CHAPTER V

SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF ALIGARH CITY

In recent years, there has seen a marked shift of public attention from economic affairs to the social state of the nation. Social problems have now become a matter of great concern. Therefore, the concept of social well-being has come up in light.

The concept of social well-being pertaining to urban development has been well taken in studies since 1970s. This all has been due to the variation in economic growth and developmental process. The concept of social well-being is considered to be a holistic view, which incorporates socio-economic, demographic and socio-cultural dimensions. Assessment of quality of life is done accounting for housing, education, professions, income and material status of the people living in the society. As defined by Pati and Mahaparta (1987), quality of life is the “satisfaction of human needs, the organic needs, the special needs and the individual needs for self-realization”.

Advancements in studies on social well-being were made in western societies. Many of the developing countries, including India lag behind in addressing the social well-being problems through intellectual and academic point of view. All efforts made in this field disproportionality revolve around two major aspects. First, the selection of appropriate indicators reflecting totality of social well-being and second the selection of appropriate geographical units for the purpose of generalization (Kulkarni, 1990).

The geographical perspective of social well-being is not so well developed theoretically. Till now in geography, those who are concerned with this problem have mainly borrowed the theoretical framework for well-being from studies in economics.

The symbiosis of these two has created the concept of social space i.e. mental scheme of social group about the space. Thus, the major task before the geographers is to study the social well-being in the geographical perspectives, relevant in social explanations.
Social geography enquires the quality of life and quality of habitat to assess social well-being in spatial perspectives. Academicians and NGOs need to work for ‘social planning’, a planning, which sees people in space context. Well-being of people in a capitalist society can’t be expected to be achievable collectively. Therefore, needs of various sections of people on the basis of class, ethnicity, gender, age and caste should be addressed by undertaking the social planning to eliminate injustice.

According to Knox and Cottam (1981) people’s satisfaction in the context of various aspects of life is an important parameter of welfare. There is an increasing evidence of the fact that, there is a wide gap between people’s objective living condition and subjective assessment of their life.

Maum (1983) has suggested that, “People cannot judge in general the quality of amenities they require because in most cases a variety of commodities available in the market, and money available with people is more responsible for their choice rather than their own desires. In urban life today people desire more due to competitiveness, and advertisements rather than their own needs or wants, and creating a criteria of subjective well-being.

The quality of life is inherently associated with the degree of fulfillment of individual and collective needs. Higher is the degree of fulfillment of needs and wants, greater is the quality of life. According to Knox (1973), “well-being is the satisfaction of the needs and wants of population. Except few basic needs which are scientifically established, most of the needs and wants are culturally and historically specific. As needs are fulfilled in specific social, economic and political context, they vary from one place to another”.

As a part of policy, social sector development implies broad improvements in quality of life of people. The term social sector generally involves education, health, nutrition etc. Emphasis is on human rather than development human resource development. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) defines human development, ‘as the process of enlarging people’s choice’. The concept of human development includes within its domain empowerment, co-operation, equity in basic capabilities and opportunities, sustainability and security with this approach, people are in the central position and their education, health and nutrition are meant for
intrinsic values and their role is also examined in enhancing the basic capabilities of people. This approach emphasizes to acquire education, good health and nutrition, which are considered as basic human rights (Gupta, 2002).

A UNSECO Report (1977) defines quality of life as, “the satisfaction of an inclusive set of human needs”. Quality of life concept covers all aspects of life including material satisfaction of vital needs and other aspects of life, such as personal development, self realization and healthy ecosystem (Dube, 1983).

According to Kopardeker (1986) what we understand by the term development is the transformation of economic and social conditions of people. In brief, the social well-being of a group is the state of people based upon their share of social goods and evils. Due to an equitable and balanced social structure and efficient functioning, the inhabitants experience peace, prosperity and progress in spatial and temporal contexts. Social well-being is a function of the nature of economic, political and social structure of the society. The just and equitable society means, its economic, political, religious institution etc. play their roles in such a way that no social group is exploited.

The quality of life of a society is the function of social structure and the sustainability potential of the people. A spatial view of the structural components of the Aligarh city will help in analyzing the real social structure of the city. The social structure of Aligarh city still carries the mark of pre-independence social hierarchy. The University jobs and postliberalization global economic restructuring has given rise to the consumertic middle class which largely inhabits the civil lines area whereas, old parts of the city still have old trends.

