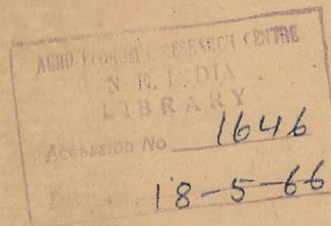


Indian Village Studies :  
Village Resurvey No. 2.

For Restricted Circulation.

**CHOTAHAIBAR**  
A Study of Socio-Economic Changes  
in  
a Village in Assam  
( 1956-1962 )



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AGRO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE FOR NORTH EAST INDIA  
JORHAT : ASSAM.  
1965.

## P r e f a c e

1. The present Report on Resurvey of Chotahaibar, a village near Nowgong is the second in the series of Resurveys undertaken by the Jorhat Centre. The first-point survey of the village was done by the Agro-Economic Research Centre at Santiniketan in December, 1956. After the establishment of the Jorhat Centre in 1960, the responsibilities for conducting the resurvey fell on this Centre. Field investigation for the resurvey was undertaken by this Centre during March to May, 1962 and the resurvey data relate to the year 1961.
2. Since the First Point Survey in 1956, Chotahaibar has experienced tremendous change. This change is not only due to urban impact of the growing town of Nowgong which is situated within 2 miles of the village, but also due to the heavy influx of immigrants--Muslim Farm Settlers and Hindu Refugees--from East Bengal (now East Pakistan). In fact, the new entrants to the village have outnumbered the original inhabitants of 1956.
3. In course of our investigation it is observed that the three communities of the village (e.g. Assamese Hindus, Immigrant Muslims and Hindu Refugees) have adopted different occupations and attained different standard of living. The three communities have their own social life and there seems to be little intercourse amongst them. They are occupying, by and large, distinct geographical areas in the village. The Hindu refugees (162 households) are mainly non-agriculturists with varieties of occupations like weaving, petty shop-keeping, peddling, sundry repairing etc. Amongst the Hindu refugees there are 29 weaver households majority of whom have migrated from East Pakistan recently. Assamese Hindus (23 Households) are mainly agriculturists, although the importance of agriculture amongst the Assamese families has dwindled greatly since the First-Point Survey.
4. Because of the influx of a large number of new population, the changes noticed since the First Point Survey cannot be said to be inherent in the village itself. Nevertheless the impact of developmental programme, especially with regard to refugee rehabilitation, can be noticed from the report. The effects of the presence of foreign element in the village life might also be seen in the study.
5. The present Report is expected to throw some light on several unknown factors in rural life. It might be possible to get an idea on (1) the intensity of pressure of population on land; (2) the adaptation of immigrants into the new social setting; (3) the varieties of occupation open to villagers near a town; (4) the declining importance of agriculture and lack of enthusiasm for it in rural areas near a growing town; (5) the poor consumption and residential standards; and many other aspects of rural life.
6. Because of the difficulties of comparing the identical households in the two points of time and also of the absence of certain data in the First-Point Survey, we are not able to give comparative pictures for the two counts on all aspects of village life. Nevertheless, it is hoped that the data presented here will be useful to those who are interested in the rural economic study. We will welcome any criticism or suggestion to enable us to improve our analysis in future.

7. There has been some delay in preparation of this Report. The tabulation of data involving a large number of households and embracing all aspects of village life is a very complex and painstaking process. With the resources available to us and commitments made earlier, we were not able to speed up the work. We express our regret for the delay.

8. As usual this study is the joint product of the Centre done under the general supervision and guidance of the Director of this Centre. Shri P.D. Saikia, Research Officer in charge of the study, wrote the Report and supervised the field investigation which was conducted by Junior Research Investigators Shri P. C. Das (since left), Shri D. Saikia and Shri D.K. Buragohain. The tabulation of data was made by Shri K.N. Bordoloi and Shri D. Bora, Senior Computers. The work of typing and mimeographing the Report fell on Shri V. N. Narayana Meron, Stenographer. The Duplicating machine was operated by Shri H. Gogoi, Office Peon. Apart from those who are mentioned above by name all other staff-members evinced keen interest in the project and rendered all assistance for the completion of the study. I offer my thanks to all my colleagues.

Dated 2nd December, 1965.

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INTRODUCING CHOTAHAI BAR

A. Location

- 1) State ..... Assam
- ii) District ..... Nowgong
- iii) Situation ..... Lies at a distance of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles towards the South East of Nowgong Town.

B. Important Centres

- iv) District headquarters..... Nowgong ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles)
- v) Railway Station ..... Nowgong (1 mile)
- vi) Post and Telegraph office..... Nowgong ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles)
- vii) Market Centre..... Daily market of the Nowgong Town (1 mile)

C. Survey

- xi) First Point Survey ..... December 1956.
- xii) Re-survey ..... ~~February-March, 1962.~~  
*April, May*

## CHAPTER I.

### 1. The Village and the People.

1.1. Chotahaibar presents a fringe society, an urban fringe which is losing its rural characteristics very fast. It is also a meeting ground of three social groups, with marked differences in religious faiths, languages and other social habits. The Assamese Hindus are the original people, majority of whom are living in the village for generations. From the early part of the 20th century immigrants from East Bengal, both Hindus and Muslims, began to settle in the village. Now the village is inhabited by the Assamese Hindus, the immigrant Bengali Hindus and Muslims. The influence of the immigrants on the socio-economic activities of the original population and vice-versa will be evident in certain aspects of their life, discussed in subsequent chapters.

1.2. The impact of the town on the village is very dominant and marked. The villagers though retaining their identity, are subjected to drastic changes in their social structure and economic life. The demographic character has also been changed. The villagers have taken to both farm and non-farm occupations, with greater degree of preference for the latter.

1.3. The history of the village is somewhat interesting. From the long past the village was divided into two parts by a sluggish river named Marikolong. About 25 years back black-fever (Kala-Azar) broke out in epidemic form in the South-Western part of the village and nearly ninety per cent of the people of that area died of it. At that time there was no curative or preventive medicine for Kala-Azar and the people dreaded it very much. Those who survived left the village and migrated elsewhere. The whole of that area once occupied by the victims of Kala Azar remained

unoccupied for a very long period. The immigrants found it to be a very suitable site for settlement as it offered facilities for both farm and non-farm occupations. In the past decade the Bengali immigrants settled in large numbers and now it is a predominant immigrant village.

1.4. The fertile soil of the Nowgong District attracted the immigrants from East Bengal who form a substantial portion of the population of the district. As stated above the village Chotahaibar seems to be considered as an ideal place by the immigrants both from economic and social point of view. The main attraction is the situation of the village just in the periphery of a big town which offers ample trading facilities. The fertile soil of the village is very suitable for intensive cultivation to which a section of the immigrants are very much accustomed. The social attraction is the prevalence of societies of same linguistic group with similar social habits, in and around the village.

## 2. The Village Setting.

2.1. The village as a whole has some rural environment as it has some paddy fields and orchards around the households. The village is divided into two parts by the Morikolong and also by a P.W.D. gravelled road. In the rainy season it becomes very difficult to go from one part of the village to the another by a straight route as there is no permanent bridge connecting both parts of the village across the river Marikolong. The condition of the village roads is far from satisfactory. Only a few households are situated by the side of the P.W.D. roads. Other households are connected with the main road by small paths constructed by the villagers themselves. The households of some of the Muslim families are situated in the midst of the paddy fields. The North-Eastern part of the village occupied by the Assamese Hindus is thinly populated and presents a somewhat rural outlook. But the South-Western part, towards

the Municipality area, which is occupied by the immigrants is very thickly populated and to an outsider it seems to be a part of the town itself.

2.2. From all these points it is clear that the village is not a geographical unit nor a sociological unit. It is simply a revenue unit. There is not even natural recognition between different sections of the villagers. The Government nominated headman (Gaonbura) himself does not recognise all the households of the village. The villagers, especially the immigrants, are found to be very much individualistic in their outlook. They remain busy with their own pursuits. Majority of them remain so occupied in earning their livelihood that they cannot imagine of taking part in the village welfare activities. The three groups living in the village very rarely get together to discuss their common problems. Even many of the villagers did not like the idea of spending a few hours with our investigators, and in certain cases, the investigators could meet the informants in their households after several attempts.

### 3. The households.

3.1. The general condition of the households is very poor and unimpressive. The haphazardly built small and traditional types of houses give an idea of poor level of living of the majority of the villagers. The general houses are two roofed, built with locally available articles such as sun-grass straw, ekra, bamboo and jute sticks. Only a very few buildings have C.I. Sheet roofing and brick walls. Some of the immigrant families have constructed their houses in somewhat improved technique. They use the kerosene oil tins painted black for the roofing and wooden framed reed (ekra) walls. These materials are not very costly and at the same time such buildings last longer. The houses of this type are exclusively constructed by the carpenter families of the Bengali Hindu group.



3.2. Some of the immigrants have constructed small houses for rent. These cheap rented houses give ready accomodation to fresh immigrants. There are some other rented houses at the edge of the town which are used by some school and college students as their boarding houses.

4. Educational Facilities.

4.1. Primary educational facilities cannot be said to be adequate in the village. There is only one L. P. School, and that too is situated in one corner of the village. But facilities for higher studies upto the degree standard, both in arts and science can easily be availed by the villagers in the nearby town. A Government Institution offering Diploma course in Civil Engineering, is opened recently in Nowgong Town.

4.2. The village L. P. School was established in the year 1959, and is under the School Board of the district. There are two trained teachers in the school. The school building is made of brick walls and C. I. sheet roof. The number of students in the school from the year of establishment is shown below:-

TABLE 1.1.  
Enrolment at Chotahaibar L. P. School.

Number of Students.	Y e a r s			
	1959	1960	1961	1962
Male	25	33	43	40
Female	25	29	33	30
TOTAL:	50	62	76	70

Average attendance in the school in the year 1961 was 65 per cent which may be taken as quite satisfactory.

4.3. The villagers are found to be somewhat apathetic towards education. At the time of first point survey (December 1956) the villagers did not even think of establishing the L.P. School which was really necessary for such a big village. It was only for the initiative of a village elderly man the school is established in the year 1959. The man who is respected by majority of the villagers, has donated nearly four thousand rupees for the construction of the school building. Majority of the villagers do not think seriously about the education of their children. The immediate problem of the immigrants is to settle up in a new area and all the abled persons are engaged in earning. Education is given secondary importance by them.

#### 5. Recreational Facilities.

5.1. There is no club or library in the village. The village tea shop is used as a place of recreation by the immigrant settlers. Playing of cards in the shop, during leisure, is common among the weavers. They also discuss in the tea shop, the current events of the village and the country as a whole. The enlightened section of the people avail the recreational facilities of the nearby town.

5.2. The Assamese Hindus have a congregational worshipping hall known as 'Namghar' where all the socio-religious ceremonies of the village take place. The villagers perform the death anniversary of two famous religious reformers of Assam Sri Sankardeva and Sri Madhabdeva in the 'kirtanghar', (i.e. Namghar) in religious ways. The Assamese folk play, 'bhawana' is performed only at an interval of two or three years. The Assamese Hindus also celebrate their Bihu festivals each year. There is a mosque where the Muslims offer their prayer and also discuss their problems. The Bengali Hindus associate themselves with their counterparts in the town in performing the

annual communal religious festivals like 'Durga Puja' 'Kali-Puja' etc.

6. Rural Credit and Cooperation.

6.1. Money lenders from the families of better economic status are playing an important role in supplying credit to the rural folk. As most of the loans are unsecured, the borrowers have to pay very high rate of interest. The borrowers have to pay very high rate of interest. The borrowers are generally from the poor agricultural group while the traders, especially the Hindu Immigrants are the lenders. Other source of credit in the village is the borrowing from the friends and relatives at a very nominal (or sometimes without) interest. Loans are also made available by the Government to the refugees from Pakistan for construction of their houses and for starting small business enterprises.

6.2. A cooperative Society named "Nowgong Cooperative Society" which was established in the village in 1960 is functioning satisfactorily. In 1962 there were 48 members with the total paid up share capital of Rs. 390.00. The Society has secured a loan of Rs. 3,762.00 from the State Government and Rs 9,000.00 from the Marwari Relief Society. The main function of the Society is supplying yarn to the weavers and assisting in marketing the finished products. The weavers families are said to be much benefitted from the Society. There is no other Cooperative enterprise in the village.

7. Health and Recreation.

7.1. In the village proper there is no health Centre, but the people can easily avail the medical facilities of the nearby town. In the village the services of a few 'Kaviraj' are easily available and one of them is found to be famous in his profession. The enlightened section of the villagers go to the Nowgong Civil Hospital for treatment.

7.2. The climate of the area is quite congenial for health and the villagers in general are found to be of sound health. There are a number of tube wells in the village where good drinking water is available throughout the year. D.D.T. is sprayed in the houses once or twice annually.

#### 8. Village Leadership and Administration<sup>1</sup>.

8.1. The Government nominated headman, known as 'gaonbura' has very insignificant role in the village administration. His duty is to keep records of births and deaths and to inform the Government officials about the important events in the village. But he cannot make much time for these works. As remuneration he is exempted from paying revenue of 20 bighas of his land. No other remuneration is given to him.

8.2. An elderly man of the Assamese Hindu group is a very popular figure in the village. He is a sincere social worker of that locality. He is not only connected with a number of public institutions but also is a well known 'Kaviraj' (Ayurvedic Medical Practitioner). As a social reformer he has been advocating for several simple religious ceremonies for marriage and death. He has considerable following in and outside the village. He has donated a handsome sum for the construction of the village L.P. School, which has enhanced his position in the society.

8.3. One member from each community represents in the Gaon Panchayat. There are a number of enlightened persons among the Assamese Hindu group and they are conscious about the villages developmental activities. Among the Muslims a few educated youngmen are found to take interest in village politics. Of this community the village defence organiser, with some educational and economic background is an important personality. He has influence over some of the Hindu immigrants too. Among the Bengali Hindus, those who settled earlier in the village take some interest in the village activities. The new comers are

<sup>1</sup> Leadership of the village is discussed in detail in the report "Changing Pattern of Village Leadership in N.E. India" -- Agro-Economic Research Centre, Jorhat-1962 (typed).

very much self-centred with their means of livelihood. The weaver section took the initiative in forming the Cooperative Society in the village.

8.4. Before the formation of the official panchayat there was a recognised but unofficial body of elders, known as 'mel' which settled up the minor disputes of the villagers. The 'mel' had vast power and could impose heavy fines on the culprits. The villagers generally obeyed the orders of the 'mel'. These matters are now taken up by the official Panchayat, although a number of cases are settled by the elders of the village, unofficially. But the villagers now prefer to go to the law court than to approach the panchayat to seek redress of their grievances.

8.5. The village Panchayat, is said to have been working satisfactorily. The Panchayat has, to a great extent discouraged factions and litigations in the village. Regarding the welfare activities it has provided a number of tube wells in the village from which the villagers are getting good drinking water. Leaders from outside has also some influence in the village. Different political parties use the village as their ideal field of propaganda, and during the last general election many political leaders including a State Minister visited the village. The villagers are very much conscious about the activities of different political parties.

#### 9. Tenancy System<sup>2</sup>.

9.1. In Chotahaibar Village the major portion of the village land is held under periodic Khiraj and some portion under annual Khiraj. For the abnormal growth of population the demand on land, both for the construction of houses and agricultural purposes, is very high. Some of the land owners sublet their land to tenants. In subletting the land generally 'adhi' system is followed. 'Adhi' means half. Half the produce is given to the owner of the land and the tenant gets the rest. In Assam plains

the 'adhi' system is generally followed in case of paddy cultivation only. But in this village this system is applied in case of cash crops like sugar-cane and jute also. Of the various land reform measures taken by the State Government, the Adhlar Act is particularly framed against the Adhi system. But the demand on land is so high that the tenants do not like to take advantage of these measures lest he might be evicted from the land by the landlord. It may be noted in this connection that the value of the village land has increased to a great extent after the first point survey and the villagers believe that the price will go on increasing, year after year.

10. Cropping Pattern and Agricultural Methods.

10.1. The Nowgong district is said to be famous for intensive cultivation and some of the agricultural commodities are much cheaper in this district in comparison with other districts of the State. The immigrant Muslims are hard workers and their methods of intensive cultivation is said to be exemplary to others who generally grow only one crop in a particular plot even though it may be very fertile. Inspired by the intensive agricultural activities of the immigrant Muslims, some of the original population have adopted such methods.

10.2. As in the other parts of the district paddy and jute are the two main crops grown in the low lying areas. Other important crops of the village are sugarcane, mustard seed and black-grain (matikalai). The vegetables grown include bringals, tomatoes, potatoes, onions, cabbages carrots, peas etc. Some of these crops are grown on commercial basis.

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<sup>2</sup> In the plains districts of Assam, Ryotwari type of temporary settlement which is subject to periodic assessment is in vogue. Land is held mainly under Periodic Khiraj and Annual Khiraj. Under Periodic Khiraj land is held as revenue-paying, permanent heritable and transferable land. In annual Khiraj, there is no permanent right and the land cannot be transferred. In addition there are Nisfkhiraj, half revenue paying land and Lakhiraj--revenue free estates, created during the Ahom rules.

The fruits grown are the garden crops which include bananas, lichees, jackfruits, betal-nuts, pineapples etc. The lichees of the village is claimed as best variety of the district and some of the families derive substantial income from this fruit.

10.3. In the lowlands jute is grown in March--April and is harvested in July--August. In the same plot of land winter paddy 'Sali' is transplanted in August and harvested in December--January. Sometimes in certain fertile plots a third crop, vegetables, are also grown. Sugarcane is grown in March--April and harvested in February--March. The months from September to December are taken as the busiest season for growing vegetables.

10.4. The Muslim agriculturists of the village are found to be hard workers and some of them works in the fields for nearly 10 hours a day, in the busy seasons. The weeding operation in jute cultivation is done so minutely and intensively, that only persons with utmost patience and practice can do it. The villagers are found to be working with joy and sincerity.

10.5. Implements used for cultivation are of traditional types. No one has used any improved type of implement. Cowdung is used as manure by almost all the cultivator families. Some of them also use chemical fertilizers which is a recent introduction. Improved and scientific method of cultivation has not been introduced. Bullocks are used as draught animals. Some of the Muslim cultivators use cows also as draught animal. Such practice is strictly tabooed among the Hindus.

#### 11. Occupational Pattern.

11.1. The occupational structure of the village is very much diversified. Agriculture is one of the important occupation of the people and there is ready market for selling the agricultural products in the nearby town. A section of the villagers are expert in intensive cultivation, but the shortage of cultivable land is a great obstacle to their incentive. Most of them

do not have land of their own. The rent for leased land is also very high and inspite of that land is not available to newcomers. Due to these drawbacks the cultivators are attracted towards non-agricultural occupations.

11.2. Of other enterprises weaving is one of the major occupation of a section of the villagers. This is the caste profession of the weaver families. This industry has a very important role in the village economy. But the varieties of cloths produced by the weavers is very much limited and it is dependent on the taste of the local people. There are also a few goldsmiths, carpenters and blacksmiths in the village. The nearby town offers ample facilities for non-farm occupations like trade, commerce and white collar jobs. The immigrant Muslims introduced intensive cultivation in the village; immigran' Hindus have established small scale household industries like goldsmithy, blacksmithy, carpentry and weaving. The villagers are now gradually shifting to non-agricultural occupations.

## 12. Marketing Facilities and Prices.

12.1. The daily bazar in Nowgong town provides facilities for selling the agricultural products easily. Moreover, traders from the town also come to the village and purchase the articles from the cultivators. Some of the villagers prefer to sell their goods to the traders than to sell it in the market. Jute is sold immediately after harvest because of their inability to hold it for better price in future. It is said that the middlemen play important role in jute trade. Some of the middlemen advance loans to cultivators at the time of distress, on the condition that the jute will be sold to them at the agreed price. The middlemen collect the jute just after harvest. This deprives the cultivators from getting reasonable price for their agricultural products.

12.2. Data on prices at the time of first point survey is not available. So the price behaviour during this period is not known.



According to the villagers the prices of all essential commodities is soaring high and high each year. The villagers also complained that increase in price of the agricultural products is not in par with other industrial products. The prices of the agricultural products in Nowgong district is said to be cheapest in Upper Assam. The price of some of the essential commodities of Chotahaibar village in early 1962, is given below:

TABLE 1.2,  
Prices of Certain Essential Commodities in Chotahaibar March, '62.

Commodities.	Standard Unit.	Prices.	
		Rs.	nP.
1. Rice	per maund	22.50(Coarse)	
		24.00(fine)	
2. Salt	per seer	0.19	
3. Kerosene	per seer	0.50	
4. Arahar	per seer	0.76	
5. Masur	per seer	0.80	
6. Mung	per seer	0.75	
7. Mati Kalai(black gram)	per seer	0.50	
8. Wheat (Atta)	per seer	0.50	
9. Mustard Oil	per seer	2.50	
10. Sugar	per seer	1.12	
11. Gur	per seer	0.50	
12. Potato	per seer	0.50	
13. Onion	per seer	0.50	
14. Washing Soap	per seer	1.50	
15. Tea	per seer	6.50	
16. Match Box	each	0.06	

12.3. All these articles were available in the village shops and in Nowgong market and there was no scarcity of these articles. Some households of the village sell milk at the rate of 0.75 nP. per seer, curd 1.00 nP. per seer

TABLE 1.3.  
Normal monthly Maximum and Minimum Temperature in Shade, and Rainfall at Nowgong.

Items	Months	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual average.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)
Maximum Temperature.	Fht.	78.8	80.4	93.0	92.8	90.1	94.1	93.2	91.6	92.1	88.9	83.8	77.5	88.3
	Cent.	26.0	26.9	33.9	33.8	32.3	34.5	34.0	33.1	33.4	31.6	28.8	26.3	31.1
Minimum Temperature.	Fht.	49.5	51.3	58.1	63.2	72.3	76.3	77.2	76.8	75.7	72.0	59.4	53.2	65.8
	Cent.	9.7	10.7	14.5	20.1	22.4	24.6	25.1	24.9	24.3	22.2	15.2	11.8	18.8
Rainfall	mm.	19.6	26.6	73.6	86.4	302.5	206.2	372.0	177.9	290.0	136.2	12.1	Nil	141.9

and eggs at the rate of 7 to 8 per rupee.

13. Climate and Rainfall.

13.1. The climate and rainfall of Chotahaibar is more or less similar to the plains districts of the Brahmaputra valley. The whole of the Brahmaputra valley experiences heavy Monsoonic rainfall during summer which is sufficient for paddy and jute cultivation. June and July are the hottest months of the year. The winter months are pleasant though the months of December and January are bit too cold. The climate as a whole is quite congenial. Table 1.3. shows the normal monthly distribution of Rainfall and temperature at Nowgong.

## CHAPTER II

### Changes in Demography

#### 1. Growth of Population.

1.1. Within the period of 5 years and 4 months, from the first point survey to re-survey; a huge number of immigrants settled down in Chotahaibar. The number of households itself almost trebled. The households increased from 94 in 1956 to 277 in 1962, an increase of 183 households or 194.7 per cent over the original households. To these may be added 6 other **households of temporary settlers, representing 4 student messes** and 2 messes of fishermen from Bihar; Including these 6 households the actual increase of households come to 189 i.e. 201.1 per cent increase over the original households. Of these 189 new households, 6 came into being due to separation from original households. Within the same period 20 original households emigrated from the village. So within this period 203 new immigrant households settled in the village.

1.2. The location of the village just near a district headquarter town has attracted the immigrants. The land of the village though very limited is very fertile and is suitable for intensive cultivation. There are also ample facilities of trade in the town. Moreover, 58 households of immigrants from East Bengal, both the Hindus and Muslims have been living in the village since the pre-independence days. According to 1951 census there were only 71 occupied households in the village. The immigrants got the cooperation of the original immigrant settlers for settlement in the village. Chiefly due to these reasons we find a continuous inflow of people to the village. The years of settlement according to community is given in Table 2.1 below, as declared by the immigrants.

1.3. Majority of the Immigrant Hindus are refugees from East Bengal; there were only 7 households of this community before 1947. Just after partition of India most of them came to the village. Most of the weaver families migrated from East Bengal

TABLE 2.1.

Distribution of Households According to Community and Year of Settlement (as Declared by the Informants)

Year of Settlement in the Village.	Communities (households)			Total.
	Assamese Hindu.	Immigrant Hindu.	Immigrant Muslims.	
1. Original Settlers.	18+3 separated from the original.	--	--	21
2. Before 1947.	--	6	51	57
3. Between 1947-1955.	--	68	9	77
4. 1956(after 1st point Survey)	--	12	2	14
5. 1957	--	13	3	16
6. 1958	--	16	2	18
7. 1959	--	10	11	21
8. 1960	2	10	4	16
9. 1961	--	23	3	26
10. 1962	--	4	5	9
<b>TOTAL:</b>	23	162	92	277

NOTE: The figures given above represents the number of households in 1962 only and not the year indicated in the first column.

following the communal riot of 1951. In the subsequent years, a few families came and settled in the village each year. In the year 1961 a large number of them again came to the village from different parts of the district, which is perhaps due to the language disturbance of Assam in the year 1960. Majority of the immigrant Muslim households had settled in the village prior to independence of India, and a few households are added each year after that, by immigration. Only two Assamese Hindu families migrated to the village during the period under study.

1.4. The declaration of the immigrants regarding the year of settlement may not be taken as wholly correct. During the period of first point and re-survey we find that 197 households (excluding 6 households of temporary settlers) immigrated into the village. Communitywise, these are, 2 Assamese Hindu immigrants, 133 Bengali Hindu immigrants and 62 Bengali Muslim immigrants. But according to their declaration 2 Assamese Hindu, 88 Bengali Hindu and 32 Bengali Muslim Immigrants, that is 122 households only settled during that period. So the rest 75 households, if their declaration is correct, settled in the village before the first point survey. It is rather difficult to believe that such a large number of households left unaccounted for in the first point survey.

1.5. There might be political considerations regarding the declaration of the immigrants about the places of emigration. Too much reliance cannot thus be placed on the declaration of the respondents regarding the places of their migration. It is gathered that the original habitate of all the Bengali Hindus and Muslims is East Bengal (now East Pakistan).

1.6. From the first point survey to resurvey 1 Assamese, 7 Bengali Hindu and 12 Bengali Muslim households with a population of 86 emigrated from the village. The causes of emigration in all these cases is unknown. The immigrant settlers show little interest about the emigrants. The Assamese Hindu household emigrated to a different district as the head of the family got an employment under State Government. It is believed that the rest 19 Hindu and Muslim emigrant households migrated to other areas in search of better economic opportunities.

1.7. According to the 1951 census the village had 72 households with 622 persons. But at the time of first point survey in the year 1956, the population has decreased to 600, though the number of households increased to 94. But during the first point and resurvey a period of 5 years and 4 months the population of Chotahaibar has increased tremendously; from 600 to

1,779, an increase of 1,179 persons (196.5 per cent) over the original. This gives a growth rate of 36.8 per cent per annum. This can be compared with that of 3.4 per cent annual growth rate in Assam during 1951 and 1961, the highest rate of growth amongst all states of India. The all India figure of annual growth during the same period is 1.9 per cent only.

1.8. If the temporary settlers numbering 27 persons who are living in the messes are also taken into account the total increase of population in the village Chotahaibar comes to 201.0 per cent during this period, showing an annual increase of 37.6 per cent. Such a tremendous growth rate of population in the village is quite abnormal. Nevertheless the real cause of rapid increase in population seems to be high rate of immigration into the village. It is also apprehended that a few households were not covered during the 1956 survey and hence the difference.

1.9. The population of the original households at the time of re-survey is 561 and the total population of the village at that time is 1,779. So the remaining 1,218 persons should normally be taken as immigrants. The number of households and population at the two points of time is shown in Table 2.2.

1.10. The birth and death record of the village is also not properly maintained and hence it is not easy to calculate the natural growth of population in relation to increase of births over deaths. The natural rate of growth may however be computed by comparing the number of persons in the identical households in the two points of time. The 74 original households (which became 80 at the time of resurvey due to separation of 6 households) with 514 persons at the first point survey has increased to 561 at the time of resurvey; a net addition of 47 persons within 5½ years. This increase represents the excess of births over deaths plus (or minus) the women married to and

TABLE 2.2

Population Characteristics by Community and Religion  
1956 and 1962.

Community	No. of House-		Population					
	hold in each.		1956			1962		
	1956	1962	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1. Assamese Hindu	19	23	77	70	147	94	83	177
2. Immigrant Hindu	33	162	108	104	212	548	462	1010
3. Immigrant Muslim	42	92	125	116	241	312	280	592
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>825</b>	<b>1779</b>

(1) Besides, there are 4 student Messes with 19 male students and 2 Hindustani Messes with 8 male persons.

married out of that group during that period. Considering the number of girls married into the village to that group and the girls given out in marriage from the same group to be equal in number, the net increase of population during this period may be taken as the natural growth of population. So the natural growth of the original population comes to 1.7 per cent per annum.

1.11. The excess of births over deaths of the 74 original households, as reported by the informants from their memory is shown in Table 2.3. The natural growth of these households according to the above calculation is 84 during 5½ years. So the annual natural increase is 3.06 per cent. Communitywise rate is Assamese Hindu 2.06 per cent, immigrant Hindu 3.24 per cent and immigrant Muslims 3.66 per cent per annum. Such a natural growth rate for the village seems to be rather high in comparison to the figures available for the country as a whole. But the accuracy of the data is somewhat doubtful as it is completely based upon the memory of the informants.

1.12. The death rate in the village seems to be declining gradually. On the average there was 26 deaths for thousand population between 1952 to 1956. The decline in the death rate may be due to the improved medical facilities available in the nearby town. From the data given in Table 2.3 it is seen



TABLE 2.3

Total Number of Births and Deaths.

