

A STUDY ON FERTILITY AND INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY AMONGST THE MISHINGS OF MAJULI

14

A Report Submitted to the institute of
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as a Rajib Gandhi Scholar

By
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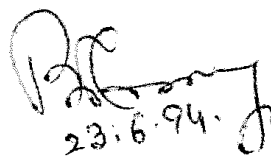
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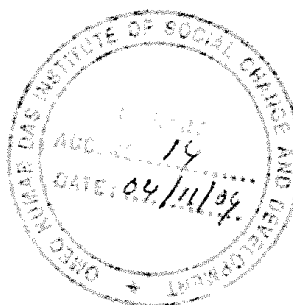
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This is to certify that the report entitled
"Fertility and infant and child mortality amongst the
Mishings of Majuli" which is being submitted by Miss
Karabi Duara, Rajib Gandhi Fellow at the Institute of
Social change and Development, Guwahati is a record of
original research work carried out by her under my
supervision.


23.6.94.

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Dated: 22-6-94

Karabi Duara
(KARABI DUARA)

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INTRODUCTION

The study of Demography is assuming greater and increasing significance not only in India but all over the world. According to Hauser and Duncan (1959), Demography is described as the study of size, territorial distribution and composition of population, changes therein and the components of such changes which may be identified as natality, mortality, territorial movement (migration) and social mobility (changes of status).

It is known to all that the population of India is increasing very rapidly. With a population of 844 Million as per 1991 Census, India's share in the world population has increased to 16% from 15.2 per cent in 1981. Premi, in his book ''India's population heading towards A Billion'', rightly stated that, with a population of 844 Million, every sixth person in the world is now an Indian. The demographic figures of 1991 Census shows that, in the four decades of planning era, India has added to her demographic dimension not only another India, but along with it still two more countries of the size of Pakistan and Bangladesh (The Assam Tribune, 4th April 1994).

As such, the study of Demography is assuming greater and increasing significance. The main reason for this is that an ever growing population in any country especially the developing and under developing countries strains or hampers the social, economic and even the political systems of the nations. Thus,

it is evident that India has to check her explosive growth of members if she wants to leap forward in socio-economic development.

Hence it becomes very necessary to study the growth rate of the Indian population very closely and carefully and to find out why the population of India is growing so rapidly and also to find out measures of checking it.

Fertility and mortality are the two major aspects in any demographic study as they play an important role in determining the population structure. Then again, it is known that demographic variables like fertility, mortality etc. are the fundamental events of natural selection, which bring about changes in year frequencies in a population. Knowledge of fertility and infant and childhood mortality among different social and cultural groups and their determinants are essential for effective planning and implementation of many developmental programmes in any country (Mahadevan 1985). In every society it is very essential to find out the birth and death rates and the factors which influence these. Birth and death of a child in a family affects and influences the whole family structure on the one hand and of the society as a whole on the other (Hans Raj 1988). In fact mortality rate, has, in recent years been recognised as an excellent summary index of the level of living and socio-economic development of a country (Jain and Visaria 1988). This recognition has inspired international organisations as well as national governments to intensify their efforts to lower infant mortality and raise the level of child survival.

Thus, we can see that the importance of fertility and infant and child mortality studies are being understood these days and on large number of studies on these two aspects of Demography are being made from different view points and with different objectives. There has been considerable development in the field of Demographic studies and researches in India in the last two decades. Turning to the North Eastern part of the country, it has been seen that literature on demographic aspects are very limited where hundreds of primitive groups reside from time immemorial. Some literature mostly from other parts of the country and a few from the North Eastern Parts have been briefly reviewed below :

Fertility levels of Indian tribals historically featured ^{as} the highest ^{among the} of ~~Indians~~ population. Such fertility differentials were typically ascribed to distinctive tribal marriage patterns. Davis (1951) held higher frequency of widow remarriage and lower age at marriage responsible for high child woman ratios among the tribals. Nag (1976) added the potential mechanism of a high divorce rate combined with a high frequency of remarriage for divorce/separated females.

According to Davis and Blake (1956) lack of adequate contraceptive technology has been suggested as an explanation for high fertility in pre-industrial societies (International Encyclopedia of Social Sciences). It has been proved in a few studies (WHO, 1976 ; Mahadevan 1979) that infant and childhood mortality has a very strong association with fertility levels and with the acceptance of contraception. The mortality level in a region indicates the extent of socio-economic advancement. It is assumed that lower the

socio-economic development the higher is the infant and childhood mortality (Mahadevan 1985). According to Kingsley Davis (1945), the relationship between infant mortality and fertility has been subject of debate amongst population analysts. The prevailing assumption is that high fertility is a biological response to high mortality (Goyal 1990).

In his study, Gubhaju (1986) confirmed that the higher risk of infant death to first born children is mainly due to the higher proportions of younger women having first order births per se. This result is supported by various other studies. Teenaged mothers have showed an increased risk of infant deaths compared to mothers aged 20 - 29 and 30 years and over (Gubhaju 1986). Moreover, as mentioned earlier, Davis (1951) in his study attributed low age at marriage and higher frequency of widow remarriage for high fertility in tribal societies. Thus, it can be seen that age at marriage is an important factor controlling fertility and infant and childhood mortality.

Maternal education is also important (Nan, Ebersteia and Terrie 1988 ; Cochrane, Leslie and O'Hara 1982 ; Palloni, 1981 ; Caldwell 1979) since it provides the mother with the necessary skills for child care. In addition, education changes the traditional balance of familial relationships with prolonged effects on a child (Caldwell, 1979) and determines changes in social attitudes as well as readiness to accept new ideas (c.f. Ahmad 1991). It has been found that maternal education has both positive and negative influences on child survival. While educated mothers are in a better position of taking care of their children and are aware of the attitudes to health,

housing and health services, they are more likely to abandon traditional behaviour and prolonged breast-feeding which has hazardous effects on the child (Ahmad 1991).

Region of residence is also seem to have an influence on fertility and infant mortality. According to Ahmad (1991), risk of child death is lower for urban than for rural areas. Exposure to Media, nutrition, family size, prenatal and post natal care, financial condition and occupational status are seem to influence the fertility and infant mortality of any area (Das Gupta 1990).

Demographic studies in North East India are fragmentary. Some occasional works were carried out by different investigators on neaouche and neapause (Rakshit, 1960 ; Das and Das 1967) and on fertility and mortality (Das and Devi 1975 ; Das and Das 1973 etc.).

Das (1992) studied the pregnancy wastage among nine population groups of Assam. It may be mentioned here that the above short review of literature is far from exhausted. The main purpose here is to highlight the results of the previous studies and to focus the need for thorough investigation on different aspects of Demography in North Eastern India particularly among the Mishings, where the anthropological data are very limited.

Barua (1980) studied the fertility of Khasi women. He made a comparison between the educated and non-educated among them and the christian and non-christian Khasis. He found that fertility was higher among the non-educated, non-christian rural women. Bhowmik also made a demographic study of the Khasis.

Demography of the Dimasa, a tribe of North Cachar Hills, Assam, has been studied by Phookan (1984) considering the factors like composition of family, age at marriage and education of the population. Borah (1969) studied complications of IUCD in relation to age and ^{at puberty} parity in Dibrugarh area, Assam. Another study conducted by the centre in Cachar district of Assam found that the near age of the male acceptors (Vasectomy) was higher than the female (Laparoscopy) and majority of the acceptors have two surviving sons (Evaluation Reports, 1985-86, 1988 - 89).

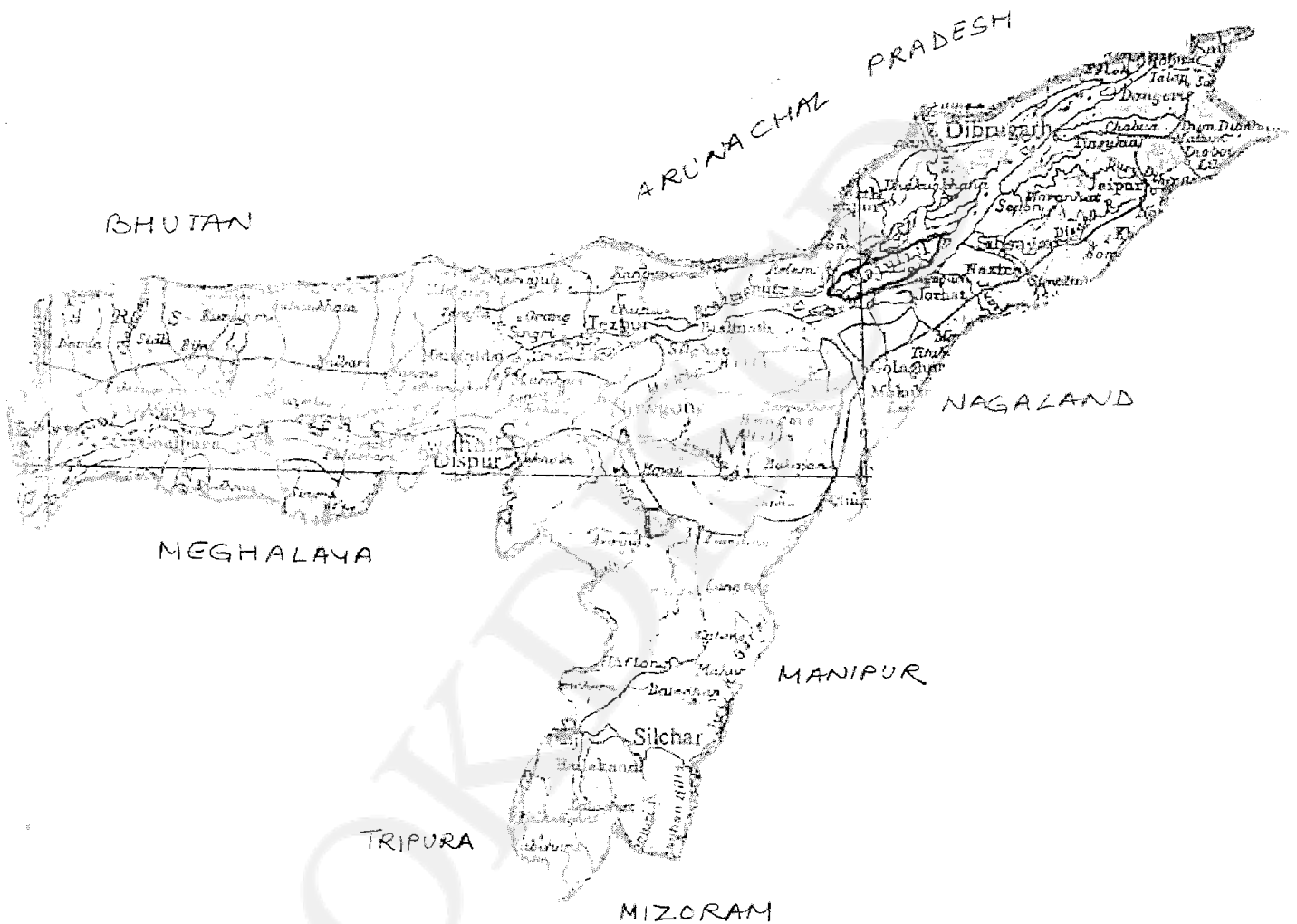
Keeping in mind the importance of Demographic studies and its variables like fertility and infant and child mortality the present study has been undertaken.

In this study, the following issues have been examined -

1. The Demographic composition of the Mishings residing in Majuli.
2. Their fertility and infant mortality patterns.
3. The results have then been examined against various socio-cultural factors like education, economic condition, age at marriage, family size, occupation and acceptance of family planning etc.
4. An attempt has also been made to see if the family planning programmes adopted by the Government have any impact on the Mishings.

For the present study, the Mishing population has been chosen primarily because they are the second largest group of (Plain) scheduled tribes of Assam (Bardoloi et al 1987) and very little research work has been done on them. In fact no work has so far been done on the Mishings residing in Majuli. Then again the

LOCATION MAP



MAP OF ASSAM SHOWING MAJULI (NOT TO SCALE)

AREA OF STUDY:



(NOT TO SCALE)

Mishings were originally a hill tribe. According to Mipur^a (1993) the Mishings formerly lived along with the Adis in the Siyang valley of Arunachal Pradesh. On the basis of the legends of the tribe, they moved to the plains of Assam around the 13th century A.D. in quest of of more peaceful and better economic life. After their migration to the plains they settled on the banks of the rivers Brahmaputra, Subansiri, Dishang, Dihing and their tributaries. The distribution of the Mishing villages on the banks of these rivers in itself is evidence of their immigration. After their migration to the plains, the Mishings underwent the process of adaptation in order to adjust to the plain life which was new to them. Hence, the present study has been undertaken on this tribe with the intention to see what has been the trend of the demographic variables like fertility and infant mortality in a tribe in the process of adaptation.

Tucked away in the Brahmaputra, in the North of Jorhat in Assam, is Majuli, the world's largest river island. For the present study, Majuli has been selected mainly because it is an isolated pocket and is cut off from the modern facilities of communication. Hence, the population can be understood in its original cultural ecology i.e. in their life in the riverine areas. Moreover, Majuli is a flood prone area. The ravages of annual flood has broken the economic backbone of the people residing there. No attempt has so far been made to see how these people adjust to the flood prone area and if their ecology has any effect on their fertility and infant mortality rates.

It is hoped that India would be in a point of entering the fourth stage of demographic transition by about 2020



A TYPICAL MISHING DWELLING
IN VILLAGE BORPANUA



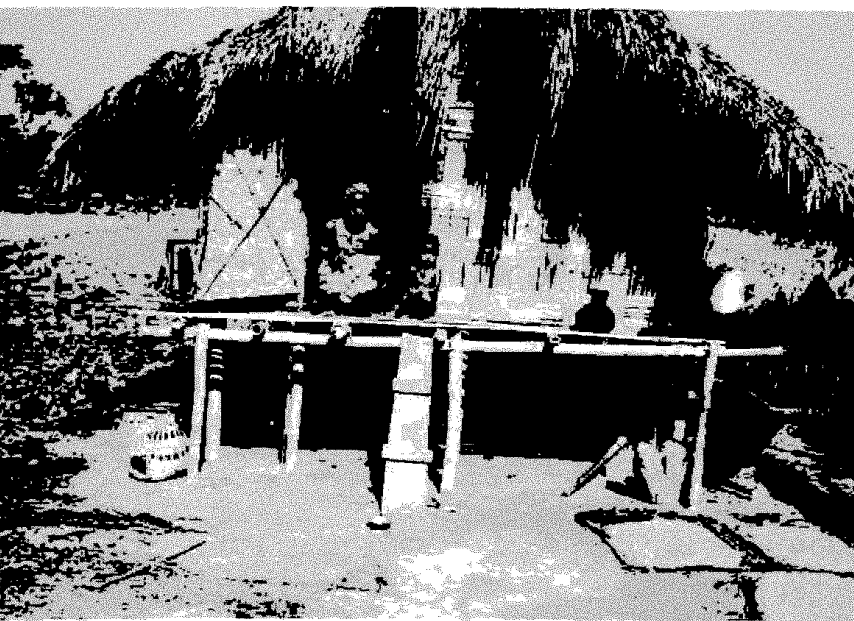
MISHING WOMEN MAKING
APONG IN VILLAGE BORPANUA

if not earlier. It is hoped that there would be a faster decline in the birth rate than in the death rate in the next couple of decades in India (Prenui 1993). Following the Alma Ata Declaration of 1978 to ensure 'Health for all' by 2000 AD, the government of India has adopted the National goal of halving the prevailing level of infant mortality (from about 120) to 60 by 2000 AD. The sixth and the seventh Five Year Plans of India have aimed at nation wide progress to realise this goal. The present study has been undertaken with the objective to verify the above expectations in an area almost completely cut off from the modern ^{amenities} ~~enemies~~. It is believed that birth rate should be kept as low as possible and this can be done by effective family planning programme. Family Planning is an essential component for any **broad** based development strategy that seeks to improve the quality of life for both individuals and communities. The Government of India has adopted family planning as an official programme with the purpose of controlling the country's high fertility and lowering the growth rate of its population. But no information is available whether the Mishings of the proposed area are aware of these programmes and whether it is acceptable to them or not.

Hence, the **present** study has been undertaken on the Mishings residing in Majuli.

AREA OF THE STUDY :

Majuli is an enchanting ^{Majuli} ~~landless~~, set amid a region rich in scenic splendour and despite large scale denudation, is unbelievably green the whole year through. Majuli occupies an area of about 1200 sq.Km. and accommodates no less than 1.10 lakh inhabitants. It is a flood prone area and the main source of income of the people



A TYPICAL MISHING DWELLING
IN VILLAGE BOTIANARI



PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THE FLOOD AFFECTED PEOPLE
MAKING TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENTS ON THE RIVER EMBANKMENT
IN VILLAGE BOTIANARI

is agriculture, mainly ^{exaki} rubber crop besides taming of cattle like cows, buffaloes and pigs. The ravages of annual flood has broken the economic backbone of the people. These people are completely aloof from the urban facilities. Majuli being a flood prone area, the waters of the Brahmaputra inundate the plains every year. Bhattacharjee has rightly stated in Frontline, September 24, 1993 Issue that Majuli may well lose its distinction and, in fact, vanish altogether - if erosion which is devouring large parts of it, continues at the current alarming rate. Improved communication has not, however, brought economic progress to the inhabitants in its wake.

The present report is based on the study of four villages. Keeping in view the requirements of the study, the four Mishing villages, i.e. Borpanua, Botiamari, Alangi Sapor and Dapakgaon have been selected. All the four villages are situated in Majuli sub-division of Jorhat district. All the four are located in isolated pockets cut off from modern facilities of communication.

The Village Borpanua is under Jengrai Gaon Panchayat. Borpanua is about 30 kms. from Kamalabari, a small but important town of Majuli. The village is situated on the bank of the river Khersuti, which makes the boundary between Lakhimpur and Sibsagar districts. Jengraimukh is a marketing centre of Majuli and is situated at a distance of 1 KM. from the village. The village is connected with the marketing centre by a river embankment. Barpanua is well connected with other parts of Majuli throughout the year excepting ^{the} summers. The other three villages, i.e. Botiamari, Alangi Sapor and Dapakgaon are at a distance of about 2 Kms. from Kamalabari. Even though it is a known fact that Majuli is a flood prone area and the ravages of flood have broken the economic backbone of the people residing there,

in Barpanua, after the construction of the embankment, the ravages of flood are no longer as severe as it used to be before. On the other hand, villages Botiomori, Alangi Saponi and Dapakgaon in Kamalabari are still being affected by flood inspite of the construction of the embankment. Botiamari had been affected by flood last monsoon when parts of the embankment had been eroded by the waters of the mighty Brahmaputra.

Hence, the economy of the people living in Borpanua and of the people living in the other three villages was expected to be quite different. As such, very arbitrarily, I have divided the area into two ecological zones (i.e. the Built up Area and the Flood Plain Area) in order to see the effect of ecology on their biology which will be reflected in their demography. Village Borpanua represents the Built up area and the other three villages represent the Flood Plain Area.

SAMPLE :

A total of 345 households have been surveyed of which 230 households are from Barpanua and 115 households are from the other three villages. The sample size of the three villages in Kamalabari area is smaller as compared to that of Borpanua as these villages are smaller and the population here is less when compared to that of Borpanua.

METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION :

Interviews were conducted with the head of the households, married men and women, widowed, divorced or separated women. However, helps from other members of the households were also sought for collecting some data. Data on family planning were collected only from

the married men and women. The respondents were very coöperative and helpful. They gave all information to the best of their knowledge. As the Mishing language was not known to me and the villagers could speak or understand only broken Assamese, most of the womenfolk especially the elderly ladies could not speak or understand Assamese at all. Hence, I had to take help of an interpreter in carrying out the survey successfully.

Most of the respondents could clearly communicate the age, educational status, age at marriage etc. The women could also tell the age at menarche, age at remarriage and age at first birth etc. Some of the very old persons could not tell their present age. In such cases, help was taken from their children. Some political events such as the year of independence, natural disaster like the earthquake of Assam of 1950, religious festivals of Hindus also helped in reconstructing the correct age of the individuals. No difficulty was faced in collecting the data on family planning. Most of the women told without any hesitation about the use of contraception. In case of non-adapters, they also hold the reasons why they were against family planning.

METHODOLOGY :

For the present study, data were collected with the help of suitable schedules. Three exclusive schedules were prepared for collecting the required information. The first schedule was designed to collect information on demographic composition. This includes name, age, sex, relationship with the head of the households, marital status, age at marriage, age at remarriage, type of marriage, educational status, occupation, income of the family etc.

The second schedule was prepared to obtain information on fertility performance. It has two parts. The first part was designed to obtain information on age at which became widow, age at the time of separation or divorce, age at menarche, age at first conception etc. The second part of the schedule was prepared to obtain information on all vital events that occurred^a from the date of marriage including number of conceptions, abortions - induced or spontaneous, still births, live births - their present age and sex, if any child is dead, then the age, sex and cause of death etc.

The schedule for family planning has two parts. One for acceptors and the other for non-acceptors. The part for non-acceptors was prepared to obtain data on attitudes towards family planning, knowledge about the devices, future plan about acceptance of family planning and name of the device planned to accept, ideal family size norm and desired family size, cause of not accepting any device where family size is equal or larger than desired family size. Only women were considered for collecting these informations. The part for acceptors was prepared to obtain information about the use of family planning device(s), duration of use, age at the time of use, use of stopper or spacer, cause of uniting family size and decision maker about the acceptance of family planning device. Besides the data on the above schedules, some case studies were also collected.

Description of the Mishings

The Mishings, otherwise known as the Miris form a major section of the indigenous tribal population of Assam, a homeland of a large number of populations, both tribal and non-tribal, of

different ethnic origins, linguistic affiliations and having varied socio-cultural traditions since long past. The Mishings are the second major section of the scheduled tribes of Assam.

