

JALPAIGURI

Overall scenario of the district

Jalpaiguri, the largest district of North Bengal in terms of area is the gateway of entire north-eastern states and Bhutan. It shares international boundary with Bangladesh and Bhutan, state boundary with Assam and district boundary with Darjeeling and Coochbehar.

The headquarters of the district is at Jalpaiguri town, which is also the divisional headquarters of north Bengal. The district has its special importance with respect to tourism, forest, hills, tea gardens, scenic beauty.

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

- ✓ Subdivisions - 3
- ✓ Municipalities - 4
- ✓ Blocks - 13

The district ranks 7th 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 38,69,675 out of which there are 19,80,068 males (51.16%) & 18,89,607 females (48.84%). Out of a total 640 districts in India, Hooghly is ranked 66th in terms of population. The population density in the district is 621 persons per sq km.

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

- Mal(M) (9070 persons per sq. km),
- Siliguri (Municipal Corporation part) (8613 persons per sq. km),
- Jalpaiguri(M) (8028 persons per sq. km),
- Alipurduar(M) (7449 persons per sq. km),

Other major settlements in the district (in terms of total number of population) are Joygaon, Dhupguri, Moynaguri.

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

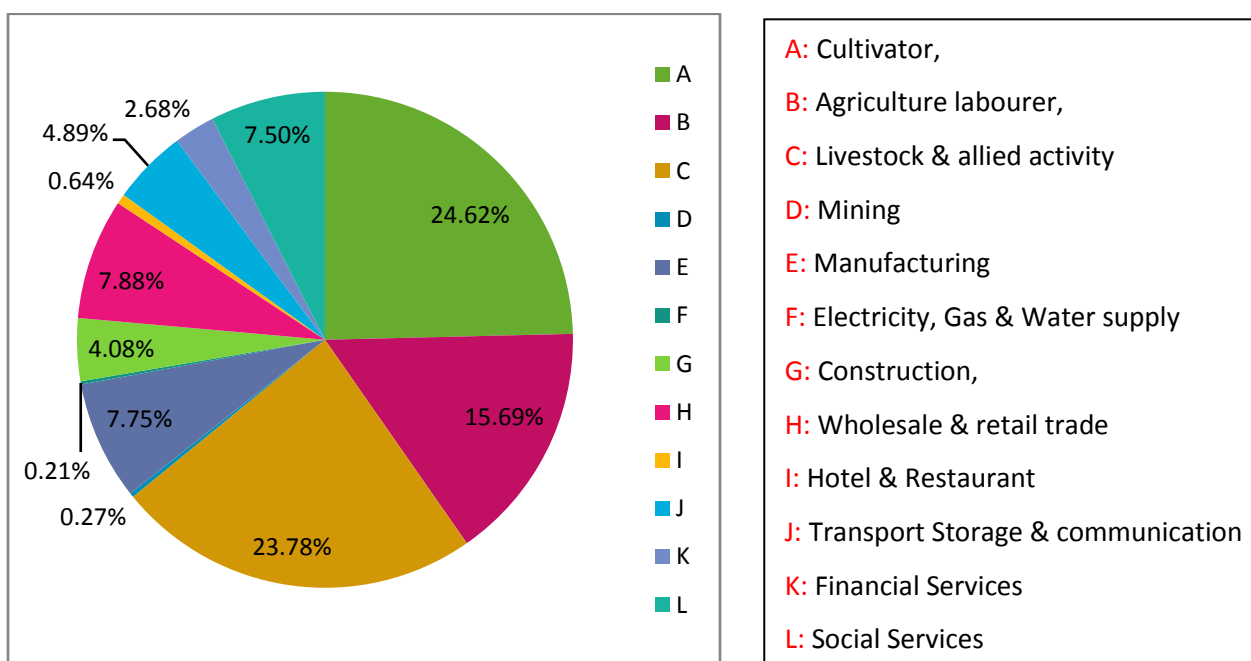
Age group	% of total population
0-4	10.28
05-24	43.67
25-59	39.81
60 and above	6.07

Source: Census, 2001

Around 4% total population, 34,01,173 (2001) living in the district are from outside of West Bengal, among them, notable states are:

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

Work force constitutes 24.72% 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 19104/- during the year 2003-04.

