CHAPTER: III

POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION:

The total population of the Orchha upland, of Tikamgarh district according to the census 1991, was 940609. Thus 1.42 per cent of the states population inhabits in 1.38 per cent of the states area in this region. The region is predominantly rural. About 87.86 per cent of the region total population of the region or 647,571 persons were enumerated in the villages. Total number of village in this region is 649 persons as against 543 in the state as a whole, suggesting the overcrowding of dispersed smaller settlements in this region (MAP 3.2)

Clusters of densely populated areas are found near the big tanks and along the road routes. These are situated in Chandra plain, southern part of the Orchha upland and small pockets near the tanks. Only a few areas come under this category. These areas are characterized by level terrain, fertile soils and a fairly low depth of sub-soil water, ensuring an adequate year round supply of drinking water.
ORCHHA UPLAND
DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION
1981

INDEX

UPERAN AREA

UNINHABITED FOREST AREA

ONE DOT REPRESENTS 250 PERSONS

The distribution of population has been depicted in Map 3.1. This map has been prepared by making the population number by individual villages. The patterns emerging on this map therefore, give real pattern of habitation in this region. An observation of this map shows that there are some large clusters here and there. The population in the Chanera plain, and the Senari basin, is relatively dense. The rule is the same. Plains or valleys support denser habitation. While the hill and less productive tracts have sparse population.

THE DENSITY OF POPULATION

The region is one of the dense areas of Madhya Pradesh in respect of population. This area supports 186 persons per square km as against 118 persons in the State as a whole. The density of this region is however, much lower than the average density for India as a whole (221 persons per square Kilometer), indicating that the region is one of the thinly populated areas in the national context (MPA 3.3). The Physiological density which measures the pressure of population on the potential agricultural land is 311 persons per square Kilometre of cultivable land. It is higher than the corresponding density for Madhya Praesh as
ORCHHA UPLAND
DENSITY OF RURAL POPULATION
(DATA BY VILLAGES)
1981

PERSONS PER SQUARE KILOMETRE

ABOVE 250
HIGH
HIGHER MEDIUM
LOWER MEDIUM
LOW
VERY LOW

URBAN
UNINHABITED/FOREST AREA

SOURCE: PRIMARY CENSUS ABSTRACTS OF DIFFERENT VILLAGES, 1981
a whole (232 persons per square Kilometre of cultivable land MAP(3.4))

The nutritional density of population or persons per square kilometre of the net sown area is 226 in this region. This is lower than 297 persons per square Kilometre of the net sown area in the State as a whole. It is evident from these densities that pressure of population on land resources of this region is fairly higher than that in Madhya Pradesh as a whole.

There are marked areal variations in the density of rural population in the region which is evident from the fact that the arithmetic density ranges from a few persons per square Kilometre, to more than 200 persons per square Kilometre; and in exceptional cases increases to more than 400 persons per square Kilometre. The same would be evident from the fact that physiological density ranges from 9 to 1463 persons, per square kilometre.

About 40 per cent of total villages of the region recorded density of more than 150 persons per square Km, and 60 per cent of total villages of the region recorded physiological density of more than 200 persons per square Kilometre. The Sendari basin, Orchha upland and
ORCHHA UPLAND
PHYSIOLOGICAL DENSITY
OF RURAL POPULATION
(DATA BY VILLAGES)
1981

PERSONS PER SQUARE KILOMETRE
OF CULTIVABLE LAND

800 ABOVE
400 800 HIGH
200 400 HIGHER MEDIUM
100 200 LOWER MEDIUM
BELOW 100 LOW
URBAN AREA
UNINHABITED/FOREST AREA

SOURCE PRIMARY CENSUS ABSTRACTS OF DIFFERENT VILLAGES, 1981
Jamini basin are high density regions. The higher density of population in these areas is primarily associated with agricultural productivity of the land. The Sendari basin and Jamini basin are the most fertile areas of the region.

