

CHAPTER – 4

CHAPTER - 4

PROFILE OF SAMPLE HOUSEHOLDS OF THE STUDY AREA

The main focus of this chapter is to evaluate the total profile of the sample household of the study area. For the purpose of analysis, this chapter details on demographic and socio-economic profile of the sample households, and health status – pattern and distribution of illness of the sample households. Primary data has been collected from the field investigation are systematically classified and presented to expose the socio-economic characteristics and other related information of the households in the study

Primary data have been collected from the sample households as per the sample frame of the study. Accordingly, a total of 502 nos. of household have been surveyed from the area of six selected PHCs under the study. This study has involved different technical term relating to household survey. Thus, the terminologies and concepts involved in the study are described according to the 58th Round National Sample Survey, 2002 on Household Expenditure and Employment in India¹.

Household: A household comprises a number of individuals who normally reside together and share food in a common kitchen. The word "normally" refers that temporary visitors are excluded, but temporary staying-out are included.

The household or family was first defined in 1872 as comprising of those who lived together and ordinarily cooked at the same hearth including their servants and visitors. In 1971 Census, a household was defined as ‘a group of persons who commonly live together and would take their meals from a common kitchen unless the exigencies of work prevented any of them from doing so’.²

Head of the Household: According to Merriam Webster dictionary meaning of head of the household refer to a person in the house who is

responsible for making decisions and earning money³. Thus, the head of the household, also known as the head of the family, who has power to exercise family control and maintain dependent members is based on moral or legal obligations or obligations.

Adult: A person who has attained the age of fifteen years is considered to be an adult.

Household size or Size of Family: The total number of people living in a household is called household size or Size of Family.

Household consumer expenditure: It refers to the expenditure incurred by a household on domestic consumption during a reference period. Household consumer expenditure includes the total monetary values of expenses on consumption of various groups of items, i.e., (i) food, pan (betel leaves), tobacco, intoxicants and fuel & light, (ii) clothing and footwear and (iii) miscellaneous goods and services and durable articles.

Monthly per capita consumer expenditure (MPCE): MPCE is total consumption expenditure divided by the number of people in the household, expressed monthly. In other words, it is the average expenditure per person spending per month. The person's MPCE is a representation of their household. MPCE is an indicator of the level of living. The MPCE distribution can also measure the degree of inequality or the concentration of consumer spending on a small proportion of households or persons; this can be done without any pre-determined poverty line or welfare norms (National Sample Survey, 68th Round, 2011).

Standard of Living Index: The Government of India in the National Family Health Survey (NFHS - II) had used the Standard of Living Index (SLI) scale which contains 11 items viz. house type, source of lighting, toilet facility, primary source of cooking fuel, source of drinking water, separate kitchen room, house ownership, agricultural land ownership, irrigated land ownership, livestock ownership, durable goods ownership are used to measure SES in urban and rural areas for all over the country⁴.

Age and Sex of population: Age and sex of population are significant characteristics and vital in any demographic analysis. A stratified population on age and sex provides an overview of its demographic history.

Illness: Illness means any deviation from the state of physical and mental well-being. An ailment may not cause any necessity of hospitalisation, confinement to bed or restricted activity. Any member suffering from any ailment during the reference period is considered an illness⁵.

4.1 Distribution of Sample Households

Table 4.1 depicts the household survey in the villages under the six selected Primary Health Centre from three different distance levels through the sampling method adopted to collect primary data under the study.

Table 4.1: Distribution of Sample Households and Population

Name of Block PHC	Name of PHC	No. of Households	Male	Female	Total Population
Golagaon	Golagaon PHC	85	230	221	451
	Koklabari SHC	96	242	238	480
Jalah	Nimua MPHC	76	197	193	390
	Saudarvitha MPHC	89	225	201	426
Tamulpur	Katharbari SD	91	234	214	448
	Kumarikata SD	65	171	167	338
Total		502	1299	1234	2533

Source: Field Survey

All selected health centres are officially considered Primary Health Centre, although these have different technical nomenclature. Further, the nomenclature of Primary Health Centre differs from state to state in India. Table 4.1 shows the distribution of sample households and population of the selected Block Primary Health Centres (BPHCs) and selected Primary Health Centres (PHCs).

It has been found that 85 households are surveyed from the Golagaon Primary Health Centre (PHC), the total population of the sample households is 451 persons. Similarly, 96 households are surveyed from the Koklabari Subsidiary Health Centre (SHC), the total population of the sample households is 480 persons. Again, 76 households are surveyed from the Nimua Mini Primary Health Centre (MPHC) the total population of the sample households is 390 persons. Similarly, 89 households are surveyed from Saudarvitha Mini Primary Health Centre (MPHC), the total population of the sample households is 451 persons. Whereas 91 households from Katharbari State Dispensary (SD) are surveyed and the total population has been found 448 persons. Similarly, 65 households from Kumarikata State Dispensary (SD) are surveyed. The total population of the sample households is 338 persons.

A total of 502 households are surveyed from the entire selected area for the study. The total population of the sample households has been found 2533 persons comprising of 1299 males (51.3%) and 1234 females (48.7%). In Golagaon, Koklabari, Nimua, Saudarvitha, Katharbari and Kumarikata, the average family size of the selected households have been found as 5.3, 5.0, 5.1, 4.8, 4.9 and 5.2 respectively. It is found that the average size of the family is 5 members of the entire households included in the study.

4.2 Profile of Respondents

During the interview, the household head is expected to be the respondent because he is familiar with the phenomenon under investigation. However, in the absence of household head, the information has been collected from the family member(s) also those are familiar with the phenomenon. Efforts have been made for conducting personal interviews with all adult members of each sample household. Attempts are made to collect the necessary information about children and the young from their mothers. Further, views and information from the other members of the family have been also considered during the survey.

Table 4.2: Sex of Respondents

Sex	Number	Percentage
Male	372	74.1
Female	130	25.9
Total	502	100

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Table 4.2 depicts the distribution of the respondent based on sex. It has been found that out of 502 respondents, 372 nos. are Male respondents that comprises 74.1%, and 130 nos. are Female respondents comprising 25.9%.

Table 4.3: Age Distribution of Respondents

Age Group in Year	Number	Percentage
20-40	177	35.3
40-60	265	52.8
60 and above	60	12.0
Total	502	100

Source: Field Survey

Table 4.3 shows that out of 502 respondents, 35.3% belongs to the age group of 20-40, 52.8% of the age group between 40-60, and 12.0% of the respondents belong to the age group 60 above. It is evident that there is 52.8% respondents in the age group of 40-60, who account for a majority of the 502 respondents and the followed by age group 20-40 that accounts for 35.3%.

Table 4.4: Distribution of Respondents by Educational Level

Category	Number	Percentage
Illiterate	104	20.7
Primary Level *	122	24.3
Under-matriculate	87	17.3
Matriculate	107	21.3
Higher Secondary	51	10.2
Graduate	22	4.4
Post Graduate	9	1.8
Total	502	100

Source: Field Survey *Literate 66 nos. included in Primary level category

It has been found that the majority of respondents (24.3%) have attained education level of Primary. The percentage of respondents of illiterate group has been found 20.7% under the study area. Thus, it has been observed that 17.3% have been found in Under-matriculate category. It has also been found that 21.3% of the total respondents belong to matriculate category. Similarly, the percentage of respondents with educational attainment of Higher Secondary, Graduation and Post Graduation has been found of 10.2%, 4.4% and 1.8% respectively. It has been observed that majority respondents belong to illiterate or below the below the matriculation.

The rural households are classified with regard to their main occupation into two types that is cultivator and non-cultivator households.

- (i) Cultivator households: All rural households operating at least 0.002 hectare of land during the 365 days preceding the survey date were treated as 'cultivator households'.
- (ii) Non-cultivator households: All rural households operating no land or land less than 0.002 hectare were considered to be non-cultivator households.

Occupational classification is difficult among the Bodo community residing in rural area of Assam. Because, there is no clear-cut occupation among the majority of workers of rural community, they have more than one livelihood within a particular year. Based on the information provided by respondents, it has been found that one who is marginal farmer also sometimes go for casual labour in different sectors while wage labour also sometimes go for selling of different goods as unlike petty traders or engaged as self-employed himself. However, depending on maximum days spent on a particular job has been considered as main occupation. Thus, occupation has been classified into four categories:

- i. Farmer
- ii. Govt. Employee
- iii. Business
- iv. Casual labour

Table: 4.5: Occupation Distribution of Respondents

Occupation	Number	Percentage
Farmer	291	57.97
Govt. Employee	54	10.75
Business	38	7.57
Casual labour	87	17.33
Sub Total	496	93.63
Retired	26	5.20
Unemployed	6	1.20
Grand total	502	100

Source: Field Survey

Table 4.5 depicts that majority of the respondents in the study area depend on agriculture for their livelihoods. Thus, the figure indicates that 291 respondents comprising 58.0% are Farmers. It has been found that 87 respondents comprising 17.3% belong to Casual labour group that constituted second largest occupation among the total respondents of 502. Respondents belonging to government employee have been found 54 nos. that constitutes 10.8%. Again it has been found that 38 respondents constituting 7.6% are Businessmen.

