbari	0.7	0.62	0.79	0.56	0.51	0.64
Upper Bagdogra	0.72	0.49	1.00	0.13	0.78	0.62
Hatighisa	0.56	0.49	0.64	0.41	0.61	0.54
Gossaiपुर	0.21	0.17	0.24	0.54	0.12	0.26
Lower Bagdogra	0.46	0.35	0.53	0.69	0.05	0.42
Maniram	0.69	0.67	0.65	0.39	0.50	0.58
Phansidewa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.76	0.17
Hetmuri	0.35	0.17	0.59	0.28	0.82	0.44
Chathat Banskao	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.00	0.05
Bidhan Nagar I	0.4	0.46	0.36	0.22	0.65	0.42
Bidhan Nagar II	0.18	0.07	0.33	0.25	0.56	0.28
Ghoshpukur	0.5	0.51	0.52	0.12	0.67	0.46
Jalash Nijamtara	0.14	0.09	0.18	0.28	0.21	0.18
Phansidewa	0.47	0.54	0.40	1.00	0.32	0.55
Kharibari	0.51	0.36	0.67	0.00	0.00	0.31
Binnabari	0.43	0.41	0.49	0.00	0.64	0.39
Buraganj	0.48	0.37	0.60	0.44	0.43	0.46
Kharibari Panisali	0.73	0.58	0.94	0.34	0.47	0.61
Raniganj Panisali	0.33	0.15	0.55	0.21	0.17	0.28

Source: Calculated by the Researcher

From the table 3.21 block-wise and Gram Panchayat-wise Social Development Index can be found. This shows among the four blocks best social development condition can be found in Naxalbari C.D. Block (0.87), followed by Matigara C.D. Block (0.68). The worst social development condition can be found in Phansidewa C.D. Block (0.17) and it is followed by Kharibari C.D. Block (0.31). In Phansidewa C.D. Block out of the five variables, DI values of the three variables are 0. That represents condition of Total Literacy Rate (X1), Male Literacy Rate (X2) and Female Literacy Rate (X3) in Phansidewa block is worst among the four blocks. In Naxalbari C.D. Block out of the five variables DI values of three variables are 1. That means

condition of those three variables, Total Literacy Rate (X1), Male Literacy Rate (X2) and Female Literacy Rate (X3), are best among the four blocks. Gram Panchayat-wise best social condition is found in Matigara I (0.79) and the lowest is found in Chathat Bansgaon (0.05). In Matigara I GP the DI value of 2 variables (Total literacy rate X1 and Male literacy rate X2) among 5 social variables are in best condition among the 22 Gram Panchayats in the study area. The DI values of another two social variables, female literacy rate (X3) and married below 18 years female (X4), are also very high for Matigara I GP. Good conditions of these 4 variables out of the total 5 social variables are the reasons of Matigara I GP to become the best GP among all the Gram Panchayats in the study area having best Social Development Index value. For this study the Gram Panchayats are classified into three groups, Developed, Moderately Developed and Least Developed. The Gram Panchayats having Social Development Index Value of greater than 0.60 has been classified as Developed. Gram Panchayats having Index values between 0.45-0.60 have been classified as Moderately Developed and index value with less than 0.45 have been classified as Least Developed. Among the 22 Gram Panchayats 6 Gram Panchayats each are in developed and moderately developed category and 12 Gram Panchayats stand as least developed according to their social development index value. Among these 12 least developed Gram Panchayats 5 Gram Panchayats are under Phansidewa C.D. Block

Table 3.22 Gram Panchayat-wise Social Development Categories

Social Development Status	Index Value	GP Name
Developed	>0.60	Kharibari Panisali, Upper Bagdogra, Naxalbari, Matigara II, Atharokhai, Matigara I
Moderately Developed	0.45-0.60	Ghoshpukur, Buraganj, Champasari, Hatighisa, Phasidewa, Maniram
Least Developed	<0.45	Chathat Bansgao, Jalash Nijamtara, Gossaipur, Bidhan Nagar II, Raniganj Panisali, Binnabari, Lower Bagdogra, Patharghata, Bidhan Nagar I, Hetmuri

Source: Compiled by the Researcher

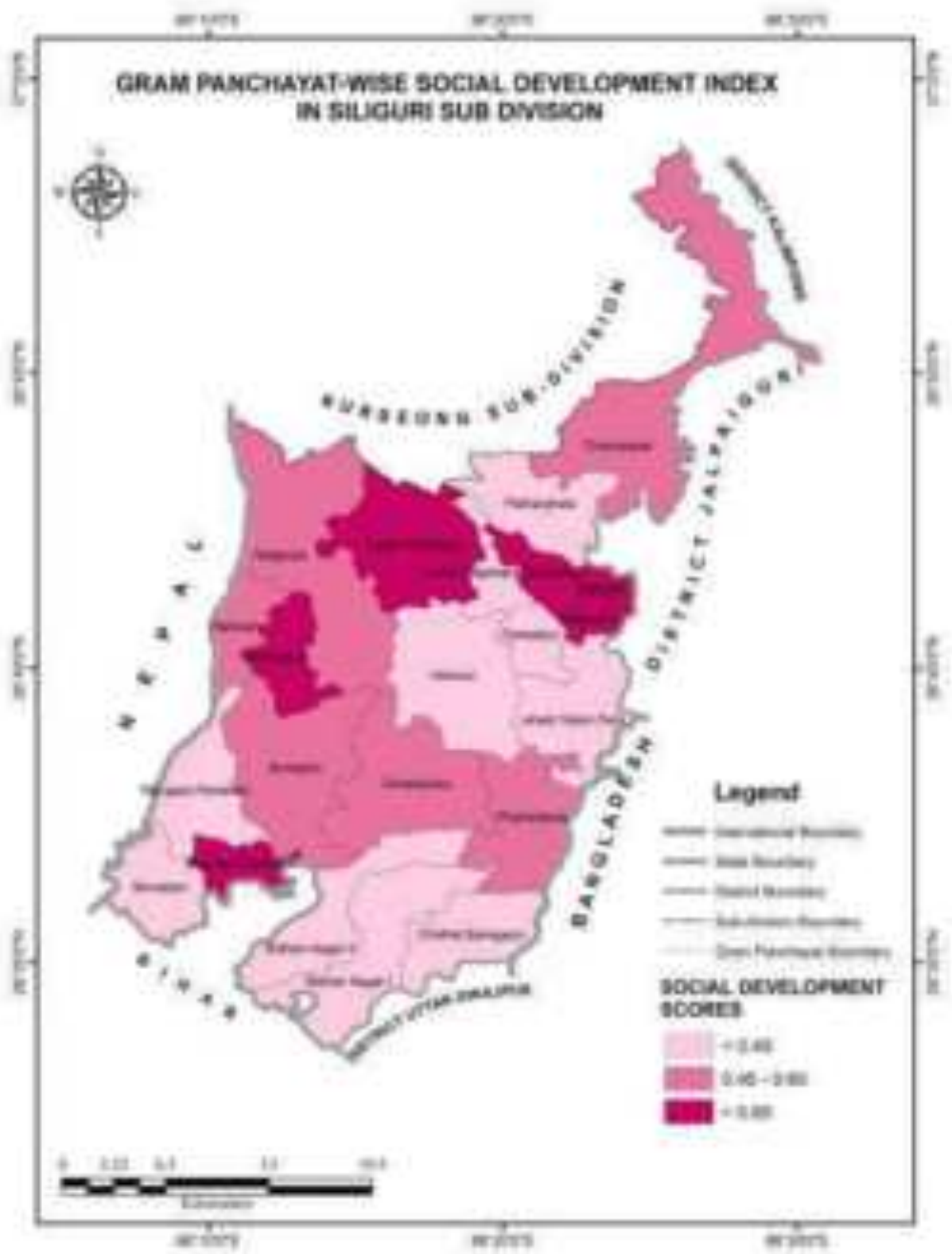


Fig 3.13

3.3 Housing

Shelter or Housing is one of the must requisites of human development. Housing condition means how a shelter of a household is made of and Household Amenities mean facilities that a household is currently enjoying. Both housing condition and household amenities are two very important factors to determine the quality of life of a society.

There are three most important parts of a house; Floor, Roof and Wall. Here the housing condition of study area has been classified by these three categories. In housing amenities, data has been collected for Electrification, Use of Latrine, Fuel Used for Cooking, Water Accessibility, Source of Drinking Water Facility, No of Rooms in a Household, Availability of Separate Kitchen in a Household and Access to Some Basic Household Assets.

3.3.1 Housing Condition

3.3.1.1 Floor

Floor of a house has been classified into three categories; Kaccha, Pakka and Mixed. In Kaccha floor category floors of all the rooms of a household are made of mud. Pakka floor means floors of all the rooms of a household are made of concrete or bricks. If a household has both Kaccha and Pakka types of floors, it has been classified as Mixed floor.

From field survey it has been found that in Siliguri Sub-division most of the tribal households live in mixed floor type houses (38.30 percent) (Table 3.23). Like Sub-division in rural areas the percentage is also highest for mixed floor type houses (39.41 percent) and in urban pakka floor type shares the highest percentage (55.17 percent). Block-wise highest kaccha floored rural tribal households can be seen in Phasidewa C.D. Block (36.49 percent) and pakka floored percentage is highest in Matigara C.D Block (38.76 percent) (Table 3.24).

Table 3.23 Rural Urban Distribution of Household by Floor Type

Floor	Rural	Urban	Total
Kuccha	31.35	15.52	29.62
Pakka	29.24	55.17	32.08
Mixed	39.41	29.31	38.30

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

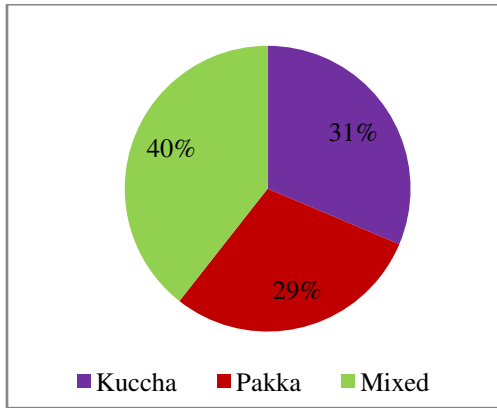


Fig. 3.14: Distribution of Rural Households by Floor Type

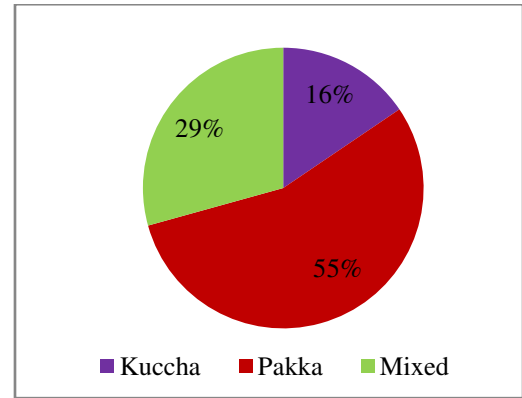


Fig. 3.15: Distribution of Urban Households by Floor Type

Table 3.24 Block-wise Distribution of Household by Floor Type

Name of the Block	Floor		
	Kuccha	Pakka	Mixed
Matigara	29.46	38.76	31.78
Naxalbari	25.71	31.43	42.86
Phansidewa	36.49	23.65	39.86
Kharibari	32.22	22.22	45.56

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

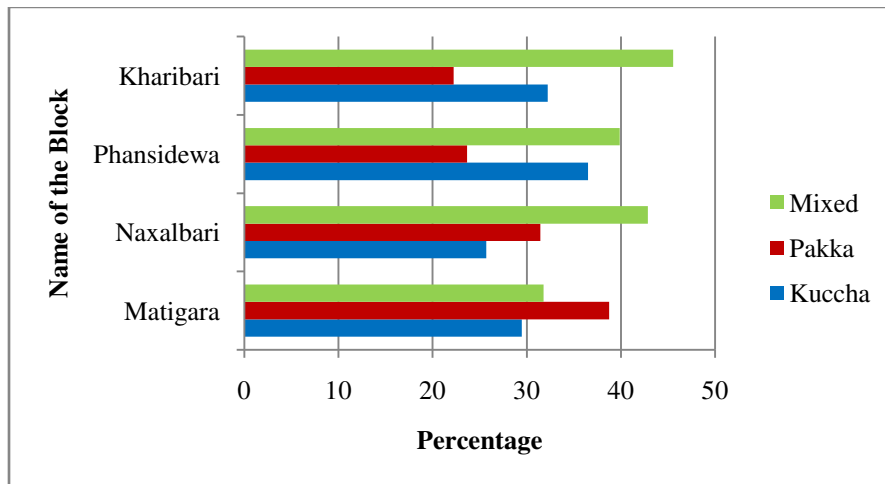


Fig. 3.16: Block-wise Distribution of Households by Floor Type

3.3.1.2 Roof

In tea garden area the employers provide accommodation facility to the labourers. And roof of the most of these accommodations are made of either Tin or asbestos. As the tribals are highly concentrated in these tea garden areas that's why the percentage of households having house roof made of tin or asbestos (88.50 percent) are very high. There are no differences between rural and urban in this category. Both have very high percentage of tribal households having house roof

made of tin or asbestos. Only in some urban areas, households with concrete roof are found. During field survey it has been found that only 11.34 percent of tribal urban households have concrete roof in their houses (Table 3.25). In Pansidewa C.D. Block 93.24 percent of rural tribal households are live in houses with concrete roof which is highest percentage share among all the C.D Blocks. Only in Naxalbari C.D. Block few tribal rural households (5.71 percent) live under concrete roof.

Table 3.25 Rural Urban Distribution of Households by Roof Type

Roof	Rural	Urban	Total
Thatched	3.39	0.00	3.21
Tiled	3.39	9.34	3.96
Tin or Asbestos	89.83	77.60	88.50
Wood	0.64	1.72	0.75
Concrete	2.75	11.34	3.58

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.26 Block-wise Distribution of Households by Roof Type

Name of the Block	Roof				
	Thatched	Tiled	Tin or Asbestos	Wood	Concrete
Matigara	2.33	4.65	89.92	0	3.1
Naxalbari	5.71	4.76	82.86	0.95	5.71
Phansidewa	3.38	2.7	93.24	0	0.68
Kharibari	2.22	1.11	92.22	2.22	2.22

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

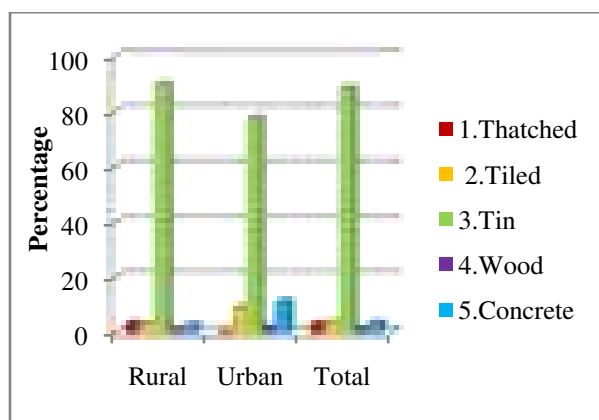


Fig. 3.17: Rural Urban Distribution of Households by Roof Type

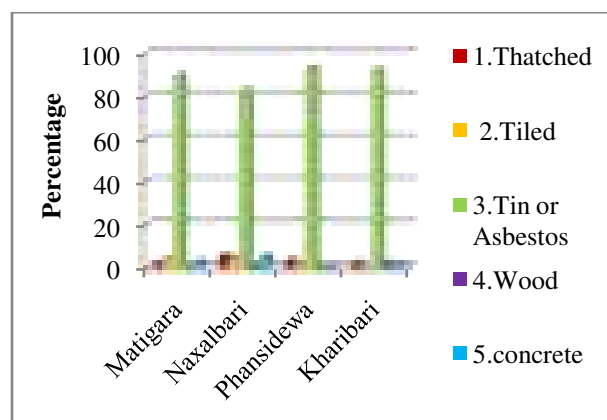


Fig. 3.18: Block-wise Distribution of Household by Roof Type

3.3.1.3 Wall

The wall types of houses of tribal households are being categorized into 6 categories based on the materials used to make the walls. These are walls made of Bamboo, Wood, Brick, Plaster, Clay, and Tin. Primary data reveals most of the household's walls are made of Brick (47.92 percent). The next common wall types are plastered wall (21.70 percent) and walls made of bamboo (16.98 percent). Walls made of clay, wood and tin are very rare among tribal households in Siliguri Sub-division. As a large number of own houses concentrate in urban areas that's why highest percentage share of plaster made walls (51.72 percent) is found in urban. In rural areas most of the households use Brick walls (48.73 percent). Block-wise in rural areas highest plastered walls households are found in Matigara C.D. Block (28.68 percent). In Kharibari and Pansidewa C.D. Blocks a handsome no of rural tribal households still live in houses those are made of bamboo walls (25.56 percent & 20.95 percent respectively).