The Mishings are an Indo-Mongoloid tribe settled in the plains of Assam. Originally, they were hill dwellers and lived along with the Adis in the Siyang valley of Arunachal Pradesh. On the basis of the legends of the tribe, they moved to the plains of Assam around the 13th century A.D. in quest of more peaceful and better economic life (Mipua 1993).

The predominant scheduled tribes of Assam are the Boro - Borokacharis (610, 459) followed by the Miris (Mishings) (259, 551). They are mainly concentrated in the riverine areas of Lakhimpur, Dibrugarh, Sibsagar, Jorhat and Sonitpur districts of Assam. As per 1971 Census, the major concentration of the Mishings is found in three districts namely Lakhimpur, Sibsagar and Darrang with a total population of 155,038, 84,752 and 14,948 respectively. The projected population of the Mishings in Assam as on March 1987 was 416,493 (the tribe-wise figures of 1991 census is not available till date).

They belong to the Tibeto Burman family of the Mongoloid group. They are medium statured people with appealing features, characteristic of the Mongoloid type of people (Bordoloi et. al. 1987). The menfolk cultivate Ahu paddy in marshy, low lying paddy fields putting much strenuous labour. During summer they have a hard time when their villages are submerged by flood water and both male and female ply boats to catch fish, collect firewood and other food items.

The Mishing villages are situated along the river courses of Upper Assam. The distribution of the villages along the

courses of the river Brahmaputra, Subansiri, Dishang, Dhing and their tributaries indicate the immigration of the Mishing (Mipun 1993). The Mishing villages are founded in a haphazard manner without proper planning. The front side of the houses generally faces the river. The houses of the Mishings are on piles, about 4 - 5 feet above the ground. On the stilts, they form the floor with thick bamboo splits. The roof is thatched and the walls and doors are made of bamboos. Generally the looms are placed under the platform of the house.

The Mishings are peace loving people and both men and women are hard workers. The women are comparatively more hard working than men.

Their main occupation is agriculture but they are also associated with hunting and fishing. The Mishing women actively participates in the agricultural activities. Besides this, the Mishing women devotes time in RIKSENG which is a separate and individual means of agricultural production of black pulses, mustard oil seeds, paddy etc. which is managed entirely by her care. The money that is obtained by selling the products of RIKSENG is kept aside by the owner. Every Mishing women is a symbol of handloom weaving and art of spinning. Most of the domestic requirements of cloth are met from the family looms. They rear cow, buffaloes, goat etc. Besides these, they also rear pigs and poultry, the earnings of which go to the women.

Rice is the staple food of the Mishings and they relish the Ahu rice which is produced locally. Along with the rice, they take locally produced vegetable, creepers and edible roots. Meat and fish are taken when available. Tea is not very popular among the Mishings and the 'Apong' (locally brewed rice beer) serves as a drink for everybody.

The Mishing religion is based on the belief on supernaturalism and animism. The Mishing religious rites are performed by priests called 'Mibu' who is believed to possess supernatural powers. Now, the Mishings prefer to introduce themselves as Hindus and they are the followers of the 'Bhakatia' cult - a doctrine having Mishing and Baisnavism cum Tantricism mingled together. The 'Bhakatas' of their cult are generally old persons of both sexes who owe allegiance to the 'Satras' i.e. Baisnava monastery (Bordoloi et al 1987).

The Mishings bury the dead irrespective of age, sex and nature of death. Every village has a common burial ground. They observe various festivals during a year according to their traditional pattern. 'Ali - Ai - Ligang ' is their most important festival held every year on the first Wednesday (Ligang Lange) of the month of 'Girnar Polo' Month of Fagun (Bordoloi et al 1987).

The Mishings mostly have joint family system. Two or more primary families live peacefully together in a single platform house. All the members abide by the orders of the headman of the family.

Two types of marriages are prevalent amongst the Mishings namely arranged marriage and marriage by elopement. The arranged marriage is an expensive affair and beyond the reach of the poor. Marriage by elopement is quite common amongst them. Separation and remarriage are also found (Mipua 1993).

A look at the distribution of the Mishing villages in the plains of Assam reveal their distribution on the banks of the rivers Brahmaputra, Subansiri, Dishang, Dihing and their tributaries. According to Mipua (1993), the distribution of the Mishing villages

on the banks of these rivers in itself is evidence of their immigration. Living in the riverine areas, they are constantly exposed to floods which in ^{turn} ~~term~~ affect their economy and progress from all spheres of life. Hence, a question arises that inspite of facing so much of difficulties why does this tribe still live in the riverine areas. On being questioned on this issue, some of the villagers were of the following opinions.

A teacher from Borpanua was of the opinion that the Mishing people live in the riverine areas because they love to eat fish, get plenty of water and firewood. The land is fertile and it is easier to water the plants. Moreover, it is easier to travel in water. He was of the opinion that even if the flood waters spoil or destroy their crops, the land becomes very fertile for the next season.

Another villager was of the opinion that Jhum cultivation was done by the Adi group of people in Arunachal Pradesh. This cultivation could be done only once a year. Moreover, the land was less fertile there. So, they migrated to the plains and settled on the banks of the rivers where the land was very fertile. He was of the opinion that the economy of the Mishings is not stable and the land are prone to erosion. Inspite of apprehending the disadvantages, the Mishings still prefer to live in the riverine areas. The main reason according to him is the availability of fish and drinking water. They are ignorant about wells etc. They get plenty of firewood and water provides a good means of transport for them. Now, living on the banks of the rivers have become a sort of culture for the Mishings. They simply cannot do without it.

RESULTSDEMOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION

In Demography, data and information about different aspects of a population is collected. This type of information is known as 'demographic events' e.g. fatal death, still birth, child death, live birth, childhood, adulthood, marriage, widowhood, divorce, neapause etc. etc. It is essential that these events must be properly understood and followed, for proper study of Demography. Without their proper understanding, there can be some misunderstandings and difficulties in analysis (Raj Hans). A study of population composition relates to the distribution of the attributes like age, sex, race, nationality, religion, language, marital status, household and family composition, education, employment, income etc. An analysis of these attributes helps in an elaborate study of any population and thus makes comparisons possible.

In the present study, I have analysed a total population of 2385 Mishing individuals residing in four villages of Majuli viz. Borpanja, Botiamari, Alongi Sapor and Dapakgaon. The data are analysed under four broad headings i.e. (i) Demographic Compositions, (ii) Fertility, (iii) Infant and Childhood Mortality and (iv) Family Planning.

Under the heading Demographic Composition, the following characteristics are studied :-

Total population in various age groups,
Total population by age and sex,
household size, family types and
composition, marital status, educational status and
occupational status.

Distribution of the population in various age groups is shown in Table 1.1(a) and Figure 1. From the Table, it appears that the highest percentage of the population (14.09 %) is in the age group 5 - 9. There is a successive decline in the proportion of the population from the age group 15 - 19 to the higher age groups excepting the age group 60 - 64 where the percentage of the population suddenly goes up as compared to the previous age groups.

Table 1.1(b) shows the distribution of the population in various age groups in the Built up area and the flood plain area respectively. A closer examination reveals that the highest percentage of the population is in the age group 10 - 14 years and thereafter there is a successive decline in the proportion of the population to the higher age groups in the built up area. In the flood plain area, on the other hand, the highest percentage of the population (14.86 %) is found in the age groups 0 - 4 and 5 - 9. There is a successive decline in the proportion of the population from age group 5 - 9 to the higher age groups.

It is to be mentioned that whereas in the built up region there is a decline of the proportion of population for 10 - 14 years to 0 - 4 years, in the flood plain region no such decrease is observed in the lower age groups.

The dependency ratio is a measure to find out the number of dependents per 100 workers. This is computed on the basis of three broad age groups i.e. below 15 or young dependents, between 15 - 64 or working population and 65 and above or old dependents.

TABLE : 1.1(a)

TOTAL POPULATION IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
0 - 4	332	13.92
5 - 9	336	14.09
10 - 14	334	14.00
15 - 19	259	10.86
20 - 24	232	9.73
25 - 29	189	7.92
30 - 34	168	7.04
35 - 39	131	5.49
40 - 44	98	4.11
45 - 49	84	3.52
50 - 54	49	2.05
55 - 59	47	1.97
60 - 64	53	2.22
65 - 69	33	1.38
70 - 74	30	1.26
75 - 79	5	0.21
80 - 84	5	0.21
TOTAL	2385	99.98

DEPENDENCY RATIO : 82.06

CHILD DEPENDENCY RATIO : $0.76 = 76.48$ OLD DEPENDENCY RATIO : $0.05 = 5.58$

TABLE : 1.1(b)

TOTAL POPULATION IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	BUILT UP AREA		FLOOD PLAIN AREA	
	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
0 - 4	232	13.55	100	14.86
5 - 9	236	13.78	100	14.86
10 - 14	244	14.25	90	13.37
15 - 19	176	10.28	83	12.33
20 - 24	169	9.87	63	9.39
25 - 29	139	8.12	50	7.43
30 - 34	123	7.18	45	6.69
35 - 39	88	5.14	43	6.39
40 - 44	68	3.97	30	4.46
45 - 49	61	3.56	23	3.42
50 - 54	39	2.28	10	1.48
55 - 59	40	2.34	7	1.04
60 - 64	43	2.51	10	1.48
65 - 69	24	1.40	9	1.34
70 - 74	24	1.40	6	0.89
75 - 79	2	0.12	3	0.44
80 - 84	4	0.23	1	0.15
TOTAL	1712	99.98	673	99.99

	BUILT UP AREA	FLOOD PLAIN AREA
DEPENDENCY RATIO	80.97	82.89
CHILD DEPENDENCY RATIO	75.96	72.67
OLD DEPENDENCY RATIO	5.71	5.22

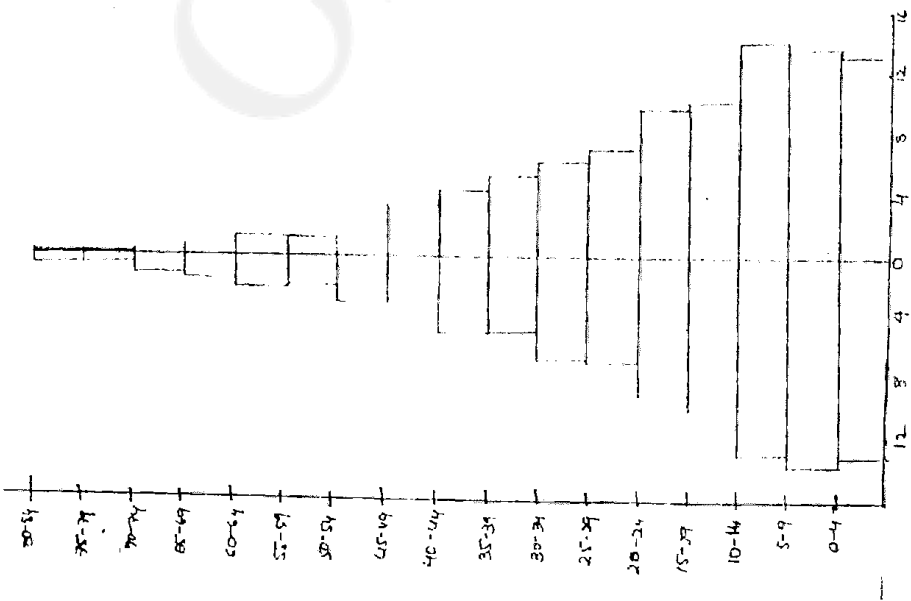


FIG. 1.1 DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX AMONG THE MISHINS IN THE FLOOD PLAIN AREA.

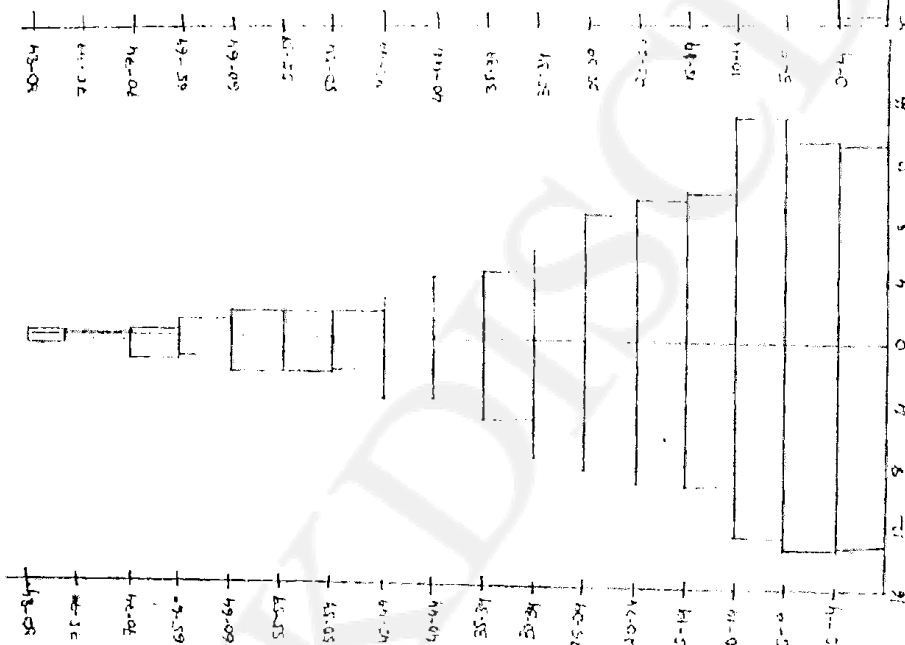


FIG. 1.2 DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX AMONG THE MISHINS IN THE EAST UP AREA.

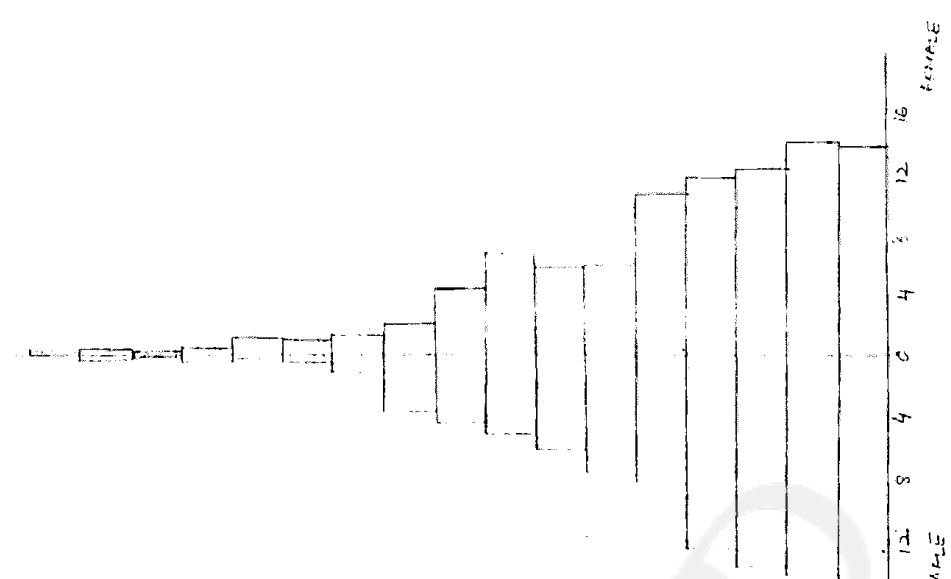


FIG. 1.3 DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX AMONG THE MISHINS IN THE FLOOD PLAIN AREA.

Young dependency ratio is calculated by dividing the number of people under 15 years of age by the number of people between 15 - 64 years of age and multiplying the quotient by 100. Old dependency ratio is calculated by dividing the number of people aged 65 years and above by the number of people aged 15 - 64 years of age and multiplying the quotient by 100. The total dependency ratio is the sum of the young dependency ratio and old dependency ratio. It can otherwise be calculated by adding the number of people under 15 years of age and those aged 65 years and above and by dividing the sum by the number of people between 15 - 64 years of age. The quotient is then multiplied by 100.

In the present study the total dependency ratio of the population studied is found to be 82.06. The child dependency ratio is found to be 76.48 and the old dependency ratio is found to be 5.58. The total dependency ratio of the built up area is found to be 80.97. The child dependency ratio is found to be 75.26 and the old dependency ratio is 5.71 in this region. In the flood plain area on the other hand, the total dependency ratio is found to be 84.89 whereas the child and old dependency ratio is found to be 79.67 and 5.22 respectively.

The sex ratio (number of women per 1000 males) of the population studied has been found to be 942. The sex ratio of the built up area is found to be 963 and that of the flood plain area to be 890 respectively.

Distribution of the population by sex is shown in table 1.1(c). From this table, it can be seen that out of a total population of 2385, 1228 are males and 1157 are females. The percentage of male

(-22-)

TABLE 1.1(c)

TOTAL POPULATION BY SEX

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
NUMBER	1228	1157	2385
PERCENTAGE	51.49	48.51	100.00

(-23-)

TABLE 1.1(d)

TOTAL POPULATION BY SEX

AREA	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
1. BUILT-UP AREA	872	50.94	840	49.06	1712	100.00
2. FLOOD PLAIN AREA	356	52.90	317	47.10	673	100.00

in the population is 51.49% and that of females is 48.51 %. Thus, it can be seen that the percentage of male is more than that of females in the present study.

Table 1.1(d) shows the distribution of the population by sex in the built up and flood plain areas. From the table, it is evident that the percentage of male is higher than that of the female in both the areas. The percentage of male in the built up area and the flood plain area is 50.94 % and 52.90 % respectively and that of females is 49.06 % and 47.10 % respectively.

Distribution of the population by age and sex is shown in Table 1.1(e). This table reflects that the highest percentage of male is found in the age group 5 - 9 (14.01 %) and the highest percentage of female (15.04 %) is found in the age group 10 - 14. There is a successive decline in the percentage of the male population from age group 15 - 19 to the higher age groups excepting the age groups 45 - 49 and 60 - 64 where the percentage is slightly higher than the previous age groups. In case of females, the percentage gradually decreases from the age group 15 - 19 to the higher age groups excepting age group 60 - 64 where the percentage is slightly higher than the previous age group.

Table 1.1(f) shows the distribution of the population by age and sex in the two areas. On examination, it is seen that the percentage of male is the highest in the age group 5 - 9 in the built up area (13.65 %) and in the flood plain area it is (14.89 %). The percentage of female (15.95 %) is the highest in the age group 10 - 14 in the built up area whereas in the flood plain area it is the highest in the age group 5 - 9 (14.83 %). In case of the built up

(-25-)

TABLE 1.1(e)

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX
(SMALLER AGE GROUPS)

AGE GROUPS	MALE		FEMALE	
	No	%	No	%
0 - 4	171	13.92	161	13.91
5 - 9	172	14.01	164	14.17
10 - 14	160	13.03	174	15.04
15 - 19	132	10.75	127	10.98
20 - 24	115	9.36	117	10.11
25 - 29	98	7.98	91	7.86
30 - 34	91	7.41	77	6.65
35 - 39	68	5.54	63	5.44
40 - 44	46	3.74	52	4.49
45 - 49	47	3.83	37	3.20
50 - 54	26	2.12	23	1.99
55 - 59	26	2.12	21	1.81
60 - 64	31	2.52	22	1.90
65 - 69	21	1.71	12	1.04
70 - 74	20	1.63	10	0.86
75 - 79	2	0.16	3	0.26
80 - 84	2	0.16	3	0.26
TOTAL	1228	99.99	1157	99.97

TABLE 1.1(f)

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX
(Smaller Age Groups)

AGE GROUPS	<u>BUILT UP AREA</u>				<u>FLOOD FLAIN AREA</u>			
	<u>MALE</u>		<u>FEMALE</u>		<u>MALE</u>		<u>FEMALE</u>	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
0 - 4	117	13.42	115	13.96	54	15.17	46	14.51
5 - 9	119	13.65	117	13.93	53	14.89	47	14.83
10 -14	110	12.61	134	15.95	50	14.04	40	12.62
15 -19	87	9.98	89	10.59	45	12.64	38	11.99
20 -24	85	9.75	84	10.00	30	8.43	33	10.41
25 -29	70	8.03	69	8.21	28	7.86	22	6.94
30 -34	67	7.68	56	6.66	24	6.74	21	6.62
35 -39	49	5.62	39	4.64	19	5.34	24	7.57
40 -44	31	3.55	37	4.40	15	4.21	15	4.73
45 -49	33	3.78	28	3.33	14	3.93	9	2.84
50 - 54	22	2.52	17	2.02	4	1.12	6	1.89
55 -59	23	2.64	17	2.02	3	0.84	4	1.26
60 -64	25	2.87	18	2.14	6	1.68	4	1.26
65 -69	15	1.72	9	1.07	6	1.68	3	0.95
70 -74	16	1.84	8	0.95	4	1.12	2	0.63
75 -79	1	0.11	1	0.12	1	0.28	2	0.63
80 -84	1	0.23	2	0.24			1	0.31
TOTAL	872	100.00	840	99.96	356	99.97	317	99.99

area, the percentage of male population is seen to decline gradually from the age group 5 - 9 to the higher age groups excepting the age groups 45 - 49, and 60 - 64. In case of females from the same area, the declining trend in the percentages of the population is observed from age group 15 - 19. The percentages in the age groups 60 - 64 is found to be slightly higher than that of the previous age groups.

In the flood plain area, the percentage of the male population is found to decrease gradually from age group 0 - 4 excepting in the age group 60 - 64 and in the case of females, it is seen to decline from the age group 5 - 9 to the higher age groups excepting in the age group 35 - 39.

Distribution of population by broad age groups with an interval of 14 years is presented in Table 1.1(g). Among both male and female the highest percentage of population is observed in the age group 0 - 14. The percentage of females is found to be higher than that of males in age groups 0 - 14, 15 - 29 and 75 - 89. In all the other age groups the percentage of males is higher than that of the females.

