

Socio-Economic And Demographic Condition Of Lingzoo Village, Ravangla Sub-Division, Sought Sikkim

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Abstract: Sikkim is a very small hilly state in the eastern Himalayas. Sikkim is now days well known as it is the cleanest state in India, survey conducted by the National Sample Survey office (NSSO). Being a hilly state it is also famous for its scenic beauty and becomes a perfect tourist spot. But some problems are also facing by the people of Sikkim like road blockage due to landslide, submergence of rivers and valleys by hydro power plants, pollution of fresh water sources etc. In spite of all the problems it is a better place to live as comparison to some other states of India. This paper is an attempt to study the socio economic and demographic condition of a village in Sikkim.

I. INTRODUCTION

A Socio-Economic survey was carried out at the Lingzoo village in South Sikkim district of the Indian state of Sikkim under Ravangla Sub-division P.S – Namchi P.O – Namchi. It is connected by state highway to other major towns in the state and lies between Pelling and Gangtok. The village is surrounded by high forested hills and undulating valleys. Situated in the southern part of Sikkim at distance of 70 kms Gangtok.

OBJECTIVES

- ✓ To study the socio-economic condition of the study area.
- ✓ To study the demographic structure.
- ✓ To evaluate the problems faced by the people of the area.
- ✓ To suggest remedial measures for the development of the area.

II. METHODOLOGY AND DATA BASE

The main focus of the study is the social and economic status of the area. In particular the attempt has been to look into the nature of economy evolving in the area as well as its linkage with the micro level strategies for livelihood in the predominantly analyzing the data we reached a conclusion. The study is carried out to understand the existing economic

and social activities and evaluate its combination with the state economy the basic purpose of the primary survey was to find out at individual household to collect both specific and general information. The information has been congregated through direct personal investigation. Besides these data pertaining to the subject matter has also been taken from secondary source. The necessary information has been collected from various book and web pages.

III. ANALYSIS OF THE STUDY

DEMOGRAPHY OF THE SURVEY AREA

Demography is the basic elements of socio economic survey. To get a proper knowledge of economic condition of an area first of all one must know about the demographic structure of the surveyed area. The word demography involves the statistical study of human populations. In general, it can analysis any kind of dynamic living population.

SEX-RATIO

Sex-ratio refers to the ratio between the number of female and number male. Statistically it is calculated by taking the number of female per thousand male. The total population of the study area is 134, out of which 74 are male and 60 are female.

So, it is clear that in the study area the sex-ratio is 810.81 number of female per 1000 male. The sex-ratio of the studied area shows that the number of males is comparatively high than females but the ratio shows that the number of females are quite high compared to other states of India.

LITERACY

A person is said to be literate when he/she can read or write any language. Statistically it is calculated by taking the total number of literate person and it is divided by total population and multiplied by 100. In the study area the total number of literate person is 105 out of 134.

So, from the above data the result is 78.35% of the total population is literate in the study area.

ECONOMIC OF THE STUDY AREA

Economy of an area can be examined by the occupation of the people of that particular area. Occupation may be of three types primary, secondary and tertiary.

OCCUPATION OF THE STUDY AREA

Since the majority of the people belong to working class and as a result the people are basically engaged in primary occupation with less number of people engaged in secondary and tertiary occupations. And as a result, the overall level of income of the people is basically belong to middle class family because most of the people make their living engaging in primary activities with very few engaged in services and allied activities. In the studied area maximum number that is 12 household out of 26 are earning in the range of 5000 to 15000, in the range below 5000 is 9 household, then in the range between 15000 to 25000 is 2 household and lastly above 25000 thousand is only 3 household. From the income level of the household it can be trace that most of the people are living in middle class family.

HOUSEHOLD CONDITION

The household conditions of the studied area were mostly constructed with wooden materials found within their locality. Out of the 26 studied household 21 are wooden houses and rest are *pucca* houses.

MODE OF TRANSPORTATION

The region is composed of very diverse and rugged topography. The transportation facilities around the studied area lacks proper road network. The people mostly rely on foot to move from one place to another within the diverse topography. But there are certain Govt. as well as private owned vehicles ply on the main road to transport people along with goods and services regularly. Vehicles like jeep, taxi, car, bus, Tata Sumo; Boleros, traveler, winger etc are available in the main road of the Lingzoo village.

