

CHAPTER-4

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 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 the investigators must also have the basic knowledge about the socio-demographic background of the people so as to have an easy understanding of their knowledge, attitude and behavior. Thus, a study on Pulse Cultivation and Enterprise certainly demands a baseline information on the status of pulse cultivation, demography, crop ecology, environmental impact and enterprise character.

The present study was taken up at Rautari villages of Rautari gram panchayat in Chakdah block in West Bengal. A brief description of the state and district in general and the block and village in particular is given below.

Area of Study

The area of investigation of this study is situated in the state of West Bengal located in the eastern part of India. The state of West Bengal in eastern India has a unique social and ecological background which influence the living standard and behavioral patterns of the people in many ways. The area of investigation belong to the Chakdaha block in Nadia district. The area of the study in village Mahersorpur under Rautari gram panchayat.

Profile of the State West Bengal

West Bengal was created as a one of the constituent state of the Indian union among the 29th states in India on 15th August, 1947 as the result of partition of the undivided British Indian province of Bengal into West Bengal. West Bengal is situated in the north eastern part of India and lies between 21°37'-27°10' north latitude and 85°51'-89°53' east longitude.

It is flanked by the Bay of Bengal on the South, Sikkim on the north, Assam on the east and Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa on the west. It also has common borders with the three neighbouring countries viz. Nepal and Bhutan in the north and Bangladesh in the east. The tropic of cancer runs across the middle of the state and passes through four districts viz. Bankura, Burdwan, Nadia and Purulia. The state has a total geographical area of 88,752 sq. km. representing only 2.7% of the total area of India. It is territorially divided into 19 districts i.e. Coochbehar, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Uttar Dinajpur,

DakshinDinajpur, Malda, MurshidabadHoogly Howrah, Nadia, BirbhumBurdwmBankura, Purulia, 24 Par2ana(N) 24 Pargana(S)

PurbaMidnapur, PashimMidnapur and Kolkata. There are more than 341 Community Development blocks in West Bengal. There are 3354 Gram Panchayats and more than 42000 villages in West Bengal.

In 1947, when India became independent Bengal was partitioned between India India's share came to be known as West Bengal and Pakistan's share was called East Pakistan. Later, the state of Cooch Behar, French enclave of Chandernagore and some parts of Bihar were added to West Bengal. West Bengal represents the lands that possess a distinct culture with its indigenous art and crafts and make it an important part of the Indian Union.

Table1: General Information of West Bengal:

Total population	91,347,736
Male	46,927,389
Female	44,420,347
Population Growth	13.93%
Sex ratio	947
Population density	1029/ km ²
Literacy rate	77.08%
Male	82.67%
Female	71.16%
No of Sub divisions	66
No of blocks	341
No of Gram Panchayats	3354
Inhabited Villages	37945
Area (Sq. Km)	88752
% of Electrified Villages	83.6

Source: Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner 2011 Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI.

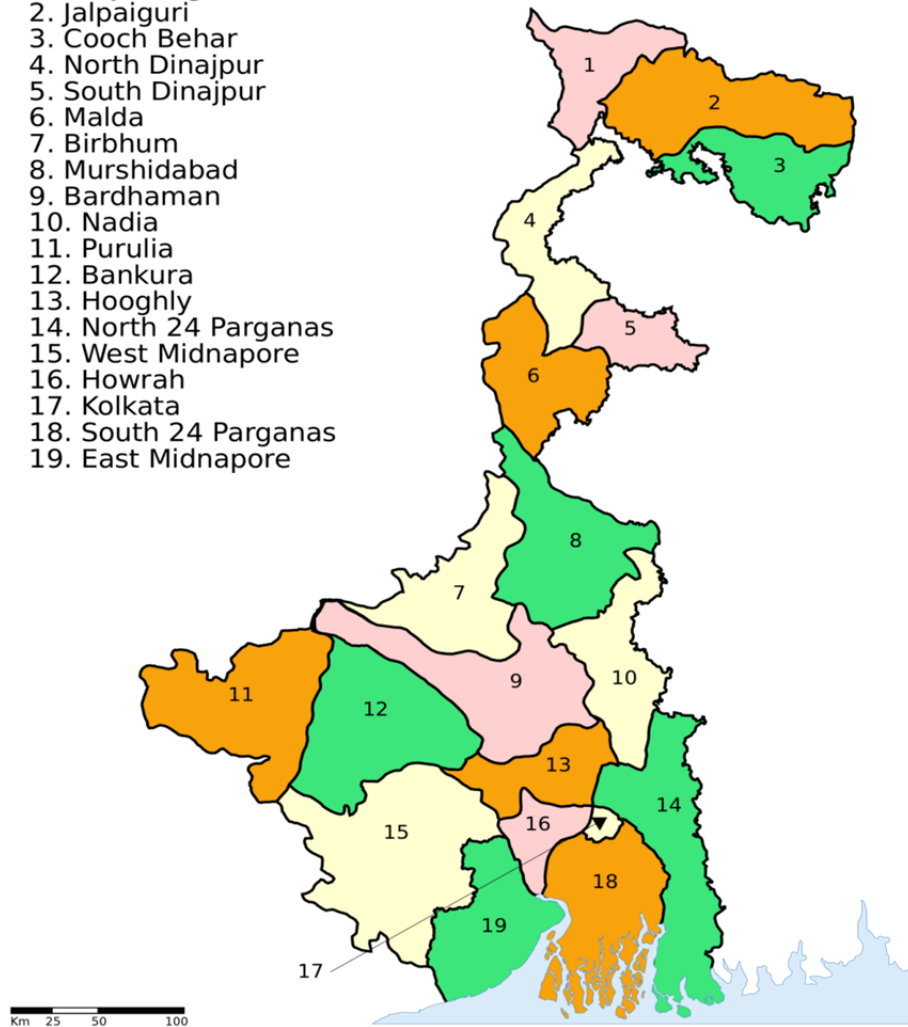
(http://census.gov.in/2011-prov-results/prov-data-products_wb.html)

