

Overview of rural Development at District Level: Case of Dhalai District, Tripura

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Abstract - Situated in the North-eastern piece of Tripura, the Locale of Dhalai covers a space of about 2312.29 sq km. Over many years, the land has been known for its reach culture and diversity. A detailed analysis of multiple sectors such as demography, economy, physical and social infrastructure shows that the land has a rich potential to be developed as one of the best land in terms of vital resources. The existing resources and infrastructure need to be fully developed for its people. Many central level as well as the state level policies have been launched for the purpose of uplifting the rural development scenario in the country. Proper implementation and awareness about specific policies will augment the growth scenario in the rural areas.

Key Words: rural development, infrastructure, government policy, resource development

temperatures in summers and winters are 36 degree and 28 degree Celsius individually. The base temperatures in summers and winters are 17 degree and 5.3 degree Celsius separately(Dhalai District, 2013).

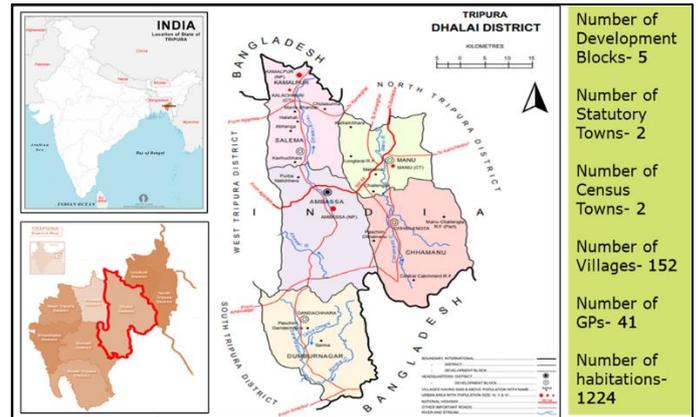


Fig -1: Dhalai District Map

Source: DCHB Census 2011

1. INTRODUCTION

With an absolute area of 10,491 sq km, Tripura is the third smallest province of India after Goa and Sikkim. With a populace of 36.74 lakhs (according to Census 2011) it is the most populated State in the North-east after Assam. The Territory of Tripura contains eight (08) districts. District wise Dhalai Locale is the biggest Region of Tripura, with an area of 2312.29 Sq. Km.(Dhalai District, 2013)

2. GEOGRAPHY

Situated in the North-eastern piece of Tripura, the Locale covers a space of about 2312.29 sq km. It is essentially situated between two hills in particular 'Atharamura range' and 'Sakhan range'. Over 70% region is hilly in nature and is covered with forests. The territory terrain has most of the part undulating and hilly with little water streams (chharas) , waterways and river valleys mediating.

Significant streams starting from Dhalai will be Dhalai, Khowai, Gomati also, Manu. Significant hills are Atharamura, Longtharai, Kalajhari and part of Sakhan.

The area settle at Ambassa is situated a good way off of around 85 km from the State capital Agartala. It is associated through National Highway (NH-44) and takes around 2(two) – 3(three) hours to arrive at the Region settle from Agartala. In January 2015 Expansive Measure Railroad interface has been set up at Ambassa.(Dhalai District, 2013).

3. CLIMATE

The Area has Heat and humidity with hot and sticky summers, a prolonged rainy season and warm winters. Greatest

4. HISTORICAL EVOLUTION

The historical backdrop of Tripura is royal and is known for its rich culture and heritage. The great history incorporates two particular periods—the generally amazing period portrayed in the Rajamala, a chronicle of the alleged early maharajas (lords) of Tripura, and the time frame since the rule of the extraordinary ruler Dharma Manikya (ruled c. 1431–62). The Rajamala, written in Bengali stanza, was aggregated by the Brahmans in the court of Dharma Manikya.

During his rule and that of his successor, Dhanya Manikya (ruled c. 1463–1515), Tripura suzerainty was reached out over quite a bit of Bengal, Assam, and Myanmar (Burma) in a progression of noteworthy military victories. It was not until the start of the seventeenth century that the Mughal realm broadened its power over a lot of Tripura. (Lodrick, n.d.)At the point when the English East India Organization acquired the diwani, or monetary organization, of Bengal in 1765, the piece of Tripura that had been under Mughal rule went under English control. From 1808 each progressive ruler needed to get instatement from the English government. In 1905 Tripura was connected to the new region of Eastern Bengal and Assam and was known as Hill Tippera. (Lodrick, n.d.)The last ruling maharaja of Tripura, Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya, climbed the seat in 1923, and before his passing in 1947, he settled Tripura's promotion to the recently free nation of India. Tripura formally turned out to be essential for India on October 15, 1949; it was made an association region on September 1, 1956, and it turned into a state on January 21, 1972. Dhalai Region was made in the time of 1995 by bifurcating North Tripura Region and including part of Amarapur Sub-Division of the South Tripura Region. It was made keeping in see the authoritative exigency of giving turn of events and great administration to the generally Ancestral tribal and

inaccessible regions. The area is named after Dhalai waterway which starts in the district. (Lodrick, n.d.)

5. CONNECTIVITY

The district is connected in terms of roadways and railways. The development was seen with constant effort of the state government for an improved transport network.

Table -1: Connectivity Profile

Roadways	
Length of National Highway	NH 44-55.00 km NH 44A-23.00 km
Length of State Highway (km)	121 km
Length major district road (km)	42.03 km
Length of other-district road (km)	77.209
Length of village road (km)	1164 km
Connected Habitations (Out of 1224)	973
Unconnected Habitations (Out of 1224)	251
Railways	
Estimated length of Railway (km)	38.4km
Number of operational Railway stations	02 (Ambassa and Manu)
Airways	Kamalpur Airport- Not in use

Source: <https://dhalai.nic.in/road-map>

6. DEMOGRAPHY

Village distribution

The whole district is divided into 5 blocks, out of which Dumburnagar covers maximum area of 546.82 sq.km followed by Ambassa and Chhamanu block. The district is divided into 152 villages out of which 148 villages are inhabited and rest 4 are uninhabited villages. Salema block accounts for highest number of villages followed by Ambassa and Dumburnagar. The maximum number of villages comes under the population range of 2000-4999 followed by 1000-1999 range.

