A Micro Level Analysis of Female Work Participation of Barikul Gram Panchayat in Ranibandh Block of Bankura District, West Bengal

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Abstract: *At present day women are playing very vital role in economic development of our society. The present study try to analyze the level and pattern of female work participation rate, comparative study the different work activity wise female work participation and examine the affect of different variables on female work participation. Scheduled Tribe populated Barikul gram panchayat has been selected for the study. This study is mainly based on the secondary data. Female work participation rate (FWPR) is computed as the percentage of total female workers to total female population and the female work participation in different work category is calculated to the percentage of total female workers. The relationship among the different variables has been analyzed by using equation of Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient with test of significance. The study revealed that the level of FWPR of the GP is high and the rate is 43.30%. Most of the female workers are marginal worker and the majority of them are agricultural worker. Negative relation is found between FLR and FWPR. Increase other main female workers (government servants, municipal employees, teachers, factory workers, plantation workers, those engaged in trade, commerce, business, transport, banking, mining, construction, political or social work, priests, entertainment artists, etc) where high FLR is found.*

Key Word: *Female Work Participation Rate, Main Work Participation Rate, Marginal Work Participation Rate, Work Participation Rate.*

1. INTRODUCTION:

The economic analysis of female work participation was first introduced by Mincer (1) and Cain (2). The higher female work participation rate play a very significant role to determining socio-economic development and growth of a nation. It also has a strong effect on poverty reduction. Female work participation rate shows the supply of labour in the economy and the composition of the human resources of the country. The analysis of the female work participation rate is helpful in determining employment policy and policy formulation for human resource development.

The women workforce and labour force participation have declined in recent years and the gap between male and female work participation ratio has increased in India [3]. Work force participation is directly related with education. It had been observed that female work participation ratio was higher in southern state than the northern state because of the high educated society. Different types of demographic, socio-economic, factors affect the female participation and economic activities (4). Religious thought is very effective to participation on economic activity of women. Female work participation rate is higher in Buddhists and Christian religion but very much lower in Jains and Muslim religion (5). The large size of family is expected to reduce work participation rate for females and in rural areas, schooling shows a negative relationship with work participation rate for females while land size has a positive relationship with work participation rate (6).

The study area is mainly tribal populated area, almost 68.81% population of the region are tribe. Work participation rate and Female work participation rate of the Barikul Panchayat is higher than the Ranibandh block, Bankura district and West Bengal (5). Fig-1 shows the different work participation rates of Barikul, Ranibandh, Bankura and West Bengal.

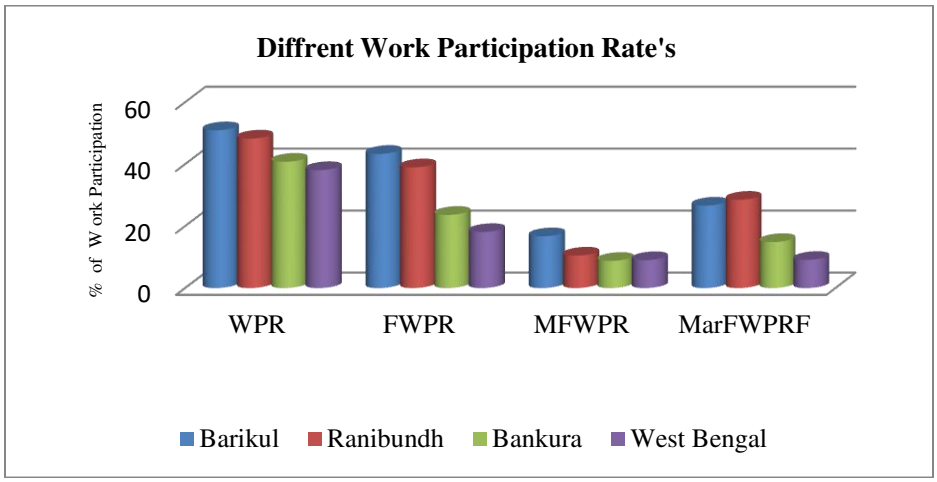

Fig- 1, Source: District census hand book 2011(5), computed and calculated by author

2. OBJECTIVES:

The main objectives of the study are outlined as under-

- To study the level of female work participation.
- To scrutinize the involvement of women in different economic activity.
- To study the relationship among the different variable and its relation to work participation.