It has been observed that out of the total 502 respondents, 26 nos. comprising 5.2% are found as retirees and inactive in productive activities. Further, unemployed persons among the respondents are found 6 nos. i.e., 1.2% of the total respondents.

4.3 Demographic and Socio-Economic Profile of Sample Households

Demographic Characteristics

The outline of demographic characteristics of a population is essential in relation to study about the health status of a community. Therefore, demographic characteristics *viz.*, age, sex, and religion have been discussed to present the composition of the population under study.

Table: 4.6: Composition of Population and Sex of the Sample Households

Name of Block PHC	Name of PHC	Total Population	Male	Female	Sex ratio
Golagaon	Golagaon	451	230(51.0)	221(49.0)	960.7
	Koklabari	480	242(50.4)	238(49.6)	983.5
Jalah	Nimua	390	197(50.5)	193(49.5)	979.7
	Saudarvitha	426	225(52.8)	201(47.2)	893.3
Tamulpur	Katharbari	448	234(52.2)	214(47.8)	914.5
	Kumarikata	338	171(50.6)	167(49.4)	976.6
Total		2533	1299(51.3)	1234(48.7)	950.0

Source: Field Survey

From the Golagaon Block PHC, total population of sample households has been found 451 persons in Golagaon Primary Health Centre comprising 230 males (51.0%) and 221 females (49.0%). Similarly, the population of sample households from Koklabari Subsidiary Health Centre is found 480 persons, comprising 242 males (50.4%) and 238 females (49.6%).

Under Jalah Block PHC, total population of sample households from Nimua Mini Primary Health Centre has been found 390 persons comprising 197 males (50.5%) and 193 females (49.5%). Similarly, the total population of sample households under Saudarvitha Primary Health Centre has been found 426 persons comprising of 234 males (52.2%) and 214 females (47.8%). It has been observed that the composition of the female population in Saudarvitha PHC under Jalah BPHC is the lowest (47.2%) in comparison to other five PHCs under study.

Similarly, under Tamulpur Block PHC, there are two PHC, namely Katharbari and Kumarikata. The total population of sample households in Katharbari Primary Health Centre is found 448 persons comprising 234 males (52.2%) and 214 females (47.8%). Similarly, the total population of sample households under Kumarikata Primary Health Centre has been found 338 persons comprising 171 males (50.6%) and 167 females (49.4%).

It has been found that from the 502 sample households, the total population is 2533 comprising 1299 (51.3%) male and 1234 (48.7%) female. The overall sex ratio of the selected six PHCs has been found 950 against the 1,057 of Baksa district. Further, it is found that the calculated sex ratio of the sample population for each selected PHC is lower than the Baksa district sex ratio of 1,057 as per NHFS, 2019-2020.

Age-Sex Composition of Total Population of Sample Households

Age-sex composition is one of the most vital statistics of population composition. The usefulness of data relating to age is more noticeable if it is cross-classified by attributes like marital status, educational attainment, economic activity, which vary with age in different patterns (Census of India, 2011).

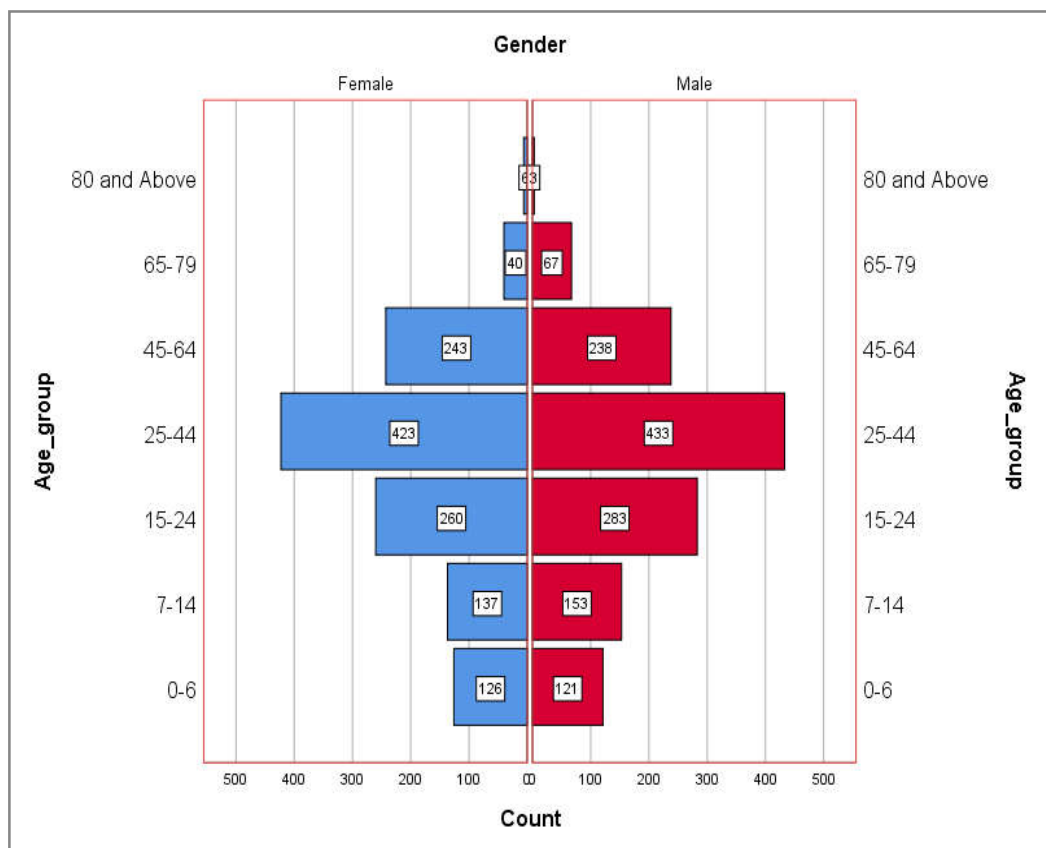
Table 4.7: Composition of Population by Age Group and Sex

Age Group	Total	Male	Female
0-6	247(9.8)	121(49.0)	126(51.0)
7-14	290(11.4)	153(52.8)	137(47.2)
15-24	543(21.4)	283(52.1)	260(47.9)
25-44	856(33.8)	434(50.7)	422(49.3)
45-64	481(19.0)	238(49.5)	243(50.5)
65-79	107(4.2)	67(62.6)	40(37.4)
80 and Above	9(4)	3(33.3)	6(66.7)
Total	2533(100)	1299(51.3)	1234(48.7)

Source: Field Survey

Age statistics is also an important component of population analysis. The age distribution of the population is presented in Table 4.7. It is found that the highest percentage, 33.8% belong to 25-44 age group, and followed by 21.4% belong to the young age group 15-24 years. It has been found that the percentage of the population in the older age group (65-79) is 4.2 and 80 years above is 0.4 and younger age group (0-6 years) is 9.8%. Thus, it is reflected that most of the population belongs to the productive age group in the study.

Figure 4.1 Distribution of Population by Age Group and Sex



Source: Field Survey

Figure 4.1 presents the percentage distribution of sex composition of the population among the different age groups. It has been observed that the percentage in the age groups of 7-14 years, 15-24 years, 25-44 years, and 65-69 years for males is comparatively higher than that of females. On the other hand, it is found that the percentage in the age groups of 0-6 years, 45-64 years, and 80 years and above for males is relatively lower than that of females.