Table 3.27 Rural Urban Distribution of Households by Wall Type

Wall	Rural	Urban	Total
Bamboo	18.64	3.45	16.98
Wood	2.75	3.45	2.83
Brick	48.73	41.38	47.92
Plaster	18.01	51.72	21.70
Clay	5.30	0.00	4.72
Tin	6.57	0.00	5.85

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

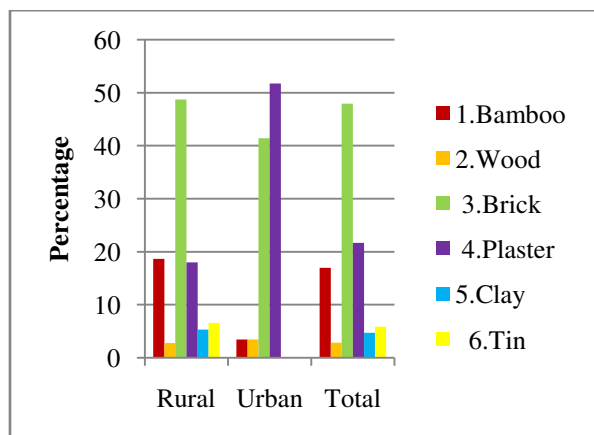


Fig. 3.19: Rural Urban Distribution of Households by Wall Type

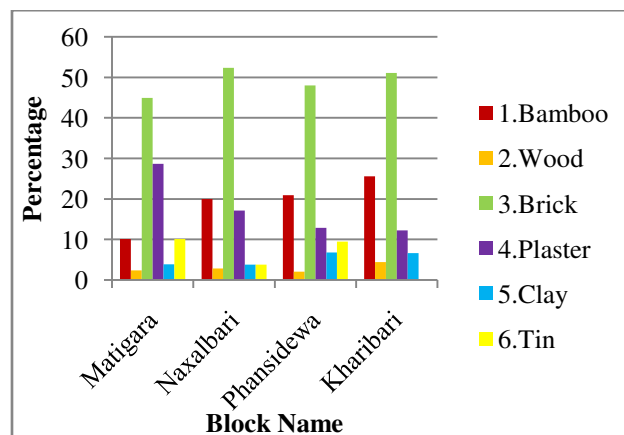


Fig. 3.20: Block-wise Distribution of Household by Wall Type

Table 3.28 Block-wise Distribution of Households by Wall Type

Name of the Block	Wall					
	Bamboo	Wood	Brick	Plaster	Clay	Tin
Matigara	10.08	2.33	44.96	28.68	3.88	10.08
Naxalbari	20	2.86	52.38	17.14	3.81	3.81
Phansidewa	20.95	2.03	47.97	12.84	6.76	9.46
Kharibari	25.56	4.44	51.11	12.22	6.67	0

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

3.3.2 Household Amenities**3.3.2.1 Electricity**

Electrification of household is a key factor to upgrade households to modernization. According to a report published on Business Standard, 2020 99.90 percent of households of West Bengal have come under electrification with 100 percent in Darjiling district. Primary data shows 100 percent of urban tribal households in study area have been electrified and all of them utilize the facility. During field survey it has been observed that in rural areas despite of having electricity facility, 8.90 percent of tribal households don't utilize the facility. Rather they use kerosene as fuel to light up. In Pansidewa block this percentage is highest among all the blocks, followed by Kharibari C.D. Block. 14.86 percent and 8.89 percent of rural tribal households in these blocks don't utilize electricity facility respectively.

Table 3.29 Households Utilizing Electricity Facility

Light	Rural	Urban	Total
Electric	91.10	100.00	92.08
Others	8.90	0.00	7.92

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.30 Block-wise Distribution of Households Utilizing Electricity Facility

Name of the Block	Electric	Others
Matigara	95.35	4.65
Naxalbari	94.29	5.71
Phansidewa	85.14	14.86
Kharibari	91.11	8.89

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

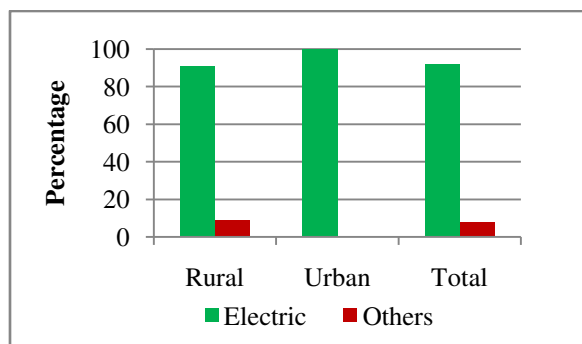


Fig. 3.21: Rural Urban Distribution Households Utilizing Electric Facility

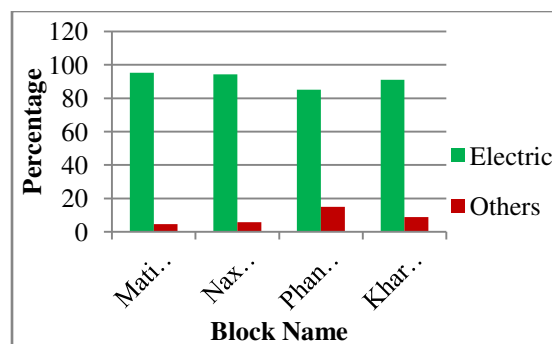


Fig. 3.22: Block-wise Distribution of Households Utilizing Electric Facility

3.3.2.2 Use of Latrine

Access to latrine and toilet is most important factor to determine sanitation awareness of a society. Open defecation can cause many health hazards. To make India open defecation free (ODF) the Government of India launched Swachh Bharat Mission on 2nd October 2014. The phase 1 of the mission continued till November 2019. Along with that Mission Nirmal Bangla, an initiative with same objectives by Government of West Bengal was running. One of the main objectives of these missions was to construct latrine for every household. The initiatives were very much successful. The Rural Bengal was the biggest beneficiaries of these initiatives. On 2nd Aug 2019 the rural Bengal was declared ODF. According to report the urban Bengal may get the ODF status very soon as some of the Urban Local Bodies still to complete almost 5-7 percent of their work (Economic times, October, 2020). As far as the Siliguri Sub-division is concern, all the rural and urban areas are declared open defecation free. During field survey it has been observed that despite having latrine facility, members of many households in rural areas still not using it. At least one member of 13.98 percent of total rural tribal households still releases their body waste in open fields. Block-wise this trend can be seen highest in Phansidewa C.D. Block (22.97 percent) and followed by Kharibari C.D. Block (14.44 percent).

Table 3.31 Distribution of Households Using Latrine Facility

Latrine	Rural	Urban	Total
Private	81.99	96.55	83.58
Common	4.03	3.45	3.96
Open field	13.98	0.00	12.45

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.32 Block-wise Distribution of Households Using Latrine Facility

Name of the Block	Latrine		
	Private	Common	Open field
Matigara	93.8	1.55	4.65
Naxalbari	85.71	2.86	11.43
Phansidewa	72.3	4.73	22.97
Kharibari	76.67	8.89	14.44

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

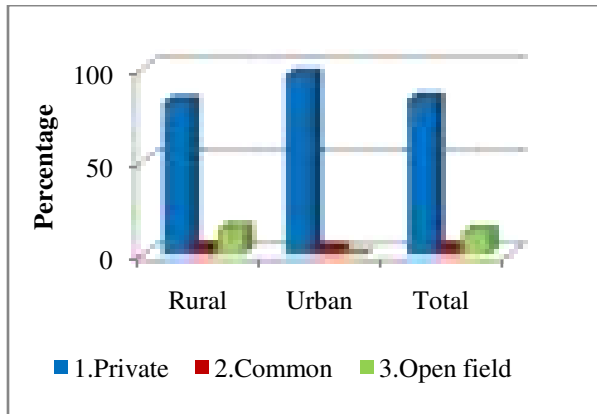


Fig. 3.23: Rura Urban Distribution of Households Using Latrine Facility

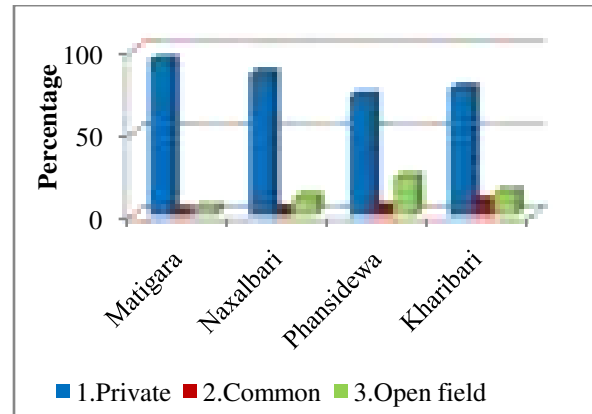


Fig. 3.24: Block-wise Distribution of Households Using Latrine Facility

3.3.2.3 Fuel Used for Cooking

Primary data shows (Table 3.33) urban tribal households use mostly LPG as cooking fuel. 68.97 percent of total urban tribal households use only LPG as cooking fuel. The remaining 31.03 percent households use LPG along with any other fuel like wood, kerosene etc to cook. Though in rural areas use of LPG as only fuel source for cooking is not very common among tribal households. Only 21.82 percent of total rural tribal households use LPG as only source of fuel for cooking. As availability of wood is ample in rural tribal concentrated areas, use of wood is very common among these households. 51.69 percent of rural tribal households use wood as cooking fuel. Block-wise in Phansidewa (65.54 percent) and Kharibari (58.89 percent) blocks the percentage is highest. 17.16 percent rural tribal households use wood, kerosene etc along with LPG.

Table 3.33 Distribution of Households by Fuel Used for Cooking

Fuel Used	Rural	Urban	Total
LPG	21.82	68.97	26.98
Kerosene	5.51	0.00	4.91
Wood	51.69	0.00	46.04
LPG With Other	17.16	31.03	18.68
Other	3.81	0.00	3.40

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

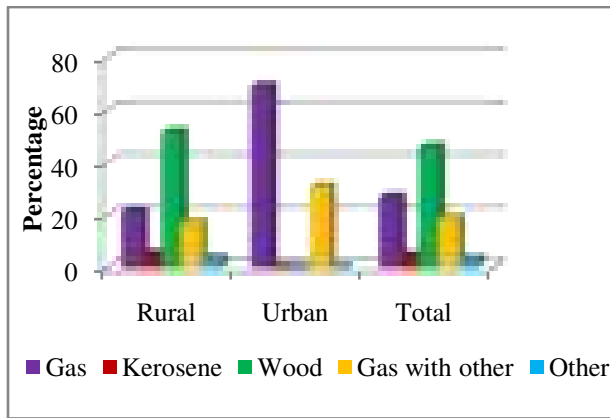


Fig. 3.25: Rural Urban Distribution of Households by Fuel Used for Cooking

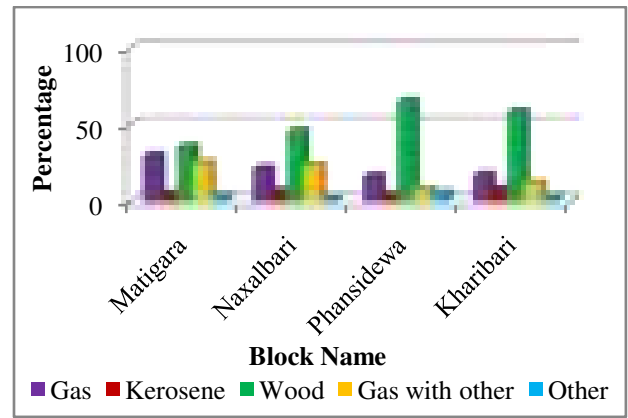


Fig. 3.26: Block-wise Distribution of Households by Fuel Used for Cooking

Table 3.34 Block-wise Distribution of Households by Fuel Used for Cooking

Name of the Block	Fuel Used				
	Gas	Kerosene	Wood	Gas with other	Other
Matigara	30.23	4.65	35.66	25.58	3.88
Naxalbari	21.9	6.67	45.71	23.81	1.9
Phansidewa	16.89	4.05	65.54	8.11	5.41
Kharibari	17.78	7.78	58.89	12.22	3.33

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

3.3.2.4 Drinking Water Accessibility

Water is an essential need of humans in their day to day life. Without water a human can't live. So, drinking water accessibility is an important social indicator of a society. In this study sources

of drinking water have been classified into three categories; first within premises, second near to premises (within 200 mt) and last is away from premises. Primary data shows 52.45 percent of total surveyed tribal households have drinking water accessibility within their premises (Table 3.35). Only 9.62 percent households have to go more than 200 mt to have access to drinking water. During the survey no urban tribal household has been found that has to go more than 200 mt to have access to drinking water facility. But in rural areas 10.81 percent tribal households have to cover more than 200 mt to get their daily drinking water. In Naxalbari and Phansidewa C.D. Blocks still 20 percent and 11.49 percent tribal households cover a distance of more than 200 mt to have drinking water accessibility respectively. During survey it has been found that in Patharghata ,Upper Bagdogra ,Hatighisha, Hetmuri., Bidhan nagar I and II Gram Panchayats the households needs to go far away to collect the drinking water as there are even one well or tube well in the whole village.

