



## Chapter – IX

### DEVELOPMENT AND CHANGE

This chapter attempts to document the changes occurring in rural Bihar during last two decades or so. We have done this only for 12 villages. The change has been analysed at two levels--household level and village level. Some results of the earlier ILO-ANSISS have been used to compare with the findings of the present survey.

#### **Change at the Household Level**

At the premise we want to state that the data available for present survey till date in processed form is the short questionnaire from the first round. So several tables enumerated in ILO-ANSISS report cannot be compared. When the second and third round data are available in processed form we will be in a position to compare the change in more detail.

The analysis on change at household level is compared for twelve census villages since household schedules of previous survey covered these villages only. The general format that will be followed in this section is that we will first analyse the tables of present survey and then compare their changes from previous survey.

#### *Social Composition*

We begin with interaction among caste, class and land. It is analysed through three tables - caste by class, land ownership by class and land ownership by caste.

**Table 9.1** gives breakdown of caste by class. It can be seen that forward castes (Brahmin + Kayastha and Bhumi-har + Rajput) mainly belong to class of big peasants and landlords whereas scheduled castes and tribes are mainly agricultural labourers. The diverse caste group 'backward' are spread across different class groups. But each subgroup tends to concentrate in few broad class groups. Three-fourth of backward caste I are agricultural labourer and two-third of Kurmi belong to middle peasants to landlord category. Yadav, Koiri and other backward caste II are widely distributed. But other backward caste II constitutes a higher proportion of non-agriculturists. Like backward

caste I, Muslims are also concentrated in agricultural labourer category with large proportion among non-attached agricultural labourers.

Viewing it from another angle, it can be seen that two-third of big peasants and landlords belong to forward castes whereas two-third of agricultural labourers belong to backward caste I and scheduled caste and tribe. The inter-relation of caste and class seems to be quite strong but not perfect in the sense that except for attached labour categories in which Bhumihar etc. and backward caste like Yadav, Koiri and Kurmi are absent, in rest of the cases all castes are present in all categories.

Some change in caste-class interrelation can also be observed (see table 9.1 and **table 9.1p**). First, proletarianisation of poor-middle peasants and a huge fall in cultivating attached labour can be observed leading to swelling of the rank of non-attached cultivating agricultural labour. The proletarianisation of poor-middle peasants is sharper in case of backward caste II including Yadav, Koiri and Kurmi. There is also a shift away from poor-middle peasants to middle peasants as well. Secondly, some shift has also been observed from big peasants to middle peasants category particularly pronounced in case of Kurmi caste. Conversely, in case of Bhumihar etc. some shift has been observed from big peasants to landlords. Lastly, in case of non-agriculturist class there has been substantial increase in forward caste counteracted by substantial fall in case of other backward caste II.

**Table 9.2** presents land ownership by class, using total land owned by household in different size groups. The relationship between class and land ownership is sufficiently strong. Agricultural labourer owning land is mostly concentrated up to '1 acre' land size category, particularly true for attached labour category. Big peasants tend to own more land than middle peasants who in turn tend to own more land than poor-middle peasants do. Landlords, relatively well spread out across larger landsize groups, are scattered over all size groups and that is also true for middle peasant and big peasants' category. It is leading to a triangular pattern in the data. It can be seen that more than 90 percent of non-cultivating agricultural labourers and non-agriculturist class own no land. But landlessness is spread across all classes and further nearly one-third of all peasants from poor to big and landlords are found in land size group 1 to 2.5 acres. So clear difference can be found in the extreme but in the middle group the relationship is quite blurred.

Certain changes in land ownership-class relationship can be observed (comparing table 9.2 and **table 9.2P**). First, in case of land-holding, there is a swelling of land ownership in '1.0-2.5' acre size group accompanied by absolute fall in land ownership in virtually all higher size groups except for '2.5-5.0' acre category which shows marginal rise in number of households in this category. Second, substantial rise has been observed in the incidence of hiring in labour leading to shift from poor-middle peasants to middle peasants in all landholding category, even for households who are not owning any land but leasing in land. Last, a marginal shift from marginal landholding '0-1.0 acre' size group to landless can also be observed.

**Table 9.3** presents caste-land relationship. It shows that four-fifth of other backward caste II, scheduled caste and Muslims are either landless or in marginal landholding groups. Conversely, the forward castes constituting one-fifth of all households constitutes more than 60 percent of all households in landsize group '2.5-5.0 acre' and above. Particularly Brahmin etc. is well represented in larger holding. Kurmi are relatively strong in intermediate landholding size groups. If one leaves out largest landsize group then only one cell is empty so substantial independent variation exist. Therefore, relationship between caste and landholding is relatively more diffused.

The changes which has been observed are the following: First, in larger landholding sizes Brahmin etc. continues to dominate over Bhumihar etc. Second, among backward castes, Kurmi seems to have improved their landholding pattern particularly visible in '10.0-20.0 acre' landsize group. Third, Muslims seems to be the major losers in inter-temporal land ownership distribution particularly in '5.0-10.0 acre' land size group. Other caste that has been major loser is Bhumihar etc, particularly in highest land-owning size groups. Fourth, there is absolute fall in number of households in landsize groups higher than '5.0-10.0 acre' size group.

**Table 9.4** shows the household size and structure across district, detailed class and migration status. The household size shows quite a variation across district without any definite pattern. Female headed households are in larger proportion in two undeveloped districts of North Bihar of Purnea and Madhubani. However, across different classes the land-owning classes of middle peasants, big peasants and landlord classes show a large family size, large number of men and lesser proportion of children

than the average of all classes. Conversely, non-cultivating agricultural labourer family, both attached and casual, have smallest family size, larger proportion of children, lowest age of household heads reflecting that due to their lower possession of property they are more prone to nuclear family structure. Similar characteristics can be observed for non-agricultural households. But non-cultivating casual wage labourers and non-agriculturist classes also exhibit much higher proportion of households with female head reflecting their precarious economic position as well.

By out-migration status, it can be seen that families with out-migrants have larger family size, much larger number of men, higher proportion of children and higher age of head of households than non-migrant family. It shows that families with larger family size and larger number of adult males are in better position to out-migrate.

The change from previous survey is as follows (see tables 9.4 and 9.4P):

First, in earlier survey, households with migrants showed a deficit of men, a higher percentage of children and a relatively old household head. The reason given for deficit of men was due to migration -- out-migrants were not counted as household members. Whereas in recent survey, household with migrants show a surplus of men but with higher proportion of children and a relatively older household head.

Second, the gap among different classes in household size has got reduced since last survey with landed class of big and middle peasant experiencing fall in household size on one side and non-cultivating agricultural casual labour and non-agricultural class experiencing rise in average household size.

Third, compared to previous survey, household size and the number of women per household has fallen but mean number of men and proportion of children have gone up along with fall in age of household head and the proportion of female headed households.

**Table 9.5** on number of outmigrant for work by district and class shows that outmigration is unevenly distributed across district – no clear picture in terms of north-south divide or developed or underdeveloped districts. But, first three districts reports far higher levels of outmigrant than lower three districts. In terms of class structure there is some dispersion across different classes but interestingly landlord class reports highest number of outmigrant per households followed by non-agriculturist class. However, proportion of households reporting outmigrant are almost the same for landlord and non-

agriculturist classes both reporting little over half of the households. It shows number of outmigrant per landlord family is far higher than that of non-agriculturist class. The work undertaken by migrants from different classes would not be similar.

The changes from previous survey observed are as follows (see table 5 and 5P): First, compared to 1981-82 mean number of migrants per household and proportion of households having at least one migrant have risen in all six districts covered under the study. It has risen from 0.26 to 0.47 in case of mean number of migrants per households and from 0.18 to 0.36 in case of proportion of households having at least one migrant. This is in spite of the fact that average household size has fallen as was seen in an earlier table. Second, except for Nalanda district, all other high migrant districts like Gaya, Gopalganj and Madhubani shows substantial rise in out-migration in terms of both these characteristics. Low outmigrant district Purnea shows substantial rise in out-migration and so much so that it has overtaken Nalanda district in both these characteristics. Last, across classes, landlord and non-agriculturist households have exhibited largest increase in out-migration. In contrast, big peasant households show least rise in rate of out-migration.

#### *Employment and Labour Market*

In this section we could present only one table. Employment data in more detail is covered in second round of present survey. **Table 9.6** presents labour supply by caste. It shows labour supply by caste are higher in case of scheduled caste and backward caste I households for both male and female. Hardly one-tenth of upper caste women is involved in outside work and their male counterpart also reports the lowest. Backward caste II and upper caste males are largely cultivators whereas in case of backward caste I, scheduled caste and scheduled tribes and Muslims both males and females are largely wage labourers.

In comparison to earlier survey (see **tables 9.6 and 9.6P**) there is not much variation in labour supply scenario by caste/religion. In case of females, upper caste participation continues to be the lowest. The highest and second highest work participation rate of females are that of scheduled caste and backward caste I as before.

Females of the above mentioned caste groups continue to be involved in wage labour more than any other castes. But participation of wage labour by Muslim female shows substantial rise. Male wage labour continues to be mainly scheduled caste and backward caste I. Tradition continues to debar females of upper caste away from wage labour.

### *Agrarian Relation*

It can be seen from **table 9.7** that almost half of all households do not own any land. Two-third of total cultivating households own only one-eighth of land (up to 2 acres). The land distribution is really skewed in rural Bihar. However, due to leasing in little more proportion of households cultivate land i.e. nearly 56 per cent (can be seen from table 8 showing cultivating by class). Two-fifth of casual agricultural labour and landlords and two-third of attached labour are not cultivating land.

The change in last two decades shows the following (see **tables 9.7,9.8, 9.7P and 9.8P**):

First, the lopsided distribution of cultivated land still continues. However, extent of landless has gone up (from 38.4 to 49.3 per cent of all households). Percentage of non-cultivation households shows even steeper increase from 28.3 per cent to 44.3 per cent.

Second, the petty production continues to be the dominant form. Among agriculturist 66.1 per cent cultivate only 20.4 per cent of land belonging to land size classes up to 2 acres whereas in earlier survey 54 per cent households cultivating 16 per cent of land earlier. The bulk of them are still drawn from the direct producers households (agricultural labourer and poor-middle peasant households) that constitute 61.5 per cent of households (table 8) as opposed to earlier survey figure of 52.1 per cent.

Third, the incidence of leasing in land has fallen substantially (from 38.9 per cent of households to 26.2 per cent of households). Middle peasant households continue to lease in most followed by agricultural labour tied.

Fourth, percentage of households cultivating up to 2 acre has marginally fallen (38 per cent in present survey). But across classes substantial rise has been observed in proportion of landlords cultivation up to 2 acres (from 23 per cent to 49 per cent) and big peasants (from 20 per cent to 39 per cent) along with some fall in the category of

agricultural labourer not tied and landlord categories. Interestingly, the proportion of absentee landlords has doubled in the intervening period (from 21 to 42 percent).

**Table 9.9** gives percentage of cultivated land leased in by different classes under various leased in systems. 28.3 percent of total cultivated level is under leased in system, out of which more than three-fourth is under crop-sharing system and almost the rest are under fixed rent system. Agricultural labourers mostly cultivate on leased in land. Two-third and three-fourth of total cultivated land of agricultural labourer tied and not tied respectively are under leased in system. The proportion of leased in land falls substantially as one moves in the category of peasants.

The change that has been observed is the following (see **tables 9.9 and 9.9P**):

First, the importance of leased in land in total cultivated land has been reduced with a fall from 41.2 percent of total cultivated land to 28.3 percent in recent survey. Second, sharecropping system in leased in land has become even more prominent. In recent survey, 22.3 percent of cultivated land is on sharecropping basis (compared to earlier survey figure of 31.4 percent). It has increased at the cost of leasing in land in lieu of labour, the latter practice has almost vanished. It shows that even attached labour has to give part of the produce of the land he gets as attached labour. But the proportion of leased in land under fixed rent system has remained the same. Therefore, the important source of appropriation of surplus from direct producers continues to be sharecropping. Third, the proportion of leased in land in total cultivated land has marginally gone up for agricultural labouring class whereas for peasant classed it has fallen, most pronounced for the category of middle peasants.

**Table 9.10** presents the average area of land operated by different categories of household. The distribution is given village, class and castewise. Average operated landholding is 1.3 acre per household. There is no regionwise pattern in operated land. Madhubani district had lowest operated land per household and that of Rohtas is the highest. Villagewise Mohiuddinpur of Nalanda district has lowest average land per household and that of Amarhi in Rohtas has the highest. Backward Purnea has higher land per household than relatively prosperous Nalanda.

Classwise, there is a steady improvement in per household operated land with class position up to big peasants. Landlords reports only marginally higher operated land

per household than poor middle peasants do. Interestingly, tied agricultural labourer who gets land from the employer has lower land per household than the untied agricultural labour showing much reduction in importance of operated land from this source alone. Average operated land of big peasants household is more than double that of landlord reflecting that huge proportions of landlords are virtually non-cultivating.

Castewise, Kurmi caste has highest average operated landholding followed by Brahmin etc. and Yadav. Operated average landholding of Bhumihaar is even lower than Yadav. Expectedly, scheduled caste has lowest operated land holding.

The change from earlier survey as follows (see **tables 9.10 and 9.10P**):

First, there is a substantial fall in the average cultivated land per household as a whole (a reduction of about 50 percent). Second, Rohtas continues to be the district with highest cultivated land per household (containing villages namely Samhutibuzurg and Amarhi) followed by Purnea. Third, the phenomenon of steady rise in operated land with class position still continues. But, unlike in past survey, the class of agricultural labour, not tied has more operated land per household than that of agricultural labour, tied. However, average operated landholding of the landlord households has showed substantial fall and that of classes up to middle peasants has shown consistent increase.

Last, distribution of cultivated land by caste shows some changes. Kurmi households have highest average operated land followed by Brahmin+Kayastha and Bhumihaar+Rajput. In earlier survey, Bhumihaar etc. had highest average landholding, followed by Brahmin etc. and Kurmi. Now, Bhumihaar etc. has lower average operated landholding than even Yadav. For other caste groups, ranking has not changed much. Average operated land holding of Muslims also has fallen substantially.

**Table 9.11** gives land loss and gain by district. The reported loss and gain of land are 30.2 percent and 7.8 percent respectively in last ten years. The gain and loss do not balance out at all. The huge deficit in land gained over land loss seems to be the consequence of understatement and division of landholding in next generation. In the rate of land loss there is sharp regional variation. The backward district of Madhubani reports highest loss followed by villages of Nalanda and Purnea. In general villages reporting higher loss of land also reports higher gain of land.

The changes observed (see **tables 9.11 and 9.11P**) from earlier survey are as follows:

First, the period of reference in previous survey was five years in place of ten-year reference period in this survey. Considering the difference in reference period reported gain of land is much lower and reported loss of land is much higher than earlier survey. Even the absolute figure of mean loss of 0.42 acre (much higher) and mean gain of 0.08 acre (somewhat smaller) than that of previous survey.

Second, the regional variation in reported loss and gain of land also existed in previous survey. Even the pattern of regional variation is not very different from earlier survey. However, virtual land gain and no land loss in Paharpur Dayal village of Madhubani and virtual land loss and negligible land gain in Belabadan village of Purnea reported in earlier survey is no more observed.