Table 4.8: Distribution of Population by Educational level

Category	No. of Persons	Percentage
Illiterate	491	21.4%
Primary level	416	18.1%
Under-matriculate	421	18.3%
Matriculate	509	22.2%
Higher Secondary	284	12.4%
Graduate	148	6.4%
Post Graduate	29	1.3%
Total	2298	100%

Source: Field Survey

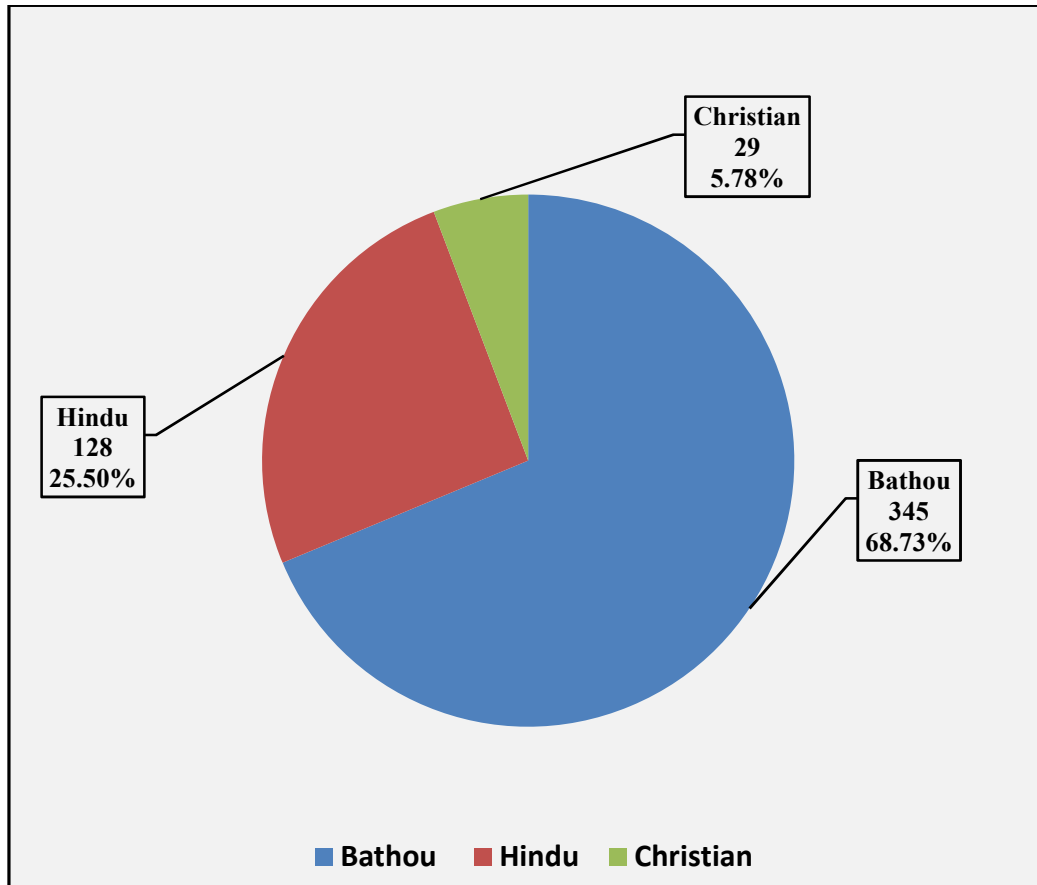
Table 4.8 depicts the distribution of educational level of the population under the study area. It excludes population of the age below 7 years. It has been found that 491 persons constituting 21.4% are found illiterate. On the other hand, 416 persons constituting 23.0% have education of Primary level, 421 persons constituting 23.3% have educational attainment of under-matriculate. Similarly, 509 persons (8.2%) have educational attainment of Matriculate that constituted majority among the population of sample households. It has been found that, 284 persons constituting 15.7% have attained education of Higher Secondary. Likewise, the number of persons having attained Graduation and Post Graduation has been found 147 persons (8.1%) and 29 persons (1.6%) respectively. It is to be mentioned that there are 235 persons are below 7 years.

The literacy rate can be found out: = $\frac{\text{Total Literates}}{\text{Total population above 6 years}} \times 100$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Literacy Rate} &= \frac{1807}{2298} \times 100 \\ &= 78.63\%\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the literacy rate is found 78.63% among the populations from the sample households under study. It has been observed that the literacy rate found in study area (78.63%) is higher than the 74.54% literacy rate of Baksa district as per Census of India 2011.

Figure 4.2: Distribution of Sample Households by Belief in Religion

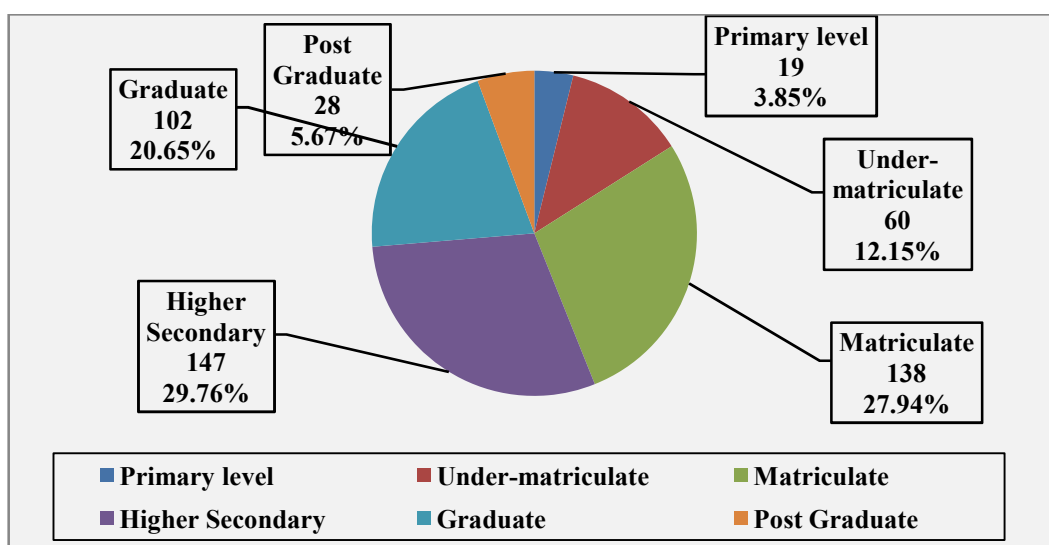


Source: Field Survey

Religion comprises cultural structures and belief systems that impact people's understanding of the divine environment and their daily lives. Religion influences the lifestyle, attitudes, and perceptions of an individual as well as the community. Thus, beliefs held by the populace shape their behaviours dramatically in the areas of health care. Bathou is the traditional belief system of the Bodos, i.e. animism among the Bodos. Figure 4.2 shows that 345 (68.73%) households belief system in Bathou (Animism), 128 (25.50%) households are Hindu, and 29 (5.78%) households are Christian.

Health is a prerequisite for education on the contrary formal education as a personal attribute is an essential element of health awareness because an educated people is expected to respond quickly and positively to his/her health problems.

Figure 4.3: Distribution of Sample Households by Highest Educational Level



Source: Field Survey

Figure 4.3 presents the highest educational level of the Sample Households under study. It has been observed that 19 (3.85%) households have their highest educational level of Primary level, which is the lowest percentage than the other educational categories. 147 households (29.76%) have been found with highest educational of Higher Secondary level in the family, that share largest amongst the sample households. It has been found that most of the sample households under study have their highest level of family education above the secondary level except Post Graduate.

Housing Status of the Sample Households

Under housing status, type of house, separate kitchen room/house, fuel used for cooking, drinking-water source, defecation system, electricity facilities, and other amenities of the sample household have been presented as below.

Table 4.9: Type of House

House Type	No. of Households	Percentage
Thatched	18	3.6%
Tin Roofed	383	76.3%
Semi-Pucca	35	7.0%
Pucca	66	13.2%
All	502	100.0%

Source: Field Survey

Table 4.9 presents the dwelling house type of the sample households. It has been found that 18 sample households have been staying in thatched houses that representing the lowest type of house (3.6%). On the contrary, 383 households have the Tin roofed house that represents highest percentage of 76.3% among the sample households. While, 35 households constituting 7% have Semi-Pucca houses, and 66 households constituting 13.2% have Pucca houses under the study.

Table 4.10: Availability of Separate Kitchen for Cooking

Separate Kitchen	No. of Households	Percentage
Yes	465	92.6%
No	37	7.4%
All	502	100.%

Source: Field Survey

The kitchen facility refers to the separate kitchen room or the house. Table 4.10 shows that the overall 465 (92.6%) households of the total sample households of 502 have separate kitchen room/house while 37 (7.4%) do not have separate kitchen.

Table 4.11: Fuel for Cooking

Source	No. of Households	Percentage
LPG	111	22.1%
Firewood	46	9.2%
Both (LPG & Firewood)	345	68.7%
All	502	100.%

Source: Field Survey

Table 4.11 depicts the use of fuel or source of cooking in the sample households. It is found that 111 (22.1%) of sample households use LPG, 46 (9.2%) of households use firewood, and 345 (68.7%) of households use both LPG and firewood as fuel for cooking.

Table 4.12: Drinking-Water Facility

Source of Drinking Water	No. of Households	Percentage
Well	128	25.5%
Tube Well	365	72.7%
PHE Water Supply	4	0.8%
River Water	5	1.0%
All	502	100.%

Source: Field Survey

Table 4.12 depicts the source of drinking water by sample households. According to the present study, 128 (25.5%) households are using the well, 365 (72.7%) households are using tube well, and the rest 4 (0.8%) and 5 (1.0%) households are using the source of drinking water as the PHE water supply and river water respectively. Thus, it indicates that the majority of sample households have drinking water facilities from a tube well.

