

DAKSHIN DINAJPUR

Overall scenario of the district

Dakshin Dinajpur district is situated in the north Bengal. It is surrounded by Malda and North Dinajpur district. It also shares international boundary with Bangladesh.

Dakshin Dinajpur is predominantly an agricultural district with large area of land being under cultivation. The district is drained by a number of North-South flowing rivers like Atreyee, Purnabhaba, Tangon and Brahmani, to give rise to a sizeable but unorganized fishing community.

The district constitutes of [as per district statistical handbook, 2009]

- ✓ Sub division - 2
- ✓ Municipalities - 2
- ✓ Blocks - 8

The district is the least populated district in West Bengal and it is 8th in terms of sex ratio among all other districts of West Bengal.

District Profile:

Population:

According to Census Data (2011), the Total Population of the district is 16,70,931 out of which there are 8,55,104 males (51.17%) & 8,15,827 females (48.83%). The population density in the district is 753 persons per sq km.

Some of the major areas in terms of density of population (according to 2001 census) are:

- Balurghat (M) (12977 persons per sq. km),
- Gangarampur (M) (5202 persons per sq. km),
- Hili (851 persons per sq. km),
- Gangarampur Block (655 persons per sq. km),
- Banshihari (621 persons per sq. km)

Distribution of population over different age group (Census, 2001):

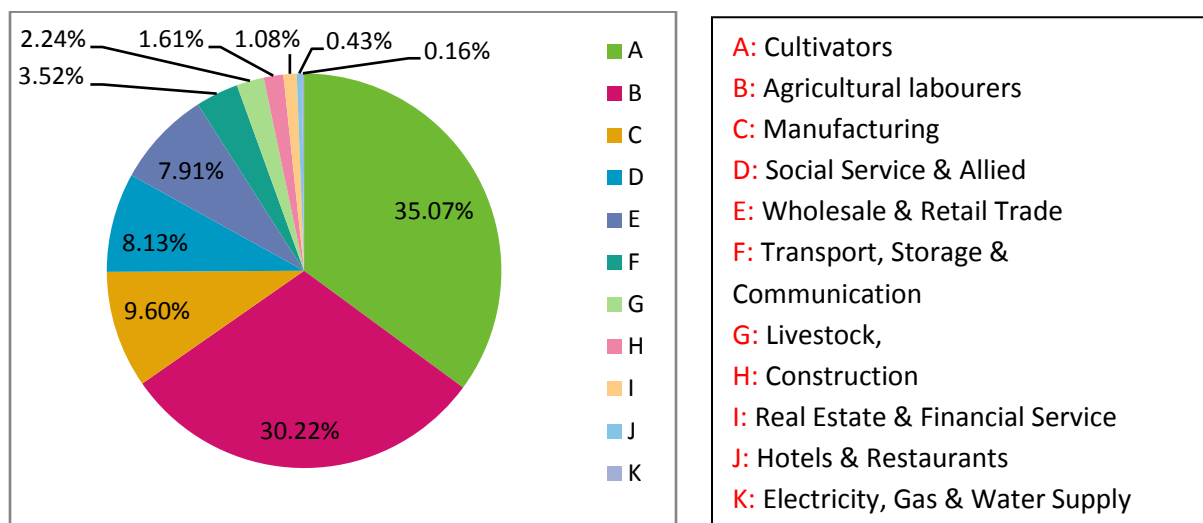
Age group	% of total population
0-4	10.79
05-24	41.69
25-59	40.91
60 and above	6.44

Source: Census, 2001

Around 0.52% total population, 15,03,178 (2001) living in the district are from outside of West Bengal, among them, notable states are:

- ✓ Bihar,
- ✓ Uttar Pradesh,
- ✓ Jharkhand
- ✓ Assam

Work force constitutes 36.89% of total population and the distribution of the same is as follows:



Source: Census Data, 2001

The per capita income in the district was found out to be Rs 17895/- during the year 2003-04.

Infrastructure:

The district is well networked with other parts of the states through:

Road ways:

- National Highway: NH 34
 - Length of NH within the district: 3 KM
 - Connected other states: The highway touches the cities of Faridabad in Haryana, Mathura, Agra, Etawah, Bhoganipur, Kanpur, Allahabad, Varanasi, Mughalsarai in Uttar Pradesh, Mohania, Sasaram, Dehri-on-sone, and Aurangabad in Bihar, Barhi, Dhanbad in Jharkhand and Asansol, Durgapur, Burdwan, Kolkata in West Bengal.
 - Connected other districts: Howrah, Burdwan, N-24 Parganas
- State Highway (SH):
 - 1 SH
 - SH-10 connects the district with Malda & North Dinajpur.

Source: West Bengal Public Works' Department

Railway:

A new railway line has been laid between Eklakhi and Balurghat, the district headquarter. Train services has been started on December 30, 2004.

Other social infrastructure:

- Technical Education:
 - ITI: 01
- Health:
 - Standard health network like district hospital, block hospitals and Private nursing home/clinics are observed
- Entertainment:
 - Standard cinema halls and park are observed.

