CHAPTER TWO

THE RESEARCH DESIGN
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In this chapter the specific areas to be discussed are objectives of the study, hypotheses, the study area of sample districts, research problems, status of the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), selection of the NGOs and different phases of work undertaken to complete the study.

1] Objectives of the Study

India is a land of villages and most of the people reside in rural areas. Therefore, our nation's prosperity depends upon the development of the rural sector. The NGOs have a pivotal role to play for the upliftment of rural people. In this context, the researcher sets forth the following objectives:

i) To identify the nature and types of activities the NGOs provide, in the area of rural development on the basis of priority.

ii) To study about their capability and ability to manage the rural development projects independently in terms of planning, implementation, arrangement of funds, sustainability of projects etc.

iii) To identify the specific area of specialization developed by NGOs in rural development.
iv] To ascertain the nature and types of co-ordination among the NGOs and also with the gram panchayats or local self government to implement the rural development projects smoothly.

v] To point out the major problems faced by the NGOs and their suggestions to overcome it in-order to undertake various rural development projects.

2) **Hypotheses**

The study is exploratory type related to NGOs functioning in two districts i.e. South 24 Parganas and Nadia in the State of West Bengal. The hypotheses streamlined in this research study are given as follows:

i] The NGOs which are financially strong may be implementing more rural development projects rather than the NGOs which are financially weak or unsound.

ii] The organizations attached to better infrastructural facilities i.e. building, land, equipments, implements, vehicles, computer machines, technical experts, qualified manpower etc may be performing well in rural development projects comparatively NGOs having less infrastructural facilities.

iii] Smooth functioning of rural development projects depend upon degree of people's participation ensured by NGOs. The higher the people's participation, better would be the performance and lower the people's participation poor would be the performance.
iv] The NGOs having professional skills, knowledge and experiences may be able to manage the rural development projects more effectively than the NGOs without having such skills and experiences.

3] The Study Area

The two districts South 24 Parganas and Nadia were purposively selected for the study in the State of West Bengal. The purpose of selecting these two districts are stated as follows:

(a) Nadia district is the home district of the researcher who is permanently residing in district headquarter at Krishnagar town. Further, the researcher is permanently working in Indian Institute of Management Calcutta (IIMC) in an academic discipline which is located at Joka and it comes under the jurisdiction of South 24 Parganas district. Thus both the districts have close contacts with the researcher.

(b) The researcher is familiar with the geographical, cultural, social and economic status of both the districts.

(c) Both the districts are easily accessible for the study by the researcher.

(d) The researcher has close contacts with the local government and state government offices located in these two districts on account of various research and consultancy projects undertaken from the part of the institute which can expedite the research study effectively.

(e) The NGOs /voluntary agencies functioning in these two districts are in close touch with the researcher. The reasons behind it is that Indian Institute of Management Calcutta under Centre For Management of
Rural Development Programmes brings out “Directory of Organisations in Rural Development” since the year 1982.

Profile of South 24 Parganas District

Total Area: The total area of South 24 Parganas district is 9960 sq. km.

Location: South 24 Parganas district is located in the southern part of West Bengal. The district is bounded on the north, by North 24 Parganas district, south by Bangladesh and Bay of Bengal, east by Bangladesh, again on the west by river Hooghly. It is found that the river Hooghly flowing from north to south separates the district from Medinipur and Howrah. The southern part of this district rests on Ganga Sagar island. This district is under deep forest and has one of the largest mangrove forests in the world namely Sundarbans which is the habitat of Royal Bengal Tiger. South 24 Parganas was a part of the undivided 24 Parganas district which was bifurcated on 1 March, 1986 into North and South 24 Parganas districts.

Total Population and Households: The total population of the district as per 2001 census is 6906689 persons. It is estimated that 51.61% are males whereas 48.39% are females. It also reflects that 84.27% are the inhabitants of rural areas but the rest reside in urban areas. The district consists of 1312279 households and the average household size is 5 members.

Sociological Distribution of Population: The representation of scheduled castes is 32.11% and scheduled tribes is 1.22% as against 29.66% and 2.47% respectively at the state level (W.Bengal).
Religion-Wise Distribution of Population: It is found that six different categories of religions are followed by the people of this district. Most of the people are Hindus (65.86%) and followed by Muslims (33.24%) and then Christians (0.76%). However, there are also other religious groups such as Sikhs and Buddhists, but their proportion is very meagre.

