

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROSPECT OF JAGRARPART – II VILLAGE IN DHUBRI DISTRICT, ASSAM – A CASE STUDY

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Abstract: Socio-economic status is the foremost issue in the contemporary world, especially in the developing world. The study of Socio-economic status, try to explain the actual situation of population in particular region but the study of Socio-economic status found very rare at micro level such as village and ward level. This present study is based on primary data which have been collected by door to door survey with a suitable questionnaire by the researchers. All the data have been classified into twelve groups and simple percentage method is followed to analyse the actual situation. In the study area, 47.47% population's are Muslim and 52.53% Hindus. 70% family live in pucca houses and 30% live in Kaccha houses. Electricity is available in 95.3% of the houses. The survey revealed that 87.3% household of the village use tubewell as the source of drinking water and other 12.7% use running water. Only 24.7% households use sanitary latrine for defecation. The monthly income of 80% household is less than Rs.10,000/-, 10% earned between Rs.10,000/- to 20,000/-, 6.7% earned Rs.20,000/- to 30,000/- and only 3.3% is reported to earned above Rs. 30,000/-. Most of the population of the village is labour class.

Key-words : Socio-economic status, Jhagrarpart-II, Occupation, Income

Introduction: Socio-economic is the most important determinant of the livelihoods as it influences levels of knowledge, skill and income conditions which mean for their living. Socio-economic status is evaluated as a combination of factors including income, level of education, income, size of landholding, pattern of food consumption, caloric intake per head, occupational structure, and other basic amenities and infrastructure facilities. Socio-economic characteristics are the important tools to the measures of human development. It is a measure of an individual's or family's or group of people's economic and social position based on education, income, health, and occupation [1]. According to Dutton and Levine (1989), socio-economic status is "a composite measure that typically incorporates economic status, measured by income; social status, measured by education; and work status, measured by occupation"[2]. Socio-economic status refers to the position of individuals, families, households, or other aggregates on one or more dimensions of stratification. These dimensions include income, education, prestige, wealth, or other aspects of standing that member of society deem salient [3]. There is general consensus that income, education, and occupation together represent Socio-economic status better than any of these alone [4], there is no consensus on (a) how best to composite the set of indicators; (b) whether it works best to examine relations between Socio-economic status and child outcomes using a composite, a statistical procedure that includes each indicator, or each indicator singly; or (c) how best to measure each component [5].

Study area: The village “Jagrarpar part –II” a typical village of Dhubri district (Fig 1) of Assam and inhabited by two religious groups i.e. Muslim and Hindu. It is located 3 km away towards west from the DC office of Dhubri district. The total geographical area of village is 118.17 hectares. There is no remarkable market in the village, only few small shops are located in the village. The economy of the village is predominately agriculture based.

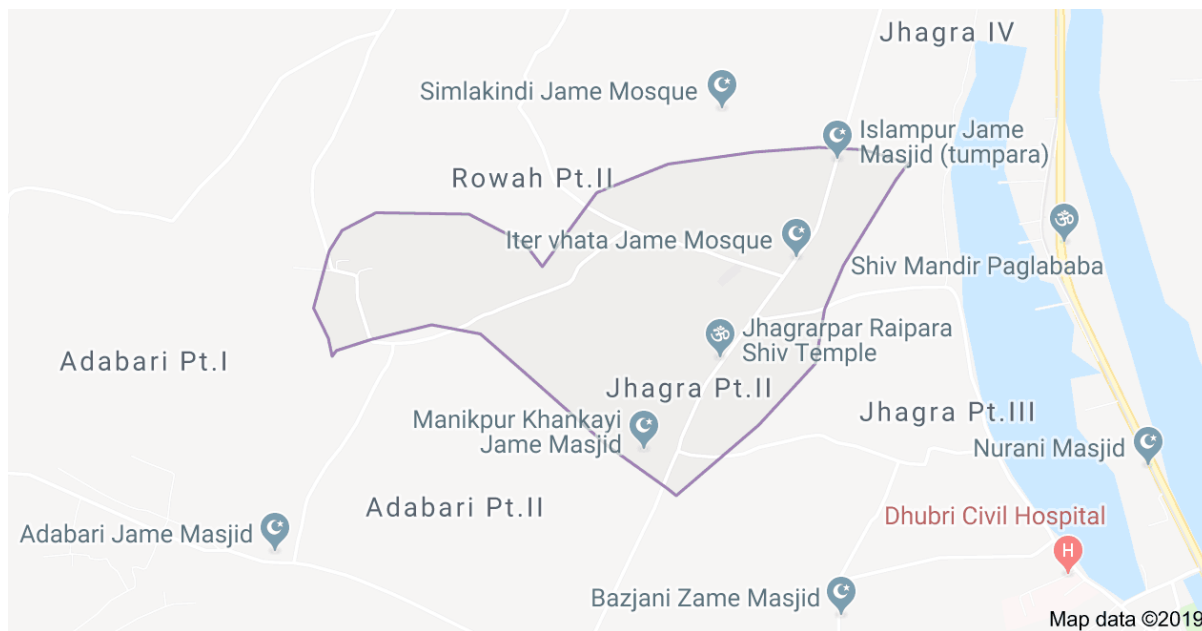


Fig.1 : The location of Jhagrarpar part-II village in Dhubri district, Assam

Objectives of Study

The objectives of the present study are

- To analyse the demographic characteristics of different groups of population.
- To investigate the housing situation, level of monthly income, occupation and educational status of the sample population in the study unit.
- To study whether the households receive any benefits from Govt. sector.
- To study health care facility, food and nutrition and vaccination of their children.
- To find out the source of drinking water and lightening in the village household