**Table 9.12** presents percentage land loss and gain by land owned. Unlike in earlier survey (**table 9.12P**), which reported loss of land up to 1 acre category, in recent survey this marginal category is neither losing nor gaining in the average. However, underreporting of gain in relatively larger size group seems to have worsened over the years making it virtually difficult to compare land loss or gain in relation to earlier survey.

**Table 9.13** presents land loss and gain by class. It will be interesting to examine whether the fairly substantial transfers of land that are occurring among large land owning groups are between classes of different economic dynamism. The data show that in earlier survey (see **table 9.13P**) poor-middle peasant and middle peasant classes were relatively gaining land. But, in the present survey, all classes have reported loss. But, relatively loss is least in middle peasants followed by agricultural labour, not tied.

The transactions involving agricultural labour tied and non-agriculturist classes are small, much larger groups are landlords and big peasants – especially landlords. These two classes are losing much more than they are gaining. It is very similar to earlier survey as well.

**Table 9.14** gives land loss and gain by caste. The caste breakdown shows somewhat different picture. Except scheduled caste, all other caste groups have reportedly lost much more than they have gained. In earlier survey (table 14p) no caste

was net gainer of land. In present survey, the large landholding castes of forwards and Kurmi have reportedly lost the most. In present survey Bhumihar etc. has reported largest loss of land unlike that of Brahmin etc. in earlier survey.

### **Assets and Indebtedness**

**Table 9.15** presents indebtedness by class. It shows that 35.5 percent of all households are indebted from traditional sources. The debt from this source is far higher of attached agricultural labourer and average level of debt from this source is also highest than all other classes. For big peasants and landlord class organised sector is a major source of loan.

Below we present the change that occurred between these two surveys (see tables **9.15 and 9.15P**):

First, debt from traditional sources has become less important compared to earlier survey. The percentage of households indebted from traditional sources has fallen from 57.1 percent to 35.5 percent in recent survey. Second, the class of agricultural labour not tied, poor middle peasants and middle peasants and non-agriculturist classes exhibit substantial fall in proportion of households indebted from traditional sources. But for agricultural labourer tied it has marginally fallen. Third, other sources (friends, relatives) have become an important source of loan, most important being for poor peasants. Fourth, the landlord class has been able to increase their loan form organised sector overtaking even big peasants.

**Table 9.16** presents incidence of indebtedness of casual and attached labourer from employer. Casual labour does not report any loan taken from employer whereas seven-tenth of all attached labourers reports taking loan from employer. Interest rate charged by employer varies substantially but more than half of the attached labourer gets loans at exorbitant rate of interest of 48 to 72 percent per annum.

The change that is observed (see **table 9.16 and 9.16P**) is the following: First, more than 90 percent of casual labour reported loan taken from employer in earlier survey do not report any loan taken from employer in present survey whereas as proportion of attached labour reporting loan from this source has only marginally decreased. Second, the percentage of attached labour reporting loan at no interest rate and

at exorbitant interest rate both have increased substantially at the cost of loan at moderate rate of interest. Now one-fifth of casual labour reports interest rate charged as from 72 percent to 120 percent where in last survey there was no report of interest charged at this rate.

**Table 9.17** presents caste by class as explained earlier but the number of caste groups has been reduced in this table. We will restrict ourselves in explaining the change between the surveys (see **9.tables 17 and 9.17P**) only.

First, the caste-class composition shows only marginal change from earlier survey. Upper castes Hindus still constitute the top cultivating classes, the lower middle caste (Backward Caste I) and scheduled caste still belong essentially to the direct producer category. The upper-middle caste Hindus (i.e. the backward caste II, Yadav, Koiri and Kurmi) continue to be essentially the middle peasants and many of them are employers as well. Large proportion of this category still belongs to the poor-middle peasantry and does not hire in any labour. Quite a few of them continue to be landlords and big peasants. However, they no longer dominate non-agricultural category, it is now dominated by upper caste Hindus.

Second, the bulk of agricultural labourers are still drawn from scheduled caste and backward caste I but Muslims have joined in large number in this category. The upper caste Hindus continue to be in employer category.

**Table 9.18** presents average debt per household by villages. As a whole, traditional debt is most important followed by modern debt. Relatives' debt is least important. But in three villages out of twelve this source has become more important than either modern or traditional debt.

The average interest rate charged on traditional debt, taken all villages together, is lower than that of relatives' debt. It seems either there is some misreporting or the relatives are turning into small-time professional moneylenders. Access to modern debt is highest in Rohtas district of South Bihar and Gopalganj district of North Bihar.

The changes observed (see **tables 18 and 18P**) between two surveys are as follows:

Even after two decades, traditional debt continues to be more important than modern debt. However, relatives' debt, which was almost negligible, has become quite important although it is higher than modern debt only in Chandkura village of Nalanda district. Villages in North and Northeast Bihar that had poor access to institutional loan did not improve their situation. Average rate of interest on traditional debt was higher in previous survey but in this survey interest on relatives' debt, as a whole, is highest.

**Table 9.19** presents debt by land cultivated and lands owned. The amount of traditional debt and rate of interest charged thereon do not vary much across land size groups although highest size group shows high level of traditional debt and higher interest incurred thereon. The relatives' debt is an important source of debt. Size of owned and cultivated land has a strong positive relation with quantum of relatives' debt and negative relationship with rate of interest charged being more pronounced in case of cultivated land. The interest that charged on relatives' debt is higher for landsize group up to 2 acres.

The change observed (see **tables 9.19 and 9.19P**) is as follows:

First, there was some indication in earlier survey that smallest cultivators pay higher interest rates on modern debts but in present survey there is hardly any difference in interest rates on debts from modern sources.

Second, land remains a powerful criterion in explaining modern debt. But modern debt continues to be closely associated with land owned than with land cultivated although the patterns remain quite strong in both cases.

Third, modern debt of land owned/cultivated of size class 10 acres or more in magnitude is several times larger than next smaller size class. It seems that between these two survey periods the highest land size class has cornered huge proportion of modern debt.

**Table 9.20** presents proportion of households availing modern and traditional debt and average amount by class, land ownership and caste.

Percentage of households availing modern debt and average amount of modern debt shows continuous increase as one moves up by class and land-ownership ladder. For traditional debt, the percentage of household indebted and amount of traditional debt shows decrease and increase respectively up the class and land ownership ladder.

Particularly for land ownership class of 10 or more acres mean amount of modern and traditional debt show huge quantum increase from next smaller landsize group.

Castewise, in terms of modern debt, the forward castes are most indebted and scheduled castes and Muslims are least indebted. But in case of traditional debt, schedule tribes and Muslims are most indebted but Kurmi caste is least indebted. Other intermediary castes fall in between. In recent survey Brahmin etc. has reported far higher level of modern debt than all other castes. Interestingly, Muslims have reported second highest level of modern debt.

The changes observed from last survey are presented (see **tables 9.20 and 9.20P**) below:

First, the proportion of indebted households (both modern and traditional) classified by class, land ownership and caste show substantial decline since previous survey. But agricultural labourer tied, still reports far higher incidence of traditional debt.

Second, unlike in earlier survey, in the present survey the mean amount of modern and traditional debt by class, land ownership and caste vary far more. The variation in quantum of modern and traditional debt is far sharper and clearer in recent survey than in earlier one. Particularly mean amount of modern debt of non-agricultural households and category of land ownership with 10 or more acres of land are relatively far higher in recent survey.

**Table 9.21** presents proportion of modern debt used for capital investment and agricultural operation by village, class, land ownership and caste.

The changes observed (see **tables 9.21 and 9.21P**) are as follows:

First, unlike in last survey, a large portion of households is reportedly using it for capital investment and agricultural operations. Second, unlike Amarhi village of Rohtas in last survey, Chandkura village of Nalanda district shows use of highest proportion of modern debt in capital investment. Classwise, non-agriculturist continues to be investing heavily in capital investment – perhaps in household enterprises. However, in present survey agricultural labour not tied uses almost half of modern debt in capital investment.

Third, the tendency to use loans for capital investment that steadily increased with land ownership in last survey is not observed in present survey.

Fourth, castewise, in earlier survey landed castes had utilised modern debt more in capital investment but in recent survey scheduled caste reports highest proportion of use of modern debt in capital investment. It has arisen probably because they report vary low investment in agricultural operation.

Fifth, the use of modern debt in capital investment have substantially gone up but still it is somewhat used more for agricultural operation. The advanced village of Amarhi of Rohtas district shows highest use of modern debt in agricultural operation unlike that of Paharpur Dayal of Gopalganj district in last survey.

Sixth, from poor-middle peasants to landlord, the use of modern debt in agricultural operation is more than half and there continues to be strong positive association with land ownership.

Last, castewise, no major change is observed. Kurmi and Koeri are still ahead with larger proportion of investment in agricultural operations followed by upper castes.

**Table 9.22 and 9.22P** presents mean use of traditional debt in current and previous survey.

First, regarding use of traditional debt, it can be seen that traditional loans are overwhelmingly used for non-productive purposes. The use of it in non-productive purpose has gone up in present survey.

Second, some changes in pattern of uses for non-productive purposes can be observed. Earlier, it was mostly used for consumption, followed by exceptional social expenditure and health expenditure. Now, the highest use is accounted by health expenditure followed by exceptional social expenditure and current consumption. Percentage of households using traditional loan for consumption has fallen by half. It reflects some enhancement in the economic status of the poor.

Last, but mean amount used for exceptional social expenditure still is the highest. Use of traditional loans for agricultural operation is also greatly reduced. It seem that most of the requirement of agricultural operation is now met by modern sources.

**Table 9.23** presents the assets per capita for each caste. In assets the land value is excluded. Kurmi and upper caste households are richest caste in rural Bihar. Even the per capita cultivable land is far higher than other castes. Per capita assets of above-mentioned caste groups constituting nearly one-fifth of all households, are more than three times of

the average assets per capita. Backward caste I is the poorest with scheduled caste and Muslims are marginally better. As such, 60 percent of households are utterly poor and in assets terms are highly polarised. As expected, per capita value of cattle assets of Yadav is highest closely followed by upper castes.

The change in assets by caste are enumerated below:

First, upper castes along with Kurmi caste continue to be the richest group. But scheduled caste that was poorest in terms of per capita asset is replaced by backward caste I. One reason could be land asset is not included in calculation of value of assets in recent survey. Second, among middle castes, per capita cultivable land for Kurmi have gone up even where as a whole per capita cultivable land has fallen by half – intermediate castes like Koiri and Yadav per capita assets have relatively improved particularly Yadav has gained significantly in per capita value of cattle stock.

As a whole, the caste and class identities continue to go together in plains of rural Bihar. In nutshell, the clash of interest between employer and employee will get reflected in scheduled caste and backward caste I and to a certain extent Muslims on one side and the upper castes and to a certain extent, backward caste II like Kurmi, Koiri and Yadav on the other hand.

To sum up, interrelation between class and caste continue to be quite strong. It remains relatively weak between class and land ownership and between caste and land ownership. A high fall in cultivating attached labour is observed leading to swelling of ranks of non-attached cultivating agricultural labour. Class and land ownership pattern shows a swelling land ownership in '1.0-2.5 acre' landsize group accompanied by virtually absolute fall in land ownership in high land size categories seemingly due to division of land in next generation. The caste by land ownership pattern show that Kurmi caste seems to have improved their land ownership pattern particularly in '10.0-20.0 acre' landsize group with Muslims being major losers in inter-temporal land ownership changes.

Migrant status also shows certain changes. In earlier survey, migration mostly took place in households with lesser number of males and more proportion of children but now households with more number of men, more proportion of children migrate showing migration of surplus labour. Between the intervening periods of two surveys, the

number of migrants per households and proportion of households having migrants have gone up substantially in all six districts particularly in most backward Purnea district. Classwise both landlord and non-agricultural households has exhibited maximum rise in migration. But work undertaken by migrants from different classes would not be similar.

Labour supply by caste has not changed much except for huge increase in Muslim women wage labour necessitated by their fall in their economic status. Tradition continues to debar females of forward castes away from wage labour.

Agrarian relation shows some changes. Landless households show substantial rise (from 38.4 to 49.3 percent in current survey) and so also proportion of non-cultivating households. Petty production continues to be dominant form but leasing in land phenomenon has considerably diminished showing increased incidence of direct cultivation. But proportion of absentee landlords has almost doubled. Changes are also observed in leasing in pattern with rise in sharecropping system at the cost of land leased in lieu of labour for attached labour households.

Due to population pressure and lack of alternative employment, average cultivated land per household has recorded reduction by about 50 percent to 1.3 acre at present. Intermediary caste Kurmi has now highest operated land per household compared to Bhumihaar in earlier survey. Land transaction figures are not satisfactory so it is unable to capture the changes in land ownership between castes.

Debt from traditional sources has become less important now with indebted households from traditional source show a fall from 57.1 percent to 35.5 percent. It shows substantial fall in proportion of households indebted in all classes from agricultural labour to poor peasants and further to non-agricultural class except for attached labour households. In case of institutional loan landlord class have been able to corner substantial proportion of institutional loans. However, traditional debt still remains most important source followed by modern debt. The banning of traditional money lenders have also taken its toll. The small time moneylenders now charge more interest than traditional moneylenders. However, variation in interest rate charged by institutional sources has greatly diminished. But high landholding households have mainly captured modern debt. The modern debt of households with landholding 10 acres or more have been able to borrow from institutional sources several time more that the next smaller

landsize households. The variation in level of both traditional and modern debts are more sharp now as property owned categories are able to get far higher level of loans.

Use patterns of loans show that traditional loans are more used in non-productive purposes. The productive loan requirement, to a great extent, is met by institutional sources. Traditional loans were earlier used mainly for consumption purposes, followed by exceptional social expenditure and health expenditure. Now it's use is highest in health expenditure followed by exceptional social expenditure and then current expenditure showing some improvement in the economic status of the populace. But level of traditional debt's use in exceptional social expenditure continues to be highest.

The change in asset structure is also observed. Forward caste and Kurmi continue to be richest in per capita asset. But per capita cultivated land of Kurmi caste has gone up even when there is a 50 percent fall in per capita cultivated land as a whole. Scheduled caste that was poorest in earlier survey has been dethroned by backward caste I. One reason could be that value of land asset is not included in calculation of total assets. Intermediate caste like Koiri and Yadavs' per capita asset has relatively improved particularly Yadav has gained significantly in per capita value of cattle stock.

