

## **Assessment of Basic Amenities of Peripheral Wards in Midnapore Town: A Geographical Survey of Socio-Economic Groups**

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### **Abstract:**

Housing and availability of household amenities is considered to be the most valuable economic asset and is an important indicator of lifestyle and socio-economic status( Midnapore town is the head quarter of Paschim Medinipur district. This paper attempts to study the availability of household amenities in the 4 peripheral wards of Midnapore Town across different social groups and different economic groups. The study noted that the households from General category are having greater accessibility of basic amenities than those from minorities, SC and ST groups. On the other hand, economic status also neatly corresponds with accessibility of basic amenities of the study area.

**Key words:** Basic Amenities, Social Groups, Urbanization

### **1. Introduction**

Midnapore town is the head quarter of Paschim Medinipur district. The growth of population in this urban centre is 13.02 percent between the census periods 2001-2011. It is the fastest growing urban centre of not only the district but also West Bengal as a whole. It is also noted that the peripheral wards of this town are characterised by concentration of slum population, concentration of scheduled population and high rate of immigration to rural areas and mostly are engaged in informal sectors. Haphazard growth of urban pockets, rapid growth of population and inequality of socio-economic condition of urban dwellers are some of the causes and consequences of serious shortfall of basic civic amenities and household assets as well as the poor housing condition in the peripheral areas of this town (Sahoo,2019 and Sahoo, 2020). In this connection, the present study provides an overview of basic amenities in selected four peripheral wards across different social groups and different economic groups in Midnapore Town.

## 2. Objectives

The main objectives of the study area are

- Analysis the availability of basic amenities different social groups in peripheral wards of Midnapore Town.
- Analysis the availability of basic amenities different Economic groups in peripheral wards of Midnapore Town.

## 3. Data Base and Methodology

Four peripheral wards (viz. 4, 9, 19 and 21) have been selected on the basis of Average Combined Deprivation Index with the data of Indian census, 2011. Here two peripheral wards with highest Average Combined Deprivation Index (i.e. Ward No. 19 and 21) and two peripheral wards with lowest Average Combined Deprivation Index (i.e. Ward No. 4 and 9) are selected for the survey. The present study is based on data collected from primary survey through structured interview scheduled from above said selected wards in Midnapore Town. Analyse the availability of basic urban amenities across different social and economic groups in the study area. For the collection of data, cross-stratified random sampling has been applied. For the analysis, a simple cartographic technique has been applied.

## 4. Study Area

Midnapore is a city known for its history in the Indian state of West Bengal. It is the headquarters of the West Medinipur district. It is situated on the banks of the Kangsabati River (variously known as Kasai and Cossye). The Urban Agglomeration of Midnapore consists of the city proper, Mohanpur, Keranichati and Khayerullachak. Midnapore and it's neighbouring city of Kharagpur constitute the central core of the Midnapore Kharagpur Development Authority metro area, spread across 576 square kilometres .(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Midnapore>; Sahoo, 2008 and 2019; Bhunia, 2017). The location coordinates of this town is the intersection of 22° 2' N parallel of latitude and 87° 19' E meridian of longitude.

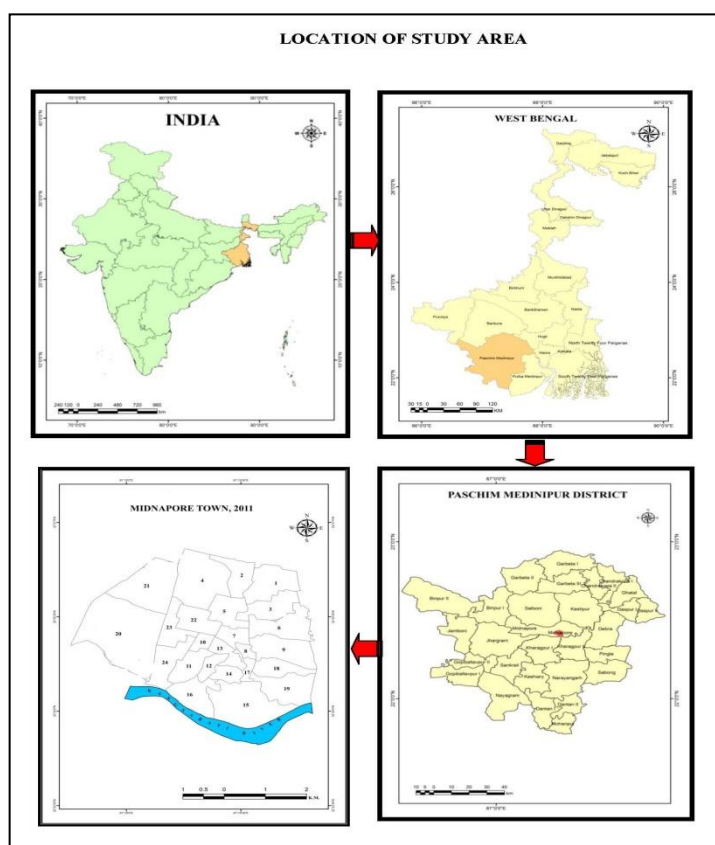


Fig-1

## 5. Assessment of Basic Amenities of Peripheral Wards

In the study, seven basic amenities viz. drinking water availability; drainage connectivity; latrine facility; bathing facility; electricity; kitchen and fuel used for cooking. The following section indicates the availability and accessibility of basic urban amenities across the different socio-economic groups in the selected peripheral wards in Midnapore Town.

