

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF HOUSEHOLDS IN TIKKER VILLAGE IN PANCHKULA DISTRICT, HARYANA

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ABSTRACT

This study presents a comprehensive analysis of the socio-economic conditions of Tikker Village in the Panchkula District of Haryana, India. The village's geographical location, encompassing both hilly and plain terrains, adds complexity to its level of development and vulnerability to various hazards. The study aims to provide insights into the socio-economic factors that influence the overall well-being of the village, including family structure, caste composition, housing conditions, economic situation, education levels, and occupation structure. By examining these key aspects, the study intends to shed light on the village's socio-economic dynamics, contributing to informed decision-making and targeted interventions for sustainable development in Tikker Village.

INTRODUCTION

Understanding the socio-economic conditions of households in India is crucial for analyzing and addressing the diverse challenges and disparities faced by its population. India, with its vast population and socio-cultural diversity, presents a complex landscape of socio-economic factors that significantly impact the well-being and quality of life of households. Factors such as income levels, employment opportunities, educational attainment, healthcare access, housing conditions, social networks, and resource availability vary across regions, communities, and socio-economic groups, contributing to the overall socio-economic conditions of households in the country. Examining these conditions in India provides insights into poverty, inequality, social mobility, and the effectiveness of policies aimed at improving the lives of individuals and families. By understanding the socio-economic conditions of households, policymakers, researchers, and organizations can develop targeted interventions and initiatives that address the specific challenges faced by different segments of the Indian population, striving towards inclusive growth and sustainable development. In the context of economic performance, Indian economy appears progressive. Nonetheless, socio-economic conditions of certain sections of Indian society reveal harsh reality of Indian economy as most of the people fail to enjoy the benefits of good economic performance of the country (Pandey and Dwivedi (2016).

STUDY AREA

Panchkula district in Haryana, India, is known for its scenic beauty and the presence of the Morni Hills, which are the highest altitudes of the Sub-Himalayan region. The Siwalik Hills in the Morni area reach elevations exceeding 1000 meters, making it a unique feature in the Sub-Himalaya. The Nahan Thrust, located between the Main Boundary Fault and Himalayan Frontal Fault, acts as a significant geomorphic boundary, separating the rugged topography of

the Upper Morni Hills from the lower-lying and eroded Lower Morni Hills. This geological instability has contributed to differences in the level of development compared to the plain areas of the state. While social and cultural traits may be similar, economic and infrastructural development in the hilly areas faces challenges. Traditional agriculture remains the dominant activity, characterized by risks and uncertainties.

The study area selected for this research is Tikkar Village, located in Panchkula Tehsil (Figure 1). The village is situated at latitude $30^{\circ} 38' 54''$ N and longitude $77^{\circ} 05' 18''$ E in the northeastern part of Haryana. Due to its hilly terrain, Tikkar Village has a relatively small size. It is part of the Bhoj Kudana group of villages, which includes 15 villages in total. The village derives its name from the presence of two twin lakes, namely Bada Tikkar Lake (also known as Bhim Taal) and Chhota Tikkar Lake (also known as Draupadi Taal).

OBJECTIVES

1. To analyze the socio-economic conditions of Tikkar Village.
2. To examine the family structure, caste composition, housing conditions, economic status, size of houses, and composition of the population in the study area.
3. Analyze the occupation structure in the village and identify the main sources of livelihood for the residents.

DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY

This study is based on primary source of data to analyze the socio-economic conditions of Tikkar Village in the Panchkula District of Haryana. Primary data is collected through surveys and observations, employing structured questionnaires administered to village residents and direct observation of the village and its infrastructure in the year 2012. The collected data is then analyzed using statistical methods, including tabulation and the visualization of data through pie and bar diagrams, to provide insights into the socio-economic aspects of Tikkar Village.

