

## **ECONOMIC-DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES IN THE TRIBAL SOCIETIES OF TRIPURA**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Interaction between socio-economic and demographic factors of change is an important and interesting topic of study in respect of any society. Such a study assumes overwhelming importance in the case of tribal societies known for their backwardness and extremely slow process of socio-economic change.

Although the tribal people are known to have some distinct demographic features and these features have important implications for their socio-economic development, very little attempt has been made to analyse them and relate them to their problems. In Tripura and other North Eastern States, the concern for dealing with the problem posed by immigration of non-tribal has diverted the attention of the researchers from the analysis of demographic changes in the tribal societies of Tripura and their relation with economic development of these social groups. The present paper is a humble step to bridge this gap.

### **METHODOLOGY**

The approach in the present paper has been a mixed one in respect of methodology. We have studied economic-demographic situation of the tribal people as a whole and at the same time analysed the disaggregated data for different tribal groups with a view to understanding the interaction between demographic and other socio-economic factors through cross-section comparison. For this we have totally depended on census data and obviously non-availability of disaggregated demographic data at the level of specific tribes has imposed limitations on our analysis.

There are as many as 19 scheduled tribes in Tripura. They are: (1) Tripuri or Tripura, (2) Riang, (3) Jamatia, (4) Chakma, (5) Halam, (6) Noatia, (7) Mog, (8) Kuki, (9) Garo, (10) Munda, (11) Orang, (12) Lushai, (13) Santal, (14) Uchai, (15) Khasia, (16) Bhil, (17) Lepcha, (18) Bhutia and (19) Chaimal.

Only the 11 tribes mentioned above had population exceeding 5000 according to 1981 Census. Therefore, for comparative study of economic-demographic features we have selected the first 11 tribes for separate analytical treatment and clubbed the rest of the tribes together under the group-name of "Other tribes". This has been done in view of the fact that too small figures do not yield meaningful results when their covariation is studied.

#### **DYNAMICS OF TRIBAL DEMOGRAPHY**

In almost all socio-economic studies of Tripura it is emphasized that owing to continuous immigration on non-tribal population (speeded up spectacularly after the partition of India) the proportion of tribal population to total population has fallen drastically since 1931 reducing them to the minority position. Table 1 shows that the proportion of tribal population to total population in Tripura was as high as 56.37 percent in 1921 and it came down to 28.44 percent in 1981. Curiously the Census of 1991 shows an increase in the proportion of tribal population to 30.55 percent (perhaps owing to the influx of the Chakma refugees in recent years).

Immigration of non-tribal population has created a number of problems of adjustment. The demographic marginalization of the tribal population in Tripura has also been accompanied with socio-economic marginalization owing to their inability to have adequate participation in the process of economic development (Bhattacharjee and Ganguly, 1993). This has given rise to social tension manifest in its extreme form in the riots of 1980 and in the chronic problem of tribal insurgency in the State.

Side by side the exogenous factor bringing about qualitative (compositional) change in the demography of Tripura. The indigenous factor of change in the quantum and structure of tribal population is also of great importance in view of the fact that this has contributed to the change in land-man ration, shortening of the *jhum* cycle in the tribal economy and consequent crisis of rising population in a stagnant occupational setup. Moreover, changes in the proportion of different tribes within the broad social group known as the tribal are also significant in so far as they indicate demographic features of different tribes and their relative positions.

Table 1 show that tribal population in Tripura has been increasing at a very high rate since 1911. During the decades of 1911-21, 1951-61, and 1981-91 the decadal

growth rates have been 54.13, 51.31 and 46.14 percent respectively. The decline in the tribal population during 1941-51 has been ascribed by experts to errors of enumeration (Ganguly, 1990).