Infrastructure:

The district is well connected with other parts of the country through:

Road ways:

- National Highway: NH 31
 - Lane: 2
 - Length of NH within the district: 162 KM
 - Connected other states: Assam
 - Connected other districts: Uttar Dinajpur, Darjeeling, Coochbehar.
- National Highway: NH 31 C
 - Lane: 2
 - Length of NH within the district: 136.5 KM
 - Connected other districts: Coochbehar.
 - Blocks on the NH: Malbazar, Dhupguri, Madarihat, Alipurduar
- National Highway: NH 31 D

- Lane: 4 lane work under process
 - Length of NH within the district: 49.5 KM
 - Connected other districts: Siliguri subdivision of Darjeeling.
- State Highway (SH):
- 2 SHs
 - SH-12 runs the distance of 79 km. within the district.
 - SH-12A runs the distance of 114 km. within the district.

Source: West Bengal Public Works' Department

Railway:

Following two rail routes, connects major railway stations of the district with state capital.

- Howrah-NJP main line
- Sealdah-NJP main line

Air ways:

Nearest airport at Bagdogra (Siliguri) is 58 km. from the district.

Other social infrastructure:

- Technical Education:
 - Engineering College: 01
 - Polytechnics: 03
 - ITI: 02
- 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 - Central bank of India and following are the other banks found in the district

Name of Bank	No. of Branches
CBI	43
SBI	29
UBI	13
BOI	08
Allahabad Bank	06
IOB	04
Axis	04
PNB	04
UCO	03
ICICI	03

HDFC	03
Union Bank of India	02
Indusind Bank Ltd.	02

Source: Individual bank's websites

Power Infrastructure:

Supply Stations (SS) are:

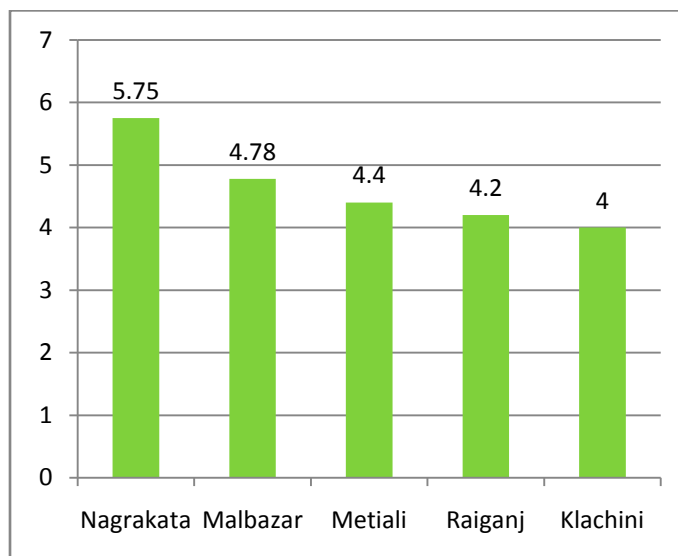
Sl. No	SS name	Capacity (KVA)
1	Binaguri	400
2	New Jalpaiguri	220
3	Birpara	220
4	Birpara	132
5	Moinaguri	132
6	Alipurduar	132
7	Chalsa	132
8	Kamakhyaguri	66
9	Hamiltongaunj	66
10	Hasimara	66
11	Banarhat	66
12	Odlabari	66
13	Nagrakata	66

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.

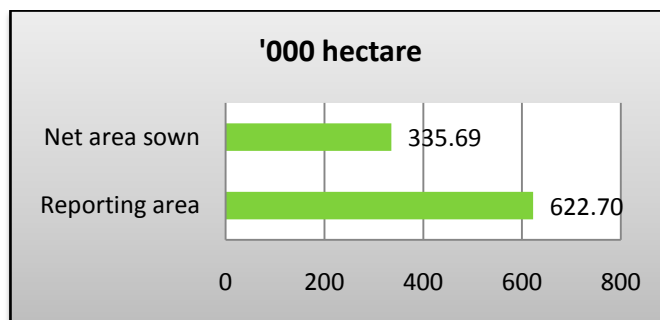
Blocks with average depth of ground water more than 3.7 meters during April, 2011 are:



Source: State Water Investigation Directorate

Agriculture & Horticulture:

Reporting area in the district is 622700 hectare. Net sown area is 53.9% of total reporting area.



