

Chapter - 3

Research Setting

Research setting refers to the detailed information of an area where the study was conducted. The study area generally comprises of a particular geographical area viz. a state, district, block or gram panchayat area, selected according to the convenience of the investigator who must possess adequate knowledge regarding the location, communication facility etc. of the locality so that he can easily approach each and every corner of the area for data collection. Besides these investigator must also possess the basic knowledge about the socio demographic background of the people so as to have an easy understanding of their knowledge, attitude and behavior.

Area of study

The area of investigation of this study is situated in the state of Bihar located in the northern part of India. The state of Bihar has a unique social, cultural and ecological background, which influence the living standard and behavioral patterns of the people in many ways. The area of study particular belongs to Chandi block of Nalanda district. The area study is comprised of village Madhopur Dih.

Description of the State:

Geography:

Bihar is located in the eastern part of the country. It is an entirely land locked state, although the outlet to the sea through the port of Kolkata is not far away. Bihar lies mid-way between the humid West Bengal in the east and the sub humid Uttar Pradesh in the west which provides it with a transitional position in respect of climate, economy and culture. It is bounded by Nepal in the north and by Jharkhand in the south. The Bihar plain is divided into two unequal halves by the river Ganga which flows through the middle from west to east.

History:

Bihar, the ancient land of Buddha, has witnessed golden period of Indian history. It is the same land where the seeds of the first republic were sown and which cultivated the first crop of democracy. Such fertile is the soil that has given birth to numerous intellectuals which spread the light of knowledge and wisdom not only in the country but in the whole world. The state has its capital at Patna, which is situated on the bank of the holy river Ganga. The state as it is today has been shaped from its partition from the province of Bengal and most recently after the separation of the tribal southern region now called Jharkhand.

The State of Bihar was reorganised on November 15, 2000 with 38 districts of undivided Bihar. It lies mid-way between West Bengal in the east and Uttar Pradesh in the west. It is bounded by Nepal in the North and by Jharkhand in the south. It is divided into two natural regions viz., North

Bihar Plain and South Bihar Plain. The total area of the State is 94,163.00 sq. kms. Out of this, only 56.03 lakh hectare is the net cultivated area while the gross cultivated area is 79.46 lakh ha. The state has several rivers such as Ganga, Sone, Bagmati, Kosi, Budhi Gandak, Punpun, etc. Forty-one per cent of cultivated area is flood prone and another forty per cent is drought prone.

After the bifurcation, the State is left with cultivable land in the Indo-Gangetic Plain and abundant water, both surface and sub-surface, for irrigation. Agriculture is the dominant economic activity. Agriculture is the dominant economic activity employing around three quarters of the work force in the State. The primary sector contributes around 38 per cent of the Gross State Domestic Product, cane, wheat, lentils and jute. Supplementary crops include oilseeds, pulses, barely, gram and maize and a variety of vegetables. The State is also known of its fruit products like litchi and mango.

Some of the major industries in Bihar are Agro-based such as textiles, oil mills, etc. Industries that are dependent on agriculture are the edible oils mills located at Araria, rice mills located in Buxar, Forbesganj in Purnea district, spice industries, sugar mills located at Banmankhi in Purnea district, jute mills and other agro-based industries. One of the biggest oil refineries in the country is based at Barauni in Bihar. There are 13 sugar mills in private sector and 15 in the public sector located in South and North Bihar with a total crushing capacity of 45,000 Tonnes per day (TPD). Bihar

is also the sixth largest producer of tobacco in the country. The important minerals found in Bihar are limestone, pyrites, quartzite and steatite.

Rivers:

One of the most striking features of the river system of Bihar is the dominant role of Ganga. The important rivers that join the Ganga from the north are, from west to east, Ghaghra, the Gandak, the Burhi Gandak, the Kosi, the Mahananda and its tributaries. Sonpur, which is situated along Ganga's bank is famous for the great bathing festival which is the occasion for the greatest cattle and elephant fair in the world. The Karmanasa, the Sone, the Punpun, the Phalgu, the Sakri and the Kiul are the principal streams that joins the Ganga from the south.