Table -2: Village Distribution

Block	No. of villages
Salema	44
Manu	22
Ambassa	35
Chhamanu	13
Dumburnagar	34

Source: Census 2011

Population distribution

The total district accounts for 337731 total rural population out of which 1,73,773 are male population and 1,63,958 are female population. When compared with the population of

2001, there has been a considerable growth in the overall rural population in the district. The highest population is seen in Salema block followed by Manu block. The growth from the last decade is seen in Dumburnagar followed by Ambassa block. The district has a population density of 142.84 persons per sq.km with a decadal growth of 16.86%.

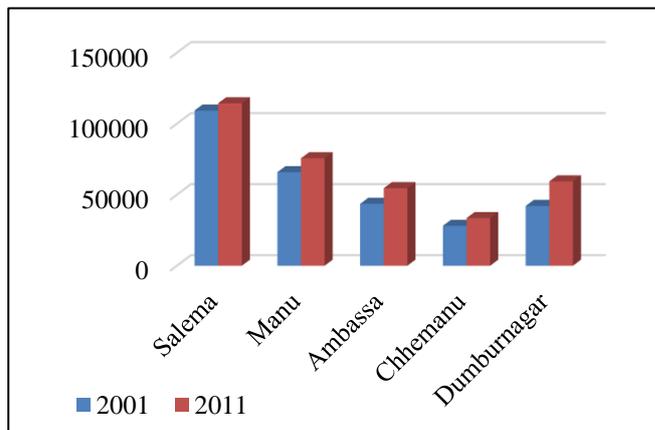


Fig-2: Population growth from 2001-2011

Source: Census 2011

SC-ST Population

The district is tribal dominated area with maximum population from scheduled tribe groups. Out of the total population, maximum ST population accounts from Manu block followed by Dumburnagar and Ambassa.

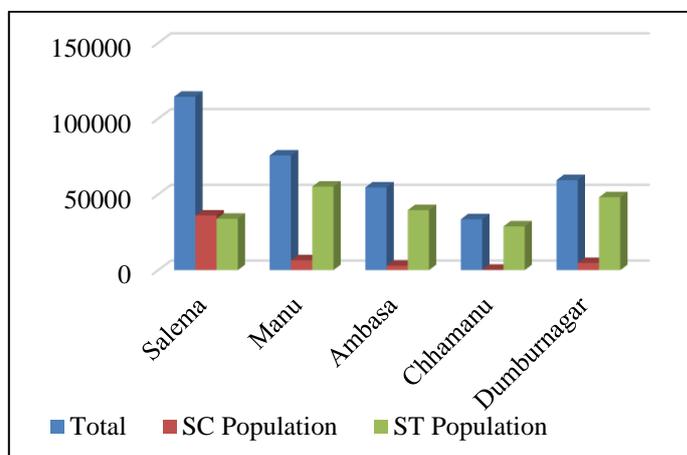


Fig-3: SC-ST Population in the district

Source: Census 2011

Literate-Illiterate Population

The district literacy rate stands at 71.6%. Salema block in the district accounts for highest literates followed by Ambassa and Chhamanu. The gap between the male-female literacy rate is highest in Dumburnagar region.

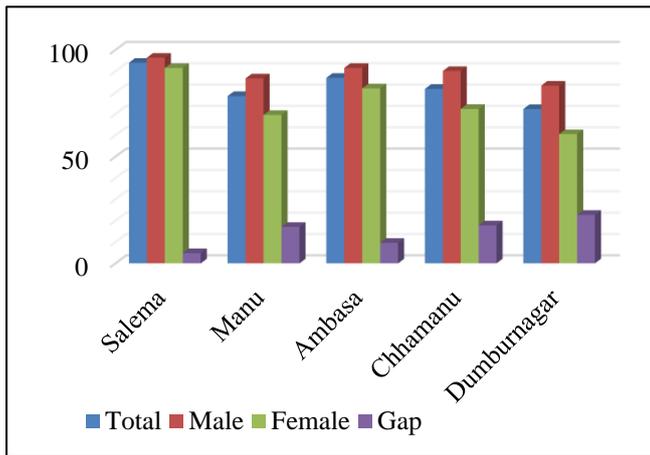


Fig-4: Literacy rate (Male-Female)

Source: Census 2011

Workers population

The workers population is divided into the main as well as marginal ones. The workforce participation rate accounts for 41.93%. At the district level the Salema block accounts for highest number main as well marginal workers. Also, this block is followed by Manu and Dumburnagar.

7. ADMINISTRATION

Each district is administered by the district magistrate and collector. There are four districts in Tripura and each locale has an Chairman assigned as District Magistrate and Collector. He/She is the preeminent authority of his/her separate area. He is essentially helped by Extra District Magistrate (ADM), a decent number of District level officials, Sub-divisional Officers, and Block Development officials under his/her ward. The district is the chief administrative set up or division of the state. Zilla Parishad at the District level: 4Nos. viz. Uttar Tripura Zilla Parishad, Dhalai Zilla Parishad, Paschim Tripura Zilla Parishad and Dakshin Tripura Zilla Parishad. Each Zilla Parishad has one elected Sabhadhipati and Sahakari Sabhadhipati and other elected and Ex-Officio Members. District Magistrate & Collector of each District is the Chief Executive Officer of the concerned Zilla Parishad. District Panchayat Officer of each district is the Secretary of the concerned Zilla Parishad. Besides above officials, each Zilla Parishad has Addl. Chief Executive Officer (P. D., DRDA) and some officers and staff. Recently the provision has been made to raise reservation for women in the office of members as well as office of the Chairman up to 50% in the State. Tripura is one of the leading states to increase the women's participation in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). Moreover, steps have been taken to develop e-learning modules for PRI representatives for further enhancing their capacity. At the village level there are Gram Panchayats to serve administrative purpose. There are 7 Standing Committees that serves various purposes.

