Chapter-II

A Profile of the Sample Area and Sample Population

2.1 Sample Area:

The sample area is spread over two districts, Mayurbhanj and Rayagada, located in the northern and southern parts of the state respectively. One block in each of these districts has been picked up, from which sample households have been chosen. As both these blocks are tribal dominated, tribals constitute a majority of the sample population.

2.1.1 Mayurbhanj District:

Mayurbhanj district is spread over an area of 10,418 sq kms. It is situated between 85° 40' and 87° 11' East longitude and 21° 16' and 22° 34' North latitude. It is bounded by the Singhbhum district of Jharkhand and Medinipur district of West Bengal on the north, by the Medinipur and Balasore districts on the east, on the south by the districts of Balasore and Keonjhar on the east, and by the districts of Keonjhar and Singhbhum on the west.

The district of Mayurbhanj was formed in 1949 when the princely state was merged with Orissa. Currently, the district is divided into 4 sub-divisions, 9 tehsils and 26 Community Development (CD) blocks or Panchayat Samitis. There are 382 gram panchayats covering 3950 villages in Mayurbhanj district.
The district has 1 Municipality and 3 Notified Area Councils. The central part of the district is covered by a range of hills known as Similipal, which divides the district into two distinct parts consisting of two sub-divisions each, Sadar and Kaptipada in the east, Rairangpur and Karanjia in the west. Mayurbhanj district is culturally rich. Though the ancient history of Mayurbhanj is wrapped in obscurity, before its merger the ex-state was under the enlightened and benevolent rule of the Bhanja dynasty.

According to 1931 Census, there were 131 different castes and tribes in Mayurbhanj. Census figures show that people from the neighbouring states had migrated to Mayurbhanj almost continuously. The main reason for migration was to find opportunities for trade or to find occupation in timber extraction, mining and other business. Some of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes migrating from Singhbhum (Jharkhand) were attracted by the fertile valleys. Mayurbhanj has a high tribal population consisting of several tribes such as Santals, Kolha, Bhumija, Bathudi, Bhuyan, Ho, Gond, etc. The Santals, Gonds and Bhumija have been migrating from Singhbhum, Medinapur, and Keonjhar districts.

From various records and the District Gazetteers, it is found that the population of Mayurbhanj including that of tribal
population has greater exposure to the outside world compared to the population of many other tribal districts of Orissa.

As per 2001 Census, the population of Mayurbhanj was 22.23 lakh, of which 20.68 lakh live in villages and 1.55 lakh in urban areas. Out of the total population, 12.58 lakh belong to STs and 1.71 lakh to SCs. In Mayurbhanj district, the tribal population constitutes 57.87% of the total population. All the 26 blocks are under Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA).

According to 2001 Census, 63.08% of the state’s population is literate. As against this, the literacy rate in Mayurbhanj district is 51.91%. However, the decadal growth rate in literacy in Mayurbhanj is 37% as against 28.49% for the state as a whole. Gopabandhunagar block of Mayurbhanj district has a population of 66,309 comprising 33,570 males and 32,739 females. The ST population of Gopabandhunagar block is 35,665, comprising 7,959 males and 7,736 females. The sex ratio in Mayurbhanj district stands at 980 females per 1,000 males. The ratio for tribals is 994. In Gopabandhunagar block, the figure stands at 975 but among tribals the figure is a little more balanced—989 females per 1,000 males.

In 2003-04, Mayurbhanj district had 2,423 Primary Schools with 4,801 teachers and 2,14,887 students. The pupil-teacher ratio in the district was 45:1. Out of 2,14,887 students in Primary Schools, 1,16,274 were boys and 98,613 girls. The ST
and SC enrolment in Primary Schools was of the order of 1,26,795 and 23,363 respectively. In Gopabandhunagar block, the number of Primary Schools was 92 and number of teachers 205. In the district as a whole, there were two teachers per school and in Gopabandhunagar block, there were 2.2 teachers per school. In the block in question, the number of students was 7,648, 4,090 boys and 3,558 girls. The pupil-teacher ratio in the block was 37.1. The numbers of ST and SC students were 4,534 and 1,170 respectively. Thus, the enrolment of tribal students was 59.28%, which was higher than the percentage of tribals in the district.

There were 760 Middle Schools in the district during 2003-04. The number of teachers was 2,721. Thus the number of teachers per school was 3.5. In Gopabandhunagar block, there were 25 Middle Schools with 94 teachers, yielding a teacher-school ratio of 3.75. The total student strength in Middle Schools of the district as a whole was 68,659, 38,519 boys and 30,140 girls. The number of ST and SC students was 34,381 and 6,315 respectively. The strength of ST students was 50.07% of the total student strength in Middle Schools.

In Gopabandhunagar block, the student strength was 3,271, 1,810 boys and 1,461 girls. The strength of ST students was 1,615 accounting for 49.37% of the total student strength in the Middle Schools of the block.
During 2003-04, there were 477 Secondary Schools in the district served by 3,842 teachers. The number of teachers per school was 8.05. In Gopabandhunagar block, there were 18 Secondary Schools with 134 teachers, i.e., 7.4 teachers per school. There were 75,524 students, 43,282 boys and 32,242 girls. The number of ST students was 35,031, i.e., 46.38% of the total student strength. In Gopabandhunagar block, the student strength was 2,200, 1,263 boys and 937 girls. The number of ST and SC students stood at 987 and 210 respectively. The percentage of tribal students was 44.86% of the total student strength in Secondary Schools.

