

Concept Note
ON
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS
OF INDIGENOUS TRIBAL AND NON-TRIBAL INHABITANTS OF
LAVA, KOLAKHAM AND LOLEGAON

SESSION: 2016-17

Introduction

The subject Geography studies the man nature interaction over the earth surface. Thus, field visit is necessary for better understanding of the subject. It is very helpful for clear understanding of its theoretical part which we get in book. Its aids to interlink the facts with practical field and teaches its significance. Its builds interest of the students to get more about the places and world around us.

Objectives

- Field studies enable the investigator to comprehend the situation and processes in totality and at the place of their occurrence.
- Field surveys enhance our understanding about patterns and spatial distributions, their associations and relationships at the local level.
- Field surveys facilitate the collection of local level information that is not available through secondary sources.
- It is very important as it helps to gather required information so as the problems under investigation is studied in depth as per the predefined objectives.
- All the geographical skills are used in practical during field work. You get to learn and apply the skills of sampling, data collection, data processing, making questionnaires, map making, statistical techniques to derive results, observational skills and skills of interviewing etc.
- It is of great pedagogical importance as it lets students experience the geography of a particular region which theoretical texts can't do.
- It helps you understand the theoretical concepts better.
- It gives you a chance to enjoy a wide variety of environments and landscapes.
- Develops an understanding and sensitivity about the culture and people of field area. This may change your biased views about that community.

- And most importantly, it is enjoyable and gives you a great memorable experience.

Study Area

The present study area is situated in the Himalayan foothills of West Bengal. The Kalimpong town centre is on a ridge connecting two hills Deolo Hill and Durpin Hill at an elevation of 1247 metre. The river Teesta flows in the valley below and separate Kalimpong from the state Sikkim. The soil in the Kalimpong area is typically red in color. In present, it is the head-quarter of Kalimpong district. The study hamlets were situated in the lap of the nature. There were only few options to sustain their livelihood. They were directly dependent on the nature.

Itinerary

We started our journey from Malda Town railway station. After 4 hours of journey, we reached New Jalpaiguri railway junction. From there it took 3 hours to reach Lava, Kalimpong. The entire journey passed through different physiographic divisions from plain area to hilly tracts. We came contact with the tribal community of that area. We had tried to learn about the socio-economic condition of the community.

Participants Statistics: 45

No of Boys: 25

No of Girls: 16

No of Field Supervisor and Mentors: 4

Outcome

- Students got hands on training about how to conduct household survey with structured interview schedule.
- They could relate and compare their existing theoretical knowledge directly on the field.
- Experienced Himalayan topography on naked eyes.
- Developed the capacity to work with team members.
- Developed the capacity to lead the team.