- Finance, Audit and Planning Committee, to be known as Finance Committee
- Education, Environment, Cultural, Health and Sports Affairs Committee
- Communication, Rural Electrification and Non-Conventional Energy Committee

- Industries including Cottage Industries and Sericulture Committee
- Social Justice Committee
- Agriculture, Food, Irrigation, Co-operation, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry Committee
- Poverty Alleviation Programmes, Social and Farm Forestry, Rural Housing and Drinking Water Committee.

8. INSURGENCY

Harmony between the tribal and the non-tribal has been phenomenal for quite a while notwithstanding huge migration of the non-tribals. However, during the later half of 1970s, coordinated tribal militancy began spreading establishes in the State. Solid sensations of social and financial hardship and frailty joined with public inclination and aspiration for political force kept in the personalities of a part of tribal young people.

9. RANKING UNDER VARIOUS PROGRAMME

Among the 5-Development blocks of the district- Salema, Chhamanu and Dumburnagar were existed before the decade of 1991-2001. Manu and Ambassa has appeared as new during the decade.

- Under the ministry of Panchayati Raj, the district was placed among 250 most backward district in the country.
- The district is the only district in the state of Tripura that receives funds under Backward Regions Grant Fund Programme.
- The District was also ranked 38 under delta ranking of aspirational districts under NITI Aayog.

9. CULTURE

As it is clear the District is generally a Tribal area with 56% Tribal populace. The significant clans are Tripuri, Reang, Kuki (Halam/ Darlong/ Hrangkhawl), Kolo and Chakma. Reangs are one of the Primitive Tribal Groups (PTG) as characterized by the Govt of India. Tribals generally live in the distant uneven forested zones with the fertile valleys being involved by the Non-tribals (generally Bengalis). Jhum celebration subsequent to collecting season, Hojagiri of the Bru-Reangs, Bihu/Bizu of the Chakmas, Garia Puja are unmistakable celebrations celebrated. Bengali people group generally live in the plain area in the west and northwestern districts. Durga Puja, Ker Puja, Biswakarma Puja are their conspicuous celebrations(Dhalai District, 2013).

10. TOURISM

Dumboor Lake is a beguiling water body situated in Gandacherra Sub-Division around 70 km away from Ambassa. The appearance of the lake resembles tabour molded little drum, "Dumboor" of Lord Shiva from which the name "Dumboor" begins. A monstrous and stunning water assortment of 41 sq.km. with a ceaseless spell of rich green vegetation all around stands magnificent for her extremely beguiling excellence and 48 islands amidst the lake. The lake

is the intersection of streams Raima and Sarma. Different types of transient birds are noticeable in the colder time of year and it has rich repository of characteristic and refined fishes. In one of the islands "Narikel Kunja" or then again, a coconut island has been created. Longthrai Temple at Kathalbari VC, a Shiva Temple, arranged close to NH44 is somewhere else of strict importance. There is a huge 'Mela' of fans during Mahashivratri celebration. Setrai cascade in Durgachoumuhani Block is a fantastic spot for getting a charge out of stunning magnificence of nature, with its reasonable water and thick vegetation(Dhalai District, 2013).

11. LAND

Tripura Tribal Area Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) With a view to fulfill the aspirations of the tribal to have autonomy & to administer them, the Tripura Tribal Area Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) was set up in January 1982. The major portion of Autonomous District Council (ADC) area falls under this district(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

The ADC Constitutes around 96 villages in the district. The exercises of the council range from primary education to maintenance of roads, bridges and so forth. The restoration of the landless ancestral, making of employment opportunities, agricultural development, horticultural turn of events, soil preservation, flood control, supply of drinking water, schooling, transport and correspondence, setting up of village industries are a portion of the significant undertakings embraced by the TTAADC. Unique drive has been given to bring high grounds under agricultural yields, foundation of little ranches to supply contributions of farming, cultivation, pisciculture, animal cultivation to the ancestral families. Augmentation of clinical offices in inside regions through portable unit will be outfitted. Safe drinking water will be given in towns. The wellsprings of asset of the gathering are the arrangement distribution as award in guide, portion of expenses and asset from moved plans of the State Government. Despite the fact that the ADC 59 came into presence multi decade prior the authoritative organization at field level is however to be fortified(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011a).

12. FOREST

The district is densely covered with forest area of 1859.36 sq.km that accounts for 29.54% of the state forest. The districts forest area is also divided into protected, reserved, permanent reserved forest and unclassed govt. forest. Out of which the reserved forest accounts for maximum area(Dhalai District, 2013).

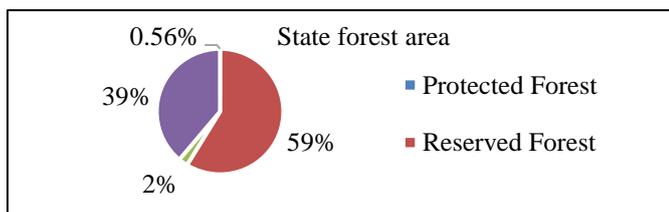


Fig-5: State Forest Division
Source: Dhalai district Profile

13. AGRICULTURAL LAND

The total land under agricultural use accounts for 13272 hectares. The area under cultivable land covers the maximum percentage of 22382 hectares, followed by irrigable land of 10352 hectares. As the district is a agricultural dominated area, so maximum concentration of area under food grains accounts for 39207 hectares(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011a).

Table-3: Land distribution under agriculture use

Land Categories	Area
Land under non-Agri. use.	13,272 Ha
Permanent Pasture & Grazing land	1379 Ha
Cultivable land	22,382 Ha
Irrigable land	10,352 Ha
Gross cropped area (ha)	35,753.0
Net cropped area (ha)	20,216.0
Area under food grains (ha)	39,207

Source: Director, Agriculture, Dhalai, July 2016

14. ECONOMY

Contribution to GDP

The district contribution to the state GDP accounts for 33.61% and the gross district domestic product accounts for 491.9 crore. The district accounts maximum percentage under the primary sector, followed by secondary and tertiary (Tripura, 2007).

