


Research Paper

Temporal Analysis of Changes in Socio-Economic Status in Goalpara Village, Bolpur –Sriniketan Block, Birbhum District, West Bengal

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Abstract

Traditional village society has undergone changes in their socio-economic status with the progress of scientific and technological development, adoption of new administrative policy by the Government. Location of a village is also a prime criterion for temporal changes in a village society. My study area Goalpara village is located in Bolpur Sriniketan Tehsil of Birbhum district in West Bengal, India. The location code of Goalpara village is 317786. It is situated 4.9km away from sub-district headquarter Sriniketan and 30km away from district headquarter Suri. Goalpara village is under the Ruppur gram panchayat. The total geographical area of village is 145.45 hectares. Bolpur is nearest town to Goalpara. The objective of the study is to study the rapid changing (GIS based) status of the socio-economic condition of Goalpara village in a decade (2001-2011). The study is based on primary and secondary data. The maps are drawn by using GIS software. In 2001 there was 84 households and 465 population of the village whereas in 2011 these increases to 441 households and 2,044 populations. Average Sex Ratio of Goalpara village was 1030 in 2001 but now in 2011 it is 1048. Goalpara village has higher literacy rate compared to West Bengal. In 2011, literacy rate of Goalpara village is 77.64% which was 52.63%. The occupation of the villagers also changes depending on spreading urbanization of the adjacent town Bolpur and the recent development of business and trade In Goalpara village out of total population, 844 were engaged in work activities. 73.22 % of workers describe their work as Main Work while 26.78 % were involved in Marginal activity providing livelihood for less than 6 months. Positive socio-economic changes are found in the study area in a decade.

Manuscript Information

- **ISSN No:** 2583-7397
- **Received:** 02-06-2024
- **Accepted:** 03-07-2024
- **Published:** 10-07-2024
- **IJCRM:**3(4); 2024: 19-36
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- **Plagiarism Checked:** Yes
- **Peer Review Process:** Yes

How to Cite this Manuscript

Mahuya Sen. Temporal Analysis of Changes in Socio-Economic Status in Goalpara Village, Bolpur –Sriniketan Block, Birbhum District, West Bengal. International Journal of Contemporary Research in Multidisciplinary.2024; 3(4): 19-36.

KEYWORDS: Development, Urbanization, Literacy rate, Socio- economic changes, Livelihood.

1. INTRODUCTION

Indian society is largely a rural society. According to 2011 census 69% of India's people live in rural area. Most of the villagers are living on the primary economic activities. Where in agriculture is the prime occupation. Other activities that support village life are also sources of livelihood for people in

rural India. For example, a large number of artisans such as potters, carpenters, weavers, ironsmiths, and goldsmiths are found in rural areas. These are actually Caste based diversified occupation structure which were once part and parcel of the village economy in rural India. Some of these traditional

occupations have turned down. Few rural people have their livelihoods based on secondary and tertiary economic activities. Some are factory workers and others have government services. Traditional village society has undergone changes in their socio-economic status with the progress of scientific and technological development; adoption of new administrative policy by the Government.

Location

Location of a village is also a prime criterion for temporal changes in a village society. The study area, Goalpara village is located in Bolpur Sriniketan Block of Birbhum district in West Bengal, India. Goalpara village is under the Ruppur gram panchayat. The location code of Goalpara village is 317786. It is situated 4.9km away from sub-district headquarter Sriniketan and 30km away from district headquarter Suri. The total geographical area of village is 145.45 hectares. Bolpur is nearest town to Goalpara.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objectives of the study are

1) To study the demography of the village, this will focus on rapid population growth.

- 2) To study the distribution of caste pattern which will reflect the social structure of the village society.
- 3) To study the education level of the people through which we can come to know about their cultural status.
- 4) To study the economic activities of the village people of the study area, this will help to assess the economic condition of the people.
- 5) To study rapid changing status of the socio-economic condition of Goalpara village in a decade (2001-2011) and in recent data captured in 2020 (through primary survey)

3. METHODOLOGY

The study is based on primary and secondary data. Primary data are collected through household survey. Structured questionnaires are prepared for collection of the data. 78 household are surveyed which is 17% of the total households. Random Sampling method is used for selecting households. Secondary data is collected from 2011 and 2001 census. Temporal study is done through these data. Tables and diagrams are prepared in Ms excel sheet. The maps are drawn by using GIS software.

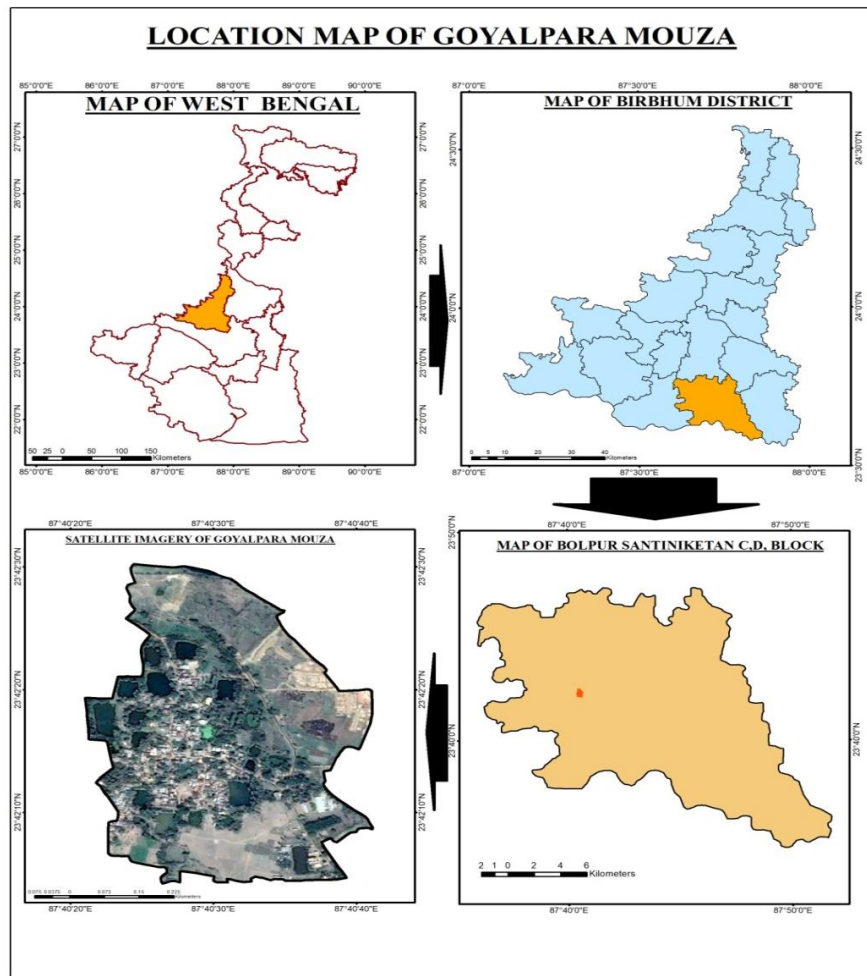


Fig 1: Location Map of Goalpara Mouza



Fig 2: Satellite Image of Goalpara 2011



Fig 3: Satellite Image of Goalpara 2001

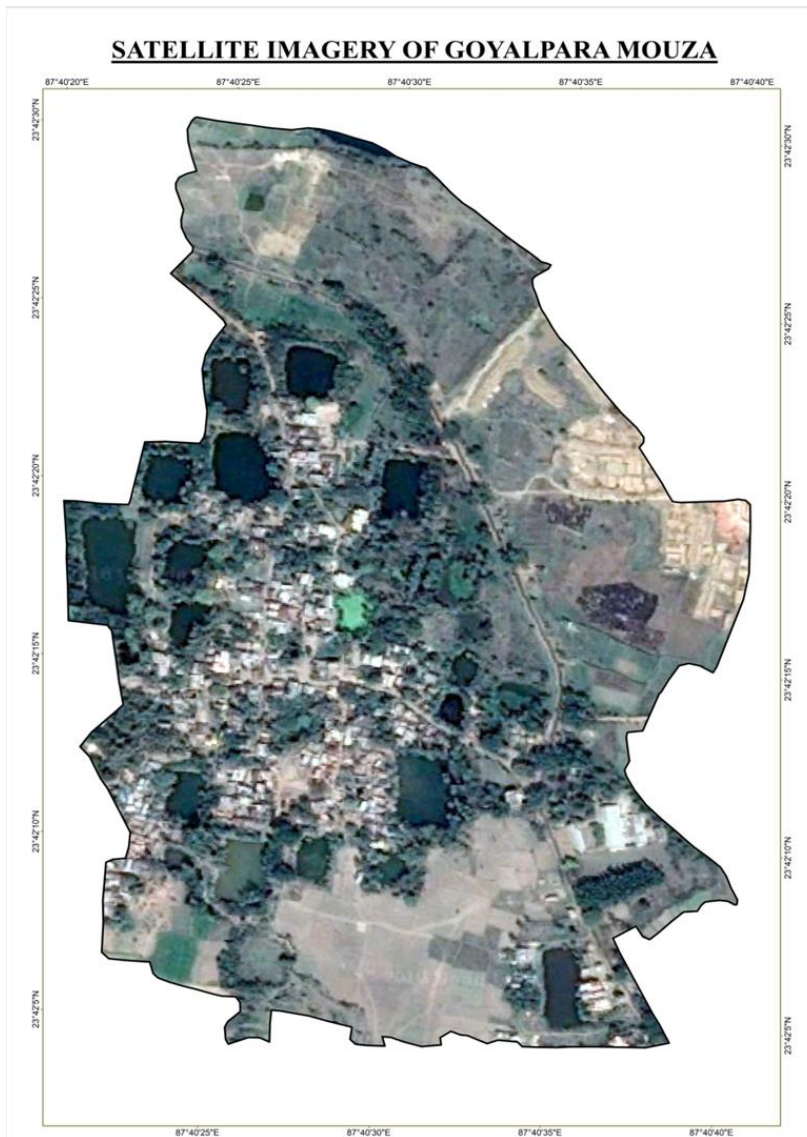


Fig 4: Satellite Imagery of Goyalpara Mouza

DEMOGRAPHY

Demography is the scientific study of human populations. It is important to understand the structure of a population in order to making overall development.; Demographics are distinct traits or attributes used to categorize a group of people based on specific criteria, such as age, gender, income level, education,

ethnicity, marital status, and employment. Demographic information assists researchers to identify trends and patterns within a population. Population structures can be represented as age pyramids. Age is one of the most significant demographic factors. Population growth or decline depends upon fertility, mortality and migration.

