

CHAPTER 1

THE ECONOMY OF ASSAM

The Assam economy represents a unique example of poverty amidst plenty. In spite of being richly endowed with natural resources, the State lags behind the rest of India in many aspects. To have a glimpse of the State economy, the movement of a few macro economic indicators over time is being analysed in this chapter.

1.1 State Income

The trend in the State Income and the per capita State Income both at current and constant prices is shown in tables 1.1 through 1.4. The first two tables cover the first three decades of planning, the third table covers the period between 1980-81 and 1992-93, (which can be taken as the aftermath of the Assam movement) and the fourth table reflects the post liberalisation scenario.

The State Income moved upwards over time at a moderate rate keeping its share in National Income more or less equal. But the per capita State Income remained lower than the National average Per capita income all throughout. Rather, the difference between the two figures had an increase over time. The difference between the two figures was very high in terms of current prices in 1955-56, thereafter the gap narrowed down considerably in 1960-61. After that, the gap continued to rise and reached the highest point in 1980-81. In the eighties it had a fluctuating but declining trend, narrowing the gap between the all India average and the State per capita income. The difference became more pronounced in the post liberalisation era. During the period 1993-94-2000-01, at current prices, the National Per Capita Income was 34.70- 66.69% higher than the State per capita income, while at constant prices the difference continued to be in the range of 34.70-71.84%.

1.2 State of Agriculture

Agriculture is the mainstay of more than 70 per cent of the State's population. According to 2001 Census, 2.66 crores of the total population of the State depend on agriculture fully or partially. Out of the total geographical area of 78.43 lakh hectares, almost one third, (32.43 per cent, is under net cultivation covering an area of 25.45 lakh hectares. The gross cropped area occupies about 37.96 lakh hectares. The cropping intensity is 149 per cent.

Nearly 40 per cent of State Income is contributed by agriculture. However, the share of agriculture in State Income fluctuated over time. (Table 1.4). In the fifties, the share of agriculture in State Income

was approximately 60%, in the eighties it was about 50-55%, in the nineties, it was only around 35%, but in the first two years of the twenty-first century, the share of agriculture in the State Income has once again moved up to 40-41%.

The State of Assam comprising 21 plains and districts and 2 hill districts fall under high potential zone for increasing agricultural productivity.

In 1950-51, the yield of rice, the principal food of the region, was estimated at 772 lbs. for the State as against the average yield of 596 lbs. per acre for all-India. (NCAER: 1960). The position of the State did not remain intact over time. It had a fluctuating trend. The yield rate dropped to a level lower than the all India average and also had fluctuations. In 1980-81, the all India average yield rate of rice was 1335 kgs per hectare and the rate for Assam was 1126 kgs per hectare. In 1990-91, the two rates were respectively 1751 and 1313 respectively. The trend in the production and productivity of a few principal crops in the State (Table 1.5) shows a marginal increase in the yield rates of all the principal crops except oilseeds and sugarcane.

The production of food grains, oilseeds and other important crops in the State has been reported to be far below the targeted level during the 9th plan period. The annual production of rice has maintained an upward trend but the total production was far less than the amount required for providing food security to the people. The productivities of the food grains were lower than the all India average rates also. Inadequate irrigation facilities, floods and traditional agricultural practices are identified as the major causes of low production and productivity in agriculture in the State (Planning and Development Department, Govt. of Assam: Draft Tenth Five Year Plan & Annual Plan: 2002-2003)

1.3 State of Industries

Petroleum and petroleum products and natural Gas are the major industrial products of the State.

The State produces about 15.6 per cent of the world's tea and 55 per cent of India's tea production. Some other industries are fertilizer, sugar, jute, silk, paper, plywood, rice mills and oil drilling Handloom, & sericulture.

The major traditional industries of the State are weaving in country looms, pottery, black smithy, bell-metal and brass-metal works, gold smithy, village carpentry, bamboo and cane works, spinning of endi, muga and mulberry silk, vegetable dyeing, wood carving, hand pounding of rice, manufacture of ivory products etc. Some of these industries are decaying due to competition from machine made goods, lack of marketing facilities etc

The overall industrial scenario of the State is not very encouraging. The declining share of agriculture in SDP is being taken over by the tertiary sector rather than the secondary sector. As a

result, the share of the secondary sector in GDP has remained nearly the same over time. In 1955-56, the share of the secondary sector in GDP at current prices was 20.2% and at constant prices it was 17.2%, and in the nineties (Table 1.6), this sector has a much lower share in GDP both at current and constant prices.

The position of the State in the industrial map of the country is abysmally low (Table: 1.7). This can be gleaned from all the variables representing the industrial scenario of the State. The total number of factories in the State account for only 1.23 percent of the country's total. The total value added by the factories is only 0.9 percent of the total value added by the same sector at the all India level.

No perceptible improvement has been observed over time. While the number of factories increased by 5.5 percent between 1993 -94 and 1994-95, and there is also an increase in fixed, working and invisible capital, the overall scenario is gleam as there is a negative turn in the net income but a very high rate of increase in the outstanding loan.

1.4 State of Poverty and Human Development

According to the Planning Commission estimates, in 1999-2000, the percentage of people below poverty line in India was 26.10 and the percentage was 10 points higher in Assam with 36.09. Assam being the fourth State in terms of poverty ratio, next only to Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. This is however a reduction compared to the estimates as per the 50th round of NSSO in 1993-94, which was 45.01 against 40.86 for the Country as a whole

As reported in the Draft Tenth Plan of the State, the incidence of poverty in the State is even higher. It is stated that as per report prepared by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics on the basis of a Census on people below poverty line, conducted during the year 1998, 59.43 per cent of the total rural households of Assam was living below the poverty line. On the basis of this figure, the total number of people living below poverty line in Assam has been estimated at 111.54 lakh, which is 49.77 Per cent of the total population of the State.

According to the latest estimates published by the Department of Panchayat and Rural Development, Government of Assam, in its website, the magnitude of poverty in the State is alarming with

- (i) Total BPL families in rural areas: 20,28,058 – SC: 2,59,316- ST: 4,28,337
- (i) Percentage of BPL families in rural areas: 59.43%
- (iii) Geographical distribution of poverty
 - (a) Highest PC of BPL families in the State: Goalpara (75.25%)
 - (b) Next Highest: Dhubri (75.03%)
 - (c) Lowest PC of BPL families in the state: Jorhat (41.00%) & Tinsukia (41.31%)

It is to be noted that there has been a decrease in the incidence of urban poverty in the State over time and it has also been lower than the all India average, but the incidence of rural poverty continues to be higher than the all India average and has not also shown any sign of improvement over time.

Other indicators of poverty like Monthly per capita consumer expenditure, the proportion of expenditure on food to total expenditure and level of food security also place Assam at a much lower level than the all India average.

1.4.1 Monthly Per Capital Consumer Expenditure

According to NSSO 58th Round data, the average monthly per capita consumer expenditure in Assam is marginally higher than the all India average but is the lowest among the North –Eastern States. For rural Assam it is Rs.532.00 and against the all India average of Rs. 531.00 and an average of Rs. 628.00 for the North Eastern States.

For Urban Assam, the average monthly per capita consumer expenditure with Rs.947.00 is much lower than both the national average and the average for the N. E. States, the two figures being respectively Rs. 1,012.00 and Rs.1,069.00

1.4.2 Proportion of Expenditure on Food to Total Expenditure

Generally, the proportion of expenditure on food to total expenditure is higher among the low income groups. As such, this is regarded as an important indicator of poverty. As per the NSSO 58th Round figure, Assam has a much higher percentage of expenditure on food to total expenditure than the average all India percentage both in the rural (Assam: 64.13, India: 54.99) and urban (Assam : 49.21, India: 42.47) areas, the percentage being higher in the rural areas.

1.4.3 Level of Food Security

As per the NSSO 58th Round figures, the food availability status in rural Assam is the lowest among all the states of India with only 943 households per thousand getting enough food throughout the year against the all India average figure of 982. The other North Eastern States and Orissa also show very low food security level (944 per thousand households having enough food throughout the year) but are marginally better placed than Assam. The number of households not having enough food in no month of the year is also highest in Assam with 46 per thousand , Orissa and the other North-Eastern States getting the second and the third positions with only 24 and 11 per thousand respectively. The all India average in this category is as low as 5. In the case of urban Assam , however, all the sample households reported to be having enough food throughout the year, while the all India average is lower than that of Assam, with 995 per thousand. The North Eastern States and Orissa also are worse off than Assam with 991 and 988 per thousand respectively. In the case of urban areas West Bengal has the worst position with only 984 households per thousand having enough food throughout the year.

1.4.4 Position of the State in the National Human Development Report

The National Human Development Report 2001 places Assam at the 14th place in terms of the Human Development Index value, among the 15 States compared and at the 26th place among the 32 States compared in terms of the Human Development Index. In the 27th place among the 32 States compared in terms of Human Poverty Index 29th out of the 32 States compared in terms of Gender Disparity Index Rank.

Among the Demographic Indicators

The State is below the national average in the case of sex ratio, both rural and urban dependency ratios, but better with respect to child sex ratio.

As to Income, work and Poverty

Per Capita Net State Domestic Product is lower than the national average, Percentage of Persons in Labour Force and Percentage of Female in Labour Force in the State are lower than the National average, the Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line is above the National Average.

As to literacy and education

The State is above the National Average in terms of female literacy rate but below the same in case of male literacy rate and total literacy rate. Literacy Rates for rural female and urban male and female are higher in the State but the national average rural male literacy rate is higher than that of the State. Gross Enrolment Ratios for Class I-V (6-11 years) for both boys and Girls are higher in the State but the Teacher-Pupil ratio (Primary School) in the State is lower than that of the National Average.

In the health sector

Life Expectancy at Birth for both Rural and Urban areas are lower in the State than the National Average. Infant Mortality Rate, Under 5 Mortality Rates for both the male and the female and the Maternal Mortality Rates are higher in the State.

Total Fertility Rate is the same as the National Average but the Percentage of underweight children is lower in the State.

The Percentage of houses with access to safe drinking water and the Percentage of houses with access to toilet facilities are lower in the State.

CHAPTER 2

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

2.1 Population Size

In 1901, the Population of Assam was only 33 lakh against the all India total of 2,384 lakh. As such it was only 1.38 per cent of the total population of India. In 1981, Assam's share in the total population of the country increased to 2.90 per cent. According to the 1991 census the population of Assam was 22,414,322 with 11,657,989 males and 10,756,333 females, while as per the provisional population totals of 2001 Census, the population size of Assam became 26,638,407 persons with 13,787,799 males and 12,850,608 females. The present share of the population of Assam in the total population of India is 2.59 percent.

2.1.1 Rural Urban Disparity As per 2001 census

Only 12.72 percent of the total populations of the State are in urban areas compared to the all India percentage of 27.78.

2.1.2 SC/ ST Population

The SC/ST and OBC population of the State is more than 46% of the total population of the State. The break-up of population under these categories are not yet available as per the recent census of 2001. As per 1991 Census, 12.82 per cent of total populations in the State are STs and 7.40 per cent are SCs against the all India percentages of 8.08 and 16.48 respectively. The OBC population was categorically enumerated in the census operation of 1931 only. The estimated OBC population as per census of 1931/1951 will be around 66.55 lakhs comprising 25% of the State's total population.

Majority of the ST population (13.94 per cent) in the State are in rural areas while the percentage of SCs in urban areas is more than the percentage in rural areas.

The highest percentage of STs reside in North Cachar Hills, while the highest percentage of SCs are in Cachar district.

Inter district differences in the rural- urban distribution of the SC and ST population also exists.

2.1.3 Female Headed Households

According to NFHS-2, in Assam the total percentage of female-headed households was 12.1%, which was above the all India average of 10.3%. In the urban areas of Assam it was 12.1 %, which

is also above the all India average of 11.1%. Only the rural percentage is below the all India average, the corresponding percentages being 8.4 and 10.0.

As per NSSO 55th round data the rural percentage of female-headed households in India is 10.4% as against 8.4% in the same category in Assam

The urban percentage of female-headed households in India was 9.4% as against 10.3% in the State.

Thus the number of female-headed households in urban areas of Assam is on the higher side.

2.2 Growth Rate of Population

The growth rate of Population of the State had a continuous increase with marginal fluctuations from 1901 to 1971. The growth rate during this period was much higher than the growth rate of the population of the country. Since 1981, it showed a decelerating trend. In 1981, it was estimated to be lower than the growth rate of population of the country, in 1991 it was marginally higher than the latter. In 2001, it decreased considerably and the population in the State grew at a lower rate than the all India population growth rate. This decadal variation of total population was of 18.85 per cent in the State and the all India growth rate was 21.34 per cent.

2.2.1 Rural Urban Disparity in the Growth Rate of Population

Decadal growth rate of urban population continued to be much higher than the growth rate of rural population during all the census years. Between 1901 and 1921, the urban population increased by 20.55 per cent against the rural growth rate of 16.91 per cent. Between 1991 and 2001 the urban growth rate was 36.24 against the rural growth rate of only 16.67 per cent. The record growth rate was between 1951 and 1961, when the urban growth rate was 126.57 per cent against rural growth rate of 30.87 per cent.

2.2.2 Growth Rate of Female Population

The decadal growth rate of female population was 19.47 per cent in 1991-2001, which was lower than the all India growth rate of female population (21.79 per cent) during the same period.

2.3 Population density

Corresponding to the high growth rate of population, there has also been an increase in the density of population in the State. However, the density of population in the State continued to be lower than the all India average density upto 1961. It abruptly jumped up in 1971 and continued to rise since then. As per 2001 Census, the density of population in the State is 340 against the all India average of 324.

2.4 Inter district disparities

As to the inter district distribution of population, it can be observed that the population is very unevenly distributed across the districts. The densities of population ranges between 38 persons per sq. km. In North Cachar Hills to 604 persons per sq. km. In Nowgong. Density of population is highest in Dhubri with 584, followed by Kamrup with 579. Out of the 23 districts only 6 districts have population densities lower than the national average. These districts are North Cachar Hills, Karbi Anglong, Dhemaji, Golaghat, Kokrajhar and Sonitpur. Among the districts Kamrup occupies the first position with percentage of urban population being the highest for 1961, 1971, 1991 and 2001. According to latest figures of 2001, the rate of urban population in Kamrup is 35.81% which was 32.76% according to 1991 census. Kamrup is followed by N.C Hills occupying the 2nd position according to both 1991 and 2001 figures (31.19 % in 2001 and 22.87 % in 1991)

2.4.1 Inter District disparities in decadal growth rate of population

As to the inter district variations in the decadal growth rate of population, during 1901 to 1911, the erstwhile Goalpara which was later divided into the four districts of Kokrajhar, Dhubri, Goalpara and Bongaigaon, registered the highest growth rate, which decelerated between 1921 and 1961 and then again picked up since 1961. In 1991-2001, the growth rate of population in these districts again dampened. North Cachar Hills and Darrang had negative growth rates of population during 1901-11, thereafter it increased in both the districts continuously upto 1941, had somewhat decelerated in 1941-51, then again started moving up. In North Cachar Hills, it moved up so much that the growth rate between 1971-91 was 98.30 per cent against the State average of 53.26 per cent. In 1991-2001, Kamrup district showed the highest rate of growth at 25.75 per cent, which is also much higher than the all Assam growth rate of 18.85 during the decade. On the contrary, Nalbari, the border district of Kamrup shows the least growth rate of population at 11.98 during the period. Dhemaji district which showed the highest rate of growth in population during the period 1971-1991, at 107.50 descended to the 11th position of the 23 districts, during the decade 1991-2001 with 18.93 per cent.

All the districts of the State also show an increasing rate of urban population over the years except in case of Dhubri where urban population has decreased in the last decade, from 12.16 % in 1991 to 11.66 % in 2001.. For both the districts of Kamrup and N.C Hills, the rate of growth of urban population is higher than the state average and the all India average.

The lowest rate of urbanization may be observed in Nalbari (2.31% and 2.41 %) according to census figures of both 1991 and 2001 respectively.

2.5 Unnatural Growth Rate

The actual growth rate of population in Assam since 1961 happened to be much higher than the natural growth rate determined by the difference between the birth rate and the death rate. In 1975 alone this difference was 2.18 per cent. This unnatural growth rate has been attributed mainly to the large scale cross border migration.

2.5.1 Rates of Migration

As per 1991 census, the proportion of in-migrants to total persons is 10.40 % for the State. Inter district differences are also visible for the same with some districts having a percentage higher than the State average. Among the districts, Dhemaji ranks first with a percentage of 24.02 in-migrant persons followed by N.C Hills (20.12 %) and Kamrup(16.55 %), each district figures being above the State average. The lowest percentage of in-migrants may be observed at Barpeta, which records a figure of only 5.38 %.

The sex ratio among the migrant population is 1175.18 showing a larger proportion of female in-migrants as compared to males.

The sex ratio of the migrant population is in favour of women in most of the districts. Barpeta tops the list with a figure of 1703.09 followed by Dhubri (1632.05), both the figures being higher than the State average. Only in some districts like Kamrup, Tinsukia, Karbi Anglong, N.C Hills the proportion of in-migrant females is lower per thousand males with N.C Hills recording the lowest figure of 617.42, which is below the State average.

The percentage of in-migrant persons from other districts of the State to total in-migrant persons is 62.43 for the State. Among the districts Dhemaji records the highest rate of 84.84 in the above category followed by Nalbari (78.58 %) and Golaghat (77.19 %) , all these figures being above the State average. On the other hand, it is lower in Karimganj, Cachar, Nogaon , Tinsukia and Barpeta had lower than the State average of in migration from other districts

The sex ratio is 1327.80, which shows a higher rate of in-migration for females from other districts of the State as compared to males. For most of the districts of the State, the sex ratio is higher signifying a higher rate of in-migration of females relative to per thousand males. Barpeta has the highest sex ratio (2823.53) in this category followed by Karimganj and Hailakandi. It is only for the three districts of Dhemaji, Karbianglong and N.C Hills that the in migration of females is lower relative to per thousand males.

The percentage of in-migrant persons from other States/UTs to total in-migrant persons is 23.01 for the State. Among the districts Tinsukia records the highest rate of 37.34 % in the above category followed by Dibrugarh(34.56 %) and Dhubri (31.21 %) , all figures being above the state average.

The sex ratio is 739.87, which shows a lower rate of in-migration for females from other States/UTs relative to per thousand males.

Among the districts, Dhubri occupies the first position in this category (1798.28) followed by Karimganj (1489.78), both the figures being higher than the State average. The sex- ratio is the lowest for Sibsagar (491.78)

The percentage of in-migrant persons from other countries to total in-migrant persons is 14.56 for the State. Among the districts, Dhemaji records the highest rate of 62.01 % in the above category followed by Cachar (37.57 %) both figures being above the state average.

The sex ratio is 834.06, which shows a lower rate of in-migration for females from other countries relative to per thousand males.

Among the districts Cachar occupies the first position in this category (948.92) followed by Hailakandi (936.93) and Karimganj (930.34), the figures being higher than the State average for each of the mentioned districts. The sex- ratio is the lowest for Sibsagar (647.06)

2.6 Sex Ratio

The sex ratio in Assam, as per the 2001 census is 932 against the all India average of 933. This is an improvement over the sex ratio in 1991 by 9 points against the all India average improvement of 6 points during the period. The decadal variation in the sex ratio for India indicates that over the decades there has been a steady decline in the female sex ratio whereas in case of Assam, the sex ratio had a fluctuating increase over time. In 1901 the sex ratio was 919, it decreased to 915 in the next decade, which further showed a decline till 1951. In the year 1961, the sex ratio showed a little improvement with the increase in the ratio from 868 in the previous decade to 869 in 1961. From 1961 onwards, there has been a steady increase in the ratio till the present census of 2001 however, throughout the period the sex ratio in the State continued to be below the national average value. The difference between the two values touched the all time high of 77 points in 1951.

2.6.1 Inter district disparities in sex ratio

In 2001, Karbi Anglong with the highest sex ratio at 992 and again N.C. Hills at the lowest with 883. Rural sex ratio was the highest in Lakhimpur with 958 and the urban sex ratio was the highest in Cachar with 955.

Whereas the State registered an increase in sex ratio in the last decade (1991-2001) from 923 to 932, the districts of Dhubri, Jorhat and Karimganj showed a decline in the ratio during the period.

According to 1971 census, Goalpara registered the highest sex ratio among the districts at 939 and N.C. Hills the lowest at 841 against the then State average of 896.

In 1991, Dhubri district showed the highest sex ratio at 950 while N.C. Hills the lowest at 857.

In 1991 rural sex ratio was the highest in Dhubri with 953 while in terms of the urban sex ratio Hailakandi occupied the top position with 944 in.

2.6.2 Child Sex Ratio

Comparing the sex ratio of total population, child population and population aged 7 and above in Assam with the all India average figures for the census years 1991 and 2001, it has been observed that the child sex ratio in Assam is much higher than the all India average in both the census years. However, there has been a decline in the ratio over the last decade. In 1991 the child sex ratio for Assam was 975, which decreased to 964 in 2001. But the sex ratio of population aged 7 and above

showed an increasing trend for both India and Assam. The ratio of Assam increased from 910 in 1991 to 926 in 2001 while that of India in 1991 increased from 923 to 935 in 2001.

2.6.3 Inter –District Disparities in Child Sex Ratio

Dhubri registered the highest rural sex ratio of child population at 986 among the districts of Assam in the 2001 census whereas it was in the 10th position with the rural sex ratio of 729 in the 1991 census. The district of Jorhat registered the lowest sex ratio of child population in the rural areas at 895 in the 2001 census. The district of Goalpara registered the highest urban sex ratio of child population at 1004 in the 2001 census whereas it was ranked third at 971, following Sibsagar (991) and Barpeta (972) of urban child sex ratio in the 1991 census. Kamrup District with the urban sex ratio of child population at 888 in 2001 census was the lowest. The district of N.C. Hills, which registered the highest rural sex ratio of child population at 995 in 1991 census dropped to 18th position in the 2001 census with the ratio at 942. Though the urban sex ratio of child population was highest in the district of Sibsagar in 1991 census, it dropped to 20th position in the 2001 census with the ratio at 914.

2.7 Birth Rate and Death Rate

The death rates of Assam in 1992 and 1993 at 10.6 and 10.2 respectively were higher than the all India rates of 10.1 and 9.3 respectively. The female death rate in Assam has dropped from 10.3 in 1992 to 10.1 in 1993, which are below the male rates of 10.8 and 10.2 respectively. The rural death rate in Assam at 10.8 in the year 1992 was below the all India rate of 10.9 in that year. But in contrast to the all India rate of 1993, which dropped to 10.6, the rate in Assam rose to 11.0 in that year. This rise in death rate was mainly because of the rise in female death rate in the State from 10.6 to 11.0 in the mentioned years. The urban death rate in Assam in 1992 and 1993 at 7.4 and 6.7 respectively were higher than the all India rates of 7.0 and 5.8 respectively. On the other hand the urban female death rate of Assam in 1992 at 6.6 was below the all India rate of 6.8 in that year. In the next year the female urban rate of Assam dropped to 5.7 but continued to be higher than the all India rate, which dropped to 5.2.

The female death rate in the age group 15-49 in NFHS-2 and SRS reports were 4.5 and 4.4 respectively, which were higher than that of the males in the group at 3.3 and 4.1 respectively. The crude death rate has dropped to 9.5 and 9.9 as recorded by NFHS-2 and SRS respectively from the NFHS-1 rate of 11.3. The crude death rate of females at 8.6 in NFHS-2 was below the CDR of males at 10.3 in that survey. But the CDR of females in SRS at 9.9 was found to be higher than the CDR of males at 9.8 in that survey.

The death rate in the age group 5 to 14 as reported by NFHS-2 and SRS at 2.6 and 2.8 respectively was found to have dropped than the reported rate of 3.1 in NFHS-1.

As per the SRS Bulletin, October 2002, in 1998, the death rate in Assam decreased to 10.0 and thereafter the steady decreasing rate continued and dropped down to 9.5 in 2001 but remained higher

than the all India average rate of 8.4. Over the period between 1998 and 2001, the rural death rates declined in Assam as well as at the all India level. But the rates for urban Assam had a fluctuating increase during the period. In 2001, the rural death rate in Assam was 9.8, marginally higher than the all India rate of 9.0, while the death rate in urban Assam was 6.6, 0.3 per cent higher than the all India rate of 6.3.

The Birth rates in Assam continued to be higher than the all India average birth rates from 1951 to 1971. Although census was not conducted in Assam in 1981, as per interpolated figures, the birth rate in Assam was lower than the all India average birth rate, this continued till 1991. But in 2001, the rural birth rate in Assam with 27.8 was higher than the all India average rural birth rate of 27.1 although the birth rates for urban areas for the same year was lower in Assam with 18.5 against the all India urban birth rate of 20.2. The SRS data for the period 1998-2001 confirm that the birth rates in rural Assam continued to be higher than the corresponding all India rates, whereas for urban areas, it was the reverse.

As per 1991 census, Karimganj registered the highest Crude Birth Rate (CBR) among the districts of Assam at 48.52, which was higher than the all Assam Crude Birth Rate of 31.47. Dibrugarh district registered the lowest CBR at 24.39.

2.8 Fertility Rate

The Total Fertility Rate for rural Assam in 1992-93 at 3.68 was higher than the than all India value of 3.67, while the urban rate was lower for Assam at 2.53 against the all India rate of 2.70. In 1998-99, both the rural and urban rates in Assam were much below the all India average rates. The rural and urban total fertility rates for Assam were respectively 2.39 and 1.50 against the all India corresponding rates of 2.27 and 3.07.

The Census figures for 1991 show wide inter district variations in the fertility rate. The highest rate has been registered in Karimganj with 7.08 and the lowest in Dhemaji with 3.25. Kamrup and Dibrugarh appear among the districts with lower fertility rates while Karimganj is joined by Barpeta and Nalbari as the districts with high fertility rates

2.9 Age at Marriage

The effective age at marriage of females in Assam in 1991, 1992 and 1993, though showed a little variation, remained almost the same during the years at 20.5, 21.3 and 20.9 respectively. However the effective ages in Assam in the mentioned years were higher than the all India effective age at marriage in the respective years at 19.5, 19.5 and 19.6 respectively. The effective age at marriage in the rural areas of Assam in 1991, 1992 and 1993 at 20.3, 20.8 and 20.5 respectively had only marginal changes over these years but continued to be higher than the all India effective age at marriage in the corresponding years at 19.2, 19.3 and 19.4 respectively. The urban effective age at marriage of females in Assam in the years 1992 and 1993 also continued more or less at the same

level at 23.5 and 23.2 respectively, but was much higher than the all India effective age at 20.2 and 20.5 respectively. However in 1991, the effective age at marriage in Assam at 20.0 was almost at par with the all India effective age of 20.6.

The mean age at marriage for Assam in the year 1991 was 18.23, in rural areas it was 18.15, marginally lower than in the urban areas, which was 18.84. There was an upward revision in the mean age at marriage. The mean age at marriage for those who married during 1981-86 was 18.49, in 1986-91, it increased to 18.92, in urban areas, it increased from 19.54 to 20.37 and in rural areas it increased from 18.36 to 18.73.

2.9.1 Districts with Mean Age at Marriage below 18

The districts of Dhubri, Rural Bongaigaon, Goalpara, Rural Kamrup, Rural Darrang, Rural Barpeta and Rural Nagaon have mean age at marriage less than 18 years with rural Dhubri having the lowest age of 16.74 years. However, in all these districts the mean age at marriage has improved over the years.

2.10 Maternal Mortality Rate

Assam has a high maternal mortality rate and there has been an increase in the rate over time. It increased from 401 per thousand to 409 per thousand from 1997 to 1998. However, the all India average maternal mortality rate is also very high, 407 per thousand in 1998, although there was a decline from the 1997 rate of 408

2.11 Infant and Child Mortality

Infant mortality rates, under five mortality rates and mortality rate in the age group 5-9 continued to be higher in Assam than the all India average upto the early nineties. The infant mortality rate used to be higher among the males but the mortality rate in the age group 5-9 and under 5-mortality rate, specifically in rural areas, happened to be higher among the female.

The age specific death rates in Assam in the below 5 age group were 19.7 and 26.9 as recorded by NFHS-2 in 1997-98 and SRS in 1997 respectively as compared to the NFHS-1 report in 1991-92 at 32.1. In the post 1991 period, however, the position showed some improvement. For the period 1991-2003, in all the years except 1993, 1994 and 1995, the IMR in urban areas of Assam remained lower than the all India average IMR. But the downward trend in the urban IMR also had a reverse turn in 2003, the number again increased to 38.

In the rural areas, the figures were fluctuating till 1996, but worsened continuously thereafter and the distance from the all India average figure also increased. A positive point to be noted is that there has been a downward turn in the figure in 2003 to 73 from 79 in 1998. But the value in 2003 was still higher than the all India average of 69.

The combined value however continued to be higher in Assam in all the years except in 1992. The infant mortality rate in Assam in the year 2003 at 70 was found to be better than those in the previous three years viz., 1997, 1998 and 1999 when the mortality rate was estimated to be a constant 76 but was much higher than the all India infant mortality rates of 71, 72, 70 and 64 in the years 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2003 respectively. Similarly, though the infant mortality rate in rural areas of Assam in 2003 at 73 was lower than the rates of 79, 80 and 79 in the years 1997-99 respectively but was estimated to be higher than the all India rates of 77, 77, 75 and 69 in the years 1997-99 and 2003.

The child mortality rate in the age group 0 to 4 years of Assam in the year 1997 at 26.9 percent was higher than the all India percentage of child mortality in the mentioned group at 23.1.

The NFHS-2 figures for neonatal, post neonatal, infant and under five mortality rates in 1998, place Assam at a lower position in terms of neonatal, post neo natal, infant and under five mortality rate and only marginally better than the all India average figure in terms of child mortality rate. The data on IMR for 1998 compared to the combined value for rural and urban areas, shows considerable improvement within a single year, but the value is higher than the one targeted at in the National Policy for Children 1974

Child mortality rate in the under 5 age group in Assam during the period 1992-96 at 122.6, though higher than the all India rate of 110.5 during the period, was a marked improvement from the rate of 212.0 during the period 1970-75 in the State.

The female child mortality rate in the age group 0 to 5 years, during the period 1992-96 in Assam at 124.5 was higher than the all India rate of female child mortality at 116.5 during the period, though an improvement from the rate of 206.9 during the period 1970-75. However the female child mortality rate in the under five age group in the period 1970-75 in Assam with 206.9 was lower than the all India rate of 224.2 during the period.

The child mortality rate in 1991 census in the age group 0-1 year in Assam at 92 was lower than the rates of 101 and 116 in the age groups 0-2 years and 0-5 years respectively in the year. The female child mortality rate of 87, 98 and 115 in the age groups (0-1), (0-2) and (0-5) years respectively were found to be lower than the male child mortality rate of 96, 104, and 118 in the age groups respectively of Assam in 1991.

2.11.1 Inter district differences in child mortality rates

Among all the districts of the State, Dhubri registered the highest child mortality rates in the age groups (0-1), (0-2) and (0-5) years respectively at 128, 143 and 166 respectively in 1991 census. It is worth mentioning that the female child mortality rates for the age groups (0-1), (0-2) and (0-5) years, were also the highest in the district of Dhubri at 132, 137 and 162 respectively, which were much worse than the all Assam female child mortality rate in the respective age groups. Jorhat was better with the lowest child mortality rates of 47, 49 and 77 for the age groups (0-1), (0-2) and (0-

5)years respectively. Dibrugarh ably followed Jorhat with the child mortality rates at 51, 59 and 77 respectively in the mentioned age groups. Jorhat registered the lowest female child mortality rate in the age group 0-5 years at 76 and shared the lowest rate in the age group 0-2 years with Dibrugarh at 58. On the other hand, Dibrugarh reported the lowest mortality rate in the age group 0-1 year at 45.

2.12 Expectation of life at birth

The expectation of life at birth in Assam during the period 1989-93 at 54.9 is lower than the all India rate of 59.4. A woman in Assam has higher life expectancy than her male counterpart within the State in both rural and urban areas, but in both cases she has lower life expectancy than her average Indian counterpart. The male female gap in life expectancy in rural Assam is 0.7 years and in Urban Assam, the difference is even higher, 1.1 years.

The expectation of life at birth increased gradually both in Assam and in India over time. The expectation of life at birth in Assam increased from 53.9 in 1987-91 to 55.7 in 1991-95 and 56 in 1992-96 but lagged behind the all India figures of 58.2 60.3 and 61 respectively. The rural expectancy of life at birth in Assam during the period 1992-96 was 56 against the corresponding all India life expectancy of 61 years . The urban expectancy of life at birth in Assam and India during same period were respectively 65 and 66. The female expectancy of life at birth in Assam during the period 1987-91 at 54.5, though increased to 56.1 in the period 1991-95, remained below the all India female life expectancy rates of 58.6 and 60.9 respectively.

2.13 Expectation of Life at the age of 40

The number of persons not expected to survive beyond the age of 40 is higher in Assam signifying a lower life expectancy in the State than the all India average. Male female and rural differences in the phenomenon exists and it goes against the female and also against the rural areas for both the all India and the State level and is true for both the periods, i.e., 1981 and 1991. In 1981, 27.2 rural females in Assam and 24.3 rural males were not expected to survive beyond the age of 40 against the all India figures of 27.1 and 23.4 respectively. In the urban areas only 16.3 percent females in Assam and 15.7 per cent males were not expected to live beyond the age of 40 against the all India average rates of 14.7 and 13.6 respectively. There has however been an improvement between 1981 and 1991 both at the all India and the State level, for both the male and the female and also for both the rural and the urban areas.

CHAPTER 3

LITERACY AND EDUCATION

3.1 Level and Trend in Literacy Rate

Assam is one of the States in India having female literacy rates above the all India average. The male female gap in the literacy level is also narrower than the all India average and in conformity with the trend in the all India rate, has been declining over time.

Looking at the trend in literacy rates in the State compared with the all India average, it can be seen that female literacy rate in the State remained above that of the all India average rate throughout the period, i.e., 1961-2001. Male literacy rate in the State, was higher than that of the national average rate in 1961 but not in the other years. Male Female combined literacy rate was higher than the national average rate in 1961, was lower in 1971, marginally higher in 1991 and then became significantly lower in 2001.

The male female gap in the literacy rate was higher than the national average in 1961, but dropped considerably thereafter. In 2001, this gap for the State is only 15.9 per cent against the national average of 21.70 per cent.

3.1.1 Inter District disparities in Literacy Rate

According to the census reports of 1991 and 2001, Jorhat District of Assam registered the highest literacy rate among the districts at 65.51 and 77.91 respectively whereas Dhubri District reported the lowest at 38.36 and 49.86 respectively. The female literacy rate of Jorhat is the highest among the districts of Assam in both the census years of 1991 and 2001 at 56.88 and 72.54 respectively in contrast to Dhubri, which recorded the least rates at 28.79 and 42.64 respectively. But Kamrup district, which registered the highest male literacy rate of 73.29 in 1991, dropped to third place in 2001 census at 81.24, below Jorhat (82.76) and Sibsagar (82.08).

3.1.2 Literacy Rates of Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes

Literacy Rates of Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the State have been much higher than the all India average but these are lower than the total literacy rates in the State. This is true for both male and female literacy rates.

3.1.3 Literates/Illiterates in the age group 7-14

Although the literacy rate in the State is quite high, the percentage of illiterate boys in the age group 7-14 is higher than the corresponding all India average, thereby increasing the total percentage of illiterate children in the said age group.

3.1.4 Adult Literacy Rate

The adult literacy rate among the women in the State is higher than the all India average while the adult male literacy rate is lower than that of the all India average rate.

3.2 Age-Specific Enrolment Ratio

In 1991, in rural Assam, the Age-Specific Enrolment Ratio for boys in the age group 6-11, at 47.0 was higher than that of the girls at 40.8, but the rate for girls was higher than the national average enrolment ratio for girls in the same age group, which were 39.3. This happens to be true also for the urban areas. The urban enrolment ratios are much higher than the rural enrolment ratios, for Assam boys 69.6 per cent, for Assam girls 66.0 per cent and for all India boys and girls 70.7 and 65.8 respectively. The rural urban combined figures are somewhat different. The rate of enrolment among boys within the State is higher than of the girls but the rates for both the boys and the girls are lower in the State than the all India average. It is interesting to note that the enrolment ratio in the age group 11-14 years is higher than that in the 6-11 years age group.

3.2.1 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages

The enrolment rate of girls in class I-V in 1978 was 42.13 for all castes in Assam against the all India percentage of 38.27. In 1993, the corresponding percentages were 45.46 and 43.16. For classes VI-VIII and IX onwards also a similar trend exists, i.e., the rate for Assam is higher than that of all India and there is an upward movement. This pattern is true for both rural and urban areas. Enrolment ratios however have gone down in higher stages of schooling. The increases in the enrolment rates have been quite visible in the case of SCs and STs.

3.2.2 Classwise enrolment upto higher secondary classes in Assam

Male female difference in schooling is perceptible right from the early years of schooling. The sex ratio for Pre-primary to higher Secondary level has been estimated to measure the deprivation rate of the girls. It can be observed that even at pre -primary stage, only 726.7 girls for every 1000 boys go to school. The ratio at class I stage is somewhat better. After that, the ratio declines and in Class V it becomes only 721.02. In Classes VI and VII, the ratio is somewhat better, but in Class VIII, it goes down to a very low level of 713.99. The sex ratio goes to its nadir in Class XI, where the number of boys happens to be double that of girls. In Class XII, the ratio again improves marginally. The low sex ratio at higher classes than in the lower classes only signifies the higher dropout rate among girls. It

need be mentioned that all these ratios are much below the child sex ratio as well as the sex ratio of total population in the State.

3.2.3 Women in Higher Education

At higher education stage also, the sex ratio is against women and does not conform to the sex ratio of the total population in the State except at the PH.D. level. The sex ratios are the lowest in the Commerce stream and the highest in the Arts stream. But even in the Arts stream, the sex ratio is only 668.12. Female enrolment as percentage to total in the pre degree level is 49.20 per cent while at the Degree standard and above, it is only 33.62 per cent.

Percentage of SCs and STs enrolled at pre degree level is only 12.53 and 16.56 and at the Degree Standard and above, the percentages are respectively for SCs 9.08 and for STs 12.84.

The percentage of women at the Degree Standard and above is higher, among both the SCs and STs than in the total category, the percentages being 44.61 and 44.02 respectively. In the M.A and M.Sc classes although the representation of SCs and STs is very small, only between 7-10 per cent, the percentage of females within each group is quite high. In M.Sc. , the percentage of female enrolment is 33.56 for SCs and 32.68 for STs, against the common percentage of 32.92.

3.3 Drop-out Rates

A very significant negative factor perceptible in the educational sector leading to colossal waste of financial and human resources is the phenomenon of drop outs. The drop out rates in class I-V for the years 1981-82 to 1998-99, show that the rates for Assam were considerably higher than the all India average rates. The percentage of drop-outs among girls continued to be much higher at both the State and the all India level. Drop-out rates in classes I-VIII are higher than that in classes I-V and is the highest in Classes I-X. The difference between the dropout rates at the all India level with that in Assam has widened at higher stages of schooling.