From the above, it would be seen that the proportion of tribal students in the total student population of Gopabandhunagar block is declining at higher levels of schooling.

The break up of the male and female literacy rate in the district is 65.76 and 37.14 respectively. In Gopabandhunagar block, the literacy rate is 32.94, male and female literacy being 69.43% and 17.69% respectively. What strikes most is the low female literacy rate in the said block. In fact, it is the lowest of all the blocks in the district and almost less than 50% of the female literacy rate of the district.

The yield rate of paddy in Mayurbhanj district in 2004-05 was 22.83 qntls per hectare against the state average of 22.05 qntls. In Gopabandhunagar block, it was 22.70 qntls. i.e.
almost equal to the district average. Fertilizer consumption in the district was 35kgs per hectare. In the said block, per hectare consumption of fertilizer in 2004-05 was 33kgs. So far as yield rate of paddy is concerned, there was hardly any difference between the state and district figures. But per hectare fertilizer consumption in Mayurbhanj district was less than the state average. It was still less in Gopabandhunagar block.

As on 31.10.2007, 69.02% of the villages of Mayurbhanj district were electrified. In Gopabandhunagar block, the percentage of villages electrified stood at 75.40. Road length per lakh of population in Mayurbhanj district was 566.64 kms by 2003-04.

A typical village in Orissa consists of a few hamlets or habitations not always contiguous to each other. Therefore, when it comes to supply of drinking water, the habitation and not the village is taken as the unit.

In Mayurbhanj district, out of 8,812 habitations, 7,927 habitations had adequate provision of safe drinking water as on 1.4.2007, 650 were partially covered and 235 not covered. In Gopabandhunagar block, out of 316 habitations, 260 were fully covered, 35 partially covered and 20 not-covered.

As per the latest official figures, 9.03% of households in Mayurbhanj district have toilets. Thus there is very little access to sanitation. 18.25% of the households in Orissa had access to
sanitation by October 2007. It is evident that the sanitation situation in Mayurbhanj is poor compared to that in the state as a whole.

2.1.2 Rayagada District:

The district of Rayagada covering an area of 7,073 sqkms is situated in the southern part of Orissa. It is located between 82° 54' and 84° 2' East longitude and 19° 0' and 19° 58' North latitude. Rayagada district is bounded by Kandhamal district in the north, Koraput district and Andhra Pradesh in the south, Gajapati district in the east and Kalahandi district in the west. The district is divided into 11 blocks and 3 Urban Local Bodies. According to the 2001 census, the district has a population of 8,31,109, out of which 4,63,418 belong to the Scheduled Tribes.

Kashipur tehsil of the present Rayagada district was a zamindari in ex-Kalahandi state. After merger of the states, it became a part of the newly formed Kalahandi district. In 1952, the zamindari system was abolished. For want of communication facilities with Bhawanipatna, the headquarters of Kalahandi district, administrative inconvenience was experienced and it was decided to transfer Kashipur police station covering the zamindari area to Koraput district. It became a part of Koraput district w.e.f. 1st August 1962. Subsequently, when Rayagada district was carved out of the erstwhile Koraput district in 1993, Kashipur became a
part of Rayagada district. The tehsil is situated between 82°-32' and 83°-18' East longitude and 19°-3' and 19°-32' North latitude. The total area of the tehsil is 580 sqkm. The tehsil in case of Kashipur is coterminous with the block.

In many ways, Kashipur represents one of the most remote and inaccessible tribal areas in Orissa. The tehsil is formed of rugged hills and intervening valleys. The entire area is generally undulating. The hilly regions are all covered with thin forest except specific pockets where the forest is relatively dense. Shifting cultivation has been practised in much of the area since time immemorial.

The population of Kashipur is 1,21,086, out of which 74,646 belong to the Scheduled Tribes. The sex ratio in Rayagada district is 1028 females per 1000 males. The ratio among STs is 1060 per 1000 males. The sex ratio in Kashipur block is 1022 per 1000 males. The ratio for STs in this block is 1036 females per 1000 males.

Because of the peculiar terrain of the block and its relative isolation, access to education has always been a problem. The District Gazetteer of erstwhile undivided Koraput district mentions that till the early sixties there was only one government managed Middle English school at Kashipur. This school was earlier managed by the zamindar. In the early sixties, a privately managed Middle English School was started at Tikri. Around that time, there were
11 Upper Primary and 28 Lower Primary Schools in the block. In 1956, an Ashram school was started at Gorakhpur, primarily to provide education to Adivasi students. "The school had 100 students on roll with an average daily attendance of 80 students", the District Gazetteer mentions.