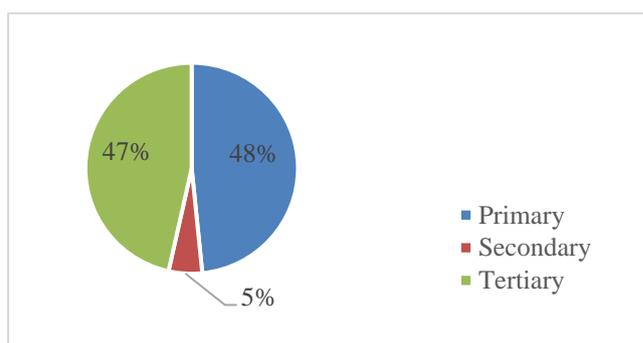


Fig-6: GDDP contribution sector-wise
Source: State GDDP, Human development report

Classification of Worker

The district has a predominant agricultural character and hence most of the people are engaged as cultivators and agricultural labourers. Among the five blocks, Salema block has the maximum number of worker concentration, followed by Manu and Dumburnagar(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

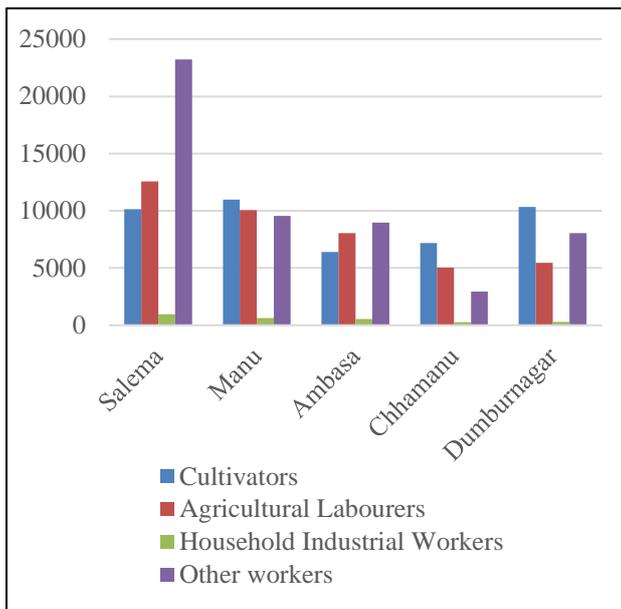


Fig-7: Classification of workers block wise.

Source: Census 2011

Note: *Cultivation does not include the plantation crops like – tea, coffee, rubber, coconut and betel-nuts (area). The workers engaged in plantation crops are recorded under “other workers”.

Agriculture Production

The region is an agricultural predominant area. Maximum percent of people are dependent on agriculture & plantation activities in the area. Practice of Jhum cultivation (shifting cultivation) continues in the district. People are also involved in cultivation of various vegetables and fruits whose total production accounts for 1,01,632 MT and 1,01,632 MT, respectively (Dhalai District, 2013).

For the purpose of storage of agricultural production, there is presence of cold storage 1000 MT at Ambassa block. Plantation crops like tea, coffee, rubber, etc. There are also issues related to the lack of awareness about skill development policies (Dhalai District, 2013).

Rubber Production

The district also accounts for various commercial crop production. Rubber Plantation is a predominant commercial cultivation. The total production area stands at 4740 hectares (Dhalai District, 2013).

Animal Husbandry

Animal Husbandry constitutes one of the major part of production in the district. The various types of animal products that are produced are meat, egg and milk production. Among these, the milk production accounts for the highest production, among others(Dhalai District, 2013).

Fisheries

Fish Farming in the region is another predominant activity that is being practiced throughout the entire district. The presence of rivers and many canals, provides a suitable environment for the purpose of fish farming. Under the fish production, the total fish production includes 9237.54 MT.

Specialized training is also being provided to the fish farmers for better production. Moreover, there are 234 self-help groups, who are actively involved in this farming(Dhalai District, 2013).

MSME

The district also is a major hub for many micro and small units. There are 2 micro units (9 lakhs investment) & 1 small units (54 lakhs investment). This sector has a total employment of 17 lakhs(MSME-Development Institute Chowmohani, Adviser, 2011).

Exports

The district also exports various other products apart from agricultural commodities. Plantation crops, handicraft items and agricultural crops are some of the important commodities that are being exported. Under traditional household industries, commodities like bamboo and wooden furniture, pottery are produced. The SHGs are also involved in the household industries for production and smooth export of various handicraft items(MSME-Development Institute Chowmohani, Adviser, 2011).

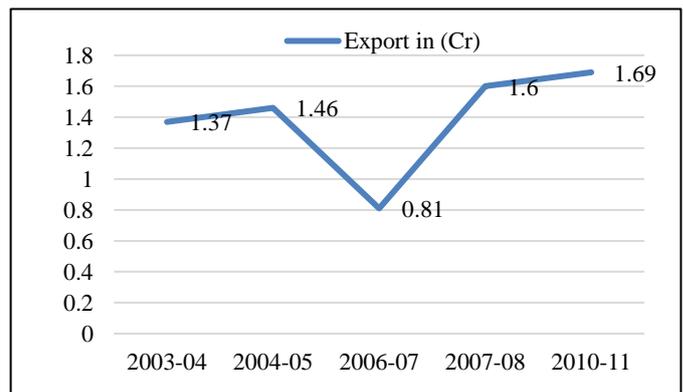


Fig-8: Exports from the district

Source: Dhalai District Profile

15. HOUSING

No. of Household Units

Salema block has the largest share of total households in the district with 26375 households, followed by Manu, Dumburnagar and Ambassa. Chhamanu has the least share with 6828 household units(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011a).

