

**VILLAGE SURVEY STUDY
VILLAGE: SOHIAN
BLOCK: JAGRAON
STATE: PUNJAB**



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Preface

Socio-economic change is a reflection of changing aspects of the society at large. As the saying goes 'change is the only constant in the universe'. Altering patterns have implications for future development, be it at the global, national, regional, state or village levels. To capture the socio-economic dynamics at any level, the availability of longitudinal panel dataset is the basic requirement. So, 'survey method' is basis of collection of this data, be it census survey or sample survey.

The purpose of this study was to undertake village survey in Punjab and to gauge the process, pattern and pace of changes taking place in rural society of the state.

Villages are the smallest units of inhabitation and are testing grounds for developmental schemes and policies. So, the village studies besides documenting the changes taking place in aspects like livelihood, infrastructure availability, income-expenditure pattern, agrarian scenario, demographic parameters etc., will also reflect the impact of development policies and schemes on rural areas specifically and society in general. Thus, a continuous village survey will be the step in this direction.

So, as per the design of the study, a base line survey of one selected village was to be carried out from different agro-climatic zones of the state and these villages are to be re-surveyed after a gap of three years.

In this light the 'Village survey study' of 'Sohian' village was undertaken from central zone of the state to set up as base line survey, which has brought out the basic profile of the village, implementation of development schemes along with issues and perceptions on various aspects.

Authors

Executive Summary

Survey of the village “Sohian” in Ludhiana district of Punjab was a baseline survey undertaken as a part of study designed by co-ordinating centre AERC, Visva Bharti. The village is located in central agro-climatic zone of the state having a humid sub-tropical climate. Average rainfall was about 587 millimetres per annum. The village was having an area of 588 hectares with combination soil. The communication and transport connectivity of the village was found to be good. The total population of the village was 2714 persons in 2019 with 46 per cent males. There were 48 per cent general category households and 45 per cent of schedules caste category. As far as religion is concerned, 96 per cent of the villagers were followers of ‘Sikh’ faith. About 82 per cent of the population was literate in the village. Farm and allied activities were the main occupation of 36 per cent households while others were engaged in non-farm activities. Nearly 86 per cent of the village area was under cultivation with paddy, wheat and potato as main crops. Majority of the agricultural operations were mechanised but custom hiring of machinery and implements was the common practice in the village. Village was having only ‘dairy’ as the livestock enterprise that too had declined overtime. There were mainly buffaloes and crossbred (HF) cows reared by the village households. There were two milk societies in the village but Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS) is located in the adjoining village. There is a post office, scheduled commercial bank, medical sub-centre, water tank with piped RO water supply, ration depot under Public Distribution System (PDS) in the village itself. All public welfare schemes launched by national/state Governments namely; MGNREGA, PM-Kisan, Old-age Pension, Widow Pension, Mid-day Meal, Anganwari etc. were operational in the village.

The second aspect of the village survey was based on group discussions (GD) with villagers. It was found that there has been no major natural shock during the past five years except for declining trend of rainfall. Similarly, no violent incident has been reported from the village. In personal shocks category, four suicides due to individual reasons were reported in the span of time. Villagers reported addiction to drugs/ alcohol as well as menace of stray animals as the two major problems faced by them. Motivating the addicts through lectures and dealing with stray animals by hiring private parties were their coping strategies.

The depth of ground water table was reported to have declined in the village as revealed during group discussions. Fertilizer usage in crops was found to have increased over time but pesticide application had remained almost stagnant. Farmers were mainly growing the Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) recommended crop varieties in the village. The

groups perceived cordiality in the village, improvement in village infrastructure but deterioration in economic condition of village households. There has been stagnation in agricultural condition (income) and increased incidence of drug abuse/alcoholism in the village.

The third part of the study pertains to information collected from 300 sampled households having 82 farm households and 218 non-farm households. The average family size of households was 4.71 and of unitary type. Average number of earners including pensioners was 2.06. Majority were male headed households of general category in farm families and scheduled caste category in non-farm families, respectively. Employment availability per annum was 227 days for the sampled households. There has been migration of 16 family members to various countries for study/work purpose during the years 2014 to 2019. In sampled households about 12 per cent members were found to be illiterate but 31 per cent have attended the school up to secondary level. Also, 67 per cent of the students in the sampled households were enrolled in government schools.

The beneficiaries of government schemes showed that 66 per cent of the sampled households were APL card holders and beneficiaries under PDS while 82 per cent of farm households were having KCC account. As far as non-farm households are concerned, 31 per cent among them were MGNAREGA card holders and 99 per cent were financially included in terms of having bank accounts. All the sampled households were having access to metered electricity supply, piped drinking water and sanitary toilets. LPG was the mode of cooking in 99 per cent of the sampled households. No food security issues were there in the households under study. Residence ownership was there for 299 households and cultivable land by all the farm households. As far as farm machinery is concerned, 39 per cent of farm households were owning tractors and other assets owned by these households included two/ four wheelers, refrigerators, television sets and some jewellery articles. Crop income was the major component of household income in farm households, while wage earning was in non-farm ones. Per household income as well as expenditure were higher in case of farm households vis-a-vis non-farm households. A saving amount of Rs. 26130 per household per annum was reported by 56 per cent of sampled households, whereas borrowing were to the extent of Rs. 644332 per borrower household i.e. 29 per cent of the sample households. Larger proportion of borrowed amount was for farming purpose and from institutional sources of finance. About 58 per cent of the studied households ranked their status as in medium category in village power structure. The sampled households were relying mainly on family and friends for decision making on various aspects.

The information on cultivation aspects brought out that average size of operational holding among the sampled households was 2.04 acres, with high proportion of leased-in land. Paddy was the main kharif crop while wheat and potato were grown in rabi season by the sampled farm households.

On the whole the sampled households perceived that economic as well as agricultural condition of them was more or less same as it was a decade ago. It was felt that rainfall pattern has become erratic but infrastructure in the village has shown some signs of improvement over time.

Employment availability, menace of stray animals, drug abuse and alcoholism were the major issues cited by sampled households and suggested to deal with these on priority basis.

CHAPTER-I

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

‘Village Surveys’ are the basis of socio-economic research as well as other aspects of rural economy. Village represents a unit comprising different communities bared by contiguous area of residence. But experience of each village will differ passing through same development process. India being largely rural based economy, villages are the testing grounds in the context of implementation of government policies and schemes. The surveys will bring out the role of these polices in terms whether they supported or hindered the process of development, thus having implications on future growth along with providing data for new polices.

1.1 Methodology

As per the methodology outlined by the coordinating centre AERC, Visva Bharti, village ‘Sohian’ was selected from the central zone of Punjab, out of three agro-climatic zones of the state. It was decided to study one village from each zone in one year. So, as per the parameters decided to select the village i.e moderate size of area and population, location, approachability, representative of the zone, ‘Sohian’ was found suitable for the study.

As per the design of the study, different schedules were designed to undertake the village survey. The first one was at the village level to collect information about overall status of the village i.e. background information, historical profile, demographic profile, livelihood/employment status, status of agriculture, infrastructure, developmental institutions, cultural profile and other amenities existing in the village.

Second aspect of the study was village survey based on ‘group discussion’ which covered exposure to natural shocks and their impact, coping strategies of the people to these shocks, adaptation strategies, government aid for disaster management and relief programmes.

Issues related to temporal changes in various spheres were also discussed in these group meetings like; depth of water table, population level, fertilizer and pesticide usage by the cultivators, change in varieties of the crops, cattle composition in the village, marketing channels and procurement system of agricultural commodities, farming system along with general perception of the villagers about the changes which have taken place in the village.

The third component of village survey was related to collection of information at the household level. The village being large in size, the study design restricted the number of households to be surveyed at 300. First part of the household collected information was about various socio-economic parameters like caste, religion, family type, occupation structure,

family size and composition, education profile of the family, socio-economic status of the family, ownership of assets, income and expenditure pattern, savings and borrowings status of the family, governance and policy issues and household's perception about changes in the village etc. Second part of the household survey was for cultivators and dealt with size of the operational holding, irrigation status, cropping pattern etc.

1.2 Review of Literature

Village surveys are carried out with varied objectives pertaining to rural societies in the world. Depending on the specific objectives, target population or sample is decided and survey is carried out using various modes i.e. personal interview, through mail, telephonic etc. Some of the surveys carried out in recent past were reviewed for the purpose of the study.

Seini and Nyanteng (2003) carried out a household survey on 'African food crisis-The relevance of Asian models for Village Diagnosis'. It was found that sale of food crops was generating 76 per cent of the household income. Very few households own the high value assets. On the basis of asset ownership, 41 per cent of households were ranked as very poor, 43 per cent as below average and only 15 per cent just average. Chemical fertilizers and hired labour were enlisted as significant inputs by the studied households.

Gangwar (2004) in a survey of farming systems in India pointed out that changing consumption and demand patterns, new trade opportunities have impacted the farming system and emphasis has shifted to horticulture, animal husbandry, milk, poultry and non-food crops.

In a survey related to crop diversification in Punjab, Singh and Sidhu (2004) brought out that declining diversity has serious repercussions in terms of natural resources degradation, ecological problems and growing income risk associated with these.

Bhakaran *et al* (2007) found in their village survey that average family size was higher in farm households than non-farm households and larger families were found to be living as joint family system. The caste composition showed that majority of the households were in category of other backward classes (OBC).

Bhoumik (2007) in a study regarding employment and earnings of rural households in Bengal, found that one third or less of rural households depended exclusively on the farm sector for their livelihood. The non-farm sector generated more employment per household than the farm sector.

Winter *et al* (2010) found in their survey that in general pattern of rural development, increase in per capita income was associated with decline in the importance of agriculture production and raise in the importance of other sources of income.

Toor *et al* (2014) undertook a survey of village 'Kalwan' in Rupnagar district of Punjab. Out of 505 households in the village, 109 were of landless category, followed by marginal farmers. The average family size was of six persons. The village was having a skewed sex ratio of 852 females per 1000 males. 55 per cent of the households were believers of Hindu religion. 56 per cent of households were of general category, while 26 per cent belong to scheduled castes. The village was an example of religious and cultural harmony. The soil was a mixture of sandy and clay types. Private tubewells were the main source of irrigation in the village. There was a post office as well as telephone exchange located in the village. The cropping pattern consisted of paddy and maize in kharif and wheat in the rabi season.

A baseline survey of farming system for nutrition study (2018) was conducted under MS Swaminathan Research Foundation in nineteen villages from two states of India i.e. Maharashtra and Odisha. The objective was to highlight the nutritional deficiencies of rural population. It was found that wheat was the main cereal consumed while consumption of fish and sea food was very low. Majority households were consuming milk and milk products on daily basis. The individual and household dietary diversity was better in Maharashtra than Odisha. The socio-economic and demographic parameters like family size and having home garden showed significant association with dietary diversity.

A village survey report on migrant labour undertaken in Nimapara block of Odisha (2018) found increasing migration trend from the state. Mostly young, unmarried, semi-educated males were found to be migrating. The migration cycle was 6 months to one year. About 41 per cent of the surveyed households had one or two persons migrated to other states. The major destination of migrants were southern states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka and were earning Rs. 4000 to 5000 per month on an average.

1.3 Objectives of the study: The specific objectives of the present study were:

1. To highlight the basic structure of village 'Sohian' in terms of social, cultural, economic, demographic and other features.
2. To analyse the existing structure along with changes taking place in various aspects of the village under study.
3. To bring out the perceptions of the people about problems faced pertaining to various government schemes and suggests policy measures to tackle these issues.

CHAPTER-II

VILLAGE PROFILE 'SOHIAN'

2.1 Background Information

2.1.1 Background Information about the survey

The ' Village Survey Study ' has been allocated to AERC, PAU, Ludhiana for the first time in 2019, The present study is a part of village studies conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Government of India through its Agro Economics Research wing which has a network of Agro-Economics Research Centres (AERC's) throughout the country. To undertake village studies on a continuous basis is a process of panel data generation on socio-economic parameters needed for formulation of agro- economic policies. As the present study is being conducted for the first time, so a base line survey has been carried out in the selected village.

2.1.2 About the Village

Punjab is considered an agriculturally developed state with about 34 per cent of contribution to national pool of food grains in 2018-19. The state is having cropping intensity of 190 per cent and 98.9 per cent of its cultivated area is under assured irrigation.

The state is having three distinct agro-climatic zones i.e. Sub-mountainous Zone (10% geographical area), Central Zone (62% of geographical area) and South Western Zone (28% of geographical area). So the Central zone is having the largest proportion of area and having the dominant paddy-wheat rotation. Thus, it was pertinent to select a village for the study which reflects the dominant characteristics of state agriculture. Considering this, a village named ' Sohian' falling in Jagroan block of Ludhiana district was selected for the study.

2.1.3 Historical Profile

The current village site was earlier an uninhabited area covered under forests. Ancestors of village migrated from Bhanbora-Bhanbori village falling in Malerkotla teshsil of Sangrur district. These people were mainly belonging to Jat Sikh community with ' Sohi' surname/ caste, so the village got the name 'Sohian' - a land belonging to 'Sohi' caste. Initially there was a tussle between new inhabitants and muslims of Sidhwan Kalan. Later on the Sikhs got hold of the area and settled here. Many Muslims families, who were living along with others, migrated to Pakistan at the time of partition in 1947 only few have been living here.

2.2 Village Profile

The village profile is discussed as under:

2.2.1 Location

Sohian is located 48 km towards west from district head quarters Ludhiana, 5 km from teshsil Jagraon and about 138 km from state capital Chandigarh. It is surrounded by Ludhiana towards North, Sidhwan Bet towards West, Raikot towards East and Jagroan towards South. **Geographically** it is located at an altitude/elevation of 237 meters above sea level. The latitude 31.724481 and longitude 75.666576 are the geo-coordinate of the Sohian. The village is located in the UTC 5.30 time zone and it follows Indian standard time (IST).

2.2.2 Political Position

As per 2009 statistics, this village has a ' Gram Panchayat ' headed by a Sarpanch (Head of village) who is an elected representative of village under the Panchyati Raaj act.

The assembly constituency of the village is ' Dakha ' and parliamentary constituency is 'Ludhiana' .

2.2.3 Climate

Sohian features a humid sub-tropical climate with three defined seasons; summer, rainy and winter. On average it sees roughly 890 millimeters (35.6 inches) of precipitation annually. The average annual temperature is 24.2 °C here. The warmest month of the year is June with an average temperature of 33.9 °C while January is the coldest month of the year with an average temperature of 12.6 °C. The difference in precipitation between the driest and the wettest month is 161 millimetres. The variation in annual temperature is around 21.3 °C.

2.2.4 Rainfall

Throughout the year, there is not much rainfall in the village. Average rainfall is about 587 millimetres per annum. The driest month is November with average rainfall of 4 millimetres.

2.2.5 Soil

Total area of the village is 594.5 hectares or 1469 acres. The soil in the village is combination soil. About one third of soil is sandy loam and rest is of clay loam type.

2.2.6 Communication

Village Sohian is having a Post office located here itself. But there is no telephone exchange. Cell phones are the main mode of communication. It is mostly available in every household. Majority people are well-versed in the usage of cell phones along with internet applications. There are three mobile towers installed in the village for better connectivity. Only 15-20 households were having landline telephone connections in the village.

2.2.7 Connectivity and Transport

Village ' Sohian ' has link road connectivity to state highway. The public bus service is available within 5-10 kilometres. Village has mini bus service which operates twice a day. Tempos/three wheelers are available as passenger transport service on regular basis.

The nearest railway station is Chownki Maan which is just 2.5 kilometres away. So far as private vehicles are concerned, all the households are having bi-cycles. Besides, 80 per cent of the households own scooters / motorbikes. Cars are owned by about 70 per cent of households and about 20-25 households are also having SUVs/ Luxury cars. In case of commercial vehicles about five households own trucks and 6 are having tempos (Table 2.1).

Table 2.1: Connectivity and transportation status of the village

Is The Village Situated on the main road (Yes/No)	No
If No then distance of main road from village (KM)	1.00
Link Road to the Village	Yes
Length of the Link Road (KM)	1.00
Bus Service (Yes/No)	Yes
Distance of the nearest bus stand / stop (KM)	0
If no then name of the nearest bus stand / stop	SOHIAN
Railway Station (Yes/No)	No
If no then distance of the nearest railway station (KM)	2.5
If no then name of the nearest railway station	Chowki Mann
Is there telephone service/Internet?	Yes
Post office (Yes/No)	Yes

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana



Village streets & roads

2.2.8 Natural Resources

There is no forest area except for the four acres under ‘Kamb’ trees which are used for making ‘Rudrakhsh’ beads. There is one pond in the village. Canal is at a distance of two kilometres from the village



Village pond

2.3. Demographic profile of village

Demographic profile of village ‘Sohian’ is explained under the following heads:

2.3.1 Population, Number of Households and Age-group wise distribution

The official figures showed that number of households in the village was 509 as per the census of 2011, but has declined to 495 in 2019. On the other hand, total population of the village has steadily increased from 2452 in 2001 to 2619 in 2011 and further to 2714 in 2019. Male population has decreased from 1370 in 2011 to 1242 in 2019 while number of females has increased from 1249 to 1472 during the same period. About 9.39 per cent of total population in 2011 was composed of children between the age group of 0-6 years. In this 54.5 per cent were male children and rest were the females. The scheduled caste population was found to be 34.71 per cent of total population in the village, with 471 of males and 438 females (Table 1.3.1).

Table 2.3.1: Demographic profile of village Sohian

Particulars	2011*	2019
No of households	509	495
Male	1370	1242
Female	1249	1472
Total population	2619	2714
Child (0-6)	246 (9.39)	-
Male	134 (54.47)	-
Female	112 (45.53)	-
Scheduled Caste	909 (34.71)	-
Male	471	-

Female	438	-
Total workers	858	-
Male	672 (78.32)	-
Female	186 (21.68)	-
Main workers	765 (89.16)	-
Marginal workers	93 (10.84)	-
Male	37 (39.78)	-
Female	56 (60.21)	-

Source: *Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

2.3.2 Caste/religion-wise distribution

The village was found to be having almost equal proportion of ‘general’ category (48%) as well as scheduled caste category (45%) households. About 4 per cent households belonged to other backward castes/backward caste (OBC/BC) category and 2.82 per cent comprised of scheduled tribes (STs) mainly belonging to ‘Gujjar’ community (Table 2.3.2.1).

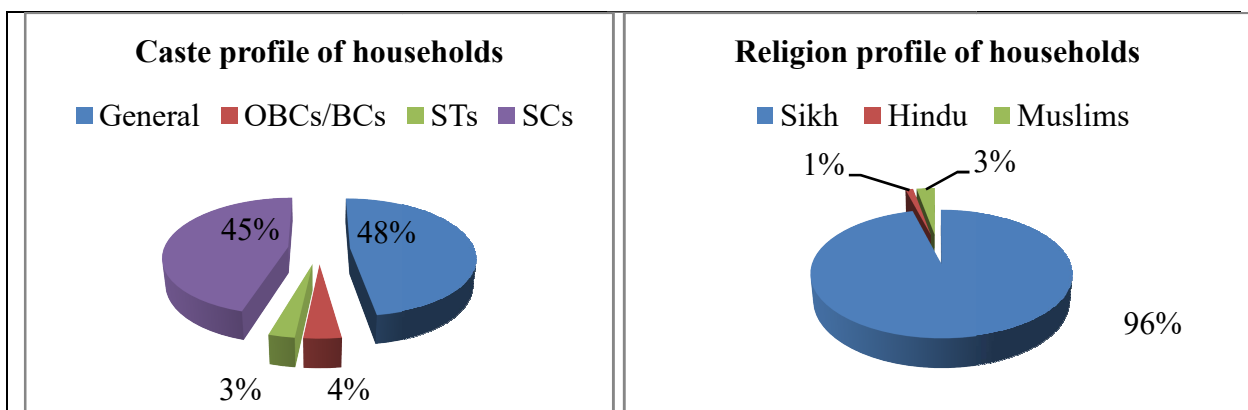
Table 2.3.2.1: Caste Profile of households in Sohian as per 2011 census

Caste	Total HHS
General	236 (47.69)
OBCs/BCs	20 (4.04)
STs	14 (2.83)
SCs	225 (45.45)

The village predominantly follows the Sikh religion, as about 96 per cent of the total households belonged to it irrespective of caste. There were only 6 Hindu households in the village and 14 (2.82%) Muslim households as well (Table 2.3.2.2).