Years	Births			Deaths			Survival of Natural increase in total.
	M	F	T	M	F	T	
1957	14	12	26	4	1	5	21
1958	9	6	15	1	4	5	10
1959	18	15	33	5	9	14	19
1960	11	7	18	2	2	4	14
1961	10	8	18	2	2	4	14
1962	4	6	10	2	2	4	6
<b>TOTAL:</b>	66	54	120	14	20	36	84

that the birth and death rate in the village is 44 and 13 per thousand respectively. It is difficult to state definitely whether these figures are accurate or not. It may be that some cases of deaths are not reported by the informants or some earlier birth included in the period under review.

2. Size of the Households and Family Types:

2.1. The average size of a household mainly depends upon the prevalence of the types of families. If the number of nuclear families are more in number, the average size of household becomes smaller and the size becomes bigger when a large number of joint families occur. At the first point survey the average size of households at Chotahaibar was 6.38 and at the time of re-survey it became 6.42. The average size of households according to community at the two points of time are shown in Table 2.4.

2.2. No significant change in the average size of the households at the two points of time is seen. According to 1951 census the average size of a household in rural Assam is 5.0. So the average size of a household in this village is somewhat larger.

TABLE 2.4.

Average size of Households, Chotahaibar 1956 and 1962.

Community	Average size of the households.	
	1956	1962
1. Assamese Hindu	7.74	7.70
2. Immigrant Hindu	6.42	6.23
3. Immigrant Muslim	5.74	6.43
Total average size	6.38	6.42

It may be noted in this connection that no birth control measure is adopted by the people of this village and only a few of them are aware of it.

2.3. Table 2.5 shows the distribution of households by size and family types in 1962. The families are smallest social units and are classified into two broad types, nuclear and joint families. Nuclear families consisting of parents and unmarried children are majority in number. The rest are the joint families and are classified into 3 distinct types--(i) Joint vertical types, consisting of parents and married sons with their children (ii) Joint horizontal types consisting of married brothers with their wives and children and (iii) special types which includes distant relatives as members of the family.

2.4. Though the nuclear families are majority in number in the village, a good number of joint families of different types are also prevalent. Among all the three communities there are joint families and among the Assamese Hindus the Joint families even outnumbered the nuclear types. The average size of the nuclear families are the smallest, joint vertical medium and joint horizontal type largest. The percentage distribution of the family types at the two points of time is shown in Table 2.6 below:-

TABLE 2.5

Distribution of the Households according to family Types and Average size of the families--Community-wise

1962

Family Types.	Assamese Hindu		Immigrant Hindu.		Immigrant Muslim		Total	
	House-hold.	Average size	House-hold.	Average size.	House-hold.	Average size.	House-hold.	Average size.
1.Nuclear	8	7	90	5	55	5	153	5
2.Joint Vertical.	8	7	44	6	17	8	69	7
3.Joint Horizontal.	4	9	15	12	3	10	24	11
4.Special	3	9	13	7	15	9	31	8
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>6</b>

TABLE 2.6

Communitywise Percentage Distribution of Family Types Chotahaibar 1956 and 1962.

Family types.	1956			1962		
	Hindu	Muslim	Total	Hindu	Muslim	Total
1. Simple	76.92	69.05	73.41	52.97	59.78	55.24
2. Joint Vertical	3.85	14.29	3.51	10.27	13.48	24.91
3. Joint Horizontal	15.38	7.14	11.70	28.11	5.44	8.66
4. Special	3.85	9.52	6.38	8.65	16.30	11.19

2.3. In the rural areas of Assam a married son after having 2 or 3 children become separated from his original family. In case the parents have only one son, the son generally does not get separated from the parents. In some cases at the death of the parents the married brothers live together for a particular period for some economic advantages. Sometimes economically dependent distant relatives are also sheltered in the family as family members and thus joint families are formed. The present trend of the society is the gradual extinction of

the joint families. But the village is an exception in this respect. The percentage of joint families has actually increased at **the time of re-survey**. But due to the constant inflow of immigrants to the village it is difficult to know the exact trend of the change of family structure. Some of the immigrant families might have remained joint for certain economic advantages at the moment although they do not have a liking for such families.

2.4. At the time of re-survey 27 persons of the village were residing outside the village and they were not taken as members of the village. Table 2.7 shows the persons living outside the village, the distance of their present place of residence from the village and their occupations.

TABLE 2.7  
Members Staying Outside  
Chotahaibar  
1962.

Distance from the village.	No. of persons.	Occupations.
(a) Below 50 miles.	7	5 Service 2 dependents.
(b) 50 to 100 miles.	5	3 Service 2 dependents.
(c) 100 to 250 miles.	8	5 Service 3 dependents.
(d) Outside Assam.	7	3 Service 4 No informations.

2.5. The number of persons staying outside for different services is quite considerable. But it is not very significant for a village situated near a big headquarter town. The educated section of population are gradually losing their attachment to their traditional occupations and thus it is natural that some of them will go out of their village in search of better occupations, more especially for white-collar jobs.

3. Age and Sex Composition.

3.1. Percentage distribution of population of the village in broad age groups and by sex is shown in Table 2.8 while the distribution of population according to Age and Sex is shown in the Statement II.1 and II.2 in the Appendix.

TABLE 2.8

Percentage Distribution of the Population by Age and Sex  
(in broad Age Groups)  
Chotahaibar 1956 and 1962.

Age group.	1956			1962		
	M	F	T	M	F	T
Below 5 yrs.	21.96	20.34	21.17	16.77	18.18	17.43
5 to below 15 yrs.	24.19	23.16	23.67	30.08	31.04	30.52
15 to below 35 yrs.	32.25	36.90	34.50	29.35	29.57	29.45
35 to below 45 yrs.	11.29	7.34	9.33	9.54	9.33	9.44
45 to below 65 yrs.	9.02	8.98	9.00	11.74	8.61	10.29
65 and above.	1.29	3.44	2.33	2.52	3.27	2.87
TOTAL:	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The percentage of females in the village has further dwindled in 1962. This is mainly due to the fact that the number of females among the immigrants is much lower than the males. The proportion of the population below the age of 15 years and that of above 65 years has also slightly increased and thus the proportion of the economically dependent people has also increased. However, there may be economically active people in these age groups too and these are discussed in subsequent sections.

4. Marital Status.

4.1. The resurvey data does not show much significant change in the marital status of the people. Marital status of the people at the time of resurvey is shown in Statement II.3 in the appendix and the percentage distribution of population by age, sex and marital status for 1956 and 1962 is given in Table 2.9.

TABLE 2.9  
Percentage Distribution of Population by Age, Sex and  
Marital Status, Chotahaibar, 1956 and 1962.

Age Group.	Male/ Female (M/F)	1956				1962			
		Unma- rried	Married	Widow/ er.	Divor- ced.	Unma- rried	Married	Widow/ er	Divor- ced.
Below 10 Yrs.	M	100.00	--	--	--	100.00	--	--	--
	F	100.00	--	--	--	100.00	--	--	--
10--15	M	96.55	3.45	--	--	100.00	--	--	--
	F	94.74	5.26	--	--	88.37	11.63	--	--
15--20	M	96.55	3.45	--	--	97.10	2.90	--	--
	F	13.88	86.12	--	--	29.73	75.76	--	1.51
20--25	M	64.51	35.49	--	--	75.00	23.53	--	1.47
	F	3.57	89.29	3.57	3.57	66.55	--	--	3.45
25--35	M	10.00	90.00	--	--	21.63	77.62	0.70	--
	F	--	95.35	4.65	--	--	97.50	0.83	1.67
35--45	M	2.85	97.15	--	--	3.30	95.60	1.10	--
	F	--	66.67	33.33	--	--	89.61	10.39	--
45--55	M	--	100.00	--	--	--	92.96	7.04	--
	F	--	47.62	62.38	--	--	63.39	32.61	--
55--65	M	--	100.00	--	--	--	97.56	2.44	--
	F	--	--	100.00	--	--	20.00	80.00	--
65 and above.	M	--	--	--	--	--	83.33	16.67	--
	F	--	--	--	--	--	3.70	96.30	--
Percentage of Total:	M	62.91	37.09	--	--	62.79	35.85	1.26	0.10
	F	44.82	42.96	12.75	0.17	49.82	41.09	8.48	0.61

4.2. Whereas in 1956 there were a few married males in the age group of 10--15 years, in 1962 all the males in that particular age group are unmarried. The percentage of married women in that age group has slightly increased at the time of re-survey. In 1956 there were a few unmarried women in the age group 20-25, but in 1962 there was not a single unmarried woman in that particular age group. On the whole early marriage is not popular in the village although a number of marriages is noticed amongst females in the age group of 10 to 15 years. The popular age group for marriage amongst men is 25 to 30 years and amongst women 15 to 20 years.

4.3. The number of widowed persons has slightly increased at the time of re-survey and at that time there were 12 widowers and 70 widows in the village. Most of the widowed persons are above 35 years of age. The young widowed persons generally get remarried. Widow marriage is common amongst the Muslims.

4.4. In 1956 there was only one divorced woman in the village but in 1962 there were 5 in number. All the divorced women belong to the age group of 15 to 35 years. Divorce is considered as a family affair and rarely the approval of the society in this matter is sought. Securing of divorce through legal court is unknown. The cases of divorce among the Muslims is common. A divorced woman usually get herself remarried soon after the divorce.

4.5. Bigamy was prevalent at the time of first point survey and at the time of re-survey also there were four persons having two wives each. The community of the bigamous persons and their family size is shown in Table 2.10.

TABLE 2.10

Members having two wives Chotahaibar, 1962.

Community.	No. of persons.	Family size.
1. Assamese Hindu	1	6.0
2. Muslims.	3	8.6

Although a Muslim can take several wives, no person was seen in the village with more than two wives.

5. Educational Status.

5.1. A brief account of the educational Institutions in and around the village is given in the introductory chapter. With the improvement of the educational facilities in the town, the educational facilities for the village is also increasing gradually. According to 1961 census, the percentage of literacy in Assam is 27.4 and in Nowgong district where the village is situated the percentage is 27.3. In the year 1956, the percentage of literacy in the village was 31.0 and in 1962 it has increased to 36.2. Literacy and educational status by sex for the two points of time is given in Table 2.11.

TABLE 2.11

Literacy and Educational Status by Sex--Chotahaibar--1956 and 1962.

Educational Standard	1956			1962		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1. Illiterate	169 (55.23)	245 (83.33)	414 (69.00)	493 (51.69)	642 (77.82)	1,135 (63.80)
2. Literate (able to read & write)	55 (17.97)	29 (9.87)	84 (14.00)	209 (21.91)	107 (12.97)	316 (17.76)
3. Primary standard	44 (14.38)	15 (5.10)	59 (9.83)	41 (4.30)	24 (2.91)	65 (3.65)
4. Matric standard (above primary but below matric)	28 (9.15)	5 (1.70)	33 (5.50)	199 (20.86)	52 (6.30)	251 (14.11)
5. Matriculate	8 (2.61)	Nil	8 (1.33)	9 (0.94)	Nil	9 (0.51)
6. Intermediate	1 (0.33)	Nil	1 (0.17)	1 (0.10)	Nil	1 (0.06)
7. Above intermediate	1 (0.33)	Nil	1 (0.17)	2 (0.20)	Nil	2 (0.11)
<b>TOTAL:</b>	306	294	600	954	825	1,779

Figures in the brackets indicates the percentage of total.



5.2. While the percentage of literacy has improved slightly, the general educational standard of the people remained almost static. Majority of the literate people can simply read and write their mother language. Only a very low percentage of people received school education. The figures in table 2.12 indicate that the villagers are not yet availing the higher educational facilities up to the expectation. At the time of re-survey there were only 9 matriculates, 1 intermediate passed and 2 graduates one being Arts graduate and other a Commerce graduate. No one in the village has received any technical education. Only one woman is trained in weaving in a Government Institution.

5.3. The percentage of literacy among the females is much lower than that of males. Only a few adult women received school education and the number of girls attending school is also very low. It is rather strange that there is not even a matriculate girl in such a village situated just in the periphery of a head-quarter town.

5.4. The percentage distribution of literacy and educational status of different communities is shown in Table 2.12. The

TABLE 2.12

Percentage Distribution of Literacy and Educational Status by Community Chotahaibar, 1956-1962.

Community	Year	Literacy and Educational Status						
		Illiterate	Just literate	Prima-ry standard	Matric Stand-ard	Mat-ric. Inter-mediate.	Inter-mediate.	Above Inter-mediate.
Assamese Hindu.	1956	51.02 (75)	14.96 (22)	15.64 (23)	12.24 (18)	4.80 (7)	0.67 (1)	0.67 (1)
	1962	46.33 (82)	19.21 (34)	8.47 (15)	23.73 (42)	0.57 (1)	0.57 (1)	1.12 (2)
Immigrant Hindu	1956	69.34 (147)	15.57 (33)	10.38 (22)	4.25 (9)	0.46 (1)	--	--
	1962	61.88 (625)	18.51 (187)	3.66 (37)	15.55 (157)	0.40 (4)	--	--
Immigrant Muslim.	1956	79.67 (192)	12.03 (29)	5.81 (14)	2.49 (6)	--	--	--
	1962	72.30 (428)	16.05 (95)	2.19 (13)	8.78 (52)	0.68 (4)	--	--
TOTAL (All Communities)	1956	69.00 (314)	14.00 (84)	9.83 (59)	5.50 (33)	1.33 (8)	0.17 (1)	0.17 (1)
	1962	63.80 (1,135)	17.76 (316)	3.65 (65)	14.11 (151)	0.51 (9)	0.06 (1)	0.11 (2)

NOTE: Figures in brackets indicate the actual numbers.

number of literate persons is highest among the Assamese Hindus and lowest among the immigrant Muslims. The immigrant Hindus occupy the intermediate position in literacy. At the time of resurvey the percentage of literacy has increased amongst all the three communities, while their position in order of literacy status has remained same as that of 1956.

5.5. The Assamese Hindus are the original settlers of the village and they are availing the educational facilities to a great extent. At the time of resurvey the percentage of literacy among the Assamese Hindus was 53.6. On the other hand, the other two communities are recent settlers and they are very much engaged in earning their livelihood. At the present stage many of the immigrants are not in a position to avail the educational facilities at all. Some of them are not inclined to send their children to schools.

5.6. The percentage of school-going children in 1956 and 1962 is shown in Table 2.13. The general trend in Indian villages is the gradual increase in the percentage of school going children. In an enlightened village almost all the children of school going age are sent to school. In Chotahaibar the percentage of children attending school is not very encouraging. At the time of resurvey also, the position has not improved at all. It is difficult to ascertain as to why the parents are not much enthusiastic to send their children to school.

TABLE 2.13

Percentage Distribution of School Registration by Sex and Age  
Chotzhaibar 1956 and 1962.

Year.	Percentage of children attending School						Total.		
	5-15			16--25			5--25		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1956	68.67	34.09	50.88	18.64	3.23	10.74	47.89	21.33	34.25
1962	59.41	32.97	46.88	18.45	0.73	10.49	44.80	22.20	34.28

5.7. The percentage of children attending school is highest in the age group of 5-10 years. In the higher age groups the percentage is very low. It may be that when the children grow older, they are engaged in some gainful economic activities and the school education is discontinued.

5.8. The percentage of girls attending school is very low and is much lower than that of boys. At the time of re-survey also the percentage of girls attending school become even lower than that of the first point survey. At the time of resurvey only a very few girls in the age group of 10-15 years and only 1 girl of above 16 years were students. The villagers are found to be very much apathetic towards female education. When a girl attains puberty her school education is generally discouraged and discontinued.

5.9. The percentage distribution of the school going children in broad age groups, sex and community is shown in Table 2.14 and details are given in Statement II. 4. These figures indicate that the Assamese Hindus who are the original settlers of the village send maximum numbers of their children to school, whereas in the other two immigrant communities only about one-third of the children of school going age (5-15 yrs) are school students.

TABLE 2.14

Percentage Distribution of School going Children According to Age, Sex and Community--Chotahaibar--1962.

Community	Percentage of children attending school								
	5--15			16--25			5--25		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
1. Assamese Hindu	85.19	66.67	75.44	37.50	Nil	22.22	67.44	48.78	58.33
2. Immigrant Hindu.	54.22	30.82	43.27	19.15	1.35	11.70	41.13	21.10	32.09
3. Immigrant Muslim.	60.91	25.77	29.97	11.32	Nil	5.61	44.79	16.56	31.21

5.10. Percentage distribution of school going students (5-15 Years ) in different occupational classes (for distribution of Households according to occupation, refer to Chapter III) is given in Table 2.15. At the time of first point survey the percentage of school students of the school going age was lowest in the Agricultural labour families and in the other occupational classes the percentage was almost equal. The resurvey data on this aspect gives an interesting picture. The percentage of school going children is highest among the agricultural rent receivers. Next in order of higher percentage of school going children is the occupational group of salaried job and then the owner cultivators. At the time of re-survey also the agricultural labour families could send only a few children of school-going age to school.

TABLE 2.15

Percentage Distribution of School-going Children (5-15 Yrs)  
in Different Occupational Classes:  
Chotahaibar 1956 and 1962.

Occupational Classes	1956			1962		
	M	F	T	M	F	T
1.Owner cultivator.	69.23	45.95	55.56	71.11	30.23	51.14
2.Tenant cultivator.	80.00	33.33	62.50	30.00	40.00	45.00
3.Agrl. Labour	42.86	Nil	18.75	40.00	33.33	36.00
4.Agrl. Rent Receiver	Nil	Nil	Nil	100.00	71.43	87.50
5.Production other than Agrl.	46.67	40.00	43.33	70.00	30.43	48.84
6.Trade,Commerce & Transport.	85.00	27.78	57.89	56.88	29.07	44.62
7.Salaried jobs				90.00	63.16	76.92
8.Profession & Services.	80.00	16.67	56.25	58.11	22.95	42.22
9.Miscellaneous				66.67	33.33	46.67
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>68.67</b>	<b>32.97</b>	<b>50.88</b>	<b>59.41</b>	<b>32.97</b>	<b>46.88</b>

This shows that the economic stability has direct influence in sending the children to school. The families with better economic

position send almost all their children to school.

6. Distribution of Population According to Community and Religion.

6.1. The population characteristics by community and religion in 1956 and 1962 is shown in Table 2.2. The percentage distribution of the population at the two points of time is shown below:

TABLE 2.16  
Percentage Distribution of Population According to Community and Religion--Chotahaibar-1956 and 1962.

Community	Percentage of Total	
	1956	1962
1. Assamese Hindu ...	24.50	9.95
2. Immigrant Hindu (Bengali)...	35.33	56.77
3. Immigrant Muslims (Bengali).	40.17	33.28
TOTAL: ...	100.00	100.00

It is interesting to note that while the population of the immigrant Muslims was dominant in the first point survey, immigrant Hindu population became highest in the resurvey. Though the Assamese Hindus are the original settlers of the village they were 24.5 per cent at the first point survey and now they are only about 10 per cent of the total population of the village.

6.2. Considered about religion, the village has two religious groups, the Hindus and the Muslims. The Hindus form the major group representing 66.72 per cent. The Muslims constitute 33.28 or nearly one third of the village population. At the time of resurvey there was communal harmony. Many of the Hindu and Muslim households are constructed side by side which is an urban characteristic of population. But these three groups classified according to community and religion are distinct sociological units in the village.

6.3. Majority of the Immigrant Hindus and Muslims, more particularly those who had settled in the villages long back, can understand and speak Assamese language. Some of the immigrant Muslims are found to be very fluent in Assamese and have adopted Assamese as their own language by sending their children to Schools with Assamese as the medium of instruction.

6.4. The immigrant Hindu group is composed of people of different castes, including that of schedule castes. But as a whole the caste is not very important in the society as the families are socially more attached to their kin groups. There is no bar in inter-dinning and untouchability is not at all prevalent. The families are becoming individualistic and the question of caste arises only in selecting a bride and bridegroom and in certain socio-religious ceremonies. Weaving is the only caste profession among the Bengali Hindus.

6.5. Among the Assamese Hindu community there are four caste groups. Two groups belong to higher caste Hindus and the other two are backward communities. The population distribution according to caste among the Assamese Hindu community is shown in Table 2.17.

TABLE 2.17

Population Distribution According to Caste Among the Assamese Hindu Community.

Castes	Number of Households.	Population.
1. Kolita	3	28½
2. Keot	2	16½
3. Koch	15	113½
4. Chutia	3	20½
		Other backward communities.
TOTAL:	23	177

Because of the influence of a social reformer of this community all the above mentioned castes are now considered to be of equal status. There is no bar in inter-dinning in socio-religious

ceremonies. In theory, no stigma is attached to inter-caste marriages, but in practice it is rare. But caste consciousness is not very pronounced in the village as a whole.

6.6. The social reformer and his supporters of the Assamese Hindu community are found to be somewhat anti-Brahminic in performing some of the socio-religious ceremonies. In marriage ceremonies they are not in favour of employing Brahmin priests in performing the Vedic rites. Moreover, in certain cases the rites are replaced by new set of Vaishnavic rites and a non-Brahmin Brahmin expert is engaged to act as a priest for performing the various ceremonies. The followers of this principle is known as 'Horidhonia-ponthi' and they consider themselves as reformed Hindus. According to them, recitation of 'Horinam' (God's name) is sufficient for all types of religious ceremonies and there is no necessity of taking help of a Brahmin priest for reciting Sanskrit mantras and performing ceremonial rites.

6.7. The non-Brahmin Hindus of Assam perform the death ceremony at the end of one month after death. The Brahmins perform it after 11 days. But now a section of the villagers perform the death ceremony after 11 days like that of the Brahmins. Such reformers are known as 'Agharodinia Ponthi' (followers of 11 day Rule). Those who perform death ceremonies just after one month of death and thus sticking to the old custom are known as 'Mahekiaponthi' (followers of 1 month Rule). As these two groups differ in the performance of religious rites there is conflict between the two. But 'Agharodinia Ponthi' people are very few in number in the village.

CHAPTER III.

Changes in the Economic Status and Occupational Structure.

1. Introduction.

1.1. Drastic changes in the traditional pattern of the occupational structure of a village may take place due to the rapid growth of a nearby town and/or to the establishment of a big industrial concerns near by. The condition of Chotahaibar is somewhat different. It is true that there is direct influence of the growing town, Nowgong, on the occupations of the villagers. But the main force of change is the constant inflow of the immigrants, many of whom are acquainted and more interested in non-farm occupations. In fact, the non-agricultural occupations, as a whole, are gaining more importance in the village economy, than the agricultural occupations, not only because of the expansion of the urban area, but also because of the inflow of non-agricultural families in the village.

1.2. A few words regarding the concepts of economic status and occupations at the time of first point survey and resurvey is necessary. In resurvey, the economic status of the persons is shown as Worker, Helper and Non-Worker in preference to First Point Survey classifications as Self-Supporting, Earning Dependents and Dependents. The resurvey classifications of economic status is done, by and large, in conformity with the 1961 census classification.

1.3. In the first point survey Report, occupational classification is done on the basis of the primary occupation of the head of the household. Such a classification is somewhat unrealistic, because in a household a family member may have higher income than that of the head of the household. The occupational classification based on incomes is more appropriate and real. But it is difficult and in certain cases impossible to recast the first point survey Tables prepared by another Research Centre. So it is decided to follow the concept of the First Point Survey (i.e., the determination of



Primary occupation of the household according to the occupation of the head of the household) for the occupational classification of the resurvey data also. However, the nomenclature of the occupational classification is used, according to the recent agreed concepts as shown below:-

OCCUPATIONAL CLASSIFICATION:

First Point Survey 1956.

Resurvey 1962.

A. Agricultural.

A. Agricultural.

1. Cultivation of land wholly or mainly owned.
2. Cultivation of land wholly or mainly unowned.
3. Cultivating labour.
4. Rent Receiver

1. Owner cultivation.
2. Tenant cultivator.
3. Agricultural labour.
4. Rent receiver.

B. Non-Agricultural

B. Non-Agricultural.

5. Production other than cultivation.
6. Trade and commerce.
7. Transport.
8. Service and Misc.

5. Production other than cultivation.
6. Trade, Commerce and Transport.
7. Salaried jobs in organised establishment.
8. Profession and Service.
9. Others.

The changes of nomenclature in certain occupational groups has not affected the substance to a great extent.

2. Economic Status.

2.1. A person who is fully engaged in one or more gainful economic activities is regarded as 'Worker'. One who is primarily not engaged in gainful economic activities but generally participate in family occupation or occupations is termed as Helper and one who is not directly engaged in such economic activities is regarded as 'Non-Worker'. The 'Worker', 'Helper' and 'Non-worker' of 1962 are considered as more or less identical with that of first point survey classification of 'Self-supporting persons', 'Earning dependents' and 'Dependents' respectively.

2.2. Unless there is acute economic hardship, or new possibilities of better employment, the economic status of a village population cannot change abruptly. Slight changes in the economic status within a short period, say about 5 years, may not have any meaningful indications. The economic status of the village population at the two points of time is shown in Table 3.1.

TABLE 3.1  
Population by Economic Status.

Economic Status	1956			Economic Status	1962		
	M	F	T		M	F	T
1. Self Supporting persons.	150 (48.4)	1 (0.4)	151 (25.2)	1. Worker	442 (46.4)	46 (5.6)	488 (27.4)
2. Earning Dependents.	14 (4.5)	21 (7.2)	35 (5.8)	2. Helper	22 (2.2)	34 (4.1)	56 (3.2)
3. Dependents	146 (47.1)	68 (92.4)	414 (69.0)	2. Non-worker	490 (51.4)	754 (90.3)	1235 (69.4)
TOTAL:	310 (100)	290 (100)	600 (100)		954 (100)	825 (100)	1779 (100)

NOTE: Figures in brackets indicate percentages.

It is interesting that the percentage of dependents or non-workers remained the same in the two points of time. Only significant change in the economic status of the population is the increase of the female workers at the time of resurvey.

2.3. Percentage distribution of the economic status of the population by sex and community is shown in Table 3.2. Distribution of working force by Age and Sex is given in Statement III.1 and by Community, Age and Sex in Statement III.2. The percentage of female workers is highest among the Assamese Hindus and lowest among the immigrant Muslims. Some of the Bengali immigrant women also take part in gainful economic activities.

2.4. In rural areas of Assam, majority of the tribal and lower caste Hindu women take active part in economic activities, especially in agriculture. In Upper Assam villages,

TABLE 3.2.

Percentage Distribution of Economic Status by Community 1962.

Community	Worker		Helper		Non-worker	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
1. Assamese Hindu	40.43	21.69	9.57	1.20	50.00	77.11
2. Immigrant Hindu.	46.90	4.55	0.90	5.84	52.20	89.61
3. Immigrant Muslim.	47.12	2.50	7.56	2.14	50.32	95.36

Women of some upper castes also take active part in agriculture, mainly in transplanting and harvesting. Even women of well to do families of farmers, consider it as their duty to take part in agricultural activities. In Chotahaibar, majority of the women remain confined to their household duties. A number of women workers of Assamese Hindu group take part in transplanting and harvesting of paddy, while that of the Bengali Hindu group are engaged in ancilliary services in handloom weaving (e.g. reeling of yarn). By tradition, the Muslim women do not work in the field. Out of the 7 working women in the Muslim families 5 are engaged in agriculture and the other two in weaving (e.g. in reeling yarn).

2.5. It may be noted that the actual working force is not confined to the labour force (15 to 60 years) alone. There are workers in the age group of 10-14 years and above 60 years. There are some male workers even above 65 years of age. In the potential labour force all the abled-bodied males, excluding a few students can be included. Majority of the helpers below 20 years of age are students. In community-wise distribution it is seen that there is no full-time worker, below 15 years of age among the Assamese Hindus. Among the immigrant Hindus there are three male and one female full-time workers

TABLE 3.3

Distribution of Household Occupations According to Community

Occupation	1956				1962			
	Assamese Hindu	Bengali Hindu	Muslim	Total	Assamese Hindu	Bengali Hindu	Muslim	Total
1. Owner cultivator	9	2	17	28 (204)	9	1	22	32 (263)
2. Tenant cultivator.	--	1	3	4 (25)	2	3	7	12 (67)
3. Agricultural Labour.	2	--	14	16 (74)	1	4	11	16 (84)
4. Agricultural Rent Receiver.	--	--	--	--	3	1	2	6 (46)
Sub-total of Agricultural.	11	3	34	48 (393)	15	9	42	66 (460)
5. Production other than Agriculture.	--	19	1	20 (129)	--	27	2	29 (183)
6. Trade, Commerce & Transport.	2	9	6	17 (116)	1	48	28	77 (530)
7. Salaried jobs					5	8	4	17 (115)
8. Profession and Services.	6	2	1	9 (59)	2	66	15	83 (441)
9. Miscellaneous					--	4	1	5 (50)
Sub-total of Non-Agricultural.	8	30	8	46 (297)	8	153	50	111 (1,319)
GRAND TOTAL:	19	33	42	94 (600)	23	162	92	277 (1,779)

NOTE: Figures within brackets indicate number of persons.

in the age group of 10 to 14 years and among the immigrant Muslims there are only 3 male workers in that age group.

2.6. Though there are some workers below the age of 15 years and above 60 years of age, the load of dependency is rather high. In 1956, the average working person per family was 1.97 and it remained the same in 1962, which is 1.96. The high dependency load is mainly due to the fact that majority of the women are non-workers and there are a large number of dependent children.

3. Occupational Structure of the Households.

3.1. Taking the basis of the primary occupation of the head of the household for occupational classification, it is seen that at the time of resurvey the percentage of households in the non-agricultural occupations has increased to a very great extent. The percentage distribution of the occupations of the households in 1956 and 1962 is shown below:-

	<u>Year 1956.</u>	<u>Year 1962.</u>
1. Agricultural Occupations.....	51%	23%
2. Non-agricultural occupations....	49%	77%

Such increase of the households in the non-agricultural occupations is indeed a remarkable change. The change is mainly due to the fact that majority of the immigrants who have settled in the village have taken up non-agricultural occupations.

3.2. Table 3.3. shows the distribution of households occupations and population of Chotahaibar in 1956 and 1962, communitywise. The number of households of tenant cultivators and agricultural rent receivers has increased significantly in 1962. In 1956, there was no household in the occupation of agricultural rent receiver, but in 1962, 6 households have taken up this occupation. This indicates that some of the households of the village lease out their land to other households. In 1956, there were only 23 households in the occupations of trade, commerce and transport, salaried jobs, profession and services

and miscellaneous, whereas in 1962, the households in these occupations has increased to 182.