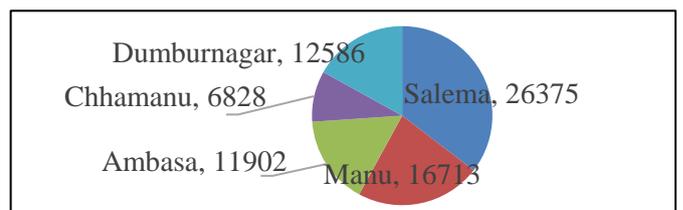


Fig-9: Household units distribution

Source: Census 2011

Type of Household

The housing scenario in the district is not in good condition. Maximum people lack Permanent housing structure. Salema block has the highest no. of permanent households, while Chhamanu with the least. In Semi-Permanent type of household, Salema again comes out at the top, with Chhamanu at the bottom. However, Dumburnagar holds the majority of Temporary households, while Chhamanu holds the least(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

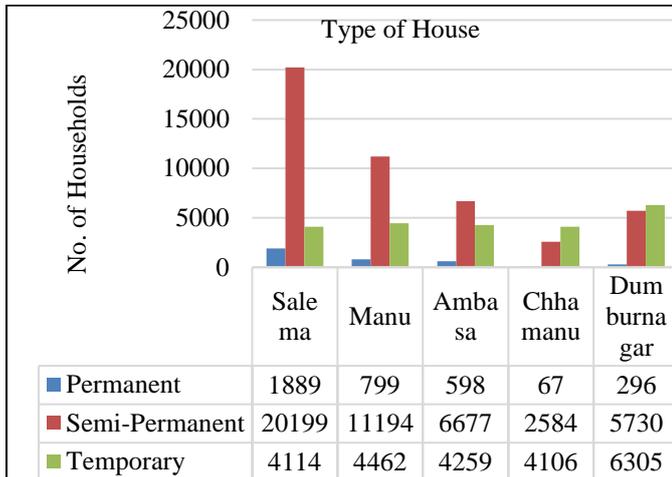


Fig-10: Types of House
Source: Census 2011

Source of Lighting at household level

Although policies are implemented for providing electricity to every household, yet still Kerosene, oil are being used in relatively large number of households. Salema has the highest share of villages with electricity access, while Chhamanu with the least. Other viable sources like solar are also being used, though mostly in Manu(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

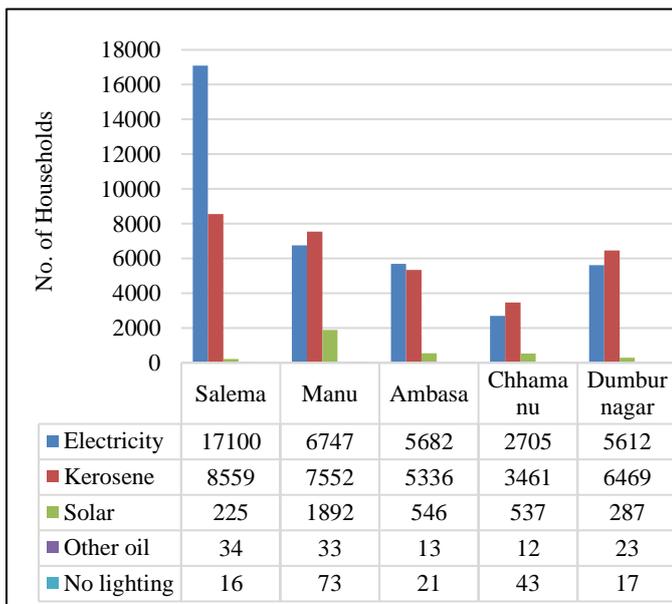


Fig-11: Source of lighting
Source: Census 2011

Sanitation

The district mostly lacks in the sanitation facilities in major number of blocks. Salema has the highest share of sanitation facilities while Dumburnagar does not have access to any Latrine service. Out of the total villages only 13 villages have community Toilets(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

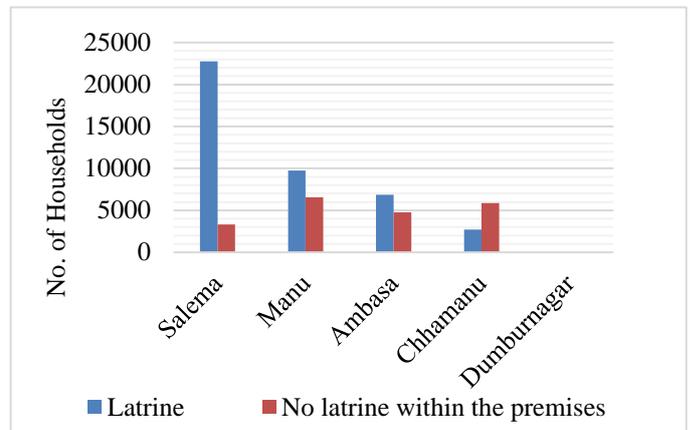


Fig-12: Sanitation status district wise
Source: Census 2011

Usage of fuel for cooking

The district is mostly rural dominated. Thus, inspite of policy implementation for improved cooking fuel facilities through LPG, most of the people are still dependent on various other materials for cooking. Maximum people are completely dependent on firewood for the purpose of cooking. Among others, people are also dependent on crop residue cow dung, kerosene, coal, etc. for cooking purposes(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

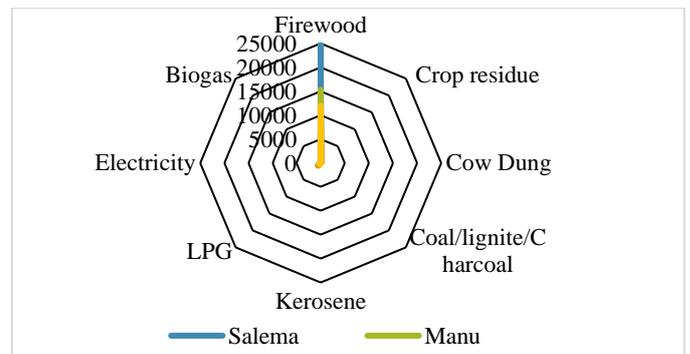


Fig-13: Type of fuel used for cooking
Source: Census 2011

Other Assets

The rural population mostly lacks various assets in terms of communication, banking, as well as transportation. Among the five blocks, Salema block has the highest number of households who have availed the banking facilities, followed by Manu and Ambasa. Least banking services is availed in the Dumburnagar block. For the purpose of communication, assets like landline, mobiles and computer are present with a very miniscule number of households. Apart from this, maximum number of households own personal bicycle, followed by scooter in the district(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

