CHAPTER-IV

ECONOMY AND TOURISM
4.1.) **Introduction:**

Tourism development in an area can play an important role as a driving force of economic development in terms of the generation of income, employment opportunities, infrastructural growth, improvement of standards of living, foreign exchange earnings etc. Tourism also offers the business opportunities for the poor by ensuring the local jobs and training of local residents under the umbrella of community development. Tourism is also considered as a tool for backward area development. The present study area has plenty of tourism resources (as discussed in chapter-III) but in spite of that the tourism sector is not very developed. The area is designated as economically backward and agricultural practice is the dominant activity among the resident population. But in the western part and the coastal part agriculture suffers from drought and soil salinity respectively. So, the present chapter attempts to analyze the present economic status of the study area with the methodology of economic livelihood analysis highlighting the scope of tourism growth in the entire study area.

4.2.) **Status of Economy:**

According to the Census of India, the total population in an area can be categorized into three groups, i.e. main workers, marginal workers and non-workers. Main workers and marginal workers are the working population. The total workers have also been categorized into four groups. These are agricultural labourers, cultivators, house-hold industry workers and other industrial category of workers. The first two i.e., the agricultural labourers and cultivators are incorporated in primary sector and the house-hold industry workers and the other industrial category of workers are incorporated in secondary and tertiary sector respectively. With the help of block-wise data (Census, 2011) of workers, the block-wise status of economy of Purba Medinipur and Paschim Medinipur have been analyzed and compared.

As revealed from figure no. 4.1., the agricultural and allied workers (both agricultural labourer and cultivator) are more concentrated in the blocks of Paschim Medinipur district than Purba Medinipur district. The high concentration of agricultural and allied workers are found in Garhbeta-I & II, Binpur-I, Salboni, Keshpur, Chandrakona-I & II, Jhargram, Gopiballavpur-I & II, Sankrail, Nayagram, Keshiary, Narayangarh, Pingla, Sabang, Dantan-II and Mohanpur blocks of Paschim Medinipur district and Egra-I in Purba Medinipur district. The medium concentration blocks are Binpur-II, Jamboni, Garhbeta-III, Ghatal, Midnapore, Kharagpur-II, Debra and Dantan-I in Paschim Medinipur district and Moyna, Bhagwanpur-I & II, Pataspur-I & II, Nandigram-II & III, Egra-II and Ramanagar-II blocks in Purba.
Medinipur district. The low and very low concentration of agricultural and allied workers are found respectively in Kharagpur-I and Daspur-I & II blocks in Paschim Medinipur and in Panskura-I & II, Sahid Matangini, Tamluk, Nandakumar, Mahishadal, Sutahata, Haldia, Nandigram-I & III, Khejuri-I & II, Kanthi-I, II & III and Ramnagar-I blocks in Purba Medinipur district.

Figure no. 4.1: Block-wise concentration of Agricultural and Allied workers

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In the case of other industrial category of main workers (including house-hold industry workers and other industrial category of workers), figure no. 4.2. reveals that the better concentration is found in Purba Medinipur district rather than Paschim Medinipur district. In Purba Medinipur, a large number of populations are found engaged in secondary and tertiary activities in comparison with Paschim Medinipur where the mass populations are engaged in primary activities. Despite only three blocks – Ghatal, Daspur-I & II in Paschim Medinipur, the blocks in Purba Medinipur district – Panskura-I & II, Sahid Matangini, Tamluk, Nandakumar, Mahishadal, Bhagwanpur-I, Nandigram-I, Khejuri-I, Kanthi-II & III have high concentration of other industrial category of main workers. The medium concentration is found in Moyna, Sutahata, Haldia, Nandigram-III, Khejuri-II, Kanthi-I and Ramnagar-I.

**Figure no. 4.3: Block-wise concentration of Marginal workers**

Figure no. 4.3 depicts the block-wise concentration of marginal workers in the study area. The western part of Paschim Medinipur has large concentration of marginal workers and
As agriculture is the prime activity of the study region, the block-wise agricultural productivity index of both the districts of Purba and Paschim Medinipur have been prepared to evaluate the agricultural productivity scenario of the districts. It is evident from figure no. 4.4. that the high productive blocks in Paschim Medinipur are Garhbera-I & II, Chandrakona-I, Keshpur, Debra, Narayangarh and Sabang and the moderate productive blocks are Garhbeta-III, Ghatal, Salboni, Binpur-I, Midnapore, Pingla and Dantan-I & II. The rest of the blocks fall in low and very low categories, including Binpur-II, Jamboni, Jhargram, Sankrail, Gopiballavpur-I & II, Keshiary, Nayagram, Kharagpur-I & II, Mohanpur, Daspur-I and Chandrakona-II blocks.
Whereas in Purba Medinipur district (Figure no. 4.5.), the high productive blocks are Moyna, Pataspur-I, Egra-II, Kanthi-II, Nandigram-I and Bhagwanpur-II and respectively Kanthi-I, Egra-I, Bhagwanpur-I, Nandakumar, Mahishadal and Panskura-I & II are the moderately productive blocks. The remaining blocks like Sahid Matangini, Tamluk, Deshapran, Haldia, Sutahata, Nandigram-II, Khejuri-I & II, Pataspur-II, Kanthi-III and Ramnagar-I & II are the low and very low productive in terms of agricultural productivity in Purba Medinipur district.

**Figure no. 4.6: Total Workers and Non-workers in Paschim Medinipur**

Figure No. 4.6 represents the percentage of total workers and non-workers in Paschim Medinipur. It is seen that 57.57% population belong to non-workers category whereas 42.43% populations are total workers in between the total population of the entire district of Paschim Medinipur. From this, it is revealed that the dependent population ratio is more in Paschim Medinipur.

