

Ad-hoc Study No. 19

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Socio-Economic Conditions of
SMALL FARMERS MARGINAL FARMERS
and
AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS
(A Case Study in Goalpara District, Assam)

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PREFACE

1. This report on the socio-economic conditions of small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers embodies the results of a sample survey of 24 households of small farmers, 48 households of marginal farmers and 48 households of agricultural labourers selected randomly from 8 villages under 4 C.D. Blocks in the Goalpara District. The survey provides bench-mark data on these groups just before the implementation of a scheme for the development of small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers initiated by the State Government in four districts of Assam including the district of Goalpara which is covered by the present study.
2. The study shows that the 'Green Revolution' has touched only the fringe of the problems of technological diffusion for development of agriculture. The small and marginal farmers have actually remained outside the movement for technological change through adoption of HYV seeds. It is found that there is enough awareness among these groups of farmers about the potentiality of improved technology. But the resource endowments of these groups do not allow them to switch over to new technology. With external assistance in the form of provision for irrigation, supply of HYV seeds and fertilisers, assured prices and strengthening of extension services, the small and marginal farmers are expected to improve upon their present economic conditions through fuller utilisation of land and labour. The agricultural labourers will also be benefitted when there is more demand for labour in the economy. Nevertheless, their problems should require special attention. It is hoped that the results of the present survey will provide an insight into

the special problems of the three groups of underprivileged farmers. The **crux** of the problem is the extreme poverty of these groups of people and attempts should be made to expand their ~~assessments~~^{avenues} of income.

3. Like all other reports, the present one is also the joint product of the Centre. Special mention should be made of the services rendered by some of my colleagues. The field investigation was done jointly by Shri N. Saha, Research Officer and Shri P.C. Dutta, Senior Research Investigator who with the help of Shri Someswar Baruah, Senior Computer prepared the tables. The main burnt of typing is borne by Shri Kamal Borah, Typist. Shri Naren Deka, Gestetner operator ~~memi~~ographed the report.

4. Acknowledgements are due to the concerned Block Development Officers, Agricultural Extension Officers and Gramsevaks who gave unstinted cooperation to the investigating party. We are also thankful to the head of the sample households without whose cooperation this study would not have been possible.

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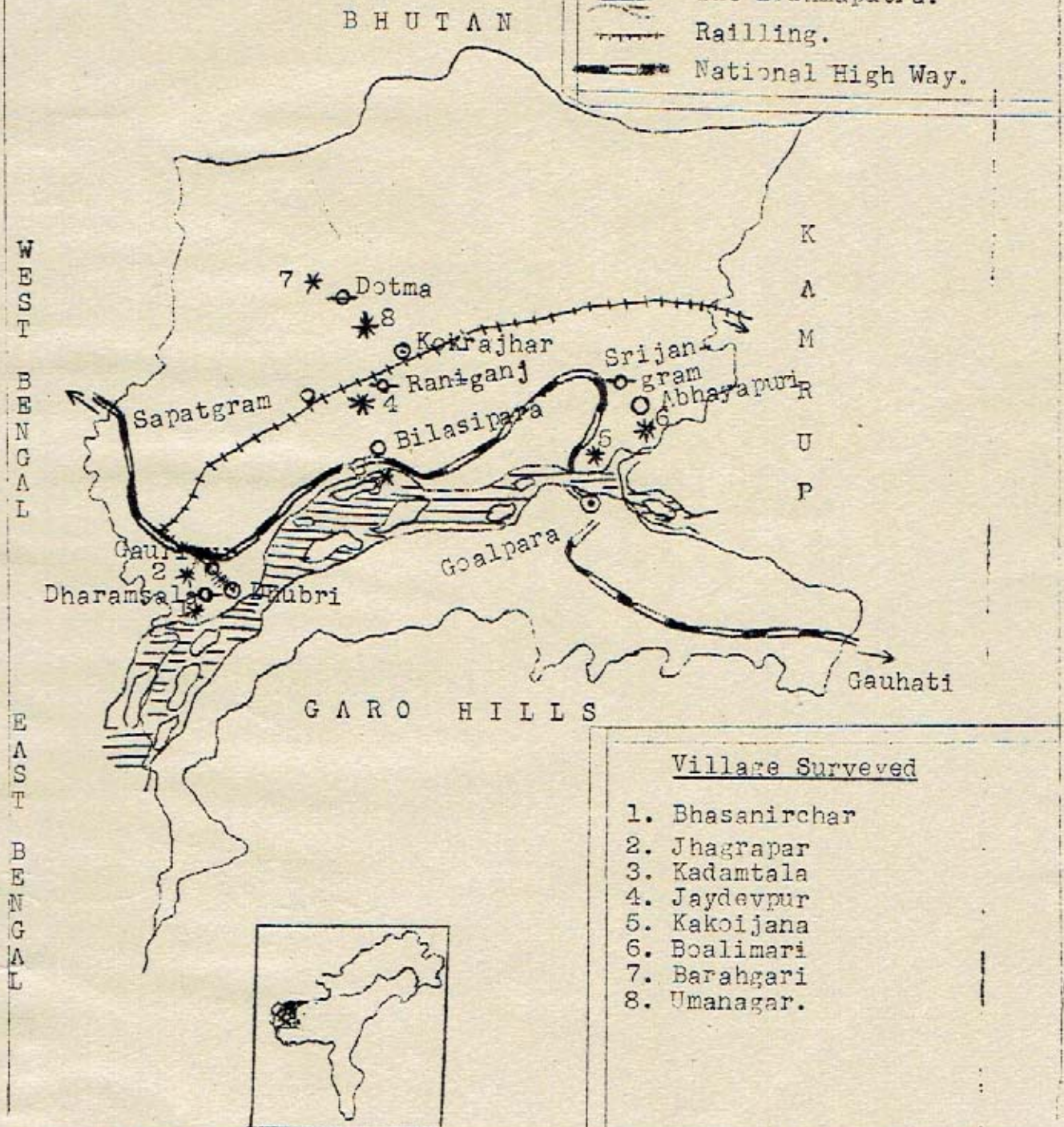
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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

The Problem :

1.1. The projects on the development of the small and marginal farmers stem from the operation of the new agricultural strategy based mainly on the HYV programme. It has been found from the experience gained through the implementation of this programme that farm structure greatly influences the adoption of new technologies associated with HYV seeds. The large farms are endowed with resources for adoption of the new technology due mainly to : (i) capacity to undertake risk and face uncertainties arising out of failures, (ii) Capacity for higher investment of capital and labour, (iii) Capacities for providing adequate security for credit from institutional agencies and (iv) Influence of big farmers over local administration, among others.

1.2. The level of adoption of new technology associated with HYV programme in Assam is slow and tardy. The reasons are not far to seek, there are certain built-in constraints against adoption of new technology in Assam. The farm structure is the most important single factor influencing adoption of new technology. Assam is the land of small farmers. The average farm-size comes to slightly higher than 5 acres. It has been found in an earlier study that about 61% of the 350 farms in five plains villages of Assam surveyed by the Agro-Economic Research Centre, Jorhat owns less than five acres of land¹. According to NSS sixteenth round (190-61) 74% of estimated number of operational holdings operating 45% of the area falls under 5 acres. This preponderance of small farms may be

1. Goswami, P.C. & Saikia, P.D. : Problems of Small Farmers in Assam. A.E.R. Centre.

the chief obstacle in the way of the spread of HYV seeds. Secondly, the HYV programme in Assam has remained in the pilot stage and is managed by the Agricultural department through the distribution of subsidised inputs-seeds and fertilisers to a selected group of farmers, who have access to the extension staff of the Blocks. Latest data on the area under HYV paddy and other crops are not available. The Government of Assam have set following target for implementation of HYV paddy in Assam for 1967-68 and 1968-69.

Year	Land under paddy	Target of HYV	P.C. of the cultivation area under paddy
1967-68	47,68,000	65,000	1.36
1968-69	47,68,000	1,71,990	3.61

1.3. The programme envisaged a selective approach on the basis of irrigational facilities. But irrigational facilities in Assam are meagre. According to the study on HYV programme² only 46 acres out of 733 acres under paddy (of 100 participant farmers selected for study) were found having controlled irrigation. On the basis of this information and observations in other areas, it can be guessed that not more than 10% of the paddy land in Assam is irrigated. This imposes a serious limitation in the way of adoption of HYV paddy.

1.4. The situation varies from district to district and among regions in the same district on the adoption of HYV seeds and improved technology. In Table 1.1 are given the area under HYV paddy in the three subdivisions of goalpara district.

2. Gohain, D. (1969) : Report on HYV programme in paddy in Sibsagar district, 1968-69. The available data indicate that barely 2.2% of the total area under paddy are covered with HYV paddy in Goalpara district. It is gathered that Mexican wheat and Hybrid maize have been introduced in the district.

Table 1.1

Area under HYV Paddy and use of fertilisers in
Goalpara District by Subdivisions, 1970-71.

<u>Sub-division</u>	<u>Total area under Paddy</u>	<u>Area under HYV Paddy</u>	<u>Fertilisers consumed (tonnes)</u>
Dhubri	340,732	8,037 (2.4%)	650
Kokrajhar	304,592	5,411 (1.8%)	1,318
Goalpara	289,589	7,156 (2.5)	434
<u>Total Goalpara District</u>	<u>934,913</u>	<u>20,604 (2.2%)</u>	<u>2,402</u>

Note :- Figures in brackets indicate P.C. of total area.

New Projects :

1.5. The Government of Assam, at the instance of the Planning Commission have undertaken a project for paying "special attention to the problems of the under-privileged farmers and agricultural labourers who have not, in general, been able to take advantage of the 'green revolution' because of being circumscribed by various handicaps and limitations". It was originally envisaged that the State would be allotted two 'Small Farmers Development Agency (SFDA) projects each for 40-50 thousand people and two Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers Development Agency (MFALA) each for 15-20 thousand people. But with the consent of the Government of India, the State Government have undertaken 4 (four) : combined projects of "Small Farmers & Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers Development Agencies" converging three plains districts viz. Goalpara, Kamrup and Nowgong and one hill district, viz., United Mikir and N.C. Hills. According to the project report, the object of the composite project is "to tackle in a integrated manner the whole group of under-privileged farmers in selected areas".

1.6. The State Government's project, in its report has tentatively defined the three categories of farms on the basis of operational land-holding. Small farmers are those who hold land between 2.5 to 5 acres (8 to 15 bighas), the marginal farmers holding land between 1 to 2.49 acres (3 to 8 bighas) and the agricultural labourers are those who hold land less than 1 acre (or 3 bighas) or a homestead of their own and derive their livelihood from agricultural wages. The basic strategy being making the different groups into viable units, the criterion of classifying people on the basis of land-holding will be found unsatisfactory under different soil-climate-crop complex. Nevertheless, as there is no data on income from land and labour there is no alternative, at present, to classification based on land-holding.

1.7. The projects will be administered through the existing development agencies of different State Government departments but the over-all charge will be vested upon a non-official registered agency called "Small and Marginal Farmers and Landless Agriculturist Development Agency". The constitution of the Agency is given in Appendix "B", There will be a State-level Coordination Committee with the Agricultural Commissioner as the Chairman.

Objects & Scope of the Present Survey :

1.8. This Quick Survey has been taken up at the instance of the Planning Commission with a view to have a picture of the existing resources, occupation and employment levels and sources of income, indebtedness and sources of credit cropping pattern and technology of the different groups of farmers to be covered by the SMFLADA. The survey, in a limited way, may also shed some light on the alternative methods of supplementing existing

income by different groups of people under different physical and material backgrounds.

1.9. The survey is confined to the district of Goalpara which remains the most backward district of the Plains Division of Assam. To have an idea of the district, the physical and socio-economic background of the district is discussed in chapter two.

Methodology :

1.10. For the purpose of this survey, four C.D. Blocks have been selected purposively in the four agro-socio-economic zones of the district. Two villages from each of these Blocks have been selected to represent the characteristic social and crop-complex of the Block. A list of farmers with ownership and operational holdings of each village was prepared. From the village list households of small farmers, 6 households of marginal farmers and 6 households of agricultural labourers are selected at random. A common schedule (given in Appendix C) is canvassed among the selected households for collection of data. A village background questionnaire was used to collect necessary background materials for the survey.

1.11. The field survey was conducted during a month in March-April, 1971. The annual data relate to the year commencing from April, 1970 to March, 1971. Data being collected through interview method, are subject to the limitations of such surveys. It is, however, expected that these will give a fair picture of the socio-economic conditions of the three groups of farmers taken up for study.

CHAPTER TWO

DISTRICT BACKGROUND

Situation :

2.1. The district of Goalpara is situated in the western extreme of the Brahmaputra valley of Assam bordering North Bengal between $89^{\circ}42'$ and $90^{\circ}06'$ E longitude and $25^{\circ}28'$ and $26^{\circ}54'$ N latitude. It is bounded in the north by the hills of Bhutan, in the south by the Garo Hills of Meghalaya, in the east by the district of Kamrup and in the west by the plains of north Bengal districts of Coachbehar and Jalpaiguri.

Topography :

2.2. The topography of the district is characterised by alluvial plains dotted with small intermittent hills or hillocks. These hills and hillocks are thought to be the projections of the Assam Hills in the south of the district. The mighty Brahmaputra passes through the district in east-west direction and turns towards the south below Dhubri. About 75% of the area of the district lies on the northern bank of the river Brahmaputra. The district is criss-crossed with innumerable rivers and streams which flow into the Brahmaputra. Among the tributaries, prominent rivers in the north bank are the Manas, the Ai, the Champawati, the Saralbhanga, the Tipkai, the Gadadhar and the Sankosh. These rivers have risen from the Bhutan hills. In the south bank, the chief tributaries are the Karnai, the Krishnai, the Dudhnai and the Jinjiram, all rising from the Garo Hills. The district has many low-lying areas and marshy lands known locally as "beal" which are good sources of fish. They also provide excellent facilities for 'Boro' (Spring or Summer) paddy cultivation.