The gap between the decadal growth rates of tribal population and total population has been narrowed down since 1961 when immigration into the State started getting slowed down. This narrowing gap between the population growth rates suggests that the natural rates of growth of tribal and non-tribal populations in Tripura are not greatly different. This similarity of natural demographic change between the tribal and non-tribal combined with the known dissimilarity between their economic participation has greatly contributed to inequality between the two social groups with all its adverse socio-political consequences ((Bhattacharjee and Ganguly, 1993).

#### **INTER-TRIBE COMPARATIVE DEMOGRAPHIC GROWTH RATES**

Table 2 present population figures for different tribes of Tripura and their proportions to total tribal population during 1961-81. As is well-known the Tripuris occupy the dominant position in the tribal demography of Tripura constituting more than 50 percent of the said population. Moreover, their proportion to total tribal population has been increasing from one census year to another, it being 52.71 percent in 1961 and 56.66 percent in 1981. At the other extreme are Noatias whose proportion to total tribal population has suffered a steady decline from 4.45 percent in 1961 to 1.23 percent in 1981.

On the face of it, one may suggest that the Tripuri being the dominant tribal group, are also the most advanced of all the tribes in Tripura and it is natural that they being in the second stage of demographic change will experience higher natural rate of growth in comparison with other less developed tribes. But decline in the Noatia population cannot be explained in the same way. Ganguly ascribes the decrease in population of the Noatias to the fact that owing to the operation of the force of realignment in the tribal society many of the Noatias have declared themselves as the Tripuris.

The Reang constitute the second largest tribal population in the State, their proportion being around 15 percent. The gap between the first and the second largest group is remarkable. Although the population of the Reang has been increasing, their

proportion to total tribal population has declined slightly from 15.72 percent in 1961 to 14.3 percent in 1981.

The third tribal group, the Jamatia however, attained a steady increase in their proportion from 6.76 to 7.62 percent. The Chakma and Mog are the two tribes affected by waves of international migration. But it is significant that while the population proportion of the Chakma is fluctuating around 6 percent that of the Mog has registered steady increase from 2.92 percent in 1961 to 3.12 percent in 1981. Perhaps this implies that while the populations of the Chakma are still influenced by immigration the factor of emigration does not work in the case of the Mog.

The proportions of all other tribes are below 2 percent and owing to smallness of their number and proportion, the percentage variation in proportion does not carry much meaning. Still the fall in the proportion of the Kuki population from 1.54 percent in 1961 to 0.94 percent in 1981 and that of the Garo from 1.52 to 1.25 percent during the same period are remarkable.

Thus it is found that while the tribal population in Tripura has registered steady and rather rapid increase during the last few decades, its inter-tribe composition has been undergoing significant changes. The dominant factor in this qualitative change may be the 'flux in social boundaries' in the terminology of B.K. Roy Barman (Barman, 1970).

Table 3 provides a device of looking at the same phenomenon in another way i.e., the way of viewing the growth rates of different tribes of Tripura in order to understand their relative contribution to the growth in total population. The overwhelmingly dominant tribe, Tripuri is found to have decadal growth rate exceeding 30 percent both in 1961-71 and 1971-81 while the second largest tribe, Reang registered comparatively moderate decadal growth rates of 14.36 percent and 29.79 percent respectively during these two decades.

In conformity with sharp decline in their proportion to the total tribal population, the Noatias have registered spectacularly negative demographic growth rates during both the decades and the Kukis have shown similar trend during 1971-81.

The Mundas and the Orangs known as the 'tea-plantation tribes' of Tripura experienced high decadal growth rates of 49.48 and 52.19 percent respectively during 1971-81. The indigenous tribe, Halam also showed high decadal growth rate of 51.87

percent. The decadal growth rate of the Garos, however, are found to be surprisingly low i.e., 1.37 percent during 1961-71.

While some of the extreme variations may be ascribed to 'under enumeration' in one census year and 'correction' in the other or to 'flux in social boundaries' there is no doubt that rates of demographic changes for the tribes of Tripura have been significantly unequal.