According to 2001 Census, the literacy rate in Rayagada district is 36.15%. Male literacy stands at 48.18%, and female literacy at 24.56%. In Kashipur block, 33.98% of the population is literate. Male literacy is 46.3% as against female literacy of 22.35%. The literacy rates in Kashipur are lower compared to the district figures.

During 2003-04, there were 1,424 Primary Schools in Rayagada district with 2,965 teachers. Thus there were about two teachers per school. In Kashipur block, there were 168 Primary Schools and 265 teachers. Number of teachers per school was less than two. During 2003-04 the total student enrolment in Primary Schools of Rayagada district stood at 88,321, out of whom 49,888 belonged to STs. The pupil-teacher ratio in Rayagada district was 30:1. In Kashipur block, the enrolment in Primary Schools was of the order of 12,892 and the ST enrolment was 7,732 (59.97%). In Kashipur block, the pupil-teacher ratio was 49:1. It was less favourable compared to the district ratio.

There were 154 Middle Schools in Rayagada district during 2003-04 and the number of teachers was 749. In Kashipur block,
the number of Middle Schools was 20 and the number of teachers was 60. Enrolment in Middle Schools in the district as a whole was 25,806 out of which 10,091 belonged to STs. In Kashipur block, enrolment in Middle Schools was 3,069 out of which 1,480 belonged to STs (48.22%).

Coming to Secondary Schools, the number in the district stood at 75 during 2003-04 and there were 599 teachers. In Kashipur block, there were 5 Secondary Schools with 34 teachers. Enrolment in Secondary Schools in the district as a whole was 18,072, out of which 5,811 were STs. In Kashipur, enrolment in Secondary Schools was of the order of 1,392 out of which 541 belonged to the ST category (38.86%).

As in case of Gopabandhunagar block of Mayurbhanj district, so also in the case of Kashipur block of Rayagada district, the proportion of tribal students in the total student population at various levels of schooling shows a declining trend.

Though there are 2,667 villages in Rayagada district, 2,467 are inhabited. There are 4,410 habitations in the district. As on 14 January 2007, 4,037 habitations had adequate water supply as per the national norm of 1 spot source for 250 population with a minimum availability of 40 ltrs of water per capita per day (LPCD). 301 habitations had partial water supply and 72 habitations had no source of drinking water supply. In Kashipur block, out of 736
habitations, 675 were fully covered, 56 partially covered and 5 remained uncovered.

In Rayagada district only 5.10% of households had toilet facility. It is quite obvious that though a large majority of habitations in the district have been officially declared as fully covered with regard to drinking water supply, the district is one of the most backward from the point of view of sanitation.

Yield rate of paddy in Rayagada district was 24.64 quintals per hectare as against the average yield of 22.05 quintals for the State. Only 15.09% of the cultivated area in Rayagada district was irrigated as against 34.06% in the state as a whole by 2004-05. So far as irrigation is concerned, Kasipur block remains one of the most deprived blocks of the state. By 2004-05, only 1.93% of the cultivated area of the block was irrigated. Per hectare consumption of fertilizer was 33 kgs in Rayagada district and 31 kgs in Kasipur block.

Only 18.24% of the villages in Rayagada district are electrified as against 80.04% in the state as whole. In Kasipur block, only 8.17% of villages are electrified.

2.1.3. **A Comparative Picture:**

The purpose of giving the district and block profiles is to show the gap between two districts, Mayurbhanj and Rayagada, and two blocks, Gopabandhunagar of Mayurbhanj district and
Kashipur of Rayagada district Though both are tribal areas, there is a wide gap between the stages of development in these two blocks. The Government of Orissa had brought out a document in 1994 (P&C Deptt 1994) showing the development indicators of different blocks as on 31 3 1992. The indicators for Gopabandhunagar block of Mayurbhanj district and Kashipur block of Rayagada district are given in the following Table A. A Composite Development Index of the blocks had also been worked out. According to this ranking, Gopabandhunagar block of Mayurbhanj district had the 179th rank, the composite development index being 0.4566. Kashipur was the 7th most backward block of the state, the composite development index being 0.3074.

Table-2.1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Block</th>
<th>CDI</th>
<th>Rank (in terms of Backwardness)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kashipur Block</td>
<td>0.3074</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gopabandhunagar Block</td>
<td>0.4566</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The profile of the two districts and the two blocks therein in relation to certain important indicators as per the latest available figures are shown in the following table.
### Table - 22

Important Socio-Economic Indicators of the State, Districts of Mayurbhanj and Rayagada and Blocks of G B Nagar and Kashipur