Geology and Soil :

2.3. The district of Goalpara has not yet been surveyed geologically. No economic mineral has yet been discovered though it is not unlikely that a few economic minerals are there in the district.

The soil of the district is alluvial with varying proportion of clay and sand. The riverine tracts are mostly characterised by higher sand content. Soils are quite fertile and are fit for cultivation of different types of crops. The average Ph in water extract is 5.4.1

2.4. The climate of the district is characterised by hot and wet rainy season covering four months - from May to August. During this period, temperature and precipitation vary directly. From September to April next year, the climate is pleasant. The southern and western part of the district gets less rainfall than the northern and eastern part due to the existence of the Garo Hills in the south. The rainfall data from 1967 to 1969 are given in Statement I in the Appendix.

Administrative Divisions :

2.5. The district of Goalpara is divided into three sub-divisions : Dhubri, Goalpara and Kokrajhar. There are twenty Anchalik Panchayats each one of which is covered by a C.D. Block. Data on number of villages, number of Goan Panchayat and other available information of the Blocks are given in Statement II in the Appendix "A".

The Population Characteristics :

2.6. The Census data for 1971 are not yet available. In 1961, the district of Goalpara had a population

1. Mahanta and Neog (1968): Agriculture and Animal Husbandary in Assam, P.36.

of 1,543,892 persons. This gives a density figure of 388 persons per square mile (150 persons/sq.km.).

Between 1951 and 1961, the rate of growth of population was 39.64%, the highest rate among the plains districts of Assam. The phenomenal rise in density of population will be evident from the following density figures :

Year :	1961	1951	1941	1931	1921	1911
Density per sq.mile	388	278	256	222	192	151
Per sq.km.	149.81	107.34	98.46	85.71	74.13	58.80

Dhubri sub-division is very densely populated compared to Kokrajhar and Goalpara sub-divisions. In 1961, the density of population in Dhubri sub-division was 575 persons/ sq.mile (222 person/sq.km.) against 427 persons/ sq.mile (165 perons/sq.km.) in Goalpara and 257 persons/ sq.mile (99 persons /sq.km.) in Kokrajhar sub-divisions. (Statement III in the Appendix 'A')

2.7. The district of Goalpara remains one of the backward districts of Assam due to slow rate of growth of industries. The district remains almost solely dependent on agriculture and small-scale agro-industries. An estimate of the State Government places the per capita income of this district at current prices in 1960-61 at Rs. 236.00 which happens to be the lowest among the plains district of Assam.

2.8. According to 1961 census, 1,441,749 persons constituting 93.4% of the total population of the district live in 3,708 villages. The average size of village comes to 389 persons. Upto 1961, there were only two towns in the district, Dhubri and Goalpara, the District and sub-divisional headquarters respectively. After the census of 1961 six new towns² have been recognised to be managed by town committees.

2. These are Kokrajhar, Sapatgram, Bilashipara, Mankachar, Bongaigaon and Abhayapuri.

Main Communities :

2.9. The population in the district may be divided into two major religious communities: Hindus and Muslims. According to 1961 census, 50.95% of the population professed Hinduism, 43.32% Islam and the rest 5.73% Christian and other faiths. The Muslims may be divided into two groups : the local and immigrant . The Immigrant Muslims are numerically dominant and they are known to be better cultivators than the local Muslims who have some affinity with the local Hindus. Among the Hindus also there are immigrants, mainly refugees from East Bengal. Among this group the majority has settled in urban and semi-urban areas and taken up non-agricultural pursuits, like trade, commerce and transport. There are, of course, some refugee cultivators, but they are mostly tenant farmers. Among the local Hindus, the major communities are Rajbanshis (Koches), Kolitas and Yugis. The latter two communities are better cultivators than the former. The Bodo-kacharis who are concentrated in the Kokrajhar sub-division are recognised as 'scheduled tribe', though they regard themselves as Hindus. About 15% of the total population in the district are scheduled tribes, only 5% are scheduled castes. The Rajbanshis are recognised as a backward community. The district has a large section of immigrant population. The recent developments in East Bengal (Bangla Desh) have further aggravated the situation.

Literacy :

2.10. The district of Goalpara lags far behind in both level of education and literacy. The data on P.C. rate ^{of} literacy among the rural and urban population by sex in the district is given in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1.

Literacy in Goalpara District by Rural-Urban Break-up and Sex.

Sex	Rural	Urban	Total
Male	28.3	55.9	30.3
Female	9.0	38.4	10.8
Total	19.1	48.5	21.1

Source : 1961 Census.

Industrial Classification of Workers :

2.11. In Statement IV in Appendix "A", data on the classification of workers by industrial category for 1961 census are given for the district. In the district, agriculture (including household industry and animal husbandry) gives employment to 83.1% of the total workers. In the rural sector, the dependence on agriculture will be naturally higher. This is because of the fact that the district has remained virtually dependent on agriculture. The percentage distribution of workers by sex and industrial category is given in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2.

Percentage Distribution of Workers by Sex & Industrial Category, 1961

Industrial Category	Percentage as workers		
	Male	Female	Total
Cultivators	70.70	70.61	70.69
Agricultural labours	7.42	3.18	6.28
Household Industry	0.98	20.17	6.13
Others	20.90	6.04	16.90
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Participation Rate :

2.12. According to 1961 census, about 40% of the total population of the district are returned as 'workers'. In Statement IV in Appendix "A", the distribution of workers by industrial category in 1961 census is given. About 71% of the total workers of the district are recorded as 'cultivators' and another 6% as 'agricultural labourers'. Household industry which includes dairy and poultry farming employed another 6% only. As we are concerned more with rural sector, data on the distribution of workers by industrial category and sex in the rural sectors are given in Statement V in Appendix "A". In the rural sector, 75% of the workers are 'cultivators', 7% are 'agricultural labourers' and 6% are engaged in 'household industry'.

Female Participation :

2.13. It is found that only 22.5% of the total female population in the district are returned as 'workers'. The corresponding figure for the male population is 55.8%. Among the rural population, the percentages of male and female population are 55.0% and 23.6% respectively. From the data available for the sample villages representing different major communities of the district, it appears that the rate of participation of female population in gainful works differs considerably. (Statement VI in Appendix "A"). The participation rate of female population is comparatively low among the immigrant Muslims, Kalitas and Koches (Rajbanshis) than among the Bodo-Kacharis.

2.14. Thus the participation rate is more than 50% in Umanagar and Baraiguri inhabited by the Kacharis against only 23.28% in Duduarkanda (Jaydevpur), a village

inhabited by the Rajbanshis and 27.27% in Bhasanirchar II populated by immigrant Muslims. In this respect, Kokoijana, a village inhabited by the Rajbanshis betrays some affinity with the villages inhabited by the Kacharis. In this village, the participation rate is 49.27%. 52.15% of the female population of the village were returned as "workers" in 1961 (Statement VI in Appendix "A").

Land Utilisation :

2.15. Data on the land utilisation of Goalpara district are available for 1964-65 (given in Statement VII in Appendix "A".) The district is very rich in forest resources, particularly, Sal (Shorea robusta) forests and 247,948 hectares accounting for 24.06% of the total area of the district are under forests. About 30% of the total area of the district are under cultivation. The crop intensity of 1.36 in that year appears to be high compared to 1.20 for Assam plains and 1.19 for All-Assam. The net area sown per head of population comes to 43 cents (.174 hectares) in 1961.

Crop Pattern :

2.15. The climatic and soil conditions of the district are suitable for cultivation of a variety of crops. The subsistence nature of agriculture has, however, encouraged certain traditional crops like paddy and jute which account for more than 85% of the cropped area of the district. In Statement VIII in Appendix "A" are given data on the crop pattern of four Blocks selected for study along with those of the district as a whole. Wheat, maize and potatoes are recently introduced and it is gathered that all these crops are doing well. The traditional crops are paddy (Ahu and Sali), jute, mustard

and pulses. Gouripur and Srijongram Blocks situated in the western and eastern periphery of the district have more area under jute than other two Blocks situated in the central and northern part of the district. Jute is very popular among immigrant cultivators from East Bengal than among the local cultivators. The crop intensity also varies considerably among these two groups. Data collected from the eight villages indicate that higher the pressure of population, greater is the crop intensity.

2.16. The district of Goalpara remains almost solely dependent on agriculture and allied occupations of animal husbandry, horticulture and forestry. In the above discussion, attempts have been made to give an idea of the geographical and social background in which agriculture is practised. The next chapter devoted to the discussion on the salient features of the selected Blocks and villages is expected to provide the immediate background in which the subjects of the study, viz. the small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers carry on with their livelihood.

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CHAPTER THREE

Profiles of Selected Blocks and Villages

Introduction :

3.1. In the foregoing chapter, a short account of the district of Goalpara has been given. Before going to present the results of this quick survey, it is proposed here to give a bird's eye view of the selected C.D. Blocks and the villages. It has been pointed out earlier that four Blocks have been selected from three sub-divisions of the district to cover the agro-socio-economic zones. From each of the Blocks, two villages are purposively selected to represent the characteristic social and crop-complex of the Block. There are two Blocks from Dhubri sub-division and one Block each from the Kokrajhar and Goalpara sub-divisions. All these Blocks and villages are expected to give a fair picture of the district of Goalpara.

3.2. The district of Goalpara is divided into 20 Anchalik Panchayats each of which is covered by a community Development (or Tribal Development) Block. A list of C.D. Blocks with headquarters, area and population is given in Statement IX (Appendix "A"). The crop patterns of the four selected Blocks along with that of the district are presented in Statement VIII (Appendix "A"). To have a picture of the demographic situations in the selected villages, data on the area, population, literacy rate, number of workers as cultivators and agricultural labourers are given in Statement VI (Appendix "A"). A short account of the special features of the selected Blocks and villages is given below.

I. Gouripur C.D. Block

3.3. Gouripur C.D. Block covers an area of 135.07

bordering East Bengal. Dharmasala, the Block headquarters, is at a distance of about 8 kms. from both Dhubri and Gouripur towns. According to 1961 census, there are 156 villages (31 Gaon Sabhas) with a total population of 78,248 persons. The population in 1971 will be about 1 lakh. The Block is predominantly inhabited by the immigrant Muslims and the Rajbanshis (Koches), a backward Hindu community. Soil and climate are suitable for a large variety of crops, both in Kharif and Rabi seasons. Paddy (Ahu, Sali Bao and Boro) occupies about 62.5% and jute 18.3% of the total cropped area of the Block in 1970-71. In the Rabi season, mustard, pulses and wheat are the major crops which together account for about 15% of the total cropped area. An intensive area development programme for jute is in operation in the Block. From observation, it seems that there is a good scope for extension of area under wheat in this Block. A variety of vegetables are cultivated mostly by the Muslims cultivators. These vegetables find good markets in the towns of Dhubri (population: 28,355 persons in 1961) and Gouripur (population : 9,791 in 1961). Occasional gluts in the vegetable markets are reported indicating the necessity of organising better marketing facilities. A few deep tube-wells have been sunk for irrigation. There is good scope of augmenting ground water as water-level is high. Two villages Bhasanirchar- Part II and Jhagrapar- Part III have been selected for study from this Block. The characteristic features of these villages are discussed below.

Bhasanirchar- Part II Village:

3.4. Bhasanirchar is a big village situated in the riverine tract¹ in the south of Dhubri town at a distance of about 3 kms. from it. The village is divided into three

1. Char means river island or an area formed in the river bed due to deposition of soil by receding rivers.

revenue units and one of them (Part II) has been selected for this study. The village, since long, is inhabited by the Muslim immigrants from East Bengal. The soil of the village is unstable sandy loam as the village remains under flood water during the high spate of the Brahmaputra that flows by the side of this village. According to 1961 census, there were 89 households which increased to 113 the present survey. 30 of the households cultivate land wholly owned by them. Tenant farmers predominate among the households, precisely 58.0% are tenant farmers. The average farm size comes to 2.37 acres (0.96 hectares) 88.0 % of the households own land less than 5 acres (2.025 hectares). The villagers are good cultivators and double or multiple cropping is widely practised. Paddy (Aman or Bao, Ahu and Sali), jute, small millets (finger millet) (cheena and known), wheat, barley, mustard, pulses (horsegram, blackgram, lentil and peas), potato, chilli, tomato and different kinds of vegetables for which there is ready market at Dhubri town are important crops of the village. During the field investigation tomato was selling at 20 paise per kg. in the village. Even at Dhubri town, the retail price of tomato was only 25 paise per kg. It has been reported that cultivation of tomato and potato has great potentiality in the village. The farmers are very progressive and ready to accept innovations. The supply of pump sets to the villagers may encourage cultivation of rabi crops and vegetables.

Jhagrapar Part II Village.

3.5. Jhagrapar Part II village is at a distance of about 8 kms. from Dhubri town. The village derives its name from Jhagra beel (marshy land, similar to very shallow lake) provides excellent facility for fishery and boro paddy.

cultivation. But unfortunately it has not been properly exploited as yet. The village is inhabited by the Rajbanshis a backward Hindu community. Paddy (Ahu and Sali) and jute are the two important crops. Though there is good market for vegetables, the villagers have not taken any interest in vegetable cultivation. The villagers are easy-going people and have remained economically backward.