### **SEX RATIO**

Female deficiency has been a striking characteristic of Indian population throughout the period of the regular census history (Sinha and Zacharia, 1984). This deficiency is reflected in the sex ratio which shows the number of females per one thousand males. The death rate among females compared to that of males should be low because of biological reasons enabling females to resist diseases more effectively than males. Therefore, adverse sex ratio is an indicator of lower social status of women reflecting scanty regard shown by the society to their wellbeing. On the other hand, favourable (higher) sex ratio indicates better social status of women in the society concerned.

Table 4 shows that the tribes in Tripura have better sex ratio than people in general both in Tripura and in India as a whole. In 1991 the sex ratio of the tribal in Tripura was as high as 965.2 whereas it was 946 for all Tripura and only 929 for all India.

It is also found that the sex ratio among the tribes in totality has registered an improvement from 955 in 1961 to 965.2 in 1991. This may be owing to either an improvement in the status of tribal women or a fuller enumeration of them in the census or both.

If we make an inter-tribe comparison it is found that in 1961 the Jamatias had the highest sex ratio (999.3) followed by the Kukis (985.9) and the Tripuris (958.3). The Orangs had the lowest sex ratio (915.4). But the comparative position of the tribes in respect of sex ratio has undergone change greatly over the last three decades. In 1971 the pride of place went to the Kukis (1156) followed by the Orangs (1041.7) and the Garos (1036). In that year the Chakmas had the lowest sex ratio of 906.9.

In 1981 the Garos (1008.8) came to the forefront in this respect followed by the Jamatias (989.5) and the Halams (975.2). The lowest position went to the Mundas

(907.6). Thus great fluctuations are found in the sex ratios of the tribes and no firm conclusion can be drawn about the comparative position of different tribes so far as the sex ratio is concerned.

#### **WORK PARTICIPATION**

Rate and pattern of work participation are important indicators of economic characteristics of a community. While rate of work participation indicate the extent of use of the available human resource and the burden of dependants per earner, the pattern of work participation or the occupational distribution of the workers show the stage of economic development attained.

Although there are some variations in the definition of workers in various censuses of India, the work participation rate are roughly comparable if we add together the main and marginal workers and define the work participation as the ratio of total workers (main and marginal) to total population. The variations in time reference type of work etc may be ignored while trying to find the broad trend.

Table 5 shows that percentage of workers in the tribal societies in Tripura as a whole has declined from 51.59 percent in 1961 to 31.55 percent in 1971 and then it has registered an improvement to reach the figure of 41.25 percent in 1981. The overall trend in work participation is definitely a falling one.

The falling trend in the work participation rate of the tribes in Tripura between 1961 and 1971 can mainly be explained by the exclusion of many women from the category of workers. This is confirmed by Table 6 which shows that the tribal female participation rate fell from 45.70 percent in 1961 to 14.78 percent in 19971. This drastic fall cannot wholly owe to change in the definition of work. One may point out that with the peasantisation of the tribal economy i.e., switchover from shifting cultivation to settled peasant farming, the role of the female workers in agricultural operations has lost much of its importance. Moreover, falling female participation rate may be indicative of (1) displacement of women at a higher rate in the face of declining work opportunity for both the sexes and (2) withdrawal of females from labour force in the first stage of socio-economic development when the women are not educated enough to join the tertiary sector activities.

Table 5 shows that the 'other tribes' has the highest rate of work participation (62.69%) followed by the Reang (56.2%) and the Orang (55.16%). In 1971 the Reang tribe lost their position in respect of work participation and the Orang ranked first (42.39%) while the Munda occupied the second place (40.66%). Now, the Reang have been identified in Tripura as a primitive tribe being hardcore *Jhumia* practicing shifting cultivation in protected and reserve forest areas. They have been the chief beneficiaries of the Primitive Group programme for settlement of *Jhumia* (Dept. of A&A Economics, 1988). This explains fall in their work participation rate as they made switchover from shifting cultivation. On the other hand, the Orang and Munda are 'tea-plantation' tribes and their status as tea garden workers has not undergone any substantial change. Therefore, in their case the fall in the work participation rate has been less. It is also to be noted that these two tribes maintained their eminence in work participation in 1981.