Table 1.1(h) shows the distribution of population by broad age groups with an interval of 14 years in the build up area and in the Flood Plain Area respectively. From this table it can be seen that the highest percentage of the population belongs to the age group 0 - 14 in both the areas. In the Built up area, the percentage of females is found to be higher than that of males in the age groups 0 - 14, 15 - 29 and 75 - 89. On the other hand, the percentage of females is found to be higher than that of males in the

(-28-)

TABLE 1.1(9)

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX

(Broad age - group)

AGE GROUPS	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
0 - 14	503	40.96	499	43.13	1002	42.01
15 - 29	345	28.09	335	28.95	680	28.51
30 - 44	205	16.69	192	16.59	397	16.64
45 - 59	99	8.06	81	7.00	180	7.55
60 - 74	72	5.86	44	3.80	116	4.86
75 - 89	4	0.32	46	0.52	10	0.42
TOTAL	1228	99.98	1157	99.99	2385	99.99

TABLE 1.1(h)

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE AND SEX

(BROAD AGE GROUPS)

AGE GROUPS	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL		MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
0 - 14	346	39.68	366	43.57	712	41.59	157	44.10	133	41.95	290	43.09
15 - 29	242	27.75	242	28.81	484	28.27	103	28.93	93	29.34	196	29.12
30 - 44	147	16.86	132	15.71	279	16.30	58	16.29	60	18.93	118	17.53
45 - 59	78	8.94	62	7.38	140	8.18	21	5.90	19	5.99	40	5.94
60 - 74	56	6.42	35	4.17	91	5.31	16	4.49	9	2.84	25	3.71
75 - 89	3	0.34	3	0.36	6	0.35	1	0.28	3	0.95	4	0.59
TOTAL	872	99.99	840	100	1712	100	356	99.99	317	100	673	99.98

age groups 15 - 29, 30 - 34 and 45 - 59. ✓

The total number of households in the four villages covered in the present study is 345. Of this, 230 households are from the built up area and 115 households are from the flood plain area. Classifications of the households as small, medium, big and very big according to their size is presented in Table 1.2(a). The households which have 1 - 3 members are classified as small, 4 - 6, 7 - 9 and 10 and above member households are classified respectively as medium, big and very big. From this table it is evident that majority of the households are medium size households (44.35 %) followed by big sized households (29.27). Very big sized families comprise 15.07 % of the total number of households studied and the small sized families constitute only 11.30 % of the total number of households.

Table 1.2(b) shows the classification of the households in both the Built up and flood prone areas respectively. In both the areas, the percentage of medium sized families is the maximum followed by big sized families. In the built up area, very big families comprise 20.87 % whereas the frequency of the small sized families is the least (7.83 %). In the flood plain area, small sized families constitute 18.26 % of the total number of households studied in that area and very big sized families only 3.48 % in this region.

The composition of the families in 345 households studied is shown in Table 1.2(c). Three types of families viz. nuclear, joint and broken are classified according to their composition. The families which are composed of husband and wife, husband, wife and

(- 31-).

TABLE 1-2 (a)

CLASSIFICATION OF HOUSEHOLDS

PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD (SIZE)	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	PERCENTAGE
SMALL (1 - 3 Members)	39	11.30
MEDIUM (4 - 6 Members)	153	44.35
BIG (7 - 9 Members)	101	29.27
VERY BIG (10 and above members)	52	15.07
TOTAL	345	99.99

(-32-)

TABLE 1.2 (b)

CLASSIFICATION OF HOUSEHOLDS

PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD (SIZE)	<u>BUILT UP AREA</u>		<u>FLOOD PLAIN AREA</u>	
	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	PERCENTAGE
Small (1 - 3 members)	18	7.83	21	18.26
Medium (4 - 6 members)	101	43.91	52	45.22
Big (7 - 9 members)	63	27.39	38	33.04
Very Big (10 and above members)	48	20.87	4	3.48
TOTAL	230	100.00	115	100.00

their unmarried children, husband, wife and their unmarried children with one or two dependants are classified as nuclear families. The families which consist of parents, their married son(s) and unmarried children, either of the parents with married sons and unmarried children, married brothers and their families are classified as joint families. The families which are composed of either of the parents with unmarried children, single male or female, unmarried brothers and sisters are classified as broken families. Out of the 345 households surveyed, 222 (64.35 %) families fall under the nuclear family category followed by 100 households (28.98 %) of Joint families and 23 households (6.67 %) of broken families.

Composition of the families in the households surveyed is shown for both the Built up and flood plain area separately in table 1.2(d). From this table it can be seen that the highest percentage of the households fall in the nuclear family category followed by joint families in both the areas. The number of broken families is least in both the areas. In the built up area, 132 (57.39 %) of the households fall under the category of nuclear families, 84 households (36.52 %) fall under the joint family category and 14 households (6.09 %) are broken families. In the flood plain area, on the other hand, 90 households (76.26 %) are nuclear families, 16 households (13.91 %) are joint families and 9 households (7.83 %) are broken families.

The marital status of the population is presented in Table 1.3(a). Out of a total of 1,228 males, 795 (64.74 %) are unmarried, 409 (33.31%) are married and 24 (1.95%) are widower. Out of a total of 1157 females in the present study, 705 (60.93%) are unmarried, 406 (35.09%) are married, 5 (0.43%) are separated and 41 (3.54%) are widows.

The marital status of the population of the build up area

(-34-)

TABLE 1.2(c)

FAMILY TYPE AND COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLDS

FAMILY TYPE AND COMPOSITION	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	
1. NUCLEAR		
(a) HUSBAND AND WIFE	1	
(b) HUSBAND WIFE AND UNMARRIED CHILDREN	205	
(c) HUSBAND WIFE AND UNMARRIED CHILDREN WITH 1 - 2 DEPENDANTS	16	
TOTAL NUMBER OF NUCLEAR FAMILIES	222	(64.35)
2. JOINT		
(a) PARENTS WITH MARRIED SONS AND UNMARRIED CHILDREN	54	
(b) EITHER OF THE PARENTS WITH MARRIED SONS AND UNMARRIED CHILDREN	41	
(c) MARRIED BROTHERS AND THEIR FAMILIES	5	
TOTAL NUMBER OF JOINT FAMILIES	100	(28.98)
3. BROKEN		
(a) EITHER OF THE PARENTS WITH UNMARRIED CHILDREN	22	
(b) SINGLE UNDIVIDED	1	
(c) UNMARRIED BROTHERS AND SISTERS	0	
TOTAL NUMBER OF BROKEN FAMILIES	23	(6.67)

FAMILY TYPE AND COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLDS

FAMILY TYPE AND COMPOSITION	<u>BUILT UP AREA</u> No. of Households	<u>FLOOR PLAIN AREA</u> No. of Households
1. NUCLEAR		
a. HUSBAND AND WIFE	0	1
b. HUSBAND WIFE AND MARRIED CHILDREN	123	82
c. HUSBAND WIFE AND UNMARRIED CHILDREN WITH 1 OR 2 DEFENDANTS	9	7
TOTAL NUMBER OF NUCLEAR FAMILIES	132 (57.39)	90(78.26)
2. JOINT		
a. PARENTS WITH MARRIED SONS AND UNMARRIED CHILDREN	47	7
b. EITHER OF THE PARENTS WITH MARRIED SONS AND UNMARRIED CHILDREN	32	9
c. MARRIED BROTHERS AND THEIR FAMILIES	5	0
TOTAL NUMBER OF JOINT FAMILIES	84 (36.52)	16(13.91)
3. BROKEN		
a. EITHER OF THE PARENTS WITH UNMARRIED CHILDREN	14	8
b. SINGLE UNDIVIDED	0	1
c. UNMARRIED BROTHERS AND SISTERS	0	
TOTAL NUMBER OF BROKEN FAMILIES	14 (6.09)	9(7.83)

(-36-)

TABLE 1.3 (a)

MARITAL STATUS OF THE POPULATION

MARITAL STATUS	<u>MALE</u>		<u>FEMALE</u>		<u>TOTAL</u>	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
UNMARRIED	795	64.74	705	60.93	1500	62.89
MARRIED	409	33.31	406	35.09	815	34.17
SEPERATED	-	-	5	0.43	5	0.21
WIDOWER	24	1.95	-	-	24	1.01
WIDOW	-	-	41	3.54	41	1.72
TOTAL	1228	100.00	1157	99.99	2385	100.00

(- 37 -)

TABLE

MARITAL STATUS OF THE POPULATION

MARITAL STATUS	BUILT		UP		AREA		FLOOD		PLAIN		AREA	
	MALE No	%	FEMALE No.	%	TOTAL No	%	MALE No	%	FEMALE No	%	TOTAL No	%
UNMARRIED	551	63.19	516	61.43	1067	62.32	244	68.54	189	59.62	433	64.34
MARRIED	303	34.75	297	35.36	600	35.05	106	29.77	109	34.38	215	31.95
SEPARATED	-	-	1	0.12	1	0.06	-	-	4	1.26	4	0.59
WIDOWER	18	2.06	-	-	18	1.05	6	1.68	-	-	6	0.81
WIDOW	-	-	26	3.09	26	1.52	-	-	15	4.73	15	2.23

and the flood plain area have been shown in table 1.3(b). It can be seen that out of a total of 872 males in the built up area, 551 (63.19 %) are unmarried, 303 (34.75%) are married and 18 (2.06%) are widowers. Of a total of 840 females from this area, 516 (61.43%) are unmarried, 297 (35.36%) are married, 1 (0.12%) are separated and 26 (3.09%) are widows. In the flood plain area, out of a total of 356 males, 244 (68.54%) are unmarried, 106 (29.77%) are married and 6 (1.68%) are widowers. Among the females of this area, 59.62% were found to be unmarried, 34.38% were married, 1.26% were separated and 4.73% were widows.

Distribution of the population according to age, sex and marital status is shown in Table 1.3(c). From this table, it can be seen that the percentage of unmarried male and female above the age group 30 - 34 is very low and there is not a single unmarried man above the age group 45 - 49 and not a single unmarried women above the age group 40 - 44. The highest percentage of married male is found in the age group 30-34 (17.11%) and the highest percentage of married females is found to be in the age group 25-29 (16.75%). In the present study not a single separated male is found. The percentage of separated females is found to be the highest in the age groups 30-34 and 40-44 where the percentage is found to be 40.00. The percentage of widows outnumber the percentage of widowers. The highest percentage of widowers in the present study is found in the age group 60 - 64 where the percentage is found to be 25.00. The highest percentage of widows is found in the age group 60 - 64 (26.83%). The total number of widows in the present study is 41 as compared to the number of widowers which is 24.

TABLE : 1.3(c)

DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND MARITAL STATUS

AGE GROUPS																			
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	total
Male	No	171	172	160	125	82	45	21	5	13	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	795
	%	21.51	21.63	20.12	15.72	10.31	5.41	2.64	0.63	1.63	0.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33.33
Unmarried																			
Male	No	161	162	174	105	55	21	15	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	705
	%	22.53	23.26	24.68	14.89	7.80	2.98	2.13	1.29	0.14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.56
Female	No	-	-	-	7	33	55	70	63	33	44	23	24	25	16	13	1	2	409
	%	-	-	-	1.71	8.07	13.55	17.11	15.40	8.07	10.76	5.62	5.87	6.11	3.91	3.18	0.24	0.49	17.15
Married	No	-	-	-	22	61	68	60	53	42	34	23	17	11	7	6	1	1	306
	%	-	-	-	5.42	15.02	16.73	14.78	13.05	10.34	8.37	5.66	4.19	2.71	1.72	1.48	0.25	0.25	17.02
Male	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Separated																			
Female	No	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
	%	-	-	-	-	20.00	-	40.00	-	40.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.21
Widower	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	6	5	7	-	1	24
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.5	3.33	25.00	20.83	29.17	-	4.17	1.01
Widow	No	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	7	3	-	4	11	5	4	2	2	41
	%	-	-	-	-	-	4.86	-	2.44	17.07	7.32	-	9.76	26.83	12.19	9.76	4.38	4.88	1.72

Tables 1.3(d) and 1.3(e) show the distribution of the population by age, sex and marital status in the Built-up area and the flood plain area respectively. From these two tables, it is evident that the percentage of unmarried males is very low from age group 30-34 onwards in both the regions and there is not a single unmarried man above the 45 - 49 age group in both the built up and the flood plain area. The percentage of unmarried women on the other hand decreases from age group 25-29 onwards in both the regions. In the built up region, it can be seen that there is not a single unmarried women above the age group 45-49 whereas in the flood plain area, there is no unmarried women above the age group 35-39. The percentage of married males is the highest in the age group 30-34 (17.16 %) in the built up area. In the flood plain area on the other hand, the highest percentage of married men is found to be the highest in the age groups 30-34 and 35-39 (16.98%). The highest percentage of married females is found in the age group 25-29 (18.52%) in the built up area. In the flood plain area, the highest percentage of married women was found in the age group 35-39. The percentage of separated females was found to be slightly higher (0.21%) in the built up area as compared to the flood plain area (0.06%). The percentage of widows in both the areas is found to be higher than that of the widowers.

Number and percentage of women in various age groups according to marital status is presented in table 1.3(f). The total number of married females is found to be 406 and the total number of unmarried females 705. Five separated women and 41 widows are also found in the present study. The least percentage (17.32%) of married women found in the age group 15-19. The widows totalling 41 range in age from 25 years onwards most of them being above the age of 55 years.

TABLE : 1.3(d)

DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND MARITAL STATUS (BUILT UP AREA)

		AGE GROUPS																	Total Popu- lati- on
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	
MALE	No	117	119	110	82	66	28	15	4	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	531	
	%	21.23	21.60	19.96	14.88	11.98	5.08	2.72	0.72	1.45	0.36	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.18	
UNMARRIED FEMALE	No	115	117	134	77	40	14	11	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	516	
	%	22.29	22.67	25.97	14.92	7.75	2.71	2.13	1.36	0.19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30.14	
MALE	No	-	-	-	5	19	42	52	45	23	31	19	21	20	14	9	1	2	303
	%	-	-	-	1.65	6.27	13.86	17.16	14.85	7.59	10.23	6.27	6.93	6.60	4.62	2.97	0.33	0.66	17.70
MARRIED FEMALE	No.	-	-	-	12	44	55	44	31	32	27	17	14	9	6	4	1	1	297
	%	-	-	-	4.04	14.81	18.52	14.81	10.44	10.77	9.09	5.72	4.71	3.03	2.02	1.35	0.34	0.34	17.35
MALE	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SEPERATED	No	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	%	-	-	-	-	-	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.06
FEMALE	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WIDOWER	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5	1	7	-	-	18
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16.66	11.11	27.77	5.55	38.88	-	-	1.05
WIDOW	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	1	-	3	9	3	4	-	1	26
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.85	15.38	3.85	-	11.54	34.62	11.54	15.38	-	3.85	1.52

TABLE 1.3(e)

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND MARITAL STATUS (FLOOD PLAIN AREA)

		AGE GROUPS																	TOTAL
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	
MALE	No	54	53	50	43	15	15	6	1	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	244
	%	22.15	21.72	20.49	17.62	6.56	6.15	2.46	0.41	2.05	0.41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36.25
UNMARRIED																			
FEMALE	No	46	47	40	28	15	7	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	189
	%	24.34	24.87	21.16	14.81	7.94	3.70	2.12	1.06	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.08
MALE	No	-	-	-	2	14	13	18	18	10	13	4	3	5	2	4	-	-	106
	%	-	-	-	1.89	13.21	12.26	16.98	16.98	9.43	12.26	3.77	2.83	4.72	1.87	3.77	-	-	15.75
MARRIED																			
FEMALE	No	-	-	-	10	17	13	16	22	10	7	6	3	2	1	2	-	-	109
	%	-	-	-	9.17	15.60	11.93	14.68	30.18	9.17	6.42	5.50	2.75	1.83	0.92	1.83	-	-	16.20
MALE	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SEPERATED																			
FEMALE	No	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
	%	-	-	-	-	25.00	-	25.00	-	50.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.59
WIDOWER	No	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	1	6
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(16.67)	66.66	-	-	16.67	0.89
WIDOW	No	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	2	-	1	2	2	-	2	1	15
	%	-	-	-	-	-	13.33	-	-	20.00	13.33	-	6.67	13.33	13.33	-	13.33	6.67	2.23

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The highest percentage of women is found in the age groups 75-79 and 80-84 where the percentage is found to be 66.67 respectively. The percentage of separated women is the highest (3.85) in the age group 40-44.

Tables 1.3(g) and 1.3(h) show the number and percentage of women in various age groups according to marital status in the built up and the flood plain areas respectively. From these two tables, it can be seen that the number of married females in the built up area is 297 and 109 in the flood plain area. The number of unmarried females in the built up and flood plain areas is 516 and 189 respectively. The least percentage of married women are found in the age group 15-19 in both the areas. In the built up area, only one separated women is found and this women belongs to the age group 30-34. Four separated females were found in the flood plain area and the percentage is the highest (13.33) in the age group 40-44. The number of widows in the built up area is 26 and that of the flood plain area is 15. The widows range in age from 35 years in the built up area whereas in the flood plain area, they range from 25 years onwards.

The literacy levels of the population is shown in Table 1.4(a). The percentage of literate males is found to be higher (63.19%) than the percentage of illiterate males (36.81%). On the other hand, the percentage of illiterate females is higher (50.22%) than the percentage of literate females (49.78%). The percentage of illiterate females is higher than that of males and the percentage of literate males is higher than that of females.

The literacy levels of the population in both the built up area and the flood plain area respectively have been shown in Table

TABLE : 1.3(f)

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS
ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS

AGE GROUPS	MARITAL STATUS								TOTAL
	UNMARRIED		MARRIED		SEPARATED		WIDOW		
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	
0 - 4	161	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	161
5 - 9	164	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	164
10 - 14	174	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	174
15 - 19	105	82.68	22	17.32	-	-	-	-	127
20 - 24	55	47.01	61	52.14	1	0.85	-	-	117
25 - 29	21	23.08	68	74.72	-	-	2	2.20	91
30 - 34	15	19.48	60	77.92	2	2.60	-	-	77
35 - 39	9	14.28	53	84.13	-	-	1	1.59	63
40 - 44	1	1.92	42	80.77	2	3.85	7	13.46	52
45 - 49	-	-	34	91.89	-	-	3	8.11	37
50 - 54	-	-	23	100.00	-	-	-	-	23
55 - 59	-	-	17	80.95	-	-	4	19.05	21
60 - 64	-	-	11	50.00	-	-	11	50.00	22
65 - 69	-	-	7	58.33	-	-	5	41.67	12
70 - 74	-	-	6	60.00	-	-	4	40.00	10
75 - 79	-	-	1	33.33	-	-	2	66.67	3
80 - 84	-	-	1	33.33	-	-	2	66.67	3
TOTAL	705		406		5		41		1157

(45-)

TABLE 1-3(g)
BUILT UP AREA

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS ACCORDING
TO MARITAL STATUS

AGE GROUPS	M A R I T A L S T A T U S								TOTAL
	UNMARRIED		MARRIED		SEPERATED		WIDOW		
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	
0 - 4	115	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	115
5 - 9	117	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	117
10 - 14	134	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	134
15 - 19	77	86.52	12	13.48	-	-	-	-	89
20 - 24	40	47.62	44	52.38	-	-	-	-	84
25 - 29	14	20.29	55	79.71	-	-	-	-	69
30 - 34	11	19.64	44	78.57	1	1.78	-	-	56
35 - 39	7	12.95	31	79.49	-	-	1	2.56	39
40 - 44	1	2.70	32	86.49	-	-	4	10.81	37
45 - 49	-	-	27	96.43	-	-	1	3.57	28
50 - 54	-	-	17	100.00	-	-	-	-	17
55 - 59	-	-	14	82.35	-	-	3	17.65	17
60 - 64	-	-	9	50.00	-	-	9	50.00	18
65 - 69	-	-	6	66.67	-	-	3	33.33	9
70 - 74	-	-	4	50.00	-	-	4	50.00	8
75 - 79	-	-	1	100.00	-	-	-	-	1
80 - 84	-	-	1	50.00	-	-	1	50.00	2
TOTAL	516		297		1		26		840

TABLE 1-2(6)

FLOOD PLAIN AREA

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS ACCORDING TO MARITAL STATUS

AGE GROUP	M A R I T A L S T A T U S						WIDOW		TOTAL
	UNMARRIED		MARRIED		SEPERATED				
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	
0 - 4	46	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
5 - 9	47	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	47
10 - 14	40	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
15 - 19	28	73.68	10	26.31	-	-	-	-	38
20 - 24	15	45.45	17	51.51	1	3.03	-	-	33
25 - 29	7	31.82	13	59.09	-	-	2	9.09	22
30 - 34	4	19.05	16	76.19	1	4.76	-	-	21
35 - 39	2	8.33	22	91.67	-	-	-	-	24
40 - 44	-	-	10	66.67	2	13.33	3	20.00	15
45 - 49	-	-	7	77.78	-	-	2	22.22	9
50 - 54	-	-	6	100.00	-	-	-	-	6
55 - 59	-	-	3	75.00	-	-	1	25.00	4
60 - 64	-	-	2	50.00	-	-	2	50.00	4
65 - 69	-	-	1	33.33	-	-	2	66.67	3
70 - 74	-	-	2	50.00	-	-	-	-	2
75 - 79	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	100.00	2
80 - 84	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	100.00	1
TOTAL	189		109		4		15		

1.4(b). Here again a similar trend is observed where the percentage of literate males is found to be higher than that of illiterate males in both the areas. In the Built up area, the percentage of literate females is higher than that of illiterate females but in the flood plain area the percentage of illiterate females is more. On a comparison of the literacy levels of the two regions, it can be seen that the percentage of illiterate males is more in the built up area than that of the flood plain area. The percentage of illiterate males is higher in the flood plain area. On the other hand, the percentage of illiterate females is higher in the flood plain area and the percentage of literate females is higher in the built up area. The total literacy in the flood plain region (58.84%) is found to be slightly higher than that of the built up region (55.84%). However, the difference in literacy between the two areas is not statistically significant.