Table 2.3.2.2 Religion profile of households as per 2011 census

Religion	Total HHS
Sikh	475 (96)
Hindu	6 (1.21)
Muslims	14 (2.83)



2.3.3 Literacy pattern of Sohian as per 2011 census-Education profile of the village

Education level is an important development criteria. As per the 2011 census the village was having a high literacy rate of 81.75 per cent. 85.76 per cent of total male population was literate and for females it was 77.40 per cent. Considering the importance of education, a government school was started in the village way back in 1954. This school is now having 16 teachers and 4 supporting staff members. There is also a private school in the village and one coaching centre also exists to help the students, who are weak in studies. Mid-day meals are being provided in both the schools (Table 2.3.3).

Table 2.3.3: Education profile of the village

Literacy Level	81.75%
Males	85.76%
Females	77.40%
Years of Establishment of School	1954
Number of Teachers	03+13=16
Supporting Staff	03+01=04
Mid day meal Schemes	Yes
Other Private Schools	01
Coaching Centers	01

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

2.3.4 APL/BPL-wise distribution

Poverty line is a benchmark used by the government of India to indicate economic disadvantage and to identify individuals & households in need of government assistance and aid (Table 1.3.4). The criteria is based on income of the household or bare minimum food requirement of an individual. Ration card is an official document issued by the state governments in India to the households that are eligible to purchase subsidized food grains from Public Distribution System (PDS). Earlier there used to be ration card classification like Above Poverty Line (APL) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) households. Under National Food Security Act (NFSA), two types of ration cards are there for the households. Priority Household (PHH) ration cards issued to eligible households and are eligible for 5 kilograms of foodgrain per member per month. Antyodaya Anna Yojna (AAY) ration cards are issued to 'poorest poor' households. Each household is entitled to 35 kilograms of food grains per month. So, in the village there were about 400 PHH card holders and 6 AAY card holders. All these 6 households belong to scheduled caste category. Except for food grains no other type of assistance in financial terms was received by these card holders.

Table 2.3.4: APL/BPL-wise distribution of Households in the village

Number of families Above Poverty Line (APL) card holders	400
Number of families Below Poverty Line (BPL) who have got houses under various development schemes (Nos)	6
Number of SC having the BPL card (Nos)	6
Number of Non-SC having the BPL card (Nos)	0
Number of SC BPL holders who have got loan during the current financial year (Nos)	0
Number of Non-SC BPL card holders who have got loan during the current financial year (Nos)	0

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana



Government ration depot

2.3.5 Incidence of birth and deaths in the village in 2019

The village had 13 children born in 2019, with 11 females and 2 males, while there were 14 deaths in the same year, equal number of males and females i.e 7 each (Table 2.3.5).

Table 2.3.5: Incidence of Births and Deaths in the Village

Year	Male	Female	Total
Birth			
2012	8	15	23
2019	2	11	13
Death			
2012	9	17	26
2019	7	7	14

2.3.6 Enrolment at different education level (Gender-wise)

The enrolment of students in different classes pertains to the Government school only, as private school was not willing to share the information. In the Government school, there were 316 students in all from nursery to XII standard. 49 students were enrolled in primary

section, with 27 (55%) boys and 22 (45%) girls. In senior section i.e. from VI to Xth, there were 66 boys (64.7%) and 36 girls with a total of 102 students. The school is having 3 streams of Arts, Science and Commerce for classes XI and XII. Maximum enrolment was in ‘Arts’, then equi proportionate in ‘Science’ and ‘Commerce’ branches. 105 students were there in class XI, while XII was having 60 students (Table 2.3.6).

Table 2.3.6: Students on roll in different standards

Standards	2019-20		
	Male	Female	Total
Nursery	07	06	13
I	05	01	06
II	02	02	04
III	04	03	07
IV	02	04	06
V	07	06	13
VI	07	05	12
VII	06	07	13
VIII	11	09	20
IX	25	05	30
X	17	10	27
XI			
Arts	49	20	69
Science	01	17	18
Commerce	07	11	18
XII			
Arts	25	15	40
Science	04	06	10
Commerce	03	07	10
Total	182	134	316

Source- Government Schools Sohian

2.4. Livelihood/employment and migration status

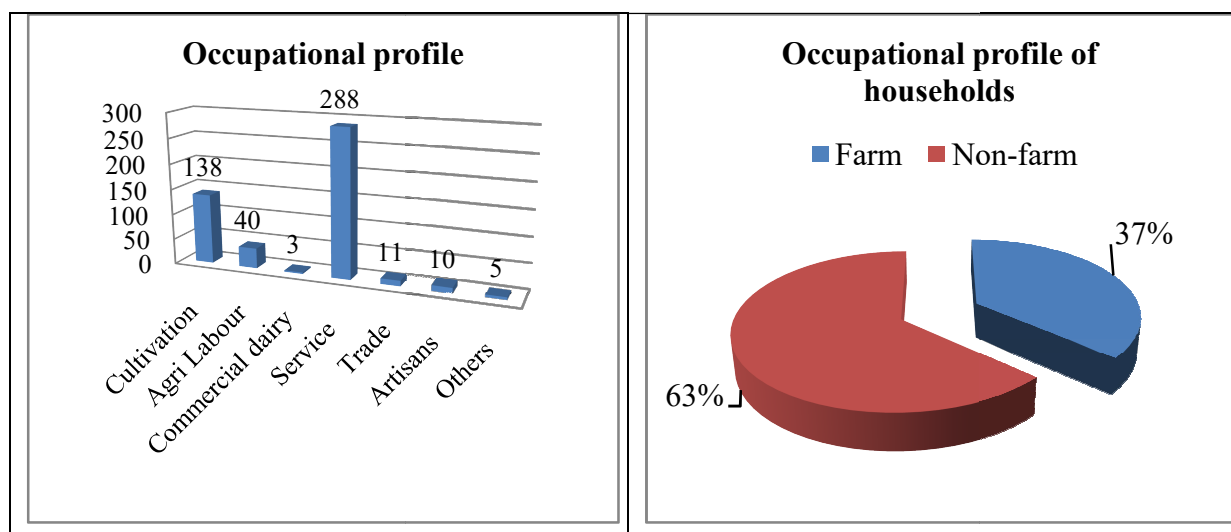
2.4.1 Occupation profile as per the main occupation of the household

The occupational profile of the total households has been given in Table 2.4.1 on the basis of main occupation. It was found that about 28 per cent were agricultural households engaged in cultivation of crops, while eight per cent were doing agricultural labour. Three households were having dairy enterprise as their main occupation. On the other hand 63 per cent of the total households were engaged in non-farm activities. Service, may be in private sector or government sector, was the main occupation of 58 per cent households. Only two per cent of the households were engaged in petty trades/shops and another two per cent were doing caste based occupation/artisans like jeweller, carpenter etc. five households were

undertaking other works like; running of tempo/truck/rickshaw etc. So, villagers were predominately engaged in non-farm activities and about 37 per cent were having farm based activities as their main occupation.

Table 2.4.1: Occupational profile according to main occupation

Particulars	Number HHs	Percent
Farm		
Cultivation	138	27.88
Agricultural Labour	40	8.08
Commercial dairy	3	0.61
Sub-total	181	36.57
Non-farm		
Service (Private, government, pensioners etc.)	288	58.18
Trade	11	2.22
Artisans	10	2.02
Others	5	1.01
Sub-total	314	63.43
Total	495	100.00



2.4.2: Gender-wise distribution of workers

About 33 per cent of the total population of village 'Sohian' was classified as 'workers as per the census of 2011. In this 78 per cent were male workers and rest were females. In this classification 89 per cent were categorised as 'main workers' and 11 per cent were 'marginal workers'. In marginal workers category, female workers were found to be comprising about 60 per cent. So, male were majority 'main workers' and females were the 'marginal workers' in the 'workers' classification (Table 2.4.2).

Table 2.4.2: Gender-wise distribution of workers in village Sohian as per 2011 census

Particulars	2011
Total workers	858 (32.76)
Male	672 (78.32)
Female	186 (21.68)
Agricultural workers	433 (50.47)
Non-agricultural workers	425 (49.53)
Main workers	765 (89.00)
Marginal workers	93 (11.00)
Male	37 (39.78)
Female	56 (60.22)

2.4.3 Employment in the industrial units in the village

The village under study was having majority households engaged in non-farming activities, but only few of these were employed in industrial units. Three persons were working in Khadi and village industrial unit while 18 were found to be employed in small industrial units located near the village (Table 2.4.3).

Table 2.4.3: Employment in industrial units in village Sohian as per 2011 census

(Nos)

No of Khadi & Village Industry Units	2
Employment under khadi & village	3
Small Scale Industry Units	2
Employment under small scale industry	18
Large Scale Industry Units	0
Employment under large scale industry	0

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

2.4.4 Migration status of the village

Migration either within the country or abroad has become a common practice in modern times. In all 15 families were reported to have gone abroad in last 7-8 years, but none was found donating anything for the village. 15 children have gone to Canada/Australia for study purpose. Five families were engaged in the Government/ private services in various parts of the state and two were doing some business activities. Two families have also settled down in nearby towns after their retirement. Ten families of the village were also undertaking agriculture in different parts of the state (Table 2.4.4).

Table 2.4.4: Migration Status of the Village

Purpose of migration	No. of Households	Place (Abroad/ India)
Services	05	Jagraon/ Punjab
Trade	02	Jagraon
After Retirement Settlement	02	Jagraon
Study	15	Canada/Australia
Any other (Agriculture)	10	Punjab
Number of families whose members have gone abroad (Nos)	15	-
Are they donating money to village? (Yes/No)	No	-
If yes then donated amount by them (Lacs)	Nil	-
Amount donated by them during the last five years (Lacs)	Nil	-

2.5. Agricultural status of the village

2.5.1 Land Utilization Pattern in the village

Total geographical area of the village is 1469 acres. Out of this about 202 acres are under non-agricultural use. So, about 1267 acres of land is under cultivation. The village is not having any fallow land and no area is under pastures. On four acres of community land some tree plantations are in existence and can be called forest land. Whole of the cultivated area is under irrigation and source of irrigation is tube wells i.e. use of ground water for majority area while about 98 acres is having canal irrigation. Tube wells both with electric and diesel engines were the main source of irrigation (Table 2.5.1).

Table 2.5.1: Land utilization pattern and irrigation status of the village, 2018-19

	(Acres)
Total geographical area	1469
Area under agricultural use	1267
Area under non-agricultural use	202
Area under forest/pastures	4
Waste land	-
Net irrigated area	1267
Gross irrigated area	2546
Area under canal irrigation	98
Area under Tube well irrigation	1169
Area under alkaline	195
Soil Erosion	0
Affected by floods (Crops + Others)	0
Level of Ground Water Irrigation water (Feet)	32
Water suitable for irrigation	Yes

Water unfit for irrigation with reasons	-
Means of irrigation Electrically operated tube wells and pumping sets (No.)	116
Means of irrigation - Tube wells and pumping sets powered by diesel engines (No.)	195
Means of irrigation - Additional bores (No.)	201

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

2.5.2 Cropping pattern in the village

As the village is lying in the central zone of the state, so cropping pattern mainly pertains to paddy in the *Kharif* season and wheat crop in the *Rabi* season. Also, 112 acres of gross cropped area was under fodder crops. The whole area under paddy and wheat crops was under high yielding varieties (HYVs). As far as vegetables are concerned mainly potato is grown on 30 acres. No area was reported under oilseeds or orchards in the village (Table 2.5.2).

Table 2.5.2: Cropping pattern of the village 2017-18

	(Acre)
Wheat	1209
Rice(Paddy)	1168
Cotton	0
Sugarcane	0
Maize	5
Other cereals	15
High yielding variety wheat area	1209
High yielding variety Rice(Paddy)	1168
High yielding variety maize	5
Oil seeds	0
Other crops – Vegetables	30
Other crops – Non vegetables	7
Fodder	112
Other crops – Area under orchards	0
Toria - Seasonal crops	0
Sunflower - Seasonal crops	0
Medicinal crops	0
Other crops specify with details	0

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

2.5.3 Average yield of principal crops

Not much variation has been witnessed in the major crops being grown in the village during last three years. It was almost consistent except for decline in potato yield during 2018-19 (Table 2.5.3).

Table 2.5.3: Average yield of principal crops (q/acre)

Crop	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Wheat	18	21	19
Paddy	27	28	27
potato	100	110	90

2.5.4 Average value of input factors

Cost of inputs has a bearing on profitability of the crops. Cost of cultivation has increased over time due to rise in the value of inputs. The labour charges for male workers were varying between Rs. 300-450 per day depending upon activities, for females it was Rs. 250 per day. Custom hiring is a common practice in the village. So, tractor charges were found to be Rs. 1000 per hour on an average. It varied with different implements like with cultivator it was Rs 700 per hour, with rotavator Rs 1300 per hour and with disc harrow Rs 1000 per hour. Leasing operations were also undertaken by the farmers. The prevailing land rent in the village was found to be Rs. 50000-52000 per acre per annum (Table 2.5.4).

Table 2.5.4: Average value of input factors

Inputs	Rate
Labour charges (Rs/day)	
Male	300-450
Female	250
Tractor charges (Rs/hour)	1000
Land rent (Rs/acre)	50000-52000

2.5.5 Census of implements and machinery-Agricultural implements and machinery in the village

Punjab is having capital intensive agricultural operations, majorly being mechanised. But this village was having majority of small land holders, with less number as medium and only few in large farm category. So, owning of machinery was found to be less in this village and custom hiring of machinery was a common practice. In all, there were 48 tractors in the village and 30 cultivators were there. Farmers were having only small implements like plough and small tools used in cultivation (Table 2.5.5).

Table 2.5.5: Census of implements and machinery in the village as per 2011 census**(Nos)**

Tractors	48
Cultivators	30
Reapers	0
Harvester / Combine	0
Tractor Combine	1
Bio Gas Plants	0

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

2.5.6 Livestock resources -Live stock in the village

The only livestock enterprise found in the village was dairy. There were 3 commercial dairy units in the village along with households having 2-3 cattle for self milk consumption (Table 2.5.6).

Table 2.5.6: Livestock recourses, 2017-18

Commercial Dairy Units (Nos)	3
Poultry Units (Nos)	0
Bee Keeping Units (Nos)	0
Bee Keeping boxes (Nos)	0
Bee Keeping number of persons employed (Nos)	0

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

2.6. Development Institutions and infrastructure

2.6.1 Panchayat

The village is having a panchyat since the time of independence. Baba Kishan Singh was the first unanimously elected ‘Sarpanch’ of the village. After his death, his son Ram Singh became ‘Sarpanch’. Now there are nine wards in the village, and Panchyat is having nine ‘Panches’ and headed by Sarpanch Mrs. Kuldeep Kaur. Five members are from general category and 4 are from scheduled caste category with 50 per cent representation of females (Table 2.6.1).

Table 2.6.1: Panchayat income expenditure 2017-18

Panchayat (Yes/No)	Yes
If No, name of the village Panchayat to which it is attached	-
Income by Own Means (Lacs)	7.25
Income by Government Grant (Lacs)	1.91
Panchayat Expenditure Development Works (Lacs)	0
Panchayat Expenditure other Works (Lacs)	0.06
Panchayat Expenditure Development Works 1 (Details)	Drainage
Panchayat Expenditure Development Works 2 (Details)	Nil
Panchayat Expenditure Development Works 3 (Details)	Other

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

2.6.2 Cooperative Society and Milk Centres

The village is having a cooperative agricultural society since 1926. But at the time of re-organization of cooperatives, it was merged with the society of neighbouring village ‘Pabbian’ in 1978. Presently society is being run by two employees i.e. a secretary and one sewadar. There are 181 cultivators and 60 non-cultivators as members enrolled from the village ‘Sohian’. The society is a multipurpose society, catering to not only credit needs, but

also providing inputs like fertilizers, diesel, seeds pesticides along with machinery and implements.

Table 2.6.2: Cooperative and other institutions

Co-operative Societies (Yes/No)	Yes
Agricultural Co-operative Societies (No.)	0
Other Co-operative Societies (No.)	1
Agricultural co-operative Societies Membership (No.)	0
Other Co-operative Societies Membership (No.)	0
Milk collection centre (Yes/No)	Yes
Govt.Depot (All Type) (Yes/No)	Yes
Cold Store (Yes/No)	No
If No Then Distance From The Nearest Cold Store (KM)	5.00
Godown (Yes/No)	No
The nearest Godown (KM)	5.00

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

The society is actively engaged in custom hiring of tools and implements. It is having an inventory of 35 implements worth Rs. 14.70 lakhs. This includes Happy seeder, rotavator, potato digger, potato planter, tractor, two generators etc (Table 1.6.2).

There are two milk societies located in the village. One is co-operative and the other is of private milk giant ‘Nestle’. Over the years with decreasing dairy enterprise in the village, the milk procurement which was about 5000 litres daily in 2012-13 has declined to only 1000 litres per day in 2018-19 (Table 2.6.2).



Primary Agricultural Co-operative Society

2.6.3 Schools

There are three schools located in the village. Primary school was established in the year 1954, which was later upgraded to High school in 1980 and then Senior Secondary School in 2002. Now there are two Government schools in the village, one is 'Primary' and the other is 'Senior Secondary'. At present there are 267 students in the Senior Secondary School, and is having three streams of 'Arts', 'Science' and 'Commerce'. The school is having 'Mid day meal' scheme as well as 'Scholarship scheme for SC students and meritorious students as per the Punjab School Education Board provisions. There are 13 teachers in this school. In the primary school there are 49 students, 27 males and 22 females, being taught by three teachers.

There is also a private school named 'Satya Bharti School' in the close vicinity of the village, established by business corporate 'Bharti Group'.



Schools in the village

2.6.4 Financial institutions

Bank

There is one branch of State Bank of India providing banking services to the village. Post de-monetization, the number of zero balance accounts has increased in the bank.



Bank in the village

2.6.5 Social and other organizations

Table 2.6.3: Social and other organizations

Police Station / Police Post (Yes/No)	No
If no then distance of nearest Police Station / Police Post (KM)	13.00
Nearest Police Station/Police Post	CHOKIMAAN
Library / Reading Room (Yes/No)	No
Sports Stadium (Yes/No)	No
Cultural Center (Yes/No)	No
Semi Govt. Rest Houses (Yes/No)	No
Govt. Rest Houses (Yes/No)	No
AAANGANWADI (Yes/No)	Yes
Dharamshala / Janjghar (Yes/No)	Yes
If yes then for SC (Nos)	1
If yes then for non-SC (Nos)	1
No. of Bank (Nos)	1
Total length of the streets (Meters)	16668.00
Total length of the Bricks/Concrete streets (Meters)	16668.00
Total length of the drains (Meters)	8050.00
Total length of the cemented drains (Meters)	8020.00

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

2.7 Village Infrastructure

2.7.1 Market / Hat

No organized market or hat was found to be existing in the village except for scattered kirana shop, one shop dealing in clothes and three medicine shops. Also, no particular mandi is being held in the village.

Table 2.7.1: Market information of the village

Sub Yard (Yes/No)	No
If no then the distance of the nearest sub yard (KM)	5
Purchase Centers (Yes/No)	No
Market Committee (Yes/No)	No
Focal Point (Yes/No)	No
If no then distance from the nearest focal point (KM)	3

2.7.2 Post office

The village is having a post office in existence since 1904. Earlier it was located in the village primary school.

It is a branch office now. The related head post office for this branch office is at Jagraon and the related sub post-office is at Mann post-office. ‘Sohian Dak Ghar’ offers all the postal services like delivery of mails and parcels, money transfers, banking, insurance and retail services. It also provides other services including passport applications, P.O. box distribution and delivery services in Sohian village.

**2.7.3 Health facilities****Post office in the village**

There is one medical sub- centre located in the village. It is having one nurse two ASHA workers and one laboratory assistant catering to ailing population of the village. There are three medicine/drug stores in the village. Besides, the Government sub-health centre, there are three private registered medical practitioners in the village. There is also one veterinary dispensary, but the facility is not on regular basis.