The objectives to be discussed in this chapter to consider the literacy rate, male and female literacy rates, the employment status, occupational structure, economic viability in terms of average income and per capita income month wise at ward level in the city. These assessments at ward level will help in getting an account of the micro level social structure of Aligarh city.

The study was undertaken to obtain basic information with the help of a questionnaire prepared for conducting primary surveys in different localities within the wards of the city. On an average 30 households were selected on the basis of a stratified random sampling from each ward. This effort was done with a view that the
selected households be represented belonging to different income groups. Five categories of income group considered present very high, high, medium, low and very low orders of the households. The selection of households was done on the basis of income of the households because it is considered the most important factor for the study of social well-being. Table 5.1 shows income group of households, and their number belonging to these categories.

**Table 5.1: Criteria Adopted for the Selection of Households for Conducting Field Survey in Aligarh City**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income group</th>
<th>Income slab (in Rs)</th>
<th>Number of sampled households</th>
<th>Percentage to total households</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very high</td>
<td>20,000-30,000</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>7.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>10,000-20,000</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>28.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>5000-10,000</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>24.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>1500-5000</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>21.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very low</td>
<td>≤ Rs 1500</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>18.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data computed from the primary information collected through field surveys, 2010.

Basic information pertaining to each households in the form of statistics were converted in simple percentages for each aspects in each ward of the city.

**A) Education Attainment in Aligarh City**

The basic purpose of education is to train, upgrade and diversify the human cognitive ability. At social level education helps in acquiring competence and leverage in the generation of resources.

Human literacy means, the ability of a person to read and write, and understand at least one functional language. There exists a strong relationship between literacy and social development. Through education and literacy a person learns some of the basic principles how to live in the society, and helps in an overall upliftment, whereas education is a formal training to acquire systematic knowledge. Wardwise assessment of the various aspects of literacy in Aligarh city was made, which provides an insight in understanding the social well-being (Fig 5.1).
Source: Data computed from the primary information collected through field surveys, 2010.

Fig. 5.1
a) **Wardwise literacy rate in households of Aligarh city**

Household literacy means parents and eligible children are in general literate. Data collected for the assessment of literacy among the households of the wards in the city were classified with the values ranging from very high (80.52 to 96.77 per cent), high (64.27 to 80.51 per cent), medium (48.0 to 64.26 per cent), low (31.75 to 48.0 per cent) and very low (15.49 to 31.34 per cent).

**Table 5.2: Wardwise Literacy of Households in Aligarh City, 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Household literacy (%)</th>
<th>Number of wards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>Above 80.51</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>64.27 to 80.51</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>48.0 to 64.26</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>31.75 to 48.0</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low</td>
<td>Below 31.34</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data computed from the primary information collected through field surveys, 2010.

i) **Very high level of literacy (Above 80.51 per cent)**

Table 5.2 shows that, 17 wards have very high literacy of above 80.51 per cent among households. In wards of Sir Syed Nagar, the respondents have literacy with a value of 96.77 per cent, followed by University Area, Hamdard Nagar and Kela Nagar with household literacy of 95.65, 95.14 and 94.52 per cent respectively. Above table also reveals that, the highest literacy is seen in Civil Lines area and in northern parts of the city, where socio-cultural atmosphere is very much dominated by the University leading to a very high literacy.

ii) **High level of literacy (64.27 to 80.51 per cent)**

High literacy with 64.27 to 80.51 per cent of households is seen in 12 wards of namely Kishore Nagar tops with 79.33 per cent of households, followed by Begum Bagh ward with 77.77 per cent, Jamalpur with 73.36 per cent and Manik Chowk with 71.92 per cent of households literacy. Some of the remaining wards of this category are located in the old part of the city and are mostly occupied by high income group people.
iii) Medium level of literacy (48.0 to 64.26 per cent)

There are 16 wards in the medium category of literacy. Most of them belong to old parts of the city. Blessed with only primary education, most residents of these wards are either engaged in small business or in low profile jobs.

iv) Low literacy of level (31.75 to 48.0 per cent)

Low literacy is seen in 14 wards namely, Sarai Rehman, Nagla Kalar, Nagla Jamalpur, Fire Brigade, Naunar Gate in them 31.75 to 48 per cent households are literates.

v) Very low level of literacy (Below 31.34 per cent)

In 11 out of 70 wards less than 15.49 per cent of households are literates. 4 out of 11 wards namely, Chawni, Sanicheri peth, Rawan Tila and Bhujpura, belong to fringe areas and located in south and southwestern parts of the city.