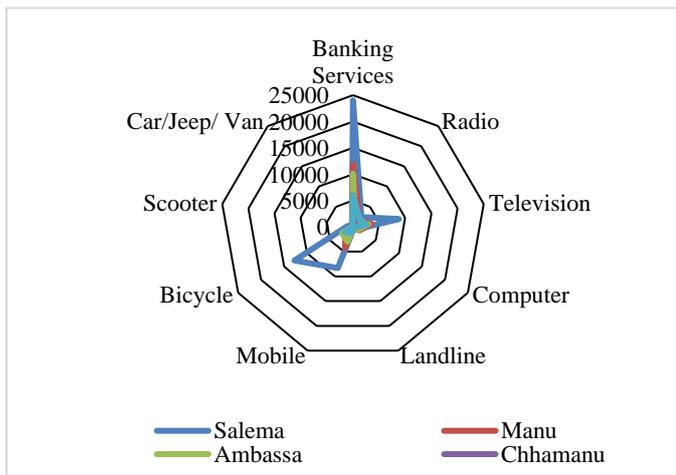


Fig-14: Banking and other assets
Source: Census 2011

16. PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Transport Services

Most of the villages in the district are still in backward position due to the non-accessibility to various transport networks. There are only 87 villages which are connected with pucca roads but still the condition of these roads is not in a good state due to non-maintenance. Also, the construction of pucca roads, still lacks in 62 villages out of 148 villages. Salema block has the highest number of pucca roads, with least in Chhamanu block. The public transportation system has a huge gap accounting for 77.03%, which needs to be fulfilled through policy interventions(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011a).

Water Supply

There is presence of different rivers like Dhalai, Khowai, Manu, Gomati. The people are majorly dependent upon tap water supply, well, spring, river, canal etc. Majority of the households are dependent on well for the purpose of water supply, followed by tap water and handpump. The tap water supply is maximum in the Salema block, followed by Ambasa and Dumburnagar. Some of the households also have the borewell facility for the purpose of water supply(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011a).

Table-4: Sources of water supply block wise

Block	Salema	Manu	Ambassa	Chhamanu	Dumburnagar
Total households	26082	16309	11600	6760	12409
Tap Water	3468	1678	2793	1116	2321
Well	12383	9833	5583	2935	5258
Handpump	2821	282	912	0	1416
Borewell	6888	1108	782	60	1422
Spring	264	1547	542	236	322
River/	100	1442	655	1351	1488

Canal					
Tank/ Pond	60	140	23	62	56

Source: Census 2011

Solid Waste Management

The Solid waste management in the district is not at a good state. Although, interventions through Swachh Bharat Abhiyan has brought a considerable change at the village level. Construction of household level toilet facilities in the district has increased but due to lack of maintenance, its condition is degrading(Dhalai District, 2013).

As of 2015, the solid waste initiative is taken by the district by only 9 GPs. Also, various awareness drive was created among school children and at the institutional level to bring about social change related to solid waste management(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

17. SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Education

The education facilities at the village level in the district has a great coverage, but still there are many villages which lack easy accessible education facility. Out of the total 148 villages, there are 2 villages which completely lacks any type of education facility(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

The children have to travel to distant location for the purpose of availing higher education. Apart from this, there are 32 villages having only 1 primary school & no middle school. There are 113 villages having only 1 primary school & 1 middle school. Also, there are 59 villages having only 1 middle school & 1 secondary school(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

Table-5: Educational Facilities

Block	Total Villages	Pre-Primary School	Primary School	Middle School	Secondary School	Senior Secondary School
Salema	44	8	43	40	24	8
Manu	22	6	22	21	13	6
Ambassa	35	5	34	21	12	6
Chhamanu	13	3	13	10	4	1
Dumburnagar	34	2	33	22	6	11

Source: Census 2011

Health

The provision of health facilities at the district has a huge gap at the village level. This gap stands at 39.19% out of the total medical facilities. Out of the total 148 villages, there are 59 villages which completely lack medical facilities. Salema block has the highest and a relatively better provision of medical facilities as compared to other blocks. Dumburnagar is the only block that has very least number of medical facilities(OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

Table-6: Health Facilities at the block level

Block	Salema	Manu	Ambassa	Chhama	Dumburnagar
Total Villages	44	22	35	13	34
CHC	1	1	0	0	0
PHC	3	5	2	3	2
PHSC	27	18	11	4	9
Maternity & child welfare Centre	2	2	2	0	6
T.B Clinic	0	1	1	0	0
Allopathy Hospital	1	2	1	1	0
Dispensary	17	9	9	4	3
Veterinary	7	2	3	1	3
Mobile health clinic	2	1	0	0	0
Family welfare Centre	2	5	1	0	6
No Medical Facility	14	2	17	6	20

Source: Census 2011

Other Facilities

Different facilities including the public distribution system, market facilities, library, post office and common service Centre are present sparsely in the blocks of Dhalai district. Apart from this, the bank facilities in the five blocks are also very much in use by its active beneficiaries. Although, the services are present but, we see a huge gap in some of the facilities. Many people had to travel long distance to avail the bank and post office facilities, resulting in a gap percentage of 91.22% and 66.22% for bank and post office respectively. Among the blocks, the Chhama block is having the least number of facilities as compared to other blocks (OPERATIONS & TRIPURA, 2011b).

18. DISASTER MANAGEMENT

The district comes under a disaster prone zone in the state. Various types of disaster frequently happen in the district. Mostly, flood and cyclone are very regular phenomenon in the

district. The most affected areas are the Ambassa and Longtharai valley in the district (District Magistrate Dhalai, 2011).

Types of Disaster

Flood and cyclone are the most frequent disaster that the district is met by, affecting several villages in the district. Manu block has witnessed some of the fire incidences in the market. The earthquake happened in 2017 has severely affected the district killing almost 50 people and destroying 6727 buildings. Landslides are also prominent in the district. Due to heavy rain, the landslides happened in 2017 caused severe destruction to the life and property in the Dhalai district (District Magistrate Dhalai, 2011).