| State / Dist          | No of villages (Inhabited) | Total households | Population as per 2001 Census | Yield Rate of paddy in 2004-05 (Qnts/ha) | Irrigation potential created in Khariff 2004-05 to the cultivated area | Cultivated area (in hect.) | % of Irrigation potential created in Khariff 2004-05 | Per hect. consumption of Fertilizer in 2004-05 (kg/hect.) | No of beds available | No of doctors available per lakh of population | No of doctors available per lakh of population | Villages electrified | Road length per 1000 in 2003 (km) | Road length per 4000 in 2004 (km) | Road length per 2500 in 2004 (km) | Households having sanitation | % of households having sanitation | Drinking water facilities available | Fully covered | Partly covered | Not covered |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Orissa State          | 47529                      | 706183           | 36805003                      | 22.08                                    | 20987090                                                               | 6165000                   | 34.06                                         | 43                                                             | 14254             | 39                                      | 4668                                       | 13              | 38044                    | 80.04                    | 2362066                  | 646.67                                      | 1280592                     | 18.26                    | 128116                    | 9908                     | 1707                      |
| Mayurbhanj Dist.      | 3748                       | 464663           | 2223465                       | 22.83                                    | 77776                                                                 | 441000                    | 17.64                                         | 35                                                             | 866               | 39                                      | 347                                      | 16              | 2687                     | 69.02                    | 12599                    | 566.64                                      | 426555                      | 9.17                      | 75276                     | 650                      | 207                        |
| Rayagada Dist.        | 2467                       | 212202           | 831169                        | 24.64                                    | 292700                                                                 | 194000                    | 16.09                                         | 33                                                             | 464               | 56                                      | 110                                      | 12              | 450                      | 18.24                    | 68202                    | 782.33                                     | 9712                         | 4.58                      | 40376                     | 301                      | 55                         |
| Gopabandhu Nagar Block of Mayurbhanja dist. | 126 | 16289 | 66309 | 22.70 | 918 | 14000 | 6.06 | 33 | 24 | 36 | 14 | 21 | 95 | 76.40 | 0.00 | 4441 | 27.26 | 261 | 35 | 18 |
| Kashipur Block of Rayagada dist | 416 | 31831 | 121086 | 16.50 | 713 | 37000 | 1.93 | 31 | 56 | 46 | 11 | 9 | 34 | 81.17 | 0.00 | 467 | 1.47 | 675 | 66 | 3 |

Source: Economic Survey of Orissa 2006-07
Technical Report on EARAS
A Profile on Agriculture in Orissa 2008
District Statistical Handbook, Mayurbhanj & Rayagada
State's Economy Figures Orissa 2006
Statistical outline of Orissa 2007
The point that can be safely made here is that after more than a decade and half, the development indicators of these two areas remain widely divergent. The blocks have been purposely selected for the study in order to measure the impact of education on various human development indicators in two areas of the state, both of which are tribal dominated but are at different stages of development.

2.2. Sample Households and Population

In area-specific empirical studies, the findings are relevant to the population surveyed. Any generalisation based on the findings can be made only after adjusting for the attributes of the sample. Therefore, knowledge of the sample is necessary prior to any discussion of the results of the study. A discussion of the socio-economic profile of the sample will provide the backdrop for the analysis. As evident from the earlier discussion, the respondents in the survey hail from two tribal dominated districts and blocks of Orissa.

2.2.1. Income:

It is a well-known fact that income is probably the first indicator of the economic condition of a person and is universally used as a measure of economic development of a country. The following Table 2.3 presents the income profile of the sample households in the two districts under study.
To start with, an attempt has been made to consider different income brackets. But data reveal that the sample households are concentrated in the lower income brackets and high-income brackets virtually go blank, for which the income-brackets were reduced. Moreover, the policy makers and administrators at all levels are more concerned with the people living below the poverty line. In keeping with their concern, the households in the study are divided into two income brackets; those below the poverty line and those above it.

Table 2.3

Income-wise Distribution (Sample Households)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Income Rs</th>
<th>Mayurbhanj District</th>
<th>Rayagada District</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Less than 18,000</td>
<td>58 (25 11)</td>
<td>181 (90 5)</td>
<td>239 (55 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>More than 18,000</td>
<td>173 (74 89)</td>
<td>19 (9 5)</td>
<td>192 (44 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>231 (100)</td>
<td>200 (100)</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Percentages are in parentheses)

The Planning Commission, in the year 2002, fixed the poverty line for Orissa at Rs 365/- per month per person, and the average family size at 4.5. Basing on these facts, the poverty line for the households in the state works at an annual income of Rs 19,710. But our data reveal that this estimate for the state as a whole appears to be high for tribal areas, where partial barter system is still in vogue and food collected for personal
consumption from the nearby forests go unreported. In view of this, for the purpose of the present study, an annual family income of Rs 18,000/- has been taken as the poverty threshold.

The distribution of households on the basis of income shows that though the samples have been drawn from two tribal districts, the income of the sample households across these districts are distinctly different. The proportion of households earning less than Rs 18,000/- in Mayurbhanj district is only 25% as against the corresponding figure of 90.5% in Rayagada district. Of the total sample households of 231 in Mayurbhanj district, 58 are poor and 173 earn more than Rs 18,000/- per year. In Rayagada district, the sample size is 200 of which as many as 181 are poor.

It needs no special mention that in the relatively inaccessible Kashipur block with its inhospitable environment, people live under grueling poverty. Gopabandhunagar block of Mayurbhanj is relatively better connected by road and is more progressive compared to Kashipur block of Rayagada. The data in the Table show that income distribution is more equal in this block than in the rest of the country as the sample households are equally poor with 91% of them earning less than Rs 18,000/- per annum. In Mayurbhanj district, 75% of the sample population earn more than the above mentioned amount.