According to 1961 census, there were 85 households in the village. In this study, a hamlet with 42 households have been surveyed. 23 hamlets (54.76%) are cultivators of wholly owned land out of these 42 households, but one-third of the households falls in the category of agricultural labourers and another one-third into the category of marginal farmers. About one-fifth of the households is small farmers. This means that more than 85% of the total households are together small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers. The average farm size comes to about 1.02 hectares (2.50 acres). The villagers have no interest in animal husbandary and poultry farming. There are 47 heads of bullocks, 31 cows and 14 young cattle belonging to the 42 households. A majority of the household does not have even a pair of bullocks.

II. Bilashipara C.D. Block :
3.6. The Bilashipara C.D. Block covers an area of 225 sq.miles (582.75 sq.kms.) of the western part of the Bilashipara Police Station of Dhubri Sub-division. The Block had a population of 90,494 persons according to 1961 census. The population might have crossed one lakh by 1971. There are 347 villages (32 Gaon Sabhas) in the Block. The major agricultural communities are the Rajbanshis (Koches), Kalitas, Yogis among the Hindus. Among the Muslims, there are two sections : local and immigrnat. The Block has an extensive riverine tract including chars

(islets) on the Brahmaputra. A large variety of crops can be cultivated. Paddy occupies about three-fourths of the cropped area. Next in importance are Mustard, pulses and jute. Sugarcane is cultivated on a small scale. There is a good scope for extension of sugarcane cultivation (Ref. Statement VIII in Appendix "A"). There are two small towns, Bilashipara (10,025 population) and Sapatgram (7,546 population) within this Block. Irrigation can be augmented from many small rivulets and rivers with pump-sets. The characteristic features of the two villages- Kadamtala- Part III and Jaydevpur (Duduarkanda) are given below.

Kadamtala Part III Village :

3.7. Kadamtala inhabited mainly by the Muslims is a village within about 3 kms. from Bilashipara town. The village is divided into three revenue units. For the purpose of the study, Part III of the village has been surveyed. The village is situated by the side of the Gaurang river, a tributary of the Brahmaputra. There is near the village a beel, Raghunath Chhera which provides an excellent facility for boro paddy cultivation. A fair weather jeepable road connects the village with Bilashipara. A broken bridge does not allow trucks to enter the village. It, however, enjoys excellent marketing facilities for jute, paddy and vegetables. The village suffers from recurrent floods and without some protective measures, there is little possibility of good agricultural development in the village. Paddy (Ahu, Sali and Boro), jute, mustard, pulses (lentil and grams) and wheat are main crops. Monochar Sali, a local high yielding variety of paddy has been cultivated by a few households. The village has a fair scope for irrigation but pump sets will have

to be supplied. There is a service cooperative society in the village which also supplies credit. According to 1961 census, the village contained 75 households. During our survey there were 93 households in the village. The village is entirely dependent on agriculture. Tenant farmers predominate in the village. 86% of the workers were cultivators and another 12% agril. labourers according to 1961 census. Percentage of literacy was as low as 11.56% in 1961. The village is served by a L.P. School and a venture M.E. Madrassah. The average farm comes to 1.14 hectares (2.82 acres). About 40% of the total households are tenant farmers. The small farms constitute 31.2%, marginal farms 25.8% and agricultural labour households 21.5% of the total households (farms) in the village. Dairy and poultry contributes good income to the villagers. On an average, there is one milch cattle per households.

Jaydevpur (Duduarkanda) Village:

3.8. Jaydevpur (Duduarkanda), a Rajbanshi village which is at a distance of 5 kms. from Sapatgram town. The village remains quite backward in communication. There are two P.W.D. gravel roads that pass within 3 kms. from the village, but there is no road to connect the village with the main roads. Bullock-carts remain the chief transport for the villagers to reach the markets. According to 1961 census, there were 35 households in the village. During the present survey, there were 37 households. The village remains backward in literacy and education. The percentage of literacy was only 14.27 in 1961. There is a L.P. School inside the village. For higher education, the students have to go to Sapatgram. In 1971, there were two matriculats in the village.

The land in the village is sandy loam and is not so fertile compared to certain neighbouring villages. The people are also not energetic, no improved crop or animal has entered the village. Paddy (Ahu and Sali), jute and mustard are main crops. Arecanut is the chief orchard crop of the village. The village is served by a service cooperative (Santipur Agricultural Cooperative Society). A minor irrigation project was initiated a few years back, by the government but the project has remained incomplete. The village has excellent scope for development of minor irrigation from rivers with pumpsets. The average farm size comes to only 0.89 hectares (2.20 acres), the lowest size among the surveyed villages. The small and marginal farms predominate in the village constituting 32.4% and 27.0% of the total households (farms) respectively. Only about 32.3% of the households are cultivators of wholly owned land, while about 38.0% are tenant farmers. Though the average number of bullocks per household comes to 1.22 there are more than 2 milch cows per ^{household} ~~hectares~~ (the average comes to 2.03) in the village. The local breed of cows give very low yield, on an average half a litre of milk per day during the lactation period. Improved breed of milch animals may be introduced in the village, as there is good marketing facility for milk and people have shown an inclination for dairying. Ducks may also be introduced as the Rajbanshis will not take up keeping fowls.

III Srijongram C.D. Block :

3.9. The Srijongram C.D. Block covers 168.2 sq. miles (435.64 sq. kms.) of the southern part of the North Salmara Police Station of the Goalpara district. Being situated in the border of Kamrup district, the soil, climate, crop pattern and even population of this Block

bear an affinity with those of the Barpeta sub-division of Kamrup. There are 260 villages organised into 22 Gaon Sabhas. Barghola, the Block headquarters is situated at a distance of 5 kms. from Abhayapuri town (population : 5,227 in 1961). According to 1961 census, the total population of the Block was 70,481 which might have reached more than 90 thousands. The main agricultural communities are Rajbanshis (Koches), Kolitas, Yogis among the Hindus. There are immigrant Muslims and Hindu refugees in the Block. Paddy (Ahu, Sali, Bao and Boro) occupies 78.0% of the total cropped area. Ahu and Sali are equally important constituting about 30% of the cropped area. Bao paddy (broadcast deep-water paddy) accounting for about 14.4% of the cropped area is cultivated in the low-lying areas. Jute is the second most important crop cultivated in about 10% of the cropped area. (Incidentally, the district average for jute is 10-11% of the cropped area). Pulses are grown in about 7% of the cropped area. Wheat is newly introduced and grows well in the riverine tract with sandy loam. Two villages selected for study are Boalimari and Kakoijana-
Part I.

Boalimari Village :

3.10. Boalimari is situated within 2 kms from Abhoyapuri town. It enjoys excellent transport and marketing facilities. According to 1961 census, there were 85 households in the village. In the present investigation, two hamlets (para) of the village, viz. Rowmari para and Kalitapara with 53 households are surveyed. Kalitapara has good fertile soil suitable for paddy (both Ahu and Sali) cultivation. Rowmari para is situated by the side of Kalkuna beel, a sprawling marshy land of sandy soil.

While Kalitapara is peopled by the local people, Roumaripara is ^{composed} ~~compared~~ of immigrant Hindu and Muslim cultivators. A large variety of crops, Paddy (Ahu, Bao and Sali), Jute, Mustard, Pulses, Millets, Potato, Sweet Potato, Chilli and vegetables are cultivated in the Roumaripara to augment sustenance from unkindly soil. The village enjoys excellent educational facilities upto the college level. There are several high schools and an Arts College at Abhoyapuri. There were nine matriculates in the village in 1971. Of them, one is a girl. Some of them are reading in the local college. According to 1961 census, the percentage of literacy in the village was as high as 46.25, 58.50 for the males and 33.15 for females. The village land is concentrated in a few households. There is preponderance of tenant farmers and agricultural labourers in the village constituting 36% and 30% of the total households respectively. About 19% of the households derive their main income from rent. Only 15% of the households (farms) are cultivators of wholly owned land. The average farm size in the village is 1.5 hectares (3.7 acres). 20.7% of the households (farms) are small farmers, 18.9% marginal farmers and 24.5% are agricultural labourers. The average number of bullocks per household comes to 1.5. Besides milch cows (1 for each household), there are goats, ducks and fowls in the village.

Kakoijana Part I Village :

3.11. Kakoijana Part I is a village inhabited by the Rajbanshis and situated beside a state highway. It is at a distance of 3 kms. from North Salmara, the thana headquarters and about 8 kms. from Abhoyapuri town. The village enjoys good marketing facilities for agricultural and horticultural crops and dairy and poultry products.

The village land is fertile and suitable for cultivation of paddy (Ahu and Sali), jute, mustard, sesamum, potato and vegetables. Arecanut gardens and betel vines are found almost in all households. HYV paddy varieties of CH-63, IR-8, TN-1 and Monohar Sali have been cultivated by a few households. The absence of irrigation facilities and high price of fertilisers are reported to be the two important barriers against adoption of HYV paddy by the villagers. There are good scope for the development of irrigation in the area from the Kakeya river. According to 1961 census, there were 119 households in the village. In the present study, one hamlet of the village, Bhowriahpara with 42 households has been surveyed. The rate of literacy was 34.59%-58.08% among the males and 13.42% among females in 1961. The situation might have further improved. There is a new a venture H.E. School and an M.E. School inside the village. College-level education is available at Abhayapuri Arts College. During the present survey there are 3 graduates and 1 matriculate in the village. Compared to other villages, the pressure on land in this village is not so high. The average farm size is 1.53 hectares (3.78 acres). At least 10% of the households derive their main income from agricultural rent. 45.2% of the households (farms) cultivate land wholly owned. 30% of the households are tenant farms. Small farms predominate in the village economy (45.2% of the total farms). 19% of the households are marginal farmers and only about 14% of the households are agricultural labourers. In respect of possession of animal and birds, the position is quite satisfactory in this village. The average number of bullocks per household is slightly higher than 2, Milch animals, cows and goats are there

almost in each household. Ducks and pigeons are popular poultry in the village. The economic outlook of the village is progressive.

IV. Dotma Tribal Development Block:

3.12. The Dotma T.D. Block covers 155 sq.miles () of the north western part of Kokrajhar Police Station of the Kokrajhar sub-division. There are 167 villages organised into a Gaon Sabhas. In 1961, the total population of the Block was about 40 thousands. The present population will be at 60 thousands. The Block is predominantly peopled by Bodo-Kacharis, a plains Tribal Community of Assam. Besides them, other important agricultural communities are the immigrant Muslims, the Rajbanshis and the Yogis. The soil is old alluvium composed of varying proportion of loam and sand. Sali paddy is the chief crop occupying about 67% of the cropped area. Ahu paddy is cultivated in about 19% of the total cropped area. Paddy occupies 87% of the total cropped area. Jute is the second important crop occupying only about 5% of the cropped area. Mustard, pulses and potato are cultivated in a very small scale. Wheat has been successfully introduced by extension staff of the Block¹. HYV paddy is gaining popularity among the tribal people.² A certain part of the Block have a natural advantage for developing minor irrigation water-level is also very high. The tribal people do not have any taboo against rearing of pigs and fowls. Piggery, poultry and horticulture may be important subsidiary occupation in the Block.

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1. It is reported that in the wheat demonstration, kalyan sona gave an average yield of 24.13 quintals per acre last year.
 2. IR-8 cultivated as Ahu (Autumn) gave an average yield of 35.46 quintals per acre last year.

Barahgari (Baraiguri) Village :

3.13. The Barahgari village situated at a distance 2 kms. from Dotma, the Block headquarters and 5 kms. from Chitla a small bazar is inhabited by Bodo-Kacharis, a plains tribal community. The P.W.D. road (gravelled) connecting Dotma and Sapatgram Town passes through the village. The village enjoys good transport and marketing facilities. The soil of the village is sandy to clayey loam and suitable for cultivation of a variety of crops. Currently paddy (Ahu and Sali), jute and mustard are important crops. Wheat, maize, pulses, sugarcane can be grown in the village. HYV paddy (IR-8) has been cultivated by a few families with the encouragement of the extension staff of the Block. A few improved poultry birds (R.I.R., White Leghorn) were seen in the village. The villagers keep pigs and fowls the average number per farm comes to about 2 pigs and 4 fowls. There is on an average, a pair of bullocks or buffaloes per household. A dry irrigation channel was found in the village. It was gathered that the Noska Dong Project taken up by the E & D (P.W.D.) Department was left half-done due to some administrative difficulties. The opening of the irrigation channel will encourage the villagers in taking up HYV paddy cultivation seriously. Barahgari is a big village of 143 households in 1961. A hamlet of the village consisting of 37 households was surveyed. Owner cultivators (62.2% of the total households) predominate in the village. There is a process of pauperisation with the transfer of land from the poor to the rich. A class of agricultural labourers has emerged in the village. 8 out of 37 households (21.6%) were found to be agricultural labourers. Even in 1961 11.40% of the male workers were recorded as agricultural

labourers in the village. This survey shows that 30% of the households derive major income from agricultural labour while small farmers and marginal farmer households constitute 19% each of the total households. The rate of literacy, according to 1961 census, was 22.58%. There is a Bodo-medium L.P. School in the village. For high School education, the children go to Dotma.

Umanagar Village :

3.14. Umanagar is a typical Bodo-Kachari village in the interior of the Dotma Tribal Development Block. A village road (not jeepable) connects the village with Dotma, the Block headquarters and the marketing centre for the area. The village is situated near a rivulet (Gongiya river) which sometimes rises abruptly during monsoon to inundate the village, but water recedes within a short time. The soil varies from clayey to sandy loam based on location. The low-lying areas contain more clay. Soil is suitable for various crops. At present, paddy (sali and ahu) is the main crop. About 20% of the paddy lands are now cultivated twice (ahu and sali seasons). For multiple cropping and introduction of HYV paddy, irrigation should have to be provided. For irrigation, groundwater can be tapped easily as water level is very high. No improved crop or animal has been found in the village. In 1961, the village had 29 households which increased to 31 during the present survey. The rate of literacy in 1961 was barely 13.37%- 23.76% among males and 1.16% among females. The position might have now improved with the establishment of an L.P. School inside the village. There is only one Matriculate in the village during the survey. The vice-president of the Gaon Sabha (Village Panchayat) is the resident of this village.