3.3. Among the Assamese Hindu community who are the original settlers of the village, the households in the agricultural occupations have slightly increased in 1962. In the two other immigrant communities also the number of a few households have increased in agricultural occupations. On the other hand, among the two immigrant communities the number of households in the non-agricultural occupations has increased to a very high extent. Majority of the immigrants who have settled in the village after 1956 have taken up non-agricultural occupations.

TABLE 3.4.

Percentage Distribution of Household Occupations According to Community.

	Year 1956.	Year 1962.
<u>Assamese Hindu:</u>		
1. Agricultural occupations ...	58%	65%
2. Non-agricultural occupations ...	42%	35%
<u>Immigrant Hindu.</u>		
1. Agricultural occupations ...	9%	6%
2. Non-agricultural occupations ...	91%	94%
<u>Immigrant Muslim..</u>		
1. Agricultural occupations ...	81%	46%
2. Non-agricultural occupations ...	19%	54%

3.4. Table 3.4. shows that the Assamese Hindus are still primarily dependent on agriculture. The immigrant Muslim households depend on both agricultural and non-agricultural occupations almost equally. But the immigrant Hindus primarily depend upon non-agricultural occupations. For a section of the immigrant Hindus weaving is a caste profession. Majority of the immigrant households have taken up trade and commerce and professions and services as their occupations. On the whole the non-agricultural

occupations of the village have become much more diversified in 1962.

4. Association of Occupations of the Households.

4.1. In a rural community a family generally cannot depend solely on a single occupation and take up secondary occupations with the primary one to supplement its income. In Assam a family which primarily depend upon agriculture by tradition keep a few livestock, prepare some of their garments in family loom and make baskets and wooden implements for their use. The family income is also supplemented by free collection of fish from the rivers and paddy fields and fuel from the jungle. Of course, all these sources may not be taken as independent occupations of the family, but the income from the subsidiary occupations together may even be higher than that of the primary occupation of the family. In an agricultural village of interior area the sources of income from non-agricultural occupations is limited. But in an enlightened village near urban areas the occupations become much more heterogeneous.

4.2. The Chotahaibarians, more especially the immigrant settlers are experimenting with several sources of incomes to stabilise their economic position in a newly settled area. The association of occupations of the households of Chotahaibar in 1956 and 1962 is shown in Statement III. 3 and Statement III.4 in the appendix. No attempt is made to classify the subsidiary occupations as secondary and tertiary, and simply associations are indicated. The distribution of households according to the number of occupations associated is shown below:-

TABLE 3.5.

Distribution of Households according to Number of Occupations Associated.

Occupation combinations.	1956		1962	
	No. of H.H.	P.C.	No. of H.H.	P.C.
1. Single Occupation.	55	58'51	145	52'35
2. Association of one occupation.	28	29'79	76	27'44
3. Association of Two Occupations.	11	11'70	45	16'24
4. Association of Three and more Occupations.	Nil.	Nil.	11	3'97
	94	100'00	277	100'00

TABLE 3.6.

Occupational Shift of the Identical Households.

1956 Occupational Groups	No. of Households	Occupational pattern in 1962							Total	Households roll- owing old occu- pation.	No. P.C. of Total.			
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7				8	9	
1. Owner cultivation.	27	19	--	1	1	--	4	1	1	1	--	27	19	70.37
2. Tenant cultivation.	1	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	1	100.00
3. Agricultural laborer.	8	--	3	4	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	8	4	50.00
4. Rent Receiver.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sub-total of Agri.	36	19	4	5	1	--	5	1	1	1	--	36	24	66.67
5. Production other than Agriculture.	16	--	--	--	--	17	--	--	--	--	2	(a)19	16	100.00
6. Trade, Commerce and Transport.	14	2	--	--	4	1	7	1	--	--	--	(b)15	7	46.67
7. Salaried jobs														
8. Profession & Services	8	1	1	--	--	--	2	3	1	--	--	8	4	50.00
9. Miscellaneous.														
Sub-total of Non-Agri.	38	3	1	--	4	18	9	4	1	1	2	42	27	64.28
GRAND TOTAL:	74	22	5	5	5	18	14	5	2	2	2	78	51	65.38

N.B. (a) One family separated into three and one into two in 1962--all in Profession & Services.  
 (b) One family separated into two in 1962--both are Rent Receivers.



4.3. Majority of the households having ~~single~~ occupation belong to the occupational group of (a) production other than agriculture (b) profession and services and (c) trade, commerce and transport. Persons in these occupations generally cannot take up subsidiary occupations. The weavers, ~~Carpenters~~, goldsmiths, blacksmiths and those in trade and ~~commerce~~ are found to have taken up their primary occupation as the only source of family income. The association of occupations is highest among the agriculturists. There are only a few single occupational households amongst them. The tenant cultivators is the only occupational group in which there is no household with single occupation.

4.5. The association of occupations is highest amongst the Assamese Hindus. Association of occupations of the households in this community are weaving and salaried job with that of the agricultural occupations. In the immigrant Muslim community the common association of occupations is trade and commerce, profession and service with the agricultural occupations. Association of occupations is lowest among the immigrant Hindus. Only a few households of this Community with non-farm occupations have taken up agriculture as subsidiary occupations.

#### 5. Occupational Shift of the Identical Households.

5.1. The occupational shift, or better say drift for this village, from 51 per cent of the households in agriculture as primary occupation in 1956 to 23 per cent in 1962 has already been discussed. But for a immigrant village such a drastic change in occupational structure is not very surprising. The occupational shift of the identical households of 1956 and 1962 may give some idea of the real change in the occupational structure in the village. The occupational shift of the 74 identical households is shown in Table 3.6. Out of the 74 households which were identified in 1962, 51 households (65.38%) are following the old occupations of 1956. Out of the 36 households in agricultural occupations of 1956, 12 households (33.31%) have shifted to non-agricultural occupations

TABLE 3.7

Distribution of Workers by Primary Occupation, 1962.

Occupations	Total number of workers.	Primary occupation of workers								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Owner cultivators.	73	71	--	--	--	1	--	--	1	--
2. Tenant cultivators.	24	1	15	3	--	--	--	4	1	--
3. Agrl. Labours	26	1	1	17	--	4	1	2	--	1
4. Rent Receivers.	14	--	--	--	9	--	--	5	--	--
Sub-Total of Agrl.	137	73	16	20	9	5	1	11	2	--
5. Production other than Agrl.	64 (a) Weaving & Spinning	--	--	--	--	64	--	--	--	--
6. Trade, Commerce & Transport.	129	2	--	2	--	4	110	3	8	--
	<u>Trade</u>									
	(a) Grocery shop	--	--	--	--	--	34	--	--	--
	(b) Restaurant	--	--	--	--	--	8	--	--	--
	(c) Stationery shop	--	--	--	--	--	13	--	--	--
	(d) Vegetable Shop	--	--	--	--	--	16	--	--	--
	(e) Fish Trade	--	--	--	--	--	11	--	--	--
	(f) Medicine	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	--	--
	(g) Others	--	--	--	--	--	13	--	--	--
	Commerce	--	--	--	--	--	7	--	--	--
	Transport	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--
7. Salaried Jobs	24	--	--	--	--	3	--	20	1	--
	(a) Clerical	--	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	--
	(b) Secy. Cooperative	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
	(c) Driver	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--
	(d) Handiman	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--
	(e) Fitter-Railway	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--	--
	(f) Mechanic	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--
	(g) Teaching	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	--
	(h) Pension holder	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
	(i) Health Visitor.	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--
	(j) V.D.O.	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--	--

Table 3.7 (Contd..)

Occupations	Total number of workers.	Primary occupation of workers								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8. Profession & Services.	122	--	--	1	--	2	3	--	116	--
(a) Carpenter		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	40	--
(b) Weaver		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	25	--
(c) Tailor		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	8	--
(d) Goldsmith		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	7	--
(e) Painter		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--
(f) Private Tutor		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--
(g) Kaviraj (Ayurvedic)		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
(h) Petition Writer		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
(i) Blacksmith		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--
(j) Rickshaw Puller		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
(k) Medical (Allopath)		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--
(l) Cycle Repairing		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	--
(m) Mechanic		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4	--
(n) Welder		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--
(o) Electrician		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--
(p) Others		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	12	--
9. Miscellaneous	12	--	--	3	--	--	7	--	1	1
Sub-total of Non-Agrl.	351	2	--	6	--	73	120	23	126	1
GRAND TOTAL:	488	75	16	26	9	78	121	34	128	1

and out of 38 households in non-agricultural occupations in 1956, only 8 households (21.05%) have shifted to agricultural occupations. Shift in the household occupations in each occupational group may be noticed in table 3.6.

6. Association of the Occupations of Workers.

6.1. Excluding the head of the household whose primary occupation is the household occupation the other workers of a household may have primary occupations other than the household occupation. Details of the primary occupations of the workers is shown in Table 3.7. Only interesting point in this regard is that the primary occupations of the workers in the non-agricultural occupations are confined to the household occupations, in most cases.

6.2. As a household may have more than one occupations, similarly a worker may also be engaged in more than one occupations. It is somewhat easy to determine the primary occupation of a worker but it is difficult to classify the subsidiary occupations as secondary, tertiary and so on, because the share of work of a person to a particular occupation is difficult to be determined. The subsidiary occupation may be described as activities other than occupation. The number of workers engaged in single occupation and more than one occupation in 1956 and 1962 is shown in Table 3.8.

TABLE 3.8

Association of Occupations of the Workers.

Community	Single Occupation		More than one occupation	
	1956	1962	1956	1962
1. Assamese Hindu.	31 (91.18)	29 (51.78)	4 (8.82)	27 (48.22)
2. Immigrant Hindu.	41 (89.13)	263 (94.60)	5 (10.87)	15 (5.40)
3. Immigrant Muslim.	56 (80.00)	118 (76.62)	14 (20.00)	36 (23.38)
TOTAL:	128 (84.77)	410 (84.02)	23 (15.23)	78 (15.95)

NOTE: Figures in brackets indicate percentages of total workers.

6.3. The percentage distribution of workers having single occupation remained same as in 1962. However, communitywise, some interesting changes are noted. The workers in the Assamese Hindu community are gradually taking up more than one occupation. Among the immigrant Muslims also the percentage of workers having more than one occupation has slightly increased. Persons engaged in single occupation is highest among the immigrant Hindus.

6.4. In our field investigation it is not possible to collect data on the mandays devoted by workers on different occupations. The workers engaged in agricultural operations cannot inform from their memory the days of their engagements in agricultural operations. Moreover, a person engaged in a particular occupation for a few hours may work in another occupation for another few hours on the same day. Collecting data from the villagers regarding engagements in various occupations is found to be the most difficult part of the village survey. Only an intensive study continuously for a year or so may bring out somewhat accurate picture of the employment situation in the villages.

6.5. It may be mentioned in this connection that the original settlers in agricultural occupations in the Brahmaputra valley districts, are in general not accustomed to intensive cultivation and they spend a few months leisurely in the lean periods. But the Chotahaibarian in general are found to be active throughout the year. The immigrant Muslim agriculturists are very active and they plough their fields in the afternoon also which is something new in this part of the country and is unthinkable to the original Hindu settlers. The crux of the problem is the scarcity of land and high rate of rent on leased land in the village. This has distracted a section of expert agriculturists amongst the immigrants to less productive and unproductive occupations like petty trades, facilities for which are available in the nearby town and within the village itself.

CHAPTER IV.

Changes in Economic Resources.

1. Introduction.

1.1. This Chapter deals with the changes in the two major economic resources of the village viz. Land and Live stock. The strength of a rural community in an underdeveloped economy is based mainly on the land under the control of the villagers and upon the livestock they possess. The situation in the village Chotahaibor differs greatly from the general pattern. As the majority of the villagers here pursue non-farm occupations, they do not depend upon these resources in the same extent as they would have done in an average Indian village. The new settlers are found to be eager in purchasing small plots of land for their homesteads, and once they acquire it they are satisfied for the moment.

1.2. The implements and tools possessed by the villagers are also their important economic resources. But simply the increase in the number of tools and implements may not indicate any improvement of this resource. Instead of the absolute number, the quality of the tools and implements are more important in determining the progress in the direction. For instance, a small tractor might replace a number of traditional ploughs and a Chittaranjan type of fly shuttle loom might replace a dozen of traditional Throw Shuttle looms. The villagers in Chotahaibor do not possess any improved agricultural implement, but during the period between the first point survey and resurvey the weavers have acquired certain improved looms and accessories.

2. Land.

(a) Village Land.

2.1. According to the records of the Settlement Office, Nowgong, the total geographical area of the village is 792.77 bighas or 264.26 acres. The land use classification

of the village in 1961-62, as done by the same office, is shown below in table 4.1.

TABLE 4.1.

Land Use Classification--Chotahaibar 1961-62.

Type of Land	Bighas	Acres.
1. Cultivable land (including nearly 2 acres of current fallow	365.29	121.76
2. Homestead and orchard.	240.20	80.07
3. Area covered by road	61.25	20.42
4. Area covered by water	103.44	34.48
5. Grazing land	5.44	1.81
6. Govt. waste land	17.17	5.72
TOTAL:	792.77	264.26

2.2. The land area of the village, especially the cultivable area is quite inadequate for 277 households with a population of 1,779. But the villagers may have land outside the village boundary, and persons of other villages may also have land in this village. The actual position of ownership and operational holding of land is discussed in a subsequent section in this Chapter. It is clear from Table 4.1 that a major part of the village land, 80.07 acres is covered by homestead and orchard. The cultivable land of the village is converted into homestead by the immigrants and thus the scarcity on cultivable land is becoming acute gradually. Moreover, about 35 acres of land is covered by a portion of sluggish river. If reclaimed, it would have been a very suitable area for cultivation, but the cost of reclamation would be prohibitive. It may be a good source of income for the village, if it is converted to a modern fish farm on cooperative basis, under the management of the Local Panchayat.

TABLE 4.2.  
DISTRIBUTION OF OWNERSHIP HOLDINGS (TOTAL OWNED LAND) BY SIZE GROUPS.

Size of Holdings (in acres)	1962										
	1956					1962					
	Household No.	% of to- tal.	Land Owned Acres	% of to- tal.	Average Size of holdings (acres)	Household No.	% of to- tal.	Land owned Acres	% of to- tal.	Average size of holdings (acres)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Landless	9	9.57	--	--	--	76	27.45	--	--	--	
Below 1.00	45	47.87	15.21	7.89	0.34	138	49.82	30.96	10.82	0.22	
1.00 -- 2.50	11	11.70	19.38	10.06	1.76	23	8.30	35.05	12.25	1.52	
2.50--5.00	16	17.02	55.39	28.74	3.46	21	7.58	69.88	24.42	3.33	
5.00--7.50	5	5.33	30.61	15.88	6.21	11	3.97	69.57	24.31	6.32	
7.50--10.00	6	6.38	50.14	26.02	8.36	4	1.44	35.56	12.42	8.90	
10.00--15-00	2	2.13	21.98	11.41	10.99	4	1.44	45.16	15.78	11.30	
TOTAL:	94	100.00	192.71	100.00	2.05	277	100.00	286.18	100.00	1.04	



2.3. The land revenue is reasonable and it varies from 44 paise to Rs. 1.87 paise per bigha, depending upon the quality of land. The land revenue for the village including the local rates is Rs. 782.13 P. during 1961-62. The land tenure system is Ryotwari and all the settled land is held under periodic-Khiraj, at 30 years settlement lease. Under this system the tenure holders held land as a revenue paying, permanent heritable and transferable estates under his occupation.

b) Land Ownership in the Village.

2.4. Distribution of the ownership holdings of land by size groups for 1956 and 1962 is shown in Table 4.2. The average size of holdings of 2.05 acres per household, at the time of first point survey, itself was an uneconomic holding for a village community and at the time of resurvey the situation has deteriorated further. In 1962, the average size of holdings per household has decreased to 1.04 acres. Per capita land holding in 1956 was 0.32 acres and it has also decreased to 0.22 acres in 1962. This indicates the acute scarcity of land in the village which compelled the people to shift to non-farm and comparatively uneconomic occupations.

2.5. The number of landless households has increased from 9 (9.57 per cent) in 1956 to 76 (27.45 per cent) in 1962. Such an abnormal increase of landless households is mainly due to the settlement of the newcomers in the village. In fact, majority of the landless households are newcomers who have settled in the village after 1956. Some of these landless households live in rented houses and others have constructed their houses on others land on rental agreement. The percentage of households possessing land below 1 acre has slightly increased, whereas in higher size groups of above 1 acres the percentage of household decreased considerably indicating thereby that the size of holdings has diminished in 1962. Both in 1956 and 1962 there was not a single household possessing above 15 acres of land.

2.6. It is true that there is no big land holder in the village, but the land is somewhat unequitably owned by the households. In 1956, 47.87 per cent of the households possessed only 7.89 per cent of the total owned land and 42.56 per cent households owned 92.11 per cent. In 1960 also 50.18 per cent of the households possessed only 11.50 per cent of the total owned land and 22.37 per cent households possessed 88.50 per cent. Only a small number of households possessed somewhat economic size of holdings, in both the counts. In 1956, only 13 households (13.48%) and in 1962, 19 households (6.85%) possessed between 5 to 15 acres of land.

2.7. Distribution of owned land according to community and size of holdings in 1956 and 1962 is shown in the Statement IV.I. in the appendix and the number of landless households and average size of holding according to community is shown in Table 4.3.

TABLE 4.3.

Land Holdings according to Community 1956--1962.

Community.	Year	Landless Households	Average size of holdings. (Ac)
1. Assamese Hindu	1956	Nil	4.52
2.	1962	Nil	3.89
2. Immigrant Hindu	1956	6	0.66
	1962	57	0.32
3. Immigrant Muslim	1956	3	2.01
	1962	19	1.57
TOTAL:	1956	9	2.05
	1962	76	1.04

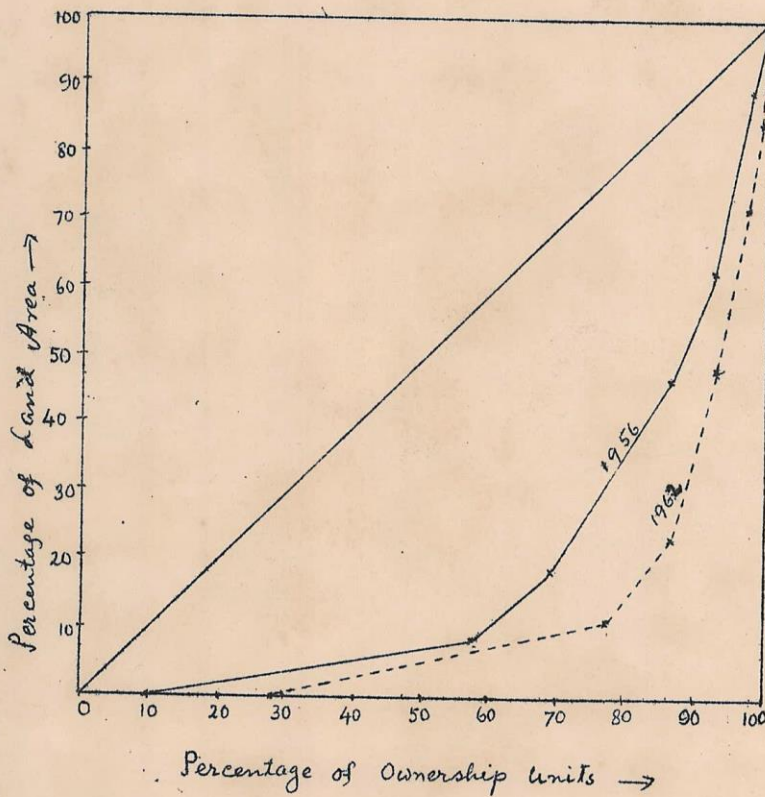
2.8. The average size of holdings in 1956 was highest among the Assamese Hindus, medium among the immigrant Muslims and smallest among the immigrant Hindus and in 1962 also the position remained in the same order. But at the time of Resurvey

TABLE 4.4.  
CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF OWNERSHIP HOLDINGS BY SIZE GROUPS.

Size Groups (in acres)	1956										1962			
	No. of H.H.	Cumulative of total H.H.	Cumulative of total H.H.	Cumulative of total H.H.	Cumulative of total H.H.	Cumulative of total H.H.	Cumulative of total H.H.	No. of H.H.	Cumulative of total H.H.	Cumulative of total H.H.	Total Area (Ac)	Cumulative of total Area (Ac)	Cumulative of total Area (Ac)	Percentage of total Area
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
Landless	9	9	9.57	-	-	-	76	76	27.45	-	-	-	-	-
Below 1.00	45	54	57.44	15.21	15.21	7.89	138	214.	77.27	30.96	30.96	30.96	10.82	
1.00--2.50	11	65	69.14	19.38	34.59	17.95	23	237	85.57	35.05	66.01	66.01	23.07	
2.50--5.00	16	81	86.16	55.39	89.98	46.69	21	258	93.15	69.88	135.89	135.89	47.49	
5.00--7.50	5	86	91.49	30.61	120.59	62.57	11	269	97.12	69.57	205.46	205.46	71.80	
7.50--10.00	6	92	97.87	50.14	170.73	88.59	4	273	98.56	35.56	241.02	241.02	84.22	
10.00--15.00	2	94	100.00	21.98	192.71	100.00	4	277	100.00	45.16	286.18	286.18	100.00	

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the average size of holdings per household has become smaller in all the communities. The Assamese Hindus are the original people of the village and it is natural that their size of land holding is bigger. The difference in size of land holdings between the two immigrant communities may be mainly due to the fact that the immigrant Hindus prefer non-farm occupations, and thus they try to invest money in other business than in purchasing land, whereas the immigrant Muslims in general prefer agricultural occupations and try to acquire land for agricultural purposes when the money is available.

2.9. The details of distribution of owned land according to community and occupation, in 1956 and 1962 is shown in the Statement IV.2. The bright side of the land ownership in the village is that the major portion of the cultivable land belong to the families persuing agricultural occupations. In 1962 the position has improved further. Communitywise consideration shows that the immigrant Hindus in both agricultural and non-agricultural occupations own land almost equally.

2.10. The cumulative distribution of households and area of owned land in 1956 and 1962 is shown in Table 4.4. The resultant Lorenz curve is shown in figure 1 in page 55. From the diagram it is evident that in 1962 the percentage of landless households has increased, <sup>and</sup> the land is somewhat unequitably distributed than that of 1956.

2.11. Table 4.5 shows the purchase and sale of land in the village from 1958 to 1962. The transactions of land in the village is quite significant. During the period of nearly 5 years, 30 households of the village sold 25.62 acres and 63 households have purchased 22.55 acres. The sale and purchase of land is mostly done within the village.

TABLE 4.5.

Total Sale and Purchase of Village land According to Community from 1958 to 1962 (area in acres).

Community	Sale		Purchase	
	Area (in Ac)	No. of H.H. (Selling the area in Col. 2)	Area (in Ac)	No. of H.H. (purchasing area in Col. 4.)
Assamese Hindu	0.98	3	1.43	2
Immigrant Hindu	9.23	9	12.10	34
Immigrant Muslim	15.41	18	9.02	27
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>25.62</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>22.55</b>	<b>63</b>

2.12. It is clear from Table 4.5 that land transactions is mainly confined to the immigrant settlers. Those immigrants who settled in the village earlier, purchased land at comparatively low price and now sell it to the fresh immigrants at very high price. The fresh settlers generally purchase 1 bigha (0.33 acres) or less and use it for home-stead. It may be noted that both immigrant Hindus and immigrant Muslims prefer the purchasers from the same community.

(e) Operational Holdings.

2.14. The operational holdings represent the land owned by the households, plus land taken on lease minus the land leased out to others. The operational holdings do not indicate the use pattern. However, excluding a few acres of lands occupied by the buildings and other few acres of non-cultivable waste land the rest of the operational holdings are the cultivable land of the households. The operational holdings of the villagers is shown in Table 4.6. Both the land leased out and taken on lease by the households have increased in 1962. The total acreage under operational holdings has also increased significantly. But the number of households has also increased abnormally. For the increase of the households the operational holdings per

TABLE 4.6.

Area under Operational Holdings.

Types of Land	1956 (in acres)	1962 (in acres)
Land owned	192.71	286.18
(Minus) Land leased out	24.47	88.11
-----		
Owned land under operation.	168.24	198.07
(Plus) Land taken on lease	18.92	45.19
-----		
Total operational holdings.	187.16	243.26
-----		
Average size of operational holdings.	1.99	0.88

household has decreased to 0.88 acres in 1962, from that of 1.99 in 1956. Such a small size of operational holdings per household indicates the acute scarcity of land in the village. But one interesting point in this regard is that in 1962, the land leased out is much higher than that of land taken on lease. It is found that some 14 households have taken on lease about 14 acres from outsiders and 9 households have leased out about 25 acres to outsiders.

2.15. Distribution of operational holdings by size groups is shown in Table 4.7. The percentage of households having operational holdings below 5 acres has further increased at the time of resurvey. Moreover, the actual number of households having 5 acres and above of operational holdings, which is taken as the economic holding for an average household, remained the same at the time of resurvey, though in terms of percentage it has decreased further. The maximum operational holding in the village is 15 acres and there were only one household in 1956 and 2 in 1962, having such size of operational holdings. As the majority of the households

TABLE 4.7  
DISTRIBUTION OF OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS BY SIZE GROUPS.

Size of Holdings (in acres)	1956					1962				
	Operational Unit No.	% of total al.	Hand Operated Acres	% of total al.	Average size of holdings (acres)	Operational Unit No.	% of total al.	Hand Operated Acres	% of total al.	Average size of holdings (acres)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Landless	8	8.52	--	--	--	70	25.27	--	--	--
Below 1.00	45	47.87	15.66	8.37	0.35	152	54.88	38.80	15.95	6.26
1.00--2.50	14	14.89	25.80	13.78	1.84	21	7.58	35.60	14.63	1.69
2.50--5.00	15	15.96	54.80	29.28	3.65	22	7.94	79.60	32.72	3.62
5.00--7.50	5	5.32	31.43	16.79	6.28	8	2.89	48.20	19.82	6.03
7.50--10.00	6	6.38	48.81	26.08	6.14	2	0.72	16.56	6.81	8.28
10.00--15.00	1	1.06	10.66	5.70	10.66	2	0.72	24.50	10.07	12.25
TOTAL:	94	100.00	187.16	100.00	1.99	277	100.00	243.26	100.00	0.88



have operational holdings of below 1 acres, it is natural that the villagers cannot depend upon solely on agriculture even if they take up modern methods.

2.16. Distribution of operational holdings by occupation is shown in Statement IV. 3 in the appendix, and the average size of operational holdings by occupation is shown in Table 4.8. The average size of operational holdings has decreased in all occupational groups at the time of resurvey. Another significant point in this regard is that only the owner cultivators have somewhat economic size of operational holding.

TABLE 4.8.  
Average Size of Operational Holdings by Occupation.

Occupation	1956	1962
1. Owner cultivator	4.60	4.42
2. Tenant cultivator	2.47	2.26
3. Agrl. labour	0.61	0.73
4. Agrl. Rent Receiver	--	1.26
5. Production other than Agrl.	0.40	0.23
6. Trade, Commerce & Transport.	1.52	0.57
7. Salaried jobs		0.78
8. Profession & Services	1.47	0.25
9. Miscellaneous		0.55
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2.18</b>	<b>1.18</b>

2.17. Distribution of operational holdings according to land utilisation and size of holdings is shown in Statement IV.4 in the appendix. As indicated earlier, the land under the control of the villagers is taken as the operational holdings and the various uses of the operational holdings is shown in the Statement. Although the major portion of the operational holdings is used for growing major crops, a good

percentage of the land under operational holdings is covered by houses, courtyard and by orchards. At the time of resurvey the area under houses and orchards has increased greatly. The households having below 1 acre of land as operational holdings have to use major portion of their land for homestead.

2.18. Though the net area sown has increased significantly at the time of resurvey, the total cropped area remained the same. This has happened due to the fact that the area sown more than once has decreased considerably at the time of resurvey. This indicates that the villagers are gradually paying less interest to agriculture.

2.19. Table 4.9 shows the average size of operational holdings according to community in the two points of time. It is interesting to note that the average size of operational holdings has decreased in all the three communities.

TABLE 4.9.

Operational Holdings according to Community.

Community	1956			1962		
	No. of H.H.	Total operational holdings (Ac)	Avg. size of operational holding (Ac)	No. of H.H.	Total operational holdings (Ac)	Avg. size of Operational Holding (Ac)
Assamese Hindu	19	71.68	3.77	23	66.39	2.89
Immigrant Hindu	33	21.98	0.67	162	36.30	0.22
Immigrant Muslim	42	93.50	2.23	92	140.57	1.53

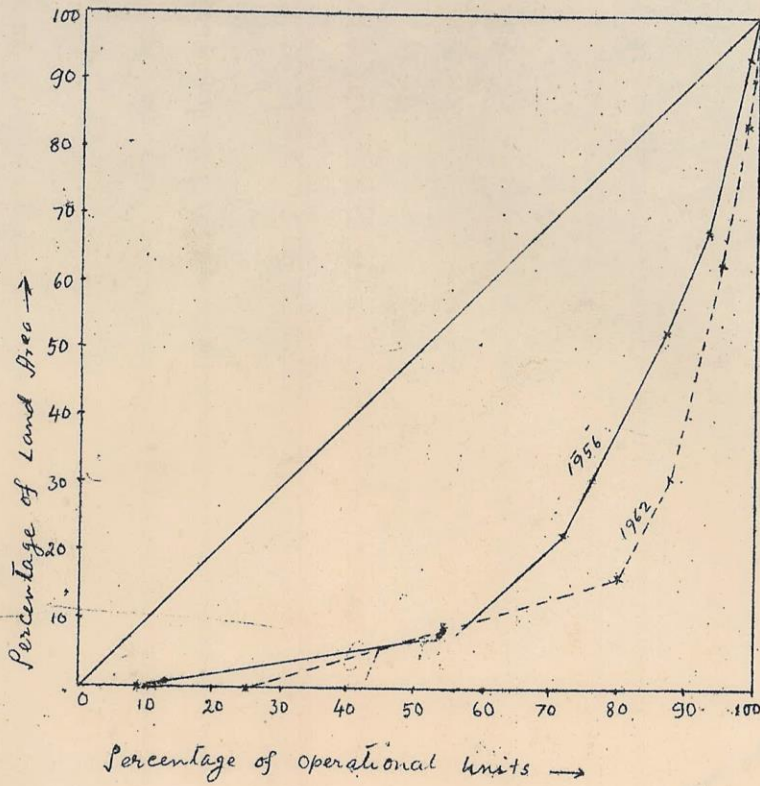
2.20. At the time of resurvey there are only two households amongst Assamese Hindus, one amongst the Immigrant Hindus and eight in the Immigrant Muslim community with average size of operational holdings of 5 acres and above. At the time of resurvey; land taken on lease and land leased out is almost same

TABLE 4.10  
CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS BY SIZE GROUPS 1956 AND 1962.