Geographically, literacy pattern in the city makes a clear cut demarcation, (Fig. 5.2) most literate households are found in the northern and northwestern parts of the city, whereas wards lying in south and some southwestern and southeastern have very low percentage of literate households. For a high rate of literacy in these wards, the credit goes to the university which is located in the northern part of the city.

Table 5.2 and Fig 5.2 also clearly shows that, literacy of households is strongly related with the type of employment, as in the very high and high literacy level wards people are mostly engaged in gazetted jobs, so they encourage their children to join good courses to get high profile jobs, while in the old city have their business, so they want their children to join them, that’s why they do not take interest to give their children good education, though some of them have enough resources.
ALIGARH CITY
Wardwise General Literacy in Selected Households
2010

Fig. 5.2
b) Wardwise male and female literacy in households of Aligarh city

For a better understanding of social ecology and employment structure of households an assessment of male and female literacy becomes evident. For this kind of assessment the number of adults (male and female 18 years of age) were considered. Data were separately divided into five distinct categories for the assessment of male and female literacy (Fig. 5.3 and 5.4)

Table 5.3: Wardwise Male and Female Literacy in Households of Aligarh city, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Male Literacy</th>
<th>Female Literacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Literacy rate (%)</td>
<td>Number of wards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>Above 98.06</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>64.17 to 81.57</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>48.37 to 64.17</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>31.82 to 48.37</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low</td>
<td>Below 31.81</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data computed from the primary information collected through field surveys, 2010.

i) Very high level of male and female literacy (Above 98.06 and 81.58 per cent)

Table 5.3 shows that, the households in 19 wards report very high male literacy and 18 wards of the total 70 wards report very high female literacy rate. Kishanpur records the highest male literacy i.e. 98.05 per cent followed by Hamdard Nagar, Begpur, Sir Syed Nagar, with male literacy rate of 96.36, 96.26, 95.23 per cent respectively. This zone lies in the civil line and mostly population is engaged in gazetted jobs. They are doctors, engineers, teachers etc. highest female literacy is found in University Area ward i.e. 98.97 per cent followed by Sir Syed Nagar and Medical College i.e. 98.03 per cent and 97.14 per cent.

ii) High level of male and female literacy (64.17 to 81.57 and 64.17 to 81.57 per cent)

In high category of 64.17 to 81.57 per cent of household male literacy is found in 16 wards, and female literacy of 64.17 to 81.57 per cent only in 5 wards. These wards of high category of male and female literacy are mostly located in civil lines area of the city.
ALIGARH CITY
Wardwise Male Literacy in Selected Households
2010

Fig. 5.3
Fig. 5.4

ALIGARH CITY
Wardwise Female Literacy in Selected Households
2010
iii) Medium level of male and female literacy (48.76 to 64.16 and 46.76 to 64.16 per cent)

In this category 15 wards with 48.38 to 64.93 per cent male literacy are found and 12 wards with 46.76 to 64.16 per cent female literacy are found. These wards are located in the old part of the city where mostly businessmen resides, though they give less preference for jobs but now they realized the importance of education and spending much on their children education.

iv) Low level of male and female literacy (31.82 to 48.37 and 29.35 to 46.75 per cent)

In this category 12 wards of low male literacy and 18 wards of low female are found. These wards mostly lies in the core of the city.

v) Very low level of male and female literacy (below 31.81 and 29.34 per cent)

This category comprises 8 wards with very low percentage of male literacy, and 16 wards with very low percentage of female literacy. They are mostly fringe wards and contain labour class people. Very few of them have primary education, and most of them are illiterates. Lowest male literacy is found in Mualana Azad Nagar with 15.25 per cent of male literate and Nagla Masani with 11.94 per cent score lowest in female literacy.

B) Employment Scenario in Aligarh City

According to the Census of India, 2001, “number of persons who are employed in gainful activities and involved in an economic activity on a regular basis and are engaged in such activities at least for two-third of the year, are called employed”. The nature of employment is not only a good determinant of the income but also social well-being of a person. The percentage of the type of employment of each ward of Aligarh city includes adult, minor and females employees.

a) Occupational Structure

Occupational structure means the type of employment in which most people are engaged. What kind of jobs people prefer do in the city.