Table 2.7.2: Medical institutions in the village

ALLOPATHIC Sub Centre (Yes/No)	Yes
Distance of nearest sub centre (KM)	0
ALLOPATHIC Dispensary (Yes/No)	No
Distance of nearest dispensary (KM)	4
ALLOPATHIC Primary Health Centre (Yes/No)	No
Distance from nearest mini PHC (KM)	5
Community Health Centre (Yes/No)	No
If no then distance from nearest community health centre (KM)	5

Dental clinic (Yes/No)	No
Institute in which dental clinic situated	PHC
Ayurvedic /Unani (Yes/No)	No
Distance from nearest Ayurvedic / Unani clinic (KM)	5.00
HOMEOPATHIC CLINIC (Yes/No)	No
Distance from nearest Homeopathic clinic (Nos)	5.00

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana



Village dispensary

Table 2.7.3: Working medical staff in the village

No. of Degree Holder doctors (Nos)	0
Registered Medical Practitioners (RMP) (Nos)	0
No. of Mid Wives (Nos)	1
No. of Unregistered Medical Practitioners (Nos)	0
Local Bone Experts (Nos)	0
Any other medical practitioners(Type) (Yes/No)	Yes
Any Other Medical Practitioners Details	3

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

Table 2.7.4: Veterinary Hospitals

Veterinary Dispensary (Yes/No)	Yes
Veterinary Hospital (Yes/No)	No
If no then distance from nearest Veterinary Hospital (KM)	5.00
VILLAGE LOCAL ANIMAL EXPERTS (Nos)	0
Number of animals according to the last animal census (Nos)	1567

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

2.7.4 Electricity

The whole village is having proper electricity connections with metered power supply.

2.7.5 Drinking water supply

Drinking water is supplied in the village through the Government tube well fitted with RO system. All households are having tap water supply and use of hand pumps was not found.

Table 2.7.5: Drinking water supply

Level Of Ground Water Drinking Water (Feet)	32
Is the village identified under the villages having scarcity of water (Yes/No)	Yes
Is the village covered under any water supply scheme (Yes/No)	Yes
Is the water supply tank situated in this village (Yes/No)	Yes

Source: Economic and statistical organization (ESO), Ludhiana

**Water Tank**

2.7.6 PDS

Public distribution system is operational in the village. One ration depot is there. A flour mill owner is the distributor of wheat under the system. There are 400 PHH card holders and 6 AAY card holders in the village.

2.8 Cultural profile of the village

2.8.1 Fairs and festivals

Residents of the village celebrate all the Punjabi festivals like Lohri, Vaisakhi, Gurburbas, Diwali, Rakhi etc.with great enthusiasm. ‘Dashmi’, 10th day of lunar cycle is celebrated in a nearby historical gurudwara every month.

2.8.2 Temples/ mosques/ gurudwaras

Majority population of the village belongs to the Sikh religion. About 10-12 (as per 2011 census only 6) households follow the ‘Hindu religion and 15 households belonging to ‘Gujjar’ tribe follow Islam. There are 2 ‘Gurudwaras’, one temple and one mosque in the village. Two places belong to Muslim peer (samadh) here.



Village Gurudwara

2.8.3 Dress and ornaments

The dress code followed by the villagers is mainly Punjabi. Men wear kurta-pyjamas and women dress up in Punjabi suits. Younger generation also wears pants/jeans and shirts along with traditional attire.

2.8.4 Languages

Residents mainly speak in Punjabi language. People also interact with migrant labour in Hindi.

2.8.5 Food Habits

People take simple Punjabi cuisine of dal/sabji and roti made from wheat flour. Seasonal homemade pickles are relished along with food. In winters *makki di roti* along with *sarson da saag* is eaten more frequently. Consumption of rice is less in the households. With changing times, people also indulge in food items like burgers, noodles etc.

2.8.6 Caste system of rituals/ untouchability

People belonging to different religions / castes follow their own rituals, but by and large Punjabi culture is same. There was no issue of untouchability in the village. No inter-caste marriages have been reported in the village.

2.8.7 Dowry system

This system is being followed by the villagers, though as per their financial capability. There is no restriction on wedding spending, though Panchyat has directed the death ceremonies to be held in a simple manner.

2.8.8 Housing & Settlements

By and large people of the village live in Pucca houses except for the Gujjar community. The families of this scheduled tribe live in Kaccha huts.

2.8.9 Migration

With changing times, people have started migrating to other towns of state/ country as well as abroad in search of greener pastures. Residents have moved out due to their service postings, after retirement settlement or for study purpose. In line with trend in Punjab, younger generation of the village is mainly migrating to Canada/ Australia/ New Zealand for study purpose. Members of scheduled caste households have also gone to Arab countries like UAE, Iraq and are employed in manual jobs.

2.8.10 Political establishment & openness

People have individual affiliations to national / regional parties; otherwise, there is no major political establishment in the village. People have freedom to follow their political ideologies and are under no pressure from any group.

2.9. Others

2.9.1 Library

There is no public or private library in the village except for the one existing in senior secondary school.

2.9.2 ICDS Centre-Anganwari Centers

There are three ICDS-Anganwari centres in the village; the first was set up in 1975. About 114 students are presently enrolled in these centres.

2.9.3 Tube wells / Piped water supply

All households are having piped water supply drawn from village tube well.

2.9.4 Agro processing (Mills/firms/factories)

No major agro-processing unit is existing in the village except for the three flour mills. Three households have commercial dairy units and are engaged in basic processing of milk (boiling and chilling) and then selling it to 'Nestle'.

2.9.5 Play grounds

There is one big play ground in the village. Youngsters mainly boys enjoy a variety of games there like cricket, Handball, Kabbadi etc.

2.9.6 Illegal activities

No illegal practice/ activity has been reported by the villagers except for minor disputes. The people of the village are commonly indulged in alcohol consumption.

2.9.7 Government Schemes

All the main Public welfare schemes launched by the national / state government are operating in the village like; MGNREGA (about 200 card holders), Anganwari, Mid-day Meal Scheme, Old Age Pension, Widow Pension, Ashrit-Pension, Atta-dal Scheme, Cycle distribution to students etc.

2.10 Uniqueness of the village/Famous Personalities

No big names belonging to any field were quoted by the villagers. Only famous person was S. Gopal Singh, a freedom fighter and an associate of former Chief Minister of Punjab S. Partap Singh Kairon.

CHAPTER-III

GROUP DISCUSSION

3.1 Village Information based on Group Discussion

AERC Ludhiana has selected village 'Sohian' falling in central zone of Punjab for the first village survey study undertaken in 2019-2020. The village is located in 'Sudhar' administrative block in Ludhiana district of the state.

Some aspects of the village survey study were highlighted through group deliberations held in the village. The first aspect discussed was the shocks born by the village and the people during the last five years. Shock is normally considered as something having sudden or violent impact on the surroundings. It can be stunning/ surprising but more so in a negative sense. These can be categorised under different heads; like natural shocks e.g. floods, cyclones, heat/cold waves etc. Manmade or personal shocks like violence, robbery, suicides etc., circumstantial shocks like loss of job, price crash etc.

It was found in the study that the selected village has not witnessed any type of natural shock during last five years except for scanty rainfall twice in this span of time. It happened during 2015 and 2019. Heat wave during May-June caused decline in milk yield and some loss to dairy farmers. So, the natural parameters of the village have remained more or less stable.

On the other hand, the villagers have come across certain personal shocks during this time. Four residents of the village have committed suicide during past five years. The reason for this was traced to domestic disputes leading to mental stress. There has been no violent incident in the village during last five years. Villagers have faced six robbery incidents mainly snatchings during this period. According to them, it was the handiwork of outsiders. Despite lodging of FIRs with the police and investigations thereafter, the culprits could not be traced.

No major accident, barring occasional farm fires during rabi season and no outbreak of epidemic except COVID-19 was reported by the villagers. There has been no loss of job during the span of study. As far as employment is concerned, 125 villagers working in nearby factories faced temporary unemployment due to COVID-19, when these were shut due to imposed lockdown. With the unlocking of units, they have resumed their jobs.

The main cropping pattern of the village includes cultivation of paddy-wheat and paddy-potato-wheat. As wheat and paddy are procured under assured pricing i.e. MSP, no marketing shock has been observed during last five years. However, potato crop has witnessed price crash three to four times during this period.



Group Discussion (GD) in the village



Village Households Data Collection

The major problem being faced by village is incidence of drug abuse and alcoholism. A significant chunk of population, especially male members were reported to be addicted to either of these. The most vulnerable section of village to these vices was labour class. These are low earning people and spent a significant proportion of their income on drugs. Village panchayat has arranged three lectures by de-addiction centres in the village to create awareness about the vices and coping strategies, but the problem still persists on a large scale despite door to door counselling. Few people leave the addiction with treatment, but many others join the band wagon. Majority addicts are addicted to opium and alcohol.

Another major problem reported by the villagers was regarding stray animals. These animals cause major damage to standing crops. The panchayat was unable to resolve the issue. The agricultural households have contracted some private party on Rs. 1.5 lakh per annum for the past three years to take away these animals from the village.

3.2 Coping strategies to the shocks

- The erratic i.e. deficit rainfall leads to increased use of tube wells causing higher input cost due to more diesel consumption. The village is having only 98 acres of land under canal irrigation system.
- So far as snatching incidents were concerned, they have sought help of police, but with no result so far.
- Some cultivators have opted for contract farming of potato crop to cover the price risk while others are still dependent on market prices.
- People are trying to motivate the addicted villagers through counselling, lectures, de-addiction treatment to come out of it.
- For the problem of stray animals they are trying to manage on their own as no help is being provided by the administration. So, they are pooling their funds and paying private group of individuals to tackle the issue.

3.3 Village Information (Group Discussion II)

Group discussions were also held with villagers to highlight some vital aspects of the Village and changes, if any have happened in these.

1. **Depth of ground water table in the village:** It was reported to be at 85-90 feet in 2019. However, five years back it was about 60 feet. So, during last year's a major decline was reported in ground water table of the village. Dependence on tube wells for irrigation purpose could be the major cause coupled with scanty rainfall witnessed twice during the span.
2. **Number of ponds, dug wells, tube wells and deep tube wells:** There is one pond in the village which is under renovation now. The work has been initiated to construct three dug wells out of it. However, number of tube wells has remained same during the last five years but majority of the farmers have deepened the bore wells due to falling ground water table.
3. **Reported pollution of ground water/surface water:** Ground water has been polluted due to occurrence of discharge from 'soap factory' located in close vicinity of the village.

4. **Crop-wise NPK use:** Increased cropping intensity as well as whole area under High Yielding Varieties (HYV's) has led to depletion of soil health. This has necessitated higher doses of chemical fertilizers. Farmers in the village indulge in more fertilizer use to retain the productivity of crops. In paddy crop farmers were using between 90-135 kg/acre of urea and 35-50 kg/acre of DAP. The usage of Potash (K) was found to be nil. On the other hand, the recommended dose of urea for this crop is 90 kg/acre, DAP 27 kg/acre and MOP is 20 kg/acre (if deficiency as per soil tests report).

For wheat crop, the cultivators were found to be using 135 kg of urea per acre and 70-80 kg of DAP per acre, while the recommendation is 110 kg urea and 55 kg DAP per acre.

Urea was used to the extent of 112 kg/acre in potato crop, DAP 200 kg/acre and MOP 50 kg/acre. The recommended dose of fertilizer for this crop was 165 kg of Urea, 155kg of Single Superphosphate and 40 kg of Muriate of Potash per acre. Thus, it was found that fertilizer usage was on the higher side than the recommended doses for the main crops grown in the village.

5. **Pesticide use in crops and awareness about farm yard or other organic manure use:** Villagers reported an increased usage of pesticides in almost all the crops except wheat. In wheat crop, earlier there used to be more sprays of insecticides/pesticides, but now the number has come down to two, mainly of herbicides to check the incidence of *Phalaris Minor* as well as use of pesticides to control attack of Jassid/Aphid. However, in case of paddy, the number of sprays has increased to four on average from 2-3 earlier. This generally includes two of insecticides and one each of herbicide/fungicide. For potato crop, four sprays were reported by the cultivators while earlier there use to 2-3. Though no increase in incidence of insect/pest was reported but pesticide use has increased over time which may due to more development of resistance in weeds/pests etc. People are well aware of benefits of FYM to improve the soil fertility, but over the years its usage has declined due to less availability. As discussed earlier, the livestock population has declined drastically in the village during the last 5-7 years. So, availability of FYM has also declined and its price has increased over time.
6. **Average carbon content in the soil:** The carbon content in the soil is an indicator of soil fertility. In the selected village it was reported in the range of 0.510-0.630 per cent, which falls in the medium category and is considered good for production, productivity of the crops.

- 7. List of varieties of major crops cultivated in the village and changes in the varieties sown:** Ongoing research is a part and parcel of agricultural development. Same is true for crop varieties. Depending on the new breakthroughs in technology, new varieties are being developed in response to variables like water requirement, pest resistance, maturity duration etc. Cultivators keep on adopting these new varieties on the recommendation of agricultural institutions, but sometimes also go for adoption of non-recommended ones due to market compulsion or peer influence. In case of paddy crop, majority area was under Pusa-44, non-recommended variety earlier. But now the main varieties grown are PR121, PR 126 and PR-127, all recommended by Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana. Similarly, in Wheat crop the earlier varieties were PBW 343, HD 2329 and WL 711. But now the area has come under HD 2967 and HD 3086 which are also recommended ones.
- In case of potato crop, earlier ‘Kufri Jyoti’ variety was cultivated on large area, but now it is mainly ‘Kufri Pukhraj’ which is recommended by the PAU and ‘Diamond’ a non-recommended variety.
- 8. Proportion of indigenous and improved cattle in the village:** Major proportion of cattle comprised of buffaloes in the village. All these are of ‘Murrah’ breed. All cows are cross-bred (HF) and no ‘desi’ breed was presently reared in the village.
- 9. Marketing and procurement system in the village:**
- Crops:** Wheat and paddy crops are being procured by the state/central agencies from mandies as per procurement system prevalent. About five per cent of the wheat crop also goes through direct or farm gate purchase by individual buyers through personal contacts. Also five per cent of wheat is being sold to the flour mill running in the village. Potato crop is being sold to 2-3 private companies under contract or private traders purchase it.
- Milk:** There exist three dairies in the village comprising of one co-operative and two private. These procure about 60 per cent of the milk produced in the village. Rest 40 per cent is sold to milk vendors in the village.
- 10. Land Tenure System:** No land tenure system is prevalent in the state. Farmers are charged Rs. 50 per acre for 6 months for use of canal water only.
- 11. Major farming systems:** Major farming system prevalent in the village was found to be peasant or family system. No co-operative or organic farms were there. Contract farming was being undertaken only in case of potato crop by few farm households.

12. Mass/ Group Perceptions:

- a) Villagers reported no biasedness on the basis of caste/ gender/political affiliation of individuals. Though there are two groups in the village but are having more or less cordial relations.
- b) Weather parameters have remained more or less stable in the village during the last five years. But water/air pollution has increased due to coming up of factory units especially the soap factory in close vicinity of the village. Some people reported increased throat infections/irritation due to this.
- c) There was found no increase in incidence of diseases in the village. The group told about no change in medical expenditure in the village during last five years.
- d) The villagers felt that economic condition of the people had deteriorated over time. The shrinking profit margins due to increased cost of cultivation but more or less stable prices of major crops is the reason behind it. Trend of spending more on luxury vehicles with bank credit has increased the burden of indebtedness on the natives. Though it was reported that expenditure on social ceremonies has declined in recent years, as village panchayat have passed some resolutions regarding it.
 - i. Regarding infrastructure availability in the village, it was reported that electricity supply has improved over time but condition of roads is far from satisfactory. Though construction of roads was in progress but it got delayed due to late sanction of funds.
 - ii. The status of agriculture in the village was reported to be same during the last five years. The cropping pattern and productivity of major crops is almost same.
 - iii. The major change witnessed in the village was migration of youth to foreign shores mainly on study basis.
 - iv. Also there has been increase in non-farm employment due to coming up of factories near the village. But by and large there was no change in status of farm households.
- e. Main socio-economic problem highlighted by the villagers was regarding drug abuse. Alcoholism has increased in the village over time. Also more people have become addicted to different intoxicants.

3.4 Interventions/ Measures needed for the village on priority basis

Group discussions brought out various aspects of the village under study including natural, agricultural, technological, social changes taking place during the span of five years. The villagers were asked to enlist the priority areas for the development/ benefit of their village. Some key areas suggested by them were as following:

- Construction of roads for good connectivity to main roads.

- Improvement in the village Primary Health Centre (PHC) especially in terms of availability of medicines.
- Initiating some public transport passing through the village.
- Management of stray cattle to save the crop damage.
- Above all, some de-addiction process through some dedicated centre or NGO to get the village free from this menace.
- Some measures to decrease the crop expenditure and thus increasing profitability of agricultural households.

CHAPTER-IV

HOSUEHOLD SURVEY

The third aspect of village study was to undertake the household survey. In all, a sample of 300 households was taken up for the survey as per the design of the study. The data collection pertained to two parts, one for information about various socio-economic parameters of all the 300 households and second for some specific information of cultivator households. As per the proportion of farm and non-farm households in the village, a sample of 82 farm households and 218 non-farm households was selected from the village on random basis, thus making it a total of 300 households.

4.1 Basic profile of the sampled households

Basic profile of the surveyed households has been shown in the Table 3.1. Out of a sample of 300 households about 73 per cent were non-farm ones and rest were involved in various farming activities, as per the proportion of cultivators and non-cultivators in the village. A biased sex ratio was witnessed in the village with 54 per cent of male population and 46 per cent of female at par with overall sex ratio of the state. The average family size of the village was found to be 4.17 members, with marginally higher in farm households than in non- farm households. About 44 per cent of the population was involved in livelihood earning activities in the village. The traditional set up of joint family system was non-existent in the village under study as 98 per cent of the surveyed households were having nuclear families.

Table 4.1: Basic profile of sample households

Particulars	Units	Non-farm	Farm	Total
Number of household	Number	218 (72.7%)	82 (27.3%)	300
Male	%	54.17	53.42	53.96
Female	%	45.83	46.58	46.04
Average family size	Number	4.67	4.82	4.71
Number of earners	%	1.58 (33.83%)	1.77 (36.72%)	1.63 (34.61%)
Number of earners (including pensioners)	%	2.01 (43.04%)	2.17 (45.02%)	2.06 (43.74%)
Joint	%	1.38	3.66	2.00
Unitary	%	98.62	96.34	98.00

4.2 Socio-economic parameters of head of the family in surveyed households

Social parameters especially of the head of the family give an indication about the status of the family in the society as well as of the village itself. These have been discussed in

Table 4.2. The average age of the head of the family among the sampled households was found to be about 55 years. It was 54 years in non-farm households and 58 years in farming households of the village highlighting that households headed by middle age group is dominant in the village. A clear cut gender bias has been witnessed in the village with 90 per cent households having male heads of the family. In farming households this was more prominent with proportion at 95 per cent, while for non-farm households it was 89 per cent. Farming households predominantly belong to general category (96 %) and rest to the schedule castes, while in non-farm households about 70 per cent belong to scheduled caste category, 23 per cent to general category and 7 per cent to other backward castes (OBC). Overall in the sampled households, 43 per cent were from the general category, 5 per cent from OBCs and 52 per cent were from schedule caste category.

Another social aspect was religion being practised in the village. It was found that majority population in the village was 'Sikh', with all the farming households and about 98 per cent of non-farm households following this faith. Thus, about 99 per cent of the sampled households were followers of Sikh religion in 'Sohian' villiage.

Rural society in the state as a whole has transformed overtime and with invading commercial aspects, joint family system has got eroded. Same was seen in the village with 98 per cent of households being nuclear family type. In farming households the proportion of joint family system was 3.7 per cent while for non-farm household it was little low at 1.4 per cent.

Indulgence in various occupations has a bearing on income, consumption pattern and social aspects of the family. It was found that primary occupation of majority non-farm heads of the family was casual labour followed by marginal work, private salaried jobs, government salaried jobs and pensioners. In case of farming households, about 87 per cent were cultivators, 3.7 per cent were doing casual labour and marginal work each. Very less proportion was engaged in salaried jobs. For overall household's heads, the primary occupation was reported as casual labour followed by marginal work, crop cultivation and salaried jobs in private sector. Caste based occupation was being undertaken only by two per cent of households. Only few heads of the households reported to be involved in secondary occupation. Nearly two per cent of households were found to be salaried government employees and few non-farm families were undertaking some cultivation operations.