The areas having a population of less than 50 persons per square kilometre include more than 10 per cent of the villages of the region. The low density region comprises of the Dhasan and Ur basin, where the hilly and forested terrain not only restricts the amount of cultivable land, but also due to the inaccessible character of land intimate cultural contacts with other areas are prevented. The non-agricultural occupations usually do not support more than 15 per cent of the population MAP(3.5).

The contact zones between the relatively high density areas and low density areas are characterized by a density of 50 to 150 persons per square kilometre. The areas cover extensive stretches in the Chandera plain and the Central Highland. Some small areas also extend over other areas of the region.

Thus, the major part of the uplands are dense. The density of population is low towards the
south. The undulating and hilly areas have low density of population, where there is higher pressure of population on agricultural land.

It follows that distribution of population in the Orchha has been determined primarily from the nature of terrain, and agricultural suitability of the areas.

TREND OF POPULATION GROWTH

The trend of population growth in this region during the last eight decades has been quite fluctuating in response to the varying intensity of natural calamities, economic climate and political vicissitudes. The population of the region increased during the period 1901-1991 by 188.41 percent. The total population at the beginning of this period in 1901 was 326 thousand, which doubled by the year 1991 recording a net increase of 614 thousand persons. The magnitude of this change is evident from the fact that there were only 64 persons per square kilometre at the beginning of the present century, while there were 186 persons per square kilometre in the year 1991, showing a change of more than triple during these 90 years (MAP 3.6).
TIKAMGARH DISTRICT
COMPARATIVE GROWTH RATES
1901-81

PERCENT

1911  21  31  41  51  61  71  81 YEARS

M.P.  TIKAMGARH
**TABLE 3.1**

**ORCHHA UPLAND : GROWTH OF POPULATION, 1901-1991**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Percentage Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Persons</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>326139</td>
<td>168046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>334609</td>
<td>170972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>289901</td>
<td>149513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>317059</td>
<td>164587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>354992</td>
<td>184791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>366165</td>
<td>191610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>455662</td>
<td>239035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>568885</td>
<td>303006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>736981</td>
<td>391471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>946069</td>
<td>502620</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In the first twenty years of this century, the history of population growth is essentially a story of calamitous happenings, famines and epidemics. There was a net decrease of 37 thousand persons (11.4 per cent of the population at the beginning of this period in 1901).

The growth during 1901-11 has been very low (2.69 per cent). This may be due to severe famine of 1905-1906, which was preceded by severe frost in 1901-05 resulting perhaps in mass exodus of population from this tract.
The 1911-21 decade registered a decline of 13.66 per cent of population in which males constituted 9.25 per cent of their total population in person and females 14.81 per cent of the total female population at that time. Though no evidence is available about this fact but it is well known that the entire state at that time was gripped with plague epidemic during the early years of the decade, and later the fatal influenza epidemic of 1919-20 devastated the whole demographic scheme of the region. Nature's cruel spell took more than its fare share which had literally dominanted the population. It is in all probability that the area comprising Orchha upland was not free from this calamitous event, and thus there has been a decrease of population by 13.66 per cent at the count of 1921.

After 1921, as a result of gradual improvement in the medical and health services, the population increased continuously though at a slow growth rate. The population of the region during the period 1921-51 increased by 26.74 per cent, recording a net change of 77 thousand persons, in which 42 thousand were males and 35 thousand were females.

In the decade 1921-31 the growth rate of population was 9.75 per cent. The following decade
Viz. 1931-41, recorded still higher growth rate (11.96 per cent); while the magnitude of change was lower (3.15 per cent) during the decade 1941-51. The reason for this decrease in growth rate is depletion of younger women during 1918 due to influenza epidemic. These women would have reached the child bearing age during 1941-51. After 1921, the famine and scarcity conditions remained well under control except for some localized effect of malarial, cholera and draught conditions here and there.