Size Groups (in acres)	1956			1962		
	No. of H.H. Cumulative of total H.H.	Cumulative percentage of total area H.H.	Total Area (acres) of total area H.H.	No. of H.H. Cumulative of total H.H.	Total area (acres) of total area H.H.	Cumulative percentage of total area H.H.
Landless	8	8.52	--	70	25.27	--
Below 1.00	45	56.39	15.66	152	80.15	38.80
1.00-2.50	14	71.28	25.80	21	87.73	35.60
2.50-5.00	15	87.24	54.80	22	95.67	79.60
5.00-7.50	5	92.56	31.43	8	98.56	48.20
7.50-10.00	6	98.94	48.81	2	99.28	16.56
10.00-15.00	1	100.00	10.66	2	100.00	24.50
						243.26
						100.00

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in the households of Muslim community, but in the two other communities land leased out is much higher than that of land taken on lease. This might be partly explained for the fact that the rent received from the leased out land is very high and the land owners consider it profitable to lease out a portion of their land. Moreover, some of the households having non-agricultural occupations also lease out their land. The general trend of the land owners is to lease out a portion of their land to others even though their average size of holdings is very small.

2.21. Table 4.10 shows the cumulative distribution of households and the area under their operational holdings in 1956 and 1962. The Lorenz curve for Table 4.10 is shown in Diagram 2 in Page 63. From this table and diagram it is clear that the distribution of operational holding became more uneven in 1962. The new settlers have very little operational holdings, and the cultivators have more operational holdings than the households in non-agricultural occupations.

2.2. Share cropping is the main term of tenancy in Chotahaibar, although cash rent is also a prevalent form. Table 4.11. shows the types of rent paid by the tenants to the land-owners in the years 1956 and 1962.

TABLE 4.11

Types of Rent Paid by the Tenants.

Types of Rental System.	Year	Area in Ac.	Rent paid (in Rs.)	Avg. Rent paid per Ac. (in Rs.)
1. Cash Rent	1956	Nil	Nil	Nil
	1962	5.18	802.50	154.92
2. Kind rent	1956	18.92	2,249.70	118.91
	1962	39.45	5,681.00	144.01

The term of rent paid in kind in almost all the cases is 50:50 basis. There are only a few households whose term of rent paid

in kind is fixed. The average rent per acre both in cash and kind is extremely high. Although the Assam Adhjar Protection Act specifically prohibits share cropping on 50:50 basis, the system is still in vogue in the villages. Because of the scarcity of the land, the share croppers are not eager to seek protection under the Act, as they are afraid that they would not be able to get land on lease from the land owners on the terms provided in the Adhjar Act.

### 3. Livestock.

3.1. "One who has no cattle of his own is the smallest of all", there goes an Assamese saying. The farmers depend on their cattle, especially the draught cattle. The Assamese Hindus celebrate a day on the last day of 'Chaitra' (middle of April) called "Garu-Bihu", for the well-being of the cattle, in which water is sprinkled ceremonially, and other magico-religious rites are performed. But whatever might be their attachment to their cattle they generally take very little care of the cattle. Moreover the cattle in Assam is of most inferior variety in comparison to those of other States of India.

3.2. The livestock population of Chotahaibar for 1956 and 1962 is shown in Table 4.12. Though the quality remained the same, the number of animals and poultry birds has increased considerably in 1962. There is no significant increase in the number of work-stock, may be, due to little increase in the number of households in agricultural occupations.

3.3. The villagers have not taken any initiative in procuring improved type of cattle or poultry birds. For dearth of grazing land near the village, it is difficult to rear cattle, but for keeping poultry birds, specially the ducks, there are ample facilities provided by a big water logged area within the village.

TABLE 4.12.  
LIVE STOCK POPULATION 1956 AND 1962.

Particulars	1956	1962			Total.
		Assamese Hindu.	Immigr-ant Hindu.	Immigr-ant mul-lim.	
1. Milch animals(Cows)	52	18	37	53	108
2. Work Stock	95	30	1	71	102
3. Young Stock	29	19	39	76	134
Sub-Total ...	176	67	77	200	344
4. Other Productive animals:-					
a) Goats	5	14	4	72	90
b) S heep	--	--	1	--	1
Sub-Total ...	5	14	5	72	91
5. Poultry:					
a) Hen	60	--	1	115	116
b) Cock	--	--	--	37	37
c) Chicken	--	--	--	83	83
d) Duck	--	50	17	26	93
e) Goose	--	2	--	--	2
f) Pigeon	--	--	20	8	28
Sub-Total	60	52	38	269	359
GRAND TOTAL: (Total No.of all animals & birds)	241	133	120	541	794

3.4. It is interesting to note that majority of the animals and poultry birds are owned by the Muslim families of the village. The Hindus, by tradition, do not keep chicken in their households and no one has gone against this tradition. The Muslims have commercial motive in rearing poultry birds.

3.6. Statement IV. 5 shows the distribution of draught animals by occupation. It is natural that the draught animals are mostly owned by the households in agricultural occupations. In Chotahaibar majority of the draught animals are owned by the owner cultivators and tenant cultivators and no change in this aspect is noted at the time of resurvey. A pair of bullock is used for drawing a plough and most of the households have one pair of bullock and only a very few households have two or three pairs of bullocks each.

#### 4. Tools and Implements.

4.1. The distribution of tools and implements used for cultivation according to operational holdings is shown in Statement IV.4. The type of tools and implements used by the villagers for the agricultural purposes remained the same at the time of resurvey also. No one has taken up any improved plough or any other improved implements. The crude type of water lifts, a dug-out piece of log used as water lift, is said to be introduced by the immigrants. It may be noted that all the ploughs possessed by the villagers are not used for cultivation at a time, as some families keep extra ploughs for use in an emergency like breakage. Some articles like big knives (Dao), traditional types of hats used by the cultivators to protect themselves from sun and rain, are not taken into account.

4.2. Statement IV.7 shows, other implements used by the villagers in other productive purposes other than agriculture. The implements used by the goldsmiths, blacksmiths and carpenters are not taken into account. In weaver families only the looms are counted and list of other implements necessary



in weaving is considered unnecessary for such a study. The type of looms used during 1956 and 1962 is shown in Table 4.13.

TABLE 4.13.

Types of Looms Used During 1956 and 1962: Communitywise.

Types of Loom	1956			1962		
	Assamese Hindu.	Immigr-ant Hindu.	Immigr-ant Muslim.	Assamese Hindu.	Immigr-ant Hindu.	Immigr-ant Muslim.
1. Traditional type (Assamese throw shuttle loom)	13 (13)	2 (1)	-	18 (15)	-	-
2. Chittaranjan type.	-	18 (10)	-	-	76 (34)	7 (2)
3. Fly Shuttle	-	14 (10)	-	-	2 (2)	3 (1)
TOTAL.	13	34	-	18	78	10

Note: Figures in brackets indicate number of households possessing the looms.

4.3. The number of looms, both of traditional and modern types has increased considerably in 1962. The traditional type of fly shuttle looms are used by the Assamese Hindus for weaving clothes for use of the family members only. The increase in the number of fly shuttle looms and costly Chittaranjan type of fly shuttle looms is mainly due to the immigration of a number of weavers by profession to the village. The number of sewing machines has also increased in 1962. The sewing machines are used by the tailors in the village and no one has purchased sewing machine solely for family use.

## CHAPTER V

### Changes in the Levels of Inputs and Outputs.

#### 1. Introduction.

1.1. The villagers of Chotahaibar do not keep any record of input and output data of their agricultural enterprises and the figures collected are approximate and based on their verbal statements only. Agriculture is a family occupation and the idea of profit and loss is generally not taken into consideration. While the approximate input data on use of fertilizers, seeds, hired labour and implements is collected, the main input, family labour in man days, devoted to agriculture could not be collected. In case of paddy output a farmer guess the quantity received by filling up the granary and from that he decides whether he will be able to sell or not. It is interesting to note that majority of the farmers consider agriculture as non-remunerative occupation and do not pay much attention for its improvement. But some of them are found to have tried to increase their income by more investment in agriculture, especially by using chemical fertilizers and by working hard in the field.

1.2. On the other hand, fairly reliable data is available on handloom weaving which is the main non-farm enterprise of the village. Majority of the families whose main occupation is weaving take their enterprise as household industry and keep in records the input and output figures. The investment in this non-agricultural occupation is quite considerable and some of the families have expanded their industry by procuring improved type of costly looms. The major bottleneck in expansion of their industry is that the market for their finished products is limited and is dependent on the local demands and taste of a particular section of the population.

2. Crop Production.

2.1. Rice is the main crop of the village and is grown mainly for home consumption. Jute is the main cash crop and income from this crop is very substantial. A section of the villagers are taking full advantage of the local demands of vegetables in the nearby town by growing varieties of vegetables in their gardens. Area, production and value of different crops in 1956 and 1962 is shown in Table 5.1. Compared to an average village in A ssam, the diversity crop in the village is quite significant.

2.2. The acreage under Sali paddy has slightly increased, although acreage under A hu paddy has decreased in similar manner. As a result the total acreage under both Ahu and Sali paddy has remained almost the same. According to the villagers there is no scope of increasing Sali paddy cultivation as land for its expansion is not available. Almost the whole area under Sali paddy may be devoted to the cultivation of Ahu paddy. There is thus the scope for the expansion of Ahu cultivation. But Ahu paddy is gradually replaced by Jute which is more remunerative. The acreage under jute has thus increased significantly. The immigrants now grow varieties of vegetables and in the winter seasons a visitor is very much impressed with the nice vegetable gardens in the village.

2.3. In 1956, the value of the fruits was not taken into account. The villagers earn a good amount from fruits like lichees, and banana. The Hindu immigrants from East Bengal have introduced a new method of growing betel-leaves (Pan) on a large scale. In place of the local method of growing betel-leaves (Pan) as creeper around aeracanut trees they have grown betel leaves around a raised bamboo reed platform.

TABLE 5.1  
AREA, PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF CROPS/HORTICULTURE PRODUCTS

Crops/ Horticulture Products	1956			1962		
	Area (acre)	Output (mds)	Value (Rs)	Area (acre)	Output (mds)	Value (Rs)
<u>CROPS:</u>						
1. Sali Paddy	80.50	1,451.00	15,034.00	85.07	1,324.00	13,240.00
2. Ahu paddy	32.35	407.00	4,380.00	27.58	378.00	3,024.00
3. Jute	47.82	685.50	18,261.50	67.09	754.96	19,873.75
4. Sugarcane	6.64	168.55	2,441.00	7.47	203.00	3,820.00
5. Vegetables	N.A.	N.A.	3,429.00	N.A.	N.A.	10,687.50
6. Mustard	N.A.	N.A.	763.00	N.A.	N.A.	219.00
7. Potato	N.A.	N.A.	958.00	N.A.	N.A.	1,332.00
8. Dal (Pulses)	N.A.	N.A.	325.00	N.A.	N.A.	555.00
<u>HORTICULTURE PRODUCTS</u>						
9. Fruits	--	--	--	N.A.	N.A.	2,491.00
10. Tamol-Pan	N.A.	N.A.	1,270.00	N.A.	N.A.	3,650.00
11. Bamboo	--	--	--	N.A.	N.A.	303.00
<b>T O T A L:</b>	<b>167.31</b>	<b>2,712.05</b>	<b>46,861.50</b>	<b>187.21</b>	<b>2,659.96</b>	<b>59,105.25</b>

N.A. Not available.

- I. Value of the output of paddy for 1956 is determined according to the prevalent price during that year.
- II. Value of output of paddy in 1962 was imputed value at Rs. 10.00 per maund for Sali paddy and Rs. 8.00 for Ahu paddy.

For this reason income from this source has increased greatly in 1962.

2.4. Output per acre of the 3 principal crops is shown in Table 5.2. Paddy output per acre has decreased slightly in 1962, but for the other two crops it remained almost the same. The villagers have not used any chemical fertilizer or improved implements for paddy cultivation. But in sugarcane, jute and vegetables manures and fertilizers are used and some of the villagers are convinced that the use of chemical fertilizers gives much-higher yield of vegetables.

TABLE 5.2  
Yield Per Acre of the Principal Crops 1956 and 1962.  
(Communitywise)

Community	Yield per acre (in mds) 1956			Yield per acre (in mds) 1962		
	Paddy	Jute	Sugar-cane.	Paddy	Jute	Sugar-cane.
Assamese Hindu	18.90	11.91	25.33	16.10	9.72	21.47
Immigrant Hindu	15.74	12.00	(not grown)	15.76	12.58	(not grown)
Immigrant Muslim	16.70	15.14	25.98	14.72	11.60	28.86

2.5. Paddy yield per acre according to farm size is shown in Table 5.3. Though there is no direct relation between the yield and farm size the yield per acre in farm sizes above 7.50 acres is found to be somewhat lower. However it may be noted that only 3 households had above 7.50 acres of farms under paddy during 1962.

TABLE 5.3  
Paddy Yield per Acre According to Farm Size.

Farm Size (Acre)	Yield per acre in 1956	Yield per acre in 1962.
Below 1	17.13	14.19
1.00-2.50	19.30	15.90
2.50-5.00	16.55	13.68
5.00-7.50	18.10	19.50
7.50-10.00	12.50	11.88
10.00-15.00	--	13.15
Average for all sizes	17.28	15.11

Even though the farm sizes under paddy is small the farmers do not take much care in preparing the soil. Intensive type like Japanese method of cultivation is not practised at all.

2.6. Crop output by operational holdings is shown in Statement V.I in the Appendix. In all the sizes of the operational holdings major part of the land is devoted to paddy cultivation and rest in vegetables and other crops. In 1956 the families having below 1 acre of operational holdings did not use their land for Ahu paddy and Sugarcane cultivation. But in 1962 a few families under this operational holdings have utilised a portion of their land for these two crops.

2.7. The value of crop output according to community is shown in Table 5.4.

TABLE 5.4.

Total Value of Crop Output in 1956 and 1962.  
(Communitywise)

	1956			1962		
	Total No. of house-holds.	No. of H. occupa- tion.	H. Value of Agl. ops (Rs)	Total H.H.	No. of H.H. in agrl. occupa- tion	Value of Crops.
Assamese Hindu	19	11	10,046.00	23	15	11,548.50
Immigrant Hindu	33	3	4,463.00	102	9	6,302.00
Immigrant Muslim	42	34	32,352.50	92	42	41,254.75

NOTE: Although total income derived from agriculture in the village has thus increased appreciably, there has been rapid fall on per household income for agriculture.

The majority of the families in agriculture are Muslims and the major part of the village income from agriculture is derived by them.

2.8. The value of total production and sale of crops in 1956 and 1962 is shown in Statement V. 2 in the appendix. The farmers of Chotahaibar in general are commercial minded

and a good portion of their agricultural produce is meant for sale. Jute is the main commercial crop for all the three communities. The immigrant Muslims grow vegetables mainly for sale and their income from those crops is quite substantial. In 1956, the Assamese Hindus did not grow vegetables for sale and the quantity grown for home consumption was very negligible. But in 1956, they were found to have taken interest in vegetable growing and they even produced a small quantity for sale. The immigrant Hindus have grown betel leaves (Pan) on a commercial scale. 2.9. The proportion of sale to total output has increased remarkably in 1962. The percentage of sale to total output for the two years is shown in Table 5.5.

TABLE 5.5.  
Percentage of Sale to Total Output.

Community	1956	1962
Assamese Hindu	28.3	35.0
Immigrant	71.0	72.6
Immigrant Muslim	37.3	51.4
T O T A L	38.5	50.5

The high percentage of quantity sold indicate greater degree of commercialisation in the village.

2.10. It may be noted in this connection that the percentage of sale to total output shown in the above table represents the sale during that year and does not mean the total saleable quantity as a sizeable portion of the crops were in stock with the cultivators. A good quantity of jute was kept in stock for better price and some plots of vegetables were not ready for sale at the time of investigation.

2.11. Though paddy is the main crop it is mostly consumed at home and in 1962 only 1.37 per cent of the total output was sold. The percentage of sale to total crop output is minimum

TABLE 5.6

## RESIDUAL INCOME FROM CULTIVATION ACCORDING TO FARM SIZE

(In rupees)

Farm size (Acre)	1956								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Value of output.	Value of seed.	Kind	Rent	Wages	Hiring of Bullock	Fertilisers	Others.	Residual Income.
Below 1 Acre.	3,545.50	50.24	176.00	--	240.00	--	--	--	3,079.26
1.00--2.50	8,777.00	210.63	513.00	--	179.50	--	39.00	--	7,834.87
2.50--5.00	13,626.00	338.78	1,296.50	--	800.00	--	4.00	--	11,186.72
5.00--7.50	8,346.00	231.51	264.20	--	709.00	--	--	--	7,141.29
7.50--10.00	11,537.00	306.85	--	--	1,643.00	--	14.00	--	9,568.15
10.00--15.00	1,030.00	59.12	--	--	200.00	--	--	--	35.00 735.88
Total:	46,861.50	1,197.13	2,249.70	--	3,776.50	--	57.00	--	35.00 39,546.17
Farm size (Acre)	1962								
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Value of Output.	Value of Seed.	Kind	Rent	Wages	Hiring of Bullock	Fertilisers	Others	Residual Income.
Below 1 Acre.	8,886.00	91.50	515.50	392.50	1184.50	--	198.84	150.00	6,353.16
1.00--2.50	9,610.50	409.75	1,392.00	320.00	963.50	--	267.00	32.00	6,226.25
2.50--5.00	20,159.75	958.50	3,044.00	90.00	3349.50	176.00	147.50	6.00	12,388.25
5.00--7.50	12,905.00	572.50	729.50	--	2032.50	--	133.37	70.00	9,367.13
7.50--10.00	3,347.00	172.00	--	--	250.00	--	15.00	--	2,910.00
10.00--15.00	4,197.00	233.00	--	--	240.00	--	--	--	3,724.00
Total:	59,109.25	2,437.25	5,681.00	802.50	8,020.00	176.00	761.71	258.00	40,968.79



amongst the Assamese Hindus because they grow Paddy mainly for home consumption. But at the time of resurvey they were found to have taken interest in growing certain crops with commercial motive. The percentage of sale to total crop output is highest among the immigrant Hindus. It is because of the fact that they mainly grow jute and betal-leaves, 99 per cent of which is sold in the market. In case of the Muslim community the percentage of sale seems to be not very high because of their production of paddy which is consumed at home. But the percentage of sale to total production of the other crops is very high in this community. Moreover this group had sizable stock in their hand at the time of our investigation. It was really a good sign to find that they had sufficient stock of jute which they kept for better prices expected in the months ahead. The muslims as a whole are found to be commercial minded in their agricultural enterprises.

2.12 The residual income received by the farmers is shown in Table 5.6. It was mentioned earlier in this Chapter that the family labour in mandays devoted to agriculture could not be collected. So the residual income may be taken as the returns to the family labour. The value of the input and output per acre could not be ascertained precisely, because the acreage under certain crops is not known. Nevertheless it is a fact that input per acre has increased in 1962. It is rather surprising to find that contrary to the Land Reform Act the rent paid by the tenants has increased in 1962. The tenant cultivators do not get a good income as they have to pay extremely high rent to the owners of the land. Whereas in 1956 the rent per acre of land was about Rs. 113.00 and it has increased to Rs. 150/- per acre in 1962. The wages paid by the farmers has also increased in 1962. This increase is due to increase in both daily wages and employment of more hired labour in agriculture. In the item of value of seeds; the value of paddy seeds is only calculated. The value of seeds of other crops could not be collected.

2.13. The bright spot in the input structure is that some of the farmers invest more in agriculture by using chemical fertilizers. The quantity of fertilizers used in 1962 was much higher than that of 1956. In fact there was great demand for chemical fertilizers, specially for vegetable cultivation. The use of manures like cowdung has increased but the quantity used could not be estimated.

2.14. The residual income per household has decreased greatly. It might be mainly due to the fact that the yield of certain crops like paddy has dwindled. The residual incomes per family from agriculture is so low that no one is attracted to the agricultural occupation. The income per worker attached to agriculture could not be calculated as the number of mandays devoted by the workers exclusively to this occupation is not available.

2.15. The distribution of residual income from agriculture per household, according to the operational holdings is shown in the following Table.

TABLE 5.7  
Residual Income from Cultivation  
(In Rupees)

Occupational holdings	Return per house-hold in 1956.	Return per house-hold in 1962.
Below 1 acre	513.21	373.72
1.00-2.50	652.91	366.25
2.50-5.00	860.52	589.92
5.00-7.50	1,428.26	1,170.89
7.50-10.00	1,594.69	2,910.00
10.00-15.00	735.88	1,862.00
TOTAL AVERAGE.	919.68	620.74

It is interesting to note that bigger the size of operational holding higher is the residual income. When the size of operational holding is more than 5 acres, the farmers can grow diverse crops and thereby increase their total income, although the yield of individual crop might be lower than the lower size groups.

### 3. Livestock Product.

3.1. The total value of both livestock production and sale is shown in Table 5.8. In 1962 the value of livestock product per household was Rs. 36.08 and sale value of Rs. 9.22 per household. The income from the livestock has slightly increased in 1962 but the income from this source is not substantial in the village economy.

TABLE 5.8

Total Value and Sale of Livestock Production.

Year	Total value of Live- Stock production. (Rs)	Total Sale Value (Rs)
1956	2,007.00	397.00
1962	9,792.12	2,534.50

In 1956, the percentage of sale of milk was 8.78 and eggs 40.45 and in 1962 the sale of milk has increased to 20.42 per cent and that of eggs has decreased to 11.27 per cent.

3.2. Total value and sale of livestock production according to community is shown in Table 5.9. From the data in the

Table it seems that only **The Muslim Community** keep livestock with Commercial motive.

3.3. Livestock products and their disposal according to occupation is shown in Statement V.3. Milch cattle is kept by families of both agricultural and non-agricultural occupations. It may be mentioned here that the yield of milk per cattle is very low and it was 1.5 lbs. per milch cattle per day in 1956 and it has not improved at all in 1962. The average milk consumption per person is extremely low and major quantity of milk

TABLE 5.9  
TOTAL VALUE AND SALE OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION--COMMUNITYWISE.

Community	Year	Milk		Sale of young Livestock (value) Rs	Eggs	
		Total Production Rs.	Sale Rs		Total produ- ction, Rs	Sale Rs
Assamese Hindu	1956	345.00	--	--	--	--
	1962	1,342.25	225.00	333.00	--	--
Immigrant Hindu	1956	155.00	--	24.00	--	--
	1962	3,138.00	450.00	167.00	--	--
Immigrant Muslim	1956	1,210.00	170.00	143.00	130.00	60.00
	1962	4,146.75	1,108.00	196.00	469.12	55.50
Grand Total ...	1956	1,710.00	170.00	167.00	130.00	60.00
	1962	8,627.00	1,783.00	696.00	469.12	55.50

consumed is used in preparing tea.

4. Non-agricultural Enterprises.

4.1. The small scale household industry, weaving occupy most important place in the economy of the village. Weaving is the primary occupation of a section of immigrant settlers. In 1956, there were only 13 households who were solely dependent on this occupation, but in 1962 the number of households dependent on this occupation increased to 29 households. The number of looms and workers engaged in this occupation increased very greatly. Some of the immigrants invested very big amount in this industry by purchasing costly looms. Number and type of looms, input output, net family income in the households with weaving as primary occupation is shown in table 5.10.

4.2. The value of raw materials used in production and other input figures as well as the total value of output in 1956 and 1962 is also shown in the same table. The volume of output has increased very greatly in 1962. The income per household has increased from Rs. 1,027.07 in 1956 to Rs. 1,781.53 in 1962 and on the average the annual income per worker has also increased from Rs. 392.70 to Rs. 580.50. It is also interesting to note that higher the number of looms possessed better is the income in the establishment.

4.3. Though the income per household and per worker has increased greatly in 1962 the income is not adequate and satisfactory. The income from this occupation is low, because of the fact that the handloom products of this village is very coarse and inferior in comparison to handloom articles of some other states which are also readily available in the local markets. moreover, the weavers are found to be interested in producing inferior type of sarees of outmoded designs. For better income they will have to take up production of superior type of articles. This might be possible as they have some very expert hands in the industry.

TABLE 5.10  
 NUMBER AND TYPE OF LOOMS, INPUT OUTPUT NET FAMILY INCOME IN THE HOUSEHOLDS  
 WITH WEAVING AS PRIMARY OCCUPATION 1956 & 1962.

Year 1962.	H.H. with No. of looms	No. of household	No. & type of looms. Chittar- Fly sutt- anjan. le.	Family labour worker.	Value of		Input		Total Output Rs	Income	
					Rs	Rs	Value of Hired labour Rs	Other Ex- penditure Rs		Net Rs	Per Household Rs
One	5	5	-	12	15166.00	2300.00	615.00	18081.00	22832.00	4751.00	950.00
Two	11	18	4	29	48394.00	14460.00	618.50	63472.50	79460.00	15987.50	1453.40
Three	7	19	2	25	44190.00	13910.00	2304.00	60404.00	71241.00	10837.00	1548.15
More than three	6	22	8	23	77638.00	19560.00	1590.00	98788.00	118877.00	20089.00	3348.16
TOTAL	29	64	14	89	185388.00	50230.00	5127.50	240745.50	22410.00	51664.50	1781.53
Year 1956	13	19	15		5427.00	6060.00	580.00	12067.00	28419.00	13352.00	1027.07

4.4. The households taking up weaving as industry are the immigrant Hindus and this is their hereditary occupation. There are only two Muslim households in this occupation.

4.5. Government's effort to rehabilitate these immigrants helped the immigrant weavers a lot in starting the industry at Chotahaibar. In 1956 the industry faced trouble in way of obtaining yarn. In 1960, the weavers formed a cooperative Society and now they get regular supply of yarn from this society. The Society also assist in marketing the finished products. The weavers expressed that they are very much benefitted from the Co-operative Society.

4.6. In 1956, there were some households having weaving as secondary occupation, but no account was taken about it as the income from this source was very negligible. But it should be mentioned in this connection that almost all the households in Assamese Villages have their traditional looms in which they produce varieties of garments for use in their families. In the villages a marriageable Assamese girl is expected to be expert in weaving and deficiency in this art is considered a great disqualification. Even the educated girls of the villages take keen interest in weaving and in fact, weaving is a part of Assamese cultural life.

4.7. The details of input and production in the households having weaving as secondary occupation is shown in Table 5.11.

TABLE 5.11  
Households with Weaving as Secondary Occupation.

Community.	No. of H.H.	No. of looms.	Total input (Rs)	Total output (Rs)	Net income per household (Rs)
Assamese Hindu	16	18	475.75	803.50	20.42
Immigrant Hindus	5	7	22,288.50	26,546.00	815.50
TOTAL	21	25	22,764.25	27,349.50	218.30

The looms possessed by the Assamese Hindus are traditional throw shuttle type. The value of garments produced is low. It is because of the fact that the villagers are more attracted to mill made garments. The income of the immigrant Hindus from this secondary occupation is quite great. The immigrant Hindus use fly shuttle looms and it is said that in certain years their income from this occupation exceeds the income from other occupations.

4.8. In 1956 there was one goldsmith and one blacksmith engaged both in customary service and independent production. In 1962, the number of goldsmiths has increased to six although the number of blacksmith remained the same. The input output data of these two industries could not be ascertained precisely. The income and expenditure of the households engaged in these two industries is discussed in the next chapter.



the sources of income and in such cases the income is taken as income from miscellaneous sources. Because of the varied nature of sources of income, possibility of omission of some sources cannot be eliminated.

## 2. The Sources of Village Income.

2.1. The distribution of village income by sources is presented in Table 6.1. The various sources of the village income reflect the urban influence in the village economy. Rural economy is generally based on income from agriculture and allied pursuits; but in Chotahaibar the position is found to be reverse. Even in 1956, the income from agriculture including livestock formed only about 40 per cent of the total village income. In 1962, the income from this source has declined to about 15 per cent of the total village income. It should, however, be noted in this connection that the amount of income from agriculture has increased significantly in 1962, though the importance of this source to other sources of income has decreased to a great extent.

2.2. Since the First Point Survey in 1956, there has been rapid increase of income from non-agricultural sources. Most spectacular increase in income is under the source of Arts and Crafts, Trade and Commerce, Profession and Services and Casual Labour Wages. The increase is mainly due to the increase in number of immigrant households of these occupations. The income under the head Agricultural Labour Wages has decreased in 1962. This is due to the fact that the opportunities for agricultural wage earning has decreased in that area.