Research Methodology

The survey is conducted by using interview method. During interview, data has been collected in structured questionnaires keeping all the objectives in mind. The data relating to the socio-economic structure has been recorded at the household level on the basis of their availability and consent. The present study is based on primary survey in which samples of 150 households out of 332 households have been taken randomly for the analysis. The relevant data were collected from demographic, social and economic aspects. All the collected data were converted into relative number such as percentage to observe the overall situation [6].

Results

The total population of the village is 1653, among them, males occupied by 56.5% and rest of 43.5% is by females. Muslim community constitute 47.47% and other 52.53% are Hindues. Table 1 depicts that among total 150 households, majority of them (80%) belongs to very low income group (below Rs. 10,000/month), followed by 10% households belongs to monthly income of Rs. 10,000 – Rs. 20,000, 6.7% of total sample households belongs to Rs. 20,000 – Rs. 30,000 monthly income group and compose only 3.3% households of total sample households come under the monthly income of Rs. above 30,000. The number of population is gradually decreasing with the increasing of monthly income (Table 1).

Percentage of household (%)	Monthly income
80	Below 10,000
10	10,000-20,000
6.7	20,000 – 30,000
3.3	Above 30,000

Table 1: Monthly income of the household belonging to Jhagarpar part-II village in Dhubri district, Assam

The type of house indicates the living standard of the people of any area. The present study reveal that 70% of respondents has concrete house and about 30% of respondents has mud houses. Most of the concrete houses are of Govt. scheme. Educational status of the Jhagarpar part II is very meager, 83 per cent are literate. The most of them are primary educated (16.8%), followed by middle (37.2%), 10th (15.8%) , 12th (9.7%) only 3.1% per cent are graduate and remaining 0.3 per cent are post graduate (Table 2). There is only one primary School and no post office in the village. Electricity is available in the village which is used for both household and agriculture purpose. Most of the household i.e. 95.3% has electricity available in their houses.

Educational status	Percentage of people (%)
Literate	83
Primary	16.8
Middle	37.2
10 th	15.8
12 th	9.7
Graduate	3.1
Post graduate	0.3

Table 2: Educational status of the people belonging to Jhagarpar part-II village in Dhubri district, Assam

Agriculture is the backbone of the village, where about 12.9 per cent of the people are directly engaged in the agriculture, 10.8 per cent of people are Govt. service holder, 1.6 per cent are private sector service holder, 8.6 per cent are businessman and remaining 54.3% are labours working in different field.

The field study in the village reveals that 48.7% households receive benefits of different schemes of Govt. where as 51.3% do not receive any benefit from any Govt. scheme.

There is no private hospital in the village. Only one Govt. health centre present in the village. Almost all households are going to District Civil Hospital, Dhubri for treatment purpose. All the parents reported that they vaccinated their children 100% by receiving the Govt. facility.

From the present survey it is observed that 20% households consume milk daily, 70% weekly, 10% occasionally and 10% household never consume milk, curd etc. Pulses and vegetables are daily eaten by 100% households whereas meat, fish and egg are taken weekly by them.

Place of defecation is an important criteria for maintainence of hygienic condition of the village. From the survey it is reveal that 24.7% household use sanitary latrine, 72% use non-sanitary latrine and 3.3 % households use openspace as their place of defecation.

The survey also revealed that 87.3% household of the village uses tube well as the source of drinking water and 12.7% household use running water.

Electricity is available in the study village. 95.3% household use electricity as a source of lighting and 4.7% household use kerosene as their source of lighting.

Discussion

The above analysis painly indicates that overall socio-economic status of population of the village is not good. The lower income groups of people mainly engaged in agricultural fields, rice mills, brick industry or other places as day labour. Most of them are still not getting many facilities like safe drinking water, proper sanitation etc., where comparatively higher income peoples are getting some of these facilities. Although comparatively higher income population enjoy a little better life but lower income population's socio-economic situation is very risky due to mainly low level of literacy and low income resulting create many social issues and pollution.

Suggestion

Following are the few suggestions for the improvement of socio-economic condition of population of the village:

1. To improve the educational status of the people in the study area
2. Provision of getting more facilities from the government site.
3. To creates awareness about health and hygiene among the villagers.
4. Job oriented programmes should be implemented in the village level to reduce the burden of unemployment.
5. To provide small loans to the villagers to run various agricultural and Veterinary activities for better income.
6. To introduce various Govt. and private schemes for poor peoples of the village for their self engagement.

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