Area Identity:

Barikul panchayat of Ranibandh block of Bankura district is very backward and undeveloped. The study area is surrounded by Ranibandh panchayat in north, Routara panchayat in north-west, Raipur block in east and Jhargram district in South. Latitudinal and longitudinal extension of the area are 22° 43′ 11″ N – 22° 49′ 21″ N and 86° 41′ 19″ E – 86° 49′ 17″ E respectively. This region is known as a part of Jangal Mahal of West Bengal which is the most backward region of the district of Bankura. This region is socially, educationally and economically undeveloped. Male and female literacy rate of the region is very low. Most people of the GP belong to tribal society and 2/3 people of the district are tribes. Economic conditions of the villagers are very poor. People of the area mainly depend on agriculture related work and some people are dependent on wood and leaf collection from forest.

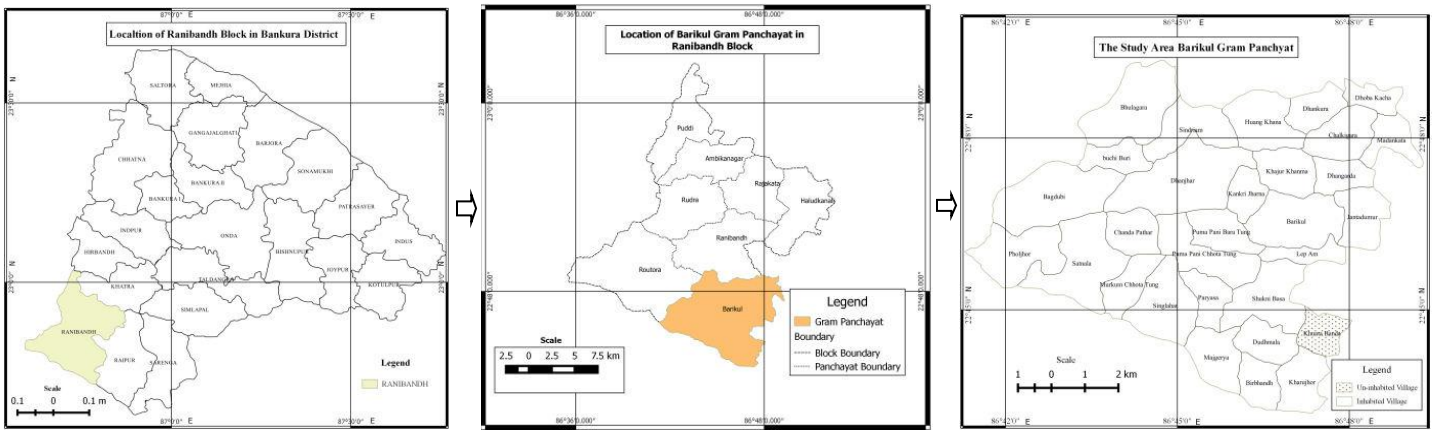

Fig- 2, Source: prepared by author using QGIS software from census of India map

3. METHODOLOGY AND DATA BASE:

The study was analysis through the different statistical methods. Used methods are-

- For analyze the level of female work participation calculate the Female Work Participation of each villages. Compare level of main and marginal work participation of each village.
- Female work participation is calculated by the using following formula-
- FWPR= Total Number of Female Worker X 100 / Total Number of Female Population

- For the study of female worker participation in different categories, different category wise female work participation (cultivator, agricultural labour, household industry labour and other worker) to the total main or marginal workers are calculated.
- To depict the relationship among the different variables Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient is used.