## 3. Income per Household and per Capita.

3.1. The income per capita and per household for 1956 and 1962 is given in Table 6.2. Both the per capita and per household income, for the village as a whole, have increased considerably in 1962, than that of 1956. In case of households

TABLE - 6.1

DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME BY SOURCES, 1956 & 1962

Sources	1956		1962	
	Income	P.C. of Total	Income	P.C. of Total
<u>AGRICULTURE</u>				
1. Field crops	40,772.50	33.40	38,717.16	8.99
2. Others	5,089.00	4.17	15,869.88	3.68
3. Live stock	2,007.00	1.63	9,792.12	2.27
4. Sub-total from Agrl.	47,868.50	39.20	64,379.16	14.94
4. Arts and crafts	12,053.50	9.87	53,706.75	12.47
5. Trade & Commerce	15,540.00	12.73	123,176.00	28.59
6. Transport	2,300.00	1.88	4,076.00	0.95
7. Profession & services	12,380.00	10.14	111,914.00	25.98
8. Salaried jobs	18,500.00	15.15	39,688.00	9.21
9. Agrl. labour wage	10,495.00	8.60	9,449.00	2.19
10. Casual labour wage	1,940.00	1.59	11,123.50	2.58
11. Rent from landed property	-	-	280.00	0.07
12. House rent	155.00	0.13	2,352.00	0.55
13. Pension & gratuity	144.00	0.12	4,104.00	0.95
14. Miscellaneous	720.00	0.59	6,558.00	1.52
Grand Total	122,096.00	100.00	430,806.41	100.00

in all the agricultural occupations, the income per household has increased slightly but per capita income has decreased in 1962. In the households with non-agricultural occupations the per capita and per household income has increased significantly.

3.2. The average income per household in the agricultural occupations, as a whole, is much lower than the households in non-agricultural occupations. Only in case of the households of Rent Receivers the average income is much higher than all other occupations. The average income per household and per capita in all the occupational classes except the households in the class of Owner Cultivators, has increased considerably in 1962. The decrease in income of the Owner Cultivators is mainly due to two factors. Some of the Owner Cultivator households of 1962, become Rent Receivers in 1962. Secondly, the other sources of income of the Owner Cultivators are very limited. Statements VI.1 and VI.2 in the appendix show the distribution of the village income from different sources according to the occupational classes in 1956 and 1962.

3.3. In addition to the primary source of income a household might have several secondary sources too. Statements VI.1 and VI.2 in the appendix reveal that majority of the households in this village have secondary sources of income. Some of the households in the agricultural occupations derive substantial income from non-agricultural occupations and households in the non-agricultural occupations also derive some income from agriculture. Only in case of weaver households the income from secondary sources is very negligible.

3.4. The income per household according to operational holdings in 1962, is shown in Table 6.3. Income per household in the bigger size groups of operational land holdings

TABLE 6.2  
DISTRIBUTION OF VILLAGE INCOME PER HOUSEHOLD AND PER CAPITA BY  
OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES

(Figures in Rupees)

Occupational Group	1956		1962	
	Per household	Per Capita	Per household	Per Capita
1. Owner cultivation	1,467.35	201.40	1,221.54	148.63
2. Tenant Cultivation	981.25	157.00	1,286.29	230.38
3. Agricultural Labour	772.44	167.41	950.13	180.39
4. Rent receivers	--	--	2,566.75	334.79
5. Sub-total Agrl.	1,195.20	189.34	1,289.80	185.06
5. Production other than Agrl.	1,053.47	172.70	1,778.13	281.78
6. Trade, Commerce & Transport	1,525.55	223.57	1,810.76	263.07
7. Salaried jobs	--	--	1,952.36	288.61
8. Profession & Services	1,969.11	300.37	1,375.11	258.81
9. Miscellaneous	--	--	1,472.00	147.20
Sub-total Non-Agricultural	1,407.08	217.93	1,638.29	262.08
Grand Total	1,298.89	203.49	1,555.26	242.16

Note :- Prices relate to the years under reference.

is higher than the households having smaller size groups. But as the income of the households is not confined to the agriculture alone, the relationship between income and size group of operational holdings has very little significance. The distribution of the village income from different sources according to operational land holdings in 1962, is given in Statement VI.3 in the appendix. It may be noted that the households having bigger size of operational land holdings derive their major part of income from agriculture and income from other sources is very small.

TABLE 6.3.  
INCOME PER HOUSEHOLD ACCORDING TO OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS 1962.

Operational Holdings (Acres)	No. of households	Income per household (Rs).
Landless	70	1,338.70
Below 1.00	152	1,658.44
1.00-2.50	21	992.31
2.50-5.00	22	1,687.85
5.00-7.50	8	1,654.64
7.50-10.00	2	3,962.50
10.00-15.00	2	2,945.50
TOTAL	277	1,552.26

3.5. Distribution of income per household and per capita according to community is given in table 6.4. Income per household was highest among the Assamese Hindus in 1956 and it remained in the same order in 1962. The average income per household has increased in all the communities in 1962 and in case of the Immigrant Hindus the increase is quite significant.

TABLE - 6.5

ANNUAL EXPENDITURE IN DIFFERENT HEADS : 1953 AND 1962

Heads of Expenditure	1956		1962		Average per H.H.	Value	Percentage	Average per H.H.
	Value	Percentage	Value	Percentage				
1. Food								
2. (a) Cereals	72,721.08	53.86	188,827.50	39.54	773.62	188,827.50	39.54	531.69
(b) Non-Cereals	39,357.99	29.15	136,778.84	28.64	413.70	136,778.84	28.64	438.78
Sub-Total of Food :	112,079.07	83.01	325,606.34	68.18	1,192.33	325,606.34	68.18	1,176.47
2. Drinking & Intoxicants	1,139.28	0.84	31,341.25	6.53	12.12	31,341.25	6.53	113.15
3. Education	2,211.00	1.64	9,021.00	1.89	28.52	9,021.00	1.89	32.57
4. Medical	4,231.00	3.13	18,317.00	3.84	45.01	18,317.00	3.84	57.33
5. Ceremonials and Entertainment	2,079.00	1.54	15,371.00	3.43	22.12	15,371.00	3.43	53.10
6. Clothing & Foot-wear	5,907.00	5.12	32,780.75	6.87	73.48	32,780.75	6.87	118.34
7. Fuel and Lighting		..	26,559.34	5.56		26,559.34	5.56	95.32
8. Luxuries	6,375.54	4.72	1,270.50	0.27	67.82	1,270.50	0.27	4.59
9. Washing Soap, etc.			12,894.41	2.70		12,894.41	2.70	45.55
10. Miscellaneous			2,863.50	0.60		2,863.50	0.60	10.34
GRAND TOTAL :-	135,021.89	100.00	477,535.09	100.00	1,435.40	477,535.09	100.00	1,723.16

TABLE - 6.5

ANNUAL EXPENDITURE IN DIFFERENT HEADS : 1955 AND 1962

Heads of Expenditure	1955		1962		Average per H.H.
	Value	Percentage	Value	Percentage	
1. Food					
(a) Cereals	72,721.08	53.86	188,827.50	39.54	681.69
(b) Non-Cereals	39,357.99	29.15	136,778.84	28.64	498.78
Sub-Total of Food :	112,079.07	83.01	325,606.34	68.18	1,175.47
2. Drinking & Intoxicants	1,139.28	0.84	31,341.25	6.55	113.15
3. Education	2,211.00	1.64	9,021.00	1.89	32.57
4. Medical	4,231.00	3.13	13,817.00	3.94	67.98
5. Ceremonials and Entertainment	2,079.00	1.54	15,371.00	3.43	59.10
6. Clothing & Foot-wear	6,907.00	5.12	32,780.75	6.87	118.34
7. Fuel and Lighting			26,569.34	5.56	95.92
8. Luxuries	6,375.54	4.72	1,270.50	0.27	4.59
9. Washing Soap, etc.			12,894.41	2.70	46.55
10. Miscellaneous			2,863.50	0.60	10.34
GRAND TOTAL :-	135,021.89	100.00	477,535.09	100.00	1,723.95

found to be applicable for calculating the household expenditure on consumption. The value of home produced goods consumed at homes are imputed at the prevailing market prices. The annual expenditure on non-food articles are collected for the year as a whole and the data on this aspect is considered to be fairly reliable.

4.2. The distribution of village expenditure under different heads during 1956 and 1962 is shown in Table 6.5. The percentage of expenditure on food items has reduced considerably at the time of resurvey. Contrary to general expectation, the percentage of expenditure on education has remained almost the same in 1962. But the expenditure on ceremonials and entertainment, clothing and footwear, fuel and lighting and other luxury goods has increased considerably.

4.3. Annual expenditure in different heads according to occupational classes in 1956 and 1962 is given in Statement VI.4. and Statement VI. 5. in the Appendix. Distribution of village expenditure per household and per capita by occupational classes in 1956 and 1962 is shown in Table 6.6.

TABLE 6.6.  
DISTRIBUTION OF VILLAGE EXPENDITURE PER HOUSEHOLD AND PER CAPITA BY OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES 1956 AND 1962.

Occupational Group	1956		1962	
	Per H.H.	Per capita	Per H.H.	Per capita.
1. Owner cultivator	1,654.40	227.08	1,810.77	220.32
2. Tenant cultivator	1,304.01	208.64	1,296.40	232.19
3. Agrl. labour	768.07	166.07	1,202.17	228.99
4. Rent Receiver	--	--	2,600.42	339.18
TOTAL OF AGRIL.	1,329.76	210.66	1,641.49	235.52

contd.....



Table 6.6 (Contd...)

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Occupational Group	1956		1962	
	Per H.H.	Per capita	Per H.H.	Per capita.
5. Production other than Agrl	1,509.24	247.42	2,135.83	338.46
6. Trade commerce & Transport	1,717.56	251.71	1,901.74	276.29
7. Salaried jobs				
8. Profession & Services.	1,312.21	200.17	1,489.33	280.81
9. Miscellaneous			1,184.60	118.46
TOTAL OF NON-AGRL.	1,547.68	239.71	1,749.75	279.91
GRAND TOTAL	1,436.40	225.40	1,723.95	268.43

4.4. At the time of resurvey, expenditure has increased by about Rs. 287/- per household and Rs. 43/- per capita. Of course, the estimated expenditure relates to current prices. As a whole, the expenditure per household and per capita is lower in the households/agricultural occupations than the household in non-agricultural occupations, in both the counts. In 1956, expenditure per household was lowest among the Agricultural labour and it remained lowest in 1962 also. At the time of first point survey the expenditure per household was highest in the occupational class Trade, Commerce and Transport, but at the time of resurvey the expenditure per household became highest in the occupation of Rent Receivers. In 1956, the per capita income was lowest among the Agricultural Labours, but in 1962 it became lowest among in the households of Miscellaneous occupations.

4.5. Annual expenditure per household and per capita according to community for 1962 is shown in Table 6.7. Data on per household and per capita expenditure according to community for 1956 is not available.

TABLE 6.7

ANNUAL EXPENDITURE PER HOUSEHOLD AND PER CAPITA 1962.  
(Communitywise)

Community	Expenditure per Household	Expenditure per Capita.
1. Assamese Hindu	2,112.73	274.54
2. Immigrant Hindu	1,739.22	278.96
3. Immigrant Muslim	1,599.88	248.63
GRAND TOTAL:	1,723.95	268.43

The annual expenditure per household is highest among the Assamese Hindus who are the original inhabitants of the village. Income per household is also highest in this community. Per capita expenditure among the Assamese Hindus and the Immigrant Hindus is almost similar but it is lower in case of the Immigrant Muslims. Annual expenditure under different heads according to communities is shown in Statement VI. 6 in the Appendix.

5. Income and Expenditure.

5.1. The average income and expenditure per household gives a very gloomy picture. The average deficit per household is quite considerable in both the counts. In 1956, there was somewhat remarkable surplus in the occupations of Salaried jobs, Profession and Services and miscellaneous occupations. It is interesting to note that the Agricultural Labours also had slight surplus during that year. But in 1962, the position has deteriorated. Some surplus in the family budget is found in salaried job and miscellaneous occupations. But in all other occupations there was deficit of varying amounts. The deficit was lowest among the tenant cultivators. The average deficit or surplus per household according to the occupational classes is shown in Table 6.8.

## CHOTAHATBAR

TABLE -6.8

AVERAGE SURPLUS (+) OR DEFICIT (-) PER HOUSEHOLD ACCORDING TO OCCUPATIONAL CLASS :  
1953 AND 1952

( In Rupees)

Occupational Group	1953				1952			
	No. of Households	Average Income per Household	Average expenditure per H.H.	Surplus (+) or Deficit (-) per H.H.	No. of household	Average Income per Household	Average expenditure per H.H.	Surplus (+) or Deficit (-) per H.H.
1. Owner Cultivator	28	1,467.35	1,354.40	(-) 187.05	32	1,221.54	1,810.77	(-) 589.23
2. Tenant Cultivator	4	981.25	1,304.01	(-) 322.76	12	1,236.29	1,295.40	(-) 10.11
3. Agricultural labour	16	772.44	738.07	(+) 4.37	16	950.13	1,202.70	(-) 252.04
4. Rent Receiver	--	--	--	--	6	2,566.75	2,600.42	(-) 33.67
Sub-Total of Agriculture	48	1,195.20	1,329.73	(-) 134.53	66	1,289.80	1,341.49	(-) 351.69
5. Production other than Agriculture.	20	1,053.47	1,509.24	(-) 435.77	29	1,778.13	2,135.83	(-) 357.70
6. Trade, Commerce and Transport	17	1,525.55	1,727.55	(-) 192.01	77	1,810.75	1,901.74	(-) 90.98
7. Salaried jobs	X				17	1,952.35	1,840.32	(+) 112.04
8. Professions & Services	X				83	1,375.11	1,489.33	(-) 114.22
9. Miscellaneous	X				5	1,472.00	1,184.60	(+) 287.40
Sub-Total of Non-Agrl.	3	1,407.08	1,547.68	(-) 140.60	211	1,338.29	1,749.75	(-) 111.45
TOTAL :	51	2,602.28	2,877.41	(-) 275.13	377	1,559.23	1,725.25	(-) 166.02

5.2. The actual number of households having surplus or deficit is shown in Table 6.9.

TABLE 6.9  
SURPLUS AND DEFICIT HOUSEHOLDS ACCORDING TO OCCUPATIONAL  
DISTRIBUTION 1962.

Occupational Group	Total No. of H. H.	No. of surplus H. H.	No. of deficit H. H.
1. Owner cultivator	32	8 (25.00)	24
2. Tenant cultivator	12	4 (33.33)	8
3. Agrl. labour	16	4 (25.00)	12
4. Rent Receiver	6	2 (33.33)	4
Sub-total of Agrl.	66	18 (27.27)	48
5. Production other than Agrl.	29	8 (27.59)	21
6. Trade, Commerce & Transport.	77	36 (46.75)	41
7. Salaried jobs	17	9 (52.94)	8
8. Profession & services.	83	25 (30.12)	58
9. Miscellaneous	5	1 (20.00)	4
Sub-total of Non-Agrl.	211	79 (37.44)	132
GRAND TOTAL:	277	97 (35.02)	180

Bracketed figures are percentage of total households in each occupation.

The actual number of households having surplus or deficit in each occupation is shown in this table. The number of households having deficit is almost double the number of households having surplus, in the village as a whole. Data for 1956 on this aspect is not available.

5.3. The average deficit per household according to community is shown in Table 6.10. In average expenditure is found to exceed income in all the three communities.

TABLE 6.10

AVERAGE SURPLUS OR DEFICIT PER HOUSEHOLD ACCORDING TO COMMUNITY--1962.

Community	Average In- come.	Average Exp- enditure	Surplus (+) Deficit (-)
Assamese Hindu	1,788.05	2,112.73	-324.68
Immigrant Hindu	1,565.51	1,739.22	-173.71
Immigrant Muslim	1,479.01	1,599.88	-120.87
GRAND TOTAL:	1,555.26	1,723.95	-168.69

The deficit is found to be highest among the Assamese Hindus. As they are the original settlers, their economic condition should have been better than the immigrant settlers, but the actual state of affairs is quite the reverse.

5.4. As the average expenditure per household exceeds average income, the household must borrow money from some sources. In the first point survey also majority of the households had deficit in their family budgets. It seems that the villagers could not adjust themselves to the urban environment. The cultivators could not exploit the situation fully to earn more money by intensive cultivation for which there is easy marketing facilities in the nearby town. On the other hand, the avenues of expenditure has increased gradually for rapid urbanisation of the village.

#### 6. Village Indebtedness.

6.1. The amount of loan taken by the villagers is very high, and at the time of resurvey majority of the households of the village were found to be indebted. Indebtedness by years of borrowing for years 1956--1962 is shown in table 6.11. While total indebtedness in the village was only Rs. 32,441 in 1956, the amount increased to Rs. 161,855 by 1962. A major portion of these loans are comparatively old. Repayment of loans and number of households taking loan before 1956 is not available.

TABLE 6.11

INDEBTEDNESS BY YEARS OF BORROWING FOR THE PERIOD ENDING  
1956 AND 1962.

(In rupees)

For period ending 1956 I			For period ending 1962			
Year of taking loan.	Total amount of debt.	Year of taking loan.	No. of H.H. taking loan.	Total amount of debt.	Total repayment upto 1962	No. of H.H. making repayment.
Before 1951	4271.00	Before 1957-58	9	12975.00	--	--
1951-52	3025.00	1957-58	14	15210.00	775.00	3
1952-53	2700.00	1958-59	15	17235.00	--	--
1953-54	8750.00	1959-60	36	26856.00	520.00	3
1954-55	9645.00	1960-61	44	40955.00	4870.00	2
1955-56	4050.00	1961-62	147	48623.86	425.00	5
TOTAL	32441.00	TOTAL	--	161854.86	6090.00	12

It is interesting to note that the amount of repayment is quite negligible in comparison to the amount of the loan incurred each year. Data on repayment are not available for years prior to 1956.

6.2. As almost all the households are running deficit it is not possible on their part to repay the loans timely. Moreover, the recent immigrant settlers are not yet in a position to stabilize their economic condition in a new area and they are, to a great extent dependent on Government loans.

6.3. The major source of loan is the Government. Many immigrant Hindu families have received refugee loans from the Government. Other important sources are Traders and Money Lenders, Businessmen and Friends and Relatives. Loans borrowed from different sources is shown in Table 6.12.

The refugee loans are issued to the immigrants mainly for purchasing land, constructing houses and establishing small scale industries. Borrowings from Traders are of periodic nature. Such loans arise out of the purchase of daily necessities or credit from traders. These are paid at periodic intervals.

TABLE 6.12.

## LOANS ACCORDING TO DIFFERENT SOURCES.

Sources or Agencies	For period ending 1956		For period ending 1962	
	Amount (Rs)	P.C.	Amount (Rs)	P. C.
1. Neighbouring cultivators.	6,036.00	18.61	2,720.00	1.68
2. Government	13,710.00	42.26	74,525.00	46.05
3. Traders and Money Lenders	4,925.00	15.18	27,618.25	17.06
4. Businessman	4,160.00	12.82	24,942.74	15.41
5. Friends and Relatives	2,510.00	7.74	23,373.87	14.44
6. Others	1,100.00	3.39	8,675.00	5.36
TOTAL:	32,441.00	100.00	161,854.86	100.00

Loan is also taken from the businessmen with the agreement that after the harvesting, the crops are to be sold to them in an already agreed price. Loans taken from the friends and relatives are also quite substantial. It was reported that certain money lenders charge very high interest from the poor villagers.

6.4. Importance of Government agencies as supplier of credit has increased further since the First Point Survey. Government Agency now account for nearly half of the total credit in the village. Excepting neighbouring cultivators importance of all other sources has increased. The declining importance of neighbouring cultivator may be due to their inability to save and lend money in the context of the increasing rise in prices and expenditure in new items.

6.5. Nature of indebtedness according to occupational classes for 1956 and 1962 are shown in the Statement VI.7 in the Appendix. It will be evident from the Statement that in 1962 the amount of loan has increased in all the occupational classes. While in 1956 the amount of <sup>of</sup> old debt surpassed current debt greatly, the position has slightly changed by 1962. The amount of current debt has also increased considerably. Indebtedness per household

according to occupational classes is shown in Table 6.13.

TABLE 6.13.  
INDEBTEDNESS PER HOUSEHOLD ACCORDING TO OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES.

Occupational classes	1956	1962	
		Indebtedness per H.H.	Indebtedness per Debt incurring H.H.
1. Owner cultivator	249.86	442.41	643.50
2. Tenant cultivator	437.50	307.50	461.25
3. Agrl. labour	35.94	83.44	148.33
4. Rent receiver	--	1,025.00	2,050.00
Sub-total	194.19	383.82	603.14
5. Production other than Agrl.	555.00	1,899.45	2,040.15
6. Trade commerce and Transport	522.06	554.47	837.15
7. Salaried jobs		268.24	760.00
8. Profession and Services	349.44	411.86	923.90
9. Miscellaneous	--	--	--
SUB-TOTAL	502.61	647.03	1,128.29
GRAND-TOTAL	345.12	584.31	992.97

6.6. It is interesting to note that the indebtedness per household is highest in the households in occupations of Rent Receivers, Production other than Agriculture, Trade, Commerce and Transport. Many of the households even with higher income have taken Government loan for construction of buildings and for establishing small scale industries etc.

6.7. Distribution of loans according to communities and sources is shown in Table 6.14. The Assamese Hindus have borrowed highest amount of loan from Businessmen and Friends and Relatives. The Immigrant Hindus secured highest loan from Government sources. The Immigrant Muslims are mainly dependent upon Friends and Relatives in securing loans. The informants revealed that major



TABLE 6.14

LOANS ACCORDING TO COMMUNITIES BY DIFFERENT SOURCES FOR THE PERIOD  
ENDING 1962.

Sources or Agencies.	Assamese Hindu		Immigrant Hindu		Immigrant Muslim	
	Amount (Rs)	P.C.	Amount (Rs)	P. C.	Amount (Rs)	P.C.
1. Neighbouring cultivators	260.00	1.62	2,030.00	1.76	430.00	1.40
2. Government	2,000.00	12.48	72,275.00	62.73	250.00	0.82
3. Traders and Money lenders	1,060.00	6.61	21,781.75	18.90	4,776.50	15.61
4. Businessman	8,037.00	51.15	10,200.74	8.85	6,705.00	21.91
5. Friends and Relatives	4,470.00	27.89	4,683.87	4.07	14,220.00	46.46
6. Others	200.00	1.25	4,250.00	3.69	4,225.00	13.80
TOTAL:	16,727.00 (9.90)	100.00	115,221.36 (71.19)	100.00	30,676.50 (18.91)	100.00

Figures in the brackets are percentage of total debt for the period ending 1962 i.e. percentage of Rs. 161,854.86.

portion of the loans taken for various productive purpose were also spent in consumption.

6.8. Table 6.15 shows the distribution of loans according to purpose for which it is borrowed. It may be seen in the table that almost half the loans borrowed by the villagers is meant for expansion of their business and for establishment of small scale industries, especially for handloom. Next in order of importance comes the loans taken for house construction, followed by loans for consumption purposes.

6.9. Statement VI. 8 shows the loans taken by different communities according to purpose. All the three communities secured loan mainly for business and industries, house building and for consumption purposes. The Bengali Hindu households, affected by the language disturbance during 1960, were granted loan by the State Government.

#### 7. Purchase and Sale of Capital Assets.

7.1. Purchase and sale of capital assets during 1950-56 and 1956-62 by occupational classes is shown in Statement VI.9 and VI.10 respectively in the Appendix. For the period of 1950-56, data on sale and purchase

TABLE 6.15

DIFFERENT PURPOSES OF LOAN SECURED DURING THE PERIOD  
1956---62

Purposes	Total Amount (Rs)	P.C.
1. Consumption	12,420.87	7.68
2. Business and industries	78,204.24	48.32
3. House building and Repairing	38,565.00	23.83
4. Agricultural	1,330.00	0.82
5. Marriage	1,560.00	0.96
6. Medical	2,300.00	1.42
7. Purchase of Cow and Bullock	770.00	0.48
8. Purchase of land	3,600.00	2.22
9. Clearance of Old debt and Mortgaged Land.	5,250.00	3.24
10. Disturbance	4,325.00	2.67
11. Others	13,529.75	8.36
TOTAL:	161,854.86	100.00

of land and livestock are only available. During that period the amount received from sale of livestock was almost equal to that of amount spent for purchase of such articles. But during the period of 1956-62 the volume of transactions increased to a very great extent.

7.2. During 1956-62, the sale of land and livestock dominated the other items of sale. The highest sale of land occurred in the occupational classes Owner Cultivators and in Trade, Commerce and Transport. It may be noted that the Agricultural Labours also sold land during that period. It is reported that unhealthy and old livestock are sold out, to purchase better stock. The sale of jewellery is very insignificant and is reported to be distress-sale, made at the time of scarcity.

7.3. The highest amount is spent in building construction. Expenditure in construction of good houses is considered very

worthwhile by the villagers. The amount spent in purchasing land is also fairly high. Land is purchased by households in all the occupational classes. The immigrants try their best to purchase land and majority of them have already purchased land in the village. Majority of the purchasers of land belong to non-agricultural occupations. During the last 5 years 36 new tube wells had been sunk in the village. These tube wells are used for household purposes and not for irrigation. The weavers have purchased certain costly looms which is a good investment in handloom industry. In case of households in agricultural occupations expenditure in livestock is an important item. The investment in Post Office Saving Bank Accounts, Bank and L. I. C., though not very high, is significant as majority of the households have deficit family budgets. Amount spent in purchasing durable goods is not very high in comparison to other items.

7.4. Statement VI.11 in the Appendix shows the Sale and purchase and capital assets during 1956-62, according to operational holdings. Land is sold by the households belonging to different sizes of operational holdings. But the maximum sale of land, livestock, jewellery and other items were made by the households having operational holdings below 1 acre. Purchase of land, livestock machinery and other capital assets were made mainly by the households having operational holdings of below 1 acre of land. Majority of these households are immigrant settlers in the village.

7.5. Sale and purchase of capital assets during 1956-62 according to communities is shown in Statement VI.12 in the Appendix. Purchase and Sale of land among the Assamese Hindus is almost equal. In case of the Immigrant Hindus the value of land purchased is much higher than sale and in case of Immigrant Muslims the sale is much higher than purchase. The machineries are purchased by the immigrant Hindu and Muslim Settlers. The amount spent in building construction, purchase of jewellery is also highest among the Immigrant Hindus and Immigrant Muslims. Investment in Post Offices and Banks is not made by the Assamese Hindus at all.

CHAPTER VII

LEVELS OF LIVING AND OPINION AND ATTITUDE OF THE VILLAGERS.

1. INTRODUCTORY.

1.1. Level of living means the average plane of living of a group of people in a particular period of time. This can be judged by examining the standard of food, clothing and shelter and durable consumer goods used by the people. Because of their close contact with the urban life, many villagers consider the standard of living of the town people as the ideal one and are striving hard to reach that level. Many of them are found to imitate the urban way of life. The recent change in their food habit, clothing, acquisition of durable goods etc. all confirm this trend. In spite of their tendency towards urban way of life, the majority of the villagers are in subsistence level of living and any attempt to imitate urban life cannot go far enough. The analysis in the following sections will give an idea of the level of living of the people of Chotahaibar.

2. Standard of Housing.

2.1. The standard of housing reflects the economic condition and levels of living of a household to a great extent. This is particularly true in rural areas. But in Chotahaibar the situation is somewhat different. The immigrant settlers secured high amount of loan from the Government sources and constructed somewhat better houses than even some of the original settlers. So the standard of housing cannot invariably be related to the economic condition of the people.

2.2. In this village, in most cases, living and business are combined together under the same roof and in many cases in the same room. Many of the residential units are also partly used as kitchen, cattle-shed and granary and relative share of each accommodation could not be ascertained. In 1956, 5 families did not own any housing units and lived in part house with the

relatives. In 1962, 2 families had no separate house of their own and were living with their relatives. Moreover, 28 families were living in rented houses at the time of resurvey. Although this is not a rural characteristic, the village Chotahaibor situated as it is at the fringe of a growing town, has derived the opportunities of receiving income for a new source of house letting. Most of the persons living in the rented house are not the permanent settlers of the village.

2.3. Number of persons living per residential unit according to occupational classes is shown in Table 7.7.

TABLE 7.1.

RESIDENTIAL UNIT ACCORDING TO OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES.

Occupational classes	Persons per unit	
	1956	1962
1. Owner cultivator	3.5	3.9
2. Tenant cultivator	5.0	3.1
3. Agri. labour	4.9	4.4
4. Agri. Rent Receiver	--	5.1
5. Production other than Agri-culture.	3.9	5.4
6. Trade, Commerce & Transport	4.7	5.5
7. Salaried Jobs	--	5.2
8. Profession and Services	4.1	4.9
9. Miscellaneous		8.3
TOTAL:	4.3	4.8

It is evident from the above Table that in 1962 number of persons per residential unit has increased in all the non-agricultural occupations.

2.4. Table 7.2. shows the square feet per household and floor space available per person in 1962, according to occupational classes. The data on this aspect for 1956 is not available.

TABLE 7.2.

DISTRIBUTION OF RESIDENTIAL ACCOMODATION BY OCCUPATION--1962.

Occupational classes	Residential accomodation available	
	Sq. feet per H.H	Sq. feet per capita.
1. Owner cultivator	490.44	59.67
2. Tenant cultivator	390.33	69.91
3. Agrl. labour	264.19	50.32
4. Agrl. Rent receiver	589.83	76.93
5. Production other than Agriculture.	353.97	56.09
6. Trade Commerce and Transport	335.29	48.71
7. Salaried jobs	401.29	59.32
8. Profession and services	235.40	44.30
9. Miscellaneous	387.60	38.76
TOTAL:	334.02	52.01

The residential accomodation available seems to be quite satisfactory. The floor space available is highest among the Agricultural Rent Receivers and lowest among the persons in the Miscellaneous occupations. The persons in the Miscellaneous occupation are recent immigrants to the village and are living in small houses of temporary nature.

2.5. Floor space available per household and per capita according to community is shown in Table 7.3.

TABLE 7.3.

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMODATION ACCORDING TO COMMUNITY.

Community	Area in Sq.ft per H. H.	Area in Sq. ft. per capita.
1. Assamese Hindu	515.17	66.94
2. Immigrant Hindu	293.93	47.15
3. Immigrant Muslim	359.33	55.84
TOTAL	334.02	52.01

The floor space available per person is highest among the original settlers; the Assamese Hindus. But availability of the floor space alone does not indicate the standard of housing fully. The nature of accommodation is also an important criterion of judging the standard of housing.