Literacy Rate: The literacy rate of the district is 69.45% which is better than the state's level literacy rate (68.74%)

Working Population: The working population (32.47%) of the district comprises main workers and marginal workers. Further, out of the total work force, a substantial part (42.19%) are involved in agricultural sector i.e. cultivators and agricultural labourers. Thus very limited people are engaged in household industry. There are also other workers attached with different types of occupation such as fishing, hunting, forestry, livestock, plantation, orchards, mining and quarrying, construction, trade and commerce etc. The details of data regarding different categories of workers are stated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories of workers</th>
<th>Total No. of Workers</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultivators</td>
<td>362110</td>
<td>(16.15%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Labourers</td>
<td>584016</td>
<td>(26.04%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Industry</td>
<td>136177</td>
<td>(6.07%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other workers</td>
<td>1160457</td>
<td>(51.74%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total 2242760</strong></td>
<td><strong>(100.00%)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Figures in the brackets indicate percentages)

Land Use Pattern: The total land area of the district is 536441.50 hectares. Thus out of the total land, 68.65% area is under cultivation, 26.33% area not suitable for cultivation but the remaining part is under forest cover and culturable waste. It shows that the economy of the district purely depends upon agriculture. The data related to land use pattern of the district are given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land-use Pattern</th>
<th>Total Area (In Hectares)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area under Forest</td>
<td>15566.94 (2.90%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area under cultivation</td>
<td>368197.26 (68.65%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culturable waste</td>
<td>11401.38 (2.12%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Not available for cultivation</td>
<td>141275.92 (26.33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>536441.50</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Figures in the brackets indicate percentages)


Administrative Set up: The administrative set up in the district consists of 29 panchayat samities and 312 gram panchayats. There are 2087 inhabited villages attached to their respective panchayat samities and gram panchayats to undertake rural development programmes in the district.
Amenities Available in the District:

Education: A significant proportion i.e. 84.75% of the villages have primary schools, 25.01% have middle schools and 18.53% are covered with secondary / senior secondary schools.

Health: About 42.74% of the villages are directly served with health care facilities by setting up of health centres, allopathy dispensaries, primary health centres, health sub centres etc.

Drinking Water: Almost all the villages (95.59%) have tube – wells as sources of drinking water. However, very rare villages have taps and wells as sources of drinking water.

Road Communication: An overall majority of the villages (94.48%) are connected by metal road whereas the rest of it (78.29%) are by paved road.

Transport and Communication: A small section of the villages (36.32%) have direct bus communication facilities, this is followed by navigable transport (13.51%) and rail communication (2.73%).

Availability of Power: The villages in this district have electricity connection’s for the purpose of domestic and agricultural operations. It is seen that 62.43% of the villages have domestic connections whereas
22.37% of the villages are benefited by electricity connection for agricultural purposes.

Post and Telecommunication: It is seen that 29.56% of the villages have post offices but very few villages are linked with telegraph offices to promote postal communication.

Commercial Banking: Very few villages (7.09%) have commercial banking facilities to fulfill the credit need of the farmers.

Recreational Facilities: About 21.32% of the villages have video and cinema halls.

Profile of Nadia District:

**Total Area**: The total area of Nadia District is 3927.0 sq.km.

**Location**: Nadia district is situated in the southern side of West Bengal. The district is bounded on the north and north west by the district of Murshidabad, the east and north - east of the district is bounded by the district Kusthia and Rajshahi of Bangladesh. In the south and south west of the district is bounded by North 24 Parganas and Hooghly district. Moreover, in the west it is bounded by Bardhaman district.
Total Population and Households: According to 2001 census, the total population of the district is 4604827 persons. Of them, 51.39% are males and the remaining proportion is females. It is also seen that out of the total population 78.72% reside in rural areas whereas 21.28% in urban areas.

The total households in this district is 943651. It is enumerated that the average family/household size comprises 4.9 or 5 members.

Sociological Distribution of Population: In terms of sociological distribution of population, the proportion of scheduled castes is 29.66% and scheduled tribes is 2.47% out of the total population.

Religion – Wise Distribution of Population: In view of religion-wise distribution of population, majority (73.75%) are Hindus, 25.41% are Muslims and 0.64% are Christians. There are also other religious categories such as Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains etc which represent very negligible section.

Literacy Rate: The literacy rate of the district is 66.14% as against 68.64% at the state level (West Bengal).