The educational status of the population is presented in the table 1.4(c). Out of a total population of 2385, 1033 (43.31%) are illiterate, 18.11% is in the primary standard, 11.86% is in the middle standard, 14% is in the high school standard, 11.61% is in the category matric and above, 0.88% in the degree standard and only 0.21% in the post graduate standard. A comparison of the percentages of educational status amongst males and females in the present study reveals that the percentage of illiterate females is more (50.22%) than that of males (36.81%). The percentage of females in the primary standard is slightly higher (18.15%) than that of males (18.08%). In the middle standard, however, the percentage of males is more (13.60%) than that of females (10.02%). Similar is the case in the all the other educational categories shown in the table in high school standard, matric and above, degree standard and post graduate standard.

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TABLE 1.4 (a)

LITERACY LEVELS OF THE POPULATION

SEX	ILLITERATE		LITERATE		TOTAL
	No.	%	No.	%	
MALE	452	36.81	776	63.19	1228
FEMALE	581	50.22	576	49.78	1157
TOTAL NO AND PER- CENTAGE	1033	43.31	1352	56.69	2385

TABLE 1.4 (6)

LITERACY LEVELS OF THE POPULATION

SEX	<u>BUILT UP AREA</u>				<u>FLOOD PLAIN AREA</u>			
	ILLITERATE		LITERATE		ILLITERATE		LITERATE	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
MALE	348	39.91	524	54.81	104	37.54	252	63.64
FEMALE	408	48.57	432	45.19	173	62.45	144	36.36
TOTAL	756	44.16	956	55.84	277	41.16	396	58.84
No. and Percentage								

TABLE 1.4(c)

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION ACCORDING TO EDUCATIONAL STATUS

EDUCATIONAL STATUS	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
ILLITERATE	452	36.81	581	50.22	1033	43.31
PRIMARY STANDARD	222	18.08	210	18.15	432	18.11
MIDDLE STANDARD	167	13.60	116	10.02	283	11.86
HIGH SCHOOL STANDARD	195	15.88	139	12.01	334	14.00
MATRIC AND ABOVE	168	13.68	109	9.42	277	11.61
DEGREE STANDARD	20	1.63	1	0.09	21	0.88
POST GRADUATE STANDARD	4	0.32	1	0.09	5	0.21
TOTAL	1228	100.00	1157	100.00	2385	99.98

Table 1.4(d) shows the distribution of the population according to educational status in the two areas. This table reveals that the percentage of female illiterates is higher than that of males in both the ecological areas of the present study. In the primary standard the percentage of females is higher than that of males in the built up area. In all the other categories in both the areas, the percentage of male is higher than that of females. Then again it has been seen that the percentage of male illiterates is higher in the built up area than in the flood plain area in the present study. The percentage of males in the primary standard, middle standard and post graduate standards is higher in the flood plain area. The percentages of males in the high school standard, matric and above and degree standard is higher in the built up area. An examination of the female percentages of the two regions reveal that the percentage of female illiterates is higher in the flood plain area. The percentage of female literates is higher in all the educational categories in the built up area than in the flood plain one excepting in primary standard.

Distribution of the population by age, sex and educational status is shown in Table 1.4(e). From this table it can be seen that the percentage of illiterate female is higher than that of males in all the age groups excepting age group 5 - 9 and 10 - 14 where the percentage of female illiterates is found to be slightly lower than that of males. The highest percentage of males and females in primary standard are found in the age group 5 - 9. In the middle standard the highest percentage of the population belongs to the age group 10-14. In the high school standard, highest percentage of males and females are found in the age group 15-19. In matric and above, the highest

TABLE

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION ACCORDING TO EDUCATIONAL STATUS

EDUCATIONAL STATUS	BUILT UP AREA						FLOOD PLAIN AREA					
	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL		MALE		FEMALE		T O T A L	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
ILLITERATE	348	39.91	408	48.57	756	44.16	104	29.21	173	54.57	277	41.16
PRIMARY STANDARD	117	13.42	134	15.95	251	14.66	105	29.49	76	23.97	181	26.89
MIDDLE STANDARD	112	12.84	88	10.48	200	11.68	55	15.45	28	8.83	83	12.33
HIGHSCHOOL STANDARD	140	16.05	110	13.09	250	14.60	55	15.45	29	9.15	84	12.48
MATRIC AND ABOVE	137	15.71	98	11.66	235	13.73	31	8.71	11	3.47	42	6.24
DEGREE STANDARD	16	1.83	1	0.12	17	0.99	4	1.12	-	-	4	0.59
POST GRADU- ATE STANDARD	2	0.23	1	0.12	3	0.17	2	0.56	-	-	2	0.30
TOTAL	872	99.99	840	99.99	1712	99.99	356	99.99	317	99.99	673	99.99

TABLE: 1.4(43)

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE, SEX AND EDUCATIONAL STATUS

[illegible]

AGE GROUPS	SEX	ILLITERATE No	ILLITERATE %	PRIMARY STANDARD No	PRIMARY STANDARD %	MIDDLE No	MIDDLE %	SIXTH GRADE No	SIXTH GRADE %	SEVENTH & ABOVE No	SEVENTH & ABOVE %	DEGREE No	DEGREE %	POST GRADUATE No	POST GRADUATE %	TOTAL
65-69	M	13	61.90	5	23.81	1	4.76	1	4.76	-	-	4	4.76	-	-	21
	F	12	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
70-74	M	18	90.00	2	10.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
	F	10	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
75-79	M	2	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	3	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
80-84	M	2	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	3	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

percentage of males (42.61%) are found to belong to the age group 20-24 whereas in the case of females, the highest percentage of females is this category belong to the age group 25-29. The highest percentage of male graduates were found to belong to the age group 55-59 whereas in the case of females only one (1.30%) graduate was found in the present study. Percentage of male post graduates is highest in the age group 40-44 whereas only one female post graduate was found in the present study.

Tables 1.4(e) and (f) shows the distribution of the population according to age, sex and educational status in the two areas separately. A comparison of both the tables show that the percentage of illiterate males is higher in all the age groups in the built up area as compared to the flood plain area excepting the age groups 25-29, 30-34 and 35-39 where the percentage of male illiterates is higher in the flood plain area. The percentage of female illiterates was found to be higher in all the age groups in the flood plain area excepting the age groups 5-9, 40-44 and 55-59 where the percentage of female illiterates is lower in the flood plain area when compared to the built up area. In the primary standard, the highest percentage of males and females are found in the age group 5-9 in both the areas. In the middle standard, the highest percentage of males (75.00%) is found to belong to the age group 50-54 in the flood plain area and to the age group 10-14 in the built up area. The highest percentage of females in the middle standard is found to belong to the age group 10-14 in both the areas. The highest percentage of males and females in the high school standard was found in the age group 15-19 in both the areas. In the flood plain area, the highest percentage of males in the matric and above category is

TABLE : 1.4(f)
BUILT UP AREA

DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION ACCORDING TO AGE, SEX AND EDUCATIONAL STATUS															
AGE GROUPS	SEX		ELEMENTARY STANDARD		MIDDLE		HIGH SCHOOL		HIGHER & ABOVE		DEGREE		POST GRADUATE		TOTAL
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	
0 - 4	M	105	89.74	12	10.26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	117
	F	103	86.56	12	10.43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	115
5 - 9	M	31	26.59	75	64.10	11	9.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	117
	F	16	14.54	37	32.84	23	20.91	1	0.91	-	-	-	-	-	110
10-14	M	12	8.95	37	27.61	49	36.57	35	26.12	1	0.75	-	-	-	124
	F	12	13.79	3	3.45	18	20.89	40	45.98	14	16.09	-	-	-	87
15-19	M	11	12.35	1	1.12	5	5.62	54	60.67	18	20.22	-	-	-	89
	F	7	16.62	-	-	9	18.39	20	23.53	38	44.70	1	1.18	-	83
20-24	M	26	33.73	4	4.76	5	5.92	21	25.00	26	30.95	-	-	-	84
	F	17	24.28	1	1.43	12	17.14	14	20.00	24	34.28	2	2.66	-	70
25-29	M	32	46.38	-	-	1	1.45	7	10.14	28	40.58	-	-	1	68
	F	15	22.39	2	2.98	5	7.46	14	20.89	27	40.30	4	5.97	-	67
30-34	M	35	52.5	1	1.78	2	3.57	6	10.71	11	16.64	1	1.78	-	55
	F	14	14.23	2	4.08	3	10.20	16	30.41	22	44.90	3	6.12	-	49
35-39	M	30	75.92	1	2.56	-	-	5	12.82	3	7.69	-	-	-	39
	F	13	41.95	-	-	9	29.03	4	12.90	4	12.90	-	-	1	31
40-44	M	33	89.49	1	2.70	-	-	3	8.11	-	-	-	-	-	37
	F	19	37.57	-	-	1	3.03	7	21.21	3	9.09	3	9.09	-	33
45-49	M	26	92.56	-	-	1	3.57	1	3.57	-	-	-	-	-	28
	F	16	72.75	1	4.34	1	4.34	2	9.09	2	9.09	-	-	-	22
50-54	M	15	88.23	1	5.88	-	-	-	-	1	5.88	-	-	-	17
	F	15	95.22	-	-	-	-	4	17.39	2	8.69	-	-	-	23
55-59	M	17	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
	F	19	75.00	2	8.00	3	12.00	1	4.00	-	-	-	-	-	25
60-64	M	15	85.33	1	5.55	2	11.11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18

Contd...2/-

AGE GROUPS	SEX	ILLITERATE		PRIMARY STANDARD		MIDDLE		HIGH SCHOOL		JUNIOR & ABOVE		DEGREE		POST GRADUATE		TOTAL
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	
65-69	M	10	56.67	3	20.00	-	-	1	5.67	-	-	1	5.67	-	-	15
	F	9	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
70-74	M	16	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
	F	8	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
75-79	M	1	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
80-84	M	2	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	2	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
TOTAL		M														
		F														

M = Male

F = Female

TABLE : 1.4(g)

FLOOD PLAIN AREA

DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION ACCORDING TO AGE, SEX AND EDUCATIONAL STATUS

AGE GROUPS	SEX	ILLITERATE		STANDARD		MIDDLES		HIGH SCHOOL		MATHS & ABOVE		DEGREE		POST GRADUATE		TOTAL
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	
0 - 4	M	46	65.18	8	14.81	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
	F	43	93.48	3	6.52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
5 - 9	M	9	16.98	42	79.24	2	3.77	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53
	F	7	14.89	36	76.59	4	8.51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47
10 - 14	M	2	4.30	13	26.00	27	54.00	8	16.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
	F	6	15.00	18	45.00	14	35.00	2	5.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
15 - 19	M	4	8.89	4	8.89	5	11.11	29	64.44	2	4.44	1	2.22	-	-	45
	F	11	28.95	6	15.79	3	7.89	16	42.10	2	5.26	-	-	-	-	38
20 - 24	M	4	13.33	3	10.00	4	13.33	8	26.67	11	36.67	-	-	-	-	30
	F	14	42.42	1	3.03	3	9.09	8	24.24	7	21.21	-	-	-	-	35
25 - 29	M	9	32.14	3	10.71	1	3.57	3	10.71	9	32.14	2	7.14	1	3.57	28
	F	15	68.18	3	13.64	1	4.54	2	9.09	1	4.54	-	-	-	-	22
30 - 34	M	8	33.33	4	16.67	4	16.67	3	12.5	4	16.67	-	-	1	4.16	24
	F	15	71.43	4	19.05	1	4.76	1	4.76	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
35 - 39	M	4	21.05	6	31.58	3	15.79	1	5.26	5	26.31	-	-	-	-	19
	F	20	63.33	1	4.17	2	8.33	-	-	1	4.17	-	-	-	-	24
40 - 44	M	6	40.00	7	46.67	1	6.67	1	6.67	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
	F	13	86.67	2	13.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15

Contd...2/-

(-02-)

AGE GROUPS	SEX	ILLITERATE No	ILLITERATE %	PRIMARY STANDARD No	PRIMARY STANDARD %	MIDDLE No	MIDDLE %	HIGH SCHOOL No	HIGH SCHOOL %	COLLEGE & ABOVE No	COLLEGE & ABOVE %	DEGREE No	DEGREE %	POST GRADUATE No	POST GRADUATE %	TOTAL
45 - 49	M	4	28.57	5	35.71	3	21.43	1	7.14	1	7.14	-	-	-	-	14
	F	9	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
50 - 54	M	1	25.00	-	-	3	75.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
	F	5	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
55 - 59	M	1	33.33	2	66.67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	F	3	75.00	1	25.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
60 - 64	M	-	-	4	66.67	1	15.57	1	15.57	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
	F	4	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
65 - 69	M	3	50.00	2	33.33	1	16.67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
	F	3	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
70 - 74	M	2	50.00	2	50.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
	F	2	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
75 - 79	M	1	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	2	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
80 - 84	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	100.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	M															
	F															

M = Male F = Female

Found in the age group 20-24 whereas in the built up area, it is found in the age group 35-39. In the flood plain area, the highest percentage of females in the matric and above category is found in the age group 20-24 and in the built up area, it is found in the age group 25-29. Percentage of male graduates is highest in the age group 25-29 in the flood plain area whereas it is highest in the age group 45-49 in the built up area. No female graduates were found in the flood plain area whereas only one female graduate is found in the built up area. Percentage of post graduates is the highest in the age group 30-34 in the flood plain area and in the built up area it is the highest in the age group 40-44. Only one female post graduate was found in the built up area whereas there is no female post graduate in the flood plain area.

In India from 1961 census onwards children below the age of 5 years were treated as illiterate since it was considered that no child could be literate before that age. Therefore, the children below 5 years of age were excluded from the ~~numerator~~ numerator for the purpose of calculation of literacy rate. However, the denominator contained the entire population. Most of the countries of the world exclude 0-4, 0-5 or 0-6 year children (depending on the age of compulsion for entry into the school system) from the numerator as well as the denominator (Premi, 1991).

In the present area of study majority of the children are found to start their schooling at the age of 5 years. A calculation of literacy rate in the area excluding the children below 5 years from both the numerator and denominator will give a different picture. It is found that with that calculation the literacy rate of the Misingas comes to 64.15% (71.52% for male and 56.33% for female). In the built

up area the total literacy (62.97%) is slightly lower than that of the community as a whole. The male literacy (67.81%) is also lower but the female literacy (57.93%) is slightly higher in the built up region than that of the total population. The flood plain region, however, shows higher literacy (67.19%) than the built up region and the total population. In that region male literacy (8.79%) is much higher but the female literacy (52.02%) is lower than the built up region.

While data on occupation are considered, the housewives and the children are considered as non-workers. People engaged in different occupations are classified in various categories in the following way :

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| a. Cultivator | |
| b. Day Labourer | - Persons working on daily wages |
| c. Skilled worker | - Carpenter, electrician, tailor |
| d. Lower Professional | - Peon, Chowkidar, Angarwadi worker, Angarwadi helper, road Moharar. |
| e. Middle Professional | - Clerk, School Teacher, Village level worker. |
| f. Businessman | - Shopkeeper and other small businessmen |
| g. Non-workers | - Household worker and students . |

Distribution of the population according to working and non-working status in various age groups is shown in table 1.5 (a). There is a total of 594 workers and 1791 non-workers. Out of 594 workers, 537 are males and 57 are females. Out of the 1791 non-workers, 1100 are females and 691 are males. Only two males are seen to be engaged in work in the age group 5-9. The number of non-worker males is seen to decrease with increasing age. Not a single non-worker is found between the ages 35-64. Above this age, a few non-worker males are found in the present study. The number of non-worker females is seen to be higher than the worker females.

Tables 1.5 (b) and (c) show the distribution of the population according to working and non-working status in the various age groups

TABLE 1.5(a)

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION ACCORDING TO WORKING AND
NON-WORKING STATUS IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS

AGE GROUP	NON WORKER			WORKER			GRAND TOTAL
	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	
0 - 4	171	161	332	-	-	-	332
5 - 9	170	164	334	2	-	2	336
10 - 14	142	171	313	18	3	21	334
15 - 19	103	123	226	29	4	33	259
20 - 24	61	109	170	54	8	62	232
25 - 29	27	83	110	71	8	79	189
30 - 34	12	69	81	79	8	87	168
35 - 39	-	59	59	68	4	72	131
40 - 44	-	47	47	46	5	51	98
45 - 49	-	31	31	47	6	53	84
50 - 54	-	21	21	26	2	28	49
55 - 59	-	16	16	26	5	31	47
60 - 64	-	20	20	31	2	33	53
65 - 69	2	10	12	20	2	22	33
70 - 74	1	10	11	19	-	19	30
75 - 79	-	3	3	1	-	1	5
80 - 84	2	3	5	-	-	-	5
TOTAL	691	1100	1791	537	57	594	2385

TABLE 1.5(6)

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION ACCORDING TO WORKING AND NON-WORKING
STATUS IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS
BUILT UP AREA

AGE GROUP	NON WORKER			WORKER			GRAND TOTAL
	M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	
0 - 4	117	115	232	-	-	-	232
5 - 9	118	117	235	1	-	1	236
10 - 14	97	133	230	13	1	14	244
15 - 19	68	86	154	19	3	22	176
20 - 24	46	80	126	39	4	43	169
25 - 29	22	62	84	48	7	55	139
30 - 34	10	49	59	57	7	64	123
35 - 39	-	36	36	49	3	52	88
40 - 44	-	34	34	31	3	34	68
45 - 49	-	25	25	33	3	36	61
50 - 54	-	16	16	22	1	23	39
55 - 59	-	14	14	23	3	26	40
60 - 64	-	16	16	25	2	27	43
65 - 69	-	8	8	15	1	16	24
70 - 74	-	8	8	16	-	16	24
75 - 79	-	1	1	1	-	1	2
80 - 84	2	2	4	-	-	-	4
T O T A L	480	802	1282	392	38	430	1712

(-64-)

TABLE: 1.5 (C)

DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION ACCORDING TO WORKING AND NON-WORKING
STATUS IN VARIOUS AGE GROUPS

FLOOD PLAIN AREA

AGE GROUP	NON WORKER		Total	WORKER		Total	Grand Total
	M	F		M	F		
0 - 4	54	46	100	-	-	-	100
5 - 9	52	47	99	1	-	1	100
10 - 14	45	38	83	5	2	7	90
15 - 19	35	37	72	10	1	11	83
20 - 24	15	29	44	15	4	19	63
25 - 29	5	21	26	23	1	24	50
30 - 34	2	20	22	22	1	23	45
35 - 39	-	23	23	19	1	20	43
40 - 44	-	13	13	15	2	17	30
45 - 49	-	6	6	14	3	17	23
50 - 54	-	5	5	4	1	5	10
55 - 59	-	2	2	3	2	5	7
60 - 64	-	4	4	6	-	6	10
65 - 69	2	2	4	4	1	5	9
70 - 74	1	2	3	3	-	3	6
75 - 79	-	2	2	1	-	1	3
80 - 84	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	211	298	489	145	19	164	673

in the two areas separately. A close examination of the two tables reveals that the number of non-workder males is less than the non-worker females in both the areas. Of all the females in the built up region, only 38 are engaged in different occupations whereas 802 are non-workers. In the flood plain area, the total number of women engaged in different works is only 19 whereas the number of non-workder females is 298. Only two males, one from the flood plain area and the other from the built up area belonging to the age group 5-9 is found in the present study.

Of the number of workers in the present study, the number and percentage of male and female engaged in different occupations is shown in Table 1.5 (d). From this table it is seen that majority are people are engaged in agriculture. The percentage of male cultivators is maximim (52.51%) as compared to the other types of occupations. Hence, it is obvious that cultivation is the major occupation among the males. After cultivation, it is seen that next higher percentage of males are engaged in middle professional jobs. Skilled workers form 8.94% of the male workders whereas the percentage of males engaged in business and day labourer is the same (7.45%).

Most of the females in the present study are non-workers or housewives. A very small percentage () of the females are seen to be engaged in different occupations. Out of this, number of females engaged in different occupations, the highest percentage are found to be cultivators (52.63%). Next to that are the females engaged in middle profession (31.58%). Percentages of women working as day labourers, is found to be only 15.79% in the present study.

TABLE 1.5 (d)

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF MALE AND FEMALE IN DIFFERENT OCCUPATION

TYPES OF OCCUPATION	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
CULTIVATOR	282	52.51	30	52.63	312	52.52
DAY LABOUR	40	7.45	9	15.79	49	8.25
SKILLED WORKER	48	8.94	-	-	48	8.08
LOWER PROFESSION	37	6.89	-	-	37	6.23
MIDDLE PROFESSION	90	16.76	18	31.58	108	18.18
BUSINESS	40	7.45	-	-	40	6.73
TOTAL	537	100.00	57	100.00	594	99.99

Tables 1.5(e) and (f) show the number and percentage of males and females in different occupations in the built up area and the flood plain area respectively. A comparison of the two tables reveal that the percentage of male cultivators is the highest in both the areas as compared to the percentages of the males engaged in different occupations. In the built up area, it is seen that the second highest percentage of males are found to be engaged in middle profession whereas in the flood plain area the second highest percentage of the working male population are found to be day labourers. Percentage of male skilled workers in the flood plain area is higher (20.69%) than that of the built up area (4.59%). Males in lower professional works and business are also found to be higher in the flood plain area. Though the percentage of male cultivators is the highest as compared to all other occupations, the percentage of cultivators in the built up area is still higher (62.24%) as compared to the flood plain area. In case of female workers also the highest percentage are found to be cultivators followed by day labourers in the case of flood plain area and middle professionals in the case of the built up area.

It is interesting to note that though cultivator constitute the highest percentage of the working population in both the areas, in the built up region only 37.76% of the males are engaged in profession other than cultivation. In the flood plain region, on the other hand, 73.79% of the male working population are engaged in other professions.