The reasons for drop-out have been identified as

- Participation of household economic activities
- Not interested in education
- School too far (mostly in SC/ST Communities)
- Poverty
- Lack of Awareness and other economic reasons.
- Low percentage of female teachers in schools
- Inadequate facilities for girls in schools like absence of toilet and non-availability of water etc. are also regarded as factors contributing to increased drop out rates.

3.4 Statistics Relating to Schools in Assam

Statistics relating to the school education are also not very encouraging for the State. The number of schools increased only about threefold during 1951-52 to 2001-02, much lower a rate than the rate of growth of population. As a result the number of primary schools per thousand population also remained very low, only 1.13 in 2001-02, which is lower than the number in 1951-52. The number of upper primary schools per thousand population has been even lower, only 0.25 in 2001-02, i.e., only one upper primary school for 4000 population on an average.

The conditions in schools also is a deterring factor leading to high drop-outs, for example, the teacher-pupil ratio in Assam is lower than that of India and has not shown much improvement over time. In 1951-52 it was 38 and in 2001-02, it increased to only 47. Within this period, the Teacher Pupil Ratio had gone down to 35 in 1971-72 and 1981-82. The teacher –pupil ratio at the upper primary and the secondary level is even worse. In 1997-98, the ratio was 24 for the upper primary level and 21 for the secondary level. In the State against the all India ratios of 37 and 29 respectively.

In 1992-93, the ratio had improved over that of 1982-83 and also was higher than the all India average at the primary and the upper primary level although it was much lower at the secondary level.

3.5 Number of female teachers in Schools and Colleges

In the State, although at the pre-primary level cent percent teachers are female, right from the primary level, it goes down to below 30 per cent except in the Junior Colleges. In 2001, the total number of female teachers in primary schools in Assam was 25,007 against a total number of 86,887 teachers, only 28.78 per cent, at middle level 11,756 against a total of 57,457, i.e., 20.46 per cent, at high school level 12,478 against 47,493 (26.27%) and at Higher Secondary level 5,779 against 20,410(28.31%). In the districts also, only the Junior Colleges have a higher percentage of female teachers.

3.5.1 Inter district Disparities in the Number of female teachers in Schools and Colleges

Among the districts, Sibsagar tops the list in terms of percentage of female teachers, with more than 30 per cent female teachers at all levels. Barpeta is the lowest with less than 20 per cent female teachers at all levels of school. In case of middle schols, Dhubri is at the lowest point with only 6.42 per cent female teachers. North Cachar Hills and Hailakandi also get better positions with more than 30 per cent female teachers except at the middle level, where the percentage of female teachers is very low. Dibrugarh has more than 30 per cent female teachers at the primary, middle, secondary and Higher Secondary level but slightly lower at college level. Golaghat, on the other hand has above 30 per cent at all levels except at the middle level and in Arts, Science and Commerce Colleges.

CHAPTER 4

HEALTH

While the State is better off than many other States of the country in literacy level, the State is in a bad shape in terms of health status as well as health infrastructure. Health conditions of women and children are reflected in the infant and child mortality rates and maternal mortality rate, expectation to life at birth, expectation of life beyond the age of 40 etc. These rates, as discussed in Chapter2, show the poor performance of the State.

According to NFHS-2, the neonatal and post neonatal mortality rates in Assam at 44.6 and 24.9 respectively are also marginally higher than the all India rates of 43.4 and 24.2 respectively.

4.1 Percentage Distribution of Live Births By Type Of Medical Attention Received By The Mother

It is observed that the institutional medical help received by the mother at the time of delivery in Assam for the years 1992, 1993, 1994 are 18.2, 18.4 and 20.5 per cent respectively are below the all India averages of 24.4, 24.5 and 22.3 respectively. But it is seen that though the all India percentage of institutional help has dropped from the year 1993 to 1994, the in Assam the rate has improved. The help rendered by untrained and others constitute a large percentage in Assam, which were 69.6, 68.6, and 64.5 for the years 1992, 93, &94 respectively as compared to the all India percentages of 52.7, 51.3, & 50 respectively. It is noteworthy to mention that in the years 1992,93, &94 the help by untrained professionals in Assam in the urban areas were 31.3, 25.7, 20.4 per cent respectively which is in sharp contrast to the all India percentages of 17.2, 11.8, & 11.5 respectively.

The rural urban difference in institutional delivery is very prominent for both the State and the all India level. However, at the all India level, there has been deterioration between 1992 and 1994, in this regard, whereas the position of Assam improved and in 1994, institutional deliveries in rural Assam came up to 17.5 against the all India percentage of 16.9. Institutional deliveries in the urban areas also showed a decreasing trend in the average all India value, while it improved in Assam and reached a position higher than that of the all India level in 1994.

According to NFHS-1 and 2, the percentage of births attended by health personals is much lower in the State than the national average in both the rural and the urban areas and the difference has increased over time. In 1998-99, the percentage of births attended by health personals in Assam was 21.5 against the all India average percentage of 42.3.

Percentage of Births Delivered in Medical Institutions in Assam was only 11.1 in 1992-93 and increased to 17.6 in 1998-99, against the all India averages of 25.5 and 33.6 respectively. The rural urban difference has been prominent in both the years.

The percentages of Births Delivered in Medical Institutions by SC and ST women were lower than those of others.

In addition to the fact that more women in Assam do not get medical attendance during childbirth, the percentage being 38.4 for Assam and 32.20 for the all India average, assistance from Government appointed doctors, nurses and midwife is also lower in Assam. This is true for both the rural and the urban areas and the rural areas lack the facility in a bigger scale.

This inadequacy of medical support is an important factor contributing to the higher incidence of infant mortality rates and maternal mortality rates in the State.

4.2 Incidence of anaemia

Incidence of any anaemia and moderate anaemia is higher among the women of Assam than the all India average but the percentage of women suffering from severe anaemia is lower. The percentage of women suffering from any anaemia is higher in rural areas and among the illiterate in the State as well as at the all India level.

Within the State, more women from other castes suffer from anaemia than the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe women. However, more Scheduled Caste women in the State suffer from Anaemia compared to the all India level.

4.3 Vaccinated women and Children

Percentage of women receiving Two Doses or More of TT Vaccination during Pregnancy was only 51.7 per cent in Assam in 1998-99 as against the all India average of 66.8 per cent. There has however been considerable improvement between the two NFHS period. Sharp rural urban differences are perceptible in both the State and the all India level. These differences have narrowed down in the all India level but has widened in the State.

Only 17.0 per cent Children aged 12-23 Months in Assam have been fully vaccinated in 1998-99 against the all India average of 42.0 per cent. The figure shows a decline over time from 19.4 in 1992-93. The rural urban difference is also quite striking, with only 14.9 per cent in rural areas against 50.1 per cent being fully vaccinated in 1998-99 in Assam as against the all India percentages of 36.6 and 60.5 respectively..

Regarding male female difference, it is biased towards the female in Assam in 1992 but has been in favour of the male child in 1998-99.

Number of Children aged 12-23 Months Not Vaccinated is much higher in rural areas, higher in the State than the all India average and also higher for the female in both the State and the country as a whole. The difference of the State average and the National average figures is quite striking, 45.6 and 32.3 respectively for the female child in 1992-93, 34.7 and 16.7 respectively for rural areas in 1998-99. There has however been an improvement over time.

4.4 Incidence of ailments and treatment

Number of persons reporting acute ailment is very high in both the rural and urban areas, it is higher in the State (per thousand rural male 61, rural female 85, urban male 63, urban female 86), than the all India average (per thousand rural male 41, rural female 44, urban male 39, urban female 43) and it is also higher among the female. As to chronic ailments, the all India average number is higher, but females outnumber males even in this aspect.

However, very few persons out of those who fall sick are hospitalised. In rural Assam, 11.25 per cent of the ailing patients were reported to be hospitalised out of which 8.42 per cent are female and 13.24 per cent male. In urban Assam, 21.13 per cent ailing men and 7.69 per cent ailing women were hospitalised. All India averages in this regard were in rural areas 25.92 per cent male and 22.81 per cent female and in urban areas 39.21 per cent male and 34.48 per cent female persons were reported to be hospitalised. It can be observed that the percentage of persons receiving treatment is much lower in Assam both for the male and the female and also in both the rural and the urban areas.

The gender gap in treatment provided is very much visible and the difference is wider in Assam.

4.5 Family Planning

As per NFHS-2, the desired fertility rate for the women of Assam was 1.75 against the actual fertility rate of 2.31 against the all India average desired fertility rate of 2.13 reveals the strong desire of the women of Assam for limiting the family size. Knowledge of any method of contraception as well as any modern method is nearly universal with regard to current use of family planning method, the State with 43 per cent has been grouped among the States with low level of current use., next only to Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.. The use of family planning methods varied among different socio-economic groups. It was higher among the urbanites, the educated and those having higher standard of living. Among the religious groups, the highest percentages of women practicing family planning methods were the Hindus. Among the SCs, STs and OBCs, the highest percentage has been reported from the OBCs, the percentage of women from the other two groups is also high. Although the modern methods are most popularly used, even traditional methods are used by quite a large number of women. About one third of the users choose traditional methods of family planning Less than two third of users use public sector source.

4.5.1 Couple protection Rate

Couple protection Rate in Assam was higher than the all India average in 1992-93, but the position got reversed in the urban areas in 1997-98 with a decline in the rate. In the rural areas,

although the rate improved even in case of Assam, the rate of improvement was better in the all India average, so the position of Assam was below that of the all India average. In 1997-98, the rural urban combined couple protection rate was only 48.2 for all India and 43.3 for Assam.

4.6 Health Infrastructure

The health facilities in the State is not commensurate with its growing population. There is not even one (0.6) hospital per lakh of population against the all India average of 1.51 hospitals per lakh of population, only 48.38 hospital beds per lakh of population against the all India average of 93 hospital beds per lakh of population, only 1.76 numbers of allopathic practitioners per lakh of population. Even this limited number of facilities is very unevenly distributed among the districts.

To cite an example, Dibrugarh with 119.03, Sonitpur with 99.94, Kamrup with 98.89 are above the national average number of hospital beds per lakh of population while the districts like Morigaon with 20.62, Lakhimpur with 35.55, Hailakandi with 14.7 are far below the State average even.

CHAPTER 5

OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION AND WORK PARTICIPATION RATE

5.1 Labour force participation:

As per NSSO 55th Round data, labour force participation rates in Assam are lower than the all India average rates in all categories except a marginally higher position in case of urban male labour force in 1999-2000. Both male and female labour force participation rates in the all India level had a continuous decline in both rural and urban areas from 1983 to 1999-2000, i.e., as per 38th, 50th and 55th Rounds of NSS reports. But the trend in the growth rates of employment over the period of 1983 to 2000 for the State had a fluctuating increase. The latest NSSO 58th Round Report on Household Consumer Expenditure and Employment-Unemployment Situation in India also confirms the improving employment scenario in the State and also for all India.

5.2 Employment status

According to NSS 55th Round data, among principal status workers in Assam Rural Female Work Participation Rate(FWPR) was 87 and Urban Female Work Participation Rate (FWPR) was 97 and were much below the all India average rates 231 and 117 respectively and substantially lower than the male work participation rates of 506 and 507. According to the 58th Round, i.e. in 2002, the corresponding rates were : rural FWPR in the State : 116 ,urban FWPR in the State: 101. Both the rates are higher than the 55th Round figures but lower than both rural and Urban MWPR in the State which were respectively 552 and 516. Both MWPR and FWPR in the State, rural as well as urban, were lower than the corresponding all India rates. In the category of all Workers also the rural and urban FWPR in the State, according to NSSO 55th Round, were respectively 151 and 112 against MWPR of 529 and 151 and the all India Rural and Urban FWPR of 299 and 139. In the case of all workers also, the difference between the FWPR in Assam with the MWPR and also with the all India rates of FWPR persists in both rural and urban areas even according to the NSSO 58th Round data. As per the NSSO 58th Round data, the rural and urban FWP Rates in Assam were respectively 218 and 110 against the all India rates of 281 and 140 and the MWPR in the State of 569 for rural and 518 for urban areas.

As per data published by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India, in case of the organised sector employment, the private sector employs more than the public sector in Assam, but the all India average picture is the reverse. Between 1991 and 2000, the private sector employment increased by 3.20 per cent as against the all India growth rate of 4.59 per cent. During this period, public sector

employment in Assam grew by 6.82 per cent while the all India growth rate in this respect was only 1.35 per cent.

In Assam, the proportion of women employed in the private sector is higher than in the public sector. In 2000, in the private sector, the percentage of women employees was 47.63 against 14.75 in the public sector. Percentage of women in the central government is the lowest, 6.98 against the highest women employment of 48.23 in large private sector establishments

By analysing the Census data on main workers, marginal workers and total workers also one can observe that the female work participation rate is much lower than the male work participation rate in the State. The percentage of total male workers in 2001 is 49.9 against 20.8 female workers. Percentage of main female workers is 9.7 against 42.3 male workers. But the percentage of marginal female workers is higher than the percentage of male marginal workers at 11.1 and 7.6 respectively. Between 2000-2001 the percentage of total male workers had an increase while percentage of total female workers decreased. Both male and female workers increased in the case of marginal workers.

Taking up the distribution of percentage of workers among male and female for the rural areas of the State, it is seen that the percentage of total workers among the male in the rural areas has shown a marginal increase. Total workers among the female have shown a marginal decrease during the decade. But most significant development during the decade is the significant fall in the percentage of main workers for both the sexes.

In the urban areas of the State, the picture is quite gloomy so far as the percentage of workers is concerned. The percentage of workers although increased up to 32 per cent in 2001 from 30.9 per cent in 1991 yet it continued to be below the State average and also the rural employment rate. The percentage of main workers, on the other hand has shown a decline during the last decade in the urban areas of the State while marginal workers have shown a corresponding increase.

2001 census data also reveals a large scale variation in the percentage of workers among male and female, the figures being 51.0 per cent and 10.3 per cent respectively notwithstanding the fact that the size of female workers has grown up from 7.5 per cent in 1991 to 10.3 per cent in 2001. In case of male main workers there was a decline between 1991 and 2001 although the percentage of female main workers have slightly increased in the same period.

5.2.1 Age distribution of workers

The age specific principal worker population ratio for each age group is less than the all India average except in the 50-54 age group.

A disturbing feature observed in the principal worker population ratio in Assam is that in the case of urban male the ratio is higher than the all India average in the age group 5-9 signifying a higher incidence of child labour in the urban areas of Assam. Other than this, principal worker

population ratio for Assam is higher than the all India ratio for the age groups 45-49 and 55-59 while for the remaining groups the ratio is lower than the all India average.

Another notable feature in the age specific principal worker population ratio for the urban female in Assam is that in the age groups 10-19, the ratio is significantly higher than the all India average. This implies that a large chunk of female teenage workers are regarded as principal workers. For all other age groups principal worker population ratio for female in Assam is lower than the all India average.

As per Census data, the percentage of total workers to total population shows a slight decline from 36.1 in 1991 to 35.9 percentage in 2001 for Assam. This trend is more significant in case of main workers, which show a decline from 31.2 percent in 1991 to 26.6 percent in 2001. However the marginal workers have registered an abnormal increase to 9.3 percent during the same period. Similar trend is observed in case of rural areas of the State. But in case of urban areas a marginal increase is noticed in case of total workers. Main and marginal workers show the trends of variation similar to rural areas.

5.2.2 Inter district Variations

Analysing Census data by districts, it has been observed that 12 out of 23 districts of the State have the percentage of total workers above the State level and in the remaining 11 districts, the figures are below the State average. The highest percentage of total workers, in 2001, has been recorded in the district of Lakhimpur (56.1) while the lowest percentage is found in Dhubri (28.9) district.

Work participation rate is the highest for both the categories of main and marginal workers in Lakhimpur while the lowest percentage for main workers is observed in Karimganj and that of marginal workers in Dhubri.

In 2001, the female work participation is the highest in the district of Lakhimpur with 62.1. Although this district was in the top most rank also in 1991, the difference between first and second ranked district of Dhemaji in terms of percentage was less than 6 points in 1991 and increased to more than 13 percentage points in 2001. The position in terms of percentage of female workers appears to have improved in the districts of Golaghat, Tinsukia, Dibrugarh, Jorhat, Kokrajhar, Nalbari, Goalpara, Hailakandi, Morigaon and Barpeta. Whereas seven districts viz., Sibsagar, N.C Hills, Sonitpur, Darrang, Bongaigaon, Cachar and Nagaon. The other six districts viz, Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Karbi Anglong, Kamrup and Karimganj have maintained their ranks of 1991 Census, in 2001 Census also. The work participation rates among female have gone up in 10 out of 23 districts of the state while this rate have shown a decline in the remaining 13 districts.

5.2.3 Occupational Distribution: From Census figures, it can also be observed that among the total workers, 39.2 per cent are engaged as cultivators 13.5 per cent as agricultural labourers, 3.4 per cent are in household industry and the rest 43.9 percent are as other workers. There is sharp male

female difference in all occupation groups. Among cultivators the male female ratio is 38.7:40.4, among agricultural labourers 12.3: 16.5, in household industries it is 1.7: 7.9. It can be observed that the percentage of female workers is higher in all the agriculture-based occupations in rural areas. In case of the occupations in rural areas other than those mentioned above, the male female ratio is 43.9:35.2. These figures only reconfirm the higher rate of participation of women in agricultural activities. From the NSSO data also it is evident that the FWPR in agricultural and allied activities is higher than MWPR, although MWPR by itself is also higher in the agricultural sector compared to the secondary and tertiary sectors. FWPR in Assam is lower than the all India average in the primary and the secondary sectors but is much higher in the tertiary sector. On the other hand, MWPR in Assam is higher than the all India average rate in the primary and the tertiary sector but much lower in the secondary sector.

As to the Inter District differences, it can be observed that the percentage of workers engaged in cultivation is higher than the State average (39.2 percent)in the districts of Dhemaji (73.0), Lakhimpur (67.9), Karbi Anglong (59.3), Marigaon (52.6), N.C Hills(49.4), Golaghat (46.8), Darrang (45.5), Kokrajkar (42.5)and Barpeta (40.7).

The remaining 14 districts have shown to be below the State average.

The percentage of agricultural labourers accounts for 13.5 percent of total workers of the State. The highest percentage of agricultural labourers is found in Dhubri (23.8) while the lowest is observed in N.C Hills (5.1) district.

The next category of workers engaged in household industry constitutes only a meagre 3.4 for the State as a whole. Majority of the workers in household industries are female, 7.9 per cent against 1.7 per cent male. Among the districts the percentage of female workers in household industries is highest in the district of Kamrup (16.9) closely followed by Karimganj (16.1) Barpeta and Nalbari while it is lowest in the district of Tinsukia (2.3).

As mentioned earlier, the percentage of male workers is higher in the category of other workers. Among the districts, Cachar records the highest percentage of other workers while the lowest is observed in Dhemaji.

A close view of the percentage of other workers at the district level reveals that the percentage of male workers is generally outnumber the female workers almost in all the districts of the Brahmaputra valley and in the two hill districts of Assam In the three districts of Surma Valley viz. Cachar, Karimganj and Hailakandi, the percentage of females far exceed the percentage of male.

It may be mentioned here that the percentage distribution of only the Main workers by industrial category has been shown as per the 1991 Census (Assam State District Profile 1991) unlike the 2001 Census (Census of India 2001. Assam Provisional Population Totals. Paper-3 of 2001) where the data of Total (Main+ Marginal) workers are shown separately. Thus it is not possible to compare the two sets of data.

Nevertheless, to have an idea of Main workers engaged in different sectors in Assam data for 1991 census is being analysed.

An equal percentage of male main workers and female main workers are employed in cultivation in urban areas, but in the rural areas, the percentage of male main workers engaged in cultivation is higher than that of the female main workers.

As expected, the percentage of main workers engaged in cultivation in urban areas is lower than that of rural areas but significantly the percentage of females engaged in cultivation in the urban areas is also higher than the male percentage.

In case of agricultural labourers, differences exist with regard to male and female percentages in both the rural and the urban areas, the proportion being higher for the male, but that too only marginally.

In case of Livestock, Forestry, fishing, Hunting and plantations, orchards and Allied activities, the percentage of females engaged is quite higher than that of male and the same trend is visible in case of rural and urban areas.

The percentage of persons engaged in Mining and Quarrying is marginal and more so in the case of female in both the rural and urban areas.

In manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs in the household industry the percentage of females outnumber the male in both rural and the urban areas. In manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs in the non-household industry the percentage of females is considerably lower than that of male in both rural and the urban areas.

Participation rate of women is very low in administrative, executive and managerial works. As per 1991 census only 0.82 per cent men and 0.13 per cent women are in this category of work. Women's participation rate is nearly at par with men in community, social and personal services, and as service workers with 10.8 per cent male and 8.7 per cent female participation rate in the first category and 3.13 male and 2.06 female participation rate in the second category.

Women outnumber men in Professional, technical and related works, with female participation rate of 5.28 per cent against the male participation rate of 4.21.

5.3 Growth in Employment

The growth rate of employment in the country as a whole for the period 1993-94 to 1999-2000 happened to be lower than the preceding period viz., 1983 to 1993-94 in all categories, i.e., for both rural and urban and male and the female. For the State, the growth rates were somewhat different. The growth rates were better in the later period for the male and the combined male-female for both rural and urban areas. Growth rate of employment of the rural female slowed down in the later period

but for the urban female it was better. This implies that in the post liberalisation period, the growth rate of employment in the country as a whole has slowed down. Growth of employment for the rural female in the State also slowed down.

5.4 Incidence of Unemployment

The slow growth rate of employment will obviously result in increased incidence of unemployment. The incidence of unemployment in the urban areas continued to be higher than rural unemployment for both men and women and it increased continuously for the male but for the female there was an upward movement between 1983 and 1993-94 then there was a decline in 1999-2000. The incidence of both rural and urban female unemployment however continued to be higher than the male unemployment rate since 1993-94 although rural male and female unemployment rates were equal in 1983-84 but both the rural and urban female unemployment rates in the State were much higher than the all India average rates in each of these years and had an increasing trend.

The incidence of unemployment in the State for the urban male was lower than the all India average in 1983 but later on it increased and continued at a higher level than the all India rate of unemployment. While rural male unemployment rate in the State continued to be higher than that of the all India average rate all throughout.

The position of the State in terms of unemployment rates was somewhat different as per the NSSO 58th Round data. Both rural and urban male unemployment rates were higher than the corresponding female unemployment rates in the principal status as well as principal and subsidiary (all) status activities and were also higher than the all India rates. Rural Female Unemployment Rates in the State were lower than the all India rates in both categories of activity but Urban Female Unemployment Rates were much higher.

CHAPTER 6

WOMEN IN DECISION MAKING AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

6.1 Women's Right to Property and Decision Making in the Traditional Societies of Assam

The family system in medieval Assam was patriarchal in nature. Women had no rights to their paternal property. They had the right to enjoy their dowry.

As per the NFHS-2 the women in Assam have greater autonomy in some aspects of household decision making, like what to cook, whether to take her own health care and purchasing of jewellery. But very few of them have the autonomy to decide to visit relatives and friends, stay with parents/siblings, going to market and very few of them have access to money. Thus her autonomy is confined only to very few aspects of household decision-making and that too in a very limited scale compared to her counterparts in the other North Eastern States. As to public decision-making, however, one must admit the very limited scope available for the women in the North East, Assam being no exception.

Women may be visible at public places and institutions, as there is freedom of movement, but her visibility does not give her power, she is very unlikely to be a member in the decision making bodies of these institutions. Data on managerial bodies of schools and colleges, public institutions, religious institutions reveal the invisibility of women in power.

Some of the major tribes in the State are the Bodo Kachari, Dimasa Kachari, Mishing, Karbis, Deories, Rabhas, Tiwas, etc. These tribes have some common characteristics- patriarchal, patrilineal, patrilocal, inheritance of immovable property by the male folk, absence of womenfolk in the decision making bodies of village politics, the presence of bride price, the rule of monogamy, but polygamy not being uncommon, allowance of divorce and remarriage of widows. But amidst these commonalities, there are individual variations. They also have different rules and norms for their womenfolk. In some areas, the Bodo Kachari women get 1/8th of the father's property. Among the Deories the womenfolk are prohibited from taking part in feasts held in the village. Karbi women continue to use the surname of her father after her marriage. But Karbi women cannot inherit even movable properties and they are not allowed to attend a village court for any trial. The Karbis also do not allow the women to take part in the community performance of the Rongker festival.. Among the Dimasa Kacharis there is the presence of female clans along with male clans. While the son belongs to the father's clan, the daughters belong to the mother's clan. Dimasa Kachari women inherit the movable properties from

their mother. Elderly women of the tribe take part in village trials only when women are involved in these trials. Among the matrilineal hill Tiwas, daughters inherit property from their mothers. Among the Mishings, there is the provision that in the absence of sons the daughters can inherit property.

6.1.1 Legislations

The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 provides for equal share of both male and female heirs in the property inherited by succession. The Act provides that any property possessed by a female Hindu shall be held by her as full owner and not as a limited owner. On the other hand, the coparcenary right to property is limited to male members of the family only. In many States like Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, etc., there have been various State Amendments passed by the respective legislatures of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 to include the property right of women. Accordingly, in all these States, the coparcenaries right has been extended even to female members by including them as coparceners as with men. In Assam, no such attempt has been made to amend the Hindu Succession Act 1956.

However, in Assam, an Act was passed namely the Assam Hindu Women's Right to Property (Extension to Agricultural land) Act, 1943 to extend the operation of the Hindu Women's Right to Property Act, 1937 and the Hindu Women's Right to Property (Amendment) Act. 1938 to the Agricultural Land in the province of Assam. That the present Act provides the right to property to the agricultural land in respect of women but this Act has not provided for extending the coparcenary right to women.

The Assam Hindu Women's Right to Property (Extension to Agricultural Land), Act, 1943, though passed to extend the right of women to property even to agricultural land, till today, nothing has been done in reality till date.

The Assam State Commission for Women Act, 1994 has been passed with an objective of the protection of the constitutional rights of women and also to give effect to the provisions made in the Directive Principles of State Policy.

6.2 Women in Administration

While analysing the work participation rates it has been observed that in Assam, women's participation in administrative and managerial roles is minimum. In spite of having a high female literacy rate, the State has produced very few female administrators, never a woman Vice Chancellor in any of the three Universities in the State and only one woman Chief Minister.

In the year 2000, Assam had only 10 lady IAS officers against 216 male IAS officers, the percentage to total being 4.42 against the all India average percentage of 10.4. The number of IPS officers was even lower, only 2 out of a total of 136, i.e., 1.47 per cent against an all India average percentage of 3.33.

6.3 Political Participation

Women of the State had participated actively in India's freedom movement between 1921 and 1947. They joined the social and political movements on various demands even after independence. They also played a pivotal role in the Assam Movement of the late seventies. But like any other women's work, even that contribution has never been counted while sharing the benefits of such struggles. As such she remains under represented in every decision making body.

6.3.1 Representation in the Lok Sabha

Observing the number of candidates contested and won in the State Assembly elections, it can be seen that from 1952 to 1985, the number of women candidates ranged between 1 and 3, while the number of male candidates ranged between 29 and 105. (1980 elections has been ignored as that election was held amidst disturbances and protests). The number of women winning candidates remained between 1 and 2. This was out of the total number of 10 seats in 1952 and 1957, 12 in 1962 and 14 thereafter.

In 1999, 2 women were elected to the Lok Sabha, which comprised 14.29 per cent of the Lok Sabha seats for the State, while in that year, in the Lok Sabha, there were 49 women members, comprising 9 per cent of the total number of members in the Lok Sabha. This gives a better show than the rest of India, but not at all in conformity with the type of culture prevalent in this part of the country.

6.3.2 Representation in the State Assembly

The number of women candidates contesting in the State Assembly polls during 1952 and 1985 ranged between 4 and 20, the percentage to the number of male contestants being 0.99 and 2.18 respectively. The highest number of women contestants during the period was in the year 1978, when 20 women candidates contested, but only 1 won. **In the assembly, during this period women legislators were between 7.02 per cent in 1972 and 0.79 per cent in 1978.**

The position considerably improved in 1996, when 45 women contested and 6 women were elected. In 1999, there were 6 women members in the Assembly comprising 4.92 per cent of the total members as against all India average of 5.63 per cent of women legislators.

6.3.3 Representation in the Rajya Sabha

Women's representation in the Rajya Sabha is also minimal. Out of the seven members from Assam, there was only one-woman member in the Rajya Sabha in 1994 and 1996.

6.3.4 Representation in the Panchayati Raj Institutions:

The 73rd Amendment Act of the Constitution has ensured the entry of women in Panchayati Raj Institutions. In the panchayat elections held in 2002, a host of women joined the Panchayats as elected

members. In total, 821 women against the total of 2,487, joined as Gaon Panchayat Presidents, 8,210 women against the total of 24,870 joined as Gaon Panchayat members, 821 women against the total of 2,487 members joined as Anchalik Panchayat members and 129 women joined as Zila Parishad members against the total of 390. This comprised more than 33.0 per cent women in the Panchayats. Prior to that in 1992 Panchayat elections 8,203 women against 19,143 male members, comprising 30 per cent of total members also had the opportunity of joining

The Panchayats. However, during that period, the all India percent age of women members in Panchayats was 31.32.

6.4 Women as voters

From the electorate list, it can be seen that the number of men and women voters are nearly equal. But in each election, the average rate of turn out is within 50-60 per cent, unless there is some particular issue, which attracts voters. Women seem to have participated equally as men as voters.

CHAPTER 7

CRIME AGAINST WOMEN

NFHS-2 while analysing the women's response regarding domestic violence has recorded that the women of Assam are less exposed to domestic violence compared to her average Indian counterpart, but she is also not totally free from such incidents, it is a question of only a few percentage points. It is a matter of concern that the women of Assam have to face physical assaults more from outsiders than from someone from the family. In addition to the violence she might face at home, she also may have to face different forms of crime and violence against her at public places. In recent years such cases are on the increase. An analysis of the data for the State and for 23 districts of Assam reveal that during the period 1997-2002, there has been not only an increase in the number of crimes and violence against women in Assam but the incidence of crime is spread over all the districts and crime rates are very high in some of the districts.

7.1 Incidence of Crime and Violence

Overall crime rate in the State increased by approximately 36% over the period 1997-2002. As to the types of crime, kidnapping has the highest incidence, followed by cruelty by husband and rape.

In 1997, there were 1113 cases of kidnapping, 717 rape, 686 molestation, 775 cruelty by husband, 22 dowry death and 10 immoral trafficking, which increased respectively to 1229, 884, 754, 1560, 62, and 20 in the year 2002.

The number of crimes reported from 23 districts of Assam had varied response in the different areas of crimes against women during the period 1997-2002. Kamrup registered the highest percentage share of crimes among all the districts of the State with 11.02 per cent, followed by Cachar (10.28) and Nagaon (9.84) during the period whereas N.C. Hills reported the lowest percentage share of crimes against women at 0.35.

Kamrup reported the highest number of crimes in the areas of Kidnapping, rape and immoral trafficking at 1002, 431 and 44 respectively, highest number of molestation cases (611) are reported from Nagaon District, cruelty by husband (1121) and dowry deaths (40) are highest in the district of Cachar.

The districts with higher densities of population also appear in the group of districts with higher incidence of crime against women.

7.2 Jails in Assam

There are 24 numbers of District Jails in 22 Districts of Assam in addition to a Special Jail in Nagaon District, an Open Air Jail in Jorhat District and a Jail Lock-Up at Haflong in the District of N.C. Hills. The District of Tinsukia do not have any kind of jails while N.C. Hills do not possess a District Jail. The districts of Sonitpur, Jorhat and Karbi Anglong possess 2 numbers of District Jails each.

7.2.1 Prison Population in Assam

The District Jail at Tezpur has the highest registered capacity of males at 725, followed by the District Jail of Jorhat (646) and the District Jail of Dibrugarh (614) and the lowest registered capacity of males are in the Jail Lock-Up at Haflong (24) and the District Jail at Hamren (30). Whereas the District Jails at Guwahati and Barpeta has the highest registered capacity of females at 45 in each jail. However the Open Air Jail in Jorhat do not have any capacity for women.

All over the State, out of a total number of 2403 convict, only 47 (1.96 per cent) are women while the number of women under trials is 127(3.12 per cent) against a total number of 4065 under trials.

7.3 Number of Family Counselling Centres, Legal Aid Centres, Shelter Homes And Drug And HIV/AIDS Rehabilitation Centres In Assam:

There are 47 Family Counselling Centres, 38 Legal Aid Centres, 27 Shelter Homes And 10 Drug And HIV/AIDS Rehabilitation Centres In Assam spread over different districts.

7.4 Family Court

There is only one family court in Assam. It is in Kamrup district.

CHAPTER 8

INDICATORS OF WELL-BEING

While discussing the human development indicators in Chapter 1, it was seen that the State is far below the national level in terms of most of the human development indicators and also gets a very low rank as per the Human Development Index. This chapter gives some added information about different aspects of well being, which have direct influence on a woman's life.

8.1 Distribution of Households by type of Houses

The percentage of pucca houses both in rural and urban areas of Assam is lower than the all India average. There has also been a reduction in the percentage of pucca houses in rural Assam between 1991 and 1993-94.

House holds with semi pucca houses continued to be higher in urban Assam and lower in rural Assam than the corresponding all India averages. The percentage of households with semipucca houses in urban Assam decreased between 1991 and 1993-94.

8.2 Households with access to toilet facilities

In terms of households with access to toilet facilities, Assam is much better off than the all India average, both for the general population and for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled tribe population.

The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled tribe population are however worse off than the other category of population in this regard both at the all India level and the State level.

8.3 Households with access to safe drinking water

The percentage of households with safe drinking water is lower in Assam than the all India average in both rural and urban areas. This is true also of the Scheduled caste and the scheduled tribe population. The difference between the figures for Assam and all India is more or less equal in all categories.

But the accessibility to safe drinking water is slightly higher for the others category of population compared to Scheduled caste and scheduled tribe population. This is true at the State level as well as at all India level.

8.3.1 Distribution of households by source of drinking water

55 per cent of the households in rural areas and 54 per cent in urban areas of Assam depend on tube wells/tankers for drinking water, while at the all India level, 49 per cent rural and only 18.50 per cent urban households depend on tube well/tankers. 73.70 per cent households in urban areas at the all India level depend on taps.

8.4 Households with Electricity Connection

Households with Electricity Connection in Assam with 12.54 per cent in rural areas and 63.21 per cent in urban areas are well below the national average of 30.54 and 75.78 per cent respectively. The difference is more prominent in rural areas.

Scheduled Caste/Tribe Households with Electricity Connection (1991) in Assam has been lower than the all India average, but the difference between the all India figures with those for Assam is not as prominent as it is for the general households. **Within the State as well as at the all India level, Scheduled Tribe Households have the lowest access to electricity, followed by Scheduled Caste households.**

8.4.1 Per Capita Consumption of Electricity

Per Capita Consumption of Electricity (kWh) in Assam is only about one third of the all India average level. There has been very marginal increase in this aspect of life in Assam over time

8.5 Households with and without Electricity, Safe Drinking Water and Toilet

Households without Electricity, Safe Drinking Water and Toilet (1991) are more Assam than the national average in both the rural and the urban. But the percentage of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Households in Urban areas of Assam without Electricity, Safe Drinking Water and Toilet is less than those at the all India level, showing better position of such households in Assam. The rural Urban combined figures however show that Scheduled Tribe households without these facilities form the largest group followed by the Scheduled Caste households both at the State and the all India level. Data on the percentage of households with Electricity, Safe Drinking Water and Toilet reconfirms the poor position of the State compared to the all India level both in rural and urban areas.

8.6 Inter District Disparities in access to Household Amenities

Quite visible inter district differences exist in the access to household amenities. Districts in the Surma Valley are the most well off in terms of households having electricity followed by those in the upper Brahmaputra Valley. Kamrup having the best position among the lower Brahmaputra Valley districts have only 67.83 per cent urban households having electricity and 13.82 per cent rural households having electricity against 80.82 households in urban Karimganj and 28.88 in rural Karimganj.

Kokrajhar, both rural and urban, has the lowest access to safe drinking water. The other three districts having low access to safe drinking water are Bongaigaon, both rural and urban, rural Goalpara,

rural Dhubri, Barpeta, Kamrup, rural Darrang, Sonitpur, Lakhimpur, rural Dhemaji, urban Marigaon, Jorhat, Karbi Anglong, North Cachar Hills and the rural areas of the Surma Valley districts. Dibrugarh, Tisukia , Golaghat and Sibsagar are at the three topmost places while even the urban areas of Kamrup are below the State average in terms of accessibility to safe drinking water.

More than 70 per cent urban households have toilet facilities in all the districts except in North Cachar where only 68.46 per cent of the households have the facility. In rural areas, Kokrajhar, Darrang and Dhemaji have the lowest percentage of households having the facility.

CHAPTER 9

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AT THE STATE LEVEL

Assam does not have a State Policy for Women. Efforts are on to formulate a State Policy/ Plan of Action for Women's Empowerment. However, the Government had adopted the Women Component Plan as a strategy for the ninth five-year Plan and also has introduced women component in some of the sectoral programmes for the Tenth Plan. The Government also operates a large number of social sector schemes. In this chapter, first the social sector schemes undertaken by the Government in Assam so far and secondly, the proposed schemes for women's development in the Tenth Plan are being discussed, followed by a discussion on the budgetary support for women's empowerment in the next chapter.

9.1 SOCIAL SECTOR SCHEMES OPERATING IN ASSAM

9.1.1 HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE:

9.1.1 (1) REPRODUCTIVE AND CHILD HEALTH (RCH) PROGRAMME IN ASSAM

One of the foremost social sector schemes working in Assam is the RCH programme. The RCH programme intends to integrate fertility regulation, Maternal and Child Health with reproductive health services, such as screening, diagnosis and treatment of Reproductive Tract Infections (RTIs) and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs). The main aim of the programme is to reduce infant and maternal mortality and morbidity and unwanted fertility, thereby, eventually contributing stabilization of population growth and improve the health status of women and children. The project has been launched in 1997-98.

9.1.1 (2) Population Control Programme

Another programme directed towards population control is the Family Welfare Programme. The performance of this programme, however, for last few years has not been satisfactory, particularly in respect of sterilisation operation.

9.1.1 (3) POST PARTUM PROGRAMME

The Post Partum Programme, a Maternity Centered Hospital based approach to Family Welfare was initiated in 1996 with the aim of motivating women within the reproductive age group (15-44

years) and their husbands for adoption of Small Family norm through education and motivation particularly during pre-natal and post natal period.

9.1.1 (4) NATIONAL MATERNITY BENEFIT SCHEME

The maternity benefit scheme, under the NSAP, provides lump sum cash assistance to women of households below poverty line. The following criteria is applicable in determining Central assistance:

Under the National Maternity Benefit Scheme, Rs 500 is paid to the mother up to two live births prior to delivery. The fund for the scheme is released by Government of India to the District Officers of Health and Family Welfare Deptt. of Assam under the intimation to the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts. In Assam, this scheme was implemented by the Joint Director of Health services in 10 districts while in the remaining 13 districts the Additional Chief Medical and Health Officer (FW) to look after the programme. Current instruction has been issued by the Government to hand over the Scheme by the Joint Director of Health Services of the State to the Additional Chief Medical and Health Officer (FW) in respect of the 10 districts.