The next forty years by contrast, have witnessed an acceleration in growth of population. The population of the region during 1951-91 increased by 106.43 per cent which was slightly higher than that of State average rate of 123.7 per cent. During the period 1951-91 the male population increased to 110.27 per cent which was higher than that of females average rate of 102.18 per cent. In 1981 for the second time in this century the female growth rate (29.95 per cent) was higher than that of male growth rate (29.19 per cent). Thus, in 1981 the declining trend was checked and an improvement was noticed in sex ratio.

It is also evident from table 2.1 that the percentage of population growth in this region was
lower than that of State average rate, in every census that was conducted before Independence. But after 1951, the region's population growth rate has been higher than that of states growth rate.

Thus, the growth of population during the past 40 years has added a population, nearly equivalent to the size of present population of, Sikkim state. Due to gradual improvements in the health facilities, the death rate declined considerably but the birth rate remained stationary. Therefore the growth rate recorded was very high during the 1951-1991 period.

The Male-Female Differentials in Population Growth:

A close scrutiny of the data summarised in Table 3.1 show that population of male and female have not increase in parallel successions in this region. The net increase of males during the period 1901-81 (223 thousand was 36 thousand as compared with the increase of females (187 thousand) during the same period. The decadal differences in their rate of increase is also noteworthy. During the first decade of the period under witnessed females registered higher rate of increase, because males outmigrated in greater number in search of employment. During the
following decade in 1911-21 females registered higher rate of decrease Evidently they were exposed to higher risks caused by famines, epidemics discusses reproductive compulsatively etc and consequently they died in greater number. In the subsequent decade upto the year 1971 the rate of increase of female population has been lower than that their male counter parts. The reasons are not of difficult to identify, since patterns have been firmly similar all over the country, viz. decreasing opportunits for male outmigration, grater incidence of females deaths, greater dicline in male mortality during the post independence period where it has been easier to male made death causing foreasy them those of the female counterpart. After 1971 the female have started giving reponse to higher rate of increase in their population because their death causing factors have come under control.

SPATIAL PATTERN OF GROWTH OF POPULATION 1961-81.

The areas which recorded an increase of more than 60 per cent population during the period 1961-81 included a little less than 50 per cent of the total villages of the region. These areas stretch in the Sendari plain, Orchha upland,
Chandra plain and northern part of Jamini basin. The high rate of population growth in the areas along the Jhansi-Manikpur railway line may be attributed to the inflow of workers for non-agricultural occupation e.g. transport and communications. "Gora Patha" "mines", Soyabean factory etc. and also the rail transport, which facilitated the migration of population from other parts of the country (MAP 3.7).

The areas which recorded less than 40 per cent of population increase comprise of less than one fifth (18 per cent) of the total villages of the region. The increase of population in these areas was much lower than the estimated natural increase, suggesting loss of population due to out-migration. The loss of population due to out-migration from the areas of Ur and Dhasan basins can be attributed to the pressure of population on land resources, and perhaps some caste duels leading to acrocities.

The areas with 40 to 60 per cent increase of population occupies a little less than one-third of the villages of the region. The areas of moderate population growth form sporadic areas in central highland Jamini basin and Orchha upland.
AGE COMPOSITION:

Age is one of the principal determinants of reproductive factor, differences in mortality of sexes. In Orchha upland, about two fifth of the population (42.51 per cent) is under fourteen years of age, a little over one-half (50.8 per cent) are in the age group of fifteen to fifty-nine years. A very small proportion (6.69 per cent) is classed under the age group of sixty years and over. Such a distribution is the characteristic of a population with high fertility over a long period, and high or moderate declining mortality (Bhattacharjee and Shastri, 1976, p. 53).

A higher proportion of the population in the age group children means a heavy burden on the economically active population as well as of a high reproductive potential in the subsequent period. A large proportion of dependent population tends to reduce the savings and investment and hinders the rate if economic and social development, which may also have indirect effects on birth rates (MAP 3.8).