Working Population: The working population (35.09%) includes main workers and marginal workers. While at the state level it is 36.77%. Considering all the categories of workers, a significant proportion (43.07%) are involved in the agricultural sector which include cultivators and agricultural labourers. This is followed by household industry and other workers which is a combination of livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, orchards and allied, mining and quarrying, construction, trade and commerce, transport, storage and communication etc. The details of data related to different categories of workers are given as follows:
Categories of Workers : Total No. of Workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total No. of Workers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultivators</td>
<td>320464 (19.83%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Labourers</td>
<td>375541 (23.24%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household Industry</td>
<td>184411 (11.41%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Workers</td>
<td>735289 (45.52%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1615705 (100.00%)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Figures in the brackets indicate percentages]


Land-use Pattern: In context of land-use pattern, it shows that the total land of the district comprises 373414.37 hectares. Thus out of the total land, 0.68% area are under forest, 74.31% area are under cultivation, 2.06% are culturable waste land and 22.95% area are not available for cultivation. The data reveal that the economy of the district is pre-dominantly agriculture. The details of data regarding land-use pattern of the district are given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Land-use Pattern</th>
<th>Total Area (in hectares)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area under Forest</td>
<td>2534.02 (0.68%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Area under cultivation</td>
<td>277484.52 (74.31%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culturable Waste Land</td>
<td>7662.69 (2.06%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Not available for cultivation</td>
<td>85733.14 (22.95%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>373414.37 (100.00%)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Figures in the brackets indicate percentages]

Administrative Set Up: In this district there are seventeen (17) panchayat samities, 187 gram panchayats and 1250 inhabited villages to deliver rural development projects.

Amenities Available in the District:

Education: An overall majority of the villages i.e. 90.56% are covered with primary schools, 22.08% are having middle schools and 18.96% have secondary /senior schools.

Health: It is found that 31.04% of the villages are supported with health care facilities for their medical treatment.

Drinking Water: An overwhelming majority of the villages (94.56%) have tube-well sources of drinking water but very few villages are linked up with tap, well and other sources of drinking water.

Road Communication: Almost all the villages (96.32%) are approached by metal road whereas 62.8% of the villages have paved roads.

Transport and Communication: It is seen that about 36.16% of the villages have direct bus communication but the rest of the villages have such facilities at a distance varying from 5-10 kms or more. It is also noted that very few villages have rail link and waterways transport.
Electricity: It is earmarked that most of the villages have electricity connection for both domestic (86.48%) and agricultural purposes (84.64%).

Post and Telegraph offices: A small fraction of the villages (28.16%) have post offices in the villages but the remaining proportion have such facilities at a distance varying from 5 to 10 kms or more. However, a negligible section of the villages have telegraph offices to speed up postal communication.

Commercial Banking: It is seen that 9.84% of the villages have commercial banking facilities to support credit programme for the farmers.

Recreational Facilities: It is found that 20% of the villages have video and cinema halls for the village people entertainment.

4. The Sample

I. Sample Design: Lists of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) functioning in South 24 Parganas and Nadia districts were collected from the respective District Magistrate Offices, District Rural Development Cell, Indian Institute of Management Calcutta and Registrar of Cooperative Societies, firm, non-trading corporation etc which were situated at Kolkata where the NGOs register their organizations according to Societies Registration Act. It was pointed
out that there are 202 NGOs in South 24 Parganas district and 64 NGOs in Nadia district involved in various types of rural development projects. The lists of the NGOs were collected from different sources and sorted out properly to avoid duplication of NGOs and it was arranged alphabetically. Then the NGOs were contacted directly and secondary data were also collected from the directory of NGOs and government offices in view of their area of operation, year of establishment and nature of activities undertaken in the area of rural development. Then the NGOs were alphabetically and systematically arranged into strata i.e. local, regional, national and international. Considering both the districts, South 24 Parganas and Nadia, a total of 266 NGOs are operating for various rural development projects. It was decided that a sample of 20% would be considered for the study. NGOs were selected through random sampling out of the total number of NGOs functioning in both the districts. During the course of selection of sample an equal weightage was provided to each stratum so that all strata of NGOs are represented in the sample. However, if there are few NGOs in any of the strata, then the entire or majority of the NGOs are covered for the study. Considering this rationality, a sample of 60 NGOs (South 24 Parganas = 42 and Nadia = 18) was identified for the study. Under such circumstances, the sample size was increased to 2.5% which was earmarked for the study. Apart from NGOs, the Panchayat functionaries or members were covered for the study where the sample NGOs are located. It was pointed out that 25 Panchayat functionaries or members from South 24 Parganas district
and 6 Panchayat functionaries or members from Nadia district which in total 31 Panchayat functionaries or members were covered for the study. The details of sample design in two districts i.e. South 24 Parganas and Nadia are given as follows:

**Table 2.1**

**Status of Sample Distribution in South 24 Parganas and Nadia Districts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strata</th>
<th>Total NGOs in South 24 Parganas</th>
<th>Sample NGOs in South 24 Parganas</th>
<th>% out of Total</th>
<th>Total NGOs in Nadia</th>
<th>Sample NGOs in Nadia</th>
<th>% out of Total</th>
<th>Total NGOs in S. 24 Parganas &amp; Nadia</th>
<th>Sample NGOs in S. 24 Parganas &amp; Nadia</th>
<th>% out of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>20.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>54.5</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>28.1</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II] Sources of Data Collection: The data were collected by the researcher from two sources:

a) Primary Data

b) Secondary Data.