2.6. The most common type of structure of the buildings in Chotahaibar are made of reed walls plastered with mud, mud floor and thatched roof. The next common type is also made with same materials but roofing is done with C.I. Sheets. Some of the immigrant settlers use kerosene oil tin sheets for roofing. There are only 11 modern type of buildings. The number of units according to nature of constructions is shown in Table 7.4. below. Details of residential units by nature of construction is shown in Statement VII.1 in the appendix.

TABLE 7.4.

DISTRIBUTION OF RESIDENTIAL UNITS BY NATURE OF CONSTRUCTION  
1962.

Nature	No. of Residential units.	Percentage
1. Brick walls C.I. Sheet roofs and pucca floor.	2	0.54
2. Brick walls, C.I. Sheet roofs and Katcha floor	8	2.17
3. Brick walls, thatched roofs and Katcha floor.	1	0.27
4. Reed Katcha walls, C.I. Sheets roofs and Katcha floor.	113	30.71
5. Reed Katcha walls thatched roofs and Katcha floor.	244	66.31
TOTAL	368	100.00

2.7. Distribution of residential buildings by nature of construction in different communities is shown in Statement VII.2 in the Appendix. It is evident from the Statement that all the modern type of buildings are possessed by the Immigrant Hindu settlers.

2.8. Table 7.5 shows the distribution of the households in relation to use pattern of the non-residential units. There are a number of households having single unit buildings used for all purposes.

TABLE 7.5  
DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN RELATION TO USE PATTERN OF  
NON-RESIDENTIAL UNITS.

Nature	Years	
	1956	1962
1. No. of households with out separate establishment.	20	50
2. No. of Households with separate kitchen	65	213
3. No. of households with separate cattle sheds	44	77
4. No. of households with separate granaries.	N.A.	10
5. No. of households with residential units let for rent.	N.A.	19

In 1956, out of 94 households, 20 households used the residential houses for all purposes. In 1962, out of 277 households, 50 households had no separate establishment. It is interesting to note that though there are 66 households in agricultural occupation only 10 of them have separate granaries. Only a few households of Immigrant settlers have latrines in their houses.

2.9. It may be noted in this connection that there is scarcity of certain building materials especially of C.I. sheets. C.I. Sheet is a controlled commodity and there is heavy demand for this. C.I. Sheet is said to have been sold in black-market 3 to 4 times of the controlled rate. But the poor villagers cannot afford to purchase this essential commodity at such a high rate. On the whole, housing condition of the village has slightly improved at the time of resurvey.



3. Durable Consumer Goods.

3.1. The stock of durable consumer goods possessed by the villagers during 1956 and 1962 is shown in the Statements VII.3 and VII.4 in the Appendix by occupational classes. As a whole, the villagers do not possess very costly consumer goods. The goods possessed are generally of inferior quality. But at the time of resurvey, they have acquired a number of goods used by the urban people. The increase in number of goods shown in Table 7.6. will give an idea of gradual urbanisation of the village on this aspect.

TABLE 7.6  
DURABLE CONSUMER GOODS USED IN 1956 AND 1962.

Items	1956 Number	1962 Number.
1. Sewing machine	2	6
2. Bi-cycle	7	41
3. Oil-stove	2	7
4. Clock and watch	14	47
5. Fountain pen	28	159
6. Torch light	51	90
7. Petromax light	2	8
8. Gramophone	--	1
9. Radio	--	2

Most of the costly goods are possessed by the households in non-agricultural occupation. The households in non-agricultural occupations are much more inclined to urban way of life than the agriculturist households. As the economic condition of the people is not satisfactory they are not expected to acquire costly goods, but they try their utmost to acquire consumer goods that are used in modern households.

4, Standard of Consumption.

4.1. The standard of consumption of the villagers with per capita income of Rs. 242.16 in 1962, can easily be guessed. It is mentioned earlier that the villagers are in the subsistence level of living and in analysis it is observed that the standard of food is of somewhat inferior quality. The data on standard of food consumption for 1956 is not available. But it can be presumed that the standard of food has not improved at all at the time of resurvey. Per capita consumption of food per month during 1962 according to community is given in the Statement VII.5 in the Appendix. It may be noted in the Statement that the standard of food is most inferior in case of households in the occupation of Agricultural labour and Miscellaneous group.

4.2. Table 7.7 below, gives the per capita consumption data, for certain items of food, for the village as a whole.

TABLE 7.7.

PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF CERTAIN FOOD ITEMS--1962.

Items	Per day (Grammes)	Per annum (Kg)
1. Rice	458	165.00
2. Other cereals	38	13.80
3. Pulses	27	9.72
4. Milk and Dahi	29	10.44
5. Sugar	15	5.40
6. Gur	10	3.72
7. Mustard oil	10	3.72
8. Salt	22	7.92

Table 7.7. and Statement VII.5 indicates that the villagers do not get balanced diet. But it should be noted that majority of the villagers get fresh vegetables from their gardens and fresh milk from their cattle. Some of the villagers collect fish from nearby rivers and streams for their home consumption.

No data are available on the quantity of fish so consumed. It may, however, be stated that the calorific value of the food articles consumed by the villagers is much higher than similar articles available in the urban markets.

4.3. The consumption standard of cloth for the village as a whole is not satisfactory. The annual expenditure on cloth per head during 1956 was Rs. 11/- and in 1962 the per head expenditure increased to Rs. 18/-. The increase in expenditure, by and large, is due to the increase in value of cloth and not increase in cloth in terms of yards. However, the dress pattern of the villagers, especially that of the younger generation is becoming gradually urbanised. Most of the villagers are found to be neatly dressed.

#### 5. Opinions and Attitudes

5.1. The opinion and attitude indicates the dynamics of social and economic life of the people to a great extent. The reaction of the people towards the Developmental work under Five Year Plans and other changes has been taken into consideration. Unfortunately, much time could not be devoted in collecting data on opinion and attitude and data on only certain aspects are available.

#### 5.2. Land Reform.

Majority of the cultivators are found to be unaware of land Reform measures of the State Government. The most important Land Reform measure is the Adhjar-Act which fixes the share of produce between the share cropper and land-lord. Only about 25 per cent of the cultivators are aware of this Act. But no share cropper has availed the provision of the Act. It may be mentioned that the tenant cultivators pay high rent to the land lords, but due to the extreme scarcity of land they cannot avail the provision of the Adhjar-Act.

#### 5.3. Improved Farming Practices.

The farmers work hard in their field but they are found

to be apathetic towards the improved agricultural practices recommended by the Agricultural Department. No one has used any improved agricultural implement and about 90 per cent of the farmers have not seen any such implement. Nobody has tried Japanese method or any other improved method. The villagers are found to be unaware of the improved agricultural methods. In 1956, only 4 farmers have used chemical fertilizers. But in 1962, 18 farmers used chemical fertilizers in Rabi crops and they are convinced that the use of fertilizers increases the yield of crops to a great extent.

5.4. Age at Marriage For Girls.

The Age group preference for marriage of girls is shown in Table 7.8.

TABLE 7.8  
PREFERENCE OF AGE AT MARRIAGE FOR GIRLS.

Age groups preference	No. of Informants.	P.C. of total.
(a) Below 14 years	15	15.46
(b) 14 to 16 years	65	67.01
(c) 16 to 20 years	17	17.53
(d) 20 years and above	--	--
TOTAL:	97	100.00

The most preferred age group of a bride is between 14-16 years. The villagers are of the opinion that girls should not remain unmarried above 20 years of age. Majority of the villagers also opined that the boys should marry between 22--25 years of age.

5.5. Family Size.

The villagers have no idea of the family planning devices although a few of them have heard about it. Only about 10 per cent of the informants interviewed feel that family planning is essential. The family size preference is shown in Table 7.9.

TABLE 7.9

FAMILY SIZE PREFERENCE.

Number of children preferred	No. of Informants	P.C. of total.
(a) Above 5 children	3	5.45
(b) 4 to 5 children	29	52.73
(c) 1 to 3 children	23	41.82
No children at all	--	--
TOTAL	55	100.00

It is interesting to note that majority of the informants prefer to have 4 to 5 children. Childless family is not preferred by anybody.

5.6. Attitude towards Political Parties.

Majority of the villagers are aware of the activities of the political parties in that area. Nearly 50 per cent of the villagers feel that the political parties are useful and serve to educate the people. But the others feel that the political parties are useless and the people in politics are disturbing elements of the society. Majority of the villagers, however, opined that the village developmental activities can be best implemented through Panchayats.

CHAPTER VIII.

CONCLUSIONS.

1. In the foregoing Chapters, somewhat detailed discussion has been made on the changes that have come about in the overall Social and Economic life of Chotahaibar. Though originally, the village was selected for studying the urban impact on the village, the subsequent development has brought another very important force of change in the form of settlement of immigrants though the latter is, to some extent a result of the urban impact. Chotahaibar is neither a representative village of the district or of the State as a whole due to its cosmopolitan character.
2. The original Assamese inhabitants, the Immigrant Hindus and the Immigrant Muslims are three distinct groups in the village. The social cohesion is, by and large, lacking between these three groups. The newly established Village Panchayat has, however, provided the villagers with a common forum through which different welfare works have now been undertaken through joint efforts of all the village communities. Group conflict and rivalry seldom occur. In the socio-religious matters, all the three groups maintain aloofness from one another, and perform the socio-religious ceremonies within their group. But instances are not rare when some of the Assamese Hindus have invited some of the enlightened immigrant settlers of their social and religious ceremonies e.g. marriage Shradha etc. The immigrants also reciprocated in their turn. Thus a good relationship between the 'old' and the 'new people' has developed in the village.
3. The original inhabitants of the village who are exposed to exogenous forces seem to have found it difficult to adjust themselves to the new situation. The economic condition of this section of the people has not improved as they have not been able to exploit the economic opportunities available to

them on account of the increasing pace of urbanisation near the village. On the other hand, the immigrants from East Bengal, both Hindus and Muslims, have to a great extent adjusted themselves in economic and social fields in the new environment. The immigrants have more adaptability and can avail the new opportunities easily.

4. The unceasing flow of immigrants into the village, with different culture and technological knowhow has influenced the socio-economic structure of the original settlers to a certain extent. Nowgong is a surplus district, in regard to the production of food grains and commercial crops. Credit for this must be given to the immigrant settlers. The Muslim settlers of Chotahaibar are ideal cultivators in their own way and the Assamese Hindus have learnt a lot from them. The growing of jute has been taken by the Assamese cultivators on account of the success achieved by the immigrant settlers in growing the crop.

5. In the economic fields the immigrants have not directly competed with the original inhabitant. It is true that due to the settlement of the immigrants, the pressure on cultivable land has risen, and the tenant cultivators have to pay more rent. Some cultivable land is now used for construction of buildings. The land value has also increased by 3 to 4 times than what it was five years back. Some of the original inhabitants now prefer to lease out their land to immigrants at high rent. It is observed that the Assamese Hindus, in general, are now inclined to accept non-agricultural occupations and more especially the white-collar jobs. Agriculture is considered as a non-paying occupation. An educated man is considered to be most unfortunate if he has to stick to agriculture.

6. Within a short period the immigrants have established themselves in a new area and the economic condition of some of the immigrants are found to be better than the original population. Majority of the immigrants purchased land in the

village. However, the average size of holdings of the Assamese Hindus is higher than the immigrants. The immigrant Hindus are generally not much interested in cultivable land. Their main interest lies in having a small plot for constructing their residential houses, as they prefer to have non-agricultural occupations. In agricultural enterprises the Muslim immigrants proved to be more efficient than the original inhabitants. In other non-agricultural enterprises the immigrant Hindus excel others. It is interesting to note that the income per capita is found to be higher in case of immigrants than the original inhabitants. All the newly constructed modern types of houses are owned by the immigrants. This must be due to the liberal provision of money and material to the Hindu immigrants by the Government for rehabilitation rather than on account of increase of their real income.

7. The villagers in general have accepted certain cultural traits of the urban people. In the level of living, in consumption pattern and use of durable consumer goods, urban impact is felt in the village. It seems that the urban influence has done more harm than good, as almost all the households are found to have deficit family budgets. Many of the families have outstanding debts of varying amounts. It is noted that the amount of loan is increasing year by year. The immigrant Hindus secured liberal loans and grants from the Government. But they expressed their inability to repay their loan at present and in the near future.

8. The daily market of the town has widened the facilities of selling the agricultural products, more particularly vegetables. But the cultivators feel that agriculture is not a lucrative occupation as the income from this occupation is not at all sufficient for maintenance of an average family, not to speak of a decent living. The cultivators have observed that the economic conditions of the people with non-agricultural occupations is better than that of agriculture. Moreover, the size



of operational holdings are so un-economic that even the very sincere cultivators cannot expect to stick to agriculture in future. The cultivators have not accepted any improved agricultural methods. No one has procured any improved agricultural implements. Villagers consider such implements to be inferior to the traditional implements. The knowledge of utility of the chemical fertilizers is, however, spreading gradually.

9. With the increase in pressure of population it is felt that the cultivators will face greater difficulties in future. If the village is brought under the Municipality, and consequently the tax is imposed the economic hardship of the villagers will be intensified.

10. Weaving is the most important small scale industry of Chotahaibar. The importance of this occupation in the village economy has increased at the time of resurvey. The weavers have received Government patronisation in the form of loan for expansion of this industry. The weavers have purchased certain costly looms and expanded their industry. The income per household and per capita is better than that of agriculture. However, there are certain limitations in expansion of this industry. The weavers produce only rough type of traditional garments and they are now facing keen competition from outside supplies. In any case, the weavers, expect a better future and hope to expand their industry afterwards.

11. In the last decade a Hindu social reformer of the village has successfully introduced certain simple religious ceremonies relating to marriage and death. Most of the Assamese Hindu villagers at the moment have adopted the reformed rituals in preference to traditional Brahminical religious rites. Throughout the Brahmaputra valley, amongst the followers of Mahapurush Sri Sankardev, this new trend has spread and section of Mahapurush has have adopted the reformed rules. It may also

be mentioned that drinking and gambling continues to be considered as evil deeds by the society and such cases are very rare.

12. The villagers appear to be politically conscious. Political activities become intensified during the time of election and many villagers took active interest in the electioneering campaign. Both the ruling Party, Congress and other leftist parties have some followers in the village. There seems to be no follower of Communist or rightist political parties.

13. Villagers living in a fringe village, though get the facilities of a town, find it difficult to adjust economically and socially in a new environment. Compared to the indigenous Assamese people the immigrant families have more adaptability in new environments. The search for living and the hardship experienced by them, have made the immigrants capable of adjustment in new circumstances.

14. In a densely populated village near a growing town agricultural occupation will naturally have declining influence. Because of tiny plots of land owned by the villagers, cultivation cannot be taken as a whole time profession. As a result the villagers are compelled to seek employment in various activities in the town. If facilities could be increased for employment in the village itself by establishing small scale industries (e.g. weaving, bell metalling, blacksmithy, doll making, cycle repairing, welding etc.) the villagers will be able to enhance their income. Agricultural productivity would also increase as the head of the household will be able to supervise agricultural activities of other family members without himself withdrawing from the non-agricultural occupation.

APP.1

## STATEMENT II.1.

Distribution of Population by Age and Sex 1962  
Chotahaibar.

Age Group	Male		Female		Total		No. of Females per 100 males.
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Below 1	35	3.67	27	3.27	62	3.49	77.14
1--4	125	13.10	123	14.91	248	13.94	98.40
5--9	179	18.76	170	20.61	349	19.62	94.97
10--14	108	11.32	86	10.43	194	10.90	79.63
15--19	69	7.23	66	7.99	135	7.59	95.65
20--24	68	7.13	58	7.03	126	7.08	85.29
25--34	143	14.99	120	14.55	263	14.78	83.92
35--44	91	9.54	77	9.33	168	9.44	84.62
45--54	71	7.44	46	5.58	117	6.58	64.79
55-64	41	4.30	25	3.03	66	3.71	60.98
65 and above.	24	2.52	27	3.27	51	2.87	112.50
<b>TOTAL:</b>	954	100.00	825	100.00	1779	100.00	86.48

## STATEMENT II.2

Distribution of Population by Age and Sex, 1956  
Chotahaibar.

Age Group.	Male		Female		Total		No. of Females per 100 males.
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Below 1	16	5.18	14	4.82	30	5.00	87.5
1--5	52	16.78	45	15.52	97	16.17	86.4
5--15	75	24.19	67	23.10	142	23.67	89.3
16--35	100	32.25	107	36.90	207	34.50	107.0
36--45	35	11.29	21	7.24	56	9.33	60.1
46--55	19	6.12	20	6.90	39	6.50	105.2
56--60	9	2.90	6	2.08	15	2.50	66.6
60 and above.	4	1.29	10	3.44	14	2.33	250.0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	310	100.	320	100	600	100	93.5

STATEMENT II.3.  
Marital Status.  
1962

CHOTAHATBAR

Age groups.	Married		Unmarried		Widow/er		Divorced		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Below 1 Yr.	--	--	35	27	--	--	--	--	35	27
1--4	--	--	125	123	--	--	--	--	125	123
5--9	--	--	179	170	--	--	--	--	179	170
10--14	--	10	108	76	--	--	--	--	108	86
15--19	2	50	67	15	--	--	--	1	69	66
20--24	16	56	51	--	--	--	1	2	68	58
25--34	111	117	31	--	1	1	--	2	143	120
35--44	87	69	3	--	1	8	--	--	91	77
45--54	66	31	--	--	5	15	--	--	71	46
55--64	40	5	--	--	1	20	--	--	41	25
65 and over	20	1	--	--	4	26	--	--	24	27
TOTAL:	342	339	599	411	12	70	1	5	954	825

## STATEMENT II.4.

CHOTAMAIBAL.

Registration of School-going Children Community wise and Age-Group ranging from 5 to 25 years, 1962.

Community	5--10 Yrs.		11--15 Yrs.		16--25 Yrs.		5--25 Yrs.									
	Total No. School going		Total No. School going		Total No. School going		Total No. School going									
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F								
Assamese Hindu.	16	22	13	16	11	16	4	16	11	11	66	--	43	41	29	20
Immigrant Hindu.	113	97	57	28	53	99	17	99	72	72	19	1	265	218	109	46
Immigrant Muslim.	73	73	38	22	37	53	3	53	54	6	6	--	163	151	73	25
TOTAL:	202	192	108	66	101	168	24	168	137	31	31	1	471	410	211	91

## STATEMENT III.1

Distribution of Working Force by Age and Sex, 1962.

CHOTAHAIBAR

Age Group	No. of persons in each age group			No. of Workers			No. of Helpers			No. of Non-Workers		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Below 1 Yr.	35	27	62	--	--	--	--	--	--	35	27	62
1--4 Yrs.	125	123	248	--	--	--	--	--	--	125	123	248
5--9 Yrs.	179	170	349	--	--	--	--	--	--	179	170	349
10--14 Yrs.	108	86	194	6	1	7	12 (7)	3	15	90	82	172
15--19 Yrs.	69	66	135	28	5	33	8 (7)	6	14	33	55	88
20--24 Yrs.	68	58	126	59	7	66	2	2	4	7	49	56
25--34 Yrs.	143	120	263	142	17	159	--	10	10	1	93	94
35--44 Yrs.	91	77	168	89	11	100	--	11	11	2	55	57
45--54 Yrs.	71	46	117	71	4	75	--	2	2	--	40	40
55--64 Yrs.	41	25	66	35	1	36	--	--	--	6	24	30
65 and above.	24	27	51	12	--	12	--	--	--	12	27	39
TOTAL:	954	825	1,779	442	46	488	22	34	56	420	745	1,235

... N.B. Figures in brackets indicate student helpers.

Distribution of Working Force by Community, Age and Sex  
1932

Age Group	Assamese Hindu			Immigrant Hindu			Immigrant Muslim			Assamese Hindu			Immigrant Hindu			Immigrant Muslim		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Below 1 Yr.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1--4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
5--9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
10--14	--	--	--	3	1	4	3	--	3	4	(4)	4	2	2	5	5	1	6
15--19	4	3	7	17	1	18	7	1	8	4	(4)	4	3	2	(2)	3	3	5
20--24	4	1	5	35	5	40	20	1	21	1	(4)	1	--	--	(2)	1	1	2
25--34	12	8	20	82	6	88	48	3	51	--	--	1	1	9	--	--	--	--
35--44	9	5	14	54	5	59	26	1	27	--	--	--	--	10	--	--	1	1
45--54	3	1	4	44	3	47	24	--	24	--	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--
55--64	4	--	4	18	--	18	13	1	14	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
65 and above.	2	--	2	4	--	4	6	--	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL:	38	18	56	257	21	278	147	7	154	9	1	10	5	27	32	8	6	14

N.B. Figures in the brackets indicate student helpers.





APP.7.

STATEMENT III.4.

CHOTAHAIBAR.

## Distribution of Households According to Occupational Combinations.

Occupational Groups	No. of H.H.	Single occupations	1962									
			No. of H.H.	Association with one occupation								
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	32	3	13	-	5	1	2	2	1	-	2	-
2.	12	-	6	1	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	-
3.	16	4	5	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
4.	6	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
5.	29	20	6	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
6.	77	40	27	5	1	-	5	1	-	6	5	4
7.	17	4	5	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
8.	83	68	12	2	-	1	1	3	1	2	-	2
9.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	277	145	76	13	10	6	9	7	3	9	11	8

## STATEMENT III.4 (Contd..)

Occupational Groups	No. of H.H.	1962																	
		Association with two occupations									Association with three & more occupations.								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	No. of H.H.	Occupation							
1.	16	-	8	6	6	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2.	5	4	-	4	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	
3.	7	5	3	-	2	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
4.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	1	-	1	2	3	-	
5.	8	3	3	-	1	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
6.	7	7	4	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	3	3	2	1	1	-	1	1	
7.	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-	4	4	1	-	3	3	-	1	
8.	3	3	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
9.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL:	45	25	16	10	15	7	4	6	4	3	11	11	4	1	4	4	3	5	2

## DISTRIBUTION OF OWNED LAND ACCORDING TO COMMUNITY AND SIZE OF HOLDINGS 1956 AND 1962.

Size Group (acres)	1956				1962							
	Assamese Hindu		Immigrant Hindu		Assamese Hindu		Immigrant Hindu					
	No.	Area (acres)	No.	Area (acres)	No.	Area (acres)	No.	Area (acres)				
Landless	--	--	6	--	3	--	--	57	--	19	--	
Below 1.00	4	1.49	23	6.16	18	7.56	5	2.30	95	17.52	38	11.14
1.00--2.50	1	1.84	3	2.16	9	15.38	3	4.93	5	7.47	15	22.65
2.50--5.00	7	27.94	2	5.49	7	21.96	9	32.03	3	9.84	9	28.01
5.00--7.50	3	17.12	-	-	2	13.49	3	19.13	-	-	8	50.44
7.50--10.00	2	15.64	1	8.20	3	26.30	1	9.50	1	7.53	2	18.53
10.00--15.00	2	21.98	-	-	-	-	2	21.66	1	10.33	1	13.17
TOTAL:	19	86.01	33	22.01	42	84.69	23	89.55	162	52.69	92	143.94

## DISTRIBUTION OF OWNED LAND ACCORDING TO COMMUNITY AND OCCUPATIONS 1956 AND 1962.

Occupations	1956			1962								
	Assamese Hindu No.	Hindu Area (acres)	Immigrant No.	Hindu Area (Ac)	Assamese Hindu No.	Hindu Area (Ac)	Immigrant No.	Assamese Hindu Area (Ac)	Immigrant No.	Assamese Hindu Area (Ac)		
1. Owner cultivator.	9	55.24	2	5.15	17	67.14	9	49.93	1	2.87	22	84.78
2. Tenant "	--	--	--	--	3	2.76	2	1.84	1	0.13	6	9.05
3. Agrl.labour	2	1.03	--	--	11	4.21	1	0.33	3	1.16	7	2.73
4. Agrl.rent receiver.	--	--	--	--	--	--	3	19.93	1	10.33	2	1.57
5. Production other than Agrl.	--	--	18	6.88	1	0.67	--	--	18	5.68	2	0.39
6. Trade,Commerce, & Transport.	2	7.65	5	9.38	6	6.08	1	2.00	34	15.06	20	26.85
7. Salaried jobs.							5	14.89	6	7.85	4	10.63
8. Profession and Service.	6	22.09	2	0.60	1	3.83	2	0.63	39	7.84	10	7.94
9. Miscellaneous.							--	--	2	1.77	--	--
TOTAL:	19	86.01	27	22.01	39	84.69	23	89.55	105	52.69	73	143.94

STATEMENT IV. 3.  
DISTRIBUTION OF OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS BY OCCUPATION 1956 AND 1962.

Occupational group	1956										1962		
	No. of H.H.	Owned Land (acres)	Land taken on lease. (acres)	Land leased out. (acres)	Total operational holdings (3 + 4 - 5) (acres)	% of distribution	No. of H.H.	Owned Land (acres)	Land taken on lease. (acres)	Land leased out. (acres)	Total operational holdings (9+10-11) (acres)	% of distribution	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1. Owner cultivator	28	127.53	6.13	4.82	128.85	68.85	32	137.58	15.67	17.50	135.75	55.80	
2. Tenant cultivator	4	2.76	7.13	--	9.89	5.28	12	11.02	16.09	--	27.11	11.15	
3. Agricultural labour	13	5.24	4.32	1.66	7.90	4.22	14	4.22	5.94	--	10.16	4.18	
4. Agricultural Rent Receiver.	--	--	--	--	--	--	6	31.83	--	23.67	8.16	3.36	
5. Production other than Agriculture.	19	7.55	--	--	7.55	4.83	20	6.07	--	0.57	5.50	2.26	
6. Trade, Commerce & Transport.	13	23.11	0.33	3.66	19.78	10.57	55	43.91	5.41	17.86	31.46	12.93	
7. Salaried jobs.							14	33.37	1.00	23.49	10.88	4.47	
8. Profession and Services.	9	26.52	1.00	14.33	13.19	7.05	52	16.41	0.08	3.35	13.14	5.40	
9. Miscellaneous.							2	1.77	1.00	1.67	1.10	0.45	
TOTAL:	86	192.71	18.92	24.47	187.16	100.00	207	286.18	45.19	88.11	243.26	100.00	

STATEMENT IV.4.  
 DISTRIBUTION OF OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS ACCORDING TO LAND UTILISATION AND SIZE OF HOLDINGS.  
 (in acres)

Size groups.	1962													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
	Total Cropped area.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.	Total Area sown in more than on- ce.
Below 1	7.31	2.84	4.47	10.73	0.46	15.66	11.07	1.06	10.01	26.78	2.01	38.80		
1.00-2.50	29.83	15.15	14.63	7.14	3.98	25.80	27.80	3.91	23.89	6.68	5.03	35.60		
2.50-5.00	60.63	29.16	31.47	11.86	11.47	54.80	82.50	19.25	63.25	13.08	3.27	79.60		
5.00-7.50	37.03	19.60	17.43	4.95	9.05	31.43	46.13	13.10	33.03	7.53	7.64	48.20		
7.50-10.00	54.18	22.86	31.32	7.88	9.66	48.81	12.37	3.54	8.83	0.73	7.00	16.56		
10.00-15.00	10.67	3.33	7.34	0.66	2.66	10.66	18.80	2.96	15.84	5.16	3.50	24.50		
TOTAL:	199.65	92.94	106.71	43.17	37.28	187.16	198.67	43.82	154.85	59.96	28.45	243.26		

## DISTRIBUTION OF DRAUGHT CATTLE BY OCCUPATION 1956 AND 1962.

Occupation	1956					1962					Total			
	No. of draught animals					No. of draught animals.								
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		More than 5		
1. Owner cultivator	--	38 (19)	9 (3)	12 (3)	5 (1)	6 (1)	70 (27)	4 (4)	4 (1)	36 (18)	9 (3)	4 (1)	7 (1)	60 (27)
2. Tenant cultivator	--	--	6 (2)	4 (1)	--	--	10 (3)	5 (5)	4 (1)	4 (2)	3 (1)	4 (1)	--	16 (9)
3. Agrl. Labour	2 (2)	--	--	--	--	--	2 (2)	1 (1)	--	4 (2)	--	--	--	5 (3)
4. Rent Receiver	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2 (1)	--	4 (1)	--	6 (2)
Sub-total of Agrl.	2 (2)	38 (19)	15 (5)	16 (4)	5 (1)	6 (1)	82 (32)	10 (10)	12 (3)	46 (23)	12 (4)	12 (3)	7 (1)	87 (41)
5. Production other than Agrl.	1 (1)	2 (1)	--	--	--	--	3 (2)	1 (1)	--	--	--	--	--	1 (1)
6. Trade, Commerce and Transport.	--	8 (4)	--	--	--	--	8 (4)	2 (2)	--	8 (4)	--	--	--	10 (6)
7. Salaried jobs	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4 (2)	--	--	--	4 (2)
8. Profession & Services.	--	2 (1)	--	--	--	--	2 (1)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
9. Miscellaneous	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sub-total of Non-Agrl.	1 (1)	12 (6)	--	--	--	--	13 (7)	3 (3)	12 (6)	12 (6)	--	--	--	15 (9)
Grand Total:	3 (3)	50 (25)	15 (5)	16 (4)	5 (1)	6 (1)	95 (39)	13 (13)	12 (3)	58 (29)	12 (4)	12 (3)	7 (1)	102 (50)

Note: Figures in the brackets indicate the number of household unit possessing those animals.