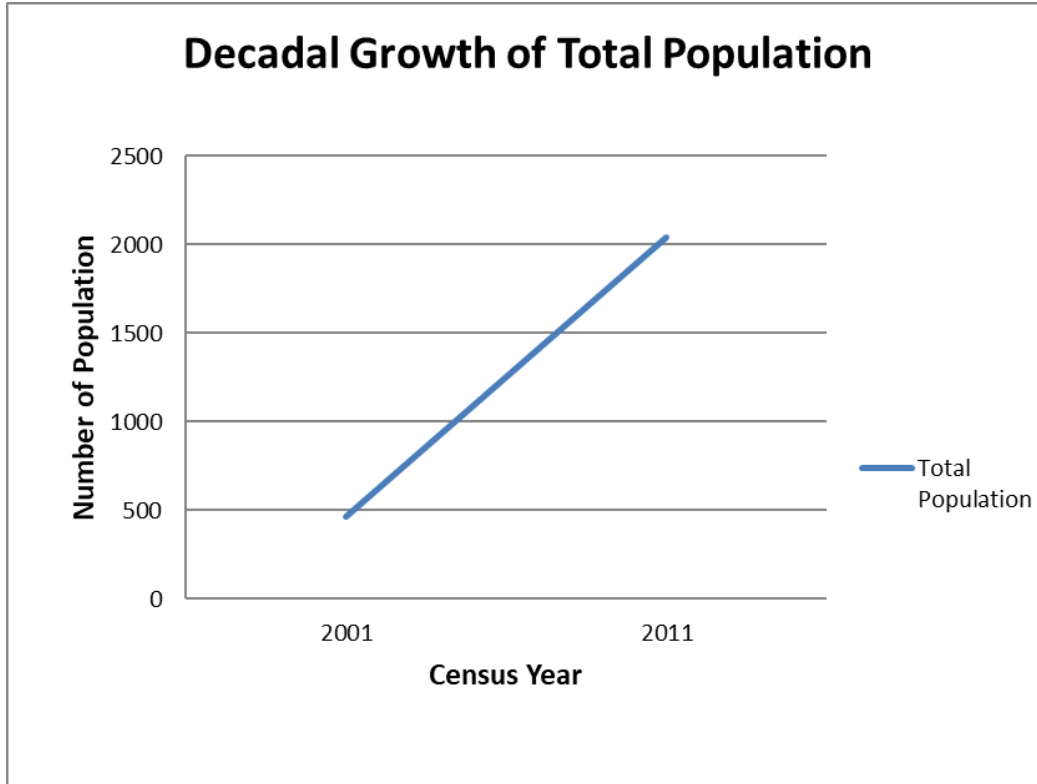


Fig 5: Decadal Growth of Total Population

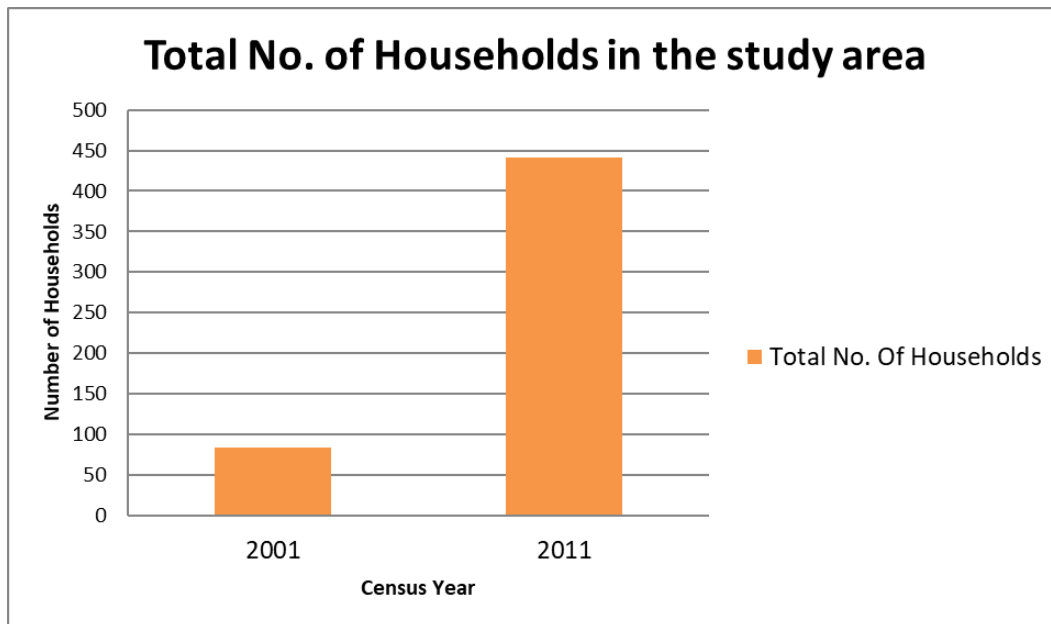


Fig 6: Total No. of Households in the Study Area

From fig number 5 & 6 it is found that in 2001 there were 84 households and 465 population of the village whereas in 2011 these increases to 441 households and 2,044 populations. More 357 households and 1579 populations were added in a decade.

Average Sex Ratio of Goalpara village was 1030 in 2001 but now in 2011 it is 1048. Absolute Decadal growth is 1579 persons. Decadal growth Rate is 3.39 from 2001 to 2011.

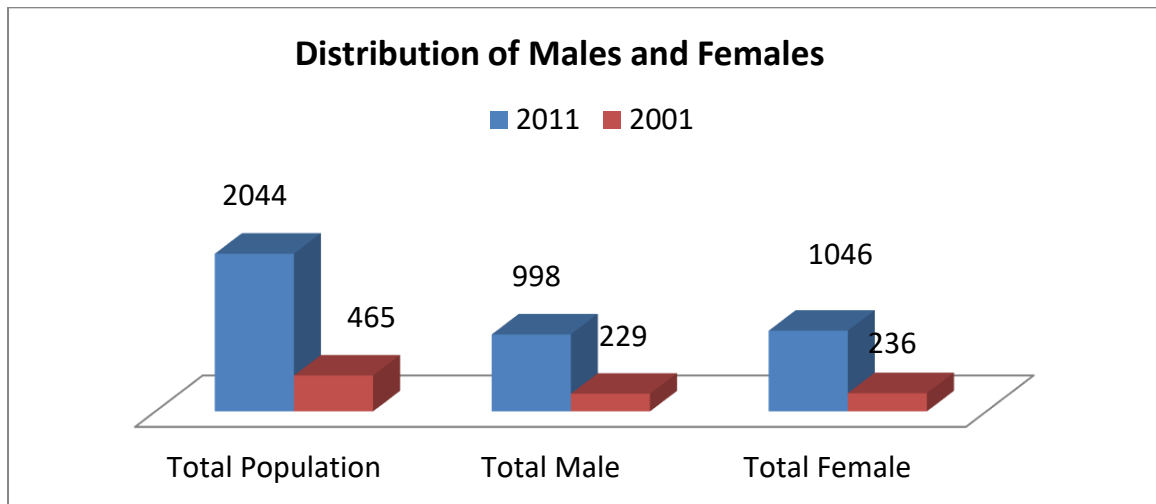


Fig 7: Distribution of Males and Females

From the fig no. 7,8&9 it is found that female number are increased from 2001 to 2011 than the male numbers which is reflected in sex ratio that 1048 females in 1000males in 2011 which was 1030 in 2001. Percentage of female is 51.17 in 2011

in total population. From this we can say that females are not unwanted as State Government introduced various schemes like kanyasree prokolpo, lakhir bhandar for females.