Table 6 shows that in 1961 the Kuki had the highest female work participation rate (47.78%) closely followed by the Jamatia (47.6%) and the Reang (46.61%). In 1971 with fall in participation rate the first three ranks in this respect were occupied by the Orang (37.92%), Munda (29.9%) and the 'other tribes' (25.75%). The Tripuri, the dominant group suffered a great decline in the female work participation rate from 45.87 to 12.32 percent between 1961 and 1971. This may be owing to impact of development on them. The Noatia are observed to have the lowest female participation rate of 10.34 percent in 1971.

In 1981 the Orang (40.97%) and Munda (37.97%) are seen to have maintained their relative position followed by the Noatia (37.68%) in the third rank. The Chakma are observed to have the lowest rate of female participation (26.54%) closely in precedence by the Garo (26.55%).

It is difficult to explain the changes in the relative position of different tribes in respect of female work participation as portrayed in the census figures by any set of formula. But it is noteworthy that in 1961 and 1981 the differences in the rates of female participation in work between different tribes were much less than those in 1971.

Proportion of workers in the non-primary sector is an important indicator of economic development. Table 7 shows that this proportion for the tribal people as a whole fell from 7.87 percent in 1961 to 3.26 percent in 1971 and then increased to 5.65

percent in 1981. The fall in this proportion between 1961 and 1981 is noteworthy. If we are to rely in census data the conclusion is inevitable that the tribal societies in Tripura have suffered a structural retrogression. On the one hand the household industries like loom and handicrafts have suffered decay and on the other the tribal people have not been able to make any significant progress in respect of participation in trade, service etc. The fresh addition to the labour force consequent upon population growth has been absorbed in the primary sector alone.

In 1961 the Munda had the highest proportion of workers (19.16%) in the non-primary sector followed by the 'other tribes' (13.2%), Garo (12.01%) and the Mog (11.24%).

In 1971 the Orang occupied the first rank (20.16%) in this respect followed by 'other tribes' (9.51%) and Garo (7.75%). While the higher proportion of non-primary workers in the case of the 'plantation-tribes' is understandable, change in their relative positions especially the drastic fall in the proportion of the Munda workers in the non-primary sectors from 19.16 percent in 1961 to 2.57 percent in 1971 is difficult to explain.

In 1981 the Orang again occupied the first position (33.6%) followed by the 'other tribes' (16.39%) and the Garo (14.02%).

The increase of the proportion of the Orang workers in the non-primary sectors from 6.24 percent in 1961 to 20.16 percent in 1971 and 33.6 percent in 1981 defies the easy explanation. While tribes like the Reang, the Noatia and the Mog suffered great decline in the proportion of workers in the non-primary sectors the Tripuri suffered less on this account, their proportion having fallen from 8.49 percent in 1961 to 6.44 percent in 1981.

The analysis of the figures relating to the percentage of tribal workers in the non-primary sectors leads us to apprehend that census figures in respect of some tribes suffered from limitations although on the average the picture of falling trend in the total rate of work participation and proportion of workers in the non-primary sectors seems to be true.

#### **LITERACY**

One of the important features of backwardness of the tribes is low literacy rate. But it is heartening to note that the tribal people in Tripura have made significant

progress in literacy during the last few decades. As Table 8 shows, the literacy rate of the tribal people as a whole increased from 10.01 percent in 1961 to 15.03 percent in 1971 and 23.09 percent in 1981. During the same period, the female literacy rate rose from 2.31 to 6.04 and then to 12.27 percent.

Even then the difference between the tribal and non-tribal in respect of literacy persists to be substantial. This is reflected in the fact that the total rate of literacy in Tripura in 1981 was 42.12 percent against the tribal literacy rate of 23.09 percent. The gap in female literacy is greater as it is observed that in 1981 when overall female literacy rate in Tripura was 32 percent that of tribal remained as low as 12.27 percent.