2.2.2. Asset:

Besides labour, asset is an important source of income and determinant of the stability of income. Moreover, asset indicates how ably income has been managed and as such, is an important indicator of one's economic status in the society.

In the present study, the physical asset of a person, such as, land, productive animals and other income yielding assets have been included. It is true that consumer durables are not income generating capital assets. However, these reflect a family's economic strength and do have resale value which can be drawn upon at the time of necessity. Keeping this in view, the value of the durables has been counted towards the value of assets of the respondents. In a modern monetized economy, financial assets like deposits in the banks, post offices, non-banking financial institutions, insurance policies etc. constitute a substantial part of an individual's possession. But the tribal families do not seem to be aware of such facilities and their financial savings are insubstantial. The present study has also taken into account these financial investments, whenever available while estimating the asset worth of the families.
Table 2.4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Asset Value (Rs)</th>
<th>Mayurbhanj District</th>
<th>Rayagada District</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Up to 25,000</td>
<td>94 (40 69)</td>
<td>110 (55)</td>
<td>204 (47 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>25,000-50,000</td>
<td>52 (22 51)</td>
<td>55 (27 5)</td>
<td>107 (24 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Above 50,000</td>
<td>85 (36 80)</td>
<td>35 (17 5)</td>
<td>120 (27 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>231 (100 00)</td>
<td>200 (100)</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For an analysis of the asset holdings of the sample households, three categories of asset-owners have been identified: people owning assets worth up to Rs 25,000/-, those owning assets valued more than Rs 25,000, but less than Rs 50,000/-, and the owners owning assets more than Rs 50,000/-. Asset-ownership pattern in both the districts exhibit that there are more people owning the least amount of assets, i.e., up to Rs 25,000/- This class constitutes the highest proportion of the sample households, about 41% and 55% in Mayurbhanj and Rayagada districts respectively. These proportions are different from that in the context of income, which implies that the more income is earned by the poor through non-asset based activities, may be labour.

Another emergent pattern of asset ownership in Rayagada district is the declining proportion of the sample asset owners with increase in asset value. Compared to 55% of the sample households in the lowest asset value group of Rs 25,000/-, there
are only 27.5% in the middle asset group and 17.5% in the highest asset group of above Rs 50,000/- But no such pattern can be observed in the case of Mayurbhanj district. Though the concentration of the poorest asset owners with asset valued less than Rs 25,000/- is 41% (the highest) in the district and 36% in the highest asset bracket of more than Rs 50,000/-, the lowest concentration, 22.5%, is in the middle asset group with their assets valued at Rs 25,000/- - Rs 50,000/-.

The sample households in Mayurbhanj are richer than their counterparts in Rayagada from the angle of both income and asset ownership.

2.2.3. Occupation:

It is to be noted that there is a close relationship between occupation and income of a person. With economic development, the occupational structure of an economy undergoes changes and so does the income level. Income from agricultural activities remains low because agriculture is labour intensive and the law of diminishing returns operates sharply in the agricultural operations, but in the case of the manufacturing sector, the setting in of the law is slow due to improved technology. The occupation pattern of the people is, therefore, helpful in giving a picture of the economic status of the population.

Occupations are broadly divided into three categories: primary, secondary, and tertiary. Agriculture, forestry, animal
husbandry, fishing, poultry farming, mining and quarrying are considered primary occupations. In a developing economy, workers of these sectors constitute a large proportion of the labour force. Manufacturing industries, large, small and cottage industries are included in the secondary sector. The secondary sector generally remains small in the developing countries and employs a small proportion of the labour force. The tertiary sector comprises trade, transport, communication, banking, insurance, information services etc. Income in the tertiary sector being invariably higher than that in the secondary sector, proportionately larger employment in the tertiary sector would push up income in a country.

Division of occupation in the sample area as per the above classification appears to be off the track in the real world situation obtaining there. The secondary sector is virtually non-existent. The tertiary sector activities carried on in the study area are of lower grade-traditional caste-based activities which are low paying. The population is mostly agriculture-centric, deriving most part of their income from agriculture and keeping themselves engaged in farm related activities throughout the year. Members of some sample households find employment in farm related activities or in quarries on daily wage basis. The occupations of the sample households, therefore, have been categorized as agriculture, non-farm activities and daily wage labour work.
Table 2.5

Distribution of Samples as per Occupation of the Head of the Household

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Mayurbhanj District</th>
<th>Rayagada District</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agricultural and allied activities</td>
<td>149 (64 50)</td>
<td>182 (91)</td>
<td>331 (76 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Non farm activities</td>
<td>31 (13 42)</td>
<td>11 (5 5)</td>
<td>42 (9 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Daily Wage labour</td>
<td>51 (22 08)</td>
<td>7 (3 5)</td>
<td>58 (13 5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>231 (100 00)</td>
<td>200 (100)</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the present study, only the main occupations of the sample households have been taken into account because the respondents failed to spell out their secondary activities, income from which was negligible.

Table 2.5 reveals that the largest number of sample population are engaged in agriculture, 149 (69%) and 182 (91%) in Mayurbhanj and Rayagada districts respectively. The number of households with non-agricultural activities is less in these two districts, 82 (35%) and 11 (9%) respectively.