Table 3.35 Distribution of Households by Distance from Drinking Water

Drinking water	Rural	Urban	Total
Within Premise	50.00	72.41	52.45
Near Premise	39.19	27.59	37.92
Away	10.81	0.00	9.62

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Tabel 3.36 Block-wise Distribution of Households by Distance from Drinking Water

Name of the Block	Drinking water		
	Within Premises	Near Premises	Away
Matigara	38.76	51.94	9.3
Naxalbari	63.81	16.19	20
Phansidewa	47.97	40.54	11.49
Kharibari	53.33	45.56	1.11

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

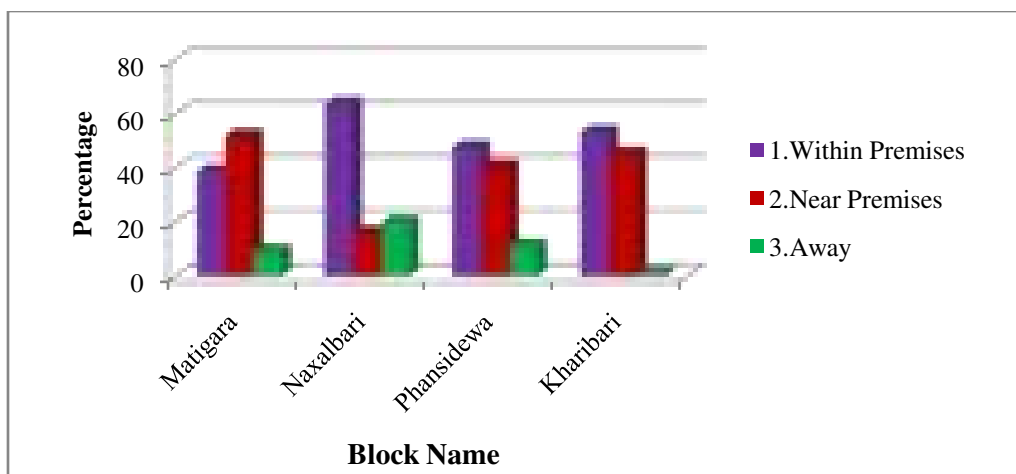


Fig. 3.27: Block-wise Distribution of Households by Distance from Drinking Water

3.3.2.5 Source of Drinking Water Facility

Table 3.37 is showing the different source of drinking water in the study area. During survey it is observed that a large percentage of people collect water from tube well. From the table 3.37 it can be seen in the rural area 52.54 percent people used water from the tube well. 31.78 percent households from the rural area uses well water. Tap water from the treated source is the source of drinking water which is provided to the people through pipes within their premises or through a common taps that is by the government departments, local bodies, panchayats etc. In the study area it can be seen that 17.74 percent are used tap water from treated source. In the urban area this percentage is high that is 36.21 percent. In different Gram Panchayats use of tube well and well water is also high. In Matigara C. D. Block 48.84 percent household uses well water. In Naxalbari C. D. Block 62.86 percent household uses tube well in their houses as the source of drinking water. During survey it has been observed that in some area especially in Lower Bagdogra G. P. there is scarcity of water in summer season. During summer most of the well water of this area dries up. There have water problem in Hetmuri G.P. Hatighisha G. P., Upper Bagdogra G.P., Binnabari G.P., Chathat Bansaon too

Table 3.37 Distribution of Households by Source of Drinking Water

Drinking Water	Rural	Urban	Total
Tap water from treated source	15.47	36.21	17.74
Well	31.78	22.41	30.75
Tube well	52.54	41.38	51.32
Other	0.21	0.00	0.19

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.38 Block-wise Distribution of Households by Source of Drinking Water

Name of the Block	Tap water from treated source	Well	Tube well	Other
Matigara	27.91	48.84	23.26	0.00
Naxalbari	12.38	23.81	62.86	0.95
Phansidewa	10.14	26.35	63.51	0.00
Kharibari	10.00	25.56	64.44	0.00

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

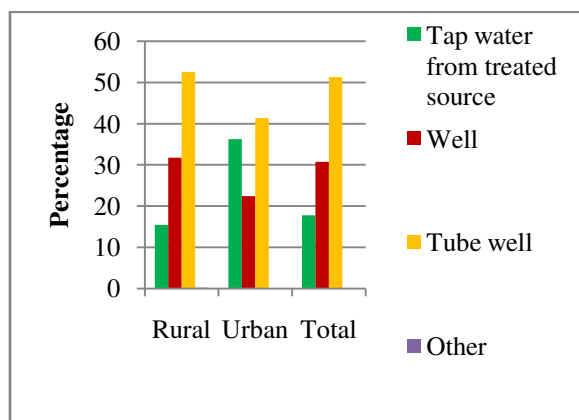


Fig. 3.28: Rural Urban Distribution of Households by Source of Drinking Water

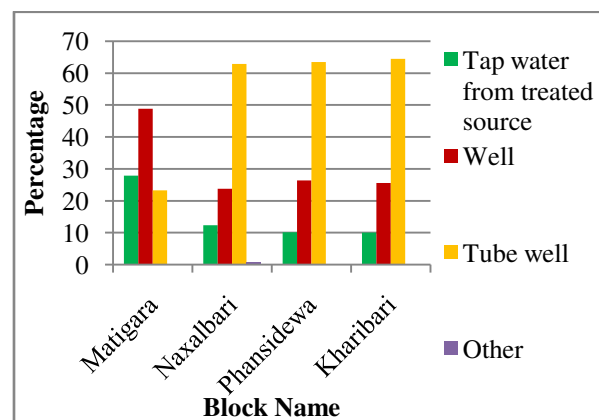


Fig. 3.29: Block-wise Distribution of Households by Source of Drinking Water

3.3.2.6 No of Rooms in a Household

From table 3.39 it can be seen two room houses are more in rural area. 55.08 percent households have two rooms in their houses. 26.69 percent households have three rooms. In the urban area 34.48 percent household have two room and 41.38 percent have three rooms. 17.24 percent for household in urban area have four and above room in their houses. Table no 3.40 is showing the number of rooms in different block. In Phansidewa 59.46 percent households have two rooms in their houses. In Phansidewa it is highest (59.46 percent) followed by Kharibari (58.89 percent) and Naxalbari (55.24 percent) Percentage of three room in a household is highest in Matigara C. D. Block (34.88 percent). Percentages of 4 and above room are very less in most of the Gram Panchayat even zero for some Gram Panchayat.

Table 3.39 Distribution of Households by Number of Rooms

No. of room	Rural	Urban	Total
1	12.29	6.90	11.70
2	55.08	34.48	52.83
3	26.69	41.38	28.30
4 & above	5.93	17.24	7.17

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.40 Block-wise Distribution of Households by Number of Rooms

Name of the Block	No. of Room			
	1	2	3	4 & above
Matigara	7.75	47.29	34.88	10.08
Naxalbari	11.43	55.24	25.71	7.62
Phansidewa	16.22	59.46	21.62	2.7
Kharibari	13.33	58.89	24.44	3.33

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

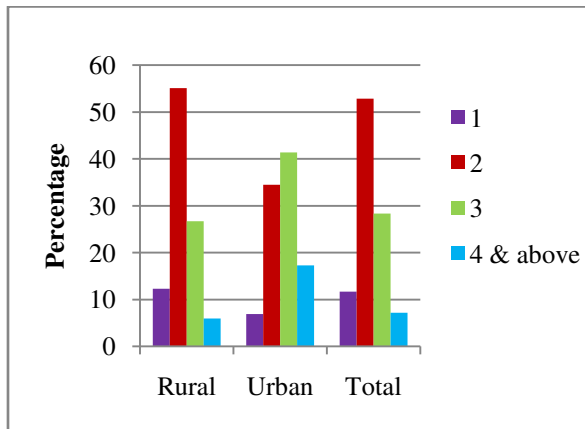


Fig. 3.30: Rural Urban Distribution of Households by Number of Rooms

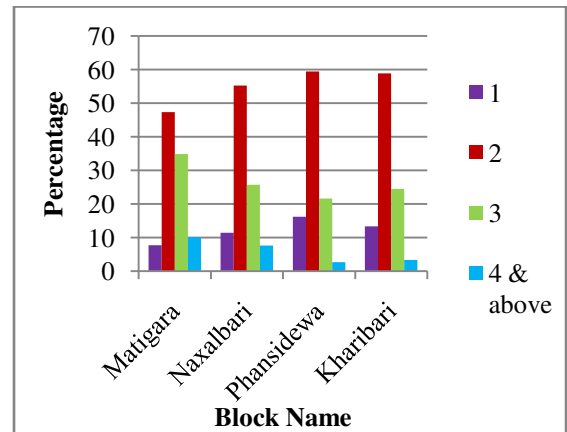


Fig. 3.31: Block-wise Distribution of Households by Number of Rooms

3.3.2.7 Availability of Separate Kitchen

Availability of separate kitchen in a household holds an important factor to the human health. As the tribal people in the study area uses wood as their main source of fuel for cooking, it becomes very important for them to have a separate kitchen in their house. In the study area 47.74 percent of the total household has access to separate kitchen in their house. In urban areas the percentage of household with availability of separate kitchen is 60.34 percent and in rural the percentage is 46.19 percent. It has been observed during the survey that those households, who have not access

to a separate kitchen in their houses, use open kitchen for cooking. Block-wise highest percentage of households with separate kitchen can be seen in Matigara C.D. Block (49.61 percent). And the lowest can be seen in Phansidewa C.D. Block where only 41.89 percent of households have the access of separate kitchen in their houses.

Table 3.41 Distribution of Availability of Separate Kitchen in Households

Kitchen	Rural	Urban	Total
Separate	46.19	60.34	47.74
Open	53.81	39.66	52.26

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.42 Block-wise Availability of Kitchen in Households

Name of the Block	Kitchen	
	Separate	Open
Matigara	49.61	50.39
Naxalbari	47.62	52.38
Phansidewa	41.89	58.11
Kharibari	46.67	53.33

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

3.3.2.8 Access to Household Assets

Table no 3.43 is showing the percentage of different household assets among tribals in the study area. Nowadays, mobile is the most used mode of communication in the society. Tribal households are also using this mode of communication in a large scale. Almost 96.55 percent of urban and 80.93 percent of rural tribal households have the access of mobile.

Table 3.43 Distribution of Households having Different Assets

Household Asset	Rural	Urban	Total	Household Asset	Rural	Urban	Total
Cycle	71.82	86.21	73.4	Radio	1.91	1.72	1.89
Bike	10.17	18.97	11.13	TV	43.43	67.24	46.04
Car	0.21	3.45	0.57	Mobile	80.93	96.55	82.64
Refrigerator	3.81	31.03	6.79	Compute	0.64	12.07	1.89

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Television is another basic household asset that is widely used as mode of entertainment. 67.24 percent of urban and 43.43 percent of rural tribal household have television in their houses. Cycle and bikes are the two mainly used assets for travelling among tribal households. In rural areas 71.82 percent and 10.17 percent households have cycle and bike respectively. In urban

areas the percentage are 86.21 percent and 18.97 percent respectively. Use of refrigerators is rarely found in rural areas. Only 3.81 percent of rural tribal households have access to refrigerators. For urban households the percentage is 31.03 percent.

Table 3.44 Block-wise Distribution of Households having Different Assets

Name of the Block	Household asset							
	Cycle	Bike	Car	Refrigerator	Radio	TV	Mobile	Compute
Matigara	77.52	17.05	0.78	4.65	1.55	47.29	81.4	1.55
Naxalbari	83.81	13.33	0	7.62	4.76	49.52	81.9	0.95
Phansidewa	64.86	3.38	0	0.68	0.68	40.54	79.05	0
Kharibari	61.11	7.78	0	3.33	1.11	35.56	82.22	0

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

3.3.3 Housing Development Index

To find out housing development status of the study area Housing Development Index has been derived. To prepare this index the same process of finding Social Development Index (3.45) has been followed. Here six housing variables have been selected. Out of these six variables one is negative variable; that is Household with One Room (X6) and the rest five are positive variables.

The housing variables are:

1. Household with One Room (X6)
2. Pakka House (X7)
3. Household using Latrine Facility (X8)
4. Water near Premise (X9)
5. Household having Electricity (X10)
6. Household having LPG Connection (X11)

The values of the Housing Development Index vary between ranges of 0 to 1. The Index value 1 represents the best condition and 0 represents the worst condition.

Table 3.45 Gram Panchayat-wise Housing Development Index

Name of the Block/GP	X6	X7	X8	X9	X10	X11	Housing index
Matigara	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.83
Champasari	0.85	0.60	0.87	0.33	0.72	0.44	0.64
Matigara I	0.58	0.25	1.00	0.90	1.00	0.71	0.74
Matigara II	0.17	0.25	1.00	0.41	1.00	0.86	0.62
Atharokhai	0.29	0.86	0.69	0.16	1.00	1.00	0.67
Patharghata	0.36	0.65	0.84	0.00	0.91	0.35	0.52
Naxalbari	0.57	0.56	0.62	1.00	0.90	0.38	0.67

Name of the Block/GP	X6	X7	X8	X9	X10	X11	Housing index
Naxalbari	0.67	0.80	1.00	0.68	1.00	0.17	0.72
Upper Bagdogra	0.31	0.26	0.56	0.39	0.87	0.24	0.44
Hatighisa	0.05	0.64	0.29	0.16	0.83	0.55	0.42
Gossaipur	0.64	0.32	0.85	0.75	0.48	0.19	0.54
Lower Bagdogra	1.00	0.64	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.94
Maniram	0.47	0.39	0.89	0.94	0.61	0.22	0.59
Phansidewa	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.03
Hetmuri	0.11	0.20	0.00	0.34	0.35	0.00	0.17
Chathat Bansgao	0.33	1.00	1.00	0.76	0.76	0.55	0.73
Bidhan Nagar I	0.20	0.00	0.40	0.10	0.56	0.52	0.30
Bidhan Nagar II	0.14	0.41	0.19	0.18	0.62	0.11	0.28
Ghoshpukur	0.32	0.61	0.81	0.57	0.00	0.09	0.40
Jalash Nijamtara	0.00	0.30	1.00	0.53	1.00	0.30	0.52
Phasidewa	0.29	0.21	1.00	1.00	0.48	1.00	0.66
Kharibari	0.34	0.00	0.20	0.27	0.59	0.07	0.24
Binnabari	0.71	0.62	0.75	0.72	1.00	0.25	0.68
Buraganj	0.26	0.39	0.37	0.30	0.73	0.41	0.41
Kharibari Panisali	0.33	0.30	0.86	0.13	0.27	0.17	0.34
Raniganj Panisali	0.19	0.15	0.31	0.58	0.41	0.16	0.30

Source: Calculated by the Researcher

The above table shows block-wise and Gram Panchayat-wise housing development status by showing their Housing Development Index. In the study area block-wise best housing condition is found in Matigara .C.D. Block (0.83) followed by Naxalbari C.D. Block (0.67). The worst housing development condition is found in Phansidewa C.D. Block (0.03) and it is followed by Kharibari C.D. Block (0.24). In Matigara C.D. Block out of the six housing variables, DI values of five variables; Household with One Room (X6), Pakka House (X7), Household using Latrine Facility(X8), Household with Electricity (X10) & Household with LPG Connection (X11); are 1. That means in this four housing parameters Matigara C.D. Block is in best condition. In Phansidewa C.D. Bock DI values of 4 housing variables; Household with One Room (X6), Household using Latrine Facility(X8), Household with Electricity (X10) & Household with LPG Connection (X11); are 0. That means in these four housing parameters Phansidewa block is in worst condition among the four blocks in the study area. Gram Panchayat-wise best housing condition is found in Lower Bagdogra GP (0.94) followed by Matigara I (0.74). In Lower Bagdogra GP out of the 6 variables the status of 5 variables i.e. Household with one room (X6), Household using latrine facility (X8), Water near primises (X9), Household having electricity facility (X10) and Household having LPG connection (X11), are in best condition among the 22

Gram Panchayats. The best condition of these variables is the reason for Lower Bagdogra of having best Housing Development Index among the all Gram Panchayats in the study area. The worst housing development condition is found in Hetmuri GP (0.17) and it is followed by Bidhan Nagar II (0.28). In Hetmuri GP out of the 6 housing variables 2 variables, Household using latrine facility (X8) and Household having LPG connection (X11) are in worst condition among the 22 Gram Panchayats in the study area. The status of another two housing variables, Household with one room (X6) and Household with pakka house (X7), is also very poor. These four housing variables collectively play the major role to make the status of Housing Development Index in Hetmuri GP as lowest among all the GPs' in the study area. For this study the Gram Panchayats are classified into three groups, Developed, Moderately Developed and Least Developed; according to their value of Housing Development Index. The Gram Panchayats having Housing Development Index Value of greater than 0.60 has been classified as Developed. Gram Panchayats having Index values between 0.45-0.60 have been classified as Moderately Developed and index value with less than 0.45 have been classified as Least Developed. In Matigara C.D. Block out of the 05 Gram Panchayats 04 Gram Panchayats has been classified as with Developed housing condition. And Phansidewa C.D Block out of the 07 Gram Panchayats 04 Gram Panchayats are classified as with Least Developed housing condition. Among the 22 Gram Panchayats 09 Gram Panchayats each have been classified as with Developed housing status and Least Developed housing status. The rest 04 Gram Panchayats are classified as with Moderately Developed housing status.