FERTILITY

Human fertility constitutes an essential aspect of the studies in any demographic studies. Fertility is one of the main

TABLE 1.5 (e)

BUILT UP AREA

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF MALE AND FEMALE IN DIFFERENT OCCUPATION

TYPES OF OCCUPATION	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
CULTIVATOR	244	62.24	20	52.63	264	61.39
DAY LABOUR	5	1.27	-	-	5	1.16
SKILLED WORKER	18	4.59	-	-	18	4.19
LOWER PROFESSION	25	6.38	-	-	25	5.81
MIDDLE PROFESSION	80	20.41	18	47.37	98	22.79
BUSINESS	20	5.10	-	-	20	4.65
TOTAL	392	99.99	38	100.00	430	99.99

TABLE : 1.5 (f) FLOOD PLAIN AREA

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF MALE AND FEMALE IN DIFFERENT OCCUPATION

TYPES OF OCCUPATION	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
CULTIVATOR	38	26.21	10	52.63	48	29.27
DAY LABOUR	35	24.14	9	47.37	44	26.83
SKILLED WORKER	30	20.69	-	-	30	18.29
LOWER PROFESSION	12	8.27	-	-	12	7.32
MIDDLE PROFESSION	10	6.90	-	-	10	6.10
BUSINESS	20	13.79	-	-	20	12.19
TOTAL	145	100.00	19	100.00	164	100.00

factors responsible for change in the size and to some extent, the structure of a population. A thorough understanding of the differentials and the determinants of fertility is necessary for economic development and for initiating fertility control programmes. A large number of factors are known to affect the fertility rate either directly or indirectly. Hence, in the present study, the fertility of the Mishing women residing in the four villages, i.e. Borpanua, Botiamari, Alangi Sapori and Dapakgaon is studied considering factors like age at menarche, age at marriage, number of live births, age at neopause, interval between neopause and last birth, occupation and fertility, education and fertility and family type and fertility.

For studying the factors like age at menarche, age at neopause, age at marriage, all the 452 women consisting married, widow and separated are taken into consideration in the present study. For the purpose of fertility, mortality and family planning, the widows and separated women are excluded.

AGE AT MENARCHE :

Menarche is the first menstrual period a girl experiences. From the time of menarche, menstruation occurs in a cyclical pattern until a woman reaches her neopause. A woman is capable of reproduction after the attainment of menarche.

Table 2.1(a) shows the distribution of the age at menarche of the 452 Mishing women in various age groups. The menarcheal age ranges from 10 - 16 years of age. The highest percentage of women (41.15%) showed their menarched age as 12 years of age followed by 14 years of age (18.58%). The least percentage of women (2.88%) were seen to attain menopause at 10 years of age. The mean age at menarche of the women is found to be 12.85 ± 0.06 .

TABLE 2.1(a)

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MENARCHE

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	AGE			AT	MENARCHE				TOTAL
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
15 - 19	-	-	1	16	3	2	-	-	22
20 - 24	-	1	6	26	14	8	4	3	62
25 - 29	-	5	3	32	11	9	5	5	70
30 - 34	-	2	5	21	16	12	5	1	62
35 - 39	-	1	4	22	6	12	8	1	54
40 - 44	-	-	1	17	10	14	7	2	51
45 - 49	-	1	4	14	2	9	4	3	37
50 - 54	-	1	2	7	3	5	3	2	23
55 - 59	-	2	1	7	3	2	-	-	21
60 - 64	-	-	1	11	3	4	2	1	22
65 - 69	-	-	2	7	1	2	-	-	12
70 - 74	-	-	-	5	1	4	-	-	10
75 - 79	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	3
80 - 84	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	3
TOTAL	-	13	30	186	84	84	40	19	452
	-	(2.88)	(6.64)	(41.15)	(17.02)	(18.58)	(8.85)	(3.54)	

Mean age at Menarche : 12.85 ± 0.06

Tables 2.1(b) and (c) show the distribution of the women in various age groups according to the age at menarche in the built up area and the flood plain area respectively. A comparison of the two tables show that the highest percentage of women attained menarche at 12 years of age in both the areas respectively. The second highest percentage of women are found to attain menarche (18.52%) at the age of 14 years in the built up area and at the age of 13 years in the flood plain area. The near age at menarche in the built up area is found to be 12.83 ± 0.08 and 12.9 ± 0.11 in the flood plain area. The difference in age at menarche between the women of the two areas is not statistically significant ($t = 0.5147$ f

AGE AT MENOPAUSE :

Out of a total of 452 women (including widows and separated females) 99 of them have attained menopause in the present study. The distribution of the women according to the age at menopause is shown in table 2.2(a). From this table it can be seen that the highest percentage of women (28.28%) attain menopause at the age of 49 years in the present study. The second highest percentage of women (15.15%) are found to attain menopause at 45 years of age. The near age at menopause of the women in the present study is 47.83 ± 0.32 .

Tables 2.2(b) and 2.2(c) show the distribution of the women according to the age at menopause in the two areas separately i.e. the built up area and the flood plain area. In the built up region, the highest percentage of the women are found to attain menopause at the age of 49 years (25.33%) followed by 45 years of age (17.33%). The near age at menopause in the built up area is found to be 48.01 ± 0.36 . In the flood plain area, on the other hand, the highest percentage of women (37.5%) are seen to attain menopause at 49 years of age followed

(-73-)

TABLE 2.4(b)

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MENARCHE

BUILT UP AREA

Present age groups	AGE AT MENARCHE								T o t a l
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	10	1	1	-	-	12
20 - 24	-	1	3	20	10	6	1	3	44
25 - 29	-	5	1	27	9	4	4	5	55
30 - 34	-	2	4	14	14	9	1	1	45
35 - 39	-	1	2	11	3	7	7	1	32
40 - 44	-	-	-	12	6	12	4	2	36
45 - 49	-	1	3	10	1	7	3	3	28
50 - 54	-	-	2	7	1	5	1	1	17
55 - 59	-	2	1	5	7	2	-	-	17
60 - 64	-	-	1	11	1	2	2	1	18
65 - 69	-	-	2	5	1	1	-	-	9
70 - 74	-	-	-	4	1	3	-	-	8
75 - 79	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
80 - 84	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
T O T A L	-	12	19	137	56	60	23	17	324
		(3.70)	(5.86)	(42.28)	(17.28)	(18.52)	(7.10)	(5.25)	

TABLE : 2.1(c)

FLOOD PLAIN AREADISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MENARCHE

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	AGE AT MENARCHE								TOTAL
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	1	6	2	1	-	-	10
20 - 24	-	-	3	6	4	2	3	-	18
25 - 29	-	-	2	5	2	5	1	-	15
30 - 34	-	-	1	7	2	3	4	-	17
35 - 39	-	-	2	11	3	5	1	-	22
40 - 44	-	-	1	5	4	2	3	-	15
45 - 49	-	-	1	4	1	2	1	-	9
50 - 54	-	1	-	-	2	-	2	1	6
55 - 59	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	4
60 - 64	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	4
65 - 69	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	3
70 - 74	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
75 - 79	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
80 - 84	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
TOTAL	-	1	11	49	25	21	17	1	126
	-	(0.78)	(8.59)	(38.28)	(19.53)	(18.75)	(13.20)	(0.78)	

Mean Age at Menarche : 12.9 ± 0.11

TABLE : 2.2(a)

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MENOPAUSE

AGE GROUPS	NUMBER OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MENOPAUSE																	TOTAL NUMBER OF WOMEN	
	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54		55
40 - 44	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
45 - 49	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
50 - 54	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	7	3	3	-	-	-	-	18
55 - 59	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	5	2	3	1	3	1	2	-	-	20
60 - 64	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	2	8	3	1	-	1	-	-	21
65 - 69	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	1	-	1	12
70 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	10
75 - 79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	3
80 - 84	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL	1	1	3	-	2	2	-	15	3	9	10	28	10	7	1	6	-	1	99
PERCENTAGE	1.01	1.01	3.03	-	2.02	2.02	-	15.15	3.03	9.09	10.10	28.28	10.10	7.07	1.01	6.06	-	1.01	

MEAN AGE AT MENOPAUSE = 47.83 ± 0.32

TABLE : 2.2(b)
BUILT UP AREA

		DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MENOPAUSE																	
AGE GROUPS		NUMBER OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MENOPAUSE																55	TOTAL NUMBER OF WOMEN
		38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	45	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	
40 - 44	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
45 - 49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
50 - 54	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	5	2	2	-	-	-	14
55 - 59	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3	2	1	1	3	1	2	-	16
60 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	3	1	-	1	-	18
65 - 69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	1	-	9
70 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	8
75 - 79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
80 - 84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
TOTAL	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	-	13	2	4	9	19	9	6	1	5	-	75
PERCENTAGE	1.33	1.33	1.33	-	1.33	2.67	-	17.33	2.67	5.33	12.00	25.33	12.00	3.00	1.33	1.33	6.67	-	1.33

MEAN AGE AT MENOPAUSE : 48.01 ± 0.36

TABLE : 2.2(c)
FLOOD PLAIN AREA

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MENOPAUSE

AGE GROUPS	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	TOTAL NUMBER OF WOMEN
40 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
50 - 54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	4
55 - 59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
60 - 64	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
65 - 69	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
70 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
75 - 79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
80 - 84	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	2	1	5	1	9	1	1	-	1	-	-	24
PERCENTAGE	-	-	8.33	-	4.17	-	-	8.33	4.17	20.83	4.17	37.5	4.17	4.17	-	4.17	-	-	-

MEAN AGE AT MENOPAUSE : 47.33 ± 0.63

by women who attained menopause at 47 years of age (20.83%). The near age at menopause of the women in the flood plain area is 47.33 ± 0.63 . No statistically significant difference of the age at menopause between the women of the two areas is observed ($t = 1.0749$, d.f. =) P .

AGE AT MARRIAGE :

Distribution of the Mishing women according to age at marriage is shown in table 2.3(a). From this table it can be seen that the highest percentage of women (13.94%) marry at the age of 20 years followed by (11.06%) those marrying at the age of 19 years. The near age at marriage of the Mishing women as a whole in the present study has been found to be 20.76 ± 0.18 .

Tables 2.3(b) and (c) show the distribution of the women according to age at marriage in the built up and the flood plain areas separately. The highest percentage of women are seen to marry at an age of 20 whereas in the flood plain area, it is 17 years of age. The near age at marriage of the built up area is found to be 20.87 ± 0.20 in the present study and that of the flood plain area to be 19.4 ± 0.30 . It is seen that the age at marriage is higher in the built up area than that in the flood plain area. The difference between the two areas in respect of age at marriage is statistically significant ($t = 4.6489$, d.f = , P

Age at marriage of 433 Mishing male is presented in Table 2.3(d). From this table it can be seen that the highest percentage of males (11.55%) are found to marry at the age of 22 years followed by 24 years of age. The age at marriage for the Mishing males in the present study is seen to range from 15 to 40 years of age though the percentage of those married at these two extreme years of

TABLE : 2.5(a)
DISTRIBUTION OF THE WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MARRIAGE

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	AGE												MARRIAGE												TOTAL	
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36		37
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	1	3	9	4	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
20 - 24	-	1	6	6	10	12	9	10	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62
25 - 29	-	-	2	4	7	5	9	16	5	10	4	5	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70
30 - 34	-	-	-	7	7	8	8	6	4	3	3	3	9	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62
35 - 37	-	1	2	1	3	5	5	6	5	7	2	-	8	2	2	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
40 - 44	3	1	1	3	6	3	4	6	3	2	2	4	3	4	3	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	51
45 - 49	-	-	1	2	3	2	1	6	-	2	1	6	3	1	2	5	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
50 - 54	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	4	3	2	3	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
55 - 59	-	-	1	3	3	1	2	1	2	3	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
60 - 64	-	-	-	1	-	3	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
65 - 69	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
70 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	3	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	10
75 - 79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
80 - 84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL	3	4	16	36	46	43	50	63	30	40	17	26	29	15	13	8	7	4	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	452
PERCENT- AGE	0.66	0.88	3.54	7.96	10.18	9.51	11.06	13.21	6.63	8.85	3.76	5.75	6.41	3.32	2.88	1.77	1.55	3.88	-	-	0.22	-	0.22	-	-	-

MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE OF WOMEN : 20.76 ± 0.18

TABLE : 2.3(b)
BUILT UP AREA

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MARRIAGE

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	AGE AT MARRIAGE										TOTAL															
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	1	1	6	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
20 - 24	-	-	2	6	9	8	6	10	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
25 - 29	-	-	2	3	4	3	7	14	3	7	4	5	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
30 - 34	-	-	-	5	3	5	6	5	3	3	2	2	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45
35 - 39	-	-	-	1	2	2	3	5	2	4	2	-	4	1	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
40 - 44	2	-	-	2	3	2	3	4	1	1	2	4	3	3	3	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	36
45 - 49	-	-	1	1	2	2	1	3	-	2	1	5	1	1	2	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
50 - 54	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	2	2	3	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
55 - 59	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	2	2	3	-	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
60 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
65 - 69	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
70 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
75 - 79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
80 - 84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
TOTAL	2	1	6	26	28	29	36	51	19	29	15	22	20	13	10	7	5	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	324
PERCENTAGE	0.62	0.31	1.85	8.02	8.64	8.95	11.11	15.74	7.86	8.95	4.63	6.79	6.17	4.01	3.09	2.16	1.54	1.23	-	-	0.31	-	-	-	-	-

PERCENTAGE

0.62 0.31 1.85 8.02 8.64 8.95 11.1 15.7 5.86 8.95 4.63 5.79 6.17 4.01 3.09 2.16 1.54 1.23 - - 0.31

MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGES OF WOMEN IN THE BUILT UP AREA = 20.87 + 0.20

TABLE :
FLOOD PLAIN AREA

DISTRIBUTION OF THE WOMEN ACCORDING TO AGE AT MARRIAGE

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	AGE AT MARRIAGE										TOTAL															
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	2	3	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
20 - 24	-	1	4	-	1	4	3	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
25 - 29	-	-	-	1	3	2	2	2	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
30 - 34	-	-	-	2	4	3	2	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
35 - 39	-	1	2	1	1	3	2	1	3	3	-	-	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
40 - 44	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
45 - 49	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
50 - 54	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
55 - 59	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
60 - 64	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
65 - 69	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
70 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
75 - 79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
80 - 84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	1	3	10	10	18	14	14	12	11	11	2	4	9	2	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	128
PERCENT-AGE	0.78	2.34	7.81	7.81	14.06	10.94	10.94	9.37							2.34	0.78										0.78

MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE OF WOMEN : 19.4 ± 0.30

age is very less (0.46).

Table 2.3(e) and (f) show the distribution of the male Mishings living in the built up and in the flood plain areas according to their age at marriage. The highest percentage (11.34%) of males in the built up area is seen to marry at an age of 24 years. The second highest percentage of males (11.53%) are found to marry at the age of 22 years. In the flood plain area, the highest percentage of males are found to marry at an age of 23 years followed by 20 years of age. The near age at marriage for the Mishing males as a whole is found to be 24.13 ± 0.23 for those living in the built up area is 24.15 ± 0.26 and 23.93 ± 0.46 for the men residing in the flood plain area. The near age at marriage of the males in the built up and the flood plain areas do not differ significantly ($t = 0.4164$, d.f =) P

AGE SPECIFIC FERTILITY :

The age specific fertility is determined by taking the average number of live births of women of a particular age group. The age specific fertility of the 401 Mishing women of various age groups is shown in table 2.4(a). The total number of live births of these 401 women is 1634 which gives the average number as 4.07. The near fertility value is seen to move upwards with the increase in age, but there is a sudden fall in the age groups 70-74, 75-79 and 80-84. The highest number of live births (14) is found in the mothers belonging to 60-64 and 65-69 years of age.

Tables 2.4(b) and 2.4(c) show the age specific fertility of the women living in the built up area and the flood plain area respectively. In the built up region, a total of 295 women are seen to have 1172 live births which gives an average number of 3.97. The

TABLE : 2.3(d)
DISTRIBUTION OF MARRIAGE AGES ACCORDING TO AGE AT MARRIAGE

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	AGE AT MARRIAGE																				TOTAL						
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34		35	36	37	38	39	40
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19	-	1	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
20-24	-	2	5	5	5	6	2	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
25-29	1	1	-	1	3	9	9	13	5	8	1	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
30-34	-	-	2	5	2	6	6	8	5	8	8	4	6	3	3	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	70
35-39	-	-	-	-	6	5	4	4	6	5	4	6	6	3	6	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	63
40-44	-	2	1	1	5	2	1	-	3	3	5	4	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
45-49	-	-	-	3	2	3	2	4	-	6	2	2	3	2	3	1	3	2	2	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	44
50-54	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	3	2	2	1	-	2	2	3	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	26
55-59	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	4	2	1	2	2	1	4	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	26
60-64	1	-	1	-	2	1	1	2	1	7	-	3	-	-	3	1	1	-	2	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	31
65-69	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	3	2	2	1	-	3	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	21
70-74	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	3	1	3	-	-	-	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	20
75-79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
80-84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL	2	6	13	17	29	41	31	50	28	46	24	24	23	20	23	16	10	5	6	2	4	1	5	1	2	2	433
PERSON-TAHS	0.40	1.38	3.00	3.93	6.70	9.47	7.16	11.55	6.47	10.62	5.54	5.54	5.31	4.62	5.31	3.69	2.31	1.15	1.85	0.46	0.92	0.23	1.15	0.23	0.46	0.46	
MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE FOR MALE : 24.13 + 0.23																											

MEAN AGE AT MARRIAGE FOR MALE : 24.13 ± 0.23

TABLE : 2.5(c)

BUILT UP AREA

DISTRIBUTION OF MALE ACCORDING TO AGE AT MARRIAGE

PERCENT AGE GROUPS	AGE AT MARRIAGE																			Total							
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33		34	35	36	37	38	39	40
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19	-	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
20-24	-	2	2	3	4	3	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
25-29	1	1	-	-	3	7	7	10	4	6	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
30-34	-	-	2	5	1	6	4	5	4	6	6	2	4	2	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52
35-39	-	-	-	-	4	4	3	2	4	3	3	5	5	2	5	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45
40-44	-	-	1	1	5	1	-	-	3	2	3	3	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
45-49	-	-	-	2	1	2	2	2	-	6	-	2	3	-	3	1	3	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	31
50-54	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	3	1	2	-	-	2	2	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	22
55-59	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	4	1	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	-	1	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	23
60-64	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	6	-	3	-	-	3	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	25
65-69	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	2	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	15
70-74	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	1	3	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	16
75-79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
80-84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
TOTAL	1	4	8	12	23	30	23	39	21	38	14	18	18	13	19	13	8	4	5	1	3	1	3	1	1	2	321
PERCENT- AGE	(0.31)	(1.25)	(2.49)	(3.74)	(7.16)	(9.34)	(7.16)	(11.53)	(6.54)	(11.84)	(4.36)	(5.61)	(5.61)	(4.05)	(5.92)	(4.05)	(2.49)	(1.25)	(0.31)	(0.31)	(0.93)	(0.31)	(0.31)	(0.31)	(0.31)	(0.31)	(0.62)

Mean age at marriage for men : 24.15 ± 0.26

TABLE : 2.3(f)

FLOOD PLAIN AREA

DISTRIBUTION OF MALE ACCORDING TO AGE AT MARRIAGE

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	AGE AT MARRIAGE										TOTAL																	
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
15-19	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
20-24	-	-	3	2	1	5	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	
25-29	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	1	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	
30-34	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	-	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	
35-39	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	
40-44	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	
45-49	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	1	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	13	
50-54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	
55-59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
60-64	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	
65-69	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	
70-74	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	
75-79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
80-84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	
TOTAL PERCENTAGE	1	2	5	5	6	11	8	13	7	8	10	6	5	7	4	3	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	112	
	(0.89)(1.78)(4.46)(4.46)(5.36)(9.82)(7.14)(11.61)(6.25)(7.14)(8.93)(5.36)(4.46)(6.25)(3.57)(2.68)(1.78)(0.89)(2.68)(0.89)(0.89)(0.89)(0.89)(0.89)(0.89)(0.89)(0.89)																											

Mean age at marriage for men : 23.93 + 0.45

TABLE : 2.4(a)
DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS

NUMBER OF WOMEN IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS																	
No. of live birth against the present age of women																	
No. of Live Birth	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	Total No. of Women	Total No. of Live Births
1	-	17	42	20	5	8	10	5	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	114	114
2	-	1	13	16	11	3	-	3	2	-	1	-	2	-	-	52	104
3	-	-	4	19	17	5	7	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	54	162
4	-	-	1	12	10	11	3	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	41	164
5	-	-	-	2	7	8	6	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	29	145
6	-	-	1	-	8	6	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	22	132
7	-	-	-	-	2	10	-	9	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	25	175
8	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	10	80
9	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	2	2	6	-	-	1	-	-	17	153
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	3	4	3	3	-	-	-	20	200
11	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	55
12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	8	96
13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	26
14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	28
TOTAL	-	18	61	69	61	53	41	34	23	17	11	7	4	1	1	201	1634
Avg. No. of Live Births.	-	1.05	1.47	2.42	3.65	4.45	5.05	6.29	6.56	7.70	8.45	9.0	6.75	7.0	6.0		4.07

TABLE : 2.4(b)
BUILT UP AREA

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS

NUMBER OF WOMEN IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS																	
	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	Total No. of Women	Total No. of Live Births
1	-	9	28	14	5	7	9	5	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	83	83
2	-	-	11	15	10	2	-	3	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	44	88
3	-	-	2	18	16	3	7	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	48	144
4	-	-	1	9	7	6	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	29	116
5	-	-	-	-	2	8	5	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	20	100
6	-	-	1	-	2	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	11	66
7	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	3	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	9	63
8	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	9	72
9	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	2	3	-	-	1	-	-	11	99
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	2	4	2	2	-	-	-	16	160
11	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	44
12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	8	96
13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	13
14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	28
TOTAL	-	9	43	56	45	31	32	27	17	14	9	6	4	1	1	295	1172
Average No. of Live Births	-	(1.0)	(1.53)	(2.39)	(3.22)	(3.87)	(4.62)	(6.18)	(6.88)	(7.43)	(7.78)	(8.83)	(6.75)	(7.0)	(6.0)		3.97

TABLE : 2.4(c)

FLOOD PLAIN AREA

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTH

NUMBER OF WOMEN IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS

	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	Total No. of Women	Total No. of Live Births
-	-	8	14	6	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	31
-	-	1	2	1	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	16
-	-	-	2	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	18
-	-	-	-	3	3	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	48
-	-	-	-	2	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	45
-	-	-	-	-	6	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	66
-	-	-	-	-	-	9	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	112
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	6	54
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	4	40
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	11
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	13
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	9	18	13	16	22	9	7	6	3	2	1	-	-	-	106	462
total average No. of live birth	-	(1.11)	(1.33)	(2.54)	(4.87)	(5.27)	(6.67)	(6.71)	(5.67)	(9.0)	(11.5)	(10.0)	-	-	-	-	4.36

near **fertility** value is seen to rise with the increase in age but fall after the age of 70-74 onwards. The highest number of live births (14) are seen in women belonging to age groups 65-69 and 70-74. In the flood plain area the total number of women are found to be 106 who have a total of 462 live births. The **average** number of live births in this region thus becomes 4.36. The near fertility value in this area is seen to increase with increasing age but fall suddenly in the age group 50-54 and then rise again.