If we look at the literacy scenario tribe-wise, 'other tribes' had the highest literacy rate in all the census years of 1961, 1971 and 1981. The greatest contribution to this has perhaps been made by Lushai tribe known for their great progress in education under the influence of the Christian Missionaries.

Contrary to popular belief the Tripuri who happen to be the tribe of the erstwhile Tripura princes does not rank first in literacy although the literacy rate has always been higher than the average rate of the tribal in Tripura. In 1961 'other tribes' ranked first with the literacy rate of 23.94 percent followed by the Garo (13.84%) while the Tripuri (12.68%) ranked third.

In 1971 also the three groups mentioned above occupied first, second and third positions with literacy of 36.96, 20.31 and 17.78 percent respectively. Significantly enough the small tribal groups clubbed as 'other tribes' attained a literacy rate of 36.96 percent which exceeded the literacy rate for Tripura as a whole (30.9%) in 1971.

In 1981 there were small changes in the literacy ranks of the tribal groups. While 'other tribes' maintained the first rank with the literacy rate of 40.1 percent the second position was occupied by the Kuki (35.9%) with the Garo (32.76%) relegated to the third position. The Tripuri (27.13%) now occupied only the 4<sup>th</sup> place in respect of literacy among the tribal groups.

In 1981 Munda had the lowest literacy rate of 7.97 percent. The position of the Orang (9.89%), the Mog (11.71%), the Noatia (12.27%) and the Reang (12.67%) were also very much backward and far below the average tribal literacy rate of 23.09 percent.

The gap between the male and female literacy rates is wide in the case of many tribes. Low literacy rates for the females have significantly contributed to the relative backwardness of tribes in education. Even in 1981 the female literacy rate for the Orang was as low as 2.08 percent and those of the Munda, Noatia and Reang were 2.79, 3.87 and 4.34 percent respectively.

#### **URBANIZATION**

Extent of urbanization is known to be positively correlated with the degree of economic development. As is well known all tribes of Tripura not only predominantly rural in residential characteristics they mainly live in the inaccessible hilly hamlets many of which are located in protected or even reserve forest areas. Therefore, the extent of urbanization of the tribal societies is naturally extremely small. Table 9 shows that proportion of the tribal people in Tripura living in the urban areas has increased very slowly from 1.03 percent in 1961 to 1.31 percent in 1981.

Being the tribe of the erstwhile princely rulers of Tripura the Tripuri are naturally the most urbanized of all the tribal groups. But even in its case the proportion of urban population has been only 2.02 percent in 1981. Next to the Tripuri are ranked 'other tribes' (1.83%), the Kuki (1.82%) and the Garo (1.51%). The proportion of urban population is much below 1 percent in the cases of all other tribes. The Munda (0.09%) are the least urbanized tribe closely in precedence by the Reang (0.13%), Halam (0.15%) and Noatia (0.15%).

#### **INTERACTION BETWEEN DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS**

To examine the interaction between demographic changes and socio-economic factors of development we have selected six indices of development viz. total literacy rate, female literacy rate, extent of urbanization, proportion of female and proportion of workers in the non-primary sectors.

It is generally expected that literacy especially female literacy would be negatively correlated with the rate of population growth. But Table 10 shows that during 1961-71 both total literacy and female literacy has been positively correlated with the rate of population growth although the coefficient of correlation is below 40 percent. Of course negative correlation between these variables is found during 1971-81.

It may be said that improvement in literacy has not been substantial enough to have definite impact on the population growth rate in the tribal societies.

The correlation between the extent of urbanization and population growth rate has been observed to be similar to that between population growth and literacy. Here also it may be said that extent of urbanization is too small to have a definite impact. But even then the negative relation between urbanization and population growth has manifested itself in 1971-81.