For this purpose three broad categories of employment were considered. The labourers, to include the casual workers who get their wages on daily or weekly basis. They belong to unorganized sector of cottage and small scale industries. They are
mostly employed in lock factories, small scale enterprises, rickshaw pullers, vendors and small labourers were included in the study.

Employment in business and industry, include manufacturing, whole sale marketing and other services. In most of old city area this kind of employment is very common.

Gazetted employment encompasses the gazetted and its equivalent ranks in public sector, the managerial, professional and employment to technically qualified persons in private sector. This class of employment requires the persons technically trained and professionally skilled. The wards of civil lines area have a high percentage of persons who are educationally qualified and technically skilled.

An account of occupational structure of Aligarh city in three broad categories of employment are the labourers, businessmen and industrial persons and employed on gazetted posts, is given in Table 5.5. Evidently, table also gives distribution of households in surveyed wards into five distinct categories as: very high, high, medium, low and very low (Fig.5.5).

**Table 5.4: Occupational Structure of Selected Households in Aligarh City, 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Persons working as casual labourers</th>
<th>Persons in business and industrial employment</th>
<th>Persons in gazetted employment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per cent of population</td>
<td>No. of wards</td>
<td>Per cent of population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>10.77</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>12.01</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>15.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>26.60</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>16.40</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>37.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low</td>
<td>34.16</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>17.92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data computed from the primary information collected through field surveys, 2010

The above table shows that, only 7.51 per cent of total households are engaged in gazetted employments. In very low category of gazetted employment accounts for 57.32 per cent in the wards of the city. Similar is the case of business and industrial employments, nearly 13 per cent have their own business, whereas, 37.04 and 17.92 per cent of households belong to low and very low categories of business and industry.
Employment Status of Households in Wards of Aligarh City-2010

Source: Data computed from the primary information collected through field surveys, 2010.

Fig. 5.5
It is to be pointed out that, the occupational structure in the city is lopsided, i.e. more than half of the persons in families are engaged in low class jobs engaging themselves in more hours of work and investing body energy, with less returns. Most people in the city are engaged in unskilled works. This shows that, the literacy level in the city is very low. Therefore, they are doing such jobs. Child labour is an acute problem in the city. Children belonging to poor families are bound to work in locks and hardware factories at an early age to earn money for the family support.

b) Wardwise Employment status of households

Nature of employment of people in the society helps in determining of income which is an important indicator for the assessment of well-being. Employment in Aligarh city has been divided into five distinct categories as: very high, high, medium, low and very low which present a clear picture of employment.

**Table 5.5: Wardwise Employment Status in Households of Aligarh City, 2010**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number of persons in employment</th>
<th>No of wards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total employed persons</td>
<td>Persons in employment (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>56811</td>
<td>Above 38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>59919</td>
<td>34-38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>198870</td>
<td>30-34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>284733</td>
<td>28-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low</td>
<td>68754</td>
<td>Below 28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data computed from the primary information collected through field surveys, 2010.

i) Very high rate of employment (above 38 per cent)

Table 5.4 shows that, in 6 wards there is a very high rate of employment in households. The ward of Sir Syed Nagar ranks at the top with the 98.38 per cent of employment rate. Here most people are employed on gazetted posts. University Area ward ranks second with 98.26 per cent of employment rate. Most people are employed in AMU holding different positions in teaching, non-teaching, technical etc. Other wards, namely Medical College, Zohra Bagh, Dodhpur and Badar Bagh are
characterised with the employment rate of 95.74, 92.71, 91.26 and 89.86 per cent respectively. In these wards most people holds gazetted posts.

ii) High rate of employment (34-38 per cent)

In the category of high rate of employment rate the values ranges from 34-38 per cent. This category is represented by 6 wards namely, Kishanpur, Begum Bagh, Sarai Hakim, Nagla Masani, Lekh Raj Nagar and Indra Gandhi Khair Road. Most of the residents hold gazetted posts, but the ward of Sarai Hakim is inhabited by the people engaged in retail and whole sale trade. In wards of Nagla Masani and Indra Gandhi Khair Road live a large number of labourers who are engaged in some daily or weekly jobs.

iii) Medium rate of employment (30-34 per cent)

21 wards of medium rate of employment from 30-34 per cent. These wards contain large number of lock industries, therefore, many people are seen engaged as factory workers. Some fringe wards of civil lines also belong to this category have the people working as fourth grade employs in the university some private firms.

iv) Low rate of employment (28-30 per cent)

A largest chunk of 30 wards shows the low rate of employment which constitute 42.55 per cent of population. These wards lies in old part of the city, people are mostly uneducated and unemployed.

v) Very low rate of employment (below 28 per cent)

With employment rate of 28 per cent, there are 7 wards of the city where 10.27 per cent of residents are seen engaged in small jobs.