INTERVAL BETWEEN MENOPAUSE AND LAST BIRTH :

The interval between menopause and last birth is shown in table 2.5(a). The interval ranges from 1 to 18 years. The highest percentage of women (15.94%) show three years interval between menopause and last birth followed by (14.49%) as 7 years between menopause and last birth. The near interval between menopause and last birth has been found to be 7.7 ± 0.49 . Tables 2.5(b) and 2.5(c) show the distribution of women according to interval between menopause and last birth in the two regions separately. Table 2.5(b) shows that the highest percentage of women (18.52%) have three years interval between menopause and last birth in the built up region. The second highest percentage of women (16.67%) showed 7 years as the interval between menopause and last birth, the near interval in this region being 7.3 ± 0.55 . In the flood plain area, 13.33% of women in each show 6, 8, 10, 13 and 14 years as interval between menopause and last birth. The near interval in this region is found to be 9.13 ± 1.01 . Though the interval between menopause and last birth of the women in the built up region is lower than that in the flood plain region, the difference between the two areas is not statistically significant ($t = 1.5913$, d.f. , P).

OCCUPATION AND FERTILITY :

Number of children born according to occupational

TABLE : 2.5(a)

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO INTERVAL BETWEEN MENOPOAUSE AND LAST BIRTH

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	INTERVAL IN YEARS																		TOTAL
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
40 - 44	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
45 - 49	-	-	1	-	-	2	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
50 - 54	2	-	3	-	-	2	4	1	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	18
55 - 59	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	2	2	1	1	2	-	2	1	-	-	1	17
60 - 64	-	1	1	1	2	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	11
65 - 69	-	-	2	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
70 - 74	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
75 - 79	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
80 - 84	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

TOTAL NO.
OF WOMEN

PERCENT-

AGE (2.90)(1.45)(15.94)(7.25)(5.80)(7.25)(14.49)(8.69)(5.80)(4.34)(5.80)(4.34)(5.80)(2.90)(2.90) - (1.45) -

Mean interval : 7.7 ± 0.49

(190)

TABLE : 2.5(b)
BUILT UP AREA
=====

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO INTERVAL BETWEEN MENOPAUSE AND LAST BIRTH

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	T O T A L																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
40 - 44	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
45 - 49	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
50 - 54	2	-	3	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	14
55 - 59	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	2	2	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	14
60 - 64	-	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	9
65 - 69	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
70 - 74	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
75 - 79	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
80 - 84	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL NO. OF WOMEN	2	1	10	4	3	3	9	4	4	1	4	3	2	-	2	1	-	1	-
PERCENTAGE	(0.70)	(1.85)	(18.52)	(7.41)	(5.55)	(5.55)	(5.55)	(5.55)	(16.67)	(7.41)	(7.41)	(7.41)	(1.85)	(7.41)	(5.55)	(3.70)	(1.85)	(1.85)	(1.85)
Mean interval 7.3 ± 0.55																			

TABLE : 2.5(c)
FLOOD FLAIN AREA

DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN ACCORDING TO INTERVAL BETWEEN MENOPAUSE AND LAST BIRTH
INTERVAL IN YEARS

PRESENT AGE GROUPS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	TOTAL
40 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 49	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
50 - 54	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
55 - 59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
60 - 64	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
65 - 69	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
70 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 - 79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
80 - 84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL NO. OF WOMEN	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	15
PERCENTAGE	-	-	(6.67)	(6.67)	(6.67)	(13.33)	(6.67)	(13.33)	-	(13.33)	-	-(13.33)	(13.33)	(13.33)	-	(6.67)	-	-	-	-

Mean interval : 9.13 ± 1.01

status of the couples is presented in Table 2.6(a). From this table, it appears that the average number of live births is the highest (6.04) among non-worker husbands and wives. Next to this, the average number of live births is found to be (4.94) among the day labourers. The average number of live births of couples where the husbands are either cultivator or skilled workers and wives being non-workers. The average number of live birth is again found to be quite high (5.0) where wives are day labourers and husbands are cultivators. The average number of live births is seen to be the lowest (2.86) where the wives are non-workers and husbands are engaged in lower profession.

Tables 2.6(b) and (c) show the average number of live births of couples engaged in different occupations in the two regions. From table 2.6(b) we can see that the average number of live births is highest (5.88) amongst non-worker couples followed by (4.3) non-worker wives and cultivator husbands in the built up region. The average number of live births is lowest (3.2) amongst couples where husband are engaged in lower professions and wives are non-workers. Similarly, in the flood plain area also, the average number of live births is highest among non-worker couples (6.6) followed by couples where wives are non-workers and husbands are cultivators. In this region the average number of live births is found to be the least (2.1) amongst non-worker wives and husbands engaged in middle professions.

EDUCATION AND FERTILITY :

Educational status of couples and average number of live births is shown in table 2.7(a)

Average number of live births is seen to be the highest (5.11) where wives are illiterate and husbands with category II education followed by couples where both husbands and wives are illiterate. The

TABLE 2.6(a)

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF COUPLES AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS

WIVES OCCU- PATI- ONAL STATUS	HUSBANDS OCCUPATIONAL STATUS										TOTAL					
	CULTIVATOR		DAY LABOURER		SKILLED WORKER		BUSINESS		LOWER PROFESSION			MIDDLE PROFESSION		NON WORKER		
	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth		No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth	
NON WORKER	121	560 (4.63)	17	84 (4.94)	33	138 (4.18)	32	106 (3.31)	37	106 (2.86)	90	317 (3.52)	22	133 (6.04)	352	1444 (4.10)
CULTIVATOR	22	85 (3.86)													22	85 (3.86)
DAY LABOURER	9	45 (5.0)													9	45 (5.0)
MIDDLE PROFESSION	18	60 (3.33)													18	60 (3.33)
TOTAL	170	750 (4.41)	17	84 (4.94)	33	138 (4.18)	32	106 (3.31)	37	106 (2.86)	90	317 (3.52)	22	133 (6.04)	401	1634 (4.07)

FIGURES IN BRACKETS INDICATE AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS.

TABLE : 2.6(b)

BUILT UP AREA

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF COUPLES AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS

WIVES OCCU- PATI- ONAL STATUS	HUSBANDS OCCUPATIONAL STATUS											TOTAL				
	CULTIVATOR		DAY LABOURER		SKILLED WORKER		BUSINESS		LOWER PROFESSION		MIDDLE PROFESSION		NON WORKER			
	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple		No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	
NON-WORKER	100	430 (4.3)	5	18 (3.6)	18	75 (4.17)	20	70 (3.5)	25	80 (3.2)	80	296 (3.7)	17	100 (5.88)	265	1096 (4.13)
CULTIVATOR	12	43 (3.58)													12	43 (3.58)
DAY LABOURER																
MIDDLE PROFESSION	18	60 (3.33)													18	60 (3.33)
TOTAL	130	533 (4.1)	5	18 (3.6)	18	75 (4.17)	20	70 (3.5)	25	80 (3.2)	80	296 (3.7)	17	100 (5.88)	295	1172 (3.97)

FIGURES IN BRACKETS INDICATE AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS.

TABLE : 2.6(c)
FLOOD PLAIN AREA

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF COUPLES AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS

LIVES COUPLES OCCUPATIONAL STATUS	HUSBANDS OCCUPATIONAL STATUS												TOTAL
	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couple	No. of Live Birth	
NOT WORKER	21	130 (6.19)	12	66 (5.5)	15	63 (4.2)	12	36 (3.0)	12	26 (2.17)	10	21 (2.1)	87 375 (4.31)
CULTIVATOR	10	42										10 42 (4.2)	
DAY LABOURER	9	45 (5.0)										9 45 (5.0)	
MIDDLE PROFESSION													
TOTAL	40	217 (5.42)	12	66 (5.5)	15	63 (4.2)	12	36 (3.0)	12	26 (2.17)	10	21 (2.1)	106 462 (4.35)

FIGURES IN BRACKETS INDICATE AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS.

TABLE : 2.7(a)
EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF COUPLES AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS

WIVES EDUCATIONAL STATUS	HUSBANDS EDUCATIONAL STATUS										TOTAL					
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X						
No. of Couples	No. of Live Births	No. of Couples	No. of Live Births	No. of Couples	No. of Live Births	No. of Couples	No. of Live Births	No. of Couples	No. of Live Births	No. of Couples	No. of Live Births	No. of Couples	No. of Live Births	No. of Couples	No. of Live Births	
I	159	794 (4.92)	27	138 (5.11)	33	146 (4.42)	46	187 (4.06)	38	119 (3.13)	6	18 (3.0)	1	3 (5.0)	310	1405 (4.53)
II	2	5 (2.5)	3	12 (4.0)	4	7 (1.75)	5	17 (3.40)	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	41 (2.93)
III	1	2 (2.0)	1	4 (4.0)	1	1 (1.0)	4	17 (4.25)	2	7 (3.5)	-	-	-	-	9	31 (3.44)
IV	6	21 (3.5)	2	7 (3.5)	1	1 (1.0)	10	25 (3.5)	18	39 (2.17)	1	2 (2.0)	-	-	38	95 (2.5)
V	1	4 (4.0)	-	-	-	-	1	1 (1.0)	24	49 (2.04)	4	8 (2.0)	-	-	30	62 (2.06)
TOTAL	269	825 (3.07)	33	161 (4.88)	39	155 (3.97)	66	247 (3.74)	82	214 (2.61)	41	28 (2.54)	1	3 (3.0)	401	1634 (4.07)

FIGURES IN BRACKETS INDICATE AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS.

- EDUCATIONAL CATEGORIES :
- I - ILLITERATE
 - II - NURSERY TO CLASS III
 - III - CLASS IV TO CLASS VI
 - IV - CLASS VII TO CLASS X
 - V - MATRIC AND ABOVE
 - VI - DEGREE
 - VII - POST GRADUATE

average number of live births is least (1.0) where wives is in the post graduate category and husband in the category IV education.

Tables 2.7(b) and (c) show the average number of live births of couples according to educational status in the built up and flood plain areas respectively. A comparison of the two tables reveal that the average number of live birth is the highest amongst illiterate couples in both the regions. Least number of live birth (1.0) is found amongst couples where wife is in matric and above standard and husband in category IV education in the built up area whereas in the flood plain area, the average number of live births is the least (1.0) amongst couples where both husbands and wives are in the matric and above category of education.

FAMILY TYPE AND FERTILITY :

The average number of live births in different age groups of women in joint and nuclear families is shown in Table 2.8(a). In the present study, the average number of live births in joint families (3.97) is found to be less than that of the nuclear families (4.16). The average number of live births is seen to be higher in all age groups of women in the nuclear families excepting age groups 50-54, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79 and 80-84 where the number of live borns are higher in the joint families.

Table 2.8(b) shows the average number of live births in both nuclear and joint families in the two areas. A comparison of the two areas show that the number of live births is higher in the nuclear families in the two areas.

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY

Mortality is known to affect and influence both fertility as well as birth rate. In the present study, the mortality of infants

TABLE : 2.7(b)

BUILT UP AREA

EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF COUPLES AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS

WIVES EDUC- ATIONAL STATUS	HUSBANDS EDUCATIONAL STATUS														TOTAL	
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII									
	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births
I	136	675 (5.11)	5	28 (5.6)	12	40 (3.33)	36	138 (3.83)	33	107 (3.24)	5	15 (3.0)	1	3 (3.0)	228	1006 (4.41)
II	2	5 (2.5)	-	-	2	2 (1.0)	3	9 (3.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	16 (2.28)
III	1	2 (2.0)	-	-	1	1 (1.0)	3	12 (4.0)	2	7 (3.5)	-	-	-	-	7	22 (3.14)
IV	5	16 (3.2)	1	3 (3.0)	1	1 (1.0)	7	18 (2.57)	12	30 (2.51)	-	-	-	-	26	68 (2.61)
V	1	4 (4.0)	-	-	-	-	1	1 (1.0)	21	47 (2.24)	4	8 (2.0)	-	-	27	60 (2.22)
TOTAL	145	702 (4.84)	6	31 (5.17)	16	44 (2.75)	50	174 (3.48)	68	190 (2.79)	9	23 (2.55)	1	3 (3.0)	295	1172 (3.97)

FIGURES IN BRACKETS INDICATE AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS.

EDUCATIONAL CATEGORIES : I - ILLITERATE
 II - NURSERY TO CLASS III
 III - CLASS IV TO CLASS VI
 IV - CLASS VII TO CLASS X
 V - MARRIED AND ABOVE
 VI - DEGREE
 VII - POST GRADUATE

TABLE 2.7(c)

FLOOD PLAIN AREA

EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF COUPLES AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS

WIVES EDUCATIONAL STATUS		HUSBANDS EDUCATIONAL STATUS										TOTAL				
		I		II		III		IV		V				VI		VII
No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	No. of Couple	No. of Live Births	
I	23	119 (5.17)	22	110 (5.00)	21	106 (5.05)	10	49 (4.9)	5	12 (2.4)	1	3 (3.0)	-	-	82	399 (4.86)
II	-	-	3	12 (4.0)	2	5 (2.5)	2	8 (4.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	25 (3.57)
III	-	-	1	4 (4.0)	-	-	1	5 (5.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	9 (4.5)
IV	1	5 (5.0)	1	4 (4.0)	-	-	3	7 (2.33)	6	8 (1.0)	1	2 (2.0)	-	-	12	27 (2.25)
V	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3 (1.0)	-	-	-	-	3	2 (0.67)
TOTAL	24	124 (5.17)	27	130 (4.81)	23	111 (4.83)	16	59 (4.31)	14	23 (1.64)	2	5 (2.5)	-	-	106	462 (4.36)

TABLE : 2.8(a)
AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTH IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS OF WOMEN OF NUCLEAR AND JOINT FAMILIES

AGE GROUPS	NUCLEAR FAMILIES		JOINT FAMILIES	
	NUMBER OF WOMEN	AVG. NO. OF LIVE BIRTHS	NUMBER OF WOMEN	AVG. NO. OF LIVE BIRTHS
10 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	10	11 (1.1)	12	8 (0.67)
20 - 24	33	51 (1.54)	26	39 (1.5)
25 - 29	34	99 (2.91)	34	68 (2.0)
30 - 34	31	136 (4.39)	29	87 (3.0)
35 - 39	38	173 (4.55)	15	63 (4.2)
40 - 44	24	121 (5.04)	17	86 (5.06)
45 - 49	26	164 (6.31)	8	50 (6.25)
50 - 54	11	69 (6.27)	12	82 (6.83)
55 - 59	7	56 (8.0)	10	75 (7.5)
60 - 64	1	11 (11.0)	10	82 (8.2)
65 - 69	1	8 (8.0)	6	55 (9.17)
70 - 74	-	-	4	27 (6.75)
75 - 79	-	-	1	7 (7.0)
80 - 84	-	-	1	6 (6.0)
TOTAL	216	899 (4.16)	185	735 (3.97)

TABLE : 2.8(b)
AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS OF WOMEN OF NUCLEAR AND JOINT FAMILIES

NUMBER OF WOMEN AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS IN											
BUILT UP AREA			JOINT FAMILIES			NUCLEAR FAMILIES			JOINT FAMILIES		
NUCLEAR FAMILIES			NUCLEAR FAMILIES			NUCLEAR FAMILIES			NUCLEAR FAMILIES		
No. of Women	Ave. No. of Live Births	No. of Women	Ave. No. of Live Births	No. of Women	Ave. No. of Live Births	No. of Women	Ave. No. of Live Births	No. of Women	Ave. No. of Live Births	No. of Women	Ave. No. of Live Births
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	4	4 (1.0)	5	5 (1.0)	6	7 (1.17)	3	3 (1.00)	3	3 (1.00)	3 (1.00)
20 - 24	20	32 (1.6)	23	34 (1.48)	13	19 (1.46)	5	5 (1.00)	5	5 (1.00)	5 (1.00)
25 - 29	25	71 (2.84)	31	63 (2.03)	9	28 (3.11)	4	5 (1.25)	4	5 (1.25)	5 (1.25)
30 - 34	18	68 (3.78)	27	77 (2.85)	13	68 (5.23)	3	10 (3.33)	3	10 (3.33)	10 (3.33)
35 - 39	20	77 (3.85)	11	43 (3.90)	18	96 (5.33)	4	20 (5.0)	4	20 (5.0)	20 (5.0)
40 - 44	17	74 (4.35)	15	73 (4.87)	7	45 (6.43)	2	15 (7.5)	2	15 (7.5)	15 (7.5)
45 - 49	20	126 (6.3)	7	41 (5.85)	6	38 (6.33)	1	9 (9.0)	1	9 (9.0)	9 (9.0)
50 - 54	8	49 (6.12)	9	68 (7.55)	3	20 (6.67)	3	14 (4.67)	3	14 (4.67)	14 (4.67)
55 - 59	4	29 (7.25)	10	75 (7.5)	3	27 (9.0)	-	-	-	-	-
60 - 64	-	-	9	70 (7.78)	1	11 (11.0)	1	12 (12.0)	1	12 (12.0)	12 (12.0)
65 - 69	1	8 (8.0)	5	45 (9.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
70 - 74	-	-	4	27 (6.75)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 - 79	-	-	1	7 (7.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
80 - 84	-	-	1	6 (6.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	137	538 (3.93)	158	634 (4.01)	79	359 (4.54)	27	103 (3.81)	27	103 (3.81)	103 (3.81)

and children upto the age of 14 is studied. The study includes percentile distribution of mortality of live born, percentile distribution of infant mortality at various age, sex-wise distribution of infant death at various ages, infant and child mortality and occupational status of couples, infant and child mortality and educational status of couples and infant and child mortality according to birth order.

Mortality of live born varies with period of life. The mortality of live born at various ages is shown in Table 3.1(a). From this table it can be seen that the percentage of infant and children death is found to be maximum (32.97%) within one year of birth followed by 3 years of age (14.59%). Percentage of children died at 9 and 12 years of age is found to be the lowest (1.08%).

Table 3.1(b) shows the mortality of the live born at various ages in the built up and flood plain areas respectively. It is seen that the percentage of infant and child death is the maximum within one year of age in both the areas. The percentage of death within one year of age is found to be higher in the flood plain area (36.67%) as compared to the built up one (29.47%). The least percentage of children death in the built up area is found at 13 years of age (1.05%). In the flood plain area, the percentage of children death is found to be the least in 10 years of age.

Infant mortality at different culturally important periods of infancy i.e. the same day of birth, 2-7 days period, eight to twenty days, first month to third month and fourth month to twelve months of life is shown in table 3.2(a). The highest percentage of infant mortality (47.54%) is found within 1-3 months period. The percentage of infant death within 2-7 days period and 4-12 months period is found to be the same (21.31%).

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TABLE 3.1(a)

PERCENTILE DISTRIBUTION OF MORTALITY OF LIVE BORN
AT VARIOUS AGES

AGE AT DEATH	NUMBER OF LIVE BORN DIED	PERCENTAGE
BELOW ONE YEAR	61	32.97
1	23	12.43
2	20	10.81
3	27	14.59
4	15	8.11
5	9	4.86
6	9	4.86
7	6	3.24
8	5	2.70
9	2	1.08
10	3	1.62
11	-	-
12	2	1.08
13	3	1.62
14	-	-
TOTAL	185	99.97

TABLE 3.1(b)

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF MORTALITY OF LIVE BORN AT VARIOUS AGES.

AGE AT DEATH (YEARS)	<u>BUILT UP AREA</u>		<u>FLOOD PLAIN AREA</u>	
	No. of live born died	%	No. of live born died	%
FROM BIRTH TO BELOW ONE YEAR	28	29.47	33	36.67
1	13	13.68	10	11.11
2	9	9.47	11	12.22
3	17	17.89	10	11.11
4	6	6.31	9	10.00
5	5	5.26	4	4.44
6	5	5.26	4	4.44
7	4	4.21	2	2.22
8	3	3.16	2	2.22
9	2	2.10	-	-
10	2	2.10	1	1.11
11	-	-	-	-
12	-	-	2	2.22
13	1	1.05	2	2.22
14	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	95	99.96	90	99.98

TABLE 3.2(a)

PERCENTILE DISTRIBUTION OF INFANT MORTALITY AT VARIOUS AGES

AGE AT DEATH	NUMBER OF INFANT DIED	PERCENTAGE
SAME DAY OF BIRTH	6	9.84
2 - 7 DAYS	13	21.31
8 -28 DAYS	-	-
1 - 3 MONTHS	29	47.54
4 -12 MONTHS	13	21.31
TOTAL	61	100.00

PERCENTILE DISTRIBUTION OF
CHILD MORTALITY AT VARIOUS AGES

AGE AT DEATH	NUMBER OF CHILD DIED	PERCENTAGE
1	23	18.55
2	20	16.13
3	27	21.77
4	15	12.10
5	9	7.26
6	9	7.26
7	6	4.84
8	5	4.03
9	2	1.61
10	3	2.42
11	-	-
12	2	1.61
13	3	2.42
14	-	-
	124	100.00

Table 3.2(b) shows the distribution of infant death at different periods of infancy in the built up and flood plain areas separately. From the table it can be seen that the percentage of infant death within 1-3 months period is the highest in both the regions. The percentage of infant death within this period is higher in the flood plain area than in the built up area. Percentage of infant death within 2-7 days ranges second in the built up area whereas in the flood plain area the second largest percentage of infant death is found in the 4-12 months period.