9.1.1 (5) SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME SUPPORTED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Under this Sector Investment Programme, Govt. of India selected Assam as one of the states amongst 11 states and NAGAON district as demonstration district in the first phase out of 22 districts. The programme implementation phase is up to September 2003. The uniqueness of this programme is that it is totally a grant and funding is based on performance of the activities undertaken.

9.1.1 (6) PULSE POLIO IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMME AND VITAMIN-A

Promotion of maternal and child health has been one of the most important objectives of the Family and Welfare Programme in India. The vaccination of children against six serious but preventable diseases- tuberculosis, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis and measles has been a cornerstone of the child health care system in India. These are major preventable causes of child mortality, disability, morbidity and related malnutrition. The National Programme on Prevention of Blindness targets children less than five years and administers oral doses of vitamin A every six months starting at age nine months.

9.1.1 (7) NATIONAL ANTI- MALARIA PROGRAMME (NAMP)

The national anti-malaria programme is a Community Development Oriented scheme. With regards to Financial Assistance the Government of India provided 100% cash assistance from 1-2-1994 to meet the operational cost but expenditure on salary of the staff under plan and non-plan was born from the state budget. NAMP is a beneficiary oriented and plan scheme.

9.1.1 (8) NATIONAL T.B. CONTROL PROGRAMME (NTCP), ASSAM

The National T B Control Programme (NTCP) in Assam is implemented since 1962 on a 50:50 sharing basis between the centre and state. At present the scheme is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme.

The main objective of the programme is to detect cases and treat effectively to prevent spread of infection to the community.

1. At present in 17 districts of the state TB centers (DTC) are functioning since 1962.

9.1.1 (9) NATIONAL LEPROSY ERADICATION PROGRAMME(NLEP), ASSAM

The National Leprosy Control Programme (NLCP) was launched in 1954-55 with Dapsone Monotherapy. And subsequently the National Leprosy Eradication Programme was implemented since 1983 as a 100% centrally sponsored scheme with the objective to reduce the disease prevalence rate below 1/10,000 population by the end of 2000.

9.1.1 (10) MODIFIED LEPROSY ELIMINATION CAMPAIGN (MLEC) IN ASSAM

The Modified Leprosy Elimination Campaign (MLEC) Mlec-1 in Assam was conducted between 7th April to 12th April 1998.

9.1.1 (11) SPECIAL ACTION PROGRAMME FOR ELIMINATION OF LEPROSY (SAPEL)

Govt. of India has accorded approval and sanctioned funds for implementation of Special Action Programme For Elimination Of Leprosy (SAPEL) projects for 2001-2002.

9.1.1 (12) NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR CONTROL OF BLINDNESS (NPCB), ASSAM

The National Programme for Control Of Blindness (NPCB) was launched in 1998 as a 100% centrally sponsored scheme.

9.1.1 (13) NATIONAL CANCER CONTROL PROGRAMME (NCCP) ASSAM

In Assam, cancer of the throat and mouth cavity is very high in comparison to the other parts of the country. The community awareness through health education for early detection of cancer cases can improve the course of the disease.

The Govt. of India has sanctioned three national cancer control projects in the state of Assam for the three districts of Jorhat, Dhubri, and Cachar. Cancer detection services in the early stages can be identified in district civil hospitals and community health centres with the available resources in the institutions.

9.1.1 (14) NATIONAL IODINE DEFICIENCY DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAMME (NIDDCP) ASSAM

The National Goiter Control Programme (NGCP) was launched in 1962 with 100% central assistance. The programme was re-designated as National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control (NIDDC) in 1992 to emphasize the wider implications of Iodine deficiency. To ensure proper monitoring of iodized salts a high level co-ordination committee was constituted in 1987 as per instructions of Government of India.

The Director of Health Services of Assam is the Technical Head of implementation of the programme.

9.1.1 (15) NATIONAL SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASE (NSPCD), ASSAM

The ministry of Health and family welfare, Government of India has launched the National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases (NSPCD) in selected districts in India. At the national level, the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) Delhi is the nodal agency for this programme.

In Assam the three districts of Cachar, Jorhat and Dibrugarh have been selected as pilot districts by Govt. of India to implement this programme from the year 2001 with the existing staff and infrastructure.

9.1.1 (16) MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME, ASSAM

LGB Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur is the only psychiatric hospital in N.E (Northeast) Region with 350 beds. The N.E.C has undertaken the funding of institute and proposed to convert it to a teaching institute in future. There are 3 medical college hospitals in the state with a total of nearly 100 beds for mentally ill patients.

9.1.1 (17) DISTRICT MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME

Two Districts of Assam have been taken up under the District Mental Health programme, which is a part of the National Mental Health programme. The districts are Dhubri and Goalpara. In the district of Nagaon the programme was started in 1997

9.1.1 (18) YAWS ERADICATION PROGRAMME (YEP), ASSAM

The Ministry of Health and F.W Govt. of India has approved the initiation of Yaws Eradication Programme (YEP) in Assam as a Central Sector Health Scheme. It may be mentioned that in the past cases of Yaws have been reported from North Cachar Hills District of Assam. The Govt. of India has suggested launching this programme only in North Cachar District of Assam.

9.1.1 (19) AIDS CONTROL PROGRAMME IN ASSAM

The State AIDS Cell was established in the year 1992 in the office of the Directorate of Health Services of Assam under the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) for implementation of the programme. Subsequently District AIDS cells were also established.

The first Phase of the programme ended in 1997 but was extended upto March 1999. Meanwhile, the Assam State AIDS Control Society (ASACS) was formed and registered in the month of October 1998. The second phase of the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) was started from April 1999 for a period of 5 years, i.e. till March, 2004.

9.2 EDUCATION

The educational sector schemes are grouped under three categories: Elementary (Class I-IV), Secondary (Class. V-X), Higher Secondary (Class.XI-XII) and Technical education. A small number of primary schools have pre-primary sections tagged to them.

9.2.1 (1) Elementary Education

- Elementary education is accepted as a crucial input for nation building being basic to subsequent learning for a child to grow up to a human resource. A separate Directorate of Elementary education was established in 1977 in the state to look after Preprimary, lower Primary and upper Primary levels of education. The Directorate looks after this sector in the state excepting in the District Councils. There are 21 District Elementary education offices in 21 plain districts; Deputy Inspector of School Offices in 43 sub-divisional offices and 121 block elementary education offices, 4 autonomous councils under this Directorate.

The programmes under this category include

- Strengthening of block level machinery
- Strengthening of sub divisional level machinery
- Strengthening of district level machinery
- Implementation of Non-Formal Education
- Opening/taking over a Middle school
- Appointment of additional teacher in Middle school
- Appointment of science teacher in middle schools
- Appointment of Language teacher in Linguistic Minority Middle schools
- Appointment of chowkidar in Middle schools
- Maintenance of schools in grants-in-aid
- Supply of free text books to elementary schools students
- Award of attendance scholarship to SC/St students
- Award of special scholarships to SC/St Girls students
- Supply of uniforms
- Supply of exercise books and note books
- Opening of book bank
- Revision of curriculum and syllabus
- Examination reforms

- Improvement of science and mathematics
- Purchase/repairing of office vehicles
- Holding of Annual sports
- Cash award to teachers
- Campaigning of U.E.E.
- Introduction of Cub-bul-bul in Elementary school
- Training of planning, statistical and Inspection staff
- Mid day meal
- Implementation of the scheme of D.P.E.P.
- Assistance to Autonomous Councils
- Implementation of the schemes of 10th Finance Commission award
- Introduction of English in Class III and IV

9.2.1 (2) Schemes funded by State

1. Salary liability to continuation of posts
2. Office Expenses, Rent Rate Taxes and Traveling Allowances
3. Supply of Free Textbooks:
4. Award of Scholarships:
5. Cash Award to teachers:

9.2.1 (3) CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEMES

1. Operation Blackboard.
2. Appointment of Hindi teacher
3. Educational facilities for Disabled children
4. Mid day meal Scheme

9.2.1 (4) SCHEMES WITH MATCHING SHARES BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

1. Non-Formal Education
2. District Primary Education Programme (DPEP)

9.2.2 SECONDARY EDUCATION

In Assam Secondary stage of education covers class VIII standard including +2 stage i.e. class IX and class XII. The projected population of the state is 2.29 crore at the present and the population

between the age group of 14 years-16 years is approximately 28.50 lakhs, which is to be covered by secondary education. There are 3200 High Schools and 599 Higher Secondary schools in the State.

9.2.3 CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES (CSS)

At present the following centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented in the State under secondary education-

1. Vocational education at + 2 stage
2. Improvement of Science Education
3. Appointment of Hindi teachers
4. Computer literacy and studies in schools (CLASS)
5. Modernization of Madrassa Education

9.2.4 UNIVERSITY AND HIGHER EDUCATION

In the field of higher education, emphasis was laid on consolidation and qualitative improvement during the 8th 5-year plan, 1992-97. During the 9th five-year plan it will be necessary to consolidate "gains" made in higher education over the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th plan period in terms of expansion.

The Higher Education Directorate is entrusted with the responsibility of managing the affairs relating to higher education. They are mainly to deal with the matters relating to Gauhati University, Dibrugarh University, 4 govt. colleges, 190 non-government Deficit colleges, 30 number of Adhoc colleges, 80 number of Sanskrit and Pali Prakrit tols, 7 number of non-government law colleges and also with some voluntary organizations like Assam Science Society, Asom Sahitya Sabha, Science and Technology, ABILAC, Publication Board Assam, Sadou Assam Lekhika Samaroh, Rabha Sahitya Sabha, Bodo Sahitya Sabha, Mising Abang Kebang etc.2.4.3.1: Organizational Structure of the Office of the Directorate of Higher Education, Assam: The organizational structure of the Directorate of Higher Education is quite elaborate with the Director at the apex.

9.2.5 ADULT EDUCATION

Adult education programme was started on National basis in the year 1978-79 along with the other parts of the country. The government of Assam have been implementing different Adult education programmes from the starting of its nationwide introduction.

9.3 SOCIAL WELFARE

The Social Welfare schemes are mainly centered round the welfare of women, children, the physically handicapped and the mentally retarded, the destitute and vagrant, etc.A number of social welfare schemes have been introduced from time to time in the State. Most of these programmes are managed by the Department of Social Welfare, Government of Assam.

9.3.1 National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)

The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) was launched on 15th August 1995 as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme with the objective of providing social assistance benefit to poor households affected by old age, death of primary breadwinner or need for maternity care. The programme supplements the efforts of the State Government with the objective of ensuring minimum level of well-being.

The NSAP includes three benefits as its components, viz.

National Old Age Pension Scheme (NAOPS)

National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS)

National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS)

The NSAP is a Centrally Sponsored Programme under which 100 percent Central assistance is extended to the States/Union Territories to provide the benefits in accordance with the norms, guidelines and conditions laid down by the Central Government. The intention in providing 100 percent Central assistance is to ensure that social protection to the beneficiaries everywhere in the country is uniformly available without interruption.

9.3.2 SOCIAL WELFARE: Departmental Schemes

9.3.2 (a) Family and Child Welfare (FCW) Projects

Under the Social Welfare Department, the Family and Child Welfare (FCW) projects runs in 7 districts. The blocks where FCW is implemented are Lawkhowa, Golokganj, Titabor, Rani, Hajo, Barkhetri, Koliabor and Chapar In total there are 8 FCW projects at present, with 2400 beneficiary mothers and 3600 beneficiary children. The State government funds these:

9.3.2 (b) State Home/Destitute home

There are 12 State/Destitute homes in the State with 420 male and 560 female inmates. In Jalukbari, Guwahati there is one State Home for Rescued Women, and one Destitute Home for Women. In Boko (Kamrup District), there is one Home for Helpless and Destitute Women, and one Permanent Liabilities Home (Bamunigaon) for the refugees and migrants.

9.3.2 (c) Vagrant Home in Fatasil Ambari

The vagrant homes are set up as a cell for reforming juveniles. There is only one such cell in Fatasil, Ambariin Guwahati.

9.3.2 (d) Children Home

There are 2 children homes in the State, one in Lakhimpur District, for Destitute and vagrant children and one in Nagaon for Orphan and Destitute Children.

9.3.2 (e) Prison Welfare

It was set up for rehabilitation of the families of prisoners.

9.3.2 (f) Prosthetic Aid

Under the Prosthetic rules, physically handicapped persons were sanctioned 75% grant for purchase of artificial limb appliances up to the age of 40 years, viz. tricycle, wheeled chair, hearing aid etc. in the past years.

9.3.2 (g) Rehabilitation Grant to the Physically Handicapped

Under the rehabilitation grant scheme, the department has been providing financial assistance to start poultry farm, dairy farm, bamboo and cane works, knitting and embroidery, weaving, carpentry, book stall, tailoring etc.

9.3.2 (h) Grants-in-aid to the Voluntary Welfare Organisation

The grants to the voluntary organization pertain to mainly constructions of the buildings and maintenance. 9.3.2(i). Scholarships to the Physically Handicapped:

The beneficiaries of this scheme include the orthopaedically handicapped, physically handicapped, mentally retarded students, blind students and the deaf and dumb. Such students receive up to Rs. 1200/- annually for H.S.L.C. examination and vocational training.

9.3.2 (j) Blind School and Braille press

The Social Welfare Department established a Braille press during the year 1983-84 through the P.W.D. and initiated action during 1984-85 for construction works. In August 2000, the press was installed in the Guwahati Blind School Campus. Another Blind School is running in Jorhat.

9.3.2 (k) Special Nutrition Programme (ICDS)

This scheme was implemented since 1975 for 6 months to 3 years children, 3 to 6 years (pre-school education, immunization), 18—44 year women (health and education programme). The foods are given from PMGY and World Food Centre. There are 10 nos. of feeding centers including 4 nos. of Balwadi School under Special Nutrition Programme.

9.3.2 (l) Balwadi Programme

In the Balwadi Centres, non-formal pre-primary education is imparted through play-way method to the children in the age group of 3 years to 6 years by trained Balsevikas.

9.3.2 (m) Welfare of Long-term prisoners and ex-convicts

Both care and after care service for welfare and rehabilitation schemes for long-term prisoners and ex-convicts for crime is recommended by the way of financial assistance to the families, mostly for the purpose of education of children, marriage of daughter and repairing house etc.

9.3.2 (n) Care and Protection schemes

Under the care and protection schemes for welfare of children in need, three major registered organisations received grants for maintenance of children home with the objective of imparting education and training to the destitute and orphaned children in a homely atmosphere, keeping in view the ultimate goal of their rehabilitation.

9.3.2 (o) State Old-Age Pension Scheme

The old age pension scheme provides for award of financial relief in the form of monthly pension. The old age pension scheme was introduced with effect from 15-8-83 @ Rs.60/- per month. After that, it was enhanced up to Rs.75/- per month.

The National Social Assistance Programme now covers the beneficiaries under old age pension scheme with effect from 1-4-2000.

9.3.2 (p) Physically Handicapped Persons' Identity Card

For supplementary help of the physically handicapped persons, Identity Card is issued by the District Social Welfare Officer with the co-operation of the Joint Director, Health Services. A selection board of Medical Officers examines and identifies the genuine physically handicapped persons for issuing the identity cards for their supplementary help or benefit.

The physically handicapped persons are entitled to petrol subsidies; concession on air, rail and road travels, awarding scholarships, reservation of posts and seats etc. and other facilities as admissible under existing rules of State and Central Government.

9.3.2 (q) Integrated Child Development Scheme

The programme for child welfare consists of the implementation of the Integrated Child Development Scheme. This centrally sponsored scheme was introduced in Assam in the year 1975. At present, there are 196 ICDS projects in Assam including 89 newly created projects. Number of Anganwadi centres functioning at present is 15,647 and 9,769 new centres have been sanctioned in 2000-2001. The objectives of the scheme are:

9.3.2 (r) The Balika Sambriddhi Yojana

The Govt. of India introduced the Balika Sambriddhi Yojana in 1997 with the view to provide financial assistance to the families falling below poverty line. Subsequently, some changes were introduced into the Scheme.

9.4 LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

9.4 (1) Vocational Training

The Crafts Training Scheme, one of the major schemes under the National Vocational Training System (MVTS) was introduced in 1950 with the objective of providing semi skilled manpower to

different economic sectors of industry in the country. The scheme is now being implemented through a network of 4170 Industrial Training Institutes, Industrial Training Centres in the country having seating capacity of 6.77 lakhs approximately. Under the scheme, training is presently being imparted in 43 engineering and 24 non-engineering trades as designated by National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT).

Vocational Training being a concurrent subject, both Central and State government are responsible for its planning and implementation. Administration and financial control of ITI s / ITC s rests with the respective state.

9.4 (2) Vocational Training Institutes

The Government of India, Deptt. of Tribal Affairs have been releasing funds under the Central Sectoral Scheme to the State Government for running Vocational Training Institutes. In order to check the alarming growth of unemployment, and also to discourage terrorism among the tribal youths, the ATDA has been implementing the scheme to provide large-scale self-employment. Under the scheme 100%Central Assistance is given to the States for setting up and running Vocational Training Centres. At present 10 such centres are functioning. Sanction for 16 more schools has been received and steps are reported to be taken to start the centres.

9.4 (3) NES PACKAGE

In January 2000, the Prime Minister of India in a conference held with the Chief Ministers/ Governors of North eastern States and Sikkim announced an Agenda for Socioeconomic development of the States, which included a doubling of Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) for imparting training in new trades over the next three years. An outlay of Rs. 100 crores has been provided for this purpose.

9.4 (4) Community Polytechnics

The scheme of community polytechnics was started under the Direct Central Assistance Scheme in 1978-79 in 35 polytechnics, on an experimental basis, with a view to ensuring for the rural society a fair share of benefits from the investments in Technical Education system.

The community polytechnics are not a separate institution. It is a wing attached to the regular polytechnic under the Direct Central Assistance Scheme of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). There are no institutions christened as community polytechnics as such. The scheme for providing assistance to some selected polytechnics for Science and Technology inputs for rural development and monitoring their work was named scheme of community polytechnics of MHRD.

9.5 RURAL DEVELOPMENT

In recent years, there have been some changes in the composition of social sector expenditure. The most significant of the changes is the paradigm change in the approach towards rural development.

Within the rural development outlay at the Centre, there is a shift away from rural employment schemes to rural housing, water, rural roads etc. The overall trend is to address the problem from the human development and basic needs intervention rather than the traditional way of addressing the problem of poverty.

9.5 (1) IRDP

IRDP was introduced in 2nd October 1980 , it continued to be a major instrument of poverty alleviation for nearly two decades in the rural areas. This programme was based on the principle of fixing targets on selectivity and incidence of poverty.

The IRDP aimed at providing self employment opportunity through poor through assistance in the form of subsidy and bank credit to enable the individual as well as groups, to acquire productive assets and appropriate skills to cross the poverty line on a sustained basis .

9.5 (2) Indira Awas Yojana (IAY)

Dwellings houses along with sanitation are provided to the people living below the poverty line on the pattern of 60% to the SC/ST, 3% to physically handicapped and rest open to the general categories of poor people.

9.5 (3) Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM)

It is a programme identified as the link in the overall strategy for self employment and wage employment programme of the rural poor by imparting training for various trades / skills at important training institutes.

9.5 (4) Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA)

It aims at improving the living condition of women and there-by children through provision of opportunities for self-employment and basic social services. It is done in the form of group activity and cultivating habit of thrift and credit facilities among the rural poor women including childcare activities like Pulse Polio Immunisation, Literacy programme.

9.5 (5) Ganga Kalyan Yojna (GKY)

It is a programme which has to provide irrigation through exploitation of ground water (STW) to individual and groups belonging to target group i.e. SC , ST and people living below poverty line. The group consists of 5 to 15 members.

9.5 (6) Scheme for Improved Tool-Kits for Rural Artisans (SITRA)

The programme of tool- kits aim at upgrading their skills and improving their production capability by supplying the rural poor artisans with modern kits enhancing thereby their productivity and income levels.

9.5 (7) Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)

With coming into force of SGSY from 1st April /1999 the earlier programmes viz. IRDP- TRYSEM, DWCRA,GKY and MWS are no longer in operation. The unspent balance amount as on 1.4.99 under these erstwhile programmes has been pooled under the head SGSY and utilized.

9.5 (8) Pradhan Mantri Gramoday Yojana

In order to achieve sustainable human development at the village level, a new initiative called the 'Pradhan Mantri Gramoday Yojana' (PMGY) was introduced in the Annual Plan 2000-01 in all the States and UTs including Assam. Rural Roads and Rural electrification are the priorities under this scheme.

9.5 (9) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

The Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) is to provide connectivity, by way of all weather roads to the unconnected habitations in the rural areas by the end of the Tenth Plan Period (2007). In respect of the Hill States (North East, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttaranchal) and the Desert Areas, the objective is to connect habitations with a population of 250 persons and above.

9.6 TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT

The Assam tribal Development Authority was set up in November 1983 in the form of a corporate institution as per provisions of the Assam Tribal Development Authority Act 1983.

The Assam Tribal Development Authority implements the various schemes like Family oriented income generating schemes (F O I G S) like grocery, piggery, Goatery, Fishery, etc and infrastructure development schemes (I D S) like construction of link- road, bridges, school building, community centre etc. However, the main thrust of development has been given on the successful implementation of the family oriented income generating schemes with a view to generate self employment and financial assets of the backward Tribal Families living below the poverty line.

The Assam Tribal Development Authority has been implementing another scheme under the central sector scheme i.e. Vocational Training Institutes (V T I) The Institutes are located in different districts. The Project Directors, ITDP/ Sub- Divisional Welfare Officers and the headmasters of the schools are looking after the management of the vocational training institutes.

The ATDA is also implementing the infrastructure development scheme for repairing of roads, schools, culverts, ring wells etc.

The main source of revenue of the Authority are the Special Central Assistance(S C A), Central Sectoral Assistance and State Sector Assistance. The Authority may also raise loans on such terms and conditions in consonance with the State Government standing financial norms and policies.

9.6 (1) TRIBAL SUB-PLAN

Tribal sub-plan schemes include:

- Welfare of the physically handicapped.
- Rehabilitation grants to the physically handicapped persons.
- Prosthetic Aid.
- Scholarship to the physically handicapped students.
- Special central assistance to the Voluntary Welfare Organisations.
- Special Nutrition Programme (ICDS).

Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) is considered in areas with only scheduled tribe population.

9.7 SCHEDULE CASTE COMPONENT PLAN

The Schedule Caste Component Plan covers the following scheme-

- Prosthetic Aid.
- Grants-in-aid to Voluntary Welfare Organisations.
- Special Nutrition Programme.
- Supplementary Nutrition is provided to the children between 0-6 years and nursing expectant mothers. The function of the Supplementary Nutrition Programme is closed at present.

9.8 WELFARE OF MINORITIES

Certain welfare schemes of the Government of Assam address the problems of the minorities and the people living in the Char areas. The Schemes relating to Agriculture, veterinary and Dairy, provision of drinking water, Cottage Industry and Education are presently under implementation in the Char areas.

The Assam Minorities Development Board is engaged for the welfare of the minorities. The Assam Minority Development & Finance Corporation is engaged in providing loans to people belonging to notify minorities.

9.9 WELFARE OF TEA AND EX-TEA GARDEN TRIBES

Government of Assam has recognised the Tea Tribes and Ex-tea Garden Tribes as Other Backward Classes. Various welfare schemes have been implemented for these tribes since 1985 through the Directorate of Welfare Of Tea And Ex-Tea Garden Tribes, Assam.

9.10 Grants Provided by the Eleventh Finance Commission with Special Reference to the field of Social Sector in Assam

The Eleventh Finance Commission has identified certain sectors for up gradation. The Commission has allocated grants for certain specific programmes also. The grants allocated by the Commission for different sector in Assam are shown below. In the Police Administration sector, among others, fund is also allocated for the Facilities of Women Police personnel.

Grants provided by the Eleventh Finance Commission with Special Reference to the field of Social Sector in Assam

Sl. No.	Sectors	Upgradation and special problem grants for 2000 -2005(Rs. In Crores)
1	District Administration	—
2	Police Administration	24.00
3	Prison Administration	3.00
4	Fire services	5.00
5	Judicial Administration	5.89
6	Fiscal Administration	3.00
7	Health Services	18.00
8	Elementary Education (Class i -viii)	10.00
9	Computer Training for School Children	9.89
10	Public Libraries	5.60
11	Heritage protection	5.00
12	Augmentation of Traditional Water Sources	13.16
13	Special Problems	30.00
	TOTAL	132.54

Report of the Eleventh Finance Commission

9.11 URBAN SCHEMES

The Social sector Schemes are mostly common for both rural and urban areas. However, a few schemes are operated to cater to the needs of the urban population in particular. One such scheme is the -

9.11.1 Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)

The Swarna Jayanti Saharia Rojgar Yojna (SJSRY) is aimed at providing gainful employment to urban unemployed or underemployed poor through encouraging setting up of self- employment ventures

or provision of wage employment. This programme relies on creation on suitable community structures on the Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP) pattern and delivery of inputs under this programme shall be through the medium of urban local bodies and such community structures.

9.11.2 The Urban Self-Employment Programme (USEP):

This programme has three distinct parts: -

1. Assistance to individual urban poor beneficiaries for setting up gainful self-employment ventures.
2. Assistance to groups of urban poor women for setting up gainful self-employment ventures. This sub- scheme may be called "The scheme for Development of Women and Children in the Urban Areas (DWCUA)"
3. Training of beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and other persons associated with the urban employment programme for up gradation and acquisition of vocational and entrepreneurial skills.

The programme targets the urban poor, defined as those living below the urban poverty line, as defined from time to time. Special attention will be given to women, persons belonging to scheduled castes/ tribes. Disabled persons and other such categories as may be indicated by government from time to time. The percentage of women beneficiaries under this programme shall not be less than 30%. SCs and STs must be benefited to the extent of their strength in the local population. A special provision of 3% shall be reserved for the disabled under this programme.

9.11.3 The Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP)

This programme shall seek to provide wage employment to beneficiaries living below the poverty line within the jurisdiction of urban local bodies by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. This programme shall apply to urban local bodies, the population of which was less than 5 lakhs as per 1991 census.

9.11.4 INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT SMALL AND MEDIUM TOWNS (IDSMT)

The centrally sponsored scheme of integrated development small and medium towns (IDSMT) was initiated in the sixth plan (1979-80) and has continued in the seventh and eight plans. Its main objective has been to slow down migration from rural areas and smaller towns to large cities by the development of selected small and medium towns, which are capable of generating economic growth and employment. The (IDSMT) scheme, by strengthening small and medium towns as regional growth centers aim at reducing migration to large and metropolitan cities. Through the establishment of complementary linkages between villages, towns and cities, it envisages a harmonious pattern of settlements.

IDSMT is applicable to towns/cities with population upto 5 lakhs subject to the stipulation that about 1/3rd of the total amount available each year – for the Scheme as a whole – will be allocated to towns with less than 50,000 populations. Towns are categorized for the purpose of assistance under IDSMT but is not applicable to towns covered under the Prime Minister’s Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (IUPEP)

9.11.5 City Infrastructure Development Schemes

These schemes are implemented by the of Guwahati Metropolitan Development Authority.

Apart from the above schemes, a number of projects to improve the drainage facility of Guwahati City also has been taken up.

9.12 National Slum Development Programme (NSDP)

The NSDP was first launched in Kanpur. Under this programme additional Central assistance is released to states/ UTs for the development of urban slums.

The objectives of the programme is-

- to provide adequate and satisfactory water supply,
- sanitation, health care, primary education facilities,
- adult literacy and non- formal education facilities, etc.

The implementing agency of the National Slum Development Programme(NSDP) at the state level is the Director, Town and Country planning.

The district level work is looked after by the district office of the Town and Country planning while the urban Local bodies implement the grass root level programme.

This scheme is operating in 23 districts of the State. In the city of Guwahati, a total number of 19 slum pockets have been identified by the Town and Country planning.

9.12 (a) Additional Central Assistance to States for Slum Development

The improvement of slums, their up gradation, and urban alleviation are considered as legitimate functions of the municipal authorities. Apart from the SJSRY, which aims at poverty alleviation of the urban poor, there is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Environmental Improvement Of Urban Slum (EIUS) introduced during the 5th plan, by the Central Government and which was subsequently transferred to the State sector.

9.12 (b) The Environmental Improvement Of Urban Slum (EIUS)

At the State level, the programme is implemented by the Town and Country planning Department, at the district level by the District Office of the Town and Country Planning and at the grassroots level

by the urban Local Bodies (ULBs). In the beginning, the scheme started as a centrally sponsored scheme. During the Sixth plan, the scheme was transferred to the state sector and then monetary sanctions were stopped. The scheme is under the 20th point programme of state sector.

9.13 Schemes and programmes proposed in the Tenth Plan¹

9.13.1 Agricultural sector

The work participation rate of women is highest in the agricultural sector. In addition to the economically recognised work, women in the agricultural sector also contribute significantly through their numerous works. As such, the renewed programmes for Agricultural development, announced in the Draft Tenth Plan for the State, are expected to benefit a large number of women. The Draft Plan has the vision of transforming the State into a granary of the Northeast, promotion of growth, and prosperity of rural masses and for the improvement of rural life by ensuring sustainable agriculture for achieving the desired goal, it has announced

- the strategy of formulating the State Agricultural Policy towards certain specific goals like food security, diversification of agriculture etc. The goals also include Participation of Women farmers
 - To encourage participation of women farmers in training and extension activities.
 - To ensure representation of women farmers in Field Management Committees (FMC)
 - The farmwomen will be encouraged for Bari development (homestead Garden).
- As per the recommendation of the National Commission for Women, it has been proposed to organise more training programmes among women especially SC/ST women in various fields of livestock farming. For this purpose an amount of Rs.267.10 lakh of which capital outlay of Rs.10 lakh is proposed during the 10th five-year plan and Rs. 84.0 lakh is proposed during the year 2002-03.
- In preparing the tenth five year plan for Co-operative Development, enlargement of farming, poultry, duckery, fishery and allied activities with emphasis on rural employment and generation of alternative source of income for the rural poor specially for the vast majority of land less labourers and marginal farmers and women folk has been stressed. Democratic management with minimum interference of the Government and active involvement of women in higher scale in the Women Multipurpose Societies and other Societies.

9.13.2 Rural Development

- (1) Ninth plan Schemes to be continued during tenth plan National level Poverty Alleviation Programmes are being implemented in the State under the Rural Development Sector. All the schemes are centrally sponsored and implemented through the DRDAs at District level. Expenditure is borne by both Central and the State government. The funding patterns were 50:50/ 80:20 upto the

¹ Source: P&D Department, Government of Assam: Draft Tenth Five Year Plan 2002-2007, Vol III

year 1998-99. From the year 1999-2000, the funding patterns were changed to 75:25. The programmes, schemes, which will be continued in the 10th plan, are given below along with the funding pattern of each of the programme.

Programme	Share of Central Government	Share of the State Government
(1)	(2)	(3)
1. SGSY	75%	25%
2. JGSY	75%	25%
3. EAS	75%	25%
4. IAY	75%	25%
5. PMGY		
(i) PMGSY	100%	Nil
(ii) Rural Shelter	100%	Nil
6. DRDA Administration	75%	25%
7. Credit cum Subsidy Scheme	75%	25%
8. IREP	90%	10%
9. IWDP	Salary	Programme fund

(2) S&T for Women & Rural Development

Through this scheme, programmes are undertaken by Assam Science Technology & Environment Council for upgradation of technologies aimed at raising the quality of life of women and rural population, improvement of traditional village/cottage industries by appropriate S& T input etc. so that the benefits of science & technology innovations reach the common people to enable them to improve their socio-economic conditions.

During the Ninth Plan period a number of such programmes were organised in the areas of improved methods of weaving, production and spinning of Assam Silk, Eri, and Muga, agricultural and horticultural practice, herbal medicines, fruit and vegetable preservation and processing health and nutrition, village and cottage industries, mushroom cultivation, use of bio-fertilizers, training on appropriate rural technologies, etc.

The outlay proposed for this scheme in the Tenth Plan is Rs. 15.00 lakh and annual plan outlay for the year 2002-03 is Rs. 2.00 lakh.

9.13.3 Khadi and Village Industries

The Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board have implemented programmes under Khadi and Village Industries Sector from the starting of the planning process. During the Ninth Five Year plan also schemes for women under Khadi and Village Industries

Were implemented. The Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board has provided employment opportunities to women beneficiaries of the State even though no specific target has been set for the purpose. As a result, out of the schemes of Khadi and Village Industries, a large number of women in rural areas have been getting benefit. In the Tenth Plan, it is proposed to create employment for 75,000 women beneficiaries under Khadi and Village Industries. The target for 2002-03, the initial year of the Tenth Plan is to create employment opportunities for 35,500 nos. of women beneficiaries.

9.13.4 Educational

(1) **PMGY Programme:** The Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana has been launched to focus on the provision of basic minimum services in certain priority areas in order to achieve the objective of sustainable human development at the village level. Primary education is one of the sectors in basic minimum services now under a new name of PMGY. An amount of Rs. 1,865.00 lakh has been earmarked under the sector of elementary education under PMGY during 2001-02, an outlay of Rs. 1,865.00 lakh has been proposed for the annual plan 2002-03 and Rs.9, 325.00 lakh for the 10th five year plan.

(2) **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan:** This is a positive response to the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India regarding making education upto the age of 14 years a fundamental right of every child. The programme involves a holistic and convergent approach with a clear focus on district as a unit of planning and implementation. The framework for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has been designed as a people's movement for education for all, which will provide useful and relevant elementary education of satisfactory quality for all by 2010 A. D. bridging all social and gender gaps, with vigorous and active participation of the community in the affairs of the schools.

It has been decided that this programme will be implemented in all the districts of the State. Government of India has already released Rs. 2,95,13,000/- for preparation of the pre-project activities. For the annual Plan an amount of Rs. 5,750 lakh was proposed and for the tenth plan, an amount of Rs. 28,750.00 lakh has been proposed.

(3) **Scholarship Scheme:** Incentives in the form of attendance and special scholarships to the students belonging to SC/ST communities have been continuing of for a long time. The award of Rs. 100/- annually to each of the beneficiaries for attendance as scholarship and Rs.300/- annually to each of the beneficiaries for special scholarship to girls only. An amount of Rs. 42.00lakh is required for the purpose.

(4) **Construction of Girls Common Room:** Special emphasis has been given for girls' education. There is wide gap between male female literacy in the State. To reduce the gap, it has been proposed to construct girls common room in secondary school. An amount of Rs. 250.00 lakhs has been earmarked in the draft 10th five year plan and Rs 50.00 lakh has been proposed for the annual plan 2002-03 for giving grant-in aid @ Rs. 1.00lakh to each school.

- (5) Vocational Education:** Emphasis has been laid on vocationalisation at +2 stage of secondary education. At present there are 150 higher secondary schools with vocational education. An amount of Rs. 10.00 lakh has been earmarked for reimbursement of tuition fees charge from girls students in class XI-XII during the 10th five year plan and Rs. 2.00 lakh for annual plan 2002-03 for the same.

9.13.5 Welfare for Women and Child Workers under Labour Laws

Government of India have been persistently pressing hard to set up a women cell as per resolution of ILO. Further more, Government of India has also been pressing for setting up of a Child Labour Cell in the Labour and Employment Department for

- strict monitoring of the implementation of Child Labour (P&R) Act 1986
- to eradicate the problems of employment of child labour in hazardous industries and
- to take effective initiative for rehabilitation of such child labour.

As Regional workshop for Women and Child workers and advisory Committees under Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 are very much essential to carry out workers programmes, it is therefore proposed to continue the scheme during the 10th five year plan period with the following:

- i) Formation and Coordination of policies and programmes of family labour force.
- ii) Collection, compilation, analysis and dissemination of information on various aspects of the female labour force and child labour in various economic sectors of the State.
- iii) Promotion of education , training and welfare and advancement of the social and economic status of women and child labour and ILO/UNICEF assisted programmes .
- iv) Liasion with other concerned govt. agencies and NGO's to secure the implementation of programmes in respect of women and child workers.
- v) Supervision and enforcement of legislative provision effecting women workers and child labourers.

In order to approach the problems of child labour, Government has taken a policy wherein emphasis has been given to concentrate the attention of Government in the areas where the child labourers are concentrated. The child labour education is sought to be made compulsory in view of the constitutional provisions. The policy deals mostly with the welfare and rehabilitation aspect of the child labour. It has three main points:

- The first is the enforcement of the Child Labour Act,
- The second is where ever welfare programmes or development programmes are going on, the Govt will try to see that family of child labourers get the benefits.
- The third is to take up projects in areas of child labour concentration, where the education and health care of the child workers would be looked into.

It is therefore proposed to continue the scheme during the 10th plan period for the purpose stated above with an estimated cost of Rs. 3.00 lakhs for the existing posts.

9.13.6 Backward Classes (Welfare Of SC/ST/OBC)

The Tenth Plan proposes that considering the present economic, educational and social status of SC, ST and OBC (including Tea and Ex-Tea Garden) population, any of the schemes of the 9th Five Year Plan is not subject to be discontinued during the Tenth Plan. Therefore all the schemes will continue except the schemes of construction of Rest House cum Cultural Centre for Tea & Ex-Tea Garden population, this will be funded out of sources other than the Plan fund.

During Tenth Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs.13, 807.00 lakhs have been proposed under the Backward Classes sector with an enhancement of 5.6 times over the Plan allocation for 2001-02. Emphasis is given mainly on educational development supplementing the schemes taken under the educational sector. Such schemes are Awarding of Post -Matric and Pre-Matric Scholarship to SC/ST/OBC students, construction of boys and girls hostels, Coaching and Allied Scheme, Book Bank facilities for SC, ST and OBC students, up gradation of merit for SC & St, establishment of Ashram Schools for ST, stipend for craftsman training etc. The post –matric scholarship for SC and ST, up gradation of merit for SC & ST students are central sector schemes with 100% central assistance. For OBC students, these schemes are funded out of State funds.

The pre-matric and the post-matric scholarships for OBC students have been brought under centrally sponsored schemes since 200-01. The committed liability beyond ninth plan on post-matric scholarship for OBC is however to be borne by the State Government.

For the OBC population, the following new centrally sponsored schemes have been proposed:

1. Construction of Girls Hostel for OBC students.
2. Construction of Boys Hostel for OBC students.
3. Coaching and Allied Scheme for OBC students.
4. Book-Bank for Medical/ Engineering / Agricultural/ Veterinary etc. students for OBC.

The State share for the proposed schemes for the 10th Five Year Plan is Rs. 1,308.00 lakhs.

The Assam Institute of Research for Tribals & SC proposed to introduce a few new schemes during the Tenth Plan. The State share proposed by the Institute is Rs. 60.00 lakh for these new schemes. The schemes are promotion of SC/ST art and culture, awareness programme amongst the SC/St people for health, sanitation etc., specialist courses for SC/St youths, organisation of carrier guidance and training course to educate the SC/St youth. For this purpose, the Institute proposes to construct a multi-storied building within the office campus at Jawaharnagar with the following wings:

- A. Dormitory type trainee hostel for 50 trainees
- B. Expansion of ethnographic museum
- C. Expansion of reference library
- D. Training Hall
- E. Cultural Gallery for all tribes.