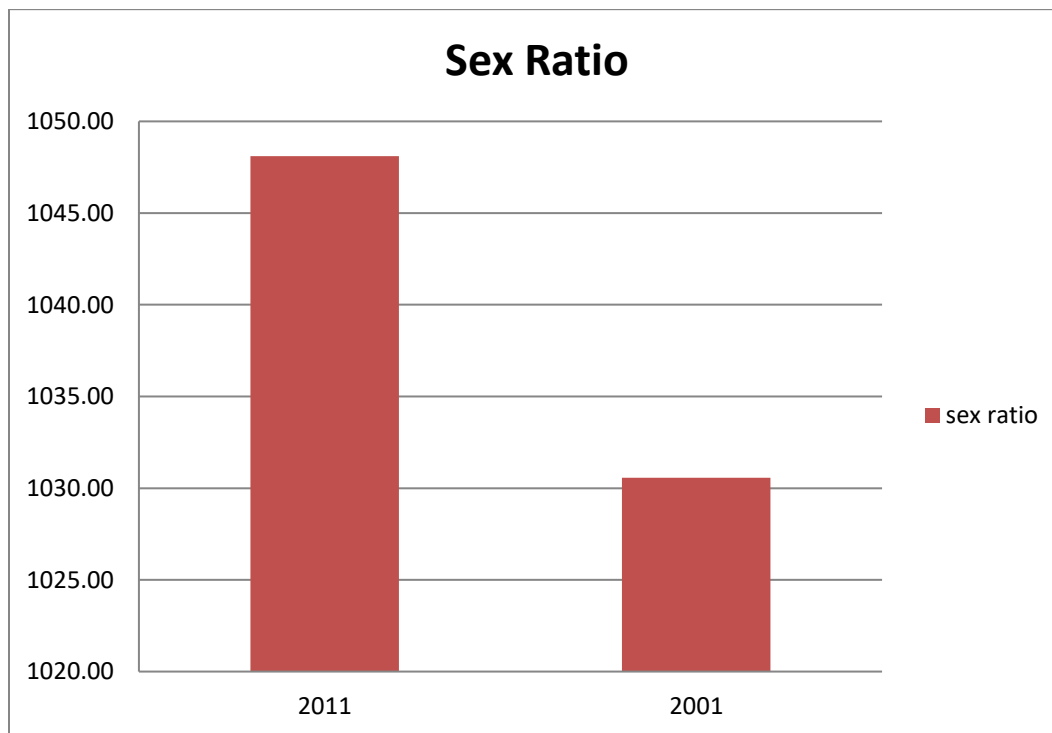


Fig 8: Sex Ratio

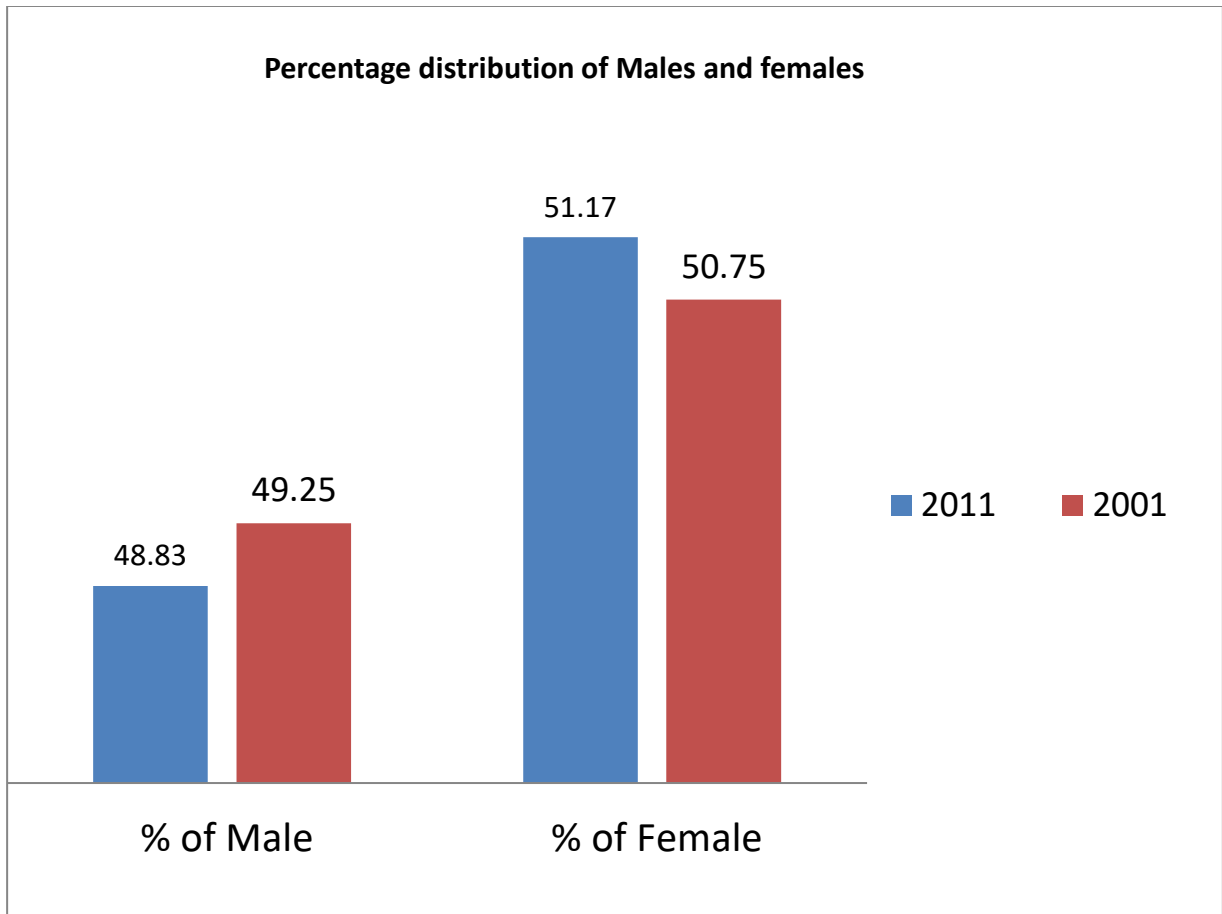


Fig 9: Percentage distribution of Males and females

Table 1: Distribution of Gender wise surveyed population

Type of people	Male	Female	Total
No. Of persons	167	172	339
% of people to total surveyed population	49.26	50.74	100

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

From table no. 1 & fig no. 10 it is found that total number of surveyed populations is 339 in which females (172) are more in number than male (167) so the female percentage is 51% slightly higher than male. This is almost same with census data. Sex ratio is 1030 females per 1000 males but from table no.2 &

fig no. 11 it is seen that in age sex wise distribution number of males and females are more in number in 16-60 age group than other age groups. So, the dependency ratio will be low i.e. 36.14 which is very good for the development of the society.

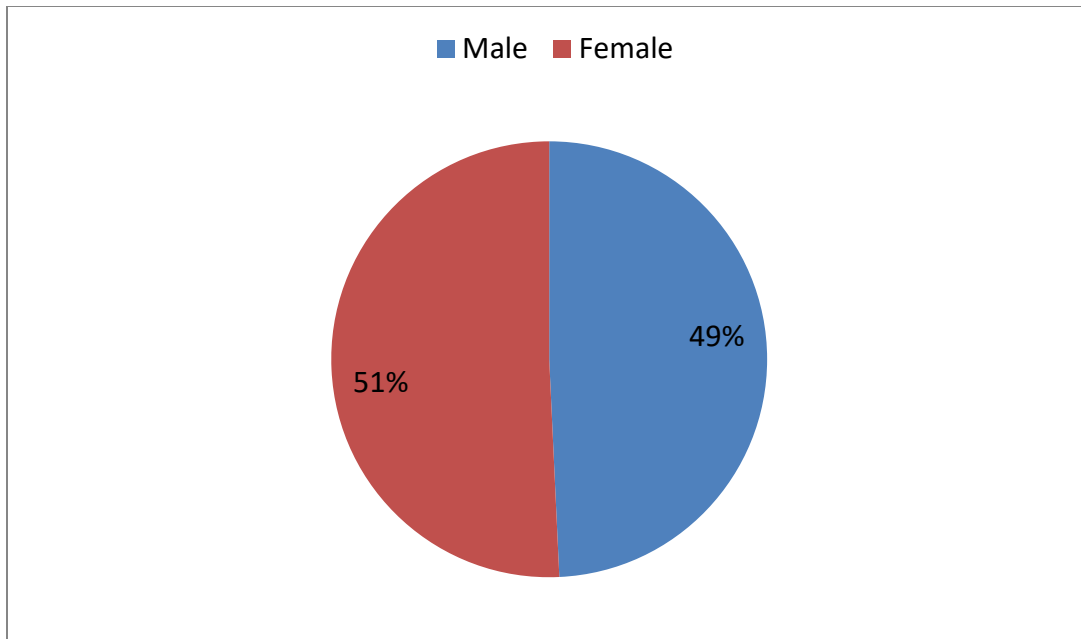


Fig10: Percentage distribution of surveyed Males and females

Table 2: Age- Sex wise distribution of surveyed Population

Age Group	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
0-6	10	14	24	7.08
06-16	20	25	45	13.27
16-60	126	123	249	73.45
60+	11	10	21	6.19
Total	167	172	339	100

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

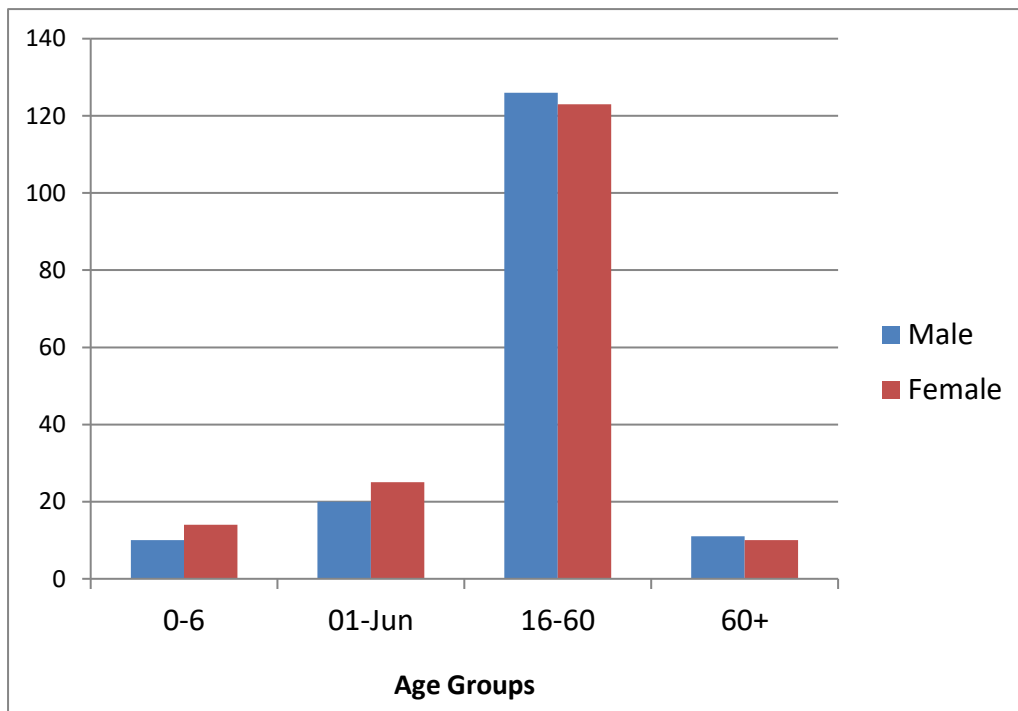


Fig 11: Age- Sex wise distribution of surveyed Population

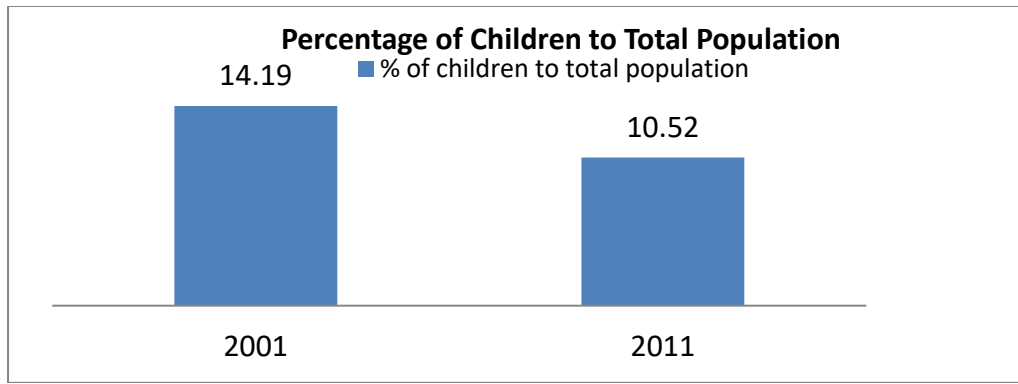


Fig 12: Percentage of Children to Total Population

From the fig no. 12 it is observed that percentage of children to total population is decreased from 2001 to 2011 i.e. 14.19% to 10.52% which can explain the fact that fertility rate is lower from 2001 to 2011. But fig. no.13 shows that in 0-6 age group

total number of males and females are increased from 2001 to 2011. From fig no. 14 it is seen that male percentage in age group 0-6 is higher in 2011 than 2001.