Primary data were collected from the Head of the Institutions / NGOs i.e. president / secretary through the help of structured questionnaire method keeping in view to get the objectives of the study. Through direct interaction the researcher was able to collect free and frank opinion from the institutions / NGOs involved in rural development projects. Besides,
primary data collection was also administered from the Panchayat functionaries or members where the sample NGOs are located in different villages through a separate structured questionnaire method. The purpose of collecting data from the Panchayat functionaries or members was to point out the relationship between Panchayats and NGOs related to rural development in the area is concerned. In order to make the study more convenient, the sample organizations have been communicated earlier through letters, telephone and fixing of prior appointment with them for conducting the interviews.

The secondary data were collected from government publications, books, journals, newspapers etc. in order to substantiate the research study wherever it is required. Extensive library work was imparted for such activity and the following libraries were used for the study.

a) National Library, Kolkata  
b) American Library, Kolkata  
c) Bidhan Chandra Memorial Library, IIMC, Joka  
d) British Library, Kolkata.

5) **Questionnaire Designing**

In view to the objectives of the study two separate questionnaires were designed to collect information from NGOs and Panchayat functionaries. The questionnaires consist of the following details for the research study.
I. Questionnaire for NGOs in Rural Development: In this questionnaire ten major sections are covered which are streamlined as follows:

- Identification
- Rural Development Projects
- Impact of Rural Development Projects.
- Assessment of People’s Participation in the Projects.
- Specialization in the Area of Rural development.
- Co-ordination within NGOs and between NGOs and Panchayat Functionaries or members.
- Resources of the Organization.
- Problems
- Training Facilities
- Strengths and Weaknesses of the Organizations.

II. Questionnaire For Panchayat Functionaries or Members: In this questionnaire four major components are taken into consideration which are given as follows:

- Identification
- Information about the village / Mouza.
- Status of Rural Development Projects.
- Coordination Between Panchayat Functionaries or Members and NGOs.

6) Research Problems

During the time of field work the researcher faced various research problems which are specified below:
I. Accurate Existence of Number of NGOs

It is difficult to identify the exact number of NGOs working in sample districts i.e. South 24 Parganas and Nadia in West Bengal. Many NGOs fail to enlist their names in their concerned government offices such as district, block and local government levels due to their negative attitudes against the government.

II. Location of the Organizations

To point out the location of the organizations and in searching the route direction to reach the organizations for the study become a difficult task, because most of the NGOs did not have telephone facilities. Under such situation there is a need to contact directly with the NGOs by postal correspondences and also the researcher seeks help and assistance from the local self government, block offices and other NGOs to sort out the matter.

III. Skeptical Attitude of the NGOs

During the course of interview most of the NGOs would be skeptical to provide data related to the research study. In view of this there is a need to establish rapport and to create motivation with the NGOs to collect free and frank opinion from them related to the area of study.

IV. Non-Availability of Proper Records

It is disheartening to note that there is no proper documentation system for keeping records in the government offices regarding NGOs.
Therefore, it becomes a problem to undertake the research work at the initial stage at least to prepare the ground level work. Preliminary information like year of establishment, geographical area of operation, activities etc. related to NGOs are essential to draw up the ground level work for the research study. With the help of these information the NGOs were selected which had at least 5 years work experiences. Besides these information, data were also collected from the directory of NGOs often published by Indian Institute of Management Calcutta. In addition, wherever it was possible direct correspondence was made with the NGOs to collect their background information.

It was also pointed out that there were many NGOs which were unable to keep proper records related to their projects, beneficiaries, annual reports, local contribution etc. due to their lack of knowledge and skill. As a result of this, it hampers the research study. In-order to overcome this situation the President and Secretary of each organization are interviewed to collect authentic information and data related to the study.