The secondary sources of data are as under-

- District Census Handbook, Bankura, Part-A, West Bengal Series, (Census of India, 2011).
- District Census Handbook, Bankura, Part- B, West Bengal Series, (Census of India, 2011).

4. RESULT & DISCUSSION:

Section-A

4.1 Level of Female Work Participation Rate:

The study area does not have single urban center. All the people are belongs to rural economy and most of them work as primary worker. FWPR of the Barikul panchayat is 43.30% which is above the state and national level. From the fig- 3 it is clearly that the FWPR of Kankari Jharna, Madankata and Fuljhor village are low and the rate is 14-25% which almost equal to the national level. Bagdubi, Chalkigara, Dangarda, Dhoba Kacha, Khajur Khanma, and Singlahar villages fall in the range of 25-35% same as block average and another six villages (Birbandh, Buchiburi, Khajurjhor, Majgerya, Sindriam and Lep-Am) are almost identical to Panchayat average and this range is between 35-45%. FWPR of rest fourteen villages are very high and this rate is above 45%. From the above analysis it can be said that the overall female work participation rate of the panchayat is good. This is the highest number of ST populated block of the district and most of the resident of the gram panchayat belongs to tribal caste (almost 2/3 of the population) and they have no permanent sources of income. All the tribal male and female people are engaged in different types of main and marginal work.