Table 5.4 also shows that, wards with high percentage in employment are mainly confined to northwestern parts of the city. Most people in these wards are employed in high class jobs. Women of the wards are employed in university, schools. Wards with medium rate of employment wards are mostly located in central and northwestern parts of the city. The rest of the wards of the city having low and very low employment rate in general specially, in the southeastern and northeastern parts of the city.
ALIGARH CITY
Wardwise Employment in Selected Households
2010

Fig. 5.6
C) Economic Viability of Households in Aligarh City

Economic viability of households can be expressed mainly in terms of total and per capita monthly income in all 70 wards. The assessment of this aspect of economic structure of the people in the city will help to identify areas of high economic growth, stagnation and degeneration.

a) Distribution of average monthly income of households

Average monthly income of households for each ward has been calculated by adding the total income of all the sampled households in a ward and is divided by total number of the sampled households. The data, collected for the households through field surveys have been grouped in five categories with respect to monthly average income as: very high with income (Rs 21588 to Rs 26462), high (Rs 16715 to Rs 21588), medium (Rs 11842 to Rs 16715), low (Rs 6969 to Rs 11842) and very low (Rs 2069 to Rs 6969) (Fig.5.7).

Table 5.6: Wardwise Average Monthly Income of Households in Aligarh City, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income levels</th>
<th>Income (in Rs)</th>
<th>No. of wards</th>
<th>Percentage of persons affected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>Above 26461</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>16715 to 21588</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>11842 to 16715</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>6969 to 11842</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>41.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low</td>
<td>Below 6969</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>32.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data computed from the primary information collected through field surveys, 2010

i) Very high average monthly income (above Rs 26461)

Table 5.6 reveals that, in only 2 wards out of 70 wards the households have reported their average monthly income to be more than Rs 130000 which belong to very high income group people. These households belong to the wards, namely Sir Syed Nagar and Kishanpur. These wards are the residences of medical practitioners, engineers and professors and by other people engaged in high class jobs. These wards inhabited by very high income people only 3.06 per cent of the total population of the city.
ALIGARH CITY
Wardwise Average Monthly Income in Selected Households
2010

Fig. 5.7
ii) High average monthly income (Rs 16715 to Rs 21588)

Only 5 wards belong to high income group of people, the average monthly household income ranges from Rs 16715 to Rs 21588 per month. These wards are namely Medical College, Hamdard Nagar, Zohra Bagh, Janakpuri and Dodhpur. These wards also have households who have first class gazetted jobs or engaged in own income generating business. Most of the families are nucleated and have a small family size. This category of wards represents 6.81 per cent of city population.

iii) Medium average monthly income (Rs 11842 to Rs 16715)

Medium income households category with average monthly income of (Rs 11842 to Rs 16715) households are seen in 12 wards. Of these 5 wards lie in civil line area. Here most persons are engaged in some small clerical jobs. Whereas in 7 wards located in the old city, people have their own business. Some have small scale lock industries and from their income support their families. This group of households represents 16.68 per cent of the population of the city.

iv) Low average monthly income (Rs 6969 to Rs 11842)

Households belonging to low category of average monthly income form parts in 29 wards, most of them are located in central parts of the old city and in fringe areas. Here most persons work in lock industries. This category of low income group of people contains 41.27 per cent of the city population.

v) Very low average monthly income (below Rs 6969)

The households belonging to very low monthly income are seen in 22 wards, these are mainly fringe wards where people engaged in some low income jobs, working as vendors, construction labourers and rickshaw pullers. They hardly earn Rs 100-200 a day. Child labours are also seen (most children 10 years of age or less) work in factories or on shops to support families with minimum income. This category with very low monthly income represented 32.19 per cent of the total city population.

Table 5.6 shows that, almost all wards occupied by very high and high income group of households lie outside the old walled city. Geographically, the well off households occupy the northeastern part of the city. Low income wards occupy
central part of the old city and the peripheral parts except those wards located in the northeastern and southern part of the city.