Climate of the state:

In terms of the standard climate types, tropical climate viz. humid, sub humid, semi arid and arid occurs in different regions of the state. Its climate is very much influenced by monsoon rains which, in turn are of two types (1) South-West monsoon during the rainy season and (II) North-East monsoon during the winter season. Rainfall in West Bengal averages about 1200 to 1800 mm in the plains. The maximum and minimum temperatures recorded during March to October are 30-40°C and 16-26°C respectively in the plains while in the hills these are 15-20°C.

Districts of West Bengal

1. Darjeeling
2. Jalpaiguri
3. Cooch Behar
4. North Dinajpur
5. South Dinajpur
6. Malda
7. Birbhum
8. Murshidabad
9. Bardhaman
10. Nadia
11. Purulia
12. Bankura
13. Hooghly
14. North 24 Parganas
15. West Midnapore
16. Howrah
17. Kolkata
18. South 24 Parganas
19. East Midnapore



Profile of Nadia District:

The district of Nadia is situated in the heart of the Bengal delta held within the arms of the Ganga, namely, the Bhagirathi on the West and

Mathabhanga on the North. The entire district lies in the alluvial plain of the Ganga and its tributaries. Most districts in West Bengal take their name from the headquarters station of the district, but Nadia district takes its name not from Krishnagar, the headquarter but from Nadia or Nabadwip hallowed by the memory of Lord ShriChaitanyaMahaprabhu who was born here on 18th February, 1486. The British district of Nadia was formed in 1787. The present district of Nadia after partition was formed by Notification No.545-GA dated 23rd February, 1948.

The district of Nadia is bounded on the north and north-west by the district of Murshidabad. On the south-east and east it is bounded by the Republic of Bangladesh. In the south and south-east the district is bounded by the district of North 24-Parganas. The shape of the district is irregular, lying North to South. The district is about 46ft. above the mean sea-level and the tropic of cancer divides the district into two parts.

For administrative convenience Nadia district is divided into four Subdivisions – KrishnagarSadar, Ranaghat, Kalyani and Tehatta. The district has an area of 3927 sqkms having a population of 46,04,827 as per Census 2001. Out of that SC & ST population are 13,65,985 and 1,13891 respectively. The district has 17 PanchayetSamities consist of 187 Gram Panchyets and 8 Municipalities. Total number of Police Stations in the district is 19. The density of population in this district is 1173 persons per sq km. Nadia district has 950 females as against 1000 males. The majority of the people of the district speaks Bengali followed by Hindi, Santali and other. Religionwise about 73.75% are Hindus and 25.42% are Muslims. In

the district of Nadia the percentage of literacy by sex is 72.30 (Male) & 59.60 (Female) as per Census 2001. The important rivers of the district are Bhagirathi, Churni, Mathabhanga, Ichamati and Jalangi.