Table 4.13: Defecation Facility

Type	No. of Households	Percentage
Septic tank	395	78.69%
Pit	78	15.53%
Any other	29	5.78%
All	502	100.%

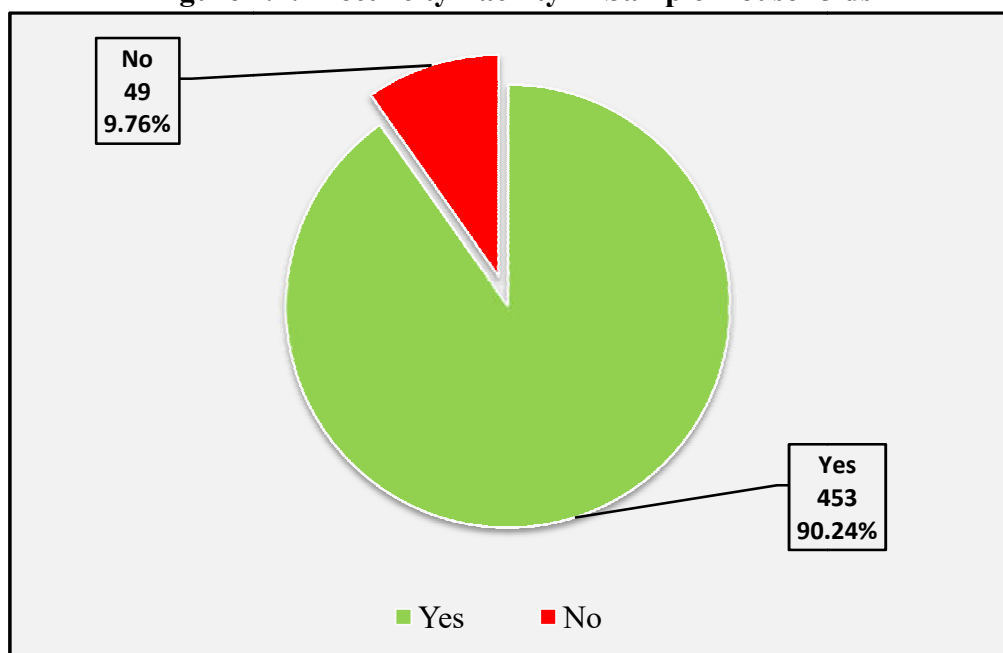
Source: Field Survey

Table 4.13 indicates the defecation facility available in the sample households. It has been found that 395 (78.69%) households are using septic tanks, 78 (15.53%) households are using pits, and 29 (5.78%) households are using other kinds of facilities.

It has been found that the electricity connection in the rural area has increased through scheme like Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) or Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification. The

scheme has been launched in 2005 to provide electricity to all rural households living below poverty line.

Figure 4.4: Electricity Facility in Sample Households



Source: Field Survey

Figure 4.4 indicates that 453 comprising 90.24% households have electricity connections. However, it has been found that 49 households comprising 9.76% do not have electricity.

Household Assets and Durable Goods

Household assets represent assets owned by the household and had money value. Household assets included physical assets like land, buildings, livestock, agricultural machinery and implements, non-farm business equipment, all transport equipment, and financial assets like dues receivable on loans advanced in cash or kind, shares in companies and cooperative societies, banks, etc., national saving certificates, deposits in companies, banks, post offices and with individuals. The All-India Debt and Investment Survey (AIDIS) do not include crops standing in the fields and stock of commodities held by the household in the household assets.

Durable goods: Household consumer goods other than food, fuel and clothing/footwear are, according to usual NSS practice, classified into durable goods and a residual “miscellaneous goods” category. Durable goods are distinguished from miscellaneous goods by having a longer expected lifetime of use (roughly one year or more), though some petty durables such as pens, torches, spectacles and walking sticks, as well as books, are by convention included among miscellaneous goods. Durable goods used for household purposes thus include furniture and fixtures, recreational goods such as cameras, TV, cassettes and musical instruments, jewellery and ornaments, clocks and watches, household utensils and appliances for cooking, heating, cooling, and other work such as sewing, vehicles for personal transport, tyres and tubes, fluorescent tubes and lamps, and other electrical and sanitary fittings. Expenditure on durable goods includes expenditure incurred on repairs and construction of durables used for domestic purpose.

Table 4.14: Distribution of Households by Landholding for Cultivation

Broad type of assets	Households Cultivation Landholding				
	Yes	% age	No	% age	Total
Land holding	418	83.27	84	16.73	502
Livestock & poultry	466	92.83	36	7.17	502
Machinery & equipments [#]	393	78.29	109	21.71	502

Source: Field Survey

includes agriculture machinery & equipment, non-farm business equipment, all transport equipment

Percentage share of different components of assets in the total value of assets for each category has been presented in Table 4.14. It has been found that among the 502 households, 418(83.0%) households have agricultural land, and 84(16.7%) households do not have agricultural land. There are 466(92.83%) households that have livestock and poultry, and 36(7.17) households do not have livestock or poultry. The machinery and equipment owned by 393(78.29%) households, whereas 109(21.71%) do not have machinery equipment.

Table 4.15: Distribution of Households by Amenities

Facilities	Yes		No	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
TV	205	40.83	297	59.17
Mobile Phone	448	89.24	54	10.76

Source: Field Survey

Table 4.15 indicates that 205(40.83%) households are having TV sets whereas 297 (59.17%) are not having TV. It has been found that 448(89.24%) households are availing mobile phones whereas 54(10.76%) do not have mobile phone.

Distribution of Households by Consumption Expenditure

According to the definition of National Sample Survey about Consumption on Expenditure, household consumption expenditure is incurred by a household on domestic consumption during a reference period that includes the total of the monetary values of consumption of various groups of items, namely (i) food, pan (betel leaves), tobacco, intoxicants and fuel & light, (ii) clothing and footwear and (iii) miscellaneous goods and services and durable articles⁶.

Table 4.16: Expenditure of Households on Food Items

Expenditure (in Rs)	Households No.	Percentage
<= ₹3000 (Less than or equal to ₹3000)	179	35.65
₹3001-6000	286	56.97
₹6001-9000	31	6.18
₹9001-12000	3	.60
₹12001 and above	3	.60
Total	502	100

Source: Field Survey

Table 4.16 shows that 179 households constituting 35.65% of the total sample households have monthly consumption expenditures on foods below ₹ 3,000. Whereas, 286 households comprising 56.97% of total sample households are having monthly consumption expenditure on foods in between ₹ 3,001-6,000. The majority of sample households having monthly consumption expenditure have been found in between ₹ 3,001-6,000. It has been observed that 31 households constituting 6.18% have monthly consumption expenditure on foods in between ₹ 6,001-9,000. Further, it is found that only 03 households (0.60%) households have monthly consumption expenditure on foods in between ₹ 9,001-12,000. Similarly, 3 households constituting 0.60% have monthly consumption expenditure on foods is of ₹ 12,001 and above.