Table 3.46 Gram Panchayat-wise Housing Development Categories

Housing Development Status	Index Value	GP Name
Developed	>0.60	Champasari, Matigara II, Phansidewa, Atharokhai, Binnabari, Naxalbari, Chathat Bangsao, Matigara I, Lower Bagdogra
Moderately Developed	0.45-60	Patharghata, Jalash Nijamtara, Gossaipur, Maniram,
Least Developed	<0.45	Hetmuri, Bidhan Nagar II, Bidhan Nagar I, Raniganj Panisali, Kharibari Panisali, Ghoshpukur, Buraganj, Hatighisa, Upper Bagdogra

Source: Compiled by the Researcher

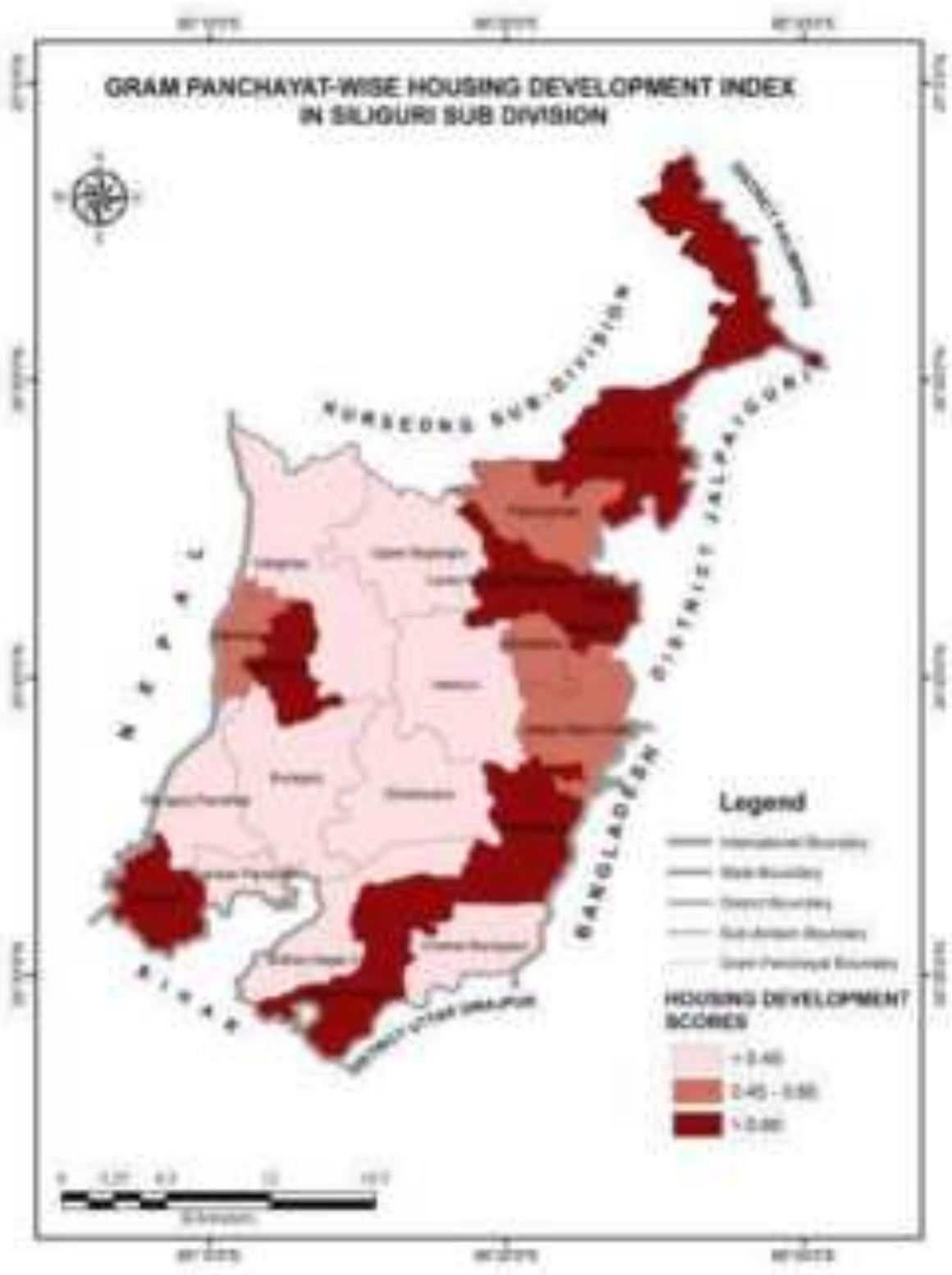


Fig. 3.32

3.4 Economic Condition

The existence of economy is very requisite for formation and sustainability of a society. No society can survive without a proper efficient economy which can fulfill the basic requirements of a society. Consumption power of a society directly related with the economic condition of that society. There are two main factors of economic condition of a society; one is Work Participation or Employment Rate and the other is Income. Here this part discuss about the employment rate, employment categories, age-wise employment rate, and household income among scheduled tribes in Siliguri Sub-division.

3.4.1 Employment Rate

Here employment rate or work participation rate indicates to the percentage of worker and non worker among tribal population in the study area. As per census 2011, total work participation rate in the study area is 37.48 percent and the percentage for tribals is 42.99 percent. In most of the communities gender gap in work participation rate is very much alarming. Females are being deprived in most of the communities. But in tribal communities the female work participation rate is very much promising. As per census 2011, the overall female work participation rate in Siliguri Sub-division is only 19.56 percent but for the tribal female the percentage (35.70 percent) is almost double of the overall female percentage.

Primary data shows (Table 3.47) out of total tribal population 48.74 percent are worker and 51.26 percent are non worker. Work participation rate among tribal male (58.18 percent) is higher than the female (39.12 percent). The main reason behind this is majority of the tribal females are engaged in household works. The work participation rate in rural areas (49.74 percent) is marginally higher than the urban areas (40.08 percent). But female work participation rate in rural areas (40.83 percent) is almost double than the urban areas (23.73 percent). It indicates better engagement in economic activities among tribal females in rural than urban. In study area the tribal concentration is more in rural areas than urban and in rural areas a handsome percentage of tribal female population works as tea garden labourer.

Further the worker groups can be classified into two major sections; Main Worker and Marginal Worker. A worker will be categorized as main worker if he or she is engaged in any economically productive work for more than half of the year i.e. at least for 183 days and a person who is engaged in any kind of economically productive work for less than 183 days, will be categorized as marginal worker. Through field survey it is to be noted that out of total workers

main workers dominate the classification. In study area out of total tribal worker 73.90 percent are main workers (Table 3.47). Only 26.10 percent come under marginal worker. Analyzing the primary data it is to be observed that mainly rural tribal females contribute to this percentage. In rural areas a number of females work only during the plucking season in the tea gardens which provide them working days of less than 6 months. Out of total female workers in rural areas 40.74 percent are marginal workers. In urban areas almost all the workers are main workers (88.89 percent). Only 11.11 percent workers come under marginal workers. Though the WPR is on the higher side but this does not reflect on the household income very promisingly. 53.24 percent of the rural tribal workers are engaged with plantation sector (Table 3.50) and official daily wage of this workers is as low as 176/-. In addition to that the field survey reveals they receive daily wage of rupees 125/- in actual. So, with this daily wage it impossible to run a household in present day. So, it becomes necessity for all the household members to contribute to the household income as many as they can. And even after doing so, the household income of tribal population in the study area is very low. The field survey reveals more than 1/5 th of the tribal household has monthly household income not more than rupees 5000 and a total 71.70 percent tribal household has monthly household income not more than even rupees 10000 (Table 3.56).

Table 3.47 Percentage Distribution of Worker, Non-Worker, Main Worker and Marginal Worker among Scheduled Tribe Population

Category	Rural			Urban			Total		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Worker	49.74	58.56	40.83	40.08	55.04	23.73	48.74	58.18	39.12
Main Worker	72.50	81.63	59.26	88.89	90.14	85.71	73.90	82.50	60.87
Marginal Worker	27.50	18.37	40.74	11.11	9.86	14.29	26.10	17.50	39.13
Non-Worker	50.26	41.44	59.17	59.92	44.96	76.27	51.26	41.82	60.88

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.48 shows the statistics of Gram Panchayat-wise work participation rate during field survey in study area. Gram Panchayat-wise highest work participation rate can be found in Bidhan nagar II (59.33 percent) in Phansidewa C.D. Block. Among the four C.D. Blocks in the study area Phansidewa C.D. Block has the highest rural tribal concentration and most of them work as tea garden labourers. Not only males but also the females of the households work in the tea garden. That is why Phansidewa block has the highest work participation rate (52.52 percent) as well as highest female work participation rate (45.81 percent). Kharibari C.D. Block is 2nd highest in the mentioned parameters. Gram Panchayat-wise lowest work participation rate and

lowest female work participation rate can be found in Atharokhai in Matigara C.D. Block. The percentages are only 39.29 percent and 27.27 percent respectively.

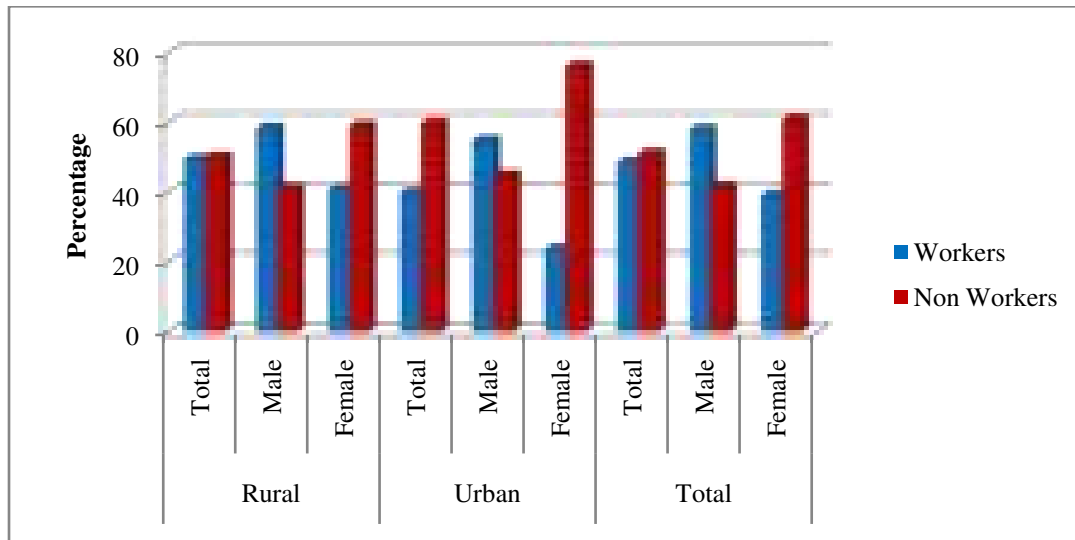


Fig. 3.33: Rural Urban Distribuiton of Workers & Non-Workers of Scheduled Tribe Population

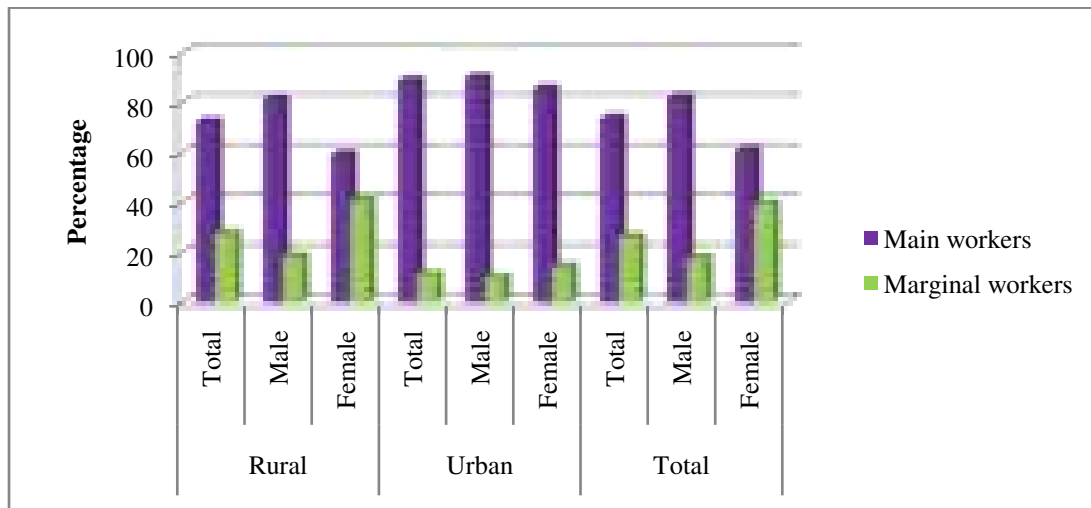


Fig. 3.34: Rural Urban Distribution of Main & Marginal Workers of Scheduled Tribe Population

As discussed earlier, out of total working tribal population share percentage of main workers are significantly high. In all the Gram Panchayats main worker's percentage is higher than the marginal worker. Two Gram Panchayats namely Bidhan Nagar I and Raniganj Panisali have a lot more marginal workers comparing to the other Gram Panchayats in the study area. 44.43 percent in Bidhan Nagar I and 48.48 percent in Raniganj Panisala of the total tribal working population in those Gram Panchayats are classified as marginal workers. In almost all the Gram Panchayats

of Phansidewa and Kharibari C.D.Blocks female marginal workers percentage are high because of highly concentrated seasonal female tea garden labourers.

Table 3.48 Gram Panchayat-wise Percentage Distribution of Worker and Non-Worker of Scheduled Tribe Population

Name of the Block/GP	Worker			Non-Worker		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Matigara	47.87	59.36	35.95	52.13	40.64	64.05
Champasari	45.97	62.30	30.16	54.03	37.70	69.84
Matigara I	45.00	59.09	27.78	55.00	40.91	72.22
Matigara II	44.44	55.56	33.33	55.56	44.44	66.67
Atharokhai	39.29	47.06	27.27	60.71	52.94	72.73
Patharghata	53.46	58.02	48.72	46.54	41.98	51.28
Naxalbari	47.58	57.37	37.55	52.42	42.63	62.45
Naxalbari	45.24	63.41	27.91	54.76	36.59	72.09
Upper Bagdogra	43.57	53.03	35.14	56.43	46.97	64.86
Hatighisa	46.07	51.11	40.91	53.93	48.89	59.09
Gossaipur	45.45	51.72	38.46	54.55	48.28	61.54
Lower Bagdogra	55.26	60.87	46.67	44.74	39.13	53.33
Maniram	55.56	65.96	44.19	44.44	34.04	55.81
Phansidewa	52.52	59.27	45.81	47.48	40.73	54.19
Hetmuri	52.27	58.56	45.87	47.73	41.44	54.13
Bidhan Nagar I	51.33	56.60	46.67	48.67	43.40	53.33
Bidhan Nagar II	59.33	60.53	58.11	40.67	39.47	41.89
Chathat Bansgao	48.53	55.56	40.63	51.47	44.44	59.38
Ghoshpukur	50.00	62.96	38.33	50.00	37.04	61.67
Jalash Nijamtara	52.38	66.67	33.33	47.62	33.33	66.67
Phansidewa	42.86	57.14	28.57	57.14	42.86	71.43
Kharibari	49.76	57.82	41.78	50.24	42.18	58.22
Binnabari	47.87	58.14	39.22	52.13	41.86	60.78
Buraganj	52.34	58.46	46.03	47.66	41.54	53.97
Kharibari Panisali	49.25	65.52	36.84	50.75	34.48	63.16
Raniganj Panisali	48.89	54.05	42.62	51.11	45.95	57.38