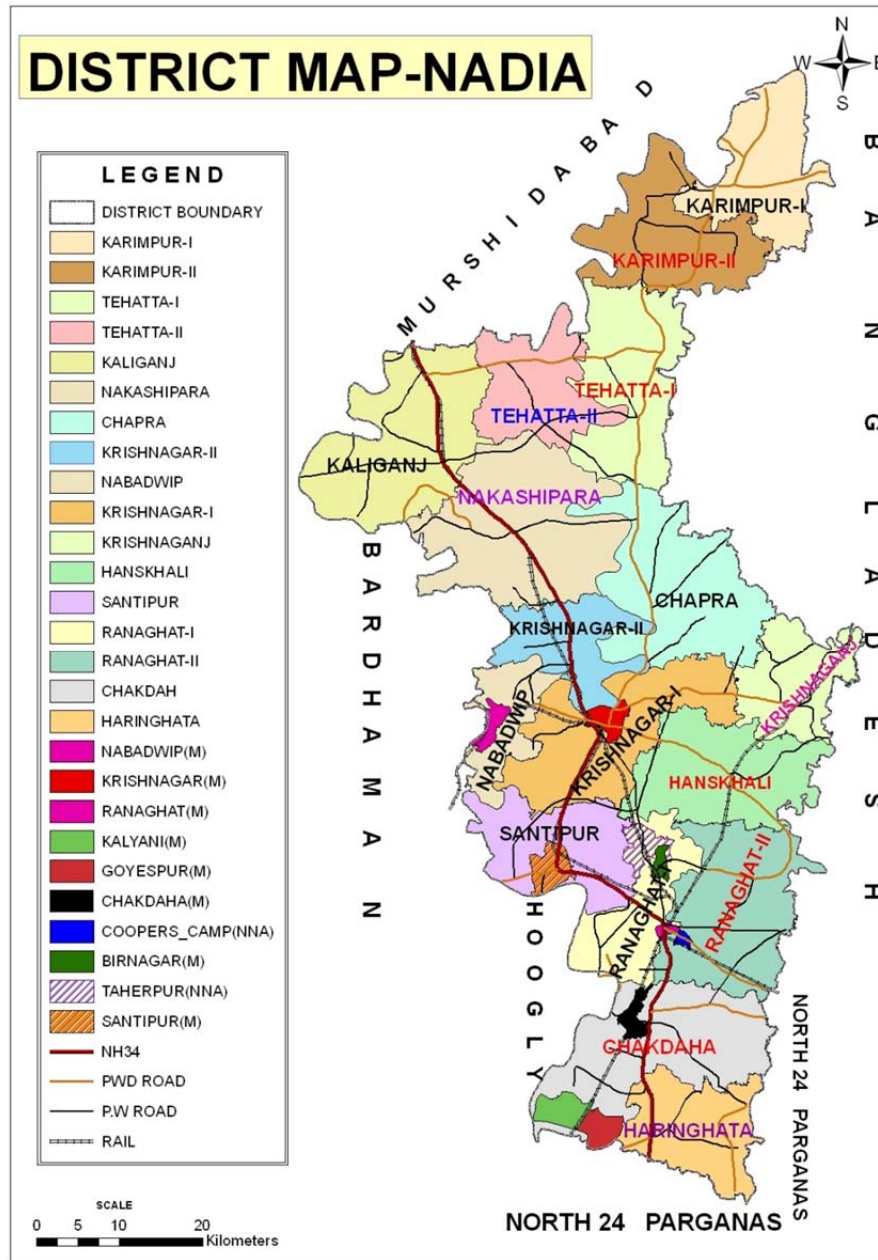
Krishnanagar is the most important town of this district, as it is the district headquarter of Nadia. It is on the bank of river Jalangi. The palace of Nadiaraj (Rajbari) built here is a prominent place of tourist attraction though the remnants of the past glory have been eroded and only a dilapidated structure of the exquisite places with carving on its inner walls exists today. Krishnanagar is famous for world-class clay models & terracotta works. It can claim a proud tradition for the sweets- Sarpuria & Sarbhaja.

Table1: General Information of West Bengal:

Total population	5,167,600
Male	2,653,768
Female	2,513,832
Population Growth	12.22%
Sex ratio(per 1000)	947
Population density	1300/ km ²
Literates Rate	74.97%
Male	78.75%
Female	70.98%
No of Sub divisions	5
No of Development blocks	17
No of Gram Panchayats	187
Inhabited Villages	2639
Area (Sq. Km)	3,927

Source: Office of the Register General and Census Commissioner 2011 Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI.

(http://census.gov.in/2011-prov-results/prov-data-products_wb.html)



Profile of Chakdaha Block

Chakdaha is a community development block that forms an administrative division in Kalyani subdivision of Nadia district in the Indian state of West Bengal. Chakdaha and Kalyani police stations serve this block. Headquarters of this block is at Chakdaha. It is located 42 km from Krishnanagar, the district headquarters.

Location

Chakdaha is located at 23°05'N 88°31'E.

Chakdaha CD Block is bounded by Ranaghat I and Ranaghat II CD Blocks in the north, JhikargachhaUpazila in Jessore District of Bangladesh in the east, Haringhata CD Block and Barrackpore I CD Block, in the North 24 Parganas district, in the south and Chinsurah-Mogra CD Block in Hooghly district, across the Hooghly River, in the west.

Area

Chakdaha CD Block has an area of 234.86km².