MALE FEMALE DIFFERENTIALS IN AGE COMPOSITION:

The per cent distribution of females is lower in the younger and adult age groups (0-14
and 15-59 years), while it is relatively high in age group of 60 years and above (table 3.2). In the first seventy year of this century, the percentage of females in the younger ages

**TABLE 3.2**

**ORCHHA UPLAND: AGE COMPOSITION OF POPULATION, 1981**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age group</th>
<th>Percent of Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-4</td>
<td>14.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>14.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>12.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>9.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>7.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>6.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39</td>
<td>5.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-39</td>
<td>5.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-44</td>
<td>4.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-49</td>
<td>4.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-54</td>
<td>4.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44-59</td>
<td>2.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60+</td>
<td>9.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


(0-14 years) was slightly lower than that of males, suggesting higher mortality rates among females. But in 1981 the proportion of females in younger age group has increased slightly suggesting declining death rates among females. It is the result of gradual improvement in public health.
services. In the old ages (60 years and above) this proportion is relatively higher than males (table 3.2), indicating lower female mortality in the advanced ages.

The age composition of male population is usually different from that of the female population in younger age groups on account of two factors. Firstly, the mortality among females for a considerable period has been higher than that among males. Secondly, the differential among birth, the under enumeration of females may also have some contribution in bringing out sharp male-female differential in the age structure.

RURAL-URBAN DIFFERENTIAL IN AGE COMPOSITION

Table 3.2 reveals that the adults form a slightly higher proportion in urban areas (53.1 per cent) than that in rural areas (50.5 per cent). The proportion of children and adolescents is relatively lower in the urban areas (41.2 per cent) than that in the rural areas (42.7 per cent). The proportion of the age is slightly higher in rural areas (6.8 per cent) than that in urban areas (5.7 per cent).

This narrowing profile of the age gap between urban and rural areas, has resulted from
the differential changes, characterising these two resident groups with regard to the number and proportion of young people in the population. The smaller proportion of children in the urban areas seems to be the result of (i) a small fertility of the females in the urban place, and (ii) immigration of adults that would reduce the proportion of individuals in other ages.

The higher proportion of age in the rural areas can be attributed to the emigration of adults and immigration of the aged, who find some kind of employment in the agricultural rural habitat. The historical relations between urbanisation and industrialization, reduced fertility and growth of population. Though migration, have created characteristic differences in the age composition of the rural and urban population of the region (Stockwell, 1964, p. 72). In general, higher rural fertility coupled with the rural to urban movement of adults as the country undergoes transformation from a rural agrarian to an urban industrial economy, and tended to make rural population younger than their urban concentration.

LITERACY OF POPULATION

Effect on level of education may have moderately traditional preferences for male
habitats. The educational situation in Orchha upland is far from satisfactory. Only a little less than one fourth of the total population (27.34 per cent) can read and write against the state average of 27.82 per cent in 1981, suggesting smaller level of development than the over all state standards. Only one sixth of the rural population (16.19 per cent) and one-eighth of total females (13.93 per cent) can be classed as literate (MAP 3.9).

In 1901 there were only 4125 persons (including 86 females) or 1.28 per cent of the total population enumerated as literate. In 1951 the position had improved somewhat, when there were 13738 literate persons (3.75 per cent).

In 1961 the region had 97 literate persons, per 1000 persons. Among the males the proportion was 159 persons per 1000, but among females it was only 28.

The literacy rate in the following twenty years increased from 9.67 per cent in 1961 to 19.16 per cent in 1981. The increase in the literacy has been 96.13 per cent. Male literacy has gone up from 15.90 per cent in 1961 to 28.61 per cent in
1981; while female literacy has increased from 2.80 per cent to 8.44 per cent during the same period.

Regular increase in literacy rate is the outcome of opening of a very large number of primary schools, under the various five year plans.