Table 9.1P: CASTE by CLASS

CASTE	CLASS									Total
	ALNF	ALNA	ALLF	ALLA	POORMIDP	MIDP	BIGP	LANDLD	NONAG	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1	11	1	13	0	6	3	189	86	14	322
1	3.4	.3	3.9	0.0	1.8	0.9	58.7	26.6	12.7	12.7
2	4		2		6	1	182	44	3	242
2	1.6		0.6		2.7	0.5	75.2	18.1	1.3	9.6
3	131	32	85	73	28	10	22	9	21	412
3	31.8	7.8	20.7	17.7	6.8	2.5	5.2	2.2	5.1	16.3
4	13	2	33	10	25	39	21	1	2	140
4	8.9	1.7	22.8	6.8	17.1	26.8	14.3	0.6	1.1	5.5
5	9		22	3	44	26	18	15	4	140
5	6.1		15.5	2.4	31.1	18.4	12.6	10.9	3.1	5.5
6	3		7	1	7	6	40	7	1	71
6	4.7		9.3	1.1	0.5	7.9	56.0	9.2	1.1	2.8
7	18		22	7	29	15	22	27	48	188
7	9.8		11.6	3.7	15.2	8.0	11.8	4.1	25.8	7.4
8	239	37	127	229	20	10	5	9	18	693
8	34.5	5.3	18.3	33.1	2.8	1.4	0.8	1.2	2.6	27.4
9	106	3	57	20	28	5	41	26	31	319
9	33.3	1.0	17.8	6.4	8.8	1.6	13.0	8.3	9.8	12.6
Total	534	76	366	344	192	115	539	223	142	2531
Total	21.1	3.0	14.5	13.6	7.6	4.5	21.3	8.8	5.6	100.0

Table 9.1: CASTE by CLASS

CASTE	CLASS									Total
	ALNF	ALNA	ALLF	ALLA	POORMIDP	MIDP	BIGP	LANDLD	NONAG	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1	30	5	35	7	13	7	270	120	54	541
1	5.5	.9	6.5	1.3	2.4	1.3	49.9	22.2	10.0	13.9
2	4		3		3	4	170	104	18	306
2	1.3		1.0		1.0	1.3	55.6	34.0	5.9	7.8

		.3		.4		2.9	1.7	26.0	30.5	6.6			
BACKWARD I	3	288 38.9 24.6	21 2.8 22.3	216 29.1 25.4	45 6.1 24.5	21 2.8 20.6	40 5.4 16.8	39 5.3 6.0	21 2.8 6.2	50 6.7 18.5	741 19.0		
YADAV	4	22 10.5 1.9		67 31.9 7.9	10 4.8 5.4	14 6.7 13.7	55 26.2 23.1	30 14.3 4.6	6 2.9 1.8	6 2.9 2.2	210 5.4		
KOIRI	5	11 8.3 .9		37 27.8 4.3		13 9.8 12.7	27 20.3 11.3	22 16.5 3.4	21 15.8 6.2	2 1.5 .7	133 3.4		
KURMI	6	15 13.0 1.3		13 11.3 1.5	1 .9 .5	3 2.6 2.9	25 21.7 10.5	39 33.9 6.0	16 13.9 4.7	3 2.6 1.1	115 2.9		
OTHER BACKWRD II	7	57 19.7 4.9	1 .3 1.1	67 23.1 7.9	21 7.2 11.4	9 3.1 8.8	31 10.7 13.0	39 13.4 6.0	17 5.9 5.0	48 16.6 17.7	290 7.4		
S.C.+ S.T.	8	525 51.0 44.9	58 5.6 61.7	271 26.3 31.8	81 7.9 44.0	15 1.5 14.7	21 2.0 8.8	13 1.3 2.0	8 .8 2.3	38 3.7 14.0	1030 26.4		
MUSLIMS	9	218 40.4 18.6	9 1.7 9.6	142 26.3 16.7	19 3.5 10.3	11 2.0 10.8	28 5.2 11.8	33 6.1 5.0	28 5.2 8.2	52 9.6 19.2	540 13.8		
Total		1170	94	851	184	102	238	655	341	271	3906	6.9	100.0
			30.0	2.4	21.8	4.7	2.6	6.1	16.8	8.7			

Table 9.2P: LAND OWNERSHIP by CLASS

LAND	CLASS	CLASS									Total
		ALNF	ALNA	ALLF	ALLA	POORMIDP	MIDP	BIGP	LANDLD	NONAG	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
NO LAND	0	527 48.4	74 6.8	98 19.5	212 19.5	22 2.0	5 0.4	15 1.4	1 .1	134 12.3	1087 43.1
0-1.0	1	7 1.0	2 .2	217 31.8	119 17.5	124 18.2	52 7.6	100 14.7	54 7.9	7 1.1	682 27.0
1.0-2.5	2	1 .3	0 0.0	42 14.5	13 4.4	37 12.8	36 12.4	115 39.5	46 15.8	1 .3	291 11.5
2.5-5.0	3			7 3.3		7 3.0	15 6.8	138 63.4	51 23.4		217 8.6
5.0-10.0	4			1 0.9		2 1.2	2 1.5	99 68.3	41 28.1		145 5.8
10.0-20.0	5						1 1.6	64 77.9	17 20.5		82 3.2
20+	6						2 8.5	6 31.4	12 30.1		20 .8
Total		534 21.2	76 3.0	366 14.5	344 13.6	192 7.6	113 4.5	536 21.3	221 8.7	142 5.6	2524 100.0

Table 9.2: LAND OWNERSHIP by CLASS

LAND	CLASS										Total
	ALNF	ALNA	ALLF	ALLA	POORMIDP	MIDP	BIGP	LANDLD	NONAG		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
0	1125	90	295	98	9	23	31	2	251		1924
NO LAND	58.5	4.7	15.3	5.1	.5	1.2	1.6	.1	13.0		49.3
	96.2	95.7	34.7	53.3	8.8	9.7	4.7	.6	92.6		
1	41	3	393	76	56	77	114	89	17		866
0-1.0	4.7	.3	45.4	8.8	6.5	8.9	13.2	10.3	2.0		22.2
	3.5	3.2	46.2	41.3	54.9	32.4	17.4	26.1	6.3		
2	4	1	146	10	32	88	254	124	3		662
1.0-2.5	.6	.2	22.1	1.5	4.8	13.3	38.4	18.7	.5		16.9
	.3	1.1	17.2	5.4	31.4	37.0	38.8	36.4	1.1		
3			14		2	34	129	64			243
2.5-5.0			5.8		.8	14.0	53.1	26.3			6.2
			1.6		2.0	14.3	19.7	18.8			
4			3		3	10	85	37			138
5.0-10.0			2.2		2.2	7.2	61.6	26.8			3.5
			.4		2.9	4.2	13.0	10.9			
5						5	34	19			58
10.0-20.0						8.6	58.6	32.8			1.5
						2.1	5.2	5.6			
6						1	8	6			15
20+						6.7	53.3	40.0			.4
						.4	1.2	1.8			
Total	1170	94	851	184	102	238	655	341	271		3906
		30.0	2.4	21.8	4.7	2.6	6.1	16.8	8.7		6.9
											100.0

Table 9.3P: LAND OWNERSHIP by CASTE

LAND	CASTE									Total	
	BRAHMIN+ KAYASTHA 1	BHUMIHAR +RAJPUT 2	BACKWARD I 3	YADAV 4	KOIRI 5	KURMI 6	OTHER BA CKWRD II. 7	S.C.+S.T 8	MUSLIMS 9		
NO LAND	0	24 2.2	8 0.7	251 23.1	31 2.9	15 1.4	8 0.7	87 8.0	477 43.8	187 17.2	1087 49.3
0-1.0	1	38 5.6	59 8.7	126 18.4	70 10.3	79 11.5	12 1.7	61 8.9	181 26.6	57 8.3	682 27.0
1.0-2.5	2	52 18.0	68 23.4	26 8.9	20 6.9	30 10.2	11 3.6	22 7.4	22 7.4	36 12.5	291 11.5
2.5-5.0	3	80 36.8	51 23.7	3 6.9	18 8.1	11 5.1	20 9.4	7 3.4	6 2.9	20 9.1	217 8.6
5.0-10.0	4	77 52.8	23 15.8	0 0.0	3 2.1	4 2.8	16 10.7	7 5.1	1 0.9	14 9.8	145 5.8
10.0-20.0	5	44 48.5	24 29.3	6 6.9	2 2.1	1 1.4	4 4.6	2 2.1	0 0.0	4 5.1	82 3.2
20+	6	8 41.5	8 41.2				1 4.1	2 8.8		1 4.4	20 .8
Total		318 12.6	241 9.6	412 16.3	144 5.7	140 5.5	70 2.8	188 7.5	692 27.4	319 12.6	2524 100.0

Table 9.3: LAND OWNERSHIP by CASTE

LAND	CASTE	CASTE									Total
		BRAHMIN+ KAYASTHA 1	BHUMIHAR +RAJPUT 2	BACKWARD I 3	YADAV 4	KOIRI 5	KURMI 6	OTHER BA CKWRD II. 7	S.C.+S.T 8	MUSLIMS 9	
NO LAND	0	87	25	458	46	16	19	126	792	355	1924
		4.5	1.3	23.8	2.4	.8	1.0	6.5	41.2	18.5	49.3
		16.1	8.2	61.8	21.9	12.0	16.5	43.4	76.9	65.7	
0-1.0	1	96	67	162	70	59	13	103	191	105	866
		11.1	7.7	18.7	8.1	6.8	1.5	11.9	22.1	12.1	22.2
		17.7	21.9	21.9	33.3	44.4	11.3	35.5	18.5	19.4	
1.0-2.5	2	177	120	92	67	43	31	42	38	52	662
		26.7	18.1	13.9	10.1	6.5	4.7	6.3	5.7	7.9	16.9
		32.7	39.2	12.4	31.9	32.3	27.0	14.5	3.7	9.6	
2.5-5.0	3	86	57	20	15	8	22	10	6	19	243
		35.4	23.5	8.2	6.2	3.3	9.1	4.1	2.5	7.8	6.2
		15.9	18.6	2.7	7.1	6.0	19.1	3.4	.6	3.5	
5.0-10.0	4	61	22	6	12	5	19	6	2	5	138
		44.2	15.9	4.3	8.7	3.6	13.8	4.3	1.4	3.6	3.5
		11.3	7.2	.8	5.7	3.8	16.5	2.1	.2	.9	
10.0-20.0	5	24	12	3		2	11	1	1	4	58
		41.4	20.7	5.2		3.4	19.0	1.7	1.7	6.9	1.5
		4.4	3.9	.4		1.5	9.6	.3	.1	.7	
20+	6	10	3					2			15
		66.7	20.0					13.3			.4
		1.8	1.0					.7			
Total		541	306	741	210	133	115	290	1030	540	3906
		13.9	7.8	19.0	5.4	3.4	2.9	7.4	26.4	13.8	100.0

CASTE :

Value Label

- 1 BRAHMIN+KAYASTHA
- 2 BHUMIHAR+RAJPUT
- 3 BACKWARD I
- 4 YADAV
- 5 KOIRI
- 6 KURMI

7 OTHER BACKWARD II  
8 S.C.+S.T.  
9 MUSLIMS

CLASS :

Value	Label
1	ALNF Agricultural Labour not Cultivating, Free
2	ALNA Agricultural Labour not Cultivating, Attached
3	ALLF Agricultural Labour Cultivating, Free
4	ALLA Agricultural Labour Cultivating, Attached
5	POORMIDP Poor-middle Peasants
6	MIDP Middle Peasants
7	BIGP Big Peasants
8	LANDLD Landlords
9	NONAG Others

LANDHOLDING (IN ACRES) :

Value	Label
0	NO LAND
1	0-1.0
2	1.0-2.5
3	2.5-5.0
4	5.0-10.0
5	10.0-20.0
6	20+

Table9.4P: Household Size and Structure by District, Detailed Class and Migration Status

	Total HH. Size (mean)	No. of Men (mean)	No. of Women (mean)	% Children in HH. (mean)	Age of Head (mean)	Prop. Of HH. with Female Head (mean)	No. of HH.
<i>District</i>							
Gaya	7.04	1.88	1.97	39.28	49.14	0.13	72
Gopalganj	6.65	2.10	2.03	31.17	46.76	0.04	59
Madhubani	5.50	1.50	1.66	40.52	44.89	0.06	150
Nalanda	6.79	1.91	1.94	38.68	44.87	0.01	83
Purnea	5.96	1.56	1.68	41.81	43.68	0.09	116
Rohtas	7.06	1.89	2.04	39.43	45.64	0.02	84
<i>Class</i>							
<i>Casual Agricultural Labour</i>							
Cultivating	6.30	1.75	1.92	38.26	45.08	0.00	113
Not Cultivating	4.59	1.13	1.40	40.57	41.06	0.13	73
<i>Permanent Agricultural Labour</i>							
Cultivating	5.66	1.69	1.68	33.94	45.62	0.04	50
Not Cultivating	5.10	1.60	1.36	34.37	39.49	0.12	24
Poor-Middle Peasants	6.54	1.71	1.89	39.66	46.77	0.06	40
Middle Peasants	8.11	2.15	2.12	47.38	45.10	0.00	42
Big Peasants	8.67	2.62	2.51	37.04	50.14	0.01	108
Landlord	6.01	1.52	1.84	37.56	49.93	0.13	81
Non-Agri./No Activity	3.90	0.91	1.12	35.92	46.38	0.23	39
<i>Out-Migration for Work</i>							
No	6.28	1.79	1.80	37.87	45.59	0.06	470
Yes	6.87	1.70	1.14	41.79	46.70	0.05	94
All	6.39	1.78	1.86	38.57	45.79	0.06	564

**Table 9.4: Household Size and Structure by District, Detailed Class and Migration Status**

	Total HH. Size (mean)	No. of Men (mean)	No. of Women (mean)	% Children in HH. (mean)	Age of Head (mean)	Prop. Of HH. with Female Head (mean)	No. of HH.
<i>District</i>							
Gaya	7.02	2.29	1.94	39.82	50.62	0.01	479
Gopalganj	7.38	2.52	2.12	37.12	48.40	0.02	254
Madhubani	5.62	1.70	1.60	41.34	42.90	0.07	1187
Nalanda	6.23	1.99	1.86	38.19	44.63	0.02	392
Purnea	5.06	1.53	1.36	42.84	42.09	0.05	1179
Rohtas	7.11	2.20	2.05	40.26	47.76	0.02	415
<i>Class</i>							
<i>Casual Agricultural Labour</i>							
Cultivating	6.25	1.91	1.73	41.69	45.38	0.03	851
Not Cultivating	5.01	1.40	1.34	45.27	40.07	0.07	1170
<i>Permanent Agricultural Labour</i>							
Cultivating	6.18	1.81	1.70	43.18	42.92	0.01	184
Not Cultivating	5.39	1.41	1.46	46.75	39.39	0.03	94
Poor-Middle Peasants	5.99	2.11	1.74	35.84	45.79	0.02	102
Middle Peasants	6.72	2.17	1.96	38.59	51.18	0.01	238
Big Peasants	7.10	2.46	2.09	35.80	48.74	0.01	655
Landlord	6.48	2.24	1.97	35.11	49.22	0.08	341
Non-Agri./No Activity	5.08	1.51	1.37	43.21	43.27	0.08	271
<i>Out-Migration for Work</i>							
No	5.47	1.62	1.53	42.38	43.95	0.05	2518
Yes	6.83	2.28	1.94	38.25	45.91	0.03	1388
All	5.96	1.86	1.68	40.70	44.65	0.04	3906

**Table 9.5P: Number of Outmigrants for Work by District and Class**

	Out-migrants for work			
	Number		Proportion of HH	
	Mean	N	Mean	N
<i>District</i>				
Gaya	0.37	72	0.27	72
Gopalganj	0.37	59	0.26	59
Madhubani	0.28	150	0.23	150
Nalanda	0.26	83	0.08	83
Purnea	0.09	116	0.08	116
Rohtas	0.15	84	0.08	84
<i>Class</i>				
Agri. Lab., not tied	0.24	172	0.18	172
Agri. Lab., tied	0.16	82	0.14	82
Poor-Middle Peasants	0.35	40	0.22	40
Middle Peasants	0.21	42	0.14	42
Big Peasants	0.36	108	0.19	108
Landlord	0.31	81	0.22	81
Non-Agri./No Activity	0.21	39	0.15	39
All	0.26	564	0.18	564