Physical features

Nadia district is mostly alluvial plains lying to the east of Hooghly River, locally known as Bhagirathi. The alluvial plains are cut across by such distributaries as Jalangi, Churni and Ichhamati. With these rivers getting silted up, floods are a recurring feature.

Gram panchayats

Gram panchayats of Chakdaha block/ panchayatsamiti are: Chanduria I, Chanduria II, Dewli, Dubra, Ghetugachhi, Hingnara, Kanchrapara,

Madanpur I, Madanpur II, Saguna, Sarati, Silinda I, Silinda II, Simurali, Tatla I, Tatla II and Rautari.

Demographics

As per 2011 Census of India Chakdaha CD Block had a total population of 405,719, of which 314,383 were rural and 91,336 were urban. There were 209,513 (52%) males and 196,206 (48%) females. Population below 6 years was 38,434. Scheduled Castes numbered 185,933 and Scheduled Tribes numbered 21,609.

As per 2001 census, Chakdaha block had a total population 362,739, out of which 187,025 were males and 175,714 were females. Chakdaha block registered a population growth of 19.52 per cent during the 1991-2001 decade. Decadal growth for the district was 19.51 per cent. Decadal growth in West Bengal was 17.84 percent.

Census towns and large villages

There are several census towns in Chakdaha CD Block (2011 census figures in brackets): Punglia (6,857), Darappur (8,275), Lalpur (P) (8,356), Chanduria (12,700), Simurali (5,027), Priyanagar (5,763), Jangal (5,106), Madanpur (13,675), Saguna (P) (14,991) and Kulia (P) (10,406).[6]

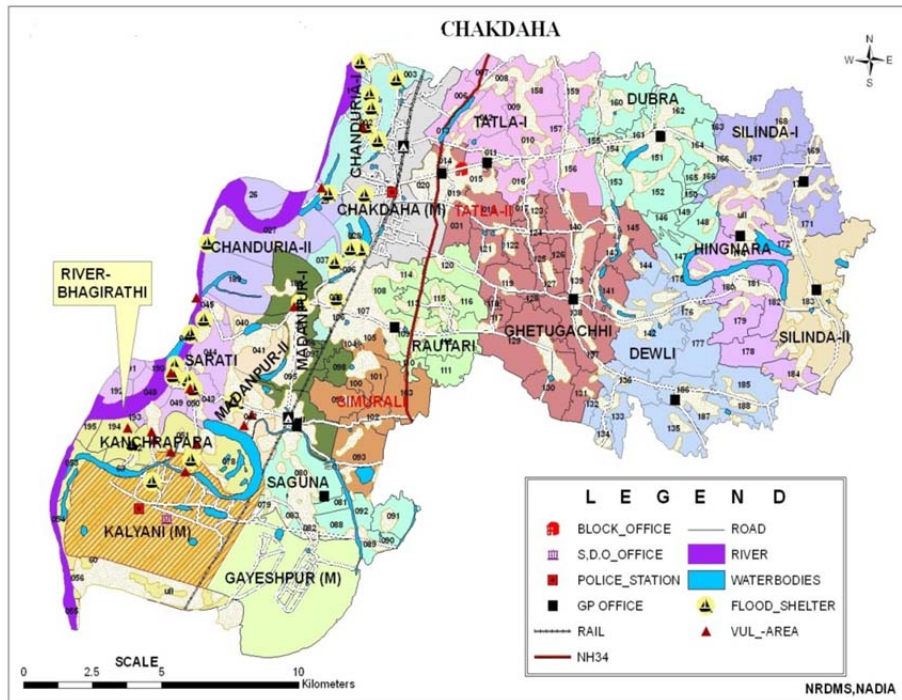
Large villages in Chakdaha CD Block are (2011 census figures in brackets): Balagari Char (5,305), Manaspota (4,544), Sikarpur (4,770), Alaipur (13,754), Rautari (6,563), Chaugachha (8,603), PurbaBishnupur (5,191), Dubra (5,285), Balia (6,014), Balarampur (4,606), Hariankha (6,585), Srinagar (10,483), Muratipur (P) (5,208), Char Kachrapara (4,491) and Chand Mari (P), (8,475).

Literacy

As per 2011 census the total number of literates in Chakdah CD Block was 293,946 (64.28% of the population over 6 years) out of which 161,564 (55%) were males and 132,382 (45%) were females.

Language

Bengali is the local language in these areas.



Rautari Gram Panchayat

Rautari village is located in Chakdah Tehsil of Nadia district in West Bengal, India. It is situated 4.6km away from sub-district headquarter Chakdah and 45.3km away from district headquarter

Krishnanagar. According to Census 2011 information the location code or village code of Rautari village is 322216.

General Information:

Gram Panchayat	Rautari
Population	6,563
Male Population	3293
Female Population	2270
Area	193.11 hectares
Households	1,510
Nearest Town	Chakdaha