A few other programmes including computer training course has also been proposed by the Institute, but due to restriction in the enhancement of allocation only Rs. 10 lakh could be proposed in the 10th Plan.

9.13.7 Night Shelter and Sanitation Facilities for Footpath Dwellers In Urban Areas

This is centrally sponsored scheme for construction of Night Shelter with sanitation facilities for footpath dwellers is proposed to be implemented during the 10th five year plan period. It is to be implemented through HUDCO/ULBs with the help of central subsidy.

The scheme has a component of independent pay & use toilet for the urban homeless in conjunction with provision of Night Shelter to Urban footpath dwellers. Construction of Pay & use toilet can also be done under this scheme where building of Night Shelters are not feasible.

An amount of Rs. 200.00 lakhs is proposed to construct 20 units of Night Shelter and 100 units of Pay & Use toilets during the 10th five year plan A sum of Rs. 40.00 lakhs is proposed with a target to construct 4 units of Night Shelter and 20 units of Pay & Use Toilet for the Annual plan 2002-03.

9.13.8 Women Welfare

For welfare of women the following schemes are taken up

- (1) Vocational Training Cum Rehabilitation Centre at Guwahati, Barama, Kachukata and Marigaon To create self employment avenues, for those who could not otherwise get higher education are given vocational training in crafts according to their skill and aptitude. On completion of their training, rehabilitation grants are given to suitable trainees so that they can earn something on their own. At present, there are 4 such V.T.R.C.s in Assam and one more is proposed to be set up for women. For this purpose, an amount of Rs.250.00 lakhs for the tenth plan and Rs. for the annual plan 2002-03 was proposed.
- (2) **Home For Destitute Women and Helpless Widow:** The home is meant for shelter of destitute women & Helpless widows. To maintain the existing staff & 40 nos of inmates an amount of Rs. 55.00 lakhs for 10th five-year plan and Rs. 11.00 lakhs for annual plan 2002-03 has been proposed.
- (3) **Grants –in- Aid to State Commission for Women:** In conformity with the national plan for women in the State a Commission for women was set up. It is a body having statutory powers The

Women Commission is funded from State plan fund under Social Welfare Department by way of grants-in aid. A sum of Rs. 90.00 lakhs for the 10th five year plan and Rs. 15.00 lakhs for annual plan 2002-03 has been earmarked for plan and programmes of the Commission in the field of development, protection of women/women's rights.

- (4) Working Women Hostel:** This is a new scheme taken up for 10th plan to construct & maintain one hostel for working women at Guwahati through NGOs. A sum of Rs.20.00 lakhs has been proposed for the 10th plan without keeping any provision for annual plan 2002-03.

9.13.11 Welfare of old and infirm for the welfare of the old and the infirm the following scheme has been taken up

- 1. Old -Age Home:** To set up an Old -Age Home through the NGOs. For this purpose a sum of Rs. 25.00 lakhs for the tenth five-year plan and no provision for Annual Plan 2002-03 has been proposed.

9.13.12 Nutrition Sector

The Social Welfare Department has been implementing the Nutrition programme in the projects under ICDS Scheme. Supplementary Nutrition was given to children below 6 years, pregnant and lactating mothers in ICDS projects During the 1st 3 years of 9th five year plan the programmes were being implemented i.e.(1)Special Nutrition Programme (2) World Food Programmes. It is to be mentioned here that though the ICDS scheme is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the Nutrition component is to be borne out of the State plan fund.

PMGY programme funded from Additional Central Assistance has been launched during 2000-01 to give nutrition to children below 3 years only. On the other hand the World food programme has been withdrawn during the year. Under such circumstances only PMGY programme remains for Nutrition Programme.

The additional central Assistance received from Govt. of India under PMGY programme has been indicated as plan allocation during the Annual plan 2000-01 and 2001-02 and no State plan allocation under Nutrition Programme has been agreed to for the children of the age group 3-6 years and pregnant and lactating mothers during the last two years, these group of beneficiaries are being covered under PMGY.

CHAPTER 10

BUDGETARY SUPPORT TO WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

10.1 Social Sector Spending in Assam

Budgetary support to social sector schemes can be taken as an expenditure on women's development because of the very positive role played by this sector on women's lives.

In Assam, Social sector receives around 35-40% of total planned expenditure. As per the proposed outlay for the ninth plan also 40.7% of total planned expenditure has been allocated for social services. In addition to that, 9.0% has been allocated for rural development and 0.4% for special area programmes. Out of the social services, education has been allocated the major share, 25.53% of total expenditure. Medical & Public Health receives only 4.28% and Water Supply & Sanitation receives 4.84%.

The total allocation for social services was Rs.1, 68,231 lakh for the eighth plan. The ninth plan allocation of Rs.3, 65,803 lakh is more than double the eighth plan allocation. The per capita allocation also has increased by 83% from Rs.751.03 in the eighth plan to Rs.1, 375.20 in the ninth plan.

10.2 Social Sector Spending in Assam compared with the rest of India

Rural and Social Sector expenditure has increased over time at the State level and also at the all India level between 1981-82 and 1997-98, whereas Plan expenditure on agriculture and irrigation has decreased considerably at both the levels. In Assam expenditure on infrastructure also decreased considerably although at the all India level, there was only a marginal decline in the infrastructure expenditure. In 1997-98, Rural and Social Sector accounted for 57.3 per cent of total plan expenditure in Assam while Social Sector alone had shared 45.89 per cent of the total expenditure. At the all India average, these percentages were only 23.40 and 14.80 respectively. Although the share of the social sector in the State plan allocation is higher than the all India share of the social sector, the per capita expenditure on social sector in Assam is lower than that of the average expenditure of all States.

10.2 Expenditure on Health and Education

Public spending on education and health were respectively 3.46 per cent and 1.48 per cent of SDP for Assam in 1980-81 and for education it increased continuously to reach 5.23 per cent in 1998-99. But the expenditure on health decreased to 1.05 per cent. In all these years, the proportion of GDP

spent on education and health by the Central Government continued to be much lower, for health between 0.20 to 0.25 percent and for education between 0.40 and 0.60. At the all India level, the proportion of expenditure on health increased between 1980-81 and 1990-91 and stagnated between 1990-91 and 1998-99, while in the case of education, it increased between 1980-81 and 1990-91, and then decreased between 1990-91 and 1998, although the proportion of expenditure on education in 1998-99 was higher than that of 1980-81.

A comparison of the per capita expenditure on health and education for the North Eastern States shows that there has been a continuous increase in the per capita expenditure on both health and education in all the North Eastern States, the per capita expenditure on education being much higher. But all throughout the period, Assam had the 5th or the 6th rank among the six states compared in terms of per capita expenditure on health and the 7th rank among the seven states compared in per capita expenditure on education.

10.4 Women Component Plan

Women Component Plan was adopted as a strategy of Ninth Five Year Plan. As per the women component Plan a minimum of 30 per cent plan funds from each sectoral programme need be earmarked for women/women related programmes. Assam Government also allocated for funds for Women Component Plan in the Ninth Plan. However, expenditure pattern of the ninth plan funds does not show that the promise had been fulfilled in all cases. Whereas in the SGSY and PMGY (RS) programmes, more than 40 % of the funds went to Women Component Plan, in the total allocation for Rural Employment Programmes, only 14% of the funds went to the Women Component Plan. In a number of cases, the actual expenditure was much lower than the allocated expenditure, that was due to the financial crisis in the State. It demands the attention of all concerned for no financial crisis should hamper the social sector schemes for this sector provides the required social opportunity for development of women and children and also of the economically weaker section of the society. In the list of social sector/rural development, in addition to the women targeted schemes, a host of schemes are under operation, which is expected to benefit women. This list includes programmes like Tribal Area sub plan, Scheduled Caste Component Plan, Education of Tea Garden and Ex-Tea garden Tribes etc. No information on the actual expenditure incurred on the women component of these schemes is available. Moreover, all these programmes will have beneficial effect on both men and women and not necessarily having more influence on women's lives. Therefore, the actual investment on women can be judged only if a gender analysis of the present schemes is done meticulously.

CHAPTER 11

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS

Assam, the land of the Red River and the Blue Hills also was famous for its women who were known to be able to weave dreams in the loom. But now, both the loom and the dreams are under threat. If the loom is facing a threat from competition from large scale industries, mechanization, the opening up of the economy and the decay of the self sufficient village economy, her dreams are being shattered for more reasons than one, the disasters, man made and natural, the conflict situations, poverty and what not.

The economy of Assam is lagging behind the rest of the country. There is wide disparity between the per capita income figures of the State and all India average figures. The disparity has widened over time and particularly in the post liberalisation era.

The growth rate of population continued to be very high over the decades, more since 1961. Although there is a decelerating trend during the last decade, the density of population is still higher than the all India average.

The sex ratio in the State is lower than the all India average sex ratio.

The child sex ratio is higher than the all India average but has gone down during the last decade.

The female literacy rate is higher than the all India average but is lower than the male literacy rate in the State.

With high dropout rates, the number of women at higher stages of education is very low.

The mean age at marriage in the State is higher than the all India average but there are also places where women are married below the age of 18. The health indicators reveal poor health conditions of the women in the State. The Maternal Mortality Rate and the Infant and Child Mortality Rates in the State are higher than the all India average rates. Expectation of life at birth is lower than the all India average. Expectation of life beyond the age of 40 is lower than that of the male in the State also.

The female work participation rate is lower than the all India average and is much lower than the male work participation rate in the State. Female work participation rate is higher in the agricultural sector and traditional occupations.

Although the incidence of domestic violence is not as high as in many other parts of the country, it is not absent. Overall crime against women is increasing over time.

Women in Assam have very low representation in decision-making bodies and do not even have complete freedom in household decision making. In fact, women's participation in decision-making, their rights to property and access and control over resources are some of the areas where women in the State still lag far behind. The State also has been too slow in implementing any legislation favouring women's rights. The State does not have a Policy for Women's Empowerment and very little has been done to formulate such a Policy. One positive step that the Government adopted during the Ninth Plan was the Women Component Plan. But due to paucity of funds, the State could not implement the Plan in the proposed manner. Many Social Sector schemes have become dysfunctional due to the inadequate fund flow from the State. In many insurgency-affected areas, the women are becoming victims of different forms of crime both directly and indirectly and the social sector schemes are also not functioning, which may have serious impacts in the future. In the flood-affected areas, the social sector schemes get jeopardized at certain times of the year. There are also some other areas with some specific problems, like the growing urban slums, the riverine (char) areas etc. where women have to face very difficult situations. Very little effort has been made to address the problems of these women in difficult situations.

To address all these problems in its true perspective, a State Policy/ Action Plan for Empowerment of Women of Assam is urgently required.

TABLE 1.1 National Income, State Income, Per capita National Income and Per Capita State Income at current prices: 1955-1980

		1955-56	1960-61	1965-66	1970-71	1975-76	1980-81
1	National Income (Rs.in crores)	11396.5	13263	20636	434462	60293	105800
2	State Income (Rs. in Crores)	254.6 (2.23)	336.0 (2.53)	493.7 (2.39)	785.5 (2.28)	1421.0 (2.36)	2397.8 (2.27)
3	Per Capita National Income (in Rs.)	285.4 (+60.70)	305.6 (+3.08)	425.5 (+6.72)	637.3 (+20.67)	1004.9 (+18.15)	1558 (+27.62)
4	Per capita State Income (in Rs.)	177.6	315.3	398.7	528.1	850.5	1220.8

Note: i) Figures in brackets in Row no. 2 indicate percentage of National Income.
 ii) Figures in brackets in Row no. 3 indicate percentage difference between Per Capita National Income and Per Capita State Income

Source:

a. Govt. of India: Economic Survey 1977-78

Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam. Economic Survey, Assam, 1974-75, 1981-82 and 1982-83

The figures for the National Income and Per capita National Income for 1955-56 have been taken as the mean between the figures for 1950-51 and 1960-61.

Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam, Statistical Handbook, Assam. 1984.

TABLE 1.2 National Income, State Income, Per capita National Income and Per Capita State Income at constant (1948-49) prices: 1955-1980

		1955-56	1960-61	1965-66	1970-71	1975-76	1980-81
1	National Income (Rs.in crores)	10,480	12,523	14,177	17,950	20,635	24,735
2	State Income (Rs. in Crores)	240.4 (2.29)	267.8 (2.14)	328.0 (2.31)	391.3 (2.18)	497.7 (2.41)	555.50 (2.35)
3	Per Capita National Income (in Rs.)	273.6 (+4.39)	288.0 (+14.60)	292.3 (+10.34)	331.8 (+21.76)	372.2 (+24.94)	363.97 (+28.08)
4	Per capita State Income (in Rs.)	262.1	251.3	264.9	272.5	297.9	284.17

Note: i) Figures in brackets in Row no. 2 indicate percentage of National Income.
 ii) Figures in brackets in Row no. 3 indicate percentage difference between Per Capita National Income and Per Capita State Income

Source:

a. Govt. of India: Economic Survey 1977-78

Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam. Economic Survey, Assam, 1974-75, 1981-82 and 1982-83

The figures for the National Income and Per capita National Income for 1955-56 have been taken as the mean between the figures for 1950-51 and 1960-61.

Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Assam, Statistical Handbook, Assam. 1984.

TABLE 1.3 Per Capita Income of Assam and India (in Rupees): 1980-81 to 1992-93

Year	At Current Prices		At Constant (1980-81) Prices	
	Assam	India	Assam	India
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1980-81	1200	1630(+35.83)	1200	1630(+35.83)
1981-82	1474	1681(+14.04)	1307	1693(+29.53)
1982-83	1641	2004(+22.12)	1367	1691(+23.70)
1983-84	1777	2304(+29.66)	1375	1760(+28.0)
1984-85	2182	2504(+14.76)	1457	1811(+24.30)
1985-86	2313	2730(+18.03)	1483	1841(+24.14)
1986-87	2520	2962(+17.54)	1474	1871(+26.93)
1987-88	2589	3285(+26.88)	1521	1901(+24.98)
1988-89	2772	3842(+38.60)	1516	2059(+35.82)
1989-90	3179	4354(+36.96)	1650	2160(+30.91)
1990-91	3932	4964(+26.25)	1719	2213(+28.74)
1991-92	4230	5582(+31.96)	1915	2167(+13.16)
1992-93	5310	6249(+17.68)	2018	2216(+9.81)

Note: figures in brackets indicate percentage difference between Per Capita National Income and Per Capita State Income

Source: (i) GOI: Economic Survey, 1993-94 (ii) C.S.O. and (iii) Chief Minister's Budget Speech, 1993-94

TABLE 1.4 Per Capita Income of Assam and India (in Rupees): 1993-94 to 2000-01

Year	At Current Prices		At Constant (1993-94) Prices	
	Assam	India	Assam	India
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1993-94	5,715.0	7,698.0(34.70)	5,715.0	7,698.0(34.70)
1994-95	6,493.0	8,876.4(36.70)	5,737.0	8,087.6(40.97)
1995-96	7,001.0	10,160.3(45.13)	5,760.0	8,498.5(47.54)
1996-97	7,394.0	11,600.9(56.88)	5,793.0	9,035.9(55.99)
1997-98	7,966.0	12,771.5(60.33)	5,796.0	9,287.9(60.25)
1998-99	8,826.0	14,712.4(66.69)	5,664.0	9,733.1(71.84)
1999-2000	9,720.0	15,562.0(60.10)	5,978.0	10,067.0(68.40)
2000-01	10,198.0	16,487.0(61.67)	6,157.0	10,254.0(66.54)

Note: figures in brackets indicate percentage difference between Per Capita National Income and Per Capita State Income

Source: Government of Assam: Economic Survey, 2001-2002

TABLE 1.5 PRODUCTION (in thousand tones) AND PRODUCTIVITY (Average Yield in Qts/hectare) OF DIFFERENT CROPS IN ASSAM: 1997-98 to 1999-2000

Sl. No.	Name of Crop	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Production	Average Yield	Production	Average Yield	Production	Average Yield
1.	Rice						
	a. Autumn	597.48	10.00	520.60	8.89	514.16	9.38
	b. Winter	2,470.95	14.39	2,288.14	14.21	2,692.71	15.24
	c. Summer	174.97	17.97	446.11	19.92	653.78	22.19
	Total Rice	3,382.87	13.59	3,254.83	13.45	3,860.65	14.79
2.	Wheat	110.05	12.99	90.51	10.10	97.58	12.79
3.	Maize	14.72	7.66	13.96	7.05	14.06	7.13
4.	Pulse	64.46	5.47	74.82	5.42	70.59	5.54
5.	Oilseed	173.77	5.49	174.74	5.09	174.79	5.02
6.	Jute	904.09	17.20	687.17	15.72	657.54	16.09
7.	Sugarcane	1,287.45	411.09	1,223.56	400.24	1,154.62	396.68

Source : (Planning and Development Department, Govt. of Assam: Draft Tenth Five Year Plan & Annual Plan: 2002-2003.

TABLE 1.6 Share (%) of Secondary Sector in Net State Domestic Product

Year	1993-94	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
At Current Prices	13.36	13.32	13.93	14.72	14.46	18.09	18.32
At Constant (1993-94) Prices	13.36	13.47	13.84	14.03	13.41	15.65	15.17

Source: Government of Assam: Economic Survey, 2001-2002

TABLE 1.7 Annual Surveys of Industries (Summary Results): Assam

Item	Unit	1993-94	1994-95	%Age Share in the all India Total (1994-95)	%Age change in 1994-95 over 1993-94
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1. Factories	Number	1435	1514	1.23	5.51
2. Fixed Capital	Rs.Crores	1519.05	1936.87	0.70	27.51
3. Working Capital	-do-	806.44	918.69	0.78	13.92
4. Invested Capital	-do-	2184.49	2791.69	0.72	27.80
5. Outstanding Loan	-do-	1,410.12	2,526.45	NA	79.17
6. Total Works	Number	94,832	1,01,371	NA	6.90
7. Total Employees	-do-	1,13,562	1,24,095	0.36	9.28
8. Wages to Workers	Rs. Crore	130.40	172.90	NA	32.59
9. Total Emoluments	-do-	188.12	254.78	0.72	35.43
10. Total Input	-do-	2,695.07	3,170.49	0.81	17.64
11. Value of Products	-do-	3,506.80	4,122.85	NA	17.57
12. Value of Output	-do-	3,682.89	4,315.85	0.83	17.19
13. Depreciation	-do-	128.07	158.85	0.85	24.03
14. Value Added	-do-	859.75	986.51	0.90	14.74
15. Net Income	-do-	785.28	730.10	NA	-7.03

Source: Government of Assam: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Statistical Handbook of Assam, 1999

ASSAM - HUMAN DEVELOPMENT FACT SHEET

INDICES		
S.No. Indices	State	India
1 Human Development Index Value 2001 (calculated only for fifteen major states)	0.386	0.472
2 Human Development Index Rank 2001 (out of 15)	14	
3 Human Development Index Value 1991	0.348	0.381
4 Human Development Index Rank (out of 32)	26	
5 Human Poverty Index 1991	48.95	39.36
6 Human Poverty Index Rank (out of 32)	27	
7 Gender Disparity Index Value 1991	0.575	0.676
8 Gender Disparity Index Rank (out of 32)	29	
INDICATORS		
DEMOGRAPHY		
S.No. Indicators	State	India
1 Total Population - 2001	26,638,407	1,027,015,247
2 Sex Ratio - 2001	932	933
3 Dependency Ratio -1991	10	12
4 Dependency Ratio Rural - 1991	10	13
5 Dependency Ratio Urban – 1991	8	10
6 Sex Ratio Children 0-6 years – 2001	964	927
INCOME		
7 Per Capita Net State Domestic Product (at 1993-94 prices, Rs.), 1998-99	5,664	9,647
8 Percentage of Persons in Labour Force,1999-2000	55	62
9 Percentage of Female in Labour Force, 1999-2000	24	39
10 Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line - 1999-2000	36	26
EDUCATION		
11 Literacy Rate - 2001 (%)	64	65
12 Male Literacy Rate - 2001 (%)	72	76
13 Female Literacy Rate - 2001 (%)	56	54
14 Rural Literacy Rate - 2001 (%)	61	59

15	Rural Male Literacy Rate - 2001 (%)	69	71
16	Rural Female Literacy Rate - 2001 (%)	52	47
17	Urban Literacy Rate - 2001 (%)	86	80
18	Urban Male Literacy Rate - 2001 (%)	90	86
19	Urban Female Literacy Rate - 2001 (%)	81	73
20	Gross Enrolment Ratio Class I-V (6-11 years),1999-2000	115	95
21	Boys-Gross Enrolment Ratio Class I-V (6-11 years), 1999-2000	124	104
22	Girls -Gross Enrolment Ratio Class I-V (6-11 years), 1999-2000	105	85
23	Teacher-Pupil ratio (Primary School), 1999-2000	38	43
HEALTH			
24	Life Expectancy at Birth, 1992-96 (yrs.)	56	61
25	Life Expectancy at Birth (Rural), 1992-96 (yrs.)	56	59
26	Life Expectancy at Birth (Urban), 1992-96 (yrs.)	65	66
27	Infant Mortality Rate - 2000	75	68
28	Under 5 Mortality Rate - 1991	116	94
29	Under 5 Mortality Rate - Male -1991	118	91
30	Under 5 Mortality Rate - Female -1991	115	101
31	Maternal Mortality Rate - 1998 (per 100,000 live births)	409	407
32	Total Fertility Rate - 1998	3	3
33	Percentage of children underweight (-2SD), 1998-99	36	47
34	Percentage of houses with access to safe drinking water - 1991	46	62
35	Percentage of houses with access to toilet facilities - 1997	6	49
ENVIRONMENT			
36	Percentage of Recorded Forest Area to Total Geographical Area-1996-98	39	23

Source - Government of India (2001), ' National Human Development Report', Planning Commission, New Delhi

TABLE 2.1 Population Size in Assam and India: 1901-2001

Year	Total Population (Thousand persons)		
	Assam	India	Population of Assam as percentage to Population of India
1901	3,290	2,38,396	1.38
1911	3,849	2,52,093	1.53
1921	4,637	2,51,321	1.85
1931	5,560	2,78,977	1.99
1941	6,695	3,18,661	2.10
1951	8,029	3,61,088	2.22
1961	10,837	4,39,235	2.46
1971	14,625	5,48,160	2.67
1981	19,897	6,85,185	2.90
1991	22,414	846,302	2.65
2001	26,638	1,027,015	2.59

Source: NEC: Basic Statistics Relating to the North East: 1987

Census of India 2001, Assam, 'Provisional Population Totals' Paper-1. Census of India 1991, Series-1 India, Paper-2 of 1992, And Final Population Totals: Brief Analysis of Primary Census Abstract, RGI.

TABLE 2.2 Growth Rate and Density of Population Assam and India: 1901-2001

Year	Decadal Growth Rate (percentage)		Density of Population (Persons per Sq. Km.)	
	Assam	India	Assam	India
1901			42	77
1911	+17.0	+5.75	49	82
1921	+20.5	-0.31	59	81
1931	+19.9	+11.00	71	90
1941	+20.4	+14.22	85	103
1951	+19.9	+13.31	102	117
1961	+35.0	+21.64	138	142
1971	+36.1	+24.80	186	177
1981		+24.66	230*	230
1991	+52.44*1	+23.86	286	267
2001	+18.9	+21.34	340	324

Note: *Growth rate from 1971-91

*1Interpolated as 1981 census was not conducted in Assam

Source: RGI, GOI:Census Reports,

Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Govt. of Assam: Economic Survey, 2002-2003

TABLE 2.3 Population by sex and Decennial Growth Rate (1981-2001)

India/Assam	Census Years	Females		Males		Totals	
		Population	DGR	Population	DGR	Population	DGR
India	1981	329,954,637	24.93	353,374,460	24.41	683,329,097	24.66
	1991	407,072,230	23.37	439,230,458	24.30	846,302,688	23.85
	2001	495,738,169	21.79	531,277,078	20.93	1,027,015,247	21.34
Assam	1991	10,756,333		11,657,989		22,414,322	
	2001	12,850,608	19.47	13,787,799	18.27	26,638,407	18.85

Note *1981 Census not conducted in Assam

Source : Census of India 2001 Assam: Provisional Population Totals: Paper-1. Census of India 1991: Assam

**TABLE 2.4 Population (1991-2001): by Districts: Assam
(Persons)**

Districts	1991	2001	Density per Sq. Km., 2001
1. Kokrajhar*	808730	930404	294
2. Dhubri*	1324404	1634589	584
3. Goalpara	668138	822306	451
4. Bongaigaon	807532	906315	361
5. Barpeta	1385659	1642420	506
6. Kamrup	1385659	1642420	579
7. Nalbari	1016390	1138184	504
8. Darrang	1298860	1503943	432
9. Morigaon	639682	775874	455
10. Nagaon	1893171	2315387	604
11. Sonitpur	1424287	1677874	315
12. Lakhimpur	751517	889325	391
13. Dhemaji	478830	569468	176
14. Tinsukia	9,62,298	11,50,146	303
15. Dibrugarh	1042457	1172056	347
16. Sibsagar	907983	1052802	395
17. Jorhat	871206	1009197	354
18. Golaghat	828096	945781	270
19. Karbi Anglong	662723	812320	78
20. North Cachar Hills	150801	186189	38
21. Cachar	1215385	1442141	381
22. Karimganj	827063	1003678	555
23. Hailakandi	449048	542978	409

Note: * Population figures for these two districts are recast due to transfer of 20 Villages from Dhubri District to Kokrajhar District after 1991 census.

1981 Census was not conducted in Assam

Source : Census of India 2001; Assam: Provisional Population Totals. Census of India 1991: Assam State District Profile 1991.

TABLE 2.5 Decadal Growth Rate of Population (1901-2001): by Districts: Assam

Sl. No.	Districts	Decadal Growth Rate								
		1901-11	1911-21	1921-31	1931-41	1941-51	1951-61	1961-71	1971-91	1991-01
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
1	Kokrajhar*	+29.97	+26.92	+15.76	+14.83	+9.25	+46.44	+54.28	+76.75	+15.05
2	Dhubri *	+29.97	+26.92	+15.76	+14.83	+9.25	+27.44	+40.45	+56.47	+23.42
3	Goalpara	+29.97	+26.92	+15.76	+14.83	+9.25	+37.10	+45.88	+54.12	+23.07
4	Bongaigaon	+29.97	+26.92	+15.76	+14.83	+9.31	+60.81	+40.29	+64.64	+12.23
5	Barpeta	+20.02	+34.04	+69.02	+44.06	+18.77	+32.62	+35.81	+43.02	+18.53
6	Kamrup	+11.10	+7.06	+9.38	+19.21	+17.17	+37.73	+38.80	+65.72	+25.75
7	Nalbari	+13.33	+14.20	+27.92	+29.43	+17.89	+49.62	+42.02	+49.27	+11.98
8	Darrang	(-) 0.25	+11.78	+26.00	+35.30	+24.13	+44.75	+43.24	+55.63	+15.79
9	Morigaon	+15.84	+31.9	+41.35	+15.37	+36.65	+37.89	+37.51	+50.90	+21.29
10	Nagaon	+15.84	+31.94	+41.35	+15.37	+36.65	+35.91	+38.99	+51.26	+22.30
11	Sonitpur	+24.33	+40.69	+20.50	+19.73	+24.26	+35.82	+27.62	+57.14	+17.80
12	Lakhimpur	+26.29	+34.07	+23.91	+22.70	+17.95	+50.46	+43.39	+56.29	+18.34
13	Dhemaji	+26.29	+34.07	+23.92	+22.69	+17.94	+75.21	+103.42	+107.50	+18.93
14	Tinsukia	+26.29	+34.07	+23.92	+22.70	+17.94	+35.92	+31.02	+47.03	+19.52
15	Dibrugarh	+26.29	+34.07	+23.91	+22.70	+17.94	+30.64	+22.93	+37.78	+12.43
16	Sibsagar	+13.41	+20.46	+14.44	+15.64	+15.98	+23.36	+19.47	+38.76	+15.95
17	Jorhat	+16.55	+19.83	+18.29	+1.27	+19.76	+26.04	+30.85	+58.12	+14.21
18	Karbi Anglong					+30.96	+79.21	+68.28	+74.72	+22.57
19	N.C Hills	(-) 33.12	+5.92	+13.60	+13.75	+6.16	+36.95	+40.00	+98.30	+23.47
20	Cachar	+12.33	+5.98	+7.60	+13.08	+23.92	+22.60	+23.96	+47.59	+18.66
21	Karimganj	+12.94	+3.19	+5.91	+9.52	+29.87	+2296	+25.13	+42.08	+21.35
22	Hailakandi	+16.09	+7.59	+7.08	+10.29	+17.48	+27.23	+23.61	+45.94	+20.92
23	Assam	+16.99	+20.48	+19.91	+20.40	+19.93	+34.98	+34.95	+53.26	+18.85

Note: * Population figures for these two districts are recast due to transfer of 20 villages from Dhubri District to Kokrajhar District after 1991 census.

Source : Census of India 2001; Assam: Provisional Population Totals. Census of India 1991: Assam State District Profile 1991.

TABLE 2.6 SEX RATIO: Assam and India (1901-2001)

Year	Sex Ratio		Difference in Sex Ratio
	Assam	India	India -Assam
1901	919	972	-53
1911	915	964	-49
1921	895	955	-60
1931	874	950	-76
1941	875	945	-70
1951	868	946	-77
1961	869	941	-72
1971	896	930	-34
1981	910@	934	-24
1991	923	927	-4
2001	932	933	-1

@ Worked out on the basis of interpolated figures of Assam

Source: Deptt of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

1981 figures of India have been worked out after including the projected population of Assam where census could not be held.

TABLE 2.7 Sex ratio of total population and child population in the age Group 0-6: 1991 and 2001

India/ Assam	Sex ratio (females per 1,000 males)					
	Total population		Child population in the age group 0-6		Population aged 7 and above	
	1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
INDIA	927	933	945	927	923	935
Assam	923	932	975	964	910	926

Source: Census of India 2001, Series-1 (Provision Population Totals- Paper-1 of 2001, pg 92-94)

TABLE 2.8 SEX RATIO: ASSAM: By DISTRICTS 1971-2001.

(Per 1000 males)

State/Districts	Area	1971	1991	2001
ASSAM	TOTAL	896	923	932
	RURAL	912	934	940
	URBAN	744	838	878
1. Dhubri	Total	930	950	944
	Rural	944	953	945
	Urban	824	927	942
2. Kokrajhar	Total	913	941	945
	Rural	921	944	949
	Urban	747	889	903
3. Bongaigaon	Total	926	940	945
	Rural	941	949	950
	Urban	772	860	908
4. Goalpara	Total	939	947	955
	Rural	947	949	957
	Urban	802	925	926
5. Barpeta	Total	912	939	941
	Rural	920	940	941
	Urban	810	920	939
6. Nalbari	Total	923	936	937
	Rural	931	938	937
	Urban	639	844	908
7. Kamrup	Total	855	879	894
	Rural	898	925	929
	Urban	706	791	835
8. Darrang	Total	907	938	943
	Rural	915	942	946
	Urban	718	854	884
9. Sonitpur	Total	871	912	942
	Rural	887	919	946
	Urban	705	827	901

State/Districts	Area	1971	1991	2001
10. Lakhimpur	Total	895	931	952
	Rural	910	941	958
	Urban	656	801	879
11. Dhemaji	Total	874	927	936
	Rural	874	932	941
	Urban	-	717	877
12. Marigaon	Total	917	941	945
	Rural	917	946	948
	Urban		847	879
13. Nagaon	Total	894	929	939
	Rural	909	935	943
	Urban	759	880	909
14. Golaghat	Total	883	920	929
	Rural	893	930	935
	Urban	720	767	866
15. Jorhat	Total	886	913	903
	Rural	910	928	909
	Urban	739	829	876
16. Sibsagar	Total	887	907	926
	Rural	901	916	938
	Urban	697	802	817
17. Dibrugarh	Total	863	905	923
	Rural	894	923	938
	Urban	705	826	862
18. Tinsukia	Total	855	891	909
	Rural	889	912	924
	Urban	709	788	849
19. Karbi Anglong	Total	875	907	992
	Rural	885	920	931
	Urban	563	804	855

State/Districts	Area	1971	1991	2001
20. North Cachar Hills	Total	841	857	883
	Rural	853	880	911
	Urban	683	784	824
21. Karimganj	Total	930	946	944
	Rural	935	948	944
	Urban	883	915	944
22. Hailakandi	Total	923	929	933
	Rural	924	928	931
	Urban	906	944	954
23. Cachar	Total	918	932	945
	Rural	923	933	943
	Urban	852	920	955

1981 census was not conducted in Assam

@ Worked out on the basis of interpolated figures of Assam

Source : Census of India 2001: Assam: Provisional Population Totals. Rural-Urban Distribution. Paper-2 of 2001. Census of India 1991: Assam State District Profile 1991.

TABLE 2.9 Child Sex ratio in Assam: By districts

State/Districts	Area	Sex ratio of child population (0-6) age group. (Per 1000 Male Child)	
		1991	2001
1. Dhubri	Rural	979	986
	Urban	968	956
2. Sonitpur	Rural	980	984
	Urban	955	957
3. Nagaon	Rural	976	982
	Urban	958	967
4. Bongaigaon	Rural	985	981
	Urban	955	945
5. Karimganj	Rural	982	980
	Urban	965	940
6. Karbi Anglong	Rural	978	975
	Urban	954	953
7. Darrang	Rural	973	975
	Urban	926	954
8. Goalpara	Rural	977	973
	Urban	971	1004
9. Tinsukia	Rural	972	971
	Urban	954	922
10. Sibsagar	Rural	975	970
	Urban	991	914
11. Morigaon	Rural	986	966
	Urban	922	934
12. Golaghat	Rural	987	966
	Urban	953	953
13. Lakhimpur	Rural	974	965
	Urban	947	921
14. Barpeta	Rural	959	964
	Urban	972	949

State/Districts	Area	Sex ratio of child population (0-6) age group. (Per 1000 Male Child)	
		1991	2001
15. Nalbari	Rural	967	963
	Urban	954	917
16. Kamrup	Rural	978	959
	Urban	947	888
17. Dibrugarh	Rural	972	959
	Urban	963	916
18. Dhemaji	Rural	984	958
	Urban	972	954
19. Cachar	Rural	983	957
	Urban	941	951
20. Kokrajhar	Rural	975	955
	Urban	971	941
21. North Cachar Hills	Rural	995	942
	Urban	970	981
22. Hailakandi	Rural	989	900
	Urban	948	959
23. Jorhat	Rural	976	895
	Urban	948	932

Source: Census of India 2001; Assam; Provisional Population Totals; Rural Urban Distribution; PAPER-2 of 2001.

TABLE 2.10 Death Rate by Sex, India & Assam (Rural, Urban, Total) – 1992-93

	Total/Rural/ Urban		India*		Assam	
			1992	1993	1992	1993
Death Rate	Total	Persons	10.1	9.3	10.6	10.2
		Males	10.0	9.5	10.8	10.2
		Females	10.2	9.1	10.3	10.1
	Rural	Persons	10.9	10.6	10.8	11.0
		Males	10.7	10.6	11.0	10.9
		Females	11.1	10.5	10.6	11.0
	Urban	Persons	7.0	5.8	7.4	6.7
		Males	7.2	6.3	8.2	7.6
		Females	6.8	5.2	6.6	5.7

* Excludes Jammu & Kashmir Source: Sample Registration System, Fertility and Mortality Indicators, 1992 & 1993, Office of the Registrar General, India.

TABLE 2.11 Age specific death rates and crude death rates Age specific death rates and crude death rates (CDR) by sex from NFHS-1, NFHS-2, and the SRS, Assam

Age	NFHS-1 (1991-92)	NFHS-2 (1997-98)			SRS (1997)		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
<5	32.1	23.9	14.9	19.7	25.3	28.7	26.9
5-14	3.1	2.9	2.2	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.8
15-49	3.3	3.3	4.5	3.9	4.1	4.4	4.3
50-59	20.0	21.0	15.5	18.7	18.0	19.2	18.5
60+	59.6	72.1	78.1	74.6	61.1	57.8	58.2
CDR	11.3	10.3	8.6	9.5	9.8	9.9	9.9

Note: Age specific death rates and crude death rates by sex from NFHS-1 and NFHS-2 are based on the annual number of deaths reported for the *de jure* population during the two years preceding the survey. The SRS rates are also *de jure*, based on deaths during 1997. Rates are specified on a per thousand basis.

Source: For SRS : Office of the Registrar General, 1999b. For NFHS: NFHS-2; Assam; National Family Health Survey India 1998-99.

TABLE 2.12 Age specific death rates by sex, India and Assam – 1993

AGE	INDIA		ASSAM	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0-4	22.7	24.8	36.9	35.3
5-9	2.0	2.5	2.9	4.4
10-14	1.2	1.6	1.6	2.2
15-19	1.6	2.2	1.9	1.8
20-24	2.1	3.0	1.9	3.1
25-29	2.3	3.0	3.3	3.9
30-34	2.9	2.7	4.1	3.4
35-39	4.0	2.8	6.7	4.3
40-44	5.1	3.9	4.3	5.4
45-49	8.0	5.3	11.4	5.6
50-54	13.2	9.0	16.3	19.4
55-59	20.6	14.4	23.6	22.8
60-64	30.7	24.2	35.4	36.3
65-69	46.2	34.6	48.8	45.7
70+	94.5	81.1	96.5	110.5
All Ages	9.5	9.1	10.5	10.3

Source: Sample Registration System, Fertility & Mortality Indicators, 1993, office of the Registrar General, India, New Delhi, as quoted in Women In India-A statistical profile (1997)

TABLE 2.13 Total Fertility Rate and Crude Birth Rate (CBR) : Rural–Urban : Assam and India : 1997-98

Surveys	Total/ Rural/Urban	India	Assam
NFHS-2 TFR (15-49 yrs)	Total	2.85	2.31
	Rural	3.07	2.39
	Urban	2.27	1.50
NFHS-1 TFR (15-49 yrs)	Total	3.39	3.53
	Rural	3.67	3.68
	Urban	2.70	2.53
NFHS-2 CBR	Total	24.8	21.8
	Rural	26.2	22.3
	Urban	20.9	15.8

N.B.: NFHS-2 total fertility rate (TFR) and crude birth rate (CBR) for the three-year period preceding the survey, and NFHS-1 TFR, according to residence and state India

Source: National Family Health Survey (NFHS-2): India: 1998-99

TABLE 2.14-ESTIMATED Birth Rate, Death Rate, Natural Growth Rate and Unnatural Growth Rate

Year	Birth rate		Death Rate		Natural Growth rate (actual growth rate)		Unnatural Growth rate* (annual)	
	Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India
1951	49.0	39.9	31.8	27.4	17.2 (19.9)	12.5 (13.31)	+2.7	+0.81
1961	49.0	41.7	26.9	22.8	22.1 (35.1)	18.9 (21.64)	+13.0	+2.74
1971	38.5	36.9	17.8	14.9	20.7 (35.0)	22.0 (24.80)	+14.3	+2.80
1981	33.0	33.9	11.9	12.5	21.1	21.4 (24.66)		+3.26
1991	30.9	29.5	11.5	09.8	19.4 (52.44) ^{*1}	19.7 (23.86)	+11.94 ^{*2}	+4.16
2001	26.8	25.4	09.5	08.4	17.3 (18.85)	17.0 (21.34)	+1.55	+4.34

*Actual Growth Rate-Natural Growth Rate where Natural Growth Rate=Birth Rate-Death Rate]

Source: RGI: Census Reports and Sample Registration System Bulletin, 1987,2002.