**Figure no. 4.7: Workers Composition in Paschim Medinipur**
Figure No. 4.7 depicts about the workers composition of the district Paschim Medinipur. It is found that in Paschim Medinipur, 60.20% workers are engaged as main workers and the remaining 39.80% workers are the marginal workers of the district. It is seen from the above discussion that the larger concentration of marginal workers are found in the western blocks of Paschim Medinipur.

**Figure no. 4.8: Categorization of Main Workers in Paschim Medinipur**

Figure No. 4.8 represents about the different category of main workers and the engagement of workers in these categories. It is seen that in between the total main workers of Paschim Medinipur, 28.89% of main workers are engaged as cultivators whereas 32.39% are engaged as agricultural labourers, 3.81% are engaged as household industry workers and 34.91% are engaged as other industrial category of workers.

**Figure no. 4.9: Total Workers and Non-workers in Purba Medinipur**

Figure No. 4.9 represents about the total workers and non-workers in the district of Purba Medinipur. It is seen that 62.51% of the population are workers and 37.49% are non-workers.
Figure No. 4.9 represents the percentage of total workers and non-workers in Purba Medinipur. It is seen that 62.51% populations are belong to non-workers category whereas 37.49% populations are total workers in between the total population of the entire district of Purba Medinipur. From this, it is revealed that the dependent population ratio is more enough in Purba Medinipur.

**Figure no. 4.10: Workers Composition in Purba Medinipur**

Figure No. 4.10 depicts about the workers composition of the district Purba Medinipur. It is found that in Purba Medinipur, 59.01% workers are engaged as main workers and the remaining 40.99% workers are the marginal workers. It is seen from the above discussion that the scattered concentration of marginal workers are found in the district of Purba Medinipur.

**Figure no. 4.11: Categorization of Main Workers in Purba Medinipur**

Figure No. 4.11 depicts the distribution of main workers in Purba Medinipur. The main workers are categorized into Cultivators, Agricultural Labourers, Household Industry Workers, and Other Industrial Category of Workers.
Figure No. 4.11 represents the different category of main workers and the engagement of workers in these categories. It is seen that in between the total main workers of Purba Medinipur, 21.45% of main workers are engaged as cultivators whereas 26.40% are engaged as agricultural labourers, 5.15% are engaged as household industry workers and 48.81% are engaged as other industrial category of workers.

It is clearly stated that in case of cultivators (main), agricultural labourers (main) and marginal worker, the workers of the district Paschim Medinipur are more involved and positioned first than Purba Medinipur district, whereas in case of house hold industry workers (main) and other industrial category of workers (main), the district Purba Medinipur positioned first than Paschim Medinipur. Finally, it is conceived that the status of economy of Paschim Medinipur is more backward than Purba Medinipur district.

4.3) Economic status and Scope of Tourism:

The detailed description of the economic status reveals that the economy of the study area is not so much developed. In comparison between the two districts, the economy of the district Paschim Medinipur is more backward than Purba Medinipur district due to the unfavourable condition of agricultural development. Due to the presence of red lateritic soil in most of the area of Paschim Medinipur, the soil character is infertile in nature. The western part of Paschim Medinipur is a part of the plateau fringe area of Chotonagpur plateau. The undulating rocky structured landform is not suitable for agriculture. The north-eastern part belongs to the flood-prone area during monsoon period. The industrial development is not found in the district. As a consequence, the economy of the district is not developed yet. But the district is very much rich in multi-diversified tourism resources and also is a very much potential destination in terms of tourism development. As tourism is a key for backward area development, the promotion of tourism may be a way for the development of that area as well as economic development. The following study focuses on the scope of tourism where economic status is very low. Figure no. 4.12 and 4.13 shows that the economically backward blocks in terms of concentration of marginal workers and agriculturally low productive where the potential tourist destinations having a great attraction are located in both Paschim Medinipur and Purba Medinipur. The blocks having largest concentration of marginal workers and agriculturally low productive are Binpur-II, Jamboni, Jhargram, Gopiballavpur-I, Nayagram, Salboni, Pingla, Sabang, Keshiary and Dantan-I in Paschim Medinipur and
Figure no. 4.12: Economic status and Scope of Tourism in Paschim Medinipur

in Purba Medinipur are Moyna, Mahishadal, Sutahata, Bhagwanpur-I & II and Kanthi-II. The given block-wise tourist destinations are Belpahari, Tarafeni, Ghagra, Kanaisar Pahar, Laljal,
Gurrasin and Kankrajhor (in Binpur-II block), Chilkigarh and Kendua (in Jamboni block), and Jhargram and its surrounding attractions (in Jhargram block), Gopiballavpur, Hatibari and...
Jhilli (in Gopiballavpur-I block), Rameshwar and Tapoban (in Nayagram block), Prayag film city and Karnagar (in Salboni block), Naya (in Pingla block), Sabang (in Sabang block), Keshiary (in Keshiary block), Mughalmari and Sarasanka (in Dantan-I block) in Paschim Medinipur district. In Purba Medinipur district the destinations are Moyna (in Moyna block), Mahishadal and Geonkhali (in Mahishadal block), Kukrahati (in Sutahata block), Basudevpur (in Bhagwanpur-I block), Monchasa (in Bhagwanpur-II block), Junput, Bakiput, Dariapur and Kapalkundala (in Kanthi-II block).

So, it is clearly revealed from the above discussion that the economy of the district Paschim Medinipur is more backward than that of Purba Medinipur district but the district has well accounted tourism resources. The block-wise detailed analysis shows the economic scenario of the districts. Lastly, the scope of tourism in these blocks clearly emphasizes the prospect of development in terms of economic development of that area and of the entire study area in general.