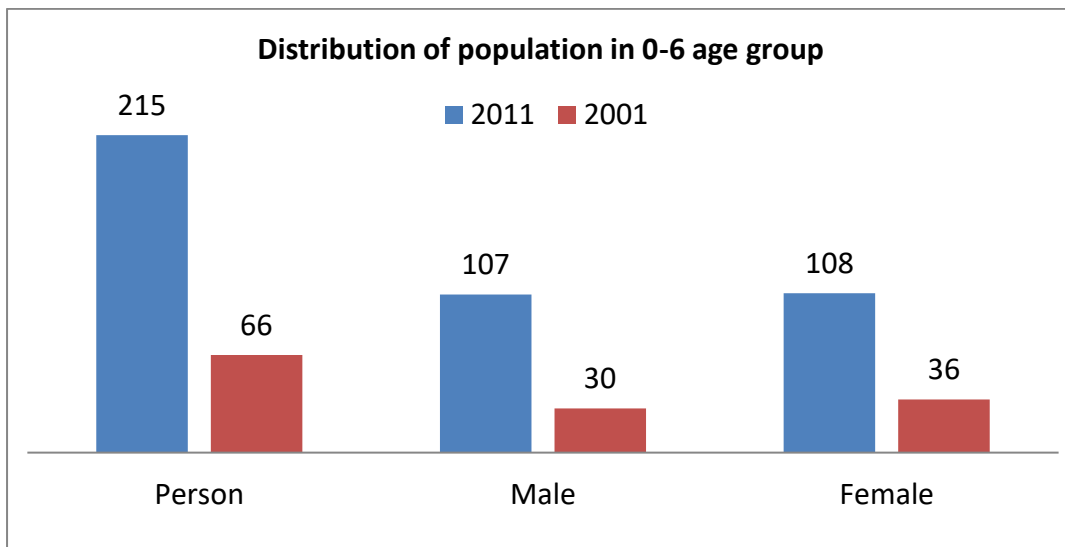


Fig 13: Distribution of population in 0-6 age group

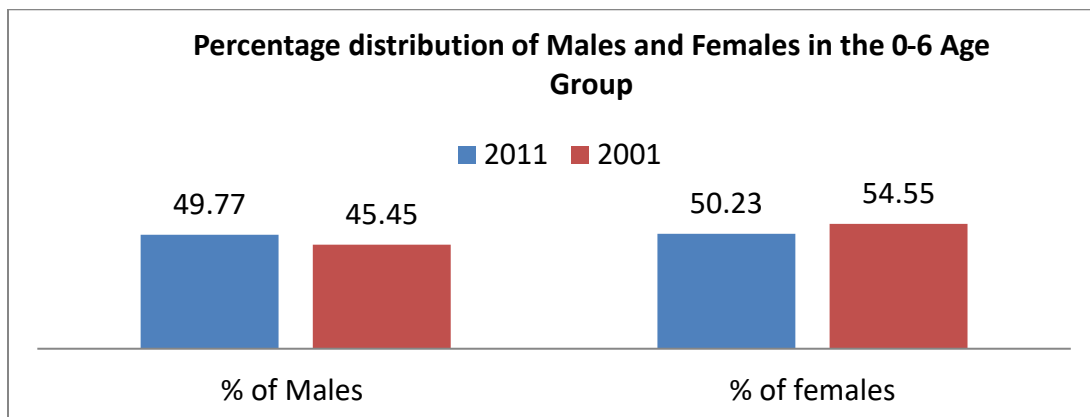


Fig 14: Percentage distribution of Males and Females in the 0-6 Age Group

From the fig no. 15 & 16 it is seen that the study area is most dominated by general caste population which is increased more in number than the other castes in 2011 whereas in 2001 village was dominated by S.C. population. But in 2001 there was no schedule tribe population in the village whereas in 2011 S.T.

population is 489 in number higher than the S.C. population (435). Therefore, percentage distributions of three castes General, S.C., S.T. are 55%, 24% & 21% respectively. So, we can say that social inclusion is taking place in the village society.

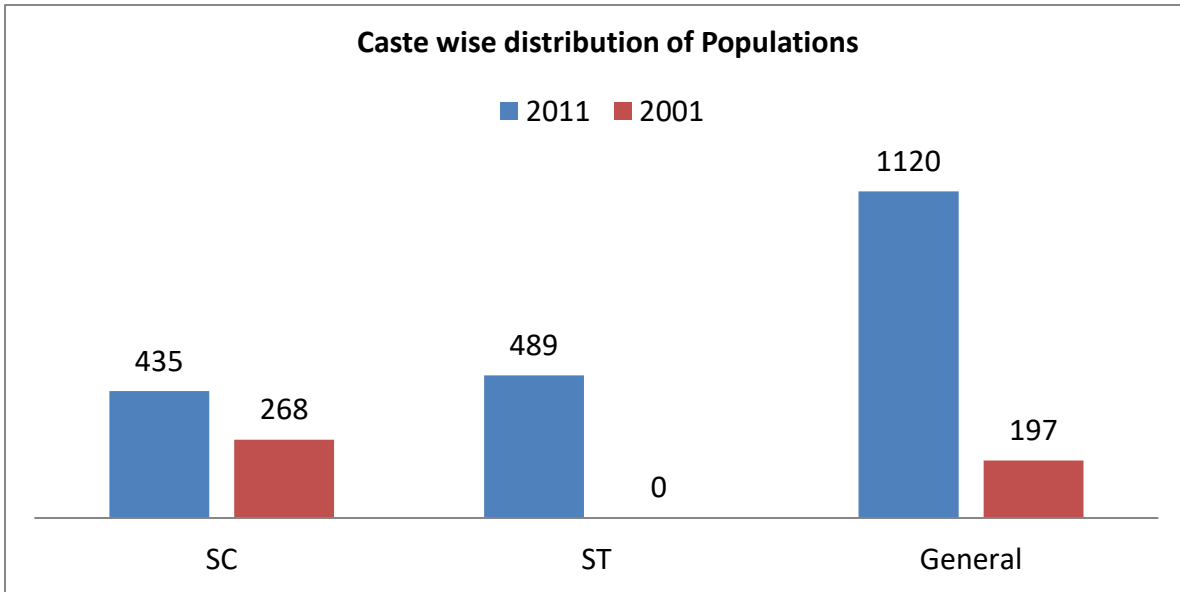


Fig 15: Caste wise distribution of Populations

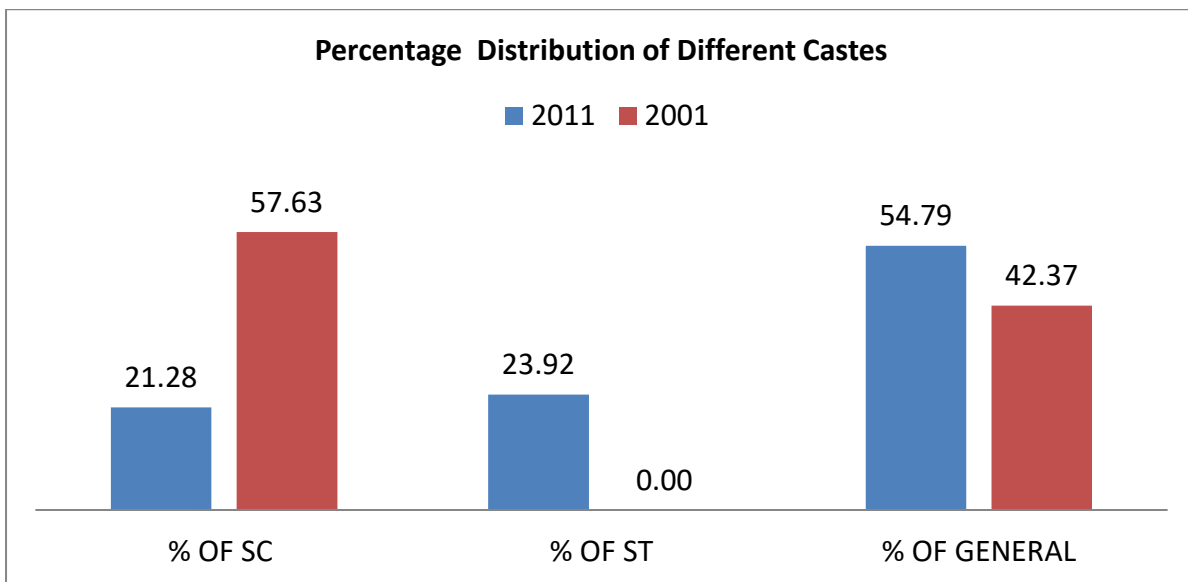


Fig 16: Percentage Distribution of Different Castes

From fig no. 17 & 18 it is found that literate person is creased in great number i.e. 1420 in 2011 which was in depressing number i.e. 210 in 2001. Percentage of literate persons is raised

to 69.47 which is in 2001 was 45.16 %. Therefore, we can say that rays of education are entered in the village with a satisfied way. So, village is developing day by day.