In the course of survey, it is been found that the sample households do not own all the land under their possession. Their residences being in the proximity of government-owned forest land, these families have been cultivating government land and appropriating the crops raised thereon. The lands are of low grade. So the poor cultivators, not being the owners, have no incentive or the means to bring about development on the land under their
cultivation. As a result, the productivity of land remains low and the cultivators are invariably poor.

It may be noted that despite this similarity, occupational pattern of the sample households in the two districts differ. As against 65% of farmers in the sample households in Mayurbhanj district, the proportion of their counterparts in Rayagada sample is much higher, 91%. Only a small proportion of the sample households in both the district samples (13% in Mayurbhanj and 35% in Rayagada) have non-farm activities as their main occupation. This can be explained by the absence of any significant non-farm activity in the area under study.

It is interesting to note that there were only 7 (3.5%) heads of the households who worked as daily labourers in Rayagada. It speaks of the aversion of the very traditional and backward tribals to work for wage during the scheduled hours specified by the employer. They were found to be going for collection of forest produces at will, rather than working as per the work schedule of the employer. In Mayurbhanj, tribals have better exposure and are familiar with the calculation of monetary gains and losses for which they take up more wage work whenever and wherever available.

2.2.4. Education

Education plays an important role in raising productivity and developing the personality of an individual. It widens the options
of a person in the job market by improving his skills. It inculcates a modern and scientific attitude in man and equips him to face the numerous problems of life. An educated person can better manage his affairs, and save time and energy for productive engagement. It is further argued that education may help reduce inequality. Like most of the developing countries, India has launched a programme of universal primary education with a view to improving the quality of education, capability of the poor and enabling them in increasing their income. A profile of the educational attainments of the sample population is presented here.

The present study has categorized the educational level of the sample households under four heads: illiterate, primary, less than high school, and high school and above. Illiteracy at the state level is a matter of concern as 37% of the population is still illiterate. The second category is primary level education up to class-V, which enables a person to read and write. The next level of education relates to the High School dropouts, who have read beyond class five and continued education thereafter only to withdraw themselves before completing High School education. The last group in the Table comprises those who have continued study after High School in technical or general courses.

Data in the Table indicate, illiteracy in Mayurbhanj district is of the same level (37.5%) as in the state, while the corresponding percentage is as high as 69% in Rayagada district. In other words,
illiteracy rate is very high among the sample household heads of Rayagada district. The percentage of illiterates in Rayagada is about two times that in Mayurbhanj.

### Table 2.6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Educational level</th>
<th>Mayurbhanj District</th>
<th>Rayagada District</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Illiterate</td>
<td>87 (37%)</td>
<td>138 (69%)</td>
<td>225 (52%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>40 (17%)</td>
<td>39 (19%)</td>
<td>79 (18%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Less than HS</td>
<td>59 (25%)</td>
<td>14 (7%)</td>
<td>73 (16%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>HS and Above</td>
<td>45 (19%)</td>
<td>9 (4%)</td>
<td>54 (12%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>231 (100%)</td>
<td>200 (100%)</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Percentages are in parentheses)

The proportion of primary educated for the sample as a whole works out at 18%, and the rates for the two districts are not very much different, being 17% and 19.5% for Mayurbhanj and Rayagada districts respectively.

The situation is different for the school dropouts in the sample. The proportion of school dropouts (between primary and High School) is 17%. This rate is relatively high (25.5%) in Mayurbhanj district and low (7%) in Rayagada district. The lower dropout percentage in the Rayagada sample can perhaps be explained in terms of low enrolments in High Schools.

The proportion of heads of the sample households going for High School and above High School education in Mayurbhanj is
19.5% compared to only 4.5% in Rayagada district. And again, it is mainly due to low literacy and lower enrolment in Primary Schools in Rayagada district.

In a nutshell, Rayagada district is educationally backward vis-à-vis Mayurbhanj district.

**2.2.5 Age:**

A study of age composition of the persons throws light on their effectiveness in contributing to the family activities and income. The young is expected to be more effective and productive in doing different works than the old.

The age composition of the population is a significant indicator of the dependency ratio and the active population. A pyramidical population implies that there are less hands to work, but more mouths to feed. In such a situation, every worker has to earn not only for himself, but for the dependents also. At the same time, higher proportion of children in the population will provide substantial work force in the near future. But here we are considering the age of the heads of the sample households, in whose case similar observation is not valid.
Table 2.7

Distribution of the Sample as per Age of the Head of the Household

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SI. No</th>
<th>Age Group (Years)</th>
<th>Mayurbhanj District</th>
<th>Rayagada District</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Below 35</td>
<td>72 (31 17)</td>
<td>111 55 50)</td>
<td>183 (42 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>36-50</td>
<td>104 (45 02)</td>
<td>72 (36 00)</td>
<td>176 (40 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Above 50</td>
<td>55 (23 81)</td>
<td>17 (8 50)</td>
<td>72 (16 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>231 (100 00)</td>
<td>200 (100)</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Percentages are in parentheses)

In tribal societies, the married sons invariably raise separate families for which the heads of the households are generally married persons. In the course of the sample survey, it is found that the youngest household head is aged 22. In view of this, the age profile of the sample households was grouped into 3 categories: below 35 years, between 36 and 50 years, and above 50 years. The underlying presumption is that people in the age group of 36-50 years work harder due to the familial compulsions of raising a family and catering to their needs. In an ill-fed poor community, life expectancy would be low and persons older than 50 years are likely to lose capacity to work as their physical strength declines.