Small farmers, marginal farmers and Agricultural labourers together constitute 90% of the village. This is through the transfer of land to richer section and even to outsiders. According to 1961 census, 19.15% of the male and 29.79% of the female workers were recorded as 'agricultural labourers'.

Bullocks and buffaloes are used as draught animals. The average draught animals per farm comes to about 2.5. Fowls (7.5 birds per households) are popular economic birds in the village. Pigs, goats and cows are also kept.

CHAPTER FOUR

The Socio-Economic Conditions of Small Farmers, Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers.

Introduction:

4.1. For the purpose of this study the small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers are designated on the basis of operational holdings¹. The small farms are those that operate land between 2.5 acres to 5 acres (1.01 to 2.025 hectares), the marginal farms between 1 to 2.49 acres (.405 to 1.001 hectares) and the agricultural labourers are those who either own a homestead or land below 1 acre (.405 hectares) and earn their livelihood from agricultural wages. These categorisations may not be satisfactory, but in the absence of data on income at the farm-level, there is no way out than to fall upon this method. A sample of 15 households- 6 households each of marginal farmers and agricultural labourers and 3 households of small farmers- are selected at random from each of the eight villages selected purposively from four C.D. Blocks. There are thus 48 households each of marginal farmers and agricultural labourers and 24 households of small farmers giving a total sample of 120 households in the district.

Population Characteristics of Sample Households:

4.2. In Table 4.1 are given data on the distribution of population by sex and the average size of household among different categories of farms². Considering the economic conditions of these groups of households, the average sizes of households are undoubtedly high. There is a relation, it seems, of the size of households with economic status of the three categories of farms.

1. Refer to para. 1.6, Chapter I.

2. Farm and household are used to convey the same meaning.

The preponderance of joint families in the sample of small farms is the cause of the higher average. Among the communities surveyed, the immigrant Muslims have comparatively bigger families.

Table 4.1

Population by sex and Average size of Household among three categories of Farms, March, 1971(Goalpara)

Categories of Farms	No.of Household	Population			Average size of Household
		M	F	T	
Small Farms	24	94	79	173	7.2
Marginal Farms	48	135	123	258	5.4
Agricultural Labour farms	48	123	125	248	5.2
All categories	120	352	327	679	5.6

Age Composition of Population:

4.4. The age composition of the population by categories of farms is given in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2

Age Composition of Population by Categories of Farms, March, 1971(Goalpara)

Age groups (Years)	Small Farms	Marginal Farms	Agricultural labourers	All Categories
Below 5	26 (15.03)	51 (19.77)	48 (19.35)	125 (18.41)
5-15	45 (26.01)	70 (27.13)	89 (35.89)	204 (30.04)
15-60	94 (54.34)	132 (51.16)	108 (43.55)	334 (49.19)
60 +	8 (4.62)	5 (1.94)	3 (1.21)	16 (2.36)
Total	173 (100.00)	258 (100.00)	248 (100.00)	679 (100.00)

About half the population falls in the age-group of 15-60 years.

Economic Status of Population :

4.5. In Table 4.3 the population of different categories of farms are divided into three classes: (i) workers, (ii) helpers and (iii) non-workers. It will be found that about half the population is engaged in economic activities, 41% of the total population as 'workers' and another 9% as 'helpers'. There is not much difference among the three categories of farms in respect of participation rate.

Table 4.3

Distribution of Population by Economic Status among categories of Farms, 1971.

Economic Status	Small Farmers	Marginal Farmers	Agril. Labour	All Groups
Households	24	48	48	120
Workers	67 (38.73)	113 (43.80)	98 (39.52)	278 (40.94)
Helpers	19 (10.99)	22 (8.52)	19 (7.66)	60 (8.84)
Non-workers	87 (50.28)	123 (47.68)	131 (52.82)	341 (50.22)
Total	173 (100.00)	258 (100.00)	248 (100.00)	679 (100.00)

Note :- Figures in the brackets indicate percentages of column totals.

Literacy and Education :

4.6. The literacy and education have some direct relation with economic conditions of farmers as the economically backward section of the farmers remains educationally backward. This will be evident from the data presented in Table 4.4. on the literacy and educational status of the population among three categories of farms. The female population among all the three categories of farms has

remained very backward in literacy with, only about 12% being literate. The corresponding figure for the males is 23%.

Economic Resources :

4.7. The small and marginal farms and agricultural labourers or the lower strata of the rural society. As the households are selected on the basis of operational holdings, land holdings are predetermined for these groups. By 'operational holding' is meant the 'land owned' plus 'land taken on lease' minus 'land leased out'. Thus the data on operational holdings would also show the extent of tenancy among these groups. Except land, the other important properties are residential buildings, livestock and poultry, tools and implements and durable consumer's goods.

Land and Tenancy :

4.8. The system of tenancy in the district is based on crop-sharing on 50:50 basis. The poorer section of the households prefers to be crop-sharers to becoming agricultural labourers. The agricultural labourers in the district are thus part-tenant and part-labourer.

Table 4.5

Average size of operational Holding by Categories Farms, 1970-71

Occupational Groups	Land owned		Total	(In Hectares)		Average size of Farm (operational)
	Under cultivation	Home stead orchard		Land leased in	Land leased out	
Small Farmers	1.039	0.236	1.275	0.323	-	1.598
Marginal Farmers	0.507	0.146	0.653	0.226	0.006	0.873
Agricultural labourers	0.045	0.088	0.133	0.117	0.006	0.244

4.9. In Table 4.5 data on the average size of operational holdings- land owned, land leased in and land leased out- are given for different occupation groups. The extent of tenancy (i.e. extent of leased-in land in the total operational holdings) comes to 20.21% for small farmers, 25.89% for the marginal farmers and 47.95% for the agricultural labourers.

Housing conditions :

4.10. The three categories of farms under survey being the poorest section of the rural population, it is not expected that their housing conditions will be better. In Statement XIV in Appendix "A", data on the nature of structure, number of units possessed, floor space available for the sample households by categories of farm are given. Houses with 'mud floor, split bamboo (or ikra) walls and thatched roofs' account for more than 91% of the structures possessed by 'small farmers', about 96% of the structures by 'marginal farmers' and cent per cent of the structures possessed by the agricultural labourers. This type of houses are easy to be built from materials collected from local sources. Even the owners themselves can construct these houses. An average size of house of this type (300 sq. feet) may cost between Rs. 600.00 to Rs. 750.00. This type of houses is to be rebuilt every 5 to 10 years. Only 3 out of 120 households- 2 households of small farmers and 1 household of 'marginal farmers' were found possessing houses with C.I. sheet roofs. Not a single household possesses building with 'pucca' floor (floor made of bricks and cement). The average area of floor space per capita and number of units per household by occupation group are given in Table 4.6.

Table 4.4

Literacy and Educational Status of Population
by Occupation Groups.
(Percentages)

Literacy and Education.	Small Farmers		Marginal Farmers		Agricultural Laborers		All Groups					
	T.	M.	T.	M.	T.	M.	T.	M.				
Illiterate	64.16	50.00	81.01	75.97	63.67	86.13	85.39	77.23	94.40	73.53	65.91	83.07
Just Literate	5.73	7.45	3.80	6.20	3.89	3.25	6.05	9.76	2.40	6.04	3.31	3.06
Middle School Standard	23.12	31.91	12.66	15.50	20.00	10.57	7.63	12.19	3.20	14.58	20.45	3.26
Matric Std.	5.73	3.51	2.53	2.33	4.44	--	0.40	0.32	--	2.51	4.26	0.61
Matric and above	1.16	2.13	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0.29	0.57	--
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Table 4.6

No. of Units of Houses and Average Floor
space per Household and per capita by
Categories of Farms, 1971.

Categories of farms	No. of Units per Household	Floor space (Residential) (sq. feet)	
		Per household	Per Capita
Small farms	1.87	432.7	60.03
Marginal farms	1.44	349.4	65.01
Agricultural labour	1.17	268.2	51.91
All Groups	1.42	333.6	58.96

Livestock and Poultry :

4.11. In respect of value, the next important possession of the small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers is livestock and poultry. In Statement XV in the Appendix "A" are given data on the number of cattle and poultry possessed by different categories of farms. Bullocks are generally used as power for drawing ploughs and carts. Buffaloes are still found in certain areas of the district drawing ploughs and carts. But the grazing difficulties have discouraged farmers against keeping buffaloes. Both cows and she-buffaloes are kept for breeding and milk, but the number possessed by these groups is not encouraging. The Hindus do not keep pigs and fowls while the Muslims do not keep pigs. The pigs are kept only by the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The Bodo-Kacharis, an important scheduled tribe of the district are found to keep pigs and fowls. In a Rajbanshi household, one may find only pigeons and scarcely goats, but no fowl or pig.

4.12. In Table 4.7 are given the distribution of households according to ownership of bullocks and buffaloes. It is to be pointed out here that for drawing a plough, a

pair of bullocks or a single buffalo is used. Cows (particularly milch cows) are not used as draught animals.

Table 4.7

Distribution of Households on the ownership of Draught Animals by Occupation Group, Goalpara 1971.

Household possessing	Small farmers (24)	Marginal farmers (48)	Agricultural Labourers (48)
No animal	-	8	41
1 Bullock	2	6	2
1 Buffalo	-	1	-
2 Bullocks	15	31	5
2 Buffaloes	-	2	-
3 Bullocks	3	-	-
3 Buffaloes	-	-	-
4 Bullocks	4	-	-
4 Buffaloes and above	nil	nil	nil

Tools and Implements :

4.13. The common tools and implements for agricultural operations are ploughs (traditional), spades, harrows, weeders (traditional), sickles, and bullock-carts. Other household implements include choppers, axes, bins and baskets. For processing, mortars and pestles are more popular than dhenkis. In Statement XVI are given data on the number of tools and implements possessed, and number of households possessing different agricultural tools and implements. The average number of implements per household and the price per unit are given in Table 4.8.

Durable Consumers' Goods :

4.14. The possession of durable consumer goods indicates the level of consumption, as well as, the extent of contact of the rural sector with industrial sector.

Table 4.8

Number of unit per Average Farm and Price per Unit of Agricultural Tools and Implements by Categories of Farms, Goalpara, 1971.

Implements	Price per Unit (Approx)	Average Number of Units per		
		Small farm	Marginal farm	Agril. Labour
Ploughs	15.00	1.21	0.90	0.21
Spade	7.00	1.17	1.06	0.77
Harrow	5.00	0.92	0.77	0.10
Weeder	6.00	0.71	0.62	0.12
Sickle	1.50	1.87	1.50	0.75
Bullock cart	155.00	0.17	0.15	-
Dhenki	15.00	0.12	0.12	0.06
Mortar-pestle	5.00	1.37	1.27	0.77

Bicycles are, sometimes, used as a means of transport for the marketing of milk and vegetables. Not a single household in the sample of 120, possesses radio, gramophone or sewing machine. 2 households belonging to the category of marginal farmers possess bicycles. The data on the possession of durable consumers' goods by three categories of farms are given in Statement XVII in Appendix "A".

Horticultural Orchards :

4.15. In the district of Goalpara, there is a great possibility of the development of orchards with arecanuts, betelvines, bananas and pineapples. Jackfruits, litchi and mangoes are also found in villages. The data on the number of plants of arecanut, betelvine, banana, mango, jackfruit, litchi and cocoanut possessed by the sample households of three categories of farms are given in Statement XVIII in Appendix "A". The average number of plants per household by categories of farms is given in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9

Average Number of Plants of Horticultural Crops per Household by Occupational Groups, Goalpara 1971.

Crops	Small farmers	Marginal Farmers	Agril. Labourers
No. of H.H. surveyed	24	48	48
Arecanuts	25.00	20.00	3.00
Betel vine	2.21	0.37	0.10
Banana	10.00	9.00	2.00
Mango	1.37	0.85	0.21
Jackfruits	1.29	0.85	0.17

It is gathered that a full-grown arecanut plant gives an annual return of Rs. 10.00. Arecapalms also do not require much tending. Pineapples are generally grown under areca-palms.

Field Crop Cultivation:

4.16. In the last chapter, an idea about the crop pattern of selected Blocks and villages has been given. The crop pattern of the 15 sample households each of 8 selected villages (Statement XX in Appendix 'A') shows significant variations among the villages and communities¹. Paddy is by far the most important crop. Ahu (autumn) and Sali (winter) are cultivated one after another in the same field. Boro paddy is gaining grounds only in the villages situated near marshy land (beels). Jute is next to paddy.

Crop Intensity:

4.17 It has been pointed out earlier that crop intensity is slightly higher in Goalpara district than the average for Assam. The data on the average net area sown and average cropped area per household among categories of farms are

1. The villages are mostly inhabited by a single community.

are given in Table 4.10. The average crop intensity is 1.675 for the three groups. The crop intensity is slightly higher among the marginal farmers than among the small farmers. On the whole, about two-thirds of the cultivable lands are double cropped by the small and marginal farmers.

Table 4.10

Average Cropped Area and Net Area sown Among three Categories of Farmers.