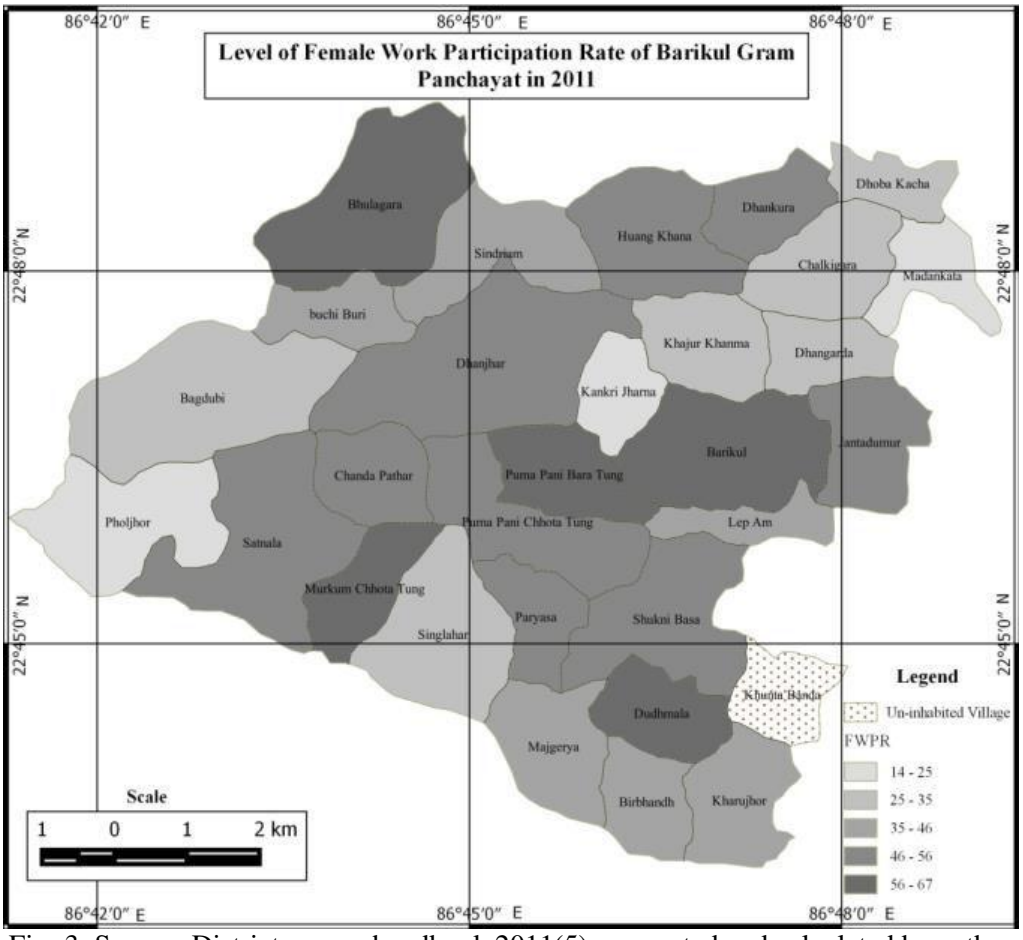

Fig- 3, Source: District census handbook 2011(5), computed and calculated by author

4.2 Main and Marginal Female Work Participation Rate:

In the studied gram panchayats most of the female workers are marginal workers. Fig- 4 gives a comparison between the main and marginal female work participation rate of the villages. From the mention figure stated that the overall MarFWPR is grater then the MFWPR. MarFWPR of twenty two villages is found to be higher than the MFWPR. Most of the female worker acts as a marginal worker. Marginal Female Work Participation Rate of seventeen villages are found to be greater than 70%. On the other hand MFWPR of nine villages are higher than the 70%. No main female worker is found in Paryasa Village, and the next lowest percentages of MFWR are found in Satnala (0.86%) and Barikul (1.22%) villages. All the female workers of Dangarda and Dudhmala villages work as main workers.

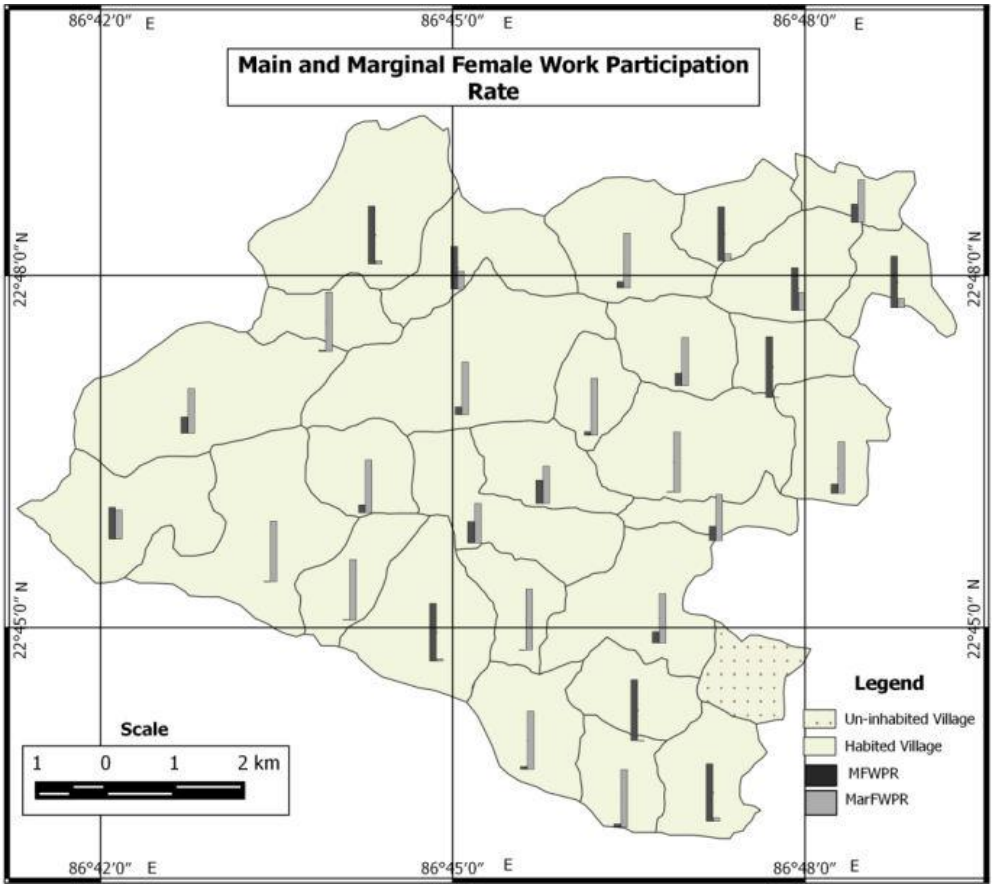

Fig- 4, Source: District census handbook 2011 (5), computed and calculated by author