*¹The figure in the bracket is the growth rate from 1971-91

*² The unnatural growth rate for the period 1991-71 estimated as actual growth rate from 1971-91-Natural growth rate from (1971-81+1981-91)

**TABLE 2.15 Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Natural Growth Rate India/Assam
(Rural, Urban, Total) - 1994, 1995, (Oct.) and 2001**

	Area→	India			Assam		
	Year↓	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
Birth Rate	1994	28.7	30.5	23.1	30.8	31.9	22.2
	1995	28.3	30.0	22.6	29.3	30.0	21.8
	1998	26.5	28.0	21.1	27.9	28.7	20.2
	1999	26.0	27.6	20.8	27.0	28.0	18.9
	2000	25.8	27.6	20.7	26.9	27.9	18.6
	2001	25.4	27.1	20.2	26.8	27.8	18.5
	1994	09.3	10.1	06.7	09.2	09.4	07.2
	1995	09.0	09.7	06.5	09.6	10.0	06.7
	1998	09.0	09.7	06.6	10.0	10.5	06.0
	1999	08.7	09.4	06.3	09.7	10.1	06.2
	2000	08.5	09.3	06.3	09.6	10.0	06.1
	2001	08.4	09.0	06.3	09.5	09.8	06.6
Natural Growth Rate	1994	19.4	20.4	16.6	21.6	22.4	15.0
	1995	19.3	20.3	16.1	19.7	20.2	15.1
	1998	17.5	18.3	14.5	17.9	18.2	14.2
	1999	17.3	18.2	14.5	17.3	17.9	12.7
	2000	17.3	18.3	14.4	17.3	17.9	12.5
	2001	17.0	18.0	13.9	17.3	18.0	13.9

Source: Sample Registration Bulletin, January 1997, October 2002 Registrar General, India as quoted in Women in India: A Statistical Profile – 1997.

TABLE 2.16 Crude Birth Rate and Total Fertility Rate: Assam: by District (1991)

Assam/Districts	Crude Birth Rate	Total Fertility Rate
ASSAM	31.47	4.16
1. Dhubri	38.16	5.12
2. Kokrajhar	39.67	5.31
3. Bongaigaon	29.26	3.97
4. Goalpara	35.21	4.52
5. Barpeta	43.20	6.41
6. Nalbari	47.02	6.32
7. Kamrup	28.32	3.41
8. Darrang	42.03	5.46
9. Sonitpur	33.96	4.39
10. Lakhimpur	34.13	4.65
11. Dhemaji	25.90	3.25
12. Morigaon	30.53	4.04
13. Nagaon	33.91	4.84
14. Golaghat	32.11	4.39
15. Jorhat	31.51	4.35
16. Sibsagar	31.14	4.30
17. Dibrugarh	24.39	3.41
18. Tinsukia	37.53	5.05
19. Karbi Anglong	33.07	4.36
20. North Cachar Hills	29.74	3.83
21. Karimganj	48.52	7.08
22. Hailakandi	32.09	4.22
23. Cachar	32.61	4.12

Source: Census of India 1991: Assam State District Profile 1991

TABLE 2.17 Mean age at Marriage: Assam: by districts (1991)

Assam/Districts	Area	Mean age at marriage of currently married women		
		Total	Who married during	
			1981-86	1986-91
ASSAM	Total	18.23	18.49	18.92
	Rural	18.15	18.36	18.73
	Urban	18.84	19.54	20.37
1. Dhubri	Total	16.86	17.20	17.48
	Rural	16.74	17.03	17.28
	Urban	17.71	18.58	19.09
2. Kokrajhar	Total	18.20	18.36	18.66
	Rural	18.20	18.30	18.59
	Urban	18.22	19.36	19.98
3. Bongaigaon	Total	17.64	17.91	18.19
	Rural	17.58	17.83	18.03
	Urban	18.18	18.93	19.89
4. Goalpara	Total	17.50	17.68	18.15
	Rural	17.48	17.66	18.05
	Urban	17.82	17.97	19.17
5. Barpeta	Total	17.75	18.19	18.42
	Rural	17.68	18.09	18.29
	Urban	18.76	19.46	20.29
6. Nalbari	Total	18.07	18.64	19.23
	Rural	18.07	18.62	19.20
	Urban	18.22	19.51	20.01
7. Kamrup	Total	18.37	18.87	19.50
	Rural	17.98	18.37	18.80
	Urban	19.11	19.77	20.66
8. Darrang	Total	17.96	18.28	18.73
	Rural	17.93	18.23	18.64
	Urban	18.39	19.32	20.11

Assam/Districts	Area	Mean age at marriage of currently married women		
		Total	Who married during	
			1981-86	1986-91
9. Sonitpur	Total	18.55	18.78	19.38
	Rural	18.51	18.71	19.27
	Urban	18.97	19.57	20.54
10. Lakhimpur	Total	18.24	18.25	18.78
	Rural	18.23	18.24	18.75
	Urban	18.31	18.40	19.27
11. Dhemaji	Total	18.46	18.43	18.80
	Rural	18.45	18.41	18.79
	Urban	18.90	19.20	19.29
12. Morigaon	Total	18.04	18.30	18.46
	Rural	18.01	18.25	18.36
	Urban	18.53	19.23	19.92
13. Nagaon	Total	17.91	18.16	18.59
	Rural	17.85	18.06	18.42
	Urban	18.33	19.05	20.00
14. Golaghat	Total	18.83	18.93	19.33
	Rural	18.82	18.88	19.28
	Urban	19.02	19.71	20.22
15. Jorhat	Total	19.00	19.04	19.48
	Rural	18.94	18.88	19.29
	Urban	19.32	19.85	20.38
16. Sibsagar	Total	19.02	19.07	19.51
	Rural	18.98	19.00	19.42
	Urban	19.44	19.90	20.52
17. Dibrugarh	Total	19.08	19.29	19.66
	Rural	19.04	19.11	19.40
	Urban	19.24	20.06	20.94
18. Tinsukia	Total	18.62	18.90	19.24
	Rural	18.60	18.78	18.98
	Urban	18.70	19.60	20.56

Assam/Districts	Area	Mean age at marriage of currently married women		
		Total	Who married during	
			1981-86	1986-91
19. Karbi Anglong	Total	18.75	18.82	19.04
	Rural	18.72	18.72	18.85
	Urban	19.02	19.58	20.30
20. North Cachar Hills	Total	19.17	19.37	19.98
	Rural	19.11	19.27	19.64
	Urban	19.39	19.70	21.00
21. Karimganj	Total	18.22	18.57	19.03
	Rural	18.11	18.44	18.84
	Urban	19.60	20.57	21.60
22. Hailakandi	Total	18.18	18.50	19.03
	Rural	18.11	18.41	18.87
	Urban	19.01	19.53	20.63
23. Cachar	Total	18.48	18.80	19.36
	Rural	18.39	18.63	19.17
	Urban	19.28	20.24	20.85

SOURCE: Census of India 1991. ASSAM STATE District Profile 1991.

TABLE 2.18 Effective ages at marriage of FEMALES (Total, Rural & Urban) – 1991,1992 & 1993

Area	Year	India	Assam
Rural	1991	19.2	20.3
	1992	19.3	20.8
	1993	19.4	20.5
Urban	1991	20.6	20.0
	1992	20.2	23.5
	1993	20.5	23.2
Total	1991	19.5	20.5
	1992	19.5	21.3
	1993	19.6	20.9

Source: Sample Registration System, Fertility and Mortality Indicators 1991, 1992,1993, Office of the Registrar General, India New Delhi as quoted in WOMEN IN India: A Statistical Profile – 1997

TABLE 2.19 Maternal Mortality Ratio: 1997-98 (Per hundred thousand)

States/UTs	1997	1998
(1)	(2)	(3)
Assam	401	409
All India	408	407

Note: Maternal Mortality Ratio is number of Maternal Deaths in the age group 15-49 years per 1,00,000 live births.

Source: Compendium of India's Fertility and Mortality indicators 1971-1997, RGI, 1999.

TABLE 2.20 Infant Mortality Rate: 1981-91 (Per thousand)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	—	—	—	96	87	92
All India	122	108	115	74	79	77

Note: 1 Census not held in Assam in 1981 and Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

2 Infant Mortality Rate (Q1) is defined as number of death by age 1 per 1000 live births.

Source: Occasional Paper No.1 of 1997, Table 3, page 112-113, Census of India.

TABLE 2.21 Infant Mortality Rate — Rural & Urban (Per thousand)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	—	—	—	94	48	92
All India	123	67	115	84	51	77

Note: 1 Census not held in Assam in 1981 and in Jammu and Kashmir in 1991.

2 Infant Mortality Rate (Q1) is defined as number of death by age 1 per 1000 live births.

2 Data for 1991 for rural and urban areas has been derived.

Source: Occasional Paper No.1 of 1997, Table 3, page 112-113, Census of India.

TABLE 2.22 Child mortality rate (0-4) India & Assam 1997

States	% of mortality rate
Assam	26.9
INDIA	23.1

Source: Sample Registration System (SRS), Vital Statistics Division, and New Delhi

TABLE 2.23 Under 5 Mortality (1970-75 & 1992-1996)

STATE	1970-1975	STATE	1992-96
ASSAM	212.0	ASSAM	122.6
INDIA	209.6	INDIA	110.5

Source: Sample Registration System (SRS), Vital Statistics Division, New Delhi

TABLE 2.24 Under 5 female mortality (1970-75 & 1992-1996) (Per thousand)

STATE	ASSAM	INDIA
1970-1975	206.9	224.2
1992-96	124.5	116.5

Source: Sample Registration System (SRS), Vital Statistics Division, New Delhi

TABLE 2.25 Under Five Mortality Rate (Per thousand)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	—	—	—	118	115	116
All India	147	157	152	91	101	94

Note: 1 Census not held in Assam in 1981 and Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

2 Under Five Mortality Rate (Q5) is defined as number of death by age 5 per 1000 live births.

Source: 1 For 1981, Child Mortality Estimates of India, Occasional Paper No.5 of 1988, Statement 2, page 5, Census of India.

2 For 1991, Occasional Paper No.1 of 1997, Table 3, pages 112-113, Census of India.

TABLE 2.26 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 0-4 Years - Combined (Per thousand)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	36.7	42.3	39.5	34.4	30.4	32.4
All India	39.2	43.3	41.2	25.6	27.5	26.5

Note 1 # : Three-year moving average has been taken for these states/UTs.

2 Age specific Mortality Rate is number of deaths in the specified age group as a ratio of population in that age group.

Source: Compendium of India's Fertility and Mortality Indicators 1971-97, Registrar General of Census, India, 1999.

TABLE 2.27 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 0-4 Years — Rural (Per thousand)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	37.5	43.6	40.5	35.6	31.4	33.5
All India	43.1	48.0	45.5	28.1	30.2	40.8

Note: 1. Age specific Mortality Rate is number of deaths in the specified age group as a ratio of population in that age group.

Source: Compendium of India's Fertility and Mortality Indicators 1971-97, Registrar General of Census, India, 1999.

TABLE 2.28 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 0-4 Years — Urban (Per thousand)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	25.8	22.9	24.4	13.8	10.8	12.4
All India	20.0	20.9	20.4	15.4	16.6	16.0

Note: 1 Age specific Mortality Rate is number of deaths in the specified age group as a ratio of population in that age group.

Source: Compendium of India's Fertility and Mortality Indicators 1971-97, Registrar General of Census, India, 1999.

TABLE 2.29 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 5-9 Years — Combined (Per thousand)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	3.4	5.0	4.2	4.2	5.9	5.0
All India	3.7	4.4	4.0	2.6	2.9	2.7

Note: 1 Age specific Mortality Rate is number of deaths in the specified age group as a ratio of population in that age group.

Source: Compendium of India's Fertility and Mortality Indicators 1971-97, Registrar General of Census, India, 1999.

TABLE 2.30 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 5-9 Years — Rural (Per thousand)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	3.5	5.2	4.3	4.3	6.2	5.2
All India	4.1	5.0	4.6	2.8	3.2	3.0

Note: 1 Age specific Mortality Rate is number of deaths in the specified age group as a ratio of population in that age group.

Source: Compendium of India's Fertility and Mortality Indicators 1971-97, Registrar General of Census, India, 1999.

TABLE 2.31 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 5-9 Years — Urban (Per thousand)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	1.4	2.8	2.1	2.0	1.0	1.5
All India	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5

Note: 1 Age specific Mortality Rate is number of deaths in the specified age group as a ratio of population in that age group.

Source: Compendium of India's Fertility and Mortality Indicators 1971-97, Registrar General of Census, India, 1999.

TABLE 2.32 Infant Mortality Rate: Assam and India: 1991-2003

Year	Rural		Urban		Combined	
	Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India
1991	83	87	42	53	81	80
1992	77	85	50	53	76	79
1993	84	82	60	45	81	74
1994	78	80	76	52	78	74
1995	77	80	50	48	77	74
1996	79	87	37	46	75	72
1997	79	77	37	45	76	71
1998	80	77	36	45	76	72
1999	79	75	36	44	76	70
2003 (Oct.)	73	69	38	40	70	64

Source: 1. RGI: Sample Registration Bulletin as published in GOA; Statistical Handbook of Assam
 2. Sample Registration Bulletin, R.G.I. (quoted in Statistical Handbook, Assam, 2002).
 3. SRS Bulletin October 2003, RGI (quoted from Census Office, Guwahati).

TABLE 2.33 Infant and Child Mortality Rate: Assam and India: 1998

Neo Natal Mortality Rate		Post neo Natal Mortality Rate		Infant Mortality Rate (${}_1q_0$)		Child mortality (${}_4q_1$)		Under five mortality	
Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India	India	Assam
44.6	43.4	24.9	24.2	69.5	67.6	21.4	67.6	94.9	89.5

Source: NFHS-2

TABLE 2.34 Infant Mortality Rate: Assam: 1998

State	Rural	Urban	Combined
Assam	82	36	66

Source: Government of India: 2000:Annual Report, 1999-2000, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

TABLE 2.35 Age group wise Child Mortality: Assam: by districts :1991

Year	Age 0-1Yrs			Age 0-2 Yrs			Age 0-5 Yrs		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Assam	92	96	87	101	104	98	116	118	115
1. Dhubri	128	123	132	143	151	137	166	169	162
2. Kokrajhar	78	56	75	85	78	93	110	96	114
3. Bongaigaon	122	93	124	128	113	129	142	135	150
4. Goalpara	106	109	103	111	113	110	133	138	127
5. Barpeta	101	97	104	119	126	112	142	145	139
6. Nalbari	96	102	70	98	104	90	117	113	121
7. Kamrup	77	80	78	82	81	83	90	92	87
8. Darrang	111	118	86	120	119	120	131	131	131
9. Sonitpur	77	75	77	83	81	84	108	115	101
10. Lakhimpur	112	138	104	114	114	116	125	120	130
11. Dhemaji	114	113	117	123	129	122	139	140	138
12. Morigaon	88	106	97	127	131	124	136	141	127
13. Nagaon	97	104	89	101	102	97	117	120	114
14. Golaghat	61	66	56	76	78	74	94	97	91
15. Jorhat	47	47	48	49	48	58	77	78	76
16. Sibsagar	75	81	68	76	83	75	89	85	92
17. Dibrugarh	51	56	45	59	60	58	77	76	78
18. Tinsukia	73	82	63	72	70	76	85	90	80
19. Karbi Anglong	76	76	75	87	79	92	124	125	124
20. N.C.Hills	108	109	100	112	114	113	118	119	116
21. Karimganj	111	105	97	120	128	111	131	132	131
22. Hailakandi	99	101	97	117	121	101	125	136	116
23. Cachar	97	99	85	103	100	105	116	122	111

N.B.: Figures for the 1981 census is not available, as the census could not be conducted due to disturbed conditions

N.A.: Data not available.

Source: Census of India 1991: Assam State District Profile 1991.

TABLE 2.36 Expectation of life at birth by sex: Assam and India: Rural-Urban(1989-93)

India/Assam	Total			Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person
India	59.0	59.7	59.4	57.9	58.1	58.0	63.5	66.3	64.9
Assam	54.6	55.3	54.9	53.9	54.6	54.1	63.0	64.1	63.3

Source: Sample Registration System Based Life Tables, 1989-93, Office of the Registrar General, India, New Delhi, as quoted in Women In India-A statistical profile (1997).

TABLE 2.37 EXPECTATIONS of life at birth by sex in Assam and India

SEX	ASSAM/INDIA	YEAR				
		1987-91	1988-92	1989-93	1990-94	1991-95
Male	Assam	53.7	53.9	54.6	54.6	55.6
	India	58.1	58.6	59.0	59.4	59.7
Female	Assam	54.5	54.4	55.3	55.8	56.1
	India	58.6	59.0	59.7	60.4	60.9
Persons	Assam	53.9	54.1	54.9	55.1	55.7
	India	58.2	58.7	59.4	60.0	60.3

N.B.: All India figures excludes Jammu and Kashmir.

Source: Selected Socio-Economic Statistics, India-2000 (as quoted in Economic Survey, Assam 2002-2003)

TABLE 2.38 Persons not expected to Survive beyond Age 40 — 1981

(Percentage)

States/UTs	Rural			Urban			Combined		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	24.3	27.2	25.8	15.7	16.3	16.0	23.7	26.1	24.9
All India	23.4	27.1	25.2	13.6	14.7	14.1	21.5	24.5	23.0

Source: From Sample Registration System based Abridged Life Tables for the period 1981-85.

TABLE 2.39 Persons not expected to Survive beyond Age 40 — 1991

(Percentage)

States/UTs	Rural			Urban			Combined		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	21.7	23.3	22.5	15.0	13.6	14.4	21.1	22.5	21.8
All India	18.3	21.0	19.6	11.5	11.3	11.4	16.9	19.1	18.0

Source: SRS Based Abridged Life Tables, 1989-93, SRS Analytical Studies; Report No.1 of 1996, RGI, New Delhi.

TABLE 3.1 Literacy Rates by Sex in India and Assam (1961-2001)

State/India	Assam			India			Male Female Gap	
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Assam	India
1961	44.28	18.61	32.58	40.40	15.35	28.30	25.67	25.05
1971	42.96	22.31	33.32	45.96	21.97	34.45	20.65	23.98
1981	N.A.	N.A.	NA	56.38	29.76	43.57	NA	26.62
1991	61.87	43.03	52.89	64.13	39.29	52.21	18.84	24.84
2001	71.93	56.03	64.28	75.85	54.16	65.38	15.9	21.70

Note: NA: Not available because 1981 census was not conducted in Assam

Source: Census Reports

TABLE 3.2 Literacy Rates by sex: Assam: by districts (1981-2001)

Districts	Area	1991			2001		
		P	M	F	P	M	F
1. Jorhat	T	65.51	73.29	56.88	77.91	82.76	72.54
	R	62.78	71.31	53.49	76.29	81.55	70.52
	U	79.95	83.18	75.98	85.66	88.40	82.50
2. Sibsagar	T	64.46	71.91	56.14	75.33	82.08	68.00
	R	62.94	70.75	54.31	73.88	81.10	66.15
	U	83.27	85.25	80.71	89.07	90.77	86.95
3. Lakhimpur	T	58.96	68.28	48.85	69.59	78.26	60.47
	R	57.74	67.29	47.51	68.67	77.64	59.29
	U	75.46	80.57	68.87	80.78	85.40	75.50
4. Nalbari	T	55.99	66.95	44.19	68.08	77.12	58.40
	R	55.38	66.44	43.52	67.55	76.71	57.75
	U	80.62	86.66	73.29	88.61	92.84	83.95
5. Golaghat	T	58.54	66.50	49.75	70.36	78.01	62.07
	R	56.74	64.85	47.91	68.61	76.60	60.00
	U	85.14	88.72	80.32	88.76	92.22	84.72
6. Dibrugarh	T	58.32	66.72	48.89	71.21	79.58	62.10
	R	53.11	62.47	42.84	66.62	76.42	56.13
	U	81.17	84.36	77.22	89.88	91.92	87.49
7. Kamrup	T	65.04	73.67	55.01	74.69	81.24	67.31
	R	56.88	66.95	45.83	67.68	75.77	58.92
	U	80.57	85.51	74.16	86.61	90.07	82.43
8. Dhemaji	T	53.84	65.43	41.12	65.96	75.15	56.11
	R	53.29	64.95	40.57	64.71	74.10	54.70
	U	80.44	85.60	72.52	82.26	88.35	75.22
9. Cachar	T	59.16	68.79	48.76	68.42	76.51	59.85
	R	56.37	66.53	45.35	65.25	74.00	55.94
	U	83.26	88.06	78.03	86.76	91.09	82.23

Districts	Area	1991			2001		
		P	M	F	P	M	F
10. Karimganj	T	54.71	64.05	44.76	67.21	73.87	60.09
	R	51.85	61.66	41.40	65.07	71.98	57.69
	U	87.70	91.05	84.02	91.62	95.63	87.37
11. N.C.Hills	T	57.76	66.39	47.34	68.59	76.59	59.40
	R	50.03	59.41	39.04	58.73	68.04	48.42
	U	82.42	87.48	75.72	88.97	93.32	83.57
12. Tinsukia	T	50.28	59.27	39.99	63.28	72.16	53.40
	R	44.16	53.82	33.41	57.52	67.40	46.71
	U	78.95	83.00	73.65	85.51	89.82	80.37
13. Hailakandi	T	53.07	64.08	41.04	59.84	68.47	50.65
	R	50.19	61.80	37.47	57.10	66.22	47.38
	U	85.30	89.96	80.35	87.34	91.31	83.17
14. Nagaon	T	54.74	62.49	46.30	62.28	68.52	55.57
	R	51.30	59.31	42.63	59.20	65.68	52.26
	U	80.68	85.77	74.82	82.90	87.23	78.10
15. Bongaigaon	T	49.06	58.67	38.72	60.27	68.81	51.16
	R	45.48	55.33	34.98	56.30	65.25	46.81
	U	81.16	87.11	74.13	86.41	91.78	80.47
16. Karbi Anglong	T	45.57	55.55	34.35	58.83	68.11	48.65
	R	42.12	52.30	30.85	55.48	65.09	45.05
	U	73.55	80.04	65.15	83.39	89.30	76.37
17. Sonitpur	T	48.14	56.70	38.60	60.29	67.64	52.43
	R	45.33	54.17	35.56	57.34	65.00	49.19
	U	81.06	84.78	76.46	88.50	92.35	84.19
18. Morigaon	T	47.99	56.17	39.19	59.46	66.13	52.36
	R	46.36	54.52	37.33	57.98	64.68	50.87
	U	76.54	83.40	68.30	85.84	90.88	80.05
19. Barpeta	T	43.24	52.61	33.20	57.35	65.95	48.16
	R	40.64	50.10	30.53	54.94	63.73	45.54
	U	74.83	82.81	66.07	83.94	90.40	77.04

Districts	Area	1991			2001		
		P	M	F	P	M	F
20. Goalpara	T	46.81	55.47	37.58	58.56	65.36	51.40
	R	44.84	53.58	35.54	56.75	63.67	49.50
	U	68.73	76.18	60.58	77.32	82.58	71.57
21. Darrang	T	42.00	50.80	32.53	55.92	64.32	46.95
	R	40.12	49.01	30.62	54.23	62.77	45.15
	U	76.02	81.68	69.28	86.20	91.14	80.54
22. Kokrajhar	T	40.47	49.46	30.83	52.55	61.90	42.65
	R	37.90	46.97	28.20	49.93	59.47	39.86
	U	77.14	83.96	69.36	85.16	91.34	78.27
23. Dhubri	T	38.36	47.38	28.79	49.86	56.61	42.64
	R	33.55	42.74	23.82	45.73	52.52	38.46
	U	69.36	76.75	61.31	78.20	84.77	71.21

Source: Provisional Population Totals, Census of India-2001, Assam, Paper I& II of 2001, Census of India: 1991

TABLE 3.3 Literacy Rate of Scheduled Castes(Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	—	—	—	63.88	42.99	53.94
All India	31.12	10.93	21.38	49.91	23.76	37.41

Notes: 1 Census not held in Assam in 1981.

Source: 1 Literacy Digest, NLM, Directorate of Adult Education, MHRD, 1988

2 Selected Educational Statistics 1997-98, Department of Education, MHRD, page 21.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.4 Literacy Rate of Scheduled Tribes(Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	—	—	—	58.93	38.98	49.16
All India	24.52	8.04	16.35	40.65	18.10	29.60

Notes: 1 Census not held in Assam in 1981 and Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

Source: 1 Selected Educational Statistics 1997-98, Department of Education, MHRD, page 21

2 1981—Literacy Digest, NLM, Directorate of Adult Education, MHRD, GOI, ND, 1988.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.5 Literates/Illiterates in the age group 7-14 years(Percentage)

States/ UTs	Boys				Girls				Children			
	Literates		Illiterates		Literates		Illiterates		Literates		Illiterates	
	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Assam	—	66.77	—	33.23	—	58.17	—	41.83	—	62.55	—	37.45
All India	60.58	71.44	39.42	28.56	41.57	56.23	58.43	43.77	51.49	64.16	48.51	35.84

Note: 1 Census not held in Assam in 1981

Source: 1 For 1981, calculated from Census of India, as reproduced in Selected Educational Statistics 1997, MHRD 1999.

2 For 1991, Working Children in India—An Analysis of the 1991 Census Data, RGI, Table 4, pages 84-91.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.6 Adult Literacy Rate — Combined (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	—	—	—	60.25	37.63	49.58
All India	54.92	25.72	40.83	61.89	34.09	48.54

Note: 1 Census not held in Assam in 1981

2 Adult Literacy rate is percentage of literates in age-group 15 years and above to population in that age group.

Source: Census of India, 1981 & 1991, Age, Sex and Educational Level, Table C-2, RGI, New Delhi.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.7 Adult Literacy Rate — Rural (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	—	—	—	56.61	33.23	45.47
All India	47.39	17.60	32.79	54.89	24.92	40.34

Note: 1 Census not held in Assam in 1981.

2 Adult Literacy rate is percentage of literates in age-group 15 years and above to population in that age group.

Source : Census of India, 1981 & 1991, Age, Sex and Educational Level, Table C-2, RGI, New Delhi.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.8 Adult Literacy Rate — Urban (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	—	—	—	83.77	70.66	78.00
All India	76.29	51.90	65.11	80.14	59.86	70.68

Note: 1 Census not held in Assam in 1981.

2 Adult Literacy rate is percentage of literates in age-group 15 years and above to population in that age group.

Source : Census of India, 1981 & 1991, Age, Sex and Educational Level, Table C-2, RGI, New Delhi.

TABLE 3.9 Adult Literacy Rate —1995-96(Percentage)

States/UTs	Rural			Urban			Combined		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	76.00	57.30	67.25	90.20	81.20	86.39	77.54	59.50	69.18
All India	60.59	31.65	46.38	85.68	67.35	76.98	67.25	40.67	54.32

Note: Adult Literacy rate is number of literates in age-group 15 years and above to population in that age group.

Source: NSSO 52nd Round, 1995-96 as reported in Selected Educational Statistics, 1997-98, MHRD, New Delhi.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.10 Age-Specific Enrolment Ratios — Combined (Percentage)

States/ UTs	Age Group 6 to below 11 years						Age Group 11 to below 14 years					
	1981			1991			1981			1991		
	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Assam	—	—	—	9.0	42.9	46.0	—	—	—	67.9	58.7	63.4
All India	55.3	38.5	47.2	56.6	45.4	51.2	62.0	36.7	50.0	71.1	52.2	62.1

Note: 2 Age-Specific Enrolment Ratio = (Estimated enrolment in an age group/Estimated child population in that age group) x 100

Source: Based on Census of India, 1981 & 1991, Table C-4.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.11 Age-Specific Enrolment Ratios — Rural (Percentage)

States/ UTs	Age Group 6 to below 11 years						Age Group 11 to below 14 years					
	1981			1991			1981			1991		
	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Assam	—	—	—	47.0	40.8	43.9	—	—	—	66.0	56.1	61.2
All India	50.6	31.4	41.3	52.3	39.3	46.0	57.6	28.1	43.7	67.6	44.4	56.7

Note: 1 Age-Specific Enrolment Ratio = (Estimated enrolment in an age group/Estimated child population in that age group) x 100

Source: Based on Census of India, 1981 & 1991, Table C-4.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.12 Age-Specific Enrolment Ratios — Urban (Percentage)

States/ UTs	Age Group 6 to below 11 years						Age Group 11 to below 14 years					
	1981			1991			1981			1991		
	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Assam	—	—	—	69.6	66.0	67.8	—	—	—	83.8	78.8	81.3
All India	72.8	64.9	69.0	70.7	65.8	68.3	76.6	64.5	70.8	81.0	73.6	77.5

Note: 1 Age-Specific Enrolment Ratio = (Estimated enrolment in an age group/Estimated child population in that age group) × 100

Source : Based on Census of India, 1981 & 1991, Table C-4.

TABLE 3.13 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages, 1978 — Combined (Percentage)

States/UTs	I - V			VI - VIII			IX onwards		
	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	42.13	40.84	41.52	38.97	37.07	35.81	35.73	34.15	31.34
All India	38.27	34.36	33.29	32.70	25.82	26.97	28.69	21.53	26.70

Source: Fourth All India Educational Survey, NCERT, 1982, Table 167, pages 934-941.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.14 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages 1978 — Rural (Percentage)

States/UTs	I - V			VI - VIII			IX onwards		
	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	41.70	40.46	41.46	37.62	35.83	35.58	34.69	33.45	31.46
All India	36.18	32.69	32.76	27.83	22.00	25.10	21.85	17.12	24.10

Source: Fourth All India Educational Survey, NCERT, 1982, Table 167, pages 934-941.

TABLE 3.14 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages, 1978 —Urban (Percentage)

States/UTs	I - V			VI - VIII			IX onwards		
	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	45.96	44.01	43.77	44.07	42.12	37.89	38.62	36.69	30.72
All India	44.75	40.93	39.49	40.33	33.22	34.74	34.78	26.65	31.93

Source: Fourth All India Educational Survey, NCERT, 1982, Table 167, pages 934-941.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.15 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages, 1993 — Combined (Percentage)

States/ Uts	I - V			VI - VIII			IX - X			XI - XII		
	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Assam	45.46	44.97	47.03	44.81	44.65	44.55	44.99	45.13	44.26	36.97	35.80	37.33
All India	43.16	41.66	41.45	39.62	36.25	35.77	36.47	32.31	32.10	35.93	30.29	27.62

Source: Sixth All India Educational Survey, NCERT, 1999, Vol 4, Table IS132, pages 127-130.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.16 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages 1993 — Rural (Percentage)

States/ Uts	I - V			VI - VIII			IX - X			XI - XII		
	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Assam	45.28	44.70	47.00	44.45	44.21	44.47	44.59	44.67	44.40	37.00	35.62	37.33
All India	41.96	40.47	40.96	36.43	33.02	34.04	32.23	28.89	29.88	29.76	25.53	26.29

Source: Sixth All India Educational Survey, NCERT, 1999, Vol 4, Table IS132, pages 127-130.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.17 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages 1993 — Urban (Percentage)

States/ Uts	I - V			VI - VIII			IX - X			XI - XII		
	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST	All	SC	ST
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Assam	47.14	46.44	47.65	46.61	46.68	45.44	46.65	46.95	43.11	36.90	36.42	37.35
All India	46.71	45.97	45.52	45.06	42.69	42.73	41.72	37.41	38.24	39.73	34.03	29.64

Source: Sixth All India Educational Survey, NCERT, 1999, Vol 4, Table IS132, pages 127-130.

TABLE 3.18 Drop-out Rates in Classes I-V (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981-82			1992-93			1998-99 (Provisional)		
	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	59.4	66.6	62.5	51.66	59.93	55.37	40.87	42.43	41.56
All India	51.1	57.3	53.5	43.83	46.67	45.01	38.23	41.34	39.58

Source: 1 1981-81 — Trends of Drop-out Rates for Years 1980-81 to 1993-94, page 2.

2 Education in India 1992-93 — Vol.1 (S), Department of Education, MHRD, page 145.

3 Annual report 1998-99, Department of Education, Department of Education, MHRD, page 142.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.19 Drop-out Rates in Classes I-VIII (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981-82			1992-93			1998-99 (Provisional)		
	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	81.80	84.20	82.50	68.35	70.36	69.22	68.26	72.31	70.08
All India	68.50	77.70	72.10	58.23	65.21	61.10	54.40	60.09	56.82

Source: 1 Trends of Drop-out Rates for Years 1980-81 to 1993-94, Department of Education, MHRD, page 16.

2 Education in India 1992-93, Vol.1 (S), Department of Education, MHRD, page 145.

3 Annual Report 1999-2000, Department of Education, MHRD, page 178.

TABLE 3.20 Drop-out Rates in Classes I-X (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981-82			1992-93			1998-99 (Provisional)		
	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children	Boys	Girls	Children
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	63.30	67.81	65.09	74.28	78.13	75.95	76.55	75.32	76.00
All India	79.44	86.81	82.33	70.00	77.32	72.93	65.44	70.22	67.44

Source: 1 Trends of Drop-out Rates for Years 1980-81 to 1993-94, Department of education, MHRD, page 30.

2 Education in India 1992-93, Vol.1 (S), Department of Education, MHRD, page 145.

3 Annual Report 1999-2000, Department of Education, MHRD, page 179.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.21 Class wise enrolment up to higher secondary classes in Assam

Sl.No.	Class	Sex Ratio
1.	Pre-Primary	726.7
2.	Class-I	870.68
3.	Class-ii	842.98
4.	Class-III	842.90
5.	Class-IV	814.98
6.	Class-V	721.02
7.	Class-VI	781.71
8.	Class-VII	785.05
9.	Class-VIII	713.99
10.	Class-IX	743.22
11.	Class-X	806.41
12.	Class-XI	546.81
13.	Class-XII	592.90
14.	Class-XII in College	622.100
15.	Class-XII in College (Science)	609.76

Source: Statistical Handbook, Assam 2002

TABLE 3.22 Course wise sex ratio

Sl.No.	Course	Sex Ratio
1	Ph.D.	990
2	M.A	852.14
3	M..Sc.	490.67
4	M.Com	117.58
5	Total P.G.	644
6	B.A.	668.12
7	B.Sc.	204.27
8	B.Com	166.77
9	Total Degree	517.26
10	P. D.	635.28
11	H.S.(Class-XII)	613.11
12	Total H. S.	616.31
13	Law	336.87

Source: Estimated from data obtained from Directorate of Higher Education, Assam as published in the Economic Survey Assam, 2002-2003

TABLE 3.23 District wise percentage of female teachers in Assam: 2001

Districts	Pre-Primary	Primary	Middle	High School	Higher Secondary	Jr. College	Arts, Science and Commerce College
1. Dhubri	100.0	20.09	6.42	21.14	15.82	30.23	21.14
2. Kokrajhar	100.0	20.80	16.50	26.97	30.52	30.77	18.50
3. Bongaigaon	100.0	25.67	15.77	27.11	19.62	35.71	20.65
4. Goalpara	100.0	22.67	11.83	21.56	14.81	Nil	19.00
5. Barpeta	100.0	18.83	12.84	13.96	14.57	31.48	22.06
6. Kamrup	100.0	19.53	13.45	21.29	16.10	30.67	28.19
7. Nalbari	100.0	28.78	21.60	28.65	41.08	31.65	20.68
8. Darrang	100.0	21.35	15.17	21.96	18.05	30.38	27.16
9. Sonitpur	100.0	31.03	20.89	25.23	25.10	30.65	32.13
10. Lakhimpur	100.0	27.30	18.55	24.21	24.94	30.88	23.42
11. Dhemaji	100.0	31.14	22.37	15.49	12.55	34.15	20.97
12. Morigaon	100.0	21.09	15.28	19.83	16.44	10.34	19.19
13. Nagaon	100.0	31.67	24.71	27.42	37.11	33.93	18.62
14. Golaghat	100.0	34.20	26.85	34.87	36.98	40	23.27
15. Jorhat	100.0	31.58	22.96	27.16	29.24	31.09	37.08
16. Sibsagar	100.0	42.43	42.54	41.27	38.35	32	39.08
17. Dibrugarh	100.0	35.40	30.86	37.88	43.43	29.63	29.64
18. Tinsukia	100.0	27.98	27.95	38.32	40.78	Nil	26.69
19. Karbi Anglong	100.0	33.22	14.94	23.27	24.21	Nil	20.43
20. North Cachar Hills	100.0	41.25	14.19	30.07	35.23	Nil	32.65
21. Karimganj	100.0	25.50	16.69	22.06	30.51	35.71	26.73
22. Hailakandi	100.0	33.43	17.15	32.76	30.43	Nil	30.77
23. Cachar	100.0	18.65	23.52	34.84	23.86	Nil	20.0
ASSAM	100.0	28.78	20.46	26.27	28.31	31.00	25.20

Note: Nil: In these districts neither male nor female teachers are shown against Junior Colleges

Source: Estimated from data on District wise number of female teachers in Assam:2001: Statistical handbook, Assam, 2002

TABLE 3.24 Teacher — Pupil Ratio (Pupils per teacher)

	1982-83		1992-93		1997-98	
	Assam	India	Assam	India	Assam	India
Primary	35	40	39	34	37	42
Upper primary	24	34	31	29	24	37
Secondary	25	29	28	45	21	29

Source: 1 Selected Educational Statistics, 1982-83, Department of Education, MHRD, Table VII, pages 36, 38, 40.

2 Selected Educational Statistics, 1992-93, Department of Education, MHRD, pages 29, 31, 33.

3 Selected Educational Statistics, 1997-98, Department of Education, MHRD, Table 18, pages 53, 55, 56.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 3.25 Statistics relating to Schools : Assam : 1951-2001

Year	Primary Schools					Upper Primary Schools				
	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers	PTR	Schools per thousand population	No. of Schools	No. of Students	No. of Teachers	PTR	Schools per thousand population
1951-52	11,172	6,26,282	16,654	38	1.39	1,012	1,07,649	3,714	32	0.13
1961-62	1961	1,136,317	27,980	41	0.18	1,899	2,15,051	9,642	22	0.18
1971-72	18,040	13,99,000	32,784	35	1.23	3,083	4,06,000	19,145	11	0.21
1981-82	22,723	17,76,000	50,340	35	1.26	4,080	9,61,000	29,209	33	0.22
1991-92	28,783	28,19,232	70,134	40	1.28	5,474	14,22,231	39,243	36	0.24
2001-02	30,145	39,06,000	83,573	47	1.13	6,730	27,16,000	58,791	46	0.25

Source: Government of Assam, Planning and Development Department, Dispur: Draft Tenth Five Year Plan 2002-2003 & Annual Plan 2002-2003, Volume II, pT-2

TABLE 4 Neonatal, Post-neonatal Mortality rates for the five-year period preceding the survey by State, India, (NHFS-2 1998-99)

INDIA/ASSAM	Neonatal Mortality (NN)	Post-neonatal Mortality* (PNN)
India	43.4	24.2
Assam	44.6	24.9

* Computed as the difference between the infant and neonatal mortality rates

Source: Status of Women in India – 2001 by NCW.