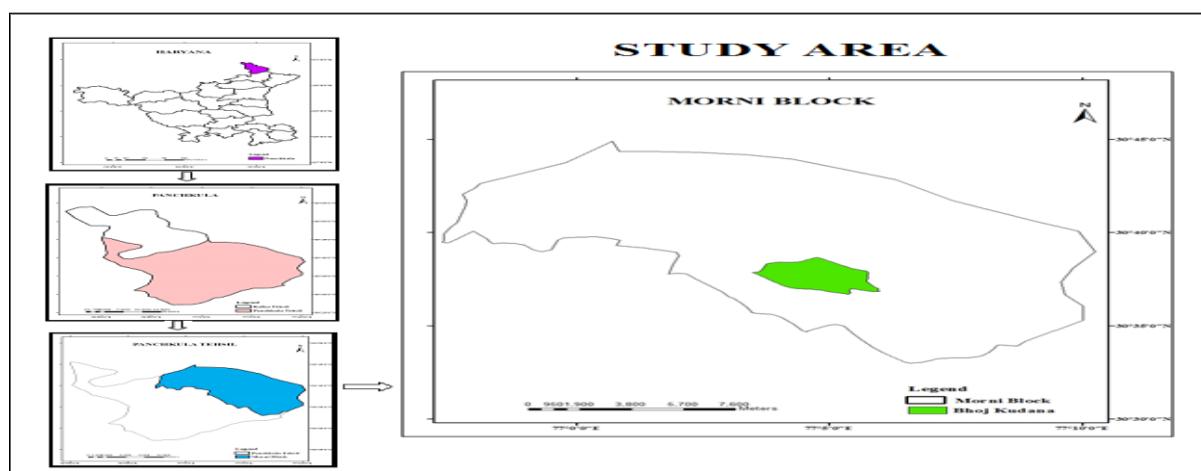
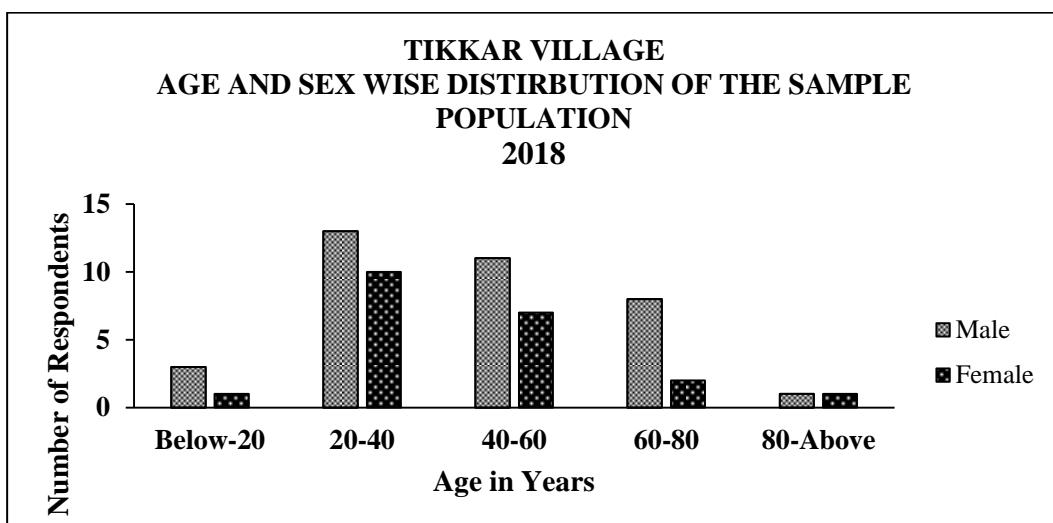


Figure 1 Location of the Study Area (Source: Census Atlas)

RESULTS

The study conducted in Tikkar Village, Panchkula District, Haryana, provides insights into the socio-economic conditions of the village. Based on the survey conducted, a total of 57 respondents participated in the study. Out of these respondents, 21 were female, while 36 were male (Figure 2). These findings support the observation that Tikkar Village, like many other areas in Haryana State, exhibits a patriarchal nature, where females have limited exposure and are often restricted from interacting with strangers unless accompanied by a male member. This cultural norm helps explain the lower number of female respondents compared to male respondents in the study.