Table 4.2: Distribution of households according to social parameters of head of the Family

		(Per cent)		
S. No	Particulars	Non-farm (n=218)	Farm (n=82)	Total (n=300)
1	Age (Years)	53.94	57.66	54.96
2	Sex			
a	Female	11.01	4.88	9.33
b	Male	88.99	95.12	90.67
3	Caste			
a	Gen	22.94	96.34	43.00
b	OBC	6.88	0.00	5.00
c	SC	70.18	3.66	52.00
4	Religion			
a	Hindu	1.83	0.00	1.33
b	Sikh	98.17	100.00	98.67
5	Type of family			
a	Joint	1.38	3.66	2.00
b	Unitary	98.62	96.34	98.00
6	Occupation			
a	Primary			
i	Cultivator	0.00	86.59	23.67
ii	Salaried Government	6.42	1.22	5.00
iii	Salaried Private	17.43	1.22	13.00
iv	Pension	5.05	1.22	4.00
v	Caste based profession	2.75	0.00	2.00
vi	Trade & business	2.29	1.22	2.00
vii	Casual labour	46.33	3.66	34.67
viii	Marginal work	16.06	3.66	12.67
ix	Household Work	3.67	1.22	3.00
b	Secondary			
i	Agricultural labour	0.92	0.00	0.67
ii	Livestock (Dairying)	1.38	65.85	19.00
iii	Salaried Government	0.46	0.00	0.33
iv	Salaried Private	0.00	1.22	0.33
v	Casual labour	0.46	0.00	0.33
vi	Marginal work	0.00	1.22	0.33

4.3 Family size of sampled households

Family size is an important aspect of living standard of the family and having impact on their future prospects (Table 3.3). Small families as well as medium sized families were almost in equal proportion in the village with 49 per cent of total households having family size upto four members. In non-farm families, this proportion was 52 per cent, but for farm families it was less at 41 per cent. In this category, 56 per cent of the households were having

family members between 5 and 8 members. For non-farm families, this proportion was 47 per cent and only two families in the non-farm category were of large size.

Table 4.3: Distribution of households according to family size

Family size	Non-farm		Farm		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Up to 4 members	113	51.83	34	41.46	147	49.00
> 5-8	103	47.25	48	58.54	151	50.33
> 8	2	0.92	0	0.00	2	0.67
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00

4.4 Gender-wise distribution of household members

The state is already having a low sex ratio. ‘Sohian’ village was found as no exception to it. The overall sampled households reported a majority of male population at 54 per cent and rest of the females. The scenario was almost similar in farm and non-farm categories.

Table 4.4: Gender-wise distribution of household members

Gender	Non-farm		Farm		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Male	552	54.17	211	53.42	763	53.96
Female	467	45.83	184	46.58	651	46.04
Total	1019	100.00	395	100.00	1414	100.00

4.5 Age-wise distribution of household members

Age is an important parameter affecting working/ earning population, income and expenditure pattern of the household, composition of consumption basket etc (Table 4.5). It was found that in the surveyed households about 60 per cent were in the working category i.e either younger group (32%) or middle aged group (29%). Children (upto 14 years) were comprising 17 per cent of the total population, while 22 per cent of the total population was above 50 years of age. More males were in the younger age group (33.5%) and more females were middle aged (31%). In farming households, the proportion of younger age group (15-30 years) was a bit lesser at 29 per cent than non-farm households at 33 per cent, with male’s proportion at 35 per cent. Population in higher age group (>50 years) was less in non-farm category but was about 28 per cent in farming households. Proportion of females in the age group of up to 14 years was highest in the non-farm category at 18 per cent. Thus, it can be observed that farming households were having more senior members and lesser children, while younger age group and middle aged members were higher in non-farm population.

Table 4.5: Age-wise distribution of household members

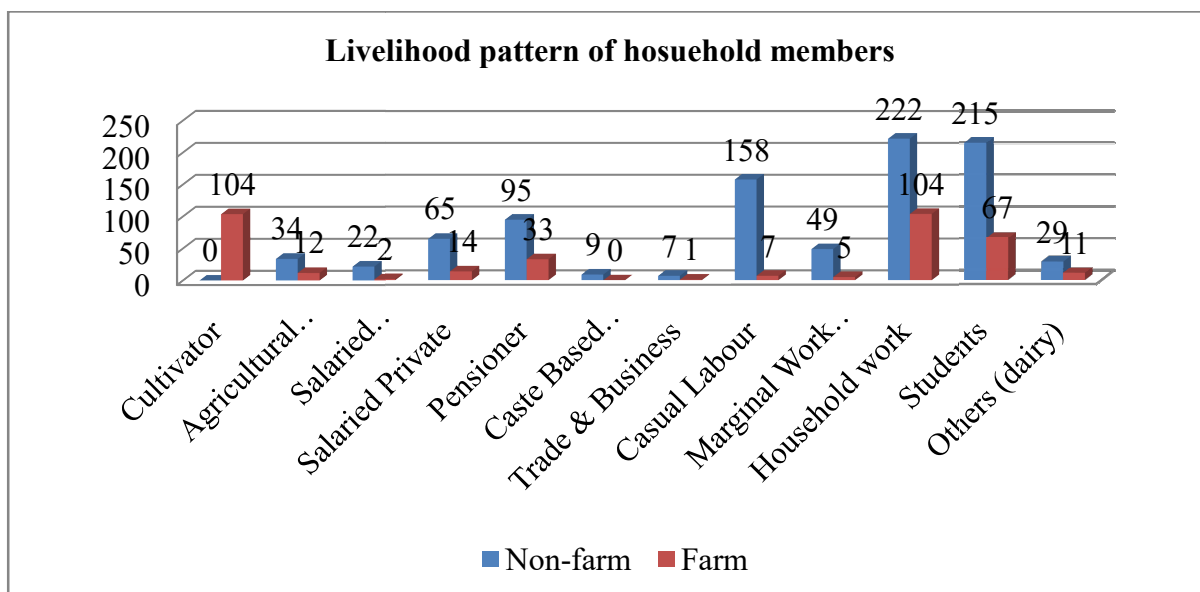
Age-group	Male		Female		Grand Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Non-Farm						
Up to 14 years	95	17.21	85	18.20	180	17.66
15-30 years	192	34.78	143	30.62	335	32.88
31-50 years	155	28.08	147	31.48	302	29.64
> 50 years	110	19.93	92	19.70	202	19.82
Sub-Total	552	100.00	467	100.00	1019	100.00
Average Age	33.29		34.17		33.69	
Farm						
Up to 14 years	35	16.59	27	14.67	62	15.70
15-30 years	64	30.33	52	28.26	116	29.37
31-50 years	53	25.12	54	29.35	107	27.09
> 50 years	59	27.96	51	27.72	110	27.85
Sub-Total	211	100.00	184	100.00	395	100.00
Average Age	36.62		37.98		37.25	
Overall						
Up to 14 years	130	17.04	112	17.20	242	17.11
15-30 years	256	33.55	195	29.95	451	31.90
31-50 years	208	27.26	201	30.88	409	28.93
> 50 years	169	22.15	143	21.97	312	22.07
Sub-Total	763	100.00	651	100.00	1414	100.00
Average Age	34.21		35.24		34.69	

4.6 Livelihood scenario of individual family members and employment availability in the sampled households

Livelihood of individual family member is important to know the income flow of the family (Table 4.6). If entire family is engaged in cultivation of crops then income will be occurring at few points of time in a year but if some members are taking some subsidiary occupation or non-farm activity, income flow will be more regular having impact on financial condition of the family especially in terms of dependency on borrowed funds. Distribution of household members on the basis of livelihood shows that overall household work being undertaken by womenfolk's was predominant indicating 23 per cent of the sampled members were doing unpaid work, about 20 per cent were students and another 10.5 per cent were non-workers including aged people and minors i.e. not undertaking any occupation. There are others including immigrants to other places and comprising about 3 per cent of the surveyed population. So roughly 56 per cent of the population was not involved in any earning activity. For non-farm households this proportion was 54 per cent and for farm households it was 52 per cent of the sample.

Table 4.6: Distribution of household members on the basis of livelihood

Livelihood	Non-farm			Farm			Total		
	No	%	Employment/ year (Days)	No	%	Employment/ year (Days)	No	%	Employment/ year (Days)
Cultivator	-	-	-	104	26.33	238	104	7.36	238
Agricultural Labour	34	3.34	113	12	3.04	120	46	3.25	115
Salaried Government	22	2.16	284	2	0.51	290	24	1.70	285
Salaried Private	65	6.38	276	14	3.54	264	79	5.59	274
Pensioner	95	9.32	-	33	8.35	-	128	9.05	
Caste Based Profession	9	0.88	220	-	-		9	0.64	220
Trade & Business	7	0.69	300	1	0.25	300	8	0.57	300
Casual Labour	158	15.51	214	7	1.77	230	165	11.67	214
Marginal Work (Construction, Rickshaw Puller)	49	4.81	233	5	1.27	236	54	3.82	234
Household work	222	21.79	-	104	26.33		326	23.06	
Students	215	21.10	-	67	16.96		282	19.94	
Others (dairy)	29	2.85	-	11	2.78		40	2.83	
No occupation	114	11.19	-	35	8.86		149	10.54	
Grand Total	1019	100	225	395	100	231	1414	100	227



In farm households 26 per cent of the family members were engaged in cultivation of crops followed by 8 per cent drawing pensions, 3.5 per cent were in private jobs, another 3 per cent doing agricultural labour and some (1.7%) earning from casual labour. In non-farm households, majority members were engaged in casual labour, about 9 per cent were drawing pension, 6 per cent were doing private jobs and 5 per cent were performing marginal work. Thus, it was clear that very few people were undertaking caste based occupations or business/trade activities in the village.

Number of working days indicates employment scenario of region and reflects on income level of the residents. It also indicates efficient utilization of human resource. So far as employment availability in a year is concerned, it was 227 days for over all surveyed households with 231 days for farming households and 225 days for non-farm ones. People indulged in trade/business were working for 300 days followed by government employees 285 days, cultivators 238 days, marginal workers 234 days, caste based occupations 220 days and least engaged was agricultural labour having employment availability for 115 days in a year.

4.7 Migration status of sampled households

Punjabis have always been passionate to explore distant places across the continents and countries. Their craze for moving and settling in other countries dates back to pre-independence era, even before at the time of ‘Sikh States’. Various historical, psychological, cultural, economical aspects are attached to it. Continuous invasions by foreigners, tough attitudes contributing to valour, easy adaptability to other cultures, small size of holding in the villages, zest for good living are few factors pushing them to off-shores. The trend is still

going on in the state. The surveyed households have also seen 16 immigrations during last five years. Majority were from the non-farming households to various countries as shown in the table. Immigrations to Arab countries have been to seek employment in these places, while to Canada, Australia and USA are on study basis (Table 4.7).

Table 4.7: Extent of members migrated to various countries (2014-19)

Particulars	Units	Non-Farm	Farm	Total
No. of members migrated abroad	Number	13	3	16
Frequency	Number/year	1	1	1
Employment	Days	300	300	300
Place of migration				
Arab (work)	Number	1 (7.69)		1 (6.25)
Arab Country (work)	Number	2 (15.38)		2 (12.50)
Armenia (work)	Number	1 (7.69)		1 (6.25)
Australia	Number		2 (66.67)	2 (12.50)
Behrain (work)	Number	1 (7.69)		1 (6.25)
Canada	Number	2 (15.38)		2 (12.50)
Dubai (work)	Number	1 (7.69)		1 (6.25)
England	Number	1 (7.69)		1 (6.25)
Italy (work)	Number	1 (7.69)		1 (6.25)
Philippines (work)	Number		1 (33.33)	1 (6.25)
Qatar (work)	Number	1 (7.69)		1 (6.25)
USA	Number	2 (15.38)		2 (12.50)
Grand Total		13 (100.00)	3 (100.00)	16 (100.00)

Figures in brackets indicate percent to total

4.8 Birth and death rates in the sampled households

With more medical research going on and new break through available over the years death rate has drastically declined in the country. Birth rate has also shown a declining trend over time with changes in socio-economic set up of rural society in general and increasing literacy, awareness, and aspirations in particular. In the last five years, there have been 79 births in the village sample, 61 in non-farm families and 18 in farm families. In all, there were 44 male births and 35 females. The proportion of male births was higher in non-farm families than farm families (Table 4.8).

Table 4.8: Number of births and deaths in sampled households during 2014-19

Particulars	Non-farm	Farm	Total
Births			
Male	36	8	44
Female	25	10	35

Total	61	18	79
Deaths			
Male	9	4	13
Female	8	4	12
Total	17	8	25

On the other hand, 25 deaths have been reported in the households under study during last five years. Among those who died 13 were males and 12 were females. In all 17 deaths were reported in the non-farm families, while 8 were from the farming households.

4.9 Cause of death in sampled households

The major causes of death were found to be old age and heart attacks. Two members of farm families lost their life to cancer. 4 persons of non-farm families who died were chronic patients while two were diabetic. Only one accidental death was reported in the survey during last five years. This indicates a general healthy trend in the village, with few people suffering from diseases (Table 4.9).

Table 4.9: Cause of death in sampled households

Cause	Non-farm	Farm	Total
Accident	1 (5.88)	0	1 (4.00)
Cancer	0	2 (25.00)	2 (8.00)
Chronic disease	3 (17.65)	0	3 (12.00)
Diabetes	2 (11.76)	0	2 (8.00)
Heart Attack	4 (23.53)	3 (37.50)	7 (28.00)
Kidney Faliure	1 (5.88)	0	1 (4.00)
Long Time Illness	1 (5.88)	0	1 (4.00)
Old age	4 (23.53)	3 (37.50)	7 (28.00)
Paralysis	1 (5.88)	0	1 (4.00)
(blank)	0	0	0
Grand Total	17 (100.00)	8 (100.00)	25 (100.00)

4.10 Marital status of the sampled households

Marriage is a sort of universal phenomenon in India and Punjab is no exception to this custom. The marital status has implications on various other socio-economic parameters like family size, income expenditure, size of holding etc. Distribution of surveyed households as per the marital status of the family members has been shown in Table 4.10. Overall 51 per cent of sampled population in the village was found to be married. The proportion was 54 per cent for farm families and 50 per cent for non-farm ones. On the whole, about 42 per cent were unmarried in the sample, with a larger chunk of non-farm households 6.4 per cent of family members in the study were widows/widowers, while only a small proportion was in separated or divorced status.

Table 4.10: Distribution of household members on the basis of marital status

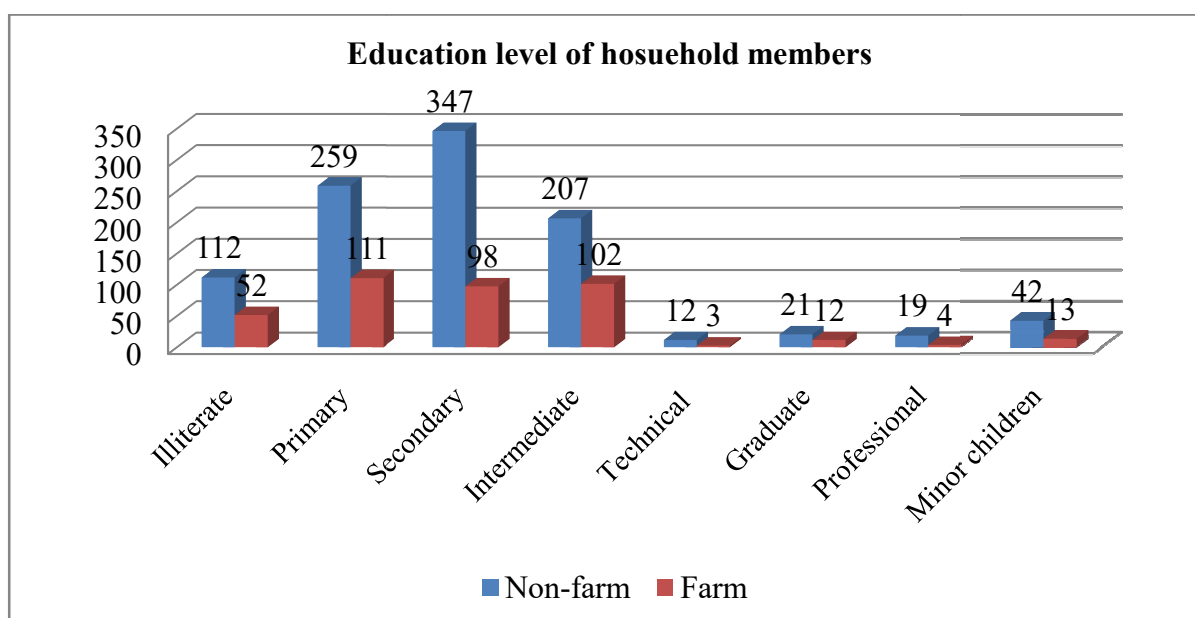
Marital status	Non-farm		Farm		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Married	512	50.25	214	54.18	726	51.34
Un-married	443	43.47	149	37.72	592	41.87
Widowed/widower	59	5.79	32	8.10	91	6.44
Separated/Divorced	5	0.49		0.00	5	0.35
Grand Total	1019	100.00	395	100.00	1414	100.00

4.11 Education status of sampled households

Education is an important indicator affecting socio-economic status of an individual, family as well as of the village. Besides adding to social status of a person, it has bearing on economic aspect in terms of future earnings prospects not only of that individual but of next generation also. Education is considered as a tool to create awareness and in rational decision making. Considering the significance of this parameter, distribution of household members on the basis of education level was studied and has been presented in Table 3.11. In the sample about 4 per cent were toddlers or infants not attending to any school. On the whole 11.6 per cent of the surveyed members were found to be illiterate, with 13.16 per cent from farming households. About 26 per cent have attended classes up to primary level and 31.5 per cent were secondary pass outs, 22 per cent were educated up to intermediate. Only two per cent of family members in the sample have acquired a graduation degree. One per cent was also found as technically trained in the surveyed households i.e. obtained diploma in the ITI or Polytechnics, majority in non-farm households. Few members (1.63%) were also found to be having professional degree like MBBS, MBA or Ph.D, with 19 persons in non-farm households and four from farming households. So, overall education status of farm households was found to be better as compared to non-farm households with low illiteracy level and more members opting for higher education.