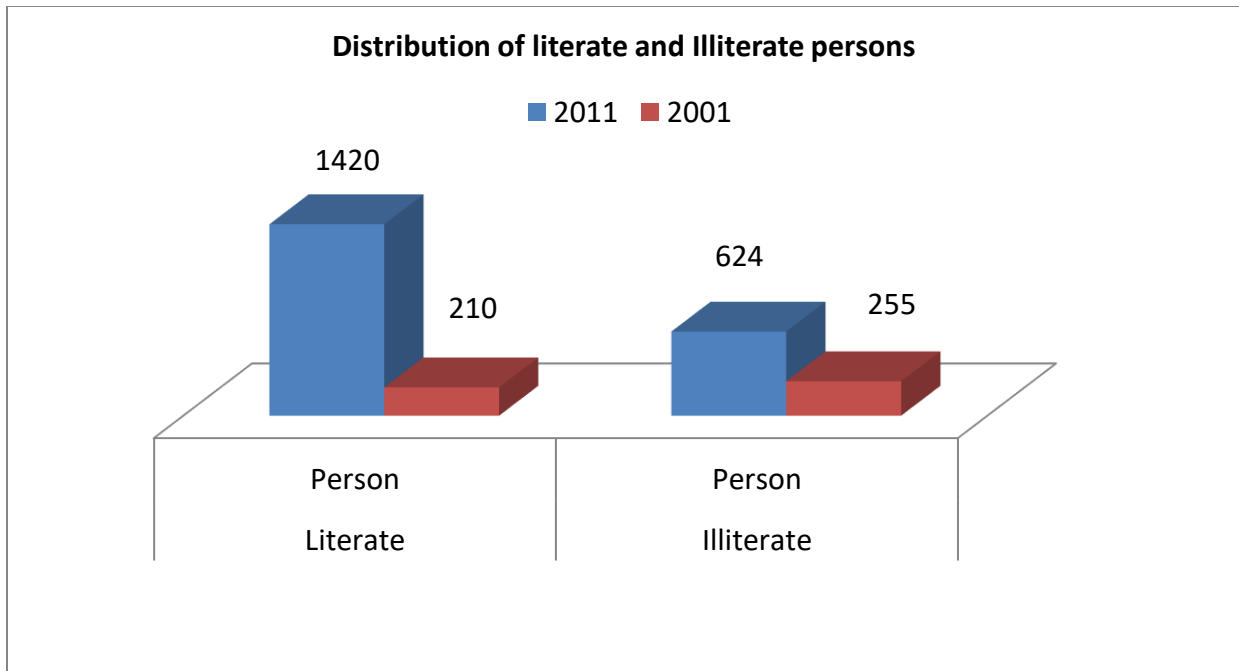


Fig 17: Distribution of literate and illiterate persons

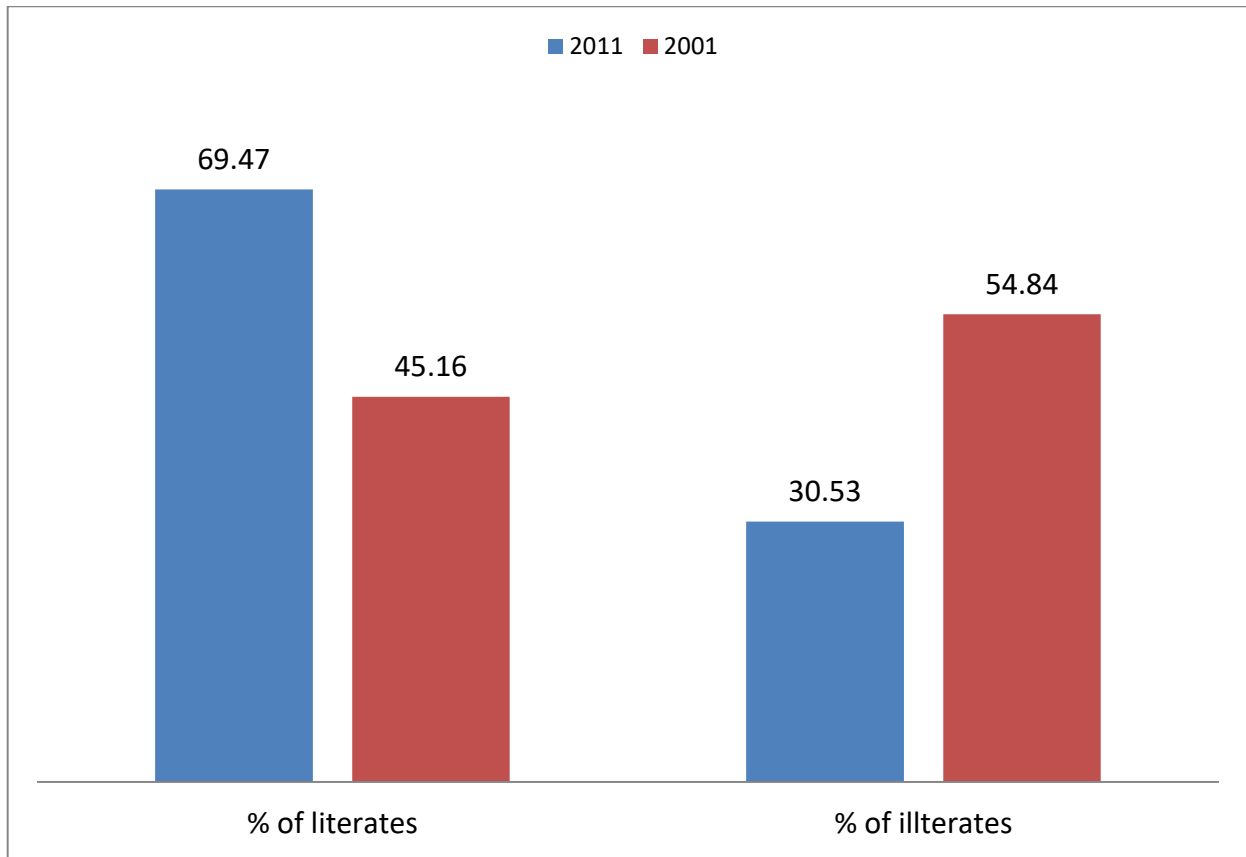


Fig 18: Percentage Distribution of Literates and Illiterates

Table 3: Distribution of surveyed Literates and Illiterates

Persons	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Literates	113	103	216	68.57143
Illiterates	44	55	99	31.42857
0-6 age group	10	14	24	
Total	167	172	339	

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

From table no. 3 & fig no. 19 we get percentage of literates are 69 and Illiterates are 31 which are also almost same in the census data.

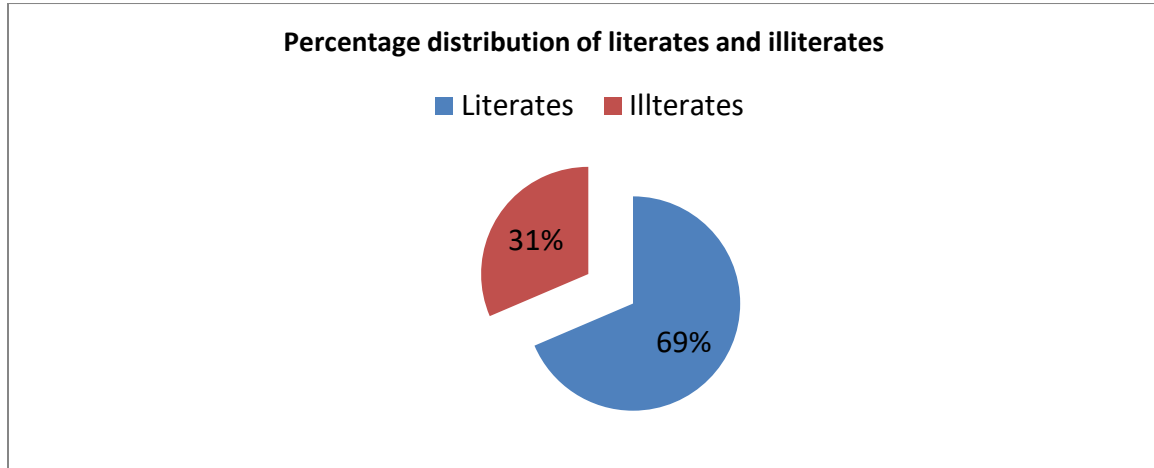


Fig 19: Percentage Distribution of Literates and Illiterates

Table 4: Educational levels wise Distribution of Male and Females and their Percentages

Educational Levels	Male	Female	total	% of persons
I-IV	12	8	20	9.26
V-VIII	33	34	67	31.02
IX-XIII	40	46	86	39.81
B.A.	18	10	28	12.96
Above	10	5	15	6.94
total	113	103	216	100

Source: Primary survey Data,2020

From table no. 4 & fig no. 20 it can be observed that number of persons in higher studies are lesser than other educational levels. 39.81% of persons are in IX-XII levels of education

group which is higher percentage than other groups of levels of education.