Section-B

4.3 Work Category Wise Main Female Work Participation:

This section of the paper analyzes the participation of main female worker in different types of economic activities. Most of the female villagers are employed as agricultural labours. Fig no. 5 indicates that most of the agricultural labours are found in the north east and southern part of the panchayat. Some of the villages in the west of the Barikul panchayat are mostly female cultivators. All female workers of the Buchi Buri and Murkum Chhota Tung villages work as cultivators. Only the Paryasa village has no main female worker. Very small numbers of female workers depend on the house hold industry worker. Highest percentage of female household industry worker is found in the following two villages Hunga Khana and Majgerya. Very small of female workers depend on other economic activity. All the main female worker of Birbhandh and Barikul villages are involved in other type of work activity. Except the above mentioned two villages Satnala, Kankri Jhar and Chanda Pathar villages are found highest other main female worker.

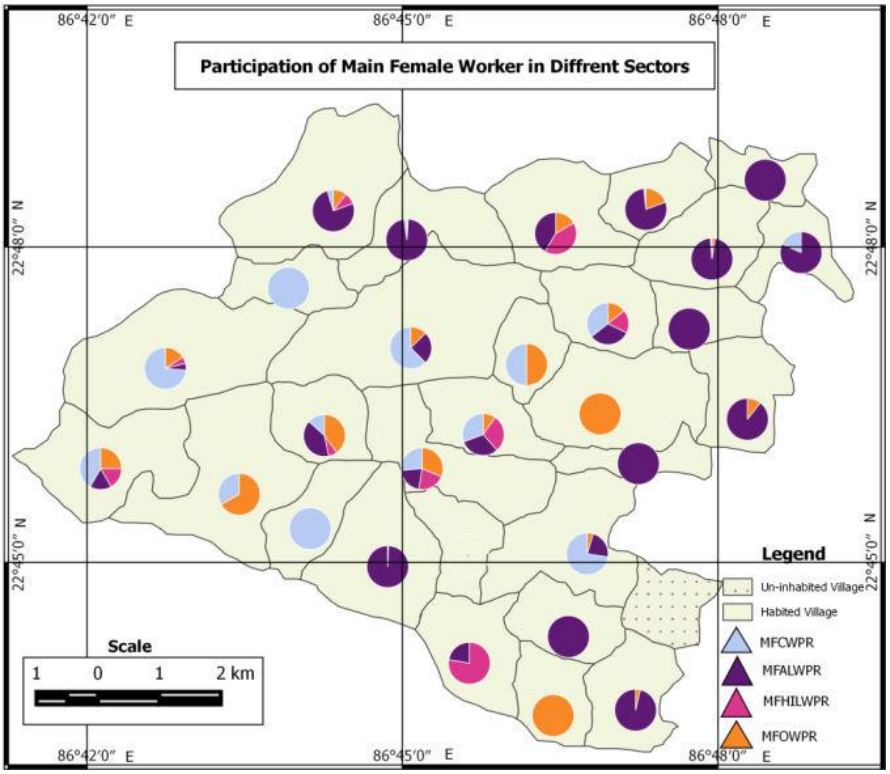

Fig- 5, Source: District census handbook 2011 (5), computed and calculated by author

4.4 Work Category Wise Marginal Female Work Participation:

Marginal female worker of the panchayat is higher than the main female worker. Most of the female workers are involved in agriculture. Fig no-6 shows that the two villages have no marginal female worker, they are- Dangarda and Dudhnala. The maximum number of female workers works as agricultural labours. MarFALW's of seventeen villages out of twenty nine villages are above 70%. Only two villages are below district average (16.17%). All the female workers of Singlahar village are dependent on agriculture and work as an agricultural labour. Highest percentage of MerFCWR is found in the Buchi Buri village. Few numbers of MarFHILW are found in some villages, highest percentage of MarHILW is found in the Bagdubi and followed by Huang Khana, Phuljhor, Satnala, Khejur Khanma.