Table 4.11: Distribution of household members on the basis of education level

Education level	Non-farm		Farm		Total	
	No	%	No	%	No	%
Illiterate	112	10.99	52	13.16	164	11.60
Primary	259	25.42	111	28.10	370	26.17
Secondary	347	34.05	98	24.81	445	31.47
Intermediate	207	20.31	102	25.82	309	21.85
Technical (ITI, Polytechnic)	12	1.18	3	0.76	15	1.06
Graduate	21	2.06	12	3.04	33	2.33
Professional (MBBS, MBA, Ph.D)	19	1.86	4	1.01	23	1.63
Minor children	42	4.12	13	3.29	55	3.89
Grand Total	1019	100.00	395	100.00	1414	100.00



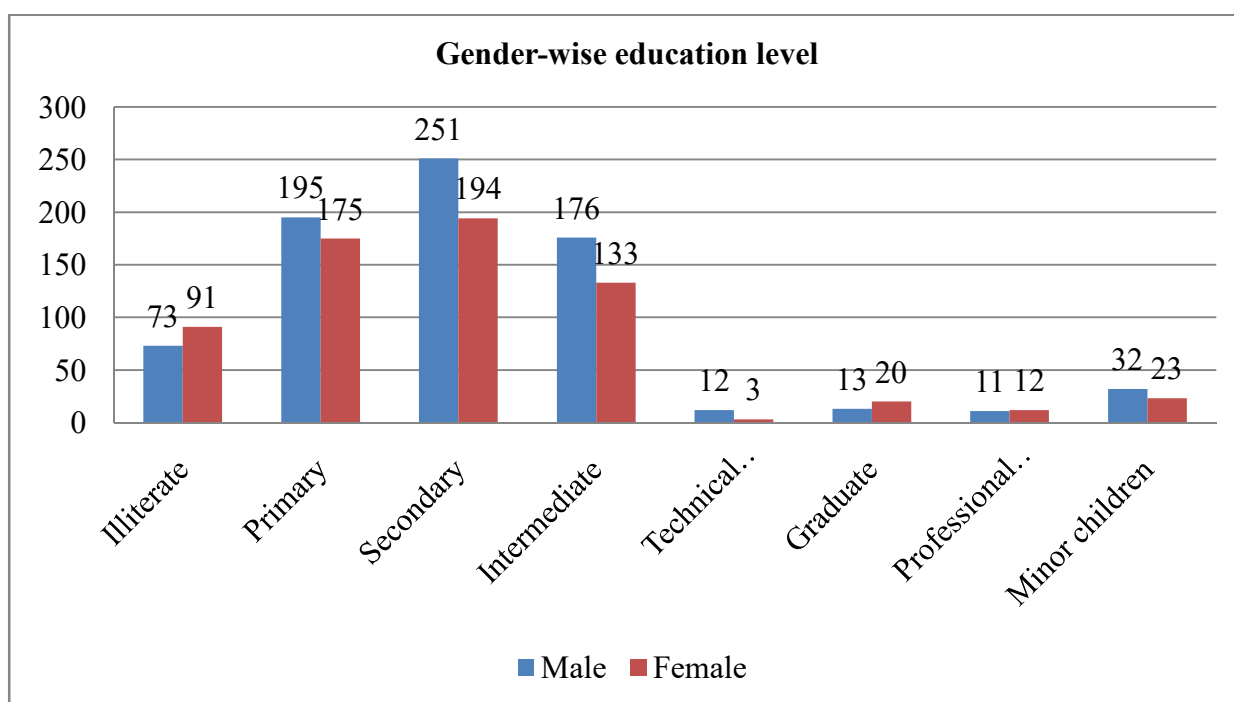
4.12 Gender-wise distribution of household members on the basis of education level

The gender wise split of education status of population showed that proportion of females was higher in both farm and non-farm categories as well as all in other education levels except for graduation category. While 12 females were graduates in non-farm category as compared to nine males, in farm category their number was eight vis-a-vis four males. In case of minor children the proportion of males was more in both the categories than the female children. nine male members have opted for technical courses and three females in non-farm category, while in farm category only three males have undertaken technical

courses. But in professional degrees the proportion was almost same in non-farm category, but higher for females in farm households. So, it was clear that in basic education, as well as technical courses, the number of males was more but more females have gone for higher and professional education in the village. This was a positive development towards women empowerment (Table 4.12).

Table 4.12: Gender-wise distribution of household members on the basis of education level

Education	Non-Farm			Farm			Grand Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Illiterate	49	63	112	24	28	52	164
Primary	133	126	259	62	49	111	370
Secondary	197	150	347	54	44	98	445
Intermediate	120	87	207	56	46	102	309
Technical (ITI, Polytechnic)	9	3	12	3		3	15
Graduate	9	12	21	4	8	12	33
Professional (MBBS, MBA, Ph.D)	10	9	19	1	3	4	23
Minor children	25	17	42	7	6	13	55
Grand Total	552	467	1019	211	184	395	1414



4.13: Enrolment and various education aspects of school going sampled household members

In this light, enrolment in school education is an important aspect to clear the background of acquisition of education and issue of discontinuity of studies. The analysis given in Table 3.13 has shown that 67 per cent of the students in the sampled households were enrolled in government schools, with boys at 70 per cent and girls at 63 per cent, while the rest were studying in private educational institutions. So, accordingly 69 per cent of students were having vernacular i.e. Punjabi as medium of instruction in the schools, while others in private schools reported it as English.

The proportion of students enrolled in government schools was higher in non-farm households than farm households. The attendance of 81 per cent of the students was found to be regular. Here the boys outperformed the girls with 84 per cent and girls 76 per cent of attendance. Both boys and girls of farming households were found to be more regular in attending the classes, than the non-farm ones.

Mid-day Meal has been a star programme launched by the Central Government in government schools. It was initiated to fulfil the nutritional requirements of the growing children, besides providing an incentive for regular attendance in the schools. It was found in the survey that about 76 per cent students were partaking these meals, having a higher proportion of children of non-farming families than the farming families. The reason could be traced to, majority members of farm families attending private school having no provision of mid-day meal.

Dropping out of school education is a major issue in rural areas due to various social and economic reasons. The overall drop out proportion in sampled households was found to be about 6 per cent. The drop out ratio was higher for male students at 7.5 per cent than females at 4 per cent. In case of boys, it was even higher in non-farm families. In case of female students, it was almost same for both the categories. In 75 per cent of drop out cases, financial problems were the reason, more in case of female students, while health issue was cited as the reason in rest of the cases.

A class-wise split of drop outs showed that maximum cases were in class 9th standard. After clearing the middle standard, the level of difficulty of syllabus increases in most of the school boards and many students fail to cope up. The procedure of evaluation also gets changed. This was followed by 31 per cent drop out proportion in class 11th. The reason was cited as financial problem or may be families considering matriculation as good as level of

education. In case of girl students, drop out was more in non-farm families, may be spending more on male members of the family due to financial constraints.

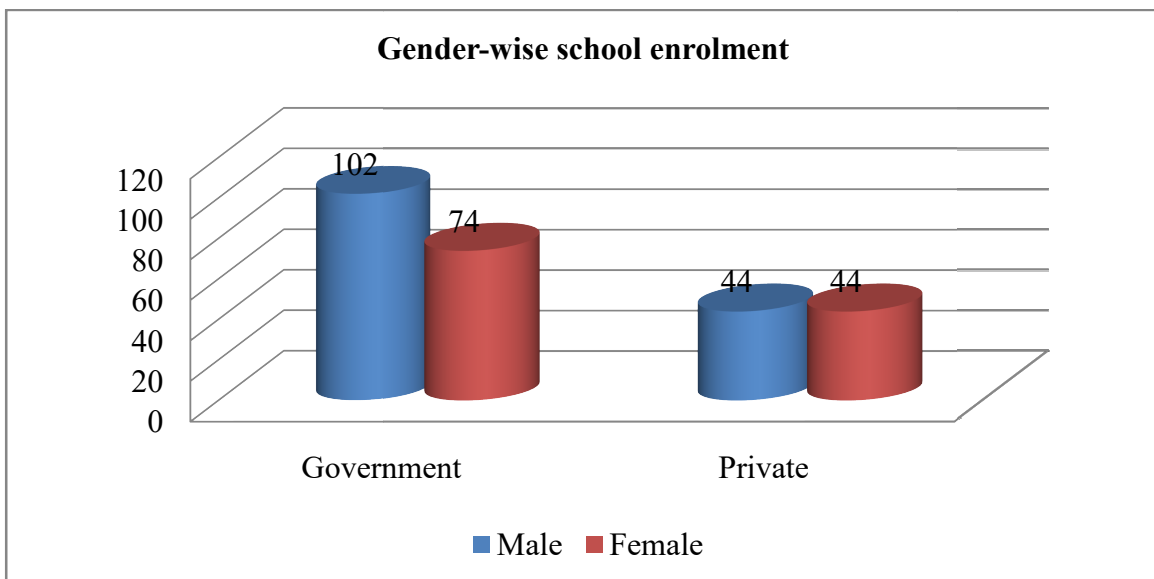
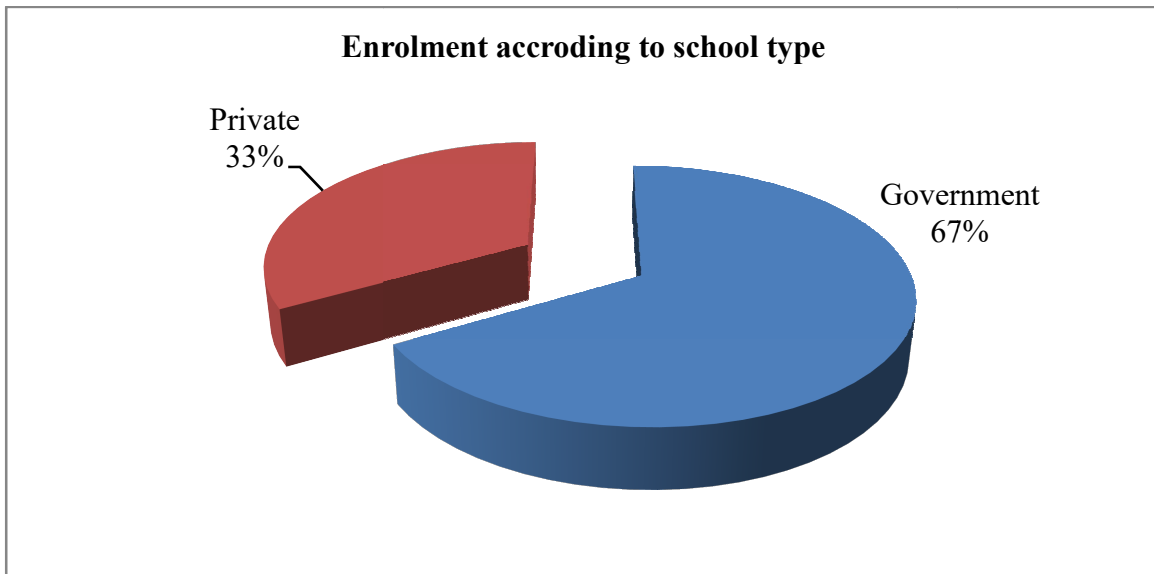


Table 4.13: Enrolment and various education aspects of school going sampled household members

Type of school	Male						Female						Grand Total	
	Non-farm		Farm		Total		Non-farm		Farm		Total			
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Enrolment (Numbers)														
Government	85	75.89	17	50.00	102	69.86	60	64.52	14	56.00	74	62.71	176	66.67
Private	27	24.11	17	50.00	44	30.14	33	35.48	11	44.00	44	37.29	88	33.33
Total enrolment	112	100.00	34	100.00	146	100.00	93	100.00	25	100.00	118	100.00	264	100.00
Medium of Instructions														
English	27	24.11	17	50.00	44	30.14	26	27.96	11	44.00	37	31.36	81	30.68
Vernacular	85	75.89	17	50.00	102	69.86	67	72.04	14	56.00	81	68.64	183	69.32
Total	112	100.00	34	100.00	146	100.00	93	100.00	25	100.00	118	100.00	264	100.00
Regular attendance														
Yes	93	83.04	30	88.24	123	84.25	70	75.27	20	80.00	90	76.27	213	80.68
No	19	16.96	4	11.76	23	15.75	23	24.73	5	20.00	28	23.73	51	19.32
Total	112	100.00	34	100.00	146	100.00	93	100.00	25	100.00	118	100.00	264	100.00
Drop-out (Numbers)														
Yes	9	8.04	2	5.88	11	7.53	4	4.30	1	4.00	5	4.24	16	6.06
No	103	91.96	32	94.12	135	92.47	89	95.70	24	96.00	113	95.76	248	93.94
Total	112	100.00	34	100.00	146	100.00	93	100.00	25	100.00	118	100.00	264	100.00
Reasons of drop-out														
Financial issue	8	88.89	0	0.00	8	72.73	4	100.00	0	0.00	4	80.00	12	75.00
Health Problem	1	11.11	2	100.00	3	27.27	0	0.00	1	100.00	1	20.00	4	25.00
Total	9	100.00	2	100.00	11	100.00	4	100.00	1	100.00	5	100.00	16	100.00
Classes drop out														
8 th	1	11.11	0	0.00	1	9.09	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	6.25
9 th	4	44.44	1	50.00	5	45.45	2	50.00	0	0.00	2	40.00	7	43.75
10 th	2	22.22	1	50.00	3	27.27	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	18.75
11 th	2	22.22	0	0.00	2	18.18	2	50.00	1	100.00	3	60.00	5	31.25
Total	9	100.00	2	100.00	11	100.00	4	100.00	1	100.00	5	100.00	16	100.00
Mid-day meal (Numbers)														
Yes	81	72.32	30	88.24	111	76.03	70	75.27	20	80.00	90	76.27	201	76.14
No	31	27.68	4	11.76	35	23.97	23	24.73	5	20.00	28	23.73	63	23.86
Total	112	100.00	34	100.00	146	100.00	93	100.00	25	100.00	118	100.00	264	100.00

4.14 Socio-economic status of the sampled households

The beneficiaries of government schemes as well as having access to modern amenities of life highlight the socio-economic status of the household. Various aspects pertaining to this were taken into account and have been given in Table 4.14. It was found that there was no BPL card holder in the sample while 66 per cent of the surveyed households were having APL card under Public Distribution System (PDS). In farm families, this proportion was 44 per cent, while in non-farm families it was 76 per cent. No member of farming household was found to be MGNAREGA card holder, while for 31 per cent of non-farm families, one family member was having this card.

Kisan credit card (KCC) has become a main tool of having access to short term agricultural credit. So, 82 per cent of farm households reported having KCC and 7 per cent of non-farm households, those who were having ownership of land but have leased-out their entire holding were also possessing KCC on this basis.

Electricity is basic energy source these days. Majority of the modern amenities are run with electric power. All the sampled households both farm and non-farm were having legal (metered) electric connections. There is 100 per cent electrification in the village.

Financial inclusion is a major aspect of development these days. Having a bank account opens access to many government assistance schemes in terms of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), cash transfers etc. In the survey, 99 per cent of the households were having access to banking with accounts in some bank or the other except for two non-farm households. So, the village households were predominantly financially included.

Much stress is being laid on 'Sanitary Toilet' facility under the central government sponsored scheme 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan'. In the sampled households 99 per cent of these were having this facility and was functional. Only two non-farm households were lacking the sanitary toilets.

Mobile phone that too the smart phone, these days is the main channel of communication with landline telephone connections losing their charm due to ease, all time connectivity and various useful applications attached to these. This is also considered as a status symbol in modern times. Availability of smart phones in the surveyed households has shown that it was more than 100 per cent in each household i.e. each family was possessing more than one smart phone on an average.

Water is basic necessity of life. Provision of clean drinking water to the people is the baseline objective of any welfare state.

Table 4.14: Socio-economic status of sampled households

Particulars	Non-farm		Farm		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
PDS Card type APL						
Yes	165	75.69	34	41.46	199	66.33
No	53	24.31	48	58.54	101	33.67
MGNAREGA Card holder						
Yes	67	30.73	-	0.00	67	22.33
No	151	69.27	82	100.00	233	77.67
KCC Holder						
Yes	16	7.34	67	81.71	83	27.67
No	202	92.66	15	18.29	217	72.33
Electricity connection	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Is it legal?	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Bank account						
Yes	216	99.08	82	100.00	298	99.33
No	2	0.92	-	0.00	2	0.67
Sanitary toilet						
Yes	216	99.08	82	100.00	298	99.33
No	2	0.92		0.00	2	0.67
If yes, functional	216	99.08	82	100.00	298	99.33
Smart Phone	247	113.30	109	132.93	356	118.67
Source of drinking water						
Government Tap water	173	79.36	12	14.63	185	61.67
Ground water (Motor)	45	20.64	70	85.37	115	38.33
Distance travelled for drinking water	-	-	-	-	-	-
LPG Gas connection						
Yes	216	99.08	82	100.00	298	99.33
No	2	0.92		0.00	2	0.67
Type of residence						
Permanent	219	100.46	82	100.00	299	99.67
Temporary	1	0.46			1	0.33
Roofing type						
Concrete	214	98.17	82	100.00	296	98.67
Thatched	4	1.83			4	1.33
Doctor consultation						
Government	150	68.81	29	35.37	179	59.67
Private	68	31.19	53	64.63	121	40.33
Membership						
Yes	1	0.46	2	2.44	3	1.00
No	217	99.54	80	97.56	297	99.00
Membership Name						
Gram Sabha	-	0.00	1	1.22	1	0.33
Panch(Member Panchayat)	-	0.00	1	1.22	1	0.33
Sarpanch	1	0.46	-	0.00	1	0.33

About 62 per cent of the sampled households were found to be having access to government supplied tap water. 80 per cent of the non-farm households were availing this facility, whereas majority of farm households (85%) were utilising ground water extracted with electric motors and submersible pumps, while only 20 per cent of non-farm households were utilising ground water for drinking purpose. But the whole of village was having indoor availability of water, so the distance travelled for fetching water was nil in the 'Sohian' village.

Source of cooking fuel besides having health and economic aspect can also be an indicator of social standing of family. It was found that 99 per cent of the sampled households were having LPG connections for cooking purpose while only 2 non-farm families were using other fuels i.e. kerosene oil, dung cakes and fire wood.

Type of residence in terms of construction material used reflects the financial condition of the household. All the households except one of non-farm category were having pucca, permanent housing structure of concrete material. Only one non-farm family was having semi-pucca residence that too the rented accommodation. Similarly, 98.7 per cent of the households were having concrete roof over the house but four non-farm families reported having thatched roof type.

Access to medical facility is a major development indicator for any region or state. This can be made available from government or private hospitals. The government medical assistance is subsidised, but private hospitals provide expensive advice/care. About 60 per cent of the surveyed households were found to be availing government medical consultancy, while rest were consulting private medical practitioners. The access of farming families was more to private medical consultants indicating their higher affordability vis-a-vis non-farm households where 69 per cent dependent upon medical consultation of Government run dispensary in the village.

Membership to any village or social organization of a family member definitely enhances the social status of the household, besides adding to the representation of that category in the organisation. But the sampled households have shown dismal picture on this aspect. Only one per cent of these were having membership, i.e. one non-farm member has been a 'Sarpanch' of the village panchayat and two from non-farm family households have been 'Panch' i.e. members of village panchayat.

4.15 Food security issues

Food security is defined as timely access to food in terms of affordability as well as nutritional requirement. Punjab, being a 'food grain bowl' of India, does not face any issues

as such. Also the poverty ratio in the state is about 8 per cent, so access to basic food i.e. staple diet, milk etc. is adequately available especially in rural areas. It is clear from the observation that none of the household ever faced hunger for a day and night or have ever slept empty stomach. Only about 3 non-farm households have shown worry about not having enough food, that too on rare occasions (Table 4.15).

The availability of food was more or less assured, but quality of food was not guaranteed to anyone. Though 41 per cent of non-farm and 87 per cent of farm households reported never having poor quality food, but 58 per cent non-farm and 13 per cent of farm families have gone for it, but rarely. Preference for food is another aspect of food security. 45 per cent of non-farm households and 91.5 per cent of farm households have always taken their preferred food, but rest have to opt for less preferred food items at rare occasions.

Offering food to others is a noble gesture, considered as per religious and cultural norms. But in the survey, this was found as less frequent. About 53 per cent of non-farm households and 88 per cent of farm households were offering on some time basis, while 42 per cent of non-farm and 11 per cent of farming families were indulging in it rarely.

‘Eating out’ is becoming common even in rural area with changing social norms. As families are becoming nuclear as well as increasing income and contact with urban life the frequency of having meals at hotels/ restaurants is catching up even in the villages. But 58 per cent of non-farm families in this village denied having food at any hotel/ restaurant, however, this proportion was only 8.5 per cent for farm families. 38 per cent of non-farm families have indulged in it rarely and 4 per cent sometimes. On the other hand, 87 per cent of farming households have eaten out rarely and 5 per cent sometimes.

The availability of packaged food and ready to eat snacks have invaded Indian markets with the entry of global food chains and corporate in these products. But 57 per cent of non-farm households and 13 per cent of farm households denied buying these items ever. 42 per cent of non-farm and 84 per cent of farm households reported to have rarely consumed these, while 1.38 per cent of non-farm and 2.44 per cent of farm households accepted consuming these items sometimes.

So, it is clear that there were no food security issues in the villages as such for staple food consumption. All the households were food secured in terms of quantity but quality was not assured. Thus, there was no practice of offering food to others on regular basis because there was no deprivation of it. ‘Eating out’ and indulging in ready to eat food items was also less common a practice in the village though it was more in farm households due to their higher income levels and thus affordability than non-farm households.

