# CONTENTS

Abstract i  
Acknowledgements ii  
Abbreviations and Symbols iii-iv  
Conversion Factors v  
List of Figures vi  
List of Maps vii-viii  
List of Photographs viii  
List of Tables ix-x  

**PART ONE: INTRODUCTION** 1-68

**CHAPTER I: BACKGROUND** 2-34

1.1 Conceptual Background 2-3  
1.2 Hypotheses of the Study 3  
1.3 Relevance of the Study 3-4  
1.3.1 Study of the Relevance of the 'Socio-economic Dimensions of Land’ 4  
1.3.2 Study of the Relevance of the 'Land as a Rural Resource Base’ 4  
1.4 Indicators to Examine the Hypotheses 4-5  
1.5 Database 5-6  
1.5.1 Database for General Information on the Thesis 5  
1.5.2 Database for Hypothesis I 5  
1.5.3 Database for Hypothesis II 5-6  
1.6 Methodology of the Study 6-7  
1.6.1 Methodology for General Information on the Thesis 6  
1.6.2 Methodology for Hypothesis I 6  
1.6.3 Methodology for Hypothesis II 6  
1.6.3.1 Methodology for Study on Nutrition 6-7  
1.6.3.2 Methodology for Study on Domestic Fuel Use 7  
1.7 Literature Review 7-34  
1.7.1 Right to Land, Tenancy and Land Reform 7-10  
1.7.1.1 Comments on the Review of Literature on Issues of Right to Land, Tenancy and Land Reform in Resource Management 10
1.7.2 Caste, Society and Social Relations 10-15
   1.7.2.1 Comments on the Review of Literature on
         Issues of Caste, Society and Social Relations in
         Resource Management 15
1.7.3 Livelihood, Governance and Rural Development 15-21
   1.7.3.1 Comments on the Review of Literature on Issues
         of Livelihood, Governance and Rural Development 21
1.7.4 Ecological Sustainability of Land Resource 21-29
   1.7.4.1 Comments on the Review of Literature on Issues
         of Ecological Sustainability of Land Resource 29
1.7.5 Indigenous Knowledge System 30-34
   1.7.5.1 Comments on the Review of Literature on Issues
         of Indigenous Knowledge System 34

CHAPTER II: ECOLOGICAL DIMENSIONS OF STUDY AREA 35-46
2.1 Introduction 35
2.2 Study Area 35
2.3 Justification for Selection of Study Area 35
2.4 Ecological Dimensions 35-38
   2.4.1 Geology 35-36
   2.4.2 Topography 36
   2.4.3 Drainage 36
   2.4.4 Climate 36-37
   2.4.5 Vegetation 37
   2.4.6 Soil 38
2.5 Chapter Summary 38
2.6 Concluding Remarks 38

CHAPTER III: SOCIO-ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF STUDY AREA 47-60
3.1 Introduction 47
3.2 Socio-Economic Dimensions 47-49
   3.2.1 Parameters 47-48
   3.2.2 Concentration of ST, SC Population
       vis-à-vis Cultivators 48
   3.2.3 Concentration of Non ST, SC Population
       vis-à-vis Cultivators 48
3.2.4 Concentration of ST, SC Population vis-à-vis Agricultural Labourers 49
3.2.5 Concentration of Non ST, SC Population vis-à-vis Agricultural Labourers 49
3.3 Chapter Summary 49-50
3.4 Concluding Remarks 50

CHAPTER IV: STUDY SITES 61-68
4.1 Introduction 61
4.2 Study Sites 61
4.3 Justification for Selection of Study Sites 61
4.4 Chapter Summary 62
4.5 Concluding Remarks 62

PART TWO: SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF LAND 69-102
CHAPTER V: DESCRIPTION OF LAND 70-86
5.1 Introduction 70
5.2 Land Classes 70-71
5.3 Land Classes and Relief 72
5.4 Chapter Summary 72
5.5 Concluding Remarks 72

CHAPTER VI: SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND DISTRIBUTION OF LAND 87-102
6.1 Introduction 87
6.2 Social Dimensions of Land 87
6.3 Distribution of Recorded Land Class 88-89
   6.3.1 Habitat Quality with Respect to All Classes of Land 88-89
   6.3.2 Habitat Quality with Respect to Agricultural Land 89
   6.3.3 Distribution of Recorded Agricultural Land Classes among Social Groups 89
   6.3.4 Distribution of Recorded Non Agricultural Land Classes among Social Groups 89
6.4 Chapter Summary 90
6.5 Concluding Remarks 90
9.4 Major Findings 131-133
9.5 Chapter Summary 133
9.6 Concluding Remarks 133-134

CHAPTER X: DOMESTIC FUEL USE 142-155
10.1 Introduction 142
10.2 Justification for Studying Domestic Fuel Use 142
10.3 Dimensions of Domestic Fuel Use 142-143
   10.3.1 Fuel Type and Landholdings 142-143
   10.3.2 Fuel Type and Cattle Wealth 143
   10.3.3 Fuel Type and Social Groups 143
10.4 Major Findings 144-145
10.5 Chapter Summary 145
10.6 Concluding Remarks 145

PART FOUR: CONCLUDING REMARKS 156-208
CHAPTER XI: RECOMMENDATIONS 157-172
11.1 Introduction 157
   11.1.1 Discussion and Recommendations on Cropping Pattern 157-159
   11.1.2 Discussion and Recommendations on Land Use / Land Cover 159-160
   11.1.3 Discussion and Recommendations on Nutrition 160
   11.1.4 Discussion and Recommendations on Domestic Fuel Use 160-161
   11.1.5 Discussion and Recommendations on Proposed Treatment 161

CHAPTER XII: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION 173-183
Photographs 184
References 185-193
Postscript 194-208
Annexure (i) List of Villages of Labpur C. D. Block, Birbhum District, West Bengal 194-195
Annexure (ii) List of Villages Selected by Simple Random Sampling from Labpur C. D. Block, Birbhum District, West Bengal 196