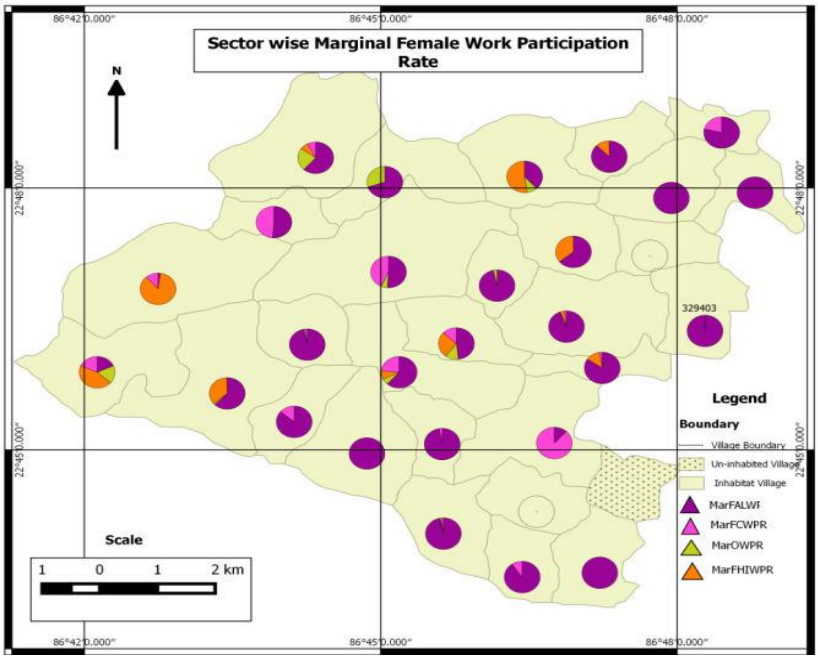

Fig- 6, Source: District census handbook 2011(5), computed and calculated by author

Section- C

4.5 Relationship among the Different Variables:

In the section the study is mainly focus on the relationship among the different variables which is related with the female work participation. Literacy is the one of the most important indicator of social and economic development. Inverse relationship is found in the studied region between FWPR with FLR but it is not very strong but it is very significant. Singariya & Shekhawat (7), Chakraborty & Chakraborty (8) are found same result on their study. MFWPR, MFCWPR, FHILWPR, MarFCWPR, MarFHILWPR, OMarFWPR, FST, Pop 0-6, Sex Ratio and NSA are negatively related with FLR. A strong inverse relationship was found between MFCWPR and FLR and it is significant at 0.01% level. MarFCWPR and FLR are negatively related and it is significant at 0.01% level. Negative relation of FST and Pop 0-6 with FLR and it is significant at 0.05% level. Means where the female literacy is low there is high concentration of FST population and 0-6 year age group population. Positive relations are found with MFALWPR, OMFWPR, MarFWPR, MarFALWPR and FSC with FLR. The relation of MarFALWPR with FLR is significant at 0.05% level. One good sign of development is identify that the positive relationship with OMFWPR means some literate female worker change her occupation toward primary to tertiary work.