Table -1 : Availability of Basic Amenities of General Social Group

Ward No.	Availability of Municipal Tap	Drinking Water services Within Premises	Availability of Hygienic Latrine Within Premises	Availability of Drainage	Availability of Bath Room Within Premises	Availability of Electricity	Availability of Separate Kitchen	Availability of LPG/P
4	84.62	15.38	88.46	92.31	84.62	88.46	76.92	84.62
9	91.67	33.33	91.66	100	83.33	95.83	62.5	87.5
19	95.45	18.18	81.82	100	63.63	86.36	68.18	72.72
21	100	12.5	84.37	100	78.12	81.25	68.75	87.5

Source: Primary Survey

**Table -2 : Availability of Basic Amenities of Muslim Social Group**

Muslim								
Ward No.	Availability of Municipal Tap	Drinking Water services Within Premises	Availability of Hygienic Latrine Within Premises	Availability of Drainage	Availability of Bath Room Within Premises	Availability of Electricity	Availability of Separate Kitchen	Availability of LPG/PNG
4	100	11.54	88.46	100	76.93	92.31	80.77	88.46
9	87.5	16.67	95.83	100	83.33	91.67	45.83	87.5
19	81.82	27.27	86.36	100	63.63	86.36	63.64	81.82
21	100	6.25	87.5	100	78.12	96.87	59.37	71.87

Source: Primary Survey

**Table -3 : Availability of Basic Amenities of SC Social Group**

Ward No.	Availability of Municipal Tap	Drinking Water services Within Premises	Availability of Hygienic Latrine Within Premises	Availability of Drainage	Availability of Bath Room Within Premises	Availability of Electricity	Availability of Separate Kitchen	Availability of LPG/PNG
4	69.27	30.77	76.93	100	84.62	96.15	84.62	88.46
9	87.5	20.83	83.34	100	79.16	95.83	66.66	87.5
19	90.91	9.09	72.73	100	72.73	95.45	50	77.27
21	93.75	6.25	84.37	100	81.24	93.75	81.25	81.25

Source: Primary Survey

**Table -4 : Availability of Basic Amenities of ST Social Group**

Ward No.	Availability of Municipal Tap	Drinking Water services Within Premises	Availability of Hygienic Latrine Within Premises	Availability of Drainage	Availability of Bath Room Within Premises	Availability of Electricity	Availability of Separate Kitchen	Availability of LPG/PNG
4	88.46	11.54	80.77	96.15	73.08	88.46	73.07	80.77
9	100	0	70.83	100	54.16	70.83	16.67	66.66
19	90.91	9.09	86.36	100	65.91	81.82	40.91	68.18
21	81.25	18.75	78.12	90.62	84.38	90.62	40.62	78.12

Source: Primary Survey

**Table -5 : Availability of Basic Amenities of High Economic Group**

Ward No.	Availability of Municipal Tap	Drinking Water services Within Premises	Availability of Hygienic Latrine Within Premises	Availability of Drainage	Availability of Bath Room Within Premises	Availability of Electricity	Availability of Separate Kitchen	Availability of LPG/PNG
4	71.15	34.62	100	100	98.08	100	92.31	100
9	85.42	33.33	100	100	93.75	100	79.17	95.83
19	81.8	29.55	100	100	84.09	100	88.64	93.18
21	87.5	20.31	100	100	96.87	100	88.64	95.31

Source: Primary Survey

**Table -4 : Availability of Basic Amenities of Low Economic Group**

Ward No.	Availability of Municipal Tap	Drinking Water services Within Premises	Availability of Hygienic Latrine Within Premises	Availability of Drainage	Availability of Bath Room Within Premises	Availability of Electricity	Availability of Separate Kitchen	Availability of LPG/PNG
4	100	0	67.31	94.23	61.54	82.69	65.38	69.23
9	97.92	2.08	70.83	100	56.25	77.08	3.17	68.75
19	97.73	2.27	63.34	100	56.82	75	22.73	56.82
21	100	1.56	67.19	95.31	64.06	81.25	31.35	62.5