## IMPLEMENTS OF CULTIVATION BY OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS 1956 AND 1962.

Size group (in acres)	1956				1962				
	No. of Plough H.H.	Spade	Hoe	Sickle & leveller	No. of Plough H.H.	Spade	Hoe	Sickle & leveller	Water lift.
Landless	8	--	--	4	70	--	--	--	--
Below 1.00	45	5 (4)	1 (1)	17 (10)	152	8 (5)	8 (7)	15 (9)	3 (2)
1.00--2.50	14	20 (10)	3 (2)	27 (11)	21	19 (15)	6 (6)	23 (3)	1 (1)
2.50-5.00	15	25 (12)	7 (6)	36 (13)	22	28 (21)	4 (4)	45 (21)	5 (5)
5.00-7.50	5	14 (5)	4 (3)	19 (5)	8	14 (8)	5 (3)	16 (7)	2 (2)
7.50-10.00	6	21 (5)	6 (4)	30 (5)	2	2 (1)	--	--	--
10.00-15.00	1	1 (1)	2 (1)	3 (1)	2	6 (2)	1 (1)	7 (2)	--
TOTAL:	94	86 (37)	23 (16)	136 (48)	277	77 (52)	24 (21)	106 (51)	11 (10)

1. Figures in brackets indicate the number of households possessing those implements.
2. No information has been traced about water lift in 1956 survey.

## STATEMENT IV.7

## EQUIPMENTS USED IN PRODUCTIVE PURPOSES OTHER THAN CULTIVATION BY OCCUPATION 1956-1962.

Occupation	1956				1962					
	No. of H.H.	Bullock Cart.	Dhenki	Loom	Sewing Machine	No. of H.H.	Bullock Cart.	Dhenki	Loom	Sewing machine.
1	28	5 (5)	26 (26)	7 (7)	--	32	6 (6)	23 (23)	7 (7)	--
2	4	--	--	--	--	12	1 (1)	7 (7)	--	--
3	16	--	3 (3)	1 (1)	--	16	--	1 (1)	1 (1)	--
4	--	--	--	--	--	6	--	2 (2)	3 (2)	--
Sub-total:	48	5 (5)	29 (29)	8 (8)	--	66	7 (7)	33 (33)	11 (10)	--
5	20	--	2 (2)	25 (12)	--	29	--	--	78 (29)	--
6	17	4 (4)	5 (4)	11 (4)	1 (1)	77	2 (2)	5 (4)	3 (2)	--
7	--	--	--	--	--	17	--	4 (4)	4 (6)	1 (1)
8	9	--	--	3 (3)	--	83	--	3 (2)	5 (4)	6 (4)
9	--	--	--	--	--	5	--	--	--	--
Sub-total:	46	4 (4)	7 (6)	39 (19)	1 (1)	211	2 (2)	12 (10)	95 (41)	7 (5)
GRAND TOTAL:	94	9 (9)	36 (35)	47 (27)	1 (1)	277	9 (9)	45 (43)	106 (51)	7 (5)

Figures in the bracket indicate the number of households.



STATEMENT V. I.  
OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS AND OUTPUT OF FIELD CROPS FOR 1956 AND 1962.

CHOTAHAIBAR.

Operational Holdings (acres)	Years	No. of Farms.	Total acre <sup>age</sup> under farm.	Sali paddy		Ahu Paddy		Value (Rs)	Area (acre)	Quantity (mds)	Value (Rs)	Area (acre)	Quantity (mds)	Value (Rs)
				Area (acre)	Quantity (mds)	Area (acre)	Quantity (mds)							
Below 1.00	1956	6	15.66	1.17	19.00	240.00	--	--	1.54	30.00	240.00	--	--	240.00
	1962	17	38.80	0.50	3.50	35.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
1.00-2.50	1956	12	25.80	11.84	213.00	2439.00	4.33	68.00	4.33	68.00	780.00	4.33	68.00	780.00
	1962	17	35.60	10.49	160.50	1605.00	5.54	57.00	5.54	57.00	456.00	5.54	57.00	456.00
2.50-5.00	1956	13	72.80	22.82	463.00	4680.00	6.85	113.00	6.85	113.00	1236.00	6.85	113.00	1236.00
	1962	21	79.60	42.25	629.00	6290.00	8.00	122.00	8.00	122.00	976.00	8.00	122.00	976.00
5.00-7.50	1956	5	31.43	16.01	278.00	2950.00	7.67	104.00	7.67	104.00	1040.00	7.67	104.00	1040.00
	1962	8	48.20	18.83	311.00	3110.00	7.83	70.00	7.83	70.00	560.00	7.83	70.00	560.00
7.50-10.00	1956	6	48.81	25.33	428.00	4275.00	8.17	122.00	8.17	122.00	1324.00	8.17	122.00	1324.00
	1962	1	16.56	2.67	80.00	800.00	2.67	60.00	2.67	60.00	480.00	2.67	60.00	480.00
10.00-15.00	1956	1	10.66	3.33	50.00	450.00	5.33*	--	5.33*	--	--	5.33*	--	--
	1962	2	24.50	10.33	140.00	1400.00	2.00	39.00	2.00	39.00	312.00	2.00	39.00	312.00
TOTAL:	1956	43	205.16	80.50	1451.00	15034.00	32.35	407.00	32.35	407.00	4380.00	32.35	407.00	4380.00
	1962	66	243.26	85.07	1324.00	13240.00	27.58	378.00	27.58	378.00	3024.00	27.58	378.00	3024.00

\* Crops damaged by flood.

Contd.....

APP-16.

Continued.....

## STATEMENT V.1

CHOTAHABAR

Operational holdings (acres)	Years	Jute		Value (Rs)	Sugarcane		Value (Rs)
		Area (acres)	Quantity (mds)		Area (acres)	Quantity (mds)	
Below 1.00	1956	3.36	49.50	1287.50	0.67	12.50	220.00
	1962	4.08	44.15	1095.00			
1.00-2.50	1956	9.81	145.50	3627.00	0.54	17.80	281.00
	1962	7.46	83.26	2339.00	0.84	19.50	390.00
2.50-5.00	1956	14.50	199.50	5980.00	0.17	6.25	100.00
	1962	28.54	302.55	7995.75	3.26	75.50	1410.00
5.00-7.50	1956	8.49	122.00	2952.00	1.93	53.75	880.00
	1962	18.67	233.00	6007.00	1.53	49.50	900.00
7.50-10.00	1956	10.66	157.00	4115.00	3.00	68.75	900.00
	1962	3.67	32.00	907.00	0.67	21.00	420.00
10.00-15.00	1956	1.00	12.00	300.00	1.00	22.00	280.00
	1962	4.67	60.00	1530.00	0.50	25.00	480.00
TOTAL:	1956	47.82	685.50	18261.50	6.64	168.55	2441.00
	1962	67.09	754.96	19873.75	7.47	203.00	3820.00

## STATEMENT V.I. (Contd...)

\* OPERATIONAL HOLDINGS AND VALUE OF OUTPUT OF FIELD CROPS AND HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS FOR 1956 and 1962--CHOTAHAI BAR.

Operational holdings (acre)	Years	Field Crops			Horticultural Products			
		Vegetables Rs	Mustard Rs	Potato Rs	Dal (Pulses) Rs	Fruits Rs	Tomol Pan Rs	Bamboo Rs
Below 1.00	1956	775.00	43.00	--	--	--	1200.00	--
	1962	2910.00	--	210.00	--	1110.00	2963.00	103.00
1.00--2.50	1956	1175.00	60.00	310.00	35.00	--	70.00	--
	1962	3387.50	--	225.00	85.00	626.00	297.00	200.00
2.50--5.00	1956	640.00	560.00	370.00	60.00	--	--	--
	1962	1996.60	44.00	385.00	338.00	405.00	320.00	--
5.00--7.50	1956	244.00	--	90	190.00	--	--	--
	1962	1754.00	100.00	197.00	47.00	230.00	--	--
7.50--10.00	1956	595.00	100.00	188.00	40.00	--	--	--
	1962	490.00	15.00	165.00	70.00	--	--	--
10.00--15.00	1956	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
	1962	150.00	60.00	150.00	15.00	30.00	70.00	--
TOTAL:	1956	3429.00	763.00	958.00	325.00	--	1270.00	--
	1962	10637.50	219.00	1332.00	555.00	2401.00	3650.00	303.00

\* Area and quantity of production have not been traced out.

## COMMUNITYWISE DISTRIBUTION OF VALUE OF TOTAL PRODUCTION AND SALE OF CROPS/HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS DURING 1956 AND 1962.

Crops/ Horticultural Products	1956				(In rupees)			
	Assamese Hindu Production	Assamese Hindu Sale	Immigrant Hindu Production	Immigrant Hindu Sale	Immigrant Muslim Production	Immigrant Muslim Sale	Production	Total Sale
1. Sali Paddy	5,415.00	180.00	2,144.00	1,200.00	7,475.00	400.00	15,034.00	1,780.00
2. Ahu Paddy	566.00	--	324.00	--	3,490.00	--	4,380.00	75.00
3. Jute	2,825.00	2,110.00	750.00	750.00	14,686.50	9,434.00	18,261.50	12,219.00
4. Sugarcane	560.00	220.00	--	--	1,881.00	1,027.00	2,441.00	1,247.00
5. Vegetables	--	--	45.00	20.00	3,384.00	1,105.00	3,429.00	1,125.00
6. Mustard	515.00	245.00	--	--	248.00	28.00	763.00	273.00
7. Potato	30.00	--	--	--	928.00	60.00	958.00	60.00
8. Dal (Pulses)	65.00	15.00	--	--	260.00	--	325.00	15.00
<u>HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS:</u>								
9. Fruits	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
10. Tamol Pan	70.00	70.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	--	--	1,270.00	1,270.00
11. Bamboo	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL:</b>	10,046.00	2,840.00	4463.00	3170.00	32,352.50	12,054.00	46,861.50	18,064.00

(In rupees)

Crops/ Horticultural Produ- cts.	Assamese Hindu		Immigrant Hindu		Immigrant Muslim		Total	
	Production	Sale	Production	Sale	Production	Sale	Production	Sale
			1	9	6	2		
<b>CROPS</b>								
1. Sali Paddy.	4,400.00	160.00	240.00	--	8,600.00	33.00	13,240.00	193.00
2. Ahu Paddy	320.00	--	132.00	--	2,572.00	--	3,024.00	--
3. Jute	3,459.50	2,559.50	1,044.00	957.00	15,370.25	10,800.55	19,873.75	14,317.05
4. Sugarcane	725.00	100.00	--	--	3,095.00	2,180.00	3,820.00	2,280.00
5. Vegetables.	662.00	250.00	1,715.00	780.00	8,310.50	6,053.50	10,687.50	7,083.50
6. Mustard.	60.00	60.00	--	--	159.00	154.00	219.00	214.00
7. Potato	150.00	135.00	--	--	1,182.00	644.50	1,332.00	779.50
8. Dal (Pulses)	80.00	10.00	40.00	--	435.00	56.00	555.00	66.00
<b>HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS.</b>								
9. Fruits.	708.00	238.00	198.00	8.00	1,495.00	1,315.00	2,401.00	1,561.00
10. Temol Pan	784.00	335.00	2,830.00	2,780.00	36.00	--	3,650.00	3,115.00
11. Bamboo.	200.00	200.00	103.00	53.00	--	--	303.00	253.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>11,548.50</b>	<b>4,047.50</b>	<b>6,302.00</b>	<b>4,578.00</b>	<b>41,254.75</b>	<b>21,236.55</b>	<b>59,105.25</b>	<b>29,862.05</b>

## LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS AND THEIR DISPOSALS 1956 AND 1962.

Occupation	Year	Total Production		M I L K		Sale Value (Rs)
		Quantity (mds)	Value (Rs)	Quantity (mds)	Value (Rs)	
1. Owner cultivator	1956	50.88	835.00	--	--	--
	1962	70.00	2,078.50	18.53	553.00	553.00
2. Tenant cultivator	1956	5.25	105.00	4.50	90.00	90.00
	1962	27.75	832.00	8.75	262.50	262.50
3. Agrl. Labour	1956	12.00	240.00	4.00	80.00	80.00
	1962	2.90	86.25	--	--	--
4. Rent Receiver	1956	--	--	--	--	--
	1962	22.50	655.00	7.50	225.00	225.00
5. Production other than Agrl.	1956	9.00	135.00	--	--	--
	1962	34.75	930.00	--	--	--
6. Trade, Commerce & Transport.	1956	12.00	240.00	--	--	--
	1962	67.50	8,025.00	19.75	592.50	592.50
7. Salaried jobs.	1956	--	--	--	--	--
	1962	37.78	1,132.25	--	--	--
8. Profession & Services.	1956	7.63	155.00	--	--	--
	1962	23.35	708.00	5.00	150.00	150.00
9. Miscellaneous	1956	--	--	--	--	--
	1962	5.00	150.00	--	--	--
TOTAL:	1956	95.76	1,710.00	8.50	170.00	170.00
	1962	291.53	8,627.00	59.53	1,783.00	1,783.00

## STATEMENT V.3. (Contd.....)

Occupation	Sale of Young Livestock										Eggs			
	Calf		Pigs		Goat		Poultry		Total Production		Sale			
	Qty. (No.)	Value (Rs)	Qty. (No.)	Value (Rs)	Qty. (No.)	Value (Rs)	Qty. (No.)	Value (Rs)	Qty. (No.)	Value (Rs)	Qty. (No.)	Value (Rs)		
1. Owner cultivator (56) (62)	2	35.00	--	--	6	104.00	--	--	2	2.00	360	22.00	60	7.50
2. Tenant Cultiva- tor. (56) (62)	--	--	--	--	7	140.00	--	--	--	--	1,194	152.25	200	25.00
3. Agrl. labour. (56) (62)	1	83.00	--	--	2	28.00	--	--	1	4.00	300	37.00	200	25.00
4. Rent Receiver (56) (62)	1	120.00	--	--	1	10.00	--	--	12	12.00	350	39.00	150	13.50
5. Production other than Agrl. (56) (62)	1	24.00	--	--	1	10.00	--	--	--	--	90	10.25	28	3.00
6. Trade, Commerce (56) & Transport. (62)	1	55.00	--	--	3	50.00	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
7. Salaried jobs (56) (62)	1	11.00	--	--	2	29.00	--	--	60	30.00	180	18.00	--	--
8. Profession & Services. (56) (62)	--	--	--	--	1	20.00	--	--	--	--	1280	141.62	180	22.50
9. Miscellaneous (56) (62)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL:	1 (62)	24.00 394.00	-- --	-- --	9 14	143.00 248.00	-- --	-- --	79	54.00	1310 3974	130.00 469.12	530 448	60.00 55.50

Distribution of Village Income from Different Sources According to Occupational Classes 1956.  
(In rupees)

Occupational class.	No. of H.H.	Sources of Income									House rent and gratuity.	Misc. Total.			
		Field Crops	Misc. receipts from Agrl.	Live-stock	Arts & Crafts	Trade & Commerce.	Transport. & Services.	Prof. & Salaried jobs.	Agrl. wages, landed property	Casual labour from wages, landed property			Pension		
1.	28	30761. (28)	3014 (14)	961 (10)	--	1060 (3)	--	1010 (3)	3660 (4)	200 (1)	300 (1)	--	120 (1)	--	41086 (28)
2.	4	1398 (3)	1465 (4)	142 (2)	--	600 (1)	--	--	--	320 (1)	--	--	--	--	3925 (4)
3.	16	605 (4)	280 (3)	289 (4)	--	--	--	--	--	9975 (16)	1210 (5)	--	--	--	12359 (16)
4.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sub-total of Agrl.	48	32764 (35)	4759 (21)	1392 (16)	--	1060 (3)	600 (1)	1010 (3)	3660 (4)	10495 (18)	1510 (6)	--	120 (1)	--	57370 (48)
5.	20	969 (3)	45 (1)	173 (2)	9367 (11)	--	--	9330 (7)	--	--	430 (1)	--	35 (1)	--	21069 (20)
6.	17	3222 (8)	200 (3)	287 (3)	2636 (2)	14480 (14)	1700 (3)	480 (1)	2880 (1)	--	--	--	--	--	25935 (17)
7. X	9	3818 (5)	85 (1)	155 (2)	--	--	--	1560 (2)	11960 (7)	--	--	--	144 (1)	--	17722 (9)
8. X															
9. X															
Sub-total of non-Agrl.	46	8009 (16)	330 (5)	615 (7)	12053 (13)	14480 (14)	1700 (3)	11370 (10)	14340 (8)	--	430 (1)	--	35 (1)	144 (1)	64726 (46)
Grand Total.	94	40773 (51)	5089 (26)	2007 (23)	12053 (13)	15540 (17)	2300 (4)	12380 (13)	18500 (12)	10495 (18)	1940 (7)	--	155 (2)	144 (1)	123096 (94)

Figures in the bracket indicates number of households.

1. Owner cultivator, 2. Tenant Cultivator, 3. Agrl. Labour, 4. Rent Receiver, 5. Production other than Agrl. 6 Trade Commerce and Transport, 7. Salaried jobs, 8. Prof. & Services. 9. Miscellaneous.



## STATEMENT VI.2.

CHOTAHABAR.

Distribution of Village Income from different sources according to Occupational Classes ---1962.  
(In Rupees)

Occupational Classes	No. of H.H.	Sources of Income										House rent from landed property.	Pension and gratuity.	Misc.	Total	
		Field crops	Misc. receipts from Agrl.	Live-stock	Arts & Crafts	Traded Comm-erce.	Trans- port.	Prof- ession and se-rvices	Salar- y wages.	Agrl. labour wages.	Casual labour wages.					Rent from landed property.
1.	32	22639 (32)	6644 (28)	2403 (21)	1541 (8)	2510 (4)	150 (1)	660 (2)	--	220 (2)	855 (5)	--	504 (1)	840 (2)	39	39090 (32)
2.	12	3949 (8)	2542 (11)	902 (4)	--	240 (1)	--	810 (1)	3732 (3)	240 (1)	2757 (7)	--	--	264 (1)	--	15436 (12)
3.	16	1200 (8)	1065 (7)	202 (6)	102 (2)	--	--	--	1494 (1)	8629 (12)	2502 (5)	--	--	--	9	15203 (16)
4.	6	3776 (6)	729 (2)	825 (2)	111 (1)	3480 (3)	--	--	5580 (3)	--	120 (1)	--	420 (1)	--	360 (1)	15401 (6)
Sub-total:66 of Agrl.	66	31514 (55)	10980 (48)	4337 (33)	1754 (11)	6260 (8)	150 (1)	1470 (3)	10806 (7)	9089 (15)	6234 (18)	--	924 (2)	1104 (3)	403 (3)	85130 (66)
5.	29	68 (2)	380 (5)	1089 (10)	48605 (89)	--	--	600 (1)	--	--	525 (1)	--	300 (3)	--	--	51567 (29)
6.	77	3899 (15)	2230 (17)	2272 (10)	2010 (1)	114856 (74)	3926 (4)	4740 (9)	3840 (3)	--	840 (2)	--	216 (2)	600 (1)	--	139429 (77)
7.	17	2453 (3)	1405 (7)	1162 (5)	311 (6)	1400 (2)	--	2975 (3)	23562 (13)	--	--	280 (2)	912 (3)	1920 (2)	--	33190 (17)
8.	83	504 (5)	525 (7)	784 (14)	1028 (4)	660 (8)	--	102129 (77)	4680 (4)	360 (1)	2985 (4)	--	--	480 (1)	--	114135 (83)
9.	5	170 (1)	350 (2)	150 (1)	--	--	--	--	--	--	540 (1)	--	--	--	6150 (5)	7360 (5)
Sub-total:211 of non-Agrl.	211	7104 (31)	4890 (38)	5457 (40)	51954 (40)	116916 (78)	3926 (4)	110444 (90)	28882 (23)	360 (1)	4890 (8)	280 (2)	1428 (8)	3000 (4)	6150 (5)	345681 (211)
Grand Total:	277	38718 (86)	15370 (86)	9794 (73)	53708 (51)	123176 (86)	4076 (5)	111914 (93)	39688 (30)	9449 (16)	11124 (26)	280 (2)	2352 (10)	4104 (7)	6558 (8)	430811 (277)

Figures in the bracket indicate number of households.

Distribution of Village Income from different sources according to Operational Land Holdings-- 1962.  
(In rupees)

Operational Holdings- Size group (in ac.)	No. of H.H.	Sources of Income.										Misc. Total.		
		Agriculture.	Livestock.	Arts & Crafts.	Trade & Commerce.	Transport.	Services.	Profession & Jobs.	Salaried labour wages.	Casual labour wages.	Rent from land.		Pension & Gratuity.	
Landless	70	--	563	14182	33434	33725	1800	1800	2765	--	540	1800	3100	93709
Below 1.00	152	12854	4663	37773	81712	71569	27436	6154	5695	230	888	1200	1859	252083
1--2.50	21	9683	1583	13	2000	1260	2772	555	1269	--	--	504	1200	20839
2.50-5	22	14908	1273	1733	3956	5360	6480	900	1200	--	924	--	399	37133
5--7.50	8	9976	980	6	840	--	1200	40	195	--	--	--	--	13237
7.50-10	2	3350	375	--	4200	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	9935
10--15	2	3816	355	--	1110	--	--	--	--	--	--	600	--	5881
<b>TOTAL:</b>	277	<b>54887</b>	9792	53707	127252	111914	39688	9449	11124	280	2352	4104	6558	430807

ANNUAL EXPENDITURE IN DIFFERENT HEADS, ACCORDING TO OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES.

YEAR--1952

Occupation	No. of H. H.	Food		Drinking and Intoxicants	Education	Medical	Ceremonials and Entertainment.	Clothing and Footwear	*Miscellaneous.	Total
		Cereals	Non-Cereals							
1	23	23,867.88	12,156.03	335.76	219.00	2,323.00	653.00	1,891.00	1,777.74	46,333.44
2	4	3,261.00	1,299.05	51.00	20.00	--	80.00	212.00	293.00	5,216.05
3	113	7,733.88	2,367.64	149.88	--	218.00	245.00	587.00	987.76	12,239.16
4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sub-total	48	37,862.76	15,822.75	536.64	339.00	2,541.00	978.00	2,690.00	3,053.50	63,828.65
5	20	15,383.88	10,274.88	222.36	245.00	475.00	430.00	1,580.00	1,573.76	30,184.88
6	17	13,375.44	9,468.48	281.28	1,397.00	1,010.00	426.00	1,859.00	1,381.28	29,198.48
7	X									
8	X									
9	X									
Sub-total:	46	34,858.32	23,535.24	602.64	1,872.00	1,690.00	1,101.00	4,217.00	3,317.04	71,193.24
Grand total:	94	72,721.08	39,357.99	1,139.28	2,211.00	4,231.00	2,079.00	6,907.00	6,375.54	135,021.89

\*Miscellaneous' includes Fuel & Lighting, Luxuries, Miscellaneous and Washing Soap, etc. as shown separately in 1962 Statement. In old report of Chotahaibar, these have not been traced separately.

## ANNUAL EXPENDITURE IN DIFFERENT HEADS, ACCORDING TO OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES 1962-

Occupation	No. of H.H.	(In Rupees)										Total	
		Food Cereals	Non-cereals	Drinking and Intoxicants.	Education	Medical	Ceremonials & Entertainment.	Clothing and Footwear	Fuel & Lighting	Luxuries	Washing Soap etc.		Misc.
1	32	24359.00	14870.25	3963.75	1134.00	3328.00	2498.00	3119.50	2818.46	92.50	1456.91	304.25	57944.62
2	12	6977.50	3953.75	1345.50	320.00	246.00	372.00	885.00	889.50	28.00	457.50	82.00	15556.75
3	16	8865.00	5401.34	1072.50	1115.00	397.00	344.00	1059.00	1364.19	28.00	573.75	15.00	19234.78
4	6	4656.00	5382.00	7767.50	625.00	380.00	1741.00	817.00	401.25	30.00	330.00	172.75	15602.50
Sub-total	66	44857.50	29907.34	7149.25	2194.00	4351.00	4955.00	5383.50	5473.40	178.50	2818.16	574.00	108338.65
5	29	21414.00	20805.00	4047.00	721.00	2815.00	3288.00	3709.00	3254.00	138.00	1528.50	219.50	61939.00
6	77	58123.00	40777.25	9574.25	3146.00	6147.00	4133.00	11667.00	7961.60	439.00	3787.25	678.75	146434.00
7	17	10950.00	10210.00	1605.50	1045.00	1050.00	1237.00	2655.00	1405.00	134.00	823.50	170.00	31285.50
8	83	49633.00	34142.75	8833.25	1760.00	4299.00	2653.00	8619.25	8325.44	381.00	3742.00	1221.25	123614.94
9	5	3850.00	936.00	132.00	155.00	155.00	100.00	250.00	150.00	--	195.00	--	5923.00
Sub-total	211	143970.00	106371.50	24192.00	6827.00	14466.00	11416.00	26900.25	21095.94	1092.00	10076.25	2889.50	369196.44
Grand total	277	188827.50	136778.84	31341.25	9021.00	18817.00	16371.00	32780.75	26569.34	1270.50	12894.41	2863.50	477535.09

APP.27.

## STATEMENT VI.6

CHOTAHAIBAR

ANNUAL EXPENDITURE IN DIFFERENT HEADS ACCORDING TO COMMUNITIES-1962  
(Value in Rupees)

Head of Expenditure.	Assamese Hindu		Immigrant Hindu		Immigrant Muslim	
	Value	Percentage	Value	Percentage	Value	Percentage.
1.Cereals-- Home produced.	8,460.00	17.41	2,386.00	0.85	12,377.00	8.41
2.Cereals-- Purchased	7,621.00	15.68	110,954.00	39.38	47,029.50	31.95
3.Non-cereals	13,877.76	28.56	83,019.50	29.46	39,881.53	27.10
Sub-total of food.	29,958.76	61.65	196,359.50	69.69	99,288.08	67.46
4.Fuel and Lighting	2,099.70	4.32	16,797.04	5.96	7,672.60	5.21
5.Drinking and Intoxicants	2,497.00	5.14	17,908.50	6.36	10,935.75	7.43
6.Washing soap etc.	1,144.50	2.36	7,638.75	2.71	4,111.16	2.79
7.Entertainment	2,040.00	4.20	2,649.00	0.94	972.00	0.66
8.Ceremonials	1,700.00	3.50	5,064.00	1.80	3,946.00	2.68
9.Education	1,994.00	4.10	4,657.00	1.65	2,370.00	1.61
10.Medical	3,504.00	7.21	10,292.00	3.65	5,021.00	3.41
11.Clothing	2,493.00	5.13	16,830.00	5.97	10,800.00	7.34
12.Foot-wear	234.50	0.48	1,520.25	0.54	903.00	0.61
13.Luxuries	129.00	0.27	728.00	0.26	413.50	0.28
14.Misc.	798.25	1.64	1,309.00	0.47	756.25	0.52
Total .....	48,592.71	100.00	281,753.04	100.00	147,189.34	100.00

## STATEMENT VI.7

CHOTAHATBAR

## RURAL INDEBTEDNESS BY KINDS AND OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES 1956 AND 1962.

(In rupees)

Occupational Class.	For period ending 1956				For period ending 1962			
	Old Debt		Current Debt		Old Debt		Current Debt	
	Kind	Total	Kind	Total	Kind	Total	Kind	Total
	Cash	Total	Cash	Total	Cash	Total	Cash	Total
Water cultivators	5636.00	5636.00	1360.00	1360.00	4870.00	4870.00	8440.00	8440.00
Permanent cultivators	1560.00	1560.00	190.00	190.00	2650.00	2650.00	890.00	890.00
Agri. labour	325.00	325.00	250.00	250.00	350.00	350.00	815.00	815.00
Grant receiver	--	--	--	--	3000.00	3000.00	3000.00	3000.00
<b>Total:</b>	7521.00	7521.00	1800.00	1800.00	10870.00	10870.00	13145.00	13145.00
Production other than Agri.	9650.00	9650.00	1450.00	1450.00	6330.00	6330.00	3379.74	3379.74
Trade, Commerce & Transport.	8775.00	8775.00	100.00	100.00	3506.00	3506.00	10198.50	10198.50
Unskilled jobs	--	--	--	--	3810.00	3810.00	400.00	400.00
Profession & services.	2445.00	2445.00	700.00	700.00	5400.00	5400.00	5366.25	5366.25
Misc.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Total</b>	20870.00	20870.00	2250.00	2250.00	15236.00	15236.00	19294.49	19294.49
<b>and total</b>	28391	28391	4050	4050	113231	113231	32439.49	32439.49

Figures in the brackets are actual number of Indebted Households.

APP.29.

STATEMENT VI.8

CHOTAHAIIBAR.

LOANS TAKEN BY DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES ACCORDING TO PURPOSE--FOR THE  
PERIOD 1956--1962.

(In rupees)

Different Purposes	Assamese Hindu	Immigrant Hindu	Immigrant Muslim	Total
1. Consumption	1,407.00 (10)	6,018.87 (46)	4,995 (35)	12,420.87 (91)
2. Business and industries	7,000.00 (2)	53,322.74 (81)	17,881.50 (20)	78,204.24 (103)
3. House Building and Repairing	1,500.00 (1)	35,725.00 (18)	1,340.00 (4)	38,565.00 (23)
4. Agricultural	150.00 (1)	--	1,180.00 (7)	1,330.00 (8)
5. Marriage	520.00 (3)	1,040.00 (3)	--	1,560.00 (6)
6. Medical	2,000.00 (1)	300.00 (1)	--	2,300.00 (2)
7. Purchase of cow and Bullock.	400.00 (2)	--	370.00 (2)	770.00 (4)
8. Purchase of land	2,800.00 (2)	--	800.00 (2)	3,600.00 (4)
9. Clearance of Old Debt and Mortgaged land.	250.00 (1)	2,400.00 (2)	2,600.00 (2)	5,250.00 (5)
10. Disturbance loan	--	4,325.00 (12)	--	4,325.00 (12)
11. Others	--	12,089.75 (23)	1,440.00 (12)	13,529.75 (35)
TOTAL:	16,027.00 (23)	115,221.36 (186)	30,606.50 (84)	161,854.86 (293)

Figures in the brackets are number of loans.

APP.30.