**Table 9.5: Number of Outmigrants for Work by District and Class**

	Out-migrants for work			
	Number		Proportion of HH	
	Mean	N	Mean	N
<i>District</i>				
Gaya	0.55	479	0.36	479
Gopalganj	0.65	254	0.44	254
Madhubani	0.64	1187	0.50	1187
Nalanda	0.33	392	0.21	392
Purnea	0.36	1179	0.29	1179
Rohtas	0.27	415	0.20	415
<i>Class</i>				
Agri. Lab., not tied	0.42	2021	0.33	2021
Agri. Lab., tied	0.28	278	0.23	278
Poor-Middle Peasants	0.50	102	0.40	102
Middle Peasants	0.48	238	0.35	238
Big Peasants	0.44	655	0.29	655
Landlord	0.85	341	0.56	341
Non-Agri./No Activity	0.68	271	0.52	271
All	0.47	3906	0.36	3906

**Table 9.6P: Labour Supply by Caste**

<b>Caste</b>	<i>Workers(all)/Adults</i>		<i>Cultivat(All)/Adults</i>		<i>Wage Lab.(all)/Adults</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Muslim	99.92	64.83	77.89	31.59	65.05	28.99
Upper Caste	92.96	22.84	76.88	8.17	21.17	0.23
Backward II	93.46	49.42	76.46	32.77	30.37	12.32
Backward I	99.45	68.73	64.11	43.66	82.24	45.80
S.C. & S.T.	94.75	83.48	65.46	50.79	83.98	63.82
All	93.86	55.50	71.34	30.27	51.97	29.23

**Table 9.6: Labour Supply by Caste**

<b>Caste</b>	<i>Workers(all)/Adults</i>		<i>Cultivat(All)/Adults</i>		<i>Wage Lab.(all)/Adults</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Muslim	88.64	65.72	37.05	21.25	60.51	51.21
Upper Caste	84.37	10.83	51.26	2.15	10.82	4.97
Backward II	89.22	59.86	56.10	34.52	34.93	31.39
Backward I	95.00	77.61	40.36	27.03	66.61	54.94
S.C. & S.T.	92.79	81.17	32.22	25.58	80.68	80.56
All	89.65	56.13	44.36	21.23	48.45	55.26

**Table 9.7P: Land Size Distribution**

Size (acres)	Percentage Distribution of			
	HHs Owning Cultivable Land	Cultivating Land		Land Holding(Av.)
		HHs	Area	
No Land	38.42	--		
Up to 0.5	17.41	19.10	2.12	0.26
0.5 to 1	7.90	16.58	4.62	0.66
1 to 2	10.41	18.59	9.61	1.18
2 to 5	13.29	26.13	30.89	2.73
5 to 10	7.36	13.07	29.89	6.48
10 or more	5.21	6.53	22.87	16.06
All	100.00	100.00	100.00	2.11

**Table 9.7: Land Size Distribution**

Size (acres)	Percentage Distribution of			
	HHs Owning Cultivable Land	Cultivating Land		Land Holding(Av.)
		HHs	Area	
No Land	49.3			
Up to 0.5	15.4	30.3	3.7	0.26
0.5 to 1	6.8	13.4	4.2	0.66
1 to 2	11.4	22.4	12.5	1.18
2 to 5	11.8	23.3	30.1	2.73
5 to 10	3.5	7.0	21.4	6.48
10 or more	1.9	3.7	28.0	16.06
All	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.11

**Table 9.8P: Cultivation by Class**

Class	Percentage Distribution of		Percentage Distribution of HHs		
	HHs	Cultivating HHs	Not Culti. Land	Culti. upto 2 acres	Leasing Land
ALNOTTD	30.50	10.97	43.90	45.60	41.30
ALTIED	14.54	6.12	36.60	53.60	66.80
POORMIDP	7.09	4.26	0.00	77.50	47.40
MIDP	7.45	9.34	0.00	50.00	76.00
BIGP	19.15	41.30	1.90	20.50	34.00
LANDLORD	14.36	27.86	21.10	23.30	5.40
NONAG	6.91	0.15	91.90	8.10	4.20
ALL	100.00	100.00	28.30	38.90	38.90

**Table 9.8: Cultivation by Class**

Class	Percentage Distribution of		Percentage Distribution of HHs		
	HHs	Cultivating HHs	Not Culti. Land	Culti. upto 2 acres	Leasing Land
ALNOTTD	51.8	39.1	42.1	27.5	26.4
ALTIED	7.1	8.5	66.2	31.7	48.6
POORMIDP	2.6	4.7		79.4	41.2
MIDP	6.1	10.9		57.6	58.0
BIGP	16.8	30.1		39.5	26.0
LANDLORD	8.7	6.7	42.8	49.6	2.1
NONAG	6.9		100.0	7.4	
ALL	100.0	100.0	44.3	33.5	26.2

**Table 9.9P: Leasing of Land**

Class	Percentage of Land Leased in on terms of			
	Sharing of Crop	Labour Services	Fixed Rent	Total
ALNOTTD	46.5	4.0	10.6	61.1
ALTIED	44.5	13.7	9.2	67.4
POORMIDP	47.2		11.2	58.4
MIDP	34.8		17.3	52.1
BIGP	8.6		5.3	13.9
LANDLORD	1.4			1.4
NONAG	83.3			83.3
ALL	31.4	4.4	5.4	41.2

**Table 9.9: Leasing of Land**

Class	Percentage of Land Leased in on terms of					
	Sharing of Crop	Labour Services	Fixed Rent	Fixed plus Share	Share plus Lab. Ser.	Total
ALNOTTD	50.6	0.2	11.5	0.4	0.5	63.2
ALTIED	65.4	1.0	5.3	0.1	3.0	74.9
POORMIDP	35.7		5.8	1.4		42.9
MIDP	26.5		9.1			35.6
BIGP	9.2		3.0	0.1		12.3
LANDLORD	0.7		1.2			1.9
NONAG	0.0					
ALL	22.3	0.1	5.6	0.2	0.2	28.3

**Table 9.10P: Distribution of Total Land Cultivated  
by Villages, Class and Caste**

<u>Villages</u>	<u>Land Cultivate per Household (in acres)</u>
Alalpur Bishnupur	2.48
Salempur Rupaspur	2.04
Paharpur Dayal	1.46
Diwanparsa	1.29
Mahesan	0.99
Khangaon	1.50
Chandkura	1.97
Mohiuddinpur	1.57
Jitwarpur	2.78
Belabadan	1.89
Samhutibuzurg	3.35
Amarhi	2.61
<u>Class</u>	
Agr. Labour, not tied	0.75
Agr. Labour, tied	0.88
Poor middle peasants	1.25
Middle peasants	2.61
Big Peasants	4.53
Landlords	4.30
Non-agricultural class	0.05
<u>Caste</u>	
Brahmin + Kayastha	3.90
Bhumihar + Rajput	4.37
Backward I	1.09
Yadav	2.99
Koeri	
Kurmi	3.69
Other Backward II	1.97
S.C. + S.T.	0.66
Muslims	1.43
All	1.92

**Table 9.10: Distribution of Total Land Cultivated****by Villages, Class and Caste**

<u>Villages</u>	<u>Land Cultivate per Household (in acres)</u>
Alalpur Bishnupur	0.99
Salempur Rupaspur	1.44
Paharpur Dayal	1.37
Diwanparsa	2.10
Mahesan	0.74
Khangaon	0.70
Chandkura	1.64
Mohiuddinpur	0.58
Jitwarpur	1.66
Belabadan	1.01
Samhutibuzurg	1.74
Amarhi	2.27
<u>Class</u>	
Agr. Labour, not tied	1.28
Agr. Labour, tied	1.06
Poor middle peasants	1.40
Middle peasants	2.82
Big Peasants	3.64
Landlords	1.75
Non-agricultural class	-
<u>Caste</u>	
Brahmin + Kayastha	2.89
Bhumihar + Rajput	2.13
Backward I	0.84
Yadav	2.18
Koeri	1.34
Kurmi	3.58
Other Backward II	1.11
S.C. + S.T.	0.39
Muslims	0.87
All	1.30

**Table 9.11P: Percentage Land Loss and Gain**

**In Different Villages**

<u>Villages</u>	<u>Mean Land Loss%</u>	<u>Mean Land Gain%</u>
Alalpur Bishnupur	3.3	7.2
Salempur Rupaspur	8.7	5.2
Paharpur Dayal	0.0	17.5
Diwanparsa	8.6	6.6
Mahesan	13.5	7.2
Khangaon	14.8	6.5
Chandkura	15.4	7.9
Mohiuddinpur	13.6	8.8
Jitwarpur	15.5	10.3
Belabadan	25.4	1.1
Samhutibuzurg	7.1	6.4
Amarhi	6.0	3.9
All	10.3	7.0

**Table 9.11: Percentage Land Loss and Gain**  
**In Different Villages**

<u>Villages</u>	<u>Mean Land Loss%</u>	<u>Mean Land Gain%</u>
Alalpur Bishnupur	25.9	2.1
Salempur Rupaspur	8.1	3.8
Paharpur Dayal	20.2	4.1
Diwanparsa	29.2	5.3
Mahesan	47.6	11.5
Khangaon	58.4	10.9
Chandkura	25.0	4.8
Mohiuddinpur	47.0	9.4
Jitwarpur	24.7	12.5
Belabadan	20.0	11.2
Samhutibuzurg	31.2	3.8
Amarhi	18.6	3.0
All	30.2	7.8

**Table 9.12P: Percentage Land Loss and Gain  
Land Owned Before Loss or Gain**

<u>Land Owned Before loss or gain</u>	<u>% loss</u>	<u>% gain</u>
None	-	100.0
Upto 1 acre	11.3	7.9
1 to 2.5 acres	8.7	3.1
2.5 to 5 acres	8.0	3.4
5 to 10 acres	11.9	5.4
Over 10 acres	11.7	4.0

**Table 9.12: Percentage Land Loss and Gain  
Land Owned Before Loss or Gain**

<u>Land Owned Before loss or gain</u>	<u>% loss</u>	<u>% gain</u>
None	-	100.0
Upto 1 acre	10.8	10.7
1 to 2.5 acres	19.0	9.2
2.5 to 5 acres	28.2	5.9
5 to 10 acres	39.9	2.7
Over 10 acres	34.2	2.5

**Table 9.13P: Land Loss and Gain by Class**

Class	Area Lost	% Lost	Area Gained	% Gained
Agr. Labour, not tied	0.03	12.4	0.01	5.1
Agr. Labour, tied	0.02	11.5	0.01	8.5
Poor middle peasants	0.04	6.0	0.68	15.1
Middle peasants	0.06	4.7	0.09	5.2
Big Peasants	0.42	9.7	0.22	6.2
Landlords	0.74	11.2	0.39	5.0
Non-agricultural class	0.03	32.8	0.50	10.6

**Table 9.13: Land Loss and Gain by Class**

Class	Area Lost	% Lost	Area Gained	% Gained
Agr. Labour, not tied	0.09	34.9	0.03	13.3
Agr. Labour, tied	0.09	40.9	0.01	7.3
Poor middle peasants	0.46	38.1	0.06	8.0
Middle peasants	0.54	25.0	0.20	11.0
Big Peasants	1.08	26.4	0.20	6.1
Landlords	1.58	34.4	0.25	7.6
Non-agricultural class	0.11	81.7	0.01	26.2

**Table 9.14P: Land Loss and Gain by Caste**

Caste	Area Lost	% Lost	Area Gained	% Gained
Brahmin + Kayastha	0.65	16.9	0.45	6.9
Bhumihar + Rajput	0.28	8.0	0.11	5.8
Backward I	0.03	7.9	0.03	3.7
Yadav	0.11	8.2	0.08	10.5
Koeri	0.04	5.8	0.04	3.1
Kurmi	0.12	14.9	0.10	11.0
Other Backward II	0.36	13.7	0.03	7.9*
S.C. + S.T.	0.02	7.2	0.02	9.3*
Muslims	0.12	11.3	0.10	9.4

Note: \*This figure looks distorted -- apparently due to a couple of Backward and scheduled castes obtaining some land.

**Table 9.14: Land Loss and Gain by Caste**

Caste	Area Lost	% Lost	Area Gained	% Gained
Brahmin + Kayastha	1.21	29.9	0.15	5.1
Bhumihar + Rajput	1.58	40.1	0.17	6.7
Backward I	0.13	26.3	0.09	20.2
Yadav	0.42	27.7	0.13	10.5
Koeri	0.24	17.3	0.01	0.9
Kurmi	0.97	22.6	0.14	4.0
Other Backward II	0.14	15.4	0.03	3.1
S.C. + S.T.	0.02	18.1	0.03	23.2
Muslims	0.25	38.1	0.07	15.3

**Table 9.15P: Indebtedness by Class**

Class	Percentages of Households Indebted by Traditional Sources	Amount of Debt per HHs (in Rs.)			
		Organised Sector	Traditional Sources	Other Sources	Total
ALNOTTD	73.4	89	738	14	841
ALTIED	90.9	5	760	4	766
POORMIDP	61.6	356	1279	34	1669
MIDP	51.3	443	644	35	1122
BIGP	32.5	1438	1395	104	2937
LANDLORD	24.1	781	817	142	1740
NONAG	52.3	151	789	25	965
ALL	57.1	440	912	44	1396

**Table 9.15: Indebtedness by Class**

Class	Percentages Of Households Indebted by Traditional Sources	Amount of Debt per HHs (in Rs.)			
		Organised Sector	Traditional Sources	Other Sources	Total
ALNOTTD	35.7	348	1837	271	2456
ALTIED	84.2	197	3204	106	3507
POORMIDP	33.3	533	2073	851	3457
MIDP	29.0	681	1773	513	2966
BIGP	25.6	2766	2773	857	6395
LANDLORD	21.4	2902	2584	1045	6531
NONAG	31.4	1282	1992	764	4037
ALL	35.5	1056	2169	489	3714

**Table 9.16P: Indebtedness of Casual and Attached Labour**

	Percentage of Agricultural Labour	
	Casual	Attached
1. Taking Loan from Employer	92.86	77.38
2. Annual Percentage of Rate of Interest		71.22
(a) Nil	10.20	7.41
(b) 10 or more to 24	5.10	
(c) More than 24 to 48	33.67	57.40
(d) More than 48 to 72	34.69	35.19
(e) More than 72 to 120	4.08	
(f) Unspecified	12.26	

**Table 9.16: Indebtedness of Casual and Attached Labour**

	Percentage of Agricultural Labour	
	Casual	Attached
1. Taking Loan from Employer		
2. Annual Percentage of Rate of Interest	Nil	71.22
(a) Nil		16.2
(b) 10 or more to 24		
(c) More than 24 to 48		3.5
(d) More than 48 to 72		56.1
(e) More than 72 to 120		22.7
(f) Unspecified		1.5