Contrary to rational expectation population growth has been positively correlated with both the proportion of female workers and the proportion of workers in the non-primary sectors in the tribal societies. This may be because of the fact that higher percentage of female workers is not associated with industrialization or urbanization or educational progress in the case of the tribal people of Tripura at the present stage of development. Rather it is found that the tribes involved more deeply in a primitive occupation like shifting cultivation have higher rates of female work participation.

Participation in non-primary activities on the part of the tribal people is confined mainly to rural industries or tea plantations. This has not helped create an urban culture favorable to small family norm. Rather higher income resulting from participation in the non-primary sectors has perhaps reduced death rates among the tribes and consequently positive correlation has been found between population growth and percentage of workers in the non-primary sectors.

APPENDIX

**Table 1**  
**GROWTH OF TRIBAL POPULATION IN TRIPURA**

Year	Tribal Population	Total Population	% of Tribal Population	% Decadal Variation of	
				Tribal Population	Total Population
1901	91,679	1,73,325	52.89	-	-
1911	1,11,303	2,29,613	48.47	21.40	32.47
1921	1,71,610	3,04,437	56.37	54.13	32.59
1931	2,03,327	3,82,450	53.16	18.48	25.62
1941	2,56,991	5,13,010	50.09	26.39	34.14
1951	2,37,953	6,45,707	36.85	-7.40	25.87
1961	3,60,070	11,42,005	31.53	51.31	76.86
1971	4,50,544	15,56,342	28.95	25.12	36.28
1981	5,83,920	20,53,058	28.44	29.60	31.91
1991	8,53,345	27,57,205	30.95	46.14	34.30

Source: Various Census Reports.

**Table 2****TRIBE-WISE POPULATION IN TRIPURA AND THEIR PERCENTAGE**

Sl. No.	Names of Tribe	Census Year			
		1961	1971	1981	1991
1	Tripuri	1,89,799 (52.71)	2,50,545 (55.61)	3,30,872 (56.66)	-
2	Reang	56,597 (15.72)	64,722 (14.36)	84,004 (14.39)	-
3	Jamatia	24,359 (6.76)	34,192 (7.59)	44,501 (7.62)	-
4	Chakma	22,386 (6.17)	28,662 (6.36)	34,797 (5.96)	-
5	Halam	16,298 (4.53)	19,076 (4.23)	28,970 (4.96)	-
6	Noatia	16,010 (4.45)	10,297 (2.28)	7,182 (1.23)	-
7	Mog	10,524 (2.92)	13,273 (2.94)	18,230 (3.12)	-
8	Kuki	5,531 (1.54)	7,775 (1.72)	5,502 (0.94)	-
9	Garo	5,484 (1.52)	5,559 (1.23)	7,298 (1.25)	-
10	Munda	4,409 (1.22)	5,347 (1.19)	7,993 (1.37)	-
11	Orang	2,875 (0.80)	3,428 (0.76)	5,217 (0.89)	-
12	Other Tribes	5,798 (1.61)	7,668 (1.70)	9,354 (1.60)	-
All Tribes		3,60,070 (100.00)	4,50,544 (100.00)	5,83,920 (100.00)	8,53,345 (100.00)

Source: Various Census Reports.

Note: Figures in the parentheses denote percentages.

**Table 3**  
**TRIBE-WISE DECADAL POPULATION GROWTH IN TRIPURA**

Sl. No.	Names of Tribe	Census Year			
		1961-71	1971-81	1961-81	1981-91
1	Tripuri	32.00	32.06	74.33	-
2	Reang	14.36	29.79	48.42	-
3	Jamatia	40.37	30.15	82.69	-
4	Chakma	28.03	21.40	55.44	-
5	Halam	17.04	51.87	77.75	-
6	Noatia	-5.68	-30.25	-55.14	-
7	Mog	26.12	37.35	73.22	-
8	Kuki	40.57	-29.23	-0.52	-
9	Garos	1.37	31.28	33.08	-
10	Munda	21.27	49.48	81.29	-
11	Orang	19.23	52.19	81.46	-
12	Other Tribes	32.25	21.99	61.33	-
All Tribes		25.12	29.60	62.17	46.14

Source: Various Census Reports.