Figure 2



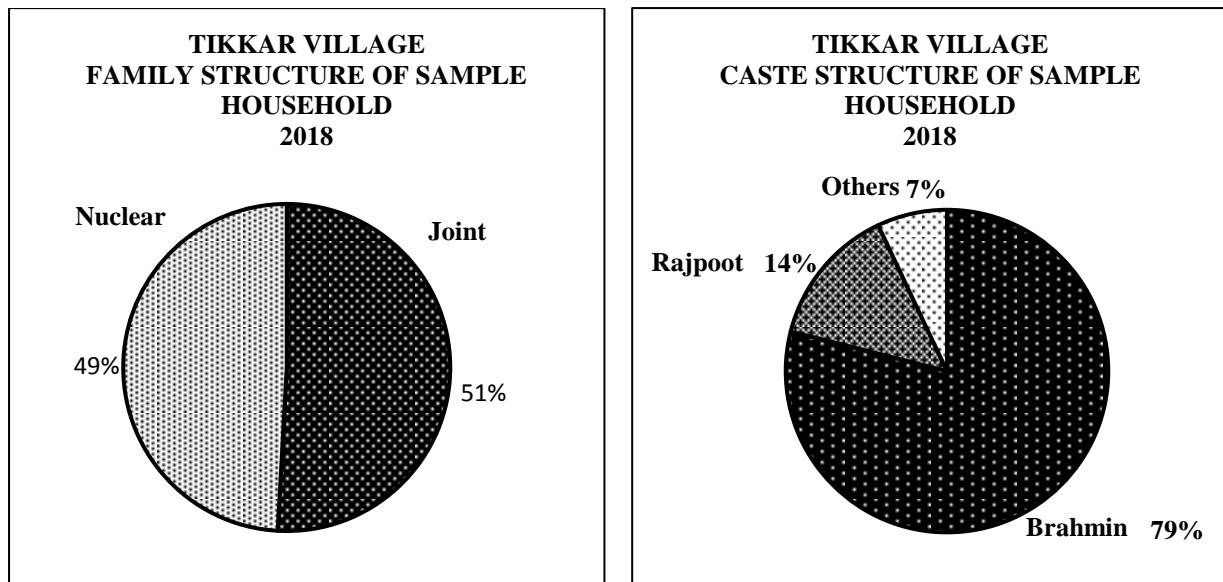
Source: Prepared by the authors based on sample data

The family structure in the village consists of both joint and nucleated families, with 51% being joint families and 49% being nucleated families (Figure 3). The dominant caste in the village is Brahmin, comprising approximately 79% of the population, while the Rajput caste accounts for around 14%, and other castes make up the remaining 7% ((Figure 3)).

According to the responses from the respondents, the housing conditions in Tikkar Village exhibit a combination of kutcha (temporary) and pucca (permanent) houses. Out of the households surveyed, approximately 9% live in kutcha houses, which typically consist of structures made from materials like mud, thatch, or bamboo, offering less durability and protection. On the other hand, 56% of the households reside in pucca houses, which are made of more solid materials such as bricks, concrete, or stone, providing better stability and longevity. Another 35% of families live in mixed-type houses, indicating a combination of both kutcha and pucca elements in their construction.

Figure 3

Figure 4



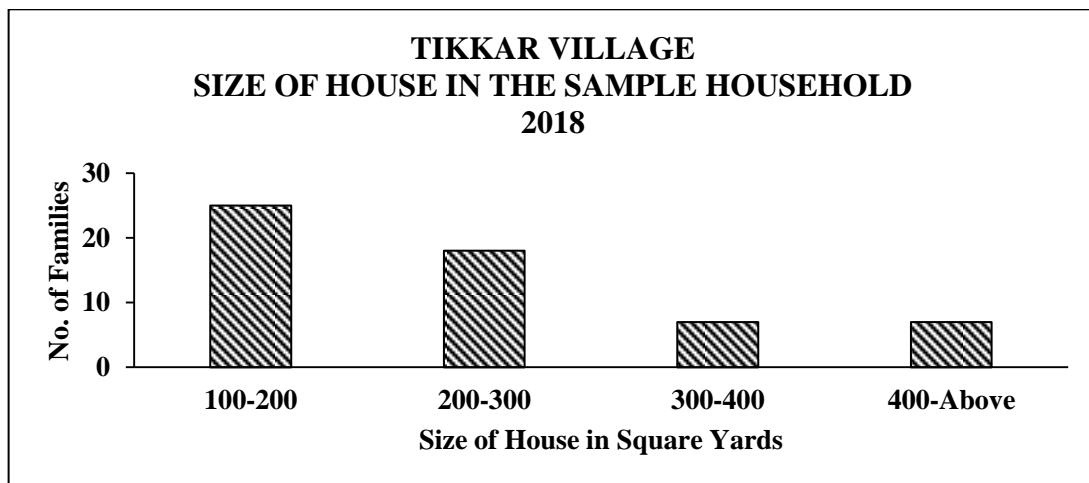
Source: Prepared by the authors based on sample data

As per the responses provided by the respondents, it is evident that 9% of the village population falls under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY). This statistic highlights the significant economic challenges faced by a portion of the community. Additionally, 51% of the population is below the poverty line, indicating a lower level of economic development compared to areas with more favorable socio-economic conditions.

The study reveals that the majority of the population in Tikkar Village resides in small houses. Specifically, 25 families have houses measuring between 100-200 square yards, indicating a compact living space. Additionally, 18 families have houses ranging from 200-300 square yards, while 7 families have houses spanning 300-400 square yards. There are also 7 families in the village who own houses larger than 400 square yards (Figure 5).