Source: District Statistical Handbook, 2009

Agriculture, Horticulture and Livestock production:

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

Jalpaiguri	Crops/ Veg/ Fruits/ livestock	Rank in the state	Production, 000' MT	% to states' production
Agricultural produce	Linseed	3rd	0.24	16.89
	Potato	5th	904.99	6.54
Vegetables	Peas	1st	29.36	22.69
	Tomato	2nd	131.9	12.40
	Radish	2nd	38.36	7.80
	Lady's Finger	3rd	70.12	8.13
	Brinjal	5th	186.32	6.40
Fruits	Jackfruit	1st	38.98	20.32
	Papaya	2nd	31.03	9.57
	Pineapple	3rd	57.66	18.99
	Banana	5th	54.09	5.35
	Sapota	5th	2.53	5.81
Live stock product	Pig	1st	123956 No.	15.22

Source: Evaluation Wing, Directorate of Agriculture GoWB 2009-10, Bureau of Applied Economics & Statistics, 2009
Livestock Population Handbook 2009, FPI & H Dept, GoWB, 2010-11

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

VEGETABLES

Cabbage
Brinjal
Cauliflower

FRUITS

Guava

Related infrastructure:

- Research station:

Name	Location	Area in acre
Mohitnagar Horticulture Research & Development Farm	Mohitnagar	40.00

Source: Dept of Food Processing Industries & Horticulture, GoWB

Major agricultural/ horticultural markets:

Regulated market:

- Belacoba Regulated Market
- Dhupguri Regulated Market
- Alipurduar Regulated Market

Source: West Bengal State Marketing Board

Storage facilities:

- Potato storage:
 - 18 cold storage having total capacity 2610752.16 quintal
- Multipurpose cold storage:

Block	No.	Total capacity (qt)
Falkata	3	254120
Rajganj	2	40000
Dhupguri	1	22554
Moynaguri	1	56508
Dhupguri RMC (Under construction)	1	870
Alipurduar RMC (Under construction)	1	870

Source: Directorate of Agri Marketing & West Bengal State Marketing Board

Industrial Growth Centre

Dab gram IDC	Location	8 kms. from Siliguri, gate way town of North-East regions on Siliguri-Jalpaiguri Road (SH-12A)
	Connectivity	Road: SH-12A, leading to Jalpaiguri from Siliguri. Rail: 5 kms. from New Jalpaiguri Rly. Station Air: 20 kms. away from Bagdogra Airport
	Area of land	106 acres
	Allotable land	93 acres
	Already allotted land	93 acres
	Prominent Industries	Samrat Feed Mills (Balanced Livestock Feeds), Hindusthan Lever Kanchanjungha Paper Products, Lactic Dairy Products Private Limited (Dairy Products), Bengal Playing, Marbles Mfg. Co. (Glass Marbels).
Raninagar IDC	Location	On SH-12A, 8 kms. away from Jalpaiguri, 40 Kms. from Siliguri.
	Area of land	153 acres
	Allotable land	127 acres
	Already allotted land	111 acres
	Prominent Industries	Hindusthan Cocacola Beverages Pvt. Ltd., Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Modern Animal Feeds Pvt. Ltd.

Source: WBIIDC

Chilling plants/ Bulk Milk Cooler:

There are 2 chilling plants/ Bulk Milk Cooler (BMC) in the district. Capacity of the units is given below:

Name of Chilling plant	Location	Capacity (TLPD)
Gayerkata	Gayerkata	4.0
Alipurdwar	Alipurdwar	4.0

Source: Animal Resources Development Dept, GoWB, 2010-11

Food Processing Industries:

Till 2006-07, number of food processing units in the district was 640. New units registered since 2007 is as given below. According to definition of MSME act 2006, the distribution of the units is as follows:

Units	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
Micro	66	78	100	127	93	464
Small	5	2	5	4	8	24
Total	71	80	105	131	101	488

Sources: DIC and I-WIN analysis

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

Sector	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
Cereals & Pulses Processing	2	9	11	9	1	32
Confectionery/Biscuit	6	2	8	4	9	29
Diary & Milk	7	5	2	4	1	19
Fish Processing	0	0	0	0	1	1
Fruits & vegetable processing	2	4	3	1	0	10
Oil	3	2	0	0	1	6
Others	8	4	22	21	15	70
Packaged Drinking Water	1	1	2	6	6	16
Paddy Processing	35	42	45	76	58	256
Poultry, Meat Processing	1	0	1	0	0	2
Snacks/Pasta	5	5	6	4	6	26
Soft Drinks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spices	1	6	5	6	3	21
Total	71	80	105	131	101	488