Table 4.17: Expenditure of Households on Non-Food Items

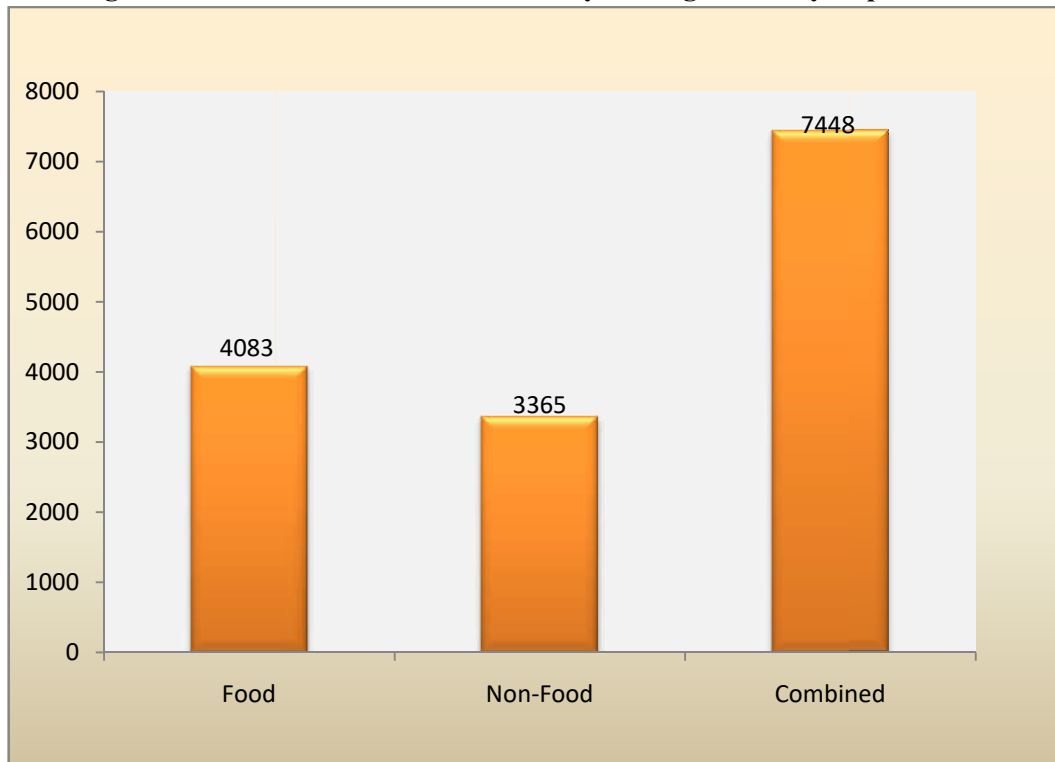
Expenditure (in Rs)	Households No.	Percentage
<= ₹3000 (Less than or equal to ₹3000)	215	42.83
₹3001-6000	235	46.81
₹6001-9000	44	8.76
₹9001-12000	5	1.00
₹12,001 and above	3	.60
Sub Total	502	100

Source: Field Survey

Household consumption expenditure on non-food has been presented in Table 4.17. It has been found that 215 households comprising 42.83% of the total sample households those have monthly consumption expenditures on non-foods items less than or equal to ₹3,000. Out of total sample households, 235 households constituting 46.81% have monthly consumption expenditure on non-foods have in between ₹ 3,001-6,000. While 44 households constituting 8.76% of total sample households having monthly consumption expenditure on non-foods is in between ₹ 6,001- 9,000. It has been found that 05 nos. of households (1.0%) of total sample households have monthly consumption expenditure on non-foods items in between ₹ 9,001-12,000. While 03 households constituting 0.60% of total

sample households have monthly consumption expenditure on non-foods of ₹ 12,001 and above.

Figure 4.5: Distribution of Households by Average Monthly Expenditure



Source: Field Survey

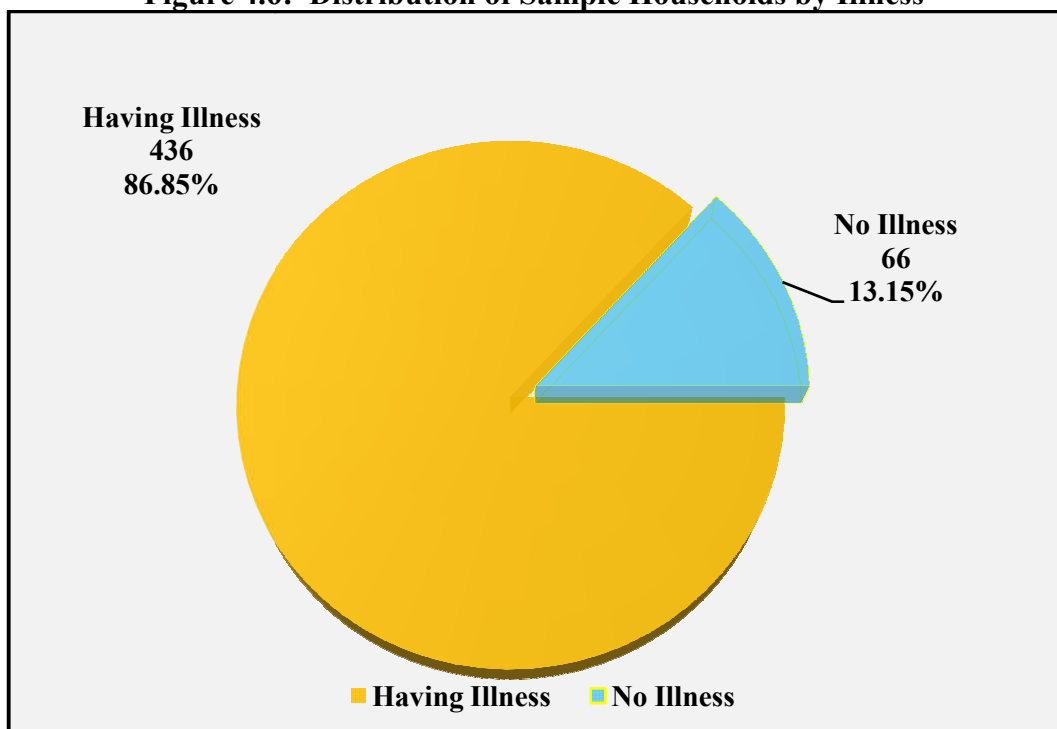
Figure 4.5 has presented the monthly average consumption expenditure on food, non-food and combined expenditure on both food and non-food items incurred by sample households under study.

The average monthly expenditure of the sample households on food items has been found ₹ 4,083.00. Similarly, the average monthly expenditure on non-foods is found ₹ 3,365.00. The monthly average expenditure combining expenses incurred on food and non-food items of the sample households has been found of ₹ 7,448.00. In comparison, the spending of the households on the food items is found more than the expense incurred on non-foods items.

4.4 Pattern of Illness among the Sample Households

A description of the quantitative data has been prepared to explore the reported illness cases of the household members of the family having illness. It dealt with illness cases among the population of the sample households under study and its relation with their demographic and socio-economic characteristics. Illness profile of sample households has been prepared from the information of respondents of the households, whether any household member suffered from any illness during the preceding year. An attempt has been made to throw a light on illness of family members for estimating the pattern of morbidity among the sample household and need for utilisation of primary healthcare services.

Figure 4.6: Distribution of Sample Households by Illness

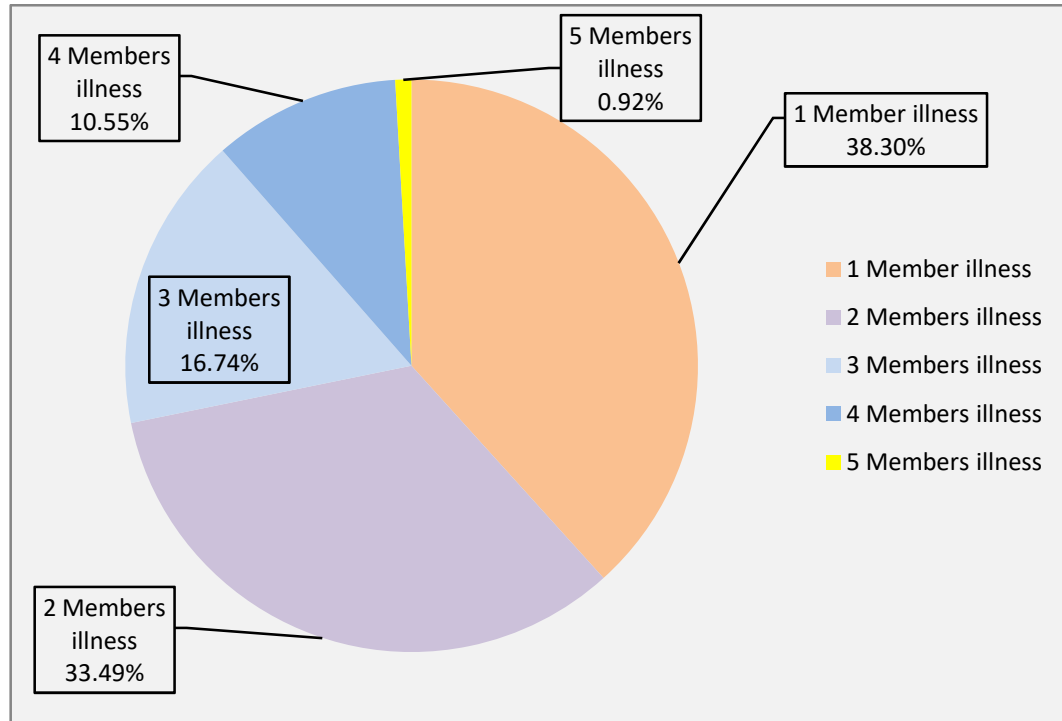


Source: Field Survey

Figure 4.6 portrays illness distribution among the sample households. Out of 502 sample households are surveyed from the study area, it has been found that 436 households constituting 86.85% have reported atleast one illness case among the family members. While 66 households that comprises 13.15% reported no illness of anybody of their family members during the reference period. Hence, it

has been observed that majority of the households (86.85%) have reported at least one member suffered from illness in the study.