Source: Field Survey 2019-20



Fig. 3.35

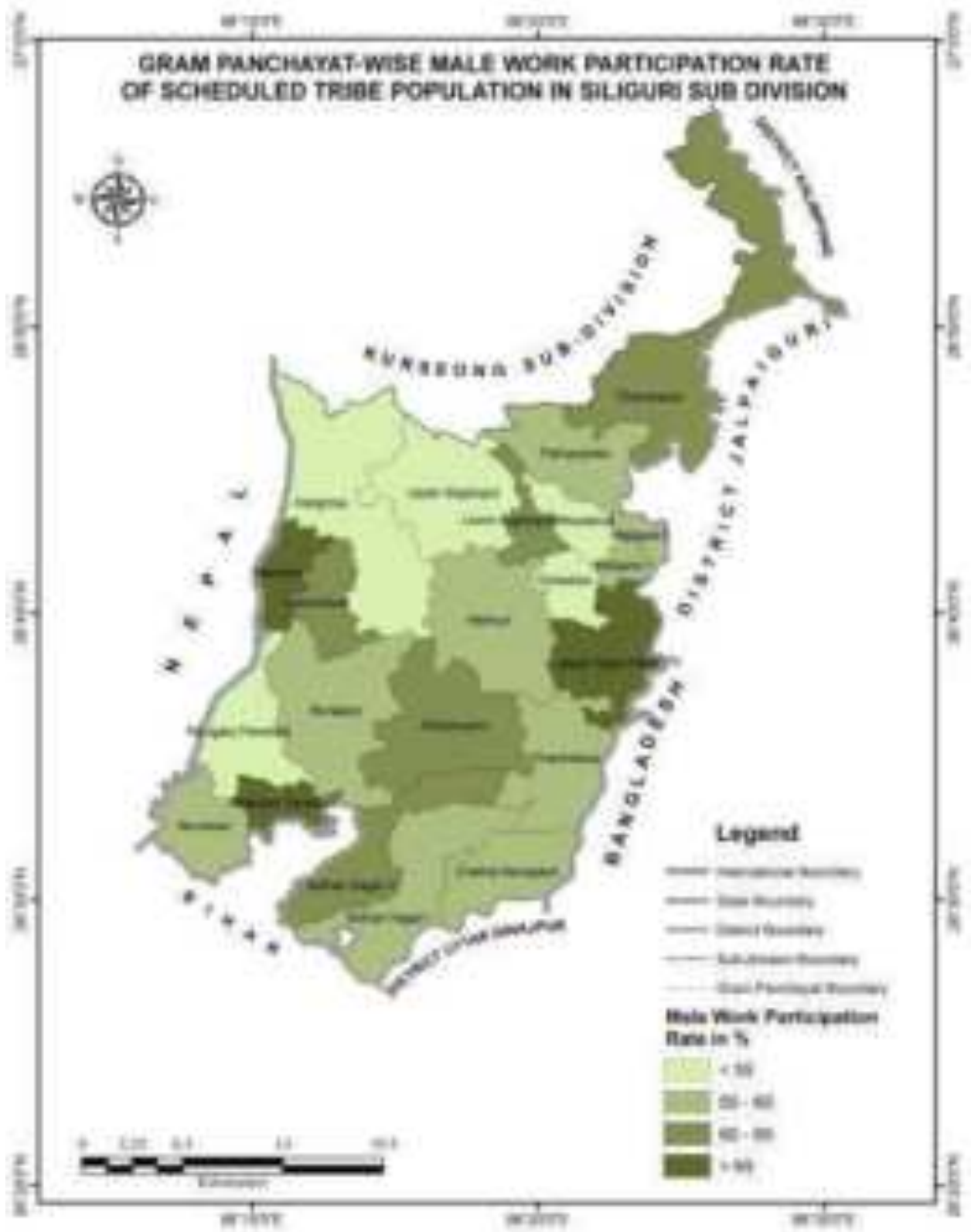


Fig. 3.36

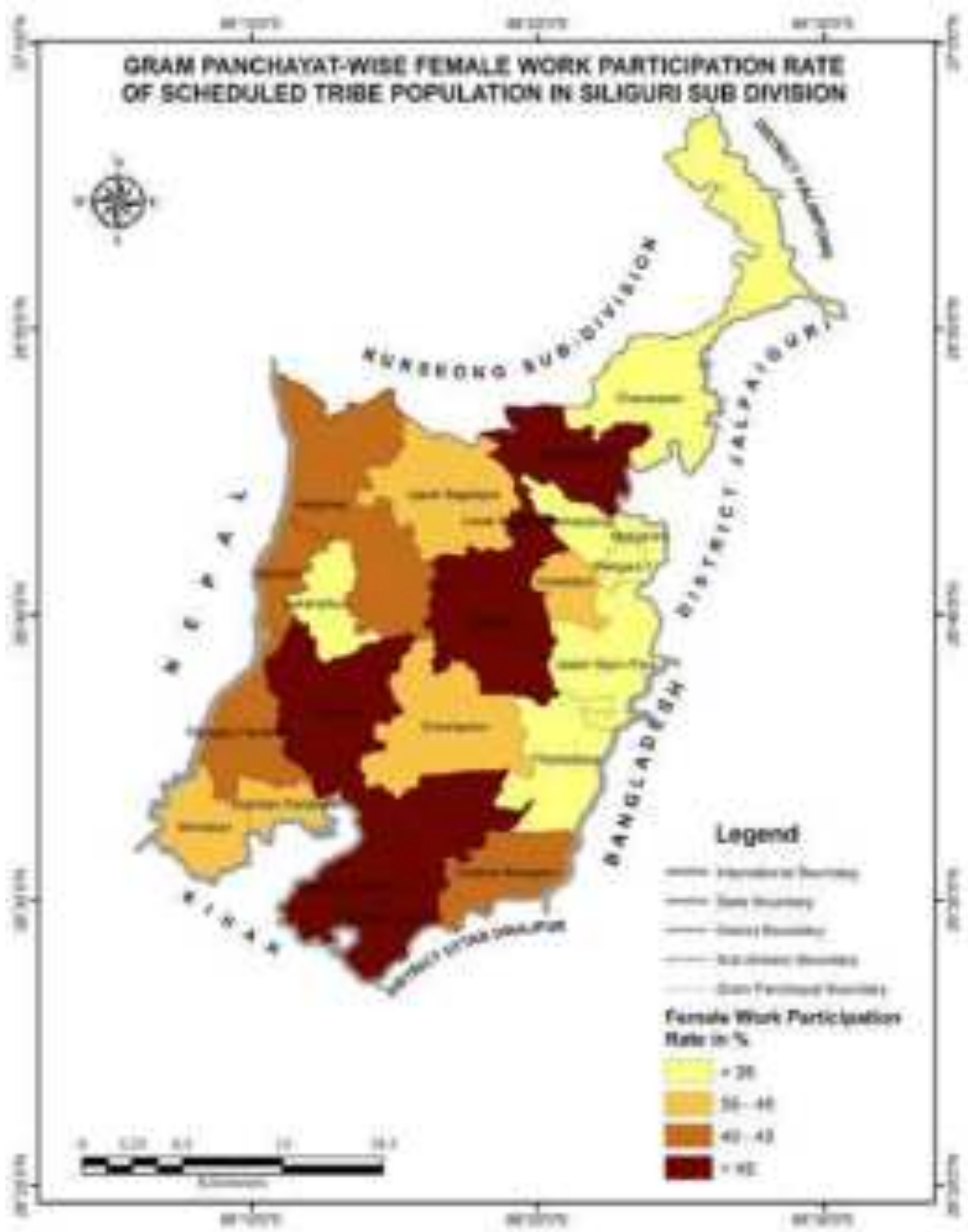


Fig. 3.37

Table 3.49 Gram Panchayat-wise Percentage Distribution of Main Worker and Marginal Worker of Scheduled Tribe Population

Name of the Block/GP	Main Worker			Marginal Worker		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Matigara	80.93	88.59	67.82	19.07	11.41	32.18
Champasari	80.70	90.79	60.53	19.30	9.21	39.47
Matigara I	83.33	84.62	80.00	16.67	15.38	20.00
Matigara II	87.50	100.00	66.67	12.50	0.00	33.33
Atharokhai	81.82	87.50	66.67	18.18	12.50	33.33
Patharghata	80.00	85.11	73.68	20.00	14.89	26.32
Naxalbari						
Naxalbari	78.39	89.58	60.87	21.61	10.42	39.13
Naxalbari	84.21	88.46	75.00	15.79	11.54	25.00
Upper Bagdogra	73.77	85.71	57.69	26.23	14.29	42.31
Hatighisa	75.61	86.96	61.11	24.39	13.04	38.89
Gossaipur	80.00	86.67	70.00	20.00	13.33	30.00
Lower Bagdogra	90.48	92.86	85.71	9.52	7.14	14.29
Maniram	76.00	96.77	42.11	24.00	3.23	57.89
Phansidewa						
Phansidewa	66.67	73.93	57.32	33.33	26.07	42.68
Hetmuri	68.70	67.69	70.00	31.30	32.31	30.00
Bidhan Nagar I	55.17	63.33	46.43	44.83	36.67	53.57
Bidhan Nagar II	67.42	78.26	55.81	32.58	21.74	44.19
Chathat Banskao	66.67	80.00	46.15	33.33	20.00	53.85
Ghoshpukur	71.93	85.29	52.17	28.07	14.71	47.83
Jalash Nijamtara	63.64	75.00	33.33	36.36	25.00	66.67
Phasidewa	75.00	75.00	75.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Kharibari						
Kharibari	66.82	77.05	52.81	33.18	22.95	47.19
Binnabari	80.00	88.00	70.00	20.00	12.00	30.00
Buraganj	70.15	86.84	48.28	29.85	13.16	51.72
Kharibari Panisali	72.73	78.95	64.29	27.27	21.05	35.71
Raniganj Panisali	51.52	60.00	38.46	48.48	40.00	61.54

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

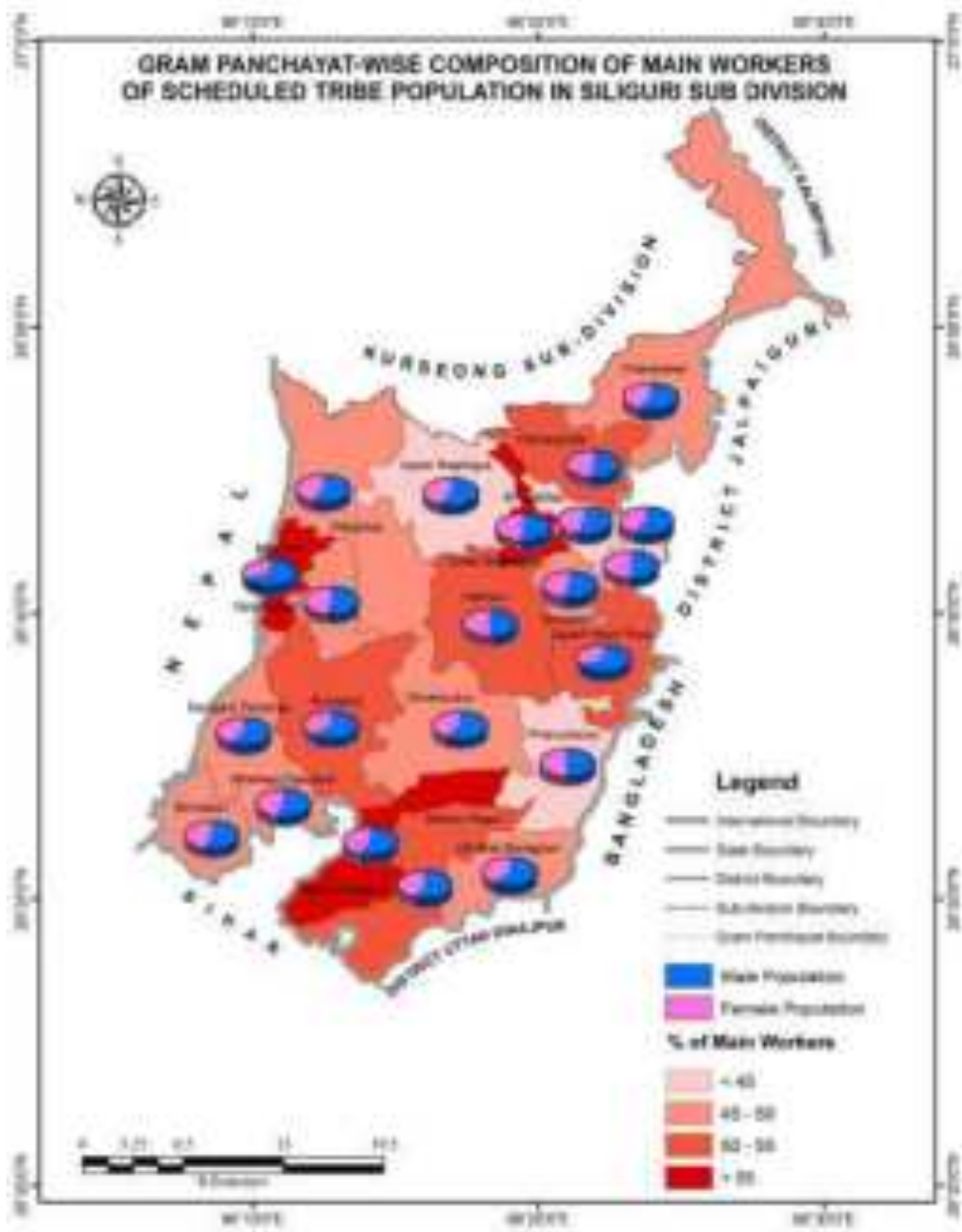


Fig. 3.38

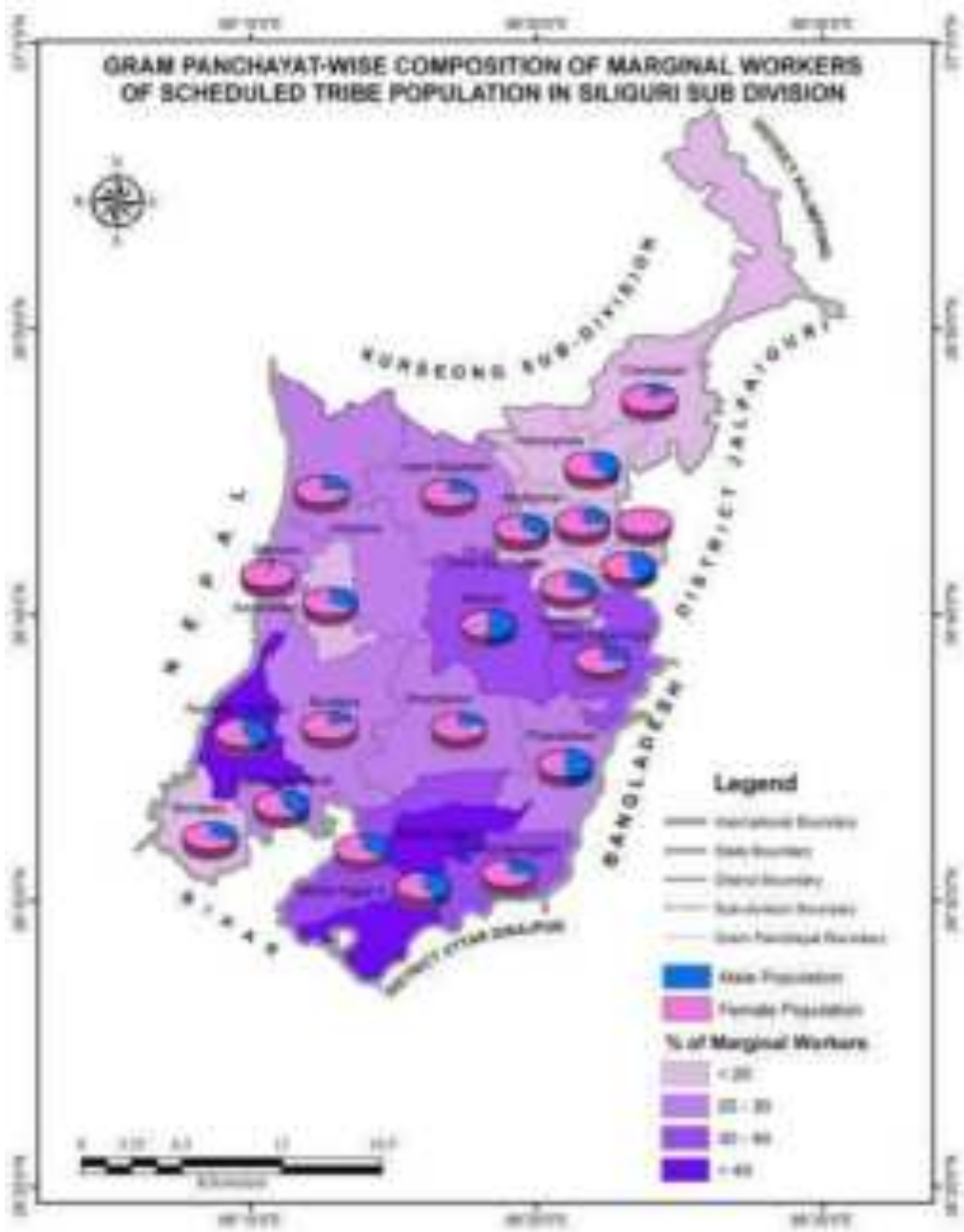


Fig. 3.39

3.4.2 Occupational Categories

The study of occupational categories helps to understand the detail classification of workforce of an area. To study the economic condition of a community in a systematic way, the population needs to be classified according to their nature of economic activities. According to nature of different economic activities in the study area, the worker group can be categorized into 09 (Nine) different categories; cultivator, agricultural labourer, plantation worker i.e. tea garden worker, industry worker, daily labourer, business person, private sector employee, government sector employee and other worker. Other worker mainly involves self-employed persons, servant and labourer on monthly salary basis and household industry. Table 3.50 shows the percentage share of different tribal worker groups in the study area. As discussed earlier, that the majority concentration of tribal population is tea garden centric; it is obvious that majority of the workers are associated with tea garden sector. More than half of the working population (53.24 percent) work as plantation worker i.e. tea garden worker. More interestingly 70 percent of the total female workforce in study area comes under this category. This is mainly because of high demand of female workers in tea gardens at the time of plucking seasons. 42.18 percent of tribal male worker works as plantation worker. After tea garden worker, the working group that shares second highest percentage is daily labourer. Almost one fifth of the total tribal workforce (19.19 percent) comes under this working group. Daily labourers mainly involve in construction associated work. Some are also work in some shops as daily wage earners. Percentages of male and female daily labourers are 22.53 percent and 14.13 percent respectively. Only 9.42 percent of workers are associated with private sectors. Although female private sector workers are very marginal. Only 3.70 percent of female workers work in private sector and the percentage for male worker in this sector is 13.20 percent. Other worker group shares 5.27 percent of total tribal workforce. The remaining categories i.e. cultivator (3.28 percent), agricultural labourer (2.33 percent), industry worker (2.51 percent), business person (3.20 percent) and government sector (1.82 percent) share very minimal percentages of total tribal workforce.