Sex-wise distribution of infant and child death is shown in the table 3.3(a). From this table, it is seen that the percentage of death of male infants is more than that of females. The percentage of death of male infants is found to be 60.65% and that of females is found to be 39.34%. The percentage of male death is found to be the highest in the 2-7 days period whereas that of females is found in the 4-12 months period. In case of child deaths also male deaths are seen to predominate over female deaths. The highest percentage of male death (80.00%) is found in 8 years of age. Percentage of females dying in the ages 9, 10 and 12 years of age is found to be the highest.

Table 3.3(b) shows the sex-wise distribution of infant and child death at various ages in the built up and flood plain areas separately. From this table it is obvious that the percentage of male infant deaths is higher (67.86%) than the female infant deaths (32.14%) in the built up area. The same is the case in the flood plain area also where the percentage of male infant death (54.54%) is higher than female infant deaths (45.45%).

In case of child death in the built up area, percentage of female deaths are found to be higher (52.24%) than the male child

TABLE 3.2(b)

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF INFANT
MORTALITY AT VARIOUS AGES

AGE AT DEATH	<u>BUILT UP AREA</u>		<u>FLOOD PLAIN AREA</u>	
	Number of infant died	Percentage	Number of infant died	percentage
SAME DAY OF BIRTH	3	10.71	3	9.09
2- 7 Days	7	25.00	6	18.18
8-28 Days	-	-	-	-
1-3 Months	12	42.86	17	51.51
4-12 Months	6	21.43	7	21.21
T O T A L	28	100.00	33	99.99

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF
CHILD MORTALITY AT VARIOUS
AGES

AGE AT DEATH	<u>BUILT UP AREA</u>		<u>FLOOD PLAIN AREA</u>	
	Number of child died	Percentage	Number of child died	Percentage
1	13	19.40	10	17.54
2	9	13.43	11	19.30
3	17	25.37	10	17.54
4	6	8.95	9	15.79
5	5	7.46	4	7.02
6	5	7.46	4	7.02
7	4	5.97	2	3.51
8	3	4.48	2	3.51
9	2	2.98	-	-
10	2	2.98	1	1.75
11	-	-	-	-
12	-	-	2	3.51
13	1	1.49	2	3.51
14	-	-	-	-
	67	99.97	57	100.00

TABLE : 3.3(a)

SEXWISE DISTRIBUTION OF INFANT DEATH AT VARIOUS AGES

AGE AT DEATH	TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATH	NUMBER DIED MALE	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER DIED FEMALE	PERCENTAGE
SAME DAY OF BIRTH	6	5	83.33	1	16.67
2 - 7 DAYS	13	9	69.23	4	30.77
8 - 28 DAYS	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 3 MONTHS	29	16	55.17	13	44.83
4 - 12 MONTHS	13	7	53.85	6	46.15
TOTAL	61	37	60.65	24	39.34

SEXWISE DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD MORTALITY AT VARIOUS AGES

AGE AT DEATH	TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATH	NUMBER DIED MALE	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER DIED FEMALE	PERCENTAGE
1	23	15	65.22	8	34.78
2	20	12	60.00	8	40.00
3	27	12	44.44	15	55.55
4	15	6	40.00	9	60.00
5	9	6	66.67	3	33.33
6	9	2	22.22	7	77.78
7	6	3	50.00	3	50.00
8	5	4	80.00	1	20.00
9	2	-	-	2	100.00
10	3	-	-	3	100.00
11	-	-	-	-	-
12	2	-	-	2	100.00
13	3	3	100.00	-	-
14	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	124	63	50.81	61	49.19

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TABLE 3.3(b)

SEXWISE DISTRIBUTION OF INFANT DEATH AT VARIOUS AGES

AGE AT DEATH	BUILT UP AREA					FLOOD PLAIN AREA				
	Total No. of Death	No. Died Male	Percent- age	No. Died Female	Per- cen- age	Total No. of Death	No. Died Male	Perc- ontage	No. Died Female	Per- centage
SAME DAY OF BIRTH	3	2	66.67	1	33.33	3	3	100.00	-	-
2 - 7 Days	7	5	71.43	2	28.57	6	4	66.67	2	33.33
8 - 28 Days	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 3 Months	12	9	75.00	3	25.00	17	7	41.18	10	58.82
4-12 Months	6	3	50.00	3	50.00	7	4	57.14	3	42.86
TOTAL	28	19	67.86	9	32.14	33	18	54.54	15	45.45

SEXWISE DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD MORTALITY AT VARIOUS AGES

AGE AT DEATH	BUILT UP AREA					FLOOD PLAIN AREA				
	Total No. of Death	No. Died Male	%	No. Died Female	%	Total No. of Death	No. Died Male	%	No. Died Female	%
1	13	8	61.54	5	38.46	10	7	70.00	3	30.00
2	9	4	44.44	5	55.55	11	8	72.73	3	27.27
3	17	9	52.94	8	47.06	10	3	30.00	7	70.00
4	6	3	50.00	3	50.00	9	3	33.33	6	66.67
5	5	3	60.00	2	40.00	4	3	75.00	1	25.00
6	5	1	20.00	4	80.00	4	1	25.00	3	75.00
7	4	1	25.00	3	75.00	2	2	100.00	-	-
8	3	2	66.67	1	33.33	2	2	100.00	-	-
9	2	-	-	2	100.00	-	-	-	-	-
10	2	-	-	2	100.00	1	-	-	1	100.00
11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	100.00
13	1	1	100.00	-	-	2	2	100.00	-	-
14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	67	32	47.76	35	52.24	57	31	54.38	26	45.61

deaths (47.76%). In the case of the flood plain area it is seen that the reverse holds good where the percentage of male deaths outnumber the female deaths.

Infant and child mortality according to birth order is shown in table 3.4(a). From this table it can be seen that mortality is the highest (24.62%) in the first order followed by (18.38%). The percentage of mortality decreases gradually with the increase of birth orders. However, there is a slight increase of mortality in the eighth birth order and then again gradually decreases upto the twelfth birth order. Tables 3.4(b) and 3.4(c) show the mortality of infants and children according to birth order in the two areas separately. In the built up area, it is seen that the percentage is the highest in the first birth order. This decreases gradually with the increase of birth orders. In the seventh birth order, in the built up area, the percentage increases slightly and then decreases with the increase of birth order. Table 3.4(c) shows infant and child mortality according to birth order in the flood plain area. The highest percentage is found in the first birth order followed by the second, third, fourth and fifth birth orders. The percentage increases in the sixth birth order and eighth birth orders.

The number and percentage of infants and children that died in various occupational categories of parents is shown in Table 3.5(a). It is seen that the percentage of infant and child death is the highest (34.76%) in case of couples where husband is a wage labour and wife a non-worker. It is followed by the percentage of death in couples where the husband is a lower professional and wife a non-worker. This percentage is found to be 30.77%. The percentage of infant and child death is the least amongst couples where husband is a businessman and wife a cultivator.

Table : 3.4(a)
INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY ACCORDING TO BIRTH ORDER

PRESENT AGE GROUPS OF MOTHERS (YEARS)	TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATH											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-24	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-29	15	5	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30-34	21	5	3	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-39	37	8	10	5	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	-
40-44	21	4	4	4	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
45-49	31	4	3	4	7	3	1	2	1	-	-	-
50-54	17	3	2	4	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	-
55-59	13	2	-	4	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-
60-64	12	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
65-69	11	2	1	-	3	2	1	1	-	1	-	-
70-74	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75-79	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
80-84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
185	40 (21.62)	34 (18.38)	29 (15.67)	26 (14.67)	19 (14.05)	15 (10.27)	8 (8.11)	10 (4.32)	2 (5.40)	1 (1.08)	1 (0.54)	1 (0.54)

TABLE : 3.4(b)

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY ACCORDING TO BIRTH ORDER
BUILT UP AREA

AGE GROUP OF MOTHERS (YEARS)	TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATH	NUMBER										TOTAL DEATHS	PERCENTAGE
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-24	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-29	9	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30-34	9	3	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-39	9	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
40-44	9	2	1	1	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
45-49	21	4	2	3	2	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
50-54	12	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
55-59	9	2	-	1	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
60-64	4	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
65-69	9	2	-	1	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
70-74	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
75-79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
80-84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	95	21	15	15	13	13	8	8	3	-	-	-	1
PERCENTAGE		(12.10)	(16.84)	(15.79)	(13.58)	(13.58)	(5.26)	(8.31)	(3.26)	-	-	-	(1.03)

FIGURE IS THE BRACKETED INDICATE PERCENTAGE OF INFANTS AND
CHILDREN DIED AT DIFFERENT BIRTH ORDERS.

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY ACCORDING TO BIRTH ORDER

FLOOD PLAIN AREA

PRESENT AGE GROUP OF MOTHERS (YEARS)	TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATH	NUMBER										BIRTH		ORDERS	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
15 - 19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
20 - 24	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
25 - 29	6	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
30 - 34	12	2	4	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
35 - 39	28	7	8	5	4	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-		
40 - 44	12	2	3	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-		
45 - 49	10	-	1	1	2	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	-		
50 - 54	5	1	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
55 - 59	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-		
60 - 64	8	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-		
65 - 69	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-		
70 - 74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
75 - 79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
80 - 84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL	90	19	18	14	13	6	10	2	5	2	1	-	-		
PERCENTAGE		(21.11)	(20.00)	(15.55)	(14.44)	(6.67)	(11.11)	(2.22)	(5.55)	(2.22)	(1.11)	-	-		

FIGURES IN THE BRACKETS INDICATE PERCENTAGES OF INFANTS AND CHILDREN DEATH AT DIFFERENT BIRTH ORDERS.

TABLE : 3.5(a)

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY AND OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF WIVES	OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF HUSBANDS									
	CULTIVATOR		NON-CULTIVATOR		BUSINESSMAN		LOWER PROFESSIONAL		SKILLED WORKER	
	No. of Couples	No. of Live Born	No. of Couples	No. of Live Born	No. of Couples	No. of Live Born	No. of Couples	No. of Live Born	No. of Couples	No. of Live Born

NON-WORKER 82 506 134 26.48 4 23 8 34.78 5 39 9 23.08

1 11 2 18.18

CULTIVATOR

WAGE LABOUR

LOWER PROFESSIONAL

MIDDLE PROFESSIONAL

BUSINESSMAN

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF WIVES	OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF HUSBANDS									
	BUSINESSMAN		LOWER PROFESSIONAL		SKILLED WORKER		UNSKILLED WORKER		NON-EMPLOYED	
	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth	No. of Couples	No. of Live Birth

NON-WORKER 11 78 16 20.51 5 26 8 30.77 5 28 7 25.00

1 9 1 11.11

WAGE LABOUR

LOWER PROFESSIONAL

MIDDLE PROFESSION

Table 3.5(b) and (c) show the percentage of infant and child death in various occupational categories of parents in both the areas separately. In the built up area, the percentage of death is the highest (24.10%) amongst cultivator husbands and non-worker wives. The percentage of infant and child death is the least (11.11%) where husbands are businessman and wives are non-workers. In the flood plain area, the percentage is the highest (31.39) amongst cultivator husbands and non-worker wives. The percentage is the least in the couples where the husband is a skilled worker and wife a non-worker.

The number and percentage of infants and children that died according to the educational status of the couples are shown in Table 3.6(a). Mortality is found to be the highest (33.04%) in couples where the husband is in the third category education and wife an illiterate. The percentage of death is the least (12.5) where the husband falls in the fourth category education and wife in the third category. Tables 3.6(b) and (c) show the percentage of mortality according to the education of the parents in the two areas separately. In the built up area, and in the flood plain area, the highest percentage of infant and child mortality is found amongst couples where the husband is in the fifth category of education and wife is in the fourth. The percentage of death is the least amongst couples where husband is in the fourth category of education and wife is in the third in case of the built up area. In the flood plain area, on the other hand, the percentage is the least (20.00%) in couples where husband is in the second category of education or fourth category and wife is in the second category of education.

Table 3.7 shows the percentage of infant and child mortality according to family type. From this table, we can see the mortality is higher in nuclear families as a whole. In the flood plain

TABLE : 3.5(5)
BUILT UP AREA

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY AND OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF WIVES	OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF HUSBANDS									
	CULTIVATOR			WAGE LABOUR			OTHER OCCUPATIONS			
	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of Died	%	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of Died	%	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born
NON WORKER	54	334	80	24.10	-	-	-	-	2	17
CULTIVATOR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WAGE LABOUR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LOWER PROFESSIONAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE PROFESSIONAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF WIVES	OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF HUSBANDS									
	BUSINESSMAN			LOWER PROFESSIONAL			MIDDLE PROFESSIONAL			
	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of Died	%	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of Died	%	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born
NON WORKER	7	51	9	17.65	-	-	-	-	1	5
CULTIVATOR	1	9	1	11.11	-	-	-	-	-	-
WAGE LABOUR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LOWER PROFESSIONAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIDDLE PROFESSIONAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

20.00

TABLE : 3.5(c)

FLOOD PLAIN AREA

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY AND OCCUPATIONAL STATUS

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF WIVES	OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF HUSBANDS									
	CULTIVATOR		WAGE LABOUR		SHIELD WORKER					
	No. of Couples	No. of Live Born	No. of Live Born	No. of Couple	No. of Couple	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of Live Born	No. of Live Born	%

28

54

34.39

4

23

8

34.78

3

22

5

22.73

NON

WORKER

1

11

18.18

CULTIVATOR

WAGE

LABOUR

LOWER

PROFESS-

IONAL

MIDDLE

PROFESS-

IONAL

OCCUPATIONAL STATUS OF WIVES

BUSINESSMAN

LOWER PROFESSIONAL

NON

WORKER

4

27

25.92

7

5

26

8

30.77

4

23

6

26.09

CULTIVATOR

WAGE LABOUR

LOWER

PROFESS-

IONAL

MIDDLE

PROFESS-

IONAL

TABLE : 3.6(b)
BUILT UP AREA

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY ACCORDING TO EDUCATIONAL STATUS

EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF WIVES		EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF HUSBANDS																						
		I			II			III			IV			V			VI							
		No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of Died	%	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of Died	%	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of Died	%	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of Died	%	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of Died	%			
I	42	291	64	21.99	-	-	-	-	3	19	7	36.84	9	53	12	22.64	2	11	2	18.18	1	5	1	20.00
II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
III	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	1	12.5	1	6	1	16.67	-	-	-	-
IV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	2	25.00	2	8	3	37.5	-	-	-	-
V	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7	2	28.57	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	42	291	64	(21.99)	-	-	-	-	3	19	7	(36.84)	12	69	15	(21.74)	7	32	8	25.00	1	5	1	20.00

FIGURES IN BRACKETS INDICATE TOTAL PERCENTAGE OF INFANTS AND CHILDREN DIED

I - ILLITERATE	IV - MATRIC AND ABOVE
II - NURSERY TO CLASS III	V - DEGREE
III - CLASS IV to CLASS VI	VI - POST GRADUATE

TABLE : 3.6(c)
FLOOD PLAIN AREA

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY ACCORDING TO EDUCATIONAL STATUS

EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF WIVES	EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF HUSBANDS																	
	I			II			III			IV			V			VI		
	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of No. Died %	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of No. Died %	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of No. Died %	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of No. Died %	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of No. Died %	No. of Couple	No. of Live Born	No. of No. Died %
I	8	51	17 (33.33)	10	67	18 (26.86)	14	96	31 (32.29)	4	22	5 (22.73)	1	4	1 (25.00)	2	13	3 (23.08)
II	-	-	-	2	10	2 (20.00)	-	-	-	2	20	4 (20.00)	-	-	-	-	-	-
III	-	-	-	2	8	2 (25.00)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IV	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	1 (20.00)	3	8	3 (37.5)	-	-	-
V	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	8	51	17 (33.33)	14	85	22 (25.88)	14	96	31 (32.29)	7	47	10 (21.28)	4	12	4 (33.33)	2	13	3 (23.08)

FIGURES IN BRACKETS INDICATE PERCENTAGES OF INFANTS AND CHILDREN DIED

- I - ILLITERATE
- II - NURSEY TO CLASS III
- III - CLASS IV TO CLASS VI
- IV - MATEIC AND ABOVE
- V - DEGREE
- VI - POST GRADUATE

area, on the other hand, the percentage of infant mortality is highest in the joint families.

FAMILY PLANNING

Family Planning programme is perhaps the most effective policy intervention to control fertility and stabilize the population size. In the present study the number and percentage of couples who have adopted family planning and the non-adopters of family planning have been determined. In the built up region, out of a total of 295 couples, 121 (41.02%) are adopters and 174 (58.98%) are non-adopters. In the flood plain area, 33 (31.13%) out of a total of 106 couples have opted for family planning whereas 73 (68.87%) have not opted for family planning. From table 4.1 it is obvious that the percentage of non-adopters is more in both the areas. The percentage of adopters is more (41.02%) in the built up area than the flood plain area (31.13%).

Table 4.2 shows the distribution of the respondents by use of birth control method in both the areas. In the built up area, of the number of adopters, 6.44% have opted for indigenous methods of birth control. The highest percentage (56.98%) have opted for sterilization in the built up area. In the flood plain area also, the highest percentage of adopters are seen to have opted for sterilization. The percentage of sterilization is more (32.20%) in the built up area than the flood plain area. On the other hand, percentage of adopters of contraceptive methods of birth control are more (7.55%) as compared to that in the built up area (2.37%).

TABLE
INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY ACCORDING TO FAMILY TYPE

FAMILY TYPE	F		C		E		A		BUILT		UP		FLOOD		PLAIN	
	NUMBER OF COUPLES	NUMBER OF LIVE BORN	NUMBER OF COUPLES DIED	% OF MORTALITY	NUMBER OF COUPLES	% OF LIVE BORN	NUMBER OF COUPLES DIED	% OF MORTALITY	NUMBER OF COUPLES BORN	% OF LIVE BORN	NUMBER OF COUPLES DIED	% OF MORTALITY	NUMBER OF COUPLES BORN	% OF LIVE BORN	NUMBER OF COUPLES DIED	% OF MORTALITY
NUCLEAR	67	212	114	53.77	29	174	46	26.74	38	237	58	28.69				
JOINT	47	309	116	37.54	36	242	49	20.25	11	67	22	32.83				

TABLE 4.1

DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION ACCORDING TO ACCEPTANCE OF BIRTH CONTROL METHODS

	<u>BUILT UP AREA</u>		<u>FLOOD PLAIN AREA</u>	
	<u>ADOPTER</u>	<u>NON-ADOPTER</u>	<u>ADOPTER</u>	<u>NON-ADOPTER</u>
NUMBER	121	174	33	73
PERCENTAGE	41.02	58.98	31.13	68.87

Table : 4.2

DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BY USE OF BIRTH CONTROL METHODS

TYPE OF METHOD	BUILT UP AREA		FLOOD FLAIN AREA	
	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
INDIGENOUS	19	6.44	5	4.72
CONTRACEPTIVES	7	2.37	8	7.55
STERILIZATION	95	32.20	20	18.87
NONL	174	58.98	73	68.86
TOTAL	295	99.99	106	100.00

DISCUSSION

The total population of the five Mishing villages surveyed in Majuli is 2385 of which 1228 (51.49%) are males and the rest i.e. 1157 (48.51%) are females. The sex ratio has been found to be 942. The sex ratio of the population studied in the five villages is found to be less than the sex ratio of the Mishing population according to the 1971 census which was found to be 969. Then again the sex ratio of Jorhat district was found to be 917 in an analysis of the 1991 census (provisional).

Of the total population of 2385, 1712 is from the built up area and 673 is from the flood plain area. The percentage of male in the built up area is found to be 50.94% and that of female to be 49.06%. In the flood plain area, 52.90% comprise of male and 47.10% of female. The sex ratio (number of women per 1000 males) in the built up area is 963 and that of the flood plain area 890. Thus, it can be seen that the sex ratio of the whole population studied in the four Mishing villages in Majuli is in conformity with the sex ratio of Jorhat district. Then again the sex ratio of the built up area is found to be higher than that of flood plain area which indicates that in the built up area, number of female is much higher in relation to males than in the flood plain region. A possible explanation could be a higher high sex ratio at birth.

Distribution of the population in the present study reveals that males outnumber females in all age groups excepting age groups 0-14 and 15-29 where the males are outnumbered by females. Then again in the age group 75-89, the percentage of females is found to be more than that of males. A possible explanation of the low percentage of males in the lower age groups could be because of the higher percentage of male infant and child death as has been found in the present study.

The slightly higher percentage of females in the age group 75-89 reveals that the female longevity is more than that of males.

In the built up region, the percentage of males is found to be lesser in the age groups 0-14, 15-29 and 75-89. A similar explanation as has been stated above can be given in this case. In the flood plain area, on the other hand, it is seen that the percentage of males outnumber that of females in the age group 0-14 and 60-74. A possible reason for the higher percentage of males in the lower age group could be because of a low sex ratio at birth. The percentage of the females in the higher age groups is found to be more than that of males in this region. A possible explanation could be on higher death rate among the males.

Mipun (1993) in his study of the three Mishing villages, viz. Mohnora, Duhutimukh and Borpanua also found the number of males more than that of females.

The population pyramid or age-sex structure, (Fig.1.1) of the total population shows that from age group 15-19 and above, shows a typical pyramid structure with a broad base at this age group and the sides tapering towards the peak. This structure indicates high fertility accompanied by low mortality and is the characteristic of developing countries (United Nations, 1973). However, from age groups 15-19 downwards there is a gradual decline in the number of males and females in each age group. This indicates that there has been a decline in the fertility of the population since the last 15 years or so. In the built up area also, a similar picture is observed. In the flood plain area on the other hand, a gradual decrease in the percentage of males and females is observed from age group 0-4 upwards. This structure indicates high fertility accompanied by low mortality.