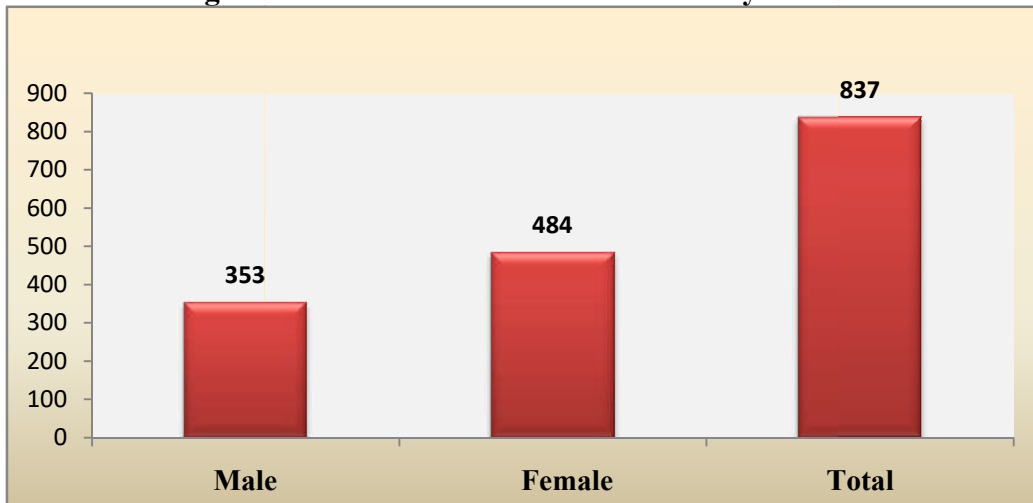
Figure 4.7: Distribution of Households by Number of Illness Members



Source: Field Survey

The distribution of sample households regarding the illness members of their family has been presented in Figure 4.7. It has been found that 38.3% of sample households having 1 member of illness while 33.49% households had illnesses of 2 members. Similarly, the households reported illness of 3 family members has been found 16.74%. Again, 10.55% of households reported having 4 members of illness during the reference period. However, 4 households constituting less than 1% reported illness of 05 family members. It has been found that 2 sample households reported deceased case one each family members.

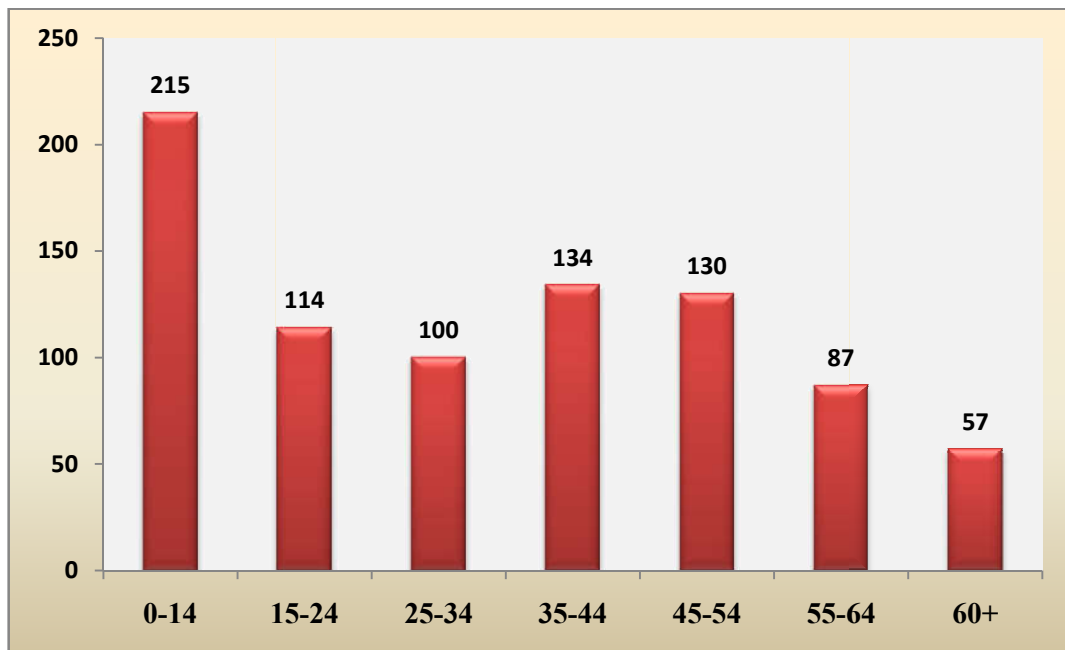
Figure 4.8: Distribution of Illness Cases by Gender



Source: Field Survey

It has been found that 837 illness cases are reported from the family members of the 436 sample households having illness in the family. It has been found that out of total 837 illness cases among the sample households that consist of 353 males (42.17%) and 484 (57.83%) females. Hence it can be inferred that majority of the illness has been found among the female.

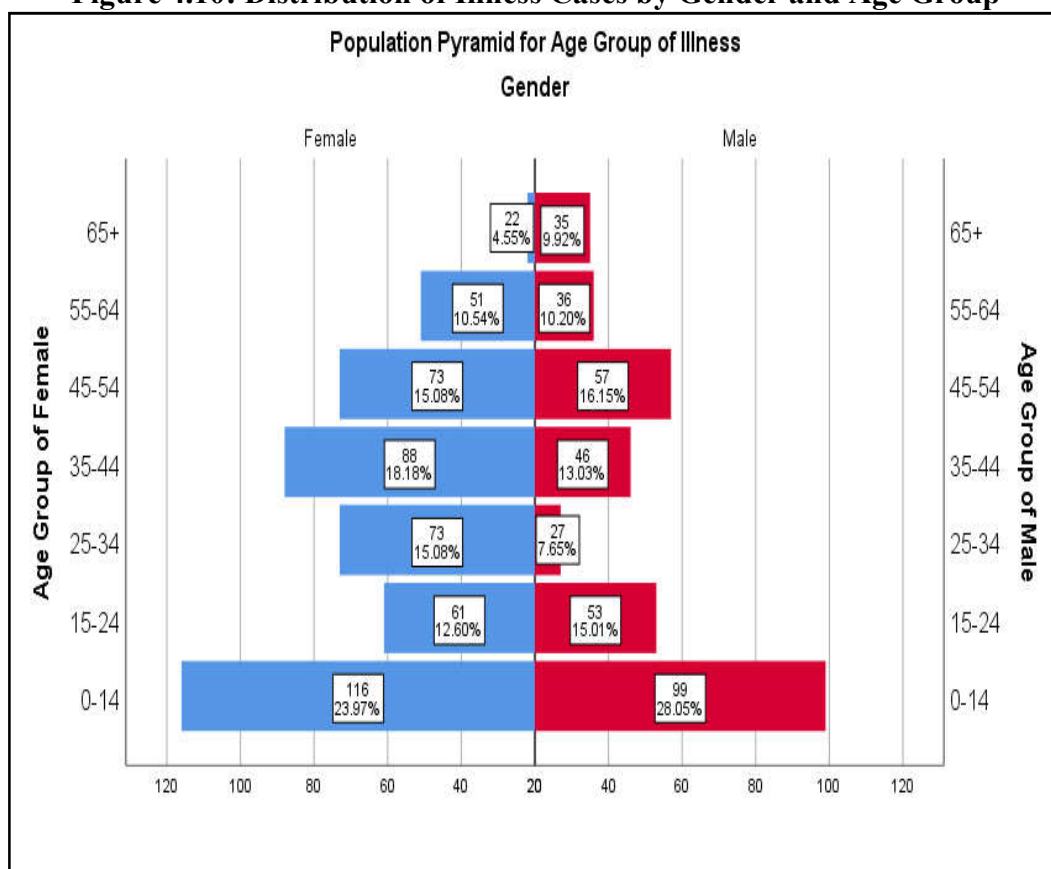
Figure 4.9: Distribution of Illness Cases by Age Group



Source: Field Survey

Division of age group has been done according to the age categorisation of Assam Human Development Report, 2014. Figure 4.9 has depicted the distribution of illness cases among the different age groups. Out of the total illness cases, the highest illness cases have been found among 0-14 years age group that comprises 25.69% and lowest among the age group of 60 years and above i.e., 6.81%. The illness cases among the middle age groups i.e., 35-44 and 45-54 have been found 16.0% and 15.53% respectively.