## STATEMENT VI.9.

CHOTAHAIBAR

Sale and Purchase of Capital Assets during the period 1950-56 by  
Occupational Class

(In rupees)

Occupational Group	Sale			Purchase		
	Land	Livestock	Total	Land	Livestock	Total
1	17,648.00	242.00	17,890.00	14,710.00	777.00	15,487.00
2	350.00	--	350.00	--	200.00	200.00
3	3,370.00	10.00	3,380.00	300.00	155.00	455.00
4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sub-total	21,368.00	252.00	21,620.00	15,010.00	1,132.00	16,142.00
5	160.00	--	160.00	8,003.00	41.00	8,044.00
6	11,455.00	104.00	11,559.00	6,200.00	380.00	6,580.00
7	X					
8	X					
9	X					
Sub-total	14,615.00	104.00	14,719.00	19,713.00	501.00	20,214.00
Grand total	35,983.00	356.00	36,339.00	34,723.00	1633.00	36,356.00



Sale and Purchase of Capital Assets during the period 1956-62 by Occupational Class.  
(In rupees)

Occupational Group.	Sale								Total
	Land	Livestock	Machinery etc.	Building	Jewellery etc.	Others			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	
1	20,500.00	1,751.00	--	--	--	--	22,251.00		
2	1,000.00	285.00	--	--	--	--	1,285.00		
3	3,775.00	440.00	--	--	70.00	--	4,285.00		
4	1,425.00	--	--	--	--	--	1,425.00		
Sub-total:	26,700.00	2,476.00	--	--	70.00	--	29,246.00		
5	2,500.00	727.00	397.00	250.00	--	17.00	3,891.00		
6	26,600.00	2,830.00	--	200.00	700.00	--	30,330.00		
7	660.00	404.00	--	--	72.00	--	1,136.00		
8	--	293.00	100.00	363.00	388.00	105.00	1,249.00		
9	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		
Sub-total	29,760.00	4,254.00	497.00	813.00	1,160.00	122.00	36,606.00		
Grand total:	56,460.00	6,730.00	497.00	813.00	1,230.00	122.00	65,852.00		

(Contd.....)

CHOTAHAIBAR

STATEMENT VI.10 (Contd....)

Occupational Group	P u r c h a s e							Total
	Land	Livestock	Machinery etc.	Building	Jewellery etc.	Investments in P.O.Bank, L.I.C. (C.)	Others	
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	8,070.00	4,115.00	250.00	7,539.00	650.00	--	--	20,624.00
2	1,000.00	591.00	--	2,800.00	--	--	--	5,391.00
3	820.00	277.50	--	370.00	--	--	--	1,467.50
4	1,000.00	--	--	300.00	--	--	--	1,300.00
Sub-total:	10,890.00	4,983.50	250.00	12,009.00	650.00	--	--	28,782.50
5	13,900.00	730.00	11,175.00	18,000.00	1,125.00	2,000.00	1,594.00	48,524.00
6	25,759.00	1,365.00	5,965.00	27,770.00	664.00	612.37	1,380.00	63,515.37
7	4,300.00	--	900.00	9,700.00	1,897.00	120.20	416.00	17,333.20
8	18,166.00	107.00	4,901.00	18,950.00	720.00	2,500.00	1,039.00	46,383.00
9	1,100.00	--	--	1,000.00	--	--	100.00	2,200.00
Sub-total:	63,225.00	2,202.00	22,941.00	75,420.00	4,406.00	5,232.57	4,529.00	1,177,955.57
Grand-total:	74,115.00	7,185.50	23,191.00	87,429.00	5,056.00	5,232.57	4,529.00	806,738.07

Sale and Purchase of Capital Assets during the period 1956-62 according to Operational Holdings.

Operational Holdings (Size in Ac)	No. of H.H.	Sale						Total
		Land	Livestock	Machinery etc.	Building	Jewellery etc.	Others	
Handless	70	--	137.00	35.00	--	127.00	--	299.00
Below 1.00	152	25,310.00	8,723.00	452.00	513.00	1,053.00	122.00	31,253.00
1.00-2.50	21	8,800.00	808.00	--	200.00	70.00	--	9,878.00
2.50-5.00	22	6,350.00	1,172.00	--	--	--	--	7,522.00
5.00-7.50	8	3,200.00	--	--	--	--	--	3,200.00
7.50-10.00	2	2,500.00	--	--	--	--	--	2,500.00
10.00-15.00	2	9,300.00	850.00	--	--	--	--	10,150.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>56,460.00</b>	<b>6,730.00</b>	<b>497.00</b>	<b>813.00</b>	<b>1,230.00</b>	<b>122.00</b>	<b>65,852.00</b>

Figures in the brackets are percentage of total.

contd.....

Occupational Holdings (Size in Ac.)	P u r c h a s e							Total.
	Land	Livestock	Machinery etc.	Building	Jewellery etc.	Investments	Others	
Landless	4,975.00	460.00	8,535.00	9,300.00	670.00	1,000.00	200.00	25,140.00 (12.16)
Below 1.00	55,195.00	1,847.50	13,906.00	65,529.00	3,411.00	3,832.57	4,087.00	1,47,808.07 (71.50)
1.00--2.50	1,425.00	1,272.00	250.00	5,000.00	---	400.00	242.00	8,589.00 (4.15)
2.50--5.00	3,250.00	2,156.00	250.00	4,500.00	725.00	---	---	10,881.00 (5.26)
5.00--7.50	3,400.00	550.00	250.00	100.00	250.00	---	---	4,550.00 (2.20)
7.50--10.00	3,300.00	340.00	---	---	---	---	---	3,640.00 (1.76)
10.00--15.00	2,570.00	560.00	---	3,000.00	---	---	---	6,130.00 (2.97)
TOTAL:	74,115.00	7,185.50	23,191.00	87,129.00	5,056.00	5,232.57	4,529.00	2,06,738.07 (100.00)

Figures in the brackets are percentage of total.

APP.34.

STATEMENT VI. 12

CHOTAHAIBAR.

Sale and Purchase of Capital Assets during the period 1956-62 According to the Different Communities

(In rupees)

Head of Assets	Sale/Purchase (S/P)	Assamese Hindu	Immigrant Hindu	Immigrant Muslim	Total.
Land	S	5,260.00	12,150.00	39,050.00	56,460.00 (85.74)
	P	5,645.00	44,575.00	23,895.00	74,115.00 (35.85)
Livestock	S	1,284.00	1,460.00	3,986.00	6,730.00 (10.22)
	P	1,618.00	1,242.00	4,325.50	7,185.50 (3.43)
Machinery etc.	S	--	100.00	397.00	497.00 (0.75)
	P	50.00	16,636.00	6,455.00	23,191.00 (11.22)
Building	S	--	813.00	--	813.00 (1.23)
	P	5,000.00	66,795.00	15,634.00	87,429.00 (42.39)
Jewellery, etc.	S	--	1,158.00	72.00	1,230.00 (1.87)
	P	1,100.00	2,374.00	1,582.00	5,056.00 (2.44)
Others	S	--	105.00	17.00	122.00 (0.19)
	P	170.00	3,459.00	900.00	4,529.00 (2.19)
Investments	P	--	3,571.87	1,660.70	5,232.57 (2.53)
Total	S	6,544.00 (9.94)	15,786.00 (23.97)	48,522.00 (66.09)	65,852.00 (100.00)
	P	13,583.00 (6.57)	138,702.87 (67.09)	54,452.20 (26.34)	206,738.07 (100.00)

NOTE: S indicates Sale.

P indicates Purchase.

Figures in the brackets are percentage of total.

## Distribution of Residential Units by Nature of Construction--1962.

Ownership group	Brick wall, & C.I. Sheet roof & Pucca floor.	Brick wall, C.I. Sheet roof and Katcha floor.	Brick wall Thatched roof and Katcha floor.	Reed wall C.I. Sheet roof and Katcha floor.	Reed wall Thatched roof and Katcha floor.	No. of H.H.
1. One Unit house-holds	2	6	1	79	118	206
2. Two unit house-holds	--	2	--	22	76	50
3. Three unit house-holds.	--	--	--	8	37	15
4. Four unit house-holds.	--	--	--	4	8	3
5. Five or more unit households	--	--	--	--	5	1
TOTAL:	2	8	1	113*	244	275

\* Includes 24 units with Kerosene oil tin roofing.

STATEMENT VII.2  
 Distribution of Residential Buildings by Nature of Construction (Communitywise)  
 1962.

CHOTAHATBAR

Community	Number No. of Units	Brick walls, C.I. Sheet roofs and Pucca floor	Brick walls, C.I. Sheet roofs and Katcha floor	Brick walls, thatched roofs & Katcha floor	Reed Katcha walls, C.I. Sheet roofs & Katcha floor.	Reed Katcha walls, thatched roofs, & katcha floor.	Total.
Assamese Hindu		--	--	--	7	27	34
Immigrant Hindu		2	8	1	78	86	175
Immigrant Muslim		--	--	--	28	131	159
TOTAL		2	8	1	113	244	368

## Durable Consumer goods by occupational classes, 1956

Occn Items	Owner cultivation	Tenant cultivation	Agri. labour	Sub-total of Agri.	Production other than Agri.	Trade Commerce and Transport	Salaried jobs	Profession & services	Misc.	Sub-Total	Grand Total
1. Sewing Machine	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	2
2. Bi-cycle	1	-	-	1	2	3	-	1	-	6	7
3. Bullock cart	5	1	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	1	7
4. Brass Utensils	9	1	-	10	11	5	-	-	-	16	26
5. Lantern	33	4	6	43	38	19	-	10	-	67	110
6. Torch light	18	2	1	21	15	10	-	-	-	30	51
7. Oil stove	1	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
8. Petromax	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
9. Table	29	-	-	29	10	21	-	19	-	50	79
10. Chair	55	-	-	55	17	23	-	26	-	63	121
11. Wooden Bedstead	74	1	3	78	44	37	-	18	-	99	177
12. Carpais	2	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	1	3
13. Almirah	1	-	-	1	2	2	-	2	-	6	7
14. Clock & watch	4	-	-	4	1	4	-	5	-	10	14
15. Fountain Pen	10	-	-	10	2	9	-	7	-	18	28



Durable Consumer Goods by Occupational Classes, 1932.

APP.38

Items	Occupation	Owner cultivation	Tenant cultivation.	Agrl. labour	Agrl. Rent receiver.	Sub-total of Agrl.	Producti- on other than Agrl.	Trade, Commerce and transport	Salaried jobs	Profession and services	Misc.	Sub-total of Agrl.	Grand total.
1. Sewing machines.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	-	-	6	6
2. Bi-cycle	3	2	2	1	5	10	2	16	6	7	-	31	41
3. Bullock Cart	6	1	1	-	-	8	-	3	-	-	-	3	11
4. Crockery	65	12	12	-	90	1177	138	209	116	197	12	672	839
5. Brass utensils	140	20	20	25	107	292	201	416	136	349	20	1122	1414
6. Lantern	35	12	12	11	11	59	40	97	24	90	3	254	323
7. Torch	8	2	2	2	4	16	9	31	8	26	-	74	90
8. Oil Stove	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	3	-	7	7
9. Petromax	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	3	-	1	-	5	8
10. Table	25	5	5	1	22	53	11	41	27	37	1	116	169
11. Chair	55	7	7	4	26	92	19	73	36	48	1	177	269
12. Wooden Bed Stead.	54	11	11	9	8	82	53	113	36	69	4	275	357
13. Charpals	3	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	3	-	-	3	6
14. Almirah	1	-	-	1	3	7	2	8	11	12	-	35	42
15. Clock & watch	1	-	-	-	5	6	6	13	11	11	-	41	47
16. Fountain pen	19	2	2	1	13	35	14	51	24	35	-	124	159
17. Gramophone	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
18. Radio	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	2
19. Buckets	57	22	22	20	18	117	53	149	37	135	3	377	494
20. Kettle	7	7	7	1	8	23	17	40	14	38	-	109	132

## Monthly Per Capita Consumption of Food Articles by occupational Classes, 1952.

CHOTAHAIBAR

Items (Food Articles)	Unit (Kg/of Rs. worth)	O C C U P A T I O N										Total
		Owner culti- vation	Tenant Culti- vation	Agricul- tural Labour	Rent Receiver	Produc- tion other than Agrl.	Trade, Commerce & Trans- port	Salaried jobs	Profes- sion & services	Miscella- neous		
1. Rice	Kg.	13.53	15.33	13.06	14.77	13.59	12.36	13.06	14.20	12.60	13.75	
2. Other Cereals	"	1.50	1.34	--	1.79	1.45	1.16	1.27	0.90	1.12	1.15	
3. Pulses	"	0.84	0.93	0.55	1.71	1.14	2.76	0.57	0.49	0.98	0.81	
4. Vegetables (Potatoes, Onion, Green Vegetables, etc.)	Of Rs. Worth	2.08	1.81	1.35	1.56	2.71	1.47	1.33	1.13	0.75	1.50	
5. Fish	"	1.10	2.20	0.50	1.25	1.11	1.35	1.23	0.83	0.53	1.07	
6. Eggs & Meat	"	0.30	0.37	0.10	0.50	0.11	0.24	0.40	0.20	--	0.16	
7. Milk & Dahi	Kg.	1.50	1.90	--	1.17	1.81	0.74	1.17	0.57	--	0.87	
8. Sugar	"	0.51	0.47	0.30	0.78	0.60	0.42	0.53	0.50	--	0.45	
9. Grr	"	0.05	1.17	0.19	0.16	0.70	0.88	0.13	0.04	0.55	0.31	
10. Mustard Oil	"	0.41	0.24	0.37	0.31	0.34	0.24	0.27	0.27	0.23	0.29	
11. Salt	"	0.44	0.65	0.75	0.51	0.52	0.50	0.50	0.71	0.61	0.66	
12. Tea Leaves	"	0.07	0.03	0.05	0.17	0.09	0.07	0.08	0.06	0.07	0.08	

**AGRO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE  
FOR NORTH EAST INDIA,  
JORHAT.**

List of Research Projects completed upto December, 1965.

**A. VILLAGE STUDIES:**

Sl.No.	Name of Villages	District and State	Forces of Change
--------	------------------	--------------------	------------------

**(A) FIRST POINT VILLAGE SURVEYS.**

- |    |   |                               |                                 |
|----|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Kanther Terang<br>(Report on Socio-Economic Survey of a Mikir village)            | U. Mikir & N.C. Hills, Assam. | Urban impact on a Jhum Village. |
| 2. | Kathaliacherra<br>(Report on Socio-Economic Survey of Jhumia Settlement)          | Tripura                       | Jhumia colonisation scheme.     |
| 3. | Morangaon<br>(Report on Socio-Economic Survey of a village in Brahmaputra valley) | Sibsagar, Assam               | Minor Irrigation Project.       |

**(B) VILLAGE RESURVEYS:**

- |    |  |                 |                                   |
|----|--|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Dispur<br>(A study of Socio-Economic changes in a village near Gauhati)      | Kamrup, Assam   | Urban Impact in a Tribal Village. |
| 2. | Chotahaibar<br>(A study of Socio-Economic changes in a village near Nowgong) | Nowgong, Assam. | Urban Impact and Immigration.     |

**B. AD-HOC STUDIES.**

- | Sl.No. | <u>Name of the Study</u>   | <u>Nature of Study</u>                          |
|--------|--|---|
| 1.     | State Trading in Paddy in Assam                                      | Based on Official data and Field Investigation. |
| 2.     | Changing pattern of Village Leadership in North East India.          | Case study in Six villages.                     |
| 3.     | Changes in conditions of Agricultural Labour.                        | Case study in Three villages.                   |
| 4.     | Assessment and Evaluation of Cooperative Farming Societies in Assam. | Case Study of Five Farming Societies.           |
| 5.     | Working of Fair Price Shops for Foodgrains in Assam.                 | Case Study of shops in Gauhati and Jorhat.      |
| 6.     | Farmers' Response to Improved Agricultural Practices under I.A.D.P.  | Case Study of 100 Farmers in Cachar District.   |
| 7.     | Agricultural Prices in North East India.                             | Based on official data.                         |

STAFF OF THE AGRO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE FOR NORTH EAST  
INDIA, JORHAT, AS IN NOVEMBER, 1965.

<u>Designation</u>		<u>Name</u>
Director	... ..	Dr. Prabhas Chandra Goswami.
Research Officers	... ..	Padma Dhar Saikia. Niranjan Saha.
Senior Research Investigators	... ..	Chandra Kanta Bora. Debasish Gohain. Heramba Prasad Khound.
Junior Research Investigators	... ..	Murulidhar Barkotoky. Durgeswar Saikia. Dharma Kanta Buragohain. Poresh Chandra Dutta.
Senior Computers	... ..	Khagendra Nath Bordoloi. Durgeswar Bora.
Accountant	... ..	Ajit Kumar Bora.
Stenographer	... ..	V. N. Narayana Menon.
Office Assistant	... ..	Kamaleswar Bora.
Typist	... ..	Akshoy Kumar Chakraborty.
Driver	... ..	Dewram Bora.
Peons	... ..	Hemadhar Gogoi. Tickraj Chetri Narendra Nath Deka.
Night Chowkidar	... ..	Narayan Dutta.

Indian Village Studies:  
Village Resurvey No. 2.

For Restricted Circulation

SUMMARY OF  
CHOTAHAIBAR  
A Study of Socio-Economic Changes  
in  
a Village in Assam  
(1956-1962)

Padma Dhar Saikia.

AGRO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH CENTRE FOR NORTH EAST INDIA  
JORHAT : ASSAM  
1965.

## SUMMARY OF CHOTAHAIBAR.

### 1. Introductory.

1.1. The first point survey of the village Chotahaibar (situated near Nowgong Town, Assam) was conducted by the Agro-Economic Research Centre for ~~India~~ + India, Santiniketan, in December 1956. The resurvey was undertaken by the Jorhat Centre during March to May 1962. The village was selected to study the impact of a growing town on the socio-economic life of the villagers in the neighbourhood. During the last decade, the village has been greatly influenced by another important force of change, viz., the continuous inflow of immigrants from East Pakistan.

1.2. Due to the expansion of Nowgong town, the major portion of the village has become almost a part of the town itself. On account of the cosmopolitan character of the population, the important characteristics of an average village of Assam are not found in this village. From the very outlook one can feel that the village is passing through a transitional stage by losing its rural character very fast. Chotahaibar presents an ideal fringe society with cultural complex of both rural and urban society.

### 2. Changes in Demography.

2.1. The location of the village, just near a district headquarter town with fertile land and ample facilities for trade has attracted Muslim immigrants and Hindu refugees from East Bengal (now East Pakistan). The presence of a sizable number of Bengali immigrants (both Muslims and Hindus) in the district headquarter (and in the district as a whole) must have been an important factor to encourage the immigrants to take settlement in a village near the town. Within a period of 5 years and 4 months, since the first point survey to resurvey, the number of households increased from 94 to 277. During the same period, 20 original households

emigrated from the village. Six new households came into being due to separation. Thus it is evident that during 1956-62, 203 new immigrant households have settled down in the village. In addition, there were 6 households of temporary settlers in the village.

2.2. Most of the Hindu Households have come directly to the village in recent years (i.e. after the partition of the country) from East Bengal. Some of the refugees have come from other places of Assam where they found their living difficult in those areas. Majority of the Muslim households are immigrants in pre-partition days although a large number of them have come to the village only after 1956. The immigration into the village is still continuing. At the time of first point survey there were only 33 households of immigrant Hindus; the number increased to 162 at the time of resurvey. Similarly the immigrant Muslim households increased from 42 to 92. The original inhabitant, Assamese Hindu households, increased from 19 to 23 due to partition and immigration.

2.3. At the time of first point survey Chotahaibar had a population of 600 persons and at the time of resurvey 1,779, persons an increase of 1,179 persons, (954 males and 825 females) 196.5 per cent over the original. This gives a growth rate of 36.8 per cent per annum. The real cause of rapid increase is the heavy influx of immigrants into the village. As the birth and death record of the village is not properly maintained it is not easy to calculate the natural growth rate. But by comparing the population of the original households at the two points of time the natural growth rate comes to 1.7 per cent per annum. Basing on the data on the excess of births over death of the original households, the annual natural increase is found to be 3.06 per cent per annum. The increase is higher among the immigrant Muslims. The death rate in the village is declining

appreciably.

2.4. The average size of a family is somewhat larger. At the first point survey the average size of a household was 6.38 and at the time of resurvey it was 6.42. Nuclear families are found to be highest in both the counts.

2.5. The popular age group for marriage amongst men is 25 to 30 years and amongst women 15 to 20 years. The number of widowed persons and divorced women increased considerably. Bigamy was prevalent at the time of first point survey and at the time of re-survey also there were 4 persons having 2 wives each. Some of the original Assamese inhabitants introduced certain simple marriage ceremonies in place of elaborate Brahminical rites.

2.6. In the year 1956, the percentage of literacy in the village was 31.0 and in 1962 it has increased to 36.2. The villagers could not avail the facilities of the higher education in the nearby town. At the time of re-survey there were only two graduates in the village. No one in the village has received any technical education. The percentage of literacy among the females is much lower than males. There is not a single woman in the village with education of Matriculation standard. The percentage of children attending school in the village, is also disappointing and at the time of resurvey no improvement on this regard is noticed.

### 3. Changes in Economic Status and Occupation Structure.

3.1. The percentage of dependents or non-workers remained the same at the two points of time. (69.00% in 1956 and 69.40 in 1962). Only significant change noticed in the economic status of the population is the increase of female workers at the time of resurvey. The percentage of female workers is highest amongst the Assamese Hindus and lowest amongst the immigrant Muslims. Some of the Bengali Hindu women also take part in gainful economic activities. Even in the age group of 10-14 years and above 60 years, there



are some workers. On the average there are 2 workers per family.

3.2. At the time of resurvey, the percentage of households dependent on non-agricultural occupations has increased greatly. In 1956 51 per cent of the households were dependent on agriculture and the rest on non-agricultural occupations. In 1962 only 23 per cent of the households were dependent on agriculture and rest 77 per cent on non-agricultural occupations. Majority of the households settled in the village after 1956 have taken up non-agricultural occupations. The original Assamese inhabitants are still dependent on agriculture. The immigrant Muslims also prefer agriculture but many of them are engaged in other occupations. The immigrant Hindus prefer non-agricultural occupations and are mainly engaged in petty trade, shop keeping, and weaving. Many of the households, however, combine both agriculture and non-agricultural occupations.

#### 4. Changes in Economic Resources.

4.1. In 1956, the average size of land holding per household was only 2.05 acres which was undoubtedly uneconomic holding. In 1962 the average size of holding per household has decreased to 1.04 acres. Per capita land holding in 1956, was 0.32 acres which has decreased to 0.22 acres in 1962. The number of landless households has increased from 9 (9.57 per cent) in 1956 to 76 (27.45 per cent) in 1962. Majority of the landless households are newcomers to the village. Both in 1956 and 1962 there was not a single household possessing above 15 acres of land. At the time of first point survey only 13 households (13.48%), and at the time of resurvey 19 households (6.85%) possessed land between 5 to 15 acres. The average size of holdings is highest among the Assamese Hindus, medium amongst the immigrant Hindus and at the time of resurvey the same order is

retained though the average size of holding is decreased in all cases. During 1956 to 1962, 30 households of the village have sold 25.62 acres of land and 63 households have purchased 22.55 acres.

4.2. For the abnormal increase in the number of households, the operational holdings per household has decreased to 0.88 acres in 1962 from that of 1.99 in 1956. This indicates the acute scarcity of land in the village. But it is interesting to note that 9 households have leased out about 25 acres of land to outsiders. The households in agricultural occupation have higher sizes of operational holdings than those in non-agricultural occupations. Though the net area sown has increased significantly at the time of re-survey, the total cropped area remained almost the same. This has happened for the fact that the area sown more than once has decreased considerably at the time of resurvey.

4.3. Though the quality remained the same, the number of domestic animals and poultry birds have increased considerably in 1962. The villagers have not taken any initiative in procuring improved type of cattle or poultry birds. Only the Muslims keep poultry with commercial motive. Majority of the livestock is owned by the Muslims.

4.4. The type of tools and implements used by the villagers for agricultural purposes remained the same at the time of re-survey. No one has procured any improved agricultural implements. The immigrant weaver families have purchased certain costly looms during this period. The number of fly-shuttle and Chittaranjan type of looms increased from 32 in 1956 to 88 in 1962. The traditional throw shuttle looms are used by the Assamese Hindus and the number remained almost the same. No change in regard to the tools used by goldsmiths, black-smiths and carpenters is noticed.

5. Changes in the Levels of Inputs and Outputs.

5.1. Agriculture is a family occupation and no one has taken it up as an industry. So the input and output data is not recorded by the villagers. While the approximate input data on fertilizers, seeds, hired labour and implements is collected, the main input, family labour in man-days devoted to agriculture could not be collected. The output data are also approximate and based on the verbal statements of the informants. Rice is the main crop and different varieties of vegetables are also grown. Jute is the main cash crop and the income received from this crop is very substantial. The acreage under paddy remained almost the same at the time of resurvey. The acreage under jute and vegetables have increased significantly. A section of Hindu immigrant settlers have introduced a new method of growing betel-leaves (Pan) on a large scale. Paddy output per acre has decreased from 17.28 maunds in 1956 to 15.11 in 1962. The yield per acre of jute and sugarcane remained almost the same. It may be noted that the villagers have not taken up any improved method of cultivation. Chemical fertilizers are used in vegetable cultivation by a few households only. The residual income per household from agriculture has decreased from Rs. 919.68 in 1956 to Rs. 620.74 in 1962.

5.2. The percentage of sale of eggs and milk in 1962 has increased considerably. The income from other livestock products has also increased, but the income from this sources is very negligible. The yield of milk per cattle per day was 1.5 lbs in 1956 and in 1962 it has not improved at all.

5.3. Weaving occupy most important place in the economy of the village and it is the primary occupation of a section of immigrant settlers. The households dependent on this occupation has increased from 13 households in 1956 to 22 in 1962. The volume of output has increased very greatly

in 1962. The income per household has increased from Rs. 1,027.07 in 1956 to 1,781.53 in 1962, and the annual average income per worker from Rs. 392.70 to Rs. 580.50.

6. The Changes in Economic Conditions.

6.1. In 1956, the income from agriculture including livestock formed only about 40 per cent of the total village income. In 1962 the income from this source has declined to about 15 per cent. On the other hand, there has been rapid increases of income from the non-agricultural sources since 1956.

6.2. Both the per capita and per household income has increased at the time of resurvey. Per household income for 1956 of Rs. 1,298.89 has increased to Rs.1,555.26 in 1962 and per capita income from Rs. 203.49 to Rs. 242.16. In case of the households in all the agricultural occupations, the income per household has increased slightly but the per capita income has decreased in 1962. In the household with non-agricultural occupations, per capita and per household income has increased significantly in 1962. The average income per household in agricultural occupations, is much lower than the households in non-agricultural occupations. But some of the households in agricultural occupations derive substantial income from non-agricultural occupations and household in non-agricultural/derive some income from agriculture.

6.3. At the time of resurvey, the annual expenditure per household has increased to Rs. 1,723.95 from that of Rs 1,436.40 in 1956. The per capita expenditure has also increased to Rs. 268.43, from that of Rs. 225.40 of 1956. Thus the expenditure has increased by about Rs. 287.00 per household and Rs. 43.00 per capita. As a whole, the expenditure per household and per capita is comparatively lower in the households in agricultural occupations than those in the

non-agricultural occupations.

6.4. The average income and expenditure per household gives a very gloomy picture. The average deficit per household is **quite considerable in both the counts. In 1962, out of the 277 households 180 households had deficit family budgets of varying amounts. The rest 79 households had very little surplus budgets. The average expenditure is found to exceed income in all the three communities. The deficit is found to be highest among the Assamese Hindus who are the original settlers of the village. In the first point survey also majority of the households had deficit in their family budgets.**

6.5. ~~As the average expenditure per household exceeds average~~ income, the households must borrow money from some sources. In fact, the amount of loan taken by the villagers is very high and at the time of resurvey majority of the households in the village were found to be indebted. While the total indebtedness in the village was only Rs. 32,441.00 in 1956, the amount increased to Rs. 161,855.00 by 1962. The number of households incurring loan has increased in 1962. The amount of repayment is very negligible. As almost all the households are running in deficit budget, it is not possible for them to repay the loans in time.

6.6. The major source of loans is Government. Importance of Government agencies as supplier of credit has increased further since the first point survey. Refugee loans are issued to the immigrants mainly for purchasing land, constructing houses and establishing small scale industries. Other important sources of credit are Traders and money lenders, businessmen and friends and relatives. For the period of 1950-56, data on sale and purchase of livestock is only available.

6.7. During 1956-62 the volume of capital transactions increased to a very great extent. In that period the sale of land and livestock dominated the other items of sale. The highest amount is spent in building constructions. The amount

spent in purchasing land is also fairly high.

7. Changes in the Levels of Living.

7.1. In 1956, 4 families and in 1962 2 families did not own any housing units and lived in part houses with their relatives. Moreover, 28 immigrant families were living in rented houses at the time of resurvey. The number of persons per residential unit increased from 4.3 persons in 1956 to 4.8 persons in 1962. The residential accommodation available per household was 334.02 square feet and per capita 52.00 square feet in 1962. Data for 1956 on this aspect is not available. Within the period of the time between the first point survey and resurvey 11 modern type of houses were constructed in the village. All these modern houses are owned by the Immigrant Hindus. On the whole, the housing condition of the village has slightly improved at the time of resurvey.

7.2. The villagers do not possess very costly consumer goods. But at the time of resurvey they have acquired a number of goods like sewing machines, bicycles, oil-stoves, torch lights and radios, which are generally used by the urban people. The households in the non-agricultural occupations are much more inclined to adopt urban way of life than the farmers. The villagers are in the subsistence level of living and the standard of food is of very inferior type. The data on standard of food consumption for 1956 is not available but it is said that the standard of food has not improved at all at the time of resurvey. The standard of food is most inferior in the households in the occupations of Agricultural labour and in Miscellaneous groups.

8. Conclusions.

8.1. The Assamese Hindus who are the original inhabitants of the village are exposed to several exogenous forces, seem to have found it difficult to adjust themselves to the new situation. The economic condition of this section of people has not improved since the time of first point survey. On the other hand, the