The dependency ratio in the present study has been found to be 82.06. Child dependency ratio is found to be 76.48 and old dependency ratio to be 5.58. A comparison of the dependency ratios of the two areas reveal that the dependency ratio is more in the flood plain area. The child dependency ratio is also found to be higher than that of the built up area. The higher child dependency ratio in the flood plain area may be because of the larger percentage of the population in the lower age groups in that area in relation to built up area.

The total number of households in the present study is 345 of which 230 households are from the built up area and a 115 from the flood plain area. Majority of the households in the present study (44.35%) are medium sized in having 4-6 members. Mipun (1993) in his study of the three Mishing villages also found majority of the households to be medium sized i.e. having 4-6 members in them. In the built up area and the flood plain areas, the medium sized families appeared to be pre-dominant. In the built up area they constituted 43.91% of the total number of households and in the flood plain area they constituted 45.22%. A closer look at the family type and composition of households reveal that nuclear families are the maximum (64.35%) followed by joint families (28.98%) in the present study. A comparison of the family type in the two areas reveal that the percentage of nuclear families is the maximum in both the areas, but the percentage of nuclear families is more (78.26%) as compared to the built up region (57.39%). The percentage of joint families on the other hand is more in the built up area (36.52%) as compared to the flood plain area (13.91%). A possible explanation for this can be that in the built up region, most of the people are engaged in cultivation. More people within the family are needed for cultivation. Hence, it could be because of this, that, joint families are more in the built up region. On the other hand, the

percentage of nuclear families is higher in the flood plain area. A possible explanation can be that in the flood plain area, the ravages of flood have broken the economic backbone of the people. The people here cannot depend only on cultivation hence they supplement their income by doing daily labour or by setting up small shops and somehow make both their ends meet. Difference in income between the members of the family may lead to fragmentation of the joint family structure among them.

In the present study the marital status of the population reveals the highest percentage (62.84%) of the population as unmarried and (34.17%) as married. Percentage of separated females is found to be higher than that of male. The percentage of widows is also found to be more than that of widowers. Doley (1986) in his article 'Changes in Demographic and Economic Characteristics among the Fishings' also obtained similar results while analysing the marital status of the Fishing population (1973 and 1985). Highest percentage of the population was unmarried for both the years. Percentage of widows in both the years outnumbered the percentage of widowers. Higher percentage of widow in the present study is possibly due to the fact that the mortality of area in the older age groups is more when compared to females. This is supported by the higher percentage of widows from age groups 34-84.

In the built up area and the flood plain area similar results are obtained. The highest percentage of the population is found to be unmarried in both the Built Up Area (62.32%) and the flood plain area (64.34%). Percentage of married was found to be 35.05% in the built up area and 31.95% in the flood plain area. The percentage of separated females and widows are found to be higher than that of males in both the areas. The higher percentage of unmarried males and females in the present study could be because of the fact that the

majority of the population (42.01%) is below 15 years of age.

Regarding the educational standard in the present study, the percentage of literate males is found to be 63.19% whereas the percentage of illiterate males is found to be 36.81%. On the other hand, the percentage of illiterate females is found to be higher (50.22%) than the percentage of literate females (49.78%). The percentage of literate males is higher (63.19%) as compared to the percentage of female literates (49.78%). This finding is in agreement with the literacy rate of the population in our country. According to the 1981 Census of India the percentage of literate males was almost double than that of the literate females. Mipun (1993) in his study found the number of literates in the three villages to be more than the number of illiterates. Out of a total of 335 respondents, he found 38.80% of the respondents to be illiterate and the rest 67.20% to be literate.

In the built up area, the percentage of literate males is found to be higher (60.09%) than the percentage of literate females (57.43%). The percentage of the illiterate females is more (48.57%) than the illiterate male (39.91%). On the other hand, the percentage of literate males is found to be higher (70.79%) than that of females (45.42%) and the percentage of illiterate females is again higher (54.57%) than illiterates males (29.21%) in the flood plain area. On a comparison of the two ecological areas, the percentage of illiterate male is found to be higher (39.91%) in the built up region and compared to the males of the flood plain area. Percentage of literate males is found to be higher in the flood plain area. A possible explanation for this could be that in the flood plain area, the people cannot depend on cultivation alone. Hence, they supplement their income by setting up small shops or by some other means of occupation. Once they take to

business or some other means of occupation, they have to step out of their villages and deal with people other than those of their village. It could be because of this that the necessity to have at least primary or middle standard education is realised by the males in this region. This is supported by the findings of the present study where, the percentage of males in both primary and middle standards is higher in the flood plain area than in the built up area.

On the other hand, the percentage of female illiterates is higher (54.57%) in the flood plain area as compared to that in the built up area (48.57%). The percentage of literate females is higher in the built up area as compared to the flood plain area. A possible explanation for this could be that in the built up area, in the present study is much advanced as compared to the flood plain area. Hence, the females in this area are being inspired to be educated.

Regarding the occupational status of the population, the percentage of non-working individual is found to be higher than the workers in the present study. This may be due to the fact that the majority of the population is below 15 years of age. The main occupation of the people is found to be cultivation. In the flood plain area, because of the floods, a large number of people cannot depend on cultivation alone. Hence they supplement their income by doing daily labour or by setting up small shops etc.

Fertility

Fertility study on the Nishing women during this investigation constitutes different factors like age at menarche, age at marriage, age at menopause, interval between menopause and last birth, occupation and fertility, education and fertility and family type and fertility.

The study reveals that the menarcheal ages of the Mishing women ranges from 10-16 years and maximum percentage of women show their menarcheal age as 12 years. The near age at menarche for the present study is 12.86 ± 0.06 . The near age at menarche of the present study is in conformity with that of the Assamese girls of different castes, which ranges from 12.53 ± 0.08 to 12.83 ± 0.12 (Das, 1975).

The highest percentage of women showed their menarcheal age at 12 years in both the built up and flood plain area. In the built up area, the near age at menarche is 12.83 ± 0.08 and in the flood plain area it is found to be 12.91 ± 0.11 . From this it can be seen that there is a slight variation in the near age at menarche of the women living in the two different ecological zones. This can be explained by the findings of Prakasan (1981) which states that menarche varies widely from population to population and is dependent on environmental factors, diet, racial and genetic factors. Then again Valsik (1973) Oluodulan et. al (1976) in their study stated the effects of various factors like climate, altitude, rural and urban residence, socio-economic level of family, family size, dietary habit, nutrition and birth order etc. on the variation in menarcheal age. The difference in the age at menarche between the women of the two areas is, however, not statistically significant ($t = 0.5147$ d.f =

The age at menopause among the Mishing women in the present study ranges from 38-55 years. Highest percentage of women were seen to experience menopause at the age of 49 years. The near age at menopause of the Mishing women in the present study is found to be 47.83 ± 0.32 . Dandekar (1959) stated that nearly 83% of women in rural India experienced

menopause before reaching the age of 50. Raymond Pearl (1939) found that the cessation of fecundity of females occurred at the average age of 46, the range being 44-49 years.

In the built up area and in the flood plain area, highest percenters of women showed their age at menopause at 49 years. The near age at menopause in the built up area is found to be 48.01 ± 0.36 and that of the flood plain area to be 47.33 ± 0.63 . This slight variation in the near age at menopause of the women living in the two ecological settings supports the findings of Raymond Pearl (1939), according to whom there is an indication of the fact that enjoyment of better economic conditions and a normal diet delays the age at which the menopause arrives. Thus, we can see that the slightly late onset of menopause amongst the women in the built up areas as compared to the women in the flood plain area could be because of the better economic condition in the area as compared to the flood plain area. However, the difference in the age at menopause between women of the two areas is not statistically significant.

Regarding the age at marriage of women in the present study, the range has been found to be from 13-33 years. The highest percentage of women are found to marry at the age of 20. The near age at marriage of women is found to be 20.53 ± 0.17 . This finding supports that of Mipun (1993) who stated that the marriageable age is between 18-25 years for Mishing boys and between 15-20 years for girls. Then again in Kerala, the near age at marriage is reported to be 20.6 (Mahadevan and Sumangala, 1987).

In the built up area, the highest percentage of women are found marry at the age of 20 whereas in the flood plain area, highest percentage of women are found to marry at the age of 17 years. The near

age at marriage for women in the built up area is 20.87 ± 0.20 and that of the flood plain area 19.7 ± 0.33 . The higher age at marriage of women in the built up area can be explained by increase in the education of girls in this area. As mentioned before, the percentage of literate females in the built up area is found to be 45.19% whereas in the flood plain area it is found to be 36.36%. An increasing number of girls are reaching the College level and this increases their age at marriage.

Age at marriage for men in the present study ranges from 15-40 years of age. The highest percentage of men are found to marry at an age of 22 years. The near age at marriage for men is found to be 24.13 ± 0.23 . The near age at marriage for men in the built up area is found to be 24.15 ± 0.26 whereas in the flood plain area it is found to be 23.93 ± 0.46 . However, the near age at marriage for males in the built up and flood plain areas does not differ s-significantly ($t = 0.4164$, d.f =

In case of education and fertility in the present study, the average number of live births is found to be the highest among the couples where husbands fall in the educational category of Nursery to Class III and women are illiterate. Many studies in India (Bhatnagar 1975) have shown a strong inverse relationship between education and fertility.

However, some other studies (Driver, 1963 ; UN Mysore population study, 1961) in India reported the effect of education in depressing fertility only with higher education beyond the level of school final.

In the present study, the average number of live births is found to be highest amongst couples where the husband is in the educational category of Nursery to Class III and wife is an illiterate in the built up area. In the flood plain area, on the other hand, the average number of live births is the highest amongst couples where both

husband and wife are illiterate. A comparison of the two tables reveals that the average number of live birth is the highest amongst couples where at least one of the couples is an illiterate in both the regions. Least number of live birth (1.0) is found amongst couples where wife is in Matric and above standard and husband in category IV education in the built up area whereas in the flood plain area, the average number of live births is the least (1.0) amongst couples where both husbands and wives are in the ma-tric and above category of education. A possible explanation for this can be that educated mothers are in a better position of taking care of their children as they know the skills of childcare and moreover, an educated mother is always in a position to apprehend the advantages of having lesser children. Hence, they readily accept new ideas and opt for lesser number of children. Then again, as has been mentioned above, an educated mother is in a better position of taking care of her children. Hence, mortality of the children of educated mothers is lesser whereas on the other hand an uneducated mother is unaware of the attitudes to health and hygiene which has a negative influence on child survival. This is responsible for the higher average number of live births amongst uneducated couples.

Considering occupation and fertility among the Mishings, it is observed that the average number of live births is found to be the highest among cultivator husbands and non-worker wives. The present finding is in conformity with that of Agarwala (1970) which indicates that the persons engaged in service or profession have lowest fertility while cultivators and labourers have the highest fertility. A possible explanation for this could be that large percentage of cultivator males and non-worker females are illiterate.

The relationship between fertility and family type in the

present study showed that the average number of live births is more in nuclear families than in the joint families. The present study goes in conformity with that of Driver (1963) and Nag (1965) which reported uniformly higher fertility in nuclear families than in joint families. In the present study, the fertility in the nuclear families is found to be higher than that of the joint families possibly because of the reason that a typical Mishing house has no partitions (Pegu, 1981). As such, the privacy for the couples is lesser in the joint families. On the other hand, in the nuclear families, the couples have more privacy which leads to higher fertility in such family types.

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY :

In the present study, mortality of live born at various ages reveals that the highest percentage of mortality of live born is observed within one year of birth. A similar trend is observed in both the ecological areas where the highest percentage of mortality of live born is observed within one year of age. This may be due to a large number of factors like unscientific birth practices like using of non-sterilized materials during delivery, externally unhygienic environmental sanitation, lack of proper health care etc.

On an examination of the two areas, it is seen that the percentage of infant death is higher in the flood plain area than in the built up area. This could be because the flood plain area is affected by the flood waters very frequently. When the flood recedes, it is accompanied by epidemics and a large number of infectious diseases. Infants being the most vulnerable are affected most by these diseases. Moreover, as pointed out earlier, the female literacy in the flood plain region is relatively much lower than that in the built up region. As a result, they are not much aware of maintaining proper hygienic condition and proper feeding. This may lead to higher mortality.

Sex-wise distribution of infants and children mortality in different age groups revealed slightly higher percentage of male mortality than the female mortality up to 14 years of age. A similar trend is observed in case of infant and children mortality in the two ecological areas where male mortality is found to be higher than the female mortality excepting the case of built up area where the percentage of death of the female child is more than that of the male child. The higher percentage of male infant and child death could be because males are stated to be biologically weaker than females at birth and the stamina of the female child is considered to be biologically superior than that of the male child. The higher percentage of the female child death in the built up region could be because of the lower status accorded to the female child.

Considering the infant mortality at different important periods of infancy the highest percentage of mortality is observed during 1-3 months of age. Increased mortality during this period observed in the present study is possibly due to improper health care practices, lack of proper hygienic condition, exposure of infants to the unhealthy environment etc.

Infant and child mortality according to birth order in the present study reveals the highest percentage of mortality in the first birth order. Mortality decreases from the second birth order onwards. This finding supports the findings of Srinivasan et al 1979 and Mahadevan (1985) who reported very high mortality in the first birth order. Increased mortality rate in the first birth order is possibly due to younger age at conception, absence of adequate knowledge of child rearing in the first few conception, utilization of health facilities and improper care at the time of delivery and after delivery.

Occupation of couples and mortality of infants and child is seen to have a positive relationship. In the built up area percentage of mortality is found to decrease with the increase of occupational status of the couples. Couples where husbands are cultivators and wives are non-workers experience higher percentage of infant and childhood mortality. In the flood plain area on the other hand, the percentage of infant and childhood mortality is found to be the highest amongst the couples whose husband are wage labourers and wives are non-workers. High infant and childhood death amongst couples where husbands are either cultivators or labourers and wives are non-workers could be because of the extreme unhygienic conditions and lack of knowledge of child rearing practices.

In the present study, highest percentage of infant and child death is found amongst couples where wives are illiterate and husbands fall under the educational category of Class IV to Class VII. A similar trend is observed in the built up area but in the flood plain area, infant and child mortality is found to be the highest in couples where husbands and wives are both illiterates. Ignorance, superstition, lack of knowledge about proper care during pregnancy and child birth, lack of knowledge of sanitary care amongst illiterate mothers can be forwarded as explanations for this.

Mortality of infants and children and family type in the present study showed higher mortality in the nuclear families. This trend was observed in both the ecological areas. Increased mortality of infants and children within the nuclear families is possibly associated with the higher fertility compared to joint families and minimum care than in the joint families. Then again, though most of the women are non-workers i.e. they are housewives, they also work in the fields. In nuclear families where there are no elderly people at

home to look after the children, they are taken to the fields by the mother. In such cases, they are exposed to the environment continuously which is not at all favourable for the child. The food taken by the child there in the field excepting breast milk is not at all fit to be taken by the child. Hence, the mortality in the nuclear families is more. Moreover, in nuclear families there are no elderly ladies to advise the mother with proper child care practices.

FAMILY PLANNING

In the present study, the percentage of acceptors of family planning is found to be higher in the built up area. In this area, 6.44% of the women interviewed went for indigenous method of birth control, 2.37% went for different modern contraceptive devices, 32.20% went for sterilization. Thus, we can see that of the family planning methods adopted, sterilization is the most popular in the built up area. In the flood plain area, on the other hand, 4.72% of the women interviewed opted for indigenous methods of birth control, 7.55% opted for medical birth control devices, 15.87% opted for sterilization. A possible explanation for the higher percentage of acceptors of family planning in the built up area is possibly because this area is more developed than the flood plain area. Moreover, the percentage of female literates is higher in the built up area which leads to the higher percentage of acceptors.

SUMMARY

In the present study on the fertility and infant and child mortality of the Nishings residing in Majuli, a total of five villages have been surveyed. The names of the villages surveyed are Borpanua, Botiamari, Alangi Sapor and Dapakgaon. Though it is known to all that Majuli, as a whole, is a flood area and the ravages of annual floods have broken the economic backbone of the people, some areas within Majuli are less affected by floods now-a-days because of the construction of the embankments. There are, however, some areas which are still being affected by flood when the embankments are eroded by the flood waters. Village Botiamari, Alangi Sapor and Dapakgaon are more affected by flood than Borpanua which has not experienced flood for some time now. In fact, only last year villages Botiamari and Alangi Sapor had been affected by floods when the embankment was eroded by the waters of the mighty Brahmaputra. Hence, very arbitrarily the villages have been divided into two areas i.e. the Built up and the Flood Plain area in order to see if there is any differences in the demographic composition, fertility and mortality rates between the two areas. Village Borpanua constitutes the built up area and the other three villages the flood plain area. In the present study, a total of 2385 individuals have been surveyed of which 1228 (51.49%) are males and the rest i.e. 1157 are females (48.51%). The sex ratio has been found to be 942. Of the total population of 2385, 1712 is from the built up area and 673 is from the flood plain area. The percentage of males in the built up area is found to be 50.04% and that of females to be 49.96%. In the flood plain area, 52.30% comprise of male and 47.70% of female. The sex ratio in the built up region is found to be 965 and that in the flood plain area to be 890.

In the present study, the males outnumber the females.

The female longevity is, however, higher than that of males. The age sex structure of the whole population indicates high fertility accompanied by low mortality. However, a decline in the fertility of the population is observed in the past 15 years or so. In the built up area also a similar picture is observed. In the flood plain area on the other hand, a gradual decrease in the percentage of males and females is observed from age group 0-4 upwards which indicates high fertility accompanied by low mortality.

The dependency ratio in the present study has been found to be 82.06. Child dependency ratio is found to be 76.48 and old dependency ratio to be 5.58. The dependency ratio of the built up area is found to be 80.97 and that of the flood plain area to be 84.89. Child dependency ratio in the built up region is 75.26 whereas in the flood plain area it is 79.67. The old dependency ratio of the built up and the flood plain areas is found to be 5.71 and 5.22 respectively.

Majority of the households are medium sized in the present study having 4-6 members each. Nuclear families are found to be predominant. However, in the flood plain area, the percentage of nuclear families is higher when compared to the built up area. In the built up area, on the other hand, the percentage of family is more when compared to the flood plain area.

Highest percentage of the population in the present study has been found to be unmarried. Percentage of widows and separated women is found to be higher than that of males.

Regarding the educational standard in the present study, the percentage of literate males is found to be higher than that of females. A comparison of the literacy levels of the two areas reveal a higher percentage of educated males in the flood plain area as

compared to the built up area. On the other hand, female literacy are found to be higher in the built up area than that in the flood plain area.

The number of non-workers in the present study has been found to be more than that of workers. Majority of the workers in both the regions are engaged in cultivation. The percentages of men engaged in occupations other than cultivation is found to be higher in the flood plain area.

Fertility :

The near age at menarche of the Mishing women as a whole has been found to be 12.86 ± 0.06 . The near age at menarche in the built up area is found to be 12.83 ± 0.08 and in the flood plain area it is found to be 12.9 ± 0.11 . The two areas do not show any significant difference in respect of the age at menarche of the girls.

The age at menopause ranges between 38-55 years of the Mishing women as a whole in the near age at menopause being 47.83 ± 0.32 . In the built up area, the near age at menopause is found to be 48.01 ± 0.36 and that of the flood plain area to be 47.33 ± 0.63 .

The age at marriage of women in the present study, range from 13-33 years. The highest percentage of women are found to marry at the age of 20. The near age at marriage is found to be 20.53 ± 0.17 . In the built up region, the highest percentage of females are found to marry at 20 years of age whereas in the flood plain area it is found to be 17 years. The near age at marriage of women in the built up area is 20.87 ± 0.20 and that of the flood plain area to be 19.7 ± 0.33 .

Age at marriage for men in the present study ranges from 15-40 years of age. The highest percentage of men are found to marry at an age of 22 years. The near age at marriage for men is found to be

24.13 ± 0.23 . The near age at marriage for men in the built up area is found to be 24.15 ± 0.26 whereas in the flood plain area it is 23.93 ± 0.46 .

In case of education and fertility, in the present study the average number of live births is found to be the highest amongst the couples where husbands fall in the educational category of Nursery to Class III and women are illiterates. In the built up area a similar trend is observed. In the flood plain area on the other hand the average number of live birth is highest amongst couples where both are illiterates.

Considering occupation and fertility, the average number of live birth is found to be the highest amongst cultivator husband and non-worker wives. This holds true for both the areas.

The relationship between fertility and family type showed that average number of live births is more in the nuclear families than in the joints. In both the areas a similar result has been observed.

INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY :

In the present study the highest percentage of live born is observed within one year of birth. A similar trend is observed in both the ecological areas.

Sexwise distribution of infants and children mortality in different age groups revealed slightly higher percentage of male mortality than the female mortality upto 14 years of age. A similar trend is observed in the flood plain area but in the built up area the percentage of death of the female child is more.

Considering the infant mortality at different important periods of infancy the highest percentage of mortality is observed during 4-5 months of age. This trend is observed in both the ecological areas.

Infant and child mortality according to birth order in the present study reveals the highest percentage of mortality in the first birth order in both the areas.

Occupation of couples and mortality of infants and children show that in the built up area highest percentage of mortality is observed amongst couples where husbands are cultivators and wives are non-workers. In the flood plain area on the other hand the percentage is highest amongst couples where the husbands are wage labourers and wives are non-workers.

In the present study, highest percentage of infant and child death is found amongst couples where wives are illiterate and husbands fall under the educational category Class IV to Class VII. A similar trend is observed in the built up area but in the flood plain area the percentage of infant and child death is found to be the highest amongst illiterate couples.

Mortality of infants and children and family type reveal higher percentage of infant and child death in nuclear families. This is found to be the case in both the areas.

Family Planning :

In the present study, the percentage of acceptors of family planning is found to be higher in the built up area. Then again it is seen that of the family planning method adopted, sterilisation is the most popular in the built up region. The percentage of non-acceptors is more in the flood plain area.

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