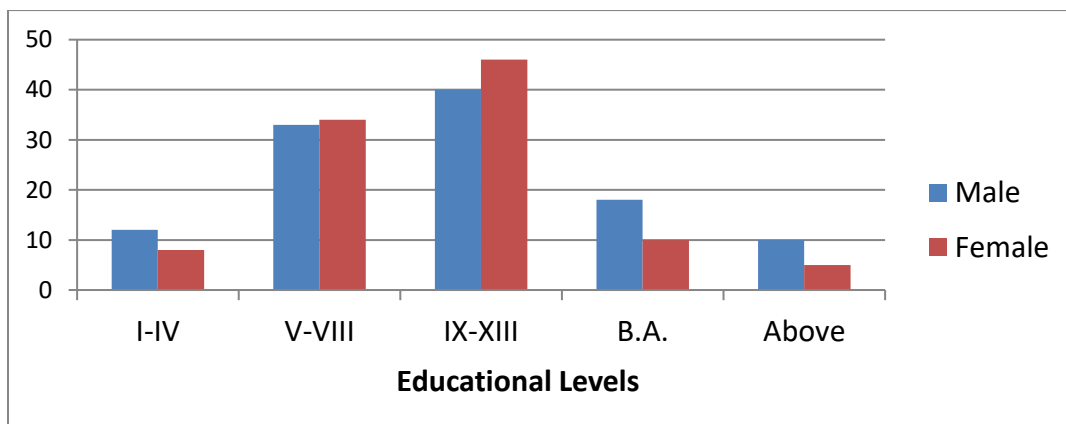


Fig 20: Educational levels wise Distribution of Male and Females

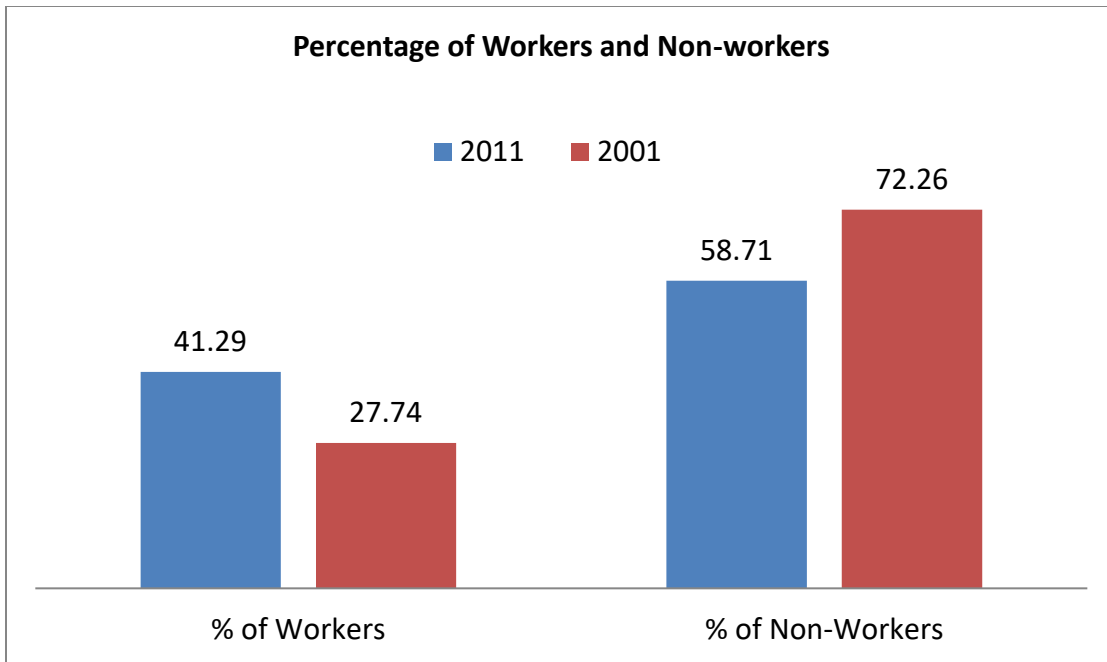


Fig 21: Percentage of Workers and Non-Workers

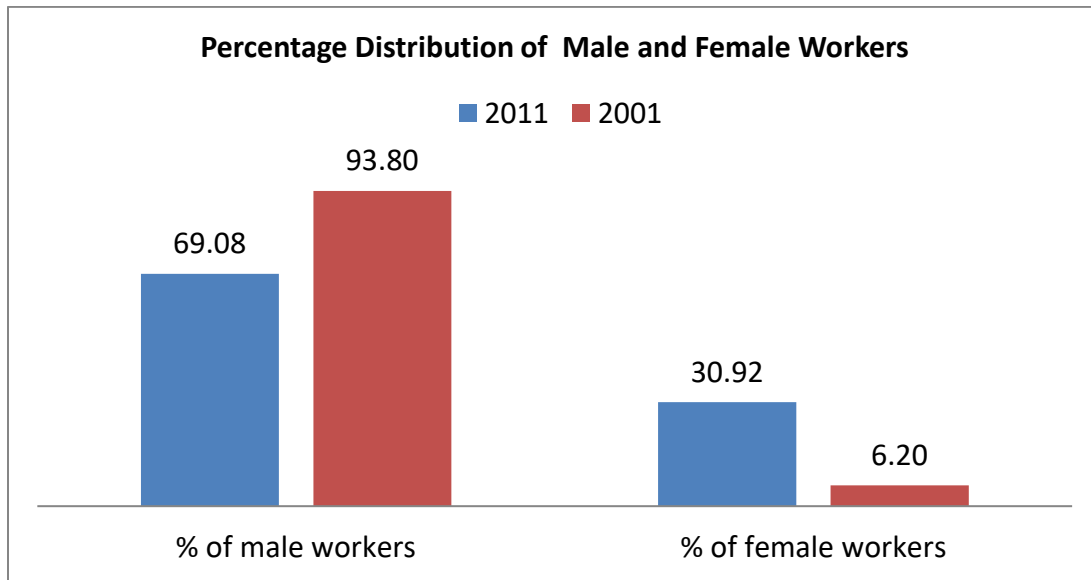


Fig 22: Percentage Distribution of Male and Female Workers

From fig.21 this is observed that percentage of workers are increased to 41.29 from 27.74 in a decade. Wherein from fig.22 it is found that the female workers percentage is raised to 30.92 from 6.20 in a decade.

This is obvious to state that women empowerment is working in this village also like in the state and country. So, we hope the study area is going to be a promising state.

Table 5

Types of population	Male	Female	Total	% of Male	% of Female
Workers	120	41	161	74.53	25.47
Non-workers	47	131	178	26.4	73.6
Total	167	172	339	49.26	50.74

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

Table 6: Distribution of surveyed workers and non-workers and their percentages

Types of population	Number of persons	Percentage to total population
Workers	161	47.49262537
Non -workers	178	52.50737463
Total	339	100

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

From table no. 5, 6 & Fig. No. 23 it is found that percentage of non-Workers are slightly higher (53%) than workers (47%). Non workers include children, students and aged people. So here percentage of non- workers are high. But this is not actual working status. When we consider only total working age group people showed in table no 7 & fig.no.24 the percentage

of workers are high i.e. 65%. So, it is a good percentage for economic status of the village. Table no. 8 & fig. 25, 26 show that male workers are substantially high in number (120) than the female workers (41). So, the village community will have to empower the females to engage themselves in occupation.

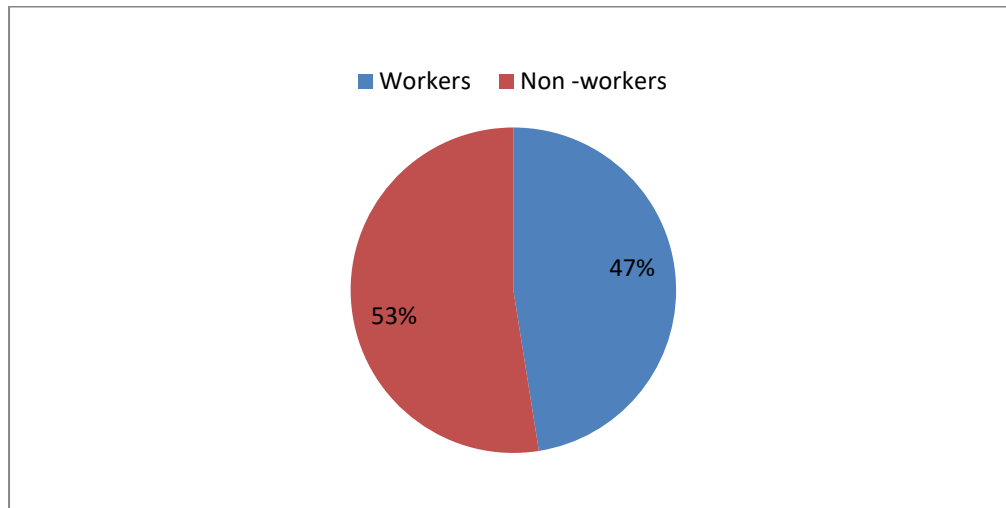


Fig 23: Percentage of workers and Non workers

Table 7

Total working age group people	% of people
249	100
161	64.65863454
88	35.34136546

Source: Primary survey Data,2020

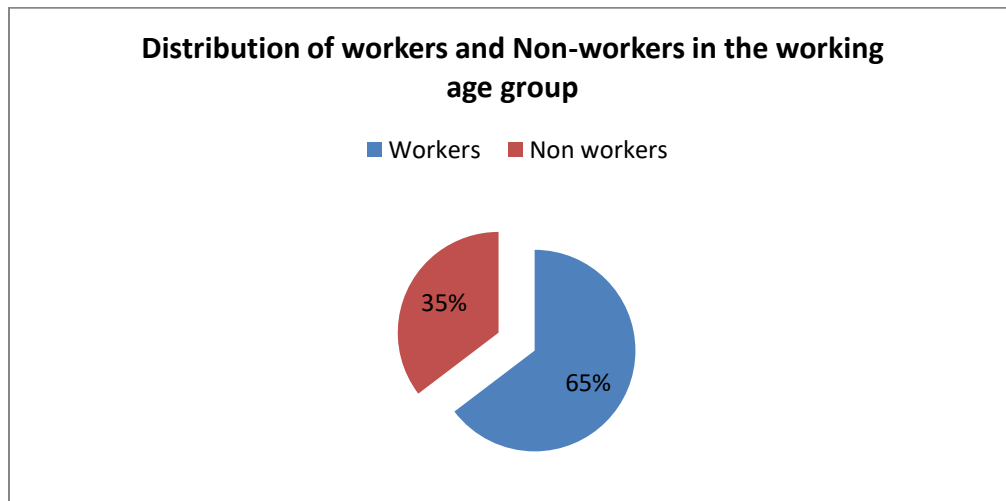


Fig 24: Distribution of workers and non-workers in the working age group

Table 8: Number of Surveyed Workers and Non- workers in the working age group people