Table 4.15: Food Security Issues among sampled households (Percent)

Statements	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often
Non-Farm				
Went a whole day and night without eating due to poverty?	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Went to sleep hungry due to inability to purchase food?	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ever worried that the households would not have enough food?	99.08	0.92	0.00	0.00
Ate some poor quality foods that you really did not liked?	41.28	57.80	0.92	0.00
Were not able to eat the kind of food you preferred?	44.95	53.21	1.83	0.00
Did you offered food to your neighbors and guests?	3.67	42.20	53.21	0.92
Went for outside eating in hotel/restaurant?	57.80	37.61	3.67	0.92
Are you eating too much packed food/purchased food like ice-cream, cold-drinks, etc?	56.88	41.74	1.38	0.00
Farm				
Went a whole day and night without eating due to poverty?	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Went to sleep hungry due to inability to purchase food?	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ever worried that the households would not have enough food?	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ate some poor quality foods that you really did not liked?	86.59	13.41	0.00	0.00
Were not able to eat the kind of food you preferred?	91.46	8.54	0.00	0.00
Did you offered food to your neighbours and guests?	0.00	10.98	87.80	1.22
Went for outside eating in hotel/restaurant?	8.54	86.59	4.88	0.00
Are you eating too much packed food/purchased food like ice-cream, cold-drinks, etc?	13.41	84.15	2.44	0.00
Total				
Went a whole day and night without eating due to poverty?	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Went to sleep hungry due to	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

inability to purchase food?				
Ever worried that the households would not have enough food?	99.33	0.67	0.00	0.00
Ate some poor quality foods that you really did not liked?	53.67	45.67	0.67	0.00
Were not able to eat the kind of food you preferred?	57.67	41.00	1.33	0.00
Did you offered food to your neighbours and guests?	2.67	33.67	62.67	1.00
Went for outside eating in hotel/restaurant?	44.33	51.00	4.00	0.67
Are you eating too much packed food/purchased food like ice-cream, cold-drinks, etc?	45.00	53.33	1.67	0.00

4.16 Asset ownership of sampled households

Land is the most important fixed asset in rural areas. It is the basis of all agricultural production and even of allied activities. In term of owned assets, land was commanding the maximum value. Ownership and transactions pertaining to land have been shown in Table 4.16. It was found that 299 households out of 300 surveyed ones were owning the residences. Only one non-farm family was not having any house. The average housing area for non-farm households was 3.69 biswa, but for farming category, it was 6.79 biswa, for overall sample it came to be 4.54 biswa. Thus, the average value of residential land and house was worked out to be Rs. 9.34 lakh for non-farm category, Rs. 19.17 lakh for farm category and Rs. 12.02 lakh for overall sampled households. Only two land transactions were reported in the sample, in case of residential lots during last five years involving an average amount of Rs. 3.10 lakhs in non-farm category.

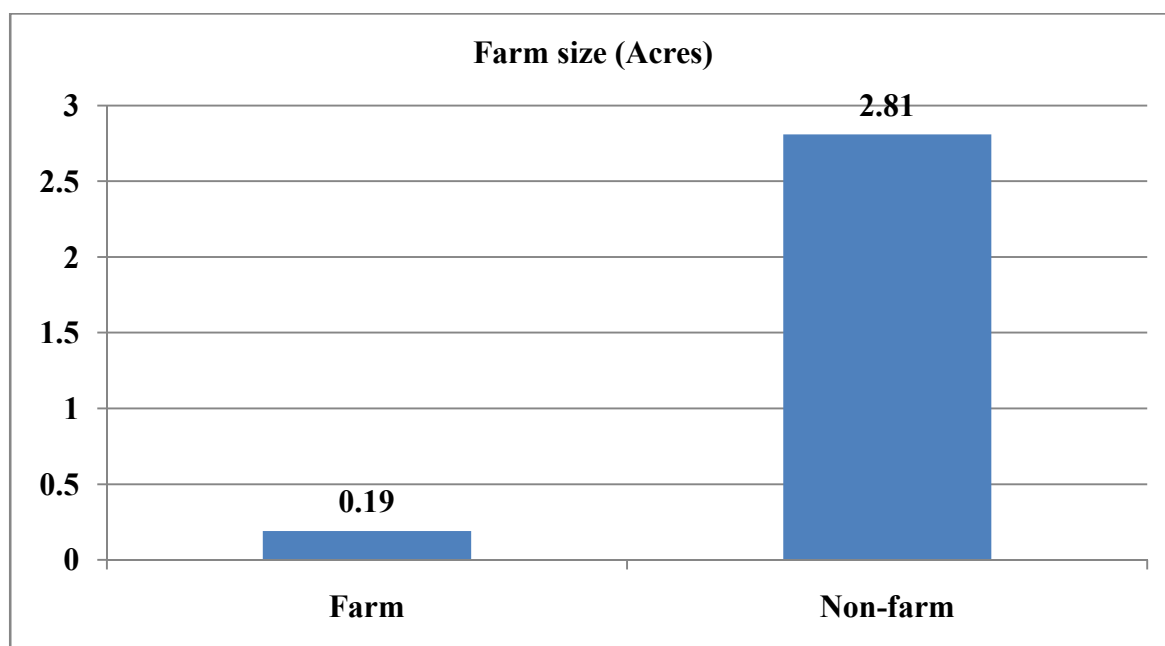
All the farm households as well as 16 non-farm households owned cultivable land. Non-farm households have leased-out their agricultural land and were not undertaking any cultivation of crops. So, average cultivable holding of non-farm households was 0.19 acres, but 16 households were owning 42 acres in all. On the other hand, ownership of cultivable land in farming households was 2.81 acres. The average value of this land was Rs. 2.52 lakhs for non-farm categories and Rs. 41.55 lakh for farming category.

Table 4.16: Land ownership & transaction of sampled households

Type of Land	Owned		Area		Average Value (Rs. Lakhs)	Sold during 2014-2019		Purchased during 2014-19	
	Number	Average number	Total	Average		Area (Average)	Average Value (Rs. Lakhs)	Area (Average)	Average Value (Rs. Lakhs)
Non-farm									
Residential house*	217	1.00	566.63	3.69	9.34			2	3.10
Cultivable land#	16	0.07	42.00	0.19	2.52				
Farm									
Residential house*	82	1.00	329.00	6.79	19.14				
Cultivable land#	82	1.00	230.69	2.81	41.55	1	15.00		
Total									
Residential house*	299	0.997	895.63	4.54	12.02			2	3.10
Cultivable land#	98	0.327	272.69	0.91	13.19	1	15.00		

* Area in Biswa = 50 sq. yards

Area in acres



4.17 Ownership of assets other than land

Apart from land, there were assets owned by the sampled households. The inventory of these assets i.e the physical quantity along with monetary values has been given in Table 3.17. Many non-farm as well as farm households were engaged in dairy farming.

Tractor in Punjab is now the basic agricultural machinery. About 39 per cent of the basic surveyed farm households were found to be owning a tractor, but none in non-farm households. The average value of tractor was worked out as Rs. 1.69 lakhs. There were 11 bullock carts owned by farm families (13%), the value of these was estimated at Rs. 2195 on average. Other agricultural equipments included cultivators owned by 33 per cent farm households and valued at Rs 6171 per cultivator. 38 per cent of the households were having water pumps and average value of it was put at Rs. 3477. Only seven per cent of the farm households were owning sprayers, valued at Rs 854 each.

Bicycle is the traditional mode of transportation. 88 per cent of non-farm households and 99 per cent farm households were owning bicycles. The average value of this asset was found to be Rs 1708. There was only one non-farm household owning a rickshaw valued at Rs. 3500.

In motorised vehicles, two-wheelers are the basic ones. These are quite common in the state. 93 per cent of the non-farm families and all the farm families were owning two-wheelers. Some farm families were having more than one two-wheelers. These vehicles were valued at Rs. 27293 on an average.

With rising incomes and improvement in standard of living, trend to own four-wheeler is also rising in Punjab. So, 11 per cent of non-farm units and 37 per cent farming

families were having four-wheelers in the sample. The average value of vehicle owned by farm families was higher at Rs. 1.28 lakh as compared to Rs. 35711 that of non-farm families depending on time of purchase and condition of the vehicle. Only one farm family was found to be owning a truck.

Possession of household gadgets also indicates the financial health and living standard of the family. So, inventory stock was also considered of some basic gadgets and equipments used in the household. Sewing machine, though a must have article in the olden days, was owned by only 46 per cent of non-farm families and 77 per cent of farming ones. The average value of it was found to be Rs. 1683 only.

With a revolution in the field of entertainment, old means like radio and television have lost their charm. Only five radio sets were available in the sample with almost no market value. However, television was quite popular in the village. 98 per cent of non-farm households and all the farm ones were owning these. The average value of television was calculated as Rs 12027. Computers though quite common in urban Punjab, were not so available in the village. Only three non-farm households and two farm ones were having computers. With changing life style and eating habits, refrigerator has become a compulsive article in every kitchen. This was owned by 96 per cent non-farm and 99 per cent farm households. The average value of it was Rs. 15843.

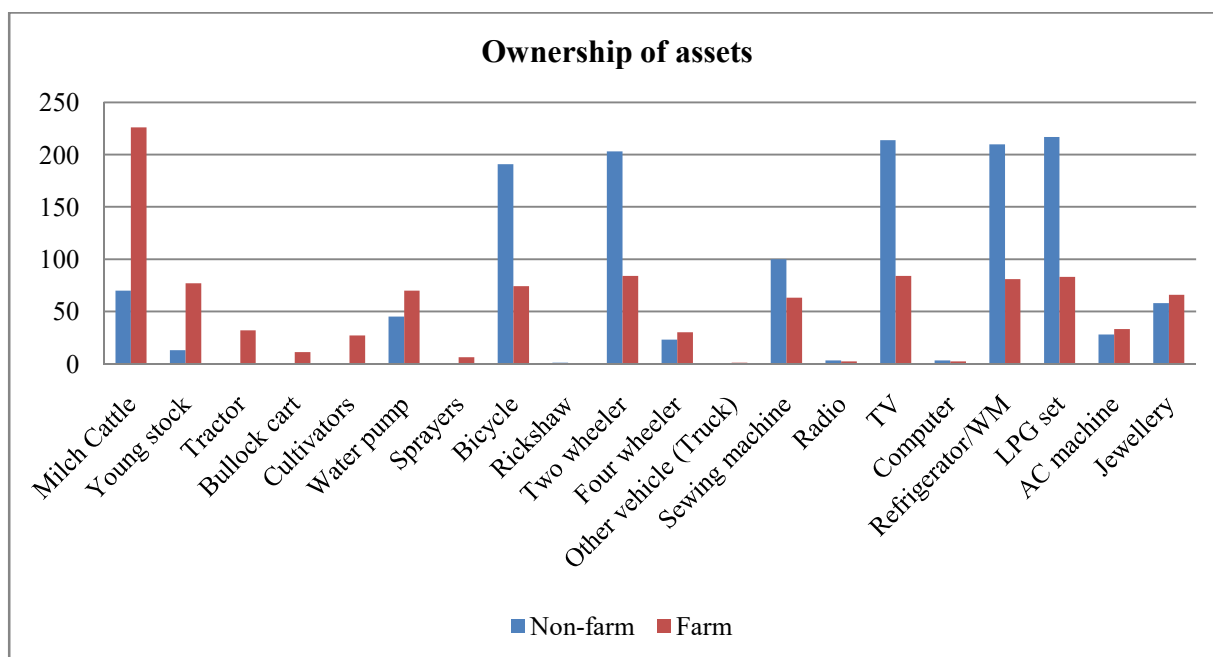
The use of energy fuel in the kitchen has changed over time. Instead of traditional fuel, people are shifting towards clean and convenient sources like LPG. So, all the sampled households were using LPG stoves for cooking purposes. The average value of the stove was worked out to be Rs. 3520.

With changing climatic conditions, the use of air conditioners has increased over time in the state, especially in hot and humid Monsoon months. These were found to be installed in 13 per cent of non-farm and 40 per cent of farm households in the sample. The average value of this asset was worked out to be Rs. 7343.

Jewellery wearing is common trend especially with women folks. It is also a custom in rural areas. So, assets ownership in terms of jewellery articles was also considered in the survey. About 27 per cent of the non-farm households reported, average value of it at Rs 16560, while 80 per cent of the farm families reported owning some pieces valued at Rs 45244. On an average 41 per cent of total households were owning jewellery worth Rs 24400.

Table 4.17: Ownership of assets other than land**(Rs/farm)**

Ownership of Assets	Non-farm			Farm			Total		
	Number	Per farm	Average value	Number	Per farm	Average value	Number	Per farm	Average value
Milch Cattle	70	0.32	10757	226	2.76	110671	296	0.99	38067
Young stock	13	0.06	528	77	0.94	4951	90	0.30	1737
Tractor	-	-	-	32	0.39	168902	32	0.11	46167
Bullock cart	-	-	-	11	0.13	2195	11	0.04	600
Cultivators	-	-	-	27	0.33	6171	27	0.09	1687
Water pump	45	0.21	1826	70	0.85	7865	115	0.38	3477
Sprayers	-	-	-	6	0.07	854	6	0.02	233
Bicycle	191	0.88	1619	74	0.90	1945	265	0.88	1708
Rickshaw	1	0.005	16	-	-	-	1	0.003	12
Two wheeler	203	0.93	24202	84	1.02	35512	287	0.96	27293
Four wheeler	23	0.11	35711	30	0.37	128415	53	0.18	61050
Other vehicle (Truck)	-	-	-	1	0.01	18293	1	0.003	5000
Sewing machine	100	0.46	1307	63	0.77	2683	163	0.54	1683
Radio	3	0.01	11	2	0.02	18	5	0.02	13
TV	214	0.98	10839	84	1.02	15183	298	0.99	12027
Computer	3	0.01	367	2	0.02	854	5	0.02	500
Refrigerator/WM	210	0.96	13748	81	0.99	21415	291	0.97	15843
LPG set	217	1.00	3344	83	1.01	3988	300	1.00	3520
AC machine	28	0.13	4633	33	0.40	14549	61	0.20	7343
Jewellery	58	0.27	16560	66	0.80	45244	124	0.41	24400



4.18 Income source of sampled households

Income of the household is a basic parameter of standard of living reflecting the consumption/expenditure pattern thus having implications on various aspects like health, education, investments, borrowings etc. The average annual income of sampled households in 2019-20 has been given in the Table 4.18. It is clear that farming households were getting major proportion (81%) of their income from agriculture and allied activities with 8 per cent from live stock rearing. In case of non-farm income sources, pensions provided by the government formed seven per cent of income flow, salaries drawn from government/ private sector jobs five per cent, wages earned from casual labour were comprising four per cent in farming households. Per capita income of farm household was found to be Rs 69444, whereas for non-farm households it was Rs 41888.

On the other hand, non-farm households were having only 0.6 per cent of their annual income from livestock rearing. Major chunk (43%) of the income was being drawn from wage-earning activities, 34 per cent from salaries, 16 per cent from pensionary benefits drawn from the government, 4 per cent from the rent of leased-out land and another 3 per cent from ongoing business activity. Overall from the sample the proportion of non-farm income was 68 per cent and farm income 32 per cent, respectively.

4.19 Household expenditure pattern of sampled households

The outcome of income earning activity is the expenditure incurring activity. The analysis of household expenditure showed that 70 per cent of it was on food items, while 30

per cent was on non-food item heads. For farm families it was 63 per cent on food, while for non-farm households it was 72 per cent. This in is sync with economic theory, that expenditure on food decreases with increase in income level. Per household income of farm household was Rs. 334720 per annum while that of non-farm household was Rs. 195617 per annum (Table 4.19).

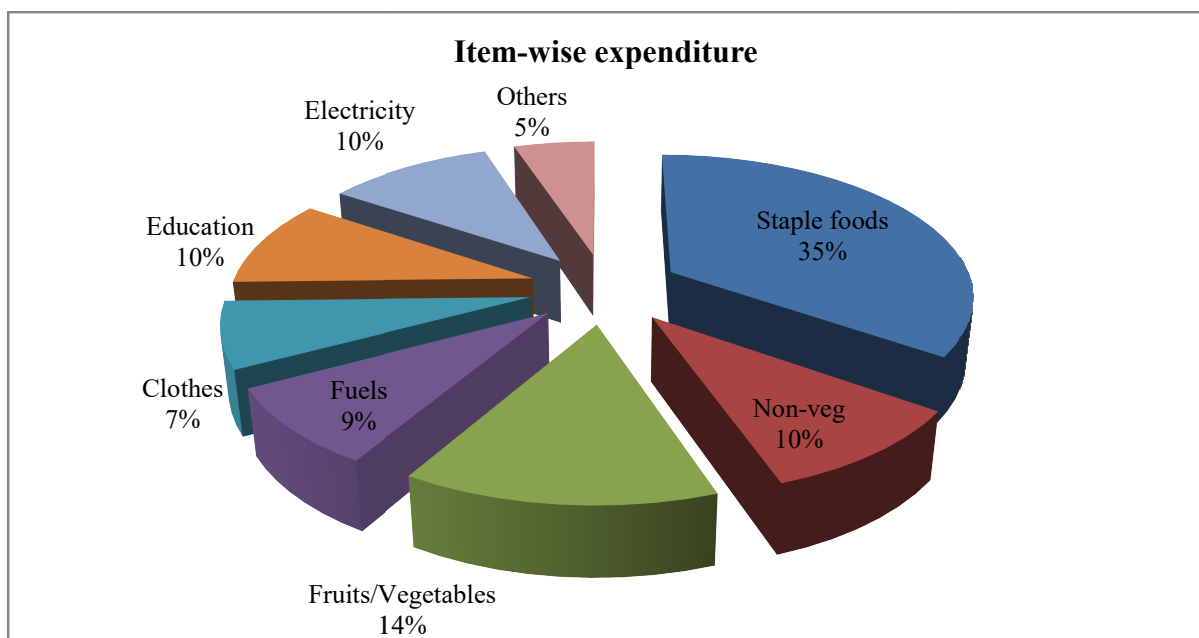
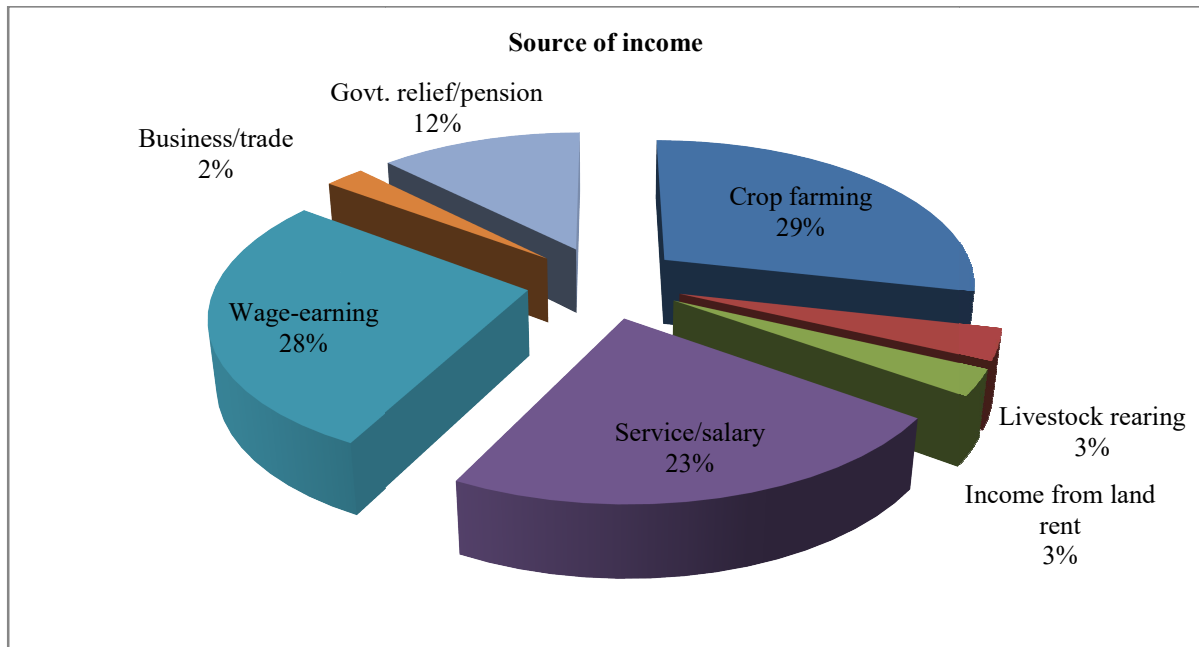


Table 4.18: Average annual net income of sampled households, 2019-20

(Rs/household)

Items	Non-Farm		Farm		Total	
	Rs	% to Total	Rs	% to Total	Rs	% to Total
Farming activity						
Crop farming	275	0.14	243537	72.76	66767	28.58
Livestock rearing	872	0.45	26890	8.03	7983	3.42
Sub-total (farming)	1147	0.59	270427	80.79	74750	31.99
Off-farm activity		0.00		0.00		0.00
Income from land rent	7339	3.75	4878	1.46	6667	2.85
Service/salary	66317	33.90	17073	5.10	52857	22.62
Wage-earning	83814	42.85	13988	4.18	64728	27.70
Business/trade	6477	3.31	3659	1.09	5707	2.44
Govt. relief/pension	30523	15.60	24695	7.38	28930	12.38
Sub-Total (Non-farming)	194470	99.41	64293	19.21	158888	68.01
Total	195617	100.00	334720	100.00	233638	100.00
Per capita net income	41888		69444		49605	

Table 4.19: Average annual expenditure of sampled households, 2019-20

(Rs/household)

Items	Non-Farm		Farm		Total	
	Rs	% to Total	Rs	% to Total	Rs	% to Total
Staple foods	21924	34.39	30640	35.35	24307	34.72
Milk/Egg/Fish/Chicken	8711	13.67	2280	2.63	6953	9.93
Fruits/Vegetables	8722	13.68	12354	14.25	9715	13.88
Processed foods (sweets /snacks/drinks/etc)	1170	1.84	4000	4.61	1943	2.78
Fuels charges (LPG/Coal etc)	5383	8.44	7896	9.11	6070	8.67
Others (food related)	133	0.21	573	0.66	253	0.36
Sub-total (food)	46044	72.23	57744	66.62	49242	70.33
Clothes	4533	7.11	6945	8.01	5193	7.42
Education	5443	8.54	10537	12.16	6835	9.76
Medical expenses	1076	1.69	1707	1.97	1248	1.78
Electricity, phone, DTH expenses	6453	10.12	9744	11.24	7353	10.50
Cycle/Bike/Tractor/etc	83	0.13	0	0.00	60	0.09
Furniture	23	0.04	0	0.00	17	0.02
Other purchase	92	0.14	0	0.00	67	0.10
Sub-total (non-food)	17702	27.77	28933	33.38	20772	29.67
Total expenditure	63746	100.00	86677	100.00	70014	100.00

The average annual household expenditure of farm household was Rs. 86677, while that of non-farm, it was Rs. 63746 and for overall sample, it was Rs. 70014 or Rs. 5835 per month. The proportion spent on staple foods was almost same in farm and non-farm households, but it was higher for fruits/vegetables, processed food items and fuel charges in farming households. The money spent on non-vegetarian food items along with milk was higher in non-farm households. As majority farm households were involved in cattle rearing, so money spent on purchase of milk was less in this category.