The number of persons below 35 years is 183 (42.5%), almost the same as those who are aged more than 36 years, but less than 50 years 176 (41%). The aged, more than 50 years old, number 72 (12.5%) It is implied that life expectancy of the
population in these regions is lower than the national level figure of 65.

As in the case of other sample attributes, the samples in the two districts exhibit different pictures. In Rayagada district, household heads aged less than 35 years constitute more than half of the district sample, while the corresponding proportion is 31% in Mayurbhanj district. An important point emerging from this is that the young people in Rayagada marry at a relatively early age.

In the former district, there are 72 (36%) heads of the households who are aged between 36 years and 50 years, while the corresponding figure for Mayurbhanj district is 104 (45%). Thus, Mayurbhanj district has numerically as well as proportionately more houses headed by more active persons.

The relatively old people, aged more than 50 years constitute 24% of the Mayurbhanj sample and number 55. But those aged above 50 years in Rayagada district sample constitute only 8.5% of the sample and are 17 in number.

To speak plainly, the sample population in Rayagada is relatively young, probably by default, because less people have lived till old age.

2.2.6. Family Size:

The study of the family size of the population is very important from the welfare point of view. The effects of a larger
population need no explaining Land-man ratio decreases with increase in population Rapid growth in population causes poverty and stands as a barrier to development Larger population with high birth rate increases the burden of child care and the cost of children’s education Therefore, a small family is considered the norm to-day

But in an undeveloped agrarian society, children are expected to help their parents on the farm and it is one of the causes for low enrolment in schools They are considered to be the insurance in old age and thus constitute a traditional source of old age security People in this situation are likely to be averse to family planning

Table–2.8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SI No</th>
<th>Family size (No)</th>
<th>Mayurbhanj District</th>
<th>Rayagada District</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>UPTO - 3</td>
<td>34 (14.72)</td>
<td>31 (15.5)</td>
<td>65 (15.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4 TO 5</td>
<td>120 (51.95)</td>
<td>100 (50)</td>
<td>220 (51.0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>6 and above</td>
<td>77 (33.33)</td>
<td>69 (34.5)</td>
<td>146 (33.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>231 (100.00)</td>
<td>200 (100)</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Percentages are in parentheses)

The attitude of the people to this problem in the study area is reflected in the Table above, which gives a picture of the family size of the sample households The relatively smart in the population are expected to go for a small family
As evident from Table 2.8, two-thirds (66%) of the sample households have families with 5 or less number of members. Both the district-level samples exhibit a similar pattern as the corresponding percentages for Mayurbhanj and Rayagada district samples are 66.6 and 65.5 respectively. Fifteen percent of the total sample families have three or less number of members. The corresponding figures for Mayurbhanj and Rayagada district samples are 15% and 14.7% respectively. About one-third of the sample households (around 34%) still raise large families with 6 and more members.

At the time of survey, it was revealed that a small number of respondents have opted for family planning. The females, not males, had undergone family planning operation. Men folk still hold the view that such operations cause impotency in the male. Further, considering the age at which they went for family planning operation, it was obvious that the step was taken for considerations extraneous to limiting family size. In fact, in the case of elderly women with less probability of giving birth to a child, the motivating factor was monetary incentive.

2.2.7. Caste:

Caste is an important factor in the Indian society. Caste limits the choices of a person, and hence his/her welfare. In the traditional social structure, division of labour based on caste
system also determines the occupation of a person. The SCs and STs still belong to the disadvantaged section. This is evident from the high proportion of the sample households earning less than Rs 18,000/- annually.

Table 29 depicts the caste profile of the sample. Of the sample households, 69% are STs and 16% are SCs. Thus the STs and SCs taken together account for 85% of the households and the other caste people together constitute a mere 15%.

The scenario is not different in the individual districts. The STs and SCs in the sample account for 75% in Mayurbhanj district and 96% in Rayagada district. Though the proportion of STs is high in both the districts (respectively 65% and 73%), the proportion of SCs is only 9.5% in Mayurbhanj, but as high as 23.5% in Rayagada. The other caste households are only 3.5% in Rayagada sample, but 25% in Mayurbhanj sample. Generally speaking, the interface between the STs and SCs is more in Kashipur block and that between the STs and other castes in Gopabandhunagar block.