It can further seen from in the annexere-II, the relationship with different variables and FWPR are very week. None of the variables are found to be significant. Some variables are positively (MFHILWPR, PMFWPR, MarFWPR, MarFCWPR, OMarFWPR FSC, FST and Sex Ratio) and some are negatively (FLR, MFWPR, MFCWPR, MFALWPR, MarFALWPR, MarFHILWPR, Pop 0-6 and NSA) related with FWPR. The MFWPR show the negative relation expects the MFALWPR, OMarFWPR, Pop0-6 and NSA. But only OMFWPR and MarFWPR is significant at 0.05% and 0.01% level respectively. Positive relation with MFALWPR and MFWPR is significant at 0.01% level. From the relation it is said that the most of the female workers work as agricultural labour.

MFCWPR negatively related with other catagory of main worker but the relation is not significant at 0.01% and 0.05% level. A significant positive relation MFCWPR and MarFCWPR is found at0.01% level. Reverse relation is found with MFCWPR and MarFAWPR and it is significant at 0.01% level.

Strong inverse relation is found between OMFWPR and MarFWPR with MFAWPR. It is significant at 0.05% and 0.01% level respectively. Positive relation is found between MFHILWPR and FSC population and it is significant at 0.01% level. OMFWPR is positively related with the MarFWPR and negative relation with Pop0-6, both of them significant at 0.05% level. In the studied GP, if the MarFCWPR is increased than the MarFALWPR is decreased, depicting as inverse relation and it significant at 0.05% level. Same is found in MarFALWPR and MarFHILWPR, it is significant at 0.01% level.

5. CONCLUSION AND FINDINGS:

From the above analysis it can be concluded that the overall FWPR is higher but most of the worker involved in the primary sector of the work, mainly are engaged in agriculture. Most of the females workers work is as marginal worker means they work as seasonal worker mainly in the time of rice production. This area is a tribal populated area and they are mainly involved in the primary sector. Very few numbers of workers are employed in the secondary and tertiary sectors. Where the literacy rate is high there the FWPR is lower. This means people are not found their work according to their skill, living in workless situation. Although it was examined that the FWPR is higher but this region is not economically developed because most of workers are involved in primary sector and they work as merginal worker. It is said that the government or planning authority should take proper steps for involving the female worker as main worker and also involve them in secondary to tertiary sectors.

Used Abbreviations:

FLR- Female Literacy Rate, WPR- Work Participation Rate, FWPR- Female Work Participation Rate, MFWPR- Main Female Work Participation Rate, MFCWPR- Main Female Cultivator Work Participation Rate, MFALWPR- Main Female Agricultural Labour Work Participation Rate, MFHILWPR- Main Female Household Industries Labour Work Participation Rate, OMFWPR- Other Main Female Work Participation Rate, MarFWPR- Marginal Female Work Participation Rate, MarFCWPR- Marginal Female Cultivator Work Participation Rate, MarFALWPR- Marginal Female Agricultural Labour Work Participation Rate, MarFHIWPR- Marginal Female Household Industries Labour Work Participation Rate, OMarFWPR- Other Marginal Female Work Participation Rate, FSC- Female SC Population, FST- Female ST Population, Pop 0-6- Population under 0-6 year age, NSA- Net Shown Area.

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Annexure- I

Main and marginal female work participation rate

Village Name	MFWPR	MarFWPR		Village Name	MFWPR	MarFWPR
Bagdubi	26.76	73.24		Kharujhor	94.02	5.98
Barikul	1.22	98.78		Khejur Khanma	20.90	79.10
Bhulagara	94.76	5.28		Lep Am	24	76.00
Birbhandh	5.56	94.44		Madankata	84.62	15.38
Buchi Buri	2.27	97.73		Majgerya	4.55	95.45
Chalkigara	70.34	29.66		Murkum Chhota Tung	0.86	99.14
Chanda Pathar	13.16	86.84		Paryasa	0	100
Dangarda	100	0		Phuljhor	52.17	47.83
Dhanjhar	13.11	86.89		Purna Pani Bara Tung	38.52	61.48
Dhankura	88.57	11.43		Purna Pani Chhota Tung	35.09	64.91
Dhoba kacha	30	70.00		Satnala	0.86	99.14
Dudhrnala	100	0		Shukini Basa	18.97	81.03
Huang Khana	10.26	89.74		Sindriam	70.37	29.63
Jantadumur	15.45	84.55		Singlahar	95.60	4.40
Kankri Jharna	6.25	93.75				