Source: District Statistical Handbook, 2009

- Banking Infrastructure:
 - Lead Bank - UBI Bank and following are the other banks found in the district

Name of Bank	No. of Branches
SBI	7
UBI	5

Sources: Bank's website

Power Infrastructure:**Supply Stations (SS) are:**

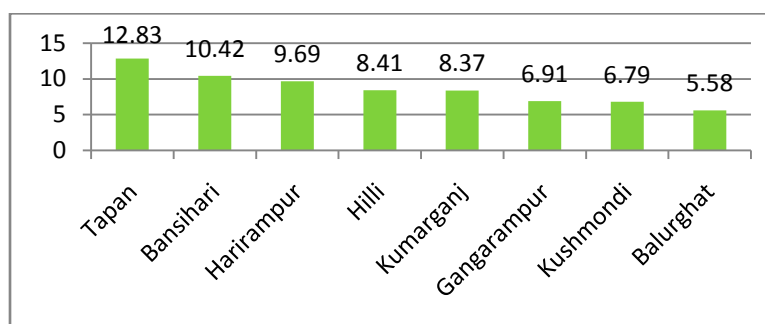
Sl. No	SS name	Capacity (KVA)
1	Balurghat	132
2	Gangarampur	132

Source: West Bengal State Electricity Transmission Company Limited

Ground water:

It has been observed that one of the major sources of water for food processing units in West Bengal is ground water.

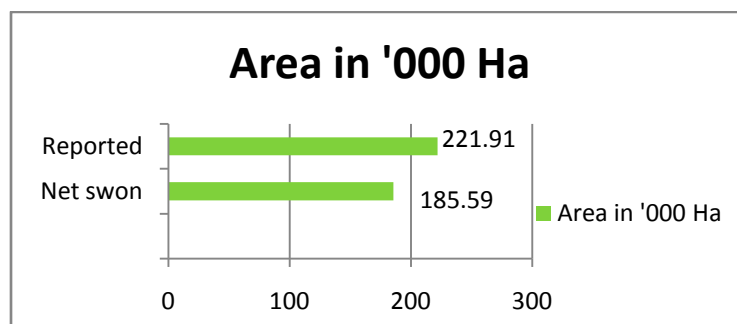
Block wise average depth of ground water during April, 2011 in the district is shown below:



Source: State Water Investigation Directorate

Agriculture & Horticulture:

Reporting area in the district is 221.91 hectare. Net sown area is 84% of total reporting area.



Source: District Statistical Handbook, 2009

Agriculture, Horticulture and Livestock production:

Position of the district in terms of State's production:

Dakshin Dinajpur	Crops/ Veg/ Fruits/ livestock	Rank in the state	Production, 000' MT	% to states' production
Vegetables	Radish	5th	29.113	5.92
	Sweet Potato	4th	18.748	7.95

Source: Evaluation Wing, Directorate of Agriculture GoWB 2009-10, Bureau of Applied Economics & Statistics, 2009, Livestock Population Handbook 2009, FPI & H Dept, GoWB

Other than the above items following fruits and vegetables are also available in significant quantity in the district:

VEGETABLES

Tomato
Onion
Radish

FRUITS

Water melon
Papaya
Jack fruit
Ladies finger

Major agricultural/ horticultural markets:

Regulated market:

- Dakshin Dinajpur Regulated Market

Source: West Bengal State Marketing Board

Storage facilities:

- Multipurpose cold storage:

Block	No.	Total capacity (qt)
Balurghat	1	98,650
Gangarampur	1	50,000

Source: Directorate of Agri Marketing

Food Processing Industries:

Till 2006-07, number of food processing units in the district was 183. New units registered since 2007 is as given below. According to guidelines of MSME act 2006, the distribution of the units is as follows:

Units	2007-08 & 08-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
Micro	71	37	14	19	141
Small	13	4	4	179	200
Total	84	41	18	198	341

Sources: DIC & I-WIN Analysis

Sector wise and year wise distribution of the above units is as follows:

Sector	2007-08 & 08-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
Cereals & Pulses Processing	5	2	0	14	21
Confectionery/Biscuit	2	0	1	4	7
Diary & Milk	3	1	3	7	14
Fruits & vegetable processing	0	8	0	4	12
Edible Oil	12	4	1	15	32
Others	4	1	0	6	11
Packaged Drinking Water	0	1	1	2	4
Paddy Processing	52	21	11	138	222
Snacks/Pasta	6	0	0	6	12
Soft Drinks	0	1	0	1	2
Spices	0	2	1	1	4
Total	84	41	18	198	341

Sources: DIC & I-WIN Analysis

65% of the total units in the district are in Paddy processing activities.

➤ **Employment Scenario:**

Employment scenario in the food processing industry of the district is shown in the table below:

Sector	2007-08 & 08-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		Total	
	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem
Cereals & Pulses Processing	17	6	25	2	0	0	89	0	131	8
Confectionery/Biscuit	11	0	0	0	2	1	43	0	56	1
Diary & Milk	11	2	3	0	12	24	39	0	65	26
Fruits & vegetable processing	0	0	10	12	0	0	12	0	22	12
Edible Oil	66	12	23	5	7	3	171	0	267	20
Others	15	0	3	1	0	0	32	0	50	1
Packaged Drinking Water	0	0	4	0	12	0	49	0	65	0
Paddy Processing	595	100	222	37	98	62	1532	0	2447	199
Snacks/Pasta	13	18	0	0	0	0	50	0	63	18
Soft Drinks	0	0	31	83	0	0	114	0	145	83
Spices	0	0	8	0	2	4	5	0	15	4
Total	728	138	329	140	133	94	2136	0	3326	372

Sources: DIC & I-WIN Analysis

Hence a total of 3698 people are directly involved in the food processing industry of the district, out of which 10.06% is female worker.

Some of the big players having manufacturing unit in the district are:

Name of the company	Product
M/s Satyam Chawal Udyog (P) Ltd.	Rice
Kalyani Solvex Pvt Ltd	Rice bran oil
M/s Shivaloknath Rice Mill	Rice

Source: Dept of C & I, GoWB, I-Win Analysis

Investment opportunities:

- The district has no significant strength in terms of production of processable items other than paddy.
- It holds rank 4th in sweet potato and 5th in radish which have very limited scope for processing.
- However micro and small units, based on regular demand (like bakery, rice processing, oil processing, puffed rice) of the local people can be set up in the district.