Categories of farms	No. of sample farms	Average Cropped Area per farm	(Area in hectares)	
			Average net area sown per farm	Crop Intensity
Small Farmers	24	2.370	1.363	1.693
Marginal Farmers	48	1.255	0.731	1.717
Agricultural labourers	48	0.219	0.156	1.405
All Categories	120	1.051	0.627	1.675

Yield Rate of Crops:

4.18. The crops cultivated by the farmers are traditional. 2 farms (marginal farms) out of 120 sample households (farms) are found to have cultivated HYV paddy. The results are encouraging as the yield of HYV paddy was double of the traditional paddy varieties. In Table 4.11 are given the data on the average yield per hectare of different crops.

Computation of Income :

4.19. In Statement XXII in Appendix 'A', data on the distribution of estimated annual income by sources (occupations) among three categories of farmers for the year, 1970-71 are given. Before proceeding further, it is thought necessary to state the sense in which 'income' is used and the method of its estimate.

Table 4.11

Average Yield of Crops per hectare by categories
of farmers, Goalpara 1970 - 71

Crops	Variety	(Quantity in quintal)			
		Small farmer	Marginal farmer	Agricultural labour	All categories
Sali paddy	Local	11.71	12.24	7.87	11.72
	H.Y.V.	-	21.92	-	21.92
Ahu paddy	Local	9.97	8.51	10.55	9.32
	H.Y.V.	-	21.90	-	21.90
Bao paddy	Local	10.34	8.05	11.07	8.78
Boro paddy	Local	-	11.04	19.33	15.18
Jute	Local	10.52	9.12	8.93	9.68
Mustard seeds	Local	7.95	6.02	-	6.80
Wheat	Local	10.02	10.10	-	10.05
Corn (small Millet)	Local	7.85	4.15	-	6.61
Black gram	Local	5.53	5.04	-	5.35
Lentil	Local	-	-	1.83	1.83
Potato	Local	5.56	-	-	5.56
Chilli	Local	3.49	5.93	-	4.73
Sesamum	Local	-	5.53	-	5.53

For the purpose of this study, the word, 'income' is used neither in the sense of 'gross' nor of 'net' income. For the computation of income, the value of home-produced seeds and wages of family labour has not been taken into account. The cash expenditure incurred in connection with production has been deducted from the gross value of production. The production of agricultural crops is valued at farm (Harvest) prices given in Statement XXI in Appendix'.

Thus the word 'income' is used here in the sense of 'residual' income to the farm for the employment of land and labour of the household for production. Naturally these income data are not strictly comparable to the national income data.

Income by Occupations (sources):

4.20. Agriculture (including horticulture, livestock and poultry farming) remains the predominant source of livelihood among all the three categories of households. The percentage contribution of different sources of income in the total income of the three groups given in Table 4.12 shows that 96% of the income of the small farmers are derived from agriculture and allied occupations. The corresponding figures for marginal farmers and agricultural labourers are 81% and 84% respectively. Agricultural wages contribute 2.4%, 15.3% and 70.5% of the total income earned by small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers respectively. Among the non-agricultural sources, salary and wages contribute about 15% and 5% of the total income of the marginal farmers and agricultural labourers respectively. The contribution of Cottage and small-scale industries to the household income of all the three categories of households is insignificant. This only shows that the solution of the problems of these underprivileged sections of farmers lies in the development of agriculture in scientific lines.

Table 4.12

Percentage Contribution of Different Sources to the Total Household Income by Categories of Farmers, Goalpara, 1970-71

Sources of Income	Small Farmers	Marginal Farmers	Agricultural Labourers	All Categories
1. Cultivation	80.15	56.65	9.84	47.66
2. Horticulture	9.23	5.98	1.79	5.47
3. Livestock & Poultry	4.02	3.18	1.43	2.83
4. Agril. wages	2.41	15.28	70.47	29.70
Sub-total: Agriculture	95.81	81.09	83.53	85.66
5. Cottage Industries	2.37	1.79	1.04	1.70
6. Salary & wages	-	14.83	5.80	8.11
7. Misc.	1.82	2.29	9.63	4.53
Sub-total: Non-Agril.	4.19	18.91	16.47	14.34
Total Household Income	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Income per Household and per Capita:

4.21 The average income per household and per capita among three categories of farmers is given in Table 4.13

Table 4.13

Income per Household and per Capita by categories of Farmers, Goalpara, 1970-71.

Categories of farmers	Average size of Household	Income per Household	Income per Capita.
Small farmers	7.2	2071.58	287.72
Marginal farmers	5.4	1692.08	313.35
Agricultural Labourers	5.2	1292.06	248.47
All Categories	5.6	1607.97	287.14

In respect of per capita income, there is not much difference between the small farmers and marginal farmers. This indicates some form of a 'subsistence equilibrium' operating among the small and marginal farmers. The small farmers have not exerted their energy to earn extra income from non-farm activities, while the marginal farmers have earned about 20% of their income from non-agricultural sources. This may be due to the fact that the farm of a marginal farmer at the existing technology and level of production does not provide adequate subsistence minimum.* But it is to be noted that the opportunity is limited in the district for non-farm employment.

*small sample
of small
farmers
may not be
representative?*

Distribution of Households by Income-level :

4.22. The data on the distribution of sample households by income-levels of small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers are given in Tables 4.14, 4.15 and 4.16 respectively. The overall position of the categories together is given in Table 4.17. Being the lowest strata in the rural society, these three groups of farmers live almost at the subsistence level. 58.33% of the small farms and 54.7% of the marginal farms are having income less than 300.00 per capita per annum. If Rs. 400.00 per capita per annum is taken as the minimum, about 75% of the small farms and 67% of the marginal farms are not viable units at the time of the survey.

Indebtedness and Sources of Credit :

4.23. Data on the indebtedness of the rural people are difficult to get, particularly on the debts from sources other than institutional agencies. For reasons of prestige and inhibitions imposed by the private lenders, the indebted persons hesitate to disclose the amount and sources

Table 4.14

Distribution of 24 Small Farmers, Households by level of Annual Per Capita Income Goalpara District, 1970-71.

Per Capita income level	No. of H.H.	P.C.	Cu.P.C.	Total income	P.C.	Cu.P.C.
upto 100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
101.00-200.00	4	16.67	16.67	5347.00	10.75	10.75
201.00-300.00	10	41.66	58.33	19104.00	38.43	49.18
301.00-400.00	4	16.67	75.00	12697.00	25.54	74.72
401.00-500.00	3	12.50	87.50	6306.00	12.68	87.40
500.00 +	3	12.50	100.00	6264.00	12.60	100.00
Total	24	100.00		49718.00	100.00	

Table 4.15

Distribution of 48 Marginal Farmers Households by Level of Annual Per Capita Income, Goalpara District 1970-71

Per Capita income level	No. of H.H.	P.C.	Cu.P.C.	Total income	P.C.	Cu.P.C.
Upto 100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
101.00-200.00	10	20.83	20.83	9376.00	11.54	11.54
201.00-300.00	16	33.34	54.17	23754.00	29.25	40.70
301.00-400.00	6	12.50	66.67	10292.00	12.67	53.40
401.00-500.00	4	8.33	75.00	8541.00	10.52	63.98
500.00 +	12	25.00	100.00	29257.00	36.02	100.00
Total	48	100.00		81220.00	100.00	

Table 4.16

Distribution of 48 Agricultural Labourers Households by Level of Annual Per Capita Income, Goalpara District, 1970-71.

Per capita income level (Rs.)	No. of H.H.	P.C.	Cu. P.C.	Total income (Rs.)	P.C.	Cu. P.C.
Upto 100.00	3	6.25	6.25	1105.00	1.78	1.78
101.00-200.00	11	22.92	29.17	11752.00	18.95	20.73
201.00-300.00	17	35.42	64.59	21218.00	34.21	54.94
301.00-400.00	8	16.66	81.25	12160.00	19.61	74.55
401.00-500.00	6	12.50	93.75	11756.00	18.96	93.51
above 500.00	3	6.25	100.00	4028.00	6.49	100.00
Total	48	100.00		62019.00	100.00	

Table 4.17

Distribution of 120 Households of Small Farmers (24) Marginal Farmers (48) & Agricultural labourers (48) by level of Annual Per Capita Income, Goalpara District, 1970-71.

Per capita income level (Rs.)	No. of H.H.	P.C.	Cu. P.C.	Total income (Rs.)	P.C.	Cu. P.C.
Upto 100.00	3	2.50	2.50	1105.00	0.57	0.57
101.00-200.00	25	20.83	23.33	26475.00	13.72	14.29
201.00-300.00	43	35.83	59.16	64076.00	33.21	47.50
301.00-400.00	18	15.00	74.16	35149.00	18.21	65.71
401.00-500.00	13	10.84	85.00	26603.00	13.79	79.50
above 500.00	18	15.00	100.00	39549.00	20.50	100.00
Total	120	100.00		192957.00	100.00	

of credit. Data on the indebtedness among and sources of credit for the three categories of farmers as presented in Table 4.18 may, therefore, be taken with caution.

4.24. Among the three categories, the small farmers are more indebted than the marginal farms and agricultural labourers. 37.50% of the small farmers, 16.67% of the marginal farmers and 8.33% of the agricultural labourers are found indebted. The small and marginal farmers secured about 60% of the credit from cooperative societies, the remaining debts coming from traditional sources like village moneylenders or neighbours. The credit available to the agricultural labourers is really the advances made against future wage-labour.

4.25. The rate of interest for loans from traditional sources, in most cases, is 50%. The most convenient form of obtaining credit by the farmers is to mortgage land. In that case, the land is cultivated by the borrower on crop-sharing basis (mostly on 50:50 share). The loans obtained from cooperative remain as overdues. Out of the 8 villages, 4 villages are covered by service or credit cooperatives. But financial positions of the cooperatives is reported to be most unsatisfactory due to large overdues.

The Purchase and Sale of Land :

4.26. In the rural sector, particularly in the areas where pressure on land is high, there is a process of alienation of land from the poor to the rich, sometimes to the absentee landlords or moneylenders. Data on the sale and purchase of land by the three categories of farmers within last 5 years are given in Table 4.19.

Table 4.13

Indebtedness and Sources of Credit among Small Farmers, Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers, Goalpara, March, 1971.

Sources of Credit	Small Farmers		Marginal Farmers		Agricultural Labourers		All Categories	
	No. of indebted H.H.	Amount outstanding	No. of indebted H.H.	Amount outstanding	No. of indebted H.H.	Amount outstanding	No. of indebted H.H.	Amount outstanding
Cooperatives	6	1480.00 (59.68)	4	1130.00 (60.10)	-	-	10	2610.00 (48.39)
Moneylender	1	300.00 (24.19)	1	200.00 (10.64)	3	800.00 (30.00)	5	1600.00 (29.85)
Relatives	-	-	1	200.00 (10.31)	-	-	1	200.00 (3.73)
Neighbours	2	400.00 (16.13)	2	350.00 (18.62)	1	200.00 (20.00)	5	950.00 (17.73)
Total :	9	2480.00 (100.00)	8	1830.00 (100.00)	4	1000.00 (100.00)	21	5360.00 (100.00)

Note : Figures in the brackets indicate p.c. of column totals.

Table 4.19

Purchase & Sale of Land by categories of Farmers within 5 years, Goalpara.

Categories of Farms	Purchase of Land			Sale of Land			
	Total No. of sample H.H.	No. of H.H. purchasing	Total area purchased (Hectare)	Value of purchase (Rs.)	No. of H.H. selling	Total area sold (Hectare)	Value of sale (Rs.)
Small Farmers	24	1	0.405	300.00	4	1.282	4,350.00
Marginal Farmers	48	5	1.990	5,550.00	3	0.742	4,600.00
Agricultural Labourers	48	-	-	-	4	0.809	6,650.00
All Categories	120	6	2,395	5,850.00	11	2,833	15,600.00

CHAPTER V.

CONCLUSION

1. The small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers together form the bulk of the rural population in Assam. Though their proportion varies from area to area depending on the social and economic development, particularly the pressure of population on land for livelihood, these three groups together constitute about 80% of the rural population. This survey shows that about 20% of the rural households are either landless or possess land less than an acre. The small and marginal farmers together form about 60% of the rural households.

2. Though the 'Green Revolution' has raised new hopes among the small and marginal farmers, these groups have failed to take advantage of the HYV programme. Only 2 out of 120 sample households (2 households of marginal farmers) were found cultivating HYV paddy. In 1970-71 crop season only 2.2% of the cropped area under paddy in the district of Goalpara were covered by the HYV paddy. These indicate that there has not yet been any substantial change in the technique of cultivation.

3. Agriculture remains the chief source of income to the rural people. 95.8% of the income of the small farmers, 81.1% of the income of the marginal farmers and 83.5% of the income of the agricultural labourers come from agriculture itself. Cottage industries contribute an insignificant part of the income. This only stresses the importance of the development of agriculture based on ^{improved} ~~important~~ technology to increase the income potential of the farms. The development of agriculture will not only improve the income-level of the

small and marginal farmers, but also increase the demand for labour and improve the employment potential of the agricultural labourers.

4. (The average level of income per farm household per annum comes to Rs. 2071.58 for the small farmers, Rs. 1692.06 for the marginal farmers and Rs. 1292.00 for the agricultural labourers. As the household size varies considerably among these three groups, the average per household income does not give the real picture) The average per capita income comes to Rs. 287.72 for the small farmers, Rs. 313.35 for the marginal farmers and Rs. 248.47 for the agricultural labourers. In respect of level of living, there is not much difference among these three groups. This only indicates that Rs. 300.00 is, perhaps, the basic minimum subsistence income per capita per annum. If Rs. 300.00 per capita per annum is taken as the basic minimum income, 58.33% of the small farmers, 54.17% of the marginal farmers and 64.59% of the agricultural labourers are earning less than the basic minimum. On the whole, 60% of the these under-privileged sections of the farming people are living under the poverty line.