TABLE 4.1 Percentage Distributions of Live Births By Type Of Medical Attention Received By The Mother At Delivery By Residence, India and Assam, 1992 - 94

	Years	INDIA			ASSAM		
		1992	1993	1994	1992	1993	1994
Institutional	Total	24.4	24.5	22.3	18.2	18.4	20.5
	Rural	18.0	20.2	16.9	13.2	15.6	17.5
	Urban	54.8	56.5	54.7	50.1	52.9	55.6
Attended By Trained Professionals	Total	22.9	24.3	27.7	12.2	13.1	14.9
	Rural	21.8	23.3	26.7	11.1	12.4	14.1
	Urban	28.0	31.6	33.8	18.6	21.4	24.0
Attended by untrained professionals and others	Total	52.7	51.3	50.0	69.6	68.6	64.5
	Rural	60.2	56.5	56.4	75.7	72.0	68.4
	Urban	17.2	11.8	11.5	31.3	25.7	20.4

SOURCE: SRS – 1994 as quoted in the Status of Women in India – 2001 by NCW;

Sample Registration System, Fertility and Mortality Indicators, 1992 & 1993, Office of the Registrar General, India as quoted in Women in India, A Statistical Profile – 1997.

Table 4.2 Births Attended by Health Professionals (Percentage)

States/UTs	NFHS 1992-93				NFHS 1998-99			
	Rural	Urban	Combined	SC	Other	Rural	Urban	Combined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Assam	14.1	56.8	17.8	18.5	19.0	18.9	64.6	21.5
All India	25.0	65.3	34.2	—	—	33.5	73.3	42.3

Note: 1 Doctors, Auxiliary Nurse Midwife, Lady Health Visitor and other Health Professionals not including traditional birth attendants and others.

Source: National Family Health Survey II & I.

TABLE 4.3 Births Delivered in Medical Institutions (Percentage)

States/UTs	NFHS 1992-93				NFHS 1998-99			
	Rural	Urban	Combined	SC	Other	Rural	Urban	Combined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Assam	7.4	50.1	11.1	12.9	12.0	15.0	59.9	17.6
All India	16.0	57.6	25.5	—	—	24.6	65.1	33.6

Note: 1 Public or private health facility/institution including non-governmental organisation (NGO)/Trust.

2 Data tabulated only for the States/UTs for which preliminary reports of NFHS-II is available.

Source: National Family Health Survey II & I.

TABLE 4.4 Type of Medical Attention Received by Mothers at Child Birth (1995-1996) - Combined (Percentage)

States/UTs	No attendance	Govt. appointed doctor	Other doctor	Govt. appointed nurse/midwife	Other nurse/midwife	Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	38.40	8.70	3.30	8.60	8.40	30.10
All India	32.20	10.30	11.60	8.50	18.90	15.20

Source: Maternal and Child Health Care in India, NSS 52nd Round, July 1995-June 1996, Report No.445.

TABLE 4.5 Type of Medical Attention Received by Mothers at Child Birth (1995-1996) - Rural (Percentage)

States/UTs	No attendance	Govt. appointed doctor	Other doctor	Govt. appointed nurse/midwife	Other nurse/midwife	Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	40.00	7.30	2.30	8.60	8.40	30.80
All India	35.80	7.60	8.00	8.60	19.50	17.00

Source: Maternal and Child Health Care in India, NSS 52nd Round, July 1995-June 1996, Report No.445.

TABLE 4.6 Type of Medical Attention Received by Mothers at Child Birth (1995-1996) - Urban (Percentage)

States/UTs	No attendance	Govt. appointed doctor	Other doctor	Govt. appointed nurse/midwife	Other nurse/midwife	Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	11.00	33.60	20.20	7.80	9.20	16.70
All India	15.90	22.60	27.90	8.30	16.00	7.00

Source: Maternal and Child Health Care in India, NSS 52nd Round, July 1995-June 1996, Report No.445.

TABLE 4.7 Anaemia Among Women and Children, 1998-99 (Percentage)

States/UTs	Women			Children		
	Any Anaemia	Moderate Anaemia	Severe Anaemia	Any Anaemia	Moderate Anaemia	Severe Anaemia
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	69.7	25.6	0.9	63.2	32.2	0.0
All India	51.8	14.8	1.9	74.3	45.9	5.4

Note 1 The haemoglobin levels are adjusted for altitude of the enumeration area and for smoking when calculating the degree of anaemia.

2 Includes ever married women classified as having iron-deficiency by degree of anaemia.

3 Includes children in age group 6-35 months classified as having iron-deficiency anaemia.

Source: National Family Health Survey (NFHS 2), 1998-99, October.2000, Table 7.7, page 252 and Table 7.19, page 273.

TABLE 4.8 Women with Any Anaemia, 1998-1999 (Percentage)

States/UTs	Rural	Urban	Combined	SC	ST	Others	Illiterate	Literate
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Assam	69.2	66.8	69.0	67.9	64.5	70.2	71.3	59.9
All India	53.9	45.7	51.8	56.0	64.9	47.6	55.8	46.4

Note Literate includes high school pass and above.

Source: National Family Health Survey, 1998-99 (NFHS-2), different volumes of the Preliminary Report.

TABLE 4.9 Two Doses or More of TT Vaccination during Pregnancy (Percentages)

States/UTs	NFHS 1992-93			NFHS 1998-99		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	31.8	66.2	34.9	49.5	87.7	51.7
All India	47.7	74.9	53.8	62.5	81.9	66.8

Source: National Family Health Survey II & I.

TABLE 4.10 Fully Vaccinated Children aged 12-23 Months (Percentage)

States/ UTs	NFHS 1992-93					NFHS 1998-99				
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Male	Female	Rural	Urban	Combined	Male	Female
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Assam	17.4	40.0	19.4	18.4	20.4	14.9	50.1	17.0	22.3	9.2
All India	30.9	50.7	35.4	36.7	34.1	36.6	60.5	42.0	—	—

Note: 1 Children are fully vaccinated if they have received BCG, Measles and 3 doses DPT & Polio Vaccine.

2 Data tabulated only for the states/UTs for which preliminary reports of NFHS-II are available.

Source: National Family Health Survey I & II.

TABLE 4.11 Children aged 12-23 Months Not Vaccinated (Percentage)

States/ UTs	NFHS 1992-93					NFHS 1998-99				
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Male	Female	Rural	Urban	Combined	Male	Female
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Assam	46.5	14.2	43.6	41.6	45.6	34.7	10.4	33.2	30.2	37.7
All India	34.0	16.4	30.0	27.8	32.3	16.7	6.4	14.4	—	—

Source: National Family Health Survey I & II.

TABLE 4.12 Number of Persons Reporting Ailment During Last 15 days — Rural (1995-96) (Per thousand)

States/UTs	Acute Ailment			Chronic Ailment			Any Ailment		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	61	85	72	7	10	9	68	95	80
All India	41	44	42	13	14	13	54	57	55

Note: Short duration (less than 30 days) ailments have been termed as acute ailment and long duration ailments (30 days or more) have been termed as chronic ailment.

Source: Morbidity and Treatment of Ailments, NSS 52nd Round, July 1995-June 1996, Report No. 441, November 1998.

TABLE 4.13 Number of Persons Reporting Ailment During Last 15 days — Urban (1995-96) (Per thousand)

States/UTs	Acute Ailment			Chronic Ailment			Any Ailment		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	63	86	74	8	20	13	71	104	86
All India	39	43	41	13	15	14	51	58	54

Note: Short duration (less than 30 days) ailments have been termed as acute ailment and long duration ailments (30 days or more) have been termed as chronic ailment.

Source: Morbidity and Treatment of Ailments, NSS 52nd Round, July 1995-June 1996, Report No 441, November 1998.

TABLE 4.14 Persons Hospitalized During Last 365 Days (1995-1996) (Per thousand)

States/UTs	Rural			Urban		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	9	8	9	15	19	16
All India	14	13	13	20	20	20

Source: Morbidity and Treatment of Ailments, NSS 52nd Round, July 1995-June 1996, Report 441, November 1998.

TABLE 4.15 Couple Protection Rate (Percentage)

States/UTs	NFHS 1992-93			NFHS 1997-98		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	40.1	62.3	42.8	42.3	53.4	43.3
All India	36.9	51.0	40.6	44.7	58.2	48.2

Source: National Family Health Survey II & I.

TABLE 4.16 Use of Family Planning Methods by background characteristics: Assam (1999)

Background Characteristics	Any Method Method	Any Modern Method	Any Traditional period	RHYTHM/ Safe	Withdrawal	Other Method Method	Not using any	Total percent	No. of women
Residence									
1. Urban	53.4	30.6	22.2	13.0	9.3	0.6	46.6	100	266
2. Rural	42.3	26.3	15.2	10.9	4.3	0.9	57.7	100	2912
Education									
1. Illiterate	39.5	25.9	12.5	8.3	4.2	1.1	60.5	100	1669
2. Literate, middle school complete	42.0	26.6	14.9	10.8	4.1	0.5	58.0	100	721
3. Middle school complete	50.2	28.2	21.4	15.7	5.7	0.5	49.8	100	468
4. High school complete and above	55.6	28.5	26.6	19.4	7.2	0.5	44.4	100	321
Religion									
1. Hindu	48.6	33.0	14.8	10.0	4.8	0.7	51.4	100	2033
2. Muslim	33.5	14.9	17.5	13.3	4.2	1.1	66.5	100	1026
3. Christian	37.2	15.2	20.1	9.2	10.9	1.9	62.8	100	74
Caste/Tribe									
1. SC	47.4	34.2	12.4	6.9	5.4	0.9	52.6	100	311
2. ST	47.5	32.0	14.6	10.5	4.1	0.9	52.5	100	660
3. OBC	51.3	34.2	16.7	11.3	5.4	0.4	48.7	100	372
4. Others	40.3	22.3	17.0	12.2	4.7	0.9	59.7	100	1759
Standard of living index									
1. Low	34.8	21.9	11.8	8.0	3.8	1.1	65.2	100	1344
2. Medium	48.1	29.6	17.9	13.1	4.8	0.7	51.9	100	1366
3. High	56.2	34.2	22.0	14.6	7.4	0.0	43.8	100	370

N.B.: Percent distribution of currently married women by Contraceptive methods currently used, according to selected background characteristics, Assam 1999.

Source: National Family Health Survey (NFHS-2), India, 1998-99: Assam

TABLE 4.17 Health Infrastructure: Assam: by Districts, 2000-2001

Assam/ Districts	Hospitals	Primary Health Centres	Dispensaries	Beds Centres	Rural Family Welfare Planning	Sub Centres
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1. Dhubri	11	23	12	551	7	303
2. Kokrajhar	5	37	21	355	7	244
3. Bongaigaon	5	23	20	120	3	109
4. Goalpara	5	17	11	196	5	134
5. Barpeta	5	41	20	308	9	351
6. Nalbari	11	42	14	514	7	118
7. Kamrup	19	51	42	2487	13	500
8. Darrang	8	35	14	423	7	322
9. Sonitpur	10	28	17	1677	7	325
10. Lakhimpur	7	23	6	316	4	176
11. Dhemaji	3	9	5	210	1	95
12. Marigaon	3	13	15	160	30	215
13. Nagaon	15	38	33	706	113	368
14. Golaghat	6	32	24	352	6	33
15. Jorhat	8	24	19	516	6	328
16. Sibsagar	4	30	19	368	8	227
17. Dibrugarh	7	37	11	1395	3	275
18. Tinsukia	8	14	5	291	4	143
19. Karbi Anglong	6	35	13	466	8	159
20. North Cachar Hills	3	12	2	266	3	73
21. Karimganj	2	16	5	165	5	232
22. Hailakandi	2	8	2	80	4	112
23. Cachar	8	22	2	986	8	275
ASSAM	161	610	323	12868	268	5109
Assam Total Per lakh of population	0.60	2.29	1.21	48.38	1.01	19.21

Note: Last row estimated from the totals for Assam

Source: Statistical Handbook Assam, 2002

TABLE 5.1 Persons in the Labour Force: Assam and India (by area) (Percentage)

States/UTs	1983			1993-94			1999-2000		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam									
Rural	83.9	20.6	53.8	84.7	26.0	56.8	84.1	24.9	55.8
Urban	78.4	11.8	50.9	76.8	16.2	49.7	78.8	17.6	50.6
Combined	83.2	19.7	53.4	83.7	24.9	55.9	83.4	24.0	55.2
All India									
Rural	88.7	51.0	70.3	87.6	48.8	68.8	85.4	45.6	66.2
Urban	82.5	23.5	55.4	79.9	23.4	53.3	78.6	20.9	51.1
Combined	87.1	44.4	66.5	85.4	42.0	64.5	83.5	38.5	61.8

Source: The 38th, 50th and the 55th Rounds of the NSSO on Employment and Unemployment Situation in India.

As presented in NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 5.2 (LFPR) according to usual status of persons of age 15 years and above for India and Assam. RURAL

	Male		Female		Persons	
	ps workers	all workers (ps + ss)	ps workers	all workers (ps + ss)	ps workers	all workers (ps + ss)
Assam	820	841	153	249	505	561
All India	846	855	355	457	602	657

Source: NSS Report 55th round

TABLE 5.3 (LFPR) according to usual status of persons of age 15 years and above for India and Assam. URBAN

	Male		Female		Persons	
	ps workers	all workers (ps + ss)	ps workers	all workers (ps + ss)	ps workers	all workers (ps + ss)
Assam	778	788	157	176	489	503
All India	782	787	179	209	493	510

Source: NSS Report 55th round

TABLE 5.4 Number of Persons usually employed in the principal status (ps) and in the principal as well as subsidiary status (all) per thousand persons : India and Assam. July 1999-June 2000)

	Male				Female				Persons			
	ps workers		all workers		ps workers		all workers		ps workers		all workers	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Assam	506	507	529	522	87	97	151	112	307	317	349	332
All India	522	513	531	518	231	117	299	139	380	324	417	337

Source: NSSO Report No 458: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 1999-2000.

TABLE 5.5 Per thousand distribution of Persons by broad usual activity [principal status] and all(principal and subsidiary status) : India and Assam, July-December 2002

	Male				Female				Persons			
	ps		All (ps+ss)		ps		All (ps+ss)		ps		All (ps+ss)	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Assam	552	516	569	518	116	101	218	110	354	319	410	324
All India	537	530	546	534	214	118	281	140	380	333	418	346

Source: NSS Report No 484: Household Consumer Expenditure and Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, July-December 2002

TABLE 5.6 Employment in the Organised Sector — 1991(In thousands)

States/ UTs	Public Sector						Private Sector		Total	Grand Total
	Government		Quasi Government		Local Bodies	Total	Larger Estts.	Smaller Estts.		
	Central	State	Central	State						
Assam	81.6	270.6	75.5	61.0	12.7	501.4	539.5	10.0	549.5	1,050.9
All India	3,409.8	7,112.9	3,563.5	2,658.3	2,312.7	19,057.2	6,783.4	892.4	7,675.8	26,733.9

Note: 1 Large establishment refers to those employing 25 or more workers and Small establishment employing 10 to 24 workers.

2 The data on employment pertains to 31st of March 1991.

Source : Employment Review, DGE&T, Ministry of Labour, Government of India, New Delhi.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 5.7 Employment in the Organised Sector — 2000 (in thousands)

States/ UTs	Public Sector						Private Sector		Total	Grand Total
	Government		Quasi Government		Local Bodies	Total	Larger Estts.	Smaller Estts.		
	Central	State	Central	State						
Assam	81.8	307.7	76.9	56.1	13.1	535.6	539.8	9.1	548.9	1,084.5
All India	3,273.5	7,459.3	3,413.0	2,912.9	2,255.1	19,313.8	7,719.3	926.8	8,646.1	27,959.9

Note: 1 Large establishment refers to those employing 25 or more workers and Small establishment employing 10 to 24 workers.

2 The data on employment pertains to 31st of March 1991.

Source : Employment Review, DGE&T, Ministry of Labour, Government of India, New Delhi.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 5.8 Age specific principal worker population ratio for Assam and All India for rural male

	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 & above	All
Assam	-	1	50	382	690	897	937	950	993	974	968	907	498	506
All India	-	5	82	475	823	942	974	981	981	977	949	919	622	522

Source: NSS Report No 458: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India .1999-2000

TABLE 5.9 Age specific principal worker population ratio for Assam and All India for rural female

	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 & above	All
Assam		5	11	63	109	162	165	197	178	187	154	118	41	87
All India		6	74	234	310	373	422	453	462	450	399	351	174	231

Source: NSS Report No 458: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India .1999-2000

TABLE 5.10 Age specific principal worker population ratios for Assam and All India for Urban male

	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 & above	All
Assam		5	41	156	436	763	901	956	956	979	882	847	317	507
All India		3	46	303	644	878	958	973	973	968	933	803	386	513

Source: NSS Report No 458: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India .1999-2000

TABLE 5.11 Age specific principal worker population ratio for Assam and All India for Urban female

	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60 & above	All
Assam	-	0	110	123	31	97	191	182	173	93	187	100	30	97
All India	-	1	28	87	130	161	198	235	242	234	225	181	82	117

Source: NSS Report No 458: Employment and Unemployment Situation in India, 1999-2000

TABLE 5.12 Distribution (in per cent) of Main workers by Industrial Category

Percentage of main workers engaged in										
State	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Cultivation			Agricultural labour			Livestock, Forestry, fishing, Hunting and plantations, orchards and Allied activities		
		Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female
Assam	T	50.9	50.9	50.9	12.1	12.1	12.0	10.5	7.4	23.5
	R	56.6	57.4	53.7	13.4	13.5	12.6	11.4	8.0	24.6
	U	3.7	3.6	4.7	1.7	1.6	2.3	3.3	3.1	4.8

Source: Census of India 1991. Assam State District Profile 1991

TABLE 5.13 Distribution (in per cent) of Main workers by Industrial Category

Percentage of main workers engaged in										
State	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Mining and Quarrying			Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs in the household industry			Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs in the non household industry		
		Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female
Assam	T	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.9	0.6	2.2	3.1	3.6	1.0
	R	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.5	2.0	2.0	2.3	0.8
	U	1.1	1.1	0.5	1.5	1.0	5.2	12.3	13.1	4.8

Source: 1. Census of India 1991.

2. Assam State District Profile 1991

TABLE 5.14 Per 1000 distribution of usually working Persons by broad group of Industry

Percentage of main workers engaged in										
State/ all India	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Primary			Secondary			Tertiary		
		Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female
Assam	Rps	746	740	782	33	34	28	221	226	191
	all	748	747	877	29	33	15	193	220	108
	Ups	44	38	78	98	100	86	859	863	836
	all	49	38	110	96	99	79	855	863	811
India	Rps	726	685	834	126	140	91	148	175	75
	all	740	688	849	121	138	87	138	174	65
	Ups	83	69	156	331	338	298	586	594	546
	all	90	70	171	333	337	315	578	593	513

Source : *Ibid*

TABLE 5.15 Ranking of Districts by female work participation rate: 1991 and 2001

Rank in 2001	District	Work Participation rate		Rank in 1991
		2001	1991	
1	2	3	4	5
1	Lakhimpur	62.1	47.5	1
2	Dhemaji	38.2	41.6	2
3	Karbi-Anglong	31.4	33.6	3
4	Golaghat	30.9	31.6	5
5	Tinsukia	29.9	29.9	7
6	Sibsagar	29.6	33.4	4
7	Dibrugarh	29.4	29.1	8
8	Jorhat	29.4	27.8	11
9	Kokrajkar	25.3	19.4	13
10	North Cachar Hills	24.4	30.0	6
11	Sonitpur	24.3	27.9	10
12	Darrang	20.8	29.1	9
13	Nalbari	18.1	19.4	14
14	Goalpara	17.5	17.6	16
15	Hailakandi	16.5	12.0	20
16	Morigaon	16.3	17.5	17
17	Bongaigaon	15.2	19.8	12
18	Kamrup	14.8	13.9	18
19	Barpeta	14.0	11.0	21
20	Cachar	13.6	13.1	19
21	Nagaon	12.2	19.1	15
22	Karimganj	11.9	8.6	22
23	Dhubri	8.0	8.2	23

Source: Census of India 2001. Assam Provisional Population Totals. Paper-3 of 2001

TABLE 5.16 Percentage of total Workers, main workers and marginal workers to total workers by residence and sex: Assam: by districts: 1991 and 2001

State/ District	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Persons/ Male/ Female	Percentage to total population					
			Workers					
			Total Workers		Main Workers		Marginal Workers	
			1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
Assam	Total	Persons	36.1	35.9	31.2	26.6	4.9	9.3
		Male	49.4	49.9	48.4	42.3	1.1	7.6
		Female	21.6	20.8	12.6	9.7	9.0	11.1
	Rural	Persons	36.7	36.4	31.3	26.1	5.4	10.3
		Male	49.3	49.8	48.1	41.5	1.2	8.3
		Female	23.3	22.3	13.3	9.9	10.0	12.4
	Urban	Persons	30.9	32.0	30.4	29.6	0.5	2.4
		Male	50.5	51.0	50.2	48.2	0.3	2.8
		Female	7.5	10.3	6.7	8.4	0.8	1.9
1. Kokrajhar	Total	Persons	35.5	37.1	33.3	26.0	1.7	11.1
		Male	50.7	48.4	50.5	39.8	0.2	8.6
		Female	19.4	25.3	16.2	11.5	3.2	13.8
	Rural	Persons	35.9	37.5	34.1	25.8	1.7	11.7
		Male	50.8	48.0	50.5	39.0	0.2	9.0
		Female	20.1	26.4	16.8	11.8	3.3	14.6
	Urban	Persons	30.4	32.5	29.8	29.7	0.6	2.8
		Male	50.5	52.8	50.4	49.8	0.2	3.0
		Female	7.8	10.0	6.7	7.3	1.1	2.7
2. Dhubri	Total	Persons	29.4	28.9	27.2	24.5	2.3	4.4
		Male	49.6	48.6	49.3	43.7	0.3	4.7
		Female	8.2	8.0	3.8	4.1	4.4	3.9
	Rural	Persons	29.8	28.8	27.3	24.2	2.5	4.6
		Male	50.0	48.5	49.7	43.3	0.3	5.2
		Female	8.6	8.1	3.8	3.9	4.8	4.2
	Urban	Persons	27.1	29.1	26.2	26.7	1.0	2.4
		Male	46.9	49.2	46.5	46.3	0.4	2.9
		Female	5.8	7.8	4.2	5.9	1.6	1.9

(RSI)

;State/ District	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Persons/ Male/ Female	Percentage to total population					
			Workers					
			Total Workers		Main Workers		Marginal Workers	
			1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
3. Goalpara	Total	Persons	33.7	33.3	29.1	25.4	4.5	7.9
		Male	48.9	48.4	48.3	42.4	0.6	6.0
		Female	17.6	17.5	8.9	7.5	8.7	10.0
	Rural	Persons	34.2	33.6	29.3	25.5	4.9	8.4
		Male	49.1	48.3	48.5	42.1	0.6	6.2
		Female	18.5	18.3	9.2	7.6	9.4	10.7
	Urban	Persons	27.4	30.0	26.9	27.4	0.6	2.6
		Male	46.9	49.8	46.4	46.6	0.6	3.2
		Female	6.4	8.7	5.8	6.7	0.6	2.0
4. Bongaigaon	Total	Persons	35.1	32.5	30.3	25.7	4.8	6.8
		Male	49.5	48.7	48.9	43.3	0.6	5.4
		Female	19.8	15.2	10.4	7.1	9.4	8.1
	Rural	Persons	35.6	32.7	30.4	25.3	5.2	7.4
		Male	49.5	48.3	48.8	42.5	0.6	5.8
		Female	21.0	16.2	10.9	7.1	9.4	7.1
	Urban	Persons	30.1	30.7	29.0	29.0	1.1	1.7
		Male	50.1	51.6	49.7	49.3	0.3	2.3
		Female	6.9	7.7	4.8	6.6	2.1	1.1
5. Barpeta	Total	Persons	30.0	31.4	26.4	24.9	3.6	6.5
		Male	47.9	47.8	47.5	42.9	0.5	4.9
		Female	11.0	14.0	4.0	5.7	6.9	8.3
	Rural	Persons	30.3	31.5	26.5	24.6	3.8	6.9
		Male	48.0	47.6	47.6	42.5	0.4	5.1
		Female	11.5	14.4	4.1	5.7	7.4	8.7
	Urban	Persons	26.2	30.5	25.5	27.6	0.6	2.9
		Male	46.4	50.6	45.8	47.7	0.6	2.9
		Female	4.2	9.1	3.5	6.2	0.7	2.9

State/ District	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Persons/ Male/ Female	Percentage to total population					
			Workers					
			Total Workers		Main Workers		Marginal Workers	
			1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
6. Kamrup	Total	Persons	32.6	32.6	28.7	26.7	3.9	5.9
		Male	49.0	48.6	48.3	43.4	0.7	5.2
		Female	13.9	14.8	6.4	8.1	7.5	6.7
	Rural	Persons	32.3	32.8	26.7	24.8	5.6	8.0
		Male	47.2	48.6	46.4	41.8	0.9	6.8
		Female	16.1	15.8	5.4	6.4	10.7	9.4
	Urban	Persons	33.3	32.4	32.9	30.3	0.4	2.1
		Male	52.3	48.6	52.0	46.1	0.3	2.5
		Female	9.2	12.9	8.7	11.3	0.6	1.6
7. Nalbari	Total	Persons	33.1	33.7	26.5	25.3	6.6	8.4
		Male	46.0	48.3	45.2	41.4	0.8	6.9
		Female	19.4	18.1	6.5	8.0	12.8	10.1
	Rural	Persons	33.2	33.8	26.4	25.2	6.8	8.6
		Male	46.0	48.3	45.1	41.3	0.8	7.0
		Female	19.7	18.3	6.6	8.0	13.1	10.3
	Urban	Persons	29.0	30.2	28.7	29.4	0.3	0.8
		Male	48.9	50.1	48.6	49.1	0.3	1.0
		Female	5.4	8.3	5.2	7.7	0.2	0.6
8. Darrang	Total	Persons	40.2	36.0	31.2	27.0	9.0	9.0
		Male	50.6	50.4	49.6	44.8	1.0	5.6
		Female	29.1	20.8	11.6	8.2	17.5	12.6
	Rural	Persons	40.7	36.2	31.4	26.8	9.4	9.4
		Male	50.7	50.2	49.7	44.4	1.0	5.8
		Female	30.2	21.4	11.9	8.2	18.2	13.2
	Urban	Persons	29.9	32.6	28.9	30.7	1.0	1.9
		Male	49.8	53.6	49.3	51.6	0.4	2.0
		Female	6.5	8.9	4.9	7.1	1.6	1.8

State/ District	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Persons/ Male/ Female	Percentage to total population					
			Workers					
			Total Workers		Main Workers		Marginal Workers	
			1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
9. Morigaon	Total	Persons	34.9	33.9	28.9	25.7	6.0	8.2
		Male	51.2	50.6	50.8	44.6	0.4	6.0
		Female	17.5	16.3	5.5	5.8	12.0	10.5
	Rural	Persons	35.0	34.0	28.7	25.5	6.3	8.5
		Male	51.1	50.4	50.7	44.2	0.4	6.2
		Female	17.9	16.7	5.4	5.8	12.5	10.9
	Urban	Persons	32.7	32.4	32.0	30.1	0.8	2.3
		Male	53.0	52.8	52.7	50.3	0.2	2.5
		Female	8.8	9.1	7.4	7.1	1.4	2.0
10. Nagaon	Total	Persons	35.5	31.4	29.3	24.3	6.2	7.1
		Male	50.7	49.4	49.8	42.2	0.9	7.2
		Female	19.1	12.2	7.2	5.3	11.9	6.9
	Rural	Persons	36.4	31.6	29.5	23.8	6.9	7.8
		Male	50.9	49.1	50.0	41.3	1.0	7.8
		Female	20.8	12.9	7.5	5.2	13.3	7.7
	Urban	Persons	27.8	30.2	27.6	28.1	0.2	2.1
		Male	48.5	51.1	48.3	48.3	0.2	2.8
		Female	4.3	7.2	4.1	5.8	0.2	1.4
11. Sonitpur	Total	Persons	40.2	37.6	35.3	27.6	5.0	10.0
		Male	51.5	50.2	50.5	42.5	1.0	7.7
		Female	27.9	24.3	18.6	11.7	9.3	12.6
	Rural	Persons	40.9	38.1	35.6	27.3	5.3	10.8
		Male	51.5	49.9	50.4	41.8	1.1	8.1
		Female	29.4	25.7	19.5	12.1	10.0	13.6
	Urban	Persons	31.6	32.6	31.3	30.2	0.3	2.4
		Male	52.3	52.9	52.1	49.9	0.2	3.0
		Female	6.6	10.0	6.2	8.3	0.5	1.7

State/ District	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Persons/ Male/ Female	Percentage to total population					
			Workers					
			Total Workers		Main Workers		Marginal Workers	
			1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
12. Lakhimpur	Total	Persons	42.9	56.1	32.1	32.3	10.7	23.8
		Male	47.5	62.1	45.3	45.1	2.3	17.0
		Female	37.8	49.9	18.0	19.0	19.8	30.9
	Rural	Persons	43.3	57.7	32.2	32.3	11.4	25.4
		Male	47.4	62.6	45.0	44.5	2.4	18.1
		Female	39.7	52.5	18.7	19.6	21.0	32.9
	Urban	Persons	31.3	36.6	30.8	33.1	0.5	3.5
		Male	49.7	55.3	49.4	52.3	0.3	3.0
		Female	8.4	15.3	7.7	11.3	0.7	4.0
13. Dhemaji	Total	Persons	45.0	44.3	33.6	27.4	11.4	16.9
		Male	48.1	50.1	45.7	38.3	2.4	11.8
		Female	41.6	38.2	20.5	15.9	21.1	22.3
	Rural	Persons	45.0	45.3	33.5	27.4	11.5	17.9
		Male	48.0	50.1	45.6	37.6	24	12.5
		Female	41.9	40.2	20.5	16.5	21.3	23.7
	Urban	Persons	41.6	31.3	39.0	28.1	2.6	3.2
		Male	53.7	49.7	52.4	46.4	1.3	3.3
		Female	24.7	10.3	20.3	7.3	4.4	3.0
14. Tinsukia	Total	Persons	40.7	40.8	36.5	30.5	4.2	10.3
		Male	50.3	50.7	48.6	42.1	1.8	8.6
		Female	29.9	29.9	23.0	17.8	6.9	12.1
	Rural	Persons	42.1	42.7	37.4	30.6	4.7	12.1
		Male	49.5	49.8	47.5	39.8	2.0	10.0
		Female	33.9	35.1	26.2	20.6	7.7	14.5
	Urban	Persons	33.5	32.7	32.1	30.3	1.4	2.4
		Male	53.9	54.2	53.5	51.0	0.4	3.2
		Female	7.7	7.3	5.0	5.9	2.7	1.4

State/ District	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Persons/ Male/ Female	Percentage to total population					
			Workers					
			Total Workers		Main Workers		Marginal Workers	
			1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
15. Dibrugarh	Total	Persons	39.5	40.4	34.7	29.0	4.9	11.4
		Male	48.9	50.5	46.3	41.2	2.6	9.3
		Female	29.1	29.4	21.8	15.6	7.4	13.8
	Rural	Persons	41.3	42.3	35.5	28.7	5.9	13.6
		Male	48.5	50.2	45.3	39.2	3.2	11.0
		Female	33.6	33.9	24.8	17.4	8.8	16.5
	Urban	Persons	31.0	32.0	30.8	30.3	0.2	1.7
		Male	50.8	51.9	50.6	49.7	0.2	2.2
		Female	7.1	8.9	6.8	7.7	0.2	1.2
16. Sibsagar	Total	Persons	41.9	40.9	36.5	27.3	5.4	13.6
		Male	49.6	51.3	46.9	40.0	2.7	11.3
		Female	33.4	29.6	25.0	13.5	8.4	16.1
	Rural	Persons	42.7	41.4	36.9	26.6	5.8	14.8
		Male	49.4	50.7	46.5	38.4	2.9	12.3
		Female	35.4	31.5	26.4	13.9	9.0	17.6
	Urban	Persons	31.7	35.6	31.3	34.1	0.4	1.5
		Male	52.1	56.4	51.6	54.5	0.5	2.0
		Female	6.4	10.0	6.0	9.2	0.4	0.8
17. Jorhat	Total	Persons	38.4	41.6	34.4	28.5	4.0	13.1
		Male	48.0	52.6	46.2	42.1	1.8	10.5
		Female	27.8	29.4	21.5	13.4	6.3	16.0
	Rural	Persons	39.6	43.1	34.9	27.9	4.7	15.2
		Male	47.6	52.4	45.5	40.4	2.1	12.0
		Female	31.0	32.9	23.6	14.2	7.4	18.7
	Urban	Persons	31.4	34.1	31.2	31.2	0.1	2.9
		Male	49.9	53.7	49.7	50.4	0.2	3.3
		Female	9.0	11.8	9.0	9.4	0.1	2.4

State/ District	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Persons/ Male/ Female	Percentage to total population					
			Workers					
			Total Workers		Main Workers		Marginal Workers	
			1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
18. Golaghat	Total	Persons	41.0	41.6	35.4	28.6	5.6	13.0
		Male	49.6	51.5	47.9	42.1	1.8	9.4
		Female	31.6	30.9	21.9	14.0	9.7	16.9
	Rural	Persons	41.4	42.3	35.5	28.4	5.9	13.9
		Male	49.2	51.3	47.4	41.3	1.8	10.0
		Female	32.9	32.7	22.7	14.5	10.2	18.2
	Urban	Persons	34.4	33.6	33.9	31.0	0.6	2.6
		Male	55.0	54.0	54.5	51.0	0.4	3.0
		Female	7.6	10.1	6.9	7.9	0.7	2.2
19. Karbi Anglong	Total	Persons	42.8	40.6	38.0	28.3	4.7	12.3
		Male	51.1	49.0	50.4	40.9	0.7	8.1
		Female	33.6	31.4	24.4	14.1	9.2	16.9
	Rural	Persons	44.1	41.7	38.9	28.3	5.3	13.4
		Male	51.3	49.2	50.5	40.5	0.8	8.07
		Female	36.4	33.6	26.2	15.3	10.2	18.3
	Urban	Persons	31.4	32.1	31.0	27.7	0.4	4.4
		Male	49.4	47.9	49.3	44.1	0.2	3.8
		Female	9.0	13.7	8.3	8.6	0.7	5.1
20. North Cachar Hills	Total	Persons	42.0	37.5	38.3	29.3	3.8	8.2
		Male	52.4	49.1	51.5	43.5	0.8	5.6
		Female	30.0	24.4	22.8	13.2	7.2	11.2
	Rural	Persons	45.1	40.0	40.4	29.2	4.7	10.8
		Male	53.7	49.5	52.8	42.7	0.9	6.8
		Female	35.5	29.4	26.4	14.4	9.1	15.0
	Urban	Persons	31.6	32.2	31.1	29.5	0.5	2.7
		Male	48.1	48.3	47.5	45.3	0.6	3.0
		Female	10.5	12.7	10.2	10.5	0.3	2.2

State/ District	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Persons/ Male/ Female	Percentage to total population					
			Workers					
			Total Workers		Main Workers		Marginal Workers	
			1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
21. Cachar	Total	Persons	31.8	32.2	29.7	25.2	2.1	7.0
		Male	49.3	49.8	48.7	41.9	0.6	7.9
		Female	13.1	13.6	9.3	7.5	3.8	6.1
	Rural	Persons	32.1	32.3	29.8	24.6	2.3	7.7
		Male	49.4	49.4	48.7	40.7	0.6	8.07
		Female	13.6	14.2	9.5	7.5	4.1	6.7
	Urban	Persons	29.4	31.2	28.8	28.7	0.6	2.5
		Male	49.0	51.8	48.7	48.6	0.3	3.2
		Female	8.2	9.7	7.2	7.9	1.0	1.8
22. Karimganj	Total	Persons	28.9	30.4	26.9	23.4	2.0	7.0
		Male	48.1	47.9	47.4	40.4	0.7	7.05
		Female	8.6	11.9	5.2	5.3	3.4	6.6
	Rural	Persons	29.0	30.3	26.9	22.9	2.1	7.4
		Male	48.2	47.7	47.5	39.8	0.7	7.9
		Female	8.8	12.0	5.1	5.1	3.6	6.9
	Urban	Persons	27.9	31.5	27.8	28.7	0.1	2.8
		Male	47.4	51.2	47.3	48.2	0.1	3.0
		Female	6.5	10.6	6.5	7.9	0.1	2.7
23. Hailakandi	Total	Persons	31.5	33.3	29.1	25.4	2.4	7.9
		Male	49.6	49.0	48.9	41.6	0.7	7.4
		Female	12.0	16.5	7.8	8.1	4.2	8.4
	Rural	Persons	31.8	33.7	29.2	25.3	2.5	8.4
		Male	49.8	49.0	49.1	41.2	0.7	7.8
		Female	12.3	17.2	7.8	8.2	4.5	9.0
	Urban	Persons	28.3	29.8	27.5	26.8	0.8	3.0
		Male	47.2	48.7	46.8	45.2	0.4	3.5
		Female	8.2	10.0	7.0	7.4	1.2	2.6

Source: Census of India 2001. Assam Provisional Population Totals. Paper-3 of 2001

TABLE 5.17 Employment in Public and Private Sector: Assam: 2000 (In thousands)

States/ UTs	Public Sector					Private Sector		Total	Grand Total	
	Government		Quasi Government		Local Bodies	Total	Larger Estts.			Smaller Estts.
	Central	State	Central	State						
Male (Percent)	93.02	83.78	85.30	83.69	81.18	85.25	51.77	89.30	52.37	68.21
Female (Percent)	6.98	16.22	14.70	16.31	18.82	14.75	48.23	10.70	47.63	31.79
Total no.)	76,871	311,744	77,483	55,934	13,065	53,5,097	56,66,494	9,316	5,75,810	11,10,907

Note: 2nd and the 3rd rows are estimated from the given data.

Source: Statistical Handbook: Assam: 2002

TABLE 5.18 Growth in Employment Assam and India: by area (Percent per annum)

States/UTs	1983 to 1993-94			1993-94 to 1999-2000		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam Rural	1.4	3.1	1.7	2.5	2.1	2.4
Urban	0.8	3.5	1.0	2.2	6.2	2.7
Combined	1.3	3.2	1.6	2.5	2.3	2.5
All India Rural	2.0	1.5	1.8	1.6	0.8	1.3
Urban	2.8	3.2	2.9	2.6	1.5	2.4
Combined	2.2	1.7	2.1	1.9	0.9	1.6

Note: 1 Growth in employment has been estimated as compound annual growth in the persons employed in the age group 15 years and above on the usual principal and subsidiary status.