**TABLE 3.3**

**ORCHHA UPLAND: PROGRESS OF LITERACY 1901-1991**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>1.23</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>9.67</td>
<td>15.90</td>
<td>2.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>14.04</td>
<td>21.49</td>
<td>5.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>19.16</td>
<td>28.61</td>
<td>8.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>27.34</td>
<td>37.71</td>
<td>13.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


As far as female literacy is concerned this region is one of the most illiterate areas of the State. Even in 1981, only one-twelfth (8.44 per cent) of the total females were literate, as compared to 28.61 per cent of the males. Female literacy is lower, both in rural and urban areas, but it is much lower in rural areas than in urban areas.
ORCHHA UPLAND
(DATA BY VILLAGES)
LITERACY
1981

LITERACY IN PERCENTAGE

ABOVE 30
20
15
10
5
BELOW

URBAN AREA
UNINHABITED / FOREST AREA

SOURCE: PRIMARY CENSUS ABSTRACTS OF DIFFERENT VILLAGES, 1981
The differences in the level of male-female education have been responsible in determining not only the vital and mobility ratio but also in modifying the attitude of people towards their preferences for male-female children.

The rural and urban areas stand in marked contrast to each other in the field of literacy. In the Orchha upland the urban literacy is two and half times higher (40.67 per cent) than the rural areas (16.19 per cent). Both the male (51.68 per cent) and female literacy (28.24 per cent) is higher in urban areas, in comparison to rural areas (male, 25.44 per cent and female, 5.70 per cent).

Sharp regional disparities were measured in terms of literacy in different parts of the region. Six per-cent villages of the region registered literacy rate of more than 30 per cent. Against this 8 per cent of the villages had a literacy rate of less than 5 per cent, suggesting a wide gap between the most developed and less developed part of the region.

About one-fifth (20 per cent) of the total villages of this region, had a literacy rate of more than 20 per cent. This area extends upto the Orchha upland. Sindari basin and some small
pockets which are dispersed in other parts of the upland. The male-female literacy in these areas is higher than other parts of the region.

The characteristics of rural literacy in these areas suggest that there is significant socio-economic advancement in these parts of the region. The higher literacy may be attributed to the nearness of schools.

The areas with less than 10 per cent literacy cover less than one-third villages of the region. The areas where the literacy is comparatively lower, form an extensive stretch in the Ur and Dhasan basin and southern part of the Betwa basin.

The male literacy is less than 21 per cent and female literacy is less than 5 per cent in these areas. Thus male female differential in literacy are often very high. There are usually more than 8 literate males per literate female. The low literacy in these areas may be attributed to the widely located schools and socio-economic conditions which are also poor.

In between the two extremes of literacy rates are extensive areas which registered 10 to 20 per cent literacy. They cover more than half of the total villages (51 per cent) and extend upto
Chandra plain, Jamini basin and southern part of Betwa basin.

Despite remarkable progress in education in recent years, the region is one of the most illiterate part of the state. There is a wide gap between male and female literacy and rural-urban literacy. The northern part of the region has a higher literacy rate than the southern part.

WORK FORCE

Occupational and working status may be responsible for a variable operation of those factors, which determine the general inequalities in a society. In the Orchha upland the proportion of working population was 42.12 per cent in the year 1981 which is slightly lower than the corresponding figure of Madhya Pradesh as a whole (42.93 per cent). The high participation rate in this region in comparison to the other districts of the state is therefore associated with following factors: (i) The proportion of female worker is higher (28.63 per cent) than that of the other parts of the state. (ii) The region is primarily an agriculture part of the state, where more than three-fourths of the workers are employed in agriculture.
### TABLE 3.4

**PROPORTION OF WORK FORCE IN TIKAMGARH DISTRICT AND MADHYA PRADESH, 1981**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Person per cent</th>
<th>Male per cent</th>
<th>Female per cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tikamgarh Total</td>
<td>42.12</td>
<td>54.47</td>
<td>28.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Rural</td>
<td>43.66</td>
<td>55.68</td>
<td>30.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>31.02</td>
<td>45.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madhya Total</td>
<td>42.93</td>
<td>54.48</td>
<td>30.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pradesh Rural</td>
<td>43.66</td>
<td>55.21</td>
<td>26.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>31.02</td>
<td>46.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Census of India, 1981, Series 1, Madhya Pradesh, Part II - A, General Population Tables.