**Table 9.17P: Caste by Class**

Class	Percentage of Households belonging to				
	Muslim Religion	Upper Caste Hindu	Backward Caste Hindus II	Backward Caste Hindus I	S.C. & S.T.
ALNOTTD	18.11	3.33	14.11	23.78	40.67
ALTIED	3.93	0.00	9.26	25.41	61.40
POORMIDP	12.85	10.40	41.67	14.24	20.84
MIDP	10.54	3.48	64.06	9.92	12.00
BIGP	5.77	71.97	19.63	2.21	0.48
LANDLORD	8.14	62.97	24.81	1.77	2.31
NONAG	17.01	18.83	34.00	16.50	13.66
ALL	10.46	25.18	24.11	17.55	22.70

**Table 9.17: Caste by Class**

Class	Percentage of Households belonging to				
	Muslim Religion	Upper Caste Hindu	Backward Caste Hindus II	Backward Caste Hindus I	S.C. & S.T.
ALNOTTD	17.8	3.6	14.3	24.9	39.4
ALTIED	10.1	4.3	11.9	23.7	50.0
POORMIDP	10.8	15.7	38.2	20.6	14.7
MIDP	11.8	4.6	58.0	16.8	8.8
BIGP	5.0	67.2	19.8	6.0	2.0
LANDLORD	8.2	65.7	17.6	6.2	2.3
NONAG	19.2	26.5	21.8	18.5	14.0
ALL	13.8	21.6	19.2	19.0	26.4

**Table 9.18P: DEBT BY VILLAGE**

Village	Modern Debts		Traditional Debt		Relatives Debt	
	Amount (Rs.)	Interest	Amount (Rs.)	Interest	Amount (Rs.)	Interest
Alalpur Bishnupur	1117	12.5	218	56.8	0	--
Salempur Rupaspur	209	13.5	926	39.7	26	25.0
Paharpur Dayal	725	15.0	1847	26.9	0	--
Diwanparsa	751	12.9	1107	20.4	5	16.0
Mahesan	194	10.4	817	49.7	59	0.0
Khangaon	427	21.6	872	45.9	25	4.9
Chandkura	587	11.7	918	56.4	188	12.4
Mohiuddinpur	540	15.9	649	65.4	21	67.6
Jitwarpur	110	12.3	973	68.1	47	63.0
Belabandan	392	11.9	297	58.5	141	23.3
Samhutibuzurg	527	14.9	1085	63.1	3	72.0
Amarhi	609	13.2	1087	27.5	42	--
All	440	14.2	912	48.8	44	32.7

**Table 9.18: DEBT BY VILLAGE**

Village	Modern Debts		Traditional Debt		Relatives Debt	
	Amount (Rs.)	Interest	Amount (Rs.)	Interest	Amount (Rs.)	Interest
Alalpur Bishnupur	1486	13.8	519	65.8	0	--
Salempur Rupaspur	621	13.5	2273	63.8	510	54.0
Paharpur Dayal	1161	14.8	3411	58.6	565	54.0
Diwanparsa	2013	13.4	5457	59.8	362	60.0
Mahesan	667	13.9	3855	60.1	254	50.0
Khangaon	617	13.7	2804	64.9	255	68.0
Chandkura	98	13.5	839	76.5	311	60.0
Mohiuddinpur	708	13.9	1065	75.9	776	60.9
Jitwarpur	1495	13.4	1098	94.4	640	85.8
Belabandan	740	13.7	849	115.9	603	106.2
Samhutibuzurg	1083	13.0	2125	109.2	744	112.0
Amarhi	3541	13.8	1125	57.5	1502	53.8
All	1056	13.6	2169	71.1	489	81.2

**TABLE 9.19P:DEBT BY LAND CULTIVATED AND OWNED**

Land Cultivated	Modern Debts		Traditional Debt		Relatives Debt	
	Amount (Rs.)	Interest	Amount (Rs.)	Interest	Amount (Rs.)	Interest
None	228	12.4	565	57.4	6	68.6*
Up to 0.5 Acres	28	18.5*	673	45.2	6	73.2*
0.5 to 1 Acres	73	17.9	795	45.5	24	0.0*
1 to 2 Acres	295	11.6	1057	38.2	32	50.0*
2 to 5 Acres	792	14.3	1319	45.1	101	28.5*
5 to 10 Acres	1187	12.1	1091	61.7	38	0.0*
10 or More Acres	2494	14.7	2385	41.2	254	0.0*
<b>Land Owned</b>						
None	39	12.7	609	55.8	14	70.7*
Up to 0.5 Acres	123	15.6	854	42.4	17	30.3*
0.5 to 1 Acres	110	13.2	896	42.3	6	--
1 to 2 Acres	329	13.8	1067	40.7	24	28.8*
2 to 5 Acres	1052	14.4	1551	38.9	141	21.8*
5 to 10 Acres	1930	11.9	853	43.8	21	0.0*
10 or More Acres	3012	14.4	2298	32.7	309	0.0*

Note: \* means less than 5 observations

**TABLE 9.19:DEBT BY LAND CULTIVATED AND OWNED**

Land Cultivated	Modern Debts		Traditional Debt		Relatives Debt	
	Amount (Rs.)	Interest	Amount (Rs.)	Interest	Amount (Rs.)	Interest
None	498	13.7	1825	74.3	280	89.5
Up to 0.5 Acres	549	13.6	2230	68.4	255	86.3
0.5 to 1 Acres	466	13.9	2147	68.9	628	86.0
1 to 2 Acres	894	13.6	2225	66.3	562	70.2
2 to 5 Acres	1775	13.5	2905	68.5	799	66.6
5 to 10 Acres	1813	13.4	3100	68.3	678	68.0
10 or More Acres	20103	13.2	2895	78.0	3772	63.0
<b>Land Owned</b>						
None	370	13.7	1774	73.8	245	90.0
Up to 0.5 Acres	551	13.8	2449	66.3	376	84.5
0.5 to 1 Acres	774	13.8	2282	69.1	572	77.3
1 to 2 Acres	1196	13.5	2226	70.2	908	72.0
2 to 5 Acres	2081	13.4	3161	59.1	903	49.7
5 to 10 Acres	4063	13.2	2880	58.0	1313	64.0
10 or More Acres	19997	13.3	4224	92.0	2759	36.0

**TABLE 9.20P: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLDS  
WITH MODERN AND TRADITIONAL DEBT AND AVERAGE AMOUNT BY  
CLASS AND LANDOWNED**

<i>Class</i>	Modern Debt		Traditional Debt	
	% of HHs	Mean	% of HHs	Mean
Agri. Lab., not tied	7.7	1864	85.2	804
Agri. Lab., tied	1.2	191	87.7	873
Poor-Middle Peasants	19.6	3320	76.1	1303
Middle Peasants	31.4	1259	80.0	1229
Big Peasants	49.6	2688	48.7	3068
Landlord	27.3	2578	53.4	1882
Non-Agri./No Activity	9.1	1333	63.6	1049
<i>Land Ownership</i>				
None	2.3	1086	84.3	746
Up to 0.5 Acres	11.3	1345	75.3	1146
0.5 to 1 Acres	22.0	537	75.6	1099
1 to 2 Acres	25.0	2224	66.5	1433
2 to 5 Acres	46.6	2356	54.8	3131
5 to 10 Acres	57.5	3537	27.5	3130
10 or More Acres	67.7	4257	48.4	5122
<i>Caste</i>				
Brahmin + Kayastha	43.9	2449	62.2	2568
Bhumihar + Rajput	43.3	3462	45.0	3359
Backward I	4.0	700	79.8	1052
Yadav	19.4	1323	77.4	1030
Koeri	25.9	1964	59.3	998
Kurmi	50.0	6402	29.2	2773
Other Backward II	18.5	1310	63.0	1352
S.C. & S.T.	7.0	1753	85.9	741
Muslim	13.6	1250	81.4	880

**TABLE 9.20: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLDS  
WITH MODERN AND TRADITIONAL DEBT AND AVERAGE AMOUNT BY  
CLASS AND LANDOWNED**

<i>Class</i>	Modern Debt		Traditional Debt	
	% of HHs	Mean	% of HHs	Mean
Agri. Lab., not tied	5.0	6964	35.7	5148
Agri. Lab., tied	5.0	3914	84.2	3806
Poor-Middle Peasants	7.8	6800	33.3	6218
Middle Peasants	8.8	7719	29.0	6114
Big Peasants	19.8	13935	25.6	10810
Landlord	16.4	17668	21.4	12071
Non-Agri./No Activity	5.9	21713	31.4	6349
<i>Land Ownership</i>				
None	4.0	9242	40.4	4380
Up to 0.5 Acres	7.8	7035	41.0	5979
0.5 to 1 Acres	10.6	7282	31.0	7355
1 to 2 Acres	12.8	9373	26.0	8547
2 to 5 Acres	19.9	10437	21.9	14457
5 to 10 Acres	30.8	13203	16.3	17618
10 or More Acres	43.1	46394	10.3	40833
<i>Caste</i>				
Brahmin + Kayastha	18.9	20249	32.2	9879
Bhumihar + Rajput	17.0	10441	25.2	11982
Backward I	6.9	7227	29.6	4952
Yadav	5.7	8333	26.2	7964
Koeri	10.5	11571	25.6	11994
Kurmi	7.8	6167	8.7	8300
Other Backward II	6.9	8695	33.1	5890
S.C. & S.T.	6.1	5790	45.2	3801
Muslim	4.3	12609	46.9	5856

**Table 9.21P: Modern Debts Used for Capital Investment and Agricultural Operations by Village, Class, Land Ownership and Caste**

Village	% of HHs using for Capital Investment	% of HHs using for Agricultural Operations
Alalpur Bishnupur	8.2	15.9
Salempur Rupaspur	3.1	1.8
Paharpur Dayal	0.0	44.3
Diwanparsa	0.0	19.7
Mahisam	4.3	4.9
Khangaon	4.6	8.2
Chandkura	4.1	10.4
Mohiuddinpur	9.2	12.8
Jitwarpur	2.3	8.2
Belabadan	1.7	14.8
Samhutibuzurg	5.1	15.6
Amarhi	12.9	29.3
<b>Class</b>		
Agri. Lab., not tied	2.5	1.1
Agri. Lab., tied	0.0	0.8
Poor-Middle Peasants	2.9	17.1
Middle Peasants	4.4	23.3
Big Peasants	8.4	38.6
Landlord	6.4	20.9
Non-Agri./No Activity	8.6	0.0
<b>Land Owned</b>		
None	1.3	0.0
Up to 0.5 Acres	3.6	3.9
0.5 to 1 Acres	0.0	16.7
1 to 2 Acres	1.8	17.4
2 to 5 Acres	11.5	31.4
5 to 10 Acres	7.4	46.9
10 or More Acres	20.8	57.8
<b>Caste</b>		
Brahmin + Kayastha	5.8	40.5
Bhumihar + Rajput	8.7	27.0
Backward I	0.0	1.9
Yadav	8.1	8.4
Koeri	3.5	23.4
Kurmi	10.0	43.2
Other Backward II	5.8	5.7
S.C. & S.T.	3.1	1.9
Muslim	1.3	7.2

**Table 9.21: Modern Debts Used for Capital Investment and Agricultural Operations by Village, Class, Land Ownership and Caste**

Village	% of HHs using for Capital Investment	% of HHs using for Agricultural Operations
Alalpur Bishnupur	15.4	30.8
Salempur Rupaspur	36.3	45.5
Paharpur Dayal	33.4	50.0
Diwanparsa	62.9	18.5
Mahisam	51.1	24.4
Khangaon	26.2	28.6
Chandkura	75.0	25.0
Mohiuddinpur	44.4	38.3
Jitwarpur	31.2	49.4
Belabadan	26.0	60.9
Samhutibuzurg	30.3	60.5
Amarhi	17.7	82.4
<b>Class</b>		
Agri. Lab., not tied	47.0	24.0
Agri. Lab., tied	25.0	25.0
Poor-Middle Peasants	12.5	62.5
Middle Peasants	38.1	57.1
Big Peasants	26.9	60.8
Landlord	30.4	53.6
Non-Agri./No Activity	56.8	--
<b>Land Owned</b>		
None	48.7	15.8
Up to 0.5 Acres	46.2	32.7
0.5 to 1 Acres	36.7	42.9
1 to 2 Acres	30.6	49.0
2 to 5 Acres	19.3	67.7
5 to 10 Acres	18.7	78.1
10 or More Acres	44.0	56.1
<b>Caste</b>		
Brahmin + Kayastha	27.4	59.8
Bhumihar + Rajput	25.0	53.8
Backward I	36.0	38.0
Yadav	25.0	50.0
Koeri	35.7	64.3
Kurmi	22.2	77.8
Other Backward II	20.0	45.0
S.C. & S.T.	55.6	11.1
Muslim	47.7	39.1

**Table 9.22P: Main Use of Traditional Debt**

Purpose	% of HHs	Mean Amount for the Purpose
Current Consumption	41.9	1174
Health Expenditure	17.2	1151
Exceptional Social Expenditure	21.4	1837
Housing	3.6	1798
Agricultural Operation	8.5	1496
Capital Expenditure	4.0	1779

**Table 9.22: Main Use of Traditional Debt**

Purpose	% of HHs	Mean Amount for the Purpose
Current Consumption	20.1	4189
Health Expenditure	33.8	5150
Exceptional Social Expenditure	31.1	8243
Housing	6.2	6800
Agricultural Operation	2.4	4345
Capital Expenditure	4.0	7776

**Table 9.23P: Assets by Caste and Religion**

Caste	Percentage Distribution of HHs	Per Capita Value (in rupees) of		Per Capita Cultivable Land in Acres
		All Assets	Cattle	
Muslims	10.46	2403	179	0.25
Upper Castes	25.18	10301	200	0.54
Yadav	5.50	3040	109	0.45
Koiri	4.79	4958	159	0.23
Kurmi	4.26	11262	188	0.43
Oth. Backward II	9.56	4890	153	0.32
Backward I	17.55	1393	149	0.17
S.C. & S.T.	22.70	904	139	0.12
All	100.00	4779	187	0.37

**Table 9.23: Assets by Caste and Religion**

Caste	Percentage Distribution of HHs	Per Capita Value (in rupees) of		Per Capita Cultivable Land in Acres
		All Assets	Cattle	
Muslims	13.80	3047.57	374.54	0.15
Upper Castes	21.70	18609.09	1500.64	0.41
Yadav	5.40	5637.30	1509.94	0.36
Koiri	3.40	9326.38	699.25	0.18
Kurmi	2.90	15613.01	734.20	0.54
Oth. Backward II	7.40	3674.01	539.36	0.21
Backward I	19.00	2737.70	633.74	0.17
S.C. & S.T.	26.40	3054.11	390.57	0.08
All	100.00	5089.38	608.11	0.22

## **Change in Village Profile**

As mentioned in chapter II, we had collected detailed data at village level also, similar data were also collected in the earlier ILO-ANSISS survey. In this section we will attempt to document the changes which have taken place during last two decades or so in the village profiles in 12 census villages. These selected 12 villages, as a matter of fact, represent the 6 districts of this sample. We will describe the change for each village separately.