Source: 1 The 38th, 50th and the 55th Rounds of the NSSO on Employment and Unemployment Situation in India.

2 Census of India, 1981 & 1991 and Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections, RGI, 1996.

As presented in NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 5.19 Incidence of Unemployment Assam and India: By area (As a percentage of labour force)

States/UTs	1983			1993-94			1999-2000		
	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons	Male	Female	Persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam Rural	1.9	1.9	1.9	4.5	8.1	5.3	3.2	6.6	3.9
Urban	4.2	10.8	4.8	5.5	27.8	8.7	7.7	18.9	9.7
All India Rural	1.4	0.7	1.1	1.5	0.8	1.2	1.7	1.0	1.5
Urban	5.0	5.2	5.1	4.1	6.6	4.6	4.5	5.7	4.7

Source: The 38th and the 50th Rounds of the NSSO Report on Employment and Unemployment Situation in India.

As presented in NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

NSSO Report on Employment and Unemployment Situation in India 55th Round , Report No.458(55/10/2)

TABLE 5.20 Per thousand distribution of Unemployed Persons by broad usual activity principal (ps) and principal and subsidiary (all) status India and Assam

	Male				Female				Persons			
	ps		All (ps+ss)		ps		All (ps+ss)		ps		All (ps+ss)	
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban
Assam	17	25	11	25	2	20	1	18	10	23	6	22
All India	10	26	8	25	2	8	7	8	6	17	5	16

Source : *Ibid*

TABLE 6.1 Distribution of male/female Candidates Contesting Lok Sabha elections : 1952-85

	Contesting Candidates (Total)	Contesting Candidates (Male)	Contesting Candidates (Female)	Total Seats In Lok Sabha	Total Seats Won By Women
1952	40	38	02	10	01
1957	31	29	02	10	02
1962	41	38	03	12	02
1967	47	45	02	14	01
1971	78	75	03	14	01
1977	40	37	03	14	02
1980	07	05	02	14	—
1985	106	105	01	14	—

Source: Status of Women in Assam. Edited by S.L.Baruah, 1992

TABLE 6.2 Year-wise distribution of contesting candidates' male, female and total number of women elected to the Assembly from 1952-1985

	Contesting Candidates (Total)	Contesting Candidates (Male)	Contesting Candidates (Female)	Total Seats In Lok Sabha	Total Seats Won By Women
1952	458	452	06	108	02(1.85)
1957	312	302	10	108	05(4.62)
1962	409	405	04	105	04(3.81)
1967	487	478	09	126	05(3.97)
1972	476	464	12	114	08(7.02)
1978	938	918	20	126	01(0.79)
1983	523	—	—	126	—
1985	1234	1226	08	126	04(3.17)

Note: figures in the brackets show the percentage to total seats

Source: Ibid

TABLE 6.3 Year-wise distribution of Electorate showing male/female and total in various Assembly Election in Assam from 1952-1985

Year	Total	Male	Female	P.C. of Total Turn Out
1952	41,41,720 (26,47,127)			48.61
1957	44,95,359 (29,92,612)			47.70
1962	49,42,816 (24,95,311)	27,20,916	22,12,900 *9,23,310	52.77
1967	54,49,309 (31,08,428)	29,52,629	24,96,676	61.89
1972	62,96,198 (37,13,997)	33,93,829	29,02,363 *17,36,105	61.14
1978	79,62,645 (51,65,252)	42,99,377	36,63,268	66.77
1983	86,82,138 (51,65,252)			32.66
1985	9,806,285 (7,361,272)			76.00

Sources: Status of women in Assam. Edited by S.L.Baruah, 1952 (Government Records)

Figures in bracket indicate number of valid votes polled.

TABLE 6.4 Women in Decision Making: ASSAM

States	Lok Sabha (1999)		Political				Administrative			
	Women	Men	Legislative Assembly (2000)		Panchayati Raj Institutions (1991 – 1997)		IAS (as on 1. 6. 2000)		IPS (as on 1.4.2000)	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
Assam	2(14.29)	12	6(4.92)	116	8203(30.0)	19143	10(4.42)	216	2(1.5)	134
All India	49(9.0)	494	229(5.63)	3838	813676 (31.32)	1784134	535 (10.4)	4624	110(3.3)	3191

Source : *Ibid***TABLE 6.5 Members of Rajya Sabha By Sex, From ASSAM In 1994 & 1996 ***

State	Total no of Seats	Number of members in position as on					
		1994			1996		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Females
Assam	7	7	6	1	7	6	1

*As on 20.10.94, + As on 20.08.9

Source: Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi (as quoted in Women In India: A Statistical Profile- 1997)

TABLE 6.6 Elected members of Panchayats 2002

Total Number of Members	Number of Women Members
Zila Parishad	390 129(33.08%)
Gaon Panchayat President	2,487 821(33.01%)
Gaon Panchayat (member)	24,870 8,210(33.01%)
Anchalika Panchayat(member)	2,487 821(33.01%)

TABLE 7.1 Crime and violence against women in Assam 1997-2002**

Type of Crime	Kidnapping	Rape	Molestation	Cruelty by husband	Dowry death	Immoral traffic	Total
Year							
1997	1113	717	686	775	22	10	3323
1998	1117(+4)	744(+27)	648(-38)	739(-36)	32(+10)	12(+02)	3292(-31)
1999	1149(+32)	703(-41)	720(+72)	843(+104)	40(+08)	9(-03)	3464(+172)
2000	1101(-48)	762(+59)	777(+57)	978(+135)	50(+10)	15(+06)	3683(+219)
2001	1070(-31)	817(+55)	850(+73)	1248(+270)	59(+09)	4(-11)	4048(+365)
2002	1229(+159)	884(+67)	754(-96)	1560(+312)	62(+03)	20(16)	4509(+461)
Total increase/ decrease from 1997-2002	116(10.42)	167(23.29)	68(9.91)	785(101.29)	40(181.81)	10(100.0)	1186(35.69)

Note: Figures in brackets in Rows 2 to 6-show increase/decrease over the previous year, figures in brackets in row 7 shows percentage increase/decrease between 1997 and 2002

***Source: Office of the DIG, CID, Assam

TABLE 7.2 Percentage Distribution Of Different Types of Crime And Violence Against Women in Assam 1997-2002***

Type of Crime	Kidnapping	Rape	Molestation	Cruelty by husband	Dowry death	Immoral traffic	Total
Year							
1997	33.50	21.58	20.64	23.32	0.66	0.30	100
1998	33.93	22.60	19.68	22.45	0.97	0.36	100
1999	33.17	20.29	20.79	24.34	1.15	0.26	100
2000	29.89	20.69	21.10	26.55	1.36	0.41	100
2001	26.43	20.18	20.99	30.83	1.46	0.10	100
2002	27.26	19.61	16.72	34.60	1.38	0.44	100
Total	30.37	20.73	19.87	27.52	1.19	0.31	100

*** Source: Estimated from Table 1

TABLE 7.3 Total no of different forms of Crime Against Women In Assam by districts from 1997-2002

Sl. No.	Districts/Type of crime	Kidnapping	Rape	Molestation	Cruelty by husband	Dowry death	Immoral traffic	Total	Percentage share of each district
1	Bongaigaon	165	115	122	150	8	0	560	2.51
2	Dhemaji	139	212	148	177	2	0	678	3.04
3	Sonitpur	472	329	221	365	21	5	1413	6.33
4	Goalpara	144	149	139	248	2	2	684	3.07
5	Jorhat	203	173	149	192	2	2	721	3.23
6	Nagaon	765	327	611	477	15	2	2197	9.84
7	Hailakandi	200	122	198	152	9	0	681	3.05
8	Kamrup	1002	431	491	459	32	44	2459	11.02
9	Darrang	261	242	292	150	21	0	966	4.33
10	Barpeta	325	292	179	438	33	1	1268	5.68
11	Dhubri	290	250	285	569	17	2	1413	6.33
12	Nalbari	180	133	122	80	5	1	521	2.33
13	Morigaon	181	134	124	129	6	1	575	2.58
14	Dibrugarh	261	199	171	140	7	1	779	3.49
15	Lakhimpur	356	306	219	304	1	5	1191	5.34
16	Cachar	538	249	345	1121	40	0	2293	10.28
17	Kokrajhar	99	92	132	126	6	1	456	2.05
18	N.C. Hills	27	14	21	12	3	0	77	0.35
19	Golaghat	245	193	97	132	1	1	669	2.99
20	Karbi Anglong	117	51	73	35	8	0	284	1.27
21	Karimgunj	126	184	38	342	16	0	706	3.16
22	Tinsukia	263	202	98	142	4	1	710	3.18
23	Sivsagar	417	228	160	203	6	1	1015	4.55

Source: Office of the DIG, CID, Assam

TABLE 7.4 List of Jails In The State of Assam (As on 31st March 2002)

Sl. No.	Name & Addresses of Jails	Registered Capacity	
		Male	Female
1.	District Jail, Guwahati (Kamrup)	462	45
2.	District Jail, Nalbari	142	13
3.	District Jail, Barpeta	93	45
4.	District Jail, Kokrajhar	200	25
5.	District Jail, Dhubri	218	3
6.	District Jail, Goalpara	335	15
7.	District Jail, Tezpur (Sonitpur)	725	22
8.	District Jail, Mangaldoi (Darrang)	160	12
9.	District Jail, Silchar (Cachar)	322	27
10.	District Jail, Hailakandi	54	4
11.	District Jail, Karimganj	110	4
12.	District Jail, North Lakhimpur (Lakhimpur)	108	11
13.	District Jail, Dibrugarh	614	14
14.	District Jail, Sibsagar	146	8
15.	District Jail, Jorhat	646	24
16.	District Jail, Golaghat	86	4
17.	District Jail, Nagaon	346	7
18.	District Jail, Marigaon	42	10
19.	District Jail, Abhayapuri (Bongaigaon)	41	11
20.	District Jail, Majuli (Jorhat)	45	10
21.	District Jail, Diphu (Karbi Anglong)	250	10
22.	District Jail, Hamren (Karbi Anglong)	30	10
23.	District Jail, Biswanath Chariali (Sonitpur)	74	20
24.	District Jail, Dhemaji	80	10
25.	Special Jail, Nagaon	360	8
26.	Open Air Jail, Jorhat	100	-
27.	Jail Lock-Up, Halflong (N.C. Hills)	24	8
	Total	5813	380

Source: Inspector General of Prisons, Assam (quoted from Gender Profile of Assam by Social Welfare Department, Govt. of Assam).

TABLE 7.5 Prison Population of Assam (As on 31-12-2001)

Sl. No.	Head	Prison Population		
		Male	Female	Total
1.	Registered Capacity	5771	370	6141
2.	Convict	2356	47	2403
3.	Under Trial	3938	127	4065
4.	Detenu (NSA)	16	-	16
5.	Detanu (Other than NSA)	-	-	-
6.	Civil	1	-	1
7.	Criminal Lunatic	-	-	-
8.	Safe Custody	-	-	-
9.	Children of Prisoner	11	15	26

Source: Inspector General of Prison, Assam (quoted in Statistical Handbook, Assam, 2002)

TABLE 8.1 Households with Pucca Houses (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991			1993-94	
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Assam	—	—	—	10.53	43.43	14.62	5.40	45.90
All India	22.53	64.70	32.67	30.59	72.75	41.61	29.20	70.70

Note : All India excludes Assam in 1981 and Jammu & Kashmir in 1991

Source: 1 Housing and Amenities, Paper 2 of 1993; Table 2.1, page 37, Census of India, 1991.

2 Figures for 1993-94 pertain to July 1993 - June 1994 based on 50th Round of NSSO as reported in Statistical Abstract of India, 1998, CSO, (April 1999).

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.2 Households with Semipucca Houses (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991			1993-94	
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Assam	—	—	—	13.37	27.77	15.16	27.20	26.40
All India	36.93	21.80	33.29	35.65	17.69	30.95	38.10	19.50

Note : All India excludes Assam in 1981 and Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

Source: 1 Housing and Amenities, Paper 2 of 1993; Table 2.1, page 37, Census of India, 1991.

2 Figures for 1993-94 pertain to July 1993 - June 1994 based on 50th Round of NSSO as reported in Statistical Abstract of India 1998, CSO, (April 1999).

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.3 Households with Kutcha Houses (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991			1993-94	
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Assam	—	—	—	76.09	28.80	70.22	67.40	27.70
All India	40.55	13.50	34.04	33.76	9.56	27.44	32.70	9.90

Note : All India excludes Assam in 1981 and Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

Source: 1 Housing and Amenities, Paper 2 of 1993; Table 2.1, page 37, Census of India, 1991.

2 Figures for 1993-94 pertain to July 1993 - June 1994 based on 50th Round of NSSO as reported in Statistical Abstract of India 1998, CSO, (April 1999).

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.4 Households with Access to Toilet Facility (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991			1993-94	
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Assam	—	—	—	30.53	86.06	37.43	6.44	
All India	—	58.15	—	9.48	63.85	23.70	49.32	

Note : All India excludes Assam in 1981 and Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

Source : Housing and Amenities, Paper 2 of 1993; Table 3.5, page 48, Census of India, 1991. from NSS.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.5 Scheduled Caste/Tribe Households with Toilet Facility (1991) (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991			1993-94		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	27.16	78.09	33.95	9.83	73.26	12.54	34.66	87.93	41.88
All India	5.15	38.28	11.16	4.10	40.68	7.22	11.52	68.38	28.63

Note: All India figure excludes Jammu & Kashmir.

Source: Housing and Amenities, Paper 2 of 1993; Table 3.6, page 49, Census of India, 1991.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.6 Households with Safe Drinking Water (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	—	—	—	43.28	64.07	45.86
All India	26.50	75.06	38.19	55.54	81.38	62.30

Note: All India figure excludes Assam in 1981 and Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

Source: Housing and Amenities, Paper 2 of 1993; Table 3.1, page 44, Census of India, 1991.

TABLE 8.7 Scheduled Caste/Tribe Households with Safe Drinking Water (1991) (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991			1993-94		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	43.01	60.56	45.35	34.32	46.50	34.84	44.88	65.49	47.67
All India	59.84	80.59	63.60	41.11	65.71	43.21	56.40	81.99	64.10

Note: All India figure excludes Jammu & Kashmir.

Source: Housing and Amenities, Paper 2 of 1993; Table 3.2, page 45, Census of India, 1991.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.8 Households by Major Source of Drinking Water (1995-1996) — Combined (Percentage)

States/UTs	Tap	Tube Well/ Tanker	Pucca Well	Tank/Pond	River/Canal	Other Hand Pump	Reserved
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	10.00	54.00	0.80	13.80	6.70	2.60	11.90
All India	36.30	41.00	0.50	17.60	1.20	1.10	2.10

Source: Maternal and Child Health Care in India, NSS 52nd Round, July 1995 - June 1996, Report No.445.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.9 Households by Major Source of Drinking Water (1995-1996) — Rural (Percentage)

States/UTs	Tap	Tube Well/ Tanker	Pucca Well	Tank/Pond	River/Canal	Other Hand Pump	Reserved
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	7.10	55.50	0.90	13.30	7.40	3.00	12.70
All India	23.20	49.00	0.40	21.80	1.50	1.40	2.50

Source: Maternal and Child Health Care in India, NSS 52nd Round, July 1995 - June 1996, Report No.445.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.10 Households by Major Source of Drinking Water (1995-1996) — Urban (Percentage)

States/UTs	Tap	Tube Well/ Tanker	Pucca Well	Tank/Pond	River/Canal	Other Hand Pump	Reserved
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	33.70	41.50	0.50	18.20	1.20	—	4.70
All India	73.70	18.50	0.80	5.50	0.30	0.10	0.90

Source: Maternal and Child Health Care in India, NSS 52nd Round, July 1995-June 1996, Report No.445.
NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.11 Households with Electricity Connection (Percentage)

States/UTs	1981			1991		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	—	—	—	12.44	63.21	18.74
All India	14.69	62.51	26.19	30.54	75.78	42.37

Note: All India figure excludes Assam in 1981 and Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

Source: Housing and Amenities, Paper 2 of 1993; Table 3.3, page 46, Census of India, 1991.

TABLE 8.12 Scheduled Caste/Tribe Households with Electricity Connection (1991) (Percentage)

States/UTs	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes			Others		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	10.91	51.97	16.38	5.63	50.68	7.55	13.86	65.58	20.87
All India	21.84	56.32	28.10	19.70	55.93	22.80	34.62	79.30	48.06

Note: All India figure excludes Jammu & Kashmir.

Source: Housing and Amenities, Paper 2 of 1993; Table 3.4, page 47, Census of India, 1991.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.13 Per Capita Consumption of Electricity

States/UTs	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Assam	51	64	63	78	94	90	97	95	98	98	104
All India	191	201	217	236	253	268	283	299	320	336	334

Source: Annual Reports on the Working of State Electricity Boards and Electricity Departments, Planning Commission, Government of India.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.14 Households without Electricity, Safe Drinking Water and Toilet (1991) (Percentage)

States/UTs	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes			Others		
	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined	Rural	Urban	Combined
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Assam	39.46	9.02	35.40	58.02	15.05	56.18	35.42	4.95	31.30
All India	32.14	9.62	28.06	48.06	15.70	45.30	28.65	4.46	21.37

Note: All India figure excludes Jammu & Kashmir.

Source: Housing and Amenities, Paper 2 of 1993; Table 3.11, page 54, Census of India, 1991.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

TABLE 8.15 Households with Access to Electricity, Safe Drinking Water and Toilet (1991) (Percent)

States/UTs	Rural	Urban	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Assam	4.5	42.7	9.3
All India	3.9	50.5	16.1

Note: All India figure excludes Jammu & Kashmir

Source: State Profile 1991, Table 43, Pages 234-236, and Census of India, RGI 1998.

NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2001

**TABLE 8.16 Availability of electricity, Safe Drinking Water and Toilet Facilities to Households, 1991: Assam:
By Districts**

Assam/ Districts	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Total No. of Households	Percent Households Having				
			Electricity	Safe Drinking Water	Toilet	All the Three Facilities	None of the Three Facilities
ASSAM	TOTAL	3798360	18.74	45.86	37.43	9.25	34.75
	RURAL	3326700	12.44	43.28	30.53	4.50	38.85
	URBAN	471660	63.21	64.07	86.06	42.69	5.90
1. Dhubri	Total	NA	11.77	56.10	29.64	5.43	32.22
	Rural	NA	6.67	56.28	23.79	2.36	34.86
	Urban	NA	47.64	54.84	70.77	27.09	13.62
2. Kokrajhar	Total	NA	12.16	8.93	14.41	1.12	75.05
	Rural	NA	8.29	8.54	9.15	0.71	79.86
	Urban	NA	59.33	13.58	78.57	6.15	16.41
3. Bongaigaon	Total	135615	14.10	20.46	28.21	4.95	58.99
	Rural	120805	7.87	18.65	21.09	1.86	64.90
	Urban	14810	64.99	35.25	86.26	30.15	10.77
4. Goalpara	Total	112400	11.63	31.83	37.89	4.58	44.73
	Rural	102370	7.99	28.70	33.44	1.80	48.61
	Urban	10030	48.75	63.81	83.35	32.90	5.08
5. Barpeta	Total	220940	11.32	40.45	39.42	4.61	35.08
	Rural	204620	8.33	38.83	36.43	2.74	37.25
	Urban	16320	48.96	60.88	77.11	28.19	7.75
6. Nalbari	Total	164920	12.40	64.69	18.62	5.32	30.09
	Rural	160680	10.99	63.86	17.03	3.85	30.87
	Urban	4240	65.72	96.35	75.56	61.01	0.59
7. Kamrup	Total	345685	33.82	57.71	49.76	18.58	20.30
	Rural	217800	13.82	58.82	26.40	5.40	29.59
	Urban	127885	67.83	55.82	89.47	40.98	4.48
8. Darrang	Total	214675	9.00	46.66	17.05	3.89	46.00
	Rural	202900	6.34	45.50	13.27	1.99	48.29
	Urban	11775	54.99	66.75	82.34	36.60	6.67

Assam/ Districts	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Total No. of Households	Percent Households Having				
			Electricity	Safe Drinking Water	Toilet	All the Three Facilities	None of the Three Facilities
9. Sonitpur	Total	242525	16.32	27.50	29.99	4.26	50.76
	Rural	222725	11.58	26.43	24.86	2.18	54.67
	Urban	19800	69.72	39.57	87.75	27.68	6.64
10. Lakhimpur	Total	119950	13.83	29.03	24.88	2.66	49.84
	Rural	110255	10.18	29.14	19.44	1.60	53.57
	Urban	9695	55.31	27.84	86.80	14.74	7.42
11. Dhemaji	Total	73845	3.52	48.58	16.37	1.99	46.26
	Rural	71990	2.35	47.95	14.45	1.18	47.39
	Urban	1855	48.79	73.05	90.57	33.42	2.43
12. Marigaon	Total	103025	11.02	62.67	24.55	4.16	27.70
	Rural	95520	7.75	64.02	20.56	2.33	28.88
	Urban	7505	52.63	45.50	75.28	27.51	12.66
13. Nagaon	Total	315735	17.07	65.32	41.77	10.67	20.50
	Rural	278025	11.72	63.33	35.11	5.70	23.02
	Urban	37710	56.54	79.94	90.82	47.28	1.93
14. Golaghat	Total	143305	17.33	59.50	32.32	10.62	29.28
	Rural	134575	13.79	57.58	28.61	7.14	31.05
	Urban	8730	71.87	89.08	89.42	64.27	2.12
15. Jorhat	Total	152185	25.16	47.28	29.82	10.48	35.04
	Rural	129430	18.41	45.86	21.37	5.28	38.66
	Urban	22755	63.46	55.37	77.79	40.00	14.51
16. Sibsagar	Total	163715	26.72	54.36	32.18	13.67	33.36
	Rural	150210	22.27	51.32	27.31	8.96	36.11
	Urban	13505	76.31	88.19	86.41	66.09	2.74
17. Dibrugarh	Total	189500	26.39	67.22	48.18	21.11	25.11
	Rural	153445	16.64	61.26	37.45	11.06	30.73
	Urban	36055	67.90	92.60	93.86	63.89	1.18

Assam/ Districts	Total/ Rural/ Urban	Total No. of Households	Percent Households Having				
			Electricity	Safe Drinking Water	Toilet	All the Three Facilities	None of the Three Facilities
18. Tinsukia	Total	177285	23.88	73.96	53.95	18.84	18.64
	Rural	146400	15.32	70.37	46.21	10.76	22.37
	Urban	30885	64.46	91.00	88.92	57.14	0.97
19. Karbi Anglong	Total	106410	12.94	33.88	24.94	5.31	50.66
	Rural	91070	7.21	32.30	16.60	2.08	56.55
	Urban	15340	46.85	43.21	74.25	24.45	15.81
20. North Cachar Hills	Total	30395	22.90	45.54	34.61	15.15	41.16
	Rural	22845	13.15	38.63	23.33	7.42	49.57
	Urban	7550	52.17	66.29	68.46	38.37	15.90
21. Karimganj	Total	143790	32.84	17.83	73.17	10.85	20.39
	Rural	132845	28.88	12.92	71.36	6.52	21.99
	Urban	10945	80.82	77.44	95.16	63.33	1.00
22. Hailakandi	Total	77925	19.03	18.54	60.97	8.73	32.10
	Rural	71915	14.50	13.48	58.17	4.19	34.57
	Urban	6010	73.21	79.12	94.59	63.06	2.50
23. Cachar	Total	218615	23.28	20.07	63.26	9.96	31.08
	Rural	197490	17.80	13.74	60.29	4.72	34.23
	Urban	21125	74.46	79.19	91.01	58.93	1.61

N.B.: NA – Data not available

Source: Census of India 1991: Assam State District Profile 1991

TABLE 10.1 OUTLAY AND EXPENDITURE DURING NINTH PLAN FOR ASSAM

Major/Minor Heads	Ninth Plan	Ninth Plan	Actual Expenditure, for Annual Plan		
	Agreed Outlay (Rs. in Lakh)	Agreed Outlay (%age sectoral share)	(Rs. in Lakh)		
	97-02	97-02	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
II. RURAL DEVELOPMENT					
Special Programme for Rural Development :					
(a) Integrated Rural Development Programme(IRDP) & Allied Programmes	12201	1.36	1128	1965	1881
(b) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)	0	0	0	0	0
(c) Integrated Rural Energy Programme (IREP)	250	.028	0	0	0
RURAL EMPLOYMENT					
(a) NREP/Jawahar Rozgar Yojna (JRY)	15100	1.68	1286	1969	4500
(b) Other Programmes(like Employment Guarantee Scheme etc.)	10000	1.11	1320	2000	2000
Land Reforms	4265	0.47	478	323	289
Other Rural Development Programmes (Incl.Community Development and Panchayats)	38955	4.34	3449	2805	1875
TOTAL - II	80771	9.0	7661	9062	10565
	4012	0.45	783	850	1116
III. SPECIAL AREA PROGRAMMES					
XI. SOCIAL SERVICES EDUCATION	212649	23.67	38558	38123	1218
General Education	6424	0.72	1450	2259	2259
Technical Education	3700	0.41	128	309	241
Sports & Youth Services	6571	0.73	588	526	598
Art & Culture					
Sub-Total (Education)	229344	25.53	40724	41217	44316
Medical & Public Health					
Water Supply & Sanitation	38410	4.28	6223	6887	7536
Housing (incl. police Housing)	43518	4.84	8156	7053	7251
Urban Development (incl.state capital projects)	4981	0.55	613	325	89
Information & Publicity	16231	1.81	720	334	866
Welfare of SCs,STs & OBCs	1500	0.17	148	183	225
Labour & Employment	17917	1.99	2031	3767	2649
i) Labour & Labour Welfare	3912	0.44	560	606	811
Social Welfare	0	0	0	0	0
Nutrition	1990	0.22	220	217	303
Other Social Services	8000	0.89	768	789	501
TOTAL - (XI)	0	0	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL	365803	40.72	60163	61378	64547
	898393.00	100.00	128318	129367	140459

Source: Plan Statistics, Planning Commission

TABLE 10.2 Sectoral Composition of Actual Plan Expenditure (Percentage)

States/ UTs	Agri. & Irrigation			Rural & Social Sector			Social Sector			Infrastructure		
	81-82	91-92	97-98	81-82	91-92	97-98	81-82	91-92	97-98	81-82	91-92	97-98
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
Assam	23.20	27.50	20.36	24.25	42.49	57.53	17.97	34.31	45.89	52.56	29.97	22.12
Central Govt.	7.20	5.30	3.60	15.40	21.80	23.40	8.80	12.50	14.80	77.40	72.90	73.00

¹ Source: Various Plan Documents, Planning Commission, and Government of India.

TABLE 10.3 Composition of Public Spending —Some Critical Ratios, 1980-81 (Percentage)

States/UTs	Public Expn. Ratio	Development Expn. Ratio	Social Sector Expn. Ratio	Education Expn. Ratio	Health Expn. Ratio	Amenities Expn. Ratio	Other Social Expn. Ratio
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	30.13	51.43	22.45	12.76	5.23	1.03	3.43
All States	—	70.42	29.12	13.89	7.10	1.14	7.00
Central Govt.	14.80	54.70	5.30	2.70	1.40	0.40	0.80

Source: 1 State Finance—A Study of Budgets, RBI Bulletin, July 1982.

2 Union Budget Documents for data for the Central Government.

TABLE 10.4 Composition of Public Spending —Some Critical Ratios — 1990-91 (Percentage)

States/UTs	Public Expn. Ratio	Development Expn. Ratio	Social Sector Expn. Ratio	Education Expn. Ratio	Health Expn. Ratio	Amenities Expn. Ratio	Other Social Expn. Ratio
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	25.32	64.75	30.80	16.94	5.04	4.74	4.08
All States	—	69.57	32.89	17.36	5.88	3.86	5.79
Central Govt.	17.70	48.10	6.40	3.50	1.50	0.40	1.00

Source: 1 Finance of State Government, 1992-93, RBI Bulletin, and March 1993.

2 Union Budget Documents for data for the Central Government.

TABLE 10.5 Composition of Public Spending —Some Critical Ratios — 1998-99 (Percentage)

States/UTs	Public Expn. Ratio	Development Expn. Ratio	Social Sector Expn. Ratio	Education Expn. Ratio	Health Expn. Ratio	Amenities Expn. Ratio	Other Social Expn. Ratio
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Assam	20.50	62.39	39.07	26.34	4.65	3.30	4.49
All States	—	61.76	33.07	17.39	5.78	4.53	5.38
Central Govt.	13.70	34.90	8.20	3.90	1.80	1.00	1.40

Source: 1 State Finances—A Study of Budgets, 2000-2001, RBI, December 2000.

2 Union Budget Documents for data for the Central Government.

TABLE 10.6 Public Spending on Education and Health (As a percentage of Gross State Domestic Product)

States/UTs	1980-1981		1990-1991		1998-99	
	Education	Health	Education	Health	Education	Health
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Assam	3.46	1.48	4.53	1.32	5.23	1.05
Central Govt.	0.40	0.20	0.60	0.25	0.50	0.25

Note: 1 Public spending on education includes both revenue and capital expenditure for both plan and non-plan. It has been expressed as a ratio of Gross State Domestic Product.

2 Ratios are a moving average of two years, i.e. 1980-81 is average for the years 1980-81 and 1981-82

3 For the Central Government, the ratios have been expressed as proportion of GDP.

4 The Central Government figures for 1998-99 is a moving average of the period 1996-98.

Source: 1 State Finance—A Study of Budgets, RBI Bulletin July 1982; March 1993; and RBI December 2000.

2 Union Budget Documents for data for the Central Government.

¹ **Note For Tables 10.2 through 10.5** 1 Actual Plan Expenditure by major heads of development has been clubbed as per the following details. Agriculture & Irrigation: Agriculture & Allied Activities and Irrigation & Flood Control.

Rural & Social Sector: Rural Development, Special Areas Programmes., General & Economic Services & Social Sector.

Social Sector: Education, Health, Water Supply & Sanitation, Urban Development., Information, Welfare and Labour.

Infrastructure: Energy, Industry & Minerals, Transport, Communication, Science, Technology and Environment.

2 Data for 1981-82 is an average of 1980-82, 1991-92 an average of 1990-93 and 1997-98 an average of 1996-98.

TABLE 10.7 Per Capita Expenditure on Education and Health: North Eastern States

State/India	Per Capita Expenditure on Health					Per Capita Expenditure on Education		
	1980-81	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1990-91	1991-92	1995-96
Arunachal Pradesh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	512.50(3)	735.37(3)
Assam	22(5)	32(6)	44(6)	71(6)	75(6)	70(6)	217.41(7)	411.53(7)
Manipur	98(3)	75(4)	219(2)	176(4)	205(4)	219(4)	433.93(6)	723.06(4)
Meghalaya	120(2)	100(3)	169(3)	200(3)	236(3)	277(3)	436.81(5)	667.12(5)
Mizoram	NA	150(2)	50(5)	483(2)	416(2)	434(2)	670.75(1)	919.85(1)
Nagaland	197(1)	355(1)	433(1)	490(1)	447(1)	574(1)	605.55(2)	830.58(2)
Tripura	31(4)	57(5)	96(4)	121(5)	140(5)	161(5)	453.83(4)	619.14(6)

Note: Figures in brackets indicate ranks

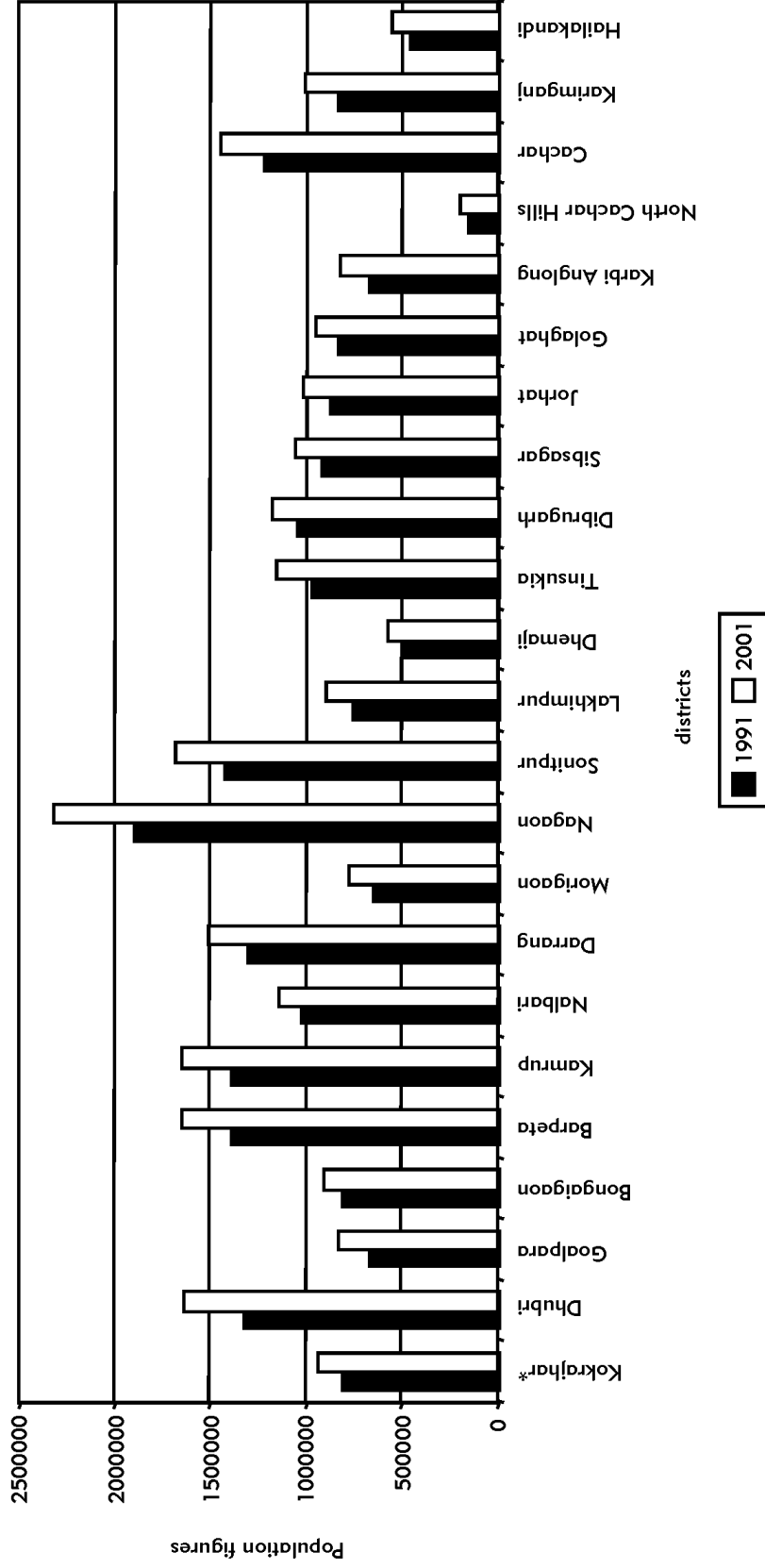
Source: NEC: Basic Statistics of North Eastern States

TABLE 10.8 Women component (WC) In The State Plan Programmes Draft Ninth Plan and Draft Annual Plans 1997-98 to 200-2001

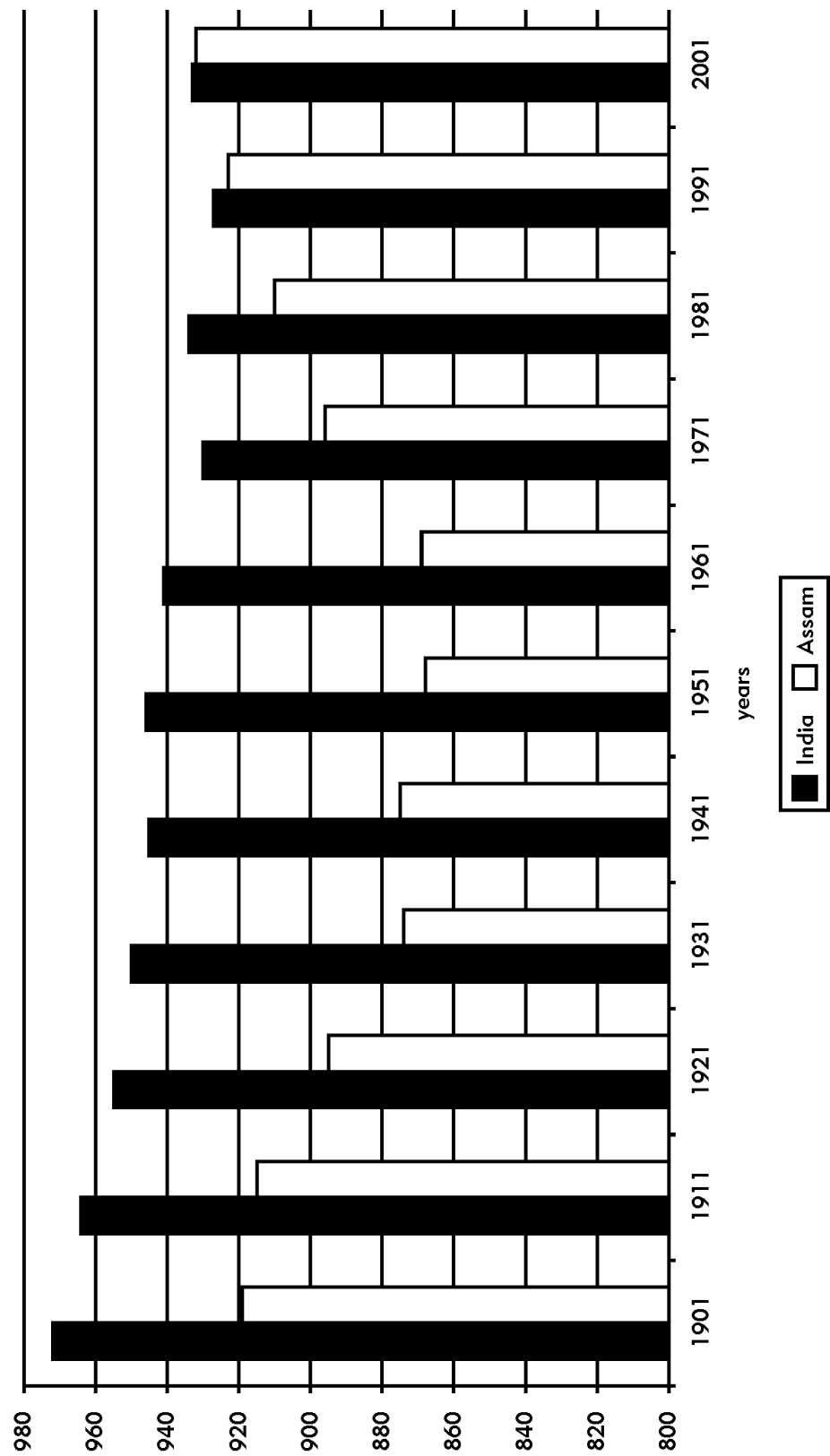
SI No.	Major head/ sub-head/ Schemes	Ninth Plan 1997-0 (Approved) (at 1996-97 prices)		Annual Plans 1997-98 to 1999-2000 Actual (at current prices)				Annual Plan 2000-2001(at current prices)			
		Approved Outlay	Of which, flow to WC	Approved Outlay	Of which, flow to WC	Actual Expendi- ture	Of which, flow to WC	Approved Outlay	Of which, flow to WC	Total Expendi- ture	Of which, flow to WC
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1	SGSY	13,631	3,974 (29.15)	4,832	1,450 (30.0)	5,372	4,052 (75.43)	2,890	867 (30.0)	1,872	750 (40.06)
2	JGSY	8,870	1,535 (17.31)	4,354	740 (17.0)	4,265	1,416 (33.20)	110	19 (17.27)	994	199 (20.02)
3	EAS	10,000	1,700 (17.0)	6,470	1,100 (17.0)	5,320	1,117 (20.99)	1,042	177 (16.99)	1,042	229 (21.98)
4	IAY	4,800	1,440 (30.0)	4,022	1,609 (40.0)	3,092	1,810 (58.54)				
5	PMGY (RS)							1,347	539 (40.14)	1,347	539 (40.14)
6	PMGSY							6,955		6,955	
7	TOTAL	37,301	8,649 (23.19)	19,678	4,89 (24.9)	18,049	8,397 (46.52)	12,344	1,602 (12.98)	12,210	1,717 (14.06)