There is a great difference between the two sexes, in terms of participation rate in this district. It is evident from the fact that the male participation rate (54.47 per cent) is twice than that of female (28.13 per cent).

The rural areas are characterized by higher participation rate (43.66 per cent) than that of urban areas (31.02 per cent), suggesting a lower industrial development in the district (table 3.4). The district is in an under developed stage,
where more than two-thirds of the total working population (more than 70.49 per cent) is engaged in agricultural sector. On other hand, one-third (29.51 per cent) of the total working population is employed in non-agricultural sector. Consequently, the agricultural economy of the district is determined by the rural-urban breakup, where nearly 90 per cent population is rural. The agricultural economy provides work to the children, females and aged population, as well as to all the Classes of the society, whereas the employment in urban areas is registered in terms of age and literacy of the workers. The school going children and the aged persons do not work in the urban places. Moreover, the urban areas provide work to the literate people only. Hence the disparity in rural urban participation rate is associated with the character of economy and the level of socio-economic development. The district does not provide better conditions for non-agricultural occupations because a major part of its economy is based on agriculture.

Regional disparities in the degree of working population indicates variations in the socio-economic and cultural background of an area (Chandana, 1967, p.1). Within the region there are sharp spatial variations in respect of workforce.
A little less than one fifth villages (18.92 per cent) of the region recorded high participation rate (more than 42 per cent). These villages are dispersed here and there in the region. There are two main areas in the region where most of the villages recorded high workforce rate viz, south part of the Betwa basin and the Dhasan basin. MAP 3.10

Dhasan basin is rice producing area of the region where there is a greater demand for female and child workers in the rice farms. Hence, the participation rate of females is consequently higher resulting in enhancement of the size of workforce in these area.

More than one fourth villages (28 per cent) of the region recorded a low participation rate (less than 30 per cent). These villages are dispersed all over the region and mostly spread over the Betwa basin in extreme north central highland and southern part of Jamini basin.

The central highland and southern part of Jamini basin includes 150 villages, which are essentially Jowar and gram growing parts of the region, and need lower proportion of workers in comparison to rice producing areas.
ORCHHA UPLAND
(DATA BY VILLAGES)
WORK FORCE
1981

PERCENTAGE OF MAIN WORKER
IN TOTAL POPULATION

ABOVE
50
42
36
30
24
18
12
6
0

URBAN AREA
UNINHABITED/FOREST AREA

SOURCE: PRIMARY CENSUS ABSTRACTS OF DIFFERENT VILLAGES; 1981
More than half of the total villages (53 per cent) registered moderate participation rate (between 30 and 42 per cent). These areas extend over Chandra plain, Ur basin and are dispersed over Betwa basin.

The Ur region and Chandra plain have low participation in net area and very low proportion of irrigated area. The urbanisation is also low and this part is economically backward and very few occupational opportunities are available.

CONCLUSIONS

1. The distribution of population in the region is equal. The plains and valley support denser habitation. While the hills and less productive tracts, have sparse population.

2. In the first five decades of this century, the population growth rate was extremely low, while during the last three decades, there has been a rapid acceleration in the rate of growth. In every census except during 1911, the male growth rate was higher than female growth rate. It is good sigh of sex ratio in 1981 when female growth rate was higher than male.

3. The children, adolescents and aged persons constitute nearly half of the total population of
the region. It means that there is a heavy dependency burden on the economically active population. The proportion of females is lower in the younger and adult age groups; while it is relatively higher in aged groups than that of males in the region.

4. The educational standard is very poor in the region. Only a little less than one-fifth of the total population can read and write. A wide gap between male-female and rural-urban literacy exists.

5. The proportion of the working population is lower. Only a little more than one third are main workers. Two-third of the total working population is engaged in agricultural sector; which is not a profitable venture. So the economic condition of the regions population is not good.

REFERENCES