### *Alalpur Bishunpur*

This village is situated in Tekari block of Gaya district and is 6 km. away from block headquarters. The village is 2 km. away from pucca road but one has to cross a river and it continues to be inaccessible by jeep during rainy season. The village is inhabited by eight castes Rajput, Mushar, Chamar, Mullah, Kumhar, Koeri, Yadav and Nai. Caste composition has hardly changed with addition of new caste of Nai. Rajput continues to be mainly cultivators with few households engaged in non-agricultural occupations. Rajputs are still largely big peasants and scheduled castes and other backward castes are either poor peasants or landless labourers.

Alalpur tolas (Purwari and Paschimari) were electrified even in earlier survey but Bishunpur tola is still not electrified. There is still no domestic connection. Number of agricultural connection has gone up from 8 to 12 only. The village continues to have one primary school. One public well has been established and number of public handpump has also gone up substantially. Only one household now has sanitary latrine.

To utilise facilities like post office and middle schools, people now has to go 4 km. away unlike 1.5 km. in earlier survey. However, nearest health sub-centre is still 1 km. away and high school has come nearer at 4 km. distance. Co-operative credit society still exists and agricultural input society also has been established. But none of them are very active.

The irrigated area in this village continues to be much greater than Salempur-Rupaspur. Number of pumpsets/tubewells has risen slightly from 14 to 17. About 65 per cent of village land continue to be irrigated. Wells are also used for cultivation. Main

crops remain to be paddy and wheat and only gram cultivation is replaced by cultivation of masur and arhar. In the summer season maize and vegetables are continue to be grown on irrigated land. But now almost 80 per cent of summer paddy are also irrigated.

The number of scheduled caste household being not large and they being main supplier of wage labour, the village remains somewhat short of labour. This is manifested during transplantation of paddy as well as during harvesting of wheat and paddy. The common wage rate in kind has gone up from 2 kg. of rice plus meal to 2.5 kg. of rice plus meal. Still the practice of giving 5 kathas of land and loan to attached labour prevails. But the use of phenomenon of attached labour has fallen by substantial margin.

Almost one-fourth of cultivators is leasing in land. One feature of tenancy system is sharing of cost of irrigation and fertilisers. Seed cost is no more shared. The loans from friends and relatives now constitute the major source for all purposes. Loan from banks and government for agricultural purposes has lost its shine. For consumption loan moneylenders are second most important source of credit. Unlike in last survey there is no report of any public work programmes. This village reported overall prosperity in last survey, but in this survey there is deterioration. Social tensions also have increased.

*Village: Salempur Rupaspur*

It is also situated in Tekari block of Gaya district and is at a distance of about 14 km. from block headquarters at Tekari. It is an interior village with no proper communication. The nearest pucca road and bus stop continue to be a distance of 4 km. and still one has to cross a river to reach the village. Unlike in earlier survey, when it used to be inaccessible by jeep presently the village is inaccessible by jeep for 6-7 months. Facilities like high school, fair price shop and post office that were at a distance of 3 km. now are situated within the village. But for marketing and medical treatment they still have to travel 4-5 km. It still does not have any electricity connection. Public wells are still used for drinking water but number of private and public well has risen several times.

The village has 331 households coming from 18 caste/sub-castes. Scheduled castes constitute about one-fourth of the total number of households and the backward caste II a little less than two-fifth. Bhumihaar, one-seventh of the total households,

continue to be the dominant caste by virtue of land and other wealth as well as their social and economic position. The caste and class structure continues to coincide. Bhumihars are still exclusively cultivators and scheduled castes are exclusively agricultural labourers. Some households of backward castes are owner cultivators but many are tenant cultivators or agricultural labourers. Bhumihars continue to be largely big peasants and landlords but some households of backward caste (Koiri) have emerged as big peasants or landlords as well.

The village still does not have any public irrigation and number of private pumpset/boring numbering 10 still is not adequate. Irrigation continues to be mostly used for Rabi crop but some of the paddy cultivation during kharif season is irrigated as well. Some changes in cropping pattern can be noticed as well. Sugarcane cultivation has almost become extinct and among oilseeds sunflower oil seeds is a new introduction. Unlike earlier survey, paddy is now somewhat irrigated. Use of fertiliser and HYV seeds in paddy is now almost universal. In wheat use of HYV seed is little over half. Now even some farmers are using pesticides.

The village still has shortage of labour during peak season but from neighbouring village the incidence of labourers coming to this village during peak season no more exists. However, during mazdoor agitation in 1996 some outside village people came for work. Wages have increased compared to last survey. It used to be 1 kg. rice plus two meals. Now it is 2.5 kg. of rice plus two meals. During harvesting season share of workers also have gone up from 1/16<sup>th</sup> of harvested crop to 1/10<sup>th</sup> of harvested crop.

The attached labourers are generally given 5 kathas of land as against 7 kathas given earlier. But daily wages of attached labour has almost trebled to 3 kg. per day. In earlier survey seed and fertiliser costs were shared equally by landowner and tenant but now only fertiliser cost is shared. In case of credit, the loans taken from money-lender has been reduced considerably. Cultivators and non-agricultural households now largely depend on government and financial institutions for productive purposes and on relatives for non-productive expenditure. But labouring class merely depends on employers and relatives. As a whole, the use of institutional credit has substantially increased. Earlier survey reported no conflict on the question of wages but some tension due to land dispute between Bhumihar and Yadavs. This survey reports agricultural workers' agitation in the

year 1996. This agitation had the support of militant peasant organisations operating in several parts of Central Bihar. Even now tension prevails in the village and group of large cultivators --mainly Bhumihars---and labourers are having frequent disputes.

### *Paharpur Dayal*

The village of 67 households in Gopalganj district continues to be the smallest village in our census survey. The village is inhabited by Rajput and backward castes. But apart from numerically largest backward caste Koiri, this village now has 10 households from other backward castes like Kumhar, Bania and Yadav. The village still does not have any scheduled caste population. The earlier survey had not reported any shortage of labour. But now shortage of labour has arisen because hardly one-fourth of backward caste households is available as agricultural labour. Two-third of the households is peasant ranging from poor to big.

It is situated 2 km. away from block headquarters of Kuchaikote and is connected by pucca road. Electricity came after last survey in the year 1985. Four-fifth of all households has domestic electricity connection. They do not face any drinking water problem – mostly handpump is used. Septic tank latrines are there only in 9 households – belonging to Koiri and Rajput castes. The primary school that existed in the village still remains. Middle school and high school, market, health and other facilities are still available in block headquarters or within a distance of 2/3 km. Village co-operative society existed earlier is no more there.

The total land under irrigation has marginally increased from about 55 to about 65 per cent of total cultivated land. Apart from canal, the land continues to be irrigated by tubewells and pumpsets. The main crops continue to be kharif paddy. The other crops remain almost the same – khesari, gram, masoor, onion and potato. There is hardly any change in the cropping pattern except for some increase in area under wheat. Almost three-fourth of the cultivators uses HYV seeds and fertilisers – no rise since last survey. There are seven tubewells and one tractor in the village used by three-fourth of all households. Almost all households use threshers.

Percentage of households leasing in land has reduced from one-fourth to one-fifth. The system of tenancy is crop sharing only where all input costs are borne by the tenants

only. The village faces some shortage of labour at the harvesting time of paddy when 8-10 workers from neighbouring village are employed. The requirement of agricultural workers is met by within village backward agricultural labourer households. The prevailing wage rate almost remained the same – 3-5 kg. of grain and breakfast. However, harvesting wage that used to be 1/20<sup>th</sup> of harvesting crop has now changed to 7 kg. of paddy or 5 kg. of wheat. The few attached labourers that were noticed in earlier survey now have completely vanished.

Except for some large landowners managing loans from institutional sources for agricultural operations and rest of the households still depends largely on moneylenders. Now only five persons are getting old age pensions compared to 10 persons reported in last survey. However, in other government schemes there is report of some beneficiaries like three in IRDP and five in 'Indira Awas Yojana' belonging to backward castes.

#### *Diwan Parsa*

The village of the northwestern district of Gopalganj is situated at a distance of 2-3 km. from the block headquarters Phulbaria and is linked with semi-pucca road and is accessible by jeep throughout the year. The earlier survey reported few forward caste households having domestic connections but it has not spread at all. The village still does not have any drinking water problem. The number of private and public handpumps has doubled. The number of septic tank latrine has only gone up from 1 to 4. The primary school existed in the last survey. But now a middle school has been established within the village itself. The facilities of high school, health centre and bus stand, post office and market are at a distance of 2/3 km. The agricultural co-operative credit society existed even in last survey which is still fairly active.

The number of households has gone up from 163 in 1981 to 226 in 1998. Caste structure has hardly changed. The forward castes are still numerically largest group in the village. The caste and class structure also broadly coincides. Brahmin and Bhumihars continue to be all cultivators – almost all are either big peasants or landlords. Scheduled castes remain mostly agricultural labourers. Other backward caste households also undertake agricultural wage labour both casual and attached. Only four households of scheduled castes are involved in completely non-agricultural activities.

The cultivation area under irrigation has gone up from 50 per cent to about 90 per cent in present survey which are irrigated through various sources like tubewell, well, tank, canal etc. Due to availability of canal water number of tubewell has remained the same – 15 in number. Mechanisation that was fairly high in previous survey has gone up even further. Proportion of farmers using tractor or power tiller has gone up from one-fourth to about half and proportion of households using threshers have almost doubled. The main crops continue to be paddy, wheat, maize, sugarcane and pulses. There is some change in cropping pattern. Area under maize has come down whereas that of wheat and sugarcane has gone up. Proportion of households using HYV seeds has marginally gone up to about 80 per cent but the use of fertiliser is almost universal respectively.

The daily wage of casual labourers used to be 2.5 kg. of grain along with breakfast or Rs.4 daily along with breakfast. It has now gone up to Rs. 30-40, paid only in monetary terms. However, harvesting wage is still paid in kind. Harvesting wage used to be 1/16<sup>th</sup> of crop share that now has gone up to 1/10<sup>th</sup> to 1/20<sup>th</sup> of harvested crop. The wages of attached labour has hardly increased. It is 4 kg. of wheat. Further Rs. 5,000 to 10,000 is given as loan in place of 10 kathas of land given earlier. The village still has about 15 men as 'Halwaha' and 7 children as 'Charwaha'. The village that had surplus labour now faces shortage and hire in labourer from outside the village as well. This is largely because of outmigration of labourers to distance places which has increased.

The proportion of households leasing-in land has marginally gone up but system of leasing remains the same as 'sharing of crop'. The cultivator still mainly depends on moneylender for agricultural loans let alone for consumption loans. The institutional loans that made some inroad in earlier survey have not made much progress.

The village reports several beneficiaries in different government schemes. The number of beneficiaries under IRDP, TRYSEM and DWCRA are 30, 12 and 50 respectively, mostly from scheduled castes. Even there are 36 beneficiaries under 'Indira Awas Yojana' and 37 old age pensioners in last 5 years. These are quite substantial increase from 10 persons received old age pensions and 7 households benefited from IRDP programmes in the last survey.

### *Mahisam*

This second largest village in our census survey is situated in Madhubani district. It has 988 households at the time of this survey compared to 521 households that existed in earlier survey. Caste composition of households has almost remained the same. Muslims, the numerically largest group, constitutes one-third of total households. They are followed by Mushars who constitutes a little over one-fourth of total number of households. Brahmins, constituting one-eighth of total households, is dominant caste in the village by virtue of their control over land and other political connections. The village is still dominated by big peasants and landlords mostly belonging to Brahmin caste along with few Muslim households. The group of agricultural labourers, mostly drawn from scheduled caste and Muslims, are numerous in the village.

The village had electricity in last survey. But in last two decades the number of domestic connection has hardly gone up. It remains limited to a few households among Muslims and Brahmins. There are two primary schools in the village For high school education, post office and medical facilities, people go to block head quarters at Madhepur situated at a distance of 2.5 km. People generally use wells and public and private handpumps for drinking water. The number of public and private handpumps has gone up substantially. The scheduled castes that used to face some problem of drinking water do not face any more. There was no septic tank latrine in earlier survey. Now around 20 households of Brahmin and Muslim communities report using septic tank latrine. Apart from agriculture, some households have one or more family members working in government or private business.

One major change is the proportion of irrigated land that rose from near about 20 per cent to about 75 per cent now. Dependence on monsoon for crop cultivation has been reduced substantially. Consequently, coverage of HYV seeds (paddy and wheat) and fertiliser use has spread quite substantially. Main crop remains to be paddy – both bhadaï and aghani, Main rabi crops are wheat, mustard, masur and vegetables. The area under wheat has increased substantially mainly at the cost of maize. The productivity per acre shows some improvement.

The village continues to be self-sufficient in labour usage within the village. But some shortage of labour is reported in the month of July and August (during plantation of

paddy) since large number of agricultural labourer at that time remains in Punjab. But it does not lead to employing agricultural labour from outside village. The practice of employing attached labour has vanished. The widespread practice of using children as 'Charwaha' has completely vanished.

Earlier survey reported that labourers were mostly paid in kind. Now they are mostly paid in monetary wage. In harvesting season they are paid 1/12<sup>th</sup> share of harvested crop in place of 1/15<sup>th</sup> of harvested crop in earlier survey. Even in earlier survey, due to excess labour supply it reported some temporary migration to Punjab. Now this phenomenon has increased so much that some cultivators are complaining about shortage of labour during paddy transplantation. A significant number of youth from upper castes have also migrated to distant areas for employment. They are engaged even in manual works also there. In the village because of social labours they can not do manual work.

Earlier survey reported that 75 persons benefitted from old age pension but no other government programmes were prominent. The present survey reports beneficiaries only under one government programme i.e. IRDP – 20 in number, but it reports construction of 59 houses under India Vikas Yojana during last 5 years. However, institutional credit from government and financial institutions are still few and far between. Private moneylenders continue to be the main source of supply of credit.

### *Khangaon*

Situated at a distance of 10 km. from district headquarters of Madhubani, this village had reported reduced number of people living in it during 1971-81 in the census data. However, census figure of 1991 shows some increase in population thus reversing the declining trend in population observed in the decade 1971-1981.

There is some distinct change in the caste composition of households. Numerically scheduled caste household is largest constituting two-fifth of total number of households whereas in earlier survey, Rajput constituted 45 per cent of total number of households and now they constitute about 30 per cent of total number of households. Still Rajput is dominant caste, mostly belonging to big peasants and landlord households

whereas the numerous agricultural labourers still come from scheduled caste and backward castes.

The village continues to be separated by a small river at a distance of about 1 km. The west part of the village is linked to a pucca road. The riverbed remains dry most of the months except in rainy season. Crossing river during rainy season causes lots of problem for the eastern part of the villagers. Still no bridge is constructed to link them. Domestic electricity connection is still limited to a few Rajput households in west tola. There is no noticeable drinking water problem. Even Harijan tolas now have several handpumps compared to only two reported in the last survey. Spread of septic tank latrine has been very limited. Six Rajput families have reported to have septic tank in comparison to only two in the last survey. However, more than two-third of Rajput households and few Yadavs families now report use of soakage pit/Sulabh, an indigenous type of latrine. The village still has only one primary school and one middle school as reported in the last survey. Other facilities like post office, high school, bus stand, medical and marketing facilities, fair price shop are still available at a distance of 2 km. One co-operative credit society that was somewhat active has become completely inactive.