It is also seen that some lower income dominated areas adjoin with very high income areas of the wards Sir Syed Nagar, Zohra Bagh and University Area. The low income areas adjoin with the other wards namely, Jiwangarh, Jamalpur and Maulana Azad Nagar. This condition can be due to low mobility of people. Often it is seen that the adjoining areas are inhabited by small factory workers, and fourth-grade employees of the University, daily-wages workers and people employed in private sector. They cannot afford to travel long distances and dwell in peripheral locations. A hub of wards with very high and high monthly income households is seen around the University, Centre Point (the new CBD) and the Marris Road.

An evaluation of literacy, occupation, and average monthly income in households of individual wards of Aligarh city express close association among these three variables. Households in all the wards belonging to very low, low and medium level of literacy are characterised with very low income.

b) Wardwise per capita income of households

Per capita income can be defined as income per person in a population. Per capita income is considered to measure standard of living in a country and city.

Per capita income is one of the most important parameters for the analysis of income status of people. There are several reasons to consider it as an indicator for calculating the social development and studying social structure of the city. These reasons may be summerised as:

- It takes into account the income as well as the size
- It dictates purchasing power of individuals of the family.
- It gives an insight of the savings of the family.

Per capita monthly income of households in Aligarh city is divided into five categories as: very high, high, medium, low and very low category in the following income slabs of
Table 5.7: Wardwise Monthly Income (Per Capita) of Households in Aligarh City, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of income</th>
<th>Per capita income (in Rs)</th>
<th>No. of wards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>Above 3936</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>2452 to 3194</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>1710 to 2452</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>968 to 1710</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low</td>
<td>Below 968</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Data computed from the primary information collected through field surveys, 2010

i) **Very high per capita income (above Rs 3936)**

Table 5.7 and Fig 5.8 reveals that households of 7 wards of Aligarh city come under the category of very high per capita income. The Kishanpur ward ranks highest, having per capita income Rs 3936. Here mainly professional people resides who have good salaries and their family size is also very small. Other wards under this category are: University Area, Zohra Bagh, Lekh Raj Nagar, Ashok Nagar, Medical College and Hamdard Nagar. Among them most form new parts of city. In these wards most people involve in high class gazetted jobs or in University and in private business firms.

ii) **High per capita income (Rs 2452 to Rs 3194)**

Usman Para III ward falls in this category. This ward is located in old part of the city. This ward is mainly occupied by business class people, who own big hardware factories.

iii) **Medium per capita income (Rs1710 to Rs2452)**

In the medium category of per capita income there lie 14 wards. 5 wards in them form parts of old city where most people are engaged in business and in factories. In wards of civil lines areas, most people are engaged in clerical jobs and business firms. In wards of namely, Kishanpur and Sir Syed Nagar most people are engaged in gazetted jobs.
ALIGARH CITY
Wardwise Per Capita Income in Selected Households
2010

Fig. 5.8
iv) Low per capita income (Rs 968 to Rs1710)

In the category of low per capita income there lie 20 wards. Most of these wards form central parts of the old city. In these wards mostly low income class of people work in factories. Their income is very low, whereas, the family size is generally very large.

v) Very low per capita income (below Rs 968)

Maximum number of 28 wards lie in this category. These are located fringe areas. Where labour class people live. Most wards are occupied by people belonging to very low income groups.

Table 5.7 shows that, families with very high and high monthly per capita income constitute the parts of the new wards, but the ward with highest per capita income is located in the old part of the city, whereas, low and very low per capita income wards lie in the fringe areas. High per capita income wards lie in northeastern part of the city, whereas, low per capita income households occupy central and new fringe areas of the city.

With the assessment of these factors it can be concluded that, social structure of the city is still in the process of development, but the it is at a very sluggish rate. Literacy level of the city is low, specially in female literacy, particularly in old parts and newly formed parts of the city.

Employment of 40.20 per cent of the total population shows the involvement in low class jobs, mostly labourers, and 22.10 per cent are employed in gazetted or tertiary jobs.

Same is in case of income, only 7 wards out of the total 70 wards fall under the category of high income, and 49 wards lie in the category of low income.
References


*The Employment News*, April, pp. 6-12

Jones and Eyles (1966)

*An Introduction to Social Geography*, Oxford University Press, London.

Knox, P.L. (1975)


Kopardekar, H.P. (1986)


Kulkarni, K.M. (1990)


Maum, T. (1983)

*The Role of Values and Life Goals in Quality of Life: on Measuring and Predicting Subjective Well-being, A Pilot Study in Quality of Life*, Paris


Smith, D.M.(1977)