Source: Primary Survey

## BASIC AMENITIES ACROSS SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROUPS

### PERIPHERAL WARDS OF MIDNAPORE TOWN

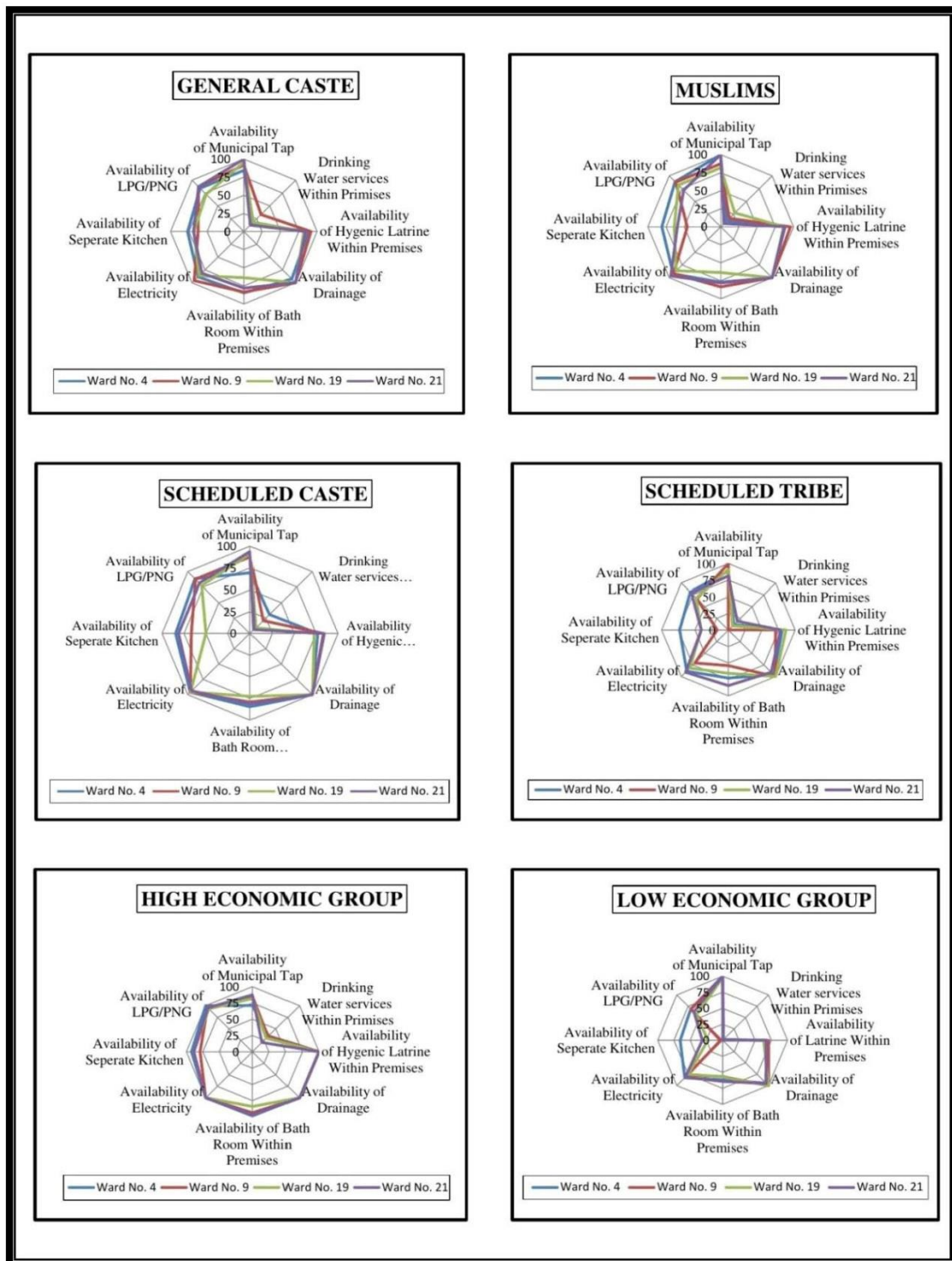


Fig-2

It is evident from the figure-2 that most of the dwellers dependent on municipal tap water. Looking at the location of main sources of drinking water it is noted that majority of the households across socio-economic groups collect their required drinking water from near the premises sources. It is evident that, the availability of hygienic latrines, bathroom facility and separate kitchen are better in General caste and it gradually declines towards lower social order in these surveyed wards. On the other hand, it is found that majority of households with low economic background do not have drinking water and toilet facility within in their premises. The conditions of other amenities across lower economic groups are relatively more inferior. Out of these surveyed wards of this town, households of Ward No. 4 are having better availability to civic amenities. From the analysis it may be concluded that the availability and accessibility of basic amenities varies across wards based on their socio-economic background.

#### **Conclusion:**

The ward level analysis of Midnapore Town indicates the haphazard manner aspect of urban development. From the above analysis, it is observed that the levels of basic urban amenities are varying across different socio-economic groups. The households from General category are having greater accessibility of basic amenities than those from minorities, SC and ST groups. On the other hand, economic status also neatly corresponds with accessibility of basic amenities of the study area. It is well known that socially and economically marginalised section of the society is usually backward by their mentality, by their low economic affordable capacity, by their lack of willingness etc. Therefore, the major role of urban local bodies (ULBs) lies in the improvement of socio-economically backward section for the betterment of dwellers life.

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