The village has state tubewell but it is not functioning due to power crisis. The village has a large number of pumpsets and some wells used for irrigation. The proportion of cultivated area irrigated through these sources have increased from about one-third to more than two-third. The use of HYV paddy, HYV wheat and fertilisers has gone up by some margin. Paddy, wheat, sugarcane remains to be the main crops. Some change in cropping can be observed compared to last survey. Area under wheat has continued to increase and that of under paddy and gram have fallen. Potato also has emerged as an important crop. Area under wheat has increased because of availability of HYV seeds and due to its assured dependency on irrigation in winter.

The village does not seem to have any shortage of labour. There is no report of workers coming from outside to work. The out-migration, reported in last survey, now has increased substantially, but not to the extent of leading to labour shortage as reported in other villages. The usual wage has changed from earlier survey of 2.5 kg. of grain to mixed wage of 1.5 kg. of rice and Rs. 15 in cash with one meal. The harvest wage has

gone up from 1/16<sup>th</sup> of the total harvested crop to 1/12<sup>th</sup> of harvested crop. Although the incidence of attached labour system has decreased, the system of attached labour still prevails in the village.

This village though agriculturally backward was reportedly more prosperous than other village – Mahisan and agricultural productivity was also relatively higher. Now the situation seems to have reversed. Unlike earlier survey, There is hardly any report of institutional credit availed by cultivators. Possibly the defunct functioning of co-operative credit society is responsible for it.

### *Chandkura*

Situated from 0.5 km. from pucca road, this village of Nalanda district is only 37 km. from Patna and 5 km. from the block and sub-divisional headquarter of Hilsa. The village had about 220 households and 17 castes residing in it in the year 1981. The number of household in the present survey is about 293. The caste structure also has hardly changed. There are only five households belonging to forward castes. The village continues to be dominated by backward castes II in which Kurmis being the largest caste still constitutes one-fourth of total households in the village. However, scheduled castes numbering 135 is the numerically largest group who still are the main supplier of labour in the village. The Kurmis, mostly cultivators belonging to middle and big peasants, also hire in labour mostly from scheduled castes. The few forward castes households are either big peasants or landlords.

The village was electrified way back in 1969. But for the last several years the electricity supply has been discontinued because of non-payment of bills. The village has a large number of private well and public and private handpumps and they do not face any drinking water problem. The number of septic tanks has gone up to 11 and around 30 Sulabh latrines have also been introduced since last survey. Primary school is still situated within the village. But for middle and secondary school and primary health centres they still travel 2 km. and for other facilities like hospital, regular market they still go to Hilsa.

The level of agricultural development remains fairly good. The proportion of irrigated land to total cultivated land has gone up from about half to nine-tenth since last

survey. The source of irrigation is mainly tubewell and pumpset. Coverage of HYV seed in paddy and wheat and use of fertiliser is almost universal. The thresher is almost universally used. Almost three-fourth of the cultivators uses either tractor or power-tiller. But for agricultural operations no institutional loan is available. Paddy and wheat are the two main crops Area under wheat has gone up substantially. Sugarcane that was introduced in 1980 is not cultivated at all. Rather onion has become one of the major crops. Some cultivation of masoor and khesari is still undertaken along with summer vegetables.

The casual wage rate has gone up from 1 kg. plus meal and breakfast to 2.5 kg. to 4 kg. with breakfast. The harvest wage rate also has gone up from 1/16<sup>th</sup> of harvested crop to 1/14<sup>th</sup> of harvested crop. The attached labourer still gets the same wage as casual labour but they get some land and no more loans in cash. But the prevalence of attached labour has reduced substantially and now there are just six attached labourers. The village faces no shortage of agricultural labour and a large number of persons go to distant states for work.

The government sponsored development programmes have made some inroads in the village. 10 persons were engaged in employment schemes. There are eight beneficiaries in IRDP, 105 people have been assisted under 'Indira Awas Yojana' and there are 17 beneficiaries in old age pension scheme as well.

### *Mohiuddinpur*

Situated in Nalanda district it is among the smallest villages in our census villages. The village is dominated by scheduled caste people and only a few households from forward caste stay in the village. However, Muslims and forward castes are mostly landlords leasing out their land and scheduled caste households are either agricultural labourer or tenant cultivators. Still no pucca road exists to link the village. It still does not have any electricity connection. The village has one primary school but other facilities like post office, high school, market, hospitals etc. are available in block headquarters which is about 3 km. from the village,

The percentage of land irrigated has remained the same at about 50 per cent of total cultivated land. Sources of irrigation remain diverse – tubewell, well tank etc. Last

survey reported that almost all farmers use HYV seeds in wheat and paddy and two-third apply fertilisers but only 60 per cent of households use thresher and power-tiller. Tractors were not used. Now there is an increase in mechanisation – almost all farmers are using thresher and one-third of the farmers are using tractor or power-tiller.

The main crop of the village continues to be the same – kharif paddy and rabi wheat and maize. Paddy also continues to be grown in summer season. Earlier survey reported an increase in cultivated area under wheat, maize and gram and consequent fall in cultivated area under pulses and other inferior rabi crops. This survey reports a fall in the area under sugarcane and a rise in the area under sunflower. Agricultural productivity is little lower than that of villages in the Rohtas but fairly high. Livestock still is not very important source of wealth in the village.

Since the village is dominated by scheduled castes, a large proportion of population continues to work as wage labourer. However, wages have risen from 1 kg. of rice and a meal to 2.5 kg. of rice and one meal. Harvest wage is 8 kg. of wheat or 10 kg. of paddy. The attached labourers are paid more or less the same as before – 10 kathas of land for their own cultivation and some loan. The village has a surplus of labour and there is no report of any shortage of labour in any month of the year. More than half of the cultivators are leasing in land and tenancy system is still on crop-sharing basis.

The cultivators mostly rely on institutional credit for productive expenditures. This is an improvement from limited availability in earlier survey. One important benefit from government scheme was employment scheme in which 42 persons got employment. Few persons continue to benefit from old age pensions. Further, 4 persons got diesel pump through IRDP scheme including 3 scheduled castes.

It is interesting to observe that poor perceive an improvement in their conditions and a deterioration in the condition of richer poor in the village. The reasons are an improvement in wage rate and outside job opportunity.

### *Jitwarpur*

This village of Purnea district having 918 household is the biggest village in the survey. Caste composition of households has substantially changed. Brahmin, though remained numerically largest caste, constitute much smaller proportion of households. Backward

caste I, now is the largest group if taken together constituting 40 per cent of total households.

There is some change in the class-caste structure observed in the village. The Brahmin who constituted 60 per cent of households now constitute one-third of households and backward caste I which constituted one-fourth of total households earlier, now constitute half of the total households. The village has a larger number of big peasants and landlords – a substantial section belong to Brahmin caste. But backward castes now have quite a few households belonging to big peasants households. The number of poor-middle and middle peasant households still is quite small. The scheduled caste, a large number of backward caste and Muslim households are agricultural labourers.

The spread of electricity connection-- both domestic and agricultural – have risen several times. Domestic connection has gone up from 8 to nearly 100 and that of agricultural connection from nil to 14, mostly to households of Brahmins. There are many private and public handpumps for the purpose of drinking water. Most of the private handpumps that are located in Brahmin households are now well spread out across castes. Spread of septic tank latrines is still very low – less than 10 households have it.

The occupational diversification has hardly taken place. Brahmins remain mostly cultivators. Although some of them are in government services as well. Backward and scheduled castes are generally agricultural labourers and some of them continue to be tenant cultivators.

The village continues to have a primary schools but for middle school and high school students continue to go to neighbouring village. For health facilities, post office, veterinary centre etc., although not far – are still non-existent in such a large village. The village, in addition to a co-operative society has now an agricultural society as well.

The area under irrigation under has gone up from one-tenth to two-fifth of cultivated land since last survey. Paddy and jute continue to be the main crop. Wheat, potato and maize cultivation is also undertaken. There is some cropping pattern change in last several years. Area under wheat has gone up and that of jute has come down. Coverage of crops under HYV seeds and use of fertilisers have also gone up due to

spread of irrigation. Agricultural mechanisation has substantially increased from almost nothing. Half of total cultivators are now using tractor/power tillers and thresher is universally used for post-harvesting operations. Number of pumpsets also has doubled. The leasing-in land under fixed rent system has somewhat gone up and landowners and tenants now even share input costs. Due to all these reasons agricultural productivity has somewhat gone up.

The nominal wage rate has gone up from Rs. 1.50 along with meal and breakfast to Rs. 15 along with meal and breakfast but for harvesting 1/8<sup>th</sup> of harvested crop is still given as harvest wage. The payments to the attached labour have also remained the same at annual provision of 10 mounds of paddy in addition to food and clothing. The use of attached labour has come down but still 28 men are employed as 'Halwaha' and 12 children as employed as 'Charwaha'. The village did not have any shortage of labour but now a good number of migrant wage labourers are employed in agriculture during four months of shortage. This is due to much higher level of temporary migrations (numbering around 350) for agricultural and construction activities in distant places like Punjab, Haryana and Delhi. Livestock that used to be an important source of income for backward caste and scheduled castes and Muslims have lost its importance. The use of institutional loans for financing of agricultural machinery and pumpsets has gone up but for other requirements villagers still depend on moneylenders.

There are a large number of beneficiaries from different government schemes. number of persons benefiting from old age pension has remained the same as around 80. But other government schemes have picked up---36 beneficiaries as widow pensioners, 11 scheduled caste families from housing schemes, 200 beneficiaries from IRDP schemes for buying milch animal and 50 persons have benefited from employment schemes for some days.

### *Belabadan*

Situated about 10 km. from the block headquarters of Banmankhi in Purnea district, the village Belabadan is dominated by Muslims constituting more than two-fifth of total households, followed by scheduled castes who are little over 30 per cent of total households. Backward caste households also inhabit in significant numbers along with no

presence of forward caste households. The caste structure of the village has hardly changed.

Some households belonging to backward caste II are still quite well to do. The large majority of the households still belong to agricultural labour. The big peasants and landlords come from Muslim and backward caste II. Around 25 households are still involved in non-agricultural activities belonging to above-mentioned two communities.

The approach road of the village is still kutcha. However, now the village is accessible by jeep throughout the year. In previous survey out of 4 tolas, 2 tolas were electrified. But now there is no electricity in the village. Since 1993 only wiring remains. The village has several public handpumps and a large number of private handpumps for drinking water. The scheduled caste still depends only on public handpumps for drinking water. There was no septic tank latrine in the last survey, but now 3 households from Muslim households have latrine facilities. There is only one primary school in the village. Middle school and post office are still at a distance of 2 km. Marketing, hospital facilities and chemist shop are available only at a distance of 3 km.

The village still has a high proportion of tenant cultivators and agricultural labourers. The irrigated land continues to be nearly 60 per cent of total cultivated land – mostly from canal. The main crops continue to be paddy, jute, wheat and maize. A major change in the introduction of sunflower cultivation during the last few years and it is now extensively cultivated. The use of HYV seeds has also increased marginally and now almost all farmers use chemical fertilisers.

The nominal wage rate has gone up from Rs. 2 along with meal to Rs. 15 and ½ kg. of grain. The harvested wage rate has gone up from 1/9<sup>th</sup> of harvested crop to 1/8<sup>th</sup> of harvested crop. The attached labour phenomenon has completely vanished from the village. The village has no shortage of labour and wages of casual labour has increased marginally in recent times.

Tenancy cultivation is still quite high. The number of tenant cultivators still outnumber owner cultivator. However, the proportion of tenant cultivators has come down from three-fourth to two-third. The system of tenancy still continues to be completely on crop-sharing basis. But now fertiliser costs are also shared other than sharing of irrigation cost as existed earlier. Livestock is still quite prevalent. A large

number of households migrate to do agricultural work in Punjab or in factory in Delhi. This phenomenon has increased considerably during the last two decades.

Apart from old age beneficiaries in last survey, in recent survey there is a good number of beneficiaries from other government programmes as well. The active programmes are JRY generating 600 persondays of employment, Indira Awas Yojana benefiting 12 scheduled households and 60 beneficiary households under IRDP schemes. Institutional loans have made some inroads in productive investment in agriculture. Apart from that, for other requirements the dependence on moneylenders is still quite prevalent.

### *Samhutibuzurg*

The village Samhutibuzurg of Rohtas district is situated at 3 km. away from block headquarters of Dinara. The village is still not linked by pucca road. However, now it is accessible by jeep except for the rainy season. During heavy rainy season it remains inaccessible by jeep.

The caste structure has hardly changed. The number of households has gone up from about 183 households to 270 but forward castes still constitutes one-fifth of total households and scheduled caste constitutes about 40 per cent. Brahmin continues to remain the dominant caste owning most of the land and having other social and political connections.

The village still does not have any electricity. It still has the primary school but for facilities of higher schooling, post office, health, marketing bus stand etc. Villagers still have to go to block headquarters at Dinara. The village co-operative society that was inactive in last survey does not exist at all. The village does not have drinking water problem. Apart from 8 private wells, there are some public and a large number of private handpumps in the village.

Almost the entire land of village continues to be irrigated by canal but now some problems have emerged for water to reach the 'Tand' land. Paddy and wheat remains to be the two major crops. Khesari, gram, potato, masur and vegetables are grown now but sugarcane cultivation has almost stopped in comparison to last survey. HYV seeds in both paddy and wheat are still extensively used and the average yield of both these crops are double of that of the villages of North Bihar covered under this study. Unlike

expansion of area under paddy and sugarcane seen in last survey, this survey does not observe any noticeable cropping pattern changes.

In last survey, wage rate in this village was higher than most of the census villages in other districts. It is no more so. Harvest wage, which was 1/12th of harvested crop, continues to be 1/12th. Daily wage in kind has also hardly increased. The phenomenon of attached labour has been reduced but still there exist around 10 attached labour. It is because of usage of modern agricultural techniques like tractors and cultivators do not want to give land for labour services. Labour shortage in the village has gone up substantially compared to last survey and for six months starting from October a large number of labourers come from Palamau district.

Nearly half of the cultivators are leasing in land – up by 10 per cent from last survey. But area leased in is not large. The prevalent system is mostly fixed rent. Hardly five per cent of leased in land is on crop-sharing basis. Institutional loan particularly long-term credit was practically absent earlier. But now institutional loan has become quite prevalent. In last few years 4 persons got IRDP loan for buying agricultural machinery which did not exist earlier. The number of old age pensioners has gone up from 10 to 20.

The village is economically better off than other villages in the survey. General perception remains that agriculture has continued to improve but physical infrastructure like road and electricity is still absent.

### *Amarhi*

The village Amarhi of Nasriganj block in Rohtas district is situated on pucca road and is about 9 km. away from block headquarters. The number of households has gone up from 119 in 1981 to 153 at present. There is hardly any change in caste structure since last survey. Brahmins numbering 30 households are the only upper caste household living in the village, Scheduled caste constitutes 30 per cent of the total households and rest is backwards with numerically largest group of Yadavs and Koeris. Brahmin, Yadav and Kurmi still have their separate sphere of influence -- all of them are involved in cultivation.