The population composition of Tikkar Village shows a diverse age distribution, with the largest age group being 18-40 years, which represents approximately 45.45% of the population. The total literacy rate in the village is 72.26%, with the male literacy rate higher at 83.78% compared to the female literacy rate of 60.42%. The level of education among the population varies, with different proportions of individuals at primary, middle, secondary, and senior secondary education levels.

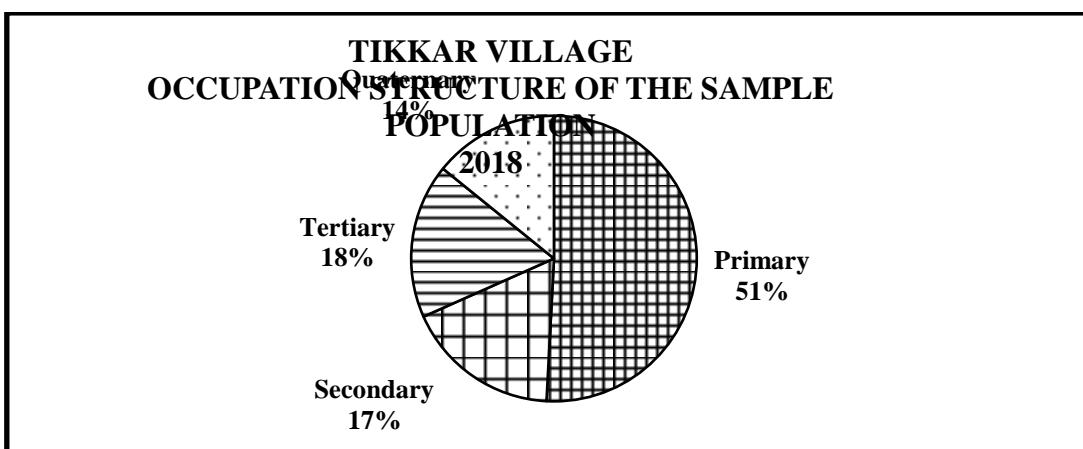
Figure 5



Source: Prepared by the authors based on sample data

The occupation structure of Tikkar Village provides insights into its level of development and economic activities. The majority of the population, 51%, is engaged in primary activities, mainly agriculture, indicating a significant reliance on farming and related practices for livelihood. Secondary activities, such as small-scale industries, trade, and services, involve 17% of the population, contributing to the local economy. The tertiary sector, encompassing higher-level services like education, healthcare, tourism, and professional services, involves 18% of the population, while the quaternary sector, comprising high-skilled professions, accounts for 14% (Figure 6). The occupation structure also reveals distinct gender patterns. In the primary occupation, males dominate with 51% engagement, compared to only 10% of females, highlighting a gender disparity in agricultural work. Similarly, in the secondary occupation, 19% of males and 2% of females are involved, suggesting a greater male representation in these sectors.

Figure 6



Source: Prepared by the authors based on sample data

In the tertiary occupation, both genders participate, but with differing levels; approximately 17% of males and 4% of females are engaged, indicating some gender imbalance. Notably,

no females are reported in the quaternary occupation, while 17% of males are involved, indicating a lack of female representation in high-skilled professions. In conclusion, the occupation structure of Tikkar Village shows a concentration of males in primary and secondary activities, with limited female participation. While there is some involvement of both genders in higher-level services, gender disparities persist. The absence of females in high-skilled professions highlights the need to promote gender equality and provide diverse occupational opportunities for women in the village.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the findings of the survey conducted in Tikkar Village provide insights into various aspects of the community's demographics, family structure, caste composition, housing conditions, economic situation, population composition, level of education, and occupation structure. The survey highlights a patriarchal nature in the village, with a higher number of male respondents compared to females. Joint families constitute the majority, while the dominant caste is Brahmin. Housing conditions vary, with a mix of kutcha and pucca houses, and a significant proportion of the population falls under the poverty line or relies on government assistance for basic sustenance. The population composition reflects diverse age groups, with a larger proportion in the 18-40 years category. The literacy rate in Tikkar Village is higher among males compared to females. The level of education varies, with significant representation at the primary, middle, secondary, and senior secondary levels.

The occupation structure indicates a dominance of primary activities, particularly in agriculture, with a higher male participation. Secondary and tertiary occupations also exist, but with fewer female participants. The quaternary occupation is predominantly male-dominated. In summary, Tikkar Village exhibits gender disparities, economic challenges, and a focus on agricultural livelihoods. Addressing these issues requires promoting gender equality, improving economic conditions, providing educational opportunities, and diversifying occupational options to enhance the overall development and well-being of the community.

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