Key statistics of Bihar-as per 2011 census (provisional):

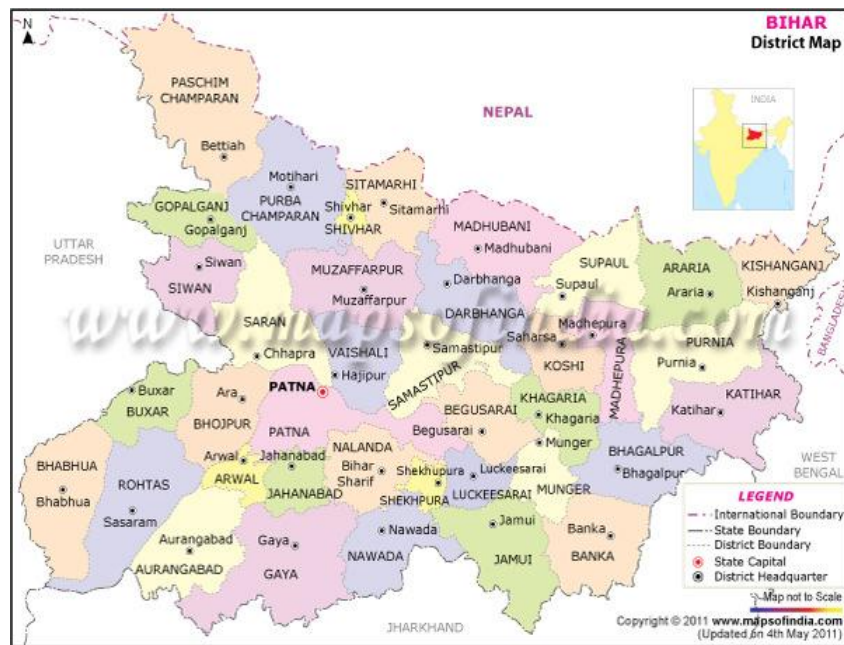
Total Population	10,38,04,637(8.58% of India's population)
Male	5,41,85,347
Female	4,96,19,290
Child population(0-6 yrs)	1,85,82,229
Literacy	5,43,90,254(63.82%)
Male literacy	3,27,11,975(73.39%)
Female literacy	2,16,78,279(53.33%)
Highest Literacy Rate	Rohtas, 75.59%
Lowest Literacy Rate	Purnia, 52.49%
Decadal growth rate	25.07
Highest Decadal Growth at	Madhepura District (30.65%)
Lowest Decadal Growth at	Gopalganj District (18.83%)
Sex ratio	916
Density per Sq. km	1102
Highest Density	Sheohar, 1882 per sq kms
Lowest Density	Kaimur, 488 per sq kms

Most Populous District	Patna: 57,72,804
Least Populous District	Sheikhpura: 6,34,927

Geographical information of Bihar:

Latitude:	21°-58'-10" ~ 27°-31'-15" N
Longitude:	82°-19'-50" ~ 88°-17'-40" E
Rural Area	92,257.51 sq. kms
Urban Area:	1,095.49 sq. kms
Total Area:	94,163.00 sq. kms
Height:	173 Feet above Mean Sea-Level
Normal Rainfall:	205 mm
Avg. Number of Rainy Days:	52.5 Days in a Year
Climate:	sub-tropical humid
Temperature:	maximum of 43°C in summer to a minimum of around 5°C in the winters
Relative Humidity:	up to 100% during summer
Principal Languages:	Hindi, Bhojpuri & Maithili

District Map of Bihar:



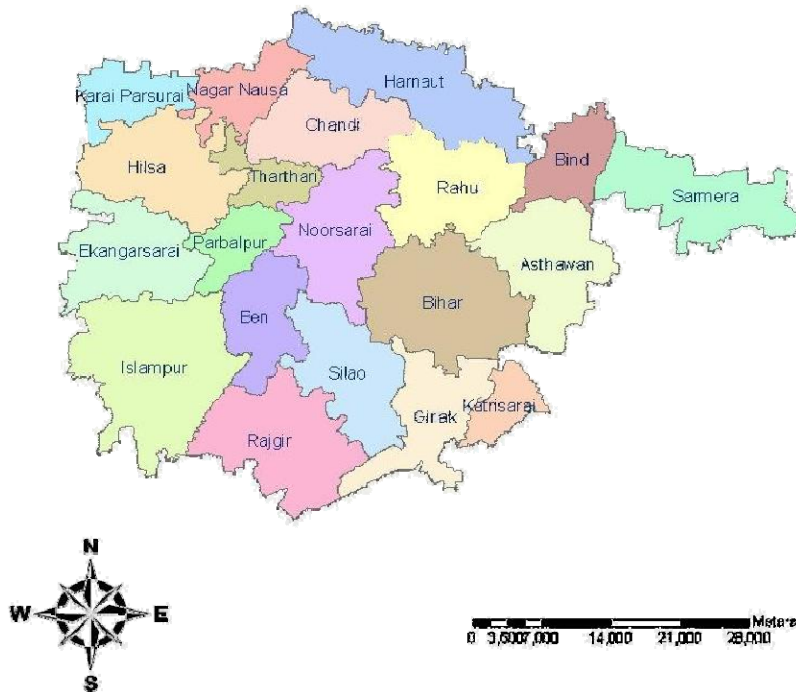
Nalanda District profile:

NALANDA is famous all over the world for the ancient International Monastic University established in 5th century BC, which taught Vedas, Logic, Grammar, Medicine, Meta-Physics, Prose Composition and Rhetoric. It was an ancient center of higher learning in Bihar, India. The site of Nalanda is located in the Indian state of Bihar, about 88 kilometers south east of Patna, and was a Buddhist center of learning from the fifth or sixth century CE to 1197 CE. It has been called "one of the first great universities in recorded history" Nalanda flourished between the reign of the Śākṛāditya (whose identity is uncertain and who might have been either Kumara Gupta I or Kumara Gupta II) and 1197 CE, supported by patronage from the Hindu Gupta rulers as well as Buddhist emperors like Harsha and later emperors from the Pala Empire.

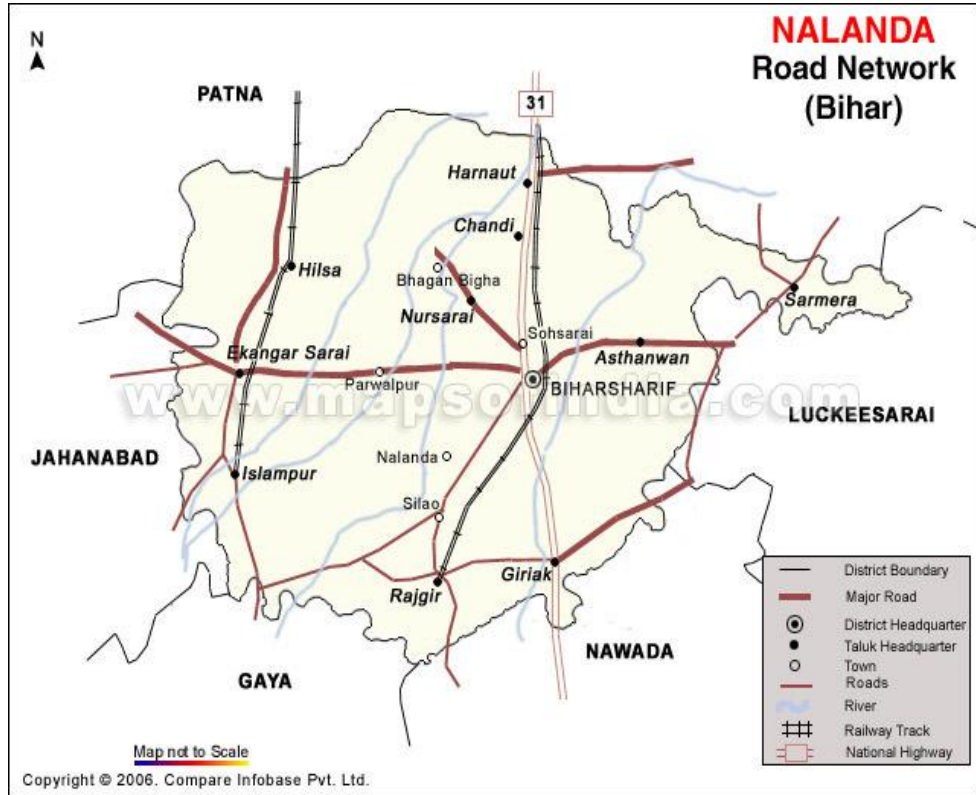
The complex was built with red bricks and its ruins occupy an area of 14 hectares. At its peak, the university attracted scholars and students from as far away as Tibet, China, Greece, and Persia. Nalanda was ransacked and destroyed by Turkic Muslim invaders under Bakhtiyar Khilji in 1193. The great library of Nalanda University was so vast that it is reported to have burned for three months after the invaders set fire to it, ransacked and destroyed the monasteries, and drove the monks from the site. In 2006, Singapore, China, India, Japan, and other nations, announced a proposed plan to restore and revive the ancient site as Nalanda International University. Nalanda district is popularly known as Biharsharif. The rivers Phalgu, and Mohane flows through the district of Nalanda. Agriculture is