The caste-wise distribution of the sample households is quite different from the state scenario, where STs account for 22.21% of the total population and SCs for 16.20% and ST and SCs both taken together account for 38.41%. Since our thrust is on tribals, the sample serves our purpose better.
Table 2.9

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SI. No</th>
<th>Caste</th>
<th>Mayurbhanj District</th>
<th>Rayagada District</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td>151 (65 37)</td>
<td>146 (73)</td>
<td>297 (68 9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>22 (9 52)</td>
<td>47 (23 5)</td>
<td>69 (16 0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>OTHERS</td>
<td>58 (25 11)</td>
<td>7 (3 5)</td>
<td>65 (15 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>231 (100 00)</td>
<td>200 (100)</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Percentages are in parentheses)

Winict’s Dictionary of Anthropology defines tribe as a "social group usually with a definite area, dialect, cultural homogeneity and unifying social organization." The social relationship in a tribal society is based on kinship relations. The tribes have their internal organizational structure and they manage themselves on the basis of their internal logic. The tribals are not a homogeneous group. They are independent groups divided into various categories. Each tribe has a distinct nomenclature and a separate language or dialect of its own. On the basis of their general features, economic system, tradition and supernatural belief and practices, tribes have been classified. There are 62 tribes in Orissa.

In the sample area of the study, though there are a number of tribes, a few tribes are predominant. The dominant tribes in Mayurbhanj sample are Bhumija and Santal. In Rayagada, the dominant tribe is Kandha, accounting for about 58% of the sample population. A brief discussion about the tribes will throw light on
their habits and way of life for better appreciation of the sample and our results

The Bhumijas, who are dominant in Mayurbhanj district, are Hindus. In a Bhumija cluster, there may be 10 to 60 houses. They live in commodious houses with two or more rooms. A house in a traditional Bhumija family normally comprises a kitchen, a bedroom, and a cattle shed. The Bhumijas are mainly farmers and their festivities are connected with agricultural operations. The families are of nuclear type comprising a man, his wife and their unmarried children. They sacrifice animals for the gratification of the deities and spirits. The Bhumijas speak broken Oriya.

Santali-speaking Santals form a dominant tribal community of Orissa and are concentrated in Mayurbhanj and neighbouring areas. They are settled near agricultural fields and pastures. Their houses are generally one-roomed, but depending on the need of the family, there may be more rooms in the house. The Santal houses are well decorated with figures/designs on the wall. It is worth mentioning that the Santals have higher standards of hygiene and sanitation. They get their drinking water from wells, rivers and chuas (when wells dry up in the summer). Rice is their staple food. The Santal families are patriarchal and nuclear. Their main occupation is agriculture. During the lean agricultural seasons, they migrate to towns to work as daily wage earners. They worship various deities. The Santals are fond of dance and
music

In course of time, they have picked up modern ways of life in their food and clothing habits.

The Kandhas are the largest of all the tribal groups of Orissa. They are found in Rayagada, Kandhamal and Koraput districts. They are either 'Kui' or 'Kuvi' speaking. A Kandha family lives in two rooms. Kandha settlements come up as two rows on either side of the main village street. The women of this tribe are fond of ornaments. Liquor is a part of their life, both as a food and a ritual. The Kandhas are farmers, generally practising shifting cultivation. Their children start helping parents from the age of 5/6 years. The Kandhas practise adult marriage. They worship Dharani, deities and their ancestors. They have festivals round the year.

Though Parajas are a well known tribe of Orissa, they constitute a small proportion of Rayagada’s population. The Paraja concentrations are generally found in Koraput and Kalahandi districts. In general, the Parajas are strong, stout and hardworking. They have distinct settlement patterns and habits different from those of other tribes. Women use ornaments and practise tattooing. They are found in both small and large settlements, but without any regular pattern. The most significant event in a Paraja's life is marriage. Agriculture is the mainstay of the Paraja economy. They practise both wet and shifting cultivation. Parajas also take to cattle and buffalo rearing. They
worship a number of deities and observe quite a few festivals.

Dance, song and music form an important part of a Paraja’s life.

There are other tribal communities like Bathudi, Kolha, Jodia, etc, which are scantily represented in the sample. Therefore, they have been grouped as ‘other tribals’ in the study.

It is observed from the Table that the number of tribal households in the total sample is 297, of which 151 are in Mayurbhanj and the remaining 146 are found in Rayagada district. The minor tribes in Mayurbhanj district add up to 14, while the corresponding figure in Rayagada district is 17. The proportions of the two dominant tribes, Bhumija and Santal in Mayurbhanj district sample are 48% (72 in number) and 43% (65) of the total tribal population respectively. The Kandhas who are the dominant tribe in Rayagada district constitute 79% of the district level sample tribal population. The Parajas account for only 9.5% (14) of the sample tribal population of the district.

Table 2.10
Distribution of the Sample as per Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No</th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Mayurbhanj District</th>
<th>Rayagada District</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Non-ST</td>
<td>80 (34.63)</td>
<td>54 (27)</td>
<td>134 (31.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bhumija</td>
<td>72 (31.17)</td>
<td>115 (57.5)</td>
<td>187 (43.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Santal</td>
<td>65 (28.14)</td>
<td>14 (7)</td>
<td>79 (18.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Other STs</td>
<td>14 (6.06)</td>
<td>17 (8.5)</td>
<td>31 (7.2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>231 (100.00)</td>
<td>200 (100)</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentages are in parentheses