Figure 4.10: Distribution of Illness Cases by Gender and Age Group

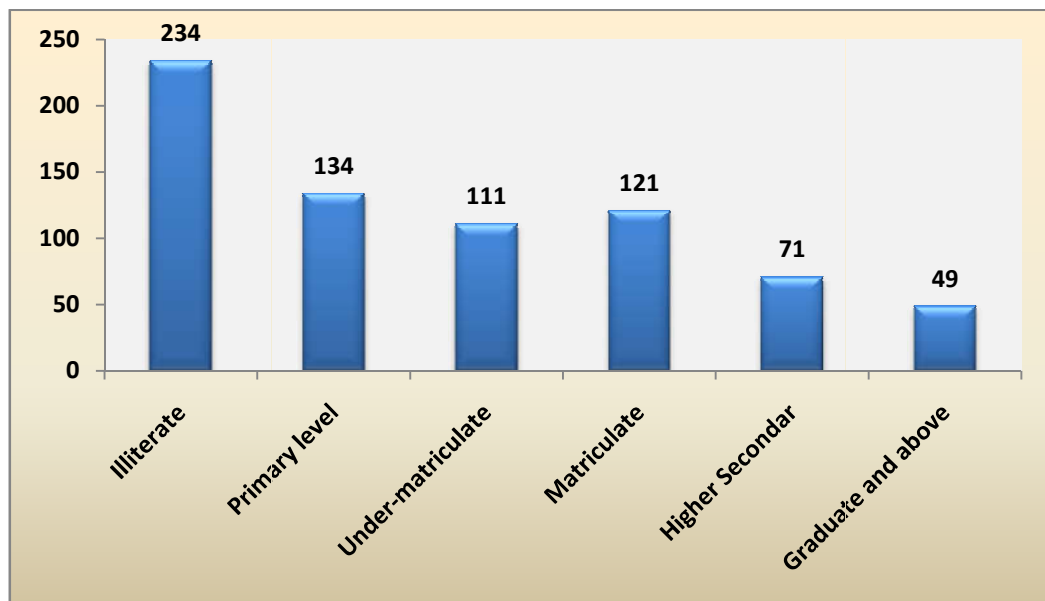


Source: Field Survey

The illness cases in the different age groups of both males and females have been shown in Figure 4.10. The percentage of illnesses among females in the age groups of 25–34, 35–44 and 55-64 have been found 15.32%, 17.66% and 10.43% respectively which are higher than their male counterpart in those age groups viz., 7.63%, 13.90% and 10.35% accordingly. However, almost the same percentage of illness has been observed in 55-64 years for both males and

females. On the contrary, the percentage of illness cases among males have been found higher in the age group of 0-14 years, 15-24 years and 65 years and above than females for those respective age groups. It is found that 28.07% illness cases for males in the age group of 0-14 years against the 23.83% of illness cases of females that age group. While, the illness cases have been found much higher for male (9.54%) in the age group of 65 years and above than their female counterpart (4.68%).

Figure 4.11: Education Level of Ill Persons

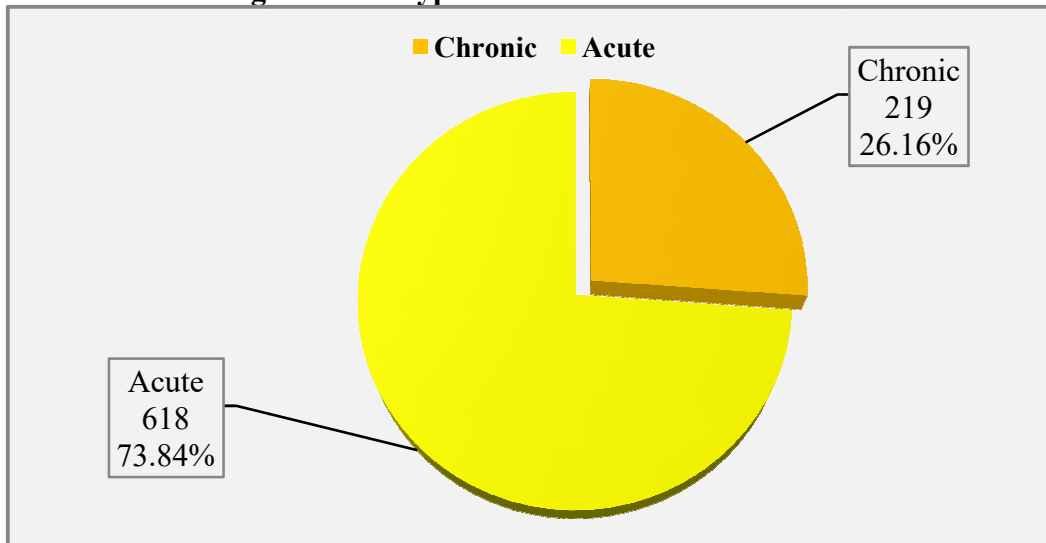


Source: Field Survey

Note: Children below 7 years (117 nos. excluded from the total illness cases).

Figure 4.11 has presented the illness in relation to the sufferers' education level. It has been found that the illness case is highest among the illiterate and followed by the Primary level. The lowest illness case has been found amongst the Graduate and above category. Thus, the illness cases have been found higher among illiterate people than the educated one.

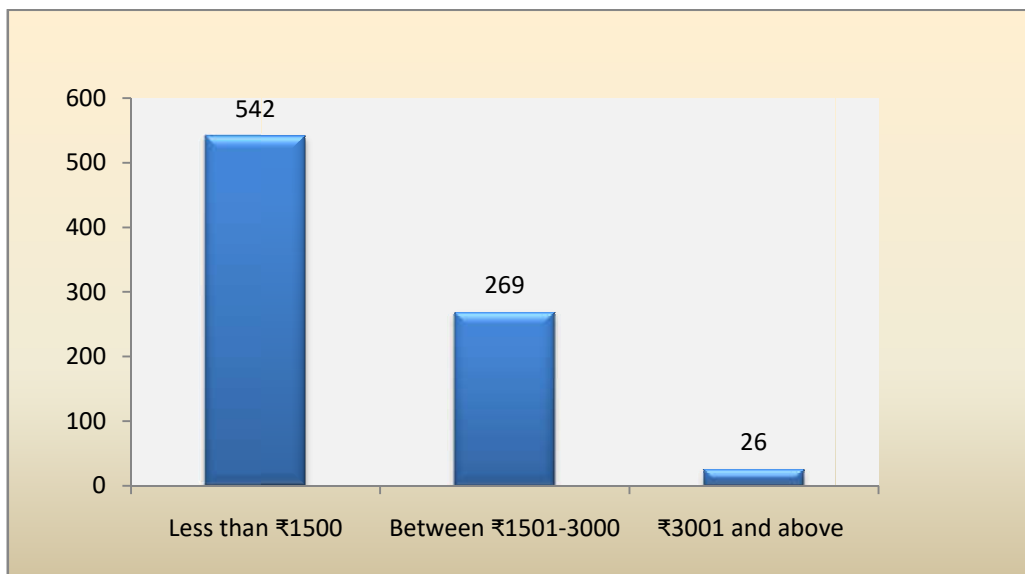
Figure 4.12: Type of Illness of the Ill Persons



Source: Field Survey

Types of illness have been classified on the basis of total illness cases reported by 436 households having atleast one illness case in the family during the reference period. Figure 4.12 portrays that the illness cases into two categories i.e., acute and chronic. It has been found that 618 illness cases comprising 73.84% belong to acute illness while 219 constituting 26.16% have been found chronic cases.

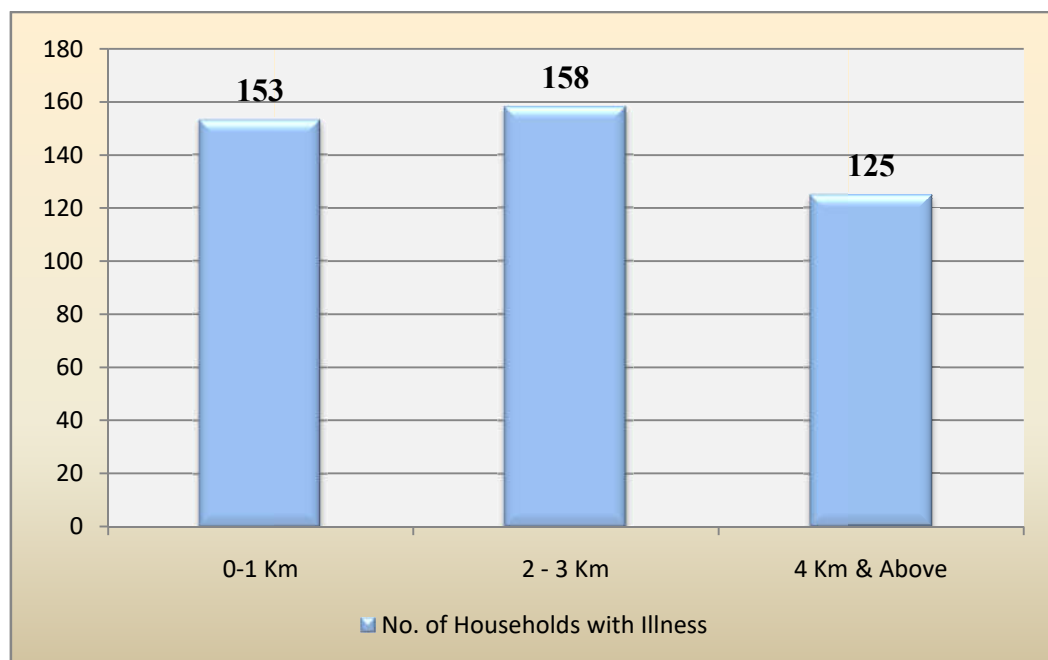
Figure 4.13: Distribution of Illness on MPCE (in ₹)