Sources: DIC and I-WIN analysis

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

Sector	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		Total	
	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem	Male	Fem
Cereals & Pulses Processing	11	0	69	0	26	0	38	0	17	0	161	0
Confectionery/Biscuit	41	0	13	0	73	0	33	0	63	0	223	0
Diary & Milk	40	0	25	0	10	0	22	0	3	0	100	0
Fish Processing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	0
Fruits & vegetable processing	17	0	14	0	26	0	6	0	0	0	63	0
Edible Oil	18	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	47	0
Others	131	0	116	0	176	2	141	0	249	0	813	2
Packaged Drinking Water	12	0	17	0	6	0	30	0	48	0	113	0
Paddy Processing	138	0	96	0	93	12	200	0	194	0	721	12
Poultry, Meat Processing	2	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	10	0
Snacks/Pasta	29	0	27	0	42	10	13	0	35	0	146	10
Spices	3	0	18	0	17	0	16	0	13	0	67	0
Total	442	0	408	0	477	24	499	0	643	0	2469	24

Sources: DIC and I-WIN analysis

Hence a total of 2493 people are directly involved in the food processing industry for their livelihoods.

Food Manufacturing unit under FSSAI [Erstwhile FPO]:

No. of units in the district which acquired FPO license under different food category is given below:

Group Name	No. of Units
Jam Group, Squash Group, Tomato sauce, Vegetable Sauce, Non Fruit-Vinegar, Pickles, Chutney ,Non Fruit Jelly,Sauces(Other than Tomato & Soya)	2
Synthetic Sweetened Aerated Water(With out Fruit Juice/Pulp) in Pet	1

Source: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, Eastern Region

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

Name of the company	Product
Paharimata Agro Foods (P) Ltd	Atta, Maida, Suzi
M/s Pasadensa Foods Ltd.	Fruit Juice & Pulp
Norben Tea & Exports Ltd	Tea
T & I Global Ltd	Tea
Phaskowa Tea Plantations Ltd	Tea

Sources: DIC and I-WIN data

Investment opportunities:

This district is primarily agrarian with over 30% of residents being engaged in agriculture. Livestock and allied activities engage over 23%. But the district has little manufacturing activity. This is in spite of having the best infrastructure in Northern West Bengal. The area is dominated by traders especially around Jalpaiguri town and, while the traders have funds, they are reluctant to venture into the unknown manufacturing area, which they perceive will fetch much lower margin than trading or real estate business. The entire Siliguri Jalpaiguri region suffers due to this fear. Consequently, the land prices in the entire area are high.

Strategically located in the so called "chicken neck" area, the district forms the last portion of the narrow corridor that connects the entire north east to the rest of India.

Today the district is connected to the rest of the state by road (NH31, NH31C and NH 31D) and a railway system, with decent connectivity to Kolkata, the state capital.

It also has easy access to Bagdogra Airport in neighboring Darjeeling district.

The district ranks 4th in terms of peas and Jackfruit cultivation, in the state, 2nd in papaya, tomato and radish and 3rd in pineapple, ladies' finger and linseed. So there is availability of fruits and vegetables. Additional raw materials can be sourced from neighboring Darjeeling district as it has largely flat terrain. It can also source raw materials from the north east.

With large areas under forest cover, this district can also be a source of forest produce. However in spite of existing manufacturing infrastructure in terms of two WBIIDC Growth Centers at Dabgram and Rani Nagar there is hardly any major industrial unit in the district. The talked about second phases or extension of these two Growth Centers never came about. The only notable exception is the Dabur fruit and vegetable processing unit in Dabgram. This unit started well, then fell in hard times and now is limping back to life. Dooars area is largely located in this district and tea is grown here extensively. The district also has the largest pig population in the state.

In the district, a large number of SME units can be set up at different locations, preferably in the near vicinity of Jalpaiguri town which falls under the Siliguri Jalpaiguri Development area (SJDA). These can be for pre-processing tomato, papaya and peas for “table” usage, and processing the same and selling the same. In case of green peas, they can be dried, frozen and packaged. Jack fruit pre-processing and packaging for market sale etc.

Incidentally, papaya juice is now popular as a health drink in the large metro cities of India. Oil can be extracted from linseed and sold for further processing.

There is a big opportunity for slaughtering and processing of pigs. If hygienically reared and processed, they can serve the growing demand of pork and ham in the country. These also have good export possibilities for the meat, processed and even by-products.

Land given to yule Agro Industries Ltd for scientific cultivation of pineapple has now been returned back to the State Government. The department can make a proper plan for optimum utilization of the land to boost up the food processing industry in the district.