In urban areas a lot of tribal workers work as daily labourer. Table 3.50 shows 33.33 percent of total urban tribal working group work as daily labourer and it is highest among all work categories. For male and female the percentages are 35.21 percent and 28.57 percent respectively. A lot of urban tribal population works at different financial institutions, hotels, motels, restaurants, shopping malls and different small companies. There is no gender inequality present here. Percentage share for male (29.58 percent) and female (25.00 percent) private sector workers are almost same. Urban tribal females also work as maids or servants. Almost one fifth

of tribal female workforce in urban areas comes under other worker (17.86 percent). Other than these, a small portion of tribal workforce of urban areas work as industry worker (5.05 percent) and in government sector (7.07 percent).

Table 3.50 Rural Urban Distribution of Occupational Categories of Scheduled Tribe Workforce

Category	Rural			Urban			Total		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Cultivator	3.21	4.47	1.39	4.04	4.23	3.57	3.28	4.45	1.52
Agri. labourer	2.27	2.40	2.08	3.03	2.82	3.57	2.33	2.44	2.17
Plantation	58.03	46.96	74.07	2.02	0.00	7.14	53.24	42.18	70.00
Industry Worker	2.27	3.67	0.23	5.05	5.63	3.57	2.51	3.87	0.43
Daily Labourer	17.86	21.09	13.19	33.33	35.21	28.57	19.19	22.53	14.13
Business	2.93	3.35	2.31	6.06	7.04	3.57	3.20	3.73	2.39
Private Sector	7.66	11.34	2.31	28.28	29.58	25.00	9.42	13.20	3.70
Govt Sector	1.32	1.76	0.69	7.07	7.04	7.14	1.82	2.30	1.09
Other	4.73	4.95	4.40	11.11	8.45	17.86	5.27	5.31	5.22

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Majority of rural tribal workforce either works at tea garden or works as a daily labourer. Although tea garden sector is the main supply chain of rural tribal economy. Primary data shows (Table 3.50) 58.03 percent of total rural workforce is plantation worker. Not only this, 74.07 percent of rural female workforce work as plantation worker. For male the percentage is 46.96 percent. Block-wise data shows other than Naxalbari C.D. Block, in all the blocks more than half of the tribal working population are plantation workers; Phansidewa C.D. Block (72.53 percent) having the highest percentage of plantation workers. So, it is very much clear that rural tribal economic activities mainly revolve around the tea gardens. 17.86 percent of rural workforce does work as daily labourers, mostly associated with construction work. During field survey it has been observed that in Naxalbari C.D. Block 22.46 percent of tribal workers are daily labourers. This is highest among the four blocks. In Matigara, Phansidewa and Kharibari C.D Blocks the percentages are 15.68 percent, 14.93 percent and 20.38 percent respectively. As Matigara C.D Block being the immediate adjacent to Siliguri Municipal Corporation, a lot of tribal people as respondent revealed that everyday they went to the 'town' to work in some private sector offices. The percentage of private sector working group in Matigara C.D. Block is 15.25 percent which is highest among all the four blocks.

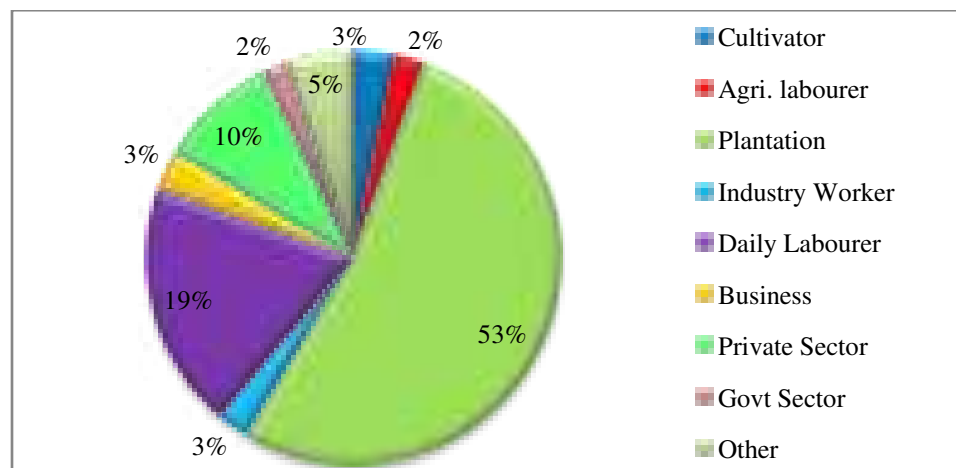


Fig. 3.40: Occupational Structure of Scheduled Tribe Population

Table 3.51 Block-wise Occupational Structure of Scheduled Tribe Population

Name of the Block	Cultivator			Agricultural Labourer			Plantation		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Matigara	0.42	0.67	0	1.69	2.68	0	59.32	45.64	82.76
Naxalbari	8.47	12.5	2.17	6.78	5.56	8.7	30.93	20.14	47.83
Phansidewa	1.07	1.42	0.61	0.53	0.47	0.61	72.53	62.56	85.37
Kharibari	4.27	4.92	3.37	0.95	1.64	0	61.14	53.28	71.91

Name of the Block	Industry Worker			Daily Labourer			Business		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Matigara	1.69	2.68	0.00	15.68	18.12	11.49	0.85	1.34	0.00
Naxalbari	2.97	4.86	0.00	22.46	23.61	20.65	6.36	6.94	5.43
Phansidewa	2.4	4.27	0.00	14.93	19.43	9.15	1.87	1.90	1.83
Kharibari	1.9	2.46	1.12	20.38	24.59	14.61	3.32	4.10	2.25

Name of the Block	Private Sector			Govt Sector			Others		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Matigara	15.25	22.15	3.45	1.69	2.68	0.00	3.39	4.03	2.3
Naxalbari	8.47	12.5	2.17	1.69	2.08	1.09	13.56	11.81	16.3
Phansidewa	3.73	5.69	1.22	1.07	1.42	0.61	1.87	3.32	0.00
Kharibari	5.21	6.56	3.37	0.95	0.82	1.12	1.42	0.82	2.25

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

3.4.3 Employed Member per Household

Table 3.52 reflects the primary data for employed member per tribal household in the study area. Previously in table 3.47 it has been shown that in tribal communities' gender gap in case of

employment is not as alarming as that of the other communities. Rather it is very much promising in rural areas. In rural areas for tribal households each adult members are considered as medium of income. To generate more income both able male and female go to work. That is why in rural areas two employed members per tribal household percentage (54.03 percent) is highest. Overall in Siliguri Sub-division the percentage is 51.89 percent. Out of the total sample households surveyed, in 16.79 percent tribal households working members were three and in 10.75 percent households the number is more than three. Block-wise in rural areas Phansidewa C.D. Block has the highest three employed member per household (20.95 percent). Followed by Kharibari C.D. Block (18.89 percent). Highest single earning member household can be seen in Matigara C.D. Block (26.36 percent) as this is very next to Siliguri MC (Part). In urban areas the trend of single earning member household is very prominent. 44.83 percent of total urban tribal household are depending on single earning member.

Table 3.52 Employed Members per Household

Employed member per Household	Rural	Urban	Total
1	17.58	44.83	20.57
2	54.03	34.48	51.89
3	17.37	12.07	16.79
4& more	11.02	8.62	10.75

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

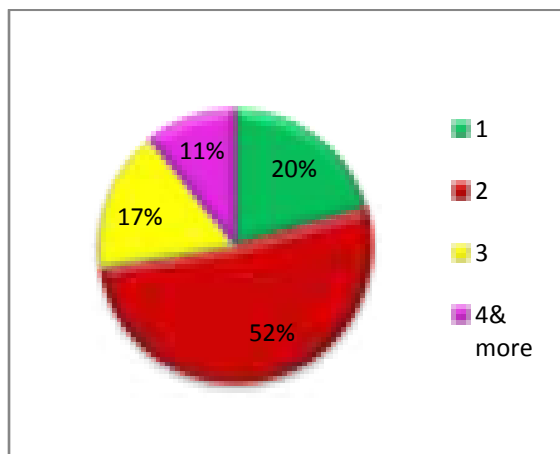


Fig. 3.41: Employed Members per Scheduled Tribe Household

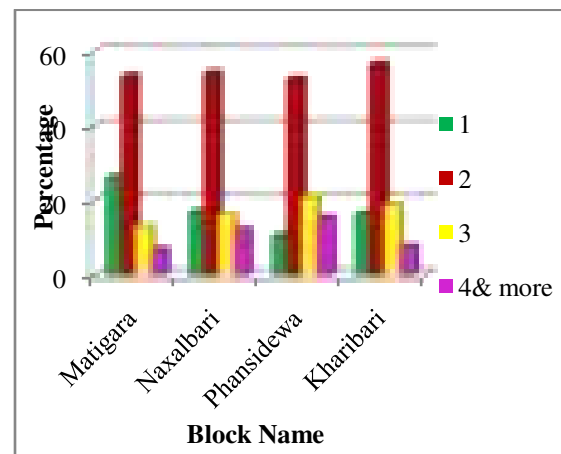


Fig. 3.42: Block-wise Distribution of Employed Members per Scheduled Tribe Household

Table 3.53 Block-wise Distribution of Employed Members per Household

Name of the Block	Employed Member per Household			
	1	2	3	4& more
Matigara	26.36	53.49	13.18	6.98
Naxalbari	17.14	54.29	16.19	12.38
Phansidewa	10.81	52.7	20.95	15.54
Kharibari	16.67	56.67	18.89	7.78

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

3.4.4 Relation between Work Participation Rate and Age Group

Table 3.54 shows work participation rate among tribal working population according to their age in the study area. Through this table it can be seen that out of the total sample tribal working population surveyed, almost 74.07 percent of them are 15 to 44 years of age group. In which 34.83 percent are 15 to 29 years of age and 39.24 percent are 30 to 44 years of age. For female workforce the highest percentage can be seen in 30 to 44 years age band. The chart shows senior citizen worker group is rare in the study area. This is a good sign for a community. For rural and urban both the trend is same. In both the areas highest age band of working population can be seen in 30 to 44 years of age. During field survey, in rural areas a lot of male respondents responded that they didn't continue their study after secondary or higher secondary, rather they went to work to earn for their family. But in urban areas this percentage was less. This is why the in rural areas 37.22 percent of male workers are in the age band of 15-29 years of age and in urban this percentage is 28.17 percent.

Table 3.54 Work Participation Rate according to Age Group

Work Participation according to age	Rural			Urban			Total		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
15-29	35.26	37.22	32.41	30.30	28.17	35.71	34.83	36.30	32.61
30-44	39.98	36.58	44.91	44.12	45.07	42.86	39.24	35.58	44.78
45-59	19.57	20.13	18.75	25.58	26.76	21.43	21.18	22.67	18.91
60 & above	5.20	6.07	3.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.75	5.45	3.70

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

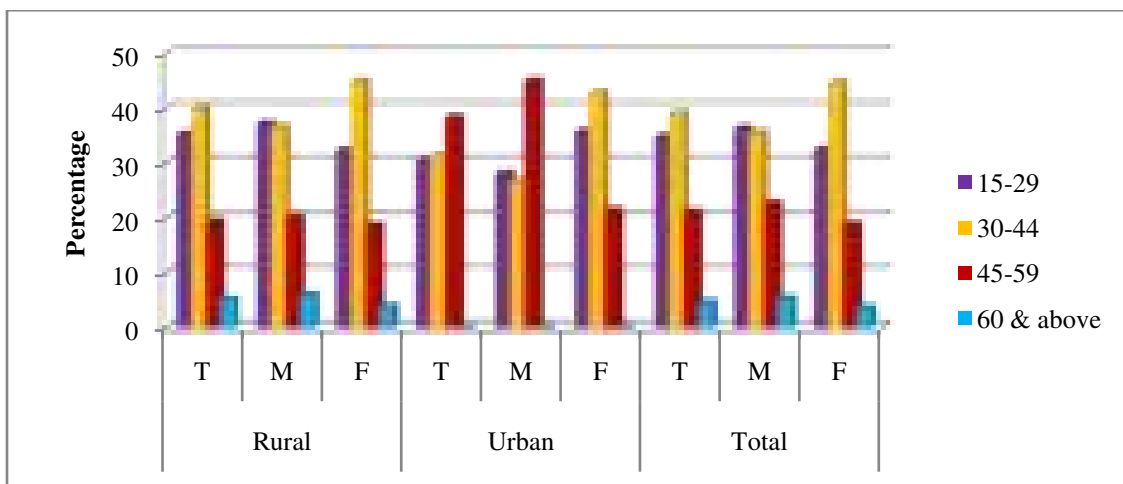


Fig. 3.43: Rural Urban Distribution of Age Group-wise Work Participation Rate

Table 3.55 Block-wise Work Participation Rate according to Age Group

Name of the Block	15-29			30-44			45-59			60 & above		
	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F
Matigara	38.56	38.26	39.08	38.98	36.24	43.68	18.22	20.81	13.79	4.24	4.7	3.45
Naxalbari	32.2	34.03	29.35	37.71	35.42	41.3	22.03	22.92	20.65	8.05	7.64	8.7
Phansidewa	37.07	39.34	34.15	39.73	38.39	41.46	18.93	16.11	22.56	4.27	6.16	1.83
Kharibari	31.75	36.07	25.84	44.08	35.25	56.18	19.43	22.95	14.61	4.74	5.74	3.37