The electricity first came to the village during 1990-91. Around 10 households took domestic connection but due to the theft of electric wire after a year it stopped. Now even electric poles are also stolen away. The primary school within the village still remains. But for middle school, high school, market, health facilities etc. villagers still have to travel 4 km. from the village. There is no problem of drinking water. The number of public and private handpumps has also gone up substantially. In place of nine service latrines, now there are six septic tanks and ten service latrines in the village.

The entire village continues to be irrigated by canal and main crops continue to be paddy and wheat. Masoor and vegetables are also grown on some plot of land. There is no noticeable change in cropping pattern. Unlike Samhutibuzurg, the wages for casual labour are mostly given in cash along with breakfast. Harvesting wage rate is similar to Samhutibuzurg, being 1/12th of crops. Attached labourers are also given one bigha of land along with Rs. 400 per month and cloth. But attached labour is limited only to 'Charwaha'. Report of shortage of labour during paddy transplantation still persists but now it does not lead to employment of outside village labour. Around 25-30 households, mainly Yadavs, are involved in selling milk. Some of the households also leases out land mostly on fixed rent basis.

Institutional credit was not very prevalent in last survey. But now institutional sources meet most of the productive credit requirement of the cultivators. Loans from moneylenders have almost vanished which was widely prevalent.

Agricultural productivity is at similar level like Samhutibuzurg and it is also a relatively prosperous village. In last survey only government scheme worthwhile mentioning was old age pension – 30 people benefited, But now only 3 beneficiaries are left. But there are 7 scheduled caste households in IRDP beneficiary list and 10 households from backward castes and scheduled castes are provided with housing under Indira Awas Yojana during last five years.

#### *Comparison among villages*

The description above shows considerable differences among villages apart from their similarities. The most visible similarity that remains is that villages are still strictly tied by the caste system, though there is difference among dominant castes across villages.

The service castes engaged in caste occupation known as Jajmani system, widely prevailing in earlier survey, is on its way out. Non-agricultural source of employment is still extremely limited but out-migration to other states has opened up new sources of employment for labouring classes, particularly in the northern part of the state.

The label of development of various villages to a certain extent confirms our characterisation of the development from which villages are selected. The gap of development between backward district and advanced districts seems to have diminished. The most important reason being spread of irrigation, albeit tubewell irrigation. However, villages in advanced district of Gopalganj, and Rohtas have more assured source of irrigation -- canal. It does make a difference in agricultural productivity.

The difference in the dominance of different castes coupled with distribution of landholding had an impact on the class structure in the villages. Villages where middle or backward early were present in large number and forward castes were very small in number were dominated by middle peasants whereas villages with large population of forward castes were dominated more by big peasants and landlords. In the present survey irrespective of caste structure of the villages, big peasants or landlords dominate all census villages. The reason being backward castes have turned into big peasants or landlords.

The differences in the level of development, caste and class structure were also revealed in the labour market prevailing in different villages. Villages dominated by middle and backward castes had hardly any shortage of labour with a very small section of wage labour. The shortage of labour, in peak season, arose only in relatively advanced villages that were dominated by forward castes.

The present survey, reports of shortage of labour in some villages which arises on two counts. Firstly, very few or no presence of scheduled caste households and lastly, out-migration of labour in distant states. No shortage is reported in Amarhi village of Rohtas although it is one of the most prosperous villages. The attached labour existed in all villages in earlier survey. But, now particularly in less developed villages attached labour has ceased to exist, the reason being heavy out-migration to distant lands. The wages of casual labourers are still lower in backward villages but the gap between

advanced and backward villages has somewhat got reduced. Amount of land given to attached labour in Rohtas district continues to be highest.

The level of infrastructure and communication are still very important dimension for these villages. Level of irrigation has also gone up in backward villages but assured irrigation through canal does have an impact on prosperity of villages. Similarly, availability of good communication in some villages give many advantages compared to villages in the same district with lesser development of communication and thus leading to their greater prosperity. Unfortunately, there is very small improvement in the development of infrastructure—both social and physical—in the surveyed villages during the last two decades.

**Annexure**  
**Some Aspects of Change in the 12 villages**

Village	Approach Road	Dominant Caste	Dominated Caste	Electrification
Alalpur-Bishunpur	2 km. away from pucca road; inaccessible during rainy season	Rajputs are landlords and big peasants	Scheduled caste & backward castes are agricultural labourers.	Only agricultural connection. Rose from 8 to 12
Salempur-Rupaspur	4 km. away from pucca road. One has to cross river to reach village. Accessible for 6 months & was inaccessible earlier.	Brahmin & few Koiri families are landlords and big peasants	„	No electricity connection yet.
Paharpur Dayal	Connected by pucca road	Rajputs are dominant caste.	Scheduled castes are agricultural labourers.	percent of families have domestic connection. Rise is observed
Dewanparsi	Connected by semi-pucca road throughout the year	Bhumihar & Brahmin are dominant caste.	„	Number of handpumps have gone up substantially
Mahisan	Still connected by kutch road	Brahmins are landlords & big peasants	Scheduled castes & Muslims are agricultural labourers.	Public & private handpumps have risen substantially.
Khangaon	West part is linked with pucca road. River separates east & west parts. No bridge over river.	Rajput is dominant caste.	Scheduled castes are agricultural labourers.	Public handpumps are now used for drinking water.
Chandkura	Linked through pucca road	Kurmi caste dominates.	„	No electricity since 1982.
Mohiuddinpur	Kutch road.	Muslims & few forward castes are landlords & big peasants.	„	No electricity
Jitwarpur	„	Brahmin & few backward castes are dominant	Scheduled castes & Muslims are agricultural labourers.	Domestic connection has risen from 8 to 100. Agricultural connection from nil to 14
Belabadan	Kutch but accessible through jeep throughout the year	Muslims & backward caste II are dominant.	Scheduled castes are agricultural labourers.	Electricity came long back. But since 1982 on wiring remains.
Samhutibuzurg	Kutch road. Inaccessible during rainy season	„	„	No electricity
Amarhi	Pucca road	Brahmin, Yadav & Kurmi have separate sphere of influence.	„	Electricity came in 1990. But due to theft it stopped.

Village	Drinking water	Latrine Facilities	Coverage of Irrigation	Source of Irrigation	Main Crop	Change in Cropping Pattern
Alalpur-Bishunpur	One public well & several public handpumps has been established	One family has sanitary latrine now.	65 percent of area still irrigated	Wells & tubewells	Paddy and wheat	Gram is replaced by masur.
Salempur-Rupaspur	Public well is still used for drinking water	Two septic tanks from none.	45 percent of area is irrigated	Private boring numbering 10 exists	Paddy	Sugarcane replaced by sunflower oilseeds
Paharpur Dayal	Handpumps are now used for drinking water	Septic tank facilities in nine families. Marginally went up.	Marginal rise in irrigation coverage to 65 percent.	Mainly canal but handpumps are also used	Paddy, gram, masur etc.	No change
Dewanparsa	Number of handpumps have up substantially	Very few septic tanks. Went up from one to four	Irrigation ratio went up from 50 to 90 percent	Tanks, wells & canals exist.	Paddy, wheat & maize.	Area under wheat went up at the cost of maize
Mahisan	Public & private handpump has gone up substantially	Septic tank numbers rose from nil to 20.	Irrigation ratio went up from 20 to 70 percent	Well & handpumps	„	„
Khangaon	Public handpumps are used for drinking water	Six septic tanks in place of two earlier. Several Saulav tanks now exist	It rose from one-third to two-third.	„	Paddy, wheat & gram	„
Chandkura	Large number of public well & public handpumps	Several septic tanks & newly constructed Saulav tanks exist.	Rose from 50 percent to 90 percent	Tubewell and pumpsets	Paddy & wheat	Area under paddy went up
Mohiuddinpur	No drinking water problem	Two septic tanks and three service latrines exist from nothing.	Still half of the land is irrigated	Well and tanks	„	Sugarcane is getting replaced by sunflower oilseeds.
Jitwarpur	Drinking water handpumps are many.	Few septic tanks	Rose from one-tenth to two-fifth	Handpump and pumpsets	Paddy, jute & wheat	Area under wheat went up at the cost of Jute
Belabadan	Several public handpumps exist	From nil to only 3 septic tanks.	60 percent area is irrigated.	Mostly canal	Paddy, wheat, maize & jute	No change
Samhutibuzurg	„	Nine septic tanks	All Irrigated	Canal	Paddy & wheat	Area under paddy & wheat went up at the cost of sugarcane
Amarhi	No drinking water problem. Large number handpumps exist	6 septic tanks & 10 Saulav tanks in place of 9 service latrines.	„	„	Paddy & wheat continue to be main crops.	No change

Village	Leasing in Coverage	Leasing Pattern	Casual Wage Rate	Harvest Wage Rate	Source of Loans
Alalpur-Bishunpur	One-fourth of cultivators lease in	Irrigation & fertiliser costs are shared	Wages in kind went up from 2 kg. + meal to 2.5 kg. + meal		Main source is friends and relatives
Salempur-Rupaspur		Instead of seeds & fertiliser cost now only fertiliser cost is shared	Rose from 1kg. + meal to 2.5 kg. + meal	Rose from 1/16 <sup>th</sup> to 1/10 <sup>th</sup> of crop	Institutional loan for productive purposes went up substantially
Paharpur Dayal	One-fifth of cultivators lease in as opposed to one-fourth earlier	Inputs costs are shared	Remains same at 3.5 kg. of grain	Changed from 1/20 <sup>th</sup> of crop to 5-7 kg. of grain	Some big landowners have managed institutional loans but rest depend on traditional loans
Dewanparsa	Leasing in land has marginally gone up	Share cropping basis	Changed from 2.5 kg. of rice + Rs. 4 to Rs. 30-40	Rose from 1/20 <sup>th</sup> of crop to 1/10 <sup>th</sup> of crop	Institutional loans made inroads earlier but didn't progress much. Source is traditional
Mahisan		„	Monetary wage	1/12 <sup>th</sup> of crop in place of 1/15 <sup>th</sup> earlier	Institutional loans hardly exist. Private lenders dominates
Khangaon		„	Changed from 2.5 kg. of gram to 1.5 kg. + Rs.15	1/12 <sup>th</sup> of crop in place of 1/16 <sup>th</sup> of crop	Unlike earlier survey hardly any institutional loan exist
Chandkura		Fixed rent in range of Rs. 7000-7500	Went up from 1kg. of rice to 2.5 kg. of rice	1/14 <sup>th</sup> of crop in place of 1/16 <sup>th</sup> of crop	No institutional loans are available for agricultural operations
Mohiuddinpur	Leased in by half of the cultivators	Mainly crop sharing	„	8-10 kg. of paddy or wheat	Now productive loan requirements are largely met by institutional sources
Jitwarpur	Leasing in under fixed rent went up	Fixed rent system. Inputs costs are shared	Rose from Rs.1.50 + meal to Rs.15	1/8 <sup>th</sup> of crop	Institutional loans for financing agricultural machinery & pumpset has gone up
Belabandan	Leasing in practised by two-third cultivators. Fall from three-fourth earlier	Share cropping basis. Fertiliser cost is also shared in place of irrigation cost earlier	Rose from Rs. 2 to Rs.15 + ½ kg. of grain	1/8 <sup>th</sup> of crop from 1/9 <sup>th</sup> of crop	Institutional loans have made some inroads
Samhutibuzurg	Leasing in went up. Half of the cultivators lease in	Fixed rent basis	Daily wage in kind has gone up	1/12 <sup>th</sup> of crop in place of 1/10 <sup>th</sup> of crop	Institutional loans are quite prevalent
Amarhi	Forty percent of cultivators lease in	„	Monetary wage + breakfast	1/13 <sup>th</sup> of paddy and 1/12 <sup>th</sup> of wheat	Institutional loans meet most of the productive requirement now.

Village	Level of Agricultural Technology	Prevalence of Attached Labour	Mode of Payment of Attached Labour	Current Government Programmes	Past Government Programmes	Labour Shortage
Alalpur-Bishunpur		Substantial fall in use of attached labour.	Given 5 kathas of land	No public works programme	Some beneficiaries in previous survey.	No shortage even now
Salempur-Rupaspur	Use of HYV seeds more than half. Some pesticides also used.	10 Halwaha still exist.	Given 5 kathaa of land in place of 7 kathas earlier	Rs. 20,000 under JRY		No shortage now in place of shortage earlier
Paharpur Dayal	3/4 <sup>th</sup> of the cultivators use HYV seeds and no rise from earlier survey. Tubewell & tractors are similarly used	Attached labour no more exist		5 beneficiaries now but 3 in IRDP & 5 in Indira Awas Yojana	10 beneficiaries in old age pension	Some shortage of labour now. No shortage earlier
Dewanparsa	Use of HYV seeds is 80 percent & fertiliser use is universal. Half of the cultivators use tractor or power tiller in place of 1/4 <sup>th</sup> in earlier survey.	Attached labour still continues. 15 Halwaha & 7 Charwaha work.	Attached labour are given Rs. 5000-10,000 as loan in place of 7 kathas land earlier	30, 12 & 50 beneficiaries under IRDP, TRYSEM & DWCRA. Also several under IAY & old age pension	Reports only 7 beneficiaries in IRDP & 10 in old age pension	Shortage now exists
Mahisan	Coverage of HYV seeds and fertilisers has gone up substantially.	Use of attached labour has almost vanished.		Reports no beneficiaries in IRDP. 59 houses in IAY is constructed	75 beneficiaries in old age pension. Hardly any other schemes existed	No labour shortage even now
Khangaon	Some rise in use of HYV seeds and fertilisers is observed	Still exist	Very little improvement in their condition	No public work programme exists		„
Chandkura	Universal use of HYV seeds, fertiliser & threshers	6 attached labour exists	They get some land but no more loans now	8 beneficiaries under IRDP, 105 assisted under IAY & 17 under old age pension	Only 10 persons were benefited in employment programmes.	„
Mohiuddinpur	Universal use of HYV seeds, fertiliser & threshers. 1/3 <sup>rd</sup> of farmers uses mechanisation.	10 halwaha & 1 charwaha still exists	10 kathas of land & some loans are given	Few beneficiaries under IRDP & old age pension	42 beneficiaries in employment scheme	„
Jitwarpur	Use of HYV seeds and fertiliser has gone up. Mechanisation of agriculture rose substantially.	Prevalence has fallen but still few exist	10 maunds of paddy + food & clothing	200, 50, 80 & 30 beneficiaries under IRDP, JRY, old age & widow pensions exist	Only 80 beneficiaries in old age pension	Shortage of labour in peak season. No shortage earlier
Belabandan	Use of HYV seeds has marginally increased	Fall in attached labour phenomenon		60 beneficiaries under IRDP, 12 in IAY	Some beneficiaries in Old aged pensions	No shortage of labour even now
Samhutibuzurg	HYV seeds, fertilisers & tractors are now widely used.	Fall in number but still 10 attached labour exist	1.25 acre of land, 175 kg. of paddy for halwaha	4 beneficiaries under IRDP & 20 old age pensioners.	Only 10 beneficiaries in old age pension scheme	Huge shortage. Labour comes from Palamau
Amarhi	Half of the cultivators use HYV seeds, universal use of fertiliser & 95% use threshers & tractors	Only charwaha attached labour exist now.	One bigha of land + Rs. 400 per month +cloth	7 beneficiaries under IRDP & 10 in IAY, 3 in old age pension	„	No labour shortage as existed earlier