In non-food expenditure pattern, the proportion of money spent on education, electricity/ phone/DTH and clothing was higher in farm households. The medical expenses were almost similar in both the categories.

4.20 Savings of sampled households

Savings emerge from difference between income and expenditure of households. About 47 per cent of non-farm households and 80 per cent of farm households reported having savings. Farming households were keeping all their savings i.e. Rs. 39512 per household in the banks, while 96 per cent savings of non-farm households were kept in banks, with small proportion in post office or in LIC plans (Table 4.20).

Table 4.20: Savings of sampled households, 2019-20 (Rs/household)

Source	Non-Farm	Farm	Total
Number of household reported savings	102 (46.79%)	66 (80.49%)	168 (56.00%)
Savings in Bank	20298	39512	25550
Post office	505	0	367
LIC	294	0	213
Total	21096	39512	26130

4.21 Borrowings of the sampled households

‘Credit’ is short cut to avail future opportunities in present. In agriculture sector, returns being low causing less savings, credit becomes a necessity to adopt modern means of production. Otherwise, meagre savings will take years to accumulate and invest. Also risk and uncertainty being high in agriculture, farmers are hesitant to invest equity capital on farms (Table 4.21).

So, dependence on borrowings i.e. external source of capital is more in farming. The non-farm families also indulge in borrowings to tide over the gap between income and expenditure. It was found that 40 surveyed households (45%) were borrowing from commercial banks i.e. 12 non-farm and 28 farm families. Co-operative society was the source of credit for 20 farm households and 2 non-farm households. One non-farm household has availed a home loan of Rs 1.00 lakh from a private sector bank.

Table 4.21: Borrowings of sampled households during last 5 years

Source	Non-Farm	Farm	Total
Number of household borrowed loan			
Commercial bank	12 (38.71)	28 (49.12)	40 (45.45)
Cooperative society	2 (6.45)	20 (35.09)	22 (25.00)
Other private bank	1 (3.23)	-	1 (1.14)
Trader/money lender/Commission agents	16 (51.61)	9 (15.79)	25 (28.41)
Total	31 <i>14.22</i>	57 <i>69.51</i>	88 <i>29.33</i>
Amount borrowed (Rs/borrower)			
Commercial bank	178500 (53.40)	422857 (69.00)	349550 (54.25)
Cooperative society	22000 (6.58)	187200 (30.55)	172182 (26.72)
Other private bank	100000 (29.92)	-	100000 (15.52)
Trader/money lender/Commission agents	33750 (10.10)	2778 (0.45)	22600 (3.51)
Total	334250 (100.00)	612835 (100.00)	644332 (100.00)
Purpose of loan			
Farming	-	52 (91.23)	52 (59.09)
Home Loan	-	1 (1.75)	1 (1.14)
Personal loan (Study based migration)	15 (48.39)	4 (7.02)	19 (21.59)
Other (for work, accident)	16 (51.61)	1 (1.75)	17 (19.32)
Total	31 (100.00)	57 (100.00)	88 (100.00)
Amount outstanding (Rs/borrower)			
Commercial bank	80917 (51.42)	91429 (87.97)	88275 (56.94)
Cooperative society	8500 (5.40)	-	773 (0.50)
Other private bank	50000 (31.78)	-	50000 (32.25)
Trader/money lender/Commission agents	17938 (11.40)	12500 (12.03)	15980 (10.31)
Total	157354 (100.00)	103929 (100.00)	155028 (100.00)

Figures in brackets are the percentages to borrowers

Figures in the italic font are the percentages to total households

Twenty eight per cent of the households borrowed from non-institutional sources of credit like traders/money lenders/commission agents. So, majority of households tapping institutional sources of finance. The average amount borrowed was worked out to be Rs. 6.44 lakhs per borrower, with 54 per cent share from commercial banks and 26 per cent from Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society. The amount borrowed from informal sources was to the extent of 3 per cent. So far as purpose of the borrowing was concerned, major chunk of credit was for farming i.e. crop loans mainly. About 22 per cent of the borrowers have also availed personal loans mainly for study based migration of their wards. Other purposes of the loan include in case of emergency like accidents or to invest in ongoing work.

The amount outstanding of the borrowed funds was also high for commercial banks i.e. about 57 per cent of the total outstanding amount, followed by 32 per cent of private sector banks and 10 per cent to non-institutional sources.

Thus, it was found that institutional sources of credit were the dominant sources of borrowings among the sampled households. The dependence of villagers was less on traders or money lenders. Apart from farming purpose, the people were also availing personal loans though the rate of interest was high in this case.

4.22 Livestock enterprise in the sampled households

Dairy has emerged as a major allied enterprise in Punjab agriculture. Commonly, it is being undertaken on small scale by the households especially the farming ones, to optimise the resource use efficiency along with the advantage of some regular flow of income to carry on their day-to-day expenditure. It was found in the survey that 16 per cent of non-farm households and 85 per cent of the farm households indulged in dairy occupation.

Table 4.22: Number of households having dairy animals

Particulars	Non-Farm	Farm	Total
No of households	34 (15.60)#	70 (85.37)#	104 (34.67)#
Household used milk for home consumption	31 (91.18)*	16 (22.86)*	47 (45.19)*
No of households selling milk	3 (8.82)*	54 (77.14)*	57 (54.81)*

Per cent to total number of households

* Percent to total number of dairy farmers

The total number of milch cattle owned by non-farm households was 70, while in farm households, the number was 226. Majority of non-farm households i.e. 91 per cent were using the milk produced only for self consumption, while 77 per cent of the farm households were selling milk. It showed that marketable surplus of farm households was higher (Table 4.22). No other livestock enterprise was found in the sampled households.

4.23 Approach to any elected representatives

Democratic set-up ensures the hearing of voice of masses. People can approach the elected members at various fora, be it Member of Parliament, Member of legislative assembly, panchayat etc. with their complaints. The soundness of the system is judged by this approachability and transparent working.

About 9 per cent of the sampled households, 8 per cent of the non-farm and 13 per cent of farm households reported approaching Panchayat members, mostly with their personal or family issues, 93 per cent have sought the help on two occasions. Only about 11 per cent of these were fully satisfied with the solution provided by this institution, 18 per cent found to be partially satisfied, while 71 per cent were not satisfied at all. Thus, the problem solving capability of elected members was found to be limited to a large extent (Table 4.23).

Table 4.23: Approach to any elected representatives

Particulars	Non-Farm		Farm		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Ever approached any elected representatives						
Yes	17	7.80	11	13.41	28	9.33
No	201	92.20	71	86.59	272	90.67
Total						
To whom						
Panchayat	17	100.00	11	100.00	28	100.00
How many times						
Once	1	5.88	1	5.88	2	7.14
Twice	16	94.12	10	58.82	26	92.86
Total	17	100.00	11	64.71	28	100.00
Resolved satisfactorily						
Mostly	1	5.88	2	11.76	3	10.71
Somehow	3	17.65	2	11.76	5	17.86
Not at all	13	76.47	7	41.18	20	71.43
Total	17	100.00	11	64.71	28	100.00

4.24 Government assistance under sponsored schemes

Government has launched various schemes for the benefit of rural masses from time to time. Some are related to agricultural aspects, some to employment and others to general social welfare. The villagers receiving these benefits and extent of their satisfaction pertaining to these schemes has been discussed in Table 4.24.

Kisan credit card (KCC) has become a major instrument of availing hassle free short term credit for variable inputs in agriculture. About 82 per cent of the farming households were found to be having KCC and all of them were availing credit under it. About 94 per cent of the KCC holders were satisfied with its use and rest were partially satisfied. Seven per cent

of the non-farm households, owning land, but have leased it out to others, were also having KCC and availing benefit of it. Sixty nine per cent of these were satisfied with the scheme.

MGNREGA was a flagship programme of UPA Government to generate assured employment especially in rural areas. About 31 per cent of non-farm families, were enrolled under it and getting employment. About 51 per cent of these have shown satisfaction with the working of scheme, while rest were partially satisfied. On the other hand, none of the farm family was MGNREGA card holder.

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM- Kisan) is a central government scheme to give income support of Rs. 6000 per annum to farm families across the country in three equal instalments of Rs. 2000 each, every four months. It covers all the farmers, irrespective of the size of their land holdings. In the survey, 4 per cent of the non-farm families, owner of land holding but having leased it out, also got benefit of it while 66 per cent of farming households were the beneficiaries of the scheme. 41 per cent of the beneficiaries of agricultural households were not satisfied at all, as 34 per cent have not received the money transfer. 50 per cent of these were satisfied to some extent and 9 per cent were mostly satisfied. On the other hand non-farm families were partially satisfied with the money received as these have received one instalment of Rs. 2000.

Table 4.24: Government assistance under sponsored schemes

Particulars	Non-Farm		Farm		Total	
	Number	% to Total	Number	% to Total	Number	% to Total
KCC card						
Entitlement						
Yes	16	7.34	67	81.71	83	27.67
No	202	92.66	15	18.29	217	72.33
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Received benefit						
Yes	16	7.34	67	81.71	83	27.67
No	202	92.66	15	18.29	217	72.33
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Extent of satisfaction						
Somehow	5	31.25	4	5.97	9	10.84
mostly	11	68.75	63	94.03	74	89.16
Total	16	100.00	67	100.00	83	100.00
MANREGA						
Entitlement						
Yes	67	30.73	0	0.00	67	22.33
No	151	69.27	82	100.00	233	77.67
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Received						

benefit						
Yes	67	30.73	0	0.00	67	22.33
No	151	69.27	82	100.00	233	77.67
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Extent of satisfaction						
Somehow	33	49.25	0	0.00	33	49.25
mostly	34	50.75	0	0.00	34	50.75
Total	67	100.00	0	0.00	67	100.00
PM-Kisan						
Entitlement						
Yes	8	3.67	54	65.85	62	20.67
No	210	96.33	28	34.15	238	79.33
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Received benefit						
Yes	8	3.67	54	65.85	62	20.67
No	210	96.33	28	34.15	238	79.33
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Extent of satisfaction						
Not at all	0	0.00	22	40.74	22	35.48
Somehow	8	100.00	27	50.00	35	56.45
mostly	0	0.00	5	9.26	5	8.06
Total	8	100.00	54	100.00	62	100.00
Old age pension scheme						
Entitlement						
Yes	44	20.18	20	24.39	64	21.33
No	174	79.82	62	75.61	236	78.67
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Received benefit						
Yes	44	20.18	20	24.39	64	21.33
No	174	79.82	62	75.61	236	78.67
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Extent of satisfaction						
Not at all	11	25.00	6	30.00	17	26.56
Somehow	28	63.64	10	50.00	38	59.38
mostly	5	11.36	4	20.00	9	14.06
Total	44	100.00	20	100.00	64	100.00
Widow pension scheme						
Entitlement						
Yes	7	3.21	2	2.44	9	3.00
No	211	96.79	80	97.56	291	97.00
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Received						

benefit						
Yes	7	3.21	2	2.44	9	3.00
No	211	96.79	80	97.56	291	97.00
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Extent of satisfaction						
Not at all	0	0.00	1	50.00	1	11.11
Somehow	5	71.43	1	50.00	6	66.67
mostly	2	28.57	0	0.00	2	22.22
Total	7	100.00	2	100.00	9	100.00
PM UJJALA						
Entitlement						
Yes	35	16.06	0	0.00	35	11.67
No	183	83.94	82	100.00	265	88.33
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Received benefit						
Yes	35	16.06	0	0.00	35	11.67
No	183	83.94	82	100.00	265	88.33
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Extent of satisfaction						
Not at all	3	7.89	0	0.00	3	8.57
Somehow	18	47.37	0	0.00	18	51.43
mostly	14	36.84	0	0.00	14	40.00
Total	35	92.11	0	0.00	35	100.00
APL Card Holder						
Entitlement						
Yes	165	75.69	34	41.46	199	66.33
No	53	24.31	48	58.54	101	33.67
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Received benefit						
Yes	165	75.69	34	41.46	199	66.33
No	53	24.31	48	58.54	101	33.67
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Extent of satisfaction						
Not at all	12	7.27	3	8.82	15	7.54
Somehow	94	56.97	18	52.94	112	56.28
mostly	59	35.76	13	38.24	72	36.18
Total	165	100.00	34	100.00	199	100.00
Mid-day meal						
Entitlement						
Yes	181	83.03	77	93.90	258	86.00
No	37	16.97	5	6.10	42	14.00
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Received benefit						
Yes	181	83.03	77	93.90	258	86.00

No	37	16.97	5	6.10	42	14.00
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Extent of satisfaction						
Not at all	0	0	0	0	0	0
Somehow	83	45.86	15	19.48	98	37.98
mostly	98	54.14	62	80.52	160	62.02
Total	181	100.00	77	100.00	258	100.00

Old age pension is the monetary benefit provided to the aged people by the state government. 20 per cent of family members of non-farm households and 24 per cent of farming households were availing this scheme. But most of the time delayed payment and discontinuation in between were the reasons for low level of satisfaction. So, in all only 14 per cent of the beneficiaries were mostly satisfied, with higher proportion (20%) in farm households. 27 per cent were not satisfied at all, while 59 per cent were found to be partially satisfied with the scheme.

Widow pension is another benefit being provided by the State Government. In non-farm households, there were seven members and in farm households two beneficiaries of this scheme in the sample. 67 per cent of the total beneficiaries were partially satisfied, while 22 per cent were fully satisfied with the working of scheme indicating better performance of it.

PM-UJJALA is another scheme initiated by NDA Government to provide clean and hygienic fuel to poor households by providing subsidised LPG energy source. 16 per cent of non-farm households have reported receiving benefit of it. None of the farm household availed this scheme. 37 per cent of the beneficiaries showed full satisfaction, while 47 per cent were partially satisfied. About eight per cent of these showed dissatisfaction with the working of the scheme.

None of the surveyed families was falling under BPL category. But about 76 per cent of non-farm families and 41 per cent of the farm families were found to be APL card holder and receiving benefits under it. In non-farm category, the proportion of fully satisfied households was about 36 per cent, 57 per cent partially satisfied, while seven per cent were not satisfied at all. On similar lines, in farm households, 38 per cent of card holder beneficiaries were satisfied, 53 per cent partially satisfied and nine per cent were not satisfied at all with the performance of scheme.

Another major Government sponsored scheme was mid-day meal, prevailing in the Government schools. Here 83 per cent of the non-farm households and about 94 per cent of the farming households in the survey were availing this benefit. But out of those receiving the facility, 54 per cent of non-farm households were satisfied, while 46 per cent were partially

satisfied with it. In case of farm households this proportion was about 81 per cent and 19 per cent, respectively.

Thus, it was found that some government sponsored schemes like KCC, MGNREGA, widow pension scheme, PM-UJJALA have shown high level of satisfaction among the surveyed households as compared to other schemes.

4.25 Relative status in the village power structure

Social status in the village power structure enables access to many other parameters like membership to village level and higher institutions, hold over society in social, political matters as well as social influencer, besides adding to confidence level and prestige of the individual or of the household.

Table 4.25: Relative status of sampled households in the village power structure

Relative status	Non-Farm		Farm		Total	
	Number	% to Total	Number	% to Total	Number	% to Total
High	10	4.59	23	28.05	33	11.00
Low	91	41.74	3	3.66	94	31.33
Medium	117	53.67	56	68.29	173	57.67
Grand Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Reasons of status						
Economic Condition	194	88.99	76	92.68	270	90.00
Caste	2	0.92	3	3.66	5	1.67
None	13	5.96		0.00	13	4.33
Others (qualification, political affiliation)	9	4.13	3	3.66	12	4.00
Grand Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00

It was found that only about 5 per cent of non-farm households and 28 per cent of the farm households considered their status as ‘high’ in village hierarchy, while 54 per cent of non-farm and 68 of farm families found their status as medium and rest considered themselves as low in the power structure. Economic status was considered as the major cause of relative position i.e. high or low in the village power structure attributed by 90 per cent of total households. Four per cent of the households cited educational qualification or political affiliations as the reason for their social status and about two per cent of the total households reported caste as the reason behind their social position (Table 4.25).

4.26 Sources of advice/decision to sampled households

Rational decision making sometimes becomes complex and needs some outside assistance. The advice can be sought from various quarters. The response was also gathered from surveyed households regarding their source of advice pertaining to different aspects.

Decisions related to livelihood are major ones. But majority of the households were taking these among the family members itself. Five per cent of the non-farm households and only one per cent of the farm families were seeking advice of relatives and friends on this aspect. Social matters like ceremonies, rituals etc. also require some decisions. Friends and relatives were found to be the source of providing advice in these matters as cited by 96 per cent of the total households. Neighbours were also playing some part in these decisions (Table 4.26).

Table 4.26: Sources of advice/decision to sampled households

To whom you approach for any advice/decision	Non-Farm		Farm		Total	
	Number	% to Total	Number	% to Total	Number	% to Total
For livelihood						
Family	207	94.95	81	98.78	288	96.00
Relatives and friends	11	5.05	1	1.22	12	4.00
Grand Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Social						
Friends and relatives	207	94.95	81	98.78	288	96.00
Neighbours	11	5.05	1	1.22	12	4.00
Grand Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Education						
Friends	2	0.92		0.00	2	0.67
Relatives	206	94.50	82	100.00	288	96.00
Other (teachers)	10	4.59		0.00	10	3.33
Grand Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
For legal						
Panchayat	2	0.92	4	4.88	6	2.00
Advocate	0	0.00	2	2.44	2	0.67
Not applicable	216	99.08	76	92.68	292	97.33
Grand Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00

Matters related to education of the youngsters in the family affect their future course of life. Sometimes family elders cannot take decisions on their own due to lack of knowledge about various fields and their own low level of literacy. So, advice is sought from others in decision making. Relatives were the major source of advice in this aspect, as all the farm households and 94 per cent of the non-farm households quoted this source. About five per

cent of non-farm households had also discussed with the teachers of their wards, while taking the decisions.