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

3.4.5 Monthly Household Income

Income of a household means the collective income by the members of a household. Often it is measured on monthly basis. Income of a household is the fuel to meet its daily consumption and basic needs. Income of a household indicates its affordability. It is also the indicator of economic health of a household. Higher income means higher affordability of a household. It opens up the opportunity to enjoy some basic to luxurious amenities. Here, the surveyed tribal households have been classified into four categories as per their monthly income; households having monthly income of (i) less than rupees 5000, (ii) rupees 5001-10000, (iii) rupees 10001-15000 and (iv) above rupees 15000. Out of the total tribal households surveyed, half of them (50.19 percent) have monthly income between rupees 5001-10000 (Table 3.56). 17.36 percent households have monthly income range of rupees 10001-15000 and 21.51 percent households come under the monthly income slab of less than 5000. In total 10.94 percent of tribal households have a monthly income of more than rupees 15000. Although urban percentage of this income slab is much higher than the rural. 25.86 percent of urban tribal households have monthly income of above rupees 15000 and in rural the percentage is only 9.11 percent So, it can

be seen that monthly household income of 71.70 percent tribal household in the study area is within rupees 10000 and it justifies the fact that the most of the tribal population in the study area comes under the lower income category. Gram Panchayat-wise Naxalbari (33.33 percent) and Lower Bagdogra (28.57 percent) in Naxalbari C.D Block have highest percentage of this income band. Block-wise highest percentage of this income band can be seen in Naxalbari C.D. Block (12.38 percent) itself. A main reason behind this is during field survey a considerable number of respondents responded that members of their “family” work outside of West Bengal, mainly in Gujurat, Maharashtra, Delhi, Tamilnadu and Kerala. They earn a good amount of money there and send the money to their family down here at Naxalbari block. The lowest monthly household income can be seen in Kharibari Panisali and Atharokhai GP. 46.67 percent and 42.86 percent of total tribal household of the respective GPs’ have monthly income less than rupees 5000. Both the block Phansidewa and Kharibari involve highest work participation rate as well as highest percentage of household with monthly income less than 5000. This is only because of the monopoly plantation working sector in these two blocks. From table 3.51 it can be seen that Phansidewa involves 72.53 percent of working population in plantation sector and for Kharibari this percentage is 61.14 percent, top two in the study area. It is also to be noted that the majority of ownership of house status of these two blocks mainly recorded as “Neither own nor rented” (Table 3.20). This is also because of the working sector with which the majority of the tribal population of these areas are involved with. 58.11 percent of the tribal household of Phansidewa C.D. Block has ownership status of their houses as “Neither own nor rented” (Table 3.20). In Naxalbari C.D. Block only 30.93 percent (lowest among all the four blocks) of tribal working population is engaged with plantation sector and 65.71 percent of tribal household has monthly household income up to 10000 (Among all the four blocks in Naxalbari the percentage of monthly household income up to 10000 is lowest and it has highest percentage of monthly household income more than 10000) (Table 3.57). During survey it has been recorded that only 28.57 percent of household has ownership status of their house as “Neither own nor rented” and 62.86 percent of household has own ownership of house (Table 3.20). So, there is a proper relationship between the income and ownership of house among the tribal population in the study area. As the monthly income of a tribal household increases, the percentage of own ownership status of household also increases. Table 3.58 shows the percentage of “own ownership” of houses is lowest (35.96 percent) when the monthly family income is less than 5000. And for this income category 57.89 percent of household has been recorded ownership of house as “Neither own nor rented”. The table 3.58 also shows highest percentage of “own ownership” (77.59 percent) of house recorded when the monthly household income is above 15000.

Table 3.56 Rural Urban Distribution of Monthly Household Income

Income	Rural	Urban	Total
less than 5000	22.25	15.52	21.51
5001-10000	51.06	43.10	50.19
10001-15000	17.58	15.52	17.36
above 15000	9.11	25.86	10.94

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

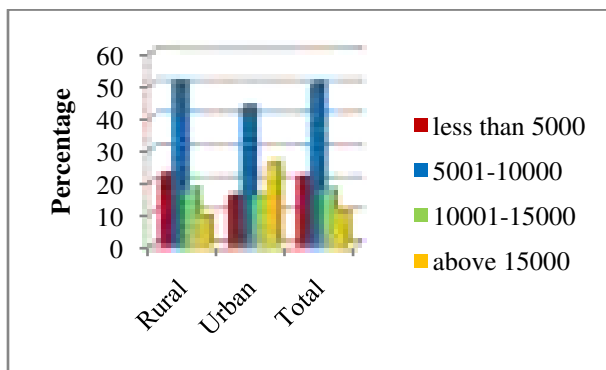


Fig. 3.44: Rural Urban Distribution of Monthly Household Income

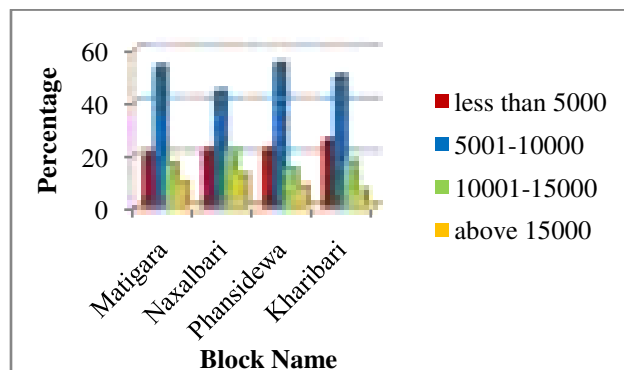


Fig. 3.45: Block-wise Distribution of Monthly Household Income

Table 3.57 Gram Panchayat-wise Distribution of Monthly Household Income

Name of the Block/GP	Income			
	less than 5000	5001-10000	10001-15000	above 15000
Matigara	20.16	53.49	17.05	9.30
Champasari	9.23	66.15	13.85	10.77
Matigara I	15.17	59.83	16.67	8.33
Matigara II	16.67	66.67	0.00	16.67
Atharokhai	42.86	28.57	14.29	14.29
Patharghata	23.08	46.15	25.64	5.13
Naxalbari	21.90	43.81	21.90	12.38
Naxalbari	13.33	40.00	13.33	33.33
Upper Bagdogra	20.69	37.93	34.48	6.90
Hatighisa	19.05	66.67	9.52	4.76
Gossaipur	14.29	64.29	14.29	7.14
Lower Bagdogra	14.29	14.29	42.86	28.57
Maniram	42.11	26.32	21.05	10.53
Phansidewa	22.30	54.73	14.86	8.11
Hetmuri	26.67	53.33	13.33	6.67
Bidhan Nagar I	16.00	76.00	8.00	0.00
Bidhan Nagar II	27.59	41.38	20.69	10.34
Chathat Bansgao	6.67	60.00	20.00	13.33

Name of the Block/GP	Income			
	less than 5000	5001-10000	10001-15000	above 15000
Ghoshpukur	27.27	50.00	9.09	13.64
Jalash Nijamtara	40.00	40.00	20.00	0.00
Phasidewa	0.00	57.14	28.57	14.29
Kharibari	25.56	50.00	17.78	6.67
Binnabari	5.88	47.06	35.29	11.76
Buraganj	14.81	55.56	22.22	7.41
Kharibari Panisali	46.67	33.33	13.33	6.67
Raniganj Panisali	35.48	54.84	6.45	3.23

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

Table 3.58 Relation between Income and Ownership of Houses

Household Monthly Income	Ownership Status of House		
	Own	Rented	Neither Own nor Rented
less than 5000	35.96	6.14	57.89
5001-10000	38.72	4.89	56.39
10001-15000	63.04	8.7	28.26
above 15000	77.59	6.9	15.52

Source: Field Survey 2019-20

3.4.6 Economic Development Index

To find out economic development status of the study area Economic Development Index has been derived. To prepare this index the same process of finding Social Development Index (Table 3.21) has been followed. Here seven housing variables have been selected. All of seven variables are positive variables.

The economic variables are:

1. Work Participation Rate(X12)
2. Male Work Participation Rate(X13)
3. Female Work Participation Rate (X14)
4. Main Workers(X15)
5. Male Main Workers(X16)
6. Female Main Workers(X17)
7. Monthly Household Income above 10000 (X18)

Like the values of the Housing Development Index, the values of Economic Development Index vary between ranges of 0 to 1. The Index value 1 represents the best condition and 0 represents the worst condition.

Table 3.59 Gram Panchayat-wise Economic Development Index

Name of the Block/GP	X12	X13	X14	X15	X16	X17	X18	Economic Index
Matigara	0.26	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.94	1.00	0.30	0.64
Champasari	0.33	0.78	0.09	0.75	0.77	0.52	0.26	0.50
Matigara I	0.28	0.61	0.02	0.82	0.62	0.89	0.27	0.50
Matigara II	0.26	0.43	0.20	0.92	1.00	0.64	0.14	0.51
Atharokhai	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.78	0.69	0.64	0.32	0.35
Patharghata	0.71	0.56	0.70	0.73	0.63	0.77	0.36	0.64
Naxalbari	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.82	1.00	0.54	1.00	0.50
Naxalbari	0.30	0.83	0.02	0.84	0.71	0.80	0.61	0.59
Upper Bagdogra	0.21	0.30	0.26	0.57	0.64	0.47	0.53	0.42
Hatighisa	0.34	0.21	0.44	0.62	0.67	0.53	0.10	0.42
Gossapur	0.31	0.24	0.36	0.73	0.67	0.70	0.21	0.46
Lower Bagdogra	0.80	0.70	0.63	1.00	0.82	1.00	1.00	0.85
Maniram	0.81	0.96	0.55	0.63	0.92	0.17	0.37	0.63
Phansidewa	1.00	0.95	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.00	0.46
Hetmuri	0.65	0.59	0.60	0.44	0.19	0.70	0.19	0.48
Chathat Bansgao	0.46	0.43	0.43	0.39	0.50	0.24	0.40	0.41
Bidhan Nagar I	0.60	0.49	0.63	0.09	0.08	0.25	0.00	0.31
Bidhan Nagar II	1.00	0.39	0.52	0.41	0.29	0.20	0.28	0.43
Ghoshpukur	0.53	0.81	0.36	0.52	0.63	0.36	0.23	0.49
Jalash Nijamtara	0.65	1.00	0.20	0.31	0.38	0.00	0.19	0.39
Phasidewa	0.18	0.51	0.04	0.60	0.38	0.80	0.55	0.44
Kharibari	0.44	0.23	0.59	0.01	0.20	0.00	0.13	0.23
Binnabari	0.43	0.56	0.39	0.73	0.70	0.70	0.62	0.59
Buraganj	0.65	0.58	0.61	0.48	0.67	0.29	0.34	0.52
Kharibari Panisali	0.50	0.94	0.31	0.54	0.47	0.59	0.19	0.51
Raniganj Panisali	0.48	0.36	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.03	0.21

Source: Calculated by the Researcher

The table 3.59 shows block-wise and Gram Panchayat-wise economic development status by showing their Economic Development Index. In the study area block-wise best economic condition is found in Matigara C.D. Block (0.64) followed by Naxalbari C.D. Block (0.50). The worst economic development condition is found in Kharibari C.D. Block (0.23) and it is followed by Phansidewa C.D. Block (0.46). In Matigara C.D. Block out of the seven economic variables, DI values of three variables; Male Work Participation Rate (X13), Total Main Workers (X15) & Female Main Worker(X17); are 1. That means in these three economic parameters Matigara C.D. Block is in best condition among the four blocks in the study area. Gram Panchayat-wise best economic condition is found in Lower Bagdogra GP (0.85) followed

by Patharghata GP (0.64). The worst economic development condition is found in Raniganj Panishali GP (0.21) and it is followed by Bidhan Nagar I (0.31). In Lower Bagdogra GP out of the total 7 economic variables 3 variables, Main Worker (X15), Female main worker (X17) and Monthly Household income above 10000 (X18) are in best condition among all the Gram Panchayats. In addition to that DI values of another two economic variables Work participation rate (X12) and Male main worker (X16) are on higher side. The collective status of these four economic variables is the main reason of Lower Bagdogra GP becoming the Gram Panchayat with best economic development status in the study area. In Raniganj Panisali GP DI values of 2 variables, Main Workers (X15) and Male main workers (X16) out of the 7 economic variables, are in worst condition. The DI values of Female main worker (X17) and Monthly Household income above 10000 (X18) are also on the very lower side. And the very poor status of these four economic variables cause the Raniganj Panisali to become the worst economically developed Gram Panchayat among all the 22 GP in the study area. For this study the Gram Panchayats are classified into three groups, Developed, Moderately Developed and Least Developed; according to their value of Economic Development Index. The Gram Panchayats having Economic Development Index Value of greater than 0.60 has been classified as Developed. Gram Panchayats having Index values between 0.45-0.60 have been classified as Moderately Developed and index value with less than 0.45 have been classified as Least Developed. According to this category in the study area only three Gram Panchayats, Maniram (0.63), Patharghata (0.64) & Lower Bagdogra (0.85) are classified as developed. 10 Gram Panchayats, Gossaipur (0.46), Hetmuri (0.48), Ghoshpukur (0.49), Champasari (0.50), Matigara I (0.50), Kharibari Panisali (0.51), Matigara II (0.51), Buraganj (0.52), Naxalbari (0.59) & Binnabari (0.59) are classified as moderately developed. In the rest 09 Gram Panchayats the economic development condition have been categorized as least among the all Gram Panchayats in the study area.

Table 3.60 Gram Panchayat-wise Economic Development Categories

Economic Development Status	Index Value	GP Name
Developed	>0.60	Maniram, Patharghata, Lower Bagdogra
Moderately Developed	0.45-60	Gossaipur, Hetmuri, Ghoshpukur, Champasari, Matigara I, Kharibari Panisali, Matigara II, Buraganj, Naxalbari, Binnabari,
Least Developed	<0.45	Raniganj Panisali, Bidhan Nagar I, Atharokhai, Jalash Nijamtara, Chathat Bangsao, Hatighisa, Bidhan Nagar II, Upper Bagdogra, Phasidewa

Source: Compiled by the Researcher

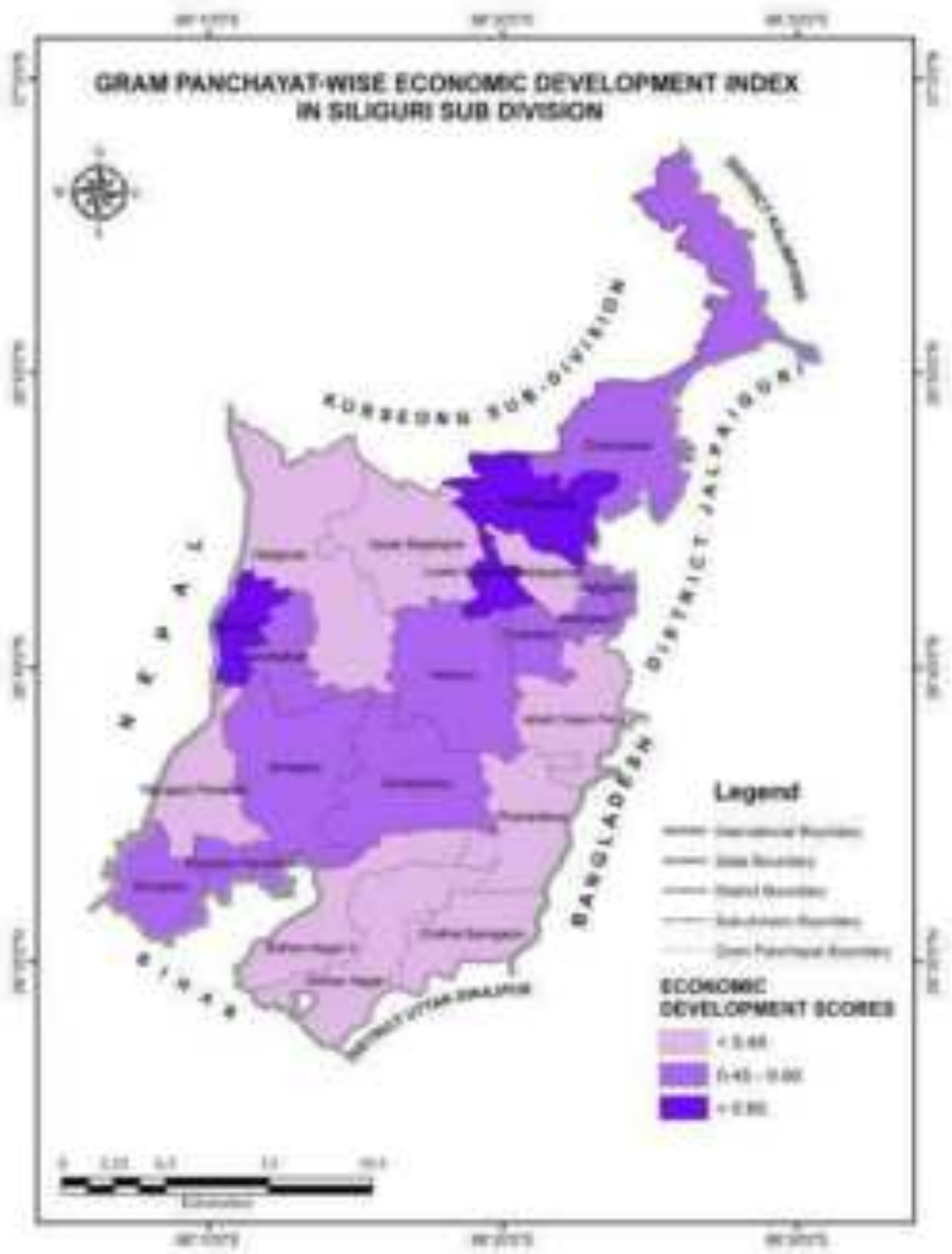


Fig. 3.46

3.5 Composite Index of Socio-Economic Status

Composite Index of an area reflects the overall socio-economic condition of that area. In this study the Composite Index shows the overall socio-economic development status of tribal population in the study area Siliguri Sub-division. Here, Composite Index has been derived from the Social Development Index (Table 3.21), Housing Development Index (Table 3.45) & Economic Development Index (Table 3.59). These indices have already been calculated earlier in this chapter. For this study Composite Index has been formulated as the mean value of these three base indices (Table 3.61).