SOURCES OF POWER

Even the region is endowed with rugged topography but electricity is available within the studied area. Some people who belong to low income classes resort to kerosene and other sources. As the study area is not so developed, alternative sources like solar plates are not available. Sometime coal is used in few of the households as sources of power.

RELIGION

The people living in the study area are mostly followers of Hinduism. Very few people belong to Christianity and Buddhism. About 65.38% of populations are Hindu, 23.08% Christian, 11.54% Buddhist and other 3%.

FOOD HABITS

The food habits of the people living in the studied area are not different from the any other state of India. Rice, chapatti, curry, dal, meat, fish, milk, egg, curd etc. are the regular food of the people of the studied area. The food habits show that the people living in a very healthy environment and in a sustainable way.

DRINKING WATER FACILITY

Water is most important in day to day life. In the study area the water condition is not bad. There are government supplies 69.23% of drinking water in the study area. The villagers of the study area they also carry water from the river and lake also and purify the water with the help of sand filter.

FINDINGS

I have taken Lingzoo village of Rvangla sub-division, which is situated in South Sikkim as our study area. I studied demographic and socio economic condition of the area and found a different picture of the livelihood of the people. Its backwardness can be attributed to environmental physical constraints like rugged topography, harsh climate, varying altitudes makes the life painstaking and hazardous.

DEMOGRAPHIC CONDITION

- ✓ After the study it is found that there are 74 male and 60 female populations in 26 households of the study area. It came to know that male population is more than female population. As the sex ratio of Lingzoo village is 810.81 per 1000 male.
- ✓ Social Conditions
 - The educational status of the Lingzoo village is not so bad; in comparison to literacy rate of India. The literacy rate of Lingzoo village is 78.35%, where the literacy rate of India is 74.04%.
 - Most of the houses are made of wooden. 89% of the population is lives in wooden house; whereas an 11% lives in *pucca*.
 - The food habit of the studied area are mainly rice, chapatti, dal, vegetables, egg, meat & milk etc.

- Religion is diverse in the Lingzoo village. Hinduism is the largest religion (65.38%). Other important religion is Christianity (23.08%) and Buddhism (11.54%).
- Lingzoo village is multi-lingual village. Important spoken languages are Nepali (42.31%), English and Hindi (42.31%).
- ✓ Economic Conditions
 - Most of people of the study area are engaged in various occupations. Mostly they are engaged in primary occupation and less number of population engaged in secondary and tertiary occupation.
 - In the study area the income level of 34.61% of population came into below 5000; under 46.15% of population are in between 5000-15000; 7.69% of population came under 15000-25000 and 11.53% of population came under above 25000.
 - People in Lingzoo village have the facility of light both electricity and kerosene. 54% of the households uses electricity; 8% uses kerosene and 38% are uses both electricity and kerosene.

IV. SUGGESTION

The studied area has numerous socio economic and demographic problems which are causing problems to the livelihood. There is need of adopting various plans and programmes to dealt with the concerning problems of the studied area. Various suggestions for delimiting the problems of studied areas are:

- ✓ Proper steps should be taken to increase employment opportunities in the area.
- ✓ House facilities should be well developed.
- ✓ The Public Health authorities should take suitable measure for prevention of common diseases and development of health conditions.
- ✓ Establishments of schools and colleges with proper education equipped with efficient facilities should be developed. Along with, The Government should take initiatives for higher education.
- ✓ Better family planning measures should be taken.

- ✓ Well-developed road network should be constructed and maintained regularly due to undulating topography.
- ✓ Mechanised methods should be adopted for high productivity of crops.
- ✓ For well growth of economy, secondary and tertiary sectors of occupation should be emphasised.
- ✓ Scientific methods should be use instead of traditional method in agricultural practices to make high production.
- ✓ Chemical fertilizers should be use in the agriculture fields. Also use HYV seeds in the agriculture.
- ✓ Sustainable regional planning should be implementing to develop the village.

V. CONCLUSION

The hilly topography with diverse environment conditions posed a very hard and toiling life. The people of the “Lingzoo village” live in a very suitable and hygienic environment where both man and environment have been influencing each other. The region is endowed with tremendous beauty of Nature and man has been living in peace and tranquillity in spite of all the obstacles such as poor infrastructure, faulty arrangement of roads, moderate level of income, well developed housing structure, traditional method of agriculture and other alike problems has been exerting tremendous pressure on the existing civic amenities and social infrastructure. Thus, Government of India should take a strong and systematic plan for the proper implementation of rural development of programs for the development of the region.

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