Issues especially disputes, may be in the family or among the villagers or even other matters may need same legal advice. But majority of the surveyed households did not report ever seeking legal advice. About five per cent of the, farm families had taken the help of ‘panchayat’ and two per cent from the legal expert i.e. advocate in legal matters.

Thus, it is clear that surveyed households do not depend on outside help in decision making pertaining to different aspects. Their major sources of advice were family, friends and relatives in various matters.

HOUSEHOLD SURVEY OF CULTIVATOR HOUSEHOLDS PART-II

4.27 Size of operational holding of sampled farm households

Size of operational holding is the most important aspect of farming households having impact on other socio-economic parameters like income, expenditure pattern, consumption, borrowing status, living standard, asset holding etc. Size of holding is managed by leasing operations affecting the resource use efficiency.

Table 4.27: Size of operational holding of sampled farm households

(Acres)

Particulars	Non-farm	Farm	Total
Owned land	0.19	2.81 (37.72)	0.91 (44.61)
Leased-in	0.00	4.70 (60.09)	1.29 (63.24)
Leased-out	0.19	0.06 (0.81)	0.16 (7.84)
Total operational land	0.00	7.45 (100.00)	2.04 (100.00)

It was found that the average size of operational holding was 7.45 acres in the surveyed households. Out of it only 38 per cent was the proportion of owned land, while 60 per cent was composed of leased-in land, but leased-out was less than one per cent. As discussed, 18 households in sample have leased-out their entire owned land to farming households. In view to high rental value of land (Rs.50000-52000 per acre per annum) the leasing-in/out of agricultural land was found to be a common practice in the village (Table 4.27).

4.28 Cropping pattern of sampled farm households

Cropping pattern refers to the spatial arrangement of crops followed in an area or the proportion of area under various crops at a point of time. Mainly two crop seasons were

observed on the sampled farms. In *khariif* season, paddy was the main crop being cultivated on 45 per cent of gross cropped area and about 4 per cent was under fodder (sorghum-bajra) crop. A miniscule proportion was found under maize crop. In *rabi* season, wheat was found to be cultivated on 42 per cent of gross cropped area, potato on 3.8 per cent and barseem fodder on 3.6 per cent of it. In *zaid* season, spring maize was being cultivated on 0.33 per cent of gross cropped area. In all, average gross cropped area was 14.95 acres among the sampled farms. Thus, the cropping intensity was found to be 200.67 per cent, at par with the state average (Table 4.28).

Table 4.28: Cropping pattern of sampled farm households

Crops/season	Average area	% to GCA
<i>Kharif</i>		
Paddy	6.80	45.48
Maize	0.05	0.33
Fodder (Bajra)	0.60	4.01
Total	7.45	49.83
<i>Rabi</i>		
Wheat	6.34	42.41
Fodder (Barseem)	0.54	3.61
Potato	0.57	3.81
Total	7.45	49.83
<i>Other season (Zaid)</i>		
Spring Maize	0.05	0.33
Gross cropped area (GCA)	14.95	100.00
Cropping intensity	200.67	

4.29 Perceptions of sampled households about changes in the village during last decade

Some visible changes were perceived by the villagers regarding different aspects of the village and its people during the last decade. These perceptions have been discussed in Table 4.29 .

All the household agreed that rainfall pattern has changed over time. It was found that rainfall has declined overtime in the area. The pattern has also become quite erratic i.e. duration of rainy period has decreased, while it's intensity has increased. There has been increased use of farm inputs especially fertilizer usage while some farm households also reported about high use of pesticides. Due to marginal increase in doses of agro-chemicals, it is thought that incidence of pests/diseases has increased as some pests have developed

resistance to the pesticide doses. But 90 per cent of the households denied about it and were of the opinion that it was at the same level.

Table 4.29: Perceptions of sampled households about change during last 10 years

Particulars	Non-Farm		Farm		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Change in Rainfall						
Yes	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
No	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Increased in incidence of disease						
Yes	25	11.47	6	7.32	31	10.33
No	193	88.53	76	92.68	269	89.67
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Economic condition of the villagers						
Improved	38	17.43	29	35.37	67	22.33
No change	180	82.57	53	64.63	233	77.67
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Economic condition of household						
Improved	87	39.91	65	79.27	152	50.67
No change	131	60.09	17	20.73	148	49.33
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Village infrastructure						
Improved	171	78.44	72	87.80	243	81.00
No change	47	21.56	10	12.20	57	19.00
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00
Agricultural situation						
Improved	0	0.00	1	1.22	1	0.33
Deteriorate	4	1.83	0	0.00	4	1.33
No change	214	98.17	81	98.78	295	98.33
Total	218	100.00	82	100.00	300	100.00

Majority of the sampled households i.e. 65 per cent of farming and 83 per cent of non-farming households were of the opinion that economic condition of the villagers is same as it was ten years back, while rest thought that it has improved during this time.

Village infrastructure was the one aspect which has seen major changes like pavement of roads, construction/cleaning of pond, street light installation etc., recently. It was thought to have improved by 81 per cent of the households, more so by farm households i.e. 88 per cent during the past decade.

Agriculture situation is of utmost importance especially for farm households. But in the opinion of 98 per cent the households, both farm and non-farm, there has been no change during the last 10 years, rather one per cent thought that it has deteriorated over time. The increasing cost of cultivation causing decrease in profit margins was thought to be the reason of static agricultural status.

So, the perceptions of sampled households have depicted a moderate picture of village on various aspects except in case of infrastructure development during the past decade. It showed that economy of the village, whether of farm families or non-farm households, is not so healthy. It is perceived to have not improved and at the most static overtime.

4.30 Major problems as per the sampled households

As has been discussed, the villagers did not perceive the growth of the village in the past decade as good, be it economic condition, agricultural situation, rainfall pattern etc. The sampled households were questioned about the main problems existing in the village. The major concern emerged from them was about unemployment among the villagers. Employment affects economic condition and has far reaching implications for the household. So, 65 per cent of the non-farm households and 39 per cent of the farm households cited this as the major problem especially of the youth, as they were not getting adequate jobs and were engaged in casual labour/ marginal work or in cultivation activities of farm households which can be best considered as partially employed.

Table 4.30: Major problems as per the sampled households

Particulars	Non-Farm		Farm		Total	
	Number	% to Total	Number	% to Total	Number	% to Total
Un-employment	141	64.68	32	39.02	173	57.67
Poor condition of roads and streets	161	73.85	66	80.49	227	75.67
Poor condition of dispensary and medical facilities	76	34.86	40	48.78	116	38.67
Poor sanitation and sewerage system	102	46.79	52	63.41	154	51.33
Inadequate water supply	23	10.55	7	8.54	30	10.00
Poor access of government schemes (no suwida centre, no playground etc)	7	3.21	5	6.10	12	4.00
Pollution from factories	19	8.72	7	8.54	26	8.67
Problems of stray animals	0	0.00	32	39.02	32	10.67
Others (cleanliness, education, alcohol consumption	22	10.09	11	13.41	33	11.00

Another major problem cited was about sanitation and sewerage system. Though 100 per cent of sampled households were having sanitary toilets and access to water, but still the system was not working properly. But on the whole, the village was 'open defecation free'.

At the time of survey, the process of paving roads and streets was in progress. So, this was given as a problem of the village but programme has been completed successfully.

The village has not witnessed any major medical issue in the past decade, but households have shown dissatisfaction over the condition of Government dispensary and medical facilities existing in the village. Visits of medical practitioners were stated as less regular.

'Sohian' village like other parts of the state is also facing the menace of stray animals be it cattle or dogs. These cause huge damage to cultivated fields and standing crops, also posing threats to life of people as instances of road accidents caused by stray cattle and dog bites have been increasing in the village.

The whole village was having in house access to water, but 10 per cent of household complained about inadequate water supply.

Some industrial growth has taken place in the close vicinity of the village. Though these factories are providing some job opportunities to the people, but about 9 per cent showed concern about the pollution emanating from these and causing health issues.

Among other problems, lack of play ground in the village, less awareness about government schemes, high level of alcohol consumption were also given by sampled households (Table 4.30).

4.31 Suggestions for improvement in the village by sampled households

On the basis of problems highlighted by the sampled households, these were asked to give suggestions to deal with the issues. As unemployment was cited as the major problem so some sort of job providing activities like agro-processing units for potato, pollution free factories can be installed in nearby areas. The industrial units can have the privilege of good rail-road connectivity and cheap labour existing in the village. Government medical officials can be approached to strengthen the existing health facilities. Similarly, villagers should raise the concern about problems of sanitation and sewerage system collectively.

Awareness camps can be organised with the help of some NGOs or cooperative society about the menace of drugs or alcohol consumption in the village. Addicts should be referred to some de-addiction centre.

Thus, it was found that majority households in the village were engaged in non-farm activities and agricultural holdings of cultivator households were of small size. The village was having all basic as well as some modern amenities and infrastructural facilities present. By and large agricultural as well as economic condition of village folks has remained during the past decades. Lack of employment opportunities, increased drug and alcohol consumption and free roaming of stray cattle were the major problems countered by the villages.

CHAPTER-V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Introduction

‘Survey’ can be described as a measured plan and description of any region, part of any country pertaining to various aspects, ‘Village Survey’ in that sense describes features, elements of rural society in general and of that location in particular. The present study was designed by the coordinating centre, AERC, Visva-Bharti. The survey was aimed to bring out the various aspects of village ‘Sohian’ right from historical background, socio-economic characteristics, implementation of latest Government schemes to major concerns etc.

Purpose of village surveys is basically to understand the rural societies in the world. Literature is replete with village surveys may be in sample or census form carried out with different motives like study of farming systems (Ganwar, 2004; Singh and Sidhu, 2004), employment and earnings (Bhoumik, 2007), food and nutrition (Swaminathan Research Foundation 2018, Seini and Nyanpeng, 2003) etc.

5.2 Objectives of the study: The specific objectives of the present study were:

1. To highlight the basic structure of village ‘Sohian’ in terms of social, cultural, economic, demographic and other features.
2. To analyse the existing structure along with changes taking place in various aspects of the village under study.
3. To bring out the perceptions of the people about problems faced pertaining to various Government schemes and suggests policy measures to tackle these issues.

5.3 Sampling design

As per the sampling design and format of the study, village ‘Sohian’ was selected for the base-line survey to be undertaken. This village is situated in central zone of the state, out of three agro-climatic zones of the state. It was decided to study one village from each zone in one year. The village study was comprised of three schedules i.e. village level information, group discussion based information on various parameters and household survey about socio-economic aspects, government schemes, perceptions etc.

5.4 Major findings of the study

1. The village ‘Sohian’ is located in central agro-climatic zone of the state having a humid sub-tropical climate. Average rainfall was about 587 millimetres per annum. The village was having an area of 594.5 hectares having combination soil.
2. The total population of the village was 2714 persons in 2019 with 46 per cent males. There were 48 per cent general category households and 45 of scheduled caste

category. Nearly, 96 per cent of the villagers were followers of ‘Sikh’ religion. About 82 per cent of the population was literate in the village.

3. Farm and allied activities were the main occupation of 36 per cent households, while others were engaged in non-farm activities. About 86 per cent of the village area was under cultivation with paddy, wheat and potato as main crops. Majority of the agricultural operations were mechanised, but custom hiring of machinery and implements was the common practice in the village. Village was having only ‘dairy’ as the livestock enterprise that too had declined overtime. There were mainly buffaloes and crossbred (HF) cows. There were two milk societies in the village, but Primary Agricultural Cooperative Society (PACS) is located in the adjoining village.
4. The communication and transport connectivity of the village was found to be good.
5. There is a post office, scheduled commercial bank, medical sub-centre, water tank with piped RO water supply, ration depot under Public Distribution System (PDS) in the village itself.
6. All public welfare schemes launched by national/state Governments like MGNREGA, PM-Kisan, Old-age pension, Widow pension, Mid-day Meal, Anganwari etc. were found to be operational in the village.
7. Group discussions with villagers were carried out to capture the issues concerning incidence of various shocks, coping strategies, perceptions about changes in the village etc. It was found that there has been no major natural shock during the past five years except for declining trend of rainfall. Similarly, no violent incident took place in the village. In personal shocks category, four suicides due to individual reasons were reported in the same span of time. Villagers reported addiction to drugs/alcohol as well as menace of stray animals as the two major problems being faced by them. Motivating the addicts through lectures and dealing with stray animals by hiring private parties were their coping strategies.
8. The depth of water table was reported to have declined as revealed through group discussions. Fertilizer usage was found to have increased over time, but not of pesticides. People were growing mainly the recommended varieties of the crops. The groups perceived cordiality in the village, improvement in infrastructure, but deterioration in economic conditions of people, stagnation in agricultural condition and increased incidence of drug abuse and alcoholism in the village.
9. The third part of the study pertains to information collected from 300 sampled households having 82 farm households and 218 non-farm households. The average family size of households was 4.71 and of unitary type. Average number of earners

including pensioners was 2.06. Majority were male headed households of general category in farm families and scheduled caste category in non-farm families respectively.

10. Employment availability was 227 days per annum for the sampled households. These have seen migration of 16 family members to various countries for study/work purpose between 2014-2019. In sampled households about 12 per cent members were found to be illiterate, but 31 per cent have attended the school up to secondary level. About 67 per cent of the students in the sampled households were enrolled in Government schools.
11. The beneficiaries of Government schemes, showed that 66 per cent of the sampled households were APL card holders under PDS and 82 per cent of farm households were having KCC. About 31 per cent of non-farm households were MGNAREGA card holders and 99 per cent of the sampled households were financially included in terms of having bank accounts. All the sampled households were having access to metered electric supply, piped drinking water and sanitary toilets. LPG was the mode of cooking in 99 per cent of the sampled households.
12. No food security issues were there in the households under study. Residence ownership was there for 299 households and cultivable land by all the farm households. Nearly 39 per cent of farm households were owning tractors. Other assets owned by these households included two/ four wheelers. refrigerators, television and some jewellery articles.
13. Crop income was the major component of household income in farm households, while wage earning was in non-farm ones. Per household income as well as expenditure were higher in case of farm households than non-farm households. A saving amount of Rs. 26130 per household per annum was reported by 56 per cent of sampled households, where as borrowing were to the extent of Rs. 644332 per borrower household i.e. 29 per cent of the sample. Larger proportion of borrowed amount was for farming purpose and from institutional sources of finance.
14. About 58 per cent of the studied households ranked their status as in medium category in village power structure.
15. The sampled households were relying mainly on family and friends for decision making on various aspects.
16. The information on cultivation aspects brought out that average size of operational holding among the sampled households was 2.04 acres, with high proportion of

leased-in land. Paddy was the main *kharif* crop, while wheat and potato were grown in *rabi* season by the sampled farm households.

17. On the whole the sampled households perceived that economic as well as agricultural condition of them was more or less same as it was a decade ago.
18. It was felt that rainfall pattern has become erratic but infrastructure in the village has shown some signs of improvement over time.

5.5 Policy Implications

1. The group discussions as well as household survey have highlighted the declining profitability in agriculture. The profit margins were found to be shrinking in wake of increasing cost of cultivation. So, some efforts as the part of the Government are needed to make the crops cultivation remunerative. Farmers are to be educated about excessive use of fertilizers/pesticides etc. to reduce the crop expenses by making them aware about package of practices for different crops.
2. The ground water depth in village was found to have declined drastically over time. Paddy a water intensive crop being the main *kharif* crop of the village. So, there is need to go for crop diversification in favour of less water requiring crops to arrest the falling ground water table.
3. Management of stray cattle has been reported as a major problem in the village survey. People were paying from their own pockets to manage these cattle. Government should devise measures and construct 'sheds' for the stray cattle to check the undesired expenditure of village households.
4. Addiction of villagers to alcohol and other drug substances was the major problem as come out in the survey. Panchayat was doing efforts by creating awareness about this vice through door-to-door guidance, by organizing camps, sending the addicts to de-addiction centres etc. The administration can stop the availability of these drugs with the help of police personnel by strictly enforcing the law.

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Appendix I: Comments on the draft report

Title of the draft report examined: Village Survey Study

1. **Date of receipt of the Draft report:** 27th January 2021
2. **Date of dispatch of the comments:** 5th February, 2021
3. **Comments of Draft Report:**

1	Title of report	Village Survey Study in Punjab (Sohian Village)
2	Date of Received of Draft Report	27 th January 2021
3	Date of Dispatch of the Comments	5 th February, 2021
4	Comments on the Objectives of the Study	All the objectives of the study are Comprehensively addressed
5	Comments on the Methodology	There are no comments on the Methodology Part of the Study
6	Comments on Analysis, Organization, Presentation etc.	i. The Study is well written though there are minor typographical error in some parts of the draft, attention should be given to rectify it.
		ii. In the demographic profile it has been stated that number of households in the surveyed village have decreased and interestingly Female population has increased significantly than male population. A rosy picture indeed defying the usual national demographical composition. But in Sec III on Page 32 during analysis of house hold survey it has been clearly mentioned that there exists a biased sex ratio, where birth rate of male outweighs the female birth rate. Please check it.
		iii. No pasture or fallow land are available in the village. Although a mini scale numbers of households are engaged in the dairying and animal husbandry. One or two lines could be written about catering of their live stocks.
		iv. A brief out line about non-farm activities of the villages could also be mentioned.
		v. It's very unusual to discern "no change in medical

		expenditure during the last five years”. Please check it.
7	References	No comments
8	General Remarks	Despite gradual increase in MSP in various crops over the years, it has been mentioned that economic condition (income) of the farmers either remain stable or deteriorated. A sort description of non-assimilation of benefits owing to hike of MSP by the farmers could also be mentioned
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapterization of the report is not done
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objective / Methodology / Review of literature is may be included as decided in the project
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General presentation of tables uniformity
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Source of data in view tables are to be incorporated
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalin’s / Alignment & presentation needs in prominent.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the chapters design.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summery & Conclusion to be added (Policy indicated)
9	Over all view on Acceptability of Report	The report may be accepted after incorporating the above points.

B C Roy
Director, AERC
Visva-Bharti, West Bengal

Appendix II: Action taken report on the comments of draft report entitled 'Village Survey Study'

All the comments were taken into consideration while finalizing the report. The point-wise detail of answer to various queries is as follows:

1. Comments on analysis, organisation, presentation

6 (i) Typographical errors have been rectified.

6 (ii) Female populations in the reported year has improved, but overall there is adverse sex-ratio (895) in the state.

6 (iii) There was no land under pastures or fallow land in the village. In village under study as well as state as a whole, practice of leaving fallow land has declined to a large extent in wake of changed cropping pattern since advent of Green Revolution. The cropping intensity in the state is about 190 per cent. Livestock rearing households grow fodder crops as well as purchase feed for nutrition needs of their animals.

6 (iv) The village was having a dominant proportion of households engaged in non-farm activities rather than cultivator households. The main non-farm activities undertaken in the village were casual labour, salaried jobs (Government and private), marginal work etc.

6 (v) Regarding the statement 'no change in medical expenditure during the last five years it was found in the survey as well as through group discussions (GD) that the village people didn't encounter any major disease outbreak or epidemic during the last five years. People suffering from common/ chronic ailments were using same/ recommended doses of medicines over time. So, they did not report any substantial change in the medical expenses during recent years.

2. General remarks

8. (i) The analysis of comparison between increase in minimum support price (MSP) of main crops of Punjab i.e. wheat and paddy, compared to increase in cost of cultivation of these crops showed that during the past few years increase in MSP and gross returns is almost to the same extent. So, economic condition of farmers was found to be more or less stagnant with no change in it.

8 (ii) The report has been divided into chapters.

8 (iii) Needful done

8 (iv) Needful done

8 (v) Secondary sources of data have been added, rest of the analysis is based on primary survey.

8 (vi) Needful done

8 (vii) Chapter has been added

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P A U, Ludhiana