Table-7: Disaster probability in the district

Sl. No	Type of Disasters	Time of Occurrence	Potential Impact	Vulnerable Areas
1	Flood	June - September	Crop, Human, Animal, Infrastructure loss	Entire District
2	Cyclone	May - December	Crop, Human, Animal, Infrastructure loss	Entire District
5	Earthquake	Jan - December	Crop, Human, Animal, Infrastructure loss	Entire District (zone 5)
6	Epidemics	June - September	Human & Animal loss	Entire District, Especially Malaria in Gandachara & LTV Sub-divisions
7	Land Slide	June - September	Human, Animal, Infrastructure loss	Entire District, Especially along Major Roads
8	Fire Incidence	December - April	Human, Animal, Houses	Entire District

Source: District disaster management plan- Dhalai 2016-2017

Matrix of past disasters in the district

Table-8: Disaster Matrix

Years	Flood	Cyclone	Fire incidence	Affected area
1962				Ambassa, Kamalpur
1984				Ambassa, Kamalpur
1991				Manu
1993				Chhama, Gandacherra

Years	Flood	Cyclone	Fire incidence	Affected area
1994				Chawmanu, Manu,
1997				Chhamanu, Gandacherra, Manu
1998				Chawmanu, Manu
1999				Ambassa, Longtharai valley, Chawmanu, Manu
2001				Ambassa, Longtharai valley, Chamanu, Manu,
2002				Chawmanu, Manu
2003				Gandacherra, Chawmanu, Manu,
2004				Ambassa, Longtharai valley, Ambassa
2009				Manu
2010				Gandacherra. Manu
2011				Kamalpur

Source: District disaster management plan- Dhalai 2016-2017

Disaster Response

The Dhalai district has a District Disaster Management Plan for the smooth and effective implementation of mitigation strategies in response to various disaster. The disaster management cycle inculcating the various steps of response, recovery, prevention, mitigation and preparedness has been followed in the plan. For the smooth administration, a specific incident response system has been provided in the plan that includes the operation, planning as well as logistic section.

Other strategies

The district includes various disaster shelters which are used at the time of disaster for people’s safety. As per the DDMP, there are total 71 disaster shelters present in the district. Gandacherra (11), Kamalpur (20), Ambassa (20), & Longtherai Valley (20). There are 25 active NGOs working for disaster mitigation and awareness purpose. For ensuring, complete food security at the time of disaster, there is presence of 8 PDS food godowns. Apart from all this, various other infrastructure and awareness related provisions have also been taken in the district.

19. GOVERNMENT POLICIES

MGNREGA(Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act,2005)

The objective is “enhancing livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year, to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work”. At the district level there are a considerable number of people who are working under this scheme(India, 2005).

Table-9: MGNREGA Statistics

MNREGA Statistics	
No. of job card Issued	135415
No. of registered active ST workers	86909
No. of registered active SC workers	21638
No. of Women Active Workers	65571

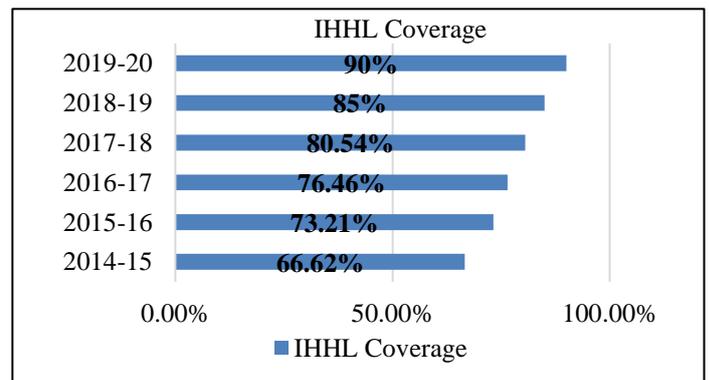
Source: MGNREGA Dashboard, India

SWM-G (Swachh Bharat Abhiyan – Grameen, 2014)

The objective is to bring improvement in cleanliness, hygiene and the general quality of life in rural areas. Under this programme, there is an impressive number of constructions of integrated household latrine services.

As per the 2019 data, the integrated household latrine service accounts for almost 90% of coverage. Also, all the villages in the district has been declared open defecation free under this scheme(India, 2014).

Fig-15: IHHL Coverage Statistics

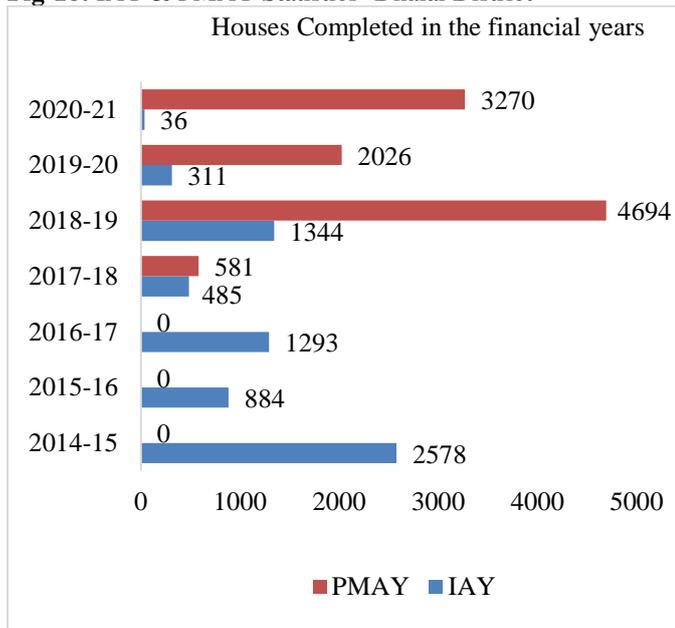


Source: MNREGA Dashboard, India

PMAY-G (Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Grameen, 2015)

The erstwhile scheme of IAY has been restructured into Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) with effect from 1st April 2016 and is in line with the Government’s commitment of providing “Housing for All by 2022”. PMAY-G aims at providing a pucca house, with basic amenities, to all houseless households and those households living in kutcha and dilapidated house, by 2022. At the district level, there has been a significant growth in the construction of permanent houses under this scheme(India, 2015)

Fig-16: IAY & PMAY Statistics- Dhalai District



Source: PMAY-Gramin Dashboard, India

Antyodaya Anna Yojana, 2000

In order to make TPDS more focused and targeted towards this category of population, the "Antyodaya Anna Yojana" (AAY) was launched for providing assistance one crore poorest of the poor families. The district accounts for highest number of beneficiaries under this scheme, under both below poverty line and above poverty line category.