**Table 4**  
**SEX RATIOS OF DIFFERENT TRIBES IN TRIPURA**

Sl. No.	Names of Tribe	Census Year			
		1961	1971	1981	1991
1	Tripuri	958.2	955.4	965.6	-
2	Reang	953.4	934.8	954.8	-
3	Jamatia	999.3	978.7	989.5	-
4	Chakma	925.5	906.9	936.9	-
5	Halam	934.9	935.7	975.2	-
6	Noatia	940.4	954.3	943.2	-
7	Mog	936.3	940.2	941.6	-
8	Kuki	985.9	1156.0	943.5	-
9	Garos	957.9	1036.0	1008.8	-
10	Munda	944.9	935.2	907.6	-
11	Orang	915.4	1041.7	953.9	-
12	Other Tribes	932.0	960.6	910.5	-
All Tripura Tribes		955.0	954.3	962.0	965.2
All Tripura		932.0	943.0	946.0	946.0
All India		941.0	930.0	935.0	929.0

Source: Various Census Reports.

**Table 5**  
**WORKERS AS PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION**  
**IN DIFFERENT TRIBES IN TRIPURA**

Sl. No.	Names of Tribe	Census Year		
		1961	1971	1981
1	Tripuri	49.35	29.59	40.10
2	Reang	56.20	37.29	44.68
3	Jamatia	51.72	30.76	41.34
4	Chakma	52.45	32.44	37.63
5	Halam	54.27	33.40	43.39
6	Noatia	54.37	32.11	43.72
7	Mog	52.76	32.38	42.06
8	Kuki	53.66	29.41	36.41
9	Garo	44.64	28.30	35.09
10	Munda	49.83	40.66	49.32
11	Orang	55.16	42.39	53.57
12	Other Tribes	62.69	33.72	44.91
All Tribes		51.59	31.55	41.25

Source: Various Census Reports.

**Table 6**  
**PERCENTAGE OF FEMALE WORKERS IN TOTAL WORKERS**  
**IN DIFFERENT TRIBES IN TRIPURA**

Sl. No.	Names of Tribe	Census Year		
		1961	1971	1981
1	Tripuri	45.87	12.32	32.81
2	Reang	46.61	19.86	33.76
3	Jamatia	47.60	14.47	36.61
4	Chakma	45.99	14.06	26.54
5	Halam	46.18	16.35	34.32
6	Noatia	44.56	10.34	37.68
7	Mog	43.63	12.42	30.74
8	Kuki	47.78	12.90	28.31
9	Garo	39.42	10.92	26.55
10	Munda	41.60	29.90	37.97
11	Orang	43.50	37.92	40.97
12	Other Tribes	36.34	25.75	35.78
All Tribes		45.70	14.78	33.11

Source: Various Census Reports.

**Table 7**  
**PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS IN NON-PRIMARY SECTOR TO**  
**TOTAL WORKERS IN DIFFERENT TRIBES IN TRIPURA**

Sl. No.	Names of Tribe	Census Year		
		1961	1971	1981
1	Tripuri	8.49	4.08	6.44
2	Reang	6.66	1.03	2.04
3	Jamatia	2.73	1.36	1.83
4	Chakma	7.90	1.74	4.29
5	Halam	4.73	1.41	3.75
6	Noatia	8.89	1.51	2.32
7	Mog	11.24	3.16	3.34
8	Kuki	7.07	2.88	8.44
9	Garo	12.01	7.75	14.02
10	Munda	19.16	2.57	10.86
11	Orang	6.24	20.16	33.60
12	Other Tribes	13.20	9.51	16.39
All Tribes		7.87	3.26	5.65

Source: Various Census Reports.