Source: Field Survey

Monthly Per capita Expenditure (MPCE) is one of the basic socio-economic characteristics considered as a proxy of income of the households. In this study, MPCE has been categorised into three i.e., i) Less than or equal to ₹1,500, ii) ₹ 1,501-3,000 and iii) ₹ 3,001 and above. The distribution of illness cases has been shown in Figure 4.13. It has been found that illness cases is maximum amongst households having less than or equal to ₹1,500 MPCE and minimum having ₹ 3,001 and above MPCE group. Total illness cases have been found 837, of which 542 illnesses constituting 64.8% belong to the MPCE of less than or equal to ₹ 1,500, while 269 illnesses constituting 32.1% belong to the MPCE ₹ 1,501-3,000. Similarly, 26 illness cases constituting 3.1% have found having MPCE of ₹ 3,001.00 and above.

Figure 4.14: Distribution of Sample Households of Illness by Distance

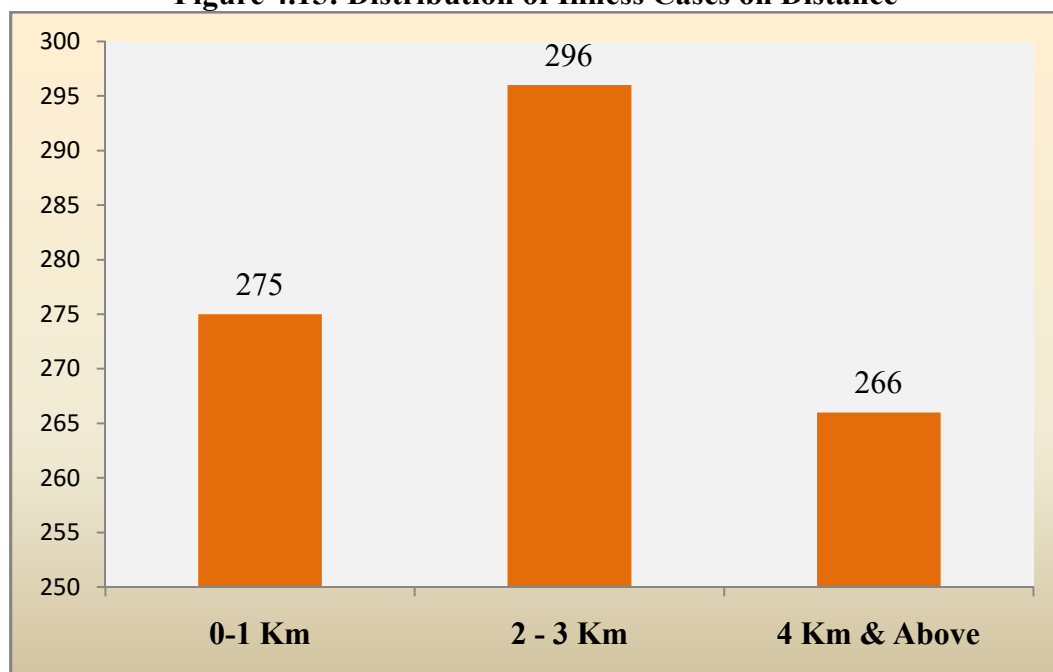


Source: Field Survey

It has been observed that distance is one of the significant factors to highlight the status of healthcare services. Distribution of sample households having reported illness cases based on distance has been presented in Figure 4.14. It has been found that 153 households having illness cases are from radius of 0-1 km, 158 households from 2-4 km, and 266 from 4 km and above respectively. It

has been observed that the highest cases are the 2-3 km while lowest in 4 km and above.

Figure 4.15: Distribution of Illness Cases on Distance



Source: Field Survey

The distribution of illness cases of sample households presented in Figure 4.15. It has been found that 275 illness cases have been found in the sample households laying 0-1 km distance. Similarly, 296 illness cases have been found in the sample households within 2-3 km distance, while 266 illness cases from the sample households located far away from the selected Primary Health Centres of 4 km and above. It has been observed that the highest cases are the 2-3 km while lowest in 4 km and above.

4.5 Availability of Sub Centre in Selected Villages

Basic health care facility of the selected villages has been presented in Table 4.18. It has been found that Sub-centre is the basic level of primary health care facility and these are available in 9 villages only out of the total 36 nos.

selected villages. Thus, 25% out of total selected villages have Sub-Centre. On the contrary, 27 villages constituting 75% do not have the Sub-Centre facility.

Table 4.18: Availability of Sub Centre Facility at Selected Villages

Block PHC	PHC	Villages having SC	Villages not having SC
Golagaon Block PHC	Koklabari SHC	1. Odalguri	1.Hajuwa 2. Banikuchi 3. Karhana 4. Karankata 5. Gorumara
	Golagaon PHC	2. Dubagaon 3. Laokhata	6. Dangarigaon 7. Theburmur 8. Dangarigaon NC 9. Bhutiapara NC
Jalah Block PHC	Nimua MPHC	4. Katajhar	10. Nimua 11. Sonpaira 12. Khagrabari 13. Jengengpara 14. Simlaguri
	Saudarvitha MPHC	5. Bartari 6. Chamuagati	15. Ramchartari 16. Barbari 17. Barfena 18. Sonaphuli
Tamulpur Block PHC	Katharbari SD	7. Hastinapur	19. Katharbari 20. Kalseni 21. Tebitola 22. Dangargaon no. 2 23. Goibari
	Kumarikata SD	8. Batiamari 9. Chesapani	24. Matangapar 25. Bherakhat 26. Singramari 27. Kumarpara
	Total Villages	Villages having SC	Villages without SC
	36	9(25%)	27(75%)

Source: Field Survey

Conclusion

From the analysis, it has been found that the literacy rate for sample households (78.63%) is comparatively higher than the literacy rate of Baksa district (74.54%) as per 2011 Census. Agriculture and allied activities has been the primary source of livelihood for the majority of households and that accounts 59%. Majority of the sample households have been found in the bottom level monthly consumption expenditure less than or equal to ₹ 3000.00 (Less than or

equal to ₹3,000) and just above the bottom level (₹3,001- 6,000) both in food and non-food items. Most of the sample households have safety drinking water source, septic tank for defecation, separate kitchen room, alternate cooking source of LPG and firewood, electricity connection which can be considered necessary facility for every household. However, it has been found that 5 households (1%) have been using river as their source of drinking water and 29 households (5.8%) using any other/open defecation. It has been found that 90.24% of sample households have electricity connection. Similarly, out of total sample households (502), it has been observed that the households not having separate cooking room/house accounts 7.4% and 9.76% household not having electricity connection respectively. Further, it has found that only 25% of villages are having Sub Centre facility within the village for their basic level of health care facilities.

Acute illness cases such as common ailments and communicable diseases have found to be prevailing under study area. However, of the total sample households having atleast one illness (436), 13percent households are having chronic illness. Out of the total illness cases 837, the illness cases of 484 (57.83%) have been found among females against the 353(42.17%) males. Thus, the illness cases reported have been found higher for females than their male counterpart. The illness cases have been found highest among illiterate persons.

Notes & References :

¹ http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/publication_reports/484_final.pdf

² https://censusindia.gov.in/data_products/library/indian_perceptive_link/census_terms_link/censusterms.html

³ <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/head%20of%20the%20household>

⁴ Government of India (2006). Household – population and housing characteristics. In: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. NFHS – II; pp. 21–51.

⁵ Morbidity, Healthcare and Condition of the Aged, NSS 60th Round (January-June 2004), National Sample Survey Organisation, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation Government of India, March 2006, Accessed from http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/publication_reports/507_final.pdf

⁶ Household Consumer Expenditure and Employment Situation in India 1995-96 NSS 52nd Round July 1995 - June 1996, National Sample Survey Organisation Department of Statistics Government of India, September 1998 Accessed from http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/publication_reports/440_final.pdf