

REPORT OF STUDY TOUR OF 3RD YEAR B.A (HONS) IN GEOGRAPHY STUDENTS

The Department of Geography like previous years a study tour with the students of B.A 3rd Year Students in Geography Honours in the late January 2019 (28.01.2019). This year 55 students participated in the excursion. This means that 100 percent of the students took part in the said excursion. All the teachers (four in number) accompanied them. The tour was conducted through a renowned Kolkata based tour operator, "VASUNDHARA SAFAR". The major part of the journey was done through railways. The team started its journey by bus up to Nabadwip Dham Railway Station and caught Howrah bound Katwa local to reach Howrah Junction. After retiring for some time, they caught Chakradharpur Fast Passenger in the midnight and dropped at Purulia Railway Station at around 8 AM on 29.01.2019. Then they headed towards a hotel named DURGA LODGE, BAGHMUNDI which was booked for the team before hand. After taking bath and having light breakfast the team went out to perform survey work. The major thrust of the survey was to identify the socio-economic and demographic pattern of the area under study. The study area was chosen AYODHYA MOUZA; Sheet No: 108; BAGHMUNDI, PURULIA. It had a secondary objective also. They also found out the actual land use pattern by first-hand experience. The team members had structured questionnaires in their hands and they started collecting data from the masses (households) arbitrarily. The number of households covered in the study was 70.

MAJOR FINDINGS

1. The study area is dominated by SC/ST/OBC Population.

Category	No. of Male	No. of Female	No. of Persons
General	02	07	09
SC	45	39	84
ST	170	158	328
OBC	03	05	08

Source: Field Survey

2. The study area is illiteracy prone area.

Category	No. of Persons	Percent of Persons
Literate	181	42.19
Illiterate	248	57.81

Source: Field Survey.

3. Illiteracy is found to be more in female population

Category	Percent of Male	Percent of Female
Literate	54.14	45.86

Illiterate	49.20	50.80
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Source: Field Survey.

4. Percent of higher educated people in the study area is almost negligible.

Standard of Education	Percent of Population
4 th	56.90
10 th	11.60
12 th	22.09
Graduate	08.83
Postgraduate	00.58

Source: Field Survey.

5. Employment of a high percent of labourers is casual in nature.

Nature of Employment	Percent of People
Somewhat Regular	50.78
Purely Casual	49.22

Source: Field Survey.

6. About 97% of the households earn less than Rupees 6,000/- per month.

Income Range	Percent of People
Less than Rs. 2000	21.73
2000-4000	44.94
4000-6000	30.44
More than 6000	02.89
Total	100.00

Source: Field Survey.

7. Most of the people are associated with primary activities.

Occupation	Percent of Male	Percent of Female
Agriculture	49.54	52.90
Business	15.01	03.70
Service	01.36	01.66
Non-workers	34.09	41.74

Source: Field Survey.

8. Land Use Pattern of the Study Area is as follows:

Land Use	Percent of Area
Mixed Vegetation & Reserved Forest	57.00
Agriculture	19.00

Fallow Land	08.00
Transportation	06.00
Residential	04.00
Commercial	02.00
Others	02.00

Source: Field Survey.

Problems of the Study Area:

Problems

1. Unemployment is very much acute in the area.
2. Number of schools and colleges is very poor in the study area.
3. Rural development schemes of the governments are not well maintained.
4. Rainfall is scanty and frequent droughts are the main hindrances for doing economic activities.
5. Acute shortage of safe drinking water and ground water is not easily accessible.

Remedies Suggested:

1. More schools and colleges are to be established in the area.
2. The local government through PRIs the government Schemes are to be implemented. More democratic and less discriminatory attitudes are expected.
3. Water saving measures are to be adopted.
4. Safe drinking water is to be ensured to the villagers through PHE Department.
5. Cottage and small industries are to be promoted on the part of the government to provide more wage employment.

After consecutive three days of hard working, the students could gather sufficient data to assess the socio-economic background of the study area and also collected the land use pattern of the said area. The students along with the teachers returned back to Bethuadahari on 01.02.2019 in the morning at about 10 AM.