Types of Population	Male	Female	Total working age group people
Working age group 16-60	126	123	249
Workers	120	41	161
Non workers	6	82	88

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

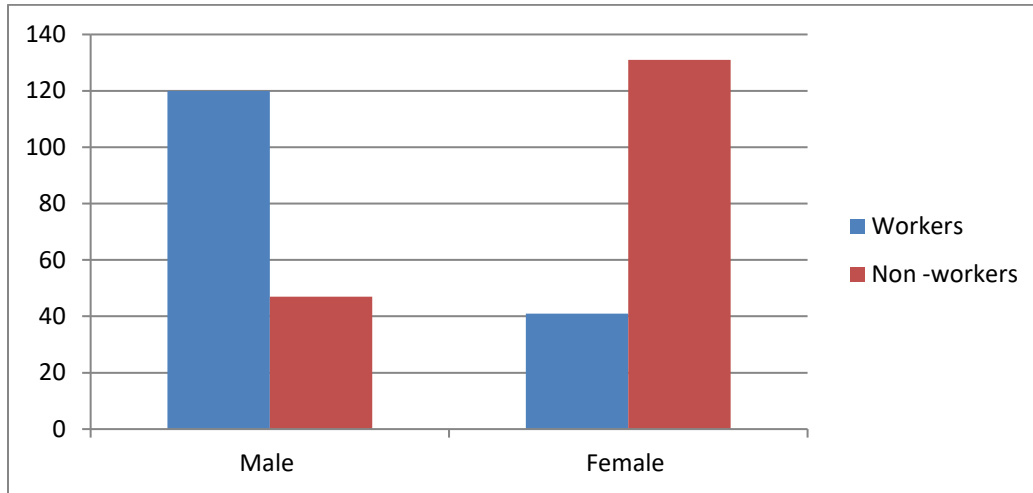


Fig 25: Number of Surveyed Workers and Non- workers in the working age group people

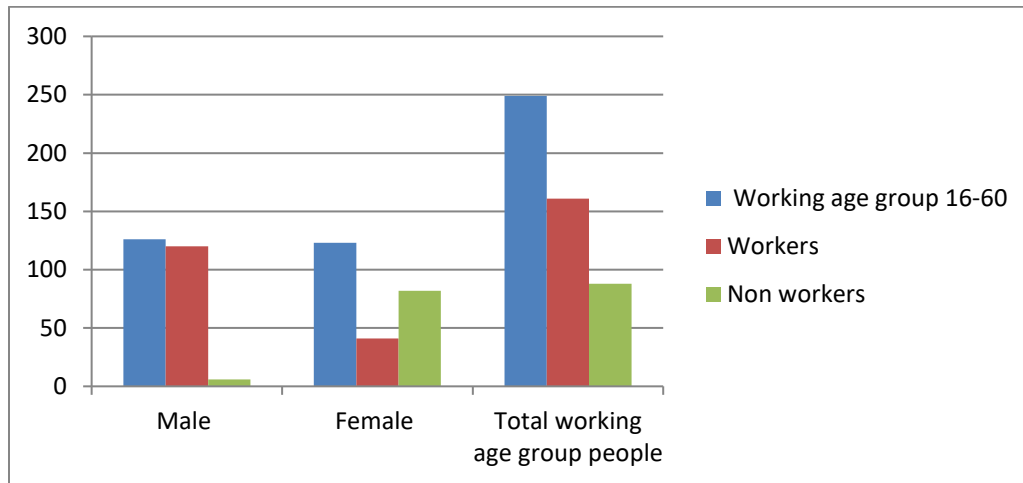


Fig 26: Number of Surveyed Workers, Non- workers and Total working age group people

Table 9: Distribution of Gender wise Surveyed types of Occupation and their Percentages

Occupation	Male	Female	Total	% of persons engaged in occupation
Agriculture	29	0	29	18.01242
Labour	45	20	65	40.37267
Service	14	2	16	9.937888
Business	32	19	51	31.67702
Total	120	41	161	100

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

Table no. 9 & Fig no. 27 focus that maximum percentage of people are engaged in occupation as Labour i.e.40.37% then 31.67% of people are engaged in small scale businesses and very low percentages are found in services i.e. 9.93%. Here

also we can find that males are more in number than females in different occupation levels. In agriculture no females are working.

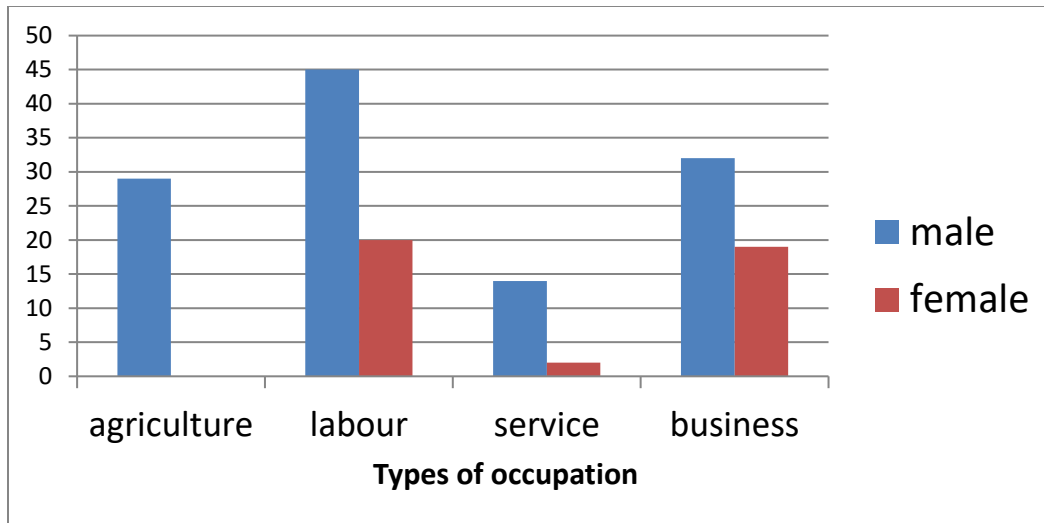


Fig 27: Distribution of Gender wise Surveyed types of Occupation

Table 10: Amount of Land in number of households and their percentages

Amount of Land	No. of Households	% of Households
< 1 Bigha	4	5.128205
1-3 Bigha	7	8.974359
3-5Bigha	1	1.282051
>5 Bigha	7	8.974359
Total number of households have their land	19	24.35897
Total surveyed households	78	100

Source: Primary survey Data,2020

Table no.10 & Fig.no. 28 only 24% of households have their own lands out of which 8% of households have 1-3Bigha and more than 5Bihga lands. 5% households have <1 Bigha and 1% have 3-5 Bigha lands of their own for cultivation. It is obvious from the data that the people of study area are not all dependent on agriculture and Agriculture is not the prime occupation for those. It may be because of rapid rate of urbanization.

As Goalpara Village is located nearby Bolpur town which is now flourishing and expanding rapidly. Therefore, agricultural lands are converted into settlement area or other business-related activities most probably lands are using for hotels and lodge, restaurants as because Kabi Guru Rabindranath Tagore’s Santiniketan is a renowned tourist place.

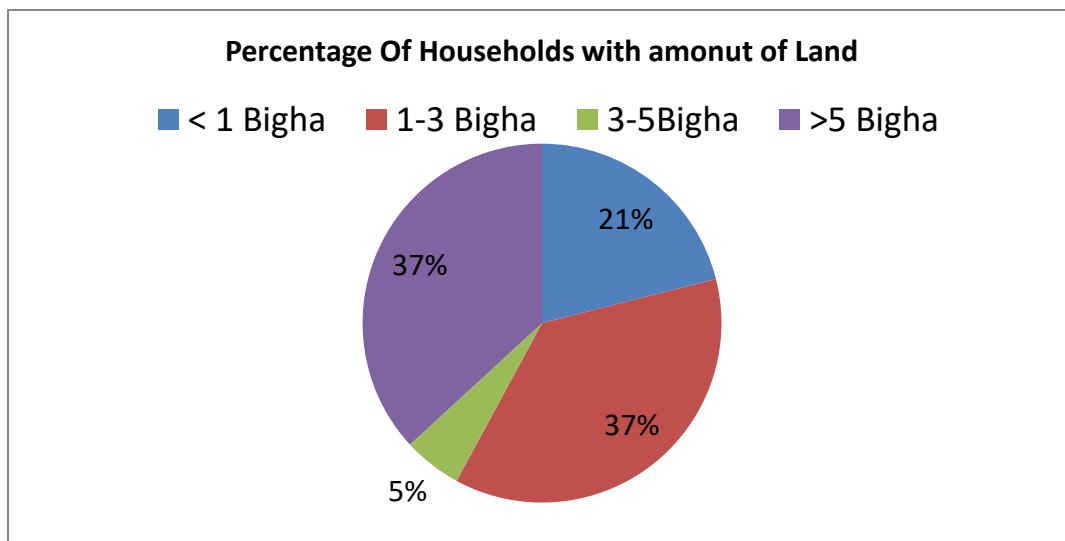


Fig 28: Percentage of Households with amount of land

Table 11: Amount of Monthly Income of number of Households with Percentages

Amount of monthly Income in Rs.	No. of Households	% of Households
<3000	17	21.79
3001-5000	33	42.31
5001-7000	9	11.54
7001-9000	5	6.41
>9001	14	17.95
Total	78	100.00

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

From table no .11 & fig.no. 29 it is observed that basically the villagers’ economic condition is poor. 42% of surveyed households have Rs.3001-5000 monthly income. Very few have in middle- and high-income groups. As the Government

now providing different allowance, stipend, perks, subsidies for the people of below poverty level so their survival is unaffected with the meagre earning. But they should rise their earning by engaging themselves with multiple activities.