Table-10: Antyodaya Anna Yojana Statistics- Dhalai district

Parameters		Particulars
Number of fair price shops		208
Number of Ration Card Holders	BPL	53352
	APL	28652
	ANTODAYA	16374
	TOTAL	98378

Source: PMAY-Gramin Dashboard, India

PMUJ (Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, 2016)

The objective of this scheme is mainly women centered and also accounts to empower women, to provide healthy cooking fuel and to prevent health hazards due to the usage of fossil fuel. The total connections released as of 2020 in the state is around 272,323 connections(India, 2016).

PMGSY (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, 2000)

The primary objective of the PMGSY is to provide connectivity by way of an all-weather road to the eligible unconnected habitations in the rural areas. There has been a significant construction of pucca roads at the village level done in the subsequent years. Out of the total 832.79 km sanctioned road length a total of 657.59km of road construction has been completed(India, 2000).

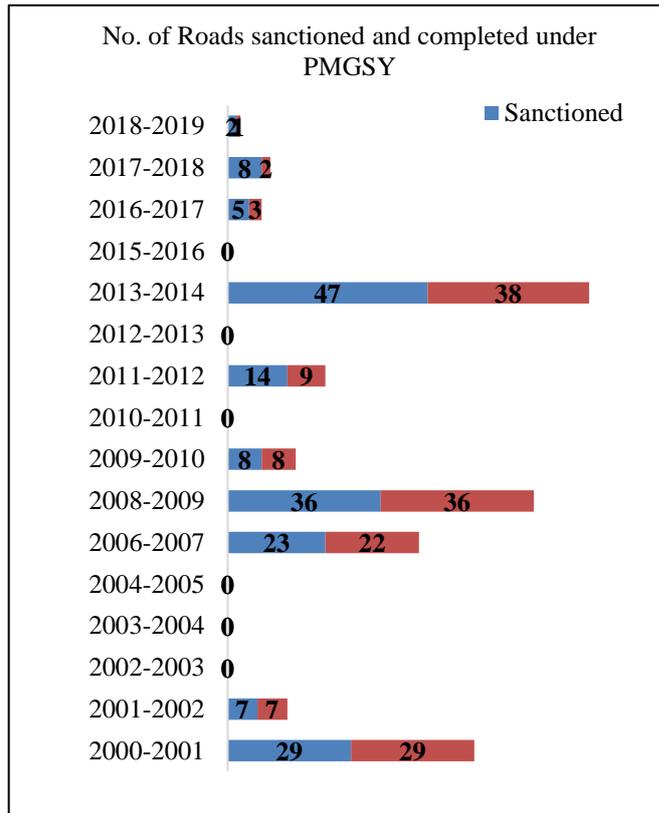


Fig-17: PMGSY statistics- Dhalai district

Source: PMGSY/state dashboard India

National Social Assistance Programme, 1995

To provide social assistance benefits to poor households in the case of old age, death of the breadwinner and maternity. Total number of beneficiaries in the district is 17470(India, 1995).

JSY (Janani Suraksha Yojana, 2005)

Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) is a safe motherhood intervention under the National Health Mission. It is being implemented with the objective of reducing maternal and neonatal mortality by promoting institutional delivery among poor pregnant women.

As the medical facilities at the village level is relatively low, so is in the case of this scheme, the number of beneficiaries under this scheme is not impressive.

Table-11: Janani Suraksha Yojana statistics

Particulars	No. of Beneficiaries
JSY inst. Beneficiary	2704
Inst. delivery	4524
Home delivery	746
Free diagnostics	741
Free drugs	813
Free blood	12

Source: Dhalai district of Tripura Civil Service Probationers

E- Governance

The Tripura government has come up with a digital platform ‘Jagrut Tripura’ to help people get benefits from various schemes of the Centre and the state government. At least 102 schemes of various departments of both governments are available on the platform (Tripura, 2021).

20. SWOT ANALYSIS



Fig-18: SWOT Analysis
Source: Author’s Compilation

21. Conclusion

The district rural population mostly lacks in the infrastructure part both in terms of physical and social infrastructure. For the overall development of the district issues related to housing, transport and other infrastructures need to be investigated through various plans and policy interventions. These policies will help in funding various development activities related to infrastructure. Many central level as well as the state level policies have been launched for the purpose of uplifting the rural development scenario in the country. Proper implementation and awareness about specific policies will augment the growth scenario in the rural areas.

Table-12: Recommendations of Schemes

Recommendations	
Issues	Policy interventions
Housing:	
Presence of very a smaller number of permanent houses in the rural areas.	Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana
Lack of LPG connections	Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana
Transport:	
Absence of pucca road (all weather road in 61 villages	Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana
Many villages lack public transport facilities.	Pradhan Mantri Gram Parivahan Yojana
Economy:	
• Decline in the household	National Rural

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> industries Lack of awareness about new agricultural methods & skill development 	livelihood Mission, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana
Physical Infrastructure:	
Power	
Lack of electricity coverage in many households in the rural areas	Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana
Sanitation & Solid waste management	
Construction and maintenance of toilets in the villages.	Swachh Bharat Abhiyan-Gramin
Social Infrastructure:	
Education	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of school infrastructure Absence of educational facility in 2 villages. 	Sarva Sikshya Abhiyan Rastriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan
Health	
Lack of medical facilities in 59 villages	National Rural Health Mission

Source: Author’s Compilation

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BIOGRAPHIES



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