**Table 8****LITERACY PERCENTAGE AMONG DIFFERENT TRIBES IN TRIPURA**

Sl. No.	Names of Tribe	Census Year			
		1961	1971	1981	
1	Tripuri	M	21.85	27.52	38.73
		F	03.12	07.58	15.12
		T	12.68	07.78	27.13
2	Reang	M	06.99	13.30	20.63
		F	00.36	01.88	04.34
		T	03.76	07.78	12.67
3	Jamatia	M	19.50	25.32	34.91
		F	00.80	04.06	10.64
		T	10.16	14.81	22.84
4	Chakma	M	14.14	21.05	28.38
		F	01.03	03.55	08.25
		T	07.84	12.73	18.64
5	Halam	M	12.18	15.91	28.25
		F	00.99	02.66	09.10
		T	06.77	09.50	18.80
6	Noatia	M	06.18	10.97	20.18
		F	00.14	00.58	03.87
		T	03.25	05.89	12.27
7	Mog	M	18.56	19.06	17.93
		F	01.89	02.95	05.10
		T	10.50	11.25	11.71
8	Kuki	M	14.61	22.85	44.01
		F	03.64	06.93	27.29
		T	09.17	14.31	35.90
9	Garo	M	22.53	30.00	42.61
		F	04.77	10.96	23.00
		T	13.84	20.31	32.76
10	Munda	M	04.81	07.35	12.67
		F	00.23	00.46	02.79
		T	02.58	04.02	07.97
11	Orang	M	08.26	11.26	17.34
		F	00.22	00.69	02.08
		T	04.42	05.86	09.89
12	Other Tribes	M	31.72	42.75	47.96
		F	15.59	30.93	31.47
		T	23.94	36.96	40.10
All Tribes		M	17.37	23.60	33.49
		F	02.31	06.04	12.27
		T	10.01	15.03	23.09
All Tripura		M	29.61	40.20	51.70
		F	10.19	21.19	32.00
		T	20.20	30.90	42.12

Source: Various Census Reports.

Note: M and F refer to male and female respectively.

**Table 9****URBAN TRIBAL POPULATION AND THEIR PERCENTAGE IN TRIPURA**

Sl. No.	Names of Tribe	Census Year		
		1961	1971	1981
1	Tripuri	3538 (1.86)	5051 (2.02)	6694 (2.02)
2	Reang	27 (0.05)	49 (0.07)	113 (0.13)
3	Jamatia	4 (0.02)	60 (0.17)	134 (0.30)
4	Chakma	84 (0.37)	95 (0.33)	204 (0.59)
5	Halam	4 (0.02)	25 (0.13)	45 (0.15)
6	Noatia	3 (0.02)	13 (0.13)	11 (0.15)
7	Mog	14 (0.13)	21 (0.16)	49 (0.27)
8	Kuki	Nil (NA)	8 (0.10)	100 (1.82)
9	Garo	9 (0.16)	37 (0.66)	110 (1.51)
10	Munda	Nil (NA)	1 (0.02)	7 (0.09)
11	Orang	Nil (NA)	2 (0.06)	30 (0.57)
12	Other Tribes	15 (0.26)	123 (1.60)	171 (1.83)
All Tribes		3698 (1.03)	5485 (1.22)	7668 (1.31)

Source: Various Census Reports.

**Table 10**  
**CORRELATION COEFFICIENTS BETWEEN**  
**POPULATION GROWTH RATE AND OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC VARIABLES**

Period	Correlation Coefficients between Population Growth Rate and				
	Total Literacy	Female Literacy	Urbanization	Female Workers	Workers in Non-Primary Sector
1961-71	0.3421	0.2627	0.2276	0.1690	0.0393
1971-81	-0.3281	-0.3381	-0.2655	0.2381	0.3029
1961-81	-0.1287	-0.1517	-0.0848	0.1620	0.2330

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