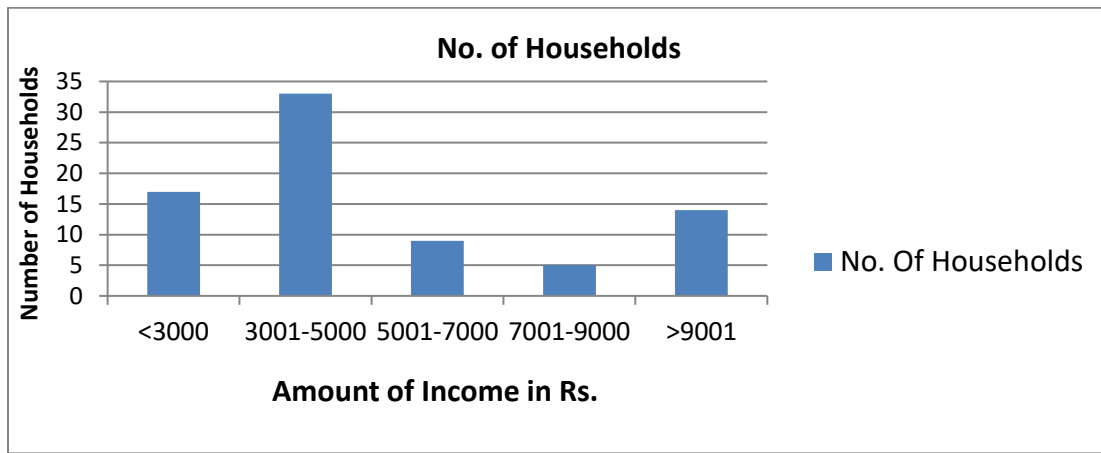


Fig 29: Amount of Income in Rs.

Table 12: Types of Houses in surveyed Houses with percentages

Types of Houses	No. of houses	% of Houses
Brick built	49	62.82
Mud Built	29	37.18
Total number of Houses	78	100.00

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

From table no.12 & fig. no. 30 maximum percentage (63%) of houses are brick built in the study area because the people were aware of about the Government Scheme and got those like

Pradhan Mantri Abas Jojna. Hope that other 37% of households will get the benefit of the Government Scheme in near future.

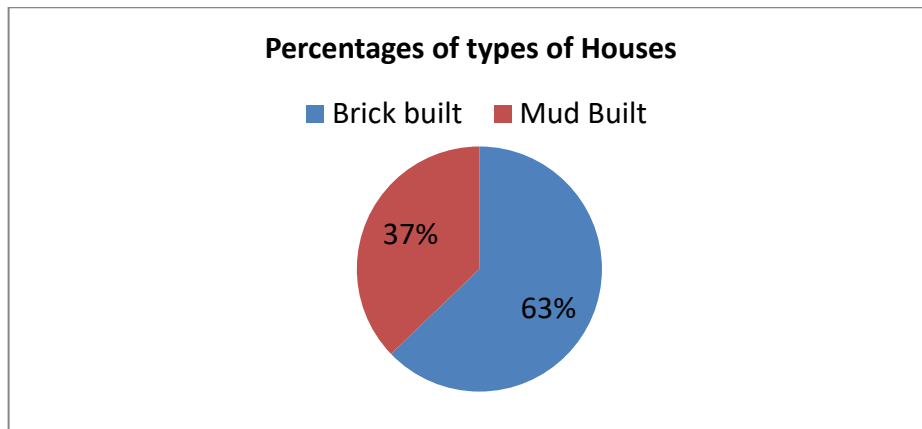


Fig 30: Percentages of types of Houses

Table 13: Types of assets in surveyed number of houses with percentages

Types of assets	No. of houses	% of houses
T.V.	47	60.26
Radio	14	17.95
cycle	72	92.31
Motor Cycle	23	29.49
Car	3	3.85
Fridge	18	23.08
Total number of surveyed houses	78	100.00

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

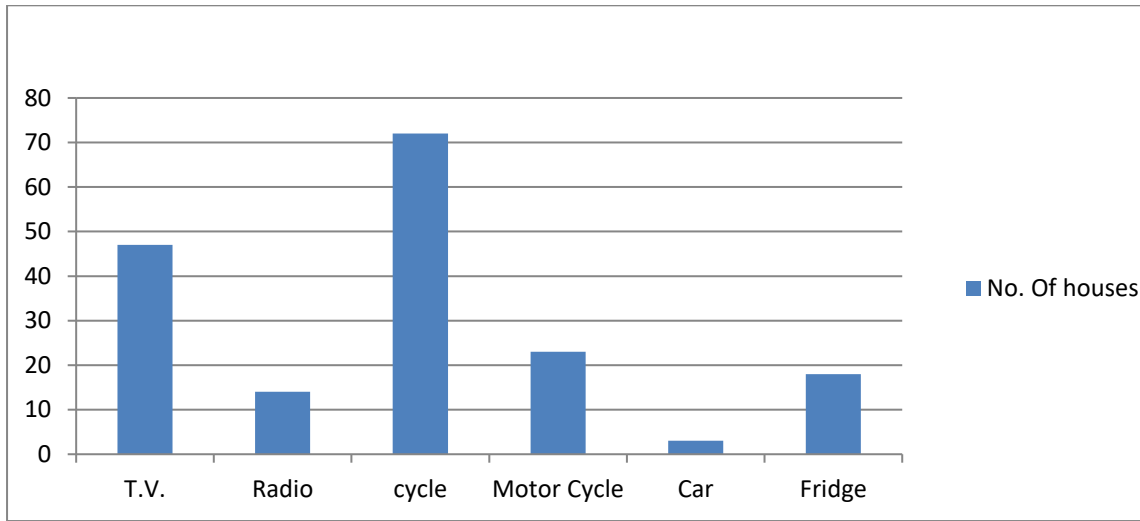


Fig 31: Types of assets in surveyed number of Households

From table no.13 & fig.no. 31 here it is found that 92% of houses have cycles. This is because of West Bengal Government ‘Sabuj Sathi Prokolpo’ where cycles are distributed by the Government

to every student of class IX of each year for oriented of distance place students to come school smoothly and quickly.

Table 14: Types of Domesticated animals in surveyed Households with percentages

Types of animals	Number of Houses	% of Houses
Cow	52	66.67
Goat	50	64.10
Lamb	52	66.67
others	57	73.08
Total	78	100

Source: Primary survey Data, 2020

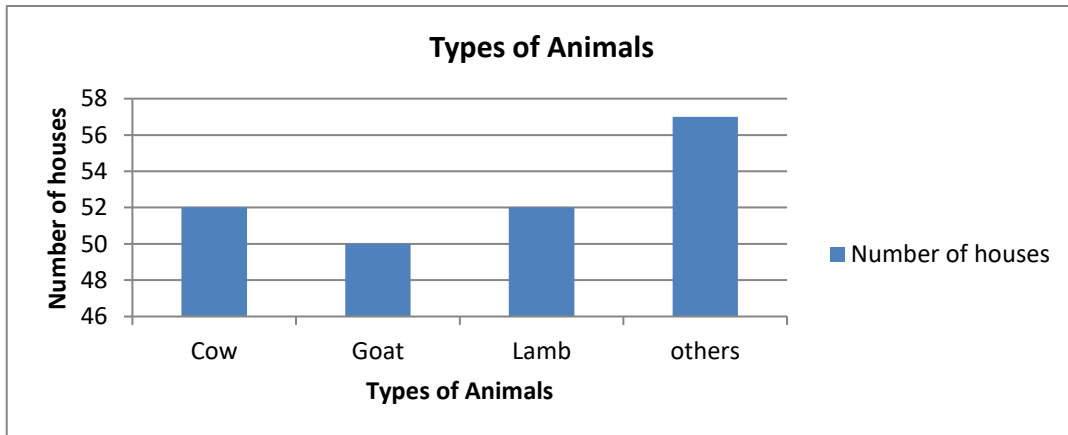


Fig 32: Types of Domesticated animals in surveyed Households

From table no. 14 & fig. no. 32 it is found that more than 65% of houses domesticate animals for their livelihood. To support their family, they are doing this as a secondary occupation along with their primary occupation like cultivation, labourer etc. Government takes initiatives to promote animal husbandry for village people especially for women. National Livestock Mission (NLM) aims towards employment generation entrepreneurship development increase in per animal productivity and thus targeting increased production of meat, goat milk, egg and wool under the umbrella scheme Development Programme.

4. CONCLUSION

In developing world socio-economic study of villages is mainly for understanding the present condition, concerning the lifestyle, educational level, economic status and dependency on what type of economic activity and overall development of rural areas. Socio-economic status in village areas is gradually improving over a period of time. Several Government schemes and policies have been implemented to improve the socioeconomic condition of rural people. People of the Goalpara village are trying to develop. Decadal growth rate of population is high and number of households is increasing day by day due to its location advantage. It is situated nearby of Santiniketan, which is a popular international tourist spot. Goalpara village has higher literacy rate compared to West Bengal. In 2011, literacy rate of Goalpara village is 77.64% which was 52.63%. The occupation of the villagers also changes depending on spreading urbanization of the adjacent town Bolpur and the recent development of business and trade. In Goalpara village out of total population, 844 were engaged in occupational activities. 73.22 % of workers describe their work as Main Work while 26.78 % were involved in Marginal activity providing livelihood for less than 6 months. Positive socio-economic changes are found in the study area in a decade. Literacy rate, especially female literacy rate is higher and demographic pattern shows a low sex ratio and low dependency ratio. Working population are increasing especially female workers are highly increased. People engaged in Primary activities are decreasing. They are intending to work in secondary and tertiary activities. Handicrafts work is now most popular one as because they can sell the products in nearby 'Shanibarer Hat' situated in Sonajuri forest in Khoai area. Previously the hat was held only on Saturdays. But after the request of the craftsman and considering their economic condition, Chief Minister of West Bengal honorable Mamata Banerjee declare that the Hat will hold all the days so that they can earn more money and can engaged themselves in everyday work. This initiative motivates the rural people for creative work. Their lifestyle is also changing rapidly. Maximum houses are brick built. Village has primary health center, Anganwadi Centre, tube well, metalled roads. Goalpara is basically a Hindu village. So many temples are situated here. It reflects the cultural aspects of the villagers. Now the backward and poor village is transforming to new modern village with amenities. They have the electricity connection and other

modern amenities. They are getting facilities from the Government and they making themselves aware of it.

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