V. Problems of Data Collection

It is seen that none of the members of the organizations are capable to issue data and information related to the study except the President/Secretary of each organization. The Head of the institutions either President or Secretary has the sole authority only to provide information and data on behalf of the organizations. Therefore, there is a need of fixing prior appointment with the President and Secretary
of the organization to conduct personal interviews. Thus collection of data from a specific person of the organization would become a time consuming affair. It is also observed that in some NGOs the President and Secretary remain busy and frequently stay outside the organization with various assignments.

VI. Societies Registration Act

In West Bengal under West Bengal Societies Registration Act of 1860 and 1960 various non-profitable institutions such as youth clubs, NGOs, barwari committee for festival functions, religious organizations etc. are registered in this Act at Registrar of Firm and Non-Trading Corporation, Kolkata. However, the list of institutions available in this office becomes a difficult task to identify the NGOs separately. Tentatively a list of NGOs has been selected from the register of the Registrar office, Govt. of West Bengal.

VII. Previous Research on NGOs in Rural Development

It was pertinent to note that none of the government offices, academic institutions, research institutes and NGOs in West Bengal have undertaken research studies related to NGOs' role in the development sector at the state level nor in the sample districts chosen for the study in West Bengal which would provide some light in the research area. Against this background, research based studies were found relevant to the area studied in different states at the national and international levels by the researchers. These were published in
various books, journals, working papers etc to help as a tool for the research study.

7] Status of the Non-Governmental Organizations

In the context of the research study the NGOs have been classified as local, regional, national and international. The criteria followed for this classification are given as follows:

i) Local : The organization working at the village level covering small number of villages and implemented various rural development programmes in one block.

ii) Regional : The organization working at a still higher level viz. Sub-Division, two or more blocks, districts and different parts of the state having number of branch centres or local units in the villages.

iii) National : The organization operates in three or more states having unit in different parts of the state. They also support training, consultancy services and grant to various NGOs.

iv) International : The organization which sanction grants to different NGOs for social welfare projects and functions all over the world.

8] Selection of the NGOs

Selection of the NGOs are done by considering the following factors:
i) Societies which were registered with the office of the Registrar of firm and Non Trading Corporations in Kolkata and were functioning during the study period.

ii) The organizations which had registered and had work experience a minimum of 5 years have been chosen.

iii) The organizations which were consistent in their work are chosen.

iv) The Societies which had contribution to social welfare and rural development are selected.

For the purpose of this study the organizations like youth association, mahila mandals, social clubs, charity and welfare societies which are involved in rural development activities are considered under the term "Non- Governmental Organizations". Thus the youth clubs which are only involved in sports and festival functions, educational institutions, hospitals, cooperative societies, trade unions etc are excluded from the study. The NGOs which are located in rural areas are strictly considered for the study. However, there are some organizations located in urban areas but they also undertake rural development activities, such organizations may also be considered for the study.

9) **Data Collection**

Collection of data play a significant role in the whole research process. The field work was undertaken during the period November 2006 to
February 2008. Since the NGOs were scattered all over the sample districts, travelling may take quite a lot of time and effort. Once the sample NGOs are selected, prior permission from the concerned authorities through letters and telephones would be required. This would help the NGOs largely because the organizational authorities were well informed, related to the purpose of the study.

The time taken to interview the Heads of the organization was about 2 hours. While in case of panchayat functionaries it took about 1 hour. During the course of interview with the NGOs, they took more time because they were deviating from the main topic of discussion related to the research study. From this it reveals that the NGOs were free to share their experience and problems for administering their organization. It was also noted that besides various difficulties, their experiences contributed to better understanding of various aspects of NGOs.

Data Processing

The data were arranged by computation method. It took about 2 (two) months time to complete the data analysis. The data were reported in the form of figures and percentages. Two way analysis of variance had been used in this study to examine the significance of variance in the organizational factors.
11] **Presentation of Report**

After processing and analyzing the data the report writing work was performed. The report was drafted on the basis of the chapter plan framed earlier.

12] **Editing and Finalization of the Report**

Finalization of the report was prepared by the researcher by proper editing of the research work with omission and inclusion of necessary data to the research study.

The researcher observes that the role of NGOs is gaining popularity in our country due to sudden growth of NGOs in different states in India. This study is undertaken to study in depth regarding NGOs, specifically in two districts i.e. South 24 Parganas and Nadia in West Bengal. It is seen that South 24 Parganas district is located nearer to Kolkata whereas Nadia district is situated a little far away from Kolkata. The researcher is familiar about the geographical, cultural, social and economic status of both the districts and are accessible for the study. There are 202 NGOs in South 24 Parganas district and 64 NGOs in Nadia district operating various rural development projects.