5. (The size of the farm is, no doubt, one of the most important factors contributing to the low level of income. But) the low-level of technology and inadequate resource endowments are the most crucial factors affecting the income potential of the small and marginal farmers. It is found that 8.33% of the small farms and 31.25% of the marginal farmers do not possess a pair of bullocks. No farm in ^{the} sample has controlled irrigation and permanent fencing. The small and marginal farmers are really in the vicious circle of low investment, low production and low income. Without external assistance, these groups of

farmers will not be in a position to come out of this vicious circle. The investigation shows that there is awareness among the farmers on the potentiality of the HYV seeds and new technology. For adoption, the present resource endowments are grossly inadequate. Provision of irrigation, supply of HYV seeds and fertilisers, assured minimum price will go a long way in inducing the small and marginal farmers to adopt new technology. The farmers are conscious that irrigation is crucial in the adoption of HYV seeds and use of fertilisers.

7. The agricultural labourers fall in a different category. Although all three groups have great preference for family farms, the tiny size of holdings compelled the agricultural labourers seek employment elsewhere. With the adoption of new technology and overall improvement in agriculture, the scope for employment of agricultural labourers and surplus labour in small and marginal farms will considerably improve. The new technology will create scope for the further and better employment of the existing resources, particularly land and labour. Though data could not be collected on the employment pattern of workers, the low level of income is an indication of underemployment and unemployment among these groups of farmers. Instead of displacing labour the new technology along with multiple cropping (at least double cropping) is expected to create more demand for labour in the farm sector.

8. (It has been indicated earlier that) about 60% of the small and marginal farms are non-viable at the existing technology. The viability of farms will depend on the resource endowments, on the one hand and the willingness of the farmers to adopt new technology for coming out of

the morass of poverty. The agencies for the development of small farmers , marginal farmers & agricultural labourers shall have to look into the individual cases for providing financial and material facilities for the adoption of new technology.

9. The marginal farmers will be at a disadvantage to become viable solely depending on land. Where there is marketing facilities, the intensive cultivation of vegetables and fruits may be encouraged. It was found that tomatoes were selling at a very low price at Dhubri (less than 25 p. per kg.). Small-scale processing units can be set up to assure minimum price to the cultivators. The possibility of organising small-scale canning units for the processing of pineapples which grows well in certain areas may be explored.

10. The traditional form of animal husbandry and poultry farming is grossly inadequate for providing any substantial income and employment. Moreover, religious beliefs stand in the way of the development of piggery and poultry. Depending on the willingness of farmers and availability of rearing and marketing facilities, keeping of ducks, fowls, goats and pigs shall have to be encouraged and necessary facilities extended to them. The potentiality of increasing income through small-scale poultry farming with small investment is great. The local breeds of cattle give very low yield of milk. Improved milch animals, cows and buffaloes can change the outlook of the farmers on dairying as a business proposition. The expansion of livestock farming will depend greatly on the strengthening of veterinary services, as improved breed of cattle are susceptible to diseases.

11. Some institutional reforms and organisational innovation will be necessary to solve the basic problems faced by the small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers. The wide prevalence of tenancy and share-cropping, complete absence of institutional credit and the decadent positions of cooperatives are some of these institutional problems crying for attention.

12. Though small farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers have their special problems, these groups are, in fact, parts of the same system. Without overall economic development, the problems faced by these groups cannot be solved in isolation. Previously there was a belief that the traditional agriculture is in subsistence equilibrium with zero net saving. In fact, the increase in population with zero net saving makes traditional agriculture regressive with continuous consumption of capital. Without population transfer from agriculture to non-agricultural sectors, there is a process of big farmers becoming small farmers and so on. This process can effectively be checked only through withdrawal of surplus labour from agriculture for employment in non-agricultural sectors. The development of the primary sector without pari passu development of secondary and tertiary sectors of the economy is bound to create imbalance in the economy. A balanced development of agriculture and industry with the creation of infra-structure is the answer to the ills of the economy. The present trend of swelling of the ranks of under-privileged farmers and landless labourers is beset with undersirable social and political consequences.

APPENDIX "A"

STATISTICAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT I

Average Monthly Rainfall of Goalpara District.

Months	(Rainfall in mm.)				Average 1967-69
	Y	E	A	R S	
	1967	1968	1969		
January	14.4	nil	nil		4.8
February	00.1	nil	nil		nil
March	* nil	* nil	* nil	* 53.2	* 17.4
April	80.6	89.3	169.1		113.0
May	323.6	35.7	171.4		176.9
June	476.5	592.9	645.0		571.5
July	404.4	592.9	382.2		459.8
August	261.4	304.0	396.4		320.6
September	243.4	389.0	174.1		268.8
October	82.0	345.3	4.7		144.0
November	01.8	nil	41.4		14.4
December	nil	nil	nil		nil

Source : District Agricultural Office, Dhubri.

(SA) *

STATEMENT II

List of C.D.Blocks (Anchalik Panchayats) in
Goalpara District.

1. Name of Anchalik Panchayat	Name of Headquarters	Area in sq. miles.	No. of Gaonsabha	No. of Villages.	Population, 1961.
Srijangram	Barghola	138.20	22	174	70,481
Boltamari	Maligaon	172.40	15	118	30,305
Matia	Matia	230.00	16	227	99,681
Balijana	Agia	250.00	21	340	41,900
Dudhnei	Rangjuli Hakkhola	--	17	275	46,936
Lakhipur	Nidanpur	--	24	328	51,121
Golokganj	Golokganj	110.07	18	77	45,980
Bilasipara	Raniganj	225.00	32	347	90,494
Chaparosalakcha	Chapar	150.00	12	157	34,637
Mankachar	Mankachar	73.00	24	181	63,360
Agomoni	Agomoni	100.06	18	53	49,138
Gauripur	Dharamsala	135.07	31	156	78,248
South Salmara	South Salmara	260.00	27	413	84,511
Sidlichirang	Sidli	411.00	13	308	60,189
BiJNI	Barabazar	223.00	10	197	32,018
Dotma	Dotma	155.00	9	265	39,856
Manikpur	Manikpur	188.00	12	163	39,579
Kakrajhar	Balagaon	351.00	13	258	44,056
Kachugaon	Kachugaon	300.00	4	119	19,058
Gossaligaon	Gossaligaon	199.00	15	218	42,316

* Blocks surveyed in the study.

Source : District Census Hand Book, 1961.

STATEMENT III

Subdivision-wise Distribution of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled tribe and other population in Goalpara District, 1961.

Subdivisions	Area (sq.km.)	Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe	Others	Total Population	Density per sq.km.
Goalpara	2,844	31,762 (5.78)	65,783 (14.05)	3,70,799 (79.17)	4,68,347 (100.00)	165
Dhubri	2,730	27,189 (4.49)	15,583 (2.57)	5,62,918 (92.94)	6,05,695 (100.00)	222
Kokrajhar	4,732	19,175 (4.03)	1,45,111 (30.88)	3,05,564 (65.04)	4,69,850 (100.00)	99
Total District	10,306	78,126 (5.06)	2,26,485 (14.67)	12,39,281 (80.27)	15,43,892 (100.00)	150

Source : District Census Hand Book, 1961

Statement IV

Population by Industrial Category,
Goalpara District, 1961.

Industrial Classification	Rural	Urban	Total
I. Cultivators	431,991 (74.94)	1,481 (4.02)	433,472 (70.69)
II. Agricultural Labour	38,233 (6.63)	289 (0.78)	38,522 (6.28)
III. Mining etc.	5,363 (0.93)	545 (1.48)	5,908 (0.96)
IV. Household Industry	36,898 (6.40)	713 (1.94)	37,611 (6.13)
V. Manufacturing	5,942 (1.03)	6,554 (17.80)	12,496 (2.04)
VI. Construction	1,563 (0.27)	577 (1.56)	2,140 (0.35)
VII. Trade & Commerce	18,568 (3.22)	11,015 (29.91)	29,583 (4.82)
VIII. Transport, Storage	3,774 (0.66)	2,930 (7.96)	6,704 (1.09)
IX. Services	34,150 (5.92)	12,724 (34.55)	46,874 (7.64)
Total workers	576,482 (100.00)	36,828 (100.00)	613,310 (100.00)
Non-workers	865,267	65,315	930,582
Total population	1,441,749	102,143	1,543,892

Note : Figures in brackets indicate percentages of total workers.

Source : District Census Hand Book, 1961

Statement V

Distribution of Rural Workers by Sex and
Industrial Category, Goalpara District,
1961

Industrial Category	Male	Female	Total
I. Cultivators	315,863 (73.24)	116,123 (71.60)	431,991 (74.94)
II. Agrl. Labour	33,015 (7.97)	5,218 (3.22)	38,233 (5.53)
III. Mining etc.	4,109 (0.99)	1,254 (0.77)	5,363 (0.93)
IV. Household Industry	4,184 (1.01)	32,714 (20.17)	36,898 (6.40)
V. Manufacturing	3,972 (0.96)	1,970 (1.21)	5,942 (1.03)
VI. Construction	1,517 (0.37)	46 (0.03)	1,563 (0.27)
VII. Trade & Commerce	17,133 (4.15)	1,380 (0.85)	18,513 (3.22)
VIII. Transport, Storage	3,743 (0.90)	23 (0.02)	3,766 (0.66)
IX. Services	30,692 (7.41)	3,453 (2.13)	34,145 (5.92)
Total : Workers	4,14,236 (100.00)	1,62,196 (100.00)	5,76,432 (100.00)
Total : Non-workers	3,39,222	5,26,045	8,65,267
Total : Rural Population	7,53,508	3,33,241	14,41,749

Note : Figures in brackets indicate percentages of the total workers

Source :- District Hand Book, Goalpara, 1961
Census.

Statement VI

Area, Population, No. of Households and other Characteristics of Sample Villages, 1961 Census

Village	Area in Hectares	No. of Population			No. of Literate Persons (1)			No. of Workers (2)			No. of Cultivators (3)			No. of Agri Labour (4)			
		M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	
Bagrapar II	N.A.	85	247	234	481	36	4	40	149	-	149	142	-	142	-	-	-
						(14.57)	(1.71)	(8.32)	(60.32)		(30.98)	(95.30)		(95.30)			
Kankoljana Part I	401.33	119	429	395	824	232	53	235	200	206	405	194	177	341	5	1	6
						(54.08)	(13.42)	(34.59)	(45.52)	(52.15)	(49.27)	(32.00)	(85.92)	(83.99)	(2.50)	(0.49)	(1.48)
Shasanichar	135.33	39	362	298	330	55	5	30	178	2	130	150	2	152	12	-	12
						(15.19)	(1.63)	(9.09)	(49.17)	(0.67)	(27.27)	(34.27)	(100.00)	(84.44)	(6.74)		(6.37)
Doldovpur or Duda-kanda	122.46	35	95	94	139	25	2	27	42	2	44	37	1	38	3	1	4
						(26.32)	(2.13)	(14.29)	(44.21)	(2.13)	(23.23)	(38.10)	(50.00)	(86.36)	(7.14)	(50.00)	(9.09)
Kadantala Part III	N.A.	75	232	209	441	45	3	51	134	1	125	115	1	116	16	-	16
						(19.40)	(2.37)	(11.56)	(57.76)	(0.43)	(30.61)	(35.82)	(100.00)	(85.93)	(41.95)		(11.85)
Umanagar	84.09	29	101	86	137	24	1	25	47	47	94	29	33	62	9	14	23
						(23.76)	(1.16)	(13.37)	(46.53)	(54.65)	(50.27)	(61.70)	(70.21)	(65.96)	(19.15)	(23.73)	(24.47)
Borahgari (Boralguri)	375.27	143	442	435	877	170	23	198	228	215	443	135	134	349	26	4	30
						(38.45)	(6.44)	(22.53)	(51.84)	(49.42)	(50.51)	(81.14)	(73.23)	(73.73)	(11.40)	(1.85)	(6.77)
Buallimari	37.64	35	200	137	387	117	32	179	94	47	141	50	13	63	3	-	3
						(58.50)	(33.15)	(46.25)	(47.00)	(25.13)	(35.43)	(53.19)	(72.34)	(44.63)	(3.83)		(2.13)

(1) Figures in brackets indicate percentage of population (2) Figures in brackets indicate percentage of workers in the population (3) Figures in brackets indicate percentage of cultivators among workers (4) Figures in brackets indicate percentage of agricultural labour among workers.

Statement VII

Land Utilisation in Goalpara District, 1964-65

(Area in Hectare)

	Area	P.C.
1. Forest	2,47,947.76	24.06
2. Land put to non-agricultural use	1,18,224.18	11.48
3. Barren and un-cultivated land	2,50,060.26	24.26
4. Permanent pasture and grazing land	34,555.24	3.35
5. Land Under Misc. tree crops and grooves not included in net area sown	23,585.59	2.29
6. Cultivated waste	17,036.42	1.65
7. Fellow land other than current fellow.	18,593.28	1.80
8. Current fellow	17,415.21	1.69
9. Net area sown	8,03,207.97	29.42
10. Total cropped area	4,11,498.53	--
11. Area sown more than once*	1,08,290.56	--
Total geographical areas	10,30,625.92	100.00

Source : Statistical Abstract of Assam, 1967-68.

* 35.71% of the net area sown.

Statement VIII (Contd.)
 Crop Pattern of Selected Blocks and
 Goalpara District, 1970-71
 (Provisional)

Crops	(Area in Hectares)					
	B	L	O	C	K	S
	Gauripur	Bilashipur		Dotma		Srijongram
Potato	397.410 (2.00)	833.122 (2.51)		342.990 (1.70)		182.112 (1.08)
Vegetables	544.314 (2.74)	2,013.355 (6.03)		145.590 (0.72)		--
Total Cropped Area	19,883.041 (100.00)	33,424.521 (100.00)		20,277.213 (100.00)		16,351.473 (100.00)
						4,99,148.453 (100.00)

Source : District Agricultural Office, Dhubri.