$$\text{So, Composite Index of Socio-Economic Status} = \frac{\Sigma(SDI, HDI, EDI)}{n}$$

Where,

SDI means, Value of Social Development Index

HDI means, Value of Housing Development Index

EDI means, Value of Economic Development Index

“n” is number of occurrences. (Here, n = 3)

Table 3.61 Composite Index of Socio-Economic Condition of Scheduled Tribe Population

Name of the Block/GP	Social Development Index	Housing Development Index	Economic Development Index	Composite Index
Matigara	0.68	0.83	0.64	0.72
Champasari	0.47	0.64	0.50	0.53
Matigara I	0.79	0.74	0.50	0.68
Matigara II	0.65	0.62	0.51	0.59
Atharokhai	0.74	0.67	0.35	0.59
Patharghata	0.42	0.52	0.64	0.52
Naxalbari	0.87	0.67	0.50	0.68
Naxalbari	0.64	0.72	0.59	0.65
Upper Bagdogra	0.62	0.44	0.42	0.50
Hatighisa	0.54	0.42	0.42	0.46
Gossaiपुर	0.26	0.54	0.46	0.42
Lower Bagdogra	0.42	0.94	0.85	0.74
Maniram	0.58	0.59	0.63	0.60
Phansidewa	0.17	0.03	0.46	0.22
Hetmuri	0.44	0.17	0.48	0.36
Chathat Bansgao	0.05	0.73	0.41	0.40

Name of the Block/GP	Social Development Index	Housing Development Index	Economic Development Index	Composite Index
Bidhan Nagar I	0.42	0.30	0.31	0.34
Bidhan Nagar II	0.28	0.28	0.42	0.32
Ghoshpukur	0.46	0.40	0.49	0.45
Jalash Nijamtara	0.18	0.52	0.39	0.36
Phasidewa	0.55	0.66	0.44	0.55
Kharibari	0.31	0.24	0.23	0.26
Binnabari	0.39	0.68	0.59	0.55
Buraganj	0.46	0.41	0.52	0.46
Kharibari Panisali	0.61	0.34	0.51	0.49
Raniganj Panisali	0.28	0.30	0.21	0.26

Source: Calculated by the Researcher

In the table 3.61 Gram Panchayat-wise Composite Index of Socio-Economics status of the study area has been calculated which reflects the true scenario of the socio-economic status of tribal people in the study area. Gram Panchayat-wise best Composite Index value is found in Lower Bagdogra GP (0.74) and the lowest index value is found in Raniganj Panisali (0.26). On the basis of their Composite Index value, the Gram Panchayats have been classified into three categories; Developed, Moderately Developed & Least Developed. The Gram Panchayats with composite index value greater than 0.60 have been categorized as Developed. Gram Panchayats with index value between 0.45 to 0.60 have been categorized as Moderately Developed and the GP with index value less than 0.45 have been fall in the category of Least Developed. According to this division 03 GPs', Naxalbari (0.65), Matigara I (0.68) & Lower Bagdogra (0.74) comes under Developed category. 07 GPs', Raniganj Panisali (0.26), Bidhan Nagar II (0.32), Bidhan Nagar I (0.34), Hetmuri (0.36), Jalash Nijamtara (0.36), Chathat Bansgao (0.40) & Gossaipur (0.42) are in Least Developed category. And the rest 12 Gram Panchayats, Ghoshpukur (0.45), Hatighisa (0.46), Buraganj (0.46), Kharibari Panisali (0.49), Upper Bagdogra (0.50), Patharghata (0.52), Champasari (0.53), Phasidewa (0.55), Binnabari (0.55), Atharokhai (0.59), Matigara II (0.59) & Maniram (0.60) have been categorized as Moderately Developed. In Lower Bagdogra GP the Housing Development Index and Economic Development Index play the key factors to make it the Gram Panchayat with best socio-economic condition of tribal people in the entire Sub-division (Table 3.45 and Table 3.59). And in Raniganj Panisali GP the Social Development Index and Economic Development Index play the key role to make this Gram Panchayat with worst socio-economic condition of tribal people in the entire Sub-division (Table 3.21 and Table

3.59). Among the four C.D. Blocks, the Composite Index value of Matigara C.D. Block (0.72) is highest, followed by Naxalbari C.D. Block (0.68). And the index value is lowest in Phansidewa C.D. Block (0.22), followed by Kharibari C.D. Block (0.26). The very low Social Development Index and Housing Development Index values are the key reason to make Phansidewa C.D. Block stand at the last among the four blocks in the Sub-division (Table 3.21 and Table 3.45). This indicates towards the very poor condition of tribal people in terms of their housing and social development status in this block.

Table 3.62 Gram Panchayat-wise Socio-Economic Categories

Socio-Economic Status	Index Value	GP Name
Developed	>0.60	Naxalbari, Matigara I, Lower Bagdogra
Moderately Developed	0.45-0.60	Ghoshpukur, Hatighisa, Buraganj, Kharibari Panisali, Upper Bagdogra, Patharghata, Champasari, Phansidewa, Binnabari, Atharokhai, Matigara II, Maniram,
Least Developed	<0.45	Raniganj Panisali, Bidhan Nagar II, Bidhan Nagar I, Hetmuri, Jalash Nijamtara, Chathat Bangsao, Gossapur

Source: Compiled by the Researcher

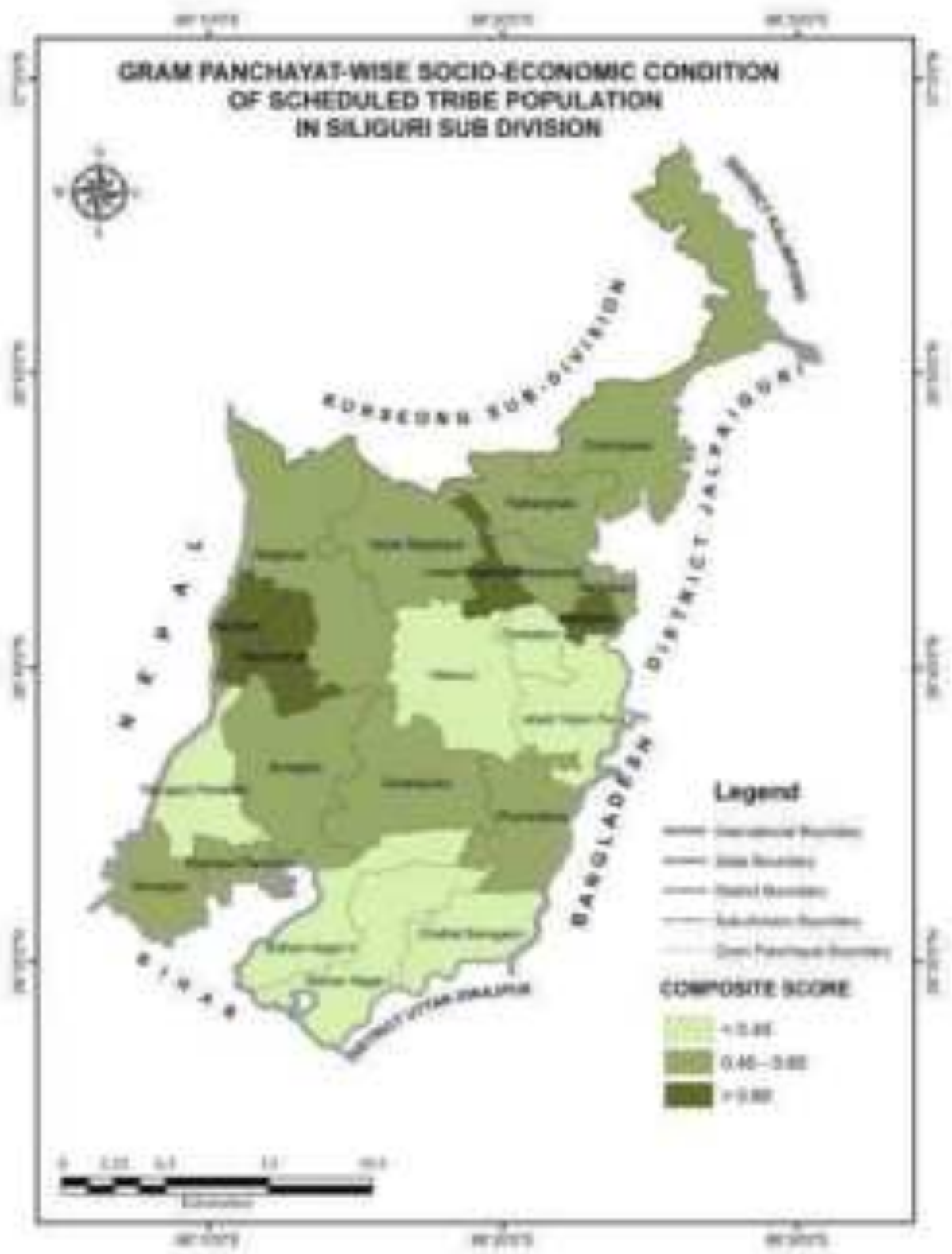


Fig 3.47

3.6 Conclusion

The objective of this chapter was to study the socio-economic condition of tribal population in the study area. Through various parameters of socio-economic status, a clear picture on socio-economic condition of tribal population has been derived. The study shows there are few promising and a lots of very alarming social trends present among tribal population in the study area. Sex ratio, youth age percentage and female work participation rate shows the overall positive signs in the study area. Socio-economic condition of rural tribal population in the study area is very much alarming. Literacy rate especially female literacy rate, female age of marriage below 18 years are the two social parameters which need immediate improvements. Apart from these two, uses of latrine in Phansidewa C.D. Block need more attention of the local authorities. Many a households are causing open defecation in spite of having access of latrine facilities in this block. In rural areas most of the tribal households are still using woods and dry leaves as their main source of fuel for cooking. This is causing a negative impact on female health as well as on the environment. Despite of having a high work participation rate, the average monthly income of tribal households are very low. A squeezed circle of work profile is the main reason behind this. A more diversification of working sector is a must needed change in the study area. Female work participation rate is quite promising. Although it is more of a necessity rather than a choice.

References

- Boruah, L. (n.d.). Retrieved 2021, from [http://www.bhattadevuniversity.ac.in/docs/studyMaterial/Lonkham_Baruah/Lonkham_percent20Boruah_Geography_UG_percent20II_percent20Sem\(HC\)_Age-sex_percent20Structure.pdf](http://www.bhattadevuniversity.ac.in/docs/studyMaterial/Lonkham_Baruah/Lonkham_percent20Boruah_Geography_UG_percent20II_percent20Sem(HC)_Age-sex_percent20Structure.pdf)
- Dr.Haseena, V.A, & Mohammed, D. P. (2014). Scope of education and dropout among tribal students in. *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications*, 4 (1), 1-13.
- Dutta, Prabhash K (2021, February 3). *When should woman and men marry? PIL in SC challenges differential legal age*. India Today
- Retrieved from <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/when-should-women-and-men-marry-pil-in-sc-challenges-differential-legal-age-1765430-2021-02-03>
- Islam, M. M., & Mustaquim, M. (2014). Socio Economic Status Of Rural Population An Income Level Analysis. *Asian Academic Research*, 1 (24), 98-106.
- Jayakumar, A., & Palaniyammal, P. (2016). Socio-Economic Status Of Scheduled Tribes In Kalrayan Hills. *Interantional journal of Research Granthaalayah* , 20-30.

- Khan, A. Q. (2004). Regional Imbalance and Changing Pattern of Literacy in Jammu and Kashmir State, (1961-2001). *Population Geography* , 49-60.
- Lakshmi, V. V., & Paul, M. M. (2019). Socio-Economic Conditions of Tribal Communities in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh – A Review. *Acta Scientific Agriculture*, 3 (8), 104-109.
- Mahmood, A. (2013). *Statistical Methods in Geographical Studies*. New Delhi: Rajesh Publications.
- Mission Nirmal Bangla – A pride for rural Bengal (2018, April 16)*.aitcofficial.org
Retrieved from <http://aitcofficial.org/aitc/mission-nirmal-bangla-a-pride-for-rural-bengal/>
- Nagaraju, V., Mani, N. N., & Reddy, S. M. (2019). Determinants of the Socio-Economic Status (SES) –. *Think India*, 22 (4), 10458-10478.
- National Youth Policy, 2014*. (2014). Retrieved from Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports: https://www.rgniyd.gov.in/sites/default/files/pdfs/scheme/nyp_2014.pdf
- Naik, T. B. (1984). *What is a Tribe: Conflicting and Deflecting*., Allhabad: Kitab Mahal: Applied Anthropology in India. (Second Edition).
- Paltasingh, T., & Paliwal, G. (2014). Tribal Population In India: Regional Dimensions & Imperatives. *Journal of Regional Development and Planning* , 27-36.
- Raja, J. A., & Krishnaveni, V. (2019). A Study on the Factors for Low Literacy Rate among the Tribal Tea Labourers of the Nilgiris District, Tamilnadu, India. *International Journal of Recent Technology and Engineering* , 544-546.
- Sinha, S. (2014).Housing and household amenities. In S. Thorat, & N. S. Sabharwal (Eds.), *Bridging the social gap: Perspectives on Dalit empowerment* (pp. 140-154). SAGE Publications India Pvt Ltd,
Retrieved from <https://www.doi.org/10.4135/9789351508083.n8>
- Singh, A. (2020, September 8). *Age at marriage in India: A gossamer of complexities and intricate linkage*. Down To Earth
Retrieved from <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/health/age-at-marriage-in-india-a-gossamer-of-complexities-and-intricate-linkages-73264>
- 10 crore toilets built under Swachh Bharat Mission: President Kovind* (2019, September 6).business-standard.com,
Retrieved from https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/10-crore-toilets-built-under-swachh-bharat-mission-president-kovind-119090600758_1.html
- Vishwanath, A., & Roy, E. (2020, August 17). *Explained: The logic of, and debate around minimum age of marriage for women*. Retrieved 2021, from The Indian Express: <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/pm-modi-74th-independence-day-women-empowerment-marriage-age-6555937/>