Source: Department of Planning and Development, Government of Assam

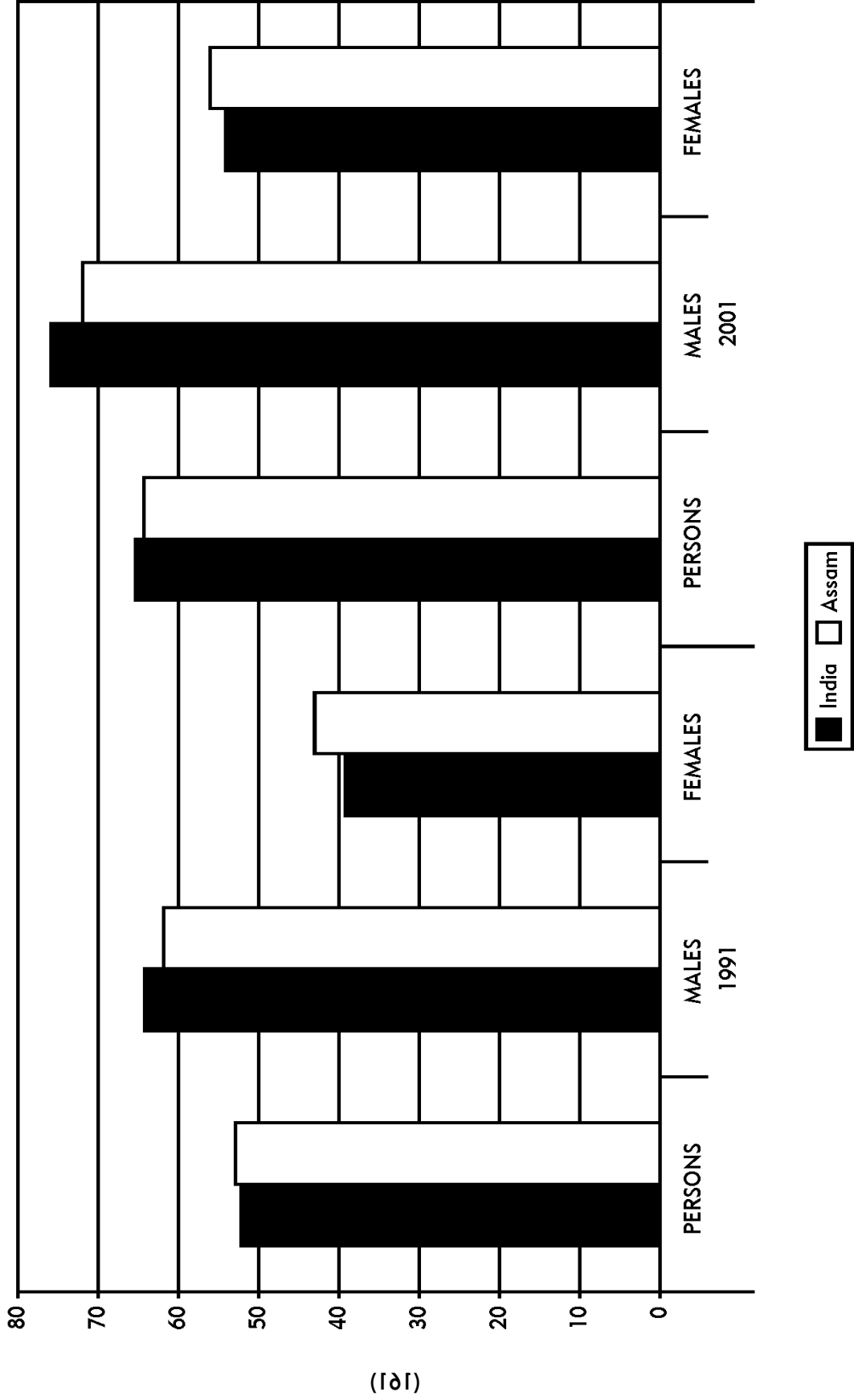
Population by districts in Assam 1991 & 2001



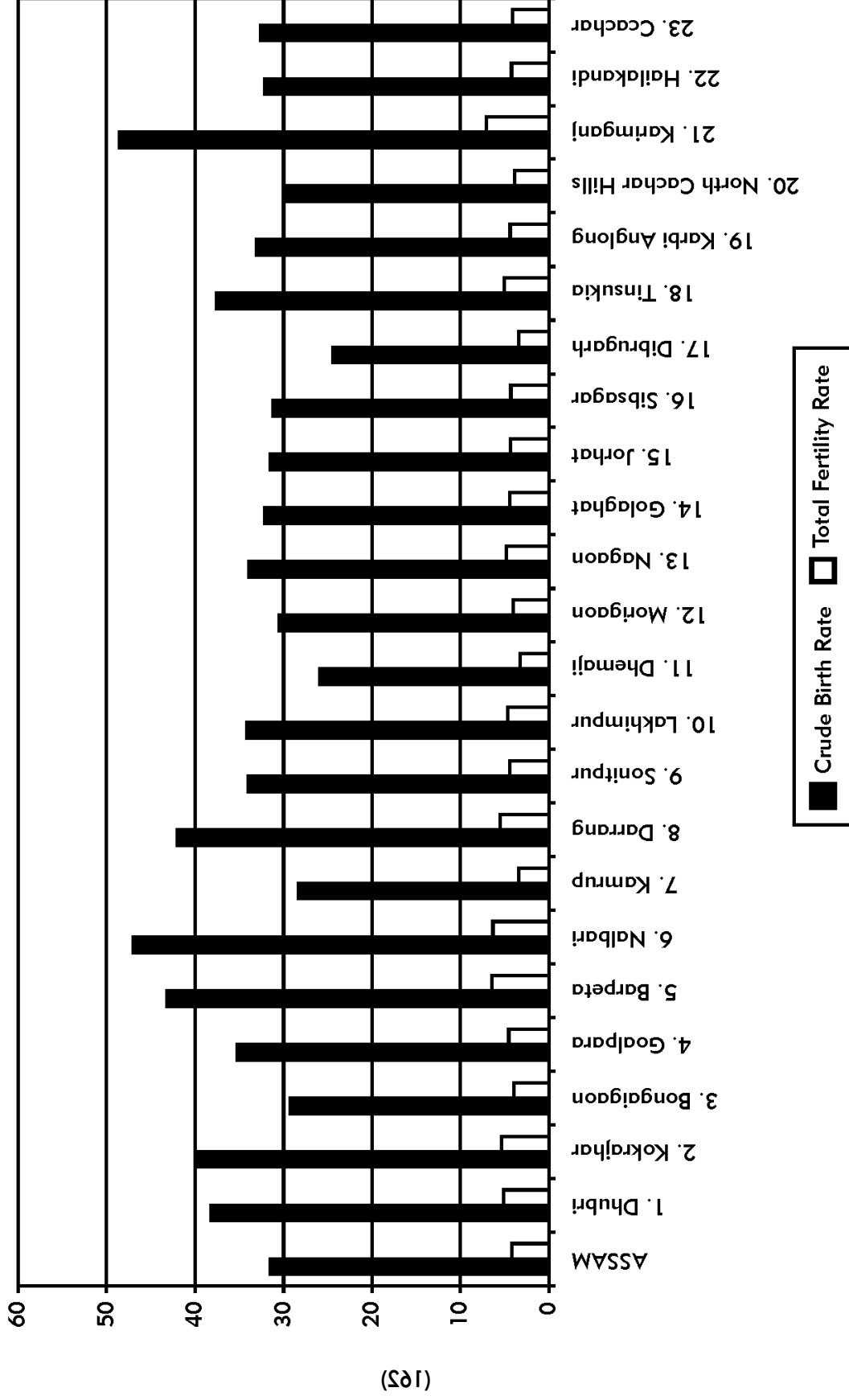
SEX RATIO (1901-2001)



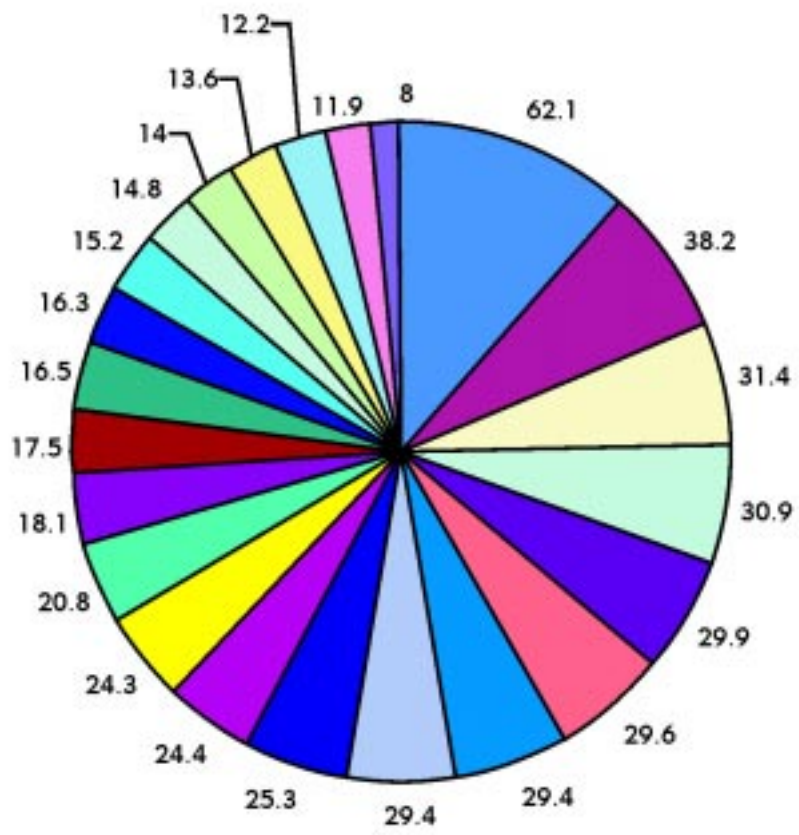
Literacy Rates by Sex in India and Assam (1981-2001)



Crude Birth Rate and Total Fertility Rate 1991

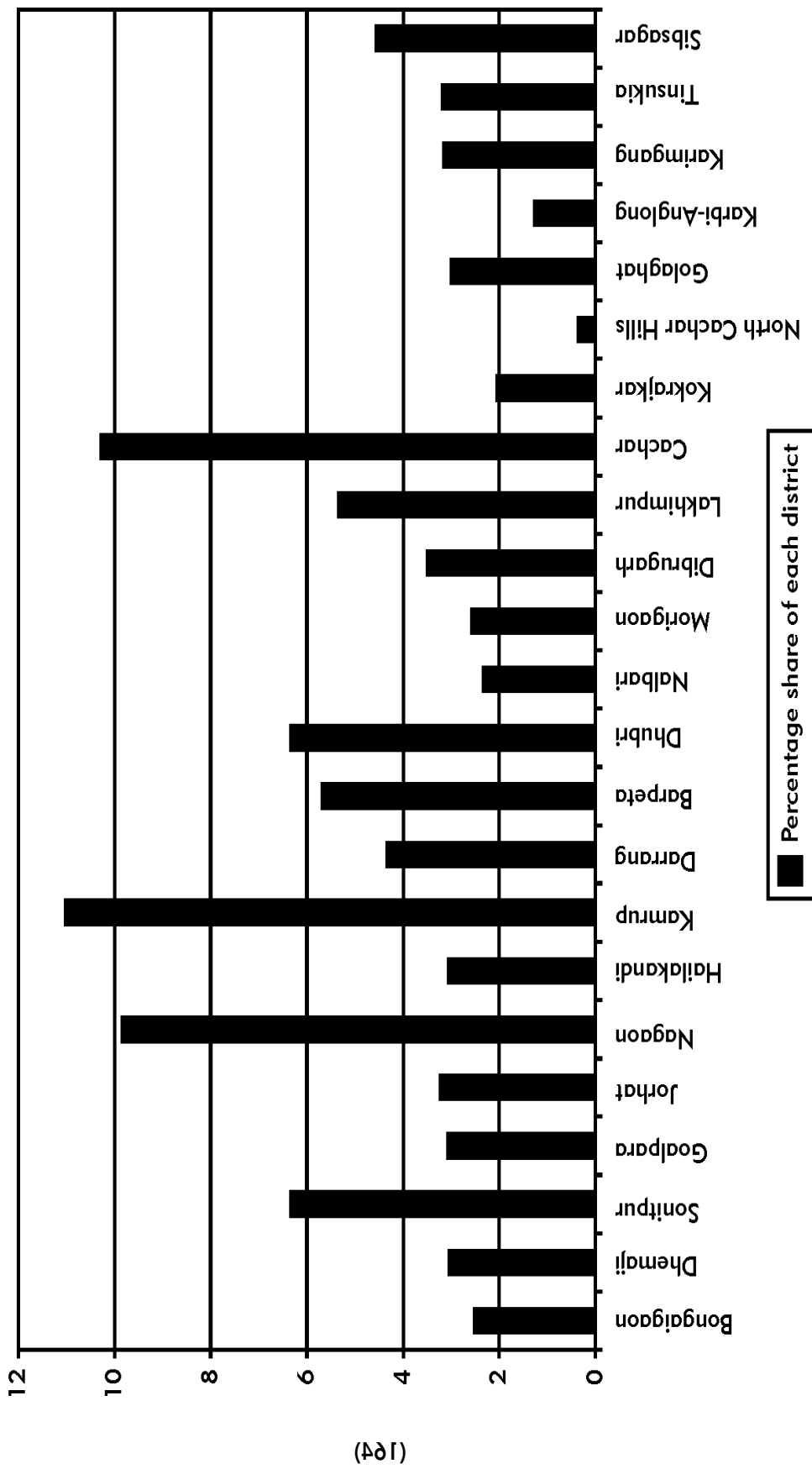


Ranking of Districts by female work participation rate in 2001

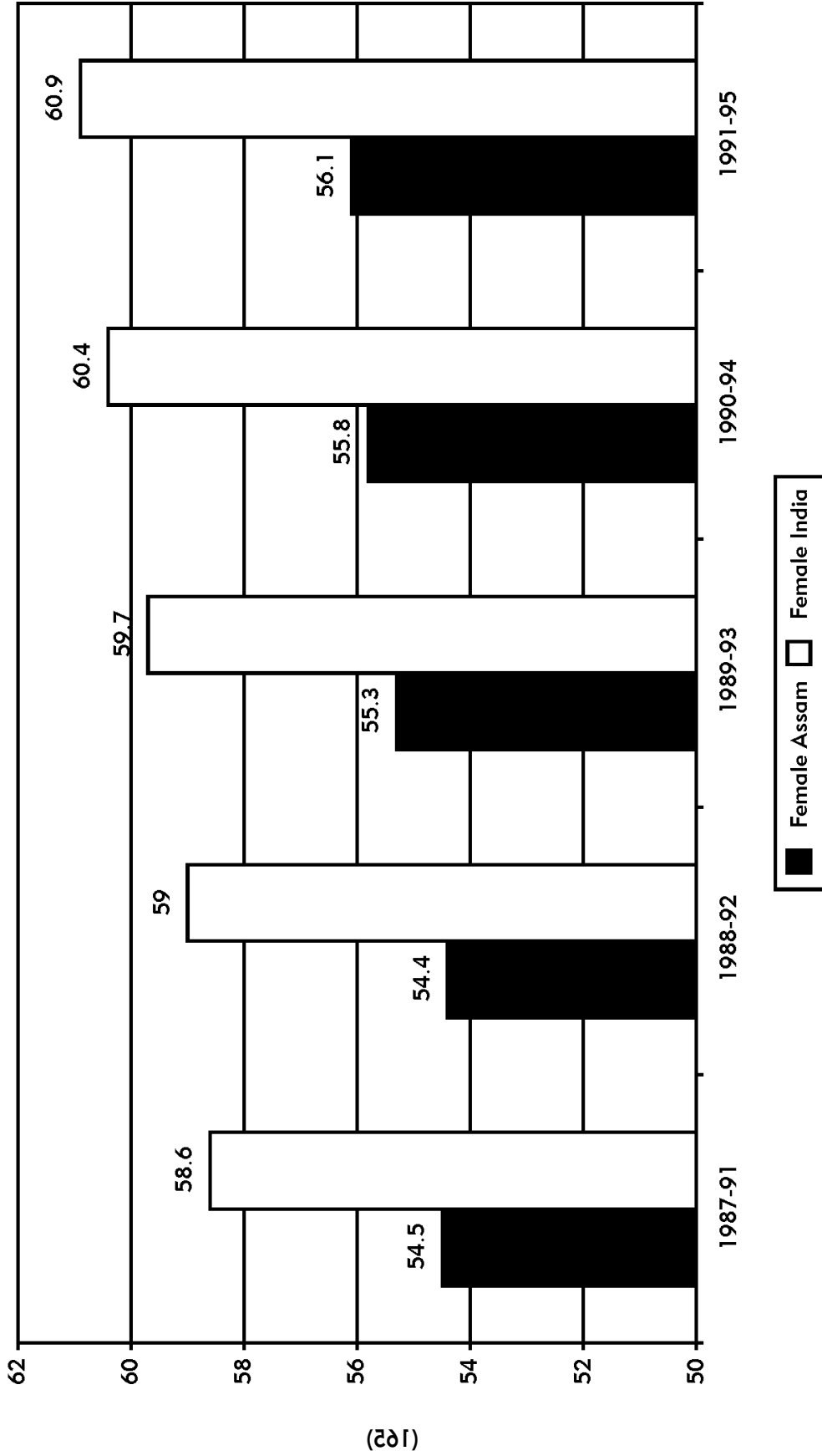


- Lakhimpur
- Dhemaji
- Karbi-Anglong
- Golaghat
- Tinsukia
- Sibsaagar
- Dibrugarh
- Jorhat
- Kokrajkar
- North Cachar Hills
- Sonitpur
- Darrang
- Nalbari
- Goalpara
- Hailakandi
- Morigaon
- Bongaigaon
- Kamrup
- Barpeta
- Cachar
- Nagaon
- Karimgang
- Dhubri

Percentage share of crime in each district of Assam from 1997-2002



EXPECTATION OF LIFE AT BIRTH OF FEMALES IN ASSAM AND INDIA 1987 TO 1995



(12)

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**A SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS OF WOMEN
AND GIRLS IN ASSAM**

By
DR. ARCHANA SHARMA



**NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
NEW DELHI**

Contents

(i)	Foreword	
(v)	Preface	
1	The Economy of Assam	Chapter 1
7	Demographic Profile	Chapter 2
17	Literacy and Education	Chapter 3
21	Health	Chapter 4
25	Occupational Distribution and Work Participation Rate	Chapter 5
31	Women in Decision Making and Political Participation	Chapter 6
35	Crime Against Women	Chapter 7
37	Indicators of Well-being	Chapter 8
41	Government Initiative for Women's Empowerment at the State Level	Chapter 9
65	Budgetary support for Women's Development Programmes	Chapter 10
67	Summary of Findings and Concluding Observations	Chapter 11
68	Tables	
129	Figures	
167	Reference	

List of Tables

- Table 1.1 National Income, State Income, Per capita National Income and Per Capita State Income at current prices: 1955-1980
- Table 1.2 National Income, State Income, Per capita National Income and Per Capita State Income at constant (1948-49) prices: 1955-1980
- Table 1.3 Per Capita Income of Assam and India (in Rupees): 1980-81 to 1992-93
- Table 1.4 Per Capita Income of Assam and India (in Rupees): 1993-94 to 2000-01
- Table 1.5 Production (in thousand tones) and Productivity (Average Yield in Qts/hectare) of Different Crops in Assam : 1997-98 to 1999-2000
- Table 1.6 SHARE (%) of Secondary Sector in Net State Domestic Product
- Table 1.7 Annual Survey of Industries (Summary Results): Assam
- Table 1.8 Assam - Human Development Fact Sheet
- Table 2.1 Population Size in Assam and India: 1901-2001
- Table 2.2 Growth Rate and Density of Population Assam and India: 1901-2001
- Table 2.3 Population by sex and Decennial Growth Rate (1981-2001)
- Table 2.4 Population (1991-2001): by Districts: Assam (Persons)
- Table 2.5 Decadal Growth Rate of Population (1901-2001): by Districts: Assam
- Table 2.6 Sex Ratio : Assam and India (1901-2001)
- Table 2.7 Sex ratio of total population and child population in the AGE GROUP 0-6: 1991 and 2001
- Table 2.8 Sex Ratio : Assam by Districts 1971-2001(Per 1000 males)
- Table 2.9 Child Sex ratio in Assam: By districts
- Table 2.10 Death Rate by Sex, India & Assam (Rural, Urban, Total) – 1992-93
- Table 2.11 Age specific death rates and crude death rates Age specific death rates and crude death rates (CDR) by sex from NFHS-1, NFHS-2, and the SRS, Assam
- Table 2.12 Age specific death rates by sex, India and Assam – 1993
- Table 2.13 Total Fertility Rate and Crude Birth Rate (CBR): Rural–Urban: Assam and India

- Table 2.14 Estimated Birth Rate, Death Rate, Natural Growth Rate and Unnatural Growth Rate
- Table 2.15 Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Natural Growth Rate India/Assam (Rural, Urban, Total)- 1994,1995, (Oct.) and 2003
- Table 2.16 Crude Birth Rate and Total Fertility Rate: Assam: by District (1991)
- Table 2.17 Mean age at Marriage: Assam: by districts (1991)
- Table 2.18 Effective ages at marriage of females.(Total, Rural & Urban) – 1991,1992 & 1993
- Table 2.19 Maternal Mortality Ratio: 1997-98(Per hundred thousand)
- Table 2.20 Infant Mortality Rate: 1981-91(Per thousand)
- Table 2.21 Infant Mortality Rate — Rural & Urban(Per thousand)
- Table 2.22 Child mortality rate (o-4) India & Assam1997
- Table 2.23 Under 5 Mortality (1970-75 &1992-1996)
- Table 2.24 Under 5 female mortality (1970-75 &1992-1996)(Per thousand)
- Table 2.25 Under Five Mortality Rate (Per thousand)
- Table 2.26 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 0-4 Years - Combined(Per thousand)
- Table 2.27 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 0-4 Years — Rural(Per thousand)
- Table 2.28 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 0-4 Years — Urban(Per thousand)
- Table 2.29 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 5-9 Years — Combined(Per thousand)
- Table 2.30 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 5-9 Years — Rural(Per thousand)
- Table 2.31 Age Specific Mortality Rate for Age Group 5-9 Years — Urban(Per thousand)
- Table 2.32 Infant Mortality Rate: Assam and India: 1991-2003
- Table 2.33 Infant and Child Mortality Rate: Assam and India: 1998
- Table 2.34 Infant Mortality Rate: Assam: 1998
- Table 2.35 Age group wise Child Mortality: Assam: by districts: 1991
- Table 2.36 Expectation of life at birth by sex: Assam and India: Rural-Urban (1989-93)
- Table 2.37 Expectations of life at birth by sex in Assam and India
- Table 2.38 Persons not expected to Survive beyond Age 40 — 1981(Percentage)
- Table 2.39 Persons not expected to Survive beyond Age 40 — 1991(Percentage)
- Table 3.1 Literacy Rates by Sex in India and Assam (1961-2001)
- Table 3.2 Literacy Rates by sex: Assam: by districts (1981-2001)

- Table 3.3 Literacy Rate of Scheduled Castes (Percentage)
- Table 3.4 Literacy Rate of Scheduled Tribes (Percentage)
- Table 3.5 Literates/Illiterates in the age group 7-14 years (Percentage)
- Table 3.6 Adult Literacy Rate — Combined (Percentage)
- Table 3.7 Adult Literacy Rate — Rural (Percentage)
- Table 3.8 Adult Literacy Rate — Urban (Percentage)
- Table 3.9 Adult Literacy Rate —1995-96(Percentage)
- Table 3.10 Age-Specific Enrolment Ratios — Combined (Percentage)
- Table 3.11 Age-Specific Enrolment Ratios — Rural (Percentage)
- Table 3.12 Age-Specific Enrolment Ratios — Urban (Percentage)
- Table 3.13 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages, 1978 — Combined(Percentage)
- Table 3.14 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages1978 — Rural (Percentage)
- Table 3.14 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages, 1978 —Urban (Percentage)
- Table 3.15 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages, 1993 — Combined (Percentage)
- Table 3.16 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages1993 — Rural (Percentage)
- Table 3.17 Girls Enrolled in Various School Stages1993 — Urban (Percentage)
- Table 3.18 Drop-out Rates in Classes I-V (Percentage)
- Table 3.19 Drop-out Rates in Classes I-VIII (Percentage)
- Table 3.20 Drop-out Rates in Classes I-X (Percentage)
- Table 3.21 Classwise Enrolment up to higher secondary classes in Assam
- Table 3.22 Course wise sex ratio.
- Table 3.23 District wise Percentage of Female Teachers in Assam: 2001
- Table 3.24 Teacher — Pupil Ratio (Pupils per teacher)
- Table 3.25 Statistics relating to Schools: Assam: 1951-2001
- Table 4 Neonatal, Post-neonatal rates for the five-year period preceding the survey by State, India, (NHFS-2 1998-99)
- Table 4.1 Percentage Distributions Of Live Births By Type Of Medical Attention Received By The Mother At Delivery By Residence, India and Assam, 1992 - 94
- Table 4.2 Births Attended by Health Professionals (Percentage)

- Table 4.3 Births Delivered in Medical Institutions (Percentage)
- Table 4.4 Type of Medical Attention Received by Mothers at childBirth(1995-1996)-Combined (Percentage)
- Table 4.5 Type of Medical Attention Received by Mothers at Child Birth (1995-1996)-Rural (Percentage)
- Table 4.6 Type of Medical Attention Received by Mothers at Child Birth (1995-1996)—Urban (Percentage)
- Table 4.7 Anaemia Among Women and Children, 1998-99(Percentage)
- Table 4.8 Women with Any Anaemia, 1998-1999(Percentage)
- Table 4.9 Two Doses or More of TT Vaccination during Pregnancy (Percentages)
- Table 4.10 Fully Vaccinated Children aged 12-23 Months (Percentage)
- Table 4.11 Children aged 12-23 Months Not Vaccinated (Percentage)
- Table 4.12 Number of Persons Reporting Ailment During Last 15 days — Rural (1995-96)(Per thousand)
- Table 4.13 Number of Persons Reporting Ailment During Last 15 days — Urban (1995-96)(Per thousand)
- Table 4.14 Persons Hospitalized During Last 365 Days (1995-1996)(Per thousand)
- Table 4.15 Couple Protection Rate (Percentage)
- Table 4.16 Use of Family Planning Methods by background characteristics: Assam (1999)
- Table 4.17 Health Infrastructure: Assam: by Districts, 2000-2001
- Table 5.1 Persons in the Labour Force: Assam and India (by area)(Percentage)
- Table 5.2 (LFPR) according to usual status of persons of age 15 years and above for India and Assam.
- Table 5.3 (LFPR) according to usual status of persons of age 15 years and above for India and Assam
- Table 5.4 Number of Persons usually employed in the principal status (ps) and in the principal as well as subsidiary status (all) per thousand persons) India and Assam, July 1999-June 2000
- Table 5.5 Per thousand distribution of Persons by broad usual activity [principal status] and all(principal and subsidiary status):India and Assam, July-December 2002
- Table 5.6 Employment in the Organised Sector — 1991(In thousands)
- Table 5.7 Employment in the Organised Sector — 2000(in thousands)
- Table 5.8 Age specific principal worker population ratio for Assam and All India for rural male
- Table 5.9 Age specific principal worker population ratio for Assam and All India for rural female
- Table 5.10 Age specific principal worker population ratios for Assam and All India for Urban male

- Table 5.11 Age specific principal worker population ratio for Assam and All India for Urban female
- Table 5.12 Distribution (in per cent) of Main workers by Industrial Category
- Table 5.13 Distribution (in per cent) of Main workers by Industrial Category
- Table 5.14 Per 1000 distribution of usually working Persons by broad group of Industry
- Table 5.15 Ranking of Districts by female work participation rate: 1991 and 2001
- Table 5.16 Percentage of total Workers, main workers and marginal workers to total workers by residence and sex: Assam: by districts: 1991 and 2001
- Table 5.17 Employment in Public and Private Sector: Assam: 2000(In thousands)
- Table 5.18 Growth in Employment Assam and India: by area (Percent per annum)
- Table 5.19 Incidence of Unemployment Assam and India: By area (As a percentage of labour force)
- Table 5.20 Per thousand distribution of Unemployed Persons by broad usual activity principal (ps) and principal and subsidiary (all) status India and Assam
- Table 6.1 Distribution of male/female Candidates Contesting Lok Sabha elections: 1952-85
- Table 6.2 Year-wise distribution of contesting candidates' male, female and total number of women elected to the Assembly from 1952-1985
- Table 6.3 Year-wise distribution of Electorate showing male/female and total in various Assembly Election in Assam from 1952-1985
- Table 6.4 Women in Decision Making: ASSAM
- Table 6.5 Members of Rajya Sabha By Sex, From ASSAM In 1994&1996.
- Table 6.6 Assam – Human Development Fact Sheet
- Table 6.7 Elected members of Panchayats 2002
- Table 7.1 Crime and violence against women in Assam 1997-2002**
- Table 7.2 Percentage Distribution Of Different Types of Crime And Violence Against Women in Assam 1997-2002***
- Table 7.3 Total no of different forms of Crime Against Women In Assam by districts from 1997-2002
- Table 7.4 List of Jails In The State Of Assam (As on 31st March 2002)
- Table 7.5 Prison Population of Assam (As on 31-12-2001)
- Table 8.1 Households with Pucca Houses (Percentage)
- Table 8.2 Households with Semipucca Houses (Percentage)
- Table 8.3 Households with Kutcha Houses (Percentage)

- Table 8.4 Households with Access to Toilet Facility (Percentage)
- Table 8.5 Scheduled Caste/Tribe Households with Toilet Facility (1991)(Percentage)
- Table 8.6 Households with Safe Drinking Water (Percentage)
- Table 8.7 Scheduled Caste/Tribe Households with Safe Drinking Water (1991)(Percentage)
- Table 8.8 Households by Major Source of Drinking Water (1995-1996) — Combined (Percentage)
- Table 8.9 Households by Major Source of Drinking Water (1995-1996) — Rural (Percentage)
- Table 8.10 Households by Major Source of Drinking Water (1995-1996) — Urban (Percentage)
- Table 8.11 Households with Electricity Connection (Percentage)
- Table 8.12 Scheduled Caste/Tribe Households with Electricity Connection (1991)(Percentage)
- Table 8.13 Per Capita Consumption of Electricity
- Table 8.14 Households without Electricity, Safe Drinking Water and Toilet (1991)(Percentage)
- Table 8.15 Households with Access to Electricity, Safe Drinking Water and Toilet (1991) (Percent)
- Table 8.16 Availability of electricity, Safe Drinking Water and Toilet Facilities to Households, 1991:
Assam: By Districts
- Table 10.1 Outlay and Expenditure during Ninth Plan for Assam
- Table 10.2 Sectoral Composition of Actual Plan Expenditure (Percentage)
- Table 10.3 Composition of Public Spending —Some Critical Ratios,1980-81(Percentage)
- Table 10.4 Composition of Public Spending —Some Critical Ratios — 1990-91(Percentage)
- Table 10.5 Composition of Public Spending —Some Critical Ratios — 1998-99(Percentage)
- Table 10.6 Public Spending on Education and Health (As a percentage of Gross State Domestic Product)
- Table 10.7 Per Capita Expenditure on Education and Health: North Eastern States
- Table 10.8 Women component (WC) In The State Plan Programmes Draft Ninth Plan and Draft Annual Plans 1997-98 to 200-2001



FOREWORD

The existential pathos of a woman's life has been inimitably captured by the great Hindi poet, Shri Maithilisharan Gupta, in a memorable couplet which says, "Alas, woman! Thy destiny is eternal sacrifice, eternal suffering!"

Despite the exalted position given to women in some of India's religious texts and the exceptional attainments of individual women in fields as diverse as philosophy, statecraft and even warfare, the profile of the average woman through the ages has been that of a perpetually poor, perpetually pregnant and perpetually powerless being.

Independent India has tried to redeem the situation by proclaiming equality of the sexes as a Fundamental Right under the Constitution and directing state policy towards removing the various disabilities that thwart women in realising their potential. Five decades of Independence have also seen a plethora of laws passed by the State and Federal Governments to protect women from violence and discrimination and to strengthen their entitlements in the social and economic fields. Numerous committees and commissions have x-rayed the position of women, the advances made by them and the obstacles faced by them, and they have made umpteen recommendations to improve the situation. Scores of schemes have been floated by various Ministries of the Government to address women's problems, particularly those relating to education, health, nutrition, livelihood and personal laws. In the institutional area, independent administrative departments to give undivided attention to women's problems have sprung up at the Centre as well as in the States. Development corporations were an innovation of the Eighties to energise economic benefit schemes. The Nineties saw the setting up of the National Commission for Women (NCW) and State Commissions in various States to inquire into the working of various legal and constitutional provisions concerning women, to investigate cases of violation of women's rights and generally to advise on the socio-economic policy framework in order to mainstream women's concerns. In recent years, the Governments, Central and State, have also articulated comprehensive policies for the empowerment of women through a variety of instruments and approaches focusing on an explicit vision of equal partnership of women in all walks of life.

Credit must also be given to a robust women's movement which has often given forceful expression to women's aspirations and joined issue with all the organs of state — legislative, executive and judicial — for reviewing the age-old prescriptions of a patriarchal society. Often they have networked effectively with the international community and fora in the quest for worldwide solidarity on issues affecting women. These interactions have often times changed the idiom of discourse on women's right to justice and development.

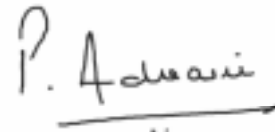
The half-century of struggle and reform has undoubtedly had considerable impact on women's world. Some of the key indicators of development have perked up significantly; women's life expectancy has risen; education levels have improved; economic participation has grown. But there are areas of darkness too; crimes against women, both at home and outside, continue unabated; traditional economic occupations have withered in the face of global competition; there is increasing commodification of women's persona and vulgarisation of their image in the media's marketplace. The new economic regime, where Sensex swamps sensibility, has meant the precipitate withdrawal of the state from many fields leaving the weak, including women, in the cold. Similarly laws change; minds don't. Therefore between progressive legislation and sensitive enforcement falls a long shadow. Critics also point out that whatever advances have been made remain confined to urban India and the vast hinterland resists change obstinately.

The overall picture is thus a mixed one leaving the profile of the average Indian woman not substantially altered. But in this vast country there is no average Indian woman. As in all other matters, diversity marks the Indian woman's picture too. How society and economy are coping with the forces of modernisation differs substantially from region to region. The geography of a state provides its own constraints and opportunities; history gives its own moorings to values and momentum to change. Thus the regional profile is superimposed on the national profile. The NCW has therefore commissioned these studies to gauge how women's life has been changing or not changing in different States of the country, and to situate these studies in the historical and geographical context of each region or State so that progress can be measured across time and across space. Such spatial comparisons can highlight what lessons there are to be learnt from the 'leading' areas and equally they help in focusing the attention on the 'lagging' areas. Regionally disaggregated data helps in benchmarking progress of different regions, areas or districts, and can be used for improving performance by attempting to raise the performance levels of the laggards to the average of the State and then matching the State's average to the national average. Interesting insights can also be gleaned from the experience of implementing agencies, both governmental and non-governmental, in dealing with different problems. Some of these may be rooted in the soil of the region and may not lend

themselves to replication but many others can be useful examples to emulate. That is how Best Practices become common practices.

These studies have been carried out by different research groups having special knowledge and interest in the area — its people, its history, its administration, its cultural ambience etc. They have interacted with official agencies as well as with leading NGOs working with women in the respective areas. The NCW has given a helping hand by providing information from its own database where available and also by interacting with the government of the State to set the stage for these exercises. The result is in your hands.

The research effort in respect of Assam was anchored by Dr. Arhana Sharma while the NCW team comprising Ms. Nita Kapoor, Joint Secretary; Ms. Nandini Topchum & Mr. H. Kumar, Senior Research Officer, facilitated the dialogue with the Assam Administration.



Poornima Advani

PREFACE

The fundamental rights guaranteed by Articles 14, 15 and 16 of the Constitution of India with respect to women, the Directive Principles of State Policy and in particular those enshrined in Articles 38, 39, 39A and 42 of the Constitution to improve the status and dignity of women in the society, and also the numerous gender sensitive legal provisions and a large number of developmental programmes directed towards the development of women, apparently leave no room for the existence of gender inequality in our country. But unfortunately, inspite of all this, gender disparities continue to be a stubborn problem in India. The situation in Assam, one of the North Eastern States of the Country, proves to be no exception.

For the successful implementation of policies for achieving gender equality, periodical assessment of the status of women in the society is an important tool for policy planners. This report is an attempt at finding out the extent of gender inequality in the State. The report starts with a brief background of the economy and the demographic conditions of the State and thereafter analyses the status of women in Assam relative to that of men and also in relation to the average Indian women, in terms of various aspects of living.

I am grateful to the NCW and its Chairperson Dr. Poornima Advani for giving me the opportunity to prepare this report.

I take this opportunity also to thank all those who had directly or indirectly helped me in the preparation of this report.

I have used different available sources of data in preparing the report. Attempts have been made to bring out a true "Situational Analysis of Women in Assam", although limitations cannot be ruled out. My efforts will be amply rewarded if the report proves to be useful for the policy makers and serves as a baseline for future researchers and all others who might be using this for different purposes.

01.06.04

Archana Sharma