Note : Figures in the brackets indicate percentages of the column totals.

STATEMENT IX

Number of Households, Average Land Ownership per Household and Number of Small, Marginal and Agricultural Labour Farms in Sample Villages, Goalpara District, March, 1971.

Village	No. of Households	Total land owned by the households.	Average land area per household (Hectare)	No. of Small Farms	No. of Marginal Farms	No. of Agril. Labour Households	No. of other Households
Jhagrapur Part II	42	42.90	1.02	8 (19.05)	14 (33.33)	14 (33.33)	6 (14.29)
Bhasanichar Part II	113	109.03	0.96	43 (38.05)	47 (41.59)	10 (8.85)	13 (11.51)
Kadamtala Part III	93	105.92	1.14	29 (31.18)	24 (25.81)	20 (21.51)	20 (71.50)
Joldovpur (Duduar-kanda)	37	33.08	0.89	12 (32.43)	10 (27.03)	9 (24.32)	6 (16.82)
Buallmarl	53	79.39	1.50	11 (20.75)	10 (18.87)	13 (24.53)	19 (35.85)
Kakoijana Part I	42	64.35	1.53	19 (45.24)	3 (19.05)	6 (14.29)	9 (21.42)
Umanagar	31	39.12	1.26	12 (38.71)	7 (22.58)	9 (29.03)	3 (9.68)
Boraiguri (Barahgari)	37	62.59	1.69	7 (18.92)	7 (18.92)	11 (29.73)	12 (32.43)

Note : Figures in brackets indicate the percentages of total households.

Statement X

Distribution of Households by Occupation in selected Villages
Goalpara District, 1971.

	Jhagrapur part II (1)	Kakoijana part I (2)	Bhasanichar part II (3)	Joiddevpur part III (4)	Kadamtala part III (5)	Umangor (6)	Borehguri Bualimari (7)	
1. Cultivators of wholly owned land	23 (54.76)	19 (45.24)	34 (30.09)	12 (32.43)	30 (32.26)	22 (70.97)	23 (62.16)	3 (15.00)
2. Cultivators of mainly owned land	-	7 (16.67)	48 (42.43)	10 (27.03)	27 (29.03)	-	-	2 (3.77)
3. Cultivators of mainly unowned land	5 (11.91)	2 (4.76)	16 (14.16)	1 (2.70)	11 (11.83)	-	1 (2.70)	14 (26.42)
4. Cultivators of wholly unowned land	1 (2.38)	4 (9.52)	1 (0.33)	3 (3.11)	-	5 (16.13)	4 (10.82)	3 (5.66)
5. Rent Receiver	-	4 (9.52)	4 (3.54)	2 (5.41)	8 (3.60)	-	1 (2.70)	10 (18.87)
6. Agricultural labour	11 (26.19)	5 (11.91)	10 (8.35)	9 (21.32)	17 (18.23)	4 (12.90)	8 (21.62)	16 (30.19)
Total H.H. in Agrl.	40 (95.24)	41 (97.62)	113 (100.00)	37 (100.00)	93 (100.00)	31 (100.00)	37 (100.00)	53 (100.00)
7. Non-Agricultu- ral	2 (4.76)	1 (2.33)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Households	42 (100.00)	42 (100.00)	113 (100.00)	37 (100.00)	93 (100.00)	31 (100.00)	37 (100.00)	53 (100.00)

NB : Figures within brackets indicate percentages of total households in the village.

STATEMENT 4
 Distribution of Livestock Population in
 Sample Villages, Goalpara District,
 March, 1971.

Name of Village	No. of Total H.H.	Bullock		Cow		Youngstock		Goat		Pig		Fowl		Pigeon		Buffalo	
		Total No.	Ave- rage per H.H.	Total No.	Ave- rage per H.H.	Total No.	Ave- rage per H.H.	Total No.	Ave- rage per H.H.	Total No.	Ave- rage per H.H.	Total No.	Ave- rage per H.H.	Total No.	Ave- rage per H.H.	Total No.	Ave- rage per H.H.
Jhagrpara I	42	47	1.12	31	0.74	14	0.33	53	0.83	--	--	--	0.07	--	--	--	--
Bhassanichar II	113	239	2.12	105	0.93	53	0.47	110	0.97	--	--	392	0.18	--	--	2	0.02
Kedantala III	93	119	1.28	102	1.10	38	0.41	56	0.60	--	--	66	0.54	40	0.43	7	0.08
Joiddevpur	37	45	1.22	75	2.03	18	0.49	15	0.41	--	--	--	0.57	32	0.86	--	--
Boalimari	53	78	1.47	56	1.06	47	0.39	88	1.66	--	--	67	0.91	120	2.25	--	--
Kakoigana I	42	86	2.05	70	1.67	67	1.60	72	1.71	--	--	--	2.93	67	1.60	2	0.05
Umanagar	31	52	1.67	24	0.77	7	0.23	20	0.65	18	0.58	231	--	--	--	19	0.61
Barahgari	37	63	1.70	26	0.70	8	0.22	11	0.30	70	1.89	151	0.89	--	--	11	0.30

Statement XII

Distribution of Population by Sex, Economic Status, Literacy and Education of Sample Households.
Goalpara, March 1971.

Occupational Class.	Sex	Economic Status			Literacy and Education			Matric. & above			
		Workers	Non-workers		Ill.	Just Lit.	M.E. Std.		Matric. Std.		
			General	Student						General	Student
Small Farmers	M	46	20	19	1	8	47	7	30	8	2
	F	21	44	4	6	4	64	3	10	2	-
	T	67	64	23	7	12	111	10	40	10	2
Marginal Farmers	M	73	33	10	5	9	90	12	27	6	-
	F	40	67	8	7	1	106	4	13	-	-
	T	113	105	18	12	10	196	16	40	6	-
Agrl. Labours	M	59	50	3	9	2	95	12	15	1	-
	F	39	72	6	8	-	118	3	4	-	-
	T	98	122	9	17	2	213	15	19	1	-
All Groups	M	178	103	32	15	19	232	31	72	15	2
	F	100	183	18	21	5	283	10	27	2	-
	T	278	291	50	36	24	520	41	99	17	2

Statement XIII

Distribution of Population by Sex and Age-group of Sample Households, March, 1971.

Occupational Class	Sex	Age groups			General Total	
		Below 5 years	5 to 15	15 to 60		60 and above
Small Farmers	M	13	28	49	4	94
	F	13	17	45	4	79
	T	26	45	94	8	173
Marginal Farmers	M	24	33	75	3	135
	F	27	37	57	2	123
	T	51	70	132	5	258
Agricultural Labourers	M	22	42	53	1	123
	F	26	47	50	2	125
	T	48	89	103	3	243
All Groups	M	59	103	182	8	352
	F	66	101	152	8	327
	T	125	204	334	16	679

Nature of Structure of Residential Buildings of Small & Marginal Farmers
 and Agricultural Labourers, Goalpara District, 1971
 (Floor space in sq.ft.)

Nature of Structure	Small Farmers		Marginal Farmers		Agricultural Labourers		All Groups	
	No. of Units	Floor Space	No. of Units	Floor Space	No. of Units	Floor Space	No. of Units	Floor Space
1. Mudfloor & Split bamboo & thatched wall & thatched roof.	41 (91.11)	9342	66 (95.65)	15614	56 (100.00)	12874	163 (95.88)	37830
2. Mudfloor & Split bamboo & thatched wall & C.I. sheet roof.	2 (4.44)	520	1 (1.45)	450	--	--	3 (1.76)	970
3. Mud floor & split bamboo & thatched wall & tiles roof	2 (4.44)	524	--	--	--	--	2 (1.18)	524
4. Mudfloor & split bamboo & wooden wall & thatched roof	-	--	1 (1.45)	384	--	--	1 (0.59)	384
5. Mudfloor & split bamboo & wooden wall & tiles roof	-	--	1 (1.45)	324	--	--	1 (0.59)	324
Total :	45 (100.00)	10386	69 (100.00)	16772	56 (100.00)	12874	170 (100.00)	40032

Note : Figures in brackets indicate p.c. of column totals.

Statement XV

Distribution of number of livestock and Poultry birds according to occupational Group,
Goalpara, 1970-71

of animals birds	Small Farmers Sample 24		Marginal Farmers Sample 48		Agricultural Labourers Sample 48		Total Sample 120	
	No. of H.H. No. of animal possessing possessed	No. of animal possessing possessed	No. of H.H. No. of animal possessing possessed	No. of H.H. No. of animal possessing possessed	No. of H.H. No. of animal possessing or birds possessed	No. of H.H. No. of animal possessing or birds possessed	No. of H.H. No. of animal possessing or birds possessed	No. of H.H. No. of animal possessing or birds possessed
<u>Cattle</u>								
1. Bullock	24	57 (2.37)	37	68 (1.42)	7	12 (0.25)	68	136 (1.13)
2. Cow	17	25 (1.04)	25	22 (0.46)	9	7 (0.15)	51	54 (0.45)
3. Young stock	12	30 (1.25)	17	16 (0.33)	10	4 (0.08)	39	30 (0.25)
4. Dry animals	6	10 (0.42)	9	27 (0.56)	3	13 (0.27)	18	70 (0.58)
5. Buffalo	-	-	3	5 (0.10)	-	-	3	5 (0.10)
6. She buffalo	-	-	1	1 (0.02)	-	-	1	1 (0.02)
7. Young Stock	-	-	1	1 (0.02)	-	-	1	1 (0.02)
<u>C. Other animal</u>								
1. Goat	10	21 (0.87)	29	61 (1.27)	15	22 (0.46)	54	104 (0.87)
2. Pig	5	6 (0.25)	5	9 (0.19)	3	5 (0.10)	13	20 (0.17)
<u>D. Poultry birds</u>								
1. Fowls	9	52 (2.17)	18	72 (1.50)	11	50 (1.04)	38	174 (1.45)
2. Duck	2	14 (0.58)	8	26 (0.54)	5	15 (0.31)	15	55 (0.46)
3. Pigeon	2	7 (0.29)	11	52 (1.08)	5	13 (0.37)	18	77 (0.64)

N.B. - Figures in the bracket show the number of livestock per sample household.

Statement XVI

Ownership of Tools and Implements by Occupational Groups, 1970-71.

Name of Tools and Implements.	Small Farmers		Marginal Farmers		Agricultural Laborers		All Groups	
	Total No. of H.H. possessing	Total No. of units possessed	Total No. of H.H. Possessed	Total No. of Units Possessed	Total No. of H.H. possessing	Total No. of Units possessed	Total No. of H.H. possessing	Total No. of Units possessed
1. Desi Plough	24	29	43	43	9	10	76	32
2. Improved Plough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Spade	24	28	43	51	36	37	103	116
4. Dalimari	24	55	42	72	6	8	72	135
5. Weeder	16	17	30	30	6	6	52	53
6. Harrow	22	22	37	37	5	5	64	64
7. Sickle	24	45	46	71	27	36	97	152
8. Bullockcart	4	4	7	7	-	-	11	11
9. Dhenki	3	3	6	6	3	3	12	12
10. Mortar & pestle	22	33	44	61	33	37	99	131

Statement XVII

Possession of Durable Consumer Goods of Industrial Origin by Different Categories of Farmers

Items	Small Farmers (24)			Marginal Farmers (48)			Agri. Labourers (43)			All categories (120)		
	No. of H.H. possessing	Total No. of units possessed	No. of units per H.H.	No. of H.H. possessing	Total No. of units possessed	No. of units per H.H.	No. of H.H. possessing	Total No. of units possessed	No. of units per H.H.	No. of H.H. possessing	Total No. of units possessed	No. of units per H.H.
Bicycle	--	--	--	2	2	0.04	--	--	--	2	2	0.01
Gun	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Watch	1	1	0.04	1	1	0.02	--	--	--	2	2	0.02
Oil stove	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Patromarch	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Forch	4	4	0.17	5	5	0.10	2	2	0.04	11	11	0.05
Table	10	11	0.46	15	19	0.38	1	1	0.02	23	30	0.25
Chair	11	12	0.50	12	19	0.40	2	5	0.10	25	36	0.30
Coat	17	34	1.42	22	35	0.73	10	13	0.27	49	82	0.68
Almirah	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Trunk	1	2	0.03	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	2	0.02

Statement XVIII

Numbers of Fruit Plants by occupational groups, Goalpara, 1971

	Figonal	Arccanut	Betei vines	Coccanut	Banana	Mango	Jackfruit	Litchi														
	No. of H.H. posse-ssed	No. of trees posse-ssed	AVER-AGE per sam-ple H.H.	No. of H.H. vines posse-ssed	AVER-AGE per sam-ple H.H.	No. of H.H. trees posse-ssed	AVER-AGE per sam-ple H.H.	No. of H.H. plants posse-ssed	AVER-AGE per sam-ple H.H.													
All Farmers (43)	17	602	25.08	4	53	2.21	1	4	0.17	20	233	9.71	14	33	1.37	15	15	31	1.29	1	1	0.04
Marginal Farmers (43)	23	955	19.92	3	13	0.37	-	-	-	32	412	8.53	22	41	0.35	25	41	41	0.35	3	4	0.03
Agricultural Labour (43)	10	147	3.06	1	5	0.10	-	-	-	9	100	2.03	7	10	0.21	6	8	8	0.17	-	-	-
Total :	55	1745	14.54	3	73	0.63	1	4	0.03	61	745	6.21	43	84	0.70	46	30	30	0.67	4	5	0.04
All groups (120)																						

Note : H.H. = household.

Statement XIX

Valu of Production & Sale of Horticultural Crops by Occupational groups, Goalpara, 1970-71

Occupational groups	Areca nut		Betel leaf		Coconut		Banana		Mango		Jackfruit		Litchi	
	Value of production	Sale	Value of production	Sale	Value of production	Sale	Value of production	Sale	Value of production	Sale	Value of production	Sale	Value of production	Sale
A.P. (24)	1700.00	390.00 (52.35)	790.00	595.00 (75.32)	30.00	-	1015.00	400.00 (39.41)	500.00	130.00 (25.00)	530.00	230.00 (39.33)	30.00	15.00 (50.00)
A.F. (43)	1395.00	790.00 (46.31)	150.00	100.00 (66.67)	-	-	1565.00	390.00 (24.92)	810.00	110.00 (13.53)	790.00	165.00 (20.39)	105.00	30.00 (23.57)
A.L. (43)	560.00	220.00 (39.29)	140.00	60.00 (42.86)	-	-	330.00	90.00 (27.27)	190.00	20.00 (10.53)	180.00	60.00 (33.33)	-	-
Total All groups (120)	3955.00	1900.00 (43.04)	1030.00	755.00 (40.09)	30.00	-	2910.00	880.00 (79.75)	1500.00	230.00 (17.33)	1550.00	455.00 (29.35)	135.00	45.00 (33.33)

Note : Figures in brackets indicate P.C. of sale out of Total production.

Statement XX

Area under Crops of 120 Households of Small Farmers (24 households)
Marginal farmers (48 households) and Agricultural Labour (48 house-
holds), Goalpara 1970-71

Crops	Area in Hectare							Total					
	Sall Paddy	Ahu Paddy	Bao Paddy	Boro Paddy	Total Paddy	Jute	Musta-Wheat rd Seed		Small Millet	Other Potato Pulses	Chilli	Sugar- cane	Seas- amum
Agarapara II	5.68 (50.76)	3.98 (30.24)	-	-	10.66 (31.00)	2.50 (19.00)	-	-	-	-	-	-	13.16 (100.00)
Basanichar II	2.36 (10.82)	6.34 (29.07)	3.64 (16.69)	-	12.34 (56.58)	2.56 (11.74)	1.15 (5.27)	2.09 (9.58)	1.21 (5.55)	2.46 (11.28)	-	-	21.81 (100.00)
Madantala III	3.44 (23.61)	5.73 (39.33)	-	0.27 (1.85)	9.44 (64.79)	2.16 (14.82)	1.32 (12.50)	1.15 (7.39)	-	-	-	-	14.57 (100.00)
Joivedpur (Buduarkanda)	5.80 (38.43)	5.93 (39.30)	-	-	11.73 (77.73)	1.42 (9.41)	1.89 (12.53)	-	-	-	0.05 (0.33)	-	15.09 (100.00)
Joalimari	7.96 (37.89)	8.23 (39.17)	0.61 (2.90)	-	13.30 (79.96)	2.56 (12.18)	1.15 (5.47)	0.07 (0.33)	-	0.27 (1.23)	-	0.09 (0.43)	21.01 (100.00)
Kakoljana I	5.27 (44.91)	5.60 (40.11)	-	-	11.37 (35.02)	1.08 (7.74)	0.94 (3.74)	-	-	-	-	-	13.96 (100.00)
Umanagar	8.90 (53.48)	5.94 (35.70)	-	-	14.84 (39.18)	1.48 (8.90)	0.20 (1.20)	-	-	-	-	-	16.64 (100.00)
Borehgauri	7.69 (52.64)	3.74 (46.13)	-	-	14.43 (98.77)	-	-	-	-	-	0.12 (0.72)	-	14.61 (100.00)
All													
Total Villages	49.10 (37.52)	48.49 (37.06)	4.25 (3.24)	0.27 (0.21)	102.10 (78.03)	13.76 (10.52)	7.15 (5.46)	3.31 (2.53)	1.21 (0.92)	2.73 (2.09)	0.14 (0.11)	0.30 (0.23)	130.85 (100.00)

Note :- Figures in brackets indicate p.c. of total cropped area.

Statement XII

Farm Harvest Price of Different Crops in Selected Villages, 1970-71.

Village	Sali		Ahu		Bao		Boro		Jute	Mustard	wheat	small	Black	Masur	potato	Chilli	Sugarcane	Sor		
	paddy	price	paddy	price	paddy	price	paddy	price	price	seed	price	millet	gram	price	price	price	price	price	price	
Agarpapara II	64.30		53.53		-		-		107.17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asanichar II	66.98		53.53		53.91		-		125.92	133.93	33.93	53.53	93.77	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amatala III	39.35		53.91		-		56.23		107.17	133.93	39.63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Addevpur	64.30		53.53		-		-		107.17	133.93	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30.00	-
Ualimari	64.30		53.23		53.26		-		112.53	123.24	39.33	-	96.45	125.00	50.00	-	-	-	-	120
Akrojana I	63.93		53.91		-		-		117.33	125.92	-	-	-	-	50.00	-	-	-	-	-
Managar	64.30		53.91		-		-		120.56	131.23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	-
Borahgari	65.93		53.23		-		-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	-

(Rupees per quintal)

(Gur)

Statement XXII
Annual Income of Small Farmers, Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers
by sources, Coalpara, 1970-71

Sources of Income	Small Farmers		Marginal Farmers		Agril. Labour		All Groups	
	Income	Income per Farm	Income	Income per farm	Income	Income per farm	Income	Income per farm
Agriculture	39843.00	1630.33	46015.00	953.64	6100.00	127.08	91963.00	765.36
	(80.15)		(56.65)		(9.34)		(47.35)	
Horticulture	4590.00	191.25	4365.00	101.15	1110.00	23.12	10555.00	87.96
	(9.23)		(5.93)		(1.79)		(5.47)	
Livestock	2000.00	83.33	2530.00	53.75	890.00	13.54	5470.00	45.58
	(4.02)		(3.13)		(1.43)		(2.33)	
Agricultural Casual Labour	1200.00	50.00	12410.00	253.54	43704.00	910.50	57314.00	477.62
	(2.41)		(15.23)		(70.47)		(29.70)	
Sub-Total of Agriculture	47633.00	1984.91	65860.00	1372.09	51804.00	1079.24	165302.00	1377.52
	(95.31)		(31.09)		(83.53)		(35.65)	
Cottage & Small Scale Industries	1180.00	49.17	1455.00	30.31	645.00	13.44	3280.00	27.33
	(2.37)		(1.79)		(1.04)		(1.70)	
Non-Agricultural Casual Labour	-	-	3585.00	74.69	2380.00	60.00	6465.00	53.37
			(4.41)		(4.64)		(3.35)	
Salary	-	-	8460.00	176.25	720.00	15.00	9180.00	76.50
			(10.42)		(1.16)		(4.76)	
Others	900.00	37.50	1830.00	38.75	5970.00	124.38	8730.00	72.75
	(1.32)		(2.29)		(9.63)		(4.53)	
Sub-Total of Non-Agriculture	2030.00	36.37	15330.00	320.00	10215.00	212.32	27655.00	230.45
			(13.91)		(16.47)		(14.34)	
Grand Total	49713.00	2071.53	81220.00	1692.08	62019.00	1292.06	192957.00	1607.97
	(100.00)		(100.00)		(100.00)		(100.00)	

Note :- Figures within brackets indicate percentages of total

Appendix "B"

The Constitution of the District level
Small and Marginal Farmers and Landless
Agriculturists Development Agency in Assam.

1. Deputy Commissioner (Chairman) (Principal Secretary, District Council for Mikir Hills).
2. Project Officer (Senior Agril. Deptt. Officer)-
Member Secretary.
3. Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies.
4. One representative of the Planning Commission.
5. One representative from Ministry of Agriculture,
Government of India.
6. District Agricultural Officer.
7. District Veterinary Officer.
8. One representative of the Land Development Bank.
9. One representative of the Central Co-operative
Bank.
10. President, Mahkuma Parishad.
- 11-12. Two Non-Officials.

II. STATE LEVEL CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE.

There will also be a State Level Co-ordination
Committee headed by Agricultural Commissioner and consisting
of the following members :-

1. Agricultural Production Commissioner.
2. Commissioner of Plains Division.
3. Secretary Finance, Government of Assam.
4. Secretary, Agriculture, Government of Assam.
5. Secretary, Co-operatives, Govt. of Assam.
6. Director of Agriculture, Assam.
7. Director of Animal Husbandry, Assam.
8. Registrar, Co-operative Societies. Assam.
9. One representative from State Bank of India.
10. One Non-official Member from each district.

Appendix 'C'

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

Survey of Marginal & Small Farmers & Agricultural
Labourers

Household Schedule

1. Household Serial. No.
2. Name of the Head of the Household :
 - (a) Religion-
 - (b) Caste or Community:
 - (c) Tribe & Clan-
 - (d) Mother Tongue -
3. Settlement in the village :
 - (a) Year
 - (b) Reasons
4. Name of the village
5. Gaon Panchayat
6. Mauza-
7. Thana-
8. Anchalik Panchayat/Block
9. Mohkuma
10. District
11. State
12. Year of Survey
- Month

1. Population Characteristics

Serial No.	Relation to Head of Household	Sex	Age	Educa- tion	Economic Status	Remarks
------------	-------------------------------	-----	-----	-------------	-----------------	---------

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4
- 5
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

2. Resources of the Household

2.1. Durable Consumer Goods in Use

	No. in Use	Approx. Value
1. Radio		
2. Gramophone		
3. Sewing Machine		
4. Bicycle		
5. Gun or Other Firearm		
6. Watch		
7. Clock		
8. Oil Stove		
9. Patromax		
10. Torch		
11. Tables		
12. Chairs		
13. Cots		
14. Almirah		
15.		
16.		

2.2. Buildings and Houses :

Srl. No.	Use	Floor space	Nature of Structure			
			Plinth	Floor	Wall	Roof
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						

2.3. Land

2.3.1. Land Ownership

	Area- In Bigha		
	Perodic (Myadi)	Annual (Eksona)	Total
Owned land under personal cultivation			
Land taken on lease			
Land Leased out			
Land not available for cultivation			
Homestead & Orchard			

2.3.2. Land Improvement :- (Last 5 years)

	Area covered & Crops Grown	Expenditure incurred	Subsidy or Grant from the Govt.
1. Irrigation			
2. Drainage			
3. Soil Conservation			
4. Fencing			
5. Levelling			

2.4. Agricultural Tools & Implements

Names of Tools & Implements	No. in use	Approximate value
1. Desi Plough		
2. Improved Plough		
3. Spade		
4. Hoe		
5. Seed-drill		
6. Harrow		
7. Sickle		
8. Bullock Cart		
9. Dhenki		
10. Sugar Cane Crusher		
11. Ghani		
12. Others.		

3. Details of Crop production

	Name of Crop	Area (bigha)	Total Production (mds)	Sale (mds)	other disbursements.
Ist Group					
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
2nd Group					
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
3rd Group					
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

4. Inputs in Cultivation.4.1. Labour :-

Nature of work	Area operated (In Bigha)	Family labour employed (mandays)		Hired labour employed (mandays)		Daily Wage rate.	
		M	F	M	F	M	F
1. Preparation of Land							
2. Transplanting							
3. Sowing							
4. Harvesting							
5. Carrying							
6. Threshing							
7. Others							

4.2. Seeds & Other Inputs

Items	Area	Quantity	Value	Value of Govt's subsidy or aid, if any
(a) Seed				
(i) Traditional				
(ii) Improved				
(b) Fertilisers				
(i)				
(ii)				
(iii)				
(c) Green Manure				
(i)				
(ii)				
(iii)				
(d) Other Manure				
(i)				
(ii)				
(iii)				

5.1. Dwnership of Livestock

Name of Livestock & poultry	In work		Milch Animal		Young stock	
	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value
Bullock						
Cow						
Buffalo						
Goat						
Pig						
Horse						
Sheep						
Fowls						
Duck						

5.2. Income From Livestock & Poultry Products

Name of Livestock & Poultry	Sale		(Last Year) Home Consumption	
	No. of Quantity	Value	No. or Quantity	Value
Bullock				
Cow				
Buffalo				
Goat				
Pig				
Horse				
Fowls				
Duck				

8. Income, Investment & Indebtedness

8.1. Sources of Income (Last Yr.)

Sources	Approximate Amount in Rs.	Remarks
1. Cultivation		
(ii) Animal Husbandry		
(iii) Cottage Industry		
(iv) Casual Labour		
(v) Other		

8.2. Other Investments (Last 5 Yrs.)

Nature of Investment	Year	Amount
1. Purchase of land		
2. Purchase of livestock		
3. Bank/ Postal Saving		
4. Purchase of Ornament		
5.		
6.		
7.		

8.3. Sale of Capital Assets (Last 5 Yrs)

Name of the assets	Year of Sale	Amount Received	Pattern of use of sale amount
1. Land			
2. House or Building			
3. Ornaments			
4. Livestock			
5.			
6.			
7.			

3.4. Indebtedness

Sources or Agencies	Purpose of borrowing	Year of borrowing	Original Loan		Interest Rate	Security	Outstanding Loan		Interest Rate	Security
			Cash	Kind			Cash	Kind		

9. Pattern of Employment of workers

Serial No. in I.	No. of days		No. of days		Remarks
	fully engaged (5 hours & above)	Mature of work	partly engaged (below 5 hours but above 2 hours)	Nature of work	

10. Investigator's Note :

Signature of Investigator :

Date : _____