Source: Source: District census handbook 2011, computed and calculated by author

Annexure- II

Correlation co-efficient of the variables

	FLR	WPR	FWPR	MFWPR	MFCPR	MFALPR	MFHILPR	OMFWPR	MarFWPR	MarFCPR	MarFALPR	MarFHIWPR	OMarFWPR	FSC (%)	FST (%)	Pop 0-6 (%)	SEX RATIO	NSA (%)

FLR	1	-.126	-.084	-.003	-.569*	.148	-.006	.137	.032	-.471**	.420*	-.179	-.078	.017	-.354*	-.343*	-.247	-.023
WPR	-.126	1	.957**	-.166	.109	-.203	.094	.178	.193	.151	-.137	-.066	.132	.144	.074	-.227	.051	-.014
FWPR	-.084	.957**	1	-.123	-.025	-.097	.114	.141	.152	.062	-.047	-.137	.117	.191	.062	-.198	.034	-.040
MFWPR	-.003	-.166	-.123	1	-.090	.613*	-.300	-.366*	-1.000**	-.298	-.124	-.175	.219	-.220	-.188	.093	-.196	.038
MFCPR	-.569*	.109	-.025	-.090	1	-.279	-.081	-.138	.073	.770**	-.480**	-.074	-.133	-.095	.081	-.113	.126	-.176
MFALPR	.148	-.203	-.097	.613*	-.279	1	-.256	-.393*	-.629*	-.276	.255	-.252	.134	-.285	-.254	.081	-.216	.069
MFHILPR	-.006	.094	.114	-.300	-.081	-.256	1	-.156	.280	-.142	.013	.239	-.040	.666**	.064	.043	.286	-.019
OMFWPR	.137	.178	.141	-.366*	-.138	-.393*	-.156	1	.332*	-.085	.198	-.014	-.052	-.039	.156	-.398*	.111	-.016
MarFWPR	.032	.193	.152	-1.000**	.073	-.629*	.280	.332*	1	.275	.154	.149	-.233	.229	.201	-.130	.184	-.022
MarFCPR	-.471*	.151	.062	-.298	.770*	-.276	-.142	-.085	.275	1	-.399*	-.092	-.033	-.014	-.006	-.110	.002	-.031
MarFALPR	.420*	-.137	-.047	-.124	-.480*	.255	.013	.198	.154	-.399*	1	-.487*	-.195	.010	-.260	-.022	.210	-.028
MarFHIWPR	-.179	-.066	-.137	-.175	-.074	-.252	.239	-.014	.149	-.092	-.487**	1	.147	.074	.160	.192	.013	.033
OMarFWPR	-.078	.132	.117	.219	-.133	.134	-.040	-.052	-.233	-.033	-.195	.147	1	-.044	.023	.126	.025	.477*
FSC (%)	.017	.144	.191	-.220	-.095	-.285	.666**	-.039	.229	-.014	.010	.074	-.044	1	-.011	-.072	.182	-.095
FST (%)	-.354*	.074	.062	-.188	.081	-.254	.064	.156	.201	-.006	-.260	.160	.023	-.011	1	.124	.259	.184
Pop0-6 (%)	-.343*	-.227	-.198	.093	-.113	.081	.043	-.398*	-.130	-.110	-.022	.192	.126	-.072	.124	1	.302	.163
SEX RATIO	-.247	.051	.034	-.196	.126	-.216	.286	.111	.184	.002	.210	.013	.025	.182	.259	.302	1	-.038
NSA (%)	-.023	-.014	-.040	.038	-.176	.069	-.019	-.016	-.022	-.031	-.028	.033	.477*	-.095	.184	.163	-.038	1

Source: District census handbook 2011, computed and calculated by author