the main source of occupation. The farmers mainly grow paddy, apart from it they grow Potato, and Onion. Few people of the district are also involved in handloom weaving. Since the district is a famous tourist destination, tourism plays a vital role in the economy of Nalanda. The popular heritage sites of Nalanda district are as follows: Nalanda University Archaeological Complex, Nalanda Archaeological Museum, Hieun Tsiang Memorial Hall, Pawapuri jal mandir, Vishwa Shanti Stupa, Griddhakoot Hill, Bimbisara Jail, Maniyar Math, Sone Bhandar, Jarasandh Ki Baithak, Pippala Cave, Saptaparni Cave, Ajatshatru Stupa, Fortification Walls, Venuvana Vihara.

BLOCK MAP OF NALANDA



Nalanda is an administrative district in the state of Bihar. The district headquarters is located at Bihar shariff. It is situated at the banks of the Budhi Gandak River. The district is bounded on the North by the patna district , on the south by Nawada and some part of Gaya districts, on the East by the Shekhpora, and on the West by Jharkhand State.



Nalanda District: At A Glance

1. Physical Structure

Headquarter	Bihar shariff
Total Geographical Area	2,355 sq.km

2. Administrative Department of Samastipur:

No. of sub 03 division	(Hilsa, Biharsharif, Rajgir)
No. of blocks	20
	(Giriyak, Rahui, Nursarai, Harnaut, Chandi, Islampur, Rajgir, Asthawan, Sarmera, Hilsa, Biharsharif, Ekangarsarai, Ben, Nagarnausa, Karaiparsurai, Silao, Parwalpur, Katrisarai, Bind, and Tharthari)
Towns	4
Villages	1084
Industry	Handloom weaving.

3. Key statistics as per 2011 census (provisional):

Total Population	2,872,523
Male	1,495,577
Female	1,376,946
Decadal growth rate	21.18%
Sex ratio	921
Child sex ratio (0-6 yrs.)	929
Density per Sq. km	1220
Proportion to Bihar Population	2.77%
Literacy	66.41 %
Male Literacy	77.11%
Female Literacy	54.76%

Block Profile: Chandi

1. Name of block office	:	Chandi
2. Number of gram panchayat	:	15
3. Number of village	:	78

Village Profile:

Total area of village	195.69 ha	
Total agricultural area	283.98 ha	
Total area under irrigation	95.4 ha	
Total farm family	235	

Total Literacy rate	60%	
Male literacy	73.21%	
Female literacy	43.78%	
Total No. of school	2	
Irrigation sources	Pump set & river	
Soil type	Sandy Loam soil.	
Hospital	1	
Main